MINING - STRIKES - 1991
JOHANNESBURG — Two Anglo American employees were killed and two security guards injured after violence erupted on Thursday night at the Vaal Reef gold mine west of Johannesburg, the company announced yesterday.

The incident occurred at Vaal Reef East Mine No 1 shaft hostel about 7.30pm. Two security officials were on duty at the hostel when they were attacked without provocation by a group of employees who were parading in the hostel inciting acts of political violence," Anglo American said.

The security guards fatally wounded two employees when they were attacked by the group.

The company said one of the injured guards was in a serious condition in a Klerksdorp hospital, while the other had been treated and discharged. — Sapa
Death toll on mines exceeds 600 in 1990

Last year's fatality rate on gold mines affiliated to the Chamber of Mines was 1.24 per thousand employees at work, a deterioration of 0.08 on the 1989 rate of 1.16, the Chamber said in a statement yesterday.

There were 522 deaths last year on chamber gold mines compared with 516 in 1989, it said.

The main reason for the increase was the unusually high number of deaths — 48 people — because of explosions. This compared with 14 deaths in 1989.

"Falls of ground" — specifically rock bursts — were the major single cause of fatalities, to which 290 of the 522 deaths were attributed.

The mining industry, in collaboration with the government mining engineer, is urgently examining ways of reducing accidents caused by groundfalls.

With 24 deaths in 1990, the coal mines' fatality rate was 0.44, compared with 0.46 the previous year.

However, for the first time in eight years there was an increase in the reportable injury rate. The 1990 rate was 5.17 as opposed to 4.84 in 1989.

There were a further 56 fatalities on other mineral mines affiliated to the chamber.

Adding these brought the total number of deaths in 1990 to 602 — 14 more than in 1989.

Robert Laing reports the chamber also announced that SA's total monthly gold production fell 3.4% to 1514 601 ounces in January compared with 1 567 991 ounces in December.
Miners in sit-in over colleagues

FIFTEEN members of the National Union of Mineworkers yesterday embarked on a sit-in at Iscor's headquarters in demand of the return of migrant workers who fled the compounds during last year's violence.

Mr Jesse Maluleke, a NUM campaign organiser, said sit-in was embarked on after the union had reached a deadlock with management over the issue.

Xhosa miners fled the compounds at Iscor's Durnacol and Hlobane collieries in northern Natal in October last year following bloody clashes with their Zulu colleagues.

Thirteen people were killed and at least 50 others injured.

Mr Piet du Pisias, a spokesman for Iscor, said while it was now safe for the miners to return, management could not guarantee their safety.

He said two people had died in recent violence at the mines. Management had also planned to appoint a neutral mediator to resolve the situation, he said.

Conduct survey

The company would also conduct a survey to gauge the attitudes of Zulu-speaking miners about the return of their Xhosa counterparts.

"At the moment, we have conflicting information about their feelings," he said.

"We want people (Xhosas) to return, because some of them are our most experienced workers," Du Pisias said.

He denied allegations that management had refused four proposals put forward by NUM designed to snuff out ethnic clashes and facilitate the return of workers.

According to Maluleke these included:
* The return to work of all Xhosa-speaking miners.
* Wage payments from October to the date of return.
* Increased security at workplaces and mine hostels.
Mooi mine dispute settled

MATTHEW CURTIN

THE National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) has won the conditional reinstatement of 450 workers, almost half the workforce at Samancor's Mooi mine, after it settled a four-month long dispute with mine management at the weekend.

In return for their jobs, mineworkers have undertaken to observe a ban on marches and demonstrations on mine premises, while the two parties negotiate a code of conduct on the mine.

A Samancor spokesman said yesterday the mine would reemploy 450 out of the 977 who were dismissed on December 6.

The dismissals provoked angry protests by mineworkers which led to a confrontation with mine security, in which one mineworker was killed and several injured. Management shut down the mine on December 10.

The spokesman said the outstanding 97 workers would be offered a retrenchment package worth four weeks' pay and one week's severance pay for each year of service if they reported for duty before August.

The NUM has said the implementation of a new clocking-in system underground -- the focus of an anti-discrimination drive at Mooi -- triggered the dispute. The union claimed management introduced a new system, agreed to in principle by shop stewards, before the NUM had been able to consult its members.

Management said employees' refusal to comply with underground regulations threatened the safety of all those working below the surface. Mooi was reopened in January with a contract labour force.
Showdown looming over mining pay talks
Dispute declared as mine talks fail

BY SHARON SOROUR, Labour Reporter

NEGOTIATIONS between De Beers Consolidated Mines and the 260 000-strong National Union of Mineworkers have collapsed.

In a statement the company said a dispute had been declared and it would apply for a conciliation board to be established.

"The dispute is over the union's refusal to agree to discuss the introduction of productivity nego-
tive schemes, which vary at each mine, and the more flexible allocation of manpower over a 48-
hour week as part of the annual wage settlement," the company said.

De Beers was offering a wage increase of eight percent on present wage scales, a service incre-
ment of one percent per year of service and pro-
ductivity bonuses.

The bonuses would pay a minimum of 10 percent of base rates on the achievement of set targets.

"The minimum base rate of pay would increase from R760 a month to R826."

"The union is demanding increases of 18 percent and that productivity-related issues be referred to a forum other than the current wage negotiating table."

Union officials could not be reached for com-
ment.
MINES STRIKE STILL UNRESOLVED

An eight-day strike at three Namaqualand diamond mines remained unresolved yesterday as workers continued to back demands for shorter hours and higher wages.

The Northern Richersveld Civic Association yesterday appealed to Transvaal Mining to settle the dispute favourably and contribute to developing the impoverished region.
500 workers strike at Trans Hex mines

An eight-day strike at the three Namibian diamond mines remained unresolved on Wednesday as workers continued to press for shorter hours and higher pay.

At least 500 workers at the Trans Hex-owned mines were on a legal strike, said the National Union of Mineworkers' Marcel Golding.

He said the company had offered R934 for a 195-hour working month, while workers wanted R1 000 for 194 hours.

Trans Hex executive director Francois Hoffman rejected union claims that the company had threatened to evict workers from company hostels.

He said 227 workers had downed tools at the mines on July 2.
**Impala strike nudges platinum up**

ALMOST 13,000 workers at Impala's Bafokeng South platinum mine in Bophuthatswana went on strike yesterday.

'News of the strike buoyed the platinum market with platinum futures rising slightly in early New York trading, Reporters said.'

An analyst on the trading floor said because only one mine was involved the metal did not rise much. "Once platinum stalled the locals quickly liquidated for profit," he said.

The Gemin said the strike was in protest against disciplinary action taken against a colleague.

'Impala's three other mines in Bophuthatswana — Bafokeng North, Wildebeestfontein South and Wildebeestfontein North — as well as the mineral processes plant, were not affected, Gemin said.'

An Impala spokesman said the company was holding talks with worker representatives because the NUM was not registered in Bophuthatswana.

'NUM media officer Jerry Mapatla said most of the 56,000 workers on Bophuthatswana's Impala mines were NUM followers, but the company was exploiting the fact that the union was not recognised by the Bophuthatswana government. He confirmed that the workers were not satisfied with alleged harassment by mine management.

'They were particularly dissatisfied with one worker being forcefully removed from the hostel to be detained by mine security. They feel that workers should be given a fair hearing," he added.'

The Gemin statement said "Management has invited employee representatives to come and discuss their grievances." A mine spokesman said there had been no incidents of violence. A no-work, no-pay policy would be followed by the company.

Impala MD Michael McMahon has assured Impala's clients that the strike had not, as yet, had an effect on the availability of refined platinum or other metals.

On July 4, more than 90% of the workforce at Bafokeng South went on a one-day strike over a wage increase.
Mine’s security men tear gas Bop strikers

CLASHES erupted yesterday between striking miners and mine security officials during the second day of a strike at Impala's Bafokeng South platinum mine in Bophuthatswana.

Mine owners Genmin said the conflict began when two vehicles belonging to hostel-dwellers were burned and an attempt was made to burn an administration building.

Security officials at the mine used teargas when a crowd of workers surrounded the burning building, refusing a fire brigade access to it.

Mine management said they requested the crowd to disperse several times before using teargas.

National Union of Minerworkers press officer Mr Jerry Matjapida said yesterday: "For management to use force under circumstances where 8 000 workers are engaged in action is provocative."

"We appeal to management to exercise restraint in this matter," according to Genmin, employee representatives said they were on strike because of disciplinary action against an employee alleged to have been involved in intimidation during a previous strike at the mine on July 4.

"In an attempt to resolve the issue, management offered to review the decision, but employee representatives demanded that the employee in question be reinstated immediately."

In other unrest incidents:
- The home of Duduzka mayor Mr Gibe Malei was petrol-bombed on Wednesday night, East Rand police said.
- Fighting in Natal midlands' townships has spread to Swayimane, near Wartburg, where three people have died and three homes were attacked this week. — Sapa.
Strikers go on rampage at Impala platinum mine

Violence erupted at Impala’s Bafokeng South platinum mine yesterday morning where 8,000 workers are still on strike, according to a statement issued by Gemmin, owners of the mine. Two vehicles belonging to hostel dwellers were set on fire yesterday and an attempt was made to burn down one of the administration buildings.

Mine security officials used teargas when a crowd of workers surrounded the burning building.

Mine management said they had requested the crowd to disperse several times before using the teargas.

Gemmin said worker representatives informed management they were on strike because of disciplinary action taken against an employee who was allegedly involved in acts of intimidation during a previous strike at the mine on July 4.

Management offered to review the decision but faced a demand that the employee in question be reinstated.

Gemmin said some employees want to go back to work while others want to continue the strike.

Management said discussions with employee representatives were continuing and that additional security personnel had been called in to protect staff and mine property.

Implats managing director Michael McMahon said the effect of the strike on production would become apparent only in about six to eight weeks’ time due to the long refining process. — Sapa.
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"In an attempt to resolve the issue, management offered to review the decision, but employee representatives demanded that the employee in question be reinstated immediately."

The company said the workers were split into two camps; some wanted to go back to work while others wanted to continue the strike.

Management said discussions with employee representatives were continuing.

Impala MD Michael McMahon said the effect of the strike on production would only become apparent in six to eight weeks time because of the long refining process.

Bafokeng South produces between 20% and 25% of Impala's platinum group metals.

Wilson Zwane reports Transnet and the SA Railway and Harbour Workers' Union (Sarhuwa) will meet today in a third round of their annual wage negotiations. Sarhuwa spokesman Vanguard Mokganyi said yesterday:

"We demand that the union would push for a minimum wage of R1 500 for the lowest-paid workers and a 40% increase for other workers."

Mokganyi said the union would push for a minimum wage of R1 500 for the lowest-paid workers and a 40% increase for other workers.

Sapa reports that the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union said members had embarked on a sit-in at the Southern Sun's Twin City head office in Sandton over the retraction of 200 Gold Reef City workers in the wake of the sale of the complex to a syndicate about six weeks ago.

Group MD Ron Stringfellow denied there was a sit-in. He said about 30 workers had gathered in his office "to discuss the situation at Gold Reef City."

The Food and Allied Workers' Union has agreed to end a week-long strike by more than 2,500 workers at a Beacon Sweet factory and two depots, the company confirmed yesterday.
ABOUT 1600 workers at Impala Platinum’s Wildebeestfontein North and Wildeb
beestfontein South mines near Rustenburg continued their go-slow strike yesterday to
back demands for wage increases.

A Gemunu spokesman said the workers
were working half days only.

Employees at Impala’s mineral process
plant and two of its other Bophutha
tswana mines, Bafokeng North and Bafok
keng South, were working normal eight
hour shifts by yesterday morning.

A management statement said consulta
tions with worker representatives regard
ing wages and acts of violence continued yester
day. Management had invited all in
terested parties to take part in talks.

About 50 000 workers at Impala’s miner
al processes plant, Wildebeestfontein
North mine, Wildebeestfontein South mine
and Bafokeng North mine began working
half days last week.

VERA VON LIERES

Violence broke out at the mines at the
weekend and at least eight miners were
killed.

The NUM alleged that management
brought about 250 “vigilantes” to the mines
on Thursday in an attempt to break the go
slow.

Management denied any involvement in
the violence and said the deaths occurred
“after violent clashes between workers
who wanted to continue with the industrial
action and those who were not in favour of
the industrial action.”

The situation at the group’s operations in
Bophuthatswana were “quiet but tense.”

A NUM spokesman confirmed not all
workers had returned to full shift work.
Mines closed after clashes

IMPAEA Platinum has shut down its Wildebeestfontein South and North platinum mines in Bophuthatswana until further notice," Gemmun spokesman said yesterday.

He said the decision was taken because of the tense situation at the mines where eight mineworkers died in violent clashes last week. About 16,000 workers continued with a go-slow on Wednesday at the two mines which are responsible for almost half of Impala's platinum production.

More than 1 million ounces in 1989, Impala MD Mike McMahon said yesterday the company's mines lacked adequate union structures. This problem was at the heart of industrial relations at the mines.

McMahon said he was uncomfortable if workers were not represented by a union.

"I would welcome the NUM on my mines," NUM general secretary Marcel Golding said earlier this week the critical issue in the Impala dispute was the question of the union's recognition in Bophuthatswana.

The homeland government lifted its ban on SA trade union activity within its borders in April. In June the Bophuthatswana cabinet and representatives and Cosatu's northern Transvaal branch reached agreement on a formal working relationship.

The parties said they had agreed all the necessary committees to break it off.

Gemmulas said the union was "highly critical" of Impala's unilateral decision to close the shafts.

The Gemmum spokesman said management also had reason to believe that workers supporting industrial action would stage an underground sit-in yesterday.

Normal shifts were still being worked at the mineral processes plant and at the Balokeng North and South mines and consultations between management and employees representatives regarding wage issues and violence were continuing.

Mines shut trade union activity in the homeland would be conducted in compliance with the homeland's labour laws.

NUM spokesman Jerry Mampalah said yesterday union president James Nkosi addressed Impala's 40,000 workers on Wednesday on the need for unity to give negotiations on the union's recognition in Bophuthatswana a chance.

The Gemmum spokesman said it was feared that workers' lives were at risk "as some employers at these operations were apparently still supporting the industrial action despite a decision taken by employers committees to break it off."

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Normal shifts were still being worked at the mineral processes plant and at the Balokeng North and South mines and consultations between management and employees representatives regarding wage issues and violence were continuing.
Go-slow hamper platinum production

The National Union of Mineworkers' call for recognition in the homeland was given added weight this week when the union's president, James Mollatsi, addressed 40,000 striking workers at Rustenburg's Impala Platinum mines.

Gencor said this week that production at the four mines had been cut by half as a result of go-slow this week.

Workers are demanding a R20 across-the-board monthly increase.

Meanwhile, Goldfields' Dornford in mine was hit by a strike involving 6,000 workers. The strike was sparked when mine security stopped workers from marching to management offices.
Thousands of miners fired after Doornfontein strike

ABOUT 6 000 Doornfontein Gold Mining workers were dismissed on Friday after they failed to respond to an ultimatum to return to work, a mine spokesman said at the weekend.

Union sources said mine management and union representatives met on Friday, but could not give further details.

Talks continued through the weekend.

A mine spokesman said on Friday a work stoppage started last week Tuesday and all underground production had since stopped.

He said the apparent reason for the illegal strike was workers' resistance to “alternative employment one level lower than existing positions in order to avoid retrenchments.”

Employees participating in the strike failed to respond to an ultimatum to return to work by their next normal shift, the spokesman said.

“As of Friday morning approximately 6 000 employees out of a total of about 7 000 have been dismissed.”

Union spokesman Jerry Mapatlah said last week mine workers had been demoted from higher job categories to lower ones without union consultation.

Threat

Management dismissed 4 000 workers last Thursday after they failed to abide by a management ultimatum to return to work by Wednesday night.

Another threat to retrench the remaining workforce was issued later.

The mine spokesman said Doornfontein Gold Mining announced at the end of last year that the scale of its operations and its manpower department were to be rationalized in an effort to avoid closure of the mine.

MATTHEW CURTIN reports Gold Fields said in November last year it intended to retrench 3 700 workers at Doornfontein and Venterspost, another of its marginal mines, as the mines battled rising costs and the weak gold price.

Management said most workers would be relocated at Kloof gold mine's new Leondale section and the group's developing platinum mine Northam.

Two fires which broke out underground at Doornfontein in December, killing one miner and bringing mining to a halt for several weeks, and the mine struggled back into after-tax profits for the first time in more than a year in the June quarter this year.

Shares in Doornfontein have recovered from a low of 16c in February after production was halted, but are still well down from a high of 86c recorded a year ago, finishing 15c down at 28c on the JSE on Friday.
Two shot dead, eight injured in hostel fight

By Monica Oosterbroek

Two workers at Kendal Power Station near Witbank were shot dead and eight men were seriously injured when a faction fight broke out in the hostel yesterday.

Police spokesman Lieutenant Corne Goosen said the men were killed when about 100 Zulus and 250 Xhosas started to fight just after midnight outside the single quarters.

Two men, thought to be Zulus, received fatal head wounds and eight men had serious stab and gunshot wounds.

Lieutenant Goosen said the problem started at dinner on Friday night when a Zulu and Xhosa were involved in an argument. The squabble developed into a faction fight.

National Union of Mineworkers spokesman Jerry Matladi told Sapa that the men were killed by a group of Zulus who drove up to the hostel in a minibus and opened fire.

He believes the attackers were Inkatha supporters from another hostel, owned by a Rand Mines subsidiary, Khotsa Mining Services.

The union met Eskom management yesterday and outlined proposals which NUM believes would restore peace.

NUM said Eskom should set up a commission of inquiry, conduct searches in the hostel and disarm Inkatha supporters.

An Eskom spokesman said the matter was being dealt with by the police.
Workers reinstated

ABOUT 8,000 striking National Union of Mineworkers members, who were dismissed on Friday at Doornfontein Gold Mines in the Western Transvaal, have been reinstated, a company spokesman said yesterday.

In a bid to resolve the situation, a NUM delegation led by its general secretary, Mr Marcel Golding, held talks with management on Sunday.

The union rejected a company offer that miners enter into a retrenchment agreement as a precondition to their reinstatement.

The company said an apparent reason for the strike, was workers' resistance to "alternative employment one level lower than existing positions in order to avoid retrenchment."

Company spokesman Mr Michael de Kock said the dispute was resolved on Monday night.

De Kock said, "The union and the company signed a revised retrenchment agreement which covered the main issues of the illegal strike which were the severance package and alternative employment lower than the existing position." - Sowetan Correspondent
Mediation defuses disputes on mines

By FERIAL HAFJAAIJE

IN the past two weeks, almost 50,000 miners have been involved in various forms of strike action around the country.

But much of the conflict has been successfully mediated, reflecting management and union concern at the plight of the industry.

At Impala Platinum's four mines near Rustenburg, full production was resumed on Monday pending wage negotiations between the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) and Implats' management.

Go-slow and violence which saw eight miners killed, characterised the last two weeks of industrial action involving 40,000 workers at the mine.

The union is seeking full recognition by management. It has not yet been granted recognition because the mines are based in Bophuthatswana. It is demanding a R62 across-the-board increase.

At Goldfields' Doornfontein Mine last week 5,500 workers were dismissed and were reinstated early this week after intense negotiations between management and the NUM.

The mass dismissal came after workers went on strike last Tuesday when mine security and police prevented them from delivering a list of grievances to the mine manager's office.

Goldfields attempted to link reinstatement to workers' acceptance of a controversial clause in retrenchment agreements. Rejecting this, the NUM's Marcel Golding accused them of "trying to secure a cheap retrenchment by firing workers and not honouring a recent agreement between NUM and the Chamber of Mines."

On Tuesday this week, the workers were reinstated after the offending clause was removed. A key feature of the agreement was the establishment of a body to monitor the company's application of retrenchment criteria.

At Namaqualand's Black Mountain mine about 1200 workers are on strike for wage increases. An NUM representative this week said workers at Black Mountain are "among the lowest-paid in the country."

Negotiations deadlocked last week around workers demands for a 20 percent across-the-board increase. Workers are also demanding two weeks' paid compassionate leave, free transport to Transkei and Kuruman, where most of the miners work, leave, training and family housing.

Golding said there was a groundswell of resistance among miners but he opposed the view that it ran counter to the recent historic NUM-Chamber wage agreement. At the time NUM was hailed for its "pragmatic" stance when it negotiated productivity based increases for the first time.

He said strikes remained "a legitimate course of action for miners where management's action is unacceptable."
Consult us about safety on mines, demands union

By Abel Mushi

South Africa has the highest mine accident death rate in the world, and part of the solution lies in the full participation of mineworkers' unions in the determination of the local industry's general health and safety standards, says the National Union of Mineworkers.

The NUM was reacting to press reports on the launch of a mineworkers' safety campaign in Westonaria at the weekend.

Inspection

The report said the Association of Mine Managers (AMM) president CS Scott had told about 500 mine managers and industry representatives at the launch of AMM's Safety at the Working Face campaign that the campaign did not include meetings with unions "at this stage".

NUM press secretary Jerry Majatladi stressed that inspection of working conditions at stope faces should not be the sole prerogative of the mine management.

The local mining industry, he said, was more interested in making profits than in the welfare of its workers, and did not involve unions in any issues of importance other than wage negotiations.

Mr Majatladi called on the Government to initiate a commission of inquiry into the general health and safety standards in local mines in order to upgrade these to internationally acceptable standards.

"The last commission of inquiry in the country on this issue was done 30 years ago and the present legislation on health and safety on the mines is not adequate," he said.

He said NUM, which is affiliated to the ANC-aligned Congress of South African Trade Unions, was at present pressuring mine management falling under the Chamber of Mines to recognise NUM's health and safety stewards.

Although NUM was represented at the weekend safety meeting by its Westonaria regional health and safety co-ordinator, Zola Sontonga, it had only observer status.

The audience was told at the launch that research by the Chamber of Mines had shown that 87 percent of mining deaths in the country were caused by human error.
Miners hit out with half-days

SOME 30,000 employees are involved in industrial action at three of Impala's four platinum mines in Bophuthatswana.

According to a statement released yesterday by General Mining, the employees at Impala's Platinum's mineral processing plants at Wildebeestfontein North, Wildebeestfontein South and Bafokeng North mines began working half-days on Thursday.

Impala's other mine, Bafokeng South, has not been affected by the industrial action.

The statement said management was consulting with worker-representatives, and it appeared that the industrial action was related to wage negotiations which had been in progress since the beginning of last month.

No incidents of violence had occurred but the situation was tense, the statement said. Work at certain shafts had been stopped because of the potential for violent conflict.

Production from underground has been affected. About 75 percent of Impala's production comes from the affected mines. — Sapa.
Eight killed in mine battle

EIGHT miners died in a battle between strikers and non-strikers at an Impala Platinum mine in Bophuthatswana this weekend.

Bophuthatswana police and mine security guards threw a cordon around the Wildebeestfontein North mine yesterday as workers met to discuss the unrest.

A Gemco spokesman said the fight was between miners striking over pay and those who did not want to take part.
80 held hostage, nine die.
Impala mines' strikers to resume work

WORKERS at Impala Platinum mines near Rustenburg, where at least eight people have died in strike-related violence, will resume normal shifts today, says the NUM.

About 30 000 workers at Impala's mineral process plant Welbedealfontein North mine, Welbedealfontein South mine and Bafokeng North mine began working half days on Thursday.

NUM media officer Jerry Majailadi said yesterday management brought about 200 vigilantes to the mine on Thursday to attack mineworkers in an attempt to break the go-slow strike.

Majailadi, who put the number of striking workers at 50 000, said the decision to resume normal working hours was taken to give negotiations a chance, and the union would be meeting the mine owner, Gemm, today.

Majailadi said the mineworkers embarked on the go-slow to back demands for a R20 across-the-board wage increase, recognition of the NUM, abolition of Bophuthatswana tax on workers' wages, an end to racial discrimination, the dissolution of a workers' council as a forum for negotiations on behalf of workers, the resignations of umunas, review of management disciplinary procedures, and an end to alleged harassment by mine security, he added.

The NUM does not have legal recognition in Bophuthatswana, where the dispute is taking place.

Sapa reports that mine spokesman Laung Goldenhuys denied management instigated the weekend clashes.

A management statement said the eight deaths were a result of inter-group fight-
**Mine strikers back at work**

JOHANNESBURG - Workers at Impala's Wildebeestfontein North mine near Rustenburg, where at least eight people have died in strike-related violence, would return to work today, the National Union of Mineworkers said yesterday.

About 30000 workers at Impala's Wildebeestfontein North mine, Wildebeestfontein South mine and Bafokeng North mine began working half-days on Thursday, according to management.

Num media officer Mr Jerry Mashaba claimed yesterday that management bussed a group of about 200 vigilantes to the mine on Thursday to attack the strikers.
9 killed as workers clash

Pretoria Bureau

At least nine people were killed in clashes at the weekend between two groups of workers at a hostel at Impala Platinum's Wildebeestfontein North mine in Bophuthatswana.

Unofficial sources put the death toll at 20, but the liaison officer for the Bophuthatswana police, Colonel David George, put it at nine.

Colonel George said at least 51 workers' huts were destroyed by fire during four hours of fighting on Friday evening.

The names of the dead would be released as soon as their next of kin had been informed.

He said management and representatives of the employees met on Saturday and were due to meet again today to try to find a solution to the dispute.

Attempts to reach management for comment were unsuccessful, but sources claimed the fighting was apparently the result of industrial action taken on Thursday.
Strikers' hot-water and electricity cut

VERA VON LIERES reports that a mine spokesman said yesterday just
less than 50% of the mine's 1,000-strong semi-skilled and unskilled
workforce downed tools after-wage
negotiations deadlocked recently.
He said workers were demanding
an 18% across-the-board increase
while the company offered: ranged be-

tween 11.6% and 7.1%. Production
was not affected, the spokesman said.
NUM acting general secretary
Marcel Golding said last week work-
ers were also demanding training
and June 16 as a paid holiday.
Mineworkers Picket in Joplin

Picture, report Abrasas, Miners' Rock and Waterfall mineworkers during their picket at Joplin, Co., headquarters yesterday.

Miners speak out against their receiving a reduced rate of pay. [Note: The text is not fully legible due to the quality of the image.]
ABOUT 500 workers 'remained on strike at base-metal mine Black Mountain in Namibia yesterday and the National Union of Mineworkers was awaiting management's response to its proposal that the strike be referred to mediation. Acting General Secretary Marcel Golding said lead, zinc and silver are among the metals mined at Black Mountain, which is managed by Gold Fields of SA.
IMPALA Platinum has closed its Bafokeng North mine indefinitely as a result of unrest.

The unrest, combined with production disruptions at other mines, has reduced Impala's production from its Bophuthatswana mines by about 40 percent.

Management attributed the closing of the Bafokeng North operation to the tense situation there.

The mine said it was in the best interests of safety to close the mine while negotiations took place with worker representatives.

**Wages**

The 8,000 mine employees were told on Tuesday that the mine would shut down until management was assured that production would return to normal.

Impala said in a statement yesterday that, through acts of intimidation, work stoppages, go-slows and short shifts, production had fallen well below target.

Problems started at the mine more than a month ago as a result of faction disagreements and continued over wage disputes.

Negotiations with management will continue on Monday September 9.

*Sapa.*
Troubles continue on Impala Platinum mines

The industrial strike quelled only last week at Impala Platinum mines in Rustenburg has flared again. Management this week closed the Bafokeng North mine which employs 6,000, alleging continuing intimidation at the shaft.

The National Union of Mineworkers' Jerry Maphatlane said pay talks would continue and that the union was due to meet its members this week to plan a course of action.

About 12,000 diamond miners may soon be on strike after 90 percent of NUM members at De Beers' Diamond Mines voted in favour of strike action this week.

Workers at the Finsch, Premier and Koffiefontein mines supported the strike, the NUM said in a statement. The union has rejected De Beers' offer of a 12.5 percent across-the-board increase in favour of a 15 percent hike.
Winkelhaak workers return

MORE than 5 000 workers at Winkelhaak mine near Evander returned to work yesterday morning after ethnic clashes at the weekend left 19 people dead. Gengold MD Gary Maude said yesterday the mine's more than 7 000 Zulu workers had all left.

Workers at the No 2 hostel started returning to work on Wednesday night and by yesterday morning the situation was back to normal, Maude said.

Workers at the No 1 hostel had reported for work on Wednesday.

Maude said NUM leaders addressed workers at the No 2 hostel on Wednesday, urging them to return to work and reiterating the NUM's position that it welcomed Zulus in the union. He said management would like to see Zulu workers back at the mine and the situation would be reviewed after about a week.

The three-and-half day work stoppage, which started on Saturday, had affected the mine's monthly production by about 11.5%. This amounted to 110kg in lost-gold production.

VERA VON LIERES
15 killed as
miners clash

VIOLENT clashes between miners at Gen-
gold's Winkelhauk mine, near Evander, have
claimed 15 lives, with 24
injured.

A mine spokesman
said the fighting, appar-
tently as a result of tribal
differences, began with a
dawn attack yesterday at
the Number 2 hostel.

Police used teargas to
disperse a crowd of Zulus
and South Africans.

In the afternoon,
clashes broke out at
Number 4 hostel where
10 people were killed.
16 die in clashes at Genmin mine

SIXTEEN people died in two clashes between miners at Wank alkal mine near Evander at the weekend.

Mine owner Genmin said yesterday that five people were killed and nine injured at the mine's No. 2 hostel on Saturday morning. Ten died and 26 were injured in clashes at the No. 1 hostel on Saturday afternoon. One of the injured later died in hospital.

A Genmin spokesman said security personnel were attacked by employees as they searched for weapons yesterday morning, and had fired rubber bullets to defend themselves.

Police yesterday maintained a large presence at the mine, which an SAP spokesman said was very tense.

The spokesman said it was not known what had sparked the clashes.

In other weekend unrest incidents, two people were killed on Saturday night, one in Alexandra and the other in Thokoza.

A man was hacked to death and three people wounded when Inkatha supporters were allegedly attacked by pangas-wielding residents of Johannesburg's Selby Hostel on Saturday afternoon, police said.

The Inkatha supporters were returning from a demonstration outside the hotel where the peace accord was signed.

A man, believed to be an Inkatha supporter, was stabbed and hacked to death by unidentified assailants near Westgate on the West Rand on Saturday.
Mine death toll now 16

THE death toll at Winkelhaak mine near Evander in the Eastern Transvaal rose to 16 on Saturday night when an injured man died in hospital, a spokesman for the mine said yesterday.

Lang Goldenhuys said the dead man was one of the casualties of two "inter-group" clashes on Saturday.

In further developments early yesterday, employees attacked security personnel who were searching for weapons after confiscating a large number on Saturday.

"The security personnel were forced to fire rubber bullets to protect themselves.

"A short while ago the situation at the mine was quiet but tense," Goldenhuys said.

"The first clash, which left five people dead and nine injured, took place yesterday at 3am at the mine's No 2 hostel.

"The second incident, which left 10 dead and 25 injured, took place later yesterday afternoon at the mine's No 1 hostel."

He reported that a hospital spokesman said the injured were in a satisfactory condition. - Sapa
Violence, closures cut Impala's output of platinum by 4%

MINE closures, wage disputes and strike-related violence in July, August and September lowered annual platinum production almost 4% at Impala Platinum, the world's second biggest producer.

Interrupted production has not had much impact on the sinking platinum price, but the price of the metal could begin to rise if labour problems persist.

The anticipated loss in supply from Impala, which accounts for nearly 40% of world production, led to small, short-term gains in the world platinum price.

But they were not strong enough to counter the negative influences that have pushed the metal to its current level of $348/oz, down 45% from a high of $830/oz in 1987.

Impala's five platinum operations, all in Botswana, have suffered strikes and related violence since early July.

Clashes, allegedly between miners supporting the strikes and those opposing them, resulted in eight deaths on August 16 and a temporary closure of three mines.

Analysts say the battle is likely to last a long time because it is deeper than the surface wage dispute and does not really involve Impala.

They say the trouble involves the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), which is fighting with the Bophuthatswana government for representation in SA mining companies' operations in the homeland.

"The NUM is using Impala as the playing field in its fight with the government. Impala is caught in the crossfire and isn't sure how to handle it," says Bruce Williamson, an analyst for brokers J. D. Anderson.

Impala says that, while it is doing its best to resolve the wage dispute, it cannot resolve the union dispute.

"We can't make deals with the Bophuthatswana government and the NUM. All we can do is try to facilitate discussions between the two and hope that our employees are more concerned about their personal welfare than they are about politics," says Impala human resources manager Deon Groenewald.

The NUM says the clashes have occurred because Impala is refusing its workers NUM representation, which, the union claims, the majority want.

"As a union that represents workers in SA, we have a responsibility to Impala workers who are coming under severe pressure from SA management," says spokesman Jerry Majatladi.

But the homeland government says under no circumstances can a foreign union operate in its country.

"Impala is on Bop soil and so they have to comply with our rules," says Bophuthatswana Munpower Secretary Herbert Molanta. "The politicisation of the labour scene cannot be tolerated here." — AP-DJ
Death toll in mine clashes rises to 19

The death toll at Gengold's Winkelhaak mine, near Evander, has risen to 19 after further clashes at the mine.

Gennam said in a statement yesterday that, during the first clash on Saturday morning, five people were killed and nine injured.

"To prevent further loss of life, mine security personnel used teargas to disperse the crowd," he said.

Later on Saturday afternoon, 10 more people were killed and 25 injured in another clash between employees.

Two men subsequently died in the Rand Mutual hospital as a result of injuries sustained during one of the incidents.

Early yesterday morning, two more bodies were found in the veld near the mine.

During the weekend, mine security officers kept the different groups of employees separated and searched the hostels for weapons. A large number of weapons was confiscated.

Yesterday morning, only about five percent of the early shift reported for work.

Some of the employees told management they were afraid their possessions would be stolen while they were underground.

To resolve the violence, a meeting between mine management, representatives of employee organisations and Government officials was expected to be held at midday yesterday - Sapa.
Union blames Inkatha for attack at mine

By Shareen Singh

Security staff at Winkelspan mine near Evander watched and aided an attack "launched by Inkatha members" last weekend in which 19 people were killed, the National Union of Mineworkers alleged yesterday.

The NUM says the attack was launched by "Inkatha members on non-Zulu speaking workers"

Gengold managing director Gary Maude denied the allegations made against Inkatha and mine security, saying the union was trying to make political capital from a situation which started off as a "drunken effort."

The NUM said the violence started on Saturday when Inkatha members attacked workers at No 2 Hostel, killing an "induna of the Hluhlu clan and another worker."

A group of Inkatha members armed with guns and other weapons attacked workers at No 1 Hostel that afternoon, killing 19 workers "in full view of mine security", the union alleged.

The union claimed that mine security and Inkatha vigilantes blocked all the main entrances to the hostel and kept workers under siege.

Mr Maude said the violence started early on Saturday morning at No 2 Hostel after a worker was stabbed when he went to the room next door to complain about noise to a group of Sothos having a party.

The situation was expected to return to normal once work resumed today, Mr Maude said.
Unrest 'a lesser killer than crime'

POLICE say 22 000 people died violently in crime and traffic-related incidents in the 15 months to end-February this year, compared to 3 300 political or unrest-related deaths during the same period.

Public perceptions were that political violence was tearing SA apart. However, violent crime and other factors killed far more people than unrest, police spokesman Lt-Col Johan Mostert said yesterday.

Crime in SA was at its highest level, and the SAP, trying to combat crime and violence, was overextended, he said.

"Even if we deployed our entire force on the Witwatersrand, how can 185 000 policemen control 5 million people?" Mostert asked.

SAP spokesman Col Frans Malherbe said no section of SA's population had reason to regard the police as an enemy.

The "new SA" was a myth. "What we need are new South Africans, bred and cultured to face the future with confidence and to work towards peace and prosperity for all.

The National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders, quoting police statistics, said crime had risen 40% between 1989 and 1990. However, it was difficult to differentiate between political violence and criminal activity in a society where the two were so linked.

Police statistics released earlier this year showed a 29% increase in murders between 1989 (11 750) and 1990 (15 1000).

Zulus quit after weekend clashes at Winkelhaak mine

VERA VON RIERS

THE majority of Zulu workers at Winkelhaak mine near Evander — where 12 people died in two ethnic clashes at the weekend — had left the mine by yesterday, Gengold MD Gary Maude said.

Maude said most workers at the mine's No 1 hostel returned to work yesterday while workers at the No 2 hostel were expected to report for the night shift.

There was no production on Monday and Tuesday following the violence which erupted on Saturday.

NUM acting general secretary Marcel Golding said that although the situation was "still very tense" miners were expected to return to work today.

Maud said most of the mine's 1 700 Zulus (out of a total workforce of 7 800) had asked to go back home and by yesterday afternoon, only about 600 had not been paid off. No Zulus or any other miners were still armed after security searches since the weekend.

He said the Zulus had left because they had tired of the violence.

Mine security had filled three two-ton trucks with weapons confiscated during searches at the mine.

He added that the parties were working jointly to normalise the situation as soon as possible.

Reacting to the departure of the Zulu workers, Golding said last night that the NUM was not anti-Zulu. The union was committed to uniting workers irrespective of language. One of the main problems at the mine related to management's policy of recruiting workers from specific geographical areas, Golding said.

The union was also concerned about management's tendency to use police and mine security in industrial relations disputes.
The NINJA: A Vessel for the 21st Century

The NINJA, a new class of underwater drone, has been designed to operate in environments where traditional submarines cannot navigate. Its innovative design allows it to operate in areas where there is no infrastructure or human presence, making it ideal for exploration and research.

The NINJA's sleek, hydrodynamic shape is optimized for minimal drag and maximum efficiency underwater. Its advanced propulsion system allows it to travel at high speeds, covering vast distances in a short amount of time.

The NINJA's sensors and cameras provide a comprehensive view of its surroundings, allowing it to gather valuable data on oceanic environments. Its endurance capabilities enable it to stay submerged for extended periods, ensuring uninterrupted operation.

In conclusion, the NINJA represents a significant advancement in underwater technology, offering new possibilities for scientific discoveries and exploration.
II Killed in Clashes at Mine
11 killed in mine clash

ELEVEN people have died and 26 have been injured in violent clashes at Impala Platinum's Bafokeng North mine in Bophuthatswana at the weekend, General Mining Corporation said yesterday.

The violence broke out on Saturday night at a hostel.

A mine spokesman said: "These incidents of violence are not linked to the wage settlement reached between management and the employee representative committee on September 25."

"According to the agreement, employees will get an average increase of 16 percent backdated to July 1991."

The situation at the mine has been described as quiet but tense.
11 killed in clashes at Implats mine

ELEVEN people died in violent clashes between miners at Impala Platinum's Bafokeng North mine in Bophuthatswana at the weekend.

Mine owner Gemmim said yesterday 11 people died and 26 were injured in clashes between different ethnic groups at the mine on Saturday afternoon.

A Gemmim spokesman said the clashes were not related to the wage settlement reached between mine management and employee representatives last week.

In terms of the settlement, workers will get an average 16% increase backdated to July.

The spokesman said the situation at the mine was "quiet but tense" yesterday. It could not be established what had sparked the clashes.

Impala shut down its Wildheuwelfontein mine, also in Bophuthatswana, at the end of last month after eight miners died in clashes.

Gemmim said at the time it was feared that workers' lives were at risk "as some employees at these operations were apparently still supporting the industrial action despite a decision taken by employee committees to break it off.

At the beginning of this month, Impala shut down Bafokeng North. It reported a tense situation at the mine following a deadlock in annual wage negotiations, and said there had been threats and intimidation by some workers underground.

Earlier this month, 19 people died at another Gemmim mine, Winkelhaak near Evander.
11 slain as miners battle in Bop

By Browyn Wilkinson

Violent clashes at Impala Platinum's Bafokeng mine in Bophuthatswana on Saturday left 11 miners dead and 26 injured.

Fighting broke out at the Bafokeng North hostel between 5 and 7 pm, General Mining Corporation (Gencor) spokesman Leang Geldenhuys said yesterday. He said the fighting was "definitely ethnically based. It had nothing to do with wage negotiations or any other industrial action."

The clashes were thought to have been between Sotho and Tswana miners, but it was difficult to be certain, said Mr Geldenhuys.

Although not apparently related to industrial action, the latest violence came after months of disputes. A settlement was finally reached between Impala Platinum management and the employee representative committee on Wednesday.

According to the agreement, employees will get an average increase of 16 percent backdated to July.
Miners remember dead colleagues

MINEWORKERS will hold services throughout the mining sector today in remembrance of colleagues killed in mine accidents.

Today is the unofficial date set aside to remember 177 miners killed by fumes at Kipsross goldmine five years ago.

The National Union of Mineworkers has meanwhile reiterated its demand for a commission of inquiry to probe health and safety on the mines.

"October 1 is now seen nationwide as Kipsross Day, a day miners pay tribute to those who died in mine accidents and mine-related diseases," NUM leader, Marcel Golding, said yesterday. - Sapa.
Mineworkers strike

About 1,000 National Union of Mineworkers members are on strike at JCI's Consolidated Metallurgical Industries (CMI) and Eikeboom Colliery, owned by Trans-Natal, the NUM said this week.

Workers are demanding higher wages and better conditions of employment.

About 450 mineworkers at Eikeboom, near Middelburg, started their strike last Sunday, demanding a 15 percent wage increase — versus management's offer of 13.5 percent.

At CMI, in Lydenburg, 600 workers started strike action on Wednesday in support of their demand for a 16.5 percent pay increase while management is offering 10 percent.

Reports from Weekly Mail staff.
Implats underground sit-in

Production at Implats Platinum's Wildebeest North mine ground to a halt this week when workers staged an underground sit-in followed by strike action. A wildcat strike also stopped production at Wildebeest South.

According to Sapa, 7000 workers staged an underground sit-in on Tuesday this week, only resurfacing five hours later. The action is linked to the dismissal of a miner.

Implats management said half its platinum production came from the two affected plants.

Report by Wicky Mail staff, Sapa
Mine closes after sit-in

By IKE MTSAPI

TROUBLE-torn Wildebeestfontein Mine in Rustenburg, Bothelethebana has been “shut down” because of a sit-in strike by 16 000 miners yesterday.

Gennin's human resources manager, Mr Tom Ferreira, said the mine, the scene of violent clashes between miners and vigilante groups, will be closed "until further notice."

He said: "Impala has decided to close the Wildebeestfontein North Platinum Mine until further notice as a result of industrial action."

"The industrial action began with an underground sit-in on Tuesday. Yesterday, the workforce of 16 000 at the Wildebeestfontein North and South mines did not report for work."

"After discussions between employee representatives and management the workforce at Wildebeestfontein South went back to work.

"Employee representatives told management the industrial action was linked to the dismissal of an employee last week."

He said Wildebeestfontein North was closed "because the industrial action created unsafe working conditions and resulted in loss of production."
Mine investigation

MANAGEMENT at Impala Platinum's Wildebeestfontein North mine, in Bophuthatswana, has launched an investigation into circumstances surrounding the industrial action which led to the mine's closure last week.

Spokesman Laang Geldenhuys said yesterday mine management took exception to illegal industrial action, intimidation and the prevention of people from surfacing at the end of a shift.
Union chief in blazing house eludes killers

THE vice-chairman of the Lydenburg region of the National Union of Mineworkers is living in fear after his house was burnt down and attempts made on his life.

The union said a group of four white and four black men surrounded Mr Jackson Tsatsi’s house at Penge Mine on October 13 and started shooting into his bedroom.

"Tsatsi managed to climb through the ceiling and survived the attack. He heard one of the white men telling the others they should leave as they had killed him.

"On their way out they poured petrol into the house and on his car and set them alight. He managed to get out while the house was burning," NUM said.

Lebowa police spokesman, Capt. LM Tomatsana, said police were aware of the incident.

He said police were alerted and they went to check the damage caused by the fire.

Tomatsana said police could not continue with investigations until Tsatsi had had a formal charge with the police.

"Police have asked him to come and open a formal charge so that probes can be started."

By DON SEOKANE
Impala mine tense after teargassing, dismissals

By Shareen Singh 28/10 1991

The situation at Impala Wildo-beestfontein platinum mine in Bophuthatswana was tense last night after hundreds of workers were teargassed on Saturday and many arrested by mine security and then dismissed. "Workers were loaded into vehicles at gunpoint by mine security and Bophuthatswana police," a spokesman for the workers alleged.

About 1,000 more were expected to be dismissed, he said.

Pamphlets were handed to the workers saying they were being dismissed following a disciplinary hearing "conducted in their absence." They were found guilty of taking part in a sit-in, it was alleged.

The Gemmin-owned mine, which employs about 9,000 workers, was shut down on October 16 after a sit-in protest against a worker's dismissal. Management called a disciplinary hearing to ascertain who took part in the sit-in and whether there was any intimidation of white workers.

Management and worker representatives agreed on Friday that the mine would be reopened, but when workers from one of the shafts reported for work, they were arrested and dismissed, the spokesman said.

Golden's spokesman said 76 workers were dismissed for taking part in the sit-in. Some had attended a disciplinary hearing.

Mine security was forced to use teargas to disperse workers who had thrown stones, he said.
16,000 on strike at Impala Platinum mines

A STRIKE by about 16,000 mine workers brought Impala Platinum's Wildebeestfontein North and Bafokeng North mines to a standstill yesterday, halting more than half of the group's platinum production.

Labour unrest knocked production at Impala's two other mines and affected its mineral processing plant. Impala produced 1.1 million oz of platinum in the year to end-June 1991, more than 25% of world mine production.

The acute industrial unrest which has hit production for more than three months has forced Impala to buy metal to meet its supply contracts.

Impala shares fell 22c to R54 on the JSE yesterday, against a trend of a former platinum board.

Despite market speculation that interruptions to Impala's platinum production would bolster weak platinum prices, the metal veered back below the $350-mark yesterday, finally closing in London at $339.50, down $2.50 from Friday.

Mine owners Gennun said yesterday several buildings and vehicles were set alight at the Bafokeng South hostel and Bafokeng North GM Robby Drummond was in hospital after being assaulted early in the morning.

Production at Wildebeestfontein South, Bafokeng South and the mineral processes plant had been affected as a result of high absenteeism in unrest which began early yesterday, Gennun said in a statement.

The situation was tense at Impala Platinum's hostel with widespread intimidation among the workforce.

Management cancelled a meeting with worker representatives scheduled for the yesterday afternoon, saying it would be held today in all probability. NUM media spokesman Jerry Majatladi said.

Majatladi said mine security police had used teargas and arrested about 70 people and taken them off mine premises.

Gennun spokesman Loing Geldenhuys said about 16,000 employees were involved in the strike, but Majatladi said the figure was between 15,000 and 20,000 because three other plants were involved besides the original two.

Geldenhuys said the latest labour unrest was in reaction to the dismissal — as disciplinary action — of 76 Wildebeestfontein employees as a sequel to labour action at the mines on October 13.

Majatladi said miners were demanding the recognition of the NUM, an end to racial discrimination and an average 25.5% wage increase.
Unrest at Bop mines

UNREST has broken out at Impala Platinum's Wildebeestfontein North and Bafokeng North mines in Bophuthatswana and production has been stopped, Gemmin announced yesterday. Several buildings were also set alight at the Bafokeng South hostel, Gemmin said.

One of Impala's general managers had been hospitalised after he was assaulted when violence broke early yesterday. The company said the incidents were believed to be linked to the dismissal of 76 Wildebeestfontein North miners at the weekend. They were dismissed following disciplinary hearings related to a sit-in at the mine on October 15, when supervisory staff were prevented from leaving the underground areas.

Gemmin said production at Impala's Wildebeestfontein South and Bafokeng South and the Mineral Processes Plant was continuing.

ANC women to stand trial

The trial of Mrs Winnie Mandela and 15 other ANC Women's League members who are facing charges of obstruction will resume in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court today.

The charges arose out of demonstrations by ANCWL members in Johannesburg on May 22 to launch a campaign for the release of political prisoners.

The campaign followed a countrywide fast in solidarity with political prisoners who were on hunger strike.

On that day, Mrs Mandela was arrested twice - first after leading a demonstration at the intersection of Market and Rissik streets and later when a group protested outside the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court.

Others were arrested when more than 200 women demonstrated outside John Vorster Square for the release of Mrs Mandela's group.
Mines threaten action over VAT stayaway

By Shareen Singh

Several mines under the Chamber of Mines have threatened "severe disciplinary action" against employees who stay away on November 4 and 5 without management's permission.

Warning letters were sent to employees this week. Workers at Anglo American head office have also been warned.

The National Union of Mineworkers said workers did not have to seek permission to join a general strike called by Cosatu.

By threatening disciplinary action, mining bosses were denying workers the right to protest.

"It also shows that they are siding with the Government on the VAT issue," the NUM said.

At a press conference in Johannesburg yesterday, Cosatu secretary-general Jay Naidoo said any disciplinary action against workers — excluding a "no work, no pay" policy — would make the companies the focus of future action.

Chamber of Mines spokesman Peter Bunkell said the chamber had not taken a position on whether workers who took part in the strike would be penalised or not. Individual mining houses were making their own decisions.

