Population - Migration

1995
Need to see foreigners as partners of SA

BY PATRICK WADULA

Foreign workers should be recognised as partners, not competitors of locals, in boosting South Africa's economy, says a leading labour expert.

As tension continues between South African and foreign workers, SA Labour Bulletin's Eastern Cape correspondent Roger Southall says Cosatu should resist pressure to exclude foreign workers.

He argues that foreign workers are here to stay and that the only solution would be to ensure that they join South African workers to avoid being used by ruthless employers in dividing the working class in its struggle for better wages and working conditions.

In the latest issue of the Bulletin, Southall says that foreign workers, driven by pressures at home and the collapse of their economies, have worked to make South Africa "the most viable economy in the region".

He gives three main reasons why foreign workers should not be marginalised and exploited:

- It would be grossly unjust and unfair because, even though our country has limited wealth and a formal unemployment rate of as much as 40 percent, South Africa is far richer and far more developed than any other country on the continent and certainly in the southern African region.
- He notes that in 1992 foreign workers constituted 46 percent of all the migrants employed by the Chamber of Mines. Of these, 55 percent were from Lesotho and 27 percent were from Mozambique, whose civil conflict was provoked largely by South Africa's support for Namibia.

- Keeping foreign workers out of South Africa will not be successful. If it were undertaken, it will only do so at an enormous cost to both South Africa and neighbouring states.

- Management in places of work will use foreign migrants against local workers' interests.
A TOTAL of 72,796 illegal persons were repatriated to their countries last year, the Home Affairs Department revealed yesterday.

Of these 54,859 were from Mozambique, 11,854 from Zimbabwe, 3,958 from Lesotho and 939 from Swaziland. A source in the department said during 1993 the presence of Mozambicans placed a burden of approximately R163 million on the South African economy.

This figure was expected to reach R941 million by the turn of the century.

Home Affairs spokesman Mr Henne Meyer said South Africa was already "battling with housing shortage of 1,4 million units, with more than seven million people living in shacks.”

The Mozambican civil war swelled the number of illegal aliens.
Tough moves on illegal workers

By JACKIE CAMERON

POLICE in the illegal aliens unit have vowed to press charges against employers of illegal immigrants this year, as they brace themselves for another wave of unemployed residents from African countries, and backpacking tourists.

Employers could be fined and will be held liable for the costs of repatriating illegal workers, a spokesman for the unit said yesterday.

He said a large influx of illegal immigrants was expected to arrive in the country this year to try and take advantage of Reconstruction and Development Programme benefits, including free health for mothers and young children.

Illegal immigrants were also displacing South Africans in the job market.

He said police would pay particular attention to the fishing industry and restaurants and pubs, as well as people who could be linked to the Chinese triads.

Illegal immigrants could be detained indefinitely until their repatriation and did not have to appear in court, the spokesman said.

If visas were extended, police files would remain open on people who had infringed immigration laws and they could be detained again if they stayed on when the visa expired.

Police will pay a reward of about R300 for a tip-off about illegal aliens and have appealed to people with information to contact them at 419-8604.

Last year 400 illegal immigrants were repatriated to their countries from the Western Cape.

Alien influx — Page 6
Hundreds of refugees from all over Africa are streaming into Cape Town, creating a potentially explosive situation as they vie for jobs.

IRVING STEYN
Weekend Argus Reporter

CAPE Town's homeless, workless problem is being compounded by hundreds of refugees from all over Africa who are creating a volatile situation which threatens to explode at any moment.

"This could become a shooting match between the local population and refugees," a Red Cross Society spokesman said this week.

Police have reported attacks on refugees — last week two Angolans were attacked on a tram to Langa — and the refugees are terrified of wandering anywhere near the townships for fear of being assaulted.

Mounting tension also blew up into violence this week when Owambo and Xhosa fishermen were involved in a pangas and knife fight at the docks.

Cape Town's black population resents the presence of refugees whom they see as foreigners competing for the few available jobs which become fewer by the day as the numbers of refugees increase.

If the daily traffic of refugees — coming from Angola, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Somalia, Burundi and elsewhere — who are reporting for assistance at the Red Cross headquarters in Wynberg is anything to go by, people are pouring into Cape Town.

The Red Cross Society's Daleen van Boom, who has been working with the refugees, said so far about 600 people, men, women and children, had registered.

Cape Town's Red Cross and its counterpart in Johannesburg have been contracted by the United Nations to be the official dispensers of refugee aid in South Africa.

"We get the aid packages in bulk from the UN which we distribute to individuals. An aid food package is worth about R100. The trouble is, a refugee is entitled to only one package. Next week he's here again, his supply gone," Miss van Boom said.

"The result is we are constantly begging and borrowing to get bread and milk for them. They are really very desperate."

The refugees — it's a loose term as very few people enjoy refugee status in Cape Town — started streaming into South Africa just before the elections last year.

The Department of Home Affairs photographs them and issues them with a six-month permit to seek employment. Many of them are highly qualified.

Since the refugees were first noted in Cape Town, the stream has been increasing steadily, with the result that a Refugee Forum consisting of various organisations was formed last May to coordinate and pool resources.

An important part of the forum is its accommodation committee, for apart from work and food, shelter is what the refugees need most.

In many cases the refugees find their own accommodation. So a refugee haven was founded in an abandoned church in Woodstock where up to 250 refugees are housed, but in appalling conditions. Their presence does not carry the local community's approval.

There is another in Langa and here again, they are not popular with the residents.

The Ark haven at Westlake also houses some refugees and various night shelters house more.

At least 10 new refugees are interviewed by the Red Cross every day, many of them Angolan army deserters and some who abandon their studies at university for political reasons.

The forum says it has sent "endless" faxes to Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi to do something about the situation, but there has been no response.

The dubious refuge

See page 15
73,000 illegals deported

Staff Reporter

Almost 73,000 illegal aliens were repatriated between January and November last year, the Department of Home Affairs said yesterday.

And 14 Home Affairs officials appeared in court in the past three months for assisting illegal immigrants in obtaining identity documents and passports.

Home Affairs spokesman Mr Hennie Meyer said the bulk of illegal immigrants repatriated last year were 54,899 Mozambicans. A further 11,824 Zimbabweans and almost 4,000 Basothos were also repatriated.

But Mr Meyer pointed out that the exact number of illegal aliens was unknown. He said a figure of about two million had been suggested. It is also believed that thousands of false documents are in circulation.
Mandela challenged to act

Protesters hit out at immigrants

**ANGER SPILLS** 'Zimbabweans, Malawians and Mozambicans out':

By Ruth Bhengu

It started as a protest march against the demolition of shops by the property and land owners organisations and residents of Alexandra Township.

It was also meant to highlight the plight of residents displaced during the battle between the Inkatha Freedom Party and African National Congress supporters about four years ago. But it turned into a witchhunt against illegal immigrants from African states.

Members of the Alexandra Land and Property Owners' Organisation, Alexandra Civic Association and the ANC marched to the local police station to hand a memorandum to station commander Colonel Benny Therou. Some of their placards read: 'Zimbabweans, Malawians and Mozambicans go home. 'Some marchers shouted that immigrants stole their belongings and their identity books, while others blamed the loss of their land and jobs on the foreigners.

But coordinator of the march Mr Keke Koalepe of Alopa said the march was about various issues—lack of housing, jobs, property expropriated by the previous government and the displaced people's complaint that the new Government is neglecting them, as well as the illegal immigrant problem. 'We are saying the Government must return property that was taken by force. We want our land back,' said Koalepe.

'We are also saying the Government must do something about the residents of Alexandra who are driven out of their homes by hostel dwellers from outside the township. The question of foreigners is also important because they are beginning to build shacks on the pavements. Soon they will be building them right in the middle of the street,' he said.

Therou, who had a meeting with representatives of the marchers, said illegal foreigners were a big problem.
Cops make life tough for SA's 'illegals'

John's hands move with skill and speed, working copper wires into beautiful saxophones and car ornaments, but in his eyes there is fear and suspicion common to the new arrivals in Mandela-

land.

He is one of dozens of men and women who decided to cross the borders with the hope of earning a better living in South Africa through selling. He reluctantly spoke to me about their risky venture into the continent's new land of opportunity.

John claims to have had to pay R50 to escape arrest because he did not have his passport with him.

"Unlike in my country, Zimbabwe, here I cannot even ask the police directions because I'm afraid of being arrested and having to answer unnecessary questions," he said.

Single room

John has been living with his wife and three children in a single room in Durban's Albert Park Flats for the past five weeks after leaving his native land.

While most of the immigrants protested that they were not 'illegal aliens', they failed to produce proof, making it difficult to conclude whether they were on this side of the fence legally or illegally.

"We have visas and passports that allow us to come here," John said. "In addition we pay out duties at the border and therefore we have a right to be here. We also have a right to sell since our loads are recognised at the border. We are not here to overpopulate the country but to invest and promote its economy. After buying what we want we return to our country."

KwaZulu/Natal Home Affairs Regional Director Jean Goble said police had a right to check whether immigrants' visas and passports were valid.

Harassed

"Those claiming to have been harassed should come forward and identify the police harassing them so that something can be done."

However many immigrants claim immigration officers at the border made them pay varying amounts for the bags and parcels they carried - and that they did not receive receipts.

"It depends on the mood of the guy," said Samuel, an immigrant from Zimbabwe. "Where is the money going?"

The claim was denied by the immigration office at Belt Bridge, near Middel. "We only work with passports and people themselves. All we do is make sure that a person entering the country has a proper passport or visa, but we do not touch the money," said a South African official.

The African immigrants live in hope that the South African government will one day grant them temporary selling licences.

While police are on the lookout for illegal immigrants, hundreds of 'aliens' from neighbouring countries have flooded into Durban where they are trying to make a living. Xolani Shezi found out that living in limbo is no fun for these fugitives.

Mavis, who claims her possessions were "forfeited" during the flea market drama in November when police raided the place and arrested 17 'aliens', is one of them.

"We do not know how to get licenses for selling since it is our only way of living," she said. "If we are not wanted here we must not be allowed to cross the border.

"In Zimbabwe anyone from any country can come to sell at the flea market, even South Africans, as long as a certain amount is paid and there is no harassment from the police."

Zimbabwean

Sophie, a Zimbabwean who trades in traditional clothes, says only black people from neighbouring countries are victims of arrest.

"People coming from America and Britain are not harassed like us. We are not competing against local people for the market. Our hand-made crafts are unique and they add to the attractions of tourism in South Africa."

However, Primrose from Malawi, who has a selling licence, said while she disliked having to produce her entry visa, police should not be blamed for "arresting those who have overstayed their visit - they are only doing their job."
Soldiers are called in to halt illegals

JOINT OPERATION SA and Mozambican armies to stem the tide:

Sowetan Correspondent

A joint anti-border crossing operation is to be launched by the SA Army and Mozambican army in a bid to stem the tide of illegal immigrants flooding into South Africa.

The joint operation — the first such combined military action between South Africa and Mozambique — could be in place by the end of February, according to SA Army chief Lieutenant-General Reg Otto.

Cross-border infiltration

Otto said yesterday that something dramatic had to be done to put an end to the cross-border infiltration which was costing the army and South Africa millions of rand.

He said there had been a massive increase in the number of illegal immigrants entering South Africa from Mozambique with more than 900 people arrested in the past three days alone.

In the past there was a trickle of people crossing the border with groups of five or six being caught. Over the past week there had been more of a tidal wave with one group alone numbering over 100, he said.

Otto said the army alone was powerless to stop the influx.

"All we can do is to arrest them and repatriate them. But they will be back the next day and we have to do it all over again," he said.

Control operation

Hundreds of soldiers are involved in the border control operation — which tracks down, arrests and repatriates the illegals — with up to four companies deployed at any one time.

Otto said the situation along the border with Zimbabwe was also deteriorating.

The reason for the increase in illegal immigrants was that many illegal workers already in South Africa had gone home to neighbouring countries for Christmas and New Year and were now coming back to start work.

He said the situation along the Mozambican border was further aggravated by the fact the Mozambican soldiers had been recalled to their bases for integration with Renamo.
Hundreds from SA hope to live in Congo

BY DUNCAN GUY
STAR FOREIGN SERVICE

The first group of the 600 South Africans, mainly farmers, who applied to resettle in Congo's Naire Valley, abandoned by French colonists, will leave for the country on their first scouting expedition next month.

Johan van der Westhuizen, chairman of the South African Development Corporation, the company behind the scheme, said yesterday a nearby area in Gabon had also been earmarked.

"We have identified agricultural land near Francierville, only about 300 km from the Naire Valley, for a similar scheme," said Van der Westhuizen.

The Gabon site, like the Naire Valley, is also on a railway system, but to Gabon's capital Libreville rather than Congo's harbour Pointe Noire.

However, the two sites are connected by road.

Van der Westhuizen said most applicants had been interested in farming and related industries, forestry and tourism.

The company, which aimed to start a community "about the size of Bronkhorstspruit" to export tropical fruits to overseas markets from Congo, is also looking at supplying food to mines in Zaire, he said.
Refugees stretch Red Cross to limit

Staff Reporter

STAFF at the South African Red Cross Society's Wynberg offices are stretched to the limit as refugees from strife-torn African countries arrive in large numbers in search of food parcels.

Society spokesperson Karin Comer said the Red Cross was having to hand out food parcels to hundreds of foreign refugees daily.

“At the same time we are having to tend to the more than 2,000 families left homeless by the fires at Marconi Beach informal settlement, Nyanga and Phola Park.”

She said more than 100 parcels had been handed out to foreign refugees yesterday and that about the same number had to be turned away.

“Part of the problem we are having to deal with is that these refugees from African countries, which include Angola and Rwanda, arrive on our doorstep in groups of 20 while, at the same time, we are having to be on hand to receive and distribute goods donated by Capetonians for the fire victims.”

Mrs. Comer said everyone would be helped but the society was battling to handle the administrative load that went with the distribution of parcels.

Several collection points for donations for fire victims have been set up.

They are:
- In Milnerton Medi City, the municipality, the library and the fire station.
- Lentegeur Library in Mitchell’s Plain
- Pick ‘n Pay in Somerset West.
- Fish Hoek municipality
- Pearce’s Furnishing, 169 Voortrekker Road, Goodwood from 8 am to 6 pm.
- St John Ambulance, Lower Darling Road, Cape Town
- SA Red Cross offices, 21 Broad Road, Wynberg

Donations towards the Disaster Relief Fund can be deposited at any Standard Bank into account number 271629414 at the Wynberg branch. Please specify the donation is for disaster relief.
Gangs chase aliens out of Alex

BY ANNA COX

Armed gangs in Alexandra are carrying out a concerted campaign of terror to rid the township of illegal immigrants by throwing them out of their homes.

The gangs claim the foreigners are taking jobs away from South Africans, and the emotionally charged topic has been seized upon by opposing political groups.

Even foreigners who are in South Africa legally have been the target of the groups.

During the past two weeks, several people, mainly Zimbabweans living in the flatland area in Roosevelt Street, have been harassed and threatened. Many have had their flats broken into, locks changed and belongings thrown out of windows.

Families have been frog-marched to the police station where gang members have demanded that the foreigners be deported.

A spokesman for the Alexandra Property Owners’ Association (Apoa), who would not be named, said his association was supporting the move against illegals.

“We are not assaulting or threatening these people — we are simply doing the job for the police by handing them over and asking for them to be deported back to their own countries,” he said.

Apoa blames the more unsavoury aspects of the campaign on “criminal elements.”

Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) general secretary Nkole Ntingane said she had held meetings with the police to discuss the campaign.

“People living here legally are being harassed and we are very concerned about it. We are encouraging victims to lay charges with the police,” she said.

One resident who requested anonymity said he would not bow down to pressure.

“I have been living in South Africa for five years. I have a job. I am paying my rent and I intend staying. I am now a South African citizen. My children were born here and we will stay, but life is becoming unbearable. Every night men calling themselves Conrads bang on our doors and demand we vacate our flat. I have had to take time off work to protect my family.”

The Apoa spokesman claimed the ACO was relying on illegal aliens for votes during the forthcoming municipal elections, and that was why the illegals had to be removed from the townships.

Alexandra ANC branch spokesman Mamsel Moece said her organisation was not involved in the campaign and was trying to get to the bottom of the problem.

Police have promised Alexandra residents protection and said the crime prevention units as well as the Internal Stability Unit would be on duty 24-hours a day to patrol the flatland area of Alex where many foreigners are living.
Millions must be repatriated - but in a humane manner

ANC to illegals: go

By Anna Cox

The Gauteng ANC has joined demands to repatriate millions of illegal immigrants - but has condemned the violence against them which has broken out in Alexandra, north of Johannesburg.

Obed Bapela, deputy secretary of the ANC in Gauteng, said yesterday illegals who did not have refugee status must go home, but their repatriation had to be carried out in a humane manner.

He said the people calling themselves "comrades" and evicted presumed illegal immigrants in Alexandra - as reported in The Star yesterday - were criminals and not approved ANC members.

Bapela was responding to a petition submitted to the ANC by foreigners living in Alexandra who had been harassed, assaulted and driven out of their homes in the past week.

He told a news conference in Johannesburg the ANC would back Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi's call for a crackdown on people employing illegal immigrants.

The Aliens Control Act of 1951 provides for fines of up to R40 000 and jail sentences of up to two years for those employing illegal immigrants.

Estimates of the number of illegal aliens in the country range from 3 million to an astounding 12 million, with most of them coming from Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

Bapela said South Africans had benefited from what they had fought so hard for and added "Trade unions' hard-won settlements are also being undermined by bosses who use immigrant workers."

But there were many legal foreigners in the country who had contributed enormously to the economy, he said. Many were refugees who had fled their homes because of war.

Those who wished to apply for South African citizenship should have the right to do so.

"We were hosted as refugees and given training facilities for our guerrilla warfare," many foreigners contributed to the struggle in the country," he said.

Saying the Government had to address the problem speedily, Bapela added it would cost as much as R280 million a year.

ANC to illegals: go home

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Govt to act 'humanely' on illegal immigrants

A Home Affairs standing committee on refugees is set to create structures in Gauteng, KwaZulu/Natal and the Western Cape to process applications of illegal immigrants who want refugee status.

An agreement to have a standing committee on refugees was concluded in 1993 by the previous government and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

Addressing a media briefing yesterday, ANC Gauteng deputy secretary-general Obad Bapela said a programme to deal with illegal aliens was being formulated by the government of national unity.

Bapela said illegal immigrants, who were without jobs and who had been in the country for less than five years, had to be treated humanely.

The ANC wanted only illegal immigrants to be repatriated. The eviction of foreigners who had permission to be in the country was unacceptable.

People who were evicting foreigners from Alexandra near Sandton were criminals and not ANC members.

Tensions in Alexandra rose recently following a rumour that the community would benefit from a reconstruction and development programme if all illegals were removed.

Former spy at his NP launch

CAPE TOWN — Former security policeman, spy and military intelligence officer Craig Williamson — also an NP member of the former president's Council — has returned to politics.

In a letter to Die Burger yesterday he wrote that an ANC and MK member told him recently that the difference between his former masters and Williamson's was that "our people have always supported us. Your people don't do this. They are too busy drinking champagne with us at cocktail parties and trying to be our friends."

Williamson commented: "How true have these words not turned out to be?"
JOHANNESBURG — Gangs in Alexandra have evicted alleged illegal immigrants from their homes to move in themselves, ANC Gauteng deputy leader Mr Obed Bapela said yesterday.

In some cases the occupants had been assaulted to force them out.

Mr Bapela, an Alexandra resident, said the ANC wanted gang members handed over to the police and courts.

"The anarchy prevailing in Alexandra, where people are forcefully removed from their properties and keys confiscated, cannot be tolerated."

He called for humane treatment for people who had come to South Africa in search of peace and work, and said the solution was not deportation, which cost an estimated R250 million annually.

But he said the ANC would back Home Affairs Minister Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi in efforts to crack down on people employing illegal immigrants.

"We are not going to hide from this. All illegals must go. But what we need is a conference of South Africans, African leaders and trade unions to discuss a humane policy which we can adopt."

"We have South Africans who really must benefit from what they fought so hard for."

"Trade unions' hard-won settlements are being undermined by bosses who use immigrant workers," he said — Reuters.
Aliens must go — IFP

THE West Rand region of the Inkatha Freedom Party Youth Brigade has voiced support for Alexandra residents who are evicting foreigners from the northern Johannesburg township.

In a statement issued yesterday, spokesman Mr Evans Sombo called on the Gauteng government to act immediately against aliens who, he alleged, were involved in criminal activities.

He said the government should introduce a special tax on companies owned by and employing foreigners because South Africans were struggling to make ends meet.

Sombo said the Youth Brigade would organise a protest march against aliens in Johannesburg next month.

The African National Congress earlier said it wanted all "real" illegal aliens to return home, but forcibly evicting foreigners entitled to stay in South Africa was unacceptable.

ANC Gauteng deputy general secretary Mr Obed Bapela said people calling themselves comrades and evicting presumed illegal aliens and foreigners from Alexandra were criminals and not ANC members.

"The ANC and its allies from Alexandra and in the province distance themselves from a campaign to drive foreigners from the area and strongly discourage any such campaign," he said.

Bapela also criticised police for their lack of action against "these criminals", adding that those affected had started to mobilise against the threat.

— Sapa
Employers of illegal workers face action

GOVERNMENT would take strict action against employers using illegal immigrant labour, Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi said yesterday.

But the problem of illegal foreigners was not just a local issue and steps to enter into discussions with neighbouring countries had also been taken, he said.

His department intended to do "everything in its power to curb the influx". However, there was a distinction between foreigners who "contribute to unemployment and the high crime rate" and refugees or immigrants who possessed residence or work permits. The latter were in SA legally and fully entitled to the rights stipulated in their permits.

Repatriation of illegal immigrants would continue but would be executed in a "humane" manner.

Buthelezi expressed concern at steps taken by Alexandra residents this week to oust foreigners from their township.

The residents claimed they were operating in the name of the ANC and SA National Civic Organisation but both organisations denied this and condemned the action. The Inkatha Freedom Party Youth Brigade this week expressed its support for the evictions.

Bill may allow land seizure

CAPE TOWN — The seizure of property was possible in a future Bill of Rights if the seizure was done in the public interest, met the objectives of the constitution and was accompanied by a just compensation, the ANC said in its preliminary submission to the committee yesterday.

A just compensation would be determined through a balance between the public and affected parties' interests and not be based solely on the market value of the property.

"The constitution will make it clear that seeking to achieve substantive equal rights and opportunities for those discriminated against in the past should not be regarded as a violation of the principles of equality, non-racism and non-sexism," the submission read.

The ANC mooted the creation of a new system of just and secure property rights. It also suggested the creation of special agencies to ensure equal opportunities between men and women.

"The Bill of Rights must guarantee language, cultural rights and religion and respect diversity." Workers would be granted rights to independent trade unions, collective bargaining and the right to strike which should be supplemented by a workers' charter.

The ANC proposes the granting of social and economic rights through the provision of homes, education, employment and access to facilities without discrimination on the basis of race and gender.

All parties agreed that the interim Bill of Rights had limitations as it was written to deal with the transition and was thus not expansive enough.

Sapa.
Alex sees them over illegals
ANC calls for decisive action to stop the violence towards immigrants...

By WALLY MBIZILE

In its first reaction to accusations that the ANC is unaccommodating of foreigners as illegal residents, the ANC has called on the government to protect immigrants from violence.

The party's spokesperson, elated that the ANC is not isolated in its condemnation of xenophobia, said, "We are not a party that supports violence against any group, including foreigners."

"We are deeply concerned about the incidents of violence against immigrants," he said. "We call on the government to take urgent action to ensure the safety and security of all citizens, including immigrants."
Refugee time-bomb set to explode

ANC calls for decisive government action to stop the witch-hunts

WALLY MOHLELE

its first reaction to ad-

ing alleged crime, the ANC has called on tow-

ship in many in-

ances taking jobs "at

very low salaries".

City Press witnessed a
group of distraught
people who had lost
furniture to a truck
belonging to "some-
body who was too
afraid to be interview-
ed as they were being
serried by armed men.

Witnesses said many foreigners had already left the area, leaving behin-
d their South African
wives and children.

Those who had to
homeless were evicted
from their homes.

According to witnesses,
many foreigners had
been forced to leave
those who had occupied
for many years in
Alexandria.

Out of hand

According to the situa-
tion in the township was "fast
growing out of hand."

Bapela, himself an Ale-

hunts. There have been
by gun-toting men
accused of mauling
activities, in-
cluding theft, car-jack-

Nelson Mandela. ANC
is the latest in an
series of meetings
with the ANC.

Nelson Mandela had
been arrested and
charged with treason
in connection with the
uprising in the Transvaal.

Bapela said that the
ANC was committed to
working with all South
Africans to achieve
freedom and justice for
all.

"We are not afraid of
talks and discussions
with the government,
but we will not accept
any action that under-
mines the rights of
Africans," he said.

Bapela added that the
ANC was prepared to
take legal action if the
government failed to
respond to the ANC's
demands.

The ANC called on
the government to
honour its obligations
to all South Africans
and to respect the
rights of all people in
the country.

"We will not allow
anybody to be left
behind," Bapela said.

"We will continue
to work with the people
of South Africa to
realize our objectives,"
he added.

Discussion

The ANC's position on
the situation in the
township was that it was
in the interests of all
South Africans to
resolve the conflict in
a peaceful manner.

"We call on the
government to
consider the ANC's
demands and take
action to stop the
witch-hunts," Bapela
said.

Bapela also called on
the government to
provide full support
for the ANC in its
efforts to achieve
freedom and justice
for all South Africans.

The ANC called on
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honour its obligations
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"We will continue
to work with the people
of South Africa to
realize our objectives,"
he added.
Crime flows in on illegals tide

A horrid increase in drug traffic, writes Cherry Hunter

sawyers who link their presence with the rapidly escalating general crime rates and just 90,000 aliens were deported last year, a drop in the ocean according to police
‘Only black foreigners targeted’

Illegal immigrants accuse South Africa of discrimination

BY ZINGISA MIKHUMA  
CITY REPORTER

Illegal black immigrants claim they are being targeted for arrest and deportation while their European, Asian and Chinese counterparts are free from harassment.

This follows reports of foreigners being thrown out of their homes by residents while others were marched to the local police station, where residents demanded they be arrested and deported.

The ANC condemned the violence against the immigrants, but said it supported calls to repatriate the estimated 3 million to 12 million aliens, most of whom came from Mozambique, Zimbabwe and other African states.

Some black immigrants in the city centre told The Star they felt they were being discriminated against because of their skin colour.

They expressed shock at the events in Alexandra, especially because, according to Emeka, a young Nigerian who came to South Africa two years ago seeking greener pastures, “most African countries helped black South Africans in their fight for liberation”.

Emeka, who refused to give his full name, said: “The job opportunities that everybody claims are being taken by us do not exist. Many local black South Africans are unemployed. Only a few qualified foreigners have jobs.”

“Police would stop a black man and put him in jail, but never a Yugoslav, Italian, Taiwanese or Indian illegal immigrant.”

If this not apartheid that is being practised in this country?” he asked.

Ghanaian Frank Owusu, a Yeoville hawker who said he was here because of his love for President Mandela, added that no amount of threats and harassment would make him leave the country.

SA Police Service liaison officer Major Govindeen Mayes said no member of the police force was allowed to discriminate.

“If someone feels they are being discriminated against, they must bring this to the attention of the police and we will look into the matter.”

Cosatu has urged the Government to take harsh action against those attempting to fan conflict between South Africans and immigrants, claiming that the IFP and the Department of Home Affairs had carried out a “xenophobic campaign” in the past six months.

It said the attacks against illegal aliens soon became attacks on South Africans who “looked foreign” because they were too dark to be South African.

> Crime flows in on illegals tide – Page 13
Concern grows as professionals head overseas

By DAVID CAPEL

WHEN thirtysomethings Michael Ainge and his wife, Tessa, arrived home to find their house burgled for the third time three months ago, they decided the time had come to leave South Africa.

"Enough was enough," said Mr Ainge, who left last month. "We just didn't want to live in a country where we didn't feel safe. It was like living in a jail. Our windows were covered in burglar bars and we felt uneasy driving around in our cars."

Now living with their little boy, Timothy, in Victoria, Canada, the civil engineer and his librarian wife say political and economic factors played a role in their decision to leave but "the terrible crime and violence sweeping the country was the biggest single factor."

The couple, who used to live in Bryanston, Sandton, are not alone.

People in medical, legal and financial spheres are concerned at the upsurge in the number of skilled people leaving the country since last year's elections. Almost every profession knows someone who has left or is considering leaving - most because of crime.

The surge has led to fears that South Africa could be heading for another massive brain drain.

On the surface, the haemorrhage has not reached the epidemic proportions of the mid to late 80s when a familiar bumper sticker asked, "Will the last person to leave the country please turn off the lights?" But the current exodus is worrying because actual figures are difficult to come by.

The medical fraternity is increasingly worried about the number of doctors and professionals who have left.

Dr Dan Ncayiyana, editor of the South African Medical Journal, said he was alarmed. "The country is not only losing out on talent, but departing doctors are also taking away from the country the value invested in them during their medical training."

He was also concerned some doctors were "holding the new health care programme to ransom" with threats they would leave. "I am sick and tired of people saying, if you change things in South Africa's health care set-up I am going to emigrate."

He said the exodus has not yet reached threatening proportions, but he was worried about what would happen if it continued.

The SA Medical Journal reported last month that no one has accurate figures on the number of doctors who have left since April last year. Doctors emigrating on extended leave abroad often do not inform the South African Medical and Dental Council, preferring to retain their South African registrations.

However, the council estimates about 150 doctors emigrated a year. Thus, together with the fact that the number of doctors graduating increases the pool of physicians by 1.2 percent a year compared with a population growth of 2.3 percent, has prompted the council to ask the government to investigate why doctors are leaving and to review salaries and working conditions in state hospitals.

Alarm is also spreading in chartered accounting circles.

A spokesman for the Transvaal Society of Chartered Accountants said between 200 and 300 chartered accountants had left South Africa in the past year.

Society employee Ms Daw Lander said there had been an upsurge in people leaving before and immediately after the election.

"The majority are going to England, Australia, the US and Canada and most of them are newly qualified."

Finding statistics for the number of attorneys and advocates leaving the country is like looking for the proverbial needle in the haystack. No local body in the country appears to keep such statistics. Nevertheless, there is a perception in legal circles that the trickle is growing.

"Many young people in the legal profession are not settling in South Africa after qualifying, preferring to leave their options open," Johannesburg attorney Peter Lazenby said.

The chairman of the General Council of the Bar of South Africa, Malcolm Walba, said, however, he had received no reports of a marked increase in advocates leaving.

Central Statistical Services reported that 8449 people left South Africa between January and September last year, compared with 5941 over the same period in 1993.

Of those who left, 57 were medical specialists, 3.3 were doctors and 13 were dentists.

The number of emigrants shot up to 1.804 in April last year compared with 524 in April 1993. A total of 1.358 left in January last year, 976 left in February and 528 emigrated in March.
SA deported 13 000 to Zim

HARARE - South Africa deported 12 931 Zimbabweans last year in its efforts to flush out illegal immigrants.

This was disclosed yesterday by South Africa's ambassador to Zimbabwe, Mr Jeremiah Mwabulo.

He said there were up to five million illegal immigrants in South Africa, with an estimated 300 000 Zimbabweans, many of them jobseekers.
focus on illegals

There are more practical ways of dealing with illegal immigrants than throwing them out, Mr Lebona Mosia of the SA Institute of International Affairs tells Feature Writer Tyrone August:

First time so many people are flocking to South Africa. There is a need to understand the causes.

It is clear that Government intervention is long overdue. "The Government should take this up seriously," says Mosia. "It is playing around." "I think politicians are afraid to act because it could cost them votes." And saying "Get rid of foreign workers" is playing on national sentiment.

"What the Government should do — especially the departments of foreign and home affairs — is come together and address the issue in a comprehensive way, rather than doing it.

And simply resorting to a heavy-handed security approach alone will not work. As Bayham points out, South Africa's borders with its neighbours are very long.

Besides, increased border patrols will not address the root causes of illegal immigration. People who come here, even from as far afield as Rwanda, are generally poverty-stricken.

"Simply rounding up people doesn't help," says Masoko. Instead, he proposes a gathering of Southern African states to discuss the root causes of migration. "Nobody likes to leave their country," he says, "but do so because of difficult circumstances back home."

The only real solution is to help develop the region's economy. Mosia suggests that chambers of commerce in the region also get together to discuss how to do this.

"There should be some way they can have relations and look at how the economy can be developed," he says. "The issue is not to throw people out. The issue is to create facilities and conditions in their own countries to make them stay there." Thus strategy will probably take between five and ten years to work.

In the meantime, local people need to exercise more patience and tolerance. If, of course, not easy, millions of South Africans are already unemployed and homeless.

But we must not forget that Africa welcomed us with open arms during the dark days of apartheid. It is now time to return the favour.

CAUGHT IN THE ACT ... Many Mozambicans flock to South Africa in a desperate attempt to find work.

It already has structures that can be used to tackle illegal immigration. Because of its experience, the United Nations High Commission for Refugees can be asked to assist as well. But, whatever course of action is taken, it must be immediate. Apart from increasing unemployment, illegal immigration is a strain on the country's housing, health and welfare resources.

"This is why we are beginning to see the nasty development of attacks on people," says Bayham. "We're going to see more xenophobia and people taking the law into their own hands."

University of Western Cape politics lecturer Mr Sipho Masoko points out that hostility to foreigners also occurs in other parts of the world. "It is not unique to South Africa." He refers to attacks on foreigners in Germany, Canada and Britain as examples. "Common to all those was the economic factor," he says.

"Whenever the economy does badly, people always look for a reason. Those from outside are often the target, they are prepared to accept lower wages for whatever job." Masoko regards education as necessary to help end such attacks. "It's the
Visa laws revised in crackdown on aliens

HOME AFFAIRS Minister Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi yesterday announced a crackdown on the wave of illegal immigrants flooding the country since the end of apartheid.

He also said new forgery-proof passports that could be scanned by a computer would probably be issued from July, but that existing passports would remain valid.

He also called for the legal recognition of black tribal unions in respect of citizenship, as was the case for Muslim and Hindu marriages.

Chief Buthelezi said an Aliens Control Amendment Bill would be tabled in parliament this year to tighten up visa regulations. "Unemployed locals must of necessity be the primary consideration. Immigrants can no longer be admitted to the country in large numbers."

He said six classes of temporary residence permit or visa would be introduced. For visitors, workers, work-seekers, medical permits and those granted for business purposes.

Foreigners entering South Africa on one permit would have to leave the country to apply for a change of status in permit.

People contemplating employment in the country would be subject to a selection process before admission.

Chief Buthelezi said 90 662 illegal immigrants were sent home last year, mostly to Zimbabwe, Malawi, Mozambique and Swaziland, but also some to Europe, North Africa and the East.

He said South Africa's army and police could not stem the tide of Africans from neighbouring countries looking for jobs.

People employing illegal aliens would face large fines, he said. - Sapa Reuter
Buthelezi denies Cosatu charge of campaign against foreigners

**BY PATRICK WADULA**

Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi last night rejected what he termed were false accusations from the ANC and Cosatu that he was carrying out a "xenophobic campaign" against foreigners in this country.

The minister was responding to a statement released by Cosatu last week that he and the IFP had waged the campaign for the last six months.

"Despite our warnings they (Buthelezi and the IFP) have continued their campaign of hatred against immigrants, resulting in attacks we've seen in Alexandra."

"The Department of Home Affairs should no longer be allowed to conduct a policy based on racism and ethnic hatred, an approach which is out of line with the constitution and needs of a democratic South Africa," said Cosatu in a statement.

Buthelezi pointed out that he had a responsibility as home affairs minister to do something about the problem of illegal immigrants.

"The problem of the IFP, whether I should tolerate their smear campaigns while Cosatu is a component of the majority party in Parliament and has ministers even in the Cabinet," he said.

"I assume that Cosatu is exerting pressure on me to quit the Government of National Unity. I wish to assure Cosatu that I will seek the guidance of the IFP whether I should tolerate their smear campaigns while Cosatu is a component of the majority party in Parliament and has ministers even in the Cabinet."

**Star 11.9.95**
Aliens bring crime hassles.

Special Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG

Many of the illegal immigrants pouring into the country are convicted criminals using forged documents. Aliens Investigation Unit detectives arrested 60 illegal aliens last month.
Call to reconsider pleas for asylum.

The Media Workers' Association of South Africa (Mwasa) yesterday called on the Government to reverse its decision denying sanctuary to three Angolan journalists fearing for their lives in the country. Nov 23 1985.

The three had applied for sanctuary in South Africa after a colleague of theirs, Ricardo de Medo, was killed last month. Mwasa expressed "disgust and disapproval of the manner in which they had been treated by the South African Government." It also called on the media to stop referring to foreign Africans as "aliens." — Labour Reporter.
SA to turn back the tide of illegal aliens

BY PATRICK BULGER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — The Government would introduce strict new legislation to turn back the tide of illegal aliens flooding into the country, Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi said yesterday.

A Cabinet committee yesterday also approved a new look SA passport, due to be issued in July, which would be introduced to circumvent the large-scale forgery of these documents.

New forgery-proof identity cards are being investigated.

