RIOTS & DISTURBANCES - TRANSVAAL

1992

NOV. - DECEMBER
ANC, PWV general secretary, Bavumile Vilakazi, who was gunned down seven weeks ago — allegedly by the organisation’s returnees for denying exiles jobs — is still hospitalised and making a slow recovery.

ANC PWV spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said a commission was still investigating the incident.

Vilakazi’s shooting, which raised suspicions of an assassination attempt by vigilantes or hit-squads, created shock in political circles at the information that it was an “inside job”.

Vilakazi, who was critically wounded as he stepped out of a hardware store, was, according to information leaked to the press, shot to clear the way for exiles finding jobs.
Police Board accepts report on Boipatong

PRETORIA. — The Police Board, comprising lawyers, academics, ANC and police representatives, has accepted recommendations of the Waddington Report which criticised SAP investigations into the Boipatong massacre.

The board will meet the top structure of the South African Police in January to forecast the responsibilities of a future police force and its community relations.

At a meeting on Thursday, "the board accepted recommendations regarding deficiencies indicated in the Waddington Report on the Boipatong shooting incident, to be submitted to the Minister of Law and Order". The SAP said in a statement from Pretoria a day later.

The Waddington Report was sharply critical of SAP action following the slaughter of more than 40 people in Boipatong on July 17. The report criticised the police on their securing of the scene of a crime and for failing to take proper charge of the exhibits.

The SAP statement said the January meeting would be a joint planning session.

In another development, Mr J G J van Vuuren, a former chairman of the Krygsor Board of Directors, has been appointed new chairman of the Police Board.

He replaces advocate Mr Don Brunette, who resigned to accept a post in the Ciskei. — Sapa
before DP rally

BY ROSEMARY GOW

A PRETORIUS HALL was razed in a blaze yesterday afternoon.

The hall is also booked for the Northern Transvaal's DP's meeting on the first day of the campaign. The meeting was not affected by the fire. 

The hall was destroyed by a bomb placed in a blaze. 

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Goldstone closes Boipatong inquiry

The inquiry into the Boipatong massacre was declared closed by Judge R Goldstone on Friday, but could be reopened if the analysis of erased police tapes warranted such a move.

The tapes, which contained information relevant to events of the evening of June 17, were submitted to British government experts for analysis after the information was taped over by the Vereeniging internal stability unit of the SAP.

Closing proceedings, counsel for the commission J J du Toit asked the commission to consider recommending creation of a "crack apprehension squad" which could work closely with the internal stability unit of the SAP in townships. The unit's prime task should be the following up of attacks and the tracing of those responsible while the trail was still fresh.

Meanwhile, Flip Hattingh SC, representing the SAP, said in closing argument that massacres such as that at Boipatong could not be averted. "It is physically impossible to prevent attacks of this nature taking place. We do not have the manpower and vehicles to patrol every township 24 hours a day," Hattingh argued.

He conceded the police should have taken steps to enter and search KwaMadala Hostel sooner than they did after the Boipatong massacre. This could have resulted in the arrest of more attackers and seizure of evidence before it was destroyed, he said.

But, he told the commission, entry into the hostel shortly after the massacre would have met with resistance, violence and possible further bloodshed.

Louis Visser SC, representing Inkatha and the KwaZulu government, said in his closing argument on Friday that there had been no evidence that linked his clients to the massacre.

"No evidence has been submitted which in any way justifies allegations of any direct or official complicity in, or planning of, the attack on the residents of Boipatong by either the KwaZulu government or Inkatha," Visser said.

Although evidence showed residents of the KwaMadala Hostel had perpetrated the attack, "the fact that someone is a Zulu and lives in KwaMadala does not necessarily mean he is a member of Inkatha".

Visser told Goldstone the criminal trial which would follow in the near future would probably show the massacre was not preceded by a carefully considered, politically motivated plan.

SADF senior counsel Anton Mostert SC argued that the two SADF units in the area on the night of the massacre had conducted themselves properly.

R8,7m passed for hostels in Transvaal

PRETORIA — An amount of R8,7m had been voted from the R198,6m made available by government to the TPA for the improvement of 92 hostels in the Transvaal, planning and development MEC John Mavuso said at the weekend.

It had been agreed that at 12 out of 14 towns in the eastern Transvaal, hostel accommodation should mainly be converted into family units.

Mavuso said co-operation between inter-

STEPHANE BOTHMA
Eleven people died and four others, including a year-old baby, were killed in political violence in Alexandra, north of Johannesburg, at the weekend, police confirmed yesterday.

They died mainly in attacks in the Beirut squatter settlement near Alexandra's Madala hostel.

"A police spokesman said the body of a man who had been stabbed in the back and face was found in Alexandra yesterday.

A group of about 15 people armed with pangas, AK-47 rifles and 9mm pistols yesterday stormed into a shack and attacked the people inside.

A man was stabbed, hacked and shot dead.

Two 13-year-old women, a one-year-old baby girl and a seven-year-old girl were killed. All four had been hacked and stabbed in the head.

Late yesterday morning, police found the body of a man with stab and hack wounds in the river near the township.

On Saturday morning a group of shacks were set alight, police said.

Police and firemen extinguished the fire, but found the bodies of a man and a woman who had been trapped inside a shack.

Earlier a man was hacked and stabbed to death in the same area, the police spokesman said.

A block away a man was stabbed in the face and stomach.

Another man was killed by a mob who hacked him in the head and chest.

The attacks continued late into the night on Saturday when a man was stabbed to death and another man was shot dead.

In other incidents reported by police at the weekend:

- At New Brighton, Port Elizabeth, a man was injured when he was shot.
- At Phola Park, Thokozane, four women and two men were arrested when a police vehicle was damaged by a stone-throwing crowd.
- At Dlamini, Soweto, a private vehicle was damaged by a group of people. The driver fired at the group injuring one man.
- At Angelo Station near Boksburg, a man was killed when he was stabbed and thrown from a moving train.
- At Katlehong near Alberton, a woman and two men were seriously injured when they were thrown from a moving train.

They were taken to the Willem Cruywagen Hospital. Police are investigating a case of attempted murder, a spokesman said.
Weekend of terror in Alex claims 11 lives

By Tsale Makam (2-78)

A couple was hacked and shot to death and two little girls aged seven and one year were seriously injured in an attack on a shack at a squatter camp in Alexandra Township yesterday morning.

It could not be established yesterday whether the children were daughters of the slain couple.

Nine other people died violently in separate incidents in the township over the weekend.

Witherspoon police spokesman Captain Piet van Deventer said the unidentified man and his family lived in a squatter camp opposite the Alexandra Cemetery.

He said they were attacked by a group of 15 men who stormed the shack armed with pangas, AK-47 rifles and 9mm pistols at about 8am yesterday.

The motive for the attack was not known, but other reports indicated it was political.

The man died on the spot after being hacked and shot in the back by the attackers.

His wife died on the way to hospital after receiving emergency treatment at the Alexandra Clinic.

Nurses at the clinic, where the children were also admitted for emergency treatment, said the condition of both children was serious.

They said a bullet had gone through the seven-year-old’s temple and expressed the fear that she may not be able to lead a normal life in the event of her surviving.

The children were later transferred to the Johannesburg Hospital

The hospital superintendent and the public relations staff were not available for comment.

However, nurses at the hospital confirmed the children’s admission and said their condition was critical.

By late yesterday no one had visited them and their names had not yet been established.

“We have registered them as unknowns,” said a nurse.

A woman who survived the attack was admitted to the Tembisa Hospital and her condition was said to be stable.

When Sowetan visited the squatter camp yesterday residents refused to be interviewed, saying they feared for their lives. They told the Sowetan team to leave the area immediately.

The bodies of two people were found buried in a shack at the corner of Fourth and Roots avenues on Saturday night. Police said arson was suspected.

Another body was found on the corner of Third and Ruth avenues, while another was found at Fourth Avenue on the same night. Both had stab wounds. A third body with bullet wounds in the chest was found in Eighth Avenue.

Two more bodies were found on Saturday night in the township.

About 4pm yesterday a man died of stab and hack wounds after he was attacked by a group of men in Roots Avenue.

Most of the attacks occurred in and around the “Beirin” area of the township - a dusty squatter settlement near the Madala Hostel.

Earlier this year squatters fled their homes in terror as marauding men, apparently from the hostel, attacked the settlement.

A nursing sister at the casualty section of Alexandra clinic said several people had been brought in with hack wounds throughout the day yesterday. She said the area was still tense and people feared another bloody night.
NEWS  Children - aged seven and one - shot and stabbed

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Family members mourning at the funeral of 11 victims who were among 23 people killed when gunmen armed with AK-47s opened fire at a ceremony of traditional healers.

Pic: LEN KUMALO
Alex on the boil

BLOODY WEEKEND Couple hacked to death in cold-blooded murder in Alex squatter camp:

ALEXANDRA Township was again plunged into violence yesterday when a couple were shot and hacked to death; their seven-year-old daughter shot through the head and a one-year-old girl stabbed.

The killings occurred at a squatter camp in the township. Nine more people died violently in separate incidents.

Story on page 2
Govt reluctant to fence off hostels

SEVEN Reef hostels, which have been identified as sources of violence, have not yet been fenced off in terms of the record of understanding reached by government and the ANC in September.

In terms of the agreement, seven hostels — Mzimhlohe, Dube, Nancefield, Merafe and Dobsonville in Soweto, Madala Hostel in the West Rand township of Kagiso and the Sebokeng Hostel in the Vaal Triangle — should be fenced by November 15.

But deputy Law and Order Minister Gert Myburg said in Soweto yesterday after visiting Mzimhlohe, that difficulties were being experienced.

While the fencing of hostels could be beneficial from the police point of view, it was difficult to erect and maintain fences around some of the hostels.

Fencing hostels to which calm had returned would spark tensions, he warned.

Myburg, who was scheduled to visit all the seven hostels yesterday said he would meet Local Government and National Housing Minister Leon Wessels on Thursday to discuss the programme.

They then wanted to meet Judge H Goldstone, on whose recommendations the record of understanding was based, to discuss the matter further.

ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus said his organisation expected government to honour the agreement and was willing to iron out difficulties experienced.
Erasing of Boipatong tapes 'deliberate'

AN INVESTIGATION by British government experts has found that the Boipatong tapes may have been "hurriedly and deliberately erased with the object of obscuring the contents".

Details of the findings are scheduled for public release today by the Goldstone commission. They were released to the SAP's legal advisers and other legal teams involved in the hearing on Friday to enable "police to consider their response."

It is understood the police have questioned the validity of the UK findings.

The tapes in question were those which recorded radio communications between police in the field and the Vereeniging internal stability unit on the night of the June 17 Boipatong massacre. It had been hoped that they would throw light on allegations of neglect of duty by the police in failing to prevent or halt the massacre, or even of complicity.

Police told the Goldstone inquiry on August 11 that the recordings had been wiped clean accidentally because of a procedural fault.

The tapes were then handed for analysis to a local firm, Grinaker Electronics. It later emerged that the firm, which found no evidence of deliberate erasure, had links with the security services. The commission requested the British government to analyse the tapes independently.

British Embassy First Secretary Geoffrey Adams said yesterday the results of the analysis and the tapes themselves had been handed to the commission. The tapes had arrived from London on Sunday.

Commission spokesman Glen Culbertson said yesterday Judge R Goldstone received the report late last week.

Neither was willing to comment further. The Boipatong inquiry was officially closed on Friday but Goldstone said it could be reopened if the analysis of the tapes warranted it.
JOHANNESBURG — Seven Reef hostels, which have been identified as sources of violence, have not yet been fenced in terms of the agreement reached by government and the ANC.

In terms of the agreement, seven hostels — Mmabatho, Dobsonville, Mabopane, and Doornpoort in the West Rand township of Kliptown and the Sebokeng Hostel in the Vredenburg Triangle — should be fenced by November 15.

After visiting Mmabatho, Deputy Law and Order Minister Mr. Gert Myburgh said while the fencing of hostels could be "beneficial" from the police point of view, it was difficult to erect and maintain fences around some of the hostels.

He admitted the hostels should be fenced in terms of the agreement between government and the ANC, but warned that to do so at hostels to which calm had returned would spark tensions.

They would then meet Mr. Justice A. Goldstone to discuss the matter further.

An ANC spokesman said there would be difficulties in fencing the hostels, they would be willing to iron those out with government.

Alex killings: 'Not political'

JOHANNESBURG — The weekend's violence in Alexandra, which claimed at least 10 lives, appeared to be criminally rather than politically motivated, Law and Order Deputy Minister Mr. Gert Myburgh said in Soweto yesterday.

Three people, including a policeman, were injured on the East Rand on Sunday.

Also, on Sunday, a large arms cache was seized in Nelspruit — Sapa.
CCB man flees the country

A WARRANT for the arrest of former CCB managing director Joe Verster, who failed to appear in court yesterday, was issued by Mr Justice Michael Stegmann in the Rand Supreme Court.

The court was told that Verster, who was reappointed to appear yesterday to testify at the inquest into the May 1989 killing of Wits University academic Dr David Webster, had left the country.

Agreement to disagree

FOOD and Beverage Workers Union of South Africa official Mr JT Mdlatlose yesterday contested an attorneys' statement on Friday that two union officials had been reinstated as members of the union's executive committee in terms of an order granted in the Rand Supreme Court. He said the return to FBWSA administrative affairs of the two officials was the result of an agreement reached in court, rather than an order as reported.

Security boost for Natal

AN ADDITIONAL 250 policemen left for troubled areas of Natal from the Transvaal yesterday, Law and Order Deputy Minister Gert Myburgh told Soweto. He said they formed part of 600 policemen who would be deployed in the province as part of the Government's plan to curtail violence there.

Alleged neckachers on trial

LEGAL argument in the trial of five policemen, alleged to have attempted to murder a man by "necklacing" him, will begin in the Durban Regional Court today.

The men, Lance-sergeants Mark Lucy (24) and Simon Gerald Coetzee (23) and constables David Potgieter (19), Pierre Laubscher (18) and Bradford Brown (19), have all pleaded not guilty before Mr PJ du Plessis to attempting to kill Mr Vuil Phiri.

Is fencing-off the answer?

THE GOVERNMENT appears to be in a dilemma over plans to fence off troublesome hostels on the Reef and the Vaal Triangle.

"The aim of fencing off hostels - in line with the Record of Understanding - was to place a barrier between attackers and people on the receiving end of the violence, but in areas where normality has returned we have to ask ourselves whether such measures solve the problem or worsen it," said Deputy Law and Order Minister Gert Myburgh during a tour of eight hostels on the Reef and the Vaal Triangle yesterday.

Hefty damages paid out

A STELLENBOSCH wine farmer yesterday agreed to pay two farmworkers R30 000 in a Supreme Court sequel to the fatal beating of one of the workers. Mr Wynand Smit, owner of the Koopman's Hoof wine estate, did not accept liability when settling the claims arising from assaults by a former employee, Mr Rudolf Rix, said the applicants' attorney, Mr Glynn Williams.

Smit agreed to pay the estate of the late Andrew Thompson R20 000 and R70 000 to Mr Godfrey Williams, plus their costs, to "Worcestershire Reporter and Sunday Times".
Police fail to act as train gunmen kill 5

SEVEN commuters died in two separate incidents of train violence yesterday, just days after police spokesman Col David Bruce said certain officers showed a “lack of commitment” to ending train violence.

In the worst incident, a train carrying attackers passed through four East Rand stations, with gunmen killing five commuters and wounding two more as they fired on three crowded station platforms.

The bodies of two more people, who had been stabbed to death in a separate attack, were found yesterday next to the Johannes-Burg-Soweto line.

The failure of police to stop the 90-minute killing spree has been criticised by the ANC, who said phone telephones were not answered as commuters tried to call them to the scene of the killings.

Police, who were meant to have positioned officers at all stations in terms of agreements reached with the ANC and SA Rail and Commuter Corporation, failed to arrest the killers at the East Rand train’s four stops.

Police spokesman Sgi Francois du Plessis said an urgent meeting was called yesterday to analyse what went wrong with the policing operations at the four stations, allowing the killers to escape.

It had been established, he said, that police on the train had been unable to move to the carriage where the violence was taking place because interleading doors had been locked.

The attackers boarded the train at Kweekeni station at 3.20am. They were carrying Makhovot pistols.

The first three victims were shot dead on the platform of Pilot station, with a further two killed on the Lindela station platform and another two injured at Kated-Long station at 7.10am.

ANC PWV spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said at a news briefing the fact that the train was not stopped after the first attack was “mind boggling”.

He said three policemen arrived on the scene of the first killing at 8.30am — about three hours after the event — and did not take statements from witnesses.

Mamoepa said despite the fact that three people were shot dead at Pilot station, the train left for the next stop with the killers on board, as if nothing had happened.

One of the witnesses immediately phoned Katede Long police station, but the phones there were just left ringing. He then realised the train had left and ran towards Lindela station.

“By the time he reached the station, he heard shots being fired from the direction of the Lindela station. On arrival there he found two people dead and several injured.

“Again he tried to contact the police and ambulance service, but there was no response,” Mamoepa said.

Du Plessis said witnesses were assisting police in compiling an identikit of one of the attackers and investigations into the killings were being stepped up.

He confirmed no arrests had been made.

An SARC source said a team of ANC, SARCC and police representatives would tour Soweto stations this morning to inspect new security measures being implemented there.

ANC gunmen ‘targeted police’

ANC PWV executive committee member Buvumile Vilakazi said yesterday he would not press charges against an ANC member who shot him with an AK-47 rifle after mistaking him for a policeman.

But ANC PWV chairman Tokyo Sexwale said the organisation would take appropriate steps against the culprit.

Sexwale told a news conference in Johannes-Burg yesterday that the ANC’s investigations into the incident on September 17 in Soweto found that a member of a self-defence unit had shot Vilakazi after mistaking him for a policeman.

Sexwale said while it was understandable for self-defence units to defend their communities, “indiscriminate” attacks on policemen were deplorable.

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Sexwale said while it was understandable for self-defence units to defend their communities, “indiscriminate” attacks on policemen were deplorable.
Report inconclusive on Boipatong tape erasure

The Goldstone commission had found no conclusive evidence that the Boipatong tapes may have been deliberately erased as suggested by British experts, Judge R Goldstone said in Johannesburg yesterday.

British government experts found the tapes had been recorded over and said the technical evidence "suggests that this may have been done deliberately and hurriedly in order to obscure the contents".

Their report was received by the commission on October 29.

After portions of the tapes were replayed on Monday, the commission found that "no conclusions can fairly be drawn on the strength of the tentative suggestion made by the British experts", Goldstone said in a statement issued yesterday.

"The important information ascertained by the British experts is that what was over-recorded is not retrievable," Goldstone said.

The technical experts had offered a further clarification of their findings on Monday, he said.

They said some of the material superimposed on the tapes, which recorded police communications on the night of the June 17 Boipatong massacre, was recorded at a non-standard speed equivalent to between a third or a quarter of the normal recording speed.

In addition, some of the superimposed material had been erased backwards, they found.

Goldstone said: "The commission would like to emphasise that in its opinion it would be speculative to draw any inferences or conclusions on the information which has thus far been received with regard to the circumstances in which the original information on the tape came to be erased."

"Police told the Goldstone inquiry on August 11 the tapes had been accidentally erased, which was supported by the preliminary findings of a local firm, Grinaker Electronics."

"But when it emerged that the company had links with the security forces, the Goldstone commission withdrew the tapes from Grinaker and the British government agreed to have the tapes analysed by its own technical experts."

Goldstone said yesterday that if any party wished to have further witnesses called or if the tapes were required for further technical analysis, the commission would decide on such requests after consultations with the legal representatives of all interested parties. — Sapa.
Seven die in train violence

JOHANNESBURG. — The bodies of two men who had apparently been stabbed and then thrown from moving trains were found next to the railway line here yesterday. This brings to seven the number of people killed in incidents on trains or at stations in the PWV area yesterday.

A man was killed and another wounded in a clash between the ANC and Inkatha in Wembez' near Estcourt. — Police said. — Sapa
Tapes: No final proof of erasure

JOHANNESBURG

The Goldstone Commission has found no conclusive evidence that the Boipatong tapes were deliberately erased, as suggested by British experts. Mr Justice Richard Goldstone said yesterday that British government experts found the tapes of police actions on the night of the June 17 Boipatong massacre had been recorded over and said the technical evidence "suggests that this may have been done deliberately and hurriedly in order to obscure the contents".

After portions of the tapes were replayed on Monday, the commission found that "no conclusions can fairly be drawn on the strength of the tentative suggestion made by the British experts". Mr Justice Goldstone said yesterday.

"Unsubstantiated"

"The important information ascertained by the British experts is that what was over-recorded is not retrievable," he added.

The Commissioner of Police, General Johan van der Merwe, said yesterday that because of the technical inadequacies in the analysis by the British experts, the SAP rejected any inference based on the report that the information was intentionally erased.

He said he intended asking an independent foreign expert to re-examine the matter to clarify the "tentative, unsubstantiated" suggestion in the UK report.

He commended Mr Justice Goldstone for placing the matter in perspective. -- Sapa
ANC man was ‘mistaken for a cop’

By Tsale Makam

MR Bayamile Vilakazi, the ANC PWV deputy regional secretary who was shot by a “possible” Umkhonto we Sizwe member who mistook him for a policeman on September 17, will not press charges against the man.

Speaking at a Press conference yesterday after his release from the Garden City General hospital, Vilakazi said that he was shot and that he had been shot by mistake.

Vilakazi said that the ANC regional chairman Mr Tokyo Serwaile said that the ANC had volunteered to come forward when the ANC was investigating Vilakazi’s shooting.

Serwaile said that the ANC condemned the killing of policemen and those who acted as “thugs”.

The ANC had not yet determined whether the man was an MK member. He was, however, a member of the organisation, said Serwaile.
Goldstone rejects evidence

■ Information from British experts too 'tentative'

By Ismaai Lagardien
Political Correspondent

The Goldstone Commission has rejected the evidence of British experts that the nature of police tapes of the night of the Boipatong massacre 'may have been done deliberately to obscure the contents'.

The tape recordings of police communications on the night of the Boipatong massacre were returned to the commission last Thursday where they were replayed to verify findings of British government experts.

Commissioner of Police General Johan van der Merwe yesterday expressed his 'appreciation' for the Goldstone Commission's rejection of the evidence of British experts.

Mr Justice Richard Goldstone yesterday said: 'No conclusions can fairly be drawn on the strength of the tentative suggestion made by the British experts.

'Not only because it is tentative but in particular because no reviews at all have been furnished in support thereof.

'The positions of the tape played on November 2 do not appear to confirm the information furnished by the British experts.'

Goldstone rejects experts' findings on erased massacre tape

Train killers strike again

■ NEW WAVE Commuters shot indiscriminately in coaches and from platforms:

By Abbey Makoe

Several people were killed and five others seriously injured yesterday in a new wave of attacks on train commuters on the East Rand and in Jo'burg.

Five of those killed on the East Rand died while a policeman tried to rescue them.

The unidentified policeman told the station officials he could not gain entry to the adjoining coach, where he heard gunfire and screams, because the doors were locked.

A Witwatersrand police spokesman said three people were shot dead at Pilgrims Station and two others were killed at the station.

He told Sowetan that the attackers escaped when the train stopped and were replaced with Russlemade Makorok pistols.

'They also seemed to have shot at commuters as the train stopped at platforms,' the spokesman added.

Meanwhile, in a separate attack, the body of a man was found at Crawford Station in Johannesburg on the railway line to Soweto.

Police said witnesses alleged that the man had been attacked on a train before being thrown out.

The body of another man was found about 100 metres from Bramfontein Station in Johannesburg. Police said the body was found along the railway line.

Pilots and locomotives are not far from Kalkheuwel on the East Rand, whose police said five people narrowly escaped death during train attacks yesterday.

The survivors were admitted to the Natalprid Hospital where by late yesterday four of them were still being treated for gunshot wounds.

A Natalprid Hospital spokesman said the fifth was rushed to the Hillbrow Hospital in Johannesburg.

Police would not disclose the identities of the dead victims and the hospital would not confirm the names of the survivors, including the others who were treated and discharged.
7 killed in train attacks

Gunmen shoot at helpless and screaming commuters on an East Rand train.

A POLICEMAN gave a chilling account of how five people were killed as gunmen sprayed gunfire on helpless and screaming train commuters on the East Rand yesterday.

The policeman said he tried to gain entry to the coach but could not do so as it had been locked.

Three of the victims were shot dead at Pilot Station and the other two at Linden Station.

They were among seven people killed in a new wave of attacks on train commuters on the Reef yesterday.

Five commuters were injured.

Story on page 2
Cops 'were outnumbered'

Staff Reporter

THREE policemen who grappled with
an arson suspect — who was in a group
of about 20 men who passed the scene
of a killer fire in Khayelitsha last year
— let him escape because they were
"outnumbered".

This was evidence given yesterday
by Internal Stability Unit member Ser-
geant Grant Braithwaite before the
Goldstone Commission of Inquiry into
the Western Cape taxi war.

Sgt Braithwaite, a Cape Town com-
mander on the night, said that while he

was at the scene, a group of about 20
men walked past.

His suspicions aroused, he ap-
proached the men to question one of
them about the attack.

He became involved in "a struggle"
with one of the men who refused to
answer his questions. Two colleagues
joined him to restrain the man, but the
group pulled him away and fled.

Asked if he and his colleagues had
given chase, Sgt Braithwaite said:
"They were stronger than us."

The hearing continues tomorrow.
Six members of family die in attack

By GAVIN DU VENAGE

SIX people, including three children, were killed last night when gunmen attacked a family in Sobekeng, ANC Youth League Vaal secretary-general Sakikhiwe Khumalo said.

The six family members were attacked in the early evening at their home in the township’s Zone 12.

Khumalo told Sapa that witnesses saw two people running away after the shooting, and that four spent R-1 cartridges were found at the scene.

An ANC spokesman said that at least one of the dead, Dorothy Zwane, had been an ANC member.

At Ilwezi station, Soweto, last night three people were shot dead and three were wounded when three armed men opened fire on commuters at a taxi rank.

SAP liaison officer Lt Eugene Henning said the three gunmen got out of a train that stopped at the station at about 6.30pm, walked to the taxi rank and opened fire.

Two men and a woman were shot dead and three others were wounded. The wounded were taken to Baragwanath Hospital. Police found 10 spent 9mm cartridges and two spent shotgun cartridges on the scene.

Henning said the gunmen had not been identified and police had not yet established a motive for the shooting.
JOHANNESBURG. — A policeman was fatally wounded at Johannesburg station yesterday when a colleague fired several shots.

Three policemen in plainclothes were involved in the incident in which a second policeman and three bystanders were also seriously wounded.

A police spokesman said the incident occurred after a man was thrown off a train as it arrived at the station at 7.15am.

When passengers disembarked plainclothes assistant police constable N P Magamatha, who was on the train, noticed a commotion on the platform during which an armed man grabbed another man and held him. Angry commuters then helped to free the man.

Not realising that the armed man was a policeman, Constable Magamatha fired several shots, seriously wounding him, another policeman and three bystanders. The injured were taken to hospital, where Constable J N Mkize died.

The police spokesman said Constable Mkize had been arresting a suspect for questioning when commuters interfered.

In Nyanga a policeman shot Mr T M Mthiya dead after he had grabbed a shotgun from another policeman and cocked it. Bystanders had stoned the two policemen when they tried to arrest a man allegedly involved in assault. — Sapa
Kids hurt in bomb blast

TWO children were seriously injured when petrol bombs were hurled into a Kwelehome, East Rand, home on Tuesday night.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Sergeant Andy Picke yesterday said Lungile Madala (3) and Nkosi Madala (5) suffered injuries to their legs, arms and other parts of their bodies.

Damage to the house was estimated at R50 000. Police found spent AK-47 rifle, 38 pistol cartridges and two petrol bombs which had failed to explode.
Policeman arrested after station shootings

AN UNDERCOVER policeman who shot dead a colleague and wounded another officer and three civilians at Johannesburg station yesterday has been arrested and charged with murder.

Police spokesman W/O Andy Pieke said Const J Mkize of the Johannesburg station police was arrested after he panicked and shot at a crowd on the station platform yesterday. Mkize apparently mistook two plainclothes policemen for perpetrators of an earlier incident of train violence and opened fire on them when they approached him to ask him why he was armed.

RAY HARTLEY

The shooting brought to 10 the number of commuters killed in renewed train violence in the past two days, with the bodies of two men found at Cleveland and Braamfontein stations early yesterday.

Seven people died in incidents on the Soweto/Johannesburg and Katlehong/Germiston lines on Tuesday.

Pieke said police efforts to arrest a train violence suspect at the scene of the police shooting were thwarted yesterday when commuters protected the suspect.

The station shooting followed an incident in which a man was pushed from the train before it entered the station.

In a separate incident, two men were seriously injured when they were thrown from a moving train between New Canada and Langdale stations in Soweto.

ANC PWV spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said yesterday a crisis meeting of ANC-aligned signatories of the train accord, which was signed with police and SA Rail and Commuter Corporation officials in May, had been called for tomorrow.

See Page 2
Family of six in mass slaying

The Argus Correspondent

Johannesburg. — A family of six was murdered by two men in balaclavas who burst into their home in Zone 12, Sebokeng, and sprayed every room in the house with automatic gunfire.

Mr Jeremiah Zwane, 21, who survived the attack, told press photographer Joao Silva the two men threw teargas into the lounge before opening fire with automatic rifles and handguns in last night’s attack.

Mr Johannes Zwane, 64, and his son, Obad 25, were gunned down in one bedroom. Mr Zwane’s wife Dorothy, 51, and her daughter, Aubrey, 7, lay in another and Aubrey’s cousin, Gift Mosebi, 19, who was visiting the family, was shot dead in the lounge.

Another daughter, Morit, 19, died on the way to hospital. Her two-day-old baby was unhurt and taken to Sebokeng Hospital.

As Mr Absalom Zwane, 31, arrived home from work he saw two men running from the house.

Both wore balaclavas. Jeremiah said one of the men was wearing an SADF tracksuit top.

"Absalom and Jeremiah were in the back yard when we arrived about 19:20 pm," Mr Silva said.

"They were crying and completely shaken up. They had just lost their whole family. Absalom was hugging Jeremiah, who was in the house when the shooting happened," Mr Silva said.

Jeremiah told Silva one of the men had shouted to his partner when they had finished with the handguns: "Give me the machine gun so I can finish them off."
MISTAKEN IDENTITY

Death toll rises to 11

as unknown gunmen continue to run amok.

A policeman, mistaken for a train attacker, was shot dead by a colleague at Johannesburg's Park Station as gunmen continued to leave a trail of blood on the railway tracks.

In a separate incident last night, gunmen got off a train at Iwezi Station in Soweto and opened fire on commuters at a taxi rank, killing three.

This was the third attack within 24 hours.

Story on page 2
Train violence – cop is killed

NEW OUTBREAK Shootout on station as police mistake their own colleagues for faceless attackers:

By Abbey Makoe

A Policeman was killed and nine commuters injured in yet another train attack in Johannesburg early yesterday, bringing to eight the number of people killed since Tuesday.

The new outbreak of attacks on commuters on suburban trains this week has resulted in 16 people suffering serious injury.

Yesterday’s attacks took place at Johannesburg Station, Cleveland, Longdale and New Canada as commuters on a train from Soweto were beset by unknown gunmen, police said.

One of the nine injured at Johannesburg Station was a police officer. He and another policeman were shot at by a colleague who mistook them for train attackers. The other policemen were killed.

Uniformed police media liaison officer Captain Eugene Opperman said three members of the public died by stray bullets in the ensuing shootout between the policemen at the station.

Opperman said the trail of attacks started at New Canada station when two unidentified men were thrown out of a moving train.

At the next station, Longdale, another man was also thrown off a moving train. These incidents took place at about 6am.

He said in another incident a gunman opened fire on commuters alighting from a train at Cleveland Station, injuring one man.

Opperman would not give the names of the injured, saying casualties were taken to an unspecified health centre.

On Tuesday seven commuters were mowed down by faceless attackers in Johannesburg and on the East Rand. Four of those injured in that attack were yesterday still being treated at the Nasalzappt Hospital for gunshot wounds.

The attacks come one week after a top police officer, Colonel Dave Bruce, was reported to have lashed out at some of his own men for a “lack of commitment” to bringing train attacks to an end.

Attempts to reach Bruce late yesterday were unsuccessful.

Three shot dead at Ikhwezi

Gunmen got out of the train and opened fire on people waiting at a taxi rank:

THREE people were shot dead and three wounded when three armed men opened fire on commuters at a taxi rank at Ikhwezi Station in Soweto last night, Soweto police reported.

SAP liaison officer Lieutenant Eugene Henning said the three gunmen got out of a train that stopped at the station at about 6.30pm, walked to the taxi rank and opened fire on people waiting for taxis.

Three wounded

Two men and a woman were shot dead and three others were wounded.

The wounded were taken to Baragwanath Hospital.

Police found 10 spent 9mm cartridges and two spent shotgun cartridges on the scene.

Henning said the gunmen had not been identified and police had not yet established a motive for the shooting.

He appealed to the public to telephone 0800-11, 12 or 13 with any information that could assist the police in identifying those responsible.

Sapa.
ANC members say...
WHEN you need them they are nowhere to be found, and when they are there, they do something crazy. This is what commuters must be thinking of police efforts to combat train violence this week.

On Tuesday five commuters were killed during a 90-minute nightmare train ride from Kwezini to Katlehong by gangsters near Germiston, with little or no police effort to intervene. And on Wednesday police efforts to act against suspects at Johannesburg station left a policeman dead, another wounded and three bystanders injured.

Recent agreements reached between police, ANC-aligned organisations and the SAR Rail and Commuter Corporation (SRCC) stated police should have been posted at the four stations on the Katlehong line where Tuesday’s incidents happened. But despite reassignments by police a spokesman who this was the case, witnesses have said police arrived on the scene about three hours after the incident and then left without taking statements. A second group of suspects is said to have taken statements two hours later — long after many witnesses had left the scene.

In Wednesday’s incident, an undercover policeman panicked and opened fire on a crowd, hitting two fellow policemen and three civilians. One of the policemen subsequently died, and Const J Mkeze has been arrested and charged with murder for the incident.

The details of Tuesday’s incident clearly show the inadequacies of policing efforts aimed at protecting commuters. The following description of what happened at Katlehong line has been pieced together from police, ANC and witness accounts of what happened.

8.30am: An unknown number of attackers board a commuter train at Kwezini Station. The attackers are armed with pistols, batons, and a crossbow. The train passes through the station’s security system — guards who should check for weapons — undetected;

Later (exact time unknown): The train pulls into Pilot Station and the suspects open fire on passengers sitting on the platform, killing three people. A commuter calls the Katlehong police station, but the phone is not answered. The train pulls out of the station with the attackers on board. Police on board the train cannot get through to the carriage carrying the attackers because the doors are locked;

Later (exact time unknown): The train stops at Lindela Station and the same group of men again fire on waiting train passengers, killing two. Com- muters again try telephonically to contact police and ambulance services, but are unsuccessful. The train leaves the station with the attackers on board;

7.10am: The train pulls into Katlehong Station and the attackers fire on people waiting on the platform, injuring two. The attackers disappear into Katlehong. Subsequent reports conflict over whether this was the same train and the same attackers as police reports said at the time;

8.30am: Three commuters arrive on the scene of the killing, but do not take statements or remove bodies. After a brief inspection, they leave;

10.20am: More police arrive and take statements. The bodies are removed. Police say a witness is helping them draw up an identification. A police meeting is called to discuss the incident and analyse what went wrong.

The community appears justified in asking “where were the police?” There appear to have been no officers at either of the two stations where the commuters were killed.

The incident contrasted strongly with Wednesday’s events where the police were at the right place to arrest train violence suspects, but ended up shooting their own officers and causing mayhem in the public.

The absence of a consistent strategy to end the killings has been repeatedly criticised by ANC-aligned organisations involved in negotiations on the train killings.

Police have, in turn, accused the ANC of creating a climate in which the community is reluctant to cooperate with their investigations into the murders, suggesting police complicity in the violence.

This atmosphere of mutual animosity gave way to a brief spell of co-operation in September, when the police, ANC and SRCC announced a breakthrough had been achieved. Two working groups were established to jointly investigate preventive and proactive measures to end the killings.

But instead of just blaming the police, ANC-aligned groups also need to work harder on practically helping police to develop solutions to the crisis. With this, there will come a sharing of responsibility and, ultimately, less blaming.

This can happen only if police open themselves to community involvement in their strategising. For this is the only way they can rebuild their trust. By trying to deflect blame, they should be saying to the community “tell us what went wrong” and “what would you do differently with the same resources?”

Meanwhile, whoever is behind the violence must be brought to justice to themselves, as well as demanding an end to the killings. If not, the killing will fall into factional disarray at the first sign of failure.
Son survives family killing

By Abbey Makoe

A week characterised by a surge in violence, gunmen attacked a house in Zone 12, Sebokeng, in the Vaal Triangle on Wednesday night, killing six members of one family.

And in another incident at Phola Park in Tokoza on the East Rand, two unidentified 18-year-old youths were shot dead with an AK-47 rifle.

Those killed in the Sebokeng slaughter were Mr Johannes Zwane (64), a local primary school vice-principal who was due to retire at the end of the year, and his wife Dorothy.

The others were Zwane’s children, Odell (25), who was mentally retarded, Maureen (18), who was killed while sleeping with her day-old baby.

The child survived and is being treated and cared for at the Sebokeng Hospital. A relative of the Zwanes’ who was on a visit, Gift Mosebi, was also killed in the 7.45pm attack.

Also killed in what police described as an “AK-47 assault rifle attack” was Aubrey Zwane (7), who was in Grade 2.

The only surviving member of the Zwane family is Chongo (20), who went uncontrollably yesterday, suffered stress early during the interview and had to be helped to a mattress while sobbing uncontrollably yesterday as he told of the attack.

Chongo, a Standard 8 pupil, said his mother was preparing supper when she heard a knock at the door. “No one had yet responded to the knock when the unlocked door flew open.

“I was suddenly overcome by tears and rushed to the bedroom where I hid under a bed,” Chongo said.

There was a burst of gunfire in the house.

“Maureen was shot while sleeping and my father died in the bedroom,” Chongo said.

Only last Sunday, the family had slaughtered two cows during their daughter’s wedding celebration at the same house, a family member said.

Police spokesman Captain Piet van Deventer said intensive investigations were being carried out.
Why tapes experts couldn’t testify

Weekly Mail Reporters
BRITISH intelligence specialists at one of the world’s most technically advanced intelligence-gathering facilities were responsible for findings that the erasure of the “Boipatong tapes” may have been deliberate.

The analysis of the tapes, which Judge Richard Goldstone rejected this week on the grounds that it was “speculative”, was conducted at the Government Communications Headquarters at Cheltenham, one of Britain’s key intelligence establishments and which for decades was the pivot of Western intelligence operations against the Soviet bloc.

It also has the most advanced technical facilities in the world for the capture of and interpretation of radio communications.

The fact that intelligence operatives — not mere “specialists”, as stated in the local press — analysed the tapes explains why they were unable to testify before the Goldstone Commission. They would clearly not wish to appear at a South African hearing and discuss their methods.

Even in British court cases, elaborate procedures are used to protect the identities of intelligence agents giving evidence. At the 1988 inquest into the SAS killing of three IRA members in Gibraltar, British MI5 operatives testified behind screens.

Judge Goldstone wants them to testify and suggests that their unwillingness to do so undermines their findings. “No conclusion can fairly be drawn on the strength of tentative suggestions made by the experts,” he said in a statement this week.

The analysis of the erased tapes was designed to shed light on whether the police may have had advance knowledge of the attack on the Vaal township of Boipatong on June 17 this year, or whether they themselves took part, as has been alleged by Boipatong residents.

The carefully worded British report said the superimposition of material of the recordings “may not have been accidental”. It added that “the technical evidence suggests that this may have been done deliberately and hurriedly to obscure the contents”.

Some of the superimposed material was recorded at non-standard speed and some of it backwards, the report said.

Although couched in diplomatic speak, the mere fact that the British intelligence put their head on the block by making the suggestion indicates they believed the erasure was not accidental.

ARTHUR GAVSHON reports that British Foreign office informants have revealed another reason for the specialist’s inability to testify: the British government did not want to become involved in a dispute between an arm of the South African security forces and the Goldstone Commission.

This could have far-reaching political repercussions, including the embarrassment of President FW de Klerk’s administration, they said.

The Goldstone Commission asked the British government to help unscramble the tapes after it was discovered the electronics firm that had cleared the police had close ties with the South African security forces.

But it was made plain the specialists would not appear as witnesses before the commission.

Said a foreign office official: “We gave Goldstone advance notice that our personnel would not be able to testify on their findings.”
A family dies as gunmen bust in

SIX people were mowed down when two balaclava-clad men armed with an automatic rifle and a handgun burst into the home of the Zwane family in Zone 12, Sebokeng, at 7.45pm on Wednesday.

According to one of two survivors, Jeremiah Zwane (20), the men threw a teargas canister through the window of the house before they burst in through the back door and started shooting. Jeremiah Zwane survived by hiding under a sofa but the rest of the family was not so lucky. Jeremiah's father Johannes (64), his mother (51), his brother Obed (25), his sisters Maureen (18) and Aubrey (7), and his nephew Gift Mosibi (14) were all killed. The only other survivor was Maureen's day-old baby.

The police, who arrived on the scene at about 10.25pm, found an empty teargas canister and 9mm and R1 rifle cartridges. Asked why they had taken so long to respond, Major Vorster, the officer in charge said the police had been unable to find the place.

Jeremiah Zwane said his father was an active member of the local African National Congress branch, and had recently "had trouble" with the police. He said that last Friday the police had surrounded the house with Casspirs and searched it for guns.
Tape tests may delay findings on Boipatong

THE outcome of the Goldstone commission hearings into the Boipatong massacre could be held up for weeks while a controversial police tape is subjected to a number of tests.

The tape in question recorded all police radio and telephone traffic on the night of the Boipatong massacre — June 17 — when 45 people were slaughtered in their homes. Police told the commission it was accidentally recorded over the following day.

The Goldstone commission is presently transcribing the controversial tape.

It will then give its transcript and copies of the tape to the five legal teams at the hearing so they can institute their own testing if they deem it necessary.

The ANC has yet to make a decision in this regard but the police have already announced that they want foreign experts to assess the tape.

**Deliberate**

Independent tests by the British government have added to the uncertainty.

The British government was given the tape for its experts to analyse on August 27. They reported last week that "the tapes have been over-recorded".

The technical evidence "suggests that" this may have been done deliberately and hurriedly to obscure the contents. It is not possible to recover the original data.

An official at the British Embassy in Pretoria said it was not possible to identify anything intelligible on the over-recording and that there was only a "masking noise".

**By CHARLENE SMITH**

The British report added that some of the over-recording appeared to have been done backwards — which the SA police claim is a technical impossibility.

However, Judge Richard Goldstone noted that when the tape was played before two of the commissioners and the legal teams "contrary to the information received from the British experts, on those portions of the tape played back messages could clearly be heard, no 'masking noise' was heard."

**Necessary**

As a consequence, Judge Goldstone said "no conclusions can be drawn on the strength of the tentative suggestion made by the British experts."

If necessary, once the legal teams have studied the transcripts and the tape, they may recall witnesses.

The British experts have declined to give verbal evidence on their findings.
ANC jitters over wild defence unit members

By THEMBA KHAMALO

UNRULY elements within the self-defence units (SDU) in Vaal-Triangle townships have once again set tongues wagging after the ANC revealed that one of its leaders, Bavumile Vilakazi, was shot by an SDU member.

Bavumile, former general secretary of the ANC's PWV region, spent almost two months in hospital after he was shot twice and his car set alight on September 17 outside his home in Sebokeng. He was wounded in his left eye and back after the assailant shot him with an AK-47.

The ANC's investigating team tracked down the assailant who admitted to being an SDU member. He told them that he shot Vilakazi by accident after mistaking him for a policeman.

The PWV region's publicity secretary, Ronnie Mamoepe, said the man handed himself over to the ANC and apologised a day after the shooting. A statement issued by the ANC this week said the assailant voluntarily approached the ANC and confessed to the shooting.

He said the decision to attack Vilakazi was his alone and no colleague was involved.

The statement read: "After this information was made known to Vilakazi, he and his family decided not to lay charges. However, the ANC expresses its horror and dismay that an SDU member could summarily decide to make an attempt on the life of a leader of Vilakazi's stature.

"It's even more repugnant that the murder attempt was made because the SDU member was believed that Vilakazi was a policeman. The ANC calls on the community to distance itself from such and other unbecoming behaviour."

Mamoepe said the ANC would send the assailant for political re-education. He would not say whether any disciplinary action would be taken against him.

Vilakazi said although he had not met his assailants, he had his family had forgiven him because of his ignorance.

The SDU became a focal point after SACP secretary Chris Hani conceded that there were unruly elements within these structures who were harming the image of the ANC with their deplorable behaviour.

Mamoepe said the SDUs in the Vaal had been infiltrated by criminals and agents provocateurs to discredit the structures.
Their home became a slaughterhouse

BY MOSES MAMAILA

The gruesome attack on a Sebokeng house this week, in which six family members were gunned down, was apparently the work of hired assassins who masqueraded as comforters.

Abahlale Zwane lost his parents and four relatives, the family of a daughter that left a one-year-old baby motherless.

Herald City Press that the two gunmen were known to the family as they stayed in the neighborhood.

The identity of one of the rifle-wielding attackers was revealed to neighbors by the 18-year-old dying mother of the infants, shortly after the attack.

Maureen Zwane, who died on the way to hospital after being shot in the back as she shielded her baby with her body, told rescuers the name of the attackers.

Relatives said the man was a well-known "freedom fighter" who operated closely with members of the defense units in the area.

"This man is notorious for his role in planned murders. People who want to eliminate their enemies often hire him to do the job," explained another family member, Mere Zwane.

Although the family members were adamant that hired assassins were responsible for the massacre, they did not know why somebody would hire attackers to wipe out the entire family.

The terror operation was launched by the two "jackals" at a Zone 12 house in Sebokeng near Vereeniging on Thursday evening.

The Zwanes were watching TV when they heard a knock at the kitchen door. Before anybody could respond to the knock, the gunmen stormed into the house.

In a well-calculated military offensive, one of the freelance soldiers threw a teargas canister into the sitting room. In the midst of the panic, the gunmen sprayed the family with bullets, killing five people instantly.

The sixth victim died on the way to hospital.

The five who were slaughtered in the house were Johannes Zwane, 64, his wife Dorothy, 51, their son Obed, 23, and their relatives Aubrey, 7, and Gift Mosebi, 14.

Jeremia Zwane, 20, died of the shot to the head hidden under a bed. The attackers left the house after making sure their victims no longer moved.

Police spokesman Capt Piet van Deventer said intensive investigations were underway. No arrests have been made.

He appealed to the residents who have erased their house numbers to replace them, adding that police arrived at the scene "a bit late" because they had got lost.

CHILD VICTIM... Seventeen-year-old Aubrey Mosebi died instantly when gunman opened fire on a Sebokeng home, killing six family members.
Four members of family among gunmen's victims

FIVE people, four from the same family, were shot dead at the Odidi reserve in Umbumbulu, Natal, yesterday.

Sapa reports that a police spokesman said unknown men armed with AK-47 rifles fired at people in a car who were on their way back home from a funeral service. He said four of the people killed belonged to the Mysa family of Odidi.

A man has been arrested and is expected to appear in court soon.

In their unrest report early yesterday, police said nine people were burnt, shot or hacked to death on Saturday. Seven were killed on the Reef and two in Natal, while 18 people were reported injured.

The bodies of three men with bullet wounds were found in Thokoza, near Alberton. In Kateshong, a dead woman with bullet wounds and another body, burnt beyond recognition, were found near a burnt-out minibus.

A supporter of the Inkatha Freedom Party was shot and killed by an unknown attacker with a .45 revolver in Ntabamhlope, near Ladysmith, and a man was killed and a woman and child injured at Wembezi, near Estcourt, in an attack by men armed with pangas and knives.

The continuing taxi war in Kwa-Thema township, near Springs, claimed the lives of two more people, and left three injured, on Saturday. In one incident, a man was killed when attackers fired on a minibus.

In Maokeng, near Kroonstad, police injured a man with a rubber bullet when they dispersed a crowd throwing stones at a local house.

In the Imbal township, near Maritzburg, a man was wounded when his home was attacked by a group who fled when the SA Defence Force arrived on the scene.

RAY HARTLEY reports that a man who may be connected with train killings last week will appear in the Germiston Magistrate’s Court today on charges of murder and the illegal possession of arms.

The suspect was arrested after a random search on a Germiston-Katlehong train revealed he was carrying a Makarov pistol, Makarov shells were found at the scene of Tuesday’s killings in which five people died.

Police said axes, knives and a bloodstained umbrella were found at the suspect’s Katlehong house.
Reef station clash joined by gunman

JOHANNESBURG — Fighting broke out at Park Station here late yesterday between groups of alleged African National Congress and Inkatha Freedom Party supporters but no one was reported injured.

Police said the groups were stoning each other across the railway when a gunman jumped from a passing train, firing 10 shots at Inkatha supporters. No one was hit and the gunman escaped.

● Three people died and one was wounded in Thokozani on Monday in a rifle attack on a house.
● In Natal four people died and a youth was injured in unrest on Monday, police said.
● Two policemen were seriously wounded in an AK-47 ambush on a patrol in Inanda near Durban.
● The Human Rights Commission said yesterday that at least 169 people died in Natal political violence last month, bringing the Natal death toll this year to 1,147.

But Defence Minister Mr. Gene Louw claimed yesterday that violence in Natal Midlands has decreased by about 50% since the deployment of extra security forces.

● A monitoring committee to promote peace in the Vaal Triangle was launched by ANC-aligned organisations yesterday.

The organisations said the government is using "proxy forces" to discredit the ANC. — Sapa
Govt unable to uphold hostel fencing promise

GOVERNMENT has admitted that it will not be able to fence off Transvaal hostels by Sunday, a deadline set in the Record of Understanding it reached with the ANC in September.

Local Government Department spokesman Francois Jacobs said this week it had not been possible to go ahead with construction of the fences in view of objections from Inkatha, KwaZulu Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi and the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association.

Jacobs said with hostel residents threatening counter-measures, such as a rent boycott and the physical removal of contractors erecting the fences, the possibility of increased violence would defeat the purpose for which the hostels were being fenced.

He said that after even ANC-inclined hostel residents, such as those in Shoekeng and Tembisa, declined to attend meetings convened by the TPA to discuss the issue, the TPA would not be able to execute the fencing.

He said the national peace secretariat had been asked to bring the various interested parties together, with the Goldstone commission mediating.

The commission should also consider reports by the SAP and others on the situation at hostels.

It should also find out whether the fencing would intensify violence and consider reverting to reconstruction and upgrading of hostels rather than fencing.

"We think the Goldstone commission could play a meaningful role in this situation," Jacobs said.

The ANC has said it expects government to honour the Record of Understanding.
AIDS epidemic 'at crisis levels'

KATHRYN STRACHAN

The AIDS epidemic had reached cri-

cis levels in SA, health au-

torities had failed to respond effec-

tively, a Baragwanath Hospital

doctor said recently.

Departmental head

Prof Alan Fleming told the' Town-

ship that SA was seven years

behind the global spread of the epi-

demic, but, he added,

health authorities had wasted the

"year of grace".

Fleming said in excess of

14 000 women in antenatal clinics were HIV

positive and the epidemic had now

reached the stage where figures

would increase dramatically.

The only effective responses to the

epidemic, Fleming had been the

national surveillance programme

and the universal screening of blood.

Important measures which were

presently not in place included AIDS

information and education centres in

black townships, and a national strat-

gy for health care delivery.

This was essential because the pre-

dicted numbers of the sick would

overburden the existing health care

system.

Fleming said government had en-

couraged its AIDS training and infor-

mation centres only in locations where they would serve almost ex-

clusively the white population.

The highest priority should have

been given to an AIDS educational

programme in primary and sec-

dary schools, he said.

SA told to do more for health

The spending of 6% of GDP on health

in SA was a great achievement, but con-

sidering that SA's GDP was about seven

times higher than China's or Sri Lanka's, SA still had a life expectancy of less than 80%

of those two countries, says a health expert.

Speaking at a conference of the National

Association of Pharmaceutical Wholesa-

ers in Bophuthatswana yesterday, the head

of the National General Practitioners' and

Capitation School of Pharmacy Peter Eagles said SA's lower life expectancy could be attri-

buted to the inequitable distribution of health resources locally.

To improve health significantly and

to achieve the health promotion strategy

for the next 20 years, SA would need an annual econom-

ic growth of about 15%.

"This was impossible, attempts

would have to be made to improve health

France to host management trainees

The French government would

South Africans on a two-week visit to

France, French embassy cultural counci-

lier Geoffrey Leroy said.

The six are top participants in

the French government's joint management development programme, which co-

operates with the Paris Chamber of Com-

merce and Industry, and several SA or-

ganisations including the IDA, the UHC

Foundation, the Black Management Forum and Clive Acton and Associates.

Since the programme was launch-

ned in 1998, French financial involvement has

risen to R600 000, and this year eight addi-

tional participants were selected from non-profit organisations such as Operation Hunger.

Participants from SA companies study

towards a diploma which leads French

BUDGETARY difficulties had

prompted government to announce

the early release of 7 000 prisoners

during the first six months of 1998, Correctional Services spokesman Lt

Bert Slabbert said yesterday.

Correctional Services Minister Adriana

Violok announced yesterday that the prison-

ers who had committed violent crimes

such as rape and murder — would be

released at a rate of about 1 000 a month.

Slabbert said the prisoners would be

drawn exclusively from those whose re-

lease had already been approved by the

Prison Release Board.

The decision did not elaborate on the extent of the department's budgetary difficulties, but said the freeing of the 7 000 prisoners would not "solve the problem on its own".

Other mechanisms had to be developed to deal with the overcrowding of prisons, which, according to the depart-

m's figures, still held 10 000 prisoners too many.

Sapa reports Violok will consult police to finalise authorising the releases.

Prisoners already selected for release

would be given their freedom a few

months earlier to ease the overcrowding.

"It want make it clear that this pro-

cess of additional releases will definitely

not be implemented during the remainder

of this year," said Slabbert.

"We foresee that it could be applied

during the first half of 1999," he said.

Violok said the question of imprisoned

ANC supporters was "in the air".

There were 2 600 convicted juveniles

between the ages of 14 and 18 years in prison,

and 6 400 between the ages of 19 and

25 years, he said.

Meanwhile, government and the ANC

are expected to meet today to discuss a final

list of political prisoners who will be re-

leased by Sunday in terms of agreements

they have reached.

A short list of 48 prisoners, 10 of whom

had been disputed by Violok, had been
drawn up for discussion at the meeting.

ANC legal department official Matthew

Phosa said yesterday.

He said additional motivation had been

fixed concerning the 10 disputed prisoners and there were "a few" other names that could still be added to the list.

The release of the 48 would bring the total of ANC-aligned prisoners released this year to 339, with 141 being released earlier to the cabinet for consideration.

Phosa said.

Originally, the ANC submitted a list of

539 political prisoners for release.

Slabbert said a process of identifying political prisoners would begin in weeks.

ANC acts against rogue elements

ABDUL HADAMB

INDIVIDUALS claiming to be mem-

bers of the ANC in the Vaal Triangle

had ignored the policies and man-

dates of the organisation and were

involved in violence, rapes, killings, harassment and extortion, it was announced yesterday.

At a news conference in Vereenig-

ing, regional leaders of the ANC, Co-

satu and the SACP, and civic repre-

sentatives, said a code of conduct "to

end all undesired acts" was being de-

veloped by the end of the month.

A monitoring committee was cre-

ated to end conflict between organi-

sation in the region, facilitate recon-

ciliation and draw up a binding code of

conduct.

An ANC PWV region statement

said rogue members had "found their way into legitimate community structures such as the self-defence units", where they had caused havoc, chaos and disarray.

This situation had been exploited by "criminal elements", the state-

ment said. Primary blame for the escalation of violence, however, was

placed at the feet of government.

"Through its low intensity conflict strate-

gies, the ANC has not only collapsed into a number of proxy forces to visit vio-

lence on our people in an attempt to underpin its power but also launched a small number of illegal structures in particular and the democratic move-

ment in general," the statement said.

"Criminal elements are from acts of criminality meted out against members of the community who claim membership of the ANC, SACP and Cosatu."
ANC demands police plan on violence

THE ANC’s PWV branch yesterday threatened to withdraw from talks on ending train violence unless police supplied it with a "plan of action".

The organisation also instructed its lawyers to prepare a civil suit against police to claim damages on behalf of those who had died in train violence as a result of negligence on the part of the authorities.

ANC PWV spokesman Ronnie Mamoepe said the SA Rail Commuter Corporation (SARCC) and police had failed to upgrade stations and improve security on trains despite an agreement in May.

Police liaison officer Col Dave Bruce denied the allegations.

The ANC said it had been agreed to adjourn its meeting with the SARCC yesterday until the "community delegation has received a plan of action to combat train violence from the police".

Mamoepe said SAP claims that the ANC was discouraging witnesses from giving statements to police were false.

Cosatu official Alfred Woodington said it was up to police to instil confidence in witnesses to come forward to testify.

Mamoepe said the legal action, if it succeeded, could lead to hundreds of victims of the violence filing similar claims.
A police vehicle riles a little girl

Makoe and photographer Pat Seboko on a township patrol:

Major Johan Vorster, commander of the Internal Stability Unit, declares wryly: “Gentlemen, you’re welcome,” and provides me with the bullet-proof vest I had earlier requested.

“This is Sergeant Teen Schoeman, your crew leader for the afternoon,” Vorster says, pointing at the slender figure standing about 1.9m, clean-shaven, with a neatly-trimmed moustache and in combat uniform.

It is 2.45pm. We drive out of the Vereeniging headquarters of the unit and on to a road to Sharpeville. Schoeman is also the driver of the security-light armoured vehicle.

The first “unrest-related” incident for the day is caused by a girl of about 10 as we drive through the township. Namely, she throws a stone at our vehicle.

“Let’s go back and arrest her,” jokes Colonel Ray Harrald, the man who arranged our visit.

As we drive along one dirt road, Schoeman reaches for his two-way radio: “Kie, Lima, Papa - 241 Tango.” After a few minutes, a hoarse voice comes in: “Negative.”

A suspected stolen vehicle with the registration KLP 241 T is being cleared.

We drive along more bumpy streets towards Boipatong, where Schoeman says, he was nearly killed in 1984.

Constable Emoch Mabunda, sitting next to me, whispers: “Last week I was missed by three shots near that surgery.”

I asked him if such experiences were not driving him into reconsidering his occupation.

“No,” he says. “I would rather die in this work than quit. I love it so much…”

Riddled with bullets

At 3.15pm as we drive out of Boipatong, Schoeman calls again: “See this road, Abbey, on the day after the massacre you couldn’t drive here. There was a barricade every three metres.”

He points to where the first victim of the massacre was found, his head riddled with AK-47 rifle bullets.

After some time he says: “Some things you get used to, you know, Abbey, such as seeing corpses. But you never get used to the killings,” and shakes his head.

“You know, Abbey,” he says, as usual, “I pity the kids here. You know what? Kids don’t give a damn about who is ANC or Inkatha or who governs the country.”

“You’ve got to rely on your feelings. Once you’re suspicious, you must stop,” Schoeman says.

He recalls that “at the time of the unrest” he had to drive the Nyala (code name for their vehicle), be on the lookout for traps and look around for criminal acts all at the same time.

Responding to the quizzical look on my face, which he is watching through the rearview mirror, Schoeman says: “You get used to it.”

As we drive out of the township to Sebokeng, Schoeman reaches for his radio and gives a report to the base about the “quiet” situation.

I ask “Sarge” Schoeman, as I address him, about the qualifications needed to be able to join the unit.

“You’ve got to be versatile. We screen all members of the unit when they join. We check if they are medically fit and mentally stable.”

“All my men have been screened,” he says, watching his silent crew sitting behind in the rearview mirror.

As we drive in and out of the streets regarded as hotbeds of crime and violence, Schoeman comes up with a bit of his psychology: “Abby,” he starts again, “you know what a hero is?” I say I don’t.

He responds: “Those who are scared but don’t run away from fear are heroes,” he says. “Cowards are those who are scared and run away from fear,” he says before explaining what “stupid” are: “Those who know nothing and do nothing.”

At 4.15pm we are driving through Sebokeng’s main road, behind a fleet of minibus taxis ferrying residents home.

The sirens go and goes. “Spot check!” Schoeman says to the crew. The target is a taxi that has just responded to the Nyala’s siren and its flashlights.

Men, women and children climb out. One of Schoeman’s men is busy searching the taxi driver’s pockets, another the male passengers and others have taken up positions around the minibus.

Women and children are exempted from the search.
such as corpses but not killings - cop

The result? They have found nothing and get back into the Nyala from which I have been watching them at work.

Herald explains: "We don't like doing it but we have to, just to make sure. It's a job that needs to be done, regardless of the inconvenience. I know the community might not like it but it's a job we must do."

Shortly afterwards Schoeman turns to the and explains why he has ordered the search of the kombi.

"It was full of young people, you know? The 'self-defence unit' here has a tendency to hijack taxis and man roadblocks of their own. It happens very often."

The leader of the Vaal Triangle Internal Stability Unit, Sergeant Teen Schoeman, chats to a woman at Sebokeng Hostel while the unit is on its daily rounds of maintaining law and order.

Pic: PAT SEBOKO
ANC renegades behind campaign to kill police

RENEGADE members of the ANC's self-defence units were behind a campaign to kill policemen in Reef townships, police sources said yesterday.

Opperman said 16 defence unit members — many of them from Phola Park — had been arrested. Three had appeared in court in connection with possession of firearms and attacks on policemen.

A recent claim by an ANC defence unit member that he had accidentally shot a prominent ANC member because he mistook him for a policeman was further evidence of instructions they had received to kill policemen, he said.

At least 194 policemen have died violently since the beginning of the year. Last year 143 were killed.

ANC claims that the defence units were out of control because of police infiltration. A clear attempt to shift blame by means of propaganda, the police and SADF said in a joint statement yesterday.

"Motives of sources producing unfounded, unproven, untested and malicious allegations aimed at alienating the security forces from the very people they protect, must be questioned," the statement said.

Opperman said 10 ANC members had been arrested in possession of firearms and police uniforms. Police were investigating "several armed attacks carried out by ANC members or supporters in the Vaal triangle, particularly Sebokeng".

He said the ANC was hindering police investigations at the scenes of unrest-related murders and crimes.

Opperman said ANC suggestions that a "code of conduct" be drawn up for self-defence unit members were welcomed.

SAPA reports that three people — one of them a policeman — were killed and two others were injured in attacks on Reef trains yesterday. Police said Coast FM Mpanza was thrown from a train between Elandsburg and Kafeloeng on the East Rand. His body, which landed under a train, was badly mutilated.

He was the third policeman in seven months to die in violence on trains.

In Atteridgeville two assistant constables were attacked while on patrol on Wednesday night.

Government's Social Relief Fund had paid out R670,000 and had assisted more than 1,000 families affected by political violence since it was established three months ago, Fund chairman Piet Koornhof said in Durban yesterday.

Govt fence-sitting on hostels

GOVERNMENT will not fence off hostels, identified as sources of violence, in terms of the record of understanding it reached with the ANC in September.

In terms of the understanding, seven Reef hostels were to have been fenced off by Sunday.

Local Government and National Housing Department official Johan Oosthuizen said yesterday government would not fence off hostels by Sunday.

Oosthuizen said objections from Inkatha and the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association had made it impossible to construct fences around the hostels in terms of the agreement. He said it seemed implementation of the agreement would fuel violence rather than end it.

However, the hostels would be fenced off in due course as part of government's strategy to upgrade them, Oosthuizen said.

ANC spokesman Saki Macozoma said yesterday the ANC had not met to discuss the matter.

But government's decision to renege on the agreement had serious implications for future negotiations. He would not discuss the implications.

The agreement was hailed as a breakthrough for constitutional negotiations which had virtually collapsed after the June 17 Boipatong massacre.

The ANC cancelled talks between itself and government after the massacre, saying such talks would be resumed only after government had — among other things — taken sufficient steps to curb violence.

The fencing off of the hostels is a demand from the ANC, which attributes most unrest incidents to hostel residents. The organisation believes barriers between hostel residents and township residents will restore peace in the townships.
Cop thrown off train

TWO people, one of them a policeman, were killed in two separate attacks on Reef trains yesterday.

A police constable at Johannesburg's Park Station was thrown off a train between Elsburg and Katlehong about 7am.

Police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman said the policeman, who has not yet been named, was the third officer to die in train violence in seven months.

In another attack, a person was killed and two other people injured when a passenger shot at commuters standing on a platform as the train drew into Faraday Station shortly before 7am.

Opperman said the man jumped off the train as it pulled off at the station. He was shot by a plainclothes policeman but managed to escape.

Opperman appealed to doctors and hospitals to report anyone seeking treatment for a gunshot wound. - Sapa.

Sebokeng victims buried

Both ANC, Sadtu blame Government for the massacre of five members of Zwane family.

By Abbey Makoe

The South African Democratic Teachers Union (Sadtu) and the ANC yesterday blamed the Government for the gruesome killing last week of six members of a Sebokeng family.

Officials of the two organisations were speaking during the funeral of five of the victims at Mphathatsane Hall in Sebokeng.

Those who were buried were former teacher Mr Johannes Zwane (64), his wife Dorothy, their children Obed (25) and Maureen (18) and Aubrey (7).

The sixth victim, Gift Moses, was relative of the Zwane's who was visiting the family. The six died when gun- shooting men attacked them shortly before supper last week.

Mr Mandla Gungubele, who represented the ANC PWV region, said the Government was unleashing its agents to destabilise the black community.

Gungubele called for sanctions to be maintained.

A Sadtu spokesman put the blame squarely on the Government's door. He said there was a "low-intensity civil war" in Sebokeng.
THE ANC has blamed renegade members of one of its own self-defence units for the slaying of a family of six in Sebokeng this month.

When the family of Mr Ephraim Zwane, believed to be ANC supporters, were shot dead this month, the ANC claimed that an assailant wearing an SADF T-shirt had been seen running away from the scene.

ANC members called on the authorities to find quickly the perpetrators of the "heinous crimes." But now, after investigation by a committee co-ordinated by Mr Obiep Sapa, deputy general secretary of the ANC's PWV region, the organisation believes members of one of its own self-defence units were responsible for the killings.

Members of the investigating team say that there appears to be a power struggle in the Vaal between returned exiles and internal members.

They add that they also suspect the involvement of criminals and "third force elements" from the state security services who have infiltrated the self-defence units.

SA Communist Party head Chris Hani, who has been involved in peace efforts in the area, said the renegade SDU members were involved in hijacking, forcing traders to pay "protection money," setting up roadblocks and barricades, and robbing people.

"Rape has become prevalent, with schoolgirls being raped and killed. We feel same SDUs have been infiltrated by the system, and criminals have taken over due to the volatile situation in the Vaal."

Mr Hani added: "The situation is very dangerous for the ANC alliance. People are beginning to say these people call themselves Comrades and they are killing us. It is a situation the government, military intelligence and the National Intelligence Service would enjoy. I suspect they are fishing in troubled waters."

"It is not enough for us to make public statements opposed to the violence; we have to take affirmative steps to end the violence."

Mr Hani said an urgent summit would be convened in the Vaal before the end of this month to try to find ways to end the violence.

He said a contributing factor to renegade forces within MK was that large numbers of former soldiers had returned with no jobs or prospects into violence-ravaged communities which expected assistance from MK cadres.

A R30 000 fraud recently uncovered at the National Committee for the Repatriation of Exiles, too, had also meant that large numbers of returning exiles had received little or no money to assist them to reintegrate into society.

Two ANC commissions are investigating increased lawlessness among its alleged supporters in the Vaal. The first, headed by Mr Sapa, is concentrating specifically on violence in the area.

The other, headed by the organisation's deputy secretary-general, Mr Jacob Zuma, is investigating problems being experienced by Umkhonto we Sizwe, including the involvement of some of its members in the Vaal violence as well as elsewhere.

The Vaal commission has paid particular attention to conflict between the National Union of Metalworkers of SA and self-defence units under former MK cadre Ernest Sotsu.

Mr Sotsu's wife and two children were killed by unknown assailants while he was attending the ANC national consultative conference in Pretoria last year.

After that Mr Sotsu went to live in the Sebokeng hostel. This coincided with the outbreak of hostilities between Numsa and a rival community called Top 20, with which Mr Sotsu is involved.

These units have been blamed for the killing of eight Numsa members, including five shop stewards, since May this year.

Similar

ANC leaders also admit that similar hit-squad activity is taking place among SDUs in other parts of the Vaal, the Natal Midlands and southern Natal.

Other incidents in which the involvement of rogue self-defence units is suspected are:

• The gunning down of Mr Prince Mhlambi, a community worker in Phola Park, who became the third member of that community's civic association to be assassinated after MK members had seized control.

• The death of an elderly woman in the Witbank area.

• The attempted assassination a fortnight ago of Mr Stavulile Vilakazi, a senior ANC Vaal activist.

• The attempted assasination of a youth in Evaton following an ANC SDU claim they were faced with Inkatha residents in the Kemawanda hostel.

• Mavelo Gift Solomon Mosefiba, 14, the youngest victim of the Sebokeng massacre, was buried at Evaton cemetery yesterday before the rattle of AK-47s fired in salute by youngsters.

At the funeral, a child — no older than 15 — was seen to borrow an AK-47 from a youth, cock it, fire rapidly into the air and then return the weapon to its owner.
ANC stands by its streetfighters

By MOSES MAMAILA

Despite chaos and anarchy attributed to the Self-Defence Units (SDUs) in the Vaal towns, the ANC and its allies still maintain that these structures are legitimate and imperative.

Following revelations of killings, rape, extortion, forced recruitment and harassment meted against members of the community and the media by SDU members, the tripartite alliance — the ANC, SACP, and Cosatu — this week called a media conference to announce measures to get the situation under control.

While the alliance expressed its utter contempt and disdain at the havoc and chaos perpetrated by SDU members, it blamed agents of the state for infiltrating "legitimate structures of the people," to discredit the ANC.

However, the organisations conceded that criminal elements had hijacked some SDUs.

Apart from the proposed summit where a code of conduct for the SDUs is expected to be adopted, the alliance has formed a monitoring committee which will meet weekly.

However, it was made clear at the press conference that the SDUs were here to stay.

But what are the SDUs?

MK: PWV regional political commandant Opetu Mpharung told City Press they were para-military structures formed after Nelson Mandela's call to defend themselves.

He said: "The initiatives of the organisational structure of the SDUs were the work of the community through the local civic associations."

"An SDU can be formed in a street and should have a minimum of six cadres, under one commander. Selection of SDU members is done by members of the community, and only those with proven political records can be nominated."
Boipatong tapes erased ‘on purpose’

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — An investigation by British government experts has found that the Boipatong tapes may have been "hurriedly and deliberately erased with the object of obscuring the contents".

Details of the findings are scheduled to be made public today by the Goldstone Commission. They were released on Friday to the SA Police’s legal advisers to enable the police to consider their response.

It is understood that the police have angrily questioned the validity of the British findings. Police told the Goldstone inquiry the recordings had accidentally been wiped clean.

The tapes in question were those which recorded radio communications between police in the field and the Vereeniging Internal Stability Unit on the night of the June 17 massacre.

Boks

LEICESTER — Springbok players were polled.
IFP plans to combat violence

By Nicolette Tladi

THE Inikatha Freedom Party and its affiliates will meet this week to form strategies to combat violence on trains and in the PWV area as a whole. This was announced by the IFP's Transvaal organiser, Mr Themba Khoza, in a Press statement. The IFP expressed its concern about the killing of people on trains and damage to property.

The IFP, United Workers Union of South Africa (Uwusa), Hostel Residents Association, and United Metal Industries and Allied Workers Union of South Africa (Umiawusa) are going to "work out a package to deal with this critical issue."
Gunmen kill eight at Pietersburg taxi rank

The Argus Correspondent

PIETERSBURG — Eight people were shot dead and three injured here when gunmen opened fire on a group of people in a municipal park beside a taxi rank, police said.

Police spokesman Captain Werner Voigt said the victims, who have not yet been identified, were eating and talking under a tree beside the "RSA" taxi rank at about 9.45am yesterday when the gunmen opened fire.

Seven men died on the scene, Captain Voigt said. The eighth man died in the casualty ward of the Pietersburg provincial hospital, a hospital spokesman said. Three others were admitted with gunshot wounds — one with serious injuries — but were in a stable condition last night.

While police could not confirm whether the deceased were all members of the Big Six Taxi Association which operated from the rank, all of them were connected to the rank in some way, Captain Voigt said.

"We can say that all the victims were either regular taxi commuters or taxi drivers," he said.

The Far Northern Transvaal Dispute Resolution Committee said Saturday by a rival taxi association, which operates on the same route.

Drivers at the scene alleged three of their taxis were hijacked in Johannesburg on Saturday by a rival taxi association, which operates on the same route.

The Far Northern Transvaal Dispute Resolution Committee held a crisis meeting yesterday afternoon to try to prevent further violence in the area.

Committee chairman Professor Koos van den Heever said the situation warranted that the Goldstone Commission urgently investigate it.

He said that after yesterday's killings it would be difficult to avoid a revenge attack or a full-scale taxi war.

Five vehicles were damaged in the attack. Police found about 60 AK-47 and 9mm cartridges at the scene. — Sapa.
7 slain in taxi feud

FATAL SQUASH Plethora of rival taxi associations on same routes to blame for the violence:

TAXI wars have reared their ugly heads again.
Seven people were killed when gunmen opened fire on a meeting of taxi drivers and operators in Pietersburg yesterday.
Police say it is not yet clear whether the killings are part of the taxi war plaguing the industry.
Taxi drivers who survived the attack blame a rival association.
South African Black Taxi Association spokesman Mr Jabu Mabuza linked the killings to a glut of taxis operating on the route.
Mabuza warned the problem could further be exacerbated following the deregulation of the industry.

Full story page 2
ANC probes Vaal rivalry

Officials suspect rival groups may be behind the violence in Sebokeng:

By Nicolette Tladi

THE African National Congress is investigating the organisation's internal rivalry in the Vaal amid allegations that renegade elements of its self-defence units are wreaking havoc in the area.

The probe followed the slaying of the Zwane family in Sebokeng two weeks ago.

Mr Ephraim Johannes Zwane, a teacher whose wife was a recruitment officer for the ANC, and three other family members were gunned down in their Zone 12 home two weeks ago.

Mr Ronnie Mamoepa, ANC PWV spokesman, yesterday confirmed the launching of the investigation in response to weekend newspaper reports that their self-defence units were responsible for the family's gruesome death.

"It has not been established yet that the killing of the Zwane family was linked to feuding within the ANC ranks in the Vaal.

"We are investigating sources of violence in the Vaal and we have found that the bulk of it has been visited by the State on the people," Mamoepa said.

In an interview with Sowetan, ANC Youth League president Mr Peter Mokaba said the solution was that self-defence units should be "re-vamped" so as to defeat the violence "visited on the communities by the State and its surrogates".

"But self-defence units must be accountable to the direct political leadership of the community in which they are operating."
7 killed as Pietersburg taxi war erupts again

By Don Seokane

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our unidentified men shot and killed six taxi drivers and one owner at a Big Six Taxi Association meeting in Pietersburg yesterday morning.

Two taxi drivers, severely wounded in the shooting, were taken to hospital. One was reported to be in a critical condition with four bullet wounds, according to witnesses.

No passengers were wounded, except for one municipal worker who was cleaning the park next to the taxi rank when the shooting erupted at about 9.30 am.

Police spokesman Captain Werner Voight said AK-47 rifles and 9mm pistols were used in the attack.

Voight said no arrests had been made as yet but announced an intensive manhunt for the killers.

Voight said five vehicles were damaged. The names of the dead could not be released yesterday. Taxi drivers at the scene said the shooting erupted during a meeting at an RSA taxi rank called to discuss the operation of the Johannes-

burg/Pietersburg line.

"Four men, two of them wearing overcoats and armed with pistols and two with rifles that looked like AK-47s or R1s, pounced on us and started shooting," a taxi driver who refused to be named said.

"When we began running they continued shooting and there was a sound of automatic gunfire rattling throughout the taxi rank."

"After the shooting we found seven of our members dead and two drivers and one municipal worker injured."

When Sowetans arrived at the scene we saw seven bodies covered with blankets scattered all over the municipal park adjacent to the RSA taxi rank.

The shooting, according to drivers, was a result of mounting problems experienced by Big Six Association members. Yesterday's meeting was to address these problems, which include:

- The hijacking of three taxis together with their drivers on Saturday in Johannesburg;
- Drivers were loading passengers only in Pietersburg and were unable to load in Johannesburg; and
- Operators have had to operate on the Pietersburg/Tombisa route because they feared for their lives if they drove to Johannesburg.

They blamed a rival taxi association that also operates the Pietersburg/Johannesburg route.

More than 40 taxis were parked yesterday and there were no indications that drivers would start working after the shooting.

Taxi drivers said they would discuss the options available to them to ensure their safety and which alternative routes could be taken.

The lucrative route has seen much bloodshed in the past, due to the existence of several associations.
ANC drafts code to curb its renegade members

THE ANC is planning a code of conduct to bind its errant self-defence units to party policy and make them more accountable.

The PWV region is to consider a draft code today.

Last week the ANC said renegade members of self-defence units in the Vaal Triangle and Natal had become involved in activities ranging from extortion and killing to rape and forced recruitment.

An ANC investigation into the recent slaying of the six-member Zwane family of Sebelebeng had also found that self-defence unit members may have been involved.

ANC spokesman said the details emerging from the investigation, which was headed by ANC PWV region deputy secretary Obad Bapela, had not been confirmed.

ANC PWV spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said the allegations had come from communities as well as witnesses.

"We have not verified the allegations. We are investigating sources of violence in the Vaal Triangle, and in Natal we have found that the bulk of the violence has been visited by the state on the people."

The draft code of conduct, which will be tabled at a summit of ANC-aligned community, trade union and political organisations at the weekend, would include clauses on "behaviour, conduct, discipline, accountability and a commitment not to become involved" in unsanctioned acts, Mamoepa said yesterday.

"The self-defence units had been "operating loosely, taking far-reaching decisions with national implications". Mamoepa added.

"We have to bring the self-defence units under control as the ANC must take final responsibility for their actions."

He said the final version of the code of conduct would be negotiated at the summit before it was implemented.

While individual members of self-defence units would not be represented at the summit, an "umbrella body" acting on their behalf could be formed to discuss the issue, Mamoepa said.

He said the ANC was not prepared to divulge the number of self-defence units operating in the Vaal Triangle and Natal, because of "security considerations."

He said this weekend's summit was aimed at facilitating the building and strengthening of the self-defence unit structures, improving accountability, the adoption of a binding code of conduct and measures aimed at bringing the self-defence units firmly under ANC control.

Doors closed on inquest

FORMER CCB information officer Derrick Louw was granted an application to testify in camera yesterday at the resumption of the inquest into the murder of Wits University academic David Webster.

Minutes after the hearing resumed, Louw's counsel Jurie Wessels applied for his client's evidence to be heard behind closed doors in order to protect his identity.

Wessels' application for an in camera hearing was also heard behind closed doors. Judge M Stegmann granted the application.

State counsel J van Vuuren later told the media a transcript of Louw's evidence and cross-examination would be made available within a day or two.

However, members of the media were given a copy of Louw's statement to the Harris commission in 1990, which was submitted at the inquest yesterday.

The former CCB information officer said his task had been to collate information and make it available to the various CCB regions as needed.

During the Harris commission, Louw was shown a list of names which commission officials had found among CCB documents. The list included Webster's name, next to which Louw had drawn an arrow.

Louw said Webster had been unknown to him until after the academic's death, and to the best of his knowledge he had not been monitored by any CCB member.

After Webster's death, CCB MD Joe Verster had asked him if there was any information on Webster.

Louw said since the academic was unknown to him he had done a search of the CCB's information documents and, finding the list which had been drawn up by another CCB member, had put an arrow next to Webster's name to show Verster later.

Cross-examination of Louw will continue behind closed doors today.

Children slain in Natal attack

DURBAN — Two young children and two adults were killed in the latest wave of violence in Natal when several kraals near Umgeni-baba, south of Durban, were attacked early yesterday by unknown men armed with AK-47s.

SAP spokesman Capt Bala Naidoo said Amhoro Khoma, Catherine Gumbi and her two children were killed.

At least 21 people have died in Natal/KwaZulu since Friday, including six people who were shot dead at Xamalala near Maritzburg on Saturday.

KwaZulu Police reported at least nine other deaths in their area at the weekend.

Meanwhile, Umzazi mayor Maria Xulu yesterday survived a second assassination attempt in weeks while travelling through "B" section.
The Goldstone Commission is to investigate incident that claimed eight lives in Pietersburg:

The Goldstone Commission is to probe the taxi violence that claimed eight lives in Pietersburg at the weekend.

The commission will begin a preliminary inquiry in Pretoria on December 7.

Meanwhile, all parties to the conflict were locked in serious negotiations in Pietersburg yesterday to prevent an all-out taxi war.

Seventy-two drivers, all members of the Big Six Taxi Association, died on the spot after being gunned down by four unidentified men during a meeting at a taxi rank on Sunday morning.

Police spokesman Captain Werner Voight said the eighth victim died in hospital late on Sunday.

The Goldstone Commission yesterday called for submissions on the causes of the taxi violence in Pietersburg and other areas of the Northern Transvaal.

The names of seven of the people who died in the gun attack on Sunday were released by police yesterday.

They were Mr James Phasha of Atteridgeville, Mr William Phasha of Soshanguve, Mr John Phube of Lebowakgomo, Mr Abel Phokolo of Kagiso, Mr Raheida Debeeraj of Marble Hall, Mr Vicky Watt of Seshgo and Mr M F Monyoko of Seshgo.

Voight said that 78 spent AK-47 cartridges and 9mm cartridges were found in the area shortly after the shooting.

"It seems the attack was well-planned as eye-witnesses said the gunmen ran through the taxi rank from north to south and escaped in a vehicle which was apparently waiting to pick them up," Voight added.

Although the situation was tense at the Big Six taxi rank yesterday, taxis were operating but not as usual.
Big arms cache found at East Rand hostel

A police and the SA Defence Force’s yesterday uncovered one of the largest illegal weapons finds yet on the Witwatersrand. "Largest stock of illegal weapons uncovered on the Witwatersrand!"

Katiehong on the East Rand.

Police and soldiers seized 23 AK47 assault rifles, 2200 AK47 rounds, 228 AK47 magazines, two RPG-7 rockets and 4317 65 rounds of ammunition.

No arrests had been made so far, but we are investigating this find thoroughly. No more information can be made available at this stage, as investigations are at an extremely delicate stage,” police said. “Sapa.”
Boipatong massacre suspects get bail

The court could not allow itself to be blackmailed by ANC threats of revenge on those accused of responsibility for the Boipatong massacre, a Pretoria Supreme Court judge said yesterday.

Judge K van Dijkhorst granted bail of R1 000 each to 11 of those accused for the Boipatong massacre on condition they reported to police twice a week and did not enter Boipatong. Ball had been refused by the Vanderbijlpark Magistrate's Court, for fear the accused might intimidate witnesses or flee. (2/2)

Van Dijkhorst granted the accused who were permanently employed bail. He referred the bail applications of 36 of the accused back to the magistrate who must determine whether they were employed by force or not. The bail appeals of 25 accused who have no permanent employment, have been refused. — Sapa.
By Mzimasi Ngudie

FOUR white men masquerading as policemen plundered a Soweto house, phoned 087 sex lines, drank the family’s liquor and looted a spaza shop before making off with R4 500 in cash.

The men also allegedly damaged the family’s BMW car before tow ing it away.

Mrs Sarah Dlamini, a 63-year-old Jabulani pensioner and owner of the house, said four white men brandishing firearms riddled her home about 2pm on Saturday.

Dlamini said the men demanded to “see papers for the car”. She said they then went outside and scraped the car with a screw driver.

“They said the car was stolen. We gave them documents as proof that the car was not stolen, but they threw them away.

“We phoned the police at Jabulani. About four black policemen arrived and an altercation ensued. The white policemen spurned them, calling them kafirs,” she said.

Dlamini also alleged the men took R3 000 from the till and R1 500 from her daughter’s purse.

Dlamini’s son, Fanyana (25), went to identify the car at Jabulani police station. He said at least a battery, engine top, injectors, a radiator, spare wheel, tape recorder and speakers had been removed.

Police spokesman Captain Eugene Henning said the incident would be investigated once a charge had been laid.

He said the car was suspected to have been stolen.
All in a day's work with the ISU

By Abbey Makoe

The first thing that comes to mind is the media history of the area. A few months ago, in a way that has become typical, townships in the Vaal Triangle hit the headlines.

Police say Sebokeng is a no-go area. It is a frank warning to strangers. Police have also warned people from outside against visiting relatives in the area at the time.

A radio message to our Nyala (police armoured vehicle) elicited a deafening silence from the crew members: Around in his late 20s, has tied his nine-year-old daughter's wrists with a rope and hung her from the rafters in the dining room.

All this because the Standard One pupil did not go to school on that day.

This message comes to the armoured vehicle during a night patrol, in which photographer Pat Seboko and I are part of the crew out in the streets to maintain law and order in the violence-ridden Vaal townships.

The child's grandmother, Mrs Evelyn Tsabatla, has been subjected to blows against the backdrop of the police action.

Otto, also our driver, responded in accordance with his promise: "Oom is goe doar.

All six members of the patrol unit held on to their rifles, each armed with a shotgun and 9mm pistol.

A few streets into Zone 7 Otto appeals to his colleagues: "Stokvis my die nommer op die dorp son, dink kynd, asblig!" "We look: Without respect for those sleeping, a big Nyala lights flashes on the doors of the house.

That one says 10834, Warrant-officer, says one of the six police officers in camouflage uniform.

We arrive at the house and a woman standing at the gate sighs with relief and waves to indicate that it is the place we are looking for.

It is Evelyn, who called the ISU base. "Okay", Otto gives orders, "one man must remain in the car, hour!" he says. Otto issue further instructions that positions be taken up as fast as possible.

"We've got to be aggressive when taking up positions," Otto says. "No matter how much we would like to have a soft image. Two of our men were hosed into an ambush last month. They died."

He adds that it is common for police in the Vaal to be shot at while on duty. "I don't want to lose any of these men. They work order me but they are also my friends."
It is the price her own son Moses made her pay for ruining her suspended granddaughter from the roof minutes before the police arrived.

And now the culprit has vanished into the darkness. Desperate attempts to locate him draw a blank.

"Evelina, was Moses ge-pluza?" asks Warrant-Officer Jean Otto, the Internal Stability Unit's crew leader for the night shift team, in a mixture of Afrikaans and Zulu.


It's 9pm and we are driving outside Zone 7 in Sebokeng, according to the police, the most dangerous area in the Vaal Triangle. We are taking Evelyn to the Sebokeng police station to make a statement.

Her message for help was received earlier at 8:30pm while the Nyalas was making its rounds in Sharpeville.

"It was a clear message. There is trouble there," reports 10884 Zong 7. It was sent by the ISU's base in Vereeniging to which says Otto.

It's 9:30pm and a radio message coming into the Nyalas confirms that a blue vehicle, in Zone 8 has been positively identified as stolen. Otto shakes his head. "I thought as much," he comments.

"Are you okay, Evelina?" he asks, and turns to me. "I have a child, you know, and I can't believe that someone could do this to his own child.

"Spanking them is one thing but hanging them is another," says the 25-year-old Otto, who has been with the SAP for eight years.

As we go back to Evelina's home to drop her and the child, and also to check if Moses has come home, Otto's humane nature comes to the surface.

"You're never sure if you will go back home in this job," he says, and a radio message diverts his attention. There's an armed robbery in Evaton, says a voice on the radio.

"Why not drop Evelina and take me and Pat back to the base. Warrant-officer?" I ask. What reporter would, after all, that experience, be keen to go out and stop an armed robbery?
More die as taxi war rages on

By Lulama Luti

THREE people were gunned down and two passengers injured when hitmen opened fire with AK-47 rifles on taxi drivers at the Top Centre taxi rank in Springs yesterday morning.

In another incident, a man was killed when gunmen shot at passengers at the Diepkloof taxi rank in Soweto.

Soweto police spokesman Colonel Tetie Malgroen said the unidentified man was shot dead while sitting in a taxi yesterday morning.

Earlier this week seven people were killed when gunmen opened fire on a meeting of taxi drivers and operators in Pietersburg on Sunday morning.

East Rand police spokesman Lieutenant Janine Smith confirmed the incident, saying police believed that two of the hitmen were killed when their fellow assailants in the car opened fire while trying to assist them.

Rival groups

This killing brings to 65 the number of people who have died in the ongoing taxi war between two rival groups in Springs.
Houses damaged in pre-dawn attacks

Residents fear of going back to homes:

By Sonti Maseko

MEN travelling in a minibus attacked houses in various parts of Soweto at dawn yesterday, smashing windows and instilling fear among residents.

Concerned residents said they feared going back to their homes in case the attackers struck again.

Several houses in Soweto, Phiri, Mapetla, Moletsane and Fox Lake, near Dlamini, had their front windows smashed. Residents said the attackers, travelling in an E20 minibus, hurled bricks into their bedrooms and living rooms between 3am and 4am yesterday morning.

Most of the residents said they reported the attacks to the Soweto Flying Squad. Police spokesman Major Oosthuizen was yesterday unable to confirm the allegations.

Mr Zacharia Kunene of Senabele said his house was extensively damaged when rocks crashed through the windows. His pregnant daughter escaped serious injury.
ANC launches campaign on East Rand

ANC-aligned organisations on the East Rand would mount a programme, which would include mass action, to counter alleged security force violence and general harassment in the area, the ANC/Cosatu/SACP alliance said yesterday.

A summit of local organisation, to be held in Germiston on December 8, would decide what form the mass action would take, ANC East Rand sub-region chairman Mondli Gungubela told a news conference.

Arrests and killings of leaders, invasion of privacy and destruction of normal family life had been the pattern in East Rand townships in the past few months, the alliance said.

It blamed the Springs taxi war, in which about 65 people have been killed since July last year, on the involvement of the police. The conference was told that one officer attached to the Springs police station, was at the centre of the war between the Springs Taxi Association and the Springs Long Distance Association.

The police rejected the alliance's allegations of security force harassment, saying the ANC was once again accusing without the true facts.

Capt Eugene Opperman of the Witwatersrand SAP said the alliance's statement was written "in such a way as to cover up the daily criminal activities perpetrated by many of its own members. Many senior ANC members are still due to appear in court". (278)

He said the police officer accused of involvement in the Springs taxi war had left the police force in September due to ill health.

"However, at the time of the allegations being made against him, nobody came forward with any evidence to substantiate the allegations," said Opperman.
Mokaba plans to sue govt

ANC Youth League president Peter Mokaba is considering legal action against the state following disclosures that Military Intelligence (MI) may have conducted a campaign last year to discredit him.

Mokaba said he would also be calling on the ANC leadership to launch an investigation into the matter.

"There is no question of me keeping quiet. I intend taking action against the state and will also ask the ANC leadership to look into it," he said.

Details of proposed smear campaigns against members of the ANC's military wing Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) were released this week by Judge Richard Goldstone.

"During May 1981 Mr Mokaba was widely reputed in the Press as having been a police spy. That was denied by him and soon thereafter he was elected as president of the ANC Youth League," Goldstone said this week.

Mokaba said allegations, apparently encouraged by MI, that he was a police spy had "caused a lot of grief" and resulted in a "life-threatening situation".

"At that time people who were accused of being police spies were necklaced." Mokaba said that while he was in detention police interrogators had threatened to "plant something" on him.

"Goldstone's report has important ramifications for the ANC. The people who accused me of being a police spy are still working for the organisation," he said.

Two men killed on trains

TWO MEN were killed and four people injured on Witwatersrand trains yesterday, police spokesman W/O Andy Pieke said.

He said the body of a man inflicted with stab wounds was found between the New Canada and Cronus railway stations. Police suspect he was attacked on a train before being thrown off.

The body of a man with gunshot and stab wounds was found on a stationary train at the New Canada station.

Pieke said a man was stabbed, robbed and thrown from a Springs-Randfontein train at the Angelo station near Boksburg. Two men, one shot and the other stabbed, disembarked from the same train when it stopped at Braamfontein station in Johannesburg.

A fourth man disembarked at the Mayfair station in Johannesburg after he had been stabbed on a train.

No arrests had been made, he said.
Two die on Reef trains

TWO people were killed and four others injured in separate incidents of train violence on the Reef yesterday, police said.

Police liaison officer Warrant Officer Andy Pieke said the body of a man was found with stab wounds between New Canada and Crowns stations. Police suspected he was attacked before he was thrown off the train.

The body of another man was found on a stationary train with a gunshot wound in the head and several stab wounds at New Canada Station.

Pieke said a man was injured after he had been stabbed.

Four injured in new outbreak of violence:

- A man was robbed of R30 in cash and thrown off a train at the Angelo Station, near Boksburg.
- He said two men, one shot in the head and the other stabbed with a knife, alighted from the same train when it stopped at Braamfontein Station.
- Pieke said another man alighted at Mayfair Station after he had been stabbed on a train.
- No arrests have been made. - Sapa.
JOHANNESBURG. — Two men were killed and four people were injured in attacks on Witwatersrand trains between 3am and 6am yesterday, a police spokesman said.

No arrests have been made.

Sixteen people were arrested and police seized a number of firearms and ammunition during a raid on Soweto's Kilpspruit hostel early yesterday.

The suspects are expected to appear in court today.

The death toll in political violence declined slightly over the past week, but the injury figure increased, the Human Rights Commission said in its weekly report yesterday.

The HRC said 39 deaths occurred from November 11 to November 17, against the previous week's 58.

Political, labour, and civic organisations on the East Rand are to meet next month to decide on a mass action strategy to combat violence in townships in the area, the ANC PWV region announced yesterday.

The Goldstone Commission will focus on violence in Natal/KwaZulu in a preliminary inquiry starting at the end of this month.

In a statement yesterday, the commission announced the hearing would start on November 30 in Durban's city hall. The sitting will continue until December 4, but further hearings will be arranged if necessary. — Sapa 1111111
38 hurt in Soweto train attack

JOHANNESBURG.—Six of the 38 people injured in the attack on a Soweto train yesterday were still in a critical condition in hospital, police said.

Soweto police confirmed yesterday no one died in the attack on commuters.

Witnesses said a group of men lined-up on Mmamalanele station platform among other passengers and started the attack as soon as the Johannesburg-bound train stopped.

Security guards at the station fired shots to ward off the attack, but made no arrests.

The attackers escaped in a combi.

Victims of the attack alleged that members of a private security firm participated in the assault on them.

Both the ANC and the IFP castigated the SA Rail Corporation and the police for poor security measures.

