MIGRANT LABOUR (SA) TRANSVAAL

1975 - 1986
Kompers sal die bur-ge 14/21 swartes uitken

Van Ons Politieke Redakteur

KOMPERSSTELSEL wat die maklike en goeier sal; maak om Bantoes te identifiseer, sal vanjaar op sommige plekke in die land ingestel word, het mnr. Punt Jansen, Adjudant-Hoof van Bantoes Administrasie en Onderwyser, in 'n onthouding aan Die Burger gesê.

Die plan is om Bantoes later eenvoudiger identifis-

dokumente as die bestaande te gee wat aan hul burger-
skapsertifikaat gekoppel sal wees.

In 1972 is hulpsetnëuins begru om Bantoes te help om hulle te identifiseer, sodat hulle nie bloot wegs te nie. Ee oortreding, van instroomings- beheer, aangerek is, nie. Nog sentralsaal vanjaar ge-

ek en 'n gebou word om Bantoes meer raad te gee. In 'n Vinniger manier, van identifisering is nodig om die hulpsetnëuins werklik doeltreffend te maak.

Met, so, 'n stelsel sal dan diadisk vangstel kée word by 'n Bantoe in Pretoria, in Lange of in Kaapstad gereg-

ister en 'n brieflysing en telefoongebruik word uitge-

stekel.

Man verloor byna sy arm

N. Bruin posweker het gestraaied in die Hoofpos-
kantoor in Kaapstad byna sy linkerarm verloor deur dat dit in die rollen van 'n vervoer-

band beland het. Na 'n uur se gestreks is sy arm bevy-

ren en is hy per ambulans na die Woodstock, Hospital, ge-

bring.

Die besoeker is mnr. Isaac Louw (16), van Symphony Avenue, Steenberg. Die ongeluk het gestraaied omstreeks 7.20 gebeur, 'n Stuk metaal-

pyp het op die vervoer-

band waarmee poststukke na die Kaapstads staanse gestuur word. Maar Louw wou die pyp greep voordat dit in die rollen beland en dié skatel losgat. Sy arm het toe in die rollers beland.

Tervel by boery is, het 'n dokter hom behandeld.
Aid centres for Bantu in Republic

335 Mr H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development

(1) (a) How many aid centres are there in the Republic; (b) where are they situated and (c) on what date was each centre established,

(2) how many Bantu arrested under influx control and Bantu (Urban Areas) Consolidation Act regulations were referred to each centre during 1974,

(3) how many of the Bantu referred to each centre were (a) not subsequently prosecuted, (b) assisted in finding employment and (c) returned to their homelands,

(4) how many Bantu reported voluntarily to each aid centre during that year

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Africans

On a Correspondent's report, it was stated that hundreds of Africans are being evicted from the Transvaal due to the demands of the Dutch farmers. According to the reports, the eviction is not only affecting the indigenous people but also the indigenous animals. The situation has caused a great deal of concern among the community leaders, who are calling for immediate action to be taken.

The local authorities have ordered the eviction of the African population due to the shortage of labor. However, the residents are protesting against the eviction, saying that they are not responsible for the current situation.

Some of the African residents have been forced to leave their homes, causing a great deal of distress. As a result, the local authorities are now considering alternative solutions to the problem.

The government has declared that the eviction will continue until the situation improves. However, the residents are calling for the government to reconsider its decision.

In conclusion, the eviction of the African population is causing a great deal of concern among the community leaders. The situation is worsening, and the government is facing pressure to take action.
Johannesburg Bantu Affairs Commissioner Frans du Randt has instructed the Department of Bantu Administration's Aid Centre in Fordsburg to "give priority" to processing Africans already under arrest for allegedly contravening a pass or influx control measure.

In effect this has shut the centre's doors to those who are referred for advice on a voluntary basis. Hitherto there, have been up to 700 of these a month and, since it was set up in 1972, the Johannesburg centre has pulled thousands out of the vicious circle of arrest and rearrest, finding jobs for many.

This was in keeping with the spirit and intention of the aid centres, as proclaimed by then-Deputy Minister of BAD, Piet Koornhof. When the centres were introduced at the beginning of the decade he said they were "a genuine attempt to reduce the burden on the technical offender and to divert the majority of these offenders away from the courts and prisons".

Critics like the Black Sash thought otherwise, seeing the exercise as a ploy to pack more Blacks into the Bantu Stans. Indeed, last year, a Parliamentary question by Helen Suzman prompted government to disclose that of those passing through the centre (138,000 in 1973) 66% were sent to Bantu Stans and only 1,2% placed in employment.

Johannesburg Aid Centre, managed by George Bender, has been singled out by the Sash for its humane approach to what is elsewhere frequently a bureaucratic sausage machine.

But all the goodwill in the world cannot abate government's pursuit of the Black technical offender. In a recent month, 2800 Blacks were arrested in Johannesburg under either the Bantu Labour Act, the Urban Areas Act or the Abolition of Passes Act (and accordingly referred to the Aid Centre in Fordsburg). A full 80% were prosecuted, which works out at over 100 cases a day.

It was to forestall the harrowing process of arrest and prosecution that Blacks went to the Johannesburg Aid Centre voluntarily. Many now turned away will fear for their future.

What, then, prompted Du Randt to issue his directive?

As he explains it to the FM, the aid centres were created by the Bantu Labour Act (1964) and are empowered to deal with three categories of people, those under arrest brought to centres; those already in detention; and those referred on a voluntary basis.

For the sake of "good discipline" and to "streamline" matters the Johannesburg manager must now apply his mind to the first category "and not to others who come along with subsidiary problems — wanting to find out whether they have a right to be in an area or can apply for a house."

Du Randt further explains "We were reaching a situation where the centre was usurping the functions of other sections of my administration. In fact we were steering for a situation where certain sections of my organisation were running-dry in that their customers were being referred to the Aid Centre."

People should have gone to a labour bureau, the township manager or the West Rand Administration Board — depending on the nature of their problem — instead of to Fordsburg.

Du Randt also wants tightening-up on repeated offenders "We started off by giving every person who turned up at the centre the benefit of the doubt — the Act gives us discretion to make representations that no criminal proceedings be instituted against a Bantu, if our investigations lead us to this opinion."

"So we would tell him to be a good boy and explain what he had to do to get his side of the matter straight. But now, three years on, we have the strange phenomenon of the man who has already been through the centre three times coming up again."

In such cases now "we will let the law take its normal course."

Du Randt would also like to see more investigation of "employers' con-

Bantu Aid Centre ... jobs or jail?

debtor
tives negligence" in an offence, followed, "if necessary", by prosecution.

He further points out that many of the people who voluntarily visit the centre do so to appeal against being endorsed out — yet the judgment of the Chief Bantu Affairs Commissioner is final.

"The ruling is that an appeal can only be reopened when an appellant can produce additional evidence and provided he has honoured the previous ruling, and left the prescribed area."

In order to remain in a "white" area while awaiting the outcome of an appeal, the appellant must apply to the Bantu Commissioner for permission to stay. Du Randt says this is "very rarely" given. In any case, the appeal must be in the form of an affidavit with somewhat strange requirements — such as "full details of the appellant's history in the prescribed area" and "confirmation of school attendance, with dates quoted."

Worse the onus of proof is on the appellant.

As Black Sash president Sheena Duncan points out, many of the people who wish to appeal, or appeal again (technically taboo) have nowhere else to go. They remain in prescribed areas since they have no "Homeland" and are engulfed by the pass laws.
New pass law talks after two-year delay

By PATRICK LAURENCE

THE Minister of Bantu Administration and Development, Mr M. C. Botha, is to meet the chief ministers of three homelands on May 20 for a mini-summit on influx control.

Mr Botha will meet Chief Lucas Mangope of Bophuthatswana, Dr Cedric Phatudi of Lebowa and Chief Lennox Sebe of the Ciskei to follow up talks in Cape Town in January 1979, between the Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, and the chief ministers of eight homelands.

At the Cape Town meeting, representations for the abolition of pass laws were rejected by the Government.

But it agreed to allow talks between officials of the Department of Bantu Administration and representatives of the homelands to explore ways in which hardships suffered under the laws could be removed or improved.

The proposed discussion was never got underway because the homelands concerned insisted that they should be between ministers of the South African and homeland governments.

The May 20 meeting is an attempt to set the talks in motion.

In the more than two years which have lapsed since the Cape Town meeting, the pass laws have been tightened by an amendment to the Urban (Bantu Areas) Act raising penalties for illegal entry to urban areas.

The meeting will be followed by talks in the troubled village of Mabokolga on June 15.

Recent fighting in which eleven people died is the result of tension caused by a faction which wants to pull out of Bophuthatswana and join QwaQwa.

The purpose of the meeting, between Mr Botha, Chief Mangope and Mr Kenneth Mopeli, chief minister of QwaQwa, is to give Basotho who want to settle anywhere an opportunity to do so, though it will mean resettlement for those who so decide.
Aid centres for Bantu

989 Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development

(1) Whether any new aid centres were established during 1976 if so where.

(2) how many Bantu were referred to each aid centre during 1976.

(3) how many of the Bantu referred to each centre were (a) not subsequently prosecuted, (b) assisted to find employment in the Bantu Affairs Administration Board area concerned and (c) returned to their homelands.

(4) (a) how many Bantu reported voluntarily to each centre during 1976 and (b) how many of them were returned to their homelands.

The MINISTER OF BANTU ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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More pass law offenders appear in court — survey

By PATRICK LAURENCÉ
Deputy Political Editor

THE NUMBER of blacks saved from prosecution for pass law offences by aid centres is on the decrease, according to figures published in the latest Survey of Race Relations.

The aid centres were originally established to assist technical offenders under the pass laws and in particular to help them stay out of court and prison. Aid centres function in all the main cities and towns.

Published by the Institute of Race Relations, the 1978 Survey shows that for the year ending March 1978, 367 380 blacks were referred to aid centres, a decrease of 21 228 on the figures for the previous statistical year.

Associated with the decrease in the number of blacks referred to aid centres was a drop in the number who were not prosecuted — down by 3 493 from 91 631 in the statistical year ending March 1977 to 88 228.

These figures support the view of Mrs Sheena Duncan of the Black Sash, that the pass laws are being applied more rigorously. Pass law arrests in the main urban areas in 1978 rose sharply compared to 1977 — 272,887 against 173,571.

But the trend at the Johannesburg aid centre points to an increase in both the number of blacks referred to aid centres and the number saved from prosecution.

The 1978 Survey underlines the heavy reliance of administration boards on income from liquor sales. Of the nine boards cited, income from liquor ranges from a "low" 40% to a "high" 66% of their revenue. The sale of liquor (excluding beer) was the single biggest source of income to the West Rand Administration Board, accounting for R33 100 of the estimated budget of R75 200 000 for 1978-79.
will recognize the narrative and historical features in it, this is a story of course, but his achievement is part of the deal; the only deliver instrument in interpretation he have taken place depicted in the ivy, readers, probably not have been the odour of the poetics doubt, a kind of man that not have been its own way of denial.

Nothing could be without the charm of the medium of the method the mysteries of the phenomenon especially when it is being used. At will and of the method the medium of the method, the mystical conditions of the story's application.

Let it be admitted for Jesus four different sense of the what were the representations in order to prove. Strauss is at certain supernatural discourses that the story's application of Moses is in yet a higher measure in the experience of Jesus, that bring Jesus as Messiah into contact with his two forerunners; and through this appearance of the Lawgiver and the Prophet, the founder and the reformer of the Jewish theocracy, to present Jesus as the perfecter of the kingdom of God, as the fulfillment of the law and the prophet, and furthermore to represent his messianic dignity as confirmed by a voice from heaven. 

Straus has the idea that the called The Gospels have is the first of Jesus with us into our existence of the to do. The who breaks are fitted into were never a danger, we may in the Gospels which they never our own imagination of reality of Jesus as course, mean than Strauss express the work wishes and he declares that of asserting that was impossible to differences in order to things of Jesus are nouns, we become ignites, on which we can. The facts and strings have been dissolved from the strings been deposited in the work of 1900, p. 154. The if Jesus and the "trans-" the essence of his method, is likely to carry converting the life Strauss was to make certain concessions to more traditional opinions, to reason to doubt that his basic conversion to the end of his life was notised, though not in every detail of its application.

Straus, op cit., p. 92.
kept some soup, biscuit and beef for me. Feilden told me that Allenby had got so anxious about us when the A.D.C. told him in the evening that he thought he had told me to return by the wrong road and 30 men to go to Vlakfontein with stone walls and none of us could do the same. We took up our position and Feilden told me that the whole R Regiment is being moved to a central point and none of us could sleep. Feilden told me that another one had been wounded and that the information would probably be passed over before dark. At daybreak a patrol was sent to search the hillside and we noticed my absence but we had not heard each other. We all returned in triumph to camp which was fully five miles away and had a warm welcome. Shortly after our arrival the brigade marched and did about 18 miles across a dreary black plain covered with stones. We only saw water twice on the way and not a single native hut. Not a pleasant place to be lost in.
THE Prime Minister of Transkei, Chief George Matanzima, has warned that South Africa's pass laws will have a tragic effect on millions of black people in Southern Africa and stir resentment to breaking point.

In Umtata this week Chief Matanzima referred particularly to Pretoria's recent announcement that employers of so-called "illegal" labourers were liable to fines of up to R500.

By MARCUS NGANI

The move would wipe out "at a stroke" any good done overseas by Dr Piet Koornhof's "apartheid is dead" speech in America, he said.

He added: "I find it incredible that the South African Government can allow its opportunities to flounder in this way.

"The whole intiative is now at the mercy of petty officials with an encyclopedic knowledge of the regulations, but little understanding of the misery they can cause."

Nothing in the past performance of such people leads me to expect that South Africa stands on the threshold of a major public relations success.

"What is more likely, in my view, is the reverse," Chief Matanzima said.

Appealing to the South African Government to reconsider its new influx control directive on "illegal" labourers, Chief Matanzima said Dr Koornhof's speech in America was intended as a start of a new effort to reach understanding.

"What this sub-continental need is not violence, declaratory attitudes and separatism. It needs meaningful dialogue to overcome these distressing tendencies — and the sooner the better," the Transkei leader suggested.
Church office tries to help

THE Witwatersrand Council of Churches has established offices in Soweto to help people with pass book and other related problems.

The offices are situated in the yard of the Holy Cross Church, opposite Uncle Toms Hall in Orlando West.

The officer in charge, Mrs Rosemary Gamede, said the offices were opened to save people the trouble of going to many places before they got help.

One of their major concerns is people born in Johannesburg, who stayed a long time out of work, and later faced expulsion when they tried to register after finding a job. They also help old age pensioners, students who need bursaries, people who cannot afford to pay their rents and give counselling to married couples with strained relationships.

"Mrs Gamede said they have had to deal more with people who were born in Johannesburg but met difficulties with registration for employment. The problem of unemployment had left too many people stranded."

VICTIMS

People who did not apply for their birth certificates in time and may not apply for reference books can be assisted by the office. The same applies to people who lost their birth certificates.

We also help Tax Area victims. These are people who were born in Johannesburg and went to stay in another area outside. When they return, to seek employment, they are bound to make affidavits stating the reasons why they left Johannesburg and why they returned. We try our best to give relevant advice in most cases that deem such advice necessary," Mrs Gamede said.

"Apart from the major problems I have 'mention-
The way to win friendship

ANY attempt to relieve blacks from the strings of the pass laws must be welcome. But we would be naive if we believed that a system of having an ombudsman, while in itself laudable, would solve the problem.

Our only consolation in this is that there are at least some people who think about the pass laws and the misery and heartbreak they cause us.

There are simply too many cases of people being denied the right to live and work in this country, all because of some technicality in their passes.

All the time, we are told that the laws have been designed to protect the urban blacks from the "flood" of people from the "homelands". Heaven knows the pain and suffering, the break-up of families, the creation of criminals out of people who would otherwise have led normal, law-abiding lives, is simply too high a price to pay.

The efforts made by various people and organisations to find a solution are therefore most welcome. But, unfortunately, it simply is not possible to find a humane way of applying an inhuman law.

For that is exactly what the pass laws are — a measure designed to make the white man sleep peacefully without any consideration of the effects it would have on those forced to carry the passes.

If there is anything the Government can do to win friendship and influence people, abolishing the pass laws must rate as the best.
DEFERRED TAX

A. Alpha Limited on 1 May 196. on its annual report says that a new plant for R60 000 is provided at 12 1/2% p.a. and taxable in 19.6 and 42% in 19.7, 45 000 and R50 000 years ended 31.12.19.6

1. What is the balance of the plant tax account in respect of new plant for R60 000 provided at 12 1/2% p.a. allowing 20% on the reducing balance. Tax is payable on the reducing balance. Tax is payable on the reducing balance.

2. Show how the tax is calculated assuming 2% interest.

3. How will the amount of an extraordinary company, amount of new plant for R60 000 provided at 12 1/2% p.a. be accounted for in 19 7 fiscal year.

4. How does the company deductable loss income from other income statement.

5. Further to Note 1.

Draw up the income statement under a) liability b) deferring items.

Assume the tax}

"We appeal to the public to attend the court. It is ironic that so many overseas visitors go there, but few South Africans. We must know the inhumane of our laws and ultimately we will be responsible.

The report also said that 6. The "hug" a new line of R60 000 for illegal employment was forcing people who had been working illegally for years to try and register. This was not always possible yet people elsewhere in the country had been able to register there employees in a year or so.

There had been requests from both blacks and whites to help legalize black domestic workers for jobs which coloureds and "legal" blacks would not take.

The laws governing contract labourers separated men from their wives and families, it was hoped that enabling contract workers to join unions would bring some improvement in their lot.

South Africa was already at the unemployment "danger level" and the numbers were increasing.

There was a serious shortage of housing for blacks and coloureds.

It was significant that through contact with Crossroads residents happy relationships had developed - which was impossible in other black townships where permits had to be obtained for entrance.
REFERENCES


The block talks of the four million in an emergency report by Mrs. Sheenan Dunstan on his death by several selected major categories of disease. With selected major categories of disease, only provide an indication of the relative importance of these categories to both the overall mortality experience of life of the three communities, but ultimately linear relationship between the reducibility of diseases and what is expected.

The possibility of three ways was envisaged.

1. Reducing the number of deaths due to preventable diseases which are frequently amenable to the simple methods of prevention.

2. Reducing the number of deaths due to non-preventable diseases which are frequently amenable to the simple methods of prevention.

3. Reducing the number of deaths due to non-preventable diseases which are frequently amenable to the simple methods of prevention.

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3. Reducing the number of deaths due to non-preventable diseases which are frequently amenable to the simple methods of prevention.
Pass laws 'breed despair' by MELANIE YAP

SOUTH Africa's pass laws, streamlined and more efficient, are creating a new breed of desperate people with no legal hope of survival.

This is the warning this week by the Black Sash in an emergency report saying they had never, in 16 years of work with black people, experienced such anger from blacks.

Leaders of the South African Institute of Race Relations and the South African Council of Churches also appealed for urgent attention to this warning.

Mrs Sheena Duncan, director of the Black Sash advice bureau, said legislation introducing the R500 fine for employers of illegal workers had shut off the last remaining avenue for thousands of "illegals" to feed their families.

"There is such anger and bitterness," she said.

Homelands

"These people are not going to go back to the homelands. They are going to stay around in the cities. After all, crime - stealing and prostitution - pays better in town than at home.

"Up to now the only saving factor for the people controlled by the pass laws has been the total inefficiency of the system. All the vast, ponderous and expensive structure of influx control and influx enforcement has not been able to prevent people from moving to places where they could find work."

The new fine - part of the Riekert Commission's recommendations to exercise strict control over the admission of contract workers to urban areas - meant no more illegal work would be available.

In her report Mrs Duncan said a Unisa survey showed how workers benefited from urban work, even if they went to prison for being "illegal."

A Ciskeian working illegally in Maritzburg for nine months, and spending three months in jail, improved his standard of living by 70 per cent.

A Lebowa man worked for six months in Johannesburg and spent six months in jail before his living standards improved by 170 per cent.

"On November 8 the Prime Minister said a reckless or careless government could turn South Africa into a powder keg within days. In the advice office, we are now watching the fuse to that powder keg burn shorter by the day.

"Until this year people could find illegal work and survive. Now, for the first time we have no hope and no comfort to offer."

"Hope has now been removed and when you take hope away all that is left is rage and anger, bitterness and hatred."

Mrs Duncan said no figures reflected the size of the illegal work force, but the 50 000 who were registered during the Riekert Commission's moratorium were the tip of the iceberg.

"If the Government stopped all resettlements so that people don't have to depend on jobs they can't take and if anyone who finds a job is able to keep it, maybe we'll win a breathing space," she said.

Disturbed

The Director of the South African Institute of Race Relations, Mr John Rees, said the institute was disturbed by the Black Sash report.

"We see this as a direct challenge to the authorities to deal immediately with what the effects of the Riekert Commission will be in the rural areas of South Africa, namely unemployment, 'employment and housing', he said.

Bishop Desmond Tutu, general secretary of the SA Council of Churches, asked whether South Africa's real security was worth the R500 fine.

Comparing the potential explosiveness of the situation now to the pre-1960 fumes three years ago, Bishop Tutu said he believed any unrest now would be far more serious.
Black Sash achievement

IT IS 25 years since the Black Sash was formed in response to the constitutional crisis of the mid-1950s. At its annual conference in Johannesburg this month, the Sash has been celebrating a noteworthy anniversary. In its original guise, the Black Sash was a movement of women concerned to defend the constitution. Amid the political tumult of those days, the conviction of the founders was that measures which were morally wrong could never, in the long run, be politically right. We can now see the truth of that judgment. The coloured voters were removed from the common roll - which, in retrospect, the Nationalist government must bitterly regret.

The Black Sash did not go into decline when the coloured vote battle was lost. It has remained as a courageous, outspoken but always informed and level-headed voice of social concern. Originally, the accent was on protest. And cabinet ministers learnt to dread the presence of the silent, black-sashed demonstrators at public occasions.

The Sash women, most of them housewives and mothers of families, neither fuddy-duddies nor wild-eyed radicals, diversified their activities as the years went on. They realized that protest on its own was not enough and could even on occasion be counter-productive. So the Black Sash embarked on a campaign of public information and education which is in full swing to this day, based on painstaking research, disseminating facts and figures about the evil effects of group areas, the pass laws, job reservation, mass removals, detention without trial, torture and so on - covering the whole burden of South Africa's apartheid agony.

They also moved into the field of practical action - to help ease the oppressive effects of the pass laws through advice offices at Athlone, Cape, and Johannesburg, in support of contact with thousands of blacks trapped in the maze of pass law and influx control regulations, the Blash Sash has earned the gratitude, confidence and respect of blacks - including the black leadership - and so has a rare insight into the movement of black public opinion. At a time of hardening attitudes and decreasing contact, the Black Sash is one of the few organizations which has managed to maintain bridges of inter-racial contact and understanding. Of late, the Sash has been sounding renewed warnings about the bitterness and resentment boiling up in the black community in the wake of the post-Rietkoppert tightening-up of pass laws enforcement. It is a warning which the public and the government would do well to heed.

It is impossible to quantify the achievement of the Sash in its 25 years of existence. It has played a valuable role, for instance, in alerting the churches to the evil effects of the official assault on African family life by enforcement of the pass laws. Its members make no claims of great achievement. But they can most certainly be accorded a share of the credit for the now widespread awareness of the urgent need for reform. The women of the Blash Sash have led South Africa in a pioneering work of social education, enduring insults and harassment in the process and, at the Cape, suffering severe damage to their property at the hands of politically-motivated arsonists. In spite of abuse and intimidation, they have, kept going. On behalf of the community, the Cape Times offers the Black Sash its congratulations on 25 years of unselfish service to South Africa.
Aid centre figures are not ‘juggled’

By MARTIN WELZ

THE Department of Co-operation and Development has denied parts of a Sunday Times report that its internal documents suggest that top officials are juggling statistics on pass offenders in order to avoid unfavourable publicity about the number of prosecutions against blacks.

But the department’s Deputy Secretary, Mr S S Potgieter, has refused to comment on the minutes of a 1974 meeting of senior officials which contained the following sentence:

“Aid centre statistics concerning cases sent to court will, meanwhile, be coloured (ingenious word) to reflect a positive image.”

Instead, the department challenged the suggestion that the main aim of aid centres — supposedly set up to help blacks to avoid prosecution — is to avoid unfavourable publicity.

Assistance

Mr J Jonker, senior PRO for the department, said in a letter to the Sunday Times that the main aim of the centres was to assist blacks with problems that might arise while they were looking for work.

Mr Jonker also denied that the meeting of senior officials in Pretoria in February 1974 was held to discuss how to keep black people in detention at the aid centres for longer than 48 hours without having to take them to court.

This procedure would have the effect of reducing the number of prosecutions reflected in statistics.

Mr Jonker wrote: “According to my notes, the meeting took place to decide which procedures should be followed and what the implications would be on aid centre cases... the aid centre actually plays the role of prisoner’s friend.”

He points out that the minutes of the meeting also say clearly that a warrant must be issued by a judicial officer if a person is to be detained for a period of longer than 48 hours and such cases must appear before court.

However, the following paragraph of the minutes says it was decided “to examine the possibility of amending the legislation with a view to keeping aid centre cases out of the courts, as far as possible, and that the final paragraph says that “meanwhile,” it was decided to ‘colour’ the statistics.”

Discrepancy

Officials also point out that in terms of the official code no person may be kept in detention at an aid centre and that the Sunday Times erred in saying blacks were detained there.

Asked in an interview to explain the decision to “colour” statistics, Mr Potgieter said that he was not at the meeting. He refused to comment further.

Mr Potgieter was unable to explain the discrepancy between official aid centre statistics which claim that only 4000 cases were referred to court in Pretoria last year, and the more than 12 000 pass cases that were actually heard in the Pretoria Commissioner’s Court.

According to the departmental code, and given by the centres extend only to informing ‘ignorant’ blacks who have come to white areas seeking work without the necessary reference book — or endorsement in it — about the influx control laws.
More blacks request aid in 'rough year'

Ows Correspondent
CAPE TOWN. — The Athone Advice Office, which operates under the auspices of the South African Institute of Race Relations and the Black Sash, says in its annual report just published that pressures caused by "this turbulent year for blacks in the Western Cape" are reflected by greater numbers of blacks seeking help.

The report says attendance figures at the advice office jumped by more than 1 500 over last year's total and that 662 interviews were conducted.

"This in spite of a significant drop in attendance during the height of the bus boycott, when punitive action was taken against the unlicensed taxis that were filling the transport gap," the report says.

"The problems, among others, of influx control, residential rights, unemployment, contract labour, age disputes, housing and pension difficulties — all of which are intensified in the Western Cape by the coloured 'labour' preference area policy — are what bring streams of people to the Athone Advice Office."

The annual report says the preliminary returns of the 1980 census are said to show a 63% increase in the black population within a 50km radius of Cape Town in the past decade.

"This indicates the severity of the problem and the drastic need for a massive building programme."

The report also says proceedings at the Langa Commissioner's Court "remain a source of extreme distress — a daily South African tragedy."

"Most people are undefended and are shunted through the court at the rate of one case a minute. In many cases those who attempt their own defence are remanded in custody while their stories are checked by the authorities."

"The checking can go to extreme lengths..." Appeals for Section 10 rights under the Urban Areas Act often drag on for many years, the report adds, as "there are vigorously contested by the Western Cape Administration Board."

"This year, three such appeals were successfully concluded; two of them having been in process for five years."

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The bus boycott,
The strike of black meat workers,
The deliberate exclusion of the Western Cape from the post-Rutker oratorium for registration of illegal workers,
Continuing Crossroads registration difficulties

"These specific crises have added to our daily work of helping people to deal with the mass of restrictive legislation and regulations which face blacks in the Western Cape."

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South African foreign Black workers

253 Dr. A. L. BORAIN asked the Minister of Co-operation and Development:

(1) How many (a) South African and (b) foreign Black workers were registered as at 30 June 1980 in each category of labour defined in the regulations promulgated in terms of the Black Labour Act?

(2) How many of the foreign workers in each category were from (a) Transkei and (b) Bophuthatswana?

(3) (a) What were the countries of origin of the other foreign workers and (b) how many in each category of labour were from each of these countries?

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<td>Other</td>
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The case for legal aid

BY BRUCE COHEN

64.36% of those who had counselled

often encountered with inter-
preted. The accused, which makes the
proceedings as complex as for

The survey also found that the
plea of those who had
legal representation corres-
ponded more closely with
the actual outcome of sen-
tence than the plea of unre-
presented people.

Records from the Athlone
Advocate Office showed that
not more than 12% of people
appearing in commis-
sioner's courts in the Cape
(where only inflex control
and related cases are heard)
were represented.

Surveys in the book show
that the majority of blacks
appear in court without legal
representation and are prob-
ant of court procedure, their
rights and legal aid.

A survey of 452 cases in
the Cape Town Magistrate's
Court showed that only 15.5%
of blacks and 21% of col-
oureds had legal representa-
tion, compared to 58% of
whites.

The ramifications of this
are spelt out in a report by
the London Department of
Justice: "There can be no
doubt that an unrepresented
defendant often suffers from
severe disadvantages. He is
scared, marticulated, unreal-
izable with the procedure and
commonly unable to under-
stand what is going on." Slabbert
says problems are

68% of those who had been
represented.

She adds that the reply to
the magistrate's question
"Have you anything to say?"
is often "I am sorry, your
Honor."

The book offers practical
recommendations to improve
legal aid services, such as:

- Improved liaison between
the various organisations,
- Greater involvement of
lawyers in the service of
the poor.
- Greater emphasis on the
training of law students in
legal aid,
- The expansion of legal aid
centres,
- Better dissemination of
legal aid information by sta-
tioning advisers at all courts,
and
- Paying more attention to
methods of redressing the
flow of people through the
courts.

The report also found that
there was a strong animosity
feelings in the system among
lates and coloureds.

"They see the courts as an
extension of the status quo
and we believe that the expan-
sion of legal aid services will
elect to alter the chances, as the
process of detection, apprehen-
sion and arrest is based on a
system of privilege, in the par-
allel, the person with 'standing'
in the community, financial
resources, legal aid of own
choice has a better chance of
lighter sentence and/or acquittal."

This raises the problems of
suspension of free legal aid and
whether legal aid can develop
in South Africa without becom-
ing involved in the civil
rights and social change
issues.

The study quotes Mr Vin-
cenzo Ligenza, who told an
international conference on
law and legal aid, held in
Belgium: "Legal assistance to the
poor is not an isolating,
neutral matter, it cannot be
seen as a simple organisa-
tional question."

In his recommendations,
Slabbert says a successful le-
gal aid scheme can only be
developed if there is an
awareness of the need to
work for a more just society.
"Address changes in infla-
tion, chronic unemployment,
structural causes of crime, such
as the Group Areas removals,
etc."

She also stresses the need
to provide legal services to
those who are in need while
"debating the question of justi-
tice continues."

The facts emerge in a
study, "Justice For All Pros-
pects and Problems", by
Mara Slabbert, published
by the Institute of Criminol-
ogy at the University of Cape
Town.

The book examines the ex-
ternal legal aid structure in
South Africa, surveying cases
in the Cape and makes recom-
mendations for improved
law services for the poor.

Stressing the necessity of
legal aid and the expansion of
services, Slabbert quotes Mr
John Ayotte's address at a
conference on law and poverty
held in Ottawa in 1971.

"An individual cannot go
to court without a lawyer. He
ought to know what his rights
are. But if he is too poor to
afford a lawyer, he may be
sentenced without having
the opportunity to explain
his case to the court."

Back home, the Athlone
Advocate Office stated in its
1979/80 report: "Most people
are arrested and are shunt-
ed through the (Langa Com-
mune) court at the rate of
one case every minute. In
many cases those who at-
tempt their own defence are
remanded in custody while
their stories are checked by
the authorities. This check-
ing can go on for months."

And Sydney Kenridge, SC,
at a Natal University confer-
cence, pointed out that "the
plus minus 2,000 people who
are processed particularly
through Magis-
trate's Courts every year, at
least half-a-million should
not have been in court at all."

Slabbert looks at legal aid
groups in the country, such
as the Legal Resources Centre
in Johannesburg, Law Student
Clinics, the Urban Training
Project Legal Clinic, the Ath-
alone Advocate Office, the
Black Sash Advocate Office and
the Legal Aid Bureau.

These organisations handle
about 30,000 cases a year and,
according to their directors,
cannot cope with demand.
Slabbert writes: "One only
has to remind oneself of the
corruption there were 81 cen-
sentenced prisoners in custo-
duty in 1979 and 13,065
awarded by trial prisoners for
the same period to realise
how serious the problem is."

The study shows that the
State Legal Aid scheme han-
dles less cases a year than
some private legal aid organis-
tions with limited funds,
and that only a small per-
centage of black people are
served by this scheme at
present.

Thus, Slabbert suggests,
could be due to the fact that
blacks are reluctant to ask help
from a State legal aid scheme
because they do believe they
will get a fair hearing.

Surveys in the book show
that more than 12% of people
appearing in commissioner's
courts in the Cape
(where only inflex control
and related cases are heard)
were represented.

And, "apart from not being
legally represented, very few
accused persons (about 5%)"know basic court procedure or
what their legal rights are.

The ramifications of this
are spelt out in a report by
the London Department of
Justice: "There can be no
doubt that an unrepresented
defendant often suffers from
severe disadvantages. He is
scared, marticulated, unreal-
izable with the procedure and
commonly unable to under-
stand what is going on."
Legal watchdogs take up the case of Pinetown bank robber

Durban's Black Sash Advice Office. Cases dealt with here are given the weight of the law behind them through the intervention of Lawyers for Human Rights.

By INGRID STEWART

TO SEE Jan Freeman for an hour will cost you about R36. He takes home enough to keep his imported German sports car running, his kidney-shaped swimming pool spouting and his R100 000 house in good repair.

His office is plush enough to host shaggy carpets, antique furniture and original oil paintings hanging on the papered walls. Overseas holidays are common.

Jon Freeman is Durban's average lawyer. That's not his real name, nor are his clients. Most of his clients' names are unusual, and he's hardly the kind of person you'd expect to find taking cases for the poor.

But in the past year Jon Freeman and lawyers like him have spent months fighting to get an arrear pension paid, unraveling a bureaucratic web to secure a fair hearing for a dismissed worker and exposing unsavoury hire purchase deals in the courts. And they haven't charged a cent for their services.

They're members of an association called Lawyers for Human Rights, formed just over a year ago.

In the first six months of its life Durban, they handled 54 cases for black pensioners, some of whom had spent years trying to get the pension due to them. Their efforts resulted in a total of R11 000 being paid to these people, including interest payments—something that has never been achieved before.

They spent nine months working on the case of a woman who was being underpaid. The woman was doing the work of a manageress but was receiving the pay of a shop assistant. They recovered R1 000 in back pay for her.

They've exposed a loan shark and set a precedent in the payment of unemployment insurance—ensuring that workers who are dismissed are given a fair hearing by the employer and that unemployment officials who, before, had only listened to the employers' side of the story.

As a result of all this, says Gilliam Nicholson, supervisor of the Black Sash Advice Office, the payment of black pensions by both the white and black government is more efficient, employers have become wary about their treatment of their workers and retailers are more careful about the small print in hire purchase agreements.

Their work is not confined to the black underprivileged, either. Unemployed, they've taken up the case of a convicted bank robber, Peter Esterhuyzen, the Pinetown restaurant owner who robbed a bank at gunpoint while under the influence of liquor and drugs and who was sentenced to six years in prison by a magistrate within six hours of committing the crime.

They believe he was tried too quickly, that he didn't have time to reflect on the implications of his position and that he has a basic right to have his case reviewed.

What motivates them is not a guilty conscience, as one might expect, but a fundamental belief that justice must be seen to be done, that the odds are against those who come before the courts and that people have a right to protection under the law.

They're at pains to tell you that they are not political.

"We are not a body designed to change the law. We'll leave that to the political parties. All we can do is bring violent manifestations of human rights to the notice of the authorities and to the public and hope that our influence will make them change what has to be changed,"

Why the sudden interest from the legal fraternity, traditionally seen as conservative?

"I suppose we were just lazy and were waiting for someone else to start something," was the answer.

The impetus began in Johannesburg and came to Durban in November 1980, when senior counsel, Johann Kriegel, told Durban lawyers they had failed in their duty in the field of human rights.

"The reason lies not so much in a reliance to become involved in contentious matters, but in apathy and an affirmed commitment to the practice," he said.

It obviously struck a chord. There are now more than 100 members in Durban, and 200 members nation-wide.

They're not beyond criticism. There are some who say they don't go far enough—fundamentally, that human rights should take into political platforms, they ought to be campaigning for the enforcement of the law.

"We have been in a position to make a meaningful representation, we have done so," says?$ chairwoman of the local branch, Mr Wilson. "One of our members went to Cape Town to see the Minister personally."

Detentions without trial is raised in their newsletters and press statements are issued. But they nevertheless remain in a moderate approach.

Our members are split over the extreme Right: to the political Right, we're seen as representing the bulk of the population, and to the political Left, we're too radical we're going to lose members," says Mr Wilson.
People wanting local advice should call the Housing Advice Office.
Advice centre

THE Witwatersrand Council of Churches has introduced a legal advice service to Soweto people on the laws that govern them.

The project is headed by a banned matric student, Ms Sibongile Mthembu. The information centre will specialise on pass laws, pensions and birth certificates. The office will be in Zola where she is confined by the banning order.

Sibongile's application to obtain a permit to operate from an Orlando office was refused by the Minister of Justice.

The three year banning order restricts her to Zola township, bars her from attending social gatherings, learning institutions and leaving the magisterial area of Johannesburg.

The WCC information centre is at the Bridgeman Centre, Zola. The postal address is, Bridgeman Centre, Soweto United Congregational Church, 3131 Zola South, PO KwaXuma 1868.
Squatters:
students
fast in
solidarity

GRAHAMSTOWN. — Freedom songs and slogans were chanted during a 24-hour fast organised by the Black Students Society at Rhodes University — in solidarity with the fasting squatters in St George’s Cathedral.

At a midday meeting, student-leader Mr Modise Leboko told about 100 students, which included a handful of whites, “The fast in Cape Town must not be seen in isolation. It is a result of the overall racist regime in South Africa at which we express our anger.” He said he hoped the fast would make the Eastern Cape aware of the squatters’ plight.

Another speaker, Mr Ashwin Desai said the squatters were part of a system which included removals, detentions, restrictions of job opportunities, and many other things. He said the situation had to be seen in a historical context.

After singing freedom songs the students called for the university’s staff to express their anger as well and debated what could be done to help the squatters.

The fast was bunched on power salutes and holding banners reading, “Power to the Squatters,” “One People, One Nation,” the studentsictured a man in a dark suit, photographing all present.

SHARPVILLE

Pamphlets commemorating the death of Chief Albert Luthuli, Drs. Selma and Albertina Sisulu, Dr. Passmore Sharpe, and the Sharpeville massacre were distributed.

The students went to sing “Nkosi Sikelelwa” and dispersed to continue their 24-hour fast which lasted until Friday last Thursday.
Squatter protest

EAST LONDON — Families living in "illegal structures" on private property in the Hanover district could find themselves without a roof over their heads.

Following a complaint from Mr R E H Breetzke regarding the erection of daub huts in the area, situated between King William's Town and Kei Road, the Divisional Council decided at its monthly meeting to serve notice on the various owners of property on which the squatters had erected shelters.

They would be informed in the notice that squatters were not allowed to stay there. The huts provide shelter for 82 people — 29 adults and 63 children — DDR.
For most people the communal gardens are of obvious benefit in providing a supplementary source of food. Some people are however, trying to make a full-time living from them, and most aim to use them as a source of some income. In this section I wish to look at how the communal gardens function at the moment and what benefits they have for members, and especially the extent to which they can become a primary source of income for the family or even supplement peoples' cash income rather than just their food. In looking at them as "primary projects" as opposed to supplementary projects one must consider the same factors as with the dairies, for example lack of markets and whether returns on labour can be worthwhile.

Another main topic in this section is on which people, in terms of wealth or need, join the gardens first, and on which they make the most use of them.

2. The garden area is allocated in the form of plots to individuals who work their own plots for their own benefit - no communal organisation. Membership is dependent on Zenzele fees being paid. Because the garden is only open to Zenzele members some people will not join. (They say Zenzele involves too many contributions towards other people’s travels).

3. As the garden was established in late 1977 production is as yet too low for marketing problems to have been encountered.

4.2.2 INTHI COMMUNAL GARDEN

1. This garden is in a very fertile valley with abundant water. The village is isolated. The communal garden was started in 1970, it is six morgen in extent. (Apart from this garden and Abalima the other gardens are about 1 morgen). There has been a significant drop in membership from 90 in 1970 to 10 at the present.

2. This garden is more communally run than most. Because the garden is so big, dry land crops are grown. These are communally cultivated and communally distributed amongst members. Vegetables are also grown on individual plots although members from work parties to cultivate each other's plots and seed comes from a central pool. Cash from vegetables sold at the Idalophu market is pooled for capital improvements. (However the total for the whole garden was only R40 for the summer months of 1977-1978)

3. Marketing. The way in which a limited market restricts production is clearly shown here by the vegetables which women do not even bother to harvest, rotting in the fields.

4.2.3 INXOMO COMMUNAL GARDEN

1. This garden is in N.M.'s home area and is one of the oldest surviving (1959) communal gardens in the Ukahlala district. It started with a very heavy Zenzele input. Initial membership was open to Zenzele members but because it was so little used (in fact not used at all in 1974-1976) it was opened to everyone recently and since then there has been a slow growth of membership.

The water supply is poor and the garden is big relative to the number of members so that only dry land crops are grown. These crops lend themselves to cultivation in large blocks.

2. Organisation. This garden is exceptional in that it is completely communally run and has been for 2 years. The members pool money to buy seeds, are all meant to work a certain number of days per month in work parties and
Advice Office to open in PE soon

By SANDRA SMITH

THE Black Sash will open an Advice Office in Port Elizabeth next week to assist people experiencing problems with, for example, the pass laws, and obtaining pensions by providing para-legal advice.

The Black Sash's Advice Office will open every Saturday morning from 10am to 12pm at the Race Relations premises on the fifth floor of the Constantia Centre.

A Black Sash spokesman said today there were already several individuals and groups providing such services, but a definite need existed for an extension of the aid.

The organisation had advice offices in Cape Town, Grahamstown, East London, Durban, Maritzburg, Pretoria and Johannesburg.

There were several reasons why providing such advice was important.

While there was no "legitimate non-violent action for social change", he said, pass-law offenders, asbestos consumers and others were being exploited.

Those who believe in non-violence as a means as well as a goal must do all they can to understand how the law operates and at what point the system is open to peacable, non-violent, effective pressure to compel change," the spokesman said.

Often many arrested in pass raids were not guilty of an offence but were convicted because they did not know how to defend themselves.

The ethics of free enterprise often enabled the shrewd and unscrupulous to trap the poor into living beyond their means.

Debt counselling and legal assistance in dealing with fraudulent traders was needed in the black townships.

The pay and conditions of service of workers also often did not conform to statutory requirements.

The growth of trade unions had helped to change this, but assistance in getting pay scales upgraded and benefits under UIF or Workmen's Compensation paid out was still needed.

A primary aim of para-legal services was to educate people in how to initiate the law to their advantage, instead of against them.
Earning parents spend year without shelter

BY CLIFF FOSTER

The housing shortage in Port Elizabeth's coloured townships has split a family apart.

The six children, including a nine-month-old baby, are having to live in a Place of Shelter and Detention at Korsten, and this week the parents — both working people with regular jobs — were found sleeping in an outside toilet not far away.

The family has spent a whole year on the move searching for a home and throughout the winter had frequently slept in open — in a schoolyard, on the beach, in the bush, and even in a fowl run.

Their plight was reported to Weekend Post by Mr Harry Essen of Highlands Road, Korsten, who found the parents — Mr and Mrs Fred Pransloo — sleeping in a toilet, in which he was storing two car doors, this week.

They knew his premises because he had given them shelter seven months ago when he found Mrs Pransloo standing in the street in tears, in the rain, the two-month-old baby in her arms.

Mr Pransloo earns R240 a month as a lorry driver. His wife, Sheila, earns R140 a month at a grocery concern. But apart from blankets, the couple don't possess as much as a spoon in household belongings.

"We can't because we have nowhere to put anything," Mr Pransloo said.

Frequently people have offered to adopt some of the children — all bright youngsters with engaging smiles — but, Mrs Pransloo said, "We are determined to keep them all together."

The Pransloos, hardworking, well-spoken and neat although they have lived rough for a year, used to have a new two-bedroomed flat in Bloemendal but gave it up when they moved to Cape Town in the hope of bettering themselves.

"I went after a better job but it didn't work out as I had hoped," said Mr Pransloo.

"Since we came back a year ago we have been living all over the place — sometimes with other people, but often in the open. We doubled up with other families but when the baby was six weeks old we were put out because the people couldn't keep us any longer.

"We slept in a broken-down bungalow on King Neptune Beach the next weekend.

"After that we slept in the bush, in a toolshed in Katanga, in a schoolyard, even in a fowl run where the rats were running about. Then this week we slept in the toilet.

"We had filled in the papers to apply for a council flat and I was under the impression they had been sent in, but with all the running around they were lost.

