Services and Amenities
for Blacks - OFS

1975 - 1990
Blacks and Whites in park row

WELKOM — The Town Clerk, Mr. J. van Zyl, said he hoped there would be no repetition of last Sunday's affair when White and Black children and their parents were allegedly involved in a fight in the town's Retiz Park.

Mr. van Zyl told Sapa that this was the first occurrence of this nature. The argument apparently broke out between Whites and Blacks over the use of the park's facilities.

"As far as I could gather it was an isolated incident involving about eight grownups and their children," Mr. van Zyl said.

Mr. van Zyl added that the matter would be studied fully at the next meeting of the management committee.

In the meantime, no extra precautions would be taken at Retiz Park, he said. He added that the police would, however, visit the park from time to time — (Sapa.)
The cultural group will appear at a fund-raising performance in the Free State capital on July 25, the day a 42-strong contingent from the organisation leaves South Africa to take part in an international performing arts festival in Aberdeen and London.

The Free State appearance, says Eoan's chairman, Mr I. Sydow, 'represents a great breakthrough for the Coloured community.' Yet another advance, he says, is an appearance the following day in the great hall of the University of South Africa, sponsored by the university.

Both performances are part of a series of fund-raising appearances to back the month-long overseas trip, which will cost an estimated R46 000. The group hopes to raise about R15 000 through the concert series, 'DETENTE'.

Mr Sydow said: 'The value to South Africa of this proposed visit and participation in the festival, in its fight for detente, better understanding in human relationships, cannot be measured in financial terms only.'

Industry and commerce in Cape Town was helping by giving members of the touring group special leave, guaranteeing their re-employment when the group returns, and by partially subsidising salaries and wages of the overseas group.

"DETENTE"

Mr Sydow said: "The result of Hoofstad's poll is significant in relation to the heated controversy in recent months over whether Johannesburg's Civic Theatre should be open to all races and whether the proposed Pretoria Opera House should have facilities open to all races.

"The anti-sharing verdict of the readers comes in the wake of the Government's decision last week that the status quo concerning theatre facilities will remain in spite of opening Cape Town's Nico Malan Opera complex to all races. The cultural group will appear at a fund-raising performance in the Free State capital on July 25, the day a 42-strong contingent from the organisation leaves South Africa to take part in an international performing arts festival in Aberdeen and London."

"DETENTE"

Mr Sydow said: "The value to South Africa of this proposed visit and participation in the festival, in its fight for detente, better understanding in human relationships, cannot be measured in financial terms only."
All face cinemas on agenda

Threat to cinemas anger Kingsford residents

By Helen Dyer

Eastleigh, 20th January

The threat to cinemas in Kingsford has caused considerable concern among residents of the area. The concern is particularly acute given the proposal to build a large block of flats on the site of the current cinema.

Local resident, Mr. Smith, expressed his concern, saying, "This is not only a threat to our cinema, but also to our community. The cinema provides a vital service to the area and we are fighting to preserve it for future generations."

The cinema, which has been a community hub for over 50 years, provides a range of services including a cinema, a restaurant, and a community center. The community center is particularly important for the local elderly population.

Many local residents have signed a petition to save the cinema, and a public meeting is planned for next week to discuss the issue further.

Director of the cinema, Ms. Johnson, said, "We have been fighting this battle for months now, but we are determined to fight on. We believe that the cinema is a vital part of our community and we will not give up until our voices are heard."

The planning application for the development is currently being reviewed by the local authority. The residents are keeping their fingers crossed that the application will be rejected.

The threat to the cinema has also sparked a debate about the future of the area. Many residents are concerned that the development will lead to a loss of local identity and a decline in the quality of life for residents.

Local politician, Mr. Brown, said, "This development is not just about the cinema. It's about the future of our community. We need to ensure that the development is in keeping with the needs of the community and does not sacrifice our local identity for short-term gain."

The local council has promised to consider all concerns and make a decision in the coming weeks. The residents are hopeful that their voices will be heard and the cinema will be saved.

END

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*Editor's Note: This is a fictional news article for demonstration purposes.*
Homes plan for blacks in OFS

BLOEMFONTEIN — The private sector's biggest development project in a black township in the Free State is to go ahead at Mangaung outside Bloemfontein.

The project, by the Blomonda Housing Company, entails the provision of services for 1,200 erven (housing sites). The company is negotiating with the Urban Foundation for R8 million for the project.

It is hoped houses on these sites will be built by private developers, employers and owner-builders on a freehold or 99-year lease basis.

The Mangaung Town Council has received approval for a loan of R1.3 million for external services to Kagisanong Extension.
No homes, schools for Indians in Bloem

By Charles Guild

BLOEMFONTEIN — Indians from Natal and the Reef who have opened businesses in Bloemfontein are forced to sleep in their shops because there is no suitable accommodation for them in the city.

Schooling for their children is also a problem. Only one private white school is allowed to accept pupils of other races, but it cannot cope with the flood of applications.

The housing problem might be resolved before the end of the year because the chairman of the Minister's Council in the House of Delegates, Mr. Amchand Rajbansi, is to visit the city on December 10 to make a decision on suitable land for Indians.

He will meet members of the Bloemfontein City Council, and possibly also the Administrator of the Free State, Mr. Louis Botha.

Areas to be considered for housing for Indians include part of the Highfield smallholdings, about 10 km from the city; land at Douglas Valley, about 6 km out of town; and Denesig, to the north.

Many of the businessmen from the Rand who are sleeping in their shops say that if the housing problem is not resolved soon, they will have to pack up and return to the Rand.

At least 20 Indian schoolchildren have not been able yet to get a place in school next year.

Talks have been held with the Free State Education Department, Christian Brothers College, the only white school in Bloemfontein allowed to accept non-white students, is unable to cope with the demand.

Twelve Indian pupils have been accepted for next year, in addition to the three who attended the school this year.

The principal of the school, Mr. N.E.P. Alter, said many of the applications were received after the closing date and could not be considered.

One businessman says he has four children unable to find places in school.

"We cannot allow this to go on," he said.
By Melody McDougall, Vereeniging Bureau

An Indian couple has lashed out at the Vereeniging Hospital and accused authorities of being "colour conscious" following the death of their five-year-old brain-damaged son after he was refused admittance to the hospital.

Ebrahim Monga of Rondebosch, who was suffering from dehydration and a suspected renal abscess, was certified dead on arrival at a Lenasia clinic about two hours after he was refused admittance to the Vereeniging Hospital last Tuesday night.

DRIVEN AWAY

The child’s grief-stricken mother, Mrs Fatima Monga (27), of Sarosjini Street, Rosettenville, claims they were driven away from the whites-only hospital because of authority’s "being colour conscious".

But the Vereeniging Hospital superintendent, Dr Jnr van der Vyver, rejected the allegation, saying the child had not been refused admittance because of colour or race, but because of a lack of accommodation.

According to Mrs Monga, Ebrahim was rushed to the Vereeniging Hospital after their family doctor advised them that the boy needed urgent specialised treatment.

Dr van der Vyver said it is our hospital’s policy to admit any person, regardless of colour or race, in emergency situations until the patient’s condition has stabilised. But on Tuesday night there was not a single bed available in the children’s ward, or in any of the other wings wards.

Dr van der Vyver said he was puzzled about why the child’s condition was not stabilised before he was transferred to another hospital, or why the patient was not connected to a drip and transported by ambulance to another hospital of the parents’ choice.
Vereeniging desegregates its cinemas

BOTH of Vereeniging's cinemas are to be opened to all races, the management committee of the town council has decided.

Columbia Pictures in the US has said it will not supply films to segregated cinemas and drive-ins after the end of this month.

Prior to the decision, taken on Monday night, only one of the town's cinemas, in a free trading area, was open to all races. Permission for the other to be desegregated had been refused because it was in an all-white area.

"We're absolutely delighted and thrilled at the courageous step taken," Anthony Salisbury, MD of Saltel, said yesterday.

Other cinemas still to be desegrated are in Krugersdorp, Pretoria, Potchefstroom, and Roodepoort.
Govt says sanctions inevitable

CAPE TOWN — Government had finally and "clinically" accepted mandatory sanctions were inevitable and Britain and the US were likely to be and had effectively challenged veto to the resolution.

The UN Security Council to pass. The government source said SA resolution now before it calling for first: throw down the gauntlet last week when Ambassador to the UN source said yesterday.

Les Manley challenged the world to start early today (SA time). He said government had decided to: further investment in: mandatory sanctions were inevitable. "Sooner or later we are going to reach the worst-case situation. imports:, a ban on: Krugerrand: And the sooner we reach that the better."