The ANC and the IFP said there were a lot of weapons on the platform before the attack. — Sapa
Hani calls for peace

SACP chief warns undisciplined youths of ‘strong action’

By Isaac Moledi

The African National Congress yesterday undertook to uproot wayward elements who committed murder under the guise of self-defence units.

While saying self-defence units were an essential “mechanism to protect the community against terror”, ANC National General Secretary, Chris Hani, said it was time undisciplined elements were uprooted.

Speaking at a meeting aimed at bringing peace between feuding factions at KwaMashu hostels in Soweto, Hani said self-defence units were created by the ANC to defend people and be accountable to the community they served.

He condemned individuals who committed crimes in the name of the ANC and warned that the organisation would take strong steps against them after the Vaul Peace Summit to be held this weekend.
Taxi terror

**BREAKTHROUGH** Police arrest alleged gunmen in car owned by major Soweto taxi group:

The police report a major breakthrough to bring to an end a reign of terror among Soweto taxi drivers and owners after four men were arrested making a getaway from a mafia-style shooting.

According to the police, the getaway car has been traced to a major taxi group, Soweto Taxi services. Many taxi drivers and owners have apparently fled the area in fear of their lives.

**Full story page**

This is today's clue in the Standard Bank Stick-A-Pic contest. Stick it on block number 9 of the form published on November 9. The first correct entry wins R20 000 in a Standard Bank AutoBank PlusPlan Account.
Police have linked a car belonging to a major Soweto taxi association as having been used in the Mafia-style killing of a taxi-owner.

Soweto Transport Services, one of the biggest taxi groups in Soweto with a membership estimated at more than 500, has also been connected to four killings since last month.

On October 30 three taxi owners were gunned down next to STS's Merafe offices.

Positively identified

The three were identified as Mr Mac Hlongwa, of Tshaapelo, Mr Watson Monkabi, of Mapetla, and a Mr Maibaza.

Police confirmed this week that a red Sera car, belonging to the STS and used by its officials, was used when Mr Fisher Makhoba, of Senzoane, was assassinated at his home earlier this month.

Police positively identified the car as belonging to the STS.

Gone into hiding

Makhoba's alleged killers were arrested as they attempted to get away. Four men appeared in court this week and were released on bail of R3,000 each.

Since Makhoba's murder, taxi owners in the area - which covers Pinville, Protea North, Mapetla, Senzoane, Merafe, Kliptown and Lenasia and routes to the city - have fled.

Many have gone into hiding, fearing for their lives.

Taxi drivers allege a "hit list" with the names of taxi owners was found on the alleged killers. However, police were unable to confirm the existence of a "hit list".

STS chairman Mr Raymond Mehunn refused to comment.

Soweto police yesterday met senior executive members of the association to discuss the incidents. The outcome of the talks was not known at the time of going to Press.
ANC/IFP rivalry triggers violence

JOHANNESBURG. — The Goldstone Commission said yesterday its probe into violence at Thokoza township outside Alberton confirmed its view that inter-party rivalry was the main trigger for political violence.

"In view of our conclusion that political rivalry is the primary trigger for the violence, political leaders should take cognisance of the fact that they bear a heavy responsibility to alleviate and not aggravate tensions at their respective levels," the Commission's report said.

The report added that the political rivalry between rival factions in the East Rand township boiled down to "a very simple IFP/ANC tension".

The terms of the National Peace Accord were not adhered to in Thokoza and the Local Dispute Resolution Committee set up under the accord did not function effectively.

In addition, the ready availability of arms - especially AK47 rifles - was an aggravating factor which fuelled the violence and tension in the area.

The Phola Park Self Defence Unit had little to do with defence but much more with "blatant aggression and also serves as a guise for criminal activity". It recommended that the unit be dissolved.

Although political rivalry triggered the violence, socio-economic conditions were the primary cause.

The Commission also found that the security forces in Thokoza did not have adequate manpower and equipment to deal with the violence. — Sapa
Reef trains security alert

JOHANNESBURG: Security on commuter trains in the Witwatersrand was tightened yesterday morning when about 500 policemen were deployed at railway stations.

Armed policemen patrolled trains and searched commuters.

At least 100 policemen stopped, searched, and ordered commuters out for body searches.

The deployment is part of a new strategy to protect commuters and is being undertaken by the SAP, the Defence Force, Spoornet, and the SA Rail and Commuter Corporation. — Saps.
World monitors to watch ANC march

PRETORIA. — International peace monitors will observe an ANC march in Nylstroom today, which has been marred by threats of violence by the right-wing.

Law and Order Minister Mr. Hermus Kriel yesterday declared Nylstroom, Ellispark, Pietermaritzburg, Potgietersrus, including Nkokspruit, Thabazimbi and Warmbaths, as unrest areas.

Law and Order Ministry spokesman Captain Craig Kotze confirmed the march was legal. He said additional manpower and air-support had also been called in to monitor the march.

Earlier this week the AWB warned there "might be a bloodbath" if the ANC was permitted to proceed with the march. — Sapa
Police snoop on trains

JOHANNESBURG: Security on commuter trains in the Witwatersrand region has been tightened.

Yesterday morning, in the launch of a new drive, about 500 policemen were deployed at railway stations on the Reef.

At New Canada Station at least 100 policemen stopped several Johannesburg-bound trains and ordered commuters out to be searched for weapons.

No weapons were found and no arrests were made, although a number of commuters were caught without tickets and fined R5 — more than double the normal fare.

Colonel Tenie Hlaryn said the operation would last for at least a month and police would be targeting specific stations where they would search trains at random.

He said at least eight trains were searched during morning and afternoon peak hours.

In the past police had searched trains only when they received information.

But in light of the increasing train attacks, said Colonel Hlaryn, they were using their mobile units to increase their visibility as a deterrent. He said video cameras would film suspects and arrests.

Police would be taking other preventive measures and commuters would be searched for weapons when they entered stations.

Commuters searched yesterday said they supported the police measures.

"David Mahla said: "If it saves our lives, I'm happy. But I just hope it works."

Colonel Hlaryn urged commuters and employers to be patient with the delays and asked anyone with information about the train violence to call the toll free Crime Stop number, 0608-11-12-13.

Four killings have been reported on Johannesburg railway trains this week.

A link between attacks on Reef commuters and the equally bloody taxi violence in the area has been suggested by the Inkatha Freedom Party and trade unions.

IFP researcher Nicolette Brits said the violence against train and taxi commuters was not party political but had economic motives. She urged police to investigate the possibility that taxi owners might have a hand in attacks on train commuters in an attempt to drive them to use taxis.

IFP Transvaal organiser Thembu Khoza said it was felt that there was growing evidence of a link between the train violence and the taxi wars "which are only now receiving media prominence but which have been simmering for some time."

"But Witwatersrand police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman said a possible link had been investigated but no evidence had been found.

Later, Mr Khoza said the organisation committed itself to support the National Peace Accord.
ANC turns down Vaal pleas to disband defence units

OWNERSHIP residents in the Vaal Triangle have had enough.

Residents interviewed this week called for the immediate disbandment of the ANC-aligned Self Defence Units (SDUs) to try and stop their reign of terror.

The residents accused the SDUs of a wide range of serious crimes such as shooting and necklacing people arbitrarily, raping women, hijacking vehicles and forcing everyone to join the ANC.

But ANC PWV spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa has ruled out the possibility of disbanding SDUs, saying the measure would serve as a perfect recipe for the escalation of violence in Vaal townships.

He said this weekend's summit on the Vaal crisis would chart out a code of conduct that would bring the SDUs under "strict and proper control by the right people".

He expected delegates to endorse and implement immediately the ANC draft document on a massive anti-crime campaign to rid SDU structures of unruly elements and agent provocateurs.

The ANC would make its report public as soon as the team had completed its investigations, he said.

Residents, on the other hand, gave chilling accounts of how ruthless SDU members demanded exorbitant protection fees from motorists and businessmen and forced people at barricades to take up the ANC membership or face the consequences. Necklace murders and people who were shot for resisting the youths were a common practice in the Vaal, they said.

Mamoepa acknowledged the problems, saying the ANC suspected dubious recruitment drive methods were being used in the Vaal after membership figures rocketed in the area recently.

Trouble started two years ago when Inkatha supporters from Sebokeng hostel clashed with residents. The residents, in turn, successfully drove Inkatha supporters from the hostel.

Residents said: "Initially, we were subjected to ANC-Inkatha violence, then came the Khuthulana and, now it's the SDUs. Since February 1990 we in the Vaal have not known peace."

Ironically, the SDUs, which were meant to protect residents from Inkatha assailants, have now become the demons, allege residents.

They singled out Sebokeng as the most notorious of the five townships and said nearly every youth in the streets carried a gun, a statement disputed by police spokesman Capt Piet van Deventer.

"The police are trying their best to combat ordinary and unrest-related crime in the Vaal. But people must understand that we can't be everywhere all the time," he said.

A local businessman said he and his family lived in fear after his brother was involved in a shootout with youths after the mass funeral of the Zwane family last week.

He said the youths demanded guns from his brother, abducted him from the funeral, took him to his house and shot him in the back. Two youths were killed in the ensuing shootout and the businessman's brother is in a critical condition in hospital.

He said the youths had threatened to come for him and his entire family to avenge the death of their two colleagues.

Two teachers at a primary school said their pupils, most of whom were between 13 and 16 years old, often brought guns to school. Although they did not threaten them with weapons, the pupils exposed them deliberately.

"The idea of teaching someone who you know is carrying a lethal weapon is frightening. We just have to turn a blind eye because we are helpless," said the teachers.

A relative of the late former Lekoa Town Council mayor, Bau Mahlatsi, said she watched helplessly as her uncle was burnt to ashes after he was necklaced by the youths for fetching another gun after they had taken the first one at a barricade in February.

One businessman said: "There's a large exodus into white areas and most businesses, especially taverns and nightclubs, have closed down. I want to move out of Sebokeng myself."

He said the chaotic situation in the area would cost the ANC the vote if elections were held soon.
Police informer organised massacre in name of ANC

The Goldstone commission has found that two attacks which claimed the lives of 19 people in the East Rand township of Thokoza last year were organised by a police informer posing as an ANC self-defence unit head.

The results of the eight-month inquiry into serious violence in that township and in the adjacent Phola Park squatter community found that Monges Coba headed a self-defence unit that, in September 1991, ambushed a march by the Civic dwellers and injuring 13. He also led a coup by the Phola Park SDU which violently ousted the Phola Park Residents’ Committee (of which three members were subsequently murdered), falsely claiming that the committee was involved in the fraudulent use of development money to the area.

The report said the "acknowledged use of informers in positions such as that held by Coba are not conducive to improving the already tense relations and suspicions between the security forces and the communities in question.

Although the Thokoza report was completed before the Goldstone commission’s dramatic raid on a military intelligence commando last week, the technique of using people like Coba, who claimed falsely to be a member of an ANC self-defence unit, is a criminal activity that has resulted in many incidents, including recent clashes between the security forces and the communities in question.

The report detailed control of self-defence units, sabotage attacks by residents against oppositions and Molotov-type actions by some hostel dwellers in both Thokoza and neighbouring Phola Park.

However, since the commission began its work a month ago, the government has been restored to the area and a number of ANC leaders have had passports confiscated.

During the commissioning of witnesses, including a man and his wife, and well known community worker Prince Mbalawu were implicated.

The 78-page report, signed on Friday, forward some of the findings in the attorney-general. It said there was a prima facie case against Mr Nhlebo who belonged to the so-called KwaKhulu, the defence arm of the KwaKhulu People’s Taxi Association, and who lived in a hostel.

The evidence related to an attack on a police station near the home of a taxi leader Sam Ntuli late in September last year. Ntuli was killed.

It is believed that there were at least 15 people killed at the hostel but that the report will only list the testimony of those who lived in the hostel.

It was said that there were six police officers who were killed on Saturday.

It was said that there were six police officers who were killed on Saturday.

It is more than a year since the death of a man who was killed at the hostel.

PAC is ready to sit down and negotiate

The Pan-African Congress is ready to take its place at the negotiating table.

The president of the PAC, Dr. K. N. M. Mokweza, plans to meet with the third week of January to arrange the PAC’s participation in multi-party talks, the Johannesburg Daily News has established.

The PAC will insist that Coba be replaced by a forum of some other person but that will not object to his presence.

The Coosa One and Two participants will be the leaders of the Coosa One and Two participants.

There is more interest in the talks after the multi-party talks which it believes should be structured to ensure swift movement towards the holding of two-round elections.

Sources say the PAC will also want a United Nations Council of the newly-destined multi-party political parties at the forum to avoid block lobbying by security parties on the basis of "softfooted consensus" within the PAC reforms.

The last time the government held bilateral talks with the PAC was on November 29 in Pretoria. This was a follow-up to a

BY NORMAN WEST

A meeting between the government and the PAC in Johannesburg on October 12.

At the Pretoria meeting on November 9, sources disclosed that:

The December meeting was a follow-up to a

The creation of a national forum for the people of South Africa.

The drawing up of an agenda for a historical summit between President de Klerk and Mr. Mandela on the

Aggressive

It is said that there were a number of incidents at both Khumalo and in the third week of the SDU Singh and other leaders of the KwaKhulu People’s Taxi Association.

The commission said there were a number of incidents at both Khumalo and in the third week of the SDU Singh and other leaders of the KwaKhulu People’s Taxi Association.

The report said that there were a number of incidents at both Khumalo and in the third week of the SDU Singh and other leaders of the KwaKhulu People’s Taxi Association.

"Either they must publicly distance themselves from their organisation or party must accept responsibility for their crimes and violent acts. They cannot have it both ways."
A POLICE informer posing as the head of an ANC self-defence unit organised two attacks which caused the deaths of 19 people in Thokoza last year, the Goldstone Commission has found.

The report found that Mr Mncugu Ceba, who was the leader of a self-defence unit (SDU) in September 1991, organised the ambush of a march by hostel dwellers which killed 16.

According to a report in a Sunday newspaper yesterday, Mr Ceba also led a violent coup by the Phola Park SDU to oust the Phola Park Residents' Committee. Three members were subsequently assassinated.

The technique of using people like Mr Ceba in criminal activities tied in with suggestions Ferdi Barnard made to Military Intelligence (MI) last year which MI claimed it never adopted, the report noted.

The commission has forwarded some of its findings to the attorney-general.

Police spokesman Col Ray Harraud said yesterday a statement would be issued only after the report had been studied.
New strategy to control defence units

JOHANNESBURG. — The ANC/Cosatu/SACP alliance yesterday adopted a new strategy aimed at tightening control over the self-defence units operating in the Vaal Triangle's townships.

At a PWV summit on violence attended by over 100 representatives from the region it was resolved to introduce a code of conduct and to tighten controls.

The strategy was aimed at instilling discipline in the self-defence units, PWV ANC spokesman Mr Ronnie Mamoepa said.

The summit came amid criticisms that the self-defence units had been hijacked by hoodlums who perpetrated atrocities in the townships. The atrocities included extortion, murder and rape.

The ANC has repeatedly defended the structures, saying they were basically sound, but had been infiltrated by "state agents" who caused "chaos, confusion and dissent" in their ranks.

"There have been a number of violent incidents in which renegade self-defence units had been implicated," Sapa.
**Warning over Soweto’s cost to Jo’burg**

The simple amalgamation of Johannesburg and Soweto would threaten Johannesburg’s economic viability, management committee chairman Ian Davidson said at the weekend.

“A quick-fix approach to amalgamation would lead to punitive rates and tariffs increases, forcing commerce and industry to relocate, he said.

“It is imperative that the Witwatersrand region continues to be financially viable if SA is to attain its economic and social goals in an era of reconstruction and nation-building,” Davidson said.

Davidson said Johannesburg’s audited financial report for 1991/2, Davidson called for a fiscal and financial fix for the Witwatersrand. It was issued with financial aid from government.

City treasurer Willie Sibert said the council was “hard pressed to balance” its budget without passing on untenable rates and tariff increases to our residents. It is therefore unthinkible that we should have to shoulder the burden of additional expenditure in neighbouring authorities without some financial commitment from provincial or central government.”

**WILSON ZWANE** reports that a dispute between the Soweto City Council and its employees was resolved on Friday with the council agreeing to pay the workers their 12th cheque next month.

The dispute arose on November 9 when the council informed the workers that they would not be able to pay bonuses this year. According to sources, the council had told its employees that they would get their bonuses in March next year.

On Friday the council informed the employees that had managed to raise funds from sources such as Eskom and the TPA and would pay their bonuses on December 7.

**Call to act now on education**

WILSON ZWANE reports that the national loan scheme which would encourage students to follow technical and scientific routes rather than pursue academic.

In its report, National Human Resource Strategy, the institute says SA should not wait for a new political dispensation to reform its education system. To get reform going, a national education forum – including representatives of commerce, labour, employers, professional and civic associations – should be formed.

Such a forum would give birth to a multiparty national education and development commission with the specialized skills required for future economic growth.

The institute proposes that subsidisation of educational institutions be replaced by a national loan scheme which would encourage students to follow technical and scientific routes rather than pursue academic.

The institute also advocates greater interaction between universities, technikons, technical colleges and correspondance colleges. A single-stream system should be introduced to allow students to move horizontally...
Five die in shootings

JOHANNESBURG. — Five people were shot dead and seven wounded in separate incidents of violence in Witwatersrand townships at the weekend.

In Alexandra two men and a woman were shot dead when gunmen burst into a Fourth Avenue home and opened fire on the occupants at 9pm on Saturday.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Major Henriette Bester said police found several spent AK-47 rifle and 9mm pistol cartridges.

In a separate shooting incident in Diepkloof, Soweto, two people were killed and two wounded at 7pm on Saturday night.

Police found more than 40 spent cartridges from handguns at the scene.

Five people were injured in a hand grenade explosion in Mohlabeng, near Randfontein on the West Rand, early yesterday morning.

Unidentified men travelling in armoured vehicles shot into a crowd attending a funeral vigil on Friday night in Vosloorus township, East Rand, wounding two people. — Sapa.
Man hacked set alight

23/11/1972

Fighting erupts between IFP and Azapo in Bekkersdal:

By Isaac Moledi

A body of a man was found hacked and set alight and three people allegedly injured when violence between supporters of Inkatha and the Azanian Peoples Organisation erupted in Bekkersdal yesterday.

Police said the violence erupted at 3pm when a group of Azapo supporters, who gathered near the library to discuss the funeral arrangements of an Azapo member, were fired at by a man they suspected to be an IFP supporter.

West Rand police officer Major Henrique Bester confirmed that the man who was found hacked and set alight was an IFP supporter.

She could not confirm Azapo's allegations that three of its members were wounded.

Bester said the man was found to be alive between the clinic and the mine.

Bester said a meeting of the Local Dispute Resolution Committee will be held today to resolve the conflict.
Child killed in blast

TWO people, including a five-year-old child, were killed and two others seriously injured when a hand grenade exploded at Kagiso old hostel near Krugersdorp yesterday afternoon.

Nwasawake Mahlangu was playing with a grenade which he allegedly picked up from a rubbish dump inside the hostel at 4.20pm. The grenade exploded while he was still holding it. The child and Mr. Penuza Themba were killed on the scene. Two other people suffered serious injuries and were admitted at the Leratong Hospital. Police identified one of the injured men as Mr. Joseph Sithole. Police liaison officer Major Hendriette Bestor said they were in a stable condition.
Johannesburg. — Five people were shot dead and seven wounded in incidents of violence in Witwatersrand townships at the weekend.

In Alexandra, two men and a woman were shot dead when gunmen burst into a Fourth Avenue home and opened fire at the occupants at 9pm on Saturday.

Police identified the victims as Mr Piet Mokgalapa, 42, Mr Nika Khumalo, 57, and his wife Margaret, 56.

Witwatersrand police spokeswoman Major Henriette Bester said police found several spent AR 47 rifle and 9mm pistol cartridges on the scene.

The motive for the attack was unknown and no arrests have been made.

In a shooting incident in Diepkloof, Soweto, two people were killed and two wounded at 7pm on Saturday night.

Police found more than 40 spent cartridges from handguns.

Five people were injured in a grenade explosion in Mohlakeng, near Randfontein, on the West Rand early yesterday.

Major Bester said the explosion happened in Chaka Street at 1am, when a man allegedly played with the grenade and pulled out the safety pin.

He was seriously wounded and was under police guard in the Leratong Hospital near Krugersdorp.

The names of the other injured, two women aged 27 and 30 and two men aged 23 and 27, were not released.

They were also admitted to Leratong Hospital. — Sapa.
ANC draws up SDU code

THE ANC, yesterday, drew up a code of conduct to control self-defence units in the Vaal Triangle, which has been plagued by violence for several months.

In the declaration adopted at the end of a two-day peace summit on the banks of the Vaal River yesterday, the ANC resolved that SDU membership should be voluntary.
THE Goldstone Commission said on Friday its probe into violence in Tokoza outside Alberton confirmed its view that inter-party rivalry was the main trigger for political violence.

"In view of our conclusion that political rivalry is the primary trigger for the violence, political leaders should take cognisance of the fact that they bear a heavy responsibility to alleviate and not aggravate tensions at their respective levels," the Commission's report said.

The report said the political rivalry between rival factions in the East Rand township boiled down to "a very simple Inkatha Freedom Party/African National Congress tension."

The terms of the National Peace Accord were not adhered to in Tokoza and the Local Dispute Resolution Committee set up under the accord did not function effectively.

In addition, the ready availability of arms—especially AK47 rifles—was an aggravating factor. The Commission found that the Phola Park Self Defence Unit had little to do with defence but much more with "blatant aggression and also serves as a guise for criminal activity."

It recommended that the unit be dissolved and those members involved in violence or crime be arrested and charged.

While political rivalry triggered the violence, in the impoverished township, the Commission found that the socio-economic conditions in the area were the primary cause of the violence.

The Commission also found that the security forces in Tokoza did not have adequate manpower and equipment to deal with the violence.

Until South Africa had a police and defence force which enjoyed the support of the majority of South Africans, however, violence would continue to be "difficult if not impossible to curb."

The Commission believed a murder case existed against certain members of the Phola Park Self Defence Unit and recommended the cases be referred to the Attorney-General for a decision. - Sapa.
NEWS  More gunned down in continuing wave of violence on Reef

The body of an unidentified man hangs from a railway power pylon near Chiawelo, Soweto. The man is believed to have been electrocuted on Saturday night as he tried to cut the lines for copper. His hacksaw remains firmly gripped in his lifeless hands.

5 hurt in grenade blast

By Ike Motsapi

Three men and two women are fighting for their lives at Lerato Hospital following a grenade attack on a house in Mokhaseb near Randfontein at the weekend.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Major Henrietta Bester said yesterday that the attack happened about 1am yesterday morning in Tshaka Street.

She said the five, who include the suspect in the case, are being treated in the intensive care unit of the hospital.

The injured are Mrs Martha Tshapi (30), Miss Priscilla Tshapi (27), Mr Abol Tshapi (23), Mr William Ramanyi (27) and Rami Tshapiane.

The man under police guard at the hospital had earlier threatened Mr Oupa Moloantoa with a hand grenade at a stokvel.

Moloantoa, who has just joined the army, said: "This man told me he did not want to see soldiers living in the township anymore. He produced a hand grenade and threatened to blow me to pieces. I then left."

Abol Tshapi's sister, Leah, said her brother, mother, younger sister and their friend William were injured at about 12.30am after an argument with a man, who had pulled the pin on the grenade, causing it to explode.

In a separate shooting incident in Diepkloof, Soweto, two people were killed and two injured on Saturday night.

And in Alexandra, also on Saturday night, three people were shot dead when gunmen opened fire on a house.

Bester said the gunmen entered the house in Fourth Avenue at about 11pm and started shooting at people inside.

Those who died were Mr Piet Mokgalapa (42), Mr Niki Khumalo (57) and his wife Margaret Khumalo (56).

Meanwhile, Bester confirmed yesterday that several skinheads had run amok in Yeoville, Johannesburg, on Friday night and assaulted people, mostly blacks.

Police were called and three youths were detained briefly on Saturday and later released. No charges were laid.
Anti-violence train launched

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG.—The SA Rail and Commuter Corporation yesterday unveiled two experimental railway coaches designed to eliminate violence on commuter trains.

The new service will begin in December, SACC chairman Mr. Winstead Burger said.

About 21% of people killed in train violence are hostel dwellers, who amount to only five percent of the township community, the Goldstone Commission was told.

(2/2) CT 24/11/92
New plan to derail train violence

THE SA Rail Commuter Corporation (SARCC) yesterday unveiled two experimental railway coaches designed to eliminate violence on commuter trains.

The ANC, Cosatu and police gave their backing to the initiative.

Recently released Magoo's Bar bomber Robert McBride, an ANC adviser on train violence, attended the launch and endorsed the new coaches.

The first train using the new coaches, which are equipped with a vandal-proof concealed camera system and unbreakable polycarbonate windows, will enter service in December, SARCC MD Wynand Burg says.

He said the new coaches conformed with recommendations of the Goldstone commission on train security.

The SARCC would spend R100m on upgrading trains on the Soweto line, with each "train set" of 14 coaches costing about R2.5m to upgrade. A 4000-strong rail guard unit would also be phased in over two years from January.

So far, 103 of the 198 stations in the southern Transvaal had been fenced to improve access control at stations, the remainder would be secured by March.

ANC spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said the new coach designs represented a welcome move towards implementing agreements reached with SARCC and police.

The windows and doors of the new coaches have been designed to reduce the possibility of passengers being thrown off trains. Interlocking doors have been installed to enable commuters to flee coaches where violence flares.

The video surveillance systems allow security officers on board to monitor all coaches, and alarm buttons to alert guards have been installed.
ANC threatens action to force security probes

DURBAN — Natal could be in for a fresh round of mass action following the ANC southern Natal region's resolution that it would launch an "unprecedented" campaign to force government into public probes of the security establishment.

One demand made at the weekend conference was that Military Intelligence files be handed to the Goldstone commission.

The conference noted that this situation could not be achieved "by merely talking to the De Klerk government." Other resolutions made public yesterday included a demand for an independent judicial commission to investigate "corrupt practices of the KwaZulu government"; to achieve free political activity in KwaZulu, including a march on Ulundi; a demand that Inkatha had to "cease to abuse the station of His Majesty (King Goodwill Zwelethini) for its party political activities; to request that the UN Security Council upgrade the status of its observer mission; and that a "hands-off" Umkhonto we Sizwe campaign be launched to expose "apartheid propaganda."

PRETORIA — An average 21% of people killed in train violence were hostel dwellers, only 5% of the township community, Pretoria SAP headquarters Maj-Gen Daniel Haggard said yesterday at the Goldstone commission of inquiry into train violence.

Earlier, SAP Germiston mobile unit commander Capt Johannes Crouse said that at stations on the East Rand KwaZulu route there were no ticket controllers and people could enter without being searched. This contradicted SA Rail Commuter Corporation officials' testimony — Sapa.
4 bodies found in the Vaal

Four bodies, with bullet wounds, were found in Vaal Triangle townships over the weekend. SAPolice spokesman Lieutenant Pieter van Deventer said yesterday. He said three of the victims had been shot in the head and one in the neck.

"Two of the bodies were found in Evaton, while the other two were found at Schokeng Hostel Two," he said. Van Deventer ruled out weekend rumours by Evaton residents that the two victims found there had their heads decapitated.
Peace talks progress

Peace Accord signatories agree on 'way forward'.

SPONTANEOUS applause broke out "as a positive strategy for the way forward was agreed on" after a crucial National Peace Committee meeting in Johannesburg last night.

In a statement after the five-hour meeting, the committee said consensus on the way forward in the negotiation process was reached.

"As a positive strategy for the way forward was verbalised and agreed on spontaneously applause broke out in the auditorium," the statement said.

It was decided that NPC members would be given an opportunity to report back to their principals, the statement added.

The committee's chairman, Mr John Hall, is expected to address the media today on the meeting's agenda, "and conclusions arrived at".

The meeting of the committee was to assess a report-back by Hall after weeks of shuttle diplomacy to revive the peace effort.

Alliance well represented

The meeting was also expected to map out strategies to call a meeting of all signatories to the National Peace Accord.

Although key senior officials of the ANC were absent, its alliance was well represented and so was the Inkatha Freedom Party, whose delegation was led by chairman Dr Frank Mdlalose.

The ANC delegation was led by Mr Thabo Mbeki.
Ratanda tense after 4 deaths

By Ike Motsapi

RATANDA township near Heidelberg was still tense yesterday after four more people were killed at the weekend.

More than 30 people have been killed since July, when members of the Food and Allied Workers Union at Eskort Bacon and Rembrandt Tobacco Manufacturers went on a wage strike.

The strike at Eskort Bacon has been resolved while that at Rembrandt is still on.

The consumer boycott of white shops in Heidelberg entered its second week yesterday, according to Mr Obed Nkosi, chairman of the local African National Congress branch.

The boycott was called to force the authorities to end the violence that has plagued the township since July 22.

Several taxis were damaged when gunmen opened fire at vehicles passing along Ratanda Hostel on Saturday.

A taxi driver is in a serious condition at Heidelberg Hospital.

Three of the four people killed on Saturday night died after gunmen opened fire with AK 47 rifles on a shack in Ratanda Township.

The people who died in this attack were Victoria Makhunga, Isaac Mofokeng and an unidentified man.

Those injured were David Magake and Johannes Mofokeng.

The fourth person to be killed was a 17-year-old schoolboy, Phillip Monaheng, who was shot dead on Saturday night.

Police spokesman in Heidelberg, Major Johnie de Preez, confirmed the incidents.

Du Preez said on Saturday, about 9.45 pm a group of black men shot at inhabitants of Mokonane Squatter Camp.

She said two men and a woman died as a result of the attack.
30 hurt in raid on station

THE assault on commuters at Soweto’s Mamelodi station yesterday bore all the marks of a carefully strategized and well-organized attack, said Soweto police spokesman Col Tienie Dargryn.

At least 30 people were injured — six of them critically — when 12 men armed with machine guns and pangas attacked commuters as they disembarked from a train, he said. The attackers fled in a minibus.

Dargryn said that since police began random searches of commuter trains this week, attacks had shifted from train coaches to small, poorly guarded stations where security forces were not present.

Inkatha and ANC statements after the attack quoted witnesses as saying guards from a private security firm hired to protect SRA Rail Commuter Corporation (SARCC) property also fired shots at commuters.

Most of those injured in the attack were Inkatha supporters, ANC spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said. “Witnesses told us that as they were fleeing from the coaches, security guards fired on them.”

“It is not material whether they were ANC or Inkatha members. The police and the SARCC have got to stop this.”

Inkatha said the violence was being caused by the disarming of its members.

“It is a fact that each time our members carry anything to defend the commuters, the police disarm them. It is a fact that the SARCC has forbidden the carrying of so-called dangerous weapons in their trains.”

Dargryn said about 200,000 commuters

Attack 26/11/12

had been searched during random searches of 20 Soweto trains this week, leading to a decline in incidents on board trains.

The only weapons found had been about 10 “sharpened instruments” abandoned on coach floors.

He said that by yesterday afternoon, a 500-strong force had deployed around vulnerable stations not yet sealed off with new access control systems.

Sapa reported that a passenger, 38-year-old Johannes Mdlala, told reporters he had escaped injury during the attack but he had witnessed several of his fellow commuters being attacked.

“When the train doors did not want to open the attackers on the platform fired shots through the open windows,” he said.

“We could not get out and all fell down on the floor to escape injury.”

By the time the train started moving the platform was strewn with victims, Mdlala said.
Gunmen injure 38
in station attack

By Charmeeta Bhagwatt and Abdul Milax

At least 38 people were injured — six seriously — when gunmen opened fire on commuters at the Mmapakan-
kuzi Railway Station in Soweto early yesterday morning. 26/11/92

The dawn attack, which resulted in a number of conflicting reports from police and political organisations, came in the midst of a concerted police campaign to increase security on Reef trains.

Police earlier reported that one person was killed in the attack but the death could not be confirmed. Later in the day, the ANC said one person was alleged to have died in the attack and the IFP claimed that three people were killed.

The ANC and IFP said a number of commuters claimed three Springbok Patrol security guards, wearing blue uniforms, attacked them as they were trying to flee the scene.

Springbok Patrol managing director Mick Bartmann confirmed that three of their guards were at the station, but denied they were involved in the attack.

The ANC and IFP also criticised the SAP and South African Railway Commuter Corporation (SARCC) for insufficient security measures, saying a number of people who were armed with various weapons were seen on the platform just before the attack.

A Baragwanath Hospital spokesman said the critically wounded victims had to undergo surgery.

While police said soon after the 5.30 am attack that gunmen had opened fire from a minibus parked outside the station, a number of victims told The Star that men on the platform, pretending to be passengers, shot at them and assaulted them with knives and stones.

One of the victims, Ruphus Gwebu (21) — who was on the train when the shooting started — said he saw a group of people standing on the platform waiting to board the train.

"Suddenly I heard gunshots and I ducked under the seat. I stayed there for almost half a minute but I was shot in the leg," said Gwebu.

SAP spokesman Major Herman Oosthuysen last night confirmed the victims' version of events. He said the attackers were waiting on the platform and shot at commuters when the train stopped.

He said the attackers seemed to have fled in a minibus that was parked outside the station.

The Mmapakanukuzi Station attack occurred while about 100 SADF and SAP members searched trains at the Katlehong Station on the East Rand. No arrests were made.

United Nations (UN), European Community, and National Peace Secretariat (NPS) observers were at the station monitoring police activity.

Police said last week the campaign would continue for at least another month or until train violence was curbed.

According to the Human Rights Commission (HRC), 357 people have been killed in train violence between January and October this year.
IN PAIN ... A doctor at the Baragwanath Hospital attends to an injured Mr Samson Ndlovu, one of 36 people who were victims of yesterday morning's train attack at Miamlankunzi Station in Soweto.

Pic: MBUZENI ZULU

36 hurt in train attack

By Mandla Zibi and Sapa

THIRTY-SIX people were injured - six critically - when gunmen opened fire on train commuters at Miamlankunzi Station, Soweto, yesterday.

Police spokesman Colonel Tienie Halgryn said the "most cowardly attack we have ever had" occurred about 5.30am.

Thirteen people have died in train attacks in Soweto alone since the beginning of this month.

Halgryn said most of the victims of yesterday's attack were from Nancefield Hostel.

No one was killed in the attack.

Witnesses said a group of men lined up on the platform at Miamlankunzi and started firing when a Johannesburg-bound train came to a halt.

The attackers are said to have fled in a minibus when security guards at the station fired shots to ward off the attack.

Halgryn revealed that police were using new methods introduced last Wednesday to curb train violence.

"More than 30 trains were stopped and more than 300 000 commuters searched in the operation," he said. The Inkatha Freedom Party and African National Congress yesterday expressed concern about the attack and blamed the SA Rail Commuter Corporation and police for not ensuring the safety of commuters on railway property.

ANC PWV region spokesman Mr Ronnie Manoeopa said victims should contact their offices to "prepare for civil claims against the SARCC and the police". The IPP said the attack was a move to crush it in the PWV region.
Railways chief condemns attack

AN URGENT investigation into Wednesday's machine-gunning of 36 commuters at Soweto's Mlamplakazi station has been ordered by SA Rail Commuter Corporation (SRCC) MD Wynand Burger.

Police said 12 attackers fired on commuters as they disembarked at the station. Most of those wounded were Inkatha supporters, according to eyewitness accounts.

Burger said yesterday that there appeared to be a link between the timing of advances in train security and attacks on passengers.

The latest attack came as the ANC and Inkatha agreed to meet in an effort to defuse violence and days after the SRCC unveiled new high security train coaches, he said.

"I am deeply concerned at Wednesday's attack and horrified at the brutality of the cowardly thugs who continue to prey on innocent commuters," he said.

Meanwhile, Springbok Patrons MD Mick Bartmann yesterday denied guards from his company fired on commuters during the attack.

He said three guards positioned at the station in terms of a contract with the SRCC had fired warning shots into the air, dispersing the attackers.

One of the guards— who were armed with shotguns loaded with birdshot— then fired in the direction of one of the fleeing attackers, he said.

The train had been inspected and no traces of birdshot had been found, confirming that the guards had not fired at commuters, he said.

Burger said more than R100m had been spent on new security measures in the Transvaal in the past eight months.

"We are going to continue full speed with both our anti-violence measures, as agreed with the Train Accord Group, and with implementation of recommendations that may come from the Goldstone commission," he said.

Sanco, SA Perm edge closer to agreement

THE SA National Civic Organisation (Sanco) and the SA Perm are edging closer to signing an agreement which will significantly change the building society's operations in townships.

Sources say a key feature of the agreement will be a banking code of conduct which will regulate the financial institution's lending policies to township residents.

The agreement is expected to be signed soon, probably within weeks. "Neithet... Sanco president Moses Mayekiso nor Perm GM for development Denis Creighton would comment. But the Perm has, up to now, been the only financial institution which has agreed in principle to Sanco's proposal for a banking code of conduct."

According to Sanco's documents, it is envisaged that the code of conduct will improve the relationship between financial institutions and township residents.

The documents say the relationship has been soured by the banks' role in pursuing investment policies which maintain the current government.

There is also a perception that banks are reluctant to lend money to township residents.
Peace code? No, just give us a piece

A code of conduct for self-defence units has been drawn up. Is anybody listening?

PHILIPPA GARSON reports

THREE people were killed in an ambush while running from a peace rally in the Vaal Triangle last week, where Communist Party leader Chris Hani had tried to unite warring African National Congress factions.

The faction targeted refused to attend the following weekend's peace summit — highlighting the enormous difficulties in bringing peace to the area.

The summit's main achievement was to draw up a code of conduct for self-defence units (SDUs) in the Vaal, as a first step towards bringing them into more disciplined bodies, with greater access to ability to the communities they are supposed to defend.

The code aims to instil democratic behaviour, discipline and respect for freedom of association, free trade and private property. It also proposes that youths under the age of 16 be barred from participation and that barricades be erected only in consultation with residents. But there are worrying signs that it has not reached many of those at the forefront of the conflict.

A commander in the Sebokeng hostel complex, who oversees the SDUs gathered under veteran ANC leader Ernest Soito, is dismissive of the code. "They didn’t even negotiate this thing democratically," he said.

Soito’s was the faction which refused to attend the summit after being ambushed. The culprits, he alleges, were from the opposing faction run by Makgotla Mlamas. "Now we are not prepared to attend any meeting," the commander said.

In another worrying development, a non-aligned rural woman from hostel four was last week brutally assaulted by three women from the rival faction in hostel three.

Attended by more than 100 delegates from ANC-aligned local and regional organisations, the summit in Vosloorus was called to explore ways of bringing calm to Vaal Triangle townships. Plans for an anti-poverty campaign, due to begin on December 5, were laid down and SDUs, some "infuriated by enemy agents", were earmarked as partly to blame for the spread of anarchy in the Vaal. SDU leaders, lacking experience and faced with harsh economic realities, needed better training and financial backing for their efforts.

Running with police and Inkatha supporters from kwaMolaba hostel won't end overnight. Nor will the gangsterism and factionalism within ANC-supporting communities in the absence of a real solution to the power struggle between ANC factions in kwaMulas and Sebokeng hostels.

Nowhere is that more evident than in the Vosloorus area, notorious for its brutality — sprees freely about their commitment to discipline — backing the idea of a code of conduct and talked of their lives as "community defenders", where petrol bombs and gunfights (home-made guns) are an usual part of daily life in schoolbooks.

Each block in their township has its own SDU, but communication between them is sorely lacking. The police in the unit are mainly youths belonging to organisations. "We are not infiltrated by gangsters."

A code of conduct for SDUs is rival, they say, particularly among "secret element" who joined the bodies after the overall SDU committee for Vosloorus was vacated his post in July last year. "He was given us discipline, showing us not to harass people and how to work with the community. When he was here there was still"}

Homemade but lethal...: SDU members demonstrate how to operate guns

Schoolboy soldiers' uncertain future

A GROUP of surprisingly fresh-faced teenagers, crammed into the lounge of a small Sebokeng home, expressed complete ignorance of the peace meeting and the new guidelines and regulations drawn up to govern their activities. But a conference of self-defence units' commanders is set to take place within the next three months.

The youths — members of an SDU from one of Sebokeng's zones, notorious for its brutality — spoke freely about their commitment to discipline — backing the idea of a code of conduct and talked of their lives as "community defenders", where petrol bombs and gunfights (home-made guns) are an usual part of daily life in schoolbooks.

Each block in their township has its own SDU, but communication between them is sorely lacking. The police in the unit are mostly youths belonging to organisations. "We are not infiltrated by gangsters."

A code of conduct for SDUs is rival, they say, particularly among "secret element" who joined the bodies after the overall SDU committee for Vosloorus was vacated his post in July last year. "He was given us discipline, showing us not to harass people and how to work with the community. When he was here there was still..."
Station search, but the killers steam in

The irony could hardly be sicker: the police and army invite the press to watch a train violence crackdown at Katlehong station when, a few kilometres away, a massacre is taking place at Soweto's Mlambankuni station.

The first event, which started at 4.30am on Wednesday, involved nearly 400 policemen and soldiers who emptied carriages and searched passengers. A little later a train arrived carrying Zulu-speaking commuters from Kwesini hostel, who were chanting and stamping their feet. The security forces tripped their search party and arrested a man carrying a revolver.

The second event started about an hour later when seven gunmen opened fire on Johannes- burg-bound commuters as their train pulled up at Mlambankuni station. Thirty-eight people were injured.

According to the African National Congress spokesman, Ronnie Mamoepa, one person was killed, while Inkatha Freedom Party representative Themba Khoza put the figure at three. The police said no one was killed.

The two strange aspects of this attack were the victims included ANC and IFP supporters and, according to witnesses in both camps, the attackers were assisted by members of the controversial security firm, Springbok Patrouils, who allegedly fired shots at commuters while they were fleeing.

Earlier this year, The Weekly Mail revealed that Springbok Patrouils, which has a contract with Spoormet to guard stations in the Transvaal and Natal, provided training to about 100 Inkatha-supporting youths at a camp in Ulundi last January.

However, following Wednesday's attack, Khoza called for the company's guards to be withdrawn from the station until an investigation into the massacre had been completed.

According to Mamoepa, two other attacks occurred on the same day, one at Creecus station and another - again at Mlambankuni station - took place when "a group of people carrying dangerous weapons ... attacked commuters on the train from Vereeniging".

What is clear is the problems the police face in combating these kind of attacks are immense.
'Rhodie factor'

horror

By MOSES MAKAILA

WHITE racist are harassing blacks in formerly whites-only areas.

Causing most of the trouble, say black residents, are black-hating whites — dubbed "the Rhodesia factor" — who have vowed to drive blacks out.

In Yeoville — ironically an area renowned for tolerance and anti-racism — among many whites the rotten eggs have organised themselves into neo-Nazi groups.

White "skinheads" are running amok in Rockey Street, assaulting mainly blacks at night.

Last Friday, cops were called in to quell an explosive situation in Yeoville involving skinheads.

Police spokesman Maj Henrietta Bester said three youths were detained briefly and later released.

Many black Yeovillites said the attitudes of some whites were shocking.

They spoke of assaults — verbal and physical — by whites who whinged about the "decreasing value of their properties".

A flat-dweller Susan Mabukeni said a self-styled "Wolf" was bullying her. "He had even written graffiti deriding her and the kids."
Revellers killed in MK guerrilla suicide attack

By MOSES MAMAILA

SIX people were killed in the early hours of yesterday when a foreign-trained MK soldier detonated a grenade in a Sebokeng house during a stokvel party.

According to Pony Mofokeng, 19, who narrowly escaped death, the tragic killing of the five fun-lovers and the MK guerrilla was not an accident as claimed by the police, but a well-calculated military offensive by the MK operative.

"Mphuthi came to my home, where the party was in progress, at about midnight holding two grenades and armed with a pistol. I tried to persuade him not to play with the lethal weapons. He threatened that he had the capacity to kill everyone in the house if he wished."

Mphuthi, who witnesses said was sober, then went into the kitchen where he removed the safety-catch from one of the grenades and threw it at wheelchair-bound Daniel Mokoena.

Police spokesman Lt Wilus Weber's earlier statement that the dead were ANC Youth League members was dismissed outright by the witnesses.

Sapa reported four members of a Vereeniging family were gunned down by unknown attackers on a smallholding outside the town during the early hours of yesterday.

The attackers entered the house at Mooiiland, Vereeniging, and shot and killed a 37-year-old man, his 35-year-old wife, their 74-year-old grandmother and a 13-year-old girl.

The killers ransacked the house before fleeing in the family's Toyota Corolla, registration LFX 407T.
By THEMBA KHUMALO

8 DIE IN
HAIL OF
GUNFIRE

Theaen 29/11/92. (278†)

AT least eight people, among them, a mother of two, were shot dead and 12 others injured in a gruesome massacre at Oakmolor Railway Station in Thembisa on Friday night.

The woman is believed to have died on the spot while she and her two sons aged four and nine were sitting in a Pietersburg-bound taxi.

The eighth victim was found about 200 metres away from the scene of the massacre. He is thought to have died while he was fleeing the gunman.

According to the survivors a group of men wearing military-style caps and armed with shotguns and AK-47 rifles surrounded a taxi rank near the station at about 7:15pm and opened fire on passengers and taxi drivers.

According to taxi drivers a train from Johannesburg to Pretoria had just pulled out of the station and the culprits waited until passengers got into taxis before they carried out their gruesome mission, taking advantage of the darkness at the station.

City Press spoke to several victims at Thembisa Hospital, including the two boys whose mother died in a taxi. The boys, one of whom was shot in the hand, said they were travelling from Etwatwa in Benoni to visit relatives in Naboomspruit with their mother when the gunman opened fire. The nine-year-old said he was shot in the hand as he tried to stop the bullets from hitting his mother.

"I held my hands up to stop the men from shooting my mother. My younger brother hid under the seat.

The next thing I saw was a white man shooting at a passenger who sat next to my mother. Minutes later I tried to talk to my mother but she just slumped on to her arms. I don’t know whether she is alive.”

His four-year-old brother seemed oblivious to the horrifying event as he ran around the children’s ward playing with newfound friends.

At the time of going to press the motive for the shooting had not been established. Taxi drivers at the station yesterday ruled out robbery as the motive.

James Lefika, 34, a taxi driver, said he was sitting in his minibus when a man armed with an AK-47 appeared and fired at him but missed.

He said: “I ran away only to be cornered by another gunman whose bullet grazed my chest. I ran for dear life. I thought I would die.”

Peter Mohlala, 22, also a taxi driver from Burgersfort in the northern Transvaal, was shot in the theatre.

He said he was ushering passengers into his minibus when a man carrying an AK-47 appeared and fired at him. He said he fell to the ground pretending to be dead.

Mohlala said he was a member of the Big Six Taxi Association whose eight members were gunned down in the same style during the day in Pietersburg last weekend.

He said he suspected the Friday shooting was linked to the feud between his taxi association and the South African Long Distance Taxi Association.

However, this was disputed by other eyewitnesses who said passengers would not have been shot if this was a taxi feud. They thought the motive for the shooting was political.

Police were not available for comment.
3 policemen killed on E Rand

By Anna Louw
East Rand Bureau

Three policemen were killed in separate incidents on the East Rand at the weekend.

One was shot dead while on duty in a charge office; another was stoned to death and a third gunned down as he arrived home in a police vehicle.

Police said Constable M P Matlala was on duty in the charge office in Olifantsfontein when gunmen surprised him at 3.20 am. Matlala was shot in the head.

His killers took his service pistol, and a bunch of keys with which they unlocked a steel trunk containing firearms.

The gunmen fled with a R-1 rifle, a R-5 rifle, two shotguns and a bullet-proof vest.

Sgt Sothoane was stoned to death by a group of about 60 men who surrounded him in the Chris Hani squatter camp in Daveyton at about 9.30 am yesterday.

Sothoane was on his way to visit his brother. Police arrested a suspect.

Sergeant Jacob Modise was gunned down with AK-47 rifles at close range when he arrived home in a police vehicle at 10.30 am yesterday.

Two gunmen approached the vehicle and opened fire at the policeman. He died instantly. The men took his service pistol and fled.
Six die as grenade explodes

JOHANNESBURG. — Six members of the ANC Youth League were killed and five injured in a handgrenade explosion at the weekend.

A police spokesman said the incident occurred on Friday night in Sebokeng when someone at the youth league meeting brought out the grenade and began handling it.

ANC spokesman Mr Ronnie Mamoepa confirmed the victims were members of the league but said they were at a party, not a meeting.

Three people were hospitalised in a serious condition.

- An off-duty police constable was fatally shot at Mariannahill in Natal yesterday morning.

- About 11pm on Friday a handgrenade was thrown at a police-SADF patrol near Folweni, south of Durban.

A youth was arrested.

- A 54-year-old motorist was held in Durban up by armed men who tried to steal his car.

He opened fire, killing one of his assailants, but was himself hit in the head and badly wounded.

- ANC national chairman Mr Oliver Tambo, his wife Adelaide, and National Health Minister Dr Rina Venter were among 300 people who prayed for peace at the World Trade Centre, east of Johannesburg, yesterday. — Sapa
Plea to stop taxi killings

By Stan Hlophe

MEMBERS of the Soweto Taxi Services have been urged to stop the killings which claimed nine lives in recent weeks.

The appeal was made by the chairman of the Johannesburg region of the Southern Africa Black Taxi Association, Mr. Motsepefere Simelane, at a meeting in Tshwane, Soweto, at the weekend.

"Let us stop the violence. It will not get us anywhere. Let us direct our forces to building this powerful industry."

"If you continue with this senseless killings, the whole world will laugh at you."
Tokozza faces blackout

By Lulama Luti

The whole of Tokozza will be plunged into darkness if residents fail to pay their electricity bills by tomorrow.

According to notices issued to residents, the nearby Alberton Town Council said it would discontinue the supply of electricity to the entire township if "insufficient money" was collected by December 1.

This warning comes after lengthy discussions between the Tokozza Civic Association, the Alberton and Tokozza town councils, the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Tokozza Local Dispute Resolution Committee.

It also comes two weeks after power was cut off in the township.

Boycott threat over taxi killings

By Lulama Luti

Earlier this year the Alberton council, which is the bulk supplier of electricity to Tokozza, agreed to restore electricity if the Tokozza council paid an outstanding electricity bill of R2.2 million.

Several calls

A further deal that was entered into in July stated that electricity supply on a 24-hour basis would be provided on condition community organisations advised residents to pay their accounts.

However, despite several calls to residents by the LDRC to pay for electricity consumed, it was learnt that by Tuesday last week residents were still not paying enough money to cover the costs of the electricity being supplied.

The KwaThema and Springs town councils as well as the Transvaal Provincial Administration have been given until December 4 to end the taxi violence or face a consumer boycott.

The chairman of the KwaThema Civic Association, Mr. Kenny Madala, said if concrete steps to stop the violence had not been taken by the stipulated date, the community would embark on a consumer boycott.

The killings have claimed the lives of 65 people. This decision follows a protest march to the local police station and a subsequent sit-in at the council offices on Saturday.
Sadtu decries harassment

THE Sekhukhune branch of the SA Democratic Teachers Union has accused the Lebowa department of education of not honouring their record of agreement by harassing teachers. Branch chairman Sello Modiga said they were shocked to find that Sekhukhune circuit office did not even have a copy of the agreement. Education spokesman Mr Seroka was yesterday reported to be attending a course in Port Elizabeth and unavailable for a response.

Taxi shooting victims buried

THE funerals of victims of the Pieterburg taxi shooting proceeded without any incidents on Saturday, but the planned joint burials failed. Speakers at Mr John Pholo's funeral condemned the shooting and appealed to people not to solve their problems by killing one another. Other burials of victims of the taxi shootings that claimed eight lives were held at Seshgo and Zebediela on the same day.

Inquest into Malele's death

THIS inquest hearing into the death of a victim of alleged Gazankulu police brutality resumes at Hlanganani Magistrate Court tomorrow. The family of Mr Edward Boki Malele, who was arrested on December 26 last year and allegedly severely assaulted by police until he died, had on November 10 successfully applied for an exhumation order so that another post-mortem examination could be done. Results of the further post-mortem are expected during this hearing. Malele, exhumed two weeks ago, had been buried on January 8 this year.
Hostel residents and ANC sign agreement

GOVERNMENT hostel initiatives should be suspended immediately and transferred to the National Housing Forum, representatives of the ANC's PWV region and the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association said yesterday.

In a joint agreement signed yesterday, the ANC and the hostel association expressed mutual dissatisfaction with government's handling of the hostels crisis.

The two parties objected to the use of Black Local Authorities for the upgrading and maintenance of hostels, said the process of consultation undertaken by the Transvaal Provincial Administration had been insufficiently inclusive and rejected the "extensive and costly" use of private sector consultants.

They also said the R300m set aside by government for the upgrading of hostels had not been disbursed satisfactorily.

"Government should immediately undertake to suspend all their initiatives at hostels where agreements have not been finalised and contracts signed by 30 November 1992," the statement said.

ANC spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said the pact, the first of its kind between hostel dwellers and the ANC, did not contradict September's record of understanding between government and the ANC.

Hostel dwellers, who said recently they would tear down any fences erected as a result of the record, consented yesterday to five hostels in the PWV being fenced.

The joint agreement stated that if certain hostel areas were not fenced, "upgrading, integration and development will not be possible".

The Madala and Nobokho hostels in Alexandra, the Meadowlands and Dobsonville hostels in Soweto and the Ratanda hostel in Heidelberg all required "immediate stabilising measures", the agreement stated.

These measures include the walling or fencing off of the hostels, a 24-hour police presence, random searches of grounds and dwellers and a constant monitoring of all access points into and out of the hostels.

Attorney-general to decide on Ceba's arrest

THE police informer who the Goldstone commission found had organised two attacks which claimed 19 lives in Thokoza last year would be arrested only if the attorney-general found sufficient grounds, police said yesterday.

An inquiry found that Mncinga Ceba, posing as an ANC self-defence unit head, marshalled a march by hostel residents in September last year, killing 18 and injuring 18.

He had also led a violent coup in the Phola Park Residents' Committee, of which three members were subsequently assassinated.

Police spokesman Capt Eugene Opperman said the commission usually directed its findings to the attorney-general, after which they would be sent to the police.
Gunmen turn two Sebokeng stokvels into killing fields

ON GUARD ... Armed police keep guard outside the King William's Town golf club yesterday after a gunfire and grenade attack on Saturday night killed four whites at a Christmas party. The armed wing of the PAC, the Azanian People's Liberation Army, has claimed responsibility for the attack.

11 die in Vaal attacks

By Lufamile Lutu and Len Khumalo

Fey people were shot dead and 11 injured when gunmen opened fire on revelers at a stokvel in Sebokeng on Sunday night.

Armed with 9mm pistols, the killers stormed into house 398024 in Zone 3, and demanded money from owner Mr Mahloni Thabane before shooting him dead.

On their way out they shot and killed four people whom they had ordered to lie down on their stomachs in the dining room.

Thabane's 15-year-old son Phehhello was grazed by a bullet on the left shoulder and was suffering from shock yesterday morning.

The killings happened barely 24 hours after the death of six other people in the area who were blown up in a hand grenade blast during another stokvel.

Vaal police spokesman Capt Piet van Derwys said investigations were continuing.

The names of the dead are Mr Thapelo Thabane a visitor from QwaQwa, Mr Mokete Koedisi, Princess and Seboy (surname unknown).

Senior superintendent at the Sebokeng Hospital Dr Cowie Momborg said three of those injured were in the hospital's intensive care unit.

They are Isaac Motelisi, Ben Motshwane and an unknown man. Three others were treated and discharged.

The names of those still in hospital are Frans Maphapha, Nsoaki Sesel, Steven Matlaatsie, Elsie Dube, Samuel Mabele, Samuel Mabaso, Samuel Lema and Maria Masebako.

According to Phehhello, 10 men came to his home.

"About five of them went into the house while the others stood outside. As I was getting out of the house they shoved me into the dining room where they ordered us to lie down on our stomachs.

"They then asked my father for money and he gave it to them. They asked who Seboy was, and when he identified himself, they shot him," he said.

Phehhello said one of the men said "let's shoot these dogs" before they sprayed bullets on them.
Agreement on hostels reached

The ANC PWV region and the Transvaal Hostels Resident Association (THRA) have agreed to the fencing of five hostels in the area.

The agreement was signed yesterday in Johannesburg to fence Madala and Nobuhle hostels in Alexandra, Ratanda hostel in Heidelberg as well as hostels in Meadowlands and Dobsonville.

The ANC and Government agreed at the violence summit on September 26 to the fencing of 27 hostels on the Reef and in Natal.

Threat

But the Government last month told the Goldstone Commission's committee on hostels that it could not proceed with the fencing of hostels because of opposition by the Inkatha Freedom Party and the THRA.

In a report, which was drawn up by the Department of Local Government and Local Housing and submitted to the Goldstone committee on hostels on November 6, the Government said the THRA had threatened a rent boycott and marches and vowed that the contractors would not be allowed on site.

"It was also stated that fences would be destroyed," the report said.

The Government had argued that the fencing of hostels would increase violence and proposed that the National Peace Secretariat be asked to call a meeting of all the parties concerned and serve as a mediator to resolve the conflict.

It also requested mediation from the Goldstone Commission to resolve the conflict.

IPF spokesman Suzanne Vos said last night that the THRA was an autonomous body and "if it comes to an arrangement in full consultation, it is their decision".

She said the essence of democracy was that consultations took place on matters of mutual concern, rather than the imposition of bilateral decisions.

The IPF pulled out of talks with the Government following the ANC/Government Record of Understanding, which included the fencing of 27 hostels.

Issues

On November 15 — the target date for the implementation of the Record of Understanding — none of the identified hostels had been fenced and the ANC said it was still discussing outstanding issues with the Government.
Murder of six policemen condemned

By Anna Louw
East Rand Bureau 1/12/92

Police have condemned the brutal murders of six policemen on the East Rand, Natal and Vaal Triangle at the weekend which have increased the death toll of policemen who have died violently this year to 207.

A spokesman for the police directorate of public relations in Pretoria yesterday said last year's figure totalled 146.

Substantial rewards are being offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the killers.

In the weekend attacks:

- East Rand Constable P K Mathala (29) was shot dead while on duty at the Olifantsfontein charge office on Sunday.
- Also on the East Rand, Daveyton assistant constable Pieter Sebathane was shot by about 60 men when he went to visit his brother in the Chris Hani squatter camp at 3am on Sunday. A man was arrested.
- Sergeant M J Modise (41) was gunned down by two men with AK-47 rifles when he arrived at his Tsakane home on the East Rand on Sunday.
- In Ebotse in the Vaal Triangle, constable G J Mofokeng was shot when gunmen sprayed a house with gunfire on Friday night. Two people were injured.
- In Mariannhill, near Pinetown, in Natal constable Mlela Nhlabane (37) and a friend, Lungakhe Ngcobo (23), were fatally wounded in the head on Sunday.
The case against 65 KwaMashu hostel dwellers who appeared in court in connection with the June 17 Boipatong massacre was yesterday postponed to February 1 next year.

Twenty-six of the accused will be held in custody. The others are out on R1,000 bail each.

Magistrate Mr OJ Reyner yesterday granted bail to one of the accused, Mr Robert Moleibhu. He has been ordered not to visit Boipatong to report at the local police station twice a week and to remain in the magisterial district of the Vaal Triangle.
2 killed, 18 hurt in attack

LICHTENBURG - Police yesterday morning shot dead at least two people and wounded at least 18 after a crowd allegedly attacked police vehicles with petrol bombs and stones in Bolchutsu township.

Police confirmed the incident and said two men were killed and 18 hospitalised, but the Makeng Anti-Repression Forum said three were killed and 30 injured.

The death toll of policemen so far this year climbed to 200 yesterday after the murders of two Daveyton constables in the East Rand township, police said. — Sapa
**News in brief**

**Pageant picket protest**
ABOUT 30 people held placard demonstrations outside three foreign embassies in Pretoria yesterday to protest against the participation of their beauty queens in the Miss World pageant at the Lost City.

The picketers were accompanied by United Nations observers and representatives of the National Peace Secretariat during the demonstrations at the Japanese, Israeli and US embassies. A small picket was also held outside the Bophuthatswana embassy.

**Lighting up could cost you!**
A CIGARETTE could cost up to R2 000 in Johannesburg - if one lights up on a bus. The city council has banned smoking on all its buses and offenders will face a fine of up to R2 000.

The council said yesterday a survey conducted in July had found that 76 percent of all passengers were totally opposed to smoking, compared with a survey in May last year in which 62 percent supported the prohibition of smoking.

"The change in opinion is seen to be in line with a general increased awareness of the dangers of smoking and its unacceptability in confined spaces," said a spokesman.

**'Kei, Ciskei at loggerheads**
TRANSKEI yesterday lashed out at Ciskei military ruler Brigadier Oupa Gqozo for proposing the creation of an autonomous republic embracing Ciskei, the Border and the Eastern Cape.

Gqozo told a summit on regionalism on Tuesday that the envisaged republic would exclude Transkei for what he said were historical and political reasons.

The Transkei Military Council in Umtata yesterday dismissed Gqozo's address as "rantings and ravings" and said it had "a hollow ring of political bankruptcy".

**Sasol workers want jobs**
ABOUT 500 members of the SA Chemical Workers' Union will march on the offices of Sasol 1 in Sasolburg tomorrow to demand that they be reinstated.

Most of the workers were dismissed in 1987 during a legal strike while others were sacked during the past five years. The march will begin from AECI at 3pm and proceed to the offices of Sasol 1 where a memorandum will be presented.
War-weary Alexandra picks up the pieces

IN ALEXANDRA's streets where political rivals fought pitched battles nine months ago they now work side-by-side to clean up their township.

And in a township where about 60% of the 300,000 residents are unemployed, volunteer cleaners are only too happy to do the back-breaking work for a mere $5 a day, Sapa reports.

In March, Alexandra erupted into an orgy of violence which saw tens of people killed and hundreds left homeless when hostel dwellers loyal to the Inkatha Freedom Party clashed with township residents rallying under the banner of the ANC. Now, although there is still animosity among political groupings, peace is returning to Alexandra.

"People on the ground are speaking to one another and finding a new common vision of the future," says township interim crisis committee chairman Brian Wegerle.

The crisis committee, set up in April, functions as a local dispute resolution body, and under the national peace accord and the ANC, Inkatha, Democratic Party, National Party, churches, business and the SADF.

Crisis committee member Dean Yates said Alexandra residents were suffering from "war-weariness": "People want peace. They do not want to kill anymore."

Wegerle believes eight months of intense work by the crisis committee is bearing fruit. "The situation has improved tremendously," agrees L C Khoza, Inkatha's representative on the committee.

A complete social reconstruction and new development plan for the township, which borders Johannesburg's plush northern suburbs, is envisaged. Some R3,5m has been allocated for reconstruction in the "Beirut" area, scene of much of the fighting near Alexandra's migrant hostels where homes were broken to the ground.

WILSON ZWANE reports the crisis committee yesterday announced its reconstruction strategy. It has set itself the task of:
- Reconciling polarised groups and creating a climate of tolerance and trust;
- Eliminating political, social and economic conditions which undermined peace;
- Filing the principles of the national peace accord;
- Forging a competent and commonly agreed socio-economic reconstruction and development processes which make the best use of all the available resources.

The crisis committee has appointed four task groups to deal with development, communications, security and relief.

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Police, ANC closer on trains strategy

LLOYD COUTTS

THE SA Police and the ANC had moved closer to agreement on measures to contain train violence, both parties said yesterday.

A delegation of community organisations — the ANC's PWV region, the SAPC PWV region and the SA Railway and Harbour Workers' Union — met the SA Rail Commuter Corporation and police yesterday to discuss new security force measures to curb violence on commuter trains.

ANC spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said the delegation welcomed police efforts which included searches at stations, random searches of trains and closed circuit television monitoring.

SAP liaison officer LT-Col Dave Bruce said police had expressed their difficulties in dealing with train violence.

"We expressed our views regarding policing problems, the tripartite alliance stated its problems regarding policing, and we came to some understanding of each other's problems. We've got a long way to go but we are all working towards the same objective," Bruce said.

He said the major problems facing police were community participation and intimidation.

Two Commonwealth observers attended the meeting, and delegates agreed to the involvement of observers from the Goldstone commission, the national peace accord and the UN at future meetings.

SAPA reports that the Human Rights Commission (HRC) said in Johannesburg yesterday that at least 14 security force members had died in political violence in the past week.

This represented a "startling" escalation in attacks on the security forces, the human rights watchdog said in its weekly Repression Report.

Overall, the HRC said, 74 people had died and 123 others had been injured in the violence for the week November 25 to October 1, a sharp escalation from the 45 deaths recorded the previous week.
INKATHA hostel leaders have threatened
to tear down fences around hostels in the
PWV — despite an agreement that "stabi-
lishing measures" would have to be adopted
at five hostels in the region.

Inkatha’s Alexandra Hostel branch
chairman Phineas Sokhela said Inkatha
branches would not allow "anybody to
fence us".

The statement followed the signing of an
agreement on Monday between the ANC’s
PWV region and the Transvaal Hostel
Residents Association.

In the agreement, the first of its kind
between the ANC and hostel dwellers, it
was agreed that "stabilising measures"
would have to be adopted at five hostels in
the PWV region including the Madala and
Nobuhle hostels in Alexandra and the Men-
dowlands hostel in Soweto.

The agreement stated that if certain
hostels were not fenced, "upgrading, inte-
gration and development will not be possi-
ble".

The hostel association claimed to have
significant support in all hostels in the
PWV region.

The Inkatha statement said residents of
the hostels involved were not consulted
about the agreement. "This agreement will
bind only those who sign it. We shall use
our hands to tear down the fences," it said.

ANC PWV deputy regional secretary
Obed Bapela said Inkatha was attempting
to politicise the issue without having stud-
ed the agreement.

"The agreement goes beyond fencing
hostels, it encourages upgrading, develop-
ment and the reintegration of hostels with
the community," Bapela said.

Fencing was only one of the stabilising
options available but this would be done in
consultation with hostel residents, he
added.
Pageant picket protest

ABOUT 30 people held placard demonstrations outside three foreign embassies in Pretoria yesterday to protest against the participation of their beauty queens in the Miss World pageant at the Lost City.

The picketers were accompanied by United Nations observers and representatives of the National Peace Secretariat during the demonstrations at the Japanese, Israeli and US embassies. A small picket was also held outside the Bophuthatswana embassy.
Clean sweep for peace in Alexandra

Alexandra is not a name that springs to mind readily when one thinks of places in South Africa where people are working together instead of killing each other. But the current mood that is sweeping the township — literally — could change that.

In the harsh streets of "Alex" they are today working side-by-side to clean up. In March Alexandra erupted in an orgy of violence — the latest in a long line since 1986 — and many more residents were killed and left homeless after clashes between Inkatha-supporting hostel dwellers and township residents, many aligned to the ANC.

But now, says the township's Interim Crisis Committee chairman Brian Wegele, peace seems to be breaking out.

The ICC was set up in April this year and functions as a local dispute resolution committee under the National Peace Accord, with representation from the ANC, the IFP, Democratic Party, National Party, churches, business and the SADF.

The committee envisages a new development plan for the township, bordering on Johannesburg's plush northern suburbs. Some R3.5 million has been allocated to an ICC development task force for reconstruction in the township's "Beirut" area — the scene of much fighting in the past.

But in addition to the more ambitious upliftment schemes, residents have taken to sweeping the streets themselves in the two-week clean-up campaign which ends tomorrow, more than 43,000 bags — almost 1,000 tons — of rubbish have been cleared.

And in an area where about 66 percent of the 360,000 residents are unemployed, the volunteer cleaners are only too happy to do the back-breaking work for a mere R2 a day. — Sapa.
Rail violence: SAP urges public to help

By Mntshoela Mureke

The main obstacle in police investigations into train violence was the lack of co-operation from the public, Witwatersrand police liaison officer Lieutenant-Colonel Dave Bruce said yesterday.

He was speaking after a meeting in Johannesburg between police and community organisations to discuss measures introduced by the SAP, SADF and the SA Rail Commuter Corporation to curb violence on 'free trains'. Among the organisations present were the ANC, SACP and Civic Association of Southern Transvaal.

Bruce said the police had explained their strategies to curb violence. These included: the redeployment of police as well as emergency train stoppages.

'We have a long way to go but we are working towards some objectives. We still have a problem in obtaining the assistance and support of the community in investigating crime. But we are working on this.'

People have an image problem with the police. The other problem is intimidation. People are scared to be seen co-operating with the police.

Delegates agreed to involve observers from the Goldstone Commission, the National Peace Accord and the United Nations at future meetings. Two Commonwealth observers attended yesterday's meeting.

Community leaders welcomed the measures and expressed the hope that these steps - including visible policing and the searching of trains and commuters - would be kept in place for as long as train violence continued.

The next meeting was scheduled for January 13.

* Railway worker shoots 3 - Page 8
2 shot dead
as crowd and
police clash

Police shot dead at least two people and injured at least 18 in Bokhutso, Lichtenburg, after part of a crowd of 1,000 allegedly petrol-bombed a policeman's home and attacked police vehicles on Tuesday.

Police said two people were killed and 18 injured, but the Mafikeng Anti-Repression Forum (Maret) claimed three people died and about 25 were wounded.

Western Transvaal police spokesman Lieutenant Koos Nortje said trouble started when members of the ANC, SAP and the Bokhutso People's Delegation intimidated people into not going to work and prevented taxis from going into Lichtenburg.

Maret said residents were planning a protest against the town council, when police were called.

Initially, police used teargas to disperse the crowd, but later, when SAP vehicles were attacked, rubber bullets and birdshot were used.

— Crime Reporter
At least one killed as mob strikes in Ratanda

A mob of about 200 men attacked residents at Ratanda near Heidelberg early yesterday, killing at least one person and injuring nine, police said.

Witnesses said the attackers were hostel dwellers. Eleven houses were destroyed.

ANC local branch chairman Obed Nkosi said the incident brought police impartiality into question. "Ratanda is an unrest area with a curfew effective from 9pm. It is unlikely that the hostel dwellers were able to travel the distance to the residents' houses without police knowledge."

The ANC said two people were killed.

Inkatha spokesman Humphrey Ndlovu confirmed that hostel dwellers were involved and said they were exercising their "God-given right" to self-defence.

Meanwhile, Saps reports the ANC's southern Natal branch proposed yesterday that the Goldstone commission conduct an inquiry into limitations of political freedom in Natal/KwaZulu.

Southern Natal branch chairman Jeff Radebe also told the commission, inquiring into violence in Natal, that Inkatha was not giving its full support to local dispute resolution structures.

In June Inkatha pulled out of the national peace accord in the Natal Midlands because of attacks on its supporters.

Radebe said Inkatha had refused to implement sections of the national peace accord by allowing members to carry weapons.

Furthermore, the police and SAP had failed to disarm Inkatha members.

The commission was also told yesterday that allegations that GS firearms had been unlawfully used in conflict situations, and had been routinely issued to tribal authorities for protection, were correct.

Legal adviser to the KwaZulu Police Lt-Col Thomas Reed said he was still a member of the SAP when he had taken up the illegal use of these firearms with Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Following these talks, an order had been issued that all GS firearms should be withdrawn and replaced by shotguns or .38 revolvers, said Reed.

People to whom the firearms were issued had received training from members of the KwaZulu Police.

Meanwhile, the beheaded body of a four-year-old toddler has been found at the Umlazi men's hostel southeast of Durban. KwaZulu Police said the motive for the killing was not known and no arrests had been made.

In another incident in the same area, a woman was shot dead at a school soccer field. A man was killed and several people injured while returning from a memorial service at KwaMashu, northeast of Durban.
Police avert massacre

By Ike Motsapi

Two people were killed and nine seriously injured when about 200 men attacked 20 shacks and houses in Ratanba near Heidelberg yesterday.

Of the nine injured, two were girls both aged two years.

Police reinforcements were sent to the township as tension gripped this East Rand black residential area where more than 32 people have been killed since violence first flared up on July 24.

Yesterday’s attack was expected, according to Mr David Storey of the Local Dispute Resolution Committee, who was at the scene with a United Nations observer team which is in the country.

Storey said a member of Inkatha was shot dead outside the Ratanba Hostel last Thursday.

Police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman said a man was hacked and stabbed to death and nine people, including two girls aged four and five, were injured in the attack, which occurred about 2.15am.

The man has been identified as Daniel Zikhali, whose wife Joyce and daughter Zenzi were treated for stab wounds at the Heidelberg Hospital yesterday morning and discharged.

The other dead person has not yet been identified.

Eleven houses were also damaged by petrol bombs.

Mr Obed Nkosi, chairman of the local branch of the ANC, said the organisation was busy trying to locate relatives.

Police said in a statement issued in Pretoria that swift police action had prevented a possible massacre.

This was also confirmed by residents and survivors of the attack.

Mr Petrus Mahluengu, whose house was damaged by the attackers, said he was lucky to be alive.

"Fortunately, police arrived on the scene and the men ran towards the open veld," he said.

Mr Paulos Maseko (62) said swift police intervention helped prevent what could have been a massacre.

Police went to the scene after they heard shots being fired. They came across the assailants, who shot at them. Policemen returned the fire and the attackers fled.
Soweto taxi war over

The bickering which has plagued Soweto Taxi Services (STS) and claimed nine lives is over for the time being.

This follows a hectic meeting in Soweto yesterday at which the former executive, led by Dan Motsho, and the present executive, led by Raymond Mokwana, pledged to throw their guns and knives into the sea and work for peace.

Present were the executive committee of the Southern African Black Taxi Association (Saba), Johannesburg region, led by chairman Molefe Nkela and STS general membership.

Four men have appeared in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court charged with murder following the deaths of Mac Mhlanga, Watson Monki, Fisher Makhoba, Peace Sithole, John Dubazana, Mr Mahlizela, Mr Masibuko, and Mr

End to a conflict which has seen nine people lose their lives:

Ngqungolo and Mr Molokeng.

Both parties committed themselves to working towards peace and making STS a giant in the Saba region.

The warring parties, who were at each other's throats for the past three months, agreed to the following conditions proposed by the regional executive:

1. A four-man committee to be co-opted to STS executive whose main duty would be to monitor the prevailing violence.

The next elections will be held in February.
Johannesburg. — Police reinforcements were sent to Ratanda township south of here yesterday after a night attack by a 200-strong mob left at least one person dead and nine injured.

The ANC said two people were killed.

An SAP statement said swift police action prevented a possible massacre.

The Peace Action Group alleged that the assailants were hostel dwellers.

In a search of Ratanda Hostel later yesterday police confiscated assegais, saying the weapons will be sent for forensic tests.

Meanwhile in Natal, hopes rose that refugees from fighting in Nqumzumzi north of Durban may be able to return home soon.

The Natal Kwazulu Regional Dispute Resolution Committee (RDBC) said there is now good potential for families who left Nqumzumzi to escape violence during the past two years to return home. This follows a "tough but successful" meeting between concerned groups yesterday.

The RDBC yesterday also welcomed today's planned launch of the Umbumbulu Local Dispute Resolution Committee on Natal's troubled upper South Coast.

Delegates expected to attend the launch represent the ANC, Inkatha, the Commonwealth, business and church groups.

The RDBC's Mr D. Mitchell stressed the importance of the Umbumbulu meeting, saying "more than 70% of incidents in Natal have been taking place in this area."

Durban mayor Ms Margaret Winter will switch on the headlights of the mayoral car at a City Hall function today intended to help bring peace to Natal.

The mass "switch-on" will be marked with a motorcade, Zulu dancers and the release of 1,000 balloons.
Lawyer was ‘stabbed till helpless’...
3 policemen hurt in blast

Three policemen were injured when a grenade was thrown at their armoured car in Ratanda township near Heidelberg last night.

An SAP spokesman said a police patrol was attacked while attempting to disperse a crowd of about 300 people at 10.45 pm. The three policemen were slightly injured.

Police and Defence Force troops conducted a search in the township between 8 am and 4 am today but no arrests were made. — SAPA
FRAGILE PEACE IN THE VAAL, BUT FOR HOW LONG?

JOE LOUW

Vaal Chamber of Commerce chairman George Thabe confirmed there had been a "remarkable decline" in negative incidents affecting businesses in the area. "We suffered greatly this year and welcome a cessation of hostilities. We can only pray that this is truly the beginning of normalisation."

An informal tour round the Vaal’s townships by a Saturday Star team revealed a dramatic difference in the atmosphere from the period after the Boipatong massacre in June.

Taxi’s move freely and the barricades and trenches that obstructed traffic have been removed. Most of the huge piles of garbage have been cleared and most services have been restored to normal. Everywhere holidaying school children play happily in the streets and most of the pervasive tension and fear felt previously has subsided.

Another indicator of a return to normality is the ongoing negotiations between the ANC Youth League and the SAP’s Col Paddy Mazibuko for the return of black policemen to their township homes.

Morris More, a Youth League spokesman, said he hoped the present talks would iron out whatever misgivings existed between residents and police in the area.

However, a major threat to the peace is the question of payment for services and rent. Payment of rent, electricity bills and service charges has reached an all-time low, with an average of less than 10 percent being collected.

The administrators of Sebokeng, Bophelong, Sharpeville and Boipatong issued a sharp warning this week that unless there were "a sudden and dramatic" improvement in payments, drastic steps would be taken from next month.

"Already 230 posts have been retrenched," the notice stated. "Unless payments are made, the number will be raised to 465 percent of the administration of these townships would be plunged into bankruptcy."

Administrators said they would have no alternative but to drastically cut back on services from January 1.

See Page 4
Suspect arrested over train killing

MONTSHIWA, MOROKE

Police have arrested an alleged train killer as a result of assistance from a witness, Witwatersrand police spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Dave Bruce said yesterday.

Bruce said the arrest was "unique" because it was the first time since the carnage started that an arrest had been made with the help of a member of the public.

The suspect was named as hostel resident Mihluzena Zulu (31).

Bruce said a second suspect was sought by police. Zulu was charged with killing Elzmont Manda, of Transkei, at Cleveland Station on November 4.

A further charge of attempted murder of a second commuter was being investigated.

Bruce said that as a result of the suspect's arrest an AK-47 assault rifle and a quantity of rounds of ammunition were discovered. Zulu had been charged with their possession.

Ballistic tests would be carried out to determine whether the AK-47 had been used in any attacks.

"However, this is not the murder weapon. We are looking for a 9 mm pistol."

The mere fact that we have confiscated this firearm means we may have saved lives. People who commit crimes on trains are not boy scouts. They perpetrate the most barbaric acts," Bruce said.

Police had repeatedly stated that without the assistance of the public it was difficult to investigate cases of murder.

In any criminal investigation, the police depended on witnesses who might have information to pass on.
Fiery Sotsu has become the Vaal

ERNEST SOTSU, once described as the most dangerous man in the Vaal Triangle, considers himself a man of peace. The fiery Boipatong activist, who has been in the eye of violent political storms that have recently rocked the Vaal, is admired by Vaal youth as a true grassroots leader. Yet, at heart he is a lonely man.

Now 65 years old and almost destitute, Sotsu is proud of the fact that he has spent most of his adult life as an activist. When violence engulfed the Vaal two years ago, Sotsu spearheaded calls for the formation of community self-defence units (SDUs).

Last week, a major peace initiative attended by most of the civic and political organisations in the Vaal examined and demanded the restructuring of the SDUs, which have become in many areas, the scourge of the communities they are supposed to protect.

He speaks without bitterness of the traumatic events that have punctuated his life. On July 3 last year, he hurriedly returned from an African National Congress conference in Durban to his home in Boipatong to find his house burnt down and his wife and children murdered.

"At first I was consumed with rage," he said. "But I consider myself a true Christian and most of my anger has subsided now." He is now a grandfather, Sandile and Khaya, born since the massacre.

Sotsu believes his family fell victim to a hit squad which had targeted him because he was chief organiser for the ANC in the area. Sotsu has been portrayed as one of the most dangerous activists in the violence- raked Vaal Triangle. JOE LOUW interviewed him and found him to be lonely and near- destitute.

“Fire-eating ANC Vaal leader Ernest Sotsu has been portrayed as one of the most dangerous activists in the violence- raked Vaal Triangle. JOE LOUW interviewed him and found him to be lonely and near- destitute.

He was finally captured at the Transkei border, charged with murder and terrorism and jailed for five years by the Matanzima government. In jail he met and "rubbed shoulders with" the young Briga- dier Bantu Holomisa, who eventually set him free in 1984.

Sotsu plunged back into Vaal politics on his return to his home in Boipatong. He was a key leader in the campaign against black city councils and the ensuing rent boycotts. But he felt a deep need to work with the thousands of workers in the various hostels, especially those at Sebokeng and KwaMasina.

His clarity of thought and talent as an orator soon gained him many converts among the hostel dwellers.

But, while he was gaining allies, he was also attracting enemies. He became caught up in the internal squabbles of the National Union of Metalworkers, which eventually exploded to make the Sebokeng Hostel one of the Vaal's key flashpoints.

Sotsu was accused of being power-mad and embittered because of being sidelined by the ANC. He denies this.

Serious violence broke out in the Vaal just after the unbanning of the ANC in 1990.

"The need for communities to defend themselves became obvious. Inkatha impis were run- ning rampant and to me it was very clear that the regime had a hand in destabilising our communities," he says.

"The ANC and Communist Party did not do much in the structuring of these units. This turned out to be a major mistake, for it left the door open for these units to be exploited by the re- gime. They were quickly infiltrated, not only by agents provocateurs, but also by the tsotsi and thug element.

"Soon we had a situation where the units were getting totally out of control."

Sotsu says he supports the initiatives of the Vaal community organisa- tions for peace but does not see much hope unless positive steps are taken to reorganise the SDUs.

"We are all hopeful for peace," he says, "but we will have to work hard. We will have to implement the resolutions that want the SDUs put under strict community control and re- vamp them with a new set of operating rules holding them accountable not only to the communities but to a regional structure."
Unrest areas declared

FIVE magisterial districts in the western Transvaal have been declared unrest areas, the police public relations division said yesterday.

The areas are Vryburg, Delareyville, Marico, Rustenburg and Lichtenburg.

There was no official confirmation, but the decision appears to have been taken in view of fears of disruptions to this month's independence celebrations in Bophuthatswana.

It was earlier reported that Vryburg, in the northern Cape, had also been declared an unrest area.

Sapa.
'No clues' on weapons find

By MONWABISI NOMADOLO

TWO weeks after weapons were found at Buyafuthi Hostel in Katlehong on the East Rand, police confirmed that no one has been arrested or questioned in connection with the large haul.

Police spokesman Capt Eugene Opperman said police had "no clue" about the origin of the weapons found in a room at the hostel.

The cache included seven RPG rockets, 28 magazines for AK-47 rifles, 2,242 rounds of ammunition for AK-47 rifles, 431 rounds for a 6.65 pistol and 23 AK-47 rifles.

The discovery was a result of a joint operation conducted by the SADF and SAP personnel after a tip-off, police said.

Opperman said police were unable to arrest or question anyone as inmates of the hostel refused to talk to the police.

A Civic Associations of Southern Africa (Cas) statement said the discovery did not come as a surprise. It added that a number of hostels identified by residents as "harbouring killers and arms" have been left in peace by the security forces.

The organisation said it was not impressed by the discovery because in the past such weapons had been handed back to the warlords.

The discovery confirmed former Inkatha Cdesa delegate Bruce Anderson's allegation that there was smuggling of military equipment and distribution among Inkatha's warlords.

"The main depot of arms in Roodeport has not been visited by the police," the Cas statement said, adding the arms were obtained from Renamo.

"Unless the security forces are under the control of an interim government, (President) De Klerk will continue to use them to further his political objectives."
Police close in on five areas

FIVE magisterial districts in the western Transvaal have been declared unrest areas, police said on Friday.

The areas are Vryburg, Delareyville, Marico, Rustenburg and Lichtenburg.

There was no official confirmation, but the decision may have been taken in view of fears of disruptions during this month's Independence celebrations in Bophuthatswana.
POLICE arrested a 41-year-old hostel resident and seized an AK-47 rifle following an attack on commuters at Cleveland station in Johannesburg a month ago during which commuter Elmont Mandela was killed.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Lt-Col Dave Bruce said Mkhuluwana Zulu appeared in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court on Thursday and had been remanded in custody until December 17.

Col Bruce said the arrest was a breakthrough for police in that an arrest in connection with train killings had been made for the first time due to the assistance of a member of the public.

He declined to name the hostel where the accused lived, saying police did not wish to increase tension which could spark revenge attacks. (When)

Calls can be made to the toll-free numbers 0800-110-141 or 0800-1112-13.

■ Reports by Sapa.
BOIKHUTSO township, which means a place of rest, was the scene of bloody fighting this week.

Lethal force was unleashed by the police on an unarmed but defiant crowd of about 4,000 residents at the Lichtenburg township who claimed the lives of three protesters.

The fatal shooting of the three and the wounding of 36 other residents of Boikhutso followed police action to disperse the crowd who had vowed to besiege the town council's offices to force authorities to meet their demands.

Residents, who were protesting against high rents, electricity and water bills, were to confront the council about their demands when police launched the attack.

According to witnesses, police warned the crowd to disperse within five minutes as the gathering was illegal, but the people defied the police and chanted revolutionary songs.

Police then opened fire, killing three people and wounding three dozen others.

Local ANC spokesman George Mathuse accused police of shooting without warning.

"The shooting started when negotiations between the police and a delegation of residents were in progress," Mathuse alleged.

Those who were killed were identified as Koos Mutie, Lazarus Kenosi and Jonny Maxambo.

In the battle that ensued between the police and the protesters, a private car was set alight.

Police confirmed the incident, saying three people had been arrested for public violence and malicious damage to property.
More cops in Retha attack

Police say they want to demolish the scene after they receive a possible missile.

Police estimated the number of people who were killed at least one person.

One man was stabbed and another shot on the street. The man was later pronounced dead in the hospital.

The peace movement has been bombed in the past.

The War Peace Action Group said the bombing and the missing have been going on for months.
Beauties march for peace

UNDER scorching sun and through streets and malls thick with bustling shoppers, contestants for the Miss Black South Africa beauty pageant marched in central Johannesburg on Friday afternoon.

They took to the streets to spread a message of peace and to call for an end to the violence that has killed 3000 people this year.

"Peace in our land" cried a banner held aloft as the 26 contestants meandered through streets, halting traffic.

"We are marching to emphasise the need and the urgency of the situation. There is so much violence," said Miss Soweto Thembi Mhlavayana.

The contestants, sporting tracksuits, marched gleefully from a popular Johannesburg club past the ANC headquarters and then fought their way through the Small Street Mall and finally rounded a five-star hotel. — Sapa.
Godfather warned to quit

Moloi says campaign is aimed at destroying his businesses:

By Isaac Moledi

Residents of Mapetla in Soweto have been urged to resume a boycott of the businesses of tycoon Mr. Godfrey "Godfather" Moloi.

Pamphlets distributed in the area say this should be done "to pledge solidarity with his victims".

The pamphlets, distributed house-to-house in the area, say Moloi was told to quit the area as he was now an enemy of the community.

He was likened to the police strongman Brigadier Oupa Gqozo and described as a "butcher of the community".

The pamphlets also say Moloi had stated last year that he hated Mapetla residents. Moloi allegedly ordered a Mapetla football team to quit the soccer grounds which he later used for his own players.

"The campaign is just to destroy my business, but whoever did it, I'm appealing to the rest of the community to come and pray with me. Let God forgive them," Moloi said yesterday.

He said he would not be threatened by "faceless and anonymous" people.
A delegation of farmers from Losberg in the south-western Transvaal has requested a meeting with State President FW de Klerk to discuss the spate of attacks on farmers in the area.

The delegation, under the leadership of the Conservative Party MP for Losberg, Fanie Jacobs, agreed on Thursday that a feature of the criminal activities, which included murder and armed robbery, was well-organised attacks in which a political motive could not be ruled out.

The delegation said the criminal elements in many cases came from the squatter camps in neighbouring Fochville. Others came from Sebokeng and Johannesburg.
Moloi slams reports about planned boycott

Pamphlet was distributed in one street only:

By Thami Mazwai

SOWETO businessman Mr. Geoffrey "Louis Luyt" Moloi yesterday slammed reports in Sowetan that Maperit residents have been urged to resume a boycott of his businesses.

He said a "pamphlet" calling for a boycott of his businesses was issued by nameless people and residents had ignored it. "It was distributed a week ago and only in one street," he said.

My businesses have not been affected and I am operating normally," he continued.

He added that preparations for the annual party for the elderly he sponsors were in full swing.

He also objected to continuing negative reports that allegedly created conflict in the community and ignored the good being done.
NEWS Arrest warrant for cop who failed to turn up at inquest

POLICE IN ACTION ... This truck is among the four which were destined for Mozambique with stolen goods. Soweto police thwarted the attempt when the drivers were about to drive out of the country.

PIC: MBUZENI ZULU

Warrant out for cop

By Mzimase Ngudle

WARRANT FOR THE ARREST of a policeman allegedly involved in the killing of Umkhonto we Sizwe cadre Tumi Padi last year was issued in the Johannesburg Magistrate’s Court yesterday.

Daniel Knoester, one of the six policemen who attacked Padi’s home in Phiri, Soweto, failed to appear at the inquest and the magistrate, Mr JW Botha, immediately issued a warrant for his arrest.

Family members grumbled in the courtroom yesterday when three of the policemen had a memory lapse during cross-examination.

Constable Harry Mhlanga said he could not remember to whom he made his statement regarding the incident.

He could not remember whether he took an oath but could recall that he gave his statement to Lieutenant Herman Havenga, a colleague who was also involved in the attack.

Sergeant Moeledi Moagi said he had forgotten who made him sign his statement. He also gave his statement to Havenga and not to the investigating officer.

Asked why they gave their statements to Havenga and not to the investigating officer, both policemen said they did not know who the investigating officer was.

Detective Constable Mandla Ncete admitted that he usually imprinted an affidavit stamp in the absence of persons making statements, even days after the date on which they made statements.

Investigating officer Captain M Maqadin told the court that Padi was killed on May 19 when he tried to pull out the pin of a hand grenade when police came to arrest him.

The police then fired 33 shots, killing him on the spot. His girlfriend, Ms Nokuzola Nelo, was also shot dead during the attack. The hearing continues.

memory lapse

Family members grumble as officers are cross-examined.
Police seize arms, cars in Vosloorus

By Charlotte James

East Rand police seized firearms, ammunition and two stolen cars when they swooped on two houses in Vosloorus on Monday afternoon. Six men and a woman were arrested.

An SAP spokesman said police from the Motor Vehicle Theft Unit swooped on the houses, where they found a Browning pistol, two revolvers and ammunition.

A stolen Mercedes-Benz and a Toyota Corolla were discovered on the scene. Police also found a pair of sneakers, clothes including two shoes, a pair of trousers, a cap and a belt.

An investigating officer said the probe would continue because 'the police were onto something big.'
Businessman injured in handgrenade blast

By Josias Charle and Own Correspondent

A Soshanguve businessman was seriously injured early yesterday when a handgrenade was hurled through his bedroom window and gouged holes in the concrete floor and walls when it exploded.

A friend said doctors would probably have to amputate Mr Paulus Skhosana's left hand and foot as a result of his injuries.

"I can't see any other choice," Mr Simon Mushika said of his friend's injuries.

Skhosana was admitted to the Garankuwa hospital after his left side was injured during the 2am blast at his house in Block AA, Soshanguve.

Mashika said he could think of no motive for the attack as Skhosana was not involved in politics. He also denied the attack could be related to a "taxi war".

Police spokesman Major Andrew Lesch yesterday confirmed the incident and said Skhosana was injured in the left leg, face and right shoulder. His wife was not hurt.

Lesch said this was not a political attack.

"He is a businessman and is not involved in politics", Lesch said. No arrests had yet been made. Police are investigating.

A spokesman for the Garankuwa Hospital said Skhosana underwent surgery and his condition was "serious but stable".

Mashika said he was woken by the sound of the explosion and found his friend lying on the ground when he went to investigate.

"It was a very loud bang and when I went to investigate I saw Paulus and his wife lying on the floor of their bedroom," he said.

"He was bleeding a lot from a wound in his cheek and from his left hand and foot.

"His foot looked like a spread out hand. I think they will have to cut it off."
Killer cop gets 18 years in jail

EMPANGENI policeman Warrant-Officer Hendrik Steyn was sentenced to 18 years imprisonment yesterday for the murder and attempted murder of two African National Congress supporters.

Steyn (30) was convicted this week of murdering Michael Mthathwa and attempting to murder Simon Mwelzi during a shootout with the police near Kwambonambi in Natal on August 14. The shootout left three policemen dead.

ANC members' deaths were carried out in a cold-blooded manner:

During sentencing in the Pietermaritzburg Supreme Court on Wednesday morning, Mr Justice Page said while there had been mitigating circumstances which did not warrant the death sentence, the crimes had been carried out in such a cold-blooded manner that a severe sentence was required.

Justice Page said although it was clear that Steyn had deliberately fired at the two men, he was unable to say with certainty that Mwelzi had not been dead at the time. After the shootout Mwelzi and Mthathwa were loaded into a police bakkie so that they could be taken to hospital.

On the way Steyn instructed the driver to stop. The two ANC members were then offloaded and Steyn fired shots at them.
Kid to deliver plea

By Sonti Maseko

TODAY at the Standard Bank Arena in Johannesburg a child will tell thousands of people gathered there how the violence ravaging the country has devastated his family.

Through the child's testimony, an organisation, Women Calling for Peace, hopes to send a message of peace and reconciliation and mobilise people against violence.

The occasion is a prayer meeting for peace and to save the children.

Everybody is invited to the session, the last prayer meeting for the year which would also be for peace during the Christmas season from 2pm.

"Again the women will be coming together, as they do every Thursday to pray for peace and to save the children," said co-ordinator of the meeting, the Reverend Motalepula Chabaku.

Supporting the action of the Women Calling for Peace is chairman of the National Peace Committee Mr John Hall, who said yesterday.

"Handling the problem of violence, poverty and despair required a contribution from all citizens in the country, of which the most powerful is prayer."

Churchmen throughout the country, the Reverend Frank Chikane, Bishop Desmond Tutu, Pastor Ray Mcnauley and Professor Johan Heyns, also strongly support the women's initiative.

"It is your children who are dying, pray we need you," Bishop Tutu said.

Pastor Mcnauley commended the women, for holding up the hands of the leaders in the country in prayer, to give them wisdom and insight.

Buses will be made available to transport people to the arena from various points in the Reef. Arrangements for transport can be made.
UN, OAU tour hostel

SOWETO's troubled Meadowlands hostel was visited yesterday by UN observers and OAU representative Shaddy Sibajeshe in an effort to comprehend the violence that has reduced large sections of the hostel to a burnt-out shell.

The visit comes in the wake of a recent agreement signed by the ANC's PWV region and the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association in which reconciliation between hostel dwellers and nearby communities was deemed essential before upgrading and development could be undertaken.

ANC PWV region chairman Tokyo Sexwale said joint rallies between hostel dwellers and members of surrounding communities would be organized for a way to encourage the peaceful reintegration of the region's 32 hostels. Sexwale reiterated the demand of the association/ANC agreement that funds earmarked by government for hostel upgrading be transferred to the National Housing Forum.

