SQUATTERS - CAPE 1990

JANUARY - JULY

Industrial Council Wage Rates

Top line: Nominal Wage, Lower line: Real Wages in 1980 Bond. Current Date: 12/88
POLICE arrested 22 people at Brackenfell on Saturday after two separate protests apparently concerning the alleged removal of a man from a squatter camp.

Police said the people were arrested when they refused to comply with orders to disperse.

Both incidents occurred about 9am. Police said a small group gathered outside a Brackenfell shopping centre and 11 men were arrested. Another small group gathered outside the Hypermarket and five men and six women were arrested.
in the Western Cape. How many people a week are surviving there?
A: I really wouldn't like to make that guess.
Q: Is it respectable in hundreds or thousands?
A: It could be in thousands, depending upon what happens or what the people hit.
You know they could really show up in thousands and hundreds or more, it is true, there is so much more control with the coming of a change and to the Western Cape. People come here for psychiatric help, but for economic help, we see a different picture. So, the economic viability and economic measure and the way of the people live is that different.
And of course we need this and into this one, we have the problem of education at the level of the ability of the people, which people don't like to come here as not for them. And then they become frustrated.
Q: Who is responsible for the provision of services to the black areas in Cape Town?
A: Well, the local authorities are responsible for the provision of services, but the provision is still so totally committed to the restoration of the new areas to be part of the hospitalisation, health and structural development.
Q: Who is the relevant local authority in Crossroads?
A: They have a town council which was elected in 1975. October, they were all elected.
This system was fully excluded, it is really open to just about everybody, in fact one of the people who have the most problems, that is the people of Crossroads, as they are not only the same system that is used in the other areas which is to the exclusion of community or people.
Q: And that local council works?
A: Well, I am happy to say that they are working quite well, but they have problems also, you know the movement, but they are really helpful, and after that the people are working there, but I think there should be something more done.
Q: In Crossroads, there is an election? But there is none, there is none.
A: We got a situation that the election, the election was quite high in Crossroads, but in the black areas, the election was quite high in Crossroads, but in the black areas.
6. Nkamogakwe, J. Johnson
7. Nkamogakwe, J.
8. Nkamogakwe, J.
We are only going according to what they tell us, but, you know that if we don't participate... We don't, but then, because they are not able to do the other... We don't participate.
You can imagine what would happen in Crossroads, it does Point for instance suddenly it has really started to do a lot of political activity. This Crossroads council is subjected to the same scrutiny, financially, as is any other local authority, and the soldiers' authority that we had from Crossroads about how they are running their town, we have done the same, and it's not quite satisfactory.
We will admit that if the municipality does not know what is actually happening in the running of their system. We will have the same problem, we have it, we are actually paying for the services.
We are paying for the services in some form, they are paying us the same amount of rent, they are paying a certain amount in the form of rent, and their removal of garbage, but in the newly opened area, where they are paying only a small amount. There is a lot of difference, between the new and the old, the amount for water, the amount for lighting, drainage, streets and the removal of garbage.
Q: Who is in charge of these services?
A: The town council is in charge of these services, but the outside of the province, the province and the government have already put something like R1 million into the provision of services in Crossroads.
But we have this problem that because of the political perception of the people in Crossroads, they make development, very very difficult for us, and even more difficult for the develop- ment because they will not move from their area.
There was so much interest that the said if we move, we will be broken up and our com- munity will not be able to move to another place. That is how the people of Crossroads, not to mention a corporate community but it is the people of Crossroads who are planning.
Q: Is there an action plan for Crossroads?
A: There is an action plan, we have to determine how long it will take. The implementation of this plan is absolutely that the people refuse to move physically, so we have to plan for the people, to plan for the people to move, to plan for the people to move.
And we have completed the people's the first and the third area to put into the area, in order to allow development.
If they had accepted our plans then some people have already moved in the area to the second and third area in order to develop them.
Q: What percentage of the overall area in Crossroads, is rated in Crossroads?
A: All the money that is raised in Crossroads is spent on the municipality.
Q: But what percentage of the total budget is actually raised in Crossroads?
A: In Crossroads, it is a very small area, I work hard it is not quite another playground where more or less, where services are going down and they may down again from which they operate.
Q: It is an accurate summation of our ideas that Crossroads because as much as much of Cape Town as Ramshackle or Morass is much of the advantage these suburbs or communities will be found, like Crossroads, or at least, in the governmental areas, or in the cases of Crossroads, there we have to take a lot of care to see that the people move in it.
As it is saying that Crossroads is a very hard area, they have to go through these people's studies.
As I say, my local authority system is only a local authority system for people who have no local government visibility in it, it is not what they are doing, it is a pipe dream to use the people.
And I think that black local authority system is not a problem. They provide services by prevailing law on the black and the black people. But when people of Crossroads begin to build houses, they begin to build places, they can use their knowledge.
And I think that black local authorities, which include the people who are prevailing law on the black and the black people. And I think that the people of Crossroads, they are the people who are prevailing law on the black and the black people. And I think that the people of Crossroads, they are the people who are prevailing law on the black and the black people. And I think that the people of Crossroads, they are the people who are prevailing law on the black and the black people. And I think that the people of Crossroads, they are the people who are prevailing law on the black and the black people.
Given the mandate to disperse squatters and prostitutes, the police faced a difficult task. The protest was met with resistance from the community, who felt that the newcomers were disrupting their way of life.

The police officer in charge, Mr. Johnson, said, "We understand their concerns, but we also have our duty to maintain order and protect the rights of all citizens." Despite this, the tension remained high as the police worked to clear the area.

"We are not here to be the enemy," said Mr. Johnson. "We are here to serve and protect. We will continue to do our job, but we will do it with respect and understanding."
Dear Parishioner,

The decision of the government to cut funding for the district's primary healthcare facility is deeply concerning. As a community, we must come together to advocate for proper healthcare in our area. The well-being of our residents is at stake.

Yours sincerely,
[Your Name]
VICTORY: Part of a jubilant crowd of several thousand people who last weekend attended the victory celebrations of the George squatter community. The community at the end of last year won a long battle against the threat of evictions when the local municipality agreed to upgrade the area.

Repite for teargassed Kraaifontein squatters

By SHANNON SHERRY

UITKYK squatter camp residents in Kraaifontein have been granted a three-month stay of eviction by the owners of land they occupy.

Hours after police tear gassed about 300 marching Uitkyk residents and a group of clergymen on Tuesday, the owners told lawyers of the squatters of the reprieve it has been confirmed.

The squatters, living under the threat of eviction since last year, had been given until January 31 to vacate land which the Kraaifontein municipality had sold to private developers.

A few hours before the deadline expired, marchers led by World Alliance of Reformed Churches president Dr Allan Boesak, planned to hand over a memorandum at the Kraaifontein police station in protest against the eviction.

Belville district commissioner of police Colonel JH Wright accepted the memorandum after police had halted the march. He promised to hand it over to "the relevant authorities".

He also assured residents that police would not evict them from the land. "It is not police work to evict people from private property. It is a civic matter," he said.

Squatter leaders said they would "carefully monitor whether the police kept their promises not to get involved in the eviction of the residents.

The memorandum, directed at the Kraaifontein police, the Cape Provincial Administration, the Kraaifontein municipality, the Western Cape Regional Services Council and the landowner, said the "greatest proportion of blame for the housing crisis lay with the government".

"It is the government's duty to provide housing for people in the lower income groups. Affordable housing is a right, not a privilege," the memorandum continued.

In an address to the squatters after the aborted march, Dr Boesak said police tear gassing of "a peaceful crowd with no intentions of violence whatever showed the world the new South Africa of PW de Klerk was no different to the old South Africa of PW Botha."

Mr Enrico Pedro, chairperson of the Kraaifontein Residents Association, said houses in Kraaifontein had last been built in 1976.

"In Scottsdene (a township in Kraaifontein) an average of three families live in each house. In one home there are 29 people.

"But the Kraaifontein municipality sells land to private developers who build expensive houses which people in the lower income groups cannot afford," he said.
Retrenched workers have their shacks demolished

False Bay Bureau

WORKERS from a Grabouw fruit-canning factory, no longer needed by a new factory-owner who intends to start a different business, this week built shacks on municipal land, but had them demolished by the council.

The workers rebuilt the five shacks on Monday, and the settlement was set to grow to about 20 structures as more workers from the Highlands canning factory left the housing, which will be needed by the new owner's workers.

Community worker Mr Rodney Calvert said there was no residential area for "Africans" in Grabouw, and that the squatters had constructed their homes between the white and coloured residential areas in the town.

Mr Calvert added that there would be about 120 people in the settlement eventually.

Grabouw Town Clerk Mr V Dudley said the squatters could not stay where they were indefinitely because there was no sewerage and water on the site.

He said the council was discussing what could be done about the squatter group.
UITKYK SQUATTERS GET 3-MONTH EXTENSION

SQUATTERS at Uitkyk settlement, where police on Tuesday teargassed marchers protesting against threatened eviction, have been given a further three months before they have to move.

The owners of the land, the New Retreat Development Company, had given the community of about 200 until yesterday to be off the land.

However, an attorney with the Legal Resources Centre who is acting for the community said yesterday he had been told by a lawyer representing the company that they could stay.

"We have written New Retreat a letter asking for a three-month extension on the basis that the Cape Provincial Administration had informed us in writing they were looking for alternative land in the Kraaifontein area for the squatters," he said.

The decision to grant the extension had been taken on Tuesday afternoon at a meeting of New Retreat's directors, he said. — Sapa
Reprieve for Paarl squatters till May

Supreme Court Reporter

FACTUAL disputes in an application by the Western Cape Regional Services Council in the Supreme Court to eject squatters from a Paarl farm yesterday led to the 90 squatters winning a reprieve till May when oral evidence will be heard.

The squatters yesterday disputed whether Mr Chris Mocke, chief executive officer of the RSC, and Mr Hendrick Gideon Keyser, an RSC health inspector, were authorised to bring the application.

Further disputes were whether the rights of ownership to the land (farm 827) were transferred to the RSC; whether the squatters were occupying farm 827, and whether their occupation was unlawful even if an RSC official said they could stay.

Mr Keyser said the squatters unlawfully moved on to the farm on October 24, 1986 and a notice to vacate was delivered to them. When they refused, their structures were demolished twice. However the shacks were rebuilt.
Squatters fight RSC eviction bid

By LINDA GALLOWAY Supreme Court Reporter

An application for the eviction of 34 squatters from land adjacent to Paarl Brickfields in Suider Paarl has been postponed so that oral evidence can be heard.

Mr Justice A M van Niekerk postponed the hearing in the Cape Supreme Court to May 10.

The application was made by the Regional Services Council.

In an affidavit opposing the application, Mr Matiyase Elias Ngwane, 55, said he had worked at the brickfield for 21 years and lived on the premises in terms of his contract.

The other respondents lived there under the same conditions.

After a dispute between management and workers in 1988 about unfair dismissal, Mr Ngwane's and other employees' contracts were terminated.

After the dismissals the workers were evicted from hostels and they built dwellings on adjacent open land.

A health inspector for the RSC in Paarl, Mr Hendrick Gideon Keyser, said the property was owned by the RSC and the squatters' occupation was unlawful.
Three dead in shack attack, say Crossroads residents

By EDWARD MOLOKANE

THREE people died when four men shot at a shack before setting it alight in a new bout of violence in the troubled township of Crossroads, according to residents.

Residents claimed the shooting was connected to the continuing power struggle between followers of the controversial mayor, Mr Johnson Ngqobongwana, and his opponents.

The dead were two women and a man, according to residents, who could not identify the victims. They are believed to have been visitors.

Police said a man and a youth died in the incident and a second youth was shot dead in another part of the township.

HEARD GUNFIRE

The attack took place about 3am yesterday at the Boys Town home of Mr William Sibyodana, one of 14 headmen who broke away from Mr Ngqobongwana.

Mr Kedamile Manisi, a neighbour whose shack was partly burnt, said he and Mr Sibyodana were at another headman's house about 500 metres away when they heard gunfire from the direction of their homes.

They had just returned from "patrolling" about 2.30am, he said.

"The shooting went on for about 10 minutes."

He said a man told them that the isibonda's (headman's) home was on fire and they investigated.

"When we arrived a woman lay at the door outside and a number of neighbours were battling frantically to put out the fire."

The shack was raised.

"Mr Manisi said that when firefighters arrived an hour later 'a man and another person' were found."

They were "burnt beyond recognition but still alive" and were taken to hospital "with slim chances of survival."

Another neighbour, Mrs Lucy Mtsweni, whose shack had two pellet holes, said she and her family were awakened by gunfire.

"When I peeped through the window there were huge flames outside and I could not see which shack was burning."

The shooting continued. A red station wagon stood down the street. I saw about four men with long guns running towards it and they drove down the street," she said.

She said she joined other neighbours in attempts to put out the fire but their efforts were fruitless.

MURDER PROBES

A police spokesman, Captain Attie Lashecker said a youth and a young man had been burnt to death in the incident. They were Mr Tekie Jordana, 24, and Michael Jordana, 15.

A youth, Zolisa Mgutyana, 16, was shot dead in another part of the township, he said.

Police were investigating two cases of murder and two of arson. No arrests have been made.
Squatters plan to march

RESIDENTS of two Port Nolloth squatter camps facing a renewed eviction attempt plan to march to the West Coast town's municipal offices on February 22 to discuss their future in the area.
A 75-year-old man was adamant in the Supreme Court yesterday that the land on which he and his family had lived for 30 years and from which Orpington Investments wanted to eject him, belonged to him.

Mr Fraser Anthony was giving evidence in an application by Orpington Investments to have 11 families ejected from land next to Applegarth Farm in Main Road, Hout Bay.

The company said it would "prove by appearance and association" that the people concerned were not white and were not entitled to occupy the land.

Mr Anthony said he was born in King William's Town and had arrived in Cape Town when he was 17.

He had originally lived on the land below Main Road, but he and his family had later moved across the road — where they still lived — because of flooding in winter and because a Mr Mitchell had instructed his family to move there.

He had never asked for permission to live on the land because it belonged to him and he did not know Mr Mitchell. Nobody had ever claimed ownership of the land, he said.

Mr Raymond Anthony testified he had lived on the land from birth. He said he had married and with his father's permission built his own house. He had always accepted his father as owner of the land, he said.

The hearing continues.
Nun speaks out for Hout Bay squatter

Supreme Court Reporter

A NUN yesterday told the Supreme Court she had met a Hout Bay squatter, Mr Fraser Anthony and his family, on land known as Diza River farm in 1964 and had never known them to live anywhere else.

Sister Agnes Krause, also a qualified nursing sister, was giving evidence in the application by Orppington Investments (Pty) Ltd to have Mr Anthony and 11 families — including some of his children — ejected from the land situated next to Applegarth farm in Main Road, Hout Bay. The company had said it would prove by appearance and association that the squatters were not white and were not lawfully entitled to occupy the land.

Sister Krause told the court that when she arrived in Hout Bay in 1964 she was appointed community health nurse by the then Divisional Council and had met Mr Anthony and his wife Lilian when she did her health-care rounds.

One of the Anthony children, Emily, contracted tuberculosis and for about two years she had to walk to the Anthony House daily because Emily had recovered but later suffered a relapse. She had never known the Anthony family to live anywhere else and even when their shacks were broken down by Divisional Council officials she found them sitting under bushes.

Mr Joel Krige, for the squatters, said they intended closing their case but not before seeking an agreement with Orpington whereby people regarded as Mr Anthony’s extended family could claim they received authority to occupy the land from Mr Anthony.

The hearing continues today.
THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE

THE DEFENCE MINISTER OF DEFENCE


2. [Stamp] "R .R. COMMISSIONER, A.D. 1970"

3. [Stamp] "W. M. O'NEILL, A.T.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE

THE OFFICIAL PROPOSAL FOR THE EXCLUSION OF VIOLENT ASSASSINS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE CONDUCT OF WAR, AND THE CONDUCT OF MILITARY PERSONNEL OF ALL NATIONS ENGAGED IN WAR, SUBMISSION TO THE COMMISSION THE STATUTORY CONVENTIONS ON THE CONDUCT OF WAR, AND THE CONDUCT OF MILITARY PERSONNEL OF ALL NATIONS ENGAGED IN WAR.

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[Stamp] "W. M. O'NEILL, A.T.

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Squatter tells of kangaroo court beating

A PHILIPPI squatter has told police he was strapped to a pole and beaten for three hours by eight sjambok-wielding members of a kangaroo court.

Mr Mveliso Sitokisi, 22, who lives in a section of Brown’s Farm known as Snake Park, said he was accused of having stolen R600 and a tape recorder in the camp on Sunday.

"A group of people came to my house and said I must appear before the court. They took me and I was tied to a pole with a coat hanger that was unwound, and then about 20 to 30 men interrogated me," he said.

"Eight of them took turns to beat and question me, then they would talk with the others, then return to beat me," Mr Sitokisi said from the home of relatives in Guguletu.

Mr Sitokisi said the kangaroo courts were well known in the squatter camp and he knew exactly who his interrogators had been, but nothing could be done to stop them.

He showed the Cape Times deep cuts on the back of his legs and shoulders, caused by the beating.

He said he was returned to his shack, which his assailants searched, and was left there when no evidence of the stolen goods could be found.

Family members then took him to Philippi police station where he laid a complaint of assault.

Police Station officer Major Jan Calitz said police were investigating a case of grievous bodily harm.

HORROR ‘TRIAL’...Philippi squatter Mr Mveliso Sitokisi shows the wounds caused by three hours of continual beating by eight members of a "kangaroo court" in Brown’s Farm. Mr Sitokisi has laid a complaint of assault.

Picture: ORLE ZULWA

STAFF REPORT
The Brown's Farm squatter settlement at Philippi, consisting of about 3,000 families, is to be provided with permanent water supplies by the Ikapa Town Council.

The Minister of Provincial Affairs and Planning, Mr. Horus Kriel, has told Parliament water should be available within a fortnight.

Drinking water had not been provided at the squatter camp because taps would have been in the way of development, Mr. Kriel said in reply to a question from Mr. Jan van Eck (DP, Claremont).

Mr. Van Eck said yesterday that Mr. Kriel's justification was "bizarre."

"To put development above the health of people is an astonishing distortion of priorities."

The squatters at Brown's Farm had moved there in July 1988 after they moved from the greater Crossroads area to Nyanga, and then conflict developed with elements in Nyanga.

Although provincial authorities eventually accepted the settlement they refused to provide it with any services, Mr. Van Eck said.
Disa River squatters lose — to be ejected

Supreme Court Reporter

THE Supreme Court yesterday or-
dered that a Hout Bay patriarch and
members of his family be ejected from
the Disa River farm after they failed
to prove they had occupied the land
for more than 30 years.

Mr Justice J H Conradie ordered Mr
Fraser Anthony, 74, nine of his chil-
dren and their families and another
person to pay costs, including those of
two counsel and two expert witnesses.

He was judging an application by
Orpington Investments (Pty) Ltd to
have the families ejected from the 94-
hectare Disa River farm next to Ap-
plegarth farm in Main Road, Hout Bay.

Mr Anthony said he had lived on the
land for 30 years and had earned the
property or occupation rights by su-
perannuation.

Mr Justice Conradie said Mr Antho-
ny was the most important witness and
was the only one who had said he
intended to earn property rights to the
land by superannuation. He was un-
bale to say when he first started living
on Disa River farm.

Each of the other defendants had
said in an affidavit that their father
had been given permission by a Mr
Mitchell to occupy the land but had
later denied it in evidence.

He had warned the Anthonys' legal
representatives — who later withdrew
— that he would make a costs order
against them personally if they pro-
ceeded with their defence and pro-
longed the proceedings in a "reckless
and irresponsible" manner.

The Disa River community, like
many others moved around, lived
where they could find shelter, were
often prosecuted and had their homes
demolished. It was a sad existence
because development and natural di-
sasters forced them to move until for
the past six or seven years they had
lived at Disa River farm.

He could not imagine that they
would have lived on the land for 30
years without being forced to move.

"It was a pity the case came to court,
It was riddled with legal and factual
problems and was doomed to failure,"
the judge said.

Mr H M Creaven SC, resisted by Mr W B Durnin,
Instructed by Sonneveld Hoffman and Co, appre-
sented for Orpington. Mr Joel Krige, with Mr J van der Byl,
Instructed by River Daniels Co, originally appeared for
the squatters.
Eviction: Hout Bay squatter refuses to move

By MONICA GRAAFF

A 74-YEAR-OLD says he will not move from the Hout Bay farm he and his family have lived on for over 20 years, despite a Supreme Court eviction order issued last week.

Mr Fraser Anthony said this from his shack where he lay in bed “too sad to do anything else”.

On Thursday Mr Justice JH Conradie dismissed his claims to occupation rights by superannuation on the Disa River farm.

Mr Justice Conradie was judging an application by Orpington Investments (Pty) Ltd to have Mr Anthony, nine of his children and their families and another person evicted from the farm in Main Road, Hout Bay.

Mr Anthony said he was the founder and patriarch of the 70-member squatter community.

“We settled here because there is no group area catering for blacks who work in Hout Bay. We are not going to move because we have nowhere else to go,” he said.
SQUATTERS in the small Disa River settlement are to appeal against a Supreme Court decision ordering them to get off the land they have occupied for more than 40 years.

This has been confirmed by a lawyer representing the squatters who last week lost their long court battle to stay in Hout Bay.

Mr Justice H Conradie ruled in favour of Orpington Investments (Pty) Ltd to have Mr Fraser Anthony, 80, nine of his children and their families ejected from the 64-hectare Disa River farm.

Said Ms Vanessa Matthews, spokesperson for the Disa River squatters: "Oupa Anthony, who cannot read or write, based his defence on the simple explanation that 40 years ago the land was given to his family by 'the boere'."

"Piece of paper"

"Oupa has never lived in a house. We all regard him here as the owner of the land and the leader of the community. He believes he has never needed a piece of paper to stake his claim on land that is his."

She said the squatters were determined to continue their fight, but also very fearful that it won't be long before new eviction orders arrive.

"We are all very tense, every time a car pulls up we jump to see whether they have come to throw us off the land," she said.

"But the people here are ready to go to Pollsmoor if necessary."

Matthews said the nine defendants in the Supreme Court case would be in contempt of court if they defied the court orders, but they had nowhere else to go.
New Port
Nolloth removal threat
By CHIARA CARTER

THE Port Nolloth municipality has made a renewed bid to deport squatters — a year after they won a Supreme Court battle to live in the area.

The municipality this week advertised that it intended to seek permission from the Supreme Court to evict 179 squatters living on municipal land.

This follows repeated attempts to serve eviction notices on individual squatters.

About 1,000 squatters and supporters, including a handful of white residents, marched to the municipality offices last Thursday, demanding decent housing, an end to all evictions, the provision of water and toilets, job creation and a single non-racial municipality.

Surplus Peoples Project spokesperson Lala Steyn said the municipality's previous attempts to evict the squatters had founndered because of legal technicalities and the community's determination to resist eviction.

She said the new eviction proceedings were "reminiscent of past attempts to evict squatters from Lawaikamp in George".
Squatters guilty of trespass

Staff Reporter

The Stellenbosch municipality was not obliged to notify squatters of its intention to take action against them as most of the squatters could not read and did not have postboxes, a Stellenbosch magistrate said yesterday.

After five days of trial, magistrate Mr. D.J. van Niekerk found 11 Uitsig squatters guilty of trespass. He postponed their sentencing to April 2.

The nine families had been fighting a legal battle for their shacks since they challenged the municipality's right to evict them in the Supreme Court in January last year.
Staff Reporter

THE Stellenbosch Municipality was not obliged to notify squatters of its intention to take action against them as most of the squatters could not read and did not have postal boxes, a Stellenbosch magistrate said yesterday.

After five days of trial, magistrate Mr D J van Niekerk found 11 Uitsig squatters guilty of trespass and postponed their sentencing to April 2.

The nine families have been fighting a legal battle for the right to occupy their shacks since they challenged the municipality's right to evict them in the Supreme Court in January last year.

Municipal employee Mr K Ford told the court that he had laid a formal charge of trespass on May 2, 1988 without giving formal written notice.

Mr Roger Chennells, for the squatters, said they had moved on to the site legally in terms of written agreement with the municipality and that the municipality was obliged to notify the squatters of its intentions before taking the drastic step of charging them with trespass.

Mr Chennells asked leave to appeal immediately after sentence was passed.

Mr S Bean prosecuted.
KLC Squatters Case

R2m Settlement In

BY RONNIE MORKS

Promoting the KLC's million mark as a fine.

Of the determination of the squatters' camps.

The printing house set up in court.

of about R2000 per hour in court.

30/5/80
Case took three years to settle

R1.5 m trust fund

for KTC camp

CAPE TOWN — The case between the Minister of Law and Order and residents of the KTC squatter camp over the burning of the camp in 1986 was settled in the Supreme Court in Cape Town yesterday, with the establishment of an initial R1.5 million trust fund.

The Legal Resources Centre in Cape Town, which has been handling the case for the plaintiffs, said that the Government had undertaken to make an initial contribution of R1.5 million to a fund “which will be established to undertake community development projects in the areas from which the various claimants come, and to provide relief to residents who suffered losses during the events of May and June 1986”.

Government fund

The government has also undertaken to contribute a further sum of not more than R500,000 on a rands for rands basis to match other contributions to the fund.

The case has taken three years to reach settlement, and has involved a long and costly litigation.

A spokesman for the Legal Resources Centre said the case had arisen out of the burning of the KTC settlement during the unrest of 1986, and although there had been 3,000 claims for damages, a Mr P N Mzamkaand 20 others — including the Methodist Church of South Africa — had been chosen to represent the residents as a test case.

“The settlement has resulted in a saving of the very substantial legal costs that would have been incurred if the case had been continued,” the Legal Resources Centre statement added, pointing out that the costs would probably have “exceeded the contribution the Government has agreed to make to the trust fund”.

It noted that the establishment of the fund was “a constructive use of money and will benefit a large number of poor people and help them establish better lives for themselves”.

The fund will provide assistance for community development programmes in KTC Camp, Nyanga Bush Camp, Nyanga Extension Camp and Portland Cement Camp, and also provide ex gratia compensation to residents of these areas who suffered loss or damage to property during the events of May and June 1986. — Sapa.
5 000 stands planned

Political Correspondent 1/64 7/3/90 (30/7)

MORE than 5 000 stands are being developed on a 210ha site at Brown's Farm in Philippi to accommodate eventual settlement by about 30 000 people, according to Planning and Provincial Affairs Minister Mr Hernus Kriel.

No other land had been set aside for people forced to leave Crossroads in 1986 but indications were that this development would be sufficient.
New proposal to resettle families at Ocean View

By KIM CLARKIN

RESIDENTS of Ocean View have been asked by the Management Committee if they would object to homeless coloured families, living in the Noordhoek area and environs, being resettled in a temporary informal camp within Ocean View.

The letter, which asked for a response by yesterday, has sparked some concern that mixed squatter families may be split up under the Group Areas Act.

Mrs Sandy Dowling of the Catholic Welfare Bureau fears that this might impact on the CPA’s agreement to consult squatter leaders regarding land allocation.

“At a meeting on November 4 last year the CPA gave an undertaking that land would be allocated to the squatter groups in the southern Peninsula and although no deadline was given it was indicated that this would be done within 12 to 18 months.

“It was also stated that the decision would be made in conjunction with representatives from the squatter communities, but the letter from the Ocean View Management Committee raises a number of questions,” said Mrs Dowling.

Democratic

Inquiries revealed that the opinions of Ocean View residents were being canvassed at the request of the magistrate of Simon’s Town who was anxious to find alternative accommodation for five coloured families currently squatting at Silvermine Forest Station.

An action against the families was brought recently by Cape Town City Council officials and although the Illegal Squatting Act allows a forced resettlement, the authorities are trying to find a more democratic solution.

However, the letter implies that the number of families would be much greater than five. “Due to the present housing shortage many homeless coloured families are living under precarious conditions within the Noordhoek area and environs. These families, for various reasons cannot be rehoused in conventional housing in the foreseeable future,” it said.

“The only solution at this stage appears to be that these families should be resettled in a temporary informal settlement camp, provided with rudimentary services within the confines of Ocean View.

“Kindly indicate with an X in the square below what your opinion on the matter is and return same to the Housing Office on or before 7 March 7.”

A “yes” and “no” box were provided for residents’ responses.

Information

Mr Peter Clark of Ocean View said he objected to the tone of the letter and felt the time allowed for response was too short. “I received the notification on February 23, which gives only eight days for people to make up their minds on this very important issue.

“Also the letter doesn’t give enough information, such as the numbers of people to be resettled, and location. This worries me when I think of people who own houses who may be tempted to say ‘no’ when the case is put in this way. Also those on the housing list may also say ‘no’ because of the fear that this will make the housing shortage even worse.”
取得助理

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Police, squatters blame each other

Police and squatters at Bloekompos squat camp have blamed each other for starting the violence which erupted at the camp on Sunday night.

Police said yesterday that they had started firing tear smoke, rubber bullets and bird shot at the squatters only after the squatters had started stoning and damaging police vehicles.

Squatters said a policeman had started the conflict by firing tear smoke into a crowd which had gathered to see what the police were doing at the camp. They said this had encouraged them to throw stones.

Between five and 10 people were wounded by birdshot in the incident. Police said five people were treated at Tygerberg Hospital. Squatters claim that at least 10 people were wounded.

According to police liaison officer Major Jan Callies, the police went to Bloekompos to search for a man who had allegedly been assaulted and had gone missing in the camp.
Wounded squatters arrested in hospital

By CLIVE SAWYER
Tygerberg Bureau

POLICE have arrested four Bloekombos squatters in Tygerberg Hospital while they were recovering from gunshot wounds.

The four, arrested on 13 August, were wounded by buckshot during a Sunday night raid by police who said they were looking for stolen goods.

By late last night, requests by legal representatives to the police to release those in custody on bail had failed.

The four are expected to appear in the Bellville Magistrate's Court today over alleged public violence.

Meanwhile, an open-air protest meeting, attended by about 600 people, was called in Scottsville yesterday to decide on action following the destruction of part of Bloekombos last week by municipal workers, and the police action on Sunday.

After the meeting had been in progress for 20 minutes, police arrived and ordered the crowd to disperse, warning that the gathering was illegal in terms of the Internal Security Act.

A police helicopter, which had circled over Bloekombos yesterday, shone a spotlight on the meeting.

A request to hold a church service as an alternative to the open-air meeting was refused.

The crowd dispersed and groups of youths roamed through the town, gathering at street corners and singing freedom songs.

A Kraaifontein Residents' Association (KRA) spokesman said the police intervention was "extraordinary" considering four such meetings had been held recently, and had been peaceful.

KRA workers are taking affidavits from Bloekombos squatters to help lawyers investigating legal action against the authorities.

Another meeting would be held soon, probably at an indoor venue, the KRA spokesman said.
Apartheid lives, say Bloekombos leaders

By CLIVE SAWYER
Tygerberg Bureau

ACTION against Bloekombos squatter camp showed that apartheid was alive and well in spite of President de Klerk's promises of reform, a Kraaifontein Residents' Association member said.

At a Press conference at the camp last night, messages of support were read from the National Association of Democratic Lawyers, the National Medical and Dental Association, the Surplus People's Project, the United Women's Congress and other groups.

The conference was attended by the 600 residents of the camp, outside Kraaifontein on Old Paarl Road.

ANGER
Eyewitnesses, some wounded by police action during a raid on Sunday, expressed anger at their treatment.

KRA chairman Mr Enrico Pedro said police action had been part of a campaign to terrorise the people of Bloekombos.

A Namda doctor said the camp was relatively hygienic, in spite of the lack of water and sewerage.

"People are relatively healthy because they live close to work and medical facilities," he said, and criticised Kraaifontein municipality for not accepting the reality of the camp and extending services to it.

The Rev Courtney Sampson of the Western Province Council of Churches said homeless people needed special attention from the government.

A Kuils River clergyman called on President de Klerk to give special attention to the people of Bloekombos.

"A question mark has been thrown over the government's promises of reform by what has happened here," he said.

In a statement, the KRA said it rejected the "inflexible attitude" of Kraaifontein municipality.

"Our struggle for housing, peace of mind and comfort will continue," the statement said.
Homeless to march on Tuynhuys

CIVIC, squatter, community and service organisations are planning a march to the City Council, Regional Services Council, Cape Provincial Administration and Tuynhuys next Thursday to hand over a memorandum calling for land and housing.

The protest, planned to coincide with Founder’s Day next Friday, will draw attention to the plight of thousands of squatters who say their misery began three centuries ago when Jan Van Riebeeck arrived at the Cape.

Landless and homeless people from as far afield as the Northern Cape will travel to Cape Town to participate in the two-day protest.

After the march, the protesters will erect shacks in District Six and hold an open-air service. On Friday morning, the protesters will hold a mass rally at which speakers from the Mass Democratic Movement and the ANC will address them.

Thousands of people are also expected to participate in a “Walk for Hope” on April 29 to bring a message from whites to the black people of Cape Town.

The walk, from Rondebosch Common to Guguletu, is being organised by bodies working in the white community such as Cape Democrats, the Democratic Party Youth and Jews for Justice, and by city councillors.

The organisers wish to show they have hope for a non-racial, democratic future in South Africa and that they identify with the grievances and demands of the black majority.
6 Cape men sentenced to jail for public violence

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Six Cape Youth Congress members who damaged shacks and a car during fighting at KTC Squatter camp were yesterday each sentenced to an effective 2½ years' jail.

The six who appeared in the Wynberg Regional Court were Mzwandi Xesha, Vusumzi Futhshana, Paulos Mokoena, Simon Senell, Theminkosi Mbanjwa and Tsukelo Khambli.

Another accused, Elliot Mtwa, who absconded, was convicted in absentia and a minor was acquitted.

The men pleaded not guilty to a charge of public violence.

Evidence was that the men destroyed property belonging to Masincedane Committee members Mr Gladstone Ntomo, Mr Lucas Nunu, Mr James Gavulelela, Miss Gertrude Nokila and Mr Madikane on January 20 1988.

The damaged property included shacks, crockery and the windscreen of Mr Ntomo's car.

Yesterday Magistrate Mr F Knox sentenced the men to five years' imprisonment of which 2½ were suspended for five years.

The accused were originally charged with murdering two Masincedane Committee members, Mr Storemont Madubane and Mr Delenktele Sigaba, who was stoned and stabbed to death by a mob on January 24 1988 in KTC. However, the murder charges were dropped because of lack of evidence.

Mr S Lea appeared for the State. Mr David Kawalsky instructed by Mr E Mohammed of E Moosa and Associates appeared for the men.
Staff Reporter

ELEVEN Stellenbosch squatters convicted last month of trespassing were yesterday sentenced in the local Magistrate's Court to three months' imprisonment.

The sentences were suspended for three months on condition that they vacate the Uitsig site on or before July 3.

Last year the squatters were granted an urgent interdict preventing them from being evicted from the site. When it expired, the Stellenbosch municipality charged them with trespassing.

In passing sentence, magistrate Mr D.J. Van Niekerk said he hoped both parties would use the time provided (the suspended sentences) to seek a solution to the problem.

Attorneys acting for the squatters have appealed against conviction and sentencing.

Mr G. Swanepoel, the squatters' representative by Mr R. Chepsoo.
Squatters plan march to focus on ‘land crisis’

By JOHN YELD
Staff Reporter

A MARCH to parliament by scores of squatters and tenants of municipal housing schemes on Thursday will be followed by a mass rally in District Six on Friday which has been claimed as Land Day.

The march, organised by the Squatter Support Committee, is to highlight the growing housing and land crisis.

It will focus on issues such as the harassment of squatter communities at Bloekombos and Uitkyk in Kraaifontein, the attempted “dispossession” of Namaqualand traditional farming communities and the desperate housing shortage in Cape Town and other areas.

REALITY

According to a pamphlet issued by the committee, the government has been forced to recognise the reality of urbanisation by abolishing influx control.

Squatter communities like those at RTC and Brown’s Farm have fought off forced removals and are now involved in the struggle to upgrade their areas.

“As political change sweeps the country and everybody talks of the coming negotiations, many squatter communities have seized the opportunity and entered into local level negotiations for land and housing...”

“But change is uneven and for many people things are worse than before. The people of Bloekombos and Uitkyk, for example, continue to be raided and harassed and the authorities refuse even to talk to them.”

The pamphlet said that as some South Africans were celebrating Founders’ Day, communities from all over the Cape would be protesting that the majority of citizens had been dispossessed of their land.

“We are not only demonstrating about the present needs of communities. This is also our demand to have a say in making the land and housing policy for the new South Africa.”

“As the Freedom Charter says: ‘The land shall be shared amongst those who work it... There shall be housing/security and comfort.”

The march to parliament and the offices of the Cape Provincial Administration and Western Cape Regional Services Council will start opposite St Mark’s Church in District Six on Thursday at 1pm and will be followed by an unspecified “event” in District Six at 6pm.

The mass rally at the same venue on Friday starts at 10am, with speakers from the UDP, ANC, Cosatu, Cape Housing Action Committee, Western Cape Civic Associations and other organisations.
Bloekombos under siege

WHILE squatters in Ocean View, Redhill and Fish Hoek celebrated a decision to grant them land, Bloekombos squatters on Tuesday night were bracing themselves for another raid on their camp.

The executive committee of the Cape Provincial Administration decided, in consultation with squatters, to allocate R30 000 to investigate suitable land for squatter communities in Noordhoek.

In contrast, on the other side of the Cape Peninsula, the Kraaifontein municipality decided on Monday night that all but 17 shacks at Bloekombos had to be removed.

The town clerk, Mr JH Conradie, said no decision had been taken when the 76 "illegal" shacks would be bulldozed.

However, police surrounded the camp on Tuesday night, raising fears that the demolition was imminent.

Friday, April 6 will be renamed Land Day instead of Jan van Riebeeck Day by thousands of squatters and homeless people who will march through the centre of Cape Town to demand housing and land on that day.
COUNCILLORS IN JOBS SCAM

FROM THABO DANIELS

PORT ELIZABETH

307

SOUTH NEWS

SOUTH, April 4 to April 10 1990

307
Noordhoek land for squatters

Municipal Reporter

SQUATTERS in Ocean View, Red Hill and Fish Hoek will be allowed to settle on suitable land in Noordhoek, the Provincial Administration has announced.

The CPA has accepted the principle of the resettlement and has agreed to the allocation of R30,000 to the Regional Services Council to aid an investigation.

Members of the CPA's executive committee, other senior CPA officials, the member of parliament for Fish Hoek, and representatives of the squatter communities met last week to discuss alternatives for settlement.
**District Six protest finds a new cause to celebrate**

*By GAYE DAVIS*  
*Cape Town*

PROTEST groups opposing government land policy have chosen tomorrow's public holiday to mark the destruction of District Six.

The Squatters Support Committee said it had renamed Founders' Day as Land Day to mark their protest because they regarded the arrival of Jan van Riebeeck in 1652 as "the beginning of the dispossession of the people's land."

Protesters from across the Cape will converge in Cape Town today for two days of action designed to highlight their demands.

They will march at 1pm from District Six to the city-centre offices of the Cape Provincial Administration and the Regional Services Council and later, at 6pm, will build shacks on vacant land in District Six to spend the night there. A mass rally will also be held in District Six's St Mark's Church.

The Squatter Support Committee is made up of a string of organisations dealing with land and housing issues as well as the United Democratic Front and Western Cape Civic Association.

Among those taking part will be squatter communities in the greater Cape Town area, the Boland, the Southern Cape and the Cape West Coast as well as members of communities in Namaqualand who are fighting a Bill proposing the privatisation of their communally owned land.

The protests come at a time of increasing homelessness caused by a vast backlog in housing and the eviction of families unable to pay rents or high-interest bond repayments.
Noordhoek squatters to get 'suitable' sites

Staff Reporter

AFTER years of bitter controversy over squatters in Noordhoek valley, the Cape Provincial Administration yesterday decided to make "suitable" valley land available for an estimated 1200 people from the Ocean View, Redhill and Fish Hoek areas.

This follows a meeting between Mr Koos Theron, MEC for Community Development, Mr Jannie Mönberg, MP for the area, and representatives of the squatter communities last week.

At the meeting, various alternatives for settlement were discussed and the squatters said they would be prepared to settle in any of the areas mentioned.

Last night the chairman of the Noordhoek Civic Association, Mr John Cannan, said a proposed survey of how many squatters worked in the area was impractical without any form of influx control.

"Our attitude is that the squatters have forced themselves into this area on land which is not really fit for human habitation (a reference to winter flooding). Alternative land, preferably out of the valley, should be found," he said.

Mr Cannan said a dormitory suburb was being created in an area that could not support the prospective residents, most of whom were "social security cases".

He cited poor transport services and lack of employment and facilities as reasons for finding land outside the valley.

"What would local ratepayers have to say if squatters set up camp on Rondebosch Common? It's exactly the same here," he said.

He accused the CPA of not consulting his association.

A CPA spokesman yesterday confirmed that R30 000 had been allocated to investigate providing sites which would be acceptable to all parties.
Residents respond — ‘no’ to Ocean View squatters

By KIM CLARKIN

OCEAN View residents have voted ‘no’ to five squat ter families being re-located in their community. In response to a survey by the management committee, a total of 401 replies were received — 159 positive and 242 negative.

Mrs Sandy Dowling of the Catholic Welfare Bureau said the negative response probably stemmed from the lack of details on the form, such as how many families were to be relocated and where, as well as the fact there is already a chronic housing shortage in Ocean View and locals fear the situation will get worse if more people are introduced into the area.

Of the five squatter families living at the entrance to the Silvermine Nature Reserve, the magistrate of Simon’s Town, Mr André Duraan, said: “Investigation is now under way to find alternative accommodation within the Cape Town City Council area, but as yet I am still to be officially informed of the outcome. However, the families will stay where they are until a solution can be found.”

Leaders from the Red Hill, Noordhoek, and Ocean View squatter communities last week met senior officials of the CPA to discuss various issues.

Priority was given to the matter of provision of temporary water and toilet facilities and the eventual relocation of the communities to serviced sites in the southern Peninsula.

In a statement Mr J W Theron, MEC, said the executive committee of the CPA had decided, in principle, that the squatters of Ocean View, Red Hill and Fish Hoek would be allowed to settle on suitable land in the Noordhoek area.

Several sites were discussed at the meeting and the matter is under further investigation. The CPA said that R30 000 had been allocated to the regional service council for the project.

