

PUBLIC SECTOR - GOVT. POLICE

1997

JAN. - JULY

Severance packages: Police kitty runs dry

(251) CT 10/11/97

DURBAN. Hundreds of policemen who applied for severance packages have been told there is no money left in the kitty to pay them out this financial year.

This means they will have to stay with the force for at least another four months, and some say they will lose out on new jobs.

So far 1 662 applications for severance packages have been received and 1 291 have been approved, costing well over R4 million.

One Durban policeman said he had applied for the severance package in December after securing a job with an insurance company.

"I was supposed to start on February 1," he said. "But when I telephoned Pretoria to ask what was going on, I was told there was no money left and all applications had been put on hold."

The policeman said he should be paid out R105 000 — about R76 000 from the pension fund and R29 000 for accumulated leave, pro-rata bonus, housing subsidy and severance pay.

He said that if he took an

immediate discharge he would only get his pension money. He could also not take leave — either paid or unpaid — to enable him to start his new job because this was not permitted when a severance package had been applied for.

Another policeman said his package application had been approved, but he would have to wait until April 30 for his payout.

Senior Superintendent Andrew Lesch, communication officer for SAPS support services, confirmed there was little money left.

"We never budgeted for this in the first place, and a decision was taken in December to put pay-outs on hold because otherwise we will run out of money. We will approve applications but with pay-out dates only after April," he said.

Senior Supt Johan Smal of the SAPS human resources department said the severance agreement gave the force 18 months to approve applications and only on approval would a discharge date be set. — Own Correspondent

KWAZULU-NATAL POLICE (251)

FORGING A NEW IMAGE

FM 10/1/97

Integrating the former homeland police into the SA Police Service to forge a new, service-orientated force has been fraught with difficulties. But KwaZulu-Natal adds its own peculiar snags.

After a long process, there is hope that the problems will be resolved at least partly through the adoption of innovative methods of meeting the challenges.

"The reality of any kind of policing in the province is arduous. In addition, the socio-political context, coupled with structural and cultural changes, makes being a police officer difficult. It is clear, however, that political intolerance, political violence and the problematic history of the police make any type of community policing perplexing — but it also emphasises why this style of policing is so critical," argues Natal sociologist Monique Marks in the spring edition of the university's *Indicator* magazine supplement *Crime & Conflict*.

To be effective and play a key role in bringing peace and security to the province, the new police service must first get communities to accept that police are nonpartisan, open to public scrutiny and demonstrate an understanding of local dynamics and problems. That, in turn, means tackling fundamental problems within the service, including

- Allegations that many KwaZulu Police officers are linked to hit squad and third force activities, alleged police involvement in political violence, recent claims of incompetence and lack of intervention in the Shobashobane Christmas Day massacre a year ago, compounded by evidence from recent trials (like that of former Defence Minister Magnus Malan) and the Truth Commission of gross human rights violations by the police and military. These have been exacerbated by the perception that members of the security

services were trained with Inkatha to eliminate opponents of the apartheid State,

- Revelations of police involvement in crime, bribery and corruption — last July, 24 policemen were suspended under corruption charges and, according to police spokesman Bala Naidoo, such cases are common,

- A lack of communication, accompanied by a lack of training and retraining, on the meaning and implementation of community policing. Most officers endorse the concept but often have no idea of what it means in practice, and

- The lack of political direction, which should include monitoring and evaluating police performance, as a result of strained relations between premier Frank Mdlalose, who is also MEC for safety and security, and national Safety & Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi. There is also ANC mistrust of provincial police commissioner Chris Serfontein.

Marks stresses these difficulties do not suggest the service is on the verge of collapse or that nothing is being done to resolve the problems. Organisations such as Business Against Crime have taken the lead in bringing innovative ideas to crime-fighting.

"There is a realisation within the force that issues such as community policing

must be acted on if the work of individual policemen is to be recognised (improving promotion prospects) and community forums must be established. In terms of corruption, the police and public are being shown that the police service is taking to task and disciplining officers where offences are identified."

Politically, there is an easing of tensions between central government and the province. But problems remain and, though there has been talk of Mdlalose

reassigning the police portfolio, the difficulty is finding a competent individual acceptable to Inkatha and the ANC.

Inkatha's Philip Powell has been suggested but he is unlikely to be acceptable to the ANC and possibly even his own party in view of recent racial tensions. Another possibility is provincial portfolio committee chairman Bheki Cele (ANC), who would be unacceptable to Inkatha.

Among various initiatives, Marks points to the fostering of a partnership involving the regional safety and security office, the police service, nongovernmental organisations, the provincial Peace Committee and Natal academics.

Last April, they held a conference which, for the first time, brought antagonistic groups together with a common goal of establishing community policing. This group has subsequently consolidated and meets regularly as the KwaZulu-Natal Policing task team, which has become an advisory body to the provincial ministry in terms of developing and implementing policy.

A process is also under way to establish a civilian secretariat for civilian supervision of the police, designing safety and security policy guidelines, developing and maintaining research programmes, and monitoring police in terms of adherence to national standards. The province is also ahead of others in establishing community policing task teams.

The message seems to be that, though there is still a long way to go, the police service in KwaZulu-Natal is making headway in becoming a new, acceptable force. One sign of success could be the reduction of political violence in the province. ■



Frank Mdlalose

Buchner linked to Inkatha gun-running

Evidence about the former KwaZulu police chief's role is before the truth commission, reports **Eddie Koch**

GENERAL Jac Buchner, former police commissioner in the old KwaZulu homeland, has been implicated in running large supplies of war matériel to Inkatha paramilitaries in the early 1990s by former members of the police special forces unit that operated out of the Vlakplaas base near Pretoria.

The evidence has been presented by former Vlakplaas agents to the truth commission. It indicates that Buchner was involved in supplying truckloads of weapons — assault rifles, rocket launchers, landmines, rockets and ammunition — to members of the Inkatha Freedom Party when he was the commissioner of police for the KwaZulu homeland.

The information is also in the possession of the Transvaal attorney general and is being investigated by his officials. This is the first time Buchner has been linked to the gun-running operation and it is likely he will feature, either as an accused or as a witness, in a huge trial that is expected to come before the courts early this year.

Former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock first exposed the clandestine gun-running operation during his murder trial when he named IFP senator Philip Powell, former homeland minister CJ Mtetwa and Transvaal Inkatha leaders Themba Koza and Humphrey Ndlovu

as key middlemen in the weapons programme.

De Kock also claimed at least four other police generals at the time — including Basie Smit, Krappies Engelbrecht, Nick van Rensburg and a General Steyn — were aware of the fact that Vlakplaas was ordered to supply a batch of home-made shotguns to Inkatha's paramilitary units.

But the Vlakplaas commander never mentioned the name of the former KwaZulu police commissioner in his court testimony, probably because De Kock is known to have been fiercely loyal to Buchner since he fought with him during the Rhodesian bush war in the 1960s. De Kock was introduced to his wife in Rhodesia at the time by Buchner, and the two men have remained loyal friends.

It is also known that Buchner was a member of the Badger Unit, an association of police and military covert operatives set up by De Kock and his colleagues in the early 1990s. The Badger Unit has been implicated in various gun-running operations, including the project to supply Inkatha militias with weaponry.

Now other Vlakplaas officers — including De Kock's one-time confidant, Chappie Kloppers — have not only confirmed their commander's account of how Vlakplaas ferried weapons to Inkatha, but have also



Jac Buchner: Highly decorated

PHOTO COURTESY THE STAR

added the former homeland police commissioner's name to the list.

Buchner was highly decorated during the Rhodesian bush war when he fought with South African police forces there. He then acquired a reputation in the security police during the 1970s — when he was in charge of "debriefing" captured guerrillas — for his uncanny ability to use a combination of torture and psychological pressure to turn captured African National Congress cadres into police agents, or askaris. He was the mastermind of the police's askari units that worked with Vlakplaas to infiltrate and assassinate ANC-aligned activists in the 1980s.

It was suspected Buchner used his office after he became police commissioner for KwaZulu to provide clandestine state support for the Zulu nationalist movement, but this is the first time strong evidence has emerged to show this.

Efforts to contact Buchner for comment were not successful at the time of going to press.

Spooks need a plumber to plug leaks

INKOJISI MEXASHE
STAFF REPORTER

Persistent leaks of sensitive and classified information are creating serious security and image problems for the top brass of the intelligence and security community.

The concern has been aggravated by the apparent rush by the media to publish stories based on these leaks without checking their authenticity, according to Linda Mti, head of the National Intelligence Coordinating Committee.

Mr Mti, who co-ordinates the work and reports of two civilian intelligence services and military intelligence, was commenting on media reports claiming that a special police team, assisted by members of national intelligence, had uncovered secret training camps for hit squads employed in taxi wars countrywide.

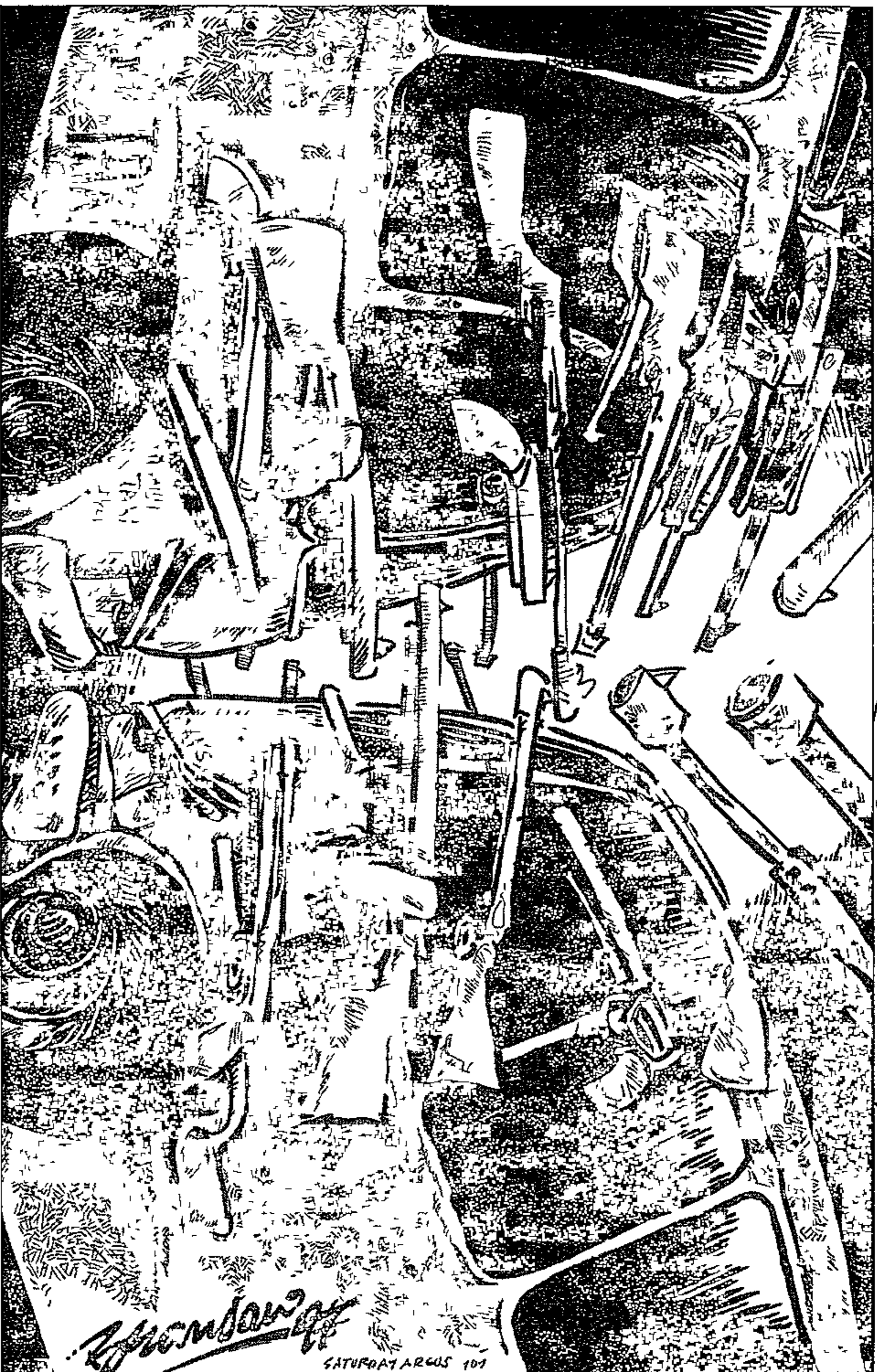
The report, carried by a Johannesburg newspaper last weekend, claimed this information was contained in confidential documents in its possession.

According to the report, police were expected to pounce on the alleged secret camps, with several arrests expected soon, including taxi industry leaders.

One of the suspects in the taxi business, the report added, was discovered by the police to have had about R3,4-million in his bank account. Seven members of the Lehlabile Taxi Organisation in Gauteng and the Southern African Long Distance Taxi Association were alleged to be the masterminds behind the training and deploying of hitmen, allegedly recruited from Zimbabwe and Mozambique.

LTO and Saldia were alleged to have been implicated in the bloody taxi violence in Gauteng, Northern Province and the North West in which 200 drivers and passengers were shot dead last year alone.

The Johannesburg paper also claimed that a spokesman for the South African Police Service serious violent crime unit



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had verified most of the facts contained in the secret documents.

Former members of the Azanian People's Liberation Army, Umkhonto we Sizwe, the Ciskei security forces and Askaris were alleged to have been employed as hitmen, and two ex-Apla members and several Frelimo soldiers were said to be acting as bodyguards and hitmen for an Eastern Cape taxi group. Even though the report did not mention

the existence of such training camps in the Western Cape, an expert on taxi violence in the region said he would be surprised if such camps did not exist here too.

But a spokesman in the office of provincial Police Minister Gerald Morkel said the ministry knew nothing of the existence of secret training camps for taxi warlords in the Western Cape.

Mr Mti also denied any knowledge of the secret camps, but admitted hit squads

did exist in the taxi industry.

He said leaks of confidential documents, which had become common in the intelligence community and other government departments, were becoming a problem.

But he could not say whether the documents quoted in the Johannesburg newspaper were authentic, because he had not seen them.

Both the government and the intelligence community were embarrassed

recently when a classified document allegedly prepared for Cabinet, on perceptions of security threats by militant Muslim groups, was leaked to Qibla and the anti-drug and gang organisation, Pagad.

"Intelligence work is by its very nature a secret business. A great deal of our information comes from people, and some of them may be among the alleged taxi squads or the rightwing groups or any group that we think, on the basis of our researched analysis, needs to be monitored."

"By providing this information these people risk their lives. Naturally if such classified information leaks our informants get exposed, and we have to be managing all these damages and we expect the media to become sensitive to these issues. Their sense of patriotism should become more important than the zeal to scoop others," Mr Mti said.

He said the leaks would be investigated and appropriate action taken against those responsible.

Mr Mti said leaks eroded public confidence in the intelligence community, and other government departments.

He said the motive for the leaks could either be sheer carelessness, a lack of patriotism or sheer mischief aimed at embarrassing the government.

The problem of leaks of secret documents was one of the problems deputy Minister of Intelligence Joe Nhlamhla mentioned in his end-of-year message. He attributed the problem partly to the growth of private intelligence and security organisations with the capacity to acquire information and intrude into the privacy of citizens.

"These concerns, linked to the increasing leaks of state secrets, will be a priority for intelligence. Intelligence will, therefore, have to focus on the protection of its integrity, and that of the state, including government and the country," Mr Nhlamhla said.

A year of working dangerously SA rated worst in world for murder of police

MANFRETTE LE ROUX

Pretoria - More police per capita are murdered in South Africa every year than in any other country not engaged in war, experts have revealed.

Police human resource management spokesman Senior Superintendent Johan Smal said that about 190 were murdered last year compared to 237 in 1995.

Commenting on the latest statistics, University of SA police studies expert Professor Ben Smit said the murder rate was still abnormally high, despite the decrease from the previous year.

In New York City, which - like South Africa - had about one police officer to 300 people only about four officers were murdered every year, Professor Smit emphasised.

He said the high incidence of murder of police officers (169 per 100 000 in 1996) also topped South Africa's general murder rate, which was about 70 per 100 000 last year.

Overall, the statistics have remained high for the past few years. In 1994, 255 police members were murdered, 280 were slain in 1993, 253 in 1992, and 164 in 1991. This, Professor Smit argues, could partly be attributed to a change in the SAPS' approach from a police force to a police service, including the introduction of community policing forums.

'A disturbing feature was the cold-blooded way in which officers were murdered'

"This might create a perception that the police has grown softer in its stance and that police members are easier targets"

Professor Smit said the "struggle mentality" still continued, but that the battle was now one against crime.

This was illustrated by the fact that in many cases murders on police members were committed by crime syndicates.

"It does not often happen that an individual attacks a police officer," he said.

"Many groups involved in the 'struggle' have joined crime syndicates. They are fearless, because they are protected by their syndicates."

A disturbing feature was the cold blooded way in which officers were murdered were being committed, said Professor Smit.

Here he cited the recent murder of Constable Gerhard Fivaz and Sergeant André van Nieuwenhuizen on the East Rand.

In "near execution" the two had been shot and their weapons stolen. The charred wreck of their police vehicle was found in Kaitshong. Another characteristic was the fact that

most police murders were committed while the officers were off duty.

Superintendent Smal said of the 197 members murdered last year, 190 had been off duty, as were 154 of the 237 killed in 1995 and 176 of the 255 targeted in 1994.

Professor Smit said this was because police were well known in their communities and that attackers were aware that police often carried their service weapons, even while not in uniform.

Confirming this, the director and head of the police psychological services, Johan Pieterse, said many murders of police were committed solely for the purpose of stealing the firearm.

Assessing the impact of the murders on police officers, Professor Smit said the murders were reflected in the suicide rate among police members.

"International studies have shown that the violent death of a police colleague reduces morale and motivation while causing uncertainty and creating a feeling of 'it

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is us against them'."

Last year 137 police members had committed suicide compared to 171 in 1995.

This figure was unacceptably high if compared to other countries, Director Pieterse argued. "Even one suicide is one

'The violent death of a police colleague reduces morale and motivation'

too many"

He emphasised that the slaying of a colleague was very traumatic for any police officer.

"They are members of a sub culture where strong friendship bonds exist."

The trauma was worse for young officers, said police chaplain Paul van den Berg.

"Young people don't immediately realise the impact of what they have gone through. They think it is expected of them to handle the situation without showing emotion."

Director Pieterse said police members who had lost a colleague through violence should make use of the police's counselling services.

"They should not be afraid of being labelled. The services are there, but we cannot compel anyone to make use of them."

Services offered by the police included a toll-free crisis line (0800101231) which members could call anonymously, while counsellors were available 24 hours a day.

Social worker Selma Durrsema said police should attend courses, which would equip them to handle traumatic experiences - Sapa

More police officers murdered in SA than in any other country not at war

By MARIETTE LE ROUX

More police per capita were murdered every year in South Africa than in any other country not involved in war, experts said this week.

Police human resource management spokesman Senior Superintendent Johan Smal said about 190 members of the police force were murdered last year and 237 in 1995.

Although the decrease should be welcomed, the incidence of murder was still abnormally high, University of South Africa police studies expert Professor Ben Smit said.

Citing recent US Federal Bureau

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of Investigation reports, he said about four police officers were murdered annually in New York City, which, like South Africa, had about one police officer per 300 people.

Smit also compared the high incidence of murder of police officers (169 per 100 000 in 1996) to the country's general murder rate of about 70 per 100 000.

In 1994, 255 police members were murdered, 280 were slain in 1993, 253 in 1992 and 164 in 1991.

Smit partly attributed the high figures to a change in the SAPS's ideology from a police force to a police service and the introduction of community policing forums.

"This might create a perception that the police force has grown softer in its stance and that police members are easier targets," he said.

Murders of police members were, in many cases, committed by crime syndicate members. What Smit described as the "struggle mentality" still existed, no longer on political level but on a crime level.

"It does not often happen that an individual attacks a police officer," he said. "Many groups involved in the 'struggle' have joined crime syndicates. They are fearless because they are protected by syndicates."

PHOTO PAGE 2

◆ Police murders

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A disturbing feature of police murders was the cold-bloodedness with which these acts were often committed, Smit said. He cited the recent murder of Constable Gerhard Fivaz and Sergeant Andre van Nieuwenhuizen on the East Rand, which he described as "near execution". The two had been shot and their weapons stolen. The charred wreck of their police vehicle was found in Katlehong.

Most murders of police were committed while the members were off duty.

Smal said that of the 197 members murdered last year, 130 had been off duty, as were 154 of the 237 killed in 1995 and 176 of the 255 targeted in 1994.

Smit said this was because police members were well known in their communities and attackers were aware that police often carried their service weapons even while not in uniform.

Johan Pieterse, director of the SAPS's psychological services, said many officers were murdered for their firearms.

Smit said the high murder rate affected the suicide rate among police.

"International studies have shown that the violent death of a colleague reduces morale and motivation, while causing uncertainty and creating a feeling of 'it is us against them'."

Suicide

Smal said 137 police members had committed suicide last year compared with 171 in 1995.

This figure was unacceptably high if compared with those of other countries, Pieterse said. "Even one suicide is one too many."

The slaying of a colleague was very traumatic for any police officer. "They are members of a subculture where strong friendship bonds exist."

The trauma was worse for young officers, said police chaplain Paul van den Berg. "Young people don't immediately realise the impact of what they have gone through. They think it is expected of them to handle the situation without showing emotion."

Pieterse said police members who had lost colleagues through violence should make use of the SAPS's counselling services. "They should not be afraid of being labelled. The services are there, but we cannot compel anyone to make use of them."

Services offered by police included a toll-free crisis line (0800-101231) members could call anonymously, while counsellors were available 24 hours a day.

SAPS social worker Selma Duursema said police should be encouraged to attend courses which would equip them with life skills to handle traumatic experiences - Sapa

Negative image stresses officers

(25) CT 13/1/97

JOHANNESBURG. Results of a study released by the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) yesterday showed that policemen and emergency service members suffer stress because of their negative public image

Despite this, however, the study revealed a high level of dedication and enjoyment of their work by those in the services.

Focusing on the extent to which policemen, as well as those in the fire, ambulance and traffic services, are exposed to stress, the study by the HSRC's traffic research unit also examined the support they received and the extent of inter-service co-operation

About a quarter of policemen interviewed said they had been debriefed after facing traumatic incidents, and members of the other services said they received no debriefing at all

Almost half the traffic officers interviewed were uncertain of their public image. Thirty percent said they experienced positive feedback from the public, and an equal number encountered negative attitudes — Sapa

Cops suffer from high stress levels

A RECENT study by the Human Sciences Research Council revealed that members of the police and traffic services experience stress because of their negative public image

The study, however, revealed a high level of dedication and enjoyment of their work, despite the high levels of stress and trauma they might experience

HSRC said the traffic research unit focused on the stress that members of the South African Police Services, as well as the fire, ambulance and traffic services, are exposed to, the support they receive in dealing with the stress, and the extent to which these services cooperate

"Although members of different emergency services experience dif-

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Despite the trauma, members of emergency services show dedication

ferent types of stress, there seemed to be a general need for better salaries, increased manpower, better and more equipment, better communication and more consultative management," said Rennee du Toit, senior researcher at the HSRC's traffic research unit

Only about 26 members of the SAPS, and no members of the fire, ambulance or traffic services, indicated that they received debriefing after being exposed to traumatic incidents

Almost half of the members of the

traffic services were unsure about their public image

Thirty percent said they experienced positive feedback from the public, while an equal number experienced a negative attitude

More than half of the fire and ambulance service members stated that their response times were usually very slow as a result of lack of manpower

Problems were also experienced because of poor communication

Poor coordination at accident scenes was reported - Sapa

Community police forums the way to go

(25) Sowetan 4/11/97

By Themba Sepotokelo

Crimes are most often triggered by problems that can only be identified by people with knowledge of, and experience of local communities

THE POLICE COMMISSIONER has said that the most effective way to reduce crime is through community police forums.

Commissioner George Fiyaz said that the police are often triggered by problems that can only be identified by people with knowledge of, and experience of local communities.

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Police Commissioner George Fiyaz has outlined the priorities and objectives of the SAPS for the forthcoming year.

The priorities are to raise the level of safety and security through community police forums coupled with the implementation of a range of initiatives.

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Taxi violence

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Stamping out hijacking

Stamping out – or at least reducing – hijacking and other vehicle-related crimes is high on the agenda, and will include police involvement in the development and promotion of public safety schemes such as anti car-jacking.

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Q Beware siren calls to get rich quick

Bernie Fa

Bernie Fa spending lately on budget projects - but if he's midnight oil, he to himself

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Old colleague quiet workaholic sor-like demeanor the few white w stayed on course of South Africa's ments in the ea 1993, when Cosat two million mem

Today he's cc Government's mc ject - the R1,2-t Crime Prevent (NCPS) - after ha Reconstruction ar management tea until its demise la

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That gave rise and developme adopted by the tr of Cosatu, ANC 1994 election man

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Senior citizens are frequently targeted for a range of investment possibilities involving retirement income. Do not be misled by salesmen who promise you will enter any investment programme only after checking all relevant factors carefully. Do not act impulsively or under pressure from silver-tongued salesmen who promise incredibly good returns if you give them your money. You will get in a once-in-a-lifetime offer. The chances are high you will be swindled.

DON'T

MISS ...

Tomorrow in TRENDS

Not plane sailing

Fasten your safety belts. Last year saw a big rise in the number of jet-airliner crashes. Worse lies ahead.

Coming up in TRENDS

Watch your tongue

A new approach in language learning is improving communication between the

between the

Fake document scams on increase in Gauten

The crime of consumer identity theft and forgery is on the rise in SA with swindlers using various methods to duplicate or steal key pieces of ID data. June Bearzi reports

People involved in identity document theft and forgery are reeling in the cash in Gauteng these days and used the Christmas season to intensify their efforts to rob people of their hard-earned bonuses

Some of these fraudsters who deal in the sale of forged documents set themselves up in boiler-room-type operations in Hillbrow's teeming flatland area, and turn their kitchens and bathrooms into factories for churning out fake documents

Anyone can be a victim. You go to the bank and discover your account has been cleaned out or the phone rings and a collection agency demands that you pay accounts immediately for goods you never bought. The store refuses to accept your cheques because you have a history of bouncing them. But you know you have a perfect credit record and always pay bills on time. What has happened?

Criminals either buy or steal credit card numbers, drivers' licence numbers, ATM cards, and other key pieces of individuals' identities

Forged SA IDs sell at R2 000 and, depending on the circumstances, customers could pay anything from R180 to R250 or more for South Africans' passports

They use these documents and any other information to impersonate their victims, spending as much of their money or drawing it from victims' bank accounts

This is done in as short a time as possible before the criminals move on to someone else's name and account information

Derick Mbanjwa of Johannesburg discovered this recently after R1 000 was withdrawn without his knowledge from his Bank of Lisbon account using a forged copy of his identity document

"A person posing under my

You go to a bank and find your account cleaned out

name presented a copy of my identity card and withdrew R1 000. I discovered this only when I went to my bank with my ID document and savings book, and noticed the money had been removed

"After pointing out to the bank that someone had withdrawn my money I was unhappy with the response and closed my bank account with the Bank of Lisbon

"I want a refund of my money because the teller failed to compare the signature of the fraudster with mine"

The chief internal auditor from the Bank of Lisbon undertook to investigate Mbanjwa's complaint and latter replied "The matter has

been reported to the police. We believe an arrest is imminent so we cannot give further details. However, after studying the circumstances we have decided to refund the client his R1 000 interest."

A recent raid by the police illustrates the scale of these types of scams. During the raid the police seized 120 false ID documents from a Hillbrow flat

An illegal alien was rumoured to be running a fake document processing operation from his kitchen. The police found false documents hidden behind the furniture and behind panels on the wall and a gas stove removed

The raid on the flat in Hillbrow Street netted 43 SA passports, 36 foreign passports, nine temporary residence permits, Books with the names and telephone numbers of the clients along with false stationery. Various countries were represented

This discovery brought the attention of the police to the problem. Three months to 235 The immigrants were mostly Asians

Most of these documents were stolen and the descriptions of the clients matched the client with the photographs were replaced

A police spokesman said "Only someone with a trained eye will be able to recognise the falsifications"

It was pointed out that

Police 'carrying out all duties'

Maxwell Mulaudzi

(251)

SAFETY and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi yesterday denied reports that SA Police Services (SAPS) operations or essential services were suspended due to a shortage of funds.

Mufamadi said: "Any suggestions that a budgetary shortfall is currently affecting the SAPS budget to the detriment of operational services must be categorically denied." He had been assured that not a single SAPS operation or essential service had been suspended due to shortage of funds.

He rejected suggestions that SAPS could not pay bills for operational costs and salaries of its members.

He had been told that the circulation of a false SAPS document, possibly by a junior SAPS member at head office, led to false media reports.

The strictest possible disciplinary steps would be taken against any person responsible.

Safety and security minister spokesman Maxwell Mulaudzi said the moratorium on recruitment of new police would be reconsidered only after a human resource plan submitted to the ministry by the national police commissioner had been studied. A decision would be taken only after discussions with the finance minister.

Meanwhile, Gauteng safety and security MEC Jessie Duarte condemned attacks on policemen after shootings on the East Rand which left two officers dead and two injured.

Her statement follows Commissioner George Fivaz's suggestion that the law should be amended to allow police officers to take proactive steps in life-threatening situations.

Fivaz said it was possible that hitmen were being employed to eliminate successful police officers, as had been done in other parts of the world including Colombia, Italy and certain American states.

BD 14/1/97

SA ruffles feathers

WASHINGTON — THE UNITED STATES government said on Monday it was concerned about South Africa's conditional agreement to sell arms to Syria, adding that the consequences would be severe if such a deal went through.

"We are deeply concerned about these reports. It would be extremely serious if these sales actually occurred," said Nicholas Burns, spokesman for outgoing US secretary of state Warren Christopher.

President Bill Clinton's Press secretary, Michael McCurry, also urged Pretoria to reconsider any decision to sell tank-firing control systems worth about R2 500 million to the Damascus government.

"We think it is a very bad idea. We urge the government of South Africa not to go through with the sale. We have confidence the government of South Africa understands the seriousness of the issue," McCurry said.

Burns, who is also spokesman for the state department (foreign ministry) told a Press briefing "The US hopes that the South African government will not sell arms to a country that supports terrorism."

"If, in fact, the sales go through, that would be a very serious matter indeed. We will then have to reflect upon our association and the relevance to our own laws."

Sponsors of terrorism

The US has a Counter-Terrorism Act, which among other things requires it to act, at times through sanctions, against countries providing lethal military equipment to "state sponsors of terrorism."

Syria, Libya and Iran are listed by the US state department as sponsors of international terrorism.

"The US prohibits certain forms of US assistance to governments that supply lethal equipment to Syria or to any of the other countries listed by the US as sponsors of terrorism," Burns said.

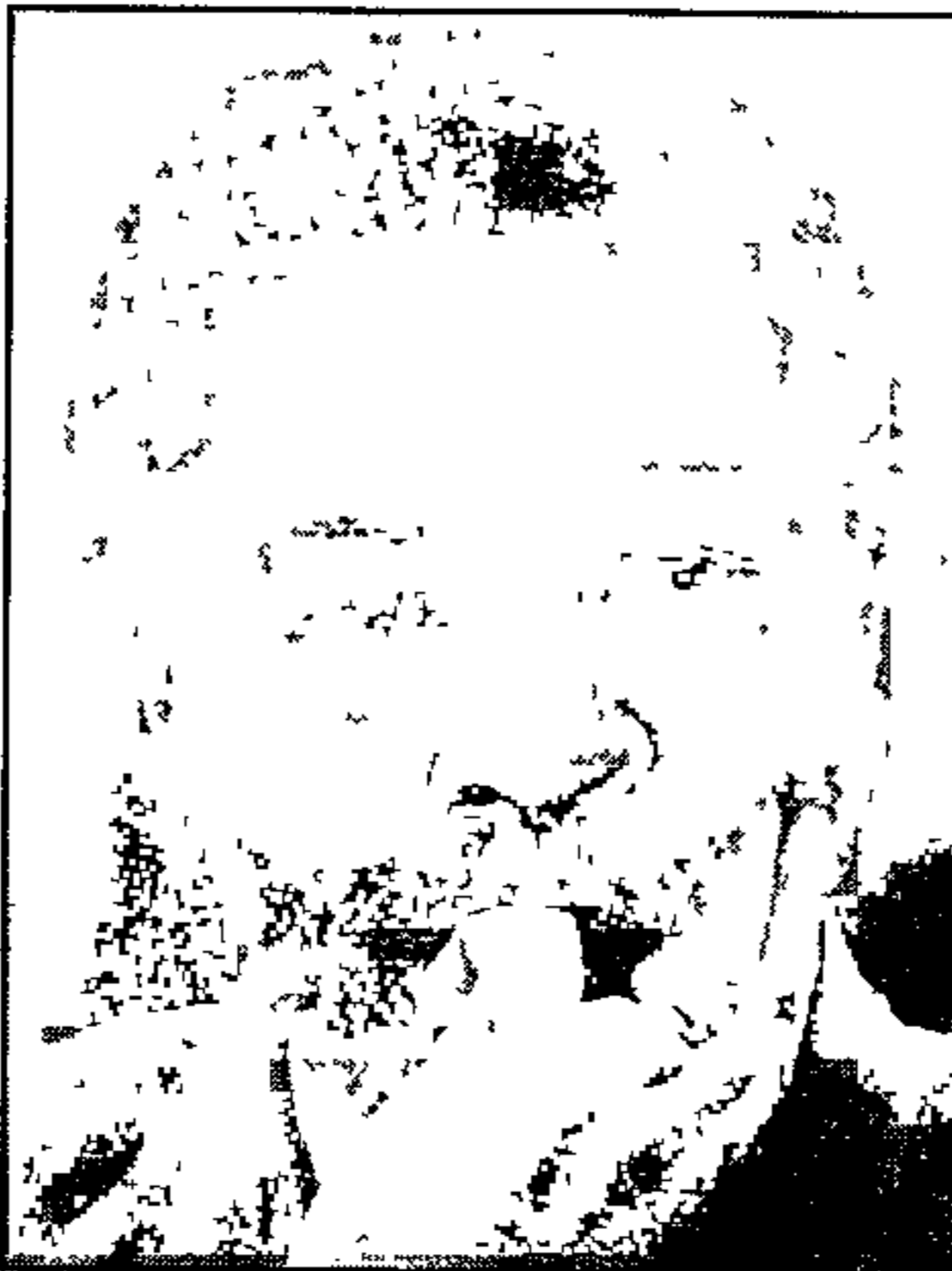
"So we would certainly analyse any potential sales in the context of our own laws. It is a matter of very serious concern. We are now in touch with the South African government to ascertain if, in fact, these sales will go forward in Syria."

Asked how the sale could affect aid to South Africa, Burns said "Both the Foreign Operations and Foreign Assistance Acts prohibit certain forms of US assistance to governments which supply lethal equipment to Syria."

"South Africa is one of our largest aid recipients. Any country that does sell arms to state sponsors of terrorism exposes itself to US law."

Washington's development aid to South African non-governmental organisations and other groups stood at R500 million last year.

The United States has expressed concern over reports that conditional Cabinet approval has been given for South African arms sales to Syria. At stake are billions of rands in US assistance. **Rich Mkhondo** explains...



Deputy President Thabo Mbeki is to make a final decision on whether South Africa will go ahead with the proposed arms sale to Syria.

About R400 million has been earmarked for 1997.

In addition there is government-to-government aid. In 1994, Clinton promised President Nelson Mandela about R2 500 million for help in the development of housing and other social needs.

South Africa is also the US's biggest trade partner in sub-Saharan Africa. Exports and imports between the countries have been increasing each year since the dawn of democracy in South Africa in 1994.

The US department of commerce said exports to South Africa currently stood at R10 billion, a 26,6 percent increase on last year. US imports were worth R8 billion by the end of 1995.

South Africa's purchase of nearly R10 billion of US exports was more than half the total US sales to sub-Saharan Africa. Sales of aircraft parts, computers, construction machinery, wheat and maize registered particularly strong gains.

President Mandela has often defended his country's non-aligned foreign policy by saying "America's enemies are not South Africa's

(251) *Journalist*
enemies" *15/1/97*
Asked if US vice president Al Gore would raise the South Africa-Syria's arms deal with Mbeki when they next meet, Burns said "I do not want to commit the vice president to raising any specific issue."

"Suffice to say, this is on the top of our agenda with South Africa now. Terrorism is a global battle. All countries are victims of terrorism. All of us have to bind together and act together to prevent terrorism."

"And we certainly ought not to put into the hands of state sponsors of terrorism — in this case the Syrian government — lethal weaponry. And that is the core of the American concern as we look at this question" — *Independent Foreign Service*.

● The acting Israeli ambassador in South Africa, Victor Hartel, warned on Monday that the proposed R3 billion arms deal between South Africa and Syria could have an influence on the Middle East peace process.

He said "It could be detrimental to the peace process and to the best interests of the region."

He added that the proposed arms sale came as Israel and the Palestinians were close to signing a peace agreement. And he warned it could upset the balance of power in the troubled Middle East.

"It's not the right time to have a very sophisticated arms sale to a country that is opposed to the peace process like Syria is," Hartel said.

Final decision

The ambassador's comments added fuel to the controversy that has raged since it was disclosed that conditional Cabinet approval had been given for the arms sale.

The National Party has voiced its strong disapproval over the possible sale of weapons systems to Syria.

NP defence spokesman Dr Gerhard Koornhof said the manner in which the African National Congress was handling the proposed arms sale was disturbing and unacceptable.

A final decision on whether South Africa will go ahead with the proposed sale of the weapons systems to Syria will be made towards the end of this month, Mbeki's spokesman, Ricky Naidoo, said on Monday — *Sapa*.



Flashback ... Soweto-based Constable Neels Goosen and his father, Colonel Gert Goosen, after he was injured in an attack on the police.

SA has highest ⁽²⁵⁾ police murder rate in the world

Sowetan 16/1/97

By Mariette le Roux

MORE police per capita are murdered annually in South Africa than in any other country not involved in war, experts said this week.

Police human resource management spokesman Senior Superintendent Johan Smal said about 190 police were murdered last year and 237 in 1995.

Although the decrease should be welcomed, the incidence of murder was still abnormally high, University of South Africa police studies expert Prof Ben Smit said.

Citing recent Federal Bureau of Investigation reports from the United States, he said about four police officers were murdered annually in New York city which, like South Africa, had about one police officer per 300 people.

High incidence

Smit also compared the high incidence of the murder of police officers (169 per 100 000 in 1996) to the country's general murder rate which was about 70 out of 100 000 people.

In 1994, 255 police members were murdered, 280 in 1993, 253 in 1992 and 164 in 1991.

Smit partly attributed the high figures to a change in the South African Police Services' ideology from a police force to a police service, and the introduction of community policing forums.

"This might create a perception that the police have grown softer in their stance and that police members are easier targets," he said.

He added that murders of police members were in many cases committed by crime syndicates. What Smit described as the "struggle mentality" still existed, no longer on a political level but on a crime level.

"It does not often happen that an individual attacks a police officer," he said. "Many groups involved in the 'struggle' have joined crime syndicates. They are fearless, because they are protected by their syndicates."

A disturbing feature of police murders was the cold-bloodedness in which these acts were often committed, Smit said. He cited the recent murder of Constable Gerhard Fivaz and Sergeant André van

Niewenhuizen on the East Rand, which he described as "near execution".

Most murders of police were committed while the members were off-duty.

Smit said of the 197 members murdered last year, 130 had been off-duty, as were 154 of the 237 killed in 1995 and 176 of the 255 targeted in 1994.

Smit said this was because police members were well-known in their communities and attackers were aware that police often carried their service weapons even while not in uniform.

Director and head of the police's psychological services, Johan Pieterse, said many murders of police were committed solely for the purpose of stealing the victim's firearm.

Smit said the high murder rate impacted on the suicide rate among police members.

"International studies have shown that the violent death of a colleague reduces morale and motivation while causing uncertainty and creating a feeling of 'it is us against them'."

Committed suicide

Smit said 137 police members had committed suicide last year compared with 171 in 1995. This figure was unacceptably high if compared with other countries, Pieterse said. "Even one suicide is one too many."

He added that the slaying of a colleague was very traumatic for any police officer.

The trauma was worse for young officers, said police chaplain Paul van den Berg. "Young people don't immediately realise the impact of what they have gone through. They think it is expected of them to handle the situation without showing emotion."

Pieterse said police members who had lost a colleague through violence should make use of the police's counselling services.

Services offered by the police included a toll-free crisis line (0800101231) which members could call anonymously, while counsellors were available 24 hours every day.

Police social worker Selma Duursema said police should be encouraged to attend prevention courses which would equip them with life skills to handle traumatic experiences. — Sapa

Local police improve their public image

Forums restructured

18/1/97

PAUL OLIVER
STAFF REPORTER

Community police forums in the Western Cape are changing rapidly as part of the Government's drive to convert the South African Police Services from a military-style police force to one which services the needs of the community.

"The new structure is a framework for the police to interact with the public and the intention is that the forum should be a representative body for its community," said Peter Stevens, adviser to the Western Cape provincial Police Minister Gerald Morkel.

Mr Stevens is a former head of the Department of Community Relations and Crime Prevention at Scotland Yard and part of the British and programme to South Africa.

The Police Act of October 1995 provides every police station with the opportunity to find a method to meet community needs. The new structure provides guidelines on how the police can interact with the community they serve and includes taxi associations, church groups, young people, schools and neighbourhood watches.

"The new structure gives communities the opportunity to meet the police and build partnerships to address issues of concern," Mr Stevens said.

"Most of these issues will be local and for this reason the province has been divided in four regions."

The regions are Boland, Eastern Metrople, Western Metrople and South Cape. Each forum is chaired by a person who is not a police officer and will receive R3 000 a year from the Government on registration.

"The forum must be fully representative of the local community and no individual or group may be excluded for religious,

cultural, ethnic or political reasons. The station commissioner and community relations officer must be members, as well as the senior reserve police officer," said Mr Stevens.

"The forum must be open and accessible to all members of the community and members of the public should be offered the opportunity to raise matters at forum meetings at the discretion of the chair. The press should normally be invited to attend."

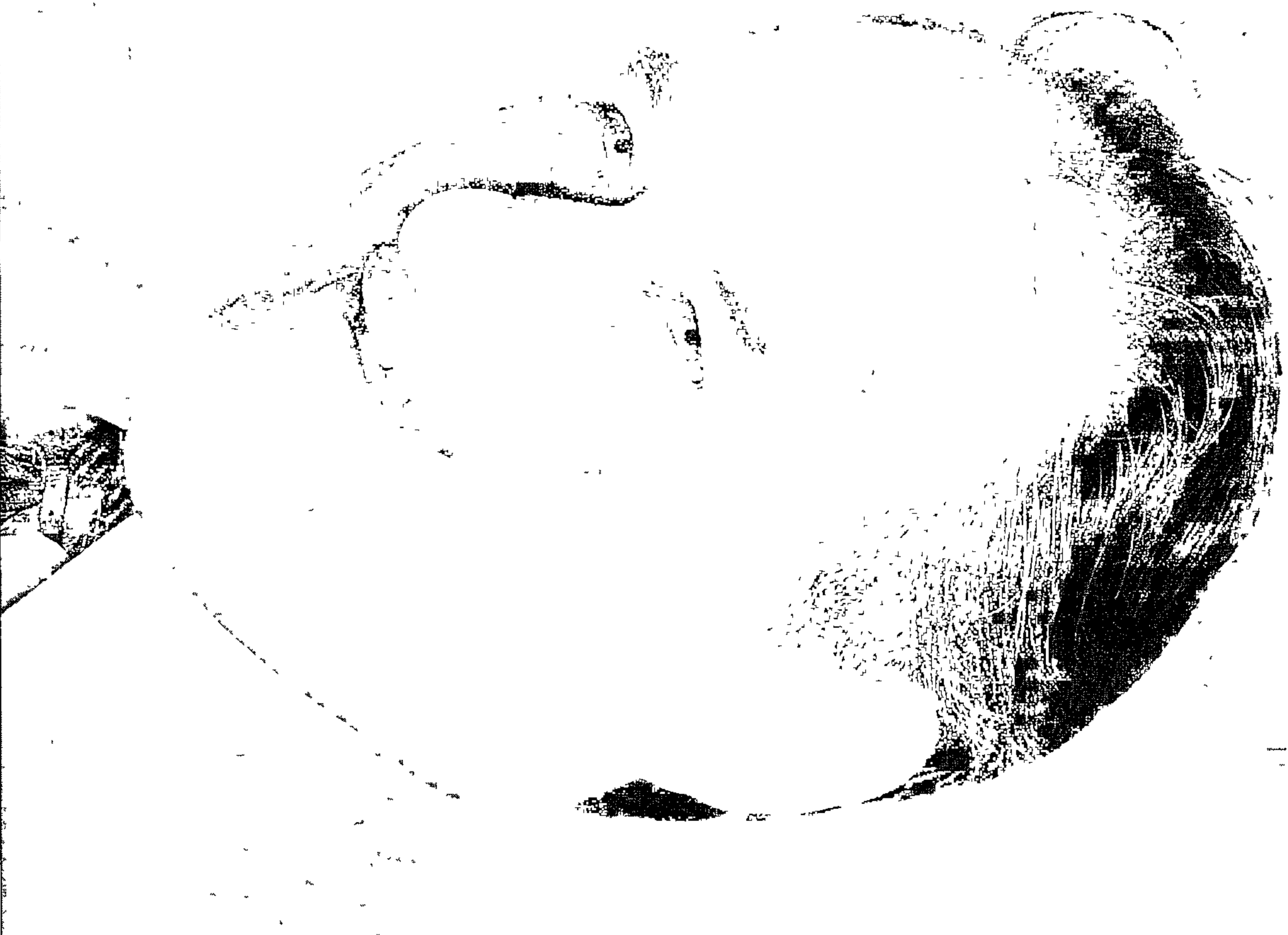
"One of the most important aspects of the forum would be to ensure that a partnership develops between the police service and the community to promote ease of communication, joint problem identification and solutions, as well as to ensure the rendering of a high quality police service," he said.

Mr Stevens believes the police should be addressing the needs and priorities of the community and there should be improved transparency in police services together with accountability to their community. Standards of policing should be set.

He went on to say, "Forum members should have a clear vision of their duties and responsibilities with an understanding that their role is not one of authority over the police service, but a close partnership."

"We have seen a dramatic improvement in police relations with the community in Cape Town. There is a large reduction in crime and it's all a result of improved community relations, visual policing and initiatives by business and commerce."

"It is a known fact that the better the police service, the more people go for help and although figures might show a higher crime figure, more cases are being reported because there is more trust. It is although the police have now gone into business and provide a service that is accessible to the public," Mr Stevens said.



Community policing: Peter Stevens, formerly head of community relations at Scotland Yard, is now special adviser to local Police Minister Gerald Morkel

Police station bodies may be 'spook story' to oust commissioner

OWN CORRESPONDENT

Durban - The mystery of the unidentified bodies buried in the grounds of the Mtubatuba police station in Zululand remained unsolved this week and suspicions grew that it may be a "spook story" concocted to try and oust the local station commissioner.

The story first surfaced last week after a Popernu member stationed at Mtubatuba approached the press and was given splash coverage.

He claimed that four bodies had been dumped in shallow graves near the police station in 1986, 1988 and 1993 by station commissioner Captain Sias Botha.

Popernu is unable to say who the people were or how they died but has demanded they be exhumed. The call has been supported by chairman of the ANC in the area Bheki Ntuli.

Umfolozo area commissioner Daani Memfies said no case had been opened and no charge laid against Mr Botha.

"We have battled to get co-operation from the so-called complainant who said he would only speak if the other Popernu members were with him. A date has now been set for a meeting," said Mr Memfies.

"The bodies he is referring to could have been paupers' burials carried out years ago. It is legal for police to do burials in consultation with the local authority and the Department of Justice."

According to Mr Botha, during the apartheid years the cemetery at Mtubatuba had been "whites only." He said this may have resulted in the bodies of unclaimed black people being buried in a grave site in the vicinity of the police station.

However, he said if this had happened it was "long before his time" since he had only taken over as station commissioner at the beginning of 1998.

"I can tell you with all honesty that I know absolutely nothing about this. The people making these allegations will suffer the consequences. They will be charged departmentally and I intend to open a civil case against them," he said.

Mr Botha said it seemed there were certain members at the station who "want me away as a white commander" and that Popernu had recently presented him with a memorandum listing several complainants.

Police scams cost SA millions

Probe ordered by Fivaz

(251) ARG 18/1/97

SASHA JENSEN
OWN CORRESPONDENT

Indiscipline, negligence, bad training and corruption in the South African Police Services has cost the taxpayers more than R300-million, an internal SAPS report has revealed.

The probe into police structures was launched after concerns were expressed by Commissioner George Fivaz over the differing interpretations of the rules governing police operations.

Saturday Argus has obtained details of the frank investigation which monitored police behaviour and lists losses incurred over the past year, losses incurred before the amalgamation of the SAPS agencies and projected losses over the next two to three years.

He said the new disciplinary regulations of the SAPS, introduced on January 1, formed an integral part of the campaign.

"This campaign, in turn, is part of an even wider process in which the SAPS is seeking to better utilise and redistribute all its resources."

Commissioner Fivaz noted that studies by the SAPS management showed that the common denominators in "these largely avoidable costs are indiscipline, negligence, bad training or corruption".

"Avoidable expenses, often linked to civil claims against SAPS, cost SAPS more than R66-million in 1995 and up to July 31 last year.

"However, potential losses could have run far in excess of R300-million over the same period as civil claims alone against police on a variety of issues totalled R277 621 109"

He noted as areas of special concern police vehicle accidents, assaults, shooting incidents, loss of police firearms, illegal arrests, detention or prosecution by police and loss of state funds.

Of the civil claims noted, the highest was for shooting incidents (R111 418 376) followed by,

among others, illegal and/or malicious arrests (R67 211 593), vehicle collisions (R45 862 963) and assaults (R41 237 104).

In analysing the causes of the trends the report noted administrative failings and a lack of basic procedural guidelines for officers.

"The responsible officers are careless and negligent. Money belonging to the state is not safeguarded with the same essential care as the members' private funds," says the report.

It adds, "Cash is left under the seat of a vehicle, in a desk drawer or in other places without the necessary supervision."

The report notes that members are allowed to deal with state funds before they have had suitable training.

Police management is, at present, already researching what the deep-seated causes for unlawful actions of members which, among other things, lead to unnecessary claims for compensation against the state.

Preliminary research has indicated, among others, a lack of self-discipline and ill-discipline actions, lack of self-control, "a devil-may-care" attitude, insufficient training, alcoholism, stress and related factors, poor self-image, poor example of more senior colleagues, unsatisfactory work conditions, provocation and contemptuous treatment by the public and misunderstanding because of poor communication.

Psychological research undertaken especially for the report profiles the nature of police stress. The document states that: "Most officers are suffering from financial worries, domestic difficulties, desire for revenge, assertion of the self no matter what the cost and poor self-image."

A spokesman for the commissioner, Joseph Ngubeni, said the SAPS was taking steps to monitor police morale and Commissioner Fivaz has announced the launch of an internal campaign to "better utilise its budget."

But sources at SAPS say that, unless money is found immediately for salaries, extra training and support services, the disorder will continue.

Police and community form new partnership

Nov 18/1/97 (25)

By PAUL OLIVIER

Community police forums are rapidly being streamlined as part of the Government's drive to convert the South African Police Service from a military-style police force to one in service of the community.

"The new structure is a framework for the police to interact with the public. The intention is that the forum should be a representative body for its community," said Peter Stevens, adviser to the provincial police MEC.

Stevens is a former head of the department of community relations and crime prevention at Scotland Yard and part of the British aid programme to South Africa.

He hailed the restructuring process as "unique", saying it "is good to see a local initiative being implemented for South Africa".

The Police Act of October 1995 provided every police station with the opportunity to find a method to meet community needs. The new structure provided a framework on how the police could interact with the communities they serve and included taxi associations, church groups, young people, schools and neighbourhood watches.

"The new structure gives community members the opportunity to meet the police and build partnerships to address issues of concern.

"Most of these issues will be local, and for this reason the province has been divided into four regions," Stevens explained.

Each forum is headed by a chairman who is not a police officer and each forum will receive R3 000 a year from the Government on registration.

A written constitution, together with

a mission statement, is a prerequisite

"The forum must be fully representative of the local community and no individual or group may be excluded for religious, cultural, ethnic or political reasons. The station commissioner and community relations officer, as well as the senior reserve police officer, must be members.

"The forum must be open and accessible to all members of the community, and members of the public should be offered the opportunity to raise matters at forum meetings at the discretion of the chair. The press should normally be invited to attend," Stevens said.

One of the most important aspects of the forum would be to ensure that a partnership developed between the police and the community to promote ease of communication, joint problem identification and solutions, as well as to ensure the rendering of a high-quality police service. The police should address the needs and priorities of the community and there had to be improved transparency by police services together with accountability to their

community. Standards of policing should be set.

"Forum members should have a clear vision of their duties and responsibilities with an understanding that their role is not one of authority over the police service, but a close partnership.

"It is a known fact that the better the police service, the more people go for help, and although figures might show a higher crime figure, more cases are being reported because there is more trust. It is as though the police have now gone into business, opened a shop and provided a service and accessibility to the public," Stevens said.



PETER STEVENS: Hails restructuring process as "unique"

Report reveals indiscipline, negligence

Bungles cost cops R300-m

By SASHA JENSEN

Indiscipline, negligence, bad training and corruption in the South African Police Service has cost the service more than R300-million, an internal report revealed yesterday

The probe into police structures was launched after concerns expressed by Commissioner George Fivaz over the differing interpretations of the rules governing police operations

The *Saturday Star* has obtained details of the frank investigation which monitored police behaviour and which lists losses incurred over the past year, losses incurred before the amalgamation of the SAPS agencies, and projected losses over the next two to three years

Written in a frank manner, the report gives a full account of the most common failures within the management of the SAPS.

But, despite this attempt to come to grips with the problems, research has revealed throughout the ranks of the SAPS, from high-level management to constables, that there is evidence of widespread indiscipline, negligence and incompetence.

The matter is receiving urgent attention at national level and this month, all police activity will be monitored on a quarterly basis

Fivaz yesterday announced the launch of an internal campaign to "better utilise its budget through reducing significant but largely avoidable costs often

caused by factors such as indiscipline, negligence or corruption"

He said the new disciplinary regulations of the SAPS, introduced on January 1, formed an integral part of the campaign

"This campaign, in turn, is part of an even wider process in which the SAPS is seeking to better utilise and redistribute all its resources."

Fivaz noted that studies by SAPS management showed that the common denominators in "these largely avoidable costs are indiscipline, negligence, bad training or corruption"

"Avoidable expenses, often linked to civil claims against the SAPS, cost the SAPS more than R66-million in 1995 and up to July 31 last year

"However, potential losses could have run far in excess of R300-million over the same period as civil claims alone against police on a variety of issues totalled R277 621 109 "

Fivaz noted as areas of special concern police vehicle accidents; assaults; shooting incidents; loss of police firearms, illegal arrests; detention or prosecution by police; and loss of state funds.

The report orders every commander to initiate steps to prevent losses and thereafter evaluate measurable results.

In a detailed analysis of the problem areas of losses, the report notes that R277 621 109 in civil claims had been lodged as the result of vehicle colli-

sions, assaults, shooting incidents, disposal, loss and damage of property in SAPS safekeeping, alleged illegal seizure of property and illegal and/or malicious arrest, and detention and prosecution between April 1995 and March 31 1996

Due to the lack of funding, police officers are allowed only one shooting practice a year, which, sources say, "results in mishaps on the job"

Between April 1 1995 and July 31 1996 the service paid out R32 520 475 in civil claims

The report notes "global amounts" for claims related to more than one cause of action are not included in the statistics

Of the civil claims noted, the highest was for shooting incidents (R111 418 376) followed by, among others, illegal and/or malicious arrests (R67 211 593), vehicle collisions (R45 862 963) and assaults (R41 237 104)

Between September 13 1995 and July 31 1996 a total of 1 059 official firearms - including 46 rifles - were stolen or lost in robberies and a further 307 - including 38 rifles - were lost. This cost the service R3 174 353

Loss, theft, fraud and irregularities reported to head office amounted to a further R4 155 761

The cost of vehicle collisions involving state vehicles totalled R26 584 528 in 1995. In 1994 the cost was R23 331 488 and in 1993 it was R15 422 777

TO PAGE 2

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(251)

◆ Police bungling

In analysing the causes of the trends, the report notes several causes for the loss of state funds. Among these were several administrative failings, and basic safety procedures such as adequate protection of money in the care of officers.

"The responsible officers are careless and negligent. Money belonging to the state is not safeguarded with the same essential care as the members' private funds," says the report.

It adds "Cash is left under the seat of a vehicle, in a desk drawer or in other places without the necessary supervision."

The report notes that members are allowed to deal with state funds before they have had suitable training.

Police management is, at present, already researching the deep-seated causes for unlawful actions of members which, among other things, lead to unnecessary claims for compensation against the state.

Preliminary research has indicated, among others, a lack of self-discipline, lack of self-control, "a devil-may-care" attitude, insufficient training, alcoholism, stress and related factors, poor self-image, poor example of more senior colleagues, unsatisfactory work conditions, provocation by members of the public, contemptuous treatment by the public, and misunderstanding because of poor communication.

Psychological research undertaken especially for the report profiles the nature of police stress. The document states that "Most officers are suffering from financial worries, domestic difficulties, desire for revenge, assertion of the self no matter what the cost, and poor self-image."

Joseph Ngubeni, spokesman for the national commissioner, said last night the SAPS was taking steps to ensure that police morale would be monitored.

But sources within the SAPS say that, unless money is found immediately for salaries, extra training and support services, the disorder will continue.

The report gives basic road safety instructions in a bid to reduce civil claims against the state as a result of vehicle collisions.

Fivaz urges SAPS to end waste

(251) BD 20/11/97

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NATIONAL police commissioner George Fivaz yesterday urged police at all levels to tighten their budgets and stop wasting money. This came after an admission by the SA Police Service (SAPS) that it lost R66m in the 19 months to July last year.

Fivaz said these losses were "avoidable costs ... policing standards and working conditions of police officials cannot be optimally boosted unless a strong culture of financial discipline is instilled and enforced at all levels within the SAPS."

"This is essential if the new SAPS is to be truly transformed from the inherited patchwork of 11 old policing agencies into a unified and thoroughly accountable organisation."

He said the improvement of financial discipline, such as budgeting, would be a priority this year.

Commenting on the R66m loss, Fivaz said: "Such amounts — reflecting only financial losses relating to essentially avoidable costs — can go a long way in addressing personal issues such as promotion and overtime. It is of extreme concern that the common denominator in most avoidable costs within the SAPS is indiscipline, negligence and corruption."

Shareen Singh reports that Malaysian businessman Abu Hassan Samsudin was donating R3,5m towards the development of a police station in Midrand — matching the amount invested by the SAPS in the initiative, project director Joe du Plessis said.

The complete police station project, initiated by Samsudin, executive chairman of Samrand Holdings, would cost in the region of R7m. The SAPS would invest R3,5m, Du Plessis said.

The police station would be located on Samrand Property Development's industrial and commercial development site in Midrand.

Samrand would oversee the project and had employed a team of black architects and engineers. A tender for the R5m construction contract was being prepared, Du Plessis said.

"We have a policy in the company to grant tenders to developing businesses which employ SA labour — more specifically we will be looking for black-owned contracting firms which can handle the task and be able to complete the contract by October."

