SQUATTERS - CAPE

1991
No cheer for Hout Bay squatters

IT was a New Year to forget.
While a festive spirit prevailed in most areas of the Peninsula, a gloomy atmosphere hung over the Sea Products squatter camp in the aftermath of Christmas Eve's devastating fire.

There were no celebrations or wild parties for those who had lost virtually everything they possessed — including their homes.

Most families had stocked up for Christmas dinners and had bought new clothes and toys for their children. These, too, went up in flames.

Several informal businesses were wiped out. Two of the six taps in the camp were damaged by the fire.

Residents had to evacuate the area.

Most women and children were housed in a local church from Christmas Day until New Year's Eve. The men remained in the devastated area where most slept under rudimentary plastic shelters.

Welfare organisations such as Child Welfare and Red Cross provided food for the families.

About 20 volunteers co-ordinated the relief operation which included providing tents and washing facilities for the squatters. They worked throughout the holiday period only leaving on New Year's Eve that had ensured that the 100 families had tents to sleep in, food to eat, clothes and washing facilities.

They left behind two field officers to give any further assistance.

Shortly after the mishap, the squatters were not allowed to re-occupy the land but this changed when the owner, Mr Mel Richter, withdrew a complaint of trespass.

Many of the squatters were adamant that they would not leave without getting proper housing.

This week children, most of whom were naked or in scraps of clothing, played with wire toys among the maze of bushes and tents.

Few pets were seen in the camp. Most had been killed in the inferno.

A health worker from the Regional Services Council came to “remind” mothers with newly-born babies to take them to local clinic for immunisation.

The worker, accompanied by one of residents, also went “tent-to-tent” in search of the TB patients left behind some medication for emergency cases.

For others the disaster hit home only this week when they returned from holidays in the Transkei and Ciskei.

A local lay preacher of Abagcini baseZingisani congregation, Mr Sipho Mphosile, who left on December 14, returned on Thursday morning to find his shack destroyed.

Only his wife and pet dog “Sexy” survived. Among the possessions destroyed were his church gowns, six packets of candles and a drum.

A visibly worried Mr Mphosile said he first heard the bad news when he was in Transkei.

At that stage he had no money as he hoped his wife, Nolapi, would send him his fare to return.

Mr Mphosile said: “I had to borrow R120 from a burial society in order to come back. Now I have found all my possessions have been destroyed.”

He planned to hold the first church service in his new “home” — a tent.

Soccer kit

“We are also going to hold a night vigil to prepare for the funeral of our colleague,” he said.

Miss Julia Mahashe broke down and cried when she explained how his brother, Simon, died in the fire.

“When the fire broke out my brother came from another shack to rescue my three-year-old son. He went again to try to save some goods but he was suffocated by smoke.”

“We ran away from the burning house, thinking that my brother had survived. We only learnt later that he had died.”

Individuals have lost much but community activities will also suffer. Mr Clifford Mlitywa, a member of the committee, said two sets of soccer kit and boots belonging to his club, Eleven Experience, had gone up in smoke.

The first victim of the inferno, Mr Leonard Tsholentse was buried on Sunday. Two more will be
Mrs. Gloria Mabula and her children Calvin, in front, Thabiso, back, and Vuyo have to sleep on the floor because of the shortage of blankets. Mrs. Mabula is worried that the health of Calvin and Thabiso, both TB sufferers, will get worse.

Cause of the shortage of blankets.
Leon Muller, Weekend Argus

Picture: Leon Muller, Weekend Argus

Location of items to families. Tone of committee members, help with the old.

Two Red Cross field workers, above, with the girl.
R5m set aside to buy land for squatters of Hout Bay

By PETER DENNEHY

THE government has set aside R5 million to buy land on which to rehouse the Hout Bay squatters.

But no decision has yet been taken on where the site will be.

Property Rights Association chairman Mr Tony Snelgar said yesterday that five separate parcels of land—some inside and some outside Hout Bay—would be considered at a meeting, probably next week, of representatives of all parties concerned.

He would not disclose which pieces of land would be discussed, but did say that none was in Noordhoek and that one was "probably in Tokai".

It was largely as a result of lobbying by the the association that the government had set aside the R5m, Mr Snelgar said.

An unidentified source in the Western Cape Regional Services Council said yesterday that a high-ranking RSC official had recently flown to Pretoria to discuss the use of some RSC land for squatters.

This could not be officially confirmed yesterday.

Ministerial representative Mr Koos Albertyn confirmed yesterday that he had heard of R5m being made available by the government itself, rather than by the Independent Development Trust, also known as the Jan Steyn Fund.

An application would be submitted for further funds from the Independent Development Trust, but no formal proposal had been put before it yet, said development consultant Mr Colin Appleton.

"I don't know at this stage whether the R5m is just for the land, or for other purposes as well," Mr Albertyn said.

He had asked for an appointment with the minister concerned, Mr Sam de Beer, as soon as possible after his office opened next week.

Mr Appleton confirmed yesterday that land would be sought outside Hout Bay as well as within.

"Clearly one is trying to create as many reasonable opportunities for the squatters as possible," Mr Appleton said. Land in Hout Bay could cost up to R500 000 a hectare, and there were "constraints of affordability".

There might be some squatters living in Hout Bay who did not work there, Mr Appleton said.

A legal representative for the squatters said yesterday that she had not yet been informed of either the R5m or the five possible sites.
Squatters get govt aid

RELIEF groups assisting Hout Bay squatters who had their shacks razed in a fire on Christmas Day have received a R100,000 donation promised by the government.
Squatters settled ALLOUETTE BCH

LORD: The site allocated for Squatter Settlement.

...their property would drop. If the government didn't act to protect the "other side," the people of this area for con...
Nursery' home for squatters

By HANS-PETER BAKKER
Weekend Argus Reporter

THE government has earmarked a site in Hout Bay to house squatters.

The House of Assembly's Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works, Mr Sam de Beer, said in a statement last night that land, used as a nursery by the Western Cape Regional Services Council, would be used to settle the Hout Bay squatters.

Mr Martin Hutton-Square of MLH Architects and Planners, commissioned by Mr De Beer's department, said some 33 pieces of land in the Hout Bay Valley had been considered for State-aided, very low-cost, residential projects to meet the immediate requirements of both the Hout Bay squatter and the Hangberg communities.

A survey had shown that about 1,153 squatters living in 365 huts needed permanent homes, and that the Hangberg community, on the far side of the harbour, needed at least another 400 units.

Serviceable area

Mr Hutton-Square said the planning team believed that only the council's forestry site (ref no 2946) could provide a serviceable area into which the squatter communities could be immediately moved, and which could also be developed and upgraded to provide a permanent low-income residential area.

The council site had some 185 acres of land which could be made available for residential development, he said.

"Depending upon the planning and township development approach adopted, in particular the residential density and type of houses that are built, between 450 and 900 families could be accommodated on this site,"

"While there are a variety of environmental considerations to be borne in mind, including the stone pine trees, and the general aesthetic of the area, the site could be developed for very low-income housing in such a way as to protect its more valuable features and also to ensure that it harmoniously blends in the Hout Bay valley."

Mr De Beer said negotiations were being held with the council to acquire the land.

He said the events of the past few weeks in which a fire destroyed one of the squatter areas and a court finding affecting another, "have meant that urgent decisions will have to be taken in order not to further compromise existing landowners and to alleviate the conditions in the squatter camps."

He said the decisions did not reflect a change in the government's view that the people of Hout Bay should continue to be involved in the development of the new low-income area.

"The squatters will be moved to a portion of this site shortly and provided with basic services until the permanent sites can be developed."

He said a town planning consultant would do the necessary survey and planning after which the site would be designated a township.

Effective control

"I am also certain that I will count on the co-operation and assistance of people living in Hout Bay. The State has set aside funds for the acquisition of the land and the installation of the infrastructure."

In the meantime there would be an effective control to ensure that there was no further unauthorised influx of people to the newly-designated site. Landowners were requested to ensure adequate control of their own property.

"I also call on employers of squatters to assist them in ob-
Some Hout Bay squatters 'sceptical'

Staff Reporter

THE Hout Bay squatters will move voluntarily to their newly allocated land near Penczance Estate as soon as water and sewage facilities have been provided, members of the Princess Bush and Sea Products communities said yesterday.

Some of the squatters approached by the Cape Times were not sure where their new home was and others remained sceptical of the government's intentions. Members of the Princess Bush executive committee who were taken to the area said they would relocate if the community was consulted beforehand.

Executive committee members Mrs Alice Mabija and Mr Mongezo Sonqwelo were unable to see the actual site as it is fenced off.

However, they were satisfied with the situation — a 10-minute walk from the centre of Hout Bay. Mr Sonqwelo was less impressed with the 2m gate and barbed-wire fence surrounding the site, saying he hoped this was not an attempt to control the squatters once they had left Princess Bush.

Meanwhile, Hout Bay residents whose homes border the present squatter areas expressed their delight at the impending move.

Mrs Anne Kleu said the presence of the Sea Products squatters had changed her family's lifestyle and devalued their property. She said she hoped that building regulations would be enforced at Penczance, so that the community members would have permanent homes of which they could be proud.

Another home owner, who declined to be named, said she had been providing water for the squatters for over a year and had "never had any trouble".

"Generally speaking, I got the impression that these people just want to get on with their lives," she said.
Hout Bay squatters have mixed feelings over 'promised land'

By Musa Ndwandwe

HOUT Bay's squatter communities are awaiting the move to their "promised land" with mixed feelings.

While most residents said they were "relieved" that land had been set aside for them, there is still uncertainty over what to expect.

"We are going there because we have no option," said Mr Belloo Bethwe, a Sea Products resident. "But we still need to be assured that we won't be evicted in future and there will be no more mysterious fires destroying our homes."

The expected move follows the week-end agreement by the Minister of Housing and Development, Mr Sam de Beer, that squatters could move on to land set aside as a matter by the Western Cape Regional Services Council.

Residents from three squatting areas, the Promise Bush, Sea Products and the Hout Bay areas, are expected to move before the end of February.

Most residents said they had not seen the land designated for their use but were eager to move. Government rep-...
The allocation by government last week of an 18 ha site in Hout Bay for the resettlement of about 1 500 squatters in the area has not settled the issue. At least 1 000 residents are expected at a public meeting this weekend to discuss a response to what the Hout Bay Residents Association (HBRA) — which claims to represent most property-owners in the area — says was an arbitrary and unacceptable action by own affairs Welfare, Housing and Works Minister Sam de Beer.

The need to find land for the squatters became urgent last December when the Cape Town Supreme Court ordered the eviction from private property of one of the communities in the town (Current Affairs September 28 and December 21). The situation was further exacerbated two weeks later when a fire destroyed another camp.

The area allocated to the squatters borders on Hout Bay’s main road and an upper-middle class residential area. It is currently used as a nursery by the Western Cape Regional Services Council. RSC officials estimate that between 450 and 900 families could be accommodated on the site, depending on how the area is laid out and what densities are decided on.

The HBRA argues that local residents should have been consulted by De Beer before the land was allocated.
Hout Bay owners to hire firm to combat squatting

By PETER DENNEHY

OWNERS of large properties in Hout Bay are prepared to pay R1 000 a month each to a private firm to keep squatters off their land.

This was confirmed yesterday by Property Rights Association chairman Mr Tony Snellgar, after the association had met on Saturday.

Mr Snellgar said a plan had been discussed for the 30 biggest owners of vacant land to club together and pay R1 000 a month each to protect their properties.

The private firm "would not be a hit-squad, a squatter-eviction squad or an anti-black-squad", he said.

Its appointment would be in line with a statement by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriann Vlok, that people would have to help the police to protect their homes and land.

Asked how anyone could afford R1 000 a month for security, Mr Snellgar said land in Hout Bay cost up to R350 000 for half a hectare.

He said property values had taken a blow.

"I hope we can fix this. Hout Bay is going to become one of the most crime-free and secure areas in the Cape, and property prices will soar again," he predicted.
Squatters get new site

Municipal Repatriation

HOUDT BAY squatters are prepared to move to a new temporary site this month, according to Mr Colin Appleton, who mediated in talks between squatter representatives and the authorities.

Mr Appleton said that the squatters would be moved to a temporary site on RSC nursery land and later onto an adjacent permanent site.

The squatters have asked for toilets and water to be provided at the temporary site.

The site is presently being cleared, Mr Appleton said...
150m Project

2 000 squat on R

Uncertain future for Noordhoek community -
By EDWARD MOLOINYANE, Staff Reporter

MORE than 2,000 people squating on land des-
tined for a R150m luxury housing estate in Noordhoek face an uncertain future.

Five hundred houses are to be built around a lake on the 100-hectare site in the Noord-
hoek valley, but squatters have been living there since 1979.

Roads are already built and the first houses are due to be completed by August, but the squatters say they have not been approached and do not know what the owners of the land, the govern-
ment and the Regional Services Council have in store for them.

They live without basic fac-
cilities such as running water and toilets in ramshackle wood and corrugated iron
shacks in thick bush on either side of the lake.

Water is supplied by the Western Cape Regional Ser-
cices Council which trans-
ports it to the camp by means
of tractors.

Most of the squatters are employed in the area as
domestic workers, gardeners, construction workers and casual labourers and their children attend coloured schools in Kalk Bay and Ocean View.

Spokesman Mr Jonas Qozo said the community would be prepared to give way for the development as long as they were moved to a properly serviced area in the Noord-
hoek valley.

He said they had been liv-
ing there since 1979 "during apartheid's cruelest days of pass raids".

"During the time of the passes they arrested us for being at this place and all our meagre salaries went on fines. When they established Khayelitsha they used all forms of harassment to force us to move there... they de-

moliished our shacks with bulldozers, bundled us into trucks and dumped us there.

"But after four months we were back here because Khayelitsha is very far from where we work.

"Some people here are gar-
deners who earn as little as R20 a day and if you are in Khayelitsha you spend all that on transport alone.

"We have spent so much money on pass offence fines that we feel we are entitled to our own place to stay, right here in Noordhoek like everybody else."

Mr Jonas said the squatters had been promised serviced sites as long ago as 1988 "but nothing has come of that".

"Instead they have built houses for the so-called col-
oured and continue to ignore us. They can spend millions on luxury houses but all we want is our place to stay as this place has developed through our labour."

Mr Gavin Reeves, manag-
ing director of project man-
gers and developers Pro-
tech, referred all inquiries to Democratic Party MP Mr Jannie Memberg who he said was involved in negotiations over the squatters' resettlement.

However, Mr Memberg de-

clined to discuss his involve-
ment, saying the matter was the government's responsibil-
ity.

Regional director of Local Government, Housing and Works in the House of Assem-
by, Mr C J Van Niekerk, would say only that land for resetting the squatters had been identified at "Site Five" after long investigations.

"You are placing me in a difficult position because we are consulting with the squat-
ters and we are arranging a meeting with their represen-
tatives."

A Western Cape Regional Services Council spokesman said the council was involved only with water supply to the camp.
At left children play among the squatter shacks.

Below: Squatter children outside their homes in the Noordhoek bush.
Squatter shot dead in attack

A PRINCESS Bush squatter was shot dead after allegedly attacking a Hout Bay man while breaking into his car.

According to police Mr Robert Marks, 26, was woken early on Saturday by the barking of his dogs and found three men in his car.

He fired one warning shot and after being attacked, fired more shots. One of the men was fatally wounded and another wounded in the shoulder. The third man fled.

Police liaison officer Major Jan Calitz said the dead man and the wounded man, who was later arrested, lived in the Princess Bush squatter camp.
No quick fix after apartheid is scrapped

HOLLIS: Rula sees no reason to celebrate the imminent repeal of apartheid laws. He will still live in a one-room shack on the sand flats outside Cape Town, with no voice in his own future.

"You can scrap apartheid on paper, but when will it be scrapped here?" he asked, gesturing at the maze of shacks under flat-topped Table Mountain.

In the comfortable city on the other side of the mountain, President FW de Klerk announced on February 1 that South Africa's remaining apartheid laws will be repealed within months.

In black townships like Khayelitsha, it will take generations to erase apartheid's legacy.

Even if the last segregation laws are abolished this year, blacks will not have the vote immediately or be represented in the national government.

Election

De Klerk is not required to call an election until 1994, the target he has set for negotiating a new constitution that will give voting rights to the black majority.

"There's much talk of change, but we still don't have the vote, and that is what our people demand," said Walter Sisulu, a leader of the African National Congress, the leading black opposition group.

Apartheid, which segregated the races by law, built inequities and inefficiencies into almost every facet of life. From schools to housing to health care, South African institutions will have to be restructured to end white domination and erase black poverty based on economic apartheid.

Black townships are far from the downtown areas of major cities. Commuting can take hours and a huge part of black earnings.

Rula, a 33-year-old delivery man, spends R25 a weekend from his R125 wages, on bus and taxi fares.

The government deliberately built inferior schools for blacks. Now the country is in a recession and desperately short of the skilled workers its diversified economy needs.

"I want to learn computers because it is a computer world," Rula said.

Reading

He reads as much as possible - several magazines were open on his bed - but has no high school diploma.

The limited educational opportunities available are beyond his means.

Under De Klerk's reforms, about 200 white schools in major cities began in January to accept a few black students.

Ten times that number still are segregated and will remain so unless white parents at the schools vote for integration.

Outside liberal neighborhoods in large cities, there is little chance of that.

De Klerk says his Government will not impose integration or affirmative action programmes, such as those in the United States.

Voluntary association and market forces will determine the pace of integration in all fields, the government says. Blacks say this will, in effect, give whites veto power over integration and continue to limit black opportunities.

For many blacks, the most immediate concern is improving their own facilities. Many students are turned away from black schools because classes already have 60 or more students.

Children

"I don't really want my kids to go to white schools," said Nelson Mgobe of Khayelitsha, who has six children. "I want them to have good schools here."

Housing is critically short in black areas, and for years Government housing policy included sending bulldozers to flatten shacks erected illegally on vacant land.

The Government has begun supplying water taps, bathrooms and other services in shantytowns, but concedes the squatter problem will get worse.

About 7 million of the country's 30 million blacks live in shacks.

It is common for 10 or more people to live in a four-room house. Such overcrowding and poverty breed crime, violence and political instability that could threaten De Klerk's reform effort.

Allan Hendrickse, leader of the Labour Party, a moderate anti-apartheid group in the mixed-race chamber of parliament, says the Government owes reparations to blacks who were forcibly removed from their land.

During a forceful removal near the southern city of Port Elizabeth in 1972, his family lost a plot of land on which their home, a school and a church stood.

The family received R76 000 worth of compensation, but the buildings were torn down and it now would cost about R45 600 just to buy the vacant plot.

Hendrickse, a minister in the United Congregational Church, says he is determined to rebuild the church on its original foundation.
Noordhoek squatters to be settled in valley

By CHRIS BATEMAN

AFTER months of bitterness and controversy, Noordhoek's squatters are to be finally resettled at a permanent site in the valley.

This was decided at a meeting late yesterday between Mr Sam de Beer, Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works, landowner and developer Mr David Bridgman and squatters.

In a statement issued after the meeting, Mr de Beer said squatters were expected to vacate Mr Bridgman's land by the end of the month.

They will be allowed to resettle on a nearby site which has access from the Kommetjie road. The government-expropriated land, commonly known as Site Five, would accommodate the estimated 70 dwellings of the "Neongolo" and "Green Point" communities, plus all other present squatter communities in the valley.

Site Five would be for the "permanent accommodation of the lower-income group of the Southern Peninsula", Mr De Beer said.

His spokesman clarified this, as referring to the Noordhoek Valley area.

Mr De Beer said a joint working group of government and squatter delegates would devise a mutually-acceptable development plan for the new site.

Mr Bridgman's Great Lagoon Development site was expected to be cleared by February 28, he said.

Mr De Beer said afterwards that he trusted that the "years of deadlock on this issue have now come to an end".

The development manager for the proposed multi-million rand marina, Mr Tony Marsh, expressed pleasure, saying the move had been "a long time coming".

Legal representatives for the squatters welcomed the decision.
Squatters move to new home

By CHRIS BATEMAN

The first 15 families of the Sea Products squatters in Hout Bay and their possessions were transported to the new 18-hectare Hout Bay Road site yesterday.

Excited members of the 400-strong community — ravaged by a mystery blaze which killed four men on Boxing Day last year — began erecting tents on cleared land above Hout Bay's cemetery.

Sources close to the Department of Local Government, Housing and Works said about 1,200 people from the Sea Products, Princess Bush, Blue Valley, Ditsa River and David's Kraal squatter camps would eventually be settled there.

There was initial consternation yesterday as squatter leaders declared the new pegged-out sites as "impossibly small", but government, Urban Foundation and Red Cross officials pointed out that there had been a misunderstanding.

What squatters had taken to be individual sites were in fact four times that size. Officials on site yesterday said each family would have 63m² on which to erect their homes.

The intention was to house squatters in tents (which the Sea Products community has lived in since the Boxing Day fire), before they built shacks with the advice and assistance of the Urban Foundation.

As other squatters were trucked in they would take occupation of the vacated tents.

Senior project co-ordinator Mr Alistair Semple said yesterday that the foundation would provide initial technical assistance, carpenters and builders, while skilled squatters would also be paid to help erect the new shanty town.

Sea Products camp chairman Mr Sally Makoba said homes would be spaced out to minimize the fire hazard. Residents were "very happy", he added.
Anger in Hunt Bay

sputtering looms

ANVIENTS FROM 3

Report: Dennis Kaywagen

picture: roy walter
Heated discussion over squatters at Hout Bay

By MICHAEL MORRIS
Political Correspondent

CONTROVERSY over Hout Bay's squatter settlement flared in parliament yesterday in a short, sharp debate that found the government and the Democratic Party joining forces in a skirmish with Conservatives.

Replying to the noisiest of yesterday's three mini-interpellation debates in the House of Assembly, Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works, Mr Sam de Beer said the government had a responsibility to provide land and reasonable services to squatters who had been settled in the area for some time and 70 percent of whom were economically active.

"We can't just throw them out," he said.

CP WARNED

And Democratic Party MP for Sea Point Mr Colin Eglin turned on the Conservative Party and warned: "Keep your racist hands off Hout Bay. You are doing South Africa a disservice by trying to exploit the squatter situation there for racial purposes."

The interpellation focused on a question by CP MP for Saco burg Mr Louis Stofberg who wanted to know if Hout Bay landowners had been consulted about the settlement of squatters.

Mr de Beer said there had been extensive consultations and these should continue. The decision on land for squatters had not been lightly taken.

LANDOWNERS

He said there had been a series of meetings involving various groups in September and October last year. However, quoting extensively from the record of a Supreme Court case that arose from the controversy, Mr Stofberg said landowning residents should have been given the opportunity to vote on the issue.

"The rights of owners have simply been ignored," he said.

Instead, they were saddled with a squatter camp that could be a breeding ground for terrorists.
Fish Hoek
alarm at
squatters

by CHRISS BATEMAN

THE Sunnyvale Resi
dents' Association has
hit out at the govern
ment for landing it with
a "fait accompli" with
the resettlement of
about 93 squatter-fam
ilies in the Noordhoek
area at the weekend.

Secretary Mr Digby
Marshall said the asso
ciation had been misled
and had not been con
sulted.

Mr Marshall said the
association was afraid
the squatters would
spread beyond the allo
cated area.

He also feared adja
cent smallholdings
would be "plundered
and stripped".

Mr Tony Marsh, de
developer of the Noordhoek
marina — from where
the squatters were
moved — said rigid con
trols had been intro
duced and all boarders
at the old camp evicted.
He challenged locals
to visit the community.
"It's no death-defying
feat — they should con
tribute to community re
lationships instead of
complaining."

THE joy of the Hout Bay squatters who moved to their “promised land” this week, was dampened when they arrived at the site and found it unsuitable, and lacking in facilities.

Many of the Sea products squatters complained about the shortage of basic facilities like toilets and taps.

They said the government had unilaterally chosen the site for their new home.

The community, however, intend to celebrate their resettlement on the land with a ceremony to be held at a later date.

“We would like to claim this as a victory for the people as this is the first time that black people’s struggle for land has been attended to by the government,” said Ms Vuyisa Majola, spokesperson for the Hout Bay Housing Crisis Project.

There was still reason to “continue the struggle for affordable houses for all”, said Matthews.

Hazard

She said the area where the squatters were being resettled was not properly serviced and inadequate for housing an estimated 2 000 people.

“Four to five families will have to share a single toilet and 20 families will share a tap,” she said.

“Soon, this will constitute a health hazard,” said Matthews.

Residents also complained that the plots accorded to each family were too small.

“This will create a possibility of a fire hazard,” said Matthews.

A public meeting is being planned at which the dissatisfaction of squatters will be voiced.

Matthews said their grievances would be forwarded to the government.

“People are moving to this place to gain relief from the rising property tax and they have been subjected to on the privately-owned land,” said Mr Nkosi-Makhetha Majola, a resident.

Community leaders said an appropriate name would be given to the place after people have settled down.

“We are very likely to honour our comrades who died in the mysterious fire at Sea Products,” said Matthews.

Most residents blamed the landowners for the fire that caused the death of four people on Christmas Day last year.

A spokesperson for the Regional Services Council representative, Mr Sam De Beer, said more land was to be made available to squatter communities at a later stage.
Squatters get Red Cross tents

The Red Cross has moved about 120 people into the Sea Products squatter camp in Hout Bay, where fire destroyed more than 100 shacks and four people were burnt to death on Christmas night.

A spokeswoman for the squatters said that most of the people had been housed in tents.

The future of the Hout Bay squatters is uncertain after a Supreme Court order ejecting squatters at the nearby Princess Bush site, but the government has said it expects to identify an alternative site soon. — Sapa
Milnerton site for temporary squatter camp

By JOHAN SCHÖNEN, Staff Reporter

MILNERTON municipality's proclaimed transit area for homeless people is a step closer after squatters and municipal officials met to discuss final arrangements for their relocation.

Town Clerk Mr Peter Gerber addressed a group of about 300 squatters at the site yesterday where he emphasised that the municipality was there "to do things for the people" and wanted to avoid conflict at all costs.

Mr Gerber, however, warned squatters that anybody found squatting outside the pegged "section 61" area after 15 January — the deadline set by the municipality — would "run the risk of prosecution".

A spokesman for the squatters considered the statement "nothing but a threat" but Mr Gerber replied that it was "not the municipality's policy to threaten people" and that they were there to "do things for the people".

'DEALING WITH PEOPLE'

A squatter also wanted to know whether the transit area would be divided into portions for blacks and coloured people but Mr Gerber said "we are dealing with people, not blacks or coloureds".

An official of the municipality will be on the site on Monday to show squatter families their allocated 63 sq m sites which will make up the 8,1 hectare temporary transit area along Koeberg Road next to Montague Gardens.

The municipality decided to relocate squatters before providing services to cause as little disruption to people already living within the proclaimed area. The provision of services to the area would take about two to three weeks, according to the town clerk.

A spokesman for the municipality rejected allegations by the ratepayers' association that the area would be "10 times too small" for the number of squatters.
Squatters without ‘promised’ water

By CHRIS BATEMAN

ABOUT 3 000 Old Crossroads refugees living in the Driftlands Nature Reserve opposite Khayelitsha say they are still without water four months after "promises" of rudimentary services were made by top CPA officials.

A CPA spokesman said the offer concerned 36 hectares of land in Philippi East to which the refugees refused to be moved last September.

Yesterday the deputy director of Community Services for the Western Cape, Mr Gerrit Erasmus, met a delegation of angry refugees in Old Crossroads after they had phoned him to complain.

Old Crossroads town councillor Mr Poni de Wet said that offers of land were all very well, "but what about basics such as water in the meantime? Are these people not human?"

Mr Erasmus said that in the absence of his regional director, Mr Faan Naudé, he would investigate "within the limits of the legal practicalities".

It was reliably learnt yesterday that a bakkie has been used to transport water in drums from Old Crossroads to the refugee site.
Squatters fail to appear

WARRANTS of arrest were issued yesterday against 13 Princess Bush squatters facing charges of loitering and public drunkenness.

The squatters failed to appear in Wynberg Magistrate's Court, following their release shortly before Christmas with a warning to appear.

Mr Sidney Nelani, 26, Mr Xakele Konani, 28, Mr Mdinilelwe Ndidi, 19, Mr Erik Jamta, 26, Mr Mbongise Adams, 29, Mr Chief Mwara, 34, Mr Sias Siha, 18, Mr Jonas Nyoka, 26, Mr Leonard Xala, 29, Mr Goodman Mfosa, 32, Mr Bumile Nshonshozi, 18, Mr Wiseman Ngalo, 18, Mr Alfred Skhomshe, 18, Mr Colin Mbi, 26, and Mr Hendrick Vuyi, 24, all of Princess Bush, had not been officially charged or asked to plead.

They were arrested on December 18 and released the following day.

The hearing was postponed to February 15.
Teargas, 57 arrests as squatters invade land

By SHARON SOROUR, Staff Reporter

POLICE fired teargas and arrested 57 Villiersdorp residents after squatters invaded municipal land which was later set on fire.

Police liaison officer Major Gys Boonzaaier confirmed the arrests near Nuwezorg township after a confrontation with police last night.

They were released on bail of R100 each and will appear in Caledon Magistrate’s Court on February 19 on charges of trespassing, Major Boonzaaier said.

Informal housing

He denied allegations that the fire was started by police and said it was started by the squatters on land which was originally set aside by the municipality for informal housing.

The fire started about 8pm and the Villiersdorp fire brigade fought the blaze for more than three hours to prevent it from spreading to the mountain areas, he said.

The squatters returned to the land last night to rebuild shacks which were allegedly demolished by police and farmers on Saturday after they were erected by about 80 squatters and residents.

Surplus People Project spokesman Miss Lala Steyn said about 150 people marched to the municipality yesterday to protest against the demolition of the shacks and occupied the municipal offices for about five hours.

“They were demanding land from the municipality to build shacks and the retraction of summonses issued to residents for rent arrears,” she said.

Members of the Villiersdorp Civic Association later held discussions with the town clerk and the mayor.

They were told their demands would not be met, so they returned to the land to rebuild their shacks in protest, she said.

According to the Boland director of Lawyers for Human Rights, Mr Roger Chennells, the community had an ongoing dispute with the municipality over housing.

Mr Chennells said police fired teargas at squatters and other residents last night and the shacks were destroyed.

A Mitchell’s Plain attorney, Mr Taswell Papier, spent the night arranging bail, he said.

Pre-Carnival Charms: Two Brazilian women show off their charms during the Baile do Havai (Dance and Fandango) at the University of Cape Town.
47 Villiersdorp squatters held

By PETER DENNEY

FORTY-SEVEN would-be squatters from Villiersdorp, near Grabouw, were arrested on Monday night on charges of trespassing and released yesterday on R100 bail each, a spokesman for the group said.

Police liaison officer Major Gys Boonzaier said he believed 57 people were arrested, one for riotous behaviour. They are due in court on February 19.

Some of all of them allegedly re-erected shacks on land near the coloured township of Nuwedorp after the municipality had demolished them at the weekend, police and residents said.

Mr Thomas Jansen of the ANC and the Villiersdorp branch of the Western Cape Civic Association said yesterday provision had been made for only 56 blacks in single-sex hostels in Villiersdorp. Women and children in the hostels had been told they would be arrested if they remained there this week.

People were sleeping in the bush, or on farms without permission, he said. The coloured township was also vastly overcrowded, with up to 21 people in a two-roomed house.

Sapa reports that Villiersdorp town clerk Mr Johan Serfontein said site and service facilities will hopefully be available in six months.
Homeless workers vow to stay

THE homeless families of contract workers in Villiersdorp have vowed they are "not going to run again" after people believed to be white farmers destroyed their shacks on Tuesday.

The wives and children of workers at the Villiersdorp Co-op have moved back into the factory compounds where they have been staying as they have "no alternative accommodation", according to advice office worker and local priest, Rev Stanley Williams.

But on Wednesday, Co-op manager Mr Raubie Raubenheimer, said he would take action against those living "illegally" in the compounds.

Raubenheimer said the compounds could accommodate only about 60 people. He said the "illegal" occupants had to leave so that workers who would arrive for the opening of the grape season next week could be accommodated.

The workers claimed their plight began last week when they were allegedly forced out of the compounds by the Co-op management.

The families had erected shacks on nearby municipal grounds. The shacks were destroyed — allegedly by white farmers.

On Monday, about 200 people occupied the municipal offices for five hours, demanding that they be given adequate housing and the return of their material.

They returned to the same site to rebuild their shacks when their demands were not met, Williams said.

"The plight of the worker's families cannot be separated from that of the housing crisis in the area," said a member of the Villiersdorp Civic Association, Mr Thomas Jansen.

He said about 600 people needed housing desperately in the area.

Squatter violence flares

By CHRIS BATEMAN

VIOLENCE erupted for the second time in 10 hours in the Noordhoek squatter camp early yesterday — minutes before an armed local shopkeeper intervened between pangas and axe-wielding squatter factions.

Mr Aidan Rorke, whose business is alongside the camp, said he and a neighbour, Mr Marc de Rooij, intervened when elders chased youths up into the nearby Crofters Valley housing development.

"Youths were hurling rocks into the camp and a mass of elders emerged and chased them," he said.

Mr Rorke said he had taken his sidearm but had not used it.

Minutes later, Mr Jannie Momberg, MP for Simon's Town, arrived and berated the two groups for "playing into the hands of those whites who want them evicted from the valley".

No serious injuries were reported in the fighting which erupted on Wednesday night over the internal eviction of a "tenant" squatter, allegedly without notice.

At a hasty peace meeting yesterday, ANC regional vice-president Ms Hilda Ndude allowed residents to put forward their version of events before suggesting steps to prevent a recurrence.

Yesterday Mr Sam de Beer, Minister of Housing, Welfare and Works, Mr Momberg and legal counsel for the squatters met to discuss the promised move of the squatters to nearby land.

Mr De Beer said that he would be consulting with squatters today about permanent settlement on the new site.

The squatter community is under threat of legal eviction by landowner Mr David Bridgeman, who is developing a multi-million rand marina around the vlei.

Police confirmed the violence, saying they pulled out at 4am yesterday but were called back at 7am. A spokesman said they would continue "monitoring the situation, low-profile". No arrests were made.
When things go old

There is a story at the heart of the matter that speaks of a beginning and an end, a journey that starts and finishes. It's a narrative that weaves through the fabric of the universe, a tale that has been told and retold, a saga that resonates with the very essence of existence.

The beginning is marked by a moment of clarity, a realization that something must change. The end is seen as a resolution, a moment of triumph or defeat, a conclusion that brings all things full circle.

In between these extremes lies the journey, a path that leads us through the complexities of life. It's a journey that tests our resolve, our strength, and our will.

The story unfolds in layers, each layer adding depth and meaning to what comes before. It's a story that is both personal and universal, a story that touches the heart of every individual who has ever lived.

As we move through the narrative, we encounter challenges and obstacles, moments of joy and sorrow. Each encounter is a lesson, a learning experience that shapes who we are and where we are going.

The story is not just about the journey itself, but about the lessons we learn along the way. It's about the growth and transformation that occurs as we navigate through the complexities of life.

As we reach the end of the story, we are left with a sense of fulfillment, a feeling of completion. We have reached our destination, and the journey has been worth it.

But the story doesn't end there. It's a循环, a process that continues to unfold, a journey that never truly ends. And so we continue to move forward, knowing that the true journey lies not in the destination, but in the journey itself.
[Redacted text]
Description of land

An area, approximately 1.6 ha in extent, starting at a point along the south-eastern boundary of the farm Nooitgedacht 9, situated at a distance of 235 metres from the southern corner of the farm Nooitgedacht 9, point B; thence in a north-easterly direction along the south-eastern boundary of the farm Nooitgedacht 9 for a distance of 136 metres, point K; thence in a south-easterly direction for a distance of 113 metres, point L; thence in a south-westerly direction to the northern corner of Erf 862, point C, and thence back in a north-westerly direction to the original point B. (A site plan depicting the area described herein is available for inspection in the office of the undersigned.)

J. L. SERFONTEIN,
Town Clerk.
(Notice No. 2/1991)
18 February 1991.
(1 March 1991)

Beskrywing van grond

’n Gebied ongeveer 1,6 ha groot, omsluit deur ’n lyn wat begin by ’n punt op die suidoostelike grens van die pleas Nooitgedacht 9, geleë ’n afstand van 235 m vanaf die suidelike hoek van Nooitgedacht 9, punt B; dan in ’n noordoostelike rigting langs die suidoostelike grens van die pleas Nooitgedacht 9 vir ’n afstand van 136 m, punt K; daarna in ’n suidoostelike rigting vir ’n afstand van 113 m, punt L; daarna in ’n suidwestelike rigting tot by die noordelike hoek van Erf 862, punt C, en dan terug in ’n noordwestelike rigting tot by die oorspronklike punt B. (’n Terreinplan waarop die gebied aangedui word, lê ter insae in die kantoor van die ondergetekende.)

J. L. SERFONTEIN,
Stadsklerk.
(Kennisgewing No. 2/1991)
18 Februarie 1991.
(1 Maart 1991)

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Closing Times

(1) APPLICATIONS FOR LIQUOR LICENCES
(2) APPLICATIONS FOR REMOVAL OF LICENCES

Notice is hereby given that notices are to be submitted for acceptance on the Friday, two calendar weeks before date of publication.

The closing time is 15:00 sharp on the following days:

- 23 November 1990, for the issue of Friday 7 December 1990.
- 18 December 1990, for the issue of Friday 4 January 1991.
- 20 March 1991, for the issue of Friday 5 April 1991.

Note: Late notices will be placed in the subsequent issue.
Information will be reflected exactly as furnished on Form 2 and Form 28 of prospective applicant.

BELANGRIKIE AANKONDIGING

Sluitingstye

(1) AANSOEKE OM DRANKLISENIES
(2) AANSOEKE OM VERPLASINGS VAN LISENIES

Hiermee word bekendgemaak dat kennisgewings vir aannemers die Vrydag, twee kalenderweke voor datum van publikasie, ingediend moet word.

Die sluitingstyd is siptelek 15:00 op die volgende dae:

- 23 November 1990, vir die uitgawe van Vrydag 7 Desember 1990.

L. W.: Laat kennisgewings sal in die daaropvolgende uitgawe geplaas word.
Gegewens word prosies weergegee soos verstrek op Vorm 2 en Vorm 28 van voornemende aansoeker.
Fire and fence-cutting riddle as Bay squatters move in
By ESANN van RENSBURG
Weekend Argus Reporter

A FIRE and the mysterious vandalising of a new wire mesh boundary fence took place overnight as Hout Bay squatters spent their first weekend in a resettlement tent town.

The fire destroyed a small tract of fynbos before being doused by the Regional Services Council fire department. The squatter camp, about 100 metres from the fire, was not in danger.

The cause of the fire is not known, according to an RSC fire department spokesman.

Today workmen were repairing the fence between the camp and a Hout Bay nursery. The fence — put up by the Regional Services Council last week — appeared to have been cut by pliers and tyre tracks were spotted nearby.

A watchman reported at 7pm yesterday that the fence had been cut and that a vehicle had driven over it.

No charges

"It must have been cut between 5pm when we all went off duty and 7pm when the watchman spotted it," said a spokesman for the RSC forestry department.

Workers repaired the fence early today.

"We don’t know why anyone would have done this. A gravel road gives access to the squatter camp. No one needs to cut through the fence to get in," said the spokesman.

- Squatter representatives have lashed out at the government for resettling squatters “simply to please whites” before adequate facilities were installed at the 18-hectare site.
- They also demanded the devaluation of Hout Bay land to enable them to own homes.

At a joint Press conference yesterday the Hout Bay Action Committee and the Hout Bay Squatters’ Co-ordinating Committee warned “the problem is far from solved” and vowed to intensify the struggle for permanent land.

Chaos

Miss Vanessa Matthews of the Co-ordinating Committee said the people were “dumped” to meet a deadline, although there were several problems at the new site which had led to increasing tension:

- The 63m² plots were too small and had resulted in “a lot of chaos”.
- The government had promised the site would be prepared when the people were moved in, but on Monday there were no boundaries laid and the plots were not serviced.
- Four families were expected to share one toilet and 20 families had been assigned one tap.
- The toilets were allocated on specific plots, which was problematic.
- There were no recreation facilities for the young children or the community.
The fence was deliberately cut, said an RSC forestry department spokesman.
Truce declared at Bloekombos

By Waghied Misbach

A TRUCE has been declared between squatters and the police at the Bloekombos squatter camp outside Knaaifontein in Cape Town.

At a meeting recently between delegations of the African National Congress and the police, the ANC were assured the "legal parameters within which the police are entitled to conduct search operations will again be brought to the attention of all police members involved in such operations".

The police delegation was led by the Deputy Commissioner of Police in the Western Cape, Brigadier Ted Breytenbach. Squatters' lawyer, Mr Taswell Papier, was also present.

The squatters applied for a Supreme Court application to curb police activities in the area last month, but later withdrew the application in favour of meeting the police.

According to Mr Papier, the squatters' lawyer, residents complained about the manner in which search operations were conducted in the area on February 8, 10 and 12.

Residents alleged they were physically and verbally abused and property "unnecessarily damaged".

At the request of the residents, Papier intervened in a confrontation between the police and residents on February 10 when the police were allegedly ready to fire into the camp.

The situation was defused and the police withdrew from the area, Papier said.

Bloekombos was the scene of confrontation between residents and the police last year when the camp was raided on several occasions.
SQUATTER SETTLEMENT . . . Hout Bay squatter Mr Johannes Wiston outside the rain-drenched tent which is his temporary home in the resettlement town created by the state for the Hout Bay squatters.

Squatters slam new camp

Staff Reporter

HOUT BAY squatters were unhappy about the "inadequate facilities" provided by the state at the new 18-hectare resettlement camp which yesterday turned into a rain-drenched mud bath.

Speaking for a group of squatters, Mrs Gladys Ngwana said there were not enough toilets. Four or more families had to share one mobile toilet and about 20 families one tap.

She said the 63m² plots were too small and the trees prevented them from building wooden structures.

The squatters are currently housed in Red Cross tents.

During a tour of the camp yesterday, many of the roads were impassable on foot as the gravel pathways had turned slippery as a result of the deep mud pools.

At a meeting on Saturday, squatter representatives from the Hout Bay Action Committee and the Hout Bay Squatter Co-ordinating Committee said the squatters had been moved to the new site to "please the whites".

Squatters also claimed they were being harassed. A high mesh fence was destroyed at the weekend, and a veld fire started about 100 metres from the camp.

Mrs Ngwana said a group of about 15 whites were seen walking around the camp late on Friday and Saturday night.
BOARD NOTICE 18 OF 1991
MUNICIPALITY OF VILLIERSDORP
DECLARATION OF TRANSIT AREA

In terms of section 6 (1) of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act, 1951 (Act No. 52 of 1951), as amended, it is herewith confirmed that the following area under the jurisdiction of the Municipality, has been declared a transit area for the temporary accommodation of homeless persons with effect from publication hereof.

RAADSKENNISGEWING 18 VAN 1991
MUNISIPALITEIT VAN VILLIERSDORP
VERKLARING VAN 'N DEURGANGSGEBIED

Kragtens die bepalings van artikel 6 (1) van die Wet op die Voorkoming van Onregmatige Plakkery, 1951 (Wet No. 52 van 1951), soos gewysig, word hiermee bevestig dat, vanaf datum van afkondiging hiervan, die volgende grond binne die regsgebied van die Munisipaliteit tot 'n deurgangsgebied vir die tydelike huisvestig van daklose persone verklaar is.
Squatter ‘objections’ keep new site clear

By CHRIS BATEMAN

IN spite of agreement by all three former Old Crossroads refugee communities that they share the developed R46-million Philippi site, the CPA was still awaiting their reply on when and how occupation should begin.

This was said by Mr Gerrit Erasmus, acting regional director of Community Services, yesterday in partial response to why the fully developed site has stood unoccupied for six months.

He also urged squatters, following persistent rumours that "booking rights" to the 2 300 erven sites were being sold, to report this immediately to police.

"These plots are not for sale by private individuals — they will be subject to the same service charges levied on all other similarly developed sites," he said.

It was reliably learnt that the main objection by squatter leaders Mr Christopher Toise (Brown’s Farm), Mr Melford Yamele (Black City) and Mr Alfred Siyikha (Millers Camp) to moving on to the site was that it would be administered by the "discredited" Ikapa Town Council.

This is in line with sentiments expressed by other ANC-dominated communities in the Peninsula. No alternative administrator has been mooted.

Mr Lee Bozalek, legal representative for the squatters, confirmed that the three communities had "long since" agreed on an equal sharing of the new development.

Since then the communities and the CPA had been negotiating on the conditions under which the sites would be occupied. This included the kind of tenure, rental levels, service charges, regulations and local authority structures.

Negotiations had temporarily stalled but he hoped they would resume "as soon as possible".

Mr Erasmus said he was "cautiously optimistic" that the issues would be resolved as "this land cannot remain vacant indefinitely".
Squatters agree to move to new site

By CHRIS BATEMAN

The deadlock on some 14,000 squatters moving on to a fully developed 121-hectare Phillippi site — which has stood vacant for the past six months — seemed set to be broken yesterday.

All three 1986 Old Crossroads refugee community leaders for the first time this year met with local Community Services officials, Mr Gerrit Erasmus and Mr Faan Naude.

The 766 families from each community have refused to occupy the fully serviced sites unless they were given an undertaking that the new area would not be administered by the Ikapa Town Council, which they view as a "puppet body".

According to Mr Erasmus yesterday, Mr Naude promised to give the leaders (Mr Christopher Toize of Brown's Farm, Mr Melford Tamile of Black City and Mr Alfred Siphiwa of Miller's Camp) a written undertaking that their new camp would not fall under the jurisdiction of the Ikapa council.

The squatter leaders had agreed to move, "as long as the CPA is the principal body", he said.
Cops warn on Sharpeville Day intimidation

By IKE MOTSAPI

POLICE will be out in full force today to protect people wanting to go to work.

Colonel Jack de Vries, head of the liaison division of the Soweto police, last night warned that the police would ensure that law and order was maintained as thousands of people countrywide commemorated the 31st anniversary of the March 21 1960 Sharpeville shootings.

De Vries warned that intimidation would not be tolerated.

He said: "I want to assure people who use trains to go to work not to be afraid to use them today. "Police are going to make sure that people carrying weapons are not allowed to board trains today."

ER Post Office workers on strike

WORKERS at the Alberton Post Office have been on strike since Tuesday, demanding the removal of a senior official, whom they accuse of arrogant and racist behaviour towards black staff.

In a statement yesterday, the workers accused the Post Office management of being reluctant to take steps to redress the issue.

The workers, members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association, had also called on management to scrap all alleged racist practices at the Post Office. - Sapa.

Boycott by squatters

GRAHAMSTOWN resembled a ghost town early yesterday as a three-day-old consumer boycott sparked by a squatter controversy began to make its mark.

Most of the city's stores were deserted at the start of the day but filled "up as the day progressed," mainly with white shoppers.

However, Grahamstown Chamber of Commerce president Mr Bobby Wynne said it was still premature to gauge the success of the economic siege because "mid-month trading figures are generally low."
Five families thrown off farm, shacks bulldozed

Five St Helena Bay families watched their shacks being bulldozed yesterday, even though they had paid their rent for March, said the local management committee chairman, Mr Gerhardus Cloete.

Two other shacks on the farm Sandy Point were also demolished after the landowner obtained an eviction order against the seven families, an attorney acting for the victims confirmed.

"We don't have housing for these people; there is already a waiting list of 180 applications," said Mr Cloete, who heads the management committee of the West Coast town about 130km north of Cape Town.

The affected families had lived on the land for about 30 years. Their employer accepted rent for March even though he had been granted an eviction order, the attorney said.

After Mr Cloete called in the help of attorneys, the families were given permission to remain on the land last night.

St Helena town clerk Mr Japie Keller offered the families tents and tarpaulins for temporary shelter, the lawyer added.

Negotiations between the victims' lawyers and the landowner would continue, he said. — Sapa
LAWAAIKAMP, the black township at George which was threatened with destruction during the P W Botha era, was being redeveloped with the help of the ANC-linked Civic Association. Cape Administrator Robus Meiring disclosed yesterday. He said 214 plots were being upgraded, and would be allocated by the Civic Association "as representatives of the community". 515 residential plots would eventually be provided for about 3 000 people. Mr Meiring said in response to a question tabled by Mr Jan van Eck (DP, Claremont).
KTC residents paid out soon

By Musa Ndawandwe

THE KTC Trust Fund which was formed to solicit R2-million to pay damages to the residents of KTC, Nyanga Bush Camp, Nyanga Extension Camp and Portland Cement Camp, will start paying out early next month.

Mr Hugh Jagoe, the manager of the Trust Fund, confirmed that payments are scheduled to begin on Tuesday, April 9.

“We have between 2,600 and 3,000 people to pay and currently we are writing letters to inform them about details of when and how this is going to happen,” said Jagoe.

There will also be community meetings to explain the details of the process.

The payment results from the out-of-court settlement in a R5-million action brought by the Methodist Church in Africa and KTC residents against the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok.

Residents accused the police of complicity in the destruction of their homes by helping the "wixedek" vigilantes in planning the attacks.

They claimed that police protected, escorted and transported the vigilantes.

Police also prevented residents from protecting their homes by firing teargas and ammunition at them, setting fire to their homes and permitting the looting and burning of property.

The incidents took place in 1986.

As part of the settlement, Vlok undertook to pay an initial amount of R1.5 million, said Jagoe.

“A further R500 000 would be payable on condition that the Trust raise the same amount from independent donors,” said Jagoe.

Jagoe said there would be no cash payments.

“Every payment will be done through the South African Permanent Building Society, who have been extremely cooperative from the start of this project,” he said.

He emphasised that only 100 would get paid a day. "We appeal to people not to crowd the pay point all at once,“
According to some estimates, up to 1.5 million shack-dwellers live in the greater Cape Town area — and the number is growing daily. Finding adequate housing and services to cope with that massive influx and its attendant overcrowding, health implications and social ills is the major challenge now facing planners. Weekend Argus Reporter LINDA GALLOWAY sketches the details.