ANC PWV region chairman Wesley Dlamini, who showed the UN, OAU, ANC and media representatives the condition at the hostel, said the hostel issue had to be depoliticised if any progress was to be made.
Businessman injured in handgrenade blast

By Josias Charle and Own Correspondent

Soshangwe businessman was seriously injured early yesterday when a handgrenade was hurled through his bedroom window and gouged holes in the concrete floor and walls when it exploded.

A friend said doctors would probably have to amputate Mr Paulus Shhosana’s left hand and foot as a result of his injuries.

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"He is a businessman and is not involved in politics", Leach said. No arrests had yet been made. Police are investigating.

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"He was bleeding a lot from a wound in his cheek and from his left hand and foot.

"His foot looked like a spread out hand. I think they will have to cut it off."
Four injured in rail attacks

FOUR people were injured on Wednesday and yesterday morning in incidents on or near railway properties in the Germiston area on the East Rand, Witwatersrand police spokesman Warrant-Officer Andy Pieke reported. On Wednesday at 6am a man was injured when pushed from a moving train between Delmore and Germiston stations.

Less than two hours later a man was found with stab wounds near the Elsburg Station. At 5.30pm a 43-year-old man was stabbed in his back and then pushed out of a moving train between Katlehong and Wadeville stations. He was admitted to the Willem Cruywagen Hospital where he has still to regain consciousness.
PAC man shot dead in street

Staff Reporter

A relative, Abel Masike, said Ngaleka left his home at 5 am. A while later, a neighbour reported that he was lying in a pool of blood in the street.

Masike said Ngaleka was shot in the head. His body was later removed by the police.

The SAP is investigating the shooting.
Magistrate acquits cop who shot cowering boy

By DAN DHLAMIN

THERE was elation and bitterness in the Potchefstroom Regional Court this week when the magistrate acquitted a cop who fatally wounded a student who hid under a bed.

Bongi Nyokong's mother Elizabeth Mathapelo Bogo and relatives wept bitterly while Constable Ephraim Fente Rampete exchanged smiles of victory, shaking hands with colleagues and advocate EM Coetzee, who successfully defended him in the murder trial which emanated from an inquest two years ago.

In discharging Rampete Magistrate LP Virtue said independent pathologist Dr Jonathan Gluckman's admission this week that there were some mistakes in his statement weighed in favour of Rampete.

The magistrate said Dr Gluckman's inquest report on how Nyokong, a Tlokwe Secondary School Standard Nine pupil died on February 23 1990, had prompted the Attorney General's decision to prosecute Rampete in a criminal court.

The elderly Dr Gluckman who has been a pathologist for the past 40 years made newspaper headlines recently when he said police were responsible for most deaths in detention.

This week Dr Gluckman accused Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel of trying to discredit him over allegations that criminal police actions caused the deaths of detainees.

During cross examination Dr Gluckman conceded that he had made a mistake when he said the shot which hit Nyokong had been fired about 12 inches away from the deceased whereas it was much nearer as testified by both Dr Klupp and Rampete.

Earlier, State pathologist Patricia Klupp testified that Nyokong's injuries were in line with allegations that he was shot at a very close range while under the bed.

Her evidence correlated with that of Rampete who said Nyokong had grabbed the barrel of the gun and in the ensuing struggle a shot went off hitting him in an arm. Nyokong died of his injuries at Potchefstroom's Kallie de Haas hospital.

The magistrate said there were no eyewitnesses who saw exactly what happened inside the bedroom of school teacher Marcus Mosete on February 23 1990.

Magistrate Virtue said it was clear that Rampete's intention was not to kill Nyokong, but to arrest him because he could have shot him during an earlier chase.

He said police were targets at that time and their attackers were dangerous.
Sipho in the wars again

BY MONWABISI NOMADOLU

CONTROVERSY surrounds the severe and brutal attack of an ANC member a week ago in Johannesburg. He was found unconscious and bleeding profusely with multiple head injuries.

Michael McCuig, 27, alias Sipho Dhlomo of Emdeni in Soweto, had a close shave with death after he was attacked by unknown men and left for dead in Troyville's Beaudene Road two weeks ago.

Dhlomo claimed he was attacked by security police, but he doubts whether he would be able to identify them.

However, Dhlomo said that two days before his attack he received a death threat from an anonymous caller.

"The caller accused me of supplying comrades with firearms and causing trouble in Meadowlands," Dhlomo said.

A township source told City Press that comrades in the area were angry with Dhlomo after he nearly got them killed in Meadowlands.

Dhlomo said he was not prepared to report his assault to the police because in the past they were unable to investigate similar complaints he had made to them.

A staff member at the hospital said Dhlomo was badly injured and critical on admission.

"Both eyes were swollen and he couldn't see until three days later. He had sustained about 10 gashes on the head. It looked, like he was hacked," Dhlomo said.

Dhlomo said he did not know where the attack took place or even how many people were involved.

"I know the security police don't like me. In September I was stabbed by police in Orlando," Dhlomo said.

Neighbours told City Press that Dhlomo had gone missing for some time shortly before his adopted parents left for the Transkei.

Dhlomo was staying with Sylvia Sizole, mother of Sicelo Dhlomo. Sicelo, 18, was found shot dead in January 1988 after he gave an interview to CBS television for a documentary. Sipho had then offered himself to the family and adopted the name "Sipho" meaning a gift.

Dhlomo said he was working for the ANC but this could not be confirmed.

VICTIM... Sipho Dhlomo was assaulted and left for dead. // CITY PRESS PHOTOS
Shots at Vosloo meeting

Councillor fired after house, car damaged, say police:

By Lulama Luti and Sapa

A VOSLOORUS councillor was pelted with stones, his council vehicle set on fire and his house damaged after a public meeting in Vosloorus yesterday, police have confirmed.

Several shots were fired during the violence but liaison officer Captain Ida van Zweek said police had received no reports of any injuries.

Earlier, a Vosloorus Civic Association (VCA) spokesman alleged seeing the councillor, Mr Sam Petrus Mkize (59), firing shots at people leaving the meeting in the township's stadium.

He alleged that at 12.15pm yesterday, Vosloorus residents were leaving the stadium after a meeting organised by the VCA concerning the cutting off of water and electricity supplies to the township.

He heard shots and on running outside had seen Mkize with a gun. "People were closing in on him," said the spokesman.

In her account Van Zweek said that as those leaving

the stadium passed the councillor’s house, Mkize had pulled up in a council car.

After being stoned by members of the crowd, the councillor opened fire.

His car was burnt, causing R30 000 damage. He was slightly injured in the left ankle and his house was stoned.

The police were investigating charges of attempted murder and public violence, Van Zweek said.

No arrests had yet been made.

Allegedly shot:

A senior official of the VCA, Mr Jabu Dumane, identified the man allegedly shot by the councillor as Mr Thembisa Mngwevu.

He was allegedly shot at after a public meeting which was held at the local stadium.

Dumane said Mkize fired on residents returning from the meeting "without any provocation”.

Dumane said yesterday’s public meeting resolved to intensify the consumer boycott of white businesses in Boksburg. The boycott started on December 1.
House builders quit troubled Vaal townships

The housing shortage is chronic, but white developers are frightened to enter the area where they are robbed of materials, vehicles and threatened with death, reports JOSHUA RABOROKO.

Most white property developers building homes for blacks are pulling out of Vaal Triangle townships as a result of the escalating violence, despite the critical shortage of homes in the area.

The property developers maintain that their new homes have been vandalised, building materials have been stolen and vehicles hijacked by unruly elements who have made the area "altogether unworkable and extremely dangerous".

Personnel at some of the offices have been attacked and robbed of money, while some are living in fear of their lives after death threats have been made.

Losses

According to sources, only two of the 15 property developers are still operating in the beleaguered areas.

However, it is feared they, too, might leave after colleagues reported losses of millions of rand.

Property developer Johan Killian has said he lost R300 000 worth of materials being stolen and vehicles hijacked while building new homes in Zone 17, Sebokeng, in the past nine months.

In the latest of these attacks an employee was driving in Sebokeng when group of people armed with AK-47s stopped the vehicle and ordered him out.

They left with the bakkie that was carrying R16 000 worth of building material. Killian said his vehicle was valued at R20 000.

He said that since February business had been very bad in the townships as a result of criminal and other elements.

"We just cannot operate our companies in the present conditions," he said.

Killian said it was difficult to operate in Boipatong in the aftermath of the massacre in June.

"Violence has brought everything virtually to a standstill," he said, adding: "If you go there, you are not sure you will come back."

Most of the developers have left the remaining jobs with black sub-contractors who were also experiencing problems because they were seen to be sell-outs.

Killian said he had built more than 600 homes in Vaal Triangle townships since 1984, but had never encountered the problems he had to face this year.

"This is the worst year in my business," he said.

He explained that their problems were compounded by the fact that building societies and financial institutions were reluctant to grant home loans to blacks.

Another property developer, Andre Pienaar, said building a new home in Sebokeng was almost impossible. He said before a house was completed, material was stolen and deliveries disrupted by unruly elements in the townships.

"It is dangerous to operate a business with a gun virtually pointing at your head all the time."

"We are living in fear of our lives and have decided to quit the townships in the wake of the growing violence," Pienaar said.

"I had built homes in Zone 6 and 7 in Sebokeng."

His remaining jobs were passed on to black sub-contractors - probably with the view to empower them economically, he said.

Most of the developers have left and indicated that they might return when things become better in the trouble-torn Vaal Triangle townships next year.

Pienaar said he would probably take contracts to build for private companies, rather than go into "the troubled waters".

Killian said it seemed the whole building system had fallen flat on its face" in the townships after numerous charges had been laid at police stations.

Estimates

This is a very sad story indeed at a time when hundreds of people are without homes and living in squatter camps in the area.

It is estimated that more than 100 000 people are homeless and living in squatter camps and backyards in the area.

A police spokesman said more police were being deployed in the area.

There were many robberies, including the hijacking of vehicles, but the spokesman could not say if they belonged to any particular property developer.

The police would investigate every case after charges had been laid.
Gunmen kill Vaal policeman

JOHANNESBURG. — Another policeman has been killed in the Vaal Triangle township of Sebokeng, Witwatersrand, police said at the weekend.

Constable David Tsotetsi was shot dead by four men with AK-47 rifles when he arrived at his home. The gunmen fled on foot after taking his pistol.

• Two young men were found dead in Alexandra township, north of Johannesburg, at the weekend, apparently also shot with AK-47 rifles, police said.

• In Imbali, near Maritzburg, on Saturday night an Inkatha Freedom Party official, Mr Philip Vulindiela, survived an ambush — reportedly the third on him in the past week.

• The ANC in the Southern Free State cancelled their planned protest march on Saturday from Botshabelo to Thaba Nchu township in Bophuthatswana.

A Vosloorus councillor, Mr Sam Makize, 59, was pelted with stones, his council vehicle set on fire and his house damaged yesterday following a meeting on water and power cuts in the south-east Witwatersrand township, police have confirmed. — Sapa
REEF hostel residents were looking forward to a peaceful Christmas in stark contrast to the violence which ripped through the area during the festive season last year, police and community spokesmen said yesterday.

In the past month there has been a sharp decrease in incidents of violence in areas around hostels. Politicians, hostel organisations and police said yesterday they hoped the relative peace would last.

Police emphasised there would be no relaxation in their vigilance over Christmas.

Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association general secretary Leonard Mweli said the signing of an agreement on upgrading of accommodation between the association and the ANC earlier this month had reduced tensions in and around hostels.

Mweli said tensions had been lowered since the people saw the leaders of the hostels talking to the ANC about ways of improving living standards in hostels.

Police spokesman Lt Brahme du Preez said a three-pronged police strategy of searching, patrolling and seizing weapons had paid dividends. Although no figures were yet available, violence had declined "substantially".

Last week the Human Rights Commission reported a nine-month low of 285 deaths in political violence countrywide, with a significant decline in the PWV area.

Mweli warned against expectations about hostel upgrading by the TPA were not being met, and said money had been "wasted on consultants" when it should have been spent on building and renovation. He said hostel dwellers were beginning to question the sincerity of TPA "consultations" when recommendations were ignored.

Residents of Thokoza hostel had been promised extensive upgrading by the TPA.

Hostels but the hostel had simply been painted and residents were asked to pay more rent when they returned to their rooms, he said.

Mweli said hostel residents needed to have more say in what was being done with the R326m set aside for renovations by the TPA. Some of the money could go towards training hostel residents for the job market, he added.

The ANC has called on the TPA to hand the money to the National Housing Forum.

TPA spokesman Magda du Toit said the TPA could not comment on the ANC demand as the money was still in the hands of the Local Government Department.

She said the TPA needed more time to respond to the allegations made about upgrading at the Thokoza hostel.

ANC spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said the bilateral agreement with hostel residents had led to greater integration into surrounding communities. But he stressed that fencing had been included in the agreement as part of upgrading.

Inkatha spokesman Ed Tillet said increased police patrols to protect those attending inkatha meetings had reduced attacks on hostel dwellers.

Agreements between hostel residents and the ANC, PAC and civic organisations had played a major role in quelling violence along with the "cooling down of the political temperature" after the ANC's mass action campaign, he said.
Mandela: church cannot retreat now

ANC president Nelson Mandela yesterday called on the church world-wide to warn adherents against the dangers of superfluous change in SA that would leave power and privilege in the hands of whites.

Speaking at the centenary of the Ethiopian Church in Southern Africa in Potchefstroom, Mandela said the church "cannot afford to retreat to the coziness of the sanctity, politicalation as it may be, in these confusing and challenging times."

The church in SA had no option but to join agents of change and transformation in the task of acting as midwife at the birth of democracy.

Support

He rejected the contention that the church had been left out in the cold since February 2 1990 and had to take "stand alone" in search of an "identity and a role" following its earlier central contribution to the fight against apartheid.

In trying to marshal the support of "the powerful and influential institution that is the church," the ANC president remained cautious and said he would not support policies which subordinated churches in any way to the government of the day.

He suggested the role of the church during transition and beyond should be:
- To warn adherents to SA and the International Ecumenical Movement against the dangers of superfluous change that would leave power and privilege in the hands of whites and a few affluent blacks.
- To keep in public focus the legacy of apartheid and help to design strategies for addressing it.
- To position itself to act as the conscience of the present and future society, as a "ministry of values";
- To take an active part in the mobilisation of society for democracy, which should include education aimed at creating a culture of tolerance and at enhancing the moral fibre of the society;
- To play the essential role of fostering national reconciliation, "underpinned by confession and restitution".

The church could help the reconciliation process through a clear and unambiguous rejection of false reconciliation, as it did during the years of its fight against the apartheid heresy, he said.

- To focus energy on the war against violence and to help identify root causes "so this scourge can be eradicated";
- To take an active part in building a new nation through social reconstruction of the family and community, democratising political institutions and the economy; and
- To gear itself to take over some of the burden of education because this could no longer be left to the state alone.

Mandela said he was not being prescriptive to the church, but was concerned that unless society made full use of the potential the churches had, the democratisation of SA would be slow and distorted.

Call-up refusals to be investigated — SADF

Every individual case of non-reporting for national military service would be investigated and the offender prosecuted if necessary, the SADF said yesterday.

Reacting to the call-up refusals in Cape Town yesterday by a group of 21 young men facing January call-ups to report, the SADF said the Defence Act still provided for the conscription of white male citizens.

"The status quo will be maintained until the Defence Act is amended," a spokesman said.

The End Conscription Campaign (ECC) in a statement expressed full support for the 21 individuals.

"Since February 1990 many people have assumed that the whites only call-up was something that would not survive for very long in the 'new' SA."

"Now, almost three years later, thousands of young white South African men are again facing call-ups for military service," the ECC said.

The SADF would not comment on the number of conscripts called on to report for the January intake.

"However, all eligible white males are called up for duty and allotted to various areas of service." Furthermore, every individual case of non-reporting will be investigated and, if necessary, prosecutions will be instituted against offenders," the spokesman said.

The ECC criticised the SADF's approach, saying that the government's softening stance in the SADF under the whites only conscription system was under threat of being castigated as criminals for doing so.

The continuation of whites only conscription served government's policy of maintaining the SADF as its own private army, thereby dragging out the conflict and retarding the entire process of finding peace, the ECC said.

The call-up system was developed in line with the policy of apartheid which had been rejected by most people in the SA, the ECC said.

Meanwhile, the SADF has already received several countrywide applications for its voluntary short service system introduced last week.

The voluntary period service system was intended to provide some relief for Citizen Force and commando members, the SADF said when it announced the system last week.
Causes of taxi wars spelt out

By Helen Grange

The root causes of violence in the Alexandra taxi industry lie in a struggle among taxi operators, who are intent on achieving their own ends without regard for the commuting public.

This is the finding of a Goldstone Commission committee which began an inquiry into the Alexandra taxi wars on September 30.

In its report, the committee recommended that the two main taxi associations, the Alexandra United Taxi Association (AUTA) and the Alexandra-Randburg-Middendorp-Sandton Taxi Association (ARMSTA), establish a line of communication, and that members should practise tolerance and refrain from physical attacks.

The committee said the chairmen of both taxi associations had agreed the current status quo was completely unacceptable. The chairmen had already met, and there were discussions on ways to achieve lasting peace through co-operation.

Expanding on its findings, the committee said it was clear that the rivalry for members had reached a point where one taxi association was trying to outbid the other in saying how many members it had.

This manifested itself in petty tricks such as turning up at a meeting in large numbers when the expectation was for a smaller group, or disrupting attempted negotiations by a display of ultra-sensitivity regarding arrangements and procedures.

A factor fueling the tension was the sheer numbers of operators plying their trade, a basic ingredient to be found in other parts of the country where the minibus taxi trade could be found.

Factors aggravating the commercial competition included the high cost of vehicles, maintenance and insurance.

In Alexandra, there was no formal rank for minibuses. It was said in evidence that an estimated 300 or more vehicles operated at one place in Wynberg, Sandton, during peak hours.

"Bringing order to the situation has been attempted only by the warring taxi associations themselves. It is not surprising that, when tensions mount, the ranks are the places where trouble erupts," the committee report said.

Evidence had also emerged that permits were being fraudulently obtained. This allegation is being investigated by the police.
Gunman calmly kills two

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — A gunman wielding an AK-47 told his accomplices to start their getaway car and, when he heard the engine running calmly, started shooting people lying on the floor of a Sebokeng house.

Two men were killed and three people were injured in the attack last night.

Major Piet van Deventer of the Vaal Triangle police said four men in a BMW pulled into the property at a house in Zone 12 at about 11pm.

They knocked at the back door and asked where the owner of the house was. They then forced their way inside.

In the lounge they ordered everyone to lie down on the floor. One of the men had an AK-47 rifle and the others pistols. They demanded money and one of the victims gave them R30.

The man with the rifle ordered the others to go outside and start the car. On their way out they took a video machine, a hi-fi and several other items.

After loading the car they started the engine. The man inside then opened fire as his victims lay on the floor.
Terrorist attacks on doctors

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Vaal Triangle doctors have been increasingly targeted for attack and at least four have been murdered in the past few months.

In the latest attack, the Kruger Avenue rooms of Dr. C. Telchier in Vereeniging were wrecked when vandals broke in and spray-painted slogans on the walls, smashed equipment and overturned plant pots. He was forced to abandon his rooms.

The slogans sprayed on to the walls included "One settler, one bullet," apparently a reference to his career, which included being a missionary doctor in some of Africa's most deprived areas.

The attack on Dr. Telchier's rooms comes after Dr. Helga Kuhn was killed by gunmen in her rooms in Palm Springs near Evaton on December 3.

Dr. Peter Blake was shot in the chest by robbers outside his rooms in Kruger Avenue Vereeniging on November 20. He survived.

Dr. Koos Bornman was killed and robbed of his vehicle outside his rooms in Kruger Avenue on September 24.

Dr. John Ntsepe, who practised in the black residential areas was shot in the leg last September and died earlier this year.

Dr. S.D. Mokgabudi of Dicksonville, near Sharpeville, and a friend were found dead from bullet wounds.

Dr. A. H. Patel was robbed of his car at gunpoint in Evaton two months ago. He had been serving black people in the area for nearly 40 years.

Dr. A. Karim was assaulted in the same area a week ago.
Oasis of peace in an ugly war

By Shirley Woodgate

The only flowers between Alexandra’s strife-torn “Beirut” and “Iraq” areas grow in the grounds of the Inkanyes Waldorf Centre — where children are tended with even greater care.

The turquoise building surrounded by razor wire has not only survived battles between the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) and the ANC in the area, but has served as a haven of sanity for 350 youngsters scarred by the violence ripping their community apart.

Since 1985 the frightened and the homeless have found daily refuge in the classrooms where their trauma has been addressed.

Spokesman Carol Liknaitsky traced the history of the nursery school back to five people who decided to “bridge what had been split apart in society” and find a place where children of different cultures and language groups could meet through arts and crafts and by playing together.

A small beginning led to the formation of a trust which placed its Baobab Community Centre where it was needed most — in the heart of the toughest neighbourhood — in Alexandra.

They involved the community in making tables and chairs, negotiated with the ANC and IFP for “safe” routes to the school, dodged the gunfire and lived with the bloodshed and uprooting of whole families who fled to safer places.

It is quieter now and last week teachers and children stepped beyond the razor wire and attracted 600 people to carols-by-candlelight march through Alexandra.

Liknaitsky has appealed for those children who left at the height of the violence to return. Inkanyes will also train teachers for similar situations. Telephone Carol Liknaitsky at (011) 443-4013 or (011) 799-3497.
People’s court probe

POLICE are investigating allegations that the ANC is operating a “people’s court” in Bekkersdal after one person was admitted to hospital after being lashed 79 times with a sjambok all over his body.  

According to a statement issued by West Rand police Internal Stability Unit, the police went to Mandela squatter camp in Bekkersdal last week after receiving information about a “people’s court” operating in the area.  

When police arrived at the scene they found four men who claimed they had been abducted and forced to stand trial in a “people’s court”.  

Three of the men were “sentenced” and punishment was administered with a sjambok. One of the men received medical attention at Leratong hospital for injuries. The fourth man was ordered to pay a “fine” of R600, police said.  

Police took possession of documents which indicated that there was a “peope’s court” in the area.
Conference to focus on
violence in taxi industry

Staff Reporter

The bloody taxi violence in South Africa would become the focus of a national conference organised by the National Peace Secretariat (NPC) in January, the organisation announced last night.

NPC spokesman Val Pauquet said that all interested parties, including representatives of taxi associations, the Minister of Transport, financial institutions and transport unions would be invited.

The meeting, organised in conjunction with the Goldstone Commission, was expected to be held in Johannesburg.

Pauquet said the conference would seek ways of identifying issues that caused fighting in the multimillion-rand industry.

The chairmen of all Regional Dispute Resolution Committees around the country would be asked to supply input on issues pertaining to their particular areas.

Dr Antonie Gildenhuys, chairman of the National Peace Secretariat, said: "The taxi industry has developed into a very important industry in South Africa.

"It is totally unacceptable that human lives be sacrificed for the promotion of commercial interests within the taxi industry."

He added: "The taxi industry must be competitive on a free enterprise basis without coercion or intimidation of anyone."

Chris Fismer of the NPC will head a sub-committee responsible for this initiative.

For further information, telephone Val Pauquet on (011) 886-0717 or fax her on (011) 886-0084.
More doctors now victims of attacks

By Joshua Taboroko

Vaal Triangle doctors have been increasingly targeted for attack and at least four have been murdered in the past few months.

In the latest attack, the Kruger Avenue rooms of Dr C Teichler in Vereeniging were wrecked last week by unknown people who painted slogans on the walls, smashed equipment, overturned pot plants and damaged the rooms so badly he had to abandon them.

Dr Teichler was not available for comment yesterday.

The slogans on the walls included “One settler, one bullet.”

Of particular concern, apparently in reference to his being a missionary doctor in some of Africa’s most deprived areas.

This attack comes after Dr Helga Kuhn was killed by gunmen in her rooms in Palm Springs, near Evaton, on December 3.

Dr Tower Blane was shot in the chest by robbers as he climbed into his car outside his rooms in Kruger Avenue, Vereeniging, on November 20. He survived.

Dr Koos Bormann was killed and robbed of his vehicle outside his rooms in Kruger Avenue on September 24. His wife found his body the next day.

Dr John Ntsepe, who practiced in the black residential areas, was shot in the leg and later died.

Dr S D Mokgabedi, of Dickensonville near Sharpeville, and a friend were found dead from gunshot wounds.

The clinic formerly used by Dr D J Maree in Zone Seven, Sehokeng, is now occupied by residents after he quit the township apparently in fear.

Dr A H Patel was robbed of his car at gunpoint in Evaton two months ago. He had been serving people in the area for almost 40 years. Dr A Karim was assaulted in the same area a week ago.

Dr Patel’s son, Dr S Patel, was robbed about six months ago.
Get the joyriders off the taxi routes

The Goldstone Commission report on taxi violence on the Reef does not go far enough in asportioning blame, argues taxi driver

RAY NXUMALO

President of the photographic report mentions an Alexandra policeman who owned two taxis, bringing into question his impartiality in investigating complaints from the taxi association. Schoolchildren, even 'taxi drivers, argue that such people act contrary to their duty. They ask why the drivers are not given huge inflation by cost increases, require a permit to have driven a taxi for a certain stipulated period — usually three to five years — before being considered for membership.

The new member will be duty-bound to drive his taxi for six years before he can consider hiring a driver. The state is not the only body to lease vehicles to the demand pressures of the industry.

Ethnicity can be a compromising factor. Ethnic violence in the East Rand township of Tokoza and Kellengh has travelled off the long-distance taxi operating between these and the home-lands.

Allegations have been made that roadblocks from the predominantly Xhosa-inhabited Potlo Park area of the Metrorail settlement and National registration points. Taxicab轴承 Chokwe or Transvaal members have been found guilty and the occupants attacked.

Such attacks seemed to decrease when only Transvaal-registered taxis were allowed to bring commuters in.

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**2 Daveyton ANC men shot dead**

The ANC’s deputy chairman of the Daveyton branch on the East Rand, Wiseman Cebisa, and another branch member were shot dead at 2 am yesterday.

The ANC PWV region said in a statement it was shocked by the “cold-blooded murder” of Cebisa and Themba Diabango.

| East Rand police spokesman Captain Ida van Zweel confirmed the killings. She said their bodies had been found in the veld at the Chris Hani informal settlement. Five AK-47 cartridges were found at the scene. Police are investigating, Van Zweel said. According to Daveyton ANC branch officials, the two were dragged from their shacks by unknown men. Both had bullet wounds in the head. The motive for the murder has not yet been established. The ANC PWV region condemned “the continued murder of ANC activists by faceless forces whose primary aim is the destabilisation of our communities”. The organisation called on the authorities to investigate the murder urgently. |
Taxi violence

THE national peace secretariat is to hold a conference aimed at fighting taxi violence and achieving co-operation within the SA taxi network.

The secretariat said yesterday the conference would be held in collaboration with the Goldstone commission, probably in Johannesburg in January. The Transport Minister and representatives of taxi associations, transport unions and financial institutions would be invited to attend.

REPORTED BY Business Day reporter, blue.
The hell-ride continues

By MOSES MANAILA
24/12/92

GETTING into a suburban train this year was like walking through the valley of death.

More than 250 commuters were killed this year, which marks a sharp increase in train violence compared to the 38 train deaths reported in 1991, according to the Human Rights Commission.

Three hundred and fifty-five people have been killed on trains since the launch of the terror campaign in 1990—the year which marked the beginning of the end of apartheid rule.

While political organisations continue to trade in accusations and counter-accusations, those responsible for the attacks remain faceless and untraceable.

The armed attackers usually board the train in a group and target a particular coach. After brutally abusing or killing innocent commuters, they sight just before arriving at the next station.

Many victims are pushed to their deaths from moving trains, although some are stabbed or shot before being pushed off the train.

The unabating train violence prompted community organisations to embark on a train boycott on May 4 in a desperate bid to force the railway authorities and the government to stop the carnage.

Thousands of train commuters stayed away and braved long queues at the taxi rank.

During the week-long boycott not one incident of train violence was reported, said ANC PWV spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa.

Despite the security measures introduced after the boycott, the carnage continued.

As more police were deployed, the determined killers applied new tactics.

The gunmen proceeded to ambush and assault commuters as they alighted from the trains at various stations.

A disturbing phenomenon was that in most cases the attackers, who cold-bloodedly killed innocent people, were never arrested.

Recently, however, police spokesman Lt-Col Dave Bruin announced a major breakthrough in solving the train violence with the arrest of a hostel dweller linked to an attack on commuters at Cleveland station.

While the arrest of the suspect, Mhuluzana Zulu, might sound insignificant considering the countless attacks on trains, police are adamant that a breakthrough has been made for the first time due to the assistance of a member of the public.
Protesters march on bishop’s office

By DAN DHLAMINI

THE year-old turmoil in Klerksdorp’s Holy Family parish of the Anglican Church this week culminated in a march to the bishop’s office in town.

About 150 disgruntled congregants took to the streets of Klerksdorp singing hymns and wielding banners and a memorandum demanding the reinstatement of Rector Peter Mohasco.

The marchers, under the vigilant eye of UN observers, were disappointed to find Bishop David Nkwe’s offices locked with nobody to accept the memorandum.

The memorandum demanded the transfer of Mohasco be reconsidered immediately and that church keys, a vehicle and chequebook be returned immediately.

The disgruntled congregants also claimed that Nkwe was dividing the congregation and accused him of not having visited the Holy Family since his ordination.

Mohasco told City Press he viewed his transfer as having some ‘politico motive’.

He said he had long-term projects in the area which he wished to complete.

Nkwe confirmed that he had relieved Mohasco from his duties on the grounds that he did not want to be transferred to Bloemhof or Koster.

Nkwe said the transfer could be considered as a promotion for Mohasco.
TPA stays mum on cash crisis

THE TPA was tight-lipped at the weekend over reports that the Soweto City Council had blamed white officials for the dire financial straits the council found itself in. TPA spokesman Gert de Jager said he could not respond to reports that highly paid whites, seconded to the council, had neglected their duties, leading to TPA charges of serious misadministration in the Soweto and Diepkloof municipalities.

Should the allegations be put formally to the TPA, Administrator Danie Hough could respond, he said.

Last month, the TPA ordered the two Soweto councils to provide a report on how financial irregularities and maladministration were to be combated. It threatened that if the report was not satisfactory, provincial authorities would assume control of the townships.

New Nation reported on Friday that the Soweto Town Council had responded by announcing its intention to dismiss white officials. The council lash out at these officials, saying they who received large salaries but were inefficient.

The Soweto council could not be reached for comment.

De Jager said the fate of the councils would be decided by the executive committee of the TPA some time this week.

ANC stays on peace track

THE ANC PWV region has reaffirmed its commitment to the national peace process.

The organisation said at the weekend it had decided - after months of consultations and deliberations - to urge all its branches to participate in the peace accord structures.

Earlier this year, the organisation called on its branches to review their participation in the peace accord. The call was precipitated by an escalation in violence.

It said the flaws which the peace accord had did not warrant withdrawal from its structures.

"The region remains convinced that the peace accord has the potential of laying a firm basis for peace in our country."
PAC’s claims on violence in PWV area ‘ludicrous’

POLICE have described as “ludicrous” PAC claims that the activities of its armed wing Apla are behind a decrease in violence in the PWV area.

The SAP has suggested that Apla might have been responsible for train attacks on the Reef.

Any decline in train and other violence could be attributed to increased police action and national peace committee initiatives, police said.

PAC West Rand regional chairman Ntundeleni Madzunya said on Friday that his organisation had noted a sharp decline in political violence since Apla attacked whites at King William’s Town and Queens-town. This was in contrast to “international scarecrow” suggestions that the attacks would increase violence.

The general decrease in political violence, train attacks and attacks in which more than six people died indicated that Apla’s threat of retaliation for every black killed had “borne fruit”, Madzunya said.

The decline in the wake of the Apla attacks in the eastern Cape and subsequent threats proved that a “mercenary” element under the state’s control was primarily responsible for violence in the PWV area.

“It is common cause in international relations that the threat of military action by those who have a demonstrable capacity to retaliate always serves as a preventative measure in the conduct of aggression by opposing forces”, Madzunya said.

The response of ordinary citizens, who were joining the PAC in large numbers, showed there was a perception “on the ground” that Apla was responsible for stemming violence.

The PAC had declared 1053 constituency assembly year and believed the bullet cannot be abandoned until the ballot has been secured.

The PAC and Apla would refuse to co-operate with the Goldstone commission’s probe of Apla’s activities.

In response to growing international criticism of the PAC, Madzunya said the organisation’s policy had always been “to accommodate the wishes of the oppressed” and to shape its own destiny.

The PAC still owed allegiance to the OAU, which had recently criticised the organisation for not distancing itself from Apla’s attacks.

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Trees go to retain view

STEPHEN COPLAN

THE Forestry Department has been forced to remove hundreds of pine trees it had planted along the scenic Long Tom pass and to halftoation that would have affected tourism and ecology in the Lowveld.

Seedlings planted over an area of 35ha, with a commercial potential of R500,000, were removed after local residents and the Wildlife Society lodged objections.

More than 2000 residents of the Lydenburg/Sabi district petitioned the department to remove the trees, which they said would obscure the panoramic view for which the pass was famous.

Wildlife Society conservation ecologist Andrew Dubie said the department had undertaken to remove up to 20% of the young trees planted along the pass that links the Highveld to the Lowveld.

The trees would have obscured “the entrance to the Lowveld”, as well as threaten natural vegetation in the area, Dubie said.

Seasonal flowers that bloomed spectacularly would have disappeared as they could not compete with the trees.

Department spokesman Bos-

Eskom power

IN A gesture of goodwill, Eskom offered to supply electricity to Rand township of Vosloorus fire until January 7.

But the local town council, its power supply, is switch on the lights. It will on residents guarantee they will pay for other services, such as refuse removal.

The council cut electricity weeks ago because, it said, few of township residents have accounts.

Vosloorus Civic Association Jabloani Dumann said at the kom had written a letter to the Thursday requesting it to electricity supply until Janua which Eskom and the cot pact to sign an agreement utility to take over the supply from the council.

Dumann said Eskom had to charge the council for el sumed between December January 7 date Eskom had:

a Eskom official Jax de B utility’s offer to the council in attempt to alleviate the plight during the festive season.

Comment could not be obti
Soweto council defies TPA order to cut costs

SOWETO City Council management committee chairman Jabu Mnguni has defied the TPA which has threatened to dissolve the council unless it puts its finances in order.

Mnguni said yesterday the TPA could not dictate to him as he was governed by an Act of Parliament — and not by the administration.

"The TPA has no right to tell me what to do with my staff. I cannot be dictated to by the TPA — I am governed by the Black Local Authorities Act. The TPA can ask me, but not tell me what to do," Mnguni said.

He said he could go to the TPA when he was short of funds.

Referring to a recent incident when council staff demanded their annual bonuses, he said: "I managed to pay bonuses, without help from the TPA. We can cut costs 10% as ordered by the TPA. I know"

Among the cost-cutting measures ordered by the TPA was a 10% reduction in staff.

The TPA said its executive committee discussed the councils' representations yesterday and would decide on them in early January.

Top Sabta man resigns

PRETORIA — An executive member of the SA Black Taxi Association (Sabta) resigned from the organisation yesterday, saying the executive was just a rubber stamp for outside parties which made the decisions.

Faxi Enos Makena said in a statement the Sabta executive was no longer in control.

Makena said he was resigning also as treasurer of the Transvaal Taxi Association, but would remain as chairman of the Pretoria United Taxi Association.

He said Sabta was reluctant to change "incorrect policies that were hurting membership.

The time had come for Sabta to stop looking for scapegoats. It should "rather examine the organisation itself for the real problems and find answers that work". — Sapa.

Police to implement ideas to combat taxi violence

THE police would implement without delay the constructive recommendations made by the Goldstone commission in connection with taxi violence, SAP commissioner Gen Johan van der Merwe said yesterday.

In its report on taxi violence in Alexandra township in Johannesburg, the commission suggested that "firm, fair and consistent law enforcement" was needed to stem lawlessness and combat the lack of discipline in the taxi industry.

Van der Merwe said cases of taxi-operating by individual policemen and allegations of the fraudulent issuing or obtaining of permits were being investigated.

The report said that in the past a policeman had served as chairman of one of the Alexandra taxi associations.

It was "heartening" that the report found allegations of corruption and unwillingness on the part of police to investigate cases properly and to combat violence were baseless. Misunderstandings, rather than misconduct, seemed to be at the root of complaints, Van der Merwe said.
Shootout after taxi fired on

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG - A car chase and gun battle erupted between police, traffic officials, and men who shot at a taxi in Randburg today.

Two men were wounded and an eight-year-old boy was hit by a stray bullet.

Police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman said that at 8.30 am, the occupants of a Nissan Skyline opened fire on a minibus taxi in Randburg.

When police and traffic officials arrived, they found Tinus Swart, 8, who had been hit in the leg at a bus stop.

Police followed the sound of gunfire and a block away, found a wounded man who told them that occupants of the Skyline had fired at a taxi.

Soon afterwards, traffic police saw the Skyline at Bryanston shopping centre where a wild gun battle took place. No one was injured and the Skyline sped off, pursued by traffic officials.

The Skyline raced down a cul-de-sac where more shots were exchanged between the men and traffic police.

Four men gave themselves up while a fifth, carrying an AK-47, ran into the field. Police are still searching for him.
Police act on taxi violence

PRETORIA. — Police have began implementing recommendations by the Goldstone Commission after its probe into taxi violence in Alexandra township.

Police Commissioner General Johan van der Merwe said yesterday:

The commission released its report on taxi violence in Alexandra last Monday and placed the blame for violence squarely at the door of taxi operators, saying unbridled commercial rivalry and intolerance between rival taxi associations were the main causes of tension.

But General Van der Merwe said in a statement he had issued instructions that the commission's recommendations on ways to increase police efficiency be investigated and, where necessary, implemented.

The commission recommended that fair, firm and consistent law enforcement was needed to combat lawlessness in the minibus taxi industry.

General Van der Merwe said police were probing allegations of the fraudulent issuing or obtaining of permits. — Sapa.
Bystanders hurt as gunmen fire on taxis

AN EIGHT-year-old boy and two other people were wounded in a shooting incident in Randburg yesterday, and police arrested seven people and seized two pistols and an AK-47 rifle after a car chase through Bryanston.

Police spokesman Capt Eugene Opperman said the boy, Thius Swart, was wounded in a leg.

He was delivering newspapers when the occupants of a passing car fired shots at a taxi. Two more people were found wounded nearby.

The victims told police the occupants of a Nissan Skyline had fired shots at taxis in the area.

The car was later seen at a Bryanston shopping centre and shots were exchanged between the occupants and police.

During the ensuing chase, the car came to a halt and four of the occupants handed themselves over. Three gunmen who had fled were later arrested.

Opperman said the incident was linked to a taxi war in the Randburg-Alexandra area.

Thius is recovering at the Garden City Clinic. — Sapa.

Refugees to return home

DURBAN — Refugees who fled the Eshowe area near Port Shepstone because of political violence will return today as three years of bitter conflict between rival factions comes to an end.

A spokesman for the Port Shepstone local dispute resolution committee said refugees would gather at Gamalakhe Stadium, about 15km from Margate on the Natal South Coast.

Their return stems from an initiative of the Commonwealth observer mission. The mission arranged for the refugees to meet tribal leaders two weeks ago to decide on ways to re-integrate them into the community.

It is estimated at least 150 people will return to Chief Ndwalane’s area.

Chief Samuel Mavunda will address his followers at the stadium, while Ndwalane and his committee will meet the refugees at the chief’s house. Observers from the Commonwealth, EC, OAU and the UN will also be present. — Sapa.
John Seiler, used to the sanctuary of Norwood, takes a nervous, escorted drive

Dipping a toe into the waters of Alex

I AM no less culpable than most other white residents of Johannesburg, Sandton and Randburg. I had never been into Alexandra township. I had seen it in a smoky haze, from the flat of a wealthy estate agent on Linksfield Ridge during a visit. Since we moved to Johannesburg, I had come near it while driving to and from Benny Goldberg’s shop on Louis Botha Avenue, when I saw Casspirs, either brown or yellow, and felt a complex twinge of fear that Alexandra violence might have dribbled over into Wynberg and might even attack the quiet streets of my suburb, Norwood.

Guilt that I had not visited the township, and that my world was detached from that one, linked only by the ambiguous web of rhetoric and sentiment that simultaneously binds and separates most liberal whites from their black compatriots.

My wife and I went to Alexandra a few days ago. We parked our car at the Alexandra Clinic to be met by a local councillor who wanted to show us the impact of violence on former residents of “Beirut” and the desperate need for “temporary” housing more substantial than the present form.

Our first insight was that the clinic was outside Alexandra, but despite this the venue had become difficult for many Alexandra residents to reach, because walking to it meant coming into or peripherally close to the no-go zone of Beirut.

Our next insight was that the police station is also outside Alexandra. The third was finding an SAP Casspir with a brace of armed policemen, waiting to escort our host’s car.

Our host drove very slowly, partly to point out the deserted blocks of Beirut, partly to avoid breaking his axe in the large pot-holes of the neighbourhood streets.

Some houses were totally destroyed, others almost unaltered, some lived in (by Zulu residents who presumably felt more comfortable near the two hostels than they did in other parts of Alex — or who may have recently arrived in Alex from other places).

There were some police within Beirut, but even more at the border between it and the rest of Alex: a street named oddly (to my American ear) “Roosveld”. Was this a long-sought sign of respect for the president who gave the world the “Four Freedoms” from which flowed the UN Declaration of Human Rights and which in a general way impelled the US policy of anti-colonialism towards the end of World War 2? Was it misspelt intentionally, as a clever pun on what might in the 1940s have been an open stretch of useless grassland?

This musing in my head kept me from panic as we drove down Roosevelt past hostel M1, the one from which most attacks against Alex residents have come. The only traffic aside from us and our Casspir were two other Casspirs and an SAP car.

A new general store, with expensive security bars, stood closed and silent just across Roosevelt from M1. Despite being built for hostel tenants by someone with some ties to the inhabitants, it had not survived the anarchy of the border street.

We saw no one in or around the hostel, aside from a few men kicking a soccer ball in the brown field next to M1 and despite many open and glassless windows, no rifles appeared, and we passed by in embarrassed relief.

The crux of our visit was a talk with several people who had fled Beirut in March, taking with them as much of their household belongings as they could muster, at a time of especially violent raids from the hostels.

Hundreds of families who fled there live still in “temporary” shelters in various Alex churches, sometimes in church community buildings, but even in the churches themselves, making difficult the provision of normal church services and other functions.

The ones of us who were living in a large gym, a community centre for 47 families, maybe 100 children of school age, another 100 pre-school children.

Each family had its universe in the gym demarcated by a wall of its belongings — chairs, mirrors, lounge furnishings.

Most had a bed at the centre of its rectangle, some an odd chair or two. Cooking was done on a communal hot plate. Small children wandered around, curious and friendly.

The older children were in Alex schools, but had no place to study when they got “home”. Play was limited to the open space outside the centre, within eye and nose of the terrible-smelling and barely moving Jukseki River.

Despite the obvious physical shortcomings of the centre, the striking, almost palpable impression was the vitality and conviction of the people there.

They have a committee. They are represented on the Interim Crisis Committee, the Alex local dispute resolution committee. They are firm that they will not leave their present “temporary” quarters for any other “temporary” housing, for fear that the upgraded shelters being contemplated by the ICC and the Alex Council, hopefully with Government money, would become permanent.

While they recognize the problems faced by their former neighbours who are staying in church buildings, for themselves only one move is acceptable — back to their houses in Beirut, with reburial and money to rebuild and refurbish a prerequisite. The ICC now says money will come in six months. Earlier, it had talked of three months.

The rest of Alexandra is peaceful, despite its varied social nature. Housing runs a wide gamut from professional housing at various places to ramshackle huts that reminded us of Maputo’s over-run highway verges and public parks.

Some of these huts are occupied by Mozambicans, others by Rastafarians, each in separate neighbourhood, separate from one another. Both are operated by an open fringe — the focus of contention about low-cost housing from the sturdy middle-class houses of East Bank.

East Bank and Far East Bank are in turn cut off from Lombardy and Rembrandt Park by a 75 ha site just recently approved by the Johannesburg City Council for a golf academy, rather than the affordable housing recommended by the Planning Directorate.

I write this in the comfort and security of my Norwood home. Swimming pool, a garden, a dog, cat — the usual accoutrements of white middle-class suburban life.

I do not feel guilty about it. It is far from pretentious. And, while I appreciate and to some extent share the fears and anxieties of my Norwood neighbours (and, of course, whites living near Alexandra or with businesses in Malboro made inoperable by bottlenecks moving in from Alex), I see avidly now that avoiding Alex — or looking at it from the beguiling vantage point of Linksfield Ridge — only exacerbates fear and anxiety.

Most Alex residents, whatever their ethnic background or political persuasion, want the same security and opportunity for themselves and their families that I want for mine. Recognising their central motive, and helping them to achieve these goals urgently, is what we need to do now.

Dr Seiler is a retired American political scientist.
NEWS 91 suspects arrested after mine deaths

No place like home...Neuro-surgeon Dr Isaac Thatedi (second from right) arrived home this week after 33 years of exile in America. The Sharpville-born former journalist was met by musician Hugh Masekela, Dr GG Mhoro and Press photographer Alf Kumalo at Jan Smuts Airport. See story on page 4.

PIC: LEN KUMALO

20 reported dead in Reef mine fight

By Lulama Lutu

M onday 20 people are believed to have been killed and about 50 injured when fighting broke out between inmates at the Durban Rooiport Deep Gold Mine hostel near Rooiport on Christmas Day.

Sowetan confirmed 12 deaths and 34 injuries, but eyewitnesses interviewed yesterday believed the number could be more than 20.

A driver from the Rooiport Ambulance Service said when they were called to the scene on Saturday night, they picked up six corpses. Three other bodies were found the previous night, he said.

Police spokesman Major Piet van Deventer yesterday said only eight people had been killed, according to information they had received.

He added that more people could have died in hospital.

Van Deventer said 91 suspects were arrested on Saturday.

He said fighting was apparently sparked off by an argument over food.

A sister at the Durban Deep hospital yesterday said 11 people were admitted to the hospital while two others died on admission.

Matron in charge at the Lenios Hospital Mrs E Vanga said 23 people were admitted to the hospital on Friday and Saturday nights.

They either had stab or hack wounds while others had gunshot wounds.

She said an unidentified elderly man died on admission.

A mine official who identified himself only as De Wet, declined to comment and said a statement would be issued later.

Survivors of the attack gave different accounts from their hospital beds during an interview with Sowetan yesterday.

How the fighting started

While some said they did not know how the fighting started, others said it began after a Xhosa-speaking inmate had quarrelled with a Shangaan inmate over a woman.

Mr Elias Rangwana, who said he was from Maseru, said the fighting arose from an argument over a woman between a Xhosa-speaking man and a Senoi.

"I don’t even know how I came here," he said from his hospital bed.

"I thought the whole thing was resolved on Friday night, I did not know that we would be attacked on Saturday," a labourer from Umzimkhulu in Transkei, Mr Albert Ixani (33), said at about 9pm on Friday night they were attacked while drinking at Number 6 in the C compound.

"When I came out of the beerhall I saw people carrying an assortment of weapons approaching the entrance and that’s when I started running. Everybody else inside was running for cover and it was then that I was hit and stabbed several times and my clothes were soaked in blood," he said.

Mr Goodwill Nyusutu from Malawi said he was asleep on Saturday evening when suddenly there were loud knocks on the windows.

"I woke up to find the whole place full of people who hit us indiscriminately. I ran out and they followed me to the kitchen," he said.

He added that, blows continued to rain on him until he fell on the kitchen floor and one of them said: "I think we’re through with him" and they left him for dead.

Differing views

Fracas started over woman say some, food say others:
**High-tech train set for test run**

RAY HARTLEY

The first high-tech security train designed to foil railway violence goes into operation next week.

The 14-coach train will be tested on the Soweto line on January 4. If tests prove successful, it will go into full operation two days later.

The train is equipped with concealed video cameras which automatically focus on coaches in which commuters have pressed emergency buttons.

SA Rail and Commuter Corporation official Brian Carver said the cameras would be monitored by security officials close to potential conflict areas and swift action could be taken against instigators of violence.

Other features include extra-strong windows and interleading doors with rubber housing between coaches to thwart incidents in which commuters are thrown from trains.

The new windows, manufactured locally by Mustart from polycarbonate sheeting produced by AECI, would cut down on money spent on replacing glass windows, frequently smashed during stoning incidents, Carver said.

The new rail guard would go into operation in the new year in a further bid to eliminate train violence, he said.

**Consensus reached on hostels revamp**

CONSENSUS had been reached on upgrading programmes at 35 hostels in the Transvaal, a TPA spokesman said last week.

The TPA has had almost R200m allocated to it by government for the upgrading of 92 hostels in the province.

The administration has pursued a policy of seeking consensus with hostel residents on the measures to be taken at each hostel.

Plans for changes at 28 of the hostels have already been completed, while talks are still in progress at another nine.

"In 24 instances, approval for projects has been requested (from the national housing department) and in 13 cases approval for the projects has been granted," a TPA statement said.

The TPA spokesman said negotiations were under way at a further 48 hostels.

Representatives from the ANC PWV region and the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association, however, have called on government to transfer the responsibility of hostel upgrading, together with the more than R300m allocated nationally for the purpose, to the National Housing Forum.

The two associations claimed the TPA had not consulted sufficiently with hostel dwellers before implementing upgrading programmes.

"The aim of the TPA's hostel strategy is to improve living conditions of hostel dwellers by means of the upgrading of existing facilities for single persons and/or conversion of hostels into family units," a TPA statement said.

"It must be stressed that the TPA regards proper and representative consultation of the utmost importance in achieving the upgrading or conversion of hostels in the Transvaal," it added.

The Local Government and National Housing Department said that, nationwide, planning for 41 upgrading projects was under way at a cost of about R33.6m. Building operations had been approved for a further 30 sites, the cost of which would be almost R16m.

Sapa reports that fighting among inmates of the Durban Deep Hostel on the West Rand left six people dead on Saturday night, bringing to eight the number killed at the hostel since Christmas day.

Police have reported at least six other deaths in violence in the Transvaal since Thursday.

Three men died at Hostel 4, Sebokeng, in the Vaal Triangle; a man was stabbed to death and a woman was found hanged in Alexandra township, near Johannesburg; and the body of an unidentified man with his genitals cut off was found in the veld near Bekkersdal on the West Rand.

In Natal on Friday, two men were found shot dead at KwaNdlengezi between Durban and Maritzburg, and the bodies of three men were found at Swayimane, outside Maritzburg.
By Sowetan Reporter and Sapa

THE death toll in the weekend fighting between inmates of two mine hostels on the West Rand has risen to nine, police spokesman W/O Andy Picke said yesterday.

Two people died and 36 were injured when a group of Xhosa-speaking workers attacked workers from Mozambique on Saturday.

The ninth victim of the fighting died in hospital, according to the police.

Picke said the situation at the mine was calm but tense. The mine was, however, operating normally.

The names of the dead would not be released until their next-of-kin had been notified.

Picke yesterday said management would also conduct an investigation into the causes of the unrest and would take appropriate action against employees involved.

Picke said police had arrested 88 mine employees.
JOHANNESBURG. — Two black men were wounded by white gunmen over the weekend in what appear to be right-wing revenge shootings.

The men were both shot in Randburg on Sunday.

Police said they had yet to establish a motive for the attacks, but were investigating the possibility the incidents were the latest in apparent revenge shootings for attacks on whites.

"At this stage it is too early to determine whether the attacks were racially motivated, but we will be looking at that as a possible motive," a police spokesman said.

Six whites have been killed and more than 35 wounded in four politically-motivated machinegun and grenade attacks in South Africa and Transkei since November 23.

**Fired from a car**

The first victim in Sunday's shooting, a 23-year-old man, was discovered lying next to a road with a bullet wound in his neck. He told police his attacker was a white man who had fired at him from a car.

Three hours later police discovered the second victim a couple of kilometres away with bullet wounds in his chest and throat. He also identified his attacker as a white man driving a car.

Both men appeared to have been shot with a small-calibre weapon, possibly a .22-calibre revolver.

They were in a satisfactory condition in hospital.

Although the attacks were similar, there was insufficient evidence to link the two shootings, the police spokesman said.

**Taxis attacked**

The attacks came a day after a black truck driver escaped uninjured when his vehicle was fired at by a white man in Vryburg.

In earlier attacks, white extremists in the Free State shot and killed a black man and injured 15 others in two separate attacks on taxis.

"All five shootings come less than a week after right-wing groups accused the government of being unable or unwilling to stop attacks on whites in the country's rural areas," and threatened to launch retribution attacks against suspected blacks.

Apies has been linked to two of the attacks on whites.

These attacks were the first military-style assaults on white civilians since February, when President F W de Klerk began dismantling apartheid. — UPI
About 20 Orlando East residents in Soweto were assaulted and three youths hospitalised after they were allegedly assaulted by SADF soldiers searching for a stolen gun.

Mr Vuyani Tyali (19) and Mr Zanele Malinga (18) were discharged from Baragwanath Hospital yesterday afternoon, their bruises still visible.

Tyali, who had scars around his neck, said the soldiers had hung him from a tree and demanded the gun.

Vuyani’s mother, Mrs Cynthia Tyali, said the soldiers came in the early hours of Saturday morning demanding a gun. “They slapped me and my son. They poured cold water all over me and took my son away.”

Vuyani said he and Floyd Njema were taken to a dam behind Orlando Stadium and later to the army base at Lenasia where they were further tortured.

Soweto police spokesman Captain Joseph Ngobeni yesterday confirmed that charges had been laid against the soldiers and that police were investigating.

Tyali was taken home at 7pm on Saturday, his face swollen and his body bruised.

According to residents, the soldiers were patrolling the area on Christmas day. At about 10pm they entered a house where there was a party and started drinking.

One soldier stayed behind after the others were forced out of the house by their captain. He was allegedly hit on the head and his gun stolen. When the other soldiers discovered what happened all hell broke loose.

They took the injured soldier from house to house. But the soldier pointed out at every boy as the one who took the gun.

Miss Mantoa Sebeso said she met the soldiers in the street at 11pm. “They held me by the scruff of my neck and slapped me. One pushed me against the hippo and started strangling me. I was so scared they would kill me. I suggested they go ask at another house where there was noise.”
2 bodies in shaft - cops to appear

Two will face murder and robbery charges in Klerksdorp court in the new year.

By Mzimasi Ngudle

TWO policemen will appear in court early next year to face murder and robbery charges following the death of two men whose bodies were found in a ventilation shaft in Klerksdorp on Christmas Eve.

Western Transvaal police spokesman Lieutenant Petrus Ramatosele said Lance-Sergeant Carel Blom (23) and Constable Gaviit Carter (19) had been suspended from duty as a result. A third suspect would be arrested in due course, he said.

Ramatosele said the two men will appear in the Klerksdorp Magistrate's Court on January 7 on charges of murdering and robbing Mr Bebo Tshibwala (29) and John Nqahini (35). Tshibwala, a co-owner of two liquor stores in Joubertine, Klerksdorp, and Ngahini, were allegedly robbed of R1000 and six bottles of liquor on April 21.

The two went missing the following day and mystery has surrounded their fate since.

Information on the two missing men was supplied to the police by a suspect in another case on December 22.

On Christmas Eve, and only hours after arrests of the two policemen, the skeletons were found in an old ventilation shaft at a mine in Klerksdorp.

Ramatosele said the arrests came after police received information following the arrest of a man on charges of illegal possession of gold dust.
Skeletens of missing men found in shaft

The skeletons of two missing men were found underneath a pile of stones in a mine shaft outside Klerksdorp only hours after two policemen were arrested on charges of murder and robbery, an SAP spokesman said yesterday.

Lance-Sergeant Carl Albertus Bloem (26) of the Klerksdorp police and Constable Gavin Corder (19) of the Internal Stability Unit at Deepkloof, Soweto, were arrested on December 24.

The arrests follow the disappearance of Klerksdorp liquor store manager Bobo Tsholo and security guard John Nghathi in April after a robbery at the store during which R1,000 and six bottles of liquor were stolen and a Toyota bakkie also went missing.

Only hours after the arrest of the two policemen, police discovered the skeletons of the two missing men in a mine shaft near Klerksdorp. Parts of the bakkie were also found in the shaft.

They appeared in court on December 25 and were let out on bail of R100 each.

Police are still searching for a third man.
Man (25) dies after assault

By Mzimasi Ngudie

A SOWETAN man died last week after he was allegedly assaulted by white, four policemen at John Vorster Square. His brother has alleged that Musa was discharged the same day, taken back to the cells and released thirty days later. Norman was admitted and died in hospital six days later. The family has laid charges of assault and murder.

Meanwhile, three white men allegedly assaulted two black men near Vereeniging on Monday. One of the men believed to have been attacked.

Two white traffic officers arrived and four assaultants, who were brandishing knives, ran away. Musa, a traffic officer, grabbed the knife from the first assaultant.

The assaultants told the traffic officers that Musa and Norman were not reporter him.

The traffic officers then informed the police, Norman and the assaultants were taken to John Vorster Police Station.

Musa said that the two traffic officers together with two police men were found in the police station and assaulted him and his brother.

They were allegedly punctured with knives until Norman fell to the ground unconscious.

They were later taken to Hillbrow Hospital, where one policeman refused to lock us in the cell because of our physical conditions," Musa said.

Musa was discharged the same day, taken back to the cells and released thirty days later. Norman was admitted and died in hospital six days later. The family has laid charges of assault and murder.

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CP mobilises home guard units

CP HOME guard units in the Ladybrand area were mobilised yesterday to establish camps to train communities in self-defence and weapon skills after recent attacks on whites.

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 yesterday.

CP MP for Ladybrand Charl Hertzog said yesterday’s meeting was part of a nationwide mass mobilisation. Local home guard units would improve and extend the existing neighbourhood watch system, he said.

Training camps would instruct communities in weapon proficiency and self-defence against attacks on pedestrians or motorists.

Hertzog encouraged all countrymen (volksgenoten) to involve themselves.

 Yesterday’s meeting follows two further incidents in the border area this week. A 15-year-old white teenager, Daniel Keis, was knocked down and slightly injured by a black taxi on Monday while jogging.

On Tuesday a white motorist was forced off the road by two black taxis while driving between Ladybrand and Hohbourne.

The SAP has assured the National Transport Policy Forum it will provide maximum protection to taxis and other vehicles after attacks on two black minibus last week left one person dead and three others injured.

Two black minibus were shot at on Wednesday and Thursday last week, days after 15-year-old 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 incident.

Forum road safety campaign co-ordinator Molefe Rapoldie said yesterday the forum had complained about unlawful roadblocks manned by bogus police personnel, and the negative attitude of some traffic officers.

Rapoldie said the SAP had told them in Dyaphepo and soldiers had been deployed, and a helicopter and two aeroplanes were on standby.

“The police dealt with our problems most satisfactorily and assured the public that roadblocks were clearly marked and would be staffed by identifiable police officers,” he said.

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Police officer beaten to death

JOHANNESBURG policemen Jerry TIm was beaten to death by a group of 50 taxi drivers and their accomplices in Hillbrow on Monday night, Witwatersrand police said.

The police, who were on duty and not wearing a uniform, approached a man suspected of theft in order to arrest him when the group surrounded him and beat him to death, Picke said yesterday.

The policeman, who was off duty and not wearing a uniform, approached a man suspected of theft in order to arrest him when the group surrounded him and beat him to death, Picke said.

He said two men had been arrested for murder but had subsequently been released.

“Taxi drivers questioned by the police alleged that the policeman attempted to rob one of the taxis, sparking off the incident, Picke said.

The taxi drivers had hoped to clear up the details of the attack soon, and had questioned 18 people so far.

Timo said the guns carried by the policeman could have reinforced the perception that he was a robber. He added that the SAP strongly condemned all vigilante activities.

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

He said he hoped that the group was not aware that Timo was a policeman, because the attack might then be interpreted as one directed specifically against units of the SAP.

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Police hope arrests end Pretoria train attacks

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 December 15, 19 and 24 and left three people dead and three injured.

The first arrest was made on Monday this week at the Belle Ombre station outside Pretoria, and was followed by two more arrests at the Pretoria station on Tuesday and at Mabopane yesterday, Northern Transvaal police said.

“All indications were that the motives for the attacks were robbery and not political, and we therefore believe the arrests will put an end to the incidents,” a spokesman said.

Sapa reports police also announced a man had been arrested in connection with the death of two policemen on Christmas Eve in Veldkraal.

East Rand police liaison officer Capt Ida van Zeeuw said the arrest of a 21-year-old man on Monday followed the shooting of a municipal policeman and a fingerprint expert who were gunned down after responding to a housebreaking report.

The suspect was due to appear in Boksburg Magistrate’s Court yesterday. A second man is being sought in connection with the incident.

Two youths who witnessed the killing and mutilation of the man were murdered by the men and held captive in a shack at a Tongaat refugee camp for nearly two-and-a-half weeks.

Women and dogs shot on smallholding

WEST Rand police discovered the bodies of two women and the carcasses of six dogs on a smallholding near Handfontein after a worker found a note on the door asking that the police be called.

The body of Myrka Barnard, 59, was found on her bed with a bullet wound in her head. Her elderly mother, Florence Cherry, was also shot in the head.

One of the dogs was shot and killed next to a cherry, and five others were killed in the bathroom.

Police have seized a firearm and a note claiming responsibility for the murder and are searching for a Gilde Barnard, who could assist in the investigation.

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The photo and other images are not included in the text. If there are any specific questions or topics you would like more information on, please let me know. I am here to help!
Three men gunned down in Soweto

Three men were shot dead and one man was seriously wounded when a lone gunman opened fire while they were sitting in a car in Mapola, Soweto on Tuesday night.

And in a killing spree on the West Rand, police discovered the bodies of two women and the carcasses of six dogs on a smallholding near Randfontein after a worker found a note on the door asking that the police should be called.

Also in Soweto, a South African Defence Force private was killed and nine other soldiers were slightly injured when the armoured vehicles in which they were travelling overturned on the Old Potchefstroom road.

Soweto police spokesman Captain Joseph Ngobeni reported yesterday that the motive for the Mapetla killings appeared to be a dispute over dagga which was believed to have been stolen from the attacker earlier.

But a family member, Mrs Mathilda Mosone, disputed the involvement of dagga and said this was untrue.

The injured man was taken to Baragwanath Hospital. Police found 9mm cartridges at the scene of the attack.

The Soweto Murder and Robbery Squad is still investigating and no arrests have been made, Ngobeni said.

In two other separate incidents, Soweto police arrested two men and confiscated a Makarov pistol and one round of ammunition and a semi-automatic pistol and six rounds of ammunition, also on Tuesday.

West Rand police said the body of Mrs Myrna Barnard (59) was found on her bed with a bullet wound in the head. Her elderly mother, Mrs Florence Cherry, was also shot in the head.

One dog was killed next to Cherry and five were killed in the bathroom.

Police have seized a firearm and a note claiming responsibility for the murder and are searching for a Mr Gideon Barnard, who could assist in the investigation.

The dead soldier, who was trapped under the vehicle, was identified as Private Abraham Khoathela. - Sapa.
RIOTS & DISTURBANCES — T. V. L
1993

JANUARY — FEBRUARY MARCH
FICKSBURG taxi driver Bongani Mbhikulu does not have 1993 on his mind. He lifts one hand from the minibus steering-wheel and points at the fast-coming light. Exactly a week before another taxi driver was in the same position on this road. He was shot dead by three white extremists who, fuelled by their leaders' war talk, were driving around in their bakkie firing indiscriminately at black taxis.

"That could very easily be the killers again," says Bongani. Twenty metres away it is clear that the vehicle is also a bakkie, and Bongani shifts his grip on the steering-wheel. The bakkie, a white one this time, whooshes past towards Ficksburg.

Scared

"I would not have had a chance," says Bongani softly, almost to himself.

Early in 1992 Bongani had a brush with death. It happened in Qwa-Qwa when a gunman mistook the taxi in which he was a passenger for another one involved in a taxi war. Again the driver was killed. The other occupant was shot through the heart and a bullet pierced Bongani's chest, missing his lung by centimetres.

"Of course I am scared," he says glumly as he turns the nose of the taxi back towards Ficksburg for the return journey.

"But I can't just stop. This is my bread and butter — I have a family to look after."

In taxi-driver lingo "going dead miles" means a return trip alone after you have dropped off your passengers at a distant destination.

For drivers in the volatile eastern Free State "dead miles" has a sinister undertone, because you are even more vulnerable on your own.

Bongani is visibly relieved as the rainy sky gets an orange tinge. He pulls into his hometown, Ficksburg, and the smile is back on his face again.

Journey No 2 had its origins in front of the Ficksburg town hall, where two cabinet ministers were shot down by angry farmers and right-wingers just before Christmas, following attacks on white farmers in the district.

"It is here that well-known right-winger Eddy von Maltitz gets out of his bakkie on Thursday."

Listening to this self-described "militarist, politician and farmer" leads to the thought that some of his utterances border on the farcical, but he still has a larger-than-life presence in Ficksburg. People take him seriously.

"The National Party, the ANC and APLA are all in the same camp," says Eddy with a knowing smile. "My biggest problem is the United States — they are the 'Third Force.' I am fighting the US."

Raging against the typical conspiratorial enemies of the far right-wing, his attention shifts to Jewish people.

"It is the Jews sitting behind the ANC," he says. "But I'm not anti-Semitic. I'm just realistic."

Then Eddy finally concedes to a request to go on one of his nightly patrols, with what he calls his "reactionary vehicle."

Vulnerable

He knows what he is doing as he leads a convoy of four bakkies in the pouring rain, visiting scared farmers on their farms. Like the taxi-drivers, they are always on the lookout for the faceless enemy.

The people are glad to see Eddy as it makes them feel reassured.

"I believe there will be a war here," says Eddy. "But we are all ready for them. We are not scared." He promises that the men won't take out innocent people but will take out their leaders — we know who they are.

The patrol ends early:

"The men are worried about their families alone at home tonight."
Back to a war zone

When home is the only place to go...

BATTLE GROUND... A row of Mzimhlophe homes which were vandalised and looted in a hostel attack on residents last year. All that remains are the empty shells.

The silence that has engulfed Meadowlands' Zone 1 and the hostel complex opposite the township remains deafening. The dusty road between the hostel and the township is a no-go zone for both residents and hostel dwellers.

Although there is no formal peace agreement between the warring factions, there have been no reports of fights since township residents returned. However, township residents are wary of the tranquility that prevailed during the festive season. They said there was no more fighting because the "Zulu have gone home for Christmas and they will return with more weapons and the fight will start again".

But the youths in the hostel said they were tired of fighting and on Christmas Day they fetched their township counterparts to celebrate with them.

"Our indunas chased them away and told them there was no formal peace treaty between the warring factions. We were disappointed by this and we told our friends when we escorted them out not to worry as everything will be arranged for peace," the hostel youths said.

Although some residents have returned to their Mzimhlophe homes, most houses are no more than skeletons with broken windows and doors.

The ANC in the PWV and the Transvaal Hostel Residents Association have signed an agreement which will improve relations between the residents and the hostel dwellers. The pact also calls for the upgrading of living conditions at the hostel.

NO-GO ZONE HOME... Mzimhlophe resident Sefatshile returned to her house to spend Christmas at home.
Killing ‘MK’ three was a matter of survival, says teacher

HOW I GUNNED DOWN THUGS

By MOSES MAMAILA

A SEBOKENG teacher this week gave a chilling account of how he shot dead three alleged MK soldiers shortly after narrowly escaping death at the hands of dozens of combatants.

Armstrong Motale, who refused to die when his assailants pumped four bullets into his body, lived to tell how he and his family narrowly escaped being victims of the now notorious Sebokeng Zone 12 gunmen.

"I am coming out to speak about this not because I am proud. On the contrary, I am shattered. The horrific incident has put me under so much strain I can never forget it. But it was a matter of survival. My assailants were threatening to kill me and I just had to defend myself," Motale said this week.

"I am myself an ANC member. I started serving the organisation long before it was unbanned and senior members of the movement in the area know that very well," he said.

Relating the dramatic November 12 incident, Motale, a popular tavern owner in the area, said he had gone to the funeral of the Zwane family who had been wiped out by mystery gunmen in Zone 12.

On returning from the graveyard, a group of more than 50 youths approached him and accused him of disarming MK guerrillas in the area. He tried to persuade them that it was not possible since he lacked the "right and the will to Deny" on such an operation.
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Top E Rand men shot in heists

By MONWABISI NOMADOLO

TWO well-known East Rand educationists were shot; one fatally; in two separate attacks during the festive season.

Sports administrator and deputy principal, Mpini Molotshwa, 44, was shot dead on Christmas Eve when three armed men burst into a house where a party was being held and opened fire before fleeing with their loot.

Three other revellers were injured in the attack and taken to a nearby hospital.

In another incident two weeks earlier, former Nkumbulo High School principal and businessman, Paul Matsinye, was seriously wounded when suspected robbers shot at him while he was closing his business premises near the notorious KwaThema hostel.

Police spokesman Captain Ida van Zweel confirmed the incidents.

Residents of the East Rand township have complained of the soaring crime rate in the area.

Matsinye, who holds a masters degree in education, was shot in the chest and the bullet penetrated his right lung. He was rushed to the Far East Rand Hospital where he was resuscitated.

Matsinye left teaching two years ago to run a family business following his father's death.

Burst in

On Christmas Eve, Molotshwa was enjoying a party in KwaThema with friends at a house when three men suddenly burst in.

At the time of his death, Molotshwa was deputy principal at Phumlani High School.

The owner of the attacked house, Raymond Gama, said one youth entered the room they were sitting in and pointed a revolver at him.

"Suddenly, two other guys came in and ordered other revellers to lie down.

"While they were responding to the order, a shot was fired from a shotgun.

They ransacked the house, taking money, watches, assorted liquor and cigarettes.

"We only discovered after they had left that Molotshwa had been hit in the chest," said Gama.

The robbers escaped in a minibus belonging to taxi owner Nelson Nkosi.

The gang shot him and he was admitted to Pholsong Hospital.

Another reveller, Joe Xaba, sustained two bullet wounds after he was shot while lying on the ground. Xaba was treated and released from the hospital.

Gama was badly hit in his right eye with the butt of a gun.

"This was the first time my house has been targeted. I still cannot believe what has happened," Gama sighed.

Van Zweel said no arrests have been made, adding that investigations were continuing.

Molotshwa was buried on Thursday at the local cemetery.
Two killed in Bekkersdal unrest

By Gien Elsas
West Rand Bureau

Two men were killed and four people were injured in renewed fighting between Azapo and IFP supporters in Bekkersdal on the West Rand last night and, according to Azapo, police colluded with the IFP.

Azapo spokesman Dr Gomoemo Mokae said police yesterday raided the home of one of their members, Mandla Nono, who was buried on Saturday.

Mokae said Azapo members were guarding Nono’s house after IFP attacks last week and were disarmed by the police.

He said that after they were disarmed, IFP members attacked the home.

Mokae said one resident was killed and four Azapo youths seriously injured. Mokae said that before the attack police told the bereaved family, “Anyone found with arms will be handed over to the IFP.”

Commenting on the attack, SAP spokesman Major Henriette Bester said police were called to Bekkersdal about 5 pm after receiving reports of shooting in the township.

At 7.15 pm they found the bodies of two men who had been hacked and stabbed.

A man identified by the police as a Mr Chubeia claimed he saw two buses with Inkatha supporters enter Bekkersdal.

He claimed that the men in the buses attacked commuters waiting at a taxi rank.

Cheers for top DUT matriculant Mnho...
Women in protest over notorious gang

ABOUT 100 Thokoza women yesterday marched on the local police station to protest against the reign of terror allegedly conducted by the so-called Khumalo Gang in the East Rand township.

The alleged gang is led by gun-toting priest Archbishop Mbekiseni Khumalo who is the head of the Light of God Church in Zion.

The march followed the killing of five people on New Year's Day.

The five were Panani Sibisi (29), Thapelo Loelela (26), Donda Mtshwa (20), Aaron Shongwe (32) and a youth identified only as Rabie.

The marchers blamed the so-called Khumalo Gang for the killings.

A witness said the killings took place at 2am on Friday while the youths enjoyed themselves at a New Year's Day party.

She said three of those shot died on the spot in Msonge Street and the other two in Nhlapo Street in Thokoza.

The woman said a youth who was seriously injured and was admitted to Natalpruit Hospital had to be whisked away after the gang allegedly followed him to the hospital.

The angry women could not hand over their memorandum because a policeman refused to accept it at Thokoza police station.

Five New Year's Day deaths blamed on Khumalo Gang of Thokoza:
Peace meeting call to halt Bekkersdal feud

Peace monitors in the violence-ridden West Rand township of Bekkersdal have called a meeting today between leaders of the feuding Azanian People's Organisation and Inkatha Freedom Party in a bid to halt violence that killed two people on Sunday.

The monitors, calling for the meeting between signatories of the 1991 Bekkersdal peace accord at the Paul Nel Hall.

Tensions mounted in the township following the hacking to death of two Mandela Park residents at the taxi rank.

Local ANC officials said both victims had been residents of the township's ANC stronghold and that they had been killed by men wearing IFP T-shirts. Four others were injured.

A local IFP official said supporters of his group had launched the attack to draw attention to problems experienced with Azapo members.

About 200 ANC supporters performed a war dance in Mandela Park last night in response to the attack. Armed with spears, knives and pangas, they danced in a circle as muti prepared by a traditional leader was splashed over them.

But a local ANC official stressed the ritual was only for purposes of self-defence.

Azapo and ANC supporters yesterday blamed IFP supporters for the recent violence. In turn, the IFP charged "thugs" from Azapo with forcing its supporters into conflict.

Azapo members said they were attacked "twice" by IFP supporters yesterday. No one was injured in the morning attack, but a man was wounded in the afternoon. — Staff Reporter, Sapa.
Azapo's demand

By Joe Mihuieu

The AZANIAN PEOPLE'S ORGANISATION (Azapo) in Bekkersdal yesterday said peace talks between itself and the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) should involve other organisations in the area. It appeared yesterday that peace talks between Azapo and the IFP were on the cards.

But Azapo branch secretary Mr Father Ratseu said it was premature to talk about a peace meeting. "The peace talks we envisage should involve other liberation movements. They need to be present as observers," Ratseu said.

Azapo members would not subject themselves to the discipline of the local dispute resolution committee, Ratseu said.

He accused the police of siding with the IFP as the feud which has claimed the lives of five people in the West Rand township continued to rage.

IFP spokesman Charles Loliwe said his organisation was for peace and welcomed initiatives to have hostilities between the two organisations ended.

"We are for peace... we want to talk to Azapo. However we must point out that three of our members have been killed by Azapo."

He said it was not true that they were the instigators of the violence.

"The truth of the matter is that we are forced to retaliate in order to protect ourselves."

BEKKERSDAL WAR

Peace talks should involve other organisations

The allegation about police might appear to be a concoction "but we know that the ordinary residents of the township will support this claims," contended Ratseu.

The fighting started after a slain Azapo member, Mr Mandla "Bility" Nonu, was buried on Saturday afternoon, he said.

"Later the same evening the house of Mandla's parents was attacked, with people identified as Inkatha members breaking all the window panes and terrorising the occupants of the house. As I am talking to you, Mandla's parents have fled and abandoned their house," said Ratseu.

Police spokesman Major Henrietta Bester denied police were helping Inkatha attack Azapo members.

She said a group of youths, allegedly Azapo members, had attacked Zulu-speaking people, killing one and seriously injuring a second person.

Sowetan established that several houses in Bekkersdal had been attacked. In one house a woman was stabbed several times as she hid under the bed by men carrying "traditional weapons."

Sowetan Wednesday January 6 1993

NEWS Inkatha Freedom Party says it welcomes moves to end violence • Action by teachers

the nation in brief

Visiting girl vanishes

A 10-YEAR-OLD Zimbabwean girl, missing since a visit to a Norwood, Johannesburg, store on Christmas Eve, is feared to have been kidnapped.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Warrant-Officer Andy Piek said Lindiwe Moyo and her mother were visiting South Africa from Zimbabwe and were staying in a Norwood home which they were looking after for a friend. Norwood police were puzzled by the girl's disappearance and have opened a kidnapping docket.

The missing child speaks only Shona and is apparently slightly retarded.

She was last seen wearing black ski pants and a white T-shirt with printed pink flowers.

Man held for murder

PRETORIA police have arrested a man in connection with the alleged murder of an ANC marshal Mr William Sethosa, who was stabbed in Atteridgeville on December 26. The suspect is due to appear in court soon on a charge of murder.

"Witch smoking" ritual

THE FAMILY of a Swazi woman are to arrange a "witch smoking" ceremony after the woman reportedly gave birth to "a large lizard."

Police shoot suspect

A MAN arrested in connection with car radio thefts was shot dead near Potchefstroom when he tried to escape from police yesterday.

The man was arrested at Tarentaal on the Potchefstroom-Johannesburg road. He had tried to run away after taking police to a nearby veld to point out where he had hidden some radios. A western Transvaal police spokesman said the suspect ignored a verbal warning and four warning shots.

Hand sent to morgue

A HUMAN hand which washed up at Durban's South Beach was sealed in a plastic bag on Monday and has sent to a police mortuary for an attempt to establish the identity of the person from whom the hand came would be made by taking fingerprints, police spokesman Captain Bala Naidoo said yesterday.

Bank robber arrested

NAMIBIAN police arrested a Windhoek bank robber less than six hours after he made off with about R15 000 on Monday.

Chief Inspector Sean Geyer said the man, wearing running shoes, black shorts, a red shirt and a blue balaclava, demanded money while pointing a
Natal hostels set alight

Own Correspondent

MARITZBURG — Youths set alight about six or seven hostels and an office complex in Bruntville, Mooi River, at about 10 am yesterday for the fourth time in four days.

On Saturday, the hostel compound’s kitchen was destroyed in an attack in which a gas cylinder was set alight.

On Sunday, attackers tried to set fire to the hostels with petrol-soaked mattresses, tyres and wood. According to the IFP, the hostels were also petrol-bombed on Monday morning.

No policemen were present, a Mooi River resident said, and youths were still milling about an hour after the first building was set alight.

Youths also threw stones at the buildings. Another resident was threatened by a youth who had an AK-47 assault rifle.

The hostels, which each accommodate about 50 people, were empty. The resident said people sympathetic to the IFP usually lived in the hostels, but were away for the holidays.

Bruntville Hostel was at the centre of a recent Goldstone Commission investigation which recommended that it be fenced as soon as possible.
Bekkersdal peace indaba

Warring political movements in the troubled West Rand township of Bekkersdal are planning to meet and discuss peace proposals after a series of frustrating delays. A meeting which had been scheduled for yesterday failed to take place.

Bekkersdal Monitoring Committee spokesman Vuyisile Ntabeni said a day of 'to-and-fro' negotiations yesterday with leaders of the Atlantic People's Organisation and the Inkatha Freedom Party had finally resulted in a firm commitment by the parties to hold a meeting today. The whole process had been restarted yesterday, culminating in a commitment to hold today's meeting, Ntabeni said. — Sapa.
The expulsion of the president of the Pretoria Taxi Association by the Transvaal Taxi Association - affiliates of the Southern Africa Black Taxi Association - has sparked off a major row. Joshua Raboroko reports:

The taxi business... going through hard times.

Nlatleng said that the Sabta executive committee would only resign if asked to do so by members at an executive annual meeting. And even then, regions and provinces should have dealt with the matter.

"There was no need for a steering committee to be elected at this stage as that would be unconstitutional," he said.

As far as the organisation was concerned, no executive had raised the matter at the last annual meeting.

Nlatleng agreed that there had been large-scale repossession of kombis due to non-payment and other difficulties faced by the owners.

According to taxi owners and finance houses, minibus sales have dropped from an average of 600 to 400 a month in the last two years.

A large number of payment defaults have resulted in some financial institutions demanding much higher deposits and shorter repayment periods than before.

Sources said sales had dropped by about 80 percent in the last six months of 1992.

Nlatleng attributed the non-payment to the downturn in the economy.

"Many owners are going through a lean period. Customers are getting fewer because of unemployment, the drought and poverty among most blacks."

He explained that Future Bank was a joint venture between Wesbank and Fabcos to provide loans to the informal sector, including taxis.

"One of the major tasks of the bank is black economic empowerment. It is trying to create a more emphatic approach to people who have previously been barred from conventional banks," he said.

The notion to reject the bank was "nonsensical" and those calling for its disbanding must change their minds.

Nlatleng said that every taxi owner could insure his vehicle and could make arrangements with a company of his choice.

He denied that there was any misuse of money by Fabcos and Sabta. They had fought against the infiltration of the taxi industry by whites.

"We have always been against the infiltration of the taxi industry by these people because that often resulted in taxi wars," he said.

"If any member is dissatisfied with our services, our door is open for negotiations."

"We want peace in the taxi industry. Let us stop the wars," Nlatleng said.
Walkout by IFP disrupts meeting

By Julienne du Toit

A meeting in Bekkersdal to resolve a dispute between the Inkatha Freedom Party and the Azanian People's Organisation ended indecisively last night.

According to the chairman of the Bekkersdal Monitoring Committee (BMC), Vuyisile Ntabeni, IFP members walked out after being outnumbered by Azapo and ANC supporters in the Paul Nel Hall.

The meeting was called after violence in the township on Sunday, when two people were killed and four injured.

Ntabeni admitted the BMC had not enforced the quota of each organisation strictly enough.

The IFP contingent also claimed on its return that the hall was not a neutral venue.

A working group comprising two representatives each from Azapo, IFP, the Pan-Africanist Congress and the ANC, would meet today to discuss logistics for a meeting tomorrow.

In the township yesterday, three gunmen opened fire at a taxi rank, wounding one man in the leg. Police said the gunmen were chased away, apparently by members of Azapo.
The expulsion of the president of the Pretoria Taxi Association by the Transvaal Taxi Association - affiliates of the Southern Africa Black Taxi Association - has sparked off a major row. Joshua Raboroko reports:

The taxi business...going through hard times.

Ntshang said that the Saba executive committee would only resign if asked to do so by members at an extraordinary meeting. And even then, regions and provinces should have dealt with the matter.

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He explained that Future Bank was a joint venture between Webbank and Falcon to provide loans to the informal sector, including taxis.

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Ntshang said that every taxi owner could insure his vehicle and could make arrangements with a company of his choice.

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"If any member is dissatisfied with our services, our door is open for negotiations.

"We want peace in the taxi industry. Let us stop the wars," Ntshang said.
Azapo declares a war

By Joe Mdhlala

MANDLA NONO lies buried in grave A3418 with the Azapo flag flying over it at the Bekkersdal Cemetery on the West Rand.

This young life, only 23, was terminated two weeks ago by a rival’s arms of war. Nono’s life was committed to the liberation of all the oppressed black people of “occupied Azania.”

But the organisation of which his life was an asset has made this sobering vow: “Never again will we fold arms and turn the other cheek when our members are killed in great numbers. Henceforth we will fight fire with fire, gouge out an eye if ours has been gouged out.”

The pledge was made by Azapo’s Transvaal president, Mr. Nkosie Molala, at the funeral service of activist Nono.

Addressing the mourners, Molala said: “I hope what I say today is shared by my comrades in the national executive committee.”

Molala’s statement was greeted with a tumultuous roar of “yes”, “Amandla” and “Bwwe”.

Even in this climate of apparent militancy, organisations in the embattled Bekkersdal talk about striking peace.

Spokesman for Inkatha Freedom Party in the area Mr. Charles Loliwe said it would be silly to think that Inkatha was not committed to peace and co-existence with other organisations.

28 KILLED Nono the latest victim since violence erupted in 1990:

“Peace does not go alone. If you prepare for peace, you must equally make provision for war, so that the very war should protect the peace you may achieve.”

We are committed to peace and we would like to iron out our differences with Azapo,” he said.

Loliwe said he appreciated that there could be problems but it was through negotiation that they could be overcome.

However, it would be naive to wish away the fact that there are tensions in the area and that their members are being killed.

“We are tired of folding our arms and watching our comrades getting killed. We have to defend ourselves and to that end we will use all resources we can lay our hands on to repel the enemy,” he said.

During the past February, the community of Bekkersdal celebrated the first anniversary of the dawning of peace in the area. The peace accord between the warring factions, Azapo, ANC-PAC, was signed in February 1991.

Up to that point 300 people had lost their lives, with thousands seriously injured in a “war” that appeared to have political undertones.

Compounding the problem was the fact that thousands of homeless people had been “resettled” in squatter conditions.

The majority of the people who live in these informal houses are either unemployed or under-employed, so that their immediate dependents must be innovative in order to survive.

The use of AK-47s, hand grenades, pangas, knives, petrol bombs and the dread necklace are commonplace at Bekkersdal, boasting a population of 100,000.

That young life buried at grave number A3418, appear to have agitated matters and made peace prospects harder to realise.

“Why should we talk peace when our members are decimated at every turn?” asked Miss Lydia Lentshe, branch leader of Azapo women’s movement Imbeleko.

In apology for the slain Nono, Molala made the following remarks: “Peace does not go alone. If you prepare for peace, you must equally make provision for war, so that the very war should protect the peace you may have achieved.”

This, in a nutshell, of course, reflects the volatile situation at Bekkersdal. It is not always easy to talk peace.

We are committed to peace and we would like to iron out our differences with Azapo,” he asked.

Father Ratsoeu standing next to Mandla Nono’s number A3418 grave.
Police warn leaders in Bekkersdal

Only five representatives of each organisation would be allowed to attend today's meeting, said Ndabeni.

Bester reported yesterday that nine people were arrested in Bekkersdal overnight.

A man, Lucas Molekane, was killed in what appeared to have been a crime-related attack.

Two of those arrested had been in possession of commercial explosives, but claimed no political affiliation.

A police patrol had been led to a cache of homemade weapons when they chased a man carrying a firearm.

A search of a house had uncovered a homemade hand grenade, four petrol bombs, three homemade shotguns, four "zip" guns, a quantity of ammunition and a 9mm pistol.

The weapons were confiscated and seven people, who claimed to be members of the ANC, were arrested, Bester said. — Sapa.
"If I have a problem," says one man, trying to explain why violence flared in the town of Bekkersdal, "and if no one does anything about it, it is better that I make it everyone's problem. Maybe now people will be aware of our plight!"

By SAPHANA KHUMALO

On the surface, Bekkersdal seems calm. People are getting on and off minibus taxis at the taxi rank — the focus of the latest battle to rip this western Transvaal township apart.

For years, the main flashpoint in Bekkersdal was tension between the United Democratic Front, then the African National Congress, and the Azanian People's Organisation. Bekkersdal is one of the few townships with a strong Azapo presence.

Recently the line of cleavage shifted: Inkatha Freedom Party members began fighting Azapo. Then on Sunday, everything changed.

A group of youths hijacked a taxi for a joyride. IFP members chased the youths out and confiscated the taxi. The taxi owner went to the ANC-aligned civic association for help, but when the civic committee asked the Azapo men, they said they would refer the matter to the local dispute resolution committee.

On Sunday afternoon two IFP men were stoned to death at the taxi rank. Residents believe Azapo members were responsible. S1114181193.

It's Monday now, hours after IFP members counter-attacked the taxi rank. In the adjacent Mandela Park shack settlement, ANC members are gearing for war.

In the township, a group of men stand one street away from a barricade, armed with metal rods, sticks and knives. A man shouts from down the street: "Don't talk to the reporters."

As photographers begin taking pictures, a man who says he is an IFP member calls to order a young man posing with two knives. "You are giving us a bad reputation. What are you doing with those knives?" he says. The man allows pictures taken of men standing with sticks. "You see those men have weapons and I don't want to see any violence in the picture!"

Another IFP member, who says he is an induna, explains the beginnings of the strike in the township. "The problem started with young thugs attacking us and robbing us. When we tried to bring these things to the attention of Azapo, they refused to act. They said, 'The ANC is attacking us.'"

"They and the ANC are attacking us," he says. "Why don't you go and ask them at the squatter camp?"

The residents of the shack settlement, an ANC stronghold, are more concerned by the violence than the IFP's demands.

Groups of blanketed men stand guard on street corners, spitting, sticks and pangas protruding from their blankets in intimidating fashion.

"Today we will be ready for them," says a man who identifies himself as an ANC member. "These people came to the taxi rank and started shooting indiscriminately at commuters. They killed two of our members and two are in hospital."

He says angrily: "Today we see that Inkatha is preparing to attack us and we are ready for it."

He catches sight of women standing close to a group of streetkets and white reporters. "What are these women doing among these men?" he asks.

He says before a woman can be: "Stop! Please be good. You know you are doing harm to the community."

An IFP man whispers in his ear, and he then turns the women around: "Please leave the adjacent Mandela Park. Let's go now!"

They all move away. Other men emerge from houses draped in blankets, which are used to hide weapons when they are not carried openly. There is little conversation — those who do speak do so in hushed tones.

They converge on the square in the middle of the squatter camp. Singing a mournful lament, they walk in a circle around an impiya. On the ground are two tubs filled with water and mud. There is no raising shouting, singing and dancing in this ceremony — they are preparing for war, solemnly.

A number of women venture out of their house and view the spectacle from the safety of their makeshift stoops.

This makes us strong," says a man who identifies himself as an ANC official. "But we are not going to launch any attack. We are gathered here to defend ourselves."

A group of youths is watching the scene. Angrily they challenge the ANC officials to send them out to the whites. The officials tries to placate them but they converge on the reporters, shouting: "What are you doing here? A man rounds up the journalists and, with the youths screaming behind him, chases them to their cars.

Inkatha youth poses with two knives and a gangster swagger in front of a scrawled slogan "Democracy Means People's Choice. Moments later he found himself in trouble, accused by his fellows of "giving us a bad reputation". Later in a house in the township man who claims to speak on behalf of the IFP says that Azapo started the violence by robbing IFP members. It concedes that the IFP attacked the taxi rank on Sunday and says: "If I have a problem, as I have had all this time, and no one does anything about it, it is better that I make that everybody's problem. Maybe now people will be aware of our plight."

Tonight, at least, the war will be a stalemate. In the nearby South Africa Defence Force base, troops are getting ready for a peaceful crossfire.
Police warn leaders in Bekkersdal

Police have warned political leaders in the troubled Bekkersdal that steps could be taken to declare it an unrest area if violence is not brought under control.

This was the message of a man, Lucas Moletsane, who appeared to have been a victim of a crime-related attack to resolve the conflict. Two of those arrested were members of the Azanian People's Organisation, the Azanian People's Organisation (AZAPO), and the Inkatha Freedom Party. The attempted murder of a man in the West Rand township as they appeared to have been a victim of a crime-related attack.

A fresh peace meeting was scheduled for today when they chased a man at the Johannesburg gold mine carrying a firearm. A police patrol had uncovered a homemade weapon at the mine and a number of residents had been arrested. The weapons were made from ammunition and a number of residents had been arrested. The weapons were made from ammunition and a number of residents had been arrested.
Police warn Bekkersdal leaders

JOHANNESBURG. — Police have warned political leaders in troubled Bekkersdal township may be declared an unrest area if violence is not brought under control.

This message was given to leaders in the West Rand township as they met to sort out the conflict on Wednesday night, police spokesman Major Henriette Bester said.

Another peace meeting between local Azapo and IFP leaders would be held in Johannesburg today at the offices of the UN, Bekkersdal monitoring committee, spokesman Mr Vuyisile Ndabeni said yesterday.

Major Bester yesterday said nine people were arrested in Bekkersdal overnight, and that Mr Lucas Molekane was killed early yesterday with an AK-47 when a group entered his home looking for his son.

Two of those arrested were in possession of commercial explosives, but claimed no political affiliation.

Seven people, who all claimed to be ANC members, were arrested after police discovered a cache of home-made weapons which included a handgrenade, four petrol bombs, three home-made shotguns, four "zip" guns, a quantity of ammunition and a 9mm pistol.

Meanwhile, Azapo yesterday repeated its claim that 25 of its members in Bekkersdal had been arrested and beaten by security forces. Police dismissed the allegation.

● Durban police said Mrs G Ramchandra, 68, was killed and Mr Robert Dorasamy, 35, and Rama Marie, seven, were injured after an argument in Tongaat over the kicking of a football near where food was being prepared.

● Constable J Scheepers was injured when attacked by a panga-wielding man in a house at KwaMbonambi when he went to investigate a report of illegal weapons. — Sapa
Peace talks collapse
in tense Bekkersdal

The Argus Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG. — Bekkersdal remained tense after a man was killed and two were injured as peace talks between the Inkatha Freedom Party and the Azanian People's Organization collapsed.

West Rand police spokeswoman Major Henrietta Bester said gunmen killed Mr Lucas Molikale after they could not find his son at 1:30 am yesterday.

Two others, including IFP delegate Mr Michael Mfekayi, had gunshot wounds before the meeting.

After the meeting, police arrested nine people in connection with commercial explosives and the discovery of an arms cache.

Major Bester said two men in possession of commercial explosives were arrested and nine who claimed to be members of the African National Congress were arrested in connection with the discovery of an arms cache.

A homemade hand grenade, four petrol bombs, three home-made shotguns, a 9mm pistol and several rounds of ammunition were confiscated.

The incidents followed a walkout by IFP delegates at a peace meeting at Paul Neil Hall on Wednesday night in the West Rand township which was marred by rowdiness and poor discipline.

The meeting attended by observers from the Organisation of African Unity, European Community and the United Nations, was later postponed pending a decision by a working group that was to meet yesterday.

Trouble started when a group of youths entered the hall, which is located in what is said to be an Azapo stronghold. They took seats a few metres from IFP delegates.

An irate IFP delegate, Mr Charles Loliwe, refused to take part in the talks, in spite of pleas from Azapo, the Bekkersdal Monitoring Committee and his co-delegates.

The youths began toyi toyiing outside after they were asked to leave by officials.
Cops arrest several men over illegal arms caches on the West Rand

Cop ‘kills youth’
at a supermarket

Another escapes with injuries:

By Joe Mdhlala

A 20-YEAR-OLD Soweto youth was shot dead by police believed to be policemen at a shopping complex at Jabulani yesterday morning.

A second youth, Mvulezi Zwane, escaped with injuries after one of the assailants continued to fire at them.

He was treated at Baragwanath Hospital and discharged.

Soweto police spokesman Capt. Joseph Ngobeni said 10 youths had tried to rob an off-duty policeman of his service firearm. He said the policeman fired shots, killing a youth and wounding another.

A youth had been arrested in connection with the incident.

Mr. Desmond April, who said he had witnessed the incident, said his brother, Floyd April, was killed when he objected to two policemen “jumping the queue” at a supermarket.

“Floyd’s sin was to object to the bullying attitude of the two policemen who had jumped the queue,” said Desmond. He said the policemen appeared “very drunk” and displayed an aggressive attitude towards the youths.

