RIOTS & DISTURBANCES  O.F.S.

1990

AUGUST — DEC.
Renewed fighting in squatter camp

CAPE TOWN — Two people were shot dead and scores of pupils have been injured in renewed fighting at the troubled Crossroads squatter camp, putting attempts to bring peace to the camp in the balance. 2/8190

Concerned mothers said the violence had taken a uglier turn and small children had been hacking one another with pangas and other dangerous weapons on school premises. 2/8190

Own Correspondent.
Mangaung township still tense after riots

By Mosa Mapisa

The situation was still tense in Mangaung, Bloemfontein, yesterday after several days of violence when pupils took to the streets in continuing crisis in Department of Education and Training schools.

The crisis allegedly started when the pupils returned to schools after boycotting classes for a number of weeks in protest against lack of textbooks, stationary, broken windows, doors and the absence of effective schooling. They found these conditions still prevailed.

A pupil spokesman blamed the DET for the situation.
FW examines Goldstone report

By Sholmaa Bulbulia

The Goldstone Commission's report on the Sebokeng incident was receiving President de Klerk's urgent attention, a spokesman for the President's office said yesterday.

He was not able to say when the findings of the report would be made public.

The judicial commission was established in March to investigate the circumstances leading to the clash between Sebokeng residents and police on March 26 which left 12 people dead and 300 injured.

The Sebokeng shootings took place after a 50,000-strong UDP gathering, intent on marching to Vereeniging, was halted by police near the Soweto Brewery.

The marchers had been planning to present a petition to the National Party offices.

The report, compiled by Judge Goldstone, is the first of several on commissions that will be debated by top officials.
Welkom miner found dead – 10 men held

Staff Reporters

Ten miners are being held for questioning in connection with the death of a miner whose body was found underground at President Steyn mine in Welkom yesterday.

This follows Tuesday's violent clashes between miners and security officials.

A police spokesman said today it was not yet certain whether Nicholas Jordaan (42) was murdered or had died in an accident, but 10 miners were detained for questioning.

Mr Jordaan's body was found on the 62nd level of No 4 shaft at 10 a.m. He had apparently died of multiple head injuries.

Police and the Inspector of Mines will conduct a joint investigation into Mr Jordaan's death and a post-mortem examination will be conducted by the State pathologist from Bloemfontein.

Three miners were reported dead on arrival at the Ernest Oppenheimer Hospital on Wednesday after several skirmishes between toyi-toyiing mineworkers and mine security following a mineworkers' meeting at No 4 shaft in the afternoon.

Anglo American has put the number of people injured in the clashes at 18, but the National Union of Mineworkers said more than 20 miners were hurt.

One of the injured was hostel manager Keith Whitfield (38), who was stabbed and wounded.

Police arrested 34 miners in connection with violence and arson after an administration block, beer hall and three hostels were looted and set alight by rampaging miners.
4 die in Welkom violence

WELKOM. — Three men have been killed, 17 injured and 33 arrested in rioting which erupted on Wednesday night at the President Steyn Gold Mine near here, while the body of a miner was found underground at the mine's number 4 shaft yesterday afternoon.

The cause of death is not yet known.

Anglo-American Corporation said in a statement that a full investigation by the SA Police and Inspector of Mines was under way.

The police liaison officer for the northern Free State, Major Johan Fouche, said a group of about 20 men began toyi-toyi dancing at the mine's number four shaft about 10pm on Wednesday.

The group grew to about 400 and set fire to a mine administrative building, a beerhall and living quarters.

Mine security fired birdshot and rubber bullets and the police were called to control the riot, which they did by about 11pm.

Both the night and day shift were reported for duty yesterday.

The street expressed management's regret at the death and injury to employees and deplored continued acts of violence. — Sapa
Racial conflict is at root of mine unrest

By Helen Grange

Welkom’s President Steyn mine, which suffered the closure of a shaft because of violent clashes last Wednesday, has long been a hotbed of racial conflict which has bedevilled the town.

Racial antagonism has simmered continually between white and black miners at President Steyn, occasionally erupting into heavy armed clashes in which several people have died.

At the core of the conflict is the mine’s discriminatory hoisting practices and the fact that whites in lower management at mines are racist in their dealings with black miners, according to the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM).

“Black miners, who get paid only for the time they work, have to arrive hours early to queue for the shaft cages. White miners do not queue and the hoisting schedule is regulated according to whether there are whites to be hoisted. The situation is discriminatory and leads to conflict,” says Jerry Mobjodladi of the NUM.

Anglo American’s public affairs manager, Adrian du Plessis, confirmed that hoisting was continually under discussion at No 4 shaft.

“This issue has been raised at all the gold mines in the Orange Free State,” he said.

Intimidation

Conversely, white miners have frequently accused black miners of intimidating whites and of provoking conflict by political sloganeering.

The spate of violence at President Steyn began in May, when two white miners were murdered at Shaft 1. Welkom’s strong right-wing factions immediately declared there would be “bloody retribution”. In June there was an explosion at the NUM offices in Welkom, of which the right wing was suspected.

The fact that the right wing has immediately backed the cause of white miners has served to intensify the racial divide, both at President Steyn mine and among the black and white communities outside. In spite of five meetings between the NUM and mine management, violence has continued.

The clashes last Wednesday between toyi-toying mine-workers carrying the SA Communist Party flag and mine security lasted over six hours and led to thousands of rands in damage to mine property.

The NUM has blamed mine security and police for attacking peaceful protesters, while Anglo American claims the mine-workers repeatedly attacked security and police with dangerous weapons.
CP warns over black protest march

White miners are told: Carry arms

By Julienne du Toit and Brendan Templeton

Despite a peace deal at the President Steyn gold mine, Welkom remained tense today as the Conservative Party called for party members to form country-wide self-defence organisations and for white miners to carry arms while working underground.

A threat was made that the CP would resort to violence if one white person died when black miners staged a march through Welkom on Saturday.

White miners returned to work last night at the President Steyn Number 4 shaft at the mine, said Anglo American spokesman Adrian du Plessis.

Addressing a stormy right-wing meeting in Welkom last night, CP MP for Overvaal Koos van der Merwe said the party might soon call on party members to stop protest marches by violent means should white lives be threatened.

The belligerent tone of the meeting caused high anxiety in spite of the agreement reached last night between white miners' unions and management at the mine.

A motion of no confidence in the National Party members of the Welkom City Council and demanding their immediate resignation was passed.

Conservative MP Arrie Paulus, dubbed the future Minister of Law and Order by the 350-strong audience, said white miners should demand that the Chamber of Mines guarantee their lives before they went underground. He said militant black miners "should be sent back to their country of origin".

He also called on white miners to arm themselves before they went underground.

Mr du Plessis said today: "We totally reject this call. They are being unhelpful and an agreement needs to be worked out satisfying everyone."

The call to arms came in the middle of a meeting of the national council of the South African Chamber of Mines in Pretoria.

Picture — Page 2

US pours in thousands of troops

NICOSIA — The United States' aircraft carrier Eisenhower in the Red Sea could in the next two weeks be sailing to the Persian Gulf, according to US Air Force spokesman Col. John E. Rogers.

The US has been increasing its military presence in the region in recent weeks, with a large number of US soldiers deployed to Saudi Arabia to support the Gulf war against Iraq.

Saudi Arabian roads near the tense frontier with Kuwait were said to be choked with troops yesterday as US and Egyptian forces streamed in.

Across the border in Kuwait, US warships accompanying the aircraft carrier Eisenhower in the Persian Gulf are poised to make landings as the Gulf war entered its first week.

Pakistan said on Saturday it would not send troops to help Morocco in its conflict with Spain over the disputed territory of Western Sahara.

"It would be a serious mistake for Pakistan to send troops as the situation there is not yet critical."

Jordan's Crown Prince Abdullah Hussein said last night that his father King Hussein of Jordan was safe and sound, after being wounded in an assassination attempt.

A US official in Washington said that Jordan was taking steps to sustain peace with Israel, following the recent peace summit in Madrid, and that Jordan was ready to cooperate with the US in the Gulf war.
CP would resort to violence if one white person died when black miners staged a march through Welkom on Saturday.

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Mr du Plessis said today: "We totally reject this call. They are being unhelpful and an agreement needs to be worked out satisfying everyone."

The call to arms came in the wake of a white miner found killed underground last week.

Police said 10 people had appeared in court in connection with the death of Nico Jordan.

Earlier yesterday white miners refused to sign a truce undertaken by all race groups.

Mr Paulus said that since Piet Retief's time blacks could not be relied on to honour an agreement.

He asked for a solution from the crowd for whites being blamed by blacks for all racial incidents.

"Shout them," bayed the crowd.

Mr van der Merwe warned that the proposed march by 500 black protesters through the town on Saturday was an invitation to bloodshed. "If one white person dies it will be on the Government's conscience. We will mobilise our people and stop them with violence."

Mr van der Merwe painted a picture of whites being forced to share their houses with two or more black families in the new South Africa, and said whites would suffer desperate poverty and stinking Third World conditions.

He thanked the hundred-strong AWB contingent and the Blanke Veiligheid (BV) for their protection and at the end of his speech quoted Winston Churchill: "We will never, never surrender."
The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Welkom remained tense today in spite of a peace deal at the President Steyn gold mine — as the Conservative Party called for party members to form countrywide self-defence organisations and for white miners to carry 'arms underground.'

A threat was made that the CP would resort to violence if one white person died when black miners staged a march through the streets of Welkom in the heart of the Goldfields on Saturday.

White mineworkers returned to work for last night's shift on the Number 4 shaft at the mine, according to a spokesman for Anglo American, Mr Adrian du Plessis.

The situation in the town is expected to be high on the agenda when the CP takes an in-depth look at political events at its two-day annual Free State conference which begins in Bloemfontein today.

CP MP for Overvaal Mr Koos van der Merwe was addressing a stormy right wing meeting in the town last night when he said the party might soon call on party members to stop protest marches by violent means should the lives of whites be threatened.

He said any militant black union members "should be sent back to their country of origin".

Mr du Plessis also said white miners to arm themselves before they went underground.

Mr van der Merwe warned that the proposed march by 5 000 black protesters through the town on Saturday was an invitation to bloodshed.

"If one white person dies it will be on the government's conscience. We will mobilise our people and stop them with violence."

He called for a motion from the crowd for Welkom's National Party city council to resign.

Earlier yesterday white miners at the mine refused to sign a truce undertaking drawn up by management and countersigned by black miners.

Mr Van der Merwe warned that the proposed march by 5 000 black protesters through the town on Saturday was an invitation to bloodshed.

"If one white person dies it will be on the government's conscience. We will mobilise our people and stop them with violence."

He called for a motion from the crowd for Welkom's National Party city council to resign.
Peace deal, but WECBOM remains tense
BLOEMFONTEIN. — A "war" has broken out here between two rival taxi factions.

There has been simmering tension between Bloemfontein's long-distance taxis and those from the Transvaal and other regions.

On Tuesday morning a minibus with Transvaal registration plates was burnt out in Bloemfontein in one of the latest incidents in the war.

The incident occurred after three minibuses were seen at a taxi rank in the city, one loaded with heavily armed people and escorting the other two.

Weapons such as pangas and knobkerries were found in the burnt-out vehicle.

In Pretoria yesterday, the Southern Africa Black Taxi Association said it was appalled at the increasing violence directed at its members and commuters and called on the police substantially to step up security at taxi ranks.

In the past three months, bombs had exploded at four taxi ranks injuring numerous people and causing extensive damage, Saba said in a statement.

Saba condemned "such outrageous and barbaric behaviour in the strongest terms".

Witwatersand police liaison officer Captain Eugene Opperman said yesterday that police would continue to patrol taxi ranks as part of their normal rounds, taking special action when needed. — Sapa
Death toll in Welkom
mine violence rises to four

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG—The death toll at Welkom's President Steyn mine, where violence lasting over six hours broke out on Wednesday, rose to four after a miner's body was found underground.

And late last night there was an unconfirmed report of one more man dead.

"Three miners were dead on arrival at the Ernest Oppenheimer Hospital on Wednesday after several skirmishes between toyi-toyi mineworkers and mine security following a mineworkers' meeting at Number 4 shaft in the afternoon."

Figures disputed

Anglo-American estimated 18 people were injured in the clashes, but the National Union of Mineworkers disputed this, saying more than 20 were hurt.

Conflicting versions of the incident have been given, with the union accusing the police of opening fire on an "armoured crowd of peaceful protesters."

Anglo American has stated that members of mine security and the police were attacked with petrol bombs and dangerous weapons.

Police reported that the conflict began when a group of 18 mineworkers, which later swelled to about 400, gathered at a hostel where they were toyi-toyiing while carrying an SACP flag.

"The mine security used rubber bullets and birdshot to disperse the crowd, said Lieutenant Peter Brandt. When these attempts failed, they called in the police about 10.30 am. He said on arrival the police were attacked with stones and panga and retaliated with buckshot."

Fired buckshot

Police fired buckshot into the crowd after they had surrounded and stabbed a mine security officer.

Lieutenant Brandt last night confirmed the deaths of three men after the incident and said another body had been found underground yesterday.

A post mortem will be held to determine the cause of death, but Lieutenant Brandt said it appeared the man had been hit on the head with a blunt object.

He said it was pure speculation to link the death to the rioting at the mine.
Welkom tenses up for protest march

By CHARLES LEONARD

TENSION is mounting in Welkom as the town braces itself for the protest march tomorrow by residents of neighbouring Bronville township.

But, says Bronville Civic Association organising secretary Lionel Beukes, it is "no more or less (tension) than usual".

"Since the killing of two black people at the beginning of the year by right-wingers, the atmosphere in our town has been very tense."

Threats from the right-wing have been building up since Monday night's warning from Conservative Party Member of Parliament Koos van der Merwe that the party would resort to violence "if one white person died".

Van der Merwe told a CP protest meeting in the town: "We will mobilise our people and stop them (the marchers) with violence."

Beukes and fellow BCA members have been encouraging residents to take part en masse in the protest march through the centre of Welkom to the local police station, where they plan to deliver a set of grievances and demands to the station commander.

At the CP meeting on Monday a motion of no-confidence in the National Party members of the Welkom City Council was passed and demands were made for their resignation.

On Tuesday Van der Merwe met with Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok, Commissioner of Police General Johan van der Merwe and senior deputy commissioner General Mulder van Eyk, to discuss the Welkom march.

At that meeting Van der Merwe demanded the suspension of the march. On Wednesday, at the CP Free State congress in Bloemfontein, he told the delegates that Van Eyk telephoned him that morning to tell him that the police were not able to cancel the march, but that they promised to scale it down. The general also told Van der Merwe that police reinforcements would be sent to Welkom.

The congress accepted Van der Merwe's proposal to send a telegram to State President FW de Klerk, demanding the immediate cessation of black marches through white suburbs.

"They try to instil fear in our people," Beukes said. "But we will be there in our numbers."

The irony of Van der Merwe's threat is that we are in any case in the white suburbs every day because that is where we work," he told The Weekly Mail in the office of the Congress of South African Writers in the industrial part of Welkom.

Apart from the large police presence expected tomorrow, the BCA has also organised 800 marshals to see that the march is held in a disciplined manner, Beukes said: "That would mean about one marshal for every eight marchers."

The marchers would not be allowed to carry weapons, including smoke AK-47s.

"We asked the police to make sure that the right-wingers — we expect a lot of them in the march — are also unarmed," he said.

Major Johann Fouche of the Welkom police issued a stern warning that no interference in the march would be tolerated.

A spokesman for the CP in Welkom, Henkie Kemp, told The Weekly Mail that, although they opposed to the march being allowed to take place, the party did not plan to take any action against the marchers.
Whites warn of violence at today's Welkom march

SUE OLSWANG

Overvaal, has warned that today's march is an invitation to bloodshed.

"If one white person dies it will be on the Government's conscience. We will mobilise our people and stop them with violence," Mr van der Merwe said during a stormy CP meeting held in the Free State mining town on Monday night.

At its annual Free State congress held in Bloemfontein earlier this week, the CP passed a unanimous resolution to demand an immediate end to protest marches through white areas. The party also stated the Government would be directly responsible for loss of lives or damage to property caused during black political protest.

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March fears

Today's march, organised by the Bronville and Thabong civic associations, is a protest against high service charges and inadequate housing in Bronville.

March organiser Lionel Beukes has said the marchers will stick to the 5,000 limit on numbers imposed by the Welkom Town Council.

They will be unarmed and subject to the discipline of 800 marshals.

The CP's Mr van der Merwe has, however, said Welkom whites will "simply not allow these people to march through the town carrying ANC banners, Communist flags and singing 'Nkosinjalo' Afrika'.

The march will begin at Thabong Township and proceed to the Jan Hofmeyr Police Station, in Welkom, where a memorandum of grievances will be handed to police for forwarding to council authorities.

Blanke Veiligheid (BV), a rightwing movement, has also threatened to disrupt today's march.

On July 30, the Citizen newspaper reported that BV spokesman Mr David Naude said: "We won't allow the march to take place.

We have warned police there will be bloodshed and that they should get ambulances ready."
Rightists deployed for demo

WELKOM.—Hundreds of armed rightwingers are being deployed in gardens and houses along the route that a protest march is due to take place through Welkom today.

The khaki-clad men with AWB insignia, carrying rifles, pistols, batons and whips — and a crossbow — but AWB leader Eugene Terre’Blanche told the Press they were not seeking confrontation.

He said more than 600 men from the Westrand, Treurnaast and Ernple were being used to protect residents. Of the 60 homes along the way, 80 occupants had even written requests for protection.

SA Police spokesman, Major Johan Fouche, said police were taking every precaution and had sealed off every side road along the route.

Sapa.
Welkom keeps calm

By DESMOND BLOW

SEVERAL hundred heavily armed AWB members taunted 5000 black demonstrators who legally marched past white homes in Welkom yesterday.

Only a strong police presence and well-disciplined demonstrators prevented any major incidents. One demonstrator was wounded in an arm by an arrow fired from a crossbow.

AWB members arrived early in Welkom from other centres in the Free State and Transvaal and took up positions in the grounds of many of the 73 houses along two kilometres of Constantia Avenue – the only white suburb along the six-kilometre route from Thabong to Welkom police station, where the demonstrators handed in a petition.

The AWB men claimed the residents had begged to be protected from the demonstrators. But a householder who was not being "protected", said the AWB had canvassed the houses, offering to protect them and saying the demonstrators intended to attack them.

After the demonstrators had returned to Thabong, the AWB gathered in the streets but were warned by police that the meeting was illegal and dispersed.
AWB face ANC crowd in Welkom

Own Correspondent

WELKOM. — AWB leader Mr Eugene Terre'Blanche was taunted with shouts of "ANC, ANC..." and black-power salutes on Saturday as thousands of ANC supporters marched through a white residential area saturated with armed AWB members.

In the only violent incident, a 16-year-old youth was shot in the arm with a crossbow bolt painted in the ANC colours. No arrests were made.

A crowd of between 3,000 and 3,500 protesters marched from the entrance of Thabong township to police headquarters where a memorandum demanding action on community grievances was handed to the deputy district commissioner.

The demands included one city council for Welkom, an end to evictions, affordable housing and service charges and the resignation of councillors and the management committee.

As marchers formed up, 300 to 400 heavily armed AWB members positioned themselves in white-owned residential properties along the route.

Mr Terre'Blanche cancelled his scheduled address to the HNP's annual congress in Pretoria to head "his commandos at Welkom".

Mr Terre'Blanche said his men, who had driven in from around the country, had been asked to guard 89 houses along the street.

Police cordoned off the surrounding area with razor wire, and told the right-wingers, who were armed with rifles, shotguns, pistols and batons, they would not be allowed to venture off the properties.

Police and soldiers stood at 50m intervals along the street.

Protesters began marching at 10.30am. They stopped briefly in front of a stern-faced Mr Terre'Blanche who stood surrounded by AWB guards.

After delivering their memorandum the marchers returned through the suburb flaunting ANC colours, dancing and chanting ANC slogans.

AWB members responded with flat-handed salutes and loud shouts of "AWB, AWB..." One dog was encouraged by its owner to bite yellow, green and black pieces of cloth, the ANC colours.

The Conservative Party declared itself irrevocably committed to "the third freedom struggle" at the weekend.

Opening the eighth Transvaal CP Congress, leader Dr Andries Treurnicht asked if the government realised what it meant when it claimed it was "irrevocably on the way to a new, fair South Africa".

Did the government want to hand over the power or share it before they lost it, he asked the 1,500 delegates.
WELKOM STAND-OFF ... Members of the Afrikaanse Weerstands beweging surround their leader, Mr Eugene Terre'Blanche, during a confrontation with ANC supporters in Welkom on Saturday. © Report on opposite page.
AWB upsets meeting

PRETORIA. — Another National Party meeting has been disrupted by the use of teargas by right-wingers.

When police evicted the rowdy group, a teargas canister was thrown into the hall.

Several elderly people had to be treated.

Last week a meeting due to be addressed by President F W de Klerk in Northern Natal was disrupted when two teargas canisters were thrown into the hall in which he was to speak. The president eventually spoke outdoors. — Sapa
TEARGAS — Police fired teargas at residents who fought Zulus in Kagiso on the West Rand yesterday.

Guard shot in neck 'stable'

BLOEMFONTEIN. — A white security guard was shot and wounded in the neck when between 8,000 and 10,000 marchers returned to the Mafikeng-black township here after a lawful protest yesterday morning.

He is Mr J G du Plessis, employed by Coin Security. Authorities said he was in a stable condition in Universitas Hospital.

Police said full details of the shooting were not available, but it had been said that the shot had come from the crowd. He was shot near the firm's premises.

Sapa
11 arrests after 4 whites killed, mutilated

The Argus Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG. — Eleven people have been arrested following the killing of three white men and a woman in a township near Odendaalsrus.

The bodies were found on Saturday night near a burned out car at the Mechongoville squatter camp adjoining the Kutoonong township.

The victims were: Mr Basie van Niekerk, 32, of Reedeers Park, Welkom and Mr Michael Belele, 33, Mrs Shirley Bason, 32, and Mr Anthony Casey, 32, all of Ross Street, Odendaalsrus.

The bodies were badly mutilated with stab wounds and injuries from other weapons. The attackers also poured petrol on the bodies and set them alight.

Patches of blood near the car showed where the victims had fallen. Three bodies were found lying near the car and the badly charred body of Mr van Niekerk was found about 50 metres down the road, indicating he tried to escape.

VISITED SHABEEN

Police liaison officer Major Joahn Fouche said the four victims had apparently visited a shabeen in the township about 4pm on Saturday.

About 10pm police in Odendaalsrus received a telephone call informing them of about the killings.

Police have arrested almost a dozen men from the squatter camp and confiscated many weapons like knives, pangas and lighting sticks.

Two of the suspects are to appear in the Odendaalsrus court tomorrow and the other nine on Wednesday.

Major Fouche said no motive had been established for the killings.
Four whites die in Free State township

THE severely mutilated and partly burned bodies of four white people — three men and a woman — were found in Khotloenong township near Odendaalsrus in the Free State late on Saturday night, police said yesterday. The bodies were reportedly from Odendaalsrus and Welkom.

Three of the bodies — the woman and two of the men — were found next to a burned-out car, while the third man was about 30m further down the road, the police said.

Police yesterday arrested two men in connection with the killings.

Fouche said the four people had apparently visited a shebeen in the township at about 4pm on Saturday afternoon. Police found their bodies at about 11pm.

The names of the dead could not be revealed as relatives had not been informed yet, Fouche said. They were reportedly from Odendaalsrus and Welkom.

Theo Rawana reported that police confirmed three necklacings in Evaton near Vanderbijlpark at the weekend.

The three men were taken to their parental homes by a group of youths, were stabbed in the street and necklaced, police spokesman Capt H van Deventer said.

He said the dead men were: Isaac Mokonsa, 18, Daniel Nogie, 19, and Albert Leila, 18. All lived in Smallfarms, Evaton.

In Crossroads, outside Cape Town, three people were shot dead, two were left for dead and at least two more seriously injured on Saturday. — Sapa.
Four whites burn to death

2 arrests after attackers mutilate victims

ODENDAALSRUZ. — The mutilated and partly burnt bodies of three men and a woman — were found in Khuthabonang township near, here, at the weekend.

The bodies were among eight people burnt to death at the weekend in township violence. Two men had been arrested in connection with the discovery of the bodies late last Saturday night in Khuthabonang and police confirmed yesterday that more arrests were expected for today.

Welkom police spokesman Major Johan Pouche said the bodies were badly mutilated, with numerous stab wounds and injuries caused by other unidentified weapons.

Three of the bodies — a woman and two of the men — were found next to a burnt-out car with a Welkom registration number, while another man who had apparently tried to escape his attackers was found about 5km down the road.

Two of the bodies had been identified as Mr Basie van Niekerk and Mr Michael Frederik Beuk-lee. The names of the third man and the woman would be released when their next of kin had been informed.

Pirates had been poured over them and they had been set alight, he said.

Major Pouche said the four, all apparently from Welkom and Odendaalsrus, had apparently visited a shebeen in the township about 4pm on Saturday after consuming alcohol and having been to a Welkom function. They said that "four whites had been killed".

Immediately after the discovery of the bodies a large number of police officers were at the scene, and a helicopter was due to land at Welkom. They were capable of investigating the launch of the bodies. They said the shebeen was the scene of an earlier shooting incident.

Major Pouche quickly emphasized that he did not believe the killings were politically motivated.

Three people (the victims) normally visited the shebeen, so if it was a racial attack it would have taken place on one of their earlier visits," he said. The police spokesman said. He refused to speculate on other possible motives.

Major Pouche said the personally believed that the people they were visiting the township was a risk.

AWP area secretary Mr blitzkies Bignon told Sapa in a telephone interview from Welkom that the AWP had not formulated any definite statement on the incident as yet. If the four whites had been taken against their will to the black area, it would consider further action.

He said, however, that it appeared the victims had simply been taken to get liquor from an Odendaalsrus shebeen. White people had no place in black areas and the victims were not such ones, he said.

Police last night described the situation as quiet.

From page 1.

In the other two incidents at the weekend:

1 Police reported that three men were taken from their homes in Evaton, near Vanderbijlpark, by a large group of youths.

2 They were stabbed in the street, whereupon rubber-tyred were placed around their necks, filled with petrol and set alight, police spokesman Captain H van Deventer said.

He named the deceased: Mr Isaac Mienie, 18, of Smallfarms, Evaton, who was necklaced at 5am; Mr Daniel Nolte, 18, of Smallfarms, necklaced at 6am, and Mr Albert Lesia, 18, of Smallfarms, who was necklaced at 9am.

Mighty head of hair pulls a Boeing 737

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — Stuart man R Leitch's immense head of hair yesterday to pull a Boeing 737.

Man drowns in ski-boat drama

Staff Reporter

A PAASIL man drowned while trying to swim near water in Bismark Island to alert rescuers that two fishing companions were stranded on an overturned ski-boat in rough seas.

The ski boat capsized about 10pm yesterday. Mr D Connors, one of four men on the boat, had been warned to swim to alert the lighthouse keeper at Euless Island.

A second companion, who was wearing a life jacket, swam after him and made it to the Island just before 4am. He told rescuers he was swimming about 25 metres behind his friend and saw him be pulled up and down and then disappear.

The other two men were rescued from the hull at 10am.

The boat was presumed to have capsized after taking water from the sea at 4am. The Divine, a fishing trawler, searched for the three men until noon for the missing man.

The three survivors of the drama were taken to hospital and treated for hypothermia last night. They are Mr D Gutter, Mr R Vegas and Mr G. Lusbecra, all of PAASIL.
Violence after march refusal

JOHANNESBURG. — A boycott of white-owned businesses and allegations of vigilante violence have torn apart the CP-controlled Free State town of Edenburg after the black community were refused permission to hold a protest march.

Residents of Edenburg's small township allege that in response to their boycott, local businessmen used a vigilante group against them, with the support of the police.

This has been denied by police and the businessmen. — Sapa
MULTIPLE MURDER: Four jollers in the wrong place at the wrong time

In a place where hell broke loose...