Joblessness and poor economic conditions affecting South Africans had forced the Government to be “extremely careful and restrictive with regard to the granting of temporary work and immigration permits”, Buthelezi told a briefing at Parliament.

The new legislation, in the form of an Aliens Control Amendment Bill, would target people who arrived in South Africa as visitors and holiday-makers but who then stayed and tried to find jobs.

Last year, South Africa deported 90 092 illegal aliens, among them 70 000 Mozambicans and 11 000 Zimbabweans.

The influx of illegal aliens to the new South Africa has caused tension in townships, with illegals being harassed and threatened by citizens.

Buthelezi said “a certain degree of priority” would still be given to industrials and business people who could create economic opportunities, but non-professionals seeking work would find the new regulations more difficult to bypass.

The department is considering legislation which would make it impossible for foreigners arriving in South Africa as visitors to change the purpose of their visit.

“Persons contemplating employment in South Africa will be subjected to a selection process before admission to the country.”

The new law would provide for six categories of permits — visitors, work, business, study, work-seeker and medical — and this would “ensure more clarity on the exact purpose of future temporary residence permits”.

The Government would also introduce charges for visas which had been free until now.

Buthelezi said his department had conducted an investigation into the maternal, neonatal and perinatal mortality and data needed to produce a new passport to comply with international standards.
Move to stem tide of illegal aliens

PRETORIA — Legislation is under consideration to make it impossible for foreigners arriving in South Africa — on the pretext of being tourists or businessmen — to seek work permits and permanent residence, Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi said.

In a speech read on his behalf yesterday by his deputy, Benwell Maduna, to the central committee of the National Union of Mineworkers, Chief Buthelezi said there had been a "disturbing tendency" among foreign work-seekers to conceal the true nature of their visits by posing either as tourists or businessmen.

These people then made application after application to be granted work permits, often using politicians and other influential people to do so.

Last year more than 90,000 illegal immigrants were repatriated.

One of the reasons for the large number of migrant labourers on South Africa's mines was an apparent reluctance by South Africans, even the unemployed, to work underground — Sapa
HOME AFFAIRS

In search of an identity

As Minister of Home Affairs, Mangosuthu Buthelezi has two tasks which it would be fair to reckon he finds burdensome. They are the control of illegal aliens, and the compilation of a voters' roll in advance of the local elections scheduled for October.

As Minister, he addressed a media conference on the eve of his walkout (see Leaders) and released figures that showed that a total of 90,692 illegal aliens had been "endorsed out" of SA in 1994. Of these the overwhelming majority were from Mozambique (71,279) with Zimbabwean nationals making up a strong contingent of 12,931. Lesotho (4,973), Swaziland (961), Tanzania (241) and Namibia (219) were runners-up.

These, of course, are only the aliens that Home Affairs has managed to catch. The S7 repatriated to Pakistan seem an unknowably small percentage of the total that is indicated by anecdotal evidence. It could be said that "economic refugees" from foreign countries have their path cased if there are already significant pockets of their compatriots in SA. And the scale of corruption is equally unknowable, though its potential must be large.

The consolidated list of nationals endorsed out is notable for the absence of Rwandans and Somalis — and this is in a group that includes 12 from Thailand and 32 from the People's Republic of China. The answer lies in the fact that refugees from political conflict and civil war are treated differently from those simply in pursuit of a better life. Buthelezi pointed out that their status is regulated by various treaties related to our accession to the UN. He emphatically denied discrimination against African nationals who entered the country illegally.

This issue arose because black journalists from Gauteng wanted to know why Chinese hawkers, for example, appeared to be less the target of police harassment than Africans. Buthelezi stuck to his textbook reply: "The interests of the unemployed local population must of necessity be of primary consideration. It therefore stands to reason that immigrants can no longer be admitted to the country in large numbers."

Certain industrialists and businessmen, however, he said, "who are able to establish economically viable concerns in SA, which in turn generate employment opportunities," were given priority for immigration purposes.

"The training (of unskilled and semiskilled) workers cannot be accomplished overnight and the government is consequently obliged to attract foreign investment and expertise to achieve these goals within the shortest possible time."

It was his intention to overhaul the entire system of control over aliens.

Turning to registration for the local elections, Buthelezi — whose followers in Kwazulu-Natal appear to favour a boycott in October — expressed serious reservations about whether the job could be done in time. He indicated a preference for postponement of the elections, but stressed that meanwhile his department would do its best to compile voters' rolls.

However, he stressed, "prospective voters only have three months at their disposal to register and an identity number is required for this purpose. The department cannot, due to the necessary processing period, process all these applications within the three months' period. These applicants would therefore not be able to register."

In an attempt to break this impasse, Buthelezi intends issuing a special "acknowledgment of receipt" to applicants for identity documents. These receipts will not in themselves constitute proof of identity, but each is franked with a unique number which, with the applicant's name, will be entered on a voters' roll. Thereafter, Home Affairs will do its best to issue an identity document to those who want one. By the time they come to vote, they will (it is hoped) take their new IDs as well as their receipts to the polls.

This cumbersome procedure might work in the urban areas — provided it is accompanied by a nonparty publicity campaign to enlighten prospective voters about exactly what their various pieces of paper mean and entitle them to. It is a little more difficult to see the process working in rural areas where the presence of Home Affairs might be scanty, at best.

The overwhelming majority of voters in the 1994 election had no experience of matching their documents to a voters' roll. Now, unless they have an ID or are in the process of getting one, there is a new procedure which seems likely to add to the confusion. Indeed, there might be some cynicism about how sincerely Buthelezi wants anyone to register at all — which is a contradiction he has to face as Minister of Home Affairs.

If he were not Minister of Home Affairs, the contradiction might disappear.
All smiles but no end yet to ‘illegals’ flood

JOHANNESBURG — Mozambican president Joaquim Chissano has wrapped up his four-day visit to South Africa, meeting the Chamber of Mines and the Congress of SA Trade Unions.

Shortly before leaving Mr Chissano described his visit to South Africa as successful. The two countries signed agreements on closer socio-economic ties and co-operation.

However, no concrete deals on how to stem the flood of illegal immigrants from Mozambique into South Africa were struck despite his meeting with Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Mr Chissano indicated the problem would take considerably longer to solve, following his country’s first elections in October last year after 18 years of devastating civil war.

“The problem of immigration is solved only through the development of the two countries, which creates conditions and other attractions for people to stay in their countries,” he told reporters.

He has called during his visit for joint ventures between the countries’ business groups to take advantage of Mozambique’s natural wealth, including vast tracts of arable land and mineral and energy resources.

White South African farmers have expressed a keen interest in setting up agro-businesses in Mozambique.

Mr Chissano and Mr Mandela have signed an agreement to investigate this possibility. A working group would look into the matter and report back to both governments by June.

However, Mr Chissano cautioned “The creation of colonies of Afrikaners in Mozambique? This is not what we have agreed.”

Another area of mutual concern to the two countries is the large number of Mozambicans working on South Africa’s mines.

Mr Chissano said he had discussed the matter with the Chamber of Mines, particularly in light of the reduction in the number of Mozambican workers — Sapa
Brain drain hits SA again

JOHANNESBURG: The brain drain of the eighties is back.
In the first 12 months of last year, the net inflow of immigration and emigration was that South Africa lost over 3 600 people, compared with a net gain of almost 2 900 in the same period in 1993.
The loss of professional people amounted to 77% of the 10 months to October. The most popular destinations for people leaving the country were Brazil and Australia.
—Sapa

Blizzard cuts off Sanae crew

A BROKEN ice ramp has halted the evacuation of South African personnel from the Sanae bases in Antarctica, stranding staff and cargo.
The damage, cutting off the SA Agulhas from crew on the mainland, happened when a blizzard struck at the weekend.
Emergency planning is complicated by the fact that communications with the bases were cut just before the weekend, when systems were shut down or dismantled for the evacuation — Sapa

ILLEGAL OPERATORS FACE BAN

TRUMP CARD: Gambling king Sol Kerzner faces licence limits, and those who stayed legal may be in the pound seats.
BARRY STREEK reports.

A SHOCK proposal by the Lotteries and Gambling Board suggests that people operating illegal casinos should be barred from holding licences for 10 years.
This could hit major South African hotel groups, and open the way for the Southern Sun group, which has scarily kept within the law, to grab a lion's share of the new gambling market.
Other South African groups, such as Protea Hotels and Karos Hotels, could pay the price for allowing casinos to operate in hotels under their control before being granted licences.
At present, the only legal casinos in South Africa are those which operate in the four former homelands, mostly owned by Sun International, in which Southern Sun has a 20% stake.

It was also revealed that anti-monopoly provisions in South Africa's proposed gambling laws could prevent gambling tycoon Mr Sol Kerzner from gaining casino licences in metropolitan areas.
The Lotteries and Gambling Board is to recommend that no casino operator should be permitted to hold more than 30% of the total number of licences — and that only 50 be granted at this stage.

Mr Kerzner's Sun International already holds 17 licences in the former homelands, and would not be able to acquire any more if the recommendation were endorsed.
Nevertheless, there are growing fears among prospective casino operators that Mr Kerzner has already effectively made a deal with the national and at least some of the provincial governments.
They believe Sun International would not have spent $35 million buying the Goodwood showgrounds without being reasonably confident that they would be granted a casino licence.

Indeed, the local agents of one potential foreign investor have written to Western Cape Premier Mr Hernus Kriel asking for assurances that the granting of a casino licence to Mr Kerzner's group was not already a fait accompli.
A significant portion of the capital of Sun International's homeland operation is held by the government through the former homeland development corporations, and it has indicated that it will soon announce its decision on the sale of state assets.

If the state decides to sell these shares, Sun International may have to find further capital to protect its interests in these casinos.
The board has also proposed that preference should be given to South African companies but that there should not be any provisions barring foreigners from holding gambling licences.
The proposed law also makes provision for a gaming machine licence, to permit the operation of slot machines in smaller buildings and pubs.
It will also propose a national lottery and scratchcard system.
These licences will include an age limit.

10-year casino shock for hotels

crt739s
Brain drain is back

The brain drain of the 1960s has begun again. In the first 10 months of last year SA lost more than 3,600 people to other countries. This compares with a net gain of almost 2,900 in the same period in 1992. The loss of professional people amounted to $47,713.

The most popular destinations were the UK and Australia.
NEWS SA a haven for illegal immigrants from neighbouring African states

A flood of legal settlers

TAIWANESE, EUROPEANS Flock to our shores and apply for residence:

By Ismail Lagardien
Political Correspondent

SOUTH AFRICA is becoming increasingly attractive — as an adopted country — for Taiwanese and European nationals and an economic haven for African refugees, according to trends gleaned from official statistics.

At least 5 586 Europeans were granted permanent residence in South Africa over the past two years — 3 317 in 1993 and 2 269 in 1994 — while 1 318 were refused permanent residence.

About 4 000 Taiwanese were granted permanent residence during the same period — and 1 156 were refused.

On the other hand South Africa is fast becoming a major haven for refugees from other African countries.

Only 1 497 people from African countries were granted permanent residence while tens of thousands have been deported for illegal entry.

Information released by the Minister of Home Affairs, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, in response to questions in parliament indicate that close to 500 000 illegal immigrants from five neighbouring countries have been deported since 1988.

Weighed up against the legal immigrants from Africa it is apparent that many more people from neighbouring countries flooded into South Africa illegally than apply for legal status.

The breakdown of repatriated foreigners from the five countries is Botswana 3 383, Lesotho 30 793, Mozambique 375 023, Swaziland 10 214 and Zimbabwe 57 706.

The influx of economic refugees from neighbouring African states has been a particularly vexing issue and, with South Africa’s unemployment figure at an all-time high, the matter could become even more serious.

During his budget vote last year, Buthelezi raised the issue of illegal immigrants and blamed it largely on the economic collapse in the region.

“As a result of the imbalance in the socio-economic circumstances which exist between South Africa and other African states at present, there is an increasing flow of illegal immigrants to South Africa,” he said.

Illegal immigrants also come from as far away as the former Soviet Union, the People’s Republic of China and south and central America.

Nelson mum on Winnie

By Ismail Lagardien
Political Correspondent

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela would yesterday not volunteer any information about the clash between his estranged wife Winnie and the country’s security establishment.

Mr Mandela’s statement yesterday was about his meeting with Malawian president Bakili Muluzi, after which he gently evaded the Press by keeping himself with a group of excited Afrikaner schoolchildren peering through a gate at Tuyuhuys in Cape Town.

However, Sowetan did establish that the proposed meeting between Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and Mrs Mandela was nowhere near being realised.

Earlier this week Mrs Mandela reportedly said she was “too busy” with legal proceedings against her to meet with Mbeki.

Mr Mandela had a 40-minute meeting with Muluzi during which “very sensitive issues” were discussed.

The critical issue, however, was the potential labour and immigration conundrum. A significant number of the illegal aliens flooding South Africa at present are Malawians who are here for the simple reason that Malawi is an economic disaster.

One of the related symptoms is the country’s massive number of unemploy...
De Kock witnesses 'gave conflicting evidence'

PRETORIA — Two witnesses called by the State to testify about an alleged ambush in which four robbers were gunned down in cold blood by Col Eugene de Kock and his underlings, had given conflicting evidence about the ambush, the Transvaal Supreme Court heard yesterday.

De Kock's advocate, Flip Hattingh, pointed out the discrepancies in cross-examination of State witness Ben van Zypr.

The former policeman, who is charged with 121 counts of murder, conspiracy, fraud, theft, assault and illegal possession of weapons and ammunition,

Van Zypr is a former murder and robbery unit detective turned private investigator and police informer. He has admitted to the court that he had participated in setting up the ambush.

Former murder and robbery unit Capt Chris Geldenhuys was the second witness called by the State. He admitted to participating in the ambush which took place outside Nelspruit in March 1989.

Comparing the testimony of Geldenhuys and Van Zypr, Hattingh pointed out conflicting statements about whether De Kock had been noticed on the scene, the positions of Van Zypr's C10 unit members when the shooting took place, the time when the ambusher in which the robbers had been travelling caught fire, the time when the ambush site had been identified and exactly who had been on the scene.

Van Zypr said he had been terribly shocked by the "number of shots" fired at the robbers, although he had expected them to be eliminated. "I never expected it to be so terrible," he said. One of the robbers and robbery detective for 10 years and still be shocked by murder.

Van Zypr was also cross-examined about the payments he had received from the police for information. Throughout his testimony he denied having been involved in police action for financial gain.

To explain why his financial records for 1988 were not available, Van Zypr claimed that last year someone had twice broken into his home and that documentation could have been stolen.

He could not remember exactly how much and how many occasions he had received informer's fees from the C10 unit, but he believed he had received $750 for his part in the Nelspruit ambush.

Hostel residents warn of boycott

HOSTEL residents would boycott the October local government elections unless government made funds available for hostel projects, the Transvaal Hostels Residents' Association said yesterday.

The association said it had been refused permission to use school halls for its campaign activities.

But this was the first time since 1983 that it had been refused permission to use school halls for its campaign activities.

Searching for funds for hostel projects, the association said that only 10% of the money it had allocated to it had been released to it for that purpose.

The R4.4m which had been approved for upgrading hostels had been committed to various hostel projects by the housing department.

The functions of the committee had been transferred to the board, which expected to be allocated necessary funds in the 1989/90 Budget.

Hostel Residents' Association spokesman Joseph Kuhaka said the association would not participate in the elections unless funds were allocated to it.

Mokaba, and Zinzi promise to pay

AN UPMARKET Johannesburg furniture store, which planned to move into Melrose Arch, has promised to pay Mokaba and Zinzi Mandela-Hlungwane for failing to pay for goods they bought, but has withheld proceedings for two weeks.

Summons for R3 788.16 were served on Mokaba on February 23 by Mr Charles Schulz, the attorney for Bakos Brothers Interiors of Market Street. On March 2 the Johannesburg court ordered Mokaba-Hlungwane to pay Bakos R3 788.16. Mokaba has since contacted the furniture store

Fewer illegals repatriated

CAPE TOWN — The number of illegal aliens repatriated fell to almost 100,000 last year, but was more than double the number repatriated in 1988, Home Affairs Department figures show.

In reply to a question in Parliament, the department said 100,952 people were repatriated in 1994 compared to 50,710 in 1993.

But this was the first time since 1983 when more than 50,000 aliens were repatriated, said Home Affairs Minister Frank Torgerson.

A large number of aliens from Lesotho (4,073) was also repatriated in 1994.

Only 25 aliens were repatriated to Britain and three from the US between 1988 and 1994.

Immigration and visa issues were on the agenda in talks between President Nelson Mandela and visiting Malawian President Bakili Muluzi.

TIM COHEN

It was understood that the Malawian delegation asked for the re-establishment of a SA repatriation office for migrant workers in Malawi. However, the issue was shelved by Mandela.

The SA delegation said that labour mobility was an issue that had to be resolved by the region as a whole and its discussion would be to be held to other discussions about regional industrial policy.

Sepsa reports Mandela said afterwards the talks had been "very fruitful."

Discussions on labour mobility would continue during relevant government ministers' visits.

The issue was important considering the number of visits between the two countries, Mandela said.

Summons for trade agreements between Malawi and SA were reviewed to improve trade conditions for both countries.

It was important for African countries to begin discussing matters other than politics, such as development and co-operation, he said.

Business Day Reporter

Mokaba and Zinzi promise to pay

By Charles Schulz

AN UPMARKET Johannesburg furniture store, which planned to move into Melrose Arch, has promised to pay Mokaba and Zinzi Mandela-Hlungwane for failing to pay for goods they bought, but has withheld proceedings for two weeks.

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Immigrants by race 'not part of SA's stats'

Political Correspondent

MINISTER of Home Affairs Mangosuthu Buthelezi could not fully answer a question in parliament about how many white and non-white immigrants were admitted into South Africa (200) (200). Frik van Bévener (NP) asked for figures for the past three years. ARC 14/345

"No statistics based on the race of immigrants are kept by the department of home affairs," Chief Buthelezi said.
Illegal aliens: top 90,000.

Political staff (2,314)

Crew (3,175)
'Illegals' warn over discrimination

 BY BONGIVE MLANGENI
 CITY REPORTER

Alexandra immigrants, accused of being "illegals" and hounded out of their homes, plan to launch a forum this weekend to address the rising tide of negative perceptions about them.

Peter Ndlouv, spokesman for the yet to be launched Affected Foreign Residents in South Africa Association, said that since being evicted from their flats in the township in January, most families were out on the streets and some were squatting in Hillbrow.

He said a meeting at Joubert Park on Sunday will decide what should be done to improve their "miserable conditions."

Some of those being hounded as "illegal aliens" were born South Africans who had been educated outside the country.

The forum intends to present a list of human rights violations against them to the Government. "Wherever we go we are called "illegals" or makwera, this is never evil apartheid by our fellow black brothers," said Ndlouv.

He added the situation had become worse as those accused of being "illegals" were now being "frogmarched" to police stations and detained even when they produced identity documents.

The association will be launched at 9.30am on Sunday at the Catholic cathedral in Saratoga Avenue, Joubert Park.
Sacob’s Parsons warns of worse ‘brain drain’

EDWARD WEST

CAPE TOWN — Negative sentiment created by the raising of the maximum marginal tax rate to 45% on a taxable income of R30,000, announced in the Budget, could aggravate the “brain drain,” Sabob director-general Raymond Parsons said yesterday.

Speaking at the Old Mutual budget forum, Parsons said that from January to October last year 2,000 skilled people had left SA, according to official statistics, and that figure was probably an underestimation.

“We cannot afford to aggravate this by tax levels perceived to be onerous,” he said.

He said the R50,000 threshold, substantially lower than the R150,000 proposed by the Katz commission, should be revised, perhaps in the next Budget.

Life Offices Association tax convener Abri Meiring, interviewed at the forum, said the changes to the tax on retirement annuities announced in the Budget could result in a rush to utilise the benefits before the cut-off date of September 1.

Southern Life life assurance marketing senior GM Patrick Sheehy said the changes to the lump sum benefits were unlikely to result in a shift by policy holders away from retirement annuities, even though tax benefits had been reduced, as the annuities still offered substantial tax benefits.

He said tax advantages were a major marketing tool of retirement annuities.

NICOLA JENVEY reports from Durban that Frankel Pollak Venterine economist Mike Brown said the Budget was tough for the man in the street, but he could expect a worse one next year. He told an Ernst & Young Budget presentation that government would have to spread the tax base through capital gains, inheritance and land taxes or grow the economy at 6% to cover the deficit.
Assistance programme for Mozambican refugees to end

The Argus Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG. — Only 30,000 of 120,000 registered Mozambican refugees in South Africa have returned home, but the United Nations High Commission for Refugees is terminating its repatriation operation this week.

UNHCR spokesman Yusuf Hassan said the last border crossing with which the organisation would help would be on Friday at Pafuri in the north of the Kruger National Park.

Registration for repatriation began in January last year, but of the 120,000 Mozambicans who put their name on the list, only 30,000 have returned officially, said Mr Hassan.

"There has been a major information campaign since we closed registration on December 31 last year," he said.

"After Friday we shall not be providing assistance."

UNHCR would, however, be "open minded" to people still in need of returning. Many refugees might have returned unofficially while others, including those who had acquired legal status to remain in South Africa, might stay on.

"It really is impossible to find out how many there are in each country," he said.

Most were from neighbouring Maputo and Gaza provinces in Mozambique.

The end of the Mozambican operation does not mean the end of UNHCR's work in Southern Africa. UNHCR regional headquarters will remain in South Africa, said Mr Hassan.

"We shall be involved in training the government, police officers and people who deal with migrants in international law and the laws relating to refugees."
Illegal aliens legislation

Mr J S M TUTS Ms Speaker, you asked the question about the provisions of the Immigration Act 1991 as relates to the KwaZulu government. I am not aware of any specific provisions or regulations that specifically address the KwaZulu government. However, the act does provide for the deportation of illegal aliens, and this is something that the KwaZulu government, like any other government in South Africa, must abide by.

Mr J S M TUTS Ms Speaker, I am also aware of recent reports of the KwaZulu government's alleged involvement in the human rights violation of illegal aliens. These reports have raised concerns among the international community, and it is important that the KwaZulu government takes all necessary steps to ensure that the rights of illegal aliens are protected.

Mr J S M TUTS Ms Speaker, I would like to reiterate that the KwaZulu government has a responsibility to ensure that its actions do not violate the human rights of any individual, regardless of their legal status. It is important that we work together to address these issues and ensure that all individuals are treated with dignity and respect.

Mr J S M TUTS Ms Speaker, I would like to conclude by mentioning that the issue of illegal aliens is a complex one, and it requires a multi-agency approach to address it effectively. It is important that we collaborate with other government departments and international organizations to tackle this problem.

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SA to send last refugees home

JOHANNESBURG: The UN will repatriate the last 2,000 Mozambican refugees from South Africa tomorrow, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees said yesterday. Nearly two million refugees have been repatriated during the past two years.
Refugees flock home to brave new future

By CHIARA CARTER

JULIA SHAUKE travelled through the Kruger Park on foot seven years ago when her family chose to brave the park's lions rather than face war and famine in Mozambique.

On Friday, Mrs Shauke once again prepared to set off on a journey through the Kruger Park, this time aboard a crowded truck heading back to Mozambique on the last day of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees voluntary repatriation programme.

"I left Mozambique because I was hungry and afraid. My uncle and his entire family died in the war. We could not work the land and we could not sleep at night."

"Now I want to go home. I want to see my family who stayed behind. My husband is already in Mozambique and he says it is safe to return," Mrs Shauke said.

Grey-haired Chilwane Chachoqo said she had not seen some of her family for almost 10 years.

"I never thought there would be peace. Now the fighting has stopped and I am old. I want to die in my own district," she said.

Others want to use newly acquired skills to build their country.

Said Julio Masehane: "I have learnt to build brick houses. There will be plenty of work for me in my country."

As the sun rose on the refugees' last day on South African soil, they quietly began queuing at the gates of the UN staging camp at Mhanga in the Northern Transvaal.

Clutching their repatriation papers, they filed through the gates and clambered onto four trucks.

Their belongings were already stacked on 10 luggage trucks filled with zinc, cupboards, bicycles, briefcases and clothing — the basis for a new beginning in Mozambique.

For the UNHCR, the convoy marked the end of one of its success stories.

High commissioner Sadako Ogata said Mozambique was a success story in a continent sorely needing beacons of hope.

During the past two years, more than 1.6 million refugees had returned home from six neighbouring states at a cost of $2 million (R2.2 million) — the largest and most complex operation ever undertaken by the UNHCR.

Last year, the UN funded 486 projects in 87 districts throughout Mozambique and distributed 177,000 agricultural tools and 186,700 seed packets.

The South African repatriation programme began in January last year and by Friday 31,074 refugees had chosen to return to the country of their birth.

But while most refugees in neighbouring states have been repatriated, about 50,000 have chosen to remain in South Africa.

Their future will be discussed by the South African and Mozambican governments, together with the UNHCR.

UNHCR deputy regional representative Guy Ocellere said the Mozambicans may soon lose their refugee status.

While some will have acquired South African residence rights, the position of the others is uncertain.
31,000 refugees repatriated

Last goodbyes as Mozambicans head homewards

BY JUSTICE MALALA

The last of Mozambique’s more than 1.8-million refugees to be repatriated by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from the six neighbouring countries began going home at the weekend.

The operation, which has seen more than 31,000 refugees returned home from South Africa since January last year, will end today when the last batch of 316 people board trucks from Mungu, in Northern Transvaal.

Complex operation

The trucks will take them to the Mapai reception centre in Mozambique and from there to their villages in Gaza province.

In what is the largest and most complex operation ever undertaken by the UNHCR in Africa, more than 1.8-million Mozambican refugees have been returned home by the organisation in the past two years. The South African repatriation programme was the last to take place.

But the number of those who have volunteered to go home has been disappointing. Of the estimated 120,000 Mozambican refugees in the country only the 31,000 had come forward to go home, UNHCR spokesman Yusuf Hassan said on Friday.

Many of the refugees might have returned unofficially on their own and others, who had acquired legal status to remain in South Africa, might have stayed on, he said.

Many of those who took up the offer to go home had stayed in the country for as long as possible, in fear of a fresh outbreak of war after the fragile peace established last year, and many say that if there are no jobs in their country they will return to seek employment.

"It feels good to go home, but if there are no jobs there then there is no reason to stay," said 24-year-old Julius Baloyi.

Negotiate

Hasan said the UNHCR would negotiate a cessation clause with the South African Government which would give the remaining refugees a period of grace before they would become illegal immigrants.

UNHCR Mozambique field office head Felipe Camargo said the main problems of the returnees, mainly women and children, were poor food production and lack of employment.

Some return home to find their villages totally destroyed, and decide to make their new homes in the reception centres set up by the UNHCR.

Returning as mother after 8 years

BY JUSTICE MALALA

On Thursday evening, when Katherine Ngobeni went to sleep for the fourth night on the wet ground of the UNHCR’s Mungu transitional camp in the far Northern Transvaal, all that she had was hope.

The next day, with nothing to her name except the voluntary repatriation form which was her passport to freedom, her two young children and the clothes on their backs, she boarded a truck which drove her back to the land she fled in 1998.

For the young woman who does not know her age, the trip home was the beginning of the realisation of her dream that her children would grow up in their own country among their people.

"I fled from my village, Ka-Mashamba in the Gaza province, with my uncle eight years ago when we were told that Manco was going to attack. We walked through the Kruger National Park until we reached Gyanu township, where our relatives took us in," she said.

Thirst

She met her husband James, also from KaMashamba, in South Africa and they have two children, Farida (4) and John (2). James’ first wife, she says, died of thirst while she was crossing the park into South Africa with her husband.

Ngobeni is not sure what happened to other members of her family, but said other refugees who came to South Africa after she said they had fled to other villages and were still alive.

Her husband left for Mozambique in February to start building a home for their family.

Although she was still fearful of what lay ahead, she was hopeful that the peace that friends and relatives had told her about was a real and lasting one.

"We were afraid to go back before now because we are not sure what it is like. But nothing can make me come back here. Only the outbreak of war will drive me back," she said.
By Betsy Spratt

Hundreds of refugees crowded onto tarpaulin-covered lorries early Friday to return to a land that many have not seen in over three years.

The refugees — Mozambicans who fled their country as a result of a 16-year war — travelled from all over South Africa to Mhanga, one of six staging areas where they could register and await departure.

Their departure for Mozambique is expected to bring to a close one of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees' largest and most complex repatriation efforts, said deputy regional director Mr Guy Oueltet.

"We began the operation one year ago," Oueltet told journalists at a farewell ceremony at the Punda Mana Gate in Kruger National Park, the point of departure for the refugees.

Since last January, the UNHCR operation has repatriated more than 30,000 refugees to Gara, Maputo and other provinces in Mozambique.

"When we started bringing refugees from six different countries, South Africa was last," Oueltet said.

The UN had not been in South Africa for nearly 40 years because of the nation's apartheid policies, Oueltet said.

Consequently, refugees in Swaziland, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Zambia were repatriated before those who had sought asylum in South Africa.

Although repatriation efforts in South Africa have officially ceased, hundreds of refugees remain in Mhanga and will be moved in the next few days.

The exodus was stemmed in 1992 when the Mozambican government and rebel movement Renamo signed the Rome Peace Accord, project coordinator Yusuf Hassam said.

The agreement paved the way for the voluntary return of refugees.

Now, the UNHCR will concentrate on repairing Mozambique's infrastructure through a variety of Quick-Impact Projects, Hassan said.

"We're helping them return because we think their physical safety can be guaranteed, but there will be social and economic problems because they are recovering from a devastating war," Hassan said.

The Quick-Impact Projects will include brick making, distribution of seeds and tools and a plan for improving access to clean water.

Mozambican refugees gather the possessions they will take on to UN lorries at a staging area in Mhanga, Northern Transvaal, on Friday. Their return to Mozambique signals the end of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees' largest repatriation operation.

PIC PAT SEBOKO
The MINISTER FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY:

Comment: Statistics are only available until November 1994.

"The satellite police station at Tskane is affiliated to the Brakpan police station and Duduzza is affiliated to the Nigel police station. Crime statistics for both satellite police stations are obtained from the crime returns compiled by the latter police station respectively. From the crime returns it is not possible to separate crime figures for individual satellite police stations, as the latter's statistics are incorporated into the returns of the police stations to which they are affiliated.

To obtain the required statistics it would be necessary to physically peruse all docket and records held at the Brakpan and Nigel police stations with regard to the period under consideration. The magnitude of this task will mean that limited manpower and financial resources will have to be diverted from other urgent tasks in order to provide the information and it would be extremely counter-productive. It is regretted therefore, that the desired information cannot be provided. The SAPS would, however, be able to provide figures on crimes committed in the entire area served by the Brakpan and Nigel police stations and its satellite stations during the period under review, should this be required.

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QUESTIONS

Indicates translated version

For written reply

South Africans who emigrated from/naturalised to SA in 1994

42 Sen. A. J. Williams asked the Minister of Home Affairs (236)

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Emigrants and immigrants by occupation for the period January 1994 to October 1994

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Emigrants</th>
<th>Immigrants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GRAND TOTAL</td>
<td>9 672</td>
<td>5 430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL—ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE</td>
<td>4 298</td>
<td>2 230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional, semi-professional and technical occupations—Total</td>
<td>1 726</td>
<td>954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineers and related technologists</td>
<td>341</td>
<td>248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial/production</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical and related</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metallurgical</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil and related</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineers (not elsewhere classified)</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical practitioner</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical specialist</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental professions</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and related occupations</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accountant and related accounting</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>846</td>
<td>394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managerial, executive and administrative</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerical and sales occupations</td>
<td>904</td>
<td>341</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
QUESTIONS
Indicates translated version
For written reply

Offences/persons released on bail in each province

2 Sen Dr R RABINOWITZ asked the Minister of Justice
(1) Whether any offences committed during the period 1 October 1994 up to and including 28 February 1995 were committed by persons out on bail, if so, how many in each of the provinces,
(2) whether he intends taking any steps in this regard, if not, why not, if so, what steps?

S12E

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE

(1) The required information is not readily available in my Department. In an effort to be of assistance, the statistics set out hereunder for the period October 1994-January 1995, were obtained from the South African Police. The statistics for February 1995 are not available yet. It should further be pointed out that the statistics are not available with regard to each province, and that the statistics merely indicate the number of persons arrested while on bail and not necessarily the number of persons arrested for an offence committed while on bail.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 1994</td>
<td>752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 1994</td>
<td>372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 1994</td>
<td>336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1995</td>
<td>362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1792</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) Yes, I have enquired and received reports from the various attorneys-general regarding accused persons who have committed offences whilst they were out on bail. From the reports it is evident that they regard this matter in a serious light and have issued specific instructions to state prosecutors under their jurisdiction. It has to be emphasised that prosecutors can only oppose bail on information supplied to them by the police. Furthermore, in the final instance it is the court which decides whether an accused person should be granted bail or not. Our courts handle thousands of criminal cases and leaving aside the few cases in which courts have come in for criticism, they are performing exceptionally well.

I referred the question of bail to the South African Law Commission for investigation some time ago. The Commission has completed its task and has submitted its report to me. The report has been tabled. I have studied the report and am contemplating amendments to the law relating to bail. During this process I also envisage to hold a consultative workshop to discuss the Commission’s report and proposals.

Education: budget per province

24 Sen A J WILLIAMS asked the Minister of Education:

(1) (a) What is the budget which has been allocated to each of the provinces in respect of education and (b) what is the shortage experienced in each province in this regard,
(2) whether he intends making additional funds available in this regard, if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant details?

S57E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION

(1) (a) Allocation for College and School Education (Private Ordinary School Education included) for 1995/96 according to province

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Allocation(\text{in R}) 1995/96</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Cape</td>
<td>4 499 703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Cape</td>
<td>691 320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Cape</td>
<td>3 117 061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KwaZulu-Natal</td>
<td>5 373 900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free State</td>
<td>1 964 931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Transvaal</td>
<td>1 772 703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Transvaal</td>
<td>3 613 433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>1 899 210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gauteng</td>
<td>4 547 094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>27 479 445</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A journey from wretchedness to hope

Amid the hundreds of refugees who returned to Mozambique from South Africa last week, one man was a graphic example of the hope and belief in the future that many refugees have for their country and the need to start working.

Simon Sithole, 55, returned with nothing, but promises that in ten years he will be a farmer from the wretched individual in tattered clothes that he is today.

By most standards, the belonging he carried with him to Mozambique amounted to nothing, and yet

Khumbulane village in in the Gaza province, is a

A three-week period in the Transvaal, his home was

And a breed of 13

I started working on

This dream immediately I

It worked in the Transvaal

Khumbulane village in

Looking ahead... Simon Sithole tends to some of the chickens he hopes will bring him prosperity in his home country.
Indian Ocean working group set up: Indian Ocean rim countries, including South Africa, have set up a working group to investigate closer regional economic cooperation following a conference in Mauritius late last month.

World economic summit in May: The Southern African Economic Summit of the World Economic Forum will take place on May 11 and 12 in Johannesburg. The summit is expected to attract senior business and political leaders from the region.

Mondi opens in Australia: Mondi Paper said yesterday it had opened an office in Australia to serve its export market to that country. A division of the R3 billion a year Amic subsidiary and integrated forest group Mondi Ltd, Mondi Paper achieved worldwide sales of more than R350 million during 1994.

Japan in debt after disasters: European credit rating agency IBCA estimates the total bad debts held by the 21 large Japanese banks to be around $400 billion at current exchange rates, arising from the weak economy, strong yen and Kobe earthquake. Japanese banks are likely to have to make a Y4 trillion provision in 1994/95 although the banks' operating profits will be only about Y3 trillion.

Brain drain continues: The brain drain from South Africa continued in the first 10 months of last year, with 1,726 professional, semi-professional and technically qualified people leaving the country. Over the same period South Africa admitted 554 skilled immigrants, according to figures released by Minister of Home Affairs Mangosuthu Buthelezi in parliament.

(236)
Emigration up by 50% since election

JOHANNESBURG: Emigration from South Africa showed an increase of nearly 50% in the first 10 months of 1994, official statistics show.

Figures provided by the Central Statistical Service yesterday show 9,072 people, mostly whites, packed their bags and left between January and October 1994.

In the corresponding period in 1993, 6,065 South Africans emigrated.

The preferred destination for the emigrants was Britain, with 2,606 people, followed by New Zealand, 1,291, and Australia, 1,133.

Economists said that although political violence died down after South Africa's historic all-race election last April, rising crime could have prompted more people to leave.

Immigration to South Africa also showed a decline of almost 40% from January to October 1994.

Figures show 5,430 people immigrated during that time, down nearly 40% on the same period in 1993.

Home Affairs Minister Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi said in Parliament yesterday more than 1,700 professionals, including engineers, medical specialists and executives, had emigrated from South Africa between January and October 1994.

Altogether 2,298 economically active people emigrated over that period compared to 2,230 who had settled in the country, he said in a written reply to a question — Sapa-Reuters
More than 1.6-million Mozambican refugees have been repatriated from six countries by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. Justice the last group from South Africa to the border, looks at what lies ahead for them.

Home, but no happy ending yet.

-236slow 6/4/95
Uncertain and yet hopeful people huddled in the trucks that wound their way from the Nhlang transit camp in the north-eastern Transvaal to Mozambique last week, the return home was symbolic.