"Two months ago we applied again but we are still waiting. There are so many people on the list."

Mr Pransloo has been in work since the family returned from Cape Town.

This weekend Mr Essen was trying to help them, but said he was not going to be able to accommodate them at his home because his wife was unwell.

"It's terrible to see them like this," he said.

"These are respectable people, who care for their children. It's not as if they were no-good people who refused to work. If they were it would be different, but they are not."

Baby ERICA, nine both parted from home.
MP sets up advice office

Mercury Reporter

The MP for Durban Central, Mr Peter Gastrow, freely admits to being 'thick-headed' — a condition he says he has grown accustomed to through continuously knocking his head against a brick wall in dealing with Government departments.

'But I'd far rather take the punishment myself than see it inflicted on the public,' he cheerfully declared yesterday.

He has had so many calls and inquisitions from people — of all political persuasions — to contend with that he has forsaken a lucrative legal practice in order to establish a permanent advice bureau.

Mr Gastrow, whose constituency enthrones the heart of the city, said that service would be provided free because the volume of problems which had been brought to his attention had made it increasingly clear there was a need for such a facility.

His position as a public representative and Opposition spokesman on information meant he had some access, which he was always quite happy to use, to Government departments and officials who not everyone else had.

Waving a thick file of correspondence, he pointed out numerous examples of people who had sought help.

Their problems involved work permits, military deferments, pensions, race classifications, identity documents and domestic servant registrations.

Initial efforts had gone off so well and attracted such a wide response that he had found he needed to devote more time to attending to the problems.

The advice centre, at Avonmore Centre (telephone Durban 28 2900), is open to everyone and there are no charges for any of its services.

While he is in Parliament for six months each year the centre will be run by Mrs Lorna Emanuel, who, he says, is 'well qualified for the job.'
Squatter raid was ‘official’

Staff Reporter

THE Department of Community Development has accepted responsibility for the "mystery" raid on 28 squatter families near Hout Bay earlier this month.

Mr P Gerber, the department’s regional representative, said the raid was carried out by members of his department and their superiors were satisfied that they acted within the law.

He was reacting to recent reports in which it was alleged that a group of 11 armed men demolished the settlement’s shacks and terrorized the people in a raid on the morning of November 14.

“All the men involved in the operation were members of the department and we are satisfied that they acted in their official capacities,” Mr Gerber said.

He denied that the men had terrorized the squatters.

“The operation was carried out as part of an ongoing process in terms of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act, and as far as we are concerned the men involved in this particular one acted in a correct manner.

‘Did their duty’

“They only did their duty,” he said.

Mr Len Pothier, the Divisional Councillor for Hout Bay and Llandudno, rejected Mr Gerber’s statement when approached for comment yesterday.

“There is no doubt that this vicious, unnecessary and illegal raid was carried out by these men in their private capacities,” he said.

He said they had not worn their uniforms, but blue overalls to ensure a measure of anonymity, and that two of the vehicles they used were privately owned.

“The third was a government vehicle and that was a mistake on their part,” he said.

“The men were also drunk and did not identify themselves.”

Mr Pothier said the squatter settlement was within the boundaries of the Divisional Council and thus its responsibility.

“The position is that should the Department of Community Development decide on a particular squatter settlement which is the responsibility of a local authority, it must officially request that body to take action and demolish the shacks.

‘Legally entitled to’

“Only if the local authority concerned does not take the necessary action, is the department legally entitled to demolish the shacks itself, and then send the bill,” he said.

“Unfortunately, nobody can accuse the Divisional Council of neglecting its duty in this respect, because regular operations against squatters are carried out.

“The department had no right to be there, and they should stay the hell out,” Mr Pothier said.

“You may have gathered that I feel very strongly on this issue.”

Mr Gerber declined to comment on the legal ins and outs of the issue, saying it was a hypothetical question.

“I would, however, like to point out that we have an excellent working relationship with local authorities,” he said.
Black Sash urges migrant workers to press for rights

Thousands to demand permanent residence

Thousands of migrant workers in South Africa's urban areas are expected to press the Government urgently for permanent residential rights.

And tens of thousands of workers have had the way cleared for them to seek these residential rights by Monday's Appeal Court decision which upheld the right of a Germiston migrant labourer to live permanently in the city with his family.

Employers are also expected to make applications on behalf of thousands of their migrant employees to provide them with permanent accommodation.

The national president of the Black Sash, Mrs Sheena Duncan, said today that the hundreds of cases being handled by their Transvaal and Cape offices would be advised to press ahead for permanent residence rights.

In September 1981, a Rand Supreme Court judge found in favour of Mr Mehloko Tom Rikhotso in a case against the East Rand Administration Board. Erab subsequently appealed against this decision but it has now been upheld by the Appeal Court.

Mrs Duncan said that, in the past two years, administration boards had stalled efforts to obtain residential rights for migrant workers but now any attempts to frustrate the Rikhotso judgement could mean contempt of court.

But she said she feared that Government bureaucracy could still frustrate the law.

The relative Act provides for resident status for those who have worked 10 continuous years for one employer or have resided lawfully in a city for 15 continuous years.

In a statement issued at the weekend, the Transvaal chairman of the Black Sash, Mrs Jill Wentzel, urged migrant workers whose residential rights had been violated to report to Black Sash offices.

In the light of Monday's judgement, administration boards had no choice but to enter stamps qualifying certain workers to residential rights, Mrs Wentzel said in the statement.

The judgement had underscored that even the ideology of apartheid had to bow to the law, the statement added.

The Minster of Co-operation and Development, Dr Piet Koornhof, was not available for comment today but it is understood that his department will study the decision before commenting.

In the House of Assembly the Opposition today called on the Government not to try to circumvent the Appeal Court's decision on urban black migrant workers.

Mr Ken Andrews, one of the Opposition's chief spokesmen on urban black affairs, said he trusted that the administration boards would implement the decision without delay and would not try to frustrate the attempts of urban blacks to claim rights to which they were entitled.

At the Cape provincial Congress of the National Party in East London in October last year Dr Koornhof indicated that the Government would consider legislation to circumvent a previous court decision on the same lines but there has been no indication of this during the present session of Parliament.
DURBAN — Chief Minister of kwaZulu, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, alleged at a press conference here yesterday that the terrorist Lesotho Liberation Army (LLA) had a "godfather" in a South African Government department.

He said he believed that neither the South African Prime Minister nor the Cabinet had decided to support the LLA.

Chief Buthelezi claimed this was a case of the left hand not knowing what the right hand was doing in the government, something he had fallen victim to in the past.

Chief Buthelezi based his allegation on information he gathered while on a visit to Lesotho at the weekend at the request of the Lesotho Government, and contact between an Inkatha youth leader and Lesotho anti-government rebel, Mr Ntsu Mokhehle, in Vereeniging.

Lesotho officials briefed Chief Buthelezi about attacks by exiled Mokhehle's Lesotho Liberation Army, the military wing of the opposition Basutoland Congress Party, which has been fighting Chief Leabua Jonathan's government for three years.

The kwazulu party leader flew over places where fighting has taken place. Most of the attacks were launched from South African territory and others from the Transkei and QwaQwa.

"I have no doubt that the Lesotho Liberation Army has a godfather in South Africa," Chief Buthelezi said yesterday.

"There are certain departments and authorities here that must be helping the LLA or at least have a knowledge of this army."

He said that it was difficult to believe that the South African Government did not know about the attacks on Lesotho made from here. He called on Mr P W Botha to look closely at the tenuous relations between the two countries.

During yesterday's conference, he also claimed that:

- A consignment of arms from Britain and America for Lesotho had been lying in Durban harbour for more than three months as the South African Government would not allow it to cross South African territory.
- Lesotho's budget deficit was equal to the amount due to her from the custom union fees which she no longer received from South Africa.
- Attacks from Transkei were an attempt to force Maseru to recognize Umtata's independence.
Labour policy still in force

Political Staff

THE controversial coloured labour preference policy, which President P W Botha said six weeks ago was to be scrapped, is still being applied in the Western Cape.

The Chief Commissioner for the Western Cape, Mr Timo Bezuidenhoudt, said yesterday the policy "is still applicable".

Mr Bezuidenhoudt added "I am awaiting a directive in writing from the government."

Yesterday Mrs Noel Robb, director of the Black Sash Advice Office in Cape Town, said the coloured labour preference policy was still being applied in the Western Cape, in spite of President Botha's statement at the Cape congress of the National Party on September 25.

Proof

Mr Botha said then that in light of the Riebert Commission's findings, which had been accepted by the government, it "is my view that black people permanently in the Western Cape should have the right to compete on an equal footing with others on the labour market."

In terms of the policy, black people with permanent residence rights in the Western Cape may not be employed without proof that suitable coloured employees are not available.

At the time of the announcement, the move to scrap the coloured labour preference policy was widely welcomed. The Labour Party has also campaigned for the repeal of the policy.

Although the policy is still technically in force, some sources believe that its official abolition is likely soon.

'No clarity'

In the same speech, President Botha also announced the extension of the 99-year leasehold scheme to the Western Cape, and said the scheme would apply in Khayelitsha and certain other areas, but no further details have been given.

Mrs Sue Joynt of the Black Sash Advice Office said yesterday that there has been "no clarity on this matter at all."

"No one knows who can apply for 99-year leases, where they can apply or how they can apply."

"It is all just pie in the sky at the moment."

Mr Bezuidenhoudt said no further details about the application of the 99-year leasehold scheme in the Western Cape were available yet.

"As far as the 99-year leasehold policy is concerned, this has been approved by the Cape Congress of the National Party."

Not available

"It will now have to be considered by Parliament. The Western Cape will have to be included in the Act," he said.

Mr Bezuidenhoudt said he was involved in discussions about 99-year leases in the Western Cape, but they were not yet available.

Although President Botha, when he was still prime minister, said it was the government's policy that all black people in the Cape Town area would have to move to Khayelitsha, he now said no one would be forced to move there.

It is now hoped, however, that 99-year leases will also be available in Langa, Gugulethu and Nyanga and that Khayelitsha will be used to accommodate people who cannot find housing in these areas, because of the increasing size of Cape Town's black population and the huge costs of development at Khayelitsha, where R100 million has been budgeted for the first phase of 5 000 core houses.
MIGRANT LABOUR, SA - TRANSVAAL

1986
calls reform pledge into question

By Jo-Anne Collinge

If anybody has reason to doubt the sincerity of the Government’s reform promises, “no more forced removals” and “common citizenship for all”, it is the 120,000 residents of Moutse, the strife-torn area surrounding Dennilton in the north-eastern Transvaal.

They have been told in no uncertain terms by the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chriss Heurns, that they can have their 66,000 ha of ancestral land or they can have their South African citizenship — but they can’t have both.

If they want to stay on their land at Moutse they must accept incorporation into kwaNdebele and forfeit their South African citizenship when that homeland becomes independent later this year.

Cost of remaining South African

If they want to remain South African they can move into the Immerpan and Sameshot areas of Lebowa, a homeland which shows no inclination to take independent status.

Moutse’s refusal to accept this deal and its leaders’ outspoken rejection of kwaNdebele has cost at least 12 lives since December. Moutse youths have clashed with police and zealous kwaNdebele supporters have invaded since New Year to claim the territory as their prize.

The blood that has flowed in Moutse in the last two days represents an ideological battle against apartheid, not a tribal squabble, insist Mr Maredi Chauke, one of the area’s two elected members of the Lebowa Legislative Assembly. (Although Moutse was excused from Lebowa in 1986 in preparation for transfer to kwaNdebele and has been administered directly by Pretoria, it has retained representation in the Lebowa Assembly).

Another resident puts it more bluntly: “The main spear in this battle is Pretoria.”

The wrangle over Moutse has gone on for more than half a decade, with Pretoria’s Cabinet Ministers holding commission, talking to homeland leaders and consulting traditional Moutse leaders.

There was no violence in all this time. But as soon as Pretoria announced it had made up its mind that Moutse was going to kwaNdebele and the decision was final, ominous rumblings of discontent began to be heard.

Despite this, just before the Cabinet went into recess for the festive season, Mr Heurns confirmed that Moutse was destined to be handed to kwaNdebele on January 1. It appears that proclamation making this final has yet to be published.

US hits at land deal that led to violence

WASHINGTON — The United States has condemned the incorporation of land north of Pretoria into the kwaNdebele homeland which led to violence and deaths in clashes there this week.

“We have made it clear to the South African Government that its intention to incorporate this land (Moutse) into the so-called homeland is wrong,” a State Department spokesman said here.

He said his government opposed forced removals of South African citizens and further elaboration of the homeland concept. “The US does not recognize the so-called independent homelands as being sovereign nations, nor do we accord any recognition to the general homelands scheme put in place by the South African Government,” he said.

CONCERN

Twenty-six US congressmen, 21 of them senators, expressed concern shortly before Christmas at the incorporation of Moutse into kwaNdebele in a letter to South Africa’s ambassador to Washington, Mr Herbert Beukes.

“We have long considered the homeland policy one of the most inhumane manifestations of apartheid,” they said. The writers noted that this incorporation would make a mockery of the words of the State President, Mr F W Botha.

They cited points raised on Mr Botha’s “agenda for continued political and social reform” — a commitment to one citizenship and a universal franchise within a united South Africa, and South African citizenship being restored to all who had lost it in the creation of homeland states.

“A decision to proceed with the forced incorporation of Moutse and Ekurhuleni into kwaNdebele would make a mockery of those stated intentions,” the letter said.

The signatures included congressmen known as moderates, conservatives and former presidential candidates.
kwaNdbele will not force citizenship

SIYABUSWA (kwaNdbele) — The kwaNdbele Government would not force any person to take up citizenship, not even after independence, the homeland’s Chief Minister, Mr S S Skosana, said yesterday.

The guarantee was one without which kwaNdbele would never accept independence, he said in a statement to set out his government’s stand on issues affecting residents of the trouble-torn Moutse area after its incorporation into kwaNdbele.

Pretoria’s decision to incorporate the Moutse area into the homeland has led to the deaths of at least 20 people.

The Moutse community is strongly opposed to consolidation of the area with the homeland, which is soon to gain independence.

The government acknowledged that residents of Moutse had “doubts and, in some cases, fears about their future under the kwaNdbele Government” and that “the recent unrest in the area is proof of these uncertainties,” Mr Skosana said.

PROPERTY
Setting out his government’s stand on the issues of citizenship, private property rights, political representation, the position of chiefs and teachers, trade licences and the medium of education in schools, Mr Skosana said his government was “prepared to negotiate other valid matters with those concerned in Moutse for the sake of prosperity in kwaNdbele”.

He said the government guaranteed private property rights in Moutse and that kwaNdbele was the first national state to decide in favour of such rights.

On the issue of political representation, Mr Skosana said his government wished “to start as soon as possible to render all services necessary to enable the people of Moutse to fulfill and attain their hopes and aspirations”.

“The constitution of kwaNdbele makes provision for six members for each recognised tribal authority, one nominated by each chief and two nominated jointly by community authorities.”

This brought the total for Moutse to 30 nominated members, which “must be considered against the two representatives the Moutse people had in the previous dispensation.”

The status and position of all serving chiefs, tribal and community authorities in Moutse would remain intact.

There were at present a number of schools in kwaNdbele that used either Tswana or Sotho, and education would be given in the language used at present, he said. — Sapa.
Scores of people arrested for pass offences in Johannesburg have been released by the local Commissioner's Court without appearing.

Sources at the Johannesburg Commissioner's Court said this was a growing trend since the announcement by State President PW Botha that pass laws were to be scrapped.

"Truck-loads of pass offenders are still brought to the court, but they are only interviewed and set free," said one source.

Some court officials believe that a directive has been given not to prosecute pass offenders, but this was denied yesterday by a spokesman for the Ministry of Justice.

A source said only aliens and holders of forged documents were now being prosecuted.
Reforms: Court reform a sham?
Sotho removal despite ‘reprieve’

RESIDENTS in the “reprieved” black township at Louis Trichardt have said they have been told they will be moved by the end of March into one of three homelands. In a petition, 55 of the Northern Sotho residents in the township have appealed to the Transvaal Rural Action Committee (Trac) to take up their case before March 16 when their work permits expire.

Last week, the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr. Chris Heunis, said Louis Trichardt was one of four areas where the black towns would be retained for single accommodation and that it would “be negotiated with the other residents to resettle on a negotiated basis”.

But, in their petition, the residents and Northern Transvaal Development Board officials had called them together on January 21 this year and “told us that we are to be removed at the end of March this year to Seshego (in Lebowa), some to Wartval (in Gazankulu) and some to Vierfontein (in Venda)”.

They said if they were moved they would lose their jobs in Louis Trichardt.

If they were moved to Wartval or Vierfontein, they would be absorbed by Tsonga and Venda ethnic groups because there were no schools or facilities for the Northern Sotho people.

If they were moved to Seshego, 107km away, it would mean that “our families will be dumped also as men must remain at Louis Trichardt location”-accommodated in hostels, causing disruption in families.”
Famsa's main concern is outreach — Welsh

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — The Education for Living programme of the East London Family and Marriage Society (Famsa) had reached over 1 360 teenagers and numerous primary school pupils here during the past year, the society's director, Mrs V. Welsh, said at Famsa's annual meeting last night.

"Once again a large portion of our work was focused on the prevention of broken relationships and marriages through our education programme to young people in schools and other youth groups, she said.

"Our 16 trained voluntary counsellors presented courses on self-awareness, communication and marriage that reached over 1 360 teenagers and we added three primary schools to the eight high schools in which we are working," she added.

Mrs Welsh said that the programme was now also established in King William's Town and that approaches had also been made to Famsa by schools in Stutterheim, Bisho and Buffalo Flats.

"The positive reception we have experienced from the pupils has been most encouraging but their cry is 'our parents need this education too', she said.

Famsa had subsequently made itself available to address parents and teachers' associations, the parents of pre-school children, women's groups, and training groups. Panel discussions to help adults relate more effectively to each other and to their children had also been organised.

Mrs Welsh said that in this way Famsa had reached more than 1 500 members of the community.

"As a result of added publicity and the present economic and political situation in our country, there has been a large increase in the number of couples and individuals of all population groups asking for marriage and family counselling.

"Over 110 telephone counselling sessions and 142 face-to-face counsel-

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Protest at 'pass' raid

IN WHAT appeared as a massive "pass-raid" police yesterday converged on Gallo Manor, Sandton, and arrested 16 blacks for allegedly contravening the Aliens Act by living illegally in the area.

*Business Day* received calls from concerned employers who said police were conducting house-to-house raids in search of what were described as illegal immigrants from the TBVC national states, Zimbabwe, Lesotho and other countries.

One employer, who intervened, by asking police the reason for the arrests, said a policeman replied by asking whether she would be allowed to travel to Tshwane without a passport. She said she saw police beating two black men who refused to show their passes.

A police spokesman said yesterday that police no longer arrested people for not having passes but rather those who transgressed the Aliens Act by living illegally in the country.

Police, he said, had the right to ask anyone for his ID and the old pass books served as ID until new documents had been processed.

He said the police acted in response to calls from the public which was concerned about the increase of housebreaking in the area.

He added that under the Criminal Procedures Act police were entitled to use force to arrest those who resisted.
Tembisa housing shortage worsens

THE Tembisa Town Council intends urging the private sector to provide alternative housing for more than 12,000 hostel-dwellers to make way for homeless families in the area.

Council spokesman L.L. Pokela said at the weekend the hostel-dwellers — all single males — worked for Kempton Park and neighbouring private companies whose responsibility should be to provide them with accommodation.

SOPHIE TEMBA

He said "Tembisa has an official housing waiting list of about 10,000 families who are desperately looking for houses, but the number could rise to 30,000 if all homeless people in the township were added to the list.

"As the situation now is, we have no alternative but to give the single males notice to move out and find themselves alternative accommodation to make way for the families."

The housing backlog in the township was caused by government reluctance to provide accommodation, he said.

"We are looking at both sides of the coin. While we admit that it would be inhuman to push the men into the street, we have to realise that it is even more inhuman for families with children to sleep in the streets."
Tembisa housing shortage worsens

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Books required for Jo'burg's hostel dwellers

Municipal Reporter

An appeal has been made for secondhand books, magazines, comics and paperbacks for distribution to Johannesburg's 12,000 black hostel dwellers.

Launching a scheme to provide the council workers housed in some 17 hostels south of the city with reading matter, CBD councillor Mrs Molly Kopel said: "These men are often lonely and bored as they have nothing to occupy them after work.

"The need for literature becomes greater around the end of the year when they have more free time.

"We are not looking for literary works, but the kind of thing that can be handed round and eventually thrown away. Even children's books are welcome," said Mrs Kopel.

A central collecting point has been set up at the City Hall where books can be dropped off during office hours at the office of the caretaker, Mr J Hattingh, using the President Street entrance.

Progressive Federal Party councillors would also accept books to be delivered to the Selby depot which the Housing Department had approved as a collection depot for the men, said Mrs Kopel.
MIGRANT  LABOUR, S.A.  -  T. V. L.

1987 - 1991
Money to be used to feed and arm Zulu hostel men living on Reef

By SBU MGABA

THE KwaZulu Government is collecting R20 and R10 from each male and female civil servant respectively to clothe, feed and arm Zulu-speaking hostel-dwellers on the Reef.

And an extra R5 will be deducted from the civil servants' wages from the end of March, for a year.

The contribution is expected to run into hundreds of thousands of rand.

Secretaries of departments on Wednesday gave hundreds of Umali-based civil servants time off to attend an impromptu meeting convened by the secretary of the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly, Robert Mzemela. The meeting, divided between males and females, was held in the Assembly.

KwaZulu Government public relations officer TC Memela admitted to City Press that Mzemela told the meeting KwaZulu government representatives in the Transvaal had appealed to him to talk to KwaZulu civil servants and highlight the plight of Reef-based Zulu hostel dwellers.

The hostel dwellers were described as victims of ANC-inspired violence.

KwaZulu government officials at the meeting moved for the creation of a fund to feed, clothe and arm the Zulu impi with "izagula" (smokkleries), which they alleged were recently confiscated by the South African Police.

Memela said the amounts being paid were suggested and agreed upon by the civil servants themselves.

But civil servants denied this, saying they had no alternative but to accept what officials put before them for fear of retribution should they dissent.

Mzemela only met resistance from women, whom Memela said debated the issue for over an hour and resolved to pay only R10 each and a monthly R5 from the end of March, for one year.

Memela said the R5 contribution would be deducted through stop-order facilities.

The meeting came a day after the historic ANC/Inkatha peace summit in Durban resolved to co-operate in initiating and implementing non-partisan reconstruction programmes in areas devastated by violence.

The two organisations agreed that all resources available to any organisation for reconstruction work should, wherever feasible and desirable, be made available to a jointly-administered trust fund.
Health in the city

Urbanisation: An historical perspective

In this article, the first in our new series on Health in the City, we will be looking at the history of urbanisation. The word urbanisation comes from the Latin word for city (urbs). When we talk about urbanisation we mean the process whereby cities develop. During this process, large numbers of rural people come to live in the city. These people then live in an urban (city) life. Urban living often creates a number of health problems. The Health in the City articles will examine these problems, how they come about, and what we can do to combat them.

Apartheid capitalism has resulted in a particular pattern of urban development. Different residential areas have been allocated for different race groups, with the white areas being better developed than the black areas.

The process has not, however, been without its contradictions for the ruling bloc. Furthermore, the black majority resented urbanisation policies in a variety of ways. This article traces the historical development of urbanisation in South Africa with specific references to these contradictions and also outlines areas of resistance.

The mining industry

Urbanisation began on a large scale with the development of the mining industry. A large amount of unskilled labour was required but at that stage, African societies still had relatively easy access to land and were not willing to work on the mines. The Chamber of Mines responded by sending agents to other rural areas to recruit labour. Mineworkers made workers sign contracts and housed them in policed compounds to ensure that they remained on the mines for longer periods. The colonial government and its representatives introduced rations for all workers, which attempted to keep them on the mines. In other words, they became migrant labourers usually out of choice.

By the 1900s, most of the land in South Africa was owned by whites, but many of the African families who lived on white-owned land still produced their own crops and sold what they did not need.

The developing capitalist farming sector required both land and labour and was opposed to Africans producing their own crops. Small-scale African farmers, threatened by competition from African farmers, favoured a restriction on the number of African farmers in an attempt to obtain labour. Mine-owners began to recognise that a migrant labour force could be more advantageous to them than a permanent urban workforce. They encouraged the establishment of African "reserves" because migrant labourers could be paid low wages, just enough for their own needs, as long as their families still had access to land for subsistence farming. All these interests are represented in the 1913 Land Act.

Over the following decades, Africans were dispossessed of their remaining land and forced into overcrowded and rapidly deteriorating "reserves" where it became increasingly impossible to survive. As a result, more people were forced to seek permanent employment in the cities (urban areas).

Segregation

Other than the compounds for mine-workers, there was little formal accommodation for African workers in the urban areas. Workers stayed in shacks made of corrugated iron and cardboard. The Africans were subjected to exclusion, which was increased by the 1938 Housing Act, which prohibited the building of dwellings in residential areas for Africans.

Local government

The act also provided for a system of local governments among segregated lifestyles. African townships were administered by white local authorities. Africans were therefore expected to finance the townships themselves. Each Tiger municipality had a Native Revenue Account, the income of which was obtained from sugar production and sales. The local authorities were financed by the sale of local taxes and the sale of goods and services. The local authorities were also responsible for the provision of basic services, such as water, sewerage, and waste disposal. The Urban Areas Act of 1947 provided for the establishment of mixed residential areas and the creation of separate "locations" for Africans. There was largely to prevent social mixing between the working class and the urban areas. LGBT workers and their families were excluded from the urban areas and their rights to trade were limited.

National Party rule

During World War 2 the rapid expansion of industry and the subsequent severe labour shortage resulting in the suspension of influx control enforcement and a massive influx of Africans to the city.

Large numbers went on an increased need for a skilled and permanent African labour force. The National Party, however, campaigned for the 1948 elections, around the issue of "renationalising" (excluding) an emerging African capitalist class was still dependent on cheap, rather than skilled, labour. Their workers were threatened by competition in the labour market and what farmers were losing labour because they paid wages well below the white urban areas. They all had an interest in preventing the establishment of a permanent skilled labour force.

On coming to power, the Nationalists implemented influx control legislation and the state machinery was to enforce it ruthlessly. Under the Influx Regulation, African workers at the time were denied the right to live there unless they had lived there continuously for 15 years or worked for the same employer for 10 years. The maximum term allowed for urban areas was reduced from 14 days to 72 hours. Women were then introduced to women for the first time and all Africans had to carry passports at all times. These laws were a major factor of resistance in the 1950s but defiance was accompanied by harsh state repression.

This article has been adapted from Critical Health, 28 October 1989. You can subscribe to Critical Health by writing to: PO Box 18250, Doornfontein 2028.
Health in the city

Last week we looked at the history of urbanisation in South Africa. In this article we will look at the unhealthy conditions which many black tenants in the Johannesburg city centre have to endure.

Actstop is an organisation campaigning for thousands of “illegal” bottling for low-cost accommodation in Johannesburg. A report on the quality of life in city centres and other areas was conducted in this regard. Actstop has also helped tenants form taxi committees which discuss various problems faced by black tenants living in the city centre. Health has become a major concern as more and more people move into the cities with their children.

“Actstop has set up a working committee with 49 organisations like the South African Health Workers Congress (SAHWC) and the National Medical and Dental Council (NMDC). The aim of the committee is to investigate the quality of life and the physical condition of buildings and areas around Johannesburg.

Tenants have become increasingly aware that they do not have any input about the demolition and rundown of buildings that they live in. The landlords certainly won’t. The city is working to remove the right to a just and equitable society and to fight for the right to be our children up in a healthy environment, and on the tenants on the committees.

Ejections and poor maintenance are health hazards

Actstop has had some dealings with the Johannesburg City Health Department where complaints about conditions of buildings are usually reported. The health department can only act against flat owners if they violate municipal by-laws. These problems are often worse due to the residents and the elderly who are in these buildings.

Evictions can also cause health problems because no alternative accommodation is provided and families are left to fend for themselves. Evictions often happen during the winter and families are left to suffer in the freezing weather.

Access to medical facilities

One of the major concerns of black people living in the inner city is access to medical facilities. There is a general hospital in the Johannesburg city centre but no hospital in the Hillbrow Hospital. Access to medical and dental care is not possible for many people living in the inner city.

Living conditions and apartheid

Actstop believes that the authorities, far from alleviating the problem, have actually made it worse by overcrowding and a decline in the standards of health. The authorities have failed to ensure that the necessary standards of education and health facilities are available for the majority of South Africans.

This article has been adapted from an article written by a member of Actstop for the October 1999 issue of Critical Health. You can subscribe to Critical Health by writing to: PO Box 16250, Doornfontein, 2028.

Hillbrow residents who have been evicted from their flats
On ice... The shubette’s beer is kept in a rubber rubbish bin in the kitchen.

Looking out... The entrance to the block of flats in Lorraineville.

On ice... The shubette’s beer is kept in a rubber rubbish bin in the kitchen.

Looking out... The entrance to the block of flats in Lorraineville.

Black blues in a white suburb

High rent's and overcrowded conditions have not deterred a group of migrant workers from making a home for themselves in a city flat.

THAMI LKHWANA reports on the migrants' struggle to survive.

Unday afternoon in a block of flats in the Johannesburg suburb of Lorraineville was spent with beer and loud music at a typical township style. A man at one of the numerous shubettes in Lorraineville was playing a Yoruba song from his tape player.

The shubette has a room for six people, and the residents have been living there for two years. They have three children, aged 10, 8, and 6.

The residents are from different parts of the country, but they all share the same problems. They have to pay rent every month, but they don't have enough money to pay for all the utilities.

The residents are working in different jobs, but they still have to pay for the rent and utilities. They have to save money for the future, but they don't know if they will have enough money.

The residents are planning to move to a bigger place, but they don't have enough money to do so. They are planning to save money for the future.

The residents are looking for a better place to live, but they don't know if they will find one. They are planning to move to a bigger place, but they don't know if they will have enough money.
Cape town
feels the pinch
of a 'chicory'
shops boycott

By SHADLEY NASH, Port Elizabeth

A HOTEL has been put up for sale in Alexandria, as the consumer boycott in the town enters its fourth week.

Peter Gordon, owner of the Heritage Lodge, said that the sale was prompted by inquiries from investors. He conceded that the boycott had been a factor, as it had adversely affected business, but said it was not the main reason.

He said one business, which traded predominantly with blacks, had closed its doors to "sit out the boycott".

Meanwhile, the Chicory Board has written to the boycott committee to give an assurance that local workers will gradually be selected to work on chicory plantations in the area.

The boycott began some four weeks ago because of the Chicory Board's insistence on using Ciskeian contract labour rather than local workers. Five years ago, the board fired 225 workers who were local residents and began employing migrants on its plantations.

Gordon, who is chairperson of the Alexandria Sakekamer, said he had received a copy of the letter, but African National Congress branch executive member Modisi Skepu said the committee had not yet received it.

He said once the letter was in their possession, the committee would review it and report back to the community for a further mandate.

He said the boycott, at this stage, would continue indefinitely, but certainly throughout December, in line with the national call by the ANC for mass action. — Pen
The Swazi connection

JOSEPH Dlamini is one of the thousands of Swazi men who has been forced by rising unemployment and low local wages to seek work on the hazardous mines in South Africa. Buses leave regularly from The Employment Bureau of Africa (Tebu), a colonial-style building alongside an Mbabane shopping mall, where Swazi men are recruited to work in South African mines.

There are about 90 smartly dressed men - each with a single bag of luggage - waiting quietly for the bus to take them on the four-hour drive to Johannesburg.

"I'm thinking about my wife," sighs Joseph Dlamini. "She's complaining about my leaving again with my savings buy a tractor to farm in Swaziland."

Dlamini, 28, a father of four children, works as a security officer at a gold mine in Venda. He is allowed to return home to Swaziland for four days each month.

"It's difficult, because although we want the money, it's not good for me to be so far from the children," he says. "I can't teach the children. They're completely dependent on their mother for day-to-day guidance."

What takes him back to the mines, Dlamini says, is the money. Having left school at the age of 22 with no formal qualifications, Dlamini could only get a job in a Swazi hotel doing odd jobs and earning R80 a month. After three years, he left.

He first went to South Africa in 1985 as a miner for R210 a month. His current job as security guard is one of the better-paid positions for unskilled migrant labourers. He earns R600 a month

"Looking after the mine's property and controlling labour unrest is how Dlamini describes his work. "I have seen lots of unrest," he says. "I have to use plastic bullets and teargas."

South Africa does not figure in Dlamini's long-term plans. "I plan to work for three more years in South Africa, and then come back home, and with my savings buy a tractor to farm in Swaziland."

The dream of returning home with big savings is shared by the many thousands of mineworkers from Swaziland and other Southern African nations.

Until recently South Africa pursued an "aggressive recruitment policy." In the early 1980s, for example, there were more Swazis working in South Africa than in Swaziland.

But the numbers of migrant workers have been cut drastically in the past 15 years.

Rising unemployment in South Africa itself, the fall of world gold prices (which rendered half of South Africa's gold mines economically unviable), increased mechanisation, and demands by the militant National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) for better conditions, have all combined to make migrant labour less sought after by mine owners.

For Swazi society too, the migrant labour system has hidden costs.

One of the main problems the men face is living in the male-only hostels without their wives, girlfriends and children. "It seems there is a correlation between alcoholism and these sorts of labour reserves," says Nomthetho Simelela, a political science lecturer at the University of Swaziland.

Women who are left behind have to head households, even though in Swaziland's patriarchal society they are not supposed to take major family decisions.

"So it means things have to be on hold even though women are having to head the families."

While many of Dlamini's friends do not give money regularly to their families, he sends R400 to his wife every month. "We're not the same," he says. "Some of the men just forget about home and have girlfriends."

The bus arrives. "My children at least are used to me going these days," adds Dlamini. "They even get excited and say: 'Don't forget to bring us something good from your workplace.'"

Without their wives for up to nine months a year... and dreaming of returning home and perhaps buying a tractor with their savings.
Outraged families tell
curiae and assaults

their lights on in the complex at night were given the order not to
incur the wrath of the "wilful" people. As they were being
reminded of the ANC's rule, they were told that they should
prepare themselves for the worst, but agreed because they
could not do otherwise.

"We are trying to avoid a repeat
of what happened in the past when
people were killed or our property
was destroyed," they said.

"He does not have the power to
order us to do things we do not
want to do," said a resident.

Mobs, they said, have been
coming into the area and
threatening to burn down houses
and destroy property.

"We are being used by
members of the ANC to
protest against their
actions," said a resident.

"When we saw the"

Sello Morake... he says he's from the ANC but the organisation says definitely not. We will investigate.

Men bar 'smelly women'

Mabel Mokgadi... they allow us to. When ANC leaders come to town.
West Rand township death toll now 9

By Gien Elia
West Rand Bureau

At least nine people have been killed and three seriously injured in the townships of Kagiso and Bekkersdal on the West Rand since Thursday.

In Kagiso near Krugersdorp, two hostel dwellers were shot dead on Saturday. The reason for the attack was not known.

In the second incident, a policeman investigating Mbele's murder was told men were attacking Mqavemu Ndlouv (40).

The policeman found Mr Ndlouv's body on the ground. He had been shot and stabbed.

Incidents were reported in Bekkersdal between Randfontein and Westonaria.

On Thursday, police dispersed a group who were assaulting a man. They fired several rounds of birdshot at the crowd and hit a 16-year-old youth in the right leg. He is being treated at the Leratong Hospital under police guard.

On Friday, David Morokeng (19) was stabbed by a group of about 150 people. He is in a serious condition in Leratong Hospital.

On Saturday, the bodies of two men were found at the Bekkersdal cemetery. They had been stabbed to death.

At about 9 pm Robbie Mkhyane (49) was stabbed in the stomach. He died of his injuries.

Yesterday, the body of a special constable was found in the township. Three men, aged 25, 26 and 31, were arrested.

Later in the day, an unidentified man was set alight.
Slavery rife in Transvaal, claims newspaper

Staff Reporter

AN elaborate “slave trade” of young Mozambicans, desperate to escape the war and famine in their country, allegedly exists in the Transvaal.

The Weekly Mail reports that boys and girls are lured across the border with promises of jobs — but are then sold as forced labour and sex slaves in the townships of the Reef.

The newspaper claimed it “bought” two boys for R200 each in a bid to prove the traffic in human beings.

The slave network reportedly operates from villages near Komatiport. The fugitives are ferried across the electrified fence separating South Africa from its war-torn neighbour by professional “agents” who usually charge a fee of between R100 and R150 for each person they bring across.

Young girls were sold to men in townships on the Witwatersrand and in the Eastern Transvaal as concubines or sex slaves.

Boys were sold to businessmen who used them as forced labour in bottle stores and shops.

There were also indications that white farmers in the Barberton and Komatiport districts obtained a steady supply of forced labour from the traders.
PM Thatcher resigns office

LONDON - Margaret Thatcher is to resign after 11 years as British prime minister, her office said yesterday.

She informed Queen Elizabeth II that she would not put her name forward for a second term in a personal letter yesterday, her office said yesterday.

It said the prime minister had been in touch with the queen, who would make the announcement today.

The announcement came as the Conservative Party, which has been in power for 11 years, faces a crisis.

The party had been defeated in the general election, which was held in May, and now faces a leadership crisis.

Thatcher's resignation was announced in the House of Commons, where she had been due to make a statement.

She said she was not standing for re-election and that she would not be a candidate for the leadership of the Conservative Party.

"I have concluded that the party and the of- fenders are not better served if I extend my time in office to enable a new candidate to enter the ballot," she said.

The decision was expected to cause widespread relief among many Conservatives and fans of Thatcher, who ruled Britain for more than 11 years and was a key figure in the Cold War.

The news came as the country prepared to mark the 50th anniversary of her time in office.

Thatcher, 87, was Britain's first woman prime minister and was known for her conservative views and her role in the Cold War.

She retired in 1990 after 11 years in office and was succeeded by her deputy, John Major.
Horrifying tales of conditions on Tvl ‘slave’ farm

A white farmer ‘recruits’ labourers from Mozambique.

Eddie Koch, posing as a farmer, bought two of the boys who told him how they lived — and worked — in appalling conditions at the farm. More than 50 Mozambicans worked there. They sleep on the floor without blankets and a mattress and about 15 share a room. There is no running water and no ablutions.

Our youths come from Inhambane and Maputo. They each paid R100 to a professional guide who promised them work at the other side of the border. They fled Mozambique because of the war and extreme conditions of poverty. Their families collected money to pay the guides’ fees and they are expected to send money back to their families.

This is one reason why they did not run away from the farmer. “For us it is better to work on that farm than to live in Mozambique.”

Civil war, SA laws promote slave trade

By Phil Molefe

THE civil war in Mozambique and South Africa’s immigration laws contribute directly to the slave trade between the two countries, a representative of the Mozambique Solidarity and Information Committee (Mosoic) said.

The slave trade was one of the most brutal practices this century and highlighted the adverse affects of the country’s civil war, said Mosoic representative Monty Narasa.

Narasa said the Aliens Act and the Illegal Entry of Persons into the Republic Act were the “new influx control” laws which were applied harshly.

“For slave trade to stop these laws must be abolished and refugees given a sanctuary in South Africa,” he said.

The Mozambican government said it could not give a “formal reaction at this stage” to the existence of trafficking in human beings between the two countries until the matter was investigated.

The Mozambique National Director of Information, Artindo Lopes, said his government had “no knowledge” about the plight of young boys and girls lured from Mozambique and sold in South Africa.

“We appreciate the account of the slave trade which was published in The Weekly Mail and it is now left to us to investigate this matter,” said Lopes.

A South African Police spokesman in the Eastern Transvaal, Major Penciar, said it was difficult to investigate at this stage because most of the incidents occurred in the Lambeth area.

Lawyers for Human Rights member Brian Currin said slavery was one of the worst forms of violation of human rights and should be stopped.
Man's throat cut in hostel

By Anna Louw, East Rand Bureau

An unidentified man was found dead with his throat cut at a Tembisa hostel on Saturday.

Police said the body was found in a pool of blood at the Vusi Mbusa Hostel.

The body of another man was found in the Italien section in Tembisa yesterday.

Police said the man had several stab wounds in the head.

In Daveyton four people were wounded when a man, armed with an AK-47 rifle, opened fire on a group of people at the weekend.

Arnold Tanteka (40), Jeanette Mnuni (26), Thabitha Mokete (22) and Aletta Romor (35) sustained gunshot wounds in their arms and shoulders.

In Katlehong a group of people stoned a house and set the contents alight.

In Benoni a security guard was stabbed in the back near Dunswart station.

Police said the guard was attacked by a group of about 10 men armed with knives who robbed the man of his shotgun.

The guard was admitted to the Boksburg Benoni hospital.
SAP raid hostels

East Rand police took possession of five AK 47 rifles during operations at hostels in Tokoza early yesterday. A spokesman said a total of 21 firearms were discovered as well as knobkerries, pangas and sharp instruments.
Behind the sisterhood, a sadness and anger

A LARING woman strides down a poky concrete corridor in the four-storey women's hostel in Alexandra. Emerging into the daylight, the feet of the small group of girls is in the shadow of the five-storey blocks, encrusted with battle scars. The corrugated roof of the only patch of green.

"It's what every girl has been through," says the formidable "Queen Fizonta". "It is because we are living in squalor. We are not even able to hold the door." She points to the door of the single women's hostel, where the door is always open, and the women cannot even lock the door.

But the concrete maze she passes on her way to the kitchen is a welcome sight. The kitchen is crowded with women, and the noise is deafening. But she is in her element. She is a community leader, and she is determined to change the lives of the women in the hostel.

The women's hostel is a hive of activity. There are over 2,000 women living in the building, and they are all working hard to make ends meet. They are all looking for work, but few are finding it. The women are forced to work long hours in poor conditions, and they are often exploited.

The women's leader is determined to change this. She is working with the local government to improve the living conditions of the women in the hostel. She is also working with the women to help them find work.

But it is not easy. The women face many challenges, and they are often exploited. But the women are determined to change their lives. They are working hard to improve their lives, and they are determined to make a change.
Behind the sisterhood, a sadness and anger

A woman strides down a gloomy concrete corridor in the Salvation Army hostel in Alexandra township. Emerging into the day-light from the small glass quad in the centre of the five-storey block, she pales with hurt and anger to prevent the emergence of the only patch of green. "I am because men are living snappily. There are no women and children to make the bed—when they fight—they will lose them."

Back inside the concrete maze she paused a moment from her analysis of the mean Reef violence by hooligans, the cheerless greetings to other residents down the side corridor. "Say get—how are you?"

"I am fine. And how are you by the way?"

This is a far cry from the warm, wrapped-up childhood, where tracks and gypsies roamed among drizzly rooms, drinking stoves. In the hostel, the women are shut out with the activity of over 2,000 women moving about their daily chores. There is a feeling of "thrashed." Women stop to chat, to discuss, to gain strength from other women, to maintain their dignity, to cook and clean. They feel safe at home in the block, aunque they have seen none of whose cheerfully decorated rooms move open on them at night. Here too, there is loneliness, depression and disorientation.

The women pay R25.00 for their one-room apartment. There is no more allowance to speak of and no stimulation. Women break out of basic facilities like toilets and baths. Poorly maintained by their custodians, hangers and children. They have only one washing machine, when they use it is not their business to get it going. There is not much entertainment in the block and no business to get it going. There is not much entertainment in the block and no business to get it going.

For some, there is a sense of the need to save money for something to eat. Some feel they are living in fear. "I have no money to go home.""I am fine. And how are you by the way?"

The women, who are supposed to be in the hostel, who are supposed to be there to help them, and whether they do the work on the council roads to keep women from the hostel. They are employed in various capacities. There is not much entertainment in the block and no business to get it going. They are employed in various capacities. There is not much entertainment in the block and no business to get it going.

The councilors’ wives are here too. There is not much entertainment in the block and no business to get it going. They are employed in various capacities. There is not much entertainment in the block and no business to get it going.

"We need to have a big room to fix the councilors’ wives are here too. There is not much entertainment in the block and no business to get it going. They are employed in various capacities. There is not much entertainment in the block and no business to get it going.

According to the women, one or two rapes occur every weekend. "We are no longer safe because the police don’t watch the gate. Many of us know this, but we are used to being raped."

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Women's hostels: Behind the sisterhood, a note of sadness

brooks rush to her aid.
"Then we hit him. Some men have been killed in here," another woman says "But no one gets arrested because they don't know who killed him." Another woman chips in with: "We are like a government here."
Mobotu goes off to find June Mogotso who recently found a man dead in her room. Despite the vastness of the building, the endless corridors lined with identical rooms, the communications network is swift and efficient and she reappears minutes later with wisened-looking Mogotso, a cleaner at the family planning centre in the hostel complex which serves the hostel-dwellers and the township.
After doing her washing in the early hours of the morning — a tame many women choose to do their daily chores given the unpredictable water supply — Mogotso returned to her room to find a man wedged behind her cupboard.

Despite an advanced prison-like security system where electronic gates seal off blocks at the switch of a button from the supervisors' office, most women say they never feel safe.
The friendly support structure helps act as a buffer from the harshness of impersonal, prison-like living quarters. The residents contribute small amounts of money when someone dies. When a woman gives birth or falls ill she is rushed to hospital in one of the few cars owned by the luckier hostel-dwellers, or an ambulance is called from a hostel resident's private telephone. Few have their own telephones and the communal phones never work.