Will a new South Africa transform the lives of the poorest of the poor? Writer RIAN MALAN asks this in a counterpoint to “Life in the Liberated Zone”, a recent photographic essay by David Lurie.

NEW SA MUST RESCUE BLACKS FROM POVERTY

THE despair was always there, I suppose, but its true extent was long obscured by the pass laws. Africans without passes were required to live in the tribal homelands, where they might starve and suffer out of sight.

There were also, 10, maybe even 12 million of them out there, desperate for food and work, kept at bay only by the pass laws and the cold-blooded bureaucracy that enforced them.

For decades, the police destroyed squatter camps wherever they appeared and "repossessed" their inhabitants to the homelands, but the blacks were too numerous and the homelands too hopeless and by Easter 1960 the government had given up. The pass laws were repealed and a vast tide of desperate blacks came flooding into "white" South Africa.

Five years ago the black salt flats outside Cape Town were empty and desolate, nothing there but sand dunes, scrub, thousands of corrugated iron roofs shaped like snouty bones and wind blowing sand around.

Now it's a city of sorts, a metropolis of shacks and shanties, as densely packed and squalid as a medieval city and populated by its inhabitants — bootleggers, Cape Rastas, daggertoueurs, witchdoctors, thugs and revolutionaries plus a million ordinary working people for whom life is tough.

It's a liberated zone of sorts, a place where the white government has virtually no influence, and even the police dare not set foot. Some parts of it are ruled by people's committee, others by dictatorial strongmen in the traditional African mould.

THERE is courage here, and resourcefulness, and laughter, but there is appalling violence, hunger and hopelessness too.

In this, the Cape squatter cities are unfortunately not unique. One million squatters have settled in the veld around Johannesburg, a further two million in the bush around Durban.

There are squatters on the outskirts of every white town, squatters on the rubbish dumps, squatters in the parks in well-off white suburbs.

The vast majority of them have no jobs, no access to schools or clinics. Some don't even have water. Many adults have tuberculosis, and their children suffer from nutritional disorder. There are so many of them, and their needs are so enormous that I cringe to think of them.

In a way, these images raise the single most important question in the emerging "new South Africa": the question on which our collective fate depends. The squatter's inhumane institution of a new order will not itself transform the lives of the poorest blacks.

Nelson Mandela might win political rights for all black South Africans, but the squatters will still be housed in their shacks, starving. So what then shall we do? I look at these pictures and long for Lenin's ghost to rise and ask me to dance again. Poverty so extreme seems to beg extreme solutions to beg an immediate redistribution of bread and land and BMWs and everything else that white South Africans take more or less for granted and yet, and yet, and yet ... it wouldn't help. Or would it?

I don't know. All I know is that we'll have an ugly revolution if the present negotiations fail to redeem poor blacks from poverty. Is such retribution possible? Again, I just don't know.
From the air, squatter shacks assume an almost orderly look — but down on the ground overgrown.
Now that squatters are no longer welcome, they cannot afford to fight for their right to stay. The problem has shifted to the people who are trying to save the grasslands for wildlife habitat. The government is planning to demolish the squatter camps and move the residents to a new location. However, the residents are determined to fight for their rights and are seeking legal advice to challenge the government's decision.
Key Road decision: victory
Demands for electricity and threat of global warming

Global warming would have still other local side-effects. The cold fronts that bring the Cape rain in winter could be pushed farther south by warmer water from the Indian Ocean until they might even miss the Peninsula entirely. That would change the Cape from a winter to a summer rainfall area. The result would be quite startling. Agriculture would be severely affected, threatening food supplies and creating unemployment.

With a drier climate, fresh water would become a scarce resource. Thefreyberger Dam, for instance, would diminish, perhaps even become extinct, severely affecting the ability of mountain catchment areas to hold the little rainwater that falls and increasing the likelihood of flooding and erosion.

The Cape has never been blessed with extensive supplies of fresh water and any decline in the water reserves would have serious economic consequences. Some people predict that the Cape, becoming much like the dry Karoo in which case the land would only be able to hold one tenth of today’s population.

The irony is that the electricity long denied the many squatters on the Cape Flats will now most likely be denied them again and then possibly in a time when access to the long awaited electrical facilities are finally within reach.

As usual, it will be the poor who are most likely to suffer from the changes in climate. This future scenario would not affect the rich because there are alternatives that South Africa might very well implement. The obvious solution is to reduce the country’s output of carbon dioxide. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), has called for an improved strategy of measures that will reduce greenhouse gases and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

This would entail shutting down most of the country’s coal-fired power stations and implementing a considerable alternative energy program.

Ekoms favours nuclear power as an alternative but there are serious doubts as to how wise it would be to rely on such a fuel. The relative safety of the nuclear industry is still open to debate while the cost and effort of keeping nuclear waste safe for the thousands of years, stretches the imagination.

Clearly the answer lies in the often neglected wind industry.

A recent study found that solar energy installations covering just 0.1 percent of Namibia would produce all the electricity needs of the region.

Wind energy is another source of clean and relatively free power, the National Energy Council noted that South Africa’s coastal areas (such as Khayelitsha) have promising wind potential. More research needs to be done on inland areas. It is quite conceivable that somewhere on the Cape Flats a small wind station will provide free electricity to the local community.

Hydroelectricity is perhaps the most promising source of renewable energy. Cape and Southern Africa is rich in hydro-electric sources with many powerful rivers capable of providing vast amounts of energy.

Of course, the simplest way to cope with the crisis would be to lower demand for the electricity in the first place. South Africa, which uses 75 percent of the electricity generated and by Ekoms has been criticized for wasting energy unnecessarily.

Instituting laws requiring energy efficiency would save the country money as well as making the country more energy efficient.

However, there is no single solution that will cure the country’s energy needs. That is why renewable energy works best when used as an assortment of complimentary projects.

The ability of a future South African government to satisfy the aspirations of the majority of its citizens will depend heavily on how this issue is dealt with. – R.H. Horak

Ecological issues are essentially tied up with the quality of life in a new South Africa. The right to light, heat, water, communication facilities and waste disposal is fundamental yet the provision of these basic necessities is entangled in a variety of local and global issues, argues DAVID LEWIS.

Brown’s Farm squatter camp.

Indeed, the perception that families in the Cape Flats are not born out by surveys taken by the Energy Research Institute of UCT. Says Professor Anton Erberhan: "Those who are living in poverty have to rely on young, electricity is in most instances cheaper than other fuels. The question is, who exactly is responsible for the costs of installing electricity in low income areas?"

It is quite feasible for shacks to be electrified. A good example is the experience of Brazil where more than 70 percent of squatter settlements have access to electricity.

Unfortunately, there is another dimension to the question of availability of electricity in South Africa. Much of South Africa’s electricity is generated by coal-burning power stations whose executive output of carbon dioxide is contributing to the global warming of the earth’s climate.

South Africa is one of the world’s top 20 major contributors to global warming, producing an average of 240 million tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere every year, according to a report to the President’s Council last year.

Coal fired power stations are responsible for about 182 million tons of this astronomical figure.

The exact consequences of this uninterrupted altering of the earth’s climate is not entirely clear. However, what scientists do know is that the world is experiencing a slow but consistent rise in temperature and that this is a direct result of a process called the “Greenhouse Effect.”

Carbon dioxide in the atmosphere traps heat from the sun allowing the earth to support life. If this “Greenhouse Effect” did not exist, our planet would be an icy wasteland. Nevertheless, the 20th century has seen a rapid increase in the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere as well as other allied greenhouse gases.
Evictions add to jostle for township housing

by CLAUDIA KING

A SPokesMAN for the Ocean View Management Committee has accused Noordhoek landowners of “embarking on a crusade to rid the area of all blacks and browns before the Group Areas Act is scrapped.”

Evictions

The acute housing shortage in Ocean View, where 1200 locals are on a waiting list for accommodation, has been highlighted again by a spate of letters received by the committee’s housing office from surrounding landowners.

The letters are from people — one of them in Noordhoek — who are subdividing their property and evicting others living there. They request the housing office to relocate the families.

The spokesman said: “Some of these people have been living and working on the farms for many years.”

Removals

He said the last house built in Ocean View had been put up in 1965 by the divisional council and that since then “not even a dog box has been built”.

Around the same time, he said, the House of Representatives had promised to see to providing additional low-cost housing but that this had not yet materialised. He said: “We’re in a dilemma as more and more people are moving into the area, yet we sit with the problem of housing our own people — the true victims of apartheid — who were moved from their homes in Simon’s Town, Noordhoek and Sunnysdale by the Group Areas Act.

“Right now 164 plots have been allocated to private developers to provide housing for those who can afford to pay anything from R650 to R870 a month, which may solve some problems but will in turn create more — what we need urgently is affordable housing for the poor.”
GRUESOME: The remains of the Stefana shack in which the family was burnt on Sunday night. Burnt human remains still lay there yesterday.

Four murdered in Macassar

By EDWARD MOLOINYANE
Staff Reporter

SQUABBLING over the allocation of sites in Macassar, a new serviced area for former Green Point squatters, have resulted in four murders, shocked residents said.

A family of three and their neighbour died when gunmen opened fire on two shacks and set them alight in Macassar on Sunday night.

The dead were Mr Mieto Stefana, 35, his wife Noxolile, 30, their four-month old baby Mkhulu and Mr Mandla Qwaqwa, 31, who lived 50 metres away.

A man and a woman were hacked and wounded.

Macassar, which has toilets, running water, mast lighting and tarred streets, is about five kilometres from Khayelitsha towards the sea.

Squatters from Green Point, one of Khayelitsha’s most dilapidated and dangerous shack settlements, are being moved there. The victims had moved less than a month ago, residents said.

A “warlord” had vowed to “get” former Green Point squatters after a financial dispute involving site allocation.

The man had charged residents about R3 when they were still living in Green Point, “for ANC membership cards” which were photocopies.

The “last straw” was when sites in the new area were allocated early this year to “outsiders”.

His Green Point home was subsequently burnt down by “comrades” and he had vowed to “get” those who had eroded his influence with the Lungelethu council.
Vlok to pay squatters R2-m.

CAPE TOWN — An overall amount of R2 million will be paid out by the State to Cape Town squatters whose homes were burnt down during fighting in Crossroads, KTC and adjacent areas during 1986 riots.

Some 20 squatters sued the Minister of Law and Order, who settled out of court last year without an admission of liability.

Almost 3 300 households will receive compensation.

Individual households will receive between R10 000 and R200 000.
Homeless squatters awarded R2-million

An overall amount of R2 million will be paid out by the State to Cape Town squatters whose homes were burnt down during the fighting in Crossroads, KTC and adjacent areas during 1986.

The squatters sued the Minister of Law and Order after the fighting. The case, involving 20 of the squatters, was settled out of court last year, without admission of liability by the Minister.

Almost 3 300 households will receive compensation over the next few weeks. Individual households will receive between R10 000 and R300 000, depending on claims submitted.

The case was handled by the Legal Resources Centre. The distribution of the money will be administered by the KTC Relief Trust Fund. - EPA.
RECOMPENSE ... KTC claimants, from left, Mrs Sheila Mzamka, her husband Patrick, Mrs Zolpha Siwe and her husband Alcott, whose homes and possessions were destroyed by fire in 1986 sign away their claim against the Minister of Law and Order in return for cash payments of R2 700 and R1 850 respectively at the Joseph Stone Auditorium in Athlone yesterday.

Squatters compensated for destroyed homes

By CHRIS BATEMAN

The first 100 of 3 000 former residents of KTC, Nyanga Bush, Nyanga Extension and Portland Cement squatter communities whose homes were destroyed by witdoek vigilantes in 1989, yesterday received their portion of the R2-million government settlement.

The settlement by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, reached without him accepting liability in return for a withdrawal of squatter allegations of police complicity, was made on March 5 last year.

Yesterday, during the slick pay-out operation organised by the KTC Relief Trust and the Legal Resources Centre, (LRC), residents received between several hundred and several thousand rand each.

According to LRC lawyer, Mr Steve Kornowicz, the top individual payment was about R10 000 to a small business destroyed in KTC.

Mr Hugh Jago, project manager of the KTC relief fund said his team had been very careful to "keep expectations realistic".

About 100 people had been notified of pay-out dates and amounts and pay-outs would continue (including Saturdays) until April 20, whereafter any outstanding payments would be met, he said.
HOMELESS... Mr Desmond Abrahams, 27, feeds his 18-month-old daughter Irene on the spot where his home at the “Sun City” squatter camp near Sir Lowry’s Pass used to stand. His shack was among about 20 destroyed yesterday by Regional Services Council workers who were protected by police.

Staff Reporter
REGIONAL Services Council workers protected by police used pickaxe handles, chainsaws, axes and crowbars yesterday to demolish about 20 shacks in the controversial “Sun City” squatter camp below Sir Lowry’s Pass.

Squatters in the camp said yesterday they were not given time to remove their personal belongings from their homes before they were destroyed.

The incident occurred about 9am when about six police vans, a Casspir and about 50 ESC workers arrived at the squatter camp.

Squatters said that an ESC official, armed with a handgun, had told them over a loudhailer to “get out, we are going to destroy your homes”.

Mr Arthur van Aarde, chairman of the squatter camp, said he had been told by the official on Saturday that Mr Her- nus Kriel, Minister of Local Government in the House of Assembly, had instructed him to demolish the shacks.

Mr Kriel was not available for comment last night.

Mr Fred Stephens, head of general services for the Stellenbosch ESC, said the action had been taken because the squatters and the RSC had reached an agreement last year in which only 65 people would stay in the camp, and their number had exceeded this figure.

Mr Stephens claimed they had been given time to remove their personal belongings before the shacks were destroyed.

About an hour after the shacks were demolished, Dr Allan Boesak, director of the Foundation for Peace and Justice, arrived on the scene.

Dr Boesak said he had faxed a letter to Mr Kriel, demanding an explanation for the RSC’s actions and a guarantee that the squatters would not be moved until alternative housing was made available for them.

Dr Boesak said that he was due to visit America tomorrow but would remain with the squatters until Mr Kriel responded to his letter.

DESTROYED...
ca...
Returning black farmers arrested

Own Correspondent

MACLEAN TOWN. Police have arrested 72 former Maclean town farmers who reoccupied land from which they had been removed forcibly 22 years ago.

The farmers had arrived at midnight on Friday and had worked through the night to construct shelters on land next to the East London Stutterheim road.

Angry white farmers soon gathered at the roadside. Police arrived and gave the returnees an hour to leave.

When the hour had passed they were arrested and charged with trespassing, alternatively breaking the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act.

They were taken to the Fort Jackson police station, where dockets were opened, and remanded to various places of detention. They are expected to appear in the East London Magistrate's Court today.

Before he was arrested, the secretary of the Maclean town Residents Association, Mr Mongezi Nxgata, said the property to which they had returned had been communal land for black and white farmers.
Boesak stays night in squatter camp

By EDWARD MOLOINYANE and DENNIS CRUYWAGEN
Staff Reporters

DR Allan Boesak has resolved to stay at a Sir Lowry's Pass squatter camp where shacks have been demolished until Mr !erua Kriel, Minister of Local Government, sends a representa- tive to "to see what's happen- ing".

Dr Boesak, director of the Foundation for Peace and Justice, spent the night at Sun City squatter camp where about 175 people, including babies, are homeless after 20 shacks were destroyed yesterday by Stellen- bosch Regional Services Coun- cil workmen escorted by po- lice.

The action taken against the squatters had "angered" Dr Boesak, said his secretary, Mrs Lucille Pester.

Yesterday Mr Kriel invited Dr Boesak to discuss the matter with him in his office today but "because of the situation at Sir Lowry's Pass he won't be able to see Mr Kriel," Mrs Pes- ter said.

Dr Boesak said the night had been "uncomfortable".

ANC member the Rev Chris Nissen, Dr Boesak's personal assistant Mr Norman Micheals and colleague Mr Calvin Smith kept Dr Boesak company.

According to Mr George van Aarde, chairman of the 11- member Sun City Committee, the shacks were destroyed barely a fortnight after the committee had been assured at a meeting with council officials that no demolition would take place.

He said an RSC official who had been at the meeting visited the settlement on Saturday and "jokingly" said he would de- stroy the camp this week.

"What beats us is that the man was here again on Sunday but did not give us notice about the pending demolition."

Mr Van Aarde said the official, brandishing a gun and ac- companied by a huge contin- gent of armed police in three vans and two Hippos, arrived about 8am yesterday.

"He ordered his workmen to remove all our belongings... they used picks and saws to de- stroy our homes while police stood by to ensure we did not go nearer. We watched help- lessly as our homes were de- stroyed."


SALVED: Magda Barendse carries a friend's baby, eight-month-old Lionel Steyn, and a bag and a doll salvaged from shacks demolished by council workers at the Sun City squatter settlement.
Mr. Adrian Vlok, the Minister of Justice and Deputy Prime Minister, has announced that there will be a thorough investigation into the recent rioting in the Western Cape province. He emphasized the importance of maintaining peace and order, and assured the public that justice will be served.

The action follows the widespread unrest that erupted in the province last week, with clashes between the police and protesters. The police have been criticized for their handling of the situation, with some alleging excessive use of force.

Mr. Vlok expressed his condolences to the families of those who lost their lives during the rioting. He said that the government is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all South Africans.

The minister also called on the people of the Western Cape to remain calm and refrain from resorting to violence. He urged them to cooperate with law enforcement officials and support the investigation into the events that led to the rioting.

Mr. Vlok further stated that the government is determined to stamp out any form of criminal activity, and that those who engage in such activities will be held accountable.

The minister concluded by emphasizing the importance of unity and peaceful resolution during these testing times. He appealed to all South Africans to work together to build a democratic and prosperous country.
Landless National Land Committee degrades pun

Group meets select committee on land

Broken shacks sue RSC over

Over RSC to
Court halts Sun City demolitions

Supreme Court reporter

THE Supreme Court yesterday temporarily stopped the Western Cape RSC from evicting any more squatters from the "Sun City" site near Sir Lowry's Pass, and demolishing their houses.

After an urgent application, Mr Justice H.L. Berman ordered the RSC, with consent of the parties, to show by May 20 why it should not be ordered to restore the 17 applicants' possession of sites on the erf.

In papers, Mr Arthur James van Aarde, a 63-year-old pensioner and father of 10, said RSC workers, accompanied by police and dogs, had demolished his house at Sun City on Tuesday.
Court cracks down on RSC over squatters

By JOHN Viljoen
Supreme Court Reporter

The Supreme Court has ordered the Western Cape Regional Services Council to allow the Sun City squatters at Sir Lowry's Pass to return to sites where shacks were demolished this week.

Leader of the Sun City community Mr Arthur van Aarde, 63, said in court papers he was "shocked and disappointed" by the RSC's "barbaric action".

Mr Justice H.L Berman granted a temporary interdict yesterday restraining the RSC from evicting the squatters or demolishing their dwellings, allowing the squatters back on to the land.

Gave undertaking

In an affidavit, Mr Van Aarde said he lived at Sun City with his wife Angelina and their 10 children. He had lived in the Sir Lowry's Pass area since 1985 and built a dwelling at Sun City in November.

He had never been told his Sun City residence was illegal.

Lawyers representing the Sun City community and the RSC were negotiating on the community's future and the RSC had given an undertaking not to take unannounced action against them, he said.

No Sun City resident was warned of the removal of their belongings or the demolition of their dwellings, said Mr Van Aarde.

An RSC official, Mr Van Wyk, once threatened eviction but he was referred to the negotiations about accommodation for the community. Mr Van Aarde never expected the "vague threats" to be carried out.

"On Tuesday, about 150 armed policemen and two police dogs arrived at Sun City. Mr Van Aarde saw Mr Van Wyk, armed with a revolver, among them. I confronted him about what was going on. He ordered me to carry my belongings out of my house because my home was going to be demolished."

"The police moved the crowd aside and prevented them from returning to their houses. He was not given enough time to remove his belongings. RSC workers simply threw them aside and cut and chopped his home down, said Mr Van Aarde."

"I am shocked and disappointed at the barbaric and heavy-handed action against defenceless citizens in the present climate of reconciliation and negotiation," said Mr Van Aarde.

Verbal agreement

Stellenbosch attorney Mr Roger Cheneval said in papers that his firm had represented the Sun City community over the past few years.

A binding verbal agreement had been reached to the effect that the RSC would not demolish dwellings without notifying his firm.

The RSC's unilateral action probably was illegal and contravened existing norms relating to dealing with informal settlements.
‘Proper settlement’ for squatters

Political Correspondent

The government plans to move Sun City squatters camp to “a proper settlement” with adequate infrastructure for informal housing, the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and Housing, Mr Hernus Kriel, announced yesterday.

Western Cape Regional Service Council workers, accompanied by police and dogs, demolished a number of the squatter homes in the camp near Sir Lowry’s Pass earlier this week. The action sparked an outcry from community leaders and political parties.

The Supreme Court subsequently ruled that the RSC should temporarily stop evicting any more squatters from the site.

Mr Kriel said that a meeting would be held on April 30 to identify land for informal housing in the Hottentots-Holland Basin.

Families whose shacks had been broken down at Sun City could remain in the squatter camp “but the area cannot accommodate any more people”.

“As soon as suitable land has been identified the government intends to settle the families presently living at Sun City in a proper settlement with adequate infrastructure for informal housing.”

Mr Kriel said it would be necessary to move the squatters from the present site “as it is not possible to provide Sun City with water, sanitation and other facilities, except at very high cost.”

Reacting to an ultimatum from Dr Allan Boesak to meet him at the camp, Mr Kriel said he had twice invited Dr Boesak to discuss the circumstances regarding the squatter families, but Dr Boesak “would not or could not” meet him.
Valley of discontent... or peace?

Weekend Focus 3

communities. Weekend Argus reporter Linda Gallaway spent a day talking to the people on both sides of the fence.

The tranquility of the Green Hour Valley, with its country homesteads, studfarms and paddocks, has been shattered by the things...
While Paper on land reform

somethingbrewskixtrefromed in this
can't stand on these around town -
"They are not on the same level and so-
us, how they are going to do it that will
work in the Valley are the people
looking for trouble."

Yes, we know there are a lot of law-
lenders. We have always wanted
something done about our security. Last week a marauding
band of criminals broke into our camp. We are concerned
about the security of our property. They never
without the consent of local homeowners.

Argus

Roy Wiley

2014 191

PICTURES
Hope for 'Sun City' squatters

By MICHAEL MORRIS
Political Correspondent

THE government has granted a 'repeal' to the "Sun City" squatters whose shacks were demolished by the Stellenbosch Regional Services Council on Tuesday.

The announcement yesterday by Mr Hermus Kriel, Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, came a day after a Supreme Court order stopping the demolitions.

He said families whose shacks on State-owned land near Sir Lowry's Pass had been demolished could remain in the camp.

No newcomers would be allowed.

Unsanitary health conditions

Ultimately, he said, the government intended resettle the families once a serviced site became available. Resettlement was necessary because it was impossible to provide water, sanitation and other facilities at the "Sun City" site, except at high cost.

Mr Kriel said discussions during the week with Housing Minister Mr David Curry and the chairman of the Regional Services Council, Mr Piet Louwser, made it clear there was not enough land for informal housing in the Hottentots-Holland Basin.

Mr Kriel said he was concerned about living conditions and the health risk at the "Sun City" camp.

All along the government had insisted squatters had to be managed in an orderly way.

For some time, the issue of the "Sun City" camp had been addressed by Deputy Minister of Planning Mr André Fourie. A meeting, scheduled for April 30, was arranged some time ago to identify land for informal housing in the Hottentots-Holland Basin.

Council warning

Responding to the ultimatum by president of the Foundation for Peace and Justice Dr Allan Boesak to meet him at the squatter camp, Mr Kriel said he had twice invited Dr Boesak for discussions, but to no avail.

Mr Kriel said that "according to information from the RSC", the council had, in fact, warned that it would act against new squatters in terms of a previous agreement with squatter representatives.

Since 1989, about 10 new families a month had responded to warnings by the RSC not to put up shacks at Sun City, taking them down themselves in most cases.
Hout Bay ‘squatters’ were first

By Weekend Argus Reporter

A FIRM of architects and planners integrally involved in the siting and development of the squatter camp in Hout Bay has countered the objections of white residents with an “historical perspective” which shows how privileged whites have benefited over the years to the exclusion of their “other-than-white” neighbours.

The report is by Mr Cecil Madell and Mr Nigel Burals of MLH Architects and Planners, consultants to the government for the squatter camp, and is based largely on information in the honours thesis of Ms Caroline Green on “The origins and development of informal settlements in the Hout Bay area 1940-1966.”

It points out that until February this year, when the Regional Services Council (RSC) forestry land on the hillside above the cemetery was proclaimed to house squatters, “other-than-white” groups had access to only two percent of the valley.

Hundred percent increase

The forestry site, now housing 2,200 squatters, increases the land available for other race groups to four percent.

“What is perhaps not widely appreciated is that as recently as 1986 there were 10,000 residents in Hout Bay. Some 45 percent were white, occupying 52 percent of the land set aside in the Hout Bay plan for residential purposes.”

About 45 percent were coloured, occupying two percent of the residential land in Hout Bay in terms of a Group Areas proclamation.

“At present the white population has increased its proportion to approximately 59 percent of the total.”

“A second misconception is that a large number of black and coloured people in Hout Bay are unemployed. The facts are that ‘other-than-white’ people have not only lived in the Hout Bay valley for longer than the white population but have also been gainfully employed there.

“While there are some unemployed people among the squatter residents, they are a minority and do not detract from the fact that the majority of ‘other-than-white’ residents have every bit as much right to live there as their more recently arrived white neighbours.

“The Group Areas Act has enabled many whites to acquire property in the valley at competitive prices whereas the ‘other than whites’ have been denied this right. The response of this community to the white cries of ‘depressed prices’ and ‘loss of value of property investments’ is hardly likely to be sympathetic.”

“There have been a number of complaints concerning the planning and consultation process in Hout Bay and no one would pretend that the process has been perfect or indeed equitable. However, this should be placed in perspective.

“Firstly the people who have until recently been forced to occupy only two percent of Hout Bay were not consulted about their preferences. Nor indeed were they consulted when a decision was taken to move all the squatters in the valley to the Hangberg community area.

“It was only because the community was prepared to fight the matter in court that such a step was not taken.

“It is noteworthy that the community insisted that action be taken to meet their housing crisis. This was agreed to by the authorities who then ignored the community and proceeded to design housing without consultation. The community was not unnaturally incensed and again threatened court action and only then did consultation take place.

“A revised scheme was drawn up with the full co-operation of the authorities and the revised project was built to the satisfaction of both parties.

“The recent identification of land for Hout Bay’s homeless was a difficult process arising mostly from the fact that two historically racially separate housing authorities were involved and all final decisions had to be ratified by the Cabinet. The complexity of this process resulted in top-down rather than bottom-up decision making.

“However, in view of the vested interests of the economically powerful and legally empowered whites, this may have produced the only equitable result. Only when a properly constituted and fully representative local authority has been established can an equitable process be established.”

The paper notes that the first farms were established in Hout Bay in the 1690s.

“An evaluation of the area’s historical development indicates that a correlation exists between local economic activity and the provision or lack of provision of housing for low income workers.”

“During the early years when primary activities such as farming and fishing were dominant, workers and their families were housed by their employers. The provision of shelter, although not always adequate, was nevertheless seen as a necessity.

“With the decline of farming activity in the valley and the expansion of the white residential component, a substantial number of low income workers were employed as domestic workers and gardeners on various estates.

Lived in Hout Bay for years

“Shelter was however only extended to the respective workers in accordance with the Group Areas Act and black homeland policy.

“The provision of a limited area in the harbour exclusively to house the ‘coloured’ people of Hout Bay was coupled with single sex hostels for work-permit-approved Africans.

“The rest of the homeless families, especially those employed on a temporary basis, started to occupy vacant land in the valley. Although recent surveys have indicated a large proportion of inhabitants of the informal settlements were recent migrants to the area, the founder members of the various settlements have lived there for many years.

“An overview of Hout Bay’s history indicates low income workers have for decades been employed in various economic sectors in the area.

“Now is the time for the privileged community, who have enjoyed rights of access to land which are taken for granted in the Western World, to accept their poorer neighbours, to reach out and extend the hand of friendship and help. They will be astonished at the goodwill and mutual respect that such an effort will yield.”

Squatters demand a right to build houses in the valley.
Robben Island prisoners refuse to move

AN attempt was made by prison warders to remove the last political prisoners from Robben Island on Wednesday, but when they refused to move the authorities backed down.

This was said at a press conference at Quay Five yesterday by Mr Willie Hofmeyr, a lawyer, for many of the remaining ANC prisoners on the island.

The prisoners are on the sixth day of a hunger strike until they are released or dead, according to relatives and friends who visited them yesterday.

A spokesman for the Department of Correctional Services said she would investigate Mr Hofmeyr's claim, but she doubted whether any comment would follow last week's statement that the department wanted to move the prisoners to Pollsmoor.

Mr Trevor Manuel, the ANC's Western Cape publicity secretary, accused the government of "laziness" and "major bureaucratic bungling".

Among the political prisoners still on the island are: Mandla Shabangu and David Moisi, formerly on death row for attacks on Sisulu Two; Mr Rafeq Rohan, a journalist who bombed Natal Command and CR Swart police headquarters; Mandla Maseko, convicted for planting land mines; Gordon Webster, convicted for bomb blasts which one person died; and PAC prisoner Lita Mahleki, sentenced in 1978 to 25 years' imprisonment.
Thousands starveing in Eastern Cape

Some teachers are said to cope on their own.

Some families have now reached the point where they have to pay for their own food.

The task has become impossible.

The hunger and destitution is on a massive scale.

They hope to cope on their own.

The official proportion of hungry and destitute children in the Western Cape is said to be one in five, with some schools reporting a figure as high as one in three.

BY SOPHIE TEMBA
Squatters irk Belgravia residents

By JACQUELYN SWARTZ

BELGRAVIA residents are furious with the City Council for alleged lack of control of squatting in the suburb, they say, has resulted in an influx of rats and a sanitation problem.

Residents say they were told two years ago that people would be allowed to squat on a field behind some houses.

They claim the council promised to maintain order, but things have deteriorated to such an extent that new shacks are being erected every weekend.

This had resulted in a "riotous situation," said Mr. Achmat Adams whose property backs on to the squatter camp.

"There is continual noise and swearing. Fighting occurs every night. The area has developed a terrible smell and smoke is a problem," said Mr. Adams.

A lack of toilet facilities was a health hazard as squatters relieved themselves behind residents' walls. Residents say they have resorted to dumping rubbish over their back walls to disguise the smell.

Mr. Adams also complained about barking dogs and stray cats.

"Our complaint is not against the squatters but against the council," Mr. Adams said.

City Planner Mr. Neville Riley said he had not heard Mr. Adams' comments and sympathised with him about the disturbance caused by squatters.

"While Mr. Adams has had discussions with staff of the squatter control section of my department, it might be helpful to describe council policy on squatters," he said.

The squating issue had to be understood in the context of a council list of 40,000 families waiting for houses.

"In the past year the State had provided funds for about 550 new houses. Until more funds were available, the squatting problem was unlikely to improve.

"It is accepted that all the inhabitants in the municipal area should be able to satisfy their need for adequate and affordable shelter and their basic hygiene requirements. It is essential that suitably sited land parcels (with minimum services) be set aside. Other local authorities should also set aside suitably sited land for squatters. Unrestrained squatting in the municipal area would not be acceptable."

Squatters should not be pressured to move from one local authority area to another and the province had been asked to promote a uniform policy among all local authorities.

The council was unable to offer squatters alternative housing because of the backlog and there was no approved site for them to move to by mutual agreement.

The role of the squatter control section was to keep records to monitor the growth of squatters and shacks in the municipal area and to provide services.

He said the first four structures were found on the Belgravia site in 1987. There were now 42 structures, 45 families and 140 people. Except for two families, all were from the Athlone area.

In 1987 the council laid a charge against squatters for illegal occupation of council land, but the State refused to prosecute, largely because of lack of alternatives.

"When the squatter control section finds a certain number of structures on a particular site, it recommends that certain basic services are provided."
AT PLAY: Squatter children play. Bottom picture, from left, Belgravia residents Mr Ronald Overmeyer, Mr Jay, Charles and Mr Achmat Adams, are among those concerned about problems created by a squatter camp on their doorstep.
Squatting issue in Cape Town.

Fish Hoek

A REQUEST by Fish Hoek Town Council that the government be asked to lay down a uniform procedure to deal with squatting was agreed to by an overwhelming majority at the recent congress of the Cape Municipal Association.

Fish Hoek also proposed that the congress express its disapproval of decisions of the council being overruled by government officials without explanation.

The proposal was adopted and a letter will be forwarded by the Cape Municipal Association to the minister concerned.

The congress, in Cape Town, was attended by the Mayor of Fish Hoek, Miss Marequita Townley-Johnson, and the Town Clerk, Mr. Doug Smith.

The next and 88th congress will be held in East London.
Bay call for wall

BAY Street residents have asked for an extension of the Bay Street fence. The residents believe the fence is needed to prevent crime and to provide a sense of security. The residents have written letters to the mayor and city council expressing their concerns. The city is currently considering the residents' request.

Mr. Winkler, a member of the city council, stated that the city is aware of the residents' concerns and is working to find a solution. He added that the city is also considering other options to address the crime problem, such as increasing police presence and improving lighting in the area.

Mr. de Beer, the chief of police, said that the police department is also working on crime prevention strategies and is committed to protecting the residents. He added that the police department is always open to hearing from the community and is willing to work with residents to find solutions.

The residents are hopeful that their request will be met and that the city will take action to address the crime problem in the area.

Municipal Reporter
RSC to employ squatters on land

Municipal Reporter

SQUATTERS will be hired for work on Regional Services Council-funded land as part of a Western Cape RSC job creation initiative.

A motion passed at yesterday's monthly RSC meeting said labour should be drawn from squatter communities for servicing land used by communities which were funded by the RSC.

Mr. Danie Uys of Bellville said the RSC would have to use "correct procedures" to avoid having trade unions demand that temporary workers be given permanent status.

Mrs. Eulalie Stott, chairman of the committee that tabled the motion, said the squatters would not be employed by the RSC or the Ikapa Town Council, but would be on the payroll of private contractors.
HOMELESS... Mrs Eunice Nxumalo and her son Zolani (left) lost their home and possessions in the demolition while two women (right), hopeless amid their cast-out belongings, watch in resignation as bulldozers demolish homes. They left the scene five hours later when police allowed people to help them move their furniture.

95 shacks demolished

BY BRONWYN DAVIDS

POLICE and squatters clashed in Mbekweni near Paarl when private contractors demolished about 95 squatter homes yesterday.

After bulldozers had flattened the squatters' shacks, families watched as their possessions and building materials were heaped into a pile by contractors and torched.

Earlier squatters had tried to retrieve their meagre possessions but police fired teargas and rubber bullets to disperse them following a bout of stone-throwing.

Tension rose dramatically when the squatters returned to the site after holding a meeting and lines of police and squatters faced each other across about 50 metres of no-man's-land.

During the clashes between squatters and police a council garbage lorry was petrol-bombed.

Mbekweni Civic Association spokesman Mr Mzwandile Petros said 18 people were injured during the fracas and were treated by local doctors.

He said squatters had moved to the site on Sunday from the temporary shack town of Silvertown.

"The people were not allowed to fetch their things and their building materials were all bulldozed on to a heap. It's sad because the people have lost everything," said Mr Petros.

IN FLAMES... Possessions — including television sets — and building materials belonging to Mbekweni squatter families are torched. Picture: ANNE LAING

Mr Petros said there was a crucial housing shortage in Mbekweni with some 27 000 people crowded into about 1 317 houses.

Mbekweni Town Clerk Mr Marius Steyn said the squatters had homes in Silvertown. He said they were told to move to the new site by "political instigators in the community".

He said 286 low-cost houses were being planned for the demolished area, while 326 houses would be built at Silvertown and 130 sites were being made available elsewhere.

Mr Steyn could not say how much money would be spent on "orderly housing" for the area or when the project would get off the ground as private contractors, Cape Utilities Homes, were handling these details.
Squatters to be hired for Xroads upgrading

SQUATTERS from three of the poorest satellite camps of the Crossroads complex are to be temporarily employed to provide services such as water, sewerage and electricity to the land they occupy.

The Western Cape Regional Services Council (RSC) agreed yesterday in principle that Miller's Camp, Black City (formerly Black Plastic City) and Mphela Square should be upgraded by means of labour drawn from the local community.

Mrs Kaliale Stott, who chairs the RSC's powerful "priorities committee", which allocates funds for upgrading, said local labour would be employed as an experiment.

She said neither the RSC nor the Ikapa town council would employ the workers. Instead, they would be hired by contractors. Each worker would have an individual contract.

The RSC will provide the money for the upgrading.
Operation Hunger aids Paarl squatters

By Staff Reporter

About 195 families evicted from Mbekweni Town Council-owned land were yesterday sheltered in a community hall, where they were given blankets and food by Operation Hunger.

The town council ordered 35 squatter shacks demolished by bulldozers on Wednesday, after the families illegally occupied council land near Paarl on Sunday.

During the demolition, police fired teargas and rubber bullets to disperse the squatters.

Meanwhile, the Urban Foundation's construction wing, Cape Utility Homes, has been asked by the council to help build 800 low-cost houses on four council-owned properties.

The chief executive of Cape Utility Homes, Mr Nigel de la Rosa, said impact studies had been carried out in the area, but housing problems would be extensively canvassed with all community leaders before such a project was launched.

He said the company yesterday applied to the Independent Development Trust for a R6-million loan to provide serviced sites.

Operation Hunger spokesman Ms Sandra MacAllister said two loads of blankets, stoves and utensils were taken to the squatters who had been dispossessed.

Yesterday, Mbekweni Town Clerk Mr Marius Steyn denied allegations by squatters that possessions — including television sets — were destroyed when building materials were burnt on four heaps as police stood guard.

He said the squatters had homes in the Silvertown squatter area, and were urged to squat on council land by "policial instigators" in the area.
REASONS FOR SQUATTERS ARE ALSO PEOPLE

Pay little choice limited

PAY LITTLE CHOICE LIMITED

squatting, April 1991

Weekend Argus, June 1 1991
Shabby Shanty but it's home

In any case, the important thing is to keep the dream of a good life alive, and the courage to work for it. The key is hope and determination. Without perseverance and hard work, it's difficult to achieve a goal. The motto is: "Nothing is impossible with a positive attitude." The important thing is to keep the dream of a good life alive, and the courage to work for it. The key is hope and determination. Without perseverance and hard work, it's difficult to achieve a goal. The motto is: "Nothing is impossible with a positive attitude."
DP slams 'heartless' Mbekweni evictions

Political Correspondent

GOVERNMENT action against squatters from Paarl's Mbekweni township has been strongly criticised in parliament as "heartless" and "deplorable".

Mr Jasper Walsh, Democratic Party MP for Pinelands, said that while many positive things were happening in the country which the DP supported, there were still certain incidents "that confirm the view that ours is a repressive, heartless State".

"It is in this category that I place events in Mbekweni township outside Paarl last week," he said.

Recounting how photographs depicted "a line of policemen preventing the residents from rescuing their meagre belongings which had been bulldozed into an enormous pile and were being burnt", Mr Walsh said: "Only the heartless would fail to be moved by such a sight."

He added: "The simple fact is that we cannot afford such publicity, and assuming the publicity depicts the facts, we cannot afford to allow such things to happen.

"Legally, the issue appears clear. A group of squatters created their shacks on land not belonging to them without permission. Normally, such actions are illegal and the law takes its course.

"But there are other factors to be taken into account.

"Mbekweni township is grossly overcrowded. About 27 000 people live in 1 317 homes — slightly more than 20 per house. Such conditions are intolerable.

"Squatters do not squat because they like squatting, but because they have no alternative."

However, Mr Walsh said, the government's handling of the Mbekweni affair did not inspire confidence in its ability to meet the challenge of not merely scrapping apartheid, but ensuring the benefits of this were allowed to reach the people.

• DP leader Dr Zac de Beer told parliament yesterday that the only government "which has a chance is one which can command the loyalty of both the economic leaders and of the masses.

"This just has to be a government of national unity."

Everybody in South Africa needed "this alliance of the centre", he said.
Squatters' housing ‘is ruled by warlords’

A commonly used weapon of struggle is fire, which has devastating consequences in dense informal settlements.

With the majority of the population from Transkei, the study found there was considerable migration between the city and the homeland.

Many women moved to the city to give birth due to deficient medical care in Transkei, while children were sent to school in the homeland.

The researchers say this is because school boycotts often bring the urban education system to a virtual standstill.

A survey last year in Khayelitsha found that 42% of respondents had children attending school outside Cape Town.

Other findings were:

1. Two primary reasons for migration to Cape Town are economic and familial. Unemployment in Transkei is higher than in the city. Even those who have jobs there struggle to survive.

Wages as low as R7 a week have been recorded in Transkei, and according to Hostel Dwellers' Association executives, “salaries” of R40 a fortnight are not unusual.

2. A third of respondents in a Khayelitsha survey said they had land in a homeland.

It was common for those blacks who had spare money to invest in assets in the homelands rather than upgrade their living conditions in the city.

3. Most bus companies serving the townships and homelands run casual services at least four times a week, and “between 20 and 30 buses may be sent out by a single company on any one, if not all, of these days”.

4. Municipal Reporter

WARLORDS gain control over the land allocation process in almost all squatter areas — and then use this as a lever for political patronage and enrichment, a study on black patterns of movement by UCT's Urban Problems Research Unit has found.

The study said movement within Cape Town was rife as blacks struggled to secure permanent homes.

The main generators of movement were the search for security of tenure, and for a good location in relation to employment opportunities; and flight from "warlording".

Warlording occurs in almost all informal settlements with small groups gaining control over communities and the land allocation process.

This is then used for the purposes of political patronage and financial enrichment.

Struggles break out between groupings either within or outside a given settlement, mostly over allegiances.
60 000 shacks in Cape Town

By PETER DENNEHY

THERE are more than 60 000 squatter shacks in greater Cape Town, according to a new study by the Urban Problems Research Unit at UCT.

It says the main shack areas are Khayelitsha and Crossroads where there are 58 094 squatter shacks.

The study, Movement Patterns of the African Population in Cape Town, was done by Professor Dave Dewar, Ms Vanessa Watson and Mr Tevin Rosmarin. It shows complex patterns of movement which make it difficult to estimate the total black population.

However, they say the black population of greater Cape Town is about 750 000 — roughly 59% up from the adjusted 1980 census figure of just over 500 000.

In 1990, according to the Human Sciences Research Council, the all-race population of greater Cape Town was 2.6 million.

Estimates of how many blacks will be in Cape Town by the year 2000 vary from 227 000 (HSRC) to over a million (Metropolitan Transport Planners).

Among the figures given in the UCT study are:

- There is the number of free-standing squatter shacks in "peripheral and peri-urban areas" of greater Cape Town (apart from Khayelitsha and Crossroads) is 4 131.

- In Khayelitsha alone, which has a total population of 300 000, there are more than 18 000 shacks in Site B, more than 7 000 in Site C, 3 833 in Green Point, 2 000 in Silvertown and 9 900 in "interspersed areas".

- Crossroads has 6 375 shacks, KTC 5 250, Brown's Farm 1 170, Miller's Camp 1 381 and Tambo Square in Guguletu 480.

- In Hout Bay the numbers of shacks in peripheral areas listed in the study date back to before the Hout Bay squatters moved. The total for Hout Bay was then 300.

- Milnerton has a total of 1 000 shacks, although the source quoted in the study is a newspaper. Noordhoek has over 300, Simon's Town 83, and Kranionfels 35.

The study notes that there are still vast discrepancies between some official and actual figures.

For example, the official population of the hostels of Lwandle, near Strand, is 2 000, but the actual population, including "illegals", "may be as high as 8 000".
Evans: Visit was 'circus'

JOHANNESBURG. — Australian Foreign Minister Mr Gareth Evans said yesterday that the South African police turned his visit to black squatter camps outside Cape Town into a "circus".

Mr Evans caused a diplomatic storm at the weekend when he allegedly swore at a police officer during a visit to Khayelitsha.

A spokesman for the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said last night that no formal statement would be made on the issue.

Mr Evans denied press reports that he had called one policeman "useless" during the visit on Saturday.

"I had wanted the visit to be as unobtrusive and low-key as possible," he said. It was meant to be only three cars but we ended up with about nine."

Brigadier Leon Mellet, spokesman for the Minister of Law and Order, said last night: "I can't confirm that he made this remark, but if it's true then I would like to congratulate the policemen, who were not switched off by the incident but continued to do their job, as was expected of them." — Own Correspondent and Sapa-Reuter
Squatters outnumbered at Hout Bay service

Staff Reporters

WHITE Hout Bay residents out numbered squatters at an interdenominational church service at the Imizamo Yethu (our efforts) settlement yesterday.

About 150 people from various local congregations gathered for the service yesterday morning at the new squatter camp which houses about 2,000 people.

Squatters dotted the mountainside and watched the worshippers, but later about 15 of them moved closer and accompanied the singing and prayers.

Squatter leader Ms Vanessa Matthews said the service was "to show appreciation for the role played by the churches in our struggles to stay in Hout Bay".

Relations between the squatters and other Hout Bay residents were improving, she said.

ANC information department head Dr Puleo Jordan told Hout Bay squatters yesterday that they had won the land the government had granted them, but their struggle was not yet over.

Addressing about 200 of the squatters at a June 16 celebration of the land victory, Dr Jordan said: "Your marches, rallies and campaigning against the government has forced it to give you this land.

"Today we are going to rest as we celebrate getting this land, but tomorrow we must continue with the fight."

Brick houses had been built all over Hout Bay, but the squatters were still in shacks on their land. To continue the struggle for better housing, a constituent assembly leading to a new democratic government was needed, he said.

Community leader Mr Dick Meter said: "When we started to organise the squatters we were losing, but now we are at the half-way station, and we are on a roll to victory."
Wrong side of the tracks.

The roar of passing trains has not deterred about 500 squatters who have been living for some time alongside the Olifants River at Cape Town railway line, just before January. It is the background to the Belville College of Education.
New sites identified for Milnerton squatters

Staff Reporter

MILNERTON municipality has identified three sites that could become a permanent home for the squatter community presently living in a transit camp.

The transit camp covers eight hectares of land near Montague Gardens.

The situation and extent of the sites will be revealed at a public meeting next Tuesday.

Meanwhile, Table View residents are resisting a suggestion that the squatters be moved two kilometres along Sooberg Road to an area north of the Killarney Hotel.

The residents fear that providing land for squatters will attract a "flood" of homeless people.
Uitsig squatters
appeal sentence

Supreme Court Reporter
THE conviction and three-month sentence of nine Uitsig, Stellenbosch, squatters for trespassing on municipal ground was yesterday set aside on appeal in the Supreme Court.

Mr Justice A.J. Langan, with Mr Justice L. Rose-Innes concurring, found that the state had failed to prove that the. Mrs Katrina Piennaar and eight others had unlawfully occupied the land.

There was also no evidence that a group of tent dwellers had been given the squatters permission to live there.
Deluge

Trains were also delayed when a farm dam wall burst and flooded the Muldersdrift railway. The line between Mbekweni and Dal Josafat stations was also flooded, said Miss Ollage.

In Vredehoek, where overflowing mountain streams had washed sludge down Devil's Peak, council workers used front-end loaders and trucks to clear Derry, Chelmsford, Aloe and Belladonna roads.

A spokesman for City Transport said buses were diverted from Foreshore routes yesterday morning because of fears that the strong winds would blow them over.

Regional Services Council spokesman Mr Fred Mostert said there had been rockfalls and mudslides on the Noordhoek side of Chapman’s Peak but the road had not been closed.

Part of the Rondebosch golf course was under water yesterday after the Vygieskraal River burst its banks.

One house and a cricket field were flooded in Boshof Avenue, Fernwood Estate, Newlands.

Traffic in Claremont was severely disrupted during the morning peak period due to “ponding” at the intersection of Edinborough Drive and Paradise Road.

A spokesman for the DP Malan weather bureau said Kirstenbosch had the highest rainfall in 24 hours ending at 8am yesterday, with 200mm.

Newlands recorded 208mm and Groote Schuur 109mm, the airport 42mm, Franschoek 88mm, Paarl 129mm, Stellenbosch 57mm, Simon’s Town 74mm, Cape Agulhas 37mm and Somerset West 60mm.

The deluge of the past two days has turned Khayelitsha into a virtual swamp, flooding 500 shacks and marooning more than 1,000 people.

The township was hardest hit by a day when heavy rain disrupted the lives of thousands throughout the Peninsula and western Cape.

In Khayelitsha much of the heartbreaking work in restoring some order in the squatter shacks of Sites B and C was left to the women and children as out of the men had gone to work.

A Cape Times team visited the area yesterday and saw scenes of chaos and devastation.

In Site C a woman pleaded for help as she removed barrow loads of sand from her shack.

Reporters and photographers pitched in to help.

Close by a mother carrying an 18-month-old baby on her back fell into the floodwater before she was able to catch the child. The baby was pulled out frightened but unhurt.

 Everywhere women frantically dug trenches around their homes as the waterfaxed and fears of another downpour mounted.

Mr Graham Lawrence, the town clerk of Lingelshof West, under which Khayelitsha falls, said council workers were helping residents but were fighting a losing battle against the flooding.

Swept away

In the Boland a bridge was washed away and in the Peninsula and on the Cape Flats trains were delayed and traffic disrupted as heavy rain and strong winds continued.

But after the damage of the past few days the weather will clear today, says the weather bureau.

Yesterday the flooding Berg River swept away a 20-metre section of the bridge on the main Franschoek-Paarl road about 8am, forcing motorists to divert by nearly 30km to reach the Peninsula road network.

Western Cape District Road Engineer Mr Clyde Barnes said the possibility of temporarily repairing the bridge was being investigated.