Next week 28 people are due to appear in court following the shocking murder of four whites in a Free State township.

IVOR POWELL visited Kutoanoing where the killings occurred

[Graphic of a crime scene]

Scene of the crime — a bloodstained patch of earth marks the site of a multiple killing in a small Free State township

[Another graphic of murdered weapons]

Two (seemingly significant) Klapmuts brandy boxes, are the instruments used to kill four people looking for liquor

[Text continues with a detailed account of the events, names, and locations involved in the multiple murder case.]
a mother bades her child

Bathing beauty ... innocence and love not far from the spot where four people were murdered and burnt.

Look, what can you expect if you go into the location at night? It's not a place for white people. Mean it's terrible, but that is all I can say.

In one shop we happened to walk into, the owner was delivering a tirade against one consumer boycott. "This F...ing ANC is not going to close down my F...ing shop. I'd rather let my F...ing mother-in-law close down my F...ing shop than this F...ing ANC," he said in part.

Perhaps surprisingly the shop was empty except for the speaker and his interlocutor, another fat khaki-clad white.

Perhaps the most revealing — if obtrusively so — of the scene was in the seemingly innocent form of a garden ornament. A grotesque racial stereotype type of a black child, complete with swollenned, painted lips, cut from wrought iron and holding up a street number, it said as much as it was needed about the attitude of the whites of the town the blacks call "O.D." towards their neighbors in the township.

It was in the neighboring township that in the late evening of Saturday, September 29, around four, there was a commotion in the depths of Khotso-

ngor's square camp. Two cars, one in hot pursuit of the other, careened out from the established establishment and into the squatter shacks. Threaded headlong through the rows of corrugated iron structures, bumping over the makeshift roads, desperately pursuing and desperately trying to elude pursuit.

Finally the fleeing car found its path blocked and could go no further. As the pursuers leapt from their car and confronted the four shaken whites who emerged, pleading, from there, a party of comrades, guarding the camp, happened to come to the scene.

Whether the local self-defence unit really believed that four whites — one a woman — beggars for their lives and offering money, their car, every possession they had if only their lives would be spared, could really be thought to constitute any kind of valid force inciting township violence (as has been claimed) remains doubtful.

It seems far more likely that the response of the armed comrades was of a more instinctive order: the squatter camp, been at flashpoints for two days, and there was the spark required.

For all hell to break loose. People liv-

ing nearby reported seeing a great blaze of fire lighting up the sky as the car driven by the whites was set alight. There were screams and howls as the bodies were hacked and stabbed and mutilated, then, according to some reports, at night.

People, including members of the self-defense unit, were running in all directions to get away from the horror.

The whole thing reportedly continued for something like a last hour before the police arrived, and gradually all was still again, save for the smoke, the dying flames, the smell, according to witnesses, of burning flesh.

The occupants of the car which had started all this and their vehicle were nowhere to be seen, they had left while the going was still good, and their identity as well as their motive remains a mystery. So many of the comrades have been arrested — 30 to date — and police in-

vestigations are continuing.

Standing there, incriminating that little patch of blackened earth surrounded by it by the flat gray earth of the squatter camp, it is all too impossible to imagine what happened there.

We did help, when, visiting the po-

lice station, we saw a row of exhibits relating to the case ranged neatly along the wall of a bleak office and filled (somewhat significantly) in Kikidriri.

Here were the murder weapons: a panga clean, shiny, free of blood. A sjambok, a knobkerrie, a headed rod, an almost pathetically thin stick with a sharpened point, a couple of African National Congress and South African Communist Party badges. It was impossible to discern in these poor weap-

ons the story they could tell.

The residents of Khotsoeng town-

ship and the squatter settlements which surrounded it remained nearly at bewil-

dered by the incident as we were. And to no person, the accused we spoke to, roundly condemned the killings.

"Whites come into this township all the time. We welcome them," said one of the township's leading teachers and characters who goes by the name of Javis. "These are the whites we want to know, the whites who also want to live in a new South Africa. I just cannot understand how a thing like this could have happened."

"I just don't understand," he said again and paused no longer.

Johannes, a young worker, who had come on the scene of the killing within minutes, was equally uncom-
prehending: "You couldn't see what was going on. It felt like madness, like the whole world was frozen. It was a terrible thing."

The attack's "dreadnoughts" might extend beyond the shifting borders of Khotsoeng.
Nine workers were killed in fighting between hostel dwellers at Rand Mines' Harmony gold mine near Virginia at the weekend, a mine spokesman said today.

A special investigation committee would meet worker representatives today to determine the causes of the violence, which also left 37 in hospital — one critically injured.

The fighting had broken out late on Saturday night and continued sporadically into Sunday morning.

Racial tension raised its head at the mine earlier this year when a white employee, Steve Buitendag, was killed in fighting after a worker meeting.

Since then workers have gone on strikes over wages and the arrests of workers in connection with Mr Buitendag’s death.
A passion for soccer and anti-communism

FEW South Africans have heard of the Eagles clubs but there are 500 of them nationwide, held together by a team of 80 members of the organisation’s staff and consuming finances which run to more than R1-million a year.

The clubs concentrate on recruiting youth from the townships. They are anti-communist and pro-Christianity and they favour the strategy of negotiation, the institution of equal social rights and advancement by education.

That’s how the deputy director of the Eagles, Lexon December, outlines his Bloemfontein-based organisation.

December, a former rugby player from the Eastern Cape and former senior clerk for the Development Board, has travelled the world on behalf of the Eagles. He has attended Youth Action Training in Taiwan and has also been trained in Israel. This has provided valuable experience for the training courses he co-ordinates for Eagles members, he says.

The Eagles enterprise, adds December, has nothing to do with the government and is privately funded. It was founded by a political scientist with a passion for soccer, Dr Dawid Marx, who is director of the organisation.

December and Marx began their working relationship on the sidelines of some playing field back in 1981 and have remained together since.

“Every year we’d go overseas with Dr Marx and there we would get to talk to various firms about funding,” Elite van Vuuren, who is responsible for fund-raising as public relations officer for the Eagles, says much of the support comes from abroad although international donors prefer to keep their names confidential.

“I believe that big business gives us money because we are against communism and for democracy,” says Van Vuuren.

December agrees that opposition to communism is one of the Eagles cornerstones—but it is not the only facet of the organisation.

He holds strong personal views on communism. “I’ve seen with my own naked eyes what has happened with communism in China.”

Have his travels extended into the People’s Republic of China? “Well, in communist China I went as far as the border,” he replies.
... fighting an ugly war

O

ONE day in Hararebe township the Eagles and the comrades went to war.

It was in early September but it could have happened on any day, so long have these antagonistic forces lived cheek-by-jowl in the stunned off-shoot of Edinburgh in the Free State.

Signs of fighting — grids of broken window panes in mud-brick walls and hands covered with cuts — suggest that remote Hararebe might not be so different from other centres of political conflict — the war-torn areas of Natal and the Reef.

Hararebe is a settlement where poverty seems almost to have made them stand still. Where, for instance, years after the great Free State floods people still live in tents provided when their homes were swept away by the waters.

The comrades in Hararebe (Tambor Township, to them) are part of the African National Congress, the South African Youth Congress and the Congress of South African Students.

The Eagles are more difficult to pin down. They were founded as a youth group in the early 1970s by a Bloemfontein-based Economist and achieved brief fame last year for their support for the blacks getting armed and for intermittent clashes with rival groups.

The recent September "war" began when ANC-aligned organizations declared a consumer boycott because they had been refused permission to conduct a legal picket march in Edenvale.

According to local party secretary Teko-
ko Shiki, once an Eagle himself, trouble began when the Eagles flooded the boycott.

"These Eagles intended to disturb the whole thing without even having a need to go to the shops," he said.

"They ignored appeals from the stores to observe the boycott and went again to town, coming back with weapons supplied by the shop owners. We saw that they were not interested in talks and this resulted in war."

"On the afternoon both Eagles and comrades fought ferociously. Nothing has been attacked in the dead of night," Shiki reckoned that five comrades had been hit by recent and eight belonging to Eagles members.

He alleged that Eagles members were of ten seen in the company of the police in the township at night. "We call them the Inkafutas because they are doing the same things as Inkatha," he added. "The moment we can relax our opposition to them in this town they can grow dramatically."

Leading Eagle member Johannes Steen
tman rejected the label Inkaftu, and said Hararebe had divided into comrades and other residents. "Non-comrade people don't believe it's yet time to hold a boycott here."

He was aware that people believed the Eagles were funded by the government, "I really don't know if it is. Eagles organizers have explained to us it is sponsored by the private sector."

The members of the Eagles' youth group are confident that their group stands for Christian principles. They're less certain why it is that they're engaged in a war with the local comrades.

By JO-ANNE COLLING

Eagles member Miriam Seeko had been a member for five years, but she was not clear what the organization's principles are.

After attending training courses and youth camps, she knew little about the Eagles. "We have now told the organizers we want to know more about it. We are busy finding out what its main objective. The answers are not so clear, but we are keeping up."

Seeko recalled that the Eagles were on their way to "a holiday camp in Transkei near Waartenburg" when a fight with the comrades took place in January. But she is not sure why the comrades dislike the Eagles:

"Our principles are education, Christian and nationalistic," she recited.

Despite these objections to being identified with the government, the Eagles have certain things in common with it. Chief among these is their antipathy to boycotts.

Their opposition to school and rent boycotts had already been established in townships of the Free State and Vaal where they became nationally known for their support of the rebel cricket tour in January.

The Eagles were conspicuous in the stands in Bloemfontein, Kimberley and at the Wanderers in Johannesburg. A group of the Eagles was to have been banned from Edenvale to Kimberley for the tour. Com-

dates tried to stop them leaving — and more than a score were detained under the Emergency as a result.

Youth Congress leader Sikisi is a drop-
out Eagle. He was recruited in 1963 and got to a promising start at a training camp held at Roodewald, he said. The re-
ward for his good performance was a free holiday at Ungabahla holiday resort on the Natal coast.

"They played films on communism and the like at Roodewald. We were warned against communists and told to be friends of the SADF. We were expected to serve as an example to other students and pass on the knowledge we had gained."

He said physical training extended no further than normal school-style PT. It was not military in any way.

The South African Communist Party bot-
ton wisked from Sikisi's T-shirt as he spoke. It was hard to imagine that he had been part of an anti-communist grouping.

He slugged: "In 1983 I was still young. The promises the Eagles made were hard to resist. Promis-
tes of bursaries and of leadership certificates that will get you a job. Political innocence seems to be a hall-
mak of the Eagles. It explains Miriam Seeko's belief that being an Eagle and cricket was 'going on holiday' and the uncer-
tainty as to what the organization is about.

The Eagles themselves do not know why they fight the comrades. Are there other, more knowing people lurking behind?"
Bloemfontein "boycott over"

BOLEMFONTEIN. The six-week-old black consumer boycott here was lifted yesterday morning after an agreement was signed and a forum established on Wednesday night to negotiate on future problems of mutual concern.

Sallent points of the agreement are that the Bloemfontein city council will supply water in the squatter areas in Manguang and will test faulty electricity meters. A technical committee will be formed to investigate the problems with water and electricity."—Sapa.
Eight more die in Free State taxi war

By SOPHIE TEMA

MANDELA PARK – a squatter camp near Odendaalsrus formed recently by homeless families – has become a war zone of feuding taxi operators.

Eight people were killed last weekend after fighting broke out between the Mohlauza and NI Speedy Taxi associations in Kutlwanong, bringing the death toll in the township to 11.

Political and civic organisations in Kutlwanong plan to give the dead a mass burial on a date still to be decided.

Residents claim “Russians” – blanket-wearing Basotho men – assisting one of the feuding groups were responsible for attacks on homes, including that of activist Joseph Mayekiso.

Mayekiso escaped by hiding above the ceiling of his house while his wife and child locked themselves in the bathroom as a group of men smashed windows and attempted to raze the house.

Representatives of the ANC’s Odendaalsrus branch, Sello Dithebe and Simon Menong, said there had been a vilification campaign against Mayekiso after a smear pamphlet mentioning his name was circulated in the township.

Dithebe and Menong said they had received reports that some of the people who raided Mayekiso's home were wearing dresses. Mayekiso and his family have temporarily left Kutlwanong.

Fighting among taxi people has claimed more than 50 lives in the past two months throughout the country.

Dithebe and Menong said people were killed after a white minibus was seen driving towards the area on Sunday at about 1.45am.

They alleged the victims were dragged from their homes and shot and hacked to death outside the squatter area.

Mandela Park residents told City Press people had formed “neighbourhood watch groups” to keep unruly elements out of the area.

Dithebe said: “The people at the camp are terrified and we cannot understand why they are affected by a war which started among taxi people.

“We suspect there is a ‘third force’ working to get them out of the camp.”

Those who died last weekend were David Mokoena; Petrus Segoe Moalale; Zabuya Khoza; Elias Mazibuko; William Mohau; Molefe Ramakau and Wellington Matsawane.

The eighth name and those of two taxi drivers who died during the fighting were not available.

There are rumours that the leader of the “Russians”, whose name is not known, has also been killed.
Teacher missing after pupils, vigilantes clash

By WALLY MISHELE

PEARS of a vigilante hit squad are mounting in the Free State township of Lepholo near Bethulie, following the disappearance of a school teacher after violent clashes between pupils and police last week.

Tuesday Tsuelle was last seen on Tuesday last week. Witnesses said police had opened fire on schoolchildren who were fighting a group of armed men — allegedly vigilantes — who had launched a surprise attack.

Pupils of Wongaletsu Secondary School, where Tsuelle teaches, claim to have seen him running amid a group of fleeing children. They say he was bleeding profusely.

Pupils and activists fear Tsuelle, who is the chairman of the local African National Congress branch and of the civic association, may have been abducted by vigilantes.

A Bloemfontein police representa-

live, Lieutenant J van der Merwe, said police were not holding him.

In a police swoop that followed the clash, four people — among them a teacher and a school pupil — were detained, according to another teacher. Van der Merwe did not comment on the alleged detentions.

It is also alleged that a policeman accompanied a group of vigilantes who invaded Wongaletsu school last week.

The vigilante group, called the "Peacemakers", burned the school, armed with pangas, axes, knobkerries and shotguns — disrupting examinations. An angry crowd of pupils cornered their attackers in one of the school offices, and set it alight. A contingent of police arrived on the scene and opened fire. Nine pupils, including a nine-year-old who had eight bullet wounds, were injured and taken to Pelopold hospitals.

Bloemfontein.

Van der Merwe said that "a group of people known as 'Peacemakers' went to the school and were attacked by pupils... they were locked inside the school yard and the school was set alight".

Police tried to tell the group to disperse and, when they refused, rubber bullets were fired, injuring nine pupils, she said.

The attack came a week after the children of police and councillors were ejected from the school by Congress of South African Students activists.

Pupils from the local school claim to have seen the "Peacemakers" holding long meetings at the council's administration offices since Friday last week.

Tension in the township has also increased since the launch of a consumer boycott against white-owned businesses last month.
Memel meeting to break boycott

By MATHUBE-MFOLOE

A POLICE delegation, backed by members of the conservative Memel Town Council, met local civic leaders to resolve mounting tensions between police and residents in the north-eastern Orange Free State township this week.

Memel residents called for an indefinite consumers' boycott of businesses in the Werk rampde town on Monday, alleging that police were harassing and intimidating residents.

Residents said Memel town was practicing segregation, despite the repeal of the Separate Amenities Act by the Government earlier this year.

"Memel town is the only town provider of consumer goods to the nearby township," the local ANC Youth League president, Mr. Themba Thela, said.

Police had allegedly assaulted a number of youths in town, and several had been charged and fined R30 "for no apparent reasons.

In the meeting, Thela lashed out at the police, who, he said, were "serving conservative and were not equal.

The allegations were denied by the police who said they were in the township to maintain law and order.

Police said youths who were charged and fined had "thrown stones" at them.

Thela asked for all charges against the arrested youths to be withdrawn.

Appealing for cooperation and mutual understanding between police and residents, the head of the Bethlehem security police, Captain Cofin Robert, said:

"Let us forget about the past."
WELKOM — About 400 members of the National Union of Mineworkers were attacked by members of the Afrikaner Weerstandsbevegig at a meeting here on Sunday, union members alleged.

The union said four NUM members, including the regional chairman of the union, Mr. Jan Selepe, were injured and had to receive hospital treatment. Police are investigating.

The AWB yesterday denied any involvement in the alleged attack.

Mr. Selepe said about 50 "Khaki-clad men, wearing swastikas" had arrived on motor bikes and motor vehicles and attacked them in front of the NUM regional office.

The assault was allegedly carried out with sjamboks, pickaxes and shotguns.

A police spokesman denied allegations by NUM members that they had recognised policemen among the khaki-clad attackers. — Sapa
Militant youths in Maokeng, township in the Free State, have taken to the streets and burnt two vehicles as tension continues to mount after water was cut off last Friday by the National Party-controlled Kroonstad town council.

"This place is full of youths. Anything can happen at any moment," Mr. Dennis Bloem, organiser of the ANC-aligned Maokeng Democratic Crisis Committee, told Sapa yesterday morning.
NUM to act over attacks

By MATSHUBE MFOLOE

The National Union of Mineworkers is to petition the Minister of Law and Order following weekend attacks on its members at Welkom by alleged members of the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging.

Several union members were injured and national executive member of the union Mr. Jan Selepe was stabbed in the face when 50 AWB members, dressed in khaki uniforms, pounced on a union meeting on Sunday.

Selepe has been admitted to the Ongwediva Hospital.

NUM press officer Mr. Jerry Majaila said the attack occurred while members were attending their regional meeting.

"Police spokesman Major Johan Fouche said they would investigate only when the union laid a formal charge."
Tumahole protests against switch-off

By SOPHIE TEMA

IRATE residents of Tumahole, Parys, renewed a consumer boycott on Friday while members of the Tumahole Civic Association (TCA) staged a sit-in at the local National Party offices to protest against water and electricity cuts.

A stayaway has also been called for tomorrow.

The protesters vowed they would not budge until water and electricity had been restored to the township.

A memo was handed to the NP’s vice-chairman in Parys, JF van Pieterse, who promised to take the matter to a government minister – “once I know which Minister to talk to”.

TCA official Archibelo Thokolo said in a statement that earlier talks with the Parys Town Council had led to the lifting of a six-year-old rent boycott.

An agreement was reached that residents pay a flat rate for services of R18.50 from September this year.

“However, on Tuesday this week the Parys Town Council decided to cut off the water supply – including the temporary supply the TCA installed in the four squatter areas,” Thokolo said.

The cuts stemmed from arrears owed by a previous committee – The Tumahole Town Committee – which had since resigned.

He said the Parys Town Council demanded repayments of R25 000 a week, which was later reduced to R20 000 a week.

In the last payment the committee could only make up R13 000, which resulted in the drastic action.

Kiddies from Tumahole hit the road in search of water.

Maokeng violence looms

CHANCES of a negotiated settlement to the crisis in Maokeng, Kroonstad, slipped further away on Friday when the ANC Youth League announced plans to launch a “militant” mass action campaign next week.

An extremely tense Maokeng has been without a normal water supply for the past three weeks, after the Kroonstad municipality cut off water and electricity because of a services boycott by residents.

“We are now going to take this matter up with a mass campaign,” said executive member Daniel George.

White businesses in the NP-controlled town have also been hit hard by a consumer boycott, which according to local businessmen has resulted in an average 70 percent drop in business.

Next week’s planned mass action campaign could include a stayaway, George said, but refused to divulge details.

Kroonstad treasurer At Olesen said it clear this week that his council would only switch on water and electricity after payment by the Maokeng Council.

“If we can get the people of Maokeng to pay an amount arranged with the town council of Maokeng, so that they can pay us, we will reconnect.”

But violent confrontation looms as residents are adamant they will not pay.
RIOTS & DISTURBANCES - O. F. S.

1992
Union urges strong action on terror

BLOEMFONTEIN — The Government could no longer ignore its responsibility to act firmly against those responsible for the "terrorist" murders of innocent citizens, Free State Agricultural Union president Dr Pieter Gous said yesterday.

Compulsory death sentences were the only acceptable punishment for these "barbaric and abhorrent terrorist attacks", he added.

Gous said it was with shock and alarm that the Free State farming community had noted the attacks on innocent party-goers in the eastern Cape and on another Free State farm family at Marquard.

He said it was to be hoped that "these blatant and cold-blooded murders and assaults" had finally killed the doubts of many organisations and individuals that these were really politically inspired attacks on whites.

For more than a year, while attacks and murders of farmers had become common, the union had warned that these assaults would escalate if the State did not act firmly and with determination.

Throughout, the targets were innocent and defenceless and often elderly civilians. With almost every attack, the barbaric nature and level of cruelty had increased.

The attackers were clearly trained and armed terrorists who were conducting a reign of terror to drive whites from their land. However, the union had been publicly rapped over the knuckles on several occasions by spokesmen who contended it was the criminal element and the unemployed who were responsible.

Gous said that, in the light of the latest attacks, the farming community called urgently on the Government to act firmly before more families died or people started to take the law into their own hands.

— Sapa.
18 wounded in Free State strike

EIGHTEEN people were wounded at the Central West Co-operative at Viljoenskroon in the Free State on Friday morning when striking workers and security officers clashed. (277) (26)

The SABC said the strikers apparently attacked the co-operative's security offices with sticks and stones and the guards retaliated with firearms.

The police arrived at the co-operative shortly after the incident and were also attacked with stones. Five police vehicles were damaged. (299)
Police, army hunt grenade attackers

PICKSBURG. — Police and army units are searching for four attackers responsible for a grenade, petrol bomb and gun attack on the home of a Picksburg police widow.

Bloemfontein police said Mrs C G Roos and her two daughters, aged 12 and six, were awakened soon after 10 last night by their barking dogs and people running past their house.

Moments later the house was shaken by several explosions and gunfire.

Mrs Roos, a police warrant officer's widow, and her daughters were unhurt and fled to their neighbours for safety.

A police patrol, manning a roadblock on the nearby Picksburg bypass to Lesotho, heard the shots and explosions and rushed to the scene.

On their way, shots were fired at the police vehicle and Sergeant O Coetzee was wounded in the left knee.

Shots were also fired from the road start at a passing minibus taxi on its way to the nearby Lesotho border post.

A passenger, Mrs K Tsotetsie, 44, was hit in the back and seriously wounded.

Other policemen who had arrived at the Roos home also came under rifle fire. Police returned fire and the attackers fled.

Four people had apparently been involved in the attack on the Roos home, police said. They also confirmed that a hand grenade had been lobbed through the bedroom window of one of the Roos children.

The house had been peppered by rifle fire.

Near the house police found several exploded and unexploded petrol bombs and a number of spent R4 or R5 rifle cartridges.

The injured policeman and the wounded taxi passenger were taken to the Bethlehem hospital where their conditions were described as serious.
Two killed, guards hurt in Welkom mine shoot-out

Security guards at the Free State Geduld mine near Welkom shot dead two people in a pre-dawn shoot-out yesterday, mine owners Anglo American Corporation and police said.

Both security guards were wounded in the shooting.

Adam Prinsloo and Michael Mogloto noticed a suspicious-looking vehicle near the mine’s No 1 shaft at 3am.

The vehicle sped away as they tried to stop the driver to investigate. The security guards chased the car in their own vehicle and forced the driver to stop, police said.

Mogloto walked towards the car. The driver jumped out and fired at Mogloto, police said. One of the bullets grazed his head.

Prinsloo jumped out and was also shot at. He returned fire, and two men in the car were shot dead. A third was wounded.

Prinsloo is in a serious condition at the Ernest Oppenheimer Hospital in Welkom. Mogloto is in a stable condition.

A revolver was seized and the wounded suspect is being held by police.
ANC, DP pact on intimidation

THE Democratic Party said yesterday it accepted that the leadership of the ANC in the northern Free State were not involved in intimidation and violence against DP members.

Both parties agreed that while DP members were being intimidated and assaulted, the ANC leadership was not involved, a statement said.

A war of words erupted earlier this week between the ANC and the DP over the violent break-up of a DP public meeting in Khayelitsha.
Cops rushed to border areas after farm attacks

A TEENAGE girl was killed and five people wounded in two separate attacks on whites in remote areas of the country at the weekend.

Although police could not connect the two attacks, on a farm near Ficksburg in the Free State and on a bakkie travelling on the Queenstown-Dordrecht road inside the Transkei, police spokesman Captain Steve van Rooyen said yesterday it seemed as if whites were again being singled out for attacks.

Nobody has claimed responsibility for the attacks which came less than a month after the Azanian People's Liberation Army said it was responsible for two attacks in the Border region which killed five whites.

Following the hand grenade and gun attack on a farm near Ficksburg during which 14-year-old Leonie Pretorius was killed late on Saturday night, police have launched a massive manhunt to track down the attackers.

Request assistance

Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha said yesterday he had requested the assistance of the Lesotho Government in a bid to find the attackers who hurled a hand grenade at the house before firing shots into the room where Leonie, her brother and a friend were watching television around midnight.

The attack was the second on white farmers in the area in less than 10 days.

Nobody was injured during the first attack when a Ficksburg home was damaged in a hand grenade, firebomb and gun attack.

Botha has said Lesotho promised to assist in the search for the attackers.

Sapa reports that police were yesterday being rushed to the South African border with Lesotho to protect white farmers after Saturday's armed attack.

Major-General Tertius Calitz, Commissioner of Police in the Free State, said police would be sent to farms between Clarens and Zastraan immediately.

There are about 200 farms along the Lesotho Border. South African police have also mounted roadblocks on the Queenstown-Dordrecht road in the wake of a gun attack in which five people were wounded on Saturday afternoon - Sapa
NEWS IN BRIEF

Lesotho joins manhunt

LESOThO's government had given SA its full co-operation in tracking down those responsible for a gun and hand grenade attack on a Free State farm on the Lesotho border on Saturday night, Foreign Minister Pik Botha said yesterday.

He said he had been in contact with Lesotho's government and that joint SA/Lesotho police operations had been launched to hunt down the attackers.

Leonie Pretorius died in the attack, the second, in the Ficksburg area.
Police sent to protect border farms

Police are being sent to the border with Lesotho to protect white farmers after Saturday's attack on a Ficksburg farmhouse in which Leonie Pretorius (14) was killed by gunmen.

And after a weekend attack in Transkei, police have warned motorists to avoid the area or enter it at their own risk.

Free State Police Commissioner Major-General Tertius Calitz said last night that policemen would be sent immediately to farms between Clarens and Zastron.

There are about 200 farms along the Lesotho border.

Police said the three men who launched the attack had fled across the border.

Free State Agricultural Union president Dr Pieter Gous has warned that farmers would take the law into their own hands and root out attackers.

He was commenting after the farmhouse attack and a second attack on whites in Transkei earlier on Saturday.

A joint SA-Lesotho hunt was launched after the attack in which Leonie died. The gunmen had fired shots into the room where she, her brother and a friend were watching TV.

Police Commissioner General Johann van der Merwe has offered a R100,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the killers.

The second attack took place about 7 km inside Transkei when a man in a bakkie opened fire with an automatic rifle on a Dordrecht family, wounding J D Coetzer (78) and her son, L Coetzer (52), his wife (49) and their son (22).

One of the Coetzer family returned fire and, in the ensuing gun battle, the driver of a passing truck, I J Schutte from Dordrecht, was wounded.

Police warned motorists to use an alternative route.

- A 36-year-old man was found stabbed to death on the Border farm, Oaklands, yesterday morning.
- Transkei leader Major-General Bantu Holomisa yesterday condemned the attack on motorists on the Queenstown-Dordrecht road in Transkei, but added that "the whole thing is becoming suspicious."
- "I fail to understand that if it was Apia (that carried out the attack) why they would be concentrating these things in and around Transkei."

Apia is the Azanian People's Liberation Army, which has claimed responsibility for two recent attacks on whites in the Border area. — Staff Reporter and Sapa.
Security crackdown

New Years now of revenge attacks

Emergency meeting with ministers

7 terror attacks infiltrate farms

23 districts declared unrest areas
Tough measures in parts of E Cape and Free State

The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. — Twenty-three magisterial districts in the Eastern Cape and Free State — the scenes of most of the alleged Apia attacks on farmers — have been declared unrest areas.