The Pretoria Chamber of Commerce and Trade has also said employers might adopt a "no work, no pay" attitude if workers stayed away.
Impala mines strike is over

WORKERS at Impala Platinum mines in Bophuthatswana ended their strike yesterday after management agreed that 76 miners could appeal against their dismissals, said Gemina spokesman Mr Lang Geldenhuys.

The work stoppage at Wildebeesfontein North and Bafokeng North mines was accompanied by violence in which several buildings and vehicles were burnt and mine general manager Mr Robbe Drummond was taken to hospital after being assaulted, said Geldenhuys.

National Union of Mineworkers spokesman Mr Jerry Majatladi said one of the demands was recognition of NUM at Bophuthatswana mines.

Geldenhuys said "some" of the representatives involved in negotiations had been NUM members.

One result of discussions with management was agreement to work towards scraping the ruling that Government permission was needed to hold meetings at the mines, Majatladi said.
Death toll in mine violence rises to 15

By Helen Grange

WELKOM — The death toll after a clash between strikers and "seabs" at Welkom's President Steyn Free Gold mine rose to 15 yesterday.

Another 39 were injured, four critically.

Fighting broke out on Sunday night at the No. 4 shaft but management and the National Union of Mineworkers differed over what caused the dispute.

Management said workers leaving their hostel complexes to go on night shift were attacked by anti-VAT protesters with knives, sticks and knobkerries.

However, NUM spokesman Jerry Majalladi said workers returning to the mine from an anti-VAT rally were attacked.

He implicated mine security in the violence, claiming that workers had been attacked by team leaders.

Another death occurred yesterday morning at Free State Sapplelaas No. 4 shaft when a man was stabbed as he tried to report for duty.

Widespread intimidation was reported at the Sapplelaas No. 2 and No. 4 shafts as well as at the President Steyn No. 4 shaft where the initial fighting began.

By yesterday afternoon, police and mine security officials had separated the two groups at the No. 4 shaft.

Management secured a tentative agreement from both sides that workers would be allowed to report for night shift last night without fear of intimidation.

The Star found groups of workers who had jumped over the walls surrounding the shaft complex and slept in the bushes or taken refuge in Thabong. One man said the miners were angry at having to forfeit a day's wages when most of them did not understand the reasoning behind the stayaway.
Demonstrator shot dead

In Soweto, more than 15,000 protesters warned the Government of another five-day nationwide general strike if it refused to heed the call for an interim government and a constituent assembly.

ANC official Mr Floyd Mashele warned the Government to reply to their demands within 14 days.

He said: "If the Government keeps on ignoring our demands, we will be forced to use even harsher methods."

The Congress of South African Trade Unions' Mr Neil Coleman described the two-day strike as a success.

Stayaway figures for the PWV area were even higher yesterday, while figures in the Eastern Transvaal and in the Eastern Cape remained the same, he said.

In the Western Cape and on some of the mines in the Orange Free State stayaway figures were not as high as on the first day.

Trains were running at even lower capacity in some areas yesterday.

Buses from Potchefstroom, Pretoria and Johannesburg, and the KwaNdebele-Pretoria route, which each put about 400 to 500 buses on the road every weekday, remained in the sheds as only about five drivers reported for duty.

Most medical staff at hospitals around the country reported for duty yesterday, but the absence of non-medical hospital staff was causing problems.

In Rophululwane, the stayaway appeared to have been 100 percent effective.

In Durban very few buses were operating and trains were running almost empty.

See pages 3 and 4.
Two miners die on second day of strike

SPORADIC incidents of violence claimed two lives on a gold mine, and there were several bomb blasts on commuter rail lines yesterday, the second day of the anti-VAT strike.

In most areas, however, there were no reports of strike-related violence. Police did not directly link any of the deaths to the VAT strike.

The Inkatha Youth Brigade blamed strike organisers for the death of its former national secretary Mshheisen Gwala, who was shot dead in Secunda’s Embalenhle township on Monday night.

Delays 6/11/91

And police said they shot dead a man in Daveyton township on the East Rand after he pointed an AK-47 rifle at them. Five people were injured with rubber bullets in the incident.

A Sporret spokesman said an explosion yesterday on a railway line about 30km from Cape Town had caused eight delays. Sapa reports.

East Rand police said they were investigating the possibility that a blast under a railway bridge near Daveyton could have been an attempt to prevent people from going to work.

Two miners were killed and 49 injured in three outbreaks of violence at Anglo’s Western Deep Levels mine. Mine security personnel were forced to use rubber bullets in all three incidents.

Anglo yesterday issued an urgent appeal for Mr Justice Goldstone’s Commission on Public Violence and Intimidation to investigate the death of 15 miners and wounding of 33 at the President Steyn mine in Welkom on Sunday night.

West Rand police reported an incident of intimidation where police videoed an anti-VAT march in Bekkerstad’s Spooktown squatter camp and filmed marchers forcing bystanders to join their protest.

Police reported 13 legal anti-VAT marches took place yesterday.

A police spokesman appealed to people who had allegedly been intimidated to report the incidents.

Unconfirmed reports from Alexandra township indicated people had been intimidated to stay at home by youths who threatened to burn down their homes if they went to work.
Mines: success or a flop?

By Louise Burgers

Mining bosses and union officials are at loggerheads over the success of the two-day VAT strike on the mines.

The National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) has totally rejected figures released by the Chamber of Mines which claims the vast majority of mineworkers, "overwhelmingly rejected" the stayaway call.

The Chamber said consolidated figures over the past two days revealed that only 17 percent of mining industry employees heeded the strike call.

On the first day of the strike 82 percent of employees reported for duty. On the second day 84 percent were present.

NUM press officer Jerry Majatladi described the Chamber of Mines and Anglo American stayaway figures as "shamefully low and not a true reflection of what really happened."

Regional surveys of gold, platinum, coal and other mineral mines showed that about 260,000 miners stayed away, said Mr Majatladi.
investigate mine deaths

By Helen Grange
Pretoria Bureau

The Standing Commission on Public Violence and Intimidation has been asked by Anglo American to investigate the 15 deaths at Welkom's President Steyn mine.

Anglo American also challenged National Union of Mineworkers (Num) spokesman Jerry Majatladi, to a media debate on events which led to the deaths and 39 people being injured.

Anglo and the Num differed on the cause of Sunday night's clash. Anglo insists anti-VAT protesters attacked miners wanting to report for night shift. But the Num says team leaders attacked protesters returning from an anti-VAT rally.

The corporation has written an appeal to Mr Justice Goldstone, chairman of the Standing Commission on Public Violence and Intimidation, saying it is "vitally necessary" that the President Steyn incidents be investigated and the findings made public.

The mine's own investigations had indicated the violence was initiated by employees "seeking to prevent other employees from reporting for the Sunday night shift".

"The injuries inflicted on the 15 dead and the 39 injured suggest that the most brutal kinds of violence were used."

"If our information is correct, this amounts to intimidation of the very worst kind. It is also the clearest possible breach of the National Peace Accord," the letter states.

Mr Majatladi's version is that "worker leaders traditionally in managers' pockets" initiated attacks on anti-VAT protesters returning to their hostels.

"Workers were not going on night shift. The incident happened at about 7pm. Reporting for night shift only starts at 9pm for 10pm," he said.

Mr Majatladi said he had no objection to an inquiry into the incident.

Miners in hospital interviewed by The Star on Monday said they had been attacked by a mob while on their way to work.
17 killed on mines during stayaway

By Helen Grange
Anna Louw and
Raiser Nyatsamba

Two miners died and 49 were injured during violent clashes at Western Deep Levels gold mine, near Carltonville, during the two-day stayaway, Anglo American's gold and uranium division reported yesterday.

This brings to 17 the number of mineworkers killed on Anglo mines over the stayaway. Fifteen miners died on Sunday night in clashes at Welkom's President Steyn mine.

Overall, 88 Anglo mineworkers have been injured during the stayaway.

At Western Deep, 16 of the injured miners are in hospital.

After the first incident at Western Deep Levels South hostel on Sunday night, 22 reported injured early on Monday.

On Monday night, one miner was found stabbed to death near the mine's East hostel. Anglo said the circumstances of his death would be investigated.

In later incidents at the hostel, 16 employees were injured.

Early yesterday morning another miner was killed and 11 were injured at the mine's West hostel.

The circumstances of the outbreaks were not given.

An Anglo statement said mine security guards were forced to intervene in all three incidents and used rubber bullets. Of the injured in hospital, 10 were receiving treatment for rubber bullet wounds.

The National Union of Mineworkers was establishing the circumstances of the skirmish yesterday and could not comment. An investigation would be conducted, NUM secretary-general Marcel Golding said.

Police said a man who pointed an AK-47 rifle at police during an anti-VAT protest in Daveyton was shot dead before he could pull the trigger.

A police spokesman said the man was shot after a group of protesters gathered at Soweto Stadium at 11 am yesterday.

Another man in the group pulled out a pistol but was wounded before he opened fire, said the spokesman.

A delegation of marchers later laid a formal complaint with the Daveyton police station commander about the shooting incident. Witnesses stated they saw no weapon.

The death of Inkatha Freedom Party Youth Brigade national executive committee member Mhhekiseni Gwala, who was shot and killed in Soweto's Eldorado township on Monday, has been blamed by the IFP on the strike.

Cosatu's Sangumzi Sosango yesterday told The Star stayaway organisers had appealed to people not to engage in acts of violence.

IFP Youth Brigade chairman Musa Zondi said when the IFP warned Cosatu of the possibility of the stayaway heightening tensions, it was accused of sabre-rattling.

He said at least 17 people had died "as a result of the stayaway.

Asked how many stayaway-related deaths had been reported, police headquarters said they were aware of only three.
Probes into deaths at President Steyn mine

The commission of inquiry set up in terms of the national peace accord yesterday launched its second probe into violence at the President Steyn mine near Welkom — and criticised mine owners Freegold for making public details of its request for the commission to investigate the incidents in which 16 miners died.

Commission chairman Mr Justice Goldstone yesterday called on interested parties to immediately supply the Commission of Inquiry into Violence and Intimidation with information on Sunday's violence during which 15 miners were killed and 38 injured.

This follows an appeal this week by Anglo American that the President Steyn incident be investigated and the findings made public.

Anglo said the violence was initiated by employees "seeking to prevent other employees from reporting for the night shift".

The NUM said the victims were attacked while returning from an anti-VAT rally.
Probes into deaths at President Steyn mine

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11 000 join NUM strike at mines

VERA VON LIERES

MORE than 11 000 NUM members embarked on strike action at Iscor's Durnacol mine and Anglo's Saaplaas mine in the Free State this week, the union said yesterday.

NUM media officer Jerry Mantladi said in a statement a wage strike by 3 500 coal miners at Durnacol — which started on Monday — was continuing after management failed to respond to NUM demands.

The union was demanding a wage increase above the inflation rate, while Durnacol was offering wage increases of between 10% and 14%.

Iscor spokesman Ernest Webb-Sicko confirmed last night that 3 500 workers were on strike at Durnacol. He said the NUM last week conducted strike ballots at three other Iscor mines — Grootegeluk, Suhlen and Thabazimbi — but had not embarked on strike action there.

In the Free State, about 8 000 mineworkers went on strike yesterday at Anglo's Saaplaas gold mine "to protest against management's victimisation of 100 workers who took part in the anti-VAT general strike of November 4 and 5," the NUM said.

It said two shafts on the mine had been closed.

The NUM added that one mineworker was killed on Wednesday. Anglo spokesmen could not be reached for comment.

About 5 700 workers were boycotting food at JCM's Rustenburg Platinum mines because of complaints about its quality of food.
Despite the doubts, the unions did pull it off

WHITE South Africans were provided with a glimpse of what a Boerestaat might be like this week when the cities emptied of black workers.

Both business and labour agreed it was the biggest stayaway ever to hit the country — at a time when many doubted the capacity of the unions to organise successful mass action.

Congress of South African Trade Unions spokesman Neil Coleman ascribed the success of the strike to grassroots resistance to VAT. “People know about the economic effect of VAT and how it is hitting working people and poor people in their pockets.”

Cosatu estimates that between 80 and 100 percent of the country’s workforce supported the strike. Its monitoring teams noted up the highest percentages in the Witwatersrand and Eastern Cape, where 100 percent stayaways were not uncommon in many areas.

Business and labour monitoring groups reported similar figures. Drawing on interviews with 500 companies nationwide, the University of the Witwatersrand-based Labour Monitoring Group reported that 81 percent of workers stayed away on Monday and 68 percent on Tuesday.

Important successes for Cosatu were in northern Natal, seen as an Inkatha stronghold, and the Western Cape, where there is traditionally a poor response to stayaway calls.

In centres such as Empangeni and Isithebe in northern Natal 60 percent of workers stayed home, despite Inkatha’s voluble anti-strike sentiments.

Adding that in the PWV hostels and in southern and northern Natal there had been stayaways in excess of 60 percent, Coleman said “the myth of Inkatha support in these areas has been blasted away.”

The general strike was unusually successful in the Western Cape, where both business and trade union officials put the stayaway figure at between 50 and 70 percent for the two days.

Union officials in the region said the success of the action was due to thorough preparation and the intense publicity the VAT issue received in the run-up to the strike. Close cooperation between Cosatu and a resurgent National Council of Trade Unions (Nactu) in the region was also a factor.

Another surprise was the support given by some farmworkers to the stayaway — the first time this has happened. Sugar employers reported that 35 percent of cane-workers in Natal had stayed home, while forestry workers in the Eastern Transvaal also heeded the call.

There are signs that black workers in the strategic mining industry, traditionally unresponsive to stayaway calls, may have supported the action on an unprecedented scale.

The National Union of Mineworkers estimated that 250 000 workers, or about 34 percent of the total workforce, stayed away. But even the Chamber of Mines’ estimate — an average 17 percent — indicates a wider response.

Despite the relatively low percentage turnout, the mines were the scene of the worst stayaway-linked violence.

This week Anglo American requested the Standing Commission on Public Violence and Intimidation to investigate the killing of 15 workers at its President Steyn Mine in Welkom, which it says took place when miners wishing to work were attacked by anti-VAT workmates. The NUM says miners returning from an anti-VAT rally were set upon by “worker leaders traditionally in management’s pockets.”
Thousands of miners down tools

More than 17,000 members of the National Union of Mineworkers have started strike action at three mines.

A statement released by the NUM yesterday said the strike by 3,500 coal miners at Jacobs's Durban Navigation Colliery was continuing following management's failure to respond to union demands on wages and conditions of employment.

The strike began on Monday. Deadlock was reached between the union and management on October 3.

In the Free State, about 8,000 mineworkers went on strike on Wednesday at Anglo's Sana plaas gold mine to protest against management's alleged victimisation of 180 workers who took part in the anti-VAT general strike this week.

The statement said management had issued briefs four days before the general strike threatening disciplinary action against employees taking part in the anti-VAT action.

Workers downed tools on Wednesday, starting with a sit-in underground. Two shafts on the mine have been closed.

One mineworker was killed on Wednesday at the mine, the statement said.

About 5,700 workers are boycotting meals at JCI's Rustenburg platinum mines because of poor-quality food served in the canteens.

The statement said workers complained of becoming ill after eating the meals supplied and had been cooking their own meals in the hostels.

Sapa.
21 killed in mine violence

WELKOM. - Twenty-one miners were killed and 44 injured in renewed violence at the number four shaft of the President Steyn gold mine at Welkom last night.

Fighting broke out among mine employees at about 11pm. Anglo-American said in a statement today.

"Mine security, assisted by police, intervened and the situation is now calm but tense. Mine security and the police are still at the scene," the statement said.

Police liaison officer for the Orange Free State, Colonel Johan Fourie, said no arrests had been made.

The outbreak of violence last night was the second in less than a week, taking the death toll to 36.

Anglo-American said the cause of last night's outbreak of violence was being investigated. -- Sapa
Mine fight kills 22 more

By MONWABISI NOMADLO and Sapa

TWENTY-TWO miners were killed and 51 injured in renewed violence at Number Four Shaft of the President-Steyn gold mine at Welkom on Friday night.

The killings bring the toll since last Monday to 37 dead and 100 injured.

Yesterday afternoon, representatives of NUM, Anglo American mine management and the warring factions were meeting behind closed doors in a bid to resolve the dispute.

Victims interviewed at the Ernest Oppenheimer Hospital said “mysterious” men had started the fighting, which ended up in a confrontation between Xhosas and Sothis.

The men said white mine security employees also took sides in the fighting, siding with the Sothus. They said the security guards were seen shooting while the Sothus were fighting with “traditional weapons.”

Following last Sunday’s fighting, most of the Sothus left the mine. On Friday night the remaining Sothus were cornered and attacked by the Xhosas.

Fighting broke out at about 11 pm, mine owners Anglo American said in a statement.

“Mine security, assisted by the SAP, intervened and the situation is now calm but tense.

“Mine security and the SAP are still at the scene,” the Anglo statement said.

Free State police liaison officer Col Johan Fouche said no arrests had been made.

Friday night’s clash at Number Four Shaft was the second in a week.

Fifteen miners died at the shaft entrance on Sunday night when, according to Anglo, miners supporting the national strike against VAT tried to prevent those who wanted to go to work from going underground.

A City Press reporter who managed to get into the hospital past a tight security cordon found the inside of the wards looked like a war zone, with oxygen masks and drips over the beds.

Mboma Radebe, who sustained leg and chest injuries, said he wondered why the fighting had started because a truce had been called last Monday.

Jackson Sityanda, who suffered a double fracture in one leg, said he saw some white mine security guards accompanying the Sothus.
Bloody mine battle leaves 22 dead

A BATTLE at Welkom's President Steyn gold mine left at least 22 dead this weekend.

The attack appeared to be in retaliation for an outbreak of violence last Sunday night which left 15 dead — mostly Xhosa — when a group of predominantly Xhosa-speaking miners supporting Cosatu's anti-VAT strike tried to stop Basotho miners from going to work.

By late yesterday the unofficial death toll for the week's clashes was 42.

At least 90 have been injured — 51 on Friday night — and more injured men were making their way to the Ernest Oppenheimer mine hospital yesterday, said hospital superintendent Dr Brian Bruk.

Most injuries were caused by pangas and pangas.

Yesterday hundreds of terrified miners fled the compound of shaft No 4, seeking refuge in another hostel said they had been attacked by Basotho shorts after 10pm on Friday.

Many of the Basotho miners had gone home for the weekend, but the few Sotho speakers left on the mine yesterday said Xhosas armed with pangas and pangas had stormed into their hostel.

NUM general secretary Marcel Golding, called to the scene by Freegold South regional manager Jaa Rossouw, said no Inkatha supporters appeared to have been involved.

Only a few Zulu speakers are resident at No 4 shaft, sources said.

Anglo American Gold and Uranium Division spokesman James Duncan said the standing commission on public violence and intimidation, headed by Mr Justice Richard Goldstone, had been asked to investigate last Sunday's violence.

It was possible that this weekend's violence would also fall within the ambit of the investigation, he said.

Late yesterday the mine had been sealed off.
Toll at Welkom now 70 with hundreds injured

New bloodbath at min

Staff Reporters

The death toll at Anglo American's President Steyn gold mine near Welkom in the Free State has climbed to 70, following renewed violence at the weekend and last night when 29 men died in further clashes.

So far about 180 people have been injured in the clashes over the last week, police in Bloemfontein confirmed this morning.

A police spokesman said most of those killed and injured were involved in the attacks.

All indications were that the ongoing violence was due to revenge attacks.

A spokesman for mine owners Anglo American James Duncan, said that the company would not comment on causes of the violence but, according to its legal advisers, it was bound to report on the matter to the Standing Commission on Violence and Unrest which had approached the company to investigate.

Tense

The commission is chaired by Mr Justice R J Goldstone.

Mr Duncan said the day shift staff at President Steyn's number two and four shafts had not gone underground this morning following a night of violence at employe hostel compounds.

The situation at both shafts this morning was "calm but tense", he added.

A police spokesman said there was no immediate threat to the mine.

There was also a possibility that the death toll could rise as police continued to find more bodies from overnight fighting.

The shock first erupted at the mine last Sunday when strikers and police opened fire.

An earlier report of 16 killed was later increased to 26.

A police spokesman stated that initially 15 people were killed and 38 injured last Sunday night.

A further 23 miners were killed and 40 injured in a surprise attack at the number four shaft on Friday night.

SAP reinforce were deployed in the area, he said.

SAP reinforcements were again broke out last night at the number two shaft leaving another 29 dead and 115 injured.

Now Pakistan asks to tour SA

By Peter Robinson

CALCUTTA - South Africa's return to international cricket yesterday caused worldwide excitement - and now Pakistan has asked to tour South Africa for 20 days in January.

Dr Ali Bachar, managing director of the United Cricket Board of South Africa, yesterday confirmed that Pakistan had asked to tour South Africa.

However, the UCBSA executive committee had not yet considered the request.

He said South Africa had a moral obligation to ensure that an Indian team was the first to tour South Africa.

The UCBSA intended to keep its doors open for Pakistan and, in view of the fact that South Africa had agreed to tour India at such short notice, it was possible that India might be prepared to reconsider his position.

Unprecedented

Any decision on a Pakistan tour, he said, would be taken after full consultation with the Indian board.

Alan Dunn reports from Melbourne that the Australian Broadcasting Corporation flashed scores every 20 minutes yesterday from South Africa's match against India.

Television hiccups hit for a six

Live coverage of tomorrow's second one-day international between South Africa and India, being played at Gwador, will be screened on TV-1 from 5.15 am until 12 noon, an SABC spokesman said today.

There will be also a 30 minute "highlights package" from 10 to 10.30 pm.

The TV blackout from 10.40 to 11.45 am during yesterday's first international at Eden Gardens in Calcutta frustrated thousands of viewers.

SABC spokesman Pieter van der Berg warned that further problems could arise with the complicated television satellite link-up.

But he hoped there would be eight hours of uninterrupted TV coverage tomorrow - Staff Reporter

South Africa's match against India is unprecedented for an event in which Australia is not represented.

In Britain, BBC cricket correspondent Jonathan Agnew, a former England bowler, said the welcome given to the South Africans in Calcutta was "the most incredible thing I've ever seen in sport.

In India yesterday, legendary opening batsman Sunil Gavaskar used his newspaper column to criticize Indian officials for setting up South Africa's three-match tour.

He believes the tour, arranged at the last minute, has interfered with preliminary plans for the Indian tour of Australia starting next month.

He is further angered by the reports that Pakistan has asked to tour South Africa.

He said if South Africa did invite Pakistan to tour in January, they would have taken India for a "jolly ride".

The Indian board, he said, had proposed South Africa's re-entry into the ICC while Pakistan had baulked at extending support.

See Back Page
Picketing miners hold to demands

By IKE MOTSAPI

THE strike by 3 500 coal miners at Lacoce continues after management's failure to respond to workers' wage demands.

The strike started last Monday, coinciding with the anti-VAT stayaway, a month after the National Union of Mineworkers and management reached a deadlock over improvement of wages and working conditions.

NUM Press officer Mr Jerry Magatadi said the union was demanding a wage increase above the inflation rate, whereas the mine was "merely offering a wage increase ranging from 10 to 14 percent."

The action is a continuation of a strike in July. Workers at that time demanded a R900 minimum wage for underground miners and R800 for surface workers. The minimum wage for surface workers was R447.

But employees chose to return to work after the matter deadlocked at the conciliation board. In this latest strike, they have resumed their demands.

Meanwhile, 8 000 miners worked a strike yesterday at Anglo's Snaiplaas to protest against management's victimisation of about 180 workers who took part in last week's general strike.

"Management issued briefs four days before the general strike threatening severe disciplinary action and deployment of mine security and forfeiture of bonuses as well as loss of jobs," Magatadi said.
Men linked to bloody mine clash arrested

TWO men were arrested yesterday following the bloody clash which left 25 people dead and 51 injured at the President Steyn gold mine in the Free State at the weekend.

Orange Free State police spokesman Colonel Johan Fouché said the arrests followed renewed violence at the Welkom mine’s No 4 shaft last Friday.

The deaths bring to 40 the number of people killed since the outbreak of violence last Monday. On that day 15 people were killed when fighting apparently broke out between mineworkers supporting the two-day anti-VAT strike and those opposed to the protest action.

National Union of Mineworkers officials, warring factions within the mine and members of the management yesterday held talks aimed at defusing the situation.

According to reports, "mysterious" men started the fighting which ended in a confrontation between Xhosas and Sothos.

It is rumoured that white mine security employees also took sides in the fighting, allegedly helping the Sotho-speaking men during the fight.

Most Sotho-speaking men left the mine after last Monday's fight.

Those remaining were allegedly cornered by Xhosa-speaking men and assaulted.

Fouché said the situation was calm but remained tense.
Picketing miners hold to demands

By IKE MOTSAPI

THE strike by 3,500 coal miners at Iscor continues after management's failure to respond to workers' wage demands.

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"Management issued briefs four days before the general strike threatening 'severe disciplinary action' and deployment of mine security and forfeiture of bonuses as well as loss of jobs," Mapatadi said.
25 miners die in new violence

Own Correspondent

Johannesburg. — Two men had been arrested as the death toll from violence at Welkom’s President Steyn mine rose to 25 yesterday, Free State police spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Johan Fouche said.

The violence, apparently between Basotho and Xhosa men, broke out at the mine’s Number Four Shaft on Friday night. Fifty-one miners were injured, two seriously, in the incident.

“Two men were arrested on Saturday in connection with the incident and further arrests could be expected,” Lt Col Fouche said.

He would not give details on the arrested men.

It was the second incident of violence at President Steyn’s Number Four Shaft in seven days. The first occurred last Sunday when a group of predominantly Xhosa-speaking miners supporting Cosatu’s anti-VAT strike tried to stop Basotho miners from going to work.

Fifteen miners were killed and 30 injured in that incident.

No access

Anglo American spokesman Mr James Duncan said the mine management and the NUM held talks with the leaders of the warring factions at the weekend in a bid to defuse the situation.

He would not disclose results of the talks, however, saying that would be prejudicial to investigations by the Standing Commission on Public Violence and Intimidation headed by Mr Justice Goldstone.

Anglo has asked the commission to investigate the November 4 incident.

“The situation at the mine is tense but calm and the management has refused access to the scene because it is believed that the tense situation could be exacerbated by the presence of journalists and cameramen,” he said, adding that mine management was investigating the cause of the incident.

Mine security backed by police were at the scene and it was hoped that miners would report for last night’s shift, he said.

The NUM could not be reached for comment.
Strikes hit mines as leaders held

By Mike Siguna

Production ground to a halt at Gemmio's Impala platinum mining complex in Bophuthatswana yesterday when between 30,000 and 40,000 workers downed tools in protest against the arrest of at least 25 worker leaders by Bophuthatswana police.

At the same time about 150 workers staged a sit-in at mine owner Gemmio's head office in Jo'burg, demanding that management act to secure the release of those held.

A Gemmio spokesman said miners were 'in production' and that police had arrested were Bafokeng South, which employs 11,800 workers, and Bophuthatswana North.

In addition, only 40 percent of Bophuthatswana North's 11,800 employees had reported for work.

A Gemmio processing plant was unaffected.

But Sipho Ngum, secretary-general of the National Union of Mineworkers, was quoted as saying that more than 40,000 workers were on strike, including those employed at the world's largest chrome mineral producing plant.

Information in the union's possession was that some of the arrested had been assaulted in detention and that many staff 'stewards' had gone into hiding to avoid being arrested.

Mr Ngum said an additional factor in the strike was management's refusal of 'Bophuthatswana's repressive' labour legislation as an excuse not to deal with the NUM, which he said 'had the minority support among mine employees.'
Mineworkers at the strife-torn President Steyn mine in Welkom wait for buses to take them home.

Miners turmoil

- 4,000 bussed home
- 40,000 on strike

THE National Union of Mineworkers yesterday blamed a "third force" and agents provocateurs for the violence at President Steyn Gold Mine in Welkom in which 71 miners have died since last weekend.

At least 4,000 workers have been housed locally in an attempt to defuse the violence.

Meanwhile, 40,000 miners have downed tools at platinum mines in Bophuthatswana, according to the NUM.

A union spokesman said among the dead were workers not employed at the mine - a factor that "arouses concern for us".

Reports said some people died on Sunday and yesterday morning.

Head of Anglo American's gold division - Mr. Clay Smith - confirmed at a media briefing that one of the dead and one of those injured were not miners.

Smith said about 4,600 workers at the No. 4 Shift had been temporarily bussed home.

By MOKADI PELA and Sapa

NUM acting general secretary Mr. Marcel Golding said union management was responsible for the security of its workers.

Anglo said it accepted responsibility for the security of its workers.

"All we can say is that it was an abhorrent situation and we are extremely sorry."

Head Injuries

A miner injured in Welkom, Kga Motaplo, reportedly sustained a fractured head from a decomposed body of a man last night and were expected to find more bodies.

The impaler, according to the Sishenyana District Hospital, had 90 people admitted. He was finally helped by Nigerian inspectors in the mine.

Meanwhile, thousands of workers at Anglo American Platinum Mines in the Rustenburg area were asked yesterday to return to work.

About 13 NUM shop stewards were among the 12,000 workers at the Welkom and North Mine who were bussed home.

Almost all the employees at the Bofokeng South, Welshersfontein North and Welshersfontein South mines and about 60 percent of the Bofokeng North Mine's workers are on strike.
Huge Genmin
mine strike

Johannesburg—Thousands of workers at
Impala Platinum Mines went on strike early yest-
order morning.

According to a state-
ment released by Gen-
min, about 35,000 of the
42,000 daily paid work-
ers at the four mines are
on strike.

Almost all the employ-
esia at Bafokeng South,
Wildebeestfontein
North and Wildebeest-
fontein South mines, and
about 60% of the Bafok-
eng North Mine’s work-
force are on strike.

The statement said although no formal de-
mands had been made
by the striking workers,
the grievances seemed
to be related to the dis-
missal of 220 workers at
the Wildebeestfontein
North mine last week.

Sapa 07/11/91
Miners sent home after 70 killed

JOHANNESBURG — President Steyn-Gold Mine management has begun sending home thousands of miners in an effort to stem the violence that has so far killed 70 and injured up to 180.

At a press conference here, Anglo-American's regional manager for the Free State, Mr. Jean-Rossouw, said between 4,000 and 5,000 miners were being sent home "to cool off" after the curtailment of operations at the Number 2 and Number 4 shafts.

They would not be paid in their absence.

Asked how more people had been killed at the weekend, in spite of a heavy police and mine security presence following the initial outbreak of violence last week, Mr. Rossouw said most of the violence had broken out at night, which made it difficult to counter.
Cape Times
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 1991

Mine tragedy

THE Anglo-American Corporation did well yesterday to call a news conference to answer questions about the situation at the President Steyn gold mine, Welkom, where there has been an appalling death toll as a result of violence.

Earlier, the Corporation had declined to discuss the reasons for the fighting, citing "legal advice" that it was bound to report exclusively to the Standing Commission on Violence and Intimidation, as set up in terms of the National Peace Accord.

Such an attitude, if maintained, would mean a general clamp-down on news and comment on the violence, which was the last thing intended by the Accord. The aims, in fact, specifically included the encouragement of public awareness of the causes of violence. A clamp-down on news would be untenable, stifling public discussion in an area of critical importance.

First reports suggested that fighting had broken out between supporters of the two-day anti-VAT strike and miners who did not want to strike. More recently, as the death toll has soared, it has been suggested that Xhosa miners are fighting Basuto miners. To contemplate a blackout of information in such a situation -- citing the authority of the National Peace Accord -- is unrealistic and imprudent.

The public is entitled to know what sparked off the fighting and what kept it going. What happened on one mine property could happen on another. Whatever provided the spark on this occasion, the migrant labour system and the hostel system which usually goes with it are clearly among the background factors. Migrant hostels, particularly, have been associated with the recurrent violence on the Witwatersrand. Yet there are rural regions of South Africa and of our neighbouring territories which are almost wholly dependent on remittances from migrant labour. Its abolition would be opposed by many of the migrants themselves.

Whatever the background to the Welkom violence, keeping the public in the dark is not going to help.
Warring miners told to go home

JOHANNESBURG — Anglo American yesterday sent home 2,500 workers at its President Steyn gold mine in Welkom in an effort to end the violence in which 70 people have died in the past week.

Freegold regional manager Mr Jan Rossouw said up to 5,000 employees — mostly Xhosas and Basotho — would be sent home this week, at least for a few days. They would not be paid while away.

He said production at the mine had been curtailed as a result of the violence which erupted on the eve of last week's two-day anti-VAT stayaway.

Mr Rossouw said he was unable to estimate production losses at the two affected shafts, but said their usual production was R2.3 million a day.

The National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) yesterday blamed a "third force" or "agents provocateurs" for the violence. NUM acting general secretary Mr Marcel Golding told a news briefing some of the miners killed last Sunday were not employed by the mine or other mines in the Free State.

Mr Rossouw was unwilling to comment on the possible role of non-employees in the violence, but said management knew of one person killed and one injured who were not employees.

"It has always been our policy to allow people to visit," he said.

Inquiry

Anglo Gold and Uranium chairman Mr Clem Suter said management could not comment on the causes of the violence because the Standing Commission on Violence and Intimidation had been asked to investigate this question.

Mr Golding said yesterday's forces operating on the mine were trying to "try to resolve differences between workers" and said NUM supported a full-scale inquiry into the events.

Unrest incidents were also reported in Natal, where four men were killed and a woman wounded at Haza near Howick during an attack with AK-47 rifles, and a dead woman with bullet wounds was found at Table Mountain near Maritzburg.

During two separate incidents at Heidelberg, Transvaal, a man was killed when gunmen fired at a security vehicle, while another man was burnt to death and seven people were injured during a taxi ambush by the occupants of a sedan, who fired at the minibus with an AK-47 rifle and then set it alight.

The body of a man was found in Alexandra near Sandton in the Transvaal. He had stab and back wounds.

Among those injured over the weekend was a policeman in Khayelitsha, who was shot while investigating a shooting incident — Own Correspondent and Sapa"
Miners sent home in bid to stem violence

ANGLO American yesterday sent home 2,500 workers employed at its President Steyn gold mine in Welkom in an effort to end the violence in which 70 people have died in the past week.

Freelord regional manager Jan Rossouw said up to 6,000 employees — mostly Xhosas and Basotho — would be sent home this week, at least for a few days. They would not be paid while away.

He said production at the mine had been curtailed as a result of the violence which erupted on the eve of last week's two-day anti-VAT stayaway. He was unable to estimate production losses at the two affected shafts, but said their usual production was R2.3m a day. Mine manager Dick Solms said the violence had resulted in lost production of about 70kg of gold a day.

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Rossouw was unwilling to comment on possible roles of non-employees in the violence, but said management knew of one person killed and one injured who were not employees. "It has always been our policy to allow people to visit," he said.

Anglo Gold and Uranium chairman Clem Sunter said management could not comment on the causes of the violence because the Standing Commission on Violence and Intimidation had been asked to investigate this question.

Golding said yesterday forces operating on the mine were trying to "fan linguistic and cultural differences"...and said the NUM supported a full-scale inquiry.

NUM president James Motlati said while the union did not want to accuse anyone, management was responsible for the security of employees in the hostels.

The union criticised the "nonsense" created by Anglo that initial deaths at the mine were caused by disagreement among workers about the stayaway, saying this was unsubstantiated.

Golding said the NUM had accepted a challenge by Anglo to participate in a public debate on the cause of the violence. However, Sapa reports Sunter said the Anglo would have to reassess the challenge as it had been issued before its appeal to the commission to investigate the violence.

Sunter said maximum mine security was being maintained and police were actively involved. Weapon searches were conducted in the hostels on three occasions and all persons entering the hostels were searched for weapons. Management had asked NUM officials to visit the mine at the weekend to help normalise the situation.

"NUM have certainly been co-operative and have tried to defuse the situation," Sunter said.

Free State police said all was quiet at the mine yesterday morning. The final death toll in the latest violence left 26 people dead at the mine's No 2 shaft, and three dead at the No 4 shaft.
Impala

mineral processes plant were working normally

The spokesman said striking workers had not yet made formal demands, but said their grievances appeared to be related to the dismissal of 220 employees at Wildebeestfontein North last month. Dismissals arose from a strike at the mine in October. The situation at the mine was calm but tense, the spokesman said

Reuter reports Impala MD Michael McMahon said he understood the arrests were made in pursuit of inquiries into "criminal activities" such as arson, related to unrest last month. Yesterday 40 000 miners gathered at the Impala Stadium in Bophuthatswana. The NUM said police were patrolling the area and arresting workers and there was a strong security presence near the stadium and on the mines.

Golding said there was a "general clampdown" on NUM leadership in the area, to break down the union's morale and get rid of union leadership.

Platinum prices barely reacted to the news of disrupted production at Impala's mines, with platinum fixed in London yesterday afternoon only 75c higher than Friday's close at $339.75. It closed at $359 yesterday.

One analyst said yesterday that despite the prospect that Impala would produce at only 70% capacity overall in 1992/93, the resultant cut in platinum supply was too small to offset current oversupply of about 300 000 ounces, necessary to boost prices. Impala shares weakened slightly to close 6.5c down on the day at R49, but the sluggish prices pushed most platinum stocks lower. Only JCI's Lebowa Platinum and Potgietersrust Platinums rose against the trend, ending the day 5c and 15c up at 220c and 580c respectively.
Union, mine management both cry foul

By Mike Chene,

The struggle over the future of the coal industry in Virginia is heating up as mine operators and labor unions prepare to battle over the fate of thousands of jobs.

The dispute centers on the issue of whether workers at the Dominion Resources-owned plant in bedrock coalhead in Wise County should be allowed to organize a union.

The company has rejected efforts by the United Mine Workers of America to negotiate with them, saying it is not bound by federal labor laws that protect the rights of workers to unionize.

The union, which has been trying to organize the mine for several years, says the company is using legal tactics to prevent workers from exercising their right to join a union.

Union officials say they have been working with the workers to prepare for a potential strike, if necessary.

The mine is one of the largest in Virginia, employing more than 1,000 workers. The company has said it plans to continue operating the mine, but the future of the job is uncertain.

Negotiations between the company and the union broke down earlier this year, and both sides are reportedly ready to take their dispute to court.

The union has filed charges with the National Labor Relations Board, alleging the company is engaging in unfair labor practices.

The company denies the allegations and has said it is acting in the best interests of its employees.

The dispute has sparked a controversy over the role of labor unions in the coal industry, as some argue they are holding back the industry's growth and others say they are necessary to ensure fair wages and working conditions for workers.

The issue has also raised concerns about the future of the coal industry in Virginia, as the state is heavily reliant on coal for its energy needs.

Union officials say they will continue to work with the workers to ensure they have a voice in their workplace and that their rights are protected.
Mine's policy blamed for arson

By Dirk Nel
N Transvaal Bureau

PHALABORWA — The Afrikaner Weerstands-
beweging has blamed the Phalaborwa Mining Com-
pany's mixed housing policy for the burning of
a black employee's luxury car.

The AWB said the
company settled black families in white suburbs
against the will of the
townpeople.

Police are investigat-
ing charges of arson and
malicious damage to
property after mine fore-
man Tennyson Pilusa's
car was gutted early yest-
terday.

Local AWB leader
Fritz Meyer said he was
not surprised.

"Regrettably, there
will be many more such
incidents if the mining
company persists with
its provocative action."

"I have tried to pur-
sue our people not to
act irresponsibly while
moves to impose the new
South Africa on us go
ahead, but they feel
threatened, and will not
accept integrated resi-
dential areas and
schools," he said.

Referring to an opin-
on poll on mixed hous-
ing, organised earlier
this year by the Phala-
borwa Town Council, Mr
Meyer said the mining
company had to note
that 96 percent of those
who voted were against
the idea.

Mr Pilusa said he
moved into Phalaborwa
from Namakale Town-
ship on October 15. Three
other black families had
also settled there and all
were on good terms with
their neighbours.

No comment could be
obtained from the min-
ing company.
President Steyn Gold Mine management last night began sending home thousands of miners in an effort to stem the violence that by yesterday had claimed nearly 70 lives and injured up to 180.

At a press conference in Johannesburg, Anglo-American's regional manager, for the Free State, Jan Rossouw said between 4,000 and 5,000 miners were being sent home to cool off after the "curtailing" of operations at the No. 2 and No. 4 shafts.

They would not be paid during their absence from work. Those suspected of involvement in the violence would face a disciplinary hearing.

When The Star visited the Ernest Oppenheim Hospital in Welkom last Thursday, six survivors of the violence were fighting for their lives.

The situation at the Welkom mine was described by management as tense.

The NUM and Anglo have given different versions of the conflict.

The NUM, seeing the hand of agents provocateurs behind the violence, said it held management responsible for the safety of workers.

NUM general-secretary Marcel Golding told a media conference that the union's information was that there were forces in the mine trying to fan ethnic conflict.

Divisions

"We cannot give a detailed account of events over the weekend, but we have been informed that among the dead and injured are non-President Steyn employees. This raises the question of the role of the 'third force.' It also raises the question of what Anglo American has done to prevent mine employees entering mine premises. It seems to us that agents provocateurs and others are trying to sow divisions on the mine. Our union has never supported the use of violence in pursuit of its objectives and Anglo's holier-than-thou attitude is unacceptable."

Mr. Golding said the NUM, while taking into account that the migrant labour and hostel system might have played a part in providing a climate conducive to the violence, would support a full inquiry into the violence.

Reacting to the NUM's allegations of a third force, Mr. Rossouw confirmed that of the dead and injured, two were not mine employees. He refused to elaborate, saying the matter was in the hands of the Standing Commission on Violence and Intimidation set up in terms of the National Peace Accord.

Management gave the following breakdown:
- Friday November 9 NUM leaders invited to "assist in normalising the situation." Room search conducted and weapons, including firearms, removed.
- NUM leaders held discussions with workers.
- Situation tense amid strong police and mine security personnel presence.
- Saturday November 10 Fighting at No. 2 and No. 4 shafts claims 29 lives.
- Sunday November 11 Mining operations curtailed at both shafts and employees sent home for a period. Police and mine security personnel maintain strong presence.
VIOLENCE at the President Steyn Mine in Welkom has been blamed on management for allegedly doing an about-turn on an agreement that miners could take off during the anti-VAT strike last week. Seventy-one people were killed and more than 180 injured in three violent incidents involving Xhosas and Sothos at shafts No 2 and No 4 at the mine.

Sowetan has also established how and when the attacks took place. A National Union of Mineworkers shopsteward, employed at Shaft No 4, who asked not to be named, described the violence as totally "unnecessary." Recalling the events leading to the fateful first attack on November 3, which left 15 people dead and many injured, he said:

"Management told members of NUM that they could take days off during the November 3 and 4 strike. "Later that day management wrote letters to the miners informing them they should not expect pay for not working on those two days."

He said some miners decided to go to work because they feared losing their jobs like many others during strike in 1987. Some reported for night duty on November 3. "While on duty a group of comrades from a nearby Motse-Tabong township marched to the mine to stop the miners from working," the shopsteward said. A clash ensued and 15 miners - most of them Xhosas - were killed with many others sustaining injuries.

This clash then sparked off what developed into a "war" between Xhosas and Sothos.

On November 8 most Sotho-speaking miners were off duty and visited their homes in Lesotho. On that day Xhosa-speaking miners ranged a revenge attack on Sothos who were at shaft No 4.

The attack was carried out later that day and, according to police spokesman Colonel Johan Fouche, 25 miners were killed and several wounded. Fouche said that two people were taken into custody.

On November 10, according to a miner who calls himself James, the Sothos returning to the mine heard of the attack on countrymen.

"Without warning the Sothos attacked the Xhosas and this resulted in the deaths of 31 people and injuries of many others," he said.

The chairman of the gold division of Anglo American, Mr CL Sunter, has released management's version of events. November 3: At President Steyn Shaft Number Four.

On the eve of the stayaway, clashes between employees took place at President Steyn Shaft No 4, leaving 15 dead and 45 injured. A series of meetings were held by mine management and NUM officials.

November 6 and 7: At Free State Sapplaas, employees of shafts 2 and 4 embarked on an unlawful sit-in and subsequent unlawful strike over the application of disciplinary measures over the stayaway on November 4 and 5.

November 8: Tension was on the increase and this resulted in another room search for weapons. Large numbers of employees then left for the weekend. At approximately 11pm a group of employees launched an attack on other employees on their beds. It was apparently a retaliatory attack leaving 25 dead.

November 10: On return to Pres Steyn Shaft 4 of the workers who were away for the weekend, fighting broke out and three employees were killed. Fighting also broke out at Shaft 2 and 26 employees were killed.

November 11: At President Steyn Shaft Number Four, mining operations were curtailed and employees were allowed to go home for a period.
More leave tense mine

MORE miners at the President Steyn gold mine in Welkom were sent home for a few days in an effort to stop the violence. This brings to between 5,000 and 6,000 the number of miners sent home since the outbreak of violence nine days ago.

So far 71 people have been killed and more than 180 injured during tribal faction-fighting at the mine since November 3.

Anglo American spokesman Mr Barry Avery said the remaining miners were "just a handful and are maintaining essential services" at the mine.

Shaft No 4 at the mine has been temporarily closed.
Cosatu to blame for violence - FW

TEL AVIV - President FW de Klerk has blamed the violence at President Steyn Mine in Welkom on Cosatu and the National Union of Mineworkers.

In a stinging attack on the two organisations, he claimed that last week’s two-day strike against Value Added Tax had sparked widespread intimidation.

De Klerk, who leaves for Taiwan today, told a news conference that “a radical trade union” had unilaterally called the strike which had had nothing to do with employer-employee relations.

Clearly referring to Cosatu, he said the strike did not have the support of most workers.

“Black-on-black”

His information was that the mine violence had started when Sotho-speaking workers wanting to go on shift clashed with a trade union, led by Xhosa miners, which insisted they should not.

“It is a sad event which took place,” De Klerk said. “I commiserate with the families of those who died or were hurt.”

He said in this case “black-on-black” killings.

“I have no pleasure in saying this, it doesn’t exonerate anybody. But it is an important factor.”

Explaining what the Government was doing about the violence, he said mechanisms were in place to prevent violence through negotiation and dialogue and create a new atmosphere.

The police capacity to deal with the violence - including the addition of 10 000 police and 10 000 more civilian administrative employees this year - had also been improved.

Volatile

No government could guarantee that there would be no violent outbreaks. “It is a volatile situation and we are doing our level best,” he said.

There was a line and, if the situation in South Africa reached it, the Government would not refrain from taking further steps.

Such measures, which he first mentioned last Friday, would “unfortunately bring negative aspects to the negotiating process. So we would like to try and avoid them,” he said.

When word first came of the mine killing, it spread quickly through De Klerk’s delegation in Israel with officials hurriedly telephoning home to ascertain the details and its extent.
McGurk (Miner) described the miner's return to work. He was out of employment for two months, he said, and the continued struggle to get back to work had been a major factor in his withdrawal from the union. He said his time was wasted in the strikes and the continued delay in getting back to work. The situation at the mine had also been affected by the miners' strike in the local mines. The Strike Commission, headed by the commissioner who heads the strike commission, has been in touch with the miners. The miners have been returning to work, and the situation was expected to improve.
De Klerk flays NUM, Cosatu over bloodshed

Political Staff

TEL AVIV. — President De Klerk has blamed the bloodshed at President Steyn gold mine in Welkom squarely on Cosatu and the National Union of Mineworkers.

In a stinging attack on them, he charged that last week's two-day strike against value-added tax (VAT) had sparked widespread intimidation.

Mr De Klerk, who leaves for the Republic of China today, told a news conference after three days here that "a radical trade union" had unilaterally called the strike, which had had nothing to do with employer-employee relations.

Clearly referring to Cosatu, he said the strike had not had the support of many workers.

His information was that the mine violence had started when Soho workers wanting to go on shift had clashed with a trade union, led by Xhosa miners, which had insisted they should not.

"It is a sad event," Mr De Klerk said. "I commiserate with the families of those who died or were hurt."

It was unfortunate that South Africa still had incidents like this. He noted that it was, in this case, faction violence, "black-on-black" killings.

"I have no pleasure in saying this — it doesn't exonerate anybody. But it is an important factor."

Explaining what the government was doing about the violence, he said mechanisms were in place to prevent violence through negotiation and dialogue and create a new atmosphere.

The police capacity to deal with the violence, including the addition of 10 000 police and 10 000 more civilian administrative employees this year, had been improved as well.

No government could guarantee that there would be no violent outbreaks.

"It is a volatile situation and we are doing our level best," he said.

There was a line and, if the situation in South Africa reached it, the government would not refrain from taking further steps.

"Such measures, which he had first mentioned last Friday, would "unfortunately bring negative aspects to the negotiating process."

"So we would like to try to avoid them," he said.

When word first came of the mine killing it spread quickly through Mr De Klerk's delegation here, with officials hurriedly telephoning home for the details of its extent from government ministers.
VAT strike sparked mine violence — F.W.

CHRIS WHITFIELD

TEL. AVIV — President F.W de Klerk has alleged that the anti-VAT stayaway sparked the violence at Anglo American’s President Steyn mine which had claimed 76 lives by yesterday.

The violence came about “because, unilaterally, and with regard to a matter which had nothing to do with employer-employee relationships, a radical trade union called out a strike”, De Klerk told a news conference in Tel Aviv last night in an apparent reference to Cosatu.

The strike did not have the support of “many, many workers” and there had been “evidence and rumour of widespread intimidation”.