Sandra Liebenberg, legal representative of the communities, said considerable progress was made on a variety of issues.
Cities face squatter time-bomb

Report: SUE OLSWANG
Photographs: KEN OOSTERSBROEK

As millions of people stream into South Africa's town and cities looking for work, the pressure on already overcrowded townships with minimal infrastructure and facilities is raising tensions.

Now some officials and community representatives fear that, if things continue unchecked, there could be a real possibility of war breaking out between residents and squatters.

The latest area to feel pressure from squatters is Sandton. Most squatter developments are contained within or close to the country's black townships. But Sandton, with its lucrative employment opportunities, has now also become a target.

Nearby Alexandra, an area which measures only one square mile, has seen a flood of people setting up shacks in a township already boistering with more than 200,000 official residents.

Gross overcrowding

Six months ago there were estimated to be about 14,000 squatters in the group's overcrowded township, but the figure grew by about 300 every week and today it is close to 23,000, according to Councillor Dennis Tseu, chairman of the Alexandra Town Council management committee.

Squatters have also moved onto Iwasa Green, an industrial site in nearby Wynberg, and the number of people living in this area, which falls under Sandton, is said to be 4,600.

But Iwasa Green is only part of Sandton's squatter headache. Temporary dwellings have sprung up on municipal park lands and river banks along the Bourkean dam and local streams - in the very heart of residential Sandton - and the number of "water course" squatters living in these areas is anywhere between 2,000 and 3,000.

A large proportion of the country's squatters are unemployed people who could never begin to afford housing, but this is not the case with many of the people who have invaded Alexandra and Sandton.

A socio-economic survey conducted in Iwasa Green revealed that most people are employed and the average income is fairly high. There is also a great deal of entrepreneurship and informal businesses thrive," said Mr Perry Gertie, chairman of the Sandton Town Council management committee.

"The problem isn't always money, it's basically a shortage of land and housing," Mr Tseu said the same.

"We need to create difficulties for a low-cost housing development, but an upmarket development would probably tolerate the squatters better.

Exhausting that residents' objections were not a racial issue, Mr Josting said their only fear is a slum development.

Mr Josting said the TPA has already been asked to look at Prunenwald Farm as a squatter relocation area, but they should be looking at an upmarket black development as well.

Another idea is to put the Hong Kong Chinese to the forefront.

Health hazard: A dead dog lies on top of a heap of rubbish in one of the squatter areas of Alexandra township. Squatters are not unduly worried about health and hygiene.

Their only concern is day-to-day survival.
Missile sale: woman faces life in jail

WASHINGTON — A Rhode Island woman faces 25 years in prison and a $1.5 million fine after being convicted of conspiring to ship US-made missile parts to South Africa.

Maryanne Callaghan (40) was found guilty by a federal jury in Washington DC on Thursday of conspiring to ship $650 million worth of components to South Africa, which are used in the guidance systems of anti-aircraft missile systems, under the Arms Export Control Act. She had conspired with a South African-born Mr Symone Morris Behrman, who has already pleaded guilty and is due to appear in the DC court for sentencing on April 26.

The conspiracy was uncovered by a sting operation of US customs, which set up a fake company to pose as a US-made missile manufacturer.
Cape lists 112 000 squatters

THE Cape Provincial Administration estimates there are more than 112 000 illegal squatters in the province, including 85 549 outside development areas.

A questioner in the Provincial Standing Committee was told that the Administration was identifying areas all over the province for proclamation as development areas.

The administration also disclosed how the R1 million budgeted for squatter control would be spent, during the present financial year.

It has budgeted R380 000 for land for extending the development area at Indwe and R228 550 to Boichoko Town Committee for the relocation of squatters.

Another questioner was told that the upgrading of R7C consisted of the development of 2 242 serviced sites for about R13 500 people.
Wagplek: a place of waiting for handouts

By Winnie Graham

"Give us this day our daily bread" is more than an idle prayer for the people of Wagplek.

At this squatter camp on the edge of Siyathembu, the black residential area of Balfour, just an hour's drive from Johannesburg, several families have been left destitute because their breadwinner has been jailed for 90 days — for failing to pay site rent to the local Siyathembu committee.

One of the women is a grandmother, Mrs Jemina Miyia. She was close to tears when she spoke.

Her son was in jail, she said, and she had no money with which to buy food. She and her grandchild lived on handouts from the neighbours.

"We are hungry," she added.

"Her life has never been easy, but when her 38-year-old son was home he, at least, had a job that provided money for their daily bread.

"He earned R6 a week as a gardener," she said through an interpreter. "It was not much, but it was something.

Now her son is in jail: imprisoned until June because he did not have money to pay the rent for the site on which the family has built their small shack.

Move

There are about 1,000 shack dwellers at Wagplek. Many of the people there are the "overflow" from the township where no suitable accommodation has been made available in years.

Initially the people built their shacks on land bordering Siyathembu, but in 1987 they were told by the town committee to move to the sites where they are now.

It was agreed Wagplek would be just that: a place to wait until the town committee could make alternative accommodation available.

In the meantime, the committee agreed to provide minimal services: water and refuse and night soil removal. For this the people had to pay R15 a month.

Many squatters in the area, however, do not have jobs and cannot afford the rental.

To make matters worse, they also claim the services are inadequate. Water is often cut off and night soil has to be buried because it is not removed.

In January this year several residents of Wagplek received summonses for service charges and levy arrears from the Siyathembu town committee.

On March 28 two residents were jailed for 90 days for the non-payment of debt and will be freed only if the amount owing, plus costs, is paid in full.

Jailed

A spokesman for the Black Sash, asked to help, said in one case they knew the amount owing was R12 plus costs and in another R406.

"The residents of Wagplek, however, point out that several people have been jailed since the crackdown on non-payment of rentals.

But, while a number of breadwinners will be "away" until June, their families are reluctantly to complain because they are afraid they will be forced out of their homes.

One woman, the mother of nine, has to support her family on R20 a month (the wage she receives working for a local Indian family).

Her husband, jailed because he owed the Siyathembu committee money, brought home R80 a week.

A mother of four, whose husband earned R30 a week making bricks, is also without a bread-winner.

She says her husband has been jailed for the same reason.

"We have no money — but my friend shares her food with us," she said.

"Fortunately her husband has a job.

In the meantime, the Siyathembu Town Committee has made a new area available to the squatters.

Water pipes and sewage facilities are being laid on site but, to date, there have been no takers.

A member of the Wagplek Committee, Mrs Mavis Mayalza, said the sites could be bought for R450 or R600 apiece.

"But there are not many squatters who can afford to pay for them," she added.

Mrs Jemina Miyia's precarious existence in a shack at Wagplek is in jeopardy. Her son, who earned R6 a week as a gardener, has been jailed for 90 days along with several other breadwinners because they cannot afford to pay the site rent to the local authority that controls the squatter camp.

Picture by Winnie Graham.
Bleak Easter for squatters

MORE than 150 Kraaifontein residents face a bleak Easter after losing their homes this week.

The Kraaifontein municipality bulldozed 30 shacks in a predawn raid on the Bloekombos squatter camp on Tuesday.

Later the same day, several families were reported to have been evicted from their homes in Scottsville for rent arrears.

Police guarded a team of eight municipal workers who demolished the shacks at Bloekombos.

According to Kraaifontein Residents' Association spokesperson, Ms Doris Niewat, the shacks belonged to former residents of Otto's Bush.

She said the demolition had left about 130 people without homes.

"Both the Bloekombos and Scottsville families have nowhere else to live," Niewat said.

"They have no alternative but to rebuild the shacks and reoccupy their houses."

HOMELESS: Two infants seek shelter and warmth after their parents' shacks were destroyed in a 5am raid on Tuesday.
Just six arrests in three-hour squatter camp crime sweep

By CHRIS BATEMAN

A THREE-HOUR police and army crime prevention sweep in the squatter camps of strife-torn Old Crossroads yesterday resulted in just six arrests — for dealing in dagga and liquor and for the theft of a bicycle.

The squatter camps have been the scene of shootings, burnings and several deaths in recent months as opposing factions under mayor Mr Johnson Nkobongwana and under breakaway headman Mr Geoffrey Nongwe clashed.

A police spokesman said the army cordoned off the area while police searched for stolen property, firearms and "suspicious persons".

The purpose of the operation was explained to residents in their own language and pamphlets were also distributed for this purpose, he added.

Van Eck claim attacked

Meanwhile, DP spokesman for local black affairs Mr Jan van Eck was angrily attacked yesterday in an open letter by Old Crossroads administrator Mr "Ricky" Schelhase over his recent claim in Parliament that only Mr Nkobongwana's followers were allowed to buy new houses in Old Crossroads.

Mr Schelhase invited Mr Van Eck to inspect all documents at his offices to verify that his administration allowed anyone who could afford it to buy homes.

This "open sales" policy was in fact the cause of much of the strife as residents were against outsiders buying the homes, Mr Schelhase added.

Mr Van Eck replied that at one stage developers had flown up to Mr Nkobongwana's Ciskei home to have applicants for homes "cleared". He added that this practice had stopped since he had raised the matter in Parliament.

Mr Schelhase questioned Mr Van Eck's objectivity, saying he had "not once" in the past three years contacted his officials for their version of controversial events.
Sour note as victory claimed for squatters

By JOHN VILJOEN
Tygerberg Bureau

A DECISION to acquire land for the Bloemfontein squatters has been described as a victory for the squatters, but the Rev Allan Hendrickse has been accused of political opportunism.

The Democratic Party MP for Claremont, Mr Jan van Eck, described the news as "a small victory for the belief that every South African regardless of race, colour or creed has the right to settle without interference from apartheid laws".

The decision highlighted the absurdity and unnecessary harassment the squatters had had to endure.

There was still no clarity on whether this land would be available for all the Ulityky, Bloemfontein and Otto's Bush squatters, he said.

South Africa faced a tremendous housing and land shortage and more land would have to be made available to accommodate the homeless, Mr Van Eck said.

United Democratic Front patron Dr Allan Boesak accused Labour leader Mr Hendrickse of "political opportunism of the worst kind" by announcing the land deal in parliament last week.

"Quite suddenly and conveniently the House of Representatives has made land available to the people of Bloemfontein."

"These representatives have been living in luxury, oblivious to the abject poverty, discomfort and misery of the people of Bloemfontein," Dr Boesak said in a statement.

"We must be careful not to be hoodwinked into trusting those who are against us. We must continue to be vigilant."

The Bloemfontein squatters have begun a consumer boycott of shops in white KwaZulu Natal. The boycott began on Thursday.
This is school for nearly 200
But a prefab built for 40—

By Edward Mountaine

[Image of people gathered in a refugee camp with a small building donated by a private donor to the local emergency in Nyanga, Zimbabwe.]
REBUILDING: Mr Rowland Joja, owner of one of the five shacks that were demolished by the Khayamandi town committee last Friday, starts rebuilding.

House burnt as tensions rise in squatter camp

By EDWARD MOLOINYANE
Staff Reporter

A HOUSE has been burnt by angry youths in protest against the demolition of shacks amid rising tensions between residents of Khayamandi, near Stellenbosch, and the town committee.

Khayamandi committee has decided to destroy a shanty town to make way for a housing scheme.

Town committee assistant secretary Mr A Gruyven said 29 plots had been allocated to developers to “alleviate the housing backlog” when the scheme started in 1981. Six of the houses had been sold for between R32,000 and R40,000.

He said that the demolition of the shacks had been a “unanimous committee resolution.”

The Stellenbosch Civic Association is bitterly opposed, and said the houses were too expensive for most people.

According to civic association member Ms Doreen Hani, a completed but unoccupied four-roomed house built by a private developer was set alight by angry youths last Friday.

They were retaliating against the Khayamandi committee’s demolition of five shacks earlier that day, she said.

The shack settlement, known as Strong Yard, is home to more than 400 families. It was allowed to mushroom by candidates standing in the municipal elections in 1988, she said.

Candidates persuaded the squatters to vote for them, she claimed, by promising them permanent status on the land.

“Now they tell them that squatting is not allowed.

“Only a few people can afford the new houses. Few people here are employed and to demolish a home just to build a bigger house in its place, for money, is heartless,” Ms Hani said.

STRONG YARD: Mr Alvern Lomani and his wife Nosindiso outside their home in the congested squatter camp of Strong Yard, the Khayamandi. TILL WINTER says the more than 400 families will be moved to make way for a new housing scheme.
Down and out in full
Khayamnandi: Battle
for survival by 10000

By EDWARD MOLOINYANE
Staff Reporter

CONDITIONS in Khayamnandi township, near Stellenbosch, are very bad and deteriorating rapidly, according to residents.

The Stellenbosch Civic Association claims that more than 10,000 people live in the area (official figure: 6,775). There are 145 core houses, one school, which teaches from Sub A to Standard 7, one creche, no clinic and one soccer ground.

Most of the residents are unemployed. There is an acute shortage of accommodation. And—three years after the pass laws were scrapped—the hostel dwellers are still haunted by influx control.

Repeated raids

The township has about 65 of the original "single sex" hostels, which are now occupied primarily by families.

Repeated raids on the living quarters have instilled fear and suspicion among the hostel dwellers. Strangers are viewed with suspicion by women and men alike.

The hostels—dilapidated prefabricated structures with broken windows, outside communal water taps and toilets—were initially built for migrant workers from the homelands who came to work on the wine farms as "temporary sojourners."

Like elsewhere in the country, no sooner had influx control laws been abolished than hundreds of women streamed to the cities to join their migrant husbands, hoping they could now live together without the fear of dreaded middle-of-the-night police raids for "illegals."

However, it was not to be in Khayamnandi. Harassment has continued unabated, according to residents, despite the existence of an "autonomous" black local authority since 1982.

For, while some other "development boards" turned a blind eye to irregularities after the scrapping of influx control in 1986, officials in Stellenbosch continued to make life difficult for the hostel dwellers.

In what were called "crime prevention operations", the living quarters of men and their newly arrived wives and families were raided. They were bundled into police vans at the middle of the night, locked up and accused of "trespassing."

Each hostel block in Khayamnandi consists of 64 double bunks (one bed on top of the other) in a huge hall divided into two. Residents pay R0.50 a month.

Walls have not been painted for ages and privacy is non-existent. In some cases, couples are forced to sleep in bunks above single men.

Although the hostels were initially meant for employed men, the majority are now unemployed and their only solace is the home-brew beer sold in the majority of the hostels.

A single parent and a veteran victim of the raids, Mrs Edel Ngcukha, 48, who makes a living by selling home-brewed liquor, said she could not remember how many times she had been arrested for failing to "produce a permit and for the illegal selling of illicit beer."

She said she arrived in the township nine years ago. But most of the arrests had taken place "in earnest since 1992."

She, like others, still lived in fear of a "raid" because "every movement, we are under the watchful eye of people from the committee."

Mrs Pauline Kili, a former councillor who is now an executive member of the Stellenbosch Civic Association (SCA), said she had "thought she could help her people from within the system" when she joined the council in 1983.

"Manipulated"

"Today's black councils are empowered by law to call the tune in the townships but many of them are still manipulated by white officials they themselves have employed. The situation is hopeless, she said.

"We pay monthly rentals but they are unable to provide services in such a small township."

Khayamandi committee mayor, Mr Monde Mayekiso, said his committee was "doing all in its power to rectify mistakes."

He said, however, that there were no funds and his committee was negotiating with the Western Cape Regional Services Council for land and funds.

He denied that they were powerless. "We want to improve the life of everybody in this town," he said.

He couldn't comment on other issues raised by residents.

Picture: ANDREW INGRAM, The Argus.
King faces boycott as refugees sit

EAST LONDON. A consumer boycott has begun in King William's Town in response to dissatisfaction with the South African government's handling of the Nkonqweni refugees.

The refugees fled Nkonqweni last year — blaming Ciskei police harassment — and have been living in tents near Ginsberg for the past five months.

The president of the UDF in the Border, Mr. Mluleki George, said yesterday that despite repeated representations to the South African government, no positive steps had been taken to rectify the situation.
The age corsoorganisation

Grenade attack

The age corsoorganisation

Grenade attack

By Michael Morris, political correspondent

Preempting the withdrawal of the Provisional IRA, the minister of defence, Mr. Peter Parker, has announced that the government will cancel the existing ceasefire and reassert control over the North. This decision follows the recent attacks on police stations and civilian targets.

The government has attributed the violence to the Provisional IRA, which has been active in recent weeks. The minister has called on all community groups to support the peace process and work towards a lasting solution to the conflict.

Emergency partial lifting of the ban on Sinn Fein

FW hints at talks for peace talks

By Michael Morris, political correspondent

The minister of security, Mr. Peter Parker, has hinted at the possibility of peace talks with Sinn Fein. This move follows the recent announcement of a ceasefire by both Sinn Fein and the Provisional IRA.

The minister has emphasized the need for all political parties to come together and work towards a united front in the coming weeks.

An alignment of the two rival political organisations could pave the way for a new era of peace and prosperity in Northern Ireland.
Mr Kriel, who, in an unusual departure, allowed the squatter leaders to attend the meeting, also assured the squatter leaders that the commission of inquiry into the causes of unrest in Crossroads recently announced by Administrator Mr Kobus Meiring would be independent to ensure impartiality.

He told the meeting: "I will do everything possible to bring peace to the area, but peace is something that comes from both sides. You must assist me so that we can develop the community."

**Groote Schuur**

After discussion through an interpreter, Mr Kriel proposed to the squatter leaders, led by Mr Jeffrey Nongwe, that if they agreed, he would be willing to arrange a second meeting between them and the councillors. He likened the process to last week's talks at Groote Schuur between the government and the ANC.

After the meeting, Mr Nongwe's delegation announced that they accepted the proposal for talks but they repeated their call for the "removal" of local councillors from their area.

At the start of yesterday's meeting, the delegation told Mr Kriel they wanted the government to disband the local councils because "they are killing our brothers and sisters" and because of alleged irregularities in the allocation of new houses.

Mr Nongwe said the councils were not meeting the needs of the communities and were not consulting the people.

Mr Gladstone Ntomo of the Western Cape United Squatters Association said the councils had no mandate from the people and were not democratically run. This did not augur well for the future of democracy in South Africa.

Mr Christopher Ntomo of the Brown's Farm community said squatters wanted the government to help protect them from the councillors who were "killing our people."

Mr Kriel told the delegation the government regretted the deaths in their communities and wanted to try to stop the killings.

He said that if people used weapons, which had been issued to them for self-protection, to "attack other people, we condemn it."

Councillors, he said, had claimed that they needed weapons to protect themselves because they were under threat and were being intimidated.

He added that it was not possible for him to "remove" councillors because they had been elected in terms of the law and although the government was committed to negotiating a new form of local government, this might take some time.
Kriel to meet squatter leaders

Political and Social

THE Minister of Planning and Physical Affairs, Mr Hendrik Kriel, will this morning meet a delegation of squatter leaders who have broken away from Crossroads mayor Mr Johnson Ngobongwana.

This was disclosed in a statement yesterday by the Democratic Party MP for Claremont, Mr Jan van Eck.

"The meeting was requested because of the continuing violence and tensions in Old Crossroads," he said.
Xroads peace talks 'a reality'

By CHRIS BATEMAN

PEACE talks for strife-torn Old Crossroads yesterday became a reality when the ruling town committee expressed its readiness to meet their arch-opponents under breakaway headman Mr Geoffrey Nongwe.

The ruling committee, however, expressed anger at the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, Mr Hermus Kriel, for having met their opponents and "outsiders" before "having heard us out first".

On Thursday Mr Nongwe and delegations from several Cape Flats squatter communities for the first time met Mr Kriel and demanded the scrapping of the committee.

Although they agreed to a suggestion from Mr Kriel that peace talks take place in his presence, they insisted that the mayor, Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana, and his committee be removed.

Mr Kriel declined this, promising to "act" on the findings of a commission of inquiry, headed by an independent lawyer appointed by him last week.

The majority of Mr Ngxobongwana's headmen, headed by Mr Nongwe, broke away from the ruling committee last year, charging that "millions" of rands of residents' money had been misappropriated.

Since then at least 20 people have died in Old Crossroads' internecine violence.

The Deputy mayor of Old Crossroads, Mr Alfred Gelli, said yesterday that while his committee accepted Mr Kriel's suggestion for talks as a gesture of goodwill, they rejected the "proposed interference" of local residents associations.

"They have nothing in common with Crossroads except that they say they are squatters. They are merely using the internal difficulties of Crossroads to incriminate the entire system of local government," Mr Gelli said.

Reacting to charges by Mr Nongwe's faction that they were abusing officially issued weapons to "rule by force" and to terrorise local residents, Mr Gelli said these were rejected with "the contempt they deserve".
Squatters win reprieve

Supreme Court Reporter

WORKERS squatting on land adjacent to the Pearl Brickfields from which they were sacked in 1983, won a reprieve when judgment in an application by the Western Cape Regional Service Council to have them evicted was postponed indefinitely.

The squatters had challenged the authority of RSC officials to bring the application.
Squatters angry at Kriel’s failure to act

Staff Reporters

THE office of Mr Hernus Kriel, Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, is studying reported comments that conflict in Crossroads had arisen from Mr Kriel’s refusal to sack the township’s town committee.

Mr Kriel himself was not available for comment, but his office said he might comment later.

The allegation was made by squatter leader Mr Jeffrey Nongwe, who warned that a full-scale war could develop.

He said residents were angry after the failure of their pleas to Mr Kriel and the deaths that followed.

At least three people — two special constables attached to the Crossroads police station and an unidentified woman — had been killed in violent incidents since Saturday, said Mr Nongwe.

Two other constables had been injured.

The renewed fighting followed a meeting between a number of squatter leaders and the minister last Thursday.

One constable, identified as Mr Makweti, was killed about 3pm on Saturday while on duty.

Mr Welile Mathoba, also a special constable, was killed on Monday while the unidentified woman was found shot dead in her shack on Saturday morning.

A man identified as Mr Ngxokhe, an alleged supporter of the town committee, was wounded in police action on Saturday night.

Doing nothing

Mr Nongwe said their meeting with the minister had been a "disappointment" as he "seemed to be in the dark" about how the crisis in the township could be resolved.

He said the minister had declined to dissolve the committee because "there should be something in its place".

He had promised, however, to investigate allegations that the committee had been responsible for the violence on the residents.

He said Mr Kriel had also reneged on his undertaking to stop house allocations because the committee was giving them to outsiders.

"But people from nowhere are still being allocated the houses, despite his undertaking."

Mr Nongwe said as the committee had not been elected there was no reason for its continued existence as it was doing nothing for the residents but was bringing bitterness to the community.

He said the residents were "boiling with anger" over the failure by Mr Kriel to intervene and were contemplating "driving the committee out themselves".

He said Mr Jan van Eck had been asked to arrange a last meeting with the minister.

Women rebel raiders

MAPUTO. — Witnesses have said armed women were among an estimated 50 rebels who ambushed a train near the Mozambique/South African border on Saturday, killing 18 people. — Argus Africa News Service.
Crossroads mayor: No charges

Staff Reporter

THE Attorney-General of the Cape, Mr Neil Rossouw, yesterday announced that he had decided not to prosecute Old Crossroads mayor Mr Johnson Nkobongwana on fraud charges.

This brings to an end a lengthy investigation involving the alleged charging of R7 monthly tithes to an estimated 9 000 Old Crossroads households over several years by the Old Crossroads committee.

Estimates of the money involved vary between R150 000 and several million rands.

Mr Rossouw said: "The evidence is very confused and self-contradictory. In the end we won't have enough evidence to achieve a standard of proof beyond reasonable doubt."

Political undercurrents also played a role in the affair, but Mr Rossouw declined to elaborate on this aspect.

He had followed up all the evidence, he said, including "evidence that came to hand lately."

This is believed to relate to two bank account numbers forwarded to his office by the Democratic Party's spokesman for black local affairs, Mr Jan van Eck.

Mr Van Eck said in Parliament that money deposited in one account was secretly transferred to another account controlled by Mr Nkobongwana and then spent in an "entirely different way" from what was intended.

The controversy over the affair led to bloodshed in the squatter camp, including petrol-bombings and the shooting to death of residents.
Blacks gain right to stay in Pt Noloth

AFTER 13 years of struggle in the courts and in the streets, the black residents of Port Noloth have won the right to remain in town.

The Tentedorp and Bloukamp Committee said in a press statement yesterday that a senior CPA official had told the committee that the administration had decided in principle "to develop a black township in Port Noloth".

Blacks have worked in the town for many years, but there was no land on which they could settle legally. The first squatter settlements were set up in 1978.

In 1983, after many arrests, the community moved across the Namibian border, but three years later it was forced back again by the SWA Police.

Early in 1988, eviction orders were served on the entire community by the Port Noloth municipality. The following year, a court found that these would amount to "mass deportation".

"At the end of last year, the municipality got a "declaratory order"; a prelude to eviction, from another court. Most of the black community marched on the municipality to hand over a list of grievances on February 22.

A series of meetings followed and at these the question of permanent residence in Port Noloth has been thrashed out."
The mayor of Crossroads described the committee of brokers and brokers, and this week's summary of negotiations for the committee.

Despite the committee's nonexistence, the mayor said that his followers were still committed to the peace process.

Violence feared in volatile Crossroads

By Charla Carter

South NEWS

South, May 17 to May 22, 1990
Moves for peace in squatter violence

By MICHAEL MORRIS
Political Correspondent

CROSSROADS and Khayelitsha councillors, blamed by squatter leaders for much of the violence in the Peninsula's black areas, are to meet Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs Mr Hernus Kriel later this month to discuss setting up peace talks.

Mr Kriel will propose that they meet squatter leaders to try to find a way to end the conflict between them.

The announcement comes after the deaths of at least three people in violent incidents in Crossroads since Saturday.

"Weapons withdrawn"

Squatter leaders allege that much of the violence is perpetrated by councillors and their supporters in a campaign against opponents, and they claim some members of the town committee faction are using weapons provided by the Provincial Administration.

However, Mr Kriel's office said today that the Administrator, Mr Kobus Meiring, had given an assurance that all weapons issued to councillors had been withdrawn "some time ago".

The new round of talks between Mr Kriel and the councillors follows a meeting last week between him and squatter representatives under Mr Jeffrey Nongwe.

It was at that meeting that the squatters backed the proposal for peace talks with the councillors on condition that both mayors of Crossroads and Linglethu, Mr Johnson Nxgobongwana and Mr Mali Hoza, attended the meeting.

Only yesterday, however, Mr Nongwe claimed that Crossroads residents were angry at Mr Kriel's "refusal" to sack the township committee.

Mr Kriel's office has pointed out, however, that while Mr Nongwe did indeed make a plea at the start of last week's meeting for the dismissal of the councillors, he left the meeting in agreement with Mr Kriel's proposal to meet the councillors for talks.

New system

Mr Kriel had not "refused" to dismiss the councillors, but had merely pointed out that he could not summarily do so.

Until a new system of black local government was introduced, he had suggested the squatter leaders should meet the councillors and try to agree on ways to end the conflict.

A spokesman for Mr Kriel said Mr Nongwe's comments "do not reflect a true version of the meeting".

Hout Bay's squatters, page 6.
The wealthy...

Hunt's Day's Battle of the Squatters

East the poor determined to

A young man who has been in the Ehrenfelde

For the first time in New York's history, two groups of

The fight to fire a few shots that will make them believe in

The villages on the edge of the city, where the wealthy,

The wealthy and the poor...

Olive's View's fantastic view...
Dispossessed Fingos can now buy back land

GRAHAMSTOWN. — Twenty years after being dispossessed, 246 titleholders from Grahamstown's Fingo Village are being given the chance to buy back their properties.

But there is now uncertainty about what is to happen to the people currently living on the properties. One of the residents said they had not been consulted or warned about the plan.

Fingo Village was one of the few areas in the country where African people could own land. But in 1970, African landowners in the township were expropriated because they were to be moved to Committee's Drift.

After a long struggle against the removal, the government called it off in 1982. Mr B.B. Zondani, the chairperson of the Fingo Village Ratepayers' Association, said the Rini Town Council had resolved earlier this year that the original property owners be given 60 days in which to buy back their properties.

The town council has been given 44 of the sites, which belong to private individuals, by the East Cape Development Board (ECDB). The other properties belong to other bodies such as churches and the Grahamstown Municipality.

Preference

Zondani said: "The people who are staying in those properties are going to get first preference to buy the properties".

Mr Zondani said his association fought so that property owners could retain their properties.

Current residents fear they may now have to move. One person living on one of the sites said: "We know nothing about this development, nobody consulted us or warned us; we saw it in the newspapers". — ANA
ODD NEIGHBOURS: Expensive beachfront houses are thrown into sharp relief by the neighbouring squatter shacks in an area known as Sea Products Bush near Princess Street in Hout Bay. Tensions have risen over the future of the growing squatter community.

Squatters to be drawn into talks on their future

By MICHAEL MORRIS
Political Correspondent

SQUATTERS in Hout Bay are to be 'drawn into an action committee established by officials and property owners to help identify land in the valley where they can settle permanently under better conditions.

The committee, to be convened under the chairmanship of Democratic Party MP for Sea Point Mr Colin Eglon, is being formed as tensions rise in Hout Bay over the future of the growing squatter community, estimated at 1,900.

ALL INVOLVED

The squatters were excluded from yesterday's 2½-hour meeting between Mr Eglon, government, provincial and regional services Council officials, representatives of two Hout Bay residents organisations and businesses.

However, the senior government official behind the new initiative, Ministerial Representative of the House of Assembly and former MEC for Helderberg Mr Jimmy Otto, insisted that the squatters be drawn into discussions immediately.

"I am not prepared to continue with this process unless we have all parties involved," he said.

He instructed the new action committee to report back to him within 14 days.

Mr Otto told The Argus that while the Hout Bay Property Rights Committee — a new breakaway committee formed by residents opposed to the settlement of squatters in the valley — had initially rejected the idea of sitting around a table with the squatters to discuss the problems, the meeting ended in agreement that this was necessary.

He said: "We now have formed an action committee and we will draw in representatives of the whole community.

"We have gone a long way in accepting the basic fact that there are people in the squatter community who are entitled to be in Hout Bay because of their history, and (in accepting) the basic fact that if we provide structured facilities within certain norms, their presence will be acceptable to other sections of the community.

"We have also accepted that the issue has nothing to do with race, but with living standards and sound development.

EMOTIONAL ISSUE

"By getting Mr Eglon involved we are also seeing that this process does not involve political argument."

Mr Otto added: "We still have a long way to go. There is a lot of emotion surrounding this issue. We will have to take the fire out of the situation. It's a challenge we must accept."

Mr Eglon, who acknowledged that yesterday's meeting was not "totally representative", said it had been a useful first step. He would now set about creating a representative committee that would include squatter representatives.

• Hout Bay's Battle of the
Lapland residents say the LP has done nothing to alleviate their appalling living conditions

Empty LP promises

From THABO DANIELS, PORT ELIZABETH. — The squatter community of Lapland is still waiting, six years after some 500 families were removed from Langa location in Uitenhage and promised better housing.

Lapland is a corrugated-iron shack township built in 1983 after “coloureds” were removed from shacks in Langa in terms of the Group Areas Act.

African shack residents in the “mixed” township were removed at the same time and dumped in Tyoksville — some 10 km away.

Lapland’s streets are lined with filth and children are playing in rubbish. There is no drainage system, no running water and the “bucket system” is still in use. Parents fear for their children's health.

Severe criticism

The Labour Party and the Coloured Management Committee (CMC) have come under severe criticism from residents, who blame the two groups.

“If you want a house, you must vote for the Labour Party,” said an angry Lawrence Myburgh, who has been homeless for the past six years.

An artisan in a local company, Myburgh currently stays in a two-roomed matchbox shack with his wife and six children.

A survey of Lapland’s residents showed that more than 60 per cent of them arc workers and can afford to live in better houses. Because of the critical housing shortage, however, they are forced to squat.

Another resident and a mother of four, Mrs Margaret Bleuw, has a board bearing the words “Ons is nie tevredel!” (We are not satisfied) stuck on the front “wall” of her shack.

“Allan (Hendricks, the LP leader) offered us better housing long ago when we left Kabah. So far he has failed to fulfill his promises,” said Blouw. — PEN
Squatters are drawn into action committee

CAPE TOWN — Squatters in Hout Bay are to be drawn into an action committee established by officials and local white property owners to help find land in the valley where they can settle permanently under better conditions.

The committee, to be chaired by Colin Eglin, Democratic Party MP for Sea Point, is being formed as tensions rise in the Hout Bay community over the future of the growing squatter community, now estimated to have between 1,500 and 1,600 inhabitants.

The squatters were excluded from a meeting yesterday between Mr Eglin, Government, provincial and regional services council officials, representatives of two Hout Bay residents' organisations and businesses.

However, the senior Government official behind the new initiative, Ministerial Representative of the House of Assembly and former MEC for Helderberg Jimmy Otto, insisted that the squatters be drawn in immediately.

"I am not prepared to continue with this process unless we have all parties involved," he said.

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By DON HOLLIDAY
Weekend Argus
Municipal Reporter

THE bottom line in the growing Hout Bay squatter crisis is that squatters have a right to live there and land must be made available for them.

This was said by community worker Mr Dick Meter, 31, who was held for 59 days under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act before being released this week.

His absence has been seen as a major stumbling block in the resolution of the squatter problem as many squatters were reluctant to negotiate with property owners without him for fear of being "bulldozed" into an unfair settlement.

"This is a reasonable fear from what is essentially a poorly educated and unsophisticated community," said Mr Meter.

"They trust me to act on their behalf and take their interests seriously. I must make it clear that I see my role as that of a facilitator. I cannot speak for them. They will make up their own minds."

Mr Meter said there had been a number of developments during his detention and his priority was to become fully informed of the situation.

"The bottom line is that the squatters have a right to live in Hout Bay. They make a considerable contribution to the labour force and the money they earn is ploughed back into the local economy."

"This is more than can be said for many white property owners who do not live in Hout Bay but use their properties as holiday homes and spend their money elsewhere."

"Negotiations have to take place between all sections of the community and people on both sides have to keep an open mind."

"The squatters understand and respect property owners' fears but the property owners have to respect their needs."

"Land has to be made available for them. If the government does not have the land they must think about buying it and introducing permanent housing schemes with proper amenities," said Mr Meter.

Mr Meter is employed by World Vision, a Christian humanitarian agency dedicated to community development which annually organises a "48-hour famine" to raise funds for feeding the needy.

He has lived in Hout Bay all his life.

He said he believed his release was a result of the talks between the government and the African National Congress.

"Property owners have become increasingly disturbed by the influx of squatters to Hout Bay, their occupation of private land and health hazards created by their living without sanitation."
ANC gains as LP sheds weight

LP at the election have been charged locally.

Monitor says the blow to the LP should be seen as part of a trend away from participatory poli-
icism (including both the former Coloured "Repre-
sentative Council and the House of Represen-
tatives) since 1960, when 48 per cent of the coloured commu-
ity voted.

Even after the election, the LP retains almost all of the bases of the coloured commu-
nity. Although the LP retains the support of all of the bases of the coloured commu-
nity, the party lost support in the coloured community, with the result that many voters have moved to the ANC.

FACING EVICTION: Cathrine Oliphant with some of the grandchildren who live in the shack she and her husband have been ordered to demolish.

Without exception, every family spoken to in the area claimed the LP for their protection.

Ramaphosa's claim that the LP will be allowed to contest elections was rejected.

Even a member of the Upperwhitewash Management Committee (NACC), Mr. G. W. L. van Leeuwen, said he was told by the government that the LP will not be allowed to contest elections. He said, "I can only assume that the government will not allow the LP to contest elections."

"We are for these people. They do nothing. We will do nothing with the Labour Party," he said.

The case has led to a situation in which people feel fragmented and isolated. The shack dwellers have formed a committee, and the committee is working closely with the NACC to ensure the protection of the people.

Many of the people living in shacks earn a wage which would allow them to rent, or even buy, decent, ex-
communities. The NACC has decided to house the shack dwellers in the Northern Areas. People whose names were placed on the list in 1974 are still waiting for houses.

Housing has become a major political issue. Area com-
mittees and anti-shack demolition committees have been set up, and tap resistances are being drawn into the ANC.

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Without exception, every family spoken to in the area claimed the LP for their protection.

Residents claimed people "will" with the LP were allowed to contest elections.

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Housing has become a major political issue. Area com-
mittees and anti-shack demolition committees have been set up, and tap resistances are being drawn into the ANC.
Police break up Crossroads squatter march

By VUYO BAVUMA and EDWARD MOLOINYANE, Staff Reporters

POLICE fired teargas in Crossroads to disperse about 250 people marching to the house of controversial township mayor Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana.

Yesterday's march was held to protest against Planning and Provincial Affairs Minister Mr Hnus Kriel's refusal to sack the town committee headed by Mr Ngxobongwana. Recently the Attorney-General declined to prosecute Mr Ngxobongwana for alleged misappropriation of funds.

Rival headman Mr Jeffrey Nongwe organised the march.

The crowd, most of them dressed in khaki clothes and ANC T-shirts, began gathering at Mr Nongwe's house at 11am. Some carried placards demanding houses and the removal of Mr Ngxobongwana's town committee.

PEOPLE SCATTERED

Police officers told marshals the march was illegal. Seconds later police fired teargas and pandemonium broke out as people scattered. A primary school choral competition in the Crossroads community hall was briefly disrupted.

Minutes later the crowd regrouped opposite the hall and Cape Youth Congress member Mr Voli Mabuwa asked them to return to Mr Nongwe's house to "avoid possible injuries".

Attempts to contact Mr Ngxobongwana, recently returned from Ciskei after a long absence, failed.

Town committee member Mr Alfred Geli said Mr Ngxobongwana was "busy in a meeting".

• Police have confirmed using teargas yesterday to disperse a "large group" of squatters at Crossroads.

Major Reg Crewe, police liaison officer, said the group gathered illegally about 10.45am. They were warned to disperse but failed to comply.

No injuries were reported, he said.
Police use teargas to rout 250 Crossroads marchers

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Police fired teargas in Crossroads yesterday to disperse about 250 people marching to the house of controversial township mayor Johnson Nxobongwana.

The march was held to protest against Planning and Provincial Affairs Minister Hernus Kriel's refusal to sack the town committee, headed by Mr Nxobongwana.

Rival headman Jeffrey Nongwe organised the march.

Yesterday the crowd, most of them dressed in khaki clothes and ANC T-shirts, began gathering at Mr Nongwe's house at 11am. Some carried placards demanding houses and the removal of Mr Nxobongwana's town committee.

After the march had started, policemen asked the media to leave the area.

Police officers then told marshals the march was illegal. Seconds later police fired and panic broke out as people scattered.

Minutes later the crowd regrouped and Cape Youth Congress member Voll Mahuwa asked them to return to Mr Nongwe's house to "avoid possible injuries".

Earlier three journalists were questioned by police near the outskirts of Crossroads.

A police officer gave them 30 minutes to leave the area.

Attempts to contact Mr Nxobongwana, recently returned from Claseki after a long absence, failed.
Squatters don't have to go — yet

A SQUATTER community of 1,000 people in Gombie, outside East London, won a temporary reprieve this week when it was confirmed that an emergency site for the group was being sought.

The reprieve was announced after a meeting between the Cape Provincial Administration's MEC for Housing, Koos Theron, and the Gombie municipality. Wednesday had also been the deadline given to the community by the municipality in eviction notices.

The squatters live on the private Gombie Vale farm. A Cape Provincial Administration representative had said before the meeting Theron intended identifying land for the resettlement of the community, and the possibility of establishing an emergency camp was being investigated.

The municipality has already flattened 25 shacks, in what residents said was a "violation of agreements between community representatives and the council".

But the town clerk, Brian Levey, said the demolished shacks were "incomplete houses of people who just came in after the agreement with the community representatives".

Meanwhile, on Sunday, residents marched to hand over a petition to the mayor of Gombie, AJ Carnegie.

The march was led by the United Democratic Front, members of the Gombie Residents' Association, which represents the squatters, and the white Committee of Concerned Gombie Residents.

The residents demanded an end to the demolition of shacks, forced removals, improvement of living conditions, the building of houses, schools, recreation centres and an end to police harassment.

National demands were also included in the memorandum: the scrapping of all apartheid laws, especially the Group Areas Act, and the lifting of the State of Emergency. — Enews
TOWNSHIP MARCH ... Supporters of Old Crossroads breakaway headman Mr Jeffrey Nongwe yesterday marched to demand the summary removal of the squatter camp’s town committee and “equal housing for all”. They were later tear-gassed by police.

Marchers tear-gassed in drive for equal housing

Staff Reporter

RIOT police yesterday fired teargas to disperse several hundred Old Crossroads supporters of breakaway headman Mr Jeffrey Nongwe in a protest march to the local police station.

The march was to demand the resignation of the Old Crossroads town committee and “equal housing for all”.

The tear-gassing infuriated teachers and pupils of the nearby Sebenza High School where a choir competition was being held. Teargas drifted onto the premises, disrupting proceedings. The march began at Mr Nongwe’s headquarters in Old Crossroads.

At least one group of supporters, carrying banners and dressed in ANC colours, were tear-gassed on their way to the headquarters and three journalists with them removed to the nearest police station.

Police then allowed the march to progress several hundred metres before tear-gassing and scattering the banner-carrying crowd.

At least one woman fell and gashed her leg while residents complained about tear gas entering their homes.

Mr Nongwe said that the march was to demand equal housing for his faction, the summary removal of mayor Mr Johnson Ngobomwana and his Old Crossroads committee and the holding of open elections.

Since early last year when Mr Nongwe broke away from the conservative central committee the squatter camp has been torn by violence between the factions.
**Squatter hearing set for August**

Supreme Court Reporter

An application by the Town Committee of Kayamandi, near Stellenbosch, to eject squatters from a piece of land because it retarded housing development and because of a threatening faction fight, will go to trial in the Supreme Court in August.

The town committee said its application was further motivated because the squatters' unlawful occupation of the land was resented by people who had been waiting for house sites since 1977.

Yesterday, Mr Justice C T Howie ordered the application against two squatters, Mr Toto Mwase and Mr Jada Selibhe, to be postponed for trial on August 2.

The remaining seven squatters were ordered to file opposing affidavits before June 15 and the town committee to file replying affidavits before June 29.

In an affidavit, Mr Gerhardus Adrian Human, Kayamandi Town Clerk, said he feared faction fights between the squatters and people on the waiting list if the court did not order the squatters to vacate the land.