Samsudin believed combating crime was not the sole responsibility of government, but rather a joint private sector, government and community problem, and the police station was his contribution, Du Plessis said — Sapa.

PETROL DISTRIBUTORS OWED R2,5 MILLION

Police patrols cut as money

runs out

(251) CT 21/1/97



A DIRECTIVE to police instructs them to cut down expenditures, and an oil company, has threatened to stop supplying the service on credit. **JACKIE CAMERON** reports

POLICE patrols have been reduced at several stations around the Peninsula — including Mitchells Plain and Diep River — following a national directive from police headquarters in Pretoria warning that police were expected to drastically overstep their budget this year.

Police sources said detectives had been told not to return to their stations after visiting complainants, but to wait with a complainant until instructed to visit the next one.

"We have been told that we are running out of petrol. Patrols have been cut down," one said.

Sources said police had not paid at least R2,5 million to Zenex Oil, which had threatened to stop deliveries it makes to the police on credit.

The Zenex Oil spokesman was not available for comment.

A police spokesman, Senior Superintendent Andrew Lesch, said: "Our budget is very stressed at this stage. One increase in the fuel price this financial year cost us about R40m extra. We may not budget for increases when we prepare our annual budget."

He said provincial police management had been instructed to stop payments and re-direct accounts to head office, as police "re-prioritised" their budget to ensure creditors would be paid.

There was an expected R64m deficit for the petrol budget alone, but police would "re-juggle" the budget categories to ensure that

financial obligations to staff and creditors would be met.

"The letter sent out from head office asked police members to control the use of vehicles and, where possible, assist us with saving money. But crime prevention and detection must not be affected by this."

He said there would "possibly" be small delays in payments to creditors.

On Sunday Commissioner George Fivaz urged police at all levels to tighten their budgets and stop wasting money. The police 1996/97 budget was less than R10 billion.

Last week the SAPS said it had lost R66m in the 19-month period ending in July last year owing to avoidable costs, including civil claims against the police.

Civil claims for R45,8m for accidents involving police vehicles were made against the police between April 1, 1995 and July 31 last year.

But the South African Police Union (Sapu) rejected police management's explanation for budgetary problems in the service, saying ordinary police members were not to blame.

"It is well-known that police management is struggling with outdated financial management and control systems," Sapu national secretary Mr Peter-Don Brandt said in a statement in Pretoria.

Brandt said the budgetary problems could not be blamed on the negligence of police members.

Police pay out R66m in 'avoidable incidents'

(251) Nov 21/1/97

Costing will now take place every few months in an attempt to pinpoint problem areas and reduce overall costs

OWN CORRESPONDENT
Durban

Police paid out a staggering R66-million in civil claims and other "avoidable incidents" over a 15-month period to July last year, national police statistics revealed yesterday

A further R67-million-worth of civil claims against police for illegal arrest, detention or prosecutions were still pending for the 1995/96 financial year

Furthermore, in total the South African Police Services have R277-million worth of civil claims against them for the 1995/96 financial year

Meanwhile, a rough analysis of the R66-million paid out showed that

■ More than R11-million had been paid out to the public to cover 613 accidents involving police vehicles

■ R26,5-million was paid out for damage to police vehicles

■ More than R14-million was paid out in 233 civil claims during shooting incidents where property was damaged or people injured.

■ More than R5,5-million was claimed and paid out against police for assaulting people during arrest.

■ More than R1-million had been paid in 114 civil cases where property was lost or damaged in police custody

■ More than R4-million was lost due to police theft or fraud. Included in the R66-million was an additional R3-million that had been lost between September 1995 and July 1996 when more than 1 000 police officers' firearms were stolen and a further 307 firearms were lost by policemen themselves.

Explaining the statistics, police

national support services spokesman Andrew Lesch said that not all the claims that were paid out had been incidents that had happened during the 15-month period. Some incidents had taken place prior to 1995 but had been paid in this year

He said this was the first time the police had costed their avoidable losses. The procedure would now take place every three months in an attempt to identify and drastically reduce losses in the service

In future, the figures would be further broken down into provincial statistics as well as individual police units so that the police force could pinpoint its problem areas

Increased training in financial management and further training on how to handle arrests more efficiently were other methods of cutting losses and civil claims, said Lesch

R14-m payout for suspended cops

ARQ 25/1/97

(251)

Pretoria - About R14-million in salaries is expected to be paid this financial year to police not working because they have been suspended pending corruption probes.

These police members had retained all their benefits, national support services spokesman Andrew Leesch said.

"We estimate we will have paid R14-million in salaries to members who had not done a stitch of work when the current financial year ends on March 31," said

Senior Superintendent Leesch. Police also lost about R4-million in the previous financial year due to corruption and theft, he added.

Gauteng safety and security MEC Jesse Duarte recently announced that 600 Soweto police members were dismissed last year due to irregularities. This represented almost an eighth of the total staff complement of about 4 900 in the township, a personnel spokesman said. Ms Duarte told a meeting of the Southern African Catholic

Bishop's Conference many police members were implicated in crime syndicates. Police anti-corruption units reported yesterday that 26 members were arrested or charged with corruption last October. Irregularities involving police related to a wide range of offences, including stripping and selling spare parts of vehicles in police pounds and issuing false clearance certificates to owners of stolen vehicles. Dockets had also been destroyed or stolen - Sapa

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Deaths	Deaths	Deaths	Deaths	Deaths	Deaths	Deaths
EYBERG Petro passed away peacefully and was deeply mourned and sadly missed by his wife and family.	JACOBS Cynthia our sister and aunt passed away suddenly on 24/1/97. She is missed by all who loved her.	LINDEROTH Marie in loving memory of my Mom who passed away on 15/1/12.	MINNAAR Jacob aged 65 years passed away peacefully on Thursday 25/1/97.	STEYN The memorial service for Marion will be held on 28/1/97 at 10am.	VAN SCHALKWYK Werner (Vernon) with great sadness we say goodbye to a son who was loved by all.	Deaths Piet and Our

Handwritten signature

arson trial

ST(CM)26/1/97

Cops lose in R750 000

(251)

By GRAHAM HOWE

RESIDENTS of the KTC squatter camp, who accused police of deliberately starting a fire which destroyed many shacks in 1991, have won a legal action case against Minister of Safety and Security, Sidney Mufamadi.

Their victory came in a marathon Supreme Court trial which has dragged on for more than five years.

Tax-payers will foot the bill for more than R250 000 in legal costs, as well as an estimated R500 000 in damages awarded against the State in October 1995 by Justice Robin Marais.

It is the second time KTC residents have won a lengthy case against the police. In March 1990 the minister was ordered to pay out R2-million to compensate shack-dwellers whose homes were destroyed by police action in 1986.

The Legal Resources Centre, which represented 39 KTC residents, this week received official notice that the Minister of Safety and Security has withdrawn his appeal scheduled to be heard in the Supreme Court tomorrow.

But the shack-dwellers will have to wait months for compensation as their lawyers must now negotiate the value of the possessions they lost when a police flare was fired into a KTC shack, starting the fire on October 5, 1991. The police had claimed they were searching shacks for criminals and unlicensed firearms.

In summing up the case, Judge Marais noted "This incident occurred at time when the country, and this area in particular, was beset by violence. Arson was a common occurrence. Political and economic rivalries resulted in mayhem of all kinds."

Key evidence given by teenager Lindela Hewu was at the centre of the trial. He told the court police deliberately set alight the shack belonging to his uncle, Enoch Hewu. During the trial Hewu was said to have been "regarded for some time by the SAP as a thorn in their flesh. The frustration and the annoyance of the police led, so it was said, to the making by one Sergeant Bosman of a threat either to kill Hewu or to burn down his dwelling."

Lindela gave a detailed eye-witness account of how the police set up a flare-gun and fired on the house.

LRC spokesman, Steve Kahnowitz, said "While we welcome the fact that the matter is finally being settled, it is distressing that those who suffered have been forced to wait so long by a regime which is dedicated to human rights. There should have been a quick resolution after judgment was handed down on October 20, 1995 but the matter went on appeal instead."

The loss of crucial evidence and the minister's delay in filing papers considerably increased the legal costs for the tax-payer, Kahnowitz said.

In his judgment, Justice Marais, said "It would be naive to rule out the possibility of deliberate arson by a member or members of the police force. It is a lamentable fact of life that there have been instances in this country of policemen committing monstrous criminal acts."

Unpaid Woodstock police on a go-slow

By YVETTE VAN BREDA

DETECTIVES at Woodstock police station have started a go-slow over non-payment for overtime and are refusing to work more than 48 hours a week.

The 26 detectives have not been paid overtime since September

They began protest action this week after negotiations with SAPS management deadlocked. They refuse to work overtime.

Now, in consultation with the branch commander and SAPS management, shifts have been arranged so that no detective has to work more than 48 hours a week.

The detectives claim they will not be able to cope with the case load on this work schedule, but police management have stressed that the service to the public will not be affected.

"We will work any amount of overtime if it's a matter of endangered lives or death. But we do not want to work the standard overtime we have been doing all along," said one detective who did not want to be named.

SAPS provincial human resources

(251) (192) ST(CM)26/1/97
manager, Director Collin Sherriff, confirmed that the detectives had not been paid overtime since September, but added that a supplementary budget had been applied for.

He was hopeful that the Western Cape, which normally gets about 10 percent of the national budget, would receive about R40-million to pay outstanding overtime.

The matter was now in the hands of the departments of Finance and Safety and Security and both ministers, Trevor Manuel and Sidney Mufamadi, were aware of the situation, Sherriff said.

Before 1995 all funds had been handled in Pretoria, he said. Since last year, however, there had been decentralisation and stations were now allocated funds according to personnel and work output.

Other police stations had been affected by the lack of funds, but Woodstock exhausted their funds faster than expected and often worked longer hours than other stations, Sherriff said.

In 1995, detectives had reached an agreement on overtime for the first time, but it seemed management had

gone back on their word since then, complained a detective.

Woodstock detectives, who operate in the "drug centre of Cape Town", complained that they normally worked long hours and conditions had got worse with the anti-crime activities of Pagad.

The detectives decided to take up the matter with management about two weeks ago.

Sherriff confirmed that negotiations had been "amicable". He agreed that the detectives had worked more overtime than expected.

Explaining budgetary difficulties, he said there was a severe staff shortage and the Western Province was losing five percent of its 13 000 personnel a year — among the highest in the country.

Coupled with the rise in crime and a two-year moratorium on new appointments, police were demotivated and overworked, Sherriff said.

Although rural stations dealt with less crime than those in the metropole, incidents such as the Worcester bombing and the "flower murders" had also made a considerable hole in the budget.

Perform or get out — police warned

8/01/97 (251)

Minister and commissioner reveal
tough measures for police to meet
'required standards'

OWN CORRESPONDENT
Cape Town

All police officers — including Commissioner George Fivaz — will have to sign "performance contracts" which set out their goals and commitments, Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi said here yesterday.

And Fivaz indicated he would personally oversee service delivery as well as the successful execution of anti-corruption programmes, discipline and strategic planning. But police performing all their duties "have nothing to fear" while those who were not "up to the required standards" could expect to be replaced.

Mufamadi revealed the reform plans in an address to the international advisory board of Independent Newspapers which was meeting in Cape Town.

He said the SAPS was determined to have a renewed clamp-down on illegal firearms, crime syndicates and corruption within the criminal justice system. There would also be increased measures to stamp out violence against women and children.

In a statement from Pretoria Fivaz promised a major cleanup of the police service that would beef up its flagging performance. He took the unprecedented step of warning that it was "quite likely" that heads would roll as the process of shaking up the SA Police Service was implemented.

Performance contracts would have to be signed by all officers, including himself. The contracts would set out each officer's personal goals and commitments.

The SAPS "dared not indulge in the mindset that it was merely the victim of circumstances it

could not alter, he added. It "simply must succeed through effective utilisation of existing resources".

While the police had notched up "considerable successes" in 1996 — including reducing hijacking and political violence in Kwa-Zulu Natal — the overall performance had been "uneven and inconsistent", Fivaz said.

National Party safety and security spokesman Andre Fourie said it was "high time" that the Government cracked down on rising crime, but he felt dubious about "yet another" plan to achieve it because "very little has been realised from (the existing crime prevention strategy)".

Democratic Party spokesman Douglas Gibson said the minister's so-called five-point plan was short on specifics. He asked who would carry out such steps, what were the target dates and where would the funds be found.

IFP spokesman Velaphi Ndlovu said many policemen were drawn into crime because of their poor salaries and benefits. "The improvement of these factors should start from the constable upwards, and not from the general downwards," he said.

Members of the Independent Newspapers' advisory board are Dr Tony O'Reilly, chairman of Independent Newspapers, Ben Bradlee, former editor of the Washington Post, Andrew Young, former US ambassador to the United Nations, David Dinkins, first black mayor of New York, Anthony Sampson, biographer of Nelson Mandela and former editor of Drum, Eric Molobi of Kagiso, Dr Nthato Motlana, chairman of NAIL, SABC chief executive Zwelakhe Sisulu, and Professor Wiseman Nkuhlu of Worldwide Investments.

Union slates overhaul plans for police force

SAPA 5/2/97

The South African Police Union yesterday rejected plans by Police Commissioner George Fivaz to overhaul the police as a knee-jerk reaction to political pressure

Expressing dismay at remarks by Fivaz that heads were likely to roll, Sapu said such statements did nothing to boost police morale.

Fivaz said on Monday the shake-up would include devising systems to evaluate and enforce performance and service at all levels

(251)
Those not performing at required standards could expect to be replaced

Sapu national secretary Peter Don Brandt said the union had repeatedly asked police management to present a comprehensive performance evaluation plan for discussion. This call was not heeded. Sapu would call for an urgent bargaining council meeting.

■ Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi should take full responsibility for the SAPS's crime-combating failures, the National Party said yesterday.

NP spokesman Andre Fourie said the strategy was doomed to fail because the country needed action and not a succession of plans
- Sapa and Political Reporter

Top officers surprised by Fivaz warning

Tangeni Amupadhi

NATIONAL Police Commissioner George Fivaz's warning this week that members of his force must shape up or ship out has caught even his most senior officers by surprise

In inquiries to provincial police commissioners around the country, the *Mail & Guardian* learned that they had been informed of the shakeup at the same time as the media, despite Fivaz's assertion that "steps were at an advanced stage and would be implemented soon". Fivaz warned this week that "heads

are likely to roll at all levels" following a major evaluation of "performance, service and productivity" by the police service. The shakeup, he said, was imminent and no one in the service would be immune, including himself

Fivaz's announcement followed one by Safety and Security Minister Sidney Mufamadi, in which Mufamadi said he would hold the commissioner to a written contract spelling out crime-fighting plans

Mufamadi said if Fivaz failed to live up to expectations he could be fired. Mufamadi's spokesman Maxwell Mulaudzi said this week that the con-

tract would be drafted at the end of the month. He did not say when it would be signed

"Key indicators will be worked into the contract," said Mulaudzi who added, "The public has been hearing about plans, but what we need is practical implementation."

Fivaz's warning has angered police unions, who claim they have been excluded from the evaluation process. And senior police at the provincial level seemed equally in the dark

Captain Benjamin Bhembe of the Mpumalanga police said "nothing specific" has been communicated to

said they would be implemented "with immediate effect" though he was unable to specify how

Joseph Ngobeni, a spokesman for Fivaz, said that as the commissioner was the one who had come up with the plan, "it is only the commissioner who can give further information"

The Police and Prison Civil Rights Union (Popcru) accused Fivaz of bowing to outside pressure. Popcru general secretary Jacob Tsunane said the union saw the statement as an "unnecessary threat that will further demoralise the police force"

"Until we see and are allowed to participate in drawing up such plans, we view his threats as those of a person playing to the gallery to please the public that he was fighting crime," he said

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The rotting testimony to tyranny

Just short of his 30th birthday, John Vorster Square, former headquarters of the notorious Special Branch of the previous regime, resembles a decaying monster — a not-so-grand memorial to grand apartheid.

The 12-storey blue-trimmed complex, which was opened with much pomp and ceremony by then prime minister Balthazar Johannes Vorster in 1968, is now rotting to the core and badly in need of a complete overhaul.

Today, in the foyer of the main entrance, Vorster's grim expression is frozen on a bust, which bears a brass plaque declaring "Eendrag maak mag/Unity is strength".

His memorial may have aged gracefully, but just about everything else in the foyer is broken. The clock is stuck at 9.14, windows are shattered and two of the three lifts are not working.

"And I wouldn't trust the other one," a plainclothes policeman quips. "It has the habit of getting stuck in the basement for three hours at a time."

And it was in the basement that our unofficial tour began. John Vorster Square's

drainage system is now so dilapidated that occupants frequently gauge heavy rainfalls by the depth of the dam in the basement.

Outside, raw sewage spills out of the drains on to the street, while, in the criminal investigations unit, leaking water from the toilets has covered much of the floor.

The police cells start behind the charge office counter and reach up to the third storey, although, to a casual observer, it seems that you are underground most of the time.

We are accompanied by Sergeant Martin van Dyk, who has worked at the station for the past

13 years. He compares the old days, "when us" and them (the prisoners) didn't get along, to today when "they still don't like us, but at least we can laugh about it."

If the holding cell — an enormous cage at the base of the cell-block — is anything to go by, the rest of the prison will fail any humanitarian tests. The 60 sq m enclosure is used to hold large groups of prisoners until their paperwork has been completed.

It is empty today, but Van Dyk assures us that it is still well used, particularly on weekends.

"You should smell this place on a Monday morning," he says, breaking off in mid-sentence.

We climb the stairs to the occupied cells where the raw brick walls look ancient. At the entrance to the second-floor cells, a grubby sign reads, "Remember you as a detainee is (suo) entitled on (suo) le sal re presentia ion



(251) After 8/2/97

not receive salaries until April and that their medical benefits and pensions have been suspended.

The notice clearly hit a nerve, particularly as it took days for the members to establish that although the memorandum had been sent from the national salaries office, "Assistant Commissioner van Niekerk", who issued it, does not exist.

Surrounded by piles of case files, a young policeman says he has been particularly hard hit by delays in promotions as he is clearing only R939,88 after six years' service.

"I qualified as a sergeant in October 1995 and I am still not being paid accordingly. I've been told the problem is being dealt with, but I don't see me coming right," he says.

Another constable who clears just over a R1 000 a month says he has been waiting for 22 months for his promotion to be reflected on his salary.

Police point to other problems. The congested magistrate's court nearby contributes to the lack of efficiency in criminal investigations as cases are regularly postponed.

"The problem is if we are dealing with five complainants in an hour, we can't investigate any of them properly and then they just get thrown out of court," one says.

Six storeys up, Johannesburg's area commissioner, Frans Malherbe, has not escaped the rest of the station's problems. Just last month, arsonists used paraffin to set fire to his office and damaged the doors, carpets and furniture. It is not clear whether the attack was linked to a bomb threat this week when the entire station had to be evacuated.

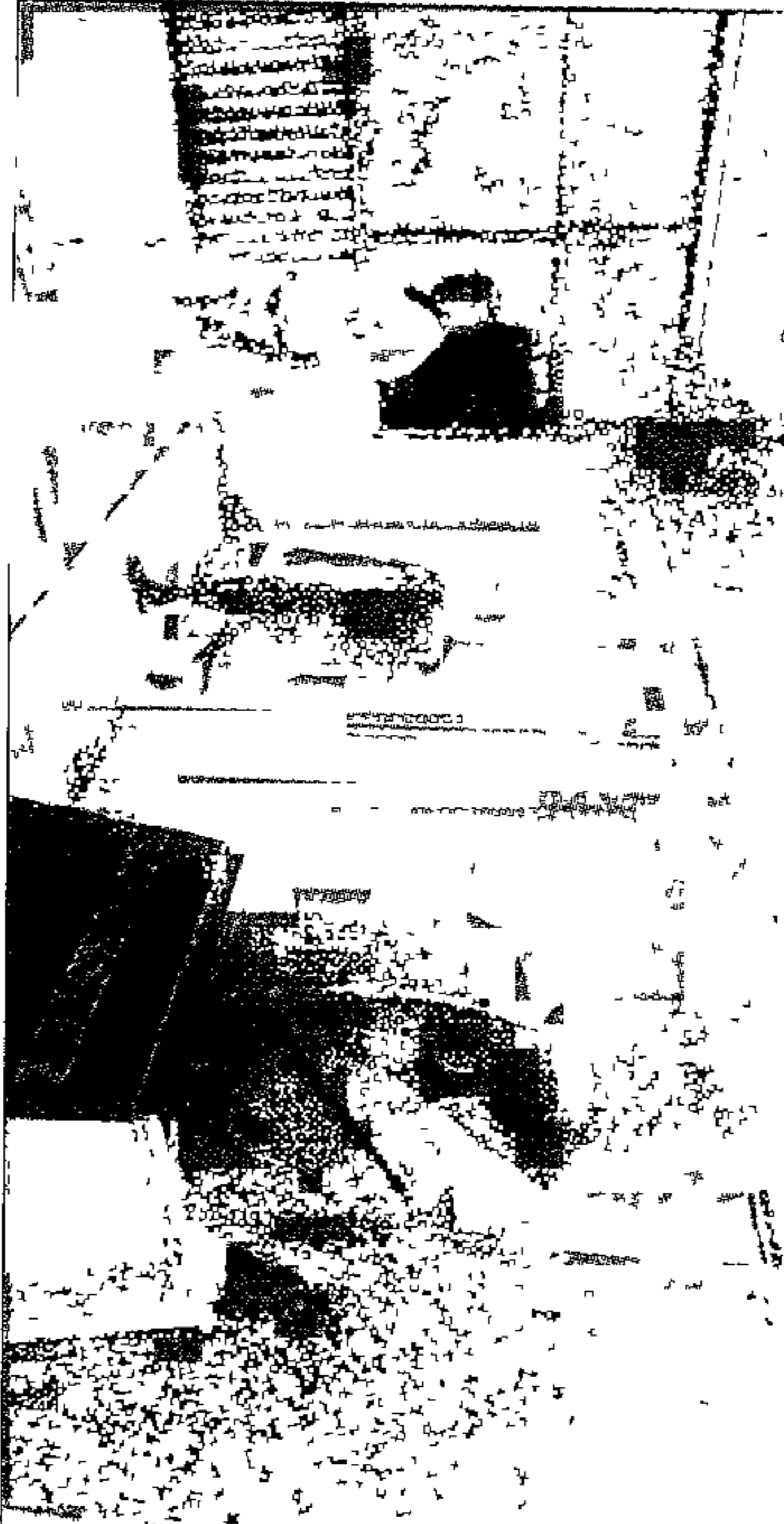
He blames the problems at the station on the fact that it is 24% understaffed after the moratorium on recruiting imposed in April 1994.

"You can't address a problem properly if you don't have the manpower to do it," he says.

As the newly appointed station commander, Director David Botha is still coming to grips with the enormity of his task.

He admits that the promotion system is flawed, the criminal justice system needs an overhaul, his station is seriously understaffed and the building itself has fallen into a state of disrepair.

The good news, however, is that plans are well in hand for an renovation and upgrading of the entire building. Between R20-million and R30-million has been earmarked for the project which should be under way

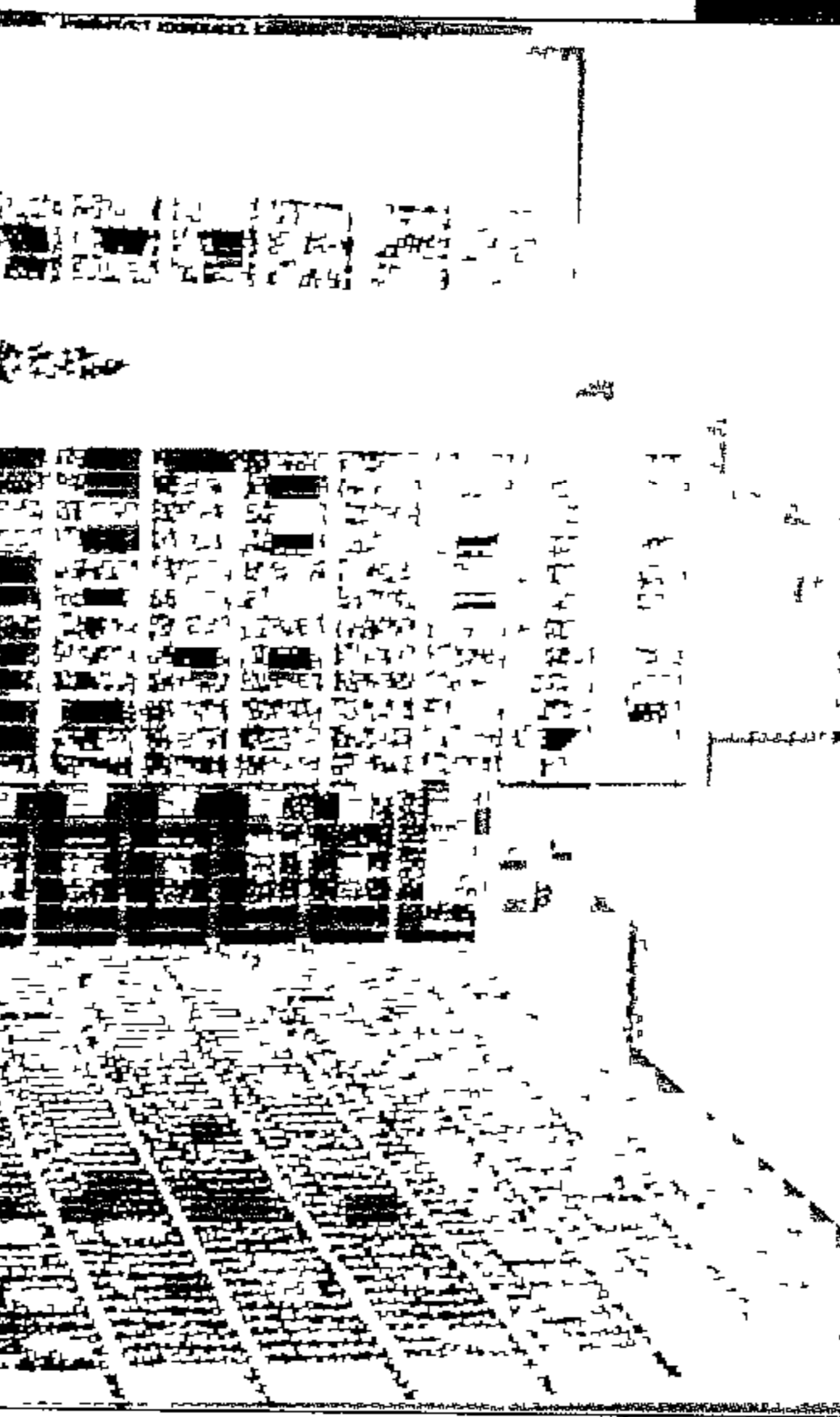


Commissioner Street Blues

ABOVE: Abandon hope all ye who enter here — one of the several cells at John Vorster Square. In dark, foul holes such as this, suspected 'enemies of the state' awaited their fate.

LEFT: John Vorster still glares out over the foyer of the precinct. This grim area gives a foretaste of things to come.

RIGHT: The familiar and forbidding face of Johannesburg's biggest police station.



John Vorster Square awaits facelift, but remains a festering sore of squalor and discontent

(at own expense) from the moment you are taken into custody."

Small bursts of sunlight through cracks are the only signs of the day outside. Most cells are about 20 sq m and can accommodate up to six people.

Only a handful of prisoners — mostly awaiting-trial suspects — remain and they hide their time strolling up and down the dank corridors where their cells are located. A few spend much of the day on thin mattresses in their cells, snatching moments of sleep between the crashing of gates and endless talking.

But it is a visit to the disused cells on the third floor that exposes John Vorster Square for what it really was. Every cell and every corridor, from floor to ceiling, is covered in graffiti. Everyone, it seems, "was here" at some time or another — Alvin, David, Si

Other graffiti gives fascinating insight into the minds and plight of past inmates.

"Even the good times are bad times — tell me why", "Bad timing, boys", "When days are dark, friends are few", "Viva the ever-advancing military wing of Azania" and "ET says don't keep me here — it's ouch!"

Back in the foyer, I ask another policeman to take me up to the 10th floor, former headquarters of the Witwatersrand division of the security police. He says one of the elevators used to take suspects directly to this floor had padded walls and no but-



Infamous John Vorster Square is to undergo extensive renovation and upgrading. For those who toil or who are incarcerated inside its dingy, dirty interior, the cleanup cannot come fast enough, as **CRAIG URQUHART** found on an unofficial tour. **TJ LEMON** took the photographs

directly to the top of the building. My new guide, who asks to remain anonymous, has also had bad experiences with the lifts, so we take the stairs.

We finally reach the 10th floor, from whence Ahmed Timol and other activists "fell" to their deaths in the 1970s. It was on this floor that "enemies of the state" were tortured by some of the apartheid era's most vicious policemen.

Today, there is nothing unusual

the ledges outside are still covered in razor wire.

So how do the 1 000-odd policemen who now operate out of this monolith deal with its history and present condition? Not very well, it seems. Most regard the place as a "dump" and say they would rather be somewhere else.

Some of the small specialised units, such as the narcotics bureau, have chalked up remarkable successes in recent years and appear to be thriving.

For the run-of-the-mill policemen, however, John Vorster Square seems to be a rudderless ship.

In the criminal investigations unit, policemen give a damning summation

are short-staffed, underpaid, no one is interested in our problems and we don't know what is going on, they contend.

"This place is in a very bad condition — look for yourself. We are used to it, but it is bad for the public to have to deal with this," says Detective-Sergeant Johnny Makgathla, eyeing a window caked with dirt.

Like most policemen at the station, Makgathla prefers to talk about his pet peeve, low salaries. The only time he is ever able to buy clothes or furniture, he says, is when he receives his birthday bonus.

He is surrounded by several other policemen, who insist that they remain anonymous, including two who recently handed in their resignations.

They are all still smarting from a memorandum faxed through from police headquarters in Pretoria,

had to be evacuated.

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State lays down law for SAPS on sex crime

Police to have new code of conduct

ARG 8/2/97 (251)

ADELE BALETA
STAFF REPORTER

All members of the South African Police Services (SAPS) are to sign a new code of conduct in the next few weeks which will prescribe how police officers should treat victims of sexual violence.

The new code of conduct was decided on after a meeting of top government officials in Pretoria. Deputy Justice Minister Mantho Tshabalala-Msimang convened the meeting which was aimed at addressing the shocking increase in violent crimes against women and children.

The removal of the antiquated cautionary rule which discriminates against rape victims before they have begun to testify is to be scrutinised and a new definition of rape devised.

The high-powered gathering, which forms part of a campaign by Dr Tshabalala-Msimang to prevent violence against women, comes amid sharp criticism of the way police and other government officials have dealt with victims of rape.

Police recently have been rebuked for bungling the investigation of political activist Nomboniso Gasa's rape on Robben Island, two weeks ago.

It was agreed at the meeting that a high level task team - involving staff from the SAPS, the district surgeons' offices, senior prosecutors, court staff, judicial officers, social workers and NGOs working in the field - should be set up urgently to develop a set of standard, practical guidelines for use countrywide by all role players involved in dealing with sexual violence against women.

National police commissioner George Fivaz spoke of the reactive role the SAPS took when handling violence against women, but said steps were being taken to change the situation.

He said police would sign a code of conduct in the next few weeks.

Commissioner Fivaz said that in the past "police have acted as an unnecessary filter in the legal process by acting as judge, jury and executioner when handling crimes of this nature".

Now, however, discretionary decisions

relating to whether or not to proceed with a prosecution had to be made by the senior public prosecutor and not by a police officer, he said.

The police training manual had been changed to give the victim priority and there would be recognition of the need for complainants to have privacy during interviews. A new curriculum was being developed for police trainees.

There was also a plan to establish "one-stop care centres" countrywide which would operate with multi-disciplinary teams comprising social workers, psychologists, police officers and staff who could give legal advice.

Commissioner Fivaz said the general, unco-ordinated approach to sexual violence was a major obstacle in combating the crime. There was a need to develop a co-ordinated approach within the National Crime Prevention Strategy.

Other issues to be looked at were the definitions of rape and consent, bail and parole policies, the requirement for the prosecution to make full disclosures and pornography involving children.

Gibson calls for action to reform police force

Star 12/2/97 (251)

Only 40 of 314 policemen at Hillbrow are involved in active policing, many are former 'kitskonstabels'

By Jovial Rantao
Cape Town

Only 40 of the 314 policemen stationed at Hillbrow police station were involved in proactive policing and the rest were involved in administrative and other duties, the Democratic Party's Douglas Gibson told the portfolio committee on safety and security yesterday

Gibson said the majority of policemen stationed at Hillbrow were former *kitskonstabels* and municipal policemen with extremely low standards of education

"Many of the *kitskonstabels* are illiterate. They have Std 4 or 5 education, which cannot be used for police work. There's something wrong there. We need to know, as a committee, what's going to be done," Gibson said, adding that graduate intakes into the SAPS had to be encouraged

He said he had been told that 70% of detectives in the SAPS did not have proper training

The DP used Hillbrow as an example to amplify the party's call for policemen and women to be empowered with skills so they could curb the soaring crime rate

The portfolio committee met

yesterday to draw up its programme for 1997

Gibson proposed that the committee's focus this year should be on delivery and aspects which would make it possible

He said the technology available to the SAPS needed urgent attention. Computers, fingerprinting records and central records relating to previous conviction needed to be upgraded

Officers need skills to help curb soaring crime rate

In his speech during the opening of Parliament, President Mandela spoke of the need to establish a comprehensive database, to improve the witness protection programme, to empower victims and to introduce a new style of work, with clear delivery targets and deadlines that had to be met

The ANC study group on crime proposed that the Police Plan should be revisited to see whether it fell within the provisions of the police budget

Group member Ncumisa Kondlo proposed that institutional, legislative and budgetary allocation for violence against women and children should be assessed

She suggested that Police Commissioner George Fivaz should be invited to brief the committee on the restructuring and transformation of the SAPS. She also spoke of the need to review the SAPS' recommendations for legislation

Freedom Front former senator Joseph Chiole said his party's main concern was the protection of farmers

"If the farms collapse, then the food supply for South Africa will collapse

"Farmers are on the verge of forming self-protection units."

"We face a collapse in law and order if we don't increase the police budget," he said

Other parties agreed that Fivaz should be invited to brief the committee on the restructuring and transformation of the police, and also suggested that committee members should be issued with identity cards which would enable them to visit police stations throughout the country and to see how police were coping

Mufamadi lays down the law: No cop-outs for

SAFETY and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi has fired his first verbal salvo in a ground plan to spruce up the South African Police Service and rid South Africa of the crime dilemma in what is perhaps his toughest policy speech to date, Mufamadi said. He would be kicking off this year, and chiefly that of national police commissioner George Fivaz.

In turn, Fivaz would have to make the ripple effect of the law to the lowest rungs of the SAPS. Addressing a top-level league of the police, Mufamadi laid down the law. "I am going to insist on more rigorous methods of evaluation of our performance. I would want, for instance, to have a performance contract with the national commissioner (Fivaz) specifying the outputs I expect from him in the course of the new year. I would expect, of course, that he would institute a similar

SAFETY and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi has warned his police force: 'Pull up your socks or face my wrath!' A welcome move, says assistant editor CHARLES MOGALE.

process with his provincial and divisional commissioners." Such contracts, he said, would help identify where the performance of the department was weakest.

"This is not only a way of ensuring delivery, but also of demonstrating our commitment to the principle of accountability. I will be holding the national commissioner tightly accountable to his contract, and I will expect him to be uncompromising in demanding excellent



PUTTING HOUSE IN ORDER... Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi.

performance from his team.

"The ripple effect of applying the principle of managerial accountability like this should be felt all the way down the ranks, and revitalise the transformation process," Mufamadi said.

ally, from jack-rollers to hit squads. Focusing on these organisations and the individuals within them will allow us to deal with a range of crimes, particularly vehicle crimes and narcotics, simultaneously," Mufamadi said.

He declared war on domestic violence - which, he said, sowed the seeds of violence and alienation in the psyches of the youth, breaking up families and putting children on the streets.

"This is going to be the year of delivery by the police service and the criminal justice system as a whole, delivery of a better service.

"There is going to be a tough new focus on performance in the department this year, with various mechanisms put in place.

"(And) it is going to be the year in which the department pulls together, in which all the components - national, provincial, police and civilian - align behind a shared vision and a shared responsibility for successes and failures."

If implemented, the minister's grand plan for the new year - which he describes as "the year of service delivery" - will not only enhance the image of the police, but also make significant inroads in fighting crime.

Mufamadi spelt out the following priorities:

□ **Quality of investigative services:** "Good service is an investigation which leads to a successful prosecution and which leaves the victim satisfied that justice has been done."

□ **Victim empowerment:** "Victims of crime need to get feedback and follow-up from the investigating officer. This does not occur consistently enough in the SAPS. Civilians and the SAPS have a crucial role to play in this regard."

□ **Budget and resource management:** He conceded that the Project Lifeline which launched Business Against Crime had exposed the SAPS's limitations in this regard.

"They found the police organis-

ation particularly weak in the area of resource allocation. What concerns me is that although this was pointed out to us some time ago, there is no visible response from the police service to show that we have learned from the exercise... If we cannot change the way the department operates and the way that our personnel are treated by the organisation, we cannot hope to change the type of service we deliver."

□ **Performance appraisal:** The department, he said, would be instituting a new system of individual performance appraisals. This would reinforce the commitment and accountability of police leadership to overall goals which are set each year. It would not be enough "to simply count the number of arrests as evidence of success in respect of a particular crime category, although this will form one element of assessment."

□ **Affirmative training strategy:** This would be at the core of all priorities and would ultimately deter-

mine whether the SAPS could deliver a quality service to the citizens of the country.

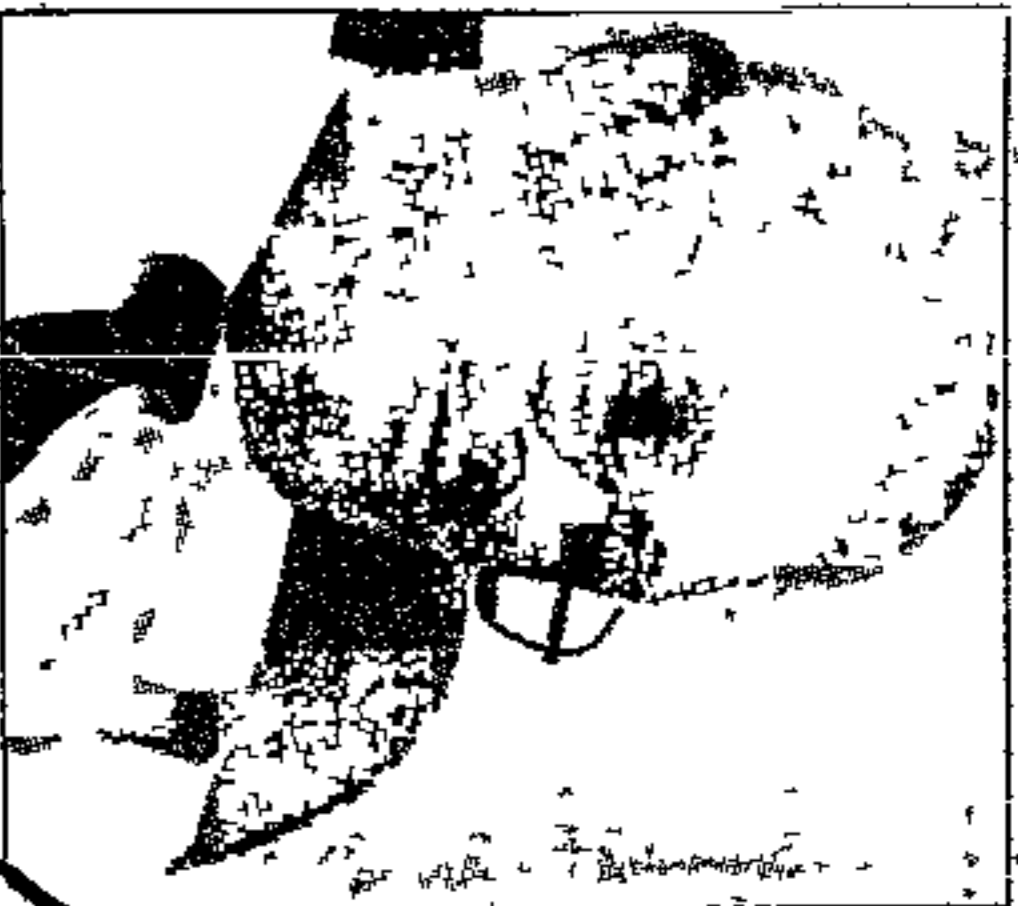
Mufamadi called for legislative flexibility in the handling of "petty" offences and "victimless" crimes such as prostitution and small-scale handling of drugs. If civilian mechanisms working in tandem with the police were put in place to handle these, it would free the SAPS to tackle serious crime head-on.

Turning his focus to crime, Mufamadi proposed that the SAPS should concentrate on reducing the supply of illegal weapons in the country, and mopping up "the sea of weapons" currently in circulation.

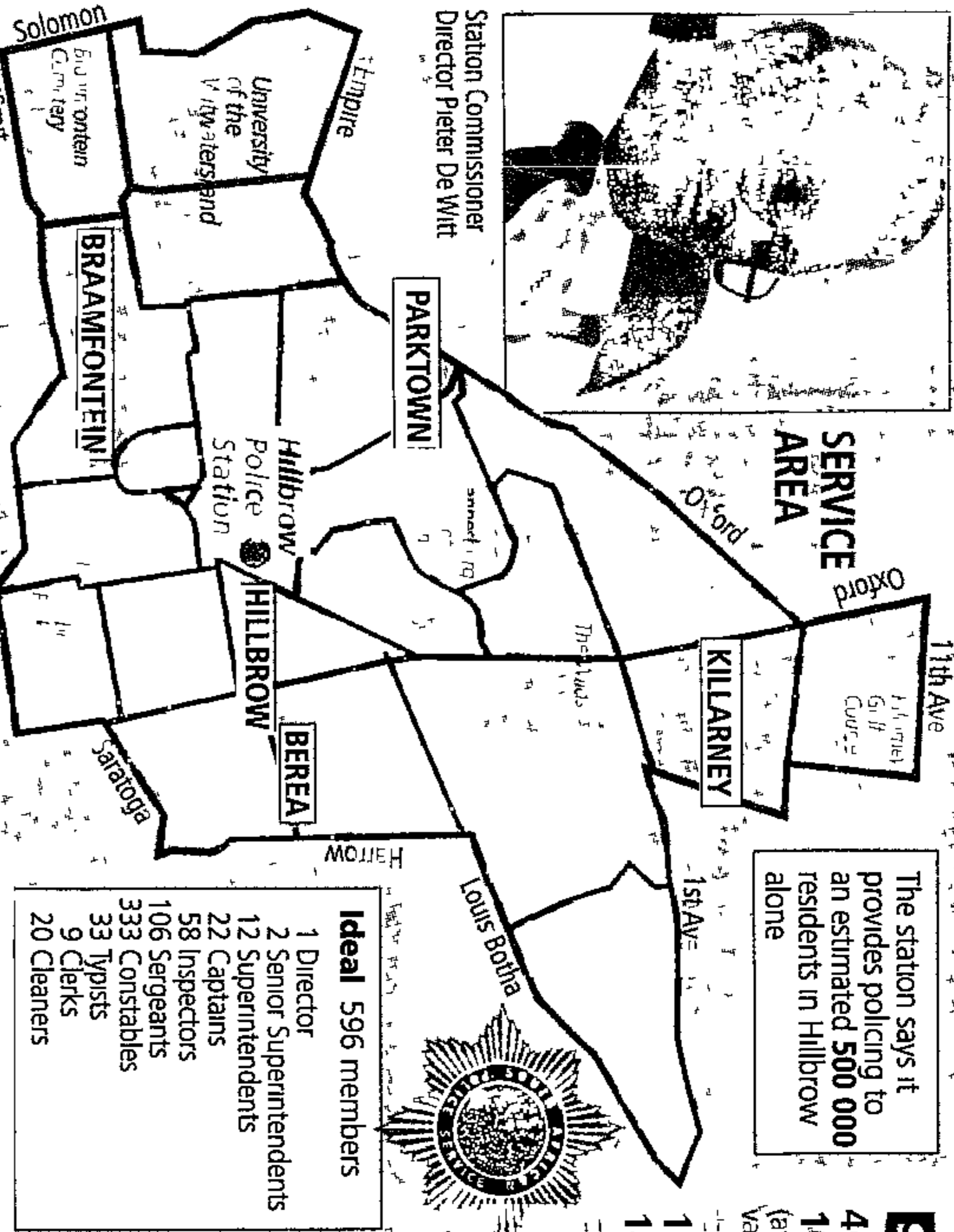
"The department must begin to deal with the expansion of criminal organisations in the country. We must focus on all forms of criminal organisations, from Triads to gangs, from those who operate within our borders to those who smuggle contraband trans-nation-

cops this year!

CP 9/1/97



Station Commissioner
Director Peter De Witt



SERVICE AREA

The station says it provides policing to an estimated 500 000 residents in Hillbrow alone



Ideal 596 members

- 1 Director
- 2 Senior Superintendents
- 12 Superintendents
- 22 Captains
- 58 Inspectors
- 106 Sergeants
- 333 Constables
- 33 Typists
- 9 Clerks
- 20 Cleaners

STAFFING: 322 MEMBERS

- 40 crime prevention police
- 100 policemen split into 4 shifts (average 25 per shift) — charge officers, patrols, vans, compounds
- 100 del. div.
- 18 administration
- 14 manning 4 district courts and 1 regional court
- 50 typst, clerks and cleaners

DETECTIVE WORKLOAD

- Hou a Break ing Unit 10 members in 17 investigated 457 cases
- The Theft Unit 12 members investigating 292 cases
- e all Investigation Unit 7 members in 17 investigated 63 cases, 195 are still being investigated
- Criminal Unit — Serious 16 members in 97 investigated 267 cases, 615 are still being investigated
- Criminal Unit — Other 17 members in 97 investigated 434 cases, 334 are still being investigated



Sergeant O J Mthlane of the "Criminal Unit — Other" with part of his caseload

DP sticks to its guns on flatland crime

Star 14/2/97
(261)

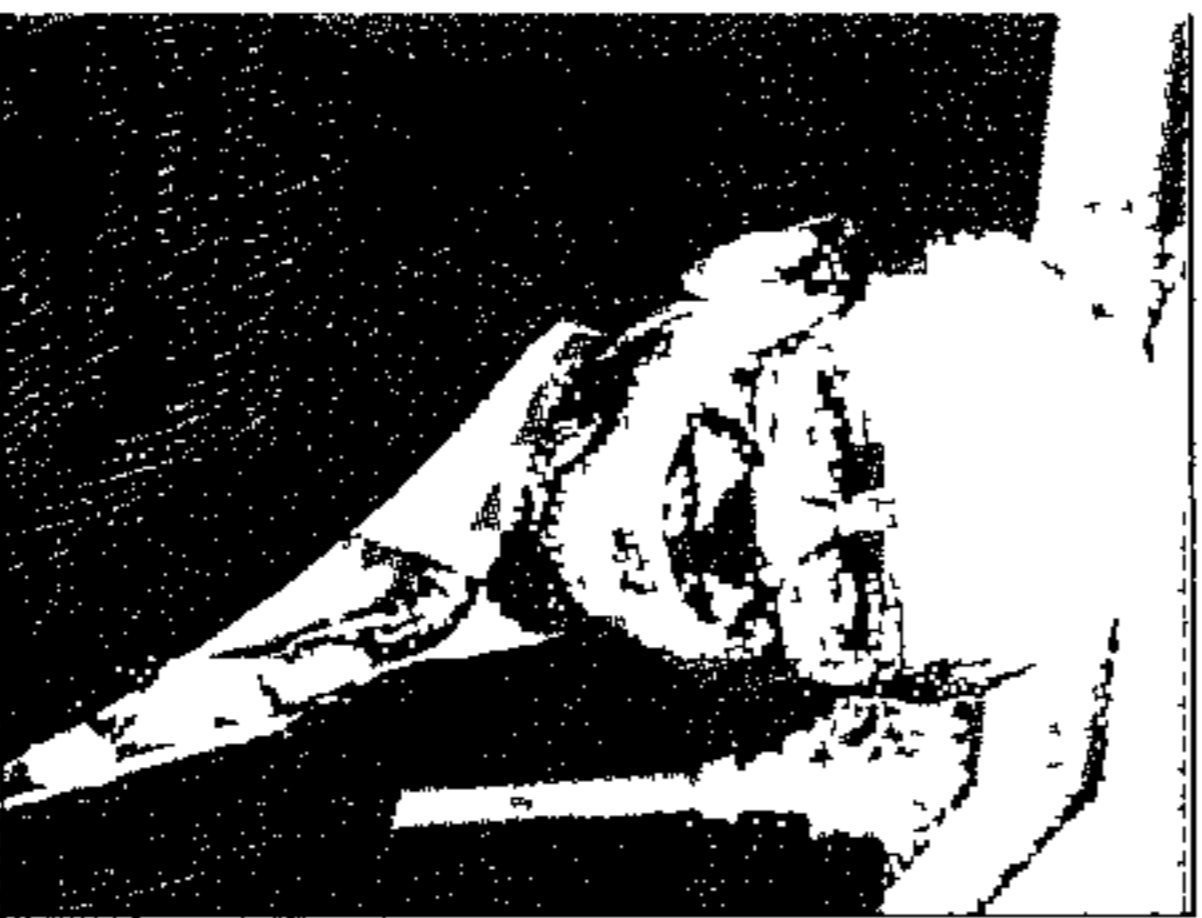
Station commissioner concedes that staff are thinly spread between four shifts but disputes the claim of only a few on patrol

By **DEREK ROONEY**
Crime Reporter

The Democratic Party has refused to back down on figures it released in Parliament this week which claim that only 40 policemen were working on the beat in Hillbrow while 274 were stuck in desk jobs

DP spokesman Douglas Gibson told the portfolio committee on safety and security on Monday that only 40 of the 314 policemen stationed at Hillbrow were involved in proactive policing

Douglas Gibson ... I stand by what I told the committee.



But a visit to the station by The Star has revealed that the DP was off the mark, and the 314 police-

men at the station are swamped with investigations in an area housing an estimated population of more than 500 000

Gibson said yesterday that Hillbrow had been chosen as an example of a police station which, on the face of it, looked reasonably adequately policed but, when analysed, showed vast shortcomings

"I stand by what I told the committee and defy anyone to tell me that there are 314 adequately trained policemen serving at Hillbrow at the moment."

Gibson said the DP had obtained the figures from police officials themselves and believed

40 policemen assigned to crime prevention

they were indisputable Hillbrow station commissioner Director Pieter de Witt said detectives at the station were trying hard to keep up with the deluge of dockets coming their

way, with some having to work with up to 90 dockets each

He admitted that staff were thinly spread between four shifts

He said 40 policemen were assigned exclusively to investigate crime prevention duties with about 100 additional members divided into four shifts, who also performed charge office duties

"Each shift divides its members into charge office personnel and patrol vehicle staff who attend complainants," he said.

Another 14 policemen were detached to perform duties at the four district and one regional court, while 18 people were employed in administrative posts

The remainder (about 100) of the complement formed the detective branch

De Witt said numerous requirement assessments had been conducted at police stations around the country, and Hillbrow was no exception.

"A decision has to be made at national level but according to our assessment this station would be effectively run with a complement of 596 members. That's 263 more people than we have at the moment," De Witt said

However, despite being short on manpower, crime had dropped slightly in Hillbrow, he added



LEON MULLER

Shotgun blasts: police senior superintendent John Sterrenberg, right, before the hearings today



New evidence: Detective Sergeant Tommy Hendricks, left, with commission official George Molebatsi

Why I shot to kill - by Gugs 7 cop TRC relives drama

(251) ARG 17/2/97

JOHN YELD AND JOSEPH ARANES
ON THE TRUTH COMMISSION

Senior Western Cape police spokesman John Sterrenberg today told the Truth and Reconciliation Commission he fired seven blasts with a shotgun and then three bullets with his service pistol at one of the "Guguletu Seven" activists.

The seven were killed by police in controversial circumstances in March 1986.

Senior Superintendent Sterrenberg, who was a warrant officer at the time, told the commission's human rights violations committee in Cape Town that his shotgun had been loaded with "lethal" SSG shot and that he had fired the shots with his 9mm service pistol from a distance of "about three or four metres".

He was testifying at a special hearing into the deaths of the seven which resumed at the Joseph Stone Auditorium in Athlone today. Senior Superintendent Sterrenberg is one of nine serving and former policemen subpoenaed by the commission to testify about the incident.

The hearing started in November but was postponed to today after only three of the policemen had testified.

Senior Superintendent Sterrenberg said he believed he had wounded the man,

who he later learned was Christopher Piet, also known as Rasta, with his shotgun because he (Mr Piet) had stumbled and fallen. There had then been a lull in the firing and he ran closer and took cover behind a tree. He then saw Mr Piet make a movement which he interpreted as either an attempt to shoot at him with an AK-47 assault rifle or to throw a grenade.

He had aimed at Mr Piet's head, as he had been taught to do in "life-threatening situations", as this was "the quickest way to put a person out of action".

"I must have hit him because his head dropped. I must point out that my decision to shoot at his head was taken in a split second, while this person, in my opinion, was preparing to shoot in my direction with an AK-47 or to throw a handgrenade and, in order to protect myself in such a situation, I had to put this person completely out of action."

Responding to questions by Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela, a member of the TRC's human rights violations committee, Senior Superintendent Sterrenberg said: "At that point my intention was to kill him as I felt my own life was being threatened."

He confirmed that he had been a policeman for 32 years, that he had been awarded

To page 3

Top cop tells TRC why he shot to kill Guguletu 7 activist

From page 1

three long-service medals and a medal and two bars for "combating terrorism". He had served two terms in the Caprivi Strip on the Namibian border, and had fought as a South African policeman with the then Rhodesian forces.

Asked to comment on the perspective gained during the first session of the hearing in November that Vlakplaas policemen

had been involved and that the seven had been "executed", Superintendent Sterrenberg said he believed this evidence should be probed by the commission.

■ Policeman Tommy Hendricks today contradicted statements made by a colleague at an earlier TRC hearing into the killing of the Guguletu Seven.

While police earlier said a handgrenade had been thrown at them, he said he could not remember hearing a grenade blast.

Detective Sergeant Hendricks said in, apart from two handgrenades lying near the bodies of two victims, he had not seen any other weapons at the scene.

At the hearing in November, Superintendent Johan Kleyn testified that before the shooting he had driven along NY111 in Guguletu and had tried to confront the seven "suspicious"-looking men, one of whom then tossed a grenade towards them. They then opened fire in self defence.

Anti-crime group threatens to quit police structures

ET 19/2/97

(251)

VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS, including Popcru, called yesterday for the resignation of senior police officers in the Western Cape. Staff Writer **ROGER FRIEDMAN** reports.

THE Western Cape Anti-Crime Forum accused provincial police management yesterday of racism, calling for heads to roll.

Contending that police management had "attempted to use community organisations to legitimise their concept of community policing and yet retain the white power structures", the forum — with representatives of over 35 community-police forums (CPFs) in its ranks — threatened to withdraw from the community policing process

Responding to the allegations, Western Cape police Commissioner Leon Wessels said the police investigated all cases without regard to race or creed

"It was a pity" that the forum had threatened to pull out of community-policing as it still had an important role to play in "training and mobilising" the community.

Meanwhile, reacting to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's special Guguletu Seven massacre hearings yesterday, the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) also called for senior-level resignations, saying the police who killed black people "like animals" were "honoured for their cowardly deeds" with promotions

And, reacting to the initial Guguletu Seven hearing at which Mitchells Plain station commis-

sioner Director Johan Kleyn described shooting one of the seven, a group calling itself "Concerned Residents of Mitchells Plain" joined the chorus for resignations.

Anti-crime forum chairman Mr Chris Ferndale said his organisation's gripe was with police management only, "not the rank and file members"

He said the forum had tried to work with police to build community structures, but the police were "paternalistic" and indifferent to fighting crime in black areas

Ferndale called for the reallocation of resources to equip the police in black areas, referred to claims of a "Boeremafia" within the police who controlled decision-making, and "strongly objected" to the influence in community-policing matters of Mr Peter Stevens, an adviser to Police Services MEC Mr Gerald Morkel

Morkel's "inability to firmly get to grips with his portfolio" contributed to the alleged white cabal's reign in the province

Ferndale alleged that Stevens had "bulldozed the recognition of certain CPFs and refused to recognise others", and that attempts were being made "to keep (CPF) area boards white with token representation of the other races"

He said affirmative action was not enjoying priority, and ques-



RESTRUCTURING: Leon Wessels

tioned how people could be expected to trust a provincial police service with a chief spokesman who admitted to shooting one of the Guguletu Seven seven times with his shotgun and three times in the head

Wessels responded that it appeared "a recent confrontation between the community-police forums and the Western Cape Anti-Crime Forum" had sparked the allegations of racism.

He said resources were being redistributed, and referred to 44 new Scout vehicles recently allocated to certain areas "where imbalances existed" District commissioner's offices had been phased out and their staff redistributed. The police "manpower plan" was structured to increase the number of members on the Cape Flats, and the Crime Investigation Service

had been restructured to the betterment of policing on the Cape Flats

He said the police were "awaiting outstanding promotions of members and the implementation of the en masse transfer process", which would "ensure that all stations in the Western Cape are in the same position in respect of the manpower/community ratio"

Ten months ago, Wynberg enjoyed 2,6 police members per 1 000 residents, Claremont 1,3 per 1 000 and Bellville 2,3 per 1 000 — compared to 0,4 per 1 000 in Mitchells Plain and 0,3 per 1 000 in Khayelitsha.

Although the ideal ratio had not yet been achieved, "several new appointments" had been made to rectify racial imbalances at management level, said Wessels.

Referring to the revelations before the TRC, Popcru said the hearings had "proven" its long-held belief that some senior police members now in management positions had been involved in gross violations of human rights

"Black people were killed like animals. The officers that killed the innocent black people were honoured for their cowardly deeds. Today they are directors and commissioners in the SAPS. With these ruthless killers and corrupt officers, how do law-abiding citizens expect to root out violence, crime and drugs from our communities?"

"This is an urgent appeal to (Safety and Security) Minister Mr Sydney Mufamadi. Get rid of these killers," Popcru said

(251)

'Widespread' destruction of apartheid-era

20/2/97

PD 2

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — The National Intelligence Agency (NIA) yesterday became the latest in a long list of government agencies to acknowledge the massive destruction of apartheid era files during the transition.

Justice Minister Dullah Omar, under whose portfolio intelligence services fall, told reporters in Parliament that one of the recommendations of the Pikoli investigation into intelligence services was that the directors-general of both the NIA and the SA Secret Service had to ensure that no documentation was destroyed without authorisation.

In response to a question Deputy Intelligence Minister Joe Nhlahlahla acknowledged there had been "widespread" destruction of old National Intelligence Service files. He said many people had asked to see files and they were simply not there.

He said he suspected many files had not been destroyed but were being held "at home" by many former intelligence service agents who were holding them as insurance against potential conflict with government.

Omar and Nhlahlahla also said that as a result of the Pikoli investigation they were to introduce legislation to toughen the conditions which applied to former NIA and secret service agents who left the service after serving in "sensitive positions". They said while all members had signed oaths of secrecy, there was a need to protect the state further.

Nhlahlahla said that one of the problems was that many who were part of the intelligence community were now on the "outside" and "we have to protect the state and ourselves". There was also concern that there was a vigorous watch on state intelligence operations in terms of the constitution and legislation and similar restrictions had to be applied to other intelligence gatherers.