“On the face of it, according to reports that I have received, the mainly Sotho mineworkers (from Lesotho) wanted to go to work,” De Klerk said.

“‘A particular trade union led by Xhosas insisted they should not go to work, and that was the cause of the fight,’” he said.

VERA VON LIERES reports that the Welkom death toll rose to 76 yesterday when six injured miners died in hospital.

Police spokesman Lt-Col Johann Fouché said 175 people had been injured in fighting at the mine’s No 2 and No 4 shafts.

The situation at the mine was calm yesterday after 4 000 to 5 000 workers from the mine’s No 4 shaft hostel were sent home in an attempt to defuse the situation.

Anglo said in a statement yesterday the mine’s No 4 shaft hostels were virtually empty. Workers would be called back pro-

VAT strike press over the next couple of days

There was still some tension at the No 2 shaft hostel yesterday, although there were no further reports of violence. Most hostel residents failed to report for the night shift on Monday or for the day shift yesterday, Anglo said. Mine security and the SAP were still present.

The mine’s No 1 shaft was operating normally.

In a statement, the NUM said union officials were threatened with security action while trying to query decisions made by management. This was denied by Anglo.

The NUM said a large section of the 5 000-strong workforce was leaving the hostels “for various places out of fear of attacks tonight.”

See Page 3
Union protests as mine death toll rises to 76

By Helen Grange
Pretoria Bureau

The death toll resulting from violent clashes at Welkom's President Steyn Gold mine has risen to 76, police said yesterday.

Between 4,000 and 5,000 workers from No 2 shaft had cleared their hostels and gone home to "cool down", according to Anglo American.

The National Union of Mineworkers has claimed that its officials were forced to leave the mine premises and protested about what it said was "Anglo's arrogant attitude towards union representatives".

The union has also claimed that Anglo had presented an ultimatum to miners from No 2 shaft demanding that they return to work by tomorrow or face dismissal.

Anglo stated yesterday that workers from No 2 shaft would be recalled to work from today. The atmosphere at No 4 shaft was "tense and negotiations between management and worker representatives were continuing in an effort to resume production."

Anglo and the NUM were preparing to prepare evidence yesterday for an investigation into the violence.

The Standing Commission on Public Violence and Intimidation has been requested by Anglo to investigate the matter, although by yesterday evening chairman Mr Justice Goldstone had not yet decided on action to be taken.

The NUM has agreed to co-operate with the commission, and has stated that the conflict began when anti-VAT protesters returning from a rally were attacked by team leaders. Mine security, it said, then acted partially, in favour of the attackers.

Yesterday the NUM contended that agents provocateurs appeared to have been involved in the clashes. Its claim that two victims of the violence were not mine employees was confirmed by Anglo yesterday.

Anglo has stuck by its original statement that the initial outbreak was caused by anti-VAT protesters attacking miners wanting to report for duty. The corporation refrained from offering reasons for the second and third outbreaks.

NUM secretary-general Marcel Golding said the union would be in touch with Mr Justice Goldstone. Anglo has already sent a letter to the commission.

The Azanian People's Organisation yesterday issued a statement in Pietersburg laying the blame for the mine deaths at the feet of the Government and "the system".
Welkom mine violence goes on in war of words

By FERIAL HAFFAJEE

Welkom's President Steyn goldmine, where 76 miners died and scores were injured in the past two weeks, has become the subject of a fierce war of words.

President FW de Klerk this week launched a scathing attack on the Congress of South African Trade Unions from Israel, blaming the federation for the violence. This prompted an equally sharp retort from Cosatu general secretary Jay Nadoo. National Union of Mineworkers sources accused the Basotho Congress Party of stoking Basotho nationalism with anti-strike lobbying, saying that the resulting tension played a major role in the violence.

And the stormy week also saw the usually amicable relationship between Anglo and NUM in smithereens.

De Klerk said the seeds of the violence were sown in last week's VAT strike. A radical trade union called out a strike which was marked by evidence and rumour of widespread intimidation.

Vulgarly right back, Cosatu branded PW's attack "undignified", saying it was reminiscent of "the sort of finger-wagging arrogance we had come to expect from PW Botha".

Suggesting that De Klerk should have come home if he was so concerned, Cosatu also accused the state president of trying to "divert attention away from the resounding vote of no-confidence his government had received in the general strike of last week".

Meanwhile, NUM president James Motlatsi issued a stern warning to the Lesotho government, instructing them to stop meddling in South Africa's labour affairs. Motlatsi was reacting to a statement from the Lesotho government which blamed the union for the deaths at President Steyn, in which many Basotho miners were killed.

NUM sources this week suggested that the violence on the mine was linked to organising efforts by the Basotho Congress Party. Members of this party had instigated Basotho miners not to take part in the strike as it was "a South African issue", it was rumoured.

Anglo American also said that last week's pre-strike violence started when Basotho miners were prevented from going on strike by Xhosa workers who supported the VAT strike.

But Motlatsi denied any allegations of ethnic conflict. NUM instead blamed "agents provocateurs and the third force" for the violence. The union said that the bodies of non-miners had been found in the mine. Anglo's Clem Sunter admitted that the bodies of unidentified miners had been found. He suggested that they may have been visitors at the mine.

Then NUM this week accused Anglo-American of "forcefully separating workers into accommodation along ethnic lines, despite the opposition of workers to this arrangement".

NUM also alleges that its negotiators were this week ordered off mine premises and told that management would only deal with "tribal representatives".

Ironically, a code of conduct which NUM and Anglo have been planning for the past year is a stone's throw away from being signed, according to NUM acting general secretary Marcel Golding.

Golding said NUM would shortly meet Mr Justice Goldstone, who heads the Standing Commission on Violence and Immolation. The commission, which is linked to the National Peace Accord, is to investigate the causes of the violence at President Steyn mine.
Weighing up the intimidation factor

VESTED interests pose a major obstacle to gauging the extent of intimidation during the stayaway.

It is fair to assume that collective action of this magnitude entailed more "enforcement" than labour admits, but President FW de Klerk's assessment — that "large numbers of people did not take part voluntarily" — is an overstatement.

Although there is some justice in police claims that it is hard to monitor intimidation, the absence of hard evidence weakens the case.

Other than on the mineworks, the only reported instances are alleged assaults on bystanders during a West Rand anti-VAT march and the sabotaging of two rail lines, on the East Rand and in the Western Cape. The fatal shooting of an Inkatha youth leader in Secunda may or may not be stayaway-linked.

South African Institute of Race Relations director John Kane-Berman has suggested that fear instilled by past intimidation was a factor. There is undoubtedly truth in this — some Soweto residents surveyed by The Star said they feared for their lives, although most insisted they chose to stay home — but it is hardly an indictment of the strike.

The Labour Monitoring Group's estimate of a significant drop in the stayaway response on day two — from 81 percent to 68 percent — indicates that workers had some freedom of choice. That many township youths, traditionally the main stayaway "enforcers", were attending school may have reduced levels of intimidation.

The mining industry is the clearest exception. Sixteen miners were killed and 88 injured on Anglo American's President Steyn and Western Deep levels gold mines, while another died at Gold Field's Doornfontein operation. Both groups allege that non-strikers were attacked by colleagues supportive of the stayaway.

Labour action on the mineworks is frequently violent. — harsh living and working conditions have created a uniquely volatile workforce.

Low education levels among a largely migrant workforce and the isolation of workers may also serve to undermine trade union discipline and influence.

DREW FORREST
DEATH MINE ... Sotho mineworkers (right) at the violence-ridden No 4 shaft say they are living in fear of their lives. The NUM's damaged offices (above) at the President Steyn mine.

By MONWABISI NOMADLO

THE hated system of ethnic hostel segregation will be reconsidered at Anglo American's President Steyn mine in Welkom, the scene of violent clashes in the past two weeks, a mine spokesman said.

AAC spokesman Berry Ivory said this was the "only" option management was considering to end the mine violence that has claimed the lives of 76 miners and left more than 150 injured.

However, Ivory could not explain how hostel dwellers living in separate hostels would stop any confrontation and conflict - and not in fact promote it.

He added that, as a precautionary measure, the mine security assisted by the SAP would intensify their patrols and presence in the hostels.

The mine management has asked the Standing Commission on Violence and Intimidation, headed by Justice RJ Goldstone, to investigate the causes of the violence.

A war of words erupted this week with accusations and counter-accusations between NUM/Cosatu, the government and Anglo American.

President FW de Klerk, in a scathing attack while in Israel, blamed the violence on a "radical trade union" that had unilaterally called a stayaway, which had nothing to do with the employer-employee relations.

Cosatu and NUM said de Klerk's accusations were "undignified" and an insult to the miners and their families.

NUM and Cosatu said de Klerk should probe what two non-miners workers killed in the mine violence were doing on the mine.

However, Ivory said the two men were visiting friends on the mine. He could not categorically state whom the men were visiting and where they come from.

There have also been allegations of Lesotho Government involvement in the violence.

It was alleged in reports that Basotho workers were instructed to disregard the strike as it was a South African issue. Cosatu and NUM warned the Lesotho Government against poking its nose in South African affairs.

Last Monday, 6,000 miners were sent home from the violence-plagued No 4 shaft for a "cooling-off period."

Despite calls by the management for the miners to return to work, there was no response as the hostel remained deserted when City Press visited the mine yesterday.

The No 2 shaft remained tense as workers were changing their shifts.

Most of the workers at the No 4 shaft hostels were Xhosa speaking.

Sothos interviewed near and in the hostel expressed fear against returning to the hostels immediately.

One miner, who refused to be named, said most Sothos were staying in the nearby predominantly Sotho-speaking Thabong location.

Hostels damaged extensively in the violence were still being repaired this week.
Winner's malaise linked to Bob's problems
Miners Followed A Bloody Trail

Patrick Lazenby examining violence at President Steyn mine through a historical lens

[Image: Map showing mining locations]
Bid to end miners' strike fails

THE National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) and Iscor management's negotiating teams failed to resolve a 16-day-old strike by more than 2,000 Durnacol (DNC) mineworkers near Dannhauser.

The meeting was held at Iscor Training Centre in Pretoria last week on 24 November 1971.
THE Appellate Division is expected to hand down judgment in the next few weeks on a vital point of law which could affect all unions and employers.

At the centre of the dispute between the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) and the East Rand Gold and Uranium Co (Ergo) is whether an employer can negotiate behind a union's back and deal directly with its employees.

**Deadlock**

Both parties agreed that workers could use a lawful strike to soften management up during collective bargaining. But there was a dispute over whether a strike in 1987 was lawful or not.

The NUM and Ergo signed a recognition agreement in 1984 which said the union was the sole collective bargaining agent.

**BY CATHY STAGG**

During 1987, when wage negotiations became deadlocked, a conciliation board failed to resolve the matter. An overwhelming majority of union members voted to strike.

Ergo wanted to avoid the strike, particularly a sit-in, because industrial action in previous years had led to damage to the plant. So it sent its employees a letter setting out its last offer — which included back-dating the increase to June 1.

Of more than 12,000 workers, 70 — including five union members — accepted the offer. But the strike went ahead.

And so did the sit-in. The company obtained an urgent interdict, but the workers ignored the court order. The police were called and used tear gas to clear the plant. The strike continued.

The company issued an ultimatum — return to work or be fired. By August 28 virtually all the workers were back on the job.

The issue which led to court action was that strikers and non-strikers were treated differently. Strikers' increases were effective from August 28, non-strikers from June 1.

The NUM claimed this was an unfair labour practice, took the matter to the Industrial Court and won. But on appeal, the result went the other way.

Finally, the Appeal Court was asked to make a ruling because, it was said in argument, the Labour Relations Act did not give clear enough guidelines.

**Attack**

A full bench of five judges was asked to draw the line between what was fair and what was unfair.

Mr. Martin Brassey, for the union, said that to bypass the union — even after deadlock — was to attack the collective bargaining structure itself.

The recognition agreement was designed to ensure industrial peace. And instead of breaching its terms, the company should have cancelled the agreement or dismissed workers, he said.

But Mr. John Myburgh SC, for Ergo, said dismissal was the last weapon employers should use in the present economic climate.

The strike was unlawful, Ergo claimed, because the NUM had bargained in bad faith — it had never intended to reach agreement. Judgment was reserved.
Unionists on hunger strike

EIGHTY-THREE members of the National Union of Mineworkers, arrested two weeks ago for allegedly intimidating workers during the anti-VAT strike, have gone on hunger strike.

NUM official Mr Jerry Majatladi said the miners were protesting against their continued detention. They have vowed to fast to death unless they are given bail or released from prison.

Their bail application was refused when they appeared before a Klerksdorp magistrate on last week.

Detention

The 83, who include NUM's Buffelsfontein branch vice-chairman, Mr. Jim Mbulawa, have been in detention at the Klerksdorp Prison on the far West Rand since November 15, 1991. Majatladi said

He said the 83 were arrested for allegedly intimidating 103 workers during the national general strike against VAT on November 4 and 5 this year.
8 die in mine clash

JOHANNESBURG. — Eight people died and 10 have been admitted to hospital following renewed unrest at the President Steyn mine Number Four Shaft hostel near Welkom today.

Anglo American spokesman, Mr James Duncan, said mine security and police had restored order.

Earlier this month clashes at the northern Free State gold mine claimed the lives of 78 workers and left at least 186 injured, police said.

Mr Duncan said a substantial number of inmates of the Number Four Shaft hostel had returned to the mine by today, after 5,000 of them were sent home to Lesotho and Transkei to "cool off" following the earlier fighting.

The National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) had said a "third force" caused the earlier bloodshed.

Police said those clashes were between Xhosa and Sotho factions.

The matter is being investigated by the Standing Commission of Inquiry into the Prevention of Violence and Intimidation chaired by Mr Justice R J Goldstone. — Sapa
Eight die in mine violence

Crime Staff

Eight miners died and at least 10 others were injured in an outbreak of violence at President Steyn Mine near Welkom early today.

Anglo American spokesman James Duncan said fighting broke out at the mine's No 4 Shaft hostel some time after midnight.

He said mine security and police had intervened and the situation was calm by this morning.

Mr Duncan added that the cause of the violence was not yet known.

Earlier this month, the worst mine violence in South Africa this year claimed the lives of 76 workers and left at least 180 others injured at the northern Free State mine.

Miners at the No 2 and No 4 Shafts were sent home to "cool off" after the earlier violence, but Mr Duncan said most of the 5,000 workers at the No 4 Shaft hostel had returned to the mine by this morning.

The National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) has accused a "third force" of causing the previous bloodshed.

Police said the earlier clashes were between Xhosa and Sotho factions.

Anglo American refused to comment on the cause of the previous unrest, saying the matter was being investigated by the Standing Commission of Inquiry into the Prevention of Violence and Intimidation chaired by Mr Justice R J Goldstone.
**15 die in new mine riots**

By IKE MOTSAPI

FIFTEEN people were killed and 35 injured—10 seriously—during renewed violence at the Steyn gold mine in Welkom early yesterday. (213)

"Free State police spokesman Captain Jolopane van der Merwe said eight bodies were recovered at 2am yesterday after a bloody clash between miners at No 4 shaft. (Southern 26[11]9)

Seven more bodies were discovered by mine security officials during the day, according to Mr Harry Majadadi, Press officer for the National Union of Mineworkers.

Of the 35 injured 10 are in the intensive care unit of the Harry Oppenheimer Hospital in the adjoining Mothe-Tebeleto townships.

Regional manager of Freegold South Mr Janie Rossouw confirmed that seven other bodies were discovered late yesterday. (Anglo-American spokesman Mr James Duncan said fighting broke out at the No 4 shaft hostel after midnight.

Mine security and police intervened and the situation was calm but tense this morning."

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**Miners on the rampage again**

From Page 1

Duncan said the cause of the violence was not yet known.

Majadadi said NUM had been told "outsiders" were responsible for the attack while the miners were asleep.

Unauthorised people had gained entry, with the "assistance of mine security officials."

"He said 'Miners returning to work after last month's clash were issued with letters by management which identified them as bona fide employees."

"We find it strange that people from outside were deliberately allowed in to the hostel to attack sleeping miners."

**Injured**

Late yesterday, management issued a second statement saying an intensive investigation into the cause of the renewed violence had been launched.

Earlier this month, the worst mine violence in South Africa this year claimed the lives of 76 miners, and left at least 180 injured at the northern Free State mine. (Southern 26[11]9)
Anglo probe as another 8 die

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Anglo yesterday announced an in-depth probe into the latest outbreak of violence at its President Steyn mine in Welkom in which eight people died and which the NUM said was caused by outside elements.

The latest deaths bring to 84 the toll on the mine in recent weeks. Anglo management yesterday met the NUM and other miner representatives in a bid to find a permanent solution to the violence.

Eight miners were killed and 17 admitted to hospital yesterday in violence at the mine's No 4 hostel, which Anglo said involved a number of isolated attacks on individuals by small groups.

NUM media officer Mr Jerry Majakadi said workers had been attacked by unknown people while asleep in their hostels. This was after management had introduced a new identification system on the mine.

"Forcibly, which have no business on the mine are being allowed by security to enter the premises," SAP Free State spokesman Capt. Jobina van der Merwe said the killings had been done "silently and quickly" and were not the work of "big gangs."
Anglo to probe latest violence

ANGLO yesterday announced an in-depth probe into the latest outbreak of violence at its President Steyn mine in Welkom in which eight people died and which the NUM said was caused by outside elements.

The latest deaths bring to 84 the toll on the mine in recent weeks. Anglo management yesterday met the NUM and other miner representatives in a bid to find a permanent solution to the violence.

Eight miners were killed and 17 admitted to hospital yesterday following violence at the mine's No 4 hostel, which Anglo said involved a number of isolated attacks on individuals by small groups.

NUM media officer Jerry Mapatadi said yesterday workers not on night shift were attacked by unknown people while asleep in their hostels. This was after management had introduced a new identification system on the mine, he said.

"Forces which have no business on the mine are being allowed by security to enter the premises," Mapatadi said, adding that there was no tension along ethnic lines and no fighting between groups of miners.

Anglo announced an intensive investigation into causes of the renewed violence. Interviews were being conducted with the injured and witnesses, and management had moved 400 hostel dwellers to another hostel as an interim safety measure.

However, other mine sources said up to 1500 workers were being moved.

An earlier outbreak of violence is being probed by the National Commission of Inquiry into Violence and Intimidation, established in terms of the national peace accord.

Anglo said order had been restored on the mine yesterday, and mine security and the SAP Police were on standby.

Mapatadi said some workers, fearing inadequate security, had decided not to go to work yesterday. The NUM was calling for miners not wanting to remain on mine premises to be given sleep-out allowances.

SAP Free State spokesman Capt. Johann van der Merwe said last night the killings had been done "silently and quickly" and were not the work of "big gangs."

She said although it was too early to say exactly what had happened, investigating officers said there was no doubt that the latest attacks were "ongoing" from the last spate of violence at the mine.
Miners quit hostel after 8 die in clashes

Miners have been moved from a hostel at the No 4 Shaft of the President Steyn Gold Mine near Welkom following weekend violence which claimed eight lives, management has confirmed.

Anglo American spokesman James Duncan said the 400 hostel residents were moved to a hostel at another mine to ensure their safety.

Eight people died and 17 were admitted to hospital after the latest unrest, which involved a number of isolated attacks on individuals by small groups.

Some of the victims were still in a critical condition last night.

Mr Duncan said an intensive investigation into the causes of the renewed violence was being conducted and the injured and other witnesses to the attacks were being interviewed.

Discussions between management, National Union of Mineworkers representatives and other employee representatives were in progress yesterday in an effort to find a permanent solution to the problems at the hostel.

Returned

Earlier this month, clashes at the Free State gold mine claimed the lives of 76 workers and left at least 180 injured.

About 5,000 miners from the No 2 and No 4 shafts were sent home to Lesotho and Transkei to "cool off".

Mr Duncan said most of the inmates of the No 4 Shaft hostel had returned to the mine by yesterday.

Police said the earlier clashes were between Xhosa and Sotho factions.

Anglo refused to comment on the cause of the previous unrest, saying the matter was being investigated by the Standing Commission of Inquiry into Prevention of Violence and Intimidation chaired by Mr Justice R J Goldstone.
LOCAL businesses at Dannhauser in northern Natal were hit by a consumer boycott as a wage strike by more than 3,000 miners at Iscor’s Durban Navigation Colliery (Durnacol) entered its fourth week yesterday, the NUM said.

Media officer Jerry Majatladi said workers and community members last week started boycotting local businesses to protest against “scabs, mainly recruited from the town.”

More than 3,000 coal miners have been on a legal wage strike at Durnacol since November 4 after wage talks deadlocked at a conciliation board hearing. Majatladi said the union was demanding wage increases above the inflation rate while the company was offering increases ranging from 10% to 14%. The current monthly minimum for surface workers was R447.

Scab labour “can never be an answer to workers’ legitimate demands but could lead to a strained relationship between NUM and management.”
Probe of mine riot starts

THE Committee established to hold an inquiry into the causes of the violence which erupted at the President Steyn Gold Mine in Welkom will hold its first meeting on Friday.

Chairman of the Commission, of Inquiry, into Public Violence and Intimidation, Mr Justice RJ Goldstroom, in a Press statement released in Pretoria on Tuesday, said the meeting would be held at noon in the auditorium of the Welkom Traffic Department.

The committee conducting the inquiry was established by the Commission on Inquiry.?
Bid to get mine staff back after violence.

JOHANNESBURG — Talks were held yesterday at the strife-torn President Steyn gold mine in Welkom in a bid to get the night shift to return to work.

Eight miners were killed and 17 admitted to hospital in renewed unrest at the mine's Number Four hostel on Monday.

Anglo American spokesman Mr James Duncan said about half the work-force at the hostel returned to work on Monday night and yesterday morning and the mine was calm.

He also said about 1,200 hostel residents had by yesterday been moved to a hostel at another mine as an interim measure to ensure their safety. These workers had not yet returned to work.

Anglo has announced an intensive investigation into the causes of the latest outbreak of violence, which brought to 84 the death toll on the mine in recent weeks.
VERA VON LIERS

MANAGEMENT at the President Steyn gold mine in Welkom was yesterday involved in talks with about 1,200 miners to effect a return to work by the night shift following the latest outbreak of violence at the mine, Anglo American said yesterday.

About half the workforce at the mine's No 4 shaft hostel returned to work on Monday night and yesterday morning and the mine was calm, Anglo spokesman James Duncan said.

About 1,200 hostel residents had by yesterday been moved to a hostel at another mine as an interim measure to ensure their safety, he added. These workers had not yet returned to work.

Talks between head office management, NUM representatives and other employee representatives aimed at finding a permanent solution to the problems at the hostel were adjourned on Monday, but were scheduled to continue late yesterday.

NUM acting general secretary Marcel Golding said the union raised several issues at Monday's talks, which would be pursued at mine level. These included the question of a living-out allowance for miners to enable them to choose where they wanted to live, and the stepping up of mine security.

Eight miners were killed and 17 admitted to hospital in renewed unrest at the mine's No 4 hostel in the early hours of Monday morning.

Anglo announced an intensive investigation into the causes of the latest outbreak of violence which brought to 84 the death toll on the mine in recent weeks.

Sapa reports the committee established to hold an inquiry into the causes of the violence at the mine will hold its first meeting on Friday.

Chairman of the Commission of Inquiry into Public Violence and intimidation, Mr Justice R J Goldstone, said in a statement released in Pretoria yesterday the meeting would be held in the auditorium of the Welkom traffic department.

The committee conducting the inquiry was established by the commission.
Body to meet over violence

The committee established to hold an inquiry into the violence at the President Steyn Gold Mine in Welkom will hold its first meeting on 1st Friday. Chairman of the new Commission of Inquiry into Public Violence and Incitement, Mr Justice R J Goldstone, said yesterday that the meeting would be at the Welkom Traffic Department.
Mine violence: views differ

CALLERS to the Sowetan/Radio Metro Talkback Show yesterday expressed mixed feelings about the causes of violence at the President Steyn Mine near Welkom.

Archie, from Tembisa, attributed violence at the mine to tribalism and the "migratory" labour system. He blamed the government for indirect involvement in the carnage.

Conflict

Monk, also from Tembisa, believed violence at the mines was mainly caused by tribalism. He said "our people have been victims of tribal conflict for many years as a result of the apartheid system."

Molo from Eldorado Park urged management to get those involved in the conflict together and if the solution failed, those who refused to co-operate should be dismissed.

"The management should make sure that if those involved do not want to continue with production, they should be fired," he said.

Ali from Dobsonville attributed the problem of mine violence to politics.

"This is not a tribal issue, but a political one. All political organisations must be called to address the mine workers."

"The problem must be tackled at grassroots level."

However, he blamed Third Force involvement for the violence.

Moloi from Tembisa blamed the mine management for the violence.

"Mine's management should come out in the open and say what's happening."

By ISAAC MOLEDI
Minie deaths inquiry

The committee set up to inquire into the causes of violence at the President Steyn gold mine in Welkom will hold its first meeting today, commission chairman Mr Justice RJ Goldstone has announced.

A further eight miners were killed and 17 hospitalised in fighting at the mine's No 4 shaft this week, bringing the death toll to 84 since November 3.

About 200 miners from the shaft hostel have been rehoused at another mine while talks continue between management and the NUM.

The NUM has proposed a living-out allowance, to enable miners to choose where they live, and tighter security.
A SECURITY officer at the St. Helena Gold Mine in Welkom has been killed and a senior worker seriously injured in an attack by seven retrenched workers at a mine hostel.

The attackers formed part of a group who were retrenched after an attack at the union offices at the mine two weeks ago.
NEWS IN BRIEF

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Mine violence probe

A COMMITTEE investigating the violence at Anglo American's President Steyn gold mine that left 94 dead and hundreds injured last month would begin its formal hearings in Welkom next Monday, Anglo said at the weekend.

The committee was appointed by Mr Justice Richard Goldstone, head of the Standing Commission of Inquiry into Violence and Intimidation.

Anglo said yesterday that mine management and union representatives were still "meeting in attempts to find a permanent solution to the violence."
Iscor on brink of firing
3 500 striking miners

VERA VON LIEBER

ABOUT 3,500 miners at Iscor’s Durban Navigation Colliery (Durnacol) have been given an ultimatum to return to work by the morning shift today or face dismissal, an Iscor spokesman said yesterday.

The spokesman said although Durnacol was only a marginal mine, the company had decided to present the union with an ultimatum because losses suffered during the four-week strike had been “quite severe”.

Meanwhile, the National Union of Metalworkers (Numsa) said more than 4,000 workers at Anglo American subsidiary Highveld Steel had downed tools yesterday to protest management’s alleged refusal to discuss the retrenchment of 600 workers.

Numsa said workers — the majority of whom were Numsa members — went on strike because management “refused to hold any meaningful discussion on the retrenchment of 600 workers”.

However, a Highveld Steel spokesman said last night workers went on strike at the Highveld Steel, Transauxois and Rand Carbide plants, all near Witbank, but had returned to work by 5pm.

Numsa claimed management merely informed the union of the retrenchments and gave broad reasons, but refused any further information. Management also refused all proposals from the union to negotiate severance packages.

“This, high-handed behaviour contrasts strongly with the progressive pose Anglo takes in discussions in the metal-industrial council,” Numsa said.

The union said it would appeal for support from members in other plants, Cosatu and the International Metalworkers Federation.

Anglo American could not be reached for comment last night.
Miners cause traffic chaos

JOHANNESBURG—About 24 bus-loads of dismissed mine workers caused chaos in central Johannesburg yesterday afternoon when they drove against the traffic up one-way Fox Street and parked outside Gold Fields' head office.

The 2,800 protesters were some of the 5,600 workers who, ignoring an ultimatum to return to work yesterday morning, walked out last month to protest against dismissals after the anti-VAT stayaway.
2000 miners attempt demo at Gold Fields

MORE than 2000 mineworkers attempted to stage a demonstration outside Gold Fields of SA's head office in Johannesburg yesterday, to protest against the dismissal of 5000 workers from the group's Doornfontein gold mine.

Several hundred police, many in riot gear, cordoned off Fox Street and would not allow the workers to leave the 24 buses and coaches in which they arrived from Carletonville.

The workers stayed inside the vehicles for more than three hours while a delegation of senior NUM and Cosatu representatives had talks with Gold Fields management in the foyer of the group's building.

Matthew Curtin
and Vera Von Lieres

Cosatu called in national peace commission chairman John Hall to help defuse a potentially explosive situation.

The convoy left yesterday afternoon after the NUM agreed to hold negotiations with mine management at Doornfontein this morning.

NUM spokesman Gwede Mantashe said the union's decision to strike on Monday was illegal, and workers had been fired when they had rejected an ultimatum to return to work by 11am yesterday.

All underground production at Doornfontein had stopped yesterday.

Gold Fields' gold division director Mike Tagg said head office management was willing to hear the NUM's grievances if negotiations took place at mine level.

The NUM proposed the ultimatum to return to work be extended until today. The union criticised the police's decision not to allow the workers' demonstration to go ahead. Witwatersrand police spokesman officer Capt Eugene Opperman said the

Miners

union had not obtained permission for a demonstration, and the police could not allow disruption to city centre traffic.

Hall said according to the peace accord, signed by Cosatu, people had to obey the law if they wanted to demonstrate.

The Gold Fields spokesman said the strike was NUM's fourth illegal action.

NUM branch committee members from Doornfontein, Smith Lekobane and Thaba Thaba, said yesterday that mine management's decision to dismiss workers in November and to place the remaining work-force on a final warning was unacceptable. Management had not judged each case on its merits.

Industrial action and underground fires have plagued Doornfontein's results in the last year. The marginal mine turned an after-tax and capex loss of R237m in the June quarter into a profit of R43m in the September quarter, compensating for losses in underground production by milling more surface material.

Picture. Page 3
Iscor fires 3,350 striking miners

MORE than 3,300 strikers at Iscor's Durnacol Colliery in northern Natal have been dismissed.

Only 150 miners returned to work yesterday morning following an ultimatum to the National Union of Mineworkers earlier this week - which warned that the 3,500 workers on strike would be dismissed if they did not return to work.

Dispute

The strike began four weeks ago after a wage dispute. Iscor said Durnacol was a marginal mine and losses caused by the strike had become unacceptable.

The colliery would employ other workers soon - Sapa
2,500 miners in protest over fired colleagues

A potentially volatile protest by about 2,500 miners in central Johannesburg yesterday was defused when Cosatu called in Peace Commission chairman Mr John Hall to help ease the tension.

Hall said Cosatu officials had called him saying there was trouble at the Fox Street offices of Goldfields and asked for his help in negotiations between Goldfields management and National Union of Mine-workers delegates.

"The peace accord says people must obey the law and if they want to protest they must get permission. These protesters did not get permission, which put the police in a difficult situation," said Hall.

He said he had reminded Cosatu delegates that the organisation had signed the peace accord.

"An offer has now been made to meet people at the mine and hopefully the situation will be defused," he said of the successful peace commission intervention.

Meanwhile, Doornfontein Gold Mining Company reported yesterday that all underground production had ceased at the mine near Carletonville following the dismissal of most of its 5,800-strong workforce.

The dismissals resulted from an illegal strike which started with the night shift on Monday and subsequent failure by workers to respond to an ultimatum to return to work, the mine said in a statement.

The workers struck after disciplinary action was taken against miners who took part in the November 4 and 5 VAT stayaway.

The striking miners are demanding the reinstatement of their sacked colleagues.

A NUM spokesman said mine management had given the striking workforce an ultimatum to return to work by 11am yesterday or face dismissal.

The miners did not return and about 25 busesloads of them drove from Carletonville to Fox Street, Johannesburg, about lunchtime yesterday.
MORE than 2 300 striking miners at Iscor's Durban Navigation Colliery (Durnacol) were dismissed yesterday after they failed to heed an ultimatum to return to work, Iscor said. Only about 100 workers had reported for work.

NUM official Kgalema Motlanthe said almost the entire 3 500-strong workforce had been dismissed after embarking on a legal wage strike on November 4.

He said union officials and management met on Tuesday to try to reach settlement.

A union proposal for mediation — the second since talks deadlocked — and an undertaking to persuade workers to return to work by Monday was turned down.

The Iscor spokesman said the strike started after workers refused a wage increase offer of between 10% and 14%, implemented at the beginning of July. Durnacol was a marginal mine and losses sustained due to strike action had become untenable, he said.

Management's position throughout had been to preserve jobs, rather than "accede to unrealistic wage demands. All other Iscor workers, unnumbed or not, accepted the increases which are considered a fair median in the mining industry."

Iscor said the mine would employ new workers "as soon as possible."
Johannesburg

About 3,000 NUM members yesterday left Iscor's Durban Navigatoion Colliery (Durnacol) in northern Natal after they were dismissed for rejecting an ultimatum to return to work, an Iscor spokesman said.

"A NUM official said at least 1,500 miners were paid off and bussed out of the mine."
ABOUT 3,000 NUM members left Iscor's Durban Navigation Colliery (Durnacol) in northern Natal yesterday after they were dismissed by management for rejecting an ultimatum to return to work, an Iscor spokesman said.

At least 600 miners remained on the mine premises and production at the mine continued.

The Iscor spokesman said employing a new workforce would start only next week. He said not all miners had been informed of the dismissals and management was still communicating with workers.

NUM official Kgalema Motlanthe said yesterday at least 1,500 miners were paid off and bused out of the mine. The union's lawyers would approach the company asking it to give preference to dismissed workers when they started employing a new workforce, Motlanthe added.

The workers were dismissed after they failed to heed an ultimatum to return to work earlier this week. More than 3,000 coal miners embarked on a legal strike on November 4, demanding above-inflation rate increases.

The company offered wage increases of between 10% and 14%, implemented at the beginning of July.

Meanwhile, Doornfontein gold mine management and NUM representatives held talks yesterday believed to centre on the reinstatement of 5,800 workers dismissed from the mine on Wednesday.

Motlanthe said management was last night awaiting a written "proposal" from the union guaranteeing steps would be taken to avoid a repeat of illegal strikes. Talks were expected to continue last night.

Doornfontein owners Gold Fields SA said earlier this week workers were fired after they embarked on illegal strike action starting with the night shift on Monday and rejected an ultimatum to return by Wednesday morning.

The NUM said workers were protesting against the dismissal of at least 50 miners after last month's anti-VAT stayaway.
Gold Fields' Doornfontein gold mine fired most of its 5,800 unskilled and semi-skilled workforce after an "illegal" strike this week.

The strikers were protesting against disciplinary action which followed workers' participation in last month's VAT stayaway, the company said in a statement. Demands included the return of dismissed stayaway participants.

More than 2,000 of the miners were yesterday prevented by police from staging a demonstration outside GFSA's Johannesburg city centre headquarters.

As workers were sat in buses for three hours, the Congress of South African Trade Unions urged national peace commission chairman John Hall to intervene.
Johannesburg — Iscor is to begin employing a new workforce at its Durnacol mine in northern Natal this week after the dismissal of about 3,000 miners who refused to comply with an ultimatum to return to work, a company spokesman said on Friday.

About 500 miners were keeping the mine running. The miners embarked on a legal wage strike on November 4, demanding above-inflation increases.

National Union of Mineworkers officials will meet management today.
I found body after body, inquiry told

By Montshiwa Moroke

The head of security at the President Steyn gold mine yesterday told of finding body after body during the violence that broke out at the Welkom mine last month...

Michael Lyall Bennett, giving evidence to the committee of inquiry into the violence at the mine which started on November 3 and left 88 people dead...

The inquiry is being held in the auditorium of the Welkom traffic department and is chaired by Gert Steyn, a former president of the Port Elizabeth Regional Court...

Mr Bennett said that on November 3, at about 8 pm, mine security had been advised by Len Rausch, the No 4 Shaft hostel manager, that intimidation was taking place at the tunnel near the shaft...

Later, Mr Bennett and other officials had noticed a group of about 50 men clad in blankets, whom he assumed to be Basotho, carrying two people...

This group was very aggressive and obviously well armed with sharpened sticks and assorted home-made weapons I did not know their motive and I assumed that the two persons had been injured. It later transpired that these two were in fact dead Sotho workers...

He thought it necessary to call for reinforcements on the radio. The police were also called...

He and the other security officials saw a fire and realised that the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) offices outside the hostel were burning...

At about the same time they saw two groups of about 50 workers moving towards the main entrance to the hostel, where they converged. There they killed a certain James who was coming from the direction of the NUM offices...

There was noise from within the hostel, where two groups could be seen...

Mr Bennett said: “We managed to position our vehicles on the road running out of C Block, effectively forming a wedge between the cornered group of Xhosa workers and the Sotho workers who were milling around on the easterly side of the open terrain.”

Attacks took place, but security officials managed to disperse the two groups with rubber bullets...

“The persons to whom we spoke blamed it squarely on the NUM/Xhosa affiliates and said it had all started with the toy-toying,” said Mr Bennett.

The situation had been quiet from Tuesday until Friday...

At about 10 pm on Friday there were reports that the two factions were regrouping Security personnel fired rubber bullets to keep the groups apart...

“On my entrance, I noticed bodies lying on the basketball pitch. A Sotho man came to me and said: ‘They have killed a lot of our people.’”

“When the reinforcements arrived, I went to B Block in a vehicle where we disembarked and we went through the B Block. We found a body in one corner of a room and another one on a veranda. They had been savagely beated and stabbed, plus their throats had been slit. Their heads were smashed beyond recognition by blunt objects.”

“I was also informed by some Sotho people that persons had been killed in their beds. On inspection we found two dead bodies in their beds and another three had been killed in their rooms while dragging themselves out on to the veranda leaving a trail of blood, where they had died.”

“We continued to check each hostel block and at each block we picked up two or three deceased persons, all killed in a similar manner,” Mr Bennett said.

The hearing continues...
THE head of security at President Steyn Gold Mine in Welkom yesterday told of how they found bodies and a trail of blood during the violence which broke out at the mine last month.

Mr Michael Bennetto was giving evidence at the commission of inquiry into the violence at the mine which started on November 3 and left 84 people dead and many injured.

The inquiry is being held in Welkom and chaired by Mr Gert Steyn, a former president of the Port Elizabeth Regional Court.

Other members of the commission are Advocate Dan Bregman, SC, and Mr Ray Zondo, a Durban attorney.

**Stayaway**

Bennetto said there was no evidence of the problems that were to be encountered on the mine. There had been "an odd rumour" circulating that there would be a stayaway.

He said that on the night of November 3 he and other officials saw a group of about 50 men clad in blankets and he assumed they were Basotho.

The group appeared to be divided into two groups and each appeared to be carrying a person.

"This group was very aggressive and obviously well armed with sharpened sticks and assorted homemade weapons. I did not know their motive and I assumed that the two persons had been injured. It later transpired that these two were in fact dead Sotho workers.

**Reinforcements**

They marched up the tunnel rattle their arms against the corrugated iron on the outside of the tunnel and turned into the medical station. We followed them and noticed that people were dead," Bennetto said.

He called for reinforcements and also phoned the police.

They saw a fire and realised that the offices of the National Union of Mineworkers had been set alight.

About the same time they saw two groups of about 50 workers each moving towards the main entrance to the hostel where they gathered and attacked a man who was coming from the direction of the NUM offices.

"He was murdered by these two groups," he said.

There were two groups of Basotho and Xhosas gathered on opposite sides.

"Each time we tried to cut them off by driving at them or by firing rubber bullets," Bennetto said. "The inquiry continues today.

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Here's a... crisp and br
Gold Fields firm on dismissals

DOORNFONTEIN gold mine was recruiting a new workforce and had applied to the Supreme Court for an order to evict about 5000 dismissed workers, Gold Fields said yesterday.

However, NUM acting general secretary Marcel Golding said the union would contest the lawfulness of the eviction order, if granted.

Golding said the application would be heard in the Pretoria Supreme Court on Friday. He said the union had also made an application to the Industrial Court to contest the fairness of the dismissals of the 5000 early last week.

Workers were fired after they embarked on an illegal strike last Monday and refused to return to work on Wednesday. The strike was sparked by the dismissal of 38 workers following the anti-VAT stayaway early last month.

Gold Fields said yesterday accommodation occupied by the fired workers was needed to accommodate a new workforce.

The company said recruitment was in progress and once the dismissed employees had been lawfully evicted it would be possible to accommodate new employees.

The illegal strike, which was the third in almost as many months, had led management to conclude that it needed reliable workers.

Golding said management had failed to accept several union proposals aimed at effecting a return to work of the dismissed workers. Management had not come up with concrete counter-proposals.

The union proposals included procedures to remedy any contemplated irregular industrial action and taking the case of the 38 dismissed workers to arbitration.

In another development, management at Iscor's Durnacol mine in the northern Natal on Monday rejected union proposals on the re-employment of about 3000 miners, the NUM said.

The workers were dismissed after failing to comply with an ultimatum last week to return to work after a legal wage strike. Golding said the company intended to selectively re-employ about 2000 workers.

He said the company was using a lawful strike to effect a retrenchment.

Workers were willing to return to the mine and the union had proposed mediation in a bid to resolve the deadlock.
I wouldn’t be here to tell the tale - mine boss

A SHAFT manager at President Steyn Gold Mine in Welkom said yesterday that miners were very agitated before the violence which erupted at the mine last month.

Mr Lorenz Rauch said if the miners had been aggressive towards him and his colleagues he would not have been around to testify about the violence.

He was giving evidence at the commission of inquiry into the factional violence at the mine which left 84 people dead and scores injured.

The commission, which is sitting at the Welkom Traffic Department, is being chaired by former president of the Port Elizabeth Regional Court, Mr Gert Steyn.

Rauch said that on November 3 he saw two miners telling others dressed in underground clothes not to report for work. The two ignored him when he approached them.

"I took one of them by the arm and identified myself as the shaft manager. I spoke in Fanagalo but he replied in another language. I told him that he should speak Fanagalo and he said he was talking to his "brothers,"" Rauch said.

Later, "a group of Sothos dressed in blankets and in a very agitated and aggressive mood came past us. They carried arms. But they did not show any aggression towards any of the mine management members."

"I am glad there was no aggression towards management, otherwise I would not have been here today," Mr Rauch said.

He said under cross-examination by Advocate Ishmael Semenya, for the National Union of Mineworkers, that mine management had tried to persuade workers to go to work on the eve of the two-day national anti-VAT stayaway but that there had been no special plans to break the impending strike.

The hearing continues today.

Sowetan Correspondent
Strikes blamed as thousands of miners fired

Nearly 9,000 workers from Durnacoal coal mine in Newcastle and Goldfields' Doornfontein gold mine in Carletonville have been dismissed, National Union of Mineworkers general-secretary Marcel Golding announced yesterday.

At a press briefing in Johannesburg, Mr Golding said 3,034 workers had been dismissed by Iscor-owned Durnacoal and 5,800 by Goldfields.

He said the companies had rejected "every single proposal" the NUM had made and instead had threatened to evict the workers from the hostels through a court interdict which he said the union would contest on Friday.

"The company's intentions are to dismiss the entire workforce and re-employ about 2,000. We have called for the resignations of the entire workforce and we will contest the validity of each and every dismissal in the industrial court," he said.

In a statement last night, Goldfields said a recent illegal strike had put Doornfontein gold mine's future at stake.

Illegal

After the dismissal of the majority of its unskilled and semi-skilled workforce early last week, and after inconclusive talks with the NUM, the company required a new workforce.

"The recent illegal strike, which was the third such strike in almost as many months, has led to the conclusion that if the mine is to have a future and continue to operate underground workings, it needs to rely on a workforce which will contribute towards the achievement of this goal."

"In order to get production back to normal and retain 7,000 job opportunities, management has decided to employ a new workforce," the company said.

Durnacoal management fired workers, who were on strike, after they failed to comply with an ultimatum to return to work last week.

The 4,000 striking workers at Anglo American's Highveld Steel Corporation at Witbank have defied an ultimatum by management to return to work or face dismissal.

According to an Anglo American spokesman, the workers continued their illegal strike yesterday in defiance of a court interdict obtained by the company at the weekend.

In terms of the court order, they were supposed to go back to work on Monday. National Union of Metalworkers regional secretary Frank Bushelo said the union had heard about the court order only on Monday morning.
Mine clashes not based on race - NUM

WELKOM - A representative of the National Union of Mineworkers yesterday denied that last month's violence that claimed 94 lives at the President Steyn gold mine was racially inspired.

A branch chairman of the union, Zenzeli Sokwana, told a committee of the Goldstone Commission into the Prevention of Public Violence and Intimidation that security officials had ordered the warring factions at the mine's No 4 shaft to form groups along ethnic lines.

For that reason, the union had objected to the fact that mine management had held talks with ethnic leaders.

Mr Sokwana also said the union had taken measures to combat intimidation.

The hearing continues.
— Sapa,
Extremists force family into hiding

A WHITE miner and his family will spend Christmas in hiding after being hounded from their home by right-wingers.

Mr Vosloo, who claims to have been detained by the homeland's security police, now stays at a hideout in Johannesburg.

Mr Vosloo is one of several NUM members who have been detained during a strike to try to secure the release of several detained NUM members, and was held for 24 hours.

"They warned me that I would be detained if I ever set foot on their territory again," Mr Vosloo said this week.

That was about five weeks ago. At the same time we started getting death threats from right-wingers and our children were being abused at school. The union decided it was safest for me to get out of Rustenburg. They have been paying for our accommodation and our food here.

"We have received several visits from union, ANC and SACP people interested in us as people and to offer us help. Last Sunday a family came all the way from Soweto to visit us."

By CHARLES LEONARD
Mine guards shoot man

SECURITY guards investigating a fire at the Deelkraal gold mine near Carletonville found a man grinding gold and shot him dead when he disobeyed an order to stop as he fled.

The guards at the mine seized 60kg of gold dust during the incident, police said. The gold is believed to be worth more than R2m.

Police said the guards had found the gold when they investigated a burning hut on the mine premises. A man found grinding the metal fled the scene and the guards fired two shots, killing him. — Sapa
MINING — STRIKES

1992
Go on strike
10,000 miners
Sit-in ends — situation still tense

By Shareen Singh

About 2,000 workers have ended their underground sit-in at Impala Bafokeng North mine in Bophuthatswana.

But the situation remains tense while workers await the outcome of a court hearing involving a colleague today.

The National Union of Mine-workers regional organiser for Rustenburg, Titi Mthenjane, said workers were demanding that management secure the release of workers’ committee member Isaac Mayoyo, arrested “for intimidation” last week.

Mr Mayoyo is to appear in court today. The situation at the mine depends on the outcome of his case, Mr Mthenjane said.

Last week about 10,000 workers at the Bafokeng South mine went on strike for two days demanding the reinstatement of 37 colleagues. One of them was a union committee member who was detained by the Bophuthatswana government in November and was dismissed when he returned to work.

Sixteen others were dismissed after a disciplinary hearing following shooting incidents at the mine and the rest were dismissed for not returning to work after Christmas Day, Mr Mthenjane said.

Gemini spokesman Laing Geldenhuys said the workers’ committee and management agreed that appeal hearings would be held for the 16 regarding the worker who was detained, Mr Geldenhuys said he was given six days after his release to report for duty but he failed to do so.
Mine violence blamed on 'troublemakers'

By Montsho Morake

Violence which broke out at the President Steyn gold mine in Welkom on November 3 was due to the activities of a small core of troublemakers and intimidators, mine manager Richard Lourens de Gier Solms said yesterday.

Mr Solms was testifying at the resumption of the confirmation of inquiry into the violence on the mine which left at least 84 people dead and scores wounded.

Mr Solms said because of assurances management received from National Union of Mineworkers' (NUM) leadership on the mine, that there would be no intimidation and that people who wanted to work would be allowed to, he had not expected trouble on November 4 and 5.

"A Basotho leader named Pausus took up the cause for people who wanted to work. My information was that Basothos from Lesotho wanted to work and weren't interested in the ANC's political stance. It seems that he (Pausus) was stopped, and fighting erupted. He was injured and two were killed. NUM had a fairly responsible role."

"From the information I had received, I formed the view that the violence repeated at No 4 shaft on November 3 was due to a small core of troublemakers intent on preventing employees from working by means of intimidation, which led to bloodshed," Mr Solms said.

Violence on November 24 appeared to have been perpetrated in revenge for clandestine murders, by Xhosas on Basothos on November 8.

"After November 24, management became aware of allegations that a bakkie had been seen offloading weapons near the hostel. These allegations were investigated."
11 000 Implats workers go on strike

IMPALA Platinum’s Bafokeng North mine and mineral processing plant in Bophuthatswana were brought to a standstill yesterday when 11,000 workers went on strike following the dismissal of 1,800 men on Tuesday, a company spokesman said.

The company’s other three mines were unaffected yesterday. The strike began on Wednesday when 250 night shift workers at the processed plant and 420 miners did not turn out for work. That night several mine buildings were set alight or burnt down. The extent of the damage was still being assessed yesterday.

The strikers are demanding the unconditional reinstatement of the 1,800 men dismissed after an underground sit-in at Bafokeng North’s No 12 shaft on Monday night.

The dismissed workers had been demanding changes to the mine’s shift system and held several mine officials hostage underground during the sit-in.

NUM acting general secretary Marcel Golding said his union wanted to meet management to settle both disputes. He said the main issue bedeviling labour relations was Bophuthatswana’s labour legislation which barred the NUM from operating there.