For them, the peaceful return—a direct contrast to the dangerous illegal entry into South Africa, for many years ago—was a symbol of the peace and opportunity that awaits them in the land of their birth.

Carrying their pusthebe, meagre belongings made up of mattresses, corrugated iron sheets and a miscellany of other things, the refugees go home to nothing but a peaceful political system and the opportunity to build.

Their desperate hopes are born of years of suffering during their diaspora while the country fought with itself Mozambique has not had any real peace in the past 418 years.

The country attained its liberation from Portugal in 1975 after 400 years of colonialism. But barely a year after the triumphant Frente de Libertacao de Mozambique (Frelimo) cadres took power, the country was plunged into war again.

This time, the newly-liberated Mozambicans were fighting each other, with the Resistencia Nacional Moçambicana (Renamo) taking up arms against the new government. It was to be a long war.

Fled to sanctuary

More than a million people died and more than 1.7-million, with no option but death left for them, fled the country during the 16-year war that followed. They fled to the nearest sanctuary they could find, scattering across the sub-continent in Swaziland, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi and Tanzania.

A fragile peace dawned with the signing of the Rome Peace Accord in 1992, and finally the staging of elections, which Frelimo won last year.

The refugees began returning home as the peace held, many going back of their own will.

They return to a devastated country, a country where almost every sight is testimony to the destruction and duress of war.

The UNCHR estimates that $15-billion (R54-billion) worth of damage was caused by the war.

For those who returned via the little-used Pafuri Border Gate in the Kruger National Park last week, the struggles that lie ahead for them and their country are immediately apparent only 20m into Mozambique.

The buildings at the border gates are raddled, many of them still carrying marks of burning.

High Commission for Refugees Deputy regional representative

Guy Ouellet said landmines planted in the area during the war could still be found, and one had to watch where one walked. The Commission estimates there are more than a million landmines scattered across the country.

"The situation is like this all over the country. The signs of war are everywhere," said UNCHR spokesman Yussuf Hassan, pointing at the destroyed buildings.

The store just inside Mozambique at the border sells a can of Vivo beer for R5 and a piece of Chappies chewing gum goes for an astounding R2.

The war has destroyed all semblance of normality in the country. Families have broken down, the infrastructure has collapsed and the economy is in tatters. Many return home to villages totally destroyed.

Yet they are returning in numbers, with more than 1.6-million of the registered 1.7-million who fled already repatriated by the UNCHR in its most complex and largest operation ever in Africa.

The Commission has developed and implemented Quick Impact Projects (QIP) in the country to help provide social and economic support for the returnees. The QIPs are aimed at providing basic infrastructure in areas and villages.

"One of the biggest problems that many returnees face is lack of food, and what complicates the situation is that they have no means of producing food on their own."

Together with the World Food Programme we supply

STAR 6/4/95

\[\text{Cont}\]
ABOVE: Trucks carrying the returnees enter a devastated Mozambique at the Pafuri border gate in the north-eastern Transvaal.

This will not be a problem anymore," says Camargo.

Despite the country's many lakes and rivers, water is in short supply in many areas. The war had a disastrous effect on the water retrieval and distribution system, and this is one of the factors which has held back development in many areas, says the Commission.

Wells were destroyed or poisoned, and water resources in many areas were left in a deplorable state of disrepair. Up to 5.6 million people out of the 12 million in the rural areas have no adequate access to clean water.

But last year, as part of the QIPs, about 2000 new or rehabilitated water sources were constructed, says Camargo, adding that more will be built.

Between 30% and 50% of rural health facilities were looted in the war, and the present health administration can only care for a third of the country's 16 million people. There are only three main hospitals in the country and a mere 550 doctors, 150 of them foreigners. For every 1000 children born, more than 250 will die before they are five.

But since 1993 the UN has funded the rehabilitation and reconstruction of more than 100 rural clinics and nurses' homes.

The Ministry of Health has received international grants of more than $3.4 million (R118 million) to rebuild health facilities.

Forced out

The school system was brought to its knees by the war, with about 5000 schools closed or destroyed. About 1.2 million pupils and 20 000 teachers were forced out of schools between 1979 and 1991, says the UNCHR, and many children missed years of schooling while in foreign countries.

In Tete province alone, 98% of the schools were destroyed or abandoned.

There is a chronic shortage of places in schools, despite the government and the UNCHR constructing and rehabilitating thousands of classrooms under the QIPs programme.

Other problems in many areas abound, but the people of Mozambique continue to return home with hope.

"Many find that their villages have been destroyed and they now know one when they return. But they say the fact that I am here, in the land of my birth, is enough," says Hassan.

He says the fact that 1.6 million people have been repatriated means that Mozambique's is a story with a happy ending. But for the exhausted people of Mozambique and their devastated country, it may well be that only a bloody chapter has been closed. The happy ending is yet to come.

LEFT: Dawn breaks over the Mhinga transit camp in the north-eastern Transvaal as Mozambican refugees prepare to go home.

PICTURES: MOTHALELE MAHLABE

them with a year's food when they return in the hope that after that period they will be self-sufficient," says UNCHR Mozambique's head Felipe Camargo.

Together with the Mozambican government, the UNCHR has distributed 560 000 agricultural tools and 273 000 seed kits to the returnees. Each returnee family receives maize, ground nuts, millet, two types of beans and sorghum as well as pangas, axes, sickles and hoes.

To tide them over while they are still getting established, the Commission provides the returnees with food for up to a year. But despite this, many face problems.

"For example, many are still not used to working the land. But as they regain the old habits..."
EMIGRATION from SA showed an increase of nearly 50% in the first 10 months of 1994, according to official statistics.

Figures from the Central Statistical Service yesterday showed 9,972 people, mostly whites, packed their bags and left between January and October 1994. Preferred destinations were Britain, followed by New Zealand and Australia.

Statistics on Australia showed that the number of South Africans immigrating to that country alone had doubled to 1,500.

REPORTED Business Day reporter, Cape Town
600 miners quit after clashes

By Charles Phahlane

ABOUT 600 employees at Primrose gold mine in Germiston have resolved to go back to Mozambique after three days of negotiations between management and officials of the National Union of Mineworkers failed to persuade them to stay.

The talks followed clashes between two factions at the mine which resulted in nine people killed and about 20 injured at the weekend.

Six of those killed were from Mozambique.

After three days of negotiations between management and NUM officials, the Mozambican miners decided to resign and go home, a mine spokesman said.

Manager of the mine, Mr John Cockcroft said the company had met the workers' demands regarding the safeguarding of their lives but the miners were adamant that they wanted to leave.

He said about 600 of the miners signed resignation forms yesterday.

He described the incident as an "inter-tribal conflict".

NUM regional coordinator Mr Archie Palane said an independent commission would be set up to investigate the causes of the clash.

The names of the dead miners have not yet been released.
Brain drain continues

Many medical students plan to go overseas

BY SHIRLEY WOODGATE

Up to a third of the medical students at Cape Town and Wits universities are believed to be planning to leave South Africa after graduating this year, according to Dr Dan Ncayiyana, editor of the SA Medical Journal.

Indications of the pending brain drain follow hard on the heels of emigration figures for 1994 showing that among the 9 077 people who left the country between January and October 1994 were 99 medical practitioners, 16 medical specialists and 219 civil and related engineers.

Emigration from SA rose by nearly 50% in the first 10 months of 1994, according to Central Statistical Service figures.

Saying the loss of doctors was "a matter for serious concern", Ncayiyana said: "It is impossible to tie them down once they have graduated, unless it is to delay their registration by the SA Medical and Dental Council from one to two years after graduating.

"We must provide them with an incentive to stay through job satisfaction. This means ensuring an acceptable working environment, which includes adequate supplies of drugs and equipment, proper nursing care and an end to overcrowding in hospitals."

The current gap was being partly filled by "significant numbers" of eastern European and African doctors - the latter from Uganda, Ghana, Zimbabwe and Kenya, trained on the British model and familiar with many of the diseases that occurred in SA.

Ncayiyana said it was necessary to keep as much talent in the country as possible, particularly as at least half their training was at taxpayers' expense.

"On the other hand, we need only those who are committed to the future."

Police to review go-slow if negotiations succeed

STAFF REPORTERS

The SA Police Union would review its "work-to-rule" campaign and other actions tomorrow if negotiations between the Police and the Government produced a solution.

The union said yesterday it would continue its marches in major cities today, although a document to end the two-week action was expected soon.

Seputu national organiser Gerhard van der Merwe said members had agreed that if no progress is made today, the go-slow strategy would be reviewed.

Captain Leah Shambobo, a spokesman for Police Commissioner George Fivaz, said yesterday there were no new developments in negotiations.

Seputu member Celeste Pretorius said all the parties taking part in the negotiations were "in agreement in principle" about overtime pay and salary increases.

"The problem now is to find the money for the increases and allowances," Pretorius said.

Attempts were being made to find money from within the police and other budgets to boost police allowances, overtime pay and increases.

Policemen have been on a go-slow over the past two weeks and have refused to take all but emergency calls after hours.

Seputu will hold nationwide marches in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Pretoria today.

Pretorius said the marches would proceed as planned - "as victory marches if we have a solution to our problems by then".

A senior policeman said earlier this week that part of the hesitancy in granting salary increases to policemen was that the service still formed part of the civil service.

Consequently, whatever increase is decided upon for the police service, will have to apply to all civil servants.

But other sources said police had negotiated a separate deal.
Last Mozambicans go

By Betsy Speare

Voluntary Return Many refugees

1.6 million who, over the past two years,
Emigrants forced to leave funds behind to end poverty, illhealth

Community project seeks

STANDARD" image1st.png (25)

DAY, Monday, April 10, 1998

Money, time, and energy have been spent on the project. However, the project has not yet received the necessary funding to proceed. The community needs support to continue the project and to address the issues of poverty and illhealth.
PRE-ELECTION EXODUS SKEWED FIGURES

50% emigration rise 'not the full picture'

DETAILED figures show last year's 50% increase in emigration didn't tell the whole story. DALE GRANGER reports.

FIGURES released in Parliament last week revealing a 50% increase in emigration from South Africa in the first 10 months of last year do not show the full picture — the figures were inflated by a stampede of people leaving in the four months before the April election and in May.

The Central Statistical Service in Pretoria has provided the Cape Times with detailed figures of migration showing that the stampede to leave the country peaked during April, when 1 504 people left the country — more than double the monthly average for the year of just over 700 emigrants.

Numbers of people leaving were also high in January (998), February (975) and March (1 236). The trend continued in May, when a further 842 people left.

More than 32% of the whole year's emigrants left in the four months preceding and during the election, from January to April.

Back to normal

Only 1 969 South Africans emigrated during the corresponding period of the previous year (31% of the 6 065 people who left the country between January and October 1993); 3 574 people emigrated between June and October.

After the elections emigration figures soon returned to normal. From June to October, only 3 517 people from SA settled abroad.

A British consular official said there was no mad rush for South Africans to emigrate and most visa applications were coming from young people taking advantage of SA's re-established membership of the Commonwealth which entitled them to a temporary two-year work permit in Britain.

She knew of only three families who had applied to emigrate to Britain so far this year. Applications were coming from people wanting to join their spouses or families in Britain, or doctors wishing to do their housemanships in the United Kingdom.

She said the biggest headache the consul had to deal with during the election period was processing 30 000 applications for British passports.

Immigration figures to SA for January to May last year showed that 2 696 people settled here, 1 978 less than the 4 676 people who immigrated during the same period of the previous year.
SA's brain drain nearly equalled by gain

CAPE TOWN — The latest immigration figures indicate a relatively equal exchange of skilled professionals between SA and foreign countries.

Nearly 228 engineers, 150 doctors and 400 managers or executives from foreign countries settled in SA last year. Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi has said in reply to a question from NP Senator Abraham Williams.

Of the 248 engineers who immigrated between January and October, 29 were mining engineers, 84 electrical, nine chemical, 29 civil, 24 mechanical and 70 fell into engineering disciplines not listed.

SA lost five mining engineers, 27 electrical, 27 chemical, 41 civil, 22 mechanical and 219 in the general category — 341 in all.

Among the 149 doctors who had chosen to move to SA were five specialists and 12 dentists. Home Affairs Deputy Minister Pemzula Maduna said last week that many of these doctors were from southern or central African countries and had been attracted by higher wages and better standards of living in SA.

Of the 76 doctors who had left, 16 were specialists and 16 were dentists.

Meanwhile, 418 managers or executives had immigrated and 859 had left; 100 people involved in service industries had arrived and 107 had emigrated.

The group showing the largest imbalance was accountancy. More than 180 accountants left SA while 24 had immigrated.

Though the figures indicated 4 296 economically active people emigrated and 2 230 immigrated, many of the emigrants fell into less-skilled categories such as clerical workers and artisans.
Has the brain drain at last become a trickle?

Emigration figures for November last year show a loss of only 16 people compared with 578 for the same month in 1993.

Tourism also notched up an improvement, with the number of overseas visitors increasing by nearly 46% compared with November 1993, the largest number coming from the United Kingdom (19 000), Germany (15 000) and the US (9 000), according to the latest Central Statistical Service figures.

Nearly 60% of the overseas visitors came on holiday, 20% on business, about 4% for work and 0.3% for study.

Some 27% more South Africans went abroad, compared with November 1993, most of them heading for the UK (9 465), the US (4 098) and Australia (2 590), the CSS said.

The emigration trend for November is an improvement on earlier CSS figures which showed emigration from South Africa rose by nearly 50% in the first 10 months of last year.

Just more than 9 000 people left the country in the 10 months from January to October 1994.

— Staff Reporter.

(230) May 17 4 95
Johannesburg: The Congress of SA Trade Unions (Cosatu) has called for the scrapping of the Aliens Control Act and its replacement by more humane and internationally acceptable legislation and for “fair and proper control of entry of migrant workers” into Southern African countries.

In a resolution taken at its first international policy conference here at the weekend, the union federation also called for heavy penalties on employers who exploited illegal immigrants.

"Cosatu also resolved to condemn any attempt to "create a xenophobia in South Africa and to call on our people not to take out their frustration on foreign nationals."

The conference, attended by 350 delegates and having the decision-making power of a national congress, called for a Southern African summit involving governments and trade unions to discuss migration in the region.

The summit would come up with a strategy on how to build the economy of the entire region and develop a regional reconstruction and development programme with clear time frames.

The summit would also negotiate a quota on numbers of workers allowed into countries in the region, taking into account the economic imbalances in the region. Such a quota should be reviewed on an ongoing basis, as conditions determine, Cosatu said.
Police smash illegal-aliens syndicate

Police believe they have smashed the largest illegal immigration ring in South Africa, with the arrest of 10 suspects and three officials in the Department of Home Affairs.

They also seized hundreds of falsified identification documents.

The syndicate — believed to have links with triad gangs in the Far East — is alleged to have issued false identity documents to as many as 4,180 illegal immigrants. The unit seized false or stolen documents, including 22 South African identification documents, and a large number of blank birth certificates.

Further investigation led the team to a Montana plot, believed to be a transit area for illegal Orientals awaiting illegal documentation.

A Mamelodi man was arrested on Wednesday when the unit searched his premises and seized false or stolen documents, including 22 South African identification documents, and a large number of blank birth certificates.

Captain du Plessis said 1,891 illegal identity documents, at R900 each, had already been issued since February, 1,300 false IDs were in the process of being processed and a further 1,000 IDs are suspected of possibly being processed.

Five of the 10 arrested were granted bail by a Pretoria Regional Court yesterday. The case was postponed to March 23.

SAPA 17/3/95 (200)
Foreign miners live in fear

Johannesburg: Foreigners have never been so unpopular in South Africa, where an unprecedented wave of xenophobia has claimed 21 lives and left almost 200 people injured in the past fortnight.

"The South Africans accuse us of taking their jobs. They want to kill all those with a foreign passport," said Mr. Miguel Hussein, a Mozambican who witnessed clashes last weekend between migrant and local workers at the Vaal Reefs mining complex.

Fourteen people were killed in the fighting and 56 injured.

The previous week, a dozen miners — also from Vaal Reefs — were injured in fighting between locals and immigrants. On April 2, similar clashes erupted at Primrose mine east of Johannesburg, leaving seven dead and about 30 injured.

The incident set off panic among the immigrant miners and 600 Mozambicans packed and left for home.

Primrose mine was already in financial difficulties and the management announced this week they had decided to close the facility.

Vaal Reefs, which is owned Anglo-American, employs 50,000 people — about half of them immigrants from Lesotho, Swaziland and Mozambique.

A management representative said there had always been bad feelings between different ethnic groups "but never to this extent."

Mines officials said the 8,500 men who lived in the hostels had since been separated, with locals on one side and the "alliance of passport holders" on the other.

Job cuts in the mining sector could go some way to explain the worsening relations between locals and immigrants.

With production costs rising steadily, some mines have laid off up to 35% of their workforce since 1983.

The government has mentioned unemployment as a reason for proposed stricter controls on immigration. "Charity begins at home," Home Affairs Minister Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi commented last year.

— Sapa-AFP

ET 11/4/95 (236)
Unemployment ‘not caused by foreigners’

SOUTH Africa needs a multifaceted approach to address regional economic development and labour migration, says the Congress of South African Trade Unions.

At a media conference in Johannesburg, general secretary Mr Sam Shilowa said Cosatu recognised at its first international policy conference held at the weekend that while it was the duty of all governments to try to ensure that their citizens were employed, Southern Africa was one economic region.

"South Africa can never achieve prosperity while its neighbours are raked by poverty," he said. "No amount of electric fences can prevent people from fleeing poverty and starvation. A regional economic development strategy is essential," he added.

Shilowa said the conference also noted that the problem of high unemployment in South Africa was not a result of the presence of foreign workers. It was rather the result of structural problems in the economy which needed to be addressed.

"Conference condemned the xenophobic and racist hysteria which various parties, particularly the Inkatha Freedom Party, are attempting to whip up against workers from southern Africa." Workers and trade unions had nothing to gain from these campaigns. "If anything, the emergence of xenophobia and ethnic hatred will, in South Africa, as in the rest of the world, be a disaster for the working people."

Shilowa said the conference resolved to campaign for measures to deal with the issues in a constructive and sustainable way. These included:

- Fair and non-discriminatory legislation covering migration and border controls.
- Imposing heavy penalties on employers who exploit illegal immigrants.
- Legal guarantees of equal wages and working conditions, and the upgrading of migrant workers.
- Integration of migrants in communities where they live.
- A strategy to deal with the mobility of skilled labour in a way which develops the skills of local labour in the host country.
- A negotiated quota, reviewed on an ongoing basis, of workers allowed into countries in the region, taking into account economic imbalances in the region, and
- The development of a regional reconstruction and development programme, aimed at building the economy of the entire region. — Sapa
Anger over squatters in church

Southern Reporter

THE attempted suicide of a young foreign refugee, who had been squatting in the disused Regent Street church building in Woodstock, has led to renewed demands by Woodstock residents for action to rehabilitate the area.

The young man's attempt to take his own life failed when fellow squatters found him and cut the rope from which he was hanging before he strangled.

The incident, however, has again highlighted the abysmal conditions in the vicinity of the disused church which is usually occupied by more than 250 homeless people.

The building is derelict and the occupants share two toilets, which normally don't work, and a single cold water tap. There is no drainage for the tap.

Dirty water from washing and cooking utensils flows freely in the gutters.

Conditions at the church have attracted a host of vermin including feral cats, pigeons, rats, flies and fleas.

According to members of the Woodstock Neighbourhood Watch, the authorities have consistently ignored their representations and calls for action to do something about the issue.

"The Woodstock community has had to contend with a problem that has been dumped, not on its doorstep, but right in its kitchen," said one spokesperson.

"Unhappy residents have made numerous representations to both provincial and local government structures about the squatter refugee problem on Regent Square - all to no avail."

"At one meeting with officials, in fact, members of the Woodstock Neighbourhood Watch were labelled 'racists'."

"Nothing could be further from the truth, but we are concerned about maintaining standards in our area."

In a memorandum to the Mayor of Cape Town about a month ago, Mr W I Losper, chairperson of the Woodstock Neighbourhood Watch, said property owners and residents wished to highlight the fact that the housing of refugees in the old church had been "trust on us without prior consultation or approval."

His memorandum continued:

"The Regent Square area has become an abomination from which emanate the most foul smells, along with insidious infestation of flies, which could spread disease of epidemic proportions."

"There have also been numerous reports of male prostitution, drunken and unruly behaviour and of refugees soliciting prostitutes and concluding their sexual activities on the doorsteps of residents."

"All these incidents have been reported to the police."

The issues have been discussed with the refugees on numerous occasions.

"Each meeting is concluded with the community being given empty promises and we depart feeling defeated."

"As concerned residents and ratepayers we feel the city council should do something about the situation or ratepayers will be forced to withhold their payment of rates."

According to the Woodstock Neighbourhood Watch, there has been no reply from the Mayor to date, nor any constructive response to all their numerous other representations to provincial and local government structures.
Regional growth 'in SA's interest'

SYDNEY. South Africa must help its neighbours develop or face mass economic migration, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki said yesterday.

"There are between two and three million illegal immigrants in SA today," Mr Mbeki told a business lunch here.

Pointing out the migration was not restricted to Southern Africa, he said an estimated 30,000 to 40,000 Nigerians lived in Johannesburg.

As SA rebuilt its economy it would become more attractive to poor migrants, he said.

"It is quite clear to us that the matter of regional development is also in our selfish interest,"

SA was trying to draw investment to the region to eradicate poverty, the major factor in violence and migration, he said.

"To end the conflict which pushes people out of their countries is a very important step. The longer haul is to create jobs."

Mr Mbeki said SA was now a stable political and economic environment for foreign investment.

It needed to increase economic growth by radically raising investment. The economy is forecast to grow at about three percent annually for the next three years.

About 91% of the budget was absorbed by the bureaucracy and government debt, he said.

Growth

"Foreign investment is critically important in terms of the quantitative contribution it can make to life in South Africa," Mr Mbeki said.

With unemployment at 45 to 50% and the population growing at 2.7%, some economic analysts say SA needs five percent growth to tackle unemployment.

Southern Africa Business Council president Mr Ivan Chait rated crime the major disincentive to investment. — Sapa-Reuters
Attacks on immigrants must stop, say unions

Cosatu has taken an internationalist stance by condemning the recent spate of attacks on immigrant workers

Eddie Koch reports

The Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) has taken a tough stand on recent violence and xenophobia in South Africa. The union has condemned the attacks on foreign workers and called for an end to the violence.

Cosatu's decision is in line with its internationalist stance, which has been a recurring theme in the union's history. The union has long been a strong advocate for the rights of workers, both in South Africa and abroad.

The recent violence against foreign workers has caused outrage both in South Africa and internationally. Cosatu's decision to condemn the attacks is seen as a bold move, and one that is likely to be welcomed by other international unions.

The union has called for an end to the violence and for the government to take action to protect the rights of workers.

The union has also called for an end to discrimination against foreign workers, and for the government to take steps to address the root causes of the violence.

Cosatu has a long history of standing up for workers' rights, and its decision to condemn the attacks on foreign workers is a clear sign of its commitment to international solidarity.

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War declared on illegal immigrants

ALAN ROBINSON
Weekend Argus Foreign Service

LONDON — The South African army is fully committed to protecting the country's borders from the influx of illegal immigrants and stamping out cross-border criminal activity, especially arms smuggling, according to the Chief of the army, Lieut. Gen. Reg Otto.

In an interview with Jane's Defence Weekly, General Otto said he regarded border protection as the one task a cash-strapped defence force simply could not give up. He saw no end to the need for the "very troop- and cost-intensive" operations.

"There has been a substantial increase in the number of illegal border-crossings over the past months and there is nothing to suggest that there will be any decline," General Otto said.

"South Africa is very attractive to people fleeing poverty, econominc and civil war elsewhere on the continent. They see jobs, free education and free health services and they come across the border. There are perhaps 1.5 million illegals in South Africa, with between 300,000 and 400,000 in the Eastern Transvaal alone," he said.

"That represents a major burden on the economy, already struggling to provide enough jobs, and on the social services. We cannot relax control, over our borders in those circumstances."

The interview with General Otto forms part of an 11-page special report on South Africa's armed forces and their changing role following the end of apartheid. It is backed with heavy advertising from weapons manufacturing firms like Denel, Armscor, Heutech and Atlas Aviation.

On cross-border crime, General Otto says tight control, demands close co-operation between the security forces on either side, and "we have established good links with Mozambique and Swaziland."

The new army chief is optimistic on the problem of integrating the old SADF, MK and APLA forces. "We all made mistakes last year; we all learned lots of lessons. We have put in place mechanisms to streamline the process and to address the main problem areas such as non-statutory personnel arriving without any identification or record of past service."

"I can say that the process is now going well. Of the first intake we have more than 7,000 members of the MK and about 1,700 former APLA members undergoing bridging training or being integrated."

"We may complete the integration ahead of schedule, partly because this has been streamlined and partly because fewer former MK and APLA members are reporting for this intake than expected. Some of them have found jobs and some have decided that the army is not for them."

Writing on the new realities facing South Africa, Jane's Defence Weekly says there is no immediate or even long-term military threat to the country.

"The more immediate threat is the instability that plagues a large part of Africa, and to some, appears to be moving south. South Africa cannot dig a ditch and pretend not to be a part of Africa. Instability to the north will mean more refugees, more calls for military and civil assistance, and more danger of South African citizens becoming caught up in dangerous situations."

Africa was also looking to South Africa to play a greater role in peacekeeping and peacemaking in sub-Saharan Africa. "Pretoria is not averse to taking part in peacekeeping, once the forces have completed integration; however, the government is not all that keen on involvement in peacemaking operations. Nor are the armed forces."

The magazine said another vital role for the army in the short-term was to support the police in combating "serious internal problems, both political and criminal."
These blacks must stick to shady side

WHILE droves of white Portuguese-speaking South Africans flock to the annual Lusitoland festival in Johannesburg this weekend, black Portuguese-speakers will stick to the shady side of the street.

"We have to be careful not to speak Portuguese in the presence of black people because immediately they realise that (we speak Portuguese), they start all sorts of funny things against us," downtown Johannesburg resident Mozembe Daniel and George Jener, said this week.

They also told WeekendStar that being "black Portuguese is the same thing as being a white Portuguese".

"We have to carry our travel documents around wherever we go because we get stopped on the way for them, mainly by black policemen. It is ironic that we black Portuguese encounter more troubles from our fellow black brothers while our white countrymen have it so nice in the new South Africa," said Daniel.

Despite all the problems they have to put up with, Mozambicans and Angolans legally or illegally in South Africa consider themselves part of the broader Portuguese community here.

Xenophobic attitude

George believes black South Africans' xenophobic attitude towards black Portuguese-speakers is caused largely by the fact that the Portuguese-speakers have a very high work ethic which embarrasses South Africans.

"We, the black Portuguese, are not very choosy when we want a job and are very enthusiastic," said George. "If this country is free, then that must go for everyone. We must live together as one big happy family because we are brothers and sisters."

A restaurant attendant, Manuel Macingarrela, told WeekendStar that he came to South Africa "because life is better here than in Mozambique." Asked whether he would be attending the Lusitoland festival, he said: "I wish I had time to but I have to work about 16 hours throughout the week."

When WeekendStar visited the Lusitoland festival, we spotted a handful of blacks who said they felt obliged to attend the festival because it was part of their culture.
Draft publications control law may be passed soon

Clive Sawyer
Political Correspondent

Pornography, aliens dominate debate on home affairs budget

The debate was held in an extended public committee of the national assembly yesterday. Chief Buthelezi said it was hoped that draft legislation on control of films and publications would be passed soon.

The legislation allows freedom of choice for adults on access to explicit material. However, child pornography and the depiction of bestiality and crude mixtures of sex and violence.

Desmond Lockey (ANC) said the bill did away with vague criteria for publications control. Freedom of speech and expression, including freedom of media, were guaranteed by the constitution.

But no intellectual argument could contradict the fact there were many South Africans with religious convictions who were bitterly opposed to the legalisation of pornography.

Frik van Deventer (NP) held up examples of "adult" magazines to illustrate what was freely on sale.

Petrus Groenewald (FP) said the "asshole of the month" feature in Hustler magazine was a disgrace.

His party's leader, Constand Viljoen, had featured in this article...

Dene Smuts (DP) said citizens should be given full opportunity to give their views when the parliamentary committee held hearings about the bill.

"Citizens, having had a taste, not to mention a bellyful — of Hustler and other magazines over the past year, have articulated their protest in many forms."

Mudumese Sikakane (ANC) said there was pornographic material on the wall of his son's room.

"It's there on the wall because they like them."

Louis Green (ACDP) said 90 percent of those who had given evidence to the task group on publications and film control were against pornography, but their views were ignored.

Eason Chait (NP) said parents should accept greater responsibility in educating their children, after having relied on the state to protect their moral values.

Replying to the debate, Chief Buthelezi said nine out of 10 letters written to him were about publications control.

He was regularly sent petitions against the legalisation of pornography, and was asked how as a Christian he could allow it. He had a duty to uphold the constitution.

- Referring to illegal aliens, Chief Buthelezi said 90,000 were repatriated last year, mainly to Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Lesotho.

An inter-departmental committee appointed by the cabinet last year was working on ways to combat the problem.

Mr Lockey said his party strongly condemned witch-hunts by South Africans against illegal aliens.

In other parts of the debate...

- Miley Richards (ANC) called for recognition of all marriages, including religious marriages.

"I am still regarded as illegitimate although my mother married my father in a mosque and they were married by a religious leader."

- Petrus Groenewald (FP) said his party would move formally that Ascension Day be reinstated as a paid public holiday.

- Janine Memburg (ANC) said public holidays should be spread out better to avoid carnage on the country's roads.
ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

Economic refugees

Pending a workable solution to the problems of Mozambique, the unfortunate inhabitants of that desolate territory will continue to see SA as providing some kind of economic and political haven from starvation and dispossession. SA's role in creating the devastation is irrelevant to this perception.

In addition, under a new government, SA's immigration priorities have explicitly been fine-tuned to serve local interests — as they are elsewhere in the world.

Earlier this year Minister of Home Affairs Mangosuthu Buthelezi gave notice that he intended introducing an Aliens Control Amendment Bill this session. The Bill, if enacted, would make it easier to deport aliens proceeding to SA under false pretences as visitors, for holiday and business purposes, with a view to applying for work and permanent residence permits after having arrived in the country.

Policy would be so framed that "these persons apply in their own countries of residence and await the outcome before proceeding to SA." Altering the terms of an entry visa while in SA could, if necessary, be made "impossible." Marriages of convenience would be scrutinised.

In addition, a general tightening-up — possibly involving the widespread fingerprinting of the populace — could be brought in.

Buthelezi admitted that while "the interests of the country and that of the unemployed local population must of necessity be given primary consideration," certain economic realities had to be taken into account. "A certain degree of priority is given to industrialists and businessmen who are able to establish economically viable concerns in SA which in turn generate employment opportunities and training facilities for SA workers, bearing in mind the vast reserve of unskilled and semiskilled labour in SA."

But no sophisticated apparatus of immigration control can stem those displacements of humanity that occur because of war and want. Internally, the continued growth of squatter settlements in the Western Cape and Gauteng show the magnetic draw of these economic hubs on poor rural populations. Then there is the question of refugees from elsewhere in Africa.

Figures released by the Department of Home Affairs show that of the more than 90 000 illegals "endorsed out" in 1994, over 70 000 were from Mozambique. Yet current estimates show that there remain at least 100 000 Mozambicans in SA who have fled conditions at home and whose fate has hitherto been in the hands of a UN refugee agency dealing with voluntary repatriation.

While a substantial number of Mozambicans have returned home as conditions have stabilised there, an even larger number are found scattered throughout SA.

Their status is regulated by the UN refugee agency in conjunction with Buthelezi's department. This means that their repatriation can only be conducted "on a voluntary basis," according to Buthelezi, reposing to a question in parliament. A UN repatriation programme had terminated on March 31 this year, he said, and further repatriations had to be conducted "at their own expense."

Buthelezi expanded: "It is obvious that Mozambicans cannot be considered to be refugees indefinitely and, considering the lasting peace in their country, a cessation clause will be invoked at some stage during the latter part of 1996 after which Mozambicans with refugee status in SA will no longer be considered to be refugees. The invocation will only take place after consultation with the UN and government of Mozambique."

Thus, the UN, Maputo and Pretoria have determined what in effect amounts to a moratorium on forced repatriation — returnees must volunteer to go back at their own expense, unless international funds are found. This is because "peace has returned to Mozambique (and) it has become possible for refugees from that country to repatriate in safety and dignity."

This assumes that the Mozambicans in SA — all 100 000 of them — will be more inclined now to believe that peace has truly been restored and that law and order can be maintained nationally. The parameters of a mine-sweeping operation to nd Mozambique of these weapons of death have yet to be clearly defined.

Meanwhile, illegal Mozambicans seem to prefer the uncertainty of their status in SA to the uncertainty of Mozambique.
New passport planned to combat travel fraud

Political Staff

TENS of thousands of illegal immigrants are travelling internationally on false South African passports.

The Department of Home Affairs says it is impossible to know the exact figure as it can only count the cases where culprits are caught. The department believes the figure runs into tens of thousands.

Responding to questions, the department declined to name the countries but said most culprits were from Africa, Asia and the "East bloc".

Last week, Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi told the Senate certain countries were "no longer prepared to accept South African passports and travel documents without reservation."

He said a new passport, with unique security features, had been approved by the cabinet.

Holders of existing passports would, for the present, be allowed to use these.

The department statement said while statistics on prosecutions were not kept, complaints had come from Britain, the Republic of China, Canada and the United States.

The new passport featured security printing, high-quality watermark paper, the printing of photographs instead of pasting, lamination of personal details and machine readability.
Operation Hunger probed

MORE than R1m of Operation Hunger funds was allegedly paid into the account of a fictitious company with the possible collusion of some of the organisation's employees, police spokesman Col Eugene Opperman said yesterday.

The commercial crime unit was investigating third party involvement in Bloemfontein and suspected complicity at the organisation's Johannesburg-based head office, he said. No arrests had been made.

Operation Hunger board of trustees chairman Pieter Camay said at the weekend that the organisation's executive director, Mpho Mashinini, and manager of the Bloemfontein region, Anthony Milia, had been suspended. Mashinini took over from Ira Perlman nine months ago.

Refugee body to be formed

A REGIONAL refugee committee is soon to be set up to co-ordinate movement of refugees through Southern African Development Community countries.

At a meeting of community representatives and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees this month it was decided the committee would be established to harmonise legislation and assist to refugees.

It would also look at a quota system of migrant labour based on the region's needs and strengthen links with regional emergency services.

Another focus would be regulating the status of people considered to be illegal immigrants but who had lived in their host country for such a long time that they had lost contact with their country of origin.

Governments would also be required to put in place procedures which identified people who were not genuine asylum seekers and who threatened to overwhelm the system of asylum.

UNHCR representative Nicolas Bwakura said at the meeting the proportions of the refugee issues called for innovative ways of addressing the causes and finding solutions.

Population movements were major political, security and socioeconomic issues and solutions could be found only through comprehensive policies and co-ordinated measures.

He said the committee would also support regional efforts to resolve conflict and to promote stable economic and social conditions.

First 'container school' to open soon

TWENTY-nine shipping containers have been insulated and electrified to provide classrooms for 500 pupils in the Zonkizwane squatter camp on the East Rand.

The Susele primary school was the brainchild of Coca-Cola and the Zonkizwane community.

The school would be the first container primary school to provide much-needed education for young children living in the historically turbulent squatter area.

With the assistance of Safmarine, who donated the containers, and Johannesburg Consolidated Investment, who contributed R43,000, Coca Cola provided the transport and the conversion costs of R280,000.

Sanlam also announced a R300,000 plan to expand its community involvement through container projects to establish facilities in disadvantaged rural and urban areas.

The nationwide series of projects would provide a variety of facilities for the local communities, including a community centre, clinics, extensions to schools, creches, kitchens and job creation centres.

The project was expected to commence in July and the communities expected to benefit from the projects included Tired Socha, Mhlumu near Middelburg, Atteridgeville, Bekkersdal and Orange Farm.

The matter had been handed to police after Operation Hunger conducted internal checks and "realised something was wrong", Opperman said. The fraud detected by trustees last December, related to feeding programmes run by the organisation.

Camay said all feeding programmes in the affected areas had been suspended, but the internationally funded community projects were still running.

It was necessary, both criminal and civil action would be brought against the guilty parties and restitution sought, he said.

Mashinini has worked for Operation Hunger for seven years. He was one of Perlman's two deputies during her term of office.
Reparations cost SA R4m last year

Front opposition Bill: Controlling immorality has become difficult

SOWETO Thursday May 18 1995
Cosatu calls for humane approach on aliens
Millions spent on repatriation as politicians seek solution

Costs mount as illegal aliens continue pouring into SA
POLICE have evicted 27 Angolan refugees from a Woodstock church, prompting an angry response from a resident who says the people were treated inhumanely.

The refugees were due to appear in the Cape Town Magistrate’s Court today. The evictions followed a trespassing complaint laid by the provincial Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning yesterday.

Alison Steot of the Human Rights Committee said that, even if the evictions were legal, the committee was extremely concerned by the alleged method of eviction.

Woodstock resident Bassi Nelson said he was walking past the church in Regent Street about 2 pm yesterday while police were evicting the refugees...

"It was worse than 1976. It was a nightmare," he said.