But constructing a permanent structure would take about three years and could cost R3.5 to R5 million, he said.

On Table Mountain, the Hely Hutchinson dam, which was 70% full last week, was overflowing.

The Wemmershoek Dam has increased its capacity from 41.6% to 57%, the Vodkite from 55.2% to 67.3% and the Steenbras Lower Dam from 50.3% to 54.2% over the past week.

Cape Town train services were severely disrupted when water flooded railway lines, causing a breakdown in electronic signals.

Spoornet spokesman Miss Yvette Olage said peak-hour trains were delayed for 100 minutes on the Khayelitsha line, for about 40 minutes on the Bellville line and between 10 to 20 minutes on the Cape Flats and Simon’s Town lines yesterday.
TENSIONS are mounting between residents in Crossroads amid claims that attempts are being made by community councillors to reinstate ousted squatter leader Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana.

In the past week, shacks and houses in the area have been burnt and residents attacked by panga-wielding groups in the struggle for control of the area.

Although both groups involved are ANC supportive, it appears that the tensions have arisen around the struggle for housing in the area and not political differences.

Central to the dispute are the chairperson of the 500 member-strong ANC branch Mr Jeffrey Nongwe and members of the ANC Youth League who say they have been driven from the area by Nongwe.

Defied

However, Nongwe said the Youth League only represented young people in the Nyati housing scheme and not those in the squatter camp.

He said he had blocked squatters from moving into Phase Two because the houses were not suitable for them to live in and needed to be improved.

However, some squatters moved into the houses. Since then, the Youth League claimed, they have been harassed by Nongwe’s supporters.

“Our homes have been burnt down, our members have been axed and we are now in hiding,” said Mr Loyiso Tyalimpi, secretary of the Youth League.

Nongwe denied that the Youth League members were part of his ANC branch.

He claimed they were linked to community councillors who were attempting to reinstate Ngxobongwana as a leader in Crossroads.

The Nyati youth, he claimed, were trained by councillors and the police, and were given police protection when they attacked his supporters.

This claim has been backed by Democratic Party MP Mr Ian van Eck who said he had affidavits from residents who claimed the police backed the Nyati residents during fighting between the two groups.

The claim was denied by the police.

Nongwe denied that his supporters had attacked the Nyati youth. “They are the fighters,” he said.

He showed SOUTH two of “his” Youth League members who had been allegedly attacked by Nyati youth members.

However, the Nyati group also produced members who claimed they were injured during attacks from Nongwe’s supporters. One of them has lost the use of two fingers after being slashed with pangas by a crowd of 20 men.

“If these people are real members of the ANC, why don’t they contact the national office to make a real complaint about me?” Nongwe asked.

“Fortunately, while I was walking near their area with Mr van Eck they jeered and swore at me,” he said.

“But the real Youth League, the members who live in the squatter section, are giving us no trouble,” Tyalimpi said.

He showed the conflict between the Youth League and Nongwe stemmed from the system of “headmanship” in Crossroads.

They claimed Nongwe was as much disliked as Ngxobongwana, whom he had driven out of Crossroads.

“The way he was elected chairperson of the Crossroads ANC branch was undemocratic — only the headmen could decide, not the rank and file members,” Tyalimpi said.

“Since the launch of the branch in June last year there have been no branch meetings.

“Nongwe wanted his position for the power it brings him — he regards himself as the landlord of Crossroads.

“He makes the decisions and no one is allowed to oppose him.”

Nongwe denied this claim. He said his ANC branch has held numerous meetings since its launch, some attended by more than 1000 people.

“Our ANC branch is very democratic. We have thousands of people at our meetings and everyone is allowed to vote on every issue,” he said.

Tyalimpi said Nongwe had not delivered on the promises he made to Crossroads residents.

Nongwe said he was prepared to make peace with the Nyati youth if they apologised for their actions.

“I will even speak to Ngxobongwana if he gets rid of the councillors he is connected with,” he said.

“What we want in Crossroads is
Cape Town's homeless find haven in Philippi

By HANS-PETER BANKER, Staff Reporter

CONDITIONS that would make some people give up on life itself make others weep with joy. In the miserable Cape Town winter weather, hundreds of former squatters are being transported to sites at Brown's Farm, Philippi. About 200 sites, each about 200 sq. m large and boasting a cement cubicle with a flush toilet and a single tap, have been made available for the homeless.

About 20 families are moved from squatter sites in Miller's Camp and Nyanga Bush every day, and to date more than 200 shack dwellers have already been moved to the new sites.

For years they have been hounded as illegal residents of Cape Town, caught between police and local authorities on one hand and township warlords on the other.

Now, after months of negotiations and the co-operation of the Cape Town Council, the Cape Provincial Administration, community organisations and the people themselves, they have found what may become a permanent home.

Mr. Bruce Johnson, of the Multicultural Development Centre, said the families could obtain a 50-year lease on the properties for R260 a square metre. An average site could become the property of a family for 40 years at a cost of R35, payable over ten months.

On arrival at the new sites, Cape Town Council officials mark the site and inspect the toilet and water supply before the piles of carefully collected "building materials" are unloaded.

Groups of men go to work erecting dwellings. If they have not completed their task by the end of the day they can stay in tents provided for them by the CPF.

One of the community leaders, Mr. John Njwala, said the people were "very happy", at being given the opportunity to belong somewhere and to rid themselves of the "rent collectors".

But their problems are not over; their shacks of plastic and tarps are not fit for the Cape winter weather, their children are in desperate need of pre-school care, and, although some of them may soon become limited "homeowners", they will continue to be poor.

A resident's leader, Mr. Alfred Sibiya, said: "The little children are walking the streets of this new area, they don't know the place and most of the mothers are away at work all day."

She said the "most urgent need" of the people was for a pre-school centre.

Mr. Njwala said the possessions of the many of the families had been damaged in the move, so that they needed clothes and blankets to survive the winter weather.

Mr. Sibiya also hailed the "rich people" to help them settle and to offer food and building equipment to the people. "We don't want charity, we are willing to pay for reduced prices," he said.

ABOVE: A family guard their worldly goods while waiting for their shack to be erected.

RIGHT: Brown's Farm has provided a safe haven for these squatters from Miller's Camp.

BOTTOM: Shack dwellers erect their homes in a site-and-service area at Brown's Farm.

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ATS
TYRE CENTRE

GRAND OPENING
OF OUR
MAITLAND STORE
255 VOORTREKKER ROAD, MAITLAND
STEELBELT SPECIALS

HOUSEWIFE'S CHORES: Mrs Cynthia Nkazo, formerly of Nyanga Bush, hangs out her washing. She now has a permanent place to hang it.
Town planners looking at Milnerton sites for squatters

By LINDA GALLOWAY
Staff Reporter

TOWN planners are looking at "several possible sites" in Milnerton to which the temporarily housed Montague Gardens squatters will be moved, according to the mayor, Mr Willem van Staden.

He said rumours that a decision had been taken on moving them 2 km along Koeberg Road, to an area north of the Killarney Hotel, were not true.

The matter had been discussed with the Administrator but had not yet come before council "and in any case we can't take any decision without talking to all the people involved", he said.

But Table View ratepayers reacted to the rumours by making representations to the MP for the area and Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry Mr Gert Kotze.

Mr Kotze confirmed that he was "aware of certain intentions to move the informal settlement at Montague Gardens to an area inside his constituency north of the Killarney Hotel between the N7 and Koeberg Road".

Residents of Table View had indicated unhappiness with the proposed move and called on the minister to oppose the relocation. Mr Kotze said he was "considering the matter".

Mr Van Staden said he had not discussed the matter with any of the three MPs whose constituencies made up Milnerton, but had "heard rumours that certain ministers have given undertakings to their voters" that no squatters would be allowed in their area.

The squatters are at present in the Maitland constituency of Mr Louis Plenaar, Minister of Environment Affairs.

Mr Van Staden said: "We have a municipality to run and we work as a council, not politicians. We are not involved in any undertakings to voters, we must look at the good of Milnerton ratepayers as a whole."
MILNERTON municipality seems ready to keep the public informed about the choice of land for its squatters.

It has invited the press to a presentation on possible sites for informal settlement.

The meeting, on July 23 at 5.30pm in the Milnerton library’s lecture theatre, is not open to members of the public, but representatives of various organisations, interest groups and the press have been invited.

In other areas where land has been allocated to squatters there has been criticism about the procedure followed. Agrieved residents in Hout Bay and Noordhoek complained that they had not been properly consulted.

There was a long and involved consultation procedure with interest groups before land in both those areas was allocated, but the press was excluded from most of this before the final decisions were taken.

The government and all local authorities in the Peninsula decided secretly as long ago as 1988 to make land available to squatters, and drew up reports identifying which land might be suitable.
Residents angry at Strand village conditions

Municipal Reporter

RESIDENTS of Casablanca village – a semi-formal settlement outside Strand – protested outside the Strand municipal offices yesterday over living conditions.

Ms Miriam Adams, a spokeswoman for the Strand Community Action Committee, said children queued for hours every day at the single tap that served the 400-family village.

There were also complaints about mud all over the village, she added.

"Yesterday the protesters were frustrated in their attempt to hold a sit-in at the municipal offices when only two of them were allowed in.

Strand town clerk Mr C Groenewald said municipal security men were keeping the protesters out, with the assistance of police who had arrived of their own accord.

"I explained to the people twice this week that Casablanca is on private land, so we can't provide services there unless the owner applies for them."

"We have spoken to the owner's agent, and three applications for extra water connections and meters came in to us at lunchtime today.

"All we can do is provide the meters and connections, and these will be in place by Monday. We understand that the owner will provide taps."

Regarding the muddy conditions, Mr Groenewald said there was not much the municipality could do on private land.

"The weather is causing the problem."
Vlok denies police order on squatters

**Political Correspondent**

THE police did not order the demolition of about 110 squatter shacks in Mbekweni near Paarl at the end of May, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said yesterday.

The town council of Mbekweni had ordered the action because the illegal squatting was on ground earmarked for development.

Replying to a question for written reply from Mr Jasper Walsh (DP Pinelands), Mr Vlok said the police did not fire teargas at the squatters while they were removing their belongings from the scene.

The police had, however, fired teargas when approximately 350 squatters attacked them.
on squatting

New Crackdown

BY ANTHONY JOHNSTON

approximately 500 shoulder guns were immediately dispatched to
the scene. The magic spell was broken.

in a matter of weeks, a new wave of squatting

*October 1991
SQUATTERS pelted policemen with stones a number of times at the Imizamo Yethu settlement in Hout Bay on Friday, following a police raid on an illegal shebeen at the camp.

Police spokesman Major Gys Boonzier said police raided the shebeen about 2.30pm on Friday. They confiscated a large amount of liquor and arrested Ms Veronica Finsa, 33.

Ms Finsa was later released on bail of R100.

While police were loading the liquor into their vehicles, however, stones were thrown at them.

About 4pm, a foot patrol in the settlement was also attacked by stone-throwers, Major Boonzier said.
'Hut squads' to crack down on illegal squatter camps

CAPE TOWN — In a major crackdown on illegal squatting, government has announced the immediate formation of a nationwide network of "hut squads" and a 24-hour hotline to assist rapid response units to nip squatter settlements in the bud.

Government yesterday also urged people to look out for emerging settlements and "to report any obviously illegal structures immediately to ensure that new squatting can be prevented in time".

The latest get-tough approach on the squatting problem will be aimed at squatters and landowners alike.

Announcing the Cape leg of the national initiative, MEC for urbanisation and squatters Koos Theron said: "These uncontrolled illegal activities will no longer be permitted.

"Steps will be taken in future to prevent illegal actions in terms of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act."

The moves were immediately condemned by the ANC, which predicted they would "give further impetus to right-wing thuggery and encourage a national campaign of sniping by racists on the homeless."

ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus said: "We totally reject this kind of action which will have the effect of criminalising citizens who are homeless largely because of the government's apartheid policies and economic mismanagement."

Theron said in his statement yesterday that the rights of landowners had increasingly been violated by squatters.

But he added that "some" landowners who were responsible for preventing illegal building structures on their land and "obviously or otherwise allowing squatting on their properties."

In order to prevent and counter such trends, government had decided to institute immediately "squatting support units" at all provincial regional offices.

These units would provide "advice, support and guidance" to local authorities, landowners and "anyone else" to counter illegal squatting.

The staff at the units would be vested with the power to enter private land and institute legal proceedings.

DP calls for affirmative action for women

THE DP would adopt a programme of "affirmative action" or positive discrimination for women if it came into power, according to a discussion paper released yesterday.

The paper, compiled by a group of largely women DP members, calls for a future government to embrace the UN Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against women.

The convention advocates affirmative action "as a temporary measure" to correct discrimination against women.

The paper calls either for a women's ministry or a women's desk to be set up in each government department. Women would also have to be protected from marital rape. DP spokesman James Selby said yesterday the paper would be discussed further before being presented to the party's national conference.

He said some of the proposals could change "quite a lot" before the conference, but that most of them were in line with thinking among rank-and-file party members.

The paper says that white, coloured and Indian women suffer less of a disadvantage than black women in SA, but that all women suffer from a societal imbalance that can be corrected by temporary affirmative action.
'Hut squads' to crack down on illegal squatter camps

CAPE TOWN — In a major crackdown on illegal squating, government has announced the immediate formation of a countrywide network of "hut squads" and a 24-hour hotline to assist rapid response units to nip squatter settlements in the bud.

Government yesterday also urged people to look out for emerging settlements and "to report any obviously illegal structures immediately to ensure that new squating can be prevented in time".

The latest get-tough approach on the squattting problem will be aimed at squatters and landowners alike.

Announcing the Cape leg of the national initiative, MEC for urbanisation and squatters Rico Theron said: "These uncontrolled illegal activities will no longer be permitted.

"Steps will be taken in future to prevent illegal actions in terms of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act."

The moves were immediately condemned by the ANC, which predicted they would "give further impetus to right-wing thuggery and encourage a national campaign of snipping by racists on the homeless".

ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus said: "We totally reject this kind of action which will have the effect of criminalising citizens who are homeless largely because of the government's apartheid policies and economic mismanagement."

Theron said in his statement yesterday that the rights of landowners had increasingly been violated by squatters.

But he added that "some" landowners, who were responsible for preventing illegal building structures on their land and "obviously or otherwise allowing squatting on their properties."

In order to prevent and counter such trends, government had decided to institute immediately "squating support units" at all provincial regional offices.

These units would provide "advice, support and guidance" to local authorities, land-owners and "anyone else" to counter illegal squating.

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Squatter huts row brews

By PETER DENNEHY and RAMOTENA MABOTE

WESTERN Cape United Civics chairman Mr Wilson Sidina warned provincial MEC Mr Koos Theron yesterday that civic organisations would defend squatters against his “hut squad”, which aims to halt the erection of new shacks.

Meanwhile, three petrol bombs were thrown at the offices of the Hout Bay squatter camp control office at 1.30am on Monday.

Only one caught alight and slightly burned the outside of the office. Two other petrol-filled bottles came through the window but did not explode.

Camp manager Mr E F van Jaarsveld, an official of the Department of Local Government Housing and Works, said his office had to ensure that no unauthorised shacks are added to the 417 existing ones at Imizamo Yethu camp.

His control office is not part of the nationwide “hut squad” network, despite its similar name.

Hout Bay squatter camp committee members Mr Solly Makoba and Mrs Ethelina Nkume said they did not know why the office had been petrol-bombed, or who had done it. Yet they said there was discontent in the camp over the prohibition on new shacks.

Mr Makoba said there seemed to be land available for expansion, and some of the shacks were very crowded, with 10 or more people living in them.

Mr Sidina, who is also a member of the Western Cape Civic Association executive, said Mr Theron might “burn his fingers” if he proceeded with his hut squad plans.

“We cannot stand aloof while he tries to give the right wing the ability to hurt our people. We will defend them with all the means at our disposal. If the authorities want to do something about squatters, they must first consult the relevant people. They are dealing with human beings here, not animals.”

DP MP Mr Jan van Eck said yesterday that instead of returning to the “kragdadige” days of Mr P W Botha, the government should address the causes of illegal squatting — including its own unwillingness to identify suitable housing land in every town and village.
SHACK FIRE: Smoke rises from several burning shacks at the sprawling shantytown at New Cross-roads near Philipp, yesterday afternoon. Members of the Cape Town fire brigade battled for 30 minutes to put out the blaze. No one was injured.

35 die in fires, accidents, assaults

Staff Reporter

THIRTY-FIVE people died violently in the Peninsula at the weekend in shack fires, accidents, assaults and shooting incidents.

Two men died last night when their hut near Koeberg Road, Milnerton, was turned into an inferno by a brazier which fell over.

The blaze spread to four other shacks before it was put out by the Milnerton fire brigade about 9pm.

Another fire swept through several shacks at New Cross-roads yesterday afternoon before staff of the Cape Town Fire Brigade brought the flames under control. No one was injured.

Twelve pedestrians died in road accidents and a young woman was struck and killed by a train.

Eighteen men died in alleged assaults and two died from gunshot wounds in Cape Flats townships.

A man was shot dead near Boys' Town, Nyanga, and another man was found with 16 bullet wounds at Khayelitsha. Police are investigating.

- In the 24-hour unrest report, Sapa reports from Pretoria that police found the bodies of two black men and two black women with bullet wounds and a wounded child at Table Mountain, Maritzburg.

At Sebokeng township, Vereeniging, three policemen were slightly injured when a group of blacks threw stones at the dwelling of a policeman.

An explosive device detonated at Hillview High School, Pretoria, yesterday. No injuries were reported. Police are investigating.

At Seisimville Stadium, in Maokeng township, near Kroonstad, six people were arrested during an illegal gathering.
Four squatters die in
Peninsula shack fires

Staff Reporter

Four people have died in shack fires in the Peninsula since Sunday, police said yesterday.
Spokesman Major Jan Calitz said a hut was destroyed in a fire in Old Crossroads on Sunday afternoon, after a child knocked over a stove. Nobody was hurt.
Two men died in a fire at the Plastic City squatter camp in Milnerton on Sunday night.
Early yesterday, a paraffin stove in a shack in Crossroads was knocked over and set the shack alight. Two people died and another was injured in the fire, Major Calitz said.
HOMELESS . . . At the ruins of their home are Mr Patrick Sotyallike, his wife Thelma and their son Mzovuyo, who was injured in the blaze.

Boland squatter families burnt out

ABOUT 37 squatter families have been left homeless after a devastating fire swept through the Waterworks squatter camp in Grabouw at the weekend.

The 37 shacks were completely destroyed in the fire, which started at 2am on Sunday, said community worker Mr Clinton Bron.

The families were yesterday given shelter in the Gerald Wright Memorial Hall in the Pinewoods township, where the SA Red Cross gave them blankets and food.

"The spot where the shacks stood is a mass of burnt-out wood, iron and mattresses. Some people were able to save the mattresses but they lost everything else," said Mr Bron.

The cause of the fire was not yet known, he said.

Mr Bron said the families were among a group of 200 families who had settled in Grabouw about a year ago. Many were migrant labourers and farm workers who had been evicted from farms in the area.
Hundreds homeless after fires

HUNDREDS of people were left homeless yesterday after arsonists torched 40 shacks in Crossroads, Cape Town, following a clash between rival teenage factions.

In another area of the township, two people were burned to death when several shacks caught fire after a paraffin stove overturned.

Twenty firemen battled for more than three hours to control the fire on Monday night, but the homes of many families were reduced to smoking ruins.

Many people, including small children, were huddled in the open with no shelter when the cold front struck the Peninsula yesterday, bringing with it high winds and rain.

Police said that about 4.40pm on Monday an unidentified man was shot and wounded in the township.

Soon thereafter 150 teenagers from rival groups at Boys Town clashed.

The youths were armed with sticks and sharp weapons. They were dispersed by a police unrest unit.

About 8.30pm the first shacks in the township were set alight.

Residents terrified

Firemen in three fire engines, accompanied by a water tender and a police escort, were sent to the area.

Terrified residents hastily evacuated the area. Soon afterwards about 40 shacks were ablaze.

About 3.40am yesterday firemen were again called out to put out a fire at Boys Town after a shack was torched.

-Sowetan Correspondent.
Shacks destroyed by fire

TWO shacks were destroyed by fire in continuing violence in Peninsula townships, a police spokesman said yesterday.

The spokesman said that about 1am yesterday, a shack in Site B, Khayelitsha, was destroyed when it was petrol-bombed by unknown people.

He said that about 4.10am on Tuesday morning, a shack situated along Klipfontein Road in Old Crossroads was destroyed by fire. It is not known how the fire was caused and no one was injured in any of the incidents.

A taxi was set alight and extensively damaged in Gugulethu, the daily police report said yesterday.

A group of blacks threw stones at buses and set a bus alight at Embalenhe, Langverwacht, the report said.

At Duduza, Nigel, a group of blacks gathered illegally. Police warned the group to disperse. They started throwing stones at members of the police. Police fired a number of rounds, wounding a black man and a woman.

Seven black men were arrested. At Grabouw, Western Cape, 16 people were arrested after refusing to leave the municipal building, where they had gathered for a meeting.

A man was shot dead and two others were wounded when commuters were attacked while boarding a bus at Magongco in Table Mountain near Maritzburg on Monday morning.

Police spokesman Lieutenant Henry Budhram said seven armed men fired at commuters.

A Maritzburg inquest court on Tuesday held an in loco inspection at KwaShange, where the hacked bodies of 19 Inkatha supporters and one ANC member were found after an alleged bus attack in February.

The Black Sash Repression Monitoring Group yesterday reported 31 people killed in political fighting in the Natal Coastal region during the first half of July and alleged allegations of security force provocation in the violence was increasing.

In a bulletin this week, the RRG said: "More allegations of security forces playing a provocative role in the violence have been made by ANC supporters, IFP supporters and unrest monitors."

The bulletin cites several cases where the security forces had been implicated in violence in some way between July 1 and 15 in the Natal Coastal region.

Staff Reporter, Sapa
By Thoraya Pandy

THE chairperson of the Manenberg branch of the Labour Party, Mr Yusuf Sampson, is concerned that the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA) did not consult his party on the decision to grant land in the area to "such a large number" of African squatters. The CPA has allotted an open field bordering Manenberg and Guguletu to squatters presently living at Tambo Square in Guguletu.

"The cultural differences between coloured and Africans are too great for us to work together," said Sampson, who also serves on the Athlone District Management Committee.

The Management Committee circulated a petition objecting to the squatters being given land that Manenberg residents needed for housing.

The petition, with 900 signatures, was sent to the CPA.

Upsetting

Sampson said he met with the Administrator of the Cape, Mr Kobus Meiring, three times to discuss the matter.

"It is upsetting because there are about 2,000 people on a housing waiting list in Manenberg. The land should be used to build houses for them."

A spokesperson for the CPA, Mr Van Heerden Heunis, confirmed that the meetings had taken place and the petition was received. Heunis said the land fell within the legal jurisdiction of the Ikapa Town Council and if any land was vacant after the squatters moved in, it would be made available to the backyard dwellers in Ikapa.

SOUTH interviewed residents living near the site and found that most were in favour of the move.

Mr G Jacobs said: "I have no problem with Africans staying here. Everyone should have a house and live where they feel.

Another resident, Mrs M Menton, said she would have a problem if the squatters lived in shacks and not houses, but in principle had no problem with the move.

Dissatisfaction

Mrs K Adonis, who expressed dissatisfaction with the move, said: "The Tambo Square people should not stay here, facilities should be provided for the people of Manenberg on the land. They can get land somewhere else."

Meanwhile, the Manenberg Civic Association has started an awareness campaign informing and preparing residents in the area for the move.

"The response from the community was relatively positive and most people do not have a problem with the move," a spokesperson said.

The civic association had given its full support to the squatters and would assist them in any way possible.

A creche in Tambo Square which was recently built by the Women's League of Tambo Square and Wynberg will have to be broken down when the squatters are relocated.
THE question of accommodation of squatters in Milnerton remains unanswered after the presentation of a report to interested parties at a closed meeting on Tuesday night.

The report, commissioned by the Milnerton municipality in November last year, investigated 21 possible sites to house squatters now residing on Post Office land near Montague Gardens. Of the possible sites, four were identified by the surveyors as having priority.

The meeting, attended by various affected ratepayers' and industrial associations, the Milnerton Action Group, the Cape Provincial Administration, the Western Cape Regional Service Council, squatter representatives and support groups such as the Development Action Group and the Surplus People Project, was called to present the report's findings and invite written observations.

The ratepayers' associations, including Milnerton, Bothasig, Richwood and Table View, expressed opposition at the meeting to squatters being housed close to established suburbs.

The squatters rejected the report's findings, saying they preferred to stay on the Post Office land because it was close to their workplaces.

The Milnerton municipality has, however, indicated that it is opposed to the squatters staying on the Post Office land, which was declared a temporary transit area in November last year in terms of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act.

Milnerton mayor Mr Willem van Staden said at the meeting that this was done "to bring about some order and control, as well as to enable (the municipality) to provide basic, essential services to the squatter community". Interested parties have till August 26 to make written representations to the municipality on the issue.

JOHANNESBURG. — The African National Congress PWV region said eight people were seriously injured when police opened fire on squatters without warning at Ivory Park near Midrand yesterday.

The area was under siege with police refusing independent people access to the area, the ANC charged in a statement.

Police had earlier reported that five people were injured when they used tear gas, rubber bullets and shotguns to disperse a group of squatters carrying dangerous weapons.

A police spokesman said tear gas and rubber bullets were used on squatters when they threatened Transvaal Provincial Administration officials who were pulling down their shacks. — Sapa
Mbekweni squatters guilty

PAARL. Mbekweni weather after their township squatters, who squatted illegally in the Mbekweni community hall for two months, have been found guilty of trespassing.

On Wednesday in Paarl Magistrate’s Court, 48 adults were each given suspended sentences of a R90 fine or 90 days in prison. — Sapa
Squatters appeal to mayor for help

ANC-SUPPORTING Crossroads squatters who have fallen out with ANC leader Mr Jeffrey Nongwe have appealed to rival leader, mayor Mr Johnson Nxobongwana, to help them find a safer place to live.

The squatters, mostly women, say they have had enough of the violence and want to leave.

They are living with neighbours after their shacks were burnt last week in clashes between two rival ANC factions, one led by Mr Nongwe.

Almost 40 families have been left homeless in the latest spate of violence.

A woman and her child were burnt to death in their shack and two families who shared a shack are homeless after their shack was razed on Wednesday night. Several people have been shot at in recent incidents.

Mr Nxobongwana, whose supporters were defeated in clashes with Mr Nongwe’s supporters in October, welcomed the group and said he had asked the government to build proper houses for the squatters, “as they promised us three years ago”.

A spokesman for the squatter group said circumstances had forced them to seek help from a man who was opposed to them politically.

“We do not know what to do now,” said Crossroads town clerk Mr Ricky Schelhase.

“Crossroads has no space for these people and we are going to negotiate with the Cape Provincial Administration to alleviate the situation.”

Squatters interviewed said they still belonged to the ANC, although they believed that the attacks on them were launched by Mr Nongwe’s supporters.

When asked what the cause of the conflict was, they said they did not know, as they believed Crossroads was ANC territory.

“The people who attack us belong to the ANC and we are also ANC-supporters.”

“We do not know why they are burning our houses,” they said.

Some blamed their leaders in Crossroads for the confusion and claimed that they involved the community in their personal conflicts.

Since their defeat in clashes with Mr Nongwe’s people, Mr Nxobongwana’s supporters have been living at the Driftsand Nature Reserve, near Faure.

Red Cross field-workers distributed blankets to the victims of the violence.
Plans to house Flats homeless

MAJOR plans are on the cards to house the homeless of Crossroads, Langa, Nyanga and Guguletu.

The new move follows a breakthrough agreement between the major players in the townships — the ANC, PAC, Western Cape Civic Association, Hostel Dwellers’ Association, Squatters’ Association and the Ikapa and Crossroads councils — and local authorities.

According to a statement released by the Cape Provincial Administration last night, “all parties have committed themselves to identifying enough suitably-located land to meet the demands of the communities living in identified squatter settlements, in backyards and in hostels”.

All participants in the planning process recognize that conditions in the squatter settlements in and around Crossroads are unacceptable, according to the CPA.

Other parties in the agreement are the city council and the RSC.

Attempts to settle the housing crisis facing township residents have been scuppered in the past as competing factions fought over piecemeal allocations, leading to violence and tension in the townships.

“Once land has been acquired, implementing agencies will be established, with community participation, to undertake detailed planning in each area,” the statement said. “Planning proposals will be implemented to create as many jobs as possible and promote community development.”

Mr lops Theron, MEC for Community Development, Land Development and Co-ordination, said: “The initiative seeks to ensure equitable access to land and services, taking into account competing land claims.”

According to Mr Colin Appleton, a development consultant closely involved in the agreement, there is a need for over 40,000 houses in the areas.

As a first phase, lasting about six months, suitable land will be targeted and agreement will be reached on allocation, after which finance will be sought for implementation.
Mbekweni squatters
Battling for land

By Thamsanqa Panda

Throughout history, land has been a crucial aspect of daily life and a source of livelihood for many. In Mbekweni, a community situated in South Africa, the battle for land has been a historic struggle for the residents. The community, characterized by a mix of informal housing and tense relationships with the local council, has been fighting for its land rights. The residents, predominantly children and women, have been at the forefront of this struggle. They have organized protests and demonstrations, demanding their right to own land and to live in dignity. The community's history is a reflection of the broader struggle against land dispossession and the fight for a better tomorrow.
White families among Millerton squatters
SIMMERING conflict in Cape Town’s Crossroads squatter camp which has left scores of residents homeless, could be perpetrated by a shadowy “killing force”, a top-level ANC commission of inquiry into the violence believes.

“What puzzles people on both sides is that everyone, they embark on a process of reconciliation the violence in the area escalated,” said commission member Mr Sindiswa Mfenyana, after extensive meetings in Crossroads this week.

The commission was appointed by the national executive committee of the ANC to investigate and mediate the conflict in Crossroads.

It consists of Johannesburg ANC officials Mfenyana, Mr Simon Makana, Mr Vincent Diba and Cape Town attorney Mr Essa Moosa.

Opposing

They were sent at the request of the regional executive committee of the ANC in the Western Cape.

Their first task was to call a meeting between the two opposing sides — the Unathi community and Crossroads squatters — to hear what they believed was the cause of the conflict.

“We also helped them reach a preliminary agreement on Sunday to forge trust and confidence between the communities,” Mfenyana said.

The communities agreed to suspend the violence and ensure that Crossroads students attend school regularly as schooling had been disrupted by the conflict.

The youth agreed to call off their campaign against the headmen in the area until the commission completed its work.

Both communities also agreed that youth who had fled the area after fearing for their safety would be allowed to return unharmed.

Shots fired

However, their first agreement was marred later the same day when shots were fired and a house was burnt at Crossroads.

“We came to Cape Town last week thinking that this was a simple problem which could be cleared up easily, but we have since realized that the problem goes much deeper,” he said.

“What we have to determine is the source of the conflict. People are talking about a third force, but we believe it is the first force in this country that is responsible.

He said the commission intended meeting with the police this week to raise the community’s concern that they were “turning a blind eye” to the violence.
Help from an unlikely quarter

CAPE TOWN — In the balmy apartment years they were at the forefront of the battle against illegal squatting, and the sight of their thundering bulldozers spelt disaster for squatter settlements.

But changing times now see them putting their tools of destruction into mothballs and learning to negotiate with the people whose homes it was their job to pull down.

Officially known as the Department of Land Occupation in the Cape Provincial Administration, cynics have already dubbed them "the hut squads," a nickname they reject.

The MEC for local government, Koos Theron, admitted this week that the announcement of "high-powered squadron units" had given the impression of teams of men in combat uniforms armed with bulldozers, trenches and teargas.

"They are skilled negotiators with years of experience who will liaise with squatter communities and local authorities and assist in identifying land for informal housing settlements," he said.

The man who will lead the units in the Western Cape is Henk van Dyk, who has negotiated with squatters at settlements throughout Cape Province.

LINDA GALLOWAY

His attitude is that squatting is illegal, but living in an informal house is not. It's not what you do, it's where you do it that counts.

"These units, at all our regional offices, are a way to increase our ability to manage urbanisation in an orderly way," said Mr Theron.

Where people are squatting — as opposed to living legally in informal settlements — the local authority will be helped to identify suitable land to which services can be provided.

Advice:
"They will give advice where a local authority cannot cope and needs this service.

"Many local authorities have taken the attitude that squatters are not their problem," said Mr Theron.

"We have told them that they have to make provision for informal housing. There are re-straining factors — often the squatters are not happy with the land identified, and established communities object to having informal housing settlements next door to them — the 'not-in-my-backyard' (Nimby) syndrome."

It was also important to take into account how the provision of sewerage and water would slot into bulk services.

He acknowledged that in rural areas there was often bad feeling between local authorities and black people over the provision of land, particularly in areas where land had never been designated for black housing.

"Yes, we know that is the case in some areas. We have had long talks with these councils and I believe we are winning. The fact that we have got some of these authorities to identify possible pieces of land shows that we have made breakthroughs."

The Land Occupation units did not relieve landowners or local authorities of their responsibility not to allow squatting on their property, he said.

"We will definitely act against land owners who start farming with squatters," said Mr Theron.

"They let squatters onto their property, and even charge them to stay there, but when it gets out of hand then suddenly it's our problem."

Mr Van Dyk's department will ultimately have 26 people serving the area east from Cape Point to Plettenberg Bay, west to Port Nolloth and north to Unicol.
AT HOME... Hendrik Wegwarth relaxes outside his shack with friends Mohamed Fredericks and Marge Manewec.

Shackland’s home for white families

CP Correspondent

HENDRIK Johannes Wegwarth is a squatter with a difference...

Wegwarth is from one of the five white families living in a shack settlement on the outskirts of Cape Town’s plush coastal suburb of Milnerton.

Wegwarth moved to the camp with his wife and four children six months ago, from the largely Afrikaans conservative suburb of Goodwood.

It took him two weeks to build his iron and wood shack, a portion of which he rents out to a Muslim family.

"Without work, it is impossible to make ends meet. I lost my job as a guard and dog handler with a security firm because of the economic recession."

"Even before I became unemployed, we were struggling to survive."

He said he got on well with the black residents in the camp.

"Only those who are forced to live in shacks can understand our problems. Instead of evicting us, the council should provide proper services. If people want us to move, then we must be given land and houses. Everyone needs shelter," he said.

The first white to settle in the camp, Steve Schloss, 50, said he was "very happy" there.

Schloss and his "coloured" wife, Wilma, built their shack eight years ago.

Beauty Mafani, a member of the committee which runs the camp, said whites were welcome to live there.

"We don't practice apartheid. Anyone can come and live here," she said.

However, camp residents face an uncertain future.

Milnerton residents, many of whom live in luxury houses, want the camp removed.

The Milnerton municipality has identified four possible sites for relocation.
I'm happy, says white squatter

HENRIETTE GELDENHUYS
Staff Reporter

IN a neat wooden shack in a corner of the Marconi Beam squatter camp in Milnerton lives a white Afrikaner.

Mr Hendrik Johannes Wegewarth, 31, says: "People can say what they want, but it's a free world and I choose to live here. Whites live in squatter camps, but nobody knows about it."

"You get sulky and friendly people like anywhere else, but I'm at ease."

"I'm very happy. I don't pay rent. I live here for free. God never said we should buy land. He said we should rule the land."

"We are all people. One family. With God there is no difference. Why do people fight because of skin colour? All have feelings, no matter what colour we are."

Mr Wegewarth was born in Epping in 1960 and grew up in Cape Town with nine brothers and a sister.

"My family suffered. My parents, who live in Malmesbury, struggled to bring up 11 children."

Mr Wegewarth completed Standard 7 at Westcliff Industrial School and worked as a doghandler, security guard and cabinetmaker. In 1986, he worked on mines in the Transvaal.

But he hasn't had a job for four months.

He built his one-roomed shack himself and moved in with two beds and a television set six months ago.

The TV works off a small generator and he plans to install lights soon.

He wants to put up a small post office for the squatters so that they can correspond with the outside world.

There are about 330 shacks and nearly 2,000 squatters at the Marconi Beam site off Koeberg road.

They have longdrop toilets and a few taps situated at central points.

"Even if you are poor, you can be clean," Mr Wegewarth said as he explained how they washed in a tin bath.

His problems are the same as that of any other squatter and he talks about them passionately.

One of the most immediate facing the Marconi Beam community is the prospect of being moved to another site.

"I don't see why we have to move. We live here near the factories. It's Jerusalem here. We help each other, give each other shelter."

"We spent money on these shacks. We bought the equipment ourselves and built it with our own hands. Who is going to refund us?" he said, his ideas loudly confirmed by six squatting friends who call him "whitey".

He said he knew four white people who lived in mixed families at Marconi Beam.

Mr Shorty Marulanga, squatting committee member for Section 1, said there were about six white people in the camp.

"Anybody is welcome here. We accept blacks, coloureds and whites. They're all the same. We must work together. Apartheid is gone," he said.
TOGETHERNESS: Africano Squatter Mr Hendrik Johannes Wegwagwath surrounded by visiting neighbours.

Inside his wooden shack in the eastern corner of the Aherloni Bearn squatter camp.
Squatter being booted about, says mayor

Staff Reporter

SQUATTERS in Milnerton are being used as the “football of unreason” by ratepayers on the one hand and self-appointed advisers on the other, Milnerton mayor Mr Willem van Staden said.

He said yesterday the municipality recognised that the only way to solve the social problems associated with urbanisation was to identify land for permanent settlement.

“People are quite normally and naturally flocking to metropoles in search of work and a better quality of life,” Mr Van Staden said. The municipality recognised this as a “fact” and was prepared to “face that reality”.

As workers — especially those from the disadvantaged community — needed to be accommodated close to work, the municipality had commissioned a report to identify suitable land to house squatters, and sites at Summer Greens, Frankendal, Du Noon and Annadale had been proposed as alternatives.

It was “not physically possible” to provide permanent services at the present site near Montague Gardens, he said.

“But now the Milnerton municipality finds itself in a catch 22 situation.”

The community was refusing to permit squatters to be housed close to established suburbs, while squatter support groups were encouraging squatters not to move from the present site.

“We are saying: Here is the land, establish yourselves permanently.”
White man is a squatter

UNEMPLOYED and homeless, a 31-year-old white man has built his own wooden shack and moved in among about 2,000 black squatters.

Hendrik Wegewarth has been living for the past six months in his one-room shelter on the sandy soil of the Marconi Beam squatter camp near Milnerton, 15km outside Cape Town.

The shack stands among more than 300 others which have no electricity, sanitation and no rent charges.

The black and coloured community welcomed Wegewarth with open arms.

"We live like a family here. If you have nothing, other people help you. Why do people fight because of skin colour? With God there is no difference," Wegewarth said. - Sapa-AP.
Exigion for Future City Squatters

Disrupting Residences of a

Cape Times, Friday, August 16, 1993

3
Cops Under Fire

In the Peninsula

is a squatter

White man

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SOUTHERN FRIED AUGUST 16 1991

ATTACKS on Police
Township rivals agree to bury hatchet

VUYO BAVUMA
Staff Reporter

KHAYELITSHA and Crossroads town councillors and four ANC-aligned squatter leaders have agreed to bury their differences and work for peace in the townships.

This emerged after an historic four-hour meeting yesterday organised by a three-man ANC commission.

Estranged Crossroads mayor Mr Johnson Nxobongwana, who fled the squatter camp after his overthrow last year, met with his rival, Mr Jeffrey Nongwe, ANC chairman in Crossroads.

Members of Masincedane, the KTC camp committee, mayor of Lindelihle West Mr Malhi Hoza and his councillors spoke with a delegation led by the Brown's Farm ANC chairman, Mr Christopher Toise, who fled Portland Cement squatter camp during the witdoek war in 1986, and Mr M Yamile of Nyanga Bush.

The former bitter rivals also agreed to work towards unity.

They expressed concern about escalating violence in the squatter areas, especially Crossroads and Khayelitsha.

In the past two weeks, more than 10 Crossroads residents have been killed and several homes destroyed in conflict between Ubtuthu ANC members and Mr Nongwe and his supporters.

In Khayelitsha in the past week, six people, including five members of a Site C family, have been killed by gunmen.

The parties vowed to work for peace so that violence could not be manipulated by "third forces" with sinister plans to destroy the black community.

They expressed an urgent need for drastic steps to implement their aims.

Mr Sondiso Mfenyane, a member of the ANC national executive, described the meeting as constructive and said it took place in "good spirit."

"It was heartening to hear old rivals talking to each other like this. We want first to create unity among the squatters and those in the local authorities.

"Our next step is to meet the civic associations," Mr Mfenyane said.

The squatters would meet later today to work out details for unity, he said.
Squatter leaders meet on violence

By PETER DENNEHY

DOZENS of squatter leaders, many of them former bitter enemies, met yesterday to hammer out a solution to the problem of ongoing violence over houses and land in Western Cape townships.

Among the three dozen or so people at the meeting were the mayor of Crossroads, Mr. Johnson Ngxobongwana, rival Crossroads leader Mr. Jeffrey Kongwe, the mayor of Lingelethu West, Mr. Mali Hoxa, Mr. Jerry Tutu of Khayelitsha, Mr. Christopher Toise of Brown's Farm, Mr. Alfred Siphika and Mr. Melford Yamiie.

The meeting, held at the Careers Research and Information Centre (Cric) in Athlone, was hosted by a top-level ANC commission investigating the violence in Crossroads and elsewhere in the Western Cape.

"It was chaired by Mr. Mbenyana Sindiso, who had been assigned the task of calling the meeting by the national executive committee of the ANC. Mr. Vincent Diba, a member of the commission, said the problems that gave rise to the violence emanated from the lack of proper housing.

"Whenever areas of land or houses are provided to the people, ill-feeling and conflict is the result. It comes from some people feeling left out," he explained.

"As a starting point, we felt we must unite all the squatter leaders. They had to come together and talk to each other. With this achieved, the initial problem has been eliminated."

Not all the violence in the townships was related to housing, he said. Some of it had to do with rivalries between taxi organisations.

"We hope to come to some definite agreements. We can't pre-empt these. The meeting will continue," he said after it had been going on for at least a couple of hours.

"By last night the outcome of the meeting, from which the press was excluded, was not known, but it is expected that further meetings of the forum will take place."
Leaders seek cure for violence

By CHRIS BATEMAN

SQUATTER leaders, community councillors and mayors from Khayelitsha and Old Crossroads yesterday agreed in principle to try to find ways to end the violence in their communities.

Concern centred on violence which recently claimed the lives of the wife and four children of an ANC zone leader in Khayelitsha and included petrol bombings and shootings in Old Crossroads.

Brown's Farm leader Mr Christopher Toise, speaking for the squatter delegation, which included the Western Cape United Squatters Association, said the meeting was postponed until today to allow Old Crossroads ANC leader Mr Jeffry Nongwe to attend.

Probe

All other leaders, including Khayelitsha mayor Mr Malis Hiza and refugee Old Crossroads mayor Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana, were present yesterday.

Mr Toise said ANC investigators sent from Johannesburg to probe local township violence — much of it internal fighting between ANC supporters — were instrumental in setting up the meeting.

"While no consensus has yet been reached on how we will end the violence, we hope to make some progress today," Mr Toise said yesterday.
For the sake of our children

Mrs. Aletta Titus and her husband, Sael, were married at Elands Kloof 35 years ago, and they hope to be buried there, alongside their ancestors.

“We must get Elands Kloof back for the sake of our children,” said Mrs. Titus.

“I don’t want to leave them this shack when I die. I want to leave them a proper house and some land the way my parents did.

“When we moved to Allendale we tried our best to keep the traditions of Elands Kloof alive.

“We continued our prayer meetings and taught our children the way our teachers taught us at the school in Elands Kloof.”

Her daughter Mercia, 17, has seen her parents’ former home on Elands Kloof only once, but she is longing to return.

“They talk about Elands Kloof almost every day. I also regard myself as an Elands Kloof woman. I want to go back with my parents and I want to live there until I die,” she said.

“Sael Titus has a reasonably well-paid job with a bus company, but he swears he will walk out the day he can return to Elands Kloof.

“That will be the best thing that could ever happen to me — to work for myself and be my own boss,” Titus said.

“Let’s Titus said she would never, and could never forget Elands Kloof.

“I can go back tomorrow and walk in the dark without tripping once. I know where every stone, every rock is situated.

“It was very difficult to adjust to our new way of life. What was hard for me was having to buy what I needed from shops instead of picking it myself or making it myself.”

Determined to return: Sael and Aletta Titus were born on Elands Kloof.
Squatters: Objection deadline expires

Staff Reporter

The deadline for public objections to proposals by the Milnerton town council to relocate the Marconi Beam squatters to four proposed sites expired yesterday.

However, a final decision on the squatters' future could still take months. A spokesman for the

Milnerton town council said yesterday that Telecom, the owners of the area the squatters currently occupied, had plans to develop the land.

In July this year a public meeting was held in Milnerton and the four relocation areas were proposed.

The areas are in Montagu Gardens, Sanddrift, an area north of Richwood, and an area on the eastern side of Potsdam road on the N7 adjacent to the Visserhoek dumping site.

The Milnerton town clerk, Mr Pieter Gerber, said yesterday that objections received by the council would still have to be evaluated and a final decision could still take some time.

Meanwhile, squatters at the Marconi Beam camp will have to pay R15 a month for services and rent in terms of legislation published in the latest government gazette.

All squatters will have to sign a lease with the council, undertaking to pay a nominal 10c a month in rent and R14.90 for services.
City growing fastest in SA

By ANTHONY JOHNSON
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN has overtaken Dur-
ban as the fastest-growing metro-
politan area in South Africa, a
major Urban Foundation report
released yesterday has found.

Between 7 000 and 10 000 squatters
are streaming into the Cape metropo-
litan area each month, the report on
the national housing crisis estimates.

The influx of newcomers are set-
ting mainly in the Khayelitsha, Cross-
roods, KTC, Nyanga, Noordhoek and
Hout Bay areas.

The total population of the area last
year was estimated at 2 555 000, with a
black population of 570 000.

The Urban Foundation report notes
that the racial composition of the
Cape Town metropolitan area will un-
dergo significant changes in coming
years. While blacks comprised one in
every five members of the area's popu-
lation in 1985, it was projected that
blacks would comprise about one-
third of the total population of about
four million by the year 2010.

It also says that inhabitants of infor-
mal settlements “are mostly long-
standing urban residents forced into
shacks through the shortage of hous-
ing and their own poverty”.

The report notes that considerable
differences exist about the number of
people living in “informal housing”
(shelters constructed with unconven-
tional building materials acquired in-
formally) in the Cape Town area.

Official estimates suggest that the
informal population is between
330 000 and 425 000 people, while un-
official estimates place this figure as
high as 500 000.

The report identifies three domi-
nant categories of free-standing infor-
mal settlements in the Western Cape,
each with differing levels of legal and
security of tenure. These are:

● Legal or “legalized” enclaves with
local authority structures (Khayelit-
sha, Old Crossroads).

● Settlements where occupants
have tacit permission to remain
(Brown’s Farm, Miller’s Camp).

● “Peri-urban” settlements, such as
in Hout Bay and Noordhoek.

On the Cape Flats, Brown’s Farm is
now the fastest-growing region.

The report notes that spontaneous
informal housing is a national pheno-
menon. “Over seven million people
live in informal houses in South Afri-
can urban and metropolitan areas.
This includes slightly over half the
black metropolitan population of the
country.”
Churches seek key to Allendale land argument

Staff Reporters

A WEST Coast Council of Churches delegation is to meet the owner of Elandskloof farm, Mrs Molly Smit, to ask for a permanent tract for the Allendale community.

The move follows two-months’ grace given by the owner of Allendale, Mr Daniel du Plessis, for the community to vacate his farm and seek alternative land.

WCCC field worker Mr Boyce Williams said they were shocked by Mr Du Plessis’s two-month offer as they had asked for “reasonable” time to solve the crisis.

“We are concerned that the community may be evicted even before the two months have expired,” he said. “We will negotiate with Mrs Smit to find land for them.”

The latest eviction order, if put into operation, will be a second in 30 years. They were first evicted in 1980 when the Ned Gerf Kerk sold land they claimed was given to them by Queen Victoria and moved to nearby Allendale.

The squatters believe the NGK should hand back their ancestral ground.

The community is relying on the NGK signature to the Rustenburg Declaration of November 1990, at which the church acknowledged its sin in accepting apartheid and said: “As a first step towards restitution, the church must examine its land ownership and work for the return of land expropriated from re-located communities to its original owners.”

But the Rev T E Lombard of the NGK, who is involved in negotiations at Allendale, said the land belonged to the church.

He said a decision to sell was taken because it was no longer functioning as a mission station and because most of the community were members of the Sendingkerk, the “coloured” wing of the NGK.

The church at the time said the land was being farmed uneconomically, inefficiently and unscientifically. The Department of Coloured Affairs turned down a chance to buy.

Mr Lombard said the church was involved in negotiations at Elandskloof “not out of guilt”, but because there was “a problem which must be solved.”

Dr Allan Boesak, who visited the community as the eviction deadline drew near, said they had been robbed.

“They were independent farmers who have been reduced to abject poverty.”

“They cannot be further subjected to injustice. There is nowhere for them to go.”

“The Land Act has been scrapped, but no provision has been made for people to reclaim their land. I find this situation almost more-iniquitous than before the legislation was scrapped.”
FAMILY IN CRISIS: Mr Hendrik Loots, his wife Sophie and their son Hendrik, 18 months, are happy they have a place to stay.

Homeless happy to shack up at graveyard

VUSI KAMA, Staff Reporter

ABOUT 50 families have built shacks a few metres from a cemetery.

The squatters, many of whom were living in bushes and pipes before they were offered the site by the Paarl municipality, said they did not mind the location.

The area, five hectares along Botha-Daljosafat Road, is big enough for about 500 families.

More homeless people from Paarl East and Mbekweni are expected to join the settlement.