The move, announced in a Government Gazette by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr. Hermus Kriel, today, came hours before he and two other ministers were to address an emergency meeting in Ficksburg.

In effect, the notice, in terms of the Public Safety Act, throws a "security blanket" over the buffer strip between Ciskei and Transkei and along the eastern Free State border with Lesotho, leaving only a "corridor" between South Africa and Maseru, Lesotho's capital, through the Ladybrand magisterial district.

According to the gazette, the magisterial districts of East London, Komga, King William's Town, Stutterheim, Queenstown, Callicart, Indwe, Wadehouse, Stekensig, Aliwal North, Mafikeng, Elliot, Barkly East, Lady Grey, Bethlehems, Fouriesburg, Kestell, Ficksburg, Ooicon, Wepener, Zastron, Rouxville and Bethulie are unrest areas following a spate of attacks on farmers.

Security forces are given sweeping search and seizure powers and wide powers of arrest in an attempt to combat the rising tide of violence.

An Army spokesman confirmed that members of commando throughout the Transvaal, and especially the platteland, had been put on 24-hour stand-by to help the police.

However, he emphasised the alert was "nothing extraordinary" but was part of the normal operation of commando forces in rural areas.

The alert has fuelled fears that the situation in rural areas could get out of hand.

An Army source said the "feud psychobells" among farmers and an increase in armed forces in the area was a recipe for disaster.

"We could soon have full-scale civil war if members of farmers unions or political groups take the law into their own hands," he warned.

The Nederberg Kerk has condemned recent terrorist attacks in the Eastern Cape as part of a "sick" onslaught against innocent whites. It has called on the government to consider the death penalty for perpetrators.
ORF wants justice

Free State farmers want to make out revenge after attacks
Ficksburg farmers in grip of fear and fury

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Hundreds of angry Free State farmers and their frightened families flocked to Ficksburg Town Hall to voice their concern about the spate of murders in the area.

Women, children clutched to their sides, said it had become nerve-racking living on the remote farms and they were concerned about the safety of their little ones.

Worried farmers, who had gathered around bakkies lining the streets, said the situation had become dangerous and extreme measures needed taking.

Most agreed they had to adopt the “agrisc-alert” system used by Rhodesian farmers during the bush war, where farmers linked up with one another via radio. They said that way they could keep in constant contact with neighbours, check up on each other regularly and communicate easily with police.

Farmers also want each household to be issued with an automatic weapon.

Mrs Laura Naudé, who lives with her husband and five young children about 8km from the farm on which 14-year-old Leonie Pretorius was killed a few days ago, said: “We have farmed here all our lives and we will just have to adapt to these violent times.”

Mrs Naude, who supports no political organisation, said she carried her gun everywhere, but if, she said, it would be useless against terrorists armed with automatic rifles.

Mrs Naudé said farmers were also responsible for protecting their workers, who were also terrified by the recent attacks.

She said she fretted constantly about the safety of her elderly in-laws, who, she did not want to name for security reasons. They lived alone on a farm outside Clocolan, and their nearest neighbours lived more than 8km away, she said.

Their immediate neighbours were bludgeoned to death in August. More than 200 policemen, who were deployed in the Ficksburg area at the weekend, surrounded the hall during the lively meeting.

While police barricaded surrounding roads, farmers ended the four-hour meeting and marched to the police station to call for better co-operation between police and farmers.

In the volatile atmosphere, heavily-armed local Afrikaner Weerstandbeweging members seized the opportunity to recruit new members. They carried flags which said: “It could be your child.”

The heavy police presence prevented a nasty incident during which a right-winger claimed that a black person, standing safely behind two policemen, had threatened to kill him “very slowly.”

PROTEST! Free State farmers show how they feel as they march to attend a meeting at Ficksburg’s community hall.
Trio in custody over killings

Staff Reporters

Three men were arrested yesterday in connection with the murder of a farmer and his daughter in their home at Theunissen in the Free State on Monday night.

Free State police spokesman Captain Jophene van der Merwe said the three men — aged 26, 30 and 31 — were arrested at Melaging in Virginia for the attack on Kooi Ward (70), his wife Anna (68) and daughter Ammie (32) on their farm Emmaus.

She said police had originally believed two men were responsible for the attack. One gunman was killed by Miss Ward, and police believed his accomplice escaped.

Although the political Right and agricultural unions immediately linked the killings to recent attacks in the Piketberg area near the Lesotho border, Van der Merwe said investigation since the arrests confirmed the police's belief that the attack was "definitely" an attempted robbery.

The elderly farmer was shot dead after he had answered a knock on the door. His daughter killed a gunman before she died. Mrs Ward is in hospital.

The body of the intruder was found outside.
Angry farmers call for beefed-up security

By Monica Oosterbroek

Hundreds of angry Free State farmers and their frightened families yesterday flocked to the Ficksburg Town Hall to voice their concern about the spate of murders in the area.

Women, clutching their children closely to their sides, said it had become nerve-racking living on remote farms, and that they were very concerned about the safety of their children.

Agreed

Worried farmers who had gathered around bakkies lining the streets told The Star the situation had become very dangerous, and that extreme measures had to be taken.

Most agreed they had to adopt the ‘alert’ system used by Rhodesian farmers during the bush war, when farmers formed a radio network. They said this would allow them to keep in constant contact with neighbours, check up on each other regularly and communicate easily with the police.

Farmers also want each household to be issued with an automatic weapon.

Laura Naude, who lives with her husband and five young children about 5 km from the farm on which 14-year-old Leonie Pretorius was killed a few days ago, said: “We have farmed here all our lives and we will just have to adapt to these violent times.”

Naude, who supports no political organisation, said she carried her gun everywhere. But, she said, it would be useless against terrorists armed with automatic rifles.

Naude said farmers were responsible for protecting their workers, who were also terrified by the recent attacks.

She said she fretted constantly about the safety of her elderly parents-in-law, whom she did not want to name for security reasons.

They lived alone on a farm outside Clocolan, and their nearest neighbours lived more than 6 km away.

Their immediate neighbours were bludgeoned to death in August.

More than 200 policemen, who were deployed in the Ficksburg area at the weekend, surrounded the hall during the lively meeting, and police barricaded surrounding roads.

When the farmers ended the four-hour meeting, they marched to the police station to call for better co-operation between police and farmers.

In the volatile atmosphere, heavily armed local Afrikaner Weerstandsbrigade members seized the opportunity to recruit new members.

Carried

They carried flags saying: “It could be your child” and “PW has blood on his hands”.

While farmers returned to their farms, uniformed AWB members gathered outside the town hall, chanting and cleaning their guns before wandering across the road to a pub.

The heavy police presence prevented any violence when a rightwing extremist claimed that a black, standing safely behind two policemen, had threatened to kill him “very slowly.”
Suspects are arrested in connection with family killings

Apla didn’t murder Free State family

By Mzimkulu Malunga

THE arrests of three suspects in Virginia in the Free State on Tuesday in connection with the murder of a white family has quashed reports that the Azanian People’s Liberation Army was responsible.

In a revised statement sent to Sowetan yesterday, Malebo categorically denied having ever made such an utterance.

"We wish to state categorically that no co-operation exists between ourselves, the AWB, the police or the army." he said.

The assassinations were one of a series of attacks by Apla in the Eastern Free State. Some have even threatened retaliatory attacks into neighbouring Lesotho.

Meanwhile, the African National Congress' office in the Free State has denied reports in two leading Afrikaans newspapers attributed to the region's chairman, Mr Sekhonye Malebo.

He had allegedly said the ANC would join hands with the police, army and the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging to combat attacks by Apla in the Eastern Free State.

The arrests, according to a representative of the Free State police, Captain Johan van der Merwe, said intensive investigations had established that the motive for the killings was robbery.

Three men, aged 30, 31 and 26, were arrested in Meloding township near Virginia for the murder of 70-year-old Mr Koos Ward, his wife and daughter early this month.

"The investigations so far have not linked the killings to any cross-border attack," Van der Merwe said.

"The Theunissen killings were one of the incidents which sparked anger among white farmers and right-wing militants in the Free State. Some have even threatened retaliatory attacks into neighbouring Lesotho."
Funeral

Strength and support for one another were provided by a loving congregation at the funeral of Betty E. "Ginger" Long, who died Wednesday, Aug. 22, 2010. The service was held at the First United Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas.

Ginger was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother, and will be greatly missed by her family and friends. She leaves behind her husband, John S. Long; her daughter, Lisa Long Taylor; and her grandchildren, John, Elizabeth, and Sarah.

Alcedo

Alcedo is a popular area known for its vibrant culture and history. The city is home to a number of historical monuments and landmarks, including the Alcedo Cathedral, which was built in the 13th century.

Suicide

The Alcedo Police Department has confirmed that the body of a man was recovered from the Alcedo River on Thursday morning. The man, identified as John W. Taylor, 34, was found near the bridge that crosses over the river.

The cause of death is under investigation by the Alcedo County Coroner's Office. The police department is asking anyone with information about the incident to contact them immediately.

By: Tony Host

Killer

The killer of Ginger Long has been arrested and charged with first-degree murder. The suspect, John A. Long, 59, was taken into custody on Wednesday evening after a lengthy manhunt that lasted for several hours.

John Long is accused of killing Ginger Long in a fit of rage following an argument at their home. Authorities say that John Long is a known alcoholic and had been drinking heavily in the days leading up to the murder.

The case is still under investigation, and further details will be released as they become available.

TOP POLICE INVESTIGATORS
Attacks reward offer

JOHANNESBURG. — The police are offering a R10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for two attacks on minibuses in the eastern Free State last week.

Commissioner of Police General Johan van der Merwe announced the reward after the attacks in which one person was killed and 15 injured.

It is believed right-wing extremists are responsible.

Free State police spokeswoman Captain Johiene van der Merwe said three men were wounded when gunmen in a red Nissan bakkie opened fire on a packed minibus between Ficksburg and Fouriesburg.

In the second attack, the driver of a minibus was shot dead on the road between Clocolan and Marquard when attackers, also in a red bakkie, opened fire. At least 12 passengers were slightly injured.

The attack came days after militant Free State farmers demanded the resignation of Law and Order Minister Mr. Hernus Kriel at a meeting following the murder of a teenage girl in an attack on a Ficksburg farm.

ANC spokesman Mr. Carl Niehaus condemned the minibus attacks and repeated the ANC's condemnation of the earlier attacks on the community of Ficksburg. — Sapa
SADF alleges Apla terror plot

BLOEMFONTEIN — As tensions remained high in the Free State and soldiers continued to hold positions along the eastern border, the SADF claimed yesterday Apla was planning to use army uniforms and weapons to attack soft targets.

The officer commanding Free State Command, Brig Andre Bestbier, said Apla wanted to discredit the SADF and link it to so-called third force activities, and called on residents to report any suspicious actions to the SADF or police.

The SADF was preparing to counter any further Apla actions, Brig Bestbier said. Parabats were deployed by air to secure the eastern border area on Christmas Eve and would remain there as long as necessary, a Free State Command statement said. Soldiers from the crack 44 Parachute Brigade in Bloemfontein might be deployed along the Leoso border, the statement also said.

Meanwhile, Free State Agricultural Union security committee vice-chairman Danie Claassen yesterday denied allegations that a meeting in Ficksburg, at which Cabinet Ministers were booted, was political.

Claassen said the meeting on December 22 had been organised by the union to discuss the security situation with government and interested parties. It was not, as alleged by Law and Order, Minister Herman Kriel, a political meeting.

Ministers were heckled by the audience — many of whom wore AWB uniforms — who packed the hall to discuss an attack in which a white teenage girl was killed.

The union and the Ficksburg community were waiting for Kriel to tell them what government intended doing about the situation, Claassen said.

In another development, Claassen said it had been noted with shock that apparently a schoolboy had been run down deliberately by a truck in Ficksburg on Sunday.

Danie Keis, 15, was struck while jogging with his sister, and was discharged from hospital after being treated for concussion and bruises.

In Johannesburg, CP defence spokesman Willie Snyman said Transkei's supplying of arms to Apla and Umkhonto we Sizwe must be seen as an act of aggression by a neighbouring state.

The CP urgently requested the government to carry out its threat of hot pursuit operations across the Transkei border.

The Boere Weerstands beweging (BWB), meanwhile, said yesterday its members had been put on standby after an attack on a BWB member in Kimberley a week ago.

BWB leader Andrew Ford said the BWB would not hesitate to take the law into its own hands to restore a Boer state.

Recession buffets sports clubs

THE recession has left sports clubs in SA struggling to sustain memberships and revenues.

The Wanderers Club, one of the oldest and best known in the country, stated in its latest magazine that 1992 had been a difficult year for it and for most other clubs in SA, Sapa reports.

Members were not using the club's revenue-producing facilities, on which it is largely dependent — including what is reputed to be the longest bar counter in the world — anywhere near as much as in more normal times, the magazine's editorial stated.

"It is, of course, like that in clubs throughout the country, and the whole hospitality industry is in dire straits," it said.

"We have only to take note of what has been happening lately in some of the country's leading hotels to realise how serious the situation has become," Wanderers chairman Trevor Stubbs said the club had embarked on a new drive to halt the steady decline in membership over the past five years.

The club had also recently undertaken a survey to determine how members felt about the club's present and future offerings and facilities, Stubbs said.

Inanda Club committee member Conor Deak said he was optimistic the club's fortunes would improve next year.

Additional facilities had been provided to encourage members to make more use of the club and younger members were being taken in, he said. "The waiting lists, though, are nothing like they used to be."

Order on Beuthin

A RAND Supreme Court judge yesterday ordered that three psychiatrists assess bodybuilder Gary Beuthin to determine if he was capable of conducting a proper defence against charges of kidnapping and attempted murder.

Judge M J Strijdom said there were indications that Beuthin might not be able to follow proceedings due to some mental defect or illness.

Beuthin, 28, is accused of kidnapping Jill Reeves at Malmoes on May 12 this year and of attempting to murder her by jumping on her head. He also faces nine other related charges, including attempted extortion, robbery, theft and bilking.

Beuthin has pleaded not guilty to all but the five counts of theft and bilking.

The trial was postponed until January 29.
Tempers flare in OFS

White schoolboy knocked down by taxi

TEMPERS are again nearin boiling point in the Free State border region after a white schoolboy was knocked down by a black taxi driver near Ficksburg on Sunday.

Police are investigating the possibility that Danie Keis (15), who suffered head injuries and concussion, was deliberately knocked down while jogging with his sister.

The driver of the taxi, which hit Keis from behind, did not stop.

Police are investigating charges of attempted murder, reckless or negligent driving and failure to stop at the scene of an accident.

The Department of Law and Order has appealed to residents of the area to stay calm and not to be provoked into seeking retributive action.

Mr Danie Claassen, vice-chairman of the Free State Agricultural Union's security committee, said the community was shocked and angry after Sunday's incident. - Sapa.
‘Apla in plot to pose as SADF’

APLA cadres planned to masquerade as SA Defence Force members in attacks on soft targets in the eastern Free State, the Defence Force claimed yesterday.

Brig André Besthier of the Free State Command said he had information that the PAC’s military wing was planning to use SADF uniforms and weapons in attacks on civilians.

He did not say how Apla got the SADF equipment. He said the planned attacks were part of an effort to discredit the SADF and to link the force to so-called third force activities.

Meanwhile, AFP reports that a top Apla commander, Mr Sabelo Phama, this week refused to confirm or deny responsibility for a farmhouse attack that killed a 15-year-old white girl in Ficksburg on the Lesotho border.

Mr Phama said Apla was not waging a war against whites in South Africa, but was targeting “the security services”. But he included in “the security services” conservative farmers in the Free State, which he labelled a “reactionary province”.

- Sapa reports that soldiers from the crack 44 Parachute Brigade in Bloemfontein might be deployed along the eastern Free State border with Lesotho. Free State Command said on Monday their deployment is under consideration.

- The government had been indecisive about taking drastic steps to counter Apla violence, the Herstigte Nasionale Party said yesterday.
Tempers flare in OFS after taxi hits boy

By Braawyn Wilkinson

Tempers are again nearing boiling point in the Free State border region after a 15-year-old white schoolboy was run down by a black taxi near Ficksburg on Sunday evening.

Police are investigating the possibility that Danie Keis, who suffered head injuries and concussion, was deliberately knocked down while jogging with his sister on the shoulder of the Ficksburg-Fouriesburg road, a police spokesman confirmed yesterday.

The taxi did not stop.

Police are investigating charges of attempted murder, reckless or negligent driving and failure to stop at the scene of the accident.

The Ministry of Law and Order has appealed to residents of the area to stay calm and not to seek retribution.

Danie Claassen, vice-chairman of the Free State Agricultural Union's security committee, told Sapa that the community was shocked and angry after Sunday's incident.

He called on the SAP to offer a reward for information that could lead to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for it and other attacks.

Ministry of Law and Order spokesman Captain Craig Kotze yesterday appealed to the community to co-operate with existing security structures.

"It is vital that people do not allow emotions to swell as this would be playing into the hands of the Azanian People's Liberation Army," Kotze said.

He said South African security intelligence was working overtime to track down the perpetrators of all recent attacks in the region.

Last Sunday, 15-year-old Leonie Pretorius was killed in a grenade attack on her parents' Ficksburg farmhouse and on Thursday, a group of whites attacked two black taxis, killing a driver and injuring three other people.

Farmers believe they are being terrorised by Appla insurgents from Lesotho.

- The SADF has information that Appla intends using SADF weapons and uniforms in attacks on "soft" targets in the eastern Free State, according to the officer commanding the Free State Command, Brigadier Andre Bestebier.

Bestebier claimed yesterday the action was being planned in an effort to discredit the SADF and to link the SADF to so-called third-force activities.

- Sapa reports that three men from Meloding at Virginia appeared in the Theunissen Magistrate's Court on Monday in connection with the murders of an elderly Theunissen farmer and his daughter on December 21.

The three men, Johannes Leabi (31), Stephen Mashala (30) and Sankie Solomon Dasse (29), were not asked to plead and were remanded in custody to January 25.
CP mobilises home guard units

CP HOME guard units in the Lady-
brand area announced yesterday that
they were to establish camps to train com-
munities in self-defence and weapon
skills as a result of recent attacks on wa-
ties.

This decision was taken by the
leadership of 14 CP home guard units
in the Ladybrand area at a meeting in
the southern Free State town of
Marquard.

CP MP for Ladybrand Char
Hertzog said yesterday's meeting
was part of a nationwide mass mo-
bilation. Local home guard units
would improve and extend the exist-
ing neighbourhood watch system, he
said.

Training camps would instruct
members in weapon proficiency
and self-defence against attacks on
educators and motorists.

Hertzog also encouraged all coun-
trymen (volksgeenote) to involve them-

Police officer
beaten to death

STEPHEN COPLAN
Johannesburg police

Jerry Tloo was beaten to death by
a group of taxi drivers and
thieves in Hillbrow on Monday.

With Taxi Caucus, police
spokesman W/O Andy Piek
said yesterday:

The police officer, who was on
duty, was wearing a uniform,
approached a man suspected of
theft in order to arrest him when
the group surrounded him and
beat him to death, Piek said.

He said two men had been ar-
rested for murder but had sub-
sequently been released.

Taxi drivers questioned by the
police were asked to identify
the police officer, who was then
identified by a group of taxi
drivers as the police officer, who
was then beaten to death.

The police officer, who was
suspected of theft, was then
beaten to death by the police
officer.

Tloo was rushed to hospital in
a police vehicle after waiting for an
ambulance for more than two
hours and was pronounced dead
on arrival, Piek said.

He said those who were
not aware that Tloo was a
police officer, because the
attack might then be interpreted as
one directed specifically against
a member of the SAP.

Poliee hope arrests end
Pretoria train attacks

STEPHANE BOTHMA

The arrest of three men, allegedly
responsible for a spate of killings and
robberies shortly before Christmas,
could put an end to train attacks in the
Pretoria area, police believe.

Four attacks on Pretoria Metro trains — the first train killings in the
area this year — took place on De-
ember 16, 19 and 24 and left three
people dead and one injured.

The first attack was made on Mon-
day this week at the Modimolle
station outside Pretoria, and was fol-
lowed by two more arrests at the
Pretoria station on Monday and at
Maunabane yesterday, Northern
Province police said.

"All indications were that the
attacker's motives for the attacks were robbery and not political, and
we therefore believe the arrests will put an end to the incidents," a spokes-
man said.

Sapa reports police also announced
a man had been arrested in connec-
tion with the deaths of two policemen
on Christmas Eve in Vosloorus.

East Rand police liaison officer
Capt Ida van Zweel said the arrest of
a 21-year-old man on Monday fol-
lowed the shooting of a municipal

Women and dogs shot on smallholding

WEST Rand police discovered the bod-
ies of two women and the carcasses
of six dogs on a smallholding near
Randfontein after a woman found a
note on the door asking that the po-
liece be called.

The body of Myra Barnard, 50,
was found on her bed with a bullet
wound in her head. Her elderly moth-
ner, Florence Cherry, was also shot in

Leonie Pretorius was killed in a
grenade attack on her parents' Ficksburg farmhouse.

The transport forum, representing
all SA taxi associations, met the SAP
in Ficksburg on Tuesday to discuss
the situation.

Forum road safety campaign co-
ordinator Molefe Rapodile said yester-
day's forum would look at unlawful roadblocks manned by
boers police personnel, and the
neglect of some traffic

The police dealt with our prob-
lems most satisfactorily and assured us that roadblocks would be clearly
marked and would be staffed by iden-
tifiable police officers," he said.

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assured us that roadblocks would be clearly
marked and would be staffed by iden-
tifiable police officers," he said.
Resolved: The $270,000 [$270] for the UK's Falmouth College of Art would not be awarded. The decision was made at a meeting in the community hall yesterday. The college has been in operation for over 50 years. The resolution was passed unanimously by the community hall's board of directors. The college's funding is crucial for its continued operation. The decision was made after a thorough review of the college's financial situation and its contribution to the local community.
NORTHERN Free State police are investigating charges of attempted murder and arson after two men were wounded in a shooting incident in Virginia at the weekend.

A police spokesman said Mr Cedric Venter and Mr D Phelenbe, both of the Merriespruit Mine hostel, were among a group of people standing outside a hotel early on Sunday morning when a white man fired shots at them from a passing car. Mr Venter was hit in the chest and Mr Phelenbe in the stomach.

After the shooting incident, the hotel owner arranged for the people still outside the building to be driven home in his truck. One of the occupants allegedly set the vehicle on fire. - Sapa
TWO elderly women were seriously injured by police during a picket in Bloemfontein on Wednesday, the ANC has claimed.

ANC Women’s League organiser Ms Nosiviwe Mapisa said yesterday the women, one 55 years old and the other aged 70 years, were taken to hospital with fractures.

The picket was part of a countrywide mass action organised by the league and ANC Youth League to protest against continued violence and demand the release of all political prisoners.

A police spokesman in Bloemfontein, Major Johan Fouché, denied the allegations and said the women fell while trying to climb steps outside the security police building.

A total of 505 people were arrested during marches, pickets and sit-ins at Government and police buildings in Pretoria, Bloemfontein and Durban.

Mapisa said more than 30,000 women marched in demonstrations in the Western Cape.

She said the women would continue the action until they received further instructions from the ANC national executive committee.
ON THE MARCH FOR FREEDOM: Protests calling members of ANC march through Pretoria.

"Save the Freedom!"

Protests calling members of the ANC march through Pretoria.
ANC and Democratic Party representatives in the Free State fear violence may erupt if dialogue between the local civic association and Bethlehem Town Council does not get under way soon.

Mr Patrick Lekota, ANC leader in the Free State, Dr Rhett Kahn of the DP and Mr Robert Swan of the Bohlokong Civic Association issued this warning after a planned meeting failed to take place.

They said the Bethlehem Town Council management committee had refused to see Kahn and Lekota, who were invited to the meeting as advisers to the Bohlokong Civic Association.

The DP and the ANC representatives had been trying for more than a month to organise the talks on Bohlokong's R1.6 million rates arrears - and the alleged threat by the Bethlehem Town Council to cut off the township's water and electricity.

"The Bethlehem Town Council was only prepared to negotiate with the three former (black) town councillors."

"This was a dangerous approach because it threatened essential services for community life and heightened tensions between black and white and could easily lead to physical confrontation," they said in a statement.

The three men demanded the OFS Provincial Administration "get discussions on track between political and civic structures in Bohlokong and the white town councillors as a demonstration of the Government's desire to resolve issues through negotiation". - Sapa.
Clashes with Inkatha blamed for stayaway

By NKOPANE MAKOBANE

RESIDENTS of Thembalihle, near Vrede in the Free State, have embarked on a consumer boycott and a stayaway following clashes between alleged Inkatha and ANC supporters. Mr Zacharia Phori, an ANC executive member in the Welkom region, said several people were injured during weekend clashes, including a 12-year-old boy who was stabbed with a spear.

Initially, the conflict had been between ANC and Inkatha supporters, but it now included residents.

The alleged Inkatha members arrived in two minibuses from Sebokeng and Sandton.

Police officials

Transvaal chairman of Inkatha Youth Brigade Mr Themba Khoza said he was not aware of events in Thembalihle. However, if the boycott and stayaway had been called because of Inkatha, then it was "unfair and uncalled for".

Khoza said Inkatha had the same right as the ANC to organise wherever it pleases.

Phori said they had also received reports that more Inkatha supporters were to be bussed into the township this week.

The ANC in Welkom was due to meet police officials in Vrede yesterday.
Red badge over Foursburg

The mile-long sausage of railway track which runs along the eastern side of the town of Foursburg has been one of the most historically eventful places in South Africa.

In 1976, the town of Foursburg was the site of a violent confrontation between the police and the residents of the town, who were protesting against the forced removal of black people from their homes. The incident became known as the Foursburg Massacre, and it resulted in the deaths of 27 people. The scene of the massacre has since become a memorial site, with a monument and a museum to commemorate the event.

Today, Foursburg is a quiet town, with only a few scattered houses and a small number of people living there. However, the memory of the Foursburg Massacre is still very much alive, and it serves as a reminder of the brutal history of apartheid in South Africa.

The town is also known for its picturesque views, with the rolling hills and the surrounding mountains providing a beautiful backdrop for visitors. The local community is very welcoming, and visitors are encouraged to explore the area and learn more about the history of the town.

In conclusion, Foursburg is a place of great historical significance, with a rich and tumultuous past. It is a must-visit destination for those interested in South African history and heritage.

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The text provided is a description of the Foursburg Massacre, a violent confrontation between the police and the residents of the town of Foursburg on February 26, 1976, which resulted in the deaths of 27 people. The incident became known as the Foursburg Massacre, and it serves as a reminder of the brutal history of apartheid in South Africa.

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Foursburg is a quiet town, with only a few scattered houses and a small number of people living there. However, the memory of the Foursburg Massacre is still very much alive, and it serves as a reminder of the brutal history of apartheid in South Africa.

The town is also known for its picturesque views, with the rolling hills and the surrounding mountains providing a beautiful backdrop for visitors. The local community is very welcoming, and visitors are encouraged to explore the area and learn more about the history of the town.

In conclusion, Foursburg is a place of great historical significance, with a rich and tumultuous past. It is a must-visit destination for those interested in South African history and heritage.
No revenge in ANC's name, warns Lekota

By SOPHIE TEMI

PATRICK "Terror" Lekota of the ANC has warned residents of Mooink in the Free State against the use of violence in the township, while giving a stern warning to "comrades" about taking the law into their own hands in the name of the ANC.

The warning came after an incident in which a house was set alight by a group of comrades who claimed that some of the family were involved with the Three Million gang.

Lekota gave his warning this week in an address to about 5000 Mooink residents who had marched to police headquarters in Kroonstad to protest against violence in the township where at least 15 people have been killed in the past few months.

The marchers, led by Lekota and ANC leader Dennis Bloem, handed a memorandum to Lieutenant J Coetzer which was directed to Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok and Kroo- nuta's Commissioner of Police.