Proposed sanctions include: or intelligence cooperation; and: end to oil exports to SA: a ban on: imports: and end to all military police: and: end to all: Government felt foreign govern- terrorism: activists: and: and: within: the country were encouraged to believe government would eventually bow to just the threat of sanctions and other punitive action.

"This perception must be terminated as soon as possible. We now wish to get away from all this bluff and put these threats to the test."

The source stressed there would be no consolation if the demands contained in the resolution were watered down.

He said demands for the total eradication of apartheid and for a one man one vote was totally unacceptable to government.
The black man’s burden

The thought of Boksburg being transformed into a ghost town through a commercial boycott might come as a surprise to those who have ever visited this hub of the East Rand, and the fabled riviera of Boksburg Lake. Perfectly reflecting local white political opinion, its voters elected a Conservative Party council — which has set about implementing CP policy to the extent it can do so at local level.

So parks, pools and the CBD are to be emphatically proclaimed for “whites only” — a folly whose penalty will be felt in the High Street shops and a capital starvation which will probably benefit surrounding towns. White people who are only living — not trading — there will also be the poorer money drain coupled to the stigma which the mere name of the place will now arouse, will probably see a drop in residential property prices.

Other CP towns which follow suit will experience similar effects.

However, the Boksburg council is perfectly correct in pointing out it is only following the law to the letter. The Separate Amenities Act, which gives it the mandate to close out other-than-whites, was passed decades ago by the self-same Nat government which now so vocally abhors the council’s action.

Indeed, amid the legal tangles that lie ahead, it might also be considered whether, for example, the SABC was in contravention of the emergency regulations by giving so much air time to those firmly advocating a consumer boycott of white shops. Suddenly the government — in slamming the CP on this issue — appears to be saying segregation is wrong and not in the national interest. Well — what about the Group Areas Act, then?

And even Johannesburg, with its sizeable PFP representation, should put its hand on its heart and say it has done as much about desegregating the buses and swimming pools as, by implication, it ought to have done if it is to beat Boksburg about the ears for its feudal ways.

So while the CP in Boksburg has demonstrated its inability to reckon with the serious consequences of racism — forgetting that Verwoerd once clearly linked being white and separate with being poor — it has been given the luxury to do so by a ruling party that throughout all the tiers of government places the emphasis on local option, with the deck stacked in favour of the whites, who are becoming poorer.

If you really don’t want embarrassing racial segregation in Boksburg or Krugersdorp, get rid of the laws that make it possible anywhere — including Pretoria and Durban.
Giving them rope

As Boksburg businessmen weigh the effects on their turnovers (and continued operation) of a highly probable black consumer boycott of the town, government is taking a wait-and-see attitude to the Conservative Party (CP) controlled town council's plans to reimpose old-style apartheid.

This is the first concrete example of CP policy in action, says a highly placed National Party (NP) source, and government is using the opportunity "to let the voters see what happens when they're in power," Pretoria's plan, clearly, is to watch the CP get hoist by its own petard. Signs are that this could well happen (already some stores are displaying "open to all" signs) — and in the process no doubt deliver a salutory lesson to reactionary whites nationally. Could Boksburg mark the beginning of the end for the Conservatives?

Indeed, it was confidently being predicted that the by-election in Boksburg's Ward 7 (which was due to take place on Wednesday), would see the independent/PPP candidate Issy Kramer trounce the CP. NP leader in the council, Chris Smit, went so far as to tell the FM: "I will be surprised if the CP candidate retains his deposit."

According to Smit, the CP won its council majority (12 of the 20 wards) in October due purely to the bad publicity attached to two NP councillors' particular circumstances: "The CP slipped in through the back door. That is why they will not accept my challenge to resign, as we will, and fight the election again. If they do, the Boksburg electorate will discard them with the necessary contempt they deserve for this action (bringing back the past)."

Smit, incidentally, has claimed in council — apropos of the question of white "nominees" stores — that the CP chairman of the management committee, Gideon Fourie, "who started all this nonsense," has his suits made by an Indian tailor, and that the CP mayor Beyers de Klerk, also has an account with an Indian shop in Boksburg. Perhaps this explains the CP's apparent intention not to interfere with black traders who have white fronts — even though the Boksburg CBD has not been declared an "open" business area.

The NP MEC for local government in the Transvaal, Olaus van Zyl, points out that in terms of the Separate Amenities Act, the Boksburg council has full jurisdiction over municipal "own" facilities such as the lake and parks (but not over stores, cinemas and hotels). Local authorities, he explains, are independent bodies. Further, the devolution of power is government policy and is being extended. The central authorities cannot, therefore, act against a reactionary town council — or a more liberal one such as Cape Town.

"I've appealed to all local authorities to think very carefully before taking certain decisions; not to harm race relations and to look to their interests and those of the country," says Van Zyl — in terms of whose party's statutes the CP is, after all, acting.

Boksburg Afrikaanse Sakekamer chairman Denis Malan described CP plans for the town as bad news for Boksburg and its business environment. He points to projections that coloured people's buying power on the East Rand as a whole is set to increase significantly — due partly to population growth. Also, that 40% of Africans, coloureds and Indians already shop in their own group areas, while 26% of purchases are made outside the East Rand. And CBD shopping areas in the region are set to decline from around 57% to 48% in the next decade, as the number of black small businesses grows.

"Therefore, says Malan, who is also an NP councillor and industrial relations officer for Mulbag, CP policy will have a "disastrous" effect on small businessmen in Boksburg. He describes the CP decision as "irrational as it does not consider its effect on business and buying patterns, the effect on international companies, import of strategic components — and it ruins race relations. We are going backwards, to a policy which it has been proven cannot work."

He warns of the possibility of companies deciding to relocate away from Boksburg, the East Rand's biggest industrial town, and the implications this would have for the town's tax and rates base. A branch of a leading bank this week cancelled its booking at the Boksburg lake where it had planned to hold its Christmas lunch party, just as Reiger Park High did for its matric party.

Boksburg Chamber of Commerce and Industries chairman Johann Viljoen says "this town is going to suffer from this (CP policy)" and expresses grave concern at the prospect of a black buyers' boycott, since blacks account for around 50% of the town's purchasing power. Viljoen observes that such a cut in turnover will mean less funding for RSCs, which depend on levies on business. He warns further of the potential the CP step has of causing disinvestment from the town, and scaring off any new investment.

Meanwhile, the local chamber, Sakekamer and the Boksburg Industrialists' Association were due to meet this week to discuss the situation and make plans. A meeting with the council was postponed; in any event, it is highly unlikely that the CP will reverse its decision.

From the residents of Reiger Park

FINANCIAL MAIL DECEMBER 2 1988

POLITICAL PRISONERS

Generation gap

Many will see the hand — or at least the increased influence — of Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha behind a number of welcome moves this week that, if nothing else, could begin to crack the political stalemate that has dominated life this year. Hopefully the momentum can be sustained.

It was a rare week for SA — which basked in international praise following the commuting of the death sentences of the Sharpeville Six, an agreement on Namibian inde-
Let's take Nats off the hook.

By AMEEN AKHADWALA, editor of the Indicator

THE lays of the Conservative Party's victory in the recent municipal elections is being trumpeted as evidence of the party's ability to deliver on its promises. However, the elections also revealed a number of surprising trends that are likely to have implications for the party's future.

The most significant development was the strong showing by the United Democratic Front (UDF), which won control of three of the largest municipalities. This is a clear indication that the party's emphasis on economic development and job creation is not resonating with voters, particularly in rural areas.

The elections also showed that the party's attempts to cater to different cultural and ethnic groups have not been successful. In many areas, the party's performances were poor, particularly in the Western Cape and the Eastern Cape.

The party needs to re-examine its strategy and focus on those issues that resonate with the public. It also needs to address the concerns of the UDF, which has expressed a desire to work with the party to address some of the pressing issues facing South Africa.

The party's failure to win control of the Western Cape and the Eastern Cape is particularly worrying. These two provinces are critical to the party's chances of winning national elections in the future.

The party needs to consider ways to improve its performance in these areas, such as by addressing concerns about job creation, economic development, and corruption.

Let's take Nats off the hook.
The Lessons of Boksburg

The ghost of apartheid past

The Conservatives in Boksburg will get their white Christmas — poor and bleak

Boksburg has written itself into history: it will be a name that stands for blunt, Verwoerdian apartheid, a place where the light of reform was plunged into darkness. But as events unfold there, and in other towns that follow its example, the demonstration effect could be profound indeed.

It does not do to get too moralistic or simplistic about the matter. It was, after all, Verwoerd himself — hero of the Volk that he was — who said it was better to be poor, white and separate than rich and mixed. But now real people are finding out what that really means. Many, particularly organised business in the town, have already said they don’t like it.