Mr Nelson claimed police were kicking the refugees and throwing them into trucks.

He said people were screaming and he saw one man being pulled off barbed wire he was holding onto.

"It was disgusting. They say it is the new South Africa. These people ran away from their country because they feared the war there.

"They could have taken the people out, but not in that way."

Police captain John Sterenberg urged Mr Nelson to come forward and make a sworn affidavit so the allegations could be investigated.

He said the evictions should have been carried out in a humanitarian way.

Provincial Housing Minister Gerald Morkel said yesterday legal steps were being taken against the refugees after "several months of negotiations" and alternative accommodation had been found.

Some of the people moved willingly, but others refused, saying they were going to be deported back to Angola, which was untrue, said Mr Morkel.

"As a last resort, the welfare organisation which had made all the arrangements for the alternative accommodation, agreed to pay rent money designated for the landlords of the new accommodation directly to the refugees, with an undertaking from them that they would find alternative accommodation themselves.

"Although some of them vacated the building, a number refused to leave under the pretext that they had not received their share of the money. The 'security' guards were either absent or violent, and the refugees again occupied the building.

"In light of this, we are satisfied the refugees have had more than enough chance to be accommodated elsewhere. Therefore, the law now must take its course."
'Illegals' helped by corrupt officials

One of the major reasons for South Africa's crime wave is the flood of illegal immigrants — and efforts to stem the tide are being hampered by corruption.

PETA KROST
Weekend Argus Reporter

CORRUPT officials in the Department of Home Affairs are hampering police attempts to stem the tide of illegal immigrants, said to be responsible for 40 percent of South Africa's crime.

There are estimated to be about three million illegal immigrants in the country.

"In 1984 alone, we arrested 23 Home Affairs officials, including two directors, for unlawfully helping illegal immigrants obtain passports, identity documents and other national documentation," Warrant Officer Johann Fourie of the Illegal Aliens Investigation Unit said this week.

However, while Home Affairs spokesman Henkie Meyer admitted there was a serious problem, his records showed only 16 officials charged, of whom only one was a director.

"But obviously that is too many so we are conducting on-going in-service training to try and curb it," Mr Meyer said. He confirmed the estimate of three million illegal aliens in South Africa.

He would not specify which screening procedures were employed by the department in its recruitment, but said the Department of Home Affairs did not employ people with criminal records.

Warrant Officer Fourie said the unit's biggest headache was the illegal issue of these documents to Nigerians, of whom 250 were arrested since January for possession of unlawfully issued documents.

Many Chinese, police believed, also played a significant role in organising the supply of illegal documents.

Last year police confiscated illegally obtained South African documents worth almost R60 million on the black market.

The haul included 1,727 passports, only six of which were fake, 231 identity documents, 294 forged permits and stamps, 143 loose leaf visas and seven stolen official stamps.

"Inside-men were obviously used as these documents emanated from the department, which is understaffed to handle the problems and so it is difficult to stop the internal corruption," Warrant Officer Fourie said.

He explained that wealthy illegals, mainly Chinese, would bribe a corrupt official in the department to "create a background" for each individual, by entering into a computer data-base fictitious names of parents, dates of birth and other details.

The illegals then used the same information on their application form for a late registration of birth, which would not be turned down as the data on computer contained the complete histories of the individuals in question, indicating them to be persons born in South Africa. Once the births were registered, they could legitimately apply for identity documents with which they could then request passports.

"They always have money. When we arrest a Nigerian for passport fraud, it is almost inevitable that we will find one to two thousand US dollars and often cocaine as well. But, there will always be at least R50,000 in cash on the premises of any Chinese when we arrest," Warrant Officer Fourie said.

Once in South Africa, the illegals allegedly set up crime rackets, many of which were run by syndicate leaders outside the country.

"Our successes are just the tip of the iceberg. The problem is once the illegals have legitimate passports, they are impossible to trace. And their crimes multiply."

"The crimes committed by illegals constitute more than 40 percent of all this country's crimes. If we can get rid of the illegals, we could effectively cut down crime," Warrant Officer Fourie said.

"The Aliens Unit believes that this problem stems from South Africa having been branded a place where criminals and drug smugglers were welcomed," said unit commander Captain S J Du Plessis.

The unit had received more than 170 inquiries from Interpol, foreign embassies and foreign police commanders asking about Nigerians, Chinese and Indian citizens connected to drug smuggling while in possession of South African passports.

"During the investigation into this, we discovered the documents were obtained through an agent or a corrupt official in the Department of Home Affairs," Captain Du Plessis said.
SA farmers planning to move into Mozambique

MÁPUTO. — A group of South African farmers plans to invest in agricultural and tourist operations in the northern Mozambican province of Niassa, state radio reported this week.

The province contains some of the most spectacular countryside in Mozambique, notably along the shores of Lake Niassa, which are largely undeveloped.

Radio Mozambique said the farmers wanted to turn the lakeside beaches of Moponda and Chwanga into tourist resorts.

They also hoped to develop fruit orchards near Lichinga, the provincial capital, and at Chiconono in Muehbe district.

The farmers told the provincial administration that they could also cultivate cotton in Marrupa in the same province.

Mozambique's Minister of Agriculture Carlos Agostinho do Rosario said steps had already been taken to set up mechanisms of understanding and the guidelines under which co-operation with South Africa would take place.

"Everything is under discussion — the location, the kind of activity, the size of the areas to be conceded, and fiscal and commercial matters," said Mr Do Rosario.

Last year the conservative white farmers said they were investigating moves to countries including Mozambique, Angola, Gabon, and Congo. Some have already moved to Zambia, where they have been welcomed with open arms — Reuter
Black and ‘alien’ in Africa

NOT SHAMED

SA whites cared for other whites from Rhodesia:

By Newton Kanheka

SOUTH African brothers and sisters — I mean black sisters and brothers — whatever has happened to you? You are embarrassing black people throughout the world.

Calling a black brother an “alien” and the man who plundered and raped you for more than 300 years a “brother” is nothing short of a shame.

I muzzle my food and not my words and I never call a spade anything but a spade.

I have always, until lately, admired the South African political maturity among the black population, but there has been tremendous disappointment in the attitude and behaviour of my brothers and sisters in this country.

Solidarity against apartheid

It was not fashionable but mandatory for every black person throughout the world to be associated with the black struggle or pay something in the name of solidarity against apartheid.

It is not only disheartening but surprising to see the same people who have been comrades and friends aligning themselves with the enemy, calling you all names including “alien”, and telling the black brothers and sisters that they are not welcome in this country!

It’s often difficult and inappropriate for a person, regardless of their level of expertise, to condemn or group a whole nation of people, but with very little reluctance I will say black South Africans, you have disappointed your brothers and sisters.

I, however, applaud the few voices like that of Mphathe Tshedu who condemned the Alexandra incident.

There are problems of housing in Alex and the rest of the black communities throughout South Africa that one wonders what miracles could have taken place in these communities had foreigners never set foot in this country.

Take all the foreigners out of Alex and find the little, if any, space good enough for normal habitation of a family.

The Struggle of the Black people in South Africa dates back to the beginning of the century and the major reason for that struggle was not that of taxation without representation but that of land.

The universal suffrage is an important facet for democracy and freedom. But the colour of freedom is green.

Yes, Mr. Nelson Mandela is the President of this country and the people of this country voted for the government of their choice and people are supposedly free.

Really?

Politics does not pay rent. Neither do slogans — Amandla. People can never be free if they only have political freedom without economic control.

Apartheid condemned black people to townships, squatter camps and homelands.

Thirty-five million people occupy only 13 percent of the South African land.

Today the white people own and occupy 87 percent of the South African land and we are in the remainder. This is what we are fighting for.

The worst crime from the black leaders, especially from the ANC, is that of complacency with such barbaric, narrow-minded behaviour from the frustrated masses.

The politicians who clearly know how much they were welcomed in Africa are silent.

Why is the Government doing nothing to educate or stop such shameful crimes on to the African brothers and sisters?

The apartheid white Government looked after their own brothers and sisters who fled from Rhodesia, Mozambique and Namibia in particular.

Is it not true that our brothers in Government are participating in the principle of divide and conquer? As we fight, they are busy eating into the little 13 percent of the land we are allowed to control.

I am yet to find a politician who wages a campaign to educate the South African blacks. I mean a politician who will tell the people who the problem is in this country.

I still subscribe to the true philosophy that Africa is for black Africans and not Africaners. I have no problem with white people living in Africa but with the clear understanding that they are visitors.

Identical culture

Isn’t it ridiculous for a Tswana in Gaborone calling another in Mmabatho an “alien” when their language and culture is identical? How come the other African borders remain “legitimate” and yet black people never participated in the demarcations?

My brothers and sisters, African immigrants have never and will never be your problem. Have you people forgotten who your enemy is?

You cannot walk into a field or a plantation and accuse the slaves for being enslaved. If there are any employers who underpay their workers mainly because they are foreigners, the criminal is not the worker but the exploiter.

Who owns the land? Who wants to be paid peanuts except if they are monkeys? But some of the brothers coming into South Africa are virtually destitute and will do anything to have food in their stomachs.

Why should we suggest that if there were no black immigrants in this country the Boer would be prepared to pay a fair wage? If we agree that the Boer has always been the problem then the criminal is the Boer and not the worker.

At the Johannesburg Stock Exchange black people control somewhere in the region of two percent of the shares on the market.

And we are busy getting at each other’s throats for bread crumbs. I have been looking with a lot of interest at the policy of affirmative action. Is it not interesting that the black population is fighting to be managers of white-owned companies? We want to be managers of other people’s businesses.

All we are doing is enhancing the power of the man who has exploited and plundered this country since the 17th century.

Can all this be reversed by throwing the few black African brothers out of South Africa?

The African brothers are not here to ask for handouts. They want to work to earn a living.

The argument is always that the brothers and sisters “are taking our jobs”. This is ridiculous. Take every immigrant black out of South Africa and you will still have millions of South Africans on the streets without jobs.

I have a vision that the liberation of this country has not yet begun. It will only start when the masses start identifying themselves with Africa. It will begin when the black people and then leaders start identifying who their problem really is.

All other races

Some people may think this is racist, but look at all other races — Jews, His, Pincus, Indians, Caucasians. They stand together and do business together.

If we black brothers and sisters remain divided we will remain 20th century slaves.

How do you explain a situation where in the middle of Soweto a shopping mall hasn’t got a single black-owned shop?

At the end of the day the man who runs the furniture shop, boutiques and supermarket in this mall collects the day’s income and takes it to Sandton to develop that area.

When will we start to take ownership and have control of our country and finally our continent?

If you are black and you are not thinking black in this day and age, then I am sorry for you. Wake up black South Africa.

(The writer is a Zimbabwean-born journalist now working for a Johannesburg newspaper)
Move to stem tide of illegal aliens

PRETORIA. — Legislation is under consideration to make it impossible for foreigners arriving in South Africa — on the pretext of being tourists or businessmen — to seek work permits and permanent residence, Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi said.

In a speech read to the House of Assembly yesterday by his deputy, Pemani Maduna, to the central committee of the National Union of Mineworkers, Chief Buthelezi said there had been a "disturbing tendency" among foreign work-seekers to conceal the true nature of their visits by posing either as tourists or businessmen.

These people then made application after application to be granted work permits, often among politicians and other influential people to do so.

Last year more than 90,000 illegal immigrants were repatriated.

One of the reasons for the large numbers of illegal labourers on South Africa's mines was an apparent reluctance by South Africans, even the unemployed, to work underground — Sapa.
**Enforce**

**Coupe for Public Safety**

- The police have a responsibility to enforce the law. They are there to protect and serve the community.
- The community relies on the police to maintain public safety.
- The police must have the support of the community.
- The police must be accountable to the community.

**Problem of Alcohol**

- Alcohol is a problem that affects many people.
- Alcohol use can lead to accidents and other problems.
- The community must work together to address the problem of alcohol.

**Regional RPPs**

- Regional RPPs are needed to address the problem of alcohol.
- Regional RPPs can help to coordinate efforts to address the problem of alcohol.
- Regional RPPs can help to provide resources to communities.
- Regional RPPs can help to raise awareness about the problem of alcohol.

**References**

- Enforce, Coupe for Public Safety, 2022.
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- Regional RPPs, 2022.
OF the 120,000 Mozambicans registered as refugees in South Africa, only about 25,000 to 35,000 will be helped to return home before the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) completes its Mozambican repatriation programme in June this year.

While more than 1.6 million Mozambicans have been repatriated from the various Southern African countries where they sought refuge from the 16-year civil war, most refugees in South Africa are reluctant to return to a country so ravaged by destruction that there are no prospects of jobs for them.

Conditions in Mozambique are far from ideal for returning refugees—the economy is still fragile, landmines are abundant and roads, water supply lines and basic amenities have been all but totally destroyed.

Most Mozambicans in South Africa feel they are better off here. But the new government's announcement that it would deport illegal immigrants has left many worried.

According to the UNHCR, however, Mozambicans registered as refugees cannot be deported as the repatriation programme is a voluntary one.

Even refugees who crossed the border between 1985 and 1992 can still apply for official refugee status, which will allow them to remain in the country for a while.

As part of its repatriation programme, the UNHCR promoted exchange information visits between Mozambican traditional chiefs and South African indunas to inform refugees of the conditions in Mozambique.

But a UNHCR official said, "We should not bring people back to conditions that may be worse than the settlements in their country of asylum. If they don't have food, schools and health centres they will go elsewhere. And where? Back to the asylum country?"

The recent count of 120,000 Mozambican refugees in South Africa is far less than the 250,000 there were thought to be when Mozambique, South Africa and the UNHCR signed a tripartite agreement in 1993 to repatriate Mozambican refugees from South Africa.

Now that the main repatriation phase of its operation is almost over, the UNHCR expects to repatriate less than 100,000 refugees in the coming months from South Africa, Zimbabwe and Tanzania.

The UNHCR has already helped to repatriate about 22,000 Mozambican refugees from South Africa—most of whom returned to their home villages in southern Mozambique.

In order to help returning refugees, the UNHCR in Mozambique has established several transit camps in the major border areas, while mass information campaigns were launched in refugee settlements in KanaNgwe, Gazankulu and elsewhere in South Africa to persuade refugees to return home after the war.

The UNHCR representative in Mozambique, Alfredo del Rio, said this week that his agency had now launched a appeal for about R201.6 million of which about R160.6 million would be spent in Mozambique to conclude the repatriation and reintegration programme over the next 16 months.

Refugees who have returned are provided with agricultural tools to help them become self-sufficient, while food aid in returnee areas is gradually phased out.

But for many Mozambicans who fled the horrors of war on foot, walking through the bush for up to a month, eating fruits and sleeping in trees, South Africa remains more attractive than their memories.

**GOING HOME...** This boy's parents fled Mozambique to escape the horrors of war — but he was born in South Africa in a refugee camp. Here he is waiting in the Mapai transit camp for his family to return 'home'.

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**By ABDUL CARIMO**
Tensions mount...
A handful of experts who contend that South Africa needs to improve skills in a number of areas that are critical to economic development. The key is not just about having the skills but ensuring that those who have them are employed in high-productivity jobs. The problem, however, is that most skills are not employed in high-productivity jobs, but rather in low-productivity jobs where they underutilize.
Crawling into South Africa on a hope and a prayer

Over the fence lies the land of milk and honey

By Sharon Chetty

The depression in the earth was fresh — not more than a few minutes old. And under the floor were cows' lai hooked branches, ready to be hoisted as flimsy support so that the fence could be cleared up enough for a person to crawl under.

Our noisy approach in an SANDF Land Rover had already scared off the person — yet another desperate Mozambican trying to enter South Africa — to them the land of milk and honey a place with tarred roads, hospitals and work opportunities.

The 62-kilometre stretch of electric fencing separating the two countries is probably the most popular area of entry for Mozambican cunning illegally into South Africa.

According to Colonel Duin Lotter, Officer Commanding Group 33 in Nelspruit, the division responsible for the patrolling and maintenance of the fence, the majority of people crossing are job-seekers who want to get to Gauteng.

Migrants returning

Every night in January, groups of between 10 and 40 and once as many as 80 were caught crossing the fence — most were migrants returning for the start of the new working year. In the first 10 days, 3,163 immigrants were repatriated.

There were cases instances where pregnant women have gone to the fence and ensured that they be caught so that they can get restricted treatment on the South African side.

Since October 1992, when the rebel Renamo and the Frelimo government signed a ceasefire ending their civil war, people crossing into the country were no longer regarded as refugees but as illegal aliens.

Last year's election has resulted in relative stability that country, effectively reducing any security threat from that side.

When the electric fence was erected in 1987, it was during PM Bota's "zweer geraar" era that Umkhonto we Sizwe guerrillas, with support from Frelimo, were a major threat.

That remote stretch often saw bloody confrontations between the then SANDF and infiltrating cadres. But the times are over and peace have come different properties.

Together with illegal aliens, gun trafficking, drug smuggling and cattle rustling are our major concerns," explained Colnet Lotter.

Now, when there are sunlights, it is with cattle rustlers, gun smugglers and armed guards who charge people to escort them across the fence.

Until 1990, the electric fence was switched on to "belial mode", which meant a person would suffer an electric shock when in contact with the single line wire that runs through the barbed netting.

It still did not discourage hundreds of thousands from crossing — about 60 died in that period.

Now the setting is on "detect", which alerts SANDF control stations to activity. But the terrain is rough and responding to alarms is a time-consuming operation.

Every morning hundreds of crossing points are cleared away only for SANDF patrols to find identical set-ups within hours.

The crossing points are numerous and almost identical — we stopped counting after about 20 in less than five kilometres.

Pathways through the bushes, sometimes a bog or a short distance away from the commons signals are a common mark, the numbers which traverse the area. Historically, regular movement of people between Mozambique and South Africa has been the norm.

When the borders between SA, Mozambique and Swaziland were drawn up by the colonists, entire tribal areas were arbitrarily split. But the peace maintained contact and even during the Mozambican civil war, the Mlambonibwe was entitled to its own crossing point, so that the chiefs had easy access to its subjects.

During the Mozambican war refugees were easily accommodated by people on the SA side — after all the NP government accepted the white Portuguese, so the black people fleeing that country were also entitled to refuge, was the thinking. But now the factors for moving have changed.

"We have as many complaints from black farmers about cattle rustling as we have from white farmers," explained Major Gerad Botha of the SANDF communications division.

Since the beginning of this year, at least 3,000 head of cattle, valued at over R3,5 million have been stolen and taken across the border.

"In a country as devastated as Mozambique, where not much of the live-stock survives, cattle are precious. It makes sense for these to steal these because they are valuable and fetch high prices," added Major Botha.

Illegal weapons

The majority of illegal weapons enter the country through that area. Often immigrants are found selling their weapons to locals just to be able to buy a ticket to Johannesburg. "We have managed to bust gun running syndicates but the number of illegal weapons brought into the country is still high.

"We get about between four and 12 AK-47s a month," he added.

And the people who are benefiting from the desperation of the Mozambican war-torn garden charge to take people across the border — and they have varying rates. The first rate would be to take the person merely across the fence into South Africa.

Next up would be to guide them right up to info-strustuce such as a taxi stop.

The third package would include transport to a local destination.

And the fourth would be the luxury ticket — a hot meal and transport to the City of Gold, Johannesburg.

Eric tries his luck in SA

ERIC Mchona is 26, has a wife and two children and is an illegal immigrant out to try his luck in South Africa.

In the war-ravaged Mozambique he had heard about the vast farms of the Eastern Transvaal, the roads where there are no land mines and that South Africans are "Lazy"... they will not work for only a little money.

"There are lots of jobs here but in South Africa people want too much," he said.

He was arrested a day after he arrived to seek work at the farms around Komatipoort, the border town where the majority of labourers are either illegal immigrants or staying in the country with temporary work permits.

"I will try to come here again. In my land there is no work. We have lots of energy, we can work hard for little," he said.

As far as Eric is concerned, working on a banana farm for R100 or R90 a month is no problem — he cannot see why SA workers want a minimum wage.

"I want to buy food for my children. In my country you cannot find many things — that is why I must work here," he said. Meanwhile, Mozambican are not the only ones trying to enter South Africa illegally via the Eastern Transvaal border. Hundreds of Somalis, Rwandese, Burundese and Ethiopians have been found entering the country illegally.

Dag Erlandsen of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees said many of these people traveled by ship to Maputo.

Many are stayaways and are de-portated. They then make their way overland across Mozambique and eventually into South Africa.
Exile’s campaign to have former allies kicked out

By JACOB DLAMINI

FOR five years Walter Moisapolo lived in several African countries, a refugee from apartheid.

Today the 25-year-old Mozambican is at the forefront of a campaign to rid Alexandra township of immigrants, both legal and illegal.

In the last two weeks, marauding young men have been going around the township, evicting immigrants from their homes and allocating these to ‘‘bomu fude’’ (fused) residents.

Mr Moisapolo returned from exile in 1991 but there is little sense of gratitude for the hospitality he enjoyed in Zimbabwe, Zambia and Tanzania.

‘‘Let them all go home. They do a lot of horrible things and have no respect for the laws of this country,’’ he says.

The irony of the campaign is not lost on Mr Moisapolo. ‘‘I was a refugee and I obeyed the laws of any country I was staying in. But these people are taking away what few resources we have.’’

He is not alone in his hatred for ‘‘these people’’, Amatownwele or Amagwazika as they are called derogatorily in the township.

A study by the Centre for Policy Studies has found that anti-foreign sentiment is growing in black communities.

The survey found that locals blame immigrants for a variety of social ills affecting the township. There is concern that foreigners from poorer African countries are increasing unemployment and undermining the wage claims of South Africans.

A blue-collar worker from soweto told researchers ‘‘Foreigners work for any money they can get. We have pride. I won’t work for a whole week for R50 when I’ve still got to support my mother.’’

The study also found that ‘‘the concern about immigration is not limited to a few malcontents, but a genuine popular sentiment that needs to be managed’’.

Police Commissioner Bheke Koelepe also wants immigrants kicked out of the township.

‘‘They must all be resettled in camps so that they do not mix with the community. Only once we have established those camps will it be easy for us to control them and try to stop the influx into the country,’’ Mr Koelepe says.

While ANC leaders constantly remind their followers of the support given to the organisation during the years in exile, the argument does not wash with people like Mr Moisapolo.

‘‘Sure I had foreign girls and friends and all that but my situation was different because I was not driven into exile by apartheid,’’ Mr Moisapolo says.

Gauteng ANC deputy general secretary Obot Bapela told a news conference this week ‘‘Foreigners have contributed tremendously to the building of the economy in South Africa.’’

However, Mr Bapela says he supports the deportations of illegal immigrants although he says it should be done with the cooperation of all African states.

The majority of legal immigrants, according to the Home Affairs Department, come from the United Kingdom, Taiwan, Zimbabwe and India.

Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Swaziland account for the highest number of illegal immigrants.

For Kingdom Mpho, a naturalised citizen from Zimbabwe who has lived in Johannesburg for 20 years, the identity document, life has become a nightmare.

‘‘The self-employed painter has lost count of the number of times he has been accosted on the street by plain-clothes policemen who are always suspicious of who his ID is a forgery. ‘‘We are always subjected to the worst form of humiliation by policemen. Never have I had this problem in the 70s and I wonder what has happened,’’ says Mr Mpho.

Alexandra Civic Association chairman Mike Beer says he is one of the leaders who has spoken out against foreigner-bashing.

This campaign is a farce and is out of control. People are being victimised because they are either too black or have strange accents, and that’s unacceptable. It must he stopped,’’ Mr Beer says.

But in his a voice in the wilderness.

‘‘The Rev Abraham Matome of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church beat the drum, saying foreigner-bashing is wrong. ‘‘They must go back to where they came from. We don’t care who they are or who they marry to local women or have children. They must all go, he says.’’

Hounded from their homes

By TENDAI DUMBUSHE

KENNETH NOWENYA came to South Africa from Zimbabwe 10 years ago. He settled, started a business and paid taxes.

On Monday night he was driven from his home by 15 armed men — because he was not born in South Africa.

He is the latest victim of a wave of xenophobia which is tearing apart Alexandra township, north of Johannesburg, and he now stands to lose everything he has worked so hard for.

The armed group ordered him to vacate his flat and take his property with him. They also threatened to burn his taxi if they found it operating in the area.

His three sons, James, Emmanuel and Justine were warned not to attend school.

The campaign by some Alexandra residents to rid the area of foreigners began a week ago when a group of Zimbabweans was forced to leave the Alexandra police station and detained overnight. More than 26 Zimbabwean families have been forced to seek shelter elsewhere.

Mr Ngwenya’s family found temporary accommodation in two small rooms in Hillbrow. With his flat out of commission, his children out of school and earning an income himself, he looks to the government to act decisively to normalise his life.

‘‘It is up to the government to resolve the problem, he said. ‘‘I am a citizen of this country. The people in Alexandra have always been friendly. This hostility is a new thing.’’

Another victim of the evictions is Peter Ntsho, a single parent of three children. He was evicted from his Alexandra flat on Wednesday night for a night at the Wynberg police station. He and his children now stay in a single room which was offered to them by a friend.

‘‘My property is still in my flat, but I have no access to it,’’ he said.

Another Zimbabwean evicted from his flat, who did not want to be named, said some political parties had accused foreigners of voting for the ANC in the elections. They had threatened to intensify their campaign in the period leading up to the local elections in October.

An Alexandra police spokesman, Warrant Officer Johannes Hiay, said decisive action would be taken against the ‘‘criminals’’ who were carrying out the evictions.

He said the police were hampered by the reluctance of those evicted to accompany policemen to their flats because they feared intimidation.

He said the solution lay in political parties, civic organisations and the police taking a common stand against the evictions.

ANC Gauteng deputy secretary-general Obot Bapela will address a mass meeting at Alexandra today in an attempt to stop the harassment of foreigners.

Mr Bapela dissociated the ANC and its affiliates from the campaign against foreigners.

He said some criminals masquerading as ANC members were responsible for the evictions and the assaults on foreigners.
DEAR MIN: A fight may ensue if an innocent or a wronged party finds a home.

Dear Min,

I am writing to you about a situation that has been troubling me. My friend, Sarah, and I have been living together in a shared apartment for the past year. Recently, Sarah has been acting strangely and has started to withdraw from our social circle. I have tried to talk to her about it, but she always避回避开话题.

I suspect that she might be experiencing some personal issues, but I don't want to push her or make her feel uncomfortable. What should I do in this situation? Should I continue to support her or try to help her find the help she needs?

Sincerely,
[Your Name]

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Dear [Your Name],

It sounds like Sarah is going through a tough time. It's important to be there for your friends, but it's also important to respect their boundaries. If Sarah doesn't want to talk about her issues, it might be best to give her some space and let her know you're there when she's ready to talk.

If you're concerned about her well-being, you could try to find some ways to support her without being too intrusive. For example, you could offer to help her with tasks around the house or to run errands for her. You could also try to introduce her to new people or activities that might help her feel more connected to others.

If you think Sarah might be in danger or not handling her issues on her own, it might be a good idea to encourage her to seek professional help. You could suggest that she talk to a therapist or counselor, or reach out to a support group.

Remember, it's important to respect your friend's decisions and to support her in a way that feels comfortable for her. Good luck.

Sincerely,
[Min]
ARRESTED IN WOODSTOCK HOME

Alleged illegal alien held in jail for more than a year

AN ALLEGED ILLEGAL alien has spent more than a year in jail while fighting to prove that he is South African.

EUNICE RIDER reports

A MAN who claims to have been born in South Africa but has been under arrest as a “Tanzanian illegal alien” in Cape Town for the past year, is hoping not to have to spend a second Christmas in jail while lawyers battle for his release.

Tomorrow Mr Eddie Johnson, 24, will have been in jail for a year for no reason other than the fact that the Department of Home Affairs suspects him of being an illegal alien with no right to remain in South Africa.

But Mr Johnson insists that he was born in Paris in the Free State in 1970 and left to live in Lusaka, Zambia, with his mother at the age of three.

When he was six years old his mother died and he was raised by locals, but a he had always considered himself a South African. He travelled to South Africa in 1992, using travel documents issued to him by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

The following year he obtained an identity document from the Department of Home Affairs and was married to a South African woman, who bore him a son in September last year.

He said his wife Vene was eight months pregnant when “a group of about 10 men whom I later learnt were immigration officials, burst into my house (in Woodstock) and arrested me.”

On Monday night he had been passed through the security gates at Cape Town International Airport by determined Department of Home Affairs immigration officials who were escorting him to a plane on which he was due to fly to Gauteng to see the Tanzanian High Commissioner.

But his advocate Mr Anton Katz got a late afternoon urgent court interdict to prevent the department from removing him from Cape Town, and managed to page an airport security guard, who recalled Mr Johnson just before his plane was due to take off.

Meanwhile Ethiopian Mr Kadir Ahmed, recently caught stowing away on board a ship bound for Belgium from Cape Town, may not be repatriated pending an appeal against his not being granted asylum in South Africa.

This ruling was made in the Cape Supreme Court yesterday, and the appeal is expected to be heard late in February.

Mr Katz, who is also representing Mr Ahmed, said Mr Ahmed had been convicted of trying to leave the country without legal travel documents. He was refused asylum in South Africa.

Mr Katz said he and Ms Leanne de la Hunte, director of UCT’s Legal Aid Clinic, who is a founding member of the Cape Town Refugee Forum, were appealing against the decision not to grant him asylum.

“The fact that Mr Ahmed is prepared to spend another two months in jail rather than be sent back to Ethiopia, indicates how desperate he is,” she said.
Where have all the doctors gone?

Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — More than 1 000 doctors have left the Gauteng Health Department in the past three years, for greener pastures locally and elsewhere.

But, the provincial government hopes to reverse this trend through better salaries and overtime-pay for State doctors next year.

Figures released by Gauteng Health MEC Amos Masondo reveal that 1 159 medical professionals have resigned from State hospitals in the province in three years.

Mr Masondo was replying to question in the Gauteng legislature put by Democratic Party MP Jack Bloom.

The figure includes 861 doctors, 197 medical specialists, 78 registrars, 10 hospital superintendents, 11 dentists and two chief family practitioners.

Most of the resignations were motivated by better financial prospects in the private sector, Mr Masondo said.

Mr Masondo said 43.23 percent of the doctors left because of “difficult basic conditions of employment”. Another 32.01 percent left because of “better remuneration and benefits in the private sector, and some also started their own practices”. He said 11.82 percent left upon “completion of internships or training”.

Mr Masondo said, “To a large extent this problem is being dealt with through the national health ministers’ proposals for universal primary health care. The Minister of Health Dr Nkosazana Zuma is also having consultations with associations of medical personnel, with a view to the betterment of service conditions and overtime payment across the board.”

He added “a trend towards usage of sessional doctors instead of permanent employment is being implemented in the province’s hospitals”.

A spokesman in the Gauteng Health department said the problem of medical professionals resigning from State hospitals is not unique to this province and “is something which is happening throughout the country”.

“We are aware of the vast number of doctors leaving State hospitals for better prospects in the private sector and going overseas. “We have identified remuneration as one of the key problems affecting doctors and funds have been set aside in the new financial year to tackle this issue,” said the spokesman, adding the adjustments should be made by March next year.

Mr Bloom said the breakdown of resignations indicated there was “a high turnover of posts in this strategically important position.”

“These figures reveal in stark terms the magnitude of the crisis facing State hospitals and the urgency of measures to retain skilled personnel in these institutions,” he said.
PRETORIA — President Nelson Mandela said yesterday government would slow down its deportation of illegal immigrants from Mozambique.

He said Mozambique President Joaquim Chissano had requested the slowdown because his country was unable to cope with the large numbers being sent back home.

In the first seven months of the year SA had returned 60 512 illegal Mozambican immigrants, according to the home affairs department.

An estimated 2-million or more illegal immigrants from throughout Africa had come to SA in recent years, attracted by the continent's most stable economy and the shift from white minority rule to black rule.

With about 5-million of SA's 40-million people unemployed, locals resented cheap foreign labour.

"It is a problem for us because we do not have jobs for our own people," Mandela said.

"Slowing the pace of deportations would mean that illegal aliens would remain in SA jails for longer periods, something Mandela opposed."

"The law allows that but morally it is not right to jail people simply because they come to the country." Charging them for the cost of sending them back was also wrong.

Alternatives would be sought and he would discuss the problem with members of his Cabinet.

Mandela said that government might also ask SA farmers who planned to settle in Mozambique and other African countries to hire people facing repatriation from SA.

The white farmers — unhappy with recurring drought and the end of white minority rule — were moving to Mozambique under a programme negotiated by the two countries' governments, the President said — Sapa-AP.
Illegal immigrants given reprieve

BRUCE CAMERON
Cape Town

A moratorium has been declared on the repatriation of illegal Mozambican immigrants, the Minister of Trade and Industry, Mr Manuel, has announced.

The issue of millions of illegal immigrants, mainly in Gauteng and other northern provinces, has increasingly become a political hot potato and has led to a number of instances of violence around the country.

Manuel made the announcement after being challenged on the issue at a conference in Cape Town by the Mozambican consul in Cape Town, Ms Manuel dos Santos Lucas. Ms Lucas asked why Mozambicans continued to be repatriated when Mozambique had been run by the destabilisation policies of the former South African government.

"On top of this, if southern Africa was to move towards an economic front, this meant not only the free movement of goods and services, but also of people," Manuel said the government had decided to declare the moratorium at the request of President Chissano of Mozambique. He said, however, that there were problems involved with illegal immigration of which South Africa was becoming a major target.

"There are parts of Johannesburg where everyone speaks French and they are not from a neighbouring country," he said there was a growing xenophobia, which the government was finding difficult to control. An example was what was happening on the east bank in Alexandra, Johannesburg, where opposition to illegal immigrants was growing.

The trade unions were also concerned, particularly about the farms. The unions were trying to unionise farm workers but the farmers were now employing Mozambicans who did not want to be unionised.

Manuel said the moratorium would provide short-term relief, but the source of the problem remained the absence of economic development in Mozambique.
Mandela’s reprieve for illegals

The Government will slow down its deportation of illegal immigrants from Mozambique, President Nelson Mandela said yesterday.

He said Mozambique, President Joaquim Chissano had requested the slowdown because his country was unable to cope with the number of people being sent home from South Africa.

In the first seven months of this year, South Africa returned 69,512 Mozambicans arrested as illegal immigrants, according to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

An estimated 2-million plus illegal immigrants from throughout Africa have come to SA in recent years.

With about 5-million of SA’s 40-million population unemployed, locals resent foreigners who work for low wages.

“It is a problem for us because we have not got jobs for our own people,” Mandela said.

Slowing the pace of deportations could cause arrested Mozambicans to remain in South African jails for longer periods, something Mandela also opposed.

“The law allows that, but morally it is not right to jail people simply because they come to the country and also to charge them for the cost of sending them back,” he said.

He said alternatives would be sought and he would discuss the problem with his Cabinet.

Mandela added that the Government might ask South African farmers who planned to settle in Mozambique and other African countries to hire people facing repatriation.

The white farmers, unhappy with recurring drought and the end of white rule, are moving to Mozambique under a programme negotiated by the two countries’ governments — Sapa-AP.
SUZANNE DALEY reports from Johannesburg

At the end of this month, Heidi Moller will move from South Africa to Germany, leaving the country she was born in without a hint of regret.

Her husband's business is not doing well. The school system, she believes, is disintegrating. But most of all, she says, she is leaving because fear had come to overwhelm her family.

Last year, her husband, Hans, a surveyor, was shot at from a passing vehicle as he did his work in a northern Johannesburg suburb.

A few months later, he was forced off the road by hijackers and, as he struggled with one of them, was shot in the leg.

One of Mrs. Moller's best friends was shot in the hip and her husband killed in front of their children. Her brother-in-law was shot at his driveway off a four armed men tried to steal his car. He also had a family watching helplessly from the house.

If she and her husband had tried to leave two years ago as South Africa was preparing for its first free elections, Mrs. Moller says her friends would have called them cowards and accused them of running away.

"But time I could see that people are anxious," she says. "All we need is people are anxious."

Experts say the white wealthy, and educated are leaving South Africa in growing numbers, draining the country of expertise when it is desperately needed.

Most of those departing have several reasons for going and a bleak view of the role that white people can have in this country's future. But most often, the move is a response to the violent crime that is on the increase, and seems to have touched almost everyone.

Much of the new terror is confined to the white suburbs of Johannesburg.

Every house is a fortress, with burglar bars on the windows and a steel "rape gate" separating the bedrooms from the rest of the house for extra protection at night.

Garden walls are topped by ever-evolving forms of razor wire, unclimbable "cactus" spikes, or electric wires that deliver a jolt as they set off an alarm.

And, carrying a gun is even more commonplace. Even the educated elite have opinions on whether shoulder holsters or waistband ones are more comfortable or more discreet.

Dinner parties have become a frenzy of horror stories. Some are tales of what has happened to the wallflower and powerful. Recently, for instance, a radio personality was held up during a daytime stroll with his daughter through Houghton, the wealthy suburb where President Mandela has a house. "The robbers, apparently to amuse themselves, made them strip and left them naked. But most often the tales are first person. People talk softly of how their self-images have changed after they have been in or beaten or rammed or bullied or raped.

The old one close to you get hurt and you think it could happen to me," said Ron Sterr, who has a business selling windows and doors, and who says he is considering leaving. "Should I stick around and risk my children's lives? You are in a constant state of limbo trying to figure this out. That's our daily existence. That's what we do."