Lekota slammed comrades who took revenge on innocent people, especially parents of children involved in gangster activities.

He said it was unfair of comrades to take revenge on parents, who were not responsible for the actions of their children.

However, several people listening to him replied that parents were responsible for the deeds of their children.

An angry Lekota warned them:

"You are the ones who misled other comrades into taking the law into their own hands. If you want to go about killing and burning people's houses in revenge, do it - but not in the name of the ANC.

"The ANC does not encourage violence of any form, especially where innocent people are involved. Members of the ANC will not have blood on their hands because we believe that our struggle is a clean one."

"Our policy is one of non-violence and we have to follow this policy. If any of you feel that you can't do this, go and start your own organisation."

One of the demands contained in the memorandum to police was the arrest of the Three Million gang, which residents claim has disrupted schooling and transport and made life unbearable in Mooink.

Residents also demanded that all alleged crimes committed by the gang be investigated by a special detective unit in collaboration with the community.

They called for an independent commission of inquiry into cases which had not come before the courts for "lack of evidence".

However, several people listening to him replied that parents were responsible for the deeds of their children.
Free State town quakes under reign of terror

LIFE is no longer normal in the northern Free State township of Maokeng, where residents live in constant fear for their lives.

Telene residents on the streets, where people stare pointedly at any stranger in their midst, and at the main taxi rank in town, where taxi drivers have seen their colleagues harassed, beat-

up, stabbed or even shot, and their vehicles hijacked.

This is as normal as life can be in Maokeng, home of ANC northern Free State convener Patrick "Telene" Lekota.

The source of the widespread terror? A notorious criminal gang calling itself "ama-3-mi-

lion" which, according to residents' accounts, has embarked on a reign of terror in the town-

ship with absolute impunity.

'Collusion'

Some residents, including Mr.

Lekota, have gone as far as al-

leging police complicity in the
gang's activities, pointing out that although most of the gang's members were known to, and had at times been identified by, residents they remained free to roam the streets and terrify people as they pleased.

Gill Marcus of the ANC's publicity department this week took members of the local and international press on a tour of Maokeng and Tunaholo, Parys, to talk to residents about their problems. The press contingent was met by Mr. Lekota in Parys, and briefed before being taken on a tour.

Mr. Lekota said the ama-

3-million gang had been in exis-
tence in the township for some time. It was not until Maokeng residents demanded the resign-

ation of town councillors in December last year that "vio-

lence suddenly exploded and the gang attacked with a ferociousness never seen before".

The gang's targets, according to Mr. Lekota, were members of the community, taxi drivers, workers in Parys and ANC-aligned activists.

Mr. Lekota said the gang ac-
counted for at least 15 mur-
ders in the township since No-

vember. Each time gang mem-

bers were arrested they were released on bail and returned to townships to resume their ac-

tivities. This further eroded peo-

dle's confidence in both the po-
lace and courts, he said.

Mr. Lekota said he had per-

sonally taken the matter up with both the police and the Parys chief magistrate, who told him there was insufficient evidence to justify refusing gang members bail.

"Because of the apparent in-

ability of the police to deal with the gang, there has been a growing perception among the people that the police are in collision with the gang.

"People's perception is that

A "ferocious gang" is terrorising residents at

Maokeng near Kroon-

stad in the Free State. Political writer KAIZER

NYATSUMBA, who toured the area with an

ANC delegation, reports.

the Government, through the police, has not kept its part of the promise in terms of the Groote Schuur and Pretoria Mi-

nutes," Mr. Lekota said.

He said the security police were more co-operative and easier to work with than the criminal police who needed to be re-educated to change their hostile attitude towards the community. However, he said, there were some policemen, "who have the potential, once they understand the Groote Schuur and Pretoria Minutes, to play a very positive role".

Mr. Lekota took the press around the township to meet people who claimed to have been victims of the gang.

In one instance police were said to have taken more than five hours to come to a tavern less than 200 metres away from the police station, where gang members had just stabbed a man to death.

A police spokesman denied any collusion with the gang.

Water

Another kind of battle is rag-

ing in Tunaholo, where resi-
dents have been without water for the past two weeks. This, Tunaholo Civic Association (TCA) members told the press, was in spite of the fact that resi-
dents had been paying a monthly R28.50 for services since September last year.

The water supply was re-con-

nected on Monday, hours before the press got there, and local activists suspected that the move was an attempt by the Parys Town Council (PTC) to avoid bad publicity.

Some township residents had already received eviction no-
tices from the Tunaholo Town Council, which activists said owed a lot of money to the PTC which supplied the township with water.

Mr. Lekota said negotiations at regional and provincial levels will soon take place to discuss issues such as debts owed by townships to various white town councils as a result of rent boycotts which started in 1984. These negotiations will take place once a regional civic organisation such as the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal.
TUMAHOLE Civic Association member Ephraim Dabi was awarded R1 500 damages last week in a claim against a Parys police officer who called him a "kaffir" and threatened to assault him.

A Pretoria magistrate's court awarded Dabi damages and costs in his civil claim against the Minister of Law and Order after the Attorney-General declined to prosecute the policeman involved.

The case resulted from an incident at the Parys police station in January last year, where

"Kaffir" awarded damages

Dabi - general secretary of the Tumahole Civic Association (TCA) - and other officials were called to discuss a protest march by their organisation.

A Warrant Officer Blignaut repeatedly called Dabi a "kaffir" and threatened to assault him.

Dabi laid charges of crimen injuria.

* At an identity parade Dabi was told to place his hand on the shoulder of the person who had insulted him.
  When he tried to point out the policeman in this way, Blignaut said he would knock him flat if he touched him.

The matter was referred to the Attorney-General, but he declined to prosecute.

Dabi, well-known in the community as a councillor at the TCA, launched the R10 000 civil claim against the police with the help of the Johannesburg Legal Resources Centre.
Police dismiss gang allegations

WILSON ZWANE

The police yesterday dismissed as "totally untrue" allegations by a Free State branch of the ANC Youth League that police were giving assistance, including remuneration, to a local gang.

Local ANC Youth League education officer Meshack Moketsi said his organisation had obtained information that the Three Million Gang, which "terrorised" ANC supporters in Maekeng, near Kroonstad, was being backed by the police.

Moketsi said a person, whom he did not want named, who defected last week from the Three Million Gang had made allegations of police collusion with the gang to the local ANC leadership.

"This person alleged that the 60-member gang was being provided with a weekly remuneration of R500 by the police," he said, adding that because gang members were still at large despite their attacks being reported showed the gang was working in collaboration with the police.

More than seven people have been killed in the township since September.

Police liaison officer Lt Johiene van der Merwe spokesman denied police were giving any assistance to the gang. Allegations that the police are providing the gang with a weekly remuneration of R500 are totally untrue. It is also untrue that the police are not doing anything against the gang. Over the weekend 14 members of the group, most of them in possession of dangerous weapons, were arrested."

ANC hunger striker moved to hospital

WILSON ZWANE

A hunger-striking ANC detainee was probably transferred from a Klerksdorp prison to a hospital as a result of talks between Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok and ANC internal leader Walter Sisulu, an ANC spokesman said yesterday.

Joubertiville Civic Association chairman Henry Moleme and three other civic association officials began a hunger strike on December 31, the day after they were detained.

According to the ANC spokesman, Sisulu spoke to Vlok on Sunday about Moleme's condition, which had deteriorated to such an extent that two independent doctors feared he might lapse into a coma.

"We believe it was the intervention of Sisulu that resulted in Moleme being transferred from the prison to a hospital," the spokesman said.

Law and Order Ministry spokesman Brig Leon Mellet could not confirm that Vlok had spoken with Sisulu at the weekend.

Police spokesman Lt Nina Barkhuizen said Moleme had been transferred from prison to a hospital, but as far as she knew his condition was not critical.

The three other detainees who were arrested with Moleme on December 31 under Section 50 of the Internal Security Act were maintaining the hunger strike but were in a satisfactory condition.

A fourth detainee who had also gone on a hunger strike on December 31 had begun eating, she added.
Bloody mine battle leaves 22 dead

A BATTLE at Welkom's President Steyn gold mine left at least 22 dead this weekend.

The attack appeared to be in retaliation for an outbreak of violence last Sunday night which left 13 dead — mostly Xhosas — when a group of predominantly Xhosa-speaking miners supporting Cosatu's anti-VAT strike tried to stop Basotho miners from going to work.

By late yesterday the unofficial death toll for the week's clashes was 42.

At least 50 have been injured — 51 on Friday night — and more injured men were making their way to the Ernest Oppenheimer mine hospital yesterday, said hospital superintendent Dr Brian Brink.

Most injuries were caused by pangas and knives.

Yesterday hundreds of terrified miners fled the compound of shaft No 4, seeking refuge in other hostels or Welkom's Thabong township.

Police and mine security personnel who searched the 16 blocks comprising shaft No 4 compound yesterday morning removed four truckloads of weapons — mostly pangas and knives, but also some guns, sources said.

A number of bodies were found in the hostel block.

Distracted Xhosa-speaking miners hiding in another hostel said they had been attacked by Basothos shortly after 10pm on Friday.

Many of the Basotho miners had gone home for the weekend, but the few Sotho speakers left on the mine yesterday said Xhosas armed with sticks and pangas had stormed into their hostel.

NUM general secretary Marcel Golding, called to the scene by Freegold South regional manager Jan Rosouw, said no Inkatha supporters appeared to have been involved.

Only a few Zulu speakers are resident at No 4 shaft, sources said.

Anglo American Gold and Uranium Division spokesman James Duncan said the company was investigating complaints on public violence and intimidation, headed by Mr Justice Richard Goldstone, had been asked to investigate last Sunday's violence.

It was possible that this weekend's violence would also fall within the ambit of the investigation, he said.

Late yesterday the mine had been sealed off.
Two suspects arrested over Welkom slaying

TWO men had been arrested as the death toll from violence at Welkom’s President Steyn mine rose to 25, Free State police spokesman Lt Col Johan Fouché said yesterday.

Violence between Basotho and Xhosas broke out at the mine’s Number Four Shaft on Friday night. Fifty-one miners were injured, two seriously, in the incident.

“Two men were arrested on Saturday in connection with the incident and further arrests could be expected,” Fouché said.

He would not give details on the arrested men.

This is the second incident of violence at President Steyn’s Number Four Shaft in seven days. The first incident occurred last Sunday when a group of predominantly Xhosa-speaking miners supporting Cosatu’s anti-VAT strike tried to stop Basotho miners from going to work.

Fifteen miners were killed and 39 injured in the incident.

Anglo American spokesman James Duncan said the mine management and the NUM held talks with the leaders of the warring factions at the weekend in a bid to defuse the situation.

He would not, however, disclose results of the talks, saying that would be prejudicial to investigations by the Standing Committee on Public Violence and Intimidation headed by Mr Justice Goldstone.

Anglo has asked the commission to investigate the November 4 incident. “The situation at the mine is tense but calm and the management has refused access to the scene because it is believed that the tense situation could be exacerbated by the presence of journalists and cameramen,” he said, adding that mine management was investigating the cause of the incident.

Mine security backed by police were at the scene and it was hoped that miners would report for last night’s shift, he said.

The NUM could not be reached for comment.

Meanwhile, Sapa reports two people were killed and 22 wounded or injured in unrest-related attacks on minibus taxis since Friday night.

Police said eight people were wounded on Saturday morning on the old Warmbaths/Nylstroom road when shots were fired at a minibus from a yellow Nissan Skyline.

Two people died and 14 were injured or wounded in an attack on a minibus on the N3 highway near the Glenmore/Nigel off-ramp near Johannesburg on Friday night.

Ten people were injured when the vehicle was fired on from another minibus before overturning and catching fire.

In another incident, three minibuses were burnt out in a confrontation at the Bellville taxi rank on Saturday morning.
DP delegates allege ANC intimidation

CAPE TOWN — ANC supporters had burned down houses belonging to black DP members, attacked them and prevented them writing exams in Transvaal and Free State townships, delegates to the DP’s national congress said at the weekend.

Despite the public tensions within the party over some MPs’ links with the ANC, the DP emerged from its two-day national congress convinced that it should remain an independent force and that it would grow next year.

Hillbrow MP Lester Fuchs said he had seen how DP members were prevented from writing exams at Mashaasheeng near Lydenburg because they belonged to the DP. Also, the DP chairman’s house had been burnt down.

Welkom delegate Rhett Kahn said DP members had been attacked in Thabong in Welkom and the houses of two members.

DP delegates

had been burnt down in another township nearby.

The group of MPs strongly opposed to closer links between the party and the ANC suffered a setback at the congress.

Although the congress discussions were free of blatant tension, it was clear that these MPs had little support.

Delegates made it clear they had had enough of the public conflicts between MPs and that they rejected alliances or coalitions with other political groupings at this stage.

On Saturday morning Fuchs threatened to bring caucus tensions out into the open. Fuchs said he was “most perturbed” by his colleagues’ statements that “the aim of the DP should be to take our membership into the ANC, that the DP should be in alliance with the ANC, that DP members should be at liberty to accompany their spouses or children to ANC functions and that the DP should join the ANC in asking the US to threaten to reimpose sanctions.”

DP leader Zach de Beer said in his closing address: “The DP comes closer than any other substantial political group to being able to achieve trust to the left and to the right. Here lies the unique nature of our contribution to peace and to recovery.” Delegates gave him a standing ovation.
Second probe into Welkom violence

VERA VONIERES

A second investigating committee has been named by the Commission of Inquiry into Prevention of Violence and Intimidation to look into the unrest at Welkom's President Steyn gold mine earlier this month, chairman Mr Justice Goldstone said yesterday. More than 70 miners died in violence which broke out on November 3 at the mine's No 4 shaft.

Mr Justice Goldstone said in a statement the three-member committee, headed by commission member Gert Steyn, would hold its first meeting in Welkom on November 29. The venue still had to be finalised, he said.

The committee would investigate the relevance of the hostel system and the national anti-VAT stayaway in the violence and the reasons why the violence escalated after November 3.

It would also look at identifying the influence — if any — of political and other organisations in the violence, mine authorities' reaction to the stayaway and their communication with workers, as well as the NUM's reaction and its communication with members at the mine.

Mr Justice Goldstone said the terms had been established in consultation with the NUM, mine owners Freegold and the SAP.

He added that investigations by the committee would not influence the normal police investigations of events at the mine or any resulting prosecutions by the attorney-general.
Miners quit hostel after 8 die in clashes

Crime Staff

Miners have been moved from a hostel at the No 4 Shaft of the President Steyn Gold Mine near Welkom following weekend violence which claimed eight lives, management has confirmed.

Anglo American spokesman James Duncan said the 460 hostel residents were moved to a hostel at another mine to ensure their safety.

Eight people died and 17 were admitted to hospital after the latest unrest, which involved a number of isolated attacks on individuals by small groups.

Some of the victims were still in a critical condition last night.

Mr. Duncan said an intensive investigation into the causes of the renewed violence was being conducted and the injured and other witnesses to the attacks were being interviewed.

Discussions between management, National Union of Mineworkers representatives and other employee representatives were in progress yesterday in an effort to find a permanent solution to the problems at the hostel.

Returned

Earlier this month, clashes at the Free State gold mine claimed the lives of 76 workers and left at least 189 injured.

About 500 miners from the No 2 and No 4 shafts were sent home to Lesotho and Transkei to "cool off".

Mr Duncan said most of the inmates of the No 4 Shaft hostel had returned to the mine by yesterday.

Police said the earlier clashes were between Xhosa and Sotho factions.

Anglo refused to comment on the cause of the previous unrest, saying the matter was being investigated by the Standing Commission of Inquiry into the Prevention of Violence and Intimidation chaired by Mr Justice H J Goldstone.
Anglo to probe latest violence

ANGLO yesterday announced an in-depth probe into the latest outbreak of violence at its President Steyn mine in Welkom in which eight people died and which the NUM said was caused by outside elements.

The latest deaths bring to 94 the toll on the mine in recent weeks. Anglo management yesterday met the NUM and other miner representatives in a bid to find a permanent solution to the violence.

Eight miners were killed and 17 admitted to hospital yesterday following violence at the mine’s No 4 hostel, which Anglo said involved a number of isolated attacks on individuals by small groups.

NUM media officer Jerry Majatladi said yesterday workers not on night shift were attacked by unknown people while asleep in their hostels. This was after management had introduced a new identification system on the mine, he said.

"There is no time to waste," Majatladi said, adding that there was no tension along ethnic lines and no fighting between groups of miners.

Anglo announced an intensive investigation into the causes of the renewed violence.

Interviews were being conducted with the injured and witnesses, and management had moved 400 hostel dwellers to another hostel as an interim safety measure.

However, other mine sources said up to 1,500 workers were being moved.

An earlier outbreak of violence is being probed by the National Commission of Inquiry into Violence and Intimidation, established in terms of the national peace accord.

Anglo said order had been restored on the mine yesterday, and mine security and the SA Police were on standby.

Majatladi said some workers, fearing inadequate security, had decided not to go to work yesterday. The NUM was calling for miners not wanting to remain on mine premises to be given sleep-out allowances.

SAP Free State spokesman Capt Jehlene van der Merwe said last night the killings had been done "silently and quickly" and were not the work of "big gangs".

She said although it was too early to say exactly what had happened, investigating officers said there was no doubt that the latest attacks were "ongoing" from the last spate of violence at the mine.
IFP is opposed to Maokeng boycott

THE Inkatha Freedom Party has issued pamphlets opposing the consumer boycott and stayaways in Kroonstad. A Maokeng Civic Association spokesman, Mr Dennis Bloom, said the pamphlets were issued by the IFP office in the Orange Free State on Sunday.

An IFP spokesman, Mr Thabiso Chomane, yesterday confirmed that the pamphlets had been issued by their office after they were asked to do so by their members in the Kroonstad township of Maokeng.

He said: "We have members in Kroonstad. We even held a meeting on Sunday after we distributed pamphlets attended by executive members of different branches in the Free State."

The pamphlets called on Maokeng residents to 'refuse to align themselves with boycotts and stayaways."

The pamphlets read in part: "Are we to lose our jobs by being stopped from going to work? Are we to expose ourselves to hunger by not going to work or buying?"

Bloom condemned authors of the pamphlets, saying they were trying to start an outbreak of violence in the area. He said the people of Maokeng stood together and "no evil force" would break their unity.

He said: "We are surprised that Inkatha has the audacity to issue such pamphlets when it does not exist or have any support in Maokeng.

"The civic association want to make it very clear that nobody was ever forced to support the consumer boycott and we shall never force anyone to do so," he said.
Farm raids: OfS police pledge peace

Weekend Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The police have pledged to do everything possible to ensure “peace, harmony and stability” in Verkeerdevlei — a hotbed of racial tensions after recent attacks on white farmers and a retaliatory strike against suspected robbers.

Free State regional commissioner, Major-General Terdious Calitz, said he wished to assure the people of Verkeerdevlei and surrounding areas that the police were there to look after the interests and safety of all communities and individuals.

The general's statement follows an attack by four men on Hans Plenaaar, 77, and his wife, Johanna, 66, on Grootgewag Farm on January 5.

Galvanised by the slaying of four family members in the district two weeks earlier, neighbours converged on the Plenaaar's farm and accosted three suspects. One died of his injuries and two others were beaten up, prompting police to open murder and assault dockets.

The two survivors appeared in court on an armed robbery charge, but the case was postponed to February 14.

General Calitz "appealed to all population groups not to harbour ill feeling towards each other as a result of a few unfortunate events."

He said, "The hand of friendship must be extended towards each other."

A DORPIL IN TURMOIL

MOTIVATIONAL WENT TO INCOMPLETE

THE once-penal

It's surprising how the" 1957 up the people of the black and white community have been open to learn about the changes, the good and bad, that have occurred in the black and white community. The once-penal system, used for control and punishment, is no longer the norm. The emphasis is now on understanding, cooperation, and progress. The black and white community are working together to create a better future. The once-penal system is no longer the standard, and the focus is now on the well-being and progress of all.
The sleepy town of Verkeerdevlei has now become a site of racial tension.

Elsie mourns death of boss, ‘friend and father’

ABOUT a month after the anger sweeping Verkeerdevlei after the death of farmer Bennie Engelbrecht last December, Elsie Mogotu is left baffled and helpless.

Friend

Domestic worker Mrs Mogotu mourns because "they have killed my friend, boss and father".

Mogotu’s boss, his wife and two daughters were victims of a man who said he did it because he was "killing apartheid".

By IKE MOTSAPI

Engelbrecht, his wife Betty, daughters Lizelle and Mrs Lena Smit were gunned down in their Grootvlei farm in what is described in the area as the “senseless killing of an innocent family”.

He was loved and respected not only by whites but also by the local black community of Tshepong in Verkeerdevlei.

Mogotu said on December 22 last year she and her husband asked Engelbrecht to help them with transport in order to attend a church service in Tshepong.

She said: “He did not hesitate and said we should use his panel van.”

Soldiers

“We left about 9am and returned at 2pm only to be greeted by a lot of people, police and the soldiers.”

“This baffled us because we did not expect any problems at the farm.”

“When the police told us Bennie, his wife and two daughters had been killed l collapsed with shock.”

“I could not believe what I was being told. I only believed the story when I was later shown their bodies.”

Mrs Jeanette Maroane, who teaches at a farm school built by Engelbrecht said, “They have killed a Mosotho who was a peace-loving person.”

“This is really bad and I will not forsake the person who did this horrible thing.”
THE 300 black families of Tshepong, at Verkeerdelvei in the Free State, are living in fear of their lives following threats from the neighbouring white community.

On January 10 the white community of Verkeerdelvei met in their town hall to plan an attack, according to the chairman of the Tshepong ANC branch, Mr Neo Banyana.

The threats follow the harassment and killing of white farmers in the area since December last year.

About six black families have fled to relatives in neighbouring towns.

Tension started to build up after the December killing of farmer Mr Benne Engelbrecht, his wife, daughter and two grandchildren by a man who claimed he was "killing apartheid".

Engelbrecht was known among blacks who described him as a "white Sotho" for his kindness and association with the black community.

Two weeks after his death, another farmer was attacked but a suspect was allegedly killed by the white community before the police arrived on the scene.

Banyana said the Tshepong black community had been warned that it would be attacked at any time.

"We now fear for our lives. What worries us is that we are not responsible for what is happening. We do not even know the man who was shown on television pro-
claiming that he killed Engelbrecht because he was killing apartheid.

"Here in Tshepong we know each other very well and I want to state that we are not responsible for what is happening to the white community.

"What angers us most is that we are being subjected to bad treatment and assaults whenever we go to town."

Free State police spokesman Captain J van der Merwe said residents of Tshepong need not fear anything.

She said police were doing their utmost to restore the good relationship between the two communities.

"Free State regional commissioner of police, Major-General Tertius Calitz, will be addressing both communities tomorrow in an attempt to solve the problem," she said.
Groups meet to talk of peace

By IKOE MOTSAPI

The much-awaited peace meeting between the police, residents of Taepong, and the white community of Verkiedt in the Free State took place today.

The meeting, scheduled to start at 5:30 p.m., was held at the soccer field in Taepong.

Free State police spokeswoman Captain Jolene van der Merwe said the aim of the peace meeting was to allay the fears of Taepong residents that their white neighbours were planning to attack them.

Tension

She said Free State's regional commissioner of police, Major-General Terius Calitz, would address the meeting on the need to "continue to keep the good relationship between the two communities".

Van der Merwe appealed to all residents of Taepong to attend the meeting because "it will be important to them".

Tension between the two communities started to build up after the death of a farmer, Mr. Bonifác Engelbrecht, his wife, and two children.
Police offer township patrols

By IKE MOTSAPI

MORE police are to be posted at Verkeerdevlei’s black township of Thopeong in the Free State to ensure the safety of residents.

This was said by Free State regional commissioner of police Major-General Tertius Calitz yesterday at a gathering of about 400 of the township’s residents.

He said the decision was taken to ensure that the residents of Thopeong were “not threatened by anybody”.

Although the police had investigated rumours of possible attacks on the residents and found them not to be true, increased patrols would be introduced where necessary to ensure that everybody felt safe, Calitz said.

He made an impassioned plea for peace and good working relationships between the black and white communities of Verkeerdevlei.

He urged people to join the police reserve force unit to help combat crime in the area.
Maokeng mums to march

By SOPHIE TEM

THE women of Maokeng, near Kroonstad, have had enough of gangsters and violence.

To publicly demonstrate their anger, they intend to stage a protest march to the Law and Order Minister’s offices where they will hand over a memorandum detailing their problem.

They will also hand over a separate memorandum listing their complaints about rent arrears and water and electricity switch-offs.

Charlotte Tilo, who spoke for the women, told City Press that schools and children had been killed by gangsters and that the “Three Million” gang has been terrorising the township since last year — yet not one gangster has been convicted.

In the northern Orange Free State, the Tumahole, community near Parys has voted to start a three-month consumer boycott of white-owned businesses if their complaints about continuous water cut-offs are not dealt with.
OFS farmers vow to fight murderers

By Peter Davies

There is "an undeclared war situation" in the Free State farming community, with farmers poised to take the law into their own hands after Theunissen farmer Thys Maartens became the 15th victim of 11 separate attacks on farmers since December 1 last year.

Dr Pieter Gous, president of the Free State Agricultural Union, said yesterday: "We must look at the reasons for these attacks. "They are nothing to do with economics or survival, but are gruesome, brutal, planned murders. They are a planned effort to scare farmers from their land. And the political forces are trying to play down the seriousness of the situation."

Police on Tuesday arrested three suspects in connection with the killing of Mr Maartens — one of whom allegedly shot himself in the head as detectives closed in, said a police spokesman.

The man, aged about 26, is in a critical condition in the Welkom Hospital. He also had a bullet wound in the right leg, allegedly inflicted during the shootout with Mr Maartens (46) and his wife, Maria Jacoba (43), on their farm Groothook.

Mr Maartens was killed in the exchange.

A second suspect, aged 23, was later arrested in the Theunissen district, said Lieutenant-Colonel Johan Fouche.

By evening, police had picked up a third man on his way to Bloemfontein.

Dr Gous said: "We are in an undeclared war situation. These guys are trained killers and can handle weapons better than most farmers. "I can't stress it enough that the farmers are tired of being hunted like wild animals. If the law can't help it'll take just one more murder for this situation to explode."

Koos Plenaar, chairman of the Theunissen farmers district union and brother-in-law of Mr Maartens said: "We are more ready than ever after this attack. "We'll fight for our lives. We are more determined to protect ourselves and criminals must take note of this."

There will be a top-level conference on farm security in Bloemfontein on February 23 attended by Law and Order Minister Hermus Kriel, Agriculture Minister Kraal van Niekerk and Deputy Defence Minister Wynand Breitenbach.
Eight guilty of horror killings

By DAN DHLAMINI

SPINE-chilling events at the Mshenguville squatter camp in Odendaalsrus, where four whites were murdered and set alight, unfolded this week in the Virginia Circuit Court.

Judge DJ Lombard sitting with two assessors heard how a white woman was stripped naked and bagged for mercy while her eyes were gouged out with a knife and one of her breasts cut off, before her private parts were chopped with an axe.

This was the evidence against Phillip Matela, 25; Mandlabapela Dlamini, 28; Dick Nhlole, 18; Monare Moikabi, 26; Thami Hobo, 26; Justice Segopa, 28; and three 16-year-old youths, by State witnesses whose identities were protected following a successful application by the prosecutor, Advocate Andre Becker.

The accused, who are defended by advocates Mike Naidoo and Essop Patel, chose not to give evidence under oath and eight of them were found guilty on all four counts of murder.

In convicting the eight accused, Justice Lombard said the manner in which the four Odendaalsrus whites were murdered in Kutlwanong township, was atrocious and barbaric.

He convicted Matela, Dlamini, Nhlole, Moikabi, Hobo, Segopa, and two 16-year-old youths, all of Kutlwanong, on all four counts of murder.

Matela, Dlamini, Nhlole and Segopa were also found guilty of malicious damage to property following the burning of the victims' car.