The only white squatter in the group, Mr Hendrik Loots, 37, said he was the first to set up a tent next to the graveyard.

He had read a report in a newspaper inviting destitute people to apply for sites in a “transit” camp.

A former Groote Schuur Hospital porter who now lives on a disability pension, he said his family and their neighbours were happy there was land available for them.

"Before I came here I used to live in water pipes and bushes," he said. "This is a far better place to live."

Asked if he was concerned about living next to a graveyard, he said: "I have lived in a graveyard before. In fact, seven years ago I used to sleep with my wife right next to a grave."

A resident, Mr Klaas Toontjes, has opened a spaza shop and the municipality has provided communal taps and toilets. The squatters, who started moving in at the end of July, pay R5 a week for the services.

Paarl Town Clerk Mr Hennie Liebenberg said his council had approved the building of shacks in the area.

"This is a temporary measure," he said. "These people will be allowed to live there for as long as it takes for us to find suitable sites for them to live permanently."

The accommodation of squatters in the area has been criticised by farmers, businessmen and some residents of nearby Dalvale and Greenhill.

GRAVESIDE HOMES: Some of the shacks in the newly developed transit area for the homeless of Paarl.
By Heather Robertson

IT was like a war zone on Wednesday night at the squatter settlement of Section DM in Khayelitsha, otherwise known as Greenpoint.

Terrified residents packed their furniture on the backs of trucks and dismantled their homes in fear of another attack by rival taxi groups — and, some alleged, the police.

Those residents had no place to go, resigned themselves to yet another night of panic and mayhem.

Over one hundred shacks were razed on Tuesday night by a mob of armed men who raided homes searching for supporters of the Taxi Co-ordinating Committee and the ANC who were involved in the boycott of the Western Cape Black Taxi Association (Weba).

Miss Pamela Rantone who was sitting in her barren shack waiting for transport to leave on Wednesday expressed the sentiments of many residents caught in the crossfire.

"I fear for my life. I cannot stay here," she said.

According to her, the faceless attackers were shouting the names of men in the area to come out of the houses so they could shoot them. But many residents including children became helpless victims.

The Khayelitsha Day Hospital treated two children aged four and seven with burns on their abdomen.

The seven-year-old had also been assaulted.

The Red Cross Children's Hospital admitted a child with burns on Tuesday night. Four people with gunshot wounds were admitted to the Khayelitsha Day Hospital.

One person died there and two corpses were collected from Greenpoint by the CID.

Many women who were staying at the Shawco clinic and at the Khayelitsha Day Hospital on Wednesday were worried because their husbands had disappeared.

They also claimed they had been threatened by the police that more homes would be burnt.

The week of terror began on Sunday night when four shacks in Greenpoint were allegedly burnt by members of Weba.

At 4am on Tuesday morning.

Dr Harrison, who has worked in clinics with workers within the situation in Khayelitsha, labelled the attack as a big setback in the creation of an atmosphere of violence.

Mr Van Eck of the Democratic Party who witnessed the burning said he had no idea who the attackers were.

He could not confirm whether the police were involved.

The taxi war is being used by people who are using the police to stay in power.

The attacks are being used by political leaders of the ANC who are a mixture of taxi drivers.

The attacks are being used by the ANC, as they are a mixture of taxi drivers.

There is a definite attempt to destroy the ANC.
Farm buyers sue seller after squatters move in

JACQUELYN SWARTZ
Staff Reporter

A NOORDHOEK couple who paid nearly R1-million for a farm are suing the former owner after squatters moved next door shortly after they took up residence.

Mr Barry Mayes and his wife Helen claim that Mr Gert Noordhof did not tell them of the situation, in spite of having known of its existence.

The couple say they would have paid far less than R500 000 had they known about the squatters.

The farm consists of a house, outbuildings, stables, a tea-garden, nursery and landscaping business.

The court record shows that Mr Noordhof wrote a letter of objection on June 5 last year to the company investigating the squatter situation. He wrote of his five daughters who could not go out after dark because of the squatter presence.

However, he sold the property to the Mayes family the following month, telling them only that there were a few "bergies" in the area.

Yesterday Advocate B. Doctor SC, for the couple, told the court of a letter to the Noordhof residents pointing out eight spots in the area where the squatters could be moved.

The court heard that following this, Mr Noordhof had called a meeting of about 70 people to discuss the problem. A short time later he sold the property.
Squatters a ‘deterrent to land buyers’

By BRONWYN DAVIDS

NOORDHOEK Valley residents who own smallholdings near a squatter site cannot get buyers for their properties, a smallholdings specialist in the area told the Supreme Court yesterday.

Estate agent Mr Jörg Teske was giving evidence in the damages claim brought by Mr Barry Mayes and Mrs Helen Mayes against Mr Gert (Gerry) Noordhof, who allegedly sold them the Noordhof Nursery and smallholding for R350 000 without telling them there were squatters living in the nearby bushes.

The Mayes want the purchase price reduced to R400 000. They have already paid R750 000.

They are claiming R200 000 from Mr Noordhof and want to be released from repaying him a R150 000 loan.

Evidence was heard supporting the Mayes’ claim that before he sold the property to them on June 2 last year Mr Noordhof was aware of a government plan to allocate 600 sites to squatters on 30 to 40 hectares in the valley.

Mr Teske said Mr Mayes had asked him to put the nursery and smallholding on the market in April this year.

A written offer of R300 000 had been made by a prospective buyer, who was not prepared to increase the offer, as he was aware of the squatters living in the area, said Mr Teske.

Since the first half of 1990 fewer than five properties had been sold, and all the landowners living near the squatter site had placed their properties on Mr Teske’s books.

‘Every weekend I advertise ‘Smallholdings galore’ in the newspapers.

‘People phone in, and I point out there are squatters, and when they hear this they are not even interested in seeing the properties. Lots of people want to sell,’ said Mr Teske.

Town planner Mr John Ducksbury, of the consultants Van der Merwe, Ducksbury and Dunn, said the Cape Provincial Council had, given them one-and-a-half months to do a study identifying a suitable site for squatters in Noordhoek Valley.

A letter asking for suggestions had been sent to residents in the area, but not to Mr Noordhof.

Mr Noordhof had telephoned him the day before he sold the property to the Mayes to find out if land had been found for the squatters and ask for a list of people to whom letters had been sent, said Mr Ducksbury.

The hearing continues today.

Mr Justice J Fagan is presiding. Mr P van Riek, instructed by Stela Katz and associates, is representing the Mayes. Mr F J Bird SC and Mr W H Van der Stel, instructed by Steenekamp, Boyes and Kleine, appear for Mr Noordhof.
Couple sue over farm next to squatter camp

JACQUELYN SWARTZ
Staff Reporter

A NOORDHOEK couple who unwittingly bought a farm next to a proposed squatter camp are having difficulty selling it now the squatters have moved in, the Supreme Court has been told.

Mr Barry Mayes and his wife, Helen, are suing the previous owner, Mr Gert Noordhof, who they claim did not tell them about the squatters when they bought the property.

They claim they would have paid far less than R$50 000 had they known.

Soon after the Mayes family moved to the farm, an area next door was allocated to squatters.

Yesterday an estate agent acting for the Mayeses, Mr Jörg Teske, told the court he had been trying to sell the property for a while.

He had taken people to see it and had an offer of R$50 000, but this was not acceptable.

Town and regional planner Mr John Duxberry gave evidence about his role in the selection of a site for the squatters.

He told the court he had a telephone call from Mr Noordhof in June last year asking if a site had been selected.

Mr Duxberry said he had been conducting a study into a suitable site and had sent letters to people telling them of the investigation.

Mr Noordhof, who did not get a letter, asked Mr Duxberry for a list of all people who had been sent letters.

(Proceeding)
Squatter threats to neighbours

By BRONWYN DAVIDS

NOORDHOEK squatters threatened to burn the Noordhoek nursery complex after the owners opened a shop in competition with squatter shops, the Supreme Court heard yesterday.

This was said by Ms Shelley Knox, the daughter of Mrs Helen Mayes and Mr Barry Mayes who are claiming that the purchasing price of the R650 000 Noordhoek nursery complex bought from Mr Geert (Gerry) Noordhoek be dropped to R400 000 because he had been aware that the government was to settle squatters next to the complex.

Yesterday the court also went on an inspection-in-loci of the property.

Ms Knox, who lives on the property, said the family is plagued with begging, squatter drunks and people disturbing them at all hours of the night to ask for use of the phone.

To make money and to help the squatters they opened a shop on the property for squatter use, in competition with six squatter shops on Site A.

They had 15 burglaries between February this year and June, when they were forced to close.

"When people came to buy, other squatters would threaten and manhandle them. They threatened to burn down our property and we were so scared to leave for two weeks," said Ms Knox.

Under cross-examination she said she had received verbal threats on three or four occasions when threats were made to burn down the property.

The hearing continues today.

COURT INSPECTION ... A Supreme Court inspection-in-loci of the Site Five squatter camp in Noordhoek which is about 300 metres away from the Noordhoek nursery complex. BELOW: The family - Miss Caryn Mayes, Mr Barry Mayes, Mrs Helen-Mayes and Miss Shelley Knox lead the way down Chasmay Avenue to the squatter camp.

Pictures: ALAN TAYLOR
Bought gun because of the squatters, woman

JACQUELYN SWARTZ
Staff Reporter

A WOMAN who moved to a Noordhoek farm just before squatters settled next door told the Supreme Court she had to acquire a handgun because of threats.

Miss Shelley Knox was giving evidence yesterday in a civil trial in which her parents, Mr Barry Mayes and Mrs Helen Mayes, claim they bought the farm for R150,000 without knowing about the squatter situation.

They claim they would have paid much less had the previous owner, Mr Bert Northbo, told them about the squatters.

Miss Knox said she had been threatened by squatters and had to acquire a gun. She and her sister, who were often alone, also kept a shotgun in the house.

She told the court that a shop on the farm had to be closed.

Miss Knox said the squatter camp, which had since been declared a township, was affecting business at her restaurant on the farm.

They had been trying to draw people to the restaurant in spite of drunkenness and begging in the area.

Noise from the camp kept them awake at night and this was especially bad at weekends.

Squatters frequently called, wanting to use their telephone, and there was an incident of a woman nearly giving birth to a baby outside the restaurant.

She said the family had moved to the farm in search of a "good quality of life".

An inspection in loco of the farm and squatter camp was held yesterday.
A JOHANNESBURG woman who bought a R350 000 Noordhoek nursery complex told the Supreme Court yesterday that she would not have signed the purchasing agreement if she had known of a plan to move squatters to an adjacent site.

Mrs Helen Mayes and her husband Mr. Barry Mayes are claiming about R350 000 in damages against Mr. Geert (Gerry) Noordhof.

Mrs Mayes said that if she had known of the letter circulated by town-planning consultants concerning the designation of land in Noordhoek Valley for squatters, she would not have entered into the agreement to buy.
Farm-seller: I knew of squatter problem

JACQUELYN SWARTZ, Staff Reporter

COUNSEL for Mr. Gert Noordhof, being sued for selling his Noordhoek farm under false pretences, has admitted he knew about a squatter problem in the area.

Following this disclosure in the Supreme Court, Cape Town, the applicants, Mr. Barry Mayes and his wife Helen, were given leave by the court to change certain facts in their claim.

The couple claim they would not have bought the farm for R50,000 had they known there was a possibility squatters would move in next door, which subsequently happened.

Mr. Noordhof admitted yesterday for the first time knowing of the existence of the squatters, although a letter showing otherwise had previously been handed to the court.

He sold the farm to the Mayes in July last year, but in June had sent a letter to a company investigating the squatter situation.

... In it he said he objected "most strongly" to the settlement of squatters on a permanent basis anywhere in the Noordhoek valley.

"I have five daughters and my home is surrounded by squatter-infected bush. I cannot go out after dark for fear of their lives," the letter reads.

In its evidence yesterday Mrs. Mayes told the court they had plans for the farm and had wanted to build lodges and chalets.

She said that before they had decided to buy the property they had heard of a squatter problem in Hout Bay, but had been assured by Mr. Noordhof there were "only burgies" in Noordhoek.

He had told them the land now occupied by the squatters was to be developed for higher-income groups.
Meiring sought on squatting policy

Municipal Reporter

URGENT attempts will be made by the Cape Town City Council to meet Administrator Mr Kobus Meiring to formulate a regional policy on squatting, the executive committee resolved.

The council decided in June to push for a regional policy on the issue and wrote to Mr Meiring on July 1 asking for an interview.

According to a council report, Mr Meiring had not replied to the request.

The June policy statement on squatting by the then Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, Mr Hermus Kriel, and an August provincial circular, only repeated previous policy statements, the report said.

Efforts to arrange a meeting with the Administrator would continue, it said.
SHANTIES and shacks will have to form a cornerstone of housing policy in a new South Africa, and the country can no longer view such housing as a temporary phase of development near our cities.

Recognising this, housing subsidies should be applied to support informal housing, said Mr Graham Lawrence, town clerk of the Lingelethu West Town Council which controls Khayelitsha.

Mr Lawrence was speaking at a conference on "informal settlement — the engineer’s challenge and responsibilities" held at UCT.

Mr Lawrence said that poverty and "low levels of living in informal housing" are a fact of life for three-quarters of the world’s population.

Less than 10 years ago informal housing conjured up images of slums, with anti-social and unsanitary conditions.

"They were seen as dens of iniquity, to be avoided, discouraged and destroyed at all costs" said Mr Lawrence.

WILLIAM BARKER
Business Staff

Since 1985, however, there had been a dramatic change in the official attitude, and there was now consensus as to the inevitability — if not desirability — of informal settlements. What was needed, said Mr Lawrence, were administrative changes designed to cope with the phenomenon.

Such changes would include:

■ Frameworks which offered people a range of choices and encouraged them to help themselves;

■ A role in the decision-making processes that affected their lives; and

■ Access to land.

Difficulties arose when governments built homes for the poor.

"Without a clear understanding of the needs of the poor, building standards have been too high, and too expensive, and this has added to an already difficult situation" said Mr Lawrence.

It was estimated that more than seven million South Africans lived this way, and the number was increasing, said Mr Lawrence. Misconceptions also hampered acceptance.

The black sociologist Adebola Salau had said that overcrowding is regarded by most Africans as a "rationally acceptable cultural practice", and privacy was not a major concern.

"Resources directed to solve the problem of overcrowding in Africa may be tantamount to waste," said Mr Lawrence.

By allowing the poor access to resources, the State would actually be encouraging and supporting housing action taken by the poor themselves.

"Informal housing should be acknowledged as a basis for a practical housing policy — in short a recognition of the poor’s ingenious answer to their housing needs."
Immovable, so plans for squatters change

Municipal Reporter

CHANGES have had to be made to Muizenberg’s structural plan because the Vrygrond squatters won’t move.

“A road had to be moved, and some small changes were made,” said director of planning Mr. Rod Young yesterday.

The squatters have lived on Vrygrond in Muizenberg East since the 1940s.

Mr. Young said that after a local structure plan for Muizenberg East had been approved by the council last year, it became clear that the squatters were not going to move to Lavender Hill, to the north.

The plan was then amended, “very minor amendments were needed,” Mr. Young said. “We have defined the perimeter of the Vrygrond settlement and we have accommodated them in a rectangular section at top left-hand corner of the area.”

Most of the 200ha area of Muizenberg East — between Prince George Drive, the proposed False Bay Arterial, Baden Powell Drive and the Cape Flats Sewage Works — will have middle-class housing built on it. Planners anticipate that it will eventually accommodate 20,000 people, with a high school and three primary schools.
Limited land, so much need

There is only so much vacant land left in the Peninsula, and looking to the north beyond Milnerton and the Tygerberg is the only answer for Cape Town's future low-cost housing needs.

This, in essence, is the government's argument. There are, after all, several immutable constraints. Apart from the existing urban fabric, there is sea, mountains, and rich, important agricultural land with environmentally sensitive areas which need protection.

That leaves the northern areas and the West Coast strip.

This argument is contested by some who have called for a process of "in-filling" — using up the quite considerable patches of vacant land dotted throughout the Peninsula.

Even they concede, though, that after the burgeoning settlements of Mitchell's Plain, Khayelitsha and Blue Downs, the focus has now shifted to the north.

It was sharpened during the week when Minister of Environment Affairs, Mr Louis Pienaar, told a meeting in Cape Town on environmental concerns in False Bay that there was simply not enough room on the Cape Flats to accommodate further urbanisation on the scale of the development of Khayelitsha.

He said the government was now assessing sites in areas to the north of Milnerton, Kraaifontein and Fisantekraal.

While denying later that he had meant there would be a settlement of the magnitude of Khayelitsha in the northern areas, that is the impression that has stuck in many people's minds.

In law townships as separate dormitory areas for black people are a thing of the past. The crumbling of apartheid has — or should have — erased the concept from planners' thinking.

An Urban Foundation report indicated only last month that between 7,000 and 10,000 new squatters were streaming into the Cape metropolitan area each month, settling mainly in the Khayelitsha, Crossroads, KTC, Nyanga, Noordhoek and Hout Bay areas.

With the Western Cape's relatively rosy economic outlook — as well as the attraction of a generally more peaceful milieu — compared to the violence and turmoil on the Witwatersrand — Cape Town will continue to be a magnet.

The initial challenge for planners in Maitland and Milnerton, is to find suitable and acceptable land for the relocation of squatters whose presence in the area has generated considerable controversy.

Various sites have been mooted, but locals are still discussing them and the cabinet has yet to approve any scheme.

It is thought that in the longer term the rail link between Atlantis and Cape Town would form the spine of some new settlements to meet the needs of the thousands of blacks still streaming into the Peninsula.

Presently, the line carries virtually only goods traffic, but Spoornet has expressed interest in establishing a passenger service to and from Atlantis.

This option actually highlights one of two critical aspects of planning large-scale residential development, particularly for people with little or no money.

One of the most acute lessons to be learned from apartheid planning is the social and economic cost of siting low-cost housing far from jobs and efficient transport routes.

And in the post Group Areas setting, there is another consideration.

There is no legal determination now to force blacks — or any other race and income group — to live in one place and not another.

In this context planning takes on a different meaning.
SQUATTER SQUALOR: What Mr. Gert Kotze promised would not happen in his constituency.
Meiring calls for land for squatters

Municipal Reporter

THE Administrator of the Cape, Mr Kobus Meiring, appealed yesterday to every local authority to set aside land for squatters without delay.

He also appealed to everyone to show tolerance in granting living space to the poorer groups "and to play an active part in social programmes with a view to their upliftment".

Suitable, easily accessible land should be earmarked for the poorest communities before undesirable squatting took place, he said.

One-sided legal action was not the solution to the squatter problem, Mr Meiring said.

If settled communities remained intolerant of the presence of poorer communities this would only promote polarisation and antagonism.

This in turn would provoke lawlessness and militant behaviour by squatters.

Many law-abiding people in squatter communities sought only reasonable opportunities to earn a decent living.

Mr Meiring suggested that these be helped to reduce the influence of "bad elements" within their own communities.

"A partnership between existing residents, squatter communities and the authorities will have to be established for this purpose," he said.

Only when poor people's need for living space had been handled with understanding would it become possible to start nation-building.

Mr Meiring said squatters should be prosecuted only when they "infringe upon other people's property rights and impose upon the existing structure, developed and natural environment when an alternative suitable site for settlement is available close by".

The government had accepted the responsibility — within its available finances — of providing rudimentary serviced plots to the poorest members of the community in an orderly way.
Ambulance Park shacks demolished

SIX squatter shacks were demolished at the Ambulance Park squatter area near Somerset West by municipal workers on Thursday, it was learnt yesterday.

About 50 policemen watched the demolition, during which two people were arrested.

Somerset West town clerk Mr GJ Human said yesterday that the demolition was carried out in terms of a court order granted to the municipality on September 19.

"The area is a protected nature area and is not suitable for residential purposes," he said.

The families and their possessions were moved to the Waterkloof transit camp. Another 71 families were still illegally squatting in the area and a decision on their fate was expected soon, he said.

Somerset West police station commander Captain J N Lourens said one man was arrested for assaulting a policeman and a second for obstructing police.
Fate of 72 squatters at Paarl uncertain

By CHRIS BATEMAN

The fate of 72 Mbekweni squatters, living in overcrowded and "unsani-
tary" conditions outside Paarl, remained uncertain yesterday amid al-
egations of corruption among the recently deposed local civic associa-
tion executive.

The group is sharing a large shack erected with Operation Hunger aid
alongside the United Methodist Church in Mbekweni after a string of
evictions and demolitions of their
shacks.

Veteran Mbekweni campaigner Ms
Lydia Mdindi said yesterday that the
old civic association executive (a new
executive was elected last week)
"squandered" Red Cross blankets,
food and R10,000 intended for the
group.

Both Mr Marius Steyn, Mbekweni's
town clerk, and Mr Isaac Vusani
Hendry, newly elected treasurer of
the Mbekweni civic, were unable to
say yesterday what the fate of the 72
would be.

Mr Mzwandile Petros, a member of
both the old and new civic executive,
said Ms Mdindi worked with Mr
Steyn's council and "these are just
allegations".
Guard Flatten Squatter Camp

Where to Now? Their former homes are now part of a wasteland: dashed Pelican Park.

By Harry Ludlum
All I have left now is my ID book.
Blaze at squatter camp

By EUGENE ABRAHAMS

MORE than 15 shacks in a Cape Town squatter camp were burnt to the ground yesterday afternoon.

It took 17 members of the Mitchell's Plain Fire Brigade, using five fire engines and two water tenders, three hours to extinguish the huge blaze at the KTC squatter camp.

About 200 men, women and children hurled verbal abuse at members of the riot police unit who arrived on the scene to protect the firemen.

The fire is believed to have been started by arsonists as, earlier in the day, there was trouble near the Nyanga taxi terminus.

Large numbers of heavily armed men were seen congregating in the area after a minibus taxi of the Laguna Taxi Association was attacked and burnt nearby.

The taxi terminus has been the scene of recent violent clashes between members of the rival Laguna and Webta taxi associations.
Nurse opens her home to squatters.

Staff Reporter.

AN NURSING sister who took in a group of squatters after their shacks were demolished is appealing to "all Christians" for help.

About 12 shacks were torn down in Pelican Park, near Lotus River.

About 30 people and two children slept in the field while the woman, who lives in a three-bedroom house, took in about 14 people.

The woman, who asked not to be named, has appealed for clothes, food, and even caravans.

She plans to set these up in her yard to house the people.

An appeal for bibles has also been made.

Anyone who wants to help can phone 737261 or go to 17 Bosnok Avenue, Lotus River.

A spokesman for the House of Delegates — which was responsible for the demolitions — said the site was needed for a new township. The people had been given ample notice and had offered no resistance when the shacks were torn down.

"We don't just go in and do nasty things like that," he said.
White man too poor to build shack

A WHITE man, has been elected chairman of a squatter camp committee in Paarl. Hendrik Loots cannot afford to build a shack, and is living in a tent at the camp with his "coloured" wife. A low-budget shack cost R260 to build and a better one R400.

CP Reporters and Sapa
Caught in crossfire

"All I have is a bag of clothing — even my money was burned."

ALL IS LOST: On Tuesday night Mrs Nosisile Simsi lost all her possessions, except a bag of clothing, when her house and three taxis were torched.

"We have nothing left... all is lost," a woman lamented. She was one of over 2,000 Khayelitsha residents left homeless by the taxi war.

"All I have is a bag of clothing given to me, even my money was burned," said Mrs Nosisile Simsi after her husband's three taxis and their shack were burnt.

Mrs Nosi Simsi (right) was hit with a rifle butt in her stomach a week before her daughter was born. After her house was destroyed she spent the night cowering in bushes with her seven-year-old child.

On Tuesday, 12 shacks and five taxis were torched in Site B. Langa taxi driver Mr David Mbenza, top right, whose taxi was destroyed, said he did not know how he was going to support his family.

By F

This war is carried over to the taxi industry or the taxi war was the City Council of Cape Town's area of contention...
PAARL SHACK PEOPLE ELECT HOMELESS HENDRIK AS CHIEF TROUBLESHOOTER

White man heads camp of squatters

A FORMER hospital worker has been elected the first white leader of a squatter camp in the country. "I was a policeman," said Mr. Loots. "I was a police officer." He said he was not interested in politics, he just wanted to be in charge. The camp has been in existence for two years and it has been difficult to get things done, he said.

Floodlights are being installed along the perimeter of the camp to provide security. The camp is located on a hill overlooking the river and it is a 15-minute drive from the city center. The camp has a population of about 500 people and it is home to a variety of occupations, including construction workers, gardeners, and cleaners.

Mr. Loots said he was not interested in politics. "I'm just a man," he said. "I'm not interested in politics. I just want to get things done." He said he was not interested in the job and he would rather be in charge of the camp.

The camp is located on a hill overlooking the river and it is a 15-minute drive from the city center. The camp has a population of about 500 people and it is home to a variety of occupations, including construction workers, gardeners, and cleaners.

If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact me.

Kurt Smart

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In December 1991, Mr. Loots was elected as the leader of the camp. He was a former police officer and he was keen to get things done. The camp was a community of about 500 people, including construction workers, gardeners, and cleaners.

Mr. Loots said he was not interested in politics. "I'm just a man," he said. "I'm not interested in politics. I just want to get things done." He said he was not interested in the job and he would rather be in charge of the camp.

The camp is located on a hill overlooking the river and it is a 15-minute drive from the city center. The camp has a population of about 500 people and it is home to a variety of occupations, including construction workers, gardeners, and cleaners.

If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact me.

Kurt Smart
Group to ease squatter tension

Municipal Reporter 207.

A "potentially volatile situation" between Vrygrond squatters and Marina da Gama residents could be defused by a steering committee convened by Mr. Jannie Momberg MP, says an executive committee report tabled in the council.

Mrs. Isobel Edelstein, who owns property in Marina da Gama, said she was disappointed in the residents' association's views on the squatters.

She hoped Mr. Momberg's committee would promote "cross-cultural tolerance."

Vrygrond was sparse, clean and not overcrowded, she said.

The report said lack of council funds had prevented upgrading the area.

Statistics had been exaggerated and misinterpreted.

A city planner's report said there were claims the settlement had grown by 300 percent, which was not true.

Mrs. Joye Gibbs said Vrygrond was the first example in the Peninsula of a conflict between squatters and higher-income residents.
Vanessa builds a life out of sticks, struggle

ROWS of neatly arranged bamboo sticks form the “ceiling” of the shack Vanessa Mathews calls home.

She and Clifford Anthony, father of her two children, clambered high into the Hout Bay mountains to cut them as they were determined to build a sturdy shack to provide the security they fought so hard for.

After years of intense struggle, in which many lost their houses and some their lives, they and 500 other Hout Bay squatter families won the right to build homes the authorities could no longer tear down.

Strech

Ms Mathews is a popular leader of this predominantly black settlement — no small feat for this slightly built 31-year-old coloured woman who does not speak an African language.

The eldest of a family of five, she was born in Lavender Hill, where, at 19, she took responsibility for her sisters and brother when her mother died.

When she joined Clifford in the squatter camp in 1965, she knew about struggling for survival in a council flat and making her meagre wage as a clothing worker stretch to feed the family. But she knew little or nothing about building a house, finding water to live and battling to prevent that house from being ripped down.

But her experience in the civic movement in Lavender Hill in the early 80s, her efforts to help organise her fellow clothing workers and her involvement in campaigns of the United Democratic Front, stood her in good stead when love took her from her childhood home.

As the police and local authorities waged war on the families of Disa River — the oldest of five Hout Bay squatter settlements — Vanessa became the natural leader as she shared her skills with the community and won their respect.

She taught people how to make placards, with which they lined the scenic drive leading to the fishing village, organised candle vigils and took endless legal advice before their final victory — a permanent site for people from five camps.

But she says it is the skills the community taught her that have become her focus. Clifford and his family have been squatters for more than 30 years, says Vanessa. Through constant harassment, they have become experts at reconstructing demolished shacks and Vanessa had to learn to collect any piece of wood she could find — old or new — to build the shelter.

Before they moved from Disa River to this permanent site, they built a home with steps leading down into different rooms and a barrel fixed with a tap for water.

The ritual of boiling water and sterilising containers has become part of her life — points of hygiene not yet observed by all in the camp.

Toilets had to be shifted when the holes overflowed. Holes were closed but the health hazards grew.

Share

Appointed by the local committee as community worker, Vanessa is now making it a priority to ensure that skills and knowledge about house construction and health are spread.

While drawing on outside experience, they are trying to use the skills within the community and share them with the rest.

Her work has earned her the privilege of travelling to Canada last year at the invitation of Oxfam to tell the story of this life which has become her own.

It is Vanessa and others like her who will find — old or new — to build the shelter.

'Jungle law' forced on squatter women

WOMEN in the Hout Bay squatter settlement are battling against the “law of the jungle” imposed by their men.

Granted permanent residency on a new site, they are now spared the harassment of the authorities — but the infidelities and violence of their men have left many in despair.

Local squatter leader, Ms Mathews, who has herself been a victim of abuse, says, “I have seen many women and children are being battered by the men in the camp.

"When frustration arises — there is no food, no money — the men also feel pain," said Ms Mathews. "They feel guilty, hurt and embarrassed and sometimes this makes them beat up their women very badly.”

Ms Mathews believes the problem is economic and cultural.

But there are also men who are “very jealous or very lazy”.

"They expect a woman to cook, clean the house, work and still take care of the children," said Ms Mathews.

If the women don’t manage, the men beat them.

Women who want to get away have nowhere to go with their children. They end up leaving to stay with friends temporarily and then inevitably coming back.

Some who are faced with the infidelity of their men can only fight them back by insisting that they can’t bring them back to their homes, “I told him he mustn’t bring her into my house,” said Ms Laetitia Barrette, 25. "I won’t allow that.

That women have to fight for such basic decency is indicative of the serious disadvantages they suffer.

The discussion around the equality of women taking place within the broad democratic movement is far removed from the realities faced by the women of Hout Bay.
Squatter rules provoke anger

ANGRY squatters in Beacon Bay, East London, say a proposed list of rules for squatters — including outlawing fortune telling and making offensive smells — was "tempting the community to respond violently".

The draft regulations were spelled out in a six-page proposal by the Amatola Regional Services Council (ARSC), say nobody may live in the transit area without a permit and anybody could be required to move from there.

Sweeping clauses like no "causing of unpleasant offensive odour" and "illegal squatter" are included alongside the同城 Act — Elnews.
Hout Bay squatter camp is expected to expand

THE Hout Bay squatter camp Imizamo Yethu (Our Efforts) is expected to expand, according to the Regional Services Council and the Cape Provincial Administration.

This is clear from a report to the Western Cape RSC about the provision of water to the Hout Bay and Noordhoek squatter camps, which comprise 430 and 130 dwellings respectively.

Officials were less than forthcoming when asked yesterday in which direction the Hout Bay camp might expand.

An RSC spokesman said the CPA was handling the planning.

Mr Andries Visser of the CPA said he could not comment at this stage as "the whole thing is still in the planning phase".

However, rumours circulating among worried Hout Bay property owners that the informal housing might eventually spread across the Main Road were shot down yesterday by ratepayers' representatives.

Professor Bob Millar, the ratepayers' association chairman, said this was highly unlikely.

"The 3 000 or so residents of the camp are on about eight or 10 hectares of land," he said. "Eighteen hectares in that area have been designated for the camp."
CP no to R6-m for black squatters

The Conservative Party said this week there was no political motive for the Uitenhage City Council to reject a R6-million housing project for the city's black homeless.

The Independent Development Trust (IDT) had made available the money for the development of 802 plots at Kabah-Langa, but earlier this week, the CP-dominated council rejected the plan to house 5,000 people.

Former mayor Nic Claassen said the CP did not want squatters in the area, but wanted "decent houses" for everybody.
White gets squatter vote

THE white man who set up home at a transit squatter camp on the outskirts of Paarl is doing well.

Hendrik Loots, 37, who formerly lived in Port Elizabeth and the Transvaal, was recently elected leader of the squatters and remains the first white leader of a squatter camp in South Africa.

When Loots and his "coloured" wife Sophi arrived at the camp about four months ago they were forced to live in a tent but he has since built his own makeshift home on a site made available by the Paarl municipality.

Paarl East housing manager James Solomon, under whose jurisdiction the squatter camp falls, has nothing but praise for Loots, who remains the only white squatter at the camp.

"Loots has been accepted by everybody in the camp and when there are complaints they come to see him," said Solomon.

Solomon said he and Loots discuss problems where necessary and Loots returns to the squatter camp to "put matters right" with the community.

"The temporary transit squatters camp proved a big success," Solomon said.

Loots and his wife were married in December 1986 and have a 22-month-old son, Hendrik.
Use cable funds for squatters — PAC

By Sabata Ngcai

THE massive R50 million earmarked for building a cableway could be better used to build houses for thousands of people squatting in shacks in the Western Cape townships, says the PAC.

PAC foreign affairs secretary Patricia de Lille said: "The cableway is unnecessary as the African people won’t be able to afford to use it. "The money would have been better used to build houses to accommodate squatters. We have an influx of tens of thousands of people coming to Cape Town without accommodation," De Lille said.

The Waterfront Signal Hill Cableway project would build a multi-million rand cableway estimated to create between 100 and 200 jobs, countered the planners.

The cableway, expected to be operational in 1993, would have to carry about 500 000 passengers each year to be profitable, they said.

Project consultant Mr Ken Sturgeon said it was the responsibility of the government to build houses for squatters. He said the cableway project "was only designed to create job opportunities for the people".

"We are not a government. It is the duty of the government to look after its citizens. The project would create more jobs for the people, so that those who have no accommodation could be able to buy houses.

"The cableway is necessary so that we can attract visitors from overseas. "They will spend money that will boost the country’s economy and create more job opportunities."

He said a restaurant and an education centre, among other things, would be built to provide employment opportunities.

ANC regional secretary Mr Tony Yengeni said his organisation was approached prior to the planning of the project. "We expressed concern at the project as it won’t be accessible to the lower income groups because of its expected high prices. We are also concerned whether there would be any involvement of black staff in the project."
neighbouring shacks in Brown's Farm squatter camp...

The邯郸 and his wife Nokhanyisi outside their 1½-roomed, double-story mansion which towers over

DREAM HOME.

Morning's first light,"...
"We are spending Christmas in the house of our dreams," they said.

**Handsome**

Although the Maki home has astounded the Brown's Farm community, it is not the only mansion-shack in Cape Town.

Mrs Nolwethu Mazele, 25, a shebeen owner in Site C, Khayelitsha, is building a wooden, eight-roomed double-storeyed house for her business and her family.

"I had hoped to have my new home ready by Christmas, but the house-warming has been postponed until early next year," Mrs Mazele said with a broad smile.

Mr George Mamile, 35, and his wife Patience, 31, also have a handsome double-storeyed home in Site C.

The exterior is in face-brick and wood. The second floor has finely-carved facades and a balcony that juts over a front path lined with flowers. The cozy interior is panelled in wood and Mr Mamile is laying chic ceramic tiles on the concrete floors.

Mr Mamile, who is unemployed, says the house has cost about R15,000 but he estimates he will need another R5,000 to complete the tiling and the balcony. He has extended his home for his growing family and doubts he will move.

"It's the home we want and have worked for," he says. "It's a great place to live."
SQUATTERS - CAPE

1992
Thirty shacks destroyed

A fire at Khayelitsha, near Cape Town, yesterday morning destroyed 30 squatter dwellings. No one was injured.

A police spokesman said the fire was apparently started when a number of tyres were set alight.

Stones were also thrown at police vehicles, he said.

Sapa.
AN angry crowd drove
a stake into the head
of a man who had al-
legedly stabbed a
Hout Bay squatter
camp leader to death
on New Year's Day.
Police spokesman
Major Gys Boonzaier
said the 30-year-old
man, who may not be
named, was taken to
hospital after a police
patrol found a group
of about 300 people
about to necklace a
man at the Mandela
Park squatter camp.
The attack, about
6.15am, was apparent-
ly in revenge for the
murder of a 28-year-
old community leader
known as "Solly", who
was stabbed to death
earlier that morning.
He said no arrests
had yet been made. A
hospital spokesman
said the injured man
was in a stable condi-
tion.

Two hostels in
Brunville township
near Mooi River in
Natal were attacked
by alleged ANC sup-
porters early yester-
day, the IFP charged.

Mr Kim Hodgson,
head of the Inkatha
Institute's violence
study unit, said that in
one attack, a hostel
was slightly damaged
by a grenade blast. In
the other, another
hostel was damaged
when eight "hostel
units" were burnt
down.

No one was hurt in
the attacks, he said.

A petrol-bomb
blast destroyed the
home of ANC member
Mr Proo Bazoo in Sebo-
keng on the Vaal Tri-
angle late on Tuesday
night, but no one was
hurt, a community of-
official said on Wednes-
day.

Mr Tlaks Banda, head of the Vaal Civic
Association's vio-
ience-monitoring
committee, said dam-
age was estimated
at about R7 000.
He said the motive
for the attack was un-
known. — Staff Re-
porter and Sapa
Rent first, toilets later

THE town council of East London's Duncan Village won’t use its R4.3-million set aside for improving the township's toilets unless residents promise to pay rent and service charges.

The chief executive officer for the Gomo Town Committee, Petrus van Zyl Cronje, confirmed this week that the Cape Provincial Administration had set aside R4.3-million as a loan for improving sewerage and sanitation facilities in the township.

But the money could only be taken up if there was “firm acceptance” from the Duncan Village Residents' Association (DVRA) that service charges would be paid.

Cronje said the DVRA should encourage residents to stop the six-year old rent boycott and pay for their services.

The money that we were promised will be given out, provided people, including shack-dwellers, pay their rents,” Cronje said.

The DVRA said it would have to consult its members before responding to the ultimatum.

However, a statement issued on behalf of the organisation by Dr. Trudy Thomas, a member of the DVRA's health committee, criticised the council for not consulting the DVRA about the use of the money.

This was despite the fact that it was through the DVRA's efforts in highlighting the toilet problem that the funds were obtained, Thomas said.

Cronje said in response: “It is strange for Dr. Thomas to say they were not consulted as we held numerous meetings with the DVRA during the last few months about getting funds from the government.” — Elnets
Squatter camp smashed after night-time raid.
SQUATTERS at Hout Bay and Noordhoek are not yet paying for their water and other municipal services, but they will soon be required to pay their way.

"Negotiations are underway concerning the future rates at which the people will be required to pay for their water and other municipal services," said Mr. Koos Theron, a member of the Cape Provincial executive committee.

"We have a commitment from the communities that they will pay, but I cannot give you the amounts at this stage."

By late last year there were 430 dwellings at Imizamo Yethu encampment at Hout Bay, and 130 at "Site Five" in Noordhoek.
Rightists claim security force ‘infiltration’

By Claire Keeton

The national chairperson of the Republican Unity Movement of South Africa (Rumosa), Mr Clive Derby-Lewis, has accused the security forces of trying to discredit the movement.

Derby-Lewis, a Conservative Party MP, denied Rumosa had burnt down a squatter shack on the outskirts of East London last week and left Rumosa pamphlets with the occupants.

Two white men in balaclavas poured petrol on the occupants of the shack and then set the structure alight.

“Somebody from the security forces has infiltrated the organisation and planted this information to discredit Rumosa,” Derby-Lewis claimed.

Border police liaison officer, Major Christo Louw, and an officer from Group Eight of the SADF, declined to comment on Derby-Lewis’ allegations.

A caller claiming to represent the group telephoned an East London newspaper to admit responsibility.

The caller said the shack had been burned down “as a warning that no squatting will be tolerated on white land.”

Derby-Lewis said one of the pamphlets left at the scene was an authentic Rumosa publication.

The pamphlet opposed negotiations. However, Rumosa knew nothing of the second pamphlet telling squatters to move or be forced to move.

He said the Rumosa East London branch chairman told him that on the night of the attack, the movement had discussed whether to distribute the anti-negotiations pamphlet.

“It was the ideal opportunity. (The security forces) knew it was going to be distributed and thought it would prove Rumosa is involved,” said Derby-Lewis.

However no organisation would leave pamphlets at the scene of an attack, he said.

Derby-Lewis was surprised there were no more incidents like this perpetrated, since the squatters were behaving illegally.

He said the government’s failure to act against squatting was criminal.

Rumosa is an anti-ANC movement with branches in East London, Port Alfred/Bathurst and Grahamstown.

It recently placed an advertisement in a Grahamstown paper to recruit those “of settler stock who are interested in becoming involved in joint action to ensure the promotion and protection of their Western culture.”

—ELNEWS
Sit-in protest in mayor's garden

THE MAYOR of East London, Mr Carl Burger, received a surprise visit at his home last Friday night.

Homeless Orange Grove squatters and representatives of 13 organisations staged a sit-in in Burger's garden to protest against the demolition of their shacks by the municipality.

The demolition came days after a right-wing arson attack destroyed a shack.

Burger, who was attending a meeting in Bisho, was not present, and many protesters refused to leave until his return at midnight.

However, negotiations between the group, the police, and the town clerk, Mr Les Kumm, secured the 11 squatters temporary shelter for the night and a meeting with Burger.

The squatters are demanding the right to remain behind Orange Grove Hotel until they find an alternative site, the return of their confiscated building materials and steps to protect them from further right-wing attacks.

—ECNA
Masked men destroy shacks

ABOUT 10 men, wearing balaclavas to mask their identities and believed to be municipal workers, yesterday destroyed 17 shacks at the Waterworks squatting camp near Grabouw.

Under protection from police, the men removed the building materials in a truck with covered number plates, said a spokesman for the Grabouw Advice Office.

The demolition was ordered by the Grabouw municipality as the uncompleted structures "had presented a serious health hazard".

The spokesman said the squatters rebuilt their shacks on the site after their old shacks were destroyed by fire in July last year.

Grabouw town clerk Mr V Dudley, who refused to speak to the Cape Times, told Sapa the men and the truck's number plates were masked. "It is a normal procedure which I'm sure is also used else-

CT 23/1/92 (207)
where," he said.

He declined to comment further, saying he could not answer "unreasonable questions".

Mr Dudley said the demolitions were cleared with the residents of the squatting camp. "The land planning forum is negotiating a resettlement programme and 108 sites with basic services were made available for informal housing in the past year," he said. — Staff Reporter and Sapa
Milnerton bid on squatters

Staff Reporter CT 12/92

MILNERTON Town Council has decided to ask "all interested parties" to submit their views and opinions about the squatter issue to the council in writing.

It hopes to resolve "the squatter issue" in Milnerton this year, it said. Senior counsel had advised it to do so to ensure that it was acting in a lawful and fair way.

No restrictions will be imposed on the content of the representations. They must be received at the office of the town clerk in Fienaar Road by March 2.

The background is that the Milnerton council was persuaded by government agencies to provide a temporary site for squatters at the Marconi Beam site.

Since then, the council had been asked to consider "whether there is any suitable area in Milnerton or surrounds for the permanent accommodation of those concerned."
Squatters made life 'intolerable'

Supreme Court Reporter

LIFE at a "tranquil" Noordhoek smallholding became "intolerable" because of the disturbance created by squatters, the Supreme Court heard.

This was alleged yesterday in the damages claim by a Johannesburg couple against Mr Geert Noordhoef who, they say, sold them Noordhoef nursery without warning them of the squatter community nearby.

Mr Barry Mayes and his wife Helen are claiming R200 000 from Mr Noordhoef and a release from all outstanding payments on the property which they bought for R50 000 in 1990.

Before the sale the Mayes' were advised to ask if there were problems in Noordhoek, the court heard.

Mr Noordhoef told the Mayes' there were "a few Bergies" who lived in the bush.

Mr Noordhoef told the couple he had not had a day's trouble and the area was so safe he did not lock the doors, the court was told.
Cops, squatters clash: 8 hurt

Staff Reporter

EIGHT people were injured when police fired birdshot at Grabouw squatters who had erected burning barricades while their shacks were being demolished by balaclava-clad municipal policemen yesterday.

A local attorney said the number plates of the municipal vehicles had been concealed with masking tape.

A police spokeswoman said birdshot had been fired at the squatters when they stoned police who were trying to remove the barricades in the road. Six people were arrested.

The spokesman said Grabouw municipal workers were sent to demolish unoccupied structures and police accompanied them.

Late last night, violence continued in the squatter camp with patrolling police vans firing off shots, according to local residents.

Another woman was injured, residents said, but this could not be confirmed last night.

Local ANC spokesman Mr Willy Hofmeier said last night it was an outrage that police should be protecting people disguised with balaclavas driving unidentifiable vehicles.

He said the squatters had been trying to negotiate with the local town council about their homes and had requested a meeting yesterday.
Stop, stop!

Stop!
Row over hooded demolition squad

EXCLUSIVE: The pictures that shocked South Africa - Hooded workers demolish squatter shanties in Grassy Road, Parow.
R550 000 award in squatter wrangle

JOHN VILJOEN
Supreme Court Reporter

MR Geert Noordhof has been ordered to pay a Johannesburg couple damages of R200 000 for acting "dishonestly and fraudulently" in not telling them squatters were to be settled next to the Noordhoek property he sold them for R550 000.

In the Supreme Court yesterday Mr Justice J J Fagan also freed Mr Barry Mayes and his wife Helen from paying R350 000 they still owe for the property and ordered Mr Noordhof to pay costs on the punitive attorney-and-client scale.

The Mayeses bought the property, a tea-room, nursery and a 39 percent share in a landscaping business in June 1990.

They sold it this week for R400 000. A squatter settlement was established on land next door in 1990.

Mr Noordhof assured the Mayeses there was no squatter problem before they agreed to the sale, the judge said.

In October 1990 he told the Mayeses there had been a squatter problem for only six weeks, but he had objected to the proposed settlement in a letter written in June.

He had told the Mayeses in October: "Nobody knows what is going to happen," the judge said.

This could not possibly have been true as he knew the site bordering his land was the preferred site for the Noordhoek squatter settlement.

He was not being truthful when he told the Mayeses he did not perceive the squatter settlement as a threat. He was in fact most concerned about the squatters coming close to his property, the judge said.

Mr Noordhof, who did not testify, had produced no evidence to counter the inference that he purposely withheld this information from the Mayeses, the judge said.

Mrs Mayes, who told the court how life on the small-holding became intolerable and of "very bad experiences" with noise, litter, drugs and faction fighting, was an excellent witness, the judge said.

She was intelligent and displayed an excellent memory. There was no reason to doubt any of her evidence, the judge said.

Mr Noordhof allowed the Mayeses to sign the sale agreement under the impression there was no squatter problem.

Mr Justice Fagan said Mr Noordhof's conduct had been deceitful and fraudulent. For this reason he was to pay all the Mayeses costs.
Cape Klan-style clear-up criticised

CAPE TOWN — Ku Klux Klan-style disguises worn by Grabouw municipal officials during a controversial squatter clearing operation this week were condemned yesterday as "outrageous, bizarre and out of step with Government reforms".

A row over the municipality's approach was sparked by pictures on TV on Wednesday of hooded officials demolishing shacks and carting building material away in disguised trucks.

Eight people were wounded.

DP MP Jan van Eck said:
"Men wearing pillow cases over their heads looking like the Ku Klux Klan presented a most bizarre and frightening picture. The situation is outrageous."

Town clerk V Dudley said municipal workers wore pillow slips on their heads, and the name of the private contractor was painted out on trucks used to remove building material, to protect identities and prevent intimidation. — Sapa.
This week's United Bank Report revealed that the bank's profits have increased significantly compared to last year. The report highlighted several key areas of growth, including

- **New Account Openings:** The number of new accounts opened has more than doubled, driven by increased marketing efforts and improved customer service.
- **Loan Growth:** The portfolio of loans has expanded, reflecting a broader customer base and more aggressive lending strategies.
- **Investment Performance:** The bank's investment in the stock market has yielded impressive returns, contributing to overall profitability.
- **Cost Efficiency:** Efforts to reduce operational costs have been successful, allowing for additional investment in customer-facing initiatives.

Going forward, the bank aims to continue focusing on these areas to maintain its growth trajectory. Additional strategies include enhancing digital offerings and expanding into new geographic markets.
Squatter dispute:

R550 000 awarded

By RONNIE MORRIS
Supreme Court Reporter

A NOORDHOEK man who sold his property to a Johannesburg couple for R550 000 without telling them that a squatter settlement would be located next to it was ordered in the Supreme Court yesterday to pay them damages of R550 000.

In addition Mr Justice J J Fagan ordered Mr Geert Noordhof to pay all the legal costs of Mr Barry Mayes and his wife Helen, including the costs of two counsel, on an attorney-and-client scale, and the qualifying costs of their expert witness.

The attorney-and-client costs order is a punitive order and a mark of the court's displeasure at the conduct of litigation.

At the conclusion of his 2½-hour judgment Mr Justice Fagan found that Mr Noordhof had "designedly withheld" information from the Mayes that a squatter settlement would be established on land next to the property.

The Mayes had agreed to pay R750 000 for the property and R200 000 for an adjoining nursery business and tearoom.

Mr Justice Fagan criticised aspects of Mr Noordhof's evidence and said he had "not been truthful in many respects".

In the absence of any evidence by Mr Noordhof the court found as a fact that he had been "obviously dishonest and fraudulent" when he "designedly withheld" information from the Mayes.

Mr Peter van Bilk, instructed by Brian Kahn, attorney, of Johannesburg, appeared for the Mayes. Mr Noordhof conducted his own case.
Council to keep squatter shelters

By BRENT SIMONS

THE Grabouw municipality yesterday refused to return squatters’ building materials confiscated on Wednesday when hooded men hired by the municipality demolished squatter shelters.

According to town clerk Mr Validor Dudley, the Ku Klux Klan-style disguises were not worn by municipality workers but by employees of a hired private company.

The Minister of Law and Order, Mr Hernus Kriel, was “unavailable” yesterday for a meeting with the ANC on alleged police involvement in the Grabouw issue.

Grabouw Community Organisation (Graco) chairman Mr Dennis Martinus said the municipality had until 5pm yesterday to return the building materials or face court action.