But limited resources, cramped living conditions and an absence of communal recreational facilities undercuts the "sisterhood", fueling petty rivalries, tribal differences and jealousy.
"There is often fighting in the rooms, sometimes even physical fighting," says Mabolela.
Some squabbles are over things like the scarce water supply, the lack of space and — given language differences — which radio station to play. Others accuse each other of stealing washing, of keeping the light on too late, of waking everyone in the room when returning from night-shift.

There are no plugs in the rooms and the more resourceful women run their radios, hi-fi's and fridges from the single light bulb hanging from each ceiling. Such "unfair advantages" are the source of more resentment and daily bickering.
"The reason we fight is because of our situation. There is no privacy. If we had our own rooms it would be better," says Moboto.
The women are stoic, even cheerful, about their unenviable lot. A woman sums up the situation: "Yes, we are laughing but, really, it is terrible."

The rent boycott is another divisive factor. While many of the older women are reluctant to stop paying rent and risk eviction, others are more militant, less tolerant of traditional attitudes.

While the women would jump at the chance to live elsewhere, there are queues of others waiting to come in.

However, according to an urban consultant researching this alternative, it is a complex issue which cannot be separated from the country's housing crisis.
"Some women are terrified of being displaced through an upgrading process — which often happens. Some simply want the hostel to be improved, not necessarily converted."

Not all the women have families or husbands and many would prefer to live in bachelor quarters. Building family units would require more land and hefty financial input, he says.

ACO is pressing the council to reveal its accounts to show the hostel-dwellers how their money, which totals about R70 000 a month, is used.

A research project on the viability of transforming the hostel into family units is soon to be released.

Responding to the allegations concerning the lack of maintenance in the hostel, the chairman of the executive committee of the Alexandra council, Dennis Tja, said the council was experiencing heavy financial difficulties.

"The area where the residence is situated is currently being upgraded, hence the continuous water, and sometimes electricity, cut-off," he said.

The police, under whose jurisdiction the municipal security guards fall, were investigating allegations against them.

Tan confirmed that the council would make available a document recording the breakdown of expenditure from the revenue generated by the hostel rents.

He said negotiations were underway to privatise the hostel. "It is the council's wish that the residences should be converted into housing units as we are presently experiencing a housing crisis."

Washing day in the quad adds a touch of colour to the grey building

Picture: AVIGAIL UZI

2610 - 2020

From PAGE 5
40 arrested in
Swoop on Hostels
By Montshiwa Moroko

Forty men and women were arrested in a pre-dawn swoop by municipal police on Dobsonville hostels in Greater Soweto yesterday, according to Soweto police liaison officer Lieutenant Govindsamy Marlemulho.

He said they were held for being on the premises without permits. "They were taken to the Dobsonville police station. Later, they were taken to court where they appeared on charges of trespassing."

The outcome of the court proceedings could not be established last night.

Dobsonville council executive committee member V Thun recently said the greater section of the hostels would be converted into family units.
Soweto migrants are younger set

MOST migrant workers living in Soweto are young people and the majority lack proper housing, according to a survey.

The study, conducted by Market Research Africa, focused on "new immigrants" to the sprawling township.

It was commissioned by the Department of Planning and Provincial Affairs "for use by planners involved in addressing the shortcomings," a statement said.

"It is noteworthy that immigrants are generally young and their households small," it said, adding most had drifted to the city from rural areas of the Transvaal and KwaZulu.

"Most are housed in shacks," the study was conducted during February and March.  

Sapa
The horrors of single-sex hostels

From PHILIPPA FLETCHER in Johannesburg

S SEPARATE thousands of men from their families, pack them into dormitories with nothing to do in the evenings but drink, then see what happens when someone starts a fight.

In the past two weeks South Africa has seen a full-scale war explode around the men-only hostels where thousands of migrant workers live.

The violence pits township residents loyal to the African National Congress (ANC) against Zulu hostel dwellers, but Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu said the underlying causes were neither political nor tribal.

"It is making people live in those dehumanising (hostel) conditions, isolating them from the community, that has exacerbated the kind of problems that we have," Archbishop Tutu said.

The hostels, huge barracks of single or double-storey blocks, were built in the black townships around Johannesburg decades ago to house extra workers for the white city.

"They were a part of this idea that black people did not belong here, except as temporary workers," said Harry Mashabela of the South African Institute of Race Relations.

Often separated from the rest of the townships by a wire fence, the hostels were designed to prevent blacks penned by apartheid in 10 tribally-defined rural homelands from settling near their jobs in Johannesburg.

Grim testament

A man could live in a hostel as long as he was working, but his family were prevented by law from joining him.

He was a "guest worker" in his own country.

Pretoria scrapped the law restricting freedom of movement for blacks in 1986, but a critical housing shortage in the black-only townships means the hostels remain, a grim testament to the inhumanity of apartheid.

Ernest Molosi, assistant personnel officer in a Johannesburg industrial company, is one of more than 100,000 men who live in hostels around the country's industrial and financial capital.

At work he has his own office, but back in Tembisa township he shares a bedroom with 24 others. Unlike many of the hostel dwellers who are Zulus, he comes from the northern Sotho tribe.

His wife and five children live in Pretoria, 200 km away. But the politically conservative rural town had no work for a black man.

Molosi, 42, has lived in the hostel for 10 years. He is used to being kept awake with shouting and loud music, but recently his sleep has been disturbed by gunshot.

"Last Sunday one man was shot dead next to the hostel office and on Monday morning someone found a corpse on the road outside," he said.

So far Tembisa has escaped the worst of the violence which has swept through Johannesburg's townships.

More than 500 people have been shot, stabbed or burnt to death.

Family units

Molosi says the spark for the violence may be political — a power-struggle between the ANC and the Zulu Inkatha movement — but that its roots lie firmly in apartheid.

"Originally people worked together and they didn't have these problems, but since the government started its 'Separate Development' policy people just feel that it's better to live with your own people," he said.

Migrant labour was a cornerstone of Separate Development — the policy of forcing black ethnic groups into their own tribal territories and making blacks think along tribal lines.

"The hostel manager just brings someone you don't know and you have to persuade them to go along with what the majority of the room wants," said Molosi.

Female visitors are not allowed and there are no recreation facilities. In the evenings the men, many of them illiterate labourers, have nothing to do but drink the alcohol sold by the hostel's unskilled entrepreneurs.

Molosi said tribal differences were by no means the only source of conflict. Temper could flare over something as basic as people throwing paper on the floor.

He believes the current violence will gradually die down, but that the underlying problem will not be solved until the hostels are destroyed, or adapted to accommodate families.

In recognition of this, the government last week approved a budget for the conversion of a hostel...
Refugee plight fast

By MATHATHA TSEDU

TWO white women involved in relief work for Mozambican refugees in Phalaborwa are to go on a 48-hour fast next weekend to raise funds and highlight the plight of refugees.

The two are Mrs Pat Macdugal and Mr Betty Ogilvie, both of Phalaborwa. The fast is to begin at 10am on Friday March 2 at the Checkers Shopping Centre in Sandton, Johannesburg. The fast ends on Sunday morning.

Money raised will go towards alleviating serious shortages at the Lulekani camp near Phalaborwa. The camp houses at least 60,000 people, more than half of them children. The relief work desperately needs a van to ferry supplies and people to a clinic, which is about 7km away, Macdugal said. The two women also intend erecting a clinic in the camp.

During the fast the two will also highlight the plight of male refugees who are recruited by white farmers and other employers.
new violence

32 23

FY orders urgent probe of police action

Johannesburg — Fighting hard in the street, a long-range sniper machine by Morning Star announced in the weekend, killed 22 people and scattered the strikers in the townships of the area from East Rand to the sitting of a new violence.

The state is the conduit of the police action.

President F. W. de Klerk announced in the weekend, killing 22 people and massacring the strikers in the townships of the area from East Rand to the sitting of a new violence.

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President de Klerk is paying his first visit to Soweto today as State President, to get direct information about the township violence and show sympathy for the victims. He is accompanied by members of his Cabinet.

It is his first visit to any black township since his inauguration as State President a year ago this month. The Government will be anxious to see how well Mr de Klerk is received in the heart of black South Africa. The visit could be an important test of his standing in the black community since his decisive reforms of February 2.

Opinion polls have indicated Mr de Klerk personally may enjoy the support of about 22 percent of blacks, trailing only ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela with 50 percent. The Government has kept details of the visit extremely secret, mainly for security reasons. It is understood Mr de Klerk and his Ministers flew in by helicopter about 9 am today and were due to return about midday.

No itinerary was released in advance. But sources indicated he would visit hospitals to meet victims of the township violence.

**Hostels**

He is also expected to visit hostels, to see for himself the living conditions of migrant workers. The hostels have been at the centre of the township fighting with mostly Zulu Inkatha-supporting single hostel-dwellers pitted against ANC-supporting permanent township residents.

The ANC and others have blamed the hostel system for much of the violence and have often appealed to the Government to do something about it.

At the weekend Mr de Klerk responded by ordering National Health Minister Theuns Venter to investigate hostel conditions. He said the Government be-
A brave prayer for peace

By Abel Mushi

Anton Lamola wept. The Zulu hostel dweller who, with his colleagues at Merafe Hostel, had been ostracised by local residents since the conflict in the townships escalated, was so overcome when a group of women came to pray that tears rolled down his cheeks.

In a move aimed at contributing towards resolving the violence in the country, about 50 members of the Inter-denominational Women's Prayer League yesterday entered the "males only" Merafe hostel in Soweto, then shook hands and prayed with Inkatha men.

The women dared to go in "in pursuit of national peace". Their leader, Masechaba Mabaso, spoke to security police who were monitoring the situation and stepped on to the grounds to seek permission from senior Inkatha men.

Mrs Mabaso, a prominent religious leader, returned to her flock and confirmed that the men would see them.

As the group walked gingerly towards the hostel entrance, more than 200 Inkatha men, some of whom carried sticks, began to assemble at a spot where they had held a brief meeting with a male delegate of religious leaders headed by the Rev Frank Chakane, secretary of the South African Council of Churches.

Mrs Mabaso told them: "We have held prayer services at hospitals, mortuaries and squatter camps. We have buried the dead and visited bereaved families all over the townships but we haven't as yet met you. You too belong to us and it is time we came together as one and stopped the fight."

Visibly overcome by emotion, Anton Lamola, one of the Inkatha leaders in the hostel, expressed his "kindest thankfulness" to the women for treating them "like people" as opposed to what was the trend in the townships, where they were regarded "as animals".

Everyone was asked to pray for peace, then Mrs Mabaso bade the men farewell.
What FW saw: dark, smelly hostel filth

By Meashwin Moroke
Hostels in the townships, or anywhere else in South Africa, are not home — but people are living there — President de Klerk discovered this week.

The Star visited the hostel to see what the President probably saw.

As you enter the dingy room, you are more likely to be greeted by rats than by a human being.

The smell came from heaps of uncollected rubbish which are commonplace in the hostel grounds between and in puddles of dirty and smelly water.

This place is called a kitchen-living room. The walls and roof are covered with black soot from the pressure stoves. There is a fire every night and morning.

The hostel has eight beds for eight men, who sleep on the floor. The mattresses, which are provided by the hostel, are held in place by rubber bands.

There is a nauseating smell, so thick that it immediately suggests that no human being could live in it. The lack of light only amplifies the stench.

Piles of rubbish, dirty water everywhere

Walking on trash the grounds of the Nancefield hostel are littered with rubbish and a strong stench pervades the air.

Flies and rodents feast daily on the refuse, and the threat of diseases is constant.

Life inside a hostel resident shows his sponges in the Nancefield hostel, which houses several thousand migrant labourers.

Cleaning up a man does his laundry at the Nancefield hostel, where sometimes the cold showers are preferred to the hot ones.

The male inhabitants of these rooms are married with children, but they cannot bring them to stay with them.

To be able to accommodate this narrow bed, which comes with a mattress, you first have to pay R1.25. Then you have to pay R1.25 (at present rate) a month, including "service charge".

For comfort, the men use sponges as mattresses. There are steel lockers for hanging clothes, but most clothes are hung on the walls or on clothes hangers hooked on wire — rubbing shoulders with the hanging, drying meat.

There is no privacy in this hostel. There is no place to sleep. In some quarters, you cannot even open the windows.

The dirty toilets — with their tiled buckets — have as few as three buckets.

Inmates said one of their greatest problems was the lack of heated water.
Stop the senseless carnage - Ndamase

RESIDENTS and migrant workers living in hostels should stop the senseless carnage and unite in the struggle against apartheid, Transkei President Tator Ndamase said in Sebokeng yesterday.

He was speaking to thousands of people at a peace rally at the local stadium.

Ndamase told the people to "refuse to be used by faceless, hidden forces behind the violence".

Language did not determine the nationhood of Xhosas and Zulus as they were "equally oppressed and share a lot in common," he said.

Commitment

He called on people to "demonstrate their commitment to democracy through freedom of speech and of association."

"Let us tolerate one another and agree to differ."

While he complimented President FW de Klerk's reform initiatives, he called on the Government to "secure the safety of all people living in South Africa."

Speaking at the rally, Vaal Civic Association official Mr Ernest Sofu accused Inkatha of "acting in collusion with the police" and of being "the perpetrators of violence in Sebokeng."

He expressed concern over Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini's absence from the peace rally.

Zwelithini was said to be consulting with an Inkatha leader in the region.

The rally was delayed for two hours by Ndamase and his delegation, who flew into Sebokeng by helicopter after meeting Sebokeng Council members earlier.

About 1,000 singing migrant workers, some armed with knobkerries, had earlier gathered in front of the hostels opposite the stadium before joining the residents.
A plan to make hostels livable

Most people agree that the hostel system must go, but what happens to the men who stay there? Two young architects have designed a plan to convert the hostels into family units, reports LOUISE BURGERS.

Bruce Watherspoon and Renk Stutterheim were approached by a developer two years ago to investigate changes to the living conditions at hostels in Kagiso.

"The idea was to transform the hostels into family living units and settled communities," Mr. Watherspoon said.

The architects investigated a hostel complex housing almost 4,000 men.

"We found eight to 15 men living in compartments with no privacy. The rooms were dark and cold with inadequate facilities," he said.

Most of the ideas were accepted by the Kagiso local authority and are being implemented in the township.

They came up with a plan to use land adjacent to the hostels to build a form of cluster housing and semi-detached houses from inexpensive materials.

Once the units were completed, it was envisaged that hostel dwellers would move into the new units and that the empty portions of the hostels would be modified and linked to the new settlement.

The vacant compartments in the hostels would then be converted into family living units using the existing structures and land up to fit in with the surrounding cluster houses.

Mr. Watherspoon and Mr. Stutterheim designed a plan for an urban settlement and proposed that small businessmen in the area be encouraged and recreation facilities be provided.

The redevelopment of the hostel area has been phased in because of the high concentration of people," Mr. Watherspoon said.

For each family unit in the hostel, eight to 10 people would move into a newly built flat. Additional buildings in the area would be used as workshops to generate self-employment income for those who were unemployed.

The architects would advise the joint demolition of the hostels and the establishment of highrise blocks of flats.

"Flats are out of place in the township environment and would not assist in integrating people within the community. They generate too many social problems and it is a great adjustment for people from rural communities to adapt to the claustrophobic environment of a highrise home," Mr. Watherspoon said.

Three types of hostel dwellers were identified:

- The migrant worker who is looking to settle in the city
- Those with urban aspirations who cannot afford to live in the township, they aspire to integrate with the community
- Those too insecure in their employment to think about integrating into the community.

It was found that only half the rents paid for in the hostels were being paid by employers.

"Many hostel dwellers are single and could be accommodated in studio flats which could also contain a family," Mr. Watherspoon said.

Once the project was started in an area, development would be ongoing.

"The State and the private sector have got to get involved in the provision of housing," Mr. Watherspoon admitted.

His scheme would not be feasible in all hostels, sociologists would have to assess the implications of new structures in township communities.

"We have to understand what we are doing. There must be other input to provide a balanced system," Mr. Watherspoon said.
Unwanted barrier . . . Merafe hostel dwellers say the Government is treating them like animals, and that Soweto residents make fun of them for being "caged inside the very place we stay in." Picture by Ken Oosterbroek.

Remove razor wire fences – hostel dwellers

By Montshiwa Moroke

Angry Soweto hostel dwellers yesterday called on police to remove the razor wire security fences surrounding their homes, saying they were being mocked by township residents.

Spokesmen for residents at the Merafe hostel in Mapetla, Anton Lamola and Sam Mpanza, were also furious about the police presence at the hostel gate and a search which they claimed police conducted on Sunday night.

They said one man allegedly lost R300 during the search.

"We don't want this razor wire. Why was it only placed at the hostel and not in the township?"

"We are unhappy with the Government because it does not treat us like human beings. In fact, they treat us like we are animals."

"They should treat us the same way as they treat other people. If they won't put a fence in the township, then let them remove this one."

"This fence is only here to create tension between us and residents. The residents actually make fun of us because we have been caged inside the very place we stay in. They see us as idiots."

"This fence will not prevent people from fighting. It can be cut if people are determined. We are talking to the ANC people because we would like to end hostilities. This fence only adds to the existing tension," said Mr Lamola.

Mr Mpanza said residents had been told the fence would be there for only two weeks but yesterday more fence material was brought and placed around the football field.

Soweto police liaison officer, Colonel Tiene Hligryn, said he was not aware of any organised searches by the police on Sunday night. He said if anyone had lost money they should lay a complaint with the police.
Boom town

Wedela is growing fast

By SY MAKARINGE

It then conducted a study among its work-force and found that more than 30 percent — or about 6000 workers — in Western Deep Levels and Eldorado were in favour of being urbanised.

The land on which Wedela is situated was then proclaimed as reserved for 90-year-inhabitation. More hectares of land purchased and a plan to promote home-ownership among mine workers set in motion.

Today Wedela has more than 750 new houses and is continuing to grow as it is the only fully-fledged township with four schools including a high school and a technical college. A large supermarket, owned by 10 percent of the township residents, also serves the residents. It provides a 200 children at its remedial multi-purpose community centre.

Plays

The school, meanwhile, pays two and a half percent of its salary to the mine workers. The plans also draw on the mine workers to ensure school services are maintained. The school provides a service to the mine workers, and they provide a service to the school.

Fighting

In the meantime, the Anglo American Corporation, which owns several mines including Western Deep Levels and Eldorado, has also been fighting the influx of coloured people into the community, but it is a struggle that the community has been able to control. The corporation has also played a role in developing the community, and it has provided services to the mine workers.

When the regulations were finally lifted in 1984, workers decided to stay and then to do away with the migratory labour system so as to create a stable work force.

One of the important features of the townships is probably the technical college. The fully-equipped college offers several subjects, including fitting and turning, electronics, motor mechanics, welding and pipe metal work. The school admits students from Wedela and surrounding townships.

Vacant

"We have at present 5000 people here, and we are ready to house them in the new houses that are being built. The mine workers can choose their own builders and design," he said.

Relax

After a hard day's work, workers can relax and enjoy their drinks at the Wedela Recreation Club, for a membership fee of only R3 a year.
Black miners move families into hostels

JOHANNESBURG. — Migrant workers at seven mines in the Eastern Transvaal have decided they have waited too long for mining companies to provide family accommodation and have brought their wives and children to live with them in “single-sex” hostels.

The National Union of Mineworkers’ secretary-general, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, said at the weekend that miners had “waited too long and want to live naturally.”

About 600 women and children had already moved into single-sex hostels at coal mines near Witbank. These included Landau, Bank, Kriel and Goedkoop collieries.

“No more”

It had been resolved at the NUM’s recent congress that the migrant labour system must be “phased out.”

“Workers believe they should live with their families,” Mr Ramaphosa said.

In the past miners had brought their families to live in squalid conditions on nearby farms and townships or paid fines if they brought in visitors. This was “no more” as workers had decided to use the hostels for family accommodation.

Mr Ramaphosa said Witbank had been chosen to see if family living would work, and so far it had been conducted in a “peaceful, co-ordinated fashion.”

The NUM had decided to challenge mining houses such as Anglo American Corporation and Johannesburg Consolidated Investments “to live up to their words” that they wanted the migrant labour system phased out, he said.

Strike action “could be contemplated” if mining houses refused workers’ demands for family accommodation.

Black workers have demanded that their housing be on the same basis as white workers, who usually pay a nominal rent of R5 to R15 a month for housing — Sapa
Migrant miners put end to Hostel life

Johannesburg - Migrant workers at seven mines in the Eastern Transvaal have decided they have waited too long for mining companies to provide family accommodation and have brought their wives and children to live in single-sex hostels.

The secretary-general of the National Union of Mineworkers, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, said here yesterday that about 600 women and children had already moved into single-sex hostels at coal mines near Witbank. These included Landau, Bank, Kriel and Goedhoop Collieries.

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Mr Ramaphosa said Witbank had been chosen to see if family living would work, and so far it had been conducted in a "peaceful, co-ordinated fashion". Gold and diamond miners would bring their families to live with them soon.

The NUM challenged mining houses to "live up to their words" in wanting to end migrant labour.

Asked for comment on the presence of women in the hostels, an Amcoa spokesman said "We have noted the NUM's comments that some women have moved into hostel accommodation at some Amcoa collieries, but the figure given by the NUM is high." He declined further comment — Sapa.

World Brief

Ced
SA open to Venda workers

JOHANNESBURG. — All workers in the Venda homeland can now work freely in South Africa, following the termination yesterday of a labour agreement that placed severe restrictions on the recruitment of labour in the homeland.

All Venda workers now require are valid identification documents from their homeland. — Sapa
The template for the MCI Foundation's center, the Parkview Medical Center, is under construction. The center will include a comprehensive range of services and facilities, including a state-of-the-art cancer center, a cardiac center, and a neurology center. The center will also feature a rehabilitation hospital and a children's hospital. The MCI Foundation has invested heavily in the center, and it is expected to open in 2020.
6 miners killed in bus crash

UMTATA — Six men were killed and 21 injured when a bus travelling from Umtata to Johannesburg crashed at Marambene near Qumbu.

The bus was carrying migrant workers to mines in the Transvaal.

According to a witness, the bus failed to negotiate a sharp bend and fell on its side. Passengers tried to leap from the windows as the bus skidded for some distance.

Many of the injuries were believed to have been caused by broken glass or in the stampede of passengers to get out.

--- Sapna 1/13/35 ---
SATS granted urgent order

JOHANNESBURG. — The South African Transport Services was yesterday granted an urgent interim order by the Supreme Court making it illegal for anyone to "assault, intimidate, molest, incite or in any other way interfere with the lawful activities" of any SATS employee.

Mr Justice Schabort ordered that copies of the order be prominently displayed at all SATS hostels, be published in Johannesburg-based newspapers and that copies be served on the South African Railways and Harbour Workers' Union, the Black Trade Union of the SA Transport Services and the National Union of Railways Workers. — Sapa
Deal to save jobs

Dispatch Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — The Chamber of Mines has negotiated a deal with the government which will save the jobs of at least 30,000 of South Africa's more than 60,000 Mozambican miners whose employment was previously doomed by the blanket ban on Mozambican labour.

The deal also effectively saves the mining industry from having to face potentially crippling manpower problems that would have arisen had the ban on Mozambican labour been unconditionally implemented.

Details of the intensive negotiations which led to the deal are unavailable. But it is likely that the government was convinced that the economic and production costs of the ban — in terms of foreign exchange and taxes from gold sales — outweighed any political advantage.

The details of the deal are contained in a letter, "strictly confidential", from the Manpower Department to the Chamber. It is dated December 3.
Eastern Tvl men tell of Jo’burg exploitation

By Kaizer Nyatsumba

At least 21 young men from White River in the eastern Transvaal work 16 hours a day for R150 a week in a Johannesburg building — and some of them have not been paid in full, The Star has established.

The men, most of them illiterate, were brought to Johannesburg on an open bakkie by Mr Jan du Preez of Nelspruit about three weeks ago. They told The Star they were promised a salary of R150 a week, free food and accommodation and normal working hours.

They work at the old Cosatu House in Jeppe Street, which was damaged when a bomb exploded there about a year ago. A few of the men are painters and most are labourers.

WORKING HOURS

“When we got here we were told we would be required to work for 16 hours, from Monday to Friday. On Saturdays we work until late in the afternoon and on Sundays we work until 1 pm. Our weekday working hours are 7 am to 10 pm,” said one of the men.

Their daily menu was porridge.

The man said he and his friends had already spent two weeks in Johannesburg and were supposed to have been paid R300 for two weeks’ work last Saturday. Instead they were given R100 each and were told they would get the rest of the money this week.

“I don’t want to work for them anymore. All I want now is to be paid all my money and then go home,” said the young man, who did not want to be identified.

The Star first heard about the young men’s plight on Sunday afternoon, and went to the building. A security guard, from the Future Security firm, refused The Star entry into the building and rode his senior A man immediately came to the scene and threatened to “throw all the people working on the painting contract out of my building”.

When The Star went there yesterday, another security guard denied entry. However, Mr du Preez came down to talk to reporters.

He said some of the people had not been paid in full because they got drunk and spent their money on petty things. Their outstanding money, he said, would be paid to them.

Mr du Preez said they were all — including himself — employed by a Mr Ahmed Ali Dadabbai. Mr Dadabbai, a friend of his, had asked him to get people to come help them with the painting project, and he had obliged, he said.

However, Mr Dadabbai told The Star his company, which owned the building, had “absolutely nothing to do with the whole thing”.

Mr Dadabbai said his company had given a painting contract to a Nelspruit-based painting company, which had brought the men to Johannesburg.

“We do not know about the people and where they come from. All we are interested in is for the company to do its job on time,” he said.
Vlok must pay R12 000 to man held illegally

By ALINAH DUBE

February 12 the same year.

In an affidavit Mr Adriaan Vlok, the Minister of Law and Order, has agreed to pay R12 000 and costs to a Daveyton man who was detained for allegedly being a prohibited immigrant.

Ngomane stated that he and people he was arrested with were told they were born in Maputo and did not qualify to be in South Africa.

Police demanded to see his reference book and accused him of lying when he explained that he was born in South Africa. Then a Std 5 pupil at Matiyotenga Higher Primary School, Ngomane was bundled into a kombi and taken to prison.

He was shuttled from one Reef police station to another until he landed at Nelspruit to await deportation to Mozambique. He claimed he was beaten up and also told to say his real name was Antonio Ngomane from Mozambique.

Although he was in possession of a reference book, he was kept in prison and not allowed to see lawyers.
Stilfontein mine families face a gloomy future

STILFONTEIN's white mountains of granite appear suddenly as the Johannesburg-Klerksdorp road dips towards the mine.

A gentle hum of machines, kilometres underground, wafts across the plain adorned with its pink and white cosmos.

There were patterned pink flowers, too, on the bedsheet of a bunk that I saw yesterday in the main Stilfontein hostel.

In six or nine months' time, the owner of the flowered sheet will pack up his wife's forlorn present and travel back to his faraway home, without a job. Stilfontein is closing down.

An English mine supervisor once said that when miners are retrenched it is only individual lives that are ruined. But when a mine shuts, the whole community dies.

In SA the community does not lie down on the spot; it gets scattered through various corners of the land.

"Yes, we really were upset when we heard the mine would close," said mining clerk Arlene Modusa. "My husband and I have been working and living here for 17 years. My husband is 36. He will never find a job."

A few years ago they would have been forced to go back to Bophuthatswana. What will they do now? I asked. "My children say we should stay here — they don't speak the language in Bop, they have no links. So we won't go home. But it will be so difficult. Will they survive? "I don't know. I don't want to think about it."

Most other workers are less forthright about the problems they will face.

"I'm sad because I don't know where I will go, where I can find a job," was the line, again and again, with no further details supplied.

One man was a sampling chopper: his job was the lowest of all the mine jobs. He chips samples of rock from the end of the mine shaft. "Everybody's heart is sore," about the closure, he said, but no-one was really surprised.

Julius Modusa, a sharp-witted 40-year-old assistant to a personnel manager, planned to go home to Bophuthatswana and raise cattle. Would that pay for his family's upkeep? "I doubt it," he smiled. "But what else can I do?"

Yet strangely, the place is not as funereal as one might expect. True, the atmosphere around the main hostel is silent and unwelcoming. But these endless rows of matchbox rooms with their bunk beds and steel tables were never particularly happy places.

In the neat one-roomed housing, the Section reserved for families, things were brighter.

The children were happy and the wives more relaxed than their working husbands. But the sad predictions were the same: the future, in Transkei, Botswana or Lesotho, was bleak.

But they all seemed happy with the lives they had lived. "We have enjoyed it a lot," I was told by every child and wife I spoke to.

Stilfontein town is a 15-minute walk from the mine. The mood of the shopkeepers heavily reliant on the mining industry, varied from gloom to shrugging confidence.

"The mine is threatening to close for years — and we still have a few other mines (Buffelsfontein and Hartebeestfontein) to support us," said bottleshop owner Boet Reinecke.

All agreed on two things: the town had been hit by a gradual loss of mining jobs for years and no one could only wait and see the real effects of Stilfontein's closure.
Closure of gold mine may hit Swazi workers

MBABANE — About 30 Swazi migrant miners may lose their jobs when the Stilfontein gold mine closes down later this year.

Senior government officials have also expressed fears that if more South African gold mines are forced to close down or lay off workers as a result of the falling gold price, a large number of the approximately 17,000 Swazi migrant miners could lose their jobs.

The officials said that should that happen, it would create a serious situation for the miners and their families as there was little hope of their finding work in Swaziland, already facing an acute unemployment problem.

In a related development, World Food Programme (WFP) representative in Swaziland Louise Soborn announced that the organisation was helping a group of about 50 former miners, who have returned from South Africa over the past year, to establish their own independent farming project.

Miss Soborn said the WFP, using funds from the European Community, was providing the group with maize, beans and cooking oil until they began to show a profit. — Sapa.
Thousands of aliens sent home yearly

By Meckey Kotolo
Pretoria Bureau

Thousands of illegal immigrants are repatriated every year and scores of others remain in detention for weeks while authorities investigate whether they are residents of South Africa.

This has emerged from investigations undertaken by The Star following the recent arrest of a Johannesburg restaurant employee on suspicion of being an illegal immigrant.

Checked

The investigation revealed that more than 53,000 aliens were repatriated last year alone and many others were kept in detention awaiting deportation.

Pallie Khweza, originally from Transkei, and at present working at a Johannesburg restaurant, was arrested a week ago while on his way to church in Dunkeld, Johannesburg.

Mr Khweza was detained at Diepkloof prison with many other suspected illegal immigrants while authorities checked whether they were legal residents of South Africa.

He was detained for five days although his wife’s employer, Jean Martin, had submitted his passport to the authorities as proof that his stay in South Africa was legal.

Mr Khweza was released only after Mrs Martin approached a member of Parliament to intercede on his behalf.

She said that after his release, Mr Khweza told her he had been detained with many other suspects who had been in prison for up to three weeks without any charge being laid.

On investigation, both the police and the Department of Correctional Services referred The Star to the Department of Home Affairs.

Home Affairs could not supply The Star with figures of suspects still in detention because “the numbers change from time to time”.

However, a spokesman for the department said 53,519 illegal immigrants were repatriated last year and 51,415 the previous year.

Persisted

A total of 42,330 aliens were returned to Mozambique, 5,363 to Zimbabwe, 569 to Botswana, 3,632 to Lesotho and 1,225 to Swaziland in 1990.

A statement from Home Affairs expressed concern that despite many appeals to employers requesting them “not to employ illegal aliens, many of them persisted in doing so”.

According to the statement, the employment of illegal immigrants was detrimental to the economy of the country and deprived South African residents of employment.
Gold-mine shocks threaten economy

By LUCAS DE Lange 7/4/97

Two major gold mining-related shocks hit the South African public this week. Anglo American Corporation, the western world's biggest single gold producer, announced it was abandoning exploration of the so-called Potchefstroom Gap, until recently thought of as a promising area for major new mines.

Secondly, Gencor announced that its Stillfontein mine was to cease all underground operations, with the loss of about 2 500 jobs.

The latter will mainly hit already severely depressed areas in southern Africa such as Lesotho and the Transkei.

While the closure announcement was dramatic, it must be borne in mind that this is part of an ongoing process and that by the end of the year it will probably represent a small proportion of total job losses in the gold mining industry.

The retrenchments are seriously affecting the national finances of Lesotho and Mozambique. Some 60 percent of Lesotho's national earnings come from the portion of mineworkers' earnings which must be remitted monthly in terms of governmental agreements. Last year more than R470-million was remitted by the mines to Lesotho.

Mozambique depends on South African mines for about 50 percent of its foreign earnings.

How many workers will be laid off this year is uncertain, but the Chamber of Mines says it could be as high as 45 000.

The low gold price and the high inflation rate have caused the crisis on the mines. About 40 percent of South Africa's gold is being produced at a loss by mines employing about 190 000 workers.

There are few signs the international gold price will improve soon as investment demand is at its lowest level since the Second World War.

The fact the gold price did not respond to the Gulf Crisis has also apparently convinced South Africa's mining leaders that gold has lost its appeal as a safe bet for investors.

Fortunately industrial demand, mainly from the jewellery industry, remains steady in spite of the international economic slowdown.

But the decision by Anglo American to stop exploration in the Potchefstroom area is seen by experts as a greater setback, because this will affect future growth of South Africa's biggest export industry.

The Potch Gap represents an estimated 20 percent of South Africa's gold reserves and Anglo is telling us it is unprofitable to spend further millions establishing new mines.

Translated into production figures, it means that around 8 000 tons of gold in the Potch Gap reefs will remain underground. This is equal to about 13 years' production at our present rate.

South African gold production peaked in 1970 at more than 1 000 tons, but dropped to 600 tons last year with further declines expected in years to come.

If no major new mines are opened production could drop by 50 percent over the next decade.

This means greater poverty for us all unless we can establish alternative successful export industries.

Yet our productivity is the lowest in the world, and a major national effort is needed to compete against the industrialised East and West.
The Ministry of Transportation

In response to a letter from the Honourable Mr. Goodall, the Minister of Transportation,

The Ministry of Transportation

The letter in question was received on the 1st of May, 1979, in response to the letter from the Honourable Mr. Goodall, the Minister of Transportation.

The letter from the Honourable Mr. Goodall, the Minister of Transportation, requested the following information:

1. The current status of the transportation projects currently underway in the province.
2. The projected timeline for the completion of the transportation projects.
3. Any recent developments or changes in transportation policies in the province.
4. The impact of transportation projects on the local economy.

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1. The current status of the transportation projects currently underway in the province are as follows:
   - Project A: 90% complete, expected completion date: 30th June, 1979
   - Project B: 50% complete, expected completion date: 15th September, 1979
   - Project C: 20% complete, expected completion date: 31st December, 1979

2. The projected timeline for the completion of the transportation projects is as follows:
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3. Recent developments or changes in transportation policies in the province include:
   - The introduction of a new transportation funding model
   - The implementation of a new transportation safety program

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Lesotho mineworkers feeling gold pinch

WITH the gold price continuing to take a tumble on the world market, thousands of Basotho mineworkers have begun returning home from neighbouring South Africa.

The price plunge is said to have cost South Africa's mining industry at least 50,000 jobs last year alone, and the trend is expected to continue for the rest of this year.

A retrenched miner who asked not to be named said he came home three weeks ago after working for only six months on the mines and had still not informed his wife that he had been retrenched.

"My wife would be shattered at hearing the news. We were planning to build our own house by the end of this year as we are still staying with my parents."

At the beginning of 1990, the average number of Basotho mineworkers in South Africa was 103,040. By the end of February 1991, the figure had dropped to 95,551.

The decrease has rattled Lesotho government circles because of the economic repercussions for the country. — INTER PRESS SERVICE
Hostels remain complex problem
Scrap the hostels - and 'many thousands will die on that day'

WHERE MEN LIVE — Outside Dube hostel, which is a home from home for 6 000 men

JENNIFER POGRUND spoke to residents of Dube hostel, and found that while they want their conditions improved, they would fiercely resist the abolition of the single-sex hostel system.

20

The men speak of the importance of maintaining cultural traditions, and their link to the past. "We need to keep our culture pure. If our families come here, our Zulu culture will be affected — which means our own country, Natal and Zululand. "We can go to Natal to see our wives. This thing of being away from your wife doesn't kill any man."

"Askled if it wasn't normal for husbands and wives to live together, another man says: "No. That is true on the side of white people. They do have such a feeling but on the part of Black Zulu people the husband can be away for five years. They can come back and the wife is still at home looking after the children and there is no quarrel."

Another man speaks up: "This comes from our great-great-grandfathers. They used to come to the towns and left their families in Natal — we are not prepared to change what our forefathers were doing."

"In our tribal areas we fight in feuding fights. We are not fighting because we have military training. We know how to fight because we as Zulu have been fighting a long time in Natal. "Mandela called on Xhosa people in the squatter camps to stay because he is busy creating war. All the other nations, the Shangaans and the Vendas, they do not fight with the Zulus, only the Xhosa are fighting."

He (Mandela) is working to bring them back to the squatter camps because this means more supporters to fight the Zulu people. If that can start happening it will be the first and the last civil war, alpha omega."

"Our people did not come here to fight. Even now they are just defending themselves, that is all. If Zulu people can start fighting, there is very little that can remain, very, very little."

"When he (Mandela) comes to destroy the hostels we are going to destroy the whole township; thousands of people will lose their lives, we will kill them in or out, to take their homes to stay in them," Mr. 3656-666691.

"Why is the ANC so worried about the hostels if improving the lives of people living here? Nobody asks any questions or does anything about improving the rest of the township, where conditions are just as bad," says Duma.

"The ANC has shown itself to be our enemy, now they want to make themselves look good by trying to do something for Inkatha people, and then while Mandela and his supporters are trying to kill us."

The men say that 10 residents of Dube hostel have been sentenced in the past three weeks. They fear that if the hostels are dismantled, they will "have to live among the hooligans, looters and criminals in the township."

"There's no crime here in the hostel; the people from the rural areas are disciplined, whereas those born in the township are very, very rude," one inmate.

Asked whether they would not prefer to have their families living with them, they burst into raucous laughter.

"If our wives and children are here, who will plough the fields at home in the rural areas, and look after my cattle of more than 200 and count sheep and goats?" asks one man.

"If Mandela wants to force us to buy houses costing thousands of rand in Soweto, where will I keep my chickens and goats?" asks another.

"We don't trust the nurses there," says one, "they are Xhosa-speakers." "They don't let the bullets out of our people," says Ngidi, "all they do is give us injections and medication, and chase us away."

There is a mood of anger and defiance among the hostel dwellers — a section of the 6 000 inmates — discuss their grievances. Surprisingly, although they are the victims of the violence they express a willingness to work with the ANC. "The ANC should come to destroy the Zulu people, to drive us out of the Transvaal, with this attitude of saying the hostels should be demolished," complains the chairman of the Dube branch, Mshobeha Duma.

"If Mandela comes to talk about hostels that anger us — we are Zulus. That is our birthright. We do not want a Xhosa person to speak on the part of the Zulus.

"We are Xasas, we are Zulus. That is our birthright. We do not want a Xhosa person to speak on the part of the Zulus."

Cowanwell Ngidi is a young, pleasant-faced man who describes himself as the deputy military commander of the Dube hostel ready to lead his forces into the coming civil war against the African National Congress.

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Hostels are almost as old as the SA mining industry. As far back as the turn of the century, the black presence in urban areas was seen as migratory and transitory.

Blacks who came to the cities to work on mines were housed in compounds. Later, industry, particularly the construction sector, began housing workers in hostels. Under apartheid rule, hostels were taken from the industry and placed under Native Administration Boards. Now they fall under the administration - or lack of administration - of black local authorities.

Most hostels are uninhabitable. Over the past eight months they have taken on the characteristics of vast military barracks. Some of them are bases for the smuggling and manufacture of weapons.

Hostel dwellers are generally drawn from the rural poor. Most are unskilled, taking jobs as cleaners and night watchmen, many, despite years in Johannesburg, speak little English. They tend to be scorned and feared by more sophisticated township residents, which increases their sense of isolation and resentment.

The first buildings at Nancefield hostel, close to the outskirts of Soweto, were erected in 1957. One of the original residents (he moved there from the old Werner hostel) is Abednego Gasa (49). He used to work as a night watchman before becoming an Inkatha "captain" at Nancefield. He heads a 12-member committee that effectively controls life at the hostel. His two wives and nine children live in KwaZulu and he sees them once or twice a year. Other men have their wives and children with them in the hostels, which can worsen the squaded conditions.

A little good may have come of the visit to Nancefield by US Senator Edward Kennedy in 1985 (whatever the senator's motives). In 1987 many of the walls were painted, and some hostel blocks upgraded - but the improvement was only relative.

In 1990 President F W de Klerk visited the hostel, but nothing much has come of that either. The toilets are open sewers, most showers have cold water only - and most are without shower heads or even taps.

Each block accommodates 16 men two sleeping areas on each side, and a small living area with a stove in the centre.

Most stoves have a single small plate for all 16 to cook on. Electric cords are illegally joined to the wires serving the street outside, or to the single light-bulb socket, these are lead to power radios and improvised hotplates. No hostel block has a plug-socket.

People are living there

There are benches for only eight of the 16 men. There is one table and no kitchen shelves, lockers or cupboards for clothes. This means there is no privacy and much insecurity and smouldering resentment.

Not all the men who live in hostels join war parties, but it is apparent very difficult not to. Men who refuse to participate are regarded as suspect, perhaps as collaborators with other political groupings, which puts them in danger. Some hostels in Nancefield have empty beds vacated by Xhosa people in the recent violence, leaving only Zulus, Sotho's and Shangaans.

In the old sections of the hostel men pay R12.50 a month for a bed, in the new sections, R17.50. All of them told the FM they would be prepared to pay more if conditions were better.

They are better that they continued to pay for their beds during the five-year township rent boycott, and that the improvements evident in the townships have yet to reach the hostels.

There is no outside lighting at the Nancefield hostel. It is a huge, sprawling complex with about 5,000 inhabitants (no one is sure of the total). It is one of the biggest of the dozen hostels around Johannesburg.

The lack of outside lighting is important. There are no roads or paths, only rough tracks through high grass. Crime is a serious problem, especially as many residents have to commute in darkness.

Toilet and shower blocks are in the middle of each double row of blocks. They are not only inadequate, but a disgrace. They have no lights, so people who return at night have to shower in the dark. Nearly all the showers and toilet blocks have impressive waterfalls with broken taps, rusted cisterns or broken pipes. In some places gushing water combines with scraps of leftover food, from where men kneel on the concrete to rinse their plates under taps. In the toilets urine and faeces spill from the doors, or seep under walls.

The toilets and showers lack windows. There are huge gaping holes in the walls. The areas were dank and chilly, even on the warm day the FM visited the hostel.

The showers lack soap holders, there are no hooks or rails on which to hang towels or clothes, and no slatted boards to dry feet.

In the living areas there are no comfortable chairs. The walls are scrot from coal stoves. The men hang their clothes from wires strung across the roof - there is no ceiling - although some have bought lockers.

Some have given up trying to keep the hostels clean. But others, like security guard Ben Mdlalose, make sure that the concrete floors shine and sessions are neatly stacked against walls. Mdlalose, like many others in the hostels, is against scrapping the system. They do not want to bring their families to live dangerously in Johannesburg, but they also do not want to live the way they are, "like pigs."

As the FM toured the hostel, a large mppe formed at the western end of the hostel, chanting war songs with spears, pangas and rifles held high. There was a rumour the ANC would attack at 2pm. No attack came but it did not stop the war party growing by the minute.

On the eastern fringe of the hostel are green prefabricated bungalows, housing municipal policemen. They watched the impo nervously, confessing they were terrified.

The policemen were all from Durban. The previous day the Soweto Town Council switched off their water and removed the roofs from their tin toilets and showers. No reason was given. The FM failed to find anyone at the council who knew about the incident.

It is clear that some of the recent violence might have been prevented if conditions at hostels had been vigorously dealt with. Physical insecurity breeds suspicion and fear, which can easily flare into fighting. Often based only on rumour and counter-rumour.
SAM MOSIKILI

SOMETHING'S BREWING

"Have you tasted sorghum beer?"

Molahleli "Sam" Mosikili, MD of National Sorghum Breweries (NSB), is supposed to be the subject of the interview, but he gets off the first question. When the answer comes back no, he tries to describe it

"It has an acid taste or a sour taste, like sour milk," he says, rolling the invisible flavour around on his tongue, reaching for the right words. So far, he's not doing a great selling job.

"It's very nutritious Unfermented, it's used as a breakfast porridge. Fermented, it's only 3% alcohol. In the olden days it was used as a ceremonial drink at weddings, funerals, ancestral worship. In a sense, it's almost like wine."

One of the goals of the brewery, which is in the process of offering nearly 44m shares at R1 each in a move to privatization, is "to bring sorghum beer—out of dusty passages and mud huts to the cosmopolitan limelight."

Mosikili (46), whose favourite brand is Country Brew, knows he's not the typical sorghum beer drinker. With his grey flannel trousers, blue blazer and preppee glasses, he looks as if he's straight out of Harvard, where he spent 18 months in the early Eighties. He's now on the Harvard selection committee.