Another 16-year-old youth, who was not seen by any of the State witnesses at the scene of crime, was found guilty of common assault following his own confession, that he was under duress when he jamboked one of the whites.

Cornered

The incident occurred on September 29, 1990, at Mshenguville squatter camp where the accused and others cornered Shelly Erica Basson, Anthony Marc Casey, Johannes Petrus van Nickerk and Michael Frederick Belele and started assaulting them for no reason.

Initially, 33 accused, mostly youths, and a woman had been charged.

A male witness said he saw Dlamini and Segopa hold the white woman while Moikabi gouged her eyes with a knife while she screamed in agony.

He said she was still alive when Dlamini cut off one of her breasts and Segopa chopped her private parts with an axe before they hurled her body on top of a burning car.

He said another witness tried to help the driver of the car escape but the driver tripped and fell and was set alight by the mob.

Advocate Becker told the court he would oppose the defence application for extension of bail pending sentence.

Advocates Patel and Naidoo told the court they would call an expert witness to testify in mitigation of sentence tomorrow. Patel told City Press he was going to appeal against the conviction.
ET's back in business

By LEN KALANE

THE Mshenguville Crisis Committee has resolved its differences with the family of former Soweto mayor Ephraim Tshabalala — whom they had earlier accused of infiltrating Inkatha members into Mshenguville.

The solution means the boycott on Tshabalala businesses has been lifted, the committee confirmed in a letter.

The businesses include the Eyethu Cinema, a butchery, a dry-cleaning outlet, a cafe and a number of other outlets in the Tshabalala business complex in Mofofo.

The Tshabalala family has been living in fear since August last year following allegations that Tshabalala betrayed Mshenguville squatters by importing Inkatha warriors.

Tshabalala is the president of the Sfasoana Party, founded in 1940 by the late James “Sfasoana” Mpangaz. The party holds a majority of seats in the Soweto Council.

At one stage when things were tense, the family said Mshenguville — named after the clan name of former Soweto mayor ET Tshabalala — was not under Sfasoana influence any more as the party’s supporters had moved on to Orange Farm.

They also denied family links to Inkatha. The attacks on Mshenguville residents, saying the Tshabalala patriarch had been sick in bed at the time.

The attacks coincided with the launch of Inkatha’s Mshenguville branch.

A series of protracted meetings went unresolved — until recently.

This week Tshabalala Business Enterprise spokesman and family member Dombolo Tshabalala announced that the boycott against them was over.

Dombolo said: “We are delighted that certain people have now come to their senses.”

As a gesture of goodwill Dombolo announced on Friday that the Eyethu Cinema and a number of social organisations would launch a charity session later in the month for the benefit of the Othandweni Home.
Murders not 'work of ANC'

THE ANC had nothing to do with any violence or murders taking place in the Orange Free State, says Mr Nelson Mandela.

He was speaking at a media briefing in Welkom on Monday at the start of his visit to the Northern Free State.

The visit kicked off a campaign to visit the 14 regions of the ANC in South Africa to ascertain the state of the organisation and to ensure that the ANC was ready to participate at all levels - national, regional and local - in the peace process.

Mandela said he felt everyone should be involved in the campaign for a peaceful democratic South Africa. This was one of the main reasons for his visit.

He said the ANC was prepared to give any help it could to put an end to violent crimes.

The ANC was also prepared to help people and organisations affected by the drought.

Mandela said the ANC had been shocked by recent murders in the Free State.

"The killing of any human being is a tragic event, especially when the killing appears to be systematic," he said.

He said the media had presented these murders as only affecting white farmers, but in the Welkom township of Thabong three businessmen had recently been murdered.

"It affects all population groups. The focus by the mass media is not accurate," said Mandela.

It was regretted that valuable people like businessmen and farmers were being lost. The ANC expressed sympathy to the next-of-kin of those who had been killed.

Mandela said the ANC could not be held responsible for any form of violence. The SA Police had stated clearly that the farmers' deaths were not acts of any political organisations but purely criminal.

He had been appalled, on a recent visit to the Northern Transvaal, by the destruction caused by the drought.

Food prices were rocketing because of crop failures. This placed an enormous strain on a community which had fought poverty, disease and the lack of basic facilities for several years.

Mandela said the ANC was prepared to help wherever it could. It would not make promises it could not keep. It was in contact with a number of charitable organisations and was prepared to help them focus their attention on areas which most needed aid.

Sapa.
Students teargas FW

BLOEMFONTEIN — President de Klerk and his wife, Marike, had to be rushed to safety by bodyguards after a teargas bomb was thrown into the Free State University cafeteria where he was preparing to address students last night.

Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee was slightly injured in the attack.

Mrs de Klerk was clearly shaken by the incident, but Mr de Klerk, who received encouraging calls from students as he was escorted to his car, gave a "thumbs-up".

Mr de Klerk was to have addressed the QUF students at the last stop of his referendum tour of the Free State, but was persistently shouted down by right-wingers.

He had, however, been enthusiastically received elsewhere in the Free State.

One of the protesters said he believed the teargas had been thrown by a right-wing student to force Mr de Klerk to leave.

The cafeteria was packed with students several hundred stood outside in the lamas.

Mr de Klerk arrived about 9.15 pm and was greeted by cheers and whistles as he entered the cafeteria.

A large body to the right of the main door began to yell "Ka-fie, Ka-fie, Ka-fie, Ka-fie".

They then broke into song with "Robbians kim die berg".

At the ceremony to welcome Mr de Klerk and assure him of a warm welcome on the Bloemfontein campus, the right-wingers shouted "No, no, no," and yelled "Die Nee signa".

There were a few "Yes, yes," shouted, but the "no" mob out-numbered them, with "Wednesday, Thursday, Versierer, Versierer" (go home traitor).

This was followed by singing of "Die lied van Jong Suid-Afrika".

Bodyguards

About 10 minutes after the presidential couple had arrived, the teargas was thrown and they had to be rushed out of the cafeteria by bodyguards.

They were escorted to a nearby lounge, where they spent a few minutes before being taken to their car and leaving.

Earlier in the evening, Mr de Klerk addressed 1,200 supporters at the Bloemfontein City Hall.

He said the Conservative Party should take a stand against the fascists and Nazis in its city and the AFB.

Mr de Klerk said the National Party was sick of being accused of espousing communism while negotiating a constitution that was very anti-communist.

"It is not a right communist or fascist or anti-communist and Nazism — and I challenge you to take a firm stand on this.

The NP did not believe that the South African Communist Party had a future.

But there are other logics which have been put

Fairiland watchmaker stabbed to death

By Bronwyn Wilkison

Crime Staff

A watchmaker in Fairiland, Johannesburg, was stabbed to death at his shop yesterday when he innocently opened the door of his shop to two "customers".

Lois Fourie opened the security gate to his shop-townhouse complex in 11th Avenue soon after 8.30 am, but his "customers" overpowered him and stabbed him several times.

Police, with the help of local shopowners, arrested two men shortly after the attack. One of the arrested men said police were an SAP asset and could not confirm this.

Johan Kato, who works at a hardware shop across the road from the townhouse complex, said he heard a terrible scream coming from the townhouse.

"As I got to the corner of the building, I saw a man lying on his side on the

stabbings looked up at one of the men and said police were an SAP asset and could not confirm this. Johan Kato, who works at a hardware shop across the road from the townhouse complex, said he heard a terrible scream coming from the townhouse.

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About 20 minutes after the presidential couple had arrived, the tear gas was thrown and they had to be rushed out of the cafeteria by bodyguards. They were escorted to a nearby lounge, where they spent a few minutes before being taken to their car and leaving.

Earlier in the evening, Mr de Klerk addressed 1,200 supporters in the Bloemfontein City Hall. He said the Conservative Party should take a stand against the fascists and Nazis in its ally the AWB. Mr de Klerk said the National Party was sick of being accused of espousing communism while negotiating a constitution that was its very antithesis.

"I say let us fight communism, but let us also fight fascism and Nazism — and I challenge the CP to take a firm stand on this."

The NP did not believe that the South African Communist Party had a future. "But there are other ideologies which have been just as devastating, namely fascism and Nazism. They are just as bad and dangerous. These two ideologies are also doing the rounds in South Africa and are strongly represented in the AWB."

"You only need to read its constitution and look at its insignia. The difference is that the AWB is in an official alliance with the CP."

Earlier in the day, at Kroonstad, Mr de Klerk said the "winner take all" constitutions of Zimbabwe and Namibia were recipes to be avoided.

He said the constitutions negotiated in those countries did not have the checks and balances he had spelt out for a future South Africa.

Mr de Klerk's campaign moves to Kimberley today. — Sapa.

(Report by Sand Rhodes, 690 Old Main)

Building, 55 Montecito St, Bloemfontein

MORE REPORTS —

Pages 2, 18 and 19
POLICE have intensified their search for the perpetrators of Monday night's teargas attack at a referendum meeting addressed by President F W de Klerk, which left Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee and several students injured.

No arrests had been made by yesterday afternoon, but all hands were being followed up, a Bloemfontein police spokesman said.

De Klerk, his wife Mariske and Coetsee's wife escaped unscathed but shaken from the Free State University cafeteria where the President and Coetsee had addressed students.

NP organizers said they believed the teargas canister was thrown by AWB sympathisers who sang and chanted as De Klerk entered the canteen. Sapa-APP reports that De Klerk yesterday blamed the CP for the "cowardly" teargas attack.

He said: "When a party reverts to such tactics it is a clear indication of bankruptcy. It doesn't help the CP to try to distance itself with nice sounding words from incidents such as this. It is exactly the misrepresentations by the CP in their speeches, publications and posters which create the climate for such reprehensible and cowardly actions."

De Klerk's office said there were no plans to step up security for the rest of his referendum campaign. Coetsee was temporarily blinded and sustained light injuries in the melee, and was admitted to the Universitas Hospital for treatment.

His engagements yesterday were cancelled but he is due to return to the university today to deliver an academic lecture.

Justice Ministry spokesman Nic Grobler said Coetsee had suffered bruised ribs and a bruised hand, Sapa reports.

The CP yesterday condemned the attack. Natal leader Carl Werth said he deplored any form of violence to achieve political or other goals. During a referendum debate with DP MP Roger Burrows in Durban, he said he was "disappointed and distressed by what happened in Bloemfontein."

He said he believed every party should have an opportunity to state its case and that voters should have the chance to assess the message from various sides.

"I state unequivocally that my party and I are absolutely opposed to these events and have been involved in no incidents of this nature. We will continue to hold that stance," he said.

AWB spokesman Piet Rudolph told Sapa yesterday that De Klerk should expect a repeat of the attack if he continued to liken the movement to Hitler's Nazis. "He is reaping the whirlwind he has been sowing," Rudolph denied the AWB was responsible for the attack.

The university apologized to the President for the incident. It said it was conducting its own investigation and noted that an assault charge had been laid.

The university SRC said witness reports, videos and photographs would be studied to find out who was involved in the teargas attack. It said it would recommend that the AWB's right to operate on the campus be withdrawn.

De Klerk's referendum campaign organizer Sheila Camerer said a local NP official had identified the perpetrators as AWB members.

"It means the CP may begin to find the AWB harmful to their cause," she said.

Report by L. Drey, TML, 11 Diagoral St, and Sapa, 141 Commissaris St, Jhb

*Comment: Page 18*
Bomb Killing Admits Parcel Rightwing

STILL 18/3/72

By Punchled attack on

Witness to

News
OFS cops kill two suspects

JOHANNESBURG. Two men were killed in a follow-up operation yesterday after a policeman was killed and another wounded near Bethlehem on Thursday.

The men were killed in the Ficksburg area in the Free State. (2177)

Constable Laurens Oosthuizen was killed and Constable Hermanus Joubert seriously wounded in Thursday's incident when they went to assist a couple being attacked at the Bally Duff Smallholdings.

A large-scale follow-up operation began and a suspect was shot and killed, allegedly when he tried to lead the police into an ambush early yesterday. A second suspect was killed, apparently when he tried to flee.
Arrest of MK man ‘serious’

The arrest of a member of the ANC’s military wing in connection with the killing of a police man in the Free State last week could have serious consequences for the process of negotiations at Codesa, Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee said on Saturday night. “This matter cannot be left to rest,” Mr Coetsee said in a statement. “In fact, it reflects on the veracity of Codesa itself and could have serious consequences for negotiations.”

“As leader of the National Party in the Free State, I wish to leave no doubt as to the seriousness of the matter,” Mr Coetsee said. “The continuing loss of life around the country left him with no alternative but to consider “strict action” at Codesa’s working group one, which is dealing with security matters, and where Mr Coetsee is the Government’s representative.”

He would also recommend to the Government that it “take further drastic steps to contain the violence”.

Police said on Saturday that six men had been arrested in the Ficksburg area of the eastern Free State in connection with last Thursday’s attack on the police. Constable Lourens Oosthuizen was killed and Constable Hermanus Joubert was seriously wounded in the incident near Bethlehem.

Two unidentified men were later killed in confrontation with the police, and two others are still missing.

The regional commissioner of police in the Free State, Major-General Tertius Calitz, confirmed that one of the suspects arrested on Friday was a member of Umkhonto we Sizwe.

“I wish to honour the late Constable Oosthuizen, and Constable Joubert, who was injured in the incident...” Mr Coetsee said in his statement.
Claim of 'political' design in farm death

The shooting of two policemen in Bethlehem proved there were political undertones to the recent wave of violence in the Free State, the province's Agricultural Union president, Dr Pieter Gous, said yesterday. In last week's farm attack a policeman was killed and another injured. (SAPA)
THE shooting of two policemen in Bethlehem proved there were political undertones to the recent wave of violence in the Orange Free State, the province's Agricultural Union president, Dr Pieter Gous, said on Tuesday.

Constable Lourens Oosthuizen was killed and Constable Herman Joubert was wounded in a gang attack last week.

Gous said it seemed that the target of "these terrorists" was, once again, the farming community.

He said the men were apparently heavily armed and well-trained terrorists.

This was in glaring contrast to the image which "spokesmen outside agriculture" tried to create at the union's security congress in February and after the congress, said Gous.

The image had been created that it was solely economic conditions that forced hungry black people to rob and assault farmers and that there were no political undertones. Various attempts had been made to strongly criticise farmers who held a different view, said Dr Gous. - Sapa.
Cops called to quell court demo

RIOT police were called to quell a protest by about 300 blacks outside the Bloemfontein Supreme Court yesterday after they were refused entry into the building to attend a "racially-motivated" murder trial.

The crowd demanded to be allowed into the court building in Fountain Street to support Verkleerdvlei resident Mr Gabriel Mahakoe (43), who allegedly killed four whites "to cut off the hand of apartheid".

"You people are saying the book of apartheid is closed. But why are you refusing us entry to the court, while allowing white people?" one of the crowd shouted at the policemen.

"We are aware that by not allowing us to enter you are intending to destroy the vibrant spirit of Mahakoe," he added.

The protest ended without incident and the crowd eventually dispersed.

For two days in succession this week Mahakoe interrupted his trial to tell Mr Justice D Kotze he wanted a black judge and a black prosecutor.

Kotze adjourned the proceedings to allow Mahakoe to confer with his lawyer, after telling him there were no black judges in the country and that the Attorney-General had the authority to appoint whoever he preferred to prosecute.

The trial was postponed to next month. - SA Press Association.
BLOEMFONTEIN. - Riot police were called to quell a protest by about 300 blacks outside the Bloemfontein Supreme Court yesterday after they were refused entry to the building to attend a racially-motivated murder trial.

The crowd demanded to be allowed in to support Verkeerdebei resident Gabriel Mahake (43) who allegedly killed four whites "to cut off the hand of apartheid".

"You people are saying the book of apartheid is closed. But why are you refusing us entry to the court, while allowing white people?" one man shouted at police.

The crowd eventually dispersed.

Earlier this week, Mr. Mahake told Mr. Justice Kotze he wanted a black judge and prosecutor. The judge informed Mr. Mahake that there were no black judges in the country and that the Attorney-General had the authority to appoint whoever he preferred to prosecute.

The hearing continues.

— Sapa.
PHILIP VAN NIEKERK

Gabriel Mahakohe may well be mad

A

Among the platteland's impoverished farm labourers, Gabriel Mahakohe, who murdered a white family "to cut off the hand of apartheid," has become a legend. But among the white farmers, he is the personification of an ancient fear.

"All because of (President PW) de Klerk's reforms, the African National Congress and the Pan African Congress and all the hand-picked organisations are in the townships now," he said.

The collected ones who are not so stupid come into the town and the citizens listen to them. It's very clear that these killings are not accidental.

In the Free State politics and violence are a strong brew. Paranoia swept the province following a spate of murders and attacks early this year, fueling KwaKwaNde-style vigilantism.

The local community's mistrust of strangers has turned to stonewalling since the incident on January 12 after a break-in at the Goetsingergang farm, in which the elderly Pieterse couple were shot and beaten by four intruders.

Even those farmers that will speak to the press leave out the fact about how an armed group of farmers and townsmen captured some of the four suspects, and lynched them. One man died

The ANC has its own small footnotes in the history of the state, but farmers in the Verkeerdevlei district complained of a crime wave and say the police action justifies their vendetta or even deluge to come when a crime has been committed.

The ANC has done its bit to ease the passions of the farmers. On April 8 South African Police Service Deputy Chief Commissioner Simon Cilliers met with farm police officers and farmers and assured them that the killings had peace over them.

But in his madness, he has struck a chord

Mahakohe found the farmer's gun, tested it by shooting out of the window, sat down in the lounge — 'the holy room where a kaffir never sits' — and waited.

When the family arrived, he greeted them with the words: 'Africa is back.'
Dennisville residents on a collision course

RESIDENTS at Dennisville township near Sasolburg are on a confrontation course with the authorities after the arrest of six civic leaders for staging a sit-in at the council offices.

Police in Cassipir were yesterday patrolling the township while residents held a mass meeting.

The arrest of the officials, who were subsequently charged with trespassing and fined R30 each payable by the end of the month, follows the alleged failure of the Dennisville administrator, Ms Roselle de Jager, to meet the community leaders to discuss residents' demands.

Dennisville residents, according to community leader the Reverend Thabang Skhosana, are demanding additional sites promised to them by the administrator this year.

"The attitude of the administrator is quite arrogant," said Skhosana. "Instead of agreeing to meet the leaders she decided to send police to arrest them. This angered residents who have vowed to take the matter up while resolving problems on their own," he said.

De Jager could yesterday not be reached for comment. Residents demand that the charges against civic members be withdrawn, the immediate occupation of the sites by residents and the withdrawal of the police from the township.
The rebel poet, the activist ... and the dead gang leader

DENNIS BLOEM and Antjie Krog haven’t spoken for four months. He is the firebrand vice-chairman of the African National Congress in Kroonstad. Horror Lekota’s right-hand man, adored by the young lions and reviled by the South African Police. She is Afrikanerdom’s renegade poet, an elegant wordsmith and eloquent conscience, one of only two white ANC members in town. She teaches in Brentpark, the black coloured township behind the power station, and Bloem’s daughter is one of her students.

Before February 25, Bloem and Krog were effective, if unlikely, comrades: white poet and black revolutionary worked well together, as symbols and as activists.

But then there was a murder and now Bloem is the accused and Krog is, according to the state, one of its witnesses.

On February 25, Kroonstad’s most notorious gangster, George Ramasimong, known as "Diwiti", was gunned down at the taxi rank. As the leader of the notorious Three Million Gang, he had unleashed an 18-month reign of terror upon Moakeng, Kroonstad’s gritty and violent agglomeration of townships.

The night of the murder, Bloem was arrested along with three comrades, a businessman named Joseph Tumisi, a schoolteacher named Hakan and Kroonstad’s other white ANC member, Cecile Antonie. After a night of interrogation, Tumisi and Hakan were released. Tumisi has laid an assault charge which police say is “being investigated”. Charges were also dropped against Antonie but, a week later, three of Bloem’s cousins were arrested and charged.

When bail was granted for Bloem, it was announced that Tumisi and Hakan — along with Krog — would be state witnesses, and that he was to have no contact with any of them. His lawyer, Oupa Matsipe, claims that “this was absurd. These people work with each other every day. So we challenged this condition, and we won.”

Bloem, who has pleaded not guilty and is adamant that he had nothing to do with the murder, believes there is only one reason that the SAP is using his three comrades as state witnesses: “They are trying to divide us.”

According to Free State deputy attorney general Andre du Tott, the police already have a full confession from one of Bloem’s co-accused. But the Kroonstad activist maintains that “the police see me as the ringleader here. They’ve been trying to pin something on me for years, and this latest charge is just another attempt to frame me and implicate Antjie.”

One rumour circulating Kroonstad, however, is that Diwiti’s murder was in revenge for the death of Simon Bloem, Dennis’apolicalic cousin who had been killed by the Three Millions at the same taxi rank the week before. But whether or not the Bloem family killed Diwiti in revenge, one thing is certain — the whole township celebrated his death. At the time, an unnamed community leader was reported as saying that “it isn’t the ANC or the civic association or any individual who planned and executed the murder. It is the Moakeng community that has suffered for so long under the Three Millions.”

The Three Millions managed, figuratively and literally, to stop life in Moakeng. You couldn’t find a taxi, you couldn’t go to a shebeen and, claims the local ANC, more than 100 people were randomly killed at their hands. The Three Millions allegedly conducted their reign of terror with the help of Inkatha and the blessing of the SAP. Local activists and lawyers say they have piles of evidence to this score, but a police spokesman says that, after investigation, “no proof could be found that there is any collusion between the police and the Three Million Gang.”

Bloem is adamant that an SAP special investigator, Captain Durn, “told me that Diwiti had confessed to 19 murders. Why, then, was he never charged?” Kroonstad police dispute this — “Dewiti never confessed to committing any crime.”

Matsipe estimates that about 50 deaths have occurred at the hands of the Three Millions, and less than 20 at the hands of ANC-affiliated youth. But while there are already five ANC members behind bars, and four murder cases (Bloem’s included) pending against ANC-affiliated people, there appears to be little action being taken against the gang.

Residents of Moakeng and
THE ANC on Friday criticised police action at Phiri town near Heilbron on Wednesday when two people were killed and four injured.

The ANC said in a statement that "despite an undertaking by the SAP that they recognise that members of the public have the right to demonstrate peacefully", police opened fire on unarmed and peaceful demonstrators in Heilbron.

The ANC said the police had caused pain by opening fire on people assembled to march to the local magistrate's court.

Kiki Tshetsheli, aged 14, and Champaigne Rabo, 22, were shot dead.
Stone-throwing slammed

THE Tripartite Alliance campaigns committee in the southern Free State region has apologised for stone-throwing incidents in Manguang township near Bloemfontein on Friday morning.

A committee spokesman the alliance had immediately convened a meeting at the local ANC office to assess the situation.

"We will not allow hooligans to destroy our organisation with their criminal behaviour," the spokesman said.
NEWS  Man on shooting spree then commits suicide

Captain Bettie van Wyk, an injured victim of the shooting, is visited in hospital by her husband Warrant Officer Carlo van Wyk, and her children.

Cop runs amok, kills 8

Sowetan Correspondent

A POLICE constable turned Geenboom Prison Farm on the banks of the Orange River into a slaughterhouse yesterday morning when he shot eight people dead, and then shot himself through the head.

In a two-hour drama, he shot up two police homes and the police station at the prison before committing suicide in the charge office.

The policeman, identified as Constable LS Hasebeng, was under investigation for allegedly raping a colleague’s daughter.

A policeman, his wife and three daughters were killed in the shooting.

Intensive care unit

Four other people were wounded in the attack. They are all in a stable condition in the intensive care unit at the Hydromed Hospital in Bloemfontein.

The wounded were identified as Constable TL Musi, Captain Bettie van Wyk, Police Assistant PC Ramaramo, Police Assistant VR Tya, and the girl Thobeck Damuyi.

One of the victims was named as the prison police station commander Warrant Officer Chris Schutte.

The hero in the blood letting was police Sergeant Kobus Kruger (22).

Kruger said last night he had been woken at 5am by a victim who had been shot in the shoulder.

“I went immediately to the police station. I called Captain Jannie Suepepo, a medical officer, who brought an ambulance and asked a colleague, Bettie van Wyk, to come and assist him.

“While we were there we heard shots at the police living quarters about a kilometre away. The officer commanding the prison, Brigadier Harry Dunwood, arrived with several warders and we went up to the houses.”

Warders gave Sergeant Kruger cover as he entered the first house, and stumbled on a child of about five who had been shot dead.

“There was blood all over the place. A girl of about six lay dead with a chest wound. A man and a wife had been shot dead, also through the chest.

“I was horrified by the mayhem, but I still had to find the killer,” he said.

“I then heard shots at the police station and drove back there.

“The station commander, Adjutant Chris Schutte, lay dead on the ground near the ambulance, also shot through the chest.

“Kruger now stalked his man at the police station.

“As he moved down an outside passageway, the man suddenly opened fire.

 Ran towards me

Kruger said: “He fired four shots at me and then ran towards me. I shot him in the leg and twice in the arm and he dropped the pistol.

“He pulled another pistol out of his belt, fired one shot and ran around the corner behind the police station.

“I then heard him enter the police station. He fired at a cordon of prison warders outside.

“Finally there was a dull shot and I heard a body falling.

“Colonel Le Roux called me to the charge office where the man lay dead, the pistol still in his hand.”
Crazed cop kills eight

Sole survivor Little girl survives slaughter of family as beserk constable kills seven people:

A BLACK constable went berserk in Goedemoed in the Free State yesterday morning and killed eight people. He then shot himself dead. Free State Police Commissioner General Tertius Calliz said the constable killed himself after a shootout with staff of the Department of Correctional Services, who had surrounded the police station on the premises of the Goedemoed prison complex.

Story, pics page 2
One big family who lived together

and, one bloody day, died together

Goedemoed is an idyllic, close-knit community in a bend of the Orange River. This week a policeman went berserk and shot dead eight of his colleagues and friends. "I suppose you could call it a family murder," says a shocked Sergeant Kubus Kruger.

MARK GEYER and GUY ADAMS visited Goedemoed

We joke that people cry twice when they are stationed here. Once when they hear their posting is Goedemoed and once when they hear they must leave.

Sieg Kruger. Attacked by his own dog.

One officer was in command of the coach that carried the prisoners, the other was in command of the coach that carried the prisoners, and a third officer was in command of the coach that carried the prisoners. At this point, "Yes," he said, "that's what the Kaarma is about. The fact that the police are dead, not just the hands of adventurers, but also those coaches that carried the prisoners, and a third officer was in command of the coach that carried the prisoners." Like Kruger, the police killed the Kaarma, and a third officer was in command of the coach that carried the prisoners. At this point, "Yes," he said, "that's what the Kaarma is about. The fact that the police are dead, not just the hands of adventurers, but also those coaches that carried the prisoners, and a third officer was in command of the coach that carried the prisoners."

Sieg Kruger. Attacked by his own dog.

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Sieg Kruger. Attacked by his own dog.

Sieg Kruger. Attacked by his own dog.
PIET "Skiet" Rüdolf, the fearsome AWB bomber who refused to stand trial under a black magistrate, led a convoy of seven vehicles into Malebogo township near Hertzogville in the western Free State this week.

His aim? To present a memorandum penned to the local ANC branch insisting that the black boycott of Hertzogville be called off.

The memo was handed over to branch chairman Sam Mokgobo by local farmer Fean Malherbe.

The memo stated that the tense situation and alleged intimidation by liberation organisations would not be tolerated any longer.

However, Mokgobo took a dim view of Piet's letter. He said his organisation viewed the contents of the memorandum as nothing more than a threat against democratic organisations.

He said that the consumer boycott in the area would continue as long as the farmers were not prepared to discuss problems in an amicable way.
Life’s a burning hell for the white knight in a little platteland dorp

JAN GROENEWALD is the only white African National Congress member in the Free State dorp of Petrus Steyn — and is paying heavily for his beliefs.

Last Sunday his shopping complex, worth R1,11-million, was gutted by fire, after months of threatening telephone calls and letters.

The blaze, which bears all the signs of arson, took place against the backdrop of violent upheavals in the neighboring township of Mamafetu and claims of a “dirty tricks” campaign against ANC activists.