The oxodun has hit particular hard at some professions, perhaps none more than medicene. One doctor recently sent the photograph of his graduating class to a local paper, showing that at least 76 of the 185 graduates in 1984 had emigrated. But moving-company executives say that whites from all backgrounds, including Afrikaners, are leaving.

Government statistics, collected from departure forms filled out at the airport, show that peak emigration was in the first half of 1984, just before the elections, when the fear was of racist or civil war. But recent statistics show that the exodus is hardly fading. During the first half of 1985, 10,000 people said they were emigrating, about twice the number of five years before.

Experts say those statistics vastly underestimate the problem because people lie on their departure forms. Moving companies and relocation specialists say they haven't been this busy since the late 1970s, when a wave of brutal riots started what is known in the business as the first "chicken run."

"When they give the stats in the paper, I always laugh," said Estelle Sachvitz of Stuttsforda Removals, one of the leading moving companies here. "Most people don't say they are leaving for good. As soon as they say that, their funds are blocked and things get very complicated. So people go.

The long-term consequences for South Africa are unclear. Some emigrants will return, unable to make a go of it elsewhere. But for countries finally trying to improve the lives of a population and in need of jobs, health care, and good schools, the loss of the educated elite is a blow.

All over Africa, post-colonial economies have suffered when the English, Portuguese, or French were sacked out--a lesson that was not lost on the African National Congress. At a recent meeting with black executives, Mr. Mandela said that accommodating whites is in the country's best interest.

"Why should we not pacify them?" Mr. Mandela said. "In putting aside the quarrels of the past we have a country which has the opportunity to acquire education, skills, and expertise in many fields. We want this.

To be sure, crime is not the only reason whites leave.

Mrs. Moller said her husband is having a harder and harder time telling people to pay their bills and feels the whole country is becoming lawless. Changes to government bureaucracies have made filing paperwork a nightmare.

And there is talk of revamping property laws, in ways that will diminish the need for land surveys.

At the same time, Mrs. Moller believes that her five-year-old daughter, Melissa, will not be able to get a good education, now that the government has abolished the racial segregated system that existed under apartheid.

This has meant that some youngsters coming from the inferior system created for blacks are not at the level of their white counterparts.

"The schools are lowering their standards to accommodate the blacks," Mrs. Moller said. "They expect that everyone will come down to their level."

Most South Africans go to Australia, England, the United States (often to Texas or Georgia), Canada, or New Zealand. Many have quietly kept up dual citizenship to make the departure easy. But others face the complex hurdles that people's countries put in the way of emigrants. When Francis, a major moving company, recently sponsored a free seminar on immigration laws, open to 300 people, the response was so big they repeated it three days running.

Many of those who want to leave believe their wealth will shrink overseas. But they say they are willing to trade small mansions, full-time maids, and the employer-provided Mercedes for a safer place.

"We'll never be able to match this," said one accountant sweeping his hands across his property--a five-bedroom house with a pool in the Bryanston suburb of Johannesburg. "We will have a basic house and a basic motor vehicle."

Still the accountant and his wife are determined to go to Australia. Last year, she was wrestled out of her car by four young men as she backed out of her garage.

The incident began when one of them tapped frantically on her window.

"I thought someone was in terrible trouble--he looked so panicked and I was ready to get out and help. And then, stupid me, I realised the only person in trouble here was me."

"You know," she continued, "I was only 16--standing in the queues to vote was the most incredible feeling. It was the first time in my life I looked everybody in the eye. I was acquiring my freedom."

For a whole lot of people, the changes in this country are going to be great. Life will get better. But not for us.

And I'm not prepared to sacrifice my future and my children's future. I just don't want to live with fear. To be so tense To go out of the driveway and think 'Is the alarm on? Is there anyone behind me?'--New York Times News Service
BETWEEN 50 and 60 desperate refugees, mostly from African countries, arrive in Cape Town each week seeking asylum. 

MELANIE GOSLING reports.

M ORE than 1 000 people who have fled from war, ethnic violence and political oppression are in Cape Town waiting to be granted refugee status.

The Home Affairs principal immigration officer in charge of refugee affairs, Mr Jaco Duckett, said yesterday about 1 200 people had been granted refugee status in the past two years through the Cape Town office — which handles the second highest number of asylum applications in the country, after Gauteng.

There are between 50 and 60 new arrivals in Cape Town each week.

Most of the 1 000 people who have applied for asylum in Cape Town are from African countries — particularly Angola, Somalia, Rwanda, Mozambique and Zaïre — but there are a handful from Asia and even two from Bosnia.

They come into the country illegally, as stowaways on ships, walking, hiding in trucks, and even swimming across rivers which form international borders.

"Many do not aim for South Africa in particular — it's often where they happen to end up through circumstance. A lot of them have left their families behind. They often don't know where their relatives are or even if they are alive because they fled in all directions," Mr Duckett said.

He said the applicants were spread throughout greater Cape Town and usually found accommodation within days, many with charity organisations or religious groups.

They tended to form communities according to their country of origin and helped newcomers with accommodation and food.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees says Africa has more refugees — about 6.75 million — than any other continent. This is nearly two million more than Asia and five million more than Europe.

The UN has laid down criteria which are internationally applied in granting asylum to people who have fled their home countries. South Africa became a signatory to the UN agreement in September 1993.

Mr Duckett said the main criterion was that the person was unable or unwilling to return to his country because he feared persecution for reasons relating to his race, religion, nationality or political opinions.

"They all have problems and some have been through horrific experiences. It boils down to brutality and atrocities. Many have scars and wounds from torture. We had a husband and wife who had been interrogated because of their political beliefs. When they did not provide sufficient information, their children were thrown into a hole in the ground which had spears pointed upwards. Three of their children were killed," Mr Duckett said.

Not all those who manage to escape their persecutors reach safety.

"We had a case of one man from Angola who drowned while swimming across the Orange River. He had a massive suitcase strapped to his back and it just dragged him under," Mr Duckett said.

'Disciplined'

The refugees come from all backgrounds and many are well-educated.

"They usually come and report to the authorities themselves — to Home Affairs or the police stations. Once we are satisfied that they fulfil the criteria, we issue them with a temporary permit which allows them to stay and seek work pending the final decision on whether they are granted refugee status," Mr Duckett said.

Home Affairs uses computerised data with extensive international information to cross-check the applicants' claims. On average it takes six months to deal with an application.

Mr Duckett said most of those waiting for refugee status were "very disciplined."

"They are honest, well-behaved and just want to get their lives settled and live in peace without the fear of being killed or attacked. Most come with just the clothes they stand up in, but they are resourceful and they help each other."

Home Affairs monitors refugees and says few have taken to crime.
Further impetus to settle SA farmers in neighbouring states

BY MONOJI MAKHANYA
Political Reporter

South African farmers' proposed foray into southern African states will be taken a step further today when President Nelson Mandela, Agriculture Minister Kraai van Nierkerk and Freedom Front leader Gen Constantin Viljoen meet to discuss the project.

The three will put finishing touches to an agreement that Mandela will co-sign with Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano early next year. The agreement will outline the conditions under which South African farmers will operate in Mozambique.

Viljoen is the key instigator of the programme, which has already seen some local farmers head north to exploit vast and fertile land that has been lying fallow for years as a result of civil wars and economic stagnation.

Negotiations have also been under way to secure funding from international agencies involved in giving aid and restructuring advice to African states.

In addition to boosting these countries' food supply, the farming projects will involve up-liftment and training of locals in farming methods. International funding will also make it less costly for the farmers to trek north and establish new enterprises there.

"To travel to virgin land and start a farming business will be a very big burden," said Viljoen.

An Agriculture Ministry spokesman said the number of farmers to take part in the project would become clearer once agreements had been signed and funding arrangements were known.
Somali Refugees tale of slavery and flight.

I had come from Hell and I was alive.

NEWS
Illegals go home for Christmas

BY LINDA RULASHE

AS MANY as 7,000 illegal Mozambican immigrants are expected to give themselves up at the Lebombo border post in Komatipoort this week so they can spend Christmas with their families.

However, more than five percent of the aliens were likely to secretly re-enter South Africa again by the new year, a Department of Home Affairs spokesman said.

During last year's festive season, between 6,000 and 7,000 illegal immigrants voluntarily reported to the border post.

The aliens have their fingerprints and personal details taken before they are released to the Mozambican authorities.

Derek van Rensburg, the Department of Home Affairs regional director, said, "What else can we do? They arrive in large numbers and we let them through because they want to go home.

"We just hope and pray they decide to stay in Mozambique."

Attempts to stem the tide of illegal immigrants have included talks between the Mozambican and South African governments, securing the passport system against forgers by introducing computerized bar-code stickers, and tightening up the Aliens Act.

George Orr, the director of admissions for the Department of Home Affairs, said, "Although we may not be winning, these measures are definitely acting as a deterrent." He said about six percent of the aliens deported to Mozambique re-entered South Africa. Almost 113,000 aliens were repatriated this year compared with 90,000 last year.

Mozambican consul general Junqueiro Manhique said attempts by his government to deal with the problem were "in vain" as many aliens invariably returned to South Africa because of better employment opportunities.
Commitment

words count: 102

Expertise

SA farmers‘ plans for Ugandan land

General election

May 1996

By Joe Kamisi
Refugee's plight:
No home, no hope

GLYNNIS UNDERHILL
Staff Reporter

ETHIOPIAN refugee Kedir Abdurkadi Ahmed believed he was a free man when he was convicted in the magistrate's court and released with a suspended sentence after stowing away on a ship from Cape Town.

But 10 minutes after walking away from the courts he was arrested by Home Affairs officials.

Today Mr Ahmed is being held in Pollsmoor Prison waiting for probable repatriation to Ethiopia, where he claims his life is in danger.

Jurie de Wet, control immigration officer, said Mr Ahmed's application for political asylum had been turned down.

"He remains a prohibited person. We are trying to repatriate him, but he does not have valid travel documents," he said.

Mr De Wet said Home Affairs had investigated Mr Ahmed's application for asylum and found it to be "manifestly unfounded."

"Home Affairs wants to send a clear message to these refugees who stow away on vessels and disregard the legislation," he said.

The ship on which Mr Ahmed stowed away had been bound for Belgium and it had lost 18 hours and used 32.4 metric tons of diesel bringing the stowaway back to Cape Town, said Mr De Wet.

The troubled Mr Ahmed, who speaks only Amharic, joined the swelling numbers of refugees on the wrong side of the Aliens Control Act.

A deflated Mr Ahmed sat nervously in Cape Town Magistrate's Court waiting for his case to be heard. In his plea he said he understood the nature of the charge and the consequences of pleading guilty.

His explanation for his actions depended on the number of refugees who swells in Cape Town, the troubled life of one Ethiopian was highlighted in the courts this week.

"I came to South Africa to avoid imprisonment and applied for political asylum. I was granted a Section 41 permit which enabled me to work in South Africa while my application was being processed. However, I was unable to find work. In desperation I tried to leave South Africa," he said.

Mr Ahmed said he left Cape Town in September "for the purpose of proceeding to another country."

"I did not know at the time that it was a crime to leave the country without presenting myself to an immigration officer. However, my legal advisers have explained the law to me and I now know I committed a crime about 2pm on the afternoon of September 15, 1996 by leaving South Africa without presenting myself to an immigration officer," he said.

Mr Ahmed was fined R3 000 (or 18 months imprisonment), suspended for five years on condition he does not violate Section 35 of the Aliens Control Act.

Anton Katz, an international law expert on movement across borders, said one of the comments by the magistrate had been that the hallmark of a civilised society was to show mercy.

This would appear to have been one of the reasons why Mr Ahmed was not given a direct jail sentence.
Refugees pouring into SA

Many have scars and wounds from torture when they arrive here

Sowetan Correspondent

More than 1 000 people who have fled from war, ethnic violence and political oppression in Africa and other countries in the world are in Cape Town waiting to be granted refugee status.

Home Affairs principal immigration officer in charge of refugee affairs Mr Jaco Duckitt said yesterday about 1 200 people had been granted refugee status in the last two years through the Cape Town office alone — which handles the second highest number of asylum applications in the country after Gauteng.

There are between 50 and 60 new arrivals in Cape Town each week.

The bulk of the 1 200 people who have applied for asylum in Cape Town are from African countries — particularly Angola, Somalia, Rwanda, Mozambique and Zaire. But there are a handful from Asia and even two from Bosnia.

International borders

They come into the country illegally, as stowaways on ships, walking, hiding in trucks and even swimming across rivers that form international borders.

"Many do not aim for South Africa in particular — it’s often where they happen to end up through circumstances. Many of them have left their families behind. They often don’t know where their relatives are or even if they are alive because they fled in all directions," Duckitt said.

He said the applicants were spread throughout greater Cape Town and usually found accommodation within days, many with charity organisations or religious groups.

They tended to form communities according to their country of origin and helped newcomers with accommodation and food.

According to the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, Africa has more refugees — about 6.75 million — than any other continent. This is nearly two million more than Asia and five million more than Europe.

The UN has laid down criteria which are internationally applied in the granting of asylum to people who have fled their home countries. South Africa became a signatory to the UN agreement in September 1993.

Duckitt said the main criterion was that the person is unable or unwilling to return to his country because he fears persecution for reasons relating to his race, religion, nationality or political opinions.

Horrific experiences

"They all have problems and some of them have been through horrific experiences. It boils down to brutality and atrocities. Many have scars and wounds from torture."

"We had a husband and wife who had been interrogated because of their political beliefs."

"When they did not provide sufficient information, their children were thrown into a hole in the ground which had spears pointing upwards. Three of their children were killed," Duckitt said.

Not all those who manage to escape their persecutors reach safety.

"We had a case of one man from Angola who drowned while swimming across the Orange River."

"He had a massive suitcase strapped to his back and it just dragged him under," Duckitt said.

The refugees come from all backgrounds and many are well educated.

"They usually come and report to the authorities themselves — to Home Affairs or to police stations. Once we are satisfied that they fulfil the criteria, we issue them with a temporary permit," Duckitt said.
Help for into-Africa farmers

The South African Government yesterday pledged to help white farmers wishing to settle in neighbouring African countries set up a business plan to protect their interests.

President Nelson Mandela, Agriculture Minister Kraai, van Niekerk and Freedom Front leader Constant Viljoen met at the Union Buildings to discuss the difficulties experienced by farmers who had already moved to African countries, such as the Congo.

A plan on how to deal with the problems is to be discussed today at a workshop including the newly formed South African Chamber for Agricultural Development in Africa (Sacada), said Van Niekerk.

"Farmers who do it on their own, experience tremendous difficulties. There is nobody to assist them in getting things in place," Van Niekerk told reporters after yesterday's meeting.

"The (SA) Government must get involved to ensure proper backing. Any development beyond the borders has to be well planned and it takes time," he added.

Sacada was created last month by private-sector and commercial farmer unions to oversee cross-border farming activities.

The body elected Transvaal Agricultural Union President Dries Bruner to head the organisation.

Viljoen said yesterday state-to-state protection of South African farmers would be implemented.

This is "something that is impossible for an individual farmer to achieve," he said.

Mandela pledged his support for South African farming initiatives across the country's borders to develop agriculture in those countries. - Reuters
refugees living in squalor

By Dan Fupike

SCORES of Somalian and Rwandan refugees, among them the widow of a once prosperous businessman in Somalia, are living in squalor at the Superior Care Centre housed at Anglo Hostel near Boksburg.

The refugees comprise about 60 Somalis, 32 Rwandans and about 800 destitute and homeless people of different nationalities.

The derelict hostel is owned by the East Rand Proprietary Mines and has been leased to a local businessman Mr. Johnny Geral.

The mine's general manager, Mr. Desmond le Roux, said the upkeep of the centre was not their responsibility as it was leased to Geral.

Unhygienic conditions

Spokesman for the centre Mr. Jason da Silva said the reason the condition of the hostel had deteriorated was due to the non-payment of about R60 monthly rent by the tenants.

"The centre came under media spotlight a week ago when two representatives of the tenants, Mr. Sam Mhlongo and Mr. Patrick Seiwelo, petitioned Somatan to the "most unhygienic conditions" at the hostel.

"Mrs. Luul Mohamed Ali (39) told how the horrors of the war in Somalia, which had claimed the life of her husband in 1991, had left an indelible impression on her four children. "We saw entire villages being razed and wiped out. One community populated by hundreds of village people was reduced to about 250 families," Ali said.

Rejected and alienated

Ali told Somatan the conditions at the commune were unbearable.

She said since coming to South Africa, she felt safe although at times they felt rejected and alienated.

A spokesman for the others, Mr. Mohamed Hassan Elmi (36), said when he escaped from Somalia he left behind a thriving sheep exporting business.

"The indiscriminate genocide against the innocent by General Farah Mohamed Ahlu was becoming too much for us to bear," he said.
Security poor at most SA airports

By Analys Them

Sta 16/11/98

Concern grows over how easily drugs and illegal immigrants enter the country.
Buthelezi meets Soares

SA's Home Affairs Minister does not support moratorium on illegal aliens.
Mandela throws weight behind farmers’ trek

Louise Cook

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela has thrown his weight behind another trek by SA farmers, this time to bring prosperity and jobs to central Africa.

Spokesman Parks Mankathana said yesterday the plan—which included SA farmers taking special exchange control and tax packages in tow—would boost development in SA and the rest of the continent.

The Free State Agricultural Union had vowed to fight famine in Africa, contain immigration by creating jobs outside SA and provide new pastures for farmers facing a barren domestic market. Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia, Angola, Congo, Ghana and Ivory Coast were likely destinations.

The union said there had been "immense interest" from farmers and that thousands of "pioneers" could emerge.

Union president Piet Gouws said the financial concessions had yet to be finalised, but that the plans were part of a joint drive by government and agricultural unions to create a southern African trading block. The proposals were supported by the European Union and the World Bank, he said.

The finance department would be called on to arrange concessuary packages with its counterparts in other African states and intergovernmental contracts would be drawn up. The agriculture department had recruited a consultant to draw up the contracts.

First-stage agreements had been signed with Angola and Mozambique.

The move follows the creation earlier this week of an SA Chamber of Agricultural Development in Africa. Chamber chairman and Transvaal Agricultural Union president Dries Bruwer said the organisation would drum up cash on the capital markets to fund development in Africa.

"In the past such moves to the north may have been political," he said. "This is strictly a commercial venture."
Army battles to stem flow of aliens, guns in Maputaland

By Norman Chandler
Defence Correspondent

Jozini – KwaZulu Natal seems to have become the major point of entry for illegal immigrants, weapons and drugs.

More than 2,000 people have this year been arrested for illegally crossing the Mozambique border in the province's Maputaland, while rubber dinghies have been used by other illegal immigrants to enter the country from the sea.

The officer commanding 11 SA Infantry Battalion, Col Jakes Jacobs, said yesterday the situation has deteriorated to such an extent that the army is now deploying motorised light infantry in the region, which adjoins southern Mozambique and Swaziland, in a bid to control the problem.

He said three companies of troops - about 450 men - had been drafted with a further 250 due to arrive in February and March. Full deployment of an unspecified number of soldiers will be completed over a three-year period.

The influx of illegals - so far this year 2,163 had been arrested after crossing the Mozambique border - was a cause for great concern, he said. The army has requested that an 8-km-long suitable fence be erected along the border with Mozambique, which is presently only separated from SA by a veterinary fence to control foot and mouth disease.

It has been suggested by the army that the new fence should include sensor equipment to detect people who try to cross over into SA without going through recognised border posts.

Jacobs said the switching off of the lethal electric fence on the Mpumalanga/Mozambique border "and the ending of the civil war in the country has contributed to the rise in the number of illegals entering SA."

"The Swazi situation is different in that many of the 23,000 illegal borders crossings made this year were by children going to school in SA, as well as by shoppers who returned to their homeland after their business."

Jacobs added that the army held regular liaison meetings with the Swaziland authorities and similar meetings with the Mozambique government would begin next week in order for the two countries to co-ordinate efforts to eliminate illegal border activities. These include large-scale transferring of hijacked vehicles from SA into Swaziland and Mozambique, cattle rustling, weapons and ammunition smuggling and drug trafficking.
Cities can double in 20 years

POLITICAL STAFF

SOUTH AFRICA's cities could double in size in 20 years and a totally new vision of spatial planning and urban development was necessary, the Deputy Minister of Land Affairs, Mr Tobie Meyer, said yesterday.

"The reality is that the restructuring of South African cities has started and in some cases is already at an advanced stage," he said at a workshop about the future of urban and regional planners at Club Mykonos.

The increased immigration to the city as a result of depressed circumstances in rural areas, as well as natural growth were expected to lead to the doubling of the urban population over the next two decades.

Mr Meyer said the present urban structure was the product of policy decisions of the past and was largely determined by political decision-makers, market forces and first world planning principles.

"The strong geographic division into residential, business and industrial use which was applied in planning schemes must be addressed.

A land development strategy, improving the physical environment, had to enjoy high priority in the future."
Farmers 'uninformed'  
(23b)&(3) Stan 25/11/75
Farmers who intended setting elsewhere in Africa were not sufficiently informed about conditions there or what preparations to make, Agriculture Minister Dr. Kraai van Niekerk said yesterday.

Details of customs regulations and currency control should be ascertained. "Farmers are also encouraged to acquaint themselves beforehand with agricultural and security conditions in the countries."

Although their settlement might be organised by individuals or farmers' organisations, arrangements were subject to guidelines laid down by the Cabinet in May. The Government had acted as a cautious facilitator in farmer settlement projects because they could promote food security in southern Africa. — Sapa
Urban numbers expected to double — Meyer

Louise Cook

SA MUST make use of resources available for urbanisation and not rely only on the agricultural sector to contribute to land reform, Deputy Land Affairs Minister Tobie Meyer said yesterday.

The Physical Planning Act would have to be amended, he said. Town planners would have to cater for the needs of a rapidly growing population, with the number of urban dwellers expected to double in the next two decades. Outdated concepts would have to be ditched.

"Planners will have to forget about rigid divisions applied in the past between residential, business and industrial sites and recognise the fact that cities offer the best informal sector job opportunities," he said.

"SA cities are being restructured and major progress has already been made in some cases."

He said Cabinet had approved amendments to the Town and Regional Planners Act to set up "fast-track" development procedures in cities. "Township planning must be rationalised and streamlined. Conflicting interests of low-income communities must be catered for," Meyer said.
EU to fund feasibility study

BY JOHN FLEMING

Maputo — The EU is to fund a feasibility study, which if positive, could see South African farmers moving to Mozambique.

The EU ambassador to South Africa, Erwan Foure, said "The European Union is prepared to fund a feasibility study for this project, if it is positive then the EU will be prepared to continue funding the project, but these funds will have to be drawn from the existing EU budget for the region."

According to Chris Jordaan, the secretary of the newly created South African Chamber of Agricultural Development in Africa, it was thought the programme to move the farmers to Mozambique would be funded by the government, but they met with bureaucratic and financial problems. Jordaan, Onus Bruwer, the president of the Transvaal Agricultural Union, and other representatives from agricultural unions, decided to create the chamber to attract international aid. "We realised that this project was simply not going to work if it depended on government funding," said Jordaan. The chamber is not a government or parastatal organisation and can be funded by donors and the private sector — Independent Foreign Service
EU backs boers’ trek to Mozambique

Despite resistance from many influential Mozambicans, the project to settle Afrikaner farmers in Mozambique appears to be gathering favour. Marion Edmunds reports

The European Union (EU) has agreed to finance research into the viability of settling South African farmers in Mozambique and other African countries. Funding for the research would come from EU funds earmarked for the Reconstruction and Development Programme and, depending on the outcome, could lead to further EU money being made available to settle Afrikaner farmers in South Africa’s neighbouring states, according to EU ambassador Ewan Fouéré.

A letter has been written to Shaheed Rajie, the Director for International Funding in the RDP office, with this proposal.

The organisation wanting to dispatch farmers to African countries, the South African Chamber for Agricultural Development in Africa (Sacada), has interpreted the EU’s gesture as a sign that the project — which is being championed by President Nelson Mandela — is receiving international recognition. Sacada secretary Willie Jordaan said this week that the EU had said the farming project “was the best move out of Africa in the past 30 years”.

He said that Sacada had endeavoured to bring its policies into line with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, and claimed that it was set to become an international development agency.

Jordaan said his organisation had been approached by about 12 African countries interested in white South African farmers but, at the moment, was concentrating on Mozambique, Zambia, Zaure and Angola, with Mozambique being the test case. Mandela’s spokesperson Parks Mankahlana said this week Mandela has asked the Tanzanian government to accept Afrikaner farmers to help develop the agricultural sector.

Both Mankahlana and the Mozambican Embassy denied Mozambicans had opposed the settlement of Afrikaner farmers, as was reported on SABC radio this week. The Mozambican government could not be reached for comment yesterday. But a negotiator from Mozambique’s agriculture ministry has been quoted on several occasions as saying Afrikaner farmers were neither needed nor wanted in large numbers. He said they would not want to be settled on land in communities and that, in certain provinces, like Maputo, they would not be welcome at all, and would never get freehold possession of the land.

According to Jordaan, about 1 000 people, disillusioned with the new South Africa, are poised to trek to Mozambique. One, Egbert Hiestra, cites affirmative action, trade unions, new land legislation and drought in South Africa as reasons to invest and farm in neighbouring states.

Not that it’s going to cost much hard cash to farm across the border. He says Mozambique will lease land to the farmers at 60 cents per hectare per year, if not give it away for free. He said negotiations with President Mandela are under way to allow the farmers to have dual citizenship and continue to vote in South African elections.

Hiestra already owns two farms in Lydenburg, and wants a third in Mozambique. Although he has been to Mozambique to have a look around on behalf of Sacada, he has not yet chosen the spot he hopes will be his. “It’s like being a small child in a sweet shop,” he said. “There are just so many beautiful, fertile places to choose from.”

Hiestra denies the project is a throw-back to the past, a desperate attempt to create an Afrikaner Volkstaat in a country too poor to resist.

“It’s not an apartheidpolitiekefoje,” he said indignantly. “For every two farmers who settle, Sacada has promised to train and establish one local black Mozambican as a commercial farmer. Anybody will be able to attend their schools, if they are prepared to respect Hiestra’s ‘community’s standards’ and anybody can come on the great trek, as long as they are strong, fit and enterprising.” Two black South Africans have asked to be part of the project, said Hiestra. When approached this week, Fouéré was cautiously optimistic about the project.

“The project could be successful in so far as it seeks to promote complementary progress in agriculture in the region and in so far as it makes the transfer of expertise possible and allows development where it is badly needed,” Fouéré has had discussions with General Constand Viljoen, who initiated the project, and has convinced Mandela of its benefits. Viljoen had argued to Mandela that settling Afrikaner farmers would simulate the economies of neighbouring states and provide food and employment for locals, and that this would stem the flow of illegal immigrants into South Africa. But not all Mozambicans believe white South African farmers are the solution to their problems.

One analyst, who asked not to be named, said: “Mozambique needs capital, not white South African farmers.”
Chicken run:
Some return,
but new rush to
Oz may begin

JOHN DUNN

MELBOURNE — Although some
South African migrants to Australia
are returning home, there are signs
were that another wave of migration
Down Under is about to begin.

The weekly news magazine The
Bulletin says 1,654 people came to
Australia from South Africa last
year. This year the total has risen to
2,600 and currently, there are 4,000
applicants in the queue at Australia’s
High Commission in Pretoria, it says.

The magazine quoted Sydney-based
immigration consultant Carolyn Ash-
mores as saying that Australia looked
even more attractive in the post-
apartheid environment.

“One in three of my clients has had
direct experience of violence, murder,
robbery or hold-up of some kind.
Then there is widespread concern
over the education system.”

“Affirmative action moves, while
enabling more black students to en-
ter schools, are considered to have
lowered academic standards. There’s
a feeling they’re trying to do it all
too quickly.”

She said although South African
migrants comprised only 2.4 percent
of Australia’s total intake, they were
“probably the best source of mi-
grants in the world”.

Sydney removal service Kent In-
ternational said last year it shipped
200 containers of household goods
from South Africa to Australia, while
in the first eight months of this year
the total was 355.

However, the magazine said many
of the 51,000 South Africans in Aus-
tralia — 33 percent in Sydney, 21 per-
cent in Melbourne and 17 percent in
Perth — were wondering if it was
time to return — and some were
doing so.

If gave two examples — Glen-
Maschinini, who has gone to Durban
where he is running development
programmes for the Kwa-Zulu/Natal
Performing Arts Company, and
Humphrey Mkwanaazi, who now
works for South Africa’s main nucle-
ar research facility.

Mr. Mkwanaazi had been unable to
find appropriate work in Australia
and ended up stacking shelves in a
department store.


By IOR POWELL

THE 20th century Great Trek of the Afrikaners seems to be going the same way as the first trek — b orderwise all the way.

Like the followers of Louis Trichardt and Piet Retief before them, white farmers renouncing the new South Africa for new African claims broke into separate columns before their wagons were even packed.

On one side of the latest trek in the veld stands the South African Chamber for the Development of Agriculture in Africa, associated with General Constand Viljoen’s Freedom Front and emanating from the Transvaal and Free State agricultural unions. The chamber is planning the resettlement of about 2,000 farmers who are dissatisfied with life in the new South Africa.

Fourteen African countries have been identified for the move.

On the other side stands the South African Development Corporation which is registered as a private company and is operated by Johan van der Westhuizen, a former stockbroker.

Although the corporation represents only between 100 and 150 farming families, it has the power to develop its project on its own — some 25 families have already settled in Congo. According to Mr van der Westhuizen, the farmers settled in the lush and fertile Pont Nour district have established a bakery, a limestone quarry and other business ventures aimed at self-sufficiency.

By contrast, the chamber’s initiative, though supported by both the United Nations and the European Union, remains in the planning stage. According to Drs Bruwer, the Transvaal Agricultural Union president and a Freedom Front senator, the first concrete moves will be undertaken within six weeks, with the setting up of 20 families in the north of Mozambique. The project is funded and underwritten by the European Union and guaranteed by the World Bank.

The corporation and the chamber schemes were not always separate initiatives. When the corporation was founded last year, Mr Bruwer and his counterpart in the Orange Free State Agricultural Union, Dr Piet Gouws, were members of its board of directors. Largely brokered by General Viljoen, it represented a piece of social engineering, supported not only by the UN but also by President Nelson Mandela. White farmers, marginalised by the changes in South Africa, would be given unused land in African countries — potentially averting conflict between the Umgwana and the government. At the same time, skilled farmers in underdeveloped African countries could alleviate a continental food-production crisis.

However, according to Mr Bruwer, it was not long before the corporation began to take a different direction. Mr van der Westhuizen turned the corporation into a money-making scheme, he said.

"Only rich farmers were welcome and they had to pay their own way — and pay the corporation." After 99-year leases had been arranged for the emigrant farmers, the agricultural unions and the corporation went their separate ways.

The Bruwer-Gouws faction set up the chamber earlier this year.

Mr van der Westhuizen has a different interpretation. "We split when they tried to bring politics into it. We have no difference in belief. It's just we didn't want to export South African politics into Africa. I wanted to take only winners into Africa." He said farmers were paying for themselves, and paying an administrative fee.

For Mr van der Westhuizen, the trek is essentially a business venture — although some equipment has been supplied by way of subvention to the farmers. Already, he says, there are spin-offs in the bakery, the quarry and facilities like storage warehouses, which are being run by the company — and the operation is to expand in forthcoming months as South African business interests become involved.

Mr Bruwer insists there is no political agenda behind the chamber initiative, merely a cold assessment of the prospects for agriculture in the new South Africa. "South Africa is becoming overpopulated with illegals, especially from Mozambique, with an estimated 300,000 crossing the border every month. Now put this with the fact that only four percent of South Africa can be classified as high-yield agricultural land and you can see the problem. Food production for Africa is our priority." Mr Bruwer says he also has a responsibility to farmers who cannot pay their own way.
Farmers fined for employing illegal workers

MESSINA — Four Northern Province border farmers were convicted in the Saamboubrug Circuit Court in the past week for illegally employing workers from Zimbabwe. Jacobus Lodewicks van Tonder of the farm Platjan was sentenced to a fine of R2 000 or four months’ imprisonment, “suspended for three years, for having 27 illegal immigrants on his property.

The court instructed him to pay their repatriation costs of R13 500.

Adrian Roux and George Roland Gerhardt of the farm Daantjeslaagte and Gilbert Levis Gerhardt of the farm Kopheenpan, received fines of R1 500 or imprisonment ranging from three to four months, all suspended for three years.

All were ordered to pay the repatriation costs of the workers, which varied from R1 000 to R3 000 depending on the number of workers.
Hundreds of IT contractors are leaving South Africa to pursue opportunities and larger salaries abroad.

Leon Perlman reports

A brain drain of information technology (IT) professionals in South Africa is being fuelled by a worldwide shortage of skilled contractors. Lured by comparatively large salaries, hundreds are thought to have left in the past year.

Local contractors are highly regarded and in demand worldwide in the IT industry as they are seen to be hardworking, multi-talented, not afraid of new technology and considered to have had stringent and thorough training.

The local IT press is filled with enticing advertisements placed by foreign recruitment agencies looking for local IT professionals for Fortune 500 companies.

South African IT skills are rated in the top 25 percent of the world, much like India, whose biggest IT export in recent years has been its IT professionals.

Many IT professionals are trained by the legion of international IT schools that have opened up in South Africa in the past year. Most offer internationally recognised IT qualifications in programming languages and networking technologies.

According to Kathy Robinson, consultant at the international division of CPL, a global IT resourcing company, requests for South African placements through CPL's associates in the US have trebled, and its UK branch is expanding rapidly.

Salaries in the IT contracting industries overseas are dependent on qualifications, experience and ability. Junior contractors in the United Kingdom on two-year contracts can earn up to £30,000 (roughly R170,000) a year, while the average in South Africa is around R110,000. Senior contractors average £300,000 (rougly R500,000).

The average in South Africa is around R350,000. Tax rates are also slightly lower in the UK. Similar comparisons can be made with United States IT salaries.

"The global demand for local IT talent has helped CPL place more people in the US over the last 18 months than ever before. We expect the demand, fuelled by increasing numbers of South Africans wanting to settle and work overseas, to continue at this rate in the future," says Robinson.

CPL's recovery more than 25 years after it was founded has been fuelled by the migration of IT professionals and contractors from abroad.

"Every country has different immigration requirements and qualifications, and the US is more cut-throat with regard to immigration," says Robinson.

Placement firms in Europe and the US are often uninterested in the new city, salary and job market background information as possible on the new client's requirements.

Kathy Robinson: "There is a global demand for local IT talent."
Fewer leaving S Africa

The number of people emigrating from South Africa is on the decline, but more people are leaving the country than arriving, the Central Statistics Service said yesterday.

The figures for immigration and emigration showed a loss of 229 people for July 1995, 100 less than in July 1994, according to the CSS.

However, the number of emigrants recorded for July this year (743) was 15.9% less than the 883 emigrants recorded for the same period in 1994.

The net loss of people in professional, semi-professional and technical occupations was 69 in July this year, compared with a loss of 29 people in July 1994.

Although the number of overseas visitors increased by 43.2% during July this year from July last year, it appears the influx of tourists is beginning to wear off, the CSS said.

Of the 82,018 overseas visitors to South Africa in July, 59.5% came from Europe, 17% from the Americas and 16.8% from Asia.

South Africans were travelling abroad more, according to the CSS - Sapa.
SA emigration now on the decline

PRETORIA — The number of people emigrating from South Africa is on the decline, but more people are leaving the country than arriving, the Central Statistics Service said in a recent statement.

The net result of immigration and emigration showed a loss of 329 people for July 1995, 100 fewer than in July 1994, according to the CSS.

"However, the number of emigrants recorded for July this year (743) is 16.9 percent less than the 883 emigrants recorded for the same period in 1994."

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Govt stops deporting illegal Mozambican immigrants

BRUCE CAMERON

A MORATORIUM has been declared on the repatriation of illegal Mozambican immigrants, minister of Trade and Industry, Mr Trevor Manuel, has announced.

The estimated millions of illegal immigrants, in Gauteng and other northern provinces, have increasingly become a political hot potato and have led to a number of instances of violence around the country.

Mr Manuel made the announcement after being challenged on the issue at a conference in Cape Town by the Mozambican consul in Cape Town, Ms Manuel dos Santos Lucas.

Ms Lucas asked why Mozambicans continued to be repatriated when Mozambique had been ruined by the destabilisation policies of the former South African government.

On top of this, if Southern Africa was to move towards an economic bloc, this meant not only the free movement of goods and services, but also of people.

Mr Manuel said the government had decided to declare the moratorium on repatriation at the request of President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique.

He said, however, that there were problems involved with illegal immigration of which South Africa was becoming a major target.

"There are parts of Johannesburg where everyone speaks French and they are not from a neighbouring country," he said.

He said there was a growing xenophobia, which the government was finding difficult to control.

An example was what was happening in Alexandra in Johannesburg where opposition to illegal immigrants was growing.

Mr Manuel said the moratorium would provide short-term relief but the root cause of the problem remained the absence of economic development in Mozambique.

A strategy was needed to ensure economic development of the whole region.
Trade and Industry Minister Trevor Manuel yesterday admitted that he had "pulled the gun" on the Mozambican refugee question, saying remarks he made last week on the repatriation of Mozambican refugees were "inaccurate."