Mr J B Cipis, instructed by Mr D Ngwenya of E Ngwenya and Associates, appeared for the squatters. Mr H E van Noonken, instructed by Mr W D Wepener, of Bonhomme and Howden, appeared for the Kayamandi Town Committee.
Xroads leaders ‘to talk’

BY MARIUS BOSCH

PEACE could soon be a reality in strife-torn Crossroads after the township’s controversial mayor, Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana, yesterday agreed to meet rival squatter leaders for peace talks.

At a meeting between Provincial Affairs and Planning Minister Mr Herma Kriel and the Crossroads Town Committee yesterday, Mr Ngxobongwana agreed to enter into peace talks with rival leader Mr Jeffrey Nongwe.

Mr Nongwe and a delegation of squatter leaders met Mr Kriel earlier this month and agreed to talk with the town councillors they claimed were threatening their lives.

The meeting was also attended by Mr Kriel’s director-general, Mr E G de Beer, Provincial Administration MEC Mr Koos Theron and Crossroads town clerk Mr Ricky Shelaune.

Describing Mr Ngxobongwana and his councillors as the legally elected representatives of Crossroads residents, Mr Kriel said it was certain that “there are problems inside Crossroads”.

He said it was sad to hear that people were losing their lives in the township and that the government would do “everything in its power” to prevent the loss of life.

Speaking through an interpreter, Mr Ngxobongwana said the rival delegation should not “bring squatters from other areas and claim that they are Crossroads residents”.

He said he and his committee had “never used firearms, bullets or bricks” and that they had never destroyed property but that their constant aim was to have people talking to each other.

“Bullets do not solve problems ... only talks,” he added.

Mr Kriel said a date for the meeting would soon be set.
Racing against time to house roofless Hoekers

By JOHN YIELD
Environment Reporter

AN urgent investigation into the "impossible" task of finding suitable land to house the Noordhoek squatter community is under way and town planners have been instructed to report by the end of June.

They are trying to identify a 30- to 40-hectare site somewhere between Noordhoek and Ocean View which will have a minimum social and physical impact on the valley.

However, much of the study area falls within the Cape Peninsula nature area and includes several exceptionally environmentally sensitive sites. Much of it is also below the five-metre contour line — where development is traditionally banned — and is subject to periodic flooding.

Cut-off date

And several residents are concerned that they are not being given sufficient time to comment before the June 8 cut-off date.

Mr John Duxbury, a partner in the firm of town and regional planners which is conducting the investigation on behalf of the Cape Provincial Administration, confirmed that they were rushing against time to complete their brief. He said they had been given six weeks "to do the impossible".

Although it had not been technically necessary to ask for public comment, he had persuaded the Provincial Administration that it was "important", he added.

"Although it's impossible to let everybody know, we're looking to get as much input as possible. The more I can get, the better balanced picture I can give to the authorities."

A letter had been sent to 100 local authorities, ratepayers associations, organisations and individuals asking for an urgent input. These included the Peak-to-Peak Conservation Trust and the Surplus People Project.

The letter said the firm had been instructed to identify a site for the Noordhoek squatter community and to assess the impact of this development on the Noordhoek valley.

"It has been accepted in principle that the squatters are to be located in the Noordhoek valley and that a site of approximately 30 to 40 hectares is required to accommodate their community."

"Our instruction is to suitably locate this community with the minimum impact on the valley."

"Extreme urgency"

Their report had to be completed by the end of June and the matter was "of extreme urgency". A cut-off date of June 8 for comment on the "sensitive matter" was therefore necessary.

But the letter to the Kommetjie local council had not arrived by Wednesday and it appeared to have been delayed at the offices of the Western Cape Regional Services Council.

Concerned councillor Mr John Elbeck said the council had not yet been officially informed of the investigation and there would be no time to discuss the issue with residents or with locals from Ocean View, Fish Hoek, Sunnydale or Noordhoek before the closing date.
Hout Bay
land for
squatters

Staff Reporter

SQUATTERS at Hout Bay are going to be given land in the area—with government permission.

Provincial Affairs and Planning minister Mr Harnus Kriel said yesterday that it was a fact that black people were living in Hout Bay and land in the area must be identified by the community itself in order for squatters to be accommodated legally.

After meeting with representatives of the Cape Provincial Administration and CPA MEC, Mr Koos Theron, Mr Kriel said the land would have to "tie in with existing socio-economic patterns".

He warned, however, that strict action would be taken against illegal squatters after the accommodation of existing squatters.

Hout Bay residents have been upset over squatters in their area and fears have been expressed that the rising squatter numbers could lead to a sharp drop in property prices and residents said the crime rate had increased sharply.

Last night the chairman of the Hout Bay Property Rights Committee, Capt Tony Spangler, said he was "most disturbed" that Mr Kriel had seen it fit to issue a statement before replying to a letter handed to him by the committee on May 28.

Land selection

The multi-racial committee was representative of most of Hout Bay residents, Capt Spangler said, adding that the letter called for a meeting with Mr Kriel to discuss the "upholding of the basic law of property ownership".

Mr Kriel said the MP for the area, Mr Colin Eglin, had been contacted along with two ratepayers' groups and Mr Eglin was expected to report back on the issue of the land by June 6.

Both Mr Eglin and the two ratepayers' groups had agreed that the community itself should identify the land, Mr Kriel added. "As soon as the proposals have been received, they will be evaluated by the CPA so that land may be purchased and rudimentary services supplied so that squatters may be accommodated legally," Mr Kriel said.

He added that the private sector and utility companies would then be in a position to provide housing in the area.

The CPA was in the process of identifying land in Noordhoek and an announcement was expected within the next two weeks, Mr Kriel said, adding that financial arrangements for the purchasing of Noordhoek land and provision for basic services had been made as well.

A technical committee was "well underway" in identifying land in Somerset West which will then be purchased.

Mr Kriel said as soon as these actions had been taken, "strict action will be taken towards illegal squatters", Mr Kriel said, adding that "alternate accommodation will then be available for them".
Squatterland — the search continues

By ANDREA WEISS
Weekend Argus Reporter

LAND will have to be identified for squatters living in Hout Bay, said the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, Mr Hermus Kriel.

"According to the minister it is a fact that black people are living in the area and that through proper planning land will have to be identified which will lie in with existing socio-economic patterns," said a statement issued yesterday.

Provide housing

Mr Kriel's statement follows a meeting with Mr Koos Theron MEC, the Cape Provincial Administration ministerial representative, Mr Jimmy Otto, and senior officials of the CPA.

Mr Colin Eglin, Democratic Party MP for the area, is to report back to Mr Kriel on June 6 on finding land in Hout Bay.

"As soon as the proposals have been received they will be evaluated by the CPA so that land may be purchased and rudimentary services supplied so that squatters may be accommodated legitimately.

"The private sector and utility companies will then be in a position to provide housing in that area," the statement said.

The CPA was identifying land in Noordhoek and an announcement was expected within a fortnight.

In Somerset West a technical committee was also identifying land for squatters.

As soon as these actions had taken place strict measures would be taken against illegal squatters, as alternative accommodation would then be available, the statement warned.
Hout Bay squatter Mr Godfrey Kapane — keeping the ANC flag flying.
ANC flag has Hotel Bay in Flitter

Weekend Argus Reporter JAINS FRAZER Investigates

Introducing body in Princess Drive.

Bay locals have been puzzled since they spotted the ANC colours.

Has the ANC staged a takeover in the three-year-old Republic of Hotel Bay?
Hout Bay offer pleases squatters

By MARIUS BOSCH

HOUT BAY squatters are elated about the prospect of settling legally in the village — but feel they would only be able to afford R20 rent a month and that they should be consulted about where they should settle.

Squatter spokesman Mr Charimane Mguzi told the Cape Times yesterday most residents were "very happy" that they were going to get land in the area but insisted that they did not want to move from their present site — where at least 100 shacks have been erected in front of prime seaside property.

However, Hout Bay Property Rights Committee chairman Captain Tony Snelgar said the more than 300 squatters near Princess Drive were only a fraction of the estimated 2 000 squatters in the area.

He said the main aim of the multi-cha-
Suitable land for squatters?

AN environmental impact study into suitable land for squatters in Noordhoek should be completed within the next two weeks, a Cape Provincial Administration spokesman said yesterday.

CPA spokesman Mr Van Heerden Hennis declined to comment on unconfirmed reports that the site for the resettlement of the squatters would be between Ocean View and Sunnydale.

However, Simon's Town DP MP Jannie Momberg said that no land had in fact been identified yet and that nothing definite was on the cards at present.

The chairman of the Noordhoek and District Civic Association, Mr Mark Wiley, said the favoured location for the site was in the middle of the wetlands—which was a nature area and at present home to "hundreds of breeding bird colonies".
Families left homeless in the chilling cold or scorching sun after their shacks have been razed are a familiar sight in black townships.

Crossroads - life near the bottom of the heap
JEFFREY Nongwe's metal shack stands rusting in a patch of churned-up mud in Crossroads.

The 63-year-old black squatter leader, a former staff driver at the South African Parliament in Cape Town, says he must replace the shack's scrap metal walls every two years because of rust caused by winter storms.

For 15 years Nongwe has lived in Crossroads, a rainwater huddle of wood and metal huts on sandy ground only a few kilometres from plush while Cape Town suburbs.

Worse

He says life without electricity or sewerage for Crossroads' 50,000 shanty dwellers - whose living conditions place some of them near the bottom of the heap in South Africa's racially-divided society - "just gets worse."

"People are very stranded here," he said in an interview in his chilly front room, where plastic sheets serve as windows.

"We spend years in the damp. Most of the problems people have concern flooding and damp, like chest disease," he said.

Symbolic

"The government treats us worse than wild animals in a forest. At least the animals have their proper home."

Crossroads is symbolic of the desperate situation in most of South Africa's urban areas, where migrant workers who come to work in the cities find themselves with no place to live.

This Cape Town shanty town, once a centre of resistance to apartheid, was devastated in 1986 by faction fighting which killed about 100 people and drove 60,000 from their homes.

The settlement is only a fraction of a fast-growing army of urban poor that poses Pretoria's biggest development challenge.

Experts say up to 10 million blacks - over a quarter of the entire population - live in informal housing such as shacks or tents in South Africa and its 10 tribal homelands.

Since laws restricting blacks' movements were lifted in the mid-1980s, shanty towns have mushroomed around urban areas where blacks seek work.

Cape Town's squatter camps house 480,000.

Crossroads is still troubled, but the immediate cause of tension has changed.

Unlike many squatter colonies around the country, Crossroads' residents have largely won the battle to stay on their patch close to their jobs in "whites-only" areas.

The authorities have allowed developers to begin building houses in Crossroads, considered a priority area because of its violent past.

Control

The Surplus People's Project, an organisation which campaigns for squatters, said the threat of forced removal of Cape Town's blacks was being replaced by a struggle over who controls access to the houses and services developers provide.

"Control over the location and form of informal settlements has become a way (for) the Government to ensure that squatters do not spread themselves in 'unmanageable' pockets throughout the urban areas," it said in a report.

"It is these communities, with their mafia-style leadership and local bully boys, which have become the cornerstones for maintaining 'law and order' in the black townships." Nongwe pointed to holes in his walls which he said were caused when attackers fired shotguns at his home on December 10.

Nongwe and his sup-
Hout Bay squatter talks pave way for solution

By ANDREA WEISS
Staff Reporter

Some still opposed

Mr. Otto said he had never seen the place as a permanent solution. He added that there was a problem with the location and the community was prepared to take some action.

Mr. Otto said the first step was finding a piece of land big enough for the squatters to settle. The provincial government would have to buy the land and pay for the squatters to settle. The squatters were starting to look for a piece of land big enough for the squatters to settle. The provincial government would have to buy the land and pay for the squatters to settle. The squatters were starting to look for a piece of land big enough for the squatters to settle. The provincial government would have to buy the land and pay for the squatters to settle. The squatters were starting to look for a piece of land big enough for the squatters to settle. The provincial government would have to buy the land and pay for the squatters to settle.
EAST LONDON. — East Peelen's Nkongonqweni refugees, forced to flee from their homes eight months ago because of Ciskei police harassment, made their long-awaited return home this week.

From early Thursday heavily-laden trucks were seen carrying people and possessions back to Nkongonqweni.

Since their eviction from Ciskei in October last year, the community, numbering almost 213 families, have been living in tents at Chikane Village near Ginsberg on land set aside by the King William's Town municipality.
Squatters: City ‘could become a Calcutta’

By MARCUS BOSCH

SQUATTERS moving into exclusively middle- and high-income residential areas could become an increasing reality, and there was a possibility that Cape Town could turn into another Calcutta or Mexico City, academics warned this week.

Professor CT Welch of Stellenbosch University’s department of Urban and Regional Planning said the phenomenon of the influx of squatters into established urban areas was a “fact of life”.

Professor Welch warned it was possible that Cape Town could evolve into another Calcutta or Mexico City — where millions of people live in squalor and poverty.

He described the process as a natural one in Third World countries and warned if land was not provided in an ordered way around Metropolitan areas, people would move onto land that was acceptable to them. “These people have nothing and they are moving to an area where there is a promise of wealth,” he said.

UCT Urban Problems Research Unit director Professor David Dewar said situations where squatters settled on land in Hout Bay very close to plush white-owned homes gave a “good idea what will happen if the government does not open land”.

…
Camp Yesterday

Nexobongwansa Slates Kiscops

The Weekly Bulletin

The weekly bulletin says that the school is developing very well. The students are active and engaged, and the teachers are enthusiastic. The programme is well planned, and the students are making good progress.

The Latest Crossroads News

The latest Crossroads news is that the school has received a grant for the playground. The money will be used to improve the facilities and make the playground safer for the students.

The Weekly Bulletin

The Weekly Bulletin

The Weekly Bulletin
By Peter Denney

Noordhoek protests are unhappy

The council has gone out to choose the farm

The church has gone out to choose the farm

The church has gone out to choose the farm

The church has gone out to choose the farm

The church has gone out to choose the farm

The church has gone out to choose the farm

17/6/93

Time, too short

Noordhoek protest
Cooperating with accommodation

Solving: Effort of action of the cooperation in the

Section file

24/7 Service

By STAR NY RESIDENCE
Noordhoekers in clash with ‘arbitrary’ MP

By DALE KNEEN, Staff Reporter
ANGRY Noordhoek residents have crossed swords with their Democratic Party MP Mr Jamie Momberg, over the squatter problem in the valley.

They have also vehemently criticized the government and the Regional Services Council for allowing the problem to escalate to “alarming” proportions.

About 1,500 residents showed overwhelming support for a proposal that houses be built for squatters who had lived in the area for “many years” and for those who were employed in the valley.

The proposal by the Noordhoek District and Civic Association at a meeting last night, did not touch on housing for the unemployed or newer arrivals.

Spokesman for the association, Mr Mark Wiley, said the proposal was a “constructive alternative” and not a suggestion by “inhumane, racist and obnoxious people trying to force our will on others”.

Mr Momberg showed support for providing all the squatters — estimated to be about 2,000 — with low-cost housing in Noordhoek.

Residents later demanded a motion of censure against Mr Momberg, MP for Simon’s Town, which said he had tried to find a short-term solution in a “precipitate and arbitrary” manner.

The residents also called for monthly meetings with various municipal authorities to develop strategies and methods for the “effective, vigorous and high profile” control of squatter influx.

Landowners who allowed squatting on their land should be charged under relevant Acts and made to pay towards rehousing the squatters, the residents said.

Trapped man ‘shot himself’

By VUYO BAVUMA, Court Reporter
AN alleged trained terrorist trapped by police in a house in Guguletu committed suicide by shooting himself in the lower jaw, the bullet penetrating his brain.

Wynberg magistrate Mr G Hoffmann made this finding in an informal inquest on Mr Nkuleko Matsi, 29, who died on July 5, 1988, after a skirmish with police.

Mrs Ethel Loza, 45, owner of the house, said she had accommodated Mr Matsi whom she knew as “Solly” because he was being sought by police.

State pathologist Dr G J Knobel found that although Mr Matsi had two bullet wounds in his chest, he was killed by a bullet which went through his brain.

Anti-SA law urged

NEW YORK. — Mayor David Dinkins has proposed a law to toughen the city’s economic sanctions on South Africa, saying New York should not support the “evil” of apartheid.

Sapa-AP.

Fire delays flights

CHICAGO. — Dozens of flights from Chicago’s O’Hare Airport, said to be the world’s busiest, were delayed after a fire in an air-traffic control tower.

Sapa-Reuter.

Walrus ivory racket?

ANCHORAGE (Alaska). — Suspected poaching of walruses for ivory is being investigated in the Bering Sea.

Sapa-AP.
Mayor's home under 'hail of gunfire'  
By CHRIS BATEMAN

PEACE initiatives in Old Crossroads were dealt a severe blow at the weekend when the homes of the mayor, Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana, and a senior committee member, Mr Alfred Gell, came under a "hail of gunfire".

The attack came hours after a date was provisionally set for talks between rivals, former chief headman Mr Jeffrey Nongwe and Mr Ngxobongwana, to be chaired by the Minister of Provincial Affairs and Planning, Mr Hernus Kriel.

July 10 has been set as the provisional date for peace talks.

Neither Mr Ngxobongwana nor Mr Nongwe could be reached for comment last night.

Reliable township sources said the "hail of gunfire", on Friday night, included automatic weapons.

Nobody was reported injured in the attack but police were handed empty shotgun, .4 and .32 cartridges allegedly found near the scene, reliable township sources said.

Shotgun pellet marks were found on the walls of Mr Ngxobongwana's home which had several windows shattered, they added.

It was reliably learnt that senior members of the Old Crossroads Town Committee were being hosted at a braai at Mr Ngxobongwana's home on the night of the attack.

There was an unconfirmed report of a 16-year-old youth having been shot dead.

A police spokesman said no incidents of "unrest or intimidation" had been reported to him for the entire weekend.
Owners warn of squatter action

Staff Reporter

THE Hunt Bay Property Rights Association yesterday gave the government until June 28 to provide 40 squatter families alternative sites, otherwise it would implement its "own strategy".

Association chairman Mr Tony Snelgar said the "bottom line" was to uphold the rights of property owners. Private land was being used for squatting and hundreds of thousands of rand had been spent on legal action, but it was like "writing letters to stop a flood".

Police were not enforcing eviction orders and the association had been given a mandate from property owners to deal with the problem.

A police spokesman said one complaint of trespassing against a group of squatters and four against property owners alleged allowing squatting were being investigated. The cases, all from the Princess Road area, would be forwarded to the attorney-general for a decision.

Ultimatums

Mr Snelgar said should the government not act, the association's own strategy would be revealed on June 28.

The Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, Mr Hernus Kriel, said it was a "plty people are reacting so impulsively and issuing ultimatums - the whole process is ongoing at this stage".

A CPA spokesman said the progress report from city planners Van der Merwe, Duxbury and Dunn had made no specific recommendations but provision would be made for 1 200 people already living in Noordhoek valley, Red Hill and Kommetjie.

Mr John Duxbury said his final report deadline was June 29. He had been instructed to make provision for "natural growth" of up to 500 squatter sites, he said.
GRAHAMSTOWN. — Transkei military leader Bastu Holomisa has hit at South Africa for not informing his government about the presence of ANC dissidents in the territory.

This comes after the shooting in Umtata last week of Sipho Phungulwa, one of the eight ANC dissidents who recently arrived back in South Africa claiming the movement had tortured rebels and suppressed dissent.

Phungulwa was gunned down on Wednesday of last week as he got out of a minibus in Ngangezowe township, according to Transkei Police.

Another member of the group, Nicholas Dyasep, was with him at the time. The South African Security police have said he is in their protective custody.

Holomisa was quick to express surprise that the news had been released by South African intelligence sources, and not in cooperation with Transkei.

He said South Africa was "controlling" all returning exiles, and Transkei should have been told if any wanted to come there. If other exiles came, protection was arranged in consultation with the ANC or PAC.

"It is still a mystery as to why these (dissidents) in the first instance came to South Africa," he said.

The incident occurred a day after the two visited the Umtata ANC office to request a meeting with the regional executive. According to a spokesperson for the organisation, Dr Zola Dabula, the men had said they wanted to "clarify their position" and to inform the executive "how bad" the ANC's leadership was.

Dabula said the men were told their request would be discussed, and they should return later in the week for a response.

But many questions around the incident remain unanswered.

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

Media Assistant/Typist:

Shuleni Africa Nant

The right to stay

From THABO DANIELS

PORT ELIZABETH. — Official attempts to divide a "mixed" community in the small Southern Cape town of Sedgefield failed when African squatters won the right to remain in the area.

After a two-year struggle against their forced removal, the 78 African families living in the Smutsville township will no longer be forcibly removed, and will soon have proper houses.

Phumzi Booysen, a member of South Cape Against Removals said that open piece of land alongside Smutsville had been identified as "home" for the squatters.

In the meantime, they will stay on in their present shack homes until proper houses are built. — PEN
the problem by making government-owned land available immediately in Hout Bay.

Meanwhile, at a press briefing organised by the Surplus People's Project yesterday, squatters from Hout Bay and Noordhoek expressed their concern about the growing conservative backlash against them.

Ms Josette Cole of the SPP said the backlash against the government's announcement that land would be provided for squatters in the area was an indication of some of the problems that could be expected in the "new South Africa".

Hout Bay community worker Mr Dick Meter claimed that much of the property in the area belonged to "foreigners".

This was echoed by Noordhoek squatter spokesman Mr Theofreda Mhlom, who said: "We have all the rights to stay wherever we want to stay, because we are South African citizens."
Squatters challenge residents

By ESANN VAN RENSBERG
Weekend Argus Report

SQUATTERS in Hout Bay have responded to the growing row about their presence by alleging that property owners regard them as convenient cheap labour and have no respect for them as human beings.

This was said at a Press conference called by three organisations representing squatters in Hout Bay, Noordhoek, Kommetjie, Fish Hoek and Red Hill this week.

The Hout Bay Squatter Co-ordinating Committee, the South Peninsula Joint Squatter Committee and the Surplus People’s Project said in a statement that the government had never been serious about its responsibility to house people.

Those who attempted to house themselves affordably were treated like criminals.

Denied property rights

“Many of the homeless people who are squatters today have never had an equal chance to sell their labour and prosper as the whites had,” said Mr Dicky Meter, member of the Hout Bay Action Committee.

Mr Meter said that as long as white people refused to take into consideration the fact that the homeless had been denied the right to buy property in Hout Bay, negotiations could not continue in good faith.

The Hout Bay Property Rights Association was “intentionally fomenting racial tension in the area”. The organisation has threatened to take the law into its own hands if the government does not start squatter evictions.

A rumour had been spread that the attempts to house squatters in Hout Bay were an ANC strategy to ensure a majority in the area once a new government had been elected, explained a Hout Bay property owner.

Call for support

The joint statement by the three organisations said that in spite of the government abandoning its previous “orderly urbanisation” strategy and being willing to purchase land for black communities in “white” areas, the reality was quite different.

They called on the public to support the squatter communities to dismantle apartheid.

A spokesman for the Hout Bay Ratepayers’ Association said the government had the power to solve the problem but had delayed acting.

Residents were rightly concerned about crime and their property rights. “At the same time, however, the confrontational attitude adopted by certain elements of Hout Bay society by fomenting racial tension is encouraging the squatters to become more militant and does nothing to limit the influx.”
Burning Issues at Khayelitsha
PALL OF SMOKE: A pall of smoke rose from the shackland area as the fires raged yesterday afternoon. Nobody was injured in the fires, but hundreds of rands worth of goods were lost as people were unable to remove all their belongings from shacks before the fires were lit. The fires were doused by firemen with four engines and a water tender.
HOUT BAY squatters threatened with eviction from their beachfront shacks yesterday held a placard demonstration to protest against the pending action against them.

Ms Josette Cole of the Surplus People's Project (SPP) said yesterday that the squatters in the "Princess Bush" camp had received eviction notices yesterday and that the owners of the property had given the squatters until June 28 to vacate the site.

She said police had assured the workers earlier yesterday that police would not enter the area and interfere with negotiations between the squatters and property owners.

A meeting between the two parties was to have taken place yesterday afternoon — including a delegation from the Hout Bay Property Rights Association, which had threatened to take the matter in their own hands if the squatters did not move from the site.

On Friday Hout Bay community worker Mr Dick Meter accused the Property Rights Association of fueling racial tension and demanded that government freeze evictions of squatters.
Shacks burnt in Khayelitsha strife

MORE than a dozen shacks were burnt to the ground in Khayelitsha near Cape Town at the weekend in clashes between groups supporting the PAC and the ANC, it was reported yesterday.

No one was injured in the fires, which began on Sunday afternoon after weeks of alleged tension between the groups.

Regional chairman of the Western Cape Civic Association, Mr Michael Mapongwana, said violence began about three weeks ago after a group supporting the PAC assaulted an ANC supporter.

A group of ANC supporters retaliated and allegedly burnt down the shack of Mr Mbuyiselo Roro, a PAC supporter, who died in the blaze.

 Talks between the two groups ended last week after a Joint Action Committee apparently failed to attend a scheduled meeting.

"We will attempt to get the two groups together to conduct a thorough investigation into the incident," Mapongwana said. - Sapa.
Finding on Khayelitsha migration

By DON HOLLIDAY
Staff Reporter

CONTRARY to popular belief, the overwhelming majority of people in Khayelitsha moved there from elsewhere in the Western Cape and not from the Transkei and Ciskei, a University of Stellenbosch sociological study has concluded.

The study, by Mr Jeremy Seekings, assisted by Mr Johann Graaff and Mr Pieter Joubert, involved 755 residents in four shack areas, sites B and C and the "Greenpoint" tent-town.

Its aim was to examine migration into Khayelitsha.

Only 13 percent of residents came from outside the Western Cape, the study found. Most residents arrived from Crossroads and the formal townships of Nyanga, Langia and Guguletu. The major reason for moving was housing.

Almost all of the people questioned who had been born outside of the Western Cape moved to that area before the abolition of influx control.
Ex-squatters 'temporary' shelter still their home four years later

By KIM CLARKIN

A FAMILY among 100 living near Ocean View is paying more than R90 a month for a two-roomed dwelling without floor or ceiling and the community faces a rent increase from July 1. Others pay between R18 and R30 according to income.

When the families were housed at the settlement, Mountain View, in 1958, they were told it was temporary and that alternative housing would be provided within a couple of years.

There is no drainage in the settlement; only a few pits and cold water taps serve all the families and residents claim refuse from Ocean View has been dumped beside the settlement.

New committee

They also say the outside toilets are frequently broken or overflowing and almost a year can pass before 45 drums in the toilets are emptied. Often the RSC workers within metres of the houses

Residents said their children were falling sick because of the poor conditions and that little had been done despite complaints lodged with authorities such as the Regional Services Council, Labour Party and Ocean View Management Committee.

Simon's Town MP Mr Janie Mombarg said he was appalled by conditions in Mountain View and even more by the Ocean View Management Committee's inaction.

He said: "It's the people who are losing and even though they are not in my constituency.

I want to help them."

Minister of Housing Mr D M Curry last week called a meeting to discuss the situation in Ocean View and Mountain View. It was agreed that a committee be formed to deal with the community's problems, with Mr Mombarg and Mr Basili Capito, MP for Southern Cape, as well as members of the Ocean View Management Committee serving.

Rent charges

Mr Michael Engel, a Mountain View resident who said his rent has just been increased by 37.3%, claimed that the families did not mind paying for housing provided they had adequate facilities.

He said: "Many people are moving back into the bush rather than paying rent for the poor living conditions they got in Mountain View."

The rents are calculated on income and most range from R10 to R18 a month but because of the threat of increased rentals for what the squatters believe to be poor facilities many are reluctant to complete the income survey forms. This makes them liable to be charged rent calculated on an income of R1 000 per month, far more than most earn.

Sick children

Mr Engel said: "I arranged a meeting with the Regional Services Council, National Health Department and social workers in January last year but it didn't take place because the police came to arrest me.

He said he was told he was being held because "someone said I was a man who told the people not to pay rent."

Mrs Sandy Dewling, from the Help the Homeless Committee, said the Mountain View situation was a result of undemocratic action by the authorities not who did not consult the community before housing them. She said: "Everyone was horrified when they saw the result."

According to Mr Engel the residents - most of whom work as fishermen, labourers, bricklayers or gardeners - will be offered participation in a self-help project on the chance to buy or rent houses in a new scheme.

However, the project seems to have halted although a plot was cleared at the top of Alpha Way about two years ago.

Mr Engel said: "There will be only 30 plots in the self-help project and those will be sold at R18 000 each. Individual buyers will be given loans of R30 000 - leaving only R18 000 to com-plete the houses. The rest of the people will have the chance to buy or rent other houses, but I don't think we can afford this."

Because of the number of children who are becoming ill the Ocean View Children's Committee has become involved in the plight of Mountain View residents and is helping organise a public meeting to elect a committee to solve the community's problems.

Various questions sent to the Chief Executive Officer of RSC in an attempt to clarify the situation were not answered in time to be included in this report. A follow-up will be published in the next Constantiaberg Review.

RUBBISH DUMPED...

Mr Michael Engel with refuse allegedly to be from Ocean View which was dumped within metres of the dwellings in Mountain View.

Priceless father crowned

PATRICK EINSFORD was voted the King of the Cape Peninsulas at the Blue Route Mall, Tokai, on Father's Day.

His eight-year-old son Lloyd won him the day of a lifetime, which included prizes worth R600, with a poem that summed up feelings.

My dad, my dad, my dad is the best in all the land,
I wouldn't be glad to give him away for more than a thousand rand."

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NOVA BATHROOMS KITCHENS
Talks on squatters' fate

By Peter Denny

28/6/90

[Caption]
Eighty-two percent of the people in South Africa live on the streets, in squatter camps or on the edges of towns and cities. Many have nowhere to go but the dump because the other places are full or too dangerous. They suffer from hunger, disease and cold. They are often abused and neglected. They are forced to scavenge for food and water. They are exploitation and discrimination. They are invisible to the rest of society.

The dump is the main attraction of the town. It is a place where people and animals come together to find food and water. The dump is also a place where people can find work as scavengers. They are paid a small amount of money for their work. Some of the people who work at the dump are called "dumplers." They are often children who have been forced to work in the dump to help their families.

The dump is a place where people can also find hope. Many of the people who work at the dump have dreams of a better life. They hope to one day leave the dump and start a new life. Some of them have even managed to escape the dump and start new lives in other parts of the country.

The dump is not just a place of work, but also a place of community. Many of the people who work at the dump are friends and family. They help each other and support each other during difficult times.

The dump is a place of both hope and despair. It is a place where people can find work and support, but it is also a place where people suffer and struggle.

The dump is a place that needs attention and care. It is a place that needs to be improved so that the people who live there can have a better life.

The dump is a place that needs to be remembered.
Bomb Scare in Zambia

The story goes that a bomb scare occurred in Zambia, leading to a situation where people were put into a state of panic. The article discusses the impact on daily life and the precautions taken to ensure safety. It mentions the behavior of people who rushed to find shelter, and the authorities' efforts to allay fears and maintain calm.

Squatting a Owners

A committee was formed to address the issue of squatting, where homeowners were facing financial difficulties and were unable to maintain their properties as per the law. The committee aimed to negotiate with tenants and find solutions to prevent squatters from occupying the properties.

Headed by 

John K. M."
Possible solution for squatters?

The pieces of land varied in size from about 52 hectares to two or three hectares, Mr Otto said. There had been some discussion of placing the squatters on three or four of the smaller sites, rather than in one contiguous area.

"We need about ten hectares altogether," he said. "There are about 350 huts at the moment. At least we have established control, there is a fixed number of squatters."

He said there was no question of the press being able to publish a map of the sites at this stage.

"We have to come up with something acceptable, that will blend in with its surroundings," Mr Otto said. "The local community are preparing a survey. Some (of its members) want to get involved financially to ensure that whatever we place there is going to blend in with the existing community."

Professional planners would also be involved in the planning process, although planners from the Cape Provincial Administration had done all the initial spadework.

Some property-owners in Hout Bay were still "putting on more pressure" for the removal of squatters, he said.

"We may have to look at an emergency tent camp, which the local community did not want from the beginning. They say it will become a permanent thing."
Squatters wait to hear about camp

By MICHAEL DOMAN
False Bay Bureau
ABOUT 500 squatter families in settlements in the Hottentots Holland basin will have to wait until next month to hear if a site for a transit camp earmarked by local municipalities is available.

Brigadier Hennie Kotze, Mayor of Somerset West, said a 12,3-hectare site east of Sir Lowry’s Pass Village and the Laurens River had been identified for the camp.

The land, in the Stellenbosch area of the Western Cape Regional Services Council, was being investigated by a technical committee for its availability and the costs of providing water, toilets and rubbish removal.

About 500 squatter families who would move there are living in camps at Ambulance Park, Watervloot, Die Bos and another near Helderwyne.

Mr Kotze said squatters from the Sun City grouping near Sir Lowry’s Pass might also be accommodated while the land they presently occupied was properly developed.

Squatter leaders would be consulted once it was known whether the site identified was available or not, he added.

A source in the Helderberg Advice Office said an interim committee existed to represent squatter groups in the area, including one at Zandvliet Farm in Macassar.

It was unfortunate that the squatter communities had not been consulted by the municipalities before they identified the site.
Squatters appeal for help

MORE than 100 squatter families will have to abandon their homes because of flooding. Yesterday Mr Enoch Maduwabe, vice-chairman of the Western Cape United Squatters' Association, appealed to companies for donations of building materials to enable the flooded-out squatters to relocate. The affected shacks, total of 127, are in KTC, Nyanga Extension, Miller's Camp, Brown's Farm and Old Crossroads. Mr Maduwabe can be reached at 6996-9991.
Crossroads peace talks in balance

by Chris Bateman

A MEETING today between the feuding factions in Old Crossroads, chaired by the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, Mr. Herus Kriel, hangs in the balance after a weekend of violence.

The home of a member of Mr. Jeffry Nongwe’s breakaway faction was torched and shot at by men in balaclavas, several other homes were attacked and a special constable was arrested for attempted murder after a shootout on Saturday.

The shootout between special constables supporting one or other squatter faction broke out about 9.30pm on Saturday. The official police report confirmed that shots were fired at “a group of special constables”, adding that a man was arrested. A police spokesman refused to elaborate.

Well-placed sources said the arrested man was a special constable and the shootout was between special constable supporters of the factions.

Mayor Mr. Johnson Ngxogongwana last month lashed out at special constables, saying they attacked his supporters and sided with Mr. Nongwe. He called for their removal.

Yesterday Mr. Gladstone Ntamo, spokesman for the Western Cape United Squatters Association (Weusa), under which Mr. Nongwe’s faction falls, appealed to Mr. Kriel to “tell his people (Mr. Ngxogongwana’s town committee) to stop attacking us, otherwise the meeting can never take place”.

“We’ll go to the talks, but not if these attacks continue,” he added.

Mr. Ricky Schehbiase, government adviser to the Old Crossroads town committee, asked for evidence to support Mr. Ntamo’s allegations that the torching was by people driving a town committee minibus.

He confirmed that several homes in the new Phase 2 development were fired upon with shotguns.

Forts beaten Boris

But yesterday it was rumoured that “Katy” was smuggled into rented Becker’s house near the courts last week.

Meanwhile the man who defeated Becker in a thrilling five-set match, new Wimbledon champ Stefan Edberg, is expected to announce soon that he will marry his long-time girlfriend Annette Olsen.
Refugees in housing sit-in

A GROUP of 70 women and children residents of Tambo Square, New Crossroads, yesterday held a sit-in at the Cape Provincial Administration offices in Goodwood to demand a solution to their housing crisis.

The 2,000 residents of Tambo Square are refugees from Old Crossroads who claim to have been given a guarantee of housing by the old Bantu Affairs Administration Board in 1983. The Tambo Square area, where the refugees have been waiting for the "promised housing", has no ablution facilities or electricity.

A meeting between the protesting group and administration representatives was called in the Goodwood CPA building, with CPA regional representative, Mr Fanie Naude addressing the women through an interpreter.

Acknowledging that the residents "live under the most difficult conditions", Mr Naude said he would report back to them on July 23.

As the day drew to a close, bread brought by Tambo Square residents was distributed among the restless children, while women lay around the carpeted room.

Mr Naude said that after "discussing their needs" the women left about 6.30pm.

He denied that the women held a sit-in, preferring to call it an "unscheduled meeting".

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Mid-Winter SPECIALS!
Suits, Dresses, Sportswear
BARGAIN
Winter miseries for squatters

Municipal Reporter

WINTER downpours and strong winds have brought with them the regular seasonal increase in the miseries of Cape Town's squatting communities.

Western Cape United Squatter Association vice-chairman Mr Enoch Maduywabe reported yesterday that over the weekend, 53 more dwellings were found by his own organisation to be uninhabitable as they were standing in water.

Last week, he said, another 127 shacks had been condemned for the same reason in KTC, Miller's Camp, and Old Crossroads.

In Noordhoek, where about 600 squatters are living on low ground adjoining several expanses of water, the entire community is looking forward to moving to drier land.

Ms Orimpia Nxwandla, a member of the Noordhoek squatters committee, said yesterday that her community did not mind that the land it presently occupies was not among eight sites identified as possibly suitable for squatter settlement.

"This place is very wet, and cold from the big dam nearby. So the people here are hoping to get another piece of land," she said.

She would prefer to be allocated high-lying land, possibly near Ocean View. Easy access to a tarred road was also important, because many squatters travelled to work in Fish Hoek and Kalk Bay.

Ms Nxwandla earns a living by running a small crèche at her home. The crèche has a carpeted floor which is very damp from rain leaking in through the roof.

A voluntary teacher from the Vineyard Fellowship, who declined to be named, proudly showed the Cape Times an extraordinarily large shack which serves as both a community hall and an informal school for 40 pupils from the ages of six upwards.

They concentrated on learning English, Arithmetic and Maths, she said.

"I follow the syllabus of one of the local schools," she said. The school day lasts only from 9am to 1pm, as most of the children can't concentrate for longer than that.

"They don't sleep well at night, because they are often cold and wet."

The Regional Services Council provides the squatters with water brought in by tanker at the rate water is unsafe to drink. It also provides a clinic service, trying to stamp out tuberculosis which is a problem in the area.

It is not yet decided which of eight possible pieces of land in Noordhoek will be allocated for the squatters.
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Rival Crossroads leaders meet today in peace move

By MICHAEL MORRIS Political Correspondent

ARCH-OPPONENTS in Crossroads, mayor Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana and squatter leader Mr Jeffrey Nongwe, are meeting today under the chairmanship of the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, Mr Hernus Kriel, to find ways to end the conflict that has caused death and misery in the settlement over many months.

Both men were expected to be accompanied by delegations.

Today's meeting follows two separate meetings between Mr Kriel and representatives from each side.

Negotiations on the situation in Crossroads originated in Mr Kriel's acceptance of an appeal by the Democratic Party MP for Claremont, Mr Jan van Eck, that he meet the squatter leaders to hear their complaints and allegations first hand.

Mr Kriel succeeded in convincing first Mr Nongwe and, at a later meeting, Mr Ngxobongwana to try to resolve the conflict through negotiations. At the time, he likened the process to the Groote Schuur talks between the government and the ANC.

Today is the first time both sides are getting together.

Conflict between the two factions in Crossroads has focused on allegations by the squatters that Mr Ngxobongwana's supporters have been favoured by the town council, that the councillors have allegedly attacked and fired on squatter leaders and their supporters and that corruption is rife in the council's activities.

Councillors have denied the allegations, but the squatters have repeatedly appealed to the government to dispatch the Crossroads town council.
TRUCE...Rival Old Crossroads leaders Mr Johnson Ngobobwana (left) and Mr Jeffry Nongwe (right) after yesterday's peace talks with Mr Hernus Kriel, Minister of Provincial Affairs and Planning (middle).

Crossroads 'war' truce

By CHRISS BATEMAN

A TRUCE was yesterday declared by the warring faction leaders in Old Crossroads after 10 months of bitter fighting in which dozens of people died and many homes were destroyed.

Mayor Mr Johnson Ngobobwana and his arch-rival, breakaway former chief headman Mr Jeffry Nongwe, publicly com-
mitted themselves to stopping all violence and to further talks to try to resolve their "deep divisions".

The unexpected agreement, reached after nearly four hours of often acrimo-
nous debate under the chairmanship of Mr Hernus Kriel, Minister of Provincial Af-
fairs and Planning, came after a weekend of renewed violence.

The two groups agreed to appoint the respected community leader and chair-
man of the Western Cape Hostel Dwellers' Association, Mr Johnson Mupkumpa, as mediators and co-ordinator for future talks.

Five members of each group will form a working "peace" committee.

Speaking at a press conference with the rival committees flanking him, Mr Kriel said he was convinced the two men would keep their word. Both rivals declared themselves satisfied with the initial meet-
ing.

Mediator Mr Mokumpos, who carries the full weight and approval of the tradi-
tional "homeland" Xhosa chiefs, said "other commitments" had kept the chiefs from travelling down to Cape Town to help solve the problem.

Yesterday's meeting was held at Mr Kriel's offices.

Mr Kriel said that while he felt the talks were "historic", the biggest bones of con-
tention were that each party felt the other was responsible for the violence while Mr Nongwe's group questioned Mr Ngobob-
wana's legitimacy among residents.

The question of an open referendum on the election of a new town committee would be high on the working committee's agenda, he confirmed.

Back in Crossroads late yesterday, Mr Mupkumpos, with the agreement of both sides, was trying to arrange a joint gather-
ing in a local community hall to announce a massive get-together for tonight at which both leaders would speak.

"It's crucial to keep momentum going now and we don't want any misunder-
standing contributing to further violence," Mr Mupkumpos said.

An immediate joint mass meeting was rejected because the menfolk had yet to return from work. They would be encour-
eged to return from work as early as possi-
bile today for the meeting.
Crossroads rivals agree to bury hatchet

By MICHAEL MORRIS, Political Correspondent

CROSSROADS Mayor Mr Johnson Ngobongwana and his arch rival, squatter leader Mr Jeffrey Nongwe, have made an historic pact to end violence in the conflict-ridden community and work together to resolve the causes of the strife.

The two men—who shook hands across the table at a Press conference after a meeting yesterday under the chairmanship of Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs Mr Hermus Kriel—gave undertakings they would make an immediate appeal to their supporters to end the violence.