Groenewald said mystery callers had accused him of turning the town, a Conservative Party stronghold, into “a black shopping center”. Besides the complex, he owns a butchery, a restaurant, a gas centre, and land near the town.

On Thursday a caller warned him: “We will see you right. We are not happy that you are selling out Petrus Steyn to the blacks.”

At about 4.50am on Sunday, Groenewald was telephoned by the police who told him the complex was on fire. By the time he reached the fully stocked shops, the building was a write-off.

Suspicion that the blaze was a result of arson hardened when it was discovered the mains which powered the alarm had been switched off. The locks on an outside window and the store-room had been broken off, indicating the building had been forcibly entered before the fire.

A stoic Groenewald described the complex as the first place in the Free State where blacks could go along and do their own shopping”. His restaurant “was the only place in town where they could sit and eat their meals like human beings”.

His racial tolerance is striking in this dorp of 300 whites deep in the heart of the Free State platteland. He waves black customers to the table in his roadside restaurant and beckons to his English wife, Olly, to bring them coffee and vekkoek which he serves himself.

Describing his membership of the ANC in very non-political terms, Groenewald said: “My relationship with blacks goes back decades. We were very poor but when we started we always dealt with people fairly and honestly when we did business on their behalf. They built up a business with us. When the new dispensation came along I could not resist joining them.”

Besides signing on with the ANC, Groenewald has been instrumental in launching a number of development programmes for Mamafetu. These include a knitting project for women and a vegetables co-operative for the unemployed. The chairman of the civic association, Anthony Nakel,

dl, said of Groenewald’s participation in the project: “Once he talked about it, he wanted to be part of it.”

Groenewald has plans for the development of the township based on a partnership of white skills and finance and black contacts in the township markets on strictly business lines. “If the platteland dorpies are going to survive, they have to go our route. The whites are not ready but they are going to land in the water and will have to swim or drown.”

Those whites who aren’t ready to test the water have made life difficult for the Groenewalds. Smiling at his daughter he said: “Her life is hell at school, but I tell her to give them hell back.”

Although showing no rancour to those who “think differently”, he smiles wryly when telling of the death threats he has received: “I tell them bullets are expensive and if they miss, I won’t.”

But the family no longer strolls around the town at night. Groenewald, 58, displays typical Afrikaner doggedness in standing by his beliefs. “There are things in your life which force you in a certain direction, whatever the obstacles are.”

Groenewald’s participation in the political struggle in Mamafetu has been rewarded with acceptance in the black community. “We had a meeting and the community decided to help him get back on his feet,” said Nakel.

“We will build it together, and if we can get it right here in the heart of the platteland, then the rest of South Africa has no excuse,” said Groenewald.
Home petrol-bombed

BLOEMFONTEIN. — Two petrol bombs were thrown through the window of a house in the Free State town of Ficksburg in the early hours of yesterday morning.

Police later found in front of the house a carrier bag with 35 petrol bombs and pieces of wood with nails to prevent pursuit by vehicles.

Mrs Christina Koen, 35, was slightly hurt in the blasts and damage of about R2,500 was caused.

Police said Mr G L Koen had seen six men in front of their house about 2am just before the bombs were thrown.

About the same time in Ficksburg a grenade was thrown into a car, blowing it apart. — Sapa
How the name deal with "Kaffirboetes"
three shebeens and a supermarket.
There’s no cinema, no library, no dry-cleaner, no creche, no ambulance, no fire-brigade, no surgery, (available 35 km away in
ices; more houses; and, hell, why not one council you old dickhead?
Of the fighting talk, Nakedi says “It’s the
only language they under-
stand.”

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SULKY
**Soweto**

**Bomb injures kids**

TWO CHILDREN of a Free State ANC official sustained injuries when an explosive device extensively damaged their room early yesterday.

The explosion occurred at about 2am yesterday at the home of Mr Makhwenkwe Mzolo, the local ANC branch chairman in Rockville, Bloemfontein.

Police spokesman Captain Jolene van der Merwe confirmed the incident, saying police were still conducting forensic tests.

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**Non-smokers put foot down**

NON-SMOKERS would no longer accept nasty working conditions, a seminar on tobacco in the workplace, heard in Johannesburg yesterday.

Dr Gillian Shaddeley of the Heart Foundation of South Africa said there was general acceptance that smoking was harmful to both smokers and passive smokers. She said it was encouraging to note companies' willingness to discuss smoking complaints with their workforce.

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**Prayer for peace**

A NATIONAL day of prayer for peace in South Africa will be held at the Wits University, on November 29, the Inter-denominational Prayer Woman's League announced yesterday. League spokesman Mrs Masechaba Mabaso said invitations had been sent to various leaders in the country, including the Government, to pray together.
Klipplaat leads way to new SA

THE ANC, AWB and Conservative Party in the Karoo town of Klipplaat are planning joint protest action to register widespread grievances against the municipality.

The protest march, which could see the flags of these traditional enemies flying together for the first time on Wednesday, is scheduled to coincide with the court appearance of 15 coloured families on rental arrears charges.

"This will be the first joint action of its kind and could see the occupation of the court buildings," said Klipplaat civic leader Amos Byasi.

"Yes we will support the protest," was the response of Klipplaat AWB commander Johannes Human.

"We are trying to work out a solution for all the residents of Klipplaat and the country in general," he said. - Pen

Council hit list gets no from Vlok

By MOSES MAMAILA

In a dramatic disclosure this week, the Petaana Civic Association in Reitz, Free State, revealed a document asking former Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok to "remove" the township's radical elements, responsible for violence and boycotts, from society.

Correspondence leaked to City Press disclosed that the white Reitz Council and the black Petaana Council held a meeting in April 1990 during which they decided to jointly apply to Vlok for permission to "remove" eight ANC-supporting individuals.

In a letter to Vlok dated May 8, 1990, the councillors requested that Vlok provide the Petaana municipality with their own station commander so municipal police could "remove" the radical elements.

The letter — which was drafted by former CP senior official, Advocate CH Pienaar — also stated that the radicals had to be removed because they organised blacks in Petaana under the banner of the ANC.

In his response dated July 30, 1990, Vlok refused to grant the Petaana Town Council its own station commander to facilitate the removal of the "radicals" but gave an undertaking that more police would be deployed in the area.

Town clerk Harry Theron said: "We did not mean that people should be killed or made to permanently disappear from the surface of the earth."

However, one of the "lucky" eight, Joseph Makhoba, was adamant that the councillors meant to kill them.

"It was obvious that had Vlok granted them permission to remove us they would have killed us."

"I must confess that we owe our lives to Vlok who played a vital role in saving us," added Makhoba.
RIOTS & DISTURBANCES — O.F.S.

1993
'Our enemies are in parliament'

Why then the attacks on farmers in the Ficksburg area? "Burn our cities and leave our farms and tomorrow the cities will bloom, but burn our farms and tomorrow grass will grow in the cities," he says in reply.

To counter these attacks, he claims he has mobilised the whole of Ficksburg, organising patrols and conducting training sessions on his farm. "Look at this," he says, pointing to a bullet wound above his elbow. He jiggles the flesh where he says the bullet is still lodged, explaining it was a ricochet from an R1 rifle during a training session in "firing and movement". Men, women and children are being trained in defensive and offensive tactics.

Six months ago it would not have been possible to organise the community in such a way, he says. But things have changed. Just the other day, he recalls, a shopkeeper told him: "Eddie, you were right all along. From now on I am biting the bullet with you."

The farmers are still talking when we leave.

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Well-known heavy... Eddie von Maltitz

Von Maltitz leads the way to a road above the town. On our way, we cross a small stream and he abruptly stops. "Just getting some medicine," he explains.

He rummages among the reeds at the side of the stream, quickly finding some nondescript herb, crushing the leaves between his fingers, he puts the juice against the bullet wound.

"This is better than the best antibiotic," he says. "We are teaching our people to live from the field. We even get our medicine from the field."

He takes leave of me at the side of the road leading to Clocolan: "As the Germans say: Sieg Heil!"

Chewing on the conversation in the car, I watch
ANC denies role in hit-list

BLOEMFONTEIN. The ANC has denied involvement in the drafting and distribution of a "hit list" of 31 farmers at Hoopstad. (24/7)

The denial came after the AWB warned that it would act immediately if any harm came to AWB members on an alleged "hit list" and if the ANC was implicated.

The chairman of the ANC branch in Tikwana, Hoopstad, Mr Moshe Snyer, said the hit-list posters—put up on Monday—were an attempt to bring the ANC into disrepute. — Sapa.
Police guard farmers

THIRTY white farmers and a businessman are under police protection in the Free State following the circulation of an alleged ANC "hit list".

"We are protecting 30 Hoopstad farmers and a businessman in the town while we carry out investigations," police spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Johan Fouche said yesterday.

He said police were trying to establish whether the hit list, circulated in Hoopstad on Monday, was genuine or an attempt by "unknown persons" to smear the ANC. An ANC spokesman said the hit list was an attempt to discredit the organisation.
Oupa to squatters: Get out or else

By ERIC NAKA East London

CISKEI military leader Brigadier Oupa Gqozo has given squatters throughout the homeland a week to move — just three years after declaring that people should build houses wherever there was open space.

The statement, made shortly after seizing power in early 1990, brought him great popularity: the first squatter camp sprung up rapidly in Mdantsane, and was named Gqozo village.

But this Monday, he warned on Radio Ciskei that squatters who had erected shacks without permission would be in trouble. He gave them seven days to move. "I want people to obey my headmen, my councillors, my chiefs and my tribal authorities. We are going to take action against squatters. We will throw their stuff away. Squatting is causing bad administration," he said.

Squatters should go back to where they came from, and if they wanted land to build houses, they should seek permission from their headmen and councillors.

Community leaders and organisations in the region believe that Gqozo's threat springs from the fact that Ciskei's burgeoning squatter camps are strongly supportive of the African National Congress.

"He knows that the squatter settlements have been in the forefront of resistance against his government," said ANC Border media officer, Mcebisi Batha. Gqozo was desperate to boost the membership of his unpopular African Democratic Movement (ADM) in time for the coming multiparty election in South Africa, he added.

Batha warned that the ANC and its allies in the region would act to protect communities against action by Gqozo. A spokesman for the Mdantsane branch of the South African Civic Association (Sanco), Mzwandile Buzani, said Sanco would mobilise its members to resist any removal.

Million anti-Gqozo squatter settlements are springing up throughout Ciskei. In Mdantsane, for instance, there was not a single shack before Gqozo assumed power in Ciskei, but besides Gqozo village, there are now also Manyano, Linge, Velwano, Hani Park, Slovo, Mshimbane and many others.

According to figures released by Ciskei authorities, about 10 000 families lived in squatter camps in the homeland in 1991.

Squatters want nothing to do with the Ciskei government except as a source of affordable housing. Gqozo's headmen and councillors are seen as having been unable to provide houses, using their positions to extract money from residents for the government instead. - Elnews.

Leon woos Houghton domestics

By FERIAL HAFJAFEE

THE question is: who will serve the drinks at Democratic Party MP Tony Leon's shindig for domestic workers in Houghton tomorrow?

The aproned domestics, gardeners, their spouses and madams (if they feel up to it) from the northern suburbs have been invited to a festival in Norwood. They will be shown how to vote, told what their new labour rights are likely to be and learn "what peace, freedom and democracy will mean".

They are the latest targets of the enterprising DP's drive to recruit members.

"It is an effort to extend our base," says Leon, adding, "domestic workers are a very neglected constituency."

Leon is confident they will succeed. The South African Domestic Workers Union has gained little ground in the northern suburbs where working conditions are better and workers less ripe for trade unionism.

Houghton is a pilot project; if it succeeds, the DP will attempt to woo domestic workers around the country.

And the party has pulled out all the stops for tomorrow's party: free drinks and snacks, a Musta Trust play about voting (How to Use Your Vote in the New Election) and transport have all been laid on free of charge.

Leon will spread his gospel through an interpreter and he is hoping to preach to a sizeable congregation: lengthy and detailed advertisements have been placed in community newspapers and DP workers have been busy phoning every single member of the constituency asking them to send their domestic worker to the party.
Racist remarks fly as AWB accused prepare for trial

By DAN DULAMIN

RACIAL animosity against black people runs high in the Free State, but this time in a court of law, as AWB members openly insulted blacks and cried to bar them from the courtroom.

The incident occurred this week in the Welkom Regional Court where six AWB members – Reoff J Fouche, 19; Guillaume C Loots, 39; Rodd G Rouxman, 23; Andries C Odendaal, 32; Reoff J Jordan, 30; and Cornelius Snyders, 36 – appeared on charges of housebreaking and theft of R134 000 worth of weapons and ammunition from the SADF armoury in Welkom.

Before the hearing commenced, AWB members occupied most of the seats in the small courtroom and refused to make way for some blacks who wished to attend the proceedings, despite pleas from the prosecutor, Dawid Appelgren, who was cursed by the black-clad gathering.

Comments such as "kaffirbrotie," and "brieftie kaffirs mert hier skoerte, brieftie skak het hiks net balle te wail alie" (kaffirs must scram or get out of here. This case has nothing to do with them), were hurled at Appelgren and the black audience.

Opposed 24/1/92

The tense situation was defused by Regional Court Magistrate Andre Groenewald who decreed that AWB members should make way for others, following Appelgren's application.

Earlier, Welkom's control magistrate K Susman had to put up notices prohibiting the public from entering the court premises carrying firearms.

Witnesses told City Press that AWB members, who attended the bail application hearing on Sunday night, entered the court building with firearms and AWB flags, despite the notices.

Five of the six accused were granted R3 000 bail each except for Odendaal whose application was successfully opposed by the State.

Their bail release follows their successful Supreme Court interdict against the police for holding them under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act.

In opposing Odendaal's bail application, Appelgren said it was unlikely that Odendaal – who is linked with the bombings of Coasa House in Pretoria in 1991 and the Verwoerdusborg and Krugersdorp Post Offices last year – would stand trial.

The prosecutor said Odendaal had skipped his R3 500 bail on two occasions and there was no guarantee that he would stand trial this time.

Appelgren added that should the court decide to grant him bail it should be set at R15 000, after Odendaal said the AWB Legal Fund was prepared to pay R10 000 for his bail.

Forced

In his defence Odendaal said he was not part of the planning of the arms theft and had been forced to take part in the operation.

Odendaal, who confirmed that during the break-in at the SADF he wore a black uniform normally used by the "Vetergards", the armed wing of the AWB, denied that he was a member of the AWB armed wing. He said he was an ordinary member.

Regarding the bombing of Coasa House and the two post offices, Odendaal told the court that he had an equal share in that crime.

He told the court that his trial was scheduled for March 8 and that he had applied for indemnity.

In turning down his bail application the magistrate said he was convinced that Odendaal, who was indicted to commit crimes with a political motive, would not stand trial.

The six men will appear in court on March 2 with bail conditions stipulating no communication with State witnesses.

Their lawyers, however, strongly objected to the bail conditions, saying the State must name its witnesses so that the accused can identify them.
Fear and hatred follows ‘hitlist’ of white farmers

By BAI DHLAMINI

A SPATE of racial attacks on white farmers and black taxi commuters in Free State towns, has sparked fear and hatred in an already volatile community.

This week, City Press visited some trouble spots in the Free State and spoke to taxi drivers, farmers and ordinary men on the street about resolving the racial tension in the area.

Many believe any hope of future reconciliation has been lost as trust between blacks and whites no longer exists.

An unofficial curfew was established this week in Ficksburg, Clocolan, Fourniersburg, Senekal, Marquard, Hobhouse and Hoopstad, where racial violence has been rife.

The recent alleged ANC “hitlist” containing the names of 31 farmers, prompted police to provide a round-the-clock watch on the “affected” farms. The ANC has denied any knowledge of such a list.

An ANC spokesman dismissed the hitlist allegation as a rightwing ploy to increase the tension between white and blacks in the area.

Taxi driver Alfred Mofokeng told City Press that following rightwing attacks on taxis, commuters had been reluctant to travel to their destinations after 5 pm.

**Terrorists**

“We cannot guarantee the passengers’ safety because most of the taxi drivers in these areas do not have guns to protect themselves. Our applications for firearm licenses were turned down, with assurances that the police would protect us,” said Mofokeng.

Another taxi driver, Sello Letsosa, told City Press that after sunset, most drivers preferred to park near “safe” places such as police and petrol stations.

“He said this was prompted by the increasing number of heavily armed, white, khaki-clad “terrorists” who monitored taxis on the main routes.

Lebone Sefatsa, a long-distance taxi driver, substantiated the claims. He added that, although it was time consuming, they had decided to travel in convoys so that when the rightwingers attacked them there would be eyewitnesses to relate the story.

Clocolan resident Charles Moroka Mokoto told City Press that he condemned violence, whether it be by blacks or whites.

“We are all human, irrespective of the colour of our skins. We must work hard towards a new SA.”

He said SA was a country which was in labour, whose child—a new nation—was already half born, but trapped between the violence and negotiations that were not taking place in good time.

Despite heavy police and army patrols in the area, Hoopstad resident Andre van Niekerk carried a pistol, a shotgun and ammunition in his battered bakkie.

Van Niekerk, who was very curt, told City Press that he was ready for ANC and Apla “terrorists” who were hellbent on eliminating whites or scaring them off their farms.

He said his volk were being systematically eliminated while police claimed they would provide protection which was not forthcoming.

Gert Joubert of Senekal was suspicious that the reporter was spying for Apla or MK and did not want to talk to City Press.
Happens Hoopstead Falls on Troubled Times

Tours are like people. They are neither worse nor better than what they are. They are the mirror of times.
Strike-breakers removed — but not the bitterness

The relocation of strike-breakers, rather than bringing an end to violence in Botshabelo, appears to have added to it.

By JACQUIE GOLDING

The relocation of strike-breakers to a separate settlement in Botshabelo is the latest effort by the Provincial Administration of the Free State (PAO) to halt violence between their employees and dismissed union members.

But violence is reaching unprecedented heights between National Education, Health and Allied Workers Union (Nehawu) members and PAO employees.

The strike began in June last year, with the PAO and Nehawu unable to reach a settlement concerning an increase in wages and improved working conditions.

Nehawu assistant general secretary Neil Thobekani said the PAO’s rejection of the demand for a R200 across-the-board increase caused a deadlock in negotiations. “Consequently, 1,600 of our members have been dismissed,” he said.

“They refuse to reinstate our members and have resorted to dirty tricks tactics by relocating and protecting the scabs with the help of the police. We have lost two of our shop stewards in the violence, but the PAO refuses to meet our demands.”

Despite the relocation of strike-breakers, clashes between members of Nehawu and the African National Congress on the one hand, and strike-breakers on the other, are on the rise.

Tucked away in an area known as Section H, the people still working for the PAO are excluded from the rest of the community.

ANC members form part of both the strike-breakers’ and the strikers’ camps, and this has caused part of the outrage over the relocation.

An ANC member said he fears the organisation’s support base will diminish, with the loss of about 1,000 members to Section H.

Brandishing a home-made gun, the youth said he had joined a self-defence unit (SDU), “to protect the community from attacks by scabs,” and added that there were rumour circulating of “no ANC by June.” He regards the SDUs as “unstructured but necessary.”

Allegations against the PAO include the use of the administration’s trucks to transport the possessions of strike-breakers, and the transporting of strike-breakers to and from work.

“At first the removals took place at night, but now they move during the day,” the ANC member said.

PAO media liaison officer Daniel Oliver said he was “perturbed by allegations” of PAO involvement in organised violence against Nehawu, the ANC and residents of Botshabelo.

“Orderly administration has always been, and is, the forte of the PAO, not intimidation and violence or the instigation of disruptive activities,” Oliver said. “To react to ridiculous allegations in detail would be to stoop to a level not befitting an administration with a proud record.”

Oliver added that the PAO remains committed to discussions with Nehawu and that dismissed workers were free to reapply for positions in the administration.

The random attacks in the township are so widespread that residents are being caught in the crossfire.

Joseph Thunksa (71) said he was attacked about a month ago. “About 20 people came into the church where I was working and attacked me. They said I was hiding an ANC comrade and beat me with their knobkerries. I could not see their faces because they wore balaclavas. I made a report but the police have not responded.”

Some strike-breakers are dissatisfied with their relocation. Said Peter Malebese, who moved to Section H last week: “I did not want to move, but the government came in their truck and told me that I had to collect my stuff and go to another section. They helped me load my possessions and said they will collect me for work every morning.”

Lazarus Mogorose, employed as a hospital cleaner, said: “I came here last Friday because I do not want to lose my job.”

“A friend told me there will be no ANC by June, but I am not interested. All I know is that I have to work to support my family. If I did not move I can lose my job.”

— A National Institute for Crime Prevention and the Rehabilitation of Offenders (Nicro) social development worker, Thabebe Sotsumi, said: “It is known fact that the PAO want all their workers to be in one section in order to control them. They have been using their vehicles to cart workers to and fro for the past two weeks.”

Sotsumi added that the Goldstone Commission had been approached to “look into the situation.”
Meeting on security

A MEETING is to be set up between Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee, senior Free State politicians and the Free State Agricultural Union as soon as possible to discuss security in the area.

80/2/93
BLOEMFONTEIN. A meeting is to be set up between Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee, senior Free State politicians and the Free State Agricultural Union (OFSAU) as soon as possible to discuss security in the area. OFSAU president, Dr. Pieter Gous, yesterday welcomed an invitation by Mr. Coetsee to discuss murders on farms and in the province's towns and cities at provincial level. Security would also be a priority on the agenda of the union's executive committee in Kroonstad today. — Sapa
Police in OFS probe fatal car ride

BRENNWYN WILKINSON

THE ANC has alleged that a black teenager who died after he jumped out of a moving vehicle driven by a white shop owner near Senekal two weeks ago is merely the latest victim in a string of "unreported racial incidents and acts of brutality" in the Free State.

Mystery surrounds the death of Shadrack Mokete Mosia (18) who, the ANC claimed in a statement this week, had allegedly jumped from the vehicle to "escape" from Johan Moolman and his son, Paul. The ANC could however not produce proof to support the allegation.

Johan Moolman, who owns a shop in Senekal, told the Saturday Star the boy's father, Andries, had "held an account" at his shop for years, but had run up a large bill last year. He had promised several times to pay the bill but it seemed he had forgotten about his promise.

He said he drove with his son, Paul (16), to Ro-sendal on the night of January 29 to speak to Mosia about the debt.

"When he and Paul arrived at the Mosia home, Shadrack told them that his father was staying in Senekal for the weekend."

BRENNWYN WILKINSON
Stayaway sparks unrest in the OFS

Two-day boycott in Bloemfontein turns violent

By Mpikeleni Duma

SA Communist Party and the Congress of SA Trade Unions, called for a two-day stay-away on Monday and Tuesday this week in Bloemfontein.

The aim was to force the Provincial Administration of the Orange Free State to reinstate about 1 600 dismissed workers who took part in a hospital strike early last year.

The Bloemfontein Chamber of Commerce said 99 percent of workers had turned up at work on Monday and yesterday.

The alliance threatened that if their demands were not met they would continue with their action programme to reinstate dismissed workers until the end of February.

DAMAGE of about R3 500 was caused to a car in Mangaung near Bloemfontein yesterday morning as the latest outbreak of violence continued.

According to Free State police spokesman Major André van Deventer a private vehicle in Phahameng Location, Mangaung, was set alight by a group of youths at about 6.45am.

He said the fresh outbreak of violence in both Botshabelo and Mangaung could be connected to the two-day stay-away in both townships.

On Sunday the African National Congress and its alliance partners, the
NEWS FEATURE Angry community boycotts farmer’s shop over man’s father in row over unpaid debt to local farmer:

By Lulama Luti

Mokete’s fatal las

R500 DEBT Son went as ‘hostage’ to help find father in row over unpaid debt to local farmer:

"Almost 99 percent of our customers are black people. And if they don’t come and buy we might as well just close the shop," said Johan Moolman.

He declined to talk about the events of the fateful night and said this was on the advice of his lawyer.

mysterious death

However, Mrs Moolman said they were not afraid to face the truth as she believed her husband had not killed Mokete.

“There’ll definitely be a court case and Johan is not afraid to tell the truth," she said.

At the request of the Free State branch of the ANC, of which Mokete was a member, pathologist Dr Jonathan Gluckman went to Senekal to conduct a post-mortem.

The results were not available at the time of going to press.

Mokete Mosia

Mokete died on the morning of January 30 after he allegedly jumped off a moving kombi while in the company of a local white shopkeeper, Mr Johan Moolman, and his 16-year-old son.

According to Mokete’s father, Mr Pakane Mosia (45), he owed Moolman about R500 for goods he had taken from his shop on credit.

Settle debt

He had planned to settle the debt on the Saturday and had spent the weekend away from home. He said when he eventually went to Moolman he was instead told of his son’s death.

“I was shocked and did not know what to do because my son had nothing to do with this,” said a distraught Mosia.

Free State police spokesman Capt Jeanette van der Merwe told Sowetan that Moolman said in a statement Mokete had offered to take him to where his father was in Senekal.

“About 20 kilometres from Senekal Mr Mosia was jumped from the moving vehicle. His head struck a tree at the side of the road and he sustained fatal injuries," said Moolman in the statement.

Van der Merwe said the case was being investigated and would be referred to the Attorney-General once investigations were completed.

Fateful night

Sowetan spoke to Mrs Mosia (36), who gave her account of the events of the fateful night.

Seated on the bare floor of their mud hut, sparsely furnished with rickety furniture, Mosia told of her agony.

After receiving an urgent call to go back home immediately, she rushed home to find Moolman there.

“He was rude and he was shouting all over the place. He said he was looking for my husband and when we told him that he was not in he demanded that someone accompany him and his son to where he was,” said the grieving woman.

Mosia said she repeatedly objected to Moolman’s demand but "there was nothing we could do, they had firearms."

Moolman and his son drove away in a kombi and they took Mokete with them.

She had an uneasy feeling that something would go wrong and she rushed to the nearby Rosendal police station to report the matter.

"The police said they couldn’t help and I would have to wait till the following day," she said.

Swollen head

But when the following day came, it was too late. Mokete lay at the Rosendal Hospital. His head was swollen and so were his hands and knees. He had bruises on his body. He was dead.

Mosia said she was so shocked that she could not bear to look at his son’s corpse.

Mokete’s elder sister Tricia has been sick ever since her brother died. Her parents do not have money to send her to hospital. They also have to pay debts incurred during the funeral.

Her mother earns R50 a month cleaning the floors of the nearby (white) NG Kerk and her father is a labourer for the Provincial Administration of the Orange Free State.

Until December last year Mokete had been working in Johannesburg, also as a labourer, and had come back home after he was retrenched.

Not only has the incident sent shockwaves through the entire small community of Mauste and nearby Matwahang, but also angered residents and they have begun boycotting Moolman’s shop.

"Daar se geen kommentaar daaroor wil," said Mrs Moolman as we stepped into the shop and explained the purpose of our visit.

Shop deserted

It was around 12.30pm, lunch time for the horde of workers in the small town. But the shop was deserted. None of the workers were coming near the shop.

The shelves were still stacked with loaves of bread and assistants had stopped making food.
Union looks at farm security

BLOEMFONTEIN. — A Free State Agricultural Union delegation is on a two-day visit to the far northern Transvaal to investigate farm security.

The delegation visited the defence force and police to see measures to protect the farming community that have been successful in the far north.

A meeting on security will be held today in Fochville, Western Transvaal, where 26 people were killed or wounded in the past year. — Sapa
Fist fights as Apla cadres sent to prison

BLOEMFONTEIN — Fighting erupted in the Bloemfontein Regional Court yesterday when police and Pan Africanist Congress members clashed minutes after two Azanian People's Liberation Army cadres were each jailed for 11 years.

The fist fights started when police tried to take John May (26) and Veillie Mxhosana (20) to the cells as PAC supporters sang and chanted.

A PAC supporter lashed out with his fists at a policeman, who responded by kicking and hitting.

The fighting was run concurrently with the seven-year terms.