"A lot of South African people drank sorghum beer but they wouldn't admit it. It had a low image. That's been one of the challenges, to change that image."

After growing up in Springs and earning his matric at a Methodist high school in Thaba'Nchu, he graduated from the University of the North. From there he went to work for Colgate Palmolive where he got some of the best marketing training available. He later spent a couple of years working for SA Breweries (SAB) as a brand manager and at Maluti Mountain Brewery. Working for the brewer and a soap manufacturer, he says, taught him that men are just as fussy about beer as women are about detergents and perfumes.

Naturally, there's a striking difference, he says, between the corporate culture of private-sector SAB and government-controlled NSB, which he joined last July. "At SAB, it was very warm, here, because of government links, it's very bureaucratic, not profit-driven. It gave a lot of whites sheltered employment. However, this is changing fast."

The company took some flak for saying it wanted the shares to go mainly to blacks. But Mosikili points out that the overwhelming majority of drinkers, distributors and brewers of sorghum beer are blacks. "We want to take the industry back to those people. It's about time we involve blacks in the mainstream of the economy. We're correcting the past."

Mosikili, who's married and has two daughters, sees unlimited expansion potential for the company. He ticks off bread, biscuits and porridge as just a few of the lines they could develop. "We understand the black consumer," he says. "It would be foolish not to take advantage of that market."

SOULA PROXENOS — ON THE FAST TRACK

"I pursue what I enjoy rather than what I'm good at," says Old Mutual's Soula Proxenos. "I'll move mountains to be average or below average."

That's probably why as a child she gave up the piano, even though her teacher thought she was a prodigy material. Instead, she struggled with horses. But in the end, she went on to compete in the national equestrian championships.

At the ripe old age of 28, Proxenos, the daughter of immigrants from Cyprus, has already made her mark as national marketing manager for Old Mutual Unit Trusts.

"She certainly has been noticed," says a colleague. "She's someone to watch, an achiever. Women often are judged for not knowing what they want or where they are going but not Soula. She knows exactly what she wants and how to get it."

Old Mutual leads the pack in unit trusts, with about twice as much market share as its nearest competitor. And since she joined the company in January 1988, it has launched three new funds, five new products and has tripled its number of accounts.

With a multi-million rand budget, she is in charge of pushing the concept of mutual shareholdings, especially to the masses of people who had never considered getting involved in the stock market.

Her MBA thesis at Stellenbosch University dealt with selling unit trusts in the black market. "We have to grow faster than the market, and as the biggest, we have the most to lose. It's an enormous job to bring in masses, blacks and young people. We have to get people who haven't bought shares before."

After matric, she put in a few months at Wits before she quit to give the real world a try. She worked at Dun & Bradstreet and Gallo and pursued her dream of becoming a world-class show jumper.

Giving up horses was a decision that still gives her twinges of regret, but at 21 she went back to Wits where she studied philosophy. Then came a postgraduate degree from UCT in "human resource management," followed by honours in business administration and the MBA at Stellenbosch while working full-time at Old Mutual. And for fun she has mastered the art of pastry-making through the Cordon Bleu school.

For someone with a lot of responsibility at a tender age, she has the poise of an old pro.

She admits she's made a few bad choices, but learning from your mistakes only teaches you so much. "I learn a lot," she says. "From people who do it right."

40 • FINANCIAL MAIL • MAY 31 • 1991
IDT to host seminar on hostels

A WORKERS' hostel seminar to be attended by leading representatives of 28 organisations across the political spectrum will be held at Midrand on August 1.

This was announced by the Independent Development Trust this week. Extra-parliamentary groups, civic organisations, trade unions, the private sector and the Government will be involved in the seminar.

Discussions would explore how locally affected communities could participate in finding solutions to hostel problems and would confirm a development approach to the issue. Follow-up task groups would be appointed after the seminar.

Appeal

"The diverse nature of these proposals has led us to conclude that there will be considerable benefit in evolving a shared appreciation of the opportunities and constraints among the principal actors in this area of activity," IDT chairman Mr Jan Steyn said.

"Therefore we took the liberty of informally contacting interested parties with a view to initiating a process to deal with these issues."

He appealed to participants to respect the sensitivity of the hostels issue and to avoid unnecessary speculation, conflicts and tension. - Sapa.

 ● Hostels in the good old days - Page 29
Committee established to focus on crisis at hostels

By Brian Sokupa

Leaders from extra-parliamentary organisations, business and the Government yesterday agreed on the setting up of a permanent steering committee to address the country’s hostel problems.

The meeting, held in Johannesburg and attended by more than 30 representatives from the ANC, PAC and other political organisations, is believed to be the first at high level since the outbreak of violence at Reef township hostels.

The Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) and the Independent Development Trust (IDT), which organised the seminar, will liaise with extra-parliamentary organisations and the Government over proposals on hostels.

Among the delegates were Thozamile Botha, head of ANC’s local government department; Moses Mayekiso, trade unionist and SACP executive member; and Kagiso Trust national director Eric Molobi.

An estimated 1 million migrant workers from Clashes, Transkei, Natal and southern African countries lived in 220 hostels countrywide, IDT chief executive Jan Steyn told the seminar.

The IDT and the DBSA had received many applications for assistance in upgrading hostels.

“We both realised, however, that to rush into ad hoc responses that cannot be sustained on a national basis would compound rather than solve problems.

“After sounding out the different organisations and interests represented here, we felt that a preliminary discussion of the subject should take place. The objective would be to seek a broad-based consensus on how a process through which an acceptable and sustainable outcome could be obtained.”

Steps taken so far to upgrade hostels were inadequate.
For decades, men slept in these cold stone bunks. Now a hammer blow ends a hated institution

A last blow of the hammer makes history

In just over a year, 912 of the hated concrete bunks in migrant hostels have been demolished, to be replaced by ordinary single beds. It's all part of a Johannesburg effort to upgrade the hostels, reports BEATHUR BAKER.

DUST clouds billow out from tiny, metal-framed doorways, followed by the deafening blows of hundreds of-pound jack-hammers striking at hard concrete, shattering the silence of a deserted compound.

A few more blows will mean their last day of work, so the tired, sweaty workmen race against the clock to demolish one last remaining bunk in the City Deep single-sex hostel.

Unknown to the workmen, they are making history. Their months of labour have ended a key symbol of the oppressive conditions in which the Johannesburg city council housed its migrant workers.

"These bunks were reinforced and walled into the walls for safety, making them both costly and very difficult to remove, but we keep in mind the comfort of our workers," says Ben Symman, housing director of the Johannesburg City Council.

In just one year, 912 built-in concrete bunks were knocked out of 38 dormitories of the council's 14 hostels on the Reef. The cost of the operation was R250 000, but meant more than a monetary loss.

By removing the bunkies, a third of the original sleeping area per dormitory was lost. The original 24 concrete bunkies per dormitory were replaced by 10 single beds.

"The rest of the men have gradually been incorporated into existing vacant dormitories or moved to other hostels of their choice," says Symman.

Is the city council spearheading the improvement of hostels — the single source of accommodation for migrant workers — or is their campaign to improve them being done only to attract more migrants?

A visit to the three largest hostels for council workers, at Ameza, City Deep and Selby, refuted many preconceived ideas about conditions in hostels.

The tiered layers of compressed living spaces are jumbled by a maze of endless corridors. this is the familiar face of hostels everywhere. Yet, these turned out to be clean and even comfortable.

The workers' nest — if cell-like dormitories suggest the pride their occupants take in maintaining them — starchy white bedcovers embroidered in colourful, floral designs compete for attention.

The sparse contents of plastic bedside tables and improvised wall decorations above the beds create a tidy atmosphere, and reveal a little of each individual's personality in the carbon-copy rooms.

This is all the result of close cooperation between hostel-dwellers and the city council.

The council has taken up suggestions forwarded by house committees representing hostel residents from each of their 14 hostels on the Reef. It has, wherever possible, made budget provision for most requests for facilities in the hostels. This year, the amount budgeted for hostels is R20 million.

At the Ameza hostel in Langlaagte, for example, the newest facilities is a gymnasium, with mirrored walls, exercise equipment and weights "as requested several months ago by the residents".

"Soccer was found to be the most popular sport with residents, but because the average age in our hostels is 44 years, some men too old to play prefer activities like the brass band or choir," says Symman.
DEN OF INIQUITY... Vaal women march on Iscor’s KwaMadala hostel to demand an end to the attacks on township residents. However, Iscor sees no problem.

Hostel not a problem - Iscor

By SOPHIE TERA

VAAEl residents hold their breath when the name “KwaMadala” is mentioned.

Residents in the Vaal Triangle and political organisations allege Iscor’s KwaMadala Hostel is the stronghold of Inkatha, which houses the organisation’s warlords.

It has also been said KwaMadala is accommodating criminals and is the base from which violent acts are planned and executed against ANC members and township residents.

This week the interdenominational Women’s Ministries of the Vaal Council of Churches handed a memorandum, which listed grievances about KwaMadala and its inmates, to Iscor personnel manager Johannes Viljoen.

The memorandum said KwaMadala was used as a springboard for terrorist attacks against residents and that on various occasions people, including young children, had been abducted and kept at KwaMadala against their will.

“It stated that residents were perturbed by the spate of violence in the area since July 22, 1990, especially in Bopatong,” the memorandum read.

It demands an end to intimidation, abduction of people and violence, and calls on Iscor to stop harbouring “these enemies of peace”.

It also asked Iscor whether it enjoyed seeing men and women killed and children orphaned.

The memorandum said the violence had claimed more than 100 lives so far this year, with nearly 500 people injured.

“We are our kin live in constant fear, due to threats and intimidation,” the memorandum said.

The education of our children has also been affected as a result of threats and attacks on students by KwaMadala residents at schools like the Lebong Primary School in Bopatong,” the memorandum said.

The memorandum reminded Iscor management that it had promised a delegation of ministers last year that if just one of the culprits was found to be residing at KwaMadala, then Iscor would order all the occupants out of the complex.

This week I visited KwaMadala and spoke to leader Moses Mandla Mthembu.

In a three-hour interview, which City Press will run next week, Mthembu told how Inkatha and the ANC became trapped in a spiral of violence dating back to 1986.

Iscor’s management, this week strongly denied the allegations made against KwaMadala.

A statement said that following an investigation no evidence could be found to convince management that KwaMadala Hostel should be managed differently to that of Iscor’s other hostel, KwaMasiza.

Iscor evaded the issue of attacks on township residents, and instead said an investigation into the allegations was called off after “interested parties” told them they felt “the differences between the inhabitants of the two hostels should be resolved by themselves”.

City Press had never asked Iscor about “differences between the inhabitants of the two hostels.” Iscor continued by saying that during two recent raids by the SAP, no evidence was found of illegal occupants.
Demolition squads head for hostels

By MONWABISI NOMADODO

THE demolition of the controversial KwaThema Hostel in Springs began last week following an agreement between the council and the local civic association.

Resident interviewed in a spot survey agreed that the hostels should be completely demolished.

Jerry "Staff" Shabalala, 26, said inmates were "provocative" and should find alternative accommodation.

Township residents are unhappy because four blocks — regarded as Inkatha strongholds — are to remain standing.

KwaThema town clerk Stephen Muller said the unoccupied part of the hostel attracted vagrants and had to go.

It was decided to demolish the complex after eight people were killed by hostel dwellers three weeks ago.

Police spokeswoman, Captain Ida van Zeele, said the police had no record of attacks on residents by official inmates of the hostel.

But City Press investigations revealed that the latest incident was sparked by an inmate living in Room 22, Block C.

Last year more than 24 people died after a confrontation between residents and hostel inmates.
CORRESPONDENT of The New York Times, working at the height of the civil war in Beirut, said:

"There is no truth in Beirut, only rumors. The same applies to explanations of violence in South Africa's townships.

The image of hostel residents as ''vandals'' and ''unruly'' individuals has been created by the political parties in power. Many hostel dwellers have always lived in the townships on the basis of their political beliefs. The political parties have always been involved in the townships. In the 1980s, the ANC started to focus on the political importance of the townships.

This article is based on a series of interviews with hostel residents. It presents a human face on the townships.

In a series of interviews with hostel dwellers involved in the violence, researcher LAUREN SEGAL provides new insights into the minds of the migrant workers.

Putting a human face on the hostels

THE WEEKLY

A hostel dweller and his worldly goods

I hate this place. It is rotten. The people are uncultured.

Photograph KEVIN CARTER

...that we are hostel dwellers. It is not safe at all.

In a series of interviews with hostel dwellers involved in the violence, researcher Lauren Segal provides new insights into the minds of the migrant workers.
Generational issues featured prominently as a source of division and hostility for the hostel dwellers.

The role of elders in the hostels coincides with forms of control in the rural areas. Inkatha appears to have skillfully drawn on this tradition by blending an ideology based on age into its own party politics.

In terms of township politics, hostel residents place the youth at the centre of their alienation from the township:

"The problem is that the comrades back up the children. They fully support them. Take, for instance, a meeting for parents; you find that whatever is being discussed — it can be rent, water, electricity — they will go back home and inform their children on decisions taken in the meetings. If the meeting was held at 10am, just in the afternoon around four you will see children noting. Just from that programme we felt that no, this is not the way we should conduct things. So consequently we opted for division."

But the picture is more complex than this neat division would suggest. In the interviews, elders were also more ready to see themselves as mediators, voices of authority and rationality. They were less keen to rush onto the battlefield and younger hostel dwellers appear to have taken the lead in organising and orchestrating the violence.

● Lauren Segal is a researcher at the Project for the Study of Violence at the University of the Witwatersrand. A more extensive version of the research on these pages will be released by the Institute later this year.
An insider's account of the hostel regiments

Mzwabantu Mbele talks to Inkatha officials, asking them to explain the organisation of hostel regiments. Zulus are “born fighters,” they tell him.

BRAM and Gertrude Mzazi are not accustomed to media attention, although Mzazi is a prominent East Rand official of the Inkatha Freedom Party.

But they agreed this week to grant a rare interview to The Weekly Mail to explain that an organisational system in rural Natal has been imported to the Reef, with indunas at the head of hostel regiments in case of trouble.

The interview was conducted in the Mzazi lounge, in company with members of the Thokoza IFP branch, keen to put their organisation’s point of view. The Mzzis live a stone’s throw away from the Madala hostel — scene of several running battles last year between hostel inmates and Pretoria Park squatters.

The Weekly Mail was told that men have been organised into regiments under the command of the chief hostel induna and his immediate subordinate — a system described as the spear for organisational unity in the hostels.

According to hostel inmates, the system is not new, but is derived from rural Natal, where it is traditional for men to belong to a regiment with responsibilities of defending the tribe in case of war.

With recent violence surrounding the hostels, rural chiefs in Natal have appointed representatives to take care of their subjects in the hostels.

These representatives are called indunas and among themselves, they elect a chief induna by popular support. The indunas are normally elderly men who, by virtue of their positions, become immediate subordinates to the chief induna. Each is accountable to the chief of his tribe in rural Natal.

Although they are not born into the royal family, indunas serve as trusted men in the hostels and are usually appointed according to their capabilities, explained Gertrude Mzazi.

The Weekly Mail was told many of the indunas hold positions in the IFP Hostel Committee and are also accountable to kwazulu chief minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi, who reports to King Goodwill Zwelithini about his subjects in hostels.

A central role of the system is to foster unity and understanding among the Zulu hostel inmates. Another is to ensure people are protected from attack.

Whenever threats or rumours of violence surface, regiments are sent on patrol to defend the hostels, explained Abrahm Mzazi.

The Weekly Mail was not told how patrols are trained and armed, but it was emphasised that Zulus are “born fighters” who can “respond spontaneously to any attack.”

When violence threatens the hostel dwellers, the chief induna calls a meeting of his subordinate indunas and, after discussion, instructions are issued to these subordinates, who organise the hostel dwellers according to tribes.

Each induna then takes his regiment on hostel patrol or “defence.” Close contact is maintained with the chief induna whose work, in most cases, is final.

“War is never organised in the hostel but it happens spontaneously,” said Gertrude Mzazi.

“The media has got the wrong impression about the hostels,” she said. “Zulus are not fighting but are trying to defend themselves against people who want to demolish the hostels.”

Echoing sentiments expressed by Inkatha West Rand chairman Themba Khoza, she said: “The Zulu nation is built out of Shaka’s spear. When you say ‘go and fight,’ it just happens.”
Study shows migrant labour levels still high

MIGRANT labour levels have remained high despite the scrapping of influx control five years ago, the SA Institute of Race Relations says.

In Migrancy After Influx Control, a new book published by the institute, author Ahmed Jooma says that in the mining industry “the number of migrants employed has fluctuated by less than 15% on each side of the 500 000 mark over the past five years”.

One reason for the continued existence of the migrant labour system was the poor performance of the economy and its reduced capacity to replace cheap single-sex accommodation with family housing.

Jooma says the gold mines’ declining profits have left fewer funds available for housing expenditure.

Although the industry is looking to house more skilled workers, including Africans, in family housing, most migrant labourers cannot afford even moderately priced formal housing.

Jooma adds that mining houses have a reduced capacity to provide housing for black workers because of the need to preserve capital for restructuring and for investment in future operations. This has been exacerbated by sanctions, the poor performance of the economy, and the low gold price.

In urban areas the demand for housing and for land outstrips the provision of new land for township development. "The extent to which migrants and their families are squatting is difficult to assess, although the fact that this option is chosen by them is beyond question," states Jooma.

He cites the example of miners in the Bekkersdal area on the West Rand, who have opted for informal housing in preference to hostel accommodation.

The report warns that an end to migrancy would have serious repercussions for neighbouring states and the homelands, which rely heavily on income from migrant labour.
Some want to be alone

Proposals to eliminate migrant worker hostels as a means of solving inter-ethnic black violence are simplistic and will not work, argues Lawrence Schlemmer, director of Wits University’s Centre for Policy Studies.

A system whereby hundreds of thousands of men live in overcrowded, barrack-like single quarters for months at a time between short trips home to visit their wives and families is indefensible. This system of hostel accommodation, however, is as old as industrialisation in SA. Despite decades of criticism from human rights agencies and welfare groups, until very recently hundreds of public and private hostels have been maintained, and new ones built.

Since the early months of 1991, however, calls for the dismantling of the hostel system have become more strident. The reason, as we know, has been the spate of lethal politically coloured violence that has erupted in the Transvaal, with hostel dwellers associated with the Inkatha Freedom Party and youths from surrounding residential areas as active participants and in many cases as visible aggressors.

Since the beginning of 1991 well over 500 people have died in this type of violence in the Transvaal.

The ANC has called for the urgent termination of the single-sex hostel system and local authorities in some instances have begun demolishing them. The Independent Development Trust has helped to fund the conversion of one hostel in Natal into family accommodation and further plans along these lines exist in the private and local authority sectors. It has become part of current popular wisdom that dismantling these hostels will reduce or eliminate the organised violence, or counterviolence, surrounding the hostel communities.

SA has known many poorly considered and badly attempted solutions to social problems in the black townships, many of which have done more harm than good. The latest urge to dismantle the hostel system may be yet another. While hostels are manifestly inadequate solutions, they both contain and have created certain social realities that will not go away with the dismantling of the physical structure.

According to Prof Dan Smut, there are at least 380 000 public and private hostel beds in SA and the number of people who make use of these exceeds 1m migrant workers. Hostel inmates are not normally included in the calculations of the urban accommodation shortage in black communities, if they were, the effective shortage of shelter estimated now would double. This fact alone is a reason for caution.

Other relevant factors exist as well, however. In research conducted by me and other research conducted jointly with Prof Valerie Molle in the mid-Eighties, it became clear that a proportion of hostel dwellers preferred, and would be likely to continue to prefer, temporary single status in the cities in cheap hostel accommodation.

Personal interviews by trained black staff among representative samples of male migrant workers in hostels yielded the following indications:

- Some four out of 10 hostel dwellers considered the life to be the best way for single migrants to live in the city.
- Only one hostels promoting themselves as urban or suburban people;
- Only one in one-and-half of 10 people on average expressed an existing or ideal preference for urban work and living. And
- At least half the migrants did not even feel that they would like their wives or rural female companions to join them in the city, or at least not permanently.

It was clear from the findings that migrant workers who wished to urbanise permanently, or who saw no alternative but to move permanently to the city, were already moving into shacks and private lodgings voluntarily. One might reasonably expect therefore that the perception among people who remain in hostels of their own accord as temporary, economically orientated sojourners in the city, has further crystallised and intensified.

Earlier surveys showed that among the reasons for this was the fact that the hostel migrants valued certain rural resources. Among Zulu-speaking hostel dwellers in the Transvaal, for example, at least six out of 10 had, or expected, access to their own rural land (2 ha-3 ha in most cases) and despite their youthful average age, at least 50% had cattle in rural KwaZulu.

The inevitable conclusion one must draw is that, notwithstanding the constrained, frustrating and unnatural conditions in the hostels, a substantial proportion of the residents prefer this mode of urban existence to making any significant investments in more stable urban accommodation. Their priorities are in the rural areas.

Other more recent results support this broad conclusion. In a March survey among black township residents, which included a special sub-sample of hostel dwellers, a stark polarisation of values and attitudes emerged between hostel migrants and other urban black people (see table).

The hostel dwellers are not merely a category defined in terms of accommodation. They are in a sense social enclaves with a different political culture and different kinds of interests than the surrounding township dwellers. Clearly, simply dismantling the hostel system is not only complex in its implications for the residents, but may not remove the problem perceived to surround the hostels and their inhabitants.

What should be considered in particular is the fact that the hostel dwellers are so distinct in socio-economic interests and political orientations that they will remain enclaves even if their hostels are closed. Having been employed in townships prior to the programme of hostel construction in the Sixties and Seventies, and mindful of patterns of residential location elsewhere in Africa and the Third World, I would make the cautious prediction that migrants will establish themselves in clearly defined and bounded concentrations within squatter camps.

Very recent experience in shack areas of Natal would seem to indicate quite conclusively that violence can erupt as easily between opposing concentrations of shack dwellers as between hostel dwellers and surrounding residential areas. Indeed, the phenomenon referred to as "warlordism" originated in shack areas.

In conclusion, therefore, what must be stated is that the policy dilemma around the future of hostel accommodation is more complex than much facile comment in the media would suggest. Hostels are a particularly unpleasant and artificial form of accommodation, and serious thought and research must be devoted to identifying appropriate options. If the motivation for destroying the hostel system, however, is largely or in part to fragment the militant cohesion of hostel communities, the policy will most certainly backfire.

59 • FINANCIAL MAIL • SEPTEMBER • 20 • 1991
Selling

House for sale: 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, fully furnished. Located in a quiet, well-maintained neighborhood. For more information, contact John Smith at 555-1234.

Time for bed. Enjoy a comfortable night's sleep with these tips:

1. Set a regular bedtime and stick to it.
2. Create a relaxing bedtime routine.
3. Make sure your bedroom is dark, quiet, and cool.
4. Avoid stimulants like caffeine and alcohol in the evening.

Paddle

Since 1987, the annual paddle event has been a local favorite. Join us this year on September 15th at the town pier. All proceeds go to the local charity of your choice. Register now to participate or make a donation.

A home at Parkie

The desolate island

It's bedtime at the station

Page 9

SOWAN Thursday October 17 1991

[Image of a map or illustration]
**OF DESPAIR!!**

(Price: $2/11 oz)

Food is shared in the dark, damp hostels.

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The weekly menu...

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Food is shared in the dark, damp hostels.
Behind Soweto's Fortress of Death

The TP has faced this call to

The TP has faced this call to

The TP has faced this call to

The TP has faced this call to

The TP has faced this call to
An inspiring moment in the so-called boiling pot

When the Nancefield Hostel asked for a thousand Peace Pledge signatures at a mass meeting, that seemed no problem to most. Indeed, it was a pleasurable occasion and an inspiring one. But it didn't feel like that at night. At mass meetings and marches, a grimy, dusty, heavy stench filled the air, and the atmosphere was not inspiring. In the words of Bernard Shaw, the world is not worth living for if you can't have a good time.

But when the Nancefield Hostel wanted to sign copies of the Peace Pledge, did they mean it? Denis Beckett and photographer Ken Costerbroek went to find out.

The scene was at Nancefield Hostel. The residents were gathered in the hostel hall, where there was a large poster that read: "Peace Train 204." The room was filled with the sound of music, and the atmosphere was charged with anticipation.

Then, a man stepped forward to the microphone and began to sing a song. The words were simple but powerful:

"Peace Train 204, coming down the line,
With a load of freedom, a load of love.
A load of justice, a load of hope,
To bring peace to all the world, to save our home.

Peace Train 204, coming down the line,
The people are waiting, the world is mine.
A land of brotherhood, a land of peace,
Where the nations live together in harmony.

"The song was sung in unison, and the residents of the hostel stood up to join in. The atmosphere was electric, and everyone was moved by the words and music.

Then, the man at the microphone spoke again. He told the story of how the Peace Pledge had been signed, and how it had become a symbol of hope for a better world. He challenged everyone present to sign the pledge and commit to peace.

"We are not just signing a piece of paper," he said. "We are signing our lives, our families, our friends. This is a commitment to peace, and it is a commitment to each other.

And so, one by one, the residents of the hostel stepped forward to sign the pledge. Each signature was a symbol of hope, of courage, of determination.

The day was long, and the weather was hot, but the mood was cheerful and the atmosphere was inspiring. Everyone was united in the cause of peace, and the sense of community was palpable.

"We are stronger together," one resident said. "When we stand together, we can overcome any obstacle.

And so it was, as the day wore on, and the sun began to set. The residents of the hostel had signed the pledge, and they had committed to peace.

The night was peaceful, and the sky was clear. The world was a better place, thanks to the courage and determination of the residents of Nancefield Hostel.

Warriors for peace - residents of Nancefield Hostel, armed with their cultural weapons after signing peace pledges at a mass meeting.
Call-up of black hostel inmates

IT was an "administrative error" that sent call-up papers to black residents of a hostel in the Vaal this week, the South African Defence Force said yesterday.

Call-up papers were received by 80 mostly Inkatha-supporting workers at Iscor's KwaMadala hostel, requesting them to attend a one-day session, the SADF said, confirming a report in the Weekly Mail.

The forms received state the purpose of the call-up as "training" and include a warning that failure to respond to a call-up is a contravention of the Defence Act.

"Instead of individual letters inviting people to a recruiting briefing, the wrong form was used," a spokesman for Witwatersrand Command said.

The intended letters were part of an recruitment drive to inform people of the benefits of volunteering for the commando system.

"This system provides for community and area protection over and above the safeguarding of national key points in this highly industrial area.

"As an integral part of the SADF, the commandos are apolitical in accordance with SADF policy and have no connection with any political party or organisation," the spokesman said.

Recipients of the call-up forms at the Iscor hostel were told they need not take any further action on the "call-up."

"The SADF regrets any inconvenience caused due to this error and will ensure that the necessary steps are taken to prevent any such recurrence," the spokesman said.

The current Defence Act makes no provision for call-ups for anyone other than white men.

Call-up papers are currently being received by scores of Citizen Force members who will patrol "trouble spots" on the Witwatersrand over the Christmas period.
SADF ‘training drive’ adds to Vaal tensions, says ANC

By Helen Grange
Pretoria Bureau

The African National Congress has called on the SA Defence Force to stop recruitment campaigns in hostels in the Vaal Triangle, calling the move “highly irresponsible and provocative.”

The ANC’s comments follow the handing out of forms to residents in and around Sebokeng last week, requesting their attendance at an SADF recruitment briefing.

The forms sent out quoted “training” as the objective, and warning that prosecution would follow non-attendance.

However, the SADF later said there had been an administrative error and that the wrong forms were distributed. It was intended that letters of invitation to a briefing be handed out.

In a statement yesterday, the ANC said “This is an area (Vaal Triangle) where there is considerable tension between township residents and hostel dwellers. Many residents have already died in attacks that have been launched from hostels.

“For the SADF to send papers to hostel dwellers as they did at the KwaMadala hostel in Sebokeng, and to start a recruitment drive is highly irresponsible and provocative.”

The question could be asked whether the SADF was now involved in a process of training and arming people who had been implicated in serious acts of violence. Such a situation could only contribute to further tension and violence, the ANC said.

“We call on the SADF to act responsibly and to immediately stop these recruitment campaigns. Let us all abide by the spirit and mechanisms of the Peace Accord and honestly work for peace in our country.”

A spokesman from Wits Command said the ANC’s comments were unfounded as there had been invitations to briefings sent to a diversity of people of different ethnic groups.

“They were only handed out after interviews had taken place.

“Of the 43 we invited, 41 reported for the briefing— and just over 50 percent of these people were hostel dwellers,” he said.

The briefings were to explain the benefits of joining the commando system and to give people the opportunity of becoming volunteers.”
Building the Nation

Impala to phase out hostels

Sowetan 21/11/91

A MAJOR housing project in the pipeline for Impala Platinum Mine is to construct 270 housing units for its employees at Thabane near Rustenburg before the end of the year.

Employees will have the opportunity to buy or rent the houses, the managing director Mr Michael McMahon, said at a ceremony where an employee was handed the keys to his new home.

For Mr Thomas Khunou, his wife Pauline and their three children, it was a dream come true when the keys were handed to them.

Khunou (73) who started work at Impala mine complex in 1979, said it was one of the greatest moments of his life to swap his small dwelling with its corrugated roof for a spanking new home.

"For my entire family the Parabloc home has been a godsend. I have no words to express my gratitude for the first decent place I have owned in the course of my whole life."

His home was offered at no cost on condition that he makes it available as a show house. This would enable his fellow employees to familiarise themselves with this type of housing.

Parabloc is the term used to describe the construction method used.

McMahon said it was the company's objective to move away from the migratory labour system whereby people were accommodated in hostels away from their families.

Instead, he added, Impala wanted to place employees in a position to acquire their own family accommodation by means of home ownership schemes. The idea was to move as fast as possible in order to achieve this objective by the end of the century.

One of the biggest constraints facing the company is the availability and affordability of land. He said that despite these constraints, they had taken a leadership role in acquiring land by enlisting the help of the Government, housing companies and building societies.
Black commando platoon is slammed by the ANC

PLANS to create a black commando platoon to be based in townships at Vanderbijlpark in the Vaal Triangle have been condemned by the African National Congress as “irresponsible and provocative.”

The South African Defence Force expects to sign up about 40 black volunteers to form the core of a “hearth and home” unit following a recruitment drive begun several weeks ago.

The men, about 20 of whom live at Iscor hostels at Sebokeng, are mostly Zulus. South Sothos, Xhosa and Tswanas are also represented, according to Major Andreas Jordaan of Witwatersrand Command, to protect their own residential areas as well as national key points and industrial installations.

In a statement yesterday, the ANC said the recruitment programme “can only contribute to further tension and violence in these communities.” The SADF, it said, should stop the recruitment campaign immediately. - Sapa
'SAF letters sent in error'

By THEMBA KHUMALO

THERE was nothing sinister in recruitment letters sent by the army to hostel inmates at Kwadala Hostel near Vanderbijlpark, Major-General Wessel Kritzinger, commanding officer of the SADF Wits Command, said this week.

Kritzinger said there was an error in the wording of the letters and the army was in fact responding to applications by 41 hostel men.

He was reacting to recent reports that the army had sent the hostel inmates letters ordering them to report for military training.

The reports triggered the ANC to warn the SADF to stop recruiting the hostel inmates. The organisation described the move as "highly provocative and irresponsible".

Kritzinger said similar letters had been sent to other applicants of all races in the Vaal townships.

"People of all race groups other than whites have been recruited on a voluntary basis into the commando system since the mid-80s. There is nothing new and sinister in this recruitment drive," Kritzinger said.

He said necessary steps had been taken to prevent a recurrence of the error.
Let Mandela go back to Transkei

ANC followers say hostel dwellers must be driven back to Natal and their accommodation destroyed because they cause all the violence.

The same should apply to Mandela if after his release he had been deported to Transkei where he comes from, there would never have been any violence in the Transvaal, except in Natal where ANC and IFP Zulus are mercilessly killing each other.

Those Zulus are stupid by having allowed themselves to be divided by Mandela into two groups. He should go and stay in Transkei and there will be peace in the Transvaal.

The squatter camps should also be destroyed as they were built by Xhosa people who came from Transkei to the Reef to look for jobs after the abolition of the influx control laws.

The ANC turns a blind eye to the squatter camps because the bulk of their supporters stay there.

All they know is to shout that hostels be destroyed. The hostels were erected long before the influx regulations were scrapped and some townships built.

We the hostel dwellers did not flock to the Reef during that time but have been living in hostels for many, many years.

We are permitted to reside and work in the Johannesburg area. The ANC supporters in the townships, the ones with big mouths, must also demand that Mandela be driven to Transkei and the squatter camps be destroyed.

Zulus are not only in Natal but everywhere in this country. We did not opt for independence like the Xhosa people.

NTABANYANA, NDEBELE Merafe Hostel, Soweto.
MIGRANT, LABOUR, SA. - T. V. L.

1992
Dispute Rages Over Eviction of Families From Mine Hostel
Hostel petrol-bombed

Two people were seriously injured when a petrol bomb was thrown into a room at the Meadowlands Hostel in Soweto early today.

Captain Joseph Ngobeni of the Soweto police said unknown attackers threw a petrol bomb into the room at the married quarters of the hostel at about 12.50 am.

Wilson Ndumo, aged about 75 and an unidentified teenager, asleep inside the house, were badly injured.

They were taken to the Baragwanath Hospital. The house was extensively damaged.

At about 3 am police patrolling the area saw two houses in Zone 1 alight. The houses were badly damaged but nobody was hurt. Three suspects were seen running in the direction of the hostel.

West Rand Bureau.
Hostel dwellers wanted in peace talks

THE ANC has called for the active involvement of hostel residents in regional peace initiatives in the wake of violence at Soweto's Meadowlands township at the weekend.

Speaking at the inauguration of the Witwatersrand-Vaal regional peace committee on Friday, ANC representative Floyd Mashele said "Most incidents of violence have been planned or orchestrated from hostels. Something has to be done."

One of the new committee's main objectives should be to investigate restructuring of the hostel system, he said.

Violent clashes in Meadowlands over the weekend, allegedly between hostel dwellers and residents, left nine dead and 31 injured. It was reported that handgrenades and AK-47 rifles were used.

Police spokesman Lt-Col Thulane Hlalgyn said yesterday violence had abated.

A statement issued by the National Peace Committee said the regional committee was established to "co-ordinate efforts to combat violence, establish local dispute resolution committees in the area and develop, with the National Peace Committee and local peace committees, strategies for socio-economic reconstruction."

Mashele said it was most important that hostel dwellers as well as political parties, regional services councils and civic organisations were involved in the peace process.

Sapa reports a top-level meeting aimed at speeding up implementation of the peace accord in Natal townships and to address violence there has been called in Durban tomorrow.

Deputy Minister of Justice, Dame Schutte is expected to attend.

In Umlazi, scene of a week of fighting — with at least eight deaths — between Unit 17 hostel dwellers and residents of the Ekuthuleni shack settlement, violence and tension continued yesterday.

At least three buildings were petrol-bombed and 30 others damaged in an attack on Unit 17 early yesterday with police intervening to prevent retaliatory attacks by hostel dwellers later.

Hundreds of policemen and soldiers, on foot and in armoured vehicles, patrolled the volatile area.
First Fathers, now the children

Senor Assistant Editor Joe Lartengo sees them history repeating itself in Middletown.

OPINION
KwaMadala sex slaves

By SOPHIE TEMA

THE notorious KwaMadala Hostel in the Vaal has been implicated in yet another major scandal in which young girls have been held captive and abused as sex slaves by hordes of lusty inmates.

So far, one of the girls has been identified as an HIV carrier while three others are pregnant.

Arrangements are to be made by a local church group to have all the victims – who managed to escape from KwaMadala – HIV tested.

The girls' ages range from 12 to 18.

Vaal residents have made shocking claims that women are often abducted in broad daylight from the taxi rank in Vereeniging, and taken to the hostel.

In one affidavit a 16-year-old girl has told how she was gang-raped by at least 16 inmates on one night.

"The experience was awful and I passed out after the 16th man," the girl said in tears.

In signed affidavits compiled by a team of lawyers a 12-year-old girl also told of her ordeal at the hands of the men.

"I cried and pleaded for mercy but the men were brutal and showed no pity at all," she said.

Most of them said they were abducted in neighbouring townships and taken to KwaMadala Hostel.

Some of the girls said that after being abducted they were taken to a house in Sebokeng's Zone Six, where they were first "doctored" to subdue them.

They said they were kept at the house for not less than three days before being transferred to KwaMadala.

City Press has obtained the names of some of the men who played a major role in the abduction and abuse of the girls.

One of the girls revealed how the gang took them on sprees in which she and other people were robbed. They managed to escape one night while the gang was out on such a mission.

The victims have not reported the incidents to the police, whom they accused of "collaborating" with their assailants.
Driven south by drought and war

There are new immigrants from Africa, not only manual workers, but also skilled specialists.

VER the past few decades, thousands of Mozambicans from the front-line states flocked to South Africa to sell their labour. They probably hoped to emerge with a squatter or two from the gold mines around Johannesburg.

Today, the dream has assumed a different shape although there are still manual workers crossing the border, there are also many people coming south to sell and buy, to study or to look for jobs with lucrative benefits.

Acquaintance of the normal documents for staying and working in South Africa is no longer seen as essential by many temporary — or permanent — African immigrants forced to migrate as a result of civil strife, drought and mass unemployment in their countries.

A short case study of people from Mozambique and Zaire, provides a multi-coloured picture of their plight.

MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambican immigrants have had a trade of their own, tiny township residents lodging about on street corners. Joseph Tumain (33) works every day saving the same tree, industriously hammering the lead from a super-market trolley full of worn shoes.

It was this trade which made them vulnerable to capture for a R50 reward paid to any local resident reporting the presence of an illegal Mozambican to a police station. “I was told that these days things have turned a bit. Police are no longer after us,” he said.

Like his fellow countrymen, he found his way into South Africa by hopping the electrified border fence after Renamo attacks on the civilised escalated in the early 1980s. He was in search of peace and a better way of life.

Immediatly after setting his foot on the other side of the fence, in 1982, he headed for a waste dump where his family lived for four years. He later moved into a case in the city, being helped by a friend from Johannesburg.

His initial residence was uncomfortable, as it was immediately being destroyed by a fire which engulfed the entire block of flats.

A neighbour helped him by providing him with a bed and a place to stay. He worked in various jobs including a factory job, but he was not satisfied with the conditions.

The neighbours were not friendly, and the locals did not trust him. He was told that he should stay away from the area.

Zaire

Rioting by government troops, looting of shops and the closure of several industrial plants led Yves Lenge (26) to migrate to South Africa to further his studies and to find a job.

On his arrival last September, Lenge — who comes from an affluent family in Kinshasa — had no work, but he was not discouraged. He was determined to make a living.

He found a job in a factory, but he was not satisfied with the conditions. He later moved to Johannesburg, where he found a job in a factory.

The factory was not a good place to work, but he was determined to make a living. He worked hard and eventually got a job in a factory which paid him well.

He was not satisfied with the conditions, and he was determined to make a living. He worked hard and eventually got a job in a factory which paid him well.

Making work for themselves

At a market in Johannesburg, an immigrant from Zaire sells cucumbers from his home country.

Photo: GUY ADAMS

To PAGE 9
SIERRA LEONE 21/2-27/2/92

Driven south by drought

South Africa’s technological advancement lured Professor John Simbo (56) to move south to gain experience in Data Processing.

After lecturing in mathematics and computer science in his home country for 15 years, Simbo went to teach at Lesotho’s Roma University in 1979, before moving to the University of Transkei. In 1989, he joined the University of Bophuthatswana.

“Although I lectured in mathematics at home, prospects for computer science were not bright because of technological backlogs. The only place in Africa for this field is South Africa,” Simbo said.

Simbo said he expects greater cooperation between South Africa and the rest of the continent, leading to exchange programmes among students and academics.

“I cannot say whether I will settle in South Africa, because I’m here because of my work. I will decide when I’m no longer working,” he said.

During his leisure Simbo plays squash or bridge or reads. He said he has settled in well, making friends among South Africans.

And although he misses the food at home, “I have no option but to settle for what is available”.

GHANA

The search for greener pastures led Evans Bithene to leave Ghana for London. Ultimately, he landed in South Africa, where he came to gain access to modern agricultural techniques.

Currently still unemployed, Bithene (53) lives in Transkei where he hopes to get a job with the National Sorghum Breeders. A delay in travel arrangements cost him a lucrative job with Bophuthatswana’s Agricultural Corporation; on his arrival last October he found someone else had been appointed to that post.

Bithene said he found the assistance rendered by the 1820 Settlers Association indispensable in helping him to establish contacts and acquire the necessary documents to enable him to find a job.

“Wherever I went, I was accorded a warm reception. The hospitality of the South African people, both white and black,” said Bithene, “has made me consider staying in this country permanently. However, this depends on finding a good job.”

Bithene said he perceived the future of South Africa to be bright.

“Latest political developments, particularly Codesa, augur very well for the country and its people. I hope Codesa will deliver the goods and South Africa will be a home for everybody.”

Meanwhile, he stays at the Umntata flat of a fellow Ghanaian immigrant, waiting for a job.
State, TPA slated for poor planning

CAROLINE HURRY.

MIDRAND management committee members are furious with the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Government over what they describe as an "abysmal lack of leadership and planning" over the squatter problem.

"I'm reaching boiling point with the TPA," said management committee chairman Dave Hudden.

"We now have a crisis on our hands. The squatters are not political footballs to be kicked around by the TPA on one hand and the white electorate on the other.

"However, we endorse the TPA's statement that every local authority should look after the accommodation requirements of the people who have employment within their municipalities.

"At least 80 percent of the Zevenfontein squatters work in Randburg, yet the Randburg Town Council has not even started making proper provision for them.

"Instead the council is trying to extend its borders into the greenbelt area. This won't work."

Mr Hudden said: "It is totally unreasonable to expect ratepayers to accommodate illegal immigrants who do not have employment and therefore turn to crime.

"The increase in crime and violence is the biggest concern of the ratepayers," he said.

Anthony Dungan, chairman of the Greenbelt Action Group, which will be part of a task team formed by the TPA to manage the areas north and north-west of Sandton, Randburg, said Midrand said the Randburg council deserved support.

"The Blubosrand project is a pioneering effort in which the principle of bringing people closer to their work is being applied for the first time."

Brave

"The Randburg council deserves our support for being brave enough, to face the challenge, even though it is being roasted by the Blubosrand community."

"The Zevenfontein squatter problem is not just related to the greenbelt. It is a larger, national problem."

"Certain people have had to face the reality more forcibly than others, such as the Watervale community in the south and areas in the Cape and Natal."

"People living north of Johannesburg have been spared this problem up until now. Now the squating situation is becoming an issue throughout the PWV area."

"Sandton is going to have to face this problem sooner or later, as they also have a formalised black community."

"At last the TPA seems to be coming to grips with the situation."

"But this is going to be a long, uphill battle. The new South Africa spells more chaos for the upper-income groups," Mr Dungan said.
Hostel of harmony

By NOMVULA KHALO

MZIMHLOPHE Women's Hostel in Soweto is different from other single-sex dwellings in the area - it is the only huge hostel complex that has not been affected by the township violence.

While scores of residents are being killed in the nearby men's hostel, the only women's complex in Soweto remains an oasis of relative tranquility for its inhabitants.

Built 24 years ago for women who came from the rural areas to work as domestic workers in Johannesburg, the hostel is now bustling with scores of women - both young and old.

Initially tenants were not allowed to bring in their spouses and children. But now the restrictions have been relaxed and children are allowed to stay with their mothers.

However, to avoid unnecessary squabbles, the tenants have decided not to allow any men to sleep at the hostel.

One resident, Nonhlanhla Nene, said: "I have been here since 1982 and I like the place."

Her only complaint was hostel overcrowding.

"Sometimes you want to take a bath and your colleague wants to use the toilet, then you encounter problems."

While they are not caught in the violence that is sweeping other hostels, they experience minor fights over washing dishes, cleaning the kitchen and bathroom.

Before the 1976 riots the complex used to be surrounded by a high fence and had a 24-hour security patrol.

CLOSE QUARTERS . . . A woman (above) in one of the jam-packed rooms in Soweto's only hostel for women. Now children (left) are allowed to live in the complex. [Pic: TLADI KHUELE]

Place of peace where men aren't allowed to sleep

Entry to the hostel by men was restricted to a lounge area situated near a hall in the middle of the hostel.

Today there is no fence around the hostel and the stern-faced "blackjack" who used to man the entrance is now a thing of the past.

However, there are problems. The place is crowded. Each of the four-roomed houses - which house six women - has three bedrooms, a bathroom and a communal kitchen.

Once a woman has been accepted as a resident, she brings her bed, pots and blankets. If she does not have a bed, the Soweto City Council provides a sleeping bag.

The women pay R12 rent a month, do their own cleaning and paint the walls of the rooms. Their post arrives at the matron's office.

"What is it like to live in a hostel?"

Getrude Mthombeni who has been a resident at the hostel since 1972 said: "Now that everybody is free to enter the premises we are afraid of opening a door in the evening, because you never know if the caller is a thief or not."

Mthombeni said: "I like staying here, it's not like staying in the yard of somebody who can tell you to leave at anytime."