Mr Dudley said he had received a letter from an attorney representing the squatters but denied it contained the 5pm deadline. He said the municipality would not destroy any more shacks at least until next Wednesday’s Grabouw land planning meeting.

Western Cape ANC leader Dr Allan Boesak, who has met the Grabouw squatter community and the municipality, described charges that the demolition men appeared to be protected by police as an “outrage”.

A two-year-old boy was shot in the face during clashes between police and squatters on Wednesday.

Ramotola Mbele reports that the Western Cape United Squatters Association (Wecusa) said yesterday that the CPA had broken an agreement made with Wecusa on January 15 that any decision on squatter settlements in the Western Cape would be discussed between the two groups.

The CPA could not be reached for comment.
Judgment sets stage for action

Staff Reporter

OWNERS of properties next to squatter settlements have been provided with an important precedent by this week's judgment in the Noordhoek squatter case.

The court held that the buyer of a property whose value was seriously diminished by the subsequent arrival of squatters was entitled to compensation from the seller if the seller had withheld knowledge of the eventuality of the squatter settlement.

Property lawyer Mr Frank Mugleston said that the seller was obliged to inform a prospective buyer of any defects on the property.

In the judgment involving the Noordhoek nursery, Mr Justice J J Fagan had "extended the concept of a defect to encompass the area around the property", he said.

On the strength of this precedent, Mr Mugleston felt that sellers should be wary of not disclosing all information to prospective buyers.

"The precedent could also be applicable in circumstances where sellers withheld information on the likelihood of changes to neighbouring properties.

A city property expert said if a property owner allowed uncontrolled squatters on his land but disregarded the value of adjoining properties, he could be liable for legal action.

A number of estate agencies canvassed said it was the duty of both the agent and the seller to inform buyers of any defects attached to a property and there was every possibility of their being sued if they failed to do so.

Hout Bay residents next to the squatter settlement are hoping that the case will also form a precedent that will entitle them to seek state compensation for their diminished property values.

A Penzance Estate house-owner said she had been advised by her lawyer to delay legal action "until such time as a precedent had been set".

"Now I feel I have the right to claim for loss of property value," she said.

Ms Anne Miller, a branch manager for Pam Golding Properties, said property values in the whole of Penzance Estate had been affected and houses on the borderline could "only be sold at bargain prices".

A property expert who spoke to the Cape Times this week said described Mr Justice Fagan's judgment as "precedent-setting", said sellers were obliged to disclose any defect they were aware of to a potential buyer.

There were two approaches to this issue adopted by the courts, he said.

In the first approach, adopted by the Transvaal Provincial Division of the Supreme Court, all you had to do to get around the "velotoots" clause was to prove that a defect existed and that the seller knew about it but failed to disclose it.

However, the second approach, adopted in an Appellate Division judgment last year in the case of Van der Merwe vs Mead, 1991 (2) SA Law Report, the court held that one must prove the defect existed, that the seller knew about it and had then "designated concealed" it.
Grabouw squatter shacks burnt

HENRIETTE GELDENHUYS
and CLIVE SAWYER
Weekend Argus Reporters

More than 60 shacks at the Waterworks squatter camp in Grabouw — where shacks were demolished by “Ku Khuz Khan” masked men this week — were destroyed when a fire broke out in the camp early today.

No-one was injured in the blaze and the cause of the fire has not been established.

The squatters are to take legal action against the Grabouw municipality after building materials removed in the demolition were not returned by 5 pm yesterday.

Mr Gary Jansen, the legal representative of the Grabouw community organisation (Graco), said he would apply for the immediate recovery of the structures.

He said the municipality had ignored an ultimatum to return the demolished shacks by 5 pm or face legal action.

Graco president Mr Dennis Marinus said the structures were still lying on municipal ground where they had been dumped.

The Grabouw municipality was not available for comment last night.

According to Graco committee member Mr John Michaels, the organisation’s cashier, Mr Japhtha Fortuin, was arrested last night after he asked police what they were doing at the Graco offices in the Gerald Wright Memorial Hall, opposite the squatter camp.

According to eyewitnesses, Mr Fortuin said: “Why are you watching us? Why don’t you just leave?” before being arrested and allegedly beaten by police.

Police liaison officer Captain Gys Boozaaier confirmed his arrest, but said it was for drunk and disorderly behaviour.

Mr Michaels said the police searched their cash register before arresting Mr Fortuin.

He said police were parked outside their offices for more than three hours last night.

Police also patrolled the squatter camp, but community leaders have urged squatters to remain calm under all circumstances, said Mr Michaels.

Hundreds of squatters marched in Ou Kaapse Weg and erected burning barricades in the road on Wednesday and Thursday in protest against the demolitions.

The Provincial Administration was monitoring the controversy, said CPA director general Mr Herbert Beukes.

However, the CPA would not step in unless at the request of the Grabouw Town Council or one of the other parties involved.
50 shacks burnt in squatter camp

By KURT SWART

FIFTY Grabouw squatter shacks were destroyed yesterday in a fire which broke out in the early hours of the morning — three days after Ku Klux Klan-style hooded men hired by the Grabouw Municipality broke down shacks under the protection of heavily armed police.

But yesterday a police spokesman said fool play was not suspected and the fire was "allegedly caused by a lamp or a candle falling".

Although no one was injured in the fire, a two-year-old boy, Ryan de Klerk, was shot in the face on Wednesday during clashes between police and angry squatters.

Police spokesman Major Gys Boonzaier said no one was hurt in the fire or when squatters stoned a police vehicle guarding firemen.

A journalist at the scene said shocked squatters had stood at the edge of the camp while others searched the smouldering ruins for their possessions.

Mr Clinton Bronn of the ANC's Grabouw Interim Committee said 28 shacks were destroyed, leaving 86 adults and 88 children homeless.

"It's difficult to ascertain the cause of the fire. Police told us a shack belonging to a mentally disturbed person had caught alight and the fire had spread.

"Last night (Friday) there was a huge police presence. Riot police were stationed around the camp and private cars rode through it. It was very intimidating. They acted as if they owned the place."

Mr Bronn said he had been told Red Cross workers would visit the camp this weekend, bringing blankets and food parcels.

The ANC was "outraged" at the "vigilante actions" of the Grabouw Municipality.
The Chambers of the Copper Mine

Spatter camp. The copperheads from the Copper-Mine, who had destroyed the homes of the copper workers, now occupied the homes of the copper workers...

Copper workers build again

After the blaze... Copper workers built homes by themselves, after the destruction of about 50 homes at the Waterworks squat camp.

Copper workers again build... Copper workers built homes again after the destruction of about 50 homes at the Waterworks squat camp.

The chambers of the Copper Mine.
House loss 'due to squatters'

A NOORDHOEK home valued at "between R400 000 and R500 000" in January last year has been sold for R250 000, and the former owners say squatters have made that difference.

Mrs Caro Smij, formerly of Guinea Fowl cottage 11 Chasney Road, said yesterday that she and her husband Mike had decided to leave because they had been worried for their children.

Their squatter neighbours had not been malicious, but they just had a very different culture, she said.

"For example, they might mark some happy occasion with dancing and the drums go on until 4am.

--It is just a situation of poor people having a good time, with values different from ours."

Meetings had been held with the squatters at which they had been asked to tone down the drumming, and this did help for a while, Mrs Smij said.

She worried about her husband, who is a doctor, being called on to tend to an injured person and then being stabbed if the person died. She had heard that had happened in a township once.

It was not possible to get comments from the squatters yesterday.
Grabouw talks over squatters

Staff Reporter

THE Grabouw Forum, which consists of the municipality and community organisations, will meet tomorrow to discuss the move of about 40 families from the Waterworks squatter camp to the nearby Rooibokke camp.

The discussions follow last week's demolition of shacks by hooded men from the municipality and the weekend fire that destroyed 55 shacks. Community leader Mr Dinga Marinu said building material confiscated by the municipality last week would be returned soon.
Squatter talks today

DOR HOLIDAY

Squatter housing problems bid to solve

307

12/2/92

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For the first time the city settlement says it is ready to move in and build shelters for the squatters in the municipality with the city administration. The settlement leaders have been in consultation with the city officials to discuss the housing problems. A meeting is scheduled to be held in the city's housing office to discuss the issue.

Dor Holiday

Squatter housing problems bid to solve

307

12/2/92

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Building Materials: Mr John

Situated in a multi-family yard, the form down shades which are brick. The orientation points to the remaining site, the waterworks camp at the Leeky of the Groveway community. The pool is in good order, but the trees looking down from the water's edge are not yet ready to die. The pool is in good order, but the trees looking down from the water's edge are not yet ready to die.

Single TP: Residents use the only

Down at the waterworks camp in Groveway at the weekend.

Rising From The Ashes: Men, women and children are hard at work rebuilding snacks that were burnt.
Grabouw moves on
housing homeless

Staff Reporter

A COMMITTEE has been formed in Grabouw to find land for housing homeless families.

Municipal and Provincial Administration officials and representatives of community organisations met yesterday to discuss squatting problems that have led to friction in the town.

Chairman Dr B Ten Brink said the site chosen would have to house the 60 families who lost their shacks in a fire at the weekend and were living in Red Cross tents.

"Families from other camps where suitable services cannot be provided will also be housed in the new camp," he said.

Grabouw Community Organisation (Graco) president Mr Dennis Marinus said his organisation felt positive about the outcome of the meeting.

"We want to avoid conflict and find a peaceful solution to this problem."

A memorandum on a Graco resolution demanding the immediate resignation of town clerk Mr Valder Dudley and chief health inspector Mr H J Greeff was handed out at the meeting.
Grabouw squatting agreement

Staff Reporter

GRABOUW community organisations and authorities have agreed to upgrade two squatter camps and identify land for further settlement.

The decisions follow a "positive" meeting yesterday between the municipality, the Cape Provincial Administration and 10 community organisations in the Grabouw Land Forum.

Squatter shacks were demolished in the town last week by hooded men employed by the town council.

Grabouw Community Organisation (Gracow) chairman Mr Denis Marinu said land would be identified to rehouse the families who had lost their homes in a fire in the Water Works squatter camp last week.

Also, the Gaffney and Busiel Street camps would be upgraded, and services provided.
By Quentin Wilson

TENSIONS running high in Grabouw

The 2nd anniversary of the 1989 squatter camp battle in Grabouw has not brought any improvement in the relationship between the local community and the government. The police are still repressive, and the squatters are determined to stay, despite the recent evictions.

The police have been accused of using excessive force during the eviction of the Waterworks Squatter Camp last week. The police have denied these allegations, saying they were acting in self-defense.

The situation in Grabouw is tense, with tensions running high between the police and the squatters. The government has been criticized for its inaction in addressing the housing crisis in the area.

DESTITUTE: Waterworks Squatter Camp resident Mr. Koen Tja and his son Ziko in their emergency tent surrounded by the only possessions they have left after Saturday's blaze — a stove, two pots and a few plates.

A worker at the Grabouw Advice Office, Mr. Clinton Baren, said it was unlikely anyone from the squatter camp would have gone to the police to give information as the police are often seen as the enemy.

"It is against the law to remove anyone from a squatter camp without due process," Baren said. "We still believe that a peaceful solution to the housing crisis is possible."

The police have been accused of using excessive force during the eviction of the Waterworks Squatter Camp last week. The police have denied these allegations, saying they were acting in self-defense.

The situation in Grabouw is tense, with tensions running high between the police and the squatters. The government has been criticized for its inaction in addressing the housing crisis in the area.

DESTITUTE: Waterworks Squatter Camp resident Mr. Koen Tja and his son Ziko in their emergency tent surrounded by the only possessions they have left after Saturday's blaze — a stove, two pots and a few plates.
How mean is our valley of squatters and scarce bonds

PROPERTY-OWNERS in the picturesque Noordhoek Valley believe their homesteads have become "worthless" since a small group of squatters were settled there by the Cape Provincial Administration.

The squatters live in about 50 shacks in the heart of the rural suburb of Sunnysdale in the valley. The CPA says there are roughly 720 squatters on Site 5 and that it is to prepare about 450 erven, but ratepayers fear there are plans to settle up to 5,000 people there.

The Supreme Court recently ordered Mr. Bert Noordhoek to pay damages of R500,000 rand to a Johannesburg couple to whom he had sold his property for R950,000, because he had not told them the squatter settlement would be located adjacent to it.

Barry and Helen Hayes said they would not have bought the property had they known about the squatters. Estate agents have listed several cases of properties being sold for far less than their market value because of the squatters' presence.

By DIANA STREAK

Noordhoek estate agent Mr. Rini Finlay said any squatter camp in any area would devalue nearby property because of the problems associated with unemployment.

Mrs. Margaret Coeholl, who bought the Noordhoek Nursery from the Mayes for R400,000, feels she got a bargain. She intends establishing a kennel and cattery on the property, which already has a busy nursery and restaurant.

The only drawback is that she has struggled to get a bond. "I have been turned down by 12 banks and building societies."

Estate Agent Ms. Sheila Robinson agreed that it was difficult to get bonds for the area. "If you do manage to find a buyer, the building society won't give a bond."

The presence of the squatters doesn't bother Mrs. Coeholl.

"At night you hear the drums, singing and chanting, but I quite like the noise — it's quite magical.

"If you're positive about things, you don't invite disaster."

Mrs. Coeholl's immediate neighbour, Mr. Ian Myers, does not feel threatened, but is concerned about the devaluation of his R500,000 property.

"We put all our life savings into this for retirement," he said.

"I feel resentment, not at the squatters but at the authorities, because they just dumped them here with no employment."

The secretary of the Sunnysdale Ratepayers Association, Mr. Digby Marshall, is also angry at the authorities — for their lack of foresight.

"We're not objecting to people being settled in the area, but provision must be made. We object to the ad hoc basis."

"Everyone is entitled to be there. We can't say they can't live there because they don't work here or because they're unemployed."

There was a desperate need for cheap housing to bridge the gap between squatter camps and expensive established areas, Mr. Marshall said.
Growing Pains

30.4.12

The problem of the people who were destroyed by the moral fire of the law.
KTC burns as taxi warriors battle

By CHIARA CARTER

KTC squatter settlement was tense this weekend as residents braced themselves for further conflict following a renewed outbreak of the Cape taxi war.

Residents have been erecting barricades to protect themselves from warring taxi groups, Legunya and Webta.

The funeral of a Legunya driver takes place at KTC this weekend and the community fears an attack from Webta drivers who are based at the nearby Nyanga terminus.

Yesterday morning police prevented a convoy of Webta taxis from entering the area.

According to the Black Sash, two minibuses were set ablaze in the area and another car was found riddled with bullets yesterday morning.

The Black Sash is investigating the alleged abduction of two brothers – Xolile and Lindile Madonela – from a shop opposite the Nyanga terminus.

Late on Friday afternoon the burning body of an unknown man was found in a KTC street next to his blazing taxi.

Meanwhile, three men – including MK western Cape deputy commander Mxolisi Phethane and Sgt John Tutuse Ngubeni – accused of murdering a Webta driver last September, were this week referred to the Supreme Court for trial.
Police complicity in taxi war

21/12 - 27/12/92

KTC squatter camp is ablaze - but the war 'is a political war - not one over taxi routes and ranks'.

By GAYE DAVIS

BARIRADES put up by residents sealed off access to Cape Town's KTC squatter settlement this week, as armed men patrolled the area with sticks, pangas and iron piping, mounting a round-the-clock watch against incursions into the area by members of the Western Cape Black Taxi Association (Webta).

Their action followed weekend attacks in which taxis belonging to members of the rival faction, Lagunya Taxi Association, were torched within KTC's maze of shacks, residents shot at and shackst set alight.

The KTC settlement abuts the Nyanga terminus, flashpoint in the long-running taxi war. Within KTC, the general perception is that the police are on Webta's side, based on witnesses' accounts of police vehicles accompanying Webta members during attacks and allegations that police themselves were seen setting shacks alight.

KTC resident Eliot Bolani, a member of the African National Congress' Peace Committee, and his son, Sandle, were wounded early last Saturday morning by shots fired by a man Bolani says was white: "He had his hands and forearms were bare". Other residents told of seeing police vans and Casspirs accompanying Webta minibuses entering KTC.

Police denial of complicity or partiality notwithstanding, KTC residents believe that Webta members' grievances are being exploited by the police in an attempt to break the community.

"This war is a political war - not one over taxi routes and ranks," said KTC leader Gladstone Ntomo. "KTC is an ANC and South African Communist Party stronghold, and this is an attempt to destroy the area.

"We believe the government has got an opportunity with the taxi war to create a bigger violence - and we're expecting more violence if our leaders can't act swiftly."

Surrounding areas are being drawn into the conflict: residents of the nearby Nyanga hostel marched on the local police station this week to demand the removal of Webta members from the Nyanga terminus in the interests of peace. Later, hostages were torcht and residents are convinced the arsonists were Webta members.

Residents are also outraged at what they believe is a reluctance on the part of the police to investigate allegations. They cite the case of KTC teenagers, Xolile and Lindile Madonela, whom witnesses saw being dragged into a taxi at the Nyanga terminus last Friday, allegedly by Webta drivers. The boys are still missing: police have now launched an investigation into their disappearance.

This week the Joint Forum on Policing, consisting of a range of organisations monitoring the role of police in township violence, said trust levels between the police and the KTC community were at "an all time low."

"The community's belief that the police are involved in attacks has eroded trust in the police being a source of protection or justice, perceived police partiality aggravates the conflict and the result is that the community takes the law into its own hands," the forum said.

Regular meetings between senior police officers and the forum ended last November because former security branch members were included in the special unit set up in terms of the National Peace Accord to investigate complaints against police.

Monitoring and legal groups feel unable to encourage witnesses to present statements or affidavits to the very people who have intimidated them over the years," the forum said. "Our repeated attempts to get this problem addressed by national police structures have met with no response."

Members of the forum include representatives of the ANC, ANC Women's League, Black Sash, Centre for Intergroup Studies, Democratic Party, Human Rights Commission, Lawyers for Human Rights, Idasa, Cape Town's mayor and deputy mayor and the Unrest Monitoring Action Committee.

A total of 83 affidavits, so far collected by the forum in relation to taxi-war violence cited police complicity or inaction at the time of attacks. Unrest Monitoring Action Committee coordinator Stef Snel said: "Of the 83 affidavits, 61 allege some form of unacceptable police behaviour - and all of them concern the riot police."

There was a gap between assurances given at senior police level and what happened on the ground, said forum member Susan Collins, of the Centre for Intergroup Studies.

"This isn't a police-bashing exercise. It's a demand for accountability and proper policing in areas of the police code of conduct as set down by the National Peace Accord. It's a demand for policing that allows trust to build so that the community feels it has recourse to the policing that is its right in terms of the law of the land and ultimately, it's a demand that the community have the policing that ensures that it can live in peace, in its own place."

Police liaison officer in the Western Cape Colonel Anthony Dewhurst said that after meeting KTC ANC branch members and community representatives, police had undertaken to inform the leaders of both Webta and Lagunya of the KTC community's demands: that unless the violence stopped, the terminus would be a no-go area for all taxis.

"We also informed them that all complaints in connection with police actions would be fully investigated," Dewhurst said. "They led us to understand that from now on they would work with the police to try and resolve the conflict."

He said the SAP's Complaints Investigation Unit comprised members drawn from all branches of the force and not only Crime Investigation Services (formerly the security branch).

"They are investigating and making regular progress reports to the police general designated in terms of the National Peace Accord. The system is functioning," he said.

Members of the recently formed Regional Dispute Resolution Committee set up in the Western Cape in terms of the National Peace Accord yesterday visited flashpoints of the taxi-war violence.
Shack dwellers gain reprieve

Supreme Court Reporter

GRABOUW squatters whose shacks were demolished won a reprieve yesterday when the municipality undertook in the Supreme Court to provide them with plots at Rooidakke.

In addition the municipality undertook to allow three families to continue living at Waterworks pending the completion of the court case.

The undertaking, by agreement with the municipality, was made an order of court by Mr Justice H.L. Berman on the day that the "Grabouw Community Organisation and Others" brought an action against the municipality.

The applicants sought an order directing the municipality to return building materials taken on January 22 and February 5 and rebuild certain homes.

They also sought an order restraining the municipality from demolishing structures they wanted to rebuild.

Mr J.E. Smith, for the municipality, said it had obtained 42 hectares from the Department of Forestry and was developing and installing services on the site. An interim measure, he said, would be erected for squatters to erect shacks at Rooidakke.

The application was postponed.
Shack dwellers flee balaclava-clad killers

By GAYE DAVIS

HUNDREDS of residents of Khayelitsha's Site C shack settlement dismantled their homes and fled the area this week after an attack in the early hours of the morning by balaclava-clad men which left five people dead and at least 36 dwellings razed.

One man died of a bullet wound and two children were burned to death after being trapped in their burning shack during the attack on Tuesday night, police confirmed.

Women marched on Khayelitsha's police station on Wednesday afternoon carrying placards asking: "Who's behind the balaclavas?" and calling for the Lingelethu-West Town Council, which they believe is behind the violence, to take action.

Assistant town clerk Gerhard Ras has denied the council's involvement.

African National Congress regional executive committee member Vincent Diba, whose portfolio is conflict resolution, said residents told him their attackers shouted that they were going to "clear the ANC out of the area". The section attacked is known as Mxolisi Petane, after its ANC branch named for an Umkhonto weSizwe commander.

The attack is the latest in a series of violent incidents in Site C in recent months. According to Diba, those behind the attacks are attempting to force residents to move into areas falling under the control of Lingelethu-West town councillors.

The complexities of the situation are compounded by a long-running dispute between Khayelitsha's civic association and the Western Cape United Squatters Association (Wecusa) over who had the right to organise shack dwellers.

Site C "communards" have registered complaints with regional ANC officials that Wecusa is also involved in the attacks, and suspicious have been further inflamed by an apparent rapprochement recently reached between Wecusa leaders and Khayelitsha mayor Miki Hoza around Western Cape's need for serviced sites in the area.
EDWARD MOLONYANE
Weekend Argus Reporter

Kinnock, squatters meet

MRS Glenys Kinnock, wife of the leader of British opposition Labour Party leader Mr Nell Kinnock, yesterday rounded off her visit to South Africa with a visit to a squatter community in Malmesbury.

Accompanied by members of the Surplus Peoples Project — a group offering assistance to poor communities — Mrs Kinnock visited Steve Tshwete squatter camp a few kilometres from the town. The settlement consists of dilapidated blocks of hostels and a cluster of shacks which are home to more than 2,000 people.

She toured the settlement and spoke to residents, who told of how women wishing to be with their husbands living in the hostels had been harassed by the authorities in the past.

It was only through a "struggle" in 1987 that raids and the demolition of shacks ceased, said Mrs Pamela Mbovu, an ANC organiser in the camp.

The Malmesbury municipality and Surplus People have begun negotiations for land for the squatters.

"Our organisation is very much involved with grassroots organisations and keen to be involved in the transition in South Africa."

Many people in Britain often hold that because many apartheid laws are gone and that (Mr) Mandela is free, everything is fine ... far from it," she said.

She hoped not only to raise funds on her return for communities like the Steve Tshwete squatters, but also to present a "true picture" to the British public about the situation here.

What are the chances of the Labour Party in the coming elections, she was asked as a parting shot.

"Of course it's already known ... we are going to make it, come March 27, she and her two aides replied, smiling simultaneously."
Squatters in court bid after demolitions

LIBBY PEACOCK
Supreme Court Reporter

THE Grabouw Community Organisation has asked the Supreme Court to order the return of building materials confiscated this month when hooded men hired by the municipality demolished squatter shelters.

The community wants a court order directing Grabouw Municipality to return squatters' building materials, confiscated on January 28 and February 5, and to re-erect their homes.

Yesterday Mr Justice H L Berman ordered that the matter be postponed to March 17 for trial.

The applicants also seek an order declaring that the municipality unlawfully took goods from certain squatters and an interdict restraining the municipality from demolishing structures built by, or on behalf of, squatters.

Pending the final determination of the matter, the Grabouw municipality was ordered to make plots at Rooidakke squatter camp available to certain squatters whose homes were burnt down at the Waterworks squatter camp.

Others living in tents at the Waterworks camp are to be allowed to remain there.

Mrs L J Krige appeared for the community organisation and Mr J Smith for the municipality.
TUMEKA Boto was looking forward to learning to read and write. Now that will never happen.

The six-year-old Sub-A pupil, her sister Portia 12, and their parentsThemba Boto and Nontombi Felakhe were burnt to death this week when a group of attackers set light to about 30 shacks in Khayelitsha Site C early on Wednesday morning.

According to neighbours the family screamed from inside their burning shack but the armed attackers would not allow them to escape.

Nearby another man lay dying from a gunshot wound.

Pupils and teachers from Phuzumani Primary School which Portia and Tumeka attended voiced their outrage at the horrific attack by staging a placard demonstration next to the ruins of the family's shack.

Later, hundreds of residents marched to Khayelitsha Police Station in Site B.

Hundreds of residents have fled the troubled area.

Two petrol bombs were thrown and shots were fired at the home of Lingelshu West Mayor, Miki Hoza, on Wednesday night.

An ANC spokesman in the area, Buyani Nguka, claimed violence began last weekend when an Lingeleshu West councillor known as Jada started shooting at residents. Unknown gunmen returned fire and Jada fled the scene. His car was then set alight.

The residents alleged a group of armed men, including whites, opened fire on a home guard patrol and shacks were burnt on Sunday night.

Col Tony Durhurst said the SAP special investigations unit was investigating the deaths.
Promise of plots for dwellers at Grabow, whose homes were demolished by "Klu Klux Klan"-style masked men. A reprieve yesterday by the Municipal Court to provide them with plots at Rooldakke, where they could rebuild the structures earlier burnt and destroyed.
Refugees find peace in bush

Edward Molanovac 309

New settlement for those

wanted to be left alone.

happy to live in isolation.
Fear

Sleepless KTC in a siege of silence

Sunday Times Cape Met
police completely.

**Denial**

Last year the Western Cape taxi war began spilling over into residential areas neighbouring the Nyanga East terminus.

Residents found themselves under attack from mysterious groups of men, some disguised with balaclavas, who fired at residents and burned down their shacks at night.

Repeated allegations have been made that the attackers are Webta members assisted by white men. Residents claim that often these men are in police uniform.

Today there is hardly a resident who does not believe Webta and the police are working hand in hand in fomenting and prolonging the violence, with the aim of neutralising KTC as an ANC stronghold.

Just as consistently, the police force has vehemently denied allegations that its members are involved and has called for evidence.

"We are in danger here. Our fear is of the police. When Webta comes to KTC, they come with the police," said elderly Mr Elliot Bolani, a member of the KTC Peace Committee.

"The attacks happen during the night mostly. We can't sleep. At night we now have people's patrols for our protection."

Schoolchildren interviewed at random also blamed Webta and the police.

whites are in balaclavas, but you know it's them from the colour of their eyes and hands and arms."

Said Mr Bolani: "At night the police play very loud music from their parked Casspirs and sound off the sirens. We have asked the government to take the police away at night."

Last Saturday, a bullet pierced the wall of Mr Bolani's shack and struck him in the right thigh.

The man who shot me was white. He was not in police uniform. When Webta attacked us that day, they came with police in Casspirs and a police van.

"KTC is in danger. They can burn KTC any time."

"In my opinion, the violence they are causing is aimed at stopping people from voting for the ANC in the coming elections."

**Biased**

KTC's connection with the taxi war stemmed from the election of a leading resident, Mr Gladstone Ntamo, to the Taxi Crisis Co-Ordination Committee (TCCC).

The TCCC was formed in a vain attempt to stop the taxi war by facilitating the merger of Webta and Lagunya into one taxi association.

"Webta said they did not want to speak to Mr Ntamo and accused the TCCC of being biased against them."

Lagunya has remained popular in the townships because of its apparent willingness to accommodate with Webta.
Wailing women signal police raids

By KURT SWART

THE first sign that a police raid in KTC was imminent was the distant sound of women ululating.

The sound grew louder as I interviewed Mr Elliot Bolani, a community elder and a member of the KTC Peace Committee.

"When the women start, we know the police have come. They will not stop until the police leave again," he said.

The chanting women are part of the defence system of KTC - a besieged community which fears that the police and vigilantes are out to destroy their "ANC stronghold".

The sound of the women grew louder and Mr Bolani and I stepped outside.

We soon found the eye of the storm - a patrol of about 12 policemen, bristling with automatic rifles and shotguns, escorting a police TV crew.

The ululating women surged towards them, prostate, screaming, clapping and gesturing to them to go away. The cacophony was deafening.

In the heart of KTC's sea of shacks the policemen were disoriented with an army patrol.

The soldiers, armed with R4 automatic rifles, secured the rear of the foot column.

PATROL... armed SADF troops and policemen keep angry residents at bay while others search shacks in a raid on the KTC squatter camp this week.

moving backwards and facing the chanting, screaming crowd.

Reinforcements arrived: a Nonpark armoured personnel carrier manned by a squad of policemen, followed by a convoy of SADF and police vehicles, struggling through the muddy alleys between the shacks.

An SADF sergeant, his pistol drawn, rallied his squad. The crowd continued to scream and chant. The force approached shack number M4719 to search it. Soldiers formed a ring of steel around the shack as police entered and rummaged through the owners' possessions. An axe was removed "because it is a dangerous weapon". Leaving a woman occupant complaining bitterly that she needed it to chop wood for her store.

Outside an army NCO directed tear gas from a spray can into the face of Mrs Themjwe Stuurman. Mrs Stuurman reeled backwards, clutching her face. The crowd reacted with deafening protests.

The patrol marched backwards once more, guns pointing menacingly. Many of the soldiers hurled abuse at their tormentors and some of them shouted muck: "Vivas!"

As the convoy left KTC, with the crowd surging after it, policemenootd from the last truck and manhandled Mrs Ntsikhe Mthombela into the back. Seconds later the loud pop-popping of tear-gas launchers was heard. People scattered in all directions.

With tears streaming down my cheeks I asked an elderly resident: "Does this happen often in KTC?"

"All the time," he said, dabbing his reddened eyes with a handkerchief.

So ended day one of a police public relations operation which had begun in the morning with heavy pamphleteering of KTC and Nyanza, watched by a press and TV contingent.

"The police are doing everything in their power to end the attacks and the violence and rely upon your co-operation," the pamphlets read.

Police spokesman Major Gys Booyenier said the raid had been a "normal crime-prevention operation".

According to the official press report, a woman was arrested in KTC when a group threw stones at police vehicles on Thursday.
WEBTA's woes

WEBTA chairman Mr James Matlsa denies that the taxi association's members have been involved in attacks on KTC residents. He said this week KTC residents harboured Lagunya drivers and that attacks on WEBTA had been launched from the settlement.

"Our houses are being burned from New Crossroads to Khayelitsha, yet we are always accused of being white and gunmen who shoot people," he said.

He accused civic associations of siding with Lagunya.

WEBTA wanted to negotiate, but it regarded community boycotts against taxis as intimidation.

The boycotts take away the bread and butter from the children of our drivers. We are not running with the police, Last Thursday when the shacks were burned, 11 of our members were shot by the police with rubber bullets and birdshot.

Mr. Matlsa accused the police of pandering to the ANC and of failing to take action to stop the violence.

"I don't know if it's true that white men are involved in the attacks on residents, but I believe people are hiding behind the taxi war to make trouble. I really don't know what is taking place in the townships any more."

Linen May 13/62

Same old story

POLICE spokesman Captain Allie Laubscher issued a standard response to allegations of partiality: We dismiss these allegations with the contempt they deserve.

"Police have a responsibility to the large majority who want to see peace and stability. We will monitor the situation for a week then we will reassess and decide whether to take more drastic steps."

Asked about repeated allegations that whites have been involved in attacks, Captain Laubscher said: "That allegation is so old. We can't ignore it altogether, so we appeal to the public to come forward. No one has come forward. If the allegations are true, it's a cause of concern."
Delay over corpse upsets squatters

By CLAUDIA CAVANAGH

SQUATTERS at Noordhoek's Greenpoint campsite upset at the delay in collecting the body of a man burnt to death in his shack last weekend.

They claim the mortuary collected the body of 22-year-old Mr Siyabulela Mgidi nearly 18 hours after he was reported dead and only after five requests had been made to the local police.

Squatter committee chairman Ms Orimpi Nkwandla said that during this time the residents had battled to keep dogs away from the body.

Speaking to the Constantiaberg & False Bay Review this week, she said the fire had started in the shack at about 3.30am on Sunday, killing Mr Mgidi shortly thereafter.

'Mortuary job'

She said someone had immediately been sent to report the incident to the police and request the removal of the body.

She said, "They came to have a look but left the body saying an ambulance would remove it. When the ambulance arrived, the driver said he was not allowed to remove the body and that the police would have to do it.

"We waited but the police didn't come and after the fourth phone call I called Mr Pat Found (a member of the squatter committee) and we went to the police station to ask them again to come."

It was nearly 6pm when the body was finally removed, she claimed.

Police spokesman Major Gys Boonzaier confirmed the body had been collected by the State mortuary after the ambulance had refused to remove it. He said, "The mortuary van was not available at that stage because other corpses had to be removed and post mortem examinations held."

He said he did not know why the ambulance had not taken the body but that it was standard procedure for the mortuary to remove it if the ambulance would not.
Chopper aids as shacks are razed

Denise Brand confirmed the police action.

Mr Glyn Williams, an attorney acting for residents of the Gonlwe camp, said preparations were being made to institute court action.

Villiersdorp town clerk Mr J L Serfontein said shack owners had been notified that dwellings were built outside the proclaimed transit area of the neighbouring squatter camp.

He said the shacks could have been demolished on March 6 but this action was postponed and a final notice was sent to individual shack owners and the area's civic association the same day.

Mr Serfontein said the council had invited the association for a meeting on Tuesday which the civic had refused to attend.
Shadow workers tear down squatter shacks

DENNIS CRUYWAGEN
Political Staff

WORKERS who declined to identify themselves or their employers dismantled at least seven shacks in Goniwe Park, an informal settlement in Villiersdorp.

A white who was in charge of the black and coloured workers during the operation yesterday also declined to identify himself.

The numberplates of the truck used to remove building material from the site to the offices of the Villiersdorp municipality were covered with paper. White paper also covered the doors of the vehicle.

Town Clerk Mr J L Serfontein, there when the shacks were dismantled, said the workers were not municipal employees.

"We are not using our workers because we do not want to involve them in this."

A "middleman", who he declined to name, was used to hire the workers. "I don't know who they are or where they come from. I don't know who is in charge!"

Mr Serfontein said the owners of the shacks were told last month they would have to remove the structures by March 6. They had ignored the notice and a second warning was disregarded.

"They built their dwellings outside the approved area," Mr Serfontein said.

In the past building materials were stored at the municipality's offices and returned to their owners on request.

At least 50 policemen, many with shotguns and teargas rifles, watched as the shacks were taken down.

Mr Serfontein said the municipality had requested a police presence because the "workers had to be protected."

The demolition caught the Villiersdorp Civic Association by surprise and spokesman Mr Thomas Jansen warned that the municipality could expect strong a reaction from residents.

He said a civic association delegation met the municipality the previous night.

"Mr Serfontein was present and knew the shacks would be dismantled, but he did not tell us. We are angry because the municipality has not been negotiating with us in good faith."
Squatting: 15 are arrested

FIFTEEN alleged squatters were arrested at Boekenaap in the Northern Cape at the weekend after they had started building shacks on land belonging to the Regional Services Council.

An ANC spokesman, Mr Willie Hofmeyr, said last night that the squatters had apparently become frustrated after negotiations for land to be set aside for blacks had dragged on too long.

Police spokesman Colonel Anthony De-Wurff said 11 men and four women with four children were arrested on charges of illegal squatting filed by the Northern Cape Regional Services Council.

They were released on bail yesterday.
Property Values Plunge

If you want your property to sell, you must be prepared to give a fair price.

Better to Presence: Satellite Views

Weekend Trip Report of Catfels' Articles

get good pictures for the properties mentioned. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

The numbers indicate the population in the

HI CONVERSATIONS

Another camp is forming.
UNITY AMONG all civic organisations in the Western Cape seems unlikely to be achieved in the near future.

The Western Cape United Squatters Association (Wecusa) has vowed to stay out of the unity process as long as the "long-standing issue of attacks on its members by the Western Cape Civic Association (WCCA) remains unresolved".

This stand and the related allegations follow Wecusa's absence from the launch of the Civic Organisation of the Western Cape (Cowec) two weeks ago.

Wecusa was a member of the regional interim civic committee, which was charged with bringing about a merger between the WCCA, the Western Cape Hostel Dwellers Association (WCHDA), Wecusa and the Cape Areas Housing Action Committee (Cahac) to form Cowec.

Wecusa regional vice-chairperson Mr Enoch Madywabe said: "Before the merger, the WCCA burnt down shacks of our members and a vehicle belonging to Wecusa at Green Point in Khayelitsha."

"When we reported the matter to the interim committee, a meeting attended by WCHDA, Cahac, Wecusa, the ANC, WCCCA, Cosatu was convened."

"Wecusa members told the meeting they could not forfeit their right to operate among the shack dwellers as we had a long history of co-operation with them."

"We found that the WCCA was jealous that we were operating among the shack dwellers. They said they had a right to operate in the shacks."

Madywabe said the meeting decided that the WCCA should operate in the townships and not in the squatter settlements.

When Wecusa had demanded that the burnt vehicle be replaced, an ANC national official, said he would take the matter to his national executive committee, but had not reported back.

Madywabe said that after the shack dwellers had been allowed to return to their areas the shacks were burnt down again, resulting in the death of three people.

"We have been trying in vain on various occasions to get the WCCA to sit down and resolve the matter with us," Madywabe said.

"Since then we suspended our participation in the interim committee. We feel that we cannot engage ourselves in unity talks with WCCA until the matter of the harassment of the shack dwellers has been addressed."

Madywabe said Wecusa found there was no trust between the organisations as one member was engaged in acts of violence against Wecusa.

He said that a week before the launch of Cowec, two men from the WCHDA and two men from the WCCA approached Wecusa and said there would be a launch of a united civic the following week.

The men said they represented an "organising committee" for the launch. This kind of behaviour further bore testimony to the fact that the regional interim civic committee cannot be trusted," he said.

"How can Wecusa, being a member organisation, be told that there would be a launch without being involved in the decision-making?"

"How can an organising committee be formed without our knowledge?"

Despite SOUTH's attempts for two weeks to get comment on Wecusa's allegations, Cowec's secretary and chairperson refused to respond.
A spate of ‘strip schools’ has sprung up in Moscow in the wake of communism’s demise. Applicants spoke to Fred Weir about their ambitions.

It has been difficult enough for Russians to get used to the idea of advertisements on newspapers, let alone one that invites young women — “with beautiful bodies’ to “leave their inhibitions at home” and try out for lucrative careers as strippers.

But there it was in several Moscow newspapers recently, placed by a new company calling itself the Aphrodite Academy of Strip Timers.

There is growing concern over the wave of pornography and sex-for-sale businesses surfacing with the advent of a market economy. Pornographic magazines, video and other paraphernalia, mostly imported, are openly on sale in the streets and shops, alongside more mundane consumer goods. Prostitution has taken over many Moscow bars and restaurants, and for the first time in flowing out into some of the city’s main streets.

Perhaps most disturbing for many has been the rise of businesses whose sole purpose is to market Russian women — as prostitutes, strippers and mail-order brides — in the West.

The Aphrodite Academy is one of many “strip schools” operating in Moscow. It claims its graduates will go on to work in Western countries for as much as $400 a day — an exorbitant sum in the former Soviet Union, where the average monthly income is equivalent to $32.

“I got the idea from visiting schools like this in foreign countries,” said Aphrodite’s manager, Ms. Alia Kirmoza, a 35-year-old former ballerina.

“I know there are working women here because living standards are very poor. This will be an attractive option for a lot of girls,” she said.

One morning, Kirmoza was interviewing applicants in the gymnasium of the luxurious luxurious-

A women’s basketball championship, which she often helps to arrange.

Several young women waited for their turn. Most spoke glowingly of the prospects of working in the West and one said she intended to “s crazy and fun... it’s what I want to do.”

Vilaroza, who is married, insisted her husband “is totally behind me on this. He wants me to be happy”.

been the rise of businesses whose sole purpose is to market Russian women — as prostitutes, strippers and mail-order brides — in the West.

company of her mother, who assured her she’d shed her overcoat, revealing almost nothing underneath.

Kirmoza watched approvingly as this applicant posed back and forth.

“I am 17, but please note that I am 18,” said Olga after she had been accepted to “study” at the academy. “I really want to do this.”

Her mother Alberta, a 40-year-old housewife, nodded. “I support this completely,” she said. “It’s a perfectly normal job, like any other. I would do it myself if I were younger.”

The only problem, she said, was Olga’s boyfriend. He had failed to see any showing any interest towards her ambitions.

“The attitude is that he would like to tear down the Aphrodite Academy, brick by brick,” said Alberta.

“We are trying to find a common language with him.”

Through this discussion, Olga remained largely silent, letting her mother do the talking. When pressed, she said: “Yes, our society is still very conservative. I hope that is going to change.”

Kirmoza insisted she was just marketing a normal community to normal consumers, who were eager for it. “You can see for yourself that one of the best ways to get a foothold in the West is through the "strip schools".”

Oliveira spoke to Fred Weir about their ambitions.

“Jungle laws govern squatter wives’

Women in the Hout Bay squatter settlement say they are the victims of battering by their husbands.

“We are men also feel pain,” says Mathews.

“They feel guilty, hurt, embarrassed because they cannot look after their children. What men do in this place is a bad thing that has to be looked at. Sometimes they beat up their wives very badly.”

“The other day, one of the women told me that she said her husband had to find a job. She realized afterwards that he had been out looking for a job and that maybe she had been too hard on him.”

“I mean, he is a black man, a squatter — right now they are not employing a lot of our people. So he beat her up and then came to apologize. This happens all the time.”

Mathews believes the problem is a complex one influenced by economics and culture. But there are also the men who are “very jealous or very possessive.”

“They expect a woman to be a woman; you must cook, clean the house, do your job and still take care of the children. If you step out of line, they step out of line,” she says.

Women who want to get away have nowhere to go with their children. They have to stay with friends but always return. Some who are faced with the temptation of their men try to fight back. The women are not in a position to insist that their men remain faithful. They maintain their pride by preventing the man from bringing “his woman” into the shack where they live.

The fact that they have to fight for such basic rights of decency is indicative of the serious disadvantages they suffer.

The discussion on the equality of women, which occupies a central place in the democratic movement, is far removed from the reality confronting the women of Hout Bay.

CODA
Outcry over MEC’s speech

By ANTHONY JOHNSON
NEWLY appointed Cape MEC Mr Peter Marais was in hot water yesterday following his controversial assertion that it would be unfair for squatters to enjoy the same voting rights as ratepayers.

Mr Marais, a former Nationalist member of the President’s Council, was promoted two weeks ago to MEC for Works, Transport and Traffic Control when President F W de Klerk fired Labour Party members from the provincial executive.

But in his first major speech in his new position Mr Marais caused an outcry among opposition MPs and embarrassment among his NP colleagues when he aired his views on squatter rights in Parliament this week.

Speaking during the Cape provincial debate, Mr Marais said, amid interjections, that he could not support a one-person one-vote system in which squatters enjoyed the same voting rights in an election for a future city council “as home-owners with properties worth R200 000 or more”.

He went on to question whether fellow MPs would be satisfied with a situation where “those that live in motor-car wrecks on an open piece of land got control of the city council because they are in the majority” and could then prescribe how much tax should be paid.

The Democratic Party spokesman for provincial affairs, Mr Jan van Eck, said yesterday that Mr Marais should be made to repudiate his “insulting” statements or be fired.

A spokesman for the administrator of the Cape, Mr Robus Meiring, said yesterday that both Mr Meiring and the MEC with responsibility for squatters, Mr Koos Theron, had stated repeatedly that squatters could not be wished away and that established communities needed to develop a keener understanding for their plight.

The spokesman, Mr Van Heerden Heunis, said that “to the extent that statements made by Mr Marais did not reflect this view, there will have to be discussion between him and the administrator as quickly as possible.”
Investigator not identified

POLICE have refused to name the senior officer appointed to conduct the new investigation into the 1989 murder of Soweto physician Dr Abu-Baker Asvat.

The investigation was launched after allegations linking Winnie Mandela to the slaying were published this week.

Lt-Col Johan Mostert said yesterday the investigating officer would not be identified to prevent the media from pestering him and hampering the investigation.

The police said all media inquiries about the matter would be handled by police headquarters in Pretoria.

In 1989 Thulane Dlamini and Cyril Mbatha were sentenced to death for murdering Asvat during a robbery.

But there were allegations this week in the US newspaper, The Christian Science Monitor, that the state was in possession of a statement claiming Mandela had offered to pay R20,000 to one of the murderers after the doctor’s death.

Mostert said the new investigation would involve studying statements made by the two murderers.

But it was not known at this stage if personal interviews with them would be conducted.

Both men were currently being held in Pretoria Central Prison, said Mostert.

Statements about the events would also be obtained from others, Mostert said. On completion, the docket would be handed to the Attorney-General for a decision.

Key witness in Mandela trial returns to SA

A key State witness in the 1991 Winnie Mandela kidnapping and assault trial, Gabriel Pelo Mekgwe, who was "kidnapped" the day before he was to testify, is back in SA.

Mekgwe was alleged to have been abducted from the Soweto Methodist Church manse in February last year, resulting in the postponement of the trial and the initial refusal to testify of two other key witnesses, Kenneth Kgase and Thabiso Mono.

Police sources confirmed Mekgwe was in the country, but said they were not investigating the matter because Mekgwe had not laid a charge of kidnapping.

At the time of the alleged kidnapping, media reports claimed Mekgwe was abducted by ANC members.

He was allegedly later traced to an ANC “safe house” in Harare but was moved to Zambia after SA asked for his repatriation.

New Cape MEC sparks outcry

CAPE TOWN — Newly appointed Cape MEC Peter Marais was in hot water yesterday over his assertion that it would be unfair for squatters to enjoy the same voting rights as ratepayers.

Marais, a former Nationalist member of the President’s Council, was promoted two weeks ago to MEC for Works, Transport and Traffic Control after President F W de Klerk fired Labour Party members from the provincial executive.

Marais’ first major speech in his new post caused an outcry among opposition MPs and embarrassment among his Nationalist colleagues this week. Speaking during the Cape provincial debate, Marais said he could not support a one-man, one vote system in which illegal squatters enjoyed the same voting rights in an election for a future city council “as homeowners with properties worth R200,000 or more”.

He asked whether fellow MPs would be satisfied with a situation where “those that live in motor car wrecks on an open piece of land get control of the city council because they are in the majority” and could then prescribe how much tax should be paid and how it should be spent.

DP spokesman for provincial affairs Jan van Eck said yesterday that Marais should be made to retract his “insulting” statement about squatters, or be fired.

“We cannot have a person with such a hostile attitude towards a large percentage of people in the Cape in such a position of responsibility. It will undermine all faith among squatters towards the Cape Provincial Administration.”
Squatter food riots a matter of time

TENSION in Cape Town's squatter camps is at flashpoint over hunger, say organisations which distribute food in the area.

A city academic has warned that food riots may erupt unless something is done to improve the conditions.

Field workers of organisations such as Operation Hunger reported this week that tension was high, particularly in the sprawling area known as Hout Bay, behind Khayelitsha, as newcomers, mainly unemployed, flooded into Cape Town.

"Hunger has always been a prime cause of political unrest," said Professor David Welsh of the department of political studies at the University of Cape Town.

A tense political situation was building up which would be far dangerous to any future administration as it was now to the present government, he said.

"In my view, spontaneous food riots could break out which will have nothing initially to do with politics, but will quickly become politicised,"

"There is a highly combustible mix because the tens of thousands of people pouring into the squatter settlements are viewed with suspicion by the established communities, quite apart from political rivalries.

"We know that there is terrible poverty in the townships where the unemployment is already very high. Tens of thousands of people pouring every month into the squatter camps can only add to the tension."

There was long-term validity in the government's insistence that a "culture of dependency" must not be built up, he said.

But at the same time, he said, something had to be done urgently in the short-term to get food to people who were starving.
FORCED OUT: Endemic violence is a feature of life in most squatter camps. People are forced to flee their homes by endemic violence.

At the end of last year, more than 65,000 households in Khayelitsha owed the Lingelihle West council about R135 million in unpaid rates, service charges and electricity.

The poverty of most families gives rise to the question of what accommodation people can afford.

There is a standoff in building. The state is not building houses. The private sector is also not building homes for low-income groups.

The executive director of the National Association of Home Builders, Mr Dan Roojee, said lenders and builders would need guarantees before embarking on low-income housing schemes.

From actively discouraging squatter- ing the authorities have switched to providing site-and-service schemes on the periphery of towns and cities.

Whether this strategy is correct, whether inner city development and densification rather than peripheral squating should be pursued is a topic of fierce controversy.

A balance between site-and-service should be played down in favour of a massive national housing policy to kick-start demand.

Challenges facing housing policy-makers include the need for rental accommodation, and the provision of serviced land with an emphasis on urban infill rather than providing plots on the fringes of the city.

They also need to change the subsidy schemes which have tended to favour white and coloured middle- and upper-income buyers.

If past demands were for the right to remain in the city and then to live on land, today the aspiration is for decent and affordable housing.

However at the level of decision-making this rarely features as a demand. The discourse is dominated by site-and-service and upgraded schemes — revealing a minimum-level pragmatic approach and the extent to which the vision of groups like the Urban Foundation has achieved hegemony.

Whether a new wave of struggles for the maximum in housing will emerge and whether such demands can be achieved — remains open questions.

Meanwhile central government, municipalities and the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA) have all been attempting to stabilise informal settlement and urbanisation.

Civic and squatter leaders and organisations claim to represent the squatters but too often there is little sign of organisational activity.

All agree on the need for a national land and housing policy which would provide a framework for municipalities and developers alike. What few acknowledge is the extent to which the future is being determined now by short-term arrangements and stop-gap measures taken by the authorities, the communities and the agencies involved.