Mr Ngobongwana said: “I will tell the people of Crossroads to stop fighting and stop the burning of houses.”

Deep differences

Mr Nongwe made a similar pledge, adding that he had never rested in urging people to stop the violence.

While deep differences remain between the factions, the two leaders have agreed to form a committee of five French-speaking, non-government leaders of Crossroads to identify the causes of the conflict and find ways to resolve them.

They agreed that Mr Johnson Mkpunyana, a prominent member of the community and national organiser of the Hostel Dwellers’ Association, will serve as the co-ordinator of the committee.

Both Mr Nongwe and Mr Ngobongwana, each of whom was accompanied by a delegation of supporters at yesterday’s meeting, expressed confidence in the likelihood of peace talks succeeding.

Mr Kriel has asked the two factions to report to him on progress made in future talks.

He was “very pleased” at what he described as an historic outcome. A start was finally being made on resolving the violence.

It had become very clear that everybody in Crossroads was “tired of violence”.

“The most important thing is that we have a commitment from all present to stop the violence in Crossroads. They undertook to go to their supporters and call off the violence so peace can return.”

Mr Kriel said that, while the leaders had expressed appreciation for his role as mediator, they felt it was necessary to conduct the next round of talks on their own.

They had yet to agree on an agenda.

“Watershed” in peace bid

He recognised the process would take some time since there were “a lot of wounds to heal”, adding, “there is no point in setting a time-scale”.

He highlighted the violence and the discontent among Crossroads residents about the activities of the local town committee as issues that would be high on the new committee’s agenda.

Mr Kriel said he was hopeful the committee would come up with proposals on local political representation that would be acceptable to both sides, and added that any changes would have to be in line with government policy.

Democratic Party MP for Claremont Mr Jan van Eck, who has played a key role in getting the first round of talks off the ground, hailed the result as “very satisfactory, a watershed”.

“After a very long, hard slog I am confident that the agreement will reduce violence and I am confident also the different leaders will genuinely try and resolve the conflict and the reasons for it.”

R22 000 may be used to fight ‘wall of death’

Environment Reporter

THE major part of a big fund-raising promotion which will guarantee the Dolphin Action and Protection Group (DAPG) at least R22 000 is likely to be spent in the fight to ban gill nets internationally.

The campaign, initiated earlier this month by a major retail chain and a leading dairy, has been dubbed “Save Our Seas the 2% Way”.

Pick ‘n Pay and Dairybev will give two percent of the monetary value of all two-litre, two-percent milk jugs sold through the group’s stores nationally for two months.

“We have estimated that this sum will amount to at least R22 222.22 and we guarantee this figure,” a spokesman said.

DOLPHIN POSTERS

The promotion also includes free dolphin posters and sea tags on the two-litre jugs incorporating a four cent coupon, and invites people to the mysteries of the dolphin.

A delighted Mrs Nan Rice, secretary of the DAPG, promised that “every cent” would be spent in a worthwhile way.

She pointed out that the DAPG had spent R19 000 printing educational pamphlets which had been distributed throughout the country.

“We aim to ban gill netting completely and utterly internationally. If it continued it will cause a marine environmental disaster,” she warned.

Mr Ray Murray, of the retail chain, said he believed everyone could contribute towards protecting the environment.

‘Close loopholes in gill net laws’

By JOHN YIELD, Environment Reporter

LOopholes in South Africa’s tough anti-gill net legislation should be closed immediately and any vessels found carrying gill nets in South African waters should be confiscated, the Minister of Environment Affairs Mr Gert Kotté has been told.

In a letter to Mr Kotté, the secretary of the Dolphin Action and Protection Group, Mrs Nan Rice, said she was “deeply concerned” about loopholes in the legislation promulgated last year.

Mrs Rice, who is spearheading the campaign against the use of the “Wall of Death” gill nets, said: “The clause ‘without a permit’ should be removed from this legislation and no support systems, cold storage facilities or anything else given to gill-netting vessels.

“Further, if anyone is found carrying these nets in our waters ... the vessels should be confiscated, as is laid down in legislation promulgated by countries like New Zealand.”

UNSURED OF POWERS

Mrs Rice expressed concern that law enforcement officers were unsure of their powers to act against vessels with gill nets.

“Some are still saying, for example, that they are unable to board foreign vessels. Private vessels can be boarded at any time and should be, especially those suspected of being carrier vessels, with these illegal trawlers are using to avoid being prosecuted.”

In spite of claims by the Taiwanese government and its officials in South Africa that gill nets would be phased out by next year, this has not been made into law, said Mrs Rice.
Hout Bay squatters are a 'politically sensitive issue'

By ESANN von ENSBURG
Staff Reporter

POLICE are unwilling to enforce the eviction of illegal squatters in Hout Bay because they do not want to discredit President de Klerk internationally, according to the chairman of the Hout Bay Property Rights Association, Mr Tony Soolgar.

He was speaking at a meeting of the association attended by more than 300 people at Hout Bay last night.

The chairman of the meeting, Mr Bob Vos, said the squatter issue was a political problem.

"That's why the state is reluctant to act. We have spoken to the squatters and feel assured that given a plan for a better deal, they will take it," he said.

The association criticised the government for not enforcing certain laws and said the law was definitely not negotiable.

Monitor body

Its representatives had attended meetings with government officials and representatives of squatter communities, ratepayers and property owners to find an amicable and humane solution to the problem.

The association reported:

- The completion of a census;
- A joint-monitoring committee was being established as a forum for communication between all parties, and also to deal with new aryx;
- Alternative, affordable accommodation would be found;
- The pay-your-way principle would be upheld;
- Private professional consultants would be invited to do a socio-economic study to determine the availability of affordable accommodation;
- Due account would be taken of earnings, employment, and social environment, and
- Any accommodation in Hout Bay had to fit in with the socio-economic environment and should be adopted only after community consultation.

The association made it clear that "no government plan must be foisted on Hout Bay, to later become an expensive white elephant forever".

Squatters had to be accommodated according to hierarchy, Mr Soolgar said.

Smuggling probe: Bid to extradite SA couple fails

The Argus Correspondent
Johannesburg.—— A former De Force Force major and his wife, who were alleged to have been part of a smuggling ring involving endangered wildlife species, were discharged by a Johannesburg magistrate.

The magistrate, Mr S Jane van Roosburg, yesterday refused to grant a postponement of an inquiry into the extradition of Mr Marinus Meiring and his wife Pat to the United States.

Mr and Mrs Meiring were arrested in Berne, Switzerland, in May last year.

RHINO HORN

The couple allegedly smuggled a rhino horn, a cheetah skin and an AK-47 rifle from Angola.

In an indictment issued in the US in 1988, they were charged with a count of conspiring to import and sell endangered wildlife species and five counts of smuggling.

Mr P Stipp, for the Meirings, submitted to the court that a postponement of the matter would be futile.

He said there could never be an extradition to the US as the couple were not within the jurisdiction of any American court at the time the offences were allegedly committed.

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A group of 70 women and children residents of Tambo Square, New Crossroads, this week held a sit-in at the Cape Provincial Administration offices in Goodwood to demand a solution to their housing crisis.

The 2 000 residents of Tambo Square are refugees from Old Crossroads who claim to have been given an unfulfilled guarantee of housing by the old Bantu Affairs Administration Board in 1983.

Their make-shift shacks in Tambo Square are under water after the heavy winter rains, according to a spokesman for the group.

"Your dogs live better than us," a spokesman told the Goodwood CPA regional representative, Mr. Fanie Naudé.

The Tambo Square area, where the refugees have been waiting for the promised housing, has no ablution facilities or electricity.

A meeting between the protesting group and administration representatives was called in the Goodwood CPA building, with Naudé addressing the women through an interpreter.

Naudé said sites had been identified in Tambo Square, and on tip sites in Nyanga and Guguletu, but this could not be revealed without further consultation. - Sapa
Gates unlocked after protest march to RSC

PROTEST MARCH... Residents of Mountain View march to protest march to RSC rent offices at Ocean View.

LAST Wednesday about 400 people marched from Mountain View to the rent offices at Ocean View to present a long list of grievances about living conditions in the settlement which has been home to 106 families since 1968.

Issues on the list presented to a Western Cape RSC official included the lack of drainage, inadequate toilet facilities, poor building structures without ceilings or floors, inadequate water points and bathing areas and no electricity.

A recent rent increase was also a point of contention and, according to Miss Martha Brown of the Ocean View Children's Committee, local residents supported the Mountain View people in their objection to paying increased rents for poor facilities.

The RSC representative who received the protesters' requests for better conditions indicated that the authorities would take action.

"The march was peaceful and went well. It gave the people back their dignity because they felt they were doing something about their situation and their first victory was getting the gates to Mountain View opened, which were previously always locked." A Mountain View committee has been formed which will meet this week to decide what the next move will be if the RSC does not address grievances.

The committee has approached squatters in the Noordhoek and Ocean View areas to coordinate efforts to improve their living conditions.
Squatters deny agreement to monitor ‘influx’

Star Reporter

HOIT BAY squatters said yesterday that they had never agreed to monitor or control further “influx” into the area in which they had settled.

“We would like to set the record straight,” said squatter representative Mr Ashley Anderson. “This matter was merely put to us to be discussed.”

But Mr Tony Snelgar of the 1 000-strong Hout Bay Property Rights Association said the squatters had merely agreed at a meeting with the CPA late last month to set up a meeting with the Property Rights Association and the ratepayers’ association “to discuss these and other issues of mutual concern.”

Discussions had now taken place “on a number of issues”, said Mr Anderson, who serves on the Squatter Co-ordinating Committee, representing all squatter settlements in Hout Bay.

“We have decided that it is neither possible nor appropriate for the squatters to monitor or control influx. This could promote vigilantism and violence, as has been seen in so many other squatter settlements.”

These views had been conveyed to the property rights and ratepayers’ associations. Mr Snelgar said the Property Rights Association now realised it would not get squatter co-operation on monitoring, “so we have set up our own committee to do this”.

Community leader Mr Dick Metter said the squatters reported that no new shacks were going up, but established ones were sometimes moved to drier ground.

“The squatters have decided that if influx into Hout Bay is to be controlled, this is the task of the state,” Mr Anderson said.

“We feel that the only way that the influx into Hout Bay can be stopped is if the state urgently supplies land to landless communities in all areas of Cape Town, if not the whole country.”

A spokesman for the Surplus People’s Project said there was a tendency throughout the Peninsula on the part of the CPA and local authorities to impose a new sort of influx control “through the development process”.

In return for offers of land, communities were being asked to control the numbers of people in their areas themselves.

“This is politically unacceptable. It is not going to solve the problem. It did not work in Crossroads when it was tried in 1978.”
The elected monitoring committee will work out the mechanism of bringing about peace in Crossroads," Mr Johnson Mpukumpa, national organiser of the Western Cape Hostel Dwellers' Association, said.

The squatter war has been raging for 10 months between groups headed by mayor Mr Johnson Nqobobongwana and his rival, breakaway former chief headman Mr Jeffry Nongwe.

Mr Mpukumpa, who chaired the meeting attended by 40 delegates, said the mood was conciliatory and there was no tension.

Elected to the monitoring committee were Mr Nqobobongwana and two members of his group, Mr Nongwe and two members of his group, and two members of the Western Cape United Squatters' Association.

The next meeting will be held "in the very near future", Mr Mpukumpa said.
Crossroads squatter war may end soon

At a historic unity meeting on Sunday between the leadership of warring Old Crossroads squatter groups, an eight-man monitoring committee was elected from the ranks of both sides to defuse the explosive situation.

"The elected monitoring committee will work out the mechanism of bringing about peace in Crossroads," Mr. Johnson Mphokumpa, national organiser of the Western Cape Hostel Dwellers' Association, said.

The squatter war has been raging for 10 months between groups headed by mayor Mr. Johnson Ngxobongwana and his rival, breakaway former chief headman Mr. Jeffy Norigwe. - Cape...
Squatter sites ‘sold’ for R100

By BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

SQUATTERS in the Hout Bay, Kommetjie and Noordhoek areas had to be accommodated and they could not be forced back to Khayelitsha, according to the Administrator of the Cape, Dr. Kobus Meiring.

“We can, in co-operation with them, ask them to move to an area in the vicinity where we will provide water and a form of sanitation,” he said in an interview in the latest issue of Leadership, which was released yesterday.

However, he thought there had been an element of deliberateness.

“I have been told that people have been walking around in Ciskei selling those sites next to the beach for R100.

“When our people asked squatters why they hadn't gone to organised areas like Khayelitsha, they were told: ‘But we bought this plot, and we're paying R5 protection money per month.’”

He also disclosed that he had refused an additional R500,000 grant from the province to complete the resort at Van der Kloof, a small town on the Orange River just above the P.K. le Roux resort, until the municipality had removed all petty apartheid signs.

He was taken to the resort where he saw a big “whites only” sign.

At a meeting, he told the councillors that the province would give an additional R500,000 for the resort only if the noticeboard was taken down.

“Some councillors were shocked but they've taken it down.

“What's wonderful about these days: You can stick your neck out and it won't be cut off,” Mr Meiring said.

There had been one, at most two, problems over the scrapping of beach apartheid and after this year’s season municipalities said race problems were negligible although there were some behaviour problems, such as drinking and littering. But these were practical problems that could be solved.

“Whether it’s separate amenities, beaches or group areas, or central legislative bodies, we have to share.

“But we must at all costs retain decent norms and standards.”

Mr Meiring added that he had no doubt that the Group Areas Act was on the way out and he did not see something in its place as a new form of discrimination but rather as a method to retain some form of order.
HEALTH conditions in the Cape Town squatter areas had deteriorated to alarming proportions, the Movement of Christian Workers (MCW) said in a statement following an evaluation workshop of its project coordinators earlier this month.

The MCW has developed projects among squatter communities around the issues of health, education and music.

It points out that:
- 61 percent of the deaths of African children are attributable to malnutrition, premature births and related infections;
- Operation Hunger is struggling to feed 1.5 million;
- About 12 million people have dormant tuberculosis; 15 percent of these will have the full-blown disease, resulting in 10 to 20 deaths daily. The Western Cape is believed to have the highest TB death rate in the world.

"The MCW assists people with basic information on first aid, but sees a more important task in helping people to demand proper health care to which they have a right," its general secretary, Mr. Marcus Rogers, said.

Through its Music Project, the MCW assists young unemployed persons to be creative and compose music which speaks about their living conditions; they are also taught to play the marimbas and the guitar, and discuss the role music can play in building the new South Africa.

"All the projects have the basic aim of awareness — creation, reflection and initiation into action, however small, to improve the quality of life of the people in these squatter communities," Rogers said.
End July deadline for Knysna squatters

From THABO DANIELS
PORT ELIZABETH — At a time when Knysna is engaged in building one non-racial municipality, the future looks bleak for squatters who have been served with eviction notices.

The Knysna municipality has distributed pamphlets in White Location giving residents until the end of July to move out or face the bulldozers. Some 153 families who have lived in the camp since 1988 are affected.

The squatters were promised accommodation in the newly-built wooden township of Khayalethu, which has about 120 houses.

Residents affected by the forced removals are those living in structures erected two years ago that are "illegal" because they are not numbered.

A resident who asked not to be named said: "I will never go to Khayalethu. Who can move from one matchbox to another?" she asked.

Knysna acting town clerk, Mr Charles Erasmus, said the squatters would have to move because they had erected their "shacks on private property"
Hout Bay squatters deny buying plots

By EDWARD MOLONYANE

HOUT Bay squatters have denied allegations by Cape Administrator Mr Kobus Meiring that they refuse to move to Khayelitsha because they claim they bought the plots from a seller in Ciskel.

The Administrator was quoted in a newspaper as saying "he had been told people had been walking around Ciskel selling sites on the beach for R100".

The report also said that when squatters were asked why they had not gone to "organised" areas such as Khayelitsha, they had replied that they had "bought" the plots and were paying R5 "protection fee" a month.

Squatters interviewed yesterday dismissed the statement as a "fabrication", saying they were staying in the area "long before (Mr) Meiring became Administrator".

They said the only money they paid was for water accounts to "human-hearted" property owners who allowed them to fetch water from their yards.

The chairman of the Hout Bay Princess Bush Community Association, Mr CharlmaineMpuya, 25, said there were about 300 families in the settlements which are on either side of Princess Avenue.

He said most of the people knew one another and some had been working in the area for more than 20 years.

Some had moved from their factory single men's hostel to the bushes to accommodate their families.

"Some of us have been here for a long time. This place developed in front of our eyes. To say today we are forking out R100 to buy plots is sheer fabrication," said Mr Mandla Ndungu, 40, a seaman.
Baker in a stew
Workers take boss to court over racist remark — Page 5

Festival slammed
SABC under fire for phony movie venture — Page 9

School vandalised
Huge losses as thefts disrupt classrooms — Page 3

Shock defection
Top table tennis star quits NSC — Page 24

Battle of the bulldozers

By RENATA ROSSOUW
FROM Dobsonville in Soweto to Bossiesdrif in Pietermaritzburg, squatters are locked in a bitter battle against the bulldozers.

The lack of housing and land for South Africa's millions of homeless is fast becoming a flashpoint for popular anger — and police action.

At least two people have died from police bullets in recent weeks as angry squatters confront bulldozers moving their shacks.

And in Cape Town, the proposed development of 174 houses in District Six by Bas Homes has sparked off a campaign highlighting the plight of the city's homeless.

Western Cape United Civic (WCUC) publicity secretary, Mr Zolani Ebrahim, said the organisation was planning protests and a possible civil demonstration at Bas Homes next week.

Incompetence
"When they leave it off the ground, we will send our people to try and help it," Ebrahim said they were inviting all people who feel the development of District Six should not continue without taking into account the political sensitivity of the area, to voice their protest through action.

The campaign will be spearheaded by the ANC, the UDF and WCUC. Cosatu has been invited to participate.

Ebrahim rejected government claims that their actions were "constitutional".

"We are merely reclaiming our land. It is our birthright and we have no need to confront anyone about that simple truth.

"Confiscation between the authorities and the homeless is remaining in Dobsonville and other parts of the Transvaal where the demolition of shacks continue unabated."

At least two people died when Alberton municipal officials demolished shacks outside the town council early last week.

In Bossiesdrif, Pietermaritzburg, local authorities have vowed to demolish squatter homes and residents were planning action.

Tots toast to a leader

Mandela seeks talks with De Klerk

From MONA BADLAL JOHANNESBURG — All ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela wants as a birthday gift is "voices for all South Africans".

"I feel I'm 56 years old," Mandela said on his return from Rome on Wednesday — one day he celebrated his 72nd birthday.

"He spent his birthday nice every minute of the day since his release from prison — travelling.

Birthday special:
— See pages 7, 8 & 18

Mandela and dozens of his friends and colleagues 56 to celebrate his birthday day in the Outeniqua West Hotel after he addressed about 400 ANC supporters outside the hall.

• See Page 2 & 3
Call for reinstatement of home subsidy plan

WILSON ZWANE

THOUSANDS of black prospective first-time home buyers and the home-building industry would be greatly affected by the cessation of the subsidy scheme for first-time buyers, SA Perm GM Denis Creighton said yesterday.

This follows Planning and Provincial Affairs Minister Hernus Kriel's announcement earlier this week that funds budgeted for the first-time home buyers subsidy scheme had been exhausted.

SA Perm had thousands (Creighton could not disclose the exact figure) of applicants whose fates were in the balance. "Of these applicants 46% will not qualify because of the R2,000 income limit, while others might not be approved by government because of lack of funds," he said.

The home-building industry would lose a substantial number of buyers who would now not qualify because of the cessation of the scheme. Ways should be found to continue the scheme, he added.

DP administration of black affairs spokesman Jan van Eck called for the reinstatement of the subsidy, saying its cessation would have a serious effect on the critical housing situation in the black community.

"It should also be questioned why the funds for black first-time home buyers have been exhausted when it was announced in Parliament this year that additional funds had been made available for white first-time home buyers," Van Eck said.

He added that if the subsidy was to benefit the "needy" then all needy home buyers should receive it and not only those belonging to a certain race group.

"It was announced in Parliament this year that R3bn had been put aside for the socio-economic development of blacks. That money should now be used to offset the impact of the subsidy cut," Van Eck said.

Kriel was unavailable to comment.

Organisers decide on squatter targets

LEGLEY LAMBERT

CAPE TOWN — The UDF's squatter campaign, scheduled to start in August, will begin taking form in the western Cape today as local UDF leaders and civic organisations decide on the areas they plan to occupy.

Regional UDF chairman Bulelani Ngcuka said yesterday that open areas in Hout Bay, District Six (re-named Zonebloem) and possibly Tableview had already been targeted for squatter occupation.

Ngcuka said the plan to occupy District Six had become urgent as Cape-based property developer Ilico Homes was scheduled to start building 177 new homes there on Monday.

"We will use whatever means are available to prevent the development of out-of-market homes in this area," he warned.

While a number of small residential developments have sprung up in District Six since it was declared a white area in the late 1960s, most developers, including the DP project aimed at rehousing the coloured inhabitants who were forced to leave, have steered clear of political controversy.

UDF sources said Ngcuka's announcement indicated that the political movement had decided the time was right to reclaim the area.

Ngcuka said the UDF's plan to "seize unoccupied government and certain private property to accommodate the homeless" was due to be implemented next month. The idea had started with a resolution adopted earlier this year at the Conference for a Democratic Future — to highlight the housing crisis.

An estimated seven-million urbanised people were homeless, he said.

At a national level, UDF officials have declared their willingness to discuss the squatter crisis with Provincial and Planning Affairs Minister Hernus Kriel, who has requested a meeting.

Ngcuka confirmed this yesterday, but said it was on condition that the talks "lead to homes for the homeless".
300 squatters walk out of Ciskei

GRAHAMSTOWN: Over 300 Thornhill residents have walked out of the Ciskei and occupied vacant farmland in South Africa, after calls by the United Democratic Front in the Transvaal for homeless people to seize land.

The residents occupied a farm, Poplar Grove, just north of Whittlesea in the Eastern Cape on Tuesday night. More residents of the sprawling community are expected to move to the farm, which is approximately 20km from Thornhill.

There has been some confusion about whether the Transvaal UDF call is a national policy, but last night the Eastern Cape general secretary of the UDF, Gugulethu Nkwinti, hailed the Thornhill move.

He said it was correct and in line with resolutions taken at a UDF workshop in Cape Town earlier this year. “At the workshop it was resolved that vacant land must be occupied by the people,” Nkwinti said.

However, local observers stressed that the move was not a response to the UDF call, but was born of the community’s own history of frustration. Having originally moved from the Herschel district when it was due to be incorporated into the soon-to-be-independent Transkei, they were promised land in 1976, but have never received it.

At the end of 1989 the Thornhill community instructed the Legal Resource Centre to inform the South African government that they would walk out of the Ciskei by February this year, unless the 1976 promises were met.

The government responded three months later, denying that the community had any claim to land or rights to South African citizenship, but saying they were prepared to resettle the community in Waverly in the Ciskei.

The walk-out from the Ciskei was postponed as this was seen as the last positive response from South Africa.

The land which was promised to the Thornhill community was purchased from white farmers in 1980 by the SA Development Trust. They have said it is now available for black agriculture.

In May this year the South African government said that land would no longer be incorporated into homelands without the approval of the residents.

At this stage there has been no reaction from the South African and Ciskei governments about the occupation of the farm. — ANA
20 protesters confront Ileco over houses in District Six

By PETER DENNHEIM

TWENTY protesters who stood outside the Ileco Homes offices in Lower Burg Street yesterday decided after less than half-an-hour to go upstairs and confront the company’s management.

The company had been protesting, with council and municipal permission, against the company’s R20 million project to erect 176 homes on 3.5ha of land which it owns in District Six. Each of the homes would be sold for about R100 000.

Among the slogans on the protesters’ placards was “ANC says no to luxury homes in District Six,” “Return the land to the people” and “Occupy the land.”

Mr Seretse Dali, one of the protesters, told Ileco director Mr Al-fons Meyerdricks that he was being confronted “for going against the wishes of the people.”

Mr Meyerdricks replied: “I have taken notice of your complaints. We are willing to talk about the development, but to pursue the discussion now would serve no purpose.”

Father Basil van Beersburg said the company had bought the land “at a steal.” Other reputable companies (Total Oil and the Electricité Système) had been approached and had moved out of District Six, but Ileco had moved in like “a scrap” company, he said.

He challenged Ileco to take him to court.

Asked whether his company had spent R400 000 for all its District Six land, Mr Meyerdricks replied: “It seems unlikely.” He denied that his company had threatened to remove protesters and ignore council orders.

Father Basil then asked Mr Meyerdricks whether his company supported the view of Cape Town City Council that high-density, low-cost houses should be built in District Six.

Mr Meyerdricks said it would cost more than R2 000 a unit to get the electricity required. Providing full services to each plot would cost about R100 000.

His company was prepared to talk to people who wanted houses in District Six about the type of houses, he said. Ileco had built 70 000 homes in the country, Mr Meyerdricks added.

Squatter women occupy CPA office

Staff Reporter

ABOUT 150 women — who claim they were promised houses in 1983 — have occupied the boardroom of a Cape Provincial Administration office in Goodwood.

The occupation followed a meeting yesterday at the CPA offices between residents and CPA regional representative Mr Fanis Naude.

At the meeting the women, all from Tambo Square, next to KTC squatter camp, claimed that when they were removed from KTC in 1983 they were promised housing by the old Bantu Affairs Administration Board.

Residents asked whether there were funds available to develop the present site and to provide housing.

They also wanted to know when the authorities would begin building houses.

“We are getting tired of waiting,” they said, as some women started crying loudly.

Residents said their health had deteriorated in the squatter camp and nothing had been done for Tambo Square.

Their lawyer, Mr Eza Meosa, said the squatter camp was waterlogged, and that the lot had been neglected.

Mr Naude announced in immediate relief promised for improved health and sanitary conditions at the squatter camp, but the residents rejected this, saying the money could be used for the new site instead.

Mr Naude proposed a working group, comprised of representatives from Tambo Square, the CPA, the Cape Town council and the Urban Foundation, to be formed to choose one of three possible sites for the housing.

“This is not a delaying tactic,” Mr Naude said. “I need your assistance, and your cooperation.”

Mr Meosa said the occupation, in which several children are included, would continue until “residents get satisfactory answers to their demands.”

The occupation is part of the UDP’s national campaign for houses and land, said UDP Western Cape executive member Mr Willie Hofmeyer.

The UDP would arrange for food, mattresses and blankets at the office, he said.
TWENTY people have been arrested for picketing outside a Goodwood CPA building in which about 100 women and children from the Tambo Square squatter camp, Old Crossroads, have been occupying a boardroom since Monday.

A meeting on Monday night on the issue between representatives of the CPA, residents and high-level UDP/ANC executive members ended in deadlock.

The residents claim they have been promised housing since 1983 and are demanding specific details about their promised land before withdrawing from the CPA building.
20 women at sit-in begin hunger strike

By JENNY VIAL
Tygerberg Bureau

TWENTY of the 125 women staging a sit-in at the Cape Provincial Administration's Goodwood offices have gone on a hunger strike.

Lawyer Mr Essa Moosa said the women, residents of Tambo Square in Old Crossroads, would continue the hunger strike until their housing demands had been met.

The 20 women would be joined by others if no progress was made.

The women and 10 children have occupied a boardroom at the CPA offices since Monday, when proposals by Mr Fanie Nade, regional director of the CPA, failed to meet their demands.

They have vowed not to move until their demands had been met.

They claim they have been promised housing since 1982. They are demanding that they be given land and guarantees of sufficient funds to build houses.

UDF representatives are to meet the Administrator, Mr Kobus Meiring, today to discuss the housing issue.
CPA 'has strategic plan for squatters?'

By PETER DENNENHY

THE Cape Provincial Administration had a strategic plan to deal with squatting, but it was not being implemented because there were no funds for it, a RSC councillor said yesterday.

Professor D E W Schumann, of Stellenbosch Municipality, claimed at the RSC monthly meeting that he had heard this from senior CPA sources.

Approached for comment yesterday, CPA spokesman Mr Van Heerden Heunis said a proper response could only be formulated today.

"If finance is the problem, we must see whether the RSC has a responsibility to be helpful in solving this problem," Prof Schumann said, adding that nothing seemed to be happening at present. This was not true, Mr Heunis responded.

RSC chairman Mr Piet Loubsar told councillors that although the RSC was responsible for the provision of infrastructure, it did not wish to take on the politically-sensitive task of trying to solve the squatter problem.

According to a report before the RSC yesterday, squatters could get land for a nominal amount.

In other land transactions with the State, the principle of the disposal of the land at market value would be maintained.
Squatters on hunger strike

Staff Reporter

TWENTY of the Tambo Square squatter women occupying the Goodwood CPA boardroom embarked on a hunger strike yesterday that "will last until their housing demands are met".

Relatives of the women demonstrated outside the building yesterday. Police ordered them to disperse several times before shepherding them to the railway station.

Yesterday morning the women's lawyer, Mr Essa Moosa, and UDF/ANC members met Mr Fanie Naude, regional director of the CPA, and presented him with an ultimatum that the women would go on a hunger strike if a response to their housing demands was not received by 1pm yesterday.

When the deadline passed, 20 women went on a hunger strike from 6pm yesterday, said Mr Willie Hofmeyr, Western Cape UDF executive member.

There are plans for a further 20 women to join the hunger strike if the "crisis isn't resolved in the next few days", he said.

The residents claim they have been promised housing since 1993 and are demanding specific details about this before they leave the building.

The UDF plans to raise the issue today when it meets Mr Kobus Meiring, Administrator of the Cape.

Mr Naude was unavailable for comment.
SOUTH FOCUS

THE winter mist hovers over Bleekcombos, outlining shadowy figures and flimsy structures. In the centre of the camp about 30 young people gather, herded into rows by an authoritative young man.

"Our young people have decided to form a choir," a woman explains.

"They are going to practice every night and they will break into smaller and hold concerts for us." The group warms up with a brisk tap-tap and Fearless songs they begin to sing a hymn, their "Hallelujah" echoing through the mist like a chorus of angels.

Smaller children run barefoot through the camp, laughing and playing despite the winter chill.

Shelter

Our "mother" Ms Sheila Milozo, pulls us away and guides us through the camp to shack number 15, our home for the night.

Outside her plastic and wooden shelter is a sign painted above it a cross, "Ameinti Apostolic Zinkle Church - Bishop Milozo." Sheila Milozo introduces us to her family.

Her husband Lemmon Bishop Milozo, 63, is a shy, steady man who holds church services in their shop on Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings.

He also serves on the Bleekcombos Community, which governs the camp. Staying with them is her brother-in-law John Langa, whom they brought to live with them two years ago when the municipality destroyed his shack in Onderstepoort, leaving him with only two blankets left of his possessions.

Three cousins happen by when Sheila turns Janet's bicycle, telling us she is still looking for a woman to help.

Sheila's oldest son John drives into the shack later, after spending the evening with some friends who are also unemployed.

Candlelight

At a table with his head bent over an Africana primer, studying in the candlelight in his home.

And gigging and hiding her head behind her father's bed in lente

The Milozos have been living in squatter camps for 29 years, an average of about close to two million squatter families scattered along in small settlements in South Africa.

They have never had a home of their own, never owning the home of their dreams, with million of coloreds in packed into black housing.

The Milozos met in Wellington but moved to Cape Town to seek employment after their first child was born. They were being "bribed to the bush" in their hometowns every year.

"Every time we grew a house and sold it, the house burned down in the bush," Sheila says.

"I just remember how many camps we lived in. The only place they gave us to live is in a squatting.""The family moved in Bleekcombos two years ago. Their house was damaged and rebuilt four times, only 18 months after the raids by the police and municipality sent them scurrying for safety.

The current dwelling is a simple structure of flimsy wooden poles with plastic sheeting draped over, was built by Sheila and John.

"We were bigger than that before, but the plastic was torn and we had to make it colder," Sheila explains.

Their shack consists of one big room, two toilets line the wall and a double bed in the other.

There are no wardrobes, shelves or cupboards. All the families' possessions are stored in the boxes piled up against the wall.

There are no windows in the shack and the front door is closed with a piece of wire. The wind filters through holes in the plastic sheeting.

Heldt found a hole in the corner of the shack, the family describes their "hard life."

"We need to get a house but every time we go to the municipality they tell us if we live in the bush we must get out of their office," Sheila says.

"They say we must go back to the land where we were born. I don't have any land, I live in Elsie River."

Injury

"My children have never known a house with tap and a toilet, they don't know what it is like to have electricity, in a bad hot bath."

This is Sheila's dream - a house with a toilet, tap and hot baths. However, the family is unsure whether they can afford such housing.

The family has not worked for two years because of a hip injury John Juma, a few rows away suffering the same, but Sheila is the only person in the shack with a healthy mind.

She works as a cleaner in a white family in Kraaifontein and earns 100 shillings a month.

A local shop allows her to buy on credit, so on payday, most of the R100 goes towards paying her debt.

"We don't eat during the day at all and most nights we have dry pap for supper," Sheila says.

"When we have tea, I make orange tea. We have one a week or even less.

"It do better for my family if it is impossible to feed them on R100 a month."

Like most squatter families, ill-health plagues the Milozo family. For the past year, John has not been eating and his body is riddled with a dry cough.

Despite their poverty, Sheila invites us to share their supper - a simple meal boiled in water on her primus stove. The family is sure to steal a piece of bread and some dates.

"Food is very expensive, we spend all our money on food."

The family suffers from the night. The night life is enjoyed by the family.

The family settles down for the night. The night is over and the family is under their blankets.

For now, the only conversation is conversation of a radio.

The only shack with a generator belongs to a family running a store. They have electric lights, a stove, TV, radio, and all the other appliances taken for granted in most homes.

Jackson Mutesi, also a member of the Bleekcombos Committee, comes to see Lemmon to discuss a meeting with the Kraaifontein municipality to be held next week.

The seven percent committee, elected by the residents of the camp, meets twice a week and discusses issues concerning the community.

They also mediate in family disputes, but instead of using the police, settles them through negotiations with the local police.

"The people of Bleekcombos want to stay here, they have nowhere else to go," Sheila says.

"All we want is what every resident of South Africa wants.

"We want the municipality to give us land, to build an offer, school, college, home.

"We want water and toilets. The office must have white and black people in it, where we can jointly discuss our problems."

Masala says the conversation is sure that most of the squatters cannot afford to pay rent.

Floor

He proposes that the committee collects a sum agreed on from each resident and give the total to the municipality.

At 11pm, the family settles down for the night. The Milozos' restlessly even further and we are offered a bed.

Sheila examines the community. The concert from the tin church and Lemmon dismisses our protest with a quote from the Bible, saying he will be offended if we do not allow him to offer his bed.

Finally, silence descends on Bleekcombos as residents hide inside huts, preparing for a dawn curfew imposed to control the stone-throwers.

The wind whips the plastic sheeting into the air. Fortunately, it is raining and there is no need to place buckets on the floor to catch the water spilling through the roof.

At 6am, a resident moves through the children, calling out the time. Flowers are thrown into the air and the outside, as it still drizzles.

Bushfire

Buxton school only starts at 8am but it is a long walk for a boy who cannot afford a bicycle.

Sheila leaves next she has to be at work at 7:30am and walks into Kraaifontein as well.

We stand at the edge of the camp, watching for fire. The nearby mist is even thicker than the evening's rain and Sheila is determined to stop the flames.

Bleekcombos is awake now. Men and women shop through the rain to the loudest of the camp.

The wind clears, a group of workers perched on their bikes make the two-kilometre trek back home through the mist.

The sun finally pierces the blanket of mist - blessing the start of another day of hardship for Kraaifontein's squatters.
Tambo Square squatter sit-in ‘to end’

By JENNY VIALL Tygerberg Bureau 3717/140

A SIT-IN by 125 women from Tambo Square squatter settlement at the Goodwood offices of the Cape Provincial Administration is expected to end at noon today.

At a 5½-hour meeting yesterday between representatives of the ANC, UDF and Cosatu and the Administrator of the Cape, Mr Kobus Meiring, and CPA officials, an agreement was reached on housing for about 3 000 residents of the Tambo Square, New Crossroads squatter camp.

The women occupied the CPA offices on Monday and said they would not move until they had been given guarantees of land for resettlement and funds for housing. They claim they have been promised housing since 1988.

In terms of an agreement between the two parties, the CPA will undertake a relief project in Tambo Square to provide water points and improve services.

A joint committee of residents, organisations in the area and the CPA will be set up to identify an alternative site to resettle the squatters.

The CPA will also provide services to the site and will make R1 million available in the next financial year as a contribution to housing.

The CPA will also facilitate a meeting between residents, financial institutions and the Independent Trust (the “Jan Steyn fund”) to design development strategies for the area.

A Tambo Square spokeswman said: “We’re very excited.”
waste of State assets in Walmer Estate while claiming to be short of funds for low-cost housing.

The seven houses in Walmer Estate — a coloured group area — were completed early last year at a cost of R4.9m. Another R375 000 was spent on furnishings. The empty houses have 24-hour guards. Facilities include a communal swimming pool and tennis court.

When the houses were finished Labour Party ministers refused to occupy them in protest at the Group Areas Act. Earlier this year Public Works Minister George Bartlett said the State was considering either selling or letting the houses. Labour Party MP Gerard Morell denied that ministers were looking for ways to “sneak” into the houses.

He said the party originally agreed to the building of the houses in a coloured group area on the understanding that the Group Areas Act was to be scrapped.

Bartlett’s department told the FM this week that no decision had been made on the future of the houses.

White elephants

Cape Administrator Kobus Meiring was due to meet UDF regional leader Dullah Omar this week. Government wants to defuse tension over efforts to encourage squatters to occupy vacant land in Zonneblom — formerly Cape Town’s famous District Six.

There is a UDF-ANC national campaign to highlight the plight of squatters but, unlike other areas where actions are aimed at unused State land, private property will be targeted in Zonneblom.

Protests have started against Cape-based Ilco Homes in an effort to stop the building of another 176 houses in the area. Ilco was due to start construction this week but has postponed the project.

Campaign organisers say they are also eyeing seven luxury State-owned houses in Walmer Estate on the border of Zonneblom. They have been empty for more than 18 months because of a squabble between government and the Labour Party for whose leaders they were built.

About 50 000 people of all races — but mainly coloureds — were forced to move from District Six when it was declared a white group area in 1966. Most of it was declared a slum and demolished. The Cape Technikon is being built on most of the land.

The rest is privately owned but most is vacant because developers fear political repercussions.

Zonneblom was recently proclaimed a free settlement area and it seemed that building would start. Ilco’s development will be the first since the area was opened. The 176 houses are expected to sell for about R100 000 each but the UDF wants low-income dwellings in the area to help house some of the estimated 500 000 squatters in the western Cape.

While this seems highly unlikely, particularly because land earmarked for residential development is privately owned, government will be hard-pressed to justify the continued
Sit-in ends: CPA says yes to housing fund

THE occupation of a Goodwood CPA boardroom by about 120 Tambo Square women will end today following an agreement reached with the CPA to allocate R1 million for housing in the next financial year.

The assistance will go towards financing housing in a yet-to-be-chosen site. Funds will also be made available for the development of the land and for the provision of essential services.

Ms Zohra Ebrahim, one of the negotiators, said last night that this figure could run "in the region of R6 million".

In the meantime, says the CPA, it will improve conditions in Old Crossroads by draining the area, improving access routes and providing taps.

The announcement came after a five-hour meeting yesterday between delegates from the CPA and the UD/IFANOCesatu alliance.

Also present were representatives of the Tambo Square community and the Western Cape United Civic Organisation.

● The Western Cape United Squatters' Association (WCUSA), which represents tens of thousands of squatters, has hit out at Regional Services Council (RSC) chairman Mr Piet Loubs for his reported reluctance to help solve squatter problems.

Mr Loubs told councillors at the monthly RSC meeting this week that although the RSC was responsible for provision of squatter infrastructure, it did not wish to take on the "politically sensitive" issue of trying to solve the problem.

A fellow councillor, Professor D.E.W Schumann, also said he heard from senior CPA sources that there was a "strategic plan" for squatters but that there were no funds for it.

Mr Enoch Madwabe, vice-chairman of WCUSA, said yesterday that the councillors' "ill-advised" comments were a "recipe for conflict".
Squatters demand probe into shootings
Squatters make demands

CAPE TOWN — A squatter delegation, which included Archbishop Desmond Tutu, handed a memorandum to the police in Hout Bay yesterday.

The memorandum alleged that five policemen entered the Princess Bush community to arrest Eric Ntobeko Kutuko on Sunday. Several people were wounded, one seriously, in the process.

"The only time your policemen enter these areas is to harass and, in this case, to shoot people," the memorandum said.

It demanded an end to police violence and harassment, and called upon police to serve communities in a "rightful and decent manner." It also urged that police should not carry arms during inspections. — Sapa.
Dawn demolition at squatter camp

By JOHN VILJOEN, Tygerberg Bureau

BULLDOZERS from Kraaifontein Municipal- ity demolished about 30 shacks at Bloekom- bos squatter camp outside Kraaifontein at dawn today.

Police with semi-automatic weapons, teargas launchers and rifle monitored the demolition by bulldozers and eight police municipal workers.

The demolition left more than 150 people without shelter, according to a spokesman for the Kraaifontein Residents’ Association.

Yellow-helmeted workers tore down shelters with their hands, while the bulldozers flattened others. Residents worried about recovering belongings from their shacks and salvaging building materials.

The Kraaifontein Residents’ Association spokesman said a new building site could be provided to the squatters before the demolition or to contact the town council.

The Kraaifontein Town Council decided last week to act against squatters to whom it had not granted permission to erect structures. The shacks demolished today belonged to former residents of Otwa’s Bush squatter camp.

Firm undertaking

Shacks belonging to squatters who had settled at Bloekombos before the Otwa’s Bush squatters ar- rived, were left standing, in terms of the council’s decision.

Mr Jan van Riek, Democratic Party MP for Claremont, said the demolition was a “betrayal”.

“I had a firm undertaking from the mayor and deputy mayor that these people wouldn’t be touched while land was available.”

A lawyer who has represented the squatters, Mr Barry Adams, said Kraaifontein Municipality was carrying out a political philosophy, as in Boland and Caledonville.

“The local authority is taking a much harder approach than others. It’s an approach not approved by the CPA and the CPA has asked them not to carry out such demolitions,” he said.