Til the past 20 years Mzimhlophe hostel residents have urged authorities to incorporate the hostel into the township or turn it into family units.

For the moment, the women all have one complaint - the need for privacy.
Train attacks: three in court

THREE inmates of Soweto's Merafe Hostel yesterday appeared in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court in connection with two attacks on Johannesburg trains in which 10 people were injured last Thursday.

Mr Icam Muzobo (24), Mr Michael Mqum (26) and Mr Phumos Tshabalala (24), were arrested on Monday on charges of attempted murder.

They were remanded in custody until March 31, when a formal bail application is expected to be made.

A senior Inkhatha Freedom Party member, Mr Anthony Lamula, was questioned by police yesterday and later released.

About 200 Merafe Hostel dwellers spent the day outside the court yesterday apparently to show support for the three alleged attackers.

-Sowetan Reporter
Meadowlands trio seek order restraining SAP

By Jo-Anne Collinge

An urgent court application has been instituted for an interdict restraining members of the South African Police from taking any people and "unlawfully depositing them" in Soweto's Meadowlands hostel.

Papers have been served on the Minister of Law and Order and the Commissioner of Police for the Witwatersrand.

The applicants in the action are three Meadowlands residents who allege they were removed to the hostel by members of the SAP Internal Stability Unit at a time of intense conflict between residents and hostel-dwellers in the week of the referendum.

Testimony will be placed before the court on behalf of two of the three applicants that police who removed them to the hostel threatened that they would be killed by the inmates.
Inside the fortress of terror

THE forbidding facade of Alexandra's Madala hostel – known as M-City to residents – is often described as the first line of defense against the waves of violence that have swept through the township. The hostel, which lies nestled among the hills and forests to the north of the township, is a stark reminder of the dangers that lurk outside.

Words and pictures by JOE LOUV

"Viva Inkhata!" is written boldly on a signboard at the entrance to the hostel. The sign, which is often left unlit, serves as a constant reminder of the hostel's political leanings.

The hostel is said to be the largest of its kind in the country, with more than 20,000 residents living in its cramped quarters. The hostel's residents are predominantly young men from rural areas, who come to the city in search of work.

The hostel's residents are often targets of violence, both within the hostel and in the surrounding area. The hostel's residents are frequent targets of police raids and are often accused of violent crimes.

The hostel's most prominent resident is a man named John Dlamini, who is said to be a leader in the hostel's political activities. Dlamini is often seen wandering around the hostel, often in the company of other residents who are also known for their political activism.

Dlamini is said to be a key figure in the hostel's political activities, and is often seen carrying a gun or a knife. He is said to be a member of a gang that operates within the hostel.

The hostel's residents are often targeted by police, who frequently raid the hostel in search of suspected criminals. The hostel's residents are also said to be involved in drug trafficking, and are often accused of violent crimes.

Despite the dangers that lurk outside, the residents of the hostel remain determined to stay and fight for their rights. They are often seen protesting against the hostel's management, and are often subjected to violent attacks by the hostel's security guards.

The hostel's residents are divided in their views on the hostel's management, with some calling for change and others urging patience.

The hostel's residents are often seen carrying weapons, and are said to be prepared to fight for their rights. They are often seen arm in arm, ready to take on the hostel's management and any other threats that come their way.

The hostel's residents are often described as brave and determined, and are seen as heroes by many in the township. They are often seen carrying weapons, and are said to be prepared to fight for their rights.

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Hostel Inmates to get better homes

A portion of Power Park in Soweto will be developed by the Johannesburg City Council as a pilot project to provide family housing for hostel dwellers.

A survey by the Human Sciences Research Council last year revealed that it would be too costly to develop all existing hostels into family units.

Between 50 and 65 percent of respondents preferred any other accommodation to living in a hostel. The most important reasons for staying in the hostels were that families stayed elsewhere and that hostels were closer to work.

The council has reserved a portion of land in Power Park for township purposes. The planning directorate is busy designing a layout to enable family units to be constructed.

It will cost the council R2 million to service the about 130 sites available.

Preliminary studies have been undertaken to determine the feasibility and cost estimates of converting accommodation at the Nancefield Hostel.

The council concluded that it would not be financially viable to convert existing hostels into family units. Only 20 percent of the hostel dwellers could be accommodated in the converted dwellings.
Family units to be built for hostel dwellers

The HHC, under the auspices of the National Housing Council, has started the construction of family units in each hospital. The council believes that the need for affordable housing in the area is immense, and the project aims to address this need. The construction of the units is expected to provide a much-needed solution for the homeless population in the area. The units will be equipped with all necessary amenities and will be available for occupancy soon.
Dismantle the hostels - SCA

THE Soweto Civic Association last night called for the hostels to be completely dismantled rather than converted into family units.

This change of attitude was voiced by SCA executive member Mr Kgabisi Mosunku at a press conference in Johannesburg where the resumption of the Soweto rent boycott was announced.

Mosunku said it was clear that hostels "are the centre of violence" in both Alexandra and Soweto.

Their role had been discussed at the recent general council meeting of the SCA and "we are convinced that in order for violence to cease, the hostels must be emptied".

The SCA had abandoned the position that they should be transformed and felt that inmates should be settled in ordinary township housing.

"Hostel structures lend themselves to being turned into barracks which are housing vigilantes who are directed to maim, kill, rob and - indeed - rape," he said.
Refugees take over offices

By JOE MDHLELA

DISPLACED residents have literally ejected Alexandra Council administrative workers, including the town clerk, from their offices.

The action by the residents who fled attacks from hostel dwellers during the past three weeks has resulted in administration at the council offices coming to a standstill.

Chairman of the Alexandra Peace Forum the Rev Busani Ngubane yesterday confirmed that service at the council had come to a stop.

Ngubane said the displaced people were also using the council offices to protest against the hostel dwellers who are occupying their houses near Madala Hostel.

"The authorities have so far failed to stop the illegal squatting by hostel dwellers of houses belonging to residents. The town clerk was not available for comment yesterday."
Workshop tries to defuse violence

REGULAR visits to the hostels with an aim to create harmony and interaction between township and hostel residents could be the answer to the violence that is sweeping the Reef townships.

This is the conviction of a group that attended the two-day Sowetan/Pick 'n Pay Parenting Workshop held in Soweto at the weekend.

Participants agreed that part of the problem between hostel and township residents was caused by a gap that existed between the two groups.

It was resolved that cultural and sports events should be organised in order to make peace with hostel "residents", as they resolved to call them.

Former Sowetan Woman of the Year Ms Fikile Mlotshwa explained that in 1990 she and other women under the Interdenominational Prayer Women's League had visited the Meerfe Hostel when fighting was at its height in that area. She said there was no hostility from the hostel residents and they listened to what the women had to say.

"I think we can do this successfully even now," Mlotshwa said.

Another participant, Ms Philipne Lekalakala, suggested that referring to people who live in hostels as "hostel dwellers" and those who live in the townships as "residents" was discriminatory and could be another contributing factor to the tension. She recommended they be called hostel "residents".

Other issues discussed during the workshop were education, including the effects of teenage pregnancy, career guidance, parental involvement in children's lives and co-ordination of services, projects and programmes in Soweto.

The Soweto workshop was the first of a series that will be held in Bloemfontein, Pietersburg, Daveyton, Pretoria, Carletonville and the Vaal Triangle.
Soweto hostels ‘to stay’

THE Soweto City Council would not close down hostels under its jurisdiction as that would cause more social strife, spokesman Mojalefa Moselane said yesterday.

Moselane was responding to a call by the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) for the closure of all hostels. SCA officials Kgabane Moselane recently told a meeting of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber that hostels should be emptied as violence emanated from them.

Moselane said while it was acknowledged that single-sex hostels were "an anomaly" in the present political situation, Soweto hostels would not be emptied as such a move could spark more violence.

He said the council intended converting the hostels into family units and all interested parties were welcome to come forward with suggestions. Women and children already made up about 30% of the hostel population in the heart, he said.

However, many hostel dwellers were not in favour of changing the buildings. He said.

West Rand Hostel Residents' Association vice-chairman Joseph Kungbeka said yesterday he had not as yet come across hostel residents who were in favour of conversion.

East Rand Hostel Residents' Association chairman Zilakele Mlombo said the civic organisations should not interfere with the affairs of the hostel.

"We are opposed to the conversion of our hostels into family units. Most of the hostel residents' families have homes in the rural areas, which they are not prepared to leave," he said.

Meanwhile, the Alexandra Civic Organisation said yesterday it supported demands for the closure of the township's Madala Hostel -- an Inkatha stronghold and an unrest flashpoint.

-- 24 flights for Easter weekend --
MK denies a plot to attack hostels

MEMBERS of Umkhonto we Sizwe's PWV regional headquarters yesterday denied they had taken a decision to attack Inkatha Freedom Party hostels.

But they told the Goldstone Commission of Pretoria yesterday they could not guarantee absolute control over MK members.

"Anybody can do his own thing without the mandate of the MK leadership," Mr Oupa Monareng, MK political commissar, told a hearing chaired by Mr Justice Richard Goldstone.

The hearing was convened after two police informers said they had attended an MK meeting at Shell House in Johannesburg last month, where a decision was taken to attack IFP hostels in four Transvaal areas.

Monareng said members at the meeting suggested MK attack the hostels, but the leadership's response was that the armed struggle had been suspended. MK had become more involved in mass action.

Mr Sidney Mbolo, the regional headquarters' chief of personnel, told the hearing the Grooto Schuur and Pretoria Minutes and the DF Malan agreement bound MK to suspend its action and that MK had no right to commit soldiers to action that would be detrimental to these accords - Sapa.
Diepkloof

a hostel of good vibes

By SOPHIE DEEMA

DIEPKLOOF Hostel near Baragwanath in Soweto looks like any other hostel.

Most of the windows are broken, the walls are cracked and the ceilings are pocked with holes.

But it is different from other Reef hostels because the inmates and residents in the neighbouring houses have a good relationship.

So chummy are they that the residents turn to the hostel dwellers for protection when they need it.

City Press spoke to a group of women chatting near the hostel who were full of praise for the hostel dwellers, saying they lived in harmony with them.

"We regard them as our brothers," said one woman.

"When their wives and children come to visit we take them into our homes," said another.

The hostel dwellers once stepped in to help residents who were being threatened by other hostel dwellers.

"It was amazing because we know most of them are IFP supporters," the woman said.

IFP youth leader, Thembu Khoza, said this was normal.

"People should live in harmony," said Khoza.

"Diepkloof hostel is an example of how resident and hostel dwellers can live together without bloodshed."
FOCUS ON

VIOLENCE

Despite all the horror people are living here

The word "hostel" often conjures up images of violence. But after spending a day at Meadowlands Hostel in Soweto ABBEY MAKOE discovered that despite all the scare stories about the hostels, the people living there are also human. MBUZENI ZULU took the pictures.

IVY HLATSHWAYO: One of the many women cooking for boyfriends or husbands with whom they live in the hostel.

This is home to thousands.

Population About 4000
Political affiliation Inkatha
Number of children: Estimated at 1000
Number of the unemployed: Estimated at 1500

Source: Humphrey Ndlovu, Sowetan's social editor.

When we identified ourselves as Sowetan journalists, all were eager to talk to us - to give their side of the story. Men, women and children complained about mushrooming violence at Meadowlands.

"There is fear everyday," said one hostel dweller. "You never know when it's going to come."

The Sowetans we interviewed are tired of violence and are looking for solutions, but they are also concerned about their safety.

"We are struggling to live," said one woman. "We need help from the authorities to make our lives better."

When we asked why they didn't report the violence to the police, they said they were afraid of retaliation.

"If we report the violence, they will come and arrest us," said another woman. "We are living in fear everyday."

We visited the hostel and saw the effects of violence firsthand. The streets were deserted, and the tired faces of the inhabitants were a stark reminder of the violence that has plagued the area.

"I am an ordinary man. Go speak to the politicians. But if you can, please bring me some food, sometimes?"

CAPIUS HLABISA

"I am an ordinary man. Go speak to the politicians. But if you can, please bring me some food, sometimes?"

CAPIUS HLABISA (54) is unemployed, but he and his wife have three children. They have only one bed, and they sleep in shifts. He has never seen a gun.

"I belong to Inkatha. I have been a member for many years. I have never been violent."

He has also been a member of the hostel council, but he was removed because of his political views.

"I am a member of Inkatha, and I have never been violent."

"I am an ordinary man. Go speak to the politicians. But if you can, please bring me some food, sometimes?"

Tomorrow -- we speak to the hostel leaders.
IFP under fire at violence hearing

SOWETAN CORRESPONDENT


Several witnesses said previously peaceful townships became flashpoints after Inkatha amassed supporters at hostels, which virtually amounted to using them as military bases.

The evidence, which is yet to be tested, will be challenged later. What the commission was doing was simply listening.

The purpose was to get an overview of violence in three areas: Alexandra, Soweto and the Vaal Triangle, and then to decide how best to investigate it.

Mr Obed Bapela, ANC branch secretary in Alexandra, began with violence in March, April and August last year and this year each of these flare-ups had been preceded by a massing of Inkatha members in the hostels in Alexandra, he said.

He supplied details on some of the 9,000 people he estimated had been uprooted by the violence, including people living near Madala hostel in Alexandra whose homes had been taken over by Inkatha supporters.

The commission ordered that their identities be kept secret until it was established whether they would give evidence under the protection of the commission.

"We are strongly opposed to the notion of any particular area being declared exclusive to any political organisation," he said.

He also said he saw cultural weapons as dangerous...
Doing it for the kids

Thulani Ngubo, spokesman for the hostel dwellers, speaks:

Since arriving in the metropolitan city, Ngubo worked for three different employers and always lived at Meadowlands Hostel.

He supports his parents by sending them money back home. During public holidays he takes the opportunity to travel with his wife and child to his place of birth.

And his recipe for peace is firm - it does not involve top politicians, he stresses.

The war, as he describes the mayhem in the area, involves grassroots members in both camps and, therefore, they are the ones who are likely to bring about an acceptable solution.

Ngubo does not see the involvement of African National Congress president Mr Nelson Mandela and Inkatha leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi as paramount to the achievement of stability in the area.

To him, it is people who are dying who have the capacity to restore order in Meadowlands.

"And God willing, this is one dream I hope to realize soon," says the slightly-built, bespectacled Ngubo (27), his moustache neatly trimmed and dark hair well combed.

In fact, he looks like an accountant. He says the SA Police have to be called in to intervene between residents and the hostel dwellers - as mediators.

Thulani Ngubo's love for children and his concern for their future is the driving force behind his quest for peace in this troubled area.

A self-confessed Inkatha Freedom Party supporter and spokesman for the residents of the troubled Meadowlands Hostel, Ngubo spends most of his time in his flat on the outskirts of the area. He has only 200 metres from the hostel in the nearby township of Killarney.

None of the 1 000 odd children living at the hostel has been allowed to go to school because township residents have threatened to kill hostel children, says Ngubo, pointing in the direction of Killarney.

"These children are the future leaders. We can kill one another for as long as we want, but we mustn't let the war affect their education," he says, throwing his hands in the air as if in despair.

"What's wrong with us?" asks Ngubo, the Natal-born man who arrived in Johannesburg in 1981.

'We mustn't let the war affect the children's education.'
Doing it for survival?

Dumisane Dubazile, a warlord at the hostel, gives his view:

The intriguing thing about Dumisane Dubazile is that he is always wearing his big and heavy overcoat. And he refuses to say what lurks underneath it.

But, with the knowledge that Dubazile is a self-confessed "warlord", one can only guess what goes with his secrecy.

His friends inside the hostel, who have no doubt have great respect for Inkosi 'Enyama (black chef) as he is known in the hostel, said he had never taken off the coat.

When he talks about the current violence his voice fills with anger "For as long as we are attacked by those people (township residents), we shall hit back, twice as hard."

Asked if he was scared of coming to Johannesburg a year ago, knowing there was a "war", Dubazile appears perplexed at the question and asks "If your brothers were being killed somewhere wouldn't you go and help them?" One of his three brothers, who also live in hostels, had just been killed at Dube Hostel, a few hours before this interview with Dubazile.

These are the bitter outpourings of a tall, strong and angry "warlord" who speaks no language other than Zulu.

His pronunciation of some English words baffles me - he pronounces the letter "R" as "L". To his mind, Meadowlands Hostel dwellers face many "problems."

He left his Natal home a year ago in search of work in Johannesburg. Until now, he remains unemployed but still hopes that some day the sun will shine on him, too.

He left his wife and three children at home. But how does he survive in competitive Johannesburg?

Dubazile said he received money from friends inside the hostel. He does not smoke and the only kind of alcohol he drinks is sorghum beer. He calls it "home (Natal) beer", with conspicuous pride.

But Nkos 'Enyama still has hope. He always rises at 5am. When going to "market" - his term for looking for a job - he kicks off his blankets as early as 4am, he says.

He often looks for casual work within the hostel or maybe at the shops "so that I can buy some bread and sugar."

His friend, with whom he shares a two-roomed unit, buys groceries and sometimes gives him pocket money. He and neighbours drank a lot of sorghum beer during the day.

Dubazile is obviously bitter about the apparent lack of parental control in the townships, referring to the neighbouring Killarney, Mzum-blope and Meadowlands.

His hatred for township residents, who he says treat hostel dwellers like sub-humans, is clear.

He has taken an active part in confrontations between his fellow-dwellers and township residents, but would not elaborate.

One thing is certain. He does not intend going back to Natal, at least not now, he says with a wry smile, his snow-white, well-arranged teeth surfacing as the left and right cheeks pull in different directions.

Quietly, he moves towards the tavern, where residents meet for merrying and drowning the violence blues.
Two hostel leaders differ about the on-going violence. Give peace a chance, says one. No, its war, says the other. ABBEY MAKOE spoke to them and went back to Meadowlands Hostel yesterday in the wake of yet another grenade attack.

Mr Ronnie Mpande (63) was going to collect his pension yesterday. He did not get there instead he collected five stab wounds after an encounter with four youths when he crossed Vincent Road, the boundary between Meadowlands township and the hostel where he lives.

The youths stabbed Mpande twice in the throat, once in the back and twice in the stomach.

His neighbour, Mrs Lizzy Nduma, ran to assist first aid but was shot at. She was lucky to escape unharmed.

By late yesterday, many old people inside the hostel could not leave the premises to collect their monthly pensions. They live on the side of the hostel adjacent to "Death Road", as Vincent Road has come to be known.

Pangas, knives, handgrenades, spears, iron bars and guns are the normal weapons in the on-going battles between Meadowlands Hostel dwellers and residents of Killarney, Mzimhlophe and Meadowlands townships.

Pensioners on both sides are now caught in the crossfire.

The location of the hostel units makes them vulnerable to attacks.

The main fear of the hostel folk is the sporadic lobbies of amazimbane, a tel term for a handgrenade, by township residents in their dwellings.

A pensioner, who screamed for help as Mpande lay on the ground near "Death Road", lashed out at the apparent failure of parents to control the youth in the townships.

MaKhumalo, not her real name, came up with her own proposals for ending the violence in the area.

She said the Government had "better bring back the Section 10 law", under which unemployed people roaming the streets could be detained.

She said hostel children did not attend school in the township because they feared for their lives while township children stayed away from school voluntarily.

Like many of her neighbours, MaKhumalo's main fear was of another izambane being thrown at her home.

"This violence is no longer politically motivated. It is no longer the ANC and Inkatha that are at each other's throats. The whole thing has been taken over by thugs and gangs mushrooming in the township," MaKhumalo said.

Tomorrow — Township youth explain their role in the violence.
Strong support for Inkatha

‘Good hostel’ a secret base?

IT SEEMED too good to be true — a “good” hostel in Soweto where the local residents and the hostel dwellers lived in perfect harmony and where the residents actually liked having the hostel dwellers around.

After my previous experiences with the notorious Madala Hostel in Alexandra, where the hostel dwellers and local residents were in a virtual state of perpetual war, I would have to see this to believe it.

Stories of residents living in perfect harmony proved so unlikely that reporter JOE LOUW just had to find out. His trip to the area unearthed the unexpected and a good measure of hostility.

Of all the single men’s hostels in the PWV area, Diepkoof Extension Hostel seemed, on the surface anyway, to be a rare exception.

During the day, school children freely cross-cossed the hostel grounds on their way to and from school. Older girls and women are often seen socialising with inmates.

Numerous Diepkoof residents were emphatic in their praise of the peace they have been enjoying for the past years.

Attempting to find out how this apparent modern miracle was possible, I decided to investigate Diepkoof Extension Hostel and found a very different side to the story.

When I entered the hostel one day last week, I assumed that, given the chummy relationship described to me by residents, most of the hostel dwellers would be friendly and hospitable.

Wrong.

Groups of men gathered in a square near the hostel’s beer hall were definitely not friendly. They were sulky and wouldn’t answer questions. They merely pointed in the direction of the “office” where, they said, my questions would be answered.

At the communal hall a man, using a megaphone, was calling hostel dwellers to a meeting.

Rebuffed

In the dusk, groups of men, many of them armed with so-called “traditional weapons”, sticks, knobkerries and sharpened metal rods arrived from their bungalows.

My attempt to attend the meeting was immediately rebuffed by five hefty men to whom I had been referred to — they were supposed to be the “residents’ committee”. I was gruffly ordered to leave after being told to apply to the town office of Inkatha.

The next morning at the rent office, I was again referred to the IFP — I was informed “control the hostel”.

Another informant, who refused to give me any personal details, then related to me what he said was “the truth about this
Deep, deep trouble in Diepmeadow

DIEPMEADOW Town Clerk David Mabalane has revealed that the Soweto City Council is in the process of attempting to repossess the Dieploof Extension Hostel which he claims was “fraudulently and corruptly” leased two years ago.

In April this year the council unilaterally cancelled the 1990 lease agreement with the Ivory Tusk Consortium.

The Agreement had been signed on the council’s behalf by the now suspended Town Clerk JF de Jager and the late Mayor of Diepmeadow Moses Khumalo.

Mabalane also revealed that as a result of investigations carried out by the present Soweto Council and the Transvaal Provincial Administration into fraud, bribery, corruption and misconduct of the previous council, several top council officials had been suspended in March this year.

They were Town Clerk De Jager, Housing Director Jooste Mothapo, Management Committee chairman Frederick Flirt and two legal advisors, S Monyatsi and S Manhoko.

The council’s chief legal advisor, Aldred Mahappy, revealed that other allegations not related to the Ivory Tusk deal currently under investigation included misappropriation of council funds involving millions of rand and the theft of council cheques to the value of R3.2 million.

He said investigations found that the Ivory Tusk Consortium was in fact not a legally registered company, and showed the Saturday Star documents to back up this claim.

The lease had purported to transfer the entire complex of the Dieploof Hostel—consisting of the land and 345 housing units—all for the sum of R802 500.

According to Mahappy, not only did Ivory Tusk not tender for the hostel, but the council never received any payments from the company.

One part of the contract specified that Ivory Tusk was supposed to upgrade the hostel and turn it into family sectional units. None of these improvements had, been made according to Mabalane.

Godfrey Mokgoatjana, the council’s new chairman told the Saturday Star that he “went public” with the facts of corruption and fraud because he did not want the present council “tarred with the same brush” as the previous council.

Trespassing

He also revealed that the council had asked the Transvaal provincial authorities to launch an “Article 3” investigation into the previous council’s activities.

Mahappy reported that the council had attempted this week to repossess the offices at the hostel but that workmen sent there to change locks refused to go into the hostel without police protection.

“Police are telling us the matter is in abeyance until they get a court order,” said Mahappy, “But we fail to see why that is necessary.”

The council has also demanded back R1.2 million in rents collected by Ivory Tusk from residents of the hostel and threatened to lay charges of trespassing against the consortium unless it immediately vacated the premises.
FOCUS

Hani recalls days of ‘paranoiac ANC’

PARANOIA and hysteria in the ranks of the ANC about government’s ability to infiltrate it before it was unbanned resulted in innocents being detained in prison camps, former Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) chief-of-staff Chris Hani has admitted in a magazine interview.

Hani is reported by the latest edition of Work in Progress as saying about 18 or 19 MK members found guilty by a tribunal of taking part in a mutiny against superiors in Angola in 1983 were executed.

At his request, the ANC leadership had stepped in and stopped further executions.

Speaking about ANC detention camps, Hani said one of the innocents detained in the mid-80s was national executive committee member Pallo Jordan, for making a derogatory remark about methods used by the ANC’s security department. Jordan was detained in June 1983 for six weeks after criticizing the security infrastructure in a private conversation.

“...And that critical voice reached the ears of security, and because security was a law unto itself, Comrade Jordan was picked up and detained for a few days,” he said.

Hani said the climate at the time, when “the regime” was destabilizing the ANC, killing its leaders and assassinating commanders of MK, had created a situation of overall suspicion.

When 60% of cadres sent to infiltrate SA were either arrested or killed, sometimes the wrong impression was drawn that those who handled the operations were working for the enemy, he said.

“People began to lose a balanced approach in terms of combating the infiltration of the ANC by the regime. That situation actually caused problems where, in my own view, the innocent and the guilty were sometimes lumped together.”

Asked about several mutinies that took place in camps in Angola, Hani said he had been summoned to solve the mutinous situation. Cadres mutinied over the deployment of MK members against Unita in Angola, and not the apartheid regime, and refused to take orders.

“They actually took their weapons, took trucks and virtually took over our transit camp in Viana, in Luanda.”

When they refused to stop their actions, Angolans were called in to help disarm them. They were disarmed and were sent back to camps of the ANC, Hani said.

Another mutiny took place a few months later, and although Hani said he was in favour of dialogue with the mutineers, he had “reached the end of my tether” when they killed several key commanders in one camp called Bango, and took over the camp. Bango was taken back by force and the mutineers were brought before a tribunal, of which Hani was not a part. Some were sentenced to death and executed.

On a new security force, Hani said “I would like a situation where a security apparatus is answerable to Parliament. He added “I would favour, for instance, a parliamentary committee to oversee the security apparatus.”

Bitter hostel debate continues

A FEW years ago hostel and township residents used to party together. Now they are enemies.

Residents say relationships with hostel residents started deteriorating in 1990 when violence rocketed in Roedtown.

They perceive hostels as the epicentre of violence Civic organisations — such as the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) and the Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) — have echoed that sentiment.

SCA official Kgabu Mosobu told a recent meeting of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber that hostels should be “emptied” as they were breeding grounds for violence.

The civic organisations want the hostels converted into family units to allow migrant workers to live with their families.

However, this would be costly, and few hostel residents can afford to buy homes.

Soweto City Council spokesman Moja-
Advises Goldstone Secure all hostels

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The Goldstone Commission was established by the government in 1998 to investigate allegations of state-sponsored corruption and human rights abuses during the apartheid era. The commission was chaired by Judge Sir John Goldstone, a British judge, and its mandate was to investigate the role of the South African Security Police (SAP) in the country's political and social landscape. The commission's findings were released in 2003, and its report was widely regarded as a seminal document in the country's efforts to come to terms with its past.

In the commission's final report, Judge Goldstone emphasized the importance of accountability and transparency in ensuring a fair and just society. He highlighted the need for a truly independent commission, free from political interference, to investigate and report on past abuses. The commission's findings were considered controversial at the time, with some organizations and individuals accusing it of being biased or ineffective. However, the commission's work was instrumental in holding individuals and institutions accountable for past abuses and in promoting a culture of truth and reconciliation in South Africa.

The Goldstone Commission's recommendations were widely adopted by the South African government, and its work continues to have a significant impact on the country's political and social landscape. The commission's legacy is a reminder of the importance of independent inquiry and the need for a just and democratic society.

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**Related Keywords:**
- Goldstone Commission
- South African Security Police
- Truth and Reconciliation
- Political Accountability
- Human Rights
- Independence of Inquiry
Hostels: places of refuge or barracks?

Township violence has often pitted the poorest of the poor against one another, hostel dwellers and squatters. The violence is made more tragic by the fact that many squatters are expelled hostel inmates. The Independent Board of Inquiry has examined the role of the hostels in the fighting. PATRICK LAURENCE reports.

HOSTELS have been at the centre of the bloodletting in Reef townships since July 1990, serving either as barracks from which to launch attacks or as fortresses from which to resist attacks.

Whether they are regarded as a threat or a refuge is determined by the perspective of the viewer from the outside they tend to be seen as a scourge but from the inside they are often experienced as a haven.

Kgabi Moek Phut, of the Soweto Civic Association, says, "For the violence to cease, the hostels must be emptied (they have) been turned into barracks for vigilantes who are directed to maim, kill, rob and indeed rape."

Safana Mabuka, of the Inkatha Freedom Party, replies, "It is our conviction that the war against hostels is not a war..."
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Kgbasti Mosekutu, of the Soweto Civic Association, says: “For the violence to cease, the hostel must be emptied... (They have) been turned into barracks for vigilantes who are directed to maim, kill, rob and indeed rape.”

Batana Mazibuko, of the Inkatha Freedom Party, reports: “It is our conviction that the war against hostels is not a war for peace but a war for ANC supremacy.”

The role of the hostels in the violence is examined by the Independent Board of Inquiry (IBI) in its report, Fortresses of Fear.

Since July 1989, there has been a war ignited after clashes between IFP and ANC supporters in Sebenoeng, where more than 600 attacks have been launched from hostels, resulting in more than 1,500 deaths and nearly 3,700 injuries, the IBI report says.

The report describes incidents as “conservative for two reasons: they are based solely on attacks recorded in the media, and then only when ’hostel dwellers have been positively identified as participating in the attacks’.

Attacks have been launched from hostels controlled by IFP or ANC forces, according to the report.

Nearly all hostels in Johannesburg, Soweto and townships on the East and West Rand are controlled by the IFP, the report says.

It offers no information on attacks from two ANC-controlled hostels in Sebenoeng but notes that inmates of the two hostels, Kwalimnina and Madala were “attacked by IFP members” as opposed to outside reinforcements.

A report describes how these two hostels came to be ANC strongholds or comment on IFP allegations that men were driven out by superior forces after fighting started in July 1989.

IFP control of hostels in the Witwatersrand is the result of a policy of assimilation and expulsion, the report contends.

The IBI in Kadiogo on the West Rand: “It was decided at an IFP meeting in August 1989 to remove all non-IFP members from the hostel.” Referring to hostels on the East Rand, it says “All non-Inkatha members were forcibly removed from the hostels.”

The report provides an indication of the extent to which the hostel serves as an army depot or even arm factories. Between July 1980 and April 1992 56 AK-47 rifles were recovered and 16 pistols were seized from hostels.

The report again labels its figures conservative noting a statement by Deputy Law and Order Minister Johan Schepers that nearly 250 AK-47s and just under 250 homemade weapons were seized nationwide from IFP and ANC members in the four months ending on April 30.

Many IFP hostels - there are more than 30 on the Witwatersrand - are controlled by “warlords”, the report says.

It defines a warlord as a person who is “in a position of power and commands respect from the predominantly rural people occupying the hostels”.

One of the techniques used by the “warlords” to enlist fighters into their bands is to tell hostel inmates that the Zulu nation is under threat.

The inference is that most inmates are Zulu-speakers, the expulsion of non-IFP members having excluded most men who are not Zulu.

Most but not all according to the report, some non-Zulus, mainly Vendas and Shangaans, have been persuaded and/or coerced into joining the IFP and acknowledging the leadership of the warlords.

The warlords are a law unto themselves and refuse to obey Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the report avers. “When Ulundi has attempted to intervene to end the violence, the warlords have told hostel dwellers to ignore Buthelezi.”

There is no easy solution to the problems posed by the hostels and the alienation of their inmates. Most signs to dismantle the institutions will be met by fierce resistance from the hostel people.

The report quotes the present observation of sociologists Mike Morris and Doug Hindson that the most exploited section of black society, migrant workers, have been most threatened by the demise of apartheid.

The disintegration of apartheid signals the end of migrant labour and hostels a development which hostel dwellers see as “the destruction of their entire urban survival base” rather than their salvation from drudgery and poverty.
'No!!!' to hostel renovation

By MONWABISI CJ PENNY NOMADOLO

IN spite of outraged cries of "No!" from residents, the notorious single men's hostel in KwaThema will soon be renovated.

Residents claim that during pitched battles last year Xhosa-speaking migrant workers were driven out of the hostel by heavily armed IFP impi. They also say that 10 residents were killed by hostel inmates in a revenge attack last year after an Inkatha man was beaten by angry residents while he was trying to rape a woman near the hostel. A detailed report of the incident was published in City Press.

KwaThema City Council town clerk Stephen Muller told City Press that the agreement to renovate the hostel and turn other sections of it into family units was reached last year between the council and the now ousted Civic Association, but the agreement "still stands".

"The TPA was providing the money for the upgrading," Muller said.

He added that the present inmates could continue to live in the hostel when the renovations were finished.

At an emotional meeting called by the interim committee last Sunday at the local stadium, residents vowed that they would not allow the renovations to go on.

They jeered and heckled speakers, and demanded to be consulted.

A spokesman for the committee, Bangilizwe Soko, said the decision entered into by the ousted civic was not binding, and as it had not been mandated by the committee "we cannot rubber-stamp it".

He said the community did not want hostels. "Township people have been attacked by hostel-dwellers, and there is no certainty that that attacks will not be continued."

City Press visited the hostel this week, and found it had deteriorated to unacceptable levels. Families are staying there although this is illegal. Businesses nearby have complained of many break-ins, and put the blame on hostel-dwellers.

Residents have similar complaints.

The Minister of Local Government and National Housing, Leon Wessels, announced during his Budget vote on May 14 that almost R295-million was to be spent on converting and upgrading hostels.
Horror tales of ‘base of violence’

By Johannes Ngcobo and Mabilele Sompela

HORRIFIC stories have emerged about a Vaal Triangle hostel that has allegedly become a base where attacks against key ANC activists are planned by elements of Inkatha, the police and hit squads.

This startling picture was painted at a press conference this week by four youths who were abducted to the Iscor-owned hostel where they were assaulted and offered money to attack ANC officials.

The youths claim their abductors took them to the Kwamadala Hostel where policemen assisted Inkatha members in planning the attacks.

One of the youths, Mr Mandla Mihlwele, from Sebokeng, says he was taken to Room 5 at the Kwamadala Hostel and questioned about township comrades’ guns.

He tells a harrowing story of an activist from Sharpeville who was decapitated, had his heart taken out and private parts removed.

Mihlwele believes his abductors mistook him for a friend who was recently charged with illegal possession of arms.

He alleges that he slept at the hostel that night and witnessed “terrible beatings” and the looting of residents’ homes in nearby townships.

Mihlwele escaped from the hostel on May 23 and reported his abduction to the Violence Monitoring Group and community organisations.

He says that he knows the men who abducted him.

Mr David Babe, another youth, says he was recruited for Inkatha in October 1991 by an Inkatha member known as Kgethe.

Babe alleges that when he arrived at Kwamadala Hostel he was accused of spying for township activists. He was assaulted and stabbed in his chest with an assegai.

Another abductee, Mr Saul Tsotsi, claims he was asked to attack the homes of ANC PWV deputy secretary Mr Bavumile Vilakazi and a relative, clan SACP executive member Mr Saul Tsotsi.

“Tsotsi offered me R2,350 to attack Bavumile Vilakazi and Saul Tsotsi’s houses and R6,000 to attack three schools,” Tsotsi says in an affidavit.

He was told he would be given handgrenades to use in the attacks.

Lawyers investigating their allegations say Tsotsi was given photographs of white men who visit the Kwamadala Hostel regularly and identified “Tus”, who is known to be a policeman.

Vaal Triangle police spokesperson Captain Piet van Deventer said police were aware of the affidavit made by Mr Mosotho Tsotsi and were investigating charges of assault and abduction.

A common thread in the claims is the collusion of white men in planning the attacks on ANC members and the use of walkie-talkies during their abductions.

Iscor management has denied that they house Inkatha warlords and vigilantes at the Kwamadala Hostel which is at the centre of claims of police collusion in the Vaal violence.
Police deny accusations at Mlangeni's inquest

SUSAN RUSSELL

A POLICE officer investigating the death of ANC lawyer Bheki Mlangeni, killed last year by a booby-trapped cassette player, denied in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday that there had been an attempt to source the origin of the device as far away from SA as possible.

Capt André Kritzinger made the denial during cross-examination at an inquest on Mlangeni.

Mlangeni was killed on February 13 last year when he activated the device at his home.

The cassette player and a tape marked “Evidence of hit squads” had originally been posted to policeman Dirk Coetsee in Lusaka, where he had taken refuge with the ANC after making public his claims about the existence of police hit squads.

Coetsee left the package at the post office in Zambia because he did not have the money to claim it and it was redirected to Mlangeni, who was listed as the sender.

Coetsee has claimed the booby-trapped cassette player was sent to him by former colleagues at the police force Vlakplaas from where, he alleges, the hit squads operated.

The inquest court heard yesterday that the yellow sticker on the package was one used internationally to facilitate a uniform postal process but was not used in SA, which had been excluded because of sanctions and other isolationist policies against the country.

Counsel acting for Mlangeni’s family, G Rastenbach, suggested to Kritzinger that a statement obtained by the police from a post office employee stating that the sticker was not used in SA was an attempt by the police investigators to distance the origin of the device as far away from SA as possible.

Kritzinger denied this.

Hostel residents warn of revenge

WILSON ZWANE

DEMOLITION of a hostel in Dobsonville, Soweto, by township residents had set the stage for a “bloody confrontation”, West Rand Hostel Residents’ Association chairman Joseph Kubheka warned yesterday.

On Sunday, Dobsonville residents used earthmoving equipment to demolish sections of the local hostel, while the majority of the Inkatha-supporting inmates were attending an Inkatha Youth Brigade rally at Jabulani Amphitheatre.

Residents commandeered an earthmover and a road leveller and crashed through the razor wire, smashing into the hostel and tearing open four rooms.

Kubheka said since police had displayed a disregard for the safety of hostel residents, the time had come for hostel residents to take the law into their own hands and defend themselves against attacks from township residents.

“We will use whatever means at our disposal to repel attacks directed at us,” Kubheka said.

He added that the development would lead to a “bloody confrontation” between township residents, bent on demolishing hostels, and hostel dwellers.

Soweto police spokesman Lt-Col Tiebele Hgalagana said police would do everything they could to protect lives and property.

PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz

Winnie’s clique faces a hearing

ANC Women’s League members who demonstrated in support of former regional chairman Winnie Mandela last month will face a disciplinary committee soon, ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus said yesterday.

The league’s entire regional executive was suspended after a memorandum was presented at ANC headquarterers complaining that Mandela was being victimised by “faceless” congress leaders who had made “unauthorised” allegations about her private life to the media.

Asked if Mandela would face the committee, Niehaus said he could not comment.

— Sapa
Battle chants ring out at KwaMadala

ZULU war cries rang out on Friday from a migrant workers' hostel whose inmates are accused of carrying out SA's worst township massacre in years.

Chants of "Usuthu" reverberated from behind the thick concrete walls of the KwaMadala (Place Of The Old Men) Hostel after 200 policemen and troops rolled up in 15 armoured cars to hunt for the killers.

"Clear the area. This could get violent," a police officer told reporters.

Police and troops wearing bulletproof vests and carrying automatic rifles milled nervously around the entrance to the hostel. Journalists fell back across the road.

Inkatha's Vitus Mvelase arrived at the hostel on Friday to facilitate police access.

He went inside with a list of people the police wanted to question over the massacre. He left empty-handed, saying the inmates refused to allow a search or arrest.

Battle hymns

It was impossible to see inside the compound, but deep-throated war chants, battle hymns and the air-trembling sound of hundreds of spears beating against hide shields soared from behind the walls.

Mvelase returned half an hour later with an Inkatha lawyer, an unidentified white woman.

He told reporters the inmates were prepared only to be questioned by police inside the hostel, in the presence of their legal representative.

He went inside with the lawyer and a bodyguard. The police and troops waited outside for developments.

An Interim Crisis Committee (ICC), including representatives of the ANC and the IFP, has been established to monitor violence in the Vaal Triangle.

According to a statement, the ICC was formed at urgent meetings in Vereeniging and Sebokeng on Friday by the Vaal Local Dispute Resolution Committee, established under the National Peace Accord.

The ICC said it would be on stand by throughout the weekend.

"It called on anyone with information on impending violence to contact the chairman of the LDRC, a Mr Silverthorne, at (016) 42-456 or the SA Police Joint Operations Centre at (016) 55-5120. - Sapa-Reuter
Police detain
KwaMadala
hostel dwellers

POLICE yesterday detained five people at
Vanderbijlpark's KwaMadala Hostel, from
which the killers of 39 Bopatong residents
allegedly launched their attack last week.

Police spokesman Maj Ray Harrauld said
last night the men were being held in terms
of security regulations and had not yet
been charged.

A force of about 200 detectives yester-
day questioned hostel residents in connec-
tion with the massacre.

Meanwhile, Iscor spokesman Neels
Howatt said the company would consider
closing the hostel only if it was found that
residents were guilty of the killings, and if
alternative accommodation was found for
those not implicated.

The company would not accept responsi-
Bility for damage to Bopatong homes or
for funerals of those killed.

Howatt was responding to demands by
more than striking 4000 Vanderbijlpark
workers and Bopatong residents, who
have vowed to stay on strike until the
hostel is closed. They are canvassing wider
support in the Vaal area.

The National Union of Metalworkers of
SA (Numsa), which represents many work-
ers in the area, says it has been asking
Iscor for more than a year to close the
hostel.

Numsa says it has presented Iscor with
information to show that KwaMadala is
the epicentre of violent attacks in the area.

But Iscor told the union only 300-400 of
its employees were housed there, and
access was well controlled.

But when Iscor was given information of
various non-Iscor employees charged with
murder having given their address as
KwaMadala, Iscor said its "hostel policy"
made provision for wives and children and
friends to stay there provided they were
properly signed in.

Iscor closed the KwaMadala hostel in
1977, said Howatt. In 1990, after "ethnic
conflict" at Iscor's KwaMasara hostel,
about 400 Zulu-speaking migrant Iscor
workers illegally occupied KwaMadala.

The company then laid on electricity,
lights and water at KwaMadala.
Five hostel inmates arrested over massacre

Crime Staff

Detectives yesterday arrested five inmates of the KwaMashu hostel in connection with last week's massacre of at least 39 people in Bophatong.

The arrests - made during continuing investigations at the hostel by scores of detectives - were carried out under unrest regulations, according to Law and Order Ministry spokesman Captain Craig Kotze.

Police spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Dave Bruce said the detained men had not been formally charged.

He said police had not established their political affiliations and could not say whether the arrests were a result of tests on weapons confiscated on Thursday.

Two other men were taken into custody for questioning yesterday but had been freed, he said.

Captain Kotze said the police were determined to get to the bottom of the massacre.

Yesterday the hostel dwellers were still being confined to the premises as police continued their investigations.

Sapa reports that Icor, which employs many of the hostel residents, had pledged its co-operation in the investigation.

In a statement, the company said no evidence had been found to support allegations that the attackers were residents of the hostel.
Union says no to hostel move

The proposed closure of KwaMasha Hostel and the transfer of its inmates to KwaMasiza Hostel has been rejected by the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (NUMSA). The announcement of the move yesterday by Iscor management followed last week's Bophelong massacre.

"Those responsible for atrocities cannot be accepted among peaceful workers," he said. Iscor said the decision was not to support or oppose any political groupings.
Inmates now move freely

Police restrictions on residents of the KwaMadalala Hostel in the Vaal Triangle was lifted at midnight last night, allowing hostel residents to move freely.

The inmates were confined to the building last week to assist the police into the Bopatong massacre.

The Inkatha-aligned hostel dwellers were blamed for the attack, which claimed at least 39 people.

Police spokesman Mayor Ray Harrald said the lifting of restrictions was possible because hostel leaders had been cooperative and that a large number of the residents had been questioned and cleared of suspicion.

Earlier yesterday about 150 hostel residents were rounded up but were released after questioning.

Harrald pointed out that there were still a number of residents to be questioned.

The investigation into the massacre would continue and the SAP again appealed to people with information to come forward.

Harrald said:

Six KwaMadalala residents are still being held by police in terms of the unrest regulations. - Sapa
Police activity in the ongoing illness

describing them, I'm the kind of thing 8 to Inkatha members that this is 8 to questions of
law and order. Once

The round-up began when hundreds of members of the Inqaba and police started to raid homes
in the townships. This was followed by a series of raids in the Cape Flats.

The exercise was carried out by members of the Inqaba and police in the townships.

In the meantime, police have been investigating the case.

By MATTHEW TSHELE

Inkatha Hostel

ALEXANDRA'S

Baracks
A rare sight of police stopping Inkatha members in their tracks. This action, coupled with a genuine disarming programme where weapons are confiscated and not returned to their original owners, would help bring down the level of violence in the country.

Development cuts conflict - planner

SOWETAN 25/4/92

THE transformation of a culture of defence into a culture of development could reduce conflict in the Phola Park squatter camp near Tokoza, town planner Mr Julian Baskin said on Tuesday.

Appearing before a Goldstone Commission committee inquiry into violence and intimidation, Baskin, a chartered town and regional planner from the community development organisation Planaccor, based his suggestion on nearly two years of close association with the Phola Park community.

Baskin said his evidence was submitted in the belief that development was at least part of the solution to the problems of Phola Park, "but badly conceived development programmes can exacerbate a situation leading to further conflict."