According to ministry spokesmen, Manuel last week told a Cape Town conference that the government had decided to place a moratorium on the repatriation of Mozambican refugees.

"The government had in fact taken no such decision," Manuel said in a telephone call to his Cabinet colleague, Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi. "Both parties accepted that Mr. Manuel's comments were not entirely correct and that any decision to place a moratorium on the repatriation of illegal aliens or refugees would have to go through the established legal channels."

"The minister regrets any perceptions or misconceptions that may have been spread," Lagardien said.
PRETORIA: Trade and Industry Minister Mr Trevor Manuel yesterday admitted “jumping the gun” on the Mozambican refugee question and said remarks made in Cape Town last week were “inaccurate”.

According to ministry spokesman Mr Hinal Lagardien, Mr Manuel last week told a Cape Town conference the government had decided to place a moratorium on the repatriation of Mozambican refugees. He said the government had taken no such decision.

Mr Manuel had explained his “mistake” in a call to Home Affairs Minister Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Both parties accepted Mr Manuel’s comments were not entirely correct and any decision to place a moratorium on the repatriation of illegal aliens would have to go through established legal channels, the minister regrets any perceptions or misconceptions,” Mr Lagardien said in a statement.

He said Mr Manuel had initiated a regional industrial location study that would “look at capacity-building in neighbouring states so as to alleviate unemployment problems in these countries” — Sapa
INTERVIEW: An immigration officer interviews one of many foreigners found living in central Cape Town during the raid. Most had valid documentation.

Officials and police in dawn swoop on illegal immigrants

COLIN DOUGLAS, Staff Reporter

Police and immigration officers today launched a huge operation against illegal immigrants in Cape Town.

In four separate raids, 11 people were arrested.

A squad of 30 officials and police, some heavily-armed, took part in the action, dubbed Operation Passport, which began at midnight.

They broke down the front gate of a Canterbury Street boarding house to conduct door-to-door searches, watched by stunned residents.

Later they raided fishing trawlers in the harbour, the ruins of the old power station and several buildings in Philippa.

Only a handful of suspected illegal immigrants were arrested. Only more than 100 foreigners questioned were in possession of valid residence permits.

Many were registered refugees or applicants for asylum status.

The operation failed to unearth illegals involved in organised crime — one of its key objectives — with none of the foreigners arrested suspected of anything except violating immigration laws.

One South African man was arrested after being found in possession of 18 "steps" of dagga.

There were dramatic scenes as police raced in convoy across the city, ignoring red traffic lights, to launch raids.

They banged on doors to wake suspected illegal immigrants, demanded papers and searched belongings.

The raids were conducted without warrants — as permitted by the Aliens Control Act.

Those arrested at the boarding house included Nigerians, Senegalese and a Rwandan, and were taken to a lorry.

The only woman to be arrested, thought to be from Zimbabwe, trudged glum-faced to the lorry as her baby daughter, strapped to her back, gurgled and sang.

Illegal immigrants can lawfully be jailed without trial for an indefinite period pending deportation.

The arrested immigrants were taken to police investigation headquarters in Loop Street, interrogated and put in police cells.
DP attacks "Rambo" police raid on illegal aliens

COLIN DOUGLAS
Staff Reporter

A "Rambo raid" by police and state officials against suspected illegal immigrants broke the constitution, the Democratic Party said.

Acting without warrants, police and immigration officials awakened and interrogated large numbers of foreigners in Cape Town in the early hours of yesterday, arresting 11.

DP home affairs spokeswoman Dene Smuts said the raiders had not complied with a recent amendment to the Aliens Control Act.

She added that even the amended act did not meet constitutional standards, and the DP wanted it amended further.

"Raiders executed without warrant are subject to special conditions, which don't appear to have been complied with. And it should have been done by day, unless there were special circumstances," she said.
THE drastic steps that can be taken against illegal immigrants have been decried by human rights groups, but for many South Africans these measures are justified in the battle to curb the flow of people who are known as "aliens." Staff Reporter COLIN DOUGLAS reports.

The law says they can be arrested without a warrant, presumed guilty without being convicted, and locked up in prison for months without a trial.

What are these provisions some hangover from the darkest days of apartheid, used in those days by the state to persecute political opponents?

No. These are the measures used legally by the new South African state against ordinary men and women who have committed no greater crime than being born on the wrong side of the border.

The measures form part of the Aliens Control Act, updated and beefed up by Parliament only last month with the support of every party, except the Democratic Party.

Immigration officials readily use the wide powers given to them by the Act, hauling illegal immigrants from their beds in the dead of night and locking them up in prisons like Cape Town’s Pollsmoor, pending their deportation.

Civil liberties groups are dismayed at the law, with Human Rights Committee chairman Jeremy Sarkun saying: "It violates many human rights standards."

“You must treat people as human beings, wherever they come from,” Dr Sarkun said.

Paul Perreira, public affairs manager at the SA Institute of Race Relations, says the whole thrust of South Africa’s immigration policy is wrong.

“Current thinking that illegal immigrants should be tracked down and repatriated requires laws and policies which undermine the civil liberties of citizens and the human rights of aliens,” he wrote in the Institute’s publication, Frontiers of Freedom.

“The policy means that scores of family ties will be broken and, taken to its logical conclusion, that two million men, women and children must be forcibly repatriated from the Republic.

“It is immoral and impractical,” Mr Perreira charged, proposing instead that an amnesty be declared for all illegal immigrants currently in the country.

While President Nelson Mandela has spoken out against xenophobia, politicians and citizens alike have demanded ever tougher action against illegal immigrants.

Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi has justified harsh measures to curb the influx of illegal immigrants, saying: "Once they are in the country they leave no stone unturned to remain here."

Seven Guguletu residents, in a recent letter to The Argus, expressed the views of many South Africans when they demanded immigration laws even more stringent than those now on the books.

“It is no secret that many African and coloured South Africans are negative about this influx of immigrants from all over Africa," they wrote.

“We feel threatened, especially those of us who are unemployed. There are between six and seven million South Africans without work.

“We are already overpopulated. The immigrants are competing for jobs, houses and, eventually, land.

“Above all, the immigrants are a threat to the RDP on whose success depends our very democracy. We wish to argue that these immigrants pose a ‘security risk’ and will cost us dearly in the near future."

Backed up with this kind of popular support, the police and the Department of Home Affairs have embarked on Operation Passport.

Although the operation is ostensibly aimed at immigrants involved in organised crime, it has in fact targeted all illegal immigrants — criminal or not.

During Operation Passport’s first raid last month, at a block of flats in Berea, Johannesburg, only seven of the 150 immigrants arrested were linked to organised crime.

In the Cape Town raids, none of the immigrants arrested were suspected of involvement in organised crime.

In the first seven months of this year, more than 75,000 illegal immigrants were repatriated to their countries of origin.

In the same period police arrested more than 60 people who they said were involved in more than 16,000 counts of organised smuggling of people into South Africa.
Mandela urges whites to stay

JOHANNESBURG: President Nelson Mandela yesterday again appealed to whites not to leave South Africa.

"Don't leave. Don't let us down," he told an audience from some of South Africa's wealthiest suburbs packed into a Parktown North synagogue.

Whites with their education, literacy, skills and experience had nothing to fear from the ANC.

Mr Mandela said he was confident South Africa was emerging from its racist past. All South Africans were now helping to build the country.

He said it was the responsibility of the ANC-led government to solve problems and not point fingers at the former apartheid government.

Come and labour unrest were central issues facing the country, but it was necessary to note the inherited inequality of police deployment and corruption in the former command structure of the police. — Sapa.
Western Cape ‘going broke’

THE thousands of unemployed and homeless people pouring into the Western Cape are pushing it to bankruptcy, says Kobus Meiring, the province’s MEC for finance.

“The province is running a budget deficit of R1-billion for the current year and this looks set to worsen next year and again the year after,” says Mr Meiring.

“Effectively, the Western Cape is bankrupt. Our only recourse is to lay off 5,000 teachers and 5,000 health workers for a full year.”

About 80% of the Western Cape’s budget is used to pay the salaries of doctors, nurses and teachers.

“Central government assesses funding for the Western Cape on a head-count basis, which has been totally distorted by the flood of people coming into the region.”

“Shack cities like Khayelitsha and others are growing at a phenomenal rate and this constant influx of people is stretching the budget for schools and hospitals far beyond our means,” Mr Meiring says.

“Our population is expanding rapidly and any consensus or head count will be out of date almost as soon as it is finished. But the population consensus of the Financial and Fiscal Commission will be applying to our figures is already two years old,” says Mr Meiring.

The commission’s recommendations for a formula for allocating central government funds to the regions was recently announced.

The Western Cape received R7.5-billion from central government in the current year. The commission proposes to reduce this to R7.2-billion next year and R7-billion in 1997/98.

“The province has not yet been empowered to borrow money or raise taxes, and bridging finance only worsens the problems.”

“Not even taxes from proposed casino licences or a boost in tourism to the region will help. The Western Cape will be lucky to make the R100-million from new casino operations and increased tourism only gives a mild, indirect boost to the region.”
54 illegal immigrants held

Louis Trichardt - A total of 54 illegal immigrants were arrested during a weekend anti-crime drive in the Louis Trichardt area, combined operations spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Norman Ludick said yesterday.

Forty seven of the immigrants were from Zimbabwe and seven from Mozambique. Four South Africans were arrested for illegal liquor trading, Ludick said.

The 350-member anti-crime force - including members of the South African Police Service, the National Defence Force and commando units - patrolled residential and shopping areas, raided taxi ranks and set up numerous roadblocks during the operation.

Ludick said mass distribution of information leaflets detailing the purpose and the aim of the operation had helped to secure public cooperation. - Sapa
Police investigate 'instant citizenship' scam syndicate

The Argus Correspondent
DURBAN. — Police are investigating an international syndicate specialising in selling "instant citizenship" to foreigners for as much as R130 000 a couple. (234) AKY 25/10/95.

A Chinese couple, a brother and sister, were arrested early this week at Durban's International Airport after an alert immigration officer was not happy with the woman's South African passport.

The couple, both of whom were in possession of South African passports were about to board a flight to Mauritius.

Police investigations have so far revealed that the syndicate headed by a Chinese man from Pretoria, can arrange for South African citizenship if the money is right.

Investigations by the head of the South African Police Services Internal Tracing Unit in Durban, Warrant Officer John Piek and Mr De Wet Smuts from the Department of Home Affairs, uncovered a major scam which police believe is the just the tip of the iceberg.

Warrant Officer Piek said that their investigations took them to Pretoria.

"Our investigations have so far revealed that the passports in possession of the couple were in fact from a batch that were stolen while in transit to Home Affairs offices throughout the country.

"We questioned the couple and they admitted that they had paid a Chinese man from Pretoria R130 000 for the two travel documents.

"The couple had negotiated with the man while they were still in mainland China. They sent a deposit to South Africa and when they arrived in country last month they met him at a Pretoria Restaurant and handed over the balance of the cash in return for instant South African citizenship," said Warrant Officer Piek.

Warrant Officer Piek said that the police have reason to believe that the scam, run by a Chinese man, is widespread.

"When they were detained at the Durban International airport they had very little clothing in their luggage but about 24 cans of Coke. The soft-drinks gave the luggage weight"
CONTRARY to popular belief, people from the Transkei and Ciskei are not heading for Cape Town in their thousands each month, a senior UCT lecturer on Urban and Regional Planning — and a Wesgro economist — have said.

UCT lecturer Ms Vanessa Watson said thousands of people did move back and forth between the city and former homelands but the nature of the movement was “circulatory migration.”

“Almost as many are coming in as are going out,” she said.

Last week the office of the RDP announced that 40,000 people were migrating from rural areas to the cities each month.

On Friday, Mr Wolfgang Thomas, an economist and regional manager of Wesgro said statistics indicated there was no dramatic influx of people into Cape Town.

“We are working at the moment on an increase of 3% (25,000) per annum, mostly African,” he said.

Ms Watson said research conducted recently by the Western Cape Community Based Housing Trust found the urbanisation of Africans from rural to urban centres had been dropping.

Indications were that the migration rate to Cape Town was also dropping. Cape Town’s population is expected to double in 20 to 25 years.

Of the population growth, 70% was attributed to births and 30% to migration. This was also questionable, however. As Ms Watson says: “How can you count a moving target?”
ememies to be chased away
These are our brothers, not

Overcharged passengers
...loose teas on the train, luggage refund every 10 days in South Africa.

Lonely illnesses in trip of despair

Your smoke can harm those around you

BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT

To my last request as government agent named

NEW YORK PERMANENTLY

AS IS SOMEWHERE
SA man called alien - spends night in cell

By BENISON MAKELE

POLICE handling of a Ga-Rankuwa businessman accused of being an illegal immigrant has made him consider suing the Home Affairs department.

Modika, who owns a construction company in the township, will sue the Home Affairs Department for unlawful arrest and detention after he spent a night in a police cell.

He is presently consulting his lawyers to determine the amount he is going to sue for.

"I was at a construction site instructing my workers when Home Affairs officials came and asked me which country I came from.

"I said South Africa and they responded ‘bullshit, you’re from Mozambique and we’re going to deport you’," Modika recounted.

Despite telling the police that his ID, passport, cellular phone and firearm licence were in his car parked nearby, they wouldn’t buy his story and locked him up.

"I was humiliated, called ‘hargedag’ by an Odendaal fellow from Home Affairs and pushed against a wall – not to mention the uninhabitable cell I spent the night in," Modika told City Press.

A Lawyers for Human Rights spokesperson said the Home Affairs and police treatment of illegal immigrants bordered on a contravention of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to which South Africa is a signatory.

And while leaders of the former exiled liberation movements have denounced the xenophobic hysteria, their statements have seemingly not filtered down to junior bureaucrats. For example, a day after President Mandela denounced the ill-treatment of African foreigners during a visit to Alexandra township, police and the army moved into "Alex" in search of the so-called "grigambas", and wreaked havoc in the course of their "kloping"
'Illegals' at head of list

Netspruit - Illegal immigrants are high on the priority list to be dealt with by newly appointed Mozambican consul to Mpu-
malanga, Filomena Pangueve.

She told a press confer-
ence at the weekend that both the Mozambican
and South African govern-
ments were concerned
about the problem.

"We cannot solve it completely but something
must be done to prevent it
from getting out of control," she said.

Areas of common
interest to be attended to
included culture, employ-
ment, transport, industry,
agriculture and invest-
ment.

Born and bred in
Maputo, Pangueve is the
first consul - also the
first woman - to be
appointed in her capacity
as a provincial consul in
South Africa. - Local
Bureau.
We work, then get deported!

By BENSON MAKELE

ON THE East Rand they are treated like slaves, several Mozambican immigrants told City Press while they sat hunched up in a police van in Boksburg this week.

The immigrants earnestly described their initial happiness at getting into South Africa, and finding jobs that they desperately needed.

But then their brief happiness turned to agony when payday comes and police and Home Affairs' officials swoop down on them and charge them with being illegal immigrants.

And they claim it's the unscrupulous employers who turn them in - thereby getting out a month's work out of them without having to pay wages.

And they say the employer never gets into trouble for hiring them - while they spend months in police cells awaiting deportation back to poverty.

The employer then allegedly hires another group of undocumented workers - only to later dispose of them in the same fashion.

Their claim is that some employees are in collusion with various officials from Home Affairs.

Kashpar Lanka from Manjakasi in Mozambique said he worked for a company based in Jet Park, Boksburg, where he earned a meagre R23 a week.

He said trouble began when the workers queried their working conditions and demanded a living wage from their employer - who reacted by calling the police and Home Affairs' officials who promptly arrested them for being illegal immigrants.

"It is his style to call the police to arrest workers on payday only to later hire other Mozambican brothers and get rid of them in the same way," Lanka said.

Another Mozambican said that he had been recently discharged from the Impala mine in Rustenburg - where he had worked for 19 years and now was being deported.

He had come to visit relatives in Boksburg while his benefits were being processed by the mine and had been picked up as an illegal.

"It's painful that I leave my money behind to stare poverty in the face," he said tearfully, through a hole in the police van.

Another arrested immigrant was Louis Machel, who speaks fluent Sepedi, and said he had been so long in SA that he barely remembered what Mozambique looks like.

He was uprooted by the 20-year-old war that raged in his country and fled to Bushbuckridge in the Northern Province.

Most of the workers, who are illegally employed in the building industry, said they suspected Home Affairs officials of colluding with the unscrupulous companies because they never charged with hiring illegal labour.

The Mozambicans accuse the police of ill-treatment and said they never gave them a chance to collect their belongings and travel documents.

They also complained about languishing in police cells instead of being immediately deported.

Home Affairs' head of communications, Henne Meyer, dismissed the allegation that his department was colluding with unscrupulous employers.

He said its policy was "to fine employers who hire illegal labour."
Fewer specialist personnel are resigning to emigrate

BY CHARLOTTE MATHEWS
INVESTMENT EDITOR

The percentage of mid-managerial and high-level specialist staff who gave emigration as a reason for their resignation had dropped to about 4 percent from double digits last year, according to the latest FSA-Contact general staff remuneration survey.

Kris Crawford, the head of the remuneration surveys division, said most staff who emigrated were from the financial, information technology and technical fields.

The latest survey also showed higher-than-expected salary increases for general staff. Salary increases received were considerably higher than predicted, and intended increases were slightly higher than those granted in the past year.

However, FSA-Contact did not reveal the exact percentages of the salary increases awarded because that information was available only to its clients.

Crawford said the trend over the past few years had been that lower-skilled workers received the highest percentage increases and were likely to do so into next year.

The survey showed that 62 percent of South African companies had introduced incentive schemes in the past year for general staff, mostly in an attempt to motivate the staff.

Other reasons given for introducing incentive schemes were to enhance bottom-line earnings, encourage more accountability in employees, increase productivity, and to link pay policies to strategic business goals.

A number of respondents encountered unexpected problems in implementing incentive schemes, such as difficulty in measuring performance in some jobs, or the scheme being perceived by employees as too subjective or unfair.

Some individuals were dissatisfied with the amounts paid and other companies said the incentive scheme had resulted in individuals placing their own achievements above those of the team.
Removal of aliens ‘to continue’

PRETORIA: The repatriation of illegal aliens would continue, the Department of Home Affairs said at the weekend in response to President Nelson Mandela's promise to slow down the deportation of illegal immigrants from Mozambique.

In a statement, the department said the repatriation of illegal immigrants was already too slow.

Mr Mandela said on Thursday the government had agreed to a request by Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano to slow down the deportation of illegal immigrants coming from his country.

Mr Chissano said Mozambique was unable to cope with the large numbers being sent home.

Home Affairs said it had noted reports of Mr Mandela's statement, and that it had a sympathetic understanding of the situation in Mozambique and other neighbouring countries.

“The removal of illegal immigrants from South Africa is at present already at a rate much slower than is justifiable, taking into consideration the number of illegal immigrants presently within the borders of our country and the existing manpower to perform the task,” the department said.

Whether the present rate should be maintained or decreased was a matter that needed clarification.

There was, however, no doubt that the repatriations should continue, as was required by existing legislation.

South Africa had in the first seven months of this year repatriated 60,512 illegal Mozambican immigrants, according to the department. — Sapa
Doctors leaving in droves

WESTERN Cape hospitals are losing doctors faster than other provinces, reports ANTHONY JOHNSON.

OVERWORKED and underpaid doctors are leaving Western Cape hospitals in droves, Parliament was told yesterday.

And Health Minister Dr Nkosazana Zuma acknowledged that there was little the government could do to halt the exodus.

She also said the district surgeon system was being reviewed as some provinces “still practise apartheid” in waiting rooms.

Two-thirds of the 387 doctors leaving the service of state hospitals in the first seven months of this year were from this province.

The number of district surgeons resigning over the past 18 months has also been significantly higher in the Western Cape than any other province.

Countrywide, 54 district surgeons have resigned so far this year compared with 12 last year.

Dr Zuma told the NP’s health spokesman Dr Willie Odendaal that 254 doctors left state hospitals in the Western Cape between 1 January and 31 July. The total for the rest of the country was only 133.

She said the reasons offered by doctors for their resignations were Emigration, leaving for private practice, insufficient pay, heavy workload, unsatisfactory working conditions, threats and disruption of services by trade unions and no long-term career prospects.

Other reasons included transfers to academic centres for specialisation, relocation/retirement and personal reasons.

Dr Zuma said that services like non-emergency operations and outpatient services had to be delayed for “varying periods”.

State hospitals had difficulty retaining staff leaving for private practice because “the salaries are low”.

The government did not discourage staff transferring to academic centres for specialisation, as the country needed specialists.

In the case of district surgeons, the minister said 18 had resigned in the Western Cape since 1994 — 12 of these this year.

Dr Zuma said in response to questions from the NP’s Dr Rodney Rhoda that communities had not been detrimentally affected by the resignations of district surgeons as replacements could be appointed immediately.

‘Apartheid’

She added that the system of district surgeons was under review “as in some provinces they still practise apartheid” in their waiting rooms.

“The private patients (who are often white) are kept in a decent waiting room while the state patients (who are often black) are kept in another, often dilapidated room.”

PIER DE VILLIERS reports that part of the reason Western Cape doctors are leaving state hospitals in such large numbers is that they have far better opportunities in the private sector than are offered in most other provinces.

Dr Revere Thompson, a medical superintendent at Tygerberg Hospital, said another important reason for doctors leaving many to go overseas, was uncertainty over their future.

“Many who were expecting a job in an academic environment are not sure about that any more, with funding reduced”.

In addition, as some doctors left, the workload of others grew. This led to a perceived disparity between “what you do and what you get for it”.

DAVID J. BARKER
Health workers leave SA in droves

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — More than 1,200 health care workers — including 148 doctors and specialists — have left SA in little more than two years.

Health Minister Nkosazana Zuma said the emigration of doctors and medical professionals had rocketed from 128 in 1993 to 636 last year. Almost 200 health professionals left in the first three months of this year.

Zuma was replying to a question from NP senator Charles Redcliffe.

In a separate reply to a question from DP leader Tony Leon, she said 56 district surgeons had resigned from the national health department this year. Among reasons for the resignations were emigration, retirement, dissatisfaction with remuneration and quitting medicine. Some were fired.

Of the five district surgeons who left the service in Gauteng, all posts were filled after being advertised, she said.

The largest category of emigrating health care workers was “medical, dental and related health services occupations” with 507 people leaving the country in the 27-month period. The second largest group was doctors, followed by nurses with 133 emigrants.

Those who left included pharmacists, veterinary science professionals, medical technologists and “health service professionals”.

Sapa reports that Wits University medical school head Dr John Milne said doctors were unlikely to leave their jobs or the country because of the fatal shooting of a doctor at the Johannesburg Hospital on Monday.

Ear, nose and throat specialist Dr Steven Ming Chi Fon, 59, died on Tuesday after being shot by car hijackers.

“Whether or not you’re hijacked outside your house … or outside the Johannesburg Hospital doesn’t matter,” Milne said. The vehicle was recovered in Tembisa late on Monday, but there have been no arrests.

DP health spokesman Mike Ellis said Zuma had shown indifference and incompetence by saying government could do little to halt the exodus of doctors from the public service.

“While the government consults and strategises endlessly on evolving long-term plans for the future of health care, the crisis is mounting to the extent that viable public health care is becoming an impossibility.”

Edward West reports from Cape Town that President Nelson Mandela said yesterday SA’s scientists, engineers and academics should resist the temptation to emigrate to developed countries, as the challenges and successes were more rewarding in SA.

Speaking at the opening of a conference on cyclotrons, Mandela and government had approved a restructuring of the governing bodies of SA’s science councils to promote greater representation and to orient activities towards the needs of society as a whole.

A national advisory council on science and technology would be formed with its members drawn from the scientific community, the private sector and other spheres of civil society.

A White Paper would provide opportunity for wide consultation and debate on issues such as how to use limited resources to generate, acquire and apply knowledge for economic, social and cultural development.
AN estimated 40 000 people a month were moving to the city, the Minister in charge of the RDP, Mr. Jay Naidoo, said yesterday.

He warned these people had started "to assert their frustration as demonstrated in the mushrooming squatter settlements and land invasions".

Releasing the government's strategy documents for urban and rural development into the next century, he said urbanisation had become one of South Africa's major challenges.

Mr Naidoo said the strategies were a 25-year vision for urban and rural development that would guide public and private investment in addressing past distortions.

The urban development document said the metropolitan areas and large cities were growing rapidly, and it was estimated the present urban population varied between 19.6 million and 20m.

It was also estimated 75% of the population would live and work in cities and towns by 2010.

Concerning the Cape Metropolitan area, the document said a development framework must plan for housing, jobs and transportation systems across a territory of 4,500km².

The document said the growth rate was sufficiently normal to suggest that effective urban management was possible and there was therefore no justification for interventionist policies which tried to prevent urbanisation.

The government's vision was that by 2010, cities and towns would be based on integrated urban and rural development strategies and be centres of social and economic opportunity for all, the document said.
Illegal aliens make up 12% of population

Ingrid Salgado

GOVERNMENT had spent R1,9m on an estimated 5-million illegal aliens last year, according to SA Police Service border control and policing national co-ordinator Col Brian van Niekerk. The estimated cost increased from R1,19bn in 1998, when about 3-million illegals were in SA, Van Niekerk said in the Pretoria University's Institute for Strategic Studies Bulletin. The costs covered housing, health, education and policing.

The aliens included informal movers — the majority of whom came from neighbouring states and who entered SA without any documentation — and organised movers who immigrated on a permanent basis. Illegals represented 12% of the population, compared to 6% in the US, 2% in France and 0.2% in Singapore.

Estimates indicated there could be as many as 8.5-million illegals presently residing in SA, up from 1988 estimates of 1.2-million. Police removed 1.8% of aliens last year, down from 3.2% in 1993.

The policing approach to illegals had been "superficial" to date, he said. A large percentage of those repatriated to neighbouring states returned to SA, largely because authorities failed to determine whether they owned property or movable goods, or had established family links in SA.

Internal police tracing units and sea, air and land border units had been established to counter the rise in illegals. The units would ensure all designated entry points, 65 land, eight sea and 36 airport entries, were policed.

More than 12,000 illegals were arrested last year having committed serious crimes — 160% up from the previous year, Van Niekerk said. Of these, nearly 8,000 were from Mozambique, more than 2,000 from Zimbabwe and about 1,100 from Lesotho.

About 14% of general crime involved illegals. He said illegals tended to be involved in drug smuggling, particularly cocaine, diam, abalone and crayfish smuggling, prostitution and arms smuggling.

"Along with SA's re-entry into international markets and as a result of lax control at harbours and airports, crime syndicates were quick to exploit the apparent ease of entry of people and contraband goods. As little as 1% of all imported goods are checked," he said.

Drug smuggling syndicates were using SA as a transit point in international drug trafficking, while SA's unsatisfactory border controls facilitated the export of stolen vehicles.
The Alien Control Bill, providing for better control of illegal immigrants, was passed yesterday despite the objection of the DP.

Last year, about 12,000 illegal immigrants were arrested in South Africa for offences related to drugs, diamonds, arms, crayfish and abalone, Senator Ms Ruth Rubinowitz (IPPF) said.

It was estimated there were between two and eight million illegal immigrants in SA — which is about 12% of the population.

"Under the new law, visitors will be issued with visas stating the reason for their entry into the country." — Sapa
Illegal aliens a headache for government

CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

IMMIGRATION officers are to be allowed to detain illegal aliens pending deportation — but much remains to be done on a new policy on immigration.

The government concedes that strategies to prevent unlawful immigration are failing, and is worried by rising hatred of foreigners among South Africans, who believe aliens are taking their jobs and contributing to the crime wave.

While immigration officers will be 'empowered to act' against illegal aliens, the foreigners 'will not forfeit their rights in terms of the South African interim constitution, including the right to freedom from detention without trial.'

These are 'some of the provisions of the Aliens Control Bill,' approved yesterday by the national assembly.

Deputy Minister of Home Affairs Penuel Maduna admitted there were serious problems.

"People get into a cumbersome process that often impedes their entry while those who should be kept out find it all too easy to enter. Those who are here without permission remain with impunity."

Mr Maduna said this failure had blurred people's perceptions about the difference between legal and illegal immigrants, and had contributed to xenophobia.

An effective and credible immigration policy was needed.
The return of the returnees

Mozambique spawns second refugee wave

40,000 Mozambican refugees out of an estimated 120,000 returned home under the organised repatriation operation. An important reason for the relatively poor response to the repatriation scheme were the laments in large parts of Mozambique. A UNHCR official said many of the refugees felt they had better opportunities in SA. It has been about a year since the first general election was held in Mozambique and many of the refugees who did return home are better about facilities that have been provided for them.

In many districts, basic facilities such as water, sanitation and health care - not to mention food - are non-existent. "Thousands of people are in an emergency situation," said Ngoven. Joaquim Bota, a returned refugee from SA, said: "It is quite impossible to live and work under these circumstances. With the landmines that remain planted all over the area, our movements to the farmlands are just impossible, but we need to produce food for our survival!"

During his recent visit to SA for the SADC Summit, Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano obtained an assurance from President Mandela that he would arrange with Minister of Home Affairs, Mangosuthu Buthelezi, to stop the deportation of illegal Mozambican immigrants.

But Mozambican officials say the deportations are continuing. "We really doubt if deportation will bring to an end the problem of immigrants, which is basically a problem of an economic nature," said a source.
About 8.5-m people have flocked to SA

Illegal aliens cost taxpayers billions

STAFF REPORTER

The steadily increasing number of illegal aliens living in South Africa has already cost the beleaguered taxpayer an estimated R5-billion over the past five years, according to a report by SAPS Border Control and Policing national coordinator Colonel Brian van Niekerk.

The fact-finding document was issued by the University of Pretoria's Institute for Strategic Studies last week.

According to the report, illegal aliens are thought to make up 8.5-million of South Africa's approximately 40-million people, as opposed to 5-million last year and 3-million in 1999.

GOVERNMENT has coughed up R5-bn over 5 years as crime syndicates move in

This is more than 13% of the SA population, or double the amount of illegal aliens in any other country.

The SAPS report says the Government has to spend about R307 000 on each illegal alien a year, which translates into about R1.98-billion being spent on maintaining illegals last year.

Government expenditure on illegals since 1991 has amounted to close on R5-billion.

The report says that while informal movers - people who enter South Africa illegally from neighbouring countries - constitute the majority of illegal aliens, the organised groupings which illegally immigrate to South Africa "must be seen to constitute the major threat, since their methods of entry and employment are more sophisticated, and in many cases, are linked to criminal syndicates".

Illegal aliens, on the whole, are considered in the report to be a threat to the socio-economic structure and safety and security of the country.

The report also finds that the illegal aliens are "exposed to exploitation"
Mozambicans’ status reviewed

Bonile Ngcoboza

The foreign affairs department was investigating the possibility of granting permanent resident status to Mozambicans who had been in the country for a “long period of time”, and was hoping to present its findings to Cabinet for approval in the next few weeks.

Home affairs spokesman Pet Colyn said yesterday that the number of people who would be granted residence would depend on how many people lodged applications under the provisions which were being prepared.

Speaking after a meeting between SA and Mozambican delegations at the weekend, Colyn said he could not at this point give exact details of what the qualifying period would be because the matter was still under investigation.

The principle had been agreed upon although administrative mechanisms were still being discussed.

The two countries had also, he said, agreed on an unspecified neutral zone of about 10km.

People within would temporarily be allowed to move freely for about 72 hours, during which time they would not need travel documents.
SA must not let its experts be poached

South Africa had to prevent its mining expertise from falling into the hands of other countries, leaving the local industry stranded, a leading industry official said.

"We have tremendous assets, the resources in the ground, the wherewithal and the expertise to extract them. Let's find ways to recognise these assets and turn them to account in our interests," said Allen Munro, the president of the Chamber of Mines and director of Gold Fields of South Africa.

He told a mining conference that other countries realised and valued South African expertise more than South Africa did.

"We must sustain the asset base here and prevent our people from being attracted from the country," Munro said.

But, commenting on exploration and development by South African mining houses in other countries, he said they were viable and would benefit local industry.

"A balance must be struck - this is not a second wave of colonisation, but there is a whole lot we can give each other, offer each other," he said.

Both he and Anglo American's executive director, Bobby Godsell, said the local industry had the potential to thrive but had to overcome substantial difficulties.

"Mining conjures up treasure-chest ideas of huge wealth down there, but gold in the ground is useless to anybody unless it can be translated into funds," said Godsell.
Group of SA farmers consider putting down fresh roots in Uganda

By JOE KHAMISI
INDEPENDENT FOREIGN SERVICE

More South African farmers are considering relocating - this time to Uganda.

A group of 23 farmers, with the approval of the Transvaal Agricultural Union (TAU), went on a reconnaissance visit last month. The delegation was headed by Hans Herbst, a leading Brahman farmer from Roedtan, near Naboomspruit.

TAU president Dries Bruwer said the high commissioner for Uganda in SA had taken the initiative and invited the farmers to visit his country.

"The farmers were met by President Yoweri Museveni and government officials. We are insisting on a government-to-government agreement before farmers belonging to the TAU decide to settle in other countries.

"We are about to sign an agreement with the Mozambican government which will act as a blueprint for future accord," said Bruwer.

However, before land can be granted to the farmers it will have to be approved by the cabinet since Uganda has ownership of agricultural land by foreign officials. Officials say cabinet approval is possible as long as the project is large, export-oriented and beneficial to the economy.

In releasing details of the discussions recently, the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) said the South Africans had made a request for a large tract of land for dairy farming, game ranching and traditional crop farming.

"Their request was for a joint venture with local farmers or a long-term lease arrangement of more than 45 years with automatic renewal.

"During their visit, the UIA offered the South Africans an incentive in joint ventures with the South Africans.

"The visitors also raised the possibility of acquiring Ugandan citizenship.

"They felt this was the security an investor needed to justify transfer of large investments into the country," the UIA said.

"The South Africans indicated they would like to settle in groups to allow them to maintain their culture and language.

"The entry of the farmers into the Ugandan economy is likely to have far-reaching economic and political repercussions, observers say. Economically, it would help to transform vast tracts of virgin land into a useful reservoir of food.

"Agricultural production, now accounting for half of the gross domestic product, would most likely increase through the use of modern farming techniques which the South Africans would offer.

"It would also bring a diversification of agriculture from traditional to non-traditional crops and create employment for thousands of Ugandans.

"The country has fertile soil and plenty of rain. However, most of the 10 million Ugandans live in poverty.

"Once the history of apartheid is washed away in the minds of most Ugandans, the white farmers could create problems.

"Museveni himself faces immense internal pressures."

Task force formed to help lift taxi industry's poor record

A task force to address traffic safety issues in Gauteng's taxi industry was formed in Johannesburg yesterday, the province's department of public transport and roads said.

"The task force is set up to reduce taxi-related accidents by at least 5% a year."

The Gauteng Taxi Safety Task Force was established following recommendations on road safety made by the Gauteng Taxi Initiative, the department said.

"It is the first major step towards implementing proposals made earlier this week on the most pressing issues in the industry.

"In a speech prepared for delivery at the launch of the task force, Transport and Public Roads MEC Oupa van Zyl reiterated the widely held view that the taxi industry was responsible for many accidents.

"The overall South African national road traffic safety record is acknowledged to be very poor. There is widespread concern that the taxi industry is especially culpable.

"Issues such as overcrowding, speeding, condition of the vehicles, and driver fatigue need to be addressed urgently."

The task force was formed after consultation between major parties in the taxi industry and will be headed by Van Zyl.

"It will be responsible for designing and implementing safety awareness campaigns and implementing a programme to improve the relationship between taxi owners, operators, drivers and traffic officers."

"Its other functions include monitoring the violation rates among taxi drivers and setting up an anonymous telephone hotline to report negligent and reckless taxi drivers."
Doctors emigrate to accumulate

Specialists leave the country with academic hospitals in ‘poor health’

JENNY VIALL
Health Reporter

MANY specialist doctors are leaving South Africa, dissatisfied with pay and working conditions.

Wynand van der Merwe, chairman of the Academic Doctors' Group, said: "The situation is in a state of flux and change. Indications are, however, that we are losing specialists to the private sector and to academic posts abroad."

Reliable figures of how many doctors were leaving were difficult to obtain.

"Some specialists go overseas but don't have their names removed from the medical register," said Dr Van der Merwe.

"Others leave for six months or a year, earning double or treble what they can here to work off their debt, then come back."

"But our impression is that we're losing people permanently at a more rapid rate than in the past."

Specialists were leaving for a variety of reasons, particularly salaries.

"Salaries haven't kept up with the inflation rate and the income difference between public and private specialists has increased continuously."

In addition, working conditions at the moment were "appalling", said Dr Van der Merwe.

"The service load for specialists has increased tremendously, partly because of government changes with regard to free health care for pregnant mothers and children up to the age of six."

"And as doctors leave, the workload on those left behind increases."

There was a lack of funds for infrastructure and equipment at academic hospitals, contributing to bad working conditions.

"There are no funds available to buy new equipment. State hospitals lag far behind the private sector and equivalent centres abroad."

Private and state hospitals had switched roles from 15 years ago, said Dr Van der Merwe.

"All the modern equipment used to be in academic hospitals, and the private sector came to them to learn. Now we find ourselves in the situation where we send registrars out to the private sector to work and learn how new equipment functions."