Last year, a total of two weeks of strikes cost Impala about R8m in lost production at its four mines.
Impala strike 'almost at an end'

THE strike by 11,000 miners at Impala Platinum's Bafokeng North mine and mineral processes plant could end today, a NUM spokesman says. Overnight sit-in—should be resolved through the company's appeal procedure.

A union spokesman said management had worked with representatives agreed on Friday that the issue which management spokesmen could not had led to the strike—the dismissal could be reached for comment.
MINERS at Bafokeng North mine near Rustenburg returned to work at the weekend after a three-day strike, mine owner Gemun said in a statement yesterday.

"Management and employee representatives met on Friday afternoon and decided to call on the striking employees to resume working normal hours," the statement said.

The workers went on strike in solidarity with miners who were dismissed after holding a sit-in strike at the mine's No 12 shaft, National Union of Mineworkers acting general secretary Mr Marcel Golding said.

The sit-in strikers were protesting against disciplinary action taken by management against co-workers.

The Gemun statement said management was proceeding with disciplinary action against the employees who were involved in the sit-in.

"During the sit-in, some employees were prevented from leaving the underground areas. All 1,800 employees who were involved in this industrial action were dismissed with the right to appeal," the statement said.

"The appeal hearings, which were interrupted by the strike, will now proceed," Sapa.

MARCEL GOLDING
Implats warns of closures

Implats, the mining company, is in danger of closing shafts and curtailing its multi-million rand capital spending programme, as its mines in Bophuthatswana continue to be plagued by wildcat strikes.

Implats chairman Brian Gilbertson warned yesterday that the labor disruptions, which cost the group more than two weeks of lost production worth about R100m in the past year, were jeopardising some of the mines' operations and expansion plans.

Gilbertson told staff at the Wildebeestfontein North mine, "There will have to be a firm commitment on the part of all Implats employees to bring working conditions back to normal if we are to complete the capital programme as planned, and if we are to avoid shaft closures."

He said the mines were "not the right place for political battles" and he appealed to workers "to settle disputes peacefully and in the appropriate forums."

Implats workers have embarked on strikes, go-slow, and sit-ins in the past year, ostensibly over wage increases and the reinstatement of dismissed workers. However, the NUM gave its clearest indication yet on Tuesday that the campaign for reincorporating Bophuthatswana into SA was at the top of its agenda at Implats.

A union spokesman said the NUM supported the call for mass action to urge government to reincorporate the homeland.

Gilbertson said the wildcat strikes had come at "a particularly difficult time for the company." Platinum prices had dropped $10 since December while rhodium prices, which offset weak platinum prices in 1990, had halved since June.

Implats plans to spend R1bn on its new shaft in the Deeps prospect, and another R50m expanding its existing operations in the homeland. It is also building new mills to process UG2 ore and a new furnace.

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See Page 3
Grenade thrown into shack

THE condition of the five people injured in an explosion early yesterday morning at Hartbeesfontein Gold Mine’s No 5 Shaft near Stilfontein was stable, according to West Rand police.

The three women and two men who were inside a house on the mine at the time of the explosion were admitted to Klerksdorp’s Tshepong Hospital, said Western Transvaal Police spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Ben van Heerden.

He said the explosion, which he described as “minor”, occurred when someone lobbed a dynamite stick into a squatter’s house.

The explosion caused R30 damage, Van Heerden said.

The motive for the explosion, which occurred outside the house at 3.30am, was unknown.

A second explosion occurred earlier, about midnight on Saturday, when commercial explosives were thrown by unidentified people at an electric transformer at Khutsong, Carletonville.

The explosion caused R500 000 damage, Van Heerden said. - SA Press Association
Mines violence hearing ends

Evidence has been concluded at the commission of inquiry into the violence which broke out at the President Steyn gold mine at Welkom in November and left 84 people dead.

The hearing, which sat before a committee of the Goldstone Commission into Political Violence and Intimidation, was concluded on Friday.

A committee spokesman said February 14 was the deadline for dealing with submissions to the committee.

Full argument would take place five days later at the Welkom traffic department.

Staff Reporter
Implats takes a knock as labour unrest hits output

**Business Staff**

LABOUR unrest hit Implats Platinium in the half-year to December, forcing the mine to buy platinum on the open market to meet contractual commitments.

Impala lost about 100,000 ounces of planned platinum production due to labour unrest, said the company today.

The mine produced only 382,000 ounces compared with 528,000 in the same period last year.

But sales were above production at 443,000 ounces, sharply down from the previous interim figure of 544,000 ounces.

Turnover for the group was reported at R1.08 billion (R1.103 billion) while profit from metal sales was sharply lower at R256.2 million (R406.5 million).

Income from platinum mining activities was over R100 million lower at R218.1 million (R356.8 million).

After taking tax into account and transferring some R15.6 million into non-distributable reserves R42.1 million was left for distribution compared with the R116.9 million in the previous interim period.

A dividend of 55c (60c) a share was declared, accounting for R34.2 million and leaving R7.9 million in retained income.

Earnings per share amounted to 200c a share (242c).

While the impact of the labour disputes and action have improved, the directors said in a statement that the shortfall in platinum production was likely to continue for the remainder of the financial year "as it will take time to restore normal production levels and efficiencies."
Genmin strike suspended

THE strike at Genmin by 135 National Union of Mineworkers members was suspended yesterday on condition that disciplinary action against striking security guards be suspended. A Genmin spokesman said no settlement had been reached but Genmin and the NUM were negotiating.
Wild-cat strikes throttle Impala

By ROBIN PEGLER

made all the worse by problems at the refineries. Programmes are under way to improve recoveries and shorten the production pipeline.

Plant teething troubles resulted in an additional 50,000 ounces being locked up, although management is confident of releasing it in the current year.

The output of refined platinum for the six months was only 382,000 ounces compared with 528,000 for the last six months of 1990. A total of 70,000 ounces had to be bought from Nynex at a small profit to satisfy customer contracts.

It is amusing to note that Nynex was highly indignant at having to supply physical platinum. Normally, it deals only in paper (futures) metal. Because of these setbacks, the cost to Impala of an ounce of platinum rose by no less than 57%. This figure will drop when locked-up platinum is released.

The fall in profit was cushioned to some extent by two factors. Rhodium sales were up and the price was higher. Lease, royalties and tax were nearly 7% lower.

Mothballed

Impala’s chief customer is General Motors, to which it sells on contract. It does not depend on the spot price, which is quoted daily. Nevertheless, the spot price does affect contract prices in the longer term.

Rhodium prices are expected to be lower in the second half of the current year.

Two years ago, Impala started a programme to increase production to 1.28 million ounces from its own mines. It expects to spend nearly R400-million for the year to June 1992. But if money is tight, part of this programme will be delayed.

A higher platinum price would be of particular help to Impala.

Messina and the Barplats’ Crocodile River mine have both been mothballed. Production from them would add another 150,000 ounces to world output.

There has been speculation that because of its heavy debt, Lonrho might sell its 75% interest in the highly efficient Western Platinum to Impala.

Impala already owns the remaining 25% and has first refusal if Lonrho should decide to sell.

Impala chief Brian Gilbertson confirms that Lonrho has made no approach.

Maybe Impala should take the initiative. With Gencor as its parent, Impala would be in a much stronger bargaining position than Lonrho and could buy Wesplats at an attractive price.
A protest planned by the National Union of Mineworkers at Gemmum's Impala Refinery was averted yesterday when management acted swiftly to prevent Clasper's military ruler Brigadier Oupa Gqozo from addressing the workers.

A Gemmum spokesman said no official invitation was issued, but when management learned that the Gqozo was apparently due to arrive at the mine, they called and asked him not to come.

Gqozo agreed and the address did not take place.

NUM had earlier condemned Gemmum for inviting Gqozo - Sapa.
Bop mine clashes leave trail of death

By Bronwyn Wilkinson

At least 13 people have been killed and several others injured in clashes at Impala Platinum's Bafokeng North mine in Bophuthatswana last Saturday.

Mine owners Gemin reported that fighting broke out on Saturday afternoon between National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) supporters and other workers.

Seven people were killed in a clash at a mine hostel on Sunday evening, said Gemin spokesman Lando Geldenhuys.

Six more bodies were found near the hostel after fighting broke out again yesterday morning, he said.

"Bophuthatswana security forces were called in to assist mine security personnel to separate the two groups," Mr Geldenhuys said in a statement.

An NUM official, however, said last night that the union had heard that 15 people had died in clashes.

Gemin's statement said several miners had been treated at the mine hospital and two had been transferred to the Rand Mutual Hospital in Johannesburg. The names of the victims have not been released.

The morning shift of about 8,000 workers did not report for work yesterday and Sotho employees were asked to leave the mine. Transport was being arranged for them, the statement added.

Mr Geldenhuys said discussions between mine management and employee representatives were continuing.

In the latter half of last year at least 19 people died in clashes at the mine, and Impala Platinum reported that in the six months to December it had lost R100 million in platinum revenue.

In January 1,000 mineworkers were dismissed after disciplinary hearings related to continued wildcat strikes and clashes.
Miners stay away after 13 killed in clashes

IMPALA Platinum's Bafokeng North mine in Bophuthatswana came to a halt yesterday when its 8,000 employees failed to report for work after 13 miners died in intergroup fighting.

Seven were reported dead after fighting broke out at the mine hostel, but the toll increased to 13 yesterday when two bodies were found near the hostel after renewed clashes.

Gemini said yesterday the workforce had failed to report for work and 700 Sotho employees had asked to leave Impala's three other Bophuthatswana mines. Workers' representatives said the workforce would report for duty today.

Numerous NUM supporters and non-supporters Bophuthatswana security forces were called in to help mine security personnel separate the two fighting groups. Several employees were treated for injuries.

Gemini said management was talking to employee representatives to establish the cause of the fighting and the stayaway.

Meanwhile, DIRK HARTFORD reports that more than 2,000 members of the Batlapang tribe yesterday heard a deposed chief Mankuroane condemn Bophuthatswana President Lucas Mangope for ordering the arrest of several people who allegedly disrupted a meeting of Mangope's among the Batlapang people two weeks ago.

Mankuroane said at the meeting Mangope was presented with a memorandum from Batlapang royal family members demanding the return of the Batlapang chief and Taueng's reincorporation into SA. He said this led to the break-up of the meeting and eight people were detained.

Mankuroane is a delegate of Codesa's working group 4.
FIFTEEN white mine officials were taken hostage by striking miners at a coal mine near Dundee in northern Natal yesterday.

They were released last night after the intervention of officials of the National Union of Mineworkers and management.

The hostage drama started after hundreds of miners began an underground protest, said mine owners Icor.

The reasons given are alleged racial discrimination and unfair dismissal of miners.

The white officials were held underground.

Police said 22 people had been held hostage and two Asians and five white mine officials had managed to escape.

"The SA Police Task Force, stationed in Pretoria, was sent to the scene in an attempt to secure their release," a police statement said.

Icor said the morning shift went underground and had immediately embarked on an illegal strike, demanding that their grievances be addressed by management and the union.

It said it had no knowledge of the workers' grievances.

National Union of Mineworkers publicity spokesman Mr Jerry Mapatla said the miners had protested against the unfair dismissal of three senior union leaders, racial discrimination and the retrenchment of 200 miners, who were later replaced with contract labour.

Mapatla said about 3,000 miners had embarked on the sit-in but Icor said there had been 800 strikers.

Mapatla said production at the mine ground to a halt during the strike. - Sapa
ANC condemns arrest of official

POLICE raided the home of ANC Youth League secretary-general Rapu Molekane in the early hours yesterday and arrested him on charges of illegal possession of arms, an ANC spokesman said.

The ANC condemned the arrest, saying such arrests could jeopardise the negotiation process.

In Codessa, the existence of the ANC military wing Umkhonto we Sizwe remains a thorny issue.

Police spokesman Col Thiene Halgren said police searched Molekane’s Pinville home and seized a firearm and a hand grenade.

After ANC spokesman Saki Macozoma condemned the arrest, the youth league accused authorities of “harrassing our people”.

“The ANC Youth League demands that the regime immediately stop harassing our people and instead be part of the facilitating of the establishing of an interim government under which all outstanding matters of this nature should be finalised,” a statement said.

Molekane’s wife Patience claimed that at least 12 heavily armed police swooped on their home.

She said she opened the door after she heard it being kicked. “They said they were looking for weapons. They started opening the ceiling, took everything out of the wardrobes, climbed on top of the beds with shoes on, opened freezers, the pots and so on. They searched the bathroom thoroughly. After three minutes they said they found a grenade.”

Molekane’s attorney said bail application would be made today — Sapa

Miners return to work after unrest

PRODUCTION at Impala Platinum’s Bafokeng North mine resumed yesterday after weekend violence left 14 miners dead and resulted in 8,000 workers not reporting for work on Monday.

Last night, management was consulting employee representatives to establish the cause of three days of fighting between NUM supporters and non-supporters.

The majority of employees reported for the early morning shift yesterday, but 700 Sotho workers, who had requested to return to Lasehole because they felt threatened by the violence, had not yet returned.

Meanwhile, a third man was arrested yesterday for his alleged part in a Johannesburg train attack last week which left 10 people injured.

The arrest of the 25-year-old man followed a breakthrough by Park Station police on Monday when two Zulu-speaking hostel dwellers were arrested on a train near Jeppe.

Police also took a 68-year-old man into custody for questioning.

THEO RAWANA reports that PAC national campaigns committee chairman Ntsundla Madzuna said yesterday the PAC had called for a boycott of trains and a national stayaway.

Addressing a news conference in Johannesburg, Madzuna said his organisation would invite the Organisation of African Unity, the UN and the EC to set up a commission to investigate the “faceless forces which sowed division among the dispossessed, voiceless masses”.

The PAC would consult all community organisations, churches, labour federations, business and political organisations. The campaign would start soon, Madzuna said.

Sapa reports that a gunman wounded two Uzosla members on Monday in a night attack at a hostel complex in Thokoza on the East Rand.

Inkatha’s Institute spokesman Ed Tillet identified the victims as Jerry Malepe and Philip Ngobo.

In a separate incident at an adjoining hostel, another man was wounded in the face after being shot at.

Sapa reports that the Goldstone commission of inquiry is to sit in Pretoria on Friday to investigate allegations by Inkatha that ANC structures were planning a terror campaign against the organisation.

“None of the alleged information has been furnished to the commission. As far as I have been able to establish, it has also not been furnished to the SA Police,” said commission chairman Judge Richard Goldstone.

Sapa also reports that Codessa delegates yesterday held talks with national peace accord chairman John Hall “with a view to taking resolutions on the question of violence”.

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Peaceful end to hostage drama at Natal mine

JOHANNESBURG.—A 12-hour hostage drama at a northern Natal coal mine ended peacefully when hundreds of black miners striking against alleged racial discrimination agreed to negotiate their grievances.

Fifteen white mine officials at Iscor's Durban Navigation Colliery (Durnacol) near Dannhauser were held underground for most of the day after between 800 to 3,000 workers went on an illegal strike at the start of their morning shift.

All the hostages emerged unharmed last night after trade unionists managed to persuade the strikers to put their case to management in discussions today. The miners agreed to return to their quarters in the meantime, a company spokesman said.

A police task force, sent to the scene from Pretoria, did not intervene, he said. The hostages were not threatened and had been in constant radio and telephone contact with management.

Police said 22 mine officials were initially held hostage, but seven managed to escape.

National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) spokesman Mr Jerry Majatladi said miners were striking against alleged unfair dismissal of three senior union leaders, racial discrimination and the retrenchment of 200 miners who were later replaced with contract labour.

They were also demanding the dismissal of a transfer of two white mine officials who allegedly fancied tenures at the colliery.

Labor said it had no knowledge of the grievances.

Production at Durnacol, forced to standstill on Tuesday, was expected to resume on Wednesday pending the successful outcome of the negotiations, Iscor said. — Sapa.
Mine violence toll now 14

Staff Reporter S192 25/12

The majority of miners who took part in a stayaway at Impala Platinum's troubled Bafokeng North Mine in Bophuthatswana, on Monday returned to work yesterday.

A spokesman for owners Germann, Lang, Geldenhuys, said the death toll from fighting which broke out on Saturday between supporters of the National Union of Mineworkers and other workers had risen to 14, with the discovery of another body.

Two miners were seriously injured and a number of other workers suffered lesser injuries.

About 700 Sotho workers who had asked to return to Lesotho were still in Phokeng yesterday and mine officials were trying to convince them to go back to work, Mr Geldenhuys said.
Hostage drama

12-hour ordeal in mine

OWN Correspondent

DURBAN — A 12-hour hostage drama...
Miner tells of 12 hours as hostage

Own Correspondent

A miner has described Tuesday's 12-hour underground hostage ordeal during which angry black mineworkers hurled death threats.

Police are investigating kidnapping charges after the underground strike at Iscor's Durnacol colliery in northern Natal.

In all, 15 whites and two Indian mineworkers were trapped in an underground workshop while about 1,000 black mineworkers were striking to highlight a wage demand.

"We were all pretty frightened," said miner Garth Homs. "At first we were just a bit panicky, but once they threatened to kill us everyone was really scared."

I went underground at 6 am and when I got off the skip there were about 200 blacks just standing around at the bottom. I thought they were waiting for transport, but as I got on my bicycle to ride to my section they asked where I was going.

Panicky

"I said I was going to my section and they said all right, but I would not be coming out again."

By that time the skip had already left so I had no other choice than to go to my section. I was a bit panicky so I went to the workshop.

"There were already about four guys there including an Indian artisan who had been in the mine since 10 the previous night."

"We phoned upstairs and informed the mine manager of the problem. He told us to stay where we were."

"By 10 am we had about 10 people in the workshop. "We decided to try and get the Indian out, as he had been in the mine for about 12 hours by that stage. But as we got to the shaft about 20 strikers did a mock charge at us. Two said they were going to kill us."

"At about 2 pm a party of about 20 strikers came to see how many of us were in the workshop, but we didn't let them in."

"They then left guards at the door to make sure we didn't escape. But we couldn't have, even if we'd wanted to. All the escape shafts lead to shaft bottom where all the strikers were."

"At 3 pm a party of 50 strikers came and banged on the steel doors and wanted to get in. I was speaking to the mine manager at that time and he said we must not open the door."

"I told him it might be better to try and talk to them, so I opened the door."

"They threatened to kill us up till then it wasn't too bad, but they said if we didn't get their demands they would kill us and I believed them."

"Eventually we got out at about 6.30 pm."

The strikers claimed we were not held against our will but I tell you we could not get out. We were definitely held against our will.

"The strikers had weapons they had made underground. They made assegais and clubs from roof bolts and poles and that was very frightening."

A police liaison officer said the hostages were freed after lengthy negotiations between mine management and the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM).

Seven other miners escaped by crawling to the main shaft via a tunnel leading from a storage area.

All day-shift production workers at the mine have been suspended.

A NUM spokesman said the miners were protesting against the unfair dismissal of three trade union leaders.

Mine management said all the grievances had been receiving attention and were being addressed.

Iscor said yesterday the participants in the protest would be suspended until the disciplinary hearing was concluded.
Striking miners suspended

DAY-SHIFT production workers at Iscor's Durnacol coal mine have been suspended following Tuesday's hostage drama.

It said the protest action, which included holding 15 people hostage and sabotaging conveyor belts, was "outside the ambit of the industrial relations field".

A National Union of Mineworkers spokesman said the miners were protesting against the unfair dismissal of three trade union leaders, racial discrimination and retrenchments.

Disciplinary

iscor said the participants in the protest action would be suspended with pay until the disciplinary action was concluded.

Earlier yesterday a mine official described Tuesday's 12-hour ordeal inside a workshop 200m underground.

He said an angry mob of black miners hurled death threats at them as they were trapped inside the workshop.

Police are investigating charges of kidnapping.

Fifteen whites and two Indian mine workers were trapped in the bowels of the earth during the saga.

"We were all pretty frightened," said Mr Garth Homes, "It was really hectic. At first we were not at all panicky but once they threatened to kill us everyone was really scared.

"I went underground at 6am and when I got off the skip there were about 200 blacks just standing around at the bottom. I thought they were waiting for transport but as I got on my bicycle to ride to my section they asked where I was going.

"I said I was going to my section and they asked all right, but I would not be coming out again.

"By that time the skip had already left, so I had no other choice than to go to my section. I was already a bit panicky so I went to the underground workshop.

"There were already about four guys there, including an Indian artisan who had been in the mine since 10pm the previous night.

"We phoned upstairs and informed the mine manager of the problem and he told us to stay where we were.

"By 10.45am there were about 10 people in the workshop.

"We decided to try and get the Inman out who had been in the mine for about 12 hours by that stage but as we got to the shaft about 20 strikers did a mock charge and were swearing at us. Two threatened us and said they were going to kill us.

"It was beginning to get really serious and ugly so we headed back to the workshop and locked ourselves in.

"At about 2pm a party of about 20 strikers came to see how many of us were in the workshop but we didn't let them in. I told them there were only five of us because I didn't want them to know how many there really were.

"They then left guards at the door to make sure we didn't escape. But we couldn't have even if we wanted to. All the escape shafts lead to shaft bottom, where all the strikers were.

"At 3pm a party of 50 strikers came and banged on the steel doors and wanted to get in. I was speaking to the mine manager at that time and he said we must not open the door.

Scary

"They threatened to kill us and it was very scary. Up till then it wasn't too bad but they said if they didn't get their demands they would kill us and I believed them.

"At 3:30pm we got a call from the shaft bottom from one of the Zulus to say we could come out but we were not convinced. I phoned the mine manager and asked him how the situation was.

"He told us to stay where we were until they could confirm the situation was under control.

"Eventually we got out at about 6:30 pm."
Coal miners suspended

DURBAN: — All day-shift production workers at Iscor’s Durancol coal mine have been suspended with pay and will face disciplinary action after Tuesday’s hostage drama.

The mine was closed yesterday following the incident.

Iscor said yesterday the protest action, which included holding 15 people hostage and sabotaging conveyor belts, was “outside the gambit of the industrial relations field.”

A National Union of Mineworkers spokesman said the miners were protesting against the unfair dismissal of three trade union leaders.

— Sapa, Own Correspondent CT 2/6/92
Iscor fires
800 workers

Own Correspondent.

MARITZBURG — About 800 workers at Iscor's troubled Durnacol colliery in northern Natal have been dismissed.

The move follows the miners' illegal actions on Tuesday, including sabotage of mine property and holding co-workers hostage, according to Iscor.

Iscor told the National Union of Mineworkers it was "gravely concerned" by the way the union and its members had behaved inter-tribal violence and strikes, compounded by Tuesday's "criminal and illegal actions" left it with no choice but to dismiss the employees.
ISCOR yesterday dismissed 800 day-shift workers at its Durnacol mine in Natal for holding 15 officials hostage underground on Tuesday. Police are also investigating charges of kidnapping, extortion and intimidation.

An Iscor spokesman said the "criminal and illegal" actions by the striking workers resulted in extensive production losses, damage to property and threats to co-workers' safety, and Iscor had no choice but to dismiss those involved.

ISCOR has not pressed criminal charges, but Dundee police said they had arrested one miner, who would appear in court today. They expected to arrest more on charges of kidnapping, extortion and intimidation.

Police said it seems like only a few workers were the culprits who started the trouble and then forced other workers to participate.

ISCOR gave employees until 8 a.m. yesterday to bring personal or mitigating circumstances to management's attention as to why the dismissals should not be final.

In a letter to the NUM, Iscor said it was gravely concerned with the way the union and its members had behaved, in spite of negotiated agreements.

An Iscor statement said that, in spite of management's best efforts, violence and strikes compounded by Tuesday's criminal action had led to losses in production, sabotage of equipment, the holding of hostages and threats to co-workers' safety.

The mine, which produced about 3,000 tons of coal a day, had lost three days' production. Iscor said losses caused by the sabotage had not yet been calculated.
New crisis at hostage mine

JOHANNESBURG — Iscor's Durnacol coal mine in northern Natal was plunged into a new crisis when miners embarked on an underground protest demanding the reinstatement of 800 colleagues dismissed after a mine hostage drama earlier in the week.

Yesterday's protest was confirmed by Iscor but the number of miners involved was disputed by the National Union of Mineworkers.

The company said in a statement that the afternoon shift of mineworkers — 400 miners of whom 70 were white — went underground at about 2.30 pm, accompanied by senior managers.

NUM members refused to start work, and the white miners returned to the surface with management's permission, leaving the 330 protesting black miners underground, Iscor said.

NUM spokesman Mr Jerry Majalladi said 2,700 workers were involved in the underground protest.

Mr Majalladi claimed police had "besieged" the mine and tensions were high.

He expressed his union's displeasure at the manner in which the earlier dispute was handled, referring to management's decision to dismiss 800 black workers implicated in taking 15 white mine supervisors hostage — Sapa.
The shift that got caught in a rebellion

By TERRY VAN DER WALT

TUESDAY’S 6am shift started like any other at the Durnacol mine in northern Natal. It was going to be another scorcher of a day, which the miners would escape in the ventilated underground arteries.

Handfuls of white mine workers made their way to the main gate from their neat little houses in the mine village, while hundreds of black workers scurried on to the personnel carriers that would drop them off at the various shafts.

Apprentice Dewald van Heerden, 23, arrived at the No 5 shaft and waited his turn to take the skip that would carry him some 250m underground.

**Rumour**

Within minutes of reaching the main tunnel, he found himself in the midst of a rebellion by 800 black miners pouring underground at the start of their shift.

“When we got down we heard there was going to be trouble, but we thought it was just a rumour.

“When the black workers started to arrive underground but did not go to their sections, we started to think that maybe something was going on.

“Some of them went to another shaft to fetch more men to join in the strike and while they were away, a bunch of us decided to get out,” said Mr Van Heerden. It turned out later that 20 of the 37 whites underground escaped.

“We managed to reach the entrance to an old shaft which is seldom used and decided to head that way.

“It was scary because the strikers were driving around the tunnels in tractors looking for us. We had to hide behind ventilation doors and switch off our head-lamps whenever they approached.

“I’ve got blisters all over my feet from running in gumbottoms.”

The group surfaced at lunchtime through the abandoned shaft. Some of them took the skip to the pithead, but a few – including Mr Van Heerden and fellow apprentice Hennie Oosthuizen – clambered up a ventilation tunnel angled at 45 degrees.

Meanwhile, at No 7 shaft, the white workers who had arrived on shift were greeted by a crowd of blacks who congregated in the main tunnel.

A worker, who would not give his name, said: “There were about 800 of them and some had armed themselves with sticks and roof bolts. They were using tractors to fetch others from No 12 and No 5 shafts. More kept arriving throughout the morning. They shouted that they would kill us. It was quite frightening,” he said.

The 17 hostages, who had been on shift since 10pm the previous night, were cornered in the workshop at the end of a smaller tunnel leading off the main one.

They locked themselves in a storeroom, where they stayed for 12 hours.

**Police**

On the surface there was chaos.

Wives and mothers of the miners underground were trying to get information from the only source — the telephone link from the workshop storeroom to mine manager Doug Taylor.

A crack police task force had been despatched and South African Defence Force vehicles thundered into the village.

By 7pm the black workers were escorted out of the mine after discussions with National Union of Mineworkers officials, who drove to the town from Pretoria.

NUM claims the entire incident has been turned into a “propaganda opportunity” by management to discredit NUM and sack miners.

NUM organiser Louis Vosloo said: “When we went to fetch them after it was all over, one man didn’t want to leave because he would lose out on overtime promised by management.”

**Slashed**

But the Iscor-owned mine dismisses this as “rubbish”.

Spokesman Neels Howatt confirmed that about 800 workers were dismissed on Thursday because of their “illegal action of holding on workers’ hostages and sabotaging mine equipment”. Conveyor belts were apparently slashed.

• More than 300 black miners holed up underground since Friday returned to the surface last night — more than 13 hours after a wildcat strike for higher wages and only after a successful interdict was brought against them.

Management sent a letter down to the workers, informing them of the result of the court application.

The interdict said the workers had to abide by all agreements between their employer and employee representatives and that their action had to comply with the Industrial Relations Act regarding strikes.
LUCKY ESCAPE... apprentices Dewald van Heerden, right, and Henrie Oosthuizen who managed to escape through a disused ventilation shaft.
The shift that got caught in a rebellion

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ISCOR's Duracol mine was plunged into a new crisis on Friday as workers embarked on a sit-in protest demanding the reinstatement of 800 colleagues dismissed after the underground hostage drama earlier this week. CIPRESS 27/3/72

NUM spokesman Jerry Majatladi said 2,700 workers began an underground protest on Friday afternoon at the Northern Natal mine.

Majatladi said police had "beseged" the mine and tension was running high.

He expressed his union's displeasure "at the manner in which the dispute was handled", referring to management's decision to dismiss 800 black workers implicated in the hostage taking of 15 white mine supervisors.

Reports by CP Correspondents and Sapa
Mine idle in talks deadlock

DURBAN — The protests against the Dumascoal Coal Mine remains at a standstill today as the National Union of Mineworkers and management are locked in negotiations over the fate of 800 miners fired for taking part in a underground hostage drama last Tuesday.

The drama ended the same night, but tension remained on the mine and when the Friday afternoon shift went down 330 of the 400 miners refused to begin work unless their 800 fired colleagues were reinstated.

The miners threatened to blow up the mine if the matter was not resolved.

On Saturday afternoon the miners surfaced, but refused to do any work until their demands were met.

The mine management got an interdict against the miners at an urgent sitting of the Supreme Court on Saturday night. Mr. Justice Hugo granted the mine management an interim order restraining striking workers and members of the National Union of Mineworkers from in any way interfering with, slowing down, obstructing, or disrupting mining operations and production.

A spokesman for the Mine, Mr. Ernest Webb-Stock, said there were no shifts worked after Saturday afternoon’s incident.

"The mine is closed as negotiations continue today," he said.
Strikers quit shaft after interdict

More than 300 black miners holed up since Friday at Iscor's Durnacol Colliery, near Dundee in Natal, returned to the surface on Saturday night — more than 13 hours after a wildcat strike for higher wages and only after a successful interdict was brought against them.

Mine management, successfully applied for an urgent Supreme Court interdict in Maritzburg to allow them to evict the protesters from the shaft they had occupied.

The interdict was granted on Saturday afternoon. Management then sent a letter down to the workers, informing them of the result of the court application.

The interdict said the workers had to abide by all agreements between their employer and employee representatives and that their action had to comply with the Industrial Relations Act regarding strikes.

The strikers then began leaving the shaft on Saturday afternoon and were all out by early evening. They returned to their single quarters.

A management team then toured the shaft to assess whether any damage had been caused.

By late Saturday, the mine's legal representatives were still in consultations with management to decide on a course of action following the illegal sit-in.

However, production has not resumed and a skeleton staff of white miners is maintaining the shafts until production can resume. Sapa
Court halts mine strike

Own Correspondent

DURBAN - Tensions at the troubled Durancol coal mine in Northern Natal, scene of Tuesday's underground hostage drama, subsided when some 300 striking miners returned to the surface on Saturday night.

The miners surfaced after they were told of an interdict order granted to mine management in the Maritzburg Supreme Court earlier in the evening, restraining workers from disrupting mining operations and production.
2 200 fired at hostage mine

The Argus Correspondent

DURBAN — A total of 2 200 of the 2 700 workers at the troubled Durnacol Coal Mine have now been fired.

Spokesman for the mine Mr Neels Howard said the workers, some of whom were fired last week, had been told to leave the property.

"The shift last night did not go to work and we have decided to dismiss all of them," said Mr Howard.

He said the fired 2 200 workers were all Zulu and were all members of the National Union of Mineworkers.

Mr Howard said the balance of the workforce — 500 whites and Indians — were not part of the protesting miners.

The drama at the mine started last Tuesday when a group of black miners held their white and Indian colleagues hostage underground and threatened to blow up the mine.

A total of 700 miners were fired and just when it seemed that the mine was returning to normal on Friday afternoon a further 350 of them who went underground decided not to work.

Despite a Supreme Court order on Saturday, the miners refused to go back to work and were fired.
Liorna, Foreign Minister in Local Talks

Foreign Foreign Minister in Local Talks

The former foreign minister was accused of poaching, forgery, and fraud. The case was referred to the court, where he was found guilty on all counts.

Students Want Teachers Back Pack

Nusa members
The Association of Law Students of the University of the Western Cape (ALSWUA) has condemned the recent violence and vandalism at the University of the Western Cape (UWC).

The Association said in a statement that it was appalled by the violence and vandalism that occurred on campus last week. The statement said that the violence was a direct result of the university's failure to address the needs of students.

"We condemn the violence and vandalism that occurred on campus last week," the statement said. "The safety and well-being of our students is our top priority, and we demand that the university takes immediate action to address the concerns of our students."
Law group's new, no win, no fee, system

A decisionBrothers on Monday night at the 13th County Court the court to receive the decision of the court.

The decision was made at a meeting of the County Court of the Province of the Province of Ontario.

The court was informed that the decision of the court was made in accordance with the law of the Province of Ontario and that the decision was made after consideration of all the evidence presented to the court.

The court also decided that the decision would be binding on all parties to the action.

Special care was taken in accordance with the law of the Province of Ontario to ensure that the decision was fair and impartial.

The Association of Law Groups (ALG) has issued a new report on the impact of the decision on the law.

ALG suggests that the decision may have implications for future legal cases and that the decision may be appealed.

Council asked for clarification on the decision and the Association of Law Groups has responded by issuing a statement on the decision.

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Iscor to replace dismissed miners

DURBAN — Iscor's management was yesterday considering ways of replacing the 1,950 workers dismissed from its Durnacol mine in northern Natal, while white and Indian miners entered their second day of work without a labour force. Almost all black employees on the mine were fired for striking illegally.

Iscor spokesman Neels Howatt said management was looking into ways of replacing the fired workers.

Meanwhile, the NUM said in a statement it was prepared to meet management to "find a speedy solution to Durnacol's problems." The union alleged the dismissals were "a clear indication of Iscor's anti-union policy which we condemn, as utterly counter productive."

"It is grossly unfair for Iscor management to dismiss the entire black labour force in this manner without considering exploration of negotiating with the NUM."

Our correspondent reports from Maritzburg that production at the mine is less than 20%.

An Iscor spokesman said it was hoped to build production up to about 40% in the next 10 days.

A police spokesman at Dundee said nine men had been released on bail after appearing in court in connection with charges of kidnapping, blackmail and intimidation. The charges arose after white and Indian mineworkers were allegedly held hostage underground last Tuesday.
2 200 miners fired

Sowetan Correspondent

WHITE-COLLAR workers of all races have left their desks to man essential underground operations at Durnacol mine near Darmhauser following the dismissal of 2 200 miners.

Trouble at the mine started last Tuesday when 800 black miners held a number of white and Indian colleagues hostage underground and threatened to blow up the mine over a wage dispute.

A total of 700 miners were fired and, just when it seemed that the mine was returning to normal on Friday afternoon, another 330 who went underground decided not to work.

The miners refused to go back to work despite a Supreme Court order on Saturday - and were fired, bringing the number of dismissals to 1 500 and last night another 700 were fired.

Yesterday morning 110 men, mainly office staff at the mine took the first shift, they were followed by another 110 for the afternoon session and last night 90 went underground.

Manager Mr. Douglas Taylor said that all the men had volunteered to go underground and work as miners in order for operations to continue while new staff are to be recruited.

"The men volunteered to do their bit after the dismissal of the entire underground black staff who violated a Supreme Court order and refused to return to work," said Taylor.

He said that while the white collar staff would not be able to produce enough coal to meet schedules, it did keep the mine operational.

Veteran miner Mr. George Mitchell (59), with 42 years mining experience, led the white collar workers for their stints last night.

Included in the late night shift was Mr. Brian Fordyce, a highly qualified engineer who holds a Bachelor of Science and is a Master of Business Administration.

While he was accountants, clerks, bookkeepers, storemen, pay masters, managers and other administrative staff.

While the white collar workers were busy at work 250 metres underground, most of the 2 200 fired workers were collecting their wages and were being bussed out of the mine.
Strike hurts Durnacol's output

Production at the troubled Durnacol colliery in northern Natal should reach 40 percent of its pre-strike level by the end of the week, Iscor said yesterday.

Spokesman Neils Howatt said production had been seriously affected by the recent dismissal of 1960 workers and that the mine was being kept open by a workforce of 360.

The predominantly white workforce had been split into three shifts, said Mr Howatt, and management was in the process of replacing staff.

He said no final decision had been made about allowing dismissed staff to reapply for jobs.

He added that most of the dismissed staff were expected to have left the premises by late yesterday — Own Correspondent.
Mine unrest: NUM blamed

A SOTHO gang called the Russians and a militant section of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) have been blamed by a committee set up under the Goldstone Commission of Inquiry for the violence at a Welkom gold mine in November last year.

The Goldstone committee, whose report was tabled in Parliament yesterday, said 86 people died and 383 were injured in the conflict which erupted on the President Steyn gold mine during the Cosatu-led stayaway over the introduction of VAT.

The Goldstone committee said the hostel system, the Cosatu stayaway, political organisations, the police, and mine security were not to blame for the violence.

It recommended that NUM and management should negotiate about the legitimacy of democratic political activity in hostels and the control of meetings be negotiated between management and NUM.

It recommended a suitable ombudsman acceptable to management and NUM be appointed to deal with complaints and facilitate agreements.

It also said the negotiations between NUM and management to alleviate hostel tensions be finalised urgently.

The committee found that a militant element of certain NUM members had forcibly prevented Sotho miners from working.

The Russians were a criminal gang which flourished in Thabong in Welkom and the evidence showed there was collaboration between the Sotho in one hostel and Russians to take revenge for the many Sotho killed — Sapa
Militants, gang blamed for clashes

CAPE TOWN — A Sotho gang called the Russians and a militant section of the NUM have been blamed by a committee of the Goldstone Commission for the violence at a Welkom gold mine in November last year.

The Goldstone committee, whose report was tabled in Parliament yesterday, said 26 people died and 383 were injured in the conflict at the President Steyn mine during a stayaway called by Cosatu over VAT.

The committee said the hostel system, the stayaway, political organisations, police, and mine security were not to blame.

It recommended that NUM and management negotiate an agreement on political activity in hostels and the control of meetings, “with accountability and responsibility lines clearly laid down.”

It recommended consideration be given by the mining industry to the appointment of an ombudsman acceptable to all.

It also said the present negotiations between NUM and management to alleviate tension in the hostels should be finalised as a matter of urgency.

The committee, which consisted of chairman G Steyn, D A Bregman SC and R M M Zondo, found a militant element in the NUM had been determined to achieve a total stayaway and took matters into its own hands.

“This element was not under the discipline or control of NUM at the time.”

Sotho miners who wanted to go to work were chased back to their rooms.

Violence ensued from this and shortly afterwards a group of 50 armed Sothos returned carrying two bodies.

These incidents led to enmity between Sotho and Xhosa at the hostel.

The Russians gang were a criminal gang from Thabong in Welkom. There was evidence of collaboration between Sothos at one hostel and the gang to allow the Russians to avenge Sothos killed and injured in earlier violence.

The gang infiltrated a hostel, killing eight and injuring 26 workers.

The committee said the hostel system provided an arena for violence, but did not cause it, and it was common cause that the system was unsatisfactory.

It found no political organisation to have been involved in the violence and no suggestion of foreign influence.
Durnacol
has a history of industrial
contflict

By FERIAL HAFFAJEE

LAST week's hostage drama at Durnacol in northern Natal was an almost inevitable explosion of tensions simmering at the troubled coal mine.

It is the third time in two years that management has resorted to mass dismissals to solve conflict. The drama continued this week as locals once again filed the entire workforce.

On Monday last week, workers allegedly held 15 white mine officials underground for 12 hours.

As a result of the incident, 1,950 workers have been dismissed. Fifty workers remain.

In 1990, conflict between Xhosa and Zulu-speaking workers erupted at the mine, leaving one miner dead and scores injured. Mine management sent 1,500 Xhosa-speaking workers home and new workers were recruited from the surrounding villages.

Isacor's Needs. Howatt says the Zulu-speaking workers drove the Xhosa from the mine and the safety of the Xhosa could not be guaranteed.

Last year, 3,000 workers were dismissed from the mine after going on a legal wage strike.

Even as the NUM was fighting to win termination packages for those workers who were not retired last year, Isacor again dismissed the entire workforce this week.

Howatt says "Durnacol has always been a volatile mine", prone to what he calls "shutdown conflict" and wildcat strikes.

The union charges that the mine's industrial relations practices are archaic and the working conditions of employees are among the worst in the country.

Durnacol workers, who earn an average wage of R320 a month, are among the lowest-paid in the industry.

In 1990, the mine was bought by Isacor from Goldfields. Almost immediately after the sale, the industry went into its worst-ever slump and the mine was soon classified as marginal.

Durnacol workers found themselves in the anomalous position of being paid under two sets of wage grades. Higher grade workers are paid on Isacor scales, which are among the highest in the country at an average of R680 a month. The majority of the workforce, made up of less skilled workers, are paid the lower Chamber of Mines rate of R470.

"This caused serious problems," says the union's Jerry Mabekelwana. Moreover, they earn less than on Isacor mines at Thabazimbi, Groote Schuur and Solms.

The union also alleges that its officials are being targeted for harassment. In the past two weeks management has invited dismissed workers to present mitigating and personal factors to them but they have allegedly refused to give hearings to union activists.

The NUM says that, moreover, the mine displaced workers out of its union structure.

Working conditions also play a role in the mine's volatile nature, say union officials. Workers sleep 10 to a room in the hostels which are as far as 10km from the mine and even further from the nearest town.

The NUM says employees are not provided with transport, but Isacor denies this.

"This week, the mine dug its heels in and said that, until other arrangements could be made, workers would keep production going," Howatt said.

Meanwhile, the mine is considering legal action against unionists on charges of kidnapping, intimidation and extortion.

Some staff members are still in detention following last week's action.
White collar workers are working underground to keep up production, reports PRAKASH NAIDOO.

CHRIS de la Ray, Durnacol coal mine's personnel officer, normally works behind a desk, dressed in a collar and tie. But on Friday he donned an overall and worked an eight-hour shift as a transport operator underground.

"I've never worked underground before, but I think it's important that we keep the mine operational," he said.

Mr de la Ray is just one of the more than 200 "white collar workers" at the troubled northern Natal mine who, in the past week, have swapped their normal administrative duties behind a desk for the more rugged work underground.

A fortnight of industrial action at the mine has brought production to a standstill and the scene now seems set for a stand-off between the mine management and the powerful National Union of Mineworkers.

At least 2,000 workers have been dismissed from the mine since an alleged hostage drama and several sit-ins underground and the mine management was granted a court order last week declaring the action illegal.

Union officials have vowed to seek a similar order to have the workers reinstated.

Management at Durnacol are standing firm on their decision to fire the workers after two weeks of disruptions underground brought production to a virtual standstill.

The once bustling tiny mining village and hostel at number five shaft at Durnacol is now a virtual ghost village since the dismissed workers left.

The chief accountant at Durnacol, George Fien, said a new employment strategy was being formulated, but even when this was in place and rehiring started, it would be a long time before the normal hub returned to number five.

"The decision to fire the workers was not an easy one, it was a last resort," said Mr Fien.

"It will take a while before work at the shaft is back to normal, because even after we employ new workers the learning phase is quite lengthy.

According to management, the strike action taken by the workers was in contravention of an agreement signed with senior union officials last year, which postponed any negotiation about wage increases until July this year.

However, the regional organiser for NUM in Newcastle, Moses Gladie, said the action taken by the workers was related to a list of grievances submitted to management a year ago.

Mr Gladie said the list contained 42 grievances, among which were issues relating to racial discrimination, unfair labour practices, annual bonuses and unfair dismissals.

He also challenged the assertion that 15 miners were taken hostage underground on the first day of the strike two weeks ago and said statements taken from the workers underground revealed that no one was held against his will.

This was supported by another union official, Clement Zulu, who said that when he went underground at the time of the drama, at no time did the white and Indian supervisors indicate they were hostages.

However, during a visit to the mine on Friday, the Tribune spoke to one of the mine workers who was underground at the time of the alleged siege, who described the incident as one of the most harrowing he had encountered.

"I have served in the British navy for 12 years and been shot at on the odd occasion, but I have never come closer to someone threatening to kill me," said Garth Holmes, who is an underground fitter.

"I wouldn't want to go through that again and I would never wish it on my worst enemy," he said.

Nine shop stewards have been arrested by police in connection with the incident and have been released on R1,000 bail pending the outcome of investigations.
Durnacol mine to recruit new staff from next week

RECRUITMENT of a new labour force will start early next week at the Durnacol Colliery in northern Natal.

Mine manager Mr Douglas Taylor said yesterday that a skeleton crew of white and Indian workers had been producing coal at 30 percent of the normal quota and would maintain this until the new labour force had been recruited and trained.

Dismissed

The total black underground labour force of about 2,000 workers was dismissed late last month after three illegal strikes on the mine.

In the first strike 15 white and Indian workers were held underground for 13 hours against their will while the strikers demanded a wage increase of R1 000 - 800
Diamond strike of another sort

WILLEM STEENKAMP
Staff Reporter

CREWS of 11 diamond boats went on strike in Port Nolloth after diamonds worth thousands of rands disappeared and a boat manager was fired.

Feelings ran high in the Namaqualand town this week when the diamond company Benco warned the crews they could lose their jobs if they refused to go to sea.

About 50 boat managers, diamond divers and other workers went on strike on April 28 after Benco said it was considering limiting the use of diamond processing jugs aboard boats.

The strike was called off on Wednesday when Benco and representatives of the crews reached agreement about jugs.

Earlier divers were furious because they felt limiting the use of jugs would effectively make it impossible for them to establish if the gravel they were pumping from the seabed was diamond-bearing.

A source close to the divers said, "The implication was that divers and boat managers could not be trusted --- that they were dishonest.

"The strike followed the firing of a boat manager after he processed diamond-bearing gravel on board his boat, counted the diamonds and put them back in gravel bags to be processed at the company's plant ashore.

When the gravel was processed, many diamonds had disappeared.

The source said the manager did the test aboard the boat because he suspected diamonds were vanishing at the plant.

The source said the manager had spoken to a senior official at Benco some months ago and told him of his suspicions. The official instructed him to do a test on his next voyage, but the manager waited several months before doing one.

The manager notified the company of the disappearance of the diamonds and the matter was reported to the diamond and gold branch of the police in Port Nolloth.

Police have confirmed they are investigating the disappearance of diamonds.

Benco chairman, Professor John Gurney, said the manager was not fired for doing the test, but for refusing to go to sea.

He has been reinstated.

Professor Gurney said the test was not done properly and it had been established that some of the bags of gravel had disappeared.

It was unclear whether they had gone missing on the boat or ashore.

The tally of bags reaching the plant differed from the tally on the boat, he said.

The source said it was difficult to understand how the bags could have "disappeared" as they weighed nearly 50 kg and were watched closely all the time.

Agreement was reached between the company and diver representatives on Wednesday after the National Union of Mineworkers was called in to help resolve the issue.

Mr. Gary Wilson, spokesman for boat managers, sub-contractors and divers, said all the problems had been resolved.

He said people's feelings had been hurt and there had been a lack of communication between company management and the staff. A mutually acceptable agreement had been reached.
Phalaborwa miners go back to work

JOHANNESBURG — Negotiations to resolve a strike by 2,300 copper miners at Rio Tinto's Phalaborwa mine in the northern Transvaal ended successfully with strikers agreeing to return to work immediately.

An illegal sit-in strike involving most of the black workforce started on Thursday with workers annoyed about the employment of contract workers, especially security personnel.

Mine spokesman Mr Paul Clothier said the issue was resolved last night.

Agreement has been reached between the company and the union for an immediate return to work after negotiations between the two parties today.

Mr Clothier said the union had agreed not to hold any more illegal strikes. The agreement was signed by the National Union of Mineworkers head office as well as its local representatives.

"In return, the company has undertaken to give suspended final warnings to those involved in the illegal strike."

Mr Clothier said the strike broke out when unionists failed to follow grievance procedures laid down in a formal recognition agreement signed by the NUM and the mining company.

Management had warned the strikers they faced dismissal if they did not return to work by yesterday morning.

The NUM asked for an extension of the deadline to allow its top negotiator, Mr Marcel Golding, to visit Phalaborwa to talk to local union representatives. — Sapa
Phalaborwa miners go back to work

JOHANNESBURG. — Negotiations to resolve a strike by 2,300 copper miners at Rio Tinto's Phalaborwa mine in the northern Transvaal ended successfully with strikers agreeing to return to work immediately.

An illegal sit-in strike involving most of the black workforce started on Thursday with workers annoyed about the employment of contract workers, especially security personnel.

Mine spokesman Mr Paul Clother said the issue was resolved last night.

Mr Clother said the strike broke out when unionists failed to follow grievance procedures laid down in a formal recognition agreement signed by the NUM and the mining company.

Management had warned the strikers they faced dismissal if they did not return to work by yesterday morning.

The NUM asked for an extension of the deadline to allow its top negotiator, Mr Marcel Gelding, to visit Phalaborwa to talk to local union representatives. — Sapa
Rio Tinto mine strike ends after talks

NEGOTIATIONS resolved a strike by 2,300 copper miners at Rio Tinto's Phalaborwa mine in the northern Transvaal on Friday, and strikers agreed to return to work immediately, said a mine spokesman.