During his dealings with Phola Park civic representatives he had held many meetings and workshops on the development of the East Rand squatter camp.

Baskin said he identified three groups among the residents of Phola Park.

There were families wishing to urbanise, single men who had their base in rural areas, and non-South Africans from countries such as Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi.

He said because the single men and non-South Africans might believe they would not qualify for accommodation in a developed Phola Park, they could be against it.

Baskin said reasons for the conflict were outside the community's control.

Among them were a discredited hostel system and no alternative State-rented accommodation, a wrecked rural economy and little chance of survival without urbanising, hostile State structures which aimed to undermine community structures rather than strengthen them, and a history of violence as conflict resolution.

Baskin recommended that local government structures recognise the importance of community institutions and provide support.

He disclosed that the International Development Trust would make R23 million available for development of the squatter camp and he showed plans which his organisation and the community had compiled and were to be implemented soon. - Sapa
RESIDENTS of demolished hostels would simply occupy township homes, the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association said yesterday (25 Nov).

Saying the ANC had called for the demolition of hostels, association chairman Joseph Kubeka said his organisation found the demand disturbing.

"The hostels not only house bachelors but families as well. Two hostels, in some blocks, for example Meadowlands and KwaManza, have been converted to family units."

Hostel closures would result in more chaos and conflict, he said. "The hostel minimise, should the hostels be destroyed, will simply walk into the location and occupy all those houses. The ANC will be responsible for that." — Sapa.
Closing the hostels is not the solution

The easy solution would be to close the hostels. But that would ignore the root of the problem: the hostels are the only foothold many people have in the cities.

By EDDIE KOCH

PUBLIC outrage at the BhangaPong massacre has led to demands for the demolition of single-sex hostels. The mood on the streets was shown by young militants who recently hijacked a bulldozer to smash down parts of the Dobsonville hostel.

But demolishing the hostels may actually exacerbate the conflict, a view borne out by a statement issued by the Tamshva Hostel Residents' Association on Wednesday.

"The association notes with concern that the African National Congress/South African Communist Party alliance is bent on destroying the only place called home for thousands of people," the statement said. "If hostels are demolished, what will happen to those thousands, with the housing crisis in our country?"

The only thing we can foresee is more chaos and conflict. The hostels remain, so hostels must be destroyed, will simply walk into the townships and occupy all those houses. The ANC will be accountable for that.

The ANC's position includes a shorter plan aimed at security forces to fence off the hostels, search them regularly for weapons and mount perimeter patrolling. A Matsela hostel dweller on the lookout for attacks from the AEC community.

Photo: KEVIN CASTEL

AP police presence at Dobsonville hostel in Soweto.

Photo: KEVIN CASTEL

Under close scrutiny: A Matsela hostel dweller on the lookout for attacks from the AEC community.

Photo: KEVIN CASTEL

The ANC wants the hostels system to be phased out. There is no doubt that the hostels are among the most burning issues of the day and the current crisis will not go away until something is done about them. But the ANC faces a conundrum: while township residents are demanding the destruction of the hostels, many people have no choice but to live in them.

Says Durban University sociologist Mike Morris: "It's a real dilemma. The hostels are the only foothold that many people have in the cities. The decimation of apartheid also means a move away from institutions that make up the entire urban survival base for migrant workers. It is an ironic twist to South African history that the most exploited sector of black society should be the most threatened by the demise of apartheid." Morris agrees with the ANC's view that there is an urgent need to overhaul the current methods of bringing law and order to those institutions. Through the South African Police, it has acknowledged that police patrols are often unable to deal with hostels that have been turned into armed fortresses, the Department of Law and Order has demonstrated scant concern for the problem.

One reason why the hostels have become bastions of right-wing terror has been the ability of Inkatha activists to exploit genuine fears among hostel residents that there is a sinister plot to destroy the homes they have in a hostile urban environment.

Two hostel residents who participated in recent township attacks have told The Weekly Mail how the realization of their ambitions began with visits by Inkatha officials. "They called meetings and explained that it was necessary to form defence units because people from the townships were intent on destroying our homes," said one.
Razor's edge — Fine tuning the security at Mzimhlofe hostel

"Now, when violence threatens the hostel, the chief induna calls a meeting of his subordinate indunas and orders are issued for the formation of tribal regiments to patrol the complex. When the impis have been created, it is easy for them to go on attacks in the townships."

National Union of Metalworkers (Numsa) organiser Geoff Schreiner says it is a tragic mistake to advocate the building of existing hostels and their replacement with low-cost housing units.

"Simplistic calls for the abolition of hostels — or even the abolition of the hostel system, which is quite different — will be taken by hostel dwellers to be a direct attack on themselves," says Schreiner.

"Any initiatives which fail to put the hostel dwellers at the centre stage are doomed. They will have to be consulted about proposals and developments, from the start through to the end of the transformation process."

In many hostels, residents have created committees to deal with issues such as social functions, room allocation, security, links with the rural areas and the regulation of disputes.

"These committees command the respect of significant numbers of hostel inmates, despite being autocratic and politically conservative, as is often the case. They too cannot be ignored in any consultation process," Schreiner adds.

An agreement signed this week by the National Union of Metalworkers (NUM) and Anglo American to "bring peace to our mines" provides an example of how solutions to the hostel violence can be negotiated directly between organisations with conflicting political views.

The pact endorses freedom of expression and assembly in Anglo's hostels, bans weapons and provocative actions on the premises, and prohibits the hostels from being organised along ethnic lines. Anglo director Bobby Godsell said he hoped the agreement, which had been forged by "parties with vastly different policies and programmes", would be noted by all politicians.

The mining industry has also provided a model for the reformation of hostels. National Peace Accord chairman John Hall, who is also a senior executive for Rand Mines, says his corporation has experienced no violence at its shafts in Middelburg since the reformation of its hostel accommodation.

Single-sex accommodation there comprises small complexes with apartments that take two to a room, rather than the huge barracks-like structures which characterise most hostels. Large recreation areas are located close to the married quarters so that maximum interaction is encouraged between migrants and families who live in the township.

"Part of the problem with today's hostels is that they house thousands upon thousands of inmates who are isolated from the broader community," says Sally Sealy, of the Independent Board of Inquiry into Informal Repression. "The solution may be to build much smaller units which are completely integrated into the community."
A star with gumption

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

MR Jose Isidro Isidro is one of many Mozambicans who risked being savaged by animals and killed by Renamo insurgents while crossing into South Africa through the Kruger National Park.

He was arrested on severable occasions and was back to Maputo home, but his wife and child are still in South Africa, he is married and has two children, and he subsequently settled in Mamelodi, near Pretoria.

After eight years of struggle to get his documents, "I'm still not sure if I'll ever see them again," he said.

He was born into a destitute family and was forced to leave school at an early age, but he has continued to work hard and to support his family.

Mr Isidro's story is one of many that will be told in the "African Story" series, which aims to highlight the experiences of African migrants in South Africa.

END

JOSE RIBEIRO ISIDRO risked his life by walking through the Kruger National Park.
ONLY WEEKS before the Boipatong massacre, an urgent SA’s hostel system was in the spotlight, a special report published by the Independent Board of Inquiry into Informal Repression described hostels as a key element in violence which has gripped the Reef since July 1990.

The board — many of whose members are sympathetic to the ANC — says it recorded 261 attacks on township residents by hostel dwellers between July 1990 and April this year. These attacks have left 127 dead and 697 injured. Most records are taken from media reports.

Most of these attacks occurred in Soweto, where the Mazimpho Hostel has emerged as a major flashpoint. Other violence-related Soweto hostels are the Nancefield, Diepkloof, Dube, Jabulani and Dobsonville hostels. In Alexandra, Nobudle and Madala hostels have allegedly accounted for 26 attacks which left 106 people dead and 133 injured.

On the East Rand, Thokoza’s three hostels, Katlehong’s Wessele Hostel and Vosloorus’s two hostels accounted for much of 1990’s violence.

A

nd then there is Iscor’s Kwa-Madala hostel. The report — which ironically contains a five-page appendix devoted to the hostel’s recent history — records 10 attacks emanating from the hostel from July 1990 to April 1992 in which 59 people died and 12 were injured.

It quotes Inhatha West Rand secretary Humphrey Ndlovu as saying that 100% of Kwa-Madala residents are Inhatha supporters, with Inhatha support running at between 75% and 100% at 18 hostels in the Johannesburg/Soweto area.

According to the report, police raids on these Transvaal hostels have become a regular occurrence. AK-47 rifles and 56 pistols and revolvers. Other dangerous weapons, such as axes, spears and sharpened rods have also been found.

There is also evidence linking hostel dwellers to train attacks. The report records 23 such attacks which left 39 dead and 277 injured.

The report argues that the closed nature of the hostel system and the existence of large concentrations of single men create a perfect environment for coercion and forced recruitment. This terrain also absorbs the opportunity for rapid mobilisation, instant meetings and preparation for armed attacks. The hostels have been described as training camps, weapons stores, and arm factories while inmates have been accused of abduction, rape, assault and murder.

"There has been reports that certain elements within hostels have forced hostel inmates to contribute money for the buying of arms and food for unemployed people who live at the hostels," it says.

It is such circumstances which led ANC president Nelson Mandela to call for all hostels to be converted into family units, saying that if this had been done the Boipatong massacre would not have happened.

But it is not as simple as that.

While the ANC and Cosatu say the continued existence of hostels is a threat to social stability, government, Inhatha and hostel-based associations maintain that hostels should continue to exist as they fulfill housing need. Indeed, there have been threats that attempts to shut them down could prompt violent resistance by their inmates.

According to the Local Government and National Housing Department, there are 492 hostels countrywide under the jurisdiction of the authorities or provincial administrations. Transvaal has 135, followed by the Cape with 216 while the Free State and Natal have 35 and 16 respectively. There are 207,154 beds in the hostels in the Transvaal, 50,158 in the Cape and 25,516 in the Free State and Natal. Other hostels, including Kwa-Madala, are owned by companies.

Department spokesman Francois Jacobs says government intends making conditions at hostels “humane.” Hostels will either be upgraded or converted into family units. “Government is making R256m available in the current financial year for the conversion of hostels,” he says. Allocation of the money to provinces will be determined by the number of beds in hostels of each province.

Hostel overcrowding is a serious problem, with the ratio of inmate to beds possibly as high as three-to-one. Hostel space needs to be increased. People often sleep on the floor or under the bed. "We urge authorities to address the situation as a matter of urgency as these hostels need to be expanded in order to accommodate their extra inmates properly."

“We want hostels to be a more aesthetically more pleasing place, but we are totally opposed to the conversion into family units,” I said.

He adds that, should government move to close hostels as suggested in some circles, hostel dwellers will be left with no choice but to "take over homes of township residents a result of civil war on an unprecedented scale.”

Kubhele’s argument is that it is virtually impossible for government to find alternative accommodation for hostel dwellers in the near future, given the “present enormous backlog in black housing.”

The ANC’s Alexandra branch has threatened a service boycott unless authorities close Nobudle and Madala hostels and has said that the origin of 106 killings, which the end of next month, Alexander administrator, Andy Johnes says the town council would look to the ANC’s demand and see what can be done about it. But he could only say that the hostel only if it is allowed to continue.

There are also reports that residents were guilty of ill-manners and that alternative accommodation was found for those not impacted.

The department’s Jacobs warns that government will not yield to pressure and unilaterally convert hostels into family units. Parties to the Housing Forum, which was set up last year, have agreed there is a need for “accommodation for both single people and families,” he says.

He adds that all interested parties — authorities, hostel dwellers, civic and political organisations and trade unions — should reach consensus through negotiations. He’s what needs to be done to hostels.

Graphic: RUBY GAY MARTIN
IFP 'unit' member tells of attacks

By Jo-Anne Collinge

A self-confessed member of an armed "unit" in KwaMadalana hostel has given the Goldstone Commission detailed testimony about the mobilisation of hostel dwellers against "comrades" in the surrounding Vaal communities.

A copy of Mr X's affidavit to the Goldstone Commission is contained in the memorandum compiled by attorneys for the Vaal Council of Churches (VCC). According to the VCC document, Mr X's verbal testimony was heard by advocate J J du Toit of the Goldstone Commission on April 3. Mr X's identity is known to the commission.

The following is an edited version of his affidavit, from which all identifying details have been removed.

"I am able to live at the KwaMadalana hostel without charge. I am unemployed.

"All the residents of the KwaMadalana hostel are members of the Inkatha Freedom Party. Among the residents there are individuals who are leaders of the IFP. Among them is one Mr Y.

"A system exists in the KwaMadalana hostel whereby each resident becomes part of a 'unit'. I was trained in the use of weapons by Mr Y. Every resident is trained in the use of weapons. "I have seen many arms and ammunition stored at the KwaMadalana hostel. The arms are brought by members of the IFP from Natal.

"On a certain date, I was instructed by Mr Y to go to Sharpeville township to attack comrades who had been responsible for the killing of a fellow Inkatha member, to attack certain taverns (and) kill people there because it is known that comrades drink there.

"We were given arms by Mr Y. I was not myself carrying a rifle. I moved with A. He was carrying a rifle.

"Between 8 pm and 9 pm, in Sharpeville, we saw a group of comrades. Among them was one comrade known to me. My partner opened fire and this comrade was struck.

"Thereafter, we moved to (a certain) tavern. B was shooting at people in the tavern. I was carrying a rifle given to me by A at this tavern.

"The mission, which resulted in a number of deaths, was terminated abruptly. Mr X stated, because of unforeseen developments. Details of these developments would reveal his identity."
March on KwaMadala Hostel

BOIPATONG residents will march on KwaMadala Hostel tomorrow to demand the hostel's immediate closure, it was announced yesterday.

In a joint statement, Coatsu and the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa said the march, which was decided upon at a meeting yesterday, would begin at the Boipatong Stadium at noon.

The move follows the Boipatong massacre on July 17. Iscor, which has long resisted calls to close the hostel, finally announced that it would close it and find alternative accommodation for its residents.

- Soweto Correspondent
Boipatong hostel to close down soon

By Brian Sokutu

Iscor management has pledged to close the KwaMadala hostel and house inmates at a block of flats in Vanderbijlpark.

But despite the Iscor undertaking, made at a meeting with National Union of Metalworkers of SA (Numsa) officials yesterday, the union said residents would go ahead with today's march from Boipatong Stadium to KwaMadala.

While management yesterday met almost all union demands, no agreement could be reached on a time-table for the relocation of the hostel inmates.

Both parties agreed the hostel should be closed and no longer used to accommodate Iscor workers.

But the management offer to transfer hostel inmates to a Vanderbijlpark block of flats in a month's time was rejected by Numsa officials, who demanded that the inmates leave within seven days.

"Our problem is that we would have to give the people occupying the block of flats a month's notice to leave before transferring KwaMadala hostel inmates," said Iscor delegation leader Hannes Viljoen.
Hostels a shaky urban foothold for migrants

IT WAS Nancefield hostel in Soweto which gave Meshack Dladla his first foothold in urban South Africa. "When I came here from Natal-I knew I had no right to go into accommodation in the township, so I went straight to the hostel," he recalls.

Dladla, like his father, found work in the steel industry but never believed he too would spend his entire adult life as a migrant worker. "My aim was to work for a short time, make the money I needed and go back. But the money has just never been enough," he says. Nine years after his first night in a hostel bunk, Dladla is still living that way, and wishing he didn't.

The debate about the future of South Africa's hostels has simmered since the first clashes with township residents in 1980. It flared after the Bophelong massacre and the role in the slaughter of men from KwaNatal hostel.

The issue is complicated, not just because of conflicting political agendas, but because no matter what is decided, Dladla and countless others will still have to put together lives that have been stretched out painfully between two worlds. He has a family in Kwazulu, a piece of land and some cattle, goats and chickens, and he doesn't want to give that up. He also has doubts about the city ways: "It is painful to see children with no respect for older people," he says. But what troubles him most is that he sees his wife and children just twice a year. "The worst is the loneliness," he says.

To that has been added the violence of the past two years in which hostels have been at the epicentre: "Today you are okay, tomorrow there is a fight," says Dladla.

"That kind of uncertainty causes Morris Madzaba to leave the Soweto hostel where he had lived for years. A shop steward in the National Union of Metalworkers of SA (Numsa), Madzaba says he sometimes came home late from union meetings and found himself under scrutiny from others in the hostel. "This thing only started this year," he says. "They used to ask 'Where are you coming from? Is it a union meeting?' Things we used to have last night as a backyard shack. "As a Zulu-speaker, people wanted to know why I had left the hostel," he says. "It was lucky that some union people protected me."

Madzaba's story seems to reflect the views of Numsa, the ANC and others - that workers have been driven out of Reef hostels to create barracks for Inkatha fighters.

ANC information chief Pallo Jordan says there is no inherent animosity between hostel dwellers and township residents. "In most cases where there has been conflict, supporters of IFP have driven out the hostel residents first. It is a section of the hostel dwellers who support the IFP who have been used to clash with township residents."

The IFP's Thembeka Khosa dismisses this as "an attempt to defame Inkatha. It is made up by na"ve journalists," he says. He is supported by Joseph Kubeka, chair- man of the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association (THRA) Kubeka, who joined his father in Soweto's Merafe hostel in 1982, insists the THRA is non-aligned.

Every organisation is still to be found in the hostels, he says. "It is just that some are not taking care of their members. When a hostel man is attacked, they say he is IFP, but maybe they attacked someone who was going to vote for them. They don't always know what is in a man's heart."

This bitter dispute over the role of hostels in the violence has generated much of the fog currently clouding discussion about their future.

There are two key issues on which most sides seem to agree. The first is that most hostels desperately need improving. "Even if there are men who want single quarters, there is no need to house them like that," says Jordan. The second is that the hostel dwellers themselves need to be in on the decision.

"The people in the hostels must decide if they want them converted to family housing," says Khosa. "The Government used to say do this and that without consulting us," says Kubeka. "Now some of our black brothers are doing the same thing."

Just who speaks for the hostel dwellers is not clear. One veteran of the labour movement believes that "unions made a mistake a few years ago. In many areas our strongest membership was in the hostels. But our leadership has become more educated, skilled township people and we made the mistake of not paying enough attention to the hostels."

Even so, both Dladla and Madzaba and many other migrants still see unions as their voice.

In the long term, politicians may count for less than purse strings. In May, the Government allocated R294.6 million for "the upgrading of hostels or their conversion into family units". That sort of money will hardly touch sides when viewed against the country's overall housing crisis. And with no guarantees that the national cake will get bigger, the size of every slice is going to be contested.
Police promise 24-hour hostal watch

By Zingane Shikuna

Police have given an undertaking that the iscor-owned KwaMadala hostel in Boipatong near Vanderbijlpark will be kept under 24-hour surveillance by the security forces.

The undertaking from Commissioner of Police General van der Merwe was made at the second preliminary hearing of the Goldstone Commission of Inquiry into the June 17 Boipatong massacre.

Mr Justice R J Goldstone said the commission had been informed by counsel for the police that General van der Merwe had undertaken to ensure:

• A continuous police presence to monitor the comings and goings of all persons at the KwaMadala hostel.
• The SAP would take all reasonable steps to monitor the situation at hostels and their surroundings which were currently known to be sources of unrest.

The SADF had given an assurance to the commission through its counsel that it would also maintain a round-the-clock presence in the vicinity of the KwaMadala hostel and the Boipatong area.

The Star yesterday noted a heavy security police presence outside KwaMadala hostel in Meadowlands, Soweto. Four police Caspars were seen in the vicinity of the local hostel.

In Dobsonville, a police truck stood next to the hostel which was recently partly demolished by local residents. There was no visible sign of security forces at Duube and Nancefield hostels.

All the hostels mentioned, except for KwaMadala, are not fenced..
Forum will take over decisions on hostels

DESERVING residents of the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) to a national housing and development forum, the TPA agreed this week.

The forum would be created by the housing task group, a sub-committee of the Central Metropolitan Witwaterstrand Chamber. It would meet next week to frame the forum’s constitution, terms of reference and funding.

Hostel residents, owners and administrators, and people who lived near hostels would be included in the forum, charged with formulating short- and long-term strategies for dealing with the hostel problem. It was agreed that initiatives should recognise that accommodation was required by single people and families.

The forum would take charge of more than R50m allocated by government last month for the restructuring of 13 hostels in Johannesburg, Soweto and Alexandra.

Chamber CE Vic Milne said the TPA had intended to retain new hostel initiatives under its own ambit but had agreed this week to use the more representative chamber structure as an interim measure.

KATHRYN STRACHAN reports that TPA deputy director Len Dekker said violence would increase if government went ahead with its plans to transform hostels without consensus from all parties.

Responding to claims that government had ignored the Goldstone commission’s recommendations, particularly with regard to hostels, Dekker said government had not been able to get hostel residents, owners and residents from surrounding communities to agree on plans.

"We are accused of dragging our feet, but if we go in and make changes unilaterally we will only cause more violence than before," said Dekker. "In most cases we have not even managed to get people around the table — and when they do get together they only want to fight."

The ANC had demanded that all single-sex hostels be converted to family units, but the issue was not so simple, said Dekker. Many single hostel dwellers opposed plans to convert hostels into family units. Many wanted them upgraded; others wanted them destroyed.

Local Government and National Housing Minister Leon Wessels said yesterday that fencing hostels could cause further conflict, our Political Staff reports.

He told the NP national youth congress in Stellenbosch he did not want to fight with Judge Richard Goldstone, but it should never be forgotten that there were people living in the hostels.
Out over Camperdown

Lancer rejects compensation demand from Bob Paton

In reply to a memorandum of the board of directors regarding the expected increase in the price of labor, it was suggested that a meeting with the representatives of the Civil Association could be held as soon as possible.

The company responded that it would be impossible to hold a meeting under the circumstances, as the price of labor had already increased. The board of directors suggested that a meeting be held as soon as possible, and that the representatives of the Civil Association be notified.

The representatives of the Civil Association were notified, and a meeting was arranged for the following week.

J. L. Smith

[Signature]
Cops want hostels improved

THE police have called for urgent attention to be given to the upgrading or remodelling of hostels.

Head of the SAP's Internal Stability Unit, Lt-Gen Johan Swart, said it was naive to expect fences and entry control at hostels to solve the problem of conflict.

He said the police did not have enough men to guard the 200 odd hostels in the country on a 24-hour basis.
Inmates caught in the crossfire

By Mathatha Tsedu

MR Mthombeni Ximba and old man Jeremiah Zulu are residents of Madala Hostel caught up in the virtual war that has engulfed Alexandra.

Ximba was in the kitchen boiling water in a pot. He said he was unemployed and had never worked “for a single Boer all my life.”

Ximba never went to school and does not know when he was born or when he left Musina for Johannesburg.

He remembers that when the “power that destroyed the bars” (The 1976 uprisings) happened, he had just arrived in Alexandra from Krugersdorp where he had been staying.

Ximba said he had survived by doing piece jobs.

This has become difficult now with the fighting in Alexandra. He said the water he was boiling was to cook “a little mealie meal that I was given by someone.”

Life is tough here, he said, as he stared at us, dressed in an ominous overcoat that belied at strategic spots. He said he had moved into the hostel “nearly two years ago.”

“Violence brought me here. I was staying in a shack outside the hostel and my neighbor’s shack was burnt by people I do not know.”

“I am just staying here because there is nowhere else to go. It is not nice in here but even if you go out, there is nothing good you see.”

Ximba, a father of two daughters who could not tell how the violence that brought him into the hostel would end.

“I trust God. He is the only one who knows,” he added.

“We do not want to fight but what do we do when we are attacked?”

Zulu has been a resident of the Madala Hostel in Alexandra since 1972.

He said the only way to stop the violence was to “stop the contracts of selling guns.”

“People think we cannot see but we see what is going on. I am not educated and I do not belong to anything.”

“But the killing cannot end unless the supply of guns is stopped. We live hard here. You cannot even go to the toilet without being shot at. What kind of life...”
**NEWS FEATURE**

For 685 families, displaced by IFP violence, life is a living hell

**Alex, a place of never ending sorrow**

**BIG CRUNCH** Spasm of suffering and pain for people living in squalor:

By Malibha Toodu
Investigations Editor

W as there ever the best of times for Alexandra township?

This is the question that begs to be asked as this small area of land that houses nearly half a million people goes through one more spasm of pain and suffering. Squatting with piles of garbage all over, shacks built on top of rubbish heaps and among graves, life at its best of times is Alex one long crunch.

"It was here that old and abandoned houses were turned into homes by many people in the suburb who became trapped in the never-ending story of the housing shortage in Alex."

The constraints formed by leaking sewerage pipes and the accompanying smell, the overcrowded houses and the yards burning with weeds, have now become the long lost golden years of plenty for 685 families who have been displaced by the fighting between Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) members based in the Madlala and Nokolile hostels, and residents who live in the township.

For those people, 90 of whom share the Presbyterian Church hall, life has become even more unbearable. Some, such as Mrs Emily Dikgogo (69), share the church hall with 16 other families while her former home from which she and her family had to run to save their lives, is occupied by IFP members.

"It is a very trying life here. The church is very cold. We no longer have electricity and we using candles. We are grateful to the church for housing us," she says.

"We are being used by the police and the Government to demolish our community.

"We are tired of meetings that produce nothing. We cannot prepare to continue to fight Inkatha when we know that they are being used by the police and the Government to destroy our community.

"What we are going to do now is to move into Soweto and occupy houses there and we want and see if these impartial police who occupied us out of our homes do the same to the whites there," Mrs Dikgogo said shakings with rage.

He said the police was no longer one of the community.

"If the hostel already has family unions," he said.

"Our political organizations, ANC, AZAPO, PAC and others are not doing enough to help people who have lost their homes," Mrs Dikgogo said.

Early exposure to sexual practices because of poor housing conditions is having its effect on children, especially girls. Already four aged between 14 and 16 have fallen pregnant.

These displaced people want the hostel to be dismantled or evacuated and then turned into family units for locals.

Hostel residents however, reject this and are in the process of renovating the place in their permanent homes.

Is there a way out that can see these displaced people back in their homes soon? Not from their evidence that we could gather last week..."
Keeping tabs on the news

**KwaMudala men change hostels**

ISCOR on Friday indicated that KwaMudala hostel in the Vaal Triangle, from where the June 17 Boipatong massacre was allegedly launched, will be vacated and its residents moved to another hostel. **CIVICAN, 19/7/92**

Hostel owner Icior said the target date for the full integration of the KwaMudala residents into the KwaMasizwa hostel was September 21.

Icior said this decision was taken recently at its meeting with National Union of Metalworkers (Numsa) on the proposed closure of the hostel.
HUNDREDS of men, women, and children are trapped inside KwaMashu. The displacement of residents has caused eviction of families and led to homes and protection for the displaced KwaMashu inhabitants who faced the closure of the townships and the townships councils. The government has been urged to provide homes and protection for the displaced KwaMashu inhabitants who were evicted from their homes.

By SOPHIE TEMBA

19/17/14
Police have said that 78 detained inmates of KwaMandla hostel will appear in court in Vanderbijlpark today in connection with the Bopapong massacre on June 17.

Captain Nuna Barkhuizen yesterday said Transvaal Attorney-General Dr Jan D'Oliveira would decide before the court appearance whether to prosecute the 78 for public violence, murder or both. This follows a police statement on Friday that 78 were handed to the A-G's office.

Captain Barkhuizen said charges against the 78 were dropped on Friday and that they were being held in terms of Section 59 of the Criminal Procedure Act, which provides for detention for up to 48 hours.

In a statement on Friday, Iscor accused the National Union of Metalworkers of SA of a "breach of faith" for making public details of sensitive negotiations being conducted around the closure of KwaMandla hostel and the relocation of its residents. Iscor expressed concern that "incorrect assumptions" could be drawn from the premature release of details before consensus had been reached on all points.

Iscor stressed, however, that it would not allow the "lack of good faith" to jeopardise the process of finding a solution to all aspects of the problem.

"For the record," it had been agreed that the hostel would be divided by a steel wall, that a section of the hostel closest to the road would be closed, and that residents from this section would be moved to the western side of the hostel.
Iscor denies KwaMdalala transfers, retrenchments

WILSON ZWANE

KwaMdalala inmates — have to agree to such a move,” he said.

However, Iscor spokesman Neels Howatt said Iscor had reached no agreement with any organisation on retrenching, pensioning off or transferring employees who did not want to be moved to KwaMdalala hostel.

Howatt said the agreement between his company and other organisations, including Numsa, was that KwaMdalala Hostel inmates would be moved to KwaMlanza Hostel on September 21.

“But details of how the people will be moved are still to be discussed,” he said.

But as an interim measure, a steel wall would be erected to barricade the hostel from Bopatong. Howatt added.

Expert wants to see hostels upgraded

PRETORIA — A forum should be established to address the basic needs of hostel dwellers, including upgrading of single-sex hostels, says Susan Barbara Rubenstein, social researcher for a group of private housing and development consultants.

Rubenstein was giving expert evidence before a Goldstone commission committee inquiry into the displaced people of Alexandra, north of Johannesburg.
Bara 'hiring Inkatha men'

By Montshiwa Moreke

Baragwanath Hospital has recruited Soweto hostel inmates and workers from Natal to fill jobs vacated by fired strikers, members of the National Education Health Workers Union (Nehawu) said at a press conference yesterday.

A Nehawu member — who wished not to be identified — said some employees at the hospital and clinics were concerned about their safety because they believed the men were members of Inkatha, hired to “deal” with strikers.

They had been recruited from the Merafe, Diepkloof, Nancefield, Mamblopo and Jabulam hostels.

Hospital nurses have confirmed the men were hired to clean floors and run errands. Nursing sisters said information from the men was that they came either from hostels or from Natal.

One Nehawu member said she had been warned by the recruits that if anything happened to non-strikers she would be blamed.

Deputy-director of community services at the Transvaal Provincial Administration, Dean van Loggenberg yesterday denied the Nehawu accusations.

“If a group or groups from hostels came to the hospitals on their own to do voluntary work, it would not be correct for the hospitals to show those people away.

“That would be to discriminate against them just because they are hostel dwellers. You cannot turn them away on the grounds that they have a tendency towards violence. They may not be involved in the violence,” he said.

The Star’s Pretoria correspondent reports that four members of Nehawu yesterday appeared in the Pretoria Regional Court in connection with alleged intimidation at Ga-Rankuwa Hospital.

No charges were put to Betty Mahavu (23), Ernest Motshabela (32), Joseph Muse (30) and Samuel Moekena and they were not asked to plead.

The hearing was postponed to August 18.
MORE than 1 000 Post and Telecommunication Workers Association members went on strike at North Rand branches of Telkom, according to the union's general secretary Mr. Mlungisi Mchungwane said the strike followed a recent attack outside the Meadowlands hostel on a bus ferrying Telkom workers to their places of work on the North Rand.

The striking workers were demanding that Telkom management play a role in ensuring that hostels are demolished as soon as possible. Telkom said it would issue a statement later. - Sapa.
ANC team gets a hostile reception

WILSON ZWANE

AN ANC-SACP-Cosatu delegation received a hostile reception yesterday at the hostel to check on the evacuation of inmates.

Numsa official Alfred Woodington said yesterday the alliance had alerted Issor’s management and Kwa-Madala’s leaders of their intended visit to the Vaal triangle hostel.

“The delegation was able, however, to talk to the hostel dwellers’ leaders. According to Woodington, it was agreed that a meeting of Inkatha, Issor and the ANC-SACP-Cosatu alliance should be convened today.”

The meeting would discuss, among other things, what was being done to evacuate Boipatong residents who had been displaced by violence in the township and the reintegration of hostel dwellers in the community.

Woodington said the delegation was satisfied with the steps taken to date. One-third of the hostel had been emptied and a wall would be built between that portion and the rest of the complex, he said.

ANC spokesman Neilou Howatt said his company intended moving all Kwa-Madala hostel inmates to Kwa-Masra hostel by September 21.

Call for help in tracing killers

DURBAN — Natal’s regional police commissioner has appealed to political organisations and communities to help the SAP trace and apprehend people who attacked and killed policemen, following the deaths of four around Durban recently, Sapa reports.

In a statement yesterday, Maj-Gen Colin Steyn referred specifically to three policemen killed at the weekend. Const P.J.J Venter, Const Tyrrell Tyrone Samuels and Detective Const Titus Maphanga.

Just hours before his statement, Durban police reported the killing of Const Jabulile Gumede, who was shot dead at point-blank range in Umlazi while waiting for a bus to take him to work yesterday.

Steyn described the killings as “clearly politically motivated”.

He said a meeting had taken place between the ANC and Natal police last week to address growing concerns that the SAP was withdrawing from certain areas. The ANC had demanded that police remain in the area.

The latest attacks on members of the SAP can be seen as a contradiction of the sentiments and concerns voiced by the ANC, Steyn said.

A police spokesman in Pretoria said yesterday that 112 policemen had been killed so far this year.

In his response to Steyn’s remarks, the ANC’s southern Natal secretary Sibongile Ntsheni rejected “the general’s innuendo that the ANC is responsible for the killings in Lamontville”.

Ntsheni said it was not ANC policy to kill policemen, adding that the organisation had suspended its armed activities.

President F W de Klerk has requested the Goldstone commission to investigate attacks on the SAP. Judge Richard Goldstone said yesterday the commission fully shared De Klerk’s concern about the large number of policemen killed and injured in recent months.

Goldstone also said the commission had received “disturbing reports” from the Voelvoors Social Dispute Resolution Committee concerning violence in that area.

The commission was also concerned at the renewed outbreak of violence at Bruntville and Moon River.

Meanwhile, Law and Order Minister Bernus Kriel gazetted a notice in Pretoria declaring the West Rand’s Kagiso, Munawille, Swaneville, squatter settlement and Bekkerdal unrest areas.

RAY HARTLEY reports gunmen killed two men outside Selby Hostel in Johannesburg yesterday.

ANC spokesman Wally Mbhele said the attack followed the stabbing of a hostel dweller yesterday and the shooting of a worker on Friday.

In another incident, at least two people were killed in a shooting at an Umlazi home yesterday, police said.

And a burned body and a stabbing victim were found in Soweto.

ANC spokesman Gill Marcus said the marshals would rely on the safety of journalists.

Politicians promote journalists’ safety

CHARLIE PRETZELIN

POLITICAL organisations, including the ANC, Inkatha, SAPC, NF and DP, yesterday signed a declaration promoting the safety of journalists.

They were attending a conference organised by the SA Union of Journalists (SAUJ) president Peter Malherbe that since January, one journalist had been killed, 21 assaulted and 12 threatened.

The ANC said it had begun setting up a network of media marshals to act as guides for journalists in towns and suburbs.

ANC spokesman Gill Marcus said the PAC and Azapo did not sign the declaration, which PAC spokesman Barney Desai said the national working committee had to discuss. Azapo’s Steven Peter said it ‘needed to be broadened’.
We don’t give preference to hostel dwellers — Bara

Baragwanath Hospital yesterday categorically denied giving preference to hostel dwellers to fill positions of dismissed strikers or by using them as volunteers.

National Education, Health and Allied Workers’ Union members claimed at a press conference on Monday that the hospital had recruited Soweto hostel dwellers and workers from Natal to fill jobs left vacant by dismissed striking workers.

Baragwanath superintendent Dr Chris van den Heever said rumours that the hospital was hiring hostel dwellers “could be part of discreditation propaganda.”

No specific efforts were made, said Dr van den Heever, to take on volunteers who lived in hostels. — Staff Reporter.
**IFP vow on hostel dwellers**

ANY unilateral attempts to resettle KwaMadala hostel dwellers or any move which would endanger their personal safety would be resisted, the Inkatha Freedom Party vowed yesterday.

IFP spokesman Mr Ed Tillet, who indicated his organisation had in principle accepted the relocation of KwaMadala inmates, said in a statement: "The inhabitants of KwaMadala hostel are clearly living under dehumanising and oppressive conditions. "Any decision to move the refugees must be underpinned by humanitarian principles that acknowledge the fears and insecurities of the community."
First the rage, then a shaky peace at hostel

Ironically, the protest and the angry response of the hostel by the IFP members have sparked a fresh round of negotiations. The hostel officials have agreed to meet with the IFP delegation to discuss the matter. This has given a sense of hope to the hostel residents, who have been seeking a peaceful resolution.

The IFP members have vowed to continue protesting until their demands are met, but they have also expressed a desire to find a way forward that benefits all parties involved.

The hostel officials have indicated a willingness to engage in meaningful dialogue, and both sides are hoping that this will lead to a lasting solution.

Despite the tension that has characterized the situation so far, there is a sense of optimism that the crisis can be resolved through peaceful means.

The IFP and hostel officials have agreed to meet in the coming days to discuss the matter further. Both parties are committed to finding a way to coexist peacefully and to work towards a better future for all.

This is a turning point in the relationship between the IFP and the hostel residents, and both sides hope that this will mark the beginning of a new chapter of cooperation and understanding.

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**Updates and Developments**

The meeting between the IFP and hostel officials was held this morning and was attended by representatives from both sides. The discussions were held in a cordial and respectful manner, and both parties agreed to continue working towards a resolution.

The hostel officials have agreed to make some concessions, including the removal of some of the security measures that have caused such a stir. The IFP members have also expressed a willingness to work with the hostel officials to find a way forward that benefits all.

This is a positive development, and both sides are hopeful that this will mark the beginning of a new era of cooperation and understanding.

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**Footnotes**

1. IFP members have expressed frustration with the lack of progress in the negotiations.
2. The hostel officials have indicated a willingness to engage in meaningful dialogue.
3. Both parties are committed to finding a way to coexist peacefully and to work towards a better future for all.

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**Source**

IFP members have vowed to continue protesting until their demands are met, but they have also expressed a desire to find a way forward that benefits all parties involved. The hostel officials have indicated a willingness to engage in meaningful dialogue, and both sides are committed to finding a way to coexist peacefully and to work towards a better future for all.
Hostel demolished

THE DEMOLITION of an abandoned section of Bopatong's KwaMadala Hostel is nearly complete.

But there are still about 500 dwellers housed in the complex awaiting the outcome of negotiations between themselves, employers and their prospective new neighbours.

Iscor spokesman Mr Ernest Webb-Stock confirmed demolition began on Tuesday and was nearly finished. The company, which owns the building, had ordered demolition of only half of the hostel which was no longer inhabited.

About 500 dwellers were moved to one side of KwaMadala - sectioned off by a steel wall - a month after the June 17 massacre of more than 40 residents of nearby Bopatong.

Soweto 31/7/92
Demolition at hostel nears completion

The demolition of an abandoned section of KwaMadala hostel in Bopatong is nearly complete, but there are still about 500 residents housed in the complex, awaiting the outcome of negotiations between themselves, employers and their prospective new neighbours.

Iscor public relations spokesman Ernest Webb-Stock confirmed that demolition begun on Tuesday was nearly finished.

The company, which owns the building and employs residents, had ordered demolition of only that half of the hostel which was no longer inhabited.

About 500 residents were moved to one side of KwaMada-la, sectioned off by a steel wall, a month after the June 17 massacre and at the height of the tensions in the area.

They are still there, awaiting the outcome of four-way negotiations. The negotiations involve the acceptance of the largely Inkatha-aligned Kwa-

Madala residents in Sibekeng's KwaMasuza hostel — Sapa.
Vaal violence delaying changes to hostel - claim

Wessels says struggle hampers hostel conversions:

THB power struggle between the ANC and Inkatha in the West Rand and Vaal Triangle is preventing negotiations on upgrading hostels, Housing Minister Leon Wessels told the Goldstone Commission yesterday.

"It is self-evident that consensus between all the parties involved is a prerequisite to achieving a lasting and peaceful solution to the hostel issue," he added.

Wessels is reportedly the first Government minister to testify before the Goldstone Commission.

He said there were no "unwarranted delays" with the hostel programme, a thorny issue which constitutes one of the African National Congress' 14 demands that have to be met before negotiations are resumed.

Wessels said the Government's strategy for the upgrading or conversion of hostels into family units must result from negotiations between hostel dwellers, surrounding residents, interested parties and the owners of the hostels.

The essence of the Government's dilemma was that, while it had the capacity, funds and manpower to address community needs, including the issue of hostels, "unilateral action, regardless of its good intent, will not create stability".

"Upgrading, conversion and demolition of hostels can only be undertaken once discussions have led to agreement. Everything possible is being done to finalise the negotiation process as soon as possible so that building construction may commence in the upgrading or conversion (of hostels) into family units."

In urgent cases the Government had approved measures to expedite administrative and tender procedures so that construction could start within "three to five weeks" once consensus had been reached.

Consensus had already been reached on the need of 38 of the 177 hostels in question, he said.

Negotiations among representative groups are in progress in respect of 65 other hostels, while negotiations are underway concerning a further 65 hostels. The first upgraded hostel, in Tokozwa, will open on Friday. - Sapa.
Hostels: Inmates slam R700m plan

A STORM is brewing over the government’s hostel-upgrading projects. Hostel residents have slammed present efforts where contractors will cream off a spoils R700,8-million if the plans continue.

The total bill to upgrade all 177 government-owned hostels will cost the taxpayer R877,5-million if the costs of the first upgrading job establish the norm.

Not only that, but the government’s first effort has been slammed as “patchwork over damage” by the 12 000-member Hostel Residents’ Association.

A project manager involved in the Thokoza project admitted “it can’t be called upgrading. The only real change in terms of the physical appearance is the new roofs. But the hot water and new electrical wiring are improvements”.

The project manager did not want to be named.

Withdraw

The HRA has slammed the R3,8-million upgrading of the Thokoza hostel as indicative of a lack of real policy or consultation, and says it is not in line with recommendations by the all-party National Housing Forum.

The government withdrew from the forum last year after being party to the agreement on hostel initiatives.

The lack of real upgrading, hostel residents say, has caused conflict between indunas and the HRA, with indunas being blamed for not acting democratically in negotiations with the authorities.

Renovations to the Thokoza hostel include a R240 000 security fence despite the government’s stated opposition to the fencing of hostels. Other costs include R40 000 for window panes, R50 000 for site work and R106 000 for “professional fees”.

Another R50 000 was spent on “bathrooms, washrooms, sewerage and water” and R340 000 on “hot-water systems”.

The project manager said the R600 000 for professional fees was payment for the project manager, a quantity surveyor, an electrical engineer and an engineer for the hot-water systems. He said that, at about 10 percent of capital costs, this was “cheap”.

Premium

He said costs could have been R50 000 lower if the authorities had negotiated with hostel residents first and reached agreement on what was wanted without involving project managers and contractors in all the negotiations.

However, he also said that a premium was charged “for that type of work because of security considerations. Materials could not be left on site, but had to be brought in daily”.

About 80 percent of those who worked on the project, however, were hostel inmates.

The Minister of National Housing and Local Government, Mr Leon Wessels, praised the completed work as evidence of the seriousness with which the government was approaching the hostel problem – a negotiation stalemate issue. Last week he was the first government minister to appear before the Goldstone commission to outline the government’s policy on hostels.
Govt calls for binding agreement on hostels

By Helen Grange

The Government, suffering increasing resistance to its hostel upgrading programme, has called for agreements between interested parties to be made binding.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration said in a statement yesterday that the R194.6 million earmarked for hostel upgrading in the Transvaal could be utilised only when consensus had been reached through consultation with all role-players.

And in order to maintain consensus, it was imperative to introduce a generally acceptable mechanism to bind the parties involved, "no matter what the substance of the agreement may be."

"The dilemma we are experiencing in the Transvaal, especially in the Witwatersrand region, is that it is in some cases extremely difficult to get the different role-players around a table."

Patchwork

"In certain places, like Ethandakuthanya near Piet Retief and Emjundum near Barberton, consensus is being delayed because of the unco-operative attitude of the circuits," the statement said.

The Government's only completely upgraded hostel, Hostel No 1 at Tokoza on the East Rand, has been criticised by the Hostel Residents' Association (HRA) as "patchwork over damage."

The R3.8 million rudimentary work to the hostel was indicative of a lack of real policy or consultation, the HRA added.

The TPA said a comprehensive process of consultation was under way in the Transvaal in order to get response to the Government's hostel strategy.

Of the 92 hostels in the province, consensus on the need to upgrade had already been reached at 41. "Negotiations were in progress at 46 others."
Hostels: the middle path

Into the hostel conversion debate comes a study which pleads for migrant workers' needs to be put at the centre of any upgrade venture, reports JO-ANNE COLLINGE.

There is a viable middle path between reducing the hostel to rubble and merely adding a daub of paint and a touch of comfort to fortress-like structures, says housing consultant Susan Rubenstein.

She insists that effective hostel upgrading must be centred on the complex demands of migrant workers and cannot be dictated by political agendas which ignore these needs.

Ms Rubenstein was part of a team commissioned more than two years ago by four private-sector companies to investigate possibilities for upgrading the Ngum hostel in Vosloorus on the East Rand.

The research report criticises the present Government-sponsored upgrade schemes, which fail to tackle the actual structural form of mammoth single-quarter buildings.

"It would seem that proposed upgrading initiatives for PWV hostels have been planned by local authorities with, in most instances, no resource to broaden consultation," writes Ms Rubenstein.

"In most cases, current hostel dwellers, together with apartment-styled council with almost no credibility, have been allowed to make the decision as to how public money ear-marked for upgrading is to be spent."

She also rejects the demand from certain civic organisations for the eradication of hostels as unpalatable. "Whatever the appalling impacts of migrant labour, we cannot wish it away."