It was also acknowledged that with the huge increase in the number of foreign embassies in SA, there had been a corresponding increase in the number of "declared" foreign agents in the country. Along with this increase in declared agents there had been an increase of un-

declared agents and legislation was needed to control them.

Key directives in the Pikoli report are that the NIA and secret service should remain as independent agencies charged with domestic and foreign intelligence gathering. The two agencies were instructed to focus on the collection of intelligence about crime and to develop plans for ministerial approval in this regard.

There is also to be an audit of the human sources and covert structures co-operating with both services.

The intelligence priorities for this year have been set as domestic taxi and political violence, terrorism and third force activities, the illegal arms trade and stock theft. Organised crime with specific attention to drug trafficking, gangsterism, money laundering, theft of state assets, and corruption in the public service will also be intelligence priorities.

Files took place
0/2/97
(251)



Nearly 20 000 criminals have gun licences

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

More than 19 600 people with criminal records are licensed gun-owners, preliminary investigations by the Central Firearms Register show.

This was disclosed by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi yesterday. He said many with licensed firearms had been involved in serious crimes

And he promised "tangible action" on illegal guns by May.

An additional 1 901 who had been declared unfit to possess firearms still had them. He said 187 857 firearms had been lost or stolen between April 1993 and August last year.

It had been relatively easy for people with criminal records, such as known gangsters and druglords, to obtain firearm licences.

South Africa had 653 gun shops and 3,3 million licensed firearms, in the names of 2-million people.

Four government committees are looking into regulating gun licensing. They are examining firearms policy options, control of state-owned firearms and a national strategy on illegal guns.

Other preliminary findings were that 12 470 individuals possessed 10 or more registered guns and 62 people had between 50 and 648, even though not all of them were declared collectors. "Something is definitely wrong somewhere," Mr Mufamadi said.

State-owned firearms were not recorded in the Central Firearms Register, so thefts or losses of weapons belonging to police, armed forces or other state agencies were not included in the central control system.

A total of 18 600 firearms had been reported lost by police, 1 103 of which were later found to have been re-licensed by private individuals.

Police reported a slight improvement in the recovery of firearms from 16 291 in 1995 to 18 059 last year.

But Mr Mufamadi said the recovery of weapons fell well short of the annual increase in the number of guns in circulation illegally.

Gunning for criminals: Minister of Safety and Security Sydney Mufamadi addresses journalists

'30 000 have left police force'

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

Nearly 30 000 police have left the service since the new government came to power, says Minister of Safety and Security Sydney Mufamadi.

He told a media briefing in Cape Town yesterday that the moratorium on the intake of new police recruits would be reviewed once an investigation into a human resources plan was completed next month.

It was essential to know how existing resources were being used and whether members were effectively trained and properly deployed, he said.

The police were often said to be understaffed and under-resourced but the availability of resources was being improved, particularly in formerly disadvantaged areas, he said.

A thousand new computers and 1 144 new vehicles had recently been given to the police in the former homelands.

Projects to upgrade or build 41 new police stations at a cost of R107-million were well under way, Mr Mufamadi said.

Deputy-Minister of Safety and Security Joe Mathews said the police were urgently implementing a new computer system linked to a fingerprint bank. This was part of a programme to provide the justice system with efficient access to records.

gun licences
criminals have



HELPING HAND: Spiritual counsellor Mr Martie Kotze is one of the many social workers who try to help convicts cope with prison life



Pictures
by
GARTH STEAD

Rehabilitation a joke, (251) CT 25/2/97 say psychologists

JUDY DAMON

DEMORALISED psychologists working at Pollsmoor say rehabilitation is "a joke" and that they had already applied for severance packages, but were turned down because they were sorely needed at the prison

Head psychologist for the Western Cape Mr Fred Borchardt said

that most of the prisoners up for parole had never seen a psychologist

They were left with the task of deciding, in one hour only, if the convict will "do it again" based on the profile of another prisoner with a similar track record

Ms Petra Badenhorst, the only psychologist working in Pollsmoor's maximum security section,

said she saw less than 10 prisoners a day, sometimes none. This is because much of the time she was called away to other prisons to sort out problems, leaving her Pollsmoor case load behind. And when she is available, there are sometimes no offices vacant for sessions.

"Most of the prisoners leave her without a single day of evaluation and having had no rehabilitation at all," she said.

On top of the heavy case loads, the psychologists worked in bad conditions for poor salaries. Pollsmoor Prison commander Mr Fred Engelbrecht has set the wheels in motion to clean up the mess of the "old system" — and he is starting with his staff.

"The attitudes of the staff must change or we will continue to send worse criminals into society," Engelbrecht said.

Rehabilitation, which was never a priority for the prison service in the past, is now given top priority by Engelbrecht, who holds regular meetings with staff to find new ways to deal with rehabilitation and overcrowding.

The two new prisons, under construction in Goodwood and Malmesbury will detain awaiting trial prisoners only, which will help ease the overcrowding at Pollsmoor. But Engelbrecht sees this as a short-term solution for his jail.

"If the crime rate comes down, the overcrowding problem will decline and eventually we will provide a better service for the community and will rehabilitate prisoners effectively," he said.



JAM-PACKED: In the maximum security section close to 30 prisoners are squashed in cells that are supposed to hold only 15

PLAN LOOKS AT NON-VIOLENT CRIMES

Prison crowding may lead to early paroles

THE COMMANDER of Pollsmoor Prison is opposed to early paroles as rehabilitation programmes are bedevilled by staff shortages **DAN SIMON** and **JUDY DAMON** write

THE Department of Correctional Services is looking into the possibility of releasing certain categories of prisoners to ease overcrowding at a number of South African prisons — including Pollsmoor Prison, where occupancy is the highest it has been.

Although still in the planning stage, the idea of early parole for prisoners convicted of non-violent crimes has encountered strong resistance from Pollsmoor Prison commander Mr Fred Engelbrecht. Engelbrecht cited problems — arising from a staff shortage — with the prison service's rehabilitation process.

However, he acknowledged that overcrowding at Pollsmoor was acute and that stressed correctional services staff were "cracking" under the heavy load.

There is only one psychologist to every 1 500 prisoners, one educator to every 450 prisoners

and one social worker to 300 prisoners.

"The entire prison — and especially its maximum security section — is holding more than double its capacity of 3 000," Engelbrecht said.

Three to four prisoners were crammed into a single cell and communal cells — intended to accommodate 15 convicts — held as many as 30.

Department of Correctional Services spokesman Mr Rudi Potgieter said there were 93 000 sentenced prisoners in the country's jails and that something would have to be done to ease overcrowding.

"(Early parole) is an idea that is still in the planning stages," Potgieter said.

"Correctional Services Commissioner Khyilekhan Sithole said, on his appointment, that he felt that certain categories of prisoners

CF 25 | 2/97 (251)

would not pose a threat to society. "Building new prisons is one way of creating capacity, but it is not the cheapest and easiest way out. One could deal with (the prisoners) in other ways and create the capacity needed in the prisons, but there is still a long way to go."

"We would have to screen which prisoners qualify and then create structures and programmes outside the prisons to support the prisoners once they have been released."

"We would also have to engage in talks first with the Department of Justice, which sentenced the prisoners, Nicro and the South African Police Services, which arrested the prisoners. This would not in any way be a unilateral decision by Correctional Services to release hundreds of prisoners on an unsuspecting public."

Potgieter said an example of the class of convict who might be granted early parole was a prisoner who was serving a prison term for fraud because he or she could not afford to pay the fine handed down by court as an option.

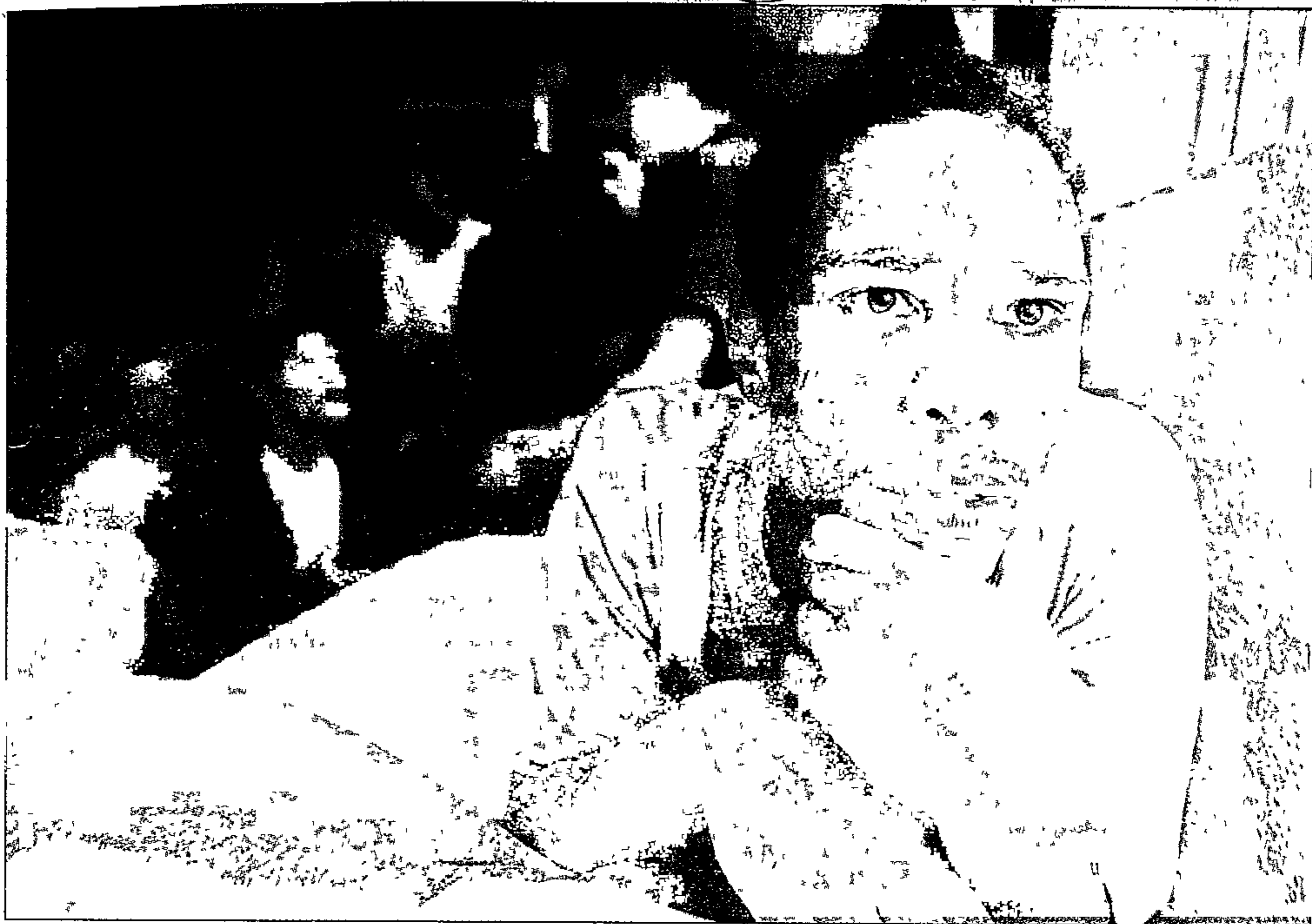


ON YOUR KNEES: Juvenile prisoners scrub hallways while their "commander" chants a deafening tune which they must repeat. The faster he goes, the faster they must scrub.

CT

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DEEP THOUGHTS: Convict David Pietersen said he had told his life story so many times that he would rather sit and think all day long

Generous police medical aid (25/1) scheme probed

Tim Cohen

80 25/2/99

CAPE TOWN — Government has instituted an investigation into the generous police medical aid scheme, Polmed, after it overshot its R1bn budget by about 17% last year.

Addressing the finance committee of the National Council of Provinces, state expenditure director-general Hannes Smit said the investigation would include a similar medical aid scheme offered to correctional services department staff and to the SA National Defence Force.

Smit was explaining to the committee that there had been overexpenditure of R185m on Polmed.

The budget had anticipated an expenditure of about R1bn. One reason for the overexpenditure was the incorporation of thousands of policemen from former homelands into the national police force, Smit said.

The homeland police forces had had their own schemes, but when contracts had been taken over by the police force policemen became entitled to Polmed benefits, Smit said.

The medical aid system was extremely generous because policemen were entitled to treatment for the vast majority of ailments for only a R10 consultation fee.

The scheme applied to all SA Police Service employees and dependants, and a similar one applied to correctional services employees and dependants.

The scheme was run by the same organisation that administered the medical aid scheme of ordinary public servants, but was separately accounted for. The medical aid scheme of ordinary public servants was comparable to private sector schemes.

Smit said it was understandable that people involved in a war situation ought to have special medical aid schemes, but he questioned whether ordinary office workers could rightfully claim the same level of benefits.

The investigation was under way and the team was mostly established. It would consist of representatives of safety and security, state expenditure and private consultants, Smit said.

SA police union backs Sterrenberg's right to his job

LINDSAY BARNES

APR 26/21/97

(251) (252)

The SA Police Union says it will not tolerate "absurd" statements by Western Cape Police Minister Gerald Morkel that provincial police media liaison head John Sterrenberg will have a "difficult time keeping his job".

This follows evidence by Senior Superintendent Sterrenberg to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) about the shooting of the Guguletu Seven in 1986. A photograph of Superintendent Sterrenberg standing next to the body of one of the victims has sparked further controversy.

The minister's "high-handed" comments would endanger the workings of the TRC and result in other police officials not coming forward to testify to the commission, the union's Western Cape secretary Andy Miller said.

However, Mr Morkel said he had not implied Superintendent Sterrenberg would lose his job, but that considering the circumstances, it would be difficult for the media liaison head to remain in his post as police spokesman.

According to a report, Mr Morkel said at a meeting of the Matieland community police forum recently, it was not his decision whether or not Superintendent Sterrenberg - and the other top policemen involved in the Guguletu shootings - would lose their jobs, but it would be difficult for the superintendent to keep his

after the TRC hearing
Last week, after his evidence to the TRC, a photograph of Superintendent Sterrenberg and the body of Christopher "Rasta" Pret, who he shot dead in the March 1986 incident, appeared in newspapers.

Superintendent Sterrenberg appears to be smiling in the photograph. He told the commission it was probably a "nervous reaction". He denied posing with the body.

Western Cape police commissioner Leon Wessels said Superintendent Sterrenberg remained the head of the Western Cape police's communications department, but dealt mostly with "internal matters" pending the findings of the special sitting of the commission. Superintendent Sterrenberg had not officially been released from his duties, he said.

If the TRC recommended the police carry out a further investigation into the Guguletu shooting, the case would be reopened and the results referred to the Attorney-General for a decision on prosecution, he said.

Mr Miller said "Reconciliation will indeed not be brought about by screaming for a person's blood when that person gave evidence before the commission at his own volition."

"One should bear in mind that staff in the SA Police Service have the full force of the Labour Relations Act behind them and we will advise police members of their rights," he said.

Mr Morkel's spokesman, David Frost, said the minister was aware of the Labour Relations Act provisions.



Denial: media liaison head John Sterrenberg



Outspoken: Police Minister Gerald Morkel

4 SOUTH AFRICA

Days are numbered for generals

(251)

M+G 28/2-6/3/97

Peta Thornycroft

THE Transvaal attorney general's office is putting the finishing touches to the case against several police generals who will be arrested and charged in the middle of next month.

General "Krappies" Engelbrecht is finally going to be brought to court three years after he was forced to leave the police service, following Judge Richard Goldstone's allegations of massive security force involvement in South Africa's low grade civil war

Engelbrecht is a close friend of convicted mass murderer Eugene de Kock, who was forced to admit in court last year how Engelbrecht became the "sweeper" for atrocities committed by the secret police death squad at Vlakplaas

Strangely, Engelbrecht has not applied to the

Truth and Reconciliation Commission for amnesty

Charges against Engelbrecht will include conspiracy to murder, obstruction of justice and fraud. He will be accused of co-ordinating false affidavits for the policemen accused of killing four men in Nelspruit in March 1992

Another general, former Eastern Cape security chief Nick van Rensburg, is also going to be charged with a long list of murders. And General Johan le Roux will be accused of playing a role in the murder of a bank employee, Japie Maponya

There may well be others enjoined in the indictment

The case has been delayed over the years by the bulk of information emerging from various trials

In addition, the understaffed attorney general's office is unable to cope with the growing

number of key investigations as more and more security force operatives seek to become state witnesses in return for indemnity from prosecution

Another general named by Judge Goldstone in 1994, Basie Smit, has now begun to prepare a submission for the truth commission

Smit, a popular policeman in the early part of his career, went on to head up the security police and has always loudly denied any knowledge of, or complicity in, dirty tricks

It is clear from information submitted in amnesty applications so far that few if any senior police officers will willingly tell the whole story

Most of them are being advised to confirm to the truth commission only what is known from various trials or what has been exposed by other operatives

SA's 'sick' police service

(251) M+G 28/2-6/3/97

With police abusing their sick leave to score additional days off, many stations have been left ill-equipped to combat crime, reports **Angella Johnson**

THE South African Police Service (SAPS) is planning a crackdown on widespread abuse of the service's generous sick leave benefits as part of the efficiency drive announced by national Commissioner George Fivaz

Police are granted 120 days' sick leave with full salary every three years to cover the eventuality that they may be injured in the line of duty. This is in addition to the 30 days' annual holiday time allocated. Officers with more than 10 years' service qualify for double the normal sick leave allocation.

But it is claimed many officers are using the benefits to extend their holiday leave, hampering the service's ability to combat crime.

It is quite apparent to us from the medical records that many stations were often understaffed because of people taking sick time out for several days at a time,' said Senior Superintendent Strim Govender, communication officer for human resources at the SAPS Pretoria headquarters.

"In some cases members intending to take a few days off tend to make use of their sick leave for this purpose instead of their vacation time."

The practice placed an unnecessary burden on disciplined police officers, "as well as financial implications in the sense of rescheduling duties so that members have to perform overtime duties."

Another common practice is that police working on relief duties are granted four days off after the completion of a shift of eight days. They then manipulate sick leave to score additional days off.

A special task force of five police departments, including management service and human resources, has been set up to evaluate the extent of the problem and find ways of tightening controls.

From the beginning of next month, every police station will have to present monthly reports of people on sick leave, which will be collated nationally and sent on to national headquarters. Only then will a decision be made about the best way to tighten up the process.

Earlier this month, Fivaz and Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi announced tough plans to improve police efficiency to bolster its crime-fighting capabilities.



Under pressure: Certain police officers defend their right to take sick leave as a way of recuperating from the stress of their job

PHOTOGRAPH GUY ADAMS

Performance contracts setting out officers' personal goals and commitments were among the measures proposed.

Fivaz promised a major clean-up of the SAPS that would beef up its flagging performance and warned that heads would roll in the shake-up.

He said the service "dared not indulge in the mindset" that it was merely the victim of circumstances it could not alter. "It simply must succeed through effective utilisation of existing resources."

The reaction to tightening up on sick leave is likely to be strong.

One officer, who did not want to be identified, defended his right to take sick days as a way of recuperating from the stresses of a job which has become increasingly more dangerous.

Another officer, Theo Bosch, said the sick leave was initially granted for women who suffered from premenstrual sickness every month. "That way they can take a few days off without having to get a doctor's certificate," he said.

When cops get it wrong

By DESMOND BLOW

THE SOUTH African public is losing faith in its police service, after several high-profile cases were seemingly bungled.

Communities are angry at the apparent lack of competence on the part of the police, and also at the government for appearing insensitive to their plight.

But not only do police fail to solve crimes — only about four out of a hundred murders are solved — but they sometimes make serious errors in attempting to solve cases. Members of the public are angry as some criminals are allowed out on paltry bail, while innocent people are sometimes wrongly arrested and kept in jail.

Over the past three years, four cases have been notable that of the suspected serial strangler and rapist David Selepe, the woman who was wrongfully arrested for the kidnapping of baby Micaela Hunter, the arrest of the son of internationally acclaimed poet Don Mattera as the alleged Yeoville rapist, and the arrest of the brother of Soli Philander, the stand-up comedian.

All four were kept in jail for some time; one of them was shot when he was taken out of jail by the police, the second spent 11 days in jail away from her three children, and the third, accused of rape, was shifted from prison to court for five days. The fourth, also accused of rape, was held for two days before being let out on R5 000 bail.

David Selepe, arrested as the suspected Cleveland rapist and killer of 11 women, was shot dead by a policeman on a mine dump in 1994. Yet just hours after Sergeant Timothy Mngomezulu was found by a court to have shot and killed Selepe in self-defence — as Selepe had threatened him with a knife — another body of a man was found near Cleveland.

Now two years later, another suspect, Moses Sithole, is standing trial for the murders of 37 women and a child.

If Sithole is guilty, where does he leave Selepe?

Selepe was taken from his prison by the police to sites where the rapes of raped and strangled women had been found.

The police have maintained all along that Selepe was a serial killer. He was never fought on trial. Several allegations can neither be proved nor disproved, even if Sithole is guilty.



COULD THE POLICE HAVE MADE A MISTAKE? On the left is a police identikit of the alleged Cleveland serial killer Selepe as a suspect and shot him in "self-defence" — but now Moses Sithole (right) is on trial for the crimes. We don't know yet whether either of the men was the killer.



those should confess to all the killings.

At the time of Selepe's death, the police gave two different versions of how he was shot.

Selepe's attorney, Japie Barkhuizen, asked the court to reject both police versions and accused the police of a "cover-up".

He also said none of the police photos taken at the scene of the shooting showed the tree branch with which Selepe allegedly attacked the policeman, but one was provided in court.

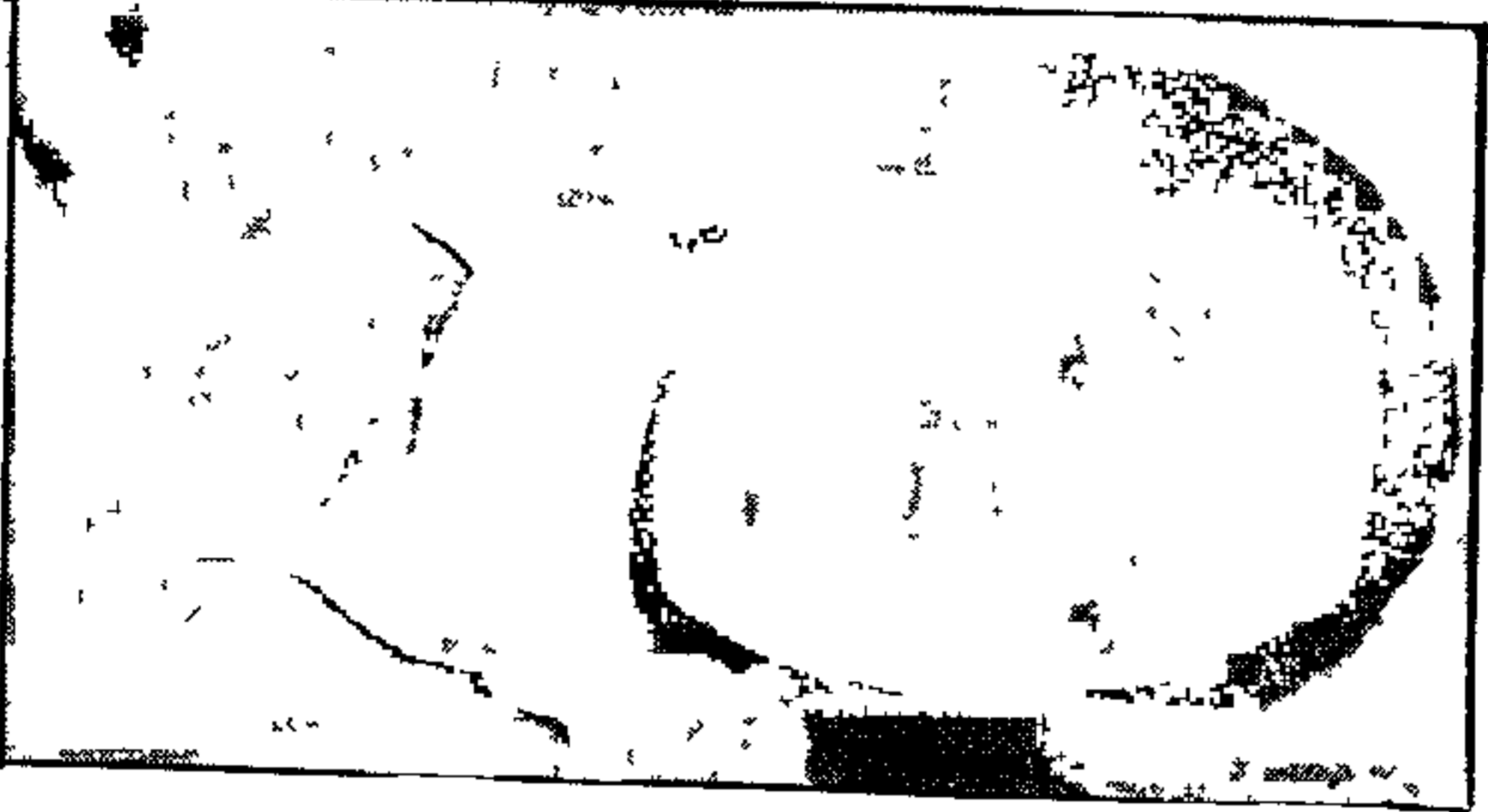
The inquest magistrate, HB Strydom, found the policeman had shot Selepe in self-defence.

But if Selepe was not the serial killer, it would appear unlikely that he would venture to attack one or two armed policemen, who had him in custody, armed only with a piece of wood.

The wrongful arrest of Lynn Ingram for the kidnapping of Micaela Hunter had repercussions this week when Ingram unsuccessfully sued the Minister of Justice and the Minister for Safety and Security for R250 000 for wrongful arrest.

Acting Justice Ismail Semanya found reasonable grounds for the issue of the warrant of arrest for Ingram on May 3, 1995, though another woman, Sonja Combinek, was arrested a year later and convicted for the kidnapping.

Ingram spent 11 days in the Johannesburg police cells. Semanya said it was not necessary for the police to have complete certainty before issuing a warrant. Superintendent Willie Botha, who was arrested for the kidnapping of Micaela Hunter, testified that he was on holiday that she had been arrested for the child's kidnapping.



OUR WHOLE FAMILY HAS BEEN AFFECTED. Don Mattera's son was released after rape victims failed to positively identify him.

Chief investigating officer in the Micaela Hunter kidnapping case, testified in the Johannesburg High Court for Ingram.

"I subjected Ms Ingram to severe interrogation, and came to the conclusion that she was not responsible for the kidnapping of Micaela Hunter."

When I heard that Durban, where I was on holiday, that she had been arrested for the child's kidnapping, I was extremely surprised. Botha testified that he was on holiday that she had been arrested for the child's kidnapping.

Ingram further claimed the State prosecutor gave the magistrate false information under oath.

Advocate ECD Bruwer, appearing for the State prosecutor on behalf of the two ministers, argued that Ingram's arrest had been lawful and based on reliable information, which a domestic worker, Patricia Mashaya, had given.

The court ordered Ingram to pay the costs of both her lawyers and those of the lawyer representing the ministers.

After the case, Ingram said there was no justice, and nothing could compensate for the anguish she and her three children had endured while she was locked in jail.

After Teddy Errol Mattera's arrest in November 1992, he was paraded before several women who had been raped by the Yeoville rapist — but not one identified him.

His father, Don Mattera, said the whole family had been affected, and that watching Teddy being shunted from prison to court had brutalised the whole family.

Ten months later, Technikon Witwatersrand student Wonga Ndungane was positively linked to five of the nine rape attacks, and was sentenced to an effective 32 years in jail.

Comedian Soli Philander was not amused when his brother, Andrew, was arrested for rape.

Soli accused the government of turning its back on him, and was angry that while his brother was in custody, Minister of Justice Dullah Omar and Gauteng MEC for Safety and Security, Wessie Duarte, visited him in jail.

higher bail and higher sentences for serious crimes. Philander, like Mattera, was released when rape victims failed to identify him.

Police say they have difficulty in making rape charges stick as rapes often occur in the dark, and the victims are so shocked and hurt that they are unable to remember what their attackers looked like.

The Matters threatened to sue for wrongful arrest, but legal authorities feel that in cases like Ingram's, the courts are unlikely to be sympathetic, as the police will claim they had a prima facie case — that they had evidence to make them suspicious of the suspects.

According to a top British cop, Superintendent Brendon Gibbs-Grey, who investigated 130 allegations of murder, torture and assault against police in the Vaal Triangle in 1994 as a member of the Complainants Investigation Unit (CIU), SA police investigate crime by arresting the suspects.

"They get information that a certain person is responsible for the crime and they investigate the crime by investigating the criminal. They don't do any forensic scene investigation, they don't look for eye-witnesses, they don't circulate people properly," Gibbs-Grey told City Press in November 1994.

Gibbs-Grey came to the conclusion that the top echelons of SA police should be ousted as "the power of the generals is still awesome".

He stressed that there were many good South African policemen for whom he had the highest regard, but said their efforts were wasted as senior police officers did not accept responsibility for the actions of some of their subordinates.

"They do not realise that community policing is a concept that requires total commitment, and is not just an order to perform community policing. Without the community, the concept cannot work. There has to be harmony between the community and police," he said.

More and more communities and individuals are now taking the law into their own hands, and this puts the rule of law under threat. Twice this week police had to rescue innocent people from angry mobs who suspected them of crimes.



UPSET WRONG SUSPECT'S FAMILY. Justice Minister Dullah Omar talked about higher bail while Anwarh Philander was in custody.

Many legal authorities in South Africa believe this should be the system in South Africa, but people are demanding the return of the death sentence.

Convicted rapist Ndungane told the court that after his arrest, police tried to throw him out of a speeding car. He said he was also given electric shocks, and other efforts were made to force him to sign a confession.

These were the methods often used under the apartheid police. As a result, South African police with few exceptions — as Gibbs-Grey says — do not know how to properly investigate crimes and depend mostly on confessions.

The better policemen, like those under the special squad led by Brigadier Ivor Human in the Gauteng Attorney General's office who are capable of solving crimes, are at present investigating "hit squad" and "third-force" crimes.

Like those committed by Eugene de Kock and other police officers, the crimes committed by the "hit squad" are not being investigated properly.



HUMAN RIGHTS VS PROTECTING SOCIETY. Gauteng MEC for Safety and Security Wessie Duarte has said bail is granted too easily.

constitutional right of the suspect. But Gauteng Safety and Security MEC Wessie Duarte agreed when I interviewed her in 1995 that bail is granted too easily in serious cases.

Western democracies, such as the US, allow bail in terms of human rights — but the crime decides the size of the bail, and by granting bail in millions of dollars, they make certain that certain serious crimes will not be investigated properly.

SOME COPS 'DELIBERATELY CHOOSE CONFRONTATION'

Community leaders want police unit disbanded

THERE IS widespread feeling in the townships that the Public Order Policing Services unit is obstructing rather than assisting community policing. **LINDIZ VAN ZILLA** reports.

RECENT allegations of brutality, abusive attitudes and an apartheid era mentality on the part of the Public Order Policing Services (Pops) — formerly the Internal Stability Unit — have led to demands that the unit be disbanded.

Coloured and black communities in which the unit is deployed have accused it of choosing violent confrontation instead of aligning itself with a transformation in community policing.

Accusing unit members of joining a law unto themselves, local communities last week said there was no place for the unit in the Western Cape and called for it to be disbanded.

Leading community organisations, including the Western Cape Anti-Crime Forum, said Pops was so different to the riot squad of the mid-1980s.

Pops was set up as a riot squad during the state of emergency to deal with boycotts and riots in the townships.

In recent years the unit tried to shed its unpopular image by changing its name and changing its uniform from camouflage to standard police blues.

The unit was also extensively involved in community outreach programmes, including school and church exhibitions and food

people. Changes of attempted murder have been laid against the unit, which is stationed near Knuis River.

In the latest incident, yesterday, a raid by Pops members on a Rastafarian commune in Philippi ended in violent clashes.

The Rastafarians claimed they were "tear-gassed, shot at with live ammunition and beaten" by Pops members.

A major grievance is that they are not part of the community police force, but outsiders called in as "troubleshooters".

Guguletu Community Policing Forum chairman Mr Danile Landingwe accused Pops of being "a law unto themselves" after an incident several weeks ago in which Pops members allegedly assaulted community policing forum members during a night-time anti-crime operation.

Landingwe accused Pops of being unwilling to co-operate with the forum and the local police in combating crime. He said most Guguletu residents had "no hassles with local police force". The behaviour of Pops, however, was damaging relations between the community and the local police force.

"The local police and the Guguletu Community Police Forum have worked hard to build up a trusting relationship with the community, but Pops are destroying it," he said.



CT 3/3/97

(2/1)

TROUBLESHOOTERS Internal Stability Unit members in action in Strand Street during taxi conflict a few years ago

Its primary function, however, is to help maintain public order in protest situations and to monitor protest marches. But lately it has been alleged that Pops members often adopt a confrontational attitude, contributing to violent clashes.

Intelligence sources in the police told the Cape Times there were individuals in Pops who deliberately sought confrontation to give them an excuse to use excessive force.

This included indiscriminately opening fire on crowds with birdshot and rubber bullets.

There have been several instances recently.

● In January four people were injured in clashes between Pops and the Hout Bay fishing community over poaching.

● In the same month residents of George on the South Coast were involved in day-long skirmishes with Pops members who had been called in to help oversee the eviction of squatters.

● Guguletu community policing forum members have accused Pops of sabotaging anti-crime operations and even assaulting forum members.

● Last month, a standoff between Pops members and Nyanga residents ended with Pops firing a birdshot into a crowd, injuring 14

These sentiments were echoed by Nyanga Community Policing Forum member Ms Minton Makasi, who said "The community is trying to adjust to trusting the police, but the ISU are destroying that completely."

She said the Nyanga police forum demanded that the unit "go completely."

"No one is able to control them," Makasi said. "We can't tolerate this anymore."

Three weeks ago eight members of the Pops moved into Zwelishsha in Nyanga after receiving a tip-off about a drug dealer in the area. A stand-off ensued between Pops and residents after Pops members allegedly assaulted the suspect.

Makasi said one woman who had tried to stop the assault had been told to "shut up, you kaffir" by one of the policemen. Bottles and stones had then allegedly been thrown at the Pops members, who had responded by opening fire with birdshot.

Makasi said 14 people had been shot, among them a 14-year-old and a pregnant woman.

When she was granted permission to see the arrested man, whom she claims was "too weak to walk", one of the Pops members allegedly kept making fun of the man, saying "can you see the next Steve Biko?"

||| ||| ||| |||

Similar accusations of racist taunts were levelled at Pops in Hout Bay during clashes with the local fishing community. It was claimed Pops members racially insulted President Nelson Mandela.

However, in many instances, Pops members are themselves subjected to a constant barrage of verbal and racial taunts by unruly elements in communities.

Mr Chris Fendale of the Western Cape Anti-crime Forum said "Pops are turning out to be no different from the riot squad which operated in the mid-1980s."

He accused Pops of "doing more harm than building any form of trust within the police", and cited several recent instances of conflict between Pops and communities in Clanwilliam, Hout Bay and the Boland and Overberg areas.

He said Pops were not accountable to local policing structures and operated without informing the local police and local community policing forums of their operations. "This is completely unacceptable," Fendale said.

He also said the unit's vast resources — advanced communications system, Nyalas, Casspirs, emergency first aid facilities — should be redistributed and used

more effectively in the townships, "where those resources are badly needed."

He said "Those resources must be redistributed to focus on real problems."

However, a statement from the Provincial Police Commissioner's office rejected as "untrue" claims that Pops acted "independently from community police forums."

It said all requests to perform patrols and crime prevention duties in townships came from local station commanders and the community police forums.

The National Safety Services headquarters in Pretoria outlined Pops' primary function as "the management of events whether peaceful or of a unrest nature, for example demonstrations, marches, mass protests etc."

It said in a statement "The management of events includes preventive, protective, reactive and restorative measures."

The statement also said Pops formed part of the SAPS' commitment to community policing, and said the rendering of specialised personnel and equipment in support of policing activities "necessitated the existence of Public Order Police units"



Apartheid spies still in place, warns Mbeki

Deputy President Thabo Mbeki has warned that opposition from former security police officers to the naming of African National Congress members who were informers for the previous government indicates that the network of informers is still in place and is still being used.

Mr Mbeki has written to the Truth Commission's amnesty committee urging it to rule against a request by five former security policemen that the names of apartheid-era police informers remain a secret.

The ANC released the letter yesterday after the committee had ruled that the names should not be made public.

"The informer network established by the apartheid organs of state was part of the machinery responsible for a gross violation of human rights," Mr Mbeki said. As part of the process of ensuring that such violations did not happen again, it was vital that this machinery "in all its parts" be disclosed and dismantled. "Reluctance

to disclose the informer network indicates that it has not been dismantled."

Mr Mbeki's submission also suggested that the network continued to be used for purposes contrary to the process of reconciliation and the protection of the democratic order.

Mr Mbeki said the ANC had always understood that full disclosure of the truth

was an "inalienable part of both the amnesty process and the search for national reconciliation." Addressed to committee chairman Mr Justice Hassen Mall, his letter was sent two days before the committee was scheduled to rule on the request by the policemen's counsel, Roelof du Plessis.

Mr Du Plessis said many of the informers were prominent members of the present government and the disclosure of their names would have serious repercussions for the Government and for national reconciliation. Identifying the informers would also put them in danger.



Thabo Mbeki. urgent call

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ARG 4/3/97 (251)

Jo'burg gets 100 more crime fighters as traffic officers pulled from desks jobs

Star 8/3/97 (251) (88)

By JACQUI REEVES

The war against crime in Johannesburg's central business district has been intensified with the addition of a further 100 "peace officers" to the city's streets

Traffic officers who have been working as administrators or control room operators have been put back on the beat and will take up their positions from Monday

Hilow Maeko, the strategic executive for metropolitan public safety and emergency services at the Johannesburg council, told the *Saturday Star* that the council could not wait for national legislation to save the city

"The legislation for metropolitan policing is not yet ready but

we felt we could not just stand by and watch crime in the city continue to escalate," he said

Maeko added that visible policing was the key to fighting crime in the city

"It was a waste to have qualified crime fighters sitting in offices. This plan will get them back out on the streets, where they can be seen and make a real difference"

Civilians will be employed to fill the positions vacated by the peace officers

The bulk of the new officers will be deployed on foot, and they will be in direct radio contact with all other peace and police officers in the area

Peace officers will be able to call for back-up assistance during a crime in progress or problem situation - and will immediately be joined by the closest officer in the area

Although the peace officers will still be expected to perform their traffic duties, their new task will also be to prevent crime, and they will be empowered to make arrests

All case investigations and paperwork will be taken over by members of the South African Police Service once the arrest has been made. The new team will take the number of city crime fighters to 209

The peace officers will be introduced to the public on Monday at a parade that will end at the Noord Street taxi rank

Gauteng MEC for Safety and Security Jessie Duarte will address the crowd along with the mayor of Greater Johannesburg, Isaac Mogase

Cops worse than public in some crime categories

Proportionally more police than members of the public were arrested last year for murder and attempted murder, according to a quarterly SA Police Service crime report.

The report, released in Pretoria, also revealed that 100 out of 100 000 police members had been arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, compared with 57 out of 100 000 members of the public.

Crime information management services head Dr Chris de Kock stressed that the murder and attempted murder cases against police also sprouted from on-duty incidents.

The document expressed concern at the high number of police members arrested for assault and commercial crime.

The report stated that 2 834 alleged crimes were investigated against police last year, of whom 462 were convicted or paid admission-of-guilt fines.

More than 440 members were acquitted and complaints were withdrawn in 63 of the cases. More than 1 830 cases were still pending.

Nine of South Africa's 20 most serious crimes had shown a downward trend last year, while incidents of rape, serious assault, robbery and illegal possession of firearms had increased, the report said.

Crimes that decreased included murder robbery with aggravated circumstances, stock theft shoplifting theft from and of vehicles, and drug-related crimes.

The document said seven priority crimes, which included attempted murder common assault, housebreaking, commercial crime, arson, malicious damage to property and driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, had remained stable.

Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi said that although the Government was pleased about the stabilisation or decline of most serious crimes the increase in rape was a matter of concern.

The report said higher rape and serious assault figures might be attributed to an increase in reporting of the crimes, while the rise in arrests for illegal possession of firearms might be explained by effective police work.

"On the other hand, it may well be true that there is a massive influx of weapons of war from Mozambique and Angola, and a proliferation of stolen and lost firearms in circulation, becoming available to criminals."

(251) Mr 8/13/97

because of need, not because of greed," De Kock said. He added that although the incidence of most priority crimes stabilised or decreased last year, the total number of cases reported had increased in some instances.

"One has to keep in mind the growth of the population," he said.

On police performance in solving reported cases, the report said it was a matter of great concern that the number of suspects' fingerprints received by the Criminal Record Centre had decreased since 1995.

"During 1996, 4% (fewer) fingerprints were received than in 1995, contributing to a 10,3% decrease since 1994."

The solving rate for murder cases had increased by 7,6% and that for attempted murder by 4,8% since 1995, while decreases had been reported in clearing rates in cases of robbery with aggravating circumstances and of rape.

Mufamadi said clearing rates in Gauteng and KwaZulu Natal had declined, bringing down the national average.

It was also a matter of concern that a large number of unsolved cases, 617 578 in total, had been carried over to 1997, the minister said.

The report said organised crime was a potent reality in South Africa. "This threat therefore requires special attention as it poses the danger of becoming the most destructive force active in the field of crime."

A comprehensive threat analysis on this matter had been prepared and was subject to review. Preliminary findings said the extent of organised crime in South Africa was influenced by the country's strategic location on trade routes between the East and West.

Insufficient border controls and lack of legislation dealing with activities such as money-laundering also played a role.

More than 100 projects by the Organised Crime Investigation Unit had resulted in 637 arrests last year, including those of 10 syndicate leaders.

Nearly 300 trucks valued at R20-million, R2,6-million in endangered species and wildlife products, R13-million in drugs and R4,3-million in stolen property were seized.

Diamonds, gold, precious metals and valuable stones worth R1,2-million were also retrieved.

More than 6 510 suspects were arrested in connection with possession or dealing in drugs last year. 47 083 stolen and hijacked vehicles were recovered, and 18 059 firearms were seized.

The police Diamond and Gold Branch arrested 2 794 suspects for crimes involving precious metals and gemstones last year while the Endangered Species Protection Unit arrested 112 suspects.

Of 54 846 commercial crime cases involving R3,8-billion reported to the SAPS detective service last year, 48 941 were concluded. And 77% of these were disposed of without any court appearance.

Mufamadi stressed the importance of crime information to enable the police to successfully fight crime. He had appointed a task team to look into crime-information-gathering methods. - Sapa

Dirty tricks campaign hits police probe chief

JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTER

The head of the team investigating Western Cape police corruption has been intimidated and subjected to dirty tricks by mysterious forces.

Fazael Kader, chief investigator of the national task team probing allegations of corruption in the criminal justice system, believes he may have foiled an attempted assassination, possibly by a former member of the Civil Co-operation Bureau, the former dirty tricks operation of Military Intelligence.

Senior Superintendent Kader, who heads the Cape Town office of the team, which was established by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi last year,

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has had threatening phone calls, been followed and had R56 000 mysteriously deposited in his personal banking account over the past few weeks.

The National Intelligence Agency is investigating the incidents. A source close to the investigation said the agency had taken statements from Superintendent Kader and was concerned that former CCB operatives were operating in the city.

"We have information that the activities of the task team have been closely monitored by these people and that the investigators are being followed around and subtly intimidated," he said.

The possible attempt on Superintendent Kader's life happened in the driveway of

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Police 'Boere mafia' resisting change, says anti-crime forum

From page 1

his home "I was on my way home and noticed a car following me. As I pulled into the driveway, the car pulled in behind me. I jumped out with my gun drawn and moved towards the car but the man, sporting a blond ponytail, reversed out and raced off," Superintendent Kader said.

The Western Cape Anti-Crime Forum, representing dozens of community policing forums, has expressed outrage that the team is being hampered by lack of resources or local police co-operation.

Forum spokesman Chris Ferndale accused police management of closing ranks and acting like an "old boys club" and a "Boere mafia", who were resisting change and did not want the task team to carry out its probe.

Two years ago a civilian investigator, Wilfred Scharf, had been appointed with a similar brief and he too had been unable to complete it, as senior police officers had made his task virtually impossible by not co-operating with him, Mr Ferndale said.

"There is talk that they want the task team to be incorporated into the local anti-corruption unit. This just shows their attitude and lack of accountability and sensitivity. Already this white enclave of officers controls all the police units in the province. Now they want to oversee this process as well," he said.

Mr Ferndale said this would create the perception that setting up the task team was just another police public relations exercise to hoodwink the public into believing the police were serious about combating corruption.

Stress fracture lines beginning to show

SAW 10/3/97 (251)

JIGNASA DIAR

Embattled South African Police Service is slowly losing its grip in the fight against crime

By Derek Roomey
Crime Reporter

The beleaguered South African Police Service - overworked, underpaid and woefully short on manpower - is still shaking off the leeching problems of its amalgamation, coupled with a high crime rate. Although official statistics for 1996 show a drop or stabilisation in certain crime areas, the cracks are beginning to show.

Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mutamadi, releasing statistics last week, said short-term measures adopted by various role players affected by the National Crime Prevention Strategy (NCPS) announced last year, have shown partial success. But more energy was required to reduce crime in Gauteng and Western Cape.

The truth is that the police, slowly starting to come to grips with crime fighting, rather than amalgamation and transformation, is losing its grip in solving crimes which require active and efficient investigation.

According to Dr Chris de Kock, head of the police's crime information management services, the effectiveness of the police in combating crime can be measured by the general reported crime rate and the clearing or solving rate achieved by the police in relation to reported cases.

The incidence of most crimes per 100 000 of the population, with the exception of rape, serious assault and common theft, may have stabilised or dropped but the total clearing rate has dropped for the third year in succession.

The clearing rate is determined by the total number of cases disposed of (either referred to court, withdrawn or unfounded) and is calculated as a percentage of the latter total added to the number of unsolved cases.

With the exception of murder, attempted murder, theft out of vehicles, arson and stock theft, 15

major crime categories show a lower clearing rate.

An analysis of the clearing rate shows Gauteng and Kwa-Zulu Natal police are buckling. Gauteng investigators cleared 47,6% of its load and Kwa-Zulu Natal 48,4%, well below the national clearing average of 67,5%.

Another indicator is the continuous annual escalation in the number of unresolved cases brought forward from one year to another which increased by more than half over the past three years.

In 1994, almost 400 000 cases were brought forward from 1993. This figure increased to more than 617 000 by the end of last year.

With a moratorium on recruiting of police in place since 1995 and an estimated loss of more than 5 000 a year, the SAPS has shrunk from more than 140 000 in 1995 to just over 131 000 late last year.

NATIONAL CRIME STATISTICS

RATIO PER 100 000 OF THE POPULATION

	1994	1995	RSA	GAUTENG
INCREASE				
Rape	105,3	115,2	119,5	178,9
Assault (serious)	521,9	535,8	545,6	630,5
Robbery	80,5	99,1	122,0	273,2
Illegal possession of firearms	27,6	28,8	30,5	38,7
DECREASE				
Murder	66,6	64,6	61,1	80,0
Robbery with aggravating circumstances	210,8	194,1	159,2	388,0
Housebreaking-Business	221,1	209,4	208,1	259,8
Theft-motor vehicle	258,9	245,0	229,0	701,3
Theft-out of/from vehicles	453,3	460,2	426,8	852,2
Other thefts	949,3	941,3	900,3	1,552,2
Drug-related crime	117,5	98,9	92,9	83,7
STABLE				
Attempted murder	67,8	64,3	67,5	99,2
Common assault	481,0	497,3	486,2	633,2
Housebreaking-Residential	566,0	591,7	583,6	1095,3
Commercial crime (fraud)	155,3	147,9	147,3	317,8
Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs	66,5	56,2	56,8	97,7

*Provincial position in relation to national average

investigators, lured out of the service by the private sector or disenfranchised with the new order, has placed tremendous strain on the remaining 12 986 detectives who had to investigate more than 1,8-million cases last year.

This amounts to about 141 cases an investigator and excludes the more than 600 000 unsolved cases carried over from 1995.

The detective service has a further handicap more than 75% of detectives had not completed any formal training although 3 600 were expected to have completed investigation courses by the end of this month since an accelerated training programme was introduced in January last year.

Mutamadi has hinted at partially lifting the recruitment moratorium. "We are determined to improve our detective service through better training and re-focusing our resources, both

human and financial, and will consider lifting the recruitment moratorium in a focused way that bolsters specific units."

Specialist units also experienced a dip in successes.

It is ironic that, despite international warnings and an ever increasing number of large drug seizures, the South African Narcotics Bureau arrested fewer suspects in 1996 than in previous years. De Kock said this might be due to law enforcers lacking expertise and technology to counter highly organised syndicates.

Identifying suspects for crimes is difficult and labour-intensive and would be virtually impossible without forensic evidence. And yet, in spite of a high national crime rate and less than average solving rate, the police's Criminal Record Centre received 4% fewer fingerprint records last year and totalled a 10% drop since 1994. An analysis of fingerprint records has shown almost half of these suspects have had one conviction or are repeat offenders.

This fact and a vigorous approach to all crime including the arrest and fingerprinting of petty crime offenders led to a significant decrease in crime levels after a visit by New York Police Department Commissioner William Bratton in the early 1990s.

Bratton made a number of recommendations to police management, but these still have a way to go before implementation.

Low morale and a worrying corruption record has further blunted the Government's anti-crime initiatives.

Clearly, the SAPS, with the justice system, will need a budgetary boost to employ more skilled personnel with better pay (to keep existing officers) and be given the technological resources to track and trace criminals more efficiently if they hope to turn the tide on crime.



W Cape policemen linked to gangs and drug rings

Mufamadi told of 'extensive' corruption (251)

ARG 12/3/97

JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTER

Western Cape police allegedly treat gangsters and drug dealers with kid gloves, close gang-related dockets before investigations are complete and downgrade drug-dealing charges.

These and other allegations of "widespread and systematic" police corruption were made to Minister of Safety and Security Sydney Mufamadi in a confidential briefing by University of Cape Town criminologist Wilfried Scharf

The report was leaked to the Cape Argus this week. Professor Scharf said the report was a confidential matter between himself and Mr Mufamadi and that he was not prepared to comment further.

Professor Scharf was appointed two years ago as a civilian investigator to probe allegations of police corruption and complicity with gangsters, but gave up last

August because of lack of co-operation

A team of top police detectives was appointed to continue the investigation

At the briefing, Professor Scharf told Mr Mufamadi a number of policemen had confided in him about their own experiences and what they had heard about alleged wrongdoing of colleagues

"Based on what the policemen told me and what respected community leaders were saying at the time, I made public statements to the effect that there was widespread and systematic corruption in the Western Cape police," he told Mr Mufamadi

Drug syndicates and gangs were involved in big business operations and there were vast amounts of money at stake

"Dirty" senior officers had a lot to lose financially and professionally by being exposed and did everything in their power to conceal their activities

"If the police involved in such activities

suspect they are being investigated, they will conceal their activities by more skilful means. They know police investigative methods, can think one step ahead and have friends in places where they can monitor the progress of the probe against them

"Every docket that is opened has to be registered on the computer. Any suspect within the agency who has access to a computer can look up whether there is a case under investigation against him

"Another problem is that it is extremely dangerous for police personnel to squeal on their colleagues, as they fear for their jobs should they make a formal complaint, as often the allegations will be investigated by friends of those accused"

Professor Scharf said it was wrong that police who knew of wrongdoing by colleagues and superiors could find no trustworthy authority to which to report them

Crackdown on corruption, page 10

Education gets 1,2% boost to R5,5-bn

Education gets the biggest slice of today's Budget.

The already high education budget increases 1,2 percent to R5,559-billion for this year.

Education will constitute 21,3 percent of total government spending and 6,5 percent of Gross Domestic Product for 1997/98

Education also represents 45,5 percent of all social services spending and remains the largest single category of government spending

Over 80 percent of the education budget

is allocated to pre-primary, primary and secondary schooling, with the remainder to tertiary education. About R954-million has been given for school building projects.

Spending on education personnel has been reduced

"Containment of personnel costs through a right-sizing programme for educators has contributed to the comparatively slow growth for this function," said Mr Manuel

A total of R5,431-billion will be provided for universities and technikons, including an increase in the subsidy to tertiary institutions to 12 percent.

The University of the Western Cape gets

R145,6-million, down from R182,6-million last year, while the University of Cape Town is to get R256,9-million, up on last year's R250,6 million.

The National Student Financial Aid Scheme got R200-million. Mr Manuel said negotiations were taking place to channel more international donor finance in the government kitty to higher education. This will include an additional R100-million to be given to the bursary scheme.

The average funding level of institutions of higher education will be 65,6 percent. In addition, the government will spend more on adult education, from R6,5-million last year to R13,1-million this year.

Protection services share increases to R30-billion

The protection services - police, prisons, justice, courts and defence - get a bigger share of the budget compared to last year, with a total of R30-billion allocated to them.

This overall amount given to protection services represents an 5,3 percent increase.

The expenditure on police, justice and correctional services will increase by about 15 percent once improvements in conditions of service are taken into account

"This provides a clear indication of the seriousness with which government is approaching crime," said Finance Minister Trevor Manuel.

Remuneration of employees accounts for nearly 70 percent of the budget of the protection services

The police's R13,1-billion, is 14,4 percent above last year's level and represents 6,9 percent of total government expenditure and 2,1 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

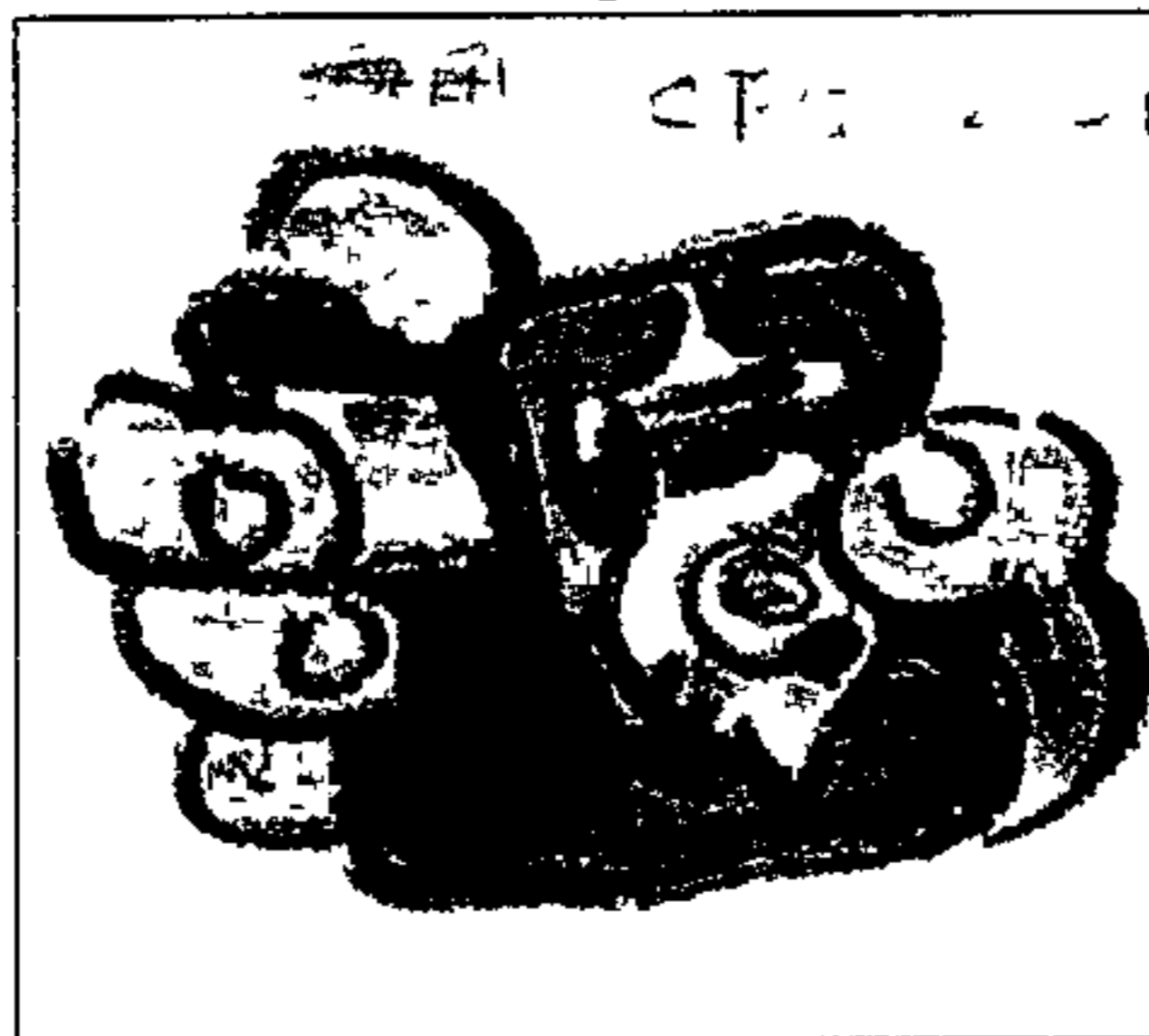
The prison's R3,9-billion, is 23,5 percent more than last year and represents two percent of the total expenditure and 0,6 percent of GDP, while the courts of law get R2-billion, which is a 13,3 percent raise and represents one percent of total expenditure and 0,3 percent of GDP

An amount of R406-million has been made available this year for the National Crime Prevention Strategy. The strategy will cost R902-million and will run for three years.

The commercial arm of the police has had its allocation increased from R60 500 last year to R101 475

The allocation to correctional services amounts to R3,32-billion, a 28,1 percent increase over last year. Mr Manuel said

Protection: up by 5,3%



COLIN DANIEL

that during 1996/97 the number of prisoners, probationers and parolees increased substantially, for which additional funding was approved.

A further amount of R442,2-million included in the Department of Public Works for capital expenditure is to be used for building new prisons and modernising existing facilities.

An amount of R28,9-million has also been included in the Public Works budget for an integrated security system at 18 priority correctional centres. A further sum of R3,8-million had been allocated for an education and training project for prisoners this year.

The Justice Department got a 15,2 percent increase, to R1,812-billion. This raise is partly due to an increased allocation to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and funds allocated to Reconstruction and Development Programme projects that form part of the national crime prevention campaign.

Delivery of RDP projects 'will speed up'

The delivery of Reconstruction and Development Programme projects will speed up after the initial slow and bumpy start, says Mr Manuel.

About R4,4-billion had been allocated this year for RDP projects, including R500-million for the government's primary school nutrition programme, implemented in 12 300 schools.

About R680-million had been given for free health care. The clinic building programme had delivered 297 clinics, 47 residential units attached to existing clinics, 173 mobile clinics, and 44 vehicles to be turned into mobile clinics and 2 358 clinics would be upgraded.

Mr Manuel said projects in place at the end of 1996 would deliver water to 6,4 million people, and 100 000 people would get adequate sanitation.

The government had allocated R100-million for peace initiatives in KwaZulu Natal.

The urban renewal programme, which aimed at rapid and visible improvements in municipal infrastructure, had been given R245-million and about R2,034-billion had been allocated over five years.

A further R300-million had been given for land distribution, R500-million for the water supply and sanitation programme, R200-million for the Maputo corridor and other spatial development projects, and R350-million for housing infrastructure

Partly as result of rigorous planning, RDP projects were slow in getting going, Mr Manuel said. "Good progress with implementation is now evident, which will be reflected in accelerating project delivery during 1997," he added

Quality of statements by police 'scandalous'

High Court judge in murder trial calls for better training after verbal evidence differs greatly from that in state dockets

By MICHAEL SPARKS

A judge in the Johannesburg High Court this week blasted policemen's language skills, saying the quality of statements taken by policemen was "scandalous" and could have a serious effect on the justice system.