Specialists were also facing uncertainty as to the future of academic medicine.

"There is no clear indication from the Department of Health as to where we're going with academic medicine. Primary health care is important, but if it happens at the cost of secondary and tertiary care, then we have a problem," said Dr Van der Merwe.

"Upgrading primary health care doesn't decrease the load at academic hospitals. In fact it increases it. So now we're faced with decreasing budgets and increasing workloads."

Dr Van der Merwe said there had not been a drop in the number of doctors applying for registrar posts.

"It may be that people are happy to come in, and then will leave immediately they finish."

"Our specialists are highly regarded. Our training is good. It's a major problem though. We need young people in academic medicine, but at the moment they qualify and leave."
‘SA will slow down the repatriation of aliens’

PRETORIA — President Nelson Mandela said yesterday government would slow down its deportations of illegal immigrants from Mozambique.

He said Mozambique President Joaquim Chissano had requested the slowdown because his country was unable to cope with the large numbers being sent back home.

In the first seven months of this year SA had returned 60,512 illegal Mozambican immigrants, according to the home affairs department.

An estimated 2-million or more illegal immigrants from throughout Africa had come to SA in recent years, attracted by the continent’s most stable economy and the shift from white minority rule to black rule.

With about 6-million of SA’s 40-million people unemployed, locals resented cheap foreign labour.

“It is a problem for us because we do not have jobs for our own people,” Mandela said.

Slowing the pace of deportations would mean that illegal aliens would remain in SA jails for longer periods, something Mandela opposed.

“The law allows that but morally it is not right to jail people simply because they come to the country,” Charging them for the cost of sending them back was also wrong.

Alternatives would be sought and he would discuss the problem with members of his cabinet.

Mandela said that government might also ask SA farmers who planned to settle in Mozambique and other African countries to hire people facing repatriation from SA.

The white farmers — unhappy with recurring drought and the end of white minority rule — were moving to Mozambique under a programme negotiated by the two countries’ governments, the President said. — Sapa-AP
‘SA must keep its graduates’

Matie rector appeals to professions for assistance

JENNY VIALL
Staff Reporter

FOR universities to gain a competitive edge internationally, professions would have to contribute financially to educating future professionals and share their expertise.

Speaking at a Breakfast Club meeting, Andreas van Wyk, rector and vice-chancellor of the University of Stellenbosch, said South Africa had a knowledge infrastructure that set it apart from other African countries.

“We need people who benefitted from training in the past to stay in the country so we can retain knowledge,” he said.

Professor Van Wyk said a partnership between training institutions and the professions was essential.

Universities had to be more responsive to the needs of society and the professions’ need for lifelong learning, while keeping in mind their scientific and cultural role.

Universities had to be different kinds of experts, and that there were many people in professions and in business who could contribute their expertise to equip students for professional life.

Professions would have to contribute financially to higher education and indicate that they took their responsibility for the future seriously.

Professor Van Wyk said the twin demands on higher education were to produce thinking people and to meet the immediate demands of society for highly trained people.

Universities should strive for balance, educating professionals and making them aware of their duties in society.

The main trends in tertiary education identified worldwide were also applicable in South Africa.

These were:

● The explosion of student numbers and unequal access to education.
  In 1960 there were 13 million people in higher education, and in 1991 65 million. This was expected to increase to 79 million in the year 2000 and 97 million in 2015.

● Greater diversification in students, programmes and methods, due to the changing requirements of the labour market, scientific advances, the impact of information technology, the need for an interdisciplinary approach and trying to make financial means go as far as possible. There was a trend towards more and more part-time and older students and more private universities.

● The education world was becoming smaller every day. South African universities had a huge influx of students from the rest of Africa.

● Limited financial reserves for higher education.

Professor Van Wyk said there were so many conflicting demands on education. While creating equity was important, it was also important that it was sustainable. This could only happen if South Africa maintained international standards and became competitive in the outside world.
It is not quite the Great Trek but, fed up with their lot, Afrikaner farmers are once again trekking north, to the Congo in search of greener pastures. Norman Chandler of The Star Foreign Service, spent time with these modern-day voortrekkers.

It’s a tough brave new world

The harshest drought in its history, over agronomic and competition policies, the threat of being forced off their land and a perception that their language is under threat is giving the Afrikaner farmers a choice of monumental proportions.

It’s a difficult dance to step into the new South Africa grow or find new pastures in a continent which once hated them.

Many are opting for the latter, and with relief — and surprise — are finding nothing but warm welcomes and grazing cattle from men and women who took upon the Afrikaner farmers as such, and send to rehabilitate coutries foreclosed to their hopes by former white policies which nullified the efforts of countries such as the Congo, Namibia, Botswana, and South Africa.

Flip Meyer is among the first of the new South African voortrekkers who are volunteering to themselves from a society much more ordered than those who wish they were going and setting up home in Meyer’s case — in the humid backwater provinces of the Congo.

Meyer, his wife Marlene, and their four children are now in the Niari valley of South-west Congo, hundreds of kilometers from the Niari’s provincial capital of Kolwezi and thousands of kilometers from the hot dry western Transvaal plateau where they farmed together. The area is suffering from the effects of drought.

Red with their lot in life, the Meyers signed up with the Southern Africa Development Coordination, and took the plunge by being the first of the Afrikaner farmers to settle in the Niari valley.

> Home sweet home, an old farmhouse deserted by French colonists 35 years ago is just one of the many which were conquered by South African farmers in the Niari valley of the Congo.

> New generation voortrekkers (from left) Thys Jonkies, Flip Meyer and Hein Ratha examine the product of one of the farmlands they hope to restore.

ed things out. I think I will be here for some time to come. The country is just too big, the land is too vast, and there are too many people who have been hurt.
BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE: Allan and Adèle Wise and their children Matthew and Carly have returned to South Africa after eight years in London and have no regrets about their decision, saying the quality of life in Cape Town is tops.

‘We’re back and we plan to stay’

COLIN DOUGLAS
Staff Reporter

ENGLAND is no bed of roses, and in spite of uncertainties about South Africa’s future, the quality of life in Cape Town is tops.

This is the advice to potential emigrants from Adèle and Allan Wise, a Cape Town couple who returned home with their two young children last year after spending eight years in London.

The Wises came back last October, at virtually the same time as Arna and Sharon Bresler, another couple interviewed by The Argus who have decided to pack for London again, disillusioned with the new South Africa.

Like Arna Bresler, Allan Wise is an optimist, and like the Breslers, the Wises got hooked on the idea of the new South Africa while waiting to cast their votes in last year’s election in the festive queues outside South Africa House in London’s Trafalgar Square.

But the similarities end there, while the Breslers are packing their bags again, citing worries about tax, crime and education, the Wises say their expectations of the new South Africa have been exceeded and they are here to stay.

“If South Africa has a future, we’d rather be here, be positive and be part of it — you only live once,” says Allan.

Adèle, who works for travel company that caters mostly for incoming European tourists, says Cape Town’s tourist industry is booming and her clients are thrilled with the Mother City.

The Wises left South Africa in 1997 as part of the wave of emigrants to depart after then President PW Botha’s notorious “Rubicon” speech, pessimistic about the country’s economic and political future.

During their time in London they had two children, Matthew, now six, and Carly, two.

While the couple say they are realistic about South Africa’s problems, they have no regrets about their decision to return, saying the quality of life in Cape Town has no equal.

“I love it here — the climate should not be underestimated,” Adèle says. “When we first came back, we were at the beach at 8am.

“London’s dull weather did play a part in our decision.”

Capetonians are far more outgoing than their counterparts in London, the couple say, and it was easy for them to renew ties with old friends.

Turning to the crunch issues of education, tax and crime, the Wises say these present no insurmountable problems to people returning to South Africa and, in any case, the grass is not all that greener on the English side of the sea.

“While education in England isn’t of a higher standard, it’s difficult to generalise because — like in South Africa — the quality of state schooling is area-dependent,” says Adèle.

“We’ve opted for private education, which we consider to be a worthwhile financial sacrifice. We did the same in England, and therein lies much more expensive.”

The tax rates in South Africa and England are both high, Adèle says, but the welfare state that is supposed to compensate English taxpayers for their sacrifice is coming apart at the seams.

While the Wises have no doubt that crime is more frequent and more violent in South Africa than in England, they say they are unmumming their chances of falling victim to criminals by being more vigilant than they were in London.

Asked what they miss about England, the Wises admit there are things they have given up in their return to Cape Town.

“I do miss the news in England,” says Allan “The SABC has a long way to go.”

Addes Adèle “I miss the feeling of personal safety when I come home at night and when I take my children to a park.”

But the Wises are not looking back. “We’re hoping our family can form one of the secure building blocks in the new South Africa.”
Coming home: Highs and lows of new SA

5 years back in a changed country

COLUM DOUGLAS
Staff Reporter

Seshi Choncho returned to South Africa from the United States soon after former President F W de Klerk’s landmark speech of February 2, 1990, but it was two more years before he was confident enough to have his family to join him.

“There was still a lot of uncertainty — it was only after negotiations had reached an advanced stage that I brought them over,” he says.

It is in this kind of caution that Dr Choncho, a political scientist, has handled his and his family’s transplant from the stability of the US.

He had spent nine years there, teaching at the University of California Los Angeles and other top institutions, with his wife Nobuhle, also an academic.

Dr Choncho had left South Africa for the US on a Fulbright scholarship in 1981 after spending much of the previous three years “in and out of detention” as a result of his political activities as a student leader at the University of Zimbabwe.

The Chonchos had three children while away: their son Nkuthalo, now 12, and their daughters Siphozile, nine, and Nqobeko, seven.

“My coming back was not planned. I came back as a Rockefeller Scholar to do research at Wits University, and I ended up staying, mainly because I saw South Africa as a challenge,” Dr Choncho says.

“There was no doubt that in the States I had the opportunity to research and think freely, but in South Africa it was a completely different story — there was no respect for freedom of expression from either the government or the liberation movement.

“But it was hard to walk away from a challenge. I couldn’t afford the luxury of sitting in the US.”

Dr Choncho’s first five years back home have been a far cry from the quiet, academic life he used to know in the US.

His first job on his return was a year-long teaching post at the University of the Western Cape, where he says he found the political science department to be little more than a forum for United Democratic Front propaganda.

“Although my students started off by throwing chairs at me when I said something they disagreed with, by the end of the year I had got them to agree to the value of diversity of ideas,” he says.

Dr Choncho then accepted a job as director of the non-governmental Institute for Multi-Party Democracy, which he says provided a home for his liberal democratic beliefs.

During his tenure, he worked to promote dialogue across the political spectrum during South Africa’s transition to democracy.

He also served for a spell as an adviser at constitutional negotiations at Kempton Park.

Later he moved into the corporate world — he is now a director of a Cape Town-based company — but even then he found that he was not free of politics.

He has to deal with tensions relating to affirmative action and corporate restructuring, which frequently land on his desk.

While Dr Choncho says he is almost sure he will not return to the US and is happy to be back in South Africa.

But, he says, this country has major problems which will have to be faced head-on.

“There are opportunities here,” he says, “but we are going to have to engage the opposition that many people have with struggle politics, and graduate to an agenda of change.”

“He’s worried about the very high level of intolerance, and I don’t think that with the new government this has become any better.”

“People have criticised Nhlanhla Nene and Ben Ngubane, and we say if we don’t want black millionaires.”

“The effect of this reverse racism is a ‘piling up syndrome’ that demands we conform to some undefined group mentality and must be afraid of success.”

“Blacks need to rise and exploit the country’s resources there needs to be individual empowerment in the spirit of enterprise, because without these I fear that, 10 years down the line, blacks will still be where they are today,” Dr Choncho says.

On education, Dr Choncho says he is prepared to pay towards his children’s schooling as should all parents of whatever race — who can afford to do so.

“Middle-class parents will have to fork out more resources from white to black schools is the right thing to do — education in the townships is pathetic and is getting worse.

“At the same time, the government must not oppose the privatisation of schools, provided the parents are prepared to pay for them.”

“The principle of private sector competition applies to education too.”

Turning to the controversial issue of affirmative action — a policy introduced decades ago in the US — Dr Choncho warns that it will fail as long as it is directed at groups rather than individuals.

“If affirmative action is not based on training, it is not going to succeed,” he says.

“If it continues to be driven by appointments to posts it is not going to go anywhere.

“Until a number of companies are employing blacks for what they know, rather than for potential.”

“I don’t know if we need affirmative action as much as a social revolution driven by a clear set of ideals based on enterprise and individual empowerment.”

The new South Africa can be a frustrating place, Dr Choncho says.

“Sometimes I walk around and ask myself what am I doing in this country,” he says, “and then I use the free expression one used to have in the States — the freedom to have a full-on debate and then going out to lunch together.”

“In South African life and politics, people tend to play the man, not the ball, there’s too much bitterness here.”
Back-door' aliens pouring in from 90 no-visa countries

Closing door on illegals

OFFICERS will be permitted to seize assets of illegals to cover costs of deportation.

The new legislation aims to curb illegal immigration into South Africa by tightening visa requirements and imposing penalties on employers who hire undocumented workers.

Kenyan youths club

Leakey

Nairobi (Kenya) - Kenya's renowned conservationist-turned-opposition politician, Richard Leakey, was arrested and charged with soliciting votes from young people for his presidential campaign.

Leakey, a 50-year-old lawyer, was accused of inviting young people to attend a rally in the coastal town of Mombasa and offering them beer and cigarettes in exchange for their support.

Leakey and his supporters have been critical of the government's handling of corruption, unemployment, and poverty, and have called for a more participatory democracy.

The arrest follows a series of protests and rallies by Leakey's supporters, who have called for the resignation of President Uhuru Kenyatta and his deputy, William Ruto.

Despite the arrest, Leakey remains a popular figure in Kenya, with many young people looking to him as a symbol of hope and change.

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Backlash... Richard Leakey shows the wrath of the opposition.
Police uncover ‘corruption’ and ‘syndicate which provides false documents’

JOHAN SCHRONEN,
Crime Reporter

A HUGE crackdown on illegal aliens is imminent in Cape Town, where thousands of foreigners are believed to be posing as South Africans by carrying counterfeit identity and travel documents.

Police have allegedly uncovered corruption at department of home affairs offices in Cape Town, and in Johannesburg detectives have arrested a suspect who allegedly has run a major illegal immigration syndicate since 1986. Arrests in Cape Town are likely soon.

A spokesman said between 5 million and 8 million people were living illegally in South Africa and flooded the "baseline" employment market with cheap labour.

He warned employers who knowingly gave work to illegal aliens or who failed to check their credentials that they faced jail sentences and fines up to R20,000, and could be required to pay deportation costs.

Restaurants and the fishing industry were cited as major culprits.

Cape Town and Hout Bay harbours have been the sites of violent clashes between illegal aliens working on trawlers and unemployed local fishermen.

Illegal aliens have also allegedly surfaced as prostitutes in Cape Town where police have arrested Taiwanese girls as young as 14.

Boarding house owners and innkeepers who let rooms to illegal aliens could also be prosecuted, the spokesman said.

Meanwhile, police investigations have revealed evidence of corruption in certain government offices.

The spokesman said people entering South Africa illegally and who wanted to work here were introduced to a "thick" syndicate which arranged false identification and travelling documents at certain Cape Flats offices.

Members of the syndicate allegedly acted as middle-men between the immigrants and corrupt home affairs officials.

The syndicate was thought to be operating internationally, providing illegal immigrants with Cape Town contacts before they arrived.

The syndicate was also believed to be producing counterfeit birth certificates, senior certificates and driver’s licences.

The spokesman said investigations were progressing well and detectives expected to make arrests soon.

The illegal aliens unit relies heavily on information from the public and offers substantial rewards. People with information about illegal immigrants and syndicates can contact the unit at 419 5084.
Syndicates make a killing with illegal aliens

By GREG KNOWLER

Durban - Syndicates in northern KwaZulu-Natal are making a small fortune transporting thousands of Mozambican aliens to businesses in Durban, Richards Bay and Gauteng.

One trip from the Mozambican border to Durban can net a transporter more than R30,000, depending on how many aliens he crams into his minibus taxi.

Police said this week that fleets of taxis were pouring across the border filled with aliens, and several boats were anchoring off the northern coastline to offload their illegal human cargo.

The Human Sciences Research Council estimates there are 1.6 million illegal immigrants in the province, and personnel strapped to their faces are clocking up thousands of kilometres in a desperate bid to stem the cross-border flow.

Warrant-Officer Chris Els, head of the police's Border Control Internal Tracing Unit, said an off-duty soldier was arrested near the border town of Manguzz this week with a taxi load of illegal aliens.

"But he is not the only one involved in transporting aliens. When we stopped him, about nine other taxis drove past and they could all have been filled with Mozambicans," he said.

The 10km trip from the border to Manguzz costs each alien about R15, but a longer trip to Durban will set them back about R200 a head.

Els said the soldier had three vehicles and made "huge amounts of money" transporting aliens.

The Border Control works closely with the Coastal Patrol Unit, headed by Warrant-Officer Bruton Dufel. His area of operation is the coastline stretching from Richards Bay to the Mozambique border. He said aliens paid yachtsmen and ski-boat owners to transport them from Mozambique.
Bill may open SA to flood of illegal aliens

SOUTH Africa's observance of international human rights conventions should not be taken as a cue for opening the country to a flood of illegal aliens.

This was the point made yesterday by Inkatha Freedom Party senator Ruth Rabnowitz at a meeting of a senate committee studying the South African Citizenship Bill.

The bill, the result of an interim constitutional injunction, deals with acquisition, loss and restoration of South African citizenship and proposes that citizenship be acquired by birth, descent or naturalisation.

It also determines that people who were TBVC citizens by naturalisation should apply for South African citizenship by naturalisation.

Among other measures, it provides for the methods by which former exiles will regain their citizenship.

The presumption that a citizen by birth or descent cannot lose his or her right of permanent residence is now also given legal certainty in the bill.

The senate committee has begun dealing with the proposed legislation clause by clause.

Dr Rabnowitz expressed fears about an influx of illegal aliens when the committee discussed a provision in the bill which states that a person born aboard a South African-registered ship or aircraft shall be deemed to have been born in South Africa.

Attie Tredoux, chief legal adviser in the department of home affairs, told the committee there were provisions to stop foreigners using the birth of a child on a South African craft to obtain citizenship themselves. Permanent residents and illegal aliens were subject to the same restrictions.

Mr Tredoux said the fact was that the constitution entitled every child to citizenship, nationality and a name, and the bill was trying to accommodate all children born in South Africa.

Dr Rabnowitz said it appeared to her this was indeed making it easier for illegal aliens to get into the country.

Mr Tredoux said the birth registration provisions in the South African Citizenship Bill and related legislation would in fact compel parents to come forward, giving the state an opportunity to investigate their status in the country.

He agreed with Dr Rabnowitz that illegal aliens were proving a growing problem, but said a balance had to be struck between curbing this influx and observing the rights of the child.

Dr Rabnowitz said the observance of these rights should not be allowed to lead to the country “going overboard” and being “hijacked” by political correctness.
Hands off aliens - Madiba

By JEFFERSON LENGANE and SAPA

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela has taken up the cudgels for illegal immigrants, calling for an immediate stop to abuse of them.

Mandela was speaking to 15,000 people at a rally in Alexandra township, north of Johannesburg, where stories of abuse of illegals at the hands of locals abound.

Mandela said it saddened and angered him to see the rising hatred of foreigners in the township.

"We cannot blame other people for our troubles. We are not victims of the influx of foreigners to South Africa. We must remember that it was mainly due to the aggressive and hostile policies of the apartheid regime that the economic development of our neighbours was undermined."

"The government is addressing the problem of illegal immigrants through new legislation that is presently before Parliament. Meanwhile, no individual must take the law into their own hands," the president cautioned.

On the forthcoming local government elections Mandela said the Alexandra rally was important since it brought together neighbours who had been living separately for too long.

He said local government elections would ensure that these communities were forged together to form a strong vibrant community; a community based on the principles of non-racism and non-sexism; a community based on the principle of development of all people in the area.

He said although the township would be incorporated into the larger financial budget of Sandton after the local elections, it was up to the residents to combat crime if they wanted to reap economic benefits.

However, he warned: "While I understand the frustration of those students who recently attacked known criminals the government cannot allow people to take law into their own hands."

Reminiscing about his first 1940s visit to Alexandra - a township of 300,000 people in a mere 2.5 square kilometre space - Mandela recalled how the township was gripped with electricity problems which gave it the nickname of "Dark City."

He noted that today Alexandra is partially electrified and the immediate challenge facing the government was to electrify the whole township and transform it from the "Dark City" into the "City of Light."

"I want you to know that as a result of the ANC, the government is able to bring electricity to the country at a rate of 1,000 houses a day."

"In due course Alexandra will benefit from that programme," he assured his audience.

In his address, Mandela also told the crowd the ANC would be in power "forever."
127 held in aliens blitz

JOHANNESBURG — Police backed by troops arrested 127 illegal immigrants during the first two days of a week-long anti-crime sweep in the Eastern Transvaal, police said today.

A total of 69 illegal immigrants were arrested on the border between South Africa and Mozambique.

Sixty-one illegal immigrants were also arrested in the Secunda and Bethal areas, of whom three were from Zimbabwe, the SAPS and SANDF said in a joint statement. Most of the 127 people arrested were Mozambicans.

Security forces began the operation on Monday involving spot searches and roadblocks in the province.

They said two people had been arrested for possession of dagga, one for the theft of a car radio, and another for possession of a stolen motorcycle.

Two stolen vehicles were also recovered in the Secunda area and a further seven stolen vehicles were found in KwaZulu in the Witbank area — Reuters.
By TROYE LUND

Two trains jammed with more than 1 000 illegal immigrants leave Johannesburg’s Park Station for Mozambique and Zimbabwe twice a week—but aliens see this as an inconvenience of the few working days it takes to get back.

Before boarding what he calls the “Wednesday special”, Julius Msongo told the Saturday Star that was his third repatriation in two years.

“This is a very bad idea. Every time I go back to Mozambique I return with four friends who follow me because I know the way. The easiest is to jump the fence.

“Yes, it is scary, but this time I am going to find that guy who organises South African passports in Zimbabwe,” said Msongo—speaking in front of a South African immigration officer.

According to Msongo, the major reason for coming here are the perceived opportunities to become “really rich”. “Like nearly every human, the grass always seems greener on the other side. You might just make it big doing something you never tried before. These men do not intend to stay forever. They will make money and go back to their families or find the wives who would not marry them without money.”

Msongo cannot understand why South Africans are so unfriendly.

“We are all Africans, I am not arrogant, I do not mind if South Africans come to work in Mozambique. Everyone must have the same chance to work and make money,” he said.

According to immigration officer John Barnard—who also at Park Station—the repatriation exercise is pointless and a waste of billions of rand.

“It is time the Government decided if they want illegal immigrants or not. If not, they must make stricter laws for those who employ aliens, and borders must be tightened,” he said.

Barnard believes the R20 000 fine or five-year jail terms employers are given if caught employing illegals is no deterrent.

“When we catch hundreds employing aliens, the paperwork takes about a week. Then it is usually contested in court. It is almost impossible to convince a magistrate of the employer’s guilt.”

One of the 30 police officers who escort the men across the border said they often pick the same men up again on their way back.

“It is simple to do an about-turn back across the border and to catch the first train back to Johannesburg,” he said.

But Major Frans Kloppers, head of Gauteng’s Illegal Alien Tracling Unit, said very few illegal immigrants were coming back.

“Fingerprints recorded since September last year show that only 150 sets match those of aliens repatriated before.”

“Police are now involved and are winning the game. What these immigrants do not know is how much the border is lightened since the clampdown in September.”

The trains are able to take many more men than did the vehicles which were previously used,” Kloppers said.

Sports car charges R41 a head, as opposed to R75 a head to take aliens back by vehicle.”

Kloppers said there were still a few loopholes in the system but is confident that they are being closed rapidly.

BETTER LUCK NEXT TIME: Arrested illegals on their way back to Mozambique

PHOTOGRAPH: JOHN HOGG
A disappointing homecoming...

...of the US

Gone to

London...
COLIN DOUGLAS, Staff Reporter

WHEN South Africa went to the polls in its first non-racial election on April 27 last year, Sharon and Arne Bresler, a young Cape Town couple living in London, joined the festive queues in Trafalgar Square to cast their votes.

They were overcome by the emotion of their country's transition to democracy and, soon afterwards, resolved to return home and start a new life in the new South Africa.

Today, less than a year after making the long journey home, the Breslers and young Ryan, 2, are packing for London again, worried about tax, crime and education standards, and pessimistic about the country's future.

"It's the hardest decision we've ever made, and there's a hell of a lot of guilt and heartbreak attached — we were incredibly idealistic about the new South Africa when we came back," said Sharon, a remedial teacher.

"We feel as if we're betraying our country, but we've been disappointed since we returned.

"My child comes before nationalism, it wouldn't be fair to him to stay," Sharon said.

Arne, an optometrist, adds "South Africa's problems seem insurmountable."

A primary problem for the Breslers has been the tax rate and the cost of living, which Arne said had risen dramatically since they left South Africa for the first time four years ago.

"Tax definitely hits harder now. The highest tax bracket is far too low."

"I wouldn't mind paying if I was getting things like health care in return, as I would in London."

Arne added that he supported the government's economic policies:

"I'm very much in favour of what they're doing, but only because there's no other way."

For Sharon, the biggest worry was her child's education. "I'm very scared about education stan-
Illegal immigrants into South America

New bill aims to stem the flow of

Immigration control boosted

The position taken by the party in the House of Commons, who enter the country, is that common sense has a large part to play - but in this area of operations, it is also the duty of the government to take all possible steps to ensure that entry is not made.

The bill seems to oblige the employer to do more than the law requires, and it is not clear how the employer is to be protected in case of evasion. The bill also provides for the prosecution of employers who fail to comply with its provisions.

There is a general feeling that the bill is too restrictive and that it will not be effective in stopping illegal immigration.

However, the bill has received widespread support from various quarters, and it is expected to pass through all stages of the parliamentary process with little difficulty.
SA to clamp down on illegal immigrants

Tim Cohen 11/8/95

CAPE TOWN — SA is set to clamp down on illegal immigrants by making it impossible to arrive in the country as a tourist and then apply for a work permit.

This is one of a host of measures in legislation tabled in Parliament yesterday designed to restrict the number of foreigners living and working in SA illegally.

The memorandum to the Aliens Control Amendment Bill says the Act “does not lend itself to effective control of aliens and requires drastic changes”. New measures are proposed to limit marriages of convenience and to change the system for hearing applications for immigration and temporary residence permits.

The current legislation makes it possible for aliens who have entered the country on holiday to apply to have the purpose of their visit altered.

“It has become a very costly and time-consuming exercise to trace these ‘backdoor immigrants’ and to remove them,” the memorandum says.

The legislation proposes that applicants apply for work permits, study permits and work seeker’s permits when they are outside SA. Visitors’ permits, business permits, etc.

Continued on Page 2

Immigrants

(Continued from Page 1 11/8/95 236)

and medical permits may be issued by an immigration officer at a port of entry.

The discretion of the official concerned is limited, allowing only the alteration of the conditions and periods of validity.

In line with US immigration law, the Bill also seeks to end marriages of convenience aimed at circumventing aliens control. Immigration permits can be cancelled where a marriage, contracted two years before the issue of a permit, is dissolved within two years after the permit is granted, unless the minister is satisfied that the marriage was not contracted for the purposes of evading the law.

A permit can also be cancelled if the minister is satisfied that the holder of the permit has “failed or refused to pursue a normal marriage relationship.”
Bill aims to stem flood of 'illegals'  

HOME AFFAIRS Minister Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi has tabled new legislation in Parliament to stem the flood of illegal immigrants into South Africa.

The Aliens Control Amendment Bill aims to tighten regulations governing visas and increases the powers of immigration officers.

The memorandum to the bill notes that citizens of about 90 countries are exempted from visa requirements for holiday, business and transit purposes, and that many misuse the visa system as a short cut to obtaining a work permit or permanent residence.

"It has become a very costly exercise to trace these backdoor immigrants and remove them," the memorandum says.

The aliens were usually willing to work for less money, undermining the local labour force.

The new legislation makes it impossible for the holders of temporary residence permits to change the purpose of their visit once they are in South Africa.

Instead, work-seeking immigrants will have to apply for permits before they enter.

Another section gives an immigration officer the power to demand from the master of any ship a list of passengers, stowaways and crew. The bill also comes down hard on "marriages of convenience" designed to secure one of the spouses permanent residence.

The minister will be able to cancel an immigration permit if a marriage contracted two years before the issue of a permit is dissolved within two years of its being issued or if the minister feels it is not a "normal marriage relationship."
Drastic bid
to curb huge
aliens influx

Bill proposes tight controls on visitors

CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

A permit will be cancelled if "it appears to the satisfaction of the minister that the holder of the permit has failed or refused to pursue a normal marriage relationship."

The explanatory memorandum said it was common for people to enter South Africa, apply for an identity document and leave, with no indication whether they really intended taking up permanent residence.

The minister will be empowered to cancel these immigration permits.

Immigration officers will be allowed to seize money or wages from a prohibited person to cover the costs to the department of home affairs of his or her removal from the country.

Prohibited people who have acquired assets in South Africa will have to forestall them, unless a court orders otherwise.

There will be stricter control over agents who deal with the department of home affairs on behalf of aliens.

"Some of these agents go about their business in an unscrupulous fashion and many of their clients suffer from their malpractices."

Wide powers of exemption for people who do not comply with the requirements of the Citizenship Act to be allowed to become legal residents or citizens, are to be cut back.

In a move designed to ease the lot of people in neighbouring states living close to borders and wanting to enter South Africa to shop or visit relatives, the minister will be empowered to exempt categories of people from visa regulations.

A new provision does away with the old requirement that cases of alleged illegal entry must be tried at a court with jurisdiction over the place of alleged entry to the country. This is designed to cut costs.
Farmers trek to Mozambique

BY NORMAN CHANDLER
PRETORIA BUREAU

A second party of SA farmers is to trek to new homes in Africa within the next few weeks.

They will be going to Mozambique, following in the pioneering footsteps of 20 farmers who left the country on Monday for the Congo.

An agreement is to be signed in mid-August between the SA and Mozambican governments on resettling farmers in that country, according to Transvaal Agricultural Union president Dries Bruwer.

Some Mozambican opposition figures have attacked the programme, claiming it could be a "new form of colonialism". Members of the ruling Frelimo party have also cautioned President Joaquin Chissano's government to safeguard the interests of local people.

The SA farmers have promised to bring expertise and technology that could dramatically improve crop yields, lessening Mozambique's dependence on foreign food aid.

Many South Africans have already started to buy property and build homes in former tourist areas such as Xai-Xai and Delagoa Bay.

The Transvaal and Free State agricultural unions last year initiated the Africa Project, which has the consent of the Government.

The project also makes provision for farmers to be settled in countries such as Zaire, Zambia, Uganda and Tanzania.

Land of hope

"The Africaner is a pioneer and we will never stop searching for the best way of life for our children," a Congo-bound farmer told staff reporter Adam Cooke on departure on Monday from Johannesburg International Airport for Naire Valley, east of Pointe Noire, on the Congo coast.

The party, led by Philip Nel, was accompanied by the Congolese ambassador to Pretoria, Dieudonne Manu Mahoungou. A second group leaves on Friday.

"In the western Transvaal all we had was cold, dry wind. Now we'll have to learn to swim," joked farmer Flip Meyer.

Clad in thick leather boots and colourful jerseys covering khaki outfits, the group said this was the end of a long process of negotiation and the start of a new life.

"We're tired of farming in soil with no future. We are moving to a land of hope, where we can make a living and use our skills to develop the country," said Johan van der Westhuizen, spokesman for the organisers, the South African Development Corporation.

By the end of the year, 120 families are expected to be settled.

Mahoungou said just 2% of Congo's potentially arable land was developed.

"The initiative and skills of these farmers will become an indispensable part of the Congo people," he said.
THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS

NAME

J. W. Malthe-Barkley

DATE

1st December 1967

DISCUSSION

Inducement of paper production in the country in order to ensure the expansion of the country's production capacity and to provide a basis for the future development of the country's economy.

(1) A draft proposal for action is in process.

(2) An interim defence plan is in process.

THE MINISTER FOR SAFETY AND DEFENCE

NAME

J. W. Malthe-Barkley

DATE

27th June 1967

DISCUSSION

No developments in connection with the current situation in the country.

(1) A draft proposal for action is in process.

(2) An interim defence plan is in process.
Illegal job-seekers still persevering

By Josias Charle

The promise of jobs and a chance of a better life in South Africa is continuing to attract people from Zimbabwe and Mozambique, most of whom have yet to gain entrance illegally because they do not have proper travel documents.

On top of that, those who enter with legal documents usually overstay after getting employment on farms and elsewhere, thus providing cheap labour.

Not even the threat of an electrified fence is enough to deter the determined job-seekers (at this stage the fence is in "non-lethal mode").

No one can be killed by touching it but most illegals do not know this. To them, the decision is a matter of life and death in a struggle for survival.

The South African National Defence Force, which patrols the country's borders, has now stepped up their demand to have the fence switched back to the lethal mode for "effective results."

But a decision has not yet been taken by the Ministry of Defence on the issue.

Smuggling, disease and stock theft are other threats on the border.

So far this year, 8 000 illegal immigrants have been arrested and two shot dead while crossing the Mozambican border this year.

Last year alone, the Department of Home Affairs repatriated 74 000 illegal immigrants from neighbouring countries.

Soldiers patrolling the area have so far recovered 16 AK-47 rifles (103 in 1994) and 12 pistols (30 in 1994).

These figures are lower than last year's because smugglers now use KwaZulu-Natal as their entry point, as there is a high demand for weapons in that area due to the conflict there.

Stock theft is also rife along the South Africa-Mozambique border area. Last year there were 34 cases of stock theft and 1 500 head of cattle were stolen.

Most first-time chancers cross with the help of "guides," who charge up to R20 a person. Those illegal immigrants caught recently near the Mozambican fence said they took risks because they were looking for jobs in South Africa.

No job opportunities

Said 15-year-old Astanza, "Back home, I can't go to school and there are no job opportunities, so I had to take a chance and try to cross the fence."

Alexander (19) said he would work anywhere as long as he could get some money. Manuel, also 19, said he had tried several times to cross the fence and had been arrested each time.

But, he would continue trying until he succeeds.

Colonel Barry Schoeman of the SANDF told Sowetan it costs R300 000 a month to maintain the electrified fence. This does not include salaries for about 500 guards deployed along the fence.

On the Zimbabwean border near Messina, journalists were told by Colonel Hein Vissers that there were more than 1.5 million people crossing the border annually. Police problems were compounded by trucks transporting goods to and from Zimbabwe.

"It is very difficult to search each and every tanker coming through because, on any day there may be as many as 200 trucks going through the border."

Apart from the guards at the border gate, he said there were foot, horse, motorbike and air patrols along the length of the fence where illegal immigrants were likely to gain access into South Africa.

Vissers said a feasibility study was being undertaken into the possibility of extending the South Africa-Zimbabwe border fence by another 184km at a cost of R450 000 a kilometre.

Near the Zimbabwean border, journalists were shown four people who had been arrested while crossing the fence. One of them, a 15-year-old boy from Gwanda, Zimbabwe, said he was arrested while going back home after failing to get work on South African farms.

He was not sure whether he would try again, but was quite certain he was going back home to poverty — which may force him to make another effort.
Agony of HIV Malawian

Malawian resident David Kwichelani (22) is homeless, hungry, and angry. All he wants is to be arrested and deported as an illegal immigrant.

His temporary resident's permit expired on January 30, a fact he pointed out to Department of Home Affairs officials.

But, Banda says, he was told "We can't arrest you because you are HIV positive and can die in jail and we will have to pay.

A department official then referred his case to the Malawi Embassy in Pretoria. But, Banda says, the message came back that Malawi had spent its money on the election and had no funds to pay for his return journey.

Banda, a student, came to SA from Lilongwe in January to look for a job. He went to Baragwanath Hospital because he was suffering from headaches and thoughts he had malaria. Instead, he was diagnosed HIV positive and counselled before being discharged in July.

Banda says he has been sleeping at Park Station and taking piece jobs to buy food. He has no money to pay for his return, and, in desperation, came to The Star for assistance.

Jennie Meyer, spokesman for the Department of Home Affairs, said Banda was to be issued with temporary travel documents and repatriated.

"It is policy to refer nationals with valid travel documents to their High Commission.

"We were told the Malawian government had no funds to repatriate Banda, and referred to the embassy in Pretoria," she said.

A Malawian embassy official said Banda had not been to the Malawian consulate in Brakpanfontein, and should he go there, he would be assisted.
HIV man’s hard-luck story struck a chord for angry relatives and social workers

BY JANINE SIMON

Angry family members and social workers have questioned the motives of David Kwachelanjii Dennis Banda, the Malawian who told The Star he had been refused repatriation because he was HIV positive.

They were responding to a story on Banda’s plight, which was published last week. Banda had asked The Star for help because, he said, he was battling to get Malawian and Department of Home Affairs officials to send him home.

Illegal

He said South African authorities had refused to help him because he was HIV positive and could die in jail.

He said his relatives were unemployed and living in Lilongwe. He presented a Malawian passport, with an expired temporary resident’s permit and documentation from Baragwanath Hospital as proof of his plight.