May and Mxhosana were also sentenced to four years for possession of two AK-47 rifles and a 9mm Scorpion pistol, four years for possession of nine hand grenades and two years for possession of ammunition, to run concurrently with the four years for possessing weapons.

The court found they had caused an explosion at the Batho police station in Mangaung on December 14 1991. — Own Correspondent.
Government's aid scheme for needy Atlantis

MICHAEL MORRIS
Political Correspondent

HARD on the heels of Mrs Marike de Klerk's controversial visit to Atlantis last week — marked by protests about unemployment and poor services — the government has announced a "comprehensive" aid programme for the town.

Mrs De Klerk was a guest at a National Party-sponsored "goodwill tea", which was opposed by ANC demonstrators.

The government's programme will help the most needy families.

The Minister of Health Services and Welfare in the House of Representatives, the Rev Andrew Jules — who is also a senior NP official in the Cape — said the government had taken note of the dire effects of unemployment in Atlantis.

A comprehensive aid programme would be launched in co-operation with Dr Rina Venter's Department of National Health and Welfare.

This would entail:

- Co-ordinating all welfare initiatives to make the most of resources.
- Providing additional money from the Department of Health Services and Welfare emergency loan fund and the national feeding scheme for immediate relief.

Mr Jules said his department's emergency loan scheme involved paying rents and service charges and providing food for people unable to provide for their own or their families' basic needs.

The programme was aimed not merely at providing immediate relief, but at generating community involvement and combating despair.

A spokesman for the Department of Health Services and Welfare in the House of Representatives, Ms Theresha Hanekom, said the aid programme for Atlantis was in the pipeline well before Mrs De Klerk's visit, but that her guest appearance as a function in the hard-pressed community had put the spotlight on problems.

But some elements of the aid scheme were still being worked out.

The ANC has claimed that 46 percent of the economically-active population of Atlantis — about 11 000 people — is unemployed and that the town's debt burden is about R210 million.

It called on the government — in a memorandum handed to Minister Mr Abe Williams soon before Mrs De Klerk's arrival in Atlantis last week — to declare Atlantis a disaster area.
Slovo: No successor in sight for Hani

JOHANNESBURG. — There is no obvious candidate in sight to succeed assassinated SACP secretary-general Mr Chris Hani, party chairman Mr Joe Slovo said yesterday.

Assistant secretary-general and former Eastern Cape journalist Mr Charles Nqakula would fulfill the functions of the post in the interim.

The SACP "politic bureau" was scheduled to meet today to discuss finding a successor.

"Chris made a major contribution to the growth of the SAPC since he took over as secretary-general in December 1989. There is no one with his popular appeal to working people and the youth — our main constituency," Mr Slovo added.

Transkei deports Ugandan citizens

UMTATA. — Transkei has deported an undisclosed number of Ugandans following the discovery of a syndicate manufacturing bogus educational certificates, military leader Major-General Bantu Holomisa confirmed on Sunday.

He vowed that those involved in manufacturing fake documents would have to go.

General Holomisa said his government was examining the credibility of other expatriates' qualifications, saying arrangements were being made to send all Indian expatriates' qualifications to the Indian High Commission in Botswana.

Ghanaians' documents were being sent to their representative in Namibia and those of Ugandans were being checked with sources in their country.

General Holomisa added that 13 expatriate teachers — seven Indian women, five Ghanaians and a Ugandan — had been detained recently.

The 13 had agreed to withdraw their court action challenging their deportation order, and would be allowed to resume teaching. — Sapa

TWO FOR ONE GIANT ENLARGEMENT OFFER!

by Tracy Knipe

Photoquick mini-labs have introduced a special enlargement offer to turn your favourite negative/s into a giant size: 300 x 400 mm (12 x 16) print. This size normally costs R34.95 each — so you can now enjoy 2 enlargements for the price of 1. One to keep and one to giveaway!

Please allow 7 days for delivery. There's a Photounique branch near you — consult your local telephone directory.

Spontenet man stabbed, burnt

SASOLBURG. — A resident here was stripped, stabbed and then burnt to death in the Chris Hani camp in this Free State town yesterday morning.

Police spokeswoman Captain Helen van der Westhuizen said it did not appear the killing of Mr Leon Smit, 33, a Spontenet employee, was in any way politically motivated.

Mr Smit was found naked but still alive by police at 9.30am and died about two hours later. He had apparently gone into the camp to look for spare parts for his car. — Sapa
The boers prepare for battle

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

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 immobilized 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 Molaba called on his followers to 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 Molaba 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 Genie Bloem, 70, was stabbed to death with a pair of shears on his farm Fransuilzicht 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 ‘plainswag’. 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 Dinah, 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 Mollins, 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 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 Molins.

At least 50 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 Aard 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’.
Vrede asks blacks to stay out of town

RESIDENTS of the Thabahlale township outside Vrede in the north-eastern Free State were asked in a "very friendly manner" not to enter the town and were not being kept out by force, Vrede mayor Dick Roux said yesterday.

Roux denied the claims of racial tension and hatred in the town where white residents last week responded to a black consumer boycott by launching a counter-boycott — keeping blacks from entering town. However, Roux hoped that the matter would be addressed by tomorrow when the Vrede Action Committee would meet black residents.

"I must reiterate that there is no violence in the town and claims of AWB involvement in the counter-boycott is untrue," he said. He said the committee, which had decided on the counter-boycott, had DP, NP and CP members.

Last week the ANC said AWB members were patrolling the streets threatenning people with violence.

"Unconfirmed reports claimed that a woman was shot and immediately a consumer boycott was called. That was the last straw and the community decided to embark on a counter-boycott," he said.

Roux said that although the council approved of the counter-boycott, it had not called for it.

He said efforts by the council to establish a forum had been ignored by local ANC representatives. However, last week's talks between the council and ANC NEC member Tsebo Le-kota had been fruitful.
Farmers plan to deliver ultimatum on violence

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.
Inkatha decides mass action is answer

INKATHA, which has criticised the ANC for embarking on mass action to achieve its demands, has decided to do the same. Inkatha's Durban spokesman Ed Tillet announced yesterday that his party was planning mass action to demand that violence topped the agenda at multiparty negotiations, and that the state's future reform also be given priority. Tillet said Inkatha supporters would hold marches, pickets and placard demonstrations, starting in Durban on May 15.

On Monday, Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi said violence had to be the first item dealt with at talks. Inkatha's delegation leader, national chairman Frank Mdlalose, attempted twice last week to read a lengthy statement at negotiations council meetings. First it was referred to the planning committee and, later, to a technical committee still to be set up.

Meanwhile the planning committee made limited progress on Monday and will meet again today to prepare the ground for "real headway" at Friday's meeting of the negotiating council.

The 18-member committee has agreed to a package of proposals to be put to Friday's meeting and the council is to begin addressing the concerns of the Concerned South Africans Group.

Vrede once again town of peace

THE potentially explosive situation in the northeastern Free State town of Vrede was defused yesterday when a black consumer boycott and a counter-boycott on all blacks entering the town were called off.

The ban on blacks started at the weekend after a decision by the Vrede Action Committee because residents of nearby Thambalindle township embarked on a consumer boycott last week.

At a media conference in Johannesburg yesterday, ANC NEC member Lekota, who met the action committee earlier, said the parties involved had settled their differences.

The consumer boycott said the blockade have been suspended with immediate effect," Lekota said, adding that a negotiating forum for residents of the area would be established soon.

He said meetings on Monday and yesterday had defused the situation.

In another Free State township, Thabong, two pistols, found after a shebeen fight in April which left one policeman dead and one hurt, have become a matter of dispute between the ANC and the police.

At the conference yesterday, the two firearms were handed to representatives of the Goldstone commission, who were asked to establish their origin.

The ANC alleged security forces in the area were actively aiding forces opposed to the ANC and that the pistols were evidence of this. They claimed there was a plot to murder an ANC leader.

The police, however, denied the allegation. They said the pistols were those of two policemen who had gone to the bar, were assaulted there and robbed of them.

The police said the ANC's possession of the weapons was unlawful.
Farms all the way down the road to independence. The ANC has been very clear that this is not just a question of land, but a comprehensive transformation of society. The ANC has been consistent in its commitment to the principle of reconciliation. This has been a guiding principle in its approach to land restitution and other social issues. The ANC has also been clear that it will not negotiate with those who are unwilling to engage in a meaningful dialogue. The ANC has called on all parties to engage in a process of dialogue and negotiation. The ANC has also called on all parties to respect the law and the constitutional order. The ANC has been clear that it will not engage in any form of violence or unconstitutional activities.
Farmers, tears and outage bubble over

EXIS IN NOER EN EIN FARMER

LOUER WARRAND

SAM 8/24/9
BLACKS and whites in the north-eastern Free State dorpie of Vrede heaved a collective sigh of relief this week after resolving a three-week consumer boycott which had led to township residents being barred from the town by local whites.

Since last Saturday, the streets of Vrede (the Afrikaans word for peace), were no-go areas for blacks. Angry farmers and businessmen patrolled the town and hounded out blacks, including those who were employed in the central business district.

They escorted them to the outskirts of the town and warned them against setting foot there again until their "consumer boycott nonsense" was over.

Subsequently, the gun-toting khaki-clad whites blockaded the main exit from Thembelihle township into the town to ensure that no blacks sneaked in to buy basic foods.

Trouble in the area started last month after the northern Free State region of the ANC called for a week-long consumer boycott in more than twenty towns as an expression of anger at Chris Hani's death. The boycott was implemented from April 19 to April 25.

It's duration was extended in Vrede after the fatal shooting of Jeanette Ngwenya, a local resident, on April 23.

The local ANC further called for a stayaway to observe the funeral service of ANC national chairman Oliver Tambo.

These actions are believed to have angered local whites and they clubbed together and formed the Vrede Action Committee to counter the boycott and the stayaway.

But now it's all over - thanks to the intervention of the ANC - no one is more delighted than Carol Van den Heever, chairman of the action committee.

"We are not racists. We just wanted this nonsense to come to an end. We didn’t come together as right-wingers. We were reacting to the situation as concerned whites. It’s not true that the right-wingers chased blacks out of town. We did so as whites who were sick and tired of boycotts and stayaways," said Van den Heever, an NP supporter.

The boycott had serious economic implications for both blacks and whites in Vrede. While blacks were losing their jobs, whites were closing down their businesses because they were running at a loss," he said.

Van den Heever, who described himself as a "realistic Afrikaner who has had a long-standing relationship with local blacks", is hopeful about his task of reconciling blacks and whites in the area.

He has deep respect for Terror Lekota, the ANC's main representative in the Free State and a member of the organisation's NEC.

"That man is sharp, brilliant and reasonable," he said.

One of his first steps towards improving relations between blacks and whites is to build a stadium for township residents. If all goes well the project will be completed by the end of the year, Van den Heever said.
A fragile peace comes to Vrede after tug of war

By SHARON CHETTY

Tensions were running high — more police were called in from Harrismith and the boycott of white businesses was taking its toll on the local economy.

By late last week, white residents decided they had had enough.

An action committee was formed and the whites decided that blacks would not be allowed to enter the town, go to work or buy anything in Vrede’s CBD. They were going to “teach them a lesson”.

About 100 armed residents patrolled Cilliers Street, the single road that divides Vrede and the township, to make sure that Thembahlile residents remained within their territory.

Mr Ndaba claims that residents were harassed and that delivery vans were stopped from entering the township. Clandestine arrangements had to be made to get supplies from Standerton.

Forum

But action committee chairman Carol van den Heever insists that the white residents were not being malicious.

“We wanted the blacks to know that we are fed up ... in fact, many black people came to us to say that they were fed up with consumer boycotts and protests and said we should do something,” he said.

Consumer boycotts over the past three years resulted in the closure of at least five businesses.

Last weekend, representatives of the United Nations, the Peace Secretariat and ANC national executive committee member Patrick Lekota intervened.

After many hours of talks, the blockade and boycott were called off, a local forum of all interested parties was formed and the good folk of Vrede are now learning valuable lessons in negotiations.

But the excitement is not over.

This Wednesday, the AWB is coming to town to hold its first public meeting in Vrede.

The Nats say there’s no cause for concern. Black residents are not so sure.

Separate

Even the bottleshop owned by Carol van den Heever, an NP stalwart and chamber of business head, still has separate black and white sections.

The recent troubles in Vrede started when a policeman taunted ANC supporters during a protest march following SACP leader Chris Hani’s assassination.

The policeman allegedly said the ANC would be eliminated, explained ANC chairman Eric Ndaba.

Later that day, the policeman’s house was attacked.

“When the police arrived, they fired on people with teargas and rubber bullets,” said Mr Ndaba.

Then a white-owned second-hand furniture and antiques store was petrol-bombed. The arrest of several youths led to a stayaway and a protest march by Thembahlile residents, demanding the release of the suspects.

“Before the march could start, we were given five minutes to disperse. Those of us at the back did not hear the order,” said Mr Ndaba.

“Suddenly the police opened fire and many people were injured.”

Mr Ndaba said one resident, Mrs Jeanette Ngwennywa, was shot dead while standing in her front yard.

Police are still investigating her death.

A consumer boycott which was already in effect was extended to May 1, the day of Mrs Ngwennywa’s funeral.
Miners vow to uphold own peace accord

Almost 7 000 miners on Gengold’s Beatrix mine in the Free State have committed themselves to a “peace accord” after two months of sporadic violence.

Ten people were killed in incidents of violence on the mine in March, resulting in the removal of more than 200 000 miners to a “neutral” hostel in Welkom, mine spokesman Andrew Davidson said on Wednesday.

He said successful “peace negotiations” between mine employees had resulted in the return of the men.

The negotiations had been conducted under the auspices of the National Peace Secretariat, Davidson said, and all parties had agreed to refrain from violence and intimidation.

3 suspects held as 2 constables shot

By Gien Elia
West Rand Bureau

Three men were arrested after two municipal policemen were shot and seriously injured in Tembisa, East Rand, on Wednesday afternoon.

Lieutenant-Colonel Dave Bruce of the SAP said Constable L S Kgatlana was off duty when he was shot in the chest while walking in the street at 2 pm. His private firearm was taken from him. He is in a serious condition in a local hospital.

At 3.30 pm Constable N Boloko, who was on duty at the Lumenedu railway station, was shot and seriously wounded in the left side. Policemen arrested three suspects. They found the stolen firearm belonging to Kgatlana in the possession of one of the suspects.

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Three killed as Beatrix workers return

THE return of Beatrix gold mine's 460 Zulu-speaking workers on Wednesday was marred by violence in which three men -- including two mine security guards -- died, Gengold spokesman Andrew Davidson said.

The Zulu speakers were removed from the mine at the end of March after violence -- which left 10 workers dead and several injured -- had forced an earlier removal of 1,000 Zulu-speaking workers.

After an interval an attempt was made to return them to the mine, but this led to further violence, another death and more injuries, and they were removed.

They had been removed for a third time and were being housed in Welkom.

Davidson said the Zulu speakers were not directly involved in Wednesday's incident, which police and mine security personnel were investigating.

He said intensive talks between the Zulu speakers, the NUM and mine management, chaired by representatives of the national peace secretariat, had resulted in the signing of a peace agreement last week. However, the situation on the mine remained tense.

Normal production was continuing despite the violence and the removal of the Zulu-speaking group, Davidson said.
Livestock maimed in terror blitz

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.

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.

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 (10), eastern Cape (10), Natal (4) and western Cape (5).

Angry farmers have asked for curfewts 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.

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" by the perpetrators warning that harm could come to families and friends if farmers did not leave the lands.

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.
Fighting shatters gold mine peace pact

By Jacqueline Myburgh

A peace pact among almost 7,000 mine workers on Gogold's Beatrix mine in the Free State has collapsed, following renewed ethnic fighting at the weekend.

A spokesman for Gogold, Andrew Davidson, yesterday said one miner was killed and 12 were injured in a clash on Friday night. Police arrested 37 miners.

Miners recently held peace negotiations and later signed a "peace accord" under the auspices of the National Peace Secretariat. This followed violent attacks on the mine in March when 10 people were killed. More than 200 Zulu miners had to be removed to a neutral hostel. They returned to the mine on Wednesday and that night two security guards were killed.

At 7.30 pm on Friday a large group of armed Pondo miners attacked a group of Sotho workers, Davidson said. "The attack was launched with military precision, according to the mine manager," he added.

The situation on the mine was tense yesterday, he said, and the SAP and mine security were maintaining a strong presence.

He said the Zulu miners had again been removed from the property, but were still "on the payroll". The mine was "looking at returning them home", Davidson said.

Police said they were investigating charges of murder and public violence at the mine. Sotho and Pondo miners had been arrested, Colonel Johan Fosch said.

A spokesman for the National Union of Mineworkers could not be reached for comment.
Tumahole
rapped by
'low war'

Residents claim police were involved in raids:

Addressing a Pretoria conference in Johannesburg yesterday, a delegation from Tumahole claimed 12-year-old Matsikidi Monasi was shot dead by a policeman "known as Sotho" on April 22.

Soweto July 1983.

Members of the executive committees of the ANC and South African National Civic Organisation said its members were targets of petrol bombings and other attacks.

They said police had not investigated any of the incidents in which four houses had been petrol-bombed since April.

Sasco publicity secretary Mr Archie Thobelo said he was ambushed and stabbed by three rioters on April 30. Police spokesman Captain Jolihene van der Merwe denied police involvement, but confirmed that Monasi was shot dead by a policeman. She said the policeman fired at a group of youths when they attacked his home.

Van der Merwe said Thobelo refused to lay charges at the time. — Sapa
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
Free State farmers vow to defend themselves

BLOEMFONTEIN — The continued attacks on farmers as a result of calls by the leaders of the African National Congress and the Pan Africanist Congress had led farmers to accept that these organisations wanted war and, accordingly, declared 'war on' farmers and Afrikaners.

Free-State Agricultural Union president Dr Pieter Gous said yesterday that Dr Gous was speaking after a meeting of the union's executive committee.

Farmers would have to do everything in their power to defend themselves, as they would in a war situation.

Discussions would be held soon between the union's security committee and the SAP and the SADF, said Dr Gous. Dr Gous confirmed that in terms of standpoints adopted at the Polokwane rally every farmer was encouraged to join a commando.

However, if the ANC and the PAC obtained joint control of the Defence Force, the commandos would be urgently requested to withdraw from the Defence Force structure.

— Sapa.
Police shoot child (9) dead

Free State police shot dead a nine-year-old child in Soutpan Township on Saturday and injured six other people after a mob of angry people allegedly attacked them with stones and petrol bombs. Two policemen were investigating a case of stock theft when they were attacked at about 11.15 am. The police used teargas to disperse the angry crowd. — Crime Reporter.
Armed right-wingers bar blacks from town

DIEK VAN EEDEN

A COMMITEE of residents and police were locked in talks throughout the day, trying to iron out the racial confrontation which began two weeks ago when the ANC Women's League was prevented from entering Koppies for a protest march.

A consumer boycott was subsequently called by the ANC's branch in KwaKwasi, the township adjacent to Koppies.

Yesterday's action was part of an attempt to force blacks to end their consumer boycott.

Police spokesman Capt Johannes van der Merwe said yesterday police reinforcements had been called in and the situation was "extremely tense".

However, there had been no reports of violence.

Van der Merwe said the police team of negotiators also held talks with the residents of KwaKwasi, and was trying to get the opposing groups together last night for joint negotiations.

The right-wingers took up their posts at 4.30am yesterday. They were mostly armed with sideguns, although a few had shotguns, she said. Kopme Actioneer Committee chairman Lowe Badenhorst, representing residents and businessmen of the town, said the action would continue until the ANC acceded to the town council's demand that the ANC abide by the peace accord.

The committee also distributed leaflets in English and Sotho, calling for an end to the boycott.

Badenhorst said that even though the roads were blocked, people in need of medical attention were allowed through.

A reported blockade on the road between Koppies and KwaKwasi had turned out to be the result of municipal road works. It had been removed, Van der Merwe said.

Badenhorst said that even though Kopme was home to a large number of AWB supporters, no single political party could be held responsible for the blockade.

The blockade of the town follows a similar one earlier this year in Vrede when a black consumer boycott of the town, which lasted nearly two weeks, was called off after meetings between the town's residents and those of the neighbouring township.

Investigation into shootings

STEPHEN COPLAN

POLICE are investigating alleged shootings in the Babylon area of Ivory Park at the weekend.

Squatters said they had been fired on by two white men travelling in a bakkie.

Police spokesman W/O Andy Pies said yesterday the bakkie belonged to the Transport Department, but the people using it on Sunday still had to be traced.

A spokesman for the local civic association said there were no injuries and no damage to property.

Local peace committee officials in the area said the TPA yesterday continued to demolish shacks in Babylon, near Midrand. Many had been re-erected at the weekend following the demolition of illegal structures last week.

Peace committee official Roger Oney said hundreds of people had been left homeless.

An urgent application by 19 squatters to remain on the land was postponed until tomorrow. The land has been earmarked by the TPA for light industrial development.
Koppies roadblocks down after talks

By Charisee Bhagwot
Crime Reporter

Free State police late last night persuaded armed white residents of the small town of Koppies to abandon roadblocks they had manned for 17 hours to keep out residents from neighbouring KwaKwatsi.

The residents blocked roads into Koppies from about 4.30 am yesterday, in retaliation against an ANC-led boycott of white businesses.

Free State police spokesman Captain Johlene van der Merwe said white residents had told police they would bar black residents from the town until the boycott ended.

However, after protracted negotiations — due to continue today — they agreed to go home.

Van der Merwe said the white residents manning the blockades numbered about 300 and were heavily armed, although their weapons were concealed.

The boycott started after the ANC Women's League was denied permission to march into Koppies on June 16.

Van der Merwe said it was granted permission to march only to the border of Koppies and KwaKwatsi.

It is not clear whether roadblocks will be re-established today or when KwaKwatsi residents will be free to enter Koppies.
Racial tension high in Koppies

By Mpikeleni Duma

By late yesterday the situation in the Free State town of Koppies was still tense after whites prevented blacks from going into the town.

The move was in retaliation for a boycott embarked on by residents of Kwakwasi township against white businesses. Police spokeswoman Captain Jouya van der Merwe said white residents had apparently decided last week to cordon off the area from 4am yesterday.

The boycott was sparked off by a refusal to allow the ANC Woman’s League to march to the town on June 16 to deliver a memorandum.

Van der Merwe said a meeting between community organisations, the South African Police, Peace Committee and the white Koppies residents was to be held yesterday.
Township residents plan protest march on Koppies

RESIDENTS of the Kwakwastl township, adjoining the Free State town of Kopplies, plan to march on the town tomorrow to protest at Monday's blocking of access roads to the town by right-wing Kopplies residents, ANC regional spokesman said yesterday.

They said they were determined to go ahead with the march whether or not permission was granted. Northern Free State ANC deputy secretary-general Vax Mayekiso said the SAP should be held responsible for the safety of marchers and the town's residents.

The ANC was reportedly planning to bus marchers into the area as part of its national day of action campaign in the Free State, which was directed against the right-wing residents.

"We want to show them, once and for all, that the town of Kopplies belongs to everyone who lives here," said the ANC's northern plan suggested by the Kopplies town council as "a joke". The plan called for the bilateral suspension of the blockade and the consumer boycott and for the ANC to recognise the sovereignty of the Kopplies town council and to stop interfering in its activities.

It proposed that the ANC be limited to three marches through the town each year.

National Peace Committee representative Hudi Louw said committee representatives would attempt to defuse the situation in talks today between the Kopplies Action Committee, the local authorities, the SAP and the local and regional ANC. He said if the march went ahead it could lead to a dangerous confrontation.

The streets of Kopplies were deserted yesterday as the consumer boycott continued, and most businesses were closed.

JONATHAN DAVIS
Free State chairman Ace Magashule.

The Kopplies action committee blockaded roads leading into the town on Monday in response to a consumer boycott of the town's businesses by Kwakwastl residents.

The boycott began on June 18 after a march by the ANC Women's League was prevented from entering Kopplies.

However, ANC sources claim tension had been rising in the area since a Kwakwastl resident, Solomon Malebe, 28, was allegedly shot dead by a policeman.

The ANC announced the planned march yesterday, after talks between Kopplies residents, the local authorities and ANC failed to break the deadlock.

ANC representatives described an eight-point
Tensions at Koppies blockaded; town high.

Tensions still running high in the small northern Free State town of Koppies, where armed right-wing vigilantes have barred black KwaNatal township residents from entering the town since Monday morning.

Yesterday Kwakwatsi residents seemed to be observing a voluntary stayaway from the town while armed white residents, organised by the Koppies Action Committee, monitored all entrances into Koppies.

Police said white residents were not blocking entrances into Koppies, but an ANC spokesman said they were.

In response to the right-wing action, the ANC yesterday announced a march to the Koppies police station tomorrow.

The blockade of entrances into the town was renewed by KwaNatal residents, who are resuming a boycott of white businesses.

Staff Reporter.
Blockade: ANC reacts

JOHANNESBURG. — The ANC northern Free State region listed its demands yesterday in response to the right-wing blockade of Koppies and resolved to continue with its plans to undertake a protest march into the small town on July 1.

The ANC region would have met the Koppies Action Committee yesterday, but the meeting was postponed to 5 pm today.

The blockade was apparently started in response to a week-long black consumer boycott of the town’s white-owned businesses.

Among the ANC’s demands are an end to blockade as well as “the right-wing’s use of violence and barbarism to address problems”.

Local ANC leader Mr Johannes Tladi said the boycott would only be ended when the ANC was allowed to march into the town to the police station and the police held an inquest into the death of ANC Youth League member Mr Maitume Mahlatsi, 29.
Koppies is boiling

Sowetan Correspondent

SIMMERING racial tension in the northern Free State town of Koppies boiled over yesterday when an ANC-led march from Kwakwatsi township to the outskirts of the town ended in chaos.

The march started peacefully at the Kwakwatsi Stadium at about 11 am and the estimated 3 000 marchers proceeded to the Koppies Showgrounds where they held a rally. Free State police spokesman Captain Johlene van der Merwe said members of the ANC Women’s League submitted a memorandum to SAP Colonel Gert Nel, after which more than half of the demonstrators returned to Kwakwatsi.

Marchers who remained at the rally venue set an old shed alight and burned old tyres in the area. Police then guarded several properties to prevent further damage.

As the shed and surrounding fields burned, Koppies residents mobilized trucks and men at the end of the only exit from Kwakwatsi and called on other Free State farmers to join a roadblock of tyres and steel bars. Koppies Action Committee chairman Mr Lorange Badenhorst announced the suspension of Wednesday’s agreement, saying Kwakwatsi residents had breached it by looting properties in the town. Police did not prevent rightwingers from setting up blockades. They also refused to escort black journalists from City Press, trapped between the township and the Koppies blockade, to safety.

Sunday Times journalist Brendan Serry was punched, kicked and sworn at by rightwingers.

The Star’s journalist and Saturday Star’s deputy editor, Ken Vernon, was assaulted by rightwingers.
SPARKS are expected to fly between AWB leader Eugene Terre'Blanche and top office-holders of the Afrikaner Volksfront when they meet today to discuss the storming of the World Trade Centre in Kempton Park a week ago.

The Volksfront leaders are expected to tell Terre'Blanche to fall in line with the disciplinary set down by the organisation's directorate.

They are also expected to tell him that AWB members will not be allowed to attend future Volksfront rallies clad in their distinctive camouflage uniforms.

This will be the second time the Volksfront executive committee has discussed the World Trade Centre incident, allegedly led by Terre'Blanche and members of his personal guard, the Ystergarde.

Even though Terre'Blanche is a member of the committee, he did not personally attend the first meeting, which was held on Tuesday.

Sources close to the Volksfront said yesterday that today's meeting was expected to be "extremely tough".

Eikenhof killing suspects appear in court

FOUR people suspected of the AK-47 attack on motorists at Eikenhof, south of Johannesburg, appeared in the Meyerton Magistrate's Court yesterday.

The case was remanded until August 2 to allow the attorney-general to determine under what charges they should be prosecuted, state prosecutor Susan van Deventer said.