He also claimed that the policemen had said by tradition young boys should be served last after their elders had been attended to. “When the youths told the policemen they did not agree with that reasoning, one of the policemen fired at them,” he said.
Man killed as talks collapse

Bekkersdal remains tense yesterday after a man was killed and two injured. Peace talks between the Inkatha Freedom Party and the Azanian People's Organisation collapsed.

West Rand police spokesman Major Henrietta Bestel said gunmen killed Mr Lucas Molikale after they could not find his son at 1.30am yesterday.

Two others, including IFP delegate Mr Michael M'kany, sustained gunshot wounds hours before the meeting.

After the meeting, police arrested nine people in connection with commercial explosives and the discovery of an arms cache.

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A homemade hand grenade, four petrol bombs, three homemade shotguns, a 9mm pistol and several rounds of ammunition were confiscated.

The incident followed a walkout by IFP delegates at a meeting at Paul Neel Hall on Wednesday night in the West Rand township which was marred by rowdiness and poor discipline.

Bestel said police were offering a reward to any person who could give information leading to the confiscation of commercial explosives.

The contact person is Warrant-Officer Johan Bezuidenhout at (011) 660 2600.
‘Spiritual soldier’ fights to keep his children at home

HOME CLASSROOM: Andre and Bokkie Meintjies help their children Roy, Charmaine and Jehovah with their homework. • Picture: COIN DAVIS

CAROLINE HURRY

indocrinated with irrelevant academy and grow up ill-equipped to deal with adulthood.

"The most important thing a child needs to learn is obedience. Salvation is founded on obedience. The entire divine concept rests on obedience," he says.

He, after all, has obeyed God's instructions to the letter: for the past six years he has sat at home cracking cosmic codes while his father supports the clan.

Spirituality

Bokkie recently took a job with an estate agency to boost the family finances. Prophecy, admits Meintjies, is not always profitable, but the Lord provides. And, of course, his parents.

"Andre knows what he is doing. The Lord has called him," says his mother Joey. It was God, after all, who persuaded Meintjies to resign from the SADF in 1986 and move from Bethlehem into his parents' home in Vanderbijlpark.

As Meintjies understands it, God instructed him to remove his children from school and teach them the fundamentals of honesty, integrity and spirituality – subjects he sees as sadly lacking in the TED syllabus.

For two years he has taught Jehovah (18), Charmaine (14) and Roy (11) at home. He chooses their library books, selects what he believes they need to know from educational guides and monitors their progress.

"Putting my children into school would be like throwing them to the wolves. They would be forced to conform to the mould of the masses.

"It's a parent's responsibility to protect offspring from harmful external influences. With children at school up to 10 hours a day, how are parents supposed to keep control over them?"

The atmosphere in the Meintjies' home is welcoming. The smell of freshly baked bread wafts tantalisingly from the kitchen where the children assist their parents with lunch preparations.

They seem well-adjusted and delighted not have to endure the agunies of school. But unless they are registered in a school by January 19, they could find themselves orphans of our legal system.
Praise the Lord and pass the ammunition.
Necklace murderer has no regrets

By MOWABASI Nomadoolo

An East Rand necklace killer, recently released after being sentenced to life imprisonment in June 1987, says she has no regrets about her actions.

Sanna Twala was one of three people sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of Maki Skhosana, 23, who was necklaced by a mob at a Duduzula funeral in July 1985.

Nine others received long jail terms.

A cameraman at the scene filmed Skhosana's death and millions worldwide - including South Africans - watched Skhosana die a terrible death.

Twala was released in September last year in terms of an amnesty for political prisoners.

What does she say after spending five years in Kroonstad prison?

"Me? I do not regret what I did," she said.

"My attitude is the same as it was then."

She plans to "continue the struggle" and says she's joined the ANC.

Another of those jailed for life for the crime - who requested anonymity - said he vividly recalls the day of the necklacing.

He added there was no evidence that Skhosana was a police spy.

"At the funeral service it was announced that all impimpi should remain behind but Maki followed us to the graveyard."

He said there was a rumour that she was having an affair with a local cop, Joel Mabibi, and that she was a spy.

"But I never believed it," he added.
TWO people have died after KwaNdengezi commuters voted with their pockets and refused to pay fare hikes imposed by local taxi operators.

Now alarmed, police, finding themselves in the crossfire, are warning that both parties to the dispute were only interested in scoring points, with no one interested in solving the problem.

Sgt MM Zwane, a member of the SAP, this week became the second sacrificial lamb in the bloody tug-of-war between local taxi operators and the community.

The first victim was bus driver Shadrack Ngubane who was gunned down three days before Christmas while taking passen-
gers into the tiny township.

The acrimony started at the beginning of last month when local taxi operators announced new fares of R3 for a trip from KwaNdengezi to Durban (a 70-cent hike) and R2 for a trip from the township to Pinetown (a 50 cent hike).

On the other hand, Olympic Bus Lines, the only competitor of the taxis in the township, charges R2 for a trip to Durban, and only R1.45 for a trip to Pinetown.

Members of the community tried to register their displeasure at the hikes by staging an impromptu march to the Olympic Bus Lines depot where they pleaded with the company to dispatch more buses to the township.

As a result, Olympic, which had been running four buses in the township, increased its fleet to meet the needs of the people.

A spokesman for Olympic said after the company had in-
creased its fleet, the depot started receiving death threats.

Matters came to a head on December 22 when bus driver Ngubane was gunned down while dropping off passengers near the local shopping centre. Because the engine of the bus was still running when he was shot, the bus careered off the road and crashed into an embankment.

He had been shot in the head, neck, chest and feet. No suspects have been arrest-
ed in connection with the murder. "Our buses have been pre-
vented from operating in the township since then," said a company spokesman.

The spokesman said the company had been approached by local residents to resume the service.

"We can't take chances, not until we get an assurance from the taxi operators that our buses and drivers are safe in the township."

A resident, Mi Makheke, said the community was not consult-
ed about the fare hike.

"The taxi operators just im-
posed their will on us and are now blocking Olympic Bus Lines from helping us."

As thousands of people fin-
ished their end-of-year holi-
days this week, the acuteness of the transport problem was evi-
dent in the township.

Thousands of workers trudged a distance of about three kilo-
metres to a point outside the township where they were picked up by the Olympic buses.

On Monday an enraged group of people marched to the local police station where members of the KwaZulu Police were holding a meeting with local taxi operators.

The mob disrupted the meet-

ing which was held on a hilltop near the station, and started throwing stones at cars which were parked nearby.

Sgt Zwane, of the SAP, who had been visiting a colleague at the police station, rushed from the gate towards his car which was being stored by the crowd.

He was collared by the unruly mob and shot in the head with a shotgun.

A KZP pateguard fired three shots into the crowd, which fled. Two taxi owners were also shot and wounded.

Zwane's car and four taxis were damaged and a car was stolen, but a swift SAP unit soon recovered the stolen vehicle along with a shotgun and arrest-
ed two suspects.

Local KZP branch commander WO Mduduzi Mgoma said on Wednesday that the situation was "quiet but tense" in the township.

"Anything might happen. These people - both taxi opera-
tors and the commuters - do not want to talk seriously and resolve their problem. We've had several meetings with both parties but nothing constructive has come out of those meetings," said Mgoma.

"They all want to score points instead of solving the problem. It is annoying because people are dying as a result. We are trying our best to get both parties to make compromises in order to resolve the problem."
A street of terror restricts residents

By THEMBA KHUMALO

NOTORIOUS Morafe Hostel inmates in Soweto have turned Moroka Street into a no-go zone for township residents.

Angry residents have called for the immediate demolition of the hostel following the abduction and rape of women and the robbing and killing of passersby.

An unidentified man said three weeks ago he saved a pregnant woman from a possible rape after she was accosted by two inmates.

Thulemon Mapho, 57, has a bullet still lodged in his body after he was shot by seven assailants from the hostel two months ago. He was walking along the notorious street at about 7pm when they surrounded him and demanded money.

He said when they could not find money they took his shoes and told him to run. They shot him in the back as they retreated into the hostel.

Another victim said that in October last year he was walking with a friend near the hostel one evening when they were stopped by two pangas-wielding hostel inmates who demanded their money.

When I refused to give my assailant money he demanded my trousers. I refused again and he hacked me on the head and a thigh, but I wrestled with him for his weapon.

"After the attack the assailants ran to the hostel and jumped through the windows," said the man.

Another man who lives near the hostel told how his neighbours rescued a township resident who was being kidnapped in Moroka Street by the hostel inmates.

Township girls were afraid of going to a bodega near the hostel because the gun-toting hostel inmates fondled them openly and when they objected they were assaulted.

The hostel crime spree follows a period of relative peace between residents and hostel inmates.
Fear and loathing in Brits townships

By MOSES MAMAILA

BLACKS in the townships surrounding Brits are living in fear following threats of attacks by rightwingers early this week.

"Boerstaat" Bosman, who claimed at a Nazi-style press conference to be army chief of staff of the Wit Wolwe (but who was kicked out of the organisation two days later in petty in-fighting), vowed to launch attacks on MK and Apla members and their supporters unless the government acted against them.

The statement was issued in Brits, the home town of mass-murderer Barend Strydom and self-styled leader of the Wit Wolwe whom a psychologist described as being programmed to kill.

It has sent shockwaves through the nearby townships of Letlhakile and Oukasie.

"These threats cannot be taken lightly as racists can go on the rampage at any time to avenge the killing of whites in other areas," said Peter Magagula, echoing the sentiments of the residents interviewed.

Magagula said threats by the white supremacists could not be divorced from the sporadic acts of terror visited on blacks by white racists in the area.

"An undisclosed number of activists have been physically and verbally abused by rightwingers for wearing ANC T-shirts, added Magagula, who is also an ANC member and Numsa shopsteward.

Many residents spoken to voiced their concern that security measures should receive serious attention.

An Oukasie community leader, Levy Mambolo, said the formation of self-defence units was possible given the increasing fears of the community.

However, he said that the SDUs could only be formed if a proper organisational structure had been established, adding this was important to maintain order.

Another local leader, Oupa Ntseke, said although no bloody clashes between blacks and whites had erupted in the conservative town, it was necessary that some preventative measures be taken before the smouldering race war erupted.

Ntseke said people were taking the threats more seriously than in other areas because Strydom, who shocked the world when he shot dead eight blacks and wounded 16 in Pretoria in 1989, lived in the area.
Residents to check on police

By BERENG MTIMKULU

THE word “co-operation” was stretched further as the KwaThema Civic Association (KCA) and the local police “struck a deal” to co-operate and work hand-in-hand.

Although no formal agreement was signed at the meeting between the KCA and a local police delegation led by Maj TK Makhata, the two camps agreed that when the police probe any crime, “they should consult with the area committee of the respective area before suspects are apprehended.

KCA chief organiser Kenny Madalane said the association would first scrutinise the reasons for suspecting the alleged criminal before helping the police in apprehending a suspect.

“The civic association should come forward with the names of the people who are interested in joining the neighbourhood watch,” noted Makhata.

But Madalane stressed the meeting was “only to establish rapport with the police but not a friendship”.

KwaThema residents from the 10 sections (Groede, Masimini, Vergenoeg, Rest In Peace, Gugulethu, Highland, Interland, Zimbele, Tornado and Hyanyadu) resent the police for allegedly not adequately policing the township.

According to Makhata, there were problems in spite of a Police Public Forum (PPF) being formed last year in response to last October’s taxi wars in KwaThema.

KCA general secretary Jerome Nkonzi said his association, representing KwaThema residents, does not recognise the forum.

He said the PPF had been formed “from the top” and imposed on the residents and consequently was ineffective.
Bekkersdal on brink of chaos, warn the police

By MOSES MAMAILA

POLICE have issued a tough warning to Azapo and Inkatha leaders to stop the violence in Bekkersdal or the West Rand township would be declared an unrest area.

The warning follows running battles between Azapo and Inkatha followers which has reportedly claimed more than 10 lives in less than two months.

The area resembled a war zone this week as a large police contingent patrolled the streets in a bid to prevent further attacks.

A peace meeting convened by the Bekkersdal Monitoring Committee was adjourned this week after the Inkatha delegation walked out protesting that their lives were threatened because the meeting was not held at a neutral venue.

A member of the Inkatha delegation, Michael Mfikayi, told reporters as he walked from the meeting that "Azapo is not giving us words of peace but bullets."

Pointing at a fresh gunshot wound he sustained earlier in the day, Mfikayi said members of his organisation were being hunted down by Azapo which talked peace only in public.

However, the local Inkatha leadership accused Azapo of taking advantage of its large following in the area to bully Inkatha members.

Talks aimed at resolving the conflict were convened by the Bekkersdal Monitoring Committee as Azapo had objected to participating in talks if they were convened by the Local Dispute Resolution Committee, saying the structure was made up of policemen.
Talking is the secret

By MOSES NAMAILA

PEACE has returned to Mzimhlohe in Soweto where a few months ago intense fighting between residents and hostel inmates was developing into a full-scale war.

Both warring factions credit Col Johan Deyzel for the long-awaited peace in the area, and in a rare display of affection for a cop, residents organised a going-away party last month in his honour.

Deyzel achieved the "impossible" when he received unqualified praise from local ANC and civic leaders who openly said the cop — who has been transferred — would be missed.

"Talking, talking and serious talking to the people is the most effective weapon in curbing the violence," said Deyzel from his new office in Vosloorus.

"I realised that sitting with all the groups involved in the conflict and getting them to talk to one another and hear about each other was very effective in bringing the violence to an end."

Deyzel now occupies the position of Area Commander of the Internal Stability Unit in the Vaal Triangle.

"I am optimistic that we will quell the violence in the Vaal, but certainly I cannot do it alone. I need the cooperation of the residents," he said.
32 held in raids at Bruntville

Eleven people were arrested at Bruntville, Mool River, on Saturday in a police operation after the arrest of 21 others earlier in the day.

Eight of the 11 were arrested for interfering in police duties.

The 21 were arrested in connection with recent arson attacks on Bruntville hostels.

Among those held were a woman who was found in possession of an unlicensed firearm, and others found in possession of homemade guns and ammunition. (5)

All 32 will appear in Mool River Magistrate's Court today. — Sapa.
Cops called to ease taxi fight

By KEDIBONE LUSENGA

AN argument over fake taxi permits, which caused a rift in the Soshanguve Taxi Association, erupted into violence last week.

Fighting broke out when suspended taxi owners and drivers prevented other drivers from using the Mabopane Station rank and forced commuters out of taxis.

Several taxi drivers were allegedly assaulted when they picked up commuters and used the rank.

Sources said the rift started when the association discovered forged taxi permits issued in Bophuthatswana.

A taxi fleet owner alleged the rift was caused when the taxi operators of the association, who were then asked to vacate the rank and fix their vehicles for the safety of commuters.

"However, instead of repairing their broken-down vehicles and applying for genuine fitness certificates, the operators attacked our members and drivers," he said.

Among the victims was Robert Malema, 28, who was hauled out of his taxi and assaulted by the group.

"Victims of the taxi war, who refused to be named, have appealed to Sabinet and the police to intervene for fear the violence may spread to commuters.

The alleged ringleaders of the suspended group declined to comment and referred all enquiries to SP Matsemela, the former PRO of the association, who could not be reached for comment."
Police clamp down on violence in Bruntville

BRUNTVILLE — Thirty-two people were arrested in Bruntville at the weekend in a police operation aimed at curbing violence in the area.

On Saturday, 21 people were arrested in connection with the recent arson attacks on Bruntville hostels. Later 11 others were arrested for the illegal possession of weapons and ammunition, and for interfering with police duties.

All 32 will appear in the Mool River Magistrate’s Court today.

Meanwhile, international observer missions in SA urged Inkatha and the ANC to call on their followers to desist from violence and to do all possible to lessen tension in the area.

The missions from the UN, OAU, EC and the Commonwealth said in a joint statement they were “extremely concerned” about the violence which had broken out in Bruntville, culminating in the burning down of the hostel there on January 5.

The statement also called on Inkatha and ANC leaders and their followers to exercise maximum restraint in handling the situation, and urged them to keep all channels of communication open so as to resolve the problems in the area peacefully, “thereby advancing the peace process throughout the country”.

“As recommended by the recent Goldstone commission report on Mool River, the international observer missions urge all the parties to co-operate with Mr Nico Coetzee, the mediator.”

It was government’s acknowledged responsibility to maintain law and order, the statement said, and the observer missions therefore called on government and its security forces to do their utmost to maintain peace and protect lives and property in a firm and impartial manner in the Mool River area.

“They further call upon the security forces to exercise maximum restraint in handling the situation in that area, and on all the parties to co-operate with these forces.”

The Natal Provincial Administration has provided 130 tents as temporary accommodation for returning hostel dwellers at Bruntville following last Sunday’s arson attack on the hostel.

Police reinforcements were also sent to the troubled area after government’s announcement on Friday that the magisterial district of Mool River, which includes Bruntville and the Eshowe-Winterton area, had been declared an unrest area.

Sapa.
Bekkersdal to be monitored

The Bekkersdal Monitoring Committee on Saturday announced the formation of a multiparty monitoring committee consisting of two representatives each from the Azanian People's Organisation, the Inkatha Freedom Party, the ANC and PAC.

This follows week-long talks between Azapo, the IFP, ANC and PAC to try to end hostilities in the West Rand township.

The committee will monitor the return of pupils to school today as well as the activities of residents.

Bekkersdal Monitoring Committee chairman Charles Ndebele said the latest outbreak of violence in the township, which has claimed five lives this month, was a result of a lack of communication between the leaders and members of Azapo and the IFP. He said there was an unwillingness by the members to accept decisions made by the leadership to end the violence.  Sapa.
Move toward peace

LEADERS of the feeding Azapo and IFP yesterday laid the groundwork for the restoration of peace in violence-torn Bekkerdale in the West Rand.

In their third round of talks aimed at ending hostilities, the two agreed to stage a joint peace rally, expose the alleged involvement of a third party in the conflict, and allow their members free access to public transport, schools and other facilities. They also agreed on the formation of a joint monitoring committee.

DP drive for votes

The Democratic Party has started 1993 with a series of big moves in black communities, clearly with an eye to the forthcoming non-racial election for a constituent assembly.

The DP opened a new office in downtown Johannesburg yesterday which is aimed specifically at blacks. In Cape Town, Mr Robin Carlisle (DP, Wynberg) spearheaded the Cape drive for black membership in Guguletu last night with an attack on political intolerance.
SA on alert as cholera rages through region

THE Department of Health has stepped up measures to prevent a local outbreak of the cholera epidemic which has already claimed hundreds of lives in neighbouring countries.

The Department said it was concerned that the epidemic could spread to SA, but there was no cause for alarm at present.

A Department spokesman said there were presently only 11 "imported" cases of cholera. The infected people were either mine workers from neighbouring countries or people who had visited Mozambique shortly before falling ill, he said, adding that the cases had all responded well to treatment.

But, to be prepared, the Department had alerted health authorities to the possibility of an outbreak and had launched cholera awareness campaigns at a local level, informing people of preventative measures such as boiling or chlorinating water.

It had also increased surveillance of sewage effluent with regular tests, and by increased monitoring of rivers and dams. Although cholera could be spread by polluted water, most epidemics occurred from contaminated drinking water. The people most at risk were those who did not have access to chlorinated and filtered tap water, the spokesman said.

He added that a cholera strain had recently been detected in the sewerage system in western Transvaal mine hostels, but no cholera cases had been reported in the area.

This was not surprising as most people who were infected did not become ill even though they were eating cholera germs, he said.

As the water supply and sanitation of these hostels was reticulated, major problems were not expected.

The germs had been found at these mine hostels during previous epidemics in the country without outbreaks in the hostels, he said.

Sapa reports that the Zimbabwe government has postponed the opening of all schools in Lusaka for the first term because of the epidemic which had claimed 800 lives since November.

Zimbabwe had requested $27m from the international donor community to deal with its cholera outbreak which had claimed 186 lives so far, Ziana national news agency reported yesterday.

Acting World Health Organisation representative to Zimbabwe Dr Nicholas Chimba said the WHO supported Zimbabwe's request and had agreed to provide the country with emergency materials worth $281,000.

Inkatha and Azapo end feud

PEACE prospects in the West Rand township of Bekkersdal were improved yesterday when political organisations Inkatha and Azapo resolved to bury their differences.

The organisations told journalists in Johannesburg that they had identified reasons for their feud, which had claimed at least five lives this year. These included:

☐ A lack of political tolerance among members;
☐ Declaration, by members, of certain areas as strongholds; and
☐ The involvement of a third party in the conflict.

The organisations said they had agreed on steps to restore peace in the township. These included ensuring that everyone had free access to public facilities, encouraging interaction where the two organisations co-existed and creating a forum at which political debates would be held.

The organisations also resolved to "expose the involvement of a third party in their feud. Inkatha Transvaal organiser Themba Khoza and Azapo deputy national organiser Mandawabisi Duma would not say who the suspected "third party" was.

A peace rally would be held at the weekend.

Last week Inkatha, Azapo, the PAC and the ANC formed a joint committee to monitor the return of pupils to schools.

Sapa reports that the Goldstone Commission in Port Shepstone heard yesterday that there had been a dramatic decrease in political violence in the area since a peace initiative was facilitated by a Commonwealth observer last month.
Attempt to halt spate of attacks on health workers in Vaal Triangle

By Paula Fray
Medical Reporter

Police and medical representatives have formed a working committee to combat a spate of attacks — including the murder of three doctors — on health workers in the volatile Vaal Triangle.

An emergency number, for specific use by medical staff, has been provided and more police have been deployed in the area.

This comes after the Medical Association of South Africa (Masa) approached the Commissioner of Police to relay community concern that recent attacks in the area could lead to a collapse of medical care.

According to a joint-SAP and Masa statement issued yesterday, clinics, surgeries and related institutions will receive more attention to ensure the safety of doctors and nurses in the area.

Masa federal council chairman Dr Bernard Mandell said the association believed violence was endemic and affected entire communities, not just health services.

But Masa felt that special attention should be given to health services.

"The nature of health care involves intimate contact, with all people at irregular hours, which makes doctors soft targets and security precautions therefore difficult to implement," he said.

Since the start of last year, attacks on doctors included the murders of a Dr Mokabudi, whose body was found in a field after he was shot in the head; Dr J J Borman in Vereeniging and Dr H L Kuhn in Evaton.

"Riye people have been arrested in connection with Kuhn’s murder.

The association pointed out that attacks on doctors was a national problem, but was worst in the Vaal Triangle.

Police said it appeared the attacks in the Vaal were criminal in nature. They undertook to leave no stone unturned until the assailants have been brought to justice.

Anyone who can help solve these crimes should call the SAPS toll-free Crime Stop number, 0800-11-11-93."
Squatters sue Minister over police shooting

A GROUP of squatters is suing Law and Order Minister Herman Kriel for R60,000 in the Johannesburg Regional Court over an alleged indiscriminate shooting in Kipltown last year.

The 11 plaintiffs, all from the Racecourse squatter camp near Kipltown, were injured in February when police, in pursuit of a stolen vehicle, opened fire on people who they alleged were about to attack them.

Ten people were injured with buckshot, and one man was arrested and held in prison for several days before being released without charges.

Dr Joseph Katz told the court he had examined the plaintiffs on the day of the shooting, and that all had metal pellets embedded in their bodies.

Some had wounds in their buttocks and the back of their legs, indicating they had been facing away from the policemen at the time, said Katz.

He said that although it was unlikely that these wounds would seriously impair the health of the plaintiffs, they could lead to constant pain, and treating them would in some cases cost more than R500.

In extreme cases pellets could enter an artery and cause severe complications, said Katz.

Appearing for the plaintiffs, H. Diskin called several witnesses, including a seven-year-old girl who had been hit in the neck.

All denied that they had been part of a mob, as alleged by the police.

Hawker Obed Gwebu, 54, told how he was standing by his fruit stall when he was struck by shotgun fire. He said no warning had been given.

The case continues today.
Big blast hits station, 20 shops

Randfontein's main street was littered with shards of glass and mangled pieces of metal and masonry. The area was cordoned off as bomb-squad experts sifted through the wreckage for clues on the explosive device.

Debris was scattered over 100 metres. The station building across the street from the Elite Cafe was also damaged.

The force of the blast was so intense that a chest freezer was blown into the street, plastic chairs melted in the heat, and the wall between adjoining shops buckled.

Nothing in the Elite Cafe could be saved. Windows were shattered in 18 other shops and the station across the road. A car parked at the station was damaged.

Major Henriette Bester of the West Rand police said it was not yet known what type of explosive was used.

Gas bottles exploded after the initial blast and caused additional damage.

A shaken Mr De Sousa, near tears, said he did not know why he was being victimised.

"That is 10 years of my life that have been destroyed," he said.

But he was thankful that the blast was in the middle of the night and that there were no injuries.

"My wife and sister normally run this shop, and I am glad they were not there."

The Argus Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG. - A powerful bomb ripped through a West Rand shopping complex early today in what is believed to be a revenge attack for the beating of two young black shoplifters.

One of the boys died later in the Baragwanath Hospital as a result of the shambokking on January 4.

Two shops were destroyed and 16 others badly damaged in the 1:30am explosion in Station Street, Randfontein. Millions of rands damage was caused.

Looting was reported soon after the blast.

Police reported a man in a car was seen speeding down Station Street shortly after the attack.

The attack was apparently aimed at the Elite Cafe belonging to Mr Jackie de Sousa. The shop was destroyed.

No-one was hurt in the explosion.

This was the second blast at one of Mr De Sousa's shops. On January 4, his shop in Sunbe- kom was badly damaged by a limpet mine explosion.

Aug 13, 1993
SAP to get FII
Johannesburg, 9th May

The Special Services Unit (SSU) of the South African Police Service (SAPS) has commended the role played by the private sector in combating crime in the region. According to Chief Superintendent of the SSU, Detective Superintendent John Molefe, the private sector's involvement in crime prevention and support to the police has been crucial.

Molefe highlighted the efforts of the Johannesburg Commerce Association (JCA) in working with the police to identify and combat crime trends. He stated that the JCA's cooperation in providing information and resources has greatly assisted the SSU in its operations.

Molefe also praised the role of the Johannesburg branch of the South African Association of Security Services (SAASS) in addressing security issues in the region. He mentioned the collaboration between the SAASS and the police in conducting joint operations, which have led to the apprehension of numerous suspects.

The SSU further acknowledged the contribution of the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI) in providing logistical support and coordinating the efforts of businesses in the area. Molefe emphasized the importance of partnerships between the private sector and law enforcement agencies in maintaining public safety.

The SAPS has called on other private sector entities to join the efforts in combating crime. Molefe concluded that continued cooperation and collaboration will be vital in maintaining a secure and prosperous environment.
Radical youths blamed for many police deaths

PRETORIA — Radical youths and criminals had been mainly responsible for the increasing number of police fatalities. Brig Stefanus Abrie told the Goldstone commission yesterday.

The commission, which began hearing evidence yesterday on attacks on police officers, heard that during 1982, 269 policemen had been killed and more than 60 police stations and 95 private residences had been attacked.

In spite of efforts by the police to make themselves more acceptable to all parties, attacks on security forces — more than 2,000 last year — had increased steadily, Abrie said.

The fatality rate among the SAP had increased from about one a month in the '70s to two a month in the '80s. By 1981 the figure had risen to 134 police deaths a month, while last year the figure was 191.

"It is clear there exists a deep-rooted distrust towards the SAP, especially among young people," he added.

He added that criticism of the SAP by political leaders was interpreted by radical youths as encouragement to continue the armed struggle.

Sapa reports that he also told the commission about 3,000 Umkhonto we Sizwe members had decided, before returning from Tanzania, to continue the armed struggle. This was contrary to ANC policy.

"The solution to the problem lies in a co-ordinated effort in which all political groupings co-operate in the spirit of existing multilateral and bilateral agreements towards effective policing," Abrie said.

Attorney Brendan Barry, on behalf of the ANC and Umkhonto we Sizwe, said he had been given insufficient time to study Abrie's statement, and deferred cross-examination.

The PAC indicated it would not attend the hearings.

Det-Sgt Johannes du Plessis later told the commission that Apla and Umkhonto we Sizwe planned and committed attacks against police in East Rand townships.

Du Plessis said that between July 17, 1981, and November last year there had been 60 attacks on policemen at Thokozan, Vosloorus and Katlehong.

Six attacks by Apla and six by Umkhonto we Sizwe were politically motivated.

Investigations were hampered by a lack of cooperation from the community. "They (witnesses) knew they will be killed if they co-operate with police," Du Plessis said.

The Goldstone commission also recommenced its investigation yesterday into allegations made last year by Mozambican immigrant Joao Cunha concerning "third force" activities by the security forces.

ANC NEC member Mac Maharaj, who was named by Cunha as the mastermind behind a campaign to discredit the security forces, denied any knowledge of the campaign. He had never met or seen Cunha, he said.

During yesterday's tea break, Cunha identified Maharaj as "the man, with a beard and whistler hair" he had met "many times" and who suggested Cunha tell the story which appeared in Vrye Weekblad.

This was placed on the committee's record.

Both hearings will continue for the next two weeks.

A Goldstone commission sub-committee investigating causes of political violence in Natal, other than ANC-IFP rivalry, will sit in Empangeni today to hear preliminary submissions from people on the north coast. The committee, chaired by Malcolm Walls, sat in Port Shepstone on Monday.

Joint bid to protect health staff

THE Medical Association of SA (Masa) and the SAP said yesterday that they had formed a combined working committee to counter the rise in attacks on health workers in the Vaal Triangle.

Masa president Col Mark Allon said the SAP had expressed concern that medical care would collapse in the area, a joint statement said.

SAP spokesman Col Mark Allon said police were unable to say why health workers, and in particular doctors, were being attacked but it appeared robbery was the motive as criminals assumed the victims were wealthy.

The statement said police would be deployed at clinics, surgeries and other health institutions in the area to ensure doctors' and nurses' safety. An emergency phone number had also been made available for their use.

Masa federal council chairman Dr Bernard Mandell said in a separate statement yesterday that the problem could only be solved in the context of a national reversal of the culture of violence and crime.

Health care centres should be protected and safe places for patients and medical personnel provided, Mandell said.

He said doctors sometimes worked irregular hours in close contact with people, making them soft targets and hindering security precautions. Doctors were also perceived as being wealthy.

Recruiting doctors and nurses to work in the Vaal Triangle had become difficult, Masa profession development director Dr David Green said.

Police and Masa have appealed to Vaal Triangle communities to assist them in protecting against health workers and ensuring the continuation of health services.

Police reported a Dr Mokabudi and another person were found dead in an open field in Sehonge in May last year, while in September Dr J J Borman was murdered near his surgery in Vereeniging. In December Dr H L Kuhn was murdered at her surgery in Evaton.

Attack on wilderness slammed

DALE Romanticism slammed.

Durban — Conservationist Ian Player said yesterday Richards Bay Minerals was insulting several religions by attacking the wilderness concept.

"The anti-mining lobby would sacrifice nature for the greater good," he said.

Player, founder of the Wilderness Leadership School, was commenting on a 16-page sponsored survey on RBBM in Leadership magazine.

In the survey, RBBM's public relations head Berry Clement was quoted as saying: "This talk of saving St Lucia by preventing mining is one of the biggest jokes ever heard of in the annals of SA conservation."

The anti-mining lobby would sacrifice nature for the greater good," he said.
A powerful bomb ripped through a West Rand shopping complex early yesterday in what is believed to be a revenge attack for the beating of two young black shoplifters.

One of the boys died in the Baragwanath Hospital two days after the beating on October 1, possibly as a result of the assault.

The Elite Cafe and neighbouring Shorty’s Fruit and Veg were completely destroyed and 18 other shops were badly damaged in the 1.10am explosion in Station Street, Randfontein.

Damage amounting to millions of rands was reported but no one was hurt.

Police said a person purporting to be a member of Apla telephoned the police toll free number this morning claiming responsibility for the blast. But police do not suspect the organisation at this stage.

The attack was apparently aimed at the Elite Cafe belonging to Jackie de Sousa.

This was the second blast at one of De Sousa’s shops. On January 4 his Zaurbekom shop was badly damaged in a limpet mine explosion.

161 children spent Christmas in jail

A TOTAL of 161 children under the age of 14 spent last Christmas in jail.

A statement from the Deputy Minister of National Housing, Mr Glen Carelse, yesterday confirmed that “between December 1992 and January 7 this year 161 children aged 14 and younger were detained in police cells and prisons countrywide”.

Sixty-one have since been placed in “alternative care”, 43 reunited with their parents and 16 in “places of safety” and two in reformatories.

“At the moment 36 cases are being investigated and these children will probably soon be placed in alternative care. The remaining 64 children are being detained for serious crimes, such as murder and cannot be transferred because they pose a danger to the community,” he said.

64 ‘dangerous’ kids are still in custody:

Sowetan Reporter

Sowetan 14/1/93

Bomb rips West Rand shop centre

Sowetan Correspondent

SHOPLIFTERS Attack believed to be revenge for beating of two boys:
ANC accused of trying to wreck Bekkersdal peace pact

INKATHA and Azapo accused the ANC yesterday of attempting to shatter a peace pact between them in Bekkersdal.

Inkatha Transvaal organiser Themba Khoza told a news conference in Johannesburg that members of the ANC Bekkersdal branch had sent a memorandum to a multiparty committee, monitoring the situation in the West Rand township, in which it complained about the peace pact between Inkatha and Azapo.

Azapo deputy national organiser Monwabisi Duna said ANC supporters in the township had threatened to “come down heavily on us” should Azapo and Inkatha reach an agreement on ceasing hostilities.

However, a peace pact, signed by the ANC and Azapo in November 1991 after heavy fighting between supporters, preceded him from telling the media who the ANC members in question were, he said.

Khoza said it was known the ANC was behind the Inkatha-Azapo feud, which had claimed five lives this year.

Khoza and Duna said the allegations of the ANC’s involvement in the feud would be discussed with the Bekkersdal monitoring committee, of which the ANC and PAC were members.

The two organisations, which had been holding a series of meetings in an attempt to end the feud, said they would hold a joint peace rally on Sunday.

Duna said Inkatha had agreed in a condition set by Azapo that traditional weapons should not be carried at the rally, which was held to ensure lasting peace in Bekkersdal.

ANC PWV spokesman Ronald Mamoopa denied the allegations as false. He said the ANC was the first to call for a peace meeting between the organisations.

It was unfortunate that some organisations wished to use the peace process in Bekkersdal, which was the outcome of multilateral deliberations involving the ANC, the PAC, Inkatha and Azapo for narrow party political interests.

Sapa reports that the ANC also rejected a claim during bilateral talks earlier yesterday that ANC Youth League members had said they would “come down heavily” on Azapo if it held talks with Inkatha.

Nine people killed in Natal violence

DURBAN — At least nine people were killed and two injured in violence in Natal on Tuesday, KwaZulu and SA police reported yesterday.

Six of the victims were killed in a faction fight between Pondi and Zulu tribes in Inanda, near Durban.

Meanwhile, a wave of violent attacks on the SAP is continuing, with eight policemen slain since the beginning of the year.

In the latest killings, an off-duty policeman was stabbed in the head near Germiston and a constable was gunned down by three men in police uniform while guarding a suspect in an East Rand hospital.

Soweto policemen fired birdshot and teargas after allegedly being attacked by a crowd at Inhlosane station on Tuesday.

Police spokesman Capt Burger van Rooyen said 226 policemen were killed during 1992. Many were killed off duty, he said when they were most vulnerable.

Despite the killings there was no shortage of recruits, and 2,300 new policemen would be trained by July, — Sapa-Reuters.

PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz

IF THE TREES ARE BARE,
IF THE SKIES ARE GRAY.,
IF THE ZAMBIOS IS
RUNNING, CAN WATER BE FAR BEHIND?

Local govt forum set up

PROGRESS towards non-racial local government structures was made yesterday when government and township civic organisations agreed to set up a local government forum.

Agreements reached at this forum, in which government and civic organisations would be represented, would be binding on all parties.

After their meeting in Johannesburg yesterday, Local Government Minister Tertius Delport and the SA National Civic Organisation (Sanco) said a working group had been established to formulate the forum’s terms of reference.

A Sanco spokesman said recently an interim agreement between his organisation and government was necessary as a host of issues, including the resolution of rent and services boycotts, hinged on it.

Sanco president Moses Manyelela also said recently the time was not ripe for his organisation to advise its members to suspend the boycotts.

One condition he set for boycotts to be lifted was “sufficient movement towards the democratisation of government” at local and national levels.
Squatter denies causing shooting

By Tsale Makam

A RESIDENT of a squatter camp near Soweto, who was among people allegedly assaulted by police in February last year, yesterday denied he was responsible for police shooting in the area.

Mr Victor Mhunje told a Johannesburg magistrate, Mr M Lamprecht, that he was 'assaulted' and arrested without reason at Racecourse squatter camp.

He spent about six weeks at Diepsloot Prison and was let out after paying R2,000 bail. After seven court appearances, the case was dismissed.

He was testifying in the civil case in which 11 residents are suing Law and Order Minister Hermus Kriel for R60,000.

The action follows an incident on February 1 last year when police, who were said

Police allege that crowd became hostile:

to be chasing car thieves, allegedly fired pellets at residents of the squatter camp.

In his evidence Mhunje said on the day in question he had seen people running away. He added when he heard gunshots, "I saw police running towards me and I ran into a house."

Counsel for the police, Mr PH de Waal, submitted that Mhunje was the cause of the shooting, saying when the police arrested him the crowd became hostile.

He said he would prove that the chase started when police spotted two vehicles which had been reported stolen. Mhunje was behind the steering wheel and some people were pushing the car.

Proceeding.
Dismay as civic leaders go on trial

By Jo-Anne Colling

The linking of four Tokoza Civic Association figures and two other men as co-accused in the Prince Mhlambi murder trial has been greeted with dismay.

Mhlambi, a one-time leader in the turbulent East Rand settlement of Phola Park, was gunned down on October 10 with four others.

The four civic members on trial, Abraham Mokolongo, Paul Moketa, Gideon Letlolo and Jeremiah Motjela, were granted bail of R2,000.

Their attorney made it clear he did not expect to mount a defence in unity with the other two accused.

A friend of one of the victims said Tokoza residents believed the civic leaders would be acquitted.

The other two accused, Paul Mokola and Joshua Yster, are still in custody.

"We and others believe that Mhlambi's death is linked to the fact that a lawless gang is running rampant in Tokoza," an attorney representing the family of one of the victims said. "While the community is eager to have killers brought to book, people are puzzled by the bringing of civic leaders to trial."
Given weapons by ANC — witness

By Michael Sparks

Nhlanhla had told him to go to Piet Retief in the eastern Transvaal to find out the movements of policemen and later to return and attack them.

Samson told the committee he was given two handguns and an AK-47 in Nhlanhla’s office at ANC headquarters in Shell House in Johannesburg in June 1992.

Samson was later convicted of illegal possession of arms and ammunition, but acquitted of threatening a policeman. He is due for release today after serving six months of his sentence.

When questioned by ANC counsel Ashar Cachalla, Samson said while he did not carry a membership card for the organisation, he regarded himself as a member.

In a separate hearing into activities of the “third force”, George Milonas, who had employed Mozambican Joao Cuna, said he had suggested to Cuna that he talk to the Vrye Weekblad, hoping it might give him personal security.

Cuna later claimed that a report that he had been paid to kill ANC activists was not what he told the paper.

The hearing was adjourned until Monday.
Top ANC man tied to attacks on police

Sapa and Weekly Mail Reporter
African National Congress security chief Joe NkIanha personally armed three Umkhonto weSizwe fighters at the ANC headquarters in Johannesburg before they embarked on an investigation of policemen, the Goldstone Commission heard yesterday.

NkIanha also told the cadres to report to him after their reconnaissance operation, so that plans for the execution of the policemen could be made, according to a self-proclaimed Mk member currently serving a sentence for illegal arms possession.

Brendan Sampson told a Goldstone committee sitting in Pretoria and inquiring into attacks on policemen that NkIanha had instructed them to gather information on three policemen allegedly harassing ANC members in Pietermaritzburg.

The witness said NkIanha organised for him and two colleagues to collect .38 and .45 pistols as well as an AK47 rifle and ammunition from Shell House, the ANC’s Johannesburg headquarters.

He alleged NkIanha instructed him in June last year to kill any policemen who hindered their reconnaissance mission.

Thereafter, he claimed, he was to report back to NkIanha at Shell House, where further plans would be made to “execute” these policemen.

Sampson, who was arrested soon after he arrived in Pietermaritzburg, is serving a prison sentence for possession of arms and ammunition. He was convicted in July.

Sampson said he was trained at an Angolan camp after he had met NkIanha in Lusaka, Zambia in 1986.

Under cross-examination, he admitted to ANC legal counsel Azur Cachala that he was not a card-carrying, paid-up member of the organisation.

He explained that he had joined the ANC in 1986, when it was still banned. He did not require a card — a system introduced after the ANC’s unbanning in 1990 — to prove his membership. It was in his heart, he added.
Nurses fear attack

Staff Reporter (2:18)

NURSES who fear they may be attacked and killed since the murder of a policeman at a Rand hospital early this week yesterday appealed to health authorities for effective security at hospitals.

In a statement yesterday, the South African Nursing Association (Sana) said nurses feared they may be attacked since the murder of a police guard at Tsakane Hospital on the East Rand on Monday night.

The policeman was guarding an injured robbery suspect when five men dressed in police uniform entered the ward, shot him dead and escaped with the suspect.

A Sana spokesman said yesterday such incidents were usually accompanied by violence and the lives of hospital staff, members and patients were placed under threat.

Sana therefore urged that workplaces of healthworkers be safeguarded.
Rumours rife that ANC youth killed 'monster'

By THEMBA KHUMALO

WAS the notorious Vaal gunman, Skosana Dlamini, gunned down by ANC cadres?

A growing rumour in Sebokeng is that the feared "Vaal monster II", who was walking around with a R10 000 price tag on his head after police linked him to the cold-blooded shooting of six Zwane family members last year, was eliminated by angry ANC youths who were fed up with his misdemeanours.

Dlamini's five-month reign of terror came to an end two weeks ago outside a tavern when he was ambushed by faceless men who mowed him down in a hail of bullets.

They later took his body to his Zone 12 home and set it alight in his bedroom. His mother and sisters are on the run after escaping the mob.

He left behind him controversy about whether he was a genuine member of the township self-defence units, or a thug who revelled in spilling blood.

Harassing

The ANC is battling to uncover the mask of the man who, together with his friends, is alleged to be responsible for the death of several policemen and residents, some of them young girls, in the Vaal.

The once respected Dlamini became an instant villain when he started harassing girls, it was alleged.

The last straw came on New Year's Eve after he is alleged to have shot and killed 16-year-old Sibongile Jobo who had earlier rebuffed his advances.

In an interview with City Press at KwaMasiza hostel in November last year, Dlamini admitted having shot several policemen in skirmishes, but denied that he had killed any residents.

He was a card-carrying member of the ANC Youth League, he said, but denied having any hand in the killing of the Zwane family. They were his friends and he could not do "such a horrible thing to the family that recruited me to the movement", he said.

However, a Zwane family source last week said he was convinced that Dlamini had killed his family. Now that he was dead, people were volunteering irreputable information which they feared to mention while Dlamini was alive, he said.

Spokesman for the ANC PWV region, Ronnie Mamoepa, said his executive committee was still waiting for a report by a committee set up to investigate Dlamini's past.

He would not comment on allegations that Dlamini was shot by irate ANC cadres or members of the self-defence units.

"We don't have information to that effect but we will investigate the rumours," Mamoepa said.
WARRING parties sat side by side in an empty lot at Bekkersdal where at least six people have died in political violence this month and heard their leaders speak about tolerance.

Political violence in the West Rand township has flared sporadically since 1991 and has already claimed several lives this year.

In an effort to end hostilities, leaders of the Inkatha Freedom Party and Azanian People's Organisation yesterday noted a common goal and a common enemy.

IFP Transvaal organiser Mr Themba Khoza said blacks should come together to remove the present Government, and said the primary enemy was apartheid, which was "present in Bekkersdal in the form of violence, political intolerance and poverty".

"No one owns the struggle. We (blacks) are all struggling, and the struggle takes different forms."

Introduced by Azapo deputy national organiser Mr Monwabisi Duna as someone who believed strongly in Azapo's philosophy, Khoza said blacks would not accept having escaped from the repression of apartheid to become repressed by "someone else".

Both organisations, in line with an agreement reached with various monitoring groups in Johannesburg last week, refrained from identifying this "someone else". But both have noted alleged threats by African National Congress youths to "come down" on them for talking to one another.

Bekkersdal Monitoring Committee chairman Mr Charles Ndabane said this antagonism was simply the result of a misunderstanding.

ANC representatives who had attended the January 9 Johannesburg meeting on the issue had apparently not told their Bekkersdal structures of agreement on an IFP-Azapo rally.

Ndabane said that since Wednesday - once Bekkersdal ANC youths had understood the situation and communicated with their members - there had been no trouble.

A member of the SA Council of Churches, the BMC chairman rejected allegations by Khoza that his committee was partisan. - Sapa.

next Talkback topic

The Sowetan/Radio Metro Talkback Show today opens the lines for you to raise any issue of topical interest.

Dial the hotline (011) 714-8063
NEWS  Rand killing fields claim more victims over weekend

More die as violence grips Reef towns

Fifteen people were killed and about eight injured in separate crime-related incidents on the Reef at the weekend. Violence erupted again in Alexandra after months of relative calm when three people were killed and another wounded in separate incidents on Saturday night.

Fire also gutted a large area of one of the squatter camps in the area.

The body of an Indian man was found bound together with an injured man behind Newclare, Johannesburg, railway station yesterday.

In another incident in Johannesburg, a Westdone cafe-owner and his wife were hacked to death in their home on Saturday night.

In Soweto, a mother, Mrs Beauty Malaba (65) and her daughter Yvonne (34), were murdered in their Orlando West home on Saturday morning. Her other daughter, Khosi (40), is in a serious condition at Baragwanath Hospital.

PEACE RUPTURED  Alexandra’s tenuous respite is shattered by new wave of killings:

A 22-year-old man was shot dead in Soweto on Saturday when he and his girlfriend ran away from four men who had made passes at the woman.

In Randpark Ridge, police found the body of a youth on Saturday in what they believe was a hit-and-run accident.

A Vereeniging restaurant owner was shot dead by armed robbers outside. Another Vereeniging woman died after being stabbed in her home.

In Tokoza, on the East Rand, three people were killed and five others injured in shooting incidents at the weekend.

A security guard was shot dead and several others nearly froze to death after they were locked in refrigerator trucks during a robbery attempt at Dairy Maids in Olifantisfontein, near Johannesburg.

A 36-year-old East Rand man was shot dead when he accompanied his girlfriend to her estranged husband’s home on Saturday night to fetch her children.

The body of a man, who had been stabbed and then “necklaeced”, was found in Orlando West, Soweto, on Saturday night.

A suspected car thief was wounded and he and an accomplice were arrested after their vehicle hit a telephone pole during a police chase in Tembisa on Saturday night. - Sapa.

Leaders of both the Azanian Peoples Organisation and Inkatha Freedom Party sit side by side at a peace rally in Békkersdal.
'Killer returned for 4th victim'

By Zingisa Mkhwanazi and Philip Zulu

The gruesome murder of three members of a Soweto family, may have led to the subsequent necklace killing of a 22-year-old man in the same house at the weekend.

Police said the man, who was hacked before being burnt to death on Saturday morning, was dragged out of the Mshimlopolo house in which Beauty Mashibe (70), her daughters Yvonne (40) and Gloria (35) had earlier been chopped to death.

Boingani Mashibe (19) survived the attack with a slight shoulder wound.

Soweto police spokesman Major Herman Oosthuysen said yesterday that police believed the dead man, whose name had not yet been established, could have been killed by the same people returning to finish off any survivors of the earlier attack.

Body

Oosthuysen said the man's body was found in a field next to a bottle store, less than 50 m from the Mshibe's house.

He had been hacked, stabbed, stoned and a tyre had been placed around his body and set alight.

When The Star visited the family yesterday no one was prepared to comment about the incident, or give Boingani's whereabouts.

Police said they believed the multiple murder at the Mshibe home could have been committed by a former tenant who had been evicted from the house.

They expected to make an arrest soon.
Bloody family fracas

By Ike Motsapi

The killing of two Soweto family members took another turn when a relative, who had allegedly hired the killers, was hacked to death and "necklaced" at the weekend.

The body of Mr Bongani Mshibe (19), a relative of 65-year-old Mrs Beauty Mshibe and Miss Yvonne Mshibe (34), who were killed on Saturday morning when men attacked their Orlando West, Soweto, home was found by police in the veld near Molegotea Bottle Store later in the day.

Another member of the family, Ms Kheni Mshibe, was admitted to Baragwanath Hospital in a serious condition. She lost an eye in the attack.

It is believed Bongani was stabbed, hacked to death and "necklaced" after confessing that he had paid his relatives' killers.

The family yesterday declined to speak to the Press.

Borrowed R800

A source told Sowetan that Bongani had borrowed R800 from Mrs Mshibe to use for his studies.

It is believed he used the money to hire people to kill his relatives so that he could inherit the family's possessions.

All the dead are relatives of late journalist Miss Zodwa Mshibe, who was murdered in 1987.

Soweto police spokesman Major Herman Oosthuysen said yesterday Bongani's body was found near the bottle store about 10pm on Saturday.

He said there were indications he had been attacked and stabbed at a house in November Street, Mafikeng, and then dragged into the veld.

"A petrol-soaked tyre was then put around his neck and set alight," Oosthuysen said.

He said it was possible the death could be linked to the deaths of Mrs Mshibe and her daughter.

Oosthuysen said the man had been "boarding" with Mrs Mshibe and her daughter but had recently been asked to leave.

He asked people with information regarding the incident to phone the police on the toll-free number 0800-111213.

House was full

When Sowetan visited the Mshibe home at November Street in Orlando West yesterday the house was full of relatives and neighbours comforting the surviving family members.

A family spokesman said no statement would be issued by the family regarding the incident until a meeting of all concerned had been held to discuss the tragedy.

In another incident, a 22-year-old man was shot dead in Soweto on Saturday when he and his girlfriend tried to run away from four men who had made passes at the woman.

Soweto police spokesman Oosthuysen said Mr Jeffrey Nkuna and his girlfriend were walking in Zone 6 Meadowlands about 9.30pm when they noticed four men following them.

When the couple started running away, shots were fired at them and Nkuna was wounded in the buttocks and chest. He died on the scene.

His girlfriend managed to escape and reported to the police. No arrests have been made. Oosthuysen asked people with information to phone the above toll-free number.
Three die, one hurt in Alexandra violence

JOHANNESBURG

Three people were killed and one was wounded in the weekend in fresh violence in Alexandra township.

Police spokesman, Lieutenant-Colonel Dave Bruce, also said yesterday a fire gutted a large area of a squatter camp here.

Mr. David Zondo was found shot dead and Mr. Nxebe Hulana was stabbed to death by three men on Saturday night.

In another incident, six men were stabbed. Mr. Vuyisile Blaatsi, 21, died early yesterday and three others are in critical condition.

On Saturday night, the fire brigade was summoned to a camp here after a fire broke out, gutting a large area.

No deaths or injuries were reported.

In Natal, a KwaZulu Transport bus driver was killed on Friday after he was shot three times by a passenger at Thunukeni reserve.

On the same day, another man was seriously wounded in a shooting incident at Umlingweni on the South Coast.
Attacks on SAP ‘encouraged’

By Peter Davies

A police captain told a Goldstone Committee in Pretoria yesterday that “high-profile figures” in the ANC encouraged “township defence units” to attack members of the South African Police in the Vaal Triangle last year.

Giving evidence to the inquiry into attacks on police, Captain Petrus Johannes Gilliers of Vereeniging said it was “clear that members of the ANC are involved in attacks on SAP members, despite declarations by ANC leaders that it is not ANC policy to attack and murder policemen."

Gilliers revealed that 16 policemen were killed and 31 injured in 87 attacks from January 13 1992 to the end of last year. Police arrested 276 and charged 102 in connection with attacks on policemen, including 74 after the funeral to commemorate the Boipatong massacre.

Gilliers said the ANC also tried to make policemen unpopular in the community by falsely accusing the SAP of being involved in attacks on black communities.

The PAC and its military wing Apa were also responsible for attacks, he said.

Gilliers said there were 255 members in 21 self-defence units in Sharpeville, Sebokeng and Boipatong. Seven of the members were also cadres in the ANC’s armed wing Umkhonto we Sizwe.

He said policemen in the Vaal Triangle were particularly worried about the attacks. Police investigating the attacks had themselves become targets and many had moved out of the area, fearing for their lives.

The inquiry continues today.
3 killed in train violence

By Charmee Bhagwat
Crime Reporter

Three people died in train violence on the East Rand yesterday.

Witwatersrand SAP spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Dave Bruce said police were searching a train at Katlehong Station at about 5 pm when commuters reported violence on a train that had just pulled in.

On searching it, police found traces of blood.

Nearby, along the railway line, they discovered the body of a man who had been stabbed. They also found an injured man. Both had been thrown off the train.

Bruce said five suspects were arrested.

He added that police had to use teargas to disperse waiting passengers who were furious about the delay and had become unruly.

The passengers left the Katlehong train, and returned for the next train, which was thrown off the same.

On searching it, police found traces of blood.

However, violence erupted on that train as well. Police later discovered the body of another man who had been hit over the head with a bottle and thrown off the train.
Violence 'a tool to derail settlements'

THE SA Council of Churches (SACC) charged yesterday that forces in SA were bent on derailing constitutional talks.

The SACC said the recent killings of more than 10 people in Natal and on the Reef vindicated its belief that 'certain forces are trying hard to derail negotiations'. Government meetings with the ANC and with the Concerned South Africans Group had rekindled hopes for an early political settlement. But it seemed whenever a major development was imminent, scores of township residents lost their lives. 'Violence in SA, it would seem, is being switched on and off at will.'

ANC PWV spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said he agreed with the SACC: 'major political developments were preceded by outbreaks of violence...'.

National peace committee media officer Val Pauquet also agreed with the pattern of killings, while National peace secretariat chairman Amos Gidiemvs said outbreaks of violence on the eve of big events were orchestrated by a small group of people who did not want to see peace prevail. 17/11/93

In the latest incidents of violence, two people were shot dead in Natal; another in the East Rand police found the body of a man who had been stabbed and apparently thrown from a moving train. A man was also injured when shots were fired at police at Wideville station, near Germiston; Sapa reports.
Man dies in new train violence

JOHANNESBURG — A man died after being stabbed and thrown from a moving train yesterday in one of the first incidents of train violence on the East Rand this year.

Police found the man’s body next to a railway line near Germiston.

And in other train violence, a police spokesman said a man was wounded and two off-duty police constables were shot.

Meanwhile, in Natal, two people have been killed and Imball Taxi Association chairman Mr. Samuel Phumziniwabo Nchunu seriously injured in unrest in the past three days.

Mr. Nchunu was shot by two armed youths shortly after a meeting of the taxi association.

Two people were killed in separate incidents in Umlazi and KwaMakhutha, south of Durban.

A KwaZulu Police spokesman said Mr. Steven Shozi was shot dead in Umlazi.

In the other incident, an unidentified man was shot dead in the Ezimbokodweni area near KwaMakhutha. — Sapa
No motives discovered for temple blast

STEPHANE BOTHMA

SAP forensic experts were examining the explosive device which damaged a Hindu temple in the Pretoria suburb of Laudium early yesterday morning, but no motive for the blast had been established yet, SAP spokesman Maj-Andrew Leech said.

Muslim organisations rejected suggestions that Muslim/Hindu conflict had led to the explosion, which damaged the Seva Samay temple — one of two Hindu temples in Laudium — at 3am yesterday.

However, Muslim and Hindu community leaders met yesterday to avert a possible outbreak of religious violence.

After the meeting, they expressed the hope that perpetrators would be brought to justice as soon as possible, Sapa reported.

Nobody has claimed responsibility for the blast, which damaged pillars, the ceiling and windows.

Windows of an adjoining school and neighbouring houses were also damaged in the blast, which could be heard 20km away.

The attack was widely condemned by Muslim and Hindu community organisations, as well as by the Laudium branch of the ANC.

The Johannesburg-based Central Islamic Trust said if the attack was carried out in retaliation for the destruction of the Muslim Babri mosque in Ayodhya, India, they condemned it in the strongest terms.

SA Muslims and Hindus had co-existed peacefully in SA despite efforts by the perpetrators of apartheid to divide these communities, the trust said.
CCB framed Barnard, attorney tells inquest

Former CCB operative Ferdi Barnard was first implicated in the murder of activist David Webster by the unit’s chairman, Gen Eddie Webb, or by MD Joe Verster — and not because of a confession to his handler days after the shooting.

This submission was made by Barnard’s attorney, Piet du Plessis, during closing argument at the Webster inquest in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday.

Du Plessis said evidence that Barnard had confessed to his former handler, Lafras Luittingh, days after the murder was false and part of a plot by members of the CCB’s inner circle to frame his client.

Barnard himself has repeatedly denied that he made any confession.

Du Plessis said he was concerned from the evidence that Webb or Verster had started the rumours after Barnard disclosed the existence of the CCB during his detention under section 29 of the Internal Security Act.

Barnard blew the lid off the CCB and made a number of false allegations about the unit after he had been detained in November 1989 in connection with the murder of Swapo lawyer Anton Lubewski.

Du Plessis said it was clear that during the internal investigation into the CCB, Luittingh had told only former MI chief Gen Witkop Badenhorst that there was a rumour Barnard had been involved in the murder.

At that stage, Du Plessis argued, Luittingh was aware Barnard had alleged in his Section 29 statement that Luittingh himself was possibly responsible for Webster’s murder.

Du Plessis said he had the idea of spreading the rumour to incriminate Barnard.

Luittingh, he submitted, later developed the idea into a full-blooded confession by Barnard, which was the account he gave when confronted by his cousin, Adv Martin Luittingh, during the Harms commission inquiry.

This explained why neither Badenhorst nor Verster nor the security services had mentioned Luittingh’s version of a confession until the current inquest.

Earlier yesterday, J Wessels, counsel for Verster, Luittingh and the CCB, submitted that it was clear Badenhorst and Engelbrecht had tried to cover up information during their internal investigation into the CCB.

Du Plessis denied that Badenhorst had denied during their evidence that Luittingh had told them about Barnard’s alleged involvement.

Wessels said the evidence of both lawyers should be thrown out because they had contradicted each other on several material aspects.

Argument continues today.

Green belt needs its own authority, says Midrand

Midrand has broken ranks with five other towns councils wanting to incorporate “green belt” land north-west of Johannesburg into their municipalities.

A Midrand Town Council representative yesterday told a government demarcation board hearing on the incorporation issue that the council now supported the establishment of a separate local authority for the green belt region.

The demarcation board is hearing argument over the application by the Kensington, Roodepoort, Sandton, Verwoerdburg and Midrand councils that the large area of rural land between their boundaries and the Magaliesberg be divided up between them.

Communities in the area, as well as the government-appointed local government affairs council (LGAC), have opened the application.

Midrand is also involved in a dispute with Sandton over a strip of land between them, an issue on which the board will also make a finding.

Midrand town planning consultant Bob Warren told the board yesterday Midrand council backed the LGAC’s suggestion that the green belt be administered by a separate authority, which would have several smaller councils and boards under it.

Warren said a new regional services council (RSC) should be created out of the Witwatersrand and RSC to fund local authorities in the green belt and help provide infrastructure should the need for expansion arise.

It was “critical” that development on Midrand’s western boundary was co-ordinated.

Schools hit by gang’s protest

NOWETO teachers and the Department of Education and Training (DET) have blamed a roving gang of youths for disrupting schooling in the Naledi area and driving principals away.

DET Johannesburg director of education provision Norman Malebane said the group — acting in the name of the Congress of SA Students (Cosas) — had moved from school to school since Friday in intimidating principals and department heads.

A Cosas national executive committee member said while his organisation condemned the disruptions, it could not say whether the group was part of Cosas.

National Education Co-ordinating Committee spokesman Desmond Thompson said the NEDCO condemned the protest which, he said, appeared to be centred around pupils being refused admission if they did not pay their fees JL Daily 20/3 15.

Malebane said that while the principals at eight Naledi primary schools and three high schools had been bused out, other teachers were continuing with their classes. Activity at the 56 other schools in Naledi had not been disrupted, he said.

He said that principals had been afraid to return to school for fear of their lives, except for one who had been fetched and “reinstated” by his pupils.

The DET is planning a meeting with students’ organisations and civic associations in the area to resolve the situation.

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Violence on trains continues

Train violence on the East Rand continued last night when a man was stabbed and thrown off a moving train near President Station in Germiston, police said.

He was not seriously injured.

The attack was the fourth on the East Rand since Tuesday. Three people have been killed and five injured in the renewed attacks.

Yesterday a man was shot and wounded on a train between Germiston and Katlehong. Police said an assistant policeman was on the train. He fired at the gunman, who escaped.

The injured man, Moses Nkosi, was taken to Natalspuit Hospital.

On Tuesday three people were killed and three injured.
Commuter shot on Reef train

JOHANNESBURG. — A commuter was shot and wounded on a train travelling between Germiston and Kwekwe yesterday, bringing the number of people injured in train violence this year to five.

Three people have died since attacks began again on Tuesday.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Warrant Officer Andy Pieke said Mr Moses Nkosi was shot in the chest. An assistant policeman who witnessed the attack fired shots at the attacker, but the man escaped.

Mr Nkosi is in a satisfactory condition in the Natalpruit Hospital.

Police are investigating a charge of attempted murder, but no arrests have yet been made.

The attack followed several incidents on Tuesday in which three people were killed and four were injured on trains in the Germiston area.

The PAC on Tuesday condemned the renewed outbreak of violence on trains, saying it understood the deep anger of black commuters who were specifically targeted for such attacks. — Sapa
JOHANNESBURG.—Train violence on the East Rand continued when a man was stabbed and thrown off a moving train near President Station, Germiston.

Police said the man was found last night lying beside the railway line. He was not seriously injured.

The attack was the fourth on the East Rand since Tuesday. Three commuters have been killed and five injured in the renewed attacks.

Yesterday a commuter was shot and wounded on a train between Germiston and Katlehong.

The injured man, Mr. Moses Nkosi, was admitted to Natalspruit Hospital. His condition was reported to be satisfactory.
PAC alleges boycott threat

PRETORIA — The PAC yesterday accused the Mamelodi Civic Association of fanning "black on black" violence by threatening to boycott some businesses in the Pretoria township.

The PAC's regional secretary, Mr Phillip Muda, said the licences of two garages in the township were seized by MCA members about three months ago and had not been returned.

An executive member of the MCA, who asked not to be named, said at no stage did the MCA threaten any business person.

The official said one garage found to be connected to a member of the Mamelodi council was closed following a boycott by residents.
Train death toll rises

The death toll in violence on trains rose to three this year when another two people died in trains on the Reef on Tuesday.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Colonel Dave Bruce said the body of a man was found near Katlehong Station on the East Rand and an injured man was found next to the railway line.

Further train violence, a man was killed and another injured in another train attack also on the East Rand, Supa. 8/11/93
ANC condemns police shooting

By Montsho Moroke

ANC Youth League member was shot dead by Katlehong police yesterday, police said last night.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Lieutenant- Colonel Dave Bruce said Lucky Mampuru, of Ntuli Street in the East Rand township, was wanted in connection with a number of charges including murder, attempted murder and armed robbery in the area.

However, the ANC PWV region said in a statement last night that it was horrified and dismayed at the “brutal” killing of Mampuru.

The ANC also alleged that the police acted in collusion with bodyguards of the controversial Bishop Khumalo who was arrested at the weekend in connection with a number of fatal shootings in the area.

Bruce said police saw Mampuru walking in a township street at about 3.25 pm. When the police ap-

proached they ran away.

He ignored warning shots and was chased for a considerable distance before he was killed, said Bruce.

A spokesman for Peace Action, an independent organisation which monitors violence in the PWV area, said witnesses said Mampuru was shot in the back.

The ANC said witnesses told them that Mampuru was standing with four other friends at the corner of Ntuli and Nomsane streets, when a red minibus with registration PSL 388T ap-

proached them.

The occupants — seven white men and three black men — leapt out. “One of the black occup-

ants, a certain Peter who is a bodyguard of Khumalo and a suspect in a murder case, said ‘hier is by, skiet.”’

“Lucky then fled to the nearby house and the occ-

cupants of the minibus shot him, killing him instan-

tly.

“One of the white police men then said: ‘Ek het hom moos dood ges-
kiet’ and then radioed for other policemen for re-enforcement.”
3 more die in train violence

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — The number of people killed this week in train attacks on the East Rand has risen to six, with the latest deaths reported in Germiston.

About 7.30 pm yesterday, police found the bodies of three stabbed then beside the Cleveland-Denver railway line.

Earlier a running gun battle between police and four suspects who could be linked to Reef train attacks left two policemen and two of the suspects injured. Other suspects escaped.
The number of people killed in the train attack in East Rand has risen to six, with the toll expected to continue rising. At about 7.30 p.m., the train was discovered by three men on Cleveland Road when a man, who had been talking with some people, was stabbed with a knife. The train was stopped and the police were called. Two of the men were found dead, one of them being a passenger. At about 8.30 p.m., the police were called to Swart's Station for a report of a man being stabbed. A police officer, who was also working on the British streets, opened fire on the suspect and wounded three of his colleagues. The two remaining suspects were then shot dead. The two dead men were identified as Nugent, who had been a police officer, and Drury, who had been a detective. Police have appealed for information.
Man killed in shootout

By Pernica Coen

A shootout between police and Sebokeng hostel dwellers led to the death of one man and the wounding of four others last night.

About 19 hostel residents were arrested in connection with the shooting.

The dead man has been identified as Tselembi Mteletelambie (23). The injured were admitted to the Sebokeng Hospital with bullet wounds.

Police said members of the Internal Stability Unit were sent to the hostel following a tip-off that some residents were in possession of unlawful firearms and ammunition.

Shots were fired at the police, who returned the fire. One man was killed and four others injured.

The complex was searched, and police confiscated two AK-47 rifles and magazines and three handguns before arresting at least 19 suspects.

Charges being investigated against the group include attempted murder, and the unlawful possession of firearms and ammunition.
JOHANNESBURG.—Alexandra Taxi Association chairman Mr Peter Manamela became the latest victim of taxi violence when he and his three-year-old granddaughter were shot and injured in an attack on his car.

Police said Mr Manamela, 40, his wife Mrs Rosina Manamela, 40, and their granddaughter Npho were fired at in their car by two men in Kew, near Alexandra.

He lost control of the vehicle and smashed into a cement block. His attackers fired at him again. Police spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel David Bruce said seven bullets struck the vehicle, three hitting Mr Manamela.

Colonel Bruce said the Rev Elizabeth Carmichael, of the Alexandra Interim Crisis Committee, had gone to the scene of the attack and had told him it was definitely part of a continuing taxi war. — Sapa.
JOHANNESBURG. — Five people were killed, at least 13 were wounded and thousands of rands of damage was caused to two East Rand schools in unrest reported this week. Police said about 300 youths gathered at Daveyton High School and stoned buildings and cars. The same group went to Rivonia High School, where they shattered classroom and car windows.

A man was shot dead at Ratanda, near Heidelberg, in apparent revenge for an earlier attack on a minibus taxi. Four people were wounded when a man with an AK-47 opened fire on the taxi.

Later another man was shot dead with a 9mm pistol.

Police suspect that the second attack was to avenge the taxi shooting.

The ANC said one person had been killed and five injured in other incidents since the ANC held a rally in Ratanda on Sunday.

In Natal two people were killed and two wounded in unrest on Wednesday, police said.

KwaZulu police said Mr Royal Njapha, 30, was found stabbed to death at Umlazi's G Section.

At KwaMashu, police said, Mr Xolani Mthembu, 27, was shot dead at his home.

Two men were wounded in a shooting at Adams Mission near Amanzimtoti on Wednesday.

The Natal-KwaZulu regional dispute resolution committee has objected to Mooi River and Estcourt being declared unrest areas. — Sapa
Shootout over train violence

JOHANNESBURG.—A shootout between police and four men who could be linked to attacks on Reef trains left two policemen and two of the suspects injured yesterday afternoon.

A police spokesman said a commuter approached four policemen patrolling trains and pointed out four men he said were robbers. The suspects fled when police approached them, and police gave chase on foot through the city's rush-hour traffic.

The suspects opened fire, wounding two of the pursuing policemen. Police returned the fire and equalled the score. The chase ended on the corner of Hancock and Nugget streets when the two wounded suspects were taken into custody. — Sapa
De Klerk loses white support

WHILE the ANC was maintaining its popularity among blacks, President F W de Klerk and the NP were steadily losing the support of black and white South Africans, according to a recent Markinor poll.

Markinor deputy MD Christine Woensers said yesterday results of a November poll on socio-political and economic trends showed that although the NP remained the most accepted party by whites, there was a drop from 76% to only 56% of those who would definitely or perhaps vote for the party. Black support declined from 52% to 38%.

Inkatha remained a popular party with whites. Although only 3% of the respondents expressed a definite vote for the party, 15% would perhaps do so and a further 29% felt good about the party. Among blacks however 71% of the sample rejected the organisation, 23% more than those who spurned the CP.

The ANC retained a clear favourite with blacks, with an overwhelming majority (86%) who would definitely vote for it.

The overwhelming majority of whites (85%) rejected the party.

Woensers said there had been a sharp drop in positive attitudes to De Klerk’s leadership.

“De Klerk has lost all the ground he gained in the May 1992 survey and more. Results indicate the lowest vote of confidence (by blacks and whites) since he became president.”

“Facts, among whites, it is the lowest score obtained by any president since the survey commenced in 1976,” she said.

The poll was conducted among a sample of 800 whites and 1,200 blacks in metropolitan areas throughout SA.

Electoral commission needed urgently

CAPE TOWN - An independent electoral commission to help negotiate an election code of conduct was an urgent priority, ANC spokesman Gill Marcus said yesterday.

She was reacting to “disappointment” expressed by DP leaders after an inconclusive meeting with ANC leaders about the disruption of two DP meetings near Cape Town.

The DP’s Jasper Walsh said the ANC’s suggestion of using peace accord structures was inadequate because these were not proactive.

The DP’s James Seile said many peace accord agreements should be augmented by bilateral deals. Marcus said it was impractical for all political groups to have agreements with each other. An electoral commission was essential.
Police accused of unprovoked attack

JOHANNESBURG. — The ANC PWV region yesterday claimed police shot dead Mr Bongi Tye-lentombi and wounded six others when they opened fire on Sekeng Hostel residents “without provocation” on Thursday night.

The ANC version of the incident differed from that of the police, who claimed policemen reacted only after coming under fire during an investigation.

The number of people killed in train attacks on the East Rand this week has risen to six, with the latest fatalities reported in Germiston on Thursday night. (C23)

At about 7.30pm police discovered the bodies of three men along the Cleveland-Dep- ver railway line (278)

An off-duty Soweto policeman was shot dead yesterday afternoon while trying to arrest two men for possession of unlicensed firearms.

In Edendale, Maritzburg, a 20-year-old school pupil was shot dead by gunmen on Thursday morning. Thamsanqa Zondi was found dead in a classroom at Fata Secondary School.

A KwaZulu policeman has been shot dead near Port Shep- stone on the Natal South Coast.

Deputy police commis- sioner Lieutenant-General L.P.E. Malan said yesterday rising crime and violence would only be stopped if an active and steadfast partnership was secured between the public and the police. He was speaking at the opening of a police station in Klawer, north of Cape Town.
Vaal forum formed to promote peace

By STAN MHLONGO

THE Vaal Civic Association is to step up its campaign to bring stability to the troubled area by holding an urgent meeting at the TPA offices in Howick at 10am on Tuesday, 24/11/93.

VCA general secretary Linda Msingmezulu said his organisation had initiated a 'round table' forum, on which individuals or organisations could come together to discuss their fears and hopes.

He said people such as doctors, builders and organisations like Telkom, who were struggling to render services, could speak.

He said mainstream township organisations such as the ANC, PAC, Cosatu and Azapo were expected to attend.

The meeting was part of the VCA's effort at finding solutions to the problems obfusing township development.
Cops just opened fire — ANC

THE ANC PWV region this week claimed police shot dead one person and wounded six others when they opened fire on Sibokeng Hostel residents "without provocation" on Thursday night.

Bongi Tylentombi died in the incident.

Police claimed policemen fired only after coming under fire during an investigation.

The ANC said police arrived at the hostel at about 8.30pm in a minibus and two Casspir armoured vehicles and went to a room where residents were holding a meeting.

It said residents overheard the police say in Afrikaans: "Laat ons hulle skiet!" (Let's shoot them!)

The ANC said: "Without any provocation or warning shots, police fired indiscriminately at the inmates, killing one instantly and wounding six others."
Child tells of police shooting

By Cyril Madlala

An eight-year-old Soweto girl yesterday told the Johannesburg Magistrate’s Court that she was playing with her doll in the street when she was shot by members of the Soweto Internal Stability Unit in Kliptown.

Gloria Mhethwa said that when the firing started she was afraid to look around in case “these things” (pellets) struck her.

She is one of 11 people who are jointly suing the Minister for R60,000 after they were tear-gassed and shot on February 1 last year. Ten are claiming R5,000 each. The 11th, Victor Mbungu, is suing for R10,000 for wrongful arrest and imprisonment.

In reply, the SAP said members of the unit were following up information on two stolen vehicles. They had arrested some suspects when a crowd gathered round, freed one suspect and began shooting policemen.

The other plaintiffs are Obed Gwevu, Thishi Mbatha, Sofia Mbatha, Orilo Letsholo, Yeli Skgoaelane, Johnson Zulu, Evaline Ndlovu and Florenah Nodisenjane.

The hearing continues.
Killing at Tokoza

By Charmelisa Bangowati
Crime Reporter

Tokoza's controversial cleric's wife degenerated into a violent confrontation between mourners and Tokoza residents, leaving one person dead and another injured.

After incidents of violence in the Reef and in Natal, at least 18 people were killed at the weekend.

Tokoza residents erected barricades on Saturday to prevent mourners from marching to the cemetery for the funeral of the wife of Bishop Solomon Khumalo.

Khumalo is alleged to be the leader of the Khumalo Gang, which residents of the East Rand township claim has been responsible for at least 17 murders in Tokoza. He recently appeared in court on charges of murder and attempted murder.

His wife was gunned down last week.

Before mourners reached the cemetery, one man was shot dead and another wounded. The SAPS was called to a house where the body of Philemon Legonyane, who had been shot, was found.

In Kathлон, four people were killed on Friday. In Randfontein, a man was shot dead and two others were wounded. At least eight people were killed in weekend violence in Natal.
SA’s most dangerous place
during the past two years.

By Ismail Lagardien
Political Correspondent

The PWV region is the country’s most dangerous place to live in, according to statistics released by police at the weekend.

Eighty percent of car thefts in South Africa were reported in the PWV. Major-General Wouter Grove of the South African Police’s General Staff said at a special police briefing in Knysna at the weekend.

According to the figures, 36 percent of criminal cases reported over the past two years were committed in the same region.

Grove said the crime in the country had over the past few years reached “disturbing proportions.”

During the first 10 months of last year, almost one-and-a-half million criminal cases were reported. This, Grove said, included almost one million incidents of house-breaking.

“Socio-economic factors like unemployment, inadequate housing and insufficient provisions not only had a direct influence on the incidents of criminality, but also formed the base thereof.

“The simple and compound number of incidents of murder, armed robbery, house-breaking, rape and serious assault in the police regions of the Witwatersrand, Natal, Western Cape and Eastern Cape does not only show the highest occurrence of the above-mentioned crimes in the country for the period January 1 to October 31, but also represents an increase of these crimes in the various police regions in comparison with the corresponding period of the previous year,” he said.

The incidents of crime reported nationwide in 1992 are as follows:

- Murder cases: 15,772
- Armed robbery: 21,543
- Rape: 19,381
- Serious assault: 107,588
- Fraud: 52,931
- Theft: 484,312
- Stock theft: 21,072
- House-breaking: 150,248

The highest increase over the previous year was armed robbery (21 percent).

The decrease recorded was that of house-breaking (three percent).
Illegal arms: bishop held

East Rand clergyman Bishop Solomon Khuma-lo, the alleged leader of the Khuma-lo gang and five other men were arrested in Tokoza yesterday for possessing illegal firearms.

They appeared in the Alberton Magistrate's Court and the case was postponed to today.

The arrests followed two days of violence after the funeral of Khuma-lo's wife on Saturday. Four people were killed.

— Crime Reporter
Security firm to testify on attack at station

By Helen Grange
Pretoria Bureau

Private security company Springbok Patrols has been called to testify today at the Goldstone Commission concerning its guards' actions during an attack on train commuters at Soweto's Miamlankuzi station on November 25.

The attack, in which two people died and 36 were injured, took place as an afternoon rush-hour train pulled into the station. The perpetrators — a group of men waiting on the platform — opened fire on commuters as they disembarked, according to a police report.

At the time, there were only three Springbok Patrols guards at the station, and in the chaos several shots were fired by them, their company has confirmed.

Two of the guards, giving evidence before a committee of the Goldstone Commission yesterday, said they had come on the scene only after the shooting had begun. No policemen were there.

Zola Mathika (25) said he had shot and killed two men. One had come towards him with a panga. The other was trying to scale a fence to escape. He had shot to kill. After the first man was shot in the stomach, he fell backwards "giving his last kicks". Mathika said he had "blown the other one's brains out" after first firing a warning shot.

However, in a report afterwards from Springbok Patrols' group managing director Mick Bartmann, based on the guards' stories, no mention was made of Mathika killing two men.

The report said only that a man wielding an axe was shot by Mathika, but that the man continued running and "disappeared". The other two guards had fired only warning shots.

Commissioner Gert Steyn said he wished to hear evidence on this from Bartmann today.

He also wanted evidence on a contradiction between the two guards' testimony, that they were unable to identify any of the attackers and the company's statement that the guards had identified two of them in Hillbrow Hospital soon after the attack.

Police last week released four suspects held in connection with the attack after an identity parade. The Springbok Patrols guards were unable to identify any of the suspects.
Hostel bomb case trio refused bail

Three men who allegedly bombed the Meadowlands Hostel in Soweto during conflict between residents and hostel dwellers were refused bail in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday.

Johannes Xiba (24) and Petrus Buthelezi (22), both students, and Johannes Matee (32), a supervisor at Dantex Explosives, were refused bail by a Johannesburg magistrate last year.

Their appeal was dismissed yesterday by Mr Justice J C Labuschagne.

The trio are to stand trial in the Regional Court on February 10.

The Magistrate's Court heard there had been a number of explosions at the Meadowlands Hostel since May 1991 when several people were killed in clashes between the ANC and the Inkatha Freedom Party.
Train guards ‘ill-equipped’

PRETORIA — Security guards contracted by Spoornet to protect commuters and property at railway stations in Soweto had been poorly equipped and cut off from police backup, the Goldstone commission heard yesterday.

Speaking at the commission’s investigation into train violence yesterday, a Springbok Police employee who had been on duty at Miamakwazi station in Soweto on November 25 last year said the two-way radios he had been issued had no batteries.

Two people were killed and 36 injured on that day when a group of armed men attacked commuters on the VosensHip to Johannesburg line.

The security guard said there were no telephones at the station to call for help. The ticket office at Miamakwazi was burnt down in October last year, he said.

The guard said it had taken the security forces 20 minutes to reach the station after the attack. He had no idea how they were contacted.

Sgt Christoffel Gershams of Orlando’s nearest and violent crime unit testified that four people had been arrested after the incident but had been released due to a lack of evidence.

The commission will conclude arguments on train violence after evidence on the Miamakwazi incident is heard.

Bishop among six held in arms case

POLICE yesterday arrested East Rand Zionist Bishop Solomon Khumalo and five others on charges of illegal possession of firearms and ammunition, following a tip-off, police said yesterday.

Khumalo, who was recently released on bail after being charged with murder, and the other men appeared in the Alberton Magistrate’s Court yesterday.

The six, were remanded in court again on March 2, police spokesman Brig. Fruzs Malberbe said.

Malberbe said police arrested the men in Khumalo’s house in Thokoza yesterday morning.

A gun with live rounds of ammunition and with the serial number filed off, was found in the house.

The other men were Shadrack Khumalo, Nichla Chauke, Dumiso Khumalo, Fan Ramuna and Tshitlani Khumalo.

Meanwhile, 12 people died in violence on the East Rand over the weekend.

The Human Rights Commission said 122 people had already died in violence this year, almost 50% more than were killed in the same period last year and just below the 127 who were killed in the first 26 days of January 1991.

About 29 people died in violence in the PWV area this January while only 25 died in the same period last year. January 1991 saw 55 deaths in the PWV, the HRC said.

In the latest incidents of violence in the area, a municipal policeman was shot dead and robbed of his service pistol in Ekurhuleni yesterday, while a member of the Internal Stability Unit in Soweto was critically wounded in an armed attack on Sunday, Sapa reports.

The SAP said a resident had found the body of municipal Const Beti Josaphatv 0 after hearing shots.

The policeman was shot while on patrol in Dobsonville. Soweto police spokesman Capt Joseph Ngobeni said members of the Internal Stability Unit in Soweto saw a suspect vehicle carrying 16 people.

Shots were fired at the police, who returned fire. Const Warren Hattingh was wounded and taken to Garden City Clinic, Ngobeni said.

The latest incidents brought to 14 the number of people killed violently since Friday in the PWV.

A man was killed and another injured in an attack on a train on the east Rand, bringing to four the number killed in renewed train violence this month.

Three youths were shot dead and three others injured in an attacks in Thokoza.
Bishop among six held in arms case

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The six were refused bail and would appear in court again on March 24, police spokesman Brig. Frans Malherbe said.

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The Human Rights Commission said 122 people had already died in violence this year, almost 50% more than were killed in the same period last year and just below the 127 who were killed in the first 25 days of January 1991.

About 39 people died in violence in the PWV area this January while only 23 died in the same period last year. January 1991 saw 53 deaths in the PWV, the HRC said.

In the latest incidents of violence in the area, a municipal policeman was shot dead and robbed of his service pistol in Ewalton yesterday, while a member of the Internal Stability Unit in Soweto was critically wounded in an armed attack on Sunday, Saps reported.

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Train deaths: Clarity order

PRETORIA — Goldstone Committee chairman Mr Gert Steyn ordered yesterday that Springbok Patrols security company explain why its report on a train attack at Mamelank ants station last year differed from an employee’s evidence.

This follows evidence by a security guard, Mr. Zola Mathika, yesterday that he had shot dead two people at the scene of a train attack on November 25 last year.

The attack claimed the lives of two people and 36 were injured.

At the time Springbok Patrols issued a report saying Mr. Mathika shot and injured one man.

According to Mr. Mathika he told police and his employers he had killed two people.

Mr. Steyn also ordered that the issue of witnesses not coming forward to testify on the train attack at Mamelank ants for political reasons had to be investigated.

This followed evidence by a policeman, Sergeant Christoffel Germishuys of the Soweto unrest and violent crime unit, that commuters at the station that day were fearful or had fled.

He also said the ANC claimed at a meeting on the “Train accord” that they had witnesses to testify about the attack but that they feared police intimidation.

— Sapa 27/8
Guard shot me — claim

PRETORIA — A Goldstone committee witness testified yesterday that he escaped a pangaa- and knife-wielding mob on a train — only to be shot in the neck by a security guard as he fled.

The man, "Mr C" from Nancefield Hostel, said he was shot in the neck by a security officer clad in green as he fled the Mlampilankuni station on November 25 last year, following an attack on train commuters.

At the time he identified the man as a Springbok Patrots guard.

Mr C said two pellets were later removed from his neck at Baragwanath Hospital. He denied he had had anything to do with the attack.

However, Mr Jacob van Zyl, a director of the Springbok Patrots security firm contracted by Spoornet to guard Mlampilankuni station, said the firm's officers stopped wearing green uniforms at least a year ago.

But one of the guards, Mr Zola Mthikwa, said he shot someone in the back of the head after firing a warning shot.

It also emerged yesterday that Springbok Patrots' brief was to protect Spoornet's property rather than their passengers.

The hearing into violence on trains, chaired by Mr Gert Steyn, continues. — Sapa
I was shot by guards, says train commuter

By Helen Grange
Pretoria Bureau

A survivor of a train attack in Soweto in November told a Goldstone Commission committee yesterday he had been shot by a Springbok Patrols security guard as he scaled a fence.

Mr C’s (his name may not be published) 22-year-old hostel dweller, told the committee he had been slashed at with a panga moments earlier as he tried to get off a train at Mlanjkunjini station on November 26.

The attack, in which two people were killed and 36 injured, was perpetrated by a group of men who opened fire from the platform, according to the police.

Describing his ordeal, Mr C said he fell to the floor of the coach when he heard shooting.

“I looked up to see passengers jumping out. Others got in, armed with knives and pangas. As I emerged from the train, a man was stabbing at me with a panga. He cut my finger.”

Mr C said he scaled a fence and, looking back, saw a security guard pointing a firearm at him. He was shot in the neck by a guard.

On Monday, two of the three Springbok Patrols guards deployed at the station that day testified they had fired several shots during the chaos.

Zola Mathika said he had shot and killed two men. One of them had been scaling the fence when Mathika “blew his brains out.”

The hearing into train violence, chaired by Gerhard Steyn, continues today.
COMMUTER SAFETY

not a top priority

PRETORIA — The prevention of damage to SpoorNet property was considered a higher priority by contracted security guards than the protection of commuters, the Goldstone commission heard yesterday.

Springbok Patroes director Jacob van Zyl said the company’s brief from SpoorNet had been to ensure that buildings and equipment at railway stations in Soweto were safeguarded.

Protecting commuters was “another thing”, he said.

Van Zyl was answering questions at the commission’s hearings on train violence chaired by Gert Steyn.

Asked why Springbok Patroes had presented two different versions of the events on November 25 last year — when two people were killed and 37 injured at Soweto’s Miamlakumlazi station — Van Zyl said only the company’s senior director Wahl Bartmann could answer that.

Bartmann was on holiday in the Seychelles and could not be contacted, Van Zyl said.

One witness of the incident, a hostel dweller from Nancefield, told the commission how he had escaped armed assailants in a train carriage only to be shot by a security guard.

The witness said two shotgun pellets had been removed from his neck at the Hillbrow Hospital after the incident.

The hostel dweller, known as Mr C, in order to protect his identity, said he had been shot by a Springbok Patroes Guard wearing a green uniform.

Van Zyl said however, that the company had ceased using green uniforms more than a year before the incident.

The hearings continue.

Action committee opposes Randburg council’s vision

THE Randburg Town Council’s vision of an amalgamated Randburg, Sandton and Alexandra by June 1994 has been strongly opposed by the Randburg Action Committee which has called for a referendum on the issue.

In addition the committee, which consists of ratepayers, called for an election of a representative interim administration for Randburg with a mission statement “to make local government responsive and accountable to the community.”

The full financial implications of an amalgamation had been kept deliberately from Randburg ratepayers who had not been supplied with budget proposals or cost estimates, Randburg Action Committee spokesman Harry Formaneck said.

A request by the committee for negotiations on a referendum had been rejected by the town council.

The committee, which has no political affiliations, also called for an end to party-political propaganda by the council and the right of access by ratepayers to council minutes, files and budgets.

The council in December accepted and implemented a “vision” that by June 1994 there would be an amalgamated municipal
Goldstone to probe safety of commuters

By Helen Grange
Pretoria Bureau

Steps taken by Spoornet and the SAP to safeguard the lives of commuters in view of the continuing bloodshed on trains will be scrutinised at a Goldstone committee hearing next week.

The committee, probing train violence, will be hearing closing argument from lawyers next Thursday on security shortfalls and ways in which Spoornet and the police could better protect commuters.

Evidence during an inquiry this week into a train massacre at Soweto's Mlbankuzi station on November 26 last year pointed to inadequate policing at the time.

The attack, perpetrated by a group of men firing from the platform into a rush-hour train as it pulled in, resulted in two deaths and 36 injuries, according to police.

It emerged in testimony that there were no policemen on duty at the station, and that three Springbok Patrols security guards hired to protect Spoornet property had useless two-way radios and therefore no means to call for back-up.

Several bullets, mostly warning shots, were fired by them during the chaos, with one of the guards testifying he had "blown one man's brains out".

However, such a killing could not be established afterwards.

Yesterday, Protea police station commander Colonel Paul Loock told the committee he had met ANC members of the Train Accord after the incident, and gained the distinct impression from them that they had eyewitnesses.

However, the ANC never produced them, and an identity parade of four suspects arrested by police was fruitless.
‘No violence’
train ready
in fortnight

SAPA 29/11/93

An experimental train aimed at curbing violence on PWV-rail routes should be running within the next two weeks, South African Rail Commuter Corporation managing director Wynand Burger said yesterday.

The train was originally scheduled to go into operation in early January.

Burger said infra-red links between the cameras in the 14 coaches were being hampered by electrical and atmospheric interference.

The attempt to link the cameras with infra-red was a world first, he said.

At least six people have been killed and nine injured in train violence since January.

The Human Rights Commission monitoring group said earlier this month 278 people had died in at least 300 attacks on trains last year.

The experimental train has been fitted with emergency doors and cameras. Windows have been modified so people cannot be thrown from them and communications links have been set up between the driver, operations centre and police.
Train attack - 4 freed

SUSPECTS in a train attack at Munsulankunzi station in Soweto during November last year had to be released because of lack of witnesses, a committee of the Goldstone Commission has been told.

Lieutenant-Colonel Paul Loock of Protea in Soweto told the commission yesterday he had informed a meeting of the Train Accord Committee on January 13 this year that they had arrested four people but then had to release them.

He said the only witnesses to the attack were three guards from Springbok Patrols who had earlier testified before the committee.

Loock said an identification parade was held on January 22 and the four suspects had to be released afterwards.

He said he was under the impression the African National Congress had witnesses to the attack and there was a discussion with ANC representatives at the meeting about protection for witnesses.

He said in the past they had experienced difficulties with the ANC shielding witnesses from co-operating with the police.

Committee chairman Mr Gert Steyn told the various legal representatives, who are due to present argument on February 4 and 5, to answer certain questions in their submissions.

Among the questions were the improvements on trains, like the prototype train introduced by Spoornet on which the legal representatives should comment. There was also evidence led that policing on trains was not always sufficient and police investigations were not always completed.

A report was handed in on policing by the Witswatersrand Attorney-General and the committee wanted comment on that.

Steyn also said the committee heard evidence on specific incidents of train violence in Daveyton and Munsulankunzi and he wanted to know any deductions the lawyers made from that. He also wanted to know whether any political party could be linked to the train attacks. The hearing will resume on February 4.
Another Alex taxi driver killed in a hail of bullets

Crime Reporter | 278 | SMM 28/1/73

The second Alexandra Taxi Association (ATA) driver killed in 24 hours died in a hail of bullets yesterday and one of his passengers was wounded.

Warrant-Officer Andy Pieke said unknown gunmen opened fire on a taxi on the corner of Selbourne and Fourth avenues, Alexandra, at 10.40 am.

The taxi driver, who was shot in the neck, lost control of his vehicle which ploughed into a shack.

The injured passenger was taken to Alexandra Clinic.

The attack follows two shootings on Tuesday. In which an ATA member was killed and a member of the Alexandra-Midrand-Sandton Taxi Association (Armstra) was wounded.

An ATA member, who did not want to be named, said he was unsure whether the killings were connected to a dispute between the two organisations.

On Tuesday morning an ATA driver was shot dead in his vehicle in 5th Avenue. A few hours earlier the Armstra driver was shot twice in the chest.
A man was slightly injured when he was stabbed and thrown off a train on the East Rand this morning, police said.

The man told police his attackers stabbed him and hurled him out of the moving train between the East Rand and Angelo stations near Germiston.

Two commuters were shot dead and four others were injured, early yesterday when gunmen opened fire on a train travelling between Lindela and Katlehong railway stations on the East Rand, police said.

The killing brings the number of victims of train violence this year to nine.

East Rand police spokesman Captain Lda van Zweel said witnesses told police four men wearing blue overalls shot at the train from a veld next to the Lindela Station just before 6am. Police found a number of AK 47 cartridges in the veld.

Members of the East Rand Internal Stability Unit arrived at Katlehong Station at 6.50pm. While searching the train they found one dead man and four injured men, who were taken to Nataispruit Hospital, Van Zweel said. One of the injured men died late yesterday.

Van Zweel named three of the injured men as Jico Ndlovu (23), Jacob Neume (29) and Thomas Samaweh (85), all of Katlehong.

Sapa reports that IPP official Humphrey Ndlovu said all six victims were IPP members. He named the two dead men as Mphakathi ThCUSTOMERHELPERS and John Ntombela, and the fourth injured man as Paul Motleung.

On Monday morning, a train commuter was found dead and another, wounded, next to the railway line between the Boksburg and Duswart stations.
Commuters killed at stations as new train’s tests delayed

THE testing of a new experimental 14-coach train aimed at minimising incidents of violence against commuters had been delayed until next week due to faulty video equipment, an SA Rail Commuter Corporation spokesman said yesterday.

SARCC development engineer Brian Carver said faults in the transmission of video images from coach to coach had delayed the train, but he was confident it would be tested next week. Tests were scheduled for the first week of January, but the quality of video images would be improved first, he said.

The SARCC is expected to make an announcement on the progress made with setting up a 4 000-strong rail guard next week.

Meanwhile, at least six people have been killed and nine injured in renewed train violence this year, according to police and Sapa reports.

The deaths, mainly on the Germiston-Katlehong line, have dimmed hopes of peace on commuter lines following a lull in the violence over the festive season.

In the latest incident two people were killed and three injured in an attack on a train travelling between Lindela and Katlehong Stations.

Police found a dead man and four injured men during a search at the Katlehong Station. One of the injured died later in the day.

Inkatha said all the men were Inkatha members.

Police said about 2 880 police were guarding PWV commuter trains. A major problem remained the unwillingness of witnesses to come forward with information.

In another development, police said they suspected that the three men shot dead in Alexandra on Tuesday were victims of the taxi war.

Protesting taxi drivers block street

PRETORIA — About 500 minibus taxi drivers who converged on downtown Pretoria yesterday after the SA Taxi Drivers’ Union declared a “dispute” with the city’s traffic department...

Two people were arrested for intimidation but were released.

There were no major disruptions and by 1pm most of the taxis which blocked Blood Street had dispersed.

Union representatives handed a letter of protest to city traffic chief Jimmy Allison.

Regional secretary Morris Bokaha said the council had failed to meet the union’s demands, which included that SAP and traffic police stop harassing its 800 Pretoria members.

The council had also failed to respond satisfactorily to demands that more taxi pickup points be established in Pretoria, and that the “unnecessarily high ticketing” of its members be stopped, he said. — Sapa.

Spotlight on Natal violence

EMPANGENI — The ANC and Cosatu yesterday claimed that the KwaZulu Police and the SAP were involved in attacks on ANC-supporting communities in Natal/ KwaZulu, particularly in Eshowe and KwaZulu.

A Goldstone commission sub-committee is holding preliminary inquiries into political violence on the Natal North and South Coasts.