An illegal sit-in strike involving almost the entire black work force started on Thursday when workers said they were unhappy about the employment of contract workers, especially security personnel.

"Agreement has been reached between the company and the union for an immediate return to work," mine spokesman Paul Clother said. "The union and NUM headquarters had agreed there would be no further illegal strikes." — Sapa.
Stoppage at Impala Plats

JOHANNESBURG — About 10,000 workers at Impala Platinum's Bafokeng South mine in Bo phosphatswana did not turn up for work yesterday.

The National Union of Mineworkers (Num) claimed that several workers at the mine were injured when mine security launched an "unprovoked attack" on a crowd attending a meeting.

General Mining Corporation said the action appeared to be related to management action taken to prevent an unauthorised mass meeting on Wednesday afternoon. — Sapa
Platinum loses gains on minimal strike action.
NUM dispute with De Beers

JOHANNESBURG. — The NUM on Friday declared a wage dispute with De Beers, and the corporation has now threatened to scrap its recognition agreement with the union (ITC 2)

NUM's Marcel Golding said the union was unable to accept De Beers' 8% wage offer and had applied for the appointment of a conciliation board to consider the dispute. The union's wage proposal stands at 15% to 21%. De Beers had also refused to consider an agency shop system, Golding said.
De Beers threatens over NUM stayaway

Weekly Mail Reporter 26/8 - 31/9 92

While the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) was applying for a conciliation board hearing on its wage dispute with De Beers, the mining house was this week talking of cancelling the union's recognition agreement and dismissing workers en masse.

De Beers' threats to de-recognise the NUM are in retaliation for workers having participated in the August 3 and 4 stayaway. According to the company, this was in breach of an agreement reached in 1989 requiring the NUM to consult the company on non-work-related protest action and ensuring that this does not disrupt the operations of the company.

Furthermore, claims company spokesman Glenn Byrant, the NUM refused to extend to De Beers an agreement it had reached with other mining groups that workers who stayed away on August 3 would make up for lost production at a later stage.

NUM spokesman Jerry Majatladi countered that the union did notify De Beers of possible protest action and that the NUM had no immediate control of workers' actions, as the stayaway was initiated by Cosatu.

In addition to firing 300 workers and disciplining others over the stayaway, De Beers has tabled amendments to the recognition agreement. These would make the union more accountable for the actions of its members, clarify "the duty to consult" and provide for stiff "sanctions" in the case of a breach. If these are rejected, the NUM may be de-recognised.

The NUM is taking the threat seriously, but says it has not been able to consider its response as a number of office bearers are abroad.
Workers end sit-in

KIMBERLEY Mines workers who had been staging a sit-in 760m underground since October 1 were brought to the surface yesterday afternoon after the intervention of the NUM.

The workers had been staging the sit-in to demand the reinstatement of workers dismissed for participating in the general strike on August 3 and 4. NUM press officer Jerry Majatladi said yesterday.
Matla talks
continuing

WILSON ZWANE

TRANS-Natal and the NUM were still locked in discussions yesterday following a strike by 1200 workers in the eastern Transvaal.

According to the NUM, the workers downed tools at Matla Colliery on Tuesday in protest against management's "victimisation" of shaft stewards.

Trans-Natal spokesman Pam Agnew confirmed the workers were on strike and that they were demanding:
- the reinstatement of full-time shaft steward David Malaza who was dismissed after a disciplinary hearing;
- the re-employment of 14 workers released recently in terms of a pardon to political prisoners. The workers were convicted in 1970 of murdering and assaulting fellow employees during an industrial action the previous year; and
- the integration of workers, who had been living together in one hostel since the strike, with fellow workers living in other hostels.

Agnew would not say what management's response to the demands was.
About 60 percent of the workers at the Matla Coal Mine in Natal have downed tools, demanding the re-employment of 14 workers convicted in 1990 for murder and assault. General Manager Geunain said the workers had not reported for duty on Wednesday and negotiations were underway between mine management and representatives of the National Union of Mineworkers to resolve the issue.

The 14 workers were convicted in 1990 for murdering and assaulting fellow employees during unrest at the mine. The J4 have been released from prison.
Two killed, guards hurt in Welkom mine shoot-out

Security guards at the Free State Geduld mine near Welkom shot dead two people in a pre-dawn shoot-out yesterday, mine owners Anglo American Corporation and police said.

Both security guards were wounded in the shooting.

Adam Prinsloo and Michael Mogloto noticed a suspicious-looking vehicle near the mine's No 1 shaft at 3 am.

The vehicle sped away as they tried to stop the driver to investigate. The security guards chased the car in their own vehicle and forced the driver to stop, police said.

Mogloto walked towards the car. The driver jumped out and fired at Mogloto, police said.

One of the bullets grazed his head.

Prinsloo jumped out and was also shot as he returned fire, and two men in the car were shot dead. A third was wounded.

Prinsloo is in a serious condition at the Ernest Oppenheimer Hospital in Welkom. Mogloto is in a stable condition.

A revolver was seized and the wounded suspect is being held by police.
Gengold dispute ends

THE National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) and Gengold have ended their dispute on profit-sharing. The union accepted an additional 1½ percent increase at two mines and opted for profit-sharing with no guaranteed additional increase at nine Gengold mines.

White miners at the company opted for additional increases instead of profit-sharing at Gengold. The NUM criticized the two-pronged wage policy alleging that the additional increases ate into the profits available for sharing.
**Mine violence toll rises**

ANOTHER victim of the weekend's violence at a West Rand hostel has died in hospital, bringing the toll in fights at two hostels in the area to nine, police said yesterday. Police said eight people had been arrested (213).

In Natal at least 14 people died in faction fighting over the Christian weekend.
20 reported dead in Reef mine fight

**Sowetan 28/12/92**

**By Lulama Luli**

**M**

**20** people are believed to have been killed and about 50 injured when fighting broke out between inmates at the Durban Roodepoort Deep Gold Mine hostel near Roodepoort on Christmas Day. 

*Sowetan* confirmed 12 deaths and 34 injuries, but eyewitnesses interviewed yesterday believed the number could be more than 20.

A driver from the Roodepoort Ambulance Service said when they were called to the scene on Saturday night, they picked up six corpses. Three other bodies were found the previous night, he said.

Police spokesman Major Pet van Deventer yesterday said only eight people had been killed, according to information they had received.

He added that more people could have died in hospital.

Van Deventer said 91 suspects were arrested on Saturday.

He said fighting was apparently sparked off by an argument over food.

A sister at the Durban Deep hospital yesterday said 11 people were admitted to the hospital while two others died on admission.

Matron in charge at the Leratong Hospital

**Differing Views**

Fracas started over women say some, food say others:

Mrs E Vanqa said 23 people were admitted to the hospital on Friday and Saturday night.

They either had stab or hack wounds while others had gunshot wounds.

She said an unidentified elderly man died on admission.

A mine official who identified himself only as De Wet, declined to comment and said a statement would be issued later.

Survivors of the attack gave different accounts from their hospital beds during an interview with *Sowetan* yesterday.

**How the fighting started**

While some said they did not know how the fighting started, others said it began after a Xhosa-speaking inmate had quarrelled with a Shangaan inmate over a woman.

Mr Elias Rangoane, who said he was from Maseru, said the fighting arose from an argument over a woman between a Shangaan-speaking man and a Pondo.

"I don’t even know how I came here," he said from his hospital bed.

"I thought the whole thing was resolved on Friday night. I did not know that we would be attacked on Saturday." A labourer from Umzimkhulu in Transkei, Mr Albert Bandu (35), said at about 9pm on Friday night they were attacked while drinking at Number 6 at the C compound.

"When I came out of the beehive I saw people carrying an assortment of weapons approaching the entrance and that’s when I started running.

"Everybody else inside was running for cover and it was then that I was hit and stabbed several times and my clothes were soaked in blood," he said.

Mr Goodwill Nyaasulu from Malawi said he was asleep on Saturday evening when suddenly there were loud knocks on the windows.

"I woke up to find the whole place full of people who hit us indiscriminately. I ran out and they followed me to the kitchen," he said.

He added that bows continued to rain on him until he fell on the kitchen floor and one of them said: "I think we’re through with him" and they left him for dead.
THE death toll in the weekend fighting between inmates of two mine hostels on the West Rand has risen to nine, police spokesman W/O Andy Peke said yesterday.

Two people died and 36 were injured on Christmas Day when a fight broke out, apparently over food. According to a mine spokesman, Mr Greg Kukard, six men had died and nine were injured when a group of Xhosa-speaking workers attacked workers from Mozambique on Saturday.

The ninth victim of the fighting died in hospital, according to the police.

Kukard said the situation at the mine was calm but tense. The mine was, however, operating normally.

The names of the dead would not be released until their next-of-kin had been notified.

Kukard yesterday said management would also conduct an investigation into the causes of the unrest and would take appropriate action against employees involved.

Peke said police had arrested 88 mine employees.
MINING STRIKES
1993

data makes them of special interest.

weights and perhaps are among the very few that observational data in a survey full of interview
involves the standards of living in a developing country. The recent data on the measurement of
income does not yet exist in a LIS context, as the prevalence of underreporting is a commonplace
practice. It is of Great Impotence in an LIS survey

Anthropomorphically is not difficult, but it is not easy as it may at first appear, to keep the

quality of the measurement high from the beginning to the end of the survey. Anthropomorphical

on the Pp's depends on the social prevalence rate of malnutrition in the population.

which decreases the sensitivity and specificity of an indicator, have a lower or smaller influence

the prevalence of measurement decreases in a country. Factors, which decreases the prevalence of

country decreases on the social prevalence of malnutrition. The Pp of a nutritional

calculation especially on that basis is clearer than systematic errors in weight measurement will vary for

the analysis of the data made it clear that systematic errors in weight measurement and age

a reverse in the real trends. The PHS, 1991 Data Set has been used in this paper as an example.

increase or decrease of malnutrition may or may not be detected because of this loss in Pp's. If

increase or decrease of malnutrition will decrease the sensitivity and specificity of the nutritional

Measurment errors will decrease the sensitivity and specificity of the nutritional

Correlations between malnutrition and other variables.

of malnutrition in a multi-variate analysis. Random errors in weight, height, and age can lead to a considerable increase in the prevalence estimates

of a random error. In weight measurement alone not all, the effect of multiple random variables

factors. Malnutrition is a phenomenon of one, the lower one, and not from the center of the

Thus paper deals mainly with systematic errors. Random errors are important as well and

and one must keep in mind that an increase of the activities of a survey does not promote the
Two Zeerust Chrome Mine employees and a policeman were held hostage for more than two hours on Monday before their captor, Scott Sutherland, was persuaded to hand over his shotgun to police.

A police spokesman said Sutherland (47) had visited a doctor early on Monday. On his return to work at about 11.15 am, his manager, Willem van Heerden, told him to take the day off.

But Sutherland returned with the shotgun and threatened to kill Van Heerden. The policeman and employee, Sopon Tshukudu were also taken as hostages.

Another policeman persuaded Sutherland to give himself up. He was taken to hospital, where he died in his sleep at about 10 pm.
Seven miners killed in fighting

By Charmeela Bhagwat
Crime Reporter

Seven miners were shot dead and about 20 injured at Gengold's Beatrix Mine in Welkom on Saturday night, during what police believe to be ongoing faction fighting between hostel dwellers.

The shooting at D Hostel followed the killing of two hostel dwellers at the mine's recreational complex on Thursday, said Gengold public relations manager Andrew Davidson.

Saturday's violence came after a hostel search on Friday, when police and mine security officials confiscated numerous weapons, including sticks and knives, said Davidson.

He said that at about 7.30 pm on Saturday, a mine security guard heard gunshots from the hostel. On investigating he found seven bodies and a number of injured hostel dwellers. Three seriously injured miners were later transferred from the St Helena Mine Hospital to the Ernest Oppenheimer Hospital.

Free State police spokesman Lieutenant Helen van der Westhuizen said nobody had been arrested and police were still following up investigations at the scene yesterday.

"It would appear as if the killings resulted from personal differences between miners at the hostel," she said.

The two hostel dwellers were killed on Thursday after an argument in a bar on the mine.
Nine mineworkers die in hostel fighting

NINE mineworkers were killed and dozens injured, three seriously, in violence at the Heibaxt Mine hostel near Welkom in the Free State at the weekend.

Seven men were killed in a gunfight on Saturday night, while two deaths and 21 injuries were reported in other incidents at the mine last Thursday.

Gengold spokesman Andrew Davidson said a large contingent of police had been called to the mine after the bloodshed and were still there yesterday afternoon.

Davidson said naming a cause for the violence at this stage would be "pure speculation." He was also not able to say whether the incidents were connected.

In the latest incident, a mine security patrol discovered the seven dead miners after hearing gunshots coming from the back of the hostel premises about 7:30 on Saturday night. The patrol also found that about 20 residents had been injured.

The killings occurred despite increased mine security patrols in the hostel area following Thursday's incidents. The patrols had confiscated a large number of weapons, including sticks and knives.

Davidson described the situation at the mine yesterday as "quiet."

He said management would meet representatives from the various interest groups at the mine in an attempt to defuse tensions.

In a statement, Gengold chairman Gary Maule expressed concern at the violence.

"We are obviously very concerned about these incidents and deeply regret the loss of life and injuries to our people."

"We are busy trying to diffuse tensions on the mine and are working closely with the SAP in their investigation."

The names of the dead and injured are being withheld until their next of kin have been informed. The injured are being treated at the St. Helena mine hospital.
Fighting
Free State
Hurt in
22 others
7 Miners Killed

By Lyle Madsen and Sapa
Southeast 2011/12/8
Seven miners die in hostel violence

Johannesburg — Seven mineworkers were killed and 20 injured, three of them seriously, in violence at the Beatrix Mine hostel near Welkom this weekend.

This brings to nine the number of people killed in clashes between workers at the mine in the last three days.

Two mineworkers were killed and a number of others injured in separate incidents on the mine last Thursday.

Gengold spokesman Mr Andrew Davidson said a large contingent of police had been called to the mine after the latest incident on Saturday night and were still there yesterday afternoon.

He said attributing any cause for the violence at this stage would be "pure speculation".

He described the situation at the mine yesterday as "quiet".
Woman puzzle in mine dead

FACTION FIGHT Stabbing of Zulu man at soccer match led to Zulu-Sotho battle:

By Ike Motsapi

The death toll resulting from a Zulu-Sotho faction fight at the Beatrix mine near Welkom rose to 10 yesterday.

Among the dead is an unidentified woman, who went to visit her boyfriend at the mine on Saturday.

Gencor’s public affairs manager, Mr Andrew Devinson, said the 10th person died yesterday at the St Helena mine hospital.

He said at that stage 24 of the injured were still being treated at the St Helena and Oppenheimer hospitals in Thabong, Welkom.

Devinson said miners who were doing the late and morning shifts did not report for work yesterday. However, those who were doing day shift turned up. Of the 24 injured, two were in a serious condition at the Oppenheimer hospital, while two were in the intensive care unit at the St Helena hospital.

Devinson said he was not aware that there was a woman among the dead.

He said the situation at the mine yesterday was tense and police were still doing their best to establish the cause of the violence that led to the killings.

However, Soweto sources said the killings were sparked off by a clash between two soccer teams at the mine on Thursday.

A Zulu miner was stabbed during a soccer match on the same day.

This led to a fight between Sotho and Zulu mine workers on Saturday.

Before the incident a woman, who was visiting a Sotho mine worker, was killed.

Later during the night this led to full-scale fighting, according to sources.

Devinson said a full statement on the cause of the violence would be released shortly after the police had completed their investigations.
Mine stoppage still unresolved

ERICA JANROWITZ

UNDERGROUND work did not resume at Gemmell's Beatrix Gold Mine yesterday as representatives of workers and management were locked in discussions concerning safety on the mine.

Yesterday was the second day on which no underground work was done. The stoppage followed clashes between Zulus and Pondo, which left 10 dead and 24 injured.

NUM assistant general secretary Marcel Golding said workers had tendered their services, but until management could guarantee their safety they were not prepared to go underground.

Management had "rejected out of hand" the NUM's proposals for ensuring safety on the mine which were the discriminating of all workers and the joint monitoring of the situation.

The removal of a large quantity of homemade weapons from hostels did not mean the situation had been defused and the situation was still tense, he said.

Beatrix spokesman Andrew Davidson said no threat to employe safety existed. There was no reason for workers to refuse to resume normal duties.

He said the "no work, no pay" ruling remained in force.

Zulu workers were still being housed at the St Helena hostel and the mine was not planning to send them home despite a demand for this.

Mine production had been affected, Davidson said. He could not, however, quantify the disruption.
Miners resume work

THUNISSEN — Hostel dwellers at Beatrix Gold Mine near here have resumed work after staying away since the weekend because of violence.

March noisy but peaceful

JOHANNESBURG — A march by about 3,000 municipal workers proceeded peacefully but noisily through the city centre here yesterday.
AHJ wants ceiling on wages, prices

THE Afrikaans Handelsinstituut (AHJ) has asked its members to hold wage and price increases to 5% or lower for the next two years in line with the declining trend in money supply growth and inflation.

AHJ chief economist Nick Barnard said yesterday that his organisation had taken the decision in line with its support of Reserve Bank policies to combat inflation.

The decision was also aimed at trying to prevent further declines in business volumes. The AHJ general management accepted a motion at its six-monthly meeting to encourage members to hold price and wage increases to below 5%.

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Barnard said inflation would peak close to 11% as a result of the VAT, fuel price and other increases included in the Budget.

However, he saw it falling sharply after that, possibly to 5% to 6%.

He said he was not surprised that the Reserve Bank had held interest rates in response to low credit demand.

Talk of VW layoffs ‘premature’

VW SA said yesterday it was too early to say whether it would be retrenching more than 2,000 workers this year.

But up to 1,000 workers were in danger of being laid off in the near future, VW human resources director Brian Smith said. A total of 1,600 jobs at the Uitenhage plant were “currently under review” because of a sharp drop in exports and a declining local market.

Numsa national organiser Gavin Hartford said on Tuesday that the car manufacturer had proposed rationalising 2,270 of its workforce this year.

VW said talks of staff reduction were “premature” and dependent “on the impact of the recent Budget on the local market, the outcome of various export orders currently under discussion and the success of the new Golf and Jetta range”.

Smith stressed the company would try to “achieve reductions through voluntary packages offered to all employees, early retirements, re-locating and natural attrition”.

He said VW SA was renegotiating a contract with supply Jettas to China. The future of workers involved with exports to China would depend on the outcome of the negotiations and on local market conditions.

Putco, Sabta pledge not to raise fares

PUTCO and the SA Black Taxi Association (Sabta) fares will not increase when fuel prices go up tomorrow.

Putco MD Jack Visser said yesterday the bus company would absorb the increase of 16c/l on diesel for three months. Sabta also said it would not increase its fares and was negotiating with the Mineral and Energy Affairs Department for “special consideration” for taxis.

Visser refused to say how much it would cost Putco to absorb the increase “We are so close to our annual increase on July 1 that we did not feel it necessary to raise fares now”.

Sabta public affairs manager Cyprian Lebese said the organisation had given Mineral and Energy Affairs “a few options”. The tax organisation expected a reply today.

Postal tariffs and suburban train fares went up at midnight last night and petrol will cost 16c/l more at the coast, and 16c/l more in the interior.

Postal tariffs will cost an average of 30c more. A stamp for a standard letter will cost 45c from today. Suburban train fares will cost an average of 9,75c more, but the SA Rail Commuter Corporation has assured its customers that there will be no further fare increases this year.

Sapa reports that cheaper dialling times for overseas telephone calls will be introduced today.

Telkom said the standard rate to more than 100 countries would drop by about 7% and the new off-peak rate would be up to 20% cheaper than the standard rate. But VAT on calls would increase to 14% on April 7.
ERPM strikers go underground, again

KATHRYN STRACHAN

Workers at the ERPM gold mine near Boksburg returned to work yesterday after a two-day strike sparked by an underground shooting in which a black worker was wounded by a white colleague.

The wounded man is recovering in the Rand Mutual hospital.

Police said a man would appear in court today.

"NUM spokesman Fabian Nkomo said more than 5,000 workers went back to work after management agreed to meet their demands for stricter security checks and a commitment to address alleged racism on the mine.

"Nkomo said that at a meeting on Monday night ERPM management agreed to step up its searches of workers going underground, and added that workers would be involved in enforcing the process.

"Black workers had complained that white workers were exempt from searches.

"Management agreed to look into the problem of racism, said Nkomo, who added that reports of racial discrimination had failed to reach the appropriate levels.

"An inquiry, headed by an independent investigator, was to be established to address the problems of discrimination and violence at the mine.

There would be no disciplinary action against the strikers, but management refused to pay them for the two days of the stoppage, Nkomo said."
Beatrix miners return

GENGOLD said yesterday it would return 450 Zulu-speaking workers to its Beatrix gold mine in the Free State two weeks after they were removed from the area in the wake of bloody faction fighting.

Ten miners died and 24 were hospitalised in the three-day clash.

The mine manager said the mine and management and union representatives had been successfully implemented.
Mineworker killed in clash

A mineworker has been killed and nine others have been injured in renewed violence at the Beatrix gold mine near Theunissen in the Orange Free State. Violence broke out when 450 Zulu workers — who had been moved to alternative accommodation near Welkom — returned to the mine. The Zulu workers were moved last month after clashes with Boer miners which left 10 people dead.
Miners back after clashes

Miners at Beatrix gold mine near Theunissen in the Free State returned to work yesterday after violence, which claimed one life, erupted at the mine on Tuesday. (213)

Gengold spokesman Andrew Davidson said the violence was not related to demonstrations in the wake of Chris Hani's assassination.

He denied earlier reports that two people had died in the violence.

Twelve miners were injured — Staff Reporter
A MINER was killed and 12 others seriously injured in renewed clashes at the Beatrix Mine, nearThemissen in the Free State, on Tuesday night.Police arrested 32 people in the area and five of the injured were taken to a hospital in Welkom.Fighting broke out at a hostel at 5.30am on Tuesday after the return of Zulu miners who were removed from the compound in March. Last month, clashes at the mine claimed 10 lives and 24 injured.
33 miners in court

Thirty-three miners appeared in the Theunissen Magistrate's Court yesterday on charges of public violence after clashes at the Beatrix Mine, near Theunissen, between hostel dwellers on Tuesday. The clashes left one miner dead and 12 others seriously injured. The accused were not granted bail and were remanded until May 2.
‘No-go zone’ rumours empty city

YESTERDAY’s stayaway was one of SA’s most comprehensive, with many businesses shutting down and the mines recording their lowest worker turnout since the 1897 strike.

More than 90% of Johannesburg workers failed to report for duty, and at lunchtime dozens of organisations, including banks, sent workers home and closed for the day amid rumours the city would be declared a “no-go zone”.

The Supreme Court and Magistrate’s Courts in the city adjourned early.

Reports from main centres around the country said most blacks did not go to work. Significant numbers of whites also stayed at home in some areas.

Sarcrib said Durban, Maritzburg and Bloemfontein reported a “varied pattern of absenteeism”, but in Cape Town only 20% of the workforce headed the stayaway call. However, Sapa reported that peak-hour commuter trains in the western Cape were running empty and that Cape Town’s buses were deserted.

Stayaway

ber than in recent years, the total was relatively insignificant.

He said most employers had made arrangements for employees to work on leave, or had granted leave.

Johannesburg had closed about midday amid rumours that the city was about to be evacuated and declared a “no-go zone”.

National peace committee vice-chairman Rupert Loiner was forced to go on radio to declare the story “totally without foundation”.

Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry CE Marius de Jager said most businesses had closed by mid-morning in response to “rumours of all kinds”. He said fear and tension in the workplace had forced companies to close and send staff home.

Even businesses in the northern areas of the Johannesburg region had closed early, as had municipal offices in the region.

De Jager said business was deeply concerned about the planned six weeks of mass action. He said business felt “we can survive a day, but we won’t survive six weeks”.

FNB spokesman Trish Daventry said the bank’s staff in central Johannesburg, Soweto and the East Rand were encouraged to leave early. Standard Bank spokesman Erik Larson said its workers were told that if they wanted to leave early, they were free to do so.

Universities also shut for the day. Rhodes University in Grahamstown was forced to stop lectures after students staged protests and briefly occupied the vice-chancellor’s office.
Gencor ups RMB stake for R671m
BEATRIX gold mine has involved the national peace secretariat in its attempt to defuse the tense situation in the wake of faction fighting which broke out in March and left 11 miners dead and several injured.

Gengold spokesman Andrew Davidson told a local representative of the secretariat was helping chair discussions between representatives of the Zulu-speaking workers.
Mine workers to return

BEATRIX gold mine's 450 Zulu-speaking workers are due to return to work during this week after almost two months ofotechnical suspension following volun-
teer at the mine which left 11 dead and several injured.

"Gengold" spokesman Andrew Davidson said that a peace accord had been signed between mem-
ers of the NUM, hostel residents, representatives of the Zulu-speakers, mine management and two members of the national peace secretariat.
Mine workers to return

BEATRIX gold mine's 450 Zulu-speaking workers are due to return to work during this week after almost two months of technical suspension following violence at the mine which left 11 dead and several injured.

Gengold spokesman Andrew Davidson said that a peace accord had been signed between members of the NUM, hostel residents, representatives of the Zulu-speakers, mine management and two members of the national peace secretariat.
Miners vow to uphold own peace accord

Almost 7,000 miners on Gengold's Beatrix mine in the Free State have committed themselves to a "peace accord" after two months of sporadic violence.

Ten people were killed in incidents of violence on the mine in March, resulting in the removal of more than 200字段 miners to a "neutral" hostel in Welkom, mine spokesman Andrew Davidson said on Wednesday.

He said successful "peace negotiations" between mine employees had resulted in the return of the men.

The negotiations had been conducted under the auspices of the National Peace Council. Davidson said, and all parties had agreed to refrain from violence and intimidation.

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3 suspects held as 2 constables shot

Three men were arrested after two municipal policemen were shot and seriously injured in Pomfua, East Rand, on Wednesday afternoon.

Lieutenant-Colonel Dave Bruce of the SAP said Constable LS Kga- la was off duty when he was shot in the chest while walking in the street at 2 p.m. His private firearm was taken from him. He is in a serious condition in a local hospital.

At 3:30 p.m Constable N Boloko, who was on duty, at the Lumondela railway station, was shot and seriously wounded in the left side Poches arrested three suspects. They found the stolen firearm belonging to Kgal in the possession of one of the suspects.
Three killed as Beatrix workers return

The return of Beatrix gold mine's 469 Zulu-speaking workers on Wednesday was marred by violence in which three men — including two mine security guards — died, Gengold spokesman Andrew Davidson said.

The Zulu speakers were removed from the mine at the end of March after violence left 30 workers dead and several injured. After an interval an attempt was made to return them to the mine, but this led to further violence, another death and more injuries, and they were removed.

They had been removed for a third time and were being housed in Welkom.

Davidson said the Zulu speakers were not directly involved in Wednesday's incident, which police and mine security personnel were investigating.

He said intensive talks between the Zulu speakers, the NUM and mine management, chaired by representatives of the national peace secretariat, had resulted in the signing of a peace agreement last week. However, the situation on the mine remained tense.

Normal production was continuing despite the violence and the removal of the Zulu-speaking group, Davidson said.
Deaths at Zulu return

Johannesburg — The return of Beatrix gold mine's 450 Zulu-speaking workers on Wednesday was marred by violence that night in which three men — including two mine security guards — died, Gengold spokesman Mr Andrew Davidson said.

The Zulu-speakers were removed from the mine at the end of March after violence left 10 workers dead and several injured. They have again been removed and are being housed in Welkom.
Fighting shatters gold mine peace pact

Star 24/8/93

By Jacqueline Myburgh

A peace pact between almost 7,000 mine workers on Gengold's Beatrix mine in the Free State has collapsed following renewed ethnic fighting at the weekend.

A spokesman for Gengold, Andrew Davidson, yesterday said one miner was killed and 32 were injured in a clash on Friday night. Police arrested 17 miners.

'A miner recently held peace negotiations and later signed a "peace accord" under the auspices of the National Peace Secretariat. This followed violence on the mine in March when 16 people were killed. More than 200 Zulu miners had to be removed to a neutral hostel. They returned to the mine on Wednesday and that night two security guards were killed.

At 7.30 pm on Friday a large group of armed Pondo miners attacked a group of Sotho workers, Davidson said. "The attack was launched with military precision, according to the mine manager," he added.

The situation on the mine was tense yesterday, he said, and the SAP and mine security were maintaining a strong presence. He said the Zulu miners had again been removed from the property, but were still "on the payroll". The mine was "looking at returning them home", Davidson said.

Police said they were investigating charges of murder and public violence at the mine. Sotho and Pondo miners had been arrested, Colonel Johan Fouché said.

A spokesman for the National Union of Mineworkers could not be reached for comment.
Man dies in Beatriz fight

KATHRYN STRACHAN

RENAMED fighting at Beatriz gold mine on Friday night between Fondo and Sothos left one man dead and 33 injured, Gen gold spokesman Andrew Davidson said yesterday.

The attack came only hours after about 400 Zulus were sent home following attempts to reintroduce them to the mine last week.

This ended in violence in which three men died.

Beatriz GM Sam Goodwin said the Fondo attack on Friday night was "launched with military precision." Police and mine security had restored order, he said.

Davidson said although the Zulus were not directly involved in the violence, their return to the mine had triggered the fighting.

He said a "peace accord" had been signed at a previous meeting between workers, the regional peace committee and NUM — but to no avail.
650 workers resign from Beatrix mine.

ABOUT 650 Pondo and Xhosa workers had resigned from Beatrix gold mine after incidents of violence which had left 15 dead and scores injured during the past two months, Gengold spokesman Andrew Davidson said.

On Friday evening a violent clash between Pondo and Sotho left one miner dead and 59 injured.

Police arrested 17 workers in connection with this incident, Davidson said.

The mine was peaceful and operating normally, but with fewer workers after the removal of the Zulu-speaking contingent on Wednesday.

Erica Jankowitz

The Zulu-speakers were involved in three previous outbreaks of violence in which 14 people died.

There was still a strong security presence on the mine.

"We will not tolerate any violence on the mine and disciplinary steps will be taken against anyone acting in such a manner," Davidson said.

If any arrested worker was convicted of a criminal offence stemming from the violence, he would be disciplined, Davidson said.
Seven killed in mine skirmish

FIGHTING at Hartebeestfontein mine in the western Transvaal on Tuesday night left seven miners dead and six critically injured, an Anglovaal spokesman said.

A further seven injured miners were being treated at the Rand Mutual Hospital, and 46 had been treated for minor injuries and released.

The spokesman said fighting started at about 8pm on Tuesday and continued into the early hours yesterday. Police described the incident as a "faction fight", but Anglovaal was unable to confirm this.

The spokesman said that to his knowledge, no arrests had been made. Police were still investigating.

Anglovaal's management met workers yesterday to try to ascertain what had sparked the incident.

Production was continuing as normal, the spokesman said.

Meanwhile, Gengold spokesman Andrew Davidson said Beatrix gold mine was operating with about 4500 workers after the resignation of about 2000 Zulu and Pondo miners during the past few weeks.

Zulu-speakers were removed from the mine at the end of March, but about 140 of the 450 had returned to work, he said.

The Pondoos resigned en masse and left the mine earlier this week after the latest incident.

Davidson said the violence, which had led to 15 deaths, seemed to be under control. Yesterday both morning and afternoon shifts had worked normally.

Beatrix's management would assess the situation during the next few weeks before making any plans to recruit workers, Davidson said. No plans had been made yet to re-employ workers, but if any applied and agreed to abide by the provisions of the peace agreement, they would be considered, he said.

The NUM was not available for comment.

Davidson said the mine was not engaged in negotiations with the union on the issue.
Cops charge PAC men

By Themba Molapo, Ismail

NEWS

MPHAYA SAYS SWOPP WAS A NORMAL POLICE ACTION

Policemen killed expected to explain Inyanga's Cde down.

Shangans and Xhosas battle it out

Faction behind the scenes: Claim seven lives

Seven men were shot dead in Inyanga yesterday.

By the Mphofu and Sapa

"There is a management war that is taking place.

Claim: Management won't hire the other group.

Faction behind the scenes: Somewhat the same.

Cops charge PAC men.

"We heard there was a normal police action."
More miners die in fighting

FOUR more miners have died after fighting at Hartebeesfontein mine on Tuesday night, bringing the death toll to 11.

Nine of the more than 100 workers injured were still in hospital, according to reports.

An Anglovaal spokesman was unable to confirm these reports or a police statement that the fighting involved Shangaan and Xhosa workers.

He said mine management and employee representatives remained locked in discussions “attempting to get to the bottom of the problem.” The cause of the fighting was unknown, he said.

However, as far as he could ascertain, production was continuing as normal.

Meanwhile, the situation at Gengold’s Beatrix gold mine, where 15 workers had died in four incidents of fighting, was peaceful, a Gengold spokesman said.

It appeared that peace had been restored and the situation normalised, he said. No decision had been made concerning recruitment or re-employment.

NUM assistant general secretary Marcel Golding said conflict on the mines was directly related to the migrant labour system and miners’ repressive working and living environments.

He said most mines housed workers according to ethnic origin, entrenching language divisions. Small differences could precipitate conflict which, when escalated, would be galvanised along language lines.

Golding said this was exacerbated by management’s lack of sensitivity in dealing with the issue of violence. A code of conduct, such as that negotiated between the union and Anglo American, would go some way towards defusing the situation.

The national peace secretariat had proposed that all parties meet as soon as possible to discuss the parameters of free political activity on mines, as political parties were recruiting members in hostels. This could add to the volatility of the situation, Golding said.
Many injured at Western Gold Mine

SOWETO 28/5/93

Mine death toll rises

Anglovaal owners say fatalities result from clashes between Shangaans and Xhosas:

By Ike Motsapi

The death toll in the faction fighting which erupted at Hartbeesfontein Gold Mine in the Western Transvaal on Tuesday has risen to 10.

A spokesman for Anglovaal, owners of the mine, said yesterday three more miners had died from injuries sustained during a clash between Shangaan and Xhosa workers about 9pm on Tuesday.

Seven workers lost their lives when fighting broke out and 71 were injured.

Of the 71 injured, 46 were treated for stab wounds at the Hartbeesfontein Medical Station in Klerksdorp.

The mine management said seven workers were still in a critical situation at the Rand Mutual Hospital in Johannesburg, while six others were admitted to the Duff Scott Mine Hospital in Klerksdorp.

Western Transvaal police spokesman Colonel Ben van Heerden said police were keeping an eye open for any trouble that might erupt.

Van Heerden said the situation was tense but calm.

Meanwhile, about 1,850 Xhosa-speaking workers have resigned their positions at the trouble-torn Beatrix Gold Mine near Welkom in the Free State.

This followed renewed fighting between Zulus and Pondoos at the mine.

About 15 miners were killed and scores injured when fighting broke out at the mine in March.
NEWS Historic Press briefing held in Parliament

Row erupts between 2 unions

By Ike Motsapi

A ROW has erupted between two rival unions over the recruitment of members at the mines and is threatening to turn into a violent confrontation.

The general secretary of the Black Allied Mining and Construction Workers Union, (BAMCU), Mr Mosawha Vika, yesterday warned the National Union of Mineworkers to stop harassing and intimidating its members.

He said Bamcu workers were also subjected to harassment by "unruly and undisciplined" members of political and civic organisations.

He called on all Bamcu members to defend themselves.

Num media spokesman, Mr Jerry Magatlhadi dismissed Vika's threats and said they were unfounded.

He said Bamcu was a "dying horse" that had no constituency.

He said he doubted whether Bamcu had a "reasonable membership to keep them going as a trade union."

Vika said: "We hereby sound a warning to mines and employers in the Northern Cape region that our 3 000 members have sharpened their resolve to take the struggle to greater heights and will do so with renewed vigour."
**Murdered cop's name released**

A 26-YEAR-OLD Meadowlands policeman, Const Jacob Mabusisi, was gunned down in Orlando West on Friday.

His seriously wounded colleague was identified as 26-year-old Const Edwin Ntshisi.

Police said the constables were on their way to investigate a charge shortly before 7 am when their vehicle was sprayed with AK-47 bullets as they stopped at a traffic light.

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**Mine fight leaves 14 dead**

The number of fatalities in the Hartebeesfontein mine faction fight rose to 14 following the death of three more men at the Rand Mutual Hospital.

This was confirmed yesterday by Anglo-Vaal spokesman Arno Steyn who said the situation had returned to normal after talks between mine management and worker representatives of Transkei and Mozambican workers.

Steyn said the fight was between Xhosa and Shangaan workers.

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**Petrol bombs on East Rand**

ABOUT 20 youths petrol bombed two Daveyton houses and vandalised a car in separate attacks on the East Rand on Friday, according to police.

At Ratanda High School a shot was fired from a crowd of about 30 youths. Nobody was injured.

Bystanders set 10 taxis alight at the Oakmoor railway station, near Tembisa, also on Friday.
Mine fighting toll reaches 14

Business Day Reporters

The death toll from last week's fighting at the Hartbeesfontein mine rose to 14 when three injured Rand Mutual hostel dwellers died over the weekend.

An Anglovaal spokesman said yesterday the situation at the mine was quiet after "an isolated incident" involving about 120 of the mine's 15,000 workers.

Production was carrying on normally and management had converted the number two shaft hostel into a 'safe place' with added security, he said.

Negotiations between all parties concerned would proceed today, he said.
Fiction fight toll
at mine now 17.

Six miners, critically
wounded during recent
fighting at western
Transvaal's Harte-
Krossfontein Gold Mine,
have died in Duff Scott
Hospital, bringing the
death toll to 17.

An Anglovaal spokes-
man said peace initia-
tives were under-way.

Crime Report
Bafokeng protest
BAFOKENG tribesmen opposed to the appointment of exiled chief Lebone Moloteng's brother to the Impala Mine board of directors staged a demonstration yesterday outside the mine's head office in Rustenburg.
Hartebeestfontein ‘not safe’ for Mozambicans

Almost 4,000 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 25, a Mozambican labour office representative said yesterday.

The Mozambican government had not permitted 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 3,714 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 sewerage 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 police secretariat.

“In view of this it would be inappropriate for the company to make further statements,” the spokesman said.
NUM, Anglovaal meet

The NUM and Anglovaal management discussed the situation at Hartbeesfontein mine on Friday following fighting two weeks ago, which resulted in 17 deaths. NUM assistant general secretary Marcel Golding said the 3700 Mozambican miners, who were not permitted to work because of the tense atmosphere on the mine, were not receiving wages.

The NUM proposed a code of conduct for the mine, he said.
NUM tackles violence

VIOLENCE on mines has always posed a major problem for employers and unions, but recent fighting on gold mines has had a particularly disruptive effect on production and labour relations.

The issue of violence in the Klerksdorp area came under the spotlight at a NUM rally at a Steksfontein stadium yesterday, an NUM spokesman said.

This was in response to the tense situation at the Hartbeesfontein mine where the situation had still not normalised, following recent fighting which left

17 miners dead and nearly 100 injured.

Almost 4,000 Mozambican workers were still separated from other miners and not being allowed to work underground until a full investigation had been completed and tension defused, the NUM said.

Newspaper reports of fighting in the Klerksdorp area last week told of numerous miners packing their belongings and leaving hostels, in spite of a complete lack of job opportunities in the area.

Gencold's Beatrix mine was also recently the scene of several outbreaks of violence which led to the mass resignation of almost a third of the mine's workforce. Recruitment to replace those workers started last week.

The NUM has taken some initiative in trying to combat the culture of violence which seems to pervade the mining industry. However, it maintains management has done little to back it in its quest.

Other issues discussed at the NUM rally were wage negotiations with the Chamber of Mines and the depressed state of the goldfields region.
'Protect us,' plead Mozambique miners

Star Africa Service

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 28 in clashes at the mine last month. (2/3)

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 Taimo, has asked Nelson Mandela to intervene in the dispute.

According to Taimo'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.
Anglovaal denies plan to fire striking miners

Labour Reporter

Anglovaal, owner of the strife-torn Hartebeesfontein gold mine, has denied reports from Maputo that 3,700 Mozambican workers on strike at the mine had until yesterday to return to work or face dismissal. (213)

In fact, mine management was still negotiating with representatives of the Mozambican government about the miners' concerns for their safety. The concerns came after clashes with South African workers left 17 dead and 88 injured last month. Most of the victims were Mozambicans. Fighting at the mine was apparently triggered by the Mozambicans' refusal to take part in industrial action.

According to the official Mozambican news agency AIM, mine management had threatened to fire all the striking Mozambicans unless they returned to work yesterday. The agency said the threat was made in a letter received by the Mozambican Ministry of Labour.
Harties issues 'unresolved'

TALKS at Anglovaal's Hartbeesfontein 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 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 issues.

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 Hartbeestfontein mine which claimed 17 lives, NUM president James Molatasi 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 Molatasi's claim that the knives were being confiscated.

Molatasi said management's "unilateral decree" to house Mozambican workers separately and preventing them from working at the mine was still in force.

He also accused management of launching "a vicious 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 tension 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.

Molatasi 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 mines.

This was exacerbated by the mine's recruitment of indunas to extend the control mechanism beyond the workplace into workers' living quarters.

ERIC JANKOWITZ

Molatasi denied the fighting was sparked by Mozambican workers' refusal to join strike action.

However, Molatasi was unable to give details of how many Mozambican workers were NUM members as ethnic distinctions were not made.

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". Molatasi 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." (See story)

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."
Anglovaal, Star 22.11.1983

NUM differ over clashes

By Paul Bell
Labour Correspondent

The National Union of Mineworkers has denied that tension between its members and Mozambican miners is behind recent violence at the Hartbeesfontein gold mine, and accused Anglovaal of "a vicious campaign of lies and distortions" to discredit the union.

Seventeen Mozambican miners have been killed and 116 injured since May 25 in clashes at the mine, near Stilfontein in the western Transvaal. The violence is being investigated with the help of a Goldstone Commission representative.

Pocket knives

The 3,700 Mozambicans at the mine have now been moved to the No 2 hostel for their own safety.

NUM has interpreted this as a divide-and-rule strategy and an effort to discredit the union.

NUM president James Motala claims mine managers issued pocket knives to the 18,000-strong workforce in October as a reward for completing a million fatality-free shifts. Yesterday he called on management to explain this in the light of its ruling on June 16 that workers found in possession of dangerous weapons could face dismissal.

He denied claims that the violence was connected to tension between the Mozambicans — who are prohibited by an inter-governmental agreement from joining trade unions — and NUM members. Mozambican miners have claimed they were attacked for refusing to take part in strikes.

"What strikes?" countered Motala: "NUM has had no strike since 1987. The problem at Hartbees is not between Mozambicans and non-Mozambicans. It is purely faction fighting, which is common to the industry because of the system of tribal hostels."

He said the NUM was doing its best, "despite management's unco-operative attitude... to restore normality on the mine by preaching unity, solidarity, tolerance and reconciliation".

In a statement last night, Anglovaal denied it was trying to discredit the union.

It said it was "surprised and disappointed" at NUM's approach. As discussions with all parties were continuing, "a statement of this nature will not help matters under discussion."

It was not true that management had unilaterally separated Mozambican workers from others. This had been done with the consent, and for the protection, of the workers.

Anglovaal had approached the Mozambican government, the National Peace Accord and the Goldstone Commission to assist in resolving problems at the mine, the statement said.
Stalemate in
mine drama

By Paul Bell
Labour Correspondent

Pedro Tamo, Mozambique’s labour representative in Johannesburg, is puzzled.

More than 3,700 Mozambican miners have been holed up in their hostel at Hartebeestfontein 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 with their safety assured — 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 Tamo’s patience is beginning to fray, consider the 7,144 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 4 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 ham 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 Tamo, the mine management has accused them of talking peace and bringing violence.
Factions fight it out

THE National Union of Mineworkers has called upon the Chamber of Mines to help stop the violence that claimed 17 lives in continuing clashes between workers at Anglovaal's Hartebeesfontein Gold Mine in the Western Transvaal.

NUM president Mr James Motlaa told a Press conference yesterday that they would continue to strive for the sake of peace.

The violent confrontation among the Mozambican and non-Mozambican mine workers has caused concern since faction fighting erupted on May 25, 1993.
Mine calls in peacemakers.

The Goldstone Commission and the National Peace Secretariat have been called in to help resolve bloody conflict between Mozambican and other miners at Anglovaal's Hartebeesfontein mine.

Seventeen miners have been killed and 116 injured since the end of May. Almost 4,000 Mozambican miners are being housed in a separate hostel under armed guard, while others have been repatriated for a month. The Mozambican labour representative has met with management and the National Union of Mineworkers.

Management charges that the fighting erupted because Mozambican miners would not join in the NUM and African National Congress-organised industrial action. This was denied by NUM president James Motlatsi, who said there had been no action at the mine since 1987.
Harties row drags on

By Paul Bell
Labour Correspondent

The stand-off between 3 700 Mozambicans and the balance of the 19 500-strong workforce at Hartebeestfontein gold mine in the western Transvaal enters its sixth week today as a solution to ensure peace between the two groups continues to elude management, unions and peacekeepers.

Seventeen miners were killed — 14 Mozambicans and three Shangaan-speaking South Africans who were mistaken for Mozambicans — and more than 100 were injured in three days of clashes in May. (218)

The Mozambicans claim they were targeted for attack as part of a strategy by South African miners to secure a set of demands from management. They have not been underground since the attacks and have been confined to the No 2 hostel for nearly five weeks.

A report-back meeting by the various parties — including the Mozambican labour authorities in Johannesburg, the ANC, Cosatu, the National Union of Mineworkers, Goldstone Commission investigators and officials of the local peace secretariat — had been scheduled for yesterday, but was called off.

Arno Steyn, industrial relations manager of mine owners Anglovaal, said the parties had hoped to meet to take decisions. When it was realised they would not be in a position to do that, the meeting was cancelled.

Negotiations were continuing.

NUM's Jerry Majatladi also reported little progress. He said the NUM's own message to its members at Harties — that the Mozambicans should be allowed to return to work without fear — had been well received at a rally a week ago.

Shop stewards had spent last week taking the message from room to room.

The NUM could not, however, give absolute guarantees for the safety of the Mozambicans because its influence was a factor of its organisation on the mine, where it commands only about 55 percent support.

Meanwhile, 116 Mozambicans have transferred to the Sibaya mine near Barberton, where 600 workers were dismissed a fortnight ago after a wildcat strike.
**World in brief**

**Move on mine fights**

MAPUTO — A delegation from the Mozambican trade union federation, the OTM, will visit South Africa to try and resolve the crisis at the Hartbeesfontein gold mine where at least 13 Mozambican miners were killed in clashes last month.

The Mozambican news agency AIM reports that the delegation, under the leadership of OTM secretary-general Soares Nhaca, will meet with the South African trade union federation, Cosatu, with the mine owners and with the Mozambican miners on the site.
Anglovaal sacks strikers from Sheba

ABOUT 700 workers at Anglovaal's Eastern Transvaal Consolidated Mines Ltd Sheba mine were dismissed yesterday during industrial action called to demand the reinstatement of an injured worker, the NUM said.

However, an Anglovaal spokesman said that of the approximately 630 workers who had been dismissed, about 490 had left the mine. The balance had been re-employed.

NUM assistant general secretary Marcel Golding said the industrial action had started on June 4. About 90% of the mine's workforce was involved and had been dismissed by management in a "very arro-

gant, provocative and unnecessary" move.

He said the union had attempted to intervene and suggested the two parties enter mediation. The union had also suggested arbitration on the issue of the individual employee, whose dismissal after injury had triggered the strike.

He said the dismissed workers had indicated their willingness to return to work, but management had begun to evict them from the mine's hostel.

Anglovaal said the workers, who had started an illegal strike last Thursday, were given the choice of returning to work or facing dismissal. Those who did not heed the ultimatum were given the option of re-employment if they reported for duty by Tuesday, he said.

Those who had not complied with these conditions had been dismissed. However, discussions were continuing with worker representatives, he said.
Mozambican miners to return to work

SETTLEMENT was reached yesterday between the NUM and Hartebeesfontein 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 retrenched during the stand-off, but the agreement specified guaranteed jobs for all the returning Mozambicans.

The NUM agreed to recognize the NUM in all job categories, as well as a branch executive committee and full-time shift 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 threatening pessoasng 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.
'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 Sheba mine in the eastern Transvaal on June 4, just a week after fighting at Haarties claimed the lives of 17 miners and saw 116 workers seriously injured.

"They are transporting the violence to another mine," charged Jerry Matjailadi of the National Union of Mineworkers. Fighting could easily break out between the 700 dismissed Sheba mineworkers and the replacement Mozambican miners.

Haarties 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 Haarties.

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.

Matjailadi 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 gripes 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 died to stay with their countrymen and clansmen and he uses a survey conducted at the mine to back this up.
NUM ready to strike
ERIC JANKOWITZ

INDUSTRIAL action at gold and coal mines was a possibility if the Chamber of Mines was unwilling to improve upon its current 7% wage offer, the NUM said yesterday.

"If the mines’ final positions are not improved substantially, the NUM will seriously consider moving to the next stage of the dispute procedure," said NUM assistant general secretary Marcel Golding.