Boksburg perhaps never really deserved its off-blue-collar image — the car up on bricks, the kids in a tyre swing, the wife in curlers and the dogs barking at passing blacks. But, though it has some extremely affluent areas, that Sienc in Die Suburbs scenario stuck; like Brakpan, Nigel and Springs, it was seen as verkramp at the core.

So no one was really surprised that the Conservative Party (CP) won 12 of the town’s 20 council wards in the October municipal elections. But then the party revealed what everyone should have known — that it meant exactly what its leaders spouted on public platforms — and Boksburg has become the party’s first urban testing ground for its perceived mandate to roll back any and all manifestations of change or reform. The “whites only” signs are back.

The result over the past fortnight has been a quiet but devastating boycott of the town by black and coloured consumers resident in the area — and they account for half of Boksburg’s spending power. “This town is bleeding,” warned Boksburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry chairman Johann Viljoen.

Next year, market researchers estimate, black Boksburgers’ spending will top R320m — though perhaps not, if the boycott is maintained, in Boksburg.

The growing importance of black consumer power is a national phenomenon ignored, as Boksburg demonstrates, to the peril of the Right and those unfortunate enough to live where they have control, white or black. This inevitably raises wider implications.

There is the principle of the boycott itself. Those, including the FM, who are opposed to sanctions against SA need to consider whether the same principle — a “liberal” seizure of the moral high ground through impoverishment — is not at work here. After all, if Boksburg council capitulates, or the town dies on its feet, foreign sanctioners will say this is simply a local demonstration of the efficacy of their tactics.

This is partly true. But there is one important distinction to be borne in mind: that sanctions are imposed on a country as a whole by outsiders, and that this boycott represents a consumer choice targeted at people who have said plainly enough they don’t like the colour of the consumers’ skin. That makes it a gut issue; the man in Reiger Park is taking his Christmas bonus elsewhere; there is no law that requires him to do otherwise. He is saying: if you don’t want me in your park, I won’t buy in your shop.

Sanctions are brought about through the imposition of various foreign laws and agreements in a manner that distorts the rules of international trade. It prevents the consumer from exercising choice. Boksburg is a terrifyingly visible symbol of racism, and the diversion of buying power in response is understandable, human response.

It remains true that if you want to hurt someone, you hit his pocket. And so, because of that new-found visibility of the place, multinational and companies who profess a social conscience have already taken their own action. A number of corporate accounts, the FM learns, are now to be relocated to banks outside Boksburg. A major local employer, Colgate-Palmolive, has applied for rezoning to place its outside the council’s ambit. Various contracts with Boksburg firms have been cancelled.

This means that the town’s rates and tax base is already shrinking — and that, coupled to the direct money drain of the boycott, means Boksburg cannot be sustained as a prosperous entity unless Boksburgers and the CP do not really mind sliding back into the economic climate of the Thirties. With bittersweet irony, Reiger Park council leader Buch Jantjies observed of white Boksburgers: “They wanted their town white, they are going to get it white; it should be a white Christmas for them.”

But Boksburg is not a monolithic place — white dissension is evident in all kinds of ways. There is a distinct backlash against the council — partly reflected in Iasy Kramer’s stunning victory over the CP in last week’s by-election (See People); and in the generally held view, by NP council leader Chris Smith, for example, that a re-fought election would see off mayor Beyers de Klerk and his right-wing cohorts in no uncertain terms. It must after all be hard to take the stigma of your town having become the police of the country. Even sporting fixtures are being cancelled since the council will not allow mixed team participation in its facilities.

Of course, the CP can legally take these steps because of the Separate Amenities Act — which specifically means that separate does not have to be equal, and that certain facilities, including park benches, can indeed

NP council leader Smith

Trying to woo them back... but the stigma remains
be reserved for whites. The Act was passed by the Nats in the Fifties, has been under investigation this decade, but stays on the books. So what is preventing Pretoria from simply scrapping it — as it should have done years ago, in line with the reform pronouncements of P W Botha?

So far government has been perfectly content to sit back and let the demonstration effect of CP rule sink in. Maybe it will get rid of the Act — but for the moment it can bask in the false perception that blatant racism is somehow a CP invention. This is not to deny that it has changed its ways and continues to do so — too little, too late, perhaps; but this week alone it responded to the permanence of black urbanisation by making huge tracts of land available for black settlement adjacent to Soweto (see Current Affairs). This, to an extent, ameliorates the intended effect of its squatting law which helped precipitate the constitutional crisis in parliament this year.

Of course, merely responding pragmatically to an ineluctable fact is in itself not particularly praiseworthy — but it is a far cry from the bulldozers and forced removals of the not-so-distant past. Remember that before Khayelitsha there was Crossroads and the notorious winter night raids on squatters; new townships in the PWV should avert such a repeated violation of human rights.

Ironically, while boycotts as such are illegal, this one actually suits Pretoria and no action has been taken against the residents of Reiger Park and Vosloorus. The argument remains that if blacks really wanted sanctions against SA, and the resultant destruction of their jobs — which some church leaders insist they do — the best way to bring this about would be to resign en masse. It is spending power and discretionary capital which is being diverted from Boksburg — not labour.

Elsewhere on the CP-run East Rand (Brakpan, Springs, and Nigel), the black communities were waiting to see if the action in Boksburg leads to changes back to (relative) normality before embarking on boycotts of their own.

Boksburg, and the almost universal condemnation of CP policy it has provoked, has also provided a conundrum for blacks: whether it is preferable to have outright racism, CP-style, or the National Party’s rather more embarrassed version, which at least holds out the prospect of more sensitive treatment. On balance, it seems the latter is easier to live with. But once the Boksburg issue is resolved — or if it simply drags on indefinitely into the new year — the focus of attention will definitely turn to the Separate Amenities Act, group areas and the race classification laws.

This is because, even despite the Act, town councils and local authorities do have the option of desegregating facilities within their control. What this usually amounts to is concessions for the local coloured, Indian or African township to use the town hall or swimming pool for some annual gala event. But while swimming pools, in particular, are as a rule reserved for whites only throughout the country, Johannesburg’s bus services are cunningly segregated.

What Boksburg has done is crystallise the offensiveness of overt petty apartheid, which is more-or-less a way of life in SA anyway. In September, a long-distance swimming event finishing at Bloubergstrand in Cape Town had to be moved elsewhere because blacks are not allowed on Bloubergstrand. In May, the mayor of Durban, Henry Klotz, was suspended from the NP for refusing to go along with fellow party members on the council who decreed the city’s two remaining whites-only beaches should stay white.

Just prior to Klotz’s suspension, the Supreme Court declared that Port Elizabeth’s beaches (famed for Allan Hendrick’s illegal swim), had never legally been closed to blacks and would therefore have to be opened. But then, up popped the Administrator of the Cape, Gene Louw (NP), with an appeal — pending whose decision the beaches were once again closed.

But it wasn’t all regression. In June, Sats officials burnt whites-only signs in Cape Town after racial segregation was formally abolished on trains in the western Cape. A similar step was taken on suburban commuter trains in the PWV a month later — although the lifting of apartheid on all mainline trains looks like taking a little longer.

In short, since local government is an “own” affair, the rule, however you bend or apply it, is that the facilities under any council’s control are often appropriated for the ruling race group. The CP’s Koos van der Merwe is quite right in accusing the Nats of practising skeem apartheid and in challenging NP Transvaal leader F W de Klerk to throw open facilities in his Vereeniging constituency, or belt up. The Independent Party’s Janieke Momborg similarly challenged an altogether unenuous Foreign Minister Pik...
Botha, who lambasted the CP over Boksburg, to "put your money where your mouth is" by telling President Botha to scrap the Act.

What excuse is there for not doing so? Boksburg's MP Sakkie Bianché (NP), argues that separate amenities cannot be done away with — particularly not in Boksburg where the ERPM mine has its operation in the centre of the town, with 28,000 black hostel dwellers. If the facilities were opened to all, "the pool would be theirs, not ours. The Act is therefore necessary in a town like ours," Bianché says. He has called on the mine to build its own pools. "Scraping the Act would create problems and drive people to the CP for all time," he believes, while conceding "we could probably make changes to the Act."

In effect, the building of sufficient "own" facilities for each race group is government's answer to the problem — as Chris Heunis has explained in his own inimitable fashion. In the meantime, of course, whites may enjoy "their" facilities because, they say, they paid for them.

According to independent councillor Issy Kramer, however: "The CP argument that blacks don't pay rates and taxes is refuted by the fact that blacks don't own the homes they live in; and their consumer income subsidises the trader and industrialist thus enabling him to pay his dues to the local authority."

Again, the point about the interdependence of the economy is made. And there is a further dimension: the Nationalists, in attempting to reform, have felt it necessary to create structures which make for a maximum of local control. White local authorities, particularly in the Transvaal, are very often verkramp. This exposes a serious flaw in reform — that it should be executed from the top down, not bottom-up.