Kraaifontein Mayor Arskar Gulliver said his munici- pality had “no solutions for the problem”.

DISCONSOLATE: With a bulldozer working in the background, a couple sit disconsolate- ly with their few possessions.

FIRST LIGHT: Police keep watch around dawn on the bulldozers move in.

DRUMBEAT: A woman beats a drum as the Bloekombos squatter shacks are demolished.

LOOKING ON: Police and blanket-wrapped Bloekombos shack dwellers look on as the squatters’ homes are destroyed.
7 000 squatters arrive in Cape Town every month

By TOM HOOD, Business Editor

BETWEEN 7 000 and 10 000 squatters are arriving monthly in greater Cape Town with the largest new concentrations in Khayelitsha, Crossroads, KTC, Nyanga, Noordhoek and Hout Bay.

This has been disclosed by Mr Brian Mellon, Western Cape president of the Institute of Professional Land Surveyors.

He called for areas of land to be carved up into housing plots and set aside in an effort to cope with the burgeoning problem.

"It is of paramount importance that we identify and set aside ground on which squatting can take place legally in the metropolitan area," he said.

Expropriation should follow to legalise settlements.

"SWEPT UNDER THE CARPET"

The problem was one of growing concern and could not be "swept under the carpet", said Mr Mellon. "It has to be faced and we as an Institute have identified certain fundamentals."

These include recognising that most squatters had basic skills, such as crude house building. They had a desire to create a home environment without harassment and they were generally peaceful communities, he said.

A rational development plan must be drawn up by a development team taking into account the future need for amenities such as schools, shops, creches, clinics, churches, business areas and playing fields.

The Institute was prepared to offer its services to the State and various authorities to help formulate a plan to resolve the squatter problem.

Residential plots should be defined at a minimum cost by beacon. This would then give the squatters security of title to develop within the defined area.

Communal water points and toilets should be installed to take care of the communities' initial basic requirements.

The State should supply basic building materials at cost. These would include clay, cement and thatch for the erection of traditional houses by the squatters themselves.

The future of such a community would then become dependent on an upgrading process to the point where the community itself became viable.
Town council rips up squatter homes

By ANDRE KOOPMAN
KRAAIFONTEIN municipality demolished 62 squatter shacks in a dawn raid yesterday, nine days before an alternative “transit site” for the squatters was to be "formalised".

Last night Kraaifontein mayor Mr Arthur Collyer admitted that the Cape Provincial Administration had agreed to set aside land for the squatters.

"We went ahead with the demolition as no date had been given for this," he said.

He said he had been informed that the squatters were rebuilding their shacks. These would have to be demolished again.

Yesterday police armed with rifles surrounded the Bloekembo squatter settlement and held back angry black residents from the shacks while municipal workers searched through the structures and piled personal belongings outside.

The people were given a few minutes to collect their possessions before two yellow bulldozers flattened the homes.

Mr Jan van Eck, DP spokesman on black affairs, said the demolitions were the "act of a lunatic right-wing fringe in Kraaifontein, who are out to destroy race relations at any cost."

"We had an agreement between the municipality, Cape Provincial Administration and the administration of local government and housing that the shacks would not be destroyed."

"All the parties concerned agreed in principle that another 'transit camp' would be found for the squatters," he said.

The agreement was to be formalised on April 19 when MPs returned from their Easter holiday.

Last Wednesday the municipality had threatened to destroy the shacks, but Mr Van Eck had managed to obtain a reprieve by the agreement.

Mr Collyer said yesterday that the shacks were flattened because the government had refused to provide land for the squatters and because "they could find no solution to the problem".

He confirmed that the municipality had been informed by the province and the department of local government and housing that an alternative site would be identified.
Shack razing "shameful"

KRAAIPOORT: Municipal claims bulldozers to destroy about 20 squatter shacks at Otto's Bos next to the Bloekumbos squatter camp early yesterday, the MP for Claremont, Mr Jan van Eck, said.

Mr Van Eck said the destruction of the shacks — for the fourth time — was "shameful and that we are being told that a new South Africa is 'coming' about."

The squatters had "nowhere to go" as there was nowhere in the northern area where blacks could live legally.

"As far as these squatters are concerned, the destruction of their homes and possessions by bulldozers and the violence of bullets and tear gas used against them means that SA is as inhuman and uncaring as before."

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[Note: The text is not entirely legible, particularly due to the cropping and partial visibility of the page. Some of the text is readable, and it appears to discuss the destruction of shacks and the sentiments of an MP.]
Squatters: Boesak pledge to talk to FW

By JOHN VILJOEN, Tygerberg Bureau

THE plight of the Bloekombos squatters, whose shacks were demolished by the Kraaifontein Municipality, is likely to be discussed when church leaders meet President De Klerk today.

According to a spokeswoman for the Kraaifontein Residents' Association, United Democratic Front patron Dr Allan Boesak promised to speak to Mr De Klerk when he visited the demolition site yesterday.

"Dr Boesak said he would use today's meeting to pressure Mr De Klerk and the municipality over the squatter issue, and would support the squatters in whatever action they decided to take, according to the spokeswoman.

"By 6pm yesterday most of the demolished shacks had been rebuilt.

"We are expecting the municipality to demolish again and we have told the people of Bloekombos to be alert," the spokeswoman added.
Cape squatters increasing

BETWEEN 7 000 and 10 000 squatters are arriving each month in greater Cape Town, the Western Cape president of the Institute of Professional Land Surveyors, Brian Mellon, said in Cape Town this week.

The greatest areas of new squatter concentration are at Crossroads, KTC, Khayelitsha, Nyanga, Noordhoek and Hout Bay.

There are fears that Crossroads, especially, might erupt into a "mini-Natal" situation over the Easter weekend.

Tensions are reported to be running high in this area, and MP for Claremont, Jan van Eck has warned that any eruption in Crossroads "could make Crossroads 1986 look like a picnic".

Mellon, in turn, has called for areas of land to be carved up into housing plots in various squatter areas and set aside to cope with the growing problem.

"It is of paramount importance that we identify and set aside ground on which squatting can take place legally in the metropolitan area," he said, adding that expropriation should follow to legalise settlements.

He urged the setting up of communal water points and toilets, and said the State should supply basic building materials such as clay, cement and thatch, for the erection of traditional houses by the squatters themselves.

Three houses in Crossroads Section 14 were set "torched" on Wednesday, according to a fire brigade spokesman, and tensions are reported to be growing between Crossroads' town committee and a rival group under breakaway headman Jeffrey Nongwe. - Sapa
'Hounded' squatters: DP slams government

By MICHAEL MORRIS
Political Correspondent

THE government should stop "hounding" squatters in the northern areas and provide land for them to settle, the Democratic Party's unrest monitoring and awareness committee group chairman, Pinelands MP Mr Jasper Walsh, said.

Squatters could not be "expected to disappear into thin air", he said.

He issued a statement in the wake of the latest dispute between the Kraaifontein Town Council and squatters at Bloekombos.

FIRE

Four new shacks had been created in the area to house 35 people whose dwellings, over the road from the settlement, had been destroyed in a fire allegedly started to clear up the area.

Kraaifontein municipal officials took the four shacks down on Thursday night, claiming they were illegal.

When Mr Walsh visited the area on Friday morning with two UMAC officials, Ms Val Rose-Christie and Ms Margie Probyn, the squatters had almost completed re-building the shacks.

Mr Walsh said: "These people cannot be expected to disappear into thin air.

"They are desperate to find somewhere to live and are tired of being hounded like animals. We have appealed to the government time and again, but to no avail.

PLIGHT

Suitable land must be found in the northern areas to house these people and the many people who are forced to squat indiscriminately. Government continues to duck this issue and has shown no humanity in dealing with these people's plight."

Mr Walsh said the DP and the Kraaifontein Residents Association would continue to monitor the situation "until the government accepts that it has a responsibility towards these people and does something about it."
Breakenfield's 'Reject' People
IN the future, Cape Town will look "more like Tokyo than Washington" as waves of squatters continue to thrust themselves cityward into the Peninsula and the Townships. This is the basic scenario for the future of the city as spelled out by all organizations concerned with the current "squatter crisis" in the Western Cape and Cape Town, surrounded by a sea of land between the mountain chains of the Peninsula and the Townships.

Even purely official figures bear this out with a frightening intensity. In the squatter camp and favela township of Crossroads, there is a population of more than 67,000, with 60,000 ond, only 1,469 formal homes available.

In Khayelitsha there are more than 389,000 people with just 9,300 formal houses to go around. In Capetonians there is a population of more than 100,000 served by 7,800 formal houses, while Langa and Nyanga have populations of over 64,000 and 66,000, with only just over 2,500 and 4,200 houses respectively.

But the current lack of housing and land is only the tip of the iceberg, as the official figures are difficult to estimate with accuracy because the shifting nature of the population and its relocation is so fast.

No income

What is clear, however, is that, because of its unique geographical situation, Cape Town is strapped for land in real terms to accommodate such large numbers, more than any other city in South Africa.

Add to this the fact that the bulk of the squatter population is not permanent but comes and goes, on the basis of the availability of land. The result is a marked similarity of purpose underlying the squatter issue from groups as diverse as the UDIF Government, the provincial authorities.

With the UDIF's call to squatters to move into areas like District Six and Nyanga in the Cape Town, as well as the political fervour around other Cape Town squatter areas like Hout Bay, Crossroads, the issue has begun to move into high gear in recent weeks.

The need

This week the Administrator of the Cape Fiefs, Kukus, Minning, notes the UDIF is an attempt to solve the District Six squatter crisis, the UDIF's vice-president in the Western Cape, Mr. Duduwe Dake, warned that the "Western Cape is in for a big shock."

Children of the future would become squatters because the existing township areas would be unable to accommodate them physically, and coupled with the unemployment problem, they would be unable to afford houses, he pointed out.

To house the growing town of squatters, 4.5 million units would have to be built by the year 2000 - some 400,000 units a year.

"If we don't do it now, it will get out of control.

By IAIN MACDONALD

By Robert NORTON

"The city is a way of improving their lot, and we must help them address their income situation," he said.

"You know that "vicious programmes to upgrade squatter communities are looked at as a bit more seriously, we can expect the situation to get out of hand.""

By Robert NORTON

Squatters watch helplessly as a bulldozer ploughs through shacks at Dobsonville. PICT. ROBERT NORTON

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SQUATTERS - CAPE

1990

Aug - Dec,
Staff Reporter

POLICE are investigating two petrol-bomb attacks on motorists in Hout-Bay on Sunday night, after two squatters of the Princess Bush community were shot during a police narcotics raid.

Mr Robert Kreyberg, of Hout Bay, escaped possible injury when a petrol bomb was flung at his car in Princess Street but failed to ignite.

When he reported the matter to police he was told another motorist had also been attacked.

Major Jan Calitz, a police liaison officer, confirmed that charges were being investigated.

On Monday permission was granted for a delegation consisting of squatters, Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu and a local Anglican parish priest, the Rev John Frye, to deliver a memorandum to police after an aborted protest march.

Hout Bay motorists bombed

In the memorandum, squatters demanded a "full and independent inquiry" into the shooting of the two men. They also alleged that squatters wanting to lay complaints with police were often turned away.

The memorandum also claimed: "The only time your policemen enter these areas is to harass and, in this particular case, to shoot people."

Major Calitz denied that police harassed people and said police were there to keep law and order. Major Calitz said the shooting of the men had taken place when a group of people who had surrounded police became aggressive and threw stones and other objects at police, after they arrested an alleged dagga dealer.

"It's up to the court to decide whether police had acted correctly or not," Mr Dieck Meter, a Hout Bay community worker, said he and other volunteer workers had been at Princess Bush squatter community until about 11 that night and had not seen any petrol-bomb attacks on motorists.

Police had twice before been to the squatter community, once to count the shacks and another time to demolish two housing frames.

There had also been police patrols after the shooting but police had not stopped him and the other volunteers, Mr Meter said.
Bid to evict Hout Bay squatters

HOUT Bay squatters have vowed to fight a Supreme Court application to evict them from prime land in the area.

On Wednesday, the owner of land on which the Princess Bush community has settled brought an urgent application to the court asking that the squatters be evicted. Mr Andries Beyers said the squatters caused pollution, trespassing, theft and threats to personal safety in the area. The court decided the squatters should respond by August 16, giving reasons why they should not be ejected from the property.

"We don't have a choice, we will have to fight the court action," said Hout Bay community leader Mr Dick Meter.

"The squatters have nowhere else to go," Meter said. The squatters were committed to a process of searching for a negotiated solution to the problem. He said by trying to evict the squatters through the courts, Beyers was not part of the solution but creating further problems.

"All we want is a rightful place in Hout Bay. Every family must be allowed land according to need and not greed," Meter said.

"We have tried to set up meetings with Beyers but he is obviously not prepared to meet us."

Meter said allegations of theft and threats against landowners were "grossly overplayed".

He said the crime rate in the area had not increased after squatters moved into Princess Bush.
Renewed fighting in squatter camp

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

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

Own Correspondent.
Supreme Court Reporter

JUDGMENT was reserved in the Supreme Court yesterday in an application by the Kayamandi town committee to eject alleged squatters from land because their presence retarded development and could cause a faction fight.

The town committee said in papers its application was further motivated because the unlawful occupation of the land was resented by people who had been on a waiting list for houses and sites since 1977.

Mr Toto Mhwaso and Mr Jada Selibhe said they had built shacks on the land out of necessity, had been granted permission by the mayor and disputed that they were living on erven earmarked for development.

In a counter-application they disputed the town committee's authority to bring the application on the grounds that all the relevant factors had not been taken into consideration.

Dispute over squatters at Kayamandi
About 30 policemen escorted the sheriff of the Supreme Court into Hout Bay's Princess Bush 'squatter' camp yesterday morning to serve eviction notices on 155 squatters living there.

The notices were served on behalf of the property owners, City Land Surveyor Mr Andries Wessels Beyer, City Attorney Mr Willem Petrus Malherbe and the Jan Zeger Schuurmans-Siekhoven Trust, who have jointly brought a Supreme Court application against the squatters.

The notices pinned to the doors of 155 shacks (all existing shacks) gives the squatters until August 16 to show why they should not be evicted.

The applicants state that the sale of the land for $3 million to a property developer is being hampered by the squatters' continued occupation.

The chairman of the Princess Bush Squatter Association, Mr Charlmane Moja, yesterday pledged to fight "for the right to stay here" and appealed to the residents of Hout Bay to "be patient and constructive about the serious housing crisis in the area."

"We don't live in shacks on other people's land because we want to," he said. "We are here because we cannot afford the travelling costs between the Cape Flats and our work in Hout Bay. "We are also here so that families can live near their wives and mothers who work as domestics in the area."
Mr Johnson Maphumulo

In a recent interview in the Sunday Times, Mr Johnson Maphumulo, a member of the Zenani movement, spoke about his experiences as a former ANC member. He highlighted the challenges faced by the movement and emphasized the importance of unity and discipline.

"I joined the ANC in 1980 and remained a member until 1994. During my time in the party, I witnessed the struggle against apartheid and the struggle for freedom. I was involved in many activities, from street protests to underground operations." Maphumulo said.

He went on to express his regret over the divisions that were created within the ANC after the release of Nelson Mandela. "I believe that South Africa could have been a more peaceful place if the party had united instead of fighting among itself," he said.

Maphumulo also shared his views on the current ANC government. "I believe that the ANC has drifted away from its original ideals. The party needs to reconnect with the people and work towards a better future," he said.

Maphumulo ended his interview by calling for unity and reconciliation among all South Africans. "We must remember that we are all South Africans and that we have a shared history," he said.
No Crossroads peace talks

By CHRISS BATEMA

PEACE talks between the two warring Old Crossroads factions failed to materialise yesterday when the ruling committee stayed away.

Yesterday marked the third relatively peaceful day in succession after a chaotic previous week which saw at least four people die and some 20 homes burnt out. Four homes were burnt out over the past 36 hours.

Old Crossroads mayor Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana was in Ciskei making funeral arrangements for a committee member who recently died in a car crash. However, fellow committee members had indicated that they would attend.

Old Crossroads Town Secretary Mr Ricky Schelhas said earlier that he believed the committee had been "fully briefed" by Mr Ngxobongwana.

Chief mediator Mr Johnson Mphukumpa yesterday addressed an assembled crowd including opposing headman Mr Jeffrey Nongwe and squatter leaders of nearby camps.

He said attempts would be made to establish a basis of "forgiveness" between both sides at a future meeting.

Previous meetings between the warring factions had produced a readiness to "step down" and allow an interim committee consisting of acknowledged and respected community organisations to take over the running of Old Crossroads.
Squatters ask F W to help

Weekend Argus Reporters HOUT Bay squatters marched to the local police station today to deliver a memorandum calling on President F W de Klerk to intervene in the growing housing crisis in the area.

The group of about 80 marchers was comprised of mostly residents of the Princess Street bush community who live on the Hout Bay beach dunes.

The march followed a heated meeting of the Hout Bay Property Owners' Association last night during which more than 300 Hout Bay residents — all members of the association — unanimously voted to pay their rates into a trust account instead of to the Regional Services Council until such time as the "current problems" have been resolved.

Mr De Nobrega, who acts as attorney for the association, said members would sign a "petition" to this effect.

Earlier, the association said it would take legal action against landlords who refused to evict squatters.

Eviction notices

More than 150 eviction notices have been served on squatters, who have until August 16 to appeal against them.

During today's march, police armed with shotguns, teargas and batons kept a close watch on proceedings but at no stage did it appear as if violence would break out.

The squatters' memorandum expressed concern over government plans to evict residents in the Princess Street settlement. The memorandum called on President de Klerk to "intervene immediately to stop any action that might lead to the eviction of any legitimate resident or the destruction of the Princess Street settlement,"

The document was compiled by members of the Disa River and Blue Valley squatter communities and the Hout Bay Action committee. It noted that negotiations were under way between ratepayers, squatters and local authorities for an acceptable solution to the crises.

The squatter community asked President de Klerk to bear in mind that "Africans were not allowed to live in Hout Bay in terms of the Group Areas Act; and that the apartheid system had impoverished the African community."

The squatters also asked for an end to police harassment,
Rates Revert

Hunt Pays

By Brown of Daves

CME July 71/80 2017

Without further ado, here’s today’s market highlights:

- **CME July 71/80 2017**
  - Hunt Pays
  - By Brown of Daves

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*Image and text content extracted from the document.*
Government, ANC in 'sort of alliance'

By MICHAEL MORRIS
Political Correspondent

The government has acknowledged that it was in "a sort of alliance" with the ANC — and other parties — to the extent that they agreed on the ground-rules of politics, according to sources.

But there was no question of the ANC "co-determining government policy", one senior source said.

He was reacting to a comment on television last night by ANC deputy president Mr Nelson Mandela that the ANC was already "in a sort of alliance" with the government.

The source acknowledged that there was a level of co-operation with the ANC but pointed out that there was a similar relationship with other parties. He defined this co-operation as "an agreement on the ground-rules of the game".

This was seen as a positive development in a country where for too long there had been no such agreement between the main black and white parties.

"So, even though one has very serious problems with the policies of the ANC — or the AWB or CP — there is a certain level up to which one has co-operation. But it is certainly not as if the ANC is co-determining government policy."

The source admitted that the notion of co-operation between the government and the ANC was the kind of thing the white right would seek to exploit to its own advantage.

The CP has often accused the government of treating the ANC as an arm of government, but without having tested the will of the people.

See page 2.

Four hacked to death

By DALE KNEEN

FOUR people were hacked to death with pangas in two separate incidents at the weekend.

In the first incident, three men allegedly attacked and killed two men and sexually assaulted a woman before hacking her to death with pangas.

The names of the dead have not yet been established but it is believed they are residents of a squatter area called Creamix, near Brackenfell.

Police said a man and a woman who were walking along a path through a bushy area were the first victims.

The three attackers allegedly robbed the men and sexually assaulted the woman before hacking them to death with pangas at 7pm on Saturday.

Later the three attackers argued with a man at a disco-theque in the area and then allegedly hacked him to death.

The bodies of the first three victims were discovered by passers-by yesterday.

Police were called and two men arrested. Detectives were still searching for the third suspect.
ON THE MARCH ... Sporting ANC banners, Hout Bay squatter leader Mr Dick Meter, right, and other Hout Bay Action Committee members and squatters march to the local police station. A memorandum calling on State President Mr F W de Klerk to intervene in the squatter issue was handed over.

13/8/90

Squatters: Tensions rise as govt ‘fails’

Staff Reporter

THE failure of government to remove newcomers to the squatter settlements in Hout Bay as promised had created a charged situation, according to the chairman of the Property Rights Association, Mr Tony Snelgar.

"There is a danger that if the law is not enforced, people outside our Association will take the law into their own hands," he warned.

Mr Snelgar refused to say if residents were arming themselves in the once peaceful valley but claimed that the crime rate had soared.

"There is no such thing as freedom without law, order and discipline. If the laws of the land are not enforced, instead of leading to freedom it will lead to anarchy," he said.

His comments follow an agreement last Friday by members of the Property Rights Association to suspend their rates until the squatter problem in the valley is solved.

The chairman of the Hout Bay Squatters Co-ordinating Committee, Mr Charlemagne Mguga, has called the rates revolt "provocative".

"We reject the unlawful attempt by the Property Rights Association to remove us from Hout Bay by engaging in a rates boycott," he said, adding that the Association's decision not to employ new squatters in Hout Bay would only lead to an increase of crime in the area.

There are now approximately 1 500 squatters in Hout Bay, as opposed to 450 squatters last year.

The Property Rights Association claims to represent 4 500 residents, including 115 paid-up members of "coloured" who remain in the background for fear of reprisal.

The Association claims that the government broke promises to:

- Appoint eight officials to patrol the area and remove newcomers;
- Provide transport for new squatters evicted from Hout Bay; and
- Demolish unnumbered shacks.

A government proposal to create a transit camp in Hout Bay for all the squatters until adequate housing was provided would be considered, according to the Legal Resources Centre representing the squatters.

TOYI GUN ... Hout Bay squatter supporters, one carrying a toy rifle, do a toyi-toyi dance during Saturday's march.
Courthaction after
farm shacks razed

The Legal Resources Centre will apply for a spolia-
tion order in an attempt to force a Piet Retief farmer
to re-erect the 30 homes he bulldozed on Friday.

As far as the centre can ascertain, no court order
was obtained prior to the demolition.

If the spoliation order is granted, the farmer will
be liable to re-erect all the structures demolished by
him and return the site to its prior condition. The
estimated cost is R65,000.

The demolition of the 30 dwellings, which took
place on Friday, left 62 people homeless.

Mr Ken Margo of the Transvaal Rural Action
Committee said the farmer, Mr H A A Klingenberg,
had been trying to evict Mr Mapopamisa Mavinbela
(63) and his "household" of 62 for more than a
year. 50.247 141.5.90

Mavinbela is a labour tenant and apparently had
an agreement with the previous owner of the farm.

Sapa.
Warning to Hoyt Bay Residents

Please note that Hoyt Bay will be closed from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, the 12th of July, due to the Hoyt Bay Race. During this time, the bay will be closed to all vessels except those participating in the race. All non-race vessels will be required to vacate the bay by 8:00 a.m. on Thursday. Any vessels remaining in the bay after that time will be subject to a $500 fine.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Hoyt Bay Race Committee
Hout Bay squatter crisis at key stage

By ESANN von RENSBURG
Staff Reporter
CRUCIAL developments in Hout Bay’s controversial squatter problem are likely to bring matters to a head as residents continue their rates boycott and an eviction deadline is reached.

Tomorrow is the deadline for Princess Bush squatters to respond to a provisional eviction order.

“No one knows where the squatters will go if the court decides that the eviction order should be made final,” said a spokesman for the Legal Resource Centre.

Local services

Said Mr Dick Meter of the Hout Bay Action Committee: “Because of the legal developments I will be very surprised if the squatters are evicted.”

The Conservative Party in Hout Bay supported the property owners’ attempt to have the squatters removed and was to hold a meeting tonight.

About 350 residents and members of the Hout Bay Property Rights Association have refused to pay rates until the problem is resolved. The Provincial Administration has said in response that services would deteriorate.

A referendum tomorrow will test public opinion on a proposal that the village become a non-racial municipality.

The Princess Bush squatters are occupying land that the three owners intend developing.

“We’ve wanted to go so for a long time, but were always told that the area was sensitive,” said co-owner Mr Andries Beyers.

Plans for 94 townhouses, a conference centre and a private beach were to be presented no later than today to the Regional Services Council.

Meanwhile, efforts to find a solution acceptable to all parties will continue. Representatives of sectors of the community had agreed on a “fairly common approach” to the housing problems after a “very positive meeting”, according to the area’s Democratic Party MP, Mr Colin Eglin.

He welcomed the government’s approach to the problem, noting an undertaking to reach general agreement with the cooperation of the whole community, ranging from the squatters to the landowners.

The meeting, last Friday, was the fourth in a series attended by all representative bodies.

“I was a bit apprehensive beforehand but it really went well and one could describe the outcome as a major exercise in public and human relations,” Mr Eglin said.

The squatter problem had served to show up the general land and housing problem in Hout Bay, he said. Community representatives had agreed to go back to their constituencies to discuss proposals arising from the meeting.
REFUGEES: Crossroads residents outside Noxolo Primary School, where they have taken refuge after the burning of their homes.

Squatters take refuge at school as shacks torched

By EDWARD MOLONYANE
Staff Reporter

MORE than 40 Crossroads families have taken refuge at a school after their shacks were torched. Moves to bring peace to the shanty town have failed.

Many residents have lost hope as violence continues between supporters of the township’s controversial mayor, Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana, and breakaway headman, Mr Jeffrey Nongwe.

The victims, most of whom have lost all their possessions, are supporters of Mr Ngxobongwana in Section One.

They have taken refuge at Noxolo Primary School, which has been deserted since fighting between pupils supporting one or other of the warring factions broke out there two weeks ago.

The school’s 35 classrooms are each occupied by up to three families.

The refugees said at the school yesterday that no-one was hurt in the fire, which raged for “a day and a night” early this week.

They alleged special constables and supporters of Mr Nongwe were responsible for the attacks. They said the trouble started when a special constable shot at a youth.

The youth, identified as 17-year-old Qolislelo Jonas, was admitted to Groote Schuur Hospital where he was treated and discharged yesterday, a hospital spokesman said.

Miss Noluthando Fakela, who shared a two-roomed shack with her younger sister, said they were lucky to escape when their shack was razed about 2am. They were left with only the clothes they were wearing.

Miss Fakela’s parents were killed when their shack was attacked and set alight last December.

She said: “Sound sleep is impossible here, so we were not really asleep at the time of this week’s attack.

“We heard footsteps outside and when my sister looked through the window she saw two men wearing balaclavas and carrying long guns. One was moving around our house as if pouring something.

“Minutes later, there were huge flames all around the house. Because we sleep with our clothes on we managed to dash out through the flames and our house was razed.”
Squatters plan to steal Hout Bay land — CP

Staff Reporter

SQUATTERS have a planned strategy to steal land from legitimate landowners in Hout Bay, says Mr Clive Derby-Lewis, CP member in the President's Council.

He was speaking last night to about 80 people who turned up for a Conservative Party meeting to discuss the area's squatter problems before today's referendum in the town.

The referendum will enable residents to choose whether to establish an own town council or stay with the regional services council.

Mr Derby-Lewis said: "In the Wild West a man who stole land would have been hanged from the nearest tree. The problem in South Africa is that the laws governing this sort of thing are not being applied."

IMPI ON DOORSTEP

"The DP liberals in control in Hout Bay have suddenly been shocked by an impi camping on their doorstep. "Squatting has become a rash, a bad disease, in the Western Cape."

South Africa was fast reaching the point where President De Klerk would have to be impeached because he was not upholding the laws he had sworn to uphold.

He attacked the concept of a non-racial municipal council with no wards, as proposed by the Hout Bay Ratepayers' Association and the Local Government Steering Committee.

Committee chairman Mr John Grierson was allowed to address the meeting. He denied that squatters living in a proposed transit camp in the area would have the right to vote in municipal elections as alleged.
Crossroads homes burn

Staff Reporter

In another fierce round of fighting, seven more homes were torched in Old Crossroads last night, bringing to 14 the number of dwellings destroyed over the past two days.

Firemen went to the scene under police guard "but left as soon as they could," as an armed group some 200-strong was seen massing in the area, a spokesman for the fire brigade said.

The seven shacks in Section One of Old Crossroads were gutted, destroying all their owners' possessions.

Several residents, their possessions piled high on trucks and vans, were also seen leaving the area yesterday.
Murder bid probe

EAST LONDON — Police confirmed yesterday that they were investigating a case of attempted murder after a news agency journalist, Miss Louise Planagan, and an African National Congress activist, Mr. Jerald Hawkes, were shot at in the city centre here on Wednesday afternoon.

Squatters in protest

BLOEMKOMBOS squatters yesterday marched 4km to the Kraaifontein police station to hand over a petition demanding that police stop "harassing squatters". Reports by Staff Reporters, Cape Correspondent, AP and UP.
Crossroads peacemaker to try again

Staff Reporter

CROSSROADS peacemaker Mr Johnson Mpukumpa is set to resume his role as mediator in the faction war after a renewed flare-up of violence that has left some 17 shacks razed and a youth badly hurt.

In a tense atmosphere yesterday, special police constables armed with shotguns patrolled the smoking ruins in Section One of the squallid squatter settlement.

A resident, Mr Velile Malwa, said groups of more than 200 had attacked each other at the boundary of areas of Old Crossroads controlled by rival leaders, Mayor Mr Johnson Ngobongwana and breakaway headman Mr Jeff Nongwe.

He said the trouble started when a "comrade", identified as Lulamile Mrubata, 17, was shot and wounded in the neck on Wednesday evening while walking to a shop through Mr Ngobongwana's territory. Retaliatory attacks had degenerated into an all-out war.

Mr Mpukumpa said he would meet residents and community leaders in Nyanga later today to decide how to resolve the conflict. He would then approach Mr Ngobongwana and Mr Nongwe with a view to calling a truce.
Local UDF to review land policy

THE Western Cape branch of the UDF and local civic organisations are to "re-evaluate the land occupation programme", at a weekend workshop following Thursday's historic squatting pact between the government and the UDF.

UDF publicity secretary Mr Willie Hofmeyr said yesterday that the Western Cape UDF hailed the government's decision to stop demolitions of squatter-shacks without prior consultations as "a great victory".

Mr Herman Kriel, Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, said in Pretoria after a meeting on Thursday with UDF co-president Mrs Albertina Sisulu and others that, "For shacks would not be demolished and the forced removal of communities would not take place without prior consultation with the communities concerned."

Mr Hofmeyr said yesterday that even before Thursday's meeting, the land occupation campaign had been suspended in respect of District Six.
ANC LAUNCH... Children entertain the crowd yesterday at the launch of the Western Cape ANC branch.

ANC launches branch in Old Crossroads

Staff Reporter

The ANC yesterday launched its biggest Western Cape branch — with a membership of over 3,500 — amid the squalor of the Old Crossroads squatter camp.

The festive launch outside squatter leader, Mr. Jeffrey Nongwe's, shack was attended by about 5,000 people who were treated to a feast of traditional “struggle” songs, dance and poetry.

The crowd cheered wildly when speakers demanded that the controversial mayor of Old Crossroads, Mr. Johnson Mgobongwana, step down and “move out of the way of freedom”.

Mr. Gladstone Ntamo of the Western Cape United Squatters' Association urged the youth of Old Crossroads to join Umkhonto we Sizwe because there was “no defence force and police in SA”.

“If there were a proper defence force and police, there would be no violence taking place in Natal, Johannesburg and elsewhere,” said Mr. Ntamo.

Mr. Ntamo also appealed to traditional leaders to reject the Transkei Association of Traditional Leaders and urged them to support the ANC-affiliated Congress of Traditional Leaders of SA.

The meeting was chaired by squatter leader Mr. Christopher Vaste.
Squatters Win Landmark Judgment

By ROXIE MORGAN

CAIR NEWS 2/18/86

In a landmark decision, a court ruled in favor of a group of squatters who had been occupying a vacant lot in the city for several years. The decision was a significant victory for the squatters, who had been facing eviction for years. The court ruled that the squatters had a right to occupy the land as they had been using it for years, and that the city had no legal basis for evicting them.

The case was a major victory for the squatters, who had been fighting for their right to stay on the land for years. The decision was seen as a major victory for the rights of squatters, and it set a precedent for similar cases in the future.

The decision was met with widespread support, and it was seen as a major victory for the rights of squatters. The case has been hailed as a major victory for the rights of squatters, and it is expected to set a precedent for similar cases in the future.

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The decision was met with widespread support, and it was seen as a major victory for the rights of squatters. The case has been hailed as a major victory for the rights of squatters, and it is expected to set a precedent for similar cases in the future.
30 years under the prison wall

Staff Reporter

ONE of the longest-established squatter communities in the Peninsula is the scarcely noticeable settlement among tall bushes on the far side of Polismoor Prison.

Some of the squatters there told the Cape Times yesterday that they had lived in the same place for more than 30 years.

Mr Elvis Petterson, 32, said he had been born in the squatter camp and "hardly knew what a real room looked like". His parents, Mr William Brinkhuis and Mrs Jeanette Petterson, are still living there.

The state land on which he lives is at the end of the Blue Route on the Polismoor Prison side of the road.

Mr Petterson said he remembered that there used to be nine shacks in that area 12 or 13 years ago.

Gradually more people had moved in, many of them arriving after being forced off nearby

OLD TIMERS . . . Mr and Mrs William Brinkhuis, who have lived in the squatter area for decades.

The squatters live there in peace, as their presence is accepted by the authorities. Almost all were keen to reveal how many years they had been on the Council's housing waiting list.

A soup kitchen run by the House of Representatives visits every Thursday and sometimes charities provide the squatters with second-hand clothes, they said. One of the shacks has a TV set run off a car battery, but most of the squatters live in abject poverty.

Older residents can remember a time when shacks used to be demolished, some years ago. Mr Petterson said his shack was once burned down by white people who were subsequently caught and punished.

Mr Daglin Davids, who has lived there seven years, said he lived on the occasional game fowl and makes that he caught, waterblommies and sheep's heads which he bought.
Further reprieve for Hout Bay squatters

By RONNIE MORRIS
Supreme Court Reporter

HOUT BAY squatters at the Princess Bush community yesterday won a further reprieve from being ejected from the land when an interim Supreme Court interdict against them was extended to September 19.

Mr Acting Justice W A van Deventer also ordered that opposing affidavits be filed before September 7 and replying affidavits before September 14.

Costs are to stand over.

The squatters are opposing the ejectment application brought by property owners Mr Andries Wessels Beyers, Mr Willem Pretorius and Mr Jan Schuurmans-Siekhoven.

They blamed the squatters for trespassing, causing extensive pollution in the area, theft and threatening personal safety.

The land the squatters were occupying was worth about R3 million and is situated in the heart of the Hout Bay residential area, extended from Princess Street down to the sea, they said.

The majority of the squatters were hostile to the owners who had been deprived of possession of their land, Mr Beyers claimed.

The squatters opposed the granting of a final order and also attacked the question of urgency. Negotiations were under way with the authorities for them to be housed on an alternative site.

Delivering judgment, Mr Acting Justice Van Deventer said:

"The Roman-Dutch concept of ownership and its incidental rights is not only fundamental to our legal system but also to our socio-economic structure. "Absolute protection of our proprietary rights is one of the very pillars of an orderly society."

The courts will therefore unhesitatingly enforce possessory and proprietary rights in the public interest.

"Misappropriation or unlawful appropriators who act outside the law invoke retaliation."

"It is therefore in the public interest, and our courts will always strive to ensure that possessory or other proprietary rights be restored to an unlawfully dispossessed applicant as expeditiously as possible," Mr Acting Justice Van Deventer said.

About 20 copies of the court order are to be made available to Mr Charlismagne Mgunzi, chairperson of the Princess Bush Committee. A copy is to be fixed at a central place and the order will also be read by loudhailer from a central point.

Mr David Knight SC, acted for Mr John Weisz, instructed by the Legal Resources Centre, appeared for some of the squatters. Mr Charles Lean, instructed by Mr Asha Bier of De Kock and Van Goud, appeared for the owners.
Families on Disa River farm settlement given eviction notice

By ESANN van RENSBERG
Stoff Reporter

SQUATTERS living on the Disa River farm settlement in Hout Bay have been given an eviction notice by the landowners, Orplington Investments — a Trust Bank subsidiary — and could soon be removed from the land.

This follows a Supreme Court eviction notice issued earlier this year in terms of which a 74-year-old man and his family who had lived on the land for more than 30 years were ordered to move.

The court ruled that although the Anthony family claimed to have lived on Erf 2438 for 30 years, it gave them no right to occupy the property.

In February Mr Justice Conradie ordered the squatter family to pay the costs of the application against them and said he had considered at one stage ordering defence counsel to pay the costs if they continued with “reckless and irresponsible” litigation.

But Mr Fraser Anthony refused to move from his shack and said that he and his 78-strong family would remain there.

“We settled here because there is no group area catering for blacks who work in Hout Bay. We are not going to move because we have nowhere else to go,” he said at the time.

MONTHS OF SILENCE

Miss Vanessa Matthews, a spokesman for the Disa River squatters, said the warrant of ejectment for people to vacate the property had come after months of silence.

“We are sure this latest action comes as a result of the Hout Bay Property Rights Association’s pressure on landowners to order the eviction of squatters from private land,” said Miss Matthews.

At this stage there was no clear indication of when the squatters would be evicted, Miss Matthews said.
'Council must find land for squatters'

By GILL TURNBULL, Supreme Court Reporter

In a landmark decision, a Cape Town Supreme Court judge has ruled that a Stellenbosch black town council must establish a transit camp for squatters before evicting them from land destined for council housing.

Mr Justice J H Conradie handed down judgment yesterday in the dispute between the Kayamandi Town Council and two squatters named as occupying land intended for council housing.

An urgent application for the eviction of the two squatters and about 150 others who had moved on to the land was brought before the Supreme Court on May 15.

Court jurisdiction

Mr Justice Conradie said that because the squatters could not be identified — because there were too many of them and they moved around — the council was asking for a decree, not an order, and this was outside the jurisdiction of a court.

Mr Justice Conradie said it was not disputed that no thought had been given to a transit camp, although the applicants had considered the acute housing shortage.

"What is to become of the squatters? ... If they are driven from one place they would merely go to another, invading the living space of others and affecting the community as a whole.

"It is no solution to say they should go back from whence they came."

In dismissing the application with costs, Mr Justice Conradie said: "I cannot say that the respondents are not to be ejected but what I do say is that the applicant must consider what is to become of them."

Mr L J Krige, instructed by Mr B Waglay of K-Monas and Associates, appeared for the squatters. The council was represented by Mr C Louw, instructed by Bothman and Hayward.
Landmark decision on squatter evictions

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The Cape Town Supreme Court has ruled that a Stellenbosch black town council must establish a transit camp for squatters before evicting them from land destined for council housing.

Mr Justice JH Conradie handed down judgment yesterday in the dispute between the Kayamandi Town Council and two squatters named as occupying the land.

An urgent application for the eviction of the two respondents and about 150 others who had moved onto the land was brought before the court on May 15.

Mr Justice Conradie said that because the respondents could not be identified — as there were too many of them, and they moved around — the applicants were asking for a decree, not an order, and this was outside the jurisdiction of a court.

"The Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act imposes duties upon a local authority, and while it does not specifically mention what these entail, it is clear that alternative land is to be considered."

Driven

Mr Justice Conradie said it was not disputed that no thought had been given to a transit camp, although it was stated that the applicants had taken the acute housing shortage into consideration.

"What is to become of the squatters? Moving them from their present site would have social implications, and if they are driven from one place they would merely go to another, invading the living space of others and affecting the community as a whole."

"It is no solution to say they should go back where they came from."

In dismissing the application, Mr Justice Conradie added: "I cannot say that the respondents are not to be evicted, but what I do say is that the applicant must consider their fate."

LJ Krieger, instructed by B Waglay of E Moosa and Associates, appeared for the group of squatters. The council was represented by C Lout, instructed by Bornman and Hayward.
Land to be found for Hout Bay's squatters

By ESANN van Rensburg
Staff Reporter

HOUT BAY is a step closer to finding a solution to its squatter problem after a successful meeting — the fifth in a series — between all groups.

A five-hour meeting yesterday between representatives from the CPA, the Hout Bay Squatter Committee, the Ratepayers Association and the Property Rights Association resulted in agreement on several issues.

The meeting resolved that there had to be a rational and systematic way of dealing with overcrowding in the harbour area and with the need to re-settle those people who were squatting illegally in such a manner that would give them legal security of tenure.

The meeting agreed that:

- A body known as the Hout Bay Development Trust would be established through which representatives of the community, government departments and people and organisations who could make a financial and planning contribution could co-operate to carry out this project.

- A team of professional town planning consultants would be appointed to draw up a strategic and structural plan which would address the immediate and long-term development needs of Hout Bay.

- Mr Colin Appleton, a development consultant, would be invited to accept the appointment as project co-ordinator. He would have a mandate to attend to the setting up of the Hout Bay Development Trust and the appointment of the town planning consultants in consultation with the community and government departments.

Handling of the situation in the short-term is still under consideration and will be discussed at a meeting within the next two weeks.

Meanwhile groups have said they intend to meet to resolve differences.

Identification

The final identification of land will be handled by the town planners. A possibility of acquiring either private or State-owned land existed, said Mr Koos Theron, member of the provincial executive committee.

The size of such land would probably have to be between 10 and 15 hectares, he said.

But the threat of eviction hanging over the heads of the Princess Bush and Disa River farm squatters still existed, Mr Theron said.

Mr Colin Eglin MP said it was essential that a development trust had to handle the resources and funds needed to solve the housing needs in the area.
PAC claim brutal attacks by ANC
UP WITH JONESES . . . Princess Bush squatter Mr Abel Liman, of Hout Bay, with his dog Lionel outside his imaginatively walled beachfront shack. He is not sure where the board used as a wall comes from.

Another exciting news BEACH FRONT DEVELOPMENT COMPRISING OF FULLY ENCLOSED FREE STANDING CONTEMPORARY HOMES.

Clues on Hout Bay squatter site

By PETER DENNYH

ALL parties to the Hout Bay squatter dispute kept resolutely silent yesterday on the question of which land might be allocated to the squatters, but the Cape Times was able to identify a likely area.