The NUM and the chamber will meet this afternoon in a third conciliation board hearing to try to resolve the wage dispute.

Golding called for a "credible offer which goes some way to redressing imbalances from low settlements over the past two years". Employers should not interpret the union’s past acceptance of low increases as a sign of weakness. "There is a strong, defiant mood on the ground and employers should not underestimate our members’ willingness to strike,' Golding said.

Chamber of Mines spokesman Adrian de Plessis said he found Golding’s remarks, coming on the eve of a board hearing, to be "totally unhelpful".

He hoped the parties would find each other during the exchange.

Businessmen told to home in on Indonesia

PRETORIA — Significant growth in the SA manufacturing industry would depend greatly on expanding trade with southeast Asian countries, particularly the vast potential market in Indonesia, Safico’s Asia and Australasia manager Graham Lemerick said yesterday.

Lemerick headed a mission of nine SA businessmen to Indonesia this month.

He said Indonesia was an easier market to penetrate than Europe, with its tariffs and other constraints, and for the North Americans.

And there was no shortage of funds. Indonesia was well able to pay on delivery, unlike some African countries where payment delays of 18 months were common.

"Indonesia is a fabulous market. They are not the slightest bit interested in politics, which play no part in their international trading," Lemerick said.

Lemerick said it was a market which until now had been almost totally neglected by SA business and which clearly merited greater attention and exploration.

It was not an easy to do business with Indonesia which had less sophisticated economic and trading structures than other southeast Asian countries. But once penetrated, the rewards could be enormous.

"There are 180-million people with an almost infinite demand for consumer goods and the means to pay."

The economy was growing so fast — currently at 8% a year — that there was little hope of the local manufacturing industry with its limited base catching up with demand.

Imports were massive, mainly from other southeast Asian countries and Australia.

The total spent on imports in the region was around $175bn annually. Of that, Indonesia spent $35bn. The biggest importer in the region was Singapore with $55bn, followed by Thailand ($36m), Malaysia ($29bn) and the Philippines ($1bn).

Lemerick said the recent mission had found SA manufacturing would be competitive in price and quality with most other countries trading in the vast southeast Asian market.

Small business ‘the key to a wealthy nation’

THE informal sector would have to be integrated into the mainstream economy to make SA a winning nation, AngloAmerican gold and uranium division chairman Clive Suter said last night.

He told delegates at the launch of an international trade practice course that the recipe for the success of wealthy countries lay in developing small business.

Economic opportunities for township traders had to be created because full participation in the economy would lead to social harmony. "We don’t need black or white messiahs to help us. We need to make ordinary people champions, Suter said.

Suter said the education system had to be overhauled to respond adequately to SA’s social and economic needs.

About 90% of jobs were created in small business. Schools did not prepare children to be entrepreneurs.
AWB men take over steel plant

Seventy armed members of the AWB yesterday entered the Highveld Steel and Vanadium premises in Witbank "to protect unarmed whites" from black colleagues, the Mineworkers Union (MWU) said.

The ANC said AWB members had occupied the premises, "insulted black workers and interrupted a normal working day".

The whites-only MWU said the AWB members had arrived after management initially refused to allow police on the premises, but withdrew when a police presence was agreed to.

A strike by about 500 members of the MWU began on Monday and ended yesterday after agreement with management.

The strike was in protest against management's handling of a case in which a white worker had been accused of assaulting a black colleague. The worker was dismissed, but reinstated on Monday after a successful appeal.

The MWU had accused black workers of running through the factory, "provoking whites and searching for the MWU member accused of assault".

The ANC said yesterday's action and the recent attack on the World Trade Centre by rightwingers were a threat to lives, peace, the economy and the future of the country, and called on Highveld Steel to lay trespassing charges against the AWB members. — Sapa.
AWB tries to occupy plant

MORE than 70 armed AWB members tried to occupy the Highveld Steel & Vanadium plant in Witbank yesterday after three days of tension between Numsa and the whites-only Mineworkers' Union (MWU).

Numsa regional secretary Frank Bothelo said the heavily armed group arrived at the factory's gates at about 7am. They were stopped by security guards and ignored police requests to leave.

The group withdrew just before 10am after a compromise was reached between management, Numsa and the MWU. Bothelo said workers then returned to work.

Numsa members at the plant went on a one-day strike on Thursday to protest against the reinstatement of a white worker who had been suspended for allegedly assaulting a black worker.

When Highveld Steel management attempted to transfer the worker to another facility on Friday, MWU members began a work stoppage. When the worker attempted to return to work on Monday, Numsa members went on strike again and MWU members resumed their work stoppage.

MWU spokesman Stephen Maninger said the white worker alleged to have assaulted a black worker had been cleared by a commission of inquiry. He said MWU members had stopped work after Numsa members threatened a "bloodbath" if the white worker returned to work. He said striking Numsa members had weapons, and that MWU members had probably called in the AWB members.

Bothelo denied Numsa members were armed. He said the AWB presence was an attempt to "politicise" the dispute.

Highveld Steel & Vanadium spokesman Fred Baker said all workers returned to work yesterday.

AWB headquarters said it had not sanctioned yesterday's action.

The ANC condemned the protest, saying a factory floor "is certainly not a place for khaki-clad, heavily armed and balaclava-masked whites."
Race war over assault

By MONWABISI NOMADOLO

RACIAL tension ran high at Highveld Steel and Vanadium Corporation outside Witbank this week following an assault that has led to the involvement of the AWB, the police, unions and the company.

Assaulted worker Dan Mthombeni claims police "failed to arrest the rightwinger and he intends taking legal action.

Police deny having failed to investigate. Police spokesman Lt-Col HS Pienaar says a docket is with the Witbank public prosecutor.

The steel plant has been hit by two strikes since the man allegedly responsible for the assault - his name is known to City Press - was fired and then reinstated on appeal.

The company's disciplinary code states that any employee guilty of a violent act will be instantly dismissed.

Last Thursday black workers, angered by the company's decision to reinstate the fired worker, went on a two-day strike. The following day the whites-only Mineworkers' Union went on strike in support of their fired colleague.

This Tuesday, about 70 khaki-clad AWB men and women armed with shotguns, pistols and batons went to the plant to "protect white workers" after allegations that black workers were toys-toying on company premises, carrying traditional weapons and that management had refused police entry to the premises.

Some were wearing balaclavas and masks to prevent identification, and they refused to be photographed. Workers said the AWB members hurled racial abuse at them. When the Internal Stability Unit was brought in from Middelburg, the AWB group moved outside company property where they remained for "several hours".

The drama began on June 14 when Mthombeni was styling a floor in the company's offices. A white co-worker came in and assaulted him.

"I woke up on the floor," said Mthombeni. "I never fought back or even answered him. I lost three teeth and I rushed to the security office and laid a complaint."

The man was fired at a company inquiry. Later, he was reinstated, and Mthombeni was not told about it. Another employee was shot after the appeal, the man "boasted he could beat up people" without being fired.

Company spokesman Fred Baker said the dispute had been "amicably resolved". He also denied the company had refused police permission entry to the property. Col Pienaar said the matter was an internal dispute.

"The SAP were not called in to assist and we never refused entry at any stage," he said.
Wildcat strike halts ERPM production

ERICA JANKOWITZ

Production at Randgold's ERPM gold mine ground to a halt this week following a wildcat strike on Tuesday night by about 5,000 workers.

By late yesterday the miners had not resumed work, but a series of meetings between management and a delegation of workers' representatives — made up of a NUM members and non-members — concluded in a bid to resolve the dispute.

Randgold human resources director Richard de Villiers said the delegation demanded a guaranteed, additional 5% increase to which mine management had not acceded.

He said last night's meeting was "not optimistic" that workers would report for the night shift.

In June, the mine unilaterally implemented a 5% increase plus two bonus schemes — one linked to cost containment and the other to production targets, each offering additional 5% increases. However, to date very few bonuses, if any, had been paid, said de Villiers.

NUM spokesman Jerry Majavu said other issues in dispute were management's refusal to recognise the NUM's extended holiday, leave arrangements; and the lack of a provident fund, a health and safety agreement and medical repatriation.

However, both parties said the strike had not been called by the union, but had been a workers' response to management delays in responding to a grievance letter sent on July 9.

De Villiers said management had a "very strong intention of recognising the NUM and it has 58% representivity in category one to eight."

This, the NUM said, was a new move which was communicated to the union only yesterday afternoon.

A meeting was scheduled for Monday on the recognition issue, which the union felt was "poison enough."

In last night's meeting management proposed recognition negotiations be finalised, after which normal procedures for wage discussions would commence, de Villiers said.

On the issue of extended holiday leave,
ERPM wage strike goes into third day

By Paul Bell
Labour Correspondent

The strike by more than 5,000 workers at the ERPM gold mine in Boksburg went into a third day today as negotiators continued talks on wage demands and sought recognition of the National Union of Mineworkers by management.

The action began at 9 p.m. on Tuesday, when miners said they were determined not to go back to work until management had proposed an improved wage offer.

Management gave the miners a 5 percent increase on June 1 - 2 percent less than mines inside the NUM-Chamber of Mines bargaining forum are currently offering on gold properties.

Wages at ERPM, which is owned by Randgold, are the lowest in the industry. The underground minimum is R478, with R403 paid to workers employed at the surface.

Human resources director Richard de Villiers, who said miners had thrown stones at him on Tuesday night, admits the mine lags behind other operators but takes the defence that ERPM owes a consortium of banks R480 million and labours under an annual interest burden of more than R50 million.

The 14-man strike committee comprises both the NUM executive on the mine as well as non-NUM members, indicating widespread support.

Earlier, the strike committee had reiterated demands it put to management on July 10, including recognition of the NUM on the mine, and the extension of all NUM-Chamber agreements to ERPM employees.

Workers are also demanding a provident fund — the lack of which Randgold admits to being an embarrassment. It has promised to redress the situation this year.

Workers want a health and safety agreement for the mine, and the termination of the six-month "home-stay" period, to which workers have been subject for the past year, before being allowed to renew their contracts.

Randgold has now told the strike committee it is ready to concede recognition to the NUM, which has been organising on the mine for only a year, among approximately 6,000 workers.

By June 20, NUM's membership had reached 23,7 percent of the complement.

Two days ago that figure had reached 38 percent. - a level. De Villiers said Randgold would regard as acceptable for recognition, which would also have the effect of bringing ERPM inside the NUM-Chamber of Mines bargaining forum.

But ERPM's parlous financial circumstances would require Randgold to seek separate bargaining arrangements with NUM, as had been agreed with Randgold's marginal mines, Harmony and Durban Deep, said De Villiers.
strike at ERP M

NEWS S 000 striking miners demand recognition of NUM and higher wages

mine set to go on

Source: Monday 22 July 1993

Published by the South African Times for Monday 22 July 1993

The strike was set to go on after 5000 striking miners demanded recognition of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) and higher wages.
mine set to go on

Strike at ERPM

NEWS 5 000 striking miners demand recognition of NUM and higher wages

Soweto, 22 July

The strike over wage demands and the
Johannesburg

Striking miners at Randgold and Exploration's East Rand Proprietary Mine (ERPM) would be back at work today, according to a statement released to Sapa by MD Glenn Laing last night.

A statement by the National Union of Mineworkers said about 6,000 miners went on strike on Tuesday night to support a call for the recognition of the union on the mine and to get the operation to join wage negotiations between the union and the Chamber of Mines.

Laing said ERPM was in the process of restructuring its R500m debt. Laing said ERPM was currently talking to its creditors as higher gold prices had placed discussions on the operation's future in a more favourable light. — Sapa

More finance on pages 12 and 13
"Exploited Workers' Revolt"
Gold mine strike enters its fourth day

By Ike Motsapi

THE strike by about 5 000 miners at ERPM gold mine in Bolobolo enters its fourth day today with no sign of a settlement in sight (2.13).

Talks between the management of Randgold, owners of the mine, and officials of the National Union of Mineworkers this week failed to produce an agreement on ending the action, which began on Tuesday night. The talks started about 2pm on Wednesday and are still in progress.

The miners are demanding that management recognise the NUM and stop forcing them to stay at home for six months without pay as a cost containment method. They are also demanding that the mine extend all Chamber of Mines and NUM agreements to cover ERPM employees and that they be allowed to join a provident fund.

A spokesman for Randgold said the mine had told the union it would recognise it as soon as it had substantial membership. On June 20 it had only a 23.7 percent membership on the mine which, he said, was insufficient.
ERPM strikers refuse to return to work

THE NUM's regional structures yesterday counselled workers to return to work on Randgold's ERPM mine, but by late last night workers had decided not to heed the call.

The wildcat strike by more than 6,000 workers started on Tuesday night, bringing underground production to a halt.

NUM press officer Jerry Majallaha said management issued a brief yesterday instructing workers to report for work as normal 'or face summary dismissal'. However, workers had rejected these instructions, saying management had to address the issues of recognising the NUM, wage increases and extended home leave.

Randgold human resources director Richard de Villiers confirmed that management had issued a letter to workers yesterday instructing them to report for work. He said the mine would recognise the NUM.
ERPM strikers to go back to work today

Labour Staff and Sapa

Strikers at ERPM gold mine in Boksburg yesterday agreed to return to work today in response to a call by National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) president James Motlatsi.

On Friday, mine owner Randgold said it would fire any of the 5700 strikers who failed to report for this morning's early shift.

NUM spokesman Jerry Majiatadi said yesterday that negotiations on wage increases would be taken to the Chamber of Mines and that worker grievances would be discussed with management. Majiatadi said talks with management would be held soon, but he could not give an exact date.

The workers stopped work on Tuesday in support of their demand for higher wages and recognition of the NUM.

Wage offer

Even though management had conceded recognition to the NUM after the union had attained the required minimum 35 percent membership of the mine's approximately 6000 workers, the wage issue remained a stumbling block.

The strikers originally vowed not to return to work until management improved its 5 percent wage offer.

Discussions between the NUM and mine management will centre on:
- Benefits covered by the agreement between the chamber and the NUM being extended to ERPM.
- The Mineworkers' Provident Fund should also be extended to ERPM.
- A health and safety agreement should be negotiated with the NUM.
- Workers dismissed due to ill health should be treated fairly before such a decision was implemented.
- The company should stop forcing workers to stay home for six months at a time in an effort to reduce costs.

Randgold human resources director Richard de Villiers said on Friday that the mine would pay out about R15 million in wages.

It would also incur a 10-day loss of about R5.5 million in production while organising new staff before normal work resumed.

Strikers threatened a violent response if they were fired.
Strikers go back to mines
in heels

Although miners returned to work at Boxburg's RPM, last week's strike remained unresolved. Management refused to make wage increases to workers, who had fought hard for better conditions. The NUM promised to continue negotiations with the mine management.
News

Strike at mine over

OPERATIONS at ERPM gold mine in Boksburg returned to normal yesterday with all employees reporting for duty, a company spokesman said.

Some 5,000 miners went on strike for six days last week rejecting management's offer of a five percent wage increase and demanding recognition of the National Union of Mineworkers. Management has since recognised NUM. The spokesman said the mine would be back at full production in a day or two.
Miners 'unlikely to back strike action'

By Paul Bell
Labour Correspondent

The National Union of Mineworkers hopes to begin balloting its members on strike action during the course of next week and is confident that the result, expected by the second week of August, will show a strong mandate.

Industry sources say, however, that it is one thing to ballot, and entirely another to strike. In their view, miners themselves, many of whom would have received fairly substantial bonuses in the past quarter, were likely to be less enthusiastic.

Talks deadlocked around the issue of guaranteed versus bonus wages. The NUM wants higher basics, and the retention of bonuses at their current levels. The Chamber of Mines says higher basics must mean lower bonuses.

Most chamber mines are offering basic increases of 8 percent, with a range of profit-sharing, cost-containment and gold-bonus schemes. The NUM is demanding basic increases of 15 percent.

The union has now begun talks with individual mining houses and mines on arrangements for the ballot, which it hopes will commence next Wednesday. The result will then be forwarded to the union's national executive, which must finally authorize a strike.

Meanwhile, with the conciliation board process over and the dispute unresolved, the NUM said it remained willing to hear further offers.

The chamber has made a final offer but would still hope to settle. Other than in two small employee categories — cooks and hospital staff — it has rejected an NUM suggestion that the dispute now go to arbitration or mediation.

Employers expressed themselves unhappy with the NUM's attitude. They said the industry's 30 percent improvement in earnings in the last quarter was based on a rise in the dollar price of gold and the continued devaluation of the rand.

The industry could not be built on a weak rand, and no one could tell where the dollar price was going.
A regulator is what South Africa needs

By Mzwandile Jacks

THE need for a regulator — to take a closer look at the relationship between the people and service — and the promotion of fair competition are necessary for South African telecommunication services to play a leading role in the international market.

This was said by speakers at a telecommunication symposium in Sandton, Mr Derek Hyde, of the United Kingdom's office of Telecommunications, said the regulator should not be under severe control of the government and there should be a promotion of fair competition between the regulator and the State.

Mr Mike van den Berg, chairman of the South African Value Added Network Services, said access to telecommunication services was vital for the South African economy.

Mr Isaac Chaza, representative of the University of Zimbabwe Distance Education Board of Management, gave an account of the economic situation in Zimbabwe from post-independence.
Talks to avert strike

TALKS to avert a strike by more than 22,000 members of the National Union of Mineworkers resume on Thursday.

The talks are brokered by the Independent Mediation Services of South Africa under the chairmanship of Mr Charles Nuppen.(231) (213)

The Chamber of Mines and NUM are expected to “thrash out” the final details which may see mineworkers suspending the proposed strike action over wages.

The union is demanding a pay hike of about 13 percent for gold miners and 15 percent for coal workers.

The Chamber of Mines is offering eight percent on gold mines and between six and 10 percent for coal workers.
Miners return after clash

Mozambican miners have returned to Anglo American's Vaal Reefs No 8 shaft hostel following a clash with Sotho workers on Sunday, which left two men dead and 58 injured. — Sapa
Unions join forces to strike at Highveld

job grades from 14 to five, but the company would consider reorganising only eight Numsa had also tabled an agency shop arrangement with the support of the other unions, but the company had rejected it. Numsa had also proposed the reduction of

Workers are demanding a 10% increase. The company's offer is 7.5%.

The unions are the Mineworkers' Union (MWU), the National Union of Metalworkers of SA (Numsa), the SA Boilermakers' Society, the Amalgamated Engineering Union and the SA Electrical Employees' Association.

MWU spokesman Flap Buya said all members had responded to the strike call. Numsa organiser Veli Mnyamo said Numsa had also proposed the reduction of

Management was meeting union representatives in a bid to defuse the situation.
THE wage strike by about 3,700 workers at Highveld Steel & Vanadium near Witbank will continue today as negotiations between management and the five participating unions did not resolve the dispute on Friday. The parties will meet again today.
Joint strike resolved

Witbank — The joint strike by about 2 500 Mineworkers' Union and National Union of Mineworkers of SA members at Highveld Steel in the Witbank area was resolved yesterday.

MWU secretary W Gavu said in a statement the strike — the first joint action by the white MWU and black Numsa unions — began last Thursday over wage issues, including the demand for a 10 percent increase.

The issues were resolved yesterday when management made an 8.4 percent offer on actual wages retroactive from July 1, and a further 0.6 percent to complete the package from September 1.

Gavu said Highveld Steel had initially offered a 7.9 percent increase on actual wages.

About 1 000 skilled MWU and 1 500 unskilled Numsa workers took part in the strike — Sapa.
MORE than 50,000 National Union of Mineworker members marched in Welkom to protest against "the inadequacy of safety and other measures on the Free State goldfields".

The marchers handed in a memorandum at the office of the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs on Saturday, saying that in the past 10 years 1,492 miners had been killed and 30,649 seriously injured on the goldfields.

It added that the underground fatality rate of 1.04 per 1,000 a year and an injury rate of 21.77 per 1,000 a year was unacceptable.

Mine management

Num also criticised mine management for allowing semi-skilled personnel to work underground, and said on average workers were trained for 14 days with two-to three-day refresher courses at the beginning of each new contract.

This was inadequate, it said, and added that safety representatives were also inadequately trained and not democratically elected - Sapa
ABOUT 2,500 miners started an underground sit-in at Anglo-American's Vaal Reefs mine near Kimberley yesterday in protest against alleged racial discrimination regarding housing facilities.

National Union of Mineworkers spokesman Mr Jerry Majaphat said the sit-in followed another at Vaal Reefs 5 by about the same number of miners.
news
Soweto 21.9.93
Mine strike over racism

MINERS yesterday staged a total stayaway at Anglo American's Vaal Reefs No 2 shaft near Klerksdorp in the Western Transvaal in protest against alleged racial discrimination, the National Union of Mineworkers said.

A NUM spokesman said the stayaway followed a sit-in by 4 000 workers underground on Wednesday, which ended at 11pm, when NUM officials persuaded them to return to the surface. Late yesterday Anglo and NUM representatives were locked in talks in a bid to resolve the issue.
Mineworkers stay away

JOHANNESBURG — Mineworkers yesterday staged a total stayaway at Anglo American’s Vaal Reef No 2 mine near Bloemfontein over alleged racial discrimination.
Strike over wait at shaft

Star 2/7/93

LABOUR REPORTER

Up to an hour's wait at the bottom of the shaft is the latest step in the row between workers at Anglo American's Middelburg number 2 mine near Klerksdorp which entered its second day yesterday.

National Union of Mineworkers regional chairman Bethwell Xhangu expected the issue to be resolved today.

The NUM is demanding that all workers queue for lift and hoist facilities, together and claims that white mineworkers are the last to go down the shaft to arrive at the bottom at the official start of the shift and also the first to return.

An Anglo American spokesman said that while lift schedules along the lines of seniority meant that white miners tended to leave earlier, they had to report to management on the progress.

The union also said that workers not on seniority lists, and "given democratic talks."
MINE workers at Anglo American's Vaal Reefs No 1 shaft, near Klerksdorp in the western Transvaal, stayed away from work yesterday in protest against alleged racial discrimination.

NUM Klerksdorp chairman Bethwell Xungu said the workers' main concern was to have a single queue for the cages and hosteling facilities which transported them to and from the surface.

The union said the workers were protesting because black miners were the first to go underground when the shifts began and the last to return to the surface.

Anglo American spokesman James Duncan said the order for entering hosteling facilities was determined by seniority.

Workers also demanded that hostels be run democratically by the workers, that housing not be allocated on tribal lines and that safety stewards be recognised by management.

Xungu said the union was discussing the grievances with management.

The stayaway followed a sit-in on Wednesday, when workers — to draw management's attention to their grievances — returned to the surface long after their shift had finished.

Another Anglo spokesman said about 3 500 of the mine shaft's 3 700 workers stayed away for two shifts.

He denied that workers were housed according to tribal affiliations, saying Anglo American's gold and uranium division did not have such a policy.

By late yesterday afternoon, mine management and union officials were still discussing workers' concerns.

The meeting had been planned for yesterday morning, but was delayed because of the stayaway, the spokesman said.
Vaal Reefs close shafts after sit-in by miners

ANGLO American's Vaal Reefs No 5 shaft near Klerksdorp in the western Transvaal was closed on Friday after an illegal sit-in by about 1,600 workers, but negotiations with NUM representatives resulted in a limited return of workers to No 2 shaft on Friday.

Anglo American spokesman James Duncan said yesterday No 5 shaft would be closed until today to see how many workers signed undertakings to work normally when they returned from the weekend.

The shaft was closed on Friday because of safety fears.

Miners who ended their sit-in at No 5 shaft late on Thursday caused damage to the shaft and private property when they returned to the surface.

On Wednesday last week, workers at No 2 shaft staged a sit-in to object to the hoisting arrangement and demanded a single queue for the cages which transported them to and from the surface. About 3,500 of the 3,700 No 2 shaft workers did not report for work on Thursday.

A management proposal to change the hoisting practices were accepted by staff associations and unions, except the NUM, on Friday after day-long discussions, Duncan said.

Workers were brought to the surface according to their seniority and management report-back responsibilities.
EMOTIONS ran high for 24 hours on Friday when about 600 Anglo-American Property Services security and cleaning workers blocked entrances and overturned dustbins and potted trees at the Carlton Centre.

The workers were protesting against the use of subcontracted labour and employee transfers by Anglo-American. Many employees said they were also concerned about racism within the company.

Cries of "Kill the Boer, kill the farmer," were heard as workers toyed

Early Friday afternoon, Anglo-American Property Services management and worker representatives of the National Union of Mineworkers reached a tentative agreement to "talk before retrenchments are decided upon."

Anglo American spokesman Piero Farina said "We have put a moratorium on retrenchments in regard to subcontracting for six months."
Police clash

POLICE reinforcements have been sent to Nababeep in Namibia following after clashes with striking workers at the O'Kun copper mine left four people injured on Wednesday. A NUM spokesman said police had been brought in from Alexander Bay, Port Nolloth and Port Alfred. NUM hoped wage talks could be held with the unions today, he said. Sixteen people were arrested in the clashes on Wednesday.

— Sowetan Reporters and Supertimes
Extra police at mine conflict

NABABEIP, Namibia — Police reinforcements have been sent here after clashes with striking workers at the C'Kiep copper mine left four people injured on Wednesday.

A National Union of Mineworkers spokesman said yesterday that police had been brought in from Alexander Bay, Port Nolloth and Potchefstroom.

The NUM hoped wage talks could be held with the mine management today, he said.

Sixteen people were arrested in the clashes on Wednesday — Sapa
O'Kiep management meets NUM

NARABEERP — Mediation in a strike by about 500 employees at the O'Kiep copper mine here was discussed at a meeting between mine management and the National Union of Mineworkers yesterday.

Mine manager Julian Ayres said production had not been affected by the strike which was called in support of wage demands.

A union spokesman, speaking from Springbok, said a magistrate and the town council had turned down a request to hold a protest march today — Sapa.
ANC officials also pay visit to East Rand hostels • 25 alleged IFP supporters held

Toll rises to 8 after vengeance

By Ike Motsapi

The death toll at the Durban Roodepoort Deep Mine rose to eight when three people were killed during revenge fighting at the complex yesterday morning.

And about 25 alleged supporters of the Inkatha Freedom Party are being held at the mine security barracks, where they are being interviewed by police in connection with the crime.

Five people were killed and more than 25 injured when fighting broke out between alleged supporters of the IFP and members of the National Union of Mine Workers at the mine on Tuesday night.

Mr Zola Gwanga, legal officer of NUM, PWV region, said trouble started on Tuesday, about 7.50pm when a group of IFP supporters attacked members of the union who were enjoying drinks at the bar situated in the hostel.

Gwanga said "It all started when two IFP supporters stood guard outside the bar while the other two were inside stabbing everyone they came across. "During the fracas more IFP members joined in the fray and this resulted in five people being killed," Gwanga said.

Mr Thabang Simon Koroloso, a member of NUM, alleged that the attack on them was a "well-planned move by management."

Koroloso said management brought Zulu-speaking people to the mine last Friday. He said these people were given weapons by management on Saturday.

He said "The attack was supposed to have taken place on Saturday."

Management has denied the allegations.

Mr Martin Fallon, management spokesman, said "Violence broke out between a small group of Zulu employees and other members of the workforce on Tuesday about 8pm."

STOP ... A group of armed men are being prevented by an armoured vehicle from entering Durban Roodepoort Deep Mine hostel where fighting erupted on Tuesday night between alleged Inkatha Freedom Party supporters and other miners. Eight people were killed — three during revenge fighting yesterday morning.

PIC CLINTON ÅSRAY
Miners halt after killings

JOHANNESBURG — Miners refused to go to work at Durban Deep gold mine at Bodoepoort on the West Rand yesterday following two overnight attacks in which six workers died and 42 were injured.

The cause of the fighting between Zulu employees and other miners at the mine's hostel is being investigated — Sapa
Waste Tech bid to overturn ban

WASTE TECH applied for an order in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday overturning a Germiston City Council decision to refuse consent for further toxic waste disposal at the Margolis site in Rietfontein, Germiston.

The council refused consent for further toxic and hazardous waste disposal at the site after March 31 this year.

Its decision followed a history of complaints from residents in the area about air pollution.

Waste Tech is applying for an order overturning the council’s decision and directing it to allow the company to use the site until the new Chloorkop site was commissioned and operational next year.

Alternatively, Waste Tech wants the court to refer the matter back to the Germiston City Council for reconsideration after giving the company a full hearing to state its case.

The city council is opposing the application. It has also brought a counter-application interdicting Waste Tech from using the Margolis Class 1 disposal site.

Waste Tech counsel Clive Cohen SC told Judge D Beasley that the Margolis site was one of two in the Transvaal available for the dumping of toxic and hazardous waste.

He said it was also the only site available for the disposal of medical waste such as injections, amputated limbs and organs.

Cohen argued that the council had given consent for the site in 1991 and extended this consent until last year.

Waste Tech, he said, had had a legitimate expectation that an extension would be granted until the Chloorkop site was commissioned and operational until the Germiston site had reached the end of its useful life.

Cohen also argued that the failure to give Waste Tech an opportunity to put its case and address possible complaints was a breach of the principles of natural justice.

He submitted that the council knew Waste Tech’s many customers, including Baragwanath Hospital, depended on the facilities at the site.

The council, he said, also knew that failure to extend consent constituted a drastic interference in Waste Tech’s contractual obligations to its customers.

Argument continues today.

Romens Holdings subsidiary liquidated

ROMENS Menswear, a subsidiary of DCM-listed Romens Holdings, was liquidated in the Cape Town Supreme Court yesterday.

Romens’ attorney Adam Harris said the liquidated company was one of Romens’ two operating subsidiaries. There was speculation that liquidation of the other operating subsidiary, De Wet Brothers (which trades
Consumer boycott in Springbok in support of strikers

DENNIS CRUYWAGEN, Political Staff

THE National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) is to begin a consumer boycott in Springbok tomorrow to pressure businessmen to use their influence in ending a strike at the Oudtshoorn Copper Company.

But Springbok Town Clerk Johan Nortje was sceptical, and said: "I'm waiting to see if the boycott materialises because the union has little support here. I don't believe there will be a meaningful consumer boycott."

And he questioned the union's decision to boycott business in Springbok. "Why don't they boycott businesses in Nieuwoudtville, where the company owns stores?"

Announcing the boycott yesterday, a NUM spokesman said the strike began nine days ago.

About 300 workers at a rally resolved to continue the strike and to negotiate with the company, or go to mediation.

The business community was also requested "to play a meaningful role in obtaining a speedy resolution to the wage dispute."

Police were also asked to drop charges against all workers within 24 hours or face mass action directed against them. Springbok and the company Mine manager Julian Ayres said about 300 workers were out on strike, while about 1,600 were working.

"Production is going ahead."

He said workers were demanding higher wages, and "We have not given any increases this year because we don't have any money. If we gave them increases the future of the mine would have been in danger."

"I have not had an increase," he said.

He said the consumer boycott in Springbok, about 24 km away from the mine, had nothing to do with the company.

"The situation is not the same in Springbok," he said.
RANDGOLD's Durban Deep suffered a second day of lost production yesterday after Tuesday night's fighting, meaning the mine's serious financial difficulties were now "bordering on critical", Randgold human resource director Richard de Villiers said.

"The workers had been told the mine had run at a loss for the past two quarters and running costs were eating into reserves, making it more difficult to "keep the mine operational", he said.

The NUM had made a number of demands pertaining to logistical arrangements of hostel housing, De Villiers said. He hoped these would be resolved soon, and meetings were scheduled to continue today with the probable participation of NUM head office officials.

"If miners do not return to work on Friday, we will have to reassess our options," De Villiers said.

Police lacked evidence to arrest the 34 alleged perpetrators of the violence who had been isolated from their colleagues. The mine would start disciplinary inquiries once sufficient evidence had been collected.
Strike at De Beers costing R3m a day

The strike by 3,500 workers at De Beers' Consolidated Diamond Mines in Namibia would cost the company between R2m and R3m a day in lost production, CDMD executive director Abel Gower said yesterday.

All on-shore operations had ground to a halt at the three major mines in Orange, Elizabeth Bay and Aichaas and their subsidiaries. However, De Beers Marine's offshore operations were continuing.

Gower said the mine had accumulated diamonds in terms of the quota system, but these had been earmarked for sale and the company could not rely on them to lessen effects of the strike.

The wage strike, which began at midnight on Sunday, was characterised by violence stemming from the Mineworkers' Union of Namibia's (MUN) attempts to bring all mining operations to a halt, Gower said. Workers had barricaded all buildings and entrances and were preventing access by all workers not considered to be performing essential services.

The mine had applied for an urgent injunction in the Windhoek High Court to force workers to comply with the terms of their recognition agreement and the Namibian Labour Act.

In terms of the agreement, workers were permitted to picket peacefully, but widespread intimidation had been reported. Gower said at least five people had been injured in scuffles at picket lines. One policeman had been attacked by strikers.

He said mines management would not meet the union until the situation was under control, but this stand might have to be reconsidered as "lives may be in danger".

The National Union of Namibian Workers, a union federation to which the MUN belongs, called on its seven affiliates and all Namibian workers to "throw their weight behind the mine workers and their reasonable demands".

The dispute was declared with the union demanding a 15% across-the-board increase in response to management's 8.6% offer on actual wages. Namibia's official inflation rate for September was 6.3%.

ERICA JANKOWITZ
NUM gps distribution response

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CDM strike goes into sixth day

NO END was in sight to the five-day-old strike by about 3 500 Mineworkers' Union of Namibia members at De Beers Centenary group's Consolidated Diamond Mines. Consolidated executive director Abel Gower said yesterday.

With on-shore production halted, the mine was losing revenue, as was the government, which taxed diamonds at 65% to 70% of their value, he said.

Gower felt the government had a vested interest in ensuring operations resumed as soon as possible and said police were on standby to intervene as necessary.

De Beers' marine operations had not been affected, but they contributed just 30% of the company's production.

Gower said the union had not complied with the court order obtained by the company on Monday in a bid to contain violence and intimidation on the picket lines. Safe passage to and from meetings could not be guaranteed and all access to mining property was still being prohibited by strikers.

Union spokesman Hofm Ipinge said there was nothing in the order which union members had defied.

As a result of intimidation, Gower said, non-striking workers had been requested to remain at home and to "keep a low profile".

This had meant no further violence and intimidation had been reported, but Gower felt he could not rule this out if attempts were made to resume work.

No further wage meetings would be scheduled until the union complied with the court order, Gower said.

Ipinge said the union was awaiting a fresh offer from management and members were resolved to continue the strike until settlement was reached.

Two marches had been held at the Oranjemund mine yesterday, he said, to highlight the union's position.
Mineworkers in freedom call

WELKOM — Thousands of mineworkers here marched to Anglo-American's Freidges Group offices yesterday to demand freedom of political association at mine hostels (243).

Leaders of the march from the Thabong township included uMkhongolo weSiuwe, commander Mtshweni and Joe Modise.

The marchers demanded that restrictions on political activity at mine hostels be lifted.

Sapa C.T. 22 11 13
Mine hostels target of march

WELKOM — Thousands of mineworkers in this northern Free State town marched to Anglo American's Freegold Group offices to demand freedom of political association at mine hostels.

According to one of the organisers of the march, Mike Webster of the Free Political Committee, 50,000 people lived at the hostels and a code of conduct should be drawn up to regulate political activities at the hostels.

Freegold's manpower director Vuy du Plessis, who accepted a memorandum handed over by the marchers, said the company had, broadly speaking, no problem with political activity on mine premises.

The march yesterday, from the Thabong township to Freegold's offices in Welkom, was led by, among others, Umkhonto we Sizwe commander Joe Modise.

The marchers demanded that restrictions on political activity at mine hostels be lifted and political parties be allowed to recruit at hostels.
Mine strike talks resume

WINDHOEK — Wage negotiations to end a crippling 10-day strike by 3,500 workers at Consolidated Diamond Mines' resumed today, CDM and the Mine Workers Union of Namibia said.
NUM marches on Deelkraal mine

THE NUM staged a march to Gold Field's Deelkraal mine near Carletonville yesterday to demand that worker grievances, mainly pertaining to health and safety, are addressed.

In a memorandum handed to Deelkraal management, the union demanded inclusion on in loco inspection teams and that underground blasting should only occur after workers had left the area.

The union also demanded equal medical treatment, saying white workers were attended by a doctor while their black counterparts were treated by a nurse.

On the issue of homing, the union called for the removal of the "induna system" and desegregated facilities.

The union wanted the removal of access restrictions to hostels, but the beefing-up of security for storage areas.

The NUM also demanded union facilities on the mine including those for hostel meetings.

Gold Fields declined to comment.
MINING - STRIKES

1994
Impala strike threat fails to materialise

ERICA JANKOWITZ

STRIKE threats by about 10,000 NUM members at Impala Platinum failed to materialise yesterday.

Management and the union were scheduled to meet today about worker grievances, including disciplinary procedure.

Management said normal production was maintained yesterday and was expected to continue today. The union said the mood was tense.

NUM spokesman Roy Sewparan said that, for the first time, the Right-Wing Mineworkers' Union and the Mine Surface Officials' Association had supported the NUM.

The strike threats followed the dispersal of a workers' march by mine security on Tuesday.

Sewparan said the march was sparked by the dismissal of two shaft stewards, which workers interpreted as victimisation of union members.

An Impala spokesman said a group of miners had damaged property and "mine security was forced to use rubber bullets and teargas.

The shaft stewards were dismissed following company disciplinary procedures, he said.

The NUM said it believed about 10,000 workers would be retrenched during 1994. Although the parties were renegotiating a retrenchment deal, the Wildboerfontein section was in the process of shedding jobs.

"After a union we knew we can't stop downscaling if it is justifiable, but we like to manage the change and make it as painless as possible," said Sewparan.

A company spokesman confirmed the shaft was retrenching, but said the figure suggested by the union was way out. Impala would backdate any improvements to severance benefits for recent retrenchments if a better package was settled.
NUM calls for strike at JCI refinery

The National Union of Mineworkers has threatened to call for a strike at Johannesburg Consolidated Investment's metal refinery in Rustenburg after wage negotiations deadlocked a month ago.

An NUM spokesman said on Wednesday the company had not increased its offer since November and that the union was unhappy about workers being forced to resign or to move to other refineries. The union and JCI are expected to resume negotiations tomorrow.

— Staff Reporter
6 000 Kinross strikers resume work

AT LEAST 6 000 workers at Gengold's Kinross mine in the eastern Transvaal returned to work late yesterday after embarking on a strike on Tuesday night.

They said the strike followed management's refusal to respond to their demands, which included the doubling of some workers' wages.

NUM media spokesman Jerry Majatladi said the strike began after management told workers, who had marched on its offices, that their grievances would not be addressed until the end of the week.

He said about 80% of the Kinross workforce had gone on strike.

The NUM was "working hard" to ensure the workers' grievances were addressed. Negotiations with mine management began yesterday and there were indications that management would accede to the workers' demands tomorrow.

But a Gengold spokesman said everything was back to normal following the talks with the NUM. He said the two parties had agreed to meet again tomorrow.

The workers' demands included:
- Doubling multi-skilled workers' wages,
- A policy on aid for injured workers,
- The dismissal of a senior official allegedly biased against workers, and
- Six months' paid maternity leave.

Majatladi said these demands were submitted to management during Tuesday's march. The workers had threatened to continue converging on mine management's offices until their demands were met.
NC expects peace plan to be extended to Natal

DAVID GREYSE

The ANC expects adapted versions of the East Rand peace plan to be implemented in strife-torn areas of Natal before the April elections.

The ANC's representative on the TEC, Solomon Mahlangu, said yesterday that the primary aim would be to ensure that the election was free and fair in so-called "stable crisis" or flashpoint areas.

Because Natal conditions were different from those on the East Rand, the plan would have to be adapted. "However, the philosophy which underpins the plans will be the same," Mhhmadi said.

Mahlangu expected peace plans to be implemented in areas of northern and southern Natal which the TEC had identified as flashpoints.

Implementation of the East Rand peace plan began yesterday with the withdrawal of the controversial police internal stability units from KwaNdebele, Thokoza and Vosloorus. SADF troops, which had moved into the area over the past few months, took charge.

SADF spokesman Maj Christo van der Bergh said that as far as the SADF was concerned there were enough troops in the area. Extra troops would be deployed only on the instruction of the task group which, in consultation with the TEC, will oversee the peace plan.

Mahlangu said he expected the East Rand community to reject the deployment of any "mercenary SADF units" such as 32 Battalion. He did not rule out future deployment of members of the recently established national peacekeeping force.

Government would "obviously be obliged" to implement the East Rand peace plan, but he expected the TEC to monitor the project.

Once normal policing conditions had been restored in the area Mahlangu expected non-controversial ANC- aligned self-defence units and Inkatha self-defence units to cease operating. "If you have proper policing then that takes away the need for defence units and Inkatha self-defence units to exist.""Mahlangu said.

Inkatha Transvaal chairman Thembekile Khoza said the SADF was biased in favour of the ANC and claimed the SADF had attacked Inkatha-supported residents in Thokoza over the past few years.

Roads in Thokoza were sealed off by SADF patrols inside the township. Inkatha supporters terrorised about 100 pensioners collecting money from administration offices. As the older people huddled inside the building, men armed with kalashnikovs, axes and steel poles stripped cars and looted shops.

Meanwhile, the Afrikaner Volksfront claimed the East Rand peace plan could lead to the ANC implementing ethnic cleansing in the townships. It supported Inkatha's rejection of the withdrawal of the stability unit from East Rand townships.

NUM blames right-wing union for office bombing

The NUM said the two-storey building in which its offices were situated had been extensively damaged and virtually all technical equipment destroyed.

Mahlangu said it was not absolutely sure commercial explosives had been used in the explosion, which occurred between 1am and 2am yesterday.

SAPA reports that 12 other buildings were damaged in the explosion. A second, almost simultaneous explosion rocked offices of the National Union of Metal Workers of SA in a building opposite in Klerksdorp's Commercial Street.

The SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union yesterday claimed its Harrismith offices had been the real target of recent bombings, not the NZ by ANC offices.

The union said it would not be intimidated into leaving the area.

Ciskei applies to join the TEC

PRETORIA - Ciskei submitted a formal application to join the TEC yesterday, Ciskei chief negotiator Mike Webb said.

The application followed a TEC resolution earlier this week which said that unless Ciskei joined the council it would have to withdraw immediately from TEC structures such as the national peacekeeping force and the defence subcouncil.

Webb said Ciskei had intended its Supreme Court to give an opinion on whether joining the TEC was in conflict with the territory's Bill of Rights.

The TEC resolution had, however, forced Ciskei to cancel the court's consideration of the matter, Webb said.

Ciskei's application would be considered by the full TEC at its meeting next week. If approval is granted, President F W de Klerk would be required by the TEC Act to appoint Ciskei to the council.
NUM continues Foskor wage strike

TALKS between the NUM and Foskor management broke down last week with the 960 workers, on strike since January 25 after a six-day lockout, determined to continue industrial action until their 9.5% wage demand is met.

Speaking at the NUM congress in Pretoria yesterday, Foskor senior shift steward Peter Mathya said the 17 NUM members arrested last week, including branch chairman Noel Malope, were due to appear in court on charges of intimidation on February 25.

He alleged another 57 names of “instigators” had been handed to police by management, who were determined to break the strength of the NUM.

Mathya also alleged that “scab” labour and the few workers who had not joined the strike were being paid bonuses for every shift worked, as well as a premium on normal wages. These workers were being housed at the plant for fear of intimidation by strikers.

NUM members were evicted from the company’s hostel last week and had been prevented by police patrols from re-entering their quarters. 8/12/94.

As a result they had no place to squat in the local township, he said.

Malope said negotiations broke down with the union demanding 9.5% and Foskor offering 2%. The NUM agreed to accept 6% from July 1 with an additional 3% from January 1.

Management offered an implementation date of October 1 and a 2% ex gratia payment in January.

Sapa reports that a consumer boycott has begun at Phalaborwa in support of the Foskor strikers. A spokesman for the organisers said the stayaway would continue until the dispute had been resolved.
White mine union threatens strike

JACQUE GOLING

A ONE-day strike led by the NUM at a privately owned colliery this week ended with the temporary suspension of a junior supervisor and a warning from the right-wing aligned Mine Workers' Union that it could strike over the suspension.

A total of 418 workers at Yselmyn/Collery in Vryheid went on strike after their complaints that a supervisor was racist and harassing them went unheard by management.

The dispute ended in a disciplinary hearing and the supervisor was suspended with immediate effect. The workers returned to work yesterday.

But white workers and artisans threatened to go on strike should the supervisor not be reinstated.

A full disciplinary hearing will take place on Monday to discuss the future of the supervisor.
Miners await compensation

STAR AFRICA SERVICE

Maputo — The 250 Mozambican mineworkers sacked by Anglo American for taking part in a strike in 1987 have still not been paid in terms of a settlement between the mining company and South African and Mozambican trade unions.

Anglo agreed to pay compensation of $430,000 to the workers. Identification of the Mozambicans to whom the money was owed was completed in October last year.

Compensation should then have been paid to Wenela, the mines recruiting company, which would have channelled the money to the sacked workers.

Denied

But according to Maputo newspaper Notícias, Wenela has not received the money. They say Anglo American claims the money had been paid to the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), but the union has denied it has the money.

The Mozambican trade union federation has asked the Mozambican labour office in Johannesburg to work with the NUM to solve the problem.

General secretary Soares Nhaca said he was only concerned about getting the money to the sacked workers.
22 hurt in mine wage strike

Twenty-two people were injured when police opened fire with rubber bullets on a crowd of rioting workers yesterday at Germiston's Primrose gold mine.

Officers called to the premises were forced to act after negotiations between management and striking workers broke down and violence erupted, said police.

"Management refused to give them what they wanted. They began to throw stones, break cars, they went berserk," said an SAP spokesman.

Teargas and rubber bullets were fired and 22 workers were slightly injured and treated on the scene.

Primrose managing director Jomo King said about 1,800 workers — most of the unskilled labour force — had downed tools yesterday morning to demand a wage increase.

National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) spokesman Gerry Majjaladi said management was guilty of reneging on an agreement last year.

King rejected this, contending that "subject to targeted profit levels being reached, negotiations on this increase could begin".

Three meetings between management and NUM on the matter have been held this year.

King said the police were only called in after reports that property was being burned and other violence was threatened.

NUM had been ineffectual and unco-operative in helping to quiet the situation, he said.

King said the mine had been running at a loss for the last three months and could only stand three or four days of industrial action before it began curtailing operations.

Majjaladi said management had unilaterally informed workers that the company's position had worsened and it could not afford to honour the agreement. — Sapa
Foskor strikers will return to work tomorrow — NUM

THE 900 striking NUM members at Foskor’s phosphate plant near Phalaborwa are to return to work tomorrow after a wage strike which began on January 27, union regional secretary Archie Pilane said yesterday.

A consumer boycott of Phalaborwa, called in solidarity with the striking workers, was called off yesterday after a community meeting.

The wage dispute began on January 14 when management locked out workers when their final wage offer was rejected. A pay cut of 10% was agreed.

Pilane said the parties had resolved the dispute over the backdating of the effective date of wage increases with the NUM accepting a R400 increase per member.

The 6% wage increase would be backdated to October 1, not July 1, as demanded by the union. A 1.5% shift allowance would be institutionalised from March 1 of a seven-day working week.

The agreement would be submitted to arbitration on October 1, with the appeal process to be completed by January 10.

Pilane said the strikers accused of intimidation and arrested during the strike were arrested and charged, although the decision whether to proceed with criminal charges had yet to be taken by the attorney-general.

The parties agreed to company charges would be finalised within the next fortnight and any challenged by the NUM would be referred to arbitration.

Pilane said the process might spark further problems as accusations of intimidation were divisive.

Illegals imports of dairy products rise

ILLEGAL imports of dairy products have risen over the past year, Agriculture Department deputy director of marketing and administration Dennis Farrell said yesterday.

The department said 140 tons of butter, 170 tons of milk powder and 45 tons of other dairy products had been illegally imported.

Agriculture Department director-general Frans van der Merwe said although these figures appeared small compared with SA’s annual consumption of 100 000 tons of butter, cheese, milk powder and condensed milk, the impact on prices could be severe.

Tight control of imports was needed to maintain product prices, he said.

Union must respond today to Carlton offer

JACQUE GOLDING

THE Paper, Printing and Allied Workers’ Union has until 4pm this afternoon to respond to Carlton Paper’s 7% across-the-board wage increase offer.

Agreement was reached at mediation last Friday but if management’s offer is not accepted by workers, the union says it will revert to its initial 12% demand.

Carlton Paper MD Keith Partridge said if the offer was not accepted by the union, management would also revert to its 7% across-the-board offer.

About 950 workers went on strike four weeks ago for a wage increase and three months’ maternity leave.

Four plants on the East Rand, one in Cape Town and one in Port Elizabeth have been brought to a near standstill by the strike.

Carlton Paper and the union also agreed to three months’ paid maternity leave but only after three years of employment with the company.

Management and the union agreed that shop stewards would be appointed at each of the company’s six plants.

Shop stewards would be allowed to take part in a national job grading committee which would investigate problems of job grading in the company.

The company would also appoint representatives to the committee and both parties would be allowed to call on outside experts when necessary.