The Department of Home Affairs confirmed that Banda had asked for assistance, but said he had been referred to his embassy.

A spokesman for the Malawian Embassy said Banda had never been to the Johannesburg consulate for assistance, and he would be helped should he go there.

But social worker Ruth De Carvalho, of the Social Refugee Office of the Catholic Diocese said Banda had come to their office two weeks ago for assistance.

“He gave us the HIV story and said he wanted to leave immediately.

“We ran around to get him a R165 train ticket to Maputo, and gave him R50 to pay for the journey to Lilongwe,” she said angrily. “Then I saw the story.”

And a family member told The Star that Banda’s mother had worked as a domestic in Johannesburg’s northern suburb for years.

He had been born here, but was sent to Malawi as a child.

Banda allegedly abused his father, with whom he lived in Malawi, the family member said.

Racket

He came to South Africa last year, and was sent by his mother to live in a home she had in Brits.

There he allegedly abused young children, and allegedly became involved with a theft racket, until he returned to Malawi.

Banda telephoned his mother when he returned to South Africa this year, but he has not seen her.

A spokesman for the Department of Home Affairs said Banda was a confirmed Malawian citizen, and was due to be flown home on Friday afternoon.
SA-Zim plan to curb illegal migrants

Political Correspondent

SOUTH Africa and Zimbabwe have agreed to speed moves to curb illegal immigration.

At the same time Zimbabweans who have been resident in South Africa since before 1986 will be given full opportunity to assume citizenship.

And while removal of illegal aliens from South Africa will continue, it will be "with a human face".

This follows a meeting between Minister of Home Affairs Mangesuthu Buthelezi and his Zimbabwean coun-

Special exemption from visa requirements is to be given to police investigating cross-border crime.

Business visa applications will have to be accompanied by letters confirming contacts and nature of business.

Traditional leaders will have a role in preventing abuse of a rule which allows "informal" border crossings—designed to allow people to cross national borders in their tribal area.

The leaders will be asked to compile lists of those who should be allowed to make such crossings.
World Bank warns SA of problems of migration

BY DEREK TOMKOVICH

South Africa is again attracting large numbers of migrants from sub-Saharan Africa which could pose a dilemma, says the World Bank in a supplement to its report this year.

People from the region are migrating to South Africa in response to economic opportunities and its more open political climate, it says.

Migrants can be viewed as a resource that will help raise South Africa’s income, just as the workers from countries bordering South Africa have been to the Witwatersrand mines. However, migration is not without costs, especially as migrants are likely to compete with domestic unskilled labour.

The greater the incentives to migrate, the more difficult and expensive it becomes to ration entry and the more likely illegal migration will take place.

Selling the right to citizenship and establishing temporary work arrangements are some of the instruments for managing migration that have been used in other regions, the World Bank says.
Zimbabwe, SA to come down hard on illegal immigration

South Africa and Zimbabwe have agreed to step up curbs on illegal immigration.

At the same time, Zimbabweans resident in South Africa since before 1986 will be given full opportunity to assume citizenship. And while removal of illegal aliens from South Africa will continue, it will be done "with a human face."

This follows a meeting between Minister of Home Affairs Mangosuthu Buthelezi and his Zimbabwean counterpart Dumiso Dabengwa.

Special exemptions from visa requirements to be given to police investigating cross-border crime.

Business visa applications will have to be accompanied by letters confirming contacts and nature of business.

Traditional leaders are to be given a special role in preventing abuse of a rule which allows "informal" border crossings, designed to allow people to cross national borders in their tribal area.

The leaders will have to compile lists of people allowed to make such crossings.

A statement issued after the meeting said there had been "deep satisfaction" about progress in standardisation of documents and exchange of information and personnel.
'RESPONSIBLE FOR 14% OF CRIME'

Police crack down on illegal immigrants

THE POLICE are taking special steps to track down illegal immigrants, particularly those suspected of being in South Africa.

POLICE believe illegal immigrants are responsible for about 14% of all crime committed in South Africa. Members of seven special units are targeting illegal immigrants and internal tracing units, which have been briefed to target illegal aliens who were committing crime, a police spokesman said.

Particular attention would be given to members of Nigerian and Chinese organised crime syndicates. 

Cape Town police would also clamp down on illegal traders who are importing clothing, watches and toys from African countries and people hawking consumer goods and ethnic prints, many of whom were believed to be avoiding import and customs duties.

This enabled them to undercut local businessmen.

Illegal aliens were believed to be bringing guns, drugs and disease into the country and smuggling out diamonds, perfume and crayfish.

Campaign

An internal tracing unit team launched a campaign this week to enlist the public's aid in helping bring illegal aliens to their attention. They will discuss the problem with every community forum in the Western Cape.

Border policing — which includes harbours and airports — is expected to be given additional personnel.

Growing concern about the problem — more than 90 000 illegal immigrants were deported last year — resulted in Police Commissioner George Fivaz setting up a technical committee.

The committee is to ensure that crimes committed by illegal residents were given priority by the police, the spokesman said.

Many of the criminals were slipping into the country at a growing rate on illegal identity and travel documents.

Local police were expected to focus attention on finding the forgers who sold these documents to criminals for up to several thousand rand.

Anyone who can assist the police with their investigations into illegal immigrants is asked to contact them at 419-5034.
Bishops express concern over treatment of aliens
Buthelezi slated over aliens

Nomavenda Methane 200

HOME Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi was “deportation minister” and largely responsible for fueling the seeds of xenophobia in SA, Cosatu spokesman Neil Coleman said yesterday.

He was speaking at a meeting organised by the Gauteng government and attended by church and labour representatives and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, to address problems encountered by blacks from neighbouring countries.

Coleman said his organisation was concerned that the home affairs ministry was not in line with the new democratic SA. Instead it was pursuing the policies of the past government of harassing people from neighbouring countries.

It was important to understand the problem was caused by the former regime which “destabilised” countries like Mozambique and forced people to flee.

Cosatu condemned the “xenophobic and racist hysteria” which various parties, particularly Inkatha, were attempting to whip up against workers from other southern African countries.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees Nicolas Bwakura appealed to the media to sensitize South Africans to the plight of refugees. He blamed the Press for projecting a negative image of them.

The NUM's James Molatsi put the blame on the government of national unity for failing to come up with legislation to deal with immigrants. It was up to all government departments to ensure refugees were treated with dignity. Most refugees in the country were economic, and not political, refugees, he said.
SA must now accept refugees

AFRICAN refugees faced discrimination and xenophobia in South Africa, which had an unaccommodating attitude towards people fleeing their home countries, Labour, church and United Nations officials said yesterday.

Speaking ahead of African Refugee Day today, they said current control of refugees, through deportation and electrifying border fences, was not working. They appealed for greater understanding to be shown to refugees.

South Africa was the only country in the world using electric fences to stop refugees, UN High Commissioner for Refugees regional president Mr Nicholas Bwakura said.

This was "cruel and inhumane" and he would raise the matter with President Nelson Mandela, Bwakura told a Press conference in Johannesburg. He said there were about 100,000 asylum seekers in South Africa, 90,000 of them from Mozambique. This compared favourably with countries like Zambia, Iran and Pakistan which each accommodated between one and two million refugees.

Congress of SA Trade Unions spokesman Mr Neil Coleman said Africa needed an economic development programme. "How can South Africa prosper if our neighbours are not prospering?"

The SA Catholic Bishops Conference spokesman Mr Jude Pieterse said: "If we're a part of Africa we must change our attitude and face the challenges." - Sapa
Africa reaffirms support for millions of refugees

BY PRISCILLA SINGI

Africa yesterday celebrated the 21st anniversary of the Organisation of African Unity’s adoption of Africa Refugee Day.

And a strong message of solidarity went out from Johannesburg to the estimated 7.5-million refugees on the continent.

The South African Red Cross Society and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees hosted delegates from throughout Africa at the Red Cross offices in Johannesburg yesterday.

According to the UNHCR, the day allows for a period of reflection on the plight of refugees and is a day of celebration for all the work that has been done to alleviate their predicament.

The UNHCR’s southern Africa representative Nicolas Bwakura said Africa had the largest refugee problem in the world.

"The refugee problem in Africa has grown from 700,000 in 1970 to 7.5-million in 1995.

"If these numbers continue to grow, African governments have cause for concern because we fear the process cannot be reversed.

"In addition there are 15-million internally displaced people, making it a total of 22-million people who are a loss to Africa," he said.

These people depended wholly on the international community for their wellbeing.

Statistics show there are about 1-million refugees in South Africa, which is perceived as the "golden egg of the continent.

Tunisian ambassador Hatem Atallah told delegates "Let us remove the wars and the tensions and resolve situations peacefully. Only then can refugees return to their birthlands and live normally again."
OWN CORRESPONDENT

LONDON: The enrichment of a black elite together with a high crime rate and lack of jobs for whites have caused former exiles and anti-apartheid campaigners to shun the country of their birth, the London Sunday Times reported yesterday.

It said disillusionment had set in among some exiles and caused them to return to Britain rather than to settle in South Africa.

The newspaper quoted the example of former activist Ms Moira Marks, who returned to Britain and turned her back on the new SA.

"Like a growing number of her compatriots who once opposed apartheid with bombs, bullets, words and finally absence, she is now a permanent exile," the report said.

And Dr Godfrey Malinga, 49, said a recent visit to SA did not tempt him to stay. "The liberation has benefited the wrong people. It has been a huge disappointment to me," he said.
SA's 'moral duty' to migrants

Rehana Rossouw

HYSTERIA whipped up about people pouring across South Africa's borders to steal jobs from legal citizens is based on unreliable information and does not take into account South Africa's moral duty to build a strong regional economy. WM 23-29/6/95

This is the message from a high-level delegation of parliamentarians and representatives of non-governmental organisations who recently completed a 10-day fact-finding tour of Lesotho, Mozambique and Zimbabwe to investigate cross-border migration in southern Africa.

Parliamentarians on the tour were the chairman of the select committee on Foreign Affairs, Dr Rob Davies of the committee on Home Affairs, and Marcel Golding, chairman of the Mineral and Energy Affairs portfolio committee.

Current estimates of illegal immigrants in South Africa vary from two million to eight million, and are extremely unreliable, said Professor Wilmot James, executive of the Institute for Democracy in South Africa (Idasa), which organised the trip.

He said the process of quantifying the scale of immigration is hampered by the fact that neighbouring states do not have the capacity to collect information. What is known is that while the repatriation of Mozambican refugees from other southern African states has proceeded smoothly, in South Africa they are less willing to leave because they have better economic opportunities.

There has also been an increase of contract migrants employed on South African mines and who are less affected by retrenchments. It can, however, be argued that they contribute directly to South Africa's growth and wealth, James said.

South Africa's neighbours are also concerned about the recent 'brain drain' migration to South Africa of their skilled workforce as these talents had been produced and paid for by their countries of origin.

"What became clear on our trip was that our borders are not well patrolled and are extremely porous," said James. "But pouring money into border control is not the answer. We need collaboration on an effective regional policy for border control operation, not to hunt down people as they cross but to develop controls consistent with human rights."

James said South Africa should debate whether foreigners take jobs from South Africans or whether they fill jobs South Africans don't want to perform. He suggests that foreigners, especially from South Africa's neighbouring states, are treated as part of a broader pool of talent and resources for regional economic wealth.

"We don't need influx control. We need to examine our policies of naturalisation and develop a humane approach to illegal immigrants," James said. "During our visit we met the Minister of Finance of Lesotho who made it clear that the economy of his country was dependent on feeding migrant labour to South Africa."

"In Mozambique, the morality of our actions became even more stark. South Africa played an integral part in the war that ravaged Mozambique's economy and its officials clearly believe South Africa has a moral responsibility in promoting development, and unfortunately that means maintaining the migrant labour system.
Supporting aliens cost R1,9bn

PRETORIA — About 22% of SA's population were illegal immigrants who last year cost the taxpayer more than R1,9bn to support, SA Police Service border control and policing co-ordinator Col Brian van Niekerk said yesterday.

He told delegates at a Pretoria University security conference that the growing influx of illegal immigrants was one of SA's biggest problems. Last year SA had an estimated 5-million illegal immigrants, and the figure had grown to 8.8-million — about 22% of the population.

Van Niekerk said only 1.8% of aliens were deported last year.

Statistics showed last year 13,493 aliens had been apprehended for serious crimes, a 41% increase on the previous year. The crimes included rape, murder and theft. "It has been estimated that 14% of general crime involves illegal immigrants. Certainly this should be a red light indicating that drastic steps should be taken."

Last year a centralised unit under border control and policing was established to combat the illegal movement of people and goods. He said a major problem facing the unit was the porous nature of SA's borders. Since 1990, the electrified fences on some borders had been set only on "detect" mode instead of the "deadly" mode previously used.

He believed "employer sanction" should spearhead attempts to control aliens as employment was the main incentive for illegal immigration.

Meanwhile, in talks between Home Affairs director-general Piet Colyn and his Mozambican counterpart, MA Chissano, in Pretoria yesterday, it was stressed that increasing attention would be paid to South Africans employing illegal aliens.
Illegal aliens flock to Cape

Employers deny giving jobs

Staff Reporter

CAPE TOWN is not only playing host to thousands of illegal immigrants from African countries but also to white illegals from Europe and America who, the department of home affairs suspects, are here to look for work.

Although foreign accents at certain Cape Town restaurants are nothing new, employers deny they are giving jobs to illegals.

Others, who admit they employed illegals from Europe and America in the past, now say the situation has become "too dangerous" and they are no longer prepared to risk heavy fines.

Waterfront restaurants like Ferryman's Tavern no longer take on foreign waiters and waitresses without valid work permits "because the situation has changed", says a spokesman for Carlos O'Brien's, which was recently in the news when an illegal who was working there for tips and a meal was assaulted at the club, also no longer employs foreign without work permits

Although statistics are not available, the department of home affairs says it is a fact that illegals from America and Europe are establishing themselves in Cape Town, occupying scarce jobs and accommodation.

Any illegal working without a valid work permit — even for tips or a meal — is breaking the law, the department says.

An employer giving such a person a job — even if that person does not work for a salary — is liable to a fine of R60 000 or two years in prison and repatriation costs.
KOMATIPPOORT: The defence force yesterday called for the 3 000-volt electrical fence along the country's border with Mozambique to be switched on to deter thousands of illegal immigrants.

"We in the military believe if we put the fence on lethal again, it will deter a lot of those people," Lieutenant-Colonel Barry Schoeman, operational head of the army's Group 33 based here said.

The 60km fence stretching from the Kruger National Park to the Swazi border in the south was switched from lethal mode to alarm mode in 1990.

Between 1986 and 1989, at least 94 people were electrocuted on the fence and another on South Africa's border with Zimbabwe.

Col Schoeman said: "We don't want to put it on lethal to kill people. We want to deter people."

At least 500 South African troops are based along the fence to prevent illegals crossing the border, and up to May this year had caught 10 062 Mozambicans jumping the border.

Last year almost 75 000 illegal immigrants were sent back to Mozambique, Col Schoeman said.

Colonel Daan Lotter, Group 33's commanding officer, said the army accepted the decision to turn on the fence could only be taken by the government.

"At this stage it is not a viable proposition for South Africa to put it on lethal — it's not accepted internationally," he said — Reuter
207 illegal immigrants held so far this year by police

Staff Reporter

So far this year 207 illegal immigrants have been arrested by police from the internal tracing unit.

The unit was set up in Cape Town at the beginning of the year to crack down on illegal immigration.

Police spokesman Raymond Dowd said yesterday that the unit had arrested 66 people for aiding illegal immigrants and had cracked three corruption cases.

The unit is based at Cape Town harbour and was set up to track down illegals and to trace people carrying false documents.

It was estimated that there were between 2.5 million and eight million illegals in South Africa, Colonel Dowd said.

"The presence of every illegal immigrant has a detrimental effect on the reconstruction and development programme and deprives South African citizens of their rights to work and to opportunities."

The tracing unit had paid out nearly R10 000 so far in rewards for information on illegal immigrants.

Colonel Dowd said that public assistance was vital in helping police to do their job.

Police had identified nationalities associated with certain crimes. Nigerians were involved in drug smuggling, Zairians with diamond smuggling, Taiwanese and Chinese in pearlmoon and crayfish smuggling, Mozambicans and Angolans in gun-running, and Thai women in prostitution, Colonel Dowd said.
'We just want to deter people'

Turn on killer fence – army

Romatipoort — The South African National Defence Force (SANDF) yesterday called for a 3 000-volt electric fence along the country's border with Mozambique to be switched on to lethal mode to deter thousands of illegal immigrants.

Only the Government can decide whether to turn the fence on to lethal mode again.

"We in the military believe if we put the fence on lethal again, it will deter a lot of those people," said Lieutenant-Colonel Barry Schoeman, operational head of the army's Group 30 based at Komashpoort.

The 29km fence, which stretches from the Kruger National Park to the Swazi border in the south, was switched from lethal to alarm mode in 1996. Between 1990 and 1996, at least 94 people were electrocuted on it. Another person was electrocuted on the fence bordering Zimbabwe.

“We don’t want to put it on lethal to kill people. We want to deter people,” said Schoeman.

The fences were erected mainly to keep anti-apartheid guerrillas from entering South Africa.

The fences were erected mainly to keep anti-apartheid guerrillas from entering South Africa.

At least 500 SANDF troops are based along the fence to prevent illegals crossing the border.

Milk and Honey

Up until May this year, they had caught 10 062 Mozambicans jumping the border, and last year alone, almost 75 000 illegal immigrants were repatriated to Mozambique, said Schoeman.

"They think with the new Government in South Africa, South Africa is the land of milk and honey," he said.

Border-jumpers brave soldiers, motorcycle patrols, coils of razor wire and electronic warning systems.

"Illegal immigration is one of the most critical problems this country will experience in the next couple of years," said SANDF communications officer Colonel Dewald Swart.

Swart claimed one man had tried to cross the border 124 times.

But Mozambicans caught by the South African army say they have no choice but to look for work in South Africa.

“We were looking for jobs and better living conditions," said Antonio (16) from Mozambique's Gaza province.

Antonio said he and two friends spent a day walking to the border.

They were dismayed when they were apprehended just after crossing it.

"They are going to send us back. My father is unemployed and conditions are just getting worse," he said. — Reuter
DEFENCE: Minister Joe Modise has recommended that about R50 million be spent on erecting an electrical fence to beef up protection of a 120km stretch on South Africa's northern border, the SA Army said yesterday.

The communications officer of the Soutpansberg military area, Colonel Mase van Rensburg, told journalists yesterday on a visit to the border that the army was awaiting a final decision from the Government.

Only 137km of the border between South Africa and Zimbabwe is presently protected by a non-lothal electrical fence, which sets off an electronic alarm when somebody touches it.

The remaining 120km — between Mzamba and the Kruger National Park — is easily crossed, Van Rensburg said. Sisal plants put into the ground in the late 1970s, in an attempt to create an impregnable barrier between two wire fences along this stretch, had proved unsuccessful.

"Crossing the border here does not even require imagination. It is merely a question of scaling two fences," Van Rensburg said.

The Soutpansberg military area had proposed to Modise that an electrical fence also be erected between Mzamba and the Kruger National Park.

Van Rensburg said the Minister had recommended that this proposal be implemented. It would cost R450 000 per kilometre at prices quoted in 1990.

This amount would be recovered within three years because running expenses to patrol this part of the border would decrease, he said.

From a media visit on Wednesday to the eastern border between South Africa and Mozambique, it emerged that the Government was already spending millions of rand on trying to stem the flow of illegal immigrants from neighbouring countries.

Maintaining the non-lothal electrical fence along 62km of the border south of the Kruger National Park, costs R300 000 a month — Sapa.
‘Border controls won’t solve migrant problem’

Latest study urges regional approach

DAVID YUTAR
Staff Reporter

REGIONAL economic co-operation and development is the key to South Africa’s migrant labour problem.

This was one of the most important findings of a pioneering 10-day mission to several Southern African countries aimed at studying the problem of cross-border migration in the subcontinent.

Co-ordinated jointly by the Institute for Democracy in South Africa (Idasa) and Queens University in Canada, the mission travelled to Lesotho, Botswana and Mozambique.

The mission, which held extensive interviews with government representatives, members of the aid community and non-governmental organisations, found that existing statistics and research data about the problem of migration were “inaccurate and misleading”, and that there was also a tendency to exaggerate figures.

But most importantly, the mission came to the conclusion that any attempt by South Africa to solve its problem of migrancy and illegal immigration would have to do more than merely tighten border controls.

Although exact figures are not known, it is estimated that there are between two and eight million migrant workers in the country without legal documents.

“The issue of migrant labour has to be viewed in a regional context”, says Idasa director Wilmot James, who was one of the members of the recent mission.

“Any new policies which are developed cannot be divorced from policies which promote regional co-operation and development in the subcontinent.”

Professor James points out countries such as Lesotho and Mozambique are economically highly dependent on South Africa and have a vested interest in allowing their citizens to flock to this country as migrant workers on the mines.

The wages earned by these workers are an important source of revenue for these countries, something their governments would hardly wish to bring to an end.

The Compulsory Deferred Pay system in Mozambique and Lesotho allows the Employment Bureau of Africa (Teba) to take 60 percent of every worker’s wages and pay it to their national governments.

The wages earned are paid directly to the workers’ national banks and they are allowed only a limited number of withdrawals a year.

Last year Teba paid R329 million to the Lesotho government and R190 million to that of Mozambique, making a total of R519 million.

Such deferred payments make up half of the gross national product of Lesotho and close to half of that of Mozambique.

Professor James emphasizes that without such income, the impoverished economies of countries such as these would collapse.

In the case of Mozambique, Professor James says South Africa has a double duty in view of its part in that country’s recent war.

“Any xenophobic response to that country and its peoples would devastate it”

South Africa repatriates about 90,000 illegal migrants a month, most of whom return here because of poor border controls.

Professor James says the numerical profile of foreign miners in the country has changed significantly in the last 30 years.

In the 1970s, 72 percent of miners in South Africa were foreign.

Since then the proportion has steadily declined.

Whereas in the 1980s the proportion of foreign to domestic workers was about 4:6, it is now 1:1.

Professor James warns that although he is “broadly sympathetic to the argument that we should give our own citizens jobs first, any attempt to provide preferential employment opportunities should be examined very carefully”.

Referring to what he calls “the past myth of taking jobs away”, he points out that often foreigners take jobs that locals are not prepared to take and contribute significantly to the wealth of the country.

“A lot of migrants are in the informal sector and contribute to a booming trade.

“Yes, in some cases they are a drain on social services and competitors over access to land, but a large proportion of Mozambique’s workers are working on farms — doing jobs South African workers do not want to do.

“Only in a minority of cases are they taking jobs away.

“Our xenophobia should be tempered by an understanding of the real contribution of foreigners.

“But any attempt to hastily shut down the borders to foreigners will be misconceived and fail.”
Crossing the fence: Desperate bid for a better life in South Africa

HANNES DE WET of Sapa

HOWEVER impregnable the razor wire fence on the border between Mozambique and South Africa might look, it is no obstacle to people driven by hunger.

It takes them not much longer than one minute and 20 seconds to scurry into South Africa under and through this barrier.


Three men prepare to demonstrate how it is being done. While two hide in the bushes, the third swiftly scales the outside fence on the Mozambican side of the border.

Now for the layers of razor wire. The bottom wire is expertly propped up with wooden sticks, creating a tunnel to crawl through. As soon as this has been done, the others follow.

They cross the fence on the South African side and just as easily disappear into the undergrowth.

Some Mozambicans trying to enter South Africa illegally have become familiar faces to the soldiers responsible for protecting this 62km stretch of border south of the Kruger National Park.

"We have one guy who has crossed 124 times. I am starting to think he is just after the free meal he receives from the police before being returned to Mozambique," Captain Chris van Vuuren says.

A group of journalists visiting the border this week at the invitation of the South African Army later had an opportunity to speak to three illegal aliens arrested earlier in the day.

The youngest one, aged 15, said they were from Gaza province. He came to South Africa looking for a job. Desperation drove him. His father was unemployed and the family did not have much to eat.

The other two, both 19 years old, agreed "South Africa means a job and food," they said.

Yes, they would try again to enter after being returned to Mozambique.

Colonel Schoeman said the number caught for illegal crossings in the past five months (10,000) had already surpassed the total (9,000) arrested last year.

Between 60 and 80 percent of those trying to enter are being caught, thanks to the electrical fence on the border. It carries a non-lethal current, alerting monitoring points when the fence is touched.

"By keeping statistics we have identified the points where most crossings occur. Those are the spots where we deploy most of our soldiers," Colonel Schoeman said.

Motor cycle platoons are also being used to speedily reach points indicated by the alarm system.

Colonel Schoeman said illegal aliens succeeding in slipping through the net headed for sugar cane fields close to the border offering ideal hiding places.

"It is impossible to enter those fields. Tracking dogs not specifically trained for the purpose also refuse to go into the dense sugar cane," he said.

Having reached the sugar cane fields, the illegal aliens put a marker, using stones, at the edge of the field. This was the signal for mumbus - taxis operating in the area.

"We have learnt to wait for the taxis and to swoop on them. Scores of aliens have been caught this way," Colonel Schoeman said.

Those managing to escape arrest usually found a job on a farm close to the border. Nearly 90 percent of farmers in the area were Mozambicans.

"We know who those farmers are, but under the new constitution it is difficult to just enter a farm and arrest them," he said.

Farmers could legalise these workers by obtaining six-month permits for them from the Department of Labour. The process took about two months.

"The problem is that these workers usually stay on the farm only until they have enough money to travel to Pretoria and Johannesburg where they disappear," Colonel Schoeman said.

Although on a smaller scale, a similar pattern was found at the next stop on the tour, the northern border between South Africa and Zimbabwe.

About 2,200 illegal immigrants were caught from January to May this year. The total for last year was 6,800.

A minority is arrested for trying to visit Zimbabwe after having lived in South Africa for a number of years.

At a spot, a few kilometres from Beit Bridge near Messina an illegal alien caught a few hours earlier told journalists he was trying to return to Zimbabwe.

The 26-year-old Anthony Ndlovu left Zimbabwe five years ago. He was a gardener in Rand Park north of Johannesburg where he earned R350 a day, working for different people.

"I was just going back to fetch a suitcase of clothes when they caught me," he said.

He would not remain in Zimbabwe after being repatriated. At the earliest possible opportunity he would attempt another illegal crossing, back to South Africa.

He was emphatic about his reasons "I have lost my future in Zimbabwe. There are no jobs. My only future is in South Africa."
Costly fence barely slows Mozambicans

Stephané Bothma

KOMATipoort — SA spends about R48m a year patrolling and maintaining a 65km electrified fence on its Eastern Transvaal border with Mozambique and yet there are about 85-million illegal immigrants in the country — most of them Mozambicans.

Soldiers of Eastern Transvaal Command's Group 33, dedicated to border patrol and apprehending illegal immigrants, claim they have a success rate of up to 80%. Among the people they have arrested are gun runners, cattle rustlers and other criminals.

The Norex fence has been on "detection" mode since 1994, when a political decision was taken to turn it off "lethal" mode.

Although an alarm is triggered when the fence is touched or patrols are dispatched to the area immediately, Group 33 does not believe the fence, in its current mode, acts as a deterrent.

The maintenance contract on the fence held by a civilian company — costs R300 000 a month. The annual budget of Group 33 last year exceeded R34m. Clearing the fence area of weeds costs about R150 000 a year.

Group 33's second-in-command Lt-Col Barry Schoeman says helping Mozambicans cross into SA illegally has become a profession for some "guides", who charge their compatriots between R50 and R1 500 for their services.

"It takes a professional less than 30 seconds to scale the Norex fence. We in the military believe that if the fence was on "lethal" again, it would deter the professional guides and others."

However, a decision to turn the fence on to "lethal" again would have to be a political one.

"We don't want to kill people, we merely want to deter them from getting through the fence," he says.

But only a relatively small number of people scale the fence. The majority of illegal aliens enter with valid permits to visit relatives and friends, or to shop. They make their way to Gauteng and stay there, says Schoeman.

Many foreigners also obtain permits to work on the sugarcane and banana farms in the border area. However, after their first payments, some disappear to the big cities.

Between January and May, Group 33 arrested 8 011 Mozambicans crossing the fence. During the corresponding period last year, 2 963 were arrested.

A total of 76,000 Mozambicans were repatriated last year.

This year's figure is likely to exceed that "by far", says Schoeman.

However, arresting illegal immigrants and sending them home often proves futile.

"The next night we arrest them again trying to cross the fence."

One Mozambican is almost a legend in Komatipoort. He has been arrested 124 times in one year, trying to get to SA.

A soldier said: "We know him by name. It seems that he keeps on choosing the wrong guide to help him through the fence."
Border jumpers a headache for army

BY NORMAN CHANDLER
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

South Africa's battle-tested army is waging a war against a vagrant invasion by foreign nationals crossing into SA from Zimbabwe and Mozambique.

From Portdrief in the west to Bredenfontein on the Swaziland border, men and electronic gadgetry are engaged in a fight to stop illegal immigrants.

The equipment is successfully employed against cattle rustlers, drug and weapons smugglers, and acts as a veterinary protection fence against foot-and-mouth disease in southern Zimbabwe.

Despite measures, "border jumpers" are crossing in ever-increasing numbers. In the first five months of this year, more than 10,000 people crossed the controversial electrified fence along the borders.

**Disillusionment**

This is already more than the 9,669 illegal immigrants recorded in 1994. A total of 9,669 (of whom 1,669 attempted to brave wild animals in the Kruger National Park) have so far passed through the fence between January and May this year, while a further 382 have tried to come in from Swaziland.

Lieutenant-Colonel Barry Schoeman, of the SA Army's Group 33 in Eastern Transvaal, and Lieutenant-Colonel Hein Vink of the South African Military Division, said that among the reasons for illegal immigration were economic disillusionment, poor medical services and a lack of education.

The mecon in all cases is Gauteng, where illegals disappear into informal settlements and take menial jobs.

According to army and police spokesmen, most illegals turn to crime when they are unable to get jobs. Many armed robberies, and car hijackings in Gauteng can be attributed to illegals.

A total of 16 AK-47 assault rifles, 12 pistols, 30 missiles, light machine guns and 1,222 rounds of ammunition have been confiscated from illegals so far this year.

Illegals are getting more brazen by the day in their attempts to reach South Africa.

Previously they crossed only at night, when detection in the thick bush is almost impossible. Now they take their chances in broad daylight, virtually under the noses of ever-vigilant army patrols.

The fence is linked to a network of substations which pick up any tampering of the installation. It is so accurate that breaching of the fence can be pinpointed to within 100m, making immediate action to catch offenders possible.

Military personnel at Lebombo and Beit Bridge border posts say the borders are crossed daily, sometimes by groups of up to 100 people.

While the vast majority are rounded up and repaired, many turn up again night after night.

One man has made it across the Mozambique border 124 times, only to be captured and sent back. He is so well known that he and troops wave to each other as he crosses the fence into the waiting arms of fully-armed soldiers.

Occasionally there is a firefight when determined illegals try to force their way across, but they have found to their cost that the army is too well-prepared.

Several illegals apprehended late last week told The Star they had tried to jump the border on numerous occasions to take up jobs, first as labourers on farms and later in Gauteng. The vast majority are between 15 and 25 years of age.

One man, who wouldn't identify himself because "I intend to try again," said he and two friends had walked for days from Gaza province in northern Mozambique.

Manford Shingange, a 15-year-old from Gwanda, Zimbabwe, huddled against a wall at a military outpost along the Limpopo River. He had been captured trying to return to Zimbabwe after having successfully breached the border six days earlier.

"I decided I wanted to go home. I couldn't get any work and had no food," he said.

All are lucky to be alive because the fence is on non-lethal mode. Many died when it was on lethal mode during the height of the guerrilla war in the 1980s.

Non-lethal mode means that in the eastern sector the fence delivers a sharp shock but will not kill unless the trespasser has a weak heart, while in the northern and western sectors, the voltage merely signals that a border jumper is trying his or her luck.

The fence has been on non-lethal mode for 1,500 volts — for the past five years. When it was first installed, it was placed on lethal mode, which meant 33,000 volts were coursing through it during the height of the border war in the 1980s. This voltage killed any person or animal that tried to cross the fence.

The army now wants the fence to be returned to lethal mode for a period to act more effectively against border jumpers, but this will have to be a political decision.

It also wants the fence to be extended a further 168km at a cost of about R50-million — across the northern border from the Sand River to the Kruger National Park because the old sand hedge placed there in the 1970s is no longer effective.
Angolan refugees to return

BY MICHAEL SPARKS

One month after completing the largest assisted repatriation anywhere in the world, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is setting up structures to launch the next mass move of refugees.

As the repatriation of 1.7-million Mozambican refugees from Zaire and Zambé, as well as 1.5 million from South Africa comes to an end, the Angolan operation swings into action.

The recent signing of an agreement between the Angolan government and the commissioner enabled the agency to start registering and repatriating the 310,000 refugees who fled the 20-year war in Angola, according to spokesman Yusuf Hassan.

There are a number of similarities between the two operations, particularly what could be the biggest stumbling block: the estimated 10-million landmines left by the war — more than the total 9-million population of the oil-rich country.

The landmines are scattered unmarked over the countryside, making it particularly difficult for farmers.

The other important similarity is the need for peace. And with the signing of the Lusaka Accord in November between the MPLA government and the rebel army Unita, many Angolans believe the peace will hold.

This has prompted more than 5 million Angolan refugees to go back home on their own, Hassan said.

The formal repatriation is not due to start before next year, after the rainy season and people have been able to harvest crops in their host country.

Those include 200,000, with 96,000 in Zambia, 12,000 in Congo and 1,000 in Namibia.

There are a further 15,000 scattered across 32 countries.

In order to fund the repatriation efforts, the commissioner launched an international appeal for nearly R160-million necessary for the 30-month project, with most of the money going towards transportation.

In the hope of helping to secure the peace agreement in the hope of encouraging the refugees to return, the international community has begun providing troops and observers.

Nearly 2,000 of the 7,000 blue berets are already there, while almost the full complement of military and police observers are in place in 55 locations, excluding Luanda, around the country.

The troops include Russians, Portuguese, Indians, Romanians and British, with another Indian infantry battalion and a Zimbabwean infantry battalion expected this month.

United Nations secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali will be visiting Angola this week in the hope of securing peace.

He is expected to discuss the possibility of aid for Angola, as well as verifying the real reconstruction needs of the country.
Flow of illegal immigrants likely to continue unabated

Nomavumiso Masebana

The illegal migration of people from neighbouring countries could soon create a crisis for SA because the country's borders were incapable of controlling the flow of people, Idasa director Wilmot James said.

James was speaking after a 10-day mission to Zimbabwe, Lesotho and Mozambique, which was funded by the Canadian International Development Agency and had tried to assess the numbers of migrants to SA.

Included in the party were MPs Raymond Suttner, Desmond Lockey, Rob Davies and Marcel Golding, as well as UCT's Dr Mamphele Ramphele, academics from Lesotho, Malawi and Zimbabwe.

The mission revealed that neither SA nor any of the neighbouring states visited had reliable statistics. The various agencies and government offices dealing with migration produced conflicting figures.

James said 250 000 Mozambicans were alleged to be in SA, but only 40 000 had been repatriated to Mozambique. No one could account for the remainder.

Many people who were repatriated later returned to SA illegally.

James said the undocumented statistics of people inside SA created hysteria, with people thinking they were being swamped by foreigners and that their jobs were on the line.

He said any attempt to develop a new immigration policy would require the cooperation of neighbouring countries, and SA would have to help develop the economies of these countries if it wished to stem the tide of immigrants.
Professionals continue to emigrate

South Africa's brain drain continued in the first quarter of the year with 257 professionals and technicians leaving the country, the Central Statistical Service reported yesterday.

The figure is lower than for the same period last year (356).

The number of immigrants increased by 4.2% in the first quarter and the number of emigrants decreased by 24.4%.

Overall, 2,427 people emigrated in the first quarter of 1995 and there were 1,417 immigrants.

The number of overseas tourists increased by 58.4% between January and March compared to the same period last year.

The number of South Africans who went abroad temporarily in the first quarter increased by 58%. — Sapa.

(231) Sfar 11/7/95
SA's brain drain continued in the first quarter of the year, with 237 professionals and technicians leaving the country, the Central Statistical Service said yesterday. However, the figure was lower than the 256 recorded for the same period a year earlier. The number of immigrants increased 4.2% to 1,437 and the number of emigrants dropped 24.4% to 2,427.
Brain drain slows down

STAFF REPORTER

There has been a sharp decrease in the number of people leaving South Africa for good and an increase in the number of professional and technical people making South Africa their new home.

Figures released by the Central Statistical Service (CSS) yesterday show there was a 24% decrease in the number of South Africans who left in the first three months of this year.

Of those who left less than 20% were from professional, semi-professional, and technical occupations. Of the 1,417 immigrants, 216 were from these occupations.

A CSS spokesman said this meant the net loss of professional and technical people was 237 compared with 356 for the same period last year.

There were 1,010 more immigrants than emigrants in the first quarter of 1995, down from 1,349 for the same quarter last year.

The number of overseas visitors to South Africa increased by 58.4% for the same period.

There was a 38% increase in the number of South Africans travelling overseas in the first quarter of this year compared with the same period last year.