What Boksburg is doing is offensive — and it is paying a severe penalty for its ways. Government is pleased at the penalty because it believes voters will return to its fold as the High Street shops fail and the multinationals relocate and the buyers stay out. But the Separate Amenities Act is ultimately its baby — and this particular baby is going to have to be thrown out with the dirty bathwater of the past.

The Nats cannot have it both ways.
Natal mob stab man to death

PRETORIA. — The body of a man stabbed to death was found near Taylors Halt in Natal after a mob attacked a home, police said yesterday.

The body was found at Nindi at daylight — about three hours after the attack.

A man was also injured at Botshabelo in Bloemfontein when a group set a house alight.

Police said they baton-charged a large group of placard-wielding demonstrators outside the Karos group's Johannesburger Hotel when they refused to disperse. Four men and a woman were arrested.

Workers have been on strike for three months over wages and the dismissal of colleagues who observed the June 16 stayaway. — Sapa
Joan Strugle
Whites Amber
Boksburg's
Amanda! As
Biting the hand that drafted it

If the government was given a taste of its own medicine over the Boksburg “apartheid” affair, latest developments in the town have practically forced it to finish off the bottle.

Police yesterday confirmed they are investigating charges laid by two Boksburg town councillors against various organisations for alleged contraventions of the Emergency regulations.

With its flair for tactics growing daily, the Conservative Party announced on Wednesday that charges had been laid in the light of “the apparent unwillingness of the government” to apply the provisions of its own Emergency regulations.

Gideon Fourie, MP, chairman of the Boksburg Town Council’s management committee, this week charged the Beeld newspaper, the SABC and the Save Boksburg Committee with contravening Emergency regulations prohibiting the reporting of or promotion of consumer boycotts.

At the same time, the town’s mayor, Beyers de Klerk charged the Natal Building Society with contravening the Intimidation Act. The building society took away De-Klerk’s NBS agency last week in protest against the council’s reimposition of certain apartheid laws in the town.
Conservative Party (CP) maverick Koos van der Merwe, who last week was instrumental in staving off the threatened defections of three of Boksburg’s 12 CP councilors, evidently understands the negative effect that removed apartheid signs would have on the sanctions debate in the US. This much he told Republican Senator John McCain (Arizona) during a meeting in the Carlton Hotel in Johannesburg last month.

McCain tells the FM that he met a broad spectrum of South Africans during his nine-day privately sponsored tour. "I told Van der Merwe that my going back to apartheid and apartheid signs would give impetus to the passage of more sanctions bills in Congress. "I explained that it would affect my opinion and that of other moderate Republicans as to whether we would lean favourably towards supporting sanctions. Van der Merwe told me he has often visited the US and understands the effect such actions would have on the debate."

McCain points out that the CP’s actions in Boksburg are very harmful to the cause of many white and black South Africans. "It will have a very significant impact on the sanctions debate."
Ferdie Hartzenberg tells the FM: “We will not reconsider our policy. We are convinced that the boycott will not last and that its effects are not as serious as is made out. The situation will be different in the New Year.”

Reflecting the turmoil, Boksburg mayor Beyers de Klerk last week laid charges against the NBS (which pulled out of the town), under the Intimidation Act. His colleague, management committee chairman Gideon Fourie, at the same time charged SABC-TV and Beida in terms of the emergency regulations for in effect advocating the boycott, which has cut the town’s business by at least 60%.

This week, Colgate-Palmolive chairman Gerry Nocker told employees that the company is committed to staying in SA. Nocker reaffirmed that Colgate has applied for rezoning into Benoni.

While the multinational has no wish to see Boksburg deteriorate, “we, however, cannot justify the payment of rates and taxes to a town council that has such backward views — and views that are totally opposite to ours.”

The council’s actions will increase pressure on foreign companies to disinvest in SA, he warns.

An opinion survey carried out by the Boksburg Advertiser last week found anti-CP sentiment running at 9:1, says editor Hilary Green, adding that the town is in a turmoil.

Boksburg Chamber of Commerce & Industry chairman Johann Viljoen says his chamber has had applications to join from businessmen who previously did not belong to any business association.

“They are beginning to see the need for a collective mouthingpiece, especially now that we are going to see Chris Heunis.”

Independent councillor and chairman of the Boksburg Alliance Issy Kramer tells the FM that CP leader Andries Treurnicht and Hartzenberg failed to turn up for a meeting with the alliance scheduled last Friday.

The same day, says Kramer, opposition councillors called a special meeting in vain, “to discuss a resolution to rescind all the decisions taken by the new council.”
Body blow for developers

The business casualty toll is rising steadily as the Boksburg CP-controlled council's decision to reintroduce petty apartheid continues to ricochet around the business community.

Shopkeepers were the first victims, hit by a sharp drop in turnover. Now down-the-line decisions are being taken to curtail commercial and industrial property development.

On the commercial side, Retail International says it'll at least delay construction of a R100m, 42 000 m² shopping centre.

Perhaps less dramatic, but just as significant in employment terms in an industrial town, is the impact on development in the 85 ha Jet Park industrial area.

While about 30% of the park, ideally located on the fringes of Jan Smuts Airport, has been taken up by factories and warehousing, development could come to a standstill. As one industrial property developer, Albert van Heerden, MD of Merinda Enterprises, explains to the FM: "I used to have between eight and 12 serious inquiries a week. They have suddenly dried up."

Van Heerden has planned and finance arranged for the development of 11 factories, comprising about 15 000 m² warehousing and 2 500 m² offices. "My portfolio involves investments of R15m. I won't delay the start of the first few units in the new year, but I won't proceed with the whole development until political problems are resolved. I'm sure other developers will do the same."

He says the factories should fetch rents of R6/m² and offices R14/m², but this could change if businessmen choose other sites.

"Developers will then have to cut rentals to attract business. That means lost income and thus reduced property values. Institutions aren't interested in whether a property is made of diamonds or gold, they just want to know the yield. That drops when rental income falls and so reduces the value of a property. The point must come when property development ceases to be worthwhile."

"Rental income on my proposed developments should be in the region of R140 000 a month. It is too early to say that all or part of this will be in jeopardy, but it could be if I can't get tenants."

Van Heerden's position is worsened by the fact that he has ploughed capital into an industrialised housing manufacturing venture. Dwellings are aimed primarily at blacks. Van Heerden believes this market, whose potential buyers include the homelands, could be seriously at risk because the units are being made in Boksburg.

"I was just completing 3 000 m² of factory and 850 m² of offices (separate from the speculative developments) earmarked for the Amper Mahala homes."

"We have invested a great deal of money and had a lot of inquiries about this housing system. The intention was to go full steam into production in the new year, starting at 100 houses a month and building up to 300. Those projections may have to be curtailed, which could put at risk not only the capital invested, but also jobs for between 150 and 200 blacks. A further 200 would be involved in on-site erection of the dwellings."

FINANCIAL MAIL DECEMBER 23 1988
Boksburg loses R26m shops

OK BAZAARS has abandoned its involvement in a R26m major shopping centre development planned for the Boksburg CBD, MD Gordon Hood said yesterday.

"During the past month the company has sustained a loss in the Boksburg CBD with turnover down over the same period last year. Under current circumstances this necessitates a re-assessment of envisaged expansionary activity," he said.

The OK was to have been the anchor tenant, but other national chains and smaller stores were involved in the project, which was to have begun early in 1989.

The centre developers, RMS Syfrets, confirmed the project could not go ahead without the commitment of the anchor and other tenants.

As soon as the economic situation improved, the developers intended to proceed with the centre, they said.

OK and Syfrets emphasised the decision was purely business one based on the interests of consumers and shareholders and was open to review at any future stage.

Independent candidate for Boksburg Lou Kramer said this represented an enormous loss of income for the town.

"The new centre would have housed 70 tenants paying electricity, water, sewage and sanitation rates. The town council will lose millions." CP MP Koos van der Merwe said if OK wished to withdraw from the shopping centre, it was its prerogative to do so. He foresew no consequences for Boksburg.

"The whole thing has been ripped out of proportion by the misinformation campaign of the media and TV," he said.

"Our promises were made within the Separate Amenities Act and the voters knew what they were voting for. We have a full mandate of 50%."
CONSTITUTIONAL Development and Planning Minister Chris Heunis yesterday declined to issue a fresh response to the CP-controlled Boksburg Town Council's ongoing challenge that government scrap the Separate Amenities Act.

On Wednesday, Boksburg's CP management committee chairman Gideon Fourie re-issued the CP challenge that the NP immediately repeal the Separate Amenities Act or forego the right to criticise the CP's application of the Act in Boksburg. Heunis yesterday indicated he would stick to his November 30 statement, in which he said government would not tolerate the "moving backwards" towards practices and customs that were long abolished.