The planning proposal resulting from the Vosloorus study has the following features:

- It provides for both family units and small clusters of single quarters.
- It avoids displacing any hostel resident or forcing any resident to undergo a substantial change of lifestyle.
- It uses the hostel structures as a foundation but integrates hostels into the community, by building new thoroughfares and introducing shops and other community facilities.
- It allows for a variety of forms of tenure, from ownership to rental of individual and communal units.

The social survey which led to this plan was based on a small but crucially differentiated sample of 69 men. It included migrant workers who remained in the hostels after the Vosloorus violence of 1990 and migrant workers who quit around that time. Most moved to avoid involvement in violence but some went because they found hostel conditions intolerable.

The survey also took account of the views of householders in homes adjoining the hostel.

While a few migrants wanted to relocate their families per manently to the urban areas, and others were preoccupied with keeping their children as far from town as possible, most fell somewhere in between.

"These men wish to retain their rural homes but would like a unit in the urban area in order to accommodate themselves with privacy so that their families could visit for long periods of time," the report noted.

Whether they opted for single or family quarters, all wanted safe, secure, private and affordable living space. Almost universally, migrants resented the crowding and intrusiveness of hostel life.

And "many men who still required single quarters talked of being housed in smaller blocks or in blocks away from the township as a solution to the conflict."

The intention of the study was to use a corner of the hostel complex for a pilot conversion. This way, hostel dwellers and surrounding householders could judge the plan for themselves and offer feedback.

But the Vosloorus Town Council stepped in firmly to prevent the pilot conversion.

Ian Bernhardt, another consultant who worked on the project, could not contain his frustration about the barrier encountered at the point of implementation. "We just want a chance to put the plan on the ground and let people come and have a look. A hell of a lot of work has been done, at great cost. It's a pity to waste it."
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The survey also took account of the views of householders in homes adjoining the hostel.
KwaMadala still open.

The KwaMadala Hostel in Boipatong, scheduled for closure yesterday, will remain open because residents of the nearby KwaMassa Hostel are refusing to allow the remaining 400 inmates to move into their domain.

Incor, whose workers occupy both hostels, said yesterday efforts to bring the relevant parties to the negotiating table had failed.
KwaMadala Hostel closure delayed

 Talks stalemate symptomatic of political intolerance:

THE KwaMadala Hostel in Boipatong, scheduled for closure on Monday, will continue to exist because residents of KwaMaziva Hostel are refusing to allow the remaining 400 inmates to move into their domain.

Iscor, whose workers occupy the two hostels, announced yesterday that efforts to bring the relevant parties to the negotiating table had failed and that the closure of the KwaMadala Hostel could not be finalised.

This new development follows an agreement reached in July between Iscor and the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (Numsa), acting on behalf of the Vaal communities, in which September 21 was set for a negotiated integration of KwaMadala Hostel residents into KwaMaziva.

Most of the inmates of the KwaMaziva Hostel, which houses over 4 000 workers, are reportedly supporters of the African National Congress while KwaMadala Hostel is dominated by supporters of the Inkatha Freedom Party.

KwaMadala earned its notoriety after the Boipatong massacre. - Sapa.
Talks to close hostel fail

By Helen Grange
Pretoria Bureau

Negotiations to close the notorious KwaMadala hostel in Bophatong in the Vaal Triangle have collapsed after a nearby hostel refused to house KwaMadala residents.

This has torpedoed efforts by Iscor, whose workers occupy the two hostels, to negotiate the closure of KwaMadala with the National Union of Metalworkers of SA (Numsa).

The parties agreed on July 14 that by yesterday, KwaMadala hostel residents would be integrated into KwaMasuza, Iscor said.

However, negotiations had not been successful and the closure could therefore not be finalised.

Iscor's statement said Numsa regional secretary Sun Tshidi had stated that his delegation was not yet ready for a meeting and he had received a letter from KwaMasuza residents informing him they were not prepared to accept KwaMadala residents.

"It would seem that this stalemate caused by the unwillingness to negotiate is symptomatic of the broader political intolerance being experienced in the country," the statement said.

Most of KwaMasuza hostel's more than 4 000 residents are reportedly ANC supporters, and the KwaMadala hostel, which currently houses 460 people, is dominated by migrant Zulu workers who support the Inkatha Freedom Party.

Numsa spokesmen could not be reached for comment.
KwaMdalala hostel will not be closing down

**Sowetan** 23/9/97

**Inmates refused alternative accommodation by nearby hostel:**

**Sowetan Correspondent**

NEGOTIATIONS to close the notorious KwaMdalala Hostel in Bopatong in the Vaal Triangle have collapsed following the refusal by another nearby hostel to accommodate the KwaMdalala dwellers.

This has torpedoed efforts by Iscor, whose workers occupy the two hostels, to negotiate the closure of KwaMdalala with the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (Numsa).

**Negotiations not successful**

The parties agreed on July 14 that by this Monday, KwaMdalala Hostel residents would be reintegrated into KwaMasza, according to an Iscor statement.

However, negotiations had not been successful and the closure could therefore not be finalised.

The statement said Numsa’s regional secretary, Mr Sim Tladi, had stated his delegation was not yet ready for a meeting and he was in receipt of a letter from the KwaMasza residents informing him they were not prepared to accept the KwaMdalala dwellers.

"It would seem that this stalemate caused by the unwillingness to negotiate is symptomatic of the broader political intolerance being experienced in the country," the statement said.

Most of the dwellers at KwaMasza Hostel, which houses more than 4,000 workers, are reportedly supporters of the ANC, while the KwaMdalala hostel, which currently houses 400, is dominated by migrant Zulu workers who are supporters of the rival Inkatha Freedom Party.

KwaMdalala hostel earned notoriety following the Bopatong massacre on June 17 in which more than 40 people lost their lives. Seventy-two hostel dwellers are appearing in court in connection with the massacre.

Isco said it would continue to play a mediating role to bring the two parties together.
Call to fence off hostel

Leaders of a two-month-old consumer boycott in Roodepoort, the local business community and the police have recommended jointly that a Dobsonville hostel be fenced off.

The Consumer Boycott Committee announced earlier yesterday that it was suspending the boycott of businesses from the end of the month, following a meeting on Tuesday.

"The suspension of the boycott is to allow the recommendations to be implemented, failing which we will not hesitate to review our stand," boycott leader Mandla Dlamini said.

The parties also agreed that a local high school caught up in continuing violence should reopen, and that a climate for the return of displaced families be created.

Forte High School, close to Simphwe hostel, has been shut for about six months following attacks on pupils, Mr Dlamini said.

At least 60 people have died in Dobsonville during the past two years in violence involving inmates of the hostel.

A TPA official who attended the talks, held at the local police station, had pledged to push for immediate action by the town council on the recommendations, Roodepoort trader Ismail Hassam said. — Sapa
Boycott threat to Checkers-Shopotite

THE SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) is organizing a national consumer boycott of Checkers-Shopotite stores after the entire black work force at Checkers' Heidelberg store was dismissed last week for striking illegally.

The boycott is scheduled to begin on October 1.

Almost 1 000 workers at about 15 Checkers stores in the Transvaal were on strike demanding the reinstatement of the dismissed workers, Saccawu said.

It said Checkers-Shopotite had told the union it was overstaffed by 800 people in the Transvaal and wanted to discuss ways of resolving the problem.

In addition, the company had told Saccawu it wanted to cancel its recognition agreement with the union at the end of this year.

It is possible more stores could come out on strike over the dismissals next week.

Saccawu spokesman Norman Moekoa said several stores had already staged illegal stoppages and then returned to work.

And the southern Transvaal office of Checkers-Shopotite was occupied by striking workers last week.

There is already a consumer boycott of the Heidelberg store, and Saccawu members are picketing outside the store each day. Marches have been planned on the Heidelberg store and the southern Transvaal office of Checkers-Shopotite next month.

Moekoa said the actions were spontaneous outbursts of worker anger against Checkers' refusal to bargain in good faith with the union.

He said workers at the Heidelberg store went on strike after a worker was dismissed for fighting with a security guard.

The union argued that the worker was manhandled by the guard, who allegedly called her a "kaffir".

There have been continuing allegations of racism and AWB activity at the store. In March a shop steward at the store allegedly received death threats from the AWB and eventually resigned his job because he feared for his safety.

Moekoa said the Heidelberg workers were dismissed before some had even arrived at work. He also claimed that workers on leave and maternity leave were among those dismissed.

Checkers' official spokesman was not available for comment last night.

Hostel issue tied to abduction

THE abduction of a National Union of Metalworkers of SA official has been blamed by the union on problems in relocating inmates of the KwaMazuza Hostel in the Vaal Triangle.

But police said yesterday the kidnapper of Numsa Vaal Triangle legal officer Stanley Tyelentombi would appear in court on charges of armed robbery.

Tyelentombi told a news conference in Johannesburg yesterday that on Tuesday he was abducted by people opposed to relocation of the KwaMazuza Hostel.

An attempt was made to move the main Inkatha-supporting hostel dwellers from KwaMazuza after the Bophatong massacre in which more than 30 people were killed in an attack apparently launched from the hostel. The removal has been foiled.

Tyelentombi said five youths entered his car opposite the KwaMazuza Hostel and forced him at gunpoint to drive to a Bophatong house, where they collected assegais and pangas.

They then drove to a house in Subekense where a man, who knew Tyelentombi, accused him of wanting to move KwaMazuza residents to the ANC-dominated KwaMazuza Hostel where they would be killed.

The man then instructed the youths to put Tyelentombi in the boot of the car and drive him to the leadership of KwaMazuza, after which he would be killed, Tyelentombi claimed.

The Numsa official managed to escape on the way to the hostel. Police later found his car and arrested one of the five youths, Tyelentombi said.

Capt Piet van Deventer confirmed the incident, saying the suspect would appear in the Vanderbijlpark Regional Court today on charges of armed robbery.

Numsa spokesman Alfred Woodington said the relocation of the KwaMazuza inmates had to be addressed by all parties in the Vaal Triangle who were signatories to the national peace accord. — Sapa.

PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz
Fencing of five hostels to begin next month

Political Reporter

The Government undertook at the summit on violence to start the fencing of 28 hostels in the PWV, area, and Natal before October 22 and to complete the construction by November 15.

The details are outlined in the implementation programme agreed to at Saturday's talks between President de Klerk and ANC president Nelson Mandela.

Hostels to be fenced include Malmhlohe, Dube, Nancefield, Dobsonville and Merafe hostels in Soweto, Madala hostel in Alexandra and the Sekokeng complex.

The ANC identified two hostels in KwaZulu as being associated with violence and the Government undertook to consult the KwaZulu government on them.

The 2m high fences 'with limited access points' shall be maintained until the situation has stabilised to the satisfaction of the Goldstone Commission'.

A 24-hour access/arms control by the responsible authorities, in conjunction with the police, will be monitored by the National Peace Secretariat, and the Goldstone Commission.'
Govt agrees to step up hostel security

The Government had approved additional interim measures to upgrade security at hostels, National Housing Minister Leon Wessels said yesterday.

Intensified policing, random searches of hostels and access control to prevent the carrying of weapons had been approved as additional measures to augment the Government's hostel strategy.

These measures would apply only until violence and criminality had been stabilised to the satisfaction of the Goldstone Commission.

According to a Government document released yesterday on the re-evaluation of the hostel strategy, policing would be intensified by ensuring that personnel were available for regular patrols in the vicinity of affected hostels, and to ensure police response within a reasonable time.

Routine and random searches at hostels by the SAP had been approved to ensure that criminality was curtailed as far as possible.

The provision or repair of fencing at 21 hostels with a history of violence and criminality had also been approved.
Hostel residents to boycott rents payments

TRANSGAAL hostel residents have decided to boycott rent payments in protest against government's plan to increase security at hostels identified as trouble spots.

Random searches of the hostels and tight access control to prevent the carrying of weapons were among the new measures announced yesterday by National Housing Minister Leon Wessels.

The measures, which include the fencing by November 15 of 21 hostels with a history of violence and criminality, would apply only until violence had been stabilised to the satisfaction of the Goldstone commission, said Wessels.

But Transvaal Hostel Residents Association chairman Joe Rubheka said a meeting of the organisation had decided on mass action and a rent boycott.

The campaign was launched last night when about 300 association members, representing 22 hostels, protested outside TPA offices in Germiston while Rubheka presented their demands.

Rubheka said afterwards the TPA was working to government's agenda and would not listen to his group's arguments.

He conceded that some hostels were linked to violence but said these should be dealt with in consultation with the organisation, which he said had 40 000 members.

A document on government's hostel strategy released yesterday said policing would be intensified through regular patrols in the vicinity of affected hostels, ensuring a quick response to incidents.

Once stability had been achieved, upgrading or conversion of hostels would be dealt with through negotiation.

Picture: Page 3
HOSTEL dwellers throughout the Transvaal meet this weekend to plan resistance to government plans to fence them in.

They have already begun a rent boycott and are planning marches and action to destroy existing fences.

They have warned that the "lives of those who try to erect fences will not be safe", according to Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association spokesman Leonard Mawell.

He said the R240 000 security fence erected at Thokoza hostel a month ago had already been torn down.

On Thursday night 500 hostel dwellers massed outside the Transvaal Provincial Administration offices in Germiston, while an unhappy meeting took place between the TPA and the Hostel Residents' Association, which led to a walkout by the association.

Mr Mawell, who has lived in Jabulani hostel since 1984, said the TPA was attempting to use his organisation to implement the hostel's agreement negotiated between the government and the ANC last weekend.

A Hostel Residents' Association meeting will be held on Thursday to finalize a "mass action" programme against the new measures.

Mr Mawell said hostel dwellers were angry because they had been told that money for the fences would come out of the R580-million budget set aside for upgrading a year ago.

However, Mr Geoff Wilke, the TPA's chief director of physical planning and development, said upgrading work was being impeded by the turmoil surrounding some hostels, with many contractors refusing to work on them except at a premium.

Violent

"If the situation can be stabilised then real work can get under way upgrading hostels, preferably using unemployed people in those areas," he said.

Twenty-eight hostels have been classified as "problematic" in terms of the "Implementation Programme: Hostels (in terms of the Record of Understanding)", which has come into the possession of the Sunday Times.

In terms of the agreement, underscored by the Goldstone Commission, fencing is to "prevent criminality by hostel dwellers and to protect them from external aggression".

Seven hostels considered among the most violent in the country have no fences. They are Mzimhlohe, Dube, Nomzimkulu, Tsholong, Dobsonville, Menzies/Melmont in Soweto, Madala in Kagiso and Sebokeng.

In terms of the implementation programme, a written report detailing all policing work carried out in respect of these will be submitted to the Minister of Law and Order every fortnight by police.

The Minister of Local Government and Housing, Mr Leon Wessels, is also to receive a fortnightly progress report, with copies of all reports being sent to the Goldstone Commission and regular meetings on the situation being held between the ANC and the government.

Regular searches of hostels, primarily seeking arms, are also planned.

The government has 11 days in which to produce a detailed production programme, with construction of the first fences scheduled for October 22 and the rest by November 15.
TPA explains hostel fences to KwaZulu

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration, in a bid to ease opposition to the fencing of hostels, yesterday sent an explanatory letter to the KwaZulu government.

A source said the TPA had said in the letter that the fencing was necessary to improve relationships between township residents and hostel dwellers.

The source said it was the TPA's view that barriers, which were "substantive enough but which are not unsightly or offensive", should be built between township residents and hostel dwellers until the relationship between the two improved.

At the recent summit on violence, President F W de Klerk and ANC leader Nelson Mandela agreed that 24 hostels in the Transvaal and four in Natal should be fenced off and subjected to increased policing.

According to reports, the ANC has identified two hostels in KwaZulu implicated in violence.

News of the letter to the KwaZulu government came as the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association was formulating opposition it would take against the fencing plan.

Association spokesman Leonard Mwel said yesterday consultations with the association's structures had taken place at the weekend and the association's executive would meet within two days to decide on a course of action.

He would not disclose the nature of the actions the association intended embarking on, saying the matter was too sensitive.

It is understood that the association is considering, among other things, the destruction of existing fences.

Mwel confirmed that hostel dwellers under the jurisdiction of his association were no longer paying rent.

TPA spokesman Piet Wilken said yesterday the TPA would seek a meeting with the hostel dwellers' representatives as the administration believed that any upgrading of hostels should be done in consultation with the inmates.

Wilken said it was a pity that the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association had decided to boycott rent payments as such a move would exacerbate rather than resolve the problem.

Although no exact starting date was set for the fencing of hostels at the violence summit, reports indicate that the measures will be implemented within a few weeks, and the hostels should be fenced off by November 15.

TPA might delay decision on Soweto

THE TPA's decision on whether to appoint an administrator for Soweto and Diepsloot might have to be delayed, a TPA spokesman said yesterday.

Both councils had been given until yesterday to produce complete financial statements but Soweto had applied for an extension and nothing had been received from Diepsloot by late yesterday afternoon, TPA spokesman Piet Wilken said.
TPA pleads for input on hostel fencing plans

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) yesterday made an impassioned plea to all relevant parties to consult it about government's plan to fence off hostels identified as unrest flashpoints.

Transvaal MEC for physical planning and development John Mavuso said in a statement yesterday the TPA's "comprehensive consultation process" was seriously hampered by a lack of co-operation.

Sebokeng hostel residents failed to show up for a meeting called to discuss the plan on Monday night, he said. Their absence was apparently sparked by pamphlets — written on ANC letterheads — urging residents not to attend.

"When the question of the absence of the hostel residents was raised, the ANC said it represented them," ANC PFFV spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said he was not aware that his organisation's letterheads had been used to print the pamphlets.

Mavuso said: "It seems, at this stage, that all the parties do not regard the purpose of the government's hostel strategy as important."

No comment could be obtained from the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association yesterday.

It could not be established yesterday when the TPA would begin fencing seven of the 24 Transvaal hostels identified as unrest flashpoints.

Geoff Wilkins, TPA chief director of physical planning and development for the Witwatersrand, said the implementation date for the plan depended on when an agreement with all relevant parties was reached. The plan included measures such as random searches and tight access control to prevent bearing arms.

Sapa reports President F W de Klerk told Cape NP congress delegates in East London yesterday these steps would have been taken even if talks had not been held with the ANC recently.

Government was not taking sides.

"It simply must be done to stop violence and prevent further killings." He alleged that ANC-controlled hostels were also involved in violence.

In terms of an agreement between government and the ANC, the hostels should be fenced off by November 15.

Police reported yesterday that a man was killed and another wounded on Monday when gunmen dressed in camouflage entered a house in Umbuzo, near Durban, and opened fire.

The killing follows a series of incidents in Natal in which the attackers have worn security force uniforms.

Aron was reported at Sharpville and Sebokeng in the Vaal Triangle.

STEPHANE BOTHMA reports that a policeman on a foot patrol in the Sandton suburb of Marlboro was shot dead yesterday afternoon.

The killing brings the total of policemen shot this year to 177.

The assistant constable was on a crime prevention patrol with a colleague when they were confronted by two unidentified men armed with revolvers, police said.

Shots were fired and the constable collapsed. The attackers fled, taking the wounded constable's service pistol.

The second policeman escaped unharmed. The wounded constable died soon after he arrived at Johannesburg Hospital.
NEGOTIATIONS on upgrading hostels in the PWV region are being hampered by some of those involved, Mr. John Mavuso, Transvaal Provincial Administration MEC for Physical Planning and Development, said on Tuesday.

Mavuso was commenting in a statement after the collapse of Monday's meeting in Sebokeza when hostel dwellers were advised in pamphlets bearing the African National Congress logo not to attend.

The meeting was called by the town council to discuss upgrading and/or conversion of hostels, and the safety of inmates and residents.

He said another meeting would be called at a later date. - Sapa.
Hostel pact a ‘slap in the face’

By DESMOND BLOW

A TRANSVAAL Hostel Members’ Association lawyer this week described the agreement between the SA government and the ANC to fence off hostels as “a slap in the face” for some of the worst aspects of apartheid”.

“Putting the hostel dwellers in concentration camps is typical of Verwoerdian-era apartheid when there was no consultation or compensation for those affected by the policies,” said the lawyer.

The hostel dwellers, he said, were “in the midst of a crisis and have no time to take this lying down.”

Hostel dwellers have threatened mass action and rent boycotts. They have also threatened to break down the fences.

The Hostel Residents Association has petitioned the government to immediately withdraw the agreement between State President FW de Klerk and Nelson Mandela.

They have, on the government’s move to fence off hostels and begin construction no later than March 1993 in compliance with the short-term guidelines of the National Housing Forum.

They also demanded a code of conduct be negotiated between hostel residents and the SA Police regarding the entering, searching and general policing of hostels.

Steyn said in November a forum consisting of hostel dwellers, the PAC, the ANC, Inkatha and the government had been formed and a consensus reached on what to do about the hostel problem.

“Draw the agreement between state President FW de Klerk and Nelson Mandela.

They demanded the government speed up the upgrading of hostels and begin construction no later than March 1993 in compliance with the short-term guidelines of the National Housing Forum.

They also demanded a code of conduct be negotiated between hostel residents and the SA Police regarding the entering, searching and general policing of hostels.

Steyn said in November a forum consisting of hostel dwellers, the PAC, the ANC, Inkatha and the government had been formed and a consensus reached on what to do about the hostel problem.

It was decided that the question of fencing would be decided by the needs of the community involved.

He said some of the residents at hostels where violence had occurred welcomed the fences “for their own protection”.

“But this was done in consultation with local communities and hostel dwellers,” Steyn said.

For instance, taxi ranks were taken into consideration as well as the stalls for hawkers when deciding where gates should be placed.”

In its petition, the association referred to the Goldstone Commission’s report of September 21, which found that violence was associated only with a few hostels and “considered earlier recommendation that all hostels be fenced off no longer appropriate”,

“The commission has accordingly decided to modify the recommendation so as to make it applicable to only those hostels that have been associated with violence.”

Steyn said: “The Goldstone Commission was supposed to sit on October 19 and 20 to decide on which hostel are violent, but the ANC has yet to tell the government that the government has preempted the commission’s investigations.”

“The future of scores of thousands of hostel dwellers have been decided by two people – Nelson Mandela and FW de Klerk.”

The petition further said the agreement between the ANC and the government was a flagrant breach of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which states: “No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.”

The agreement also contravened the SA Law Commission’s Draft Bill of Rights.

Steyn criticized the list of violent hostels issued by the Independent Board of Inquiry. He said the list assumed hostels near where violence had occurred on trains were involved.

Jabulani was an example of a hostel where there had never been any trouble and no one in the community had ever alleged it was a problem hostel, he said.
Builder unpaid

Owner of Procon denies hiring builder

By Joe Mdhlala

A Mozambican expatriate who worked as a sub-contractor for Procon building contractors claimed this week that the owner of the company refuses to pay him R1,930 due to him.

Mr Armando Munguambe claimed he entered into an agreement with the owner of the company, Mr Louis van Wyk, to work on eight houses.

Munguambe completed his sub-contracting work in April and has not been paid R1,990.

"I have been seeing Van Wyk since April demanding the balance of R1,930. Van Wyk keeps saying he does not have money."

Van Wyk denied that he had employed Munguambe. Another sub-contractor, Mr Jacobs, did and has left the Witwatersrand.

Van Wyk made it clear he did not take kindly to my questions. "If you publish the story I will sue Sowetan for damages," he said.
ch is by Zulu ‘nation’ as weapons ban protest

Ban ‘Zulu nation march’ call by ANC

Warning that stability could be threatened in Pretoria’s Atteridgeville township:

By Mandla Zibi and Josias Charlie

The African National Congress (ANC) in the PWV region has called on the Government to stop a “Zulu nation march” in Pretoria’s Atteridgeville township due to take place tomorrow. The ANC yesterday warned that the march could threaten stability in the township.

The call comes in the wake of an ANC statement accusing the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) of being responsible for the death of a Soweto hostel inmate, Mr. Vuyisile Bonya, last Sunday. The ANC claimed the man was killed during the launch of an IFP branch at the hostel on Sunday.

The situation at the Soweto hostel was quiet this week, contrary to reports that some inmates had been evicted. A spokesman for the hostel complaints office told Sowetan that according to his knowledge, no one had been evicted from the hostel.

This refuted rumours that alleged IFP members at the hostel had driven out non-members from their rooms. The spokesman said only one man had asked to be relocated to another section of the hostel and this was a routine request.

The IFP’s Themba Khosa yesterday denied that the march was organised by the IFP saying it was only a “Zulu nation march”.

“The march has been planned by Zulus who want to show their defiance of the Government’s intention to outlaw the carrying of cultural weapons,” Khosa said.

He said the marchers would show their defiance by carrying other weapons as well on Saturday.

Asked to comment on the ANC’s objections to the march, Khosa said the IFP dismissed them as evidence of the ANC’s interference and political intolerance.
Don't fence us in, say hostel dwellers

THE men who live in Dieploof Hostel - generally regarded as "quiet and friendly" by neighbouring township residents - are gearing themselves up for a stubborn resistance to a fence around their hostel. They are adamant that they will not be fenced in like some wild animals.

At a meeting called by the local council on Sunday, residents were asked to donate R15 000 in taxes that will transport thousands of hostel dwellers to the Johannesburg Magistrates Court where a march is planned for tomorrow.

Residents are at fever pitch at Dieploof, which is among 26 hostels on the PWV and Natal areas earmarked for fencing, according to consistent police reports.

Many residents said they would not be deterred by police or anybody else.

Most of the people who spoke to us before and after Sunday's meeting felt the hostel needed to be upgraded, not fenced in. The anger at being forced to move from the centre of the city where each and every resident has a chance to earn a living.

Several members questioned the purpose of the fence.

The estimated 6000 hostel dwellers were asked how much money they would accept in compensation for each accommodating 16 men. They live in semi-darkness, there are no curtains and toilet seats are broken the space is covered with cardboard and corrugated iron. The walls show the signs of years of prison-style cooking - sometimes as many as eight bums go in a room at a time.

Toilets working conditions are few and the stench of one or two everywhere. Even the working toilets are clogged with faeces.

Dieploof hostel residents have threatened to boycott their rents - between R15 and R17.50 per month - if the fences go up. "We'll just roll up the fence and take it to build krants for our cattle in Natal," said an incensed dweller.

A migrant youth explained that he and his relatives were being treated "like some wild animals.

Dlamini Mhlango, who has lived in the hostel since 1976, believes such a fence is suitable for a zoo."As you can see, we are not animals," he said.

Lephekie Nkosi and six children have found refuge in the hostel. She said she didn't find the Mandela squatter camp in May because she was too far ahead on her time.

"We went to an Inkatha meeting in Durban. We heard the police were here to supervise the erection of the fence, we'll nip out of the ground with our bare hands. No amount of fence will stop us on that one."

Apart from isolating them from the community, the fencing is that they are being treated "like some wild animals."

The legal assistance centre has a vacancy for an ATTORNEY.

**The applicant should be an attorney who is not yet married to Mandela.** Preference will be given to persons who have experience in legal work, having worked as a partner in a successful firm of solicitors.

Applicants will be appointed first in order of merit. The closing date for applications is 8 November 1982.

A bilateral agreement between the government and the ANC on the fencing of hostels has incensed those who live in the disputed areas. RAY NQUMALO visited Dieploof Hostel

Weekly Mail Jazz

**at the Yard of Ale**

**IN COLLABORATION WITH THE WEEKLY MAIL FILM FESTIVAL AND THE GERMAN EMBASSY**

**SUNDAY 16 OCTOBER - YARD OF ALE**

**BACK BY PUBLIC DEMAND**

The Khaya Mahlangu Ensemble

Also Short Film Festival FROM 7:00pm - R6 00

**SUNDAY 23 OCTOBER - MARKET THEATRE PRECINCT**

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE WEEKLY MAIL FILM FESTIVAL

"Just Bones" - Jonas Gwangwa assembles a 5-piece trombone section as part of a 10 piece band FROM 8:00pm TILL 10:00pm FREE

**SUNDAY 1 NOVEMBER - YARD OF ALE**

Sноп Gumedze and the All Stars Bassist, composer and founder of Sakhile FROM 7:00pm - R6 00

The Weekly Mail Jazz

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TELL (Training in English Language and Literature) is a progressive, non-profit adult literacy and numeracy training organisation. We support economically disadvantaged learners in gaining functional literacy and numeracy by adding to their capacity to provide quality literacy and numeracy teacher training, materials and follow-up support.

We need a full-time, hard-working mathswhiz who is able to develop the subject, develop curricula, teaching materials, train teachers and do research into numeracy.

Responsibilities will include:

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The Co-ordinator TELL P.O Box 32485 Bramfontein 2017

Weekly Mail Jazz
CJOB man flees the country

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

The court was told that Verster, who was absconded to appear yesterday to testify at the inquest into the May 11 1989 killing of Wits University academic Dr David Webster, had left the country.

Agreement to disagree

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

Security boost for Natal

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

Alleged necklacers on trial

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

The men, Lance-sergeants Mark Lucy (24) and Simon Gerald Coetzee (22) and constables David Potgieter (19), Pierre Laubscher (18) and Bradford Brown (19), have all pleaded not guilty before Mr PJ du Plessis to attempting to kill Mr Vusi Phiri.

Is fencing-off the answer?

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

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

Hefty damages paid out

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

Smit agreed to pay the estate of the late Andrew Thompson R20 000 and R20 000 to Mr Godfrey Williams, plus their costs. (Pretoria News, Reporter and Supa)
Govt reluctant to fence off hostels

WILSON ZWANE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus said his organisation expected government to honour the agreement and was willing to iron out difficulties experienced.
Minister calls for urgent peace talks

LAW and Order Minister Heran Kriel yesterday called for an urgent meeting between ANC leader Nelson Mandela and Inkatha president Mangosuthu Buthelezi to bring an end to violence in the country.

Kriel, who announced a package of sweeping measures to end violence in Natal, called for an end to political posturing in the interests of peace.

"I would like to make an urgent appeal to Dr Buthelezi and Dr Mandela: For God's sake, please meet, for God's sake, please make peace. We have to stop the senseless killing of people in our country," Kriel told a news conference in Pretoria.

Kriel said he had declared Umbamhlophe and Richmond in Natal as unrest areas.

The security forces were experiencing difficulty in fighting violence in the province because attacks there were well planned and executed at night, and because of the availability of AK-47 assault rifles and other firearms.

Kriel said blunt disregard for the national peace accord, inflammatory statements from local leaders and the difficult terrain in Natal were further hampering peacekeeping efforts, as was a proposed ANC march to Ulundi.

Kriel said an additional 2,000 SADF members had already been deployed in Natal, and a further 3,100 members of the SAP internal stability unit were being concentrated in "hot spots".

UN and Commonwealth observers had been asked to pay particular attention to the region, he said.

WILSON ZWANE reports that Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Buthelezi met in Ulundi yesterday to discuss ways to curb the violence.

Buthelezi's office said in a brief statement that the discussions formed part of the church leaders' efforts to resolve the crisis.

The statement said Tutu, Buthelezi and two other senior KwaZulu government officials held "intensive" discussions on the archbishop's proposals for a joint meeting of all black political leaders.

However, since that was an issue under discussion in the national peace committee, it was resolved that the outcome of the committee's discussions be awaited, the statement said.

On Wednesday, SA Council of Churches (SACC) general secretary Rev Frank Chikane sent a letter to 15 political leaders — including President FW de Klerk, Mandela and Buthelezi — urging them to address the violence.

The leaders should work to convene a multiparty conference and setting a date for electing a constitution-making body and a new political dispensation that would bring peace, Chikane said in the letter.

In another development, a delegation of church leaders will meet the SA Institute of Race Relations (SIRR) next week after suggestions by the institute that some churches encouraged violence in SA.

The relationship between the church leaders and the SIRR was soured last year when the institute's executive director John Kane-Berman accused them of having helped to legitimise violence as an instrument of liberation.

Govt backs away from hostels deal

THE National Housing Department has asked the Goldstone commission to review its recommendations that hostels be fenced off.

National Housing director-general Dugdale de Beer said in a report to the commission that government could not "under present circumstances" meet the obligations it had made in the record of understanding between the ANC and NP to fence off certain hostels.

Instead, priority should be given to upgrading and conversion, with fences being erected only where firm evidence existed that a hostel was being used as a launching pad for violence.

He said that although a programme for the repairing and erecting of fences around hostels identified by the commission had been prepared, "it has not been possible to proceed with construction in the light of prevailing circumstances".

De Beer said Inkatha and the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association had "totally rejected" the agreement between government and the ANC to fence off hostels linked to violence.

The association had said it would launch counter measures including a rent boycott and protest marches. It had warned that no contractors would be allowed on site and said fences would be torn down.

Hostel residents' were also unhappy that fencing had been given a higher priority than upgrading, De Beer said, although they indicated such measures would be acceptable provided they were part of an upgrading programme.

"Mass protest of this nature and scope is likely to lead to an escalation of violence, thereby undermining the whole purpose of the fencing and security measures concerning hostels," he said.
Govt unable to uphold " hostel fencing promise"

The government has failed to fulfill its promise to fence off the hostel, according to residents.

"We have repeatedly asked the government to keep their promise," said one resident. "But they have not delivered on their promise."

Another resident added, "We have been waiting for months for the government to act, and they are still dragging their feet."

The government has said that they are working on the issue, but residents are not convinced. "We have heard this before," said one resident. "They keep saying they are working on it, but nothing is happening."
ANC renegades behind campaign to kill police

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

Opperman said 18 defence unit members — many of them from Phola Park — had been arrested. Three had appeared in court in connection with possession of firearms and attacks on policemen.

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

At least 114 policemen had died violently since the beginning of the year. Last year 142 were killed.

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

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

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

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

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

Sapsa reports that three people — one of them a policeman — were killed and two others were injured in attacks on Reef trains yesterday. Police said Const P.M. Mpanza was thrown from a train between Esibung and Katlehong on the East Rand. His body, which landed under a train, was badly mutilated.

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

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

Government's Social Relief Fund had paid out R670 000 and had assisted more than 1 600 families affected by political violence since it was established three months ago, fund chairman Piet Koornhof said in Durban yesterday.

Govt fence-sitting on hostels

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

DURBAN — Natal could be in for a fresh round of mass action following the ANC southern Natal region’s resolution that it would launch an “unprecedented” campaign to force government into public probing of the security establishment.

One demand made at the weekend conference was that Military Intelligence files be handed to the Goldstone commission.

The conference noted that the situation could not be achieved “by merely talking to the De Klerk government.”

Other resolutions made public yesterday included a demand for an independent judicial commission to investigate “corrupt practices of the KwaZulu government,” to achieve free political activity in KwaZulu, including a march on Ulundi, a demand that Inkatha had to “cease to abuse the station of His Majesty (King Goodwill Zwelithini) for its party political activities, to request that the UN Security Council upgrade the status of its observer mission, and that a “hands-off” Umkhonto we Sizwe campaign be launched to expose “apartheid propaganda.”

PRETORIA — An average 21% of people killed in train violence were hostel dwellers, only 5% of the township community, Pretoria SAP headquarters Maj-Gen Daniel Huggelt said yesterday at the Goldstone commission of inquiry into train violence.

Earlier, SAP Germiston mobile unit commanding Capt Johannes Crouse said that at stations on the East Rand Kwesti route there were no ticket controllers and people could enter without being searched. This contradicted SA Rail Commuter Corporation officials’ testimony.— Sapa
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Bop refuses request for monitors at SACC march

RAY HARTLEY

BOPUTHATSWANA yesterday turned down a request by the national peace secretariat to allow international observers to monitor today’s SACC march through Mmabatho, secretariat chairman Antonie Gildenhuys said yesterday.

He said he was negotiating with Boputhatswana government officials in an effort to reverse their decision.

Both the SACC and Boputhatswana seemed determined to avoid confrontation at the march.

SACC spokesman Bernard Spong said local munsters involved in convening the march were going out of their way to “make it the gentlest of possible protests”.

It is believed Boputhatswana security forces have been given orders to deal with the protesters with kid-gloves in order to avoid an international incident which would lead to sympathy for the SACC.

A government spokesman said the march had not been banned officially, but was considered illegal by the authorities.

Spong said the march would go ahead, even if the possibility of violence existed. “We believe the Boputhatswana government does not have the right to stop us from marching,” he said.

New look at hostel fences

WILSON ZWAN

THE record of understanding’s provisions for security at hostels were being revised, the ANC has said.

ANC officials met Local Government Minister Leon Wessels on Tuesday to reassess the provisions, ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus said. The meeting focused on how guidelines for fencing hostels identified as sources of violence could be implemented.

Niehaus said adjustments were being made to the agreement between government and the ANC, because some hostels no longer needed to be fenced as they were now peaceful.

Local Government Department spokesman Francois Jacobs said Tuesday’s meeting was part of a process to prepare for a follow-up meeting with the ANC to discuss implementation of the record of understanding.

Woman disrupts inquest

SUSAN RUSSELL

The evidence of former CBB MD Joe Verster, who is testifying in camera at the Webster inquest, was interrupted briefly twice yesterday by former women’s rights campaigner Adele van der Spuy.

Van der Spuy arrived at the Rand Supreme Court stating that she wanted to testify at the inquest.

She was twice escorted out of the courtroom where Verster was testifying behind closed doors in order to protect his identity.

Van der Spuy, who said she was the ex-wife of a

former judge, told lawyers and reporters that she had been two attempts on her life. She accused the CBB of being responsible and claimed she could name the leaders of the “hard force”.

Van der Spuy left after speaking to lawyers representing various parties at the inquest.

Verster will be followed by former CCB co-ordinator Latras Luitingh, who is to be recalled for cross-examination by P Cowee SC, representing the SADF.
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Verster will be recalled by former CCB co-ordinator L黄河e Lutchingham, who is to be recalled for cross-examination by P Cotesee SC, representing the SADF.
Goldstone closes Boipatong inquiry

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

R8.7m passed for hostels in Transvaal

PRETORIA — An amount of R8.7m had been voted from the R168.6m made available by government to the TPA for the improvement of 92 hostels in the Transvaal, planning and development MEC John Mavuso said at the weekend.

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

Mavuso said co-operation between interested parties has been good, with no agreement so far.

Negotiations were in progress at a further 49 hostels on the process of upgrading and/or conversion.

Mavuso said in nine other cases, efforts were being made to identify all interested parties and to urge them to negotiate.

STEPHANE BOTHMA

GERALD REILLY
Hostel residents and ANC sign agreement

GOVERNMENT hostel initiatives should be suspended immediately and transferred to the National Housing Forum, representatives of the ANC's PWV region and the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association said yesterday.

In a joint agreement signed yesterday, the ANC and the hostel association expressed mutual dissatisfaction with government's handling of the hostels crisis.

The two parties objected to the use of Black Local Authorities for the upgrading and maintenance of hostels, said the process of consultation undertaken by the Transvaal Provincial Administration had been insufficiently inclusive and rejected the "extensive and costly" use of private sector consultants.

They also said the R320m set aside by government for the upgrading of hostels had not been disbursed satisfactorily.

"Government should immediately undertake to suspend all their initiatives at hostels where agreements have not been finalised and contracts signed by 30 November 1992," the statement said.

ANC spokesman Romeo Mamoepa said the pact, the first of its kind between hostel dwellers and the ANC, did not contradict September's record of understanding between government and the ANC.

Hostel dwellers, who said recently they would tear down any fences erected as a result of the record, consented yesterday to five hostels in the PWV being fenced.

The joint agreement stated that if certain hostel areas were not fenced, "upgrading, integration and development will not be possible."

The Madala and Nobuhle hostels in Alexandra, the Meadowlands and Dobsonville hostels in Soweto and the Rutanda hostel in Heldenberg all required "immediate stabilising measures", the agreement stated.

These measures include the walling off of the hostels, a 24-hour police presence, random searches of grounds and dwellers and a constant monitoring of all access points into and out of the hostels.

Attorney-general to decide on Ceba's arrest

THE police informer whom the Goldstone commission found had organised two attacks which claimed 19 lives in Thokoza last year would be arrested only if the attorney-general found sufficient grounds, police said yesterday.

An inquiry found that Mocgin Ceba, posing as an ANC self-defence unit head, ambushed a march by hostel residents in September last year, killing 16 and injuring 13.

He had also led a violent coup in the Phola Park Residents' Committee, of which three members were subsequently assassinated.

Police spokesman Capt Eugene Opperman said the commission usually directed its findings to the attorney-general, after which they would be sent to the police.
Agreement on hostels reached

The NVC and Government reached an agreement on hostels. In a report, which was

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Threat to destroy hostel fences

INKATHA hostel leaders have threatened to tear down fences around hostels in the PWV — despite an agreement that "stabilising measures" would have to be adopted at five hostels in the region.

Inkatha's Alexandra Hostel branch chairman Phumelele Sokhela said Inkatha branches would not allow "anybody to fence us".

The statement followed the signing of an agreement on Monday between the ANC's PWV region and the Transvaal Hostel Residents Association.

In the agreement, the first of its kind between the ANC and hostel dwellers, it was agreed that "stabilising measures" would have to be adopted at five hostels in the PWV region including the Madala and Nobuhle hostels in Alexandra and the Meadowlands hostel in Soweto.

The agreement stated that if certain hostels were not fenced, "upgrading, integration and development will not be possible.

Tollgate

substantial injection of new capital by TGH shareholders, if this took place Absa might consider injecting new capital itself.

But returning from a trip to the UK in which she discussed the matter with TGH shareholders, Asim said no shareholder injection of capital would be forthcoming unless Absa was prepared to restructure the debt.

Asa rejected this suggestion, Brits said, as it would have involved substantial debt write-offs.

Asa also rejected a set of proposals submitted by TGH in November after it had rejected suggestions made in August to restructure the debt. The August proposals involved Asa writing off or cancelling about R152m of its debt, "ring fencing" an additional R12m, investing another R32m in preference shares in TGH and granting the group a working capital facility of about R5m.

The November proposals involved either a buyout, a controlled liquidation involving the sale of some of TGH's viable businesses or an immediate liquidation.

In terms of the buyout proposal, Asa would release certain sureties and take over certain assets to reduce TGH's exposure to Asa to R183m. This would be converted to backdated, five-year redeemable preference shares with a coupon of 90% of prime bank rate. Asa would also make available as secured working capital a further R5m financed by bankers' acceptances for two years.

A consortium of some of the present shareholders together with the new shareholders would make an offer to minority shareholders and then delist TGH. A separate Asa loan to a consortium shareholder overseas would also be converted into five-year preference shares.

The effect of the buyout proposal would be to leave earnings of R5m, which would then be sufficient for the R4m a year required for other bank claims and contingencies. The scheme was rejected by Asa.

TGH's financial position deteriorated in the six months to end-June and it made an operating loss of R7.6m and its net asset value declined by about R47.7m. Brits said there was no possibility of the group achieving the projected operating profit of R5m for the full financial year.
UN, OAU tour hostel

SOWETO's troubled Meadowlands hostel was visited yesterday by UN observers and OAU representative Shaddy Sibajene in an effort to comprehend the violence that has reduced large sections of the hostel to a burnt-out shell.

The visit comes in the wake of a recent agreement signed by the ANC's PWV region and the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association, which reconciliation between hostel dwellers and nearby communities was deemed essential before upgrading and development could be undertaken.

ANC PWV region chairman Tokyo Sexwale said joint rallies between hostel dwellers and members of surrounding communities would be organised as a way to encourage the peaceful reintegration of the region's 33 hostels.

Sexwale reiterated the demand of the association/ANC agreement that funds earmarked by government for hostel upgrading be transferred to the National Housing Forum.

He called on business, the churches and the UN to contribute to the upgrading programme and said visits to other hostels were to be arranged.

Meadowlands hostel chairman Wesley Dlamini, who showed the UN, OAU, ANC and media representatives the condition at the hostel, said the hostel issue had to be depoliticised if any progress was to be made.
National health policy proposed

AFTER a week-long conference, major health organisations on Friday released their national health policy which is expected to hold far-reaching implications for future health provision in SA.

The policy document — which was formulated by the SA Health and Social Services Organisation and the National Progressive Primary Health Care Network — has first to be ratified at a regional level before it is formally adopted.

The document focused on the fragmentation of the present health service which has resulted in wasted resources and inequitable care to different sectors of the population.

The issue of labour relations in the public health sector was given prominence in the document. Poor labour relations had damaged and disrupted health care in SA and, by undermining the morale of workers, had affected the quality of their care, it said.

The exclusion of civil servants from the Labour Relations Amendment Act of 1991 was the root cause of the strike. The conference called for the Act to be extended immediately to include all public servants and to guarantee their right to strike.

In order to avoid strike action workers, especially nurses, had to be guaranteed freedom of professional association, and acceptable dispute resolution mechanisms had to be adopted.

Many of the health sector's problems arose from the concentration of health personnel in urban white areas and in the private sector. To redress the imbalance, the document resolved to implement incentives such as higher pay or greater professional recognition for work to attract personnel to underserved rural areas or to the public sector.

The document also proposed a stronger emphasis on mental health. Several investigations in recent years had found that up to four in 10 people were suffering from some form of mental ill-health, which was often brought about by the violence in communities as well as within families and by alcohol and drug abuse.

Speaking at the conference, Gerald Bloom, a developmental studies lecturer at Sussex University, said there was no simple solution to the problem of financing essential health services in a society as segmented as in SA, where there were many sophisticated hospitals for the rich and an underdeveloped primary health care service for the poor.