In handing down a judgment this week, Mr Acting Justice M Hannon said he did not know why policemen, and particularly black policemen, did not use interpreters when taking details from witnesses, and it appeared at times that they simply wrote down what they thought the witness was saying.

He said there were "great shortcomings" in the training of policemen.

He added "justice must be done by the people taking down these statements and who are entrusted with this very important task."

In finding Lordwin Tlha-

banyane guilty of murdering his girlfriend Joyce Poonyane in a shack in Doornkop, west of Johannesburg, and sentencing him to six years' jail, Judge Hannon said he would have been forced to acquit the accused if the evidence of one witness had not been corroborated.

"If (Nomathemba Khanyile) was a single witness and her evidence was not corroborated by other witnesses, I would have had no other option but to acquit the accused," he said.

He said although she appeared to be "an honest and trustworthy witness," it was "an issue of great concern for judges that the verbal evidence delivered in court differs so greatly from statements in the state dockets."

He referred to a quote from her statement in which she is supposed to have said: "The accused got not injuries except I found with it."

The judge said he had consulted his colleagues about the issue

as it was of great concern. He called on the ministers of Justice and Safety and Security to attend to the matter "so that justice can be done."

Spokesmen for both ministries said the issue of training was being addressed.

Maxwell Mulaudzi, a spokesman for Minister of Safety and Security Sydney Mufamadi, said it was unfortunate that he had not yet seen the judgment.

But he added that key points for the department this year were improving the quality of investigations by policemen as well as improving training and human resource development.

Paul Setsetse, spokesman for Justice Minister Dullah Omar, said the issue of training and re-training the police, magistrates and prosecutors was receiving priority attention.

He said training on evidence taking and the interaction between police and witnesses were all receiving attention.

Nov 14/3/97 (251)

Khayelitsha police 'flooded'

We need three more stations to cope – commissioner

ARC 17/3/97

(251)

LINDSAY BARNES
CRIME DESK

Khayelitsha police station is sinking under the weight of the township's population explosion and needs a radical facelift to reach service levels found at formerly white stations.

Its staff members are battling with seemingly insurmountable problems in their aim to provide a professional service

The township needs at least three police stations if staff are to cope, said station commissioner Hennie Haarhoff

Serious problems such as a huge backlog of cases, a shortage of vehicles and staff, the difficulty of retraining poorly educated "kits konstabels" and a clash between the state and the traditional laws of the Xhosa-speaking township are hindering effective police work

Staff members are alleging further problems are caused by a lack of transformation towards a more enlightened style of policing the community

The sprawling township's population has more than doubled in three years – from 300 000 in 1993 to more than 650 000 last year – due to a mass migration from the former homelands of Ciskei and Transkei

A new report compiled by Khayelitsha police station management focuses on the internal and external factors adding to the police's frustrations in the area

The report was released to members of the Provincial Service's standing committee on safety and security last week

Compared to other areas where police are viewed as more effective, Khayelitsha residents lodge a relatively low number of complaints – about 600 a month as opposed to 1 700 in Bellville which has a far smaller population of 180 000

These figures indicate a lack of trust and co-operation from residents

"The crime is there, but it doesn't get reported," said Director Haarhoff

Despite the relatively low reporting of cases, detectives have been swamped with investigations, but do not have the staff to deal with the cases. A special task team had been called in to tackle a backlog of 3 000 cases, some 2 000 of which relate to serious crimes.

He said it was estimated that 75 percent of the population was unemployed

Armed robbery was increasing due to an increase in businesses in the township

Due to a lack of accommodation at the police station the detective branch had been relocated to Harare police station, about six kilometres away. But this split hindered effective co-operation between the two stations and the uniformed branch in solving cases

He explained that people making complaints at the charge office have to be transported by police members to the new detective premises for the case to be inves-



Paper war: a staff member with the huge backlog of 3 000 dockets that have piled up at Khayelitsha police station, which is plagued by lack of facilities

OBEDE ZILWA

tigated. This unnecessarily ties up staff and vehicles, both of which are in short supply

Police also are having to transport witnesses to and from court or they will not appear due to a lack of public transport.

Director Haarhoff said they needed an office block housing all support services such as finances, logistics, administration and human resources.

Vigilante action in the community also posed an ongoing problem. According to the report, Xhosa-speaking people, especially those who recently moved from rural areas in the Eastern Cape, do not always understand legislation and its enforcement.

The introduction to Khayelitsha police station of 150 "kitskonstabels" in 1987 has proved to be a huge problem too.

Many had little or no education and their retraining in the new dispensation is difficult – especially those who are illiterate

Director Haarhoff said these difficulties

posed on-going obstacles to effective policing

A solution, he said, would be to transfer some of the "kitskonstabels" to other stations in exchange for more supervisors, of whom Khayelitsha had a drastic shortage

Staff say the untenable situation at the police station is exacerbated by racism, little affirmative action, poor management, a language barrier between staff and residents and the continuing existence of the old "brute force" policing style

Two police members, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said only two black policemen had been appointed to management level and more were needed. They said the community did not trust Khayelitsha police because many of the coloured and white staff still treated residents badly. Suspects often were beaten by police who also break people's front doors to apprehend suspects.

"White police officers must learn to treat the people nicely, to joke with them and ask

first if they can search their homes instead of just breaking the door down. They must change their style if they want to work well in the community," one of the sources said

The two said the language barrier was a problem for Afrikaans and English-speaking coloured and white staff, many of whom declined to work in the charge office because they could not take statements from Xhosa-speaking complainants

On duty, these police often had to be accompanied by a black police member to translate for them, adding further to the staff shortage

Responding to allegations of a lack of affirmative action, Director Haarhoff said he expected the third round of appointments at the level of captain and superintendent to be made soon. "It's not a case of us holding back promotions. We must wait for the process to be completed," he said.

Workshops had been held with the local community policing forum to thrash out problems between the police and the community

Provinces do have a say in policing affairs — Cachalia

(251)

BD 19/3/97

Vuyo Mvoko

PROVINCIAL governments' view that they could not act on policing matters was "absolutely untrue", the safety and security ministry said yesterday.

Gauteng premier Tokyo Sexwale, at the premiers' forum in Johannesburg on Friday, said one of their primary concerns was the fact that "as premiers we have no authority to give operational commands" to police, especially in times of crisis. "Such a situation is untenable," he said.

Yesterday safety and security ministry representative Azar Cachalia said he could not imagine a crisis current police operating methods could not handle. Legally, provinces might seem worse off than under the interim constitution, but "practically" not so.

Provincial governments had "monitoring and supervisory" powers and could make "requests", but not give "orders" to provincial police commissioners. Such requests could be effected at once if the provincial commissioner was "not uncomfortable" with them.

Cachalia said the interim constitution had provided provincial governments, via MECs, with executive authority over, for example, visible policing. Provinces still had no such authority over things like crime, which

rested solely with the national ministry and the commissioner of police.

In the constitution SA has a single national police service, with one cabinet minister and the commissioner of police responsible for its running.

The issue was not whether the national ministry would delegate certain powers to provincial MECs, Cachalia said, but rather a "technical question" of how best to do this.

A process had been set in motion where a committee was set up to look into how the delegation of power could be effected. It would make its submission at the end of next month.

□ Sapa reports that 6 437 civil claims totalling more than R409,6m were made against the safety and security ministry last year.

Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi, in reply to a question in Parliament yesterday, said this sum was almost double the R248 715 642 claimed from the ministry in 1995.

A total of 466 SA Police Service members had been charged with corruption, theft, assault and fraud. So far 64 had been convicted of these crimes. No policemen were charged in North West, he said. A total of 71 policemen were killed while on duty last year.

See Page 5

Police to get new style of management

(251) 60 74/3/97

Jacob Dlamini

GAUTENG police stations would be set targets to decrease levels of crimes in their areas of operation, Gauteng safety and security MEC Jessie Duarte said yesterday.

Duarte said this would not be a punitive measure but would be used to introduce a different style of management and encourage competition among station commissioners.

Unveiling the latest quarterly statistics on crime trends during a briefing in Johannesburg, Duarte said there had been a marked decrease in murder, robberies involving hijackings, housebreaking and theft of and from cars. But Duarte said there was a disturbing increase in rape, with 1 000 cases reported in the province each day.

Duarte said the provincial ministry would not introduce any new crime prevention strategy but would instead follow the ones already in place.

She said the ministry had, however, decided to set itself five priorities. These would include measures to combat the misuse and illegal handling of firearms, increased infiltration of crime syndicates; the strengthening of teams probing corruption within

the police and the criminal justice system, taking strong disciplinary steps to stop absenteeism and the fraudulent use of the police medical scheme, and the setting of targets for police stations.

Duarte said there had been an overall decrease of 6% in murder between 1994 and last year, in the same period robbery and car hijackings had decreased by 26,5%, housebreakings had decreased by 13,6% and motor vehicle theft had shown a 10,9% decline.

Duarte said: "The police have made a difference and an impact but we acknowledge that the figures are still unacceptably high."

She said the most disturbing figures were those related to incidents of rape. In 94/95 there was a 10,8% increase, in 95/96 there was an 8% increase. Between 1994 and last year the increase stood at 19,7%.

Duarte said: "Rape has now become a category A crime and its treatment has to be unambiguous."

She said the ministry was currently considering legislation to make rape punishable by a 15-year minimum sentence.

Duarte said the ministry had also decided to devote a "great deal of attention and energy on the jo-

hannesburg CBD" which, together with Soweto, accounted for the bulk of all the crimes reported.

She said the targets set for police commissioners would be for the decrease of crime and the stabilisation of the affected area.

Provincial police commissioner Sharma Maharaj said most police officers had expressed support for the scheme. "The targets will not be set in an arbitrary fashion but will be mutually agreed upon. We will also not set unreasonable targets but ensure that whatever we set is challenging. We want to encourage healthy competition among commissioners."

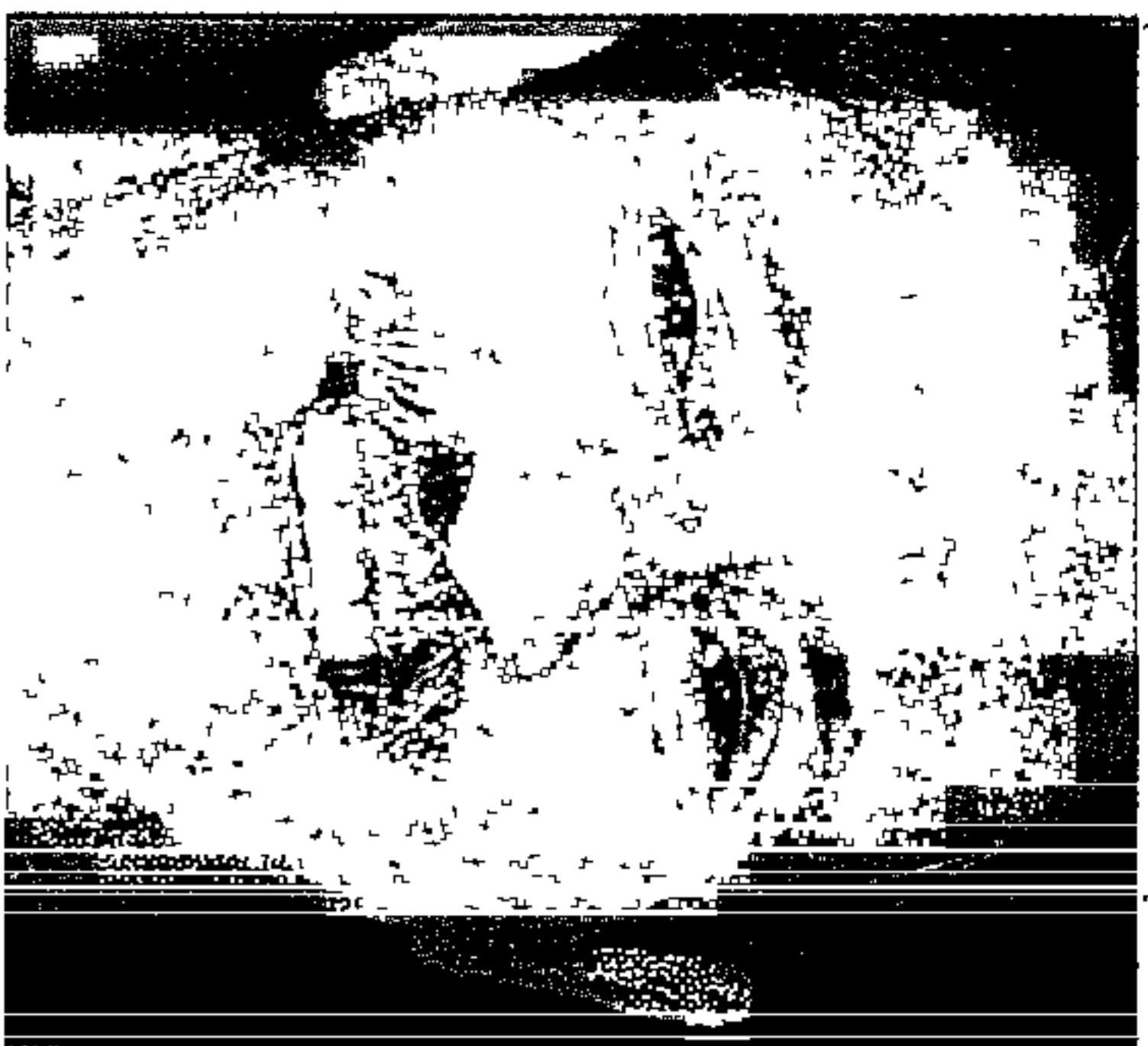
Maharaj said the decrease in the levels of most crimes could be attributed to the changed management structure within the SA Police Service. "We had various problems with the appointments and the rationalisation of the force. But we are now reaping the benefits of the new management structure in place, which also made an impact," he said.

Duarte rejected claims by the Democratic Party that many stations were unable to carry out their functions due to staff shortages.

She said the ministry would not be rushed into redeploying policemen. "We are not going to train kistskonstabels and it takes two years to train a good constable."



Gauteng Safety and Security MEC Jessie Duarte announcing the latest quarterly crime trends in Johannesburg yesterday
Picture GARTH LUMLEY



Leon Wessels



Johan Kleya



Quinton Visser



John Sterrenberg



Leonard Knipe

LUCRATIVE RETIREMENT PACKAGES DRAW THE BIG GUNS

Top city policemen set to quit

SCORES of Western Cape policemen, many of them key officers, have applied for early retirement, a development that is seen by some as a serious loss of valuable expertise and by others as an opportunity to transform the service. **ROGER FRIEDMAN** and **LINDIZ VAN ZILLA** report.

ET 19/3/97

(251)

Key Western Cape policemen are applying in droves for lucrative early-retirement packages. Their departure will leave gaps in critical areas but will allow the service to achieve a more democratic staff mix.

Among those believed to have applied are West Metropole area commissioner Assistant Commissioner Quinton Visser, provincial head of detective services Assistant Commissioner Willem Smut, head of the Violent Crimes Unit, Director Leonard Knipe, head of the Priority Crimes Unit, Director Boet Claassen, logistics head Director Barney Engelbrecht, and Mitchell's Plain station commissioner Director Johan Kleya.

The provincial head of proactive policing, Director Fanie Bouwer, and public relations head Senior Superintendent John Sterrenberg are expected to apply soon. According to well-placed sources, Western Cape Commissioner Leon Wessels is "seriously considering" applying. It is likely he will discuss this with National Commissioner George Fivaz later this week.

Two other senior policemen, Director Henry Muller and Director Matthe Beukes, both of the provincial inspectorate, recently resigned. The commander of Intelligence Co-ordination in the Western Cape Detective Services, Senior Superintendent Gordon Brookbanks, recently moved to the Department of Justice.

The list of applicants already includes two of the province's seven assistant commissioners, six of the 19 directors, 13 of 99 senior superintendents, 35 of the 250

superintendents, 64 of the 935 captains, and 131 of the 2 240 inspectors.

Several of the applicants were subpoenaed recently to testify before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission about the 1986 murders of the Guguletu Seven.

Senior Superintendent Johan Smal, of the police human resources department in Pretoria, noted yesterday that, to date, "not a single application has been turned down." He added, however, that "an application will be turned down if it is not in the interests of policing to lose a person with skills and qualifications." Nationally, there had been 3 041 applications, of which 2 292 had been approved.

Several senior Western Cape police sources described the high loss of key figures as the "biggest brain-drain experienced in the police." Those who hoped to leave had decades of experience. Many had held key positions and could not be replaced overnight.

Other sources, however, said candidates of a suitable calibre were ready to fill the gaps. Although it would take time for new appointees to adjust, the defections would boost the transformation of the service. Director Collin Sherriff, provincial head of human resources, estimated that the Western Cape would lose about 350 officers, less than three percent of its complement.

Among the reasons policemen have given for applying are other job opportunities, starting their own businesses, personal reasons, or that they have difficulty coping with the changing South Africa

Top W Cape policemen set to take packages

'No future' under new constitution

JOHAN SCHRONEN AND LINDSAY BARNES
CRIME STAFF

Some of the Western Cape's top policemen are poised to take early retirement as their careers founder in the new South Africa.

Some cite affirmative action for blocking their career paths in the new police service and some also hammer the new constitution for imposing restrictions on police investigations of serious crime

Top officers say there is no future for them in the police and that it was a case of leaving while the going is good. They said it would be suicidal to "pour our hearts out" because "anything could happen" and severance packages could be refused

Key officers believed to have applied for severance packages include West Metro-pole area commissioner Quinton Visser, provincial head of detective services Willem Smit, head of the Violent Crimes Unit Leonard Knipe, Priority Crimes Unit boss Boet Claasen, head of logistics Barney Engelbrecht and Mitchell's Plain's station commissioner Johan Kleyn

Several of those contemplating early retirement also were recently implicated at the Truth Commission over the 1986 shooting of seven African National Congress activists in Guguletu. These include directors Knipe and Kleyn and public relations chief John Sterrenberg,

Fanie Bouwer, provincial head of proactive policing and Senior Superintendent

(251)
APR 19/3/97
Sterrenberg are also expected to apply for early retirement packages

Commissioner Visser confirmed he had applied for a package. "I've reached the age to retire. With 35 years' service behind me I have done my bit," he said

Director Knipe, who would not confirm or deny he was leaving, said he was concerned about the mass walkout of experienced top police and the drain of expertise

"Whether I'm leaving or not is between myself and the commissioner. But I will continue to be a police officer until my last hour in the service," Director Knipe said

Director Knipe has indicated privately that the fettering of detectives investigating serious crimes is a contributing factor in resignations

private police station

Star 20/3/97

Suburb gets SA's first

Sandringham residents take action as rampant crime goes violent as gangs brazenly attack occupied homes

By ANNA COX
AND DEREK RODNEY

Violent crime that is running rampant in the northern suburbs has forced residents in Sandringham to set up South Africa's first private police station in north-eastern Johannesburg

The decision was announced at a public meeting last night after the Sandringham Community Police Forum and residents had raised R250 000 from local businessmen to run their own police station from a private house

It will differ from other projects in Gauteng in which communities have only funded vehicles and equipment for official police stations. This one will be manned only by reservists and members of the community

Sandringham police station had a record intake of 200 reservists last year. The private station will initially only be manned between 7am and 11pm

Well-organised and heavily-armed gangs are striking the affluent northern suburbs with increasingly violent tactics to subdue victims

Police statistics show that 1 172 house robberies were reported in the Johannesburg policing area last year, with 175 cases reported this January and February

According to police, a disturbing development in the latest cases is the increasing use of firearms by criminals

Of the 90 cases reported to police last month, 69 robberies were carried out with firearms, while

67 of the 75 cases reported in January were committed with firearms

A senior policeman says the gangs might have resorted to attacking occupied homes because state-of-the-art security systems took too long to immobilise

"Car hijacking started increasing as the security systems in cars improved and now we are seeing the same happening in burglary, where it is easier to overpower the occupants of a house than to try to work their way around the security system," he said

One gang police have identified is armed with laser-sight pistols, Uzi semi-automatic weapons and R-5 rifles. It terrorises families and strips homes of their contents within minutes

The gang has between seven and 12 members who use a minibus and a chase car (usually a BMW), to cruise the suburbs after sunset. They strike when security gates are opened by a family or its visitor

Superintendent Willie Steyn, the Brixton Murder and Robbery Unit commander, said yesterday. "My feeling is that these weapons were picked up during normal burglaries," but he could not rule professional arms suppliers

Victims said they were shuffled into different rooms, threatened, and assaulted by an armed guard while the rest of the gang split into units which methodically stripped rooms of valuables and wrapped them in curtains

"The robbery was carried out with the precision of a military operation," said one victim

(251)

Corruption probe up against closed ranks

ASHLEY SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

(251)

AKG 24/3/97

A civilian organisation set up to investigate police corruption is running into stiff opposition from elements in the South African Police Service.

Speaking at a public debate on police corruption, police provincial general investigation commander Andre du Toit said many police officers still viewed the service as a "closed ranks society". This led to some officers resisting investigations into corruption by the new Independent Complaints Directorate (ICD).

Mr Du Toit said it was vital for any investigation to be completely independent of the SAPS because some officers tried to protect themselves and their colleagues.

"The time has come for police involvement in internal investigative units to immediately cease," he added.

Wilfred Scharf of the Institute of Criminology at the University of Cape Town said the ICD in Pretoria had also encountered major obstacles in its efforts to address police corruption.

He said important files disappeared from the unit's Pretoria office and that a private security company was recently called in to check if police had planted listening devices to monitor certain investigations.

Military analyst Willem Steenkamp said there was a sense of apathy in the SAPS which stemmed from an inability to convince officers that proper punishment should be handed down to offenders within their ranks. "Many people in the police do not believe that other officers who commit crimes get punished."

Regional director of the ICD Riaz Saloojee said the unit would be fully operational by June 1 and would seek to remain autonomous from the SAPS.

Thomas Winslow of the Trauma Centre for Victims of Violence and Torture said for the unit to address complaints against Western Cape officers successfully it needed a clear understanding of third-force activities uncovered in KwaZulu Natal.

Mr Winslow urged the attorney general's office and senior police officials to offer their co-operation and support to the ICD.

Up to 400 police quit force every month as budget tumbles

(ZS1) Star 25/3/97

Asif Sars

Cape Town - Between 300 and 400 members of the South African Police Service were resigning every month, while the police budget had decreased in real terms, Commissioner Karel Cramer, head of the SAPS support services division, said yesterday.

The SAPS's 1997-8 budget allocation had fallen R636,9-million or 6,4% from the previous year once inflation had been taken into account, he said in an address to the National Assembly's safety and security committee.

The total SAPS allocation for the year was R11,919-billion which, according to the Budget Review, was a 20,6% increase over the R9,884-billion in 1996-7.

The two years' figures were not comparable, Cramer claimed. Some R2,035-billion of the 1997-8 budget was allocated for improvements of conditions of service, staff rationalisation and the national crime prevention strategy.

These and a number of other expenses, totalling R1,726-billion, were allocated separately from the police vote in 1996-7.

The 1997-8 budget for personnel expenditure was R9,175-billion, but R1-billion of this would go to medical aid.

The Department of State Expenditure had calculated there would be enough money to fund 145 000 posts at an average unit cost per post of between R54 000 and R55 000 a year, Cramer said.

There were about 138 000 policemen at present and about 7 000 finance posts were vacant.

The SAPS had proposed that the R651-million saved from these unfilled posts be used to fund overtime (R100-million), promotions (R300-million), severance packages (R60-million) and police assistants (R28-million).

The remaining money would be used to fund self-defence units on the East Rand to the tune of R14-million, and implement the SAPS salary grading system at a cost of R149-million.

There appears to be some discrepancy as to exactly how much money was allocated to the police in the Budget.

Under the heading "protection services", the Budget Review said the police and related services would receive R13,051-billion, a 14,4% increase over 1996-7.

But the SAPS was allocated only R11,919-billion of this.

Another R15,49-million was allocated separately to the independent complaints directorate, which investigates complaints against the police - Sapa

Private police station may be illegal (251)

By JAMEEL CHAND

Star 25/3/97

Gauteng Police Commissioner Sharma Maharaj has ordered an investigation into plans in Sandringham, a northern suburb, to operate its own police station.

Maharaj said the first he heard about the station was from the media, and he was concerned that the proposed station would be staffed by members of the community and police reservists without the supervision of permanent members of the SA Police Service.

"This is in conflict with the law and is typical of a private police service which will have far-reaching ramifications," he said.

The Sandringham Community Policing Forum (SCPF) is fed up with escalating crime and decided at a meeting last week to use the R250 000 it had raised to start the private station. It would be manned by some of the 200 police reservists who live in the area.

The commissioner said yesterday that the SAPS was accountable for the actions of police reservists. "Reservists will not be allowed to perform duties at the so-called private police station," he said.

Maharaj said the provincial head of management services, Superintendent Andre Venter, had been instructed to investigate the matter and report back by Friday.

This morning forum deputy chairman Leon Chapman replied that provincial safety and security authorities had been informed of the project and had undertaken to grant permission within a month of application.

"We have a problem with discipline at the Sandringham police station, which is resulting in non-effective policing. Community policing is about residents working with the police and this is exactly what we have done."

MAXIMUM SECURITY FOR RAPISTS

Secret service and anti-crime units to police the prisons

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES Minister Sipo Mzimela says the government is considering using a planned super-maximum security prison to hold convicted rapists.

AN anti-corruption and a secret service unit are to be introduced in prisons as part

of the government's plans to rid the system of corruption, stem the tide of escapes and transform the Department of Correctional Services.

Outlining his plans for 1997, Correctional Services Minister Dr Sipo Mzimela told Parliament's portfolio committee on correctional services that the department was also investigating the possibility of using one of the three planned super-maximum security prisons to house convicted rapists exclusively.

"We need to do that because rape is reaching epidemic propor-

tions. We need drastic action to deal with this epidemic," he said.

Mzimela said only prisoners who could not be rehabilitated would be held in the electronically controlled super-maximum prisons where they would be locked up for 23 hours and allowed only one hour's exercise. They would have contact only with immediate family members and the prison chaplain.

On the anti-corruption initiative, Mzimela said. "The secret service will comprise members who are not known to prison officials and will investigate illegal activities of prison warders, the smuggling of dagga and dangerous arms. We believe that if we have people who are not known that will help us to

get more information on what is increasingly becoming a problem that is getting out of hand."

The minister said he had experienced problems recruiting staff for both the anti-corruption and the secret service units.

He said the ministry was also considering using a World War II vintage vessel, which can accommodate 394 prisoners, as a floating high-security prison.

Mzimela said an independent inspecting judge would be appointed by Justice Minister Mr Dullah Omar to help investigate conditions in prisons and the corruption involved in prison escapes.

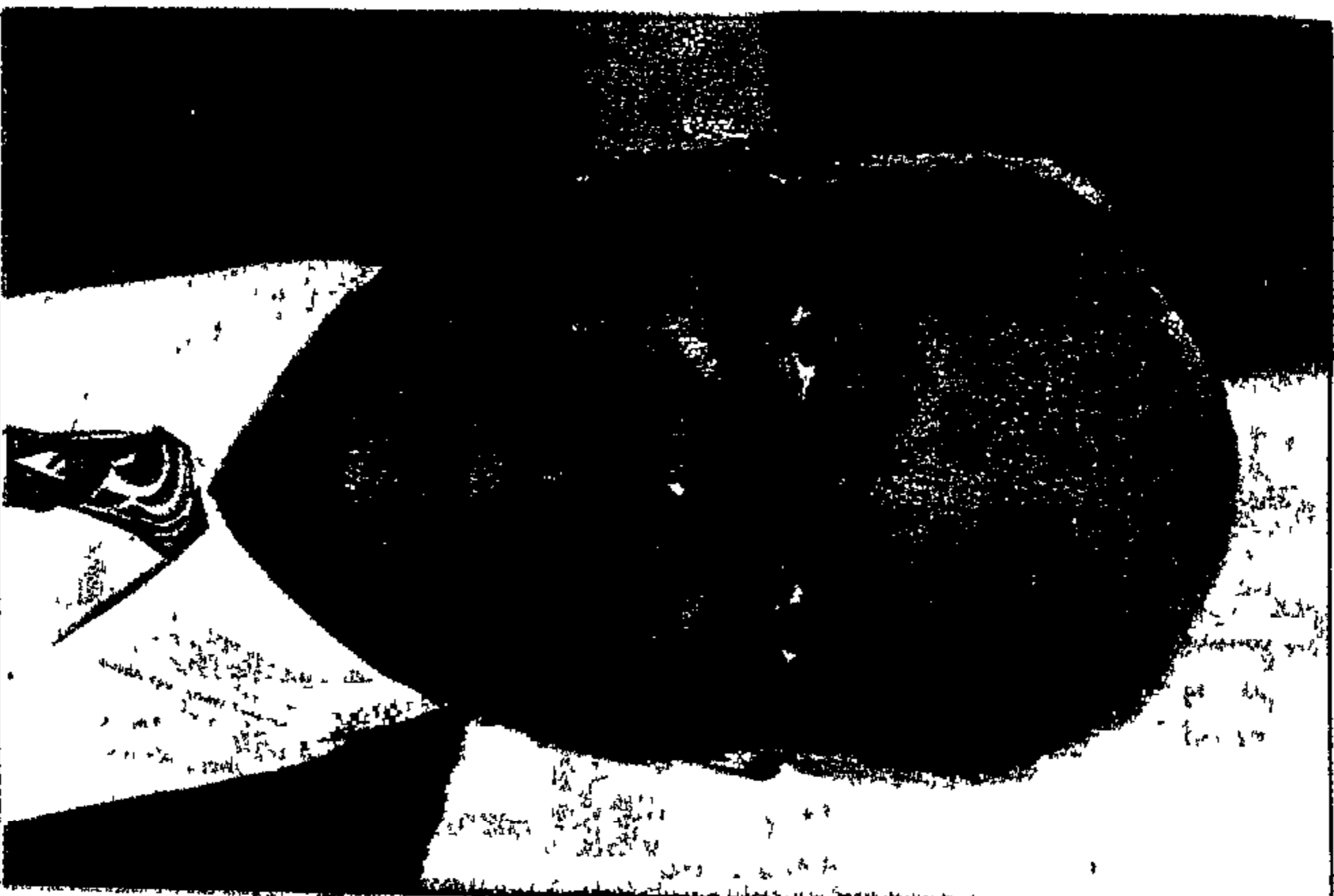
He said the Parole Bill, which would require prisoners to serve at least half their sentences before being considered for parole, would be tabled before Parliament this year as part of the National Crime Prevention Strategy legislation.

Mzimela said his department had completed redrafting the Correctional Services Act of 1959 which was out of step with the Constitution.

He said new prisons would be built this year as part of the effort to reduce overcrowding in prisons. The number of inmates was increasing dramatically every day.

Mzimela said the cabinet had approved the concept of using the private sector to build prisons on a lease-back contract through which the jails would be built and managed privately and the government would assume control only after 20 to 25 years.

He said the private sector was involved in the building of two super-maximum prisons, two youth development centres, two ordinary prisons and a centre where awaiting trial prisoners would be held. — Political Staff



DRASTIC ACTION: Correctional Services Minister Sipo Mzimela

Residents take firm stand on planned private police station

And Jessie Duarte reveals that no police stations are being built in areas where they are most needed

By STAFF REPORTERS

The Sandringham Community Policing Forum says it will ignore a plea from Gauteng police commissioner Sharma Maharaj to await the outcome of his investigation before setting up its own private police station

Leon Chapman, deputy chairman of the forum, told residents a sum of R250 000 had already been raised for the station. He said it would be manned by police reservists living in the suburb

SAPS Director Azwinndini Nengovhela said Maharaj wanted to establish whether the station would be legal

"As far as the law is concerned, the SAPS is responsible for the actions of its reservists. If a community initiative is started, it should at all times be under the direct supervision of the SAPS"

Chapman said last night that they were "tired of negativity" and he disputed claims by Maharaj that the police had not been informed of the Sandringham project

"Reservists from the area met the SAPS on several occasions to discuss the issue of the police station. It is not our fault that this was not communicated to the commissioner," said Chapman

But he said the new station would not operate independently of the SAPS

"Once established, it will be under the direct authority of Superintendent Ashwin Singh, the

station commander of Sandringham police station"

It became clear yesterday that despite R5,5-million earmarked for new police stations, the department is having difficulties providing them in areas that most need them

The provincial safety and security MEC, Jessie Duarte, asked at the legislature for those millions to be rolled over into the next financial year

She said that for the past nine months "they had been involved in a consultative process" on how to finance police stations in areas such as Eldorado Park, Diepkloof, Ivory Park and Alexandra

They were still seeking a site in Alexandra because the two available ones were not suitable. She was criticised by the Democratic Party last week for "incompetence of the highest order" in that township. There were 216 murders in the township last year while 116 cars were hijacked and 1 246 serious assaults reported to the only police station serving more than half a million residents

In Sandringham, Chapman warned "With crime escalating the way it is in our area, it is only a matter of time before vigilante groups rear their heads"

"We don't want this to happen. We have acted to ensure that crime prevention initiatives remain under the control of the SAPS. Vigilante groups will not be accountable to anyone," he said

Police argue for rights of nonprotesters

(251) 27/3/97

Jacob Dlamini

EDUCATIONAL programmes should be developed to make communities aware of the services rendered by the police and the limits placed on individuals' rights to protest action, the SA Police Service said in its submission to the commission of inquiry into last month's violent demonstrations in Johannesburg's coloured townships

The SAPS said communities intent on protest action should be taught to respect the rights of those who do not wish to take part. Political parties and civic organisations should be encouraged to comply with the Gatherings Act. Demonstrations should be restricted to nonpeak hours to minimise interfering with the traffic flow and causing inconvenience to nondemonstrators.

The SAPS proposals form part of an 85-page submission to the commission, chaired by Labour and Appeals Court Deputy Judge-President Johan Froneman

Gauteng premier Tokyo Sexwale set up the commission after clashes between the police and protesters trying to enforce a stayaway, which had been called by the South Western Joint Civics Association (Sowejoca), to protest at what the association claimed were the Johannesburg southern council's attempts to unfairly target coloured rates defaulters with harsh credit control measures. The claims were later proved to be false.

The SAPS said people who organised protest action should be prosecuted if they failed to comply with the Gatherings Act.

Giving testimony in the Gauteng legislature yesterday, Soweto public order policing services (Pops) commander Senior Supt Jan Paxton said informers had told the police that Sowejoca intended to call a stayaway on February 6 — and the police had then devised a plan to deal with it.

This involved calling in reinforcements from police stations around Johannesburg

and Pretoria and from the SA National Defence Force. Paxton said these were deployed around coloured townships with strict instructions to use only minimal force. He said Sowejoca had, in its application notifying the police of its protest plans, failed to state that the stayaway would be followed by a march.

He said protesters in Eldorado Park erected barricades on the morning of the stayaway. When the police tried to remove these they were pelted with petrol bombs and stones. The protest then degenerated into violence as the protesters engaged the police in running battles, looted properties and damaged cars. Sowejoca leader Basil Douglas was asked to intervene but did not.

The commission is expected to hear a submission from the greater Johannesburg metropolitan council today and will begin with arguments on Wednesday.

Froneman is expected to report to Sexwale on March 28.

It's back to school for sleuths of the SAPS

(261)

STAFF REPORTER

Star 3/4/97

An academy to provide advanced training for detectives is to be established to improve the crime-fighting capabilities of the SAPS.

This is one of the many structural and management changes announced by national police commissioner George Fivaz in Pretoria yesterday.

Fivaz said the specialised training would place the SAPS in a position to react more effectively to changing crime patterns.

"Despite major successes against great odds, police performance has been uneven and must be sharply improved to address public concerns about declining police standards," Fivaz said.

He also announced the creation of a detective-development component within the national detective service. This structure would attempt to reverse the backlog in basic detective training and to upgrade investigative standards in general.

He said the crime intelligence and internal security sections would be merged to boost the crime intelligence capacity.

"Crime prevention is hereby elevated to a specific discipline within the SAPS, with brand-new components such as transnational crime prevention, victim support and policing protection."

The division would absorb the old national safety services, would include a revamped VIP unit, and would be headed by divisional commissioner Louis Eloff, formerly head of change management in Fivaz's office.

Divisional commissioner Manie Schoeman had been selected to head the detective service.

Fivaz said the two officers were appointed according to new performance agreements, in terms of which visible and measurable results would be expected.

"Additional organisational changes and appointments will also be announced in due course on key SAPS strategic support functions," said Fivaz.

Crime explodes in police ranks

'Ruthless crackdown'

JOHAN SCHRONEN
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

Crime committed by police has increased dramatically in the Western Cape in the first three months of this year, says provincial police commissioner Leon Wessels.

He said the "shocking" increase in crime by junior and senior officers included three murders, three kidnappings, two rapes, an armed robbery, five counts of housebreaking, 11 thefts, indecent assault, fraud and corruption

"The actions and behaviour of these members, a small percentage of the service in the Western Cape, is an absolute dis-

grace," said Commissioner Wessels

"This state of affairs will not be tolerated - and members involved must not expect any mercy. I have issued instructions to all commanders to ruthlessly take action against offenders and to motivate dedicated members to assist in eradicating offenders from the ranks of the South African Police Service."

Meanwhile, two major internal investigations - into a fingerprint scam and a police medical aid fraud - are being conducted by anti-corruption police. In the suspected medical scam, several police and at least three pharmacists are being investigated.

This week police arrested a member of

the Illegal Aliens Unit in Cape Town for allegedly defrauding Polmed, the police medical fund

The sister of a senior police officer was arrested last year. She works in a northern suburbs pharmacy and is married to another policeman.

Investigators are expecting to make several more arrests soon of police and pharmacists.

In the alleged fingerprint scam, three fingerprint experts, including a Bellville sergeant who once won a national award as the best fingerprint examiner, have been suspended in connection with more than 150 falsified print matchings which might have landed innocent people in jail.

ARC 4/4/97

(251)

Page 5

Police forum in tatters after threat of arrests

(2/1)

Star 4/4/97

By TOMMY MAKOE

A Soweto community policing forum has collapsed after several of its senior members went underground to evade police arrest.

Nine members of the forum, which used to operate in the crime-infested White City area, have been on the run for more than three months after criminal charges were laid against them. The nine are also members of the White City branch of the Soweto Youth Action Against Crime organisation.

According to forum chairman Jerry Marobyane, who is being sought by police in connection with an attempted murder charge, his trouble with the police began after he tried to stop a group of people from avenging the death of Bernard Mdlalose, one of his organisation's members. Mdlalose had been shot dead while trying to stop a fight in the township, making him the fifth member of the unit in two years to die "in the line of duty". Others were allegedly killed by local gangsters.

"I was trying to make peace but I have been accused of shooting and stabbing the people. My mistake was to be seen at the scene," said Marobyane.

He said eight other forum members had been charged with "fabricated" assault charges. He said he and his colleagues were avoiding the police because they

believed a criminal syndicate was working with "corrupt" police officers to have them put behind bars.

"The aim is to create an opportunity for prisoners who we have helped get arrested to get revenge. The rumour is flying in the township that inmates at most Gauteng prisons are waiting to kill us. That is why we are on the run from the police," said Marobyane.

Jacob Noe, a spokesman for the Soweto Area Board, an organisation which consists of chairmen of local community policing forums and police station commanders, said he was aware of problems affecting the unit.

"There is a commitment among members of the board to offer legal assistance once we have received a full report on the matter from the affected unit. But we are not going to press for charges against the unit members to be dropped because that will amount to interference with the justice system," said Noe.

Soweto police spokesman John Shiburi confirmed that a case of attempted murder had been opened against Marobyane and urged him to hand himself over to the police.

"If he claims he is not guilty, he must not run away from the police. All he has to do is submit his statement to the police, and the court will decide if he is guilty or not," said Shiburi.

Lack of senior police worsens strain

(251)

By **DEREK RODNEY**
Crime Reporter

The South African Police Service (SAPS), facing a new series of structural changes, is starting to experience a shortage of experienced and competent commanders in core managerial positions

Many senior policemen have opted for lucrative severance packages, initiated in September 1995 as part of the service's downsizing process, and police sources revealed this week that between 50 and 70 applications for the packages are being received at police headquarters daily

Taxpayers have al-

ready forked out more than R370-million to pay for medical discharges and severance packages for the 34 422 police members who have left the service from March 1995 to January this year

A moratorium on recruitment has placed further strain on the beleaguered SAPS, and police are concerned that new recruits, although they may ease the strain at ground level, will do little to plug the gaps that are appearing all the way up the management ladder

Police spokesman Leon Engelbrecht said yesterday the payouts were deducted from the police budget and ex-

cluded lump-sum and monthly pension payouts, which are handled by the Department of Welfare. Welfare officials declined to reveal any

Gaps all the way up the ladder

figures relating to the payouts

More than 1 800 officials received medical discharges from January 1995 to September last year. No recent statistics were available

Meanwhile, as police officials continue to

leave the service in droves, policemen on the ground are struggling to regain credibility from communities they serve as more cases of police corruption are reported and exposed

More than 3 000 policemen were investigated for criminal activities last year, with 568 complaints registered at the Gauteng Anti-Corruption Unit alone

A total of 170 people, including 131 policemen, were arrested in connection with corruption complaints

This is further depleting the service of crime fighters and investigators on the ground

The SAPS brain drain

is occurring against a backdrop of structural change aimed at boosting the police's crime-fighting capacity

The changes, which were announced by national commissioner George Fivaz on Wednesday, include the setting up of a detective-development component to reverse the backlog in basic detective training and to upgrade investigative standards in general

In addition, Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi has indicated that the moratorium on recruitment to the police service could be partially lifted later this year

The top brass who opted for the packages

By **DEREK RODNEY**

Three top policemen who have already opted for severance packages are National Detective head Wouter Grové, National Safety Services head Daan le Roux and Eastern Cape provincial commissioner, Gert Bezuidenhout

Eleven assistant commissioners, including five Wagthuis-based na-

tional commanders, have also accepted severance packages

The Wagthuis (headquarters) commissioners are organised crime head Neels Venter, public order policing head Ockie Vermeulen, crime information management head John Wright, logistics head H J J Westraad and assistant commissioner P R de Bruin

In another setback,

internal security head Leonard Radu died in a car accident while driving to Johannesburg International Airport last month. Before his death, Radu was tipped to play a leading part in shaping the new police service

These senior policemen are some of the 2 629 officials who have so far opted for the packages introduced in

September 1995 as part of the police's downsizing initiative

More than 1 000 policemen, of which 594 are officers, have accepted packages in Gauteng alone

Ironically, 1 000 policemen were shipped into Johannesburg and Soweto from around the country late last year to bolster the province's Urban Strike anti-crime

initiative

The crime hotspots of KwaZulu Natal and the Western Cape have also been depleted by 454 and 337 policemen respectively

Losses in other provinces are Northern Province (136 members), Mpumalanga (173), Eastern Cape (212), North West (50), Free State (203) and Northern Cape (46)

Star 4/4/97

A

Fivaz threatens to

Police commissioner says political interference

quit

hampers his work

(251) ST 6/4/97

CHRIS BARRON and RAY HARTLEY

POLICE Commissioner George Fivaz has threatened to quit unless President Nelson Mandela assures him there will be no political interference in his job

This follows a heated row between the commissioner and his political boss, Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi, this week

The row erupted after Fivaz announced plans on Wednesday to restructure the police. Mufamadi accused him of pre-empting other changes in the pipeline for the police

Tension between the two has mounted steadily as they have come under public pressure for failing to tackle crime

Immediately after Fivaz's statement, Mufamadi fired off a letter accusing the commissioner of having broken an agreement about how the restructuring process would be announced

On Thursday evening Fivaz phoned Mufamadi to respond. According to sources, Mufamadi was attending a meeting at the Pretoria residence of Deputy President Thabo Mbeki at the time.

Fivaz apparently said he believed that the minister, safety and security secretary Azhar Cachalia, and Mbeki were ganging up on him to get him out of his job. He apparently threatened to ask for his severance package and to resign

Mufamadi told Fivaz he would not stop him, and that he should remember there were more capable people waiting to take over from him if he went. He said Fivaz should not think he was indispensable

On Friday Fivaz and Mufamadi met face to face, and Fivaz said he would seek a meeting with Mandela to discuss his position

Mufamadi refused to comment yesterday, demanding instead to know how the Sunday Times got his phone number

Cachalia, however, confirmed the minister had been "unhappy" about Fivaz's statement

Fivaz confirmed the disagreement yesterday. He also confirmed the letter, the phone call and the meeting in Mufamadi's office on Friday

Fivaz said he had "acted completely within the parameters of my authority" in announcing the changes

He said that according to the Police Act and the Constitution there was a contractual agreement between the President and the national commissioner

"If there are any differences myself and the minister cannot resolve, the President must intervene," he said

Asked to confirm whether he had threatened to take his package and go, Fivaz said it would be unethical to threaten to ask for his severance package before meeting with the President

But he said he would tell Mandela he had to have a relative level of independence from political interference to do his job. "There is an ongoing threat of politicians trying to get their hands into the engine room of the police service

"I want to know where the line is between political interference and operational responsibility. I want to hear the President and get his assurance

"If I feel the operational responsibility of the national commissioner is being interfered with to the extent that I cannot do my job, I will quit"

The conflict between Mufamadi and Fivaz has been simmering since the minister called on the commissioner to sign a "contract" with him at a police "bosbe-raad" in January, undertaking to reduce levels of crime. Mufamadi said he would take disciplinary action against Fivaz if he did not adhere to the contract. But Fivaz has yet to draft the contract

Presidential aide Joel Netshitenzhe said "I am unable to confirm or deny that the commissioner has offered his resignation". He said Mufamadi had not spoken to the President about the matter

Police watchdog in crisis

(251)

BOBBY JORDAN

ST 6/4/97

THE newly established Independent Complaints Directorate, a civilian-based investigative structure aimed at weeding out police brutality and corruption, is facing a credibility crisis less than one week after officially opening its doors

Important case files have reportedly gone missing from its Pretoria offices and criminology experts have warned that the new structure could "flop" because it remains dependent upon co-operation with "old-style" police investigative structures — often accused of covering up human rights abuses within the force

The directorate was conceived as part of the National Police Plan and is expected to supplant the various existing agencies — which have failed to transform the service in line with the Constitution — as the primary watchdog body investigating police conduct

Senior police officers, who this week welcomed the new "transparent" structure, also warned that the directorate will be unable to cope with the volume of complaints against police because of budget and staff limits "It's going to need a lot of assistance from just about everyone if it wants to be effective," said Senior Superintendent Johan Cahill of the National Peace Accord, an "independent" investigative structure set up to help transform the service in 1991

Although a civilian watchdog structure was long overdue, Cahill said, the enormity of the task was illustrated by the fact that only 20 investigators had been assigned to cover the combined Northern, Eastern and Western Cape provinces, with similarly limited staff quotas in the rest of the country

Professor of Criminology at the University of Cape Town, Wilfried Scharf, said yesterday it would take up to two years to train civilian investigators so that the directorate could be completely independent of police structures

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Fivaz's litany of promises and plans

MARLENE BURGER

GEORGE FIVAZ's reign as national police commissioner has been marked by a plethora of plans and pledges to rid South Africa of crime

His task has not been easy. He has been beset by a haemorrhage of top officers opting for re-

trenchment packages, attempts by old-guard policemen to sabotage transformation, wide-

spread corruption and criminal activity by policemen, and the details of human rights abuses per-

petrated by policemen in the apartheid era

The first police commissioner in several decades who was not a graduate of the security branch, his appointment in January 1995 was not universally popular

Senior officers are privately critical of his penchant for planning at what they see as the expense of practical policing. As recently as Febru-

ary this year, similar sentiments were expressed by the Minister of Safety and Security, Sydney Mufamadi, who acknowledged that the quality of police service was down and that anxiety ruled

A spokesman for Mufamadi was quoted as saying "Public hearings and plans are all very well, but what we need is practical implementa-

tion. In future, the national commissioner will be held to a written contract spelling out his crime-fighting plans and, if he fails, he could be relieved of his post"

Fivaz's diary of promises and plans includes the following entries

● JANUARY 1995 Fivaz pledges to create an acceptable police force, develop better methods to curb crime and improve safety and security

● FEBRUARY 1995 A 10-point plan aimed at improving relations and communication within the police will include the appointment of shop

stewards, complaint offices and station forums

But, in the next two years, 7 051 members leave the police, taking advantage of the government's voluntary re-

trenchment packages

In March this year, a study ordered by Fivaz shows the SAPS has serious internal communication problems

● NOVEMBER 1995 Major restructuring of the police services is announced as Fivaz tells an international police workshop that crime has reached "alarming" proportions

● DECEMBER 1995 Organised crime is declared public enemy number one. National priority will be given to vehicle hijacking, theft, taxi violence and police corruption. Fivaz promises High-profile officers will be expected to take he-detective tests to prove their honesty

● JANUARY 1996 Fivaz predicts a sharp decline in crime by the end of the year, when the police will be able to "tackle priority crimes more effectively"

But crime statistics released in March this year show that rape, serious assault, robbery and illegal firearm possession have all increased in the past two years. A slight drop is shown in the murder rate, vehicle theft and drug-related crime

● MAY 1996 As South Africa is experiencing 52 murders each day, a rape every 30 minutes, an armed robbery every 11 minutes and the theft of a vehicle every nine minutes, the National Crime Prevention Strategy is unveiled in Parliament

It will see the overhaul of the detective branch, improvement of morale, the establishment of 40 new task forces country-wide, and the arrest of our 10 000 most wanted criminals within 30 days

By September, actual arrests numbered 2 357 of those on the list, while of the 6 660 suspects sought for vehicle theft, only 773 were caught

● NOVEMBER 1996 Fivaz announces a plan to put 25 percent more policemen on active duty by "outsourcing" areas he believes are best run by the private sector

● FEBRUARY 1997 Fivaz announces that he will personally oversee the police anti-corruption programme, communications, discipline, service

delivery and evaluation, relieving divisional commissioners of this task

Mufamadi counters with a warning that unless crime-fighting plans succeed, heads could roll

● MARCH 1997 A five-point crime-fighting strategy for the year is announced, focusing on

crime syndicates and violence against women and children

● APRIL 3 1997 Fivaz announces structural and management changes in detective services and crime prevention. He admits that "police performance has been uneven and must be sharply improved"

ST 6/19/97

(287)

Mediation needed to heal rift — Fivaz

Tim Cohen

CAPE TOWN — National police commissioner George Fivaz denied yesterday that he had threatened to resign but indicated that a widening chasm between the ministry and the department was serious enough to require presidential mediation

Fivaz was responding to a report in the Sunday Times, which alleged that after a furious row with Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi last week, he threatened to resign unless President Nelson Mandela assured him that there would be no political interference in his job

Yesterday he said "The major principle at stake is nothing less than the impartiality — as demanded by the constitution — of policing in SA"

Safety and security secretary Azhar Cachalia said there were many differ-

ences in approach between the ministry and the department. He did not think the issue serious enough to precipitate a crisis. The dispute could not be characterised as "political interference" or undermining the impartiality of the police service, he said

"To the best of my knowledge, the commissioner had never specifically raised the issue of political interference with the minister," Cachalia said. If it was a problem, it was "strange" Fivaz had not raised the issue with the minister before approaching Mandela

A spokesman for Fivaz declined to specify yesterday how the impartiality of the police force had been threatened, saying only that it remained the intention of the commissioner to resolve the matter internally. For this reason and because the national police commissioner was appointed under the constitution by the president, Fivaz said he

would be requesting an urgent interview with the president

Given the history of political abuse endured by the police force, it was essential for the new service to perform its duties without undue political interference, albeit under the broad political direction of the government

"Unless the dividing line is respected, SA's fragmentation-prone communities will lose all confidence in the new SAPS and be convinced that police are again political tools," Fivaz said

He would do everything in his power to resolve the issue amicably. "No self-respecting and professional police official can function effectively in the interests of community policing if subjected to undue political interference."

Although a spokesman for the president says no meeting has been scheduled, it is understood Mandela and Fivaz will meet soon

BO 7/4/97

(25)

Fivaz denies (241) threat to quit

Mufamadi accuses police commissioner of breaking agreement on changes in SAPS

POLICE Commissioner George Fivaz yesterday denied reports that he had threatened to resign but said he would still try to meet President Nelson Mandela to ensure that there was no political interference with the police.

"I must categorically refute any suggestions that I have threatened to resign as national commissioner of the South African Police Services," he said in a statement.

Fivaz's statement follows a report in a Sunday newspaper which said he had threatened to resign unless Mandela assured him there would be no political interference in his job.

This came in the wake of a reportedly heated row between Fivaz and Safety and Security Minister Mr Sydney Mufamadi after Fivaz announced plans on Wednesday to restructure the police. Mufamadi accused him of preempting changes in the pipeline for the police.

Mufamadi also accused Fivaz of having broken an agreement about how the restructuring process would be announced, the newspaper reported.

"It is most regrettable that a difference of interpretation on the dividing line between political interference and police operational responsibility within the Department of Safety and Security - which includes the SAPS - has been made public in this fashion," Fivaz said.

It would seem the matter was deliberately made public through a leak by sources outside his office, he said.

Fivaz confirmed the matter arose from changes to the SAPS announced last week. The changes were aimed at making the police more performance-oriented in line with the policy of both the Safety and Security Department and his own views.

He said, however, it seemed Mufamadi had apparently come to a different conclusion.

"Nonetheless, it was and remains my intention that the matter be resolved internally and I therefore requested an urgent meeting with President Nelson Mandela. This is because the national commissioner of the SAPS is appointed - in terms of the Constitution - by the President" - Sapa

Sowetan

7/4/97

Govt aims to oust police chief — claim

Kevin O'Grady

POLICE commissioner George Fivaz was seen by government as "ineffective" and clashes with Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi were intended to "push him out" of the SA Police Service (SAPS), a senior government source said yesterday.

Fivaz's departure, if he was unwilling to co-operate with Mufamadi, was likely to be followed by more than 25 other senior police officers, including KwaZulu-Natal commissioner Chris Serfontein, who had also been targeted for removal, the source said.

However, Fivaz said after meeting President Nelson Mandela last night that he would continue in his post and that "any suggestion that I will either resign or take a severance package can therefore be laid to rest".

This came after Mufamadi confirmed in Pretoria yesterday that Fivaz threatened to resign twice last week and, taking a hardline stance, said "I won't stand in his way".

Mufamadi said Fivaz told him he wanted to take a severance package after Mufamadi objected to his "premature" announcement last week of SAPS restructuring. "I believed then, and I still do, that the premature restructuring of the service perpetuates the culture of fire brigade management which has characterised the management approach to dealing with problems thus far," Mufamadi said.

"I have not been entirely happy with certain aspects of management of the SAPS. He (Fivaz) has responsibility and if there are things going wrong, I can't blame the director-general of wa-

ter affairs for that," Mufamadi said.

An example was that despite the identification in January last year of an urgent need for a human resource utilisation plan, "it has taken more than a year to make any meaningful progress (and) delayed the decision to lift the moratorium on recruitment".

However, the source said the issue went further than last week's disagreement. It appeared Fivaz had "got cold feet" about transforming the SAPS "in the face of marginalisation he's experiencing in the (white) security establishment".

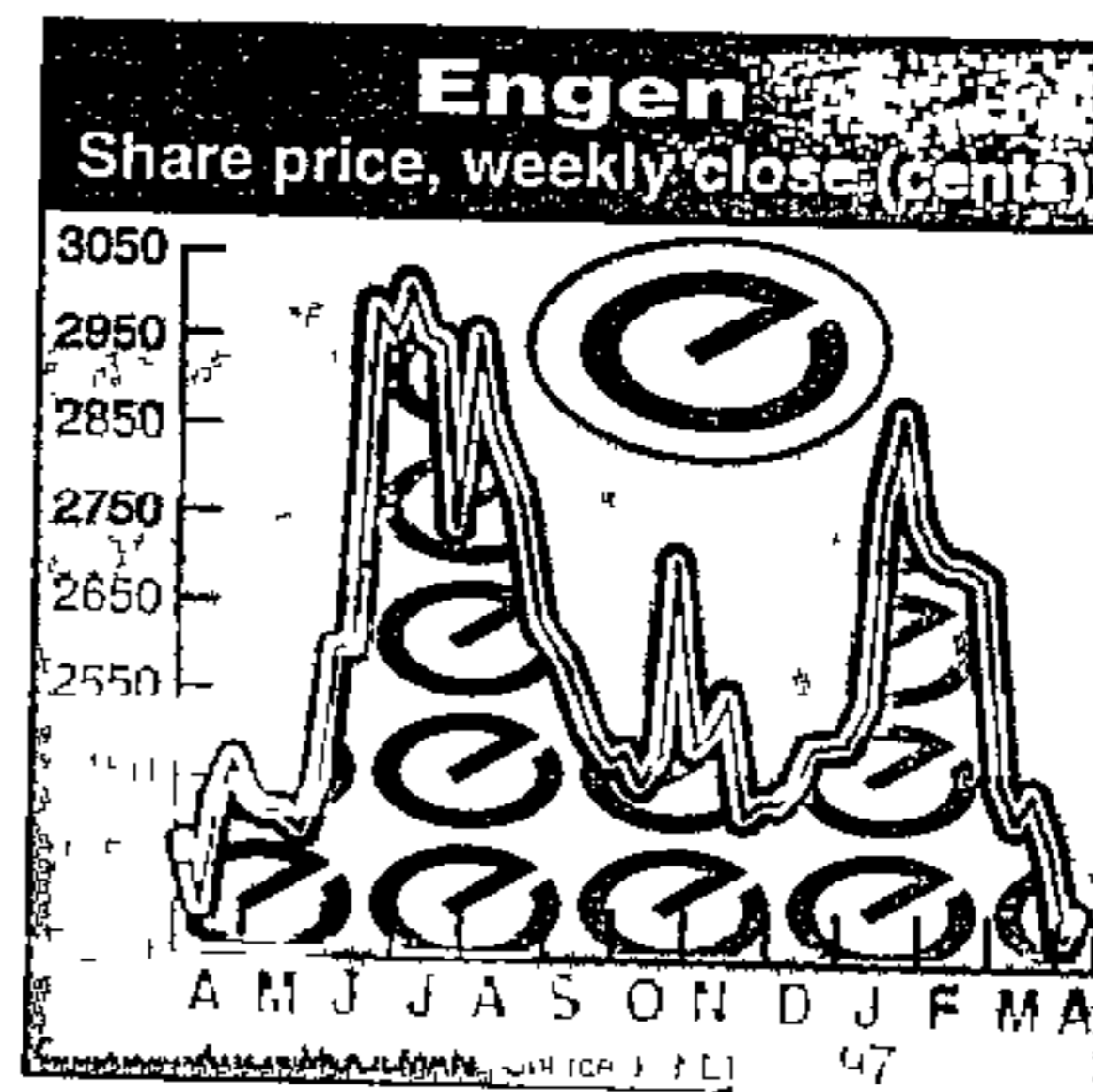
"Sydney (Mufamadi) has no option but to push him out and try to find someone else. That is what is happening at the moment," he said. "It has nothing to do with whether they are on the same side as far as fighting crime goes, it has to do with transformation, change and management in the SAPS."

The perception was that because Fivaz was never part of the old SA Police security branch he did not "have the ability to break the old networks", many of which were involved in criminal activities, the source said. He also continued to appoint policemen from the "old order" to senior positions without consulting Mufamadi, such as the recent appointment of a replacement for internal security head Leonard Radu who was killed in a car accident.

Divisions between Fivaz and Mufamadi widened yesterday as they traded accusations of political interference and of not discharging managerial responsibilities correctly.