In a real sense tomorrow is being built, or sold-off depending on your viewpoint, in the squatter settlements today.

And the seeds for social conflict or co-operation are being planted at the same time.

C

A COMPLEX SPIDERWEB: There

CONTROL. ORB resources are the key to the power wielded by the self-made leaders of Cape Town’s squatter settlements.

In this world of dirt tracks and mud structures, the squatter lords, or warder, are the term entities, their holds, sit, away over the lives of the tens of thousands of people who are squatters. Men like the former Crossroads warder Mr Johnson Nqobangezwa, his chief, Jeffrey Nkove, Ixolozwa warder, Christoffair Pieterse and director Khayelitsha leader Mr Jerry Tlotle have become legendary figures. Others like Conrad Sandle, the municipal engineer, are credited with being the brains behind Western Cape Squatters Association (Wesca) and KTC leader Mr Siboniso Nkosi are still well known, but powerless.

Most rules with the backing of local warders who govern sections of the settlements. Some have what amounts to police armies. Their ranks even local authorities.

Jessica Cole, in her book “Cositas, the Policies of Reform and Reform” terms the system of warders and the men that emerged in Crossroads as “traditional” structures which draw on experiences of people in the bastions. She says the system which was built in Crossroads community to withstand the state later became a tool for individuals and state repression.

The system, or variations of it, exists in most squatter camps in the ship areas today. According to...
Warlords wield whip in harsh world of squatter politics

and field workers, the system has been subverted to become the means by which a group of male leaders become affluent and powerful at the expense of residents in their area.

Alienation, drift and full-scale coups are commonplace in the harsh world of squatter politics. The means by which squatter barons command control over their fiefdoms is the allocation of land, the collection of dues and ultimately the threat of force against dissidents and rivals. This is the case even among some leaders aligned to the ANC and other progressive organisations.

The Urban Problems Research Unit (Upur), in a report on migration in Khayelitsha, commented:

“They (the warlords) gain control over the land allocation process and use it for the intermediated ends of political patronage and financial enrichment.”

Violent struggles break out between rival factions, internal and external, over allegiances and land parcels, frequently with serious losses in terms of material possessions and even life, and accompanied by large scale displacement of people.

Residents in most settlements say they are forced to pay dues from R5 upwards to the headmen. The squatter leaders claim that they collect money from their fellow

lawyers, saying any money collected goes towards development projects for the community.

Tension between youth and headmen is not unique to Crossroads where militant youth have a history of aligning themselves with rival groupings in an attempt to oust leadership. In several squatter areas, including KTC, there have been ongoing tensions between leadership and youth. In others, notably Crossroads, the ANC Youth League and Women’s League are said to be outlawed or severely curtailed in their activities.

New opportunities are presented by the provision of site-and-service areas and the upgrading of settlements. These hold out promise not only to communities but to squatter lords who, through manipulation of the allocation of land and resources, can reap considerable rewards, material and political.

The stakes involved are gigantic. The Independent Development Trust (IDT), for example, recently agreed with Wecus on a development tendering worth over R30 million in Khayelitsha.

Correspondingly, there is a heightened possibility of conflict within communities and between groups.

The R40-million serviced site alongside Brown Farm stood empty for six months last year because of a dispute over who should occupy it. While Tshis, Siphiwo, Yarini and the Maseke family committed from KTC shelled it out, vandals wrought damage amounting to R100,000. Now, field workers and residents claim sites are being sold illegally in the area.

Continuing the situation is the ongoing tension between the umbrella squatter organisation Wecus and the newly-launched Western Cape region of the South African National Civic Organisation (Sanco).

There has long been tension between the two groupings. Wecus has always regarded the squatter camps as its own territory. The civics have challenged this and the result has been bitter conflict and tension.

Many feel it is the allocation of land that needs to be tackled, an aspect acknowledged by IDT director Mr Ben van der Ross. He says the trust has established a system whereby a representative committee drawn from several sectors of the community is charged with the responsibility of land allocation.

If the squatter lords maintain their control over the settlements there is a strong possibility that, as Cape Town moves towards the creation of a single metropolitan authority, they could wield power over far more than just the squatter areas.

- WEST WKR: The people who have "problems" with squatters - the city council, the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA) and those with formal housing
**Business urged to find jobs for ex-political prisoners**

HUNDREDS of ex-political prisoners are struggling to find a niche in the cramped South African job market. As a result, the Association of Ex-Political Prisoners of South Africa (AEPPI) has appealed to business to accommodate them.

Mr Norman Yenguni, the association's Western Cape director, said this was an opportunity for business to "regain its lost childhood both internally and internationally". "We would like to see businesses engaging more affirmatively in action to help solve the injustices and inequalities created by apartheid."

"We would appreciate such intervention by the 'haves' to convince the 'have-nots' that we are so interdependent that neither side can exist without the other."

The AEPPI is also involved in establishing self-employment schemes such as brickmaking and sewing.

Yenguni said grants were helpful in the short term, but could cause insurmountable welfare problems. Projects that ease above the dependency syndrome should be created.

Apart from seeing to welfare grants, the AEPPI also informs members about bursaries and medical assistance, provides a field work service, visits members in prison and mental institutions and refers them to consultants to help them get jobs.

The association was formed in February 1990 and has been financed by the SA Prisoners Trust, the World University Service and several private sector organisations and businesses.

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**Think small with 'micro factories'**

HELP US AT hand for entrepreneurs wanting to build businesses in an affordable and supportive environment. The Small Business Centre planned for Retreat East is the brainchild of the Small Business Development Corporation (SBDIC).

The corporation has developed a series of these "industrial hives" countrywide. In the Western Cape, micro factories are operating in Blochstrand, Paarl, Observatory, Athlone, Mitchell's Plain and Phillipi.

The latter is the latest development and aims to serve mostly the communities of Nyanga, Crossroads, Browns Farm, Mitchell's Plain and Maitland.

Mr Wolfgang Thomas, regional general manager of the SBDIC in the Western Cape, said that in coming weeks it would conduct a market survey in the area to establish exact needs and to consult with community and business leaders.

"Community participation is an important ingredient of a development process," he said.

The industrial hive concept entails a sub-division of existing large factories into smaller units, or the construction of individual small factory units.

Thomas said the development would focus on a range of small factories aimed at accommodating the upgrading of backyard businesses.

The location and site of the site allowed for a range of businesses. Anything from retailing, wholesale and factory shops down to exhaust and tyre-fitting could be considered, he said.

An SBDIC statement said tenants would benefit from premises at reasonable rates, as well as SBDIC services such as loan finance schemes for viable businesses, networking opportunities, monitoring and training services and sub-contracts from larger enterprises.

"Some of the clinics provide communal spray booths and workshops equipped with the kind of machines that cannot normally be afforded by start-up businesses. These facilities can be hired by tenants on a coin-operated system," it said.

Project manager Mr John Morrison said phase one of the Retreat East complex could be completed by February 1993, depending on the results of the market survey.

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Of goats and the life-blood of Xhosa men

"We only make use of goat droppings to smear out children's bodies if they happen to contract a rash during visits to our husbands."

Photo: Yunus Mohamed

African men who have not been to the big cities or who have not forgotten their roots. "Migrant workers in the townships have a flourishing business - breeding goats for traditional purposes," says the Xhosa goat-breeder Mr Wilson Twala. "When one breeds goats, one doesn't do so only for oneself but to help the community."

"When we perform our rites like umlubalokwane (welcoming a newborn baby) and circumcision, a goat - not a sheep - is slaughtered." Born in rural Ciskei, Twala came to Cape Town and worked as a clown at Old Mutual. He bought the goats soon after retirement to supplement his monthly pension. "I retired in 1977 and at first received R50 a month as a pension. That has increased to R100 a month."

"I decided to be a goat-breeder after realizing that people have difficulties when they have to send their young boys to a circumcision school."

"The circumcision rites involves the slaughtering of a goat on the eighth day of the stay of an inmate in his kraal," Twala says. "People pay high prices to goat-breeder, who charge R350 a goat."

When he started he bought six nanny-goats at R350 each from farmers in Cape Town, Twala says.

The stock produced 45 goats in three years. At each nanny born, one or two kids once a year. "Having 45 goats, I realized that I had enough to sell to the people who had been running after me looking for goats to buy," Twala says.

Twala's goat-breeding has been without difficulties. Neighbours have complained about the flies which they claim have been brought about by the animals. About three years ago 24 of the goats were stolen. After this incident, residents advised Twala to forget about stock-breeding.

He replied: "If you give up in a house where goats were bred, so I cannot abandon that tradition."

Twala says he sold most of the remaining goats at R140 each, keeping only eight. "The goats are producing more kids and I no longer want to keep so many goats."

"Some are sold others are sold for feasting at home. I cannot charge a high price as my people have no money."

"One widow, who had no money but was keen to perform our rite for her young boy at a circumcision school, came to me for help and I gave her a goat and asked her to bring the money after the initiation."

He says umlubalokwane, the slaughtering of a goat, is performed to welcome a new-born baby.

"Imlubalokwane refers to the skin of a goat which is dried and tanned and later used to tie the baby to its mother's back."

A Transkei woman, Mrs Nowayisethe Bhungu, who stays with her husband at the hostel at Kit's Place, says umlubalokwane is only done by the people who are permanent residents in the township." We, as wives of migrant labourers, perform the rite at marital homes - not at the hostels, where we are not permanent."

"We only make use of goat droppings to smear out our children's bodies if they happen to contract a rash during visits to our husbands," Bhungu says.

Thwala says: "At Kit's Place, where the migrant labourers live in Cuffles, the wives of these men frequently come to me when their husbands contract rashes to ask for goat droppings, which I give them free of charge."

"The droppings are mixed with water and smeared over the body of a sick baby and the rash is cured."

"A neighbour says of Thwala: 'He is a good Samaritan, but we, as residents, have problems with the flies that have been caused by his goats. They are not supposed to stay among the people, they should have been kept away from the houses."

"As a rule, is now in his backyard, the flies come in large numbers to fill our houses."

"We do not want to report the matter to our street committee as we would be seen as being jealous of him."

One young man who interjected as his parent spoke, said: "Our neighbour is a kind man. When he intends to slaughter one of his goats, he would call me to witness him. After we have finished, he would give me some meat to take home."

Municipal worker Mr James Somjivana of New Crossroads grew up at a home where goats were bred. He too sells goats.

Coming to settle in the urban areas did not alter the Transkei-born Somjivana from breeding goats in the township.

"As a Xhosa man, I feel I should have goats as I have children."

"When my child gets ill, a goat is slaughtered and the rites are performed to get the child healthy again."

"If a child does not recover, I take him to a doctor as a last resort."

"The goats are in demand during the June and December holidays when many young boys go to the initiation school."

"I sell goats for between R120 and R190 each. The money helps to supplement the low wages I get as a cleaner at Baya Town Council," says Somjivivana.

Mr Thembalitshe Qole, Somjivana's neighbour who comes from rural Transkei, says the more sight of goats reminds him of his home.

"I think it is through the frequent sight of the goats that I always think of going home."

In Langa's Zone 23 a breeder refused to give his name. "It is contrary to the Xhosa tradition that a man should divulge secrets of his wealth."

"If you are circumcised you should know why I breed goats."

Hawker at Langa's taxi rank complained that the goats were eating their vegetables. "One cannot dare leave a vegetable stand alone otherwise one would return without any cabbages or spinach on the stand," says one.

"I have heard other people complaining about flies brought by the goats and I have repeatedly told them that flies come from the people who sell offal," says the hawkers.

"I would give some meat to take home."

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food or death
Waiting for
Allegation of beatings in Rand squatter camp

JOHANNESBURG.—Police spokeswoman Captain Henriette Bester said today she was unaware of reports from the Bekkersdal township on the West Rand that at least two residents in the Mandela squatter camp had been beaten up by the soldiers and were in a serious condition.

"The army went on a foot patrol in Bekkersdal," she said.

"Shots were fired at them and they retaliated. No one was injured."

An African National Congress PWV executive member Mr. Floyd Mashele alleged that tensions first arose when troops fired at random from a nearby "support point" about 6pm.

"There were no reported injuries, but tensions started to mount after that," he said.

"About 19pm troops started assaulting people at the Mandela squatter camp, claiming that the residents in the camp had been shooting at them," Mr. Mashele said.

He said he had received the information from members of the local ANC committee in Bekkersdal.

"I understand that people have been badly beaten up—at least two people are in a serious condition."

—Sapa.
Squatters force white authorities, residents to face realities

Squatters have brought white local authorities and residents face to face with harsh realities and many are finding the adamant moves traumatic. 

Municipalities, large and small, are having to step up to growing demands for land and shelter from the very people they thought could be controlled or at the very least deplored a distant homeland.

According to the census figures almost half the African population lives in urban areas. By the year 2020, the figure is predicted to have grown by a further 25 percent.

The issues prompted by ongoing urbanisation and the separate development apartheid policy are proving complex.

Town halls throughout the Cape cite the relaxation of the coloured settlement designation policy and influx control as the key explanation for the dimensions of the squatting problem, but not all of those in need of shelter are Africans or newly urbanised.

If the provision of accommodation is a headache for the authority, it is a nightmare for property owners who were previously shielded from the issue.

"Not in my backyard" is a syndrome among property owners and well-off who are not so well-off who find themselves bearing the brunt of the social and economic consequences of a shade next door.

Squatters are not good news for the property market.

According to estate agents, the proximity of squatters decreases property value by between 25 and 40 percent.

Poverty and deprivation also bring with it social problems and it is a frequent refrain that the thief is nearer.

It is not only slums on the outskirts that face the problem. Several of Cape Town's placid suburbs are presently grappling with the complexities that a highly visible squatter community brings.

In Hout Bay Da Gama, an idyllic waterside development near the Fisher Bay area, residents were in arms over the City Council's plans to upgrade and relocate the neighbouring Vrygrond squatters.

The Residents' Association claimed the plan would devour the $200 million raised by half and threatened to sue the council for $100 million if it went ahead.

In nearby Woodstock, a squatter community which has waged a lengthy battle for the right to live in the area, is accused of devaluing property.

The Milnerton community is grappling with a highly visible squat camp at the Marconi Dam site in Montague Gardens. The squatters cover the full range of South African society, including poor whites.

While the municipality's attempt to relocated the squatters has met with resistance from support groups which says the community should be integrated, not segregated.

Milnerton has not exactly welcomed the squatters with open arms.

Says resident Mr. David Sibisi: "These people have brought their crime and unhygienic living. Once they are allowed to stay permanently, you are looking at the growth of a large township. Meanwhile, the proposed development of advertisers is not taking place. Had we known there would be squatters in Milnerton, we would have gone to live somewhere else."

The Balbanb, West Coast and Northern Cape as far as Port Noloth have all been grappling with squatters for several years.

Grubrah said the council in a move to force people to relocate to another site commissioned by the municipality for a site-and-service area.

The town clerk of Grubrah says while people have calmed down since the demolitions, the town is still struggling to adjust to what he says is "a hostile side" of people moving into the area. He attributes this to the severe drought which is forcing labourers off land to seek seasonal work in the area and "Grubrah's proximity to Khayelitsha."

In Villiersdorp, a conservative farming town near Cape Town, the clash between squatters and the authorities has been still sharper with the municipality determined to avoid provoking Africans with family accommodation.

In Malmesbury, in the Western Cape wheat-belt, a case is under way.

Until now, the only accommodation for Africans has been a compound which the town, Mr. Gertie van Rensburg, describes as "highly unsatisfactory."

Designed to accommodate about 300 single men, the hostel has become home to as many families.

Now the families are to be moved to 200-300 sweat-styled on the outskirts of Malmesbury - a location which Van Rensburg says is part of the natural expansion of the town.

"They will have one of the best views squatters have anywhere in the country," he says.

Says Van Rensburg: "If white residents are unhappy, we have not heard anything about it. The high visibility of the one site might mean some murmurs but we don't anticipate any more than that."

"While it is impossible to give everyone a house because of financial limits, we hope the new serviced sites are a step towards ensuring that people live in better circumstances."

If Malmesbury illustrates that conflict and squatter is not synonymous, then Hout Bay's squatter saga says it's up hill in what is often a very gloomy Quinta family.

It is now less than a year since squatters won the right to stay in Hout Bay, a scenic fishing port and tourist attraction where splendid Cape runs them on the water.

While the overtones between affluence and poverty remains, those burdened are no more.

Mr. Dick Moller of the Hout Bay Advisory Office says there is no longer a conflict situation in Hout Bay. The community of the fishing town, Imizeni Ybushu, meets regularly with the Responsible Association in a "relaxed and amiable" atmosphere.

A conservative property-owners association which sprang up at the height of the crisis to demand the eviction of the squatters, has itself disappeared.

"The community, together with consultants, is presently looking for suitable pockets of land elsewhere and squatters and those living in over-crowded conditions in back yard shacks and huts in the harbour area can live."
The scene\n
Houtfontein Holland Basin is the most recent squatter flashpoint in the Western Cape. Conflict over where to settle a growing squatter population has led to an angry Strand municipality and category C association against the Cape Province Administration (CPA) and the Suurstroop West town council.

The controversy was sparked by a proposal of the CPA to develop a site-and-service camp in the Strand near the Lowndes farm and a neighbouring subdivision called Die Bos.

There has been a dramatic upsurge in squatter settlements in the area in the past five years. From the Cape Town squatters in the Lowndes Pass to the controversial Waterkloof settlement, the number of squatters has increased by about 70 percent in the past three years. This is a result of migration, drought and other problems with more formal accommodation like farm cottages, hotels andboarded rooms.

A Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) investigation reveals that more than half the squatters who moved to the present settlements.

The growth of highly visible squatter areas prompted anxiety and anger from other residents, including landowners who feared a crime wave. The realization that the squatter problem was not going to disappear forced local authorities to come together in a forum to find a suitable site to relocate the squatters.

The CPA rejected a proposal from a joint committee of local authorities in the basin to establish a temporary camp in a remote part of the Lowndes Pass. An area called Valsheim was subsequently identified by the committee but was brought for residential use by the Strand municipality which has now offered to sell the site to the CPA.

The CPA's decision, taken on the advice of a professional consultancy, to build a permanent camp for the basin's squatters near Die Bos suburb was hotly contested by the cabinet. Within two weeks of the news, the squatters collected 2,000 signatures for a petition.

Mr Dick Olivier, spokesperson for the squatters' association, says he is bitter, like other residents, about the turn of events. "We are very angry and upset. The proposal is not a permanent solution. The area designated is very small and cannot possibly accommodate all the squatters. Soon they will be wanting land elsewhere in the area," said Olivier.

Crucial to the residents' concerns is that the proposed site is within 400 metres of Die Bos suburb.

The Groeps Area Act may have given the residents an opportunity to claim the area as a "white suburb", or as Mr Olivier puts it, a "formally European area". At a heated meeting in the Strand town hall a few weeks ago, residents expressed their fears and dismay. "We won't be able to stay at home on our own or let our children play in the streets," said one woman.

Mr Joe Pienaar, who lives on the beachfront, said while the issue did not directly affect him, he could understand why people were upset. "It is a very emotional matter. People are worried about the value of their houses and their quality of life. After all, who would want squatters next door?"

Residents in the area are torn between the buying power of the squatters and the fear that the Strand's status as a premier Afrikaans holiday resort will be affected adversely.

Olivier says the government has betrayed Strand residents.

"They promised us Lowndes would not be expanded. Now they are building a squatter camp in the area," Olivier says.

Officials promised that the squatters couldn't simply disappear. "We advocate that the authorities opt for the Valsheim site but they have little hope that the CPA or government will hear their views. The squatters are aware of their parish rights."

"We don't really want to move to a strange area but we are not welcome here in Waterkloof," says Miss Patricia Krielboom.

"They will have to allow us to have our homes. We have nowhere else to go," says her friend, Patricia. According to a report published by the HSRC, much of the conflict is a result of the official approach of the authorities and the multiplicity of local authorities in the area.

In addition to the CPA, the basin has three municipalities, four management committees, one town council and one coloured interim committee.

The result has been that each has feared being saddled with the problem and decision-making has tended to come from above at provincial and national level.

Tensions between Waterkloof and the Houtfontein Holland Interim Squatters and Circles Association have also not facilitated dialogue. The HSRC report notes that discussion has focused on a single site rather than identifying several parcels of land.

"This has had the effect of intensifying conflict," the report comments.
The current financial problems of the U.S. are wide-ranging and complex. The government is facing significant challenges, including high debt levels, budget deficits, and a growing national debt. In addition, the economy is struggling, with rising unemployment rates and stagnant growth. These issues have led to calls for greater fiscal responsibility and reforms to address long-term structural challenges.

The government has taken some steps to address these problems, including increasing taxes and cutting spending. However, many believe that more needs to be done to ensure long-term stability and growth.

The current administration has proposed several policies aimed at stimulating the economy, including increased infrastructure spending and tax cuts. However, these proposals have faced criticism from both sides of the political spectrum, with some arguing that they will not do enough to address the underlying issues.

The next few years will be crucial for the U.S. economy and the world. It is important to carefully consider the long-term implications of current decisions and to work towards policies that promote sustainable growth and prosperity.
INFORMAL SETTLEMENT IN APPEL KINGDOM. Squatters in Grabouw are accommodated in this tent-town on the outskirts of the town.

Source: Varius Mohammed
What house should Jack build?

FUTURE URBAN policy is under discussion in several extra-parliamentary groupings. Much of the research and strategising is taking place in non-governmental organisations concerned with land and housing which have formed the Urban Network to pool ideas and information.

In Cape Town, the network includes the Foundation for Contemporary Research, the Surplus Peoples Project (SPP) and the Development Action Group (Dag).

Their thinking differs sharply from the site-and-service approach being implemented.

They argue for a variety of options, inner-city housing, development which mixes different income groups and residential, business and light industrial use of land and an overall densification of the city.

SPP spokesperson Ms Josette Cole says: "Site and service came to be viewed almost by default as the only solution. It is rejected by communities and we need to think through other options."

She says a cross-sectoral approach which takes into account regional and national economic questions is needed.

Dag spokesman Mr Alistair Rendell says past mistakes must not be repeated.

"We don't need an endless housing estate but a variety of projects which provide people with choices."

While Dag looks to the state for a policy framework as well as financial assistance, the group says total centralisation should be avoided.

Interestingly, the Urban Foundation, which pioneered site-and-service schemes and private sector involvement, also argues that the state must ultimately assume responsibility for housing.

Readell says informal settlement should be a "very small component" of housing strategy and should not be used as a means of urban infill.

"Placing squatters next to formal housing is a recipe for conflict which is not conducive to greater stability," he said.

He acknowledges that peripheral and decentralised development like Khayelitsha and Atlantis cannot be wished away.

"We see a two-way process. Housing in the city, business and industry encouraged to expand to the outskirts."

Crucial to inner-city development are tracts of state land. In Cape Town alone there are more than 1,200 hectares of state land. Dag also has its eye on unused or under-utilised private land in the inner city.

But is there money for housing?

Several financial experts say finance for formal housing is available. Economists from the University of the Western Cape have argued that rebuilding the current budget could provide an extra R1-billion for housing.

Mr Bob Tucker of the Perm says black investors have an R40-billion in "white bank" - money which could be placed in a black development bank to finance housing.

Mr Ronnie Bethlem of the Old Mutual has argued that South Africa could build a million houses by 1994.

Crucially the state would have to provide a framework for private sector investment to persuade investors whose money is presently on the stock exchange to spend on housing.

One suggestion by a local consultant is the formation of a utility company to select potential bondholders from low-income communities. These would act as managers and rent collectors in small schemes until the bonds were paid.

A member of the Co-operative Housing Association of Ontario in Canada says aspects of co-operatives could be adapted here.

Cole says further research is essential and development should not be hurried until thorough investigation takes place.

"Urbanisation has always been a crisis and always complex.

"This particular phase where we are looking for solutions has the potential for even greater conflict than in the past."

"Where previously one could speak of the community, new different interest groups are emerging. We need to be sensitive to the dynamics. Who has access to inner-city development? Is it only the formal working class, another major divide will be created."

"There is the gender question. Although women are a higher percentage of the population, they do not have a say in decisions and are excluded from the allocation process."

"Access to housing and land has become a tool in communities for individual gain."

"There is expected to come out soon with a draft housing policy document."

ANC spokesman Mr Basil Davidson says the real issue is the authorities' negative attitude towards urbanisation - a point made in the eighties by the Urban Foundation.
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S. L.
Squatters lay their foundations

SOMETHING tells them the new pioneers; others view them as interlopers and a threat.

Life in squatter settlements is blighted by poverty, a high unemployment rate, poor facilities and political insecurity. But where there are people there is life, and squatter areas are often characterised by exuberance, wit and innovation.

Mrs Maud Ngwenya, one of an estimated 400,000 people living in Khayelitsha, illustrates the history of determination and vigour which many squatters share.

"I came to the city in the 1980s to find my husband, a migrant worker," Ngwenya recalls.

She never found him, but with her three children she joined a community in the bush near Crossroad.

She lived through the harassment by the Bantu Administration Board and says that when the pass laws were abolished in 1986 she felt "so excited I could not believe it."

"We went to the cathedral to show people we were here to stay," Ngwenya remembers.

"In 1984 I moved to Khayelitsha, which was then a small place with few houses and shacks. I was waiting for a house," Ngwenya is still waiting.

"My children are now big and although I have saved money I am still living in a shack. But a new government will give us houses."

The chairperson of the Western Cape United Squatters Association (Wocusa), Mr Enoch Madywabe, also vividly recalls the struggle of Cape Town's squatters to remain in the area.

"The first sign the authorities would accept us as permanent was when they said we could stay in one big plastic structure. Later we took a blanket covered with lice to the board's office. Only then did the officials say we could build a few more shacks."

These basic shelters were a far cry from the mansion-like shacks built since by the more ingenious squatters.

Mr George Mamile of Site C in Khayelitsha is justifiably proud of his double-storey house with its facebrick facade, upstairs balcony and cozy wood paneling inside.

The house cost him about R15,000 and he says more improvements are in the pipeline.

Meanwhile, entrepreneurs who form part of a vibrant informal sector are doing a roaring trade in building materials.

Zinc sheets, windows, doors and anything else that comes to hand is the staple of Mr Kenneth Maille's business on the roadside in Philippi.

Maille says many of his customers send the materials back to the homelands.

From the plastic of Black City to ambitious two-storey shacks, squatter settlements is evidence not only of the inevitability of urbanisation but of the grit and survival skills of those who are forging a new life in the city.
Squatters in majority here

Staff Report

MORE than half of Langa’s estimated population of 70,000 were squatters who lived in shacks and used surrounding bush for ablutions, a Cape Town city council official said yesterday.

Mr Neil Ross, chairman of the council’s housing committee, said the situation was becoming critical.

Langa’s problems lay mainly with the Ikapa town council authorities who were basically “cash-strapped” because of aggravated rates bust.
Land for Hout Bay squatters

DI CAELERS
Weekend Argus Reporter

HOUT BAY'S controversial Imizamo Yethu squatter settlement is to be enlarged — but not by as much as some neighbours fear.

The extension of the present nine-hectare site will amount to no more than the "approximately 20 hectares previously agreed to by the Hout Bay Ratepayers' Association".

That is the word from Mr Jo Lazarus, vice-chairman of the ratepayers' association and co-convenor of the liaison committee which represents ratepayers, Imizamo Yethu residents and the Hout Bay harbour squatter community.

He issued the official statement with the Cape Provincial Administration after two meetings with CPA officials this week.

The enlargement is in line with "phase two" of the Imizamo Yethu operation which involves the setting up of sites and services on the land.

About 650 sites of 150 to 180 sq m are planned. These will be allocated to the squatters and their lodgers, who are crammed into the present nine hectares.

Further sites on the informal settlement land, according to Mr Lazarus, are earmarked to relieve the overcrowding in the Hout Bay harbour squatter community.

"But no extra sites will be made available for additional, new and unregistered squatters to come into Hout Bay."

His statement follows weeks of mounting tension as rumours of a substantial increase in the size of the Imizamo Yethu settlement intensified.

Hout Bay residents had claimed that petty theft in the "white" area of Penzance Estate was increasing and that expansion of the camp towards the established homes would see a further plunge in already depressed property values.

Mr Lazarus said the acquisition of land over and above the 20 hectares would be discussed with the Hout Bay Liaison Committee, set up by the CPA for this purpose.

The 20-hectare site is situated within the Western Cape RSC forestry site above the Hout Bay Main Road.

According to the planning details, buffer zones will be built between the site and the established homes in Penzance and Hugden estate.

A CPA spokesman said the administration had adopted a positive approach to rapid urbanisation and that Hout Bay residents needed to do the same.

"Most of the people who live in Imizamo Yethu are employed in Hout Bay and make a positive contribution to the general economy of the area."

"Rejection of this community will also lead to polarisation which in the end could only result in conflict."
A huge burden has been lifted off the shoulders of the the squatter communities in the Western Cape — they no longer have to pay the salaries of teachers at the privately-run squatter schools.

After a long struggle, the Department of Education and Training (DET) has promised to subsidise salaries of teachers.

This follows recent negotiations between the DET and the Western Cape United Squatters Association (Wcusa).

Wcusa chairperson Mr Enoch Madywabe said Wcusa had requested DET to convert the five private squatter schools into government schools and subsidise salaries of teachers.

Each teacher presently receives a stipend of R400 a month by the KTC Relief Fund, which was set up by squatters to pay the teachers’ salaries.

New building

Madywabe said: “We were told by DET that a private school could be registered as a government school only if a new building was erected to replace a shack school.

“However, the DET officials, after consultation with the Minister of Education, promised to subsidise the salaries of teachers.

“We were told that the money would only be paid into a trust account. So we have to elect trustees who will look after the management of funds. As soon as we receive it, the KTC Relief Fund will stop payment of salaries.”

DET director for the Western Cape, Dr JHP Brand, said: “The subsidies are to be used for salaries, books, maintenance and all other operating expenses. Each school has been evaluated, and the amount to be awarded will depend on the school and the number of pupils enrolled there.

“The subsidies are normally paid out twice annually, but we have requested that payment be made monthly, with the first payment in respect of the month of April 1992, due in May.

“The agreement is that the registration of these private schools will lapse as soon as the DET implements public schools in the area.

“In the case of Bongolantu, for example, a building for a public school is already under construction, and it will therefore no longer be necessary to operate a private school once the public school starts operating in 1993,” said Brand.
Squatters coming ‘by thousands’

Staff Reporter

THE Cape Peninsula’s squatter population could be growing at a rate of between 2,000 and 10,000 a month, according to Ms Josette Cole of the Surplus People’s Project.

Ms Cole attributed the increase to “people being pushed off farms and having nowhere to go, black people having no place in the smaller urban areas, and a lack of housing in local urban areas.”

SAPA reports that, according to the Western Cape United Squatters’ Association, thousands of people have come from the rural areas and settled in squatter camps since the scrapping of the influx control regulations. Only about 20% had jobs.

‘All should be invited’

Staff Reporter

The Western Cape United Squatters’ Association (Wecusa) said yesterday that the discussion on the future of local government must involve all interested groups.

Wecusa spokesman Mr Enoch Madywabe was reacting to a conference called by Idasa in Bellville, to which members of the black local authority councils were not invited.

He said the exclusion of some groups by others was contradicting the assertion by those groups that they were democratic.
New squatter plan alarms Hout Bay

Staff Reporter

RATEPAYERS, worried about rising crime and plans to allocate more land at Hout Bay for squatters, have called a meeting for tomorrow night.

The Provincial Administration is negotiating to buy more land for "utilisation for an informal settlement", residents were told at a meeting in Hout Bay last night.

This, it was said, was in spite of an undertaking in writing that the present settlement would not be extended beyond 18 hectares.

Although the overall crime rate in Hout Bay had fallen, burglaries and thefts in some areas near the camp had trebled last year, residents were told.

According to police figures, crime in areas adjoining the camp was "far, far worse" this year, said Hout Bay Ratepayers Association chairman Rob Millar.

More than 500 people are expected to attend the meeting in the Hangberg Hall, Bayview Road, Hout Bay Heights, at 8pm tomorrow.
HOUT BAY MEETING: Part of the capacity crowd that attended the meeting at the Hangberg Hall in Hout Bay Heights.

HENRIETTE GELDENHUIS
Staff Reporter

ANGRY Hout Bay residents have rejected Cape Provincial Administration plans to enlarge the Imizamo Yethu squatters settlement between Hughenden and Pencance Estates and are to consider legal action against the CPA.

The Hangberg Hall in Hout Bay Heights was packed to capacity last night when more than 500 ratepayers were addressed by members of the ratepayers’ association executive.

The executive asked ratepayers to accept that the informal settlement was in Hout Bay to stay. However, they should resist with every means at their disposal attempts to increase the number of families who were permitted to stay there.

The CPA had plans to extend the agreed 18 hectares to 54 hectares and the only way to stop it was “to take legal action”, Mr Barry Wrankmore told the meeting. “If we don’t do that we can kiss our... goodbye!” he said.

It was necessary to take court action because all previous assurances given by the government and the CPA were not being honoured.

A speaker from the floor said: “People are losing a tremendous amount of money. Property is being devalued. The crime rate is going through the roof. We must get what we originally asked for. We have to make sure we are not being bulldozed again.”

Residents said they felt powerless and angry.

“No more squatters” were met with loud cheers and warm applause.

The ratepayers’ association handed out a questionnaire to test feelings on the squatter issue.

Mr Jo Lazarus, vice-chairman of the ratepayers association, said the meeting had resolved that the size of the Imizamo Yethu squatter settlement had to be limited to the agreed 18 hectares.

Some allowance could be made for extensions but not for building more homes or increasing the population.

Ratepayers were also agreed that only families who were registered at the time of the original move to their present 3 hectare site, should be eligible for sites on the 18 hectare area.

Planning decisions and use of land concerning the site had be agreed upon by the liaison committee, which represents ratepayers, Imizamo Yethu residents and the Hout Bay harbour squatter community.
Bridal Path: ...Mr. Wayne Turngold, manager of Parn opposition.

The CPA plans to extend the parties’ options to the CPA.
Bigger Square:  but no extra Larger Sites
Squatter camp to expand

Hout Bay to get 440 serviced sites

TED MAGILL
Weekend Argus Reporter

MORE sites for squatters are to be provided in Hout Bay.

Despite protests from residents and threats of legal action from the Hout Bay Ratepayers' Association, the Cape Provincial Administration is to increase the number of serviced sites at the Imizamo Yethu settlement to 440.

Mr Koos Theron, the MEC for urbanisation told a news conference yesterday that the CPA was "guided" by consensus decisions of the Hout Bay liaison committee which is made up of Hout Bay residents and the Imizamo Yethu and Harbour squatter camps.

"However, it is our duty to bring certain realities to the committee's notice, namely that the existing eight hectares which have been used temporarily, are hopelessly inadequate to satisfy the needs of the homeless," he said.

Earlier this week angry Hout Bay ratepayers expressed their concerns about plummeting property prices and increasing crime rates in the areas adjacent to the squatter community.

Mr Theron said he had discussed the issue of the camp with the liaison committee on Thursday. "They have already agreed to the establishment of 429 sites, but we are going to propose to the liaison committee that we start with 440," he said.

Mr Theron said the misperception had been created that the CPA was to develop 34 hectares.

In addition to the eight hectares already occupied by the Imizamo Yethu community, he said a further 12 hectares were needed "to provide approximately 650 serviced sites eventually".

Mr Theron said 440 sites were needed immediately, to accommodate 429 existing structures and 306 backyard lodgers.

In a statement released on Thursday, the Hout Bay Ratepayers' Association said the extent of the land used should be limited to 18 hectares and any addition should be agreed upon by the liaison committee.
Journalist wins appeal over refusal to disclose sources

SUSAN RUSSELL

JOURNALIST Patrick Laurence has won his appeal against conviction and a 10-day prison sentence for refusing to disclose the source of information in a report about the disappearance of a key witness in the Winnie Mandela trial. Judge R van Schalkwyk, with Judge W van der Merwe concurring, ruled in the Rand Supreme Court on Friday that the subpoena to testify on the disappearance of state witness Gabriel Mekgwe, issued under Section 205 of the Criminal Procedure Act, was invalid.

The court accepted a submission by Laurence's counsel D Fine, SC, that the subpoena had not been issued for the purposes envisaged by the Act, which was to obtain information about an alleged offence.

Van Schalkwyk said it was clear from the record of the proceedings in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court, where Laurence was convicted, that the subpoena's primary aim was not to obtain information about Mekgwe's disappearance, but to trace a witness.

He rejected the State's submission that the subpoena was not invalid as there was a secondary purpose other than obtaining information about the abduction.

More land for squatters

LINDA ENSON

CAPE TOWN — The Cape Provincial Administration was negotiating to buy Regional Services Council land in Hout Bay to extend the town's squatter settlement from 4ha to 20ha. Koos Theran, MEC for urbanisation, told a news conference at the weekend.

He said the perception among dismayed Hout Bay ratepayers that the extended settlement would cover the full 34ha of RSC land was incorrect. Ratepayers were angered by the proposed acquisition, saying the squatter settlement had driven down property values and led to an increase in crime.

Theran said the acquisition was necessary to provide 448 serviced sites immediately and allow room for the expansion to 630 sites. At present there were 429 structures and 336 single-backyard lodgers living in Imizamo Yethu Village.

He said the CPA planned to increase the size of serviced plots to 100m² from 60m² in order to reduce the village's density. Squatters would have to pay for the land, the price of which would be determined on the basis of their income in terms of the sliding scale adopted by the National Housing Commission, Theran said.
Hout Bay: Interests ‘don’t diverge much’

Municipal Reporter

THE interests of squatters and ratepayers in Hout Bay did not diverge much on several crucial issues, ratepayers’ association vice-chairman Mr Joe Lazarus said yesterday.

He said both groups were concerned about the possibility of an influx of squatters from other areas into the Imizamo Yethu camp, which is about to be extended.

Both also believed that the proposed lower density of the extended site, with 160m² serviced plots, was a much more desirable situation than the present one in which plots in the camp were 60m² each.

Mr Lazarus said yesterday that when additional shacks had been erected by newcomers, members of the Imizamo Yethu camp had “taken action” themselves, and had also asked the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA) to take action.

“There are people in the camp who are also terrified of crime,” he said. “A crime control committee is being formed, with representation from the harbour community, the squatter camp and the ratepayers.”

That committee will attempt to control crime within the squatter camp and in the broader Hout Bay.

Meetings of both the ratepayers’ informal settlement sub-committee and the liaison committee, comprising squatter, ratepayer and harbour community representatives, were held last night.

Mr Lazarus said he did not expect that the liaison committee would get stuck on the question, so far unresolved, of lodgers or backyard shack-dwellers in Imizamo Yethu.

“A total of 343 lodgers were registered at the time the community was moved to its present site. The ratepayers accepted about two years ago that anyone who was registered at the time of the move should be eligible to stay on the agreed piece of land.”

What had not yet been agreed was how many plots should be provided for the lodgers.

Mr Lazarus said he was aware of the “major fear” among ratepayers, which was that there might be an influx of additional squatters. One way to limit this was to provide only the land agreed to.

The other way of dealing with the problem was to enlist the aid of the Imizamo Yethu community.
Squatter leaders visit India

Staff Reporter

TWO Western Cape squatter leaders jetted out to India yesterday to share their experiences with squatters in Bombay, Madras and Bangalore. But the trip is shrouded in controversy. The two joined five leaders from other South African squatter camps for the 15-day project run by the South African Catholic Welfare Services (SACWS).

Yesterday, one leader was named as Miss Patricia Matholengwe, from Khayelitsha. A SACWS spokesman refused to name the other leaders. "because of the controversy".

The Western Cape United Squatters' Association objected as the local delegates were not Wecusa members. A Wecusa spokesman said a meeting was called with the SACWS.
Villiersdorp protest march for better deal

By DIANA STREAK

them because people are falling more and more into arrears, they just can't afford to pay.

"Some people are paying rent and R10 a month in arrears but the municipality has tried to get them to sign a contract to pay more."

"We have asked the municipality for a piece of land for the squatters because what they have is inadequate and if people build shacks they come and pull them down."

"The Nwedorp coloured school is full so many children can't go to school. The whites voted to open the white school but up to now the school is closed to us although they take pupils from Namibia and the Transvaal."

As the march entered Villiersdorp Main Street scores of policemen kept a watchful eye on the proceedings as the crowd sang and waved placards.

Khaki-clad ANC marshalls kept the crowd in check as more people joined the march. There were very few white faces there for a Saturday morning but farm workers in town for their weekly shopping cheered the march as it approached the municipal buildings.

Mr Jansen handed a list of requests to town clerk Mr J.L. Serfontein:

"I wouldn't like to comment because I don't know what is in the petition," Mr Serfontein said. "I will present it to my council and they will make whatever decision is necessary."

He confirmed that the white school was now a Model C school but said it had only happened recently.

"I don't know if there are any coloured pupils there," he said.

Co-organiser Ms Sandra Haydon of the Black Sash said people in Villiersdorp were much more victimised than in other Boland towns because the black and coloured communities were working together.

Mr Jansen called for members of the community to join the ANC.
Residents of De Bilt can date their links to the area to the 1800s. Now their future is threatened, reports Ruby Marks.

An historic settlement in the town of Carnavon, one of the earliest black settlements in the Karoo, is under threat because the white municipality has declared the area a slum.

Residents of the De Aar Kamp squatter settlement in the town have been instructed by the Carnavon municipality to upgrade their homes and install electricity or the camp will be demolished.

The camp is situated in an area known as De Bilt, where a Xhosa chief built the first church in the Karoo in the 19th century.

De Bilt is under the protection of the National Monuments Council, which declared the area “historically significant” and will not allow alterations without its consent.

Carnavon was given to Jan Kaffer, son of the Xhosa chief Gija, after he signed a peace treaty with white settlers in 1812.

His tribe rented on three abandoned farms south of the Karooberg and was later joined by a number of Dikwes.

In 1877, the white settler community began its attempts to take over ownership of the land granted to Kaffer. They succeeded and it was subdivided with the whites gaining control of most of the reserve.

Residents were allowed to remain on condition that they erect a reasonable dwelling and establish a garden within three years.

Kaffer and his people then built the first church in Carnavon on the site known today as De Bilt.

The 1950 promulgation of the Group Areas Act led to the removal of all coloureds from central Carnavon. They were resettled at a site known as the Oldenburg or a new state location — Bontebokland.

In May 1954, Group Areas inspectors visited the area and determined that only a coloured location was needed in the town since there were no residential classified African in Carnavon.

This strange state of affairs arose because a white farmer’s assistant’s child, Mr Andreas Hoekak, had — whether by design or accident — registered every coloured black baby as coloured.

Carnavon thus became the first multi-racially populated in South Africa, apart from the “Karenpad” declared within its boundaries.

Blacks were first ordered to vacate De Bilt in 1975 when the Carnavon municipality announced its plans to declare the area a slum.

Residents made minor alterations to their homes and subsequently erected forced removals.

Now, 17 years later, the cost of installing electricity at De Bilt will amount to R270 000.

“The municipality expects the 26 families living here to pay for electricity,” said camp resident Mr Jim Brand.

He said he earned R30 a month and also received a bag of flour, a packet of sugar, coffee, matches and a sheep. He had a family of five on this.

Other foodstuffs the family needs are bought at the farmer’s shop where basic foods are sold at huge inflated prices — so the farmer gets his R300 back again.

Some squatters can trace their roots at De Bilt to 1847. “This is our land; we have been here long before the white municipality came,” Brand said.

De Bilt resident Mr Johannes Boshoff, 60, said he also earned R50 a month and could not afford to purchase or install electricity.

Rosie works as a sheep shearer and earns 10 cents for every sheep he shears. He manages to shear 20 sheep a day.

A spokesperson for the Carnavon Regional Services Council, Mr Pieter van Tonder, said the squatter settlement would pose a health hazard to the town unless it was upgraded.

He denied that the squatters were expected to pay for the upgrade.

“We get aside R30 000 to build temporary structures for them on another site near De Bilt,” Brand said.

Residents said they received the offer as they...
Shacks demolished: 2 held

The structures being dismantled were not registered by the CPA and did not have site numbers.

A CPA statement said the community had decided at a meeting on Monday night to ask the CPA to demolish the structures.

But yesterday PAC national executive member Ms Patricia de Lille said the residents' committee was represented only by ANC members and that only structures owned by PAC members were targeted for demolition.

“'The PAC were not consulted on the selective destruction of residents' homes and it is nonsense to say that people are not living there,'” she said.

Ms De Lille said the CPA had not been able to provide the names of committee members who had asked for the homes to be dismantled.

An angry crowd later demonstrated outside the CPA's offices at the camp.
Builder's squatting shack demolished

South 13/6-17/6/92
By Quentin Wilson

AFTER spending the day building other people's houses, Mr Edward Henson returned home on Monday to find half his shack demolished.

Earlier that day, the Villiersdorp municipality tore down sections of two shacks because they "were illegal extensions" that crossed the border of Gonie Park squatter camp near the Boland town.

For the Hensons, a family of four, the demolition of their kitchen means they have to cook, eat, and sleep in a room measuring two by three metres.

"I feel very sad. We can't cook in the same room that we sleep in. We need two rooms," said Henson's mother, Mrs Marlene Henson, who suffers from TB.

She and her daughter-in-law, Mrs Mary Henson, were at home when municipal workers and police moved in. Mary's husband, Edward, was at work and their eight-year-old son was at school.

"They went straight to a neighbour's shack and after they finished tearing it down, they came over here and told us to get out of the way so they could break this house down," Marlene said.

The family pays rent of R10 a month. Edward is the only wage-earner in the family and receives R30 a week as a builder.

Mr Johan Sefifi, the Villiersdorp town clerk, said: "You can't have people putting up shacks wherever they want. You wouldn't allow a man in the street to put up a shack in your backyard. It's exactly the same thing here."

"It must be clear that these are illegal shacks. Council informed these people that the shack would be left untouched on condition that no alterations, extensions or new structures were erected in a non-proclaimed area," he said.

Gonie Park was recognised by the municipality in December.

Civic association spokesperson, Mr Thomas Jansen said: "We asked the municipality to give us land for 200 people and they gave us land for 17. We have had our shack demolished six times since the new South Africa was supposedly born in 1990."

Jansen said the civic planned to boycott all shops in the town.

"We hold back because we hoped to resolve our problems through negotiations," he said.
Mini-debate on squatters

Political Star

THE Hout Bay squatter camp is to be the subject of a mini-debate in Parliament tomorrow.

The Conservative Party MP for Sasolburg, Mr Louis Stoberg, has tabled an interpellation in the Assembly asking whether the squatters are insisting on more land for their settlement. CR 16/11/72.

He is also to ask the Minister of Local Government and National Housing, Mr Leon Wessels, whether he is considering any steps to solve the problem, and if not, why not.
Hout Bay shows white SA the way

AS WHITES in the north of Johannesburg prepare to take up arms against black squatters, affluent Capetonians are showing that rich whites and poor blacks can live in harmony.

Hout Bay, an idyllic fishing village 20km south of Cape Town, is an unlikely location for a black squatter camp: set on the ocean against a backdrop of mountains and populated mainly by wealthy commuters, it looks like a resort on the Cote d’Azur.

For years under the apartheid system, groups of homeless black people lived illegally on the fringes of Hout Bay, until they were all evicted and put onto one plot on the south side of town in March last year.

The initial reaction of the white residents to this new community of 2,000 black people, many of them unemployed, was “we have to get rid of them”, according to local Democratic Party MP Colin Eglin.

But hostility and fear have turned into mutual acceptance after a year of negotiation and liaison between the black and white communities, which Eglin says should serve as a prototype for resolving similar situations arising across South Africa.

Estimates of the number of black people living in shacks and shanty towns in urban South Africa vary between three and seven million.

Most have no electricity or running water supply, according to the Urban Foundation, an independent Johannesburg-based research group.

Many whites see squatter camps as dens of crime, bred by soaring black unemployment.

But Eglin says the sensitive and conciliatory line taken by the white residents of Hout Bay shows that the juxtaposition of “desperately poor black people and relatively affluent whites” need not be a hostile one.

Liaison

The Hout Bay Ratepayers Association approached the squatters soon after the move 15 months ago, and the two communities formed a liaison committee.

The result was a “marked reduction in tension”, and a gradual acceptance by the white residents that the black community was there to stay, Eglin says.
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
WEDNESDAY, 21 JUNE 1995

THE HONOURABLE HARRY ANDREWS, Speaker, in the Chair.

Beyond tomorrow, the House reconvenes.

The Hon. Peter Van Gent, on a point of order:

Can the hon. Minister of Finance please tell the House how he supports the motion of the hon. Shadow Minister for Finance, Mr. Dozois, for a debate on the proposed budget for the financial year 1996-97 in the House of Assembly?
HOUSES OF ASSEMBLY

Office of the Clerk

Mr. Speaker,

I rise in accordance with Standing Order 24 to present a petition from citizens of Ontario. The petitioners state: "We, your petitioners, humbly pray that you are pleased to use your good offices to request the Ontario government to take immediate action to address the housing crisis in our province."

[Signature]

[Signature]

Sincerely,
[Name]

[Name]

[Date]

[Address]
Flood of squatters on the way

MICHAEL MORRIS
Political Correspondent

NEGOTIATION among all affected parties would remain the basis for handling the squatter issue in Hout Bay, Local Government Minister Mr Leon Wessels told parliament.

He was responding in an interpellation debate yesterday to attacks from Conservative Party MPs who warned that the Hout Bay settlement and others in the Peninsula represented merely the vanguard of a flood of squatters that was still to hit the Cape.

Mr Wessels, who acknowledged that the government had accepted the principle of housing people as close as possible to their place of work, said a liaison committee in Hout Bay consulted interest groups regularly.

Democratic Party MP for Pinelands Mr Jasper Walsh said it was essential to seek solutions to the extremely sensitive issue of squatting.