"All communities will be treated on a non-discriminatory basis with the protection of the individual and group rights of all groups.

"Also, new patterns of living regarding the joint use of public facilities in a civilised manner will be fostered."

Heunis said the ill-considered action by certain CP city councils over the past weeks had resulted in an embarrassment for their voters, for their towns and for the whole of SA.

Responding to Heunis' statement, Fourie said the NP wanted the support of both sides of the political spectrum.

The government is scared to show its true colours and wants to keep the left and the right happy.

"People know our policy. We do not act for both sides but only for those people who support CP views."

He said NP policy was exactly the same as the CP's in that the NP also practised the Group Areas and Separate Amenities Acts in areas under its control.

"If they repeal these two laws, they will lose thousands of conservative Nationalist supporters to the CP. If they do not, they will lose the support of thousands of left-wingers who voted NP in the recent municipal elections because of promises to scrap discriminatory laws."

DANIEL SIMON

13/12/68
ative Party (CP) council and township residents are digging in their heels, and Minister Chris Heunis remains reluctant to slice the knot of the separate amenities law which binds the whole mess together.

As the FM went to press, both the Save Boksburg Committee and the Boksburg Alliance were preparing for feedback meetings at which the impact of the consumer boycott to date would be assessed and a plan of action for the new year formulated. As far as the residents of Reiger Park and Vosloorus are concerned, the message is clear: the action has consolidated and will continue.

There has also been some talk that the Reiger Park management committee intends to suspend its activities as a local council until CP policy changes.

There are indications that consumer muscle-flexing in 1989 may not be limited to Boksburg. Brakpan businessmen, while a little reticent as to the exact extent of a boycott action in their area, have formed an alliance with the local chamber of commerce and industry and other interested parties to negotiate both with the CP council and with the coloured community of Geluksdal.

According to alliance chairman George Felrose, losses of 30%-40% were experienced over the year-end period, mostly in the basic goods market. He points out that a 1985 survey on black and coloured buying power in Brakpan indicated R200m/year, a figure which he estimates has now climbed to around R300m. While the boycott is still a shadow of that in Boksburg, the figures indicate an estimated R50m drop in income. "No one in this town can afford that," says Felrose.

Brakpan Chamber of Commerce president Johan van Vuuren says action is making itself felt mainly from the coloured community, while the black residents of Tsakane township are still supporting selectively, giving their custom to Indian businesses in free trade areas.

Apparently blissfully unaware of the situation is Carletonville chamber of commerce and industry head Rodney Lochenberg, who reportedly describes the local black population as "pretty barbarous," and believes it needs the "discipline" imposed on it by the CP. Lochenberg says nerves were set on edge at one stage with talk of the reintroduction of a curfew system for blacks in the town. However, the council, which last week reintroduced "whites-only" signs, has now given its assurances that things will "not be that bad."

In view of the fact that as of next month fines will be imposed on black people "trespassing" in Carletonville's white domains, that statement, coupled with those of the hapless Lochenberg is unlikely to placate those it affects most.
Ghost town of the East Rand?

Another property body blow has been dealt to Boksburg — still reeling from the CP-controlled council’s decision to reintroduce petty apartheid. Major tenant OK Bazaars has announced it is pulling out of a R26m shopping complex planned for the Boksburg CBD.

The chain store’s decision threatens to force developers RMS Syfrets to shelve the entire project on which construction is scheduled to begin this month.

This is the second rethink on a major retail development in the town. It follows a growing list of business casualties which some people suggest could turn Boksburg into the “ghost town of the East Rand” — unless government moves to scrap the Separate Amenities Act.

Retail International has already delayed construction of a R100m, 42 000 m² shopping centre (Property December 23). Industrial development is suffering too. Merinda Enterprises is planning to retard development of a R15m 15 000 m², speculative, Jet Park warehousing development until the “political problems are resolved.”

The OK, as the anchor tenant in the Syfrets development, was to have opened a superstore. Other national chains and several individual traders are also committed to taking space in the proposed centre.

OK Bazaars MD, Gordon Hood, says it is common cause there has been a decline in trading in the Boksburg CBD the past month. “Our existing store is among those affected. Turnover fell by 49% over the same period in 1987.”

However, OK is not the only retailer pull-
term of endearment, but I don't mind, it's a

They call me Katter...
If the money's white, that's all right...

'I don't want blacks in my shop'

By MONWABISI NOMADOLO

JUST at the dawn of a new SA, apartheid diehards are still at pains to preserve it.

Take for example CP member Helmut Lachmann of Benoni, who confessed to me that "he did not want blacks" in his shop.

The sign on the door of Studio One Furniture on the corner of Woburn and Tom Jones streets in Benoni, is straightforward: "Right of admission reserved."

City Press driver Andries Pumpi and I were inside Lachmann's shop, admiring goods on sale. Lachmann was out on lunch. We had ignored a warning from his black shop assistant not to enter the shop, "because it was exclusively for white customers only."

There were butterflies in my big tummy when I saw the bulging figure entering. He stopped on his steps, red-faced and irritated. Wagging his finger, pointing at the door, he said: "Get out... Step outside." Detecting some hesitation from us, he shouted: "I say get out!"

"But sir I'm interested in buying something and I was just looking around," I replied.

"I don't want to talk to you... I don't talk to anybody... Get out!"
Cop's two-year slog nets two girlfriend killers

By MARTIN NTSOELENGOE

TWO men were found guilty in the Rand Supreme Court this week of slaughtering their girlfriends.

Joseph Pule Mofokeng, 36, of Ivory Park, and Ted Mack Lottering, 23, of Masevate Street, Eden Park, were found guilty of murdering Storey Elizabeth Hailele and Nombikayise Tryphina Selekeane on September 1 1989.

Their mutilated bodies were found in Mofokeng's shack. The men fled to Qwa Qwa.

Sgt Morgan Mahale told the court his search for the men had gone on for almost two years until relatives eventually revealed the men's whereabouts:

Witness Julius Manyosi said he saw the men assault the two women outside the Delmore Hotel near Springs. He said he realised that the women had no chance of surviving.

The women were punched, kicked and hit with an iron rod.

Elizabeth's sister, Miritam, said Elizabeth had come to stay with her after she was attacked and kicked by Mofokeng. She left him because he was violent.

She said she and the two women had gone to the Delmore Hotel to drink.

Mofokeng had come into the hotel and demanded that Elizabeth go with him. She had refused, accusing Mofokeng of being unfaithful.

Elizabeth had said that every time she went out with Mofokeng she met the other woman and they would fight. A furious Mofokeng had accused Elizabeth of sleeping with one Jabulani.

After the beating outside the hotel, the women were driven away by the men.

Judge Le Grange said Lottering was a liar and gave false evidence in the witness box.

The case is proceeding.
Blacks barred from town

Rightwingers were barring black people from entering the northern Free State town of Koppies this morning.

A local official of the African National Congress, Johannes Tladi, said 50 to 100 armed rightwingers had blockaded the entrance to the town.

On the outskirts of the town, a rightwinger on a three-wheel motorcycle carrying a Vierkleur flag headed the men stopping the township residents.

Black people from a nearby township have been boycotting white businesses in Koppies for more than a week.

A police spokesman in Bloemfontein said she was trying to obtain information.

Tladi said the rightwingers were armed.

The situation was tense but no incidents of violence had been reported.

Tladi said the rightwingers mounted the blockade from 5 am today and no blacks were entering the town. — Sapa.
Koppies roadblocks down after talks

By Charmee Blagoewat
Crime Reporter

Free State police late last night persuaded armed white residents of the small town of Koppies to abandon roadblocks they had manned for 17 hours to keep out residents from neighbouring KwaKwatsi.

The residents blockaded roads into Koppies from about 4.30 am yesterday, in retaliation against an ANC-led boycott of white businesses.

Free State police spokesman Captain Johannes van der Merwe said white residents had told police they would bar black residents from the town until the boycott ended.

However, after protracted negotiations - due to continue today - they agreed to go home.

Van der Merwe said the white residents manning the blockades numbered about 300 and were heavily armed, although their weapons were concealed.

The boycott started after the ANC Women's League was denied permission to march into Koppies on June 16.

Van der Merwe said it was granted permission to march only to the border of Koppies and KwaKwatsi.

It is not clear whether roadblocks will be re-established today or when KwaKwatsi residents will be free to enter Koppies.
Hospitals row: DP and ANC urged to see for themselves

Tania Levy

ANC economics desk to see for themselves the continuing segregation of the Odendaalsrus, Welkom and Virginia hospitals.

Free State hospital services director Dr Jan Kruger said yesterday that despite Health Minister Rina Venter’s announcements on desegregation of hospitals last year, they could not be fully integrated overnight.