Fivaz met Mandela last night to dis-

Continued on Page 2



Engen, fuelled by strong demand, confounds market

Samantha Sharpe

CAPE TOWN — Oil and fuels group Engen lifted net income 36,4% to R191m in the six months to February after strong local demand and improved inventory profits helped offset flat refining margins and operational problems.

The growth, which outperformed market expectations, was accompanied by a 21,6% increase in earnings before exceptional items to 107c a share — stripped of last year's exceptional item, share earnings were 27,4% higher — and an unchanged 36c a share dividend declaration.

The higher net income figure relative to share earnings resulted from an increase in the number of shares in issue, which followed the purchase by Malaysian state oil company Petronas of a 30% stake in Engen last June.

Engen CEO Rob Angel said that while operating income in the second half was likely to match that of the first six months, uncertainty about crude profits for the rest of the financial year could affect the net income figure.

"Should rand crude and product prices at February 28 1997 continue through to the 1997 financial year-end, and ignoring the beneficial impact of an increase in regulated marketing margins, an inventory loss similar in size to the first-half gain would be re-

Continued on Page 2

Fivaz

Continued from Page 1

cuss alleged political interference by Mufamadi.

Mufamadi denied his actions amounted to interference and said Mandela would seek his advice on how to handle the situation.

Mufamadi said Fivaz had not raised the issue of political interference with him and insisted that while it was Fivaz's legal responsibility to manage

and control the SAPS, he should do so "under the guidance and direction of the minister". The source said Mandela was fully briefed "and (Mufamadi) would not have adopted such a strong stance (at yesterday's briefing) without the president's approval".

Sapa reports the SA Police Union called for a speedy resolution of the dispute. "This kind of bickering only serves to further demoralise an already demoralised service," the union warned.

Comment: Page 9

Fivaz stays as the war of words goes on

AR 8/14/97

(257)

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

Johannesburg - Police Commissioner George Fivaz has confirmed he will not be resigning over the war of words with Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi this week.

After a two-hour meeting with President Mandela late yesterday to discuss his grievances, Mr Fivaz issued a statement confirming he would be continuing in his post as head of the police.

"Any suggestion that I will either resign or take a severance package can therefore finally be laid to rest," he said.

Mr Mufamadi had alleged that Mr Fivaz had threatened to resign, adding that he would not stand in his way

Mr Fivaz responded to Mr Mufamadi's remarks by again accusing the minister of undue political meddling in operational policing matters.

Mr Fivaz's meeting with Mr Mandela was called hours after Mr Mufamadi held a media conference in Pretoria.

The tit-for-tat exchanges have undermined police initiatives to restructure a service smarting from accusations of inefficiency, lethargy and corruption.

Mr Fivaz, under increasing pressure from a disbelieving public and impatient politicians, maintained that structural changes announced last week fell within his responsibilities as commissioner.

Mr Mufamadi, during the Pretoria media conference, said he had been unhappy with Mr Fivaz's announcement

because it "pre-empted the outcome of certain processes within the department". These included a human resources utilisation plan being developed by the McKinsey consultancy group, which had not yet been tabled.

"Indeed, the commissioner, secretary for Safety and Security (Azhar Cachalia) and I had discussed this matter prior to his (Fivaz's) announcement, and we agreed that other processes need to be given a chance because they will directly impact on the types of structure we need to have in place.

"I believed then, and I still do, that the premature restructuring of the service perpetuates the culture of 'fire brigade' management, which has characterised the management approach to dealing

with problems thus far," he said. Mr Mufamadi said that in response to his objection to last week's announcement, Mr Fivaz had indicated that he "disagreed with me and wanted to take a package and leave the service".

He had told the commissioner he would not be diverted "from my insistence on the correct way of doing things by the offer of resignation made by him, the previous evening".

"I indicated that I would not stand in his way," said Mr Mufamadi. The issue of "political interference", he said, had never been discussed.

The SA Police Union has called for urgent steps to address the dispute, saying it only serves to further demoralise an already demoralised service.

Certainty in an uncertain world

MANDELA ACTS ON FIVAZ'S 'CONCERNS'

Police chief keeps job

— for now

ETB/4/97
(251)

JOHANNESBURG: President Mandela has stepped in to smooth ruffled feathers in the public clash between SA's top police officer and his minister of police, but the minister remains angry, and will brief Mandela shortly.

EMBATTLED SA Police Service Commissioner Mr George Fivaz has won a reprieve and will keep his job for the foreseeable future

After meeting President Nelson Mandela at his Houghton, Johannesburg, home for two hours last night, Fivaz ended a nailbiting day by confirming in a statement that they had held talks about "matters of concern" and it had been decided that he would remain in his post as national commissioner

"Any suggestions that I will resign or take a package will finally be laid to rest," said the commissioner, without elaborating on the substance of the talks

However, tension between the commissioner and Safety and Security Minister Mr Sydney Mufamadi remains high and government officials speculated that "the Mandela charm" will have to work wonders if the image of a cohesive police management system can be restored after a series of bruising encounters between the political and operational heads of the force

In an unusual set of events yesterday, Mufamadi publicly rebuked SA's most senior police official at a press conference and the commissioner took the extraordinary step of seeking the special meeting with Mandela to complain about the minister's interfering style

Asked if he was happy with Fivaz's work, Mufamadi said "I have not been entirely happy with certain aspects of management. But it is not enough for me to say I

am not happy. The public feels the impact out there of what is wrong. In response to the concerns of the public, I must insist on the correct way of doing things, and this is what I have been doing"

Asked if he held Fivaz responsible for some of the police's failures, the minister said "If there are things which are going the wrong way in the police, I can't blame the director-general for water affairs"

Mufamadi described police management's way of dealing with problems as "fire brigade management" and said the government was dedicated to taking the appropriate decisions for the sound management of the SA Police Service

He would, to this end, advise Mandela "at the right time and in the right way" on Fivaz's future

Mufamadi said Fivaz should discharge his responsibilities within the framework of the Constitution

"If the commissioner is willing to work within that framework, we would work together. When the president appointed him, I understood that I now have a commissioner who is going to discharge the responsibilities which the Constitution says must be discharged by the commissioner

"If the commissioner feels that he cannot go on, certainly I don't feel I have the obligation nor the right to stand in his way"

While the president's office initially repeatedly denied knowledge of a meeting between the two men, presidential spokesman Mr Parks Mankahlana finally acknowledged

it was scheduled

He said last night that the president had "nothing at all" to add to the commissioner's statement. Mufamadi, however, appeared to be angry about the commissioner's insistence on meeting Mandela

The events were set in train by a leak to a national Sunday newspaper at the weekend that all was not well between Fivaz and the minister

While Fivaz subsequently denied he had threatened to resign last week over differences in police priorities and objectives, the minister told the conference that he had, indeed, done so

Mufamadi yesterday presented to the media a thinly veiled list of criticisms of the failure of police management during the past 18 months

Top government officials yesterday pointed out that in the last confrontation between a cabinet minister and the director-general of a department, the official had finally opted to leave. In that case, nearly two years ago, Public Works Minister Mr Jeff Radebe's public disagreements with director-general Dr T P C (Theo) van Robbroeck led to the latter's early retirement

The difference this time is that the national commissioner is appointed directly by the president and it is for this reason that Fivaz made an 11th-hour appeal to Mandela

Fivaz was appointed in 1994 ahead of Divisional Commissioner André Pruis

Western Cape police spokesman Senior Superintendent John Sterrenberg said Provincial Commissioner Leon Wessels declined comment. It was a national issue, and "has nothing to do with us" — Own Correspondent

Despite clashes, Fivaz will go ahead with plan

Star 8/4/97 (251)
BY DEREK RODNEY, HELEN GRANGE AND CECILIA RUSSELL

The standoff between national Police Commissioner George Fivaz and Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi appears far from over

Fivaz insists he will continue with his reorganisation of the police service - plans which led to the quarrel with his political boss.

President Nelson Mandela had to step in yesterday to defuse the row, sparked off by Fivaz's criticism of Mufamadi's "interference" in operational affairs of the police. The minister had earlier tried to veto Fivaz's plan

Fivaz confirmed last night after meeting Mandela that he had withdrawn his threat to resign

Senior police sources say the president, by meeting first with Fivaz, has expressed confidence in Fivaz. It is believed Mufamadi meets Mandela today

Fivaz could have got a R4-million severance package, said the sources, and the president appreciated Fivaz placing national interests over his own

"Remember Fivaz is a Mandela appointment, not a Mufamadi appointment"

Fivaz, after a two-hour meeting with Mandela yesterday, confirmed he would continue in his

post as head of the SAPS. "Any suggestion I will either resign or take a severance package can therefore finally be laid to rest."

It was announced last night that Fivaz would also go ahead with the launch of his 1997/98 policing priorities and objectives plan on April 18

Although Fivaz's office would not be drawn on details of the meeting with Mandela, spokesman Joseph Ngobeni said Fivaz would continue to do his work as police commissioner, including making any changes which fell under the jurisdiction of his job

Mufamadi earlier said Fivaz threatened to resign, adding he would not stand in his way. Fivaz responded by sticking to earlier remarks in which he accused the minister of undue political meddling in policing matters

The tit-for-tat exchanges have already undermined police initiatives to restructure a service smarting from accusations of inefficiency, lethargy and corruption

Fivaz, under increasing pressure, maintained that the changes announced last week fell within his responsibilities

■ Sapa reports that the South African Police Union (Sapu) said yesterday it would ask Mandela for a commission of inquiry into the climate in the police services.

P 6

DP takes Duarte to task for building delays

(251)
CRIME REPORTER

Star 8/4/97

The Democratic Party has reported MEC for Safety and Security Jessie Duarte to the Gauteng auditor-general for the delay in the construction of police stations in Alexandra, Diepkloof, Orange Farm and Eldorado Park.

DP MPL Peter Leon attacked the department for rolling over R55,5-million, set aside for constructing the desperately needed stations, to the new financial year after the department became bogged down in "consultative processes" which had failed to produce a single station a year later.

Leon said in a statement "It is completely irresponsible for the department to have asked the Gauteng legislature to appropriate R55-million a full year ago when it is obvious that no for-

ward planning was done either as to where such police stations are to be located and how they are to be resourced."

He has requested the auditor-general to investigate the appropriation of the funds to determine whether there had been any misconduct by the department.

In reply, Duarte welcomed the DP's call for a probe saying an investigation might alleviate the delay of projects emanating from the bureaucracy inherited from the past which had been insensitive to the needs of communities.

"There is a need to provide these police stations as quickly as possible. Yet this has to be done through planning, avoiding evictions. Gone are the days when communities are going to be removed from their places of residence without being consulted," she said.

CONFLICT OVER ANTI-CRIME TACTICS

MECs join Mufamadi in criticising Fivaz

JOHANNESBURG: Seven ANC safety and security MECs have joined minister Sydney Mufamadi in the row with police commissioner George Fivaz, who defended his criticised performance with crime statistics.

SHARPLY conflicting visions of how to beat the South African crime wave lay behind the clash between police commissioner Mr George Fivaz and Safety and Security Minister Mr Sydney Mufamadi, sources close to the battle said last night.

Yesterday the African National Congress' seven provincial safety and security MECs, at a meeting here, joined Mufamadi in criticising Fivaz' track record since his appointment by President Nelson Mandela in January 1995.

The row has put Fivaz at odds with the most senior politicians harged with directing the fight against crime at a political level they are all ANC figures.

The row also appears to have put the police "old guard" on a collision course with politicians frustrated at relentless crime.

Even Mandela, whom Fivaz met earlier this week and who one has the power to fire Fivaz, is said to be unhappy with aspects of Fivaz' management style and major appointments, political sources said.

In turn, Fivaz took the unusual step yesterday of defending his record. "Every individual has the right to his or her opinion, but statistics for last year show that in most categories crime has either increased or declined and I am content that we can move into the future with confidence," he said.

A source close to Mufamadi said "The charge of political interference from Fivaz' office is a red herring. The problem arises from concerns by the minister over the lungness, capacity and ability of the SAPS to combat crime."

Mufamadi was worried that receptors that the fight against crime was being lost reflected negatively on him and his future political career.



SLATED: George Fivaz

Although the clash between the two came into the open at the weekend, a police source said their relationship had been characterised by difficulties over the past two years. Problems included:

- The involvement of Mufamadi's office in a special task team's prosecution of former defence minister Mr Magnus Malan, which the SAPS had regarded as being solely an operational matter.

- The decision by Mufamadi's office to allow Mr Etienne Marais — a secretariat official suspended after being charged with indecent assault — to return to work despite SAPS objections that police discipline was being undermined.

- Safety and security secretary Mr Azhar Cachalia's criticism of the SAPS' Sword and Shield campaign last year.

A source close to Mufamadi,

however, said the latest difficulty was not related to any one incident, but to a strong feeling in the minister's office that police management was "not delivering the goods."

Fivaz has turned down a lucrative severance package, rumoured to be about R4-million, to stay in his position.

Although stopping short of demanding Fivaz' resignation, ANC MECs for safety and security (excluding the Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal) in an unprecedented move against Mandela's decision to back the commissioner, yesterday said they would not hand seeing the country's top cop hand in his badge.

In a step regarded as a vote of no confidence in Fivaz and his management team, MECs from Gauteng, Eastern and Northern Cape, Free State, Mpumalanga, North West and Northern Provinces earlier yesterday said they wanted to uphold their right to criticise police actions, without the criticism being branded as "political interference."

The MECs, represented by Northern Province MEC Mr Seth Ntsha, were angry at being snubbed by Fivaz when he announced structural changes in the service. The national commissioner has the unenviable task of selling the changes to the MECs later this month.

Gauteng provincial commissioner Mr Sharma Mahara said the crisis had placed the provincial commissioners and other senior police officials in a delicate position.

- Western Cape Police Services MEC Mr Gerald Morkei (NP) was not asked yesterday to join the seven ANC provincial policing ministers in their statement criticising Fivaz.

Morkei said he was not prepared to politicise matters pertaining to crime prevention.



ACADEMIC: Zolisa Lavis

Few contenders for police hot seat

JOHANNESBURG: Commissioner George Fivaz, with his back to the wall, may have played his last card in an attempt to reverse the country's crime wave, but suitable replacements for the police hot seat appear far and few between.

Immediate candidates, should Fivaz be ousted from office, may only have to move as far as the next office as the spotlight falls on Deputy Commissioners John Manuel, Zolisa Lavis, Morgan Chetty and Mike Bestler.

The Western Cape's Manuel is considered the frontrunner.

Head of the Safety and Security secretariat Mr Azhar Cachalia has also been tipped as commissioner. With President Nelson Mandela emphasising impartiality as a key quality for the position, Cachalia could find himself as the first civilian appointee when the time comes.

Lavis, regarded as the academic of the four in the service, prefers to keep out of the spotlight and is therefore an unknown quantity. However, he could become a contender.

Chetty, since his appointment, has donned the role of management disciplinarian and, although respected by his peers, there is a feeling he may not have enough political support to take the top post.

The police's "Mr Fix-it", Mike Bestler, has been dispatched by Fivaz on several occasions to sort out operational difficulties in sensitive investigations, but there is doubt that he will be the next national commissioner.

Before his untimely death in a car accident last month, Internal Security head Assistant Commissioner Leonard Radu, had been widely touted by ANC and police insiders as the next commissioner.



DISCIPLINARIAN: Morgan Chetty



CIVILIAN OPTION: Azhar Cachalia

Favoured candidate a son of West Cape

ERIC NTABAZALLA

DEPUTY Commissioner John Manuel, considered the most likely successor to national police commissioner Mr George Fivaz, is a son of the Western Cape.

According to insiders, Manuel appears to be the most politically acceptable candidate inside the service to take over the helm if Fivaz vacates his position.

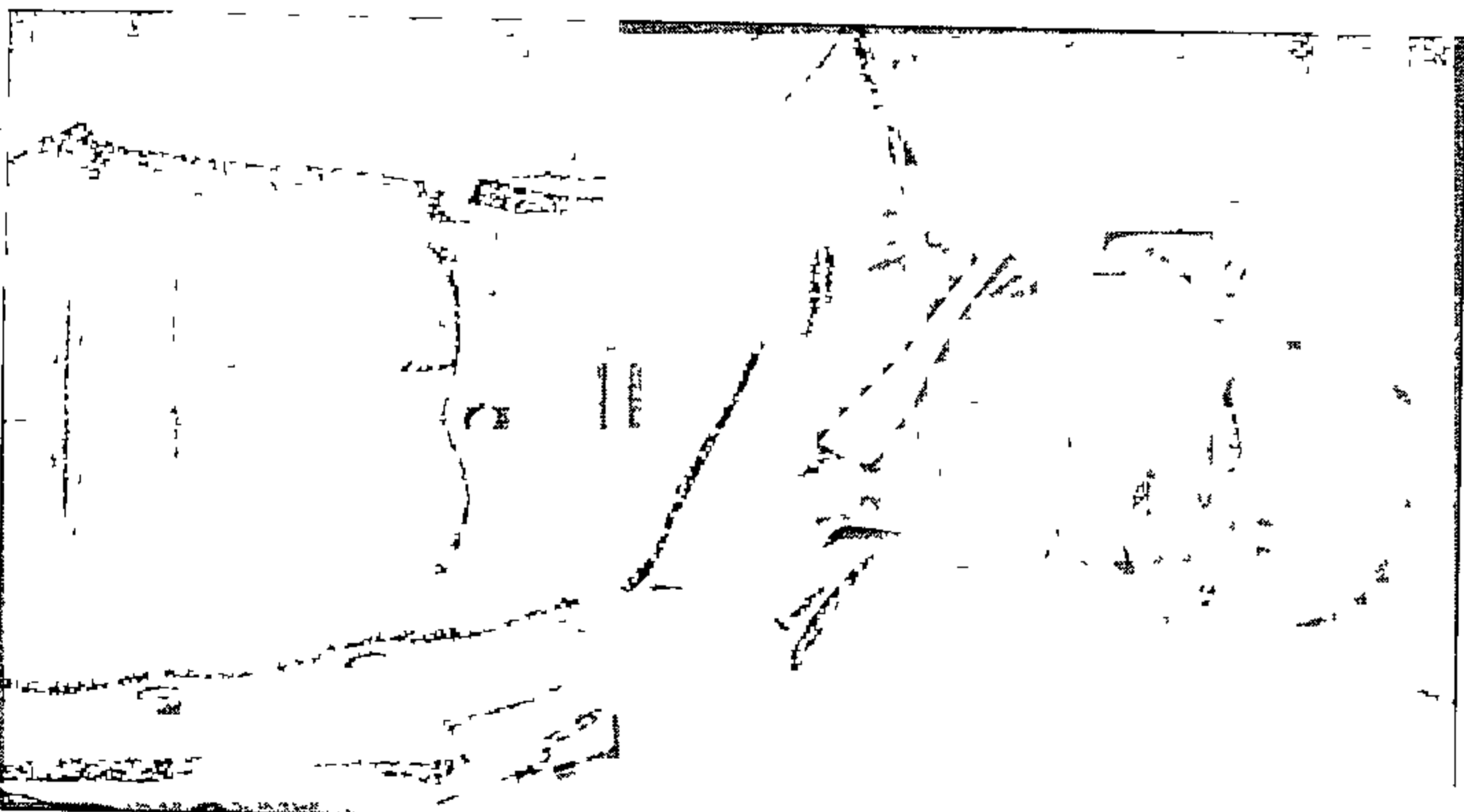
His ability to defuse political tensions between policemen and politicians as well as his image as a behind-the-scenes operator may be enough for him to be given the nod.

Born in Saldanha Bay on August 27, 1945, Manuel was 19 when he joined the police force in 1964, beginning his career in a brown uniform — the blue was reserved for whites. He completed his basic training at Duncan Village, East London, and was posted to the Western Cape.

He was selected as one of the first four instructors at the newly opened Bishop Lavis police training college. He served there for 20 years. He was the first "coloured" policeman to be promoted to senior sergeant in 1971 and one of the first, in 1973, to become a warrant officer.

By 1989 he had risen to the rank of brigadier. In the same year, during the unrest on the Cape Flats, when police were accused of brutality in putting down violence, he supported renegade lieutenant Gregory Rockman in his allegations that brutality and racism were rife in the police force. After his public support for Rockman, Manuel was appointed deputy police commissioner in Soweto in 1990.

He became deputy commissioner after Fivaz's appointment in 1994.



FRONT-RUNNER: John Manuel, tipped for top post

30% of police time is spent fighting crime

BD 9/14/97
Stephen Laufer (251)

A STUDY by US management consultant McKinsey commissioned with the assistance of Business Against Crime (BAC) showed 70% of SA Police Service staff time was spent on administration and only 30% on policing duties, BAC chairman Wendy Lucas-Bull said yesterday.

She said any corporation as big as the SAPS, faced with major difficulties, would immediately have to ruthlessly question everything it did.

"The SAPS must pick a limited number of priorities it can realistically deliver on in the short term, and the things it will stop doing for a time, thereby turning morale around."

The radical approach taken by business when confronted by major challenges was not seen in the police. There was a "definite need for milestones and measurements on the road to improvement" which had not been seen as much as BAC felt was necessary.

There were many committed individuals in the police, Lucas-Bull said, but the concern was the lack of cohesive management. There was a need for a sense of urgency from top management to drive the reform process at station level.

Fivaz's future hinges on more effective management of SAPS

Kevin O'Grady and Stephen Lauffer

THE future of police commissioner George Fivaz is still in the balance and will be decided at a meeting between President Nelson Mandela, his deputy Thabo Mbeki and Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi in Pretoria this week, possibly today.

Fivaz stood his ground in his dispute with Mufamadi yesterday and said he regarded the matter as closed after his meeting with Mandela on Monday night to discuss the issue. His statement came after the country's seven African National Congress (ANC) safety and security MECs came

out in support of Mufamadi and stopped just short of demanding Fivaz's resignation.

Fivaz said that since he had "received clarification and reassurance" on his position from Mandela, "I regard this matter as closed."

The MECs said "We will not mind if he (resigns) as his appointment has not yet positively affected the reduction of crime in the country."

It is understood Mandela did not give Fivaz his unqualified backing at Monday's crisis meeting despite the commissioner's upbeat statement afterwards that he would neither resign nor take a severance package. Fivaz, who was reported at the

weekend to have taken a high-risk gamble by threatening to resign, met Mandela for two hours to discuss his grievances with Mufamadi. He had apparently hoped for an unequivocal vote of confidence from Mandela.

But the president apparently reserved judgment until he could meet Mbeki, involved in the Zairian peace talks. Mbeki has been in close contact with Mufamadi for some time over government's concern at the SA Police Service's (SAPS's) failure to make significant inroads into crime.

Fivaz's future allegedly hangs on whether the three senior politicians conclude that he has it in him to change his management approach rad-

really Fivaz will have to convince Man-

deli and his colleagues that he has the ability to deliver on management issues bedeviling the police and seriously affecting crime-combating abilities.

Criticism of the police leadership's inability to come to grips with high absentee rates, an additional 120 days' leave every three years which has crept into the system and gross financial, personnel and logistics mismanagement has grown in recent months.

Mufamadi and his advisers believe that significant turnaround in the crime situation will be possible only once police management abandons its softly-softly approach. The MECs criticised Fivaz for ac-

causing Mufamadi of political interference and said it was "disgusting to note that each time the political office bearers of safety and security question the actions of the police, it is regarded as political interference."

"We are concerned that this is a trend that is even developing in some provinces, the MEC's statement, read by Northern Province MEC Seth Ntshani, said.

"We are convinced beyond a shadow of a doubt that many patriotic civilians and police officers are ready to take over his position should he decide to resign," the MECs said.

They said Fivaz's plan for restructuring of the SAPS, announced last

week and which sparked the dispute when the minister called this premature, had not yet been tabled in the forum of all safety and security MEC and provincial commissioners.

Western Cape's National Party police service MEC Gerald Morkele said that if Mandela, "who I have tremendous respect for", agreed that Fivaz should remain in his position then he accepted that.

Mufamadi's spokesman Maxwell Malauzi said the issues of the dispute would continue to be discussed in meetings between Fivaz, Mufamadi and department secretary Azhar Cachalia and MECs.



Northern Province safety and security MEC Seth Ntshani addresses a news briefing, along with other ANC MECs, in Johannesburg yesterday on the dispute between Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi and national police commissioner George Fivaz, right.

Pictures: GARTH LUMLEY

Shell House probe hears officers knew trouble loomed

Susan Russell

POLICE did nothing to postpone or stop the march of thousands of armed Zulus which led to the Shell House shootings in Johannesburg in 1994, despite an intelligence report that the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) demonstration was intended to disrupt the city, counsel for the African National Congress (ANC) told a judicial inquest.

The inquest, headed by Judge R. Nugent, is looking into the deaths of 19 people killed in the city centre on March 28 1994 after the march, which was meant to culminate in a mass meeting at Liberty Gardens, became violent.

Reading from a police intelligence report, ANC junior counsel B Berger put it to Supt Stephanus Olivier, who was head of the internal stability unit in Johannesburg at the time, that police intelligence had been aware that the march was meant to disrupt the city as part of the IFP's anti-election campaign. Olivier said he had not been aware of the intelligence report, nor could he remember it being discussed at a meeting of Johannesburg...

Nkabinde

Continued from Page 1
B.D. 9/14/97
(SANDF) was deployed to the township at the weekend.

Gunshots, apparently from anti-Nkabinde ANC members, rang out while he was addressing his meeting yesterday. Nkabinde said he would hold a rally in Maritzburg on Saturday and claimed he would be re-elected to the KwaZulu-Natal legislature in 1999. He declined to say what party he would represent.

He denied ANC claims that his police handlers were Lt-Col M Leonard, Sgt Shane Morris, Maj JJ Pretorius, a Lt Kok, W/O JJ Brooks, and Maj AC Vosloo. He said, however, that he knew the policemen because they were based

in Maritzburg, and operated in his stronghold of Richmond.

Nkabinde said there were allegations that ANC KwaZulu-Natal treasurer and health MEC Zwell Mkhize was an informer for the apartheid government, and had been linked to the death of Umkhonto we Sizwe cadre Muzi Thusi in 1989. There were also allegations that Senzo Mchunu — who was ordered not to stand for re-election as ANC KwaZulu-Natal secretary in December, but had since been made a provincial MP — was also an informer.

Nkabinde said that ANC chairman Jacob Zuma was aware of the allegations. An ANC spokesman, Dumsani Makhaye, dismissed the claims saying that Nkabinde wanted to "drag as many people as possible into the mud".

Comment Page 14

Telkom

Continued from Page 1
B.D. 9/14/97
Analysts applauded the timing of

age is the amount of cash the banks need to borrow from the central bank daily to balance their books. Bankers believe the Bank is happy with a high shortage, as it reduces the incentive to create credit.

Five tipped for shortlist to replace Fivaz as commissioner

By DEREK RODNEY

Police Commissioner George Fivaz has his back to the wall in his row with Minister Sydney Mufamadi and all ANC MECs for safety and security have sided with their national political boss.

Fivaz appears to be standing firm, but there is little doubt he will have to go if he fails to start delivering by the end of the year.

Replacements for Fivaz appear to be few. Immediate candidates are Deputy Commissioners John Manuel, Zolisa Lavisa, Morgan Chetty and Mike Bester.

According to insiders, Manuel

appears to be the most politically acceptable.

Manuel's ability to defuse political tensions between policemen and politicians, and his image as a behind-the-scenes operator, may be enough for him.

Safety and security secretariat head Azhar Cachalia has also been tipped as commissioner. With Mandela placing a strong emphasis on impartiality as a key component, Cachalia could find himself as the first civilian appointee, when the time comes.

Lavisa, regarded as the academic of the foursome, is an unknown quantity, and he prefers to

remain out of the spotlight.

Chetty, since his appointment, has donned the role of management disciplinarian. Although respected by his peers, there is a feeling he may not have enough political support.

"Mr Fix-it" Mike Bester has on several occasions been dispatched by Fivaz to sort out difficulties in sensitive investigations. But there is doubt he will be the next national commissioner.

Internal security head Assistant Commissioner Leonard Radu, who died in a car accident last month, had been widely tipped as the next commissioner.

(251)

Star 9/4/97

Mufamadi's meeting with Mandela and Mbeki leads to a temporary truce

Stephen Laufer and Kevin O'Grady

THE meeting between President Nelson Mandela, his deputy, Thabo Mbeki, and Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi to discuss the crisis in police leadership ended with a temporary truce yesterday.

The president's office said that Mandela and Mufamadi were convinced "that for the time being the

issues of disagreement" between the minister and national police commissioner George Fiyaz "have been dealt with effectively".

The situation would be reviewed from time to time.

Mandela expressed his full confidence in Mufamadi. Spokesman Parks Mankalana said the president expected the minister to go ahead with his responsibilities in such a way that government prior-

ities in ensuring transformation of the SA Police Service, effective management and crime combating would be realised.

Mandela had indicated to Mbeki and Mufamadi that his discussions with Fiyaz had convinced him the minister would be in a position to carry out his functions according to his mandate from the president. Meanwhile, the National Assembly's safety and security portfolio

committee has written to Mufamadi and Fiyaz asking them to appear before it to explain their recent "public acrimonious brawl".

Committee chairman Rapi Molekane said yesterday that the senior officials' disagreement, which almost led to Fiyaz's resignation, should have been resolved internally. The committee wanted to know the reasons for the disagreement and for it being made public.

The committee viewed the matter as "serious, given that both the minister and the commissioner partly hold the key towards at least creating a climate for people to go about their daily lives in a safe and secure environment".

The committee shared Mufamadi's concern about "the frequent and continuous piecemeal restructuring of the SA Police Service by the commissioner" — one of the reasons given

by Mufamadi for the dispute. In another move, the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcorn) called for Fiyaz's resignation if he was not prepared to work "under or with" Mufamadi.

Popcorn also voiced its concerns about the lack of progress in transforming the SAPS since the 1994 election, noting that there was "no concrete policy or plan to change the SAPS".

The organisation called for the immediate creation of transformation structures, implementation of affirmative action and devolution of more power to provincial safety and security MECs.

Gerald Henne, chairman of the Johannesburg community police agreement with Fiyaz's view that political interference in police operational matters was "untenable".

BD 10/14/97

Fivaz is 'on the skids'

(25)

Sowetan
11/4/97

By Themba Molefe

NATIONAL Police Commission. George Fivaz may be on his way out and might not even see the year through in the South African Police Services, *Sowetan* has reliably learnt.

In fact, according to *Sapa*, University of South Africa policing scientist Ben Smit has predicted that Fivaz will be out of his job within three months.

This follows Tuesday's accusation by seven African National Congress MECs that Fivaz made no positive impact in reducing crime and was undermining Minister Sydney Mufamadi's position.

Also, sources close to the Government and the ANC leadership, both at provincial and national government level, wanted Fivaz out and would continue to put pressure on him in spite of his determination to stay on.

Said the source: "Where have you seen a police commissioner who refuses to be accountable to the minister and who does things as and when he pleases?"

Affirmative action

Another cause for the discord was the claim that Fivaz was "dragging his feet" in implementing the affirmative action policy.

"Actually, this year alone up to 20 white officers were promoted as against nil among blacks. What do you say to black officers when they ask, 'Why do we call this post-1994 dispensation a democracy?'" said the source.

"It is just a matter of time before Fivaz is out. He might stay the year out if he is lucky but not until 1999 when his term expires," he said.

In an effort to restore public confidence President Nelson Mandela this week declared that Fivaz and Mufamadi were "the best team the country has to ensure that the citizens of South Africa have safety and security."

Mandela spoke after Deputy President Thabo Mbeki met the two men "to review the misunderstanding between them" on Wednesday.

SA POLICE vs SAFETY & SECURITY

CAN WE AFFORD FIVAZ?

FM 11/4/97

(251)

Deep-rooted deficiencies in police management are at the heart of the tensions between National Commissioner George Fivaz and Safety & Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi which surfaced this week

Despite Fivaz's assurance, after meeting President Nelson Mandela on Monday, that he would not resign and that the issue had been "finally and completely laid to rest," it appears he received no assurances from the President

"He just sat and listened," says an informed source

Sources close to both sides in the dispute say the matter is far from resolved. Sooner or later — and more likely sooner, they say — Fivaz's position will become untenable and he will have to go

"This cannot simply be patched up and allowed to drag on," says Safety & Security Secretary Azhar Cachalia, Mufamadi's chief policy maker who has equal rank to Fivaz

"There is reason to believe the present police management doesn't have the capacity to come to grips with the problems in the service"

Dissatisfaction with Fivaz is also apparent within the police service itself

A study by the SAPS human resources department found widespread demoralisation, disillusionment with the ability of senior management to lead the service and poor communication between national headquarters and divisions

A statement by the seven ANC provincial MECs for Safety & Security on Tuesday, expressing a lack of faith in Fivaz, was a political act of solidarity with Mufamadi

But such politicking

may serve only to deflect attention from the real issue the police's capacity to fight crime. This is more likely since Fivaz has accused Mufamadi of politically motivated interference in police restructuring, which he rightfully points out is the National Commissioner's function

"The claim of political interference is a red herring," says Cachalia. Certainly restructuring is the commissioner's job — in an ideal world. But what is the Minister supposed to do when he is continually confronted with management problems that are not attended to?"

Cachalia's view finds support from several independent observers and participants in anticrime programmes. Speaking on condition of anonymity, this

week they gave practical reasons why police management needs an urgent revamp

□ The staff complement at police headquarters in Pretoria has grown from 5 000 to 11 000 since 1994 — while a three-year-old hiring moratorium has slowly been starving the service of skills,

□ While police management complains about a declining police budget (currently about R9,5bn), the service continues to spend millions on peripheral activities, such as the police band (R25m) and police mu-



George Fivaz accuses the Minister of political interference

seums (R8m),
□ Research by McKinsey Inc management consultancy shows that 70% of staff at police stations are not involved in anticrime work — many of the pen-pushers are trained policemen and women,

□ Fivaz's 1996 annual police plan devotes only 2% of its resources to practical means of upgrading police capacity, and

□ While pressures from the public intensify on both police management and the ministry to

lift the moratorium, the commissioner is still far from completing the crucial human resources utilisation plan which he was supposed to have delivered at end-1996

Without such a plan, the police do not know where to deploy recruits, what kind of training to give or whether it is more cost-effective to train existing staff. For example, nearly one in three police officers do not have driver's licences, and roughly a quarter of the 140 000 police officers are functionally illiterate

Tension between Fivaz and Mufamadi has been building over several months. Cachalia says there have been more acrimonious exchanges than the latest one

Their relationship deteriorated further when Mufamadi warned Fivaz and other senior policemen at a *bosberaad* in January that "heads will roll" unless police improved efficiency. He also outlined a system of performance rating

The animosity burst into the open at the weekend after details were leaked to the *Sunday Times* of a dispute between the two men over the nature and timing of Fivaz's announcement to restructure



Sydney Mufamadi accuses the Police Commissioner of incompetence

the national detective service and establish a national crime prevention and response service division

Mufamadi says Fivaz threatened to resign (a claim disputed by Fivaz) over what he said was political interference by the ministry. The commissioner then asked for, and was granted, an audience with the President.

"This is very much a structural issue — and it's not only happening at national level," says the Institute for Security Studies policing co-ordinator Mark Shaw.

Provincial safety & security secretariats are also battling to define their roles and functions, he says. Shaw believes "the huge public pressure to deal with crime issues" is aggravating tensions between the political and operational arms of the safety & security echelon.

Peter Honey

MINERAL & ENERGY AFFAIRS

FOLLOWING THE OIL SLICK

The suspension of Central Energy Fund (CEF) general manager Kobus van Zyl has sent ripples of speculation and anxiety through the ranks of those who kept SA supplied with oil under the previous government.

The suspension follows an investigation by auditors appointed by Penuell Maduna, who took over from Pik Botha as Minister of Mineral & Energy Affairs after the National Party withdrew from the Government of National Unity last year.

Van Zyl is said to have overpaid for oil contracts signed on behalf of the Strategic Fuel Fund (SFF) with two companies in 1992, the State-owned Egyptian company EGPC and the US company Amoco which acts as a conduit for Egyptian oil.

The overpayment is reported to have been by 15c and 6c a barrel respectively and amounted to millions of rand collectively.

These details — attested as a correct summary of the investigation's preliminary findings by Maduna's adviser, Walter Gcabashe — raise a crucial question: who benefited from the overpayment?

"We do not know who the beneficiaries were," Gcabashe says. Implicitly acknowledging there is no direct evidence against Van Zyl, he adds "We have to trace them. They may be employees of the CEF. They may be people outside."

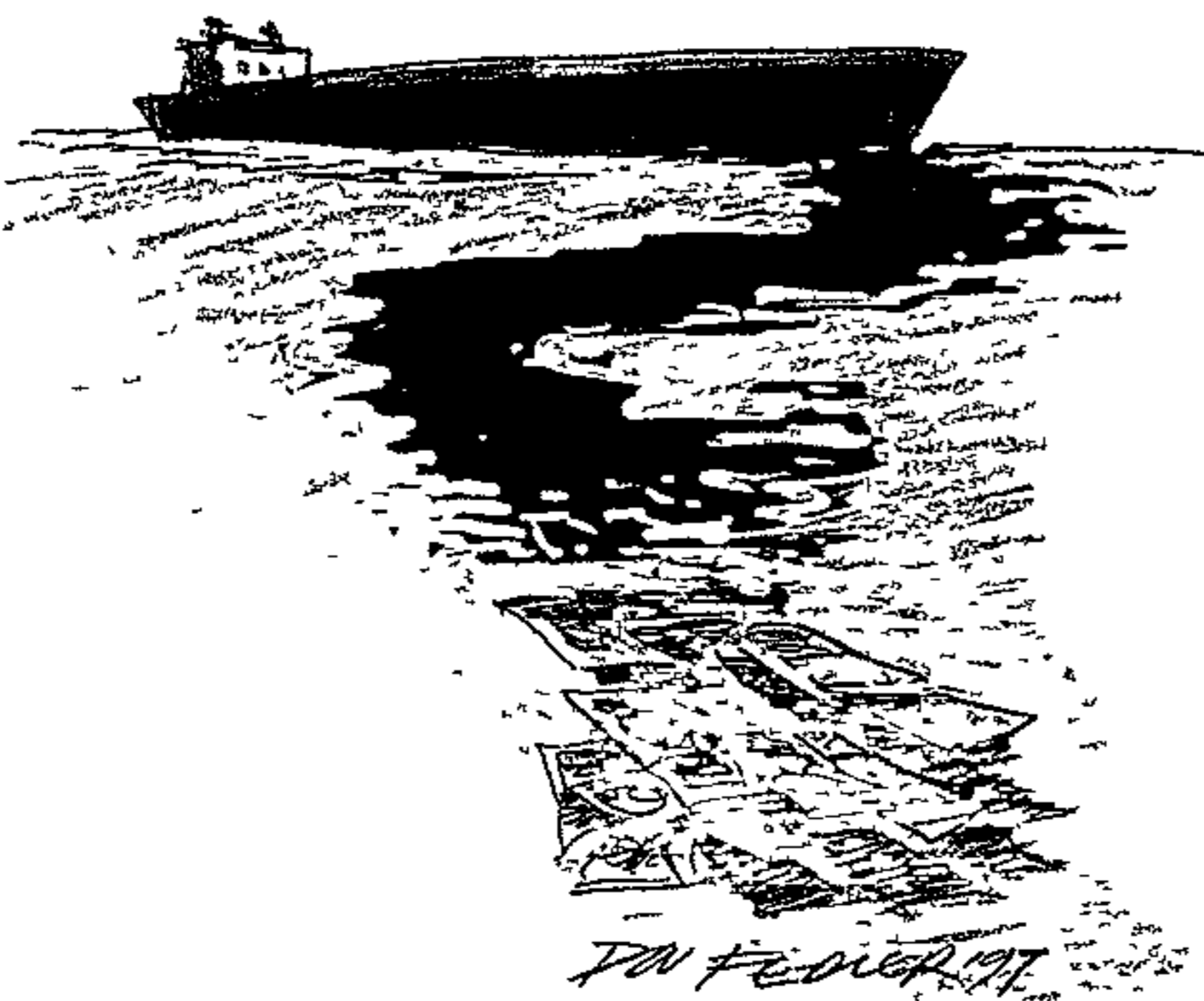
Though the two contracting companies are reported to have denied being

the recipients of overpayment, there have been hints in the media that the previous government was a beneficiary.

A report in *Business Day* quotes Gcabashe as saying "it may run into government." A columnist in *Business Report* writes "Van Zyl has not been accused of profiting personally, which raises the question of where the missing millions have gone. Above him lay the political authority that endorsed, and perhaps profited by, these activities."

These hints are linked to another, more specific allegation, one that is whispered in the corridors of power but which has not yet been voiced aloud: that some of the money may have found its way back into the coffers of the National Party.

Gcabashe denies making the statement attributed to him in *Business Day*. Asked directly whether the NP is suspected as a beneficiary, Gcabashe says "It is dangerous to say that unless you have proof. We are investigating who are or were the beneficiaries. If we knew, there would be no investigations. If we suspected who they were, we would have sufficient commonsense not to talk about suspicions to the press." George Bartlett, who was Minister of Mineral & Energy Affairs from June 1991 to April 1994, expresses surprise at Van Zyl's



suspension and his alleged role in overpayments running to huge sums. "I know nothing of any overpayment benefiting the government of the day," Bartlett says. "I know absolutely nothing."

He notes that during his tenure as Minister of Mineral & Energy Affairs, the CEF was administered by a board with its own chairman and MD and that its affairs were audited by a reputable firm,

Price Waterhouse. "I find it strange it is easy to make allegations. To substantiate them is another matter."

Maduna seems not to have had confidence in Price Waterhouse, appointing a new auditing firm, Ntsaluba Nkonki Sizwe, to carry on the investigation of the CEF and SFF. He also initially excluded the Auditor-General's office from the probe, a move which prompted a strong protest from Deputy Auditor-General Bertie Loots. "The implication is that they didn't trust us," Loots says.

Gcabashe defends the hiring of a new auditing firm and the initial exclusion of the Auditor-General's office. "If they didn't detect the overpayment, obviously they're not good," he reckons.

In the past week, however, Maduna has, according to Loots, invited the Auditor-General's office to join the investigation, the invitation coming in the face of protests from Loots and after the suspension of Van Zyl. Loots, apparently mollified by Maduna's belated invitation, now states "He says there will be closer cooperation between us and the ministry."

Apart from the initial exclusion of the Auditor-General's office, there is another apparent anomaly in the investigation which led to Van Zyl's suspension: the failure of the investigators to consult Van Zyl's immediate superior at the time when the contracts were signed, Danie Vorster, the then chairman of the CEF.

Gcabashe states "We have authorised the investigators to do whatever is in their power to find the truth. They have not been told who they should approach and who they should not approach."

The suspension of Van Zyl coincides with transformation of the ministry and the semi-State organisations which revolve around it, a process

which has seen a replacement of upper echelon whites by blacks. It has led to fears of a witch-hunt against officials associated with the old order, including Van Zyl. Gcabashe disagrees, noting that transformation often leads to unjustified fears of a racially based purge.

DP mineral & energy affairs spokesman Kobus Jordaan regrets Maduna's

Intelligence claims fire up Fivaz row

(251)

The exposure of alleged ANC spy Sifiso Nkabinde highlights the nature of the tension between George Fivaz and Sydney Mufamadi, write **Mail & Guardian Reporters**

THE public spat between Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi and police National Commissioner George Fivaz is the culmination of old tensions around police inability to deliver in the face of severe public and political pressure to staunch the rampant crime wave

And while Safety and Security Secretary Azhar Cachalia, Mufamadi and President Nelson Mandela's office labelled Fivaz's charge of political interference a "red herring", officers in the Fivaz camp claim there has indeed been tension around perceptions that Mufamadi was trying to hijack police intelligence functions for party-political purposes.

Cachalia said last week's restructuring announcement by Fivaz — the ostensible cause of the disagreement — was not the issue. "The root here is a problem around the view we have of [police] management's inability to deliver. We maintain there is a serious skills shortage... with or without the present commissioner." This came against a background of public and political pressures to deal more effectively with crime.

He said there had been an "accumulation of disagreements" with police management before, including over Mufamadi's perception that the management had dragged its heels in the development of a human resources plan.

An officer close to Fivaz this week said tensions between Fivaz and Mufamadi went back as far as early last year, when there had been "consistent pressure" from the minister to deliver a list of police agents and informers' names to him. Fivaz refused.

The officer claimed Mufamadi's attempts to "grab" the police intelligence capacity for party-political purposes was central to the row. "This is what Fivaz means by political interference."

He said symptomatic of this was the way KwaZulu-Natal warlord Sifiso Nkabinde had

been exposed as an alleged police spy within the ANC

Leonard Radu, the assistant police commissioner who died in a car accident a few weeks ago, had been instrumental in the exposure of Nkabinde. A former senior ANC intelligence operative, Radu headed the police Internal Security component — successor to the old security branch — at the time of his death.

The officer claimed Mufamadi had instructed Radu to unearth police files on Nkabinde, and that these had been handed to the ANC — a blurring of his police function and his party-political background. The *M&G* has established independently that Radu had investigated Nkabinde at the time of his death.

Senior police officials this week also speculated that among the long-standing tensions between Fivaz and Mufamadi was the position of André Pruis, divisional head of the police National Standards and Management Services.

Pruis, who has a security police background, has led a number of piecemeal attempts to restructure police management, and plans like the arrest of the 10 000 most-wanted criminals, which was widely regarded as a failure.

Said a senior police management member: "There is a feeling in the organisation that we try to address crime problems by creating structures, rather than [fighting crime]."

Cachalia denied Pruis's position was related to the immediate cause of the tension. But a plan by Fivaz to appoint Pruis to head one of two new divisions may not have gone down well with Mufamadi, who has the right to veto top appointments.

When Fivaz announced the restructuring, he said Louis Eloff would be appointed divisional commissioner in charge of the newly named and reshaped National Crime Prevention and Response Service, while Manie Schoeman would be divisional commissioner in charge of the new beefed-up National Detective Service.

Senior police officers said Fivaz had intended to replace Eloff with Pruis in a matter of weeks. The officer close to Fivaz confirmed the intended reshuffle, but said it was a strategy to "get Pruis out of the engine room" of change management.

M&G 11-17/4/97

SAPS crisis:

top brass

'ready to

quit force'

ARG 12/4/97

'Writing on the wall'

(251)

PAUL OLIVIER
STAFF REPORTER

The deteriorating situation in the South African Police Services has reached crisis proportions and top police officers claim more than half of SAPS management is ready to quit if the situation does not improve.

Top police sources told Saturday Argus that friction between national Police Commissioner George Fivaz and Minister of Safety and Security Sydney Mufamadi had convinced the majority of senior officers to reconsider their futures.

A high-ranking officer said "The writing is on the wall. We believe that Commissioner Fivaz will not last another three months. If he goes, more than 50 percent of the top management of the SAPS, including local Commissioner Leon Wessels, will follow."

Underlining the crisis situation in the force, officers said drunk, illiterate and undisciplined policemen, armed with service revolvers, had become the bane of the townships. These policemen were "walking timebombs waiting to go off".

Senior officers have expressed serious concern about the "deteriorating situation".

Other loyal and experienced policemen serving in the townships had, together with local residents, become the target of abuse from this band of "vigilantes", who had "shocking disciplinary records".

Another senior police officer said policemen were demotivated, underpaid and overworked. Referring to illiterate, undertrained assistant constables in the townships, the officer said they had now become a serious security threat.

Western Cape Commissioner Leon Wessels could not be reached for comment on his future in the force. However, he earlier admitted he was aware of the seriousness of the situation in townships.

Referring to the assistant constables, the brainchild of former police minister Adriaan Vlok, Mr Wessels said he was aware the constables posed a serious security risk and that "strong disciplinary measures" were needed.

One of the areas particularly hard-hit by the actions of renegade policemen is Nyanga.

Nyanga station commander Ganief Daniels told Saturday Argus the situation had deteriorated to such an extent that some of the assistant constables sent to the Police College in Pretoria for formal train-

"They are walking timebombs waiting to go off"

ing had been sent back to Nyanga police station as "untrainables".

He said, in some instances, service revolvers that had been reported as lost were suspected to have been sold for money to buy liquor. He said in spite of these and other transgressions he did not have the authority to "summarily dismiss" the offenders.

The Nyanga community had now revolted against the "drunken and illiterate" assistant constables. Furious residents demanded in a memorandum to the station commander that the policemen be investigated and that the quality of policing in Nyanga be upgraded.

Commissioner Wessels said "The problem is that the assistant constables have been recruited, merely posting them to other units will not solve the problem."

"It is part of a chain reaction in which the training of assistant constables is being delayed by the next round of station commander appointments."

"I believe the necessary disciplinary regulations are in place to deal with the situation."

"Drunkness and the negligent loss or sale of a service revolver are very serious offences and must be severely punished."

There are 35 assistant constables in Nyanga, 20 of them illiterate.

They were, however, often being used "in service of the community", because of a lack of manpower.

Director Daniels said he was "sick and tired" of fighting a losing battle with policemen who were "very dangerous".

"I have compiled a report to the area commissioner, with a copy to our legal services department, that 12 of the assistant constables stationed at the Nyanga police station be summarily removed for drunkenness. The Police College in Pretoria sent them back here as untrainables, but I have to utilise them in the service of the public."

"It is an extremely volatile situation and the community deserves better than to be served by drunken illiterates."

Western Metropole area Commissioner Quenten Visser said the problem was not limited to Nyanga. Although the problem was experienced "to a lesser extent at other police stations", lack of training and drunkenness was "still a huge problem."

"The situation is extremely worrying and has to be investigated as a matter of urgency," he said. "The only way to avoid a situation like this is to appoint people with a minimum qualification of at least being able to read and write."

'Open season on police': nine murdered in spate of attacks

(251)

ARG 12/4/97

PETA KROST

OWN CORRESPONDENT

A massive and seemingly deliberate increase in attacks on policemen has instilled fear in the hearts of Gauteng police officers. Nine of their colleagues have been killed and at least seven seriously wounded in a fortnight.

It appears the protectors of society are being specifically targeted by criminals. So far this year there have been over 100 attacks on police in Gauteng.

These killings occur against a national background of 72 officers killed on duty around the country in 1996 and 11 in the first two months of this year. Four policemen have been killed and four injured in the Johannesburg area alone over the past two weeks. Three policemen have been killed in Soweto, while on the North Rand two policemen have been murdered and one seriously wounded.

Gauteng Safety and Security MEC Jessie Duarte this week condemned the attacks and called for harsh measures against the killers.

"I call on the police and community to close ranks to ensure those responsible for these killings are dealt with accordingly," said Ms Duarte. "We cannot afford to lose the police at the stage when we are mobilising all necessary resources to bring down the unacceptably high level of crime."

Gauteng Police Commissioner Sharma Maharaj was "concerned" about policemen being killed and had "encouraged members to wear bullet-proof vests for protection", according to his spokesman Director Azwinndini

Nengovela "We are also in the process of implementing a programme where specific murder and robbery unit detectives in each area are assigned to deal with attacks on police," said Director Nengovela.

South African Police Union spokesman Peter Don Brandt demanded a commission of inquiry into the murders. He said it was essential all attacks on police became priority crimes and that a specialist department was allocated to deal with them. "Management is merely damping down small fires by issuing bullet-proof vests - instead of dealing with the reality of the issue," he said.

"The killing of a policeman immediately hardens the attitude of his colleagues, which counters any move towards serious community policing. While we are trying to protect the community, who is protecting the protectors? It has a terrible effect on the morale of police."

Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union general secretary Jacob Tsumane said the answer lay in "improving the standard of policing and ensuring punishments that really deter criminals from killing policemen."

Strini Govender, national police human resources management spokesman, said that in the past police were attacked for political reasons. But now "it is purely out of criminality - the policemen are either seen as an obstruction to criminal activities or as easy firearm providers".

Police national standard department spokesman Thayne Heath said the motive for police killings could also be to create chaos. "The perception is that it is open season on police," said Mr Heath.

Cop murder shock

RAW 12/14/97

(257)

**'It seems it is open season on
Killing cops who do their jobs'**

By PETA KROST

A massive and seemingly deliberate increase in attacks on policemen has instilled fear into the hearts of Gauteng law enforcement officers

Nine colleagues lie dead, all killed in the past two weeks. Another seven were seriously wounded in what has been described as "open season on cops"

As the Gauteng crime wave increases, indications are that the protectors of society are being specifically targeted by criminals. So far this year there have been more than 100 attacks on police in Gauteng. And police fear it will get worse.

Policemen on duty have been encouraged to wear bullet-proof vests for protection.

These killings occur against a national background of 72 officers killed on duty around the country in 1996 and 11 in the first two months of this year.

In the Johannesburg area alone over the past two weeks, four policemen were killed and another four injured. Soweto saw three policemen murdered, and in four attacks on the North Rand, two policemen died and one was seriously wounded.

Gauteng Safety and Security MEC Jesse Duarte this week condemned the attacks and called for harsh measures against the perpetrators.

"I call on the police and community to close ranks to ensure those responsible for these killings are dealt with accordingly," Duarte said. "We cannot afford to lose the police at the stage when we are mobilising all necessary resources to bring down the unacceptably high level of crime."

Gauteng police commissioner Sharma Maharaj is "concerned" about policemen being killed and has "encouraged members to wear bullet-proof vests for protection", according to his spokesman Director Azwintini Nengovhela.

"We are also in the process of implementing a programme where specific murder and robbery unit detectives in each area are assigned to deal with attacks on police," Nengovhela said.

The commissioner called on anybody with information about the attackers to contact the police. South African Police Union (Sapu) spokesman Peter Don Brandt demanded a commission of inquiry into the murders.

He said it was essential that all attacks on police become priority crimes and a specialist department allocated to deal with them.

"Management is merely dampening down small fires by issuing bullet-proof vests instead of dealing with the reality of the issue," he said.

P.T.O.

Police diary sealed ANC man's fate

CYRIL MADLALA
Parliamentary Correspondent

ST 13/4/97
a split within the ANC in Natal. Harry Gwala believes that Cyril Ramaphosa had secret meetings with Chief Buthe-lezi so that Natal could belong to the king and the IFP

SIFISO NKABINDE, the ANC deputy secretary in Kwazulu Natal expelled from the party this week for spying, was found out because of the investigation diary kept by his police handler, documents in the possession of the Sunday Times reveal

The ANC has not yet released the vital documents that formed the basis of its action against Nkabinde — more than two years after it first became suspicious that he was a spy

The diary shows that, months after the first democratic election in April 1994, the former security branch, renamed the crime intelligence service in the wake of former State President F W de Klerk's reforms, continued to monitor the former liberation organisations

And, according to the diary, their source, SR 4 252 — who, the ANC says, is Nkabinde — provided political intelligence and information on criminal activities

The handler's diary was found sealed under a folder marked "Uiters Geheim — Top Secret" at the service's Maritzburg offices

On June 2, 1994, he wrote "Source SR 4 252 reports that the ANC headquarters JHBurg are very worried about Harry Gwala. The reason for this is that Harry Gwala does not expect (sic) that the IFP have won in Natal. This could cause

At the time of the report relations within the ANC were strained over the 1994 election results. Elements in the provincial leadership wanted to challenge them in court and Cyril Ramaphosa, the ANC's secretary general at the time, and the national executive intervened to halt the action

The ANC says Nkabinde had seven handlers, with Inspector Sham Morris being the main one. This week Morris would not confirm or deny that SR 4 252 was in fact Nkabinde. Confronted with a copy of a handwritten affidavit, in which he described his informer as holding "a very sensitive and high-profile position", Morris refused to provide a specimen of his handwriting.

In the documents, Morris wrote that his informer had chosen to use the name Derrick Nene. "A statement under oath will be submitted to confirm that he is identical to Bhekumuzi Gabriel Nkabinde." These are Nkabinde's official names, as recorded in documents

Captain Jerry Brookes, Morris's commander, also named as one of Nkabinde's handlers, would not confirm or deny the claims against the ANC leader

"But is it a crime to have sources? Police cannot operate without sources

We were definitely not a third force. I am not a killer," he said

Nkabinde has dismissed the allegations as "laughable"

Support for expelled 'spy'

CYRIL MADLALA and CRAIG DOONAN

SIFISO NKABINDE drew about 5 000 supporters to a rally in Maritzburg yesterday

And the chairmen of 13 ANC branches from the greater Maritzburg and East Griqualand regions warned that they would consider joining another party or forming their own if Nkabinde was not reinstated by May 30

The apparent support for Nkabinde, leader of the ANC in Kwazulu Natal's Midlands region, could prove to be a thorn in the side of the ANC as its supporters there have been among its staunchest

But provincial ANC spokesman Dumisani Makhaye said the party was not particularly worried about the number of supporters at the rally and claimed that many of them were IFP supporters, brought in to swell the crowd

"We believe those who are genuine members of the ANC among those 13 chairmen will realise they have been unconsciously working for the enemy," Makhaye said

The ANC is holding a series of meetings to brief its members on Nkabinde's expulsion in an apparent effort at damage control.

Nkabinde has repeatedly denied the claims that he was a spy, and dismissed the allegations as "laughable"

But on Saturday, Mac Maharaj, the Minister of Transport, said Nkabinde was trying to "rubbish" evidence against him which was contained in his security branch file

"He knows he's not telling the truth," said Maharaj

He said the decision to expel Nkabinde from the ANC was not based on a single document, but on a file which comprised reports Nkabinde had provided as an informer for the security branch

'A miracle' the SAPS has not collapsed

PRETORIA — Police commissioner George Fivaz said yesterday it was a miracle the SA Police Service had not collapsed under the pressures on it

"SA Police Service management and I are somewhat concerned at the destructive nature of criticism of the SAPS, especially since problems have always been transparently and openly recognised and are being systematically addressed," he said

He said that putting 11 former po-

lice agencies, with different management and policing capabilities, into a single efficient organisation was a task unprecedented in the history of the country

"Transforming the SAPS while simultaneously fighting crime takes a huge toll organisationally and psychologically on police officials," he said

He appealed to all policemen to stay in the SA Police Service and to support its transformation process — Sapa

BD 14/4/97

(251)

Fivaz, Mufamadi called to a grilling

DONWALD PRESSLY

THE National Assembly safety and security committee has summoned Police Minister Mr Sydney Mufamadi and national police commissioner Mr George Fivaz to a grilling this morning to establish whether they can effectively work together after their public fallout.

And Fivaz yesterday urged police officers not to leave the force but to be part of the process of transformation in a democratic political environment.

Meanwhile, there were some

doubts last night whether Mufamadi would appear before the committee today. His spokesman, Mr Maxwell Malaudzi, said he knew there had been some concern about re-arranging "a busy schedule of meetings" in Pretoria to appear before the committee.

He could not confirm that Mufamadi would be present.

While committee chairperson Mr Rapu Malekane, of the ANC, was not available for comment last night, Fivaz's spokesman, Director Joseph Ngobeni, confirmed that the recent controversy over alleged

interference by Mufamadi in Fivaz's work would be analysed. He confirmed that Fivaz had arranged to attend the meeting in Inkatha safety and security spokesman Mr Veliaphi Ndlovu said yesterday his party would be pressing home the need to support Fivaz "if he has done nothing wrong".

He would be asking questions about Mufamadi's apparent intention to replace Fivaz with the police secretary Mr Azhar Cachalia. In a statement last night, Fivaz slammed "destructive criticism" "Transforming the SAPS while

simultaneously fighting crime takes a huge toll both organisationally and psychologically on police officials," he said.

"Fighting crime effectively is not a job of only one man or department, but rather a question of mobilising the entire criminal justice system, namely courts, prisons and police.

"It is indeed a miracle and testimony to the dedication of thousands of committed and professional policemen and women that the SAPS has not collapsed under these pressures."