Conservative MP Mr Joseph Chiole predicted that the squatter settlements in Hout Bay and other parts of the Peninsula were merely the “advance guard of a flood of squatters who are going to hit this area”.

Hout Bay squatter extension defended

By ANTHONY JOHNSON

THE government yesterday attacked whites who hoped to “wish Hout Bay squatters away”.

Local Government Minister Mr Leon Wessels was speaking in Parliament after conducting an on-site inspection tour of the squatter camp.

Mr Wessels said during a lively mini-debate called by the Conservative Party that the government was committed to housing people as close to their places of work as possible.

The decision to extend the Hout Bay squatter settlement by 12 hectares followed negotiations with all parties, including the provincial authorities, rate-payers and the squatters.

Mr Louis Stofberg (CP Sasolburg) said irate residents of the area had warned that “a war” could erupt as a result of the squatter problem. If the mushrooming squatter problem could evoke this sort of response in a “Frog” constituency, “imagine what is going to happen in other areas”.

Mr Joseph Chiole (CP Pretoria West) said 10,000 squatters were coming into Cape Town each month and that the squatter population would quadruple in the next three years.

Mr Jasper Walsh (DP Pineland) said the CP should stop trying to exploit socio-economic issues for racist ends.

Closing the debate, Mr Wessels said that the government would continue to talk to all sides, including the homeless.
Western Cape squares crisis

As the nation’s worsening squatter crisis is debated tirelessly from local councils to central government, the dilemma remains. And the lives of hundreds of thousands of homeless people hang in the balance.

DI CAELERS
Weekend Argus Reporter

HUNDREDS of thousands of homeless people shiver in the grip of another icy winter while the dilemma of the Cape squatters continues to deepen.

The Cape Provincial Administration says R4.5 billion is needed to provide serviced sites for the province’s squatters and the bottom line is that kind of money to get things moving quickly is unavailable.

But the ANC believes the site and service trend whereby squatters are provided with a piece of land and basic services such as roads, water, and sewage — to be a “naive and shortsighted policy” that is a sure “recipe for conflict”.

“That form of development is not appropriate for existing development areas. The ‘self-help’ process inevitably becomes the ‘help-yourself’ process which impacts negatively on the neighbours,” Mr Basil Davidson, head of the ANC’s policy development section, told Weekend Argus.

The answer, he said, lay in smaller groupings of sensitive- ly designed working-class housing that fitted into the fabric of the local community.

But, Mr Koos Theron, MEC for urbanisation, pointed out that each serviced site cost in the region of R6 000 and that in Khayelitsha alone there were 32 000 black households waiting for such sites.

It would be a “grave mistake to create expectations we can’t meet”.

“Urbanisation is here to stay. We can’t get away from that. The question is whether we can deal with it, and I believe we can. But it’s going to take time, a change in attitudes and a hell of a lot of money,” Mr Theron said.

He explained that the CPA had in the past year identified land in the Philippi/Cape Flats area for possible settlement of homeless people. Mr Theron refused to divulge the details but said: “We are in the process of pulling together a financial package, with contributions from various sources, which if it succeeds will see us providing enough serviced sites for the homeless within the next five years.”

But the ANC said the “idea of rounding up all the people who don’t have houses and lumping them into one area” was not the answer.

For the long term, a metropolitan housing authority to co-ordinate housing across the city was essential. “We need an overall metropolitan strategy to address the location of working-class housing close to where people work throughout the metropolitan area.

“It is not possible to solve the squattting problem piecemeal, suburb by suburb. We have a plethora of ineffectual local authorities, none of which have the strategy or ability to strategise at metropolitan lev- el,” Mr Davidson said.

Mr Theron told Weekend Argus that he believes Cape Administrators Mr Kobus Meiring and other CPA officials had long urged local authorities to identify land “pro-actively to handle the influx of the poor people if and when it happens”, but that “some communities are under the impression that it is never going to happen to them”.

He said there was only one way to deal with the urbanisation problem: “Instead of trying to control squatting we need to start managing urbanisation.

“But the problems with identifying land for the poor pro-active is that we don’t have unlimited funds to buy and service land, and that we need to take into account the interests of the settled communities.”

Cape Town’s city planner, Mr Neville Riley, said every local authority had its own peculiar attitude to how to solve the problem, but what was common to all was that the squatter issue was an increasing problem.

“The influx of people into Cape Town is a function of the downturn in our economy and is part of our changing city. Unless we see a dramatic improvement in our regional and national economy, this trend will be with us for some time.”

Mr Riley said Cape Town City Council had adopted a sympathetic approach to squatters and that unless an overall strategy for the homeless was formulated, the city could well become a dumping ground for the poor.

“If an abutting local authority has a hard line, they could well hustle out the squatters before they get a chance to settle there. That’s why we all need to get together to decide on one plan for us all.”

Mr John Marshall, Bellville Town Clerk, told Weekend Argus that he believed the squatter crisis was a regional problem: “But I think the general trend is that local communities will, more and more, have to accept if not the entire, then a certain degree of responsibility for this kind of thing.”

Unifracanco managing director Mr Louis Kriel, at his recent address at the Weekend Argus/Cape Chamber of Industries Exporter of the Year dinner, called on the Cape’s business and community leaders to devise a “Cape Action Plan”.

This plan would include ensuring that someone in the administration take responsibility for finding and implementing fair but firm solutions to the province’s most pressing problem — squatters.

“One cannot help but get the impression that our regional (and national) authorities are currently in ‘lame-duck mode’. Don’t rock the boat seems to be the order of the day rather than entrepreneurial and bold decision-making.”

If this continued, he said, it would be a sad legacy left to an inexperienced new administration.
HUNDREDS of Duncan Village shack dwellers spent a sleepless night at the Gompo Community Hall last night after Wednesday night's raging fire.

Over 100 shackies were destroyed in two fires, fanned by a Berg wind.

Fire department officials said the cause of the fire was unknown.

But residents said two fires were started by a leaking paraffin stove and a fallen candle.

They said two brothers fell asleep leaving a candle burning on top of a radio speaker.

"Both the youths ran away wearing only their underwear after they woke up and found the shack in flames," said a resident.

Firefighters, assisted by residents using buckets, fought the blaze for over three hours.

A resident said the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (Numsa) had to stop a meeting in the hall to make way for the homeless residents.

Relief work saw two old foes – the Duncan Village Residents' Association (DVRA) and the Gompo Town Committee – carrying out relief work together.

A DVRA official said: "We had no choice but to forget about our differences."
Cape Squatters

September 1992

Nqimane of the

HOME: Stungaford Mangwangane at the „front door“ a structure of wood and plastic sheets. Top right: Mahakeisha phews tea on one of the two primus stoves. Above: Still room for a smile as Stungaford smiles.
Self-help, and soccer for Small Chiefs

Hollomna Village, named after Transtec, which has close links with the new learning and mass media initiatives, is part of the large numbers of households in Alexandra that have benefited from the Shack Management System (SMS) programme launched by the Department of Housing.

The shack villages, with tarred streets, are only about 2 km away from the city. They are made of corrugated iron and clad in wood, with eventually every household owner building on to their shack, a veranda.

The Shack Management System programme is designed to empower residents of the shacks to take control of their living environment.

Mr. Mangwane, 46, a building construction labourer in bidicalls, is battling to plug numerous leaks in the roof while his eldest daughter Elizbeth, 15, comforts the sobbing one-year-old baby boy Mihlumelile (liberator in Xhosa).

We tried to talk to him about the exercise but he told us it was futile. He cursed the rain. It has also stopped work on the building site in the Tygerberg where he is employed and he will lose a day's pay - a meagre, but vital R25.

Banging on corrugated iron can be heard as neighbours frantically try to fix leaks.

When the drizzle eases an hour later I paddle on bench and survey the surroundings.

The shanty, housing seven people, measures about four by three metres. The uneven walls, made of planks of various shapes and sizes, are covered with old newspapers.

The ground is partly covered with bits of tattered matting, plastic, mealie sacks and canvass. Some parts are bare, revealing patches of sand.

A small hole covered with plastic serves as a window. There is a single legless “bed” standing on empty paint containers.

On a plank resting on a plastic rubber bin is a half-burnt candle, a bottle of methylated spirits for cooking and a 750ml bottle of a brownish liquid 1 learns is traditional medicine for the baby.

A few clothes, including old but recognisable school uniforms, hang against the wall next to the bed.

Cooking utensils – two old primus stoves, a kettle, two pots, a few dishes and a bucket of water – are on a newspaper-covered plank standing on two 25 litre paint containers.

The utensils look clean but the shake is a buzz with flies.

Strong below the leaking roof, fastened to two corners, are two Zion Christian Church ropes, one green and one yellow.

Mr. Mangwane, a preacher, explains the ropes are meant to thwart any evil spirits that may affect his family.

Hardship, raising a large family and a husband who never has a regular job for more than a year, have been features of Agnes Mangwane's life since the family arrived in Cape Town from Transkei in 1993.

Stanford nearly went blind when wet concrete struck him in both eyes in Vereeniging, where he worked as a labourer for a construction company in 1972. Without his spectacles, he can hardly see.

He is also an asthma victim who spends weeks on bed in hospital.

Although he has hard jobs as a security guard at a number of firms, he has been retrenched often because of ill health.

Agnes, 46, a quiet, strong woman, at times had to raise the children on her own. When they lived in Site C, she said other women used to work on farms in Philippi to augment their income.

Things are tough, she says. Some of the children go to school breaded because Mr. Mangwane's meagre wage they can afford to buy them shoes only in turn.

Back in Site C, things were no better and 15-year-old Mathhekase used to join her mother during school holidays as a farm labourer in Philippi, she recalls with no sign of bitterness.

Part 2 in The Argus tomorrow
Squatter funds are missing

A LARGE sum of money collected from squatters by the Grahamstown Civic Association is unaccounted for, says an auditor’s report released by the organisation’s former general secretary Mr Dan Sandi.

Sandi released documents yesterday which showed that hundreds of residents of the Hlalani squatter camp had paid R200 each to secure sites in the Makanashop/Kings Flats development area.

According to receipts, an amount of R73 810 had been collected for the Makanashop/Kings Flats Administration Fund.

Some of the funds had been deposited at First National Bank. The auditor’s report, however, showed that an amount of between R31 420 and R32 695 was not accounted for.

Sandi said he felt it was his duty as outgoing general secretary “to investigate the truth about the poor and homeless people’s money, especially where corruption is suspected”.

Grica publicity secretary, Mr Lizo Zakhe, said his organisation was investigating the disappearance of the money and would issue a statement later.

“The Press statement issued by Sandi is unofficial, as it was given without a mandate from the executive members of Grica. His term of office as general secretary of Grica terminated as from March when he was elected as national secretary general of SA National Civic Organisation,” said Zakhe.

Sandi said even before his election to the Sanco national executive committee he had never received any financial reports. The Grica representative responsible for paying the collected funds into Unifound’s bank account declined to comment. - Ecna.
Squatters ‘won’t pay rent’

Staff Reporter

ABOUT 1 200 Khayelitsha squatters yesterday marched to the offices of the Linglethu West Town Council to inform the council that they were not going to pay rent.

A spokesman said the council had built toilets on a site near an area in the sprawling township known as Macassar by the residents, and were now demanding that squatters there pay rent.

He said most of the people were unemployed. The decision to march followed meetings with the council which failed to resolve the issue.

A spokesman for the council said yesterday they will meet with the Western Cape civic association and the squatter representatives early next week.
No 'taste of honey' for Koekenaap

By Quentin Wilson

AT THE ENTRANCE to the coloured township of Koekenaap is a sign saying "Strictly No Squatting". For more than 200 African people, this means they have no place to stay — even though their work keeps them on the Cape West Coast.

The sign has not made these people disappear. Nor has officialdom, which demolished their shacks five times in August 1989.

Africans are still living in Koekenaap, although they have been driven into hiding. Some stay with friends in the coloured township, some live on the farms where they work, while others live in hostels near the silver mines.

Since the confrontations in 1989, the Koekenaap Squatters' Association has negotiated with the local authorities for the right to squat. Three years later the talks have stalled in the face of unfulfilled promises. Now the squatters are preparing to engage the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA) in a struggle for land.

The chairperson of the Squatters' Association, Mr Victor Mguga, has announced that squatters will rebuild their dwellings this month on a piece of land 7km from the white town of Lutzville. This land has systematically been cleared of Africans since 1960.

"After listening to endless promises by the authorities, we are getting tired of being let down. They do nothing but smear honey on our lips and then don't allow us to taste it," Mguga said.

"The squatters initially discussed their problems with the Lutzville municipality. The municipality referred them to a Vredendaal magistrate who in turn directed them to the Divisional Council in Vanrhynsdorp. Then the issue was discussed with the Regional Services Council and later the CPA.

The Moerreesburg municipality was drawn in and the Boerevereniging (Farmers' Association) voiced its disapproval at the granting of squatting rights.

The upshot of all these discussions were promises, or "promises of a positive reply", as Mguga put it. The first "positive reply" came in May last year when authorities in Moerreesburg said they would sort out the problem within a month. A year has gone by and the squatters don't believe that the latest promise — houses by August — will come to fruition.

Mguga said: "Our intention now is to return to the same land and rebuild where our shacks were demolished and where we were arrested.

"We'll probably get arrested but that is better than having no place to stay in winter."

CPA spokesperson Ms Gerda Pretorius said the administration — with squatters leaders and all other relevant bodies — was identifying suitable land for settlement. She said the CPA were only facilitators in the process, not landowners, and could not therefore give permission for anyone to erect a structure.

Pretorius added that 40 serviced sites in Koekenaap were available and that people could contact the RSC to obtain these sites.

"This is not good enough," said Mguga. "We don't want any more temporary accommodation. We want back the land that was stolen from us by apartheid all those years ago."
Dear God, let it shine!

By Chiara Carter

PLEASE God, let the sun shine! (30)

This was the sentiment of storm-weary Capetonians this week. At least three people died, another was reported missing and thousands bore the brunt of the icy weather and gale-force storms that battered the Cape Peninsula this week.

Two men and a woman died in the Boland area in storm-related incidents.

Crushed

Henrica Smit, a 28-year-old Robertson farmworker, was crushed to death by a tree uprooted in the storm.

Two men huddling over a gas stove inside a lorry died from a gas leak. Their names have not yet been released.

A former Fulbright scholar, Nicolas Penny, is lost and presumed dead in the icy Cedarberg mountains after an adventure trip down a river in an inner tube went wrong in stormy conditions last weekend.

Thousands of houses and businesses experienced electricity failure as a result of branches falling on power lines. Several homes had walls blown over in gale-force winds, while others' roofs were swept away by the gusts.

As children frolicked in the snow that appeared on surrounding mountain ranges, the two major roads into the Cape were closed to traffic.

Hardest hit were hundreds of thousands of squatters whose homes were flooded by the torrential rain.

Lingelihle West town clerk Graham Lawrence said there was severe flooding in the giant dormitory township, Khayelitsha.

In Brown Farm, Philippa, women resorted to scooping water out of their flooded shacks and in some places furniture was literally adrift in the muddy water.

Nandipa Mankahla, 20, could only shake her head in disbelief as the floodwater rose above the legs of her lounge couch.

Her neighbour Nontetha Mbeza said she feared for the health of her baby, seven-month-old Nyanda, whose cot was awash in the water.

But while their elders shivered and prayed for sunshine, the kids managed to turn the weather to their advantage.

Iron tubs were turned into boats and one enterprising youngster was taught himself to swim on a lake that appeared overnight outside his home.

DEVASTATION OF DELUGE . . . It never rained, but poured for families in Brown Farm squatter camp outside Cape Town. Nandipa Mankahla, 20, and unidentified relative, right, were caught in the floods this week.  — Pic FANIE JASON
Squatter demo in council

Police arrested 57 people who occupied the Saldanha Town Council chamber on Monday in a protest to demand land on which to squat.
Residents Expose Vigilante Plan
Squatters pressured to move — to the ‘toilet’

By Justin Pearce

KRAAIPOE:IN’S Bloekombos squatters are under pressure to move their homes onto the land they have used as a toilet.

The Kraaifontein municipality intends building factories on the site where the squatters live. The Cape Provincial Administration has offered the squatters the site across the road, which has been rejected by the squatters as it consider it unhygienic.

“The residents of Bloekombos want rights, we want water, toilets and refuse removal,” said Mr Sam Tolokozi, who has lived at Bloekombos for eight years.

“At present, we have to buy water from the CPA at R2.50 for 25 litres.

“The CPA want to move us to the dirty bush across the road — that is our toilet and rubbish dump. We will force them to meet our demands.”

The lack of accountability in the decisions has also angered the squatters, said Ms Doris Newat, chairperson of the Kraaifontein ANC branch.

“The people are saying no to industrial development. The decision has been made without consultation.

“The squatters will not move unless they are given houses.”

Last week, several hundred members of the Bloekombos squatter community marched to the Kraaifontein municipal offices to demand that they not be evicted.

Speaking at a rally before the march, SACP general secretary Mr Chris Hani compared the situation of the Bloekombos squatters to that of District Six residents who were thrown out of their homes by the nationalist regime.

No comment was received from the CPA and Kraaifontein municipality before going to press.
There's a farm in Belville which produces only human misery — hundreds of tenants are living there in unhygienic, overcrowded conditions and paying exorbitant rents.

REHANA ROSSOUW reports:

A CLOUD OF black flies hovers over the abolution block in an old prison which houses more than a hundred families. The flies settle on mounds of refuse, overflowing toilets and small children’s faces. The stench is nauseating. The squalor and human misery is pitiful.

Morgan’s Farm in Stikland, Belville, is home to more than 300 people who pay exorbitant rents for minimal shelter.

The old prison on the farm, which does not seem to have been seen a list of paint for decades, is home to over 100 people.

The farm itself employs only a handful of labourers. All the labourers’ cottages have been rented out to people who work in the surrounding industrial area.

A few squatters on the farm are constantly under threat of being evicted as they live there illegally.

Some of the tenants in the prison block — called “Die Tref” by the residents — were originally workers on the farm who grew too old to be productive.

Mrs Katie Ollivant and her husband, Mr Piet Jacobs, pay R15 a week to sleep in the draughty corridor of the prison block.

Jacobs worked on the farm until he was involved in a car accident. “This is no way to get old,” he said. “One winter morning we will be found dead in our beds,” Ollivant said.

“But where else can we go? We’ve been on the farm since we were young.”

Mrs Annie Leonard, her husband and her two-year-old daughter have been living in a squalid cell two metres wide and about three metres deep for three months. Their rent is R10 a week.

The only furniture they could fit into the cramped space is a single bed, a shelf and a tiny table for their gas stove.

“This place is very cold and very dirty. It’s no place to raise a child, a lot of the children here have TB. It’s like living in hell,” Leonard said.

Leonard’s boys were from one of the residents in a labourers’ cottage, for R5 for 25 items.

When the weather is bad, she and her daughter spend all day inside their “cell”, which has no windows.

“We have to get out of here before the end of the year or else I will go crazy,” she said. “I feel as if I’m locked in this prison for life.” At least the Leonard’s have a roof over their heads.

Mr Edward Valentine and his wife live under a sheet of plastic held up by a few pieces of wood on the farm — and pay R5 a week.

Their plastic sheet just about covers the single bed they sleep on and their shelter isn’t high enough to allow them to stand upright.

They have an 11-year-old daughter who lives with one of the families in a labourer’s cottage on the farm — for R80 a month.

“We couldn’t keep her with us in the block. When it rains, the water seeps our bed,” Valentine said.

“There’s nothing we can do about it, we have to sleep under wet blankets until they dry.”

In the past year, Valentine has been arrested twice for trespassing.

“I was arrested for being on the farm. We pay our rent to Mr Morgan’s grandson, who is a policeman,” he said.

“The knows it’s illegal for us to live like this but he comes in his police uniform to collect our R50.”

Last month about 10 families living in the labourers’ cottages were served with eviction notices as some of the farmland is being developed as an industrial site.

Their attempts to stop the evictions and find alternative housing brought their plight to the attention of the Belville ANC branch and the local civic.

“I was really shocked when I saw the conditions at Morgan’s Farm. White people would not even allow their dogs to live under these circumstances,” said Mr Anthony Fraser, spokesperson for the ANC branch.

“We will definitely be pressuring the municipality to do something about this situation.”

Mr Coen Roux, a lawyer acting for the farm’s owners, refused to comment on the conditions at the premises and threatened to take legal action against SOUTH if the paper published this story.
Counting the cost of a divided Czechoslovakia

The election rebuffs open the prospect of the country being ruled by a president, prime minister and government until the nation splits at the end of September.

Last month, Czech and Slovak leaders meeting in Bratislava moved from a policy of trying to work together toward an attempt to separate peacefully.

But given the tragic events in Sarajevo, pump-primed ethnic hatreds could be beyond the ability of the current leaders to achieve.

On the surface, the division of the Czechoslovak state appears to be Bogus.

In terms that when the people went to the polls during this month's general elections, they were considering a majority issue.

Having existed as a single state since 1918, the Czech and Slovak parts are closely integrated and are economically interdependent.

Fifty years of communist rule since the war consoli- dated this integration.

But if the Czechs and Slovaks are to come out of the next few years without disintegrating their economies, they are unlikely to regain admission to the European Community which nearly every state in Europe now yearns to join.

European Commission President Jacques Delors has called the Bratislava decision "a big mistake".

Already it has led to Czechoslovakia being omitted from a provisional list of countries that have applied to join the EC at the end of the century.

But the tensions inside the federal state are such that what from afar appears likely is unlikely to prevail.

The main winners in the general election — the Czech leader of the Civic Democratic Party (ODS), Miroslav Kousek, and his Slovak adversary, Mr Vladimir Meciar of the Movement for a Democratic Slovakia (HZDS) — were elected on manifestos which were politically as well as nationally far right.

Klaus, architect of the right-wing reform programmes, wants to see the acceleration of the infant privatisation programme leading an untouched market economy.

Perhaps this programme could work in the more economically advanced Czech Republic in the west of the country, but for Slovaks it would spell economic disaster.

Slovakia is based mainly on the old Soviet model and consists of large-scale, inefficient industrial plants which would face a hopeless task if they were to compete in a market economy.

Meciar won the elections in Slovakia with promises to slow down the privatisation process.

He said Western investment had so far strongly favoured the Czech republic: Prague and not Bratislava would gain from Klaus' reform programme.

Unemployment in Slovakia — over 10 per cent — is already double that of the rest of the country.

But even Meciar must concede that an independent Slovakia would face serious economic problems if left to its own devices.

The realisation in both nations that a permanent schism would be disastrous, no doubt could still stultify the split.

Havel, who led the "velvet revolution" which overthrew the Stalinist government two and a half years ago, has fought for the retention of the federal state.

"If a decision is taken that our federation is not going to exist any longer, we are not going to be engaged in liquefying it," said Havel,

who will come under heavy pressure to head a new Czech state.

Ironically, most of the public pressure for retaining the federal state is now in Slovakia where pressure for more self- state was stronger.

Klaus has no idea of a "confederation and instead after election that there could only be strong separation or a complex division.

In doing so, he has forced himself into the position of leading a two-state solution. After the Bratislava talks, Mr Havel said: "The ODS does not countenance a confederation and prefers two independent states, that is, the constitutional partition of the state."
‘White bones’ threat to
woman squatter leader

JOHAN SCHRÖNEN

Crime Staff

MILNERTON police defused an
explosive situation at Choegoe Town
squatter camp in Koeberg Road when
a committee meeting ended in dead-
lock over possible resettlement.

A spokesman for the squatters said
100 men and women collected pangas,
knives and knobkerries from their
shacks and threatened to kill and
makiw “white bones” out of their lead-
er, Miss Nancy Booy; after the meet-
ing broke up last night.

The spokesman, who asked not
to be named, said the meeting
was called to debate resettling at De
Noon Farm, a few kilometres away.

“Life has become unbearable in
Choegoe Town. It is overcrowded and
people are killed almost every week-
end in fighting between groups. Our
houses are burnt to the ground and all
our belongings are left in ashes.”

The police Internal Stability Unit
was called and monitored the armed
group from a distance until they dis-
perssed.

Several shacks were burnt during
fighting at the weekend.
SAP agrees in principle on demonstration guidelines

CAPE TOWN — The police agreed with the “cornerstone premises” of the multinational panel on lawful control of demonstrations in South Africa, counsel for the SAP told the Goldstone Commission in Cape Town yesterday.

At the hearing, at which recommendations were made for “peaceful and effective” demonstrations involving cooperation between organizers, police and local authorities, Dennis Gordon, SC, said the police agreed that their obligation was to uphold the right of people to assemble peacefully, but also to protect life and property.

Not all aspects of the report were acceptable to the police, who felt that in some respects the panel had exceeded its terms of reference and was wrong to believe that foreign police forces could be models for South Africa.

It was “monumentally naive” to regard train passengers “bent on murder and mayhem” in the same light as European soccer thugs.

On dangerous weapons and forcible disarmament of protesters, Mr Gordon said the police would “carry out the law” where organizers had failed to exercise control.

Police agreed that notices should be given for demonstrations, where this was not done, or, in the case of spontaneous gatherings, they would make an effort to seek out organizers to negotiate conditions to ensure control.

Police did not agree with panel recommendations that lethal force was not justified to protect property, and said that in the case of hospitals, water purification plants, electrical installations and buildings occupied by people, they believed lethal force could be justified.

As “guardians of public peace” and “protectors of public rights” they wished to have the ability to take preventive action where lives and property were threatened, not “when the threat is already afoot”, Mr Gordon said.

The police believed the Supreme Court should be used to its full potential in setting precedents on the prohibition of demonstrations and the carrying of traditional or cultural weapons.

“Wec endorse the right of human beings to assemble peacefully and wish to be upholders of it, but there are potential circumstances in this country where a proposed gathering or demonstration ought, in the interest of public peace, to be prevented,” he said.

Mr Gordon said the SAP did not believe the panel had addressed “the high level of fear” on the part of protesters, the police and the public — “a legacy of the past”.

The ANC and Cosatu believed that gatherings at which protesters carried dangerous weapons should be prohibited and that demonstrators should be forcibly disarmed if necessary, said Professor Pink Raysom.

L J L Visser, SC, for the Inkhata Freedom Party and the KwaZulu government, said that if the carrying of weapons — cultural or otherwise — had the propensity for, or the espousing of, violence, it would have to be prohibited.

However, the organisation he represented believed there had to be a distinction between cultural and political gatherings, and that an option might be to make special provision for the police to transport cultural weapons to and from events.

In the open session yesterday at which the ANC, the police, Cosatu, the IFP and the Department of Justice reported back on their consultations on the panel’s recommendations for peaceful and effective gatherings and demonstrations, chairman Mr Justice Richard Goldstone said there had been general agreement on the principles.

The hearing convenes today to hear the panel’s reaction to the responses put before them yesterday.
Toilets, taps for squatters

/services are now being installed at 450 residential sites of about 160m² each at Noordhoek's Site Five informal settlement area.

Each site will have a water-flushed toilet and a tap. Electricity may be installed later.

The community of former squatters have also approved sites for a crèche, a clinic, churches and sports fields.

The developer, Power Construction, has created 30 temporary jobs for Site Five residents.

Low-cost houses for Vrygrond residents?

The Cape Town City Council is considering providing low-cost housing for the residents of Vrygrond, near Muizenberg East.

Housing committee chairman Mr Neil Ross said yesterday that a decision had not yet been taken.

A low-grade house developed by Sappi was being tested under local conditions at Lavender Hill.

The house costs R4 500 and is built on a concrete slab that costs another R2 000. It has a flush toilet in an outside cubicle and an outside tap for drinking water, but no electricity.

A paying tenant living in the house during the test period was out when the Cape Times visited.

The container-sized house (eight paces by four) has walls of a type of hardboard and a corrugated asbestos roof.

It has a door and two windows in the front and one window at the back. Neighbours said it was not divided into rooms.
Chase them out with guns
R45m plan to bring lights to townships

ESKOM plans to spend R45m in the Cape this year to bring electricity to 3,000 homes — including to some squatter camps.

And over the next five years, the electricity-supply company will spend an additional R200m to install 75,000 new "connections" in private homes and businesses in the region.

This forms part of Eskom's target of supplying three million South African homes with electricity within the next four years.

To ensure that electricity supplied to informal settlements is paid for, Eskom will install pre-pay meters fed with coupons sold from central distribution points. In this way consumers would pay for electricity "up-front" as they used it, thus avoiding the possibility of a huge backlog of unpaid bills.

"At the same time Eskom has resolved to cut the real price of electricity by 20 percent by 1996.

"This means that price hikes for the next five years will remain below 10 percent and well below projected rates of inflation," a spokesman for Eskom said.

Harmony

According to Mr Ronnie Kingwill, Eskom's Cape distribution manager, Eskom has undergone a programme of restructuring to achieve these targets and to improve its service to its customers.

In the Cape, 600 employees will be axed to bring staff numbers down from 4,000 to 3,700.

"Growth through increased sales, electrification and customer service in harmony with the new South Africa are the focal points of Eskom's restructuring programme," said Mr Kingwill in Cape Town this week.

He said that by achieving its targets over the next five years, Eskom hoped to promote growth in the informal sector and improve living standards for many South Africans.

Eskom was willing to provide electricity to everyone who wanted it — and was prepared to pay for it, he said.

Projects in the Western Cape earmarked by Eskom for this year include the electrification of Uitkyk, Karasupark/Craigsrivier, Kylemore, Uitsig, Ebenhaezer missionary station, Klipfontein, Baron and Riebeek/Kasteel.

According to an Eskom study, 85 percent of formal houses in the Cape Town metropolitan area are electrified compared with 11 percent for the rest of South Africa.

Demand

An Eskom statement says the company planned to work with the Western Cape Growth Organisation to investigate ways in which it could contribute to regional growth through the use of electricity.

In addition to improving the living standards of township residents, electricity could help to "kick-start" the economy by increasing the demand for electrical equipment, the statement said.

The sale of more units of electricity is vital in keeping costs down.

Disclosing that electricity has "penetrated" 27 percent of the energy market in South Africa, Mr Kingwill said the targets of electrification set by Eskom would promote growth in the informal sector.

The turnover of Eskom's Cape distributor is expected to grow from the present R1.5 billion to more than R2 billion by 1994.

Its operating budget for 1992 is R200m and it has a capital expansion budget of R200m.
Squatters call for probe into missing money

GRAHAMSTOWN. — Residents of Grahamstown’s Raini township have appointed a commission of inquiry to investigate the disappearance of thousands of rands from a fund set up for squatters.

The appointment was made at a mass meeting today at which the Grahamstown Civic Association (Graca) gave a report on the missing funds.

The meeting was not satisfied with the report, and instructed the commission to come up with a detailed and audited financial statement.

The issue of the missing money came to light last month, when former Graca secretary general Dan Sandi publicly released an auditor’s report indicating an amount between R31,420 and R32,695 was missing.

The money was collected to secure sites in a local development area. — Ecoa.
RESIDENTS of Wallacedene squatting camp, as well as police, believe business rivalry may be behind the shooting that took place there on Tuesday night.

Mr Churchill Fortuin — also known as “Faizel” — and a man identified by residents as Mr Attie Malombi were shot dead by unidentified gunmen in the settlement near Kraaifontein.

The bullets seem to have been intended for tavern owner Mr Bennett Brown, also known as “Biza”, who was lightly injured.

Brown’s brother-in-law, Mr Leonard Joel, and two men identified as “Whitey” and “Sametime” held David Brown and three others at gunpoint in the tavern and ransacked the building.

According to Brown, one of the men said: “You can be thankful we’re saving your lives — but we’re coming back for Biza.”

On Tuesday night, the men returned in a bakkie and fired at least 12 shots at the group of men who were sitting at a brazier outside the tavern.

Detective Constable Sydney van den Heever of the Kraaifontein detective unit said business rivalry was the suspected motive for the shooting.

Bennett Brown could not be reached for comment.
Illegals to squat

Squatters to Put

Draft
Seifsa court bid delayed

COURT action to have a threatened strike in the metal industry declared illegal has been delayed until tomorrow, Steel and Engineering Industries Federation of SA (Seifsa) spokesman Mr Hendrik van der Heever said yesterday.

Seifsa, representing over 3200 companies, launched the application against the 170 000-member National Union of Metalworkers of SA (Numska) in Pretoria on Monday.

"We are in the process of seeking to have the strike declared illegal. There appears to have been major irregularities (in balloting), we were not informed of the ballot outcome and we have good reason to believe that the ballot was unsuccessful."

Cape motorists warned

MOTORISTS have been warned by Cape Town deputy administrator Mr Alan Dolby to stay out of town today if possible.

Supporters of the ANC alliance are expected to take to the freeways to march from Langa to the Grand Parade in Cape Town.

Dolby said the city council had reluctantly agreed to the march because the alternative would have been a confrontation between police and marchers.

Emergency by stealth

BY using its powers to declare unrest areas, the Government has effectively achieved a "state of emergency by stealth" in the PWV townships where 5 000 police and soldiers have been deployed, the Human Rights Commission has charged.

"This achieves much the same purpose as an open declaration. It is equally to be condemned and rejected as a violation of basic human rights," the HRC said yesterday.

Boipatong probe starts

THE Goldstone Commission of Inquiry into public violence and intimidation today begins its investigation into the June 17 Boipatong massacre.

The commission will be sitting at the Vereeniging Civic Centre from 10am and will be chaired by Mr Justice Richard Goldstone, who will be assisted by, among others, Mr Justice PM Bagwati, former chief Justice of India.

Forty nine people died in the Boipatong massacre when a large group of armed men attacked the township.

Squatters stage sit-in

ABOUT 500 ANC members from the Mandela Park squatter settlement at Hout Bay yesterday staged a sit-in in front of the Hout Bay Forest Station, demanding a meeting with a senior Regional Services Council official.

This follows the refusal by the chief forester at Hout Bay to accept a memorandum from the squatters demanding more land for Mandela Park.
A RECENT exhibition and

Sculptor's shady art takes up social theme

STITES AND SERVICES: Sculptor Angola Pemzira gives her

Sculptor's shady art takes up social theme

She has turned to sculpture to express her viewpoint on social issues.
CPA gives nod to squatter demands

JOSEPH ARANES, Staff Reporter

ABOUT 100 ANC supporters marched on the Cape Provincial Administration building in Wale Street and demanded to meet the Administrator.

A delegation of five led by Kraaifontein branch chairman Ms Doris Neewat was allowed to enter the premises yesterday afternoon to meet Mr Chris Möller, director of Physical Planning.

The meeting lasted two hours and both parties agreed in principle on the need to have toilets and water installed at the Bloekombos squatter settlement in Kraaifontein.

The CPA also agreed to consult the Regional Services Council about arrears in rent and other service charges.

Ms Neewat said the CPA would ask the RSC not to evict or have people in those areas arrested until a meeting on September 1, when all the parties would discuss problems in the Kraaifontein area.
More space for squatters

THE Hout Bay Regional Services Council's nursery and fire-fighting sites have been earmarked for an extension of the Imizamo Yethu squatter settlement in Hout Bay.

The squatters currently occupy 8 ha of forestry land belonging to the RSC.

Mr Jo Lazarus, chairman of the Hout Bay liaison committee, said the ratepayers had agreed that 16 ha of "habitable" land should be set aside for the squatters.

He said the liaison committee was putting pressure on the Cape Provincial Administration to procure the RSC nursery site and fire-fighting unit because this land was habitable.

Mr Lazarus said this request had been made because it would save most of the wooded areas of stone pines on the forestry land and would stop development on steep, rocky slopes which were essentially not suitable for development.

A CPA spokesman said that a decision had been made in May to extend the existing 8 ha site by a further 10 ha.
Squatters to get basic services

Staff Reporter

The Cape Provincial Administration will arrange for the urgent provision of municipal services at Bloemfontein and Wallacedene squatter camps near Kraifontein.

This followed a meeting between Cape Administrator Mr. Kobus Meiring and a delegation of the ANC's Kraifontein branch.

In a joint statement, the two parties said the CPA would contract the services of a private company to provide toilets and water points to the squatter camps on an interim basis until the issue of a local authority for the areas had been settled.

The CPA said it had not been possible to implement these measures before "due to the insistence of the communities that the Kraifontein Municipality should render them, and the refusal of the municipality to do so".
A R200 000 boost is on the way to improve squatter dwellings and complete 10 crèches at settlements on the Cape Flats.

FROM Brown’s Farm to Miller’s Camp and KTC, Cape Town’s estimated one million squatters can safely get their hopes up.

The Philippi Technical Training Project, initiated by the Urban Foundation, has just been given R200 000 by the American-based Stewart Mott Foundation towards higher building standards in informal dwellings and towards daytime havens for toddlers.

The training project teaches people how to build houses, concentrating so far on timber construction accredited by the South African Lumber Mills Association (SALMA).

And with the Informal Settlement Support Programme, the scheme makes affordable building materials available to poorer communities.

In the course of training people to build homes for themselves, it imparts skills which help them get jobs.

Part of the Mott Foundation grant will go towards crèches at Brown’s Farm, Miller’s Camp, KTC, Black City, Tambo Square, Mpeta Square and Mpinga Square.
Hout Bay forest site to be used for informal housing

By JESSICA BEZUINDEN

AN INFORMAL housing settlement is to be established shortly at the present site of the Hout Bay Forestry Station in spite of a battle to conserve a section of the forest containing trees from all over the world.

The new development is an extension of the Imizamo Yethu settlement and forms part of the Cape Provincial Administration “responsibility” to develop an “informal” residential area in Hout Bay to help deal with urbanisation.

At present the squatter settlement is on only eight hectares and this has become too small for further orderly development.

Negotiations between the CPA, the RSC and the Hout Bay Liaison Committee has led to an agreement for 18 hectares of the 34-hectare forest site to be used for residential development.

By negotiating with the RSC for a further 10 ha of land, the CPA hoped to alleviate the plight of the homeless by providing informal settlement areas and services such as roads, storm water drainage, sewerage and street lighting.

The additional 10 ha was needed to provide about 650 serviced sites.

But local residents concerned about the conservation of the forest are battling to prevent eventual use of the whole 34 ha site.

Ms Lisa Kruger-Liptrot said it was believed that the forestry station had been asked to vacate its premises within six months.

“Why are they doing this if they do not intend to use the whole site eventually?” She said that happen, she said, the forestry station would have to be re-established at an “extremely” high cost.

The “eventual utilisation” of the 34 ha site for the settlement and community related facilities formed part of “ongoing” negotiations between the CPA, the broader Hout Bay community and the Hout Bay Liaison Committee, an RSC statement says.

To make the land available as soon as possible, “some of the RSC’s facilities would be affected”, the statement said.
Sleep in push
17 Families: Demolitions

They spend their nights in the open air where they lay their heads and stretch their arms for a nap. They say they prefer to lie in the open air, where they can breathe fresh air and feel the sun on their skin.

UNDER OPEN SKIES: The Mourning Adhese uptake daughter, Thomya, for a nap in the open air where she lies flat on her back, stretching her arms and legs wide open. Her family says she is comfortable in the open air and prefers it to the stuffy rooms of their home.

*Report by Vusi Kamara*

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**307**

**AGI 11 | 42**
New homes for city squatters

Municipal Reporter

EIGHTEEN Fish Hoek squatter families are to be relocated soon to serviced plots in Noordhoek's Site Five, where they will join nearly 500 other families.

Mr Faan Naudé, regional director of the CPA's community services branch, announced this week that the servicing of 454 plots at Site Five should be completed by the middle of October, ahead of schedule.

More than half of the 500 families who will move onto those 454 plots are already living on Site Five, but on land that does not have tap water or a sewerage system.

Another 100 live in nearby "Green Point", which is also on the southern side of Noordhoek Road.

A spokesman said extensive talks had taken place over the allocation of the sites, and it was expected the move would be peaceful.

Households will pay R25 a month for their services, unless they are completely destitute, in which case they will have to pay just 75c.

Street lights should be installed by the end of this year. There will be at least four public telephones on the site.

Site Five already has three school committees, functioning under the chairmanship of Ms Sandy Dowling of the Catholic Welfare Bureau.
Hangover law squatters arrested

THE arrest of 18 squatters near Koekenaap this week was a hangover from former race laws, a senior local government official said yesterday.

Mr Chris Gunter, executive official of the West Coast Regional Services Council, said the arrests followed a series of attempted land occupations by blacks and more than two years of negotiations over their plight.

"We usually laid charges of illegal trespassing, but would withdraw them just before the case was due to be heard."

This week, however, RSC officials went ahead with charges after squatters built shacks near Koekenaap, about 300km north of Cape Town, and defied RSC orders to remove them by Wednesday night.

Mr Gunter said 15 sites were being surveyed near the town and could be available for sale for R250 each by mid-November.

On Thursday police arrested 10 men and eight women who appeared in court that day to face charges of trespassing, resisting arrest and damaging state property. They were released on R300 bail each and warned to appear on October 2.

"We are naturally sympathetic towards their plight," said Mr Gunter, who has been directly involved in negotiations with the squatters, the African National Congress, local authorities and the Cape Provincial Administration.

According to the Surplus People's Project, a service organisation that has been assisting the Koekenaap homeless, the squatters' problem is rooted in apartheid land allocation - no residential areas have been set aside for Africans in Namaqualand.

"Yes, the situation is a hangover of the old Group Areas Act," said Mr Gunter.

Mr Gunter said the RSC had tentatively arranged that the Lutsvile municipality accommodate the excess population from Koekenaap. — Sapa.
There was darkness, then there was light

By Rehana Rossouw

FRIDAY afternoon in the Wallacedene squatter camp in Kraaifontein. A gas dealer weaves his way down the narrow streets, filling cylinders on the back of his bakkie.

Some residents rush out with their cylinders. But many remain inside their shacks, huddled round their heaters or staring into their television sets — they have had electricity installed in their homes.

A joint project by the Cape Provincial Administration and Eskom has brought light and warmth to the squatter camp.

This is the first time an informal housing scheme is being serviced by Eskom.

At the entrance to the squatter camp an Eskom trailer is parked. A banner slung between the trailer and an electric pole bears the legend: "Switch to electricity".

In her two-roomed shack, Mrs Rosie Smit prepared a cup of coffee. She owns a fridge, television, kettle, iron, sandwich and twin tub washing machine.

She bought the appliances while she was living in a housing scheme, but after being evicted by the municipality, found a haven at Wallacedene.

"I spend far less money on electricity here than I did before, about R10 a week," said Smit.

"I'm very happy with the service we get, I have no complaints."

Down the road Rasta builder Ras Zabylon was negotiating a price for erecting a bungalow for one of his neighbours.

Zabylon's dwelling towers above his neighbour's shacks — it is three storeys high, higher than the electric poles in the street outside. It also stands out because of the reggae music blaring from within.

"I was connected to electricity four months ago and I can tell you I spend far less money than I did on petrol for my generator," Zabylon said.

"It's made a big difference to my pocket. I only spend about R30 a month on electricity and the generator cost R260 a month."

Zabylon has a video machine, a television and a hi-fi system. He plans to buy a stove, fridge and washing machine. "Things to make my life more convenient."

Next in line will be an electric drill to build bungalows at a faster rate.

Although more than 300 Wallacedene residents are connected to Eskom's power, some still use alternative forms of energy. Gas, firewood, petrol generators, paraffin and car batteries are still bringing light and warmth to some.

"My heart is so sore. My house is right next to an electric pole, but my children have to go next door to watch TV," said Mr Niels Moses.

He is 65 — close to retirement and earns R115 a week as a cleaner for the municipality. Although he earns enough to buy electricity, he isn't sure he can afford appliances this late in his life.

He uses a paraffin stove and burns wood to heat his shack. He plans to get electricity before the end of the year.

"I'll have to buy them (appliances) piece by piece, I won't be able to buy them possibly," Moses said.

"I definitely want a TV soon. My wife and I listen to the radio every night, but our children never keep quiet.

"If we had a TV, with pictures and all, the children would keep quiet at night.""

Eskom spokesperson Mr Charles Cooper said by mid-September 300 Wallacedene residents had connected to their service.

The residents purchase their power on the "Electricity dispensation" system, buying units from Eskom in advance, doing away with metering, high monthly bills and budgeting to cover the extra costs.

The residents pay higher tariffs than consumers who purchase electricity from municipalities. Eskom charges a cent per kilowatt hour, including the fixed basic change in the price and the cost of providing a "rea-charge" which regulates the service, three plugs, an earth leakage unit and a light.

"This makes the system much simpler, we've cut down on administration costs, reconnection fees and deposits," Cooper said.

"We have also provided sales advisors in the area who assist residents with queries on safety and economy."

Eskom intends spending R24 million on electrification projects this year, bringing power to 13 600 dwellings from East London to Bit- terfontein — in Namaqualand.

SWITCHED ON: Doreen Jacobs, standing, and her sister Maria can now enjoy the benefits of electricity

Photos: Yunus Mohamed
Arrests hangover from racial laws

The arrest of 18 squatters near Koekenaap this week was a hangover from former racial laws which did not cater for black settlements in the north-western Cape, a senior local government official has confirmed.

Mr. Chris Gunter, executive official of the West Coast Regional Services Council, said on Friday the arrests followed a series of attempted land occupations by blacks and more than two years of negotiations over their plight. 77

"We usually laid charges of illegal trespassing with the police, but would withdraw them just before the case was due to be heard," he said. 12

This week however, RSC officials pressed ahead with charges after squatters built shacks near Koekenaap, about 300km north of Cape Town, and defied RSC orders to remove them by Wednesday night.

Mr. Gunter said 15 sites were being surveyed near the town and could be available for sale for R750 each by mid-November.

Police arrested 10 men and eight women on Thursday. They appeared in court the same day on charges of trespassing, resisting arrest and damaging state property. They were released on R300 bail each and warned to appear on October 2.

"We are naturally sympathetic towards their plight," said Mr. Gunter, who has been involved in negotiations with the squatters, the ANC, local authorities and the Cape Provincial Administration.

According to the Surplus People's Project, a service organisation that has been assisting the Koekenaap homeless, the squatters' problem is rooted in apartheid land allocation — no residential areas had been set aside for Africans in Namaqualand.

"Yes, the situation is a hangover of the old Group Areas Act," said Mr. Gunter.

"We're talking about five to 15 African families who've been moving around the area for years. It is difficult, however, to determine how many people are in need of land — they (the squatters and their representatives) say there are about 100 individuals."

An SPP spokesman said many of the squatters were unemployed farm labourers who had been working in the surrounding area for up to 30 years.

Mr. Gunter said the RSC had tentatively arranged that the Lutiville municipality accommodate the excess population from Koekenaap, which had difficulties with water supplies. — Sapa
The African National Congress has demanded an inquiry into police action at Koekenaap, 300 km north of Cape Town, where squatters were allegedly bitten by police dogs and assaulted.

Nineteen people, including three children, were arrested on September 25 when they tried to erect shacks on vacant land near the town. The group was later charged with trespass and released on bail after spending two days in Vanrhynsdorp Prison.

The group is part of the 120-strong black community in Koekenaap and Latuville who have been involved in a two-year battle to secure land for housing. There are no recognized black residential areas in towns on the West Coast and Namaqualand.

Members of the squatter group, who work on local farms and in factories, said at a press conference this week that about 50 policemen beat them and set dogs on them when they erected shacks.

ANC assistant regional secretary Willie Hofmeyr condemned the "outrageous behaviour of the police" and said the ANC would investigate legal proceedings against them.

A police spokesman claimed some of the group resisted arrest and attacked policemen and their dogs with sticks and a large saw.

Lt D Wolstenholme, who commanded the police operation, said the group was warned twice to vacate the land at the request of the West Coast Regional Services Council.

**Promise**

He said police "acted according to the book" and took photographs during the arrests. Three people bitten by police dogs refused medical attention at Latuville police station and in Vanrhynsdorp Prison.

Mr Hofmeyr said the West Coast Regional Services Council and the Cape Provincial Administration promised at a meeting in June that basic services would be provided at a site outside Koekenaap.

"We were told that the process would take two months, but it seems the authorities are continuing to drag their feet. The ANC has asked that the people be allowed to set up shacks on an interim basis, but the authorities have refused."

West Coast Regional Services Council official Chris Gunther said earlier 15 sites were being surveyed near Koekenaap and would be available for sale at about $200 each by mid-November. He said the ISC had tentatively arranged for the Latuville municipality to accommodate the excess population from Koekenaap. — Sapa
Vrygrond to plan for itself

Municipal Reporter

The 500 families of the impoverished Vrygrond community in Muizenberg East are to make decisions about upgrading their settlement.

The Western Cape Regional Services Council has provided R300,000 for the planning of infrastructure.

The community is to plan the layout of roads, sewerage, a stormwater system and other services — with some help from Cape Town City Council and the ANC.
POLITICS

Wessels on squatting

EAST LONDON — Squatting was a worldwide tendency but it was a more emotional problem in SA because legislation had for so long prevented blacks from owning land, Local Government and National Housing Minister Leon Wessels said yesterday at the NP Cape congress.

"It is a more emotional and intense problem because the NP, with the full support of its congress, for so many years placed legislation on the statute books allowing forced removals and preventing blacks from owning property," he said.

It was easier said than done to ensure that timely provision was made to ensure that the quality of life of all was not undermined, but it remained the aim of government.

He said government realised it had to tread carefully to meet the aspirations of the homeless and, in the process, not undermine vested interests. — Sapa.

Police not our private army, NP congress told

EAST LONDON — The SAP was not a private army of the National Party or the Broederbond, Law and Order Minister Hermus Kriel said yesterday.

He told the Cape NP congress in East London he rejected ANC claims to this effect. In the end, it was the SAP and SADF that stood in the way of a power takeover by the ANC, he said.

The SAP was an impartial law enforcement agency whose members did not belong to political parties.

"Now, it is this private army of the NP that must recover the stolen vehicles such as BMWs of the national executive of the ANC ... that have to protect the million-rand houses of the communist leadership of the ANC," he said.

It was also this "private army" that had to be used to prevent mass action from turning into total disaster.

Kriel said the ANC claim was just the sort of inflammatory statement condemned on Tuesday by President F.W. de Klerk. He asked what sort of impression the ANC statement would create in the townships.