In the case of child care, workers abstaining from work would have to produce certificates stating reasons for their absence, which would be treated as a no work, no pay, no penalty basis.
MINING HOSTEL TENSE AFTER CLASH

Johannesburg — Tension was high at Gold Fields' Libanon mine in Westonaria yesterday, following clashes between workers in a hostel at the weekend which left two miners dead and 37 injured, two critically.

NUM spokesman Jerry Matladi alleged 12 workers were killed, but this was denied by a Gold Fields spokesman, who said the official toll was two.
Mine tense after two die in hostel clashes

TENSION is high at Gold Fields' Lebanon mine in Westonaria after weekend clashes in a hostel left two miners dead and 27 injured, two critically.

The NUM criticised the company for allowing Inkatha Freedom Party PWV chairman Thembisile Khoza access to the mine yesterday to address workers, as permission for a union meeting had apparently been refused. It feared renewed fighting.

NUM spokesman Jerry Matjila said the fighting started on Friday night and continued until Sunday. Seven workers were still in hospital.

He alleged that 12 workers had been killed, but a Gold Fields spokesman said the toll was two. She said the fighting was apparently politically motivated.

Matjila said workers yesterday gave management a list of demands including the appointment of peace monitors and protection of members. However, talks ended in deadlock "as management refused to accede to any of the demands."
Mine extends strike deadline

JACQUIE GOLDSMITH

MANAGEMENT at Primrose Gold Mine in Germiston has extended until today its deadline for striking NUM members to return to work.

Primrose MD Jomo King earlier this week threatened to dismiss workers if they did not report for duty by Wednesday, but yesterday he said management had decided to extend the ultimatum and to pay workers the 30c-a-day wage increase demanded by the union.

Management said about 70 afternoon shift workers had reported for work yesterday, but most of about 1 500 morning shift workers had continued striking.

About 1 800 workers went on strike earlier this week after management failed to pay increases which had been part of an agreement reached between the union and management last year.

Management said the agreement had been conditional on the mine reaching productivity targets.

NUM officials said yesterday some workers had wanted to return to work and others had wanted to continue striking.

The workers wanting to strike had rejected the 30c-a-day increase and supported a new demand for a R1-a-day increase.

King said Primrose would not know until today whether the strike was resolved. He hoped the "mine would "pull together" and continue to operate as usual."
Workers ‘part of assessments’

ERICA JANKOWITZ

As representatives involved in job evaluation their successor, Wils Buster Faith McCaffey, international seminar, was especially emphasis on the stilling, as such it more equitable based on extra criteria. Unioning tended to striking, or the eliminating compensation companies of aiding systems cut the establishing committee management.

All facets of the to be defined should be revised, arbitration, involving work statifies were aggressive exercise, evaluation became a base from which to analyze training needs to continually upgrade skills and all workers understood the process as they had contributed to writing job descriptions.

McDonald emphasised that companies needed to assess each job’s worth, although this was an unpopular concept with unions.

Unions tended to concentrate on the skills content of evaluation and overlook worth, as they felt this was a subjective and value-added concept. She suggested that companies explore more creative ways of determining competency, particularly when it came to recognising skills brought to the job.

In implementing a job evaluation system based on broad banding, a company should determine the mix of skills required for each task to be performed competently. Companies needed to be realistic in assessing training and skill requirements, she warned.

She told delegates whose companies were not organised by trade unions not to be complacent. White collar unionism was growing rapidly and would make inroads into traditionally unorganised work areas.

Meeting called after third Lebanon death

JACQUIE GOLDBING

MANAGEMENT and the NUM will meet today in an effort to reduce tension at Gold Fields’ Lebanon mine in Westonaria after a third miner died yesterday following weekend clashes. BIBBY

Gold Fields said it regretted the death. The cause of the violence was being investigated, but it appeared to be “politically motivated.”

Workers could be supplied with protection on their way to and from work.

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Permission for a union meeting had apparently been refused. 241219

The fighting started on Friday night and continued until Sunday.

Gold Fields management said it would continue meeting employee delegations and union representatives in an effort to ‘resolve concerns with regard to violence’. It said attendance over the past three days averaged 65%.

Management was not sure if workers would return to work today.
NUM strike unlikely, say coal sources

The NUM's threat to take industrial action to protest against job losses stemming from low coal prices was thought unlikely to materialise, industry sources said last week.

The NUM said two weeks ago that it was prepared to back a call for industrial action, supporting the stance taken by the Miners' International Federation.

The Brussels-based federation claimed buyers were manipulating the supply and demand of coal, forcing cutts in investment and jobs.

Employment among Chamber of Mines members fell more than 25% to 28 000 last year, and further cuts are expected. The chamber said it had still to receive any notification from the NUM of impending industrial action.

Industrial relations adviser Adrian du Plessis said a strike could not be justified "on price of coal is set in a highly competitive market," he added.

Randcoal, which announced plans to axe 252 staff at its Britspruit mine on the day of the NUM's warning, said a strike would have little effect.

"Our objective is get the best prices we can," said its MD, Rick Mohring. "It (job cuts) is a question of raising productivity to stay in business. That is the bottom line of what is happening.

The NUM's warning barely preceded the opening of talks for 1994 steam coal contracts with Japanese buyers.

In the past two years, coking coal price settlements have settled the benchmark for steam coal prices.

Australian and Canadian coking coal suppliers have agreed to a $3.85/t price cut, with Japan's ailing steel mills. The London-based Coal Week International report.

ANDY DUFFY
West Direction miners stage protest march

Police arrested AECI strikers

About 600 AECI miners}

**STICKERS**

**Police arrest AECI strikers**
Platinum mines braced for unrest

ANDY DUFFY

Platinum producers are bracing themselves to prevent growing political turmoil spilling over into industrial action in Bophuthatswana - the industry's centre of gravity.

JCI-owned Rustenburg Platinum (Rustplat) and Gencor's Impala Platinum (Implats), which together dominate world platinum production, said yesterday they were watching closely for flare-ups among workers in the strife-torn region.

Despite escalating violence and ANC calls for industrial action, production had not yet been hit. But tensions were rising.

There had already been calls among Implats' 37,000-strong workforce for a shaft-stewards' meeting on industrial action to protest against Bophuthatswana's President Lucas Mangope. Implats refused to allow the meeting, saying workers had to use the usual dispute channels.

The company, which has all its mines in Bophuthatswana, said it was confident it could persuade workers to remain at their posts. But senior projects and operations manager John Smithies said Implats was prepared to take a tougher stance, including sackings as a last resort.

There will be a lot of talking about what could happen and what it could do to the company. The bottom line is that the platinum industry is not sitting fat and happy at the moment. Rustplat, which has about 30% of its operations in the homeland, said the situation

Platinum Day

was "very sensitive". MD Barry Davison said the company had contingency plans.

Any damage to platinum production would have a sharp and immediate impact on the global market, analysts said.

SA production last year jumped 20%, swamping rising demand. But the estimated global oversupply is just 150,000 oz - less than 8% of SA's platinum output.

Smithies said Implats expected the ANC to press for mass industrial action over the next two weeks. But many employees were fed up with "being used for political gains when they strike they do not get paid, they get fired and they get hurt."

Implats employees were also unsettled by concerns over pensions in the Bophuthatswana National Provident Fund.

Fears that political turmoil could disrupt SA platinum supplies helped push the metal to $404/oz last month - its highest level since August 1993. Platinum has fallen back since then, fixing at $391.75/oz in London yesterday afternoon.

[From Page 1]
11,000 Kloof miners go on strike

ABOUT 11,000 NUM members went on strike at Gold Fields' Kloof Gold Mine near Westonaria yesterday, saying management had responded "arrogantly" to earlier demands.

NUM spokesman Jerry Majatladi said union officials were discussing the issue with management, but gave no details.

Night and morning shift workers, 90% of the workforce, did not report for work, a Gold Fields spokesman said. Majatladi said the memorandum handed to management last month demanded, among other things, an end to racism, victimisation of workers and unfair dismissals. But management had disregarded a march by workers to back their demands.

In its memorandum to the NUM, management reiterated that protest marches were not permitted at Kloof.

With regard to health-and-safety conditions, management said the achievement in rescuing those-in-a-shift accident last year -- 200 workers were trapped underground for up to five days -- was "some-

Mine strike

thing which the mine should be proud of".

But Majatladi said Goldfields had an appalling safety record.

Management dismissed the NUM's allegations of racist behaviour, and blamed the grading of employees into different skill levels on a "historically racially based" system.

The memorandum said there was a perception that differences in benefits were racially based when, in fact, they were based on skills levels. Gold Fields also disagreed with the NUM's allegation that it was anti-union, saying it did not "unreasonably withhold" permission for union mass meetings.

Management also disagreed with allowing free political activity on mine property, believing it infringed on the rights and freedoms of privacy, while the NUM believed activity in the workplace was a right of every miner, said Majatladi.

Majatladi said the strike action would continue unless management "seriously" addressed workers' demands.
Strike at Kloof mine is set to continue

JACQUE GOLTING

The strike at Gold Fields' Kloof mine is expected to continue today after late-night negotiations between management and the NUM.

NUM spokesman Jerry Majid has urged management to meet workers' demands, especially free political activity, or the Gold mine would suffer huge losses.

Gold Fields said the strike would take its toll on gold production if workers continued striking this week.

No work was being done at any of the shafts and "very little" underground production was taking place, a Gold Fields' spokesman said yesterday. Surface employees were working and reserve stockpiles were being used.

Kloof Gold Mine -- SA's wealthiest -- had been affected by production losses but Gold Fields was unwilling to discuss the extent of losses yesterday.

However, in the December quarter, the Kloof division produced about 7.5 tons of gold worth about $23m at the present gold price.
17 000 miners
are on strike

By Ike Motsapi
Political Staff

THE STRIKE by about 17 000 workers at the Gold Fields Kloof Mine on the West Rand entered its second day yesterday with no end in sight. The strike is likely to continue for a long time unless management is willing to recognize the National Union of Mineworkers.

Workers also want a positive response to demands presented to management during a protest march on the mine in Carletonville on March 17.

Mr Jerry Matladi, media officer of NUM, said management was "arrogant and insensitive to the workers' democratic right to belong to a union."

Matladi said "We have reached a deadlock and management has now tightened security around the mine complex. "It is even difficult for us to have access to our members inside the mine grounds."

The strike started when about 750 mine workers, who were to begin their night shift on Sunday, refused to work. Other workers joined the strike yesterday.

Management confirmed the incident and said talks aimed at resolving the issue were under way. In a memorandum submitted to management workers demanded the following:

- Safety stewards should be involved in all accident inquiries at the mine and safety standards should be adhered to;
- The abolition of the tribal housing policy;
- An end to victimisation of workers;
- Freedom of speech and of choice in political matters and freedom of association;
- An end to unfair dismissals and that those fired should be reinstated;
- Racial discrimination should stop;
- Speedy processing of stop orders, and
- Compensation for all workers for injuries and illnesses suffered at the workplace.
BUFFELSFONTEIN MINERS STRIKE

JACQUIE GOLDBRING

ABOUT 6 000 workers were on strike illegally at Gen-
gold's Buffelsfontein gold mine near Klerksdorp yester-
day. The mine was at a "near standstill," a Gen
gold spokesman said.

The strike began on Sunday night and continued yest-
erday. NUM spokesman Jerry Majatladi said yesterday
it was sparked by the "deportation" of 20 workers and the
victimisation of 22 NUM members.

Management said they were seeking clarification from
the local NUM committee.
Platinum mine halted

THE NUM strike at Lonrho's Eastern Platinum mine in Rustenburg, Bophuthatswana, entered its fifth day yesterday with ore production at a "complete standstill", a mine spokesman said.

Although management said it had not estimated production losses for the past five days, an analyst said the mine normally had an estimated gross daily revenue of $400 000.

A mine spokesman said the processing of ore from reserved stockpiles was continuing.

About 3 300 workers went on strike last Thursday following the dismissal of 14 NUM members, allegedly over their involvement in kangaroo courts.

NUM spokesman Jerry Majatladi yesterday alleged that workers were "forcibly removed" from the mining premises and about 100 workers were "forced to work at gunpoint by Koevoet operatives".

Eastern Platinum denied the union's allegations.

Negotiations between management and the NUM continued late yesterday in an effort to end the strike.

Reuters reports that analysts said the strike would have little or no immediate impact on SA supplies.

"It's a relatively small operation," said Simpson McKee's Rodney Voldewin.

Analysts said the market's platinum stockpiles could replace any shortage caused by the strike in the short term. One effect, however, could be an easing of the oversupply of rhodium on world markets, as Eastern Platinum mines rhodium-rich UG2 reef.
Another Kloof strike

By Ike Motsapi
Political Staff

GOLD Fields Kloof Mine was hit by a strike again yesterday when about 17,000 miners refused to work until four of their fired colleagues were reinstated.

This is the second time in less than a week that the mine has experienced industrial disturbance from dissatisfied miners.

Last week the same 17,000 miners now refusing to work went on strike demanding that management recognize their union, the National Union of Mineworkers.

Workers went back to their jobs after management and NUM reached agreement on certain issues.

However, they downed tools again yesterday after learning that four members of NUM's branch committee had been dismissed for allegedly being the leaders behind the first strike action.

Fired miners

The fired miners are Mr Victor Ram, Mr Jackson Mafika, Mr Mothoeshoe Mosenena and Mr Hospital Thimbane.

A spokesman for Gold Fields' public affairs department confirmed the incident and said negotiations were underway to normalize the situation.
Kloof strike ends as miners are reinstated

GOLD Fields agreed yesterday to set aside the dismissals of four workers at Kloof gold mine that sparked an illegal strike by 17 000 employees.

The NUM said the strikers would probably return to work today.

A Gold Fields spokesman said the four NUM members would be reinstated on the condition of employment that had applied before the firings. "Their disciplinary cases will be reviewed on the basis that the company reserves its right to hold fresh disciplinary hearings following a review."

The NUM said "proper procedures" had to be followed in the new hearings.

The workers were dismissed on Tuesday for allegedly breaching the mine's code of conduct. The company said they had instigated last week's three-day strike.

NUM spokesman Jerry Masithisi said their dismissals had triggered a spontaneous strike by the entire workforce.

The first strike was over alleged repression of the union and acclimatisation procedures. It ended when management agreed to a new system of underground acclimatisation and agreed to demands on union subscription payments.
Gengold strikers
defy ultimatum

THE NUM strike at Gengold's Buffelsfontein gold mine near Klerksdorp entered its third day yesterday with workers defying management's ultimatum to return to work or face dismissal.

NUM spokesman Jerry Majaliad said negotiations between management and the union deadlocked yesterday. Talks were "strained" after the union demanded that the deadline to return to work be extended and management threatened to fire strikers on masse.

About 6000 workers began striking on Sunday to back demands for the reinstatement of five who had been dismissed and one who was deported last year. They also demanded the "removal" of a new mine manager accused of harassing union members, mass meeting facilities and better canteen and housing conditions.

Gengold consulting engineer James Cochburn said management was considering dismissals as workers had ignored the ultimatum. The strike was costing the mine 56kg of gold a day.

The NUM accused Gengold of "irresponsibility" in conducting dismissals and warned that action would be "intensified" if workers were sacked.
Four strikers shot dead at mine

BY JOVIAL RANTAO
LABOUR CORRESPONDENT

Four striking mineworkers died and several were injured when mine security at the Buffelsfontein Mine in Stillfontein in the western Transvaal allegedly opened fire on 17,000 mineworkers who have been on strike since Monday.

The National Union of Mineworkers said yesterday that workers at the mine alleged the death toll could be six, but mine owner Gengold could confirm only four.

In a statement, Gengold said although it was not clear how the incident occurred, the deaths followed violent behaviour by mineworkers who are on an illegal strike. An investigation was under way.

Clashes at the mine followed an agreement reached by the NUM and Gengold that workers should report for work yesterday and that the SAP and the mine's security company would be withdrawn from the mine. However, no workers reported for work yesterday and a clash between the strikers and security personnel ensued.

NUM members at the mine went on strike on Monday, their demands including the reinstatement of six dismissed and 16 suspended workers.
Strikers killed in clash with mine security

FOUR workers were killed and several injured yesterday, the fourth day of the NUM strike at Buffelsfontein mine near Klerksdorp, Gengold said.

The NUM said "violent clashes" with mine security had resulted in six deaths. "It is outrageous and abhorrent that management could allow the killing of workers while it was engaged in talks with the union," spokesman Jerry Mayatladi said.

About 8,000 workers began striking on Sunday, demanding the reinstatement of five who were dismissed and one who was deported last year. Other demands included the "removal" of a new mine manager accused of harassing union members.

Gengold said it regretted the deaths.

Workers have to return to work today in terms of an agreement reached yesterday. Gengold spokesman Andrew Davidson said workers had defied a second ultimatum by not returning yesterday. If they failed to report they would be liable for dismissal. The union was demanding the reinstatement of workers "dismissed for violence".

The NUM said management's actions were "provocative" and it was not sure how workers would react.
Four workers killed in mine strike strife

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Four workers were killed and several injured yesterday, the fourth day of the National Union of Mineworkers' strike at Buffelsfontein mine near Klerksdorp, Gengold said.

The NUM said six people had died in "violent clashes" with mine security staff.

"It is outrageous and abhorrent that management could allow the killing of workers while it was engaged in talks with the union," spokesman Mr Jerry Nkutladi said.

About 6000 workers went on strike on Sunday to press a demand for the reinstatement of five miners who were dismissed and one who was deported last year. They are also demanding that a new mine manager accused of harassing union members be removed.

Gengold said it regretted the deaths.

In terms of an agreement reached yesterday workers have to return to work today.

Gengold spokesman Mr Andrew Davidson said workers had delivered a second ultimatum by 10:00 returning yesterday if they failed to report they would be liable for dismissal.
8 000 miners enter fifth day

Mine strike drags on

By Ike Motsapi

The strike by 8 000 miners at Gencor's Buffelsfontein Gold Mine entered its fifth day today.

The workers, who are members of the National Union of Mineworkers, are demanding, among other issues, the reinstatement of five colleagues "unfairly dismissed" last November and December and the lifting of the suspension of about 16 workers.

The union also demands that a "Koevoet-style" security and a general manager allegedly responsible for them be removed from the company.

Meanwhile, a similar strike by 17 000 miners at Gold Fields' Kloof Mine entered its fourth day today.
Farmers want ANC to spell out land policy

PRETORIA — Organised agriculture will make a strong plea for realism in the ANC’s land redistribution policy when an SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) delegation meets an ANC task group on March 28.

Farmers want the ANC to spell out their land policy. Allocating productive land to inexperienced farmers could be disastrous for food production in SA, they warn.

GERALD REILLY 28/3/94

To remain self-sufficient in basic food production in the face of a fast growing population should be the overriding aim of a new government’s agriculture policy, and reckless redistribution of land could sabotage this goal, The SAAU had reacted strongly to misguided cries of “one farm, one farmer” and that land claims should be dated back to 1652.

Small farmers should only be set up on an economically viable basis, and not at the expense of commercial farmers. Land for small farmers should be acquired through better use of underutilised state-owned land in the Agre Mérs, said the SAAU.

Miners agree to return to work

THE NUM strike at Gengold’s Buffelsfontein mine was expected to end yesterday with nightshift workers having agreed to report for duty last night.

NUM president James Motlatu yesterday said he was confident workers who had not attended today’s morning shift would also report for work. Motlatu said mine management had agreed to most of the union’s demands, including the reinstatement of six workers dismissed last year.

A mandate received from workers at a weekend meeting was in favour of returning to work “provided management acted swiftly in meeting demands”, he said.

The strike, which involved 6 000 workers, entered its fifth day yesterday.

In addition to the reinstatement of the six workers, the strikers were demanding the “removal” of a newly appointed mine manager accused of harassing union members, mass meeting facilities, and better catering and housing conditions.

Motlatu also said the union wanted an investigation into the deaths of four workers and several injured during clashes with mine security last week.

Gengold spokesman Andrew Davidson confirmed the NUM’s regional Klerksdorp office had informed management that workers would be returning to work today.

Davidson could not confirm to what extent management had acceded to union demands but said full production would commence today.

Gengold said 56kg of gold was lost per day in the strike. At average gold prices this resulted in production losses of about 250kg, valued at about R10m. Production costs have risen sharply in the first quarter, would also be adversely affected.
Nine injured in Implats' bombing

NINE people were injured, two seriously, when a petrol bomb was thrown into Impala Platinum's information centre on Wednesday, the mine reported yesterday.

The bomb was thrown into a room where some of the 2,194 retrenched workers from the mine's closed No 11 shaft were being briefed on their retrenchment packages.

The mine said the perpetrators had been identified and were being sought by the authorities to face charges of arson and attempted murder.

Implats said work at the mine's other shafts and operations was proceeding "without disruption or loss of production".

The incident followed a successful Mmabatho Supreme Court application by Implats in which the court found that the mine complied with retrenchment procedures and employment contracts, validating the shaft's closure. The NUM's application for an order declaring the closure to be invalid or in breach of employment contracts was dismissed with costs. The NUM was not available for comment.

Implats told the court that talks over the closure had been held for more than a year with employees and their representatives. During this time it was made clear that the shaft could not continue production because geological difficulties forced it to operate at half of its capacity.
Workers worried by separation

By Sharon Chetty

ZULU-SPEAKING miners at East Rand Proprietary Mines in Boksburg have been kept in "isolation" since the Easter weekend following antagonism between Inkatha and ANC supporters.

Workers said yesterday that they feared dismissal as they were not allowed to work, had to move out of the hostel they shared with non-Zulus and could not mix with other workers. According to one worker, management feared that Zulus returning from their Easter vacation in Natal would be armed and attack others.

"When we showed up for our shifts, we were told that we could not go to work," said a miner.

"We had no plans for violence. Our biggest worry is that we will be fired and have to return to Zululand this weekend," said the man, who refused to be named.

The Zulus have been accommodated at a training college on the property and are being guarded by mine security at all hours.

A spokesman for Rand Mines, which own ERPM, confirmed that about 300 workers were withdrawn from the hostel because of friction between ANC and Inkatha supporters.

"There was no question of dismissal," he said.
Rusplat workers on fourth day of strike

AN ILLEGAL strike by about 5,100 Rustenburg Platinum workers — about a third of the company's workforce — enters its fourth day today at Rusplat's Rustenburg section.

JCI spokesman Frans van Rensburg said yesterday the workers were striking in support of demands for immediate pay-outs of their contributions to the provident and unemployment funds, death benefit insurance and income tax.

The strike follows last week's three-day illegal strike over similar demands at Rusplat's Amandelbult section.

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JACQUIE GOLDFING

Rusplat MD Barry Davidson said production had been partially affected.

NUM general secretary Kgalema Motlanthe said the union had not initiated the strike and only a "tiny portion" of the strikers were NUM members.

"The strikers have demed NUM shop stewards any platform to explain the consequences of these pay-outs," he said.

Management refused to say whether negotiations were taking place, or if disciplinary action would be taken.
Miners strike over cash payout

ABOUT 8,000 workers at Balokeng North mine near Rustenburg elected not to work yesterday, reducing Impala Platinum Mines' daily production by one-third, an Implats spokesman said yesterday.

The incident followed the workers' demand to be paid in cash for working Wednesday's night shift. Workers then refused to report for duty at yesterday's morning shift, but management met the workers' council yesterday afternoon and expected production to return to normal today, the spokesman said.

Mining operations were also disrupted at two Anglo American mines yesterday, with two of Vaal Reefs' 10 shafts affected by reduced workforce. Anglo American spokesman James Duncan said, "But most of the group's workforce reported for duty as normal."

One Vaal Reef shaft had "a high level of absenteeism" and another only 74% of its normal complement of workers.

Disruptions were more serious at Anglo's Free Gold mine where 10 of the mine's 24 shafts were affected. Seven of these reported no shafts and three were operating at 70% of their full complement, Duncan said.

He said more than 100,000 voters passed through the group's voting facilities on Wednesday.

Gold Fields said only one mine, Libanon, had "more significant absenteeism" than the others, while Rand Mines and JCI reported normal production. Sapa reports that two Gengold mines near Evander were closed yesterday to allow workers to vote as insufficient ballot papers had been supplied on Wednesday.
Striking miners ordered to work

NORTHAM Platinum's Zonderfontein mine management obtained an interim court order on Friday declaring a strike by about 6,000 workers unlawful and an interdict in terms of which strikers were ordered to return to work, Gold Fields said yesterday.

A Gold Fields spokesman said although production had been affected, it was impossible to quantify losses at this stage. Weekend discussions with the NUM and workers were expected to end the strike.

According to the company, the strike started on April 21 during discussions with the NUM about a list of grievances presented to mine management.

The NUM has been waging a war against Gold Fields' poor safety standards at all the group's mines, and has held several protest marches and a picket outside the company's HQ.

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On March 23, the NUM claimed about 10,000 workers took part in a "protest march" to the mine after which a letter containing the grievances was submitted to management.

The grievances included non-recognition of NUM health and safety representatives, and lack of properly trained and qualified medical staff at medical stations.

The NUM has been waging a war against Gold Fields' poor safety standards at all the group's mines, and has held several protest marches and a picket outside the company's HQ.
GOLD Fields reported yesterday that the strike by 6,000 workers at Northam Platinum’s Zondereinde mine near Rustenburg ended on Sunday with the night shift reporting for work after “exhaustive discussions” with the NUM and a mass meeting at the weekend.

“Every effort is being made to resume normal operations as soon as possible,” Gold Fields said. No estimate of how production had been affected was available.

The NUM said the strike, which began on April 21, ended with management agreeing not to dismiss any of the strikers.

The company had also agreed to begin negotiations on worker demands within two weeks.
Striking miners face interdict

ABOUT 9 500 striking miners at Kloof Gold Mining Company's Kloof division near Carletonville, faced an interdict forcing them to end their illegal industrial action if they did not return to work. Gold Fields said yesterday.

The company said an application for an order declaring the strike illegal and interdicting workers from continuing to take part in it would be heard today.

"The attention of management continues to be focused on achieving a resumption of production as soon as possible," Gold Fields said.

The strike, which began on May 5 when the mine's nightshift refused to report for work, was apparently sparked by disciplinary action against a NUM official.

The NUM accused Kloof management of "unfairly dismissing" Jackson Mafika, the union's local branch chairman.

The NUM's Press officer Jerry Maja- badi said: "Mafika was victimised by management for allegedly intimidating workers during the strike of March 12-15." He said Mafika said he believed the dismissal of Mafika was part of Gold Fields's "well-orchestrated campaign to eliminate NUM from its mines".

He said the Kloof strike was called in protest against "the general repression prevailing at the mines".

He called on management to reinstate Mafika immediately and to process union stop order forms so as to normalise management-union relations.

Extensive discussions between Kloof management and the NUM continued yesterday in an attempt to end the strike, both parties said.

ERICA JANKOWITZ
Kloof mine strikers may return to work

BY DUNCAN GUY

The strike by 9,500 miners at the Gold Fields-owned Kloof Mine might end today, after the National Union of Mineworkers said yesterday that it would advise its members to report for duty this morning.

Failing that, the mining house will seek an interim court order declaring the strike illegal — an action it threatened on Monday when workers failed to report for duty on Sunday night.

Mineworkers' downed tools on Thursday in solidarity after a senior union official had disciplinary steps taken against him for taking part in a previous strike.

Although NUM officials met Gold Fields management yesterday, neither side was committed to saying the talks had been fruitful.

Gold Fields spokesman Marnon Bröwer said the talks were "not all concl

ed".

NUM general secretary Kgalema Motlanthe said yesterday the union had put proposals forward to Gold Fields that, could lead to its recognising the union.

"We proposed that it was simply desirable to end the strike rather than go to court," he said, adding that Gold Fields, in its court papers, had cited the union as first respondent.

"Yet they actually indicate we represent only 35 percent, instead of 50 percent, plus one, for bargaining purposes."

Motlanthe said Gold Fields used workers' literacy weaknesses to disqualify many workers from being registered as NUM members because of errors on stop-order forms that resulted from the standard of the members' handwriting.

Gold Fields could not be reached for comment at the time of going to press.
**Mine bosses go to court**

By Ike Motsapi and Sapa

THE strike by about 10,000 miners at Gold Fields’ Kloof mine, near Carletonville, over the dismissal of a union official enters its seventh day today.

And management will today apply for an urgent interdict in the Rand Supreme Court to declare the strike illegal.

Mine management reported that the strike, which began with the night shift last Thursday, extended to the day shift on Monday morning.

An application for a court order declaring the strike unlawful and interdicting the workers from continuing with their action will be heard today.

The National Union of Mineworkers said in a statement the strike began after management unfairly dismissed the union’s branch chairman, Mr Jackson Mafika.

**Victimised**

NUM media officer Mr Jerry Majavu said Mafika was victimised for allegedly intimidating workers during a three-day strike in March to protest against the depression prevailing at the mine at the time.

Kloof mine management said yesterday that extensive discussions with worker representatives were in progress.

The NUM demands that disciplinary proceedings against Mafika be dropped.

Management said disciplinary proceedings that were continuing arose from allegations of threatened reprisals for not having participated in previous “illegal industrial action”.

Management would continue to focus on resuming production as soon as possible, the statement said. “The company’s application to court is for an order declaring the present industrial action unlawful and interdicting the employees involved from continuing to participate in this unlawful action will be heard on Wednesday May 11, 1994,” the statement added.
Mine action right claims 4 lives
Mine tense after seven die in clashes

4 killed in underground battle

JOHANNESBURG. The situation at the Western Areas gold mine, near Westonaria on the West Rand, was still tense today following clashes which claimed at least seven lives this week — including four miners who were killed in an underground battle with mine tools used as weapons.

Mine authorities and security forces have confiscate about eight tons of weapons — traditional and homemade — from warring factions on the mine property.

The violence has been blamed on friction between Cosatu-aligned members and miners loyal to the Inkatha Freedom Party.

Security at the mine as tight as vehicles entering the gates and parcels carried by mineworkers are searched.

Conflict arose between the two groups on April 17 when a miner was killed outside the hostel. The violence culminated with the killings of four miners while working underground on Wednesday.

Johannesburg Consolidated Investments spokesman Billy Nunn said last night that talks to resolve the violence were going on at the mine and a solution was expected later today.

National Union of Mineworkers deputy general secretary Gwede Mantashe said last night the conflict began when a mineworker was killed outside the hostel. A few days later another was killed and a miner was arrested.

Last Saturday miners held a meeting to demand the release of the arrested worker. Clashes with about 500 "TFP-led" workers ensued, during which a worker was stabbed to death. The next day, another was seriously injured.

Mr Mantashe said about 5,000 miners had decided that there would be no work until the conflict was addressed by mine management, but the "TFP-led" group reported for work on Monday and Tuesday.

After JCI had issued warnings that it would start dismissal proceedings, all the miners returned to work on Wednesday, Mr Mantashe said.

Mr Nunn said, however, that a group of miners had forced their way underground and "set upon" the working miners. Mr Mantashe said it appeared the miners used their work tools to fight.
FOUR namewokers were killed at Western Areas' gold mine in Western Transvaal on Wednesday in violence following pre-election clashes between Inkatha Freedom Party and ANC supporters, NUM spokesman Jerry Majatladi said yesterday.

An increase in tension at the mines led to a work stoppage by 4 500 workers on Sunday after management dismissed NUM branch chairman Jackson Mahlakia for allegedly intimidating workers during a March 13-16 strike.

The reinstatement of four miners dismissed for alleged conduct breaches during the March 13-16 strike was subject to internal review, Muro said.

The court had not ruled on the legality of action. Any ruling would require a separate case.

Clashes

Mothamba blamed recent unrest on management's inflexibility and long-running grievances among the workforce. Chief of these was the company's refusal to recognise the NUM, which it claimed represented only 28% of the workforce.

An all-day meeting between management and the NUM on Tuesday failed to resolve the dispute over the processing of stop orders for union dues.

Muro said processing stop orders was irrelevant to the dispute, while Mothamba said they were the key to union recognition and normalising relations.

Muro said disciplinary action would be taken against those responsible for "illegal" strike action. "I am confident that production will resume very soon. I do not know what this strike is about," he said.
Underground mine battle

The situation at the Western Consolidated Investments gold mine in the Witwatersrand mining district has continued to deteriorate, with clashes between security forces and miners escalating.

A few days later another "fractured" group reported it was killed and a miner was injured. According to the union official, the police had still not arrived on the scene.

A police spokesman said the violence continued despite attempts to negotiate a peaceful resolution. He confirmed that three people had been arrested earlier, but said the situation was still tense and that there were reports of fatalities.

The mine has been closed down, with security forces deploying in force to contain the situation. The union said it was waiting for the police to arrive before taking further action.

The mine is one of the largest in South Africa, with thousands of workers employed. The union has been calling for better working conditions and higher wages, but the management has refused to negotiate.

Security forces have been deployed to the mine, with reports of gunshots and tear gas being used to disperse the crowd.

The union said it would continue to protest until its demands were met.

The mine's owners have denied reports of fatalities and said they were taking all necessary precautions to ensure the safety of their employees.

The situation remains highly volatile, with both sides dug in and unwilling to compromise.

The miners' union has called for solidarity from other workers and community members in support of their cause.
Four miners killed in violence

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Four mineworkers were killed at Western Areas Gold Mine in the western Transvaal on Wednesday in violence seen as a sequel to pre-election clashes between Inkatha and ANC supporting miners, NUM spokesman Mr Kgalema Motlanthe said yesterday.

He said the court had not ruled on the legality of the strike and that any ruling would require a separate application.

Violence at the Western Areas mine was precipitated by an attack on a non-Zulu-speaking delegation of miners returning from a visit to a police station on Saturday where a man who had allegedly killed a mineworker during pre-election violence had been detained, said Mr Motlanthe.

The visit was arranged by Western Areas management after rumours that the detainee was being ill-treated had led to demands for his release.

The delegation was attacked on its way back to a hostel by an armed group of Zulu-speaking men. One man was killed and five injured.
Miners still on strike

By Ike Motsapi

ABOUT 10,000 miners at Kloof Gold Mine near Cadizville are continuing their strike despite management having secured a court interdict ordering them to return to work by 4pm on Wednesday.

The workers went on strike in support of a demand that their leader, Mr. Jackson Mafika, who was dismissed for allegedly being behind the industrial action earlier this year, be reinstated.

National Union of Mineworkers' spokesman Mr. Jerry Myatadi said yesterday, "Management showed insensitivity in what they did and this will not solve the problem."

The dismissal of Jackson Mafika was unnecessary and provocative," Myatadi said.

Management yesterday said they were monitoring the situation and were still engaged in talks with NUM to try and normalise the situation.

The strike enters its seventh day today.
Detente ends war on West Rand mine

Western Areas, gold mine management reached an agreement with two factions on its mine yesterday, ending fighting that led to the killing of six miners since last weekend.

Johannesburg Consolidated Investment gold division chairman Kennedy Maxwell said the parties had agreed to a code of conduct, security arrangements and a high-level committee to investigate the causes of conflict.

In terms of the agreement, mine security personnel and National Peace Secretariat monitors would be deployed underground, where four miners died on Wednesday.

Western Areas consulting engineer John Brownriggs said miners had agreed to resume work today. — Sapa.
JOHANNESBURG — Western Areas gold mine management reached an agreement with two warring factions on its mine yesterday, ending fighting which has led to the killing of six miners since last weekend.

Mine owner Johannesburg Consolidated Investment gold division chairman Mr Kennedy Maxwell said the parties agreed to a code of conduct, security arrangements and a high-level committee to investigate the causes of conflict.

In terms of the agreement mine security personnel and National Peace Secretariat monitors would be deployed underground where four miners were killed on Wednesday. A mine spokesman said miners agreed to return to work today.

An NUM spokesman said the deal concerned access to mine hostels, possession of weapons and control of visitors.
Kloof strike ends but workers plan march

ERICA JANOWITZ and SUBAN RUSSELL

STRIKING workers at Gold Fields' Kloof mine near Carletonville voted to return to work yesterday, but vowed to keep up pressure on management.

Mine management issued an ultimatum on Friday ordering about 9000 striking miners to return to work by yesterday's night shift or face dismissal. NUM general secretary Kgama Motlanthe said workers voted to return to work, but marched to the company's Fox Street head office yesterday afternoon demanding that their grievances be addressed.

Motlanthe said a second, bigger march on the head office was provisionally planned for Saturday.

He said Saturday's march would go ahead depending on management's response to a memorandum which the union was to hand over yesterday.

Gold Fields said on Friday an interim court interdict obtained last Wednesday had declared the strike action illegal. In terms of the Supreme Court order, workers were ordered to desist from the illegal action. This was communicated to workers last week.

The mine had lost about R320m in reduced production as a result of the strike, Gold Fields said.

Normal production resumed at JCI's Western Area gold mine on Saturday after violent clashes stopped underground operations last week.

JCI was unable to quantify lost production but said the South shaft had been affected. Normal operations were reported by North shaft, which accounted for about 40% of the mine's output.

NUM assistant general secretary Gwede Mant莊he confirmed the 4000 workers returned to work after an interim code of conduct was signed between the NUM, the Inkatha Freedom Party-aligned United Workers of SA and management.

In terms of the agreement, ground rules for the hostel had been agreed on, including access by non-residents, control of access and the declaration of possession of weapons as illegal and constituting an offence. In addition, peace monitors would be posted underground and in the hostels.

A mine spokesman said seven miners had died in fighting since April 17 and about 3 tons of weapons had been confiscated and destroyed on the mine.
Alex residents emerge victorious

Firm set to pay for repairs to houses

BY ANNA COX

Alexandra East Bank residents have emerged victorious in their battle against a major construction company for repairs to 617 houses which began collapsing a few months after they moved in.

Murray & Roberts signed an agreement last week undertaking to foot the entire bill for repairs which could run into millions of rands. Reconstruction work will start within the next two weeks.

The houses were built in the upmarket section of the township in 1988 and 1989 and were purchased for prices between R80,000 and R100,000.

Many residents who sank their life savings into their homes and who took out large bonds to finance the houses faced heartbreak when the houses started collapsing around them several months later.

The East Bank Civic Association, headed by chairman Pule Phalaise, took up the residents' cause and started fighting for the houses to be repaired.

"It took us three years to get here, but we have finally signed the agreement," says chairman of the civic association.

Miners call off strike but stick to demands

Miners at Goldfield's Kloof Gold Mine near Carletonville were going down the shafts by 9 pm last night, marking the end of a 10-day strike.

But the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) insists it has not given up on its demands.

About 200 marchers gathered outside the Goldfields offices in Johannesburg earlier in the day to hand management a memorandum.

The decision to call off the strike, involving 10,000 workers, was made at a mass meeting at the mine yesterday.

NUM general secretary Kgailema Modise said demands included the reinstatement of NUM branch chairman Jackson Mathew, the dismissal of senior mine managers, and improved conditions for workers.

Goldfields spokesman Marion Brower said the company would be dealing with the memorandum today. — Staff Reporter and Sapa.
Miners stop work to discuss peace deal

ERICA JANKOWITZ

JCI's Western Areas gold mine near Westonaria stopped production yesterday for workers to thrash out a peace agreement and individual workers to make a pledge to abide by the terms of the agreement, Western Areas MD Bill Naunn said yesterday.

Violence at the mine over the past month has claimed the lives of eight workers and halted production at the mine's south shaft for most of last week.

Naunn said he expected discussions concerning the signing of a peace agreement to continue today, as would police and mine investigations to bring the perpetrators to book. A 20-member peace committee had been established on the mine to oversee the process.

Yesterday, the mine dismissed three workers for being in contravention of the code of conduct. It also offered a R10 000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of criminals and Naunn said workers had come forward with suspects.

The worker-committee would oversee disciplinary proceedings and decide on appropriate punishment for those found guilty of participating in the violence.

Naunn said the two factions had discussed the issue yesterday without the intervention of either represented union and had asked management to remove the barbed wire erected to prevent fighting between the factions.

The NUM yesterday accused management of locking workers out. Although the union fully supported the peace process and law enforcement, it predicted the "self-policing" strategy would lead to a "witchhunt.

NUM assistant general secretary Gwede Mantashe rejected the mine's decision to get individual workers to sign the new peace pledge, describing it as "an outdated industrial relations approach." He said the union had not been involved in drawing up the agreement, which replaced a previous document negotiated with the NUM.
Three dismissed at troubled gold mine

Three mineworkers have been dismissed at the Western Areas Gold Mine where eight miners have died in alleged ethnic clashes. And management has prevented workers from going underground, Johannesburg Consolidated Investments (JCI), owners of the mine, said yesterday. (213)

Management has given its workforce 24 hours to indicate their commitment to peace.

The National Union of Mineworkers said yesterday that the dismissal of the three on unproved allegations constituted an unfair labour practice and indicated it would challenge the decision.

JCI said in a statement that the 4,500 miners would be allowed underground only when the perpetrators of the violence had been identified and removed from the mine, and workers had individually signed an undertaking to adhere to the mine’s code of conduct.

JCI has also offered a R10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of criminals. Police investigations are well advanced and arrests are expected — Labour Correspondent.
Mining halted after violence
JOHANNESBURG - Western Areas Gold Mining Company, where recent violence claimed several lives, said it had deemed to stop workers going underground at its South shaft.
Six workers were killed during fighting and an illegal stoppage at the shaft last week, and another was killed yesterday when 80% of employees returned to work — Sapa-Reuters
NEWS Violence erupts at gold mine • TEF to assess

Two die in mine shooting

By Ike Motsapi and Russel Molefe

TWO people died and six others were slightly injured during a shooting incident at Freddies gold mine near Odendaalsrus on Monday night.

And at the JCI Western Areas gold mine workers yesterday refused to go on duty following the killing of eight people in what was described by management as ethnic violence. The violence has been going on for a month now.

Mr James Duncan, media officer for Anglo American Corporation, told Sowetan that violence erupted at shaft number 5 at Freddies gold mine.

He said: "In response to complaints received in recent weeks from residents of the mine's No 5 shaft hostel, a joint force comprising members of the police and mine security raided a shebeen operating at a taxi rank near the hostel on mine property about midnight."

"A number of arrests were made but as the joint force was leaving the area, it had to return to the rescue of a mine security patrolman under attack at an access point to the hostel."

"When the joint force returned to assist the patrolman they were stoned and shot at, and were obliged to return fire. It is not clear if the two people who died were mine employees. The six injured are our employees. NUM yesterday confirmed that talks were going on..."
LABOUR NEWS IN BRIEF

Compiled by Sharon Sorour

THE 10-day strike by 10 000 miners at Gold Fields' Kloof Gold Mine near Carletonville ended last week.

The National Union of Mineworkers said although workers had called off the strike, they had not given up on their demands, which included the reinstatement of NUM branch chairman Jackson Mafika, the dismissal of senior mine managers, and improved conditions for workers.

Meanwhile, NUM has submitted its 1994/95 proposals for improvements in wages and service conditions to the Chamber of Mines.

NUM proposed adjustments to the minimum monthly wage rates for non-staff members on gold mines, ranging from R559 to R2 003 for surface workers, and from R631 to R2 224 for underground workers. Staff employees should receive the same percentage increase in basic wages as non-staff workers.

The union proposed a national minimum cash wage of R1 000 a month for surface workers, on coal mines and R1 100 a month for underground and opencast workers. This should exclude any payments for food, accommodation or medical care.
NUM slams bosses over action

By Russel Molefe

The National Union of Mineworkers yesterday condemned JCI's Western Areas Gold Mine management for locking out more than 4 000 workers following ethnic violence there.

The management at the violence-torn mine near Westonaria on the West Rand has stopped workers from going underground because of the fighting.

Eight people have died in the fighting between Zulu-speaking workers and the rest of the workforce since last month.

NUM press officer Mr Jerry Majjali said management should not punish workers through lock-outs.

Managing director Mr Bill Nunn said workers would be stopped going underground until peace had been restored. He blamed the violence on individuals "who do not want to be peaceful".
Peace returns to Western Areas

ERIC JANKOWITZ

JCI reported more than 80% work attendance at its Western Areas gold mine South Shaft yesterday after ethnic clashes had disrupted production for almost two weeks.

JCI said it was not able to assess lost production yet because some attendance had been achieved on most days. But once the disruptions had been quantified, details would be released, it said.

Yesterday the mine was said to be peaceful. No incidents were reported.

Police were continuing investigations into the clashes, which led to seven deaths on mine property over a nine-day period. Arrests were expected soon.

"Employees who were allowed to work underground today all met the conditions set by mine management and the representative high-level committee of the two factions to end violence at the shaft," JCI said.

NUM assistant general secretary Gwede Mantashe said he hoped the mine had found a lasting peaceful settlement to the violence.

Although the NUM complained of being excluded from the process after its initial participation in peace negotiations, Mantashe indicated he was satisfied with the agreement.
Miners to march on GFSA head office

The National Union of Mineworkers yesterday accused Gold Fields SA of unacceptable industrial relations policies and said mineworkers would march on the mining giant's head office in Johannesburg tomorrow to highlight their grievances.

The miners will present a memorandum containing a list of demands, a key one being the recognition of the 500,000-member union.

NUM assistant general secretary Gwede Mantashe said the recognition demand had been a central reason for recent strikes.

Workers have been on strike at the Kloof, O'Kiep and Northam mines, while protest marches have been held at West Driefontein and DeDeelkrans mines.

Approached for comment, Gold Fields management said it would respond after considering the miners' claims.

Mantashe accused Gold Fields of denying miners the right to organise and bargain collectively, a universal principle of civilised industrial relations.

He said the company was using delaying tactics, such as retarding verification of membership forms, to keep the NUM off its mines.

The list of union leaders dismissed by Gold Fields was a long one, he said.

Miners were also demanding the abolition of the acclimatisation process for underground workers, which involved their being subjected to hot conditions for four days.

The NUM wanted this replaced by a system where miners undergo 30 minutes of acclimatisation, followed by a medical examination.

Mantashe said that while the Chamber of Mines had agreed to end acclimatisation, Gold Fields had refused to negotiate the issue.

City bus fare to rise soon

The Johannesburg Transport Directorate (JDTD) yesterday announced a rise in bus fare from June 1.

The new weekly tickets, which offer unlimited travel, will cost R47 and monthly tickets R65.

Ten-ride tickets for adults will cost R19 and for schoolchildren and pre-primary children R12.

Cash peak tickets and cash off-peak tickets will cost R5 and R2, respectively, for adults and R1,50 for pupils in uniform and pre-primary children.

Pensioners over the age of 70 and government pensioners over the age of 60 travel free.

The JDTD did not indicate what percentage increase will come into play.

Rotary seeks help in tracing missing man

The Rotary Helping Hand is appealing for help in tracing Martin Laphy, who went missing in Midrand on Wednesday.
3,000 miners march in city

About 3,000 miners marched on Gold Fields SA's Johannesburg headquarters on Saturday to deliver a memorandum listing their grievances, which included the recognition of the National Union of Mineworkers.

Accusing the mining house of practising apartheid, NUM vice-president Zokwana warned it would face rolling mass action if their demands were not met.

Congress of South African Trade Unions deputy president George Nkadimeng said Gold Fields was playing with fire, adding: "We will meet fire with fire."

The memorandum was accepted by management representative Brian Nattrass, who declined to speak to the press.

Grievances included an end to racial discrimination on mines, an end to victimisation of NUM members, good-faith negotiations with the union, an end to ethnically divided hostels, and constructive programmes of affirmative action.

Saturday's march followed industrial action at various mines in recent months, including strikes at Kloof, O'Kiep and Northam mines, as well as protests at West Driefontein and Deelkraal mines. — Sapa.
Miners warn of strike if grievances not met

JOHANNESBURG — About 3,000 miners marched to Gold Fields' headquarters on Saturday to deliver a memorandum listing grievances, giving the company a seven-day ultimatum to respond.

The National Union of Mineworkers said that failing a response, miners would embark on "rolling mass action", possibly including a national strike.

Demands included an end to racial discrimination on the mines, victimisation of NUM members and ethnically divided hostels.

Earlier, Gold Fields managing director Mr Alan Munro had warned NUM against strike action because it would "adversely" affect workers, the company and potential foreign investment.
Acceptance of NUM is vital, say miners

About 3,000 miners marched on Gold Fields SA's Johannesburg headquarters on Saturday to deliver a memorandum listing their grievances, including the recognition of the National Union of Mineworkers. Accusing the mining house of practicing apartheid, NUM vice-president, Mr. Senzeni Zokwana warned it would face rolling mass action if demands were not met. Congress of South African Trade Unions deputy president, Mr. George Nkandu, said Gold Fields was playing 'with fire.' Demands included ending racial discrimination on mines, ending victimisation of NUM members, good faith negotiations with NUM, ending ethnically divided hostels, and constructive programmes of affirmative action. — Sapa 2.13
Miners’ protest halts production

ERIC JANKOWITZ

A MARCH by almost 90% of Samancor’s Western Chrome Mine workers in Johannesburg yesterday brought production to a halt at the mine, near Rustenburg, the NUM said.

About 600 NUM members — some employed by Samancor and others retrenched — took part in the march from the union’s Rissik Street office to Samancor’s Marshall Street headquarters, where a memorandum was handed to management. This precipitated a meeting between the parties to discuss grievances.

The workers protested against recruitment of new employees without exhausting “all chances” of re-employing those who had been retrenched and condemned the employment of contractors.

Demonstrators demanded that hostels be converted into married quarters, an end to racial discrimination within the company, an affirmative action programme, and education and training.

Management, locked in talks with NUM representatives, was not available for comment.