ET 14/4/97

(251)

Life is peaceful at poorly managed police branch

90 15/4/97

(251)

THE motto of the leafy town of Louis Trichardt at the foot of the Soutpansberg is brief and to the point *Pax et Salus* — loosely translated as “peace and welfare” — is at once an echo of a simpler, more ordered past and apparently a charge to the town’s uniformed forces in these times of transition.

How else to explain the massive and fringing the small numbers in the audience — a wasteful turnout of police and soldiers at last week’s truth commission hearings at the showgrounds? Lolling about watching the proceedings on an outside monitor, the more than 120 soldiers and police officers deployed were living proof that modern personnel and resources management have yet to reach the SA Police Service (SAPS) in the Gramadoelas.

First, the commissioners were escorted the 1.5km from their hotel through the sleepy streets, where at least two main intersections with the N1 are governed by a four-way stop street, by a fleet of provincial traffic po-

A security force operation in Louis Trichardt indicates how far the police still have to go if they are to use personnel and resources efficiently, writes Stephen Laufer

lice. Then, on arrival, the air was thick with the blue of SAPS uniforms neatly set off by the camouflage of several platoons of SA National Defence Force soldiers.

Visitors were initially told to park outside the ground. It seems the officer in charge was worried about bombs in car boots, but felt that the uniformed staff, detectors, police dogs, armoured vehicles, four-wheeled drive bakkies, squad cars, rifles, radios and cell-phones mobilised for the big day were insufficient to allow an individual search of each car.

For most of the day, anything between 10 and 20 police vehicles, which one assumes were needed for crime prevention and rapid response duties in the town and district, sat parked un-

der the trees at the showgrounds. Those policemen and soldiers not watching the television rested in the grass or grouped themselves around bakkies chatting.

Asked about this “overkill”, the officer in charge admitted he had overestimated the crowd and the public order policing task. But five hours later he had still not redeployed his forces to the streets of Louis Trichardt, its townships, and the farms presumably in greater need of visible policing and fast response than the horses gambling in the paddock at the showgrounds.

There were four officers of captain’s rank in the town, he said, but none had been designated station commissioner. Things did not work that fast. But crime was rising as the area’s employ-

ment base shrank.

The visitor’s thought turned to the current crisis between Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi and SAPS commissioner George Fiyaz. Fiyaz wants more personnel and more vehicles and other equipment. Mufamadi wants him to refine police management at all levels.

And the air force helicopter which landed in the morning? “Oh,” said the officer, “he was just flying by and thought he would drop in and see what was happening here.”

Luckily for the police and air force cricketers who came for a game a couple of hours later, the chopper had by then left. The players were off duty, the officer said. As were the official vehicles they drove to the match and left parked at the side of the field for the afternoon, one must assume.

Pax et Salus, it appears, could be an alternative motto for the police. Managed the way it is, life can be quite peaceful.

Police brain drain 'hitting war on crime'

ARG 15/4/97 (251)

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

Durban - The Government's "right-sizing" programme has set back the fight against crime by two to four years says Dave Marshall, managing director of Business Against Crime in KwaZulu-Natal.

He was reacting to the loss of hundreds of experienced police officers opting for retrenchment packages in the province

Mr Marshall said the public could be forgiven for questioning how serious the Government really was about fighting crime, in view of the current in-fighting at the top, a lack of financial resources and the huge exodus of police skills

Mr Marshall, who is setting up BAC operations in all nine provinces, earlier appealed to the Government to exclude the police from the civil service "right-sizing" programme. This programme was designed to reduce the number of civil servants by 300 000 over three years

In theory, he said, the regional commissioners of police had a veto over the granting of retrenchment packages to policemen whose skills were regarded as

vital. In practice, however, this was not so. They were over-ruled to meet targets

Although the target date for police retrenchments had passed, he understood the required number had not been reached - and that the date would be extended

Unfortunately, it was the most experienced and indispensable police personnel who were opting for these packages. It would take years to train policemen to take their places

He said BAC believed in the principle of affirmative action - but this could not be at the expense of public safety

BAC had written to plead with the Minister of Safety and Security, Sydney Mufamadi, "to stop the madness" of police numbers being cut

Mr Marshall said nobody even knew what the police establishment was

The New York police department had a staff of 38 000 for 8-million people. In KwaZulu-Natal, there were only about 20 000 police scattered over a wide area with a population of 9-million

■ Commissioner George Fivaz at the weekend pleaded with police officials not to join the huge brain drain

Body formed to investigate police unhappy about R15-m budget

By Jovial Rantao
Political Correspondent

Cape Town - The body established to ensure that complaints about offences and misconduct committed by the police were investigated in an effective and efficient manner has complained that the R15-million budget allocated to it would make it impossible for it to discharge its responsibilities.

Independent Complaints Directorate (ICD) chief director Peter Mothe told Parliament's safety and security committee

that the "woefully inadequate" budget would not sustain operations envisaged by the constitution and statutory provisions.

"The ICD is required by the statute to investigate all cases regarding death in police custody or as a result of police action, as well as referrals from the provincial executives. To discharge these functions, it must have sufficient experienced personnel and logistical support. The present budget cannot meet this need.

"The ICD is expected to establish its presence in all nine pro-

vinces. This presence will facilitate access to ICD services by the local and provincial executives, non-governmental organisations and the public. The present budget is not sufficient to establish these offices and, as such, only people around Pretoria, Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town will be able to access ICD services. With a revision of the budget, the ICD is able to provide three regional offices on a small scale," Mothe said.

He added that the ICD had, since April 1, when it was formally launched, received 30 complaints

(251)
It had also investigated the alleged rape of Nomboniso Gasa, wife of ANC MP Raymond Suttner, on Robben Island in January.

Mothle said the constitution required the ICD to conduct investigations in an effective manner. To meet these standards, it had to recruit managerial and investigation staff of a high level.

As it called for more money, NP MP Andre Fourie warned of creating "another empire".

The committee gave members time to study the request and the matter will be finalised this week.

Police monitoring directorates calls for bigger budget

APR 16/1997

By JOVIAL RANTAO

Political Correspondent

(251)

Cape Town - The body established to ensure that complaints about offences and misconduct committed by the police was investigated in an effective and efficient manner has complained that the R15-million budget allocated to it would make it impossible for it to discharge its responsibilities.

The Independent Complaints Directorate (ICD) chief director Peter Mothle told Parliament's safety and security committee the "woefully inadequate" budget would not sustain the ICD operations as envisaged by the constitution and statutory provisions.

"The ICD is required by the statute to investigate all cases regarding death in police custody or

R15-million said to be insufficient

as a result of police action as well as referrals from the provincial executives.

"To discharge these functions, the ICD must have sufficient experienced personnel and logistical support. The present budget cannot meet this requirement.

"The ICD is expected to establish its presence in all nine provinces. This presence will facilitate access to the ICD services by the local and provincial executives, non-governmental organisations and the general public.

"The present budget is not sufficient to facilitate the establishment of these offices and as such, only people around Pretoria, Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town will be able to have access.

"With a revision of the structure of the budget, the ICD is able to provide three regional offices on a small scale," Mothle said.

He said the ICD had received 30 complaints since April 1 when it was formally launched.

BUSINESS OFFERS TO STEP IN

FM 18/4/97

(251)

Organised business has offered to help the Police Service resolve its management crisis, which is threatening to escalate

The offer comes amid signs of a widening gulf of trust between Safety & Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi and National Police Commissioner George Fivaz over the inability of either to act swiftly and effectively against the waves of violent crimes, in particular, that continue to sweep through parts of the country

"We are keen to help solve the problems in achieving policing goals that all of us — government, public and private sectors — share a common desire to achieve," says Anglo American Corp's Michael Spicer, a board member of Business Against Crime (BAC)

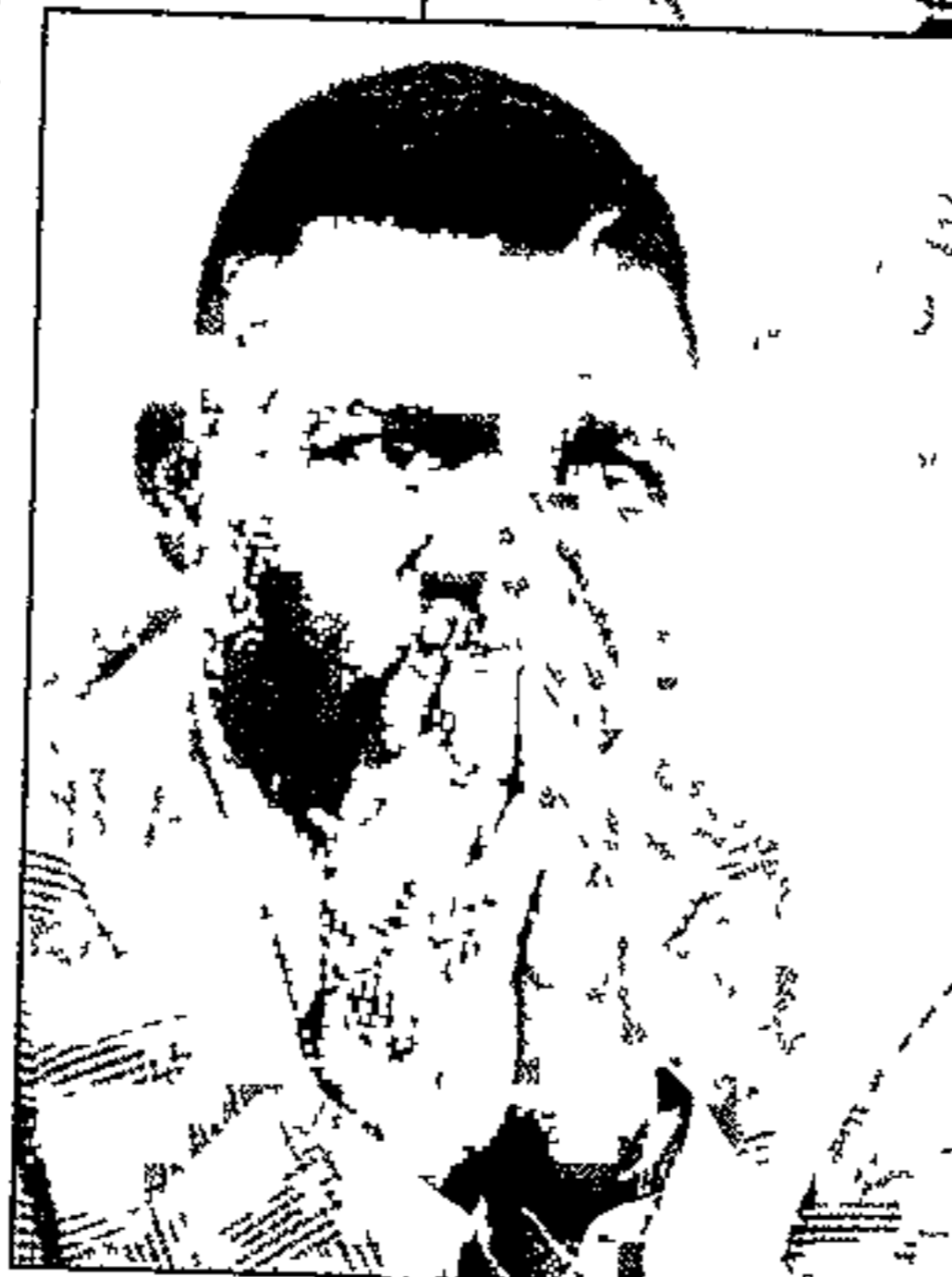
"Ours is a tremendously skills-short society — a factor which is reflected also in the police. Business is a repository of management skills, and if asked, we wouldn't hesitate to make that capacity available and expand the commitment we are already making"

BAC's offer is timely, neither Mufamadi nor Fivaz has shown a willingness to reconcile. Mufamadi accuses Fivaz and his team of ineptitude, Fivaz counters by accusing the ANC Minister of political meddling. However true the former, some of the blame at least should accrue to Mufamadi, the political tsar of policing, however true the latter, it is driven in large part by the politician's desperate desire for results

The management deficiencies and pressures of public expectation which sparked their dispute seem likely to grow more intractable. Fivaz will be unveiling the second annual policing strategy plan — renamed SAPS Policing Priorities and Objectives — in Cape Town this Friday. Though meant as a positive, motivational document, it will again expose Fivaz and his organisation to public scrutiny and comment. It may also spark critical evaluation of the grave shortcom-

ings of last year's police plan

In defending his achievements, Fivaz boasts that the police have more than 300 policing plans and task teams in operation. But that is precisely what his critics complain about: a feverish cycle of



George Fivaz (top), Sydney Mufamadi (left) and Wendy Lucas-Bull all searching for police excellence

grown from 5 000 to between 11 000 and 18 000 out of a total force of 140 000 in the two years since Fivaz took office. The more control he acquires, the more choked up his office becomes, attracting more political heat

"The police themselves have acknowledged they have a severe shortage of skills," says Secretary for Safety & Security Azhar Cachalia. "That is true for the whole government — not just because skilled people are leaving the service, but because special skills are required to manage the transition and transformation process. That is where business comes in"

If government were to call in assistance from the business community, Cachalia says, "the National Commissioner would have to be persuaded that this is a good thing. If not, the exercise would likely fail"

"Business is no panacea. Turning the police around is not like turning IBM around — for a start, there are constitutional frameworks to abide by"

Pressures to decentralise have come from not only Mufamadi and Cachalia but from within the Police Service itself. Middle and lower ranks across the service are demoralised and disillusioned by management's inability to lead, a police human resources survey found recently. They also complained of poor communication between national headquarters and divisions, stretching all the way through the provinces to station commissioners at community level

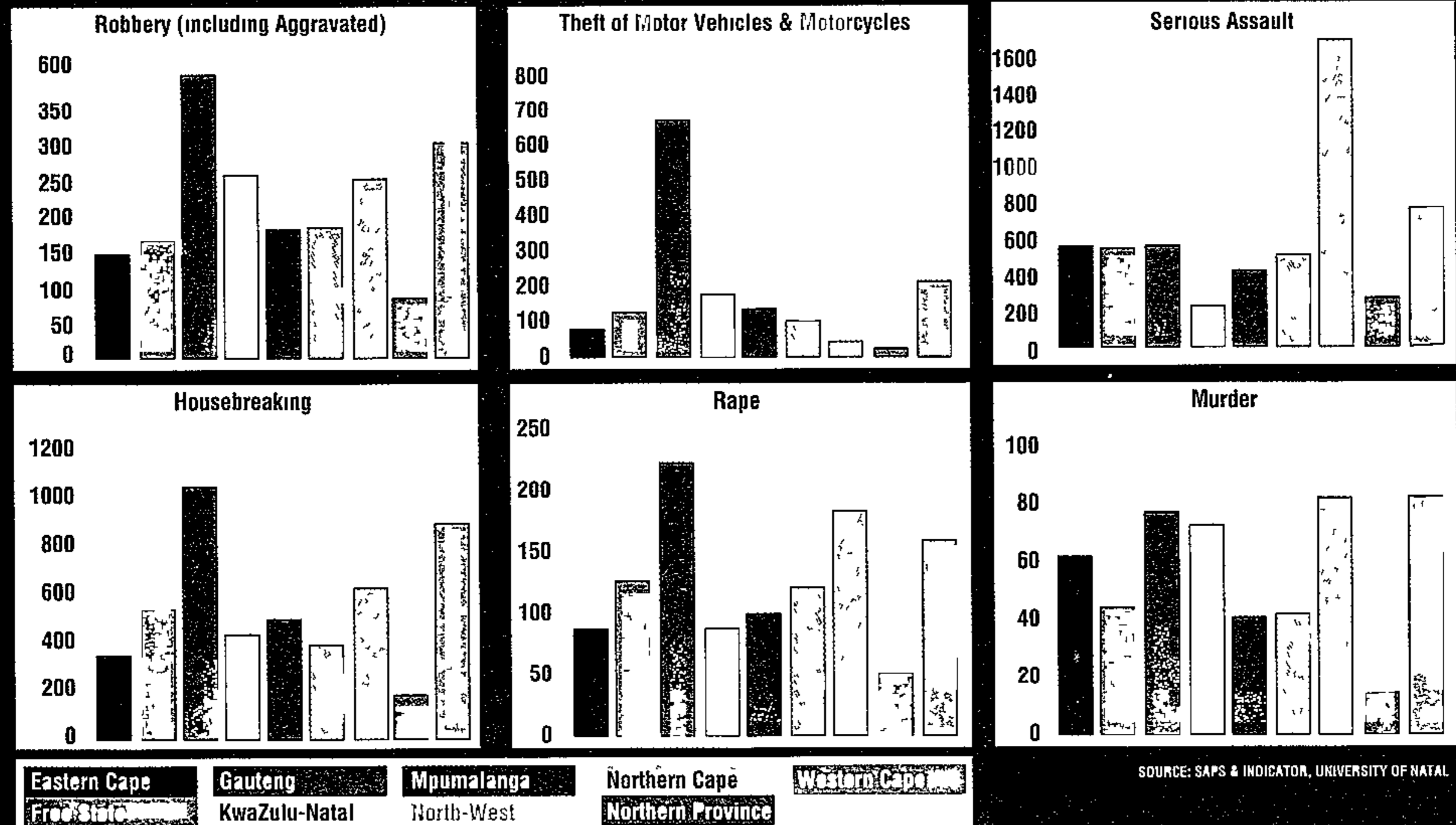
The morale problem is aggravated by the fact that police, themselves, have become victims — as if deliberately targeted by criminals. Last year 72 officers

planning and committee-making by centralised control, which gives the impression of action but winds up in stasis

Such is the centralisation of functions, that police headquarters in Pretoria has

WHY BUSINESS MUST HELP POLICE TO DECENTRALISE

(Provinces show very different crime patterns - 1996)
Ratio per 100 000 of the population



were killed on duty around the country. At least nine have been killed in the past three weeks in Gauteng, where there have been more than 100 attacks on police this year.

Constant criticism of police management has become a problem in itself, making police top management highly sensitive, jealous of its turf and sometimes resistant to outside help, the *FM* learns. A recent example of this is police management's threat to discard the free management training being given to selected police stations by the McKinsey consultancy.

McKinsey's year-long Project Lifeline has helped 65 police stations in five provinces to identify and begin addressing problems such as serious absenteeism and poor discipline. The programme is due for renewal in May, but the police have indicated they would prefer to continue the training within their own ranks, despite their shortage of skills in this area.

Fivaz is believed to have also rebuffed attempts to hire former New York police chief William Bratton, a hardnosed cop credited with turning around New York's crime wave, who has twice visited SA in

hopes of securing a contract for his security consultancy. Reasons for the rebuttal (Bratton's fee would have been paid by business) are not known. The *FM* was unable to interview Fivaz before going to press.

The National Commissioner's office also resents Cachalia, who bears the same rank as the commissioner and is responsible for setting policy guidelines to divert the service away from the apartheid-era mentality which permeated the 11 fragmented forces that have combined into the SA Police Service.

Meanwhile, Business Against Crime has problems of its own. It recently jettisoned national MD Eric Tocknell, whom it had appointed in December to spearhead an expansion of its anticrime partnership programmes.

The formal reason for his sacking is "assignment expired." But sources in several spheres of the crime-fighting community say his style angered police and business alike, with the result that little was achieved.

Tocknell is now back in KwaZulu-Natal as vice-chairman of BAC's provincial branch, and the day-to-day running of the national organisation has reverted to

Rand Merchant Bank executive and BAC chair Wendy Lucas-Bull.

Some business circles resist the BAC's initiatives, believing that crime-fighting is not a business function, and that they should not have to incur additional expenses for supporting what is essentially a government responsibility.

They argue that their taxes, in part, are meant to equip the State with a police service to ensure the security of themselves, their families, businesses and properties.

But that view fails to account for the fact that society needs a police service, even one that often seems incapable of meeting its challenges.

Those citizens who can afford the steep rates hire private security firms for protection — paying what amount to additional "taxes" to an industry that has outstripped the police in number.

Yet round-the-clock private security patrols failed to prevent Constitutional Court president Arthur Chaskalson and his wife from being accosted and robbed in their Johannesburg northern suburbs home a few months ago.

Despite heavy security, people are constantly being murdered, raped, robbed,

mained and otherwise terrorised in their homes, cars, businesses or in the streets in a mind-numbing routine of grisly encounters. That 43 bank robberies could be carried out in the Johannesburg area in just 100 days this year is a bitter reminder of how ill-prepared, and probably in part complicit, our police and security services are in the face of organised crime.

"We don't have an option," says Spicer. "I say this with all humility as a business community we have to help the police to achieve their goals, or we'll all go down the chute together."

Cachalia likens the potential role of a business team within the police to that of

a CEO hired by a board of directors (the Ministry and Secretariat). "The board doesn't give the CEO carte blanche to do as he likes."

"Government would still determine the political rules, because both the Minister and National Commissioner have to report regularly to parliament on what they are doing. Business could not interfere with their authority."

The hope is that business would quickly be able to break the talk-shop syndrome in the police, free up resources and immediately begin to effect high-profile successes that boost public confidence and police morale.

One of the first priorities would be to

complete the stalled human resources utilisation plan, to enable a lifting of the police recruitment moratorium and release more desk-bound officers for street duties.

But Cachalia warns that even if business were to succeed, a sense of euphoria would be premature. It takes more than police to fight crime. Welfare, Justice and Correctional Services — not to mention Local Government — are equally important players.

"Just as it is wrong to blame the police for the high crime rate," he says, "it would be equally incorrect to say that a lower crime rate would show how good the police are." *Peter Honey*

POLICE NEED BUSINESS AND MORE — ANALYST

Business has much to offer the police in management skills and capacity-building, says Institute for Security Studies policing policy specialist Mark Shaw.

"But it shouldn't be seen as a panacea," he says. "There is a danger of raising public expectations beyond what is reasonably attainable."

Shaw believes business's management skills will be most helpful in building links between police and communities at local government level — especially in larger urban centres.

He envisions the creation of city police chiefs who would answer to local authorities — as a microcosm of provincial and national structures which answer to provincial MECs or parliament.

Business could also help those councils develop and install crime-repellent strategies — for example, closed-circuit cameras and more effective streetlighting.

"Sometimes effective crime-fighting is not even driven by the police," he adds.

For example, crime prevention councils in France, where the police force is centralised as in SA, reduced crime by 15% in some areas simply by local authorities planning jointly with housing, services, schools and

police. In parts of Britain, where city governments linked up with police and social workers to review the causes of residential burglaries, break-ins were cut by 50% in the first year and by 75% over four years.

Victims of crime are more likely to be repeat victims than are people who have never fallen prey. City councils should institute a follow-up system to advise victims on improving their personal security. By using such methods, Liverpool managed to reduce its burglary and assault rates considerably.

"The fact that crime patterns are different in different parts of the country means regional strategies need to be devised by the areas concerned," he says (see graph, page 33).

"This is best done by the authorities in that area, not from Pretoria, as is currently the case."

Shaw is convinced, however, that many rural police stations will never have the

necessary management or educational skills to properly manage their own affairs. These districts will have to remain largely controlled and supplied from a centralised command.

The serious shortage of management skills at central police command may require business input at that level, says Shaw. But this will have to be done carefully, taking the prevailing sensitivities of police management into account.

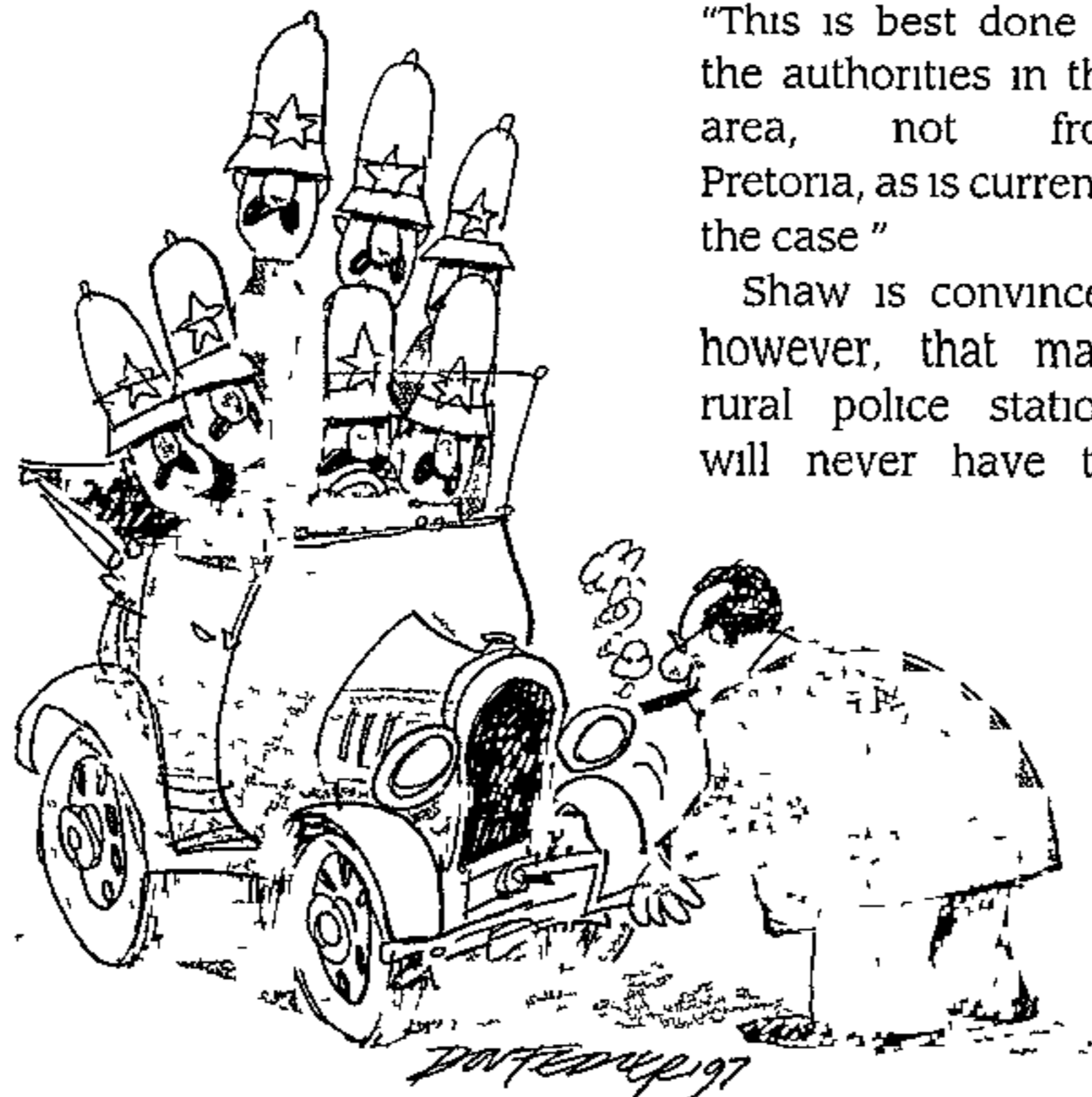
"The police's relationship with the Ministry and the Secretariat is already complex, business should beware of complicating the relationships," he says.

A danger would be business's inclination to focus on programmes that help its own largely urban constituency while ignoring serious crime issues in rural communities — for example, domestic violence and assaults in the Northern Cape, the worst region for this type of crime.

Serious questions also remain about business's interface with a large bureaucracy, run not along private-sector lines but structured according to convoluted civil-service rules and procedures.

Another poser is how slick young MBAs will relate to the more earthy style of the police. Businesses, says Shaw, are tightly focused, profit-based institutions, usually with clearly defined goals.

"The police service is an amorphous, service-based organisation with multiple targets and goals — very different from the private sector. This doesn't mean a good businessman couldn't bring a sense of focus and drive to the police, but his success would not be guaranteed." ■



Academy to boost battle against crime

JOHAN SCHRÖNEN
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A national police detective academy, to be established soon, is poised to professionalise the police's investigative arm and produce more client-orientated policing.

National Commissioner of Police, George Fivaz, yesterday announced the establishment of new academy as part of the policing priorities and objectives for the 1997/98 financial year.

With South Africa having among the worst crime statistics in the world, police priorities this year were the combating of crimes involving firearms, the investigation of criminal organisations, crimes against women and children, the eradication of corruption within the criminal justice system and the implementation of crime prevention strategies, Commissioner Fivaz said.

He said the academy would help to enhance the quality of investigative services and improve case management by improving the capacity and skills of investigators.

Professionally trained detectives would result in effective crime investigation, proper feedback to victims and witnesses and would ultimately improve customer satisfaction.

Deputy National Commissioner Zoli Lavisa, who is overseeing the establishment of the academy, said that after careful consideration it was thought that the detective school should be based in Gauteng, but there was also talk that it could be established in Paarl.

"The launch of a police academy, which is a trend all over the world in developing countries, would help alleviate the vast backlog of untrained detectives," said Commissioner Lavisa.

He added that the structures for the academy were in place and the tender process for outside resources was under way.

Commissioner Fivaz said the training of all policemen was a priority in the entire service.

"We have inherited a complete mess from the old police force.

"At least 30 000 members do not have standard eight and 45 000 members have

no drivers licence," said Commissioner Lavisa.

Commissioner Fivaz said other "organisational focus areas" included "victim empowerment", budget and resource management and "affirmative training".

Affirmative training should provide basic skills to those who were unskilled, but should also develop an accelerated training programme for members of previously disadvantaged groups.

Commissioner Fivaz also announced the development of a Service Charter in consultation with the community who would then be able to evaluate the service of the police.

Expected annual outputs and targets at police stations at area and provincial levels will be specified to measure performance, identify weaknesses and ensure service delivery, according to Commissioner Fivaz, adding that the police's objectives and priorities would contribute to the success of this year being a "year of service delivery" in line with the Government's overall objective for the country.

ARG 19/4/97

(251) (25)

Top cops jump S.A.P.

Plans to fight crime put at risk as 3 000 senior officers queue to resign

By PETA KROST

(251) Star 19/4/97

On the same day the Government announced further initiatives to fight crime details have emerged of the extent to which more than 3 000 resignations will rip the heart out of this country's key police leadership.

A *Saturday Star* investigation has revealed that in Gauteng alone resignations are set to rob the country's most crime-racked province of close to 1 000 experienced officers.

One top policeman described the resignations as "catastrophic a real brain drain".

Increasing the dismay about the capacity of the SAPS to implement ambitious policing plans, Commissioner George Prvez yesterday admitted that one in three police officers does not have a driving licence while 30 000 have failed to complete high school.

This admission together with the daily drain of experience, is leading to increased scepticism about the Government's ability to come to terms with crime in the short term.

Most of the 3 073 'south African police' retrenched at packages were awarded to policemen this country cannot afford to lose.

In Gauteng alone as many as 34 top-ranking officers, directors and commissioners opted for packages. However, 808 Gauteng policemen taking packages had between 10 and 30 years' experience and were middle to high-ranking officers from sergeants to senior superintendents.

"It is the experienced policemen with expertise, the role-models, who are leaving us," said National Police Human Resources Divisional Commissioner Neels Steenkamp. "While the total number leaving is a problem, the real issue is the number of quality, top-calibre policemen who are going."

He said he would like to see the packages stopped because as role-models leave, it creates an atmosphere of uncertainty within their units. But while the Government has acknow-

ledged that the severance packages plan is a disaster, they say they cannot stop it going further until they have something to replace it," said Steenkamp.

"The best people are leaving the police because they can get jobs elsewhere and it is those who cannot who stay behind."

He said that while police management had made a number of requests for particular policemen to withdraw their applications, "not enough of them did".

The highest number of policemen taking packages in the country is in Gauteng, where they are so desperately needed to fight the worst crime scourge in the country. There were 530 packages approved for Gauteng regional police and 488 to head-office police staff.

With an average of 32 years' experience, the provincial head of organised crime, the provincial inspectorate commissioner the chief of East Rand crime prevention the commander over Gauteng's detectives, and the West Rand chief of detectives were among those who have left.

Twelve Gauteng station commanders and 20 unit or branch commanders also took packages.

Top specialists from the diamond and gold unit, internal security, fraud unit, psychological services, radio technology, technical support, organised crime unit, anti-corruption, logistics, murder and robbery, intelligence, commercial crime and the financial department have chosen to leave.

Not one of those taking packages has less than five years' experience. Mostly they have between 10 and 30 years in the police force.

In the narcotics unit in Johannesburg, where the drug problem is the worst in the country, of the five officers, two are taking packages - and the branch commander is one of them.

In Gauteng's anti-kidnapping unit, three senior officers, including the unit's head, are accepting packages.



GIVING CHASE A member of the SA National Defence Force sprints after a suspect during a joint police-SANDF action in Johannesburg yesterday. It is hoped troops will help desperately undermined police officers keep crime under control.

PHOTOGRAPH CHRIS COLLINGRIDGE

P.T.O.

◆ Police exodus

"It is catastrophic - a real brain drain in the police. It will take many years to recover from this loss," said

a police senior human resources specialist.

A senior policeman who is taking his package at the

end of this month said he is leaving because, although

he loved working in the police for the past 18 years, he

feels the SAPS is struggling.

"On a personal level, I cannot be proud of working

in this police service anymore. It's a mess. I have been

offered a job in the private sector for a lot more money

to compensate for having to leave a job I loved."

A unit commander who has taken his package after

25 years in the police said he left because he could not

remain in a force that no longer has "direction or dis-

cipline, and the powers that be are not interested"

He said he was concerned for the future of the

police because there was an "apparent lack of direc-

tion, which I found to be totally frustrating."

When he had problems within his department, he

had requested help by sending reports to his superiors,

but "I had no response and nothing was ever done

about them", the veteran officer said.

Consternation

"I was a dedicated policeman for all my years but

recently the flame went out inside me and I could no

longer stomach working there."

When the news spread about his leaving the SAPS,

he said, "dozens of my colleagues told me they wished

they were in a position to take the packages. But they

either had young children or not sufficient years of ser-

vice for it to be worth their while."

There is consternation among those still in the

ranks who feel there will be no mentors left and nobody

to teach the younger, less experienced policemen the

ropes.

"You cannot learn to be a policeman from a text-

book, you learn on the job from your experienced col-

leagues," said one policeman in his late 20s who works

in a specialised unit.

"Experienced men would take you under their wing,

and that way you learn the nitty-gritty of the job. Now

there is a huge gap developing, with experienced guys

leaving without having passed on their expertise."

Another officer taking his package at the end of this

month said he could not believe how the standard of

police had deteriorated. "When I go into a charge

office and see policemen behind the counter watching

soccer on TV while members of the public fill out their

own reports, I know things are beyond repair.

"Policemen used to take pride in being able to write

a report that was so well written it could make a dif-

ference to the case in court."



USING SUPERIOR FORCE: Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi, who says he will continue to insist on improvement in police management
Picture: TERRY SHEAN

Crime-busters hug and make up

By RAY HARTLEY
Political Correspondent

THEY fought in offices in Pretoria, in Deputy President Thabo Mbeki's study at the Union Buildings, on the front pages of newspapers and over the phone. Then, suddenly, on Friday they hugged each other and buried the hatchet.

The reconciliation between the Minister of Safety and Security, Sydney Mufamadi, and Police Commissioner George Fivaz was sealed when the two officials addressed the public in Cape Town on Friday — Mufamadi in his budget speech to Parliament and Fivaz at a press conference to announce anti-crime measures.

Dressed in a dark Nehru suit, Mufamadi stood before Parliament on Friday morning and declared

ST 20/4/97 (251)
"The national commissioner and I are determined not to be sidetracked by what happened and to maintain our focus steadfastly on the fight against crime."

Then, three hours later, Fivaz, in a freshly pressed, deep blue uniform addressed the media in an auditorium opposite Parliament.

"The SAPS and I fully support the crime priorities and objectives outlined by the minister for safety and security today," he said.

The sudden bout of brotherly love had its origins in a meeting between Mufamadi, Fivaz and President Nelson Mandela the week, at which Mandela is said to have insisted that the two find a way of working together.

On Thursday evening, the day before their public hug, the two men are said to have met for more than an hour to bury the hatchet and head off a potentially embar-

rassing argument the next day.

While Mufamadi made public amends, he nonetheless reserved a few barbs for police management.

In his speech he said "I, on behalf of the government, will insist that police management performs, that policing targets are set and met, and that there is more action and less talking."

At his press briefing, Fivaz produced a barrage of statistics to back up his claim that the police were in fact tackling crime effectively.

He showed that in the days leading up to the minister's budget speech, 54 persons had been arrested for murder, 98 for robbery, 54 for rape, 189 for assault and 206 for illegal possession of drugs.

But he did add "The ongoing war against crime will continue to be a grim, uphill struggle for the foreseeable future."

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Top cops may go back on the beat

(251)

MARLENE BURGER

ST 20/4/97

VETERAN policemen promoted to executive positions could find themselves back on the beat as part of a plan to commit more manpower to active policing

A white paper on safety and security, to be published within the next year, will focus on ways in which senior officers can be relieved of the administrative functions they fulfil, and redeployed in areas where they can apply their training as crime fighters

The safety and security secretary, Azhar Cachalia, said this weekend that he, national Commissioner George Fivaz, and Minister Sydney Mufamadi had agreed that certain administrative functions, even at the most senior level, were not necessarily best performed by trained policemen

"We have to find ways of freeing people from the burden of administration, and utilising their special skills and years of experience in the field. Some of the most effective crime fighters are performing support services, and I would rather see them carrying out practical policing duties," said Cachalia

Commenting on reports this week that the complement at the SA Police Services head office had more than doubled since Fivaz became commissioner two years ago, Cachalia said there was a "misconception" about the size of the national head office

"At the same time, I believe the service is top-heavy due to an inherited and historical development. The management echelon is perhaps bigger and broader than it needs to be, and this is another area the white paper will be looking at"

Figures supplied by the police's human resources division show that while the former South African Police's management cadre was around 5 000, the figure for the new police services is 10 720

However, spokesmen said this was due to the fact that before the 1994 elections, policing in South Africa was carried out by the SAP and 11 autonomous forces operating in the homelands

"Each had its own management structure, but this was never reflected on the police books. Now the management structures of the nine provincial forces is included in the national complement, along with the management of national facilities such as the training facilities, criminal record centre, task forces and public order policing units," said Superintendent Strini Govender, liaison officer for human resources

Prior to Fivaz's appointment, there were 320 "top management" posts — from the rank of brigadier upwards — in the police. Now that figure is 414, of which 154 are stationed at the Pretoria head office and the rest in the provinces. The increase is attributed to the fact that "amalgamation with the former homeland police forces increased the size of the police force, and increased the management capacity required"

However, a senior officer who has been closely involved in the restructuring of the police said "if anything, the number of top officers has dropped. In the old Transkei, for example, there were nine or 10 generals. Now the Eastern Cape, which incorporates the former Transkei and Ciskei, is divided into four areas, with a single general and one brigadier in each"

Out of a total force of 140 000 members, the management echelon (from the rank of captain up to national commissioner) accounts for nine percent of the manpower. Another 14 percent is made up by civilians, leaving 77 percent of the force (from the rank of inspector to constable) as foot soldiers

Police leaders to spell out plans on policing

infer

incial police commis-
ld announce their own
implementing the
being priorities and ob-
ublished on Friday,
; next few days, stan-
management divisional
ner Andre Pruis said at
nd

(SAPS) heads The provincial com-
missioners had discussed their
targets with the MECs responsi-
ble for safety and security in the
nine provinces

The announcement heralds an
attempt by Fivaz and the top
SAPS leadership to respond to re-
cent criticisms of their manage-
ment skills, by more closely defin-
ing management targets

Policing plans have been criti-
cised as too vague, and the tar-
getted provincial targets to be an-
nounced could lead to greater
management accountability

The crime prevention and de-
tection targets to be set would

differ by province because some
crimes were more prevalent in
some areas than in others The
Northern Cape has more murders
per 100 000 members of the pop-
ulation than any other province,
while hijacking is more prevalent
in Gauteng than anywhere else

Pruis said the police in SA
would increase their efforts at re-
ducing the supply of illegal
firearms in SA and the flow of
weapons into the country Activity
would be directed not only at crim-
inals and those illegally in posses-
sion of guns, but also at legal own-
ers in an effort to improve the
safety of their storage and use

People found unfit to hold a
firearm would have their licences
revoked Administrative practices
would also be improved in the
SAPS in an attempt to reduce the
number of service firearms stolen
or lost

The SAPS was also looking at
improved partnerships with
insurance companies and other
private sector institutions in an
effort to combat vehicle fraud,
Pruis said

Many cars and trucks reported
stolen or hijacked were sold ille-
gally by their owners, who then
claimed insurance on them
More than 9 000 SAPS mem-

bers, 505 police reservists, 2 492
SA National Defence Force
(SANDF) soldiers, and 458 traffic
officers had been deployed in the
first three days of high density
crime-fighting operations, he said

Separate priorities had been
set in each province, and a total of
10 000 SANDF personnel would
be deployed in the continuing
operations

So far 54 murder suspects had
been arrested, as had 98 people
suspected of robbery, 54 of rape,
158 of serious assault, 10 of
hijacking, and 49 of fraud and
forgery Police had recovered 101
stolen vehicles, 114 illegal

firearms, and 1 164 rounds, of
ammunition.

Meanwhile, Fivaz said yester-
day in Pretoria that the SAPS's
top management had not been
surprised at the results of an in-
ternal survey which said almost
half of all police officers claimed to
be doing "the absolute minimum"
in their jobs, Sapa reports.

The poll had revealed that
SAPS officials were "still very un-
certain about their function, about
what is happening in the country
and the police," said Fivaz.

It would take the police five to
eight years to go through a culture
change.



Gauteng premier Tokyo Sexwale, centre, and National Police Commissioner George Fivaz, right, lay wreaths at a memorial service at the Union Buildings in Pretoria yesterday for the 73 police officers who died in the course of duty last year. Among the relatives who took part in the ceremony was Yolandi Gull who lost a family member. Since January another 20 policemen have been killed.

Pictures: TVRONE/ARTHUR

'Give us the time, we'll do the job'

(251)

CONT

Embattled Commissioner Fivaz says he and his team inherited a 'bankrupt estate' and it's unreasonable to expect results in less than a few years

Nov 22/4/97

If there's one point George Fivaz wants to make, it's that the police force he manages is not even half-way transformed from the incompetence riddled mess it was before. The other point is that this should come as no surprise.

As for the latest wrestle between himself and Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi, it was made a "mountain out of a molehill". This kind of tension between politics and operations is present in every police force. It's healthy and serves as a watchdog", he says.

Actually, while he might sound conciliatory, Fivaz is strained by the whole episode. He's conversational and characteristically pleasant, but there's an urgency and defensiveness which belies the frustration that comes with the belief that you're being misrepresented.

With a note of resignation, he says he "doesn't know what waits around the corner" for him - an oblique reference to talk of his political superiors motivating for his tenure to be cut short. What he really wants to tell is the bigger story of the SAPS in the hope of it vindicating him against the tide of criticism he has faced of late.

There's a tendency to forget, he says, that the police have only been in transition for two years. "Transformation, depending on the complexity of issues, takes five to 20 years and I believe the SAPS management is going to take between five to eight years. There is so much neglect in the system."

Since the fragmentation of the USSR, South Africa has the biggest police service in the world, a vast quantity of them without a basic education or adequate training. "We inherited an insolvent estate," says Fivaz.

Fixing it, he says, means not only reinventing policing, but re-engineering it and re-positioning it in relation to other judicial departments. At the same time, the demand for policing is increasing - this in the face of an ongoing brain-drain. "It's unrealistic to expect a miracle. I think people are looking at it too simplistically. It'll take a few years," he says.

Fivaz diplomatically avoids answering who he thinks in the ANC Government is culpable because he does not understand the



THE THING ABOUT YOU

By Helen Grange

complexities, but he stresses, significantly "The president understands the complexities."

Informed observers say the relationship between Fivaz and Nelson Mandela is a close one, that there is strong mutual respect.

A source in Mufamadi's office said of him during the latest quibble "This is not about a personality war. Fivaz is a decent human being. This was about whether police management has the will, ability and capacity to deliver. If people below Fivaz are not delivering, the minister and the public need to see decisive action."

Independent political observers have commented on the glaring lack of talent among Fivaz's deputies, but as far as Fivaz is concerned, there is no question of incompetency in his management team, some of whom, he declares have "two or three degrees".

"It is nonsense to say the management is incompetent. The fact is, the neglect and backlog is so huge, you need hair on your teeth to do this job."

There are 30 000 police officers without a standard eight. Numerous are illiterate. Nearly 40 000 policemen have no driving licence and there are over 75 detectives with no training at all in detective work.

"We have to set up adult basic education training programmes. The question is are we going to make it? It's a valid question. I'm convinced we are, but we've got to do it systematically within the framework of our budget and ability. If you discard the present management structure for a new one, you're not going to fix the problem."

And nor can the police force be built around personalities, he says. "You can't do to the police what Northern Transvaal rugby did to Naas Botha" (The team persuaded Botha to make a comeback, but then jettisoned him afterwards).

The 50-year-old Fivaz resents the implication that he is not the man for the job of commissioner, that he hasn't the requisite skills to implement effective decisions. "I'm formally trained in effective resource utilisation, and that's what it's about."

This is no doubt a keen subject of debate in the inner circles of the safety and security establishment. That aside, his record shows him to be decisive and accessible, even if his style - (the accent and mannerisms are distinctly small town Afrikaans) - is at odds with his political superiors.

Fivaz was born on a farm near Reitz, joined the police force in 1965 and steadily got promoted through the ranks. His last post was as chief of the SAP's efficiency services and he has studied police management styles in Canada, the US, Europe and South America.

He has two strong political allies, he believes, in Trevor Manuel (finance minister) and Gill Marcus. "They are really trying to assist. Manuel is trying his utmost to provide a bigger budget, but we're in a poor country. Everything has been neglected."

The picture is bleak indeed, but Fivaz is on a personal mission to keep his head down and when it is time to go, leave a "relatively well equipped police force". He lightens up. "All I'm saying is, have a heart. If you stick with us, we'll make you famous!"

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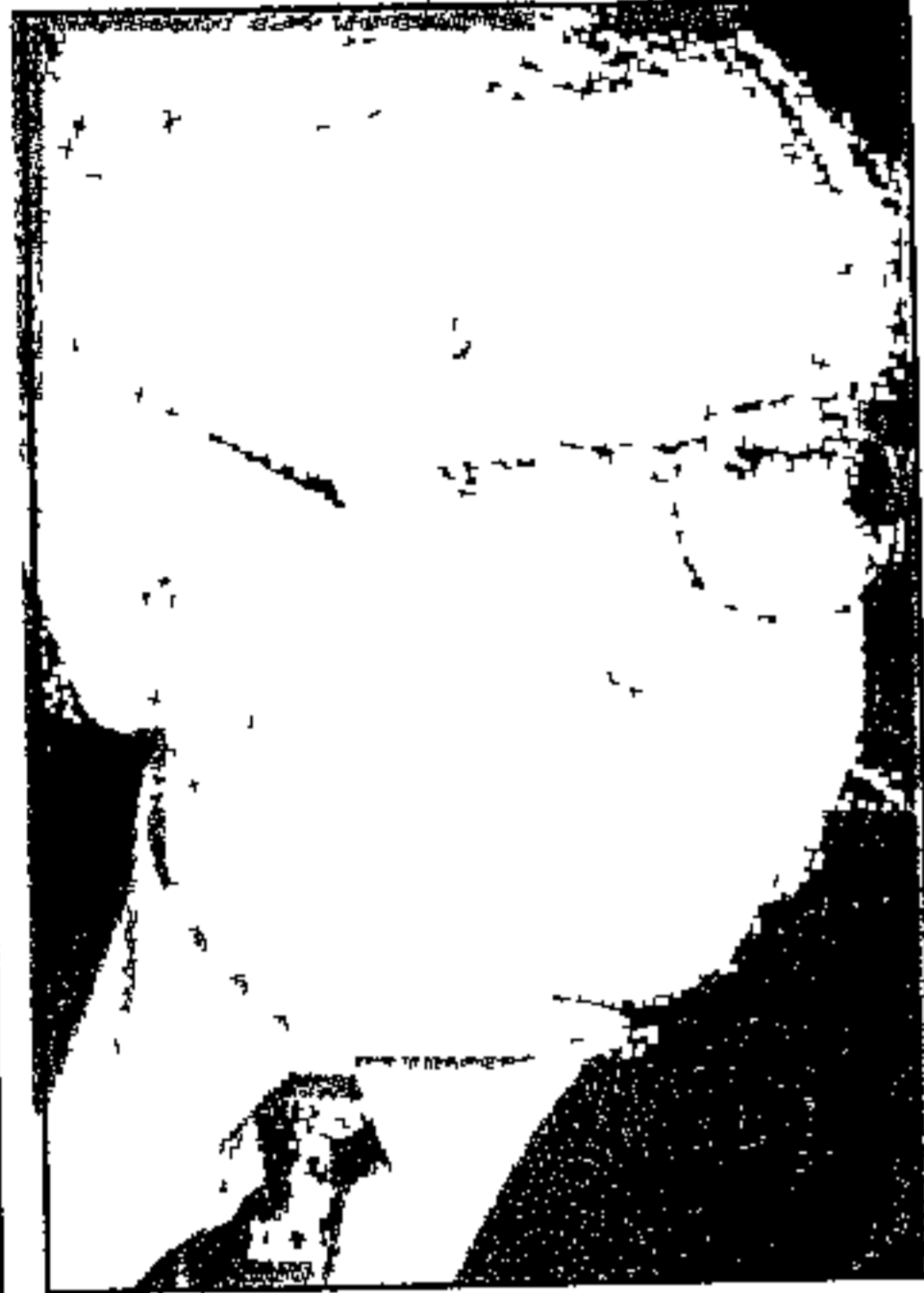
in the hot seat ... George Fivaz has 30 000 police without a standard eight and many more who are illiterate.

POLITICS

Govt cuts 'shred' local police plan

(251)

ET 23/4/97



THWARTED: Hemus Kriel

CHRIS BATEMAN

LOCAL authorities and the Western Cape government would have to jointly fund a Cape Metropolitan police force — but his ambition to allocate R100 million from the Western Cape's coffers had suffered a severe setback, Premier Hemus Kriel said yesterday

Instead, a mere R250 000 had come from the province — to conduct an "urgent probe" headed by Police Services MEC Mr Gerald Morkel into the logistics and co-ordination of the new body, Kriel told the provincial legislature during question

time yesterday

The massive funding cut by Pretoria to the province had shredded his plans

It cost between R78 000 and R80 000 a year to put a single policeman or woman on the street, Kriel said

The leaders of all six metropolitan substructures were "happy to support" a metropolitan police force, he said.

"I wanted R100 million this year for it, but our cuts rendered this impossible"

Kriel, who was answering a question from the DP's Mr Hennie Bester, said any government's prime responsibility was to "protect its citizens"

He refused to respond to a question from the ANC's Mr Cameron Dugmore, who wanted to know what changes he would make in the provincial executive reshuffle if four extra MECs were appointed, as envisaged in the as-yet-unratified provincial constitution

Kriel said it was his prerogative "not to divulge information at this stage — I will consult the ANC as is constitutionally required when necessary"

There has been speculation that Kriel will relieve the ANC of crucial portfolios without reducing their statutory membership in his executive committee

Lack of discipline a problem, police admit

(251) *Byron 23/4/97*

'Performance agreements' to be introduced soon as way to improve discipline, efficiency

By **MIKE MASIPA**
Crime Reporter

A senior police spokesman conceded yesterday that lack of discipline had become a problem in the police force but said new "performance contracts", to be introduced next month, were seen as the solution.

National SAPS spokesman Leon Engelbrecht said police management would give officers a chance to get their stations in order but that a disciplinary crackdown could follow.

Union gives Fivaz strike ultimatum if its demands go unheeded

The SA Police Union yesterday threatened nationwide mass action if national commissioner George Fivaz did not meet representatives within 24 hours to discuss pressing matters.

Sapu secretary Peter-Don Brandt told reporters in Pretoria that labour unrest in the police was imminent due to members' dissatisfaction with the way the

Provincial commissioners countrywide are preparing to implement the contracts over the next two to six weeks. Some station commissioners will be in the firing line if they do not pull their weight.

Management would prefer to replace or transfer non-performing commanders but would consider severance packages if convinced the officers concerned had no will to serve. Engelbrecht said management may resort to retrenchments to bolster the service's anti-crime drive at the more than

1 100 police stations across South Africa.

The "performance agreements" form part of commissioner George Fivaz's national policing priorities and objectives for 1997/98, announced in Cape Town last week.

One of Fivaz's focus areas for the year is the development of a performance-appraisal system and incentive schemes. According to the contract guidelines, station commissioners would be required to consult with the communities they serve. The communities, especially

policing forums, would spell out their needs and grievances. Area commissioners would do monthly progress checks on the contracts.

Engelbrecht said the main idea was to entrench competence, which would hopefully result in increased public trust. The contracts would expose corrupt and incompetent policemen, and a major benefit would be the early identification of exceptional performers.

Earlier this year, Gauteng commissioner Sharma Maharaj announced that station commis-

sioners in the province should be ready for the new appraisals and performance monitors by next month.

Gauteng police spokesman Director Azwimndu Nengovhela said yesterday they were working on the final touches of guidelines that would explain to station commissioners what was expected of them.

The Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union has welcomed the plans but expressed concern at the possible "witch-hunts" that could ensue from both management and unhappy communities

management had handled the latest round of promotions.

They were also unhappy at delays in wage negotiations, overtime payment, and what he described as the management's failure to implement affirmative action.

"These are serious issues that need to be dealt with urgently," Brandt said. "We there-

fore demand a meeting with commissioner Fivaz."

If he failed to give in to the union's demand, industrial action would be considered. Brandt added that although a national strike should ideally be avoided, the possibility was not excluded.

Sapu spokesman Gerhard van der Merwe said only about

25% of more than an 3 000 inspectors and captains who had qualified for promotion had been promoted.

Sapu was also considering withdrawing from the national negotiation forum, claiming management had broken promises made to the union during forum meetings. These included an undertak-

ing to get enough money to pay overtime. Sapu said about R1.7-billion was required but only R100-million had been made available.

Brandt said a decision on possible labour action would be made this evening by the union's national executive council, after a response from Fivaz had been received. —Sapa

Fivaz takes hard line on police union 'blackmail'

(251)
ARG 24/4/97

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

Johannesburg – Commissioner George Fivaz has warned police unions that the police services management will not tolerate labour unrest and that “indiscipline” will not be rewarded with promotion.

Mr Fivaz told unions at a meeting yesterday evening that he would never consent to “promotion on demand” and that this would amount to blackmail, resulting in “a Third World police service”

His warning follows attacks by two unions – the SA Police Union and the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru).

On Tuesday Sapu threatened nationwide mass action if Mr Fivaz did not meet union representatives within 24 hours to discuss labour matters, while Popcru warned it would leave national negotiating forums because of the failure of the SA Police Services to transform or handle crime effectively

Popcru said it would draw up its own plan of action on how to help stamp out crime and resolve the differences within the police force

Mr Fivaz said after last night’s meeting that he was prepared to study Popcru’s proposal, but within the context of present policy and promotion criteria.

He said demands for promotion formed part of a culture of indiscipline, seemingly encouraged by “irresponsible statements” by some police unions. “To make thinly veiled threats of labour unrest and disruption – based on a false notion that promotion is a right – is extremely irresponsible”

Toe the line, police unions warned

Star 24/4/97

(251)

By EDWIN NAIDU

SAPS Commissioner George Fivaz last night warned police unions that management would not tolerate labour unrest and that indiscipline within the police force would not be rewarded with promotion.

Fivaz told police unions at a meeting that he would never consent to "promotion on demand" and that this would amount to blackmail, resulting in a Third World police service.

His reaction follows strong words from two police unions - the South African Police Union (Sapu), which claimed Fivaz was not prepared to meet with its members, and the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru), which announced its withdrawal from negotiations

because of unhappiness over several issues

On Tuesday Sapu threatened nationwide mass action if Fivaz did not meet union representatives within 24 hours to discuss pressing labour matters, while Popcru announced it would leave national negotiating forums because of the failure by the South African Police Service to transform, handle crime effectively, display a vision for participative management and stamp out discrimination.

"In all our endeavours we have been sidelined and ignored," said Popcru in a statement which also announced that all members had been instructed to withdraw from all negotiation forums.

Popcru said it would draw up its own plan of action on how

to help stamp out crime and resolve the differences within the police force.

Fivaz said after last night's meeting that he was prepared to study Popcru's proposal, but within the context of present SAPS policy and promotion criteria

He said demands for promotions formed part of a culture of indiscipline, seemingly encouraged by "irresponsible statements" by some police unions

"Demands for promotion seem to boil down to a desire to promote each and every police official who qualifies

"To make thinly veiled threats of labour unrest and disruption - based on a false notion that promotion is a right - is extremely irresponsible," Fivaz said

Fivaz: No promotions on demand

Sowetan 24/4/97

(251)

Police unions told they have authority in operational matters

NATIONAL POLICE COMMISSIONER George Fivaz yesterday said he would meet representatives of police unions to discuss the negative effect union statements had on police discipline and productivity

Fivaz said it was "amazing" that in full knowledge of an arranged meeting between himself and all police unions, the South African Police Union had attempted to give the impression that a meeting between himself and Sapu was a result of pressure put on him by the union

Sapu on Tuesday threatened nationwide mass action if Fivaz did not meet union representatives within 24 hours to discuss pressing labour matters

Sapu secretary Mr Peter-Don Brandt said labour unrest in the police was imminent because of dissatisfaction with the manner in which management had handled promotions

Fivaz said he would never consent

to a situation in which promotions were granted on demand

"Promotion on demand is not only utterly unacceptable, but the fastest route to a Third World police service. I will never bow to such blackmail," he said

"I will never allow indiscipline and a total rejection of policing ethics to be rewarded with promotion," he said

He said he accepted that unions' role was legitimate, but said they could never be regarded as an alternative command structure or have any authority in operational matters

"Promotions - especially to commissioned officer rank - remain a privilege based on performance, limited posts, finance, suitability of candidates and the need of the service," Fivaz said

He said that almost 30 000 police officers had been promoted this year - *Sapā*

Fivaz to get union's ultimatum today

BY STUART KELLY

The South African Police Union will submit its final demands to police chief George Fivaz this morning after studying his proposals for police promotions

Sapu is unhappy with the way management has handled the latest round of promotions. It has not ruled out strike action if its final demands are not met.

After the union's 4pm deadline issued to him yesterday, Fivaz handed over a proposal outlining his plan to deal with the 75% of police officers still waiting for promotion.

"We will study the proposal before meeting with our executive for a decision tomorrow. We will also present the commissioner with our final

demand," Sapu secretary Peter-Don Brandt said last night.

Although the SAPS has been declared an "essential service" in terms of the Labour Relations Act and is therefore not legally entitled to strike, Brandt said the various police unions had challenged the limitation at the Constitutional Court.

"I hope good sense prevails before we ever have to contemplate that kind of action. Before that, our 55 000 members could engage in picketing and the like," he added.

Sapu is demanding the promotion of all captains and inspectors who have qualified in the past year. They claim only about 25% have received their promotions.

After talks reached a deadlock on Wednesday, Fivaz said a situation in which "each and everybody is promoted is completely untenable in any organisation".

"Promotion on demand is the fastest route to a Third World police service and I will never bow to such blackmail," he said.

Several senior police officers support Fivaz, claiming the union was "knocking on the wrong door" because the commissioner was not responsible for drafting the police budget.

A senior officer said he could not understand why the union was trying to pressure Fivaz, adding "Fivaz has reiterated his support for these very issues on several occasions".

Fivaz 'dithered' over offer from top US cop

'Doesn't have relevant experience'

ARG 26/4/97

(251) (251)

CRAIG URQUHART
OWN CORRESPONDENT

Johannesburg - Police Commissioner George Fivaz may have lost his best weapon in the fight against crime - by dithering for five months over an offer from one of the world's top policemen.