An average of 20,68 policemen a month had been killed this year. This was a scandal. Most of them had not been on duty. In the last 12 months 65 black policemen had had their houses burned, attacked or partially destroyed, he said.

Between February 12 1991 and July 31 this year, card-carrying and identified members of the ANC alliance had been involved in 29 attacks on security forces, Kriel said, asking if this was not perhaps the third force which had been mentioned.

Something had to be done about police safety. A system was being investigated in which police vehicles would use loud-hailers to order people out of stopped vehicles and into search positions before police got out of their own vehicles.

He also said the SADF had created an atmosphere in which the government could negotiate from a position of strength.

People forgot too easily that there had been violence in the country before February 1990. The present violence would have been 10 times worse had it not been for the developments of February 1990, he said.

"Thanks to the initiatives of F.W. de Klerk we can still deal with the violence in this country," he said.

He said when wrongdoers in the police were discovered, action was taken.

"We do not protect our police like the ANC protects Ronnie Kasrils," Kriel said. — Sapa.
Vigilantes 'harass' Bo-Kaap squatters

BO-KAAP squatters say they are being harassed and assaulted by a ruthless vigilante group, whom they claim are none other than members of the Bo-Kaap Neighbourhood Watch and the Anti-Drug League.

While a spokesman for the neighbourhood watch has admitted to harassing the squatters, he denied that they had assaulted anyone. The squatters live in four small shacks in a hollow of the old quarry just above the Bo-Kaap.

One of the squatters, Mr Kamasen Moegamat, said armed members of the neighbourhood watch visited them almost every night, banging on their shacks, demanding entry and threatening them.

**Force**

"On Saturday they were here again, claiming we were hiding stolen goods. They forced open our doors to search our homes."

Similar incidents were reported by other squatters.

"Gangsters steal from the community, who come here to look for the stolen goods. They kick down doors. They hit people with sticks. The police don't worry," said Mr Mtshali.

One Bo-Kaap resident, Mr Salie Jardin of Chiappini Street, also complained about the watch.

"If you come and visit me, they will search you and hit you, telling you that you don't belong here. My friend came to visit me and got chased out with two black eyes — they nearly broke his nose," he said.

"They carry big guns. They are supposed to be a neighbourhood watch but they don't look after the people."

"They say the Bo-Kaap is a bad place but they are the ones who will bother you. Their job is to watch, not to beat people or chase them away. The vagrants have been here for years. They don't harm anyone but the neighbourhood watch mess them around, throw out their wine and chase them away," he said.

A vagrant, Mr Jane Hendricks, said: "They come in combis with pick-handles. They throw our blankets out and tell us to leave."

Mr Charles Matthews, a squatter living on the edge of a council-owned playing field on the other side of the quarry, said he has been manhandled and his tiny shelter knocked down.

On Saturday night, the night Mr Moegamat said his door was forced open, Mr Matthews' shelter was demolished for the 18th time.

"They forced me onto the open field and kicked and slapped me around. They said I was 'whoring on holy ground,'" he said.

Chief co-ordinator of the neighbourhood watch, Mr Sabrie Soeker, who is also a founder member of the anti-drug league, was adamant that they wanted the squatters out as they were "drug peddlers."

Asked about Mr Matthews' shelter, he said: "I think we broke it down more than 18 times and told him to leave."

He denied that anybody had assaulted Mr Matthews. "These squatters are a threat and a danger to our kids. They teach them to smoke dagga, while we are trying to clean up the area."

Many squatters admitted to smoking dagga but denied that they dealt in drugs or influenced the neighbourhood children.

**Pleased**

Mr Ismail Amnat of the neighbourhood watch claims crime in the area has dropped 60 percent.

Bd WO Desmond Ntshane of Caledon Square said a police study showed a 10 percent drop.

One Bo-Kaap resident, who did not want to be named, said he had been "sanctioned" into giving evidence against the squatters.

Police Media Liaison Officer Major Attie Laubscher said no complaints had been made about the watch.

"In fact, we are pleased about their efforts to stop crime. Anybody who has a complaint should lodge it at the nearest police station."
Hout Bay plan gets go ahead

By PETER DENNEHY

A TENDER is expected to be awarded this week for services at the new, extended Imizamo Yethu settlement in Hout Bay — despite rumblings of discontent from various quarters.

The CPA announced yesterday that the plan had been approved "by all parties". However, ratepayer representatives have expressed reservations — and some want an alternative site found.

The development will be of the site-and-service variety, with about 600 sites. Each will be a minimum of 120m², and each will be provided with a toilet to be connected to the waterborne sewage system coming into operation in March next year. There will also be a tap on each site.

Fully-tarred roads and walkways will be provided, along with a proper stormwater drainage system. There will also be streetlights.

"Various studies and surveys done by the CPA, independent consultants and the Environmental Evaluation Unit of UCT have indicated that the population in the settlement has remained stable, and that 18ha were necessary to accommodate the existing community in a healthy and upgradable development," said the CPA statement.

Earlier this year, after long discussions with the Ratepayers' Association, the CPA undertook not to develop more than 18ha of land for residential purposes. The present plan encompasses a residential area of 17ha, including the proposed primary school site.

Mr Joe Lazarus, a ratepayers' representative who is also chairman of the Liaison Committee in Hout Bay which was involved in negotiations, said the provision of services was expected to cost R12,000 per site, including the cost of the land.
Squatters want houses

Staff Reporter

MONEY spent on plastic to keep shacks intact could be used to pay rent instead, say Noordhoek squatters who are to move to a new site near Sunnydale, where they are to build new shelters.

Mr Welcome Mandulo, a resident of the Site 5 squatter camp, said the R75 a month squatters paid for rolls of plastic could have gone toward rent.

The Cape Provincial Administration is servicing the newly developed site near Sunnydale and squatters are expected to build their own shacks.

Mr Wellington Rala said that with services like water and toilets, the new development would be better than their present camps, but they wanted houses as well.

A spokesman for the CPA, Mr Faan Naude, said the servicing of the Noordhoek site and service development project, comprising 454 plots, would be completed by December.

Residents of the Green Point, Fish Hoek and Site 5 squatter camps are to be moved to the new site.

Mr Rala said that the 454 sites would not be enough for people from the three camps and this could create tension among squatters.
Council's 'hands tied' on housing

By MICHAEL HANNA

The Cape Town City Council is officially on a rental housing 'carrot' campaign. The administration is responsible for these tasks, where they were once under the control of provincial government. A lot of all local authorities do not have the responsibility to control their own rental housing, says a provincial official.

Mr. Ross, a local housing advocate, says the council is still not doing enough. "We still need more housing and more rental housing," he says. "The problem is that the council is not able to provide housing as it should."

Mr. Ross claimed Cape Town cited "to the moon" for rental housing. Mr. Ross described the council as "the housing people who provide the most rental housing."

Mr. Ross said there were only 100 rental houses in the Cape Town region. "This is not enough," he said. "We need more rental houses."
A small town's cry for change

LAST weekend one of the social highlights of the year took place in the small Boland town of Villiersdorp — the annual agricultural show.

A few kilometres away, an illegal march, protected by the arrival of the police, dispersed some 200 people. Over 100 white schoolchildren's parents marched down the main street of Villiersdorp carrying a petition asking for better education for their children and a change in the system.

White residents of Villiersdorp, among them the ANC, have expressed concern about the march. They fear it will lead to violence and instability in the area.

Unity

The town council has been a series of meetings between residents, church leaders, and political leaders attempting to achieve unity in the town.

Local police have been working closely with the community, and there has been a decrease in crime rates.

Manade at LP summit

The ANC will host a Mandela summit in January, bringing together leaders from around the world to discuss the legacy of the late Nelson Mandela.

Hands and tied two young boys — who had loaded a gun — to a pole with signs around their necks that read: "We are Afrikaner, we are not the enemy." The boys were later released.

The police have not commented on the incident, but sources said it was to prevent further violence in the area.

Humane

The town is still reeling from the incident, and residents are calling for unity and support for one another.

Johannes Steytler, a local journalist, said: "We must remember that we are all human beings, and we must support each other in this time of difficulty."
Squatter areas to dominate ANC poll?

Sunday Times Reporter

SQUATTER areas seem set to dominate the regional conference of the ANC, scheduled to take place in Cape Town next weekend.

Representation at the conference is weighted in favour of paid-up membership. Township branches, particularly in squatter areas, have tens of thousands of paid-up members and ANC branches in Crossroads, Browns Farm and Khayelitsha have recently held a huge recruitment and debt-collecting drive. The Crossroads branch alone has more than 13,000 members.

Delegates from these branches will be able to decide the leadership and direction of the ANC in the Western Cape.

Leaders who were effectively ousted from power in elections last year could re-emerge. According to sources, squatter leaders have patched up their differences with "old guard" civic leaders like the region's former chairman Mr. Chris Rupert and former secretary Mr. Amos Lengesi. Former treasurer Mr. Bulelani Ngika also appears poised to make a comeback.

All three are in the running for the position of vice-chair — vacated by Mr. Archie Sibeko due to ill health earlier this year.

Power

Current chairman Dr. Allan Boesak and secretary Mr. Tony Yengeni are likely to be re-elected as is assistant-secretary Mr. Willie Hofmeyr. Also in the running for these top positions are Mr. Hilda Ndabe, former vice-chair of the region, and Nyanga youth leader Mr. Dinga Skwevu.

Mr. Franklin Solly, rector of the Peninsula Technical, and Mr. Jan van Eck, ANC member and MP for Claremont, are also likely to be elected.

Squatter leaders who could feature on the new NEC include Mr. Alfred Sibika of Nyanga Extension/Browns Farm, Mr. Jeffrey Ngaka, who ousted Mr. Johnson Ngobozwana from power in Crossroads, Browns Farm leader Mr. Christopher Toise, and Western Cape United Squatters Association leader Mr. Enoch Madyawe.

A labour grouping within the ANC is understood to favour the election of Cosatu's chairman in the Western Cape, Mr. Johnny Malelo, and South African Municipal Workers' Union leader Mr. Salie Masi, as well as Mr. Enrico Fourie, a former education officer for Cosatu, now employed at the University of the Western Cape.

Mr. Vincent Diba, who has played a prominent role in conflict mediation in the region, is likely to be re-elected as are Mr. Basil Davidson, Mr. Cameron Dougmore, Mr. Lerumo Kako, Ms Nomandile Mfeketo, Mr. Kobus van Rooyen and Mr. Johnny de Lange.
**Water cuts: CPA to talk to squatters**

Staff Reporter

DISCUSSIONS will be held with the Bloekombos squatter community before any action will be taken on arrears, a CPA spokesman said yesterday.

The CPA was reacting to allegations by the squatters this week that they faced a water cut on Monday unless over R1000 is paid.

A spokesman for the ANC in the squatter camp, Mr Farrington Vava, said that they were told in a meeting with the CPA last week that if they did not pay the arrears of R154 their water supply would be disconnected.

He said that they tried to collect the money but were unable to because most people were unemployed.

CPA spokesman Mr Diet Ondel said that they did not have any plans to disconnect the water at the moment. He said that before they would consider disconnection they would negotiate with the squatters.
Squatters: Walk-out at Hout Bay talk

Municipal Reporter

A group of irate Hout Bay residents walked out of a briefing on the expanded layout of the suburb's Imizamo Yethu squatter settlement this week and held their own meeting instead.

The disaffected group of ratepayers formed "The Save Hout Bay Association", according to one of those present at the meeting, who declined to be named for fear of "nasty telephone calls".

The man said the group had started out as a breakaway from a meeting in the old library hall, where the Hout Bay Ratepayers' Association's liaison committee had been giving a presentation on plans for the settlement of former squatters.

Liaison committee chairman Mr Joe Lazarus said it was his impression that only "about five or 10" people had left the meeting.

"Our meetings are open to members of the public," he said.

"About 100 observers turned up. At the beginning of the meeting, one of the ratepayers announced that anyone not interested in this should meet next door in the new library hall."
Law has no jaw

By MOSES MAMAILA

A SAVAGE attack by police dogs on three innocent farm labourers in the northern Transvaal has once again seen justice relegated to the kennel.

Three policemen who set dogs on three elderly women at a Leshuva farm in the far northern Transvaal last month might not be prosecuted despite efforts by the complainants who have laid charges.

No arrests

More than a month after the September 18 terror operation by SAP members, which left Nyashinango Mufamadi, Tshinakako Mufamadi and Emily Muda severely wounded, no arrests have yet been made in connection with the incident police confirmed this week.

The women of Hamsa Shau village, who were savaged by the dogs while working on their employers farm, reported the matter to the Venda Police shortly after the incident.

Confirmed

Deputy police commissioner in the homeland, Maj-Gen PJ Nembambula, confirmed that charges had been laid, but told City Press that Venda Police could not investigate the matter because the incident occurred outside Venda.

The matter had been referred to the SAP in the northern Transvaal and investigations were out of "our hands", according to Nembambula.

Northern Transvaal police spokesman Maj A Vogel said nobody had been arrested. Initially Vogel said the three elderly women had been arrested for trespassing.

Justifying the use of dogs on the women, Vogel said the dogs had to be used because the women had attempted to run away. This claim was vehemently denied by the victims.

While nobody appears to be taking responsibility for the incident, the elderly farm labourers bear deep scars which remind them of their horrifying ordeal with the "dogs of law".

The women were brutally bitten by the dogs when three white policemen entered the farm where they were working. The policemen hurled racial insults at them and then unleashed their dogs.

Although the three tried to convince the policemen that they were not illegally cutting trees but simply doing their work, the police did not listen and instead assaulted them.

The women were beaten all over their bodies, including buttocks and breasts.

To their surprise the were then arrested but later released without being formally charged. They are hopeful that justice will be done.

HANDS THAT BLEED ... Scarred victims of a savage attack by police dogs.

It's a dog's life for elderly attack victims

(4)
SQUATTERS who built shacks on land promised them by the Regional Services Council (RSC) in Kockenap in the Northern Cape were arrested and had property confiscated by police last week.

"Every time we build shacks the police come to demolish them. They have no mercy on black people. In winter they took our belongings and some of us were forced to sleep outside in the cold," said Mrs Noma Rashiya Matyeni.

Matyeni alleged the police assaulted the squatters.

It was the fifth such incident since the squatters, some of whom work on nearby farms, moved onto the land in 1989.

A spokesperson for the squatters, Mr Victor Mguga, said they were frustrated because negotiations for land had dragged on for too long.

Mr Chris Genter, spokesperson for the RSC, said squatters were trespassing.

The spokesperson for the police said force was used when some of the squatters resisted arrest.
CPA relents over squatters' water

Staff Reporter

THE water supply for 7000 Kranfontein squatters was reconnected yesterday after being cut off for five days — but residents complained they were expected to pay R18 a family for the supply and temporary toilets, of which there were none.

Scores of people from the Bloekombos squatter settlement lined up at the only tap at the camp and said they had to buy 25 plastic cans for between 50 cents and R1.50.

There had also been no ablution facilities or roads for the past eight years, they said.

Cape Provincial Administration spokesman Mr. Dieter Odendaal said the CPA roads branch had an agreement with the squatters that they pay a certain amount for water.

Since November last year the squatters were R5 500 in arrears and owed the CPA R1 146 for September. As a result the CPA had turned the water off.

After negotiations with the squatter community yesterday, a payment of R510 was made and the water was turned on shortly after 4pm. "Without the CPA they would have no water," Mr. Odendaal said.

Bloekombos civic spokesman Mr. Thomas Morris said the conditions at the camp were "appalling." People had to relieve themselves in the bush and the children were constantly ill.

The CPA wanted R18 from each family at the camp as payment for water and temporary toilets, but there were none, he said.

Mr. Odendaal said the CPA had told the community how much they owed and squatter leader Mr. Jackson Gillam had collected the money from the camp's residents. The CPA is to respond today.

HEAVENLY WATER... Scores of Bloekombos squatters queued for water at the only tap in the settlement yesterday soon after their water was turned back on after five days. Picture: BENNY GOOL.
Eglin asks about forest management

Political Correspondent

QUESTIONS have been asked in parliament about the possible extension of the Imizamo Yethu settlement in Hout Bay and whether any portion of the pine forest nearby will be cut down.

Democratic Party MP for Sea Point Mr Colin Eglin — whose constituency covers the area — has also asked Minister of Local Government and National Housing Mr Leon Wessels whether an independent environmental impact study has been, or will be, made on the possible effect of cutting down trees next to the settlement, and, if so, whether the findings will be made public.

Mr Eglin wants to know whether Mr Wessels's department has any plans to extend the settlement, what the details of the plans are and whether they have been discussed with the liaison committee representing Hout Bay communities.

Mr Eglin's questions followed considerable controversy in the Hout Bay valley over the settlement of squatters and attempts to draw all elements of the community into a process of liaison over the planning of any future settlement.
Hunt Bay squatters
Let us be please from

This year, say Imanajo Yethu residents
White taxpayers have nothing to

Over the money

Oman, Namibia

Let us be please from
STUDIES of the Imizamo Yethu informal settlement at Hout Bay show that population figures have remained stable.

A Provincial Administration statement said a tender was to be awarded soon to develop the site.

About 600 'sites of 120 sq m each will be developed in the 18ha township.

A layout plan approved after negotiations between the CPA and the Hout Bay Ratepayers Association includes a proposal for a primary school.

Fully tarred roads and walkways will be provided, as well as a full stormwater drainage system, taps on each site and street lighting.

Each site will have a toilet, which will be connected to the Hout Bay waterborne sewerage system, expected to be in operation in March.

Studies by the CPA, independent consultants and the University of Cape Town found 18ha was a suitable size "to accommodate the existing community in a healthy and upgradable development".

Criteria for site allocation will be set by the liaison committee and the Imizamo Yethu Civic Association.
Tos Wentzel
Political Staff

A BOLD multi-million rand operation to upgrade living conditions for about 36,000 squatter families within five years has started in the Peninsula.

The Cape Provincial Administration plan aims to provide sites with services including water, sewage and roads.

There are further plans to help squatters obtain housing through self-help schemes, among other things.

The initial cost estimate is R500 million, but this could increase to R800 million.

Giving details, MEC in charge of community development Mr Koos Theron said he was optimistic: his administration was winning in the struggle to provide for accommodation needs created by urbanisation. The Backlog could be dealt with in five years, he said.

There were indications that the influx of people from the lower income groups to the urban areas had slackened, but it was difficult to obtain accurate figures.

The sites for 36,000 families had been identified after negotiations over 18 months to two years between interested parties — including extra-parliamentary movements, communities and local authorities.

Mr Theron said the big remaining problem was funding.

The CPA was negotiating with the Development Bank of Southern Africa, the Independent Development Trust, the Regional Services Council and the departments of State Expenditure and National Housing.

The plan was aimed mainly at relieving overcrowding on the Cape Flats.

There were other plans for serviced sites at Hottentots Holland, Grabouw, Hout Bay, Noordhoek, Milnerton and Kraaifontein where thousands of sites had already been identified.

In the case of Hout Bay, tenders had been called for the development of 600 sites. Although 34 ha had been acquired, the undertaking had been given that only 18 ha would be developed. The community as a whole was being involved and would have to decide on the development of the area, said Mr Theron.

At Noordhoek 500 sites had been developed or were being cleared.

Land was being identified in the Milnerton and Kraaifontein areas. At the Uithyke squatter area at Kraaifontein, 600 serviced sites had been provided while there were about 2,500 families at Bleekombos, said Mr Theron.

There were similar developments at Philippi East and West and at Lwandle in the Strand. There was also a big scheme in Crossroads section four.

In an Independent Development Trust scheme at Khayelitsha, 4,000 sites had been serviced and there would be 5,000 in the next phase.

The aim throughout was to achieve orderly settlement, Mr Theron said.

The backlog of houses for blacks in the whole of the Cape was 250,000 and, depending on the finances available, this could be reduced by 20,000 a year.
We must reach out to homeles,"
Squatters agree to CPA’s plan for 500 serviced sites

JOHN YELD
Weekend Argus Reporter

HOUT Bay’s Imizamo Yethu squatter community has accepted the Cape Provincial Administration’s site-and-service development plan.

Work is expected to start next month on a 25-week contract to install water-borne sewerage, stormwater drainage, tarred roads and walkways, taps on each site, street lights and electricity for an initial 500 sites.

A second phase of the development will add 100 or possibly 160 sites. All are between 120 and 165 sq m and are expected to sell for about R12 000.

The CPA has been slammed by the Novalis Institute, a development agency which was invited in June to develop an alternative, “more human” plan for the township in conjunction with the squatter community.

The institute, which said the squatter’s civic committee had been “solidly behind” its layout plan, accused the CPA of “underhand lobbying”, “blatant misinformation” and “stooping to denigrate” its plan which was rejected subsequently.

It wants the Administrator, Mr Kobus Meiring, to appoint an independent ombudsman to assess the two proposals.

Institute representatives, in turn, were criticised by Imizamo Yethu community representatives at a heated site meeting on Thursday when the CPA’s plans were shown to the Press.

Civic committee spokesman Mr Charlemagne Mquga said the community “fully endorsed” the CPA plan.

Mr Mquga warned white ratepayers to accept the squatters as an integral part of the Hout Bay community.

“We are still being treated in the old apartheid style. We are not second-hand citizens … We challenge them to come forward and accept reality.”

He said the community had never agreed to limiting the development to 18 hectares.

“White ratepayers have been pressing for this restriction. We want as much land as we need to be comfortable,” he said.

MEC Mr Koos Theron rejected the attack by Novalis, saying the CPA was the “principal role player”.

“It was agreed all along that in the final instance we would adjudicate any plan suggested by the liaison committee.”

Hout Bay “mayor” and former divisional councillor Mr Len Pothier drew laughter when he said “vast areas” on the Cape Flats could house the community.

He suggested they move there as there were insufficient employment in Hout Bay.

When Mr Pothier said: “And I might add the ANC supports me in that …” there were angry interjections of “No, we don’t.”
Wecusa puts Jeff in charge

By CHIARA CARTER

CROSSROADS leader Mr Jeffrey Nongwe is the new chairman of the 300,000-strong Western Cape United Squatters Association (Wecusa).

Mr Nongwe was elected at Wecusa's annual meeting attended by more than 650 delegates from throughout the Cape last weekend.

After the conference, some delegates expressed concern that voting had been by show of hands.

Mr Enoch Madywabe, former chairman and now general secretary of Wecusa, said it had been agreed at the general meeting not to use a secret ballot as this would have been "too expensive".

Mr Robert Mantiwa was elected treasurer and controversial Khayelitsha leader Mr Jerry Tutu, deputy chairman.

Mr Tutu, is the former leader of the Greenpoint squatters in Khayelitsha. He fell into disrepute amid claims that he had been extorting money. He now represents Town 3, Village S, in Khayelitsha.

Also on the executive are Browns Farm leaders Mr Christopher Tsise and Mr Alfred Siphika.
Squatters get reprieve

Staff Reporter

FIFTY EIGHT Table View (squatter) families who had been threatened with eviction tomorrow have obtained a reprieve to November 16.

Mr Henk Smit of the Legal Resources Centre, acting for the squatters, said the reprieve had been granted after the regional dispute resolution committee contacted the land owners, Milnerton Estates Ltd.

The moratorium was granted on condition that no more people enter the area.
New site for squatters ready in December

SQUATTERS from Fish Hoek, the Green Point site in Noordhoek and Site 5 in Sunnyside were unable to move to the newly developed site off Kommetjie Road last month as anticipated, due to a delay in the completion of services.

Civil services

According to a statement released by the Cape Provincial Administration, all the services will be completed only in late December.

The 14 families who live in Fish Hoek, the 153 from Green Point and the 338 from Site 5 had, according to the statement, decided themselves to move in October.

Said the statement: "This development, comprising 454 sites, will consolidate the three communities in the area as well as upgrade their standard of living with tarred roads, a tap and flush toilet on each site, and services like refuse removal and street lighting for all the inhabitants."

Allocation

The installation of civil services is almost complete.

The CPA have endeavoured to develop the site with the cooperation of the relevant communities and sites have been allocated for a primary school, sports fields, two churches, two creches and a community centre.

"Throughout the project, emphasis has been placed on the communities' participation in helping themselves improve their own quality of life, by them taking decisions regarding this development, which will affect and improve their future," says the statement.

Community members involved with the squatters told the Review this week that the sites were theoretically ready.

One said: "There are more people than plots available so before anybody moves it will have to be established as to who gets first priority."
Squatters kicked out with regrets

Justice is done, but the judge regrets squatters must leave their homes, apparently abandoned by local authorities who have bowed to complaints from Bellville residents.

LIBBY PEACOCK
Supreme Court Reporter

THIRTEEN squatters and their families have been ordered by the Supreme Court to leave a Bellville farm after an application was brought by the 83-year-old farmer, Mr Cecil Morgan.

Mr Justice Selikowitz yesterday granted the order, but noted "with much regret" that the Bellville municipality "seemed to have backed off" the problem after local residents complained.

Evidence before the court was that Mr Morgan's farm, Soete Inval, was being converted into a multimillion rand industrial township.

Originally there were 18 respondents, but four of them did not oppose the action and the case was withdrawn against a fifth.

The court found some of the squatters paid rent every month and were subject to a month's notice. The others were squatting illegally.

Mr Justice Selikowitz found proper notice had been given to the squatters in March.

After negotiations with the Bellville Residents' Association, which acted for the residents, Mr Morgan allowed them to stay until June 15.

Mr Justice Selikowitz said "not a single respondent stepped into the witness box" to say the Mr Morgan's evidence was incorrect.

He said the Bellville municipality initially tried to arrange alternative accommodation for the squatters, but now seemed to have "left the unfortunate people to fight their own battle".

Courts did not relish the prospect of ordering people out of their homes and were extremely sensitive to the reality of the situation, but on the facts of this particular case it appeared that Mr Morgan had not acted unreasonably.

He could not but find that all the squatters had agreed by their conduct to leave the farm on June 15 and had known for months that they had to leave.

It appeared on the facts before him that the municipality had turned its back on the problem.

Describing the situation as "tragic", Mr Justice Selikowitz said the Bellville Residents' Association was "an admirable community organisation" which set out to help the plight of those without homes.
Squatters totter but hang on...

LINDA GALLOWAY
Weekend Argus Reporter

The Regional Dispute Resolution Committee, a structure of the National Peace Accord, yesterday convened a "constructive" three-hour meeting between all the parties at the Milnerton Municipality. The meeting will be continued next Thursday.

The families, some of whom have been on the land for 10 years, attended the meeting. They have a conditional reprieve until November 15.

The municipality, the Cape Provincial Administration, the owners, the Western Cape United Squatters' Association; Surplus People's Project, Development Action Group and Legal Resources Centre were represented at the meeting.
Squatters to get services
Municipal Reporter

THE CPA agreed yesterday to start providing temporary services to the Bloekombos settlement within the next three weeks, community services regional director Mr Faan Naudé said.

A water pipe, five taps and six toilets will be installed, and communal refuse bins will be provided and emptied regularly.

The Bloekombos community will pay for the services. CT 14/11/92
of hope for homeless
Housing project a ray
plots on the 144 ha site on reclaimed land
next to the Kuhl River.

Squatters on the new site said they pre-
ferred it to their old homes, which were
mostly in Khayelitsha’s Site B.

"This is much cleaner and I feel a lot
happier here," said Mr Johannes Mabuza.

"When the project is complete, the
homeowners will have free title to their
serviced plots."

The design allows for 10 schools as well
as churches, crèches, community facili-
ties, public open spaces and business pre-

erises.

Mr Alec Killion of Hill Kaplan Scott,
the project’s consulting engineers, said
the non-residential land was to be trans-
ferred to a trust, to be developed when fi-
nance was available.

Each 150 to 160 sq m stand has a pre-
cast concrete toilet, with waterborne sew-
erage and a tap. Electricity has not been
provided to individual stands, but ducting
has been installed under roads for future
electrification.

Streets are equipped with high-mast
lights.

The squatters are given help in moving
to their new sites and then they build
their new homes.

The project team said that tight co-
ordination had kept costs per serviced plot
within the R7 000 subsidy granted by the
IDT, so that the sites would be available
free of charge to squatter families.

The project involved 26 km of tarred
roads, 27 km of water mains and 24 km of
sewer mains.
Fire destroys 200 homes

KAYAMANDI squatters tore down their homes and erected barricades in a desperate bid to stop a fire which raged through the camp outside Stellenbosch, destroying more than 200 homes.

More than 900 families were left homeless in the wake of the shack fire which raged for more than eight hours through Tuesday night.

A massive relief effort was launched yesterday to provide shelter, clothing and food for the destitute families.

Kayamandi town clerk Mr. Andre Cruywagen said yesterday the fire is believed to have started with a candle that was blown over near the Kayamandi Sports Hall. It spread rapidly, fanned by a strong south-easter.

The Stellenbosch Fire Brigade and the Regional Service Council brought the fire under control by 7.30am yesterday.

The offices of the Kayamandi Town Council are to be used as a collection point for all donations.

Blankets, mattresses needed

“We would welcome any contributions from the public. Our biggest problem is accommodation, so we would really appreciate tents, mattresses and blankets,” Mr Cruywagen said.

Mrs Roni Hankey, of Life Education Action Development Programme — which is involved in the relief work — said help is needed for single parents. “We need baby formula, bottles, nappies and baby clothes.”

Mr Cruywagen said he is negotiating with the SA Defence Force for tents.

“The Red Cross will also come out here to look at the situation and the Cape Provincial Administration is looking at the possibility of providing food packets.”

He said volunteers are collecting food and clothing and that a number of companies in Stellenbosch had made generous contributions.

Mr Cruywagen said he encouraged people to rebuild their shacks on a new site, next to where the fire occurred.

“The site of the fire was not serviced and the shacks were built in a disorderly fashion, whereas the new site is a planned formal site with electricity and water facilities,” he said.

The secretary of the Stellenbosch ANC branch, Mr Rudolf Mastenbroek, said a community meeting was held last night to set up a Crisis Committee to assess the damage and assist in the relief work.

People with donations should contact Mrs Trokie at (02231) 86-333. Mr Grant Twigg of the ANC can be contacted at (02231) 73-835.
1 000 homeless after fire

NEARLY 1 000 people have been left homeless by a fire which swept through 200 shacks at Kayamandi near Stellenbosch.

Fire brigade staff from Stellenbosch and the Regional Services Council brought the fire under control only after battling the flames throughout the night.

Residents hastily removed furniture and other belongings as firefighters fought the fire as it raced from one shack to another.

The blaze was extinguished about 6.30am yesterday after firemen had used jets for nearly eight hours.

No-one was injured in the fire, believed to have started when a burning candle fell over.

Homeless residents are being housed temporarily in Kayamandi community halls and sports recreational centres, adjacent to the sprawling shantytown.

Good news for pensioners

PENSIONERS in Sekhukhuneland, Lebowa, whose social pension payments had been stopped by the territory’s Department of Health, Social Welfare and Pensions, will have their pensions reinstated.

Backdated payments to September this year when the payments were cut off will also be paid, the Department of the Chief Minister announced yesterday.

A department statement said the pensions had been suspended without the knowledge of the Lebowa cabinet.
1000 homeless in Boland fire

Vusi Kama and
Johan Schrönen
Staff Reporters

More than 1000 people were left homeless after about 200 homes were gutted in a 10-hour blaze at a squatter camp at Kayamandi near Stellenbosch.

Members of the Red Cross and the local community were hard at work last night preparing food and shelter for the victims.

Mrs Nozamile Lamani, 45, said she could not believe her luck when she managed to crawl through her door as the flames devoured her shack. Her was the second shack to burn in a blaze which devastated the township.

"I don't know how I escaped the burning plastic around my shack," Mrs Lamani said.

The fire, which destroyed nearly 200 shacks at the Strong Yard squatter camp, started at a shack occupied by a young woman, said Mrs Lamani.

The woman disappeared soon after the incident and had not been seen since, she said.

The fire started at about 10pm on Tuesday and was extinguished only about 7.30 yesterday morning after a strong wind fanned the flames.

Mrs Nowetu Sonala, 42, said the fire had destroyed furniture which she had wanted to transport to her home in the Tramkiei.

A distraught Mrs Sonala said: "I had spent all my savings on buying the furniture and now it has been destroyed. I was at work when the incident took place and I went mad when I heard what had happened."

The local community hall was a hive of activity as the victims, mainly women and children, collected food and blankets from Red Cross field workers.

Scores of University of Stellenbosch students and members of the ANC arrived at first light to help people sift through the sea of debris. Students collected bakkie-loads of clothes and blankets and delivered them to the scene.

A relief fund was established.

Last night the squatters were accommodated in classrooms and halls.

According to Stellenbosch town clerk, Mr André Cruywagen, local stores such as Pick n Pay, Woolworths and Pep Stores had come forward to help the squatters after they heard of their plight from firemen who went around the town organising help.

The disaster was the first in the tiny, quiet township since squattting increased over the past few years.

Strong Yard is the most densely packed squatter camp in the township, situated only metres from a vineyard.

"There was no time to think, we just grabbed what was close to us and got out of the place," said a woman who was left with the clothes she had on.

"People were screaming and running into each other and falling in the dark narrow alleys between the burning shacks.

"The place turned into a huge ball of fire. Once I got out there was no chance to go back and try to save more belongings."

"I did not have much but it took me a lifetime to get those possessions together. I'm old now and it looks like I will die destitute," said the shaken woman.

Mr Norman Mguza, 67, who lost everything in the blaze, said the walls of his shack were already warm when he and his family woke up with the sound of the crackling fire near him.

"When I opened the door it was like opening an oven door."
Hope in sight for Bellville squatters

By Justin Pearce

BELLYVILLE squatters whose appalling living conditions were exposed by SOUTH earlier this year could be facing better times.

There is now a possibility that the section of Morgan’s Farm where they live be taken over and upgraded by the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA).

The Bellville Residents Association (BRA) met on Tuesday with the Mayor of Bellville, the South African National Civic Association, the ANC, the CPA and other organisations concerned with development. Representatives of the Regional Dispute Resolution Committee were also present.

Ms Maria April of the BRA said the meeting decided to approach the manager of Morgan’s Farm to arrange for the transfer of the privately-owned land to the CPA.

April said once the transfer had been effected the BRA would request that the site be upgraded and services provided.

About 300 people are living in an informal settlement on Morgan’s Farm.
Pavement children face tough test

TRY to imagine this. You are a 13-year-old girl, trying to study for a good pass in your end-of-year examinations.

But where do you study when home is nothing more than a double bed perched dangerously on the edge of the pavement and covered by a large plastic sheet?

And this little space is shared with your parents and three siblings.

This is how young Carmelita Lawrence must study. She lives with her mother Patricia, father David, sisters Chantel, 10, and Terecita, 4, and 21-month-old brother, Morne, on a pavement in Eastridge, Mitchell’s Plain, in front of the house they once occupied.

On September 28 the family was evicted by the Cape Town City Council after they were unable to pay the rent.

"My husband was retrenched so we could not make the payments," Lawrence said as she sat breastfeeding Morne amongst her few remaining items of furniture stacked next to the bed.

"And now the council wants us to disrupt the children’s schooling and move us to a place I haven’t even heard of (Vrygrond)."

Another Eastridge family has also been asked by the Council to move to Vrygrond, a serviced inform-

nal settlement near Lavender Hill.

Mrs Wasiema Dennis, 47, and her children Sarina, 15, Sonaya, 13, Ferous, 8, and Ismail, 5, have lived in a shack for four years, no more than two metres by two metres, on a piece of vacant council land.

Three of her children are in school and have to study by gaslight, perched on the edge of a bed, always listening for the sounds of gang fights or people trying to break through their flimsy surroundings.

A single-parent and unemployed, Dennis is waiting for a council house.

"I applied for a house at the rent office in 1988, but the City Council says my name has only been on the waiting list for a year so I think the rent office must have mislaid my application."

She too is unwilling to move to Vrygrond.

"If I go to Vrygrond, how many years will I have to wait for a house in which to raise my children properly?" Dennis asked.

The city council’s director of project management services, Mr Hans Smit, said: "Squatting is illegal in terms of the law.

"However the council always offers an alternative before it takes any action and in this case the families have been offered space in Vrygrond.

"The bottom line, however, is that there is a massive housing shortage in Cape Town."
Mothers clean up garbage for food

By MICHEL MULLER

The Department of National Health has allocated R52.100 to the Linglethu West City Council for a six-month "food development" pilot project in which residents collect garbage in exchange for food. The money is part of the controversial R460-million Nutrition Development Programme announced last year by the Minister of Health Dr Rina Venter.

"At the end of the day, we aim to feed people who can't feed themselves," said Regional Director, Ms Elna Frastmann, said nutrition development meant providing balanced meals while training communities in self-help.

"Linglethu is feeding in a sectional, elitist way," she said.

They are paid with food parcels valued at R21 each. By comparison, it costs the Cape Town City Council R700 a ton to collect garbage. "The council's development officer, Ms Annette Lourens, said food was "the incentive" for the collectors who worked in groups of about 30 or 60.

The women, selected from the poorest areas of Khayelitsha, work three times a week in Site C, a squatter camp that has a rudimentary infrastructure and a population that is estimated to be 65,000.
Indian delegation visits SA's poor

By CHIARA CARTER

A DELEGATION from three organisations representing homeless people in India visited squatters in Khayelitsha this week.

The five-member delegation, which left Cape Town yesterday, was hosted by People's Dialogue, an organisation established last year following an initiative by the Catholic Bishops Conference to encourage contact and resource-sharing between communities in informal settlements.

The three Indian organisations — the Society for the Promotion of Area Resource Centres (Spark), Mahila Milon (Women Together) and the National Slum Dwellers Federation — work together closely in Indian cities with slum-dwellers.

According to Spark representative Ms Celine D'Cruz, the organisations encourage women to assume leadership in their communities without alienating men.

Ms D'Cruz said the organisations were involved in an exchange programme with South Africa and that a South African delegation had visited India earlier this year.

"The programme aims to bring together people from poor urban communities rather than experts. We believe in poor people speaking to the poor."

The delegation visited poor settlements throughout the country.
Squatter families move
Spirit of Harmony

EDWARD MOLIOVANE, Staff Reporter

Dismantling: Some of the Green Point squatters dismantle their shacks in preparation for the move to new serviced sites in the Fish Hoek area. The CPAA said provision has been made for the relocation of shacks but that these were being moved without any compensation.

The squatters were initially moved without any compensation.

Mr. Kevin Rees, manager of the project, said that some of the shacks were moved last year and there were no plans for the relocation of shacks in the Fish Hoek area.

The Fish Hoek Improvement Committee has been working to build a luxury housing estate.

The Cape Provincial Administration said the move was necessary to accommodate the growing population in the area.

MORE THAN 500 Noordhoek squatter families have been moved to a developed site near Cape Town.
In settlement...

At the meeting representatives of the three communities decided on the day of the move and the division and allocation of the sites.

The development of Site Five has created 452 developed sites. Each has a tap and a flush toilet. There are tarred roads and services like refuse removal and street lighting will be provided for all the inhabitants," the CPA said.

It is said the installation of electrical services at Site Five would be completed next month.

"In the town plan of Site Five, provision has been made for a school, two creches, two churches, a community centre and sportsfield. Allowance has also been made for informal markets and bus stops."

It is said the decision by the three communities to move to the new site was reached in a "spirit of harmony and co-operation".

"There exists a willingness on the part of the three communities to work together."

Excited squatters said they were happy to move to the new site because the authorities were at last "beginning to see reason".

The Western Cape Regional Services Council provided free transport to the new site. The Green Point squatters said they were not being moved forcibly and their deadline to leave for the new area was February next year.

On Monday only about 21 families were being moved, while other families said they would leave after Christmas.

Squatter Mr Nkululeko Mangaka said: "We are very arrogant and heartless in past years," said Mrs Nombulelo Nyoka, who has been a resident in Green Point since 1983. She added that she would only be moving after Christmas.

At Site Five, Western Cape Regional Services Council officials were busy pitching tents. An official said the tents were meant for those families who would be moving later in the day and did not have sufficient time to rebuild their shacks.

EMERGENCY TENTS: Western Cape Regional Services Council officials erect tents, above, in Site Five for families. Below, some of the new sites with flushing toilets, running water and tarred streets.
Squatters move to prepared site

SQUATTERS from Fish Hoek, Green Point in Noordhoek and Site 5 began their move this week to the newly developed Site 5 just off Kommetjie Road in Sunnydale.

Work began early on Monday morning and by lunch-time on the same day, a number of sturdy wooden shacks had been erected.

A spokesman for the Cape Provincial Administration said the squatters had been assisted in the move by the CPA, the Regional Services Council and other organisations.

Flush toilet

"The squatters break their old structures down and are them moved — lock, stock and barrel, including people and pets — to the new site. There they are given nails to put their houses together again."

Sites were allocated to 20 families from Fish Hoek, 216 families from Green Point and 216 from Site 5.

The communities decided on the date of the move and the allocation of sites.

Each of the 426 developed sites has a flush toilet and a tap. Roads are tarred and street lighting and refuse removal will be provided.

Harmony

The installation of electrical services is due to be completed late next month.

The CPA spokesman said: "The decisions taken by the three communities this week were done in a spirit of harmony and co-operation."
Survivors: Children who were left homeless when fire destroyed about 200 shacks.

Word of their plight spread like wildfire, and Red Cross workers and volunteers were overwhelmed by the help offered.

One of the last of the schoolchildren was still in school, when he spoke out.

"We need help," he said, "and we need it now."
VAGRANTS and squatters are the biggest threat to the future of the public open space along the Diep River say Constantia residents and people from other areas who use the riverine area for recreation.

Two recent public workshops enabled users of the public open space to share their visions of what should be tackled, first following a study by a team of engineers, ecologists, water scientists and landscape architects.

R85 000 has been budgeted by the Local Council of Constantia Valley for the study, and R136 000 for tackling projects suggested by the team and the public.

Security patrols

Among the points made were that unless the vagrancy problem is effectively dealt with, the rehabilitation of the rivers would be a waste of time and money and that the entrance to the heavily used green belt behind the Alphen Hotel should be fenced and gated to control access, particularly at night.

It was suggested that a community-based initiative, should come from green belt users and nearby property owners, to work on reforestation with indigenous trees, clearing undesirable exotics and water weed.

The suggestion was also made that the local horse owners might mount security patrols on the green belts.

The working team will now digest all the input, as well as that from a meeting on the Westlake River, and will submit a report, suggesting action priorities, to the local council early next year.

Studies of the valley's other rivers will begin in mid-1993.
Stellenbosch — behind the gabled facade ...

ABOVE: The front of Peter Solomon's house at Spier.
RIGHT: Clara Solomon and her daughter, Karinna.

DIANE COETZER takes a trip on the ‘alternative’ wine route — through landscapes of squatter camps and hostels peopled by the jobless and exploited. 

STELLENBOSCH is South Africa’s oldest town and, to many people, its most beautiful. Most of the ancient buildings, painted in a variety of pastel shades and adorned with flowering trees, are more than 100 years old. The town is a popular destination for tourists and wine tasters.

SPIER: living on R46 and a dop

PIETER October doesn’t want a lot. Just a decent wage, a decent house and the chance to bring his 14-month-old baby up in the most decent way he knows how. But as a farm worker on Spier, one of South Africa’s most respected wine estates, October, aged 28, says he is deprived of all.

“What kind of a worker are we, if we don’t even earn enough to buy our children food and we live in houses so small they are practically a shack?” October asked.

“We cannot even send our son to school for fear that we will lose our job.”

October earns R45,70 a week, works a 12-hour day and gets the traditional “dop” at the end of it. And all this on a wine estate described in John Platter’s wine drinkers’ bible as a “magnificent” place, on the outskirts of town.

During SOUTH’s visit to the estate, the contrast between the grand beauty of the estate and the workers’ lives became clear.

Just a few hundred metres from the Spier restaurant, workers live in the type of run-down housing generally found in squatter camps. October himself lives in an unhealthy dump two-roomed cottage with his wife, Zolona, and their five children. The house is overcrowded and the family is forced to sleep in three rooms.

 организацияs meet in the shadows

FARMWORKERS’ organisations can sometimes be forgiven for thinking they are playing a role in a lost cause, but the battle is far from over.

They also have to meet workers under the most deplorable conditions — mostly in the dark of night, often away from the farm on a random basis.

As the general secretary of the Stellenbosch-based Farmworkers Support Committee, Mr. Gran Twigg, tells it: “Every farm is different as you never know how far the farmer is going to go.

Many farmers are completely against organisations setting foot on their farms and are resistant to workers signing up with the FSC.

And they will let you know their feelings in no uncertain terms if they catch you on their farm.”

Many workers are “fellow” members of the organisation as they fear being dismissed “at will” by the farmer if membership is discovered.

Twigg said this underscores the need for farmworkers to be able to live in the shadow of their clubs.

The FSC, which has 3000 members employed on farms in the Western Cape, is in the process of setting up the necessary infrastructure to make the organisation viable and strong.

Twigg said the difficulties faced by the organisation are not too serious.

The organisation is also lobbying for the enactment of the Labour Relations Act as there needs to be a provision in any protective legislation compelling farm owners to recognise outside representation of workers.

Employers demand tight-lipped

The ATTEMPTS by SOUTH to contact management at Spier and Neethlinghof for their comment proved fruitless.

Only Mr. Carl van der Merwe, manager of the Mount beer, said he was unable to say whether the organisation would be accepted for an interview.

Workers feel they may be unsafe of their job for recognition.

During a visit to Neethlinghof workers’ village — one of the better in the area in that it has adequate housing, a creche and a community centre — an FSC member said the non-recognition was the main problem at the estate.
Milnerton sets squatter site

By NORMAN WEST, Political Reporter

The Milnerton municipality and the Cape Provincial Administration have agreed on a R25-million project to provide fully-serviced sites for an informal township.

The 82-hectare De Noord farm, between Potsdam Road and the N7, has been chosen for the settlement.

It is to be expropriated from its eight owners, who are to be compensated fully, according to well-placed sources.

Milnerton Town Clerk Mr Peter Gerber was reluctant to give details yesterday as the plan was at "a sensitive stage."

"My information is that the CPA has told the owners of the land," he said.

The question of a site for informal housing has been the focus of a long-simmering row that has divided the Milnerton council and angered the Milnerton Residents' Association.

Informal settlers have demanded the right to build shelters at the overflowing Marconi Beam camp, while ratepayers have threatened to withhold rates if the council does not protect them from squatters.

Verligte councillor Willem van Staden, former mayor of Milnerton, said yesterday that "it is time all of us put our prejudices aside."

"We must look at the provision of proper sites for informal settlers as an opportunity to carry out our moral and social responsibility in assisting with the upliftment of disadvantaged South Africans."

Mr Van Staden is a member of the committee investigating the permanent settlement of the homeless in Milnerton.

His next fight would be to make sure "no half-measures" were taken in providing the sites.

"All sites should be provided for a nominal fee or, free of charge where this is warranted. New residents must also have access to full services like electricity, taps, water-borne sewerage and refuse removal."

"Initially 1 500 sites will be provided. Loans may have to be obtained from the National Housing Commission and the Independent Development Trust or, if necessary, the World Bank."

"We must leave our grievances behind," Mr Gerber said.

"In the old South Africa there was much suppressor and unfairness which resulted in products like our squatter settlements. We must join hands, apologise and negotiate an acceptable solution."
Row over squatter move

Staff Reporter

THE announcement of a R25 million plan to relocate squatters at the overcrowded Marconi Beam camp in Milnerton "raises more questions than answers", Milnerton Ratepayers' Association chairman Mr Klaus Borgelt said yesterday.

The question of a site for informal housing has been the centre of a protracted row which has divided the Milnerton council and angered the association.

According to reports, the Milnerton municipality and the CPA have plans to expropriate an 89-hectare farm between Petsdam Road and the N7 and provide fully-serviced sites for an informal township.

Mr Borgelt said he was worried about where funds for the scheme would come from and its impact on Milnerton residents.

Milnerton town clerk Mr Peter Gerber said yesterday details would be discussed with the ratepayers, landowners and homeless people before final decisions were made. He added that the funds would be raised by the government.
New chance for squatters on Driftsands

JOHN YELD
Environment Reporter

THE Cape Provincial Administration has started moves to deproclaim the Driftsands Nature Reserve on the Cape Flats so that a squatter community in the protected area can stay legally.

Part of the 600ha reserve near D F Malan airport, which was created to protect remnants of strandveld indigenous vegetation, has been occupied by squatters since 1996, following political upheavals in Crossroads.

A legal notice calling for objections to the proposed deproclamation will be placed in newspapers in January, with a closing date of February 15.

Cape Nature Conservation chief director Dr Johan Neethling confirmed that his department had recommended deproclaiming the reserve so that it could be used for informal housing and market gardening, with the exception of a section of wetland along the Kuils River.

They wanted the wetland area to be proclaimed separately as a protected area, and to include wetlands outside the existing reserve and possibly also those south of the N2, Dr Neethling said.

"The informal settlement is there (in Driftsands) and we cannot move them."

"It's a compromise we've settled for in the face of great difficulties ... The planners are working on it and we feel something could come out of this if it's handled properly."

"It's impossible to apply pure nature conservation principles to such an area," Dr Neethling said.

Mr Barrie Low, spokesman for the Driftsands Task Group, said they were opposed in principle to deproclamation, although they supported multiple use of the area.

They were concerned that deproclamation would allow developers to apply for rezoning to use the area for "non-green" purposes.

"The (new) nature reserve area must be proclaimed immediately and there must be a firm, written commitment for uses in the other areas."

"We cannot have a situation where the Province turns around and says 'We can't guarantee that,'" Mr Low said.

Earlier this year, a survey of Khayelitsha residents and squatters for the task group found that most respondents wanted the Driftsands reserve retained as a multiple-use open area.

They said recreational facilities in the huge township were in short supply and there was strong support for retaining the reserve as open urban space — for recreation in particular but also for vegetable gardens, initiation ceremonies, weelinks, as a source of traditional medicines, for conservation purposes (the protection of wildlife) and aesthetic considerations, and for gardens and nurseries.