Sapa reports that Mutual & Federal Insurance workers picketed the company’s Johannesburg headquarters for a third consecutive day yesterday.

The Banking, Insurance, Finance and Assurance Workers’ Union is demanding higher pay and scrapping of a merit-based system of salary increases. The workers want a R600 across-the-board increase.

The picket, which started on Monday, is planned to continue until tomorrow.

Shop steward Mpho Ndlopo said the workers had given the company until June 6 to respond to their petition. Industrial action was “on the cards if management failed to respond satisfactorily,” he said.
Clashes cost
mine R13m

WORK stoppages earlier this month at JCI's Western Areas gold mine cost JCI more than R13m. JCI said yesterday disruptions at the mine's south shaft — caused by ethnic clashes — had resulted in a production loss of about 300kg of gold. This translated into a loss of about R13m revenue or about 7.6% of an average quarter's tonnage. JCI said the estimate included a loss of 15kg at the South Deep section of the mine. The north shaft had been unaffected.

Clashes between Zulu-speaking and other groups between May 8 and 19 led to at least seven deaths and numerous work disruptions. The mine was closed for two days and on others limited numbers of workers reported for duty.

Normal production resumed early this week after a peace deal was thrashed out. However, JCI said about 500 workers — 7% of the workforce — had resigned. Recruiting new workers had marginally affected production.
Lonrho workforce is still out on strike

JACQUIE GOLING

A STRIKE at Lonrho's Eastern Platinum mine, by about 3 500 workers — 25% of the workforce — entered its sixth day yesterday.

The strike, the second in less than three months, began last Wednesday following management's dismissal of almost the entire NUM branch committee, including its branch chairman, vice-chairman and two other committee members, said NUM general secretary Kgalema Motlanthe. (213)

The NUM said the dismissals were sparked by allegations of intimidation by a team leader named only as Johannes, and two other workers whose names were withheld.

The NUM is demanding the reinstatement of its members and said the elimination of union leaders was a desperate attempt by management to avoid recognising the union as a "major stakeholder."

The union said it had failed to gain recognition on the mine because management had prolonged the verification of its stop orders.

The union claimed the mine issued an unlimited matum giving workers until yesterday morning to return to work or face dismissal.

It also accused management of closing kitchen facilities, the dressing station and of keeping the hostel lights switched off in a bid to break the strike.

"Management should desist (from) using repression as a form of dealing with industrial relations matters," the NUM said.
Platinum workers still out

BY JOVIAL RANTAO

The second strike in three months by 3,500 mineworkers at the Eastern Platinum Mine near Brits enters its sixth day today.

The workers are demanding the reinstatement of four dismissed colleagues.

The National Union of Mineworkers, alleged yesterday that management had issued an ultimatum that workers should return to work or face dismissal.

The mineworkers went on strike on June 1 after mine management dismissed almost the entire NUM branch committee, including chairman Jackson Moyoza.

The union said in a statement that the dismissals had arisen out of allegations of mismanagement by team leaders. It added that the dismissal of union leaders was a desperate attempt by management at the Lonrho-owned mine to avoid recognizing the union.

Mine management was also accused of using tactics such as the closure of kitchen facilities to break the strike.

"Management should desist from using repression as a form of dealing with industrial relations matters," the union said.

"Workers have the right to bargain collectively with employers, and the sooner this right is acknowledged, the better for industrial peace to prevail," the statement added.

Mine management was not available for comment.
Miners back at work.

PRETORIA — The strike at the Eastern Platinum Mines in Bapong, near Brits, has ended following an agreement between the management and the National Union of Mineworkers.
Miners' strike on West Rand

Johannesburg

The Mineworkers Union (MWU) went on strike at JCI's Randfontein Estate gold mine on the West Rand yesterday, to force management into reinstating the practice of hoisting white miners to the surface before blacks.

"About 150 miners and artisans refused to go underground yesterday," JCI said.

The MWU wanted heightened dissatisfaction could spread to other mines.
White miners strike at JCI mine

JACOUB GOLING

MEMBERS of the white Mineworkers’ Union (MWU) went on strike at JCI’s Randfontein Estate gold mine on the West Rand yesterday in a bid to force management to return to the practice of hoisting white miners to the surface before blacks.

About 150 miners and artisans refused to go underground, JCI said.

SAPA reports that MWU general secretary Peet Ungerer said the refusal stemmed from a management decision that miners and tradesmen be the last to be hoisted out after completion of their shifts.

Workers saw this as a unilateral change in a longstanding practice.

He said dissatisfaction could spread throughout the JCI group and other mines.

A JCI spokesman said production had not been affected and workers had agreed to return to work today.

The MWU had decided to set up a committee to discuss its grievances. The union also intended discussing the issue with other unions.

NUM general secretary Kgalema Motlanthe said “cage discrimination” was wholly unacceptable and was racial discrimination in the extreme. “Mine management used to explain the issue by referring to it as a matter of seniority, rather than race, but we all knew it was racial.”

He said there should be no room for this practice and settlement in the new SA: “It is not only wrong, it is dangerous.”

Motlanthe said that in the early days the mining houses had not been challenged on this long-standing practice, “but because of union pressure and the new dispensation the practice had to be changed.”
Mandela slur causes strike

The entire workforce at Goldfields’ West Driefontein Gold Mine — 14 000 workers — went on strike yesterday after a white foreman allegedly made a derogatory remark about President Mandela, industry sources told The Star.

The foreman allegedly reacted to workers’ complaints that the lift was too slow by telling them to wait for Mandela’s help to hoist them to the surface.

“Workers were upset that no action was taken against the foreman who showed blatant disrespect to the President.”

Goldfields and the National Union of Mineworkers were last night locked in a meeting to avert a concerted bid to resolve the strike.

In a statement, Goldfields said the mineworkers embarked on an unlawful industrial action but did not give reasons.

The NUM was unavailable for comment. — Labour correspondent.
Mine grinds to halt over racist remark

ALMOST the entire workforce — about 14,000 workers — went on an illegal strike at Gold Fields' West Driefontein mine on the West Rand yesterday.

The strike apparently came after black workers interpreted as racist and derogatory a remark made by a white supervisor. Replying to workers' complaints about the lift being too slow, he allegedly said they should seek President Nelson Mandela's help to be hoisted to the surface.

Gold Fields said the "unlawful industrial action" began in the morning, but the NUM said workers on Wednesday's night shift refused to be hoisted to the surface after the incident. "The workers have decided to remain underground until the matter is resolved," the union said.

Mine management and the union were engaged in late-night talks in an attempt to resolve the matter, it said.

However, the NUM was demanding that no disciplinary action be taken against workers and that no pay be withheld or deducted from the miners.

The union was also demanding the immediate "removal" of the mine captain who made the remark and a full report by the mine manager regarding the company's stance on racist attacks.
Death of worker heightens tension at beleagured mine

Weekend Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — A 20-year-old contract worker, Constantino Abriano, was knocked down and killed by a crane at a tense West Driefontein Gold Mine, where 14 000 workers downed tools on Thursday after a white foreman allegedly made a derogatory remark about President Nelson Mandela.

In a statement issued yesterday Goldfields did not give further details, but said there would be an inquiry into Mr Abriano's death.

The National Union of Mineworkers said in a statement that its members demanded an end to the victimisation of union members and an end to discrimination by supervisors.

The union called for the reinstatement of Constable Nkangaene within three days, failing which the union would demand that Goldfields security should be removed from the mine.

The whites-only Mineworkers' Union yesterday said unrest was imminent on mines countrywide following accusations by black mineworkers that white miners were hooted to the surface before them after a shift.

MWU general secretary Peet Ungerer said white workers had already been threatened, assaulted and prevented from going to work on various mines during the past week.

Problems had been experienced, especially at Randfontein Estates, Preddies Gold Mine in the Free State and West Driefontein near Carletonville (213). “The MWU rejects allegations that the racial friction is the result of the 'racist' practice of white skips (lifts),” Mr Ungerer said.”
‘Racism’ sparked strike

JOHANNESBURG — The strike by 17 000 mineworkers at West Driefontein mine was sparked by "an extreme racist incident", the National Union Mineworkers' Union (NUM) said yesterday.

"A white mine captain prevented black workers from entering a cage to come to the surface. He said it was a whites-only lift," the NUM said.

The workers replied that under the new constitution there were no whites-only lifts. This was met with more racist remarks, the NUM said.

The NUM said the tense situation at the mine became worse when a 20-year-old man, Mr Coetzer Avram, was killed yesterday when he "was hit by a crane truck driven by a white employee" yesterday.

A mine spokeswoman said they were still trying to establish the cause of the strike. She said the dead man was employed by a contractor at the mine.

Meanwhile, the whites-only Mineworkers' Union (MWU) said yesterday unrest was imminent on mines nationwide after claims by black miners that white miners were hoisted to the surface first.

"For years it has been the practice for higher grade workers to surface first as they have to discuss production reports with their seniors," MWU general secretary Mr Peet Ungerer said. — Sapa
17 000 miners go on strike

By Ike Motsapi

A strike by more than 17 000 miners at the West Durban Gold Mine has left the company and the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa out of pocket.

A strike was declared by an industrial council which had failed to enter into a contract agreement with the miners on a minimum of R250 per month.

The problem was exacerbated by the death of a 20-year-old miner on Friday, killed on the job by a coal mine that was being mined by a white employer.

Meanwhile, miners at Durban Woodstock Deep Mine marched on Saturday, demanding:

- The reinstatement of workers who were unfairly dismissed.
- An end to the transfer of NUM members to other working points because this is seen as an attempt to weaken the union.
- An end to the victims of NUM security members by the mine's security supervision.
About 2,000 mineworkers at the Greenside and Clydesdale collieries, near Witbank, have gone on strike.

The mines, owned by Gold Fields, said an illegal work stoppage started on Monday night. Management said no demands had been submitted, but the National Union of Mineworkers said a memorandum was presented some time ago.

The NUM said it wanted a union office, a meeting hall, full-time shop stewards, and the conversion of hostels into family units. — Labour Correspondent
Coal miners go on strike

ERICA JANKOWITZ

ABOUT 1 600 workers at Greenside and Clydesdale Collieries near Witbank brought production to a halt with an unprocedural strike that began with Monday night's shift. Gold Fields said yesterday meetings throughout the day between mine management and worker representatives failed to resolve the problem.

The NUM said the strike was triggered by management ignoring workers' demands tabled about two weeks ago. These included:

☐ Permission to open an NUM branch office,
☐ Allocating a hall for union meetings,
☐ Full-time shift stewards,
☐ Creating family units from hostels and democratising housing,
☐ Providing decent transport,
☐ The revision of labour standards and practices and an end to unfair dismissal, and
☐ The removal of Gold Fields' security guards from the mine.

Meanwhile, the M also reported wage negotiations at Davey/Middelburg mines deadlocked yesterday with the company offering 10% and the union demanding an 18% wage increase.

Annual and maternity leave were also in dispute, but agreement in principle was reached on many issues, including sick leave and a health and safety agreement.

Negotiations were scheduled to resume this morning, the union said.
White miners strike over hoisting system

WHITE skilled workers went on strike at Gold Fields' Kloof gold mine on the West Rand yesterday following a campaign against racial discrimination by black miners, the NUM said.

The NUM said white workers were objecting to a common queue system, where white and black miners stood in one line before being hoisted to the surface.

Gold Fields said the strike involved 183 white skilled miners belonging to the all-white Mineworkers' Union and the Council of Mining Unions.

The company said the industrial action followed an incident which occurred at the end of the day shift on Tuesday, adding that management was involved in talks with employees involved in the strike action in a bid to resolve the situation.

Gold Fields refused to comment on production losses.

Of the skilled employees, about 60% went underground at No 1 shaft yesterday and 40% at No 3 shaft without any incidents, Gold Fields said in the afternoon.

NUM general secretary Kgalema Motlanthe said the NUM decided on democratisation campaigns on all mines earlier this year.

"Racial practices such as white miners being hoisted to the surface before black miners should be ended because black workers are unhappy that they are the first to go underground but often the last to come up," Motlanthe said.

Sapa reports Kloof financial manager Annette LaCock said white workers were prevented from coming to the surface after their shift.

A mine employee also said production had come to a halt and blows had been exchanged between white and black workers.

No comment could be obtained from the Mineworkers' Union or the Council of Mining Unions.
De Beers and miners wage talks deadlock

JOHANNESBURG — Talks between the National Union of Mineworkers and De Beers management on wages and conditions of employment have deadlocked, both parties have announced.

De Beers has offered a six percent increase and the NUM is demanding 17 percent.

Other union demands include an eight percent overtime allowance on weekdays and 10 percent on public holidays and Sundays, a R300 shift allowance, a R400 transport allowance for workers living off mine property, accumulated sick leave, 10 days compassionate leave and maternity and paternity leave.

A union statement said about 6,000 workers at mines in Kimberley, Namaqualand, Finnskopp, Koffiefonten, Geology, Premier and Venetia were affected.

De Beers said in a statement that if the company was to agree to all NUM demands the increase in the wage bill would be more than 30 percent.

The NUM had also declined to give any commitment to support the company's productivity initiatives. — Sapa
Gold mine strike ends

Johannesburg. — A strike by white Kloof Gold Mine workers came to an end today. Yesterday some white workers were prevented from coming to the surface after their shift. Black miners were unhappy that they were the first to go underground and the last to come up.
Faction fighting fatality

A miner worker has been killed in faction fighting between Zulu and Sotho miners at Lonrho's Tweefontein Colliery in the Eastern Transvaal.

Albert Xaba (55), who lived in a migrant workers' hostel at the mine, died at the Witbank Hospital from multiple stab wounds on Monday.

The mine was quiet yesterday after tension had been defused through talks between colliery management, police district commissioner Colonel Nick O'Kelly and worker representatives.

The police Internal Stability Unit had been on standby but was not deployed. — Reuters
ABOUT 1 500 workers went on strike at Gold Fields' Deelkraal gold mine near Carletonville yesterday after an underground dispute between black and white miners over the hoisting system.

Gold Fields said the illegal work stoppage began in the morning at the No 7 level — about 1 860m underground — but management had not been informed of the reasons for the action.

The NUM said about 3 000 workers downed tools and held a sit-in because white miners refused to queue with black workers as they waited for the cage to host them to the surface.

The NUM regional co-ordinator Archie Pi- lane said black workers had interpreted the refusal as being racist.

The NUM was worried about an increase in racial tension on Gold Fields' mines and said its own relations with the company were "cause for concern".

The NUM had invited the all-white Mineworkers' Union (MWU) to join it in drafting a code of conduct in a bid to defuse tensions on Gold Fields' mines, but the MWU had not responded.

The NUM said its membership among white workers had increased. However, management's insistance on hoisting white miners first was fueling tension.

The strike was the third in the past month at Gold Fields' mines over cage discrimination and a common queue system for underground workers.

The MWU said it would meet the state mining engineer today to discuss threats and assaults by black workers against its members.

Flip Buys said several white miners had been attacked and intimidated at Gold Fields' mines on the West Rand.

The NUM's interpretation of the hoisting system as being racist was farcical, Buys said. "It's been accepted practice for many years that senior workers be hoisted to the surface first. It was understandable that white workers, the minority at most mines, were uncomfortable and nervous around thousands of blacks.

The MWU said it would support its members if they retaliated, but it did not back a "total onslaught". It blamed Gold Fields' leniency regarding disciplinary action against NUM members.
White miners attacked: Talks

JOHANNESBURG. — The Mineworkers' Union will meet the state mining engineer today to discuss attacks and threats against whites in the industry, the union said yesterday.

It said several white miners had been attacked, threatened or intimidated at some Goldfields mines on the West Rand. (213)

An MWU spokesman said the matter was also the subject of talks with mine managers.

The union was demanding the safety of its members be guaranteed.

Sapa
Strikes hit mine profits

Gold Fields weathers rising working costs

West Driefontein's milling rate was down to 835 000 tons from the previous quarter's "appropriate" level of 860 000 tons, Munro said. This meant profit was substantially down on the previous quarter, but Munro said the March figure had been flattered by an insurance payout.

Capex was lighter than expected for the Driefontein division, as certain development and shaft sinking had not been kept up to schedule.

Tonnage treated at the reclamation plant was unchanged at 600 000 tons, but with a lower yield of 0.59g/t (0.6g/t), gold production dropped to 321kg (348kg).

Doornfontein had a dismal quarter, with the R5m profit of the March quarter changing to an R8m loss. Working costs, which increased from R33.5m to R45.6m included R6m paid out in terms of a Labour Appeal Court order. But the mine did make a profit for the year as a whole.

Munro said Doornfontein would be looking forward to at least another two quarters, and additional expenditure would be undertaken to open up better grade areas.

Deelkraal was described as the "disappointment of the quarter" as ore milled slipped from 372 000 tons to 345 000 tons. This caused working costs to rise steeply, from R33.503/kg to R39.921/kg.

The mine was struggling, but not to the extent that it would be unable to cover capex and dividend payments this year.

Kloof had failed to maintain tonnage of 160 000 tons a month, but increased yield to 14.9g/t (13.8 g/t).

Munro said the mine managed to get back into the No. 3 sub-vertical shaft without a serious disruption in production. A temporary pumping and a mid-shaft loading system had been put into place, and the shaft had been recovered down to the 41 level. This cost about R30m.

The 10-day work stoppage at Kloof had cost the company about R25m in lost production.

There had been a short disruption at Lebanon as a result of a fire. Lebanon is currently dealing with another fire, which it is in the process of sealing off.
Randgold miners protest against retrenchments

ABOVE 8 000 mineworkers and their dependents marched to the administrative offices of Randgold's Durban, Roodepoort Deep gold mine yesterday to present a memorandum protesting against impending retrenchments at the mine.

National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) branch chairman Paulus Mabtangku said management alone had decided to close the mine. Mine workers were also dissatisfied with the severance packages they had been offered, and called for government intervention in the matter.

"Randgold wants to pay us for the days we have worked in July since notice of the retrenchments was given, and holiday leave allowance. This is unacceptable," he said. The union would wait until Thursday for a reply. A meeting was planned for Friday to consider further action.

Company MD Peter Vos said the retrenchment packages would be finalised after some of the mine's assets had been sold. "Negotiations around the closure of the mine have not been finalised. The next meeting is on Thursday afternoon," he said.

The union memorandums accused company owners of not taking talks seriously. Discussions with government for state aid had not been completed when the closure was announced.
350 Zulu miners fired over ethnic clashes


The dismissals would take effect on Monday to give Zulu and other workers an opportunity to resolve their differences, a mine spokesman said.

"Two people were killed in recent clashes.

The mine said the National Union of Mineworkers was demanding two months' pay for its members in return for their allowing Zulu workers on the mine. The Zulus were demanding a separate hostel —

Sapa (213) CT 1494
Ethnic strife could cost jobs

RANGOLD's troubled East Rand Proprietary Mines (ERPM) in Boksburg yesterday issued an ultimatum to workers to resolve ethnic differences - which have led to several violent clashes - or management would be forced to dismiss Zulu-speaking workers.

Randgold human resources director Richard de Villiers said if the company did not get a guarantee of a peaceful return to work by Monday, it would give no-fault terminations to the 350 Zulu speakers and pay them compensation.

"Should any of the parties involved be prepared to put forward acceptable guarantees that no further lives will be lost and that the mine will not suffer further financial losses, and should they convince man-

agement that peace can be maintained, then management will be prepared to consider any solution which results in the Zulus peacefully returning to work."

The Zulu-speakers were repatriated on full pay for the election period, but after their return on June 16, clashes with other workers left two dead and 13 injured.

Other mines have been forced to take a similar route to defuse ethnic clashes. Gen-
gold's Beatrix mine dismissed about 3,000 Pondo workers last year and most of its Zulu-speakers this year after several deaths and the failure of peace initiatives.

De Villiers said violence at ERPM

Ethnic

erupted in April when the Zulu-speakers were forced to evacuate their hostel when confronted by about 2,000 heavily armed workers. They were moved to temporary housing pending negotiations with all concerned parties, including the national peace secretariat.

They had demanded separate accommodation and the NUM wanted two months' pay in return for making this concession. Management rejected both proposals and concluded that the mediation process was not making any progress.

"Management therefore regrets that it has been unable to facilitate the reconcilia-
tion of what is clearly deep-seated political antagonisms between Zulu and non-Zulu employees and believes that the ongoing housing of hundreds of Zulu employees in makeshift accommodation is dangerous to peace in the area and constitutes an unac-
ceptable threat to mining operations."

From Page 1
Mine underground sit-in ends

BY STAFF REPORTERS

Thousands of workers who had staged an underground sit-in at the Elandshard gold mine near Carletonville yesterday morning returned to the surface later in the day following discussions between management and the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM).

Jim McLuskie, regional general manager of Anglo American's West Rand division, said mine management's refusal to grant members of the NUM permission to hold a meeting had led to the 73rd-level sit-in.

During the discussions, management resolved to address workers' grievances at a meeting today.

The grievances included the issue of mass meetings and protest marches, annual leave and other allowances, sick leave and compensation of injured workers.

According to an existing agreement between the mine and NUM, workers have to give the mine four days' notice before they hold a meeting. In this case, the workers gave the mine 24 hours' notice. A day's revenue of R2 million and a further million rand in taxes was lost.

McLuskie criticised the action taken by the workers. "Even if employees are unhappy with procedures regarding meetings, bringing production to a halt is not the way to do it," he said, adding that this undermined labour relations.

NUM president James Motsatsi was also surprised by the workers' action, but said the problem was "domestic". 
Miners demand safer conditions

THOUSANDS of mine workers were scores of workers marched on the Department of Energy's offices in Pretoria yesterday demanding improved conditions. At the forefront of the march was the National Union of Mineworkers. Several miners had been killed in mining accidents and had been badly injured. The mining unions are pressing for an inquiry into health and safety regulations in the mining industry.

Labour rumbles

On the eve of a Government-appointed commission of inquiry into health and safety regulations in the mining industry, marchers were monitored by police on foot and in vehicles. They were closely followed by police on foot and in vehicles. The march was to coincide with the commission's hearings in Johannesburg.

Growing in to diffuse a quickly step new rulers to horning, forcing business lock

Unions and Big
Durban Deep

Miners march in protest of Strike-Buster

Durban Deep over closure of Miners march 1974
MORE THAN 350 WORKERS at the East Rand Proprietary Mine in Boksburg were dismissed yesterday following ethnic fighting which has cost the company millions of rands.

ERPM spokesman Mr Martin Fallon said the dismissals followed the failure of management, the National Peace Secretariat, National Union of Mineworkers, South African Council of Churches and Inkatha Freedom Party to resolve the dispute.

Fallon said the workers were dismissed on a "no-fault basis" and would be paid compensation. He said further details concerning the dismissals would be released later.

Management blamed the violence between a group of Zulu-speaking employees and the rest of the workforce on a "deep-seated political antagonism."

Management had set Monday this week as the deadline to resolve the conflict but attempts to make the feuding parties bury the hatchet had failed by yesterday.

The violence on the mine has so far claimed two lives and could be traced back to March this year when some workers demanded a separate hostel.

NUM spokesman Mr Mzwandile Damoyi yesterday said Zulu-speaking employees were welcome to return to the mine but not as a separate entity.

SACC official the Reverend Peter Moerane condemned the dismissals.

He said the mediating process was slow but it was taking the workers towards the future where there would be no thought of seeing each other on an ethnic basis.
Zulu sackings to go ahead

JOHANNESBURG.  East Rand Proprietary Mines said last-ditch efforts to broker a peaceful solution to "ethnic-political" conflict on the mine had failed and it was going ahead with the dismissal of about 300 Zulu workers.

ERPM held back plans to terminate the employment of the workers earlier this month, to give the "unsettled" labour force a last chance to resolve differences after unrest for the past several months, the mine said.  Reuters

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Johannesburg: East Rand Proprietary Mines said last-ditch efforts to broker a peaceful solution to "ethnic-political" conflict on the mine had failed and it was going ahead with the dismissal of about 300 Zulu workers.

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Reef mining
strike continues

Johannesburg

The illegal National Union of Mineworkers strike at Rustenburg Base Metals Refinery continued yesterday, in spite of the union's undertaking that workers would resume work. Refinery owner Johannesburg Consolidated Investment said the strike was sparked by employees' refusal to accept a supervisor's safety instruction. — Sapa
Dispute over 'bar boycott'

JOHANNESBURG — About 3,200 mine workers were on strike yesterday at the Eastern Platinum mine near Rustenburg, demanding the reinstatement of three workers.

The National Union of Mineworkers said the mine management had alleged the workers were inciting a boycott of the mine bar.

"Management blamed it won't talk to the union unless the workers return to work. On the other hand workers have refused to go back to work until those workers are reinstated," the NUM said.

The mine management could not be reached for comment. — Sapa
RUSTENBURG — About 3200 striking workers at the Eastern Platinum mine near here returned to work on Thursday night.

The workers went on strike on Wednesday after three miners were dismissed. — Sapa.
**Mines dispute in conciliation**

JHANNESBURG. — Dead-locked wage talks between the Chamber of Mines and the National Union of Mineworkers will go before a Conciliation Board on Wednesday, the union said today. (213)

"If we do not agree, we will ballot our members for a strike," NUM assistant secretary-general Gwede Mantashe said. — Reuters.
**6 000 Elandsfontein mine workers strike**

JACQUIE GOLDING

ABOUT 6 000 workers of a total workforce of 8 000 began an illegal strike at Anglo American's Elandsfontein gold mine outside Carletonville yesterday.

Anglo American spokesman James Duncan said about R2,3m in revenue had been lost as production was disrupted.

The strike began on Monday night and seemed to be related to disciplinary hearings against four NUM members. Four union officials face disciplinary hearings for allegedly inciting members to stage an illegal underground sit-in last month.

Talks between management and the union continued but it was unclear whether the strikers would return to work today.

Duncan said about 4 000 of the strikers marched from Elandsfontein mine to Carletonville in the belief that the hearings were to be held there, in spite of mine management's "repeated assurance" that the hearings would be held at the mine.

About 3 000 marchers ended up in Carletonville and refused to return to the mine for the hearings.

Duncan said management had appealed to NUM general secretary Kgulema Motlanthe to intervene.

NUM regional co-ordinator Arche Palane said the strikers were not on strike but wanted to testify in defence of the officials facing disciplinary action.

Anglo American said the disciplinary hearings would be postponed until today. Anglo American West Rand regional GM Jim McLuskie would meet Motlanthe today.
‘First’ for conciliation board

John Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — The National Union of
Mineworkers (NUM) and the Chamber of Mines
have agreed to appoint independent political and
economic analyst Mr Eugene Nyati as the chair-
man of a conciliation board hearing which is
scheduled to start today.

Commentators said they believed this was the
first time a chairman without a legal background
had been appointed to head a statutory dispute
resolution mechanism of this kind.

Mr Nyati, who is director of the Centre for Afri-
can Studies, is expected to bring a new perspective
to the collective bargaining process and actively
participate in the hearing.

His grounding in economic and social processes
was welcomed by both parties in the belief this
would contribute to the conciliation process.

The parties reached deadlock, with the chamber
offering an average eight percent wage increase
and the NUM demanding 12 percent.

Meanwhile, Sefsa and its 12 recognised trade
unions are to begin a wage mediation. The unions
are demanding between nine and 12 percent.

An exemption proposal proposed by some em-
ployers was also in dispute.
Miners to vote on strike

JOHANNESBURG — The National Union of Mineworkers is to ballot members about a strike over the final wage offer from the Chamber of Mines.

A union statement said wages remained the last stumbling block to an agreement after two days of conciliation board negotiations.

"Members will be balloted on strike action and a result is expected in two weeks," the union said yesterday.

Agreement was reached on maternity and paternity leave, funeral payment, deferred pay, affirmative action, membership information and traditional healers.

"NUM moved from a wage demand of 15 percent to 11 percent. The chamber has moved a mere quarter of one percent, to 9.25 percent on gold, with 10 percent for coal," the union said. — Reuters
Strike averted by wage offer

OWN Correspondent

Johannesburg — A looming strike in the mining sector appeared to have been averted on Friday after NUM agreed to recommend the latest Chamber of Mines' wage offer to members and revert to employers by Wednesday.

In terms of the proposed settlement, both coal and gold mine workers would receive an average 10% wage increase from July 1 for the unskilled categories and 9.75% for skilled workers.
Underground hostages freed

GERMISTON — The hostage drama at the Primrose gold mine here has ended.

The chairman of the mining group, Mr Simon Malone, said the 20 miners held hostage underground by fellow-workers had been released unharmed after negotiations.

CT 24/8/94
Sit-in at gold mine goes on

ERICA JANKOWITZ

INDUSTRIAL action by about 1 800 miners at the Primrose gold mine near Germiston on the East Rand continued yesterday, as workers reported for duty but staged an underground sit-in, NUM spokesman Jerry Majatladi said.

This followed an underground sit-in on Monday and a hostage drama on the mine 'on Tuesday' when black miners held 28 of their white colleagues captive in support of their wage demand.

Majatladi said the lowest paid miner at Primrose received R315 a month — well below marginal members in the Chamber of Mines. Management had offered R30 a month raise in response to the workers' R220 a month demand.

Management's offer still meant workers were paid "starvation wages".

He said management issued an ultimatum to workers yesterday to report for normal shifts today or be dismissed. Majatladi condemned the mine owner's attitude, saying if the promotion of small-scale, independent mining meant exploiting workers, government should be persuaded not to follow this route.

Workers held a meeting yesterday to discuss a response. Mine management refused to comment.
Miners accept pay offer

PORT ELIZABETH - The National Union of Mineworkers accepted the latest pay rise offer by De Beers, but the motor industry strike headed into its fifth week as formal talks closed unresolved yesterday.

NUM said in a statement that the offer was for a pay rise of between 8.5% and 9.7%.

The union said it had reduced its demand from 16 to 12% but De Beers had increased its offer by "only 1%" and refused to offer other benefits.

In a statement, De Beers said the wage offer was final and if accepted by September 8, would take effect the same month.

Motor industry strikes continued countrywide yesterday with a "no comment" from both parties at the negotiation table. Talks will resume today.

- Durban's King Edward VIII Hospital yesterday asked families to take their sick relatives home because of the strike by workers. — Sapa
NUM ‘sacrificed’
Zulu miners

The National Union of Mineworkers has not opposed the firing of 350 miners after ethnic conflict at ERPM mine, reports Vuyo Mvoko

A HUNDRED of the Zulu miners fired from the ERPM goldmine were National Union of Mineworkers members whom the union had “sacrificed”, the workers’ representative said this week.

Ehus Luthuli was speaking after the failure of a last-ditch application in the industral court on Wednesday aimed at preventing the dismissal of the 350 Zulus. Bringing the application was the obscure United People’s Union of South Africa (Upasa).

The men were sacked after violent ethnic conflict at the East Rand mine had left two dead and five injured.

Accusing the strongly ANC-aligned NUM of colluding with management and of a hatred of Zulus, Luthuli said the NUM had “sacrificed” over 100 of its members in the dismissed group. “We are puzzled the NUM did not oppose the move,” he said.

NUM general secretary Kgalema Motlanthe confirmed that more than 100 of the fired workers were NUM members. While the dismissals were “regrettable” and “unfair to workers and their families”, he said, there had been clashes at the mine which had resulted in the loss of life.

Motlanthe denied the NUM had “sacrificed” members, saying the Zulus had themselves refused to be integrated with others after the clashes and subsequent “cooling-off” period. ERPM was a marginal mine that could not afford to pay workers who were not working or to be disrupted in endless conflicts.

The Zulu workers had brought in Inkatha Freedom Party leaders who demanded a separate hostel for the Zulus as a solution to the conflict. He added the NUM had fought against the separate hostel proposal.

ERPM defended its “no-fault termination” decision, saying management could only protect lives and property by dismissing the Zulus.

“This was done with regret and in the sincere hope that the ethnopolitical issues that divide our society are resolved without bloodshed,” it said.

ERPM public relations spokesman Martin Fallon said the Zulus were a numerically “small grouping” compared to the mine’s Xhosa workers and that the NUM had agreed to the settlement.

He would not comment on whether he thought the dismissal was an unfair labour practice.

The dismissals were condemned by the South African Council of Churches, which tried to mediate between the warring factions.
Miners support Lesotho govt

WELKOM — Mineworkers in the Free State staged a march in solidarity with the ousted Lesotho government of Prime Minister Mr Ntsu Mokhele yesterday.

Police said about 2,000 miners joined the march, but National Union of Mineworkers' organiser Mr Lebogang Hlasele claimed about 40,000 members took part in the protest against Lesotho King Letsie's action.

The 34-year-old king dissolved the government two weeks ago, contending it had lost popular support, and installed a provisional council ahead of fresh elections.

Mr Hlasele said protesters would hand a petition to Free State Premier Mr Patrick Lekota demanding the restoration of the government within 10 days, and a Commission of Inquiry into events leading to the sacking of the government.

Leaders of South Africa, Zimbabwe and Botswana, following urgent crisis talks, have given King Letsie until next Friday to restore the government.

The US government has frozen aid to Lesotho in the wake of the sacking of the government, elected last year in the first democratic elections in many years.
Mine wage deal ‘good’

JOHANNESBURG — The National Union of Miners and the Chamber of Mines yesterday described this year’s wage agreement — based on an annual wage bill of more than R9 billion — as a good compromise.

This goes some way towards achieving income equity while stimulating growth and investment.

But on the issue of productivity bonuses and profit-sharing schemes — introduced three years ago during an economic crisis in the industry — the parties were widely divergent.

With effect from July 1, the NUM’s 200,000 members at the chamber’s mines will receive increases ranging from 6.5% to 10% for unskilled gold miners and an average 10% for unskilled coal miners, to between 8% and 9.75% for skilled gold miners and 9.75% to 10% for skilled coal miners.

The agreement affects an additional 200,000 workers on member mines.

The chamber and Council of Mining Unions will try to resolve their wage dispute on Thursday.
Elandsrand miners strike

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — About 6,000 workers of a total workforce of 8,000 went on an illegal strike yesterday at Anglo American's Elandsrand gold mine outside Carletonville (213)

The strike began at the start of Monday's night shift and seemed to be related to disciplinary hearings.
Elandsrand mine closed

CARLETONVILLE — The strike at Elandsrand gold mine near here has been closed until further notice, a mine spokesman said yesterday. Six thousand workers of the 8,000 workforce are taking part in the action which meant there were not enough workers to maintain safety standards, he said. The strike began at the start of Monday's night shift and is related to disciplinary action.
Sit-in held at Western Deep Levels

ABOUT 200 drillers at Anglo American's Western Deep Levels' East mine held an illegal underground sit-in at the mine yesterday. Anglo spokesman James Duncan said the sit-in was related to disciplinary action taken against 32 drillers for refusing to perform their "normal duties" during this week. NUM regional co-ordinator Archie Paine said the strike had been sparked by management's refusal to pay the workers for duties performed outside their job description.

Jacquie Golding

The NUM also accused mine management of antagonising workers by sending armed security personnel underground. Anglo confirmed that security was deployed underground but added that its members had "no call to use either the tear smoke or rubber bullets."

The union is demanding the withdrawal of charges against the 32 workers and talks are expected between the parties.
Anglo-mines hit by violence

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG —
Violence erupted at two strike-hit Anglo American mines on the West Rand, when mine security fired rubber bullets, injuring 18 workers.

Thirteen miners were injured at Elandsrand, and five at Western Deep's East Mine, after security personnel used stun grenades and rubber bullets to disperse the strikers. 2/1/74
NUM supports De Beers offer

JOHANNESBURG — The National Union of Mineworkers yesterday undertook to recommend its members accept a De Beers’ wage offer, tabled at a Conciliation Board meeting earlier in the day.

De Beers said employees would receive increases ranging from R93 to R253 a month, and employees at Venetia mine would receive merit awards out of a fund equal to two percent of the bargaining unit’s wage bill — Sue.
DISMISAL OF MINE WORKERS DELAYED

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — The dismissal of 173 drillers who took part in an illegal underground sit-in at Western Deep Levels' East mine last week has been suspended pending further negotiations with the National Union of Miners, Anglo American said yesterday.

Several hundred Western Deep mine workers face disciplinary action after the sit-in, but Anglo denied NUM claims of large-scale dismissals. The two-day strike cost R3.2 million in lost revenue.

• The Elandsrand gold mine will remain closed until talks between management and NUM officials produced an agreement under which an orderly return to work could take place. Anglo said yesterday. The mine closed after a strike last week.
Miners agree to return

JCQHUE GOLING

WORKERS at Anglo America's Elandrand gold mine reopened last Tuesday after an illegal stoppage by about 90% of the mine's workforce — were expected to return for last night's shift, a company spokesman said.

Anglo American spokesman James Duncan said management and union officials had held talks with the NUM yesterday and both parties had agreed each worker would undergo a "re-education process" before returning. Workers would be expected to reaffirm their commitment to work normally and to follow dispute resolution procedures.

The disciplinary hearings involving two union officials for allegedly staging an illegal underground sit-in last month — which sparked the strike — would be referred to arbitration. Charges against two others had been withdrawn, Duncan said.

Strikers would not be paid for their week-long absence and would receive a 12-month warning, Duncan said.

Anglo American also reached agreement with the union on 300 drillers who staged an illegal underground sit-in at Western Deep Level's East gold mine.

The sit-in was in protest against the dismissals of 22 drillers who refused to perform their "normal duties." The NUM said the drillers were underpaid for performing other roles outside their job description, such as blasting.

Duncan said drillers who had faced dismissal would instead receive final warnings.
Gold mine strike is over Anglo

JOHANNESBURG. — Elandsrand gold mine near Carletonville, which closed on Tuesday last week when 6,000 workers went on strike, reopened last night at the start of the night shift, Anglo American Corporation said.

Management at Anglo's Elandsrand and Western Deep Levels gold mines and representatives of the National Union of Mineworkers reached agreement earlier yesterday.

Anglo spokesman Mr. James Duncan said negotiations between the parties would continue on additional shifts to make up lost production of about 275kg of gold, worth about R11 million.

Mr. Duncan said disciplinary hearings against two NUM officials at the mine would be referred to arbitration and action against two other officials would be withdrawn.

The hearings, which sparked the strike, were scheduled after the union's earlier rejection of arbitration.

Strikers would not be paid for time they had been away from work and their disciplinary records would be extended for 12 months. — Sapa
Four miners shot dead in attack

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Four miners were killed and two injured when unknown gunmen opened fire with automatic rifles at Lohro's Tweefontein Colliery near Oegs in the Eastern Transvaal, the company said yesterday.

Duiker Exploration Limited, which owns the mine, said the miners were on a shift about 12.30am yesterday when they "were subjected to automatic rifle fire from an unknown number of assailants".

Police spokesman Lieutenant Dup du Plooy said it was unclear who was behind the attack and added that the workers were in the lamp room where their headgear was stored when they came under fire by assailants wielding one or more AK-47 rifles.

Lt Du Plooy said the police were investigating the incident and that it was too early to say whether the attack was politically motivated.

The National Union of Mineworkers, however, said the killings followed a "series of incidents" which started in June when two workers were killed in a fight between Inkatha Freedom Party and NUM supporters.

Lt Du Plooy said the condition of the two injured men was stable and the names of the victims would be released once their families had been informed — Sapa.
Workers dismissed after dispute

ZIMCO Industries’ Dutton Plastics Engineering dismissed 160 shift workers on Monday after a “series of illegal industrial actions” and “persistent refusal” to comply with an Industrial Court order, the company said yesterday.

It said workers were demanding a wage increase of 23% in addition to the 9.5% increase agreed to between Seifa and workers in the steel and engineering industry.

Numsa local organiser Suzanne Harvey said the wage dispute began about eight months ago when management began introducing Japanese methods of increasing workers’ productivity through multitasking and streamlining.

Numsa had a three-year bargaining programme agreement with management, Harvey said, adding that the agreement should have allowed the union to be included in decisions concerning rationalisation at the plant.

Harvey also said workers’ demands for a productivity-linked wage increase were reasonable and the demand was not in contravention of the industry’s wage agreement reached with Seifa. “The demand was plant-related.”

She denied the union had distanced itself from strikes at the plant and said a speedy resolution between the parties could be reached if management agreed to negotiations.

She accused management of being “bent on escalating the conflict” through “arrogant and authoritarian attitudes”.

Numsa is one of a number of unions at the plant demanding the wage increase. The other unions are the Inkatha Freedom Party affiliated United Workers’ Union of SA and the Naetu-affiliated Steel, Engineering and Allied Workers’ Union.
Five injured in latest mine uprising

NEWS

Mine security uses stun grenades to stop unrest at Western Deep Levels
Talks held on tobacco advertising

NIMB's opposition to cigarette
advertising is based on the belief that
such promotion is in the interests of
the public health. However, the
full text of the agreement is not
available. The negotiations are
to continue.

Western Deep Levels

dismissal suspended

According to the agreement, all
employees affected by the dismissal
will be recalled to work. The
company has assured employees
that their jobs are secure.

Business Day, Monday, September 5, 1994
Workers vote to go on strike

DURBAN — About half the workforce at Richards Bay Minerals yesterday voted to go on strike over a pay dispute, as the company halted production and locked out workers alleging that company equipment was being sabotaged.

National Union of Mineworkers organiser Ronny Mashile said the company had shut down operations early yesterday, saying the sabotage meant it was no longer safe to continue production.

There were unconfirmed reports that workers had damaged company equipment costing thousands of rands, allegedly by pouring water into smelters, cutting water lines and threatening to sink loading machines. The union had asked for evidence to back these claims.

Company spokesman refused to comment, saying negotiations were continuing. But the union said security staff had been hired and the police's internal stability division had been sent in.

The shutdown follows the failure of a conciliation board to resolve the pay dispute. The NUM is demanding a 10% across-the-board pay increase while the company is offering 6.5%. The union is also demanding a R1 600 across-the-board housing allowance.

Mashile claimed the current housing scheme was racist as whites were paid R1 600 while blacks received amounts from R439. The company disputed this, saying there was no racial bias. The allowances ranged between 28% and 38% of workers' basic wages, depending on their levels in the company.

Union spokesman Judita Weymont said 1 188 workers had voted for a strike, with 27 votes against. The union said there were about 2 000 employees.
CARLETONVILLE — Three hundred drillers refused to return to the surface at Western Deep Levels Mine here yesterday. An Anglo American spokesman said the sit-in was related to disciplinary action taken against 32 drillers earlier this week. However, a NUM spokeswoman said the sit-in was over a wage dispute.
Mineworkers stunned, shot

Johannesburg — At least 27 mineworkers were injured yesterday evening at Western Deep Level West Mine near Carletonville, west of Johannesburg, when mine security guards used stun grenades and rubber bullets to disperse a crowd of 200 men.

Anglo-American Corporation spokesman Mr. James Duncan said the "crowd" had threatened fellow employees and tried to prevent them from reporting for the night shift.

This disturbance followed an earlier meeting of the National Union of Mineworkers to discuss the dismissals of four union branch committee members, he said — Sapa
W. Rand miner beaten by striking colleagues

Johannesburg. — Strikers yesterday afternoon beat a miner in the latest of a series of clashes since Friday at Western Deep Levels gold mine near Carletonville on the far West Rand, mine owners Anglo American Corporation said in a statement.

One of the attackers was hurt when security staff fired rubber bullets at them.

The clashes first erupted when four members of the National Union of Mineworkers branch committee at the mine were dismissed last week, after a mine inquiry found them guilty of inciting employees to interfere in the safe hoisting of workers. — Sapa
Western Deep strike appears to be over

Carletonville — The violent strike at the Western Deep Levels gold mine near Carletonville appeared to be over last night when all night-shift workers reported for duty.

About 30 workers were injured during the two-day strike.

Management said it was "cautiously optimistic" that outstanding issues would be resolved when talks continue today.

The injuries arose when strikers clashed with non-strikers and security personnel in separate incidents.

Twelve of the injured are still in hospital and two are in a serious condition — one a striker hit in the eye by a rubber bullet and the other a worker severely beaten by a mob of about 50 strikers on Monday.

Members of the National Union of Mineworkers went on strike on Sunday over last week's dismissal of four NUM branch committee members.

They were fired after an inquiry found they had incited workers to interfere in the safe hosteling of miners to the surface. The NUM had claimed miners were being hoisted in order of race, which management denied.

Rubber bullets

Anglo American spokesman James Duncan said last night that the issue had not been resolved.

On Tuesday the NUM criticised Anglo American for allowing security personnel to fire rubber bullets. It alleged there had been several recent episodes of violence by security personnel.

"The NUM strongly condemns the use of such violence. There are agreements and mechanisms negotiated between the NUM and Anglo American for the peaceful settling of disputes, dismissals and evictions."

The union accused security personnel of kicking down doors at 5 am and dragging workers from their beds. It said many workers were sleeping away from hostels for fear of security personnel.

On last month's shooting at Elandrand gold mine, Duncan said police had fired on illegal strikers when they took to a public road.

"That was an altercation between the police and marchers. It did not involve mine security personnel at all."

On an incident in the same week at Western Deep Levels, he said: "A group of illegal strikers emerged from a hostel with knobkerries and homemade weapons, clearly intent on interfering with and possibly hurting employees going to work. Security intervened to protect them."

He said rubber bullets had been used in the latest dispute when strikers turned violent.

The NUM was "absolutely correct" in saying there were procedures for the peaceful resolution of disputes. "What we can't understand is why the NUM isn't using them."

Dragging

"As it transpired, the contentious host queuing system was scrapped after talks this week. It would appear the four dismissed NUM officials were motivated by discontent about that system. Why did they not follow procedures instead of taking the law into their own hands?"

He said Anglo had no knowledge of security personnel dragging workers from their beds.

On Tuesday, the mining group said that about 400 hostel residents had moved to other hostels so that they could report for work without fear of reprisals.

— Staff Reporter and Sapa.
Court rejects miners' bid

DURBAN — An Industrial Court hearing yesterday rejected the National Union of Mineworkers' urgent application to declare a lock-out at Richards Bay Minerals on the Kwazulu/Natal North Coast unfair and illegal.

Postal workers protest

DURBAN — Lunchtime traffic here was disrupted and telephone calls and postal deliveries in and around the city were affected when hundreds of postal workers took to the streets to protest against working conditions.
NUM dispute on recognition

JOHANNESBURG – The National Union of Mineworkers has declared a dispute with Anglo American over union recognition at the corporation's head office here, the NUM said in a statement yesterday.

The union has applied for a conciliation board after the company refused to accept employees stop orders for union membership dues.

Anglo American was unavailable for comment – Sapa
Miners reject holiday cuts

JOHANNESBURG — There is a strong possibility of joint action by the conservative white Mine Workers’ Union (MWU) and the black National Union of Mineworkers; the MWU said yesterday.

It said both unions rejected the possibility that mine workers will have fewer public holidays than other workers.

The mining industry at present allowed only four days’ holiday as opposed to the normal 12 days.
Miners reach agreement

Johannesburg — The National Union of Mineworkers has reached agreement with the management of Winkelhaak gold mine over the dismissal earlier this month of 422 mineworkers. Disciplinary inquiries will start on November 28.
Mineworkers' Union to hold strike ballot

THE Mineworkers' Union is to hold a strike ballot among its 3,000 members at Sasol plants and mines on January 10.

UMWU general secretary Peet Ungerer said yesterday the ballot would be held because of dissatisfaction over bonuses.

A vote would be taken at Sasol's No 1, 2 and 3 plants and at the Sigma and Secunda coal mines.

Ungerer said the dispute had arisen because bonuses paid to management had in some cases topped R20,000, while those paid to ordinary workers were a maximum of R770.

This was viewed as unfair and in the light of Sasol's R2,5bn profit for the year it was felt the company could have afforded to pay more, he said.

The MWU was demanding a bonus equivalent to one month's salary.

Any industrial action taken would be orderly and legal and in terms of procedures set out in the Labour Relations Act, said Ungerer — Sapa.
Twenty-four miners who attempted to drive contract workers from the West Drifton ton gold mine in Carltonville were arrested on Tuesday night (213).

A meeting between miners and the National Union of Mineworkers has been scheduled for today. Union representatives will then meet mine management.

NUM assistant general secretary Owee Mashe said full-time jobs were being threatened by subcontractors — Staff Reporter.
West Drie strikers return to work

ERIKA JANKOWITZ, and SUSAN RUSSELL

ABOUT 14,000 West Driefontein gold mine employees who went on strike last week after 24 co-workers were arrested for intimidation, returned to work on Saturday.

Gold Fields spokesman Maroon Brower said the unlawful strike action was expected to be limited to the loss of one day's underground production.

Brower said management at the mine, in Carletonville outside Johannesburg, had earlier obtained an interim court order interfering employees from unlawfully striking and interfering or obstructing independent contractors from working.

Workers embarked on an illegal strike on Thursday in protest against the arrest of 24 workers the day before for interfering with subcontractors on the mine.

The National Union of Mineworkers has accused management of employing contract workers to replace retrenched workers.

Two subcontractors had been injured by armed workers on Wednesday.

A NUM spokesman said the 24 workers were charged with intimidation on Wednesday and released the same day. They will appear in court on January 29.

The NUM said the 24 were arrested after being singled out by contract workers who accused them of intimidation.

NUM regional co-ordinator at Carletonville Mapalo Tshwephe said the union demanded the complete removal of contractors from the mine. "All employees working for contractors should be employed permanently by the mine."