The first clue was a small orange "x" flagging seen on a map of Hout Bay hanging on the wall of the library hall during a meeting of all parties concerned on Tuesday.

The map was hurriedly being rolled up when the press was allowed into the meeting after consensus had been reached on some issues.

A second clue was provided when Democratic Party MP for Hout Bay Mr Colin Eglinton said during the press conference that "the state has said that there is land and that it will be made available".

Mr Koos Theron, a member of the Cape Provincial Administration's executive committee who chaired the meeting, did not contradict Mr Eglinton, but he added that the possibility of buying land from private owners could not be ruled out.

Mr Theron also provided a third clue when he said that although planners would determine how much land was needed, "we are thinking of 10 to 15 hectares".

A map from the Regional Services Council (RSC) showed yesterday that the state, or its local arm the RSC, owns only two pieces of land in Hout Bay — apart from a sliver of land on the beachfront which would obviously be unsuitable.

One seems too small. The other, near the Victoria and Main Road intersections, is being used as a tree and shrub nursery, forestry station and road-maintenance camp.

Princess Bush resident Ms Maria Dungale said yesterday: "If we get land in Hout Bay, then we will be willing to move, but we must move with our houses, we don't want tents. We want a permanent place in Hout Bay."

Hout Bay Ratepayers' Association chairman Mr Peter Cooke confirmed that all the other pieces of state land (other than the nursery/forestry station land) were too small, but he did not wish to rule out buying private land.

Provincial Administration spokesman Mr Van Heerden Hennis declined to comment.
Angry Crossroaders plea with the PAC: Defend us!

By VUYO BAVUMA, Staff Reporter

ANGRY Old Crossroads residents claim the African National Congress is collaborating with squatter leader Mr Jeffrey Nongwe, who they allege burnt their houses and attacked them — but this has been denied by the ANC.

At a Pan Africanist Congress Press conference yesterday residents also accused the police of taking sides against them and said they wanted the PAC to defend them against these "senseless" attacks.

Resident Mr Benedict Matho alleged that police were involved in helping Mr Nongwe in the conflict.

Truce a failure

Another resident said the truce between the warring factions after peace talks initiated by the government in July was a failure because it had never been conveyed to the people.

He said he fetches his son from school every day to protect him against attacks by supporters of Mr Nongwe.

Teachers from three schools said they were worried as their pupils could not get to school because of the violence.

"Amid this violence, our main priority remains that of providing education. We have decided to accept children from the other areas because we know that the children cannot reach other schools," said a teacher at Mkhangelu Higher Primary.

Another teacher said pupils were being chased away from school by Mr Nongwe's supporters.

Mrs Patricia de Lille, spokesman for the PAC in the Western Cape, said the organisation intended to defend its members from attacks.

"It's going to be tragic if the Western Cape is now to suffer the fate of the horrifying violence of the Transvaal.

"It's our view that where ANC supporters failed to persuade people to join them they resort to extreme intimidation and violence against those who make a democratic choice," Mrs De Lille said.

The PAC has denied attacking or threatening PAC members in Crossroads and said it was not "even aware the organisation existed in the area."

A father saved his son from being kidnapped by henchmen in Old Crossroads.

The son was attacked about midday yesterday near Noxolo Primary — now home to 200 refugees whose houses were torched in the recent fighting.

Women residents at Noxolo quickly spread the word that the boy was being "dragged away."

A girl arrived at the school and told residents the attackers had threatened to assault and take her as well if she did not run away.

Within minutes the boy's father and reinforcements — mostly armed youths — assembled on the border of the territories.

Soon after the son was freed one of his captors
Urgent talks on Bay transit camp

Staff Reporter 24/1/90 (397)

THE Hout Bay Property Rights Association held an urgent meeting last night to discuss a proposed transit camp on prime land.

"We have gone on record on numerous occasions for a planned solution to the problem of overcrowding in the harbour area and for historical squatters in the valley," a statement from the association said after the meeting.

"We believe the proposed decision by the State for a transit camp in Hout Bay is hasty and needs to be tested in the community."

"It should also be linked to the future and long-term planning of Hout Bay."

The association said it had therefore called for a public meeting on Thursday, August 29, to review the matter.

The member of the provincial executive committee for the Cape, Mr. Koos Theron, and Mr Colin Eglin, MP for Sea Point, would be invited to speak.
Old Crossroads Leader lashes out at PAC
Squatter row a 'blessing' for Hout Bay

Staff Reporter

THE Hout Bay squatter controversy is a “blessing in disguise” for city planners who are now using the opportunity to make long-term plans acceptable to the majority of residents for the region, informed sources said yesterday.

The emotive issue, which has seen the Hout Bay Property Owners’ Association initiating a rates boycott, squatters marching to deliver petitions and racial tensions rising, had forced city planners into taking a “realistic long-term view”, well-placed source said yesterday.

An umbrella body called the Hout Bay Development Trust and incorporating all interested parties was set up at a meeting in Hout Bay on Tuesday.

The meeting resolved to appoint a team of town planners to draw up a strategic and structural plan to address “both immediate solutions and the longer-term development needs of Hout Bay”.

One source said the issue could result in Hout Bay becoming a model for future suburbs in a post-apartheid era once the Group Areas Act was scrapped.

Present planning was taking a “15 to 20 year” view and would take into account overcrowded fishermen’s flats in the harbour, harbour redevelopment and the potential siting of new hotels.

Another source said state land outlined in the Cape Times yesterday was just one of “several options”. This included swapping state land for private land on which squatters could be housed.

Among the organisations involved are all local resident associations, the Urban Planning Research Unit, the Jan Steyn development trust, the Legal Resources Centre, the CPA and central government.
Crossroads violence continues

Staff Reporters

VIOLENCE continued in the strife-torn township of Old Crossroads last night when a shack was destroyed in a fire.

Firemen put out the blaze in the Boys Town section, preventing it from spreading to other shacks.

Yesterday a meeting called about the refugee crisis at Noxolo Primary School in Crossroads ended abruptly when a large crowd threw stones at the gathering, a teacher said.

The meeting had been called by concerned teachers from the neighbouring Sebenza Secondary and Imbas Primary Schools to address the growing "refugee crisis" at the school.

A member of the teachers' delegation said the teachers from the schools were concerned there were no classes at Noxolo Primary School because the Department of Education and Training had failed to take "decisive action".

But a DET spokesman said the situation was out of its control because Noxolo school did not belong to the department but to the Old Crossroads community.

The teacher said it was planned to mediate between the two warring factions separately to resolve "at least the schooling part"
Court told of Crossroads shooting

By FEROZA MILLER
Staff Reporter

An Old-Crossroads resident told the Wynberg Regional Court that she saw headman Mr. Jeffrey Nongwe fire shots from the driver's seat of a minibus while a large group of men wearing balaclavas threw petrol bombs at houses.

Mr. Nongwe, 54, has been charged with four counts of arson and three of malicious damage to property.

It is alleged that he caused about R26 000 damage to houses put up by the Old Crossroads committee.

NEW HOUSE

Mr. Nongwe has pleaded not guilty.

Mrs Priscilla Mazele said that on March 2 she moved into a new house in Old-Crossroads.

"I was awakened by the sound of a car engine. I looked out of the window and saw close to 100 men approaching on foot. The men were wearing balaclavas. One man was in the driver's seat of a silver-grey Volkswagen kombi — he was Mr Nongwe," Mrs Mazele said.

The hearing continues today.
Shacks destroyed in Crossroads battle

By EDWARD MOLOPOYANE
Staff Reporter

EIGHT more shacks have been torched and two teenagers are believed to have been wounded by birdshot in a "fierce battle" between two warring factions at Noxolo Primary School in Crossroads, residents said.

The school has been the scene of violent incidents since supporters of Crossroads mayor Mr. Johnson Ngxobongwana took refuge there after the torching of their shacks in feuding two weeks ago.

Refugees at the school, growing daily, said the incident took place about 1pm yesterday when two special constables guarding them had left.

They said a few minutes later, before the arrival of replacement guards, "a huge singing crowd" advanced from Section Four, which is rival leader Mr. Jeffrey Nongwe's stronghold.

There were mostly youngsters, women and children on the school premises at the time of the attack, they said.

"The crowd positioned themselves outside the gates and many stones rained down. There was a stampede to take cover in the classroom. But our youngsters could not take if any longer and they counter-attacked.

"It was terrible as children screamed and windows were shattered. The ordeal lasted for about five minutes," said Mrs. Ntimile Blackie.

When The Argus arrived at the school two hours later two police vehicles were there.

A group of youths, apparently from Section Four, could be seen about 80m from the police vehicles.

Sources at the Crossroads Day Hospital said two youths had been treated for birdshot wounds.

Mr. Nongwe's supporters have denied that they were responsible for the attacks.

Many parts of the normally congested shantytown have been laid bare since the burning of shacks began.

Piles of burnt-out corrugated iron are now a feature of most parts of Section One.

Mr. Ngxobongwana's deserted property, the only core house in Old Crossroads, has also been attacked and partly burnt.

Mr. Ngxobongwana is in Ciskei, a Crossroads Town Committee member said yesterday.
Kitscop ‘was told how to testify’

Court Reporter

A SPECIAL constable and witness in the Wynberg Regional Court trial of Old Crossroads headman Mr Jeffrey Nongwe yesterday refused to corroborate the evidence of another special constable whom he said had told him how to testify.

Special Constable Nkotensani Tsole, of the Nyanga police station, told a packed courtroom that Constable Albertus van Wyk had told him to say he had stood guard at Mr Nongwe’s home and that, shortly after midnight on March 3, he had noticed that ‘Mr Nongwe and his car were not at home.’

During questioning by the prosecutor, Mr Ben Julius, Constable Nkotensani said that in fact he had never been to Mr Nongwe’s home.

Mr Nongwe, 54, has been charged with four counts of arson and three of malicious damage to property. The state alleges that he caused about R26 000 damage to houses put up by the Old Crossroads committee.

‘Mr Nongwe had pleaded not guilty... The trial was adjourned to October-3.'
Crossroads strife drives many away

By CHRIS BATEMAN

HUNDREDS of Old Crossroads refugees, mainly supporters of absent mayor Mr. Johnson Ngxobongwana, have begun streaming out of the strife-torn squatter camp to find alternative accommodation.

The mini-exodus began at the weekend after further petrol-bomb attacks on homes surrounding the burnt-out shell of Mr Ngxobongwana’s house and similar attacks on newly-built homes nearby.

Mr Ngxobongwana’s home was torched on Friday. The controversial mayor is away in the Ciskei, reportedly to attend to funeral arrangements for fellow committee member Mr. Alfred Geil.

Police arrested two people and confiscated two shotguns and several petrol bombs in the vicinity of his home over the weekend. An attempted murder docket was opened following the slight wounding of a man by gunfire on Saturday.

Some 200 women and children supporters of Mr Ngxobongwana are still sheltering in the Nokolo Primary School near his home after their homes were torched, allegedly by supporters of breakaway headman Mr. Jeffrey Nongwe.

Schooling at this and two other local schools has been disrupted for several weeks.

Mr. Ricky Schelhase, town clerk of Old Crossroads, revealed yesterday that since the internecine violence broke out over a housing fund two years ago, damage estimated at R1 million had been wrought in the squatter camp.

Torching

Supporters of Mr. Nongwe, who is also the ANC chairman in Old Crossroads, yesterday expressed concern at the weekend appearance of PAC member and former Ngxobongwana lieutenant Mr. Prince Gobingea.

Mr Gobingea, who blamed the ANC for the torching of his R23 000 Khayelitsha home in June this year, was present at the weekend launch of the PAC in Old Crossroads.

Mr Gladstone Ntamo, a member of the Old Crossroad mediation committee, said yesterday that both factions had agreed to attend a peace meeting in Salt River tomorrow. Mr. Ngxobongwana however, is still away in the Ciskei.
SAP to probe 'ANC support'

By MONICA GRAAFF
Crime Reporter

POLICE yesterday undertook to investigate PAC allegations that special constables were supporting the ANC in the Old Crossroads faction fighting.

Regional deputy commissioner Brigadier Nick Acker announced this after a meeting at police headquarters between PAC leader Mr Prince Gobinge and top policemen.

The fighting is between supporters of the absent Crossroads mayor, Mr Johnson Ngxobengwana, and those of breakaway headman Mr Jeffrey Nongwe.

Mr Gobinge, a squatter leader in Green Point, Khayelitsha, claimed that most of Mr Ngxobengwana’s supporters were now PAC members.

Mr Nongwe's side had openly supported the ANC since February 2, when it was unbanned.

Mr Gobinge, who initiated yesterday’s meeting which was described by both sides as “fruitful” and “genial”, asked police to end "their partisan backing" of Mr Nongwe's faction.

At an impromptu press conference after the meeting, Mr Gobinge accused the ANC of intimidating PAC members by "burning down our shacks".

Mr Gobinge, whose own Green Point home was burnt down last month, said the PAC was therefore "duty-bounded" to go to the assistance of its Old Crossroads members, "all of whom have lost their homes to ANC arson attacks and who have been forced to seek refuge at Noxolo Primary School".

According to Sapa, SABC radio reported yesterday that violence flared in Old Crossroads yesterday afternoon when a group of youths stoned shacks in Section One before settling them alight.
Katlehong services ‘collapse’

SEWERAGE blockages are imminent in the East Rand township of Katlehong as all equipment has become unserviceable due to the lack of repair and maintenance funds.

In a statement, Katlehong mayor Gideon Molotsi said essential services in the township were “collapsing” as the rent boycott continued. The rent boycott began in Katlehong about five months ago.

Molotsi added that, apart from the blockage of sewers, refuse and rubble could not be removed in the township any longer as his council owed a private firm “a considerable amount of money”.

This private firm suspended its services on Tuesday, Molotsi said.

“Also, certain sections of the township have been without electricity for six days because most of the power substations are not serviced regularly due to the lack of funds. Some of the substations have also been destroyed by acts of vandalism,” he said.

Molotsi appealed to the community to pay at least “the temporary flat rates” to enable the council to provide essential services.

Monthly flat rates are R20 for people without electricity, R30 for people who have electricity and R130 for shop owners.

Crossroads mayor ‘rejects peace call’

CAPE TOWN — An opponent of Crossroads mayor Johnson Nkobongwana, Jeffrey Nongwe, said yesterday he was prepared to “talk peace”.

He had conveyed this to the controversial leader — but had received a negative reply.

Old Crossroads resembled a deserted war zone yesterday. For more than two weeks faction fighting has brought normal community life to a standstill.

More than 30 shacks were torched on Wednesday. A number were still smouldering yesterday as residents salvaged building materials and prepared to move away.

Nongwe was one of Nkobongwana’s headmen, but a dispute over rent caused him to break away with 16 other headmen.

Nkobongwana’s brick house, the only one in the area, was burnt to the ground at the weekend. It had been shot at on a number of occasions.

“We have had enough fighting. I do not know why Nkobongwana does not want to talk. The children must go to school, we cannot go on like this,” Nongwe said.

More than 50 families whose shacks were razed moved into classrooms at Noxolo Primary School, forcing the school to close. After negotiations, the people moved to the Topcor Training Centre and from there to temporary tents nearby, while others put up shacks.

By Charles Schulz
Remark on city squatters

THE Cape Times has received a letter from attorneys acting for Noordhoek businessman Mr Jeffrey Alfred Louw following a report in yesterday's Cape Times which quoted "Mr Louw" as having suggested at a Noordhoek residents' meeting that bulldozers should be hired and the Noordhoek squatter camps razed.

The attorneys say the remark attributed to Mr Louw is incorrect and that he in fact said bulldozers should be employed to thin out the Fort Jackson bush, which in turn, would facilitate influx control and curb the establishment of illegal squatter colonies.
50 Mission squat at Sheds demolished

RIGHT: Women and children with their possessions after their shacks had been destroyed.

LEFT: A post office where talks a chin-saw to a squatters illegal makeshift home in Milton. Opposite the reconnaiss
Squatter assurance 'broken'

AN attorney for the Milnerton squatters said yesterday that he was drawing up a memorandum to Mr Hernus Kriel, saying that this week's shack demolitions amounted to a breach of an undertaking by Mr Kriel.

Last month Mr Kriel, Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, said forced removals of squatters or demolitions of shacks would not take place without consultation with "the communities concerned".

Mr Kriel's statement was made after a meeting with Mrs Albertina Sisulu and other UDF office-bearers, and it resulted in the UDF abandoning its announced programme of land occupation.

Attorney Mr Barry Adams said it was his contention that there had been no consultation in the case of the Milnerton squatters.

Mr Kriel is overseas until Monday, according to his administrative secretary, Mr Richard Kruger.

Mr Adams said he had been given to understand that the UDF had also taken up the Milnerton squatter demolitions with Mr Kriel's office, which had referred the matter to Mr Koos Theron, a member of the Cape Provincial executive committee.
Disabled squatters need material to build shacks

By EDWARD MOLOINYANE, Staff Reporter

THIRTEEN Khayelitsha squatters, being moved to a new area cannot use the worn-out material from their old shacks and the authorities have been unsympathetic to their pleas for help.

The squatters are mainly elderly pensioners and unemployed disabled people. Their shacks are in Green Point, one of Khayelitsha's most squally and violent squatter settlements.

The Lingeletlu Town Council in the township is moving Green Point squatters to an area with tarred streets, high-mast lighting and proper sanitation north of Monwabisi beach.

Lingeletlu-town clerk Mr. Graham Lawrence said the new area would house 3199 families when the resettlement — which started last month — was completed.

The group, most of whom have been living in Green Point since the squatter camp sprung up in 1986, said the idea to move to the new area appealed to them and they were happy about it.

Unemployed single parents

But they said the building material in their present structures was too old to use to build other shacks.

Spokesman Mr. Mhlangatoni said some of the squatters were unemployed single parents with no source of income. Others had been battling for the past few months to get their old age pensions.

They had approached the Lingeletlu Town Council for assistance in the form of corrugated iron, nails, planks and poles. But an official had told them there was nothing the council could do.

Mr. Lawrence said he didn't know about the group.

"But if they bring their problems to my attention through the correct channels and we are able to establish their bona fides, we may be able to provide manpower for the demolition and the erection of their new homes. We obviously cannot give them building material unless it's at a price."

Anyone willing to assist with building material can contact the Mitchell's Plain Advice Office at: 38 7120.
District Six ‘model’ for new SA

CAPE TOWN — District Six provided a golden opportunity as a model for post-apartheid town and regional planning, Cape Administrator Kobus Melring said yesterday.

Addressing the annual conference of the SA Institute of Town and Regional Planners, Melring said the Cape Town suburb, which had become a symbol of apartheid, could be transformed into a model for future development in SA.

"No one can take away the hurt or wish away the emotion of District Six. But someone can make it live again by turning it into a home that is more attractive than the one that existed previously," he said.

District Six’s future as a post-Group Areas suburb is currently back on the drawing board of a heavyweight working group consisting of the Cape Provincial Administration, the Cape Town City Council, the ANC, the UDF, private property developers and landowners.

The group’s brief is to synchronise the planning of future developments in the suburb and to ensure that provision is made for affordable and widely acceptable housing.

Simplify

Melring also gave his full support for the increasing insistence on greater community involvement in town and regional planning.

"I share the view that John Citizen’s participation in and co-responsibility for planning matters can curb dissatisfaction significantly, and considerably simplify and expedite the envisioned developments.

"I, therefore, believe that citizen commitment to public affairs should not be limited to the occasional ballot box, but should also entail responsible, representative and continuous participation in planning issues," he said.

Melring warned that urbanisation would place growing pressure on the infrastructure and the funds provided by local authorities. This, coupled with increasing levels of unemployment, would mean that large-scale poverty would remain a way of life for many people.

Squatting would increase and government institutions would experience growing pressure for the provision of serviced sites for informal settlement.

It was therefore of the utmost importance that deregulation occurred at all levels to encourage the informal sector to create more jobs.
CAPTAIN Tony Snelgar, leader of the Property Rights Association group which took over the Hout Bay Ratepayers' executive in an election this week, said yesterday that all-party negotiations on the squatter issue would continue.

Captain Snelgar, who pilots Boeing 747 jets, said yesterday that he would not be standing for election as the new ratepayers' chairman. Any of the 13 newly elected committee members, not necessarily one of the nine Property Rights Association members, could be chosen as chairman, he said.

He did not wish Ratepayers' Association issues to be confused with those of the Property Rights Association, as they were different organisations with different goals, he said.

The new ratepayers' executive committee intended to be pro-active on all issues, he said — development, conservation, encouraging tourism, extending the bird sanctuary and running the ratepayers' association "on proper management lines".

On the squatter issue, he said that in the past the Ratepayers' Association had taken a stand against the Property Rights Association during negotiations. "That will no longer take place. We will speak with one voice," he said.

The Property Rights Association had initiated the talks with the government and the squatters, and it had also initiated the appointment of the planners.

"We will continue with the process, more strongly than ever."

The new ratepayers' executive wanted to build bridges in the valley between people of all races and place an open agenda on the table "to lay down the ground rules for multi-racial or non-racial government for Hout Bay", said Captain Snelgar.
Squatter site ‘far from finalised’

Municipal Reporter

NOORDHOEK squatters said yesterday that they believed they were going to be granted land near Imhoff’s Gift, just north of the Kommetjie Road beside a new factory site and a sewage works.

But according to ministerial representative Mr Jimmy Olo, who had a meeting with squatters and other interested parties yesterday, a site for the squatters was “far from finalised”.

Several squatters interviewed yesterday by the Cape Times said they understood it was likely they would move only a few hundred metres from their present site towards Ocean View.

Ms Sandra Liebenberg, an attorney acting for the squatters, said she was unable to comment, but an announcement was expected within the next two weeks.
Anger after police raid squatter camp

THE Grabouw Community Organisation (Gro) has called for an urgent meeting with the local municipality to discuss a police raid on squatters on Wednesday morning.

Police arrested seven squatters with two babies after they moved onto a vacant plot on Gaffly Street in the Boland town.

The squatters moved onto the plot two weeks ago after a member of their community died in the muddy field where they were living in Russel Street.

"After Mrs Dinah Williams died in July, we informed the municipality that we were moving the squatters into Gaffly Street," said Gro secretary, Mr I Koertje.

"Although the autopsy showed that she had died of natural causes, we knew the conditions in the Russel Street camp contributed to her death.

"We want the municipality to give the squatters permission to live in Gaffly Street before more of them die," he said.

The squatters have been warned to appear in court on October 17."
Judgment reserved on plea to eject squatters

tackled the question of urgency. Negotiations were under way with the relevant authorities for them to be housed on an alternative site, they said.

Mr David Knight SC, for the squatters, said that if any order for ejectment was made it should be made operative only from a date six months from the court order.

Immediate ejectment would leave the owners with a heap of empty sand while they awaited developments elsewhere, while the squatter community would be scattered and homeless just when they appeared to be "within sight of a place of their own".

Mr Knight was assisted by Mr J. Badenhorst, instructed by the Legal Resources Centre, and Mr Charles Lewis, instructed by Mr Adele Benedict of De Kock and Van Den Berg attorneys for the owners.

Mr Justice D M Williamson, Mr Justice A M van Niekerk and Mr Justice J G Foxcroft heard argument in support of and against an application for the ejectment of the squatters from the land owned by Mr Andries Wessels Beyer, Mr Willem Pretorius and Mr Jan Schuurmans-Stekhoven.

They claimed in papers that the land, worth about R3 million and situated in the heart of the Hout Bay residential area, extended from Princess Street down to the sea.

Mr Beyer claimed the squatters for causing extensive pollution in the area, trespassing, theft and threats to personal safety and said the majority were hostile to the owners, who had in the process been deprived of possession of the land.

The squatters opposed the application and al-
Crossroads violence flares after talks

By CHRIS BATEMAN

VIOLANCE flared in Old Crossroads yesterday only hours after a police-arranged peace meeting between arch-rivals Mayor Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana and breakaway headman Mr Jeffrey Nongwe had degenerated into a slanging match.

Sources at the camp's town committee offices said Mr Nongwe had stormed into the offices demanding "the reason" for an alleged stoning of vehicles used by him and his committee near Mr Ngxobongwana's Section One stronghold.

Earlier the rival committees and their respective leaders had met behind closed doors at the request of and under the chairmanship of Brigadier Frik Kellerman, Western Cape Operational Unit chief.

At media question time, after Brigadier Kellerman had told the assembled reporters that both leaders had "reached a peace agreement", they each launched into a verbal attack on the other.

Mr Ngxobongwana accused a community-based mediation committee, consisting of ANC-linked organisations, of bias.

The committee was set up by Western Cape Hotel Dwellers' Association chairman Mr Johnson Mthukumza, after both sides had met the Minister of Provincial Affairs and Planning, Mr Hernus Kriel, on July 10.

Mr Nongwe said he did not see how police could act as mediators and asked why Mr Ngxobongwana had not reported back to Mr Kriel that the community mediation had gone away.

Brigadier Kellerman intervened several times to restore order before telling reporters: "Our only function now is to keep these two groups apart — we are just concerned about law and order, we don't know about other peace committees."

He said more policemen would be sent in to reinforce army troops guarding a recently completed Old Crossroads housing complex.

Mr Nongwe afterwards declined an invitation by Brigadier Kellerman to be photographed shaking hands or standing with Mr Ngxobongwana.

Mr Nongwe has been the former chief headman of Old Crossroads, broke away from Mr Ngxobongwana's ruling committee over 18 months ago, taking 14 of 19 other headmen with him and alleging gross mismanagement of community housing funds.

A lengthy police investigation failed to result in prosecution of Mr Ngxobongwana but he was warned by the Attorney General to exercise care in future community fund-raising.

Ongoing battles since then have resulted in the death of scores of people, the burning of hundreds of shacks, predominantly in Mr Ngxobongwana's territory, and in hundreds of people seeking refuge in other townships.
Running battle in Old Crossroads

Staff Reporter

TROOPS and police intervened to stop a running battle over housing between residents of Phase Two, Old Crossroads and nearby "Boys Town" this week. 

Old Crossroads Town Secretary Mr Ricky Schelhase said yesterday that Tuesday's violence was the result of long-standing resentment by "Boys Town" residents of occupants of the recently built 874-house Phase Two scheme. 

The "Boys Town" residents formerly lived on the land now occupied by the housing scheme and felt that they had first option of being resettled there.

However, most of them were unable to produce rent cards, identity documents or proof of paid-up service charges which were the Town Committee's "only preconditions" for occupation of the new homes, Mr Schelhase said.

"We are quite prepared to give them time to pay arrears so they can move in but they seldom take advantage of this offer."

Mr Schelhase said a "running battle" in which bottles, stones and bricks were hurled, erupted on Tuesday. Nobody was hurt.

Police said they fired teargas when two rival groups "threw stones and bottles" at each other. The crowd then dispersed.

On Tuesday two women and a man were burnt when a petrol bomb was thrown into a tent near the scene of the fighting.

Mr Schelhase said 152 of the Phase Two houses on the border with the "Boys Town" area were severely damaged and repairmen were now refusing to risk working there.

"Boys Town" is a popular township term for the Old Crossroads suburb reported on here and does not in any way implicate the actual Boys' Town home from which it gets its name.

Reward offers for Crossroads killers

By CHRIS BATEMAN

POLICE have offered a total of R16 000 for information leading to the conviction of culprits responsible for a rampage of nine murders, four attempted murders and arson committed in Old Crossroads since March this year.

Most of the unsolved crimes are directly connected to the ongoing internecine violence between supporters of Old Crossroads arch-rivals, Mr Jeffrey Nongwe and the mayor, Mr Johnson Ngobongwana.

Some of the crimes were:

- On March 22 at 8pm three shotgun rounds were fired from a slow-moving white Chevrolet 4.1-litre car, killing Ngobongwana supporters Mr Elliot Longo, 40, and Mr Xazzasholo Twana, 30, and leaving Mr Alport Singo, 40, in a coma. Reward: R2 000.
- On March 29 at 8.30pm the Phase Two Old Crossroads home of Ngobongwana supporters Mr Nondzame Kota, 29, and Mr Wellington Tyateka, 34, was attacked with petrol bombs and guns. Ms Kota died of her wounds in Grootfontein Hospital five days later and Mr Tyateka was discharged from the same hospital after treatment for chest and shoulder gunshot wounds. Reward: R2 000.
- On April 10 at 7am the bullet-ridden bodies of Nongwe supporters Mr Lungalisile Dyan, 40, Mr Nodali Sibunzi, 25, and Ms Nodelo Mirriam Tse, 40, were found in B Street, Old Crossroads. All had been shot in the head. Police believe the same people were responsible for all three murders. Reward: R6 000.
- On June 8 at 9pm Ms Ethel Notshihl Magoqwane, 22, was fatally wounded in the head by a 9mm bullet as she sat in her bedroom of her Phase Two home. Reward R2 000.

Anyone with information can contact Captain Des Segal 091488801 (office).
SQUATTING — THE RIGHT TO OWN

Urban planners would do well to focus attention on efforts to resolve the "squatter problem" in Hout Bay near Cape Town. It’s undoubtedly a foretaste of what’s to come throughout the country.

The Hout Bay experience is different in that, as far as is known, a significant number of "landless" people have for the first time occupied prime residential property in the heart of a "white" area. (See Always With Us).

About 1 500 squatters are camping on at least six different pieces of privately owned land in the Hout Bay valley — including an area known as Princess Bush, adjacent to Hout Bay beach and immediately in front of some of the most expensive and sought-after residential properties in the village.

The owners of the land are involved in a court action to have the squatters evicted. They claim their property is worth about R3m and that they intend to develop it as an upscale residential area. Judgment in the matter was reserved in the Cape Town Supreme Court last week.

The land comprises mainly scrub-covered sand dunes with the Dias River running through it. It is considered to be ecologically sensitive and the relatively primitive squatter settlement is seen as both a health and ecological threat.

Government’s attitude seems ambivalent. While maintaining that uncontrolled squatting won’t be permitted, no action has been taken to remove the squatters or provide them with basic facilities. Provincial Affairs Minister Hernus Kriel has promised the squatters land somewhere in Hout Bay, but it hasn’t been identified. Negotiations with interested parties are said to be continuing.

The reaction of most of the white community has been to form the Property Rights Association (PRA) which is now spearheading a campaign to force the squatters out of Hout Bay. The PRA claims to represent about 4 500 residents. In an election earlier this month, PRA candidates won nine of the 13 seats on the executive of the Hout Bay Ratepayers’ Association.

PRA chairman Tony Snelgar rejects charges that the organisation is racist. He says it favours the scrapping of the Group Areas Act and the establishment of a non-racial local authority for Hout Bay. All it asks is that residents pay rates or rent and respect one another’s property rights.

“We believe the problems of the past must be addressed, but squattting on private land is not the way to do it. We are prepared to negotiate with anyone in an effort to resolve these problems, but the law against squatting is non-negotiable,”

Snelgar maintains that anti-squatting laws have nothing to do with apartheid. They are enforced in all civilised Western countries to protect private property rights. He says it’s bizarre that the squatters are being portrayed as the “victims” instead of the landowners whose rights and freedoms are being ignored.

He likens the squatter influx to Iraq’s occupation of Kuwait and believes it is definitively politically motivated. Some of the squatters apparently come from the eastern Cape and Namibia. There is very little employment in the valley and Hout Bay has virtually no industrial base, so there is no obvious attraction for squatters.

For these reasons, Snelgar believes the influx is part of the UDF’s strategy of “occupying” vacant land in particular areas. His opinion is underscored by the sight of ANC and SAPC flags fluttering above the Princess Bush squatter camp.

The PRA regards government’s response to the crisis as appalling. Kriel’s “unilateral” statement on making land in the valley available for “legal” squatting exacerbated the problem by attraction even more squatters into the area. “It was a very serious error of judgment and if we could sue him for making that statement we would.”

Snelgar says the influx of squatters is also threatening the valley’s economy by depressing property prices, damaging the tourist industry through negative publicity, flooding the job market and increasing petty crime.

We believe that if government doesn’t act soon to deal effectively with this issue, the once-harmonious Hout Bay community will erupt into violence.”

There are already ominous rumblings. In August, after police anti-crime action at Princess Bush, two petrol bombs were thrown at passing white motorists from within the camp. Two weeks later, the Conservative Party held a small but enthusiastically supported public meeting and called for tough action to halt the influx.

Midrand squatters ... no magic word
Squatter violence grows in Crossroads

By CHRIS BATEMAN

POLICE fired birdshot and teargas for the second day running in Old Crossroads yesterday as youths from the "Boys Town" squatter camp again attacked residents of the newly built Phase Two housing scheme in Old Klipsfontein Road.

About 16 homes have been damaged in the two-day skirmishes as "Boys Town" youths hurled petrol bombs, bricks and bottles at the homes which they are demanding for themselves.

Occupants of the homes are "standing fast" by boarding up windows and locking doors of their newly acquired homes.

Police said they were unaware of any injuries.

The "Boys Town" residents, who were moved from the land on which the homes now stand, allege that they were promised the houses. However, they are reportedly unable to provide the mandatory proof of paid-up service charges to support their housing applications.

In Millers Camp near Old Crossroads squatter leaders gathered yesterday to discuss inviting homeland tribal chiefs to intercede in local violence.

Sapa reports from Pretoria that three people were arrested, two were injured and several vehicles set alight in isolated incidents of unrest on Thursday night in Soweto and on the East Rand.
Squatters can rebuild

Staff Reporter

FISH HOEK Municipality has allowed three squatter families to re-erect their shacks bordering the Clovelly Golf Course after their homes were demolished by Fish Hoek Municipal Police and the SAP on Thursday morning.

Ms Sandy Liebenberg of the law firm Bernard, Vukic and Pofash, acting on behalf of the squatters, said yesterday that negotiations had been held with the municipality.

But the squatters will still appear in Simon's Town Magistrate's Court next Friday, as charges under the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act had been laid against them by the municipality.

The squatters were charged on Thursday morning. They then appeared in Simon's Town Court.

All the squatters' possessions were impounded after the demolitions.

The families were sheltered last night in a garage at the home of Noordhoek resident Max Sandy Bowling.

Ms Liebenberg said the squatters' possessions would be returned to them.
Homes torched: New tensions in Crossroads

By CHRIS BATEMAN

NEW tensions have surfaced in Old Crossroads after eight homes were razed at the weekend, two of which belonged to supporters of the Western Cape United Civic Association and two to supporters of the Old Crossroads ANC chairman.

The homes were torched in retaliatory raids.

The Old Crossroads branch of the "civic" has strong ANC ties and the ANC's recently-formed regional peace committee was yesterday trying to intervene to prevent a potential ANC wrangle at grassroots level.

The squatter violence centres in a long-standing housing dispute.

The weekend upsurge began when two shacks in the territory of breakaway headman and Old Crossroads ANC chairman Mr Jeffrey Nongwe were burnt out, allegedly by youths from the controversial Phase Two housing scheme.

Nongwe supporters then allegedly retaliated by stoning and burning two permanent brick homes in which Phase Two youths had sought shelter.

The nearby Phase Two government housing scheme is the centre of a bitter dispute over who takes occupancy. Newly established residents have been under constant attack from squatters who were moved off the land on which the scheme now stands.
Xroads boss acquitted

Court Reporter

OLD CROSSROADS leader Mr Jeffrey Nongwe was acquitted in the Wyuberg Regional Court yesterday on seven counts of arson and malicious damage to property amounting to about R26 000.

It was alleged that in March Mr Nongwe fired several shots from his combi and led a group of about 100 people that burnt down houses in Section Four.

Evidence was that Mr Nongwe's combi was parked in the car shelter all night, and the court found that the state had not been able to prove his involvement in the petrol-bombings.
Xroads boss acquitted

OLD CROSSROADS leader Mr Jeffrey Nongwe was acquitted in the Wynberg Regional Court yesterday on seven counts of arson and malicious damage to property amounting to about R20 000.

It was alleged that in March Mr Nongwe fired several shots from his combi and led a group of about 100 people that burnt down houses in Section Four.

Evidence was that Mr Nongwe’s combi was parked in the car shelter all night, and the court found that the state had not been able to prove his involvement in the petrol-bombings.
Crossroads squatters retreat

By YUSI KAMA
Staff Reporter

CROSSROADS residents who are supporters of its controversial mayor, Mr. Johnson Ngodwana, have given up their battle to remain in the squatter camp and are moving out.

After more than a year of fighting between Mr. Ngodwana's and Mr. Jeffrey Nongwe's factions for control of the camp, scores of people have died and hundreds of shacks and houses destroyed.

The residents have opened a new camp in a botanical nature reserve along the Faure road about half a kilometre from Site C, Khayelitsha.

Many sleep in bushes as they do not have building material. They say that although the new area has no water and they are struggling to get building material, they had no alternative but to leave Crossroads.

NOWHERE TO STAY

Their only source of water in the Site C section of Khayelitsha, across the N2 and Faure Road. They also have serious problems with transport to work.

But many more households are expected to settle in the new area, as some of those who lost their property and houses were now temporarily settled in Site C and in army tents near the municipal offices in Crossroads.

"Many have nowhere to stay, so we are expecting more people to join us in the next few days," a squatter said.

Municipal trucks and vans hired by the squatters carried furniture, army tents and building material to the area throughout yesterday afternoon.

Asked if they were prepared to return to Crossroads when Mr. Ngodwana had built the brick houses he promised them, the squatters said they would refuse as their security was not guaranteed in the territory.

"The fact that Mr. Nongwe's people managed to burn the Phase One brick houses means that we would not be safe either," they said.

REFUGEE SHELTER

The latest spate of violence in Crossroads came to a head in August when Mr. Ngodwana's brick house was torched along with the surrounding shacks in Section One while he was in the Cape.

Noxolo-Primary School, in the middle of the razed Section One, was turned into a refugee shelter.

Further violence came after a dispute about the allocation of new houses in the Phase One section of Crossroads. The old residents of Crossroads claimed that the houses were allocated by Mr. Ngodwana to outsiders who them became his supporters.

Fighting broke out between the occupants of the Phase One houses and the shack dwellers. Most of the new houses were badly damaged and many shacks destroyed. Most of the Phase One houses are deserted.

Mr. Ngodwana could not be reached for comment.

Mr. Jan Van Eck, MP for Democratic Party, said: "This also shows it is impossible to govern people who reject you. Mr. Ngodwana has been an absentee mayor for long a time."

*Not enough money to house all squatters, page 2.*
The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. — Another increase in the price of petrol will have to be introduced "at some or other time", a National Energy Council spokesman said today.

The spokesman was reacting to the latest rise in crude oil prices, which saw spot Brent Blend crude — the world benchmark — trading at $39.59 a barrel today after touching $42 a barrel, a 10-year high, on Tuesday.

Although the Energy Council spokesman was not prepared to comment about when an increase was likely, he admitted that a recommendation about the petrol price had not yet been submitted to the Cabinet.

Sapa-Reuters reports that Brent crude was $1.21 a barrel in Singapore today, trading at around $39.50 after Israeli troops were reported to have wounded 16 Palestinians in a second day of violence, fuelling fears of a Middle East war.

See page 3.

CLASH: Child supporters of controversial Crossroads mayor or Mr Johnson Nkoxobongwana throwing stones at supporters of rival leader Mr Jeffrey Nongwe.

MEDIATING: Troops move in to quell the running street battles between children.
The republic with a view most tourists would like to have ... but first they would like to avoid it.

The squatters with a sea view no amount of money can buy

A few years ago, the residents of Honolulu Bay decided to have no more to do with the rest of us and declared independence. But alas, they could not move so far from South Africa than all the country's problems, like squatters, for example.

Andrew Donaldson visited the "free republic".

It is a sunny day and the sun is shining brightly. The beach is crowded with people enjoying the beauty of nature. The sound of waves crashing against the shore fills the air, creating a soothing melody.

The republic's leader, Mr. Donaldson, is holding a press conference to discuss the recent developments in the country. He is wearing a white shirt and a red tie, looking very serious.

He starts by explaining the history of Honolulu Bay: how it was once a small fishing village, but then became a popular tourist destination. However, the influx of tourists led to problems with overcrowding and environmental issues.

Mr. Donaldson continues by saying that the republic has taken a unique approach to addressing these problems. They have implemented strict regulations to protect the natural beauty of the area and have banned the sale of certain goods that could harm the environment.

Despite the challenges, Mr. Donaldson is confident that Honolulu Bay will continue to thrive as a destination for tourists and locals alike.

He ends his speech by thanking the members of the press for their attention and promising to keep them updated on further developments.

The audience applauds as Mr. Donaldson walks away, his footprints visible in the soft sand of the beach. The sun continues to shine, casting a warm glow over the entire scene.
Govt marks land for Crossroads refugees

By ANDRE KOOPMAN

LAND has been earmarked for the refugees who settled in the Driftsands nature reserve after fleeing from Old Crossroads during fierce fighting last week.

This was said yesterday in a statement by the Administrator of the Cape, Mr Kobus Meiring.

However, a spokesman for Mr Meiring, Mr Van Heerden Hennis, would not reveal the site of the "identified land".

The refugees, loyal to Crossroads mayor Mr Johnson Nkobongwana, were told that squatting in the ecologically sensitive reserve was unacceptable and were asked to return to Crossroads.

When the squatters refused, land was "urgently identified" for the establishment of an emergency camp, the statement said.

Meanwhile, the police have stepped up their presence in Old Crossroads and yesterday urged Mr Nkobongwana's supporters, whose Section Two homes were torched, to return to the area.

Brigadier Frik Kellerman, the head of the operational branch, said residents would be protected.

In pamphlets distributed door-to-door, police said they would ensure that law and order was maintained.

More policemen would be deployed in the area, but this would exclude special constables who have been accused by residents of taking sides in the feud between squat leader Mr Nkobongwana and Mr Jeffrey Nongwe, Brigadier Kellerman said.

He said police would provide escorts for people returning to the township but would not be able to transport their goods.

"We are trying to end the burning and the damage to new houses in Crossroads. Basically it's an attempt to restore confidence in the police," he said.

Meanwhile, despite the increased security measures there were four unrest incidents in Old Crossroads on Thursday, police said in their unrest report.

A house was torched in Section Two but police put out the fire before serious damage was done.

"Two groups of youths were fighting near the community centre. Police fired a shot in the air and the youths ran off.

"A police patrol van investigating a fire was attacked with stones and police used teargas to disperse the crowd. No arrests were made."