Paulus Molakwane, 21, was released on bail of R5 000 and David Masalemane, 39, on bail of R2 000. Moses Thebogoe Ramafiong, 23, was unable to attend the hearing and was remanded in custody. A 15-year-old youth was released into the custody of his parents.

The four, said to be ANC members, are suspected of the attack in which Sandra Mitchley, 35, her son Shaun Nel, 14, and Clare Silbauer, 19, all of Eikenhof, were killed.

Three other suspects arrested in connection with the shooting — Siphiwe James Bholo, 24, Samuel Sipho "Fish" Gavin, 29, and Philebo Ndlwana, 23 — will appear in the Vereeniging Circuit Court on Monday.

Goldstone papers over cracks — Holomisa

TRANSKEI military leader Maj-Gen Bertie Holomisa has launched a scathing attack on the Goldstone commission for allegedly ignoring evidence of security force complicity in political violence.

Addressing a two-day conference in Harare on "Sustainable Peace and Stability in SA", he claimed the commission could not command the support and respect of the black majority because of the manner in which it had treated evidence of military intelligence funding and training of Inkatha volunteers.

"Goldstone is merely papering over the cracks. The commission is a sham instrument to blunt and delude black South Africans and the international community into believing that President F W de Klerk is perturbed at the slaughter of blacks when in reality his security forces foment the violence," he said.

According to a copy of his speech made available in Johannesburg, Holomisa said De Klerk had publicly admitted security force members were involved in violence.

Revelations of security force complicity in the so-called black-on-black violence and the continued public display of weapons and provocative acts by white right-wingers had the potential to trigger off a race war in SA.

Discussing the reorganisation and restructuring of the SADF, Holomisa said it was imperative that a transitional executive council be established immediately to exercise full control over all arms of the forces before an acceptable political settlement had been achieved.

He said current bilateral negotiations on this issue between the SA government, the homeland and the ANC should be terminated and the matter referred to the multiparty negotiating forum instead. — Sapa.

Koppies agreement

The ANC consumer boycott of Koppies and the blockade of the town by right-wing Action Committee members were called off late on Wednesday night after a marathon meeting between the parties.

The ANC, Koppies Action Committee, regional peace committee and the Koppies Town Council said they were all thrilled with the outcome.

The parties agreed to hold a "stayaway, stayaways and counter actions immediately".

They also agreed that the local peace committee should be reconstituted and that in future special procedures should precede street barricades, stayaways or marches.

As a result of the agreement an ANC march planned for yesterday went ahead after it had been banned on Wednesday.

About 3 000 people marched from Kwakwazi to the Koppies showgrounds and the local branch of the ANC Women's League handed a memorandum to the police.

Police said the march had been peaceful, but that arsonists marred the event, when fire was set in an old barn and tyres. — Sapa.
Torch shed sparks new ‘war’ in Koppies

The Argus Correspondents

JOHANNESBURG - Rightwing Free State farmers in Koppies erected burning barricades, stoned buses and assaulted reporters yesterday after marchers from neighbouring Kwawatsi burnt down a storage shed during a march.

The violence ended an agreement reached late on Wednesday night between whites and blacks in this northern Free State town to end a consumer boycott and counter measures by whites which barred blacks from the town.

About 3000 marchers from Kwawatsi, reinforced by ANC members bussed in marched peacefully to the showground and submitted a memorandum to police Colonel Gert Nel about 1pm.

After more than half the marchers had left, a group set alight a storage shed at the agricultural showgrounds which enraged rightwingers who then set up barricades of burning tyres.

TEMPERS FLARE: Farmers erect barricades of burning tyres after a shed at the farmer’s agricultural centre near the Kwawatsi township was burnt during an ANC rally.

Koppies Action Committee chairman Louw Badenhorst declared that Kwawatsi residents had breached Wednesday’s agreement by burning the storage shed.

Several journalists, trapped between the two factions, were assaulted by rightwingers.

Police refused to escort black journalists from City Press to safety, and said they could not protect others from assault.

Sunday Tribune reporter Brendan Seery was punched and kicked by men who bent his notebook. Saturday Star deputy editor Ken Veren was also hit.

Police eventually escorted busloads of ANC supporters from the township where they had been trapped for more than three hours. Koppies residents stoned the buses after forcing reporters to leave.
Koppies boycott, town blockade over after talks

Staff Reporters

Residents of Kwakwetsi township outside the northern Free State town of Koppies will march on the local Agricultural Showgrounds today with the full blessing of the townsfolk after the two sides settled their differences last night.

Kwakwetsi residents have been boycotting town businesses and Koppies residents have in turn been barring them from entering the town since Monday.

After two days of negotiations, the ANC Koppies branch, the Koppies Action Group and the council agreed to end all consumer boycotts, stayaways and counter action immediately.

In a joint statement, they also agreed to restructure the local peace committee which would, together with the Free State peace committee and the local groups, mediate in the event of any marches or boycotts.

It was also agreed Kwakwetsi residents could march along a mutually agreed route to the Koppies Agricultural Showgrounds today — even though a local magistrate earlier refused permission for the march.

Township residents had said they would march whether or not permission was granted.

Free State police spokesman Captain John van der Merwe said after the agreement had been reached, that the march was now legal.

She said police did not expect any violence during the march.
Police 'can't' stop cordon

KOPPIES - The police force claimed it was powerless to stop white residents in the Free State town of Koppies from cordoning off the local township because the residents were on municipal property.

Free State police spokesman Captain Johlene van der Merwe said the right-wingers had the town council's permission to remain on the property.

The cordon followed a protest march on Thursday by ANC supporters in which a barn was set alight.

A peace meeting will be held on Monday in an attempt to diffuse the situation. — Sapa
LATEST SCORE: RIGHTWING 2, POLICE 0

The newest issue of the right-wing publication "The Guardian" features a cover story on the recent police raid on the headquarters of a left-wing political group. The article claims that the police action was necessary to ensure national security and uphold law and order. The story is accompanied by photographs of the raid, showing police officers entering the building with search warrants.

In an interview with the publication, the leader of the left-wing group denied any wrongdoing and called the police action a violation of civil liberties. The group's supporters took to social media to express solidarity and call for a peaceful protest.

The article also includes a profile of a prominent right-wing figure, discussing their views on current political issues and their strategies for the upcoming elections. The publication's editorial page features an op-ed piece calling for a united front against what they describe as the rising tide of left-wing extremism.
Mom's advice on policemen doesn't hold

KEN VERNON, Deputy Editor

WHEN you were young, your mom always said that if you were in trouble you should find a policeman. That advice seems to have gone out of currency.

This week, in the small Free State town of Kopjes, when police were called on to render assistance to journalists and legal marchers the most they offered was a shrug of the shoulders.

They stood by and watched rightwingers set up burning barricades across public roads. They stood idly and watched journalists — including a young woman — abused, threatened and assaulted.

They watched rightwingers throw a barrage of stones at bases transporting blacks out of KwaKwatsi township — supposedly under police escort.

One journalist, after having been assaulted within metres of the policemen, speculated that SAP stood for Standing About Passively.

Sunday Tribune journalist Brendan Seery was confronted by a dozen rightwingers, who snatched his notebook and burned it before punching and kicking him. Similar treatment was meted out to me. A young woman reporter, in exchange from America was abused and narrowly missed being hit.


tried to escape

A team of black journalists from City Press, who were trapped inside the besieged township, asked for a police escort out of the area, but the police were told by rightwingers manning barricades that they would not allow them to pass — and there was nothing, said police in the armoured vehicle, they could do. Orders, it appears, are orders — no matter from whence they come.

I was confronted by about 10 rightwingers within 10 m of dozens of heavily armed police. I was told to leave the area. Then attempts were made to steal my camera, and when I tried to escape to the police, I was assaulted and physically removed.

The police watched without flinching.

Then I remembered my mom's advice and I went looking for a policeman — a policeman who wasn't looking at me getting beaten that is — and found Colonel Gert Nel, who with two armed rightwingers was sitting at an abandoned roadblock.

I told him of the attacks on journalists and asked, like a good boy, for assistance. The colonel looked concerned, but said he couldn't help.

"But it's your duty," I replied. The colonel looked even more concerned, but was adamant. Look elsewhere, rather than to the South African Police, for help: he suggested. Or even better, he said, maybe I should do what the rightwingers demanded and leave the area.

"But I need to do my job," I pleaded. The colonel looked still more concerned, but could only shrug his shoulders.
Hopes that anger at Koppe is calm...
TRIVIALITY SPARKS RACE WAR

By BILL KRIGE

A SMALL issue decided unilaterally by an all-white town council is largely to blame for a racism-racial split in a Free State town.

Today the gulf between white and black yaws wider than the two-kilometre strip of no-man's land separating the dorp of Koppies from its dusty township, Kwakwatsi.

On Saturday, armed white thugs shot and wounded eight ANC supporters bussed in for a protest march which turned ugly after ANC youths burnt a farmers' shed.

That night scores of out-of-town white toughs drove around Kwakwatsi's fringes, dismounting from bakkies to terrorise a squatter camp.

Adaman

For four days armed white residents had blockaded Kwakwatsi, turning back black workers, in retaliation for the fourth ANC-inspired boycott this year. The boycott was the result of the town's refusal to allow the ANC to hold a June 16 protest march ending at the police station.

"At the moment we have a sort of ceasefire," said Charli van der Merwe, businessman and deputy mayor. "We meet tomorrow to try and sort things out."

Both the white blockade and the black consumer boycott are over — for the moment — but both sides are adamant that the other was to blame for the crisis.

Blacks accuse the police of taking sides in the dispute, the town council of being petty and the Action Committee of being manipulated by the AWB.

Whites blame the crisis on weak ANC leadership and bad faith. Solemo agreements were broken and ANC vice-chairman Sol Mayekiso, an Afrikaner schoolteacher, said:

"We waited 10 days and then they told us we could hand over our petition to the station commander at the mill (on the white side of no-man's land) and that was unacceptable.

"Talks between the ANC and the Action Committee led to agreement on terms for a march on Thursday. It ended with angry youths lighting barricades on the white outskirts and burning a shed belonging to farmers in the agricultural showgrounds in which furniture worth R5000 was stored.

"Buses carrying protesters home to nearby Free State towns were fired on and eight people were wounded, one critically.

"A car carrying top ANC officials Zacharia Phori and Tate Makgome was ambushed.

"At about 10pm some 100 whites drove to Kwakwatsi's crowded squatter area."

TALKING: Charli van der Merwe

ANC business was alienated by four consumer boycotts, and six worker stayaways this year, they say.

But the truth seems to be that the last boycott, the blockade and the violence would not have happened had Koppies agreed to the ANC's simple request to allow the June 16 march.

Me van der Merwe said the town council had decided not to allow the June 16 march to end at the police station partly because it feared a right-wing backlash.

Moreover, it had made its approval conditional on the backing of the local peace secretariat. This was not forthcoming — because ANC delegates failed to attend a secretariat meeting and a quorum was not reached, he said.

"I was lying in bed when I heard people swearing in Afrikaans," said Mrs Margaret Selisio. Windows in the bedroom and lounge of her home were smashed with rifle butts.

"I was terrified. I ran into the kitchen with my son, Michael. They had parked outside and were shining their headlights at the house. I couldn't see them in the glare."

Nearby, the iron shack of Mrs Bet-ty Mubisi had several windows smashed and walls buckled. She was not at home at the time.

While inspecting the damage, three police Nyalas and several other armoured vehicles cruised by.

"Where were they when we needed them?" asked Mr Mayekiso.
Free State boycott crisis moves to Jagersfontein

BLOEMFONTEIN. — The consumer boycott against the right-wing blockade situation at Koppies in the northern Free State has been resolved, but Jagersfontein in the south now faces a similar problem, reports said yesterday. The ANC and the Humeleleng Civic Association in Jagersfontein, where a consumer boycott started on Monday, have refused to discuss the situation with the local peace committee. The boycott was apparently called to force Humeleleng administrator Mr Louw de Beer and the chief of administration Mr Japie Pienaar to resign. — Sapa
Troops not biased towards rightists at Koppies - SADF

By Kris Mayes

The SAP and SADF have denied that troops deployed to handle unrest in the northern Free State last Thursday were biased toward rightwingers by doing nothing to prevent them from blockading a local township and attacking journalists.

A unit of SADF soldiers was deployed at Koppies to help local police contain an ANC-sponsored march protesting barricades of the KwaKwaghle township by Koppies citizens.

But, as witnessed by journalists from The Star, The Saturday Star and The Sunday Tribune, police and the army stood by idly as the rightwingers once again set up barricades outside the township, trapping nearly 2,000 marchers.

The rightwingers also attacked two journalists and threatened another, but police refused to make arrests or offer protection.

Immediately after the tense standoff, SADF members were seen having a braai with the rightwingers at their makeshift Koppies headquarters. But SADF spokesman Major Morie Meyer said the event had been prearranged and that the soldiers "supplied their own meat".

The police said they could not be held responsible for following up the reporters' claims of abuse because they had failed to make official statements at the local police station.

In a statement released yesterday police said that because the Koppies standoff was so volatile they were unable to ensure the journalists' safety.

US journalist shocked at hatred - Page 7
ANC region refuses to return to peace body

BLOEMFONTEIN. — ANC southern Free State regional leaders said here yesterday they would defy orders from their national headquarters in Johannesburg to return to the structures of the National Peace Accord they quit three weeks ago.

The region left the peace body because five people were allegedly shot dead in the region on June 16 by policemen. ANC spokesman Mr Moses Mohantshe said the region decided to quit the peace body until the police met its demands to suspend the policemen involved in the shootings, and to hold an independent inquiry into the incidents. — Sapa
Boycott for Kroonstad

RESIDENTS of Maokeng are to boycott Kroonstad's white-owned businesses for a month from September 6.

A spokesman said yesterday it was the only peaceful way residents could draw the attention of those in power to their problems. He said the Maokeng Unity Forum, which was formed by the African National Congress, South African National Civic Association and Congress of South African Trade Unions, had decided the boycott would begin with a stayaway on September 6 and end on October 6.
**Attack on hotel**

**Sowetan 6/9/93**

**Peter Stuyvesant**

*RICH CHOICE BLENDING KINGS cay*

**DAMNED EXACTLY:** at R1 million was caused to the Riverside Lodge at Ladybrand in the Free State on Satur-
day night when gunmen "looking for boors" opened fire and hurled petrol
bombs and handgrenades at the hotel.

No-one was injured (2-73).

A man purporting to be a political commander of the Azanian National Liberation Army
phoned Sapa last night and claimed responsibil-
ity for the attack. Sapa was not able to verify the
identity of the caller, who said his name was
Tongoro.

Azania is the military wing of the Black Con-
sciousness Movement of Azania based in Harare,
Zimbabwe.

"The attack was carried out because we know
the Kempton Park (multiracial) talks are not
going to deliver anything good for our people—
the black people of Azania

"Such attacks are going to continue until our
people get the total liberation they deserve,"
the caller warned.

Police said last night the attackers fled in the
direction of nearby Leitshehlo, from where they

suspended the attack was launched.

Eight rooms, two bars, a lounge, diningroom
and an office were completely destroyed in the
attack. Last night the building was still smould-
ering.

The hotel's manager, Mr. Linda van
Muirne, said: "They (the gunmen) said they
were looking for the boors — the white people
— that was all they were looking for."

A black security guard said the man ap-
peared in the pool room shortly before closing
time and ordered hotel personnel to be down.

"One man came to the pool table and said:
"Stay there, I'm looking for the white people," he
said.

Witnesses also said the attackers bashed
the complex after they could not find the man-
ager or other whites.

One said as the building blazed, the gunmen
fired at least 16 shots with machineguns.

Free State regional police commissioner
Major-General Terius Colsie said the "sudden
explosion" and weapons used in the attack were
similar to previous attacks by the Azanza in the
area. — Sapa
Hotel attack: Azanla 'unsure' about its role

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — Black Consciousness Movement of Azanla spokesman Vuyiza Qunta today refused to confirm or deny that the attack on the Riverside Lodge Hotel in the Free State on Saturday night was carried out by the organisation's armed wing, the Azanian People's Liberation Army (Azanla).

According to Mr Qunta, he had no knowledge of the attack.

He said Azanla was "operationally autonomous" and was not under the control of the BCMA offices in the frontline states, which carried out "diplomatic, humanitarian and media" functions.

A man claiming to speak for Azanla telephoned Sapa last night and said the organisation was responsible for the attack.

The five gunmen made black staff at the hotel lie on the floor and said they were looking for whites.

When they failed to find any whites, they shot up the hotel and threw hand grenades and petrol bombs at the main building, causing about R1 million damage.

Police said the attackers fled in the direction of Lesotho.

The Riverside Lodge, a complex of thatched bungalows grouped around a main building, is a few hundred metres away from the Maseru Bridge border post.

Security boosted at resorts along Lesotho border

The Argus Correspondent

LADYBRAND. — Security is being stepped up at hotels and holiday resorts along the Free State border with Lesotho after an attack on a Ladybrand hotel, police said today.

Damage estimated at R1 million was caused when gunmen torched part of the Riverside Lodge.

Free State police spokeswoman Captain Jolene van der Merwe said more uniformed policemen and members of the Internal Stability Unit would be deployed to the area.

She said police would also visit hotels and resorts along the border to advise on security.

Law and Order Ministry spokesman Captain Craig Kotze said it was impossible to police the border, and that security would be discussed with Lesotho authorities.

Some rooms, two bars, a lounge, the dinning room and the hotel office were gutted about midnight on Saturday. Nobody was injured.

Police said five gunmen attacked the hotel, firing shots and throwing petrol bombs and handgrenade, which did not explode. It is believed they fled to Lesotho after setting another building, a clubhouse, on fire.

A witness to the attack on the hotel, Telo Theletsane, said four armed men burst into the pool room and said: "Where are the white people? We want boers, not you."

The gunmen then ordered two customers, a security guard and Mr Theletsane to lie on the floor.

Hotel manager Linda van Menen said the hotel was popular with police and army personnel, and Lesotho residents, but on Saturday night they had been at a party elsewhere, leaving the hotel nearly empty.

A man purporting to be from the Azanian National Liberation Army (Azanla) claimed responsibility for the attack in a telephone call to Sapa.

Azanla is the military wing of the Black Consciousness Movement of Azanla and based in Harare in Zimbabwe.

Sapa was not able to verify the identity of the caller.

When asked about a pre-arranged code used by Sapa to verify the identity of anonymous callers, the man said his name was Tongora, an Azanla commander.

He said: "The attack was carried out because we know the Kempton Park talks are not going to deliver anything good for our people — the black people of Azanla."
NP angry at Free State town's anti-ANC move

JOHANNESBURG. — The National Party yesterday spoke out strongly against a declaration by the Conservative Party, Afrikaner Weerstands beweging and Afrikaner Volksfront on Saturday that Bothaville was a "no-go area" for the African National Congress.

A large police contingent had to intervene as hundreds of right-wingers, many of them armed, besiegled the ANC's office in the quiet Free State town on Saturday before declaring it out of bounds to the organisation. — Sapa (277) CTG1993
Bellville wedding.

In double surprise ending.

By Willem Sterkamp

Wedding of a young Bushland couple at the hotel where a moment too soon — but after they exchanged their vows, the blazing became the grand mother of twin sons.

Secretaries Mrs Hendrik Pieters, 31, and Mrs Anke Pieters, 31, were married at the NG Church in Bellville South shortly after 5pm on Saturday.

A gathering of close relatives and friends they didn't make it to reception. The newlyweds — who were seven months pregnant — attended the Liberty Hospital, where they were born.

At 5pm, Mrs Pieters called her husband to meet her at the hospital, but he never arrived. Mrs Pieters then phoned the hotel where the wedding was supposed to be held. The reception wasn't ready.

The newlyweds were driven to the hospital by their friends, who were happy to have found them.

WITH THIS RING... Mr Hendrik Pieters cuts the wedding ring on the finger of his bride, Miss Zita de Bruin, in Bellville South on Saturday afternoon.

Gunmen open fire on hotel.

By Dale Granger

FIVE gunmen attacked an isolated hotel on the Lesotho border on Saturday night, opening fire with automatic weapons and lobbing handgrenades and petrol bombs into the main building of the lodge, causing an estimated R1 million damage.

Two elderly tourists were killed and four others were injured in the attack on the Riverside Lodge.

The administration block and restaurant were also destroyed.

The attack occurred during a police raid on the lodge.

The hotel is owned by the Lesotho government.

Frightening

Three people were killed and four others were injured in the attack.

At the time of the attack, the hotel was closed.

The attackers knocked out the windows and doors of the building.

They then entered the building and killed the tourists.

The hotel is owned by the Lesotho government.

Lucky to be alive

Mrs Pieters was lucky to be alive after the attack.

She said she was in the bathroom when she heard the shots.

She immediately ran outside and saw the attackers.

She then ran back inside the building and locked herself in the bathroom.

She said she was lucky to be alive after the attack.
Rival claims to hotel attack
NEWS Drivers protest against petrol increase • Un

Taxis blockade Welkom

28/9/93

ABOUT 300 taxi drivers laid siege to the northern Orange Free State town of Welkom yesterday, to protest against the 7c a litre petrol hike.

The drivers parked their vehicles in the city centre and locked them, effectively blockading the city.

A Free State police spokesman confirmed the blockade which began at 9am. He said most drivers had begun a peaceful exodus, and those taxis still blocking traffic were being impounded.

A driver was arrested for obstructing police.

Sporadic fighting broke out between drivers, but was quelled. Police used stun grenades to disperse the crowd, the spokesman said, adding that 345 policemen had been deployed in the city.

The petrol price increase, the brainchild of Mineral and Energy Affairs Minister Mr George Barnatt, has been given a resounding 'thumbs-down' by most parts of the business and labour community this week.

Mr Fezile Dabi, legal department head of the African National Congress' northern Free State region, said taxis had begun grouping in Thabong township, 2km from Welkom.

Police had earlier cordoned off the area. Dabi said, warning that trouble could flare.

"We think there might be trouble, but we have written to the police, asking them to act with restraint and tolerance." — Sopa.
Probe into violence

By Mpieleni Duma

PRELIMINARY investigations into incidents of violence in the Free State have been completed by the Goldstone Commission of Inquiry, the commission said in a statement yesterday.

The incidents investigated occurred in Bloemfontein, Soutpan, and Fauremuth in June this year.

The statement said the commission was of the opinion that, as criminal or inquest proceedings were under way, it would be inappropriate for a committee to hold a parallel inquiry.

"The Free State Peace Committee has been requested to monitor the pending trial and inquest and to inform the commission on the programme," said the statement.

The setting up of the commission followed the withdrawal of the ANC Southern Free State region from all structures of the Peace Committee.

The ANC had demanded the setting up of the commission to investigate the shooting of its supporters by members of the South African Police. The organisation had also demanded the suspension of police officers involved in the shooting.
Grenade attack at taxi rank

JOHANNESBURG — An assailant hurled a hand grenade into a crowd at a taxi rank near Vierfontein in the Free State on Friday night, injuring 16 people, four seriously.

Police spokesman Colonel J Fouche said the attack occurred at the Vaal Reefs Gold Mine.

He said the attacker, who disappeared, walked by the crowded rank about 9pm and tossed the Russian-made grenade.

In other incidents on the Reef, 14 people died and two were wounded, mainly in Thokoza on the East Rand.

Police spokesman Lieutenant Deon Peens said yesterday most of the victims had either been shot, stabbed, hacked or burnt to death on Saturday night or early yesterday morning.

A man with three bullet wounds in his head was found in Thokoza and admitted to hospital in a critical condition.

The bodies of four men were found in Katlehong. Two had been shot in the head and two burnt to death.

Police in Queenstown are investigating claims by Transkei businessman Mr. T.S. Ntantiso, 40, that he was fired on by two white men as he drove past them on Saturday.

Police said they could not confirm the incident. — Sapa.
RIOTS + DIST. - FREE STATE 1994
Passenger killed in attack on black taxi

CRIME REPORTER

Two men talled a packed minibus taxi for several kilometres near Odendaalsrus in the Free State on Saturday and opened fire on the passengers, killing one man and injuring another in an apparently racially motivated attack.

Free State police spokesman Major Johlene van der Merwe said two white men in a grey Volkswagen Jetta had followed the bus from the taxi rank in Odendaalsrus at about 5.30 pm.

The taxi, carrying 13 black passengers, was heading for Alleenridge when the men in the Jetta suddenly overtook the minibus and opened fire.

One passenger was killed and another — who was shot in the face with a shotgun — was seriously injured. Their names have not yet been released.

Police have released the names of nine rightwingers detained last week in connection with the racial attack on black travellers near Randfontein on December 13.

Four people were shot, hacked or burnt to death on the Randfontein-Ventersdorp road. Three were seriously injured.

The attackers allegedly questioned the travellers about their political affiliations before launching into the killings.

Police named the nine detained AWB members as "chief commandant" Phil Kopper, "commandant" Deon Martin, "candidate officer" Gert Diedericks, Piet Matthews, Andre Visser, Etienne Visser, Carol Meiring, Martijnus van der Schyff and "junior officer" Jaco Badenhorst.
JOHANNESBURG. — A bomb exploded on Wednesday night at the home of an African National Congress official in Harrismith in the Free State.

The blast occurred at the home of local leader Mr. Cas Human and was the third bomb attack on the ANC in the Free State in less than a week. No one was injured in any of the blasts.

- In the Eastern Cape, internal stability division members were guarding entrances to Port Elizabeth's Kwa-Zakhele township following the petrol bombing of at least six vehicles yesterday morning.

No injuries were reported.

- On the Rand, the fragile peace which reigned over the Alexandra township north of Johannesburg last year has been shattered with renewed fighting between hostel dwellers and residents this week.

Three people have been killed, people have been beaten, children attacked, shacks burnt and cars set alight in the past four days.

- The IFP Youth Brigade is to ask the Goldstone Commission to investigate the activities of self-defence units on the East Rand.

IFP Youth Brigade deputy chairman Mr. Thabane Dlamini said in a statement yesterday that most of the party’s leaders on the East Rand had been killed by SDUs in recent months.

- A 19-year-old East Rand man was thrown off a Johannesburg-bound passenger train yesterday, a police spokesman said.

Mr. Samuel Garbers, 19, was thrown from the train at Wattle station in Germiston and was treated at hospital for a broken arm.

Police are investigating a charge of attempted murder. — Sapa, UPI
Union offices bombed in Tvl and OES

KLERKSDORP.—The offices of two trades union in Klerksdorp and one in Harrismith were bombed today.

Western Transvaal police have offered a R100 000 reward for information about the simultaneous blasts at the offices of the National Union of Mineworkers and the National Union of Metalworkers in Klerksdorp.

The explosions caused extensive damage to two buildings housing the head offices of Num and Numsa.

Spokesman Neels Steyn said a policeman on patrol had narrowly escaped injury.

The offices of the Klerksdorp Blood Transfusion Service were also damaged.

In Harrismith a Num office was badly damaged when the building caught fire after the blast.

The bombings were the latest in a series of suspected rightwing attacks on African National Congress premises, power pylons and railway lines. — Sapa.
Three trade union offices bombed

KLERKSDORP. — The offices of two trade unions here and one in Harrismith in the northern Free State were bombed early yesterday morning.

Western Transvaal police have offered a R100,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for the two simultaneous blasts at the offices of the National Union of Mine Workers and the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa in Klerksdorp yesterday.

A police spokesman said a policeman patrolling the area had narrowly escaped injury in the Klerksdorp blasts. The offices of the Klerksdorp Blood Transfusion Service were also damaged.

In Harrismith a NUM office was seriously damaged when the building caught fire, after an explosion yesterday morning.
Bombing probes: TEC help requested

OWN CORRESPONDENT

JOHANNESBURG — The ANC is to ask the TEC to intervene in investigations into the spate of bombings in the western Transvaal and Free State.

The ANC blasts in the two areas yesterday brought the total to 27 since November. All the latest attacks were against ANC-linked targets.

Police have not made any arrests or taken in anyone for questioning in connection with the bombings.

The ANC alleges the bombers are right-wingers but a police spokesman said police had a success rate of more than 80% in cracking right-wing terror cases.