The opportunity may now have passed to make use of the services of former New York police chief William Bratton - despite the fact that he managed to dramatically reduce New York's crime levels

Mr Bratton has proposed a strategy he believes could help stamp out crime in South Africa by putting police back on the street - and criminals behind bars

In December last year he offered his services and the services of a "dream team" of top American security experts in the fight against crime in South Africa, but Commissioner Fivaz has yet to finalise the deal

Now Mr Bratton may be snatched up by the Los Angeles Police Department following the recent retirement of its commissioner

Mr Bratton, who is president of First Security Consulting which offers strategic thinking on crime reduction, offered Commissioner Fivaz a "comprehensive" package at an extremely reasonable fee

The proposal is still on Commissioner Fivaz's desk and no decisions have been taken, despite the fact that an American organisation, Business Against Crime (BAC), has undertaken to foot the bill

BAC chairman Wendy Lucas-Bull said Mr Bratton's "Compstat philosophy" involves uniting different police regions by gathering all the information available and

focusing on proactive policing. She said Mr Bratton intended launching his operation in Gauteng where it would have the most visible impact

Commissioner Fivaz last night said that despite Mr Bratton's "enormous talents" he may be out of depth in the South African scenario "which is so unique"

"I have a lot of respect for William and I regard him as a good friend (but) let's be realistic. The name of the game is experience and he has never been a police officer in South Africa - he doesn't have the relevant experience"

He added that the South African Police Services (SAPS) had taken note of Mr Bratton's advice "and we are implementing it in many different areas"

Divisional Commissioner Andre Pruis, the head of National Standards and Management Services, said Mr Bratton's proposal would require the use of a different computer system

He said Mr Bratton's system had been evaluated but there was a concern that "our computers are capable of doing the job"

"If this system is implemented, you will have to scrap or modify a lot of the systems which are already in place - at an enormous expense," he said

He said three SAPS members would attend a conference on the Compstat system in New York next month after which a decision would be taken

A spokesman for Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi said that Mr Bratton's expertise could be put to use in improving management systems and service delivery in the SAPS "But the ministry does not feel it is appropriate to become involved with Bratton's proposal as it is an operational policing decision"



ANDREW INGRAM

Remember: New Zealand honorary consul Ian Sims CBE and Major Bryan Sterne of the Dukes, a citizen force unit of the SA National Defence Force, cast a wreath into the water outside Table Bay harbour from the BT Global Challenge yacht *Pause to Remember* to commemorate Anzac Day. *Pause to Remember*, backed by the Royal British Legion, has on board a number of British and Irish servicemen, including skipper Tom O'Connor, who is a helicopter pilot in the Irish Air Force. Anzac Day is especially important for Australians and New Zealanders, as it commemorates the losses of these two countries during the fighting at Gallipoli in Turkey during World War I

Police chief snubs world's top cop as he lacks SA experience

By CRAIG URQUHART

Police Commissioner George Fivaz may have lost his best weapon in the fight against crime - by offering for five months over an offer from one of the world's top policemen.

Former New York police chief William Bratton's services may be lost - despite the fact that the New Yorker managed to dramatically reduce that city's crime levels.

Bratton proposed a strategy he believes can help stamp out crime here by putting police back on the street - and criminals behind bars in December he offered himself and a team of other top American security experts, but Fivaz has never finalised the deal.

New Bratton may be snatched up by the Los Angeles Police Department following the recent retirement of its commissioner.

"There are big police jobs opening up all over the US - including LA - and there is no doubt that he is a major contender," said Ed Badolato, president of USAfrica and the former assistant under secretary of state for the US Department of Energy.

To add insult to injury, Badolato revealed yesterday that he too had been snubbed by the SAPS he said he had offered the services of Dr Alan Freedman, the "top clinical psychologist" in the United States, to help South African policemen, who have a suicide rate 10 times higher than in the US.

"But we're still banging our heads against the wall. Two years and a dozen letters later, we're giving up hope. It seems that they just don't want any help," he said.

The *Saturday Star* has learnt that Bratton, who is president of First Security Consulting which offers strategic thinking on crime reduction, offered Fivaz a "comprehensive" package that included the services of himself and five other top US policemen late last year for an extremely reasonable fee.

However, the proposal is still on Fivaz's desk and no decisions have been taken, despite the fact that Business Against Crime (BAC) has undertaken to foot the bill. BAC chairman Wendy Lucas-Bull said Bratton intended

launching his operation in Gauteng where it would have the most visible impact, "and then letting it roll".

Fivaz said last night that despite Bratton's "enormous talents", he could be out of his depth in the South African scenario, "which is so unique".

"I have a lot of respect for William and I regard him as a good friend, (but) let's be realistic. The name of the game is experience and he was never a police officer in South Africa - he doesn't have the relevant experience," Fivaz said.

He added that the SAPS had taken steps of the advice Bratton had offered "in many areas".



George Fivaz

Divisional Commissioner Andre Prins, head of national standards and management services, said Bratton's proposal which would require the use of a different computer system had been evaluated but there was a concern that "our computers are capable of doing the job".

"If this system is implemented you will have to scrap or modify a lot of the systems which are already in place - at enormous expense," he said.

He said three members of the SAPS would attend an international conference on the start computer system in New York next month, after which a decision would be taken.

Safety and Security Ministry spokesman Thembi Mhose said Minister Sydney Mufamadi felt that Bratton's expertise might be put to effective use in improving management systems and service delivery in the SAPS. "But the ministry did not feel

it was appropriate to become involved with Bratton's proposal as it was seen to be an operational policing decision.

Meanwhile, Peter Leon, leader of the Democratic Party in the Gauteng legislature, has called on the Government to appoint Bratton as police commissioner if Fivaz moves on.

"The only candidate for the job, in my view, is Bratton, who reduced serious crime in New York by 40% over five years by using effective management, information technology and statistical techniques. Bratton is itching to do the job - but no one has yet invited him."

Greg Engel, the US consul-general in Johannesburg, said it was not a US government effort to provide Bratton's services, "so we can only follow as observers".

"But there is no doubt he made a huge splash when he was here - much bigger than anyone had anticipated," he said.

Bratton, who has visited this country twice, certainly made a significant impact on both occasions. His vigorous approach to crime in New York, including the arrest and fingerprinting of petty offenders, led to a marked decrease in crime levels in the city.

Bratton has made it clear that basic skills and corruption are central issues affecting the SAPS's fight against crime and that the police's data-collection system will have to be improved before any sweeping measures can be taken.

When he was appointed as New York's police chief in 1993, crime statistics had previously taken three months to compile. Bratton overhauled the entire system until it was possible to produce daily reports plotting precisely where crimes were being committed. With that critical information at its disposal, New York's bigger and prouder police force was able to react to trouble spots immediately.

On a trip to South Africa last year, Bratton pointed out that this country's problems were far more complex than those in New York. And he recounted how he had inherited a demotivated and demoralised service - not unlike the SAPS today.



NABBED: A suspect struggles with police and members of the narcotics unit during yesterday's early morning raid in Hillbrow, while a journalist looks on. Four people were arrested on drug-related charges

Ill-equipped cops battle to be effective

By JACQUI REEVES

Another chapter in the ongoing national crime prevention strategy was played out in a pre-dawn raid on drug hotspots in Hillbrow's flatland yesterday.

Although the operation was relatively successful, frustrated police officers told the *Saturday Star* they felt ill-equipped to execute raids of this nature successfully.

"They have given us new ranks, vehicles with a different paint job and new uniforms, but they haven't invested any money in equipment," one disillusioned senior officer said.

During the raids, officers were deployed throughout a building to search entire floors

as well as individual flats. The flats and corridors were dark and gloomy, but few officers had torches.

Because many of the flats were unoccupied, officers hoisted each other up to look through the glass pane above the front door to check for residents - a difficult exercise without adequate lighting.

At the raid briefing, one naive officer asked which radio channel the operation would be working on.

The detective in charge smiled and advised the officer to simply use the age-old method of shouting.

After each raid a few officers were sent on a quick tour of the building to warn stragglers of

their imminent departure. However, these cumbersome "collection runs" often delayed the operation.

"It's frustrating working like this. We aren't able to keep in contact like we should while we are in the buildings, so things happen around us that we are not aware of, simply because we can't get to anyone in time," an officer said.

One detective said being a policeman was "like trying to work with your hands tied" but added that the arrests he makes usually made the job worthwhile.

A plainclothes detective, armed for the operation with a sledgehammer, said policemen and women knew what they

were getting themselves into when they joined the police service.

"Yes, conditions are not great but they knew how things were. Quite honestly there is nothing else I would rather be doing than working as a policeman."

One of his colleagues is not as enthusiastic. The 34-year-old has been in the service for 10 years and can't see himself ever leaving.

"I don't tell my family much about what I do, it would make them scared for me. I like the work, but the pay is not good, and I worry what might happen to my family if I wasn't around anymore."

SEE PAGE 7

Lack of resources leaves SAPS station commanders unsupervised

By **DEREK RODNEY**
Crime Reporter

A chronic shortage of trained staff and structural changes within the SAPS have created a supervisory void between police units and senior management, leaving frontline commanders free to operate without supervision

A top Gauteng policeman has told how police stations and units around the country have been left to their own devices for more than two years, with only a skeleton structure in place to police investigators and procedures

Provincial detective heads from around SA last week raised their concerns with national detective service commander, Manne Schoeman, during a crisis meeting held at police headquarters, Wachthuis, in Pretoria

But management has yet to offer solutions to the problem. Gauteng detective head, Assistant Commissioner Louis van der

Westhuizen, told The Star structural faults within the SAPS have had a detrimental effect on morality within the force

"A number of honest cops have become 'skelm's' (criminals) because they are accountable to no-one. There is no management structure left to lean over the shoulders of station commissioners or unit commanders," he said

Van der Westhuizen said he was concerned about the effectiveness of newly announced performance contracts for station commanders, which he believed would merely shift the blame for non-performance without dealing with pressing crime problems

Senior policemen have conceded that a lack of discipline had become a problem in the police. The contracts are viewed as a tangible means to push commanders to get their stations into line. They form part of Commissioner George Fivaz's national policing priorities and objectives for

Agreement over promotions

National police commissioner George Fivaz has agreed to process the promotion of 2 700 policemen after meeting South African Police Union (Sapu) negotiators in Pretoria on Friday

The agreement ended a week-long dispute during which the 50 000-strong union threatened countrywide mass action unless management agreed to promote policemen who had become eligible over the past year

Sapu national secretary Peter-Dom Brandt said the 1997/98, announced in Cape Town earlier this month

Agreement over promotions

more would affect about 3 000 inspectors and captains who qualified for promotion before July 1 last year, but were not advanced during the most recent round of promotions

We would like to thank the commissioner for the constructive and decisive way he dealt with the matter. These promotions will definitely go a long way to uplift the morale of middle management in the SA Police Service," he said. - Staff Reporter and Sapa

runs, would spell out their needs and grievances and area commissioners would do monthly progress checks

under the direct control of station commissioners. Unit commanders already have direct control over their members

"It's no use giving a man a wheelbarrow to move a mountain. The contracts mean little if the station commanders are not given the tools to fight the beast," said Van der Westhuizen

The lack of accountability has become a burning issue in the SAPS Area and provisional commanders tasked with policing units without manpower or resources often only become aware of "problem" units through the media or during safety and security and justice department meetings held with attorneys-general.

"Station commanders rule the roost at their stations but who keeps an eye on them?" Van der Westhuizen asked

He has one senior policeman in each of the province's seven policing areas who monitor detective activities. In Johannesburg,

the area detective head and one staff officer are responsible for detectives at 21 police stations and nine special investigation units

"The commander is already weighed down by administrative work and it is physically impossible for two men to investigate all the units where a relatively small police station like Booysens can carry more than 7 000 dockets at any given time"

"Johannesburg will need at least 10 skilled investigators to conduct inspections on a full-time basis," he said

Detectives involved in internal investigations into alleged police irregularities, such as those now in progress against the Kasernie truck theft and Brixton anti-corruption units are usually drawn from other units

"That in itself places a tremendous strain on those units forced to cope without an experienced detective who are in extremely short supply anyway," he said

(291) Star 28/4/97

Police union says Fivaz must resign

THE POLICE AND PRISONS Civil Rights Union yesterday called for the resignation or dismissal of national Police Commissioner George Fivaz, claiming he had failed to manage the SA Police Service in the past eight months

Popcru said in a statement that this decision was taken at its central executive committee meeting held at the weekend

"As a result of this failure Popcru is convinced that the whole of South Africa has lost confidence in Fivaz completely," the statement said

"On transformation of the police service, Popcru said it had stated in the past that significant changes were imperative given the police's activities during the apartheid era and the fact that its commanding structure was mainly white

"Fivaz has failed dismally to trans-

(251) *Sowetan 1/5/97*
There is a strong feeling that SA's top policeman has not done his job

form the SAPS," Popcru said

"Affirmative action has been deliberately delayed so that previously disadvantaged members should be seen revolting against a democratic Government"

Popcru claimed that community policing structures were also being frustrated by Fivaz's deployment of security branch officers to further destabilise policing

It also lashed out at Fivaz for allegedly undermining Safety and Security Minister Mr Sydney Mufamadi, saying because the minister was not white or a former apartheid era minister He has been accused of interference in police management

Popcru also condemned Fivaz's recent promotion of officers, claiming that he was not prepared to make the SAPS a representative department

"We demand the establishment of joint management committees at all levels to speed up the transformation process," Popcru said

"Police officers doing administrative duties should be replaced by civilians and be placed on the beat," they said

Popcru said to ensure that the police commissioner met their demands, they consulted all relevant groups in the SAPS and community-based organisations before embarking on protest actions - *Sapa*

Semetaan 1/5/97

Thousands of cops linked to crime

(251)
THE police were investigated for 8 300 crimes between June 1994 and September last year, Business South Africa executive committee member Mr Rudi Heine said yesterday

Heine told an anti-crime conference in Johannesburg, hosted by the SA Agricultural Union and Business Against Crime, that eradicating corruption and other crimes in the police force was critical in the fight against crime

Heine said the Government's Growth, Employment and Redistribution (Gear) strategy would fail unless crime was brought under control Gear relied on a doubling of private fixed investment and a five-fold increase in direct foreign investment by the year 2000, but rising crime was inhibiting investment

Heine said other critical areas that

needed urgent Government attention were

- Lifting the moratorium on police recruitment About 5 000 policemen were being lost by attrition annually, which the country could not afford,

- Improved training of police "Training facilities have been closed when they should in fact have been extended," Heine said,

- Greater devolution of policing powers to provincial and local levels, to make crime fighting in different areas appropriate to their specific problems,

- Improving police morale, including paying more and providing the proper equipment, and

- Socio-economic upgrading in general

He asked if a rethink on the death penalty was not advisable - *Sapa*

Fivaz given two-month ultimatum to resign

Star 1/5/97

(251)

Popcru accuses commissioner of not implementing any meaningful affirmative action and restructuring in SAPS

By MIKE MASIPA
Crime Reporter

A second police union has threatened to go on strike if police commissioner George Fivaz does not give in to its demands in two months.

The Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) yesterday called for Fivaz's resignation by June 6. The SA Police Union threatened to go on strike last week if he failed to meet their demands for promotions and salary increases. Sapu has adopted a wait-and-see approach while Fivaz considers its demands.

Popcru said it would start with a campaign of defiance on Monday intended to culminate with the national commissioner's

dismissal or resignation.

The first phase of the action would be a go-slow and a lunch-hour picket. Popcru president Sizamile Cebekhulu said the action would intensify into a strike if Fivaz failed to go by June 6.

Popcru said that since his appointment, Fivaz had failed to implement any meaningful transformation, especially with regard to affirmative action and restructuring of the police services.

Cebekhulu said promotions announced recently by Fivaz were mostly of whites.

"We will leave no stone unturned to have Fivaz go," Cebekhulu warned.

He said they were consulting other interested groups within the police force to gather support

for his removal.

Popcru has drawn up its own list of four suitable successors to Fivaz.

Cebekhulu said an offer had also been made to Popcru's founder-president and ANC MP Gregory Rockman, who has since turned it down.

The other three nominees were based at the SAPS head office in Pretoria. Cebekhulu said one knew of Popcru's intentions and supported the move, but the remainder did not know about their nominations yet.

Fivaz's spokesman Joseph Ngobeni said the grievances put forward by Popcru were being handled in the National Negotiations Forum, from which the union withdrew last week.

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'Eradication of police corruption essential'

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Heine asked whether a rethink on the death penalty was not advisable. He quoted political analyst Professor Lawrence Schlem-

mer in his Quarterly Political Notes as saying "One can hardly say that there has been an adequate response by the authorities to the crime crisis in South Africa

"Relative to the seriousness and the impact of the problem, the response has been lacking in critical urgency."

On a scale of one to 10, Schlemmer rated the Government's performance in fighting crime at two - Sapa

► **Army to play bigger role in fighting crime**

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Police 'have to probe river monster claims'

Umtata - Police have said they are duty bound to investigate claims by Transkei villagers that a half-horse, half-fish river monster sucked the blood and brains of seven human victims.

Terrified Mount Ayliff villagers have claimed the monster killed seven people as they tried to cross a nearby river

Safety and Security MEC Dennis Neer said the Eastern Cape's intelligence agency would gather more information on the alleged monster before sending security force members to deal with it - Sapa

'Fivaz must go or we'll strike'

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

Johannesburg - A second police union has threatened to strike if national police commissioner George Fivaz has not resigned or been fired by June 6.

The Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) said it would start with a programme of defiance action on Monday, intended to culminate with Mr Fivaz's dismissal or resignation. The first phase of the action would be a go-slow and a lunch hour picket.

The SA Police Union threatened to go on strike last week if Mr Fivaz failed to meet demands for promotions and salary increases. SAPU has adopted a wait-and-see approach while Mr Fivaz considers its demands.

ARG 1/5/97 (251)
Popcru president Sizamile Cebekhulu said the action would intensify into a full-blown strike if Mr Fivaz had not left his post by 6 June.

Mr Cebekhulu said that since his appointment Mr Fivaz had failed to implement any meaningful transformation, especially in regard to affirmative action and restructuring of the police services.

"We will leave no stone unturned to have Fivaz go," said Mr Cebekhulu.

He said the union was consulting with other interested groups within the SAPS to gather support for the removal of Mr Fivaz.

Mr Fivaz's spokesman, Director Joseph Ngobeni, said the grievances put forward by Popcru were being handled in the National Negotiations Forum, from which the union withdrew last week.

Police and prisons union fires first volley in campaign to oust Fivaz

By Mike Masipa
Crime Reporter

The Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) expects to launch its threatened industrial action with a lunchtime picket in an attempt to force Police Commissioner George Fivaz to resign from national office by June.

The first phase of the defiance campaign is to use languages other than English and Afrikaans to take statements and commun-

icate with senior officers. Fivaz yesterday warned of "harsh disciplinary measures" against people who took part in the protests. Last week the union threatened to intensify the defiance into a full-blown strike if Fivaz did not vacate his position by June 6.

The union accused the commissioner of failing to implement meaningful transformation within the police service, especially with regard to affirmative action.

Fivaz said the intended strike showed a lack of discipline. He said the transformation of the police service was on track, but Popcru's ill-discipline would undermine it.

He also rejected the union's demand for joint management committees to run the SAPS. With regard to promotions and representivity, Fivaz said the SAPS had this year promoted close to 30 000, mostly black members.

Popcru's secretary-general, Jacob Tsumane, dared Fivaz to go ahead with his dismissal threat. "We know that some of our people will be dismissed. We are ready for that."

"But we are not going to be intimidated by Fivaz. He should go," Tsumane said.

The deputy divisional commissioner of human resources, Gert Swart, has warned that members of Popcru will face summary dismissal should they take

part in the industrial action. Swart said the uncompromising use of "mother tongue" languages in the course of normal duty would be viewed as falling within the definition of a strike because it would retard or obstruct work.

"Such conduct constitutes a fair reason for dismissal," Swart said.

He added that the demands raised by the union were currently being dealt with in the National

Negotiating Forum from which Popcru and the South African Police Union (Sapu) walked out in protest two weeks ago. Sapu also threatened to go on strike two weeks ago if Fivaz failed to meet their demands for salary increases and promotions.

Sapa reports that the National Police and Public Civil Rights Union yesterday pledged support for Fivaz and criticised other unions calling for his resignation.

Now 5/5/97
(25)

New police intelligence chief appointed

(251) Star 6/5/97

STAFF REPORTER
AND SABA

National Police Commissioner George Fivaz has announced the appointment of Assistant Commissioner Tim Williams (46) as chief of police crime intelligence, taking the place of Assistant Commissioner Leonard Radu who died in a car accident in March last year.

Williams was head of national service evaluation at police headquarters, Pretoria. He served on the interim advice team for Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi until June 1995 when he was appointed assistant commissioner in the SAPS.

Williams' appointment was retrospective from April 1, Fivaz said.

"Crime intelligence is of decisive importance in winning the war against crime, and the SAPS is systematically expanding ca-

capacity in this crucial area.

Radu, who was the former ANC intelligence chief, was appointed head of internal security in the Department of National Crime Investigation Services in June last year and was widely tipped to succeed Fivaz as police chief.

His death in a car accident nine months later, sparked speculation of foul play, which was ruled out after what Fivaz described as "the most comprehensive and exhaustive investigation possible".

Soon after his funeral, it was revealed Radu had been involved in inquiries about high level ANC officials, said to be informers for the former security police.

He was on his way to catch a plane to Durban where he planned to consult ANC KwaZulu Natal leader Jacob Zuma; when he lost control of his car and crashed.

Popcru defiant in effort to remove Fivaz

Star 6/5/97 (251)

The countrywide protests are in direct violation of SAPS language regulations

By MIKE MASIPA
Crime Reporter

The Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union's defiance campaign aimed at removing national commissioner George Fivaz from office entered its second day today with the union vowing to intensify the protest

The countrywide protests which include the use of languages other than English and Afrikaans are in direct violation of SAPS language regulations

No disciplinary action has yet been taken against any of the protesters

Other protest actions included lunch-hour pickets at police stations, Popcru secretary-general Jacob Tsumane said

He said individual SAPS members were constitutionally entitled to use their "mother tongue" languages, making any disciplinary measures taken by police management illegal

"We are disappointed that Fivaz is threatening to dismiss us for using our home languages," he said

Tsumane said the union had in the past agreed to use English and Afrikaans as the standard languages on duty only as a compromise, but Popcru "felt justified in using African languages since Fivaz was reneging on his side of promises"

Police human resources manager Senior Superintendent Johan Smal said policy allowed for complainants to be addressed in the language of officers' choice when served at a police station, but

maintained that documentary recording in non-regulatory languages was unlawful and would be punished

Fivaz has also warned that protesting policemen would face summary dismissal.

Tsumane said any punitive action taken against a protester would lead to a complete strike to ensure mass dismissals and Fivaz's resignation.

Popcru is calling for Fivaz's resignation, accusing him of failing to transform the police service and of showing no will to curb rampant crime.

“
**Fivaz warns
protesters
they will face
dismissal**
”

The office of the national commissioner said yesterday no major disruptions were recorded countrywide, despite Popcru's insistence that the action was a huge success in Mpumalanga, Northern Province, the Eastern Cape and the North West

Popcru threatened to go on a full strike if Fivaz failed to step down by June 6. It also turned down management's offer that the union return to the National Negotiations Forum, from which Popcru and the SA Police Union walked out last month.

Police management face 'hard questions'

By [Name]

SAFETY and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi will hold an urgent meeting today with Gauteng's top police management, including provincial commissioner Sharma Maharaj and safety and security MEC Jessie Duarte, to discuss the deteriorating crime situation.

Safety and security secretary Azhar Cachalia confirmed yesterday that the meeting, which the province's area police commissioners and national commissioner George Fivaz had also been asked to attend, would take place at Johan-

nesburg's John Vorster Square police headquarters at 11.30am. Cachalia said that while the meeting would not amount to "police bashing, we're going to ask some hard questions" about whether police officers were being optimally deployed in flashpoints.

The purpose of the meeting was to address "the very serious concern nationally about the perception of a deteriorating crime situation in Gauteng", Cachalia said.

The meeting followed a "high density" anticrime operation in Gauteng a month ago in which SA National Defence Force troops as-

sisted SA Police Service members. "The purpose (of the meeting) is to do an on-the-ground evaluation of what is happening," Cachalia said.

In a separate development, the Gauteng legislature's safety and security committee agreed yesterday to summons Maharaj, area commissioners and the head of the province's anti-hijacking unit to appear before it next week.

Committee member and Democratic Party (DP) provincial leader Peter Leon said the committee agreed to hear evidence from the top policemen, "specifically on car hijackings and the murder of innocent

people in Johannesburg's northern eastern suburbs".

Sapa reports that committee chairman Obed Bapela said there was a feeling among officials that "things are not working" in the fight against crime and that Leon referred to the recent murders of prominent businessmen.

Meanwhile, the National Party (NP) in the Gauteng legislature criticised the African National Congress (ANC) yesterday over figures which showed that the number of criminals released and then re-arrested in the province had increased almost threefold since 1994.

DD 6/5/97

(2/1)

NP MPL Taks Christodoulou said figures provided by Duarte showed that the number of people with previous criminal records arrested in Gauteng rose from 31 417 in 1994 to 37 475 in 1995 and 62 699 last year.

He called on government to "act firmly" to overhaul the judicial system to include harsher sentences and more stringent bail conditions. The dramatic increase in the figures highlights the new government's leniency in dealing with crime that has given rise to the shocking increase and the need to rearrest hardened criminals.

D A I L Y N E W S P A P E R



Popcru plans 'memorial' for Fivaz

NORMAN JOSEPH
STAFF REPORTER

(251)
ARG 6/5/97

Police members pressing for faster change in the service, plan to hold a "memorial service" for national police commissioner George Fivaz outside Parliament on May 21.

It forms part of the campaign by the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) to oust Commissioner Fivaz and to increase the pace of affirmative action in the police service.

The first rumblings of the campaign were heard this week when some black police in Johannesburg insisted on serving the public in African languages only.

Popcru also plans national strike action and to petition President Mandela to replace Commissioner Fivaz.

Popcru's demands include a democratic structure to review the criteria for promotions and replacing officers "who previously served in the apartheid regime".

Eddie Johnson, Popcru's national general-secretary, said Commissioner Fivaz had done nothing constructive to combat crime and did not have the interests of disadvantaged communities at heart.

It also wants Xhosa to be used by police in predominantly black communities in the Western Cape.

Commissioner Fivaz has warned that any police member who "withholds policing services" or "inhibits access to any policing service in any way", will be subject to harsh disciplinary steps.

He said 30 000 members - mostly black officers - had been promoted this year.

Just another miserable Monday as murdered pile up on the floor

Cape Flats weekend violence overloads mortuary

(251) ARG 6/5/97

SPECIAL
REPORT

LINDSAY BARNES

Salt River state mortuary resembles a grisly battlefield each Monday morning with naked, bloodied bodies piled on top of one another

They are the result of yet another week end of murderous violence in the Cape Peninsula. In the grim reality of the morgue, they are robbed of dignity in death. The eyes of some are still open, staring blankly at cold walls while limbs stick out at odd angles.

Any relative stumbling on the wretched pile is unlikely to forget the image, it would not be out of place in a Nazi death camp or on a Rwandan roadside.

But this is the heart of Cape Town. It is here - the floor of the receiving fridge of the police's Salt River Medico Legal Laboratory - an unattractive building set among factories - that murder victims end up, waiting for post mortem examinations.

Every Monday morning the weekend's murder victims - between 30 and 50 of them, mostly from Khayelitsha, Guguletu and Mitchell's Plain - are brought into the morgue. There are too many for the staff to cope with. At first they are put on steel trolleys in a fridge the size of a room. When the trolleys run out corpses are piled together on the blood spattered floor.

Except in cases where the victim was shot dead, they are naked.

The victims' details are documented by police staff and the bodies tagged. After autopsies the bodies are cleaned and readied for identification by relatives.

Then they are stored in another fridge until families have arranged for undertakers to fetch them and prepare them for burial.

Unidentified murder victims are stored in a separate fridge to await identification.

The three fridges have a capacity of 138 bodies but in the course of any month may store more than 400.

All the mortuary's occupants died unnaturally, so the bodies are usually bloodied and often have horrifying wounds. If relatives have to travel from as far as the Eastern Cape, they are likely to find a corpse in which rot has already set in.

That is because of a Public Works Department bungle which saw the mortuary given fridges instead of freezers to store dozens of unidentified bodies which may wait for up to four months before being identified.

The fridges were installed more than a year ago but the mistake was detected only two months ago when visitors complained about the putrid smell, said unit head Johan "JP" Kruger.

The temperature of a malfunctioning fridge may swing between 10 deg C and minus 10. This means bodies are not kept cold for long enough. They continually freeze and thaw, hastening decomposition.

The fridges break down frequently, exacerbating the situation.

"If the fridges work correctly the bodies



Grim task: unit head Johan Kruger in one of three fridges at the police's Salt River Medico Legal Laboratory. "You must give the staff something extra to do this work"

will take two to three months to rot. It's the worst smell you can think of and it stays with you for a long time," Captain Kruger said.

"If you walk into a hospital where someone has just died you can recognise the smell immediately. You never forget it."

While the stench of decomposing human flesh permeated the building, it would not be overwhelming once the corpse was in a coffin, he said.

Captain Kruger said the mortuary desperately needed a freezer with a capacity of 100 to keep unidentified bodies for long periods. The present fridge for this purpose had a capacity of 24 but at any given time it held up to 50.

Some of the mortuary's 50-plus employees did the jobs of two people to deal with the workload.

The mortuary's seven pathologists - two of whom are part timers - work flat out on Mondays to clear the backlog and spend around an hour on each autopsy. A thorough job could take up to two hours, especially on a shooting victim.

An average of 26 corpses are processed each Monday and more arrive daily during the week. This means that some "weekend" autopsies are done only on Tuesday, up to

five days after death. The victim's family usually wants a burial as soon as possible, preferably within 24 hours, but this is often not possible.

"If we had enough staff we could have the autopsies completed on Monday," Captain Kruger said. He wants seven more pathologists. Each pathologist needs two assistants but at present they make do with one.

Morale was extremely low, said Captain Kruger, because staff were unable to do their job properly as a result of understaffing.

The sight of corpses is a shock to any new comer but it also takes its toll on the overworked staff. It is not uncommon for employees at all levels to succumb to stress and take sick leave. The mortuary has 25 police staffers who suffer stressful work conditions with poor pay.

How do the staff cope? Captain Kruger said "It's very difficult. You must give people something extra to do this type of work. The only thing is money."

"I cannot get any people to work here any more. Our police staff are badly paid. How can we work with this every day and not be given a proper allowance?"

Administrative staff prepare statements for court cases but there are no typists. This

further slows the process as errors are not acceptable in documents. Captain Kruger has asked for a typist but none has been provided.

Nor are there enough mortuary vans or shift staff to collect bodies on time - a 24-hour a-day, seven-day-a-week process. Murder victims are often left at the scene of the crime for hours before being picked up.

About 90 percent of the bodies are collected from communities like Khayelitsha, Guguletu and Mitchell's Plain but the mortuary is so far away that thousands of rands is spent unnecessarily on petrol.

If the mortuary was moved closer to the Cape Flats - to Airport Industria, for instance - the police would save R20 000 on petrol to Khayelitsha alone, Captain Kruger said.

"At this stage we are not serving the community. We are too far away from them. The mortuary must move closer to Khayelitsha and we need bigger premises."

A report he is drawing up on the merging of the two state mortuaries - the other is at Tygerberg hospital - is in its final stages but the fight is no longer his. Two weeks ago Captain Kruger was booked off sick due to stress and he is uncertain when he will return to work.

Mortuary staff underpaid, demoralised, says head

LINDSAY BARNES
CRIME DESK

Cape Town's state mortuary in Salt River is reported to be on the brink of collapse in spite of appeals to the police to improve working conditions and outdated facilities.

The morgue is so understaffed and absenteeism among demoralised staff is so rife that employees frequently do the work of two people without any extra pay, said mortuary head Johan "JP" Kruger.

Western Metropole Area Commissioner Quenton Visser denied the morgue was in a state of collapse and said his hands were tied by the moratorium on police recruitment and the morbid nature of the work at the unit, which made it difficult to transfer staff there.

At least six senior staff members have

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applied for retrenchment packages and Captain Kruger has been booked off for an indefinite period due to stress.

"Administration staff are having to help with dissections and are handling the work of two people," he said. "Every body that comes in is bleeding. During dissection, blood shoots on the walls and floors. There is blood all around and only one person to clean it. It's a lot of work."

Commissioner Visser sympathised with staff. "Irrespective of what they are paid, it will never be enough," he said.

The R400 monthly allowance previously paid to staff had been incorporated into their salaries last year, he said. National Police Commissioner George Fivaz was discussing a further R300 monthly allowance for mortuary workers.

Miserable Mondays as bodies pile up, page 6

Popcru threat to 'paralyse' police

(251) ARG 7/5/97

From page 1

the public. At present, only Flying Squad members on the road get the allowance

The Popcru spokesmen said all Flying Squad and radio control members were in contact with the community and should qualify for the allowance

The issue is not related to Popcru's nationwide action demanding the replacement of police commissioner George Fivaz and more rapid change in the police service

Early today, six Popcru members locked themselves in the office with acting Radio Control commander "JR" Petersen

Johannes Kamfer, Popcru shop steward at Radio Control who was on the scene, said. "Severe racism is also coming out in the open. There is strife between white and black members here and it is a ticking timebomb. There is a meeting scheduled for Friday but we don't see that things will be sorted out," he added.

Superintendent Arno Widmer at Radio Control said there had been "a meeting behind closed doors" but dismissed allegations it was a serious situation. He said there was a "small hiccup" involving Popcru members but said it was being "sorted out"

While Popcru was occupying the office, a policeman who answered the switchboard, when asked whether it was Radio Control, answered "I suppose so."

remember was the screams of fellow pupils as the bus overturned.

Popcru sit-in at police unit

JOHAN SCHRONEN
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

(251)
ARG 7/5/97

Members of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) today occupied the office of the Flying Squad radio control commander in Pinelands and threatened to "paralyse" the entire police service this weekend if their demands were not met.

The protesters, all members of the police radio control unit, threatened to disrupt the police communication centre, preventing emergency telephone calls to the Flying Squad, if their grievances were not attended to urgently. They occupied the office for about 90 minutes.

In the meantime, the Flying Squad is responding to emergency calls in the normal way.

The dispute is, among other things, over a demand that all members of the unit get a R200 a month allowance for dealing with

To page 2

Discrimination still rife in police

Only 12,8% of those promoted in W. Cape were black

JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTER

Racism and gender discrimination in respect of promotions is rife in the police service, especially in the Western Cape.

Last year the province sent a list of 450 officers who qualified to be promoted, to the rank of either captain or superintendent, to headquarters in Pretoria. Of these, only 28,3 percent, or 105, were black

Headquarters in turn approved the promotion of 117 people, of whom only 12,8 percent, or 15, were black. Only 14 - 11,97 percent - of those promoted were women.

But Commissioner George Fivaz has announced the creation of an additional 2 000 post nationwide, making it possible for all the candidates to be promoted as from April 1.

The provincial head of the police's equity component, Jenny du Plooy, said it seemed that police management was pursuing

policies which prejudiced the transformation process taking place within the service.

Scant regard was shown for the police's affirmative action and equity policies and no specific measures were being taken to address representivity in the service.

"Whites are still largely being promoted at the expense of blacks and the issue of female staff members is hardly spoken about

"The redistribution of resources in the province has been dragging on for months,

(251)

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with black communities suffering as the privileged white areas are still being given preference," said Senior Superintendent Du Plooy.

But Chief Director Sakkie Steyn, head of labour relations at HQ, said all promotions were made in line with the interim promotions policy, which took affirmative action into account as well as members' length of service and academic qualifications.

"This has nothing to do with racism but available finances," he said.

Far too few police to cope with the situation

(251) Star 9/5/97

By DEREK RODNEY
Crime Reporter

Crime-ravaged Greater Johannesburg has too few policemen and women to tackle crime effectively, despite calls from various quarters for the lifting of the moratorium on recruitment

A survey conducted by the Democratic Party at the Alexandra, Bramley, Cleveland, Hillbrow, Norwood, Rosebank, Sandringham and Sandton police stations has revealed that there are only 1 356 police men and women - and 3 109 are needed in the area

Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi earlier this year hinted at a partial lifting of the moratorium but, so far, the ministry has not been able to supply any details on the issue.

Gauteng Safety and Security MEC Jessie Duarte yesterday reiterated that the service needed better training packages and not necessarily more people

She admitted that service was plagued by logistical restraints but said managers would have to concentrate on better personnel management such as combating absenteeism that in some instances was as high as 50% of total staff

"Station commanders are still too extravagant with booking off personnel for stress and sick leave," she said

According to national police human resource management spokesman Senior Superintendent Johan Smal, a comprehensive resource utility plan - detailing research aimed at the redistribution priorities of the service - has been completed and was handed to the minister on April 1

The situation at station level has prompted the DP to call a meeting with Johannesburg area commissioner Frans Malherbe next week to present him with a practical plan aimed at lowering the shocking crime levels

The DP survey follows in the wake of police attrition figures, estimated at more than

20 000 members since a moratorium on recruitment was instituted in 1992, and budget cuts have impaired the service's ability to replace personnel or supplement its below-strength vehicle fleet

Bramley police station, which experienced a scourge of 70 hijackings last month alone, is currently functioning with 154 members instead of the required 443

Ironically, the adjacent Alexandra police station, which serves a largely black and impoverished community, is almost fully manned with 250 of 300 serving members, while the station is also the only one with its full complement of 65 vehicles. There were 18 hijackings in the Alexandra policing area last month, lower than any other in the north-east

Rosebank police station is by far the worst off with only 70 of 301 members providing a service to the public in 14 of 76 vehicles. Sandton, Norwood and Sandringham are also operating at less than 40% personnel strength.

Popcru threatens nationwide strike

The Police, Prisons and Civil Rights Union has threatened to go on an unprecedented national march on June 6 unless police commissioner George Fivaz effectively transforms the police - or quits

The Popcru Hanimanskraal College branch made the threat at

a protest at the college yesterday "If he refuses to go, we will have no option but to embark on a strike," the union's branch chairman Inspector Simon Mongatane told about 300 police officers, cadets and cleaners who took part in the picket - Pretoria Correspondent

Star 9/6/97 (251)

Popcru's war of tongues

(251)

27/11/97

By SIFELANI MLAMBO

CHAOS is looming for the country's criminal justice system following the defiant decision by the Police and Prison Civil Rights Union (Popcru) to instruct its members to communicate, fill in official documents and take statements in their mother tongues only

The decision, which is meant to send a message to George Fivaz, the national police commissioner, that black policemen are fed up with the slow pace of transformation in the South African Police Services (SAPS), is being implemented in police stations across the country

Popcru is also demanding that Fivaz resign immediately as national commissioner.

The union accused Fivaz of undermining Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi and of running the SAPS as he wished

Popcru's decision on language has so far affected 100 police stations

It had resulted in more time being spent to investigate criminal cases, a spokesperson for the office of the national commissioner, senior superintendent Sally de Beer, told City Press yesterday

This had caused problems, she said, because it had lengthened the time taken to investigate reported crimes.

De Beer said it had been reported that Popcru's move had disrupted services at Parkview Police Station, Johannesburg, where Popcru members were taking statements in their own languages

She said the action was delaying the administration of justice.

However, the chief prosecutor at the Johannesburg regional magistrate's court, Hans Wolfaardt, said the action by Popcru had not had an effect on the court.

He had only learned of Popcru's action through the media, and no cases had been adjourned because of the union's action.

Paul Setsetse, a spokesperson for Justice Minister Dullah Omar, said the action by Popcru would have long-term effects. He hoped the pool of translators would cope with it

Popcru's spokesperson Mnikelwa Nxele claimed that the action by his union had so far been successful in all of the country's provinces.

Some courts in Stanger, KwaZulu-Natal, had been adjourned as a result of the union's action, he said

Nxele said members of Popcru whose mother tongues were not English and Afrikaans felt insulted by not being allowed to communicate in their home languages at their place of work

He said the country had 11 official languages and that people should be served in the languages that they understand.

"We in Popcru are conscious of the effects of colonisation and imperialism, and we will not at this stage be told or forced to speak foreign languages and a tsotsi taal while we have an abundance of our own official languages," said Nxele

He said Popcru members were angry with the lack of transformation in the police force and that the action by his union was a peaceful demonstration

Police commissioner Fivaz said the threat by Popcru to disrupt policing was an obstacle which inhibited the management of the police. It also affected the efficient combating of crime

He said the SAPS had adopted a flexible policy of using a language best suited to accomplishing a specific policing task

"This action - which reveals a mindset of indiscipline and rejection of the fundamental policing ethics of service and protection - can only be seen as distorted unionism," said Fivaz.

Popcru's action, he said, would delay the transformation process in the SAPS.

"If withholding policing services was Popcru's intention, it is part of the transformation problem and not the solution," he said.

Fivaz said the SAPS would continue to implement the transformation process in a systematic and efficient way, without compromising standards or falling into the trap of blatant racial tokenism

CONT

CAPE TIMES

11 MAY 1999

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COMMUNICATION CHALLENGE National police commissioner George Fivaz is facing a winter of discontent.

Cops impose overtime ban

CT 12/5/97

(251)

JUDY DAMON

POLICE DETECTIVES in the Western Metropole refuse to work overtime without pay

Budgetary constraints rule out overtime payments until mid-June or early September. Time off is offered until then.

Demoralised detectives say they will attend after-hours bail applications only for serious crime (murder and rape)

Other cases must wait for the next working day, and it is feared that dockets will accumulate

The overtime-ban leader, Mitchells Plain Detective Inspector Brian Stevens, says his unit often deals with about 72 investigations in addition to new cases

"We are at the end of our tether. Our personal lives are in ruins because we are never home. At this

stage we don't give a damn about the increase of work," Stevens says.

Overworked detectives fully appreciate the competing demands on police budgets, and thus far do not claim overtime on week days, says Stevens, but fully expect 14 hours weekend overtime to be paid.

Initially agreeable, police management now compensate for only six of the 14 hours, without the consent of the detectives, Stevens complains.

If this is not reversed detectives will "let the bodies lay" on murder scenes

They will not work any overtime at all, he added

The head of human resources for the Western Cape police Mr Collin Sherriff said that last year overtime claims exceeded the overtime budget

This led to detectives being paid out gradually, he said

At the start of their action last Wednesday all detectives working in Mitchells Plain marched to the office of their commander, Director Johan Kleya to back up their demand for pay for the crucial hours after 1pm when crime is rife in the area

Their colleagues then extended the work-to-rule to Strandfontein, Philippi, Grassy Park, Athlone, Woodstock, Steenberg and Atlantis

The SA Police Union (Sapu) supports the detectives

Its provincial secretary Mr Andrew Miller rejects the detectives' working hours as "slave labour"

Miller alleges that there is constant "bungling" in the police's Pretoria head-office, and dragging out of the issue

DP says scrap intelligence agency, use funds

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — The Democratic Party (DP) has called for the National Intelligence Agency (NIA) to be scrapped and for the resources to be used to fight crime and beef up the capabilities of the police's crime intelligence gathering.

In debate on the intelligence budget vote, DP intelligence spokesman Kobus Jordaan also lashed out at Deputy Intelligence Minister Joe Nhlamhla for not keeping Parliament's intelligence oversight committee fully informed, while Luwellyn Landers of the ANC called for the national police commissioner's acknowledgement of the exis-

tence of the third force

Jordaan said about three months after the inspector-general of intelligence Lewis Skweyiza resigned, the committee was informed of the fact. He asked whether that constituted co-operation between the committee and the intelligence ministry.

He charged that three and a half years after the new intelligence legislation was approved, there still was not an inspector-general "to ensure that we have no baggage of our unfortunate past that will remain an albatross around our necks."

Jordaan accused Nhlamhla of withholding the report of the Plokh investigation into intelligence services from the committee.

Even though the oath of secrecy precluded him from briefing DP leader Tony Leon, the decision was made on his recommendation to vote against Nhlamhla's budget.

Jordaan quoted the minister responsible for intelligence, Dullah Omar, as having said at a news conference that the priorities for the NIA were "taxi violence, political violence, illegal arms trade, stock theft, drug trafficking, gangsterism and the theft of state assets."

"It can be summed up in one phrase: fight crime. Does this justify the existence of the agency or does it point to a crucial need for an FBI-type organisation and the strengthening of the crime intelligence ca-

pabilities of the SAPS?"

Nhlamhla told the national assembly the belief that there was no new threat to SA was naive and dangerous because it failed to comprehend the complexities of the new threats, of which organised crime and international criminal syndicates were a part.

He gave the assurance that the NIA and Secret Service would continue to be a source of quality information in the fight against crime and called for creative funding of the intelligence communities.

Sapa reports Landers yesterday said during the intelligence budget vote it was time the national police commissioner and

to fight crime

(257) 901315197

the head of crime intelligence acknowledged the existence of the third force and publicly exposed its informers. A covert third force set up under former KwaZulu police commissioner Jac Buchner in the 1980s had never been disbanded and continued to destabilise KwaZulu-Natal, he said. There should also be full disclosure of all the security forces' post-April 1994 operations aimed at fomenting violence and destabilising KwaZulu-Natal.

Exposure of third force informants was imperative because it was in public interest and because "the people of SA demand it", Landers said. Nothing in intelligence statutes prevented it.

Foundations for the destabilisation were laid by Buchner and his "third force cohorts" who established structures and operations in terms of the joint management system designed to counter the ANC.

Former President FW de Klerk had never dismantled or disbanded the structures but merely changed the names.

"Jac Buchner's joint management system operations, structures, informants and agents are still in place and carrying out the mandate of that system — to inform or spy on the activities of the ANC and other political organisations in KwaZulu-Natal... and destabilize the democratic processes by fomenting violence," Landers said.

Unions agree to mediator in row

Bonile Ngqiyaza

BD 13/5/97

(251)

THE Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration may be asked to intervene in the wrangle between SA Police Service management and two of the unions representing the police.

The suggestion would be raised with national commissioner George Fivaz at a meeting today, safety and security secretary Azhar Cachalia said yesterday after meetings with the Police Union (Sapu) and the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru).

Cachalia said both Popcru and Sapu had been receptive to the idea at the separate meetings yesterday afternoon where common problems experienced with management had been raised.

Both unions had pledged to assist in exposing corrupt officials in the department and to work to improve service delivery.

Cachalia said Popcru was unhappy with management's lack of commitment to transformation.

The union was asked to review some of the methods it has used in its protest action and had indicated it would consult its constituency on the matter.

Popcru was calling for Fivaz's immediate resignation as he lacked the vision required to transform the police, and had proved incapable of fighting crime.

Tsumane said the union was waiting for replies to letters requesting a meeting with Fivaz to discuss an anticrime campaign.

Campaign to oust Fivaz continues, says Popcru after meeting Mufamadi

Star 14/5/97

(251)

By MIKE MASIPA
Crime Reporter

The Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union will continue its bid to have national police commissioner George Fivaz removed from office, despite its "successful" meeting yesterday with Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi to discuss the union's threats to strike

Yesterday's meeting in Cape Town was requested by Mufamadi after Popcru's week-long campaign to demand, among other things, Fivaz's removal within a month

The campaign also includes lunch-time pickets and the taking down of statements in languages other than the regulation English and Afrikaans

Popcru secretary-general

Jacob Tsumane said Mufamadi was briefed on the reasons behind the strike call and other problems Popcru had with police management. Tsumane said although Mufamadi understood the reasons behind the campaign, he appeared to be displeased with some aspects, especially the threat of a full-blown strike if Fivaz failed to go by June 6

The minister has refused to be drawn into discussing his standpoint on Popcru's demand that Fivaz and his management be fired or resign

Mufamadi had earlier yesterday met the SA Police Union, which about three weeks ago threatened to strike over wages and promotions. The strike was averted but wage talks are continuing

Justice Department's plea on Babel tactic

By **MIKE MASIPA**
Crime Reporter

(251) of Nov 16/5/97

The Department of Justice has urged courts not to throw out cases in haste because of the use of non-regulatory languages in dockets as the protest action by the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union starts to bite.

Popcru members have been defiantly filling out case dockets in languages other than the regulation English or Afrikaans as part of their campaign to have national police commissioner George Fivaz removed from office by next month.

Several court proceedings countrywide were reportedly stopped because statements were written in languages prosecutors could not understand.

Justice Department spokesman Paul Setsetse said it was unacceptable that suspects were being let off the hook because prosecutors could not understand what was written on the police statements.

"There are enough interpreters working in courts coun-

trywide who can easily be used to translate whatever is written in the documents. We are not saying these interpreters can totally alleviate the problem, but their experience can play a role," Setsetse said.

He said trials being halted in mid-session had been reported in the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu Natal and to a lesser extent in Gauteng, mainly in Pretoria. He added that it would be the prerogative of concerned attorneys-general to reopen the cases affected by Popcru action.

The National Union of Prosecutors has maintained that using interpreters is impractical and will delay the process.

Senior Superintendent Strini Govender of the SAPS human resources department said the problem was sporadic and confined only to the three provinces.

Meanwhile, Popcru continued its action yesterday with pickets at the SAPS head office in Pretoria and at other major police stations. The protest is set to be stepped up with rallies in every province next week.

formation of black subjects into South African citizens, one might expect corruption to be on the decline. But it isn't.

There are nine regional governments in South Africa. They have all been troubled by reports of quite major corruption. It varies in extent but it is quite serious everywhere.

Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale boasted in a speech earlier this year how his administration could claim "three corruption-free years". It can't.

Gauteng, it is true, has a less dishonest bureaucracy than most, but even so its record is marred by:

■ The widespread sale of matriculation examination papers

■ Huge amounts of thefts by officials in Johannesburg pension offices (sometimes to the scale of hundreds of thousands a day) as well as frequent bribery to jump the pension queues

■ Fraud to the tune of R1-million in the Housing and Land Affairs Department (which might help to explain the large discrepancy between the number of subsidies handed out and the number of low-cost houses which are under construction)

■ Accusations of nepotism - in the appointment of a school principal, and the defrauding of R800 000 from the Department of Education by senior bureaucrats

Gauteng's leaders cannot plead that they have had to absorb corrupt homelands - there weren't any within the region's boundaries. In any case they make a point of emphasising how far-reaching the managerial revolution has been in the administration with half the senior posts now filled by new people.

Therefore, much of this corruption cannot be explained by references to the apartheid heritage. It is brand

new. Compared to some of its neighbours, though, Gauteng is an administration led by some of the most probity Mpumalanga's administration is led by some of the most dishonest people.

The province's MECs used R1,3-million from the low-cost housing budget to renovate their state houses. The MEC for environmental affairs was caught out last year for filing false expense claims. Then there is provincial Parks Board boss Alan Gray, who, not content with the R34 000 salary he receives every month, hired out to the board the services of two businesses in which he has an interest.

Not to be outdone, a former chairman of the Mpumalanga Development Corporation managed to get through about R14 000 expenses in a month before being dismissed for impropriety, he then got his job back and only left his post after the payment of a large gratuity.

Further down the chain of command, audits have discovered amounts ranging from R4,1-million to R30-million as missing and unaccounted for from the primary school feeding scheme. The scheme has supplied rich pickings nationwide for minor officials and small contractors, only in the Western Cape, where black business empowerment principles were ignored and it was handed over to an experienced non-governmental organisation, the Peninsula School Feeding Scheme, has it functioned with complete honesty.

Other peaks of political corruption in the regions include the R4-million paid to "ghost" workers in KwaZulu Natal's Department of Nature Conservation, and large sums of public money stolen by such "workers" in the Eastern Cape and Northern Province, the nearly R1-million stolen by a single official in KwaZulu Natal's Department of Finance, and the decision by the government in Pietersburg not to stop at the mere R300-million it spent on a new parliament building, but also to shell out another R33-million to construct official residences for each member of the regional parliament. (Major dishonesties in the award of tenders inevitably accompanied this particular undertaking.)

Nationwide, nine MECs have been identi-

fied in the press as being linked to corrupt practices that is about 10% of the total number of provincial "ministers".

If this is the proportion of corruption embodied in the political leadership, it might well be the case that a similar share of senior managers and junior officials are also affected by the virus.

Notice also that these are new people, not former apartheid apparatchiks. To be fair, four of the MECs have lost their posts, two in the Free State and two in the North West. In the case of the Free State, though, despite the findings of an investigative commission, premier Patrick Lekota was removed from his office because of his efforts to sack dishonest colleagues.

Political corruption does not appear to be so prevalent in central government here. It is concentrated in particular departments, but its particular location is especially damaging. The corruption roll-call includes the Department of Home Affairs, which includes among its activities the operation of major driving licence scams throughout the country; and the SA Revenue Service, where officials are currently undergoing investigation for fraud totalling R800 000.

And, of course, there

As a general rule of thumb, the more a civil service bureaucracy has to do with the public, the more likely it is to be dishonest in its dealings.

In the case of Welfare, the problems are mainly attributable to the legacy of the pre-1994 era. The department inherited 14 separate bureaucracies, many of them totally venal and completely incompetent. There was no centralised record of 2,8 million entitlements to pension payments and many of the supposed recipients were dead. It is reckoned that about 10% of the department's budget is lost to official

Itikom and the Post Office in the 1995-1996 financial year (that doesn't count the sacks of letters misappropriated by postal sorters), one-third of the SABC's current losses are attributable to corruption, 121 Transnet managers were discovered last year to be guilty of major abuse of their credit cards, Eskom managers in Soweto made substantial profits by awarding tenders to companies owned by former colleagues, and R500 000 of RDP funds is alleged to have disappeared into the pockets of Portnet's Durban managers.

The Independent Broadcasting Authority was led by people whose greed and extravagance seemed to know no limits and whose official travel and entertainment budgets ran into many thousands. At least four managing directors of parastatals or public corporations have been involved in improper self-enriching activities.

What does this all add up to? Does the extent of corruption in central and regional government represent a problem of crisis-level proportions?

If you add up the amounts which have been specified in reports of corruption over the past three years you can arrive at a figure of about R3-billion - R2-billion of which is attributable to payments for ghost workers and non-existent pensioners. Such a sum, if it were added to the housing budget, would enable the Government to build another 110 000



GRAPHIC
VIJAY GOVENDER

is the murky history of tendering in the Department of Health, which, while it may not have involved dishonest behaviour by its officials and representatives, has allowed private contractors lavish and self-serving expenditure of public funds.

The real citadels of official self-enrichment, though, are to be found in three central government ministries: Social Welfare, Safety and Security, and Justice.

Reform has been slow, partly because of the complexity of the task, but remember also that the first GNU Minister of Welfare, Abe Williams, was himself implicated in a pension scandal which affected the old pension department of the House of Representatives.

With bosses like Williams setting the tone, it is scarcely surprising that bureaucratic malfeasance in Welfare has been so protracted.

Nor should one omit the parastatal sector from any discussion of political corruption.

low-cost houses - except that, due to corruption and maladministration within provincial housing departments, the state doesn't have the bureaucratic capacity to manage such an additional expenditure effectively.

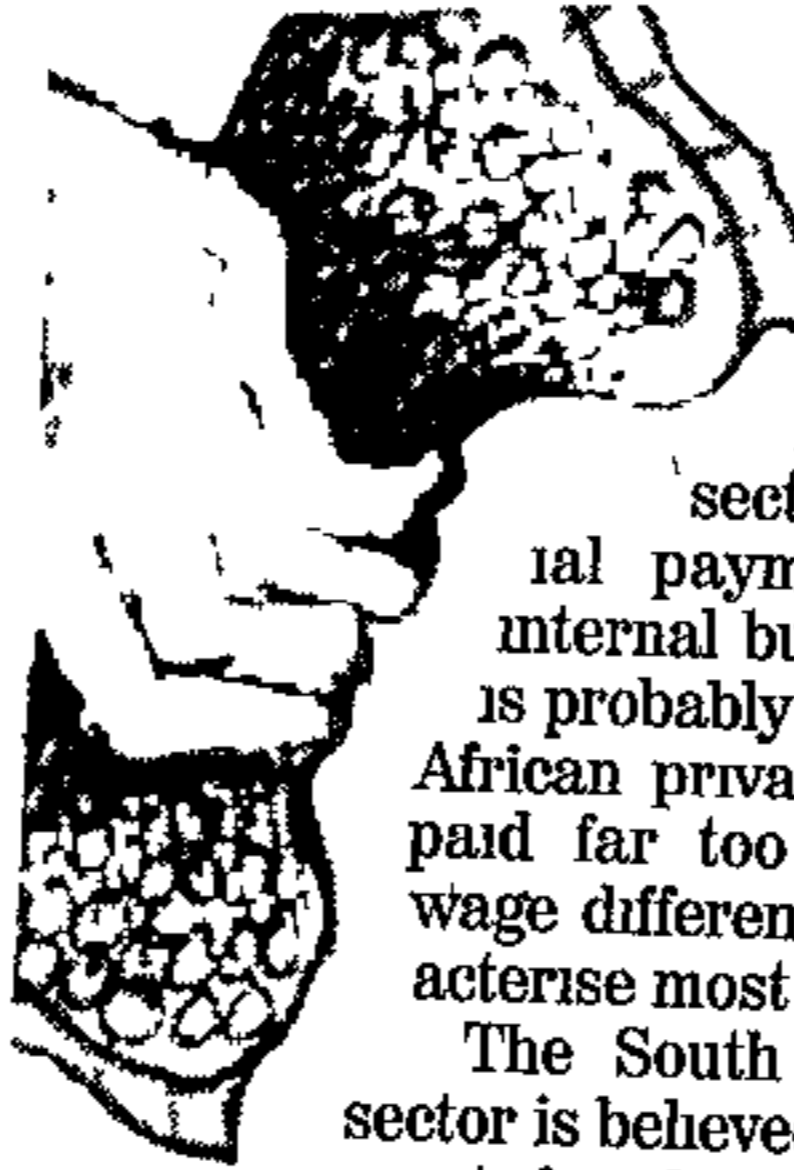
This figure represents only what we know about. Most corruption experts believe that in any political system, the amount of identifiable corruption represents only a minor share of its real extent. So it is likely that the state may be losing as much as 25% to 50% of its resources through corruption and that the beneficiaries of official dishonesty run into hundreds of thousands of public employees.