In its submission, the SAP said much of the violence was criminal but the force experienced difficulties in apprehending the perpetrators.

This was because of a perception of bias, community distrust and a campaign of non-co-operation with the police.

Natal unrest monitor Mary de Haas alleged that KwaZulu Police and hit squads were responsible for at least 45 deaths in Eshowe in the past five months.

Meanwhile, in Imball outside Maritzburg, a woman was killed and four houses burnt down in continuing violence yesterday.

The ANC’s Natal Midlands leadership met police and the Natal Provincial Administration this week to demand action against alleged Inkatha “invaders” in the township.

In Inanda, north of Durban, police yesterday arrested three people and confiscated arms and ammunition to their lists and a search at Amawoe.

Peace accord representatives and UN observers accompanied police to the area. — Sapa.
Peace secretariat image could suffer

FINANCIAL control exercised over the national peace secretariat by the Justice Department was negatively affecting perceptions of its independence, leading peace accord and UN officials have said.

National peace committee chairman John Hall said yesterday there was "a lot of merit" in the secretariat being independent and reporting to the State President.

"It is clear that the national peace secretariat being financed by and reporting to the Department of Justice does raise questions," he said.

Hall's statement followed a speech by UN observer mission chief Angela King in which she said that the secretariat needed to be removed from Justice, which also administered the NIS.

UN observer mission spokesman Kevin Kennedy said the fact that Justice Minister Kobie Coetzee was also responsible for the NIS led to a "perceived conflict of interest". He said the Goldstone commission's witness protection programme could suffer from negative perceptions if potential witnesses realised the programme was being funded by those who also administered the NIS.

"Who knows if there is a real conflict of interests, but there certainly is a perceived conflict," he said.

King had already made representations to government and the peace secretariat on the matter, he said.

A spokesman for the President's office said no statement would be made on the issue by De Klerk before the opening of Parliament. It is believed De Klerk may address the future of the secretariat in his opening speech.

King made her remark in response to a question after an address to the SA Institute of International Affairs on Wednesday night. In her speech she described the national peace accord as "that truly unique experiment created by the political parties and entities and government to resolve disputes peacefully".

"A special relationship has developed between the Goldstone commission and the international observers, including the UN observer mission in SA," she said.

HRC warns of township violence

POLICE and unrest monitors needed to prepare themselves for a possible eruption of violence in the strife-torn townships of Thokoza on the East Rand and Ratanda in Helderberg this weekend, the Human Rights Commission (HRC) said yesterday.

National director Saforsa Sadek said her organisation had received reports that residents of the townships were preparing to take the law into their own hands to "defend themselves" against killings by a gang in the area.

The funeral of ANC activist Lucky Mampuru, which was scheduled for Ratanda tomorrow, could become the focal point of renewed violence, she said.

Police spokesman Capt Nina Barkhuizen said both townships could expect a heightedened police presence over the weekend and additional forces would be mobilised to maintain security at the funeral.

Barkhuizen said police had no specific evidence violence would erupt, but both areas remained major trouble spots.

The HRC had appealed to international monitors to be present at Mampuru's funeral to reduce the likelihood of violence, Sadek said.

The HRC said the PWV had experienced its bloodiest week since November last year in the week ending January 26.

The HRC's latest weekly report said 23 people died in the PWV in the week ending January 26, two more than died in Natal in the same period.

A total of 52 people died countrywide during the week - including seven commuters. Three commuter deaths in Natal, which has been relatively untouched by train violence, were "of great concern", the HRC said.

Meanwhile, Soweto police said they had confiscated 14 firearms and arrested 15 people at hostels in the Meadowlands area yesterday.
FOCUS ON THE

Trail leads back to house of horrors

BY PHILIPPA GARSON

ALLEGATIONS by former police constable John Mokaleng of the murder and burial of activists by western Transvaal police have thrown the spotlight once again on policemen in the Carletonville area.

Some of the men Mokaleng implicated this week were the subject of a 1991 internal police probe which led to the closure of the "house of horrors" Welverdiend police station in Carletonville; 13 policemen facing more than 100 charges ranging from murder to assault were suspended.

Another ex-policeman formerly based at Carletonville recently made a statement similar to Mokaleng's to the Independent Board of Inquiry into Informal Repression.

Alleging abuse at Carletonville, Welverdiend and Khutsong police stations in 1991, he says colleagues frequently "dumped" bodies in Khutsong and then removed them.

Press exposure and the intervention of lawyers and human rights bodies forced the closure of Welverdiend after at least two detainees died and scores of others were tortured.

Most of the policemen charged as a result of the probe have been acquitted or had their cases withdrawn. One was found guilty of assault and fined R300.

All the policemen were back at work a month after their suspension. Those stationed at Welverdiend have been transferred to Carletonville and Khutsong.

Further torture allegations at Khutsong were made as recently as February last year.

One of the policemen implicated in the sworn statement of alleged torture victim Paulus Tshabalala is the notorious Constable Eloff Rampete. Eloff Rampete, also implicated by Mokaleng.

Based at Pofchefstroom, Rampete has been linked to several deaths and torture incidents.
Bust-up as the bishop buries his wife

It was no ordinary funeral when a Thokoza bishop who leads a local gang buried his wife.

By BAFANA KHUMALO and KEVIN CARTER

IT was immediately apparent that this was no ordinary Saturday in the East Rand township of Thokoza. The roads were barricaded with rocks, bed frames, fallen trees and burnt-out cars. Hundreds of people were on the streets, some displaying angry placards demanding the release of "Killer" Khumalo.

Residents said Inkatha supporters from all over the East Rand had been busied in the funeral of Sabelo Khumalo, murdered wife of controversial businessman, Zionist church preacher, archbishop and alleged gangleader Mbekiseni Khumalo.

Khumalo once "worked hand in hand with ANC comrades when they were trying to rid the township of the notorious Mugabe Gang, which was terrorising the people", according to a spokesman for the African National Congress peace desk. This short honeymoon soured "when the comrades realised he was working hand in hand with the police", the spokesman added.

But despite alleged links with police, Khumalo was arrested this week, days after his wife's funeral, for illegal possession of arms and ammunition.

Tension in the area began building 10 days ago, when Khumalo allegedly arrived in Thokoza's "Lusaka" section with one of his bodyguards and a number of South African policemen. The bodyguard, witnesses claim, pointed out a member of the local ANC Youth League, Lucky Mampuru, and said: "Skiet, daar is hy (Shoot, there he is)". Mampuru fled and was shot dead by pursuing police.

A SAP spokesman confirmed Mampuru had been shot and said he was wanted in connection with murder, attempted murder and robbery.

Sabelo Khumalo had been gunned down the previous week by unknown assailants.

The funeral procession on Saturday consisted of hundreds of heavily armed IFP supporters. As it moved down the main road towards the cemetery, two cars broke away and drove off at high speed through the "new" section of Thokoza, opposite the Phola Park squatter camp. A burst of gunfire from the leading car, a red Colt Galaxy, claimed the first of two victims of the day: Philimon Leganyane, who had been tending his vegetable patch.

After the burial, police escorted the Inkatha marchers back to their hotels on a zig-zag route through the little side streets of the "nulli" and "Lusaka" sections, both exclusively ANC strongholds.

As they marched, the Inkatha supporters dismantled and pushed aside the barricades. The residents, in reply, set fire to some barricades to prevent this.

Several bursts of gunfire were heard, and army units sealed off sections and performed house-to-house searches for firearms.

As the sun set on the smoky township, tension was still tangible on the streets. Residents had rebuilt their barricades, and defence units had grouped together in the hope of preventing further attacks.

Khumalo this week refused to speak to The Weekly Mail. A person who answered the telephone said: "Father does not want to speak to you people because you are all ANC."

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Death day: A boy cycles past a burning barricade erected against IFP supporters at Sabelo Khumalo's funeral.

Photos: KEVIN CARTER

Preacher or gangster ... Mbekiseni Khumalo at his wife's funeral.
Leave spares dealer alone, SAP told

THE Rand Supreme Court yesterday granted a Soweto vehicle spares dealer an interim interdict restraining members of the South African Police, Vehicle Theft Unit from intimidating or assaulting him.

Mr Justice Percy piloted ordered the officer commanding the vehicle unit at Jabulani and the policemen under him not to threaten, intimidate or injure Samuel Mkhwanazi, who traded in motor vehicle spares at Soweto's Emdeni Industrial Park.

In papers presented to court, Mkhwanazi alleged that one member of the vehicle unit had sprayed markings on the wall of his premises, including "the swastika symbol of the AWB."

He also alleged that two other officers from the unit had threatened "they would arrest me and lock me up unless I gave them R2,000. I argued with them, but in the end I decided to pay them this amount."

Mkhwanazi testified that an officer at the vehicle unit had threatened to kill him. He said he was suspected of dealing in stolen motor vehicle parts, which Mkhwanazi denies.

STAFF REPORTER
Peculiar commands link cops to killing — lawyer

By MARTIN NTSEOLENGOE

STARTLING evidence was heard in the Rand Supreme Court this week, of a police captain who was ordered by his Pretoria bosses to investigate the Swanjeville massacre — but not police activities on the day.

These revelations were made by defence counsel AS Burger during his argument in a trial-within-a-trial of seven alleged Inkatha members.

The seven pleaded not guilty to 28 counts of murder, 39 of attempted murder, and burning and looting of shacks on May 12 last year.

Accused

The seven accused are Vumisani Majola, 35, Siswe Majola, 48, Joseph Khanyile, 42, Bhaktihi Dlamini, 29, Bhekowake Mdlalose, 29, Pheli Nhlapo, 49, all of Kagiso Hostel, and Mzanywa Sithole from Wattville Hostel.

Five of the seven men alleged they were forced into making statements. One said he told a magistrate that he was tortured.

Burger said it was strange how after the massacre a Col Langenhoven came all the way from Pretoria to instruct the investigating officer, a Capt Johnson, to investigate the case — but not the police’s actions.

He said the instructions from Langenhoven alone were proof enough that police did take part in the massacre, “otherwise, if not, why were such orders made?”

Burger told Judge C Botha, sitting with two assessors, that about 80 to 100 people, including the police, had taken part in the Swanjeville attack, and not 800 or 1,000 hostel dwellers as police had testified in court.

He also said police took part in the Swanjeville massacre but had tried to blame nearby hostel dwellers for the murder.

Burger argued that police did not call for reinforcements because they were the ones who carried out the attack.

He said the relationship between police and squatters went sour after reports that police were to be attacked by Swanjeville squatters. A month before the attack on squatters, senior policemen had issued a warning to the police patrolling Swanjeville to be cautious as there were people in the squatter camp who wanted to kill policemen.

The case continues.
Train prayers ended in terror

By HERMAN LEUW

A TRAIN sermon in a Ventra-bound train came to an abrupt halt this week when bullets from an unknown gunman tore into passengers.

Lay preacher Michael Lebojo told City Press how he and other passengers in a third-class coach had to dive for cover as the train approached Residences station when bullets, glass and shrapnel started flying.

At least three passengers were injured, one critically.

"We were busy singing a hymn when the gunman entered the coach and started firing at us. Some of us fled through the windows in order to escape death. After shooting, the gunman ran away to the first class coach," Lebojo said.

"All of us, including those who were travelling in other coaches, were so scared we could not even chase him," said Lebojo.

The train stopped at Residences, and left with the gunman still on board.

According to Lebojo, the gunman fired shots in their coach "deliberately", knowing very well that the religious people would not defend themselves.

Wounded

After the shooting, station security guards rushed to help the wounded and telephoned for an ambulance. Three passengers known only as Betty, David and Lucas were wounded in the shooting.

They were taken to Sehong Hospital in a train inspector's car.

Betty, who was hit just above her left eye, narrowly escaped death. David was shot in his left hand and Lucas was hit by a bullet in his right shoulder.

Vaal police spokesman Maj Fies van Deventer could not confirm this incident because it was not reported to police.

He said the police would be deployed at Kwaggastroom, Residences and Soweto to maintain law and order.

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City Press allegations denied

POLICE have denied a report published in City Press last week that SAP members opened fire "without any provocation or warning shot", killing a Sebokeng Hostel inmate and wounding six others. A statement released this week by Capt N Barkhuizen, said: "On January 21 members of the SAP followed up information regarding unlawful firearms in Sebokeng Hostel 2. "On their arrival some of the members moved towards the hostel. Shots were fired at the members from a room in the hostel and the SAP returned fire. "It was established that one person was killed and four were wounded. "While searching the room, two AK-47 rifles, two pistols, a revolver and rounds of various calibre were found. The firearms and ammunition were confiscated and will be used as evidence. "The allegation that the police, without any provocation or warning, fired indiscriminately at the inmates, killing one person and wounding six others, is devoid of all truth."
Taxi barricades clog Reef traffic

The Argus Correspondents

JOHANNESBURG: Peak hour traffic was plunged into chaos today as minibus taxi drivers, protesting against excessive traffic fines and inadequate facilities, barricaded major routes into the city centre.

In at least one incident, shots were fired at a traffic officer attempting to remove taxis blocking a major route. He was not injured.

The taxi action was launched today without warning. A decision on their action was only taken at a meeting yesterday afternoon.

Flying Squad public relations officer Lance-Sergeant Bradley Sole said groups of between five and 20 taxis barricaded the Soweto Highway leading into Booyens Road, the Baragwanath-Ford Show Road and Louisa Botha Avenue into Antique Road.

On Louis Botha Avenue, at least 15 taxis blocked the width of the road before a traffic official — with a master key — moved them to adjacent Mitchell Street.

Also affected was Houghton Drive and the area across town on DF Malan Drive, near the West Park Cemetery. The Golden Highway leading from Soweto into the city was also the scene of mass taxi action.

As traffic officials managed to clear the blocked roads, other roads were systematically barricaded.

Hundreds of taxi commuters were dumped kilometres from work. IRSZ CBD workers telephoned The Star to complain against the "illegal action" by taxi operators.

In Louis Botha Avenue irate motorists honked and shouted in the chaos. One BMW driver shouted: "These guys are maniacs."

A fleet of tow trucks which appeared on the scene prompted one onlooker to say that "these taxi guys will shoot these tow truck owners one by one."

Officials managed to unblock Louis Botha Avenue by 7.45am and the action shifted to Randburg at 8pm as the Jan Smuts/Republic Road intersection was blocked.

Sergeant Sole said the protest was calm and they were not aware of intimidation by the drivers.

"So far there has been no violence and no injuries have been reported to us," he said.

Said a driver who refused to give his name: "We are tired of being ticketed for petty reasons, sometimes traffic officers stop our vehicles and search them for up to half an hour and find nothing. We also have no proper off-loading areas. We cannot discuss things with the authorities, so we have to take action like this."

A similar mass taxi protest took place in Pretoria last week. According to one taxi driver at Louis Botha Avenue, a meeting was held by taxi owners yesterday at which they decided the only way to draw attention to their grievances was to embark upon a protest and refuse to enter the cities.
Taxi barricades cause city chaos

Johannesburg peak hour traffic was plunged into chaos this morning as million taxi drivers protesting against long distance traffic fines and inadequate facilities, barricaded major routes in the city.

In one incident, shots were fired at a traffic official attempting to remove taxi blocking a major route. He was not injured.

The taxi protest action was launched today without notice. A decision was later taken at a meeting yesterday afternoon.

By midday, a spokesman for the taxi operators had said that long-distance taxi drivers at least 12 taxi blocks had blocked the road before a traffic official with a rifle was moved them to adjacent streets.

The road was closed and hundreds of taxi commuters were seen walking on the roads.

In another incident, more than a hundred taxi drivers forced their way into the taxi rank at the Johannesburg Central Station and blocked traffic.

In a separate incident, taxi drivers blocked roads in central Johannesburg, causing traffic jams.

The protesters said they were protesting against long-distance traffic fines and inadequate facilities.

Political Staff

General Magnus Malan, former Minister of Defence, called on the government to take action against the taxi drivers.

Malan, who was present at the scene of the protest, said the taxi drivers were causing chaos and disrupting normal traffic.

Malan said the government should take action against the taxi drivers and ensure that traffic flows smoothly.

He said the government should also ensure that the taxi drivers are treated fairly and that they are not allowed to cause chaos on the roads.

Malan called on the government to take action against the taxi drivers immediately.

And several ministerial jobs in the government's budget have been cut, with several ministers being replaced by new ones.

The crisis continues to grow, with more taxi drivers blocking roads and causing chaos.

The government has been criticized for its handling of the crisis, with many saying that the government is not doing enough to stop the taxi drivers.
Man slain after Tokoza funeral

A man was shot dead in Tokoza on Saturday afternoon after the funeral of two political activists who were killed in the troubled East Rand township last week.

Hundreds of people from Tokoza and surrounding townships gathered for the funeral of Lucky Mampuru, a prominent activist, and Philemon Sikhanyane, an organiser of the ANC Youth League.  

The township was tense throughout the afternoon. Mourners, many armed with axes, pangas and other weapons, marched from Tokoza Stadium to Schoeman Cemetery, while the police maintained a strong presence.

No violence was reported during the funeral, but shortly afterwards a man was shot dead in a street near the house where the wake was held.

— Crime Reporter
5 die, 1 hurt in unrest

JOHANNESBURG. — At least five people were killed and one hurt at the weekend in unrest on the Reef and in Natal.

An unknown man was shot dead in Thokoza after the funeral of two political activists.

Almost a thousand people attended Saturday’s funeral of Mr. Lucky Mampuru and ANC Youth League organiser Mr. Philemon Sikhanyane. The man was shot at another part of the township. More details of the shooting were not available.

In Vereeniging, two men were killed at their homes in Sharpeville in two separate attacks on Saturday afternoon. Police said Mr. Sipho Khamba was killed when his house was petrol-bombed by an unknown gang.

Within an hour, Mr. Jacob Tau was shot at his home by unknown men. A friend, Mr. Ramatsedi Gabe, was shot in the right leg.

On Saturday morning, two people were killed at Bambayi near Isanda, north of Durban.

Police said a man was shot dead and another stabbed to death in fighting between squatters from Bambayi and people from an area called “Little Russia” near Phoenix.

On Friday night, 35 people were arrested in a police raid in the Greytown/Kranskop area in Natal. They were charged under the illegal possession of firearms. Six AK-47s, three pistols and a large amount of ammunition were seized, it was reported. — Sapa
The day Jo'burg stood still

Central Johannesburg was brought to a standstill yesterday as most major routes leading into the city were blocked by hundreds of taxi drivers protesting against alleged victimisation by traffic officials and police. Morning peak-hour traffic ground to a halt in the ensuing chaos, commuters were forced out of taxis, private cars abandoned and buses forced to stop before reaching their destinations. As traffic officials and policemen cleared blockades on major routes and intersections, taxi drivers regrouped and blocked off roads elsewhere. Confrontations left several people, including policemen, traffic officials and at least two taxi operators, injured. A municipal bus and a police vehicle were set alight. Several taxi drivers were arrested and their vehicles impounded. The siege was lifted after intervention by Nelson Mandela and peace monitors. Star photographer Joao Silva (above) was cut under the eye when a rock hit him and smashed his glasses during a confrontation between policemen and taxi drivers. He was also bitten by a police dog.

What drivers demand

The drivers' demands included:
- A tightening of speed limits in peak hours.
- A stop to petty officers' collection of fines from taxi drivers.
- A ban on parking in a 100m radius of a traffic light.
- A stop to the indiscriminate use of stop signs.
- A stop to the harassment of taxi drivers by traffic officials.
- A stop to the unfair treatment of taxi drivers.
- A stop to the violation of taxi drivers' rights.
- A stop to the discrimination against taxi drivers.
- A stop to the abuse of authority by traffic officials.
- A stop to the harassment of taxi drivers by the police.
- A stop to the abuse of authority by the police.

Police and taxi drivers clashed.

Confrontation... a policeman and a taxi driver make their feelings clear at the corner of Commissioner and Sauer streets (below left).

Picture: Joao Silva

No messing around... a policeman restrains a taxi driver in Sauer Street (below right).

Picture: Joao Silva

Canine coercion... a mounted policeman uses dogs to disperse crowds in Market and Sauer streets (right).

Picture: Joao Silva

Star 02/01/83
Drivers as taxi strike chaos

See the full story on page 2
Anger as Jo'burg 'fails to satisfy taxi industry'

PATHETIC mounds of bloodstained sand in a Johannesburg street where a taxi driver shot by police had fallen yesterday starkly illustrated the failure of Johannesburg to come to terms with its taxi industry.

For while the taxis have become a part of urban life, this is more because they have bent the rules than because they have been integrated into the city's public transport system. Where no ranks are available, taxis have taken over parking bays. Where there are no facilities for loading and unloading passengers, taxis simply stop in the road with their familiar emergency indicators flicking.

Yesterday's city centre protest was a collective eruption of the frustration and anger taxi drivers have felt over what they see as the failure of the city to accommodate them.

But underlying the protest are more complex issues such as the vexing question of how to regulate and control an industry that was born out of the ingenuity of brave entrepreneurs.

The lack of regulation has led to sporadic incidents of violence among taxi associations and the oversupply of operators, which the Goldstone commission has described as a key cause of "taxi wars".

The absence of control has also spawned growing conflict between drivers and traffic officials on the one hand and drivers and taxi owners on the other.

Drivers yesterday said they were unhappy with heavy fines they received for minor traffic offences, and what they saw as a campaign by traffic department officials to target them in enforcement operations.

They claim that ruthless owners then force them to pay fines received for the condition of the vehicles they drive — something that should be the owners' responsibility.

They also claim their speedy driving and lack of regard for other motorists is a result of the pressure they are put under by owners to make as many trips as possible every day to maximise turnover.

The shooting of the taxi driver in Sauer Street last Tuesday changed the tone of yesterday's protest. The drivers' singing and chanting became more militant as they realised the gravity of their continued protest.

Drivers had repeatedly asked police to leave crowd control in the area to traffic policemen and to remove dogs and automatic weapons from the scene. Ironically, drivers seemed more at ease with the traffic police than the SAP, who were heavily armed, nervous and seemingly more aggressive.

A traffic policeman at one point ordered police to stop the removal of vehicles from a busy intersection when this became the focus of the crowd. Another traffic officer strongly reprimanded a subordinate for drawing his gun when a crowd surged towards him.

The different policing methods and command structures involved in coping with yesterday's blockade may have sparked the incident which led to the shooting in Sauer Street, although police maintained they fired only after efforts were made to remove a sidearm from an officer.

The taxi drivers' protest also involved a certain amount of intimidation, with reluctant drivers, who were not part of the protest, being forcibly removed from their vehicles when they tried to bypass congestion. One report said a driver was beaten up in one such incident.

MIKE ACOTT reports not all intersections were blocked by taxis. Traffic was flowing reasonably freely at the corner of Commissioner and Simmonds streets during the lunch hour when a group of men pushed into the intersection to close it.

They overruled the two traffic officers controlling the traffic, they stopped cars, halted a bus across the intersection where it was joined by a delivery van abandoned by its driver. They rolled concrete refuse bins into the road, and dumped the contents in front of vehicles.

Police reopened the intersection before traffic became hopelessly clogged. The bus drove on, the delivery van driver returned and removed it, refuse bins were rolled away and the traffic flow resumed.

At the corner of Commissioner and Fox streets, a taxi driver who left his vehicle in the right-hand lane was ordered back in by police and told to drive away; as he did so an argument ensued during which an angry, struggling man was arrested.

One of those helping to make the arrest was a young policeman in camouflage uniform. Deciding he needed his hands free to help subdue the protester, he put his rifle down on the road and rushed into the fray. The weapon was quickly picked up by a traffic officer.

Taxi operator Ronnie Frederick, of Eldorado Park, said yesterday's event would cause a backlash, and vowed that buses would find it hard to operate in the townships.

"Buses won't be able to operate in the townships, in Soweto, Eldorado Park, all over. We won't take our taxis back, but the buses won't be able to run," As Frederick's own taxi was towed away, he shouted to police: "Let the Boers take the car! If they need it, let them take it."

LETTERS

opleases stop confusing the rights of individuals, employees, to their detriment.
Taxi drivers’ street barricades throw Jo’burg CBD into turmoil

TRAFFIC officers and heavily armed policemen swarmed through Johannesburg streets yesterday when disgruntled taxi drivers blocked intersections, disrupting city traffic for most of the day.

Traffic chief Michael Davis said ANP president Nelson Mandela had intervened to facilitate talks between the drivers and the Johannesburg Traffic Department. Mandela had made his office available, which led to talks in which the drivers agreed to return the gridlocked streets to normal, allowing discussions on grievances to continue today.

The SA Taxi Drivers’ Union warned that the taxi barricade campaign would spread nationwide if local authorities failed to heed drivers’ demands.

Davis said it had been agreed at yesterday’s talks to change the minor traffic fines, which linked to the protest would be disregarded and impounded taxis be returned without cost to drivers.

He would not say what the drivers’ grievances were, but it is believed they are unhappy with what they see as unfair fines they receive for traffic violations.

Police said last night that five civilians, seven policemen and one traffic officer had been injured in various incidents in the course of the day.

Earlier, police warned motorists to stay clear of the city centre during the protest, urging office workers to stay in their buildings until the situation returned to normal.

LLOYD Coutts reports that a brief battle erupted on the corner of Bree and Sauer streets when officers attempting to clear a taxi barricade were stoned. Police responded by firing teargas into a crowd at a nearby taxi rank after bricks smashed into armoured tow trucks removing taxis from the rubbish-strewn road.

Police carrying shotguns, automatic rifles and submachine-guns provided cover for the tow truck drivers, and in turn were backed by colleagues with dogs.

In another incident, two traffic officers were slightly injured when their motorcycles were pushed over by protesters in Louis Botha Avenue.

Police spokesman Col David Bruce said a policeman shot and slightly injured a man who tried to remove his weapon in Sauer Street.

Police used teargas and rubber bullets on demonstrators in Bree Street, he said. A police vehicle and two buses had been set alight in the area.

Police helicopters hovered over the city throughout the day, monitoring flashpoints.

Sadtu Pretoria regional organiser Morris Tshabalala said the blockade was a continuation of action begun in Pretoria last Thursday after the taxi drivers had

Taxi drivers reached deadlock in talks with the city council. He said the campaign would be intensified in Johannesburg, with sit-ins at traffic department offices, pickets at council offices and protest marches. This would occur only if today’s talks did not produce results.

“We have complained of lack of facilities — loading and unloading zones — but have met with negative responses. Pointing out that 75% of taxi drivers are ticketed for loading and unloading, we have pleaded with the local authorities to set up interim structures that would help to put the harassment of drivers on hold while talks are going on, but to no avail.”

The two major national associations — Sabta and Nafco — warned that the action might spread if grievances were not met.

From Page 2

Nafco chairman Peter Rabali said harassment of drivers by traffic officers was the cause. “It’s not unusual for a traffic officer to stop six taxis at one time and have the passengers waiting while he is ticketing the drivers individually.”

Sabta condemned the protest and apologised to business and the public for the inconvenience. However, Sabta public affairs director Mike Nlatieng said his organisation understood “the legitimacy of the grievances on the question of unfair fines and lack of ranking facilities”.

A Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry spokesman said business was taken “totally by surprise” and productivity was badly hit.

See Pages 3 and 6

To Page 3
Traffic chief's taxi deal attacked

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — The Witwatersrand Attorney-General today condemned the Johannesburg traffic chief for taking the law into his own hands by releasing the taxi drivers responsible for yesterday's city centre chaos.

Traffic chief Mr Mike Davis said a compromise was reached at a meeting between traffic officials and taxi operators brokered by African National Congress president Mr Nelson Mandela.

The deal included the release with warnings and the handing back of impounded taxis without a fine.

Attorney-General Mr Klaus von Lieres said today that Mr Davis had treated the matter in a cavalier fashion and acted beyond his authority. His conduct would be investigated.

Taxi drivers involved in yesterday's events are to meet traffic department officials today in an attempt to prevent a repetition of the near anarchy that paralysed the city.

The talks arranged by Mr Mandela prevented further violent clashes in the late afternoon after a day of running street battles between police, taxi drivers and belligerent youths.

Eight policemen were injured, at least three taxi drivers were shot and wounded and a municipal bus and a police vehicle were set alight. Twelve buses were also damaged.

Whether taxi drivers attempt to set up more blockades depends on the outcome of today's meeting.

Yesterday's mayhem began when barricades made of locked taxis and concrete dustbins were strewn across the city streets and suburban feeder routes.

Taxi drivers were protesting over what they perceive as heavy-handedness by the traffic department in its dealings with drivers.

Massive traffic jams degenerated into a day of gunfire from the police and shots, rocks, bricks, stones and bottles from taxi drivers and their supporters.

Traffic officials and heavily armed police with bulletproof vests and semi-automatic weapons were on most street corners.

At about 11 am, the angry drivers attempted to storm the traffic department office. Helicopters circled overhead as police leading about 20 dogs failed to restrain the protesters.

With shouts of "shoot like you usually do" the protesters tore up their traffic fines and hurled the bits of paper at the police and traffic officials.

The Southern Africa Black Taxi Association (Sabta) condemned the protest action.

"Sabta cannot condone such an action as it disrupts the flow of business in this important city," it said.

The organisation apologised to the business community and the general public for the inconvenience they had faced.

But Sabta said it understood taxi drivers' complaints about "unfair" traffic fines and the lack of ranks.

ANC spokesman Mr Carl Niehaus said the organisation was concerned at reports of police brutality and unprofessional action by police.
Traffic chief's taxi deal attacked

The Argus Correspondent

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Taxi drivers involved in yesterday's events are to meet traffic department officials today in an attempt to prevent a repetition of the near anarchy that paralysed the city.

The talks also resulted in Mr Mandela preventing further violent clashes with the police after a day of running street battles between police, taxi drivers and belligerent youths.

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"SABA cannot condone such action as it disrupts the flow of business in this important city," it said.

The organisation apologised to the business community and the general public for the inconvenience they had faced.

But SABA said it understated taxi drivers' complaints about unfair traffic fines and lack of ranks.

ANC spokesman Mr C. Niehaus said the organisation was concerned at reports of police brutality and unprofessional action by police.
Taxi crisis unresolved

By Lulama Luthi

EXPLORATIVE SITUATION Chaos reigns in city centre as taxi drivers and police clash.

At least two people were shot and injured when police opened fire in two separate incidents, leaving scores of commuters stranded in the city centre. 

Thousands of workers reported for work, while scores of commuters, including school children, were stranded in the city and neighbouring townships by midday.

Major routes into the city became no-go areas while major bus routes were closed in protest. which was announced, got underway. Both members of the uniformed branch and the Internal Stability Unit of the SAP were engaged in running battles as taxi drivers repeatedly yelled and shouted at them to disperse.

The protest which brought Johannesburg traffic to a standstill was carried out to register protest against the Johannesburg Traffic Department and what taxi drivers described as continued harassment by traffic officers.

They also demanded that the Government subsidise the taxi industry.

"We are tired of these traffic cops. They always stop us at any time, anywhere. They have continued to issue us with traffic fines and when we don't pay we are arrested. How do we make a living under these conditions?" said a Soweto taxi driver who declined to give his name.
Taxi chaos grinds Jo'burg to a standstill

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Chaotic street blockades by minibus taxi drivers protesting their grievances erupted into violent battles in downtown Johannesburg yesterday, bringing the city to a standstill and prompting ANC president Mr Nelson Mandela to intervene personally.

Traffic officers and heavily armed policemen swarmed in the streets during the blockade, during which several shots were fired.

And angry taxi officials threatened to extend protest actions to other major cities — including Cape Town — at least two people reportedly died in incidents which may have been related to the protest, according to traffic sources. Six people were reported injured — with one taxi driver shot.

Police liaison officer Lieutenant Colonel Dave Bruce said there had been reports of pedestrians being assaulted at roadblocks and of commuters being forced off buses.

He said a policeman was admitted to hospital after being shot, and that shots were fired at the police in Jan Smuts Avenue yesterday morning.

It was also reported that a taxi driver was shot in the stomach by a policeman at the "scorcher" of Sauer and Commissioner streets when he tried to disarm the policeman. Colonel Bruce said the wounded man's condition was not known.

Two municipal buses and a police vehicle were set alight by demonstrators.

Traffic chief Mr Michael Davis said Mr Mandela had made his office available for talks, and that discussions would continue.

The SA Taxi Drivers' Union yesterday warned that the taxi barricade campaign would spread nationwide if local authorities failed to heed demands by taxi drivers.

In November last year, more than 80 disgruntled taxi drivers blocked parts of Strand and Adderley Streets in Cape Town, causing massive traffic jams.

Mr Davis would not say what the drivers' grievances were, but it is believed they are unhappy with the heavy fines they receive for minor traffic violations and what they see as a campaign by traffic department officials to target them in law enforcement operations.

Mr Davis said discussions with drivers would continue this morning.

**TAXI PROTEST**... Minibus taxis yesterday blocked a busy Johannesburg intersection as taxi drivers protest against traffic police harassment and demand government subsidies.

**Sabta condemns protest action**

JOHANNESBURG — The Southern Africa Black Taxi Association (Sabta) has condemned the protest action taken by Johannesburg taxi drivers yesterday.

"Sabta cannot condone such an action as it disrupts the flow of business in this important city," Sabta said.

The organisation also apologised to the business community and the general public for the inconvenience of the traffic chaos caused by the minibus blockade of the city.

But Sabta said it understood the legitimacy of taxi drivers' grievances on the issue of "unfair traffic fines and lack of parking facilities".

It said there had to be urgent meetings between the taxi industry and the Johannesburg City Council, and the taxi industry and the law enforcement agencies, to deal with the grievances.

The Amatola Youth Organisation (Aayo) condemned the owners for failing to consult the community before going on strike.

Aayo spokesman Mr Marvin Blattshwaye said his organisation supported the "genuine and legitimate" demands of the taxi owners, but in future they should consult the community before taking any action. — Sapa
Massacre trial in April

The trial of 64 KwaMadala hostel inmates, who were allegedly involved in the Boipatong massacre on June 17 last year in which 40 people died, is scheduled to commence in the Delmas 6 Circuit Court on April 13. All of the accused are out on bail of R1 000 each.
Boipatong massacre: 64 for trial in April

VEREENIGING. - The trial of 64 KwaMadala Hostel residents allegedly involved in the Boipatong massacre in June last year is scheduled to commence in the Delmas Circuit Court on April 13.

The case was referred to the Circuit Court during a brief appearance by the group in the Vanderbijlpark Magistrate’s Court yesterday.

All the accused are out on bail of R1 000 each.

They face charges that include murder, attempted murder, public violence and malicious damage to property. None of the suspects has yet been asked to plead.

More than 40 people were killed in the June 17 massacre, and it is alleged the late-night attack on residents of the Vaal Triangle township was launched from the hostel. - Sapa
Police open fire in city

By Lulama Luti

One person was shot dead and scores of others injured when police opened fire on taxi operators during the second day of a protest by taximen in central Johannesburg yesterday. Several others were arrested.

In Parliament Law and Order Minister Mr. Hernus Kriel declared Johannesburg an unrest area after running battles took place between taximen and the police in which shots were fired from both sides, sending people scrambling for cover.

Later at an emotionally charged meeting angry taximen decided they would not operate today.

The decision to stay away followed a deadlock in talks between representatives of the South African Taxi Drivers Association and the Johannesburg Traffic Department.

Dozens of taximen were again impounded yesterday amid heavy shooting and running battles between the police and taxi drivers which lasted several hours.

Police cordoned off all major routes into the city bringing to a standstill mid-morning and lunch hour traffic.

Sunday Times photographer Herbert Mahuza was left from the scene bleeding profusely after he was shot in the arm.

Another Press photographer, Steve Hilton-Barber, was also caught in the crossfire and hit by a teargas canister.

Spokesman for the ANC PWV region Mr. Mondli Gungubele, who was part of the negotiation team, said while the meeting agreed to hold a meeting next Monday, the situation had deteriorated and there was no telling what could happen next.

"The matter has gone completely out of hand. We hope that by meeting with the traffic authorities we would defuse the situation. People involved in the negotiations have also been arrested.

"The police action has not helped the situation at all," he said.
Taxi chaos likely to continue after talks break down

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Taxi associations have threatened that the chaos in Johannesburg will continue today after emergency talks broke down between them and traffic authorities.

Johannesburg was declared an unrest area yesterday.

After the city centre turned into a war zone in the second day of taxi blockades and violent clashes which claimed at least one life and left scores injured, police and traffic officials said they would not tolerate more violence.

Traffic chief Mr Mike Davis said: "The disruption cannot be tolerated. Enough is enough.

"Motorists are tired of the conduct, discipline and driving habits of minibus taxi drivers, yet the drivers expect us to take no action against them. Where action against drivers is warranted in the interests of safety, such action must be taken."

His warning followed repeated pitched battles between police and taxi drivers who had besieged the city over the past two days in protest against traffic authorities.

In the first confirmed fatality, enforced in unrest areas, police were unlikely to do so in Johannesburg unless it became necessary.

"It depends on the taxi drivers," he said.

The unrest declaration received round condemnation from the African National Congress and the trade union federation Cosatu.

ANC head office spokesman Mr Carl Niehaus said the only way the taxi problem would be resolved was through negotiations between taxi drivers and the traffic department.

He said the ANC, including its president Mr Nelson Mandela, was not playing a direct role in the negotiations, but was acting instead as facilitator, when necessary, to help bring the two parties together.

Cosatu said the unrest declaration was "carte blanche to the police to use force", and the ANC PWV region said this would obscure the real grievances of taxi operators.

After a meeting yesterday between Cosatu and a delegation of taxi drivers organised under the South African Taxi Drivers' Union, Cosatu said it saw the drivers' grievances as legitimate.

Johannesburg traffic direc-
red, police and traffic officials said they would not tolerate more violence.

Traffic chief Mr Mike Davis said: “The disruption cannot be tolerated. Enough is enough.

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His warning followed repeated pitched battles between police and taxi drivers who had besieged the city over the past two days in protest against traffic authorities.

In the first confirmed fatality, a man was shot dead by police yesterday afternoon. Police could not confirm reports that a second man had been killed. Scores of people were wounded by teargas, rubber bullets or police dogs.

Police and traffic officials went into talks last night to come up with an emergency plan to prevent anarchy, and police geared up to ensure the emergency regulations announced by Law and Order Minister Mr Frederick Blom in Parliament yesterday.

Spokesmen for the Alexandra, Meadowlands and Diepkloof taxi associations warned last night it was likely the confrontations would continue today.

“We do not give orders for the drivers to do anything, but they are angry about arrests and violent action by the police. They will continue to fight off their own bat,” an Alexandra Taxi Association spokesman said.

There were veiled threats of attacks on buses and municipal vehicles in Johannesburg.

In proclaiming Johannesburg an “unsafe area”, Mr Davis said the parliament’s police would not tolerate violence.

“We intend to prosecute. We do not intend to give in to pressure,” he said.

Police in some areas have imposed a round-up of arrest and seizure and may detain people without warning.

Police spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Dave Bruce said that although curfews could be the traffic department.

He said the ANC, including its president, Mr Nelson Mandela, was not playing a direct role in the negotiations, but was acting instead as facilitator, when necessary, to help bring about an end to the protests.

Cosatu said the unrest was “carried out by the police to police force”, and the ANC PWV region said this would obscure the real grievances of taxi drivers.

After a meeting yesterday between Cosatu and a delegation of taxi drivers and the police, Cosatu said it saw the drivers’ grievances as legitimate.

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ANC regional executive member Mr Mofokeng Gqubu, who was involved in yesterday’s negotiations, said discussions broke down because a member of Cosatu left the meeting at 11pm.

The ANC said it was out of control, he said.

At the worst battle zone yesterday, in Bree Street, police said that the police who had refused to leave the police station had moved to the area and had changed their police uniforms.

At a Witwatersrand-Valley Regional Dispute Resolution Committee (RDRC) press conference yesterday, Mr Norman Prince, elected as the taxi drivers’ representative, said police had deliberately altered the charges to keep some drivers in jail.

On Monday, taxi operators and authorities agreed that all drivers charged and informed that the committee would work through the night if needed, to resolve the crisis.

Earlier yesterday Mr Von Lieres condemned traffic chief Mr Davis for taking the law into his own hands and releasing some of the taxi drivers and impounded vehicles. Mr Von Lieres said Mr Davis had treated the matter "in a cavalier fashion" and had acted beyond his authority.

Johannesburg management committee transport chairman Mr Paul Ashner responded with an attack on Mr Von Lieres for his "inflammatory statements and naivety.

"The release of vehicles was fully within this council's jurisdiction and was done in a careful negotiation process involving the most senior members of the police," he said.

Mr Davis, discounting reports of acrimony, said he and the police were in "complete harmony".

Mr Von Lieres said an agreement had been reached and he was not involved in any negotiations.

Yesterday’s taxi barricade apparently started after two fights broke out between taxi drivers and the SARS rank. More taxis entered the fray and ended up blocking the streets in the city.

The siege spread quickly through Bere and Sauer streets and up to the Parktown area as drivers turned ugly when protesters refused to clear the streets and return to work.

Responding to moans, stones and bottles being hurled at them, police, without warning, used teargas, rubber bullets and in some instances live ammunition to disperse the crowd.

A pall of smoke from burning debris and teargas hung over the area as police set up a perimeter around the buildings with bullets in pursuit of an alleged AK-47 wielding sniper.

Municipal tow-trucks removed more than 30 taxis blocking Bere, Sauer, Fraser and West streets.

Police said at least 25 people were arrested and another 194 vehicles impounded.

All the drivers of the impounded vehicles were issued with tickets and about 200 people are expected at the Johannesburg Magistrate’s Court today.

A 17-year-old youth appeared last night in charges stemming from Monday’s clashes between taxi drivers, police and minibus drivers. "No one was damaged in the fight," said police.
Taxis block highway to Jo'burg

JOHANNESBURG — Minibus taxis blocked the Golden Highway near Eldorado Park, south of Johannesburg, early today.

Traffic officials said the blockade, which began about 7am, was being investigated.

Taxis, however, were not travelling into the centre of Johannesburg — the scene of conflict between police and taxi drivers over the past two days which has left two people dead and 38 injured.

Officials believed taxis would not be operating in the CBD today, but "anything might happen.

They said while PUTCO buses were running normally, many employees would probably arrive late for work.

Thousands have been stranded in Soweto, where at 5am commuters were milling at empty taxi ranks and street corners.

In Orlando taxis manned their own road-blocks, stopping and ordering commuters out of the few taxis that took a chance transporting them.

Some commuters walked in the hope of finding transport elsewhere to ferry them to the city.

Others were at the mercy of private car owners who charged inflated fares.

* Full report and pictures, page 4.
Details of the agreement with operators

The provisional agreement between taxi operators, the police and the Johannesburg Traffic Department to end the taxi protest, pending negotiations today, provided for:

- Charges against taxi drivers for obstructing traffic to be dropped.
- The Johannesburg City Council to investigate claims by taxi owners for injuries or damages to their vehicles during the protest.
- Complaints by the taxi drivers' representatives to be referred to the city council for investigation.
- Taxi drivers' complaints about traffic officers, past taxi shootings, and the role of taxi association representatives to be addressed jointly by National Peace Accord structures, taxi drivers, and council officials.

Observers from the United Nations, European Community and regional dispute resolution committee assisted in the negotiations. — Staff Reporters.
Muddle over pact may have sparked clash

RAY HARTLEY (278)

A MISUNDERSTANDING may have led to yesterday's running battle between police and a group of militant taxi drivers in central Johannesburg.

Police opened fire when taxi drivers apparently did not honour an agreement reached between their leaders and Capt Kobus Peche that taxis withdraw from the area at the same time as police vehicles were removed.

But the drivers, in the meantime, had been assured by their leaders they need not move until three men held in connection with Monday's protest were released from John Vorster Square.

This is how events developed:

11.00am: Taxi drivers began blocking the area around the Bree Street taxi rank. Some taxi drivers were forced from their vehicles and made to park them at the intersections.

11.30am: Police began talks over removal of the blockade. Peche told drivers to remove vehicles parked in breach of Monday's agreement to clear the streets. Drivers say traffic police fined them in breach of the same agreement.

12.00pm: Peche reached an agreement with 'taxi' representative Norman Prince that the blocking taxis be moved while police retreated from the area, which they did. An argument ensued among the drivers who refused to honour Prince's agreement, and reiterated that the men in custody be released.

12.30pm: Prince and two UN monitors left to attend talks on securing the release of the three men.

1.20pm: The taxi blockade remained in place. Police began mobilising and Peche donned a bullet-proof vest. One police officer said: "If we don't deal with it now, it'll just go on for a month."

1.25pm: About 50 internal stability unit members and uniformed police carrying shotguns and teargas and accompanied by three dogs moved down Bree Street towards the blockade.

1.25pm: A leader of the taxi drivers appealed to police not to use force. Peche replied: "You move now or you will be dispersed." The driver protested and was arrested.

1.30pm: Police fired teargas, rubber bullets and birdshot at the crowd after police were stoned. Several people were wounded. The crowd dispersed.

1.35pm: Police moved in with razor wire. Traffic police removed the first vehicle from the blockade.

1.47pm: The UN monitors returned. One monitor criticised the deployment of plain clothes police carrying machine guns in a crowd control situation.

2pm: Peche told the media no order was given for the use of birdshot. "We acted more than half-an-hour after discussions (agreeing to remove vehicles) ended. I think we have used excessive restraint in the past two days." Taxi drivers began to form a new roadblock a block away. "They are not going to tow us away now. They can bring their guns now," a driver said.

2.05pm: A brick and a bottle were hurled at police, sparking a second teargas attack. A traffic department motorcycle was overturned by the crowd.

2.35pm Onwards: Police began dispersing the crowd. About 15 dogs joined running battles. A man, whom police said was trying to steal a car, was shot dead by police. Teargas and stones were exchanged between police and drivers in the Bree Street taxi rank. Protests continued for most of the afternoon, but most motorists were able to get home during rush hour when the situation quietened down.
Helpless commuters caught off guard

By Joe Mdhlala
Consumer Reporter

THOUSANDS of commuters from various parts of the Witwatersrand and Soweto were caught napping and in most instances failed to make it to work on Monday as a result of the taxi blockade.

Equally inconvenienced were motorists who were unable to make it to their destinations, either because they were too scared to travel to Johannesburg or were assaulted for daring to travel into the city.

Volatile industry

Some of those motorists bear wounds, ugly scars which serve as a testimony to the volatile situation in the taxi industry.

The glee expressed by the taxi operators relates to the "excessive traffic fines" they receive from traffic officers operating in the city.

The South African Taxi Drivers Union is locked into discussions with the Johannesburg Traffic Department to try to settle the dispute.

Central to the dispute was a call by the taxi union to have the Government subsidise the industry.

The general feeling among operators was that they are "tired of being intimidated by traffic officers."

"They stop us at every turn. We are tired of it all," most operators complained.

Spokeswoman for the ANC Gill Marcus said the transport situation as it affected taxi operators needed to be looked into.

"All parties involved, including the Government, need to resolve the volatile situation," Marcus said.

Frustrations and tensions

She said the ANC understood the frustration of the industry and appealed to Government and taxi authorities to thrash out a system that would help ease the tension.

"There is need for the authorities, in conjunction with the taxi association, to develop a transport system to ensure taxi operators work harmoniously," she said.

Spokesman for the Azanian People's Organisation Mr Lyebo Mabasa said the laws of the country, drawn in an undemocratic manner, impacted on developments in the crisis that developed in the city on Monday.

Mabasa said as long as blacks were not part of a system that legislated, such crises would be commonplace.

However Mabasa regretted the fact that the taxi industry did not consult with other black organisations.

"There was a lack of adequate consultation and this is to be greatly regretted," he said.

A result many blacks felt the taxi industry undermined.

Some of these motorists bear wounds, ugly scars which serve as a testimony to the volatile situation in the taxi industry.

Assaults and scars bear testimony to volatile situation in taxi industry:

them and were taking decisions affecting them directly "above our heads."

"We are disappointed that taxi associations took a unilateral decision without bothering to consult with commuters and other black organisations.

"While we appreciate the frustrations of the taxi operators, we cannot accept that they can just ignore commuters and other black organisations and impose themselves on us," an angry trade unionist, who preferred to remain anonymous, said. The unionist also condemned the high-handed manner in which the police used force to quell the situation.

"This is not the way to deal with the public. It is not on."

Action condemned

The South African Black Taxi Association today condemned the action by taxi drivers in blocking the city streets. In a statement Sabta said: "We cannot condone such action as it disrupts the flow of business in this important city.

"To this end Sabta apologises to the business community, general motorists, passengers and the general public.

"Sabta, however, understands the legitimacy of the taxi drivers' grievances on the question of unfair traffic fines and the lack of ranking facilities.

"Although the drivers meant well, it is questionable whether they acted well."

Though Mabasa said the result of the protests and confrontations was not clear, he was hopeful that the situation could be resolved.

"We are concerned that the two parties should come to an agreement to the mutual benefit of all parties," he said.

"Two parties should meet to discuss the whole situtation and then find a way forward."
Two killed as violence flares

Govt acts to curb Jo'burg taxi protest

JOHANNESBURG was declared an unrest area yesterday by Law and Order Minister Hermus Kriel after a day of running battles between taxi drivers, bystanders and police which left more than 30 people injured and two dead.

The terms of the proclamation police and the SANDF are given wider powers to arrest, detain and search than normally provided by legislation. Police are also given increased authority to break up illegal gatherings. But spokesman Capt Eugene Opperman said police did not intend imposing a curfew on the city.

Yesterday, a group of taxi drivers who felt agreements had not been honoured by the traffic department and police released drivers detained in Monday's protest blocked areas of the city centre.

Three drivers detained in Johannesburg and two in Randburg were not released yesterday morning.

Johannesburg City Council transport and utilities chairman Paul Asherson said the blockade was continuing because police had substituted charges the traffic department had withdrawn against some drivers and kept them in custody.

Asherson said police had made the situation more difficult by putting up a barricade.

Yesterday's meeting between traffic officers and taxi drivers, following Monday's violence, had gone well and the par-

tien had agreed to meet again on Monday to thrash out an agreement. However, the drivers had heard police were holding their members at Randburg and Johannesburg and trouble flared again.

When drivers refused to move their taxis from a blockaded area at the corner of Bree and Fraser streets, police opened fire with teargas, rubber bullets and birdshot, injuring drivers, bystanders and journalists.

Police spokesman W/O Andy Pleke said a man had been shot dead by police for stealing a vehicle, but bystanders said the man had been carrying shopping bags and had just left a fast food shop. Pleke said a second person, killed in the Bree Street area, had been involved in "criminal activity" unrelated to the unrest.

In West Street, police chased a gymnast — who allegedly opened fire on officers attempting to make an arrest — into a parking garage. Scores of heavily armed and armed people in the area converged on the building, but twice failed to find the gunman.

People in nearby office blocks were asked to remove their cars from the garage.

Pleke said 55 people had been arrested for offences related to the blockade, and 189 vehicles had been towed away.

Ray Hartley, Theo Rawana and Lloyd Coutts

Taxis protest 81094 3/2/93

Asherson said the SAP had taken over from the Johannesburg traffic department as a result of public disorder.

Asherson hit out at Witwatersrand Attorney-General Klaus von Lieres und Wilkau for his "inflammatory statements and naivete" in condemning traffic chief Mike Davis after the latter withdrew charges against some drivers.

Von Lieres had accused Davis of going beyond his authority by dropping the charges and releasing impounded vehicles.

Asherson said the release of vehicles was fully within the council's jurisdiction and was done "in a careful negotiation process involving senior members of the SAP".

The Johannesburg transportation directorate yesterday withdrew all municipal buses from the CBD in order not to expose passengers and drivers to further dangers, Sapa reports. Spokesman Fanie van der Walt said services would be suspended until the problems were resolved.

The taxi drivers' union, Satdu, was in the process of merging with the Transport and General Workers' Union and SA Railways and Harbours Workers' Union yesterday.

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and was done "in a careful negotiation process involving senior members of the SAP".

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Running battle

Jo’burg now an unrest area

THE Minister of Law and Order, Mr Herms Kriel, yesterday declared Johannesburg an unrest area following a running battle between police and protesting taxi drivers in which two men are reported killed.

Hundreds of taxi drivers, protesting against alleged harassment from city traffic police, blockaded the centre of Johannesburg for a second day yesterday, leaving two people dead, one unconfirmed, and at least 20 injured—including six policemen, police said.

According to the police, 137 taxi drivers were confrontat ed and 37 people arrested while 28 vehicles were damaged.

A member of the police flying squad yesterday shot and killed a man when a group tried to hijack a private vehicle, police said.

But a foreign press photographer said he saw a man shot and killed by policemen who opened fire with live ammunition and teargas in attempts to clear a blockade.

The running battle between police and a group of militant taxi drivers erupted after an apparent misunderstanding.

Police advanced on a phalanx of taxis and opened fire with teargas, rubber bullets and sleepers when taxi drivers apparently failed to honour an agreement to withdraw from the area at the same time police vehicles removed.

And in the meantime, the situation had become more complex with the presence of the ANC and the Congress of South Africa Trade Unions.

The ANC recruitment of taxi drivers for the party is a major source of concern to taxi drivers and the ANC, and the ANC has been accused of using taxi drivers as a tool to gain influence in the community.

Mr Kriel said yesterday that his action would be taken against the ANC and the Congress of South Africa Trade Unions.

Opening fire... Police open fire in Johannesburg yesterday as a running street battle between police and protesting taxi drivers erupted.

Church to act on Boesak

The political crisis in Western Cape ANC is in the hands of the Anglican Church— and its resolutions could deal the ANC in the Western Cape a body blow.

Dr Boesak’s application to return to the ministry was ‘out of the blue’ last week, a church spokesman said.

It would be considered by the general synodical committee in Bloemfontein on February 16.

The church does not allow ministers to hold political positions, and Dr Boesak would be forced to quit if he is recalled as a minister.

"Dr Boesak would have to choose between the church or political career," confirmed the acting secretary, the Rev Anton Depper.

Dr Boesak dismissed reports of rifts locally within the organization.

Attempts are being made to "convince Dr Boesak that it is "impossible" to remain in his current ANC leadership position, ANC regional secretary Mr Tony Yengeni said.

While Mr Yengeni said the ANC understood that Dr Boesak would "resign in good faith and honor the organization," he was "puzzled by his recent actions in the context of a new democracy.

Mr Yengeni said he had "no intention" to assume the ANC leadership in Western Cape.

"There is no tension whatever between us," Dr Boesak assured his colleagues at his church, which he left to "focus on his personal work.

PLEADING... An unidentified man pleads with advancing policemen yesterday not to use their guns on protesting taxi-drivers. Three people were injured later when police fired at the taxi drivers.
Enough! Enough!

Jo burg declared an unrest area as talks break down.
In the first confirmed fatality, a man was shot dead by police yesterday afternoon. Police could not confirm reports that a second man was killed in Bree Street. Scores were wounded by live ammunition, rubber bullets or police dogs.

The SAP and Johannesburg traffic officials went into talks last night to come up with an emergency plan to prevent anarchy, and police geared up to enforce the unrest regulations announced by Law and Order Minister Herman Kriel in Parliament yesterday.

Police would not say what their plan entailed but said they would do everything they could to protect the city's people.

Spokesmen for the Alexandra, Meadowlands and Eldorado Park taxi associations warned last night that it was likely the confrontations would continue today.

"We do not give orders for the drivers to do anything, but they are angry at arrests and violent action by the police. They will continue to fight for their own businesses," an Alexandra Taxi Association spokesman said.

Veiled threats included attacks on buses and municipal vehicles.

Kriel told Parliament he would proclaim Johannesburg an unrest area last night. He too made it clear the SAP would not tolerate any violence.

"We intend to prosecute. We do not intend giving in to pressure," he said.

Police in unrest areas have wide powers of arrest, search and seizure and may detain people without bail.

Police spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Dave Bruce said although curfews could be enforced in unrest areas, police were unlikely to do this in Johannesburg unless it became necessary.

"But our action depends on the taxi drivers," he said.

The unrest declaration received round condemnation from the ANC's PWV region and the trade union federation Cosatu.

ANC head office spokesman Carl Niehaus said the only way the taxi problem would be resolved was
Jo’burg declared an unrest area as taxi talks break down

From Page 1 - through negotiations, the state of emergency only gave police extra powers. “And they are already behaving in a way which makes one ask questions about the way they handle volatile situations.”

He said ANC officials, including Nelson Mandela, were not playing a direct role in the negotiations but were acting as facilitators to help bring the two parties together.

Cosatu said the unrest declaration would be seen as “carte blanche for the police to use force.” After a meeting yesterday, Cosatu and a delegation of taxi drivers organised by the SA Taxi Drivers’ Union, Cosatu said it saw the drivers’ grievances as legitimate.

Johannesburg traffic directorate spokesman Fanle van der Walt said municipal buses would run as normal today but would be withdrawn if violence flared again.

Witwatersrand police commissioner Lieutenant-General Koos Calitz, who warned that police would not tolerate “wanton violence” from taxi drivers, appealed to taxi associations to take control of drivers.

ANC regional executive member Mondli Gungubele, who was involved in yesterday’s negotiations, said discussions broke down because a number of drivers who were arrested in Randburg on Monday had not been released.

At a Witwatersrand-Vaal Regional Dispute Resolution Committee press conference, Norman Prince, elected as the taxi drivers’ representative, said police had deliberately altered the charges against some drivers to keep them in jail.

On Monday, taxi operators and authorities agreed that all drivers charged with traffic offenses would be released.

Earlier yesterday, General Klaus von Lieres condemned traffic chief Davis for taking the law into his own hands and releasing some of the taxi drivers and impounded vehicles. Von Lieres said Davis had treated the matter “in a very cavalier fashion” and acted beyond his authority.

Johannesburg management committee transport chairman Paul Asherle responded with an attack on Von Lieres for his “inflammatory statements and naïvety.” The release of vehicles was fully within this council’s jurisdiction, he said.

Yesterday’s taxi barricade apparently started after two fights broke out between taxi drivers at the Bree Street taxi rank. The fracas spread quickly through Bree and Sauer streets and then to the rest of the city.

Responding to molotov cocktails, onions and bodies being hurled at them, police, without warning, used tear gas, rubber bullets and in some instances live ammunition to disperse the crowd.

Two casualties of the rioting were press photographers Herbert Mabaza, who was shot in the arm, and Steve Hiltz-Barker, who was hit by a tear-gas canister.

A pall of smoke from burning dustbins and teargas hung over the area as police sprayed bullets in pursuit of an alleged AK-47 sniper.

Police said at least 20 taxi drivers and 200 were arrested and more than 200 vehicles impounded.
Buses burn as police ban taxis from city

Thousands of Soweto commuters were stranded today as taxis were banned from Johannesburg's city centre and all minibuses were being sent back.

Police, backed up by the Traffic Department, have erected roadblocks on all the main entrances into the city and all minibuses were being sent back.

Police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman said all the taxis were banned from the city centre and police would continue to turn them away "until the situation is sorted out."

Putco buses heading for the city were stopped, their drivers and passengers unloaded and several buses set alight. Drivers were beaten up.

Putco announced it was suspending its services.

Managing director Dr. Jack Visser said there would be no buses running from Greater Soweto, Eldorado Park, Lenasia and Orange Farm.

"I have given instructions for all our buses to be taken back to the depot," he said.

"We are not being stopped everywhere and firearms are being pointed at our drivers."

We are unable to take passengers to their destinations along all the main arterial routes into Johannesburg," he said.

Main exit routes from Soweto were barricaded by taxis and burning Putco buses.

Near Baragwanath Hospital, a stand-off had developed as the time of going to press between scores of heavily armed policemen and taxi operators.

Taxi operators and supporters armed with pangas and other assorted weapons, were seen roving through the streets of Soweto intimidating any person using a vehicle to transport people into the city.

A Chamber of Commerce spokesman said the strike had affected business quite badly. "People have simply not been able to get to work," he said.

He said figures were not immediately available, but there had been considerable disruption of work, which is of great concern to the economy."

In Eldorado Park, one resident told The Star, people were being pulled from buses, and taxis were not operating at all.

"We are isolated," he said.

A Spoornet official said more people had been using trains for the past two days to avoid being caught in the taxi feud.

He said there was a definite increase in the number of commuters into the city, especially from Soweto and its surrounding areas.
Man shot dead in taxi chaos crossfire
By Branwyn Wilkinson

The first person to die in two days of battles between police and taxi drivers in Johannesburg was a man who walked out of a bottle store in West Street into crossfire between a mob and police, witnesses said.

But police spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Dave Bruce said the unnamed man was one of a gang of about 15 who tried to rob a motorist of his car.

"The motorist escaped and members of the Flying Squad chased the gang. A warning shot was fired, which was ignored. Another shot was fired and one man was killed. The other 14 got away," Bruce said.

Three bystanders said the man had left a Newtown bottle store with two shopping bags.

"The police ran down the street and started shooting. There was no warning. The man was shot in the back. He had nothing to do with any taxi war or any other violence," said a woman who did not wish to be named.

Minutes later, a man who also claimed to have seen the shooting approached a police vehicle, pointed to a policeman and said he wanted it known that he had seen him fire the shots that killed the man.

A witness said police leapt out of the vehicle, saying "He's talking too much" and arrested the man.
Workers trapped in burning bus

Yesterday, drivers of the new bus service for Johannesburg's taxi drivers were targeted by taxi drivers who set a bus on fire. The attack occurred during an attempt by the taxi drivers to block the service from operating.

The incident happened on a main road in Johannesburg, where the new service was trying to operate. The taxi drivers, who were protesting against the new service, set a bus on fire, trapping several passengers inside.

The taxis were part of a new service that aimed to provide a cheaper alternative to traditional taxis in the city, but the protest against the service resulted in the burning of several buses.

Meanwhile, the city authorities have accused the taxi drivers of using violence to block the new service. The police have appealed to the public to avoid any further incidents and to report any incidents to the authorities.

The incident has raised concerns about the safety of passengers using the new service, and the authorities have assured the public that they are taking steps to ensure the safety of the passengers.

See page 2 for more details.
NEWS Soweto bus commuters saved by police in Diepkloof.

A taxi driver whom police claimed was in possession of an illegal firearm being led to a police van near the Baragwanath Hospital in Soweto yesterday. Police conducted a search for dangerous weapons at the Baragwanath taxi rank in Dieploof. PIC: PAT SEBOKO

Fiery death scare

By Tsale Makam and Lulama Luti

Soweto commuters narrowly escaped death when their bus was set alight in Diepkloof yesterday morning. A commuter said the attack was related to the taxi strike.

"Are these people fighting the traffic officials or the community?" asked the irate commuter. He said their bus was stopped by a group near a petrol station in Diepkloof about 6.30am.

"They were each carrying what later turned out to be petrol. They ordered the driver out of the bus, poured petrol around it and set it alight. Terrified pensioners were trapped as commuters jumped through windows to safety."

The commuters were saved by the arrival of the police who scared the attackers away and doused the flames.

Soweto police spokesman Captain Joseph Ngobeni said seven buses were attacked, but only one was completely burnt.

Putco yesterday withdrew all services to Soweto and areas to the south of Johannesburg.

A Putco spokesman said several drivers had been pulled out of their buses and a senior official of the company was admitted to Baragwanath Hospital after being attacked in his car.

Three buses were attacked and set alight at Baragwanath taxi rank but police quickly extinguished the fire.

Three more buses were attacked in Zone 3, Diepkloof, but police once again put the fire out.

By noon Soweto appeared calm as the drivers who had congregated at the Baragwanath taxi rank were escorted by police to a meeting in the city.

At the meeting the drivers resolved that no vehicles would be allowed into Johannesburg from any direction today.

Angry drivers also called for the resignation of South African Black Taxi Association president Mr James Ntshona following Satab's condemnation of the strike.

They demanded the unconditional release of taxi drivers arrested on Monday and Tuesday. The Rail Commuter Corporation reported a 20 percent passenger increase on trains traveling towards Johannesburg.

* The TPA announced that pension payouts Soweto scheduled for yesterday had been postponed.
Frustration behind the ‘explosion’

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — This week’s city taxi protest was as close to people's power as you can get — similar to the way French farmers sometimes block cities with tractors.

By midweek the SA Communist Party, the ANC and Cosatu got involved — to help represent the drivers and to help find a compromise. But they had nothing to do with it in the beginning.

Take the first street blockade by taxis on Monday. This was quite simply an explosion of frustration by pressurised drivers earning R300 a month or less, who feared relations with traffic officers had deteriorated so badly that there would be physical clashes and that passengers would get hurt.

One of their complaints is that they have too few places to load and offload passengers legally, and that they get fined R300 for obstruction when they stop anywhere else.

"Sometimes we get R1 000 in fines in a single day," said driver Fairbridge Khanyile, and we have to pay up within a month."

So, at a meeting a week ago, where they blew off a lot of steam, they decided something dramatic had to be done.

They drove into town on Monday and blocked the streets to illustrate the point.

It made everyone cross, but it showed that the drivers were mad as hell. In a tense situation, police sirens were heard all day. Not wanting to run the sirens at full pitch, they gave short bursts, sounding like Pekinese dogs with heartburn.

A look at the drivers' complaints shows they have a point.

I take minibus taxis most days on the Kensington route, and traffic officers are often rude when they stop the drivers.

On the last occasion, two young officers just out of training school said arrogantly that taxis could stop only at taxi ranks. I got off at the Sauer Street taxi rank at the corner of Fox Street.

Another aspect is that they say most of the harassment and extortion they experience comes from white officers, so there is a racial element to it.

And the effect of their protest was to bring their struggle against apartheid from the townships to the city, for everyone to see.

They are very hot under their blue collars, and it showed in an emotional and sometimes confusing meeting at the Central Methodist Church.

A whole bunch of organisations were there — including drivers from the Reef with similar complaints — and just about everyone got stuck, including Cosatu, for not producing drivers who had been arrested during the protests.

The taxi drivers' union has nevertheless applied for affiliation to Cosatu.

Besides the ANC-led alliance, members of Inkatha, Azapo and others were present.

In the end the attitude of the traffic police — and the City Council's failure to provide facilities — were the major problems, but owners were also fingered, for expecting drivers to do up to 400km a day in traffic.
Townships erupt as taxi chaos spreads

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Townships erupted in chaos when taxi drivers stoned and petrol-bombed commuter buses and police used live ammunition to control crowds as the city centre anarchy spread to Eldorado Park and Soweto.

More than 30 people, many of them children, were injured last night when police fired birdshot, rubber bullets and teargas to disperse crowds of Eldorado Park residents who had gathered to watch a bus being set alight by taxi drivers.

Panic-stricken commuters fled for their lives in Soweto yesterday when at least 21 buses were attacked by taxi drivers, police said. One man was shot and seriously injured by police.

After two days of mayhem in the city centre since Monday, Johannesburg — declared an unrest area on Tuesday — was relatively quiet. Heavily armed riot police patrolled streets.

Worker absenteeism of between 80 and 90 percent was reported and retail business was slashed by half.

Soweto schools were also disrupted as teachers released children early.

As riotous taxi drivers vented their anger on bus drivers and commuters, at least 21 buses were attacked in Soweto during the morning peak hour, police said.

Putco abandoned morning services to Soweto after one bus was torched and five were damaged. Services were resumed in the afternoon.

Thousands of taxi drivers, impatiently awaiting the outcome of talks on the heated taxi dispute, vowed they would not operate today and threatened continued violence against commuters using other modes of transport.

Police and taxi owners squared up on the main Soweto road. Soweto Taxi Association chairman Mr M J Simela and police Lieutenant-Colonel Paul Loock came to an agreement after drivers had initially demanded to be escorted on masse into the city centre.

Some taxi drivers were then escorted to the Central Methodist Church for a meeting with the Cosatu trade union grouping and traffic police.

The Southern Africa Black Taxi Association (Sabta), which has condemned the drivers' action but acted as a facilitator in negotiations, was denounced by taxi drivers. They called for a new association.

The tense meeting ended in the afternoon with armed riot police ordering drivers to disperse. Taxi drivers will meet again at the same venue today to continue discussions on whether to suspend their action.

The parties failed to reach agreement on the release of drivers arrested and vehicles impounded on Tuesday. But they did agree to the establishment of a multi-party forum to investigate drivers' grievances, which centre largely on alleged harassment by traffic officials.
JOHANNESBURG. — Fourteen people were treated at Soweto’s Baragwanath Hospital last night for injuries allegedly suffered when policemen fired rubber bullets to quell unrest in Eldorado Park, a hospital source said.

The source added people were still being brought in for treatment at 9:30pm from the township near Johannesburg.

Earlier, eyewitnesses said police fired rubber bullets and teargas into a mob attacking buses on the Golden Highway that runs past Eldorado Park.

Police said the attack was linked to a protest by minibus taxi drivers that has plunged central Johannesburg into chaos since Monday.

The source at Baragwanath quoted some of the patients as saying they were hit by rubber bullets as they walked to the shops or while standing in the yards of their homes.

He said the victims were youngsters of between 14 and 28 years. The source said none of the victims were in a serious condition.

An eyewitness who telephoned Sapa said a teargas canister was shot through the window of a car travelling through Eldorado Park last night, causing the vehicle to crash.

The family of four travelling in the car were apparently unhurt, but a baby was overcome by teargas fumes and had to be rushed to a doctor.

The incident could not be immediately confirmed with the police.

— Sapa

© See Page 2
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— Sapa
Bosses urged to be sympathetic

The Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI) yesterday urged employers to treat with 'sympathy and understanding' employees who failed to attend work.

JCCI chief executive Marius de Jager made his call amid fears that the taxi dispute and declaration of Johannesburg as an unrest area would inflict a fresh blow to the ailing property rental market.

De Jager said while it was difficult to give exact figures, feedback received by the JCCI was that the disruption had slashed the turnover of some retail businesses.

SA Property Owners' Association executive director Brian Kirchmann said the unrest would have far-reaching effects. "Business owners are bound to think twice about locating in an area subject to major disruption," he said.

Staff Reporters
Crucial Reef taxi talks

TAXI DRIVERS' DEMANDS

Staff Reporter

FURIOUS drivers from taxi associations around the Reef handed out crudely scribbled and photocopied lists of their demands to the Johannesburg Traffic Department during the protest. Among the demands are:

- Stop issuing tickets for parking in a loading zone or metered parking space;
- Stop fining for obstruction while taxis stop to let passengers alight;
- Stop fining excessively and adding extra fines for tickets not paid on time;
- Provide free parking for taxis that stop to pick up or discharge passengers, regardless of No Parking or No Stopping signs, and
- Police must stop interfering with traffic officers' duties by demanding that taxi drivers produce their public driving permits during peak times and to stop fining taxi drivers for hooting when trying to attract commuters.

FOUR of the 204 taxis impounded in the confrontation are stolen, according to the police. The Minister of Transport, Dr Piet Weilmoord, said yesterday he might reorganise the whole permit system and its administration so that supply and demand could be corrected to a healthy balance. Saps reports police said 26 people are being held on charges of obstruction, malicious damage to property, robbery, attempted murder and armed robbery.

Cosatu officials Mr Zwelinzima Vavi yesterday singled out Witwatersrand attorney-general Mr Klaus von Liereses as the main responsible for the continuing conflict because of his "arrogant and insensitive" attitude. Mr Von Liereses openly criticised a decision by Johannesburg traffic chief Mr Mike Davis on Monday to release those arrested and impound taxis without charge to resolve the conflict.

Security forces were deployed throughout the city yesterday with a heavy presence on streets corners in the troubled Berea and Sauer street area where taxis had obstructed traffic on Monday and Tuesday.
Tight security to protect commuters from angry taximen

Armed escort for buses

Staff Reporters

Heavily armed police and members of the SA Defence Force today stepped up their efforts to ensure the safety of commuters by escorting buses into the city and patrolling railway stations.

The increased security force presence follows pitched battles yesterday in Soweto and Eldorado Park which left scores injured.

Armoured vehicles today escorted packed buses into Johannesburg from the two townships. Trains were also reported to be packed.

Extra security forces were deployed at railway stations in and around Johannesburg, police said.

A police spokesman said they decided to increase train and railway station patrols after receiving information yesterday that trains were to be targeted by disgruntled taxi drivers.

Patrols

Police started patrolling trains and railway stations at about 5 am. Soweto police spokesman Lieutenant Eugene Henning said one bus was gutted by fire in the township this morning. At about 5.40 am police patrols discovered the burning bus at Marshall taxi rank in Mapetla.

At least 22 buses have been attacked in Greater Soweto since yesterday morning.

He said virtually no taxis were operating from the townships today.

Commuters were seen lining the main routes from Soweto today trying to get to work in any way possible.

The two townships erupted in chaos yesterday when angry taxi drivers stoned petrol-bombed commuter buses, and police used live ammunition and teargas to disperse crowds of Eldorado Park residents who had gathered to watch the bus set alight by taxi drivers at about 5 pm.

And earlier in Greater Soweto, panic-stricken commuters fled for their lives when buses were attacked by taxi drivers. Later in the day, police shot and seriously injured one man who tried to hurl a petrol bomb at a bus.

After two days of mayhem in the city centre, Johannesburg — which was declared an unrest area on Tuesday — was relatively quiet yesterday. Heavily armed riot police patrolled the almost deserted streets.

Worker absenteeism of between 80 and 90 percent was reported yesterday and retail business was slashed.

Initially taxi drivers were banned by police from entering the city but today the taximen decided they could not operate.

Township residents who managed to get to work yesterday morning were stranded in the city last night. Many people had to walk kilometres to get back home.

Soweto schools were also disrupted as the teachers released children early.

Putco abandoned morning services to Soweto after a bus was torched in the morning. It resumed its services in the afternoon.

Putco managing director Dr Jack Visser said several Putco officials were assaulted yesterday.

Thousands of taxi drivers, impatiently awaiting the outcome of talks on the heated taxi dispute, vowed they would not operate today and threatened continued violence against commuters using other modes of transport.

The crucial talks concerning the worsening taxi situation continue today.

Yesterday Soweto Taxi Association chairman M J Simelane and SAPS Lieutenant...
Buses get armed escorts

From Page 1

ant-Colonel Paul Loock came to an agreement after drivers had initially demanded to be escorted en masse into the city.

Cheering taxi drivers were then escorted to the Central Methodist Church for the meeting with Cosatu and traffic police. They were met by armed police and members of the Internal Stability Unit.

All Shall Street Mall shops closed their doors and hawkers packed up stalls, anticipating trouble.

The Southern African Black Taxi Association, which has condemned the drivers' action but acted as a facilitator in negotiations yesterday, was denounced by angry taxi drivers. The taxi men called for a new taxi association which would respect their views and look after their interests.

Emergency talks - between the city council, its traffic department and taxi driver representatives, assisted by the trade union federation, Cosatu - ended in deadlock yesterday.

The parties failed to reach agreement on the release of drivers arrested and vehicles impounded on Tuesday.

They did, however, agree to establish a multiparty forum to probe taxi drivers' grievances.

Cosatu assistant general secretary Sam Shilowa, speaking on behalf of the taxi drivers, warned that there was still potential for conflict if no resolution was achieved.

Drivers had been asked to exercise restraint while talks continued.
Davis, 52, gives his best shot.

By Helen Orage

The Los Angeles Times

Antioch, Calif. (AP) - Beverly Hills police said Thursday they were investigating the death of a man who was found unconscious inside a parked car in a parking lot.

A spokesman for the Beverly Hills Police Department said the man, identified as 52-year-old John Davis, was found dead in a car in a parking lot at 7:45 a.m. Thursday.

The man's body was discovered by a security guard who saw smoke coming from the car's engine compartment.

The man was pronounced dead on the scene. The cause of death has not been determined.

Davis was last seen alive on Tuesday.

The man had been reported missing by his wife, who said he had left their home in Los Angeles on Monday and had not been heard from since.

Davis was a former police officer in Los Angeles and had recently been working as a security guard at a local supermarket.

The Los Angeles Police Department is currently investigating the case.

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The man's body was discovered by a security guard who saw smoke coming from the car's engine compartment.

The man was pronounced dead on the scene. The cause of death has not been determined.

Davis was last seen alive on Tuesday.

The man had been reported missing by his wife, who said he had left their home in Los Angeles on Monday and had not been heard from since.

Davis was a former police officer in Los Angeles and had recently been working as a security guard at a local supermarket.

The Los Angeles Police Department is currently investigating the case.

By Helen Orage

The Los Angeles Times

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Taxi action was ‘people power’

By Peter Wellman

This week’s city taxi protest was as close to “people power” as you can get, the way French farmers sometimes block city streets with tractors.

By midweek the SACP, the ANC and Cosatu got involved — to represent the drivers and help find a compromise.

The first street blockade by taxis on Monday was quite simply an explosion of frustration by pressured drivers earning R800 a month or less, who feared that relations with traffic officers had deteriorated to the point where there would be physical clashes in which passengers might get hurt.

One of their complaints is that they have too few places to load and offload passengers legally and get fined R500 for obstruction when they stop anywhere else.

“Sometimes we get R1000 in fines in a single day,” said driver Fairbridge Khanyile, “and we have to pay up within a month.”

So, at an emotional meeting on Sunday, they decided something dramatic had to be done. They drove into town on Monday and blocked the streets.

The move made everyone angry, but it showed that the drivers were mad as hell. Police sirens screamed and the situation was tense.

But the drivers have a case on some points.

I take minibus taxis most days on the Kennington route and traffic officers are often rude when they stop the drivers.

On the last occasion, two youngsters just out of training said arrogantly that taxis could stop only at taxi ranks.

As the drivers claim most of the harassment and extortion they experience comes from white officers, there is a racial element. Their protest brought their struggle, from the townships to the city, for all to see.

They are very hot under their blue collars and it showed in an emotional and sometimes confusing meeting at the Central Methodist Church on Tuesday morning. All were there and just about everyone got stick.

But in the end the attitude of the traffic police, and the city council’s failure to provide facilities, were the major gripes.

Group discussions and the drivers reveal that:

• Given the pressure they are under, they are more likely than other motorists to get tickets.

• They feel targeted by the traffic department and are often pulled up even when driving carefully.

• Traffic officers often ask for bribes.

• If there is a warrant against them, for contempt of court (missing a traffic case), they are handcuffed in public.
Police deny firing without warning

By Charmella Bhagowat
Crime Reporter

Furious Eldorado Park residents claimed last night that police had opened fire on them without warning as Johannesburg's taxi mayhem spread to the nearby township.

Police said they were forced to fire teargas and rubber bullets at crowds which had tried to stone them, but later used birdshot to disperse another crowd.

About 50 people, many of them children, were wounded in last night's clashes between residents and police. Witnesses said trouble flared when two Putco buses carrying commuters home were attacked — allegedly by taxi drivers — in Extension Two at about 5 pm.

One resident, who refused to be named, said he saw a red minibus taxi trying to run the buses off the main road.

"The red taxi swerved and one of the buses turned into the street to avoid being hit. The minibus, full of taxi drivers, threw two petrol bombs through the back window of the bus and drove away," the man claimed.

He said commuters had to leap out of the windows to escape from the blazing bus. The other bus had apparently come to a standstill on the main road and the driver had fled.

"All the people came out to see what was happening and to try and help the passengers who were standing around the bus. When the police arrived they started shooting at people and firing teargas in all directions," the man claimed.

SAP spokesman Lieutenant Eugene Henning denied the allegation. He said Internal Stability Unit members, who were escorting a breakdown truck to a bus that had been attacked, were attacked by residents.

"The police had to use teargas and rubber bullets to disperse the people," he said.

He said policemen guarding the gutted bus opened fire on residents after they were attacked with bricks and bottles.

A taxi driver, who refused to give his name, said taxi drivers were meeting at the rank in "Old Eldorado Park", at about 6.30 pm when police surrounded them and opened fire.

The driver was shot in the eye and was treated at the Civil Protection Centre.

Paramedics at the Civil Protection Centre said 25 people with birdshot and rubber-bullet wounds were referred to Baragwanath Hospital. About 30 people were treated at the centre between 7.45 pm and 8.30 pm.
W

HEN FARMERS BLOCKED PRETORIA on January 29, 1991, there were no acts of violence as compared to when taximen took to the streets of Johannesburg this week.

The farmers had come to town to protest to the Government about years of drought, financial problems and lack of income. They claimed they were not getting a fair share of the price consumers paid for the food they produced.

There was chaos as protesting farmers blockaded roads by chaining their vehicles to any structure available. They used tractors, trailers, heavy trucks, caravans and an assortment of farming equipment.

The nightmarish action, which paralysed the central business district of Pretoria, was carried out with the blessing of the Pretoria City Council.

The council granted permission to the Potgietersrus-based Farmers Crisis Action organisation on condition that laws of the land and municipal by-laws were respected and that specially demarcated areas would be used.

But this was not adhered to and businesses in the city centre suffered losses running into millions of rand with turnovers slumping by more than 50 percent because of the protest and blockading of roads.

**Supreme Court help**

As a last resort, the City Council and its traffic department turned to the Supreme Court for help. They brought an application against Mr. Daniel Elardus de Beur, the Boere Krisiskappe and 5000 others.

Mr. Justice Swart issued an order directing organisers and protesters to immediately remove all barricades from areas under the council's jurisdiction.

But police failed to evict farmers after the order was granted. Asked why they did not act immediately, a police spokesman said no further police intervention was needed at the time because "at this stage it appears the protest will fizzle out".

The spokesman also pointed out that police at some stage did act and that 200 farmers were detained and later released without being charged.

Owners of vehicles that were impounded were also allowed to collect them.

But the protest was marked by the absence of skirmishes between the protesters and the police.

In another "siege" in Pretoria last week, members of the South African Taxi Drivers' Union, protesting the local traffic department's failure to address their problems, brought taxi operations to a halt.

The operators, who believed their members were being "unnecessarily fined" when loading and off-loading passengers in the CBD, were also demanding more parking facilities.

A street leading to the Blood Street taxi rank was blockaded by minibuses to highlight the fact that the existing rank was too small for the estimated 3500 taxis operating between Pretoria and the surrounding townships.

Although no incidents were reported during the protest, three people were arrested for alleged acts of intimidation.

This followed heated arguments between protesters and members of the Internal Stability Unit. The three were later released without being charged.

One wonders why there was so much restraint from the police when farmers invaded Pretoria in contrast with the swift reaction against the protesting taximen.
Improved control ‘needed at stations’

PRETORIA — The ANC and Inkatha argued yesterday for improved control of railway station access and ticketing procedures as a means of preventing violence on trains.

After almost two years of evidence, various parties including the ANC, Inkatha, Spoornet and the police began concluding arguments before the Goldstone commission yesterday.

ANC representative Gys Rautenbach said a police presence at railway stations, passenger searches and proper ticketing and access control were “the first step to the prevention of violence on trains”.

He said a monitoring committee should be formed, under the auspices of the Goldstone commission, to hold regular inspections at affected stations. “The employment of a monitoring committee is probably the only manner to ensure that an objective assessment of the situation on the ground is submitted regularly to this committee.”

Rautenbach also said the ANC believed there was, in some instances, “a lack of will among certain members of the police force to act against perpetrators of train violence”.

He said police had not planned a satisfactory means of monitoring hostels, from where the violence sometimes emanated.

The absence of ticket controllers during peak hours was conducive to acts of terror,

ADRIAN HADLAND

Rautenbach said.

Inkatha’s legal representative Louie Visser said economic reasons, including unemployment and the housing shortage, were vital factors in the violence.

Visser disputed the central role of hostels in train incidents and said only the economic and political upgrading of people’s lives would end the problem.

“Hostel dwellers might not be angels, but can one generalise from a few incidents,” he asked. “Violence on trains is only part of the larger spectrum of ongoing violence in black communities.”

The lack of ticket inspectors or adequate dispensing procedures lay at the heart of the problem, Visser said.

When police checked commuters for tickets as well as weapons recently, the number of passengers decreased by almost 50%, he said.

He agreed that tighter control was required over access to train stations and the issuing of tickets.

Spoornet lost about R600m last year through commuters travelling without tickets, he said.

Visser said there had been no evidence of the existence of a third force with regard to train violence.

“The idea of the third force was hatched for political reasons,” he said.
‘Police shot man dead near taxi rank’

By Charmeele Bhaqowal
Crime Reporter

A young Eldorado Park, Johannesburg, man died after he was injured in clashes between security forces and residents in the township on Wednesday night, witnesses claimed yesterday.

They claimed police fatally injured Randall Sequera (26) while they used birdshot, rubber bullets and teargas to disperse a crowd at about 6.55 pm in a spill-over of the city centre taxi violence.

A witness told The Star he took Sequera to the local fire station at about 7.15 pm. An ambulance employee confirmed the man had been taken to Baragwanath Hospital at 7.30 pm, where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

Police said yesterday Sequera’s body, with gunshot wounds, was found at about 8 pm at the clash between residents and police.

Soweto police spokesman Colonel Tienie Hargyn said police would not comment until an autopsy was conducted.

Another Soweto police spokesman, Lieutenant Eugene Henning, said a murder docket had been opened.

Eldorado Park resident John Hudson (28) said he, Sequera and a friend were at a park when police opened fire on a nearby taxi rank.

“We didn’t even know who shot us,” said Hudson.

Hudson claimed a policeman hit him with the butt of his gun while he was trying help Sequera.

“He shot at us again and fired teargas,” said Hudson.

Two other witnesses claimed Sequera was killed by police.
Court acquits two Swanieville accused

By Susan Smuts

Two of the seven men accused of taking part in the Swanieville massacre in May 1991 were yesterday acquitted of 28 counts of murder.

Sixwe Majola (21) and Bhekwakhe Moffat Mdalose (41), both of Kagiso Hostel near Krugersdorp, were acquitted in the Rand Supreme Court after an application by defence counsel A S Burger.

Some 28 Swanieville squatters were murdered and scores injured during an attack in the early hours of May 12, 1991.

The court has heard that hundreds of men attacked the squatters and damaged property. Witnesses have denied allegations by the defence that policemen were also involved.

Mr Justice C J Botha found the State had no case against Majola and Mdalose, but ordered the trial of Vumisani Majola (37), Joseph Mphlwa Khanyile (51), Bakers Dlamini (32) and Phely Mlang (54), all of Kagiso Hostel, and Mzanyva Flash Sithole (44), of Wattville hostel in Benoni, to continue.

The men have pleaded not guilty to 28 counts of murder, one of public violence, and charges of illegal possession of a machinegun.
Driving a hard bargain

Black taxi drivers in Johannesburg were mad as hell this week and they weren't going to take it any more. They say traffic officers hound them, owners abuse them and government won't subsidise them or provide places to park. In protest, they simply jammed intersections and tied the city in knots.

There's no doubt the traffic department has been cracking down. Loaded taxis are routinely pulled over for inspection while private cars are allowed to pass. Idle taxis have taken over some city streets during the day—much to the annoyance of casual parkers and meter readers—because they have nowhere else to go. Drivers also claim that they are forced to cut corners because owners will sack them if they don't meet stringent quotas for trips and passengers.

Mike Nlateng, spokesman for their main representative body, the SA Black Taxi Association (Saba), says the drivers' action took even him by surprise. "We do not condone the way they disrupted business and traffic and the inconvenience it caused motorists. And we condemn the violence their action caused. It comes at a particularly sensitive political period."

"But we do understand their complaints that they are constantly hounded by the traffic police; that there are no places where they can load and offload passengers; and that though they bring more passengers into Johannesburg every day than trains and buses, they have no facilities."

The traffic problems, however, seem to be a symptom of more deep-rooted ills in the industry, which has exploded since ex-President PW Botha deregulated the sector as a way to build a black middle class. Black commuters welcomed the chance to avoid the dirty, overcrowded and dangerous government-funded buses and trains in favour of quicker and more convenient taxis, even if they were more expensive.

But recession has reduced the supply of passengers, though the number of taxis has kept increasing. Owners have forced drivers to make more trips to make a living, which means travelling faster and replacing vehicles earlier. Deadly taxi wars escalated as rival organisations fought for local dominance and to keep out pirate operators.

And thanks to a very vocal ridership, owners have had to keep fares down even though the cost of new mini-buses and petrol has risen sharply every year. All this obviously reduces profits. To cut costs, maintenance is reduced to the minimum. It is estimated that only one in four taxis is comprehensively insured and most do not carry third-party, fire and theft insurance.

So what's an industry to do when customers disappear and costs rise? Ask government make up the difference, of course.

Saba has been campaigning for government to subsidise black taxi passengers, as it does those who ride trains and buses. Transport Minister Welgevonden recently met Saba, the SA Long Distance Taxi Association and the National African Federation of Transport Operators and made it clear there is no money in the budget for that.

Nevertheless, he formed a working group consisting of taxi association and Department of Transport representatives to work out a long-term, integrated transport plan that will include taxis, trains and buses. He wants one ticket to be used on all three modes, which means the government will subsidise the passenger, not the carrier.

But the people with the subsidies are fighting to prevent the pie being cut more ways.

SA Bus Operators' Association chairman Nic Cronje does not want government to even "contemplate paying subsidies to an industry riddled with wars, unlicensed drivers and an alarming accident rate, where operators do not render tax returns for themselves, nor deduct tax for their employees."

Cronje believes much will have to change before the taxi industry can share the subsidies. "The industry will have to move into the formal sector and adhere to formal business practices. The number of taxis on the road must be reduced. Too many taxis are allowed to ply for business on bus routes."

The bottom line is that, despite Welgevonden's desire to pull a rabbit out of his hat, there is no money available to underwrite the tens of thousands of taxis plying the streets. The best government money would do is bureaucratise an industry that has flourished because of its independence, flexibility and entrepreneurial spirit and its ability to outmanoeuvre subsidised modes of transport.
Unknown donor paves the way for taxi peace

JOHANNESBURG. — A major stumbling block to a resolution of the taxi strike was removed yesterday when an unknown party paid about R8,000 to the Traffic Department so the remaining 110 taxis — bar those identified as stolen — could be released.

Negotiations were expected to be concluded last night over the release of the last four taxi drivers in custody. The city centre was quiet as police maintained a high profile.

Mr Peter Raball, president of the Southern African Long Distance Transport Association and the National African Federated Transport Association, was confident that the drivers would call off the strike.

"The main problems were the release of the taxis and those in jail," Traffic chief Mr Mike Davis hoped that the taxi "scandal" of the past few days was over.

He hoped taxi drivers and owners would bring their grievances to a meeting planned for Monday morning.

He said additional demands had been dealt with: Taxis can now use the Soweto/Booyens busway and the alleged excessive fining of taxis as well as fining of taxis for excessive hooting had been addressed. — Sapa.
Cycle of train violence ‘broken’

Wynand Burger said: “Some of the measures have contributed to breaking the cycle of violence and will help us to finally eliminate train violence.”

However, the SARCC had not been “lulled into a false sense of security”, Burger said. He noted that a number of attacks had taken place on stations or trains last month.

According to police reports, nine people have been killed in train attacks this year.

The SARCC would continue to take steps this year to ensure train safety, Burger said. He said measures implemented to combat train violence included:

- Better lighting, shelter and facilities at some stations.
- The development of modified trains with surveillance cameras, communication networks linking guards and drivers, interleaving doors between coaches, and unbreakable windows that can only be opened one third of the way from the top.
- The installation of high-security access control systems on stations.
- The establishment of a Train Alliance Group in which the ANC, SARCC and police were looking at methods of ensuring safety on trains.
- Meetings with other groups representing train users, such as the IFP.
- Implementation of Goldstone Commission recommendations.

Burger also attributed the decrease in train violence to the recent arrest of attackers following information given by members of the public.
Taxi drivers, council to talk again

From Page 1

Taxi saga and tension of the past few days were over.

At the same press conference, Peter Rabali, president of the Southern African Long Distance Transport Association (Saldta) and the National African Federated Transport Association (Nata), said he was confident drivers would call off the strike today.

But at a simultaneous report-back meeting at the Central Methodist Church in Johannesburg, the taxi men decided they would not operate until talks resume on Monday.

The city centre, heavily patrolled by riot police, was again quiet yesterday. Thousands of township residents could not get to work as taxi drivers refused to operate.

Nearby Soweto and Eldorado Park, which erupted in chaos on Wednesday when at least 24 buses were attacked and police wounded about 50 people, were also relatively quiet but tense.

Yesterday morning one bus was gutted in Soweto.

Heavily armed police and members of the SA Defence Force yesterday stepped up their efforts to ensure the safety of commuters by escorting buses into the city and patrolling railway stations.

Amoured vehicles escorted packed buses into Johannesburg from townships. Trains were also full.

In the afternoon peak hour, stranded Sowetan workers had to walk up to 4km to get home after they had been dropped off at the township's entry points by Putco buses.

The Johannesburg Transport Department said municipal buses would make extra trips until the taxi crisis was resolved.

Soweto police said virtually no taxis were operating from the township.

But hopes are high that the violent dispute — which centres on alleged harassment of taxi drivers by traffic authorities — would be resolved.

Davis said taxi drivers were free to collect their vehicles.

A meeting has been set for 9.30am on Monday for the Johannesburg City Council and taxi operators to deal with grievances.

Rabali said it was vital that stability returned. "We seriously ask drivers to send representatives to the negotiations (on Monday)," he said.

He said of 18 additional demands made by drivers, three had been dealt with: taxis would now be allowed to use the Soweto-Booysens busway; and the alleged excessive fining and stopping of taxis and fining for excessive hooting had been addressed.

Some remaining grievances were being investigated by the council's Metropolitan Planning Department. Other demands related to provisions in the Road Traffic Act, which every motorist was subject to.

In their statement the ANC, Cosatu and Sadtu said: "We appeal for calm and understanding among commuters during this difficult period."

The ANC, in an earlier statement, called for a reorganisation of the minibus taxi industry and fair employment standards for drivers.

Doctors at Baragwanath Hospital, a flashpoint during this week's taxi violence, yesterday called for the premises and access routes to be regarded as "safe areas" which remained violence-free.

IFP central committee member Themba Khoza yesterday urged traffic chief Davis to address grievances.

International observer groups in South Africa yesterday urged all the parties involved in the taxi dispute to exercise maximum restraint and move to resolve the conflict through negotiations, Sapa reports.
Three killed, soldier hurt on East Rand

JOHANNESBURG.—Three people were shot dead and a soldier was wounded in the leg in three incidents on the East Rand in the past two days. Police said a Kempton Park householder shot and fatally wounded a man who was trying to break into his home on Wednesday.

Another man was shot dead with an AK-47 rifle from a moving car in Tembisa near Kempton Park. An exchange of fire between squatters, police and an army patrol near Katlehong left a man dead and a soldier with a leg wound.

KwaZulu Police arrested eight men suspected of murdering an Umzazi resident last week and a KZP member in Port Shepstone last month.—Sapa
Blood war as industry implodes on itself

The running gun battles, snarled commutors in the townships, and access of arrests and injuries witnessed in the city centre may have this week seen the signs of an industry which is in disarray, "employee on itself," says Jane Berret of the Transport and General Workers Union. Berret believes the government backed decision in dealing with the minibus taxi business, is not sufficient, and the industry is not in a completely united state.

A saturated market, dwindling profits, high accident rates and taxi wars about routes and routes highlight the need for some control of the industry.

"Even if you are an ardent free marketeer, there is a need for regulation," says Paul Browning of the Taxi Business Group. He believes that the inefficiency does not have the capacity to regulate the taxi industry and believes that with subsidisation, taxi associations will be able to do it themselves.