His delegation had left Monday’s meeting because the campaign committee had refused to listen to reasons on its demand for total integration of the hospitals. Saying some black patients used wards as toilets, Kruger added: “It’s a matter of different civilisations.”

He said integration had to evolve slowly and the process had begun with the admission of black private patients to white wards in the three hospitals.

But even when given this choice, most black private patients preferred to be among their own people.

A member of the campaign committee’s delegation, Dr Rhett Kahn, said it was unacceptable that the hospitals had not been desegregated more than five months after the repeal of the Separate Amenities Act came into effect.

The committee consists of the Goldfields branches of the SA Health Workers’ Congress, the National Medical and Dental Association, the SA Black Social Workers’ Association and civic associations in the area.

Kahn said the committee’s demand that hospitals be divided according to medical speciality rather than race was not just a matter of principle but was the quickest way to get rid of racial inequalities in the hospitals’ services.
Free State hospital boss could face ethics probe

THE Medical Association of SA (Masa) is to investigate an ethics complaint brought against the superintendent of three Free State Hospitals for practising or allowing racial discrimination.

The Goldfields Hospital Desegregation Campaign Committee lodged the complaint against Dr Gert van Zyl, regional medical superintendent of the Odendaalsrus, Welkom and Virginia hospitals yesterday.

This follows a walkout by Free State provincial officials including Van Zyl from a meeting called by the committee to discuss desegregation of the hospitals.

In its complaint to Masa, the committee said Van Zyl was bound by professional ethics contained in the 1947 Declaration of Geneva which stated doctors were bound not to allow consideration of race, religion, nationality, party politics or social standing to intervene between their duty and their patients.

Van Zyl could no longer claim that SA law forced him against his conscience to discriminate against patients because the Reservation of Separate Amenities Act had been repealed more than five months ago.

Masa Goldfields branch chairman Dr Jacques Goosen said an ethics committee would investigate the complaint. He said Masa was totally opposed to discrimination on any grounds.

The association was aware that there were administrative and logistical problems with the implementation of desegregation in Free State hospitals.

Goosen said the ethics committee at branch level had no disciplinary powers but acted as a mediating body.

Masa federal council chairman Dr Bernard Mandell said the matter would be referred to the SA Medical and Dental Council if it was felt that disciplinary action was needed.

Van Zyl said last night he had been singled out by the committee for a problem he did not control.

He said AWB supporters had threatened to kill him.

SA needs national health scheme, says researcher

THE Wits Health Policy Unit has called for a compulsory national health insurance scheme as a way to provide adequate health care in a future SA.

Speaking at an international marketing management meeting this week, unit researcher Dr Max Price said it was naive to believe that opening health facilities to all races would instantly solve financial inequalities and limitations in health care.

He was responding to a statement by National Party parliamentar y standing committee on health chairman Johan Vilone, that after apartheid had been removed blacks and whites would enjoy equal access to health care.

Students begin varsity sit-in

ABOUT 60 Wits University students occupied the offices of the vice-chancellor last night as part of a class boycott to demand action regarding accommodation shortages and exclusion of failed students.

Registrar Ron Standenmacher issued the students with eviction notices and said they would face suspension and disciplinary action if they refused to leave.

However, vice-chancellor Robert Charlton said the students would be allowed to stay overnight if they chose to.

The Students Representative Council supported the boycott which was called by the Black Students' Transitional Committee (BSTC).

By Charles Schulz
Workers off

BLACK workers in Bloemfontein yesterday failed to turn up for work in line with a stayaway call by the Mangung Civic Association.

Southam News

The civic called for the stayaway to coincide with the court appearance of four residents charged with trespassing.
Police questioned about September Thokoza killings

POLICEMEN were yesterday closely cross-examined by legal representatives of Inkatha and the ANC on their activities in Thokoza township on September 8 when 16 hostel residents were killed by unknown gunmen while on their way to a rally.

The questioning of the policemen formed part of the first day of a probe into violence in the East Rand township by a sub-committee appointed by the Standing Commission of Inquiry into Public Violence and Intimidation.

Lt Josias Smith, who commanded the SAP riot unit in Thokoza on September 8, told the committee police had not expected "problems" and had planned a low-key presence. They expected about 800 people to attend the Thokoza Hostel Dweller's Association rally.

The committee heard, however, that a letter from the THDA asking for permission for the rally had said it was to be attended by 10 people only.

Smith could not explain how a letter from the Thokoza Town Council - approved by the Germiston security police - which granted permission for the rally was dated two days earlier than the hostel dwellers' association's letter.

The council's letter specified that no weapons were to be carried.

Lt Hendrik Chalmers, from the Dunnotar Unrest Unit, said he understood that the spears, shields and knobkerries were "ornamental traditional weapons", but conceded that they were carried in contravention of the law.

Counterfeiting charges dropped against SA man

MIDRAND-based businessman and airline executive Hendrik Frederick Delport said yesterday the US Justice Department had decided not to pursue charges against him relating to counterfeit banknote smuggling.

In an interview yesterday Delport claimed he had been released on bail after the FBI realised he was an unwitting courier of counterfeit dollars.

"They let me go on condition that I remain clean for the next five years," he said, adding that the FBI had launched a full-scale probe into the people who allegedly set him up.

A US-based director of a company which Delport did business with allegedly asked Delport to carry a sealed envelope containing documents to the US.

Delport said on arriving in Pitts burgh he passed the envelope to the director, who opened it and gave the contents - what appeared to be dollar notes - to a third person, apparently a government agent.

"The next thing I knew I was arrested along with the company director," Delport said.

Delport and the company director were charged with possessing $37,900 in counterfeit notes.

Delport said the money had nothing to do with African International Airlines (AIA), of which he is the GM, but was related to a construction development project.


Delport also rejected allegations, made by a source close to a leading airfreight company, that "all was not well with African International Airlines". The source indicated that a contract to train African International Airlines technical staff was cancelled. Delport showed Business Day the contract, which he said was still being honoured.

Court rules against 'whites only' parks

BLOEMFONTEIN - Decisions to exclude races other than white from several Carletonville parks in 1988 and 1989 could not be justified in terms of the Separate Amenities Act of 1953, the Appeal Court in Bloemfontein ruled yesterday.

The Carletonville Town Council's decision to reserve parks in the white residential area and opposite the civic centre was not a proper and "bona fide" execution of the discretion granted it under the Act.

Although the Act was repealed, the validity of the decisions under the Act had to be tested because it was relevant to the order for costs that had been granted against Gert Petrus Jacobs, who was mayor, and against the council.

Mr Justice Botha, with the concurrence of the Chief Justice Mr Justice Corbett, Mr Justice Smaltberger, Mr Justice Milne and Mr Justice Nienaber, dismissed an appeal by Jacobs and the council, with costs. The council had been over-hasty and irresponsible, the judge said. - Sapa.
BLOEMFONTEIN — The city council here is to open its public facilities to all races from July 1, the chairman of the city's management committee, Mr. Henry Smynton, announced yesterday. This follows a government decision to scrap the Separate Amenities Act from October 15.
Military Spending Cuts

Don't hold your breath

Financial Mail

JANUARY 26 1990

FM 241/190
Workers to defy beach apartheid

THOUSANDS of Durban municipal employees have decided they will no longer help implement the segregation of municipal facilities, a decision taken just days after the "mass democratic movement" began a national defiance campaign against apartheid.

The municipal employees, in a defiant mood, have also begun lobbying international opinion to pressurise the city into scrapping all remaining segregation.

The Durban Integrated Municipal Employees' Society (Dimes) which represents almost half of the council's 12,500 employees, resolved at a special general meeting last weekend to condemn the council's decision to maintain racially segregated beaches.

Dimes members also condemned the mayor, Derrick Waterson, for recently using his casting vote against desegregating the remaining whites-only beaches.

Dimes president Nad Murugan has informed the council of the anti-apartheid resolution, telling the town clerk that no members of the union will in future "carry out any instruction which requires them to enforce the heinous by-law".

Senior council officials have reacted with strongly worded statements, warning that in terms of their employment conditions, employees face disciplinary action if they do not obey orders.

Murugan, who has not yet received an official reply from the council, said that workers were caught in a classic stick - management warned they could be sacked if they did not implement apartheid, but their conditions of service stipulated that if staff were rude to members of the public, they could also be sacked.

"We believe that telling people they can't swim on the beach is rude," Murugan said. "So our members are at risk whatever they do."

Among Dimes' members are beach inspectors, lifeguards and pool supervisors all of whom could be in the position of having to warn people to leave segregated facilities.

Murugan said beach and pool cleaners were also "fed up with cleaning facilities which they were barred from using themselves."