Police chased youths, apparently armed with handguns, and fired birdshot, but the youths got away.
STAND OFF: Crossroads residents crowd around a senior SADF officer and argue about fencing off part of their land. People were unhappy that they had not been told about today’s operation, although the Cape Provincial Administration said the plan had been discussed with their leaders.

Police baton charge

Crossroads crowd

By HENRI du PLESSIS

Between 400 and 500 Crossroads residents were baton charged today when they refused to disperse during a police and defence force operation in the township.

Security forces flooded into the township early today to search for weapons and “stabilise” the area after a long period of fighting.

Pamphlets were handed out and troops and policemen patrolled the township before converging on the corner and Stock and Lansdowne roads to fence off an area of Section One with razor wire.

According to police liaison officer Captain Attie Laubicher the aim was to protect private sector developers preparing to build new houses in Section One.

The upgrading, initiated by the Cape Provincial Administration, was to have started with the breaking down of uninhabited shacks in this section.

At the weekend CPA officials had talks with community leaders who were to tell residents what was to happen today.

This didn’t appear to have been done because as soon as defence force members started erecting the wire fence, a group of 25 men and a few women walked up to the soldiers and argued with them. They claimed they had not been told and had nowhere to go if their shacks were demolished.

Their numbers swelled steadily and later a large crowd from a neighbouring area arrived.

One man, speaking to police, said: “We can’t do anything because we haven’t got the ability to fight, but where do we go? Our leaders did not tell us anything about this — when (Jeffrey) Nongwe wants to tell us something he calls us together and talks to us, but this has not happened yet. How can the police claim they spoke to him?”

The emotional crowd started toying-toying and chased four council bulldozers out of the area.

“They are going to shoot at us here,” a council official said as he led the bulldozers across Lansdowne road to an open field.

Reinforcements arrived and a senior policeman gave the crowd a warning to disperse. When they failed to do so, about 20 policemen charged the crowd with batons and they scattered in all directions.
New camp divides Crossroads

RESIDENTS RESIST ... Police (top picture) yesterday baton-charged Old Crossroads residents who refused to disperse after protesting against a government decision to clear and level Section 1 of the township. But, with Table Mountain forming a backdrop, heavy earth-moving machinery made quick work of clearing the rubble from burnt-out shacks at Section 1. Report — Page 2.
Hospital staff were concerned about the security of the hospital. The hospital had experienced several incidents of theft in recent months, and staff were concerned about the safety of patients and staff. The hospital had recently introduced new security measures, including increased patrols and a new security system, but staff were still worried.

The hospital's security staff were also concerned about the theft of medical equipment. The hospital had recently lost several pieces of equipment, including a portable x-ray machine and several monitoring devices. Staff were concerned that the thief was someone who knew the hospital's layout and was able to access sensitive areas.

Staff were also concerned about the hospital's overall security. The hospital was located in a high-crime area, and staff were worried about the safety of patients and staff. The hospital had recently experienced several incidents of violence, including a stabbing in the emergency room.

Staff were also concerned about the hospital's financial situation. The hospital was facing cuts to its budget, and staff were worried about the impact this would have on their ability to provide quality care. The hospital had recently laid off several staff members, and staff were worried about their job security.

Staff were also concerned about the hospital's future. The hospital was facing several challenges, including a lack of funding and a decrease in the number of patients. Staff were worried about the hospital's ability to continue providing quality care in the future.

Staff were also worried about their own safety. The hospital had recently experienced several incidents of violence, and staff were worried about their own safety while on duty. The hospital had recently introduced new security measures, including increased patrols and a new security system, but staff were still worried.

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Theives are plundering goods from the hospital...  

Groote Schuur Hospital has recently been found to have been robbed of security guards. The hospital has been robbed of equipment worth over R20,000, including computers and medical equipment. The thieves have slipped into the hospital through a window and taken equipment worth R10,000. The hospital has been asked to provide security guards. The hospital has asked for help to prevent future incidents.
Protests, but
Crossroads
shacks flattened

BY DANIEL SIMON

A CONTROVERSIAL decision to level out Section 1 in Old Cross-
roadswent ahead yesterday morning — despite strong opposition
from numerous angry resi-
dents who were twice scattered by
baton-charging police overseeing
the operation.

Twenty-six people were injured in
the confrontations.

Most of Section 1 was razed last
month in a territorial dispute which
saw fierce fighting between support-
erst of refugee mayor Mr Johnson
Ngobongwana and his arch-rival Mr
Jeffrey Nongwe.

Set up home

Hundreds of supporters of Mr Ngobo-
gwana, whose home was also razed
during the fighting, have since set up
home on Mfuleni Road near Khayelit-
sha.

A scattering of Mr Nongwe’s sup-
porters had re-established themselves
in Section 1.

Yesterday dozens of security force
members sealed off the area before
Cape Provincial Administration work-
ers moved in with bulldozers, front-
end loaders and earth-removal trucks
to clear the area.

Trouble started when SADF mem-
ers started erecting a razor-wire
fence around the section.

About 20 angry supporters of Mr
Nongwe initially confronted the
police, claiming they had not been
notified of any decision to clear the
land.

Police warned the growing crowd to
disperse before scattering them with
two baton charges. They then “held”
Section 1 while the bulldozers and
front-end loaders started clearing the
area.

‘Irresponsible’

DP MP for Claremont Mr Jan van
eck, who later arrived at the scene,
said the government’s decision to
send in the police to sort out the hous-
ing crisis and land dispute at Old
Crossroads was “highly irresponsi-
ble”.

During the day, security force
members also conducted house-to-
house searches in Sections 3 and 4 of
Old Crossroads and confiscated a
large assortment of homemade weap-
ons.

Mr Nongwe had earlier been ar-
rested. He appeared in Bellville Mag-
istrate’s Court on a charge of driving a
vehicle without the owner’s permis-
sion. He was later released on a warn-
ing.

NOW HERE
THE LIGHT
THAT REF
Rothm
Fears of further Crossroads violence

By VUYO BAVUMA
Staff Reporter

FEARS of a fresh outbreak of violence in the battle-torn Old Crossroads have been expressed following government action to level an area formerly occupied by Mayor Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana and his supporters.

Mr Gladstone Ntamo of the Western Cape United Squatter Association yesterday told Town Clerk Mr Ricky Schelhase that residents were angry because they had not been consulted about the clearing-up of Section One.

It was first levelled by bulldozers and then police and soldiers fenced it off with razor wire.

26 injured

Earlier, 26 people were injured when security forces baton-charged residents who objected to their homes being demolished.

Mr Ntamo said the State should not have started with the clearing-up operation until the crisis in the camp had been solved.

"The people are saying that if the levelled area is upgraded another conflict is bound to break out. In fact, this will also jeopardise the ongoing talks to solve the problem," he said.

Mr Schelhase promised to convey the residents' fears to higher authorities.

He said he did not believe the cleared area would be upgraded without consultation.

"Originally I suggested that the rubble should be cleared up on psychological and health grounds. I also said the residents should be consulted beforehand about the move.

Meeting

"But I was not part of the group which decided to move into the camp with the equipment and the soldiers," Mr Schelhase said.

Residents later mandated Democratic Party MP Mr Jan van Eck to organise a meeting with Mr Fanie Naude, regional director of the Cape Provincial Associations' Community Services, and Mr Hermus Kriel, Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs.

DOOR-TO-DOOR: A policeman takes away a bundle of sticks from a shack in Old Crossroads. Bulldozers levelled part of Section One in the camp and security forces fenced it off with razor wire.

DISARMED: A policeman confiscates a stick from a Crossroads resident during yesterday's operation to "stabilise" the troubled camp.
Protests, but Crossroads shacks flattened

By DANIEL SIMON

A CONTROVERSIAL decision to level out Section 1 in Old Crossroads went ahead yesterday morning - despite strong opposition from numerous angry residents who were twice scattered by baton-charging police overseeing the operation.

Twenty-six people were injured in the confrontations.

Most of Section 1 was razed last month in a territorial dispute which saw fierce fighting between supporters of refugee mayor Mr Johnson Nxobongwana and his arch-rival Mr Jeffrey Nongwe.

Set up home

Hundreds of supporters of Mr Nxobongwana, whose home was also razed during the fighting, have since set up home on Mfuneni Road near Khayelitsha.

A scattering of Mr Nongwe’s supporters had re-established themselves in Section 1.

Yesterday dozens of security force members sealed off the area before Cape Provincial Administration workers moved in with bulldozers, front-end loaders and earth-removal trucks to clear the area.

Trouble started when SADF members started erecting a razor-wire fence around the section.

About 20 angry supporters of Mr Nongwe initially confronted the police, claiming they had not been notified of any decision to clear the land.

Police warned the growing crowd to disperse before scattering them with two baton charges. They then “held” Section 1 while the bulldozers and front-end loaders started clearing the area.

‘Irresponsible’

DP MP for Claremont Mr Jan van Eck, who later arrived at the scene, said the government’s decision to send in the police to sort out the housing crisis and land dispute at Old Crossroads was “highly irresponsible”.

• During the day, security force members also conducted house-to-house searches in Sections 3 and 4 of Old Crossroads and confiscated a large assortment of homemade weapons.

• Mr Nongwe had earlier been arrested. He appeared in Bellville Magistrate’s Court on a charge of driving a vehicle without the owner’s permission. He was later released on a warning.
Crossroad residents form own ANC branch

By VUYO BAVUMA
Staff Reporter

DISENCHANTED ANC members in Crossroads have formed their own branch after accusing Crossroads ANC chairman Mr Jeffrey Nongwe of organising children to attack and loot their houses.

The residents in the Unathi section claimed Mr Nongwe wanted to force them to leave the camp.

They were also adamant that they did not want to be controlled by Mr Nongwe, who would "bully" them.

**COLLECTIONS**

Others claimed Mr Nongwe's headmen collect money from the residents' in areas under his rule.

These alleged collections include "lawyers' fees" and for funerals for Mr Nongwe's supporters.

The residents said they were upset because although they all belonged to the ANC, Mr Nongwe attacked them.

But Mr Nongwe denied the allegations.

He said: "I am not aware of any money being collected from the people. I also reject that the people had been threatened in any way."

A mother of six said: "Mr Nongwe's henchmen harass us and loot our houses.

"We don't want to be involved in the squabbles of power-hungry people."

Another resident said: "In August we went to see the ANC after some of our houses were attacked by Mr Nongwe's supporters.

The ANC officials promised to approach Mr Nongwe but the attacks on us continued.

"We heard that we should leave the area because we were occupying it unlawfully. We refused to leave because we were paying rent and we were not breaking any law."

ANC publicity secretary Mr Trevor Manuel said the bone of contention in Old Crossroads was the scarcity of houses."
ESTHER Ramose pointed at her back, showing a huge, hard — and painful — lump.
It was, she said, one of the scars from having carried 25 litres of water on her back for several kilometres every day for eight years, as there were no water facilities at the Noordhoek squatter camp where she had made her home.
“We steal water from the caravan park because there is no other way,” the 37-year-old woman said this week, as she limped into her corrugated iron shack.

Not far away stand the homes of Noordhoek’s white community: quiet, pretty, middle-class suburbia overlooking rolling hills, mountains and valleys. Neat lawns, hedges and colourful flowers surround spacious houses.

For the first time, the Cape Provincial Administration has granted land to the squatters of Noordhoek, Site 5 — a total of 40 hectares. But the squatters are filled with apprehension, because this could be the beginning of a protracted legal battle between property owners, white residents and the CPA.

There are about 2,000 squatters in Noordhoek — at Site 5, 300 people are presently squatting on private land that the government is in the process of buying.

The site is right in the middle of two white areas, Sunnyclo and Noordhoek.

Ramose, tiny and haggard, left the Orange Free State in 1973 and worked in Fish Hoek as a domestic worker for eight years. Then she “had an argument with the madam over my income and left”.

The squatters, including Ramose, said they were “very happy about land being granted to them”. But many of them echoed her fears: “I’m not sure that I should be happy, they might take the land back. There is no proof that we can stay. Nothing is certain.”

As she spoke, she constantly glanced around her dark shack, consisting of two rooms a few metres wide, with no ventilation. It was decorated with a few items of shabby furniture and reeked of alcohol.

She was worried that her child, who was at school in Kalk Bay, would not be able to go to another school if they were evicted again. Ramose had lost count of the number of times she had been forcibly removed.

Ramose’s husband, Johannes Malonde, also the chairman of the Site 5 squatter committee, said: “We want to fight with all our might for this land. We will not move again. There is nowhere else to go.”

Malonde said their biggest problem was being white residents who were strongly opposed to them living in Noordhoek. “They complain that we make a noise. We talk, we laugh, and they hate this. They want us to be silent.”

About 10m away from the Site 5 settlement stands the Noordhoek Nursery and Tea House. It has been reported that the owner, Janine Mayes, is planning to sue the previous owner, who sold her the business last month without telling her about the squatter settlement, for misrepresentation.

Mayes’ daughter Shelli Knox and her son Norman Knox, who manage the shop, said they were concerned about their investment and the value of their property, and the fact that squatters were stealing.

“We have to stay and do what we can considering the circumstances,” said Shelli Knox. “It’s such a beautiful place, it’s unfortunate about the squatters. All the residents here are pretty disturbed and perturbed about the situation. In fact they are horrified.”

She added that so far the only trouble they had was “them making a noise, laughing too much and generally disturbing the peace”.

“Sometimes it sounds like they’re killing each other, there is so much shouting and partying going on,” said Norman Knox, a Cape Town trendy with two earrings in one ear, wearing a purple jacket and with long blond hair tied in a ponytail. “Other residents’ chickens have been stolen. Many have had to remove their taps because water is being stolen.”

He added plaintively: “It’s the first time in my life that I feel threatened. It’s like psychological warfare, where it now becomes necessary to protect oneself. We have to start thinking of protecting the property, get alarm systems and incur expenses like that.

“I know it may sound as if we are racist but we are not. We are a very liberal family. I think it is the left that is using this issue as a tool and the government was pressured into making this decision, so we have to say goodbye to our rights as a citizen. It’s like being without an arm. It’s very difficult not to get angry.”

Knox repeated that he was not racist and related how he would sit at The Base nightclub and “sing Nkosilelela with many mixed people, but now I feel very threatened”.

He said he feared the major problem would be a lack of control of the squatters, and that more would come into the area.

The Sunnydale Ratepayers Association is also up in arms about the decision and plans to get an urgent interdict against the decision. According to Koos Albertyn, ministerial representative of the Western Cape, “they just don’t want the squatters there but the courts are reasonable and we must prove that our claim is reasonable, I can’t see that the courts will make an order against the squatters”.

The chairman of the Sunnydale Ratepayers Association, Johan Brits, said: “You can’t have low-income earners and sub-economic housing next to expensive property. Government control is not very good. Look at Crossroads and Khayelitsha.

“The government is not above the law, they have to go through the necessary procedures.”

This week a helicopter circled the squatters’ site. A squatter said: “That is probably the city council seeing if more squatters are moving in.”

A few minutes later a jeep went by slowly with four uniformed men. They introduced themselves as “members of the House of Assembly” and asked if there were any problems. One of them said: “We are controlling the area — to see that no more squatters come in.”

Albertyn said: “When you declare an area, normally there is an influx into the area. We hope the squatters will cooperate and stop influencing. We have to stop this, there is not enough room to accommodate them all.”

At the Noordhoek squatter site proper a few metres away from Site 5, a delegation of squatters and members of the Noordhoek Squatters Committee sat together in their “community hall”, actually a plastic room, to relate their mixed feelings about the issue of granting land.

John Gquso (43) said: “We can’t live like this, three families in one space. The city council is not happy about the situation but we are not happy either. They are patrolling the area to make sure there are no extensions to the shacks. Some of us have six children — where can they go?” he asked.

The Surplus Peoples Project’s Josette Cole said the squatter issue was going to be a countrywide struggle between the government and private property owners.

She added: “The main problem is that the whites are unhappy because they are racist and they are also worried about the value of their land dropping. This squatter land is in the middle of a white area.”

Cole said: “If De Klerk is serious about reforms in a new SA, then the government has got to take bold steps. It has to take a position.”

Sue Manchit from the Development Action Group, involved in assisting squatter communities, said: “In order to repair the wrongs of apartheid land has to be expropriated. These communities have the right of access to land.”
The baton charge after residents

Shacks flattened
Talks fail to resolve Crossroads crisis

South, October
BIG STICK: A policeman, wielding a baton, closes in on a Crossroads man who was part of a group who protested against the clearing of land at the squatter camp by the authorities this week.

See full report — Page 3

PIC: MIKE HUTCHINGS
Containers for classrooms

Staff Reporter

The general neglect at black schools was revealed yesterday on a press tour led by Mr Shepherd Mdladla, the president of the South African Democratic Teachers' Union (Sadtu), and Ms Dene Smuts, acting DP spokeswoman on education.

Mr Mdladla said money set aside by the government to upgrade black schools had not filtered through to those schools which "desperately needed to be maintained". There are 4,000 primary school pupils living in the strike-torn KTC camp, but only 310 pupils and 12 teachers can be accommodated in the five containers which make up the Stormont Mdubela Primary School, according to principal Mr Wellington Nophoto.

The pupils have no textbooks and only receive some library books.

At the Andile Primary School in New Crossroads, which has 960 pupils and 27 teachers, children sit on iron rods because of a shortage of 415 chairs.

The Mkhanyiseli Lower Primary in Nyanga has 12 classrooms, three of which are in states of disrepair.

The school has turned away more than 200 children due to lack of space.

The Cape Times faxed a list of questions to the DET yesterday and the answers are expected today.
Crossroads mayor offered new site

By CHRIS ATRAN

327
SQUATTER SUMMIT: Administrator of the Cape Mr Kobus Meiring greets Crossroads mayor Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana at a meeting about squatter refugees.

Bush refugees: Meiring rules out bulldozers

By EDWARD MOLOINYANE, Staff Reporter
ADMINISTRATOR of the Cape Mr Kobus Meiring has ruled out using bulldozers to force squatter refugees from Crossroads to move.

He said that the provincial administration would not force them to leave the bush near Khayelitsha against their will and consultations about their plight would continue.

"Bulldozers are not for me," he said.

After a two-hour meeting with people from both sides in the Crossroads saga yesterday, Mr Meiring said the refugees were unwilling to return to the squatter camp or to move to a suggested site in Philippi.

This was in spite of assurances given to the refugees by Law and Order Minister Mr Adrian Vlok on Monday, according to Mr Meiring who yesterday met Crossroads Mayor Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana.

Shacks were torched

Also at yesterday's two-hour meeting were Lingelethu Town Council Mayor Mr Mali Hoxa, community councillors, senior police officers and Lingelethu and Crossroads town clerks Mr Graham Lawrence and Mr Hendy Schelhase.

The talks were held as a direct result of a visit by Mr Vlok and Mr Meiring to refugees on Monday, according to CPA spokesman Mr Van Heerden Heunis.

The talks also focused on the security situation in Khayelitsha, he said.

More than 100 families, all supporters of Mr Ngxobongwana, fled Driftsands last month after their shacks were torched in the continuing power struggle in the shantytown.

On Monday, they ruled out a return to Crossroads because they said they feared for their safety.

An alternative site to be levelled and provided with taps and toilets in Philippi was proposed. Mr Ngxobongwana was asked to convey the suggestion to the refugees, who apparently declined the offer.

They said they would leave the area only after their complaints about special constables had been dealt with, Mr Meiring said.
Barbed wire in Crossroads

BY MONICA GRAAFF

CROSSROADS is to see the withdrawal of controversial special constables and the erection of barbed-wire barricades around Section Two as part of a new police effort to stabilise the violence-battered township.

General Flip Fourie, the regional commissioner of police, announced these moves yesterday.

Defusing and stabilising the situation in all black areas in the Western Cape had become a top police priority, he said.

Police would step up patrols with immediate effect and remove "undesirable special constables"—who allegedly took sides in the faction fighting—from the area.

The barbed-wire barricades would allow controlled access only.

A special police squad had been appointed to investigate claims that certain "specials" were biased towards the ANC and that they allegedly launched attacks on Crossroads residents.

"It is necessary that any incidents of arson, vandalism and violent intimidation of the residents of the Phase Two development area of Crossroads be fully curbed," he said.

Extensive damage had been caused in the area, General Fourie said.
Noordhoek Squatters

We need separate body
Crossroads mayor says he wants to join Nats

By EDWARD MCGOORY
Staff Reporter

CONTROVERSIAL Crossroads mayor Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana wants to join the National Party because black political organisations are "rotten".

He made this announcement yesterday at a meeting held in the bush at Faure where more than 100 of his supporters have taken refuge.

Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok and the Administrator, Mr Kobus Meiring, also attended the meeting.

'Never join ANC'

Mr Ngxobongwana drew loud applause from white officials and Khayelitsha town councillors when he announced his intentions.

He said: "Today I want to tell you something for the first time: I will never join the ANC because they are killers. There's only one party I want to join and that is the National Party. I will ask Mr Vlok to send me a membership card."

Claiming that the Pan Africanist Congress was "better" because it was doing its utmost to end the violence in Crossroads, Mr Ngxobongwana lashed out at the ANC which he alleged was "rotten".

He said white policemen operating in Crossroads had never been seen attacking people and did not take sides.

Mr Ngxobongwana said he would never return to Crossroads.

"I'll be mayor right here in the bush," he said to applause.

Because the people did not want to return to Crossroads, an area could be found for them in Philippi, Mr Vlok said.

Mr Ngxobongwana will convey this offer to the refugees.
Defiant Crossroads group refuses to leave shacks

By EDWARD MOLOINOYANE and JOHN YELD
Staff Reporters

SECURITY forces overseeing the levelling of Section One in Crossroads have ordered the 36 families still inside the fenced area to leave and if they refuse, their shacks would be bulldozed, the families claimed.

Section One was vacated by the controversial Crossroads mayor Mr Johnson Ngobongwana and his supporters after his house and their shacks were torched in continuing leadership squabbles in the shanty town last month.

The families then moved into the area and rebuilt their shacks.

Speaking from African National Congress (ANC) branch chairman Mr Jeffrey Nongwe's house yesterday, the defiant squatters said they were not prepared to move and were prepared to appeal to "the highest men in the land" to intervene.

They said members of the SADF and the security forces gave them the ultimatum on Tuesday to leave the enclosed area.

The security forces were serious, they said, because taps in the vicinity had been turned off and five gates in the razor wire fencing were closed.

Yesterday, a large police and army presence was still in evidence as fencing and clearing of the area continued.

Conflict 'worsened'

The Administrator of the Cape Mr Kobus Meerling said in a statement yesterday that Mr Ngobongwana and his rival Mr Nongwe had been informed of the decision to clear Section One.

He said, in response to violence in the area this week, that conflict between the two leaders had "worsened considerably" since August.

During the violence structures on Section One, which comprises 20 ha of land, were burned down and residents fled to the Driftsands nature reserve where they were squatting.

The fencing of the area, which began on Monday, was to prevent any new structures being erected while clearing-up took place.

"The piece of land will be levelled and all refuse will be removed. Water holes, which cause floods in winter, will be filled and the area stabilised and compacted.

"No upgrading of the area is at present being contemplated, as the authorities wish to confer with the community before any decision is taken.

"For this reason too, an urgent call is made on people not to occupy the site until finality has been reached about the matter."
Once they were co-enemies... now bitter enemies.

The once co-enemies have become bitter enemies.
Shack dwellers rally in move to become home owners

PROPERTY

10/4/1970

COMMUNICATIONS, so it is with shock that many

are informed that the shack dwellers will not

be given the chance to move into permanent

homes. This is a direct result of the failure of

the government to address the issue of

shack dwellers. The government has failed to

provide adequate housing for the growing

population, leading to a situation where

shack dwellers are forced to live in subpar

conditions. The shack dwellers have

organized to demand their rights and

demand to be heard. They are not willing to

continue living in poverty and they want

justice. Their voices must be heard.

The shack dwellers have been

organized into a group called "Shack

Dwellers United." They have been

meeting regularly to discuss their

situation and to plan for the future.

Their goal is to improve their

living conditions and to be given

the opportunity to move into

permanent homes.

Shack dwellers are not the only

group facing housing issues. The

government needs to take action

and provide adequate housing for

all its citizens.

Shack dwellers rally in move to become home owners

PROPERTY

10/4/1970
By PETER DENNEHY

THE Surplus People Project (SPP), an organisation assisting the Noordhoek squatters, accused the CPA and government departments on Monday of "blatant breach of promise". A year ago, SPP said, on November 4, 1989 in Ocean View, Mr Koos Theron of the CPA executive committee had promised land to squatter communities in the Fish Hoek and Noordhoek areas.

But now "the hope of a permanent solution to the housing crisis lies in tatters".

Fish Hoek squatters had been arrested and charged, some in Noordhoek had received eviction notices, and others in Kommetjie were being "harassed", the SPP said.

A month ago, at a meeting with Mr Jimmy Otto, ministerial representative for the area, the SPP had been assured that a piece of land, known as site five, was being bought in the Noordhoek/Kommetjie area for permanent settlement of squatters.

However, no public announcement had been made about the land purchase. A week later, Mr Otto stepped down from his post.

On October 23 - the day the Cape Times identified site five as the most likely one for squatter settlement - squatters living there had been given seven-day eviction notices.

Mr Jannie Momberg, MP for the area, said he had a meeting tomorrow with Mr Koos Alberyn, the new ministerial representative.
Govt names squatting site

"The government has named its new site at the former Parkland Hospital grounds in Cape Town, which it is planning to use as a temporary home for the homeless."
Squatter plan sparks row

BY PETER DENNERY

SUNNYDALE smallholders are so upset by the prospect of having "thousands" of Noordhoek squatters as neighbours that some will move, while others will stay and fight the government's land allocation, or fight among themselves.

On Tuesday the government announced that the 40ha "Site Five" at the top of Chasmay Road had been chosen as the most suitable area for squatters in the Noordhoek valley, and money had been set aside to buy it for them.

Yesterday squatters from the 39 dwellings already on the site were delighted by the news. But their wealthier neighbours were anything but pleased.

Some smallholders have already put up a barbed-wire fence between their land and the squatters. Some have altered their taps to stop squatters helping themselves to their water.

Squatter Mrs Esther Ramose said she now had to walk a kilometre for water.

Some smallholders have brought charges against the present owner of the squatter land, Mrs S A Pfeiffer, of Constantia, to force her to eject the squatters. A huge "No trespassing" signboard stands at the entrance to her land.

Mrs Janine Mayes of Johannesburg, owner of Noordhof Nurseries and Shell's Country Tea Garden, said she would sue Mr Gerry Noordhof, from whom she bought the two-hectare property earlier this year.

She claimed yesterday that Mr Noordhof "was aware of this problem" (the presence of the squatters) before the sale went through.

Mr Noordhof, secretary of the Sunnydale Ratepayers' Association, said the lawsuit against him could well be the first of many, as the entire area had been marketed as "the new Constantia", but was actually becoming a new Khayelitsha.

Mrs Mayes said: "I am very sorry for the people (the squatters), but I am more sorry for myself, if I may say so. Our life's savings and everything we have ever worked for have gone into this."

Mrs Deirdre Wynne, who has been on a smallholding owned by her mother for eight years, said she was going to leave.

Mr Malcolm Gutteridge of Sunnydale predicted that there would be "a hell of a fight" about the government's choice of land.
Noordhoek row over squatters

Concern over slump in property prices

The grey area in the map is the site earmarked for squatters in Noordhoek.

BY DENNIS CRUYWAGEN
Weekend Argus Reporter

STAND on Mr Don Henderson’s balcony and you can see forever, as they say, and feel the tranquility.

But Noordhoek was far from tranquil this week as residents digested the news that squatters are to be settled permanently in part of the suburb.

Worries that squatters would cause property prices to plunge and the crime rate to escalate were expressed often during a recent survey by Weekend Argus.

Mr Gerry Noordhoef, secretary of the Sunnyside Ratepayers’ Association, who has sold his nursery and tearoom close to Site Five where the squatters are being settled, is being sued by the buyers.

‘Two value systems’

The buyers say they are not racists but don’t believe putting two “value systems” next to each other can work. They say Mr Noordhoef did not tell them that squatters were living nearby and about plans to settle them in the area.

“It cannot work. It’s like taking Constantia and putting it next to Bellville,” said new owner Mrs Jaxine Mayes.

Mr Noordhoef said the ratepayer’s association would raise the matter further. “We’re not taking this lying down and will take it to the highest court in the land.”

He said he sold his business “for health reasons” long before this week’s announcement. But he has strong views on the proposed settlement.

“I feel most awful about it. This area has been marketed in the past few years as the new Constantia, where our children would be safe; but now it is becoming the new Khayelitsha.”

Having a squatter settlement in their midst would make it difficult for most residents to sell their homes, he said.

“We love this place and the people here. But Mr Noordhoef did not think it important to tell us that a couple of squatters were living nearby and about plans to settle them in the area permanently.”

“We have nothing left except to fight Mr Noordhoef. We’ve paid him two thirds of the purchase price and will continue paying until the court decides.”

She did not want her opposition to the squatter settlement to be seen as being racist.

“Squatters can’t be left homeless. There is a certain responsibility to them, but by the same token it cannot work to put different value systems next to each other. It cannot work. It’s like taking Constantia and putting it next to Bellville.”

She realised squatters needed homes, but the “bad” decision would cause a lot of friction on both sides.

In Capri Village, Mr Henderson slammed plans to develop Site Five as a squatter settlement as a “terrible misfortune”.

Residents of the village, he said, had formed a sub-committee of the Sunnyside Ratepayers’ Association and were “totally against putting squatters in as distinct from our own borgies”.

He said squatters appeared to be above the law. They just move in and take over. This business of dumping them in plastic shacks is no good. There is no work for them in the area. All the work here goes to our friends and folk in Ocean View.

There’s no way in which the squatters will survive except by theft.”

Fighting to the woods, he said: “They’ll destroy the woodlands. This is supposed to be a prime visiting area for tourists, but who will come after squatters move in?”

Mr Henderson said he was not against squatters. “It’s not a question of racism because squatters can be people of any colour. It’s not fair to expect them to cope here. They must be helped.”

‘Increase in crime’

The arrival of squatters would also lead to an increase in crime, he said.

His neighbour’s house had been burgled at least three times and many others in the neighbourhood had been broken into.

Just minutes away from his impressive double-storey house, which he thinks is worth R400 000, a resident who asked to remain anonymous said she believed squatters should be given “a place to live. But this must be controlled.”

In Sunnyside, Mr Frank Bowker said: “We have a social responsibility. I don’t believe you can pick people up at night and dump them in the bush. These people are our neighbours and we have a duty towards them.” He wanted housing for squatters to be planned and executed with a minimum of bureaucracy.

“Lots of property sales took place here recently and all those buyers must be upset.” He said he had changed the tops of taps at the nursery when about 150 squatters settled nearby. This was done because we were the nearest source of water.”

He said Site Five was ecologically sensitive. “It’s very wet in winter when it’s not possible to live there and squatters will be forced to move to Capri Village.”

Mrs Mayes confirmed that she and her husband Barry were suing Mr Noordhoef.

‘Paid substantial amount’

“We’ve paid a substantial amount of money for the business, but it is worthless now. Nobody will buy it.”

She and her husband had liquidated all their assets because they wanted to give their children a better quality of life.
Squatters stole my water — pensioner

By Eugene Abraham

A PENSIONER who owes a municipality R1700 for water he claims squatters used while he was away on holiday has decided to defend himself in court.

Said a defiant Geoffrey Burger, 65, of Kraaifontein in the Cape: "I'll fight the municipality through the courts rather than pay the account."

"I'll only pay, them R50, which is the amount I normally pay."

The decision to force Mr Burger to pay the water bill was taken at a council meeting this week. Mr Burger wrote a letter to councillors explaining he had not used the water and did not believe he was responsible for the bill.

According to Mr Burger, the Kraaifontein police had found out that squatters from the Bloekombos camp — across the road from Mr Burger's house — had used the tap on his smallholding while he was away in Johannesburg on holiday.

(83)

Precedent

However, municipal officials are unsympathetic to Mr Burger's plight.

"Mr Burger's water account is like any other municipal account," said town clerk WM Conradie.

"It reflects the water used from his tap and he is responsible for paying the bill."

"As much as we would like to help him, I'm afraid we can't — it might set a precedent."

The only assistance we can provide is to allow him to pay the account in instalments."

Since the "theft", Cape provincial administration officials have laid off a water supply to the squatters who settled on the municipal property 18 years ago. Before selling his smallholding to live in Betty's Bay, Mr Burger repeatedly warned the municipality about the squatters and the threat they posed to local residents.

Said Mr Burger: "The municipality assured me it would demolish the shacks, but nothing happened."

Mr Conradie said the council was not planning to take any action against the squatters. "Their possible removal is up to the Cape provincial administration," he said.
Squatter camp kids who go to school in a box

By AYESHA ISMAIL  Cape Town
CHILDREN in a Cape Town township are using shipping containers as classrooms.
The Stormont Primary School in KTC squatter camp — attended by more than 300 pupils — was started by the squatter community.
It has been registered as a private school which means the Department of Education and Training does not assume any financial responsibility for the school.
The five containers used by the pupils were donated by the British embassy.
National chairman of the South African Democratic Teachers’ Union, Shepherd Mkhadlana, said the DET had ignored several requests by the community to build more schools.
Stormont Primary’s headmaster, Wellington Nophoto said: "Children do not have any textbooks or desks to write on and receive writing books, library books and stationery from the University of Cape Town and READ (a literacy organisation)."

The shipping container classrooms were donated by the British embassy.

We have 12 teachers and do not earn a salary — we rely on donations. I am a qualified teacher but cannot find work at the DET schools because there are more than 100 teachers on their waiting list."
The squatters are now just above Cape York Peninsula and are encamped on an island near Cape 439, named by the French explorers. The island is said to be Cape York of the map is the aborigine camp of the map.

The shaded area on the map is the aborigine camp of the map.

By Peter Cullen

New deal to buy land for squatters

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By Peter Cullen

New deal to buy land for squatters
Squatters left homeless as Fish Hoek officials tear down shacks

by CLAUDIA KING

TWO squatter families — one with a one-year-old baby — were left homeless in pouring rain and wind after Fish Hoek municipal officials flattened their shacks on Monday.

Ms Ria Moses said the officials arrived in the morning and after a brief altercation demolished her two-roomed dwelling, crushing the entire contents and killing a pet kitten.

Six weeks ago the squatters were ordered to move their shacks closer to 17 others behind the Clovelly Country Club near the Silvermine river. This they did although they finally settled a slight distance away from the others, closer to the Fish Hoek residential area.

Tow the line

Last week they were approached by law enforcement officers and instructed to move again, but resisted the order.

Mr Andy Faltein, who has a steady job in Fish Hoek, said the law enforcement officer had produced a gun and pointed it at him before ordering a municipal driver to pull down his shack. Mr Hendrik May said the officer slapped him and hit him with a stick. The squatters said they had all lived in the area for longer than two years — one had been squatting on the site for the past five, she said.

The Town Clerk of Fish Hoek, Mr Doug Snell, confirmed that the shacks had been demolished but said the squatters were given ample warning.

"They must tow the line now — we're not walking on eggs as far as they're concerned. Their shacks are too near the houses," he said, adding that he knew nothing about the squatters being threatened with a firearm.

Action legal

He said the squatters were living in the area until they could be relocated to the new area in Sunnypark.

Democratic Party MP for Simon's Town, Mr Jannie Momberg, said he did not doubt the legality of the municipality's action but found the manner in which it was done regrettable.

He said: "The new South Africa has provided many examples where negotiation is better than force — I'll be prepared to act as an intermediary if necessary."
Xroads razing: Bomb thrown into truck’s cab

By CLAUDIA KING

A 46-year-old truck driver involved in the controversial operation to level out Section 1 in Crossroads narrowly escaped death yesterday when three youths tossed a petrol bomb into the cab of his truck.

Driver Mr Jan Tjabalala was forced from the cab and fled for his life seconds before the bomb was thrown in. The R300 000 truck owned by Connie Slabbert Transport was completely gutted in the ensuing blaze.

After the incident, which took place at 2pm, drivers of other trucks, bulldozers and tractors withdrew from the area and refused to continue with clearing work. Most of the area was razed last month during fierce fighting between mayor Mr Johnson Nqobongwana and rival Mr Jeffrey Nongwe.

When police reinforcements were brought in later in the day, the drivers returned to work.

A police spokesman told the Cape Times that police foot and vehicle patrols in the area had been stepped up since the incident.

Police and army patrols have been overseeing the operation since they began yesterday amid angry opposition from residents.

GUTTED ... This R300 000 truck, involved in the razing of part of Old Crossroads, was petrol-bombed yesterday. The driver was not hurt.

Picture: HENRY GOOK.
Milnerton acts on squatter settlement

By JOHAN SCHROEN
Staff Reporter

THE Milnerton Town Council

has proclaimed the squatter

settlement in its area an offi-
cial temporary transit space

for the housing of homeless
people until alternative hous-
ing can be found.

Reassuring Milnerton rate-
payers that no stone was left
unturned to find a more ac-
ceptable solution, the Town
Clerk, Mr. Pieter Gerber, said
the council made this decision
after no other immediate per-
mance housing could be found
in or outside the municipal
area for the squatters.

A town planning consultant
was appointed by the council to
recommend alternative areas
where informal housing could
be established.

PAY FOR SERVICES

Meanwhile, more than eight
hectares of the present site,
which falls under the jurisdic-
tion of the Department of Posts
and Telecommunications, was
proclaimed a temporary tran-
sit area provided that all costs
relating to the proclamation,
including that of basic infra-
structure, were met by the
Provincial Administration and
that people in the transit area
paid for services such as water,
refuse removal and sanitation
at cost.

Mr. Gerber said it was ex-
pected that the transit area
would be used for about 18
months, but it would depend on
the availability of alternative
sites and how soon basic ser-

vices could be provided.

FINANCIAL LOSSES

The municipality has also
made it clear to all parties
which it had identified as con-
tributors to squatting in the
area that they would be held
responsible for any financial
losses that the council might
incur in the servicing and ad-
ministration of the transit
area.

Mr. Gerber has reassured
Milnerton ratepayers that safe-
guards have been built into the
conditions negotiated for the
transit area to protect resi-

dents but says that some flexi-

bility will be expected from the
community.

He has appealed to the Mil-

nerton community for patience
and understanding.
Milnerton squatters may get council OK

Staff Reporter

THE Marconi Beach squatters in Milnerton, who have been living under threat of eviction, may be granted permission to stay on "temporarily", according to Milnerton mayor Mr Willem van Staden.

Mr Van Staden told a town council meeting the council would declare the area a "temporary squatter transition area" on condition that the provincial administration accept "all costs" such as the fencing off of the area and the provision of "basic services".

His statement follows the chain-saw demolition of about 74 shacks, located in Port Jackson bush opposite the racing stables in Koeberg Road in September.

At the time, Mr Van Staden said there were many hundreds of people in the bush who were the womenfolk of about 400 stablehands. Milnerton town clerk Mr Peter Gerber said the municipality had served notice on the landowner, the Post Office, to get rid of the "unauthorised structures".

The demolitions were suspended after an attorney intervened on behalf of the squatters.
Shack demolition stopped

A NOORDHOOEK landowner agreed to stop the demolition of squatter shacks on land being purchased by the government for them after the squatters threatened Supreme Court action against her.

Yesterday morning, the landowner had her workers demolish 11 plastic and wooden shacks at Site Five while police monitored the situation, said Mrs Sheila Koma, a squatter.

City lawyer Ms Sandy Liebenberg, who is acting on behalf of the squatters, said urgent proceedings were about to be brought when landowner Mrs S A Pfeiffer of Constantia agreed to allow the squatters back on to the land and to re-erect their shacks.

Some 39 squatter families already live at 40a Chasms Road. The government announced last Tuesday that it was about to buy the site for the squatters.

Mrs Pfeiffer could not be contacted last night.
Squatters ill as water tanks stand empty

By CLAIRE KEETON, East London

THE Vale's Farm squatter community in Gonubie, near East London, is still fighting for clean water while four water tanks arranged for the community stand empty.

Local authorities initially refused to provide the squatters with clean water in an apparent attempt to force them to move. Black Sash fieldworker Larry Field described the water available to the squatters as "heavily polluted. The community has been forced to beg, borrow or steal water from the residents".

Two weeks ago the MEC for Housing in the Cape Province, Koos Theron, said the squatters would receive water within a few days. But Gonubie town clerk KB Levey said the municipality would only provide water after it had been paid for.

Levey said that they were charging the "normal rates" for residents in Gonubie. However, white residents do not have their water provided from tanks at a delivery rate of R40,50 an hour.

Water was only delivered to three of the four tanks last Friday and it was insufficient. The supply was finished within a day and despite requests from the community the tanks have not been refilled.

Already many of the squatters, particularly the children, are sick from the dirty water they have been obliged to drink.

The squatters are determined to maintain their living standards despite the unhygienic conditions surrounding their present site. — eNkosi
2 KTC leaders’ homes attacked

By CHRIS BATEMAN

THE homes of the chairman of the Western Cape United Squatters’ Association (Wecusa), Mr Kenneth Tsimana, and his chief headman of the ruling Masimacedane Committee in KTC, were petrol-bombed and seriously damaged early yesterday.

The attack is the first known violent attack in the KTC squatter settlement for nearly two years, and was tentatively blamed on a "paid gangster element" by the Masimacedane Committee yesterday.

Mr Tsimana’s two daughters, Zoleka, 15, and Peseke, 8, escaped serious injury by leaping out of window of the burning home during the 4.30am attack. Mr Tsimana was not home at the time.

A car belonging to Mr Hewu parked outside Mr Tsimana’s home was also petrol-bombed and gutted.

The attack on Mr Hewu’s nearby home, in which nobody was injured, came 30 minutes later.

Mr Tsimana and Masimacedane media spokesman Mr Gladstone Ntomo were questioned by police in an early-morning KTC raid last week, and Mr Ntomo was arrested and charged with illegal possession of a firearm.

Mr Tsimana said yesterday that it was a priority for community organisations to meet and discuss township gangsterism.

"We feel that somebody with a political motivation has used the gangsters to carry out these attacks," he added.

Both men said the last recorded violence in KTC was in 1988 between themselves and the then newly formed adjoining camp, Thambo Square.

However, these problems were solved and peace had reigned.

Five of the six high-mast lights in Site B, Khayelitsha, were sabotaged early on Wednesday morning. Town clerk Mr Graham Lawrence said the compartments housing the switching gear had been forced open and damaged.