Recommendations the TBC suggests include limiting the number of permits granted to correlate with the number of taxi available, a tender to thin the number of taxis on the roads. These tasks with permits must be clearly marked; the number of permits can distinguish them from pirate taxis.

Minister of Transport Piet De Vosmolded this week: "I am seriously considering resigning in the taxi industry system... then they shut, and demand can be corrected to a healthy balance."

High accident rates and the reputation taxi drivers have earned for forking for damage, are some measure the permitted to be a lack of training and the unlicensed drivers they use is hurt, and could be removed at wages of R100 to R150 a week.

Barret says an integrated approach to subsidies is needed, taking into account different modes of transport like rail, buses and taxis.

While taxis cater for 44 percent of travel, 17 percent of taxi operators receive no subsidies. Buses and trains together cater for 40 percent of travel, but the National and Transnet and bus companies receive about R1.5 billion a year in subsidies.

Last week the government announced it will put into place an integrated system of subsidies which will include tax operators: one ticket will get you from the beginning to the end of your travel, regardless of whether you use bus or taxi.

Subsidies will ensure that money is available to improve the conditions of drivers. "Safety, security and training and support must be available to drivers," says Browning.

Two types of subsidies are being mooted. Taxis operators can put in bids to service subsidised routes or tickets can be subsidised.

But neither is without problems, many transport planners and taxi associations.

The tender system is complicated, says Browning, and it needs assistance in applying for and servicing contracts put out by the Department of Transport.

And a ticket or user subsidy system would need an administrative nightmare which costs almost as much as subsidising does to maintain.

The TBC this week announced plans to form taxi cooperatives which will help operators take advantage of subsidies. "Vehicles will continue to be owned by individuals, but the operators will be of collective or cooperative fashion."

The cooperative will receive training from specialists, and the government is looking to help operators to maximise the industry's viability by helping taxi operators to utilise passenger services in areas of high car ownership, tourism as well as parcel and courier services.

The plan, in part inspired by the Goldstone Commission report on taxi violence which called for the end of subsidies, is an oversight committee through which the taxi operators will be trained and will meet with different associations to discuss their problems.

"But," she acknowledges, "the city was caught off-guessed by the taxi system."

There is a need for more ranks in the townships where commuters catch their taxis, and deep in the central business district to taxi rank could appear.

In the off peak periods, taxi need holding areas to park in. Each taxi ranks, a taxi station, but they need to be extended to grow with the burgeoning industry, the government says. Thus, for the trip home after work, the process must be turned around: there must be some drop-off points in the townships that taxi-based traffic is not obstructed.

Call to arms finds fertile ground

The organisation behind the minibus blockade had sprung into existence, said a Noord Street driver, because "we can relate to one another and we go through the same things."

"We've all pulled off the road by cops which don't want to conduct a routine check. The cop then pulls his office to find out if you have any outstanding tickets for traffic offenses."

"If you're handcuffed in front of all your customers and taken to the traffic department or police station. The passengers have paid a full fare but they're told to disenfick and lied to as having at work."

Another driver agreed that the protest had not been planned. "We're not organised, but we are angry and sick of being mistreated. It's easy to get to a red偌id and shout to another driver to pull over."

"That's what we did. We parked our vehicle at the major intersections, got out and just jolted our keys."

"We know the CBD like the back of our hand and taxis only need to be at strategic points," added another.

On Monday this week, some drivers parked their taxis across the road outside Baragwanath Hospital in Soweto, ordered passengers out of taxis that stopped at the barricade, and advanced to Johannesburg in convoy.

Drivers are demanding that "whether it takes three weeks or three months they will continue to disrupt traffic until their demands are met."

In addition to an end to alleged harassment, they said they wanted certain roads to be restricted to taxis — West and Noord streets, in particular — as a means of defusing growing tensions between motorists and taxi drivers.

"We need roads for our bumbles to pick up and exclude passengers without getting a ticket for pulling over where there is a no-stopping sign," said one driver.

"I always take place at mouth-end where we are required to stop."

But our profits are supposed to increase. It's this time of the month when we clamp down and have tickets of R150 or more."

The weekly mail, February 5 to 11 1993

Peace protest... Amid the bloody chaos in town some peace-loving protesters show their feelings.

JACQUE GOLDING writes about SPOONTANEOUS groupings of taxi drivers rather than formally made plans lay behind this week's taxi blockade of central Johannesburg.

The spark for the demonstration was last week's announcement of a mass campaign by the South African Taxi Drivers' Union (Sadtex) over demands for state subsidisation of the minibus taxi industry, after an abortive meeting with the government in Pretoria.

Sadtex is an issue for taxi owners, whom Sadtex and the South African Black Taxi Association represent, but not for the men behind the wheels. The drivers' action was the result, they told The Weekly Mail, of long years of official harassment. "We don't give a damn about state subsidies, we just want the cops off our backs," said a driver at the Three Street rank. But he stressed that the Sadtex call to arms had "found fertile ground here by us. We were encouraged to launch our own protest."

Drivers interviewed at Johannesburg's ranks this week voiced common grievances about harassment by traffic officials, who were accused of racists and rudeness, and the lasting of exorbitant tickets by the traffic department.

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JOHANNESBURG taxi mayhem comes to an end

JOE LOUW Weekend Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The week-long work stoppage imposed by minibus taxi drivers came to an end yesterday afternoon — at least as far as 3 400 taxi owners and their drivers, present at a stormy meeting held in Fordsburg, were concerned.

The two largest regional branches of the SA Black Taxi Association (Saba) — consisting of nearly 3 000 owners and affiliated drivers from Soweto, in addition to another 400 owners and drivers from former "coloured" areas — unanimously decided to get their taxis back on the road "immediately after this meeting".

Hundreds of jubilant drivers poured out onto the street honking their horns and congratulating each other.

Officials of the second-largest taxi association, the National Federated Taxi Organisation (Nafio), also called for an immediate end to the stoppage.

Both Nafio and Saba unreservedly apologised to the public for the inconvenience and mayhem caused by the disruption.

Mr Morris Bokaha, regional secretary of the SA Taxi Drivers Union (Satdu), said earlier yesterday the drivers would continue their dispute unless their demands were met by Monday.

An early-evening reporters’ survey found that the main taxi ranks had already started operating.
Come back later, witness told

JOHN PERLMAN
Chief Reporter

The man in the accompanying picture, known only as Joseph, wanted to make a statement about the fatal shooting of a man in West Street on Tuesday, an incident that occurred during the taxi protests of that day. "Police took him to John Vorster Square but then sent him away without taking a single detail of what he had to say. "With all the confusion, there was nobody to take his statement," said police representative Lieutenant-Colonel Dave Bruce. He was asked to return and make a statement, Bruce says, but has not done so.

"Joseph" was one of a number of bystanders who say they saw the fatal shooting of Tefo Harry Dube, an unemployed builder. He and others dispute the police version of Dube's death - that he was among a large group of men who attempted to hijack a vehicle during the confusion created by the taxi blockade.

They say Dube stepped out of a bar at the moment when police fired at the fleeing hijackers and was inadvertently gunned down. The proprietor of the bar told Saturday Star that Dube had been drinking there just before the shooting.

Soon after the incident, "Joseph" told policemen on the scene that he wanted to make a statement and said he could point out the policeman who fired the shot. He walked over to an SAP vehicle and pointed someone out. He was swiftly bundled into a police car and driven off.

Bruce said police were concerned at the allegations that Dube had not been involved in the hijacking. "We've got to get to the bottom of this," he said, and appealed to witnesses to come forward. "If allegations are made, it is the duty of people to come forward with them," he said.

That, presumably, was what Joseph was trying to do.

* Bruce has asked witnesses to the shooting of Tefo Harry Dube on Tuesday, February 2, to contact W/O Willemse at John Vorster Square on (011) 497-7263.

FATAL ERROR: "Joseph" is whisked away after claiming to have seen police kill a man. No statement was taken.
Amid chaos, a willingness to talk

JOE LOUW

JOE Simelane, chairman of the Soweto Taxo Association (STA) regional branch, is a man with a lot of patience and diplomacy. But he is also tough.

This week, during the long, hot and laborious "negotiations" during which an angry, volatile group of taxi drivers squared up to a contingent of heavily armed policemen at Baracity taxi rank opposite Baragwanath Hospital, Simelane found himself in a familiar situation: the man in the middle.

For several hours, militant youths and even some elderly drivers (who might have known better) taunted and jeered at the steely faced police.

In the piercing mid-morning heat, Simelane — a portly, amiable man in his 60s — found himself running up and down between the police and the restless crowd, sometimes pleading for patience, other times explaining — often to people not listening.

More than 200 taxi drivers demanded a police escort into the CBD to attend a negotiation session at Johannesburg traffic headquarters. The convoy they wanted would have stretched over several kilometres. The police refused, citing that Johannesburg had been declared an unrest area.

The situation became very tense when the taxi drivers demanded that the police leave “immediately”.

Simelane has high praise for Lieutenant-Colonel Paul Loock with whom he negotiated. He says he is detecting a change in the attitude of the police, generally a change for the better.

“A few years ago it would have been unheard of to negotiate for long hours like we did with Colonel Loock without something terrible happening. I hope I’m not speaking too soon in noting their willingness to talk instead of shoot.”

But when a young officer apparently at the end of his tether spoke rudely to Simelane and called him a racist name, the patient negotiator shook with rage and demanded an apology — and got one.

“I couldn’t let a mannerless young pup like that get away with it,” he said.

Simelane has been in the taxi business since he was a young man. First as a driver, then as a taxi owner and, for the past seven years, as an official of the STA.

He is currently branch chairman of the STA, which is a conglomerate of 14 taxi associations serving routes from Greater Soweto into the Johannesburg CBD.

“I felt like I was going to age a year in one day,” he told me this week, “but in the end it was all worthwhile because, through talking and talking, we were able to defuse a potentially explosive situation. I shudder to think what might have happened if one of those boys threw even one stone in that situation.”

In the end, a compromise was reached whereby 10 minibuses with 10 “representatives” were allowed, under strict police escort, to enter the city to attend a meeting of taxi drivers at the Central Methodist Church.
Train violence: Rivalry blamed

PRETORIA - Political strife between organisations in townships, which has spilled over to trains, was one of the major causes of train violence, a Goldstone Commission committee heard yesterday.

Police counsel Mr Flip Hattingh said since the unbanning of the ANC the nature of train violence had changed and violence in townships had escalated.

Referring to witnesses of train violence being reluctant to testify, Mr Hattingh said the ANC had a "deliberate strategy" of discouraging people from co-operating with the police.

He cited incidents where witnesses had spontaneously given statements to the police, but had stopped after alleged intervention by the ANC.

Mr Hattingh said members of the IFP had been more co-operative in the past, but this had changed since the souring of relations between the IFP and the government.

ANC counsel Mr Gys Rautenbach replied that there had been evidence from a woman that the police did not respond when they were being attacked by the IFP, but did when she said they were being attacked by the ANC. — Sapa
Drivers boil over at ‘unfair’ fines, bribes

By THEMBA KHUMALO

THE week-long taxi blockade in the heart of Johannesburg highlighted the frustrations experienced by black taxi drivers at the hands of “corrupt and ruthless” traffic officers.

The three days of unprecedented anarchy took five days of covert planning by frustrated drivers.

The blockade, marred by sporadic violence between police and strikers, left two dead and scores injured, leaving thousands of commuters stranded in the process.

The strike has brought to the fore conflicting views. Many whites participating in a Radio 702 talk show said the strike was a harbinger of things to come in the new SA.

Veteran Cosatu trade unionist Zwelibanzi Vavi dismissed this view as myopic, saying a similar blockade by farmers in Pretoria last year was largely accepted by whites as a “democratic act for legitimate grievances” and did not draw the same violent response from authorities.

The irony of racism and how it rears its head in certain communities in these changing times is amazing.

The magnitude of the blockade surprised Vavi, who conceded that Cosatu had had no advance warning.

Spider Monareng, a senior member of the SA Taxi Drivers’ Union (Satdu), said the strike came after drivers had enough of bribes and being ticketed for petty traffic offences.

Angry taxi drivers spoke to City Press about their problems. Vusi Hlatshwayo, 30, of Emdeni served four months’ jail sentences last year after he was twice convicted of obstruction. The charges arose from unloading passengers.

Another taxi driver who was caught in last week’s feud was Philemon Tshabalala of Zondi.

Like Hlatshwayo, he earned R250 a week from his employer — whom he said made a profit of more than R1 000 in the same period.

Tshabalala is angry with the officers, especially whites, whom he accused of demanding bribes.

The drivers’ general complaint was the officers’ tendency to stop taxis during peak hours to check for minor defects and licences. They also complained bitterly about bribes.

Tension heightened at the drivers’ public meeting at the Johannesburg Methodist Centre on Tuesday and Wednesday when the drivers protested against interference by political organisations.

The drivers also called for the resignation of the Safta president, James Ngcuya, whom they accused of being indifferent to their plight.
Rulers of the road

By DESMOND BLOW

THE taxi chaos this week could result in the weak SA Taxi Drivers Union (Satdu), backed by Cosatu, becoming the strongest force in the taxi industry.

If all the drivers unite, it could end what the Goldstone Commission concluded in December was a bloody power struggle by various taxi associations for control of the taxi industry.

The taxi industry is the strongest black industry in the country but, although Satdu has been in existence for more than a year, it's had too few members to bring about changes.

Satdu had not been very successful with its recruitment, but it is predicted could become strong now that it has bared its teeth.

The drivers began the protest on Monday with the SA Black Taxi Association (Sbata), which they consider to be the owners' association.

Saba spokesman Lindile Lavisa confirmed this week that Saba has been unaware of the drivers' plans, but said it had not come as a shock because the drivers had made their grievances known to them and they had passed on these complaints to the Johannesburg City Council several times, but nothing had been done.

Johannesburg Traffic Chief Mike Davis denied that Saba had passed on the complaints.

"We have had liaison committees in place for a long, long time," he said, adding that the chaos had been "very well orchestrated," and that the traffic problems were a minor detail.

"There are serious shortcomings in the drivers versus owners' situation. The traffic problems we can sort out in two minutes."

He denied a complaint by the drivers that traffic officers stopped them in peak-hour traffic to check on whether they had outstanding traffic tickets and then handcuffed them and took them away, leaving their passengers stranded.

"We do not handcuff people, you must check with the SAP," Davis said.

He denied that his claim, that all the drivers' fines resulting from the strike had been paid anonymously, was a ruse to save face for the traffic department.

"Come to me and I will show you the receipt. The department has issued a receipt for R11 120." Davis said he did not know who had paid it.

He agreed that drivers were fined for hooting, but said: "We use discretion."

Saba's Lavisa said he believed the protest by the drivers was justified, but did not agree with the strike, although he admitted that the drivers probably did not have any other recourse.

He confirmed reports that a large part of the drivers' frustration was caused by the market being saturated and that profits were dwindling.

Lavisa said that because of the heavy competition taxis could not increase their fares sufficiently to cover the spiralling costs of fuel, insurance and vehicle maintenance.

He said they also had to compete with buses and trains, which benefited from state subsidies.

When it was pointed out that bus companies and the rail authority paid taxes, whereas taxis did not always keep books as they dealt in cash, Lavisa said that the subsidy matter had to be resolved - even if the solution was to deprive the other transport sectors of their subsidies to make the competition fair.

Drivers' complaints were that the owners were "fat cats" and made all the profits while drivers had to bear the costs of fines. They also said there were no proper pick up points for their passengers and that they were fined for hooting to attract passengers.

However, Lavisa maintained drivers agreed on the salaries they should be paid.

He said this reasoning by drivers was not a good argument - and could be labelled even at people like Harry Oppenheimer.
Call for safe Bara access routes

THE Baragwanath Hospital Doctors' Association has urged its members not to go to the hospital near Soweto when there is danger along its access routes.

Since the start of Johannesburg's taxi violence on Monday, doctors and all other medical staff had been subjected to increasing risks to their lives and damage to their property, said association chairman Dr R Kemper.

The association appealed to all parties to regard Baragwanath Hospital and its access routes as "safe areas" which had to remain violence-free at all times, irrespective of "political or economic considerations."
Drivers boil over ‘unfair’ fines, bribes

By THEMBA KHUMALO

The strike has brought to the fore conflicting views. Many whites participating in a Radio 702 talk show said the strike was a "harbinger of things to come in the new SA." Tension heightened at the drivers public meeting at the Johannesburg Methodist Centre on Tuesday and Wednesday when the drivers protested against interference by political organisations.

The drivers also called for the resignation of the SABA president James Ngoya, whom they accused of being indifferent to their plight.

THE week-long taxi blockade in the heart of Johannesburg highlighted the frustrations experienced by black taxi drivers at the hands of "corrupt and ruthless" traffic officers. The three days of unprecedented anarchy took five days of covert planning by frustrated drivers.

The blockade, marred by sporadic violence between police and strikers, left two dead and scores injured - leaving "thousands of commuters stranded in the process."

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Veteran Cosatu trade unionist Zwelibanzi Vavi dismissed this view as myopic, saying a similar blockade by farmers in Pretoria last year was largely accepted by whites as a "democratic act for legitimate grievances" - and did not draw the same violent response from authorities.

Another taxi driver, who was caught in last week's feud was Philemon Tahabala of Zondi. Like Hlatshwayo, he earned R250 a week from his employer - whom he said made a profit of more than R1 000 in the same period. Tahabala is angry with the officers, especially whites, whom he accused of demanding bribes.

The drivers' general complaint was the officers' tendency to stop taxis during peak hours to check for minor defects and licences. They also complained bitterly about bribes.

The irony of racism and how it rears its head in certain communities in these changing times is amazing."
Harassment over sex loses post head drama.

A NETWORK of corrupt transport officials selling fake taxi permits. I did it for my son.
Taxi violence

From Page 1

Mr Long said that although the board issued between 15,000 to 20,000 permits (from 30,000 applications) in Johannesburg alone in 1992, it now issues 1,000 to 1,200 a month.

He also denied Goldstone commission and city council complaints that permits were issued regardless of available rank facilities.

A Johannesburg city council transport chief Paul Asherson said the council had complained to the Local Road Transportation Board about the "over-issuing of permits and a lack of consultation", but had been ignored.

Yesterday most taxis were back on the roads in and around Johannesburg.

Meetings between taxi owners and drivers and city officials are now expected to resume in the city tomorrow.

See Page 25
The day I decided to tear apart the toy

20 days ago, I walked into my living room and saw the toy on the floor. It was a small, colorful, plastic object, and I couldn't resist the urge to take it apart and examine its inner workings. I had always been fascinated by mechanical things and this toy seemed like a perfect opportunity to indulge my curiosity.

I started by removing the screws that held the toy together. It was a simple process, nothing too complicated. As I took apart the toy, I realized that it was much more intricate than I had initially thought. It had multiple parts, each connected in a specific way, and I began to wonder how it all worked together.

I continued to take apart the toy, piece by piece, and I was amazed by the level of engineering that went into its creation. I couldn't help but think about the people who had designed and built this toy, and the care and precision that went into every detail.

As I sat there, studying the toy, I felt a sense of pride and accomplishment. I had always loved mechanics and engineering, and this was a small step towards realizing my dreams. I knew that there was a lot more to learn, but I was excited to take on this new challenge.

I continued to take apart the toy, piece by piece, until I had it completely disassembled. It was a satisfying feeling to see the toy in its component parts, and I knew that I would spend many hours studying and analyzing each piece.

I realize now that tearing apart the toy was just the beginning of my journey. I had taken the first step towards realizing my dreams, but I knew that there was still a long way to go. I was excited to see where this journey would take me, and I was determined to make the most of every step.
HOSTEL dwellers took a further step towards peace this weekend when representatives of 25 violence-plagued hostels came together at a prayer service in Johannesburg.

The service at Selby Hostel yesterday morning followed a peace initiative started in November last year by residents weary of the violence emanating from their hostels.

Hostels represented included Jeppe, Dube, Denver, Malmhlobo, City Deep, Soweto, Kelvin, Orlando Power Station, Antea and Van Beck.

A further 15 hostels aligned themselves with a statement of purpose adopted at the November meeting which was also attended by international observers and officials of the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Johannesburg city council.

"The meeting was a clear signal that the hostel residents were sick and tired of the violence that had dogged their lives and had taken a firm decision to do something about it," said Rev Myvonne Dandala, superintendent of the Johannesburg Central Methodist Mission, who chaired the meeting.

"A pledge was undertaken to adopt a programme of preaching peace to all other hostel residents and that other hostels not represented at the meeting would be kept informed of progress being made.

This is a unique, meaningful and low-key exercise in fostering harmonious relations and could become a valuable blueprint for the rest of the country," said Rev Dandala.

On Friday, chairman of the National Peace Committee John Hall expressed strong support for the hostel dwellers' peace initiative. He said: "The statement of purpose adopted by the 25 Johannesburg hostels laid down that the initiative had come solely from residents themselves and would remain under their auspices. That tribal and ethnic differences would not be exploited and that peace would be preached to all hostel dwellers.

"I commend this initiative and wish them every success."

Weary of battle, hostel dwellers pray for peace

By KURT SWART
Mobs attack taxi 'strike-busters' — 1 dead, 5 hurt

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Three Western Transvaal taxi drivers who ignored a call last week to suspend their services into Johannesburg until today were attacked by angry mobs who ordered them to support the taxi strike, police said.

The attacks, at the Wonderkop Mines in Marikanana, near Rustenburg, on Saturday left one person dead and five injured. A minibus taxi and a car were gutted.

And in Natal, police reported two gun attacks on minibus taxis on Saturday. One passenger was killed and about six were slightly injured.

Western Transvaal police spokesman Captain Ronnie Palmer said 200 people attacked a taxi at the mine's Shaft 2 about 11.30am. The driver was allegedly hauled out of the taxi and told that people did not want taxis running near the mines. He was robbed of a pistol and R100.

While the passengers were being ordered out of the minibus, another taxi stopped and its driver fired two shots into the crowd.

Sapa reports that a man was shot dead and another injured in an attack on a minibus at Bramley last night.
Fake taxi permits bedevil crisis talks

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Today's crucial meeting to resolve the bitter Johannesburg taxi dispute will face an added burden after claims that corrupt transport officials are selling fake permits to taxi owners.

A Sunday newspaper reported that the fake permits, issued by a network of corrupt officials of the Local Road Transportation Board in Johannesburg, fuelled taxi violence as taxi drivers jostled for space at overcrowded taxi ranks.

Piroshaw Camay, of the National Peace Secretariat, confirmed yesterday that the allegations would be one of the items on the agenda for today's meeting, to be held at the Johannesburg Traffic Department office in the city centre.

He said the meeting, to work out long-term peace in the crisis-ridden minibus taxi industry, will be first to bring together drivers, traffic police, the SAP, law officers, taxi owners, the Peace Committee, the municipality, unions and political parties.

The meeting follows a range of discussions between various parties last week after angry taxi men had brought Johannesburg and its surrounding townships to a standstill to focus attention on their grievances.

The South African Taxi Drivers' Union (Satdu) on Saturday proposed a four-point plan to resolve the crisis.

Satdu hoped the plan would lead to a "maturing and meaningful" relationship among all parties concerned, Satdu spokesman Norman Prince said in a statement to Sapa.

The union proposed that it and the Johannesburg City Council should demarcate specific loading zones or stopping bays in the city centre for use by taxis.

This was to ensure that until this was done traffic officials would refrain from issuing tickets to drivers for "randomly picking up commuters.

In respect of drivers, Satdu proposed that a forum of drivers, the city council and taxi owners' associations be established to devise an educational programme to guarantee the safety of commuters and road-users.

With regard to taxi owners, Satdu would formalise its labour relations so drivers' rights were protected. All taxi owners would be required to ensure taxis were roadworthy and that their ownership was valid, Mr Prince said.

Satdu was devising a code of conduct to ensure its drivers abided by all traffic rules and regulations.

The union called for the establishment of an ombudsman to protect the interests of the public.

Commenting on claims that corrupt officials sold dummy permits to unsuspecting taxi drivers for as much as R2,000, Paul Asherson, the Johannesburg City Council's transport chairman, yesterday blamed the "reckless granting of licences" on the Local Road Transportation Board.

He said the board should have tried to control the transport industry by not issuing more permits than for what space was available.

He said they had been warning the board for 18 months against issuing too many permits, but the warnings were ignored.

However, Councillor Cecil Long, who has served on the board since 1988, said the metropolitan section of the Johannesburg City Council had compounded the problem by issuing parking permits to drivers, which strengthened their case when they applied for taxi permits.

Explaining the procedure for applying for a taxi permit, he said the board was not entirely to blame as all affected parties had a say.

Mr Long said when a taxi operator came to the board, he would ask questions and had to complete a form, supplying details such as the route proposed.
NEWS Petrol bombs found near scene of traditional ceremony

Six killed, 11 hurt in attack on squatters

By Tsale Makam

AT LEAST six people were killed and 11 seriously injured when men armed with automatic guns attacked the Chris Hani squatter camp on the East Rand on Saturday evening.

Police said AK-47 assault rifles were used in the attacks in Daveyton although residents said they also heard isolated shots that could have been from a pistol.

The motive for the attacks is unknown.

Two petrol bombs were found near one of the shacks. The attackers had apparently tried to set the shack alight but the bomb did not ignite.

Five of the dead people were killed at about midnight in a shack in which a traditional cleansing ceremony was being conducted.

Police yesterday said the names of the deceased could not yet be released.

One of the dead was however identified as Mr. John Malapela (35), whose body was still lying in the shack at noon yesterday.

The other four people have been identified as:
Mr. Samuel Nguwe, Ms Esther Dlomo, Mr Jonas Skhosana and Mr Johannes Botha.

Malapela's widow, Miss Sinah Rakgatwele, tearfully told Sowetan that the attackers struck at about 11.30pm on Saturday.

"My husband said he had been shot in the thigh. I tried to stop him from going out but he opened the door to investigate and met-up with a volley of shots."

After the gunmen had left she ran to her sister, Miss Sophie Rakgatwele, whose shack was also hit.

She also confirmed hearing automatic rifle fire at about the same time.

Sophie said: "I heard continuous fire and isolated shots and saw bright sparks that seemed like lightning."

They then woke neighbours and ran out to call an ambulance. They saw a group of suspicious-looking men and ran back.

A man who refused to be named said he was at the cleansing ceremony when the attackers struck.

"Before we knew what was happening, there were shots from all around us. People were bleeding and five died from gun shot wounds."

Other eyewitnesses said more people would have been killed by the rampaging gunmen had the police not arrived when they did.

A delegation from the ANC yesterday visited the squatter area and held a meeting with the residents to discuss the attack.

Angry residents expressed anger and dissatisfaction at the local self-protection unit known as "amabutho" and said the area had become unsafe.
Six people were shot dead in several incidents at Chris Hani squatter camp in Daveyton after midnight on Saturday, bringing the number of people killed in Reef unrest at the weekend, police and ANC spokesmen said.

ANC PWV spokesman Ronnie Mampepa said the ANC had decided to convene an inquiry into killings in Daveyton this year after ANC PWV chairman Tokyo Sexwale's visit to the site of this weekend's killings.

Mampepa said residents were dissatisfied with youths who were patrolling the township at night, but it was impossible to say who was responsible for the killings.

Police spokesman Lt Willem Webber said the gunmen attacked squatter camp residents between midnight on Saturday and 6am on Sunday morning. Sapa reported.

Webber said the motive for the killings was not yet known, but police believed the same attackers were involved in all the incidents.

Another six people were killed in incidents around the country from Friday. Two people were shot dead in Edendale near Maritzburg. In another incident, a Maritzburg prison warden was shot dead when he chased attackers near his home. A man died after he was shot at Belhar near Cape Town.
Six killed in AK-47 attack on squatters

By Juliana da Tojo

At least six people were slaughtered on Saturday night at the Chris Hanu squatter camp in the East Rand township of Daveyton, in an apparently motiveless attack.

Eleven people were injured, some of them critically. They were taken to the Boksburg Benoni Hospital.

Police confirmed the attack and the number of dead and injured, adding it was believed the attackers had driven around in a Valiant car.

Witwatersrand police liaison officer Lieutenant Wikus Weber said the SAP could not pinpoint a motive for the killings. No arrests had been made.

Police were yesterday conducting a thorough inspection of the area, cordoning off houses and searching areas of littered ground.

PWV regional leaders rushed to the scene yesterday to investigate the attack, but concluded that there was no political motive.

ANC PWV chairman Tokyo Sexwale said he and other officials — including Mundli Gingobule, Remmie Mannepe and Obidip Bapela — had visited the scene “as part of being responsible leaders, not because this is a political business”.

He told a crowd of about 250 that the killings did not seem to be political.

“This is the work of totoists, he said.

None of those killed was a member of any political group, he told The Star.

The first people to die on Saturday were attending a ceremony at which about 30 people had gathered to honor ancestors.

Another two people were killed in apparently random shootings at shacks, before the shooting began.

Police originally believed the attack was targeted at a family gathering.

Michael Sihlole presented the bodies.

From Page 1

Six killed in AK-47 attack on squatters
Six killed in minibus violence

Six people were killed and several others injured in weekend taxi violence.

A 17-year-old passenger, Kalo Mabuine (17), was killed when unidentified gunmen opened fire on a minibus taxi with pistols and AK-47 rifles on the corner of Corlett Drive and Louis Botha Avenue in Bramley, Johannesburg last night, police said.

Police spokesman Werner Naude said that the gunmen drove a grey Ford bakkie.

He said it appeared that the attack on the taxi, which was driven by an Alexandra Taxi Association (ATA) member, was in response to earlier attacks on Alexandra/Randburg/Sandton Taxi Association (Arms) members, the two associations having been at war in the townships.

He said an Arms driver was killed and a passenger was seriously injured on Friday when snipers fired at his taxi on the Old Pretoria Road.

Earlier yesterday, men armed with AK-47s attacked the Arms taxi in Washington, killing a driver and a passenger, said Piekke.

A 17-year-old man was seriously injured in a dispute with a taxi-driver on the De Deur-Vereeniging road last night.

SAP spokesman Major Piet van Deventer said Desmond Bucher, his son Cecil (19) and a friend, George Nel (28), were forced off the road by a taxi which overtook them recklessly.

Bucher, sen., stopped the taxi further up the road and a confrontation ensued.

Fired

Shots were fired and Bucher, jun., was hit in the head. He underwent emergency surgery last night and a bullet was removed from his head.

Three western Transvaal taxi drivers who ignored a call last week to suspend their services were attacked by mobs at the weekend.

One of the incidents was in the western Transvaal police spokesman Captain Bonnie Palmer said 200 people attacked a taxi at the mine's Shaft 2 at about 11.30am.

The driver was hauled out of the taxi and told that people did not want taxis running near the mines. He was robbed of a pistol and R100.

Another taxi stopped and its driver fired at the crowd. The first driver recovered his firearm and also opened fire.

One person was killed and three others were injured.

Palmer said murder and attempted murder charges were being investigated.

At about 1pm, at the same shaft, about 200 people attacked another driver, Peter Matebana, and set his taxi alight.

At 9pm, a crowd attacked another taxi.

Palmer said the crowd set another car alight with two people inside. Eliza Rolfo and David Negwena, were in a serious but stable condition at the Rand Mutual Hospital in Johannesburg yesterday.

And in Natal, police reported two gun attacks on minibus taxis on Saturday.

One passenger was killed. — Crime Reporter, Sapa.
**Top-level talks seek end to crisis**

**Taximen’s four-point peace plan**

Staff Reporters

The week-long Reef taxi dispute comes to a head today when representatives of the city council, Cosatu, police, the ANC and the minibus taxi industry meet to thrash out a solution.

Piroshaw Camay of the National Peace Secretariat said the agenda would include weekend reports that corrupt local Road Transport Board officials selling fake permits to taxi owners have swelled the number of vehicles fighting for space at overcrowded city taxi ranks.

The meeting at the city’s traffic department offices follows a range of discussions between various parties last week after the taxi men had brought Johannesburg and some surrounding townships to a virtual standstill to focus attention on the situation.

Early this morning it was still unclear whether taxi drivers would resume full services today, but some drivers from breakdown organisations took to the roads at the weekend despite a decision on Thursday to continue the strike until after today’s meeting.

The South African Taxi Drivers’ Union (Satdu) has approached the crisis by proposing a four-point plan aimed at leading to a “mutual and meaningful” relationship among all parties concerned. Satdu spokesman Prince said in a statement to Sapa.

The union proposed:

- The union and the city council demarcate specific loading zones or stopping bays in the city centre.

**Education**

It was hoped that, until this was done, traffic officials would refrain from ticketing drivers for randomly picking up commuters and passengers.

- A forum of drivers, the city council and taxi owners’ associations has been established to devise an educational programme to guarantee the safety of commuters and road users.

- Regarding taxi owners, Satdu said it would formalise its labour relations as the rights of drivers were protected.

- All taxi owners would be required to ensure taxis were roadworthy and that their ownership was valid.

Ahead of today’s top-level meeting, the council has detailed ongoing multimillion rand plans to improve taxi facilities in the central business district.

The Metropolitan Planning Department said private sector funds would be poured into schemes organised by the council to upgrade taxi amenities.

The improved facilities included new stopping zones which could be in place within months in Reserve Road, Noord, Fraser, Loveday, Banks and Commissioner streets.

Also in the pipeline is the completion of the Pat Mabatha public transport thoroughfare restricted to buses and taxis from Soweto to the corner of Bree and Sauer streets.

Councillor Cecil Long, who has served on the Road Transport Board since 1988, said six employees had been suspended in connection with the fake permits scam, and the matter had been referred to the police.
Talks today may end taxi crisis

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Tense taxi commuters will only find out this morning whether or not a weekend minibus boycott had been called off, following confusion among drivers over the weekend as some resumed normal services.

The SA Taxi Drivers’ Union said it would decide today, after a critical meeting with the Johannesburg city council, traffic department, police, and ANC and Cosatu officials, whether or not to call off the protest that has crippled city centre businesses.

But a breakaway section of the drivers, supported by the SA Black Taxi Association (Saba), resumed operations at the weekend in defiance of the union decision made on Thursday.

Council management committee transport chairman Mr Paul Asherson yesterday estimated that the protest may have cost the taxi industry as much as R10 million in lost revenues in the Johannesburg area.

Mr Asherson called for a halt to the issuing of taxi permits following weekend revelations that Johannesburg Road Transportation Board officials had been suspended following a corruption probe into the issuing of the permits.

The union at the weekend proposed a joint taxi driver, owner, and city council association forum.

It also proposed an ombudsman to protect the interests of the general public.
Death toll: 12 in Reef unrest

OWN CORRESPONDENT

JOHANNESBURG

Six people were shot dead at Chris Hani squatter camp in Daveyton after midnight on Saturday. Bringing the number of people killed in Reef unrest over the weekend to 12. ANC spokesmen said.

ANC PWW spokesman, Mr. Ronny Mamba, said the ANC had decided to convene an inquiry into the Daveyton killings.

Mr. Mamba and residents were dissatisfied with the youths who patrolled the township at night, but it was impossible to say who was responsible for the killings.

A police spokesman said the gunmen attacked squatters between midnight on Saturday and 8 am yesterday. Sapa reports.

He said the motive for the killings was not yet known but police believed the same attackers were involved in all the incidents.
Peace group reached aim

Johannesburg A significant degree of cooperation had been achieved by the Vaal Local Peace Committee in the volatile Vaal Triangle, in spite of often divergent viewpoints, the committee said this weekend.

The committee, a structure of the National Peace Secretariat, said its progress would be reviewed at a workshop later this week, where organisations would recommit themselves to the 'peace accord and formulate plans for 1993.

— Sapa
UN observer is attacked

A UN observer, Mr Jim Anderson, was attacked in Alexandra at the weekend and stabbed in the arm.

Police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman said yesterday that Anderson was pulled out of his car by a group of men at the corner of 13th Avenue and London Street at about 2pm on Saturday. His assailants sped off in his vehicle after stabbing him.

The car was later recovered by police.
Reef taxi dispute resolved after talks

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — The taxi revolt is over after three days of bloody violence which virtually crippled Johannesburg by leaving thousands of commuters stranded last week.

But the breakthrough was marred by an attack on the Soweto offices of the South African Black Taxi Association (Sabia) yesterday, in which two officials were seriously injured.

Taxi drivers agreed to go back to work after a lengthy and sometimes heated meeting with traffic officials and political organisations yesterday.

A permanent multiparty forum was established to discuss all matters affecting traffic and taxi issues.

All parties agreed to settle their differences and agreed that the maintaining of law and order and consultation were paramount.

Mr Piroskaw Camay, chairman of the Johannesburg Local Dispute Resolution Committee (LDRC), who chaired yesterday's meeting, said a preliminary meeting would be held next week to decide on the parameters of the forum.

Spokesmen for Cosatu and the ANC's PWV region said they were relieved the crisis had been resolved.

Johannesburg Traffic Department spokesman John van der Westhuizen said the department had decided not to issue a statement after the meeting, but Traffic Chief Mike Davis was reported as saying he was pleased with the outcome.

Mr Davis said the traffic department realised it had to communicate with the drivers and taxi industry, which it now realised was a major force.

An agreement of intent was signed by, among others, the South African Taxi Drivers Union (Sadto), Sabia, other taxi unions, Cosatu, the ANC, SAP, SAP, Azapo, PAC, IFP and traffic officials.

A source at yesterday's negotiations said the meeting came close to exploding over the issue of vehicles which had been impounded and not yet released because police suspected they had been stolen.

According to the source, 12 vehicles were still being held and the police told the meeting they would be released when the owners produced documents to show they were legally owned.

"The drivers are now facing pressure from the owners who say the police would never have suspected the vehicles were stolen if they (the drivers) had not used them to blockade the streets," he said.

He said the issue had still not been solved by the end of the meeting, and would be discussed in the new forum.
Soweto police and members of the Defence Force yesterday raided a hostel and seized a large cache of weapons and ammunition. Police believe the raid may have averted "a bloodbath".

Four hostel dwellers were arrested and 15 AK-47 rifles, three Makarov pistols, two 9mm pistols and "a large amount of ammunition" were confiscated.

A "substantial amount of money and dagga was also recovered, police said.

Soweto police spokesman Colonel Tienie Halgryn said security forces raided the hostel after a tip-off.

He said it was clear that some elements are planning to end the relative peace.

Halgryn appealed to anyone who may have prior knowledge of any planned violence to call the toll-free Crime Stop number 0800-111212.
Attack mars taxi settlement

By Brenwyn Wilkinson

Johannesburg’s taxi revolt, which erupted into three days of violence and virtually crippled the city by leaving thousands of commuters stranded last week, is over.

But the breakthrough was marred by an attack on the Soweto offices of the SA Black Taxi Association (Sabta) yesterday, in which two Sabta officials were seriously injured.

Taxi drivers agreed to go back to work immediately after meeting with traffic officials and political organisations yesterday.

A permanent multiparty forum was established for drivers, taxi owners, local authorities and other parties to discuss all matters affecting traffic and taxi issues.

All the parties agreed to settle their differences and agreed that the maintenance of traffic law and order and consultation were of paramount importance.

Pirosław Camay, chairman of the Johannesburg Local Dispute Resolution Committee (LDRC), who chaired yesterday’s meeting, said a preliminary meeting would be held next Wednesday to decide on the parameters of the forum.

The main forum would be convened by the LDRC and another smaller forum would also be established to represent taxi drivers and owners.

Spokesman for Cosatu and the ANC’s FWV region said they were relieved that the taxi crisis had been resolved amicably.

Johannesburg Traffic Department spokesman John van der Westhuizen said the department had decided not to issue a statement after the meeting, but Traffic Chief Mike Davis was reported as saying he was pleased with the outcome.

Davis said the Traffic Department had realised it had to communicate with the drivers and taxi industry, which it now realised was a major force.

An agreement of intent was signed by — among others — the South African Taxi Drivers’ Union (Sadtu), Sabta, other taxi unions, Cosatu, the ANC, SAP, SACP, Azupa, PAC, IFP and traffic officials.

But violence continued to plague the taxi industry when two Sabta officials were seriously injured in a gun attack on Sabta’s offices in Merafe, Soweto, yesterday.

Sabta secretary Raymond Nchupu and Sabta’s Soweto secretary, Alfred Madlala, were admitted to the Baragwanath Hospital.

Although Sabta took part in the talks to defuse the crisis, it distanced itself from the taxi drivers’ strike and street blockades last week.

Police said yesterday a passenger was beaten to death during a fight inside a taxi in Parkview, Johannesburg, on Saturday. Police said George Masilela of Parkview died in the Johannesburg Hospital after being beaten by another passenger in the minibus.

On Sunday night a 17-year-old passenger was killed when gunmen opened fire on a minibus in Corlett Drive, Bramley.

Attacks on minibuses on the Reef, western Transvaal and Natal at the weekend claimed at least four lives. Police believe the attacks were all related to the taxi dispute.

Paul Asherson, chairman of the Johannesburg City Council’s transport and utilities committee, said there had been little acrimony during the talks yesterday.

Commenting on allegations that the Local Road Transportation Board had compounded the taxi crisis by issuing illegal taxi permits, Asherson said the board had nothing to do with the city council, but was part of the Department of Transport in Pretoria.

The Department of Transport was not available for comment last night.

Other matters that were finalised in yesterday’s agreement included:

- Traffic officers will help with the on and off-loading of passengers from taxis during peak hours in areas where no facilities exist.
- Traffic officers will not stop taxis during peak hours for documentation checks.
- Minibus taxis will be allowed to use the Booyens bus lane between Soweto and Johannesburg.
- The City Council will not tolerate victimisation of drivers or racist behaviour on the part of traffic officers.
- Traffic officials will stop only one minibus at a time.
- The council will investigate every avenue to improve communication with the industry.
- A 24-hour hotline has been opened where complaints and any incidents can be reported.

The number is (011) 690-1530.
JOHANNESBURG. — Two South African Black Taxi Association (Sabta) officials were seriously wounded in an attack on the organisation's Soweto office yesterday afternoon.

Local chairman Mr Raymond Nchunu and secretary Mr Alfred Madlala were in a serious condition in Baragwanath Hospital.

The attack came as concerned parties met yesterday in an attempt to defuse the taxi crisis on the Reef.

In an agreement reached at the talks, traffic officials in Johannesburg will in future assist taxi drivers in loading and off-loading passengers where no facilities exist and will not stop minibus taxis during peak hours for documentation checks.

The Johannesburg City Council was not involved in the alleged indiscretion and illegal issuing of taxi permits, councillor Mr Paul Ahlerson said yesterday. — Sapa
Claims against attorneys on the increase, conference told

CAPE TOWN — There had been a substantial increase in the number of claims against attorneys in recent years, Small Claims Court commissioner Denis Williams told the International Bar Association regional conference yesterday.

Claims under the Attorneys' Professional Indemnity Insurance Scheme had increased from about 200 in the 1987 to about 450 in 1991, he said.

"Considering there were only about 8,000 attorneys in SA, this meant the annual number of claims represented more than 5% of the total number of attorneys.

The increase was part of a worldwide trend; attorneys were handling more work and were expanding into new areas of practice which carried greater risk and exposure to claims, and clients were becoming more demanding and more aware of their rights.

About 47% of claims in 1991 related to claims under the Motor Vehicle Accidents Act, 20% were conveyancing-related, 15% related to general commercial matters and 15% to general litigation matters.

SA attorneys had automatic cover under the fidelity fund scheme, and the limits of indemnity under the scheme had been increased considerably in recent years. Many legal practices needed substantial top-up cover, and some were obtaining cover of up to R1m of each claim.

"A further reason for obtaining additional cover is that the scheme no longer grants indemnity in respect of the provision of investment advice. Separate cover must therefore be arranged in respect of the provision of investment advice.

Williams urged law firms to institute malpractice exposure audits, as the adoption of risk management would "almost certainly lead to a major shake-up and revision of management, administration and professional procedures."

Prof Werner Ebke of the University of Konstanz School of Law in Dallas, Texas, said several common-law courts abroad were anxious to limit auditors' liability for negligence affecting people with whom they had no contract.

Denyse Reitz partner Michael Hart said that while SA auditors had had reasonably good claims experience until the end of the '80s, and underwriters had been willing to provide professional indemnity insurance for this market, there had been an appreciable increase in the number and size of claims brought against local auditors during the past five years.

High-tech anti-violence train put through test

A commuter train equipped with high-tech security devices worth R4m was tested by the SA Rail Commuter Corporation (SARCC) yesterday after a delay while video monitoring equipment was improved.

The train, which has new violence-proof windows and doors, a video monitoring system, a public address system and radio communication between drivers and guards, was put through a two-hour test on the Braamfontein-Krugersdorp line.

SARCC development engineer Brian Carver said the train had proved ready for service and would carry its first passengers between Johannesburg and Soweto by the weekend.

SARCC security GM Francois van Eden said the new train would cut down on the time it took to arrest those involved in violence as guards would react immediately to incidents shown on closed circuit television.

Carver said the new video system, which consisted of 56 concealed video cameras on a 14-coach train and a monitoring booth, would cost R500,000 a train.

A further five trains would be equipped with the video system, which would then be evaluated thoroughly before a decision was made on whether or not to install the system on all trains, he said.
ANC march in Nylstroom: costs

1. Mr D S PIENAAR asked the Minister of Law and Order: Whether the South African Police incurred any direct and/or indirect costs in connection with an ANC march which took place in Nylstroom on or about 21 November 1992; if so, (a) what were the total costs and (b) why were these costs incurred?

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*Dr W J SNYMAN: Mr Speaker, arising from the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, I should like to know how many policemen, vehicles, armoured vehicles and helicopters were involved in this operation.

I want to say today that, if ever there was an occasion during which the Government blatantly permitted the revolutionary forces of the ANC-Cosatu-SACP alliance to provoke, insult and bolster the inhabitants of a Northern Transvaal town, the main town of the hon the leader of the CP's constituency and the heartbeat of the Afrikaner, within their own residential area, it happened on 21 November at Nylstroom when 600 residents of the Black town Phagameng under overwhelming police protection, as the hon the Deputy Minister himself said, and apparently under the leadership of the UNO observers with their blue uniforms and Dr Antonie Geldenhuys of the Peace Secretariat, which definitely formed part of that march, toy-toyed triumphantly through the streets of the town. The inhabitants of this town were offended by cries of "Viva ANC", "Viva SAP" and "Viva Comrade Joe Slovo", expressly in conflict with the conditions that were drawn up for the protest march.

I want to tell the hon the Deputy Minister today that they made the terrorists, the communists, international observers and the hostile media very happy. In fact, the hon the Deputy Minister
and the police force were subsequently patted apprehensively on the back by the media and the observers at a social function. At the same time, however, they unleashed enormous resentment and repugnance among their own people which will never disappear.

When I speak about that hon member's own people, I am not only referring to the countryside but also to the people at large. Does the hon the Deputy Minister of Law and Order regard them as rubbish too like the Deputy Minister of Defence? [Interjections] I am talking of that hon member's own policemen who personally expressed their resentment to me because they stood in the hot sun for hours and incurred the ire of hundreds of farmers by turning them back at the roadblocks and preventing them from visiting their own town, and this for the sake of a few hundred residents of Phagameng who were incited and misused for their revolutionary objectives by the enemies of our people.

It did not pass unnoticed that the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition personally went to acquaint himself with what had happened in his constituency. His movements were monitored by members of a task force who passed on situation reports in this regard on a regular basis to the operations room. Those hon members need not try on him. [Interjections] It is simply reprehensible. They should know that they will always be judged by the people on whom he is justifying his interest and his people... [Time expired.]

"Mr P H P GASTROW: Mr Speaker, I do not know why the hon member for Pietersburg should be so excited about the demonstration. The representatives of the White population of Nylstroom, the town council, approved this protest march by a good majority. [Interjections] They marched through the town and they were met by a huge crowd of police whose purpose was to protect the roads from being closed in Nylstroom in order to turn back armed AWB members. They were on their way to Nylstroom to attack police stations and army barracks in the area. We should be thankful that the police declared the area an unrest area.

The reason why that party is so sensitive about this specific incident is because the hon leader of that party went to the police station before the march with a request to make a speech. [Interjections] They told him that they would be illegal because the area had been declared an unrest area. This hon leader insisted on making a speech, but the police refused. He then left the area very angry. [Interjections] Now the matter is being submitted to Parliament. [Interjections]

If ever there was a march during which the police conducted themselves in a professional manner, in which the spectators, those who took part and the members of the public clapped their hands for them in the public, it was during that march at Nylstroom. It was an example of how a person could deal with a legal demonstration in a professional way. In contrast with the attitude of that party, this is a case for congratulations to the police on the way in which that demonstration was handled. The hon the Leader of the Official Opposition wanted to make a speech illegally but he was forbidden to do so. That is why he is angry.

Mr P G SOAL: Mr Speaker, on a point of order: May the hon member for Pietersburg say that the hon member for Durban Central is telling a lie?

Mr SPEAKER: Order! Will the hon member withdraw that?

"Dr W J SYNNMAN: Yes, Sir, I withdraw it.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER: I thank the hon member for Durban Central for his congratulations to the SA Police Force for the way in which they conducted themselves that day. According to all indications and according to the rumours that were circulating that day, we believed that this day would have seen the beginning of the actual third liberation war in South Africa.

In reply to the hon member for Pietersburg who asked how the police handled the members of the party, I want to say that 600 policemen were deployed that day, which in terms of travel and accommodation expenses cost the State R28 000. There were 110 vehicles which jointly travelled 33 000 kilometres and stopped at 200 police stations. There were 1 190 kilometers to ensure control that day. There was also one helicopter which usually does service in that area.

Before that incident occurred, members of the public telephoned me personally to tell me what was being planned for that day. Right-wing reactionaries from the Far Northern Transvaal region wanted to assemble under arms and to protest against the rest of the march. Members of the AWB from Pietersburg were to take part. There would be a mounted unit and all members would have to carry firearms and batons. [Interjections] According to further information and arising from people crying on my shoulder, they extended putting the SA Police Force vehicles out of action by slashing their tyres. Firearms would be used to fire at people. Fire extinguishers and tear gas were a method to them. Spray paint would be used to prevent the police from taking photos of what really occurred there. [Time expired.]

"Mr P J GROENEWALD: Mr Speaker, as early as 1990, an important officer in the SA Police, Maj Gen Herman Stadler, head of the SA Police Public Relations division said: Die Regering se verslappend van posisie beperking het 'n besluite gestig in handewye onrus tot gevolg gehad, waar openbare prosesgeregte weet toegelaat is, tot onoorwer- wante voorvalle geleë.

This statement was vehemently denied by the Government. The realities of last year's mass protest marches forced the Government to other insights, however.

How did the hon the Minister of Law and Order react when two journalists were attacked in Schoklog last year? He said that the unnecessary attack on two journalists by armed Blacks without provocation was yet another example of the climate of violence created by mass action. He added that the mass action created tension and heated the political temperature unacceptably, and this in turn created a climate in which violence occurred more readily and can still occur.

The present hon member of Local Government does even further and says that mass action is a political instrument which comes down to economic terrorism. The hon the Minister calls it economic terrorism. Then the hon the Minister says that the ANC-Coastal-SACP alliance at least owe the country an apology for their irresponsible behaviour.

The National Government at least owes the country an apology. The National Government acts so irresponsibly by permitting this mass action and having permitted it.

What does the hon the State President say? He says the ANC action increases tension and aggravates violence, and can be compared in some circumstances with striking a match next to a tank full of petrol. [Time expired.]

"Dr W J SYNNMAN: Mr Speaker, I want to tell the hon member for Durban Central that the allegation that the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition wanted to make a speech is blantly untrue. I was present there myself.

I want to ask the hon the Minister how long the Government intends continuing to oblige the ANC and its fellow travellers and to help them in the revolutionary takeover of governmental power in this country. Surely these demonstrations are part of their strategy.

In conclusion I want to ask these hon members to put a stop to this on behalf of the voters of the House of Assembly. They must not hide behind lesser authorities like town councils. I want to tell them that, if they do not stop this, as certainly as night follows day conflict will erupt in this matter and then we shall hold these hon members responsible for the misery which will arise from this.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER: Mr Speaker, any threat emanating from right-wing ranks must be viewed seriously, and with regards to such threats real care must be taken that everything is put into operation to prevent people losing their lives.

We have seen this. We know the history of Ventersdorp. We have also seen how the AWB and other groups gather in order to acquire information and to put their problems to the authorities. They intimidate people by walking about heavily armed and in this way creating the impression that they are in control of the situation and can enforce authority through violence.

By cancelling mass action, one inflames the feelings of the protesters. One is not eradicating the evil and one does not actually improve the matter. If one recognises that basic fundamental right, it is of cardinal importance that it be maintained. The point at issue is therefore not the permissibility or not of such a demonstration. [Time expired.]

Debate concluded.
Taxis back in business on the streets of Joburg

JOHANNESBURG. — The reappearance of hundreds of taxis in the city centre yesterday marked the end of the week-long protest which had resulted in violent clashes between police and drivers.

At a marathon five-hour meeting with Johannesburg traffic officials and the city council on Monday, taxi drivers agreed to return to work after the council made certain concessions.

Buses also were operating as usual.

The South African Taxi Drivers' Union and the Pretoria City Council yesterday agreed on measures to help solve that city's taxi problems.

Among the points of agreement were:

- Drivers will not be arrested if the documents were false or illegal unless they owned the taxi.
- Drivers will report irregular conduct by traffic officials to the department or to the police. — Sapa
TENSION between Boipatong residents and KwaMalandela hostel dwellers was mounting after the killing of a hostel resident last week and a shooting incident at the weekend.

A Peace Action spokesman said police stations in the area had been warned of possible conflict in the area. Two field workers had been sent to monitor the area yesterday.

In its weekly report, the monitoring group said police told them they had been fired on with homemade weapons during a 30-minute shooting incident on Sunday night.

The monitoring group said yesterday it had received reports that "a large number of Inkatha members had been marching through the streets of Boipatong during the night".

Sapa reports that a man was killed and five were injured when about 15 attackers fired shots into a room at the Kagiso Hostel near Krugersdorp yesterday morning.

Police spokesman Maj Henriette Bester said two men had been arrested in connection with the incident, believed to have been a revenge attack following a faction fight on Sunday at Tugela Ferry in Natal.

Sapa reports that 52 people, including two policemen, died in political violence countrywide in the past week, the Human Rights Commission said yesterday.

In its weekly repression report the commission said 16 had died in township violence, 13 in Natal and three in other areas.

The commission expressed concern over continuing attacks on commuters, saying two people had died in such attacks in the past seven days.

It said the latest victims were killed in attacks on a commuter train and minibus taxi in the PWV region and Natal. Their deaths raised to six the number of people killed in attacks on commuters in the past two weeks.
Monitors warn police of Boipatong tension

TENSION between Boipatong residents and KwaMandla hostel dwellers is mounting after the killing of a hostel resident last week and a shooting incident at the weekend.

A Peace Action spokesman said police stations in the area had been warned of possible conflict in the area. Two field workers had been sent to monitor the area yesterday.

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The monitoring group said yesterday it had received reports that "a large number of Inkatha members had been marching through the streets of Boipatong during the night." Sapa reports that a man was killed and five were injured when about 15 attackers fired shots into a room at the Kagiso Hostel near Krugersdorp yesterday morning.

Police spokesman Maj. Henrique Bester said two men had been arrested in connection with the incident, believed to have been a revenge attack following a faction fight on Sunday at Tugela Ferry in Natal.

Sapa reports that 32 people, including two policemen, died in political violence 'countrywide' in the past week, the Human Rights Commission said yesterday.

In its weekly reporthe...
CAPE TOWN — Providing police reinforcements after right-wing threats over an ANC march in Nylstroom, in November cost R56 000, Law and Order Deputy Minister Gert Myburgh said yesterday.

While permission was granted for 500 people to march, right-wing threats of disruption led to increased tensions, and the minister was compelled to declare the magisterial district an unrest area.

An extra 600 policemen and 116 trucks were sent to the town.

Police had been informed that armed right-wingers intended to gather from far and wide to slash vehicle tyres and use fire extinguishers, tear gas and aerosol paint to stop the SAP from taking photographs.

Peter Gastrow (DP, Durban Central) said it was understandable that the area had had to be declared an unrest area.

"If ever there was a time when the police behaved in a professional way, it was then. They were an example of how to handle such a situation." — Sapa.
Court told of killing on train

By Susan Smuts

A Johannesburg train commuter, described to the Rand Supreme Court yesterday, how a fellow passenger was stabbed and beaten before being thrown out of a train on to the tracks where his body was "sliced" by the train's wheels.

Trevor Jabulani Ndimu was giving evidence at the trial of Xolana Minguni (27) of Soweto, who has pleaded not guilty to murdering Matsosale William Apane on November 29 last year.

Ndimu told Mr Justice J H Coetzee he saw Minguni and another man chasing Apane through the coach of the Naledi-Cleveland train. When they caught him, one of them said: "Hit him, this dog must die."

Minguni stabbed Apane with a sharpened object while the other man hit him with a knobkerrie.

Shortly before the train reached Doornfontein Station, the attackers pushed their victim under the train.
Hostel raid may be revenge

A resident of Kagso hostel on the West Rand was killed, and five others were injured, early yesterday in an attack which police believe could be linked to violence in Natal. Mfana Manyani was killed at 6 am yesterday, Bester said. The injured men, who are in a stable condition in hospital, are Phodipo Sebekulu, Jabulani Sebekulu, Mandla Majola, Loyakhe Mhunghi and Vikeleni Slelombre.

Two men, said by witnesses to be attackers, were found hiding in a field close to the hostel.

— Staff Reporter
Youth killed by police – family

By Charmelia Bhogat and Bronwyn Wilkinson

A young man who was shot dead in controversial circumstances in Eldorado Park at the height of last week’s taxi violence was killed by a 12-bore shotgun, sources close to an investigation into his death revealed yesterday.

Randall Sequera (20) of Eldorado Park was shot in the township last Wednesday in clashes between residents, taxi-drivers and police.

Witnesses claimed police shot Sequera at close range, while he and other residents were fleing for cover from police fire in “Old Eldorado Park”. Police denied they killed him.

Police last week said they discovered Sequera’s body with gunshot wounds at 8 pm at an undisclosed place in Eldorado Park, where an incident had occurred three hours earlier.

This was disputed by witnesses and fire brigade, ambulance and hospital officials.

A witness, John Hudson, said he and other friends drove Sequera, who was alive but bleeding profusely from the mouth and nose, to a fire station.

An ambulance worker said Sequera was picked up from the fire station at 7.30 pm and taken to Baragwanath Hospital.

Soweto police spokesman Colonel Tienie Haigrym said last week that police had used only rubber bullets, birdshot and teargas to disperse protesting residents.

Sources close to the investigation told The Star yesterday that Sequera had apparently been killed by heavier shot, probably from a 12-bore shotgun.

A police source said the SAP often described both 12-bore shotgun pellets and smaller ammunition called “SSG” as “birdshot”.

Haigrym said last week police would only comment on Sequera’s death after a State post-mortem on Monday. Yesterday he declined to comment on the case, saying the post-mortem report could only be made public by the Attorney-General.

At the request of Sequera’s family, independent pathologist Dr Jonathan Gluckman conducted a post-mortem yesterday but said he could not reveal his findings to the media.

The family’s attorney, Magesh Moodiar, said the independent post-mortem was requested because it was suspected police were responsible for the killing.

He said the police version of the story implied Sequera was shot by people involved in the taxi protest.

Sequera’s funeral yesterday was attended by about 300 people. Speakers included Azapo spokesman and a member of the Eldorado Park Taxi Association.
Mayekiso in court on arms charge

Theo Rawana

UNIONIST and civic leader Moses Mayekiso and three other men appeared in the Johannesburg Regional Court yesterday on charges of illegal possession of Russian-made firearms and ammunition.

Mayekiso is National Union of Metalworkers of SA general secretary and SA National Civic Organisation president. He and Mbulatane Mnyayi, 32, and John Phake, 31, all of Alexandra and Wonga Mzubata, 28, of Plain Street, Johannesburg, were arrested in Alexandra on May 18 last year.

The four, who appeared before Magistrate J P Myburg, have pleaded not guilty. No evidence was led yesterday and the case was postponed to May 17.

A warrant of arrest issued by the court on Wednesday was withdrawn after the court found that the State and the defence had agreed they would not appear in court that day.

Sadleno, 24, of R4 000 for Mayekiso and R1 000 each for the other three was reinstated and extended.

Peace committee to boost advertising

Ray Hartley

URGENT moves to increase the powers of the national peace accord and to market the idea of peace are under way as violence continues to plague Natal and PWV areas.

The national peace committee executive was expected to discuss new powers to bolster the accord at a meeting today and a source in the peace accord's marketing committee said efforts to market the idea of peace would be stepped up in March.

Peace accord chairman John Hall was unavailable for comment yesterday, but was expected to address the question of new powers for the peace accord after today's meeting.

These developments followed an announcement by Deputy Justice Minister Danie Schutte that attention needed to be given to quicker legal procedures and effective measures to be taken against those violating the accord.

The involvement of parties at local level that had not signed the accord also needed to be explored, Schutte said.

He said government would not act unilaterally in increasing the legal powers of the accord, but would consult all its signatories about the new measures.

He said the national peace committee had been asked in January to look into ways of increasing its powers. Five parties had violated the accord in recent months, he added.

The peace accord is expected to adopt a new logo, which consists of two doves on a pale blue background, by the end of March as part of a campaign with the slogan: "What have you done for peace today?"

The new marketing strategy would aim to "sell the idea of peace" to all South Africans in an effort to break down pessimism and renew hope for a peaceful future, a peace accord source said.

Peace accord structures are also expected to lessen their financial dependence on government when R1,5m in Justice Department funding runs out, the source said.

Money will then be collected from foreign donors and businesses to fund the activities of accord structures.

Hall and peace accord chairman Antonie Gildenhays indicated earlier this year that they supported achieving greater independence for accord structures after criticism of government links by UN observer mission chief Angela King.

These initiatives followed an increase in violence in January this year compared with the same period last year.

An monitoring source said UN and EC monitors had been sent into Boipatong after indications this week of renewed tension between hostel dwellers and residents.

The peace accord's local dispute resolution committee was organizing a meeting between Inkatha and ANC leaders and a multiparty workshop was scheduled for this weekend, the source said.

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Claims investigator's car burnt as pupils run amok

Wilson Zwane

PUPILS ran amok in Soweto yesterday morning and attacked two policemen who had entered the township to escort an insurance investigator.

Soweto police spokesman Capt Joseph Ngobeni said in a statement the incident occurred in Zone 5 of Soweto's suburb of Diepkloof.

One of the policemen was in a serious condition in Baragwanath Hospital. The other policeman escaped unhurt.

Ngobeni said the pupils robbed the policemen of their radio and a gun.

A car belonging to Allen Gallon was set alight. A colleague said Gallon, who worked for Domestic and Industrial Loss Adjusters, had gone to Soweto to assess damage to a house on behalf of an insurance company.

The colleague said he appeared the damaged house belonged to a school teacher. Gallon went to a school where the man worked. While there, about 25 pupils attacked the policemen and burnt his car.

Gallon was not harmed. Ngobeni said no arrests had been made.

Sapa reports two men were killed in an attack by a group of unidentified men in Thokoyandou yesterday morning.

Venda police said Thshihwa Mulasagathuma, 42, was stabbed and died after being admitted to hospital.

Police did not name the second person killed, believed to be a milling company representative.

On the Natal South Coast two people were killed in separate overnight attacks at Umlazi near Durban and at Zingcolweni near Port Shepstone.

The body of a man was found with stab wounds at Umlazi's K-Section.

The second man died after an attack by unidentified people armed with AK-47 rifles at Gigoliwini. A Natal police spokesman said no arrests had been made yet.
Row over shack defused

Mediators from the National Peace Committee yesterday defused a confrontation between residents of Newclare, Johannesburg, and municipal security officers who had received orders to demolish a shack in a park in Ida Road.

The makeshift tin shelter was built by the community to house 13 families, left homeless when a fire last week destroyed the abandoned house in which they had been living.

Municipal security chief Colonel Phillip du Plessis told the residents he had orders to demolish the shack as it was an illegal structure in a public park.

National Peace Committee mediators Edwin Molahlehli and Suzanne Nossel drew Du Plessis and Newclare Residents' Action Committee member Shahem Ismail aside. Du Plessis agreed not to go ahead with the demolition until after the mediators had negotiated with the council.

Johannesburg's director of housing Ian Taitz agreed to postpone the demolition until Monday. — Staff Reporter.
Coping with the pressure

The taxi dispute was not just about a tough market

Just about everywhere, black and white, who had any business in central Johannesburg last week was hopping mad at the minibus drivers' protest. And, because this is SA, a municipal disruption cannot be just that; it was not long before the protest was haunted by images of politically explosive battles between police and hostile crowds.

Selective TV coverage broadcast to other countries recalled the classic images of high apartheid, in the days when all this country's problems were reduced to an elemental battle between bad whites and good blacks, Hitler and the Cosby family.

But things are no longer so simple, though the fear of violence at the taxi confrontations was real enough. Perhaps for the first time, cracks could be seen in what would once have been an automatic black solidarity with demonstrators against authorities. Even if they have real grievances, the taximen are hardly a persecuted group — and the commuters know it.

Many blacks were furious when they were prevented from getting to work, while their children were endangered by being stranded at the roadside and when other modes of transport, like buses, were stoned. An impromptu survey among Sowetans by the *Weekly Mail* found that they were "overwhelmingly critical of the drivers' behaviour." The Southern Africa Black Taxi Association (SABA), which has an estimated 50% of the black taxi market, criticised the action; it felt the grievances could have been dealt with in another way.

This reaction suggests that the ANC alliance, PAC and others will in future have to choose their causes with more care.

The immediate background to the protest was the drivers' perception that they have been severely harassed by traffic cops. They talked mainly of victimisation and "excessive" fines, which, in turn, are often related to a shortage of taxi-rank and other facilities. But many other road users support special vigilance over these vehicles, which are widely regarded as a menace. They tend to stop suddenly anywhere, cut in dangerously and are often overloaded. There is pressure by owners on drivers to meet targets by speeding and overloading.

The taximen are feeling the squeeze because there are too many permits and too few ranks — but that's tough; a shakeout is perhaps overdue. In Springs on the East Rand, 40% of taxis are standing idle because there are simply no fares. The market will decide whether they can survive.

Last week, in Johannesburg, the pressure produced a dangerous blend of frustration, desperation and recklessness among the drivers. Matters were complicated by the fact that they did not appear to have accessible representatives. On the second day of the protest, the Johannesburg traffic department, having shown remarkable restraint on the first day in the hope of defusing the crisis without police involvement, swung into action — as it had to if order was to be restored.

Some drivers were detained and 204 taxis were impounded — of which 54, said city officials, were found to have been stolen. A mystery benefactor paid the fines to get drivers discharged. This helped the mediation attempts by the ANC, Cosatu and the local dispute resolution committee of the Peace Accord, involving the taxi associations (mainly SABA), the SA Taxi Drivers Union (Sutdu), local transport authorities and the
police.

It is extraordinary, observes Wits University political scientist Tom Lodge, that the casualty rate over the four-day confrontation between police and the drivers was relatively low, with one reported death and about 30 people injured. One police officer recorded that the face of what was clearly great provocation: bus and other commuters had been attacked by taxi drivers. The fact that the protest occurred in the city centre and that international observers were present may be part of the explanation.

Clearly, the more restrained policing was also a result of greater sensitivity and experience gained from dealing with thousands of protests and marches since political organisations were unbanned in 1990. Guidelines for handling protests, which were formulated by the Goldstone Commission with international police assistance, seem to have had a beneficial impact.

Yet there is still a lingering illegitimacy about our law and order agencies. Despite the unpopularity of the taxi men's action last week, there was no outright condemnation by blacks — any official security force is still seen as hostile. Until SA's has a popularly elected government, or at least one of national unity, most blacks will be ambivalent.

It was significant that neither the ANC alliance nor the PAC condemned the protest, even though taxi drivers attacked other black commuters. This is not to detract from the role played by the ANC to facilitate talks in the taxi dispute. Instead, these organisations chose to highlight the drivers' legitimate grievances.

The taxi industry in general and the drivers in particular, are to a large extent, victims of the legacy of apartheid and what passed for a public transport policy, based on the politically inspired subsidy system. Deregulation was cynically embraced by government as a means of coping with the problem.

In recent years, minibus taxis have largely displaced other forms of public transport for blacks. According to a Transport Department study, the minibus taxi industry's share of black commuter transport had increased to 44% in 1990 from 29% three years earlier (see chart).

According to Sabta, who has 60 000 members and is the biggest black taxi association, the industry represents a total investment of R80bn. Sabta members use 800 M of petrol, 1.5 M of engine oil, spend R80m on spares and drive 40bn km/year.

Sabta spokesman Mike Nlateng says it is difficult to establish how many owner-drivers there are — he knows of one owner with 65 taxis — but most are owner-drivers. Nlateng denies that the industry is facing collapse — there are "only some belly-aches," chief among them, that "there are too many taxis on the road" and economic conditions mean that it is "a question of survival."

There is, he adds, not enough training.

The problems of sustaining the industry were foreseen. Two years ago, for example, Development Bank senior researcher Mike Muller wrote: "The minibus industry is frequently hailed as a free market triumph. It is, of course, more the product of gross interference in the market for labour and land. Only because people have been so widely scattered, without concern for rational transportation provision, has it thrived."

"While there was fat in the economy, that was possible to sustain. Now that the fat is melting away, subsidies are under pressure. So, too, are the settlement patterns they underpinned." Muller concluded that friction over the high price of commuting would encourage more people to live closer to their jobs. Low-income people normally live within a 10 km radius of a city.

One role for the transport industry during the long and difficult process of transition, wrote Muller, would be to help dissipate the heat from the friction. "It will have to pass on to its consumers the unpalatable market message that travelling great distances is expensive — and leave them to make the rational decision."

These messages, he added, would help people make the transition from an apartheid city to an integrated city, from an apartheid economy to an integrated one and be an important element in SA's own structural adjustment.

In an interview with the FM, Muller drew attention to a CSIR study of the Pretoria region. It shows that, over 20 years, the transport subsidy for workers in KwaNdebele travelling to work could have provided commuters with housing in Manzololi. The core of the problem over the taxi wars, he says, is an inefficiently planned apartheid city.

This may explain but cannot excuse the fact that many taxi drivers are not familiar with municipal by-laws — a problem which will now be addressed with the co-operation of the traffic authorities. As it was, an attitude of benign neglect on the part of the authorities seemed to be the norm — even though the city has a transport planning department on which Sabta is represented.

Once again, readiness to enter meaningful negotiation was eventually the key factor in defusing the crisis.

For its part, the SA Taxi Drivers' Union (Satdu) proposed that:

1. Denunciation by the city council of loading bays in the city, until which time there would be a moratorium on ticketing taxis for stopping at random to drop off and pick up passengers;
2. The setting up of a forum of drivers, taxi associations and the city council to devise an educational programme for greater safety;
3. A formal labour relationship between the union and taxi owners; and
4. An obligation on taxi owners to ensure taxi roadworthiness and legality of ownership.

The city council had, in the meantime, made public its plans for upgrading taxi ranking facilities. Taxi chief Mike Davis and the Satdu agreed to work towards a regime of "consultation and a good working relationship."

Also on the agenda was the question of the alleged issuing of false permits by certain officials of the Local Road Transportation Board, which has compounded problems of taxi over-supply. Symptomatic of the fierce competition was the slaying last Thursday of a taxi owner from the Ivory Park squatter camp, just hours after he had won a coveted long-distance contract.

Asked about the worst aspects of taxi-driving, one Sabta official replied: "I am not justifying it, but you must remember when they are on the road they are busy working."

That's all very well, but rules of the road are the kind that simply have to be obeyed if society is to function normally. This kind of moral relativism may be inevitable as long as the civil power does not enjoy full legitimacy — but it is also increasingly being discredited by the commonsense of the masses.

FINANCIAL MAIL • FEBRUARY 12 • 1993 • 27
Insurance man, police attacked

About 1,000 Soweto pupils went on the rampage yesterday morning attacking an insurance firm employee and assaulting two policemen. The youths attacked Allen Gallon (50) of the Domestic Industrial Assurance Company in Diepsloot Zone 5. Gallon escaped injury but his car was gutted.

Assistant Constable M T Dhudla and an assistant lance-sergeant, with the surname Ngobeni, were assaulted. They had been escorting Gallon.

Crime Reporter
cally-related fatality figures) ... are random." The variables "suggest that the Reef violence is subject to control. It seems to be switched on at key moments."

The joint report says "the scale of the brutality ... is clear evidence that the violence erupts at points when it most weakens the ANC and its allies, and dies down dramatically when it would most harm the government of F W de Klerk."

The joint report uses a bar graph which "illuminates the linkage between violence and unfolding political events." Though only violence on the Reef is dealt with in the report, fatality trends in this violence are linked to national events.

There are a number of problems with the on-off switch theory of violence, however.

If one were to accept that people could be manipulated and misled into murderous actions on a massive scale, on a month-to-month basis, how would one explain the "switch off" part of the theory?

To assume that groups of people could simply be incited to violence at certain times and then just as simply persuaded to be peaceful at other times is to ignore the phenomena of counterattacks, cycles of violence, score-settling and other human factors inherent in the conflict.

This is not the only weakness in the on-off theory, nor is the choice of examples in the report consistent.

The graph uses as one example of the claimed linkage a rise in fatalities at the time of the Pretoria Minute, signed between government and the ANC in August 1990. The ANC/government D F Malan Accord of February 1991 — when there was a decline in fatalities — is not mentioned.

Case and the HRC show that Reef fatalities were turned up again — presumably to weaken the ANC — at the time of that organisation's consultative conference in December 1990. The relatively low number of fatalities during July 1991 — at the time of the ANC's 48th national conference — is not dealt with. Nor is this conference even mentioned.

The Patriotic Front conference of October 1991, which brought the ANC and 94 other organisations together in alliance against the government, saw a decline in Reef fatalities. This conference is not mentioned either, nor is the first national conference of the ANC Women's League, which was held in April 1991, also a month of declining Reef fatalities.

Thus we are not told why violence should have been turned on for the one conference and off for the others.

The Case/HRC report also tells us that "political campaigns initiated by the ANC, such as the call for a constituent assembly, are met with a massive upsurge of violence." The report's graph, however, shows the constituent assembly campaign as occurring in September 1990, a month of declining fatalities.

Further, the ANC/Costauf/SACP alliance's national campaign against VAT in No-

vember 1991 happened at a time which saw relatively few fatalities on the Reef. This campaign is not mentioned in the report.

Case deputy director David Everatt says the "government-sponsored peace conference in June (1991), boycotted by the liberation movements but attended by Inkatha, saw a major diminution of violence." June 1991 did see a major drop in violence. But the conference was in May 1991 — a month which, according to Case's own figures, had the third highest incidence of fatalities during the period under review.

There is unfortunately no simple answer to the problem of violence; a problem which cannot be dealt with until its complexities are fully analysed and understood. Simplistic "good versus evil" theories do not help us in the quest for peace.

This analysis was contributed by Paul Pereira, a researcher at the SA Institute of Race Relations; it is an excerpt from an article which appears in the latest edition of Race Relations News.
Violence-proof train

THE train violence that plagued commuters in the PWV area last year may well be a thing of the past thanks to a new R1.4 million, high-tech security train that made its maiden run between Johannesburg and Soweto yesterday.

Commuters on the first run gave high marks to the rail authorities for launching the new anti-violence train. Students, nurses, shoppers and other passengers were at first nonplussed at the large contingent of press photographers, journalists, officials, police and even United Nations peace monitors on board the "maiden voyage."

But they soon settled in, chatting to the visitors. Most of them expressed confidence in the safety features pointed out by officials.

The prototype train, consisting of 14 coaches, incorporates four basic security systems. By far the most impressive is the integrated closed-circuit monitoring system comprising a total of 56 cameras per train — four for each coach, viewing both inside and outside simultaneously.

An operator working from a sealed compartment views a quad-split screen — either all four from one coach, or two from an emergency coach and the other two from the normal sequence of surveying the whole train every two to three minutes.

Should an emergency occur, the operator has radio contact with station security and a simultaneous contact with the 24-hour Spotnet security command centre, also connected to the police. Cameras mounted within the coach activated by "panic buttons" conveniently located above the doors automatically interrupt normal surveillance, allowing the operator to evaluate the situation and then take appropriate measures.

The windows and doors in the trains have been modified to make it impossible for anyone to be thrown off the trains or for the glass to be broken. Brian Carver, spokesman for the South African Rail Commuter Corporation (SARCC), said the glass used was specially tested by the SA Bureau of Standards for toughness, and that throwing stones or bricks against it was futile.

"The polycarbonate panes are virtually unbreakable," he said. "They will withstand a force of up to two tons before they give."

Other safety features make it possible for people who might be under attack to flee from one coach to another, and flexible steel and rubber panels secure the areas between coaches.

Carver said all railway stations in the southern Transvaal would be secured with razor wire, and from next week the SARCC will be testing new metal-detection equipment at Johannesburg and Dube stations. The metal detectors will prevent firearms and other dangerous weapons from being brought on to stations.

"We are not stopping with this prototype," said Carver. "Every passenger's life is of concern to us. In April we will test another upgraded version of the present train."
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"We are not stopping with this prototype," said Carver. "Every passenger's life is of concern to us. In April we will test another upgraded version of the present train."
High-security train gets reprieve

JOHANNESBURG: The Bridal Room was handed over to the security system with a videodisc system and an electronic monitoring system. The system will run the security system between here and Soweto. The security system is a must for the Witwatersrand. The system is the most dangerous route for the Communal Corporation of the Witwatersrand. The system estimated to be 25% of the cost of similar systems in Europe and will be used in the future. 29 November 1982.
Soweto Daily Correspondent
and Sapa

A young Inkatha Freedom Party member was yesterday shot dead in his hospital bed, barely a day after he had survived an attack in which his colleague, local IFP Youth Brigade leader Andries Khoza, was murdered, police said.

Koos Seokolo (19) was killed yesterday in the Tshelope Hospital, near Klerksdorp, said western Transvaal police spokesman Lieutenant Koos Degenaar.

On Friday, Koos (20) and Seokolo were walking home at 11pm through Tigan, near Hartbeesfontein, when four men opened fire on them with AK-47 automatic rifles.

Khoza, the local deputy secretary of the IFP Youth Brigade, was killed and Seokolo was injured in the upper right arm. Nineteen AK-47 cartridges were found on the street.

In hospital, Seokolo told police he could identify two men who he claimed were ANC members responsible for Khoza's assassination.

One of these men, ANC member Oupa Kraai, was shot dead by police yesterday afternoon, Degenaar said.

ANC regional chairman Solly Rasmeni alleged that Kraai was walking through the township with his girlfriend when police shot him for no reason.

Degenaar said Kraai had fled on seeing police and had been shot after ignoring warnings to halt.

Seokolo was killed at 2.30am yesterday, possibly by the same men, Degenaar said.

Four men wearing balaclavas entered the hospital grounds by cutting through a fence, and held up a night nurse.

While one of the men stayed with the nurse to keep her quiet, the other three went into Seokolo's ward and shot him four times - once in the left shoulder, once in the neck and twice in the head, Degenaar said. They escaped.

Yesterday afternoon, at about 2.40, detectives went into Tigan and found one of the two men Seokolo had identified as Khoza's killers.

Tried to run away

The man tried to run away, and after shouting warnings, police shot and wounded the suspect. An angry crowd chased police away.

The suspect died in his father's house, Degenaar said.

IFP spokesman Suzanne Vos confirmed Khoza was an IFP youth leader in the area.

She said about 300 IFP leaders had been murdered in the last four years.

Vos said the IFP would discuss the "systematic assassination" of its leaders at top level meetings with the Government this week.

ANC spokesman Gill Marcus said Seokolo's claim that two of Khoza's killers were ANC members was without much foundation. But she said Tigan had been the scene of ongoing political tension, and that an urgent ANC investigation was necessary to determine what led to the killings.
Victims buried

FIVE of the six victims of last weekend's attack on the Chris Hart squatter camp in Daveyton township were buried on Saturday.

More than 10 were left injured after a night of riot involving a string of attacks on different shacks in the East Rand settlement. About 400 mourners gathered in the local stadium where African National Congress members and church leaders pleaded with residents to maintain peace and calm in the township.

Security forces maintained a low profile throughout the proceedings.

Sowetan 15/2/93
POLITICAL violence has declined markedly in the PWV area, particularly in Soweto, according to Human Rights Commission (HRC) research.

During January, not one unrest-related death was reported in the township, and the incidence of violence dropped to its lowest level in two and a half years. However, the HRC warned that there appeared to be a shift in the focus of political violence from PWV to Natal.

More than half of the 196 people killed nationwide in January died in that province. The toll was considerably lower than last year's monthly average of 292.

Natal recorded 193 deaths, 59% of the month's total and slightly less than December's 111. Serious trouble spots were Durban and the south coast, while unrest on the north coast showed signs of abating.

A disturbing feature was the emergence in Natal of train attacks, which claimed 10 lives nationally.

An HRC spokesman said while agreements on hostels reached in the record of understanding between government and the ANC last year had not been adhered to, subsequent international and national focus on these trouble spots was a possible reason for the downturn in PWV violence.
IFP member is shot dead in hospital bed

By Phillip Zolo

A young Inkatha Freedom Party member was yesterday shot dead in his hospital bed, barely a day after he had survived an attack in which his colleague, local IFP Youth Brigade leader Andries Khoza, was murdered, police said.

Koos Seokolo (19) was killed in Tshepong, Hospital, near Klerksdorp, said western Transvaal police spokesman Lieutenant Koos Degenaar.

His death was followed hours later by the fatal police shooting of ANC member Oupa Kraai, who was accused of being involved in the killings, Sapa reports.

On Friday, Khoza (20) and Seokolo were walking home through Tigane, near Hartbeesfontein, when four men opened fire with AK-47s. Khoza was killed and Seokolo was injured.

In hospital, Seokolo told police he could identify two ANC men as being among the gunmen. One was Kraai.

Seokolo was killed at 2.30 am yesterday, Degenaar said. Four hooded men entered the hospital grounds by cutting through a fence, and held up a nurse.

Three of them went into Seokolo’s ward and shot him four times before escaping.

At about 2.40 pm yesterday, detectives went to Tigane and found Kraai. They said he tried to run away and was shot.

ANC regional chairman Solly Rasmeni denied that Kraai had run away from police and said he was shot without warning while walking through the township with his girlfriend.

IFP spokesman Suzanne Vos said the IFP would discuss the “systematic assassination” of its leaders at meetings with the Government this week.

ANC spokesman Gill Marcus said Seokolo’s claim that the killers were ANC members was unsubstantiated. She said Tigane had a history of intense conflict. The ANC regarded the matter as extremely serious and would urgently investigate the allegations.
Anger ignites the tender

The first fire was not very big, but with the undergrowth dry as tinder it didn't need much to set everything ablaze.

The week-long tumult taxi troubles in Johannesburg had a low-key start when drivers gathered on Sunday afternoon at a Soweto taxi rank.

"There were more than 100 of us there," said one.

"There were drivers from all the associations and from the South African Taxi Drivers' Union (SATDU) and, together we took a decision to blockade." said a national organiser.

Sutu, national organiser of SATDU, said his union called the meeting, which was attended by about 100 people.

The union had warned last week that it would launch a mass campaign to push for the deregulation of the taxi industry.

However, photographs of 10 demands that it handed out made no mention of subsidies.

"The taxi drivers who blocked Randvaal on Wednesday last week, protesting against the withdrawal of the subsidies, were not included in the photo," said Sutu.

The speed with which the call to action spread to those 10 people was impressive.

"I had heard some rumblings on Sunday," said one driver.

South African Domestic Workers' Union said the drivers' wandering through the streets was not an attempt to bring the city to a standstill.

But while the protesters were demanding a fair deal, the drivers were striking for a fare increase.

On Monday, as action was meant to be suspended, drivers took their grievances to the streets.

"They said it was clear rules of the road between six and eight, and that was what three or more drivers did," one driver said.

"Then we got a positive answer and decided to block the roads again.

On Wednesday, drivers were arrested and cabled by the police, and they were given three days to leave the streets.

But on the third day, the drivers were still blocking the streets.

Blocking the streets was easy.
3 die in Tvl township violence

HARTEBEESFONTEIN. — At least three people died — including a man who was assassinated in his hospital bed — in violence in the Western Transvaal township of Tigane, near here, at the weekend.

In the latest incident yesterday afternoon, ANC member Mr Oupa Kraai was shot dead by police.

ANC regional chairman Mr Solly Rasmeni alleged that Mr Kraai was walking through the township with his girlfriend when police shot him for no reason.

But Western Transvaal police said the man — who was a suspect in the shooting of IFP members on Friday — had fled on seeing police and had been shot after ignoring warnings to halt.

A police spokesman said the killings began on Friday at 11pm when 19-year-old IFP member Mr Koos Sekolo and Mr Andries Khoza, the IFP youth league's vice-chairman, were shot at by four men.

Mr Khoza was killed and Mr Sekolo was wounded.

He was admitted to a nearby hospital, where a group of Balaclava-clad men entered his ward yesterday and shot Mr Sekolo dead.

Police said, that at 3pm, various police officers were in Tigane searching for the two suspects identified by Mr Sekolo, when they spotted one of the wanted men, who immediately fled. Shots were fired after he ignored warnings to stop. The man was wounded and later died.

Meanwhile the Human Rights Commission (HRC) said unrest has declined markedly in the PWV area, particularly in Soweto.

During January, not one unrest-related death was reported in the township.

A Soweto policeman was killed and another seriously injured in a handgrenade attack in Diepkloof on Friday. — Sapa
Taxis: Von Lieres under fire

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Had it not been for intervention by Witwatersrand Attorney-General Mr. Klaus von Lieres and Chief Law and Order Minister Mr. Hen- nus Kriel in the recent taxi blockade here, the crisis could have been resolved within a day, said Johannesburg management committee members.

Addressing a tense city council meeting yesterday, management committee chairman Mr. Jan Davidson and deputy Mr. Paul Asherson said that by declaring a state of emergency Mr. Kriel "left us powerless" when they were on the brink of reaching a solution during talks with taxi drivers.

Mr. Davidson said: "When Mr. Kriel declared Johannesburg an 'at-risk area' on that Tuesday, we became worried about the adverse implications it would have on us. What would our function be when control was given to police? Our authority was taken away.

Mr. Davidson and Mr. Asherson also objected to the way Mr. Von Lieres had handled the first day of the crisis. Mr. Von Lieres had opposed traffic chief Mr. Mike Davis's decision to release impounded taxis and not hand the drivers over to the courts.

Mr. Von Lieres said at the time that Mr. Davis had treated the matter in a "very cavalier fashion" and his department's conduct had caused "great concern in the A.G.'s office." He questioned the authority by which Mr. Davis had decided not to hand the drivers over to the courts.

Asked to comment on statements made by Mr. Davidson and Mr. Asherson, Mr. Von Lieres responded: "They (the management committee) are entitled to their opinion. I don't agree with them. I've said what I had to say." He would not comment further.

Mr. Davidson and Mr. Asherson were responding to a string of attacks by Conservative Party city councillors Mr. Jacques Theron and Mr. Cecil Long, who claimed the management committee could not effectively deal with the crisis because they were "not at their offices when we called".

Mr. Davidson replied that the management committee members were in their offices holding several meetings with taxi operators.

Mr. Theron and Mr. Long also accused the management committee of "creating lawlessness" in Johannesburg by agreeing that taxi drivers should not be stopped by traffic officers during peak hours.

"The decision not to stop taxi drivers and ask for permits during peak hours will create chaos, because private taxis will then be able to operate freely," charged Mr. Theron.

This was "unfair to law-abiding road users", he said.
5 cleared of squatter camp dawn massacre

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Five Kagiso hostel-dwellers were acquitted of 28 murders during an attack on the Swanieville squatter camp in 1991 — and the police were criticised for failing to bring hundreds of killers to justice.

Mr Justice C J Botha said in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday that he could not exclude the possibility that policemen had taken part in the early morning massacre on May 12.

He acquitted Vumisani Majola, 37, Joseph Mphuwa Khanyile, 51, Bakers Dlamini, 33, Manywa Flash Sithole, 44 and Pheli Mingo, 34, who had denied 28 murders as well as charges of public violence and illegal possession of firearms.

Earlier, co-accused Sixwe Majola, 21, and Bhekowale Mofiat Mdalose, 12, were discharged after the State closed its case.

The court was told that up to 1,000 men with pangas, firearms, berries and spears murdered and injured residents of the West Rand squatter camp.

The police were alerted more than an hour after the attack. By then, the mob had started to leave Swanieville and they were escorted to the Kagiso hostel, where three of the accused were arrested.

The judge said police had not alerted their commander and the video unit for several hours. "If the video unit had been mobilised earlier to video the attackers, the State would have had a watertight case against hundreds of men — albeit only on a charge of public violence, instead of a doubtful case against only seven people," he said.
Judge raps police as Swanville murder accused acquitted

A Rand Supreme Court Judge yesterday acquitted five men of murdering 28 Swanville squatters during a dawn attack and criticized police for failing to take action promptly to identify the killers.

Swanville was an unrest area at the time of the attack on May 13 (97), and a curfew had been imposed.

Shortly after, the attack, police arrested a group of about 1,000 hostel dwellers leaving Swanville and escorted them back to the police hostel nearby.

The arrested group, many of them wearing red bandanas, had killed 28 people, injured 5 children and set fire to homes.

The judge said the police should have mobilized the video unit immediately when they had encountered the group.

If hostel residents, there would have been a strong case against hundreds of people, if not all.

Instead they had only a doubtful case against the seven.

It was not strange, the judge added, that the actions of the police had led to criticism and speculation.

He was critical of the fact that the police had encountered the group, making its way back to the hostel at 7am when it was already light, but had failed to summon their commanding officer or the video unit immediately.

The State had also failed to make a case beyond reasonable doubt against the fifth accused, Phelim Malebo.
Kriel slams council

By Ismail Lagardien
Political Correspondent

THE Minister of Law and Order, Mr Hermus Kriel, has rebuked the Democratic Party-led Johannesburg Management Committee for failing adequately to address the root causes of the taxi crisis.

Kriel said it was “ridiculous” to blame the ministry of police for prolonging the taxi violence by declaring Johannesburg an unrest area.

Accusing JMC chairman Mr Iain Davidson of “political posturing of the worst kind,” Kriel said the situation in Johannesburg during the crisis required immediate and stringent action by the Government. “Declaring an unrest area in fact rescued Johannesburg — South Africa’s economic hub — from being held to ransom for an indeterminate period by rebellious and violent taxi drivers,” Kriel said yesterday. He pointed out that the city was declared an unrest area only after intensive negotiations had failed and that taxi drivers had rebelled against their own umbrella organisation.

“The organisations had completely lost control over certain members and over the situation, (therefore) in view of the virtual anarchy in the city, the South African Police needed extra powers to not only halt the violence as soon as possible but to prevent recurrence. “Declaring an unrest area was not intended to negate, undermine or replace negotiations to find a solution to the crisis, nor did it remove any powers or authority of local government.”

“However, with violence the order of the day in the streets of the city, additional physical measures were necessary to first re-establish order,” Kriel said in a statement.
Swanieville
suspects freed

LOGBOOKS VANISH Judge says the police

and state witnesses were unreliable:

By Tsale Makam

F

ive men charged with taking part in the Swanieville squatter camp massacre of 28 people on May 12 1991 were yesterday acquitted because of lack of evidence.

They were accused of murder, rape, public violence and possession of firearms. Sixty-seven other people were injured in the attack.

Yesterday in the Rand Supreme Court Mr Justice CJ Botha criticised the police's handling of the massacre.

He said the attack took place at night but the police only arrived at the squatter camp about 7am the next day and only reported the matter to their superiors at 9am.

Police had earlier told the court that five Canterbury sent to the squatter camp on the West Rand had in fact ended up at Krugerdorp police station because the policemen had suffered stomach cramps.

They said that on arrival in Swanieville they had met a group of about 1 000 men carrying an assortment of weapons and wearing red armbands and docks and moving from Swanieville towards the Madala Hostel. Police said they then escorted the group back to the hostel.

The judge said he rejected the evidence of the police and that of the state witnesses because they were unreliable.

He said it was surprising that most of the vital police evidence, such as logbooks and files, had disappeared mysteriously when they were needed during the investigation.

He said it could not be proved conclusively that the police had assisted the attackers as some witnesses had claimed.

It was possible that the police were present at Swanieville during the attack because, at that time a curfew had been imposed on the area.

If the police had video-taped the men they had escorted to the hostel it would be easy to identify and arrest those responsible.

Out of 1 000 attackers the police had arrested only seven, two of whom were later set free.
Rand massacre: 5 acquitted

By Susan Smuts
and Brenda Templeton

Police came under sharp criticism from a Supreme Court judge yesterday when he acquitted five hostel dwellers of murder in the 1991 Soweto massacre.

Twenty-eight people were massacred at dawn when 10 armed Kagiso hostel dwellers descended on the West Rand squatter camp on May 12, 1991.

Mr. Justice CJ Botha acquitted the five men on 28 counts of murder in the Rand Supreme Court. He criticised the police for failing to make sure hundreds of the killers were brought to justice.

The judge said he could not exclude the possibility that the police had taken part in the massacre.

The judge acquitted Vumisani Majola (37), Joseph Mphiswa Khanyile (51), Bakithi Dlakani (32), Mzinyawu Flash Sithole (44) and Phumlani Mhango (54) of 28 counts of murder, charges of public violence and illegal possession of a machine-gun, firearms and ammunition.

Earlier, co-accused Siwezwe Majola (21) and Bhekukwakhe Mofat Midalose (41) were discharged after the State closed its case.

The court heard that up to 1,000 men armed with pangas, firearms, kettles and spears had murdered and injured residents of the West Rand squatter camp. The attackers, identified as Inkatha Freedom Party supporters by their red headbands, had also burnt houses and damaged property.

Mr. Justice Botha said police were alerted more than an hour after the attack. By this time, the murderers had started to leave Soweto.

The SAP escorted the men to Kagiso hostel, where they conducted a search and arrested three of the accused.

The judge said that although the police were probably averted further conflict, he could not understand why the police had not made sure they could identify any of the men at a later stage.

Massacre: 5 acquitted

- From Page 1

The hostel was several kilometres away, the journey took a few hours and daylight had already broken. The policemen had been in radio contact with the control room, yet they had waited until 9.30 am before alerting the commanding officer and the video unit.

"If the video unit had been mobilised earlier, to video the attackers, the State would have had a watertight case against hundreds of men - albeit only on a charge of public violence," the judge said.

The State's case against all except Phumlani relied on unreliable witnesses.

Although the judge rejected argument from defence counsel Asburg that the police had fabricated evidence against the accused, he said it was not strange that the police actions had led to criticism and speculation. These included rumours that policemen had taken part in the attack.

Soweto and neighbouring townships had been declared unrest areas shortly before the attack. The night before the massacre, only one constable patrolled the squatter camp while five were "uselessly" left in Krugersdorp because policemen had upset стомахон, the judge said.