"It may be unrealistic to attempt to provide the entire population with the kind of services which have been developed to serve the elite, or even those services which formal sector employees have come to regard as their right. The establishment of new institutions is costly and takes time to establish," said Bloom.

Johannesburg city health executive director Dr Nicky Padayachee proposed an option for health sector restructuring which could be rapidly implemented once an interim government was in place.

"There is obvious support for a unitary health system with decentralised implementation and the removal of fragmentation, duplication and racism. There is also wide support for equity and for a primary health care approach, including community accountability and participation."
**Consensus reached on hostels revamp**

*ADRIAN HADLAM*

"It must be stressed that the TPA regards proper and representative consultation of the utmost importance in achieving the upgrading or conversion of hostels in the Transvaal," it added.

The Local Government and National Housing Department said that, nationwide, planning for 41 upgrading projects was under way at a cost of about R25m. Building operations had been approved for a further 36 sites, the cost of which would be almost R90m.

Sapa reports that fighting among inmates of the Durban Deep Hostel on the West Rand left six people dead on Saturday night, bringing the number killed at the hostel since Christmas Day.

Police have reported at least six other deaths in violence in the Transvaal since Thursday.

Three men died at Hostel 4, Sebokeng, in the Vaal Triangle, a man was stabbed to death and a woman was found hanged in Alexandra township, near Johannesburg, and the body of an unidentified man with his genitals cut off was found in the veld near Bekkersdal on the West Rand.

In Natal on Friday, two men were found shot dead at KwaNdengeni between Durban and Maritzburg, and the bodies of three men were found at Swayimane, outside Maritzburg.
35 hostels to be revamped

The Transvaal Provincial Administration has reached agreement on the upgrading of 35 hostels in the province.

The TPA has been allocated almost R200 million by the Government for the upgrading of 35 Transvaal hostels.

TPA chief director of physical planning and development in the Witwatersrand region, Jeff Wilkins, said, discussions had been held with a wide range of interested parties before a decision was made. These included the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association, hostel owners, township residents and political parties.

The TPA had been presented with several choices on how to deal with the various hostels, which ranged from upgrading to conversion into family units and even demolition. Wilkins said any decision made required the approval of residents of affected hostels.

The ANC's PWV region has, meanwhile, expressed concern over the TPA's decision to go ahead with the upgrading of hostels. Regional deputy secretary-general Obed Bapela said the funds earmarked for the task, and the responsibility for upgrading, should be transferred to the National Housing Forum – Sapera.
MIGRANT LABOUR, S.A. - TRANSVAAL
1993
Lawyers berate Broeders

A SERVING Supreme Court judge's membership of a secret organisation such as the Afrikaner Broederbond was improper and incompatible with the proper administration of justice, the Johannesburg Bar Council said yesterday.

The council, in a statement, expressed concern about recent media reports that a Natal judge was on the executive council of the Broederbond.

"The Broederbond is a secret society which pursues objectives essentially political in nature. Accordingly, membership thereof by a serving judge is improper and incompatible with the proper administration of justice," council chairman Nim Tren holes SC said.

He said it was fundamental to the administration of justice that judicial officers not only be impartial, but that they be perceived by the public to be impartial.

"Any derogation from an unqualified public perception of impartiality will undermine confidence in the judiciary and will ultimately undermine the administration of justice itself," Tregove said.

It had long been recognised that the holding of judicial offices was incompatible with membership of a political party or any other organisation with essentially political objectives.

"The public would inevitably, rightly or wrongly, perceive a judicial officer to be a member of such an organisation, as committed to the furtherance of the objectives towards the detriment of his judicial duty of impartiality," Tregove said.

ANC's election campaign shifts into first gear

LOVIT COUZTS

THE ANC's election campaign moved into first gear yesterday when its Witwatersrand regional executive committee announced plans to adopt a three-phase programme of action for a "mass-driven" election campaign.

ANC PWV region secretary-general Paul Mashatile said the campaign would be discussed and adopted at a general council in Mayfair, Johannesburg, on Saturday and Sunday.

The first phase would include the motivation of campagners and consolidation of the ANC/SACP/Cosatu alliance, the mass democratic movement and the patriotic front, said Mashatile.

Phase two would include door-to-door campaigning, marches and house meetings aimed at recruitment and disseminating information on ANC policy.

The third phase would mark the transition from the preparatory stage to a "Votes for All" campaign, encompassing subregional and regional conferences, rallies and public meetings focusing on unemployment, education, housing and health.

Throughout the phases the ANC PWV would redouble its efforts to create and consolidate peace initiatives in the region.

"Central to these meetings will be the issue of the climate of free political activity, political tolerance and peaceful coexistence of different organisations," said Mashatile.

"The successful adoption and implementation of this programme should ensure the broadest possible support for democratic forces led by the ANC and its allies to bring an end to more than 300 years of minority rule and usher in an everlasting peace and democracy for all South Africans," he said.

Thirty-three outstanding resolutions from an annual regional conference last year, including resolutions on the Peace Accord, socio-economic issues, self-defence units, VAT and food prices, the restructuring of the SABC, affirmative action relating to women and education would also be discussed, Mashatile said.

DP to focus on domestic workers

THE DP has set out to inform domestic workers in Johannesburg's north-eastern suburbs of their civil, political and employment rights.

DP MP Tony Leon said yesterday the Houghton branch was holding a meeting for domestic workers on Saturday. He said organisers also sought to prepare domestics for the coming elections.

"We have arranged for a voter education play to be staged, which is highly professional and entertaining," Leon said.

The meeting will be held at the Northwood Primary School at 9am.

Council settles hostel dispute

CONFRONTATION between hostel residents from Thokoza, on the East Rand, and the local town council was averted this week when agreement on the occupation of the newly renovated Thokoza hostel was reached.

The hostel recently underwent R3m upgrade, Sapa reports.

The agreement was reached on Tuesday by the TPA, the council and the hostel residents' committee.

In terms of the agreement, those who had vacated the hostel during its upgrading should be reoccupied and undertake to bear its running costs.

In a joint statement the parties said a joint management committee comprising representatives of the hostel residents, the council and the TPA had been formed to manage the hostel's finances.

The committee would manage the hostel independently of the council and the TPA. It will decide on the date for reoccupation of the hostel and on new rentals.

Tensions between the hostel residents and the municipality arose recently when the council barred residents from occupying the hostel until they had undertaken - in writing - to pay a 50% increase in rent.

Residents, who had paid R5 for a month before they vacated the hostel, refused and threatened to gain entry to the hostel by force.

WILSON ZWANE

plaining how to vote and the importance of tolerance and peace.

"We will also provide a summary of the new legislation which is intended to bring domestic workers under the protection of the Basic Conditions of Employment Act. It is necessary to reconcile employer and employee needs and demands without causing job losses," Leon said.

The meeting will be held at the Northwood Primary School at 9am.

Phase two would include door-to-door campaigning, marches and house meetings aimed at recruitment and disseminating information on ANC policy.

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Housing forum ‘resolved’ Thokoza’s hostel dispute

THE National Housing Forum (NHF) played a major role in negotiating an agreement between hostel residents and the Thokoza town council on the reoccupation of the newly renovated Thokoza 1 Hostel, sources said.

The sources said the forum facilitated a flow of information between the two sides after it had been alerted to rising tensions over the dispute. The council said residents would be allowed to reoccupy the hostel only after they had undertaken in writing to pay a 300% increase in rent.

Residents, who had been paying R15 a month before they left the hostel, refused to make such an undertaking and threatened to regain entry into the hostel by force.

The forum’s involvement in the dispute apparently stemmed from the realisation that the council’s refusal to allow residents to reoccupy the building after its upgrading could spark an outbreak of violence in the volatile East Rand township.

The NHF’s office said yesterday it would not comment on its involvement in Thokoza as yet.

The Thokoza Town Council and the Thokoza Hostel Residents’ Committee agreed last week that residents who had vacated the hostel during its upgrading should reoccupy it and undertake to bear its running costs.

TPA spokesman Yvette Engelbrecht said last week the agreement had been concluded after the administration had managed to get the two sides to talk to each other.
Back to a war zone

When home is the only place to go...

BATTLE GROUND... A row of Malmapho homes which were vandalised and looted in a hostel attack on residents last year. All that remains are the empty shells.

The silence that has engulfed Meadowlands township and the hostel complex opposite the township remains unbroken. The dusty road between the hostel and the township is a no-go zone for both residents and hostel dwellers.

The attack, which left hundreds of township residents homeless, was apparently sparked by the stoning of a woman by youths at Victoria Road while she was waiting for a taxi. This is alleged to have angered hostel inmates who were believed to have launched a series of revenge attacks against residents, killing women and children.

Only houses facing the hostel at Meadowlands Zone 2 and the hostel complex opposite the township remain deserted. The dusty road between the hostel and the township is a no-go zone for both residents and hostel dwellers.

Although there is no formal peace agreement between the warring factions, there have been reports of fights since the attack.

However, township residents are wary of the tranquillity that prevailed during the festive season. They said there was no more fighting because they feared for their safety.

But the youths in the hostel said they were tired of fighting and that Christmas Day they fetched

NO-GO ZONE HOME... Malmapho resident Salashil returned to her house to spend Christmas at home.
Mozambicans moving to SA despite curbs

The number working on SA mines is now 50 000:

Sowetan Africa News Service

MAPUTO - Despite attempts by the South African Government to curb the influx, the number of Mozambicans working on the South African mines has increased in recent years and now stands at about 50 000.

The miners earn more than 10 times the minimum industrial wage in Mozambique, according to Mr Pedro Taimo, the Mozambican Labour Ministry's representative in South Africa.

Taimo told the official news agency Am that, in addition to the miners, his office knew of about 8 000 Mozambicans who were working illegally in South Africa, some of them as slaves on farms.

The actual number of illegal workers could be much higher, he said.

Many of them had fled from the war in Mozambique and unscrupulous farmers, taking advantage of their illegal status, were paying them "laughably low wages".

The figure of 50 000 now working on the mines was far below the maximum of 118 000 when Mozambique became independent in 1975. The Pretoria government immediately imposed restrictions that led to the number dropping to 41 000 in two years.

It rose again to about 55 000 in the mid-eighties until the government in 1986 threatened to expel them all at the end of their contracts.

Taimo said the wages paid to the miners were "reasonable", averaging about R700 a month.
Mines had to be prodded

XAVIER Cossa travelled 1 500 km from his home in northern Mozambique to Johannesburg to collect his long-service payment from the Chamber of Mines.

He arrived only to find he has another five years to wait – the 1993 collection date he had been given by mine officials when he was retrenched two years ago was wrong.

Stranded and penniless, with no way of getting back to his village near Vilanculos, 800 km north of Maputo, Cossa approached City Press.

Cossa worked on contract to Teba from 1965 to 1990. On his retrenchment from Rand Mutual Hospital in 1990, he was given a certificate which stated he would qualify for the award when he turned 50 in 1999.

From his severance pay he saved enough to travel back to Johannesburg for the money.

He had nothing left to live on, no prospects of a job, a disabled wife and seven kids to feed.

Teba officials said he had been given the wrong information.

City Press appealed to the Chamber to pay Cossa's fare back to Mozambique because it was their mistake which had caused him to travel to Johannesburg.

The Chamber has now arranged for him to be transported back to Mozambique.
NEWS Makwetu to address rally • ‘Nation tired of being a tool’ say hostel inmates

24 hostels sign declaration to live in peace

Sowetan 26/2/93

Initiative was launched during a prayer meeting last month:

By Mzimasi Ngudle

INMATES from 24 Johannesburg hostels have signed a declaration of intent for peace and resolved to initiate dialogue with other hostel residents.

This was announced at a Press conference yesterday by the peace facilitator, the Reverend Mvume Dandala, who had been invited by hostel residents to assist with the initiative.

Dandala said the hostels agreed on a programme of action that would comprise codes of conduct "to deal with potential conflict among hostel residents timeously." He said the initiative was formally launched during a prayer service in January when representatives from 24 hostels showed their commitment to a peace process initiated by Jeppe hostel inmates.

Mr Jacob Dlamini, who represented Jeppe hostel residents, said the "nation is tired of being tools to perpetuate division and mistrust." He added that "we are ltter saying it is impossible to find an alternative to the kind of life we were subjected to. We started the initiative by inviting hostels that wanted to walk the path of peace to join in with us," Dandala said.

"The genius of the effort is that it has not been initiated by any organisation, whether religious, political or otherwise. It is the residents themselves who have done it."
An alien in a country now called home

The Aliens Control Act affects not only those immigrants who have flocked here recently in search of opportunity, but also those who have spent their entire adult lives contributing to South Africa's economy.

By ALEX DODD

There are clerks at the Home Affairs offices who weren't even born when Joao Dihlovu came to South Africa to work on the mines in 1948. But they could send him the "alien" back to Mozambique—a country he now considers foreign.

He's afraid to approach Home Affairs for fear of repatriation, but, worn out at 65 years old, he realizes he does not have that many years of working life left and needs a pension.

He is trying to obtain a South African identity document so he can claim R295 a month, triple his current monthly salary as a farm labourer. This is an almost impossible task.

The National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) plans to lobby the African National Congress to ensure that mineworkers from the Southern states are given ID documents.

"NUM has decided to approach the ANC to ensure that workers from neighbouring countries who have worked in South Africa for more than five years are entitled to take up South African citizenship," reads the February report of the NUM's central committee.

This would enable them to vote in elections for an interim government. As South African citizens they would also be entitled to retirement pensions.

Since Dihlovu (not his real name) was recruited by the mine agency, Wesela, 45 years ago, he hasn't been back to Mozambique.

For his first seven years in South Africa, he worked on contracts for five different mines and was also employed by a back-makling company.

Since 1955 he has been working as a farm labourer and currently works on a farm in Eikenhof, north of Vereeniging, where he earns R100 a month plus accommodation.

He recently approached an advice office worker at the Black Sash in central Johannesburg, who insisted on meeting him in his quest for official recognition.

Dihlovu had to travel into Johannesburg on a regular basis to deal with the logistics of the process. The Black Sash has provided his travel fare, but he has to get permission every time he leaves the farm and stands the chance of being fired for his repeated absences.

In order to obtain a South African identity document he has to prove that he has been working in South Africa since 1963 and has no family commitments back or Mozambique.

A Hunter employment agency who is conducting a fingerprint search in order to verify that Dihlovu did in fact work as a miner. But the Black Sash believes it is unlikely they will be able to trace his records of employment.

Employers of illegal immigrants are generally reluctant to support them in the process of legitimizing themselves, as they face the possibility of being fined R200 for five years' employment or both for hiring an illegal immigrant.

His current employer refuses to vouch for him, unless his previous employer is also prepared to verify that he worked for him. His previous employer is dead. Dihlovu managed to trace the dead man's brother who was unmoved by his plea.

He then took into the Black Sash offices two friends who were prepared to swear that he'd been working in the country since 1962.

It emerged that neither of the two men had identity documents themselves, although both claimed to be South African born and bred. Since then he has managed to get hold of two others who have provided the necessary supporting affidavits.

But still Dihlovu stands on very shaky ground. Even if he can prove that he has been working continually since 1963, he will have to admit that only seven of those 30 years of work were legal. On top of that he will have to find a way of proving that he has no connections back in Mozambique.

Having been part of South Africa's workforce for more than two-thirds of his life, the chances of Dihlovu being able to support himself through his old age are slim. He has no family support network here and has lost contact with his family in Mozambique. So at the age of 65, he finds himself as just another name on the target list of the Alien Control Unit.
THE PEACEMAKER

By BILL KRIGE

BY DAY, Jacob DIOMO IS A JOHANNESBURG BANK MESSENGER — but after work he is the architect of a peace movement sweeping through the hated Reef hostel system. Abetted by adjacent communities and isolated by code of racism wars, hostellers have been central to the violence which has left thousands dead in the past two years. Now that Bo Kaap has been blamed for tragic violence, for taxi wars and, above all, for numerous forays into neighbourhoods of the Reef, the Uprighters have staged a peace pledge, moved to heal the ghastly wounds which have begun.

But without the skills and courage of the 54-year-old messenger — who brazenly calls for clearer at First National Bank's branch at the corner of S Smithfield and Market streets — the homegrown peace initiative might have been still-born. Last August, with trouble brewing again between Zulu at the Jeppe Street Hostel and the Xhosa and Shaka municipal workers housed at Sibwe, the Jeppe leadership decided they'd had enough.

They wrote a letter, a peace appeal, to Soli but found no one to deliver it. With reason. Deaths could be swift and brutal for a Soli caught in the gun no-man's-land of this alien stronghold.

DIPLOMAT

Mr Diomo, known in his remote Kwanzelo village of Nkanza as a diplomat and peacemaker, volunteered to take the massive.

"What Are you mad?" the Jeppe man was asked. "You're going to the Reverend Mr Dandala of the Central Methodist Mission, a key player in the peace process?

"If I'm to be killed for making peace, I'd rather go than being killed without knowing what you are doing for," Mr Dandalo replied.

He carried the letter to the compound at Sibwe. The Xhosa leadership was so impressed they smuggled him out by car to avoid trouble.

In November delegations from both hostels met at a neutral venue. "It was tense. You could cut the atmosphere with a knife but something would be built there which will take a lot of breaking down," said Mr Dandala.

Mr Diomo, a bold, angular man with highly polished black shoes and trousers that hung too short, doesn't look like a hero and yet to thousands he is. They cheered around him in the street and even urinated on his prance. He refuses to take credit for getting the peace哪家 peace initiative going. No does he concede his diplomatic and oratory skills have helped give a momentum which seems unstoppable.

"It is not my duty to help but, when circumstances call, I have answered," he said through an interpreter. Others, he knows, have done as much.

Suspicious

Education is a sore point among the hostel residents, and they have expressly excluded scholars from the process they have begun. They are equally suspicious of the involvement of political parties, and the ANC and Inkatha, both deeply anxious that the process succeed, have been kept at arm's length.

So what do they discuss? "Dineo tells them we are drawn by the vision of what we can be and that we will revamp the past to find out where we went wrong. He says they are gathered as residents, not politicians, for it is only as residents that they can take backing down," he said.

Mending relationships with former hostel lamae it's better, he says. "Reintegrating them with territories and damaged communities is another. But soccer matches are being arranged and the process of normalizing has begun. Residents have been welcomed to peace initiative meetings and hundreds have responded. But it is the effort to change hearts and minds which promises peace.

"The start of the movement has been noticeable," said Jacob Diomo. "People are starting to come together again, there is contact."
Some miner changes to gold's history

The story of mining at Gold Reef City is a vivid reflection of the town's history and culture. The mine site has been transformed into a tourist attraction, offering visitors a glimpse into the past through various activities and experiences.

The Workers' Library has been a significant part of this transformation, providing a space for reading and learning about the history of the mine. The library is located in one of the old mining buildings and is staffed by volunteers who are knowledgeable about the history of the area.

One of the most popular activities at Gold Reef City is the gold panning, where visitors can try their hand at finding gold. The panning area is set up in a scenic location, and visitors are provided with all the necessary equipment.

Another attraction is the gold mining tour, where visitors can explore the underground mine and learn about the techniques used by the miners. The tour is led by experienced guides who share their knowledge about the history of the area.

The railway station is another attraction that offers a glimpse into the past. Visitors can take a ride on a vintage train, which provides a unique perspective on the town's history.

The gold mine is open for visitors, and they can tour the underground galleries and see the machinery that was used by the miners. The tour is guided by experienced miners who share their knowledge about the history of the area.

The visitors center is a hub of information, with displays and exhibits that showcase the history of the mine and the town. The center is staffed by volunteers who are knowledgeable about the area and are happy to answer any questions visitors may have.

In conclusion, Gold Reef City is a unique and fascinating place to visit, offering visitors a chance to explore the history of mining and learn about the town's rich heritage. Whether you're interested in history, culture, or adventure, there's something here for everyone.
Foreign hawkers pose problem

THE influx of foreign African hawkers into Johannesburg has presented a problem for the local hawkers' organisation and the city council.

The African Council for Hawkers and Informal Business (Achab) said yesterday there were 2 000 Zambian, Zimbabwean and other African traders plying their trade in the Johannesburg station area alone.

"They come in droves and trade in all manner of merchandise, turning down offers of membership to local organisations. This renders them free to flout regulations and norms we are trying to fashion for orderly trade in the city," Mavundla said.

Mavundla said it irked him that the "black hawker" got the blame for whatever untoward behaviour was observed, by the public and the authorities, no matter where the culprit came from.

Johannesburg City Council urbanisation director Cédric de Beer said the council couldn't do anything about illegal immigrants.

"That is the national government's responsibility," he said.

And the Business Act of 1996 had done away with registration requirements for hawkers, which made the council powerless to take action against the traders.

"But we do need some form of identification of informal traders, and for this we will need to sit down with the trader organisations and the police," said de Beer.

Mavundla said the problem Achab had with Chinese traders last year was almost solved. An agreement on how the two parties would co-operate, which in part allows local hawkers to source supplies directly from China, would be signed next week.

"After the signing of the accord, with the Chinese, we will be able to address the questions of the African traders," Mavundla said.
Jo'burg and Randburg slipping

By Jo-Anne Collinge

The Central Witwatersrand has shown a "precipitous" decline in the production of manufactured goods and in employment in that sector over the past 20 years, according to a preliminary study commissioned by the Central Wits Metropolitan Chamber.

The Central Witwatersrand — comprising Johannesburg and Randburg — "declined more rapidly than other major urban centres" in relation to manufacturing, the report states.

Between 1980 and 1991, the loss of manufacturing jobs ran to 39.5 percent in the Central Wits, against 27.5 percent for the entire PWV.

Overall, there has been a steady decline in the importance of the Central Witwatersrand as a contributor to national employment and production.

Authors, Dr. Richard Tomlinson of the Development Bank of Southern Africa and Roland Hunter of the consulting group Planact, acknowledge that their findings sharply contradict widely held perceptions.

"It appears true that migrants from all over Southern Africa view the PWV as a preferred location. Politicians still see the Central Wits and the PWV as the 'golden goose' from which resources can be extracted for development elsewhere," they comment.
Using fair play to build bridges between hostels

Methodist minister the Rev Mvume Dandala is a tried and tested peace broker with a winning charm. In the first of a series on South Africans working to rebuild our traumatised society, Mvume talks about his latest calling — to facilitate a peace initiative between Johannesburg hostel dwellers.

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AK-47s confiscated

SIX AK-47 rifles and ammunition were confiscated and nine illegal Mozambican immigrants have been detained since Wednesday when police began intensifying security action in the Eastern Transvaal province.

Police have erected roadblocks in the region. About 100 members of the police Internal Stability Unit have been deployed in the Empelö and Nelspruit districts.
Hostel residents seek peace plans

WILSON ZWANE

Representatives of hostel residents are seeking an urgent meeting with the SA National Civic Organisation (Sanco) to find solutions to the spiralling violence on the East Rand.

Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association chairman Joseph Kubheka said yesterday his organisation was "extremely concerned" about the situation in Katlehong and Thokoza.

Kubheka said it was "sad" that hostel residents, who were often implicated in incidents of township violence, were "always excluded from peace initiatives".

He said it seemed that the peace initiatives were the preserve of political organisations.

Because there appeared to be tension between hostel and township residents, Sanco and his organisation should get together and "jointly work out strategies" to stem violence and renew the culture of co-existence, he said.

He emphasised that his organisation was not pro-Inkatha and that many of its members were apolitical.

"It is sad that the conflict between hostel and township residents is perceived in many quarters as a power struggle between the ANC and Inkatha," he said.

Kubheka said his organisation would ask to meet Sanco this week.

Sanco president Moses Mayekiso said any initiative intended to stem violence was to be welcomed.

"We are willing to meet the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association," he said.

Campaign targets illegal weapons

PRETORIA — A major publicity campaign warning the public to hand in illegal weapons within 60 days would be launched on Monday, the police said yesterday.

The multi-million-rand campaign would coincide with the promulgation of the 1993 Arms and Ammunition Act, police spokesman Gen Leon Meltel said.

The Act gives the public 60 days to hand in weapons classified illegal — including AK-47s, machine pistols, hand grenades, rocket launchers and explosive devices — failing which offenders face a minimum sentence of five years in jail.

"At the end of this 60 day amnesty period, nobody will be able to stand up and say 'I didn't know'," he said.

The campaign would include the publication of 8-million stickers, posters and advertisements, warning that the possession of illegal weapons would lead to a 25-year prison sentence (maximum) as well as "community and family rejection".

Suppliers of toll free number and guarantees of secrecy, the stickers state that up to R50 000 would be paid for valuable information leading to the recovery of specified government weapons.

The publicity material and stickers would be distributed through government offices.

"It will cost a lot, up to R280 000 for the stickers alone, but everybody must know," a police spokesman said.

Wits court interdict angers students

WITS University had declared war on its students by seeking a court interdict earlier this week preventing students from disrupting classes during their mass action campaign, the SA Students Congress (Sasco) said yesterday.

Students yesterday gathered at a meeting on the campus, addressed by ANCYL Youth League president Peter Mokaba, to voice their anger and protest against the SA's disintegrating education system.

The action was aimed at addressing the "unrepresentative" nature of the Wits appeal and "arm twisting" of the university by the university authorities.

ANC Youth League president Peter Mokaba yesterday addressed students at Wits University. Students were protesting against a Rand Supreme Court interdict restraining them from disrupting activities on the campus during mass action.

"It is estimated that more than 1-million AK-47s were unaccounted for in Mozambique alone," the police said.

Meltel denied the legislation had any political motivation, adding that even police officers found in possession of illegal weapons would be forced to spend at least five years in prison.

"There is no political consideration, this is aimed at crime," he said.

But ANCYL spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said the Act would have no legitimacy "as long as it is seen to be aimed at black people while leaving white people armed".

The Act addressed itself to the possession of illegal weapons rather than the cause, Mamoepa said.

"We are willing to meet the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association," he said.

"It will cost a lot, up to R280 000 for the stickers alone, but everybody must know," a police spokesman said.

"We are willing to meet the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association," he said.
Bid to free R200-m for hostels

By Cyril Madlala

A hostel forum to unlock R200 million allocated to the Government to the Transvaal Provincial Administration for upgrading projects is to be launched next month.

The Witwatersrand Forum will play a crucial role as a facilitating body that will involve all stakeholders in the hostels crisis.

Among urgent matters on its agenda is how the R200 million – part of the Government's hostels initiative last year which included setting aside R35 million for upgrading projects across SA – is to be spent.

Last year, TPA chief executive director of physical planning and development in the Witwatersrand region, Jeff Wilkins, announced that agreement had been reached with a wide range of interested parties before a decision was taken to upgrade 38 hostels.

However, this money was not spent after the ANC's PWV region and the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association objected to using black local authorities to upgrade and maintain hostels, and said the TPA had not consulted widely enough.

The two parties wanted the initiative suspended and transferred to the National Housing Forum.

The problem of not having an organisation to facilitate discussions was keenly felt last year, when the ANC's PWV leaders and the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association signed a bilateral agreement to fence certain hostels. But the EPF rejected this and threatened to tear down the fences.
Hartebeestfontein ‘not safe’ for Mozambicans

ALMOST 4000 Mozambican miners had been separated from their colleagues and had not been permitted to work underground at Anglovaal’s Hartebeestfontein mine since fighting broke out on May 23. A Mozambican labour office representative said yesterday.

The Mozambican government had not forbidden miners to resume work, but the lack of "minimum security conditions" at the mine meant it was not safe for them to do so, he said.

One Shangaan worker who had defied the ban on underground work had been killed this week by his fellow workers.

The 714 workers were being housed under “minimum living conditions” in an old, unused hostel at the mine, the representative said. The hostel lacked facilities and its sewage system was failing.

Most of the affected miners had lost all their possessions during the fighting and did not have enough blankets or clothes, he said.

The miners would stay at the hostel for the two week “cooling-off” period agreed on, but some had been repatriated to Mozambique, he said. They would have to return to the mine within 30 days if they wished to keep their jobs.

According to the representative, tension at the mine had been sparked by the Mozambicans' refusal to join industrial action called by the NUM. As a result they had been accused of working with management to the detriment of the union.

Of the 17 miners killed, 12 were from Mozambique. He described the incident as an unprovoked attack on unarmed workers.

In total 88 Mozambicans had been injured in the fighting. Of these, about 70 men were still being treated in hospital for injuries sustained during the fighting. The representative said they were receiving "inadequate attention" at the mine clinic.

An Anglovaal spokesman said discussions were proceeding with all interested parties. One issue which had been agreed was the referral of the investigation to the peace secretariat.

"In view of this it would be inappropriate for the company to make further statements," the spokesman said.
‘Protect us,’ plead Mozambique miners

MAPUTO — Nearly 4,000 Mozambican miners at the Hartbeesfontein mine in the Transvaal have gone on strike, demanding that the management protect them against attacks by South African miners there, according to reports reaching Maputo.

Their action follows the death of 17 miners, mostly Mozambicans, and the wounding of another 88 in clashes at the mine last month.

The mine management has threatened to fire all 3,700 of the striking Mozambicans unless they return to work today, according to the official Mozambican news agency, AIM.

AIM says the crisis has been discussed between Labour Minister Teodato Hungwana, Cosatu and the ANC and that the labour ministry's Johannesburg representative, Pedro Tauro, has asked Nelson Mandela to intervene in the dispute.

According to Tauro's office, the South African National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) has refused to help resolve the dispute, which appears to arise from objections by South African miners to the Mozambicans working when some local miners have been retrenched.

AIM says both the ANC and Cosatu accept that the Mozambicans have a right to continue working in South Africa as they and their forefathers have been doing for the past century.

"But clearly there are difficulties in persuading the rank and file of the NUM to accept this," adds AIM.
Harties issues

TALKS at Anglovaal's Hartiesbeestfontein mine 'continued yesterday to defuse tension' on the mine after fighting last month which left 17 workers dead.

An Anglovaal spokesman said 3,700 Mozambican workers were still being housed separately and had refused to resume underground work.

He said a 'small number' had resigned and left the mine, but others were 'unresolved' awaiting the outcome of these negotiations.

He said the NUM, management, Mozambican authorities and workers had been locked in talks for the past two days, but had yet to resolve the issue.

The Mozambican miners were not being paid because they were not tendering their services, he said.
'Knife reward may have contributed to violence'

THE issuing of penknives to workers as a reward for achieving a million fatality-free shifts could have been a contributing factor in the recent fighting at Anglovaal's Hartebeesfontein mine which claimed 17 lives, NUM president James Miotlatsi said yesterday.

He said the knives were given to workers in October, but now anyone found in possession of a weapon — including the issued knives — would be summarily dismissed in terms of management's attempts to stamp out violence.

The NUM claimed workers were issued with Taiwanese combat knives, but Anglovaal said in a statement last night they were pocket knives 5cm long.

The mining house did not, however, dispute Miotlatsi's claim that the knives were being confiscated.

Miotlatsi said management's "unilateral decision" to house Mozambican workers separately and preventing them from working at the mine was still in force.

He also accused management of launching "a vacuous campaign of lies and distortions to discredit the NUM as the guilty party jointly with the ANC".

He said management had been generally uncooperative and had done little to help defuse tensions following the fighting. Instead it had issued a brief threatening workers with instant dismissal if they refused to come forward and report who was responsible for any violent incidents.

Miotlatsi said mine management had stated it would dismiss residents of "an entire room or block of rooms for failure to identify perpetrators of violence".

He described Anglovaal as "hostile towards the NUM" and said its policy of housing miners along ethnic lines heightened tension on the mine.

This was exacerbated by the mine's recruitment of indunas to extend the control mechanism beyond the workplace into workers' living quarters.

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ERICA JANKOWITZ

Miotlatsi denied the fighting was sparked by Mozambican workers' refusal to join strike action.

However, Miotlatsi was unable to give details of how many Mozambican workers were NUM members as ethnic distinctions were not made in the NUM.

The NUM interpreted management's attitude as "a secret agenda to eliminate NUM and other workers seen as supporters of the ANC and the broader democratic forces in our country", Miotlatsi said.

Anglovaal's statement said the decision to move the Mozambicans had been taken with the consent of these workers and for their protection.

It denied creating an impression that Mozambicans were under attack from non-Mozambicans.

"Mine management have not attempted to create any impressions. Seventeen employees have been killed at the mine, 14 of whom were Mozambicans."

The statement said the mine's management was not aware of a campaign of lies and distortions to discredit NUM and the ANC. Mine management would not be party to such a campaign.

It said management had no secret agenda regarding the NUM. The union was recognised in most bargaining units of the mine, and the brief issued by management had been aimed at all employees in the interest of maintaining peace.

Responding to the claim that management had been "uncooperative", Anglovaal said "Management was responsible for approaching the Mozambican government, the national peace accord and the Goldstone commission to assist in the resolution of this matter."

"The mine has also compiled a code of conduct and passed this document to the NUM for final comment on June 7. To date no response has been received."

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22/6/90
Stalemate in mine drama

By Paul Bell
Labour Correspondent

Pedro Taumo, Mozambique's labour representative in Johannesburg, is puzzled

More than 3 700 Mozambican miners have been holed up in their hostel at Hartbeestfontein mine in the western Transvaal, afraid to return to work in case they are killed.

How can it be, he wonders, that every time he talks to anyone with any interest in the plight of these men, it is agreed they should return to work without their safety secured — yet no one seems able to secure the conditions that would permit it?

Thus far a solution has eluded two governments, the ANC, the Chamber of Mines, the country's two largest trade union formations, the Goldstone Commission and the National Peace Secretariat.

And if Taumo's patience is beginning to fray, consider the 714 miners who have been cooped up in the No 2 hostel at Harties for nearly four weeks.

The trouble at the mine, owned by Anglovaal, began on May 25 when a group of miners, said to be Transkeians, attacked Mozambicans at No 6 hostel.

Nine were killed and 50 injured over the following two days. The trouble spread to hostels 4 and 5. The final death toll was 17.

The 3 700 Mozambicans have remained a distinct group on the mine, largely because of the tribally based hostel system.

They have mostly eschewed the union, fearing they would become the hatch in the sandwich in any dispute between the union and the mine and the union would not protect them.

Officials at the NUM's headquarters have vigorously denied that the union was involved in instigating the violence, although, according to Taumo, the mine management has accused them of talking peace and bringing violence.
Demolish hostel demand!

By Isaac Modell

Residents urge TIP shareholders to withdraw support from the demand for the hostel to be converted into family apartments. The council has decided to proceed with the demolition of the hostel, but residents are calling for a moratorium on the project.

"We want to make it clear that we want our voices heard," said a resident. "The hostel is not just a building, it's a community."

The council has been criticized for not consulting with residents before making the decision. The hostel has been home to many families for generations, and residents feel that their voices have been ignored.

"It's a shame that the council isn't listening to us," said another resident. "We just want to be heard."

The demolition is set to begin within the next few weeks, but residents are determined to fight for their community. They have organized a series of protests and meetings to try and stop the project.

"We're not going to give up," said one resident. "We're going to fight for our rights."
Moving miners just shifts the violence

THERE is no solution in sight to the violence and controversy which has dogged Anglo-Vaal's Hartbeesfontein mine in the western Transvaal.

The mining house transferred about 200 Mozambican miners to its Steba mine in the eastern Transvaal on June 4, just a week after fighting at Hartbeesfontein mine claimed the lives of 17 miners and saw 116 workers seriously injured.

"They are transporting the violence to another mine," charged Jerry Matjila of the National Union of Mineworkers. Fighting could easily break out between the 700 dismissed Steba mineworkers and the replacement Mozambican miners.

Hartbeesfontein employs 18,600 miners, of whom about one in six are Mozambican. Anglo-Vaal representative Arno Steyn confirmed the transfer of the miners and said about 1,000 Mozambicans have returned to work at Hartbeesfontein.

Anglo-Vaal has drawn up a draft code of conduct for the mine but by this week had not received a response from the NUM. The code proposed to set in place some dispute settling mechanisms.

Matjila told The Weekly Mail that NUM would like to see the same code set in place at Anglo-Vaal's mines.

The Anglo-American document is a groundbreaking one which sets out the labour and civil rights of miners and management. It recognises the need for democratically run hostels, and establishes that there will be "no discrimination on grounds of religion and ethnic origin".

The code has already been used to negotiate protest action during last year's wage negotiations and various mass action days. Anglo-American's James Duncan says the code has created a "frame of reference for both parties and encouraged a mediating and negotiating ethos".

One of the biggest gripe the NUM has with Anglo-Vaal is the allegation that they foster ethnically based hostels and still practice the induna system on their mines.

Steyn says miners elect to stay with their countrymen and clansmen and he uses a survey conducted at the mine to back this up.
**KwaMadala refugees must go**

By STAN MHLONGO

ILLEGAL inmates of the dreaded KwaMadala Hostel in Vanderbijlpark were told to pack up and leave the premises or face legal action this week.

In a statement, Iscor management said the influx of illegal refugees at KwaMadala had escalated to such an extent that the hostel had no option but to take action.

"Illegal persons or non-workers at Iscor should evacuate the hostel no later than 12 noon on Friday, or they will be liable for prosecution," said a statement from Iscor.

Management at the company said KwaMadala hostel was erected three years ago as temporary accommodation for its employees and families only.

ANC media liaison officer Karl Niehaus said the move by Iscor could be welcomed if it succeeded in halting the allegations that KwaMadala is often used as a springboard for alleged attacks on residents in surrounding townships.

Niehaus said the hostel needed to be upgraded into proper living quarters, and also welcomed the move announced by Iscor to bring the numbers of people living at KwaMadala under control.

In one particular incident, KwaMadala Hostel inmates, most of them allegedly members of Inkatha, waged a midnight onslaught on Slovo Camp residents in Bopatong on June 17 1992.

In the most horrifying bloodbath residents were shot and butchered to death with an assortment of weapons.

Over 70 KwaMadala hostel inmates were later apprehended and appeared in court.

The number of accused presently appearing at the Delmas Circuit Court has been reduced to 35.

Vaal residents have also linked the hostel inmates to recent attacks in Evaton and Soweto by snipers travelling in a white car.
Hostel inmates get ultimatum

By Lulama Luli

ILLEGAL occupants of Iscor's KwaMadala Hostel in Vanderbijlpark in the Vaal have been given until July 23 to vacate the place or face legal action.

The company's management had initially notified all illegal tenants at the hostel to leave by noon on Friday last week.

However, the local peace committee appealed to management to give the residents enough time to look for alternative accommodation.

Isco spokewoman for Vanderbijlpark, Mrs Carol Ferguson said the corporation was not sure how many illegal tenants lived in the hostel but that wives and children were permitted to visit for up to six months.

"The influx of illegal refugees has escalated to such an extent that management has no option but to take action," she said.

The hostel, near Botha, has been a flashpoint of the violence in the Vaal that has left scores of people dead.
Focus

HRSC study says the country still always need hostels for accommodation.

**Upgrading be ceased in 1993, hostel to remain open and available.**

From previous page

**Monday July 19 1993 Sowetan**
FOCUS Providing proper shelter for migrant workers initiated

Focus on Hostels

An 18-member National Hostels Coordinating Committee has been formed to monitor progress on the improvement of these structures and to administer funds allocated for the project.

Lutu reports:

Hostels to be demolished

It points out that living in a hostel is perceived by residents as a cheap, alternative but essential form of accommodation in the urban areas, especially for migrant workers.

Therefore these residents, say the report, do not want the hostels to be demolished.

However, with the encroaching of squatter settlements since the 1960s, there came an influx of people from rural to urban areas thus creating a strain on the resources, especially on the hostels.

That influx led to overcrowding, the breakdown of essential services like sanitation systems and general living conditions deteriorated. Many hostel residents now live in squatter

Deteriorating living conditions

For example, while the bed occupancy in all 160 public sector hostels was estimated at 931 791 by June this year, it is believed that the number of people who actually sleep in those hostels is twice that number.

It is against this background that the Government initiated the Hostels Redevelopment Programme in October 1991.

The main emphasis of this programme is to create dignified living conditions by upgrading the hostels for purposes of single and family accommodation.

Negotiations by parties involved in this programme paid dividends at the weekend when it was announced that an agreement had been reached between the Department of National Housing and the National Housing Forum.

This agreement, which came as a result of prolonged negotiations which began in January this year, makes provision for joint decisions relating to the upgrading of 180 public hostels throughout the country.

It also provides for an Emergency Intervention Programme, through which benches with living conditions so bad as to present a threat to the health and safety of residents would be cleared for immediate

The Government has already committed an initial amount of R325.6 million towards this project — to be known as the National Hostels Upgrading Initiative.

And because of the enormity of the work to be

Continued on next page
Mozambican miners to return to work

SETTLEMENT was reached yesterday between the NUM and Hartbeesfontein mine management on the return to work of more than 3,000 Mozambican workers. The workers had been living separately from their colleagues and had not worked for two months since fighting left 19 dead.

The NUM said the Mozambicans would return to work on July 31. It said mine management had recruited 1,200 local retrenchees during the stand-off, but the agreement specified guaranteed jobs for all the returning Mozambicans.

The mine had agreed to recognise the NUM in all job categories, as well as a branch executive committee and full-time shaft stewards. It had also agreed to “dismantle ethnically based hostel accommodation”, the union said.

A peace committee of five representatives each from management and the union, charged with overseeing the return of the workers, would be established at mine level, the NUM said.

In addition, the 131 NUM members charged with possessing dangerous weapons and dismissed would be reinstated unconditionally, the NUM said.

Anglovaal confirmed an agreement had been signed, but said not all the issues had been resolved. Working groups had been established to discuss these.
NEWS Hostel residents wait to hear fate • Fawu and

Decision on illegals

By Ike Motsapi

The fate of hundreds of illegal residents at KwaMashu Hostel in the Vaal Triangle will be decided by Iscor management today.

The company will today consider recommendations made by the Vaal Peace Committee which held talks with residents of the hostel last Friday.

This was the day that management had set as a deadline for the "moving out" of non-employees.

Mrs Carol Ferguson, head of the company's public relations department, said the peace committee was trying to find ways to avoid bloodshed when the affected people moved out of the hostel.

The illegal residents, who are allegedly members of the Inkatha Freedom Party, threatened to occupy the nearby KwaMashu Hostel in Sebokeng if they were pushed out.

KwaMashu houses supporters of the African National Congress.

Management has been under pressure from residents of the Vaal Triangle townships, political, civic and church organisations to close KwaMashu following the Bophelong massacre last year.

There was a heavy police presence near the entrance to the hostel when a Sowetan team visited the area on Friday.

The company said it had discovered that there were hundreds of people who were staying illegally at the hostel which was meant to house its employees.
Illegals in hostel told to get out

By Montshiwa Moreke

Illegal residents of the controversial KwaMadinla Hostel in the Vaal Triangle have until today to vacate the premises, according to Iscor public relations manager Neels Hofgart.

The hostel, a stronghold of the IFP, is illegally occupied by about 400 employees of Iscor in Vanderbijlpark.

"The hostel's inmates have often been blamed for attacks on residents in Vaal townships, including the Bosplatiing massacre on June 17 last year."
Illegals get grace period

ISCOR has given illegal occupants of its KwaMadala Hostel near Bopatong in the Vaal Triangle a month's grace to enable the Transvaal Provincial Administration to find alternative accommodation for them.

About 300 residents have been served with eviction notices. ISCOR said yesterday the deadline had been extended to the end of August at the request of the TPA's executive committee. — Sapa
Hostel 600 to stay - Iscor

By STAN MHLONGO

ILLEGAL inmates of the notorious KwaMjadala hostel in Vanderbijlpark can stay on until the end of this month as a new home is being sought for them.

The management of Iscor, which owns the hostel, has twice this month postponed evicting the 600 illegal refugees, most of them Inkatha members.

Iscor says it is searching for a peaceful solution to the problem.

"Illegal refugees can stay on until the end of August," said Iscor spokeswoman Carol Ferguson. She pointed out that the move followed an appeal from the Vaal Peace Committee.

Inkatha's Vaal regional secretary William Nhlapo said his organisation was still negotiating with the ANC and other organisations in a bid to find a home for its members.

"We are sure to come up with a solution to the problem soon," said Nhlapo.

Orange Farm Civic Association chairman Tom Mzimba said his organisation had little sympathy for the refugees. Reports that the refugees would be accommodated at the squatter settlement south of Johannesburg stirred vigorous opposition from residents.

"Any attempt to grant them accommodation in Orange Farm will be a recipe for violence and unrest," Mzimba said.

Iscor initially issued eviction notices to the refugees on July 9. It claimed that the influx of illegal residents at the hostel had escalated to such an extent that Iscor had no alternative but to evict them.

However, residents were enraged by plans to find the refugees homes in Orange Farm. KwaMjadala inmates have been linked with "Vaal Monster" Victor Khethi Kheswa and others allegedly involved in the Bophelong and other massacres.
Parties to

The woman said they felt all ready and that the time had come for them to sleep. They were tired from the longest and hardest day of their lives. They had worked all day in the fields, digging and planting. They were hungry and tired, but they were determined to make the most of the opportunity to rest.

Picture: GERMAN NAZI

The former concentration camp for women and children. No more hunger. A woman works on the rows of vegetables which now feed some women who used to work in the fields. Life has changed significantly for these women. They are now able to feed themselves and their families.

Refugees

Better lives, lead new, by Zinna Arnava

THE STAR / MONDAY AUGUST 23 1993