Police said they had not made any arrests by late yesterday.
‘Witdoek’ violence: Fund to pay claims

By GAVE DAVIS, Cape Town

FORMER residents of Old Crossroads and KTC squatter settlements whose homes were torched by “witdoek” vigilantes more than four years ago can expect to be compensated for their losses by March next year.

More than 3,300 families lodged formal claims against the state in the wake of the attacks, but anyone who lost possessions is entitled to claim against the KTC Relief Fund, according to co-ordinator High Jagoa.

The fund was set up in terms of the settlement which brought to an end the KTC trial, which tried to prove police complicity in the attacks which left an estimated 60,000 people homeless.

Without admitting liability, Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok agreed to pay R1.5-million into the fund, and to match on a rand-for-rand basis a further R500,000 to be raised by the fund itself.

The fund is interviewing claimants at offices in the Joseph Stone theatre in Athlone.
Sunnydale squatter proposal rejected.

The proposal to create a squatter camp at Sunnydale, near Fish Hoek, was "totally unacceptable" because the homeless people of the area would be condemned to a squatter existence without an opportunity of upgrading their status, Sunnydale Ratepayers' Association said in a statement issued during a placard demonstration on Saturday.

The association said the Cape Peninsula was a major tourist attraction and recreational area and thus it was of fundamental importance that it be preserved and not become over-populated or poorly planned.

"In essence we advocate negotiation, consultation, communication, participation and consideration of all the peoples in our community affected by the government's decision," the statement said.

NO TO SQUATTERS... Members of the Sunnydale Ratepayers Association protesting at government approval of establishing a squatter camp in the area.

Photo: Alan Taylor
Transit camps for squatters

By BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

TRANSIT camps for squatters at Grabouw and Zwellihle in Hermanus are to be established at a cost of R400 000, the chairman of the Overberg Regional Services Council's priorities committee, Dr John Widdowson, said yesterday.

A further R20 000 had been set aside for the provision of water to the Toeseliedal area in the Caledon district.

This was the first action of this kind by the Overberg RSC and although he considered the amount allocated "painfully inadequate", it would solve some of the problems of the people in those areas, Dr Widdowson said.

The R240 000 allocated to the transit camp at Zwellihle would be used to provide water, sewerage and other basic services for about 150 houses in the area where squatting problems had reached crisis proportions.

"In Hermanus, the health authorities have warned of the possibility of a typhoid outbreak as a result of the deteriorating situation."

The committee also found that squatters had settled in four areas in the Grabouw region, but the illegal, undesirable and extremely unhygienic.

The R240 000 grant would be used to provide 104 new sites at the Rootdakke transit camp so that the illegal squatters could be moved there.

Dr Widdowson praised the initiative of the Grabouw Town Council to build wooden houses in the area but said employers should be involved in the housing of their workers.
Residents plan court action on squatter camp

By JOHAN SCHROENEN
Staff Reporter

THE Milnerton Ratepayers' Association is planning Supreme Court action against the town council to stop it establishing a transit camp for squatters and has appealed to residents to contribute towards legal costs.

An open letter by the chairman of the association, Mr. Klaus Borgelt, to the mayor, Mr. Willie van Staden, accuses the council of wanting to change Milnerton into a "Third World township".

Mr. Borgelt said it appeared the council was creating a "soft target" for an "orchestrated political play by the ANC and UDP in terms of a published policy whereby every available vacant land will be occupied in defiance of the government".

The town clerk, Mr. Pieter Gerber, has appealed to residents for tolerance and understanding.

"We have built as much protection for our residents as possible into conditions negotiated for the transit area," Mr. Gerber said.

"Some people got up on a stage and used all their energy to point fingers at the council rather than help to produce an effective and constructive solution."

The association says the proposed transit area is 10 times too small for the present number of squatters.

It has also expressed concern over the availability of schools for children in the settlement, which has grown to a claimed population of 1,500 and is expanding at a rate of up to 50% a day.

The association has called a public meeting for Thursday at 8pm at the Milnerton Town Hall. Councillors have been invited to attend.
ANC PROVIDES HOMES FOR BACKYARD

JAN STEYN

ANC provides homes for backyard

FUND ADMINISTRATOR

Relief for needy students

Find my provable loan

Health care

Human rights

Cash strapped block

Activity

Primary health care should be

For all, says
Candlelight vigil in memory of pioneer squatter

Staff Report

A CANDLELIGHT vigil has been held at Hout Bay's Dia River squatter camp in memory of Mrs Lilian Anthony, one of the valley's pioneer squatters.

Mrs Anthony, 75, who died in Groote Schuur Hospital on Monday, spent the last 30 years of her life in an unrelenting battle for the right to live legally in the area.

About 50 people last night gathered on the steep hillside among the ramshackle huts to pay tribute to the woman affectionately in the community as "Ona".

Mrs Anthony raised 10 children.
Court orders squatters off Hout Bay land

By JOHN VIJGEN
Supreme Court Reporter

The Supreme Court has ordered more than 400 Hout Bay squatters at the Princess Bush camp to vacate the land they are on.

Mr Justice D M Williamson, with Mr Justice A M Van Nielkerk and Mr J G Foxcroft concurring, yesterday confirmed an interim interdict granted in August.

In the judgment, alleged police reluctance to act on complaints of trespassing and breaches of the Squatting Act were described as "cause for grave concern."

PAY COSTS

The ruling followed an application brought by property owners Mr Andries Wessels Beyers, Mr Willem Pretorius and Mr Jan Schuurmans-Stekhoven.

The squatters have been ordered to pay the costs of the application.

The fate of a further 13 squatters will be decided after the court hears evidence at a date to be determined.

It was clear that the squatters were in unlawful occupation of the land and made no claim of right to be there, Mr Justice Williamson said.

He described as "a cause for grave concern" an incident in which police allegedly refused to act against squatters on his land.

Mr Beyers said in an affidavit that after discovering about five squatting shacks on his property he asked Hout Bay police to remove them.

POLICE ORDERS

The station commander refused, saying superiors had ordered police not to interfere in disputes between land owners and squatters.

Assuming this to be true "a most serious state of affairs is revealed," Mr Justice Williamson said.

"The police are there to maintain law and order and if they refuse to do so we have anarchy and a serious threat to the very foundation of an ordered society."

"What is the unfortunate victim to do if the very organs of society which are there to protect his rights refuse to do so?"

"This is a recipe for anarchy," he said.

He ordered that copies of his judgment be sent to the commissioner of police and the Minister of Law and Order.

Mr G Lowe, instructed by De Klerk and Van Gend, appeared for the applicants. Mr D Knight, SC, assisted by Mr J Whitehead, instructed by the Legal Resources Centre, appeared for the squatters.
Squatters ordered out

By RONNIE MORRIS

A FULL-BENCH of the Supreme Court yesterday ordered the eviction of 103 squatters, all members of the controversial Princess Bush squatter community in Hout Bay, from land valued at £3 million.

A refusal by Hout Bay police to intervene, apparently on instruction by superiors, was "a recipe for anarchy and forceful self-help", said Mr Justice T M Williamson.

The court viewed this so seriously that it ordered that copies of the judgment be sent to the Commissioner of Police and the Minister of Law and Order.

An application had been brought by the owners of the land, Mr Andrea van Niekerk, Mr William Peter Malherbe and Mr Jan Snyman, against Mr Martinus Millington and 108 others.

In his judgment, Mr Justice Williamson, with Mr Justice A M van Niekerk and Mr Justice J G Fennel concurring, said he had come to the conclusion that the various defences raised by the squatters were "nothing more than grasping at straws".

The judges also criticised the Hout Bay police who, when asked by Mr Beyers for assistance, said they had been given instructions not to interfere or participate in matters relating to disputes between landowners or occupiers and squatters.

"What is the unfortunate victim to do if the very organs of society are there to protect his rights refuse to do so? This is a recipe for anarchy and forceful self-help, with potential results that are frightening to contemplate."

Mr Justice Williamson said that it was "fundamental to the peace and good order of our society that affairs be conducted according to law."

"The police are there to maintain law and order, and if they refuse to do so we have anarchy and a serious threat to the very foundation of an ordered society."

Owners warned

The contention that the eviction was not urgent because an application had been made for the rezoning of the property for a housing development was irrelevant to what had to be considered. The owners had been warned by the authorities that action was being contemplated against them, and they had also been threatened with legal action by the Hout Bay Property Owners' Association.

"One naturally has sympathy with people in the position of the respondents, but this should not cloud one's view of the fact that the applicants have rights of ownership which should simply be ignored by the respondents."

"As far back as June this year the respondents were given notice to vacate... yet they continue to disregard the applicant's rights."

Mr Justice Williamson said he could appreciate that the original occupation of property was lawful and exercise discretion in giving time to a wrongful occupier to vacate. It seemed, however, that the original occupation was unlawful, even different considerations applied.

Very much doubt that a court in such a situation has the right to say to an owner that he can't have his property back yet because it is inconvenient for the person who has unlawfully appropriated that property to vacate it.

"Even if the court had a discretion, it seems to me that this is not a proper case in which to exercise such a discretion. It is now December and the respondents must have had adequate notice that they are required to leave."

CAT AND DOG... This bull terrier's motherly instincts allow an adopted kitten to suckle its milk. Susan the dog, who lives with Miss Jenny McLeary in Table View, treated kitten Korsusa with great affection. The animal's owner was stunned when it discovered Susan's affection for the kitten and the two are now inseparable.
Milnerton residents heckle councillors on squatter issue

By JOHAN SCHÖNEN
Staff Reporter

TIGHT-LIPPED Milnerton town councillors were loudly booed and ragged by more than 800 residents who packed the townhall to hear the council's answers to questions on the squatter problem.

The residents' association recently threatened the council with Supreme Court action in a bid to stop the proclamation of an 8.2 hectare site in Milnerton as a temporary transit area for homeless people.

Last night Milnerton Mayor, Mr Willie van Staden said the association had "shot itself in the foot" by its threat of legal action. Acting on legal advice, he was not prepared to enter into any discussions unless the association was prepared to lift the threat and guarantee no legal steps against the council.

"Under these circumstances we can only attend this meeting as observers and not discuss the issue," Mr Van Staden said.

The proclamation was labelled by the association a "soft target" for an "orchestrated political ploy by the ANC and UDF to occupy all vacant land in defiance of the government and the law."

But according to the Town Clerk, Mr Pieter Gerber, the council did everything possible when the settlement was still small, to force the Department of Posts and Telecommunications which owns a large portion of the land, to evict the squatters.

A spokesman for the Department of Posts and Telecommunications told the meeting that it was a misunderstanding that nothing had been done about the illegal squatting. They had removed shacks on at least three previous occasions.

ACTION COMMITTEE

An action committee was elected by the association to investigate counter measures against the proclamation.

Emotional residents cheered suggestions to channel all rate payments into a trust account which could be used towards legal costs.

A vote of no confidence in the council and demands of their immediate resignation were loudly supported by residents.

Some residents suggested that the ratepayers' association buy the property and evict the squatters.

A ratepayer at the meeting said that a new South Africa must not be created at the expense of the residents. "Favourable consideration is necessary for those who contribute to the community," he said.

A petition on the squatter issue to the State President, Mr F W De Klerk, was signed by ratepayers at the meeting.
Milnerton move to combat squatting

BY BRONWYN DAVIDS

MORE THAN 1000 Milnerton residents decided at an emotionally charged, unruly meeting last night to form an action committee to deal with the squatting problem.

Residents in the overflowing hall repeatedly jeered at the mayor, Mr. Willem van Staden, and two councillors, and demanded their "immediate resignation".

It was also decided to send a petition to President F W de Klerk.

Mr. Van Staden, the councillors and representatives of the Department of Posts and Telecommunication on whose land the squatters are living were invited by the Milnerton Ratepayers' Association to answer residents' queries.

At the start of the meeting Mr. Van Staden said that on the advice of their lawyers he and the councillors were not prepared to speak because the ratepayers' association had earlier threatened legal action against the council.

"Squatting is spreading unabated and residents are fearing for their homes and lives," said ratepayers' chairman Mr. Klaas Borgelt.

After nearly two hours of angry comments, chants and booing at the councillors, the action committee was formed. It is to report back to residents by next week.

The committee will look at all suggestions made at the meeting, which include: Not paying water and electricity bills, placing rate payments in a trust fund and gaining a working knowledge of what the officials intend doing about the squatters.

A Post Office representative said the land was being fenced off in an attempt to keep the squatters off it.
Owner delays Hout Bay eviction

By CHRIS BATEMAN

HOUT BAY'S 109 squatters, who have been legally evicted from Princess Bush, heaved a cautious sigh of relief yesterday as a landowner promised to talk before exercising the property rights he won in the Cape Supreme Court on Wednesday.

The promise by Mr Willem Malherbe, one of the three joint owners of the squatter-occupied property, drew immediate approval from all parties.

And the police, who were severely criticised by Mr Justice D.M. Williamson for their refusal to intervene in ejecting the squatters, said they would carefully study a transcript of the judgment before commenting.

Mr Justice Williamson, with two other judges concurring, said the refusal by Hout Bay police to intervene was "a recipe for anarchy and forceful self-help".

He instructed that copies of his judgment be forwarded to the Commissioner of Police and the Minister of Law and Order.

Mr Charlmane Muga, chairman of the Princess Bush community, yesterday welcomed Mr Malherbe's statement and said any evictions would harm the "spirit of negotiations".

"The state must come up with a solution quickly. The court has not caught up with the new era in the country. It must be there to protect the people's right and not give the police more power to harass," he said.

His people had decided they were "prepared to die in that land unless there's a solution".

The squatters' lawyer, Ms Angela Andrews, said she hoped the court decision would not be construed by police as compelling them to act. This would prejudice negotiation which was at "a very delicate and advanced stage".

Mr Rob de Vos, chairman of the Hout Bay Ratepayers' Association, welcomed the judges' decision and Mr Malherbe's reaction and cautioned that any evictions now would "cause great turmoil".

The MP for Sea Point (which covers Hout Bay), Mr Colin Eglin, said the court had declared the rights of the landowner in "clear and unambiguous terms".

However, he also welcomed Mr Malherbe's reaction and appealed to him to "hold back" until alternative site planning was complete.

He warned that summary eviction might impel the government to clear Hout Bay land to house squatters temporarily. In view of the advanced planning this would be "highly undesirable".
Hout Bay evictions halted by minister

BY KURT SACHS

DEPUTY MINISTER of Law and Order, John Steyn, yesterday confirmed that the eviction of a group of people from a house in Hout Bay, near Cape Town, was halted by a dramatic intervention by the minister himself.

Mr Steyn said that the eviction of a group of people from a house in Hout Bay was halted by the minister himself.

The eviction was ordered by a judge in the High Court, and was due to take place on Wednesday. However, on Wednesday, a judge in the High Court ordered the eviction to be halted, pending further hearings.

Mr Steyn said that the minister had been informed of the situation and had ordered the eviction to be halted.

The minister has been critical of the police for not acting against the squatters.

Mr Steyn also said that the minister had been involved in other evictions in the past, and had ordered the police to step up their efforts.

Mr Steyn said that the minister had been successful in mediating between the parties involved, and that the police had been cooperative.

The minister has been critical of the police for not acting against the squatters.

Mr Steyn also said that the minister had been involved in other evictions in the past, and had ordered the police to step up their efforts.

Mr Steyn said that the minister had been successful in mediating between the parties involved, and that the police had been cooperative.
SAP officer appointed to look at squatter problem

Staff Reporter

A POLICE officer has been appointed to deal with grievances of people living in Hout Bay. Major Paul du Toit of the Wynberg district commissioner's office will start work in Hout-Bay today.

Police spokesman Captain Craig Kotze said the major was appointed at the request of the Deputy Minister of Law and Order Mr Johan Scheepers.

Mr Scheepers visited Hout Bay on Saturday and held discussions with various government departments, squatters from Princess Bush and other groups.

"Any complaints from the residents of Hout Bay or the squatters will be looked into with the necessary speed," said Captain Kotze.
15 Hout Bay
Chic_Tap
squatters
in court
307
Staff Reporter

FIFTEEN Hout Bay squatters and hostel dwellers arrested on Monday in Victoria Road in connection with loitering charges appeared in Wynberg Magistrate's Court yesterday.

No charges were put to them and they were warned to appear on January 11 next year.

According to their attorney, Ms Angela Andrews of the Legal Resources Centre, 11 of the accused were from the Princess Bush squatter camp and four from local hostels.
THE HOMELESS

A colour blind 'law that affects millions of blacks'

BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

The Homeless

News

December 20 to January 10 1991

THE WEEKLY MAIL
Women held for ‘stealing water’

By LOUISE FLANAGAN

RESIDENTS from a squatter camp in an upmarket East London suburb are being charged with stealing water.

The seven women from the Gonubie squatter camp were arrested at the weekend after trying to collect water from taps outside the local municipal offices. Lawyers for Human Rights (LHR) said police had confirmed that the women would be charged with stealing water.

Members of the Gonubie Residents’ Association (GRA) said residents were told by the police that the seven would not appear in court. Instead, police allegedly told them that the matter would be sorted out at the station.

“On Sunday they (the police) said they were not going to take them to court, they were just going to solve the problem at the police station,” said a representative of the GRA.

“How can they solve the problem there? They’re supposed to take them to the court.”

“It’s not addressing any problem. If people don’t have water they’re going to look for it,” said LHR spokesman Thomas Smit. “Police shouldn’t waste their time arresting and detaining people for such trivial offences. Actions like this cause further suffering instead of addressing the problem.”

Police have not yet responded to requests for comment.

The squatters have been fighting a long battle for the right to have water.

A few weeks ago four water tanks were finally put in the area. However, the GRA said that only two of the four tanks were filled and they have not been replenished. Since then the squatters have again been relying on local residents in the white area for water.

The community is also suspicious of the water in the tanks. The GRA said they would rather have taps — “even if it’s two taps” — than the tanks.

“We don’t need those tanks, they can even poison them and we wouldn’t know,” said a member of the GRA.

The Gonubie municipality announced earlier that the squatters would be expected to pay for water.

The GRA said the community would be happy to pay for the water, but there is nothing in the tanks and the municipality has still not told them how much to pay.

Gonubie town clerk KB Levey said he knew nothing of the arrests.

Levey said that all four tanks had been filled up when they were first taken to the community, but not since. He said that the municipality was still negotiating with the community about payment for the water.

The water will cost the squatters half a cent per litre, which will also include the cost of transporting it to the camp.

Levey said that the municipality would not allow squatters to take water from its offices in the meantime. — elnws
RSC men demolish 8 Hout Bay shacks

By CHRIS BATEMAN

REGIONAL Services Council officials, guarded by armed police, yesterday demolished eight extension structures and two skeleton frames belonging to absent owners of the Princess Bush squatter community in Hout Bay.

The demolitions come within eight days of a Full Bench of the Supreme Court ordering the eviction of 109 squatter members of the 1,000-strong Hout Bay community and severely criticising the police for not intervening earlier.

A spokesman for the landowners on whose property the community is squatting has, however, said he will negotiate and not take arbitrary action.

An angry chairman of the Princess Bush community, Mr Nkosinathi Mguga, said yesterday's demolitions were "not in the spirit of current negotiations" and caused hardship for squatters who had built extensions.

RSC officials used petrol-driven power saws to cut down poles of the structures.

Mr Mguga said two of the frames cut down had deteriorated in the absence of their owners who had been at sea for several months. However, the extensions had been "all in full use" by present occupants.

"This makes my heart heavy at prospects for future negotiations with officials and local well-meaning people," he said.

Meanwhile Mr C C Reynecke, head of the Department of Local Government, Housing and Works, Administration, House of Assembly, said "urgent steps" were being taken to identify a suitable site to which the squatters could move.

While he did not say when this site would be serviced and ready, it was reliably learnt that this would be within two months and that only negotiation over a purchase price by the government was delaying matters.

Mr Reynecke said negotiations with the owners of the occupied squatter site were being conducted to "synchronise" their move with the implementation of the Supreme Court order.

A police spokesman confirmed that police had played a "supportive role" and that eight new extensions and two structures had been demolished by RSC workers.
SQUATTERS

PRIVATE RIGHTS

There is no legal dispute over the Cape Supreme Court order last week ejecting 159 Hout Bay squatters from private land near the beachfront. But the decision may have done irreparable harm to delicate negotiations that were in progress to resolve the issue peacefully.

The decision by a full bench followed an application by the owners of the land (said to be valued at R3m). The judgment was highly critical of the squatters' actions and the police for not enforcing anti-squatting and trespass laws.

The Hout Bay squatter problem has been simmering for months (Current Affairs September 28). There are about 1 500 squatters in six communities in the valley. Those whose ejection has been ordered are known as the Princess Bush squatters and regarded by some local residents as the most militant.

At a meeting with the squatters and government officials at the weekend, the landowners agreed to delay enforcing the court order until the end of this week to give authorities an opportunity to speed up the process of making other, already identified, land available.

UDF western Cape secretary and legal adviser to the squatters, Willie Hofmeyr, says the tragedy of the court judgment is that during earlier negotiations the community had agreed to move as soon as land became available.

He adds it's very worrying that at the weekend meeting landowners were not prepared to commit themselves to a negotiated solution and wanted to keep open the option to evict people. He believes the judgment may have a ripple effect because police and conservative local authorities may now feel pressured into acting against squatter communities.

Tony Snelgar, of Hout Bay Property Rights Association, which claims to represent about 4 500 residents in the valley, says the judgment vindicates his organisation's view that authorities had to be pressured into taking urgent steps to resolve the squatter problem.

He adds the association sympathises with the squatters and has urged government to make alternative land and housing available to them. However, the priority must be to house homeless black and coloured Hout Bay residents. This means not all the squatters will be accommodated in the area.

Snelgar argues that many squatters — including 100 from Ovambo who have no right to be in SA — have simply climbed on the political bandwagon and now expect special treatment before the local homeless whose profile has not been elevated by the media.

He adds the property rights upheld by the court have nothing to do with apartheid and it's unfortunate and unfair that the owners are often portrayed as villains and the squat-

Squatters to get new home

By KURT SWART

The government has earmarked an alternative site for the beleaguered Hout Bay squatters who were ordered off privately-owned land by the Cape supreme court last week.

House of Assembly local government department head, C. Reyneke, said urgent steps had been taken to identify a suitable area of land to resettle the squatters. Negotiations were held with property owners to synchronise the move off the present site in Princess Bush and on to the new site, which would be provided with the necessary services, he added.

Mr. Reyneke declined to identify the site.

Last week a full bench of the supreme court upheld the application by three property owners and ordered the ejection of 109 squatters and their families. UDP representative and civil rights lawyer, Willie Hofmeyr, has expressed concern at the court's criticism of police action.

Police had deliberately acted in a low-key manner because they were aware of negotiations in progress between the authorities, ratepayers and the squatters, he said.

"Now the court has practically ordered the police to take action," he said.
Heartache in Hout Bay as fire destroys 151 homes

By ESANN von RENSBURG
Staff Reporter

HOUT Bay residents opened their hearts and pockets to the plight of the 860 homeless squatters after the nightmare fire which roared through the Sea Products squatter camp and killed four people.

Relief work got under way not long after the heartbreaking Family Day fire in which 151 homes were destroyed.

Squatters told of how sympathetic white neighbours came to the camp with food, blankets and money.

Other Hout Bay residents walked through the ashes later in the morning and produced R20 notes to help with food and blankets.

Up-country cars stopped along the road and offered help — an elderly woman gave her telephone number to a churchman — offering help in the form of cash and clothes.

Squatters said the fire started about 2.30am yesterday and within 20 minutes there was little left but smouldering ashes.

CHARRED BODIES

The charred bodies recovered were of four adult men, believed to be Mr Wiseman Songo, Mr Thando Inkwani, Mr Mayhase Schöeman and Mr Patameni Leonard.

Police liaison officer Major Jan Galtz said it was not clear how the fire started.

According to community worker Mrs Shantaal Meter, one man said he saw a flare being shot into the squatter camp. Others said they saw sparks at an empty hut from which the fire later spread.

There was no time to save possessions. Even pets perished in the blaze.

Mr Philip Xeshka, 48, was burned on his arms and back escaping the flames in his shack.

Late yesterday morning, shocked and tearful residents scraped around for coins on the smouldering sites where their houses once stood.

Some, who had left to visit their families in the Transkei and Ciskei, will return to find their homes and possessions gone.

Squatters dismissed as "nonsense" media reports which said firemen had difficulty getting to the camp because residents pelted them with stones.

"These are sand dunes. There are no stones here," one resident said.

"The reason the firemen didn't come in before about 5.30, is that they couldn't find the hydrant," Mrs Meter said.

Miss Bonita Matthews, a member of the Squatter Co-ordinating Committee, said the Hout Bay squatter communities had always been threatened.

The Cape Town Supreme Court recently ordered the squatters evicted.
Fire havoc

By ESANN van RENSBURG, Staff Reporter

HOUT Bay’s Sea Products squatter camp looked like a war zone after the devastating fire which largely destroyed the camp and left its 600 residents homeless.

Burnt out frames that once outlined the homes of families swung lopsidedly over the smouldering contents of what was once a bedroom, a kitchen, a living area.

Tearful, shocked residents scraped around for whatever they could find — most had to contend with tins full of coins.

Little groups of people sought shelter under trees and sat, staring blankly at the scorched earth around them.

Dogs snuggled up to their owners as, in the background near the river, families mourned the loss of their dead.

Relief workers, members of Hout Bay’s Squatter Co-ordinating Committee, churchmen and sympathetic white residents walked through the camp — supporting and comforting wherever they could.

There was talk of rebuilding the shacks, but the eyes and hearts of the squatters spoke of disbelief and tiredness.

Hundreds of campers had to flee from the Sonesta holiday resort near Hawston, Hermanus, when four caravans were destroyed by fire, reports GLYNNIS VAN ROOYEN.

The fire was brought under control by fire-fighting teams from Caledon and Hermanus.

HOMELESS AND TIRED: (Right) One of the Hout Bay squatters, Mr Robert Mambolu, sits in the burnt out Hout Bay squatter camp that was devastated by fire. Mr Mambolu is holding his last remaining possession, a can of money.

REMAINS: (Below) Only the burnt out chassis of this caravan remains after the devastating fire in the Sonesta holiday resort.

BURNT OUT: (Below right) Part of the Sonesta holiday camp at Hawston with a fire service vehicle in the foreground.
Hout Bay
fire horror

By CHRIS BATEMAN and DANIEL SIMON

POLICE were patrolling a Hout Bay squatter camp early today for trespassers following the massive fire which razed the site on Christmas night, killing four people.

Police spokesman Major Jan Calitz last night confirmed that the owner of the property, Mr. Hel Richter, had laid a complaint of trespassing following the destruction of 100 squatter shacks at Sea Products squatter camp.

The site is opposite the controversial Princess Bush camp where squatters were ordered by the Supreme Court earlier this month to vacate the land.

Major Calitz said police would act against any people who returned to the Sea Products property and tried to rebuild their homes.

"If the people come back on the land they are trespassing. If they trespass, we will arrest them," he said.

He added that police would patrol the area to make sure squatters did not try to build new homes.

A policeman stationed at Hout Bay police station last night said police were patrolling the disaster site following a complaint of trespassing laid by Mr. Richter. He added that no arrests had been made.

Mr. Richter was not available for comment last night.

One of those killed in the Christmas night fire died when a gas bottle exploded as he ducked back into his mother's flimsy dwelling to retrieve her bank book.

Mr. Thando Ngwane, 33, who was from Tarkastad, near Queenstown, died instantly, his sobbing mother, Mrs. Rebecca Ngwane of the 200-strong Sea Products Bush community, said yesterday.

He was due to leave for their family home in Tarkastad yesterday and was anxious not to lose the "travel

To page 2
Four die in Cape squatter camp blaze

CAPE-TOWN — At least four people died in a fire which swept through part of the Hout Bay squatter settlement yesterday.

The fire started about 6am and soon about 150 plastic, wood, and iron shacks were destroyed. Charred corpses lay in the smouldering ash. 27.7.70

People stood around in debris on the duneside. Very little was saved.

Firemen from the Western Cape Regional Services Council, who arrived with two fire engines, and firemen from the Forest Department, tried to extinguish the blaze but could do very little. At one stage they were forced to withdraw as residents became excited and pelted them with stones.

This section of the Hout Bay squatter camp, which locals call Sea Products, was erected in the midst of affluent residential housing. The squatter settlement at Hout Bay is a subject of controversy, with a Supreme Court order pending to evict the residents of approximately 550 squatter shacks in the community. — Sapa.
Shack fire kills four in Cape

At least four people died in a big fire which swept through a section of the Hout Bay squatter settlement.

SABC radio news reports the fire started at about 3am yesterday and burned out 150 plastic wood-and-iron shacks.

Firemen from the Western Cape Regional Services Council and firemen from the Forestry Department tried to extinguish the blaze. At one stage they were forced to withdraw as residents became excited and pelleted them with stones.

This section of the Hout Bay squatter camp, which locals call Sea Products, was erected in the midst of affluent residential housing. The settlement is a subject of controversy at present, with a Supreme Court order pending to evict the residents of approximately 550 squatter shacks.
Squatters return to camp.

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Squatters complain with hurling.

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By Yusi Kama

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STAND-OFF: Squatters face police at the entrance of the Hour Boy squatter camp before the owner of the land returned and allowed them to return.

Police liaison officer Captain John Collins confirmed that Mr. Peter's Club, a bar near the camp, has already been demolished. He said the squatters are still there.

The police have been there for a week, he said.

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Kamu, who was seen standing near the entrance of the camp, said he was a member of the Red Cross Society.

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Food and clothes

For all:

The Squatters' Association for Social and Cultural Development has expressed solidarity with ANF (Association for the Advancement of Women and Children). The association has been protests against the demolition of the squatter camp.

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development has been receiving reports from the squatter camp.

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Delegation

A delegation from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development visited the camp.

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The delegation found a bar near the camp, which is operated by a group of squatters.

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Chairman of the Red Cross Society, Mr. Kam, said the delegation would return to the camp to assess the situation.

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Although the delegation was not able to stop the demolition, it managed to negotiate with the squatters to return to their homes.

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The squatters said they would return to their homes after the demolition.

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The squatters said they were not happy with the demolition.

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The squatters said they would not return to their homes until the demolition was stopped.

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The delegation comprised ANC regional chairman Mr. Christmas Tinto, advocate Mr. Dullah Omar, Anglican priest Father John Frye, attorney for the squatters Angelo Andrews and five squatter representatives.

They told police that the squatters had an agreement with Mr. Richter that they could use the land until they could find alternative land.

They accused Mr. Richter of being in breach of the terms of the contract he had entered into with the squatters.

Initially the commander at the police station, Colonel J. Grundling, refused to receive the delegation unless Mr. Omar, Mr. Tinto and all other "unaffected people" were removed from it.

A heated argument between Mr. Omar and Colonel Grundling then followed, with the former threatening to withdraw the delegation.

Colonel Grundling told the delegation to "march out" if it did not remove those "unaffected" by the Hout Bay incident. However, the meeting took

The Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, Mr. Hernus Kriel, said in a statement that the money would be used mainly for clothing and essential food for those affected.

He expressed his sympathy to the families of the dead and to those who had lost all their belongings.

For information regarding relief contributions, readers can phone St Peter's Church—790 1929. Financial contributions can be deposited into the Wynberg branch of the Standard Bank, account number 278 598 170.

• Money for the Hout Bay squatters was collected at the Labour Party's meeting in the Cape Town City Hall last night.

The party leader, the Rev. Allan Hendriekse, expressed sympathy for those who had lost their belongings in the fire and urged members of the audience to give generously as they left the hall.

He said the money would be given to church organisations for distribution among the squatters.
Bay Overwater

Hunt says: Stay 'Squatters'

Fine Combining ...

Top Forensic Consultant Dr. David Kizlow Yeater

by Chris Bateman

Christmas Day blaze began in your Bay. In search of clues as to how it began, police began through the debris of the shack where the devastating fire occurred.

Early Monday, emergency services were called to respond to the incident. The fire was contained to the shack, and no injuries were reported. The cause of the fire is currently under investigation.

Local residents express concern over the incident, and some are calling for better safety measures to be put in place. The Bay Overwater community has been working with local authorities to address these concerns.

This year, the community is working to ensure that safety measures are in place and that residents are prepared for similar incidents.

The community thanks emergency services for their quick response and the police for their ongoing investigation.
R100,000 aid for Hout Bay squatters

Staff Reporter

The government has made R100,000 available for relief aid to Hout Bay squatters whose homes were destroyed in the Christmas night fire which killed four people.

The money would be used mainly for clothing and "essential foodstuffs" for those affected, the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, Mr. Hermus Kriel, said yesterday.

He expressed his sympathy to the next of kin of the dead and the hundreds among the Sea Products Bush squatter community who lost all their belongings in the blaze.

Meanwhile, the homeless squatters were yesterday given a stay of eviction and began returning to the burnt-out squatter site from which police had kept them for most of the day.

This follows a turnaround by property developer Mr. Mel Richter, the owner of the land on which some 500 squatters live, hours after saying that only those whose homes had escaped the devastation could remain temporarily.

Full report — Page 2
Anger over squatter resettlement

EAST LONDON. — Squatters from Goniwe are to be resettled near a White suburban area, angering the local ratepayers.

The ratepayers of Eastwood have yesterday raised the issue with Cape Provincial Administration MEC for housing Mr Koos Theron.

The chairman of the ratepayers' association, Mr R J Kelly, said the first notification residents had of the decision to resettle the squatters in "area A" was a news report in the Daily Dispatch.

They had received no reply to nor an acknowledgment of a letter they had sent to Mr Theron setting out reasons for their opposition to the choice of "area A", which was on valuable land in an ecological sensitive area.

Mr Kelly said it was not known why the area, "which was thrown out in May or June as a suitable site", was suddenly chosen, as Mr Theron has given no reasons for his decision.

He said they would be sending a fax to Mr Theron yesterday, in which they expressed the view that "things were badly handled from day one", and in which they would ask him to give reasons why "site A" was chosen.

An environmental scientist, Mr Andy Gubb, earlier urged the CPA not to choose "area A" for resettlement, and pointed out potential ecological damage should such a decision be made.

Moreover, the soil was unstable for informal housing and the area was prone to winter flooding.
R100 000 aid for Hout Bay squatters

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This follows a turnabout by property developer Mr Mel Richter, the owner of the land on which some 500 squatters live, hours after saying that only those whose homes had escaped the devastation could remain temporarily.

● Full report — Page 2

‘Mom’s taxi’ is booming business

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The phenomenal growth of the black taxi industry inspired Bryanston housewife Mrs Julia Brown to expand her one-woman schoolchildren ferrying service into a venture that could become a major business.

Mrs Brown was struck by the potential of running a Teen Taxi service last year while transporting her two sons from school, clubs and other functions in her minibus.

“When studying for an MBA degree, we examined Sabta and I was amazed at the way the taxi industry grew. That’s what inspired me to start a Teen Taxi service,” she said yesterday.

The children are picked up from school and taken home, to sports practices, ballet or to the dentist, etc.

The service also carries retirees and village residents to and from functions, tiny tots from nursery school and sports club members to competitions.

“Then there are the commuters who shuttle to their offices in Wynberg or Rynia from Sandton City,” said Mrs Brown.

She said members could make from R4 000 to R9 000 a month, depending on how hard they worked.

“I had calls from as far afield as Cape Town asking if Teen Taxi operated there, and I thought of making it national,” Mrs Brown said.

Big crackdown on crime

POLICE are planning a huge crime crackdown after a surge of murders over Christmas.

The plan comes a day after the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adrian Vlok, expressed his concern about the rise in crime.

This year’s Christmas has been one of the bloodiest in South Africa with 22 deaths and more than 750 injuries from murders and assaults.

Yesterday a police officer said: “We’ve just reached the end of our tether, we’re going to do all we can to end this rampant violence.”

A spokesman for the Ministry of Law and Order said the police plan would address the whole spectrum of crime — “every angle, every possibility, every facet”.

According to government sources in Pretoria, methods of financing anti-crime measures are being investigated as a matter of urgency and a tax on tourism was one of the avenues under investigation.

● Full report — Page 3
Squatters given 60-day reprieve

CAPE TOWN — Host Day's beleaguered Sea Products squatter community was given a stay of eviction yesterday after behind-the-scenes negotiations by their lawyers and Sea Point MP Colin Eglin.

And government made R100 000 available for relief aid to the squatters as they began moving back late yesterday to the burn-out squat site from which police had barred them for most of the day.

Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing Minister Hernus Kriel said the R100 000 would be used mainly for clothing and "essential foodstuffs".

The owner of the land on which the 500 squatters live, property developer Mel Richter, reconsidered his decision that only those whose homes had escaped the Christmas day fire could remain temporarily.

Four people died and two were seriously injured in the blaze which gutted 120 houses in the early hours of Wednesday morning.

Only 16 homes remain.

Richter, who is also chairman of the Camps Bay Ratepayers Association, said he intended to start a townhouse development on the burn-out site next month.

He said later he had decided to allow the squatters to return to his land temporarily, but to live only in tents, until the end of February.

Government officials had assured him that alternative land for the squatters would have been "sorted out" by then.
Homeless and tired... Hour Bay squatter Robert Hamdali sits in the burnt-out remains of the camp holding his last remaining possession—a can of money.
We won't quit fire area, vow squatters

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Hout Bay squatters whose shacks were burnt down on Christmas Day are packing their belongings, but have vowed not to move an inch from the area. Police said they had stopped a number from rebuilding shacks.

However, the Government has promised R100 000 for relief aid to squatters whose homes were destroyed.

Minister of Planning, Provinzial Affairs and National Housing Hennus Kriel yesterday said the money would be used mainly for clothing and essential foodstuffs.

SAP spokesman Major Gys Bonzair has said police were working on a complaint lodged by plot owner Mr Richter.

A number of police vans have parked at the squatter camp, and the fire area has been declared a no-go area.

Jan Callitz said it was not clear how the fire started.

According to community worker Shantaal Meter, a man saw a flare being shot into the squatter camp.

Others said they saw sparks at an empty bolt from which the fire later spread.

Philip Xekha (48) was burnt on his arms and back escaping the flames in his shack.

Some residents, who had left to visit their families in Transkei and Ciskei, will return to find their homes and possessions gone.

Squatters dismissed as "nonsense" media reports which said firemen had difficulty getting to the camp because residents pelted them with stones.

"These are said dunes. There are no stones here," one said.

"The reason the firemen didn't come in before about 5.30 was that they couldn't find the hydrant," said Mrs Meter.

The Cape Town Supreme Court recently ordered the squatters to be evicted.

Angry squatter representatives said they had demanded to see Mr Richter as he had given them permission to stay on the land.

The squatters also demanded to conduct their own investigation into the fire's cause.

Meanwhile, Hout Bay residents have opened their hearts and pockets to the plight of the 600 homeless squatters after the fire roared through the camp and killed four people.

Squatters told of how sympathetic white neighbours had come to the camp with food, blankets and money.

Charred bodies

They said the fire started at about 2.30 am, and within 20 minutes there was little left but smouldering ashes.

The charred bodies recovered were of four adult men, believed to be Wiseman Songengo, Thando Inkwani, Mayhase Schoeman and Pataneni Leonard.

Police liaison officer Major
Tent town
first step
in relief plan for squatters

By CHRIS BATEMAN

THE Hout Bay squatter relief operation got into full swing yesterday with the arrival of the first 30 of 140 tents at the fire-devastated site, narrowly averting the erection of wood-and-iron structures.

Landowner and property developer Mr Mel Richter has said the squatters can stay on until the end of February — provided they live in tents and do not re-erect wood-and-iron shelters.

The tents arrived soon after the resolution of divisions in the squatter community over whether to accept government-donated tents or to erect their own structures with privately donated building materials.

Top-level meetings between local government officials, the police and the Red Cross Society yesterday ended in agreement that the Red Cross would distribute the government's R100 000 emergency aid.

Hout Bay priest and relief co-ordinator the Rev John Frye said the Regional Services Council had undertaken to begin clearing the debris of 150 gutted shacks today. A town planner would help lay out a "tent town".

Four squatters were burnt to death and two seriously injured in the wind-swept Christmas night fire which destroyed the camp, igniting dozens of gas bottles.

All but eight families lost everything they owned in the blaze.

Mealie meal

Another relief co-ordinator, Hout Bay businessman Mr Ian Paterson, said a priority would be to use privately donated cash and cheques to create "survival packs" of cookers and utensils for the 60 squatters.

Details of all squatters and their families were being computerised, leading to a revised estimate of the number of victims. The aid would then be distributed "carefully and fairly", he said.

Mr Paterson said it was a sign of the "independence" of the wider Hout Bay community that its residents had responded so quickly and willingly.

A Johannesburg-based company had promised a shipment of half a ton of mealie meal but the bulk of aid so far had come from the local community.

Mr Frye rejected right-wing claims that the squatters were being "flooded" with aid, saying it cost about R2 000 to "set up" each family, while the privately donated R9 000 had "all but gone" on blankets, toilets, petrol and telephone bills. Funeral expenses would amount to over R10 000, he said.

However, a more sinister side to the controversy emerged yesterday with a telephonic death threat made to Mr Frye.

Mr Frye appealed to the white community to "show moral support" for the bereaved families for whom a funeral service will be held at St Peter's Anglican Church in Hout Bay tomorrow afternoon.

Anyone wishing to donate to the Combined Christian Emergency Fund can deposit money of cheques at the Standard Bank, Wynberg, account number 27890178.
'Police may not demolish shacks'

By JOHAN SCHÖNEN
Staff Reporter

POLICE do not have the power to demolish squatter dwellings, even if on private property, a senior policeman has announced.

Major-General P.C. Fourie said he had issued a statement on police powers relating to squatters in an effort to correct a public misconception that police could and did demolish squatter dwellings.

While police could investigate the erection of illegal dwellings and pass the case on to the State prosecutor or the Attorney-General for prosecution, they were never empowered to demolish the dwellings.

Illegal structures could be demolished by the authority of a valid court order obtained as requested by the owner of the land or empowered institutions in terms of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act.

This demolition would have to be carried out by the landowners or their employees.

In a case like this police would offer protection to the authorised people who might face violent resistance when demolishing shacks.

Major-General Fourie said when police become aware of squatters, they would inform the respective landowners, local authorities and state departments that they could lodge a complaint of trespass in terms of the Illegal Squatting Act.

Police would then investigate the complaint, he said.