- The ANC has demanded a proper inquiry into the massacre and the failure of the police to find any of the killers.

Niehaus said the judgment showed police were either incompetent or involved in the killings.

IFP spokesman Kim Hodgson said police needed to ensure they acted impartially. "But that is very difficult in a society in transition."

- SAP spokesman Captain Nina Barkhuizen said today police would not comment until they had studied the court records which would be available in about a week. The judgment contained serious allegations against police, she said.

She said an internal investigation had been conducted by Unrest and Violent Crime Unit chief General Ronnie van der Westhuizen who had since retired.
Two die in attacks on Reef trains

Two people have been killed in train attacks on the East Rand, police reported. (278)

The body of an unidentified man, who had been stabbed and thrown off a moving train near Katlehong station, was found next to the railway line early yesterday. He may have been killed on Monday night.

At about 7 pm on Monday, police patrols discovered the body of a youth who had been stabbed and thrown off a train between Pilot and Kwisini stations. Police suspect he was a member of a gang of robbers.

Crime Reporter
OWN CORRESPONDENT

JOHANNESBURG: A Rand Supreme Court judge yesterday acquitted five men of murdering 28 Soweto squatters during a dawn attack and criticized police for failing to take action more promptly to identify the killers.

Mr Justice C.J. Botha found the five not guilty of murdering 28 people during the attack on May 12, 1991.

Shortly after the attack, police, using a video unit, believed to have been stolen from a hostel in Benoni, one of them was acquitted during the trial after Mr Justice Botha found that the state failed to make a case against them.

Acquitting the five yesterday, the judge said it was a "scandal" that only five people were brought to trial.

He said the first policemen on the scene had mobilized police immediately on encountering the group of hostel residents, there would have been a strong case against hundreds of people, albeit only for public violence.

It was not strange, the judge added, that the actions of the police had led to criticism and speculation.

The state failed to make out a case beyond reasonable doubt against the third accused, Mr Phele Mlangeni, he said.
Fear of the hostel mob lives on...

In Swanveille, the fear of violence lingers on.

Jane Kipara

We asked her for her reaction to the news. She did not want to repeat it, not even to her friends. Why, she said, what difference does it make?

She said she was working on the night of the incident. The police were present, but she did not want to talk about it.

Unable to arrest

The police were unable to arrest the perpetrators due to lack of evidence.

Unfortunately, the victim and her family are still living in fear.

In Swanveille, the fear of violence lingers on.
Outrage over Swanievile

LAW and Order Minister Heranis Kriel had to act decisively against officers whose negligence in investigating the 1991 Swanievile massacre had led to the acquittal of those accused of murder in the case, the ANC said yesterday.

ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus said police would suffer “a further loss of credibility” unless action was taken.

He said criticism of police reaction to the massacre by Judge C J Botha, who said it was a “scandal” that so few were brought to trial for the killings, provided more evidence that police should “urgently” be placed under multiparty control.

“There is a strong likelihood that the police were involved in Swanievile and then there was a cover-up,” he said. There should be an independent inquiry into the police response to the massacre, in which 28 Swanievile squatters were killed, and the Goldstone commission should move quickly to investigate SAP and SAPF.

Niehaus said the ANC was angry that the murderers had not been brought to book despite the fact that there was “much evidence” as to their identities.

Police said the judgment would be studied to decide what steps would be taken to avoid recurrences of this nature. Sapa reports.

Police pointed out that the Swanievile massacre happened before the Boipatong killings and steps had subsequently been taken to improve policing, including:

☐ Contingency planning covering a wide range of unrest-related scenarios;
☐ A review of management structures of the internal stability division; and
☐ The deployment of an additional 900 policemen in the area.

But the police said it would require the wholehearted support of the community and the total involvement of all political leaders to stamp out the violence.
Trio guilty of horrifying murder

By Anna Louw
East Rand Bureau

Three former security guards of Fidelity Guards were convicted yesterday in the Delmas Circuit Court of the grisly murder of a colleague.

The colleague was tortured, hung upside down from a tree and his genitals were shocked with an electric apparatus before he was shot twice and burnt.

Mr Justice FCL Roos and two assessors found Willem Oosthuizen (36), Johan van Eyk (37) - son of a retired police general - and Hendrik Gerber (43) guilty of murdering Samuel Kgasaka.

Kgasaka was questioned by the accused on the day of his death on May 21 1991 in connection with the theft of R60 000 from Fidelity.

His charred body, with two bullet wounds and one hand chopped off, was found three days later near a mine dump on the East Rand.

The judge said the court had been impressed by the State's two chief witnesses, Jack Nguana and Julius Khoza, two guards who were present during the killing.

He said it was in the interest of Gerber and Oosthuizen to blame each other, which they had done because they did not like each other.

This was reflected in an incident a month after Kgasaka's death when Gerber had shot Oosthuizen in the shoulder at the Fidelity Guards offices and left him for dead.

The judge dismissed the evidence of Gerber and Oosthuizen as false.

He said they had wanted to keep the interrogation of Kgasaka out of the public eye at all costs. That was why they had taken him into the bushes.

The three accused had gone with the intention to torture Kgasaka and had taken with them an electric apparatus and a bag to put over his head.

Van Eyk's refusal to testify had created a negative impression, and the three had had a common purpose in the slaying of Kgasaka as well as in concealing the truth.

Argument in mitigation will be led today.
SAP to examine judge’s criticism

Crime Reporter

Police would hold a top-level examination of a Rand Supreme Court judge’s criticism of the police investigation into the 1991 Soweto massacre, the SAP said yesterday.

They had already implemented measures resulting in a great improvement in their response to outbreaks of violence, said an SAP statement.

It added that the SAP had “taken note” of Tuesday’s judgment in which Mr Justice C J Botha acquitted five men on charges of murdering 28 residents of the West Rand squatter camp.

The judge criticised police for failing to bring the culprits to justice.

Police said measures taken — which included increased police presence in trouble spots — had led to a “wast improvement in the police’s reaction to subsequent massacres and other flare-ups in violence”.

The steps followed recommendations made in July by British police expert Dr Peter Waddington, who criticised police over their investigation of the Boipatong massacre in which more than 40 people were killed in June.

According to the statement, some of the measures implemented included:

- Contingency planning covering a wide range of unrest-related scenarios.
- A review of the management structure of the Internal Stability Division (ISD) in the Witwatersrand and Vaal Triangle.
- The permanent transfer of an extra 900 ISD members to the Witwatersrand.
Fear lurks at Swanieville

By Peter Davies

A long, neat row of freshly dug graves wait to be filled in Kagiso cemetery, just 5km across the veld from Swanieville squatter camp, where 28 people were brutally slashed and burnt to death nearly two years ago.

Those graves may not stand empty for long. On Tuesday, a Supreme Court judge acquitted five Kagiso hostel dwellers of taking part in the May 12, 1991 massacre, owing to lack of evidence.

The judge sharply criticised the police for failing to make sure hundreds of the killers were brought to justice.

Swanieville residents fear the result of the case may unleash another vicious bout of bloodletting.

The residents are angry to discuss the events of 20 months ago, when hundreds of heavily armed Kagiso hostel dwellers hacked, slit and shot their way through the West Rand squatter camp, killing anyone they chanced upon.

The attackers, identified as Inkatha Freedom Party members, beat to death with red headbands, also beat to death with gouged cars in their wake. Squatter camp allegations that police Casspirs escorted the murderous mob were never proved.

Swanieville residents are angry. Some believe attackers will wreak mayhem again.

On that crisp Sunday morning in May 1991, Winston Mkho, 53, was asleep at 5.30am. Rumours had spread that Inkatha hostel dwellers were planning an attack. Something that weekend.

Mkho, like the Swanieville residents, was a landlord. He was standing outside his house when he saw a police Casspir: "I was dazed. I was numb."

He didn't hear the shots, but her witness, his 10-year-old son, who his 10-year-old son was in the car and he was killed on the spot.

"Someone was shooting at us," he said. "I thought they were shooting at Inkatha."

The following month, his wife and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Mkho, were among those killed in the massacre.

ANC stronghold even if we are not active politically. There is going to be trouble here again."

Swanieville's only white resident, Louis Oosthuysen, who left his wife and three children in Burgersport six years ago, also thinks another attack is possible.

"Don't worry as a person, but I worry for the people around me. I will help defend them if I have to," says the truck driver (37).

On the surface Swanieville looks peaceful. Typical township streets are home to lazy dogs, honking geese, and chickens.

But the memories of May 12, 1991 lurk just beneath the surface. Residents are too scared to have their photos taken. "To advertise yourself is to sign your death warrant," says Nong.
Squatter fears of another massacre

PETER DAVIES
Weekend Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — A long, neat row of freshly dug graves wait to be filled in Kagiso cemetery, just 3km across the void from Swanieville squatter camp, where 29 people were slashed and burnt to death nearly two years ago.

Those graves may not stand empty for long. On Tuesday a Supreme Court judge acquitted five Kagiso hostel dwellers of taking part in the massacre on May 12, 1991, for lack of evidence.

The judge sharply criticised the police. Swanieville residents fear the result of the case may unleash more bloodletting.

The residents are loath to discuss the events of 21 months ago, when hundreds of heavily armed Kagiso hostel dwellers hacked and shot their way through the West Rand squatter camp, murdering anyone they found.

The attackers, identified as Inkatha members, also left razed shacks and gutted cars in their wake. Squatter camp allegatons that police conspired to escort the murderous mob were never proved.

Swanieville residents are angry. Some believe attackers will wreak mayhem once more.

One morning in May, 1991, Winifred Mkhize woke at 5:30am. Rumours had spread that Inkatha hostel dwellers were planning an attack. Later she saw a police Casspir moving down her dusty road, heard a car hooter and then heard gunfire.

She joined others who ran blindly toward neighbouring A zaadville.

On her return she found her husband David had been murdered.

Titus Nong, married the widow last year. He said the community were angry but not surprised at the judge's ruling.

Police just went to that hostel and arrested people at random. "Inkatha will return here before the end of May. Swanieville has no Zulus — the people here don't want them. So we are seen as an ANC stronghold even if we are not active politically. There is going to be trouble here again."
How hospital assassins tracked down their prey

WHEN Johannes Seokolo was wheeled into ward eight of Klerksdorp's Tshepong Hospital in the dim light of Monday morning, he had no way of knowing his brother had been assassinated as he lay in another ward further down the passage.

Badly bruised about the head, Seokolo groaned and soon fell asleep. In the intensive care unit, Inkatha Freedom Party member Koos Seokolo was already clinically dead after being shot five times 30 minutes before by four masked gunmen.

He died just 24 hours after being shot in the arm in another attack in nearby Tigane.

According to hospital staff — who asked not to be named for fear of reprisals — the raiders who killed Seokolo were cool, highly professional killers.

The four assassins stole into the grounds by cutting a hole in the perimeter fence.

Faces covered with stockings, the men crept across the wide expanse of grass that lay between the fence and the wards.

Moving along the passageway, they slipped into the room where 24 injured men lay asleep.

Without speaking a word, communicating only in sign language and by means of gestures, the killers forced the duty nurses into their bay at gunpoint.

In the darkness they moved methodically down the rows of sleeping forms, stopping at each bed to shine a light on the medical files, searching for their target.

They found him in the last bed next to the window.

Four muted shots and their victim died.

Either gripped with fear or still asleep, the other patients in the ward lay motionless and silent while the killers slipped away into the night as swiftly as they had come, their grisly task accomplished.

Fear

In the aftermath of the raid this week, staff at the Joubertone township hospital were still shocked by the killing.

One said: “We cannot go on working under these conditions.”

“The fence is not patrolled and we fear recrimination.”

Outside, in the community, a fierce political row has erupted following the assassination.

In a statement on Tuesday, the Inkatha Freedom Party claimed Seokolo’s killers were ANC members; condemning the murder as part of a campaign of “systematic assassination” of its leaders.

Tipoff

Police believe Seokolo was killed because he had identified one of the gunmen in Saturday’s attack as ANC member Oupa Krail.

Police said they shot Krail dead on Sunday afternoon in Tigane following Seokolo’s tipoff.

The ANC has slammed the police killing and the IFP’s allegations.

ANC spokesman for the Western Transvaal Seyi Rasmeni denied Krail’s involvement in either attack and said he had been the victim of a “brutal murder” by the police.
**Bargains galore here**

DO YOU WANT A BARGAIN — ANYTHING FROM A CAR, HOUSE, GEARBOX, FRIDGE OR FURNITURE? ALL THESE THINGS YOU CAN FIND IN YOUR COPY OF *Sowetan* EVERY DAY IN THE PAPER’S CLASSIFIED SECTION. THERE ARE MANY MORE SERVICES OFFERED IN OUR CLASSIFIEDS, SUCH AS EDUCATION CENTRES, DRIVING SCHOOLS, WHERE TO APPLY FOR JOBS AND OUR COLUMN ON PENNALS.

**Briefly in court again**

A MAN Charged with the abduction of a 10-year-old Yeoville, Johannesburg, girl appeared briefly in the Johannesburg Regional Court yesterday.

Mr Bhonito Mpungose (38), of Bellevue, Johannesburg, was not asked to plead. The case was postponed to April 5. Mpungose is on bail of R1 000.

**Tribute in Atteridgeville**

THE SA Defence Force at the weekend paid tribute in Atteridgeville, Pretoria, to the courage of 823 men who died when the SS Meendi sank in the Atlantic Ocean in 1917.

The men were travelling from the English port of Plymouth to the French port of Le Havre when the SS Mendi was hit by another ship, the SS Darro, on February 21 1917 during a night of bad weather. A total of 805 privates, 17 non-commissioned officers and five officers drowned or froze to death in one of the country’s worst military disasters. The men, all from the Native Labour Corps, were seconded for duty in France when the disaster occurred.

**Sadtu goes global**

THE SA Democratic Teachers’ Union has been accepted as an affiliate of the new Education International and will form part of the international union’s family of 30 million teachers.

The EI was formed at a conference in Stockholm, Sweden, on January 28 after two former international teacher unions dissolved and merged into a new international body.

**Taxi rank torched**

BETWEEN 200 and 300 youths torched a taxi and a taxi office and pulled down 16 parking shelters at a taxi rank in Khatlehong after a meeting on Sunday afternoon, East Rand police said yesterday. About R50 000 damage was caused and police are investigating a charge of property damage.

**Clothiers to retrench**

CAPE clothing manufacturer Rex Trueform is to retrench at least 570 workers next month, citing the continued severe recession as the reason.

In a letter to staff, the company said there had been a further fall-off in orders for garments manufactured in many departments.

Last year hundreds of Rex Trueform workers were retrenched when its Wynberg and Atlantis plants closed.

**Policeman under fire**

SHOTS were fired at a policeman of the Internal Stability Unit in Ratanda near Heidelberg at the weekend. East Rand police said yesterday.

He was uninjured.

They said two men approached Sergeant R de Jager while he and colleagues were looking for a man in the township. One of the men pulled out a firearm and shot De Jager before they fled. — Sowetan Reporters and Sops.
White pair on rampage shoot 2 in random raid

By Alinah Dube

A MAN and a 13-year-old girl were seriously wounded in separate incidents on Sunday after rampaging white men shot randomly at black pedestrians at Hartbeespoortdam near Pretoria.

The two, Mr Thomas Mathonsi (32) and the girl, who cannot be named because she is a minor, were taken to the HF Verwoerd Hospital in a serious condition.

Northern Transvaal police spokesman Major Andrew Lesch said Mathonsi was shot by one of two white men in a car. He was hit in the left shoulder.

A further 8km away the same men allegedly fired shots at another pedestrian. In this instance the 13-year-old black girl from Breederkloof was hit in the neck.

Lesch said a case of attempted murder was being investigated and people with information that could assist in the arrest and conviction of the suspects should contact the police by phoning 080-11-1215.

In another incident an East Rand man, Mrerry Mathorsa, was robbed of a truck valued at R350,000. The registration number of the stolen vehicle is NR164LT.
Train attacks curbed, say police

POLICE were turning the tide in the battle against train violence with growing co-operation from commuters and improved police strategies playing a major role, police spokesman Col David Bruce said yesterday.

Bruce said yesterday that 35 people had been arrested in connection with 62 incidents of train violence since December as a result of intensified police efforts.

The unification of the command structures of Soweto and Johannesburg, random train searches and "high visibility policing" had contributed to the drop in killings, he said.

Police had recorded a dramatic reduction in the number of violent incidents involving commuters since December, he said.

While a monthly total of 25 or more deaths had been recorded for August-November, nine commuters had died in December, 12 in January and five in February.

He said 494 dangerous weapons had been recovered on trains by September. But only 36 dangerous weapons had been recovered between September and January. Eleven of those arrested for train violence were hostel dwellers, he added.

Train killers planned their attacks carefully and targeted areas where there was a low police profile, he said. Many attacks occurred in the vicinity of hostels and this often lead to retaliatory attacks on trains.

More Zulu speakers had been killed in train violence than any other group, but the majority of those arrested had also been Zulu speakers.

Bruce feared that the high number of arrests would not necessarily lead to convictions because additional witnesses were still needed to identify and testify against train killers.

He said relations between police and commuters had improved but a lack of involvement in the investigation of cases was still a problem.

Our Durban correspondent reported that 187 people died in political violence in Natal during January 36 in the greater Durban area.

"A Human Rights Commission report said the two worst affected regions were the Durban municipal region, with 36 deaths, and the South Coast, with 31."

Most deaths in the Durban area took place at Inanda where conflict arose among factions within the ANC over self-defence units.

The Natal Midlands recorded 28 deaths, with Richmond and Imbali the two worst affected areas.

The North Coast recorded 12 deaths, the majority in the Eskhawini area.

The report also noted with growing concern the increasing number of attacks on commuters in Natal. At least 17 people were killed and five injured in eight such incidents.

Sapa reports a man burned to death after a mob wearing army uniforms attacked a house at Eswatini Reserve north of Durban yesterday, police said.

And at KwaMashu two off-duty policemen were killed by gunmen.

"Inkatha warned yesterday that peace on the South Coast had been seriously threatened by the murder of an Inkatha organiser in Ezingolweni, near Port Shepstone."

On the East Rand, police said three people were found dead in townships since Monday. "Police are also looking for two white youths who shot and wounded three black pedestrians, one of them a 13-year-old girl, from a moving car west of Pretoria at the weekend."

RAY HARTLEY

(278)
Warrant of arrest out for murder suspects

By Tsale Makam

A WARRANT for the arrest of two ANC members who failed to appear in court with the murder of a PAC man was issued yesterday.

The accused are Mr Andries Monyai (30) and Mr Joseph Maleza (20).

Their co-accused, Mr Washington Thage (21) was present in court.

The men, all of Munsieville, Randfontein, are on bail and have not yet been asked to plead.

The State alleges the three and five other men went to Ramphomane Mongwale's house on November 15 1993. They did not find him but later met him in the street and stabbed him.

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Schools empty

By Sonti Maseko

SOWETO PUPILS CONTINUED their go-slow yesterday despite a decision by the Congress of South African Students that the protest action be halted.

At the same time, thousands of teachers attended a mass meeting called by the South African Democratic Teachers Union to discuss alleged retrenchments of their colleagues.

The meeting, held at Regina Mundi Church in Rockville, Soweto, followed a picket at the Johannesburg offices of the Department of Education and Training by teachers from the Jabulani, Zola and Dobsonville circuit against the alleged retrenchments of 17 teachers.

About 170 teachers staged a sit-in at the offices after a DET official refused to meet them, a spokesman for the Soweto branch of Sadtu, Mr Oupa Mpetha, said.

Mpetha said about 30 teachers had been served with retrenchment letters.

He said he had gone to the Naudes only to mix the muti for them and when he left they were still alive.
Johannesburg. - Several vehicles, including police cars, were stoned in Soweto yesterday amid the disruption of classes here when pupils chose to leave school after 11am.

A heavy police presence yesterday in the township and riot policemen patrolled near the troubled schools on foot.

The three-hour school day followed a call last week by the Soweto branch of the Congress of South African Students for a "go-slow" in protest against the payment of examination registration fees. But the branch executive denied calling the strike.

Cosas president Mr. Moses Maseko yesterday reaffirmed the congress' opposition to students paying examination fees and said Cosas did not see the need for pupils to pay for education while money paid in taxes was being misspent by the government.

He said Cosas was concerned by the violence in schools "as a result of the criminal actions of misguided elements who are trying to misdirect our struggle".

The Inkatha Students' Organisation yesterday condemned the continued disruptions. — Sapa
ANC organiser tells of revenge murder

SUSAN RUSSELL

A MUNSI-CVILLE ANC Youth League organiser admitted, in a statement submitted to the Rand Supreme Court yesterday, taking part in the revenge murder of a PAC member.

Washington Sentil Thage, 22, was convicted of murder by Judge M J Stegmann after pleading guilty to killing a PAC member. Abinaar Rampholone Mongwalwa, on November 15 1991.

Thage, who described himself as the 'pioneer organiser of the ANC's Youth League branch', admitted he and other ANC members had killed Mongwalwa.

Mongwalwa had been one of a group of PAC members expelled from the township after periodic clashes between the two groups in 1990/91, he said.

Hearing that PAC members were returning to the township on November 14/15 1991, he and other ANC comrades armed themselves with knives. "The expelledes were seen roaring around the township as if they had been given permission to return," Thage said. "This was why we attacked the PAC and the deceased in particular. A further factor was the desire to avenge the killing of our comrade Joseph Koole by the PAC.

Thage said comrades reporting to him as a comunity leader believed it was intolerable that PAC members should roam the township in defiance of the ban on them.

"I said to them: 'Comrades, you know those guys have killed our comrade, bombed our houses and now they come into the township without permission — let's go and attack them.'"

Thage's group of about 23 people attacked Mongwalwa after his two friends had entered a nearby house. Thage said he stabbed Mongwalwa once.

"I ran away because the deceased's friends had returned and were shooting at us. When I obtained cover I stopped, turned around and noticed the deceased's friends were where he had, by that stage, fallen down. We then launched a second attack. During this attack we made use of a gun which one of our comrades had obtained from the deceased after he had failed." Mongwalwa's body was later doused with petrol and burned.

The trial was adjourned to allow the defence to prepare evidence in mitigation.

The trial was adjourned to allow the defence to prepare evidence in mitigation.
No deal to write off debts
THE Transvaal Provincial Administration has dismissed reports claiming that it has agreed to write off the R900 million debt owed by the Greater Soweto councils.

TPA's MEC for Local Government Mr Burger Lategan said no such agreement had been reached between the parties in the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber.

"Negotiations are currently concentrating on proposals for the ending of the boycott and the resumption of payments at satisfactory levels," he said.

Telkom suspends services
TELKOM yesterday suspended its services in Soweto and withdrew its workers after two of their vehicles were hijacked by striking pupils.

The decision to suspend telephone repairs and installations was taken after at least 12 Telkom vehicles were attacked since the trouble started two weeks ago.

A Telkom spokesman said the suspension was indefinite and could last as long as the pupils' strike continued.

"The last thing we can afford is to see our men's lives endangered," a spokesman said.

Meyer to address IFP
MINISTER of Constitutional Development Mr Roelf Meyer will explain the Government's view of the road ahead when he addresses the Inkatha Freedom Party central committee meeting on Sunday.

Dr Tertius Delport, Minister of Local Government, will also address the committee.

This follows a meeting between the Government and the IFP in Richards Bay last weekend.

IFP chairman Dr Frank Mdlalose said at the time there were "certain things they put to us which we did not understand, so they will put them before the central committee".

Eskom owed R600 million
BLACK councils owe Eskom more than R600 million while rent and service charges boycotts have led to debts totalling R2 billion.

Responding to a question in Parliament yesterday, Minister of Local Government Dr Tertius Delport said 57 black local authorities had "fully or partially resumed" services despite outstanding rental and service charges.

Nineteen of them, all in the Transvaal, still owed Eskom huge amounts of money, Delport said.
Police arrest rioting

Soshanguve pupils

By Philip Zole

Police yesterday arrested three pupils from a school in Soshan-
guve outside Pretoria during rioting in which two teachers at
the school were assaulted and stoned.

Pretoria police spokesman Major Andrew Lesch said the pupils reacted angrily after the
principal of Letabong Secondary School had expelled five pupils.

Police were told at about 10.28 am that pupils were
throwing stones at vehicles passing the school.

An angry crowd of pupils then assaulted and stoned two
teachers who were admitted to a local clinic with minor in-
juries, Lesch said.

Another teacher then spoke to the pupils, who afterwards left the school grounds.

But at about 10.50 am a number of pupils returned to the school and began packing
stones at the front entrance.

Department of Education and
Training regional chief director
Job Schoeman said the barri-
cade was aimed at preventing a
DET inspector, who had been
investigating the problems, from
leaving the school

grounds.

Lesch said police were again
called to the scene. The pupils
threw stones at policemen ar-
diving at the school. One of the
SAF vehicles was damaged and
three pupils were arrested be-
fore order was restored, he

said.

Schoeman said the school had
been tense since Friday, when
teachers decided to take steps
to combat poor discipline.

The rioting had resulted from
a recommendation made by
teachers to the principal that
several pupils be expelled,
Schoeman said.

Pupils at the school blamed
matriculants who had failed
their final exams last year for the poor discipline.
Class boycott over exam fees

By RAMOTENA MABOTE
TOWNSHIP pupils have embarked on a class boycott in defiance of ANC, PAC and Azapo calls for them to go back to school this year.

Classrooms were deserted yesterday morning when the pupils began a campaign against examination fees.

The class-boycott call was made by the Congress of South African Students (Cosas), the Pan Africanist Students' Organisation (Paso) and the Azanian Students' Movement (Azasm).

An Azasm spokesman said the purpose of the boycott was to draw the attention of "liberators" and community organisations to pupils' problems.

Last week national spokesmen for Cosas and Azasm denounced a similar action in Soweto.

Speaking on a CCV newsmine programme on Monday evening, they said more consultation was needed and that any action taken should not disrupt schools.

Mr Monde Tulwana, a teacher at ID Mkhize and a former national president of the National Education Crisis Committee, said the pupils' campaign was "mockery" of the existing Parents', Teachers' and Students' Associations (PTAs).

He said that although the issue of exam fees was serious and needed to be addressed, teachers could not be part of unnecessary and unwanted action.

"Our position is clear. Teachers and parents must meet soon and come out clearly on this matter, while pupils and teachers must go back to class to learn and teach, respectively," he said.

Johannesburg. — Mass action aimed at ending the financial crisis affecting students and calling for the disbanning of the Independent Development Trust is to hit tertiary education country-wide on March 8.

At a press conference at Wits University yesterday, South African Students' Congress (Sasco) information and publicity secretary, Mr Mogomotsi Mogodi, called for the disbanning of the IDT because of dissatisfaction with its "unilateral" approach in giving students' financial assistance.

Sasco's Southern Transvaal regional chairman, Mr Peniel Mashele, said this was in spite of the trust having agreed to consultation on funding.

Sasco said mass action would take the form of sit-ins, marches, demonstrations, and picket protests.

According to Sasco's figures, the University of the North (Turfloop) had outstanding student fees of R18 million in 1992, and only 3 000 students are registered there this year, compared with 12 900 last year.

At Fort Hare, which had an R11 million deficit in 1992, only 2 900 students were registered, against 6 900 last year.

Mr Mashele said the IDT should fund students in arrears, to enable them to register this year. — Sapa

He said the ANC would neither condemn nor support any action about which it did not have full knowledge, and called for an urgent meeting to discuss the matter.

President of the SA Democratic Teachers' Union (Sadtu), Mr Shepherd Mdladlane, said Sadtu would discuss the matter with all concerned organisations this weekend, before making a statement.

The pupils plan to march to DET offices today.

A DET spokesman said the department was not informed of the disrupted classes or the planned march.
Residents to sue Kriel after taxi violence
By Charmeeia Bhagwatt
Crime Reporter

Eldorado Park residents, allegedly teargassed and shot at by police at the height of the taxi violence early this month, intend suing Law and Order Minister Herman Kriel for damages, a lawyer representing the residents said yesterday.

The attorney, Magesh Moodiar, said documents were being prepared and would be served on the Minister soon.

Rassell Sequera (30) was killed in the township on February 3 — two days after taxi violence erupted in central Johannesburg — during violent clashes between Eldorado Park residents, taxi drivers and police.

Witnesses claimed police shot Sequera while he and other residents were fleeing from police fire in "Old Eldorado Park".

Wound

Police claimed they found Sequera's body with a gunshot wound about three hours after dispersing a crowd with teargas and birdshot. They denied shooting him.

Moodiar said 14 residents had instructed him to institute civil claims against Kriel for damages resulting from "wrongful and unlawful" assault on them that night.

Sequera's mother was suing for loss of financial support.

Moodiar said all his clients were "innocent bystanders" and were not taxi owners or drivers.

Law and Order Ministry spokesman Captain Craig Krog said if the residents had laid formal charges of assault against the police, the charges would be investigated.
NEWS Makwetu to address rally ● ‘Nation tired of being a tool’ say hostel inmates

24 hostels sign declaration to live in peace

Initiative was launched during a prayer meeting last month:

By Mzimasi Ngudle

INMATES from 24 Johannesburg hostels have signed a declaration of intent for peace and resolved to initiate dialogue with other hostel residents.

This was announced at a Press conference yesterday by the peace facilitator, the Reverend Mvume Dandala, who had been invited by hostel residents to assist with the initiative.

Dandala said the hosts agreed on a programme of action that would comprise codes of conduct "to deal with potential conflict among hostel residents timeously". He said the initiative was formally launched during a prayer service in January when representatives from 24 hostels showed their commitment to a peace process initiated by Jeppe hostel inmates.

Mr Jacob Dlomo, who represented Jeppe hostel residents, said the "nation is tired of being tools to perpetuate division and mistrust".

In his reply, Mr German Mlatheni, a Selby hostel inmate, said the most significant factor was that Jeppe hostel dwellers were not coming to Selby for forgiveness.

"They are rather saying it is impossible to find an alternative to the kind of life we were subjected to. We started the initiative by inviting hostages that wanted to walk the path of peace to join in with us," Dandala said.

"The genius of the effort is that it has not been initiated by any organisation, whether religious, political or otherwise. It is the residents themselves who have done it."
Fuming Fochville seeks tough action

By Peter Davies

The tension in the small western Transvaal town of Fochville is thick and ready to ignite. Instead of mining gold or farming mealies, the community has been obliged to initiate a "knobkerrie commando" to prevent further additions to the roll-call of terror that has left 26 people murdered or seriously injured over the past year.

Many admit that even such commandos are both helpless and powerless in the face of AK-47 fire.

Yesterday angry, nervous farmers held a meeting with police officials and Conservative Party Losberg MP Fanie Jacobs to thrash out solutions to what the community sees as lax security in the area.

Many farmers arrived with .22 pistols sticking out from their belts.

With Jacobs chairing proceedings before going into a private huddle with police, Fochville "dominee" Danie van Zyl opened the question-and-answer session. He said that previously mooted ideas of providing isolated farms with fencing and two-way radios would just be "buying time" unless the State immediately reintroduced the death penalty.

Women raped

One farmer believed the attacks — mostly on elderly farmers — would stop only once the nearby township was "flattened".

The latest Fochville assault occurred on Sunday night at a farm in Frigewaard, near the town. Three men broke in and brutally battered the owner and his brother-in-law. The farmer's wife and 14-year-old daughter were raped and sodomised. All are still in hospital.

A neighbour said the attackers waited inside the farm for their victims to return home.

Though the attackers scrawled Azanian People's Liberation Army (Apla) slogans on one of the farmhouse walls, police believe there is nothing to suggest the work was that of anyone other than common criminals. (Apla, the Pan Africanist Congress's military arm, has claimed responsibility for a series of attacks on whites in the eastern Cape and Free State in recent months.)

Before yesterday's meeting, Richard vai der Westhuizen, who grew up as a farmer's son before turning to engineering, said: "All the elements are against us. The drought — now these attacks. If you were to write a book called 'Black Progress in Africa', the pages would be blank."

During the meeting, Jacobs endorsed a suggestion to set up road blockades at the edge of the town. He also supported suggestions of a "clean-up operation" but would not expand on what this meant.
Fuming Fochville seeks tough action

By Peter Davies 27

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New hope as Reef violence abates

A marked drop in large-scale violence in the Transvaal is being attributed to, among other things, the success of dispute resolution committees which have even hostel dwellers working together for peace. By ALEX DODD

VIOLENCE that has wracked hostels, towns and townships in the Transvaal over the past two years is showing hopeful signs of abating. Soweto has experienced no incidents of political conflict this year and there has not been a single train attack on the Reef this month.

Most commentators believe the marked drop in penned violence is major outbreaks of township conflict in the combined result of President PW de Klerk's crackdown last year on "third force" elements in the military and determined efforts to make the National Peace Accord work.

African National Congress spokesman Victor Gwede said: "There was not one politically related incident in Soweto for the whole of January which is a first in about two and a half years."

Figures from the Human Rights Commission (HRC) show that during the five months between June and October last year there were 125 incidents of violence involving PWV hostels and their surrounding communities in Soweto. In 1985 there were 178.

For the same period, from the beginning of October last year to now, there have been 45 incidents and 33 deaths. HRC director Seloura Sadek noted, however, that December and January were traditionally quiet months and this had to be taken into account.

Independent monitors, police officials and ANC officials agree that the marked drop in large-scale violence is attributable to the success of the National Peace Accord and the ground work of dispute resolution committees in the townships of the PWV.

Mark Okrin, director of the Community Agency for Social Enquiry (Caso), said the crackdown on covert operations in the military had clearly helped to stem the spiral of violence - but he stressed that low-intensity conflict was still taking place in the townships.

"An important factor was de Klerk's assault on the generals which has enabled these more detailed arrangements to stick. They are no longer being sabotaged by CCB-like forces and their associates which do not appear to enjoy such political state support any more," said Okrin.

The caso facilitation which facilitates dealing with the ANC, as opposed to fostering unrest through its surrogates,

Life in the hostels ... After years of violence residents want to lead a normal life  Photos: KEVIN CARTER

has won out. The strategy of elements within the state to concert an alliance that could defeat the ANC and its allies has slowed down, while on the other hand there is still a reliance on low-level violence to hubble the ANC's functioning."

A series of press conferences last year indicated that elements in the Department of Military Intelligence had been actively collaborating with Inkatha officials to supply training and weapons to Zulu fighters in Transvaal hostels.

These reports were confirmed by senior Inkatha official Bruce Anderson after he had been deported from South Africa last year for his involvement in running illicit supplies of weapons from Mozambique into South Africa. Anderson asked a state- implicating senior military and Inkatha officials in joint operations to destabilise Transvaal hostels.

Anderson's claims have been rejected by Inkatha and the South African Defence Force.

ANC spokesman Ronnie Mamo- nga agreed that revelations and increased monitoring of "third force" activities had created an atmosphere conducive to dispute resolution. The clampdown in Pretoria where documents were retrieved by the Gold- stone Commission strengthened the hand of General FanieSlot who was the beginning of the end of the military's alleged role in third force activities.

One deputy director, David Brenan, was more cautious. "The large scale boipatongas and Swartmeeleer are hopefully over, but one or two people are still being knocked off every week. The low-intensity conflict is

Hostel dwellers hope they are now still with us. The state's strategy to continue destabilising black civil and political life is still there," he said.

"If there is no pressure on putting people behind bars, then nothing is changing. We're not yet into double figures of the number of perpetrators convicted, yet thousands have been killed. Goldfields still don't have the free to get on with day to day living judicial power to put people behind bars."

Meanwhile, hostel dwellers on the Reef have been involved in a series of "grassroots" initiatives to bring an end to the violence.

At a preliminary meeting of the Johannesburg Hostel Residents' Peace Initiative the men were reluctant to give in on their political affiliations, although both ANC and Inkatha supporters were present. "The main thing is that we are all people of the same land. We do not want to talk about affiliations. At the end of the day, we all have relatives from all the groups," said Jacob Dlimomo, an induna from Jetep hostel.

The initiative was started by the residents themselves, who have grown sick and tired of the violence that has dogged their lives. Says German Moshobela, leader of the Sibaya Peace Committee: "Anything that develops in the future must be built from an understanding that all hostel residents are committed to peace."

Currently there are about 30 hostels involved in the initiative and these include Deaver, Mzimhlohe, City Deep, Kelvin, Orlando Power Station, Dube, Amandla and Van Breda.

This is not the only hostel peace initiative in the PWV. South African Police spokesman Eugene Opperman attributed the dramatic drop in violence to the successful efforts of "leaders on the ground. Some of these dispute resolution committees are doing an excellent job."

Peace Action spokesman Venita Gorerewa reiterated: "Over the last few months the Transvaal hostel Residents Association (THRA) has been actively working in liaison with the hostel residents and the surrounding communities in a bid to end the violence."

This is in tandem with an agreement that was last year between the ANC and the TRHA focusing on issues of violence, upgrading of hostels and integration of hostel dwellers with the wider community.

Inkatha representative Suzanne Von and several hostel industrs agreed that the drop in violence was not attributable to the emanace of resolutions forged at last September's Record of Understanding agreement between the government and the ANC.

Asked whether relative peace had come about as a result of the presence of hostels, confiscation of traditional weapons or more frequent police raids, the response was unambiguous: "What occurred? What raids?"

Said Von: "Most attacks on hostel leaders occurred... The ANC have systematically deployed their guns and ammunition, their trained Umkhonto assem- bled in Natal."

Lloyd Vogelman, director of the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation, and it is agreed that "the intensity of the violence between the ANC and Inkatha has moved to Natal as a result of Inkathas having given up on some of its national poli- tical ambitions and having relocated to Natal where it has a stronger con- stituency".
ANC: Two dead in pre-dawn raid

Johannesburg. — The PWV region of the ANC claimed last night that two of its members were shot dead by "alleged members of the security forces" in a pre-dawn raid on a house in Sebokeng's zone seven.

The ANC said the two men, Mr James Mthombeni, a trained umkhonto weSizwe member, and Mr Siwe Mthwanazi, were murdered in their beds in the Vaal Triangle township.

A third man, Mr Mkhulu Tsabalala, was injured in the shooting and taken to the Vereeniging hospital, the ANC said.

Police said that besides the two men killed, two policemen were injured when police swooped on a house in Sebokeng about 1am yesterday morning.

A police spokesman said detectives from Vereeniging and the Internal Stability Unit raided a house in Sebokeng in a pre-dawn blitz yesterday after receiving information linking the occupants to a murder of a police assistant and illegal possession of firearms.

A 21-year-old man was arrested.

Police fired warning shots. — Sapa
Violence-weary hostel inmates unite for peace

By THEMBA KHUMALO

TIRED of the violence that has dogged their lives, a group of concerned Johannesburg hostel dwellers has started a grassroots initiative to make peace.

Middle-aged, soft spoken Magwirizwa Dhlomo, an induna from Jeppe Hostel, this week told the story of his efforts to end violence.

Dhlomo was addressing journalists and about 100 representatives from different hostels on the Reef, at a meeting facilitated by Reverend Myume Dandala at the Methodist Church, under the auspices of the Hostel Residents Peace Initiative.

Sharing the platform was German Matsheni, who represented the Xhosadominated Selby hostel.

Twenty-two men's hostels have committed themselves to peace under this organisation that cuts across party politics. Members are affiliated to the ANC and Inkatha.

Dhlomo, who confessed having participated in violence in the past, said the hostel for peace idea germinated in August last year after he was approached by eight hostel inmates who asked him to do something to end the train and township violence.

The following month a Xhosa chief came to the hostel and exhorted the group to work towards bringing an end to black-on-black violence.

Dhlomo said: "We then wrote a letter to our counterparts at Selby hostel and I decided to deliver it personally, rather than post it. My colleagues were vehemently opposed to my going there and said I would be killed."

Predictably, the men at Selby were hostile and did threaten to kill him. But common sense prevailed.

"I told them I did not come to apologise for our involvement in violence but to request a meeting that we could end the bloodletting."

"They were divided among those who wanted to lynch me and those who gave me a hearing, Dhlomo said.

After some persuasion the hostel dwellers were finally convinced that his mission was innocent and they discussed the matter.

They then agreed to meet under the trees of the Johannesburg Library gardens and again in November under a highway in the city.

Their meeting was attended by UN observers, Dhlomo said.

On December 12, after agreeing on several issues concerning the causes of violence they held a church service at the Methodist Church. This was after they were refused the use of the hall.

Dandala invited them to his church; Dhlomo said.

He said the service was followed by two others - one on December 19 at Jeppe Hostel and another at Selby earlier this month.

Said Dhlomo: "We were humbled by Rev Dandala's offer to offer us the use of his church. Many of us were getting foot in a church for the first time."

At the end of this week's meeting the representatives from 14 hostels, among them Alexandra, Mai Mai, Jeppe, Selby, Nancefield, Denver and Diepkloof, shook hands as one group - people yearning for peace.

They left the gathering chatting animatedly and glowing with pride. They had succeeded where politicians had failed.
White attacks: Police doddering draws fire

By ELIAS MALULEKE

TODAY, an 11-month-old Boipelo Mole is lying fighting for his life in hospital with admitted bullet damage. Three white boys, alleged to be responsible for stoning the tot, are unable to face charges because they are "sitting for exams."

So say the cops. Also, for black pedestrians treated in hospital with a gruesome assortment of gunshot wounds - courtesy of cowardly white gunmen who took potshots at them from a moving car seemingly just for fun.

There has been only one arrest. Will there be more?

In one attack on February 17, four white youths riding on the back of a bakkie in Swartruggens in the western Transvaal stoned black pedestrians, hitting 11-month-old baby More on the head.

Boipelo was on her mother's back. She went into a coma and is being fed through a drip. Doctors at Leratong Hospital in Krugersdorp have said she is brain damaged. Police were given a statement including the registration number of the youths' vehicle. That was minutes after the incident.

Outcry

Police arrested only one youth. He was brought before a magistrate on Tuesday, six days later - following an outcry. Swartruggens' Sgt Attie Breedt said the three youths could not be arrested as they were "sitting for exams."

A church leader who asked to remain anonymous said this tardiness was in sharp contrast to police in London where diligently arrested two 10-year-old boys suspected of murdering a two-year-old child last week.

"The same episode was displayed prominently on television, radio, and in the press. When will our police learn that they are burning their own fingers with this type of attitude towards black victims?" he asked.

On Sunday two whites in a car travelling near Hartebeespoort Dam opened fire on black pedestrians, wounding Thomas Mathonsi, 32, and Maria Makoto, 13.

The victims were admitted to the HF Verwoerd Hospital in a serious condition. Mathonsi was hit in the shoulder and Makoto in the neck. They survived.

Fanie Milambo, 10, a Std 2 pupil in Daveyton, had to have his leg amputated at the Boksburg/Beniuro Hospital last Saturday.

The limb was shattered by bullet fired by two white men driving in the Etwatwa squatter camp in Daveyton at 6pm.

Milambo's friend, Solly Mailula, 13, was shot in the back.

The youths were on their way to a sports field.

Despite his wound, Mailula 'managed to get help. He also picked up a spent cartridge which was handed over to the cops.

The ANC's Jordan demanded that those committing racist atrocities be brought to book now.

"As both government and democratic forces begin the process of fostering political tolerance among differing political trends, activities of this nature should be unequivocally condemned," Jordan said the police response - that white youths accused of stoning little Boipelo could not face charges because they were "sitting for exams" was "absolutely unacceptable."

"This is a case of gross irresponsibility on the part of the police, reinforcing perceptions that attacks against black civilians are not regarded as criminal offences but merely as minor misdemeanours."

A caller to City Press claiming to represent the PAC military wing, Apla, claimed that when whites were attacked by blacks, outrage in the white-owned media was sure to follow. Yet when blacks were on the receiving end there was "no outrage at all."

He threatened more attacks on whites.

Several people interviewed in Jo'burg strongly believe the attacks were the work of white racists bent on obstructing peace.
Four die in Vaal shootouts

TWO alleged ANC members died in a shootout with the police in a house in Sebokeng on Friday morning.

A third man was wounded and arrested.

Vereniging police spokesman Maj Piet van Deventer said the shootout took place when police raided a house following the murder of a policeman. Police later seized an AK-47 and two pistols.

In Bophelong two people, a youth and a woman, were shot dead by the police at Chris-Hani squatter camp on Tuesday night, violence-monitoring group Peace Action alleged. They said Johann Phume was killed by a stray bullet.

Van Deventer said the youth was killed by the police when he attacked them with a spade following his arrest for murder. He added police heard that a woman had been struck by a stray bullet, but their subsequent investigations drew a blank.
By THEMBA KHUMALO

TENSION is mounting between the police, residents and the township administrator of Phola, at Ogel’s in the eastern Transvaal, where three boys and a woman were shot between June and August last year.

Phola Civic Association official Thomas Sindana said the residents were up in arms about "police reluctance" to bring to book the white TPA employee who is alleged to have gone on a shooting rampage since coming to work in the township.

The employee, Sindana said, allegedly shot and wounded 11-year-old Leonard Ngidi in the leg while the boy was riding a bicycle at Phola. The man was not arrested or suspended despite a public outcry.

Later that month, he fired a teargas canister at Miriam Sando, 28, a mother of four, when she tried to stop him from cutting electricity wires in her house, Sindana alleged.

Sando’s hand was injured when she tried to stop the canister from striking her face. She said her finger movements had been impaired.

However, eastern Transvaal police spokesman Lieut. Col. J. Piennar said the suspect would appear in the Witbank Regional Court on March 16 to face a charge of attempted murder. He would not say with which shooting he is charged.

Piennar said the Transvaal Attorney-General had declined to prosecute for the June 16 shootings when police fired on protesters marching to the administrator’s office.

Twelve-year-old Selby Masilela was hit by shotgun pellets while on a shopping errand and Anne Sejesengoe, 42, was hit in the nose by a stray bullet.

Sejesengoe said: "I was sitting on a couch in my shack when suddenly something smashed into my nose. The next thing I felt excruciating pain and I got dizzy."

Another victim of the allegedly trigger-happy TPA employee was Thokozani Botoboto Shongwe, 16, who was shot in the neck. He spent three months in hospital following surgery. His throat bears a huge, angry weal where the bullet punched through.

Civic association secretary Lucky Lechaba said the trouble started last year when township administrator J. Stoltz introduced electricity metering boxes in homes.

When the residents realised that the new system was costly they rejected it and, in defiance, connected their own wires to those in the streets. Stoltz then sent in an armed and hostile white electrician to cut the people’s wires.

The technician fired on anyone who challenged his actions.

Sindana accused Stoltz of breaking an agreement he struck up to declare a moratorium on the cutting of residents’ wires.

Sindana said: "When we confronted him about his sudden turnabout, Stoltz dismissed us with contempt, saying that he didn’t take orders from us but from his TPA bosses."

He said residents no longer wanted Stoltz in the township. Residents believed Stoltz was more interested in running his farm than looking after their interests.

Stoltz said there was more to the allegations against him than met the eye. He said: "I can’t speak about them on the phone unless you make some time to come to my office. But basically I deny all the allegations by the civic."
Gunman shoots 4 at funeral

By DAN DHLAMINI

FOUR people were wounded yesterday afternoon in front of UN observers when a gunman wearing an Inkatha T-shirt and a red headband opened fire on bystanders during the funeral procession of two slain Inkatha members in Tiane in the western Transvaal.

Cecil Kraai, Lebohang Masi, Kedladi Kraai and Nokantu Jwili, were admitted to the Thekpong Hospital in a serious condition.

Eyewitnesses said the victims were standing in a yard in a group when they were attacked. It is alleged the gunman first warned them to move into the house and when he was ignored, he fired — hitting the four — and then rejoined the procession.

Red Cross fieldworker David Lebothe said two of the victims he took to the hospital were in a serious condition.

The shooting incident occurred during the procession to the graveyard minutes after a funeral service was held at the NG Kerk for Inkatha Youth Brigade assistant secretary Andries Khoza and Koos Seokolo.

Both Khoza and Seokolo died in a hail of bullets last week and Inkatha placed the blame on “forces of darkness who hate democracy and federalism”.

Yesterday as the two hearses with a handful of mourners entered the NG Kerk, a group of youths (who were not part of the mourners) reportedly started ululating and some could be clearly heard saying “dogs have died”.

Police are investigating.
Archbishop held in AK-47 swoop

BY MONWABISI NOMADOLO

ARCHBISHOP Mphakameni Khumalo of the Light of God Church in Zion, also alleged to be the leader of the notorious Inkatha-linked Khumalo gang, has been arrested in connection with possession of two AK-47 assault rifles.

He is out on R2,000 bail following his court appearance this week in Alberton. He faces charges of illegal possession of firearms and ammunition.

Police spokesman Capt. Ida van Zweel confirmed the arrest.

Arrested with Khumalo on the same charges was his son, Mzwakhe, who was recently discharged from Hillbrow Hospital after he survived an ambush two weeks ago.

Khumalo’s younger brother, Mphakeleni, an alleged warlord, was also arrested last week with another gang member, Peter Sibeko, in connection with arson.

Another of Khumalo’s sons, Jabulane, has also been arrested.

Since last week, police have cracked down heavily on the notorious gang which has been accused of atrocities and terror in the strife-torn East Rand township of Thokoza.

For months now, the township has been a battleground between gang members and residents.

On Friday morning, several weapons were allegedly seized from a house near the Khumalos. A youth is being sought by police.

Van Zweel said five alleged gang members were arrested last week in connection with the murder of five people and injuring of 10 others on January 22. The five were still in custody, she said.

However, the killers of five youths who were gunned down on New Year’s day are still free.

This killing sparked anger among a 100-strong group of local women who marched to the police station to protest against the gang’s reign of terror.

The arrests of the Khumalos has sparked another memo.

Several men wearing Inkatha T-shirts were allegedly seen in the township collecting R20 a house in an attempt to raise bail money for the suspects.

The killers of Khumalo’s wife, gunned down about a month ago, have also not been arrested.
Three dead in Xhosa fighting

Fighting between residents of Mandela Park and Holomisa Park on the East Rand last night left three dead and one seriously injured, said Witwatersrand police spokesman Colonel Dave Bruce.

"Fighting started at about 7pm, and at this stage the reason for the violence is not clear. There are no political motives as both groups are Xhosas. Both groups are Xhosas," said Bruce - Sapa.
MK cadre gunned down in police raid

By Sonti Maseko

AN Umkhonto we Sizwe cadre and another man were killed during a police raid on a house in Sebokeng on Friday.

The police said yesterday the men died in a shootout while they were investigating the murder of a policeman. An AK-47 rifle, two pistols, a shotgun and a hand grenade were later found. A third man was injured in the shooting and arrested.

However, this account has been disputed by the family of James Mthombeni (19), the MK member in whose home the two were killed. The family, backed by the ANC, said yesterday the police cold-bloodedly murdered their son and his friend, Sizwe Mkhanazi. Mkhulu Tshabalala was injured.

Another man living nearby, Mr Lucas Letsoenyone, was also raided by the police who demanded from him to produce a firearm. He claimed he was trampled on

■ AK-47, pistols and grenade found after shootout in Sebokeng:

and hit with the back of a gun by the police.

Mthombeni’s mother, Mrs Maria Mthombeni, told Sowetan she returned from work early on Friday and found police in her yard.

She claims she was put in a police vehicle, assaulted and told she should speak the truth. The police drove with her to Houtkop Police Station, where she was told: “Your dog is dead” and asked to identify her son.

She claims she was later driven to Flora Gardens Police Station where she was again assaulted by a black policeman called “Shaka”, who slapped her on the face and punched her.

“Shaka said to me: ‘Your dog is dead and the ANC will do nothing for you, but if I die the Government would pay millions to my mother and father,’” she said. Mthombeni and Letsoenyone have laid charges of assault against the police.
Bystander shot dead at funeral

A woman was killed and three people were hurt in Tijane, near Hartbeesfontein in the western Transvaal, when shots were fired from an IFP funeral procession at bystanders on Saturday.

Police said the injured, two men and a woman, were taken to Tsepong Hospital in Klerksdorp.

The injured woman was an ANC supporter.

The spokesman said about 100 mourners were walking from a church to a graveyard in the township at 3 pm when the shots were fired.

The funeral was for two IFP Youth League members, Andries Khosa died and Koos Seokolo was injured in an attack by gunmen on February 12. Two days later Seokolo was gunned down in his hospital bed.
Security drive as rail deaths rise

By Bronwyn Wilkinson
Crime Reporter

In the wake of another fatal train attack on the West Rand yesterday, and a shooting at Merafe station in Soweto on Sunday, the South African Rail Commuter Corporation has announced plans to spend about R20 million testing new security systems at the Johannesburg and Dube stations.

SARCC spokesman Connie Nkosi said the systems, which would aim at controlling access to trains and stations, would be tested at the two stations later this month.

An SARCC statement said the corporation believed the only way to break the vicious cycle of violence which had taken its toll on train commuters was to improve access control.

Yesterday, the bodies of two men, who had been thrown out of a moving train, were found next to the railway line between Lenasia and Midway stations.

And on Sunday, two railway guards were shot and wounded in an attack at Merafe station. The guards believed they managed to wound one of their attackers when they fired back.

The access-control systems to be tested include hand-held metal detectors operated by security guards, screening arches at stations, four types of lockable turnstiles, security booths and special search areas.

Nkosi explained that although the machinery involved was not new, the configurations of the systems would be tested to determine which was the most effective, without slowing down commuter movement or endan-
ger ing commuters in the event of a rush or stampede.

| Police have asked anyone who witnesses a train attack to call the toll-free number 080-111-041. |
Four squatters die in faction fighting

By Isaac Moledi

Four people were shot and hacked to death, five others seriously injured and several shack dwellers set alight in feud between squatters camps:

Police confirmed yesterday that three people were shot and hacked to death on Sunday night. Hundreds of people fled their shacks at about 7.30pm on Sunday as a faction, believed to have come from the Mandela squatter camp, attacked residents of the Holomisa camp near Katlehong.

Residents of Holomisa said the fight may have been caused by elections which were scheduled for Sunday to oust the old residents' committee. Representatives of the Mandela camp, who dominate the committee, were said to be refusing to quit their posts.

Residents of the Holomisa camp said yesterday the death toll could be higher because many residents who fled the area during the attack could not be traced.

A number of shacks were vacant when Sowetan visited the Holomisa camp at around 10am yesterday.
Two men killed on East Rand

JOHANNESBURG: Police yesterday found the bodies of two men murdered in separate incidents in Katlehong, East Rand.

Police said a Sokolawana Dzawiti, 46, of the Beitutu squatter camp, had been hacked and stabbed to death.

Mr. Gabriel Masuka was shot and killed at his Katlehong home by three men with AK-47s on Monday night.

Police said a woman, Ms. Katrina Kelly, was wounded in the leg in the shooting.

Police have confirmed the death of IFP member Mr. Mobongeleni Zulu, shot at his home in Mzawwula, near Empangeni, on Sunday morning. — Sapa
Murder charges dropped

By Jo-Anne Collinge

Four leading members of the Tokozla Civic Association are considering suing the authorities after the dropping of charges brought against them for the murder of one-time Phola Park leader Prince Mhlambi and four other young people in October.

Abraham Motaung, Philemon Mapatje, Gideon Letlolo and Jeremiah Motieloa felt they had strong grounds to sue for unlawful arrest and malicious prosecution, civic association secretary Louis Sibeko said this week.

"We knew from the outset their prosecution was just a form of harassment. We are not surprised they have been cleared."

The prosecution of two others accused in the Mhlambi case, Paul Mokoena and Joshua "Yster" Mchunu, will continue.

They remain in custody and will appear in court in Alberton on March 25, when a date will be fixed for their trial in the Rand Supreme Court.
A man burst into a train coach and fired on commuters before three other men—armed with a kerrie, a hammer and a tomahawk—attacked passengers and threw them from the train, a witness told the Rand Supreme Court yesterday.

Alfoso Lekhawane told Mr Justice E.E. Mie, he saw Albert Dlamini walk into a coach on the Katlehong- Germiston train on October 9, 1991 and fire a shot at a man reading a newspaper. He said Dlamini walked through the coach while commuters ran to the back of the compartment and tried to hide under seats.

Dlamini (30) of Katlehong has pleaded not guilty to murdering three commuters, attempting to murder nine others, and to the illegal possession of arms and ammunition. The State alleges he was part of a gang which injured and killed passengers.

Lekhawane said Dlamini had shot him in the leg. Three other men entered the coach and started to assault passers. He did not mind being beaten as this was "better than dying." He said he saw Dlamini throw one man out of the train.

When Lekhawane was asked to point Dlamini out to the court, he identified a man sitting in the public gallery, not Dlamini, who was seated in the accused's bench. Lekhawane explained he had earlier seen Dlamini in the public gallery talking to the man.
Taxi gunmen shoot up petrol station

A PETROL station attendant was shot and killed and a minibus taxi driver was wounded in Johannesburg last night when the occupants of another minibus taxi sprayed a service station with bullets.

At 8.15pm a red Toyota minibus drove past a Trek garage in Fourth Street, Wynberg, a wealthy white suburb to the north of the city and near Alexandra township.

The occupants of the minibus opened fire on the garage - where a number of minibuses were parked - killing the attend-

One dead in night raid near Alexandra:

ant and wounding the taxi driver in the left leg, said SAP liaison officer Col Dave Bruce.

Several minibuses taxis were damaged in the shooting, and police later found AK47, 9mm and Makarov cartridges on the scene.

Col Bruce said the names of the dead and the injured men were not yet known. A case of murder and another of attempted murder are being investigated.
Train death accused was a hired gun, says witness.

SUSAN RUSSEL

A MAN charged with the murder of three train commuters told another suspect after their arrest that he had been hired to do the deed. And firearms prior to the attack on a Kathu-Kempton train, a witness told the Rand Supreme Court yesterday.

The witness, Simon Komane, said the accused, Albert Dlamini, had not told him who had paid the money.

Dlamini has pleaded not guilty to murdering three commuters and attempting to murder nine others on October 9, 1991.

It is alleged he was part of a gang that opened fire on commuters and attacked them with knobkerries. The court heard that Komane, injured in the attack, was initially arrested as a suspect, but later freed after an identity parade.

Komane, who described himself as a Xhosa and an ANC member, said Dlamini and he had discussed the attack while they were both being held at Modderbee prison.

Dlamini had told him they would have to get themselves lawyers, that when they got out of prison they had to go and collect R60,000 in cash, and that he (Dlamini) had been given arms.

Komane said Dlamini had not told him why he was to be paid the money or who had paid him before. He had asked Dlamini why he had attacked commuters.

"He said that was work they had been given to do," Komane told the court.

Describing the attack, Komane said he was standing in the second last coach, reading his newspaper when he was approached by four men, three of them armed with knobkerries and the fourth with a firearm.

He had heard them say: "Here is the man we are looking for."

"I asked them what I had done. Before I could get an answer, I was hit on my head with a knobkerrie," Komane said.

"I fell. While I was lying on the floor I heard shooting," he said.

There had been more than one shot, but he could not say how many, Komane told the court.

He was later hospitalized for his injuries and arrested.

The trial continues before Judge J. E. Ellis and two assessors today.
Hostel linked to killings

JOHANNESBURG. — A man charged with attacking train commuters in 1991 received guns and money from a migrant workers' hostel, a witness told the Rand Supreme Court yesterday.

Mr Alfred Dlamini, 30, of Katlehong, has pleaded not guilty to murdering three commuters, attempting to murder nine others and illegal possession of a firearm and ammunition.

Two witnesses asked to identify their assailant, pointed to a man in the public gallery and not to Mr Dlamini. Another witness, Mr Simon Komane, said he had been injured in the attack and taken to hospital.

On suspicion of having taken part in the violence, he was taken to Modderbee Prison where he shared a cell with Mr Dlamini. He was later released.

While in prison, Mr Dlamini told him they would have to get lawyers because "we have been caught".

"He said they had been given money and guns from the Kwezine Hostel."

Mr Dlamini told him he attacked the commuters because "it was the work they were given to do".

The trial continues. — Sapa
Accused 'paid to kill train commuters’

By Susan Smuts

A man charged with attacking train commuters in 1991 said he had received guns and money to do his “work” from an East Rand hostel, a witness told the Rand Supreme Court yesterday.

Alfred Dlamini (30) of Katlehong has pleaded not guilty to murdering three commuters, attempting to murder nine, and illegal possession of a firearm and ammunition. He was allegedly one of a group which attacked commuters on a train to Germiston in October 1991.

Witness Simon Komane told Mr Justice J Elias he was an ANC supporter. He had been injured in the attack and taken to hospital. On suspicion of having taken part in the violence, he was taken to Modderbee prison where he was put in a cell with Dlamini.

Dlamini told him they would have to get lawyers because “we have been caught”.

“He said that when we leave the prison we must go and collect money. He said he had to collect R50 000. He said they had been given money and guns from the Kwezine hostel.”

Komane said Dlamini told him he had attacked commuters because “it was the work they were given to do”.

The hearing continues.
NEWS
We’ve had enough — sound men ● Drug squad hunts escaped smuggler

Court move to oust squatters rejected

By Josias Charlie

The Pretoria Supreme Court has rejected an application for leave to appeal against an earlier decision to allow Zevenfontein squatters to settle on a piece of land in Diepsloot.

The appeal bid was brought by the Diepsloot Residents and Landowners’ Association which is opposed to Zevenfontein squatters being resettled on a site in Diepsloot.

Mr Justice McCraith dismissed the application for an appeal by the white landowners with costs yesterday. In December last year he also rejected the landowners’ initial application.

The action started last year with an application for an interdict restraining the Transvaal Provincial Administra-

Music festivals face sound boycott

By Kenosi Modisane

Sound hire companies have threatened a blackout on music festivals after last weekend’s riots that caused more than R620 000 in damaged equipment at three shows.

Four major sound and lighting companies — Sound Hire Unlimited, Admusic, PA Sound Hire and Mega Music — warned yesterday they would withdraw their services from live shows.

The threat to black out festivals follows last week’s incidents when pop singer Brenda Fassie was billed to appear at four music festivals and failed to honour one at the Malamule Stadium in Ganosha. She was also blamed for the chaos at the KaNyamazane Stadium in Nelspruit, allegedly pulling singer Rebecca Malope’s band off the stage because she was in a hurry to honour another engagement.

Two engineers were seriously injured and equipment damaged in the rioting.

Mr Derek Woolridge of Mega Music said: “We see this as the beginning of the end for music festivals. What happened at the weekend shows greed, selfishness and disrespect for the paying public and safety of the engineers.”

Cocaine drama at airport

By Sowetan Correspondent

A Nigerian citizen swallowed half a kilogram of cocaine packed in balloons at Jan Smuts Airport on Thursday in an attempt to slip past police monitoring an incoming flight from South Africa.

Detectives rushed him to Hydrodrome Clinic where an emergency operation was performed to get the drugs — worth R150 000 — out of his stomach.

But police were less successful when a Surinamese drug smuggler, carrying cocaine worth R510 000, escaped after he had been arrested. The man broke free and fled into the parking area where he disappeared. Police confiscated the drugs.

Alleged killer did not confess

By Tsale Makam

MR Albert Dlamini who is accused of leading an attack on train commuters in the East Rand on October 9, 1991, did not make a statement to a magistrate, the Rand Supreme Court heard yesterday.

Major J Krige, who took the statement, said so far he was concerned it was not a confession and that was why he did not take Dlamini to a magistrate to make a sworn statement.

Dlamini (30) is facing three charges of murder and three of attempted murder. He has pleaded not guilty and is on a R2 000 bail.
Short fuse burns

Barricades, smouldering tyres return

THE people in the townships are being held to ransom again — and the police raids have intensified.
All the signs are there for the beginning of another season of killing, reports JOE LOUW, after a behind-the-scenes investigation in the Vaal Triangle.

THE barricades are up again. Freshly dug trenches, a sure sign of community paranoia, have reappeared. Boulders, wrecks of cars resembling bizarre skeletons, and smouldering tyres herald the beginning of what could be another season of violence in the already blood-soaked Vaal Triangle.

Homes railed

Sebokeng, Evaton and Boipatong are simmering again. The old tensions, after a period of relative peace and calm, have resurfaced.
A harsh, “no-tomorrow” police campaign of searching for “suspects” and illegal firearms has been under way for the past few weeks. Hundreds of Vaal township homes have been raided, many at night.

At nightfall, in Sebokeng Zone 7 and elsewhere, residents scurry home for protection. Motorists are made to stop at barricades and explain who they are, where they are going and where they will be staying. Safe passage depends on an accurate, recognising a familiar face, speaking in the right tone.
The young men who man the barricades will brook no nonsense, no insolence. The community feels once more at ransom.
Yet nobody dares breathe a word of protest.

In these areas there is an unwritten law. If anything happens to you — your daughter is molested, your car stolen or your property damaged — don’t go to the police. It’s the worst thing you could do.
Instead, follow the rules and go to your local block committee or local coterie of “comrades”. Explain your plight and eventually — within a few hours or maybe after a couple of days — your property will be returned and the culprit punished, or those who messed with your daughter or wife will be “brought to justice”.

Could mean your house going up in flames, or you could end up with that dreaded label, “mlaple” — collaborator. That is the equivalent of sending your whole family “into exile”.

Massacres

The Vaal has been the crucible of most of the violence in the PWV region since February 1990. The Human Rights Commission has recorded seven major massacres that have occurred in the Sebokeng, Evaton and Boipatong areas.

Starting with the Sebokeng/Evaton killing of 19 people after an Inkatha Freedom Party launch at the Sebokeng Stadium, then the gruesome massacre of 43 ANC mourners at a vigil in January 1991, followed by the Boipatong massacre last year in which 48 people perished, the region acquired the sobriquet of “the killing fields of the Vaal”.

Ernest Sotsu, Boipatong branch chairman of the ANC, bitterly accused the Goldstone Commission of having “failed lamentably in its investigations” because of its “arbitrary” rejection of SAP involvement in the massacre of the residents of Boipatong.

“The universal feature in all the killings,” Sotsu wrote to the commission, “is the singular failure of the SAP to arrest, let alone prosecute, a single perpetrator in respect of these cases of violence. There is no hope that a solution to end violence can be found as long as the SAP still enjoys the protection of the apartheid legal system, and their illegal activities are not prevented.”

With the SAP’s continued tolerance of rural violence, Sotsu fears that “the real killers are going unpunished and the SAP is looking the other way or actively participating in the killings.”

Explosion

In the daytime "bokeng, Sotsu and Evaton and Boipatong are all lit up and people go about their business. Taxi drivers, the boulders and a run-to-shared street.
But under the surface, a cheerful Vaal skylight...

LIFE GOES ON: Will it come to this again? A flashback picture shows a young cyclist circumspect, burning vehicle during riots in a Vaal Triangle township last year.

Photographs: JOA.
urns in Triangle

We know best, say Vaal’s black police

‘Remove all the white (25) commanders’

A MEMORANDUM from black policemen in the Vaal Triangle calls for the removal of white ‘commanders’ and claims black policemen are using illegal firearms. JOE LOUW reports.

BLACK policemen in the riot-torn killing fields of the Vaal Triangle have demanded the removal of their white superiors — alleging that while they use illegal firearms to kill township residents, some black policemen do not have official weapons to protect themselves and their targeted families.

The allegations are detailed in a memorandum drawn up at a recent meeting of 190 disaffected black officers. The document, which is in the possession of the Saturday Star, is signed by a senior kwaGadi officer, Adjutant T S Letlola. It calls for all white “commanders” in the area to be replaced by blacks, who should be in charge of all police operations in the area’s townships.

Vaal Triangle police spokesman Major Piet van Deventer told the Saturday Star that as far as he knows, the contents of the memorandum were an “internal matter.” The complaints, he said, had been addressed at the highest level. “I believe there are no similar complaints anywhere,” he said, pointing out that the SAP “was very concerned about the welfare of all members of the police force, black and white.”

The most serious allegation in the memorandum concerns firearms confiscated during raids. “We are aware that these (white) members do not want to help us,” the memorandum says. “It is because they want to do their duty alone because during the tour of our duty they use unofficial and unlicensed firearms taken from the public. When patrolling black residential areas after sunset, they always say that they are out for sport, then they start shooting at random.”

The policemen also allege that there is a disregard for their safety by their white colleagues. The memorandum accuses the police force of not providing them with transport bonds from danger areas — despite killings of black police officers, they are forced to walk through the townships. The policemen also complain of not being issued with bullet-proof vests although these vests are issued to certain municipal policemen.

‘Really big problems’

Van Deventer confirmed that since the beginning of last year 27 policemen had been killed in the Vaal Triangle, three of them this year. Last Friday, 18-year-old Detective-Constable David Dhlamini was fatally wounded when shots were fired at a police patrol vehicle in Sedibeng Zone 6, according to local sources. The next
Curfew in force after fortnight of violence

PORT ELIZABETH — Fort Beaufort townships were under curfew from last night after a fortnight of violence which has left three people dead, six seriously wounded and at least 14 families homeless.

Strife between the African National Congress and the Pan Africanist Congress has been blamed for the unrest.

The Fort Beaufort district is still under emergency regulations imposed in September last year, after the Bisho massacre.

Police spokesman Captain Henry Chalmers said the curfew would be in force from 9pm to 4am.

Residents will be confined to their homes during those hours. Exceptions would be made for residents with letters from employers stating reasons — for example shift-work — for being out during curfew or for residents able to justify being off their properties.

People ignoring the curfew would be arrested.

He said that in the latest incident of violence on Wednesday night six people escaped death when a gunman raked their Tinus Township home with AK-47 rifle fire.

Nobody was injured in the attack, although several windows were shattered and the walls were riddled with bullet holes.

While police were investigating, a nearby house was set alight.

A couple inside were overcome by smoke and had to be rescued.

A man also was seriously assaulted by four men in the Tinus cemetery that night.

Since the violence began on February 19, at least three cases of murder, six of attempted murder and 14 of arson have been reported.

Nine people have been arrested on charges from attempted murder and illegal possession of ammunition in public violence.
Six die over charity food

By MOSES MAMAILA

INTENSE fighting at Holomisa squatter camp on the East Rand, which has claimed at least six lives in a week, was triggered by food donated by Operation Hunger, local residents have claimed.

"Operation Hunger has given birth to an ugly child - operation execute," one resident told City Press this week.

Community leader Wilson Makoza said: "The whole thing was sparked by greedy so-called leaders who wanted to sell food donated by Operation Hunger.

"An organisation calling itself Vicosa, which apparently has connections with Operation Hunger and the Development Trust, was behind the scheme which defrauded the community."

The so-called leaders distributed some of the donated food to card-carrying Vicosa members, while the rest was sold to the people in the camp."

On Sunday the residents launched "operation execute" on the homes of officials of the organisation.

Six people believed to be Vicosa members were hacked to death and several shacks were destroyed in the fighting, which lasted for three days.

The alleged Vicosa members, most of whom were driven out of the area, counter-attacked, leaving four people with gunshot wounds."

When City Press visited the squatter camp, this week armed residents were patrolling the area.
Stokvel mayhem as thugs strike

By ELIAS MALULEKE

A GANG of 11 thugs wielding AK-47s and an assortment of other weapons struck at a stokvel party in Mamelodi West and killed a man before robbing about 40 patrons and the owner of the house.

Businessman Eddie "Bifty" Seshoela, who was hosting the Maraisqa Club stokvel at his house in Block B, was robbed of more than R25,000 in cash, and clothing and audio visual equipment valued at over R40,000 on Monday morning.

Patrons were robbed of their jewellery, cash and items of clothing by the thugs who pistol whipped several of the patrons.

Jafita "Stiki" Mokwebo, 25, was shot at point blank range with a 9 mm pistol after the thugs stormed the kitchen where he was busy packing liquor into the fridges.

The thugs allegedly used "military precision" and took their time during the robbery which lasted more than 45 minutes.

Police spokesman Maj Andrew Lesch confirmed the incident and said 40 people were in the house when the incident occurred at about 3.15 am on Monday.

However, the SA Police's conduct during the unusually lengthy robbery was questioned after a man, who was sitting in a bakkie when the gunmen arrived, reported the incident to the local police station and returned to find the thugs still at work.

The police allegedly arrived about 10 minutes after the robbers made their escape.

Lesch said the allegation was serious and would be investigated.

According to eyewitnesses, the heavily armed thugs stormed Seshoela's house shortly after 2.30 am and forced patrons into the yard and house to lie on the ground.

One of the armed thugs kept watch at the gate, some surrounded the house and others went inside and held their victims captive.

Eyewitnesses James Maliba said he was taking a nap in the bakkie when he noticed an armed man standing at the gate.

"I realised it was a robbery and took off in the bakkie to report the incident at the police station," Maliba said.

After storming the house and shooting Mokwebo, the robbers stripped patrons of their valuables and forced them to undress.

Seshoela said he came out of a backroom when he heard the shooting and walked straight into the barrel of an AK-47.

"I froze, not knowing what to do and then I was hit on the head with a gun butt and fell down," Seshoela said.

He regained consciousness after the thugs left.

The three gunmen then turned their attention to a youth also employed by Seshoela. He was grabbed and threatened with death unless he showed them where the money was kept.

The youth, who asked to remain anonymous, said he pretended not to know where the keys to the backyard bedroom were kept. But he was knocked "senseless" with a gun butt.

"Two struggled with me and forced me to stand up, while the third demanded the keys. I continued to play dumb because Sis Grace was sleeping in the room," the youth said.

However, one of the thugs kicked the door open and pushed the helpless youth inside. They pointed their guns at him and ordered him to show them the cash box.

Seshoela's wife, Grace, who was sleeping in the bedroom, was also stripped and her jewellery was taken.

The gunmen also stripped unconscious Seshoela of his jewellery and leather jacket.

The gangsters loaded their loot into the boot of a white Skyline car they were using.

Meanwhile, Maliba said on arrival at the police station, about 2 km from the scene of the robbery, he stopped a vanload of policemen and told them the details.

"They said I should report first to the charge office," he said.

He allegedly reported the matter to a policewoman who then called the police. However, there was a delay as the police allegedly looked around for bullets.

The police then suggested he use his bakkie to lead them to the scene of the crime.

"I was driving ahead of them and as we reached the house, I found the police were no longer following me," said Maliba.

On arrival at the house, he saw the robbers were still standing in the yard. Maliba circled the block and noticed the police van allegedly heading back towards the police station.

He said if the police had reacted swiftly, they would have caught the thugs in the act.

The youth said before the thugs left, one of them demanded that all people in the house should be killed, but the others objected and then left the premises.

Maj Lesch said police were still investigating and no arrests had been made.

DEVASTATED ... Grieving parents Johannes and Clara Mokwebo after their son Jafita was shot by armed robbers.
Black man claims assault by whites

By Mathatha Tsedu

A BLACK resident of Leondale, near Germiston, was assaulted at the weekend by two white men who called him a "kaffir".

Mr Reggie Ramerafe (34) said when he went to the Alberton police station he was asked to drop charges.

"Police could not be reached for comment yesterday."

Ramerafe, of 49 Antelope Street, said the two men accosted him as he left his house on Saturday morning. They hurled insults at him, calling him a "kaffir" who had no business to stay in the once whites-only suburb.

"They called me kaffir," says Leondale resident:

"One of them started breaking my flowers. I threw a stone at him but missed and the second one came for me. I ran away," Ramerafe said.

He said he went into a black-owned house nearby where his assailants caught up with him, kicking and assaulting him. He sustained injuries to his jaw, eye, lips and legs.

"They tried to drag me into their car but I resisted as I knew they would probably kill me. The owner of the house called the police but by the time they arrived the men had left," he said.

A policeman traced the assailants to a house in his street, he said, and took him there to identify them.

"I confirmed that they were the attackers but was surprised at the friendliness of the police towards the men," he said.

He left the policeman at the house and went to the police station to report the matter.

They tried to drag me into their car but I resisted as I knew they would probably kill me."
Hostels go for peace

More than 1,000 hostel dwellers committed themselves to peace at a meeting at Soweto's Nancefield hostel on Saturday, organised by the Hostel Residents' Peace Initiative.

The meeting was attended by representatives of 30 Witwatersrand hostels.

It was aimed at furthering last year's peace initiative, started by both ANCYL and Inkatha Freedom Party hostel dwellers.

The meeting decided each hostel would draw up and implement a code of conduct for its residents. This would be shared with all other hostel residents to encourage and facilitate a shared approach, a South African Council of Churches statement said yesterday.

One of the key points accepted at Saturday's meeting was respect for each person's right to belong to a political party of his choice as well as respect for all political leaders.

Other points to be included in the suggested codes of conduct were:

- Rejection of ethnic aggression.
- Promotion of healthy relationships with township residents living close to hostels.
- The need for reconciliation and the bridging of gaps in cultural values. — Sapa.
Teachers meet today
to decide on strike

By Lulama Luti

WHETHER Soweto teachers will go back to school is to be decided during a meeting at the Jeppegeng Community Centre today.

This follows a meeting last week when Education and Training Minister Dr Sam de Beer met with a delegation of the South African Democratic Teachers' Union (SADTU).

At the meeting Dr Beer agreed to stop the retrenchment of 32 teachers until the matter has been discussed at

Schools staff want their demands met first:

a meeting scheduled to take place this week.

Speaking at a Press conference on Friday, representatives of Soweto branch of SADTU indicated that unless their demands were acceded to they would not go back to school.

The demands included the unconditional reinstatement of the 32 teachers, that they be paid and given letters of appointment, and that the DET place a moratorium on all pending retrenchments.

According to SADTU Soweto president Mr Matshane Matsane they had information that 518 teachers would be retrenched by the end of this month.

General secretary of the Soweto Education Co-ordinating Committee, Mr Joe Ndlovu said his organisation supported the teachers' action and added that it would be simplistic to call on them to go back to class while their grievances had not been dealt with.

Hostel dwellers committed to peace

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Residents meet at the Nancefield Hostel:

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VAAL HOSTELS

in meeting

for peace

JOHANNESBURG. — More than a thousand hostel dwellers committed themselves to peace at a meeting at Soweto's Nancefield hostel organised by the Hostel Residents' Peace Initiative at the weekend.

The meeting was attended by representatives of 30 Witwatersrand hostels and was aimed at furthering last year's peace initiative started by both ANC and IFP hostel dwellers.

The meeting decided that each hostel would draw up and implement a code of conduct for its residents, which would be shared with all other hostel residents.

One key point accepted at the meeting was "respect for each person's right to belong to a political party of his choice and respect for all political leaders".

SAPA
Court told of attack and murder on train

By Susan Smuts

The third trial involving men accused of train violence began in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday when two suspects pleaded not guilty to murder and attempted murder.

Jean Bongani Mazibuko (24) and Michael Mgini (28), both of Naptel Hostel, pleaded not guilty to murdering Thapelo Johannes Tsotsela on the Germiston-Johannesburg train on October 17, 1993, and to attempting to murder seven other commuters.

Victims

The State alleges the men were part of an armed group who attacked the commuters.

One of the alleged victims, Cecilia Kilima Hatchwayo, told Mr Justice W.J. van der Merwe and two assessors she had seen a group of about 10 men board the train at the George Goch station.

George Goch station

Three of the men, who were armed with a pang and knobkerries, had come into her coach, where commuters were singing "Freedom song".

She said the three men asked the passengers to continue their songs because "there are people not fighting". Hatchwayo testified.

She said Mazibuko then hit Tsotsela with an iron weapon which had been screwed into his knobkerrie. Two other assailants joined the attack.

Tsotsela fell to the ground and the three men hit him repeatedly.

Mazibuko then attacked Hatchwayo, who was pregnant at the time. Although she tried to defend herself, she quickly lost strength and fell to the ground. Mazibuko hacked her on her head.

She said the men alighted at the Jeppe station.

The hearing continues.
2 more deaths in squatter camp

DURBAN. — Two men were killed in the Bhambayi settlement near Inanda, Durban, at the weekend bringing the number of deaths in the overcrowded squatter camp to 12 in recent days.

Police spokesman Captain Hamilton Nqidi said the men had been found with stab and bullet wounds on Saturday.

At Mehlomnyama, Port Shepstone, Mr Mandlenkosi Dube was gunned down at the weekend, KwaZulu police said.

Two people were arrested and are expected to appear in court today.

In another attack, a woman and her two sons were injured when men armed with AK-47 rifles fired on them in the Phoboko area. No arrests were made.

Illegal arms

On the Reef, the body of a Waterville Hostel resident, Mr Johan Mbelle, 30, was found in the hostel grounds with two bullet wounds on Sunday night, police reported yesterday.

Also on the East Rand, three men were arrested for the illegal possession of firearms and ammunition. A 28-year-old man was arrested after a 9mm Beretta pistol was found in a room in the Daveyton Hostel, and at a house in nearby Rasingwe a 21-year-old man was arrested after the discovery of a .38 Special revolver and ammunition, plus two AK-47 bullets.

The third man was arrested when he was found in possession of an unlicensed pistol and ammunition at a home in Tsanelong in Tembisa. — Saps
Man denies train killings

STEPHANE BOTHA

A CARD-carrying Inkatha member charged with murdering three and attempting to kill another nine train commuters claimed in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday that he was the victim of train violence and not the perpetrator.

In a statement made shortly after his arrest, Albert Diamini told the police how six men armed with pangas and other sharp weapons entered a train coach on October 9, 1991 and indiscriminately launched an attack.

They were travelling from the KwaZulu railway station to Germiston when attacked. Shortly before the attack some people were singing ANC songs but were warned to stop, he stated.

Diamini, in possession of an unlicensed firearm he intended taking to Natal, had opened fire on the attackers and hit one before receiving a blow to his head with a panga, he stated. He was assaulted several times more before being thrown off the moving train.

Later, he was taken to the Natal Regional Hospital where some of the other victims pointed him out as one of the attackers.

After his arrest, he was transferred to the Boksburg-Fontwell hospital.

"I think the reason for my transfer was because one group of nurses wanted to give me a lethal injection, while the others said that I should live," Diamini said in the statement.

He denied that he had attacked anybody on that train or that he had thrown any commuter from the train. He had only fired shots in self-defence, he said.
Two unidentified brothers were shot, one of them fatally, in a taxi-war attack at the Baragwanath rank yesterday.

They were gunned down after leaving the Soweto Taxi Association offices as they stood talking at a petrol station. A police spokesman said a white BMW had driven past and returned a few minutes later.

Three men armed with AK-47 rifles jumped out of the car and opened fire on the brothers.

The taxi owners were hit several times in the fusillade of about 20 bullets before their assailants sped off in the car.

The two were taken across the road to Baragwanath Hospital, where one later died.
Two cops shot dead on the East Rand

Service pistol stolen by killers:

By Sipho Mthembu and Sapa

TWO traffic policemen were shot dead in their car at Vosloorus on the East Rand yesterday morning.

They were Mr Samuel Khaya Mbowana (30) and Shadrack Mbuyazi (28).

Police spokeswoman Lieutenant Janine Smith said the policemen were sitting in their car in Hattingh Drive when they were approached at about 7.20am by two men armed with handguns.

The men fired through the driver’s window, hitting both officers in the chest. Two 9mm cartridges were found at the scene, Smith said.

Vosloorus town clerk Mr George Prinsloo said only Mbuyazi had been armed. His service pistol was stolen.

Vosloorus police station commander Captain Casper van Eeden confirmed police were tracking one of the attackers thought to have been wounded in the incident.

Mbowana’s wife Judith was too distraught to talk to Sowetan yesterday. The couple had three children. Mbuyazi, who stayed in the barracks at the Vosloorus traffic department, is from KwaMbonambi in Richards Bay.
Mamelodi pupils stone, burn trucks

By Phil Moape and Mkeed Kotolo

As Soweto schools struggle to return to normal, chaos erupted at schools in Mamelodi, near Pretoria, after violent incidents in the area yesterday. Pupils burnt two delivery vehicles and stoned several others in the township. No injuries were reported.

Township sources said pupils from the troubled Izikhulu Secondary School in Mamelodi East attempted to disrupt classes at another school. When they failed, they turned on a furniture delivery van and stoned it before setting it alight.

They then attacked other vehicles including a bread delivery truck which they set alight. Pupils said they had been targeted by government vehicles, and a member of the Congress of South African Students (Cosas) said it was unfortunate that business vehicles were also attacked.

Izikhulu yesterday reopened after being closed because of disruptions.

Meanwhile, three Cosas members pleaded not guilty in the Pretoria Magistrate's Court yesterday on a charge of attending an illegal gathering. The case was postponed to March 22.

In Soweto, good attendances were reported in most schools but the spectre of further disruptions hung over the township. The local branch of Cosas yesterday accused the police of waging a silent war against the organisation and its members.

Soweto Cosas spokesman Bafana Twala warned that schools in the township would not get back to normal because of the "continued harassment and intimidation of pupils" by police.

Twala said two "comrades" were taken to the Protea police station last week and allegedly tortured by police.

Soweto police spokesman Major Joseph Ngubeni said four pupils were arrested in Diepkloof about two weeks ago for allegedly hijacking a delivery truck and were facing robbery charges.
Inkatha man gets 8 years for train attack

THE police had done everything they could to solve a 1991 train attack, a Rand Supreme Court judge said yesterday as he sentenced an Inkatha member to eight years in jail for attempting to murder a commuter.

The judge, Mr Justice J Els, found Albert Dlamini (30) of Mazibuko Hostel, Kaledoeng, guilty of attempting to murder a commuter on a Germiston-bound train on October 9 1991 and of illegal possession of a firearm and ammunition.

Dlamini was jailed for eight years for attempted murder and two years for illegal possession of the gun and ammunition. The sentences are to run consecutively.

Judge rejects ANC supporter's evidence of R90 000 payment:

The judge found two groups had battled on the train, which made it impossible to find Dlamini had acted in common purpose with other attackers.

Give evidence 12/13/93

Not all the people who were attacked had been called to give evidence, and Dlamini could not be convicted for attempting to murder these people. Of the four victims who did testify, the judge accepted the evidence only of one.

The judge rejected as false the testimony of ANC supporter Simon Komane, who said Dlamini had told him he had been promised R90 000 for the "work" of attacking commuters. Komane claimed Dlamini told him the money and guns for the attack had been supplied from Kwezine Hostel on the East Rand.

In another train violence trial, judgment is expected today in the trial of Mr Leam Bongani Mazibuko (24) and Mr Michael Mqoqo (26) who have pleaded not guilty to murdering a commuter and attempting to murder seven others on a Germiston-Johannesburg train on October 17 last year. - Sapa.
A fragile peace comes to Alex

A year after the 'Alex war' initiatives by the community and outside monitors have brought peace to the poverty-stricken township. By PHILIPPA GARSON

A

YEAR ago an all-out war erupted in the connected township of Alexandra. Early in March, bitter gun battles broke out between former neighbours and friends and the once close-knit community was tragically divided into "no-go" zones controlled by the Inkatha Freedom Party or African National Congress. Thousands fled their ramshackle, burnt-out homes in "Beiruit", the informal settlement, and took refuge in Mandala hostel where most of the fighting took place. ANC supporters fled the hostel, surrounding "Beiruit" and other organizations followed in a total of 2,000 of the 360,000-member community was displaced, fleeing to relative safety into the Johannesburg central council. The Alex clinic was awash with blood as the injured and dead kept piling up.

Now, however, a miracle --- if a fragile peace has descended on Alex. Where battles whipped ceaselessly up and down in Third Avenue, people now stroll about peacefully in the midst of the war. Where the Mandala hostel was a fortress manned by snipers, it is now a calm, though still dilapidated and bullet-riddled home to thousands of unemployed men who come and go freely.

Many of the credit for the astounding transformation of Alex into a relatively peaceful area with prospects of a brighter future belongs to the Inkatha Central Committee for Alex (ICC). Formed on April 1 last year when violence peaked, the ICC, which now has a full-time group, has grown into a strong and credible body.

Although it falls under the National Peace Accord, the peace committee possesses itself as far more than a local dispute resolution committee, dedicated not only to violence monitoring, but to large-scale upliftment of the community. In the belief that peace will never be attained without substantial upgrading of the area. The ICC is comprised of local ANC leaders, local and regional government authorities, business and church representatives, police and defence force members, and international monitors.

Engaging directly with Alex residents, the ICC's in turn groups held meetings almost daily. According to the peace body there has not been one

Flashback... Bloodied victim carried to safety in last year's violence.

and political conflict. Now widely known as the "reconciliation area" and has become a symbol of hope to residents. The ICC has been impressed by the work done by the people of Alex. People are now seen going about their business, and the community is gradually returning to normal.

Mike Bong, representing the interests of the ANC and its allies on the peace committee, says peace has come about largely because of the efforts of residents. He credits the ICC with making a significant contribution by providing a forum for residents to express their concerns and find solutions to problems. The ICC has also worked closely with community leaders to develop plans for the future of the township.

Although the war has ended, people still fear returning to their former homes and areas are strictly "Inkatha" or "ANC", despite the political affiliation or community members. The ICC hopes to continue to work towards a more peaceful and prosperous future for Alex and its residents.

The ICC has emerged as a powerful force in the community, and its success has been recognized by both residents and outside observers. The ICC's work has helped to bring about a sense of hope and possibility for a better future for Alex.

This person will be required to:

- write up now and updated materials
- co-ordinate the writing up of materials in CIC
- do some editing in consultation with the co-ordinator

Skills needed:

- Writing skills
- Word processing skills

Write for or collect an Application Form from:

MUIC, 36 Ecumenical Centre, 20 St Andrews Street, Durban, 4001.

Tel: (031) 301-2007/8

CLOSING DATE: 26 March 1993

WRITER

Materials Development Unit

The Career Information Centre (CIC) is a non-governmental organisation providing information about education and work. The Materials Development Unit of CIC is looking for a writer.

The successful candidate will be:

- experienced in writing for a non-governmental organisation
- have excellent writing skills
- be comfortable working with a pre-defined schedule and deadline
- have excellent research skills
- be able to work independently

The successful candidate will:

- produce high-quality, informative and engaging content
- maintain regular contact with the CIC
- be able to meet deadlines

The successful candidate will:

- work with a team of writers
- be able to work with a variety of clients
- be able to write in different styles

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Doves of peace coo at Langeberg

The Langeberg Food Co-op, once the site of violent battles between rival union factions, is now striving for peace after the intervention of mediators, reports FERIAL HAFFAJEE.

A LITTLE hope for deeply divided South Africa is being forged at the Langeberg Food Co-operative in Boksburg, near Johannesburg.

Last month, warring workers at the factory signed a pact to end violence and promised to use a peace committee instead of pangas to solve problems.

Workers have lost their lives and many have been injured in two years of political strife between the Inkatha-linked United Workers' Union of South Africa (Uwusa) and the Congress of South African Trade Unions affiliate, the Food and Allied Workers' Union (Fawu) at the factory.

It was the site of the most notorious Uwusa/Cosatu battles on the Reef and while fighting only once strayed to the factory premises, workers fought just outside the factory and also in surrounding townships.

Things got so dangerous that management at one time considered closing the factory.

Instead, they called in the Local Dispute Resolution Committee (LDRC) — affiliated to the National Peace Accord — which suggested they enlist the help of the Independent Mediation Service of South Africa (Imssa).

Imssa took each worker through a four-hour crash course in tolerance and democracy, and on February 16, a code of conduct was signed at the factory. Each worker has received a copy and

Pledged to peace ... Langeberg workers have committed themselves to a code of conduct

huge signed versions occupy pride of place in the factory's yard so that the code is always visible to the company's 1 000 canning, glassing and distribution workers.

But it is going to take a lot of work to make the code more than just a pretty symbol.

There is still palpable tension at Langeberg. At the front gate everyone is searched with state-of-the-art equipment and a sign warns that weapons will not be allowed on to the premises. Security guards with walkie-talkies escort visitors about.

Uwusa and Fawu representatives deliberately sit at different sides of the table and talking to each other does not come easily. But both unions have committed themselves to the freedom of association or disassociation — and neither can compel workers to join their organisation.

According to the code, this gives workers "the right to belong to a political party, organisation or trade union of their choice ... or to elect not to belong to any such body".

The parties to the code have agreed to affiliate to the LDRC and also sworn against violence and compulsion.

Workers who signed the code have made sacrifices: they may not wear any party political symbols, like T-shirts in the workplace, or distribute any material of the organisation or trade union they belong to.

Langeberg management also committed itself to majority unionism in the code and while there must be no compulsion to strike, a clause states: "This shall not be construed as limiting or preventing any trade union, office-bearer, shop steward or worker from lawfully engaging in, or lawfully encouraging others, to engage in industrial action."

Uwusa has, according to sources, a minimal presence at the factory. It does not have shop stewards and Fawu would not at first assent to it participating as a representative union.

"If it could hinder the peace process, that organisation must be brought into that process regardless of its constituency," believes a source who helped draw up the code.

Despite the various provisions, the parties realised that disputes could still arise. So the code makes provision for dispute resolution: a permanent peace committee, comprising three management representatives, seven from Fawu and three from Uwusa, is the first option.

Fawu president Chris Dilmami said parties at Langeberg had "been brave enough to discuss ways and means of sorting out problems" while the rest of the country was being devastated by violence.

Amos Magcanya, a shop steward at Langeberg, at first resisted meeting the National Peace Accord. It wasn't working on the ground and had become a "paper commitment", he thought. Now he will "encourage use of the code and the procedure to minimise friction".

To popularise the code, Langeberg's management will "run follow-up sessions throughout the year", says general manager Garth Ward.

Ward adds that peace negotiations have had the important spin-off of improving labour relations. "Productivity will improve if you improve (workplace) relations," he says.
Tapes snag delays carnage inquiry

By Charlene Smith

Analysis of the tapes concerning the Bophelong massacre in July last year are still holding up the findings of the Goldstone commission into the deaths of 45 people in Bophelong.

The tapes, which were partly erased — apparently in error by the SA Police — have part-recordings of police radio and phone traffic in the area before the evening of the massacre.

The Goldstone commission initially first gave the tapes to a South African electronics company for analysis, and then withdrew them when it was discovered that the company was a major defense force contractor.

Refused

The tapes were then taken to Britain for an analysis that all parties involved in the hearing, including the ANC, SADF and SAP, considered woefully inadequate.

Members of the commission then listened to the tapes, and it is believed they compiled a lengthy transcript of the communications on them. It is also believed that nothing of a dramatic nature is contained in the tapes. However, the commission refused to comment this week.

In November last year the commission gave the police the opportunity of obtaining an additional transcript of the tape by other overseas experts.

However, since then the Department of Foreign Affairs has had difficulty in finding a country willing to investigate the tapes.
Gunmen flee axeman

AK gang routed by local ‘peace’ man

By MONWABISI NOMADOLO

He might be a man of peace, but when the chips were down Daveyton peace committee man Diketso Makana Moloi showed he could out-Rambo the best of them — armed with only an axe!

This happened while the ANC man’s house was being attacked by a gang of six men armed with AK-47s and Molotov cocktails.

This week Moloi, a member of the National Peace Accord’s local Dispute Resolution Committee, told of how he drove off the gunmen.

Sylvester Stallone eat your heart out!

“It sounds fictitious... but it’s real,” said a relieved Moloi.

A bit like the legendary Xhosa prophet Makana, Moloi said he had shouted to his attackers “My time is not near” and counter-attacked, swinging an axe above his head.

TRUSTY BLADE ... Daveyton peace official Diketso Makana Moloi shows off the homemade axe he used in his dramatic counter-attack.