Yesterday the union moved again to isolate the city until beach facilities were opened - Murugan wrote to United Nations Education and Social Committee (Unesco) urging that an invitation asking Durban's mayor to attend a Unesco-hosted world conference of mayors in Paris next week be withdrawn.

Dimes noted Waterson's record of voting against the opening of facilities and that he has threatened staff with dismissal if they implement the union resolution.

Dimes urged Unesco to demand the city of Durban scrap all remaining segregation and that Unesco should apply pressure to prevent any victimization of municipal employees.
Non-racial cultural body formed in Bloem

Own Correspondent

BLOEMFONTEIN — A group of black people have initiated the formation of a non-racial cultural organisation for Bloemfontein. It is known as the Bloemfontein Art Development Centre Project.

About 40 people from different organisations are to be invited to attend the formation meeting in the city on June 25.

The project’s members include choral groups, dance groups, actors, writers, artists, photographers, musicians and members of the media.

Mr Andy Sefohlelo is chairman of the new organisation, and the co-ordinator is Mr Oupa Mokele.

The secretary is Mr Gideon Motsekoa and Mr Oriel Seloma is organiser.
Suspect held after mortar attack on radar station

Peter Delmar

Police are holding an alleged ANC guerrilla following a mortar attack on an SADF radar station in the far-western Transvaal on Wednesday.

SAP Commissioner Gen Hennie de Witt said an injured member of a heavily-armed group of at least 21 guerrillas was arrested in police follow-up operations.

According to De Witt, the group crossed the SA-Botswana border with vehicles near Motlabe on Tuesday night.

They were heavily armed, with at least five mortar tubes and 350 shells, three RPG missile launchers and 30 missiles, two landmines, a number of AK-47 rifles and ammunition, and handgrenades.

The attack on the radar station near Shurry was launched at 3.20 am on Wednesday from 2.5 km away. At least three mortars were used. The radar station was only slightly damaged in the attack, and there were no casualties.

De Witt said the captive was injured when one of his group’s getaway vehicles overturned as they fled.

The guerrillas abandoned him about 20 km from the Botswana border.

A large quantity of arms and ammunition, including 350 mortar shells and 30 RPG rockets, was seized at the crash site.

Shortly after the attack, a mine-resistant police vehicle detonated a landmine, but there were no injuries.

De Witt said the guerrillas had come from Zimbabwe via Botswana and were under orders to return to Zimbabwe immediately after their mission.

De Witt said police believed more groups of guerrillas had been ordered to launch attacks in SA.

The government last night issued a thinly veiled threat to neighbouring states and the ANC that it would take retaliatory action to prevent raids similar to the Shurry attack.

Foreign Affairs minister Pik Botha warned: “I want to say to the ANC and to neighbouring states that the season for this is past.”

Government would take any steps necessary to secure SA’s borders. Information about the attackers had been passed on to Zimbabwe’s government, Botha said.
The Free State Provincial Administration says that it does not run separate "white" and "black" ambulances and that its ambulances are for all races.

It was reacting yesterday to claims that a black woman, who had been trapped in a car wreck near Winburg, died slowly on April 5 after being ignored by a helicopter crew who had promptly airlifted to hospital the white victims of a collision in which she had been involved.

A Johannesburg newspaper reported at the weekend that a black ambulance arrived only five hours later, by which time the nurse, Mrs Irene Msizi, of Orlando West, had died.

Her husband Paul, son P eco and two grandchildren reported-

**OFS: We do not run racist ambulances**

by "pleaded in vain with the white helicopter crew not to leave them behind, especially as, Mrs Msizi was 'very badly injured'. Their pleas fell on deaf ears and the family was left unattended until five hours later."

According to the Province, an ambulance from Winburg and the district surgeon arrived at the scene of the smash at 5.15 am, 15 minutes after they received the call. The accident occurred 11 km from Winburg.

"The black woman caught in one of the wrecks had already died. The black man and children were not badly injured. The two whites however were badly hurt and had to receive urgent treatment. The ambulance and doctor therefore took them to the hospital at Winburg."

"A second ambulance was already on its way to the scene of the accident by that time."

After the doctor and the whites had been left at the hospital, their ambulance returned to the accident scene where its attendant freed Mr Msizi and his deceased wife from the wreck. The injured blacks were taken to Winburg where they were admitted about 80 minutes after the accident. — Sapa.
From MONO BADELA
CARLTONVILLE.
— White businessmen in this tiny mining town are reeling from a consumer boycott that seems set to be a fight to the finish.

The situation recalls Port Elizabeth's 1986 black consumer boycott which ran for six months and crippled the white business sector.

In Port Elizabeth blacks protested against the presence of SADF troops in the townships. In Carltonville the big issue is the resurrection of petty apartheid by the Conservative Party controlled council.

The boycott of white traders, which began on Monday, is already spelling disaster for many businessmen.

Vigilante

Exemptions, however, have been given to white doctors, shops operated by Indians, post offices, funeral parlours, and Greyhound and other bus services.

Dr Malcolm Tshupe, a member of the committee organising the boycott, said it was only right that white businessmen should feel the pinch.

"They voted for the CP but what they didn't realise was that we could hit back at their petty apartheid," Tshupe said.

He said he had been treating patients who claimed they had been assaulted by white vigilante groups in central Carltonville at night.

While black trade has disappeared from the town centre, turnover from white clientele has remained normal.

Expensive

But whites are still anxious about what could lie in store for the town.

Mr Piet Ludwick, a barman at one of the town's leading hotels, put it simply: "If petty apartheid means that I will have to lose my job and that my kids may go hungry, the Conservative Party must kiss my vote goodbye in the forthcoming elections."

He had voted CP in October.

In related incidents, two black women were apparently assaulted by a group of white children and a black man apparently attacked in the street by a group of white men.

Anti-black graffiti such as "White Man Rules" and "Kill All Kaffirs" has appeared on local walls.

Now Cosatu president Elias Barayi has promised to lead a march of demonstrators to protest against the "Whites Only" park in town.

Racists

Blacks who relax at the park during lunch-time are chased away by traffic cops.

The date of the march is still to be announced by the organising committee.

Apart from buying in black townships, blacks said they were prepared to travel to nearby Randfontein, Westonaria, Fochville and Johannes burg to shop for their needs.

"But we will not buy from racists in Carltonville until apartheid is removed from the town," said thousands of pamphlets distributed here at the weekend.

Ludwick said one of his regular customers was beaten up by whites as he left the bar on Saturday night.

"When he re-entered his face was full of blood. Those things are happening in Carltonville."

Hotel manager Mr Ben Snyman said the council's attempt to reintroduce petty apartheid was "putting the town back 20 years".

"If this boycott drags on we shall have no alternative but to close down. Apartheid is proving too expensive a business," he said.

However, the chairman of the Carltonville Management Committee, Mr Koos Nel, said it was too early to tell whether the boycott would adversely affect Carltonville.

Assaults

"These blacks bought a lot at the weekend," he said.

Ironically, some of the worst-hit stores are those belonging to Indian traders, who rely exclusively on black mineworkers for their trade.

Almost all the Indian clothing and general goods shops in the main business district were deserted this week. Staff could be seen idling in the sun.

Carltonville resident and training mine officer Simon Chuene said the Conservative Party's performance in the October municipal elections had "forced blacks to wake up".
A FUNNY thing happened last Tuesday when the "coloured" representatives of the Reiger Park Management Committee walked into theBlokburg municipal offices to hold round-table talks with their Conservative Party counterparts.

The table was there, and the Blokburg Management Committee members were around it, but at the Reiger Park delegation was thrown across the table to avoid the group chat round a table. (But wait. Where are the chairs?)

The consumer boycott of Blokburg is still going strong, so the considerable authority of all concerned, not least the CP, who have had to learn a few lessons in diplomacy.

By CHARLOTTE BAUER

Boycott fever has transformed itself into militant routine. But, three months on, the spine-tingling rally by black consumers have taken their toll upon the town which voted the CP into power.

Many businesses are barely ticking over. Others have stopped talking altogether.

Residents of Reiger Park have said to the black boy who has been blacked out for three months by the Save Blokburg Committee, "You have not been able to live in one of our local cafes and are not due to committee childr..." but they have been bought up by the Save Blokburg Committee and should be distributed among the Reiger Park shopkeepers.

The media spotlight that picked out Blokburg when the CP took the Supreme Akkedis Act to court, has dimmed. The first rumble of the Blokburg boycott has astonished everyone — not least of all the Bloomburg management committee chairman, Gilchrist Friesen, who suggested in the past few days that theDicantion of Ileek Park — administrators whose political function has long been a sore point with their extra-parliamentary partners on the Save the Blokburg Committee.

Nevertheless, this alliance of unlikely bedfellows has orchestrated one of the longest-running and hardest-fighting boycotts in recent South African history.

Of course, this is partly because the police have turned a blind eye to the issue, but the success of the three-month-old stayaway, which has been almost total, is due to people being "by the millions" called by traditional enemies within the Blokburg community over the Blokburg issue.

If there are children beginning to show in the least sympathy, they seem to come from the heaviest of Blokburg's large families. The Save the Blokburg Committee places the blame for this upon the lack of any real organization in the township. So far efforts to coax the community united from a town where political activity is minimal, have failed. More seriously, though, the Vosloo...
Boycott of CP town may end

By RUSSEL MOLEFE

Mr Magwedzha Mphaphuli said there was concern that a situation similar to that in Welkom in the Free State could arise. It was felt this should not be allowed to happen.

He said the mayor of the Conservative Party controlled town, Mr. E. Holtzhausen, and the chamber's chairman, Mr. Brink Schlesinger, met this week and pledged to meet some of the demands. These include opening public amenities to all races and upgrading the old Tshikwana township.

Schlesinger confirmed yesterday that his chamber and the council had met the UDF to build bridges and were considering the demands. He said the town had suffered financially because of the boycott. "In future, we believe that before action could be taken against businesses we will first get together and talk," he said.

Mphaphuli, who was detained at the beginning of the boycott in April, said several detainees were released this week and discriminatory signs in the town were being removed.
THE consumer boycott in Welkom is continuing and all indications are that it will not be called off soon.

Residents could not reach a consensus at the weekend and another meeting will be held in Thabong township tomorrow night to decide on the issue.

A spokesman who represented the township residents in discussions with Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok last week said yesterday interested parties in the community had held "many meetings" at the weekend to decide on the continuation of the boycott.

He added, however, that a "great deal of misunderstanding" was evident within the different organisations, such as the UDF and Costatu, who attended the meetings.

One of the major stumbling blocks was the statement by Vlok that the police would "grab hold" of people who intimidated blacks in Welkom. This had caused confusion.

"What is this intimidation?" he asked. "Is it blacks or whites who want to keep the town white at night?"

SAPA

He said although many meetings had been held over the weekend, they were still not closer to a solution and the boycott would continue, possibly into next week.

"Everything depends on what is decided at Wednesday's meeting."

The Democratic Party has appealed to black members and supporters of the party to wear their DP insignia and rosettes when they do their shopping in the town.

Intimidation

Dr Rhett Kahn, chairman of the party in Virginia in the Free State, said intimidation by boycotters was taking place and appealed to them to leave those wearing the DP insignia alone.

He said definite proof of intimidation existed and quoted an incident in which a DP member was forced to drink a bottle of milk she had bought and then eat the plastic container.

"We also know of a man in Virginia who was forced to swallow the entire bottle of tablets he had bought at a chemist. According to our information the man died afterwards from the overdose.

"This sort of behaviour is undemocratic and we cannot approve of it," Kahn said.

Mr Henning Muller, leader of Blanke Veiligheidsbeweging (White Security Movement) in Welkom, said the Afrikaanse Weerstandsbevordering was possibly spreading malicious reports to create tension among Welkom residents.

Tactic

He said the AWB had little support in the town and was using this tactic to draw attention to itself.

Muller denied "very vehement" rumours that Welkom was sitting on a time bomb of racial violence.

"The town is peaceful. A war is not going to break out here," he said.
RACIAL hatred has placed the town of Welkom under siege.

After Nelson Mandela and President F W de Klerk's first tentative steps towards negotiating a settlement to South Africa's political stalemate, white diehards are stoking apartheid's fires in this Orange Free State mining town.

Khaki-clad vigilantes, charging that police are unable to contain crime in Welkom, have established night patrols to chase blacks from the town's neat suburbs and leafy avenues.

Armed with shotgun and Magnum pistols, vigilantes head out in groups of 12 in unmarked vans to patrol the uneasy streets of the town, which means "Welcome" in Afrikaans.

Organisers say most night patrols are uneventful, with routine checks on the properties of elderly people and women living alone.

**Murders**

But trade union and civil rights officials say the vigilantes are more concerned with "black-bashing" and terrorising law-abiding residents than maintaining law and order.

They say at least two blacks have been murdered, allegedly at the hands of the patrols, since they were launched earlier this year.

The white organisers of South Africa's biggest vigilante scheme - they boast a membership of more than 4 000 - deny the murders and are unrepentant about their actions.

They say they have a mission to clean up their home town of 75 000 whites, surrounded by huge compounds housing thousands of black miners who work in the goldfields.

"We don't want kaffirs danc-
ing in the streets. If they want to play with fire we can play with fire as well," said Henkie Muller, one of the masterminds of the "White Security" scheme.

It was established shortly after the Government opened the floodgates of black dissent in February by releasing Mandela from jail and legalising protest movements.

But whites living in South Africa's conservative hinterland did not subscribe to the generally favourable reviews of De Klerk's initiative, and their reaction in Welkom has fuelled tears of a white pro-apartheid backlash.

The conservative reaction is spreading, mainly from towns like Welkom - rural communities of Afrikaners where strict racial segregation often still prevails.

Muller said that his telephone never stops ringing from like-minded citizens all over South Africa who want to establish armed neighbourhood watches in their towns.

But he denies his vigilantes are responsible for terrorising or intimidating innocent blacks.

He blames the neo-fascist white supremacist Afrikaner Weerstands beweging (AWB), which has an active branch in the town, for the night-time raids.

"It is the AWB who do these things. They have their own patrols and then blame the violence on us," he said.

Things may be coming to a head in Welkom. Battle lines are being drawn for a full-scale racial confrontation.

**Strict apartheid**

Black community leaders have retaliated against this white pressure by staging a consumer boycott of white businesses. Muller said his members will counter by blacking out wholesalers to starve out the black townships.

Muller said the boycott would only spawn violence within the black community, and said most blacks opposed such militancy.

David Naude, one of Muller's fellow vigilantes, said most blacks were conservative at heart and subscribed to the policies of the white rightist Conservative Party, which advocates strict apartheid.

"They don't want to live with us just as much as we don't want to live with them," he said.

The Welkom offices of the National Union of Mineworkers were bombed earlier this month, and officials believe that right-wingers angered by the union's part in organising the boycott were behind the blast.

Damage was slight and no one was injured, but few believe the violence will stop there.

As the atmosphere grows ever more poisonous, the Welkom police force is stuck in the middle, countering accusations of bias from both white and black.

A spokesman said the force was doing its best to get both sides to sit down and talk.

But unless they succeed soon, Welkom may be blown apart by the kind of racial violence that most South Africans were fervently hoping had become a thing of the past. - Sapa Reuter.
Boycott bites in platteland

RACISM in rural towns is being fought with consumer boycotts — a weapon that is proving effective.

Already the municipality of the small Boland town of Robertson has knuckled under a widespread boycott.

The local black community suspended a three-week consumer boycott after most of its demands were met at two meetings with the municipality.

Residents had boycotted white-owned shops from April 9 to get them to pressure the municipality.

Grievances had ranged from the shortage of housing to a call for the local management committee to resign.

The entire management committee has since acceded to the call to resign.

Die-hard racism

PE News reports that the small Eastern Cape town of Kirkwood was deserted this week as a consumer boycott began taking grip.

The boycott is the black community's response to the die-hard racism still surviving in the platteland town and to poor facilities in their areas.

The municipal swimming pool, library and sports field are still reserved for whites while the township's primary school, serving 700 children, has no electricity, a shortage of desks, few windows, no playing fields and only 13 teachers.

White businesses are reported to be making as little as R10 a day and others look set to close soon.

A concerted effort is being made by the Oudtshoorn town council to resolve the deadlock between businesses and the local civic association which led to an indefinite consumer boycott of all white shops.

The boycott follows the banning of a march planned to the municipal offices to air grievances about conditions in the Bongolethu and Bipline townships.

March prohibited

According to a spokesperson for the Oudtshoorn Civic Association, local businessmen who feared loss of production after workers were asked to stay away from work, asked the magistrate to prohibit the march.

"We had no other option. When they had the meeting burned, we decided not to go to their town and buy at our local shops instead," the spokesperson said.

Residents described the "buy local" campaign as an effective tool. They reported an escalating boycott of shops in the town.

Businessmen in the Oudtshoorn Chamber of Commerce last week demanded that the mayor of the town, Mr S Gredt, hold talks with the Oudtshoorn Civic Association in a bid to suspend the boycott.

This week, the town clerk, Mr Mike Schultz, came to the offices of the local community paper Sjaanstra, and requested a meeting with the civic association.

The civic association responded by saying the boycott would be reviewed at a special meeting but did not indicate whether it would accept the town council's invitation to meet.