Pic. EVANS MSOWENI

THIS WEEK
A bit like the legendary Xhosa prophet Makana, Moloi said he had shouted to his attackers “My time is not near” and counter-attacked, swinging an axe above his head.

Moloi and his family escaped unhurt but his Tlase Street home was damaged by a petrol bomb during the early Saturday morning attack.

Moloi said the attack was part of a campaign of “systematic killings of ANC members” in the area.

**Explosion**

He said: "It was round 2 am. I heard my two dogs barking loudly and then there was a deafening explosion.

He rushed outside, grabbing his trusty home-made axe on the way.

He encountered three men, one of whom was struggling to ignite the fuse of a petrol bomb.

"The one who was busy striking a match was armed with an automatic weapon."

"I jumped for the armed man ... struck him twice with the axe ... on the head and then his arm."

The gang of six, surprised by the ferocity of the axeman, panicked and ran.

"They thought I was part of a group of comrades!"

Turning only to fire off a wild burst, the gang disappeared into the darkness.

Moloi was at the forefront of attempts to prevent the police from harassing residents of the area, which has been a flashpoint of violence.

Chris Hani, whose lives in one of the hardest hit sections of Daveyton, has blamed a vigilante gang called the Amabutho for the strife.

Seven residents were massacred there last year.

While residents accuse the Amabutho, police said they believed the attackers were from “outside” adding that investigations were at a sensitive stage.

Riot and Serious Crime Investigations Unit commander Lt. Watson confirmed that the names had been
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Riot and Serious Crime Investigations Unit commander Lt. Watson confirmed that the names had been handed to him.

Another recently returned ANC soldier, Erasmus "Rasta" Mawola, 25, was stabbed to death, allegedly by Amabutho, last Friday night in Mandela Park.

Mawola and four others had been charged with the murder of two Amabutho members.

Also last Saturday another ANC member, "Big-boy" Dladla, was buried after he was shot dead, allegedly by Amabutho.

Last year ANC official Wiseman Cebisa was allegedly executed by the same group.
All eight traffic policemen operating in Vosloorus on the East Rand have been withdrawn indefinitely following the fatal shooting of two of their colleagues in the township last week.

The decision to withdraw them was effected last Friday.

This follows the killing of Samuel Khaya Mbokwana (30) and Shadrack Mbuyazi (28), who were shot dead while sitting in their car in Hattingh Drive in Vosloorus.

Local Chief Traffic Officer Mr GS Lehlohonolo Sobeketo said that all eight traffic policemen in the area would be withdrawn until their safety could be ensured by the community.

"At the moment (having them out on the streets) is not worth it. There is some kind of squad patrol going on but the officers no longer man the roads as was the case prior to last week's incident," he said.

Both Mbokwana and Mbuyazi will be buried at their hometowns in Empangeni, Natal, and Mount Frere, Transkei, respectively. A memorial service for the two will be held at the Vosloorus Civic Centre tomorrow.

The chairman of the Vosloorus Road Safety Committee, who is in charge of the scholar patrols in the township, said they were dealt a heavy blow by the removal of the traffic policemen and that the safety of the schoolchildren was now at stake.

"There are about 13 primary schools taking part in the programme and we are talking here of thousands of little children who are now going to be at the mercy of rude motorists.

"The scholar patrol programme was started about three years ago."
Kagiso house torched

By Ruth Bhengu

A KAGISO, West Rand, house was damaged after a mob of rampaging schoolchildren set it alight yesterday.

The pupils, all from the SG Mahela High School, petrol bombed the house at about 11:30pm in what is believed to be a revenge attack following the killing of a pupil earlier last week.

The pupil, Samuel Khumou, had apparently been involved in a quarrel with another youth over a girlfriend. During the row Khumou was stabbed to death.

The suspect's uncle, Mr Ezekiel Vilankulu, said he came home to find a group of people standing outside the house trying to put out the fire.

"The front portion of the house was completely gutted," Vilankulu said.

He said trouble started last week when Khumou was stabbed to death. A youth has been arrested.
Bodies found on East Rand

JOHANNESBURG. The bodies of two men with various wounds were found in Killehong on the East Rand yesterday morning, a police spokesman said.

A Daveyton policeman, Constable M-Mokwena, was shot and wounded by gunfire in the township on Sunday, police said yesterday. The motive for the attack is unknown.

A Tembisa man, Mr L.J. Chuene, was found necklaced in the township on Saturday. It was reported yesterday.
Fragile peace on Reef after much bloodletting

By Mzimasi Ngulule

IT TOOK elderly men and a suicidal risk to launch a peace initiative that has now spread to more than twenty-four hostels in the Reef.

A breathtaking case is that of Jeppe Hostel inmate Mr Jacob Dlomo, who pleaded with rival Selby Hostel inmates not to burn his corpse in case they decided to kill him.

"Leave my corpse for my next-of-kin so that they can give it a decent burial," he said when young Selby Hostel residents cried for his blood.

This was after he had ignored persistent pleas from fellow inmates and braved his way into the Selby Hostel to deliver a message of peace.

Scribbled on a piece of paper, the message of peace was the culmination of the efforts of eight elderly Jeppe Hostel inmates who were exhorted by a Xhosa chief to work towards bringing an end to black on black violence.

It was August 31 and the war between the two hostels was at its climax.

Spattered with blood

The gates and walls of both hostels were still splattered with fresh human blood.

"I did not come here to ask forgiveness. I simply came to find an alternative to the kind of life we are subjected to," he told them.

Selby Hostel residents did not believe a word. They were adamant he was on a reconnaissance mission for further attacks.

In fact, Mr German Mlathi, leader of the Selby Hostel residents, still grimaces with shock and disbelief whenever he recalls the day he saw Dlomo at Selby Hostel.

"We knew that Jeppe Hostel was a valley of death. They too knew they could not put a foot in our hostel.

"On seeing him at our hostel, unarmed and with only a letter in his hand, I could hardly believe my eyes," he said. His patient pleas did not fall on deaf ears. Although still very suspicious, the old men in Selby calmed down the young residents.

A peace process began. At great risk to their lives, the old men from both hostels had to contend with the fury of the youths who were bent on vengeance.

To defuse an atmosphere of mistrust the residents from both hostels decided to invite a Methodist Church minister the Rev Mvume Dandala to act as a facilitator. Dandala's participation began when he attended a meeting at Pioneer Park in November last year and challenged the men to pass peace to one another as would happen in church.

"It was incredible to watch the two groups begin to embrace one another with the peace of God," Dandala said.

This meeting led to a prayer, peace and Christmas service in December at the Jeppe Hostel for about 200 residents.

In February this year another prayer service attended by more than 1 000 hostel residents was held at Selby.

Leaders of about 24 hostels committed themselves to a peace pledge in the presence of Bishop Stanley Mogoba, the Rev Frank Chikanu and Dr Peter Stoerey.

The residents also elected a committee to work on long-term peace goals, including setting up a code of conduct, programmes for social life and education and plans to make a contribution to the future of the country.

The peace initiative is still in its infancy. The hardened attitudes of many years of great apartheid are still apparent.

Nonetheless, the interest that has since come from many hostels on the Reef looks set to overcome ethnic conflict and party political bickering.

All the participants stress the need to root out the involvement of political parties. They insist the initiative is strictly a hostel affair. All they are pleading for is money to fund their programme of action.

Contact person is the Rev Mvume Dandala at (011) 337-5938.
Residents protest at shooting in stadium

Residents from Eldorado Park, Kliptown and Killarney West staged pickets in protest against the fatal wounding of a Eldorado Park High School student by police on Thursday.

Anthony Morgan (21) was shot dead by an assistant police constable during a school athletics meeting at the Eldorado Park stadium, south of Johannesburg.

Staff Reporter (243)
ANC and Inkatha to march in same area

POLITICAL tolerance in East Rand townships will be seriously tested on Sunday when the ANC and Inkatha hold marches and rallies in Vosloorus and Katlehong on the same day.

ANC PWV spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said yesterday a groundbreaking decision to have a joint ANC and Inkatha "marshalling structure" at both rallies had been taken to lessen the chance of violence at the rallies.

Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi would address Inkatha supporters in Vosloorus, while ANC secretary general Cyril Ramaphosa had been asked to address an ANC rally in Katlehong, he said.

Mamoepa said the PWV regional dispute resolution committee had decided on joint monitoring mechanisms which involved police and independent monitors, and it had been agreed that the routes for the marches to the rallies would be identified beforehand and strictly adhered to.

The ANC rally would launch the organisation's election campaign in the region and it was therefore even more important that a tone of peace and political tolerance be generated, he said.

He said ANC supporters would begin door-to-door campaigning immediately after Sunday's rally and would also canvass the area in which the Inkatha rally was being held.

"We are in touch with the regional dispute resolution committee and the national peace secretariat, we are making approaches to the Commissioner of Police to minimise confronta-

Ray Hartley

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Goldstone appeals Row over invites
Greed, intolerance spark taxi wars

PRETORIA — The intolerance, selfishness and greed of minibus taxi operators are partly responsible for outbreaks of violence in the industry, the Goldstone commission has found.

In its fourth interim report on violence in the industry, the commission said a variety of factors had contributed to the serious loss of life, injury and damage in the Groblersdal area since 1988.

These included the existence of too many taxis, a power struggle between operators, economic pressure as a result of high vehicle and maintenance costs, and a culture of lawlessness.

"There is a high degree of intolerance, selfishness and greed which militates against co-operation and bedevils attempts at mediation," the report said.

Among recommendations made by the commission were the appointment of neutral taxi rank marshals operating under a code of conduct agreed upon by all taxi companies. Fair, consistent but sympathetic law enforcement from the authorities and a more accessible town council were also required, the commission's report said.

Taxi operators and drivers should obtain further business and driving skills, while those involved in the industry needed greater empathy, less selfishness and more respect for the rights of other operators, the report recommended.

The commission stressed that all participants in the industry should be committed to the peaceful resolution of grievances.

"Unless every person in the minibus industry wants peace and works towards it, all efforts to combat violence are doomed to failure."

ANC and Inkatha plan rallies

MORE moves were made yesterday to prevent violence on the East Rand, where Inkatha and the ANC are scheduled to hold rallies and marches in Katlehong and Vosloorus townshipships on Sunday.

Johannesburg hostel residents' peace initiative committee official the Rev Mvume Dandala said his organisation had called on hostel dwellers to mark Inkatha's rally in the township with "peaceful behaviour".

"Inkatha and the ANC have agreed to a joint marshalling arrangement for the two rallies, which will be addressed by Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi and ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa.

Dandala said the committee had been invited to address the hostel residents "on the need for peace in these difficult days. A special call was made to those who will be travelling long distances to get there, to ensure that they observe the efforts for peace and do not disturb the community in any way," he said.

A plea was made to the township residents of Vosloorus not to be surprised or overcome with panic when they see people in traditional dress on this day, for people have been alerted to observe peace," Dandala said.

International observers and regional dispute resolution committee officials will monitor Sunday's marches and rallies.

Meanwhile, ANC spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said the ANC and the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association would meet shortly to strengthen an accord signed in October last year.

Mamoepa said the bilateral agreement had substantially reduced violence and not a single incident of political violence between hostel dwellers and surrounding communities had been recorded this year.

He said the meeting would look at ways of putting pressure on government to make funds available through the National Housing Forum for the upgrading of hostels and surrounding areas.

The two organisations would also discuss ways of involving businesses and churches in the upgrading process.

"Business can play a role in providing technical and financial resources for upgrading and development," Dandala said.
Dutch police slam SAP

Sindiso Dutch policeman monitoring violence in the Vaal Triangle has sharply criticized South African Police methods in the area. In particular, he and colleagues in his town have raised with an Internal Stability Unit (ISU) complaint "alleged" through messengers at a political funeral "for an apparent revenge." He said his team had not intervened, violence would have erupted.

Amsterdam newspaper assistant, Udo van Beek, and Sergeant Joop Kroes of the Groenendijk police, with Amsterdam police, got an interview from a senior Dutch policeman, with Amsterdam police, about the "interesting methods of their contemporaries in the Vaal Triangle." By PAT SIDLEY

Cape Town begins "stabilizing the peace process." Van Beek said he could see no justification for the death of the two African National Congress youths in Serumbong, when a red flag was "in a bale." As youths in the crowd were about to attack a police van, his colleague had driven between the youths and the policemen. When Van Beek asked the Cape Town driver "to move five people back," he had refused to do so and got out of the driver's seat. The driver had responded that he too was in danger. The S.A. had promised that this would never happen again.

The SAP, commenting on the incident, said police were "bystanders" as a police "as far as possible" to "merely keep up" with "atrocity reports," but the SAP said it was known that events were "often obscured by criminals." "Violence was not uncommon" at these events. Commenting on the ISU's approach, Van Beek stressed that policing was not only a matter of "recounting" events once violence had occurred. Much could be done beforehand, including consultation with community leaders and traffic control, so that there was no violence at all. The SAP said it was "determined to be a constructive criticism," but commented on this condition in Vaal which was difficult to implement because of the "international black" and "vicious" nature of the event. Nevertheless, Van Beek was killed, and police officers were not killed as badly as great numbers of South African police officers were.

But Van Beek said subsequent contact between his group and senior SAP officers had convinced them there were structural problems which hampered effective community policing. He cited as an example the fact that units of Crime Combating and Investigations — the investigative arm of the SAP — operating one police station did not report to senior commanders, but through a separate chain of command. "The law enforcement and investigations arm of the police should work together to be effective," said Van Beek.

One senior policeman, said Van Beek, had also complained that the ISU in its area would serve without informing the station commander. This could delay, he said, analysis and investigation initiatives already underway.

Van Manen pointed to a Pan Africanist Congress meeting where the group had observed a few days later in which road policing was not an interest. There was no violence, and soon the meeting was "harmonized" and the group did not provoke the crowd in the way some police man in the group had always did.

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Johannesburg. — Police lying in wait inside the coaches of a goods train shot dead four men after a group of about 30 squatters stormed the train and began plundering it near Katlehong station on the East Rand yesterday morning.

Five others were wounded, one seriously. Police spokesman Lieutenant J. Smith said the shooting started after the mob ignored warnings that they were under arrest.

Most of the group escaped and fled to the nearby squatter camp, Mandela Park, where unemployment and violence are rife.

Lt Smith said in a statement that members of the East Rand truck theft unit had boarded the train at Klipspruit station after receiving information that goods were going to be stolen from a railway truck.

When a train stopped the train at Mphandeni, near Mandela Park, about 8.45am, a group of between 25 and 30 people stormed it and began off-loading goods.

Lt Smith said the Police jumped off the train to make arrests. Their warnings were ignored, however, and they opened fire.

Arrested

The ages of the dead and wounded ranged from 12 to 27. The wounded were treated at a local hospital.

Four were arrested on being discharged.

The value of recovered goods was about R10 000, but it is not yet known how much else had been stolen, Lt Smith said.

The four arrested would probably appear in the Germiston Magistrate’s Court on Monday.

The dead were Freddie Nkandla, 23, Thabo Nhlapo, 25, Johnny Maboso, 16, and Vusi Nkwana, 18.

Another police spokesman, Lieutenant Wikus Weber, told the Cape Times last night that an inquest will be held.

"Should it be found that more force was used than the situation warranted, the police will investigate further," he said.

Sporadic theft from trains had become "a real problem", especially at crossings where trains stopped and had necessitated the formation of the special police unit, he said.

"A sporadic spokesman said last night that the train was carrying containers but "hijackers" were on the increase, he added. — Staff Reporter, Cape Times.

Arrested man had ‘robbery hit-list’

Policing on ‘instinct’ made a chance arrest in the city centre yesterday of a man carrying a bank robbery kit on a ‘hit-list’ to fund his personal debt.

The notebook he had the kit in the man’s khaki satchel included a list of potential victims and included the names of banks, mini-banks and shops in the city.

The man had hauled his debts in his notebook and had made several lists prioritizing his personal goals, which included making money coming at a Western Province athlete and becoming rich and intelligent.
R200 000 on heads of ‘Apla’ gang

LOUISE MARSLAND
Weekend Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — A R200 000 reward has been offered for information leading to the arrest of the killers of a Walkerville man and his 14-year-old son who were shot in a seemingly racially motivated attack yesterday.

A second child remains in a critical condition in the Johannesburg Hospital where she last night had brain surgery. The woman's husband and a third child — all in a school lift club — are in hospital in a serious condition.

Yesterday a man claiming to be a commander from the Azanian People’s Liberation Army (Apla) — the armed wing of the Pan Africanist Congress — blamed the South African Press Association to claim responsibility for the attack.

The man — who refused to give his name — said the incident was in line with Apla’s programme for 1993, which the organisation had dubbed “the year of the great storm”.

“I’m sick and tired of it. This kind of thing goes on every day and it’s time we took some kind of action,” Malcolm Lambrecht, father of victim Craig Lambrecht.

Neither PAC nor Apla officials, who are this weekend meeting in the Transkei capital of Umtata to discuss the commitment to the armed struggle and participation in next month’s peace talks, have been available for comment on the attack.

The purported Apla man said, before ringing off, that whites “can expect more such activities this year.”

Law and Order Minister Hermann Kriel offered the R200 000 reward. He said that “the killings are made all the more reprehensible by the fact that innocent children were involved”.

One man was arrested within hours of the attacks when a police helicopter spotted the car at the Orange Farm squatter camp after an intense search. An AK-47 rifle magazine was found in the vehicle. Police later sealed off the squatter camp and conducted a through search — without finding any trace of the gunman.

Witwatersand police spokesman Major Eugene Opperman said the arrested man claimed he was hijacked by two men — a green BMW 5-series — and was forced to drive the gunmen from place to place, including to and away from the scene of the attack.

According to witnesses at the scene the gunmen sprayed motorists with AK-47 gunfire at the intersection of the N27 and Dan Pienaar Drive on the old Vereeniging road south of Johannesburg.

Despite being hit in the back, neck and body by five bullets during the attack, Norman Mitchell drove about 1km to a service station for help.

But his wife Sandra, 35, was dead when help arrived. Her son, 14, was flown shortly afterwards on the forecourt of the garage.

Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu has condemned the shootings, saying the church “regards racist murder such as these as deeply abhorrent”.

‘Cold-blooded murder’ says woman driver

JOHANNESBURG. — Ms Erica Leukemans thought she was going to die yesterday. Instinct took over when she saw the barrels of AK-47s peeping from the open back windows of a green BMW, and she threw herself down across the passenger seat as bullets ripped into her car and those of motorists in front of her.

Ms Leukemans is shaken, but very angry at the senseless attack on white motorists at the Grasmere intersection.

“It was cold-blooded murder.”

She says she was devastated when she heard that two people had been killed and youngsters critically wounded.

She said: “It was about 7.20am and I was on my way to work. There were about five cars in front of me at the intersection. I slowed down and then saw a yellow Golf make a sudden U-turn in the intersection, followed by the green BMW.

“The guy in the Golf must have noticed something. The next minute the BMW’s back windows were wound down and the barrels of guns came out and they started firing at random.”

Her first thought was that she would be shot and she ducked down. The whole incident lasted less than two minutes. Another motorist yelled at her to “drive”.

“I just drove right through the intersection. About 500m down the road I pulled over. I was in such a state.”

It was then that she noticed that a bullet had gone through the window frame of the driver’s door. “If I hadn’t ducked, I would have been victim number three.”
Johannesburg — Renegade pupils damaged three vehicles, robbed a bystander and smashed shop windows in the city centre yesterday, marred a march in protest against examination fees.

The protest, called by the Congress of South African Students, the Pan-Africanist Students' Organisation, and the Azanian Students' Movement, turned ugly when most of the marchers ignored marshals' warnings and charged through the streets.

Journalists were threatened and a photographer was beaten.

The organisations later distanced themselves from the unruliness.

The marchers, estimated at 3 500, were on their way to the DET's offices to deliver a memorandum, when groups broke away and rushed toward the DET offices, ululating and taunting police stationed outside.

The memorandum, which was handed to a DET representative, outlined reasons for not paying exam fees. It said the government was unrepresentative, was misusing taxpayers' money and the DET had failed to deliver library and laboratory equipment or to renovate some schools. — Sapa
Apla claims highway ambush

THE PAC's armed wing Apla has claimed responsibility for the Vaal highway ambush yesterday in which a 14-year-old boy and his 35-year-old mother were killed.

Two pupils and a man — the husband and stepfather of the dead — were wounded.

The victims were among a party of white children on their way to school.

Within hours of the ambush Law and Order Minister Mr Hernus Kriel offered a R200 000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the killers.

A man claiming to be an Apla PWV commander telephoned Sapa in Johannesburg early yesterday afternoon to claim responsibility. He said: "My people carried out the attack as part of the organisation's 'Year Of the Storm'."

The caller refused to divulge his name.

Before ringing off, the man said: "White people can expect more such activities this year."

The leaders of Apla's parent body were not available for comment.

The car in which the victims were travelling was riddled with AK-47 bullets by four to six gunmen. All the windows were blown out.

The members of the school lift club were travelling on the N27 between Vereeniging and Johannesburg early yesterday morning.

In the hail of bullets, Mrs Sandra Mitchley and her 14-year-old son Shaun Nell, from her first marriage, were killed.

The driver, Mr Norman Mitchley, sustained serious gunshot wounds.

The other two wounded were Claire Silber-Bauer, 13, and 16-year-old Craig Lambrecht.

All the victims were from Walkerville.

Shots were also fired at another car but the bullet missed the driver, Ms Erica Leukemans, by centimetres.

Police believe the shots were fired from a green BMW. The driver of the car was later arrested, but claimed he was hijacked in his car and was forced to drive the gunmen from place to place, including to and away from the scene of the attack. — Staff Reporter, Sapa
How killers in green BMW cold-bloodedly staked out their target... and asked two children: Where is the school bus?

DEATH WATCH

2-18  2-15-93
The two men said that just as the bus came around the corner, they heard one of the men say they were not going to hit it as it was not full enough and that there were only three children in it.

"They told me that they watched as the men got back into the car. A few minutes later, as the Mitchley car pulled up at the intersection to turn into the Vereeniging Road, the BMW pulled out and drove up next to them."

Mr Owens said the two children stood and watched as the BMW, with tyres screeching, made a sharp U-turn back into Grasmere Road. As it did so, one of the men opened fire on the Mitchley car, hitting it from behind.

"They said that as the BMW passed the bus stop, narrowly missing the gymnast, the gymnast began firing. The children said they screamed and fell to the ground as they heard bullets whizzing past their heads," said Mr Owens.

"The only reason the attackers thought there were not many children on the bus was because from where their car was parked, they could not see the heads of about 15 little kids sitting on the opposite side of the bus."

"All the pupils who catch that bus are at primary school and very young. I have no doubt in my mind that the bus was their target."

"I thank God they changed their minds, otherwise we would have had a massacre of innocent children—and one of them would have been my son."

Motives for the attack are still unclear. One source said the killers had identified themselves as Apa members to the hijacked car driver.
Foes sign agreement for peace at rallies

THE ANC, Inkatha, the SA Police and the SA Defence Force yesterday signed a wide-ranging agreement aimed at ensuring peace at rallies to commemorate the Sharpeville massacre next Sunday.

Wits/Vaal Regional Peace Secretariat spokesman Peter Harris described the agreement as "historic—the first of its kind."

Inkatha president Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi will address his supporters on Sunday in Vosloorus, while the ANC holds its gathering in Katlehong.

Both processions, however, will wind their way through Vosloorus, Katlehong and Thokoza.

The agreement lays down elaborate procedures to ensure no fighting erupts between the ANC and IFP.

Angela King, spokesman for the UN Observer Mission in SA, said: "The measures agreed are intended to allow participants to reach and return from the stadium in safety."

"They represent an important step towards political tolerance."
3 more policemen killed over weekend

Staff Reporters

An Alexandra policeman was overpowerd by two attackers and shot dead by his service pistol in the Sandton township today, bringing to three the number of policemen murdered this weekend.

According to police, at least 11 policemen have been killed in the line of duty this year.

Police spokesman Major Ida van Zweel said the 26-year-old policeman, whose name will be released once his next of kin have been informed, was on patrol when he was attacked shortly after midnight.

As he got out of his car at a house in Second Avenue, the two killers wrestled the gun from him during a struggle, said van Zweel.

The policeman died later at the Alexandra Clinic.

Early yesterday, a policeman was shot dead and a colleague seriously wounded in a central Johannesburg shooting. Van Zweel said the gunman opened fire with a 9 mm pistol on the officers who were on foot patrol between Klein and Noord streets at about 3.30 am.

"Hillbrow police were patrolling the area when they heard shots go off. They went to investigate and saw a man running away from the scene," she said.

The wounded policeman is in a serious condition at a Johannesburg hospital. Police declined to name the hospital as the attacker has not yet been arrested.

Van Zweel said the dead constable was based at Soweto and his colleague at John Vorster Square in Johannesburg. Their names are being withheld until their families have been told.

In other attack on a policeman, a police detective who lived in Vosloorus and worked in Boksburg, was shot and killed in his driveway on Saturday.

Van Zweel said Detective Warrant Officer Morgan Zwane (36) who was married and had three children, was talking to a friend in his driveway when two men armed with Makarov pistols approached and shot Zwane, who died at the scene.

His friend, and policemen in a patrol van, managed to trace two men who were both arrested with Makarov pistols in their possession. The men resisted arrest and were slightly injured.

They are expected to appear in court tomorrow.

In other incident, a Birchleigh North, Kempton Park policeman who returned home from duty shortly after midnight on Saturday was attacked by three men wearing balaclavas as he opened his front door.

Van Zweel said the policeman managed to free himself and pulled out his service gun. His assailants fled and "ignored warnings by the policeman to stand still."

He fired one shot and one of the assailants was hit in the thigh. He is under guard in a local hospital.
Massacre remembered... Pan Africanist Congress supporters sing at the gravesides of Sharpeville victims during the annual grave-cleaning ceremony yesterday.

Picture: Ken Oosterbroek

Rallies mostly peaceful

By Montshiwa Moroka
Phil Molefe
and Gien Elsas

In contrast to past years, Sharpeville Day rallies across the PWV area attended by tens of thousands of people passed relatively peacefully in a day of celebration marred by the death of a man and the wounding of at least two others in Katlehong on the East Rand.

Angry marchers also stoned a car carrying members of the European Community peace monitoring team in the township. No one was injured.

A potentially explosive situation was defused in the Vaal Triangle outside Sharpeville police station yesterday evening when police placated angry ANC supporters by applying them with a pole gun which to hoist their own ANC flag.

The relatively peaceful day was preceded by a historic pact between the ANC, the Inkatha Freedom Party, the SAP and the SADF on Saturday in which all parties

To Page 2

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Man dies on relatively peaceful Sharpeville Day

Star 22/3/93

(From Page 1)

agreed to co-ordinate their activities yesterday.

A statement of intent at the beginning of the agreement called on all parties and supporters to conduct themselves in a peaceful manner and abide by the tenets of the National Peace Accord.

Although words of reconciliation were spoken at the IFP and ANC rallies, PAC president Clarence Makweni told supporters in Sharpeville to prepare for a "bitter struggle" and Azapo leaders in Soweto called on supporters to intensify the armed struggle for the "repossession of our land".

In Katlehong, ANC national executive committee member Cheryl Carolus said all armed forces, including the SAPD and AWEB, laid down their arms. Umkhonto we Sizwe would do the same.

The SA Communist Party central committee member, Ronnie Kasrils, said the ANC fought a "just war" and did not dirty itself with the blood of "innocents" such as the 69 people shot in Sharpeville 33 years ago.

At a rally interrupted by the police, supporters of Inkatha Freedom Party leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi urged ANC leader Nelson Mandela to join him in a series of public appearances "to show that we are serious about joining forces to eradicate violence from our midst".

When the rally ended, peace monitors persuaded IFP marchers to change their route to avoid oncoming ANC supporters from the rally in Katlehong.

However, a man was shot dead later in a house and a bystander was wounded by shots fired from a passing minibus.

Witnesses said an IFP supporter, who was part of a group of 300 men returning from Vosloorus, ran into a house at Everest section and opened fire on three men and a woman identified as Betty Khosa. The situation became extremely tense, but after a sudden downpour the crowds dispersed.

The ANC last night condemned the incidents of violence, but said the behaviour and conduct of members and supporters of both the ANC and IFP on the East Rand represented a major step in the creation of a climate of peace and political tolerance in the region.

At Sharpeville, Umkhonto we Sizwe commander-in-chief Joe Modise urged supporters to accept the movement's pro-election campaign.

Later he led thousands of supporters through the township conducting a door-to-door election campaign in preparation for the country's first democratic elections.

After the rally, thousands of placard-waving ANC supporters toyed in the rain outside the Sharpeville police station.

Colonel Tienie Halgren, police liaison officer for the area, said the organisers of the rally suddenly ignored the prearranged programme and entered the Sharpeville police station at 4.15 pm.

They demanded that the police lower so that the ANC flag could be hoisted to show how the police had changed. The crowd of about 4 000 became agitated.

Brigadier Flores Mostert, Deputy Regional Commissioner of Police in the Vaal Triangle, realised that the situation was on a knife's edge and gave instructions that a flagpole be placed outside the police headquarters so that the ANC could raise their own flag.

The crowd raised their flag, lowered it after a while and dispersed quietly.

"Brigadier Mostert definitely defused an extremely tense situation," Halgren said.

At the PAC rally, PAC president Clarence Makweni told supporters at George Thabe Stadium to brace themselves for a "bitter struggle".
SEVEN people, including two policemen and an 18-year-old student, were killed at the weekend in separate incidents of violence throughout the country.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Major Eugene Opperman said a gunman shot dead a policeman and wounded another in central Johannesburg yesterday morning.

He described the condition of the wounded policeman as serious. The motive for the attack was not yet known.

And in another incident an off-duty black policeman stationed at Bolusberg died in hospital after he, his wife and a colleague were shot at by two armed men in his driveway in Voslooms on Saturday afternoon.

One of the attackers was slightly injured and is in hospital under police guard.

In one of the bloodiest incidents in Cape Town, three people, believed to be ANC supporters, were gunned down in a house at Unathi Village, Old Crossroads, on Friday night.

Those who died were Mr Sicelo Pawa, Mr Temzel Soga and Mrs Joyce Ndiniwa.

A man has been arrested in connection with the incident.

Meanwhile, police have offered a R100 000 reward for information leading to the arrest of those responsible for Saturday’s attack on an Eastern Cape hotel.

An 18-year-old Port Elizabeth Technikon student was killed when men armed with automatic rifles opened fire on patrons at the Yellowwood Hotel outside Port Beaufort.

Law and Order Ministry spokesman Captain Craig Kotze said yesterday that Minister Herman Kriel had been trying to establish whether the PAC’s military wing, Apla, was responsible for the attack.
Sharpeville Day passes peacefully

The Argus/Correspondents
JOHANNESBURG. — Apart from the death of one man and the wounding of two in Katlehong on the East Rand, Sharpeville Day — rallies across the PWV area — attended by tens of thousands of people — passed relatively peacefully compared with past years.

Marchers also stoned a car carrying members of the European Community peace-monitoring team in the township. They were not injured.

A potentially explosive situation was 'doused in the Vaal Triangle outside Sharpeville police station when police placated angry African National Congress supporters by supplying them with a pole to hoist their flag last night.

The relatively peaceful day was preceded by a historic pact between the ANC, the Inkatha Freedom Party, the police and the Defence Force on Saturday, in which all parties agreed to co-ordinate their activities yesterday.

A statement of intent at the beginning of the agreement called on all parties and supporters to conduct themselves in a peaceful manner and abide by the tenets of the National Peace Accord.

Although words of conciliation were spoken at the IFP and ANC rallies, PAC president Clarence Mkwetu told supporters in Sharpeville to prepare for a “bitter struggle” and Azapo leaders in Soweto called on supporters to intensify the armed struggle for the “repossession of our land”.

SA Communist Party central committee member Mr Ronnie Kasrils said the ANC fought a “just war” and did not “dirty itself with the blood of innocents such as the 69 people shot in Sharpeville 33 years ago”.

In a rain-interrupted rally in nearby Vosloorus, IFP leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi urged ANC leader Mr Nelson Mandela to join him in a series of public appearances "to show that the ANC and IFP are seriously joining forces to eradicate violence from our midst”.

When the rally ended, peace monitors persuaded IFP marchers to change their route to avoid the oncoming ANC supporters from the rally in Katlehong.

But a man was later shot dead in a house and a bystander wounded by shots fired from a passing minibus.

The ANC last night condemned the incidents of violence, but said the behaviour and conduct of members and supporters of both the ANC and IFP on the East Rand represented a major step in the creation of a climate of peace, reconciliation and political tolerance in the region.
JOHANNESBURG.—Black gunmen shot dead a white man travelling to work at Vanderbijlpark in the Vaal Triangle today.

Police Spokesman Major Piet van Deventer said three or four men opened fire on Mr Tony Concer, 55, and Mr Daniel de Bruin, 52, at about 7.10 am.

Mr Conser was killed, but Mr de Bruin, who was driving, was uninjured.

Major van Deventer said it appeared AK-47s had been used.

He said no arrests had been made and the motive for the attack was not known.

Police have offered rewards of R300 000 to help catch the killers of four whites in two weekend attacks, while the government claims the “terrorist” murders appear to be the “cowardly” action of the Pan Africanist Congress’s military wing, the Azanian People’s Liberation Army (Apla).

Police said R200 000 was an offer for information on Friday’s attack at Walkerville, near here, after the death toll rose to three last night when Clare Silberbauer, 13, died in hospital of head injuries.

Mrs Sandra Mitchley, 35, and her son Sean Nel, 14, died when gunmen with automatic weapons sprayed a vehicle carrying children to school.

A group of AWB members today blocked the M27 Johannesburg-Vereeniging road near the scene of Friday’s attack.

Police were at the scene and were apparently involved in a standoff with AWB members, who hurled abuse and chanted racist slogans.

A R100 000 reward was offered after Fort Elizabeth Technical College student Johan Jerling, 18, died on Saturday night when gunmen attacked a motel bar near Fort Beaufort. Spokesmen said the attack was similar to others in the area for which Apla had claimed responsibility.

Law and Order Ministry spokesman Capt. Craig Kotze said: “Because this tragedy apparently bears the signatures of an Apla terrorist attack, the silence from the PAC on whether its military wing was responsible or not for this attack and the Walkerville attack is all the more deafening.”

But after a day of stubborn refusals from the PAC and Apla to claim or deny responsibility, PAC Information head Mr Barney Desai said last night Apla was not responsible for the Walkerville attack. He did not comment on the Fort Beaufort attack.

Mr Desai said a race war against whites was counter-productive and not PAC policy.

He sent his condolences to those who had died in the Walkerville attack, for which a man claiming to be an Apla commander had claimed responsibility.

Mr Desai said the movement was outraged by calls to the media in which people claimed responsibility on behalf of Apla.

“It is not our policy to conduct a race war against whites and we don’t know who these guys are,” he said.

But later he told SABC-TV he did not know whether Apla was responsible for the Eikenhof attack, adding cautiously that it was not PAC policy to kill children.

This was echoed in Umtata last night by PAC national organiser Mr Maxwell Nemadzivhanani.

Earlier yesterday PAC president Mr Clarence Makwetu said Apla had not yet informed the PAC leadership whether its members had carried out the attacks.

Questioned at a Sharpeville Day rally in the Vaal Triangle township, he said the PAC “has not received word” from Apla’s high command on whether its members had carried out the attacks.

Refusing to comment directly on the attacks, Mr Makwetu said the community should also publicly ask about the killers of three people in Crossroads, Cape Town.
It's a year of terror, assailants tell victim

Three men were standing in the road and he saw an AK-47 rifle and an R-1 rifle aimed at him.

"I swerved my car, a Fiat Uno, and landed up in the bushes next to the veld. The car came to a standstill and they plucked open the door and pulled me out. They kicked me and boxed me and dragged me into the veld.

"They searched me for a firearm and money and kicked me and boxed me some more. The one spoke good English. He told me, "You Boer, you are going to die. You must know 1993 is the year of terror. Old white people and white children will be murdered." "I lay there, I tried not to think and did not say anything.

"At one stage I did think my little son would grow up without his father," Buys said.

He lost consciousness and when he came to, he was in his burning car. He ran into the veld and lay in the long grass. "I heard another car but lay quite still," I heard a man shout and ask if anyone was hurt and if he could help. I got up and ran to him. He sent his wife home to telephone the police department and the police and he waited with me."

The man was Charles Augustinus Pitou (33) of Meyerton.

"While we waited, two shots were fired and we ran back to the veld and fell down. His wife came back, loaded us into the car and they took me to the police station," Buys said.
Calls for more Apla attacks in SA

JOHANNESBURG - A Pan-Africanist Congress Sharpeville Day commemoration held in Sharpeville itself turned into a pro-Azanian People's Liberation Army (Apla) rally yesterday as several thousand people chanted Apla slogans and called on the PAC's military wing to increase attacks in the country.

"I appeal to you, our supporters, to brace yourself for a bitter struggle," said PAC president Mr. Clarence Makwetu, who added, however, the PAC was ready for a "mutual cessation of hostilities". The militant crowd openly called to be armed with AK-47s and Scorpion submachine pistols. — Sapa
PROSPECTS for a peaceful end to Sharpeville Day commemorative rallies on the East Rand yesterday were dashed when a man was hurt seriously after being shot in Katlehong while watching an Inkatha group returning from a rally in Vosloorus.

The shooting followed a call by Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi at the rally for ANC president Nelson Mandela to join him in public meetings to help end violence.

The mood in Katlehong became tense after the incident.

Earlier, while Buthelezi was speaking in Vosloorus, shots were fired into the air at the stadium.

Shooting mars peaceful Sharpeville rallies

An ANC rally being held at the same time in Katlehong was disrupted by rain and supporters left without incident.

Fears of violence and clashes at the rallies had led to a historic agreement between the ANC, Inkatha and security forces on Saturday to ensure no further violence. The agreement was sealed by the Wits Vaal regional peace secretariat.

Heavily armed ANC and Inkatha supporters brandishing axes, spears and pangas poured into stadiums in the two townships yesterday morning, following agreed-upon routes under the watchful eye of the police and SADF.

International monitors, local police secretariat volunteers and joint marshalling teams patrolled routes and stadiums.

In his speech, Buthelezi said: "I call on Mr Mandela now to stop posturing and commence on a series of joint appearances with me in public meetings so that we can show strife-torn areas in the whole of the nation that the ANC and the IFP are seriously joining forces to eradicate violence from our midst."

Buthelezi said he was appalled by the barbarity of the violence against innocent lives, Sapa reports.

"We cannot and will not tolerate this massacre any longer. It is critical that the leadership of the ANC and the IFP get together and solve this issue of violence."

In terms of Saturday’s agreement, the parties agreed to conduct themselves and their supporters in a peaceful manner at the rallies and to abide by the letter and spirit of the national peace accord.

In turn the SAP and SADF committed themselves to ensuring the deployment of sufficient personnel to maintain law and order and "not to take any action which may be perceived to jeopardise the smooth running of events."

The security force deployment of 500 men included personnel at six possible flashpoints, at least 26 roving vehicle patrols, two helicopters, perimeter deploy-
Terror attacks

BAR AND OPENED FIRE ON THE GROUP OF PEOPLE INSIDE. JERLING WAS KILLED.

THE REST OF THE GROUP RAN INTO A NEARBY DININGROOM AFTER THE LIGHTS WERE ABRUPTLY TURNED OFF. A SECOND MAN ENTERED THE BAR FROM A BACK DOOR AND ALSO OPENED FIRE ON THE FLEETING PEOPLE.

THE ATTACKERS THEN RAN AWAY.

CAPTAIN LIETE VERMEULEN SAID THE EIGHT PEOPLE WHO TOOK COVER HAD NOT BEEN INJURED.

In the Vaal Triangle, motorist Bernstein Buys, 33, escaped possible death when he wriggled out of his blazing car after being tied up by gunmen.

Police spokesman Lt Eugene Henning said Buys was driving on the old Alberton-Meyerton road on Saturday night when he was forced off the road by three men armed with AK-47s. After demanding money, they tried to tie him up with his seat belt before setting his car on fire. His assailants fled when another car appeared.

The killing of two policemen in separate incidents at the weekend brought the number of policemen killed this year to 40.

Early yesterday a gunman opened fire on two policemen on foot patrol in central Johannesburg, killing one and seriously wounding the other.

On Saturday afternoon, off-duty policeman W/O Morgan Zwane, his wife and a colleague were attacked by two armed men in the driveway of the Zwane's Vor- loos house. His colleague gave chase and caught the attackers. Two Makarov pistols and ammunition were confiscated.

Zwane died later in hospital.
Women, cops in clash

By Abbey Makoe

BOPHUTHATSWANA police clashed with a group of uniformed churchwomen from various denominations in Phokeng near Rustenburg yesterday.

The marchers, carrying Bibles and hymn books and singing church songs, were marching from the Roman Catholic Church to the Bafokeng chief's palace.

They were turned back near Nkpo's Butchery, which police said marked the boundary between South Africa and Bophuthatswana.

When the women knelt and prayed to the "Lord to stop tyranny", the police rushed at a group of journalists covering the event and arrested them.

They were released after identifying the newspapers they worked for.

The march by the women was organised by the Bafokeng Women's League.

The League's leader, former chieftainess and now banished Mrs Semele Molotlegi, told hundreds of supporters: "Behind every successful man there's a woman."

Her husband, Edward Molotlegi, the rightful chief of the platinum-rich Bafokeng tribe, fled about harassment at the hands of the Mangope regime.

Semele yesterday told her supporters that her husband would be returning to Phokeng from Botswana "very soon."

The police refused to allow the commemoration of the third anniversary of the former chieftainess' banishment to take place at the palace, saying it was illegal.

Senior ANC official Mr Popo Selele, who attended the anniversary, could not convince the police that there was no likelihood of violence.

OAU, UN and World Council of Churches representatives were present.
Policemen killed on Reef

JOHANNESBURG. — Two policemen were shot dead in separate incidents in the Transvaal at the weekend, raising the number of policemen killed this year to 41.

In central Johannesburg early yesterday morning, a gunman shot dead a policeman and wounded another.

Police said attack on the officers took place about 2.30 am. A number of nearby policemen chased the attacker, but he escaped.

The wounded policeman is in a serious condition.

On Saturday an off-duty policeman died in hospital after two armed men shot at him, his wife and a colleague in his driveway in Vosloorus on the East Rand.

Warrant Officer Morgan Cwane's colleague, Constable Ngquala, gave chase and arrested the men. — Sapa.
Five cops die in one weekend

Three more cops killed

Three more policemen were shot dead during the past two days, bringing to five the number of policemen murdered at the weekend.

An Alexandra Township policeman was overpowered by two attackers and shot dead with his own service pistol yesterday.

In Tsakane, the body of Assistant Constable Johan Mkwakwana was shot dead by five gunmen late on Sunday night.

Also on Sunday night, an off-duty policeman was robbed of his service pistol and shot dead by unidentified attackers in Tshiamo, Soweto.

Police spokesman Major Ida van Zweek said the Alexandra Township policeman was on patrol duty when he was attacked shortly after midnight.

As he got out of his car at a house in 2nd Avenue, the two killers wrestled the gun from him during a struggle.

He died later at Alexandra Clinic.

Police said the Tsakane shooting took place about 11pm on Sunday when two cars pulled up, the gunmen got out and opened fire. The constable was shot in the chest. He tried to flee but fell about 75 metres from the scene.

Assistant Constable Lazarus Ngomani was attacked in Tshiamo about 9.30pm on Sunday while walking with a friend.

Two men, one armed with a pistol and another with a knife, accosted the man, shot Ngomani and fled with his pistol.

A KwaZulu police constable was shot to death in Umzazi, near Durban, on Sunday night. His attackers fled with his service pistol, police said.

Early on Sunday, a policeman was shot dead and a colleague seriously wounded in central Johannesburg.

In another attack, a Vosloorus Detective was shot dead in his driveway on Saturday.
No revenge’ are his last words

Melody McDougall
Vereeniging Bureau

The last words Anthony Rex (Tony) Concer (54) spoke to his wife yesterday were against seeking revenge for Friday’s attack on a car at Eikenhof which claimed three lives.

Comforted by family friends outside her Vanderbijlpark flat yesterday, Concer’s grieving widow Marie (56) said: “Just before my husband left for work this morning I was very angry about the young girl who died following the Eikenhof car shooting incident.

“He said to me: ‘Two wrongs don’t make a right’. Those words came from his heart ...” was all she would say before being led back inside.

Loud bangs

Independent Overvaal MP Koos van der Merwe (formerly CP) yesterday visited Mrs Concer to give his condolences.

The driver of the car in which Concer was shot, Daan de Bruyn (52), said: “from his Vanderbijlpark home that he picked up Concer at his flat at about 7am yesterday morning.

The pair, both Iscor employees, have been travelling to work together along the same route for the past five years.

They were driving in Donges Road — less than a kilometre from the Slovo Park Squatter Camp at Bolipatong — when he noticed three or four black men at the roadside a short distance ahead. He then heard a series of loud bangs.

“At first I thought that my car was backfiring. Then I heard bullets whistling all around us and realised that we were in big trouble. The next instant Tony called out my name before he slumped over forward. I thought that he had suffered a heart attack as he was breathing with difficulty.”

According to De Bruyn, he turned the car around, ducked

Lucky escape . . . Warrant Officer Jaco Grobler points to a bullet hole in Daan de Bruyn’s car. De Bruyn’s passenger, Tony Concer, was killed.

Picture: Melody McDougall

as low over the steering wheel as possible and sped off.

Less than a kilometre further, he saw a police van and informed the occupants of the shooting before rushing to the Vanderbijlpark Hospital.

Shortly afterwards, Concer was certified dead.

De Bruyn said his car was hit by at least nine bullets and virtually all of the windows were shattered.
Man killed in taxi dispute

A 33-year-old Soweto man was shot dead yesterday when he took shelter in a house at Orange Farm, shortly after his bakkie was forced off the Golden Highway by a gun-wielding gang. Maxwell Xaba, of Orlando East, died from a bullet wound to the head in a suspected taxi dispute.
escorting school buses

The Argus Correspondents

JOHANNESBURG. — Police have started to escort school buses in the Vaal Triangle and troops may be sent in to help protect civilians.

This was the response to a terror attack on a white motorist yesterday — the third in as many days in the Walkerville-Elkenhof area.

Vanderbijlpark businessman Mr Tony Conner, 54, was shot dead when four gunmen opened fire on a car in which he was a passenger.

A woman and two children died after a similar attack on Friday and a Vereeniging man’s car was set alight on Saturday by gunmen who said 1993 would be the year in which old white people and children would die.

Police Commissioner General Johan van der Merwe said yesterday the police were going all out to prevent further terror attacks.

“We have alerted all our forces and all our members. We are planning to take whatever precautions are necessary.”

The government believes at least two attacks — Friday’s Walkerville attack and an attack on an Eastern Cape motel pub on Saturday in which a student was shot dead by gun-toting men — were the work of the PAC’s military wing, Apla. But the PAC and Apla are still refusing to say whether the organisation’s operatives were in fact responsible.

The attacks have sparked widespread condemnation and urgent calls from a range of organisations on the government to track down the murderers.

In an emotional response, the SA Council of Churches said yesterday: “It is a tragedy when children are killed to be the innocent victims of violence. It is a tragedy when the terror of the random killings strikes at the heart of the nation. It is a tragedy when some feel the necessity to take the law into their own hands.”

In the first ANC response, the organisation’s PWV region condemned the killings and said: “We call upon the police to ensure that law and order is maintained and also bring the perpetrators of the killings to books.”

In yesterday’s attack, at 7am in Donges Road near Bolapong, four men with assault rifles jumped out in front of a car driven by Mr Daniel de Bruyn, 52, of Vanderbijlpark. They sprayed the car with bullets, killing Mr Conner.

Mr de Bruyn sped past the four gunmen amid a hail of bullets. He drove straight to the Vanderbijlpark Hospital, where Mr Conner was pronounced dead on arrival.

A large contingent of policemen was sent to the attack scene and a ground and air search was launched for the killers. Police were not saying whether the shooting could be linked with Apla.

Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel yesterday visited the scene of Friday’s ambush, which claimed the lives of Mrs Sandra Mitchley, 36, her son Sean, 14, and Clare Silverbauer, 13.

Earlier, about 100 angry placard-carrying members of the AWB blocked the Vereeniging-Johannesburg road south of the city — metres away from Friday’s ambush of the Mitchley car.

Hundreds of Johannesburg-bound motorists were forced to turn back and use alternative routes to work.

Watched by a large contingent of police, the rightwingers lashed out at the government’s inability to halt the string of recent killings.

Placards reading “One settler, one taxi”, “One white child — one squatter camp”, “Gatvol! Gatvol! Gatvol!” “Apla, your days are numbered” and “SAP, let us exterminate Apla, PAC rats” were paraded at the impromptu blockade.

One poster-carrying woman insisted on pointing out that many of the AWB supporters were English-speaking.

Tensions ran high as the AWB faced police from behind the roadblock. They demanded daily patrols on the Grassmere road.

Speaking an hour after the demonstration ended, Mr Kriel told reporters the cabinet would decide what action would be taken on the “terrorism” displayed by Apla and the PAC.

Mr Kriel promised angry residents that a satellite police station would be opened in Elkenhof within four to six weeks.

An AWB “general”, Johan Thompson, had earlier claimed in an interview in front of his belligerent supporters that the government had tied the hands of the police, who were being prevented from acting.
**Massive search for Vaal Triangle killers**

VANDERBILJPARK police launched a massive ground and air search for the killers of an Issor employee yesterday after a third AK-47 attack on whites in the Vaal Triangle in four days.

Tony Concer, 55, was shot in the chest in Dannes Road, near Boipatong, by gunmen who ambushed his car early yesterday.

The driver of the car, Daan de Bruin, 52, escaped a hail of bullets and rushed Concer to hospital, but Concer was declared dead on arrival.

De Bruin and Concer were driving to work when the attack occurred less than 1km from De Bruin's home.

"There is a sharp bend in Dannes Road near the squatter camp. I saw some blacks standing on the corner but I see them every day so I did not pay any attention to them. I slowed down and concentrated on the road and as we turned into the corner they started firing. I still didn't realise we were being shot at. Tony slumped down on the seat and I thought he had had a heart attack. I leaned as far forward as possible, put the car into a lower gear and raced away. They continued shooting. About 700m down the road there was a police van and I reported the incident to them."

He said he realised Concer had been shot only when he got to the hospital.

"When I picked him up the seat was full of blood. His clothes were soaked in blood. Then I realised he had been shot."

Concer was married with three children.

De Bruin, cut by flying glass, said his car was hit nine times. Police found 25 spent AK-47 cartridges at the scene.

A couple living nearby said they had heard the shots and saw two black men carrying plastic bags running into the veld.

Police spokesman Maj Piet van Deventer said police had no evidence to connect the shooting to the PAC's armed wing, Apla, which allegedly claimed responsibility for the Walkervillle attack on Friday.

Apla would not confirm or deny responsibility for yesterday's attack. Spokesman Jackie Molla told Sapa from Bar es Salam that Apla was waiting for its cadres to report. But PAC national organiser Maxwell Nemadzivhlanani said the PAC would continue its armed struggle while negotiating a political settlement.

The shooting came only hours before a visit by Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel to the scene of the Walkervillle shooting, which claimed three lives.

**AK-47 attack**

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**STEFHANE BOTHMA reports that police are investigating a claim by the right-wing Wit Wolwe that one of its 'generals' had shot a five-year-old black girl in retaliation for the Walkervillle attack.**

A warning that similar attacks would take place if the killing of whites did not stop, was issued by the Wit Wolwe in a statement to Sapa yesterday.

The 'general', arrested on Sunday, faces charges of attempted murder and drunken driving. He would appear in court today, East Rand police said.

Mamulile Motajane was wounded in her arm while walking with her father near Nigel on Sunday. She was shot from a moving car with a 9mm pistol. The gunman was arrested minutes later, after he almost knocked down two pedestrians.
**3 shot in race attacks**

By Sello Masupha

**Apartheid has declared war on whites. We accept the declaration and will fight them.**

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Sowetans campaign to beat crime

A campaign against townships crime, planned to culminate in a peace summit of all Soweto organisations at the end of April, has begun, the organisations' spokespersons announced on Monday.

Nhlapo said the campaign, which was launched at the weekend, consisted of house-to-house visits and mass meetings, at which Soweto residents would be asked for suggestions on minimising crime.

A declaration on crime would be compiled from the residents' proposals and would be tabled at the summit, to which every resident and the SAP would be invited.

Organisations participating in the campaign included Soweto branches of the ANC, SAPC, Cosatu, the Congress of SA Students, the SA Democratic Teachers' Union, women's organisations, taxi organisations, business people, youths and church bodies. — Sapa.

Natal leaders meet to aid peace process

DURBAN — The spiralling violence in Natal has led ANC Natal Midlands leader Harry Gwala and his Inkatha counterpart David Ntombela to agree to meet in the next two weeks to look at ways of boosting the peace process in the region.

In renewed violence on Sunday, a gunman killed four people when he fired on a moving pickup truck in the Port Shepstone area in Natal.

A police spokesman said the man was given a lift on the truck near Paddock, 120km south of Durban. The man opened fire with a pistol, killing the driver and a passenger before shooting two other passengers as they fled, Sapa-Reuters reports.

Three people, including a KwaZulu policeman, were killed in separate attacks at Umlazi and Kwa Mashu near Durban at the weekend.

Natal regional dispute resolution committee chairman M C Pretorius said yesterday the recent staying of six school children at Table Mountain near Maritzburg had shocked local leaders into speeding up efforts to end the conflict between the ANC and Inkatha.

Pretorius said the bilateral meetings would look at ways of publicly emphasising the parties' support for the peace accord. They would discuss joint rallies to be addressed by the rival leaders.

Agreement had also been reached on the establishment of task forces for the Natal Midlands, southern Natal and northern Natal, which would concentrate on getting the bilateral meetings off the ground.

There had been a significant shift towards peace in the region since the ANC and Inkatha began discussions on a possible meeting between Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi and ANC president Nelson Mandela in October last year, he said.

"When they started meeting on a bilateral basis, they came to one basic recognition — that the leaders have a major influence on the level of violence.

"By setting an example and stopping belligerent speeches — that would tone down the violence in Natal," he said.

A workshop held earlier this year had reached several significant agreements including a decision to oppose political intolerance and to defend the right of people to use venues "controlled" by their rivals.

The ANC had conceded that traditional leaders had a role to play in a future SA, he added.

Pretorius said about R200 000 would be poured into the Port Shepstone area as part of the peace accord's reconstruction and development programme.

He said violence in the Port Shepstone area had been brought under control with the death rate of between 40 and 70 a month dropping to just one death since December prior to Sunday's attack.

RAY HARTLEY

Policeman killed on patrol in Alexandra

FOUR policemen were murdered in the Transvaal at the weekend, bringing to 42 the number of SAP members killed this year.

Last year, 226 policemen were murdered in SA.

The latest victims were a 26-year-old policeman killed in Alexandra while on patrol early yesterday morning. He was overcome by two attackers who shot him with his own service pistol. The policeman's name will be released once his next of kin have been informed.

On Sunday night, off-duty Assistant Const John Vuse Makwakwa was shot dead at Tsakane on the East Rand while visiting a friend.

No arrests have been made.

Early on Sunday morning, a policeman was shot dead and a colleague seriously wounded in a central Johannesburg shooting. Gunmen opened fire on the two policemen who were on foot patrol.

In another incident, Boksburg-based detective W/O Morgan Zwane, residing in Vosloorus on the East Rand, was gunned down in his driveway on Saturday.
Third AK-47 attack kills man

JOHANNESBURG. — Vanderbijlpark police launched a massive ground and air search for the killers of an Iskor employee yesterday after a third AK-47 attack on whites in the Vaal Triangle in four days.

Mr Tony Concer, 55, was shot in the chest in Donges Road, near Boipatong, by unknown gunmen who ambushed his car shortly after 7am yesterday.

The driver of the car, Mr Daan de Bruin, 52, escaped a hail of bullets and rushed Mr Concer to hospital, but he was declared dead on arrival there.

The two men were driving to work when the attack occurred less than a kilometre from Mr De Bruin's home.

"There is a sharp bend in Donges Road near the squatter camp. I saw some blacks standing on the corner and as we turned into the corner they started firing," Mr De Bruin said.

"I leaned as far forward as possible, put the car into a lower gear and raced away. They continued shooting.

The car was hit nine times and police found 23 spent AK-47 cartridges at the scene.

SURVIVOR . . .
Daan de Bruin
Wit Wolve-squabble
over 'drunk' gunman

By Staff Reporters

Wit Wolve (WW) mass killer Barend Strydom has distanced himself from the "drunken" shooting of a five-year-old black girl near Nigel on Sunday.

His denial of WW involvement followed a telephone call to Sapa by a man claiming to be the movement's secretary general, "Boerestaal" Bosman who said the WW were responsible.

Little Mzandile Morjane was lightly wounded in the left arm by a passing motorist while she and her father, Simon, were walking along a country road on the outskirts of the East Rand town.

Mocveyane managed to flag down a passing police car and the alleged culprit, who appeared to be drunk, was arrested minutes later.

Police spokesman Major Ida van Zwaal said the man also nearly knocked down two black women who were walking next to the road. A 9 mm pistol and a cartridge were confiscated.

After the report appeared in newspapers yesterday, Bosman telephoned Sapa and claimed the shooting had been done by a WW agent.

It had been in retaliation to the shooting of white people south of Johannesburg on Friday, he said.

No sooner had he made the claim, than WW leader Barend Strydom denied it, saying Bosman was a charlatan.

Bosman had been kicked out of the WW earlier this year and had subsequently formed his own faction, but had insisted on calling it the Wit Wolve too.

Strydom said Bosman's statement was an attempt to try and discredit the WW and said he had distanced himself from the shooting.

The original WW were doing everything in their power to prevent the ANC from taking over the country.

Strydom said he supported the Afrikaner, Weerstands- beweging's protest action south of Johannesburg yesterday. "That was a step in the right direction."

Police spokesman Colonel Reg Crewe said yesterday there was no indication that the man arrested for the killing belonged to the Wit Wolve.

"We do not know whether these people are just jumping on the bandwagon, but we have taken note of the claims," said Crewe.
Youngsters agog at armed police escort

By Charbel Bghawall
Crime Reporter

Waiting for the school bus could not have been more exciting for the young pupils of Danie Theron Laerskool.

Oblivious to the terror that has gripped the Vaal Triangle after three ambushes on white motorists since Friday, and unaware of the subsequent decision by police to escort school buses as a safety precaution, the wide-eyed youngsters curiously looked at the armed police officers, their Nyala vehicles and the journalists who had gathered to report on the unprecedented police action.

But the worried parents waiting in their cars at the Ribler Park school south of Johannesburg, the day could not have been more nerve-wracking. They wanted to leave as quickly as possible to get off the roads and into their homes without delay.

Clinging to the metal fence around the school, dozens of children tried to talk to armed police stationed at the gate.

"What are you doing here?" and "Are you waiting to shoot someone?" they asked.

On the bus, a police officer told the children to dive to the floor if they heard gunshots. But they paid scant attention to the warning.

Bedazzled by the heavy police presence and SANDF motorcyclists, their heads popped out of the window most of the time.

The mood of their worried parents was summed up by Walkerville mother Anabel Barnard, whose two children use the school bus daily: "I am so angry and so scared for the people who died. All I do in the morning is tell my children to lie on the bus floor if they hear gunshots and 'may God be with you'."

Relief

When the bus, with two armed policemen in it, SANDF escorts on motorcycles in front and a heavy armoured vehicle in the back, reached her stop 10 minutes late, Bernard beamed a sigh of relief. Her children were home.

But Maria Vermaak, who drives her daughter to and from school, said she refused to be scared. "I've been expecting the attacks. We are sitting ducks and I just refuse to bow to the pressure."

"How long are these armed escorts going to last? Our children are going to grow up with fears and complexes we never had," she said angrily.

Riding shotgun ... Sergeant Andre Duvengage on the school bus to Elidenhof and Walkerville yesterday. Picture: Joao Silva
Police campaign to protect motorists will last indefinitely

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The massive police anti-terror campaign that swung into action in the Vaal Triangle to prevent more attacks on white motorists is to continue indefinitely, police said.

The security operation, focusing mainly on the Vaal but covering parts of southern Johannesburg as well, will continue as long as necessary, and police will plan their action "day by day", said Vaal Triangle police spokesman Major Piet van Deventer.

The Internal Stability Unit, assisted by troops, has been flexing its muscles in the area since Monday morning.

Two helicopters, one from the police and another from the SADF, and hundreds of policemen have been making their presence felt.

Major Van Deventer said all school routes, covering more than 30 schools in the region, were patrolled regularly with the assistance of the "eye in the sky" helicopters, armoured vehicles and patrol vans.

"Where possible, school buses are being escorted," he said.

He would not say how many security force members were involved in the operation, saying only that "every available policeman" was being used.

Law and Order Ministry spokesman Captain Craig Kotze said the police response to the spate of attacks was a reactive, short-term one.

A political violence analyst at Witwatersrand's Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation, Ms Janine Rauch, said the police response to the attacks was "obviously disproportionate" to the manner in which they responded when Black lives were lost.
Protesters to invade city today

By Phil Molefe

Black schools countrywide will be hit by stayaways today as thousands of pupils stage protest marches to demand the scrapping of matric examination fees.

The ANC national working committee yesterday gave the march its full support and referred to provide marshals to assist in crowd control.

The marches will be jointly co-ordinated by the Congress of South African Students, Pan African Students Organisation and the Azanian Students Movement.

In Johannesburg, thousands of pupils from townships in the PWV region are expected to assemble outside the Public Library to march to the regional offices of the Department of Education and Training in Siemens Street, Bramfонтein.

A march will be held in Cape Town and pickets and sit-ins will be staged in other cities.

At the centre of the protest is the R72 exam fee paid by all matric candidates.
Mayor slates wildcat taxis

Staff Reporters

WILDCAT action by taxi operators was "completely unacceptable" because special communication channels to sort out grievances had been set up by the taxi liaison committee, Mayor Frank van der Velde said today.

Asked to comment on yesterday's peak-hour blockade in Strand Street, he said he had not been briefed but understood "the group responsible was not Codeta (Convention for a Democratic Taxi Association) but someone else."

The liaison committee is still active, and there is no need for wildcat action. There are communication lines to get an instantaneous response to a grievance.

"The action by the taxi drivers was totally unacceptable and served only to annoy everyone," said Mr van der Velde.

Attorney-General Frank Kahn said today he wished to speak to traffic officials before commenting on the blockade.

"After a similar blockade last November, Mr Kahn said there could be "very scant sympathy" for such demonstrations.

Ordinary citizens of Cape Town were entitled to go about their business undisturbed and taxi drivers who took the law into their own hands would not be tolerated, Mr Kahn said then."
Set to get tough

Terror attacks: FYW

Calls mount to ban PAC from multiparty negotiations as whites react to shootings
ANC president Mr Nelson Mandela and Mr De Klerk met on Monday. This might have been to review the prospects for the resumption of multilateral negotiations.

ANC spokesman Mr Carl Niehaus rejected the suggestion that Apla had been discussed at all, or that the ANC had been canvassed by the government to adopt a common stand on the organisation.

Mr De Klerk and his negotiating team met at Donkergat, Langebaan yesterday and are returning there tomorrow before attending next week's multilateral talks.

Pressure has been mounting on the government — even from within National Party ranks — since the weekend to take stronger action against armed attackers to bar the PAC from talks. If it failed to distance itself from Apla attacks and to bring back hanging for killers.

The Democratic and Conservative Parties have both issued strong statements saying that if Apla was found to be responsible for armed attacks — with the blessing of the PAC — the PAC should be cast out of the negotiation process.

And the Conservative Party warned that if the government did not act firmly against Apla it should not blame whites in the Eastern Cape if they take law and order into their own hands.
Pupils terrorise Jo'burg

By Phil Malele
Education Reporter

Nearly 40 000 pupils protesting against exam fees went on the rampage in Johannesburg yesterday after a march to the offices of the Department of Education and Training.

The protest was organised by the Congress of South African Students, the Pan African Students' Organisation and the Azanian Students' Movement.

The SAP Regional Commissioner of the Witwatersrand, Lieutenant-General Koos Calici, said permission for the march was granted to the ANC and it had accepted full responsibility.

Pandemonium broke out in the vicinity of Sauer, Bree, President and Diagonal streets as pupils damaged cars, looted shops, stole goods from hawkers and smashed about 300 cases of cold drink (provided by a soft-drink company for the marchers).

Some white onlookers were attacked and harassed.

Sandton businessman Denis Gibb (65) was hit with a bottle and sustained a deep wound in the head. More attacks took place in front of the Supreme Court and next to the Johannesburg Sun.

Another group robbed a jewellery store on the corner of Pritchard and Smal streets.

Journalists were threatened and a foreign agency photographer was assaulted.

Police had to use teargas near the library.

While motorists trapped in their cars were abused by pupils shouting "one bullet, one bullet" and spitting at their vehicles.

The ANC condemned the actions of what it called a small minority.

More than 3000 pupils marched to the Vreewinkel offices of the DEAT, writes Melody McDougall. The march was incident-free but youths shouted racist slogans.

Sapa reports that peaceful marches were held in Maritzburg and the Northern Transvaal regions of Mzimkwe, Seshego, Lebowakgomo and Namakgale.

"When an invitation reads, "Dress formal" I am never quite sure whether it means I must wear evening dress or whether a lounge suit is acceptable."
Gunmen kill taxi driver

Crime Reporter (218)

A Soweto taxi driver was shot dead and two women hawkers injured at the Baragwanath taxi rank in Soweto yesterday when gunmen in a minibus opened fire on people at the rank.

The killing was the second at the rank this week. On Monday, a Diepkloof man was gunned down in front of his wife. His killer fled on foot.

According to the police, between eight and 12 men were in a white minibus which sped past the rank at 11.30 am yesterday. They opened fire, killing the man whose name will be released once his next of kin have been informed.

The hawkers were shot in the legs and hands. They were treated at Baragwanath Hospital.

Police found nine AK-47 cartridges and handguns at the rank.
Pupil protest turns violent

By Isaac Moledi, Don Seokane, Alinah Dube and Sapa

At least four people were assaulted, several shops looted and vehicles damaged when thousands of pupils went on the rampage during a protest march in central Johannesburg.

Thousands of black pupils throughout the country stayed away from school to observe a call by the Congress of South African Students, the Pan Africanist Students Organisation and the Azanian Students Movement to protest against examination fees.

About 4 000 pupils marched on the offices of the Department of Education and Training in Braamfontein yesterday and delivered a memorandum.

The marchers also demanded the supply of textbooks and the employment of more teachers.

Police used tear gas to disperse groups of pupils who threw bottles and objects at passersby and vehicles.

Three whites, including a pregnant woman, were assaulted by a group of pupils during the march.

A white man alleged he was assaulted and robbed of his wallet.

Street hawkers also had their goods stolen.

Organisers of the march distanced themselves from rogue elements who had joined the march.

Police spokesman Major Eugene Oppermann said police used tear gas after pupils went on the rampage.

He said no arrests had been made.

In Cape Town, a planned march by pupils failed to take place after a claim by the Western Cape ANC that pupils were arrested on their way to the city.

Police spokesman Major Allie Lambsherr said Spooner had conducted a ticket check at Nyanga and a number of pupils were put off the train after they were unable to produce their tickets.

At Soshanguve, Pretoria, 19 pupils were arrested when a running battle broke out between the Cosatu-led march and Lebowa police.
Pupils rampage through city

A NUMBER of assaults and robberies were reported, cars were damaged and shops looted in central Johannesburg yesterday when thousands of schoolchildren marched in protest against examination fees.

The march, organised by the Azanian Students Movement (Azasm), the Congress of SA Students (Cosas) and the Pan Africanist Students' Organisation (Paso), was monitored by UN, EC, Commonwealth and OAU observers.

The ANC PWV region said at least 60,000 pupils took part in the march. It said it unequivocally rejected the actions of a small minority of students who attacked innocent people indiscriminately, stole and damaged property.

Of particular concern is the racial element of many of the actions, and of some of the racist slogans which are not consistent with the democratic and nonracist SA that the ANC is committed to building.

Wiwarterand police spokesperson Maj Eugene Opperman said the incidents showed that marshals, charged with keeping the marchers in line, did not have control over a big portion of the crowd during the march from the Library Gardens to Braamfontein.

Wiwarterand police commissioner Lt Gen Koos Callitz said large groups broke away from the march in Braamfontein and committed "various acts of violence".

Pupils jumped on parked cars, broke shop windows and stole displayed items. Pedestrians were also pushed around.

While returning to the city centre, where it had been promised that they would disperse peacefully, the children attacked white bystanders.

The pupils were escorted to Park Station by police and left the city. No arrests were made.

Callitz said permission for the demonstration had been granted to the ANC, which had accepted full responsibility for controlling the event.

The organisers had agreed the city council was indemnified against any damage arising from the march.

Several shopkeepers in the city centre closed their businesses because of looting. Hawkers also had their wares strewn across the pavements.

Police fired teargas into the crowd outside the library when pupils started throwing empty coke bottles.

Paso official Michael Xashomba said his organisation believed the march "went on smoothly". Alleged attacks on passers-by were committed by "thugs".

UN observer Kevin Kennedy said march monitors had received no reports of attacks. They had seen the looting of a truck and the smashing of a shop's windows.

SAPA reports that the students handed a memorandum, reaffirming the students' commitment to nonracial and unitary education, system to DET chief education specialist Jacques du Plessis.

The document outlined three major reasons for not paying exam fees. It said government was unrepresentative and could not make decisions on behalf of the community. Government was misusing taxpayers' money and the DET had failed to deliver library and laboratory equipment or to renovate some schools.

Marches were also held in Maritzburg, Durban, East London, Queensownt and the northern Transvaal regions of Mankweng, Seshego, Lebowakgomo and Namakgale.

A planned march by pupils in Cape Town did not materialise. The western Cape ANC claimed pupils were arrested on their way from the townships to the city.

SAP liaison officer Maj Attie Laubscher said Spoornet had conducted a ticket check at Nyanga and a number of pupils were put off the train because they were unable to produce their tickets. There were no arrests. Cars were damaged by stone throwers near Guguletu.

In Queensont pupils occupied DET offices and said they would remain until government responded positively to demands for the scrapping of exam fees.

At Seshego, near Pietersburg, Lebowa police arrested 19 pupils who threw stones at police cars.

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E Rand 'peace summit'

The ANC and allied organisations on the East Rand are to hold the third in a series of PWV peace summits on the first weekend in April. Mondi Gungubele, deputy head of the ANC's regional peace desk, said the ANC wanted to ensure that its attempts to end conflict were not mere "tokenism."
Rightwing attacks on blacks ignored by media

By CHRIS LOUW

In sharp contrast with the saturation coverage of alleged AZANIAN People’s Liberation Army attacks on whites, numerous cases of racist attacks on black people this year have passed virtually unnoticed by the media.

The most recent incident was the shooting by a rightwinger of five-year-old Mzandile Mornjana in Nigel on Sunday. A man has been arrested for attempted murder and driving under the influence. Wit Wolf “Bier­stadium” Bouman claimed the shooting was in retaliation for the Walkerville attack.

No fewer than five other cases of rightwing attacks so far this month have been reported by the Human Rights Commission. Apart from the shooting of Mzandile, five black men — one aged 76 — were injured in assaults by whites and one man was killed this month.

The 76-year-old is NJ Xhali who was assaulted by three white men in Port Elizabeth on March 6. He was admitted to hospital in a serious condition.

In Pretoria three black men were attacked by whites on March 5 when one of them spoke to a white woman. One of the victims lost an eye.

On the same day a resident of Lenndale, near Germiston, was assaulted by two white men who allegedly called him a “kaffer”. They told him he had no business living in a “white suburb”.

On March 21 the body of a black man was found with a shotgun wound in the chest near a main road in Stilfontein. A 28-year-old white man has been arrested and a rightwing connection is being investigated.

Other attacks since the beginning of this year include:

*In the western Cape two black men were shot dead by a Philippolis farmer who alleged they were stealing potatoes and brass hose fittings. The farmer claimed to have also shot other blacks in the past.

*Kraalfontein squatter Douglas Nkwali was abducted by two rightwingers on January 2 and shot several times. He was released from hospital only this week.

*In February five blacks were injured on the East Rand and in Pretoria in what seemed to be provoked attacks by rightwing elements.

*In the East Rand squatter camp Eswatini, two black schoolboys were wounded when white men in a car fired shots randomly into the settlement.

*On February 21 three black people were injured when white men fired on them from a moving vehicle in two separate incidents along the Hartbeespoort/Maraisburg Road.

*A black baby, 11-month-old Bopelo More, was seriously injured last month when a group of white youths on a bakkie threw stones at a group of people on the road near Swartruggens.

*In Natal, two black watchmen were shot and injured last month on a construction site for information housing in Kingsborough on the South Coast.
Top Natal counterparts to talk

MARITZBURG — The ANC yesterday confirmed that ANC regional chairman Harry Owalia and his Inkatha counterpart David Ntombela would meet “within a week” to advance peace in the region.

ANC Natal Midlands information officer Mzwandile Mbongwe said the two organisations’ regional executive committees were scheduled to discuss peace and free political activity in the region.

The meeting would also discuss a meeting between ANC president Nelson Mandela and Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi. The ANC saw a joint regional peace initiative as a precondition for a meeting between the two, he said.

The ANC wanted to move away from the system where organisations “controlled” various areas and barred their opponents. He said the national peace accord needed more teeth to effectively ensure peace.

WILSON ZWANE reports that fears of clashes between members of the ANC and Inkatha in Driefontein in the southeastern Transvaal have prompted the Transvaal Rural Action Committee (Trac) to ask the national peace secretariat and UN observers to monitor an Inkatha rally at the weekend.

The rally would be addressed by Inkatha president Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Trac said it had received information that Inkatha members had threatened ANC members Yvonne Cajee and Trac fieldworkers Star Matswe and Beauty Mckhize with violence.

Trac stressed that the residents of Driefontein were not opposed to Inkatha holding the rally but wanted an assurance it would not result in violence.

Inkatha’s Johannesburg office said the fears of violence were unfounded and it dismissed as “nonsense” allegations of threats against the ANC members.

Sapa reports that a three-day summit to address violence, political intolerance and demands for free political activity would be held on the East Rand from April 24, the ANC announced yesterday.

The summit is part of an ANC PWV region programme aimed at curbing the violence in townships.
South Africa digs in for ‘year of terror’

By David Beresford in Johannesburg

WHITT, South Africa: South Africa has entered a state of explosive paranoia, a string of racial murders which continued this week, with the random killing of a motorist near Johannesburg.

As the country braced itself for a renewed campaign by rightwing extremists, black gunmen using AK-47 assault rifles ambushed a car in the Vaal Triangle south of Johannesburg, killing a white man who was travelling to work with a friend.

Simultaneously the neo-Nazi Afrikaans Weerstandsbeweging (AWB) staged a roadblock at the scene of an attack on motorists last week, in which a mother and her two children were killed. Chanting racist slogans and brandishing placards, about 300 uniformed demonstrators forced traffic off the Vereeniging-Johannesburg road.

The first evidence of revenge attacks on blacks came in the form of a bleak announcement from another extremist organisation, the White Wolves, claiming responsibility for the wounding of a black school girl near the town of Nigel, east of Johannesburg. Apolo, the military wing of the Pan Africanist Congress, continued to be blamed for the attacks.

Pressures on the government to take action in fast mounting. Radio stations were inundated this week with calls from listeners de-
Fragile peace along a thin orange line

In the end, it is a thin orange line which saves the peace in Thokoza-Kaltering.

A handful of African National Congress and Inkatha peace monitors wearing orange Wits/Visa Peace Secretariat stickers on their chests and heads join hands with international observers in the bliss of the United Nations and the Commonwealth and the goal of the Organisation of African Unity to stop the range of renewed Inkatha marches.

A Disaster seems near. Inkatha Freedom Party supporters are determined to force a straight road while police and monitors believe the only way they will avoid ANC marchers returning from the dark is to turn left.

The monitors finally turn the tide at the corner demarcated by the police at their final cut of point - the point at which security forces will open fire if resistance does not subside.

But the peacekeepers, neighbours from across the ideological and ethnic divide, prevail, sending a fragile message of genuine peace to their leaders from the weekend Sharpeville day rallies.

Working within a strategy agreed with security forces, 25 peace monitors from each of the rival organisations at least twice prevented bloodshed in the battle-scared East Rand townships, in a written agreement to separate the marchers broke down and it appeared that armed members from the IFP and the ANC were about to clash.

The treaty, brokered by the Wits/Visa Peace Secretariat, created mobile ANC/Inkatha conflict-resolution teams which, on several occasions, found themselves in the front line separating marchers armed with steel axes, pangas and firearms. And as about 10,000 participants from all sides streamed to their homes and back on Sunday evening, it became clear

 Violence seemed imminent at the African National Congress and Inkatha hold rallies commemorating Sharpeville. But a small group of peace monitors averted disaster. (By Stephen Laufer and David Zaring)

That despite a shooting incident it was the lesser willpower of the monitors rather than their physical numbers, which had saved the day.

The monitors got to know and respect each other in a several preparatory discussions in the weeks leading up to the rallies.

The first test of their newfound strength and unity of purpose came as they faced down a critical situation that had developed on Sunday morning.

Apparently determined to take the shortest route to their meeting with IFP president Mangosuthu Buthelezi in Vosloorus stadium, about 500 Inkatha supporters organised in three distinct and branching a variety of weapons surged up a road reserved for participants in the ANC rally at Honorfield stadium in Katicalho.

Approaching a curve in the road, they caught sight of several buses filled with ANC supporters heading towards them.

Informed by radio of what was happening, peace monitor Grantile Mtuli of Inkatha and Alfred Woodington of the ANC rushed to the scene with the police captain commanding operations in the area.

With the tension at the thought of the coming showdown visible in her face, Mtuli talked to the men about how South Africans could find a way to express political differences peacefully.

And the told Woodington that as he was time he taught her some Afrikaans.

Arriving, the monitors find no arms running high, no weapons drawn, and the rival groups within 100m of each other.

Police have just crashed down armed vehicles between them, donned bullet-proof vests and loaded automatic rifles. Two dead in concert, her voice sometimes breaking with tension and effort, Mtuli implores the Inkatha leaders to halt their marchers. They fail to respond at first, but Mtuli is undeterred.

"We won't be told where we can march," turns the crowd.

Climbing at one IFP man's naked shoulder, she persuades him to show his marchers down at least long enough to give the ANC monitors time to talk to their side.

Meanwhile, Woodington and other ANC peace monitors are explaining their people - who are outnumbered but ready for a fight - back into the buses, explaining to them that allowing Inkatha marchers sight of way will be less painful than loss of life.

Minutes later the situation has been defused. The ANC buses have turned around and the Inkatha marchers are on their way.

But for the peace monitors, the respite will only be temporary. The real test is due after the rallies, when marchers on both sides return to their homes. And indeed, the showdown comes at a crossroads in Katicalho. Troops in full battle dress are deployed and the police confirm that they will open fire if there is no resolution of the situation.

But the thin orange line exists longer.

The keeping of the peace on Sharpeville Day is the subject of Ordinary People, The Weekly Mail Television programme screening on Sunday at 9pm. See PAGE 32
Fear and anger at Apla attacks

By ALEX DODD
IN EIKENHOF, a territory of isolated farms and modest homes surrounded by wagon-wheel fences, the polarity between the Dutch Reformed Church and the Golden Gate Shooting Club is growing sharper by the day.

The question of whether to pray to the good Lord or blow the brains out of the next black taxi commuter has become crucial to the residents of the town, south of Johannesberg. They have witnessed three ambushes on their neighbours in the past week.

The slogan Een boer, een taxi is sprayed across the back of a signboard on the dusty road leading to the poultry farm run by Anneline and Johan Jordaan. The Jordaans have been driving their little girl to and from the nearby Dainel Theron Junior School for the past week. She used to catch the bus that was the intended target of last Friday’s ambush.

“This kind of thing just makes people more militant,” says Anneline Jordaan. “It makes them want to prove that there can be a rightwing show of strength as well. Our Greek and Portuguese customers say: ‘Why don’t you people do something about it?’ And I say: ‘South Africans are so confused. We’ve had the wool pulled over our eyes for so long now, we just don’t have the full story.’

She feels her husband’s AWB training, in which he was taught “how to defend my family against car attackers and the like”, was extremely valuable.

“We can’t rely on the police. Either they haven’t got a van or they haven’t got enough staff,” says Johan. “We’re so isolated here and there’s no police station in our area.”

The Jordaans say the entire community is security-conscious. Apart from fences and dogs, they’ve got radios and alarms in their cars and huge security spray lights on their property. “But even that is not sufficient for what we’re facing.”

Johan Jordaan recalls how they used to sit on the stoep in the evenings looking at the stars and listening to the sheep bleating. “This used to be a lovely rural area. Now we lie in bed at three in the morning and hear shots ringing out all over.

“In the olden days, when a black broke into your house he’d be on his own with a knife. Now it’s three or four of them with firearms. There have been 10 burglaries in our immediate area in the last month. Just recently, the watchboy next door was stabbed and killed.”

The Jordaans believe their problems began with the mushrooming of squatter communities at the nearby Orange Farm and Welmers Farm areas. “Terrorists can be absorbed into those communities without being detected. They just disappear among those shacks.

“Also the toll roads have diverted all the traffic through our area. It’s like a bottleneck. Every second car is a kombi. Some taxi drivers buy chickens from us and they’re very respectable, nice people. Not all of them are murderers.”

Colin Shaw lives only a short drive away in his red four-by-four with desert dueller tyres. “I’ll tell you my slogan,” says Shaw. “One settler, one squatter camp. But then his bravado dissipates slightly. “No make that: One child, one squatter camp. ’Shaw pondered on that for a second or two and then burst out, “No man... Scrap the whole thing. You can’t go around killing innocent people. It’s just not Christian-like.”

Shaw’s nephew, Craig Lamprecht, survived the AK bullets that flew from the now notorious green BMW, but he is expected to be paralysed on one side of his body for life.

“The situation in this area has grown completely out of control. Violent racial incidents happen all the time around here and nothing gets reported,” he says.

“The road is extremely volatile. Taxis are the main culprits. They often push cars off the road. They pull people out of their cars at stop streets and assault them. There are thieves and thugs and murderers living there at Orange Farm and they’re allowed to do what they like.

“We will see to it personally that Apla pays the price for what it has done,” says Shaw, and a moment later: “But who on earth is Apla? They hide behind their aliases and drive around in their cars shooting innocent people. Why don’t they stand up and say: ‘We are Apla’? So that we can come face to face in the streets?!”

“Just when we thought that there was a light at the end of South Africa’s tunnel, these Apla people come with their bad breath and blow it out.”
Union slams attack on white workers

SHARON SOROUR, Labour Reporter

The militant white SA Iron, Steel and Allied Industries Union has condemned the "despicable" attack on white workers in Vanderbijlpark this week, demanding that the leaders and perpetrators "be called to answer".

Union general manager Mr Nic Celliers said the union, which saw the attack as a "premeditated onslaught against the white worker", would hold a mass meeting in Vereeniging on Monday to discuss white workers’ safety.

Mr Celliers and AWB leader Mr Eugene Terre Blanche would address the meeting.

Mr Celliers condemned the cowardly manner in which the attack was executed saying: "It leaves little doubt that the action was politically motivated and a pattern is unfolding, aimed directly at creating fear and panic among the broader white population.

"Attacks on whites in public places, on their way to work and intended attacks on schoolchildren seem to be related and appear orchestrated."

The union found it strange that the "apostles of human rights" remained silent on these events, "while they often create a furore in the media about petty things such as the admittance of all races at holiday resorts."

Mr Celliers said the attack in Vanderbijlpark was a "blatant violation of one of the basic rights of the worker and the union is apprehensive that more are to follow."
PRETORIA. — The Transvaal is the most dangerous province for the SAP, with the highest number of police murders recorded on the East Rand, in Alexandra, Soweto and the Vaal Triangle.

Statistics released yesterday showed 11 policemen died while on duty in the Witwatersrand alone this year compared to seven in the same period last year.

Altogether 32 police deaths were recorded from January 1 to March 15 this year. Thirty police deaths were recorded in the same period last year.

Police spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Dave Bruce said 226 policemen and women were killed in the country last year, compared with 65 in the US.

He said most policemen in the US were shot with small calibre firearms. In South Africa, most were killed with heavy calibre AK-47 assault rifles.

Meanwhile, the SAP said yesterday policemen and women killed either while on duty or because they were SAP members will be remembered tomorrow at a service at the SAP Memorial at the Union Buildings here.

Law and Order Minister Mr Hernus Kriel will lay a wreath, as will Police Commissioner General Johan-van-dern-Merwe and Transvaal Administrator Mr Danie Hough. — Sapa
‘Killers want us to bail ’em out of jail!’

By FRED KHUMALO

RESIDENTS of eKwandeni, near Hammarsdale, are being forced to raise R36 000 towards bailing out 18 members of a “people’s court” charged with murder.

But the residents of the informal settlement outside Mpmalanga township are not keen on the idea of securing the release from prison of “these people who will be murdering us tomorrow in the name of justice and order in the area.”

The 18 people are part of a group of 20 arrested for the February 21 murder of Jabulani Sithole.

Two members of the people’s court are out on R2 000 bail each, but the rest are behind bars as their families have failed to raise bail money.

Crack down

“Now the ones that are out are going around with their friends, knocking on doors and asking us to contribute money towards the bail,” said a resident.

Residents claim members of the “people’s court” are above the law and have gone unpunished when caught breaking into people’s houses.

Residents have reported the matter to the KwaZulu Police in Mpmalanga and they have promised to crack down on the “people’s court.”

Jabulani Sithole was murdered at 3.45 pm in full view of the township, allegedly by members of the “people’s court.”

Sentences at the “people’s court” range from a few lashes with sjamboks for minor offences such as theft, to death by stabbing for murder or rape.

It is not clear what Sithole’s “crime” was.

The “people’s court” has been blamed on the existence of a group of youngsters who call themselves “comrades” who have taken upon themselves the responsibility to maintain “law and order” in the settlement.

While Mpmalanga burned as a result of Inkatha-ANC violence four years ago, eKwandeni remained unscathed.

Now that Mpmalanga has returned to relative peace following the burying of the hatchet between the ANC and Inkatha — thanks to ANC chairman Mshack Hadebe and his Inkatha counterpart Sipho Mlaba — residents are guarding the peace jealously.

ANC chairman Mshack Hadebe said it was sad to see people trying to stir trouble in peaceful eKwandeni. He added that youngsters who called themselves “comrades” were not engaging in their activities with the blessing of the ANC.

“These perpetrators of shameful deeds are criminal elements who benefit from disorder and chaos,” said Hadebe.

He said the ANC did not approve of “people’s courts.”

Hadebe urged people to report to the ANC branch executive committee any incidents of harassment.

He said people should not pay money to people who were not sanctioned to collect funds from the community by the ANC.

“It is on very rare occasions that we appeal for funds from the community. Only people hand-picked by the executive committee and carrying letters signed by us can collect funds,” he said.

The local ANC branch executive committee was due to have a meeting with the community on the “people’s court.”
TEARS IN THE DUST

Day of unity now divides

There was a twist to the
philosophy of "Heroes' Day"

The 33rd anniversary of Sharpeville, with its commemorative services, which took place in several parts of the country last week, the black community was united in its grief following the massacre of 69 decent law-abiding people in Sharpeville in 1960.

But how some 20km south of Johannesburg, remembering this tragedy only served to show how divided the black community is. Despite the occasion to promote national unity for almost four years, the PAC and ANC were banned. The political difference over the PAC seemed set on claiming Sharpeville day as their own. The PAC and the ANC have been rivalled by the non-aligned church leaders - political organisations for people and ordinary people.

At the time when both the PAC and the ANC were banned, the Black Consciousness Movement was the only political party.

Both the ANC and the PAC seemed set on claiming Sharpeville day as their own. The PAC seemed set on claiming Sharpeville day as their own.
1 dead, 2 hurt in Alex taxi feud

One man was killed and two others were seriously injured in renewed taxi violence in Alexandra, near Sandton, on Saturday, police said.

Witwatersrand Police spokesman Lieutenant Janne Smith said the same gunmen, allegedly members of the Alexandra Taxi Association (ATA), were responsible for the two attacks on Saturday.

The three victims were Alexandra-Randburg-Midrand-Sandton Taxi Association (Armatas) members, said Smith. She said the shootings were linked to an ongoing taxi war in the township which had claimed a number of lives in the past year.

In the first shooting, a group of men opened fire on an Armatas member at about 6 am.

The man, who has not been named, was taken to hospital in a critical condition.

Smith said that about five minutes later, the gunmen opened fire on two more Armatas members in nearby Wimberg.

One of the men was shot in the back and died at the Alexandra Clinic. The other was rushed to Johannesburg Hospital in serious condition. Police have not released their names.

Several spent 7.65 pistol cartridges were found at the scene of the first shooting.

At the scene of the second shooting, police found five spent Makarov pistol cartridges.

Smith said the SAP did not know what sparked off the shootings, but police believed it was part of a war between the two rival associations.
Cops deny woman's claim

By Joshua Raboroko

Soweto mother claimed that policemen raided and ransacked her house and stole R1 000 in the early hours of Saturday morning.

"Mrs Evelyn Mbatha (55) of 490 Mzogolo Street, Rockville, said she became frightened when the policemen pointed firearms at her during the raid.

"I was afraid they would shoot me," she said. "They broke down my fence, doors, wardrobe and ransacked the house without any explanation."

Police denial

They left after allegedly taking R1 000 from her wardrobe. The money was her grandchild's school fees.

Police Burghars Soweto mother

says men posing as police stole R1 000:

In a statement to Sapa, Soweto police denied they had carried out a raid on Mbatha's home.

"The police deny that it was an official raid from the SA Police," said Soweto police spokesperson Major H.P. Oosthuissen. He said the occupants of the house on Saturday reported a group of men claiming to be policemen and clad in camouflage uniforms swooped on the house between midnight and 2am. The raid lasted two hours.

The residents said the invaders looted the house and did not identify themselves.

Oosthuissen said police raids normally last 10 minutes and police were required to identify themselves.

He said police on Friday found a camouflage uniform and ammunition at the Baragwanath taxi rank in Soweto.

This had sparked suspicions that there were people roaming the township with camouflage uniforms, posing as police.

Oosthuissen reiterated a call by district commissioner Brigadier J.J. Pretorius to report all raids to the police.

KwaMhlanga roadshow a success

By Elliot Makhaya

THE Lion Lager Roadshow at KwaMhlanga Stadium in KwaNdebele on Saturday was an unqualified success.

Staged by Steve Promotions, the festival attracted thousands of music lovers from many parts of the country.

Stars entertain revellers at the Lion Lager festival.

The festival saw five-star performances by Mzwakhe Mbuli, Luyolo Dube, William Mthethwa and Rebecca Malope. Poet, singer and dancer Mzwakhe, now an international star, was making his first appearance in KwaMhlanga. He made an impact.

The well-behaved crowd was also entertained by the likes of Spokes H, Percy Paul, Sonny uMcolozile, Deetle and the group Blackskate.

ER Indaba to be held soon

By Tsidi Thinane

A THREE-day peace summit is to be held on the East Rand from April 2 to 4 to look at violence and political intolerance.

The summit is part of ANC PWV region's "programme of action" aimed at combating violence in townships.

Two similar summits were held at KwaNdebele and the Vaal by the organisation. "The new wave of political violence presently ravaging the country is cause for concern," the organisation said in a statement. "In the PWV region alone, more than 90 people have died in politically motivated violence since the beginning of the year — the lowest in the past two years."
Gunmen kill ANC branch organiser

By Brian Sokota

Police are investigating the killing on Sunday evening of ANC Moroka branch organiser Peter Monyal, who was shot dead in Soweto by unknown gunmen.

Soweto police spokesman Major Joseph Ngobeni said yesterday members of the Soweto Murder and Robbery Squad were investigating.

According to ANC PWV regional spokesman Vusi Gumede, Monyal was shot dead at 5.30pm on Sunday shortly after he left his home with his four-year-old daughter. Four gunmen stopped him in Chiawelo, Soweto, demanding his car keys. As he handed over the keys, the men shot Monyal dead in front of his daughter.

Monyal's car was later recovered about 3km from the scene.

"He will be greatly missed by all who knew him," Gumede said. The ANC PWV has extended its sympathies to the Monyal family.
Kriel attacks
ANC 'criminals'

Minister reminiscent of PW Botha:

By Ismail Lagardien
Political Correspondent

A FINGER-WAGGING Law and Order Minister Hennessy Kriel launched a scathing attack on the ANC and its leader, Mr Nelson Mandela, in Parliament yesterday.

Breathing heavily and sounding much like former State President Mr PW Botha, Kriel said it was the "misguided pride" of Mandela and Inkatha's Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi that was perpetuating the violence in the country.

"Misguided pride is keeping the leaders of the warring factions in South Africa apart and this is the cause of the violence that has led to the death of thousands of people," Kriel said.

The Minister said joint control of the security forces would not be an automatic panacea for the raging violence but better control over the ANC's military wing would.
ANC organiser shot dead

ANC African National Congress organiser in Soweto, Mr Peter Manyai, was shot dead by unidentified gunmen on Sunday night when he was on his way to visit friends in Chiawelo.

Soweto police spokesman Major Joseph Ngobeni confirmed the incident.

The ANC PWV region said in a statement yesterday Manyai left his home in Moroka, Soweto, with his four-year-old daughter at about 5.30pm. Four gunmen stopped him in Chiawelo, also in Soweto, and demanded his car keys.
Police have opened murder and attempted murder dockets following the shooting by police of a man inside a stolen vehicle, which was being driven by a policeman.

David Mbull, suspected of theft, was killed and three witnesses were injured in Orlando, Soweto, in an apparent police mix-up.

Members of the Soweto Flying Squad shot at a reported stolen minibus driven by a policeman, accompanied by another policeman, who were transporting the suspect and the four witnesses to the police station.

Major General Braam Strauss, deputy regional commissioner of Police of the West Rand and Soweto, has ordered an investigation.

Colonel Tienie Halgryn of the Soweto police said a minibus, which had been reported stolen, was recovered by the police in Diepkloof on Sunday afternoon. The vehicle had been taken in Diepkloof by men armed with AK-47s.

The police took the vehicle to the investigating officer in the Diepkloof police station. The officer and a colleague then drove the vehicle to Orlando. The officer arrested a suspect and also fetched four witnesses to take down their statements. He used the stolen minibus to transport them.

The Flying Squad saw the vehicle later and a radio check showed that the vehicle had been reported stolen.

They switched on their vehicle's blue lights and siren to try to bring the minibus to a standstill.

The driver failed to stop and the Flying Squad members opened fire, Halgryn said. Mbull was killed and three of the witnesses, Kegemia Suko, Joseph Mahlakane and Nontsukutso Khumwowe, were injured. They are all in a stable condition.

Halgryn said the correct procedure was to impound a stolen vehicle immediately in the police's stolen vehicle camp.