Note that we have not considered municipal corruption, and it is universally the case that corruption becomes more extensive in the lower levels of public administration. Of course the cost of corruption is not simply financial: hundreds of people die on the roads every year as a sequence of untrained drivers buying driving

And the corruption

goes on and on

(251) STAR 17/5/97

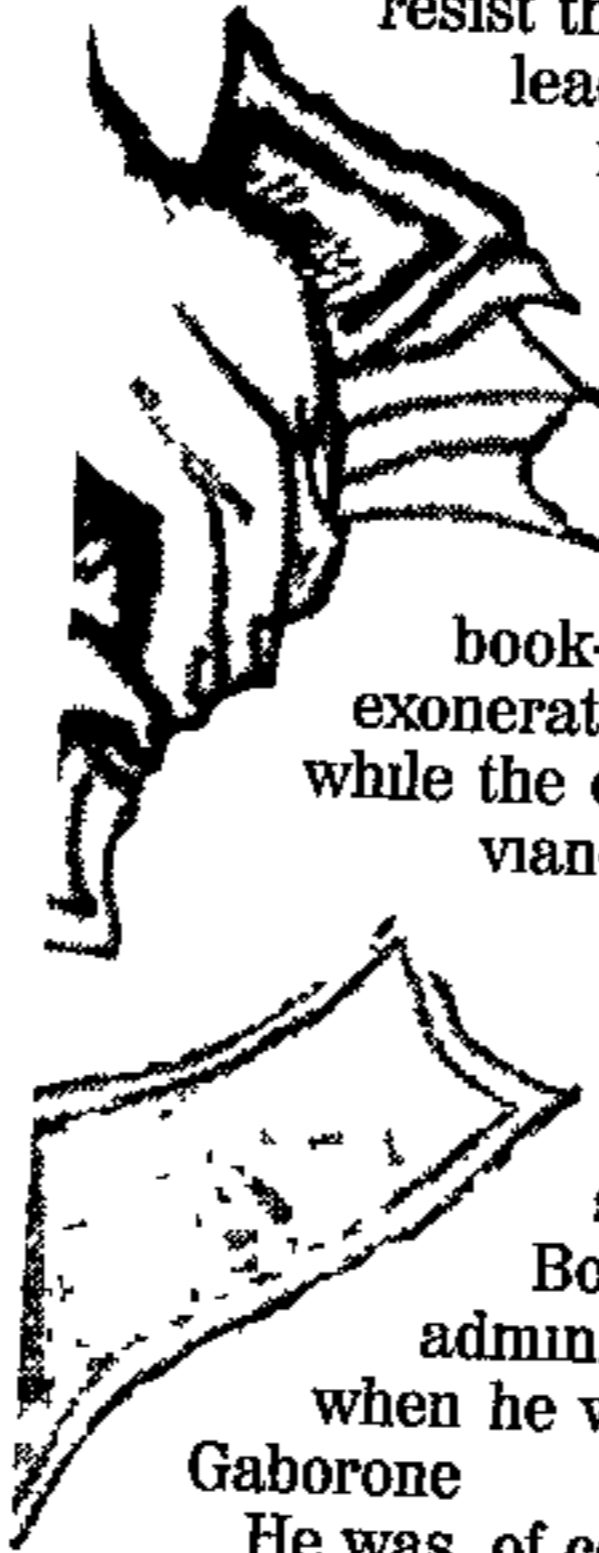


Fraudulent

In general, the doctrine that the public service should emulate the private sector in its managerial payment scales and internal business principles is probably unhealthy. South African private managers are paid far too well, given the wage differentials which characterise most companies.

The South African private sector is believed to be one of the most fraudulent in the world.

Many people think there has been an increase in corruption even Justice Minister Dullah Omar has said there has been a growth in administrative corruption since 1994. Moreover, it is impossible to resist the conclusion that the ANC leadership and the Government aren't very bothered about the problem.



Omar himself turned up at Cape Town airport to greet Allan Boesak and made light-hearted references to "struggle book-keeping" in apparent exoneration of Boesak's conduct while the cleric headed a Scandinavian-funded charity.

Deputy Safety and Security Minister Joe Matthews was, at the time of his appointment, still facing charges in Botswana relating to his administration of trust funds when he worked as an attorney in Gaborone.

He was, of course, an Inkatha choice, so one can't fairly blame the ANC for his appointment.

But what about Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, who was made a deputy minister despite the inconclusive investigation concerning missing funds during her tenure as head of the ANC's welfare department?

Recently, the deputy Speaker of Parliament was discovered to have obtained a driving licence improperly with the connivance of senior politicians and officials in Mpumalanga, although she apologised for her conduct, she seemed to think it was partly excusable that such an important person as herself should try to evade the normal bureaucratic routines.

And a senior education official continues to play a full role in his department despite being the subject of investigation for favouritism in the award of contracts.

Corruption thrives when junior public servants know they can get away with it, they are assured of this when prominent senior offenders go unpunished.

■ Tom Lodge is head of the department of political science at the University of the Witwatersrand.

licences

It is difficult to know for certain whether the present levels of corruption represent an increase. Corruption was very extensive in the old regime and some of the conditions which allowed it to flourish have disappeared.

However, there are many new sources of stimulation for corrupt behaviour. These include non-merit-based processes of bureaucratic recruitment and promotion inherent in certain kinds of "affirmative action", tendering principles which favour small businesses (and which require much more efficient administration if they are to be handled honestly), increasing shortages of skilled manpower in the public service, especially in its financial control systems, a range of new sources of public finance, including foreign-derived development aid; and an ambitious expansion of the kinds and quantity of citizen entitlements to public resources.

As important as an incitement to bureaucratic misbehaviour has been the culture of greed which has developed around high public office and in senior levels of management in the public sector.

Parastatal managers who award themselves R900 000 remuneration packages, youth commissioners and truth commissioners who get paid like High Court judges, members of Parliament who award themselves 15% pay increases before passing a single act of social reform, Johannesburg city councillors who outfit their offices with entertainment facilities, and ministers who travel at public expense to international sports events may not be breaking the law but they are certainly encouraging corruption.



CONT.



It seems there is no province that is free of any form of graft. Scams abound in state departments and local government offices. To crown it all, little shame seems to be attached to being found with fists in the till.

TOM LODGE reports

The police rival their counterparts in other government departments in their predisposition towards corruption. In 1995 and 1996, 8 000 police officers in Gauteng alone were reported to have committed crimes of one kind or another.

In Johannesburg, four SAPS members a week are suspended for corruption and 1 076 policemen nationally were under investigation for corruption in 1996. Last year, again in Gauteng alone, cars worth R5-million were stolen, most likely by policemen, from the car pounds in which the police keep the cars that have already been stolen.

And R10-million is currently being spent on new police-proof, maximum security car "forts" to prevent further thefts of this kind.

In Rustenburg, a station commander was discovered to be running a car-theft syndicate in cahoots with professional criminals.

In 1995, 2 000 policemen defrauded their medical aid scheme of R60-million.

A major bribery scandal implicated police at Johannesburg's container port.

Some police officers allegedly extort thousands of rands from people they illegally arrest and hold in cells in the Sandton area.

Police fraud, bribery, theft, extortion and venality is on such a scale, and involves people so far up the hierarchy, that one can only surmise that it implicates directly or indirectly virtually every member of the force, even if individual constables and officers do not themselves behave corruptly, many must know about the activities of their colleagues, and by failing to take action against them are accessories to their crimes.

Dockets stolen

Policemen colluding with employees of the Justice Department massively expand the scope of public corruption through assisting prosecutors and court officials in the wholesale theft and deliberate loss of police dockets in return for bribes from charged criminals.

This practice is especially widespread in the Western Cape and Gauteng, but it exists everywhere several thousand cases each year do not reach court, causing wastage and loss of millions of rands. Given such levels of dishonesty within the main agencies of the administration of the law, it is not surprising that corruption is so prevalent elsewhere.

Yet it would be surprising if there was no significant political corruption in South Africa. Authoritarian and secretive governments are especially susceptible to bureaucratic venality, and during the last decades of apartheid, South Africa's administration was no exception to this generalisation.

The more powerless ordinary people were, the more officials abused their position. For this reason, homeland governments were especially dishonest, as were the central government departments such as Development Aid which worked most closely with them.

Secret budgets allowed senior security officials to misuse funds for private gain, and by removing procurement from public scrutiny they created ample opportunities for bribery.

"Strategic" kinds of government expenditure did not have to be defended in public, whether they involved defence projects, propaganda exercises or sanctions-evading economic initiatives, and all these featured large-scale misappropriation of public resources. Given that much of the administration is still run by the same people, it would be reasonable to expect the continuation of a certain amount of corruption.

But, bearing in mind the new Government's determination to be better than its predecessor, as well as the ANC's commitment to transparency, as well as the trans-

Underpaid cops joining the underworld

By SASHA JENSEN

Desperately underpaid police officers have joined the underworld of gang warfare, prostitution, racketeering, money laundering and even contract killings

A *Saturday Star* investigation into Gauteng's underworld has uncovered a scenario where certain police officers and gangsters have joined forces. As police officers and the criminals merge into one, an impossible job lies ahead for the Justice Department

Underworld insiders this week disclosed how these people buy brothels, collect debts and even carry out contract killings

Protection syndicate

The *Saturday Star* can reveal that a suspended East Rand police officer is running a protection syndicate which extorts money from club and bar owners by offering them protection - after some of his men have destroyed their clubs

The shocking tactics of the officer have caused serious tension between security protection syndicates, already anxious after the murder in February of Lance Pretorius, who headed Executive Protection Services (EPS), and the possible abduction of nightclub bouncer Milton Resnick three weeks ago

The corrupt cop, who is being investigated by Pretoria's Internal Investigative Unit because of allegations of grievous bodily harm, is making hundreds and thousands of

According to Gauteng criminal sources they buy brothels, help collect debts and even carry out contract killings

rands from his extortion and racketeering

The cop sends his bouncers to a club and order's them to smash it to pieces. He then arrives at the club and innocently asks the owner what has happened, whereafter he presents the distraught owner with a business card. Security is then arranged

But bar and club owners are so afraid of the crooked policeman and his renowned contacts in the Benoni, Germiston and Kempton Park police that they have refused his services and have employed more reputable companies such as EPS, which are now winning the battle to take over security services in the East Rand

"He is making money for us through his actions and we thank him for it. We are a reputable business, protecting more than 40 clubs in Johannesburg and we take pride in our work - there's nothing we won't tackle," said Jarret Weir, head of EPS

"There's no hiding the fact that the protection racket is an accepted gangster business, but it's no good making makers worse - we are all trying to make a living," he added

Government sources in Pretoria say investigations have been hampered by death threats. Also, intimidated police officers and other witnesses have been afraid to come forward with information

Several attacks on the corrupt cop's life have been made his house was petrol-bombed and shot at, and sources say that even now the investigation into the East Rand officer is "hanging on by a thread"

A source inside his corrupt syndicate said "It's all one big racket. The trashed club usually has to go through a whole rife and they have no choice. We can either take it from them or they can give it to us," he said

Most protection syndicates depend on police information in order to run their businesses

More than 60 impoverished policemen are moonlighting with the security firms that provide security for some of the hundreds of clubs, bars and even brothels throughout Johannesburg

Police who work on both sides of the fence - for the underworld and for law enforcement - find their loyalties twisted

"We rely on the police to tell us if a raid is going to come off. If he informs us then he'll obviously take an extra tip," said one security manager

The police's Narcotics Bureau has found that its raids have been foiled due to leaked inside information on which club and at what time detectives are arriving

Most bouncers receive R200 a night for 12 to 14-hour shifts at a bar or club. One security firm has two teams. A back-up squad will be called if serious fighting breaks out

More than 40 bouncers have been shot in syndicate violence in the past 18 months

Tony Lee (not his real name) is a bouncer, a debt collector and a contract killer. He has no scruples about how he makes his money. "A job is a job. What does it matter if you kill a person to make your money? It's part of our business and several highly respectable people rely on our services"

Family tradition

"Who do you think sorts out the problems between business partners when it all goes wrong? Many people need us and we provide an expensive but professional service

"There have been cases when a man has asked us to kill his wife for insurance purposes and we carry out the job. Look, my father was a criminal, I'm a criminal and my son will be a criminal - that's the way this country breeds us," he said without shame

Many police also own brothels. There are more than 40 in Johannesburg, and owner John Johnson (not his real name) told how he had set up five in two years

"It is very easy. You buy a house, advertise for women, furnish the premises and away you go. It takes about a year for it to get established and most of the time you bring the police in to prevent yourself from being closed down"

(251) Star 19/5/97

Police management back Fivaz

(251)

PRETORIA — The SA Police Service management forum — the highest police management structure in the country — yesterday came out in support of tough steps against members of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) involved in disrupting the service or undermining discipline

A statement said the forum was united behind national police commissioner George Fivaz in announcing that those involved could expect firm disciplinary action.

The forum said such steps were justified because the Popcru campaign militated against the orderly and effective

transformation of the service

It said the vast majority of South Africans would find it abhorrant that in the midst of the worst crime wave in the country's history, Popcru intended to undermine the crime-fighting capacity of the police

Popcru's announced campaign to undermine police management and discipline threatened the very basis of the country's new democracy

The forum described as contemptible Popcru's efforts to smear the integrity of Fivaz and thus by implication that of every officer in the force

— Sapa

BD 19/5/97

ONE SAPS MEMBER PER 2 100 RESIDENTS

Khayelitsha's very thin blue line

CT 19/5/97

(257)

THE MAIN CENTRE for crime control in Khayelitsha is equipped with two tele-phones, an unattended computer, a telex and a police radio. **LINDI Z VALLA** reports



Inside, however, things are far worse. The caravan is usually staffed by only two or three policemen. Their resources are limited to electricity, two fire extinguishers, a desk, a police logbook and a radio. There is no telephone.

The men have no vehicles at their disposal — crimes get radioed through to the main police station, from where they are followed up.

Yet even the relatively simple task of radioing through information is fraught with difficulty.

Sergeant Elliot Sinyangana said "Often the police frequency is too busy for the policemen here to communicate properly."

It becomes a matter of chance, Sinyangana explained. You wait and jump in at the first sign of a break in the transmission.

Constable Fana Kwatubana has been manning the contact point since 1995.

"I don't feel safe in this caravan," said Kwatubana.

"We have lots of shootings, and sometimes our members don't have guns," he said, pointing in

the direction of the taxi rank.

The hub of Khayelitsha's police operations is the control room at the Site B police station. All the area's crime reports go through here. The control room is equipped with two tele-

phones, an outdated computer, a printer, a fax machine and a police radio.



The 24 detectives tasked with conducting investigations in Khayelitsha are based at the Limguethu West police station.

Detective Mbolekwa Mncedisi is one of these men.

"I enjoy being a detective, it is challenging," said Mncedisi. "There aren't many Xhosa-speaking detectives around and if I don't assist my community, who will?"

He qualified as a detective last year and already he is flooded with case dockets — 80 of them.

"Here we are used to carrying 100 dockets; some of the detectives even carry as many as 200 dockets

at a time," he said.

This workload on the Khayelitsha detectives recently forced the police to set up a special task team to help ease the load.

But in spite of the task team relieving the

detectives of some 3 000 dockets, "it made no difference, the dockets just keep piling up", Mncedisi said.

He scoffs when talking of his counterparts in the white areas.

"They sit with 30 dockets each; 50 is too much for them."

Most of the detectives' work involves murders, assaults and housebreaking over weekends, when the shebeens are in full swing.

Mncedisi is acutely aware of the SAPS' unpopularity in the area "because of our history there is a big gap between the community and the police," he said.

This is a major stumbling block in their work, where the standard answer among residents is "Andi-az" (I don't know). The community doesn't trust the police.

Mncedisi said one of the reasons for this mistrust was the Scout police patrol vehicles. Powerful five-seater four-by-fours, the Scouts are bulletproofed and perfectly suited for night-time patrols.

However, the community was scared of these vehicles and they were unsuitable for detective work. He said that for the price of one Scout, the SAPS could buy three Toyota Corollas.

Last Friday night's patrol through the township's bumpy streets was a quiet one for Khayelitsha. Only one murder, a stabbing and numerous housebreaking and robbery false alarms are reported.

Cramped up but safe inside a Scout, the police officers joke that the reasons for the slow activity is the biting cold and the fact that it is not yet pay day. The shebeens are doing slow business.

KHAYELITSHA'S police force consists of two police stations, two satellite police stations (one of which is a caravan) and 306 personnel — all for maintaining law and order in a 42-square-kilometre area of sprawling shacks, with an estimated population of 650 000.

The ratio of policemen to members of the public works out at about one SAPS member for every 2700 Khayelitsha residents. However, some estimates put the area's population in excess of one million people. Whichever figure is used, it adds up to a severely understaffed police force.

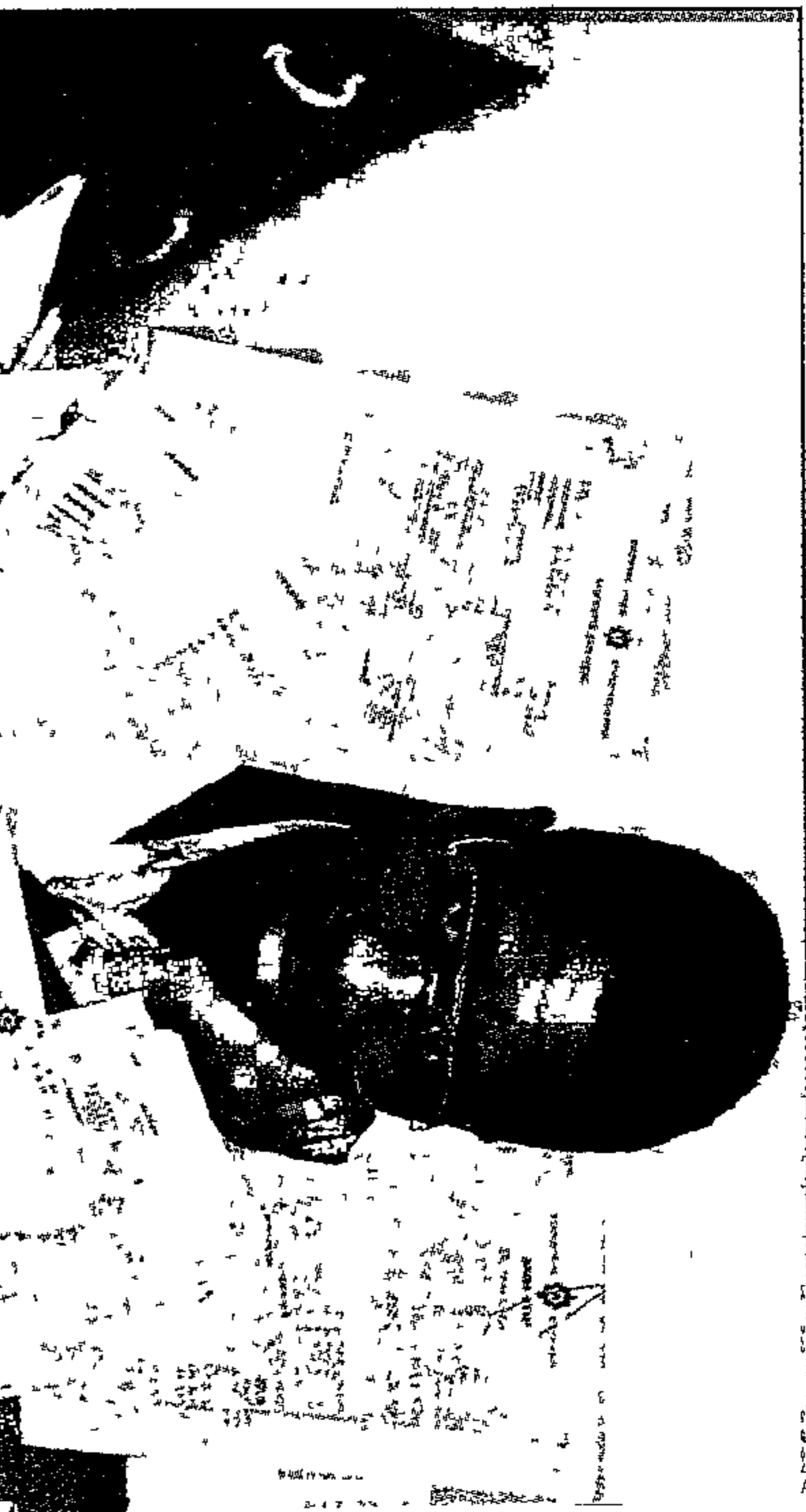
Khayelitsha has the highest murder rate in the Western Cape. Figures for 1996 show 275 people were murdered. The last Easter

weekend was marred by 13 murders and 11 rapes.

Khayelitsha's police force is spread across the main SAPS station at Site B, the Harare police station, which also houses the detective branch, the Limguethu West police station, and a police contact point at Site C.

The Site C police contact point is situated in the heart of the district, flanked by a taxi rank and the Nolongile railway station on the one side, and a hawkers' market on the other.

The facility consists of a police caravan, positioned on a metal platform, which has only one entry and exit point and stands on an open stretch of ground unprotected by any sort of perimeter fencing.



SNOWED UNDER: Khayelitsha detective Mbolekwa Mncedisi faces an uphill battle to complete his mound of case dockets



HELP AT HAND: Stretcher bearers carry a sick refugee to a medical facility at the makeshift camp called Kilometre 24. Over 80 000 Rwandan refugees are trapped by the civil war in Zaire.

SA sees Kabila as president

CT 19/5/97

(358)

LUBUMBASHI, Zaire. South Africa said yesterday it recognised Mr Laurent Kabila as president of the renamed Democratic Republic of the Congo and that it was fully satisfied with his first steps as national leader.

Deputy President Thabo Mbeki also told reporters at Lubumbashi airport that Kabila had given him assurances on democratic freedoms during a transitional period and on his government's concern for Rwandan refugees in eastern Zaire.

Mbeki, an active participant in the negotiations that led up to Kabila taking power, was the first foreign dignitary to see

ters of Kabila's Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo.

Asked if his visit meant South African recognition of Kabila as president of Congo, he said "Yes, certainly. We support the positions that were enunciated in the communique issued yesterday and one of the elements in that was that President Kabila takes over immediately as head of state."

In negotiations between Kabila and fugitive former president Mr Mobutu Sese Seko, South Africa had tried to ensure that Kabila would set up a broad-based government including Zairean politicians not

Police unionists 'intimidated' over national anti-Fivaz march

ARG 20/5/97

(261)

ASHLEY SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

The Police and Civil Rights Union (Popcru) says it will lay charges against Western Cape police station commanders if alleged intimidation of union members continues.

Popcru says its members have experienced intimidation ahead of tomorrow's nationwide marches, at which they will renew their call for Commissioner George

Fivaz to resign. Thousands of Popcru members plan to take to the streets in a march culminating in the "symbolic burial of Commissioner Fivaz" in Cape Town.

Popcru provincial secretary Eddie Johnson said. "We are demanding that Commissioner Fivaz resign because he has not addressed crime effectively, he has been lax in implementing affirmative action and because of his arrogance toward the Minister of Safety and Security, Sydney Mufumadi."

Rapists and kidnapers in elite protection unit

ELITE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A total of 120 members of the police's elite National Protection Service have criminal records including attempted murder, culpable homicide and rape, while almost 200 are facing charges for a range of serious crimes.

The service includes the VIP unit which protects South Africa's highest office-bearers and visiting heads of state.

The shocking statistics were disclosed in the National Council of Provinces by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi in reply to questions by James Selfe of the Democratic Party.

Mr Selfe called for the immediate suspension of those with criminal records and for an urgent probe into the service.

Mr Mufamadi said members of the NPS who had criminal records included five convicted of attempted murder, one of culpable homicide, two for rape and two for kidnap.

One cop for 332 people in Cape

POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

ARC 20/5/97

The Western Cape has one policeman for every 332 residents - better than the national average of one for 410.

Best served is crime-ridden Gauteng, where there is one police member for every 206 people. Worst off is the Northern Province, where each policeman must deal with 646 people. Also worse than the average were the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu Natal, North-West and Mpumalanga.

Minister of Safety and Security Sydney Mufamadi declined to answer a question in the National Assembly from Gert Koorhof (NP) about how these figures compared with international standards. "The vast differences in the population groups and the geographical scattering of the population groups make it difficult to compare the SA Police

Services with other countries," he said.

Mr Mufamadi said the police were being rationalised to ensure that all members were used as well as possible and there was a moratorium on enlistments.

When this exercise was finished, it would be decided how many shortages there were, he said.

In reply to a separate question by Dr Koorhof, Mr Mufamadi said last year's R39-million budget for rewards was overspent by R4-million.

In the Western Cape, R5,3-million was paid out in rewards, R11-million in Gauteng, R8-million in KwaZulu Natal and R5,3-million in the Eastern Cape.

Mr Mufamadi also tabled car hijacking figures showing that people in Gauteng continued to have an overwhelmingly higher chance of being a victim of this crime.

ARC 20/5/97

Eight have convictions for assault, 10 for theft, 13 for drunk driving, one for using a motor vehicle without the owner's consent, and 33 for reckless or negligent driving.

One unit member has a conviction for provoking a boy younger than 19 to commit an indecent or immoral act.

Of those with convictions, eight are based at the VIP protection unit in Cape Town and 37 at the NPS static unit in Cape Town. The rest are at bases in Durban and Gauteng. Mr Mufamadi disclosed that 198 members of the

'R3-m international phone scam run from city home'

FEROZA MILLER
STAFF REPORTER

A Pakistani man charged with fraud for running up a telephone bill of R2 394 288 has told the Wyrberg Regional Court of a telephone racket allegedly involving foreign agents and two Telkom officials.

Sabier Hussain, 30, told the court yesterday that his Pakistani housemates Farouk Rassool and Kamraan Khan had started the telephone business in Kenwyn which involved connecting callers in Kuwait with the United States.

Mr Hussain said his only involvement was

unit were facing criminal charges. Mr Selfe said the situation in the NPS was "chilling".

"The NPS was established to protect VIPs but it appears to have among its ranks child molesters, kidnapers, rapists and forgers. One is left aghast. It is an outrageous state of affairs which cannot continue."

The situation required urgent and comprehensive investigation, Mr Selfe said. "In the meantime, the affected members need immediately to be suspended."

to make personal calls from the telephones which were installed beside his bed and to help monitor the lines once or twice when Mr Rassool and Mr Khan had to use the toilet. Mr Hussain has pleaded not guilty to four charges of fraud.

According to the charge sheet Mr Hussain using various aliases had four telephone lines installed, two at a house in Waterloo Road, Kenwyn and two at Harose Court, Van Riebeeck Street, Kuls River in 1995. He said the scam was started after the second phone was installed, on June 6, 1995. He said Mr Rassool sold talk time to agents in Kuwait. The hearing continues today.

Fivaz tells Popcru he will not resign

(251)

Sowetan 21/5/97

By Josias Charle

NATIONAL police commissioner George Fivaz will continue with his work in spite of a stepped-up campaign by the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union to oust him.

Popcru has been involved in a campaign to force Fivaz out of office. The union alleges that he has failed to implement changes since he took office about three years ago.

The union has also called on the entire police management to resign. Popcru has called for a new chief "with a vision" and a new management to be appointed as a matter of urgency.

The first Popcru demand was made three weeks ago when members demanded to use their "mother tongue". They communicated and took down statements in their languages.

This was followed by marches throughout the country at which mock funerals for Fivaz were staged.

Similar marches were held in Durban on Monday and Pretoria yesterday. Yesterday about 500 Popcru members turned up with a white coffin

draped in the old South African flag, complete with a bouquet on top.

The members gathered in Brown Street and then marched to police headquarters, Wachthuis, in Pretorius Street. There they chanted and listened to speeches from union leaders before dispersing peacefully.

Fivaz's spokeswoman Supt Leah Shubambo later told *Sowetan* that the commissioner had no plans to resign.

Appointed by President

"He has maintained that he was appointed by the President and he is the only one who can tell him to leave. This is of course unless commissioner Fivaz decides on his own to resign."

Another police spokesman Captain Morne van Wyk warned that disciplinary action would be taken against Popcru members who deserted their posts to attend the march.

Van Wyk said it was unacceptable for members to leave their jobs to attend a march while members of the public desperately needed their assistance. He said each department would deal with each case on its merits.



...ary protest ... Popcru members with a coffin for police commissioner George Fivaz during a demonstration to demand his resignation in Pretoria yesterday.

Angry Popcru members, ready to 'bury' Fivaz, set coffin alight

Star 21/5/97

About 500 Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union members yesterday staged a mock funeral procession through Pretoria for police commissioner George Fivaz and set alight a coffin bearing his picture

The protest was to demand Fivaz's resignation by June 6. Carrying a white cardboard

coffin draped with an old South African flag, the protesters, some wearing police and correctional services uniforms, at times toy-toyed as others marched solemnly from Brown Street to Wachthuis police headquarters.

Police with batons and shields guarded the entrance to

Wachthuis against their protesting colleagues

The Popcru members carried placards reading "Go Fivaz go", and "Stop Fivazocracy in matters of transformation". They tore up pictures of Fivaz and shouted "We will get rid of him, today if possible"

Addressing the crowd,

(251)

Popcru general-secretary Jacob Tsumane said Fivaz should resign by June 6 or face being removed from office

Popcru, which staged a similar mock funeral for Fivaz in Durban on Monday, says he is inefficient and is stalling transformation of the SAPS.

The coffin was later taken

back to Brown Street where it was set alight to loud cheers

The crowd dispersed peacefully

Police spokesman Captain Morné van Wyk said those police officers absent without leave while participating in the demonstration would face disciplinary steps - Sapa

Bramley residents keep police going

Only 140 police for crime-stricken area that stretches from Alexandra to Hyde Park

By **RODNEY VICTOR**

The chronically understaffed Bramley police station continues to function only because residents and businesses donated equipment worth more than R80 000 in the past year, says the chairman of the Bramley Community Policing Forum (CPF), Brian Prinsgrove.

Police statistics show that the Bramley policing area has the highest incidence of

hijackings anywhere in South Africa, with other serious crimes also at a high level.

Prinsgrove told the annual meeting of the Bramley CPF this week that the station could not even get all the official documents it needed from the Government Staff had to photocopy 20 000 forms a month so that they could continue their work, he said.

Residents often had to pay for repairs to police vehicles themselves, he said. They

even paid the monthly telephone and electricity accounts of the Illovo satellite police station.

Items donated included flak jackets, torches, cellular phones, number plates for new police vehicles, hand-held radios, pagers, a photocopier, computer equipment and a fax machine.

The 50 000 residents in the Bramley police area had only 140 police serving them, instead of the 448 they were

entitled to and for which they were paying taxes, he said.

The station had 42 police vehicles, instead of the 106 vehicles it should have to cover an area of 492km.

Prinsgrove lashed out at Gauteng MEC for Safety and Security Jessie Duarte for criticising the police but doing nothing to help them.

The police deserved better salaries, he added. "The Government expects them to donate their time for free. It is

not used to the idea of paying adequate money to the police and to prosecutors."

Residents resolved to change the station's name from Bramley to North-East Precinct, since Bramley is only one of 45 suburbs covered by the precinct, which stretches from Alexandra to Hurlingham and Hyde Park.

If bureaucracy proved obdurate, residents should just start calling it the North-East Precinct themselves, he said.

Star 22/5/97

(251)

Western Cape foots big bill to deport aliens

Budget runs to R47 000 a month

ARG 22/5/97

LINDSAY BARNES
CRIME DESK

Deporting illegal immigrants from the Western Cape officially costs about R600 000 a year in travel and hotel costs, but the real figure could be much higher.

The provincial office of the Department of Home Affairs budgeted R47 000 a month for repatriating about 100 unwanted immigrants, said the department's acting regional director, Griet Erasmus

But the figure could be much higher, according to a source in the department's immigration office.

Earlier this month 80 illegal

immigrants held in Pollsmoor prison were sent back to Tanzania, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Angola, India, Kenya, Ghana and Namibia.

They were moved a day after the Cape Argus highlighted the desperate plight of two Zairian castaways who had survived being set adrift from a Turkish vessel, only to be arrested by Home Affairs officials and dumped in Pollsmoor's maximum security section

A third man apparently drowned after being allegedly beaten up by the Turkish crew and thrown overboard

At least 23 of the 80 illegal immigrants deported were flown to Tanzania, at a cost to the Gov-

ernment of R2 700 each, a total of R62 000, the source said

The Government also pays for immigration officers to escort the foreigners to their countries' border posts.

Added to this is the price of immigrants' lengthy stays in prison - the national estimate was R65 a prisoner a day, said Correctional Services spokesman Eddie Claasen

This means it costs the country nearly R2 000 a month to keep an illegal immigrant in prison

But the head of operational services at Pollsmoor, Victor Lategan, said the prison sometimes had more than 300 illegal aliens, who could be kept for two to three months at a time.

Fivaz 'funeral' at Popcru demo

NORMAN JOSEPH
STAFF REPORTER

Members of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) have held a protest in Cape Town during which they burnt a coffin to symbolise their demand for the dismissal of Commissioner George Fivaz.

Yesterday's march in the city streets by hundreds of police and prison warders formed part of a national campaign by Popcru to oust Commissioner Fivaz and to

increase the pace of affirmative action in the service.

Protesters, watched by a large contingent of public order police, called for the removal of Commissioner Fivaz as well as of national and provincial police management. They shouted slogans denigrating the competence of top police structures.

Western Cape Popcru leader Johnny Jansen outlined some of the union's other demands, which were

■ "Transformation" of the police.

■ That the use of resources such as police patrol vehicles should be evenly spread and not be used mainly in formerly white residential areas.

■ That crime be addressed through a definite plan of action

■ That corrupt officers to be dealt with severely.

The mock funeral, held in Kaizergracht in District Six, was conducted by warder Michael Marwebu, who was dressed as a priest and waved President Mandela's autobiography, *Long Walk To Freedom..*

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Back to earth

POLICE MANAGEMENT

FM 23/5/97

(251)

Corporate chief for top police?

Addressing the need to galvanise the police force

Government may hire a senior business executive, with a crack corporate team, to help the police service break its administrative logjam

The move would inject sorely needed

skills into the service and free the hands of National Commissioner George Fivaz and his senior staff to get on with their principal job of crime prevention

The move follows an offer by the Business Against Crime (BAC) organisation to provide top-flight managerial skills to the police (*Cover Story* April 18)

The news emerges on the eve of the annual audit of the National Crime Prevention Strategy, when Safety & Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi and the police management are anxious to show short-term gains in their medium- to long-term programme to curb crime

Public pressure and anger over continuing criminal violence have caused a breach in confidence between Mufamadi and Fivaz — a split between the executive and political arms of law enforcement

which will likely fester unless something dramatic is done to begin reducing crime and involving communities in crime prevention initiatives

Organised business and government officials refused to confirm or deny rumours that government was "considering appointing a leading businessman" to beef up police management

Such an appointment would dramatically boost business and community confidence, which is an essential ingredient in winning the community assistance so necessary to achieve success in the war on crime

But, as Safety & Security Secretary Azhar Cachalia said last month, if government did ask for business help "the National Commissioner would have to be persuaded that this is a good thing. If not, the exercise would likely fail"

Peter Honey

Widespread acclaim for lifting of three-year freeze on police recruiting

Star 23/5/97
BY ADAM COOKE

(251)

The end of a three-year freeze on recruiting more police – and bringing in civilians to do paperwork and get more officers on to the streets – has been welcomed all round the country

“It is not just a matter of increasing the number of police. It is more about improving quality than quantity,” says Doug Band, who is on the board of the Gauteng campaigners, Business Against Crime

After the announcement yesterday by the Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi, the Gauteng MEC with the same portfolio, Jessie Duarte, said she and provincial commissioner Sharma Maharaj would meet soon to prepare a list of stations to be given priority for extra police

Of the 5 250 additional re-

cruits, 2 520 of them will be civilians dealing with time-consuming administrative work

More police will be deployed to priority areas such as the border control unit, the forensic science laboratory, the firearms unit, the family, sexual violence and child abuse unit, and the anti-corruption unit

The chairman of the Johannesburg Community Policing Board, Gerald Heine, said he was delighted with the lifting of the moratorium “Within one or two months of their being employed, we will see the effect of these new recruits”

The South African National Civic Organisation also welcomed the announcement

Mufamadi said the move was just the first step in an entirely new approach to recruiting and deploying staff

within the SAPS.

“This approach means we will provide a police service built on the principles of quality service delivery, supported by focused recruitment and development of the entire staff.”

Central to the new scheme is the application of higher recruitment standards. Recruits will now have driver’s licences, be high academic achievers and have specific skills

Mufamadi added that, with the assistance of foreign governments, the department “will ensure the new recruits are well-trained in basic skills and for the tasks of specialised units”

Mnikelwa Nxele, assistant general secretary of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru), said that employment of the 5 250 should be driven by affirmative action.

Police to hire 5 250 staff as Mufamadi lifts moratorium on

(251) 00 23/5/97

Recruitment

Stephané Botma

PRETORIA — The lifting of a three-year moratorium on police recruitment with immediate effect by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi yesterday will see 5 250 policemen and civilians appointed at a cost of R149,6m, and foreign governments assisting with basic and specialised training of future police.

Unlike the mass-recruitment programmes of the past, new appointments will be job specific and subject to stringent requirements. No one with a criminal record or without a driver's licence will be considered.

Mufamadi told a news conference all the appointments would be made within three months. The assistance of foreign governments would be called in to ensure that recruits were trained for specialised tasks. Posts for priority units such as border control, forensics, firearms, family and child abuse and anticorruption would be advertised internally and externally.

Recruits would include 2 520 civilians who would free police from desk duties, and 2 730 police officers.

"We will be looking for high academic performers and specific abilities. Candidates who have criminal records or otherwise fall short of the tough new recruitment standards will not be considered," Mufamadi said.

Admitting that human resources management had been one of "the most vexing" issues facing the police since 1994, Mufamadi said the moratorium was being lifted following a comprehensive analysis of the SA Police Service's manpower utilisation.

Business's expertise had been drawn into the exercise, which identified the number of staff required and the "work that needs to be done and the skills required to do it". Allocation of staff would be to the most vital areas identified by the resource utilisation programme.

"The programme has assessed the needs of key service providers as well as training required. After all, it would be of little use to recruit more people when many of the existing employees don't show up for work," Mufamadi

said. An estimated 10 000 policemen are absent from shifts each day.

Mufamadi said the new approach of targeting recruitment to high priority policing areas would be done in phases. Financing of the first 5 250 recruits would come from the existing allocation for recruitment and by "shuffling around our current budget" so no additional funding would be required.

The next phases in the three-year recruitment programme will address the needs of specific police stations and put more "bobbies on the beat".

5 000 new police to hit the streets within a year

Cops pulled out of city's violent areas

LINDSAY BARNES
CRIME DESK

The police service is set to recruit more than 5 000 new members at a cost of R150-million this financial year to reinforce the fight against crime.

Thus follows the Government's decision to lift the controversial moratorium on police recruitment which has been blamed for weakening the police and playing into the hands of criminals.

Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi said yesterday the drive to hire new members would ensure a quality police service. More police would be on the streets instead of being desk-bound.

The announcement was welcomed by the African National Congress, Democratic Party and National Party.

Recruitment would be financed from the existing police budget and no additional finances would be needed, Mr Mufamadi said. Almost half of the new recruits would

be civilians to enable skilled police officers to concentrate on policing work instead of paperwork, he said.

The extra staff would be deployed in priority areas such as the border control unit, forensic science laboratory, firearms unit, family violence unit, child abuse unit and anti-corruption unit.

Higher recruitment standards would be applied. All new employees must have driver's licences and high academic performers would be sought.

People with criminal records and those who fell short of the toughened recruitment standards would not be considered, Mr Mufamadi said.

Meanwhile until new staff are recruited, some of Cape Town's most violent areas were set to lose vital police members to less crime-ridden areas in the controversial police restructuring plan, said Alex Marshall, Eastern Metropole Community Police Area Board chairman.

The plan to reshuffle the service so all

APR 23/5/97 (251)

police stations have equal staff quotas has drawn sharp criticism from Mr Marshall who says violent areas such as Elsies River and Khayelitsha will get a raw deal.

They stand to lose staff to areas such as Parow, Table View and Strand which have less violent crime.

He said he would take up the inadequacies of the plan at a Provincial Community Policing Board meeting soon.

Under the new programme, staff would be redeployed so that no Western Cape police station was more than 18 percent understaffed, ensuring an "equal shortage", said police spokesman John Sterrenberg. The plan was expected to provide vital relief for heavily understaffed areas, some of which had a manpower shortfall of up to 40 percent.

But Mr Marshall said areas such as Khayelitsha and Elsies River would suffer if the proposal went ahead.

He said it was "unacceptable" that Khayelitsha stood to lose 44 police to bring

'Crisis' in force

over sick leave

CT 23/5/97 (251)

A TOTAL of 1,44 million work-days were lost last year through police taking sick leave, Deputy Safety and Security Minister Mr Joe Matthews told Parliament this week

On one particular day 50 000 police out of a total of 140 000 had been on official sick leave, he said in reply to a question from DP leader Mr Tony Leon.

"I would think this indicates a very serious crisis," Matthews said. But research was needed to determine if absenteeism was due to "management" or of low morale

Leon said the figures, combined with the R1 billion the state had budgeted as its contribution to the police medical aid scheme this year, surely meant something was "critically wrong".

It is hoped the announcement yesterday of the lifting of the moratorium on police recruitments will alleviate the burden on overworked police members. Sapa

The Boykie from Brits gets the fight of his life

Business Times editor **SVEN LUNSCHE** looks at Meyer Kahn, the beer chief who will soon get a taste of life in the police

ST 25/5/97 (251)

MEYER KAHN, the new chief executive of the South African Police Services, enjoys a good fight, whether it is as the chairman of one of the world's largest breweries or as a leading light in the South African Foundation think-tank, challenging the government's economic policy

But his latest bout is different

This time the brawl is not one for market share or for the hearts of government ministers. Now the enemy is armed, vicious and dangerous — the criminals whose relentless assault is exacting a heavy toll in terms of lives, property and morale.

And it has yet to be proved that corporate management skills can be transferred to the police, even if the company from whence they come is the country's largest industrial group — SA Breweries — with an annual turnover of R37-billion and profits of R2-billion

Kahn, popularly known as the "Boykie from Brits", is one of the few captains of industry who has a reasonable chance of success, thanks to his "people skills"

He matches a natural friendliness with a wicked sense of humour and bluntness

His self-confidence is legendary in business circles. In a recent interview, he made a comparison between South African and English management styles that typifies his attitude. "South African managers have learnt how to deal with the plagues — revolution,

labour unrest, sanctions, drought. We've been through it all and it's just like another day in the office.

"When I hear London businessmen complaining about their problems, I feel like vomiting."

His bluntness does not imply a ruthless management style, however



CARRYING A NEW CAN:
Meyer Kahn

At SAB he makes a point of being friendly with everyone, from top executive to junior staff, and he is loyal to his divisional managers and executives. He is most comfortable in the breweries' pub, telling jokes well into the night.

But he is not a hatchet man and is not always firm enough, say critics, pointing to the continued financial problems at SAB subsidiary OK Bazaars.

If he is given a free hand during his secondment to the police he will not only have to stamp out corruption, but also inefficiency and mismanagement.

On the other hand, his people skills, his frank style and his fondness for a cold Castle will prove invaluable in winning the confidence of both senior policemen and the rank-and-file, a confidence that has eluded Police Commissioner George Fivaz.

Graham Mackay, SAB's chief executive, says Kahn has "an extraordinary head for a crisis. I've never known him to panic."

Cool heads' will be a prerequisite for Kahn's new challenge, one that is set to last for the full two years of his secondment.

Jacob Meyer Kahn, 57, is fond of saying that, like communist leader Joe Slovo's parents, his, too, had emigrated from Lithuania.

Kahn spent his early years in Brits in North West Province, where he was born. He graduated with a BA in law and an MBA from the University of Pretoria, where he is an extraordinary professor at its Graduate School of Business.

He entered SAB via OK Bazaars, which he joined in 1966. He was managing director of the retail chain from 1977 to 1988 before he joined SAB as managing director.

In 1981 he was appointed to the SAB board and became executive chairman in 1990.

During his chairmanship the group more than doubled turnover, lifting it from R16-billion to R37-billion. It also expanded its retail arm and, after the lifting of sanctions, embarked on an ambitious expansion drive.

The group now owns breweries in Tanzania, Zambia, Mozambique, Kenya, the Canary Islands, Hungary, Poland and China — acquisitions that have transformed it within six years into one of the world's largest breweries.

Two months ago Kahn announced that Mackay would be responsible for the day-to-day operational activities of SAB, signalling that he would take a less-active role in

managing the group.

Sources confirm that discussions about a role with the police started at around that time.

Cyril Ramaphosa, the chairman of Johnnic, was appointed non-executive director at SAB at the same time as Mackay's appointment.

He will now chair the group in a non-executive, acting capacity.

SAB says Kahn has every intention of returning to the group when his secondment is over. He will also remain as a non-executive director of the board during his time in the police.

Kahn, speaking yesterday after a round of golf and before his first beer of the evening, said that he knew "as much and as little as any ordinary South African" about the Byzantine workings of the police.

"I believe the problems are such that anybody who tries to walk in like a tiger is going to end up walking out like a lamb," he said. "I have no preconceived ideas. I intend to go in like a lamb and learn as much as I can, then I will walk out like a tiger."

He added "With the right support and leadership, ordinary people and ordinary police officers can become giants."

"Whatever happens, the one thing we are not going to do is give up."

Beer boss to head police

CP 25/5/97 (251)

SOUTH African Breweries' group chairman, Meyer Kahn, has been appointed chief executive of the South African Police Service, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki announced yesterday

Mbeki said the new civilian post - to be filled by "one of the private sector's toughest managers" - was designed to direct and accelerate the conversion of the police into an effective law enforcement and crime

prevention agency

He was speaking at the start of the annual summit of the national economic development and labour council in Johannesburg

Kahn takes up his new post on August 1 and will be on secondment to the government for two years.

To page 2

Beer chief gets top cop post

(251)

From page 1

From July onwards Kahn is to spend two days a week learning the ropes for his new job

His appointment was welcomed by ANC spokesman Ronnie Mamoe-pa, who said it would "add to the momentum of the transformation of the service whilst ensuring civilian control and accountability to the community which they serve"

Mbeki said the move would free national police commissioner George Fivaz of his administrative burden and allow him to concentrate on managing the policing operations of the service

It was no secret that the government had felt the need for more management expertise within the police to enable it to provide an effective and efficient service, Mbeki said

Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi had alluded to the need for this in his budget speech - and Fivaz threat violence and crime posed to the creation of a healthy democratic society and the attraction of investment

The combating of crime had become a critical priority

Short-term measures to counter crime included the tightening of bail conditions and the firming of controls along the country's borders

Great energy was being put into translating the National Crime Prevention Strategy from a theoretical document into reality

CP 25/5/97

More than R1,2-billion was being spent on gearing up the criminal justice system, said Mbeki

New recruitments into the police force, made possible by this week's lifting of the moratorium on appointments, would focus on getting new police members appointed in priority areas where they would have the most impact, he said

While Kahn is with the police, Cyril Ramaphosa will become acting non-executive chairman of the brewery's board

Business Against Crime (BAC) has also welcomed Kahn's appointment "This represents a vital milestone in the drive by government and the private sector to combat crime," it said in a statement

BAC said it had long identified with the view that enhanced management of the skills and resources of the criminal justice system, and in particular the police, was a prerequisite for effective law enforcement and crime prevention

It said Kahn would bring his outstanding abilities to bear in precisely this area.

It was encouraging that the move had the support of all key players in government, the police, the criminal justice system and the private sector

"BAC is committed to assisting Kahn and his team in any way possible," added the statement.

Kahn's appointment would help in the hiring of police following the lifting of the moratorium on recruitment - Sapa

s beer boss = over cops

nined to make the streets safe again

(34) (251) ST 26/5/97

CHRIS BARRON,
PETER De IONNO
and CAROL PATON

MORE GOOD NEWS ON CRIME

SOUTH Africa's leading industrialist, SA Breweries boss Meyer Kahn, has been appointed chief executive of the SA Police Services for the next two years

Businessmen and police chiefs applauded the appointment yesterday, citing Kahn as one of the country's best managers and the man who made SAB one of the world's four biggest breweries

Kahn said last night that managing the SA Police Services was going to be the "mother of all adventures"

"I have only one objective for the next two years I am going to make sure that the police have the resources, the support and the motivation to make the streets of South Africa safe again

"Crime has become a national crisis — we have let it get out of hand"

The Minister of Safety and Security, Sydney Mufamadi, made the announcement with Deputy President Thabo Mbeki yesterday

Kahn said he had hesitated at first when Mbeki had called him to his Pretoria home a month ago

"I knew I could not say no. He told me 'Your country needs you'. Now I feel strong about it. I feel relaxed and it is flattering to know that my management skills can make a contribution"

Told that he had been described as one of the toughest taskmasters in business, he said: "I am a nice guy. I just have standards. Things have got to get done and I do not take 'no' for an answer"

"I have always considered life to be urgent and immediate, and nothing is more immediate than



Safety chief forced to quit

Mpumalanga MEC Steve Mabona has resigned and two top officials have been suspended in the wake of the scandal over drivers' licences: **Page 2**



Judges declare war on rape

'We are determined to protect the equality, dignity and freedom of all women, and we shall show no mercy to those who seek to invade those rights': **Page 4**

everyone asking themselves what they are going to do to stop crime"

He would not comment on speculation that one of his first moves would be to turn to former New York police chief William Bratton for help

"I will ask for help and support from everybody and anybody I intend to start with the Almighty and work my way down"

Kahn joked that he would have more "voters" behind him than any politician in the country

"The concern about crime is so deep and widespread that I know I will have the support of every South African apart from the criminals themselves"

Kahn said his initial discussions with top police managers, including Commissioner George Fivaz, had left him with a clear understanding of the difficulties the police faced, such as "deep demotivation" and problems with the management of resources

"I know from 30 years of

managing Breweries that anything is possible. As an outsider looking in it seems the basic problem is that the police are trying to do too many things at the same time"

Kahn, who will be on secondment for two years with the police, will continue to get a salary from SAB. He will donate any other remuneration for the post to the police Widows and Orphans Fund

Mufamadi said Kahn would take care of all police management functions, freeing Fivaz to concentrate on hard-core policing

He said Kahn would be responsible for the police's R11-billion budget and would manage its human and physical resources. Kahn would report directly to him and to the President

The scale of the problems confronting Kahn was illustrated this week when Mufamadi said that about 10 000 policemen were absent from duty on any given day, supposedly because of sickness

The number of pen-pushers at police headquarters in Pretoria has grown from 5 000 to 11 000 in three years, and a recent survey showed that 70 percent of staff at police stations were not involved in active anti-crime work.

Fivaz yesterday welcomed the appointment and gave it his "unconditional support"

A member of Business Against Crime, Doug Band, said the forum was "involved in the process"

leading to Kahn's appointment

Band, the executive chairman of the Premier Group, said "We needed the best person and we're damned fortunate that the best person was prepared to take it on. We believe crime can be licked and will be licked"

The leader of the Democratic Party, Tony Leon, said it was one of the best appointments the government had made

● See Page 9

Handball, but Barker says he's happy

BAFANA Bafana coach Clive Barker refused to condemn the obvious handball which gave England a 2-1 victory at Old Trafford in Manchester yesterday

BE P



Glee as beer takes over

Meyer Kahn determined to make the si

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(82)

CHRIS BARRON,
PETER De IONNO
and CAROL PATON

MORE



CHEERS: Meyer Kahn, who will try to succeed where policemen have failed

SOUTH Africa's leading industrialist, SA Breweries boss Meyer Kahn, has been appointed chief executive of the SA Police Services for the next two years

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Sunday Times Reporters

No jokes as leaders laud Kahn

LEADING businessmen reacted with disbelief — and then delight — at the announcement that SA Breweries chief Meyer Kahn had been seconded to manage the police.

Dr Nthato Motlana, the executive chairman of New Africa Investments Ltd, laughed long and loud when told of the news. When convinced it was not a joke, he said he was "thrilled". "What the police need is a manager," and he is a first-class manager. He's the right guy to knock out the criminals."

"Are you joking?" said Sun Inter-

national's managing director, Peter Bacon. He said the decision showed government's commitment to dealing with crime.

The chairman of Business South Africa, and executive chairman of Iscor, Hans Smith, said "When it comes to the management of scarce resources, he can bring an enormous amount to the party."

The South African Chamber of Business welcomed Kahn's new job as a "bold and imaginative step to improve managerial skills and capacity building".

The move also indicated the business community's commitment to play a meaningful role in combating the scourge of crime, it said. Coming so soon after the lifting of the moratorium on recruitment of police personnel, Kahn's appointment would further strengthen local, overseas and investor confidence.

Tony Leon, leader of the Democratic Party, said the SAB boss was one of the country's best businessmen. "He's politically incorrect, not a groveller nor an ANC praise singer. This will be an enormous vote of confi-

dence to the investment community and the public at home," he said.

Provincial police commissioners also welcomed the news. Gauteng's commissioner Sharma Maharaj, said he had worked with Kahn officially for two years and admired him as a straight-talker.

"We are busy transforming the police services while at the same time we must take care of crime. If somebody else — not a functioning police officer — can concentrate on the support services, we can take care of crime," he said.

ST 25/5/97

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Commissioner A T Mering of the North West province said Kahn could help the police with logistical and financial services, human resources and even broader management.

Lied de Wit, the provincial commissioner for the Free State, also said he believed the police would benefit, while the commissioner for Mpumalanga, Alfred Maletle, said he was not in a position to comment.

The Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union lauded Kahn's appointment as a major victory and promised him its full co-operation.

NEWS

(251) Sacob happy *some ban* over *26/5/97* Kahn's post

THE Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union yesterday welcomed the appointment of South African Breweries' group chairman Meyer Kahn as chief executive officer of the South African Police Service

Deputy President Thabo Mbeki announced the appointment at the start of the annual summit of the national economic development and labour council at Gallagher Estate, Midrand, at the weekend

Mbeki said the appointment was a new civilian function calculated to direct and accelerate the conversion of the police into an effective law enforcement and crime prevention agency

Meyer takes up his new post on August 1 and will be on secondment to the government for two years

Popcru said in a statement Kahn's appointment was a major victory for Popcru because it had been frustrated by National Police Commissioner George Fivaz's "incompetence". The union demanded Fivaz's resignation a month ago

Popcru said they would cooperate fully with Kahn and wished him a good and successful career in the SAPS

The South African Chamber of Business also welcomed Kahn's appointment as a "bold and imaginative step to improve managerial skills and capacity building within SAPS in the fight against crime"

"This move is also indicative of the firm commitment of the business community to play a meaningful role in combating this scourge, while also sending a clear signal that government is serious about getting crime under control," Sacob said in a statement

The appointment of Kahn, coming so soon after the lifting of the moratorium on recruitment of police personnel, would undoubtedly further strengthen local, overseas and investor confidence

The Democratic Party said Kahn's appointment was good news for the country's fight against crime DP spokesman on Safety and Security Douglas Gibson said the party had been calling for two years for an infusion of management talent into the police service -

Sapa

Surprise brews for criminals

CT 26/5/97

THE fight against crime has been bolstered with the appointment of SA Breweries former boss Mr Meyer Kahn as chief executive officer of the SA Police Service

Welcoming the appointment, the International Association of Business Communications described Kahn as an able businessman and leader.

His tasks will include managing resources and taking responsibility for SAPS's R11-billion budget

National Commissioner George Fivaz said he hoped his appointment would end bureaucratic procedures which hamstrung management. — Staff Writer

Police stations hardly operating, study finds

(251) Aron 26/5/97
By SHIRLEY WOODGATE

Solving problems within the police force is like driving down a highway at 150km an hour while rebuilding the vehicle's engine, an SA Institute of Race Relations (SAIRR) spokesman for Project Lifeline said recently.

Addressing a breakfast briefing at a Rosebank hotel last week, Judy Wade highlighted the appalling state of affairs at many police stations and stressed that the key to a smooth transition to democracy was a reduction in crime.

But initial investigations had shown that crime statistics and vital records in many of the police stations in the country's most crime-ridden areas were virtually non-existent.

Wade is one of five consultants provided free of charge by McKinsey Incorporated to man the SAIRR's Project Lifeline, which was launched last year to identify 100 of the 11 000 police stations country-wide which most needed efficiency improvements.

Reporting on the progress of the private sector initiative, she said the police service was in crisis and major problems would have to be addressed within the police force before crime could be reduced.

One of the concerns was that while much time was being spent on long-term trans-

formation of the police force, little was being done on "bottom up" problem-solving.

Better use of resources was critical, and Wade said the SAPS should be made self-sustaining.

"We have been doing diagnostics on station performances and using the holistic view, trying to help police to take control of performance in their own stations.

"Addressing complaints about a lack of vehicles, we have found that fewer than

**Fewer
than 75%
of vehicles
are working**

75% of stations' vehicles are operating in many cases. In some stations, 21% of vehicles are used for administrative rather than policing needs," she said.

Allocation of manpower to policing and administrative duties was a priority, with 17 people freed for policing duties at one station, Inyanga in the Western Cape.

Convictions per closed docket were abysmal, absenteeism was high and day-to-day supplies were so bad that one police station had no toilet paper or means of filing documents for two years.

SAIRR Project Lifeline

Breweries chief spells out plan to turn police service around

Stephané Bothma

NEWLY appointed SA Police Service (SAPS) CEO Meyer Kahn will reorganise major assets, personnel, resources and tackle motivation in the force in his drive to convert it into an effective crime prevention agency.

Kahn said last night he would not take a team of business executives with him when he took up the post on August 1, but would go it alone until he had evaluated the service's top structure. "I do not think the quality of hu-

man material in the SAPS is as bad as some people try to make out." However, he would take his secretary.

His appointment, announced by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki on Saturday, to help manage police support functions for two years was welcomed by business, police chiefs and organisations, and political parties.

In an attempt to direct and accelerate the conversion of the SAPS into an effective law enforcement and crime prevention agency, Kahn said he would keep to a simple four-pronged

strategy, starting with the major assets of the structure, followed by the people within the structure, on to the available resources and finally dealing with motivational levels.

Initial discussions with top policemen had given him a clear understanding of the difficulties facing the SAPS. These included "deep" motivation and resource management problems.

National commissioner George Fivaz said Kahn's appointment was a huge opportunity which should be applied to all government departments

involved in the criminal justice system if crime fighting was to be effective. "Key bottlenecks" in the system, such as the limited capacity of courts and prisons to handle the rising number of arrests, required urgent attention.

Fivaz said "Kahn has a golden opportunity to fight for unique status for the SAPS within the civil service in terms of vastly improved salaries, working conditions and other administrative procedures." Police manage-

Kahn (251) ~~BD~~ 26/5/97
Continued from Page 1

ment expected Kahn to provide the necessary support to help fight crime more effectively.

Kahn said he felt "strong, relaxed and flattered" by the appointment, which would free Fivaz of administrative burdens and allow him to concentrate on managing policing.

"Initially I viewed the position with lots of fear ... It is fairly traumatic for me to leave the breweries for two years." However, had managed to work up a "little bit of confidence". Referring to Kahn as one of the pri-

vate sector's toughest and most able managers, Mbeki said Fivaz and Kahn would work out the parameters of the new command structure under Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi's direction. Kahn would be responsible for the R11bn police budget and would manage its human and physical resources.

SAB said Kahn's secondment to government had been approved by its board. In his absence, Cyril Ramaphosa would become acting non-executive board chairman and Selwyn MacFarlane, deputy breweries chairman, would become acting chairman on the board's general purposes committee. Group MD Graham Mackay would assume full executive responsibility.

KAHN

Fivaz unveils figures of promoted cops

By Josias Charle

THE office of the head of the South African Police Service Commissioner George Fivaz has released figures indicating the number of police officers promoted in the last two years

In an interview with Fivaz's spokesman director Joseph Ngobeni, Sowetan was told that since 1995 more than 89 000 police officers have been

promoted

In 1995 there were 59 979 promotions and last year 29 222 officers got new ranks. Of the last figure, the promotion of 2 918 was halted due to lack of sufficient funds and relevant posts, Ngobeni said

In 1995, a total 33 179 black officers were promoted. Others were 20 559 whites, 4 077 coloureds and 2 064 Indians. In terms of promoting

senior officers, posts were being advertised internally and externally allowing people with relevant experience and particular requirements to apply, said Ngobeni

He said the matter of transforming the new police service did not rest with Fivaz alone. "He is in constant consultation with the Minister for Safety and Security Mr Sydney Mufamadi as well as the secretary of the department Mr

Azhar Cachalia"

Other stakeholders were also being consulted on a regular basis, Ngobeni told said

"To have a legitimate police service, consultations on matters like promotions are a must, and this process is going very well"

Ngobeni said that in terms of promotions, the police service was way ahead compared to other government

departments which are still grappling with transformation issues

He said that in two years, his department amalgamated eleven previously separate police services, each of which used to have its own policy and culture

"While it has not been a smooth run, we have certainly made inroads and we are reasonably happy with the way things are shaping up"

(251)

Sowetan

26/5/97

Fivaz urges new CEOs for prisons and courts as well

Call to consolidate crime war

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

Durban – The Government's groundbreaking decision to appoint a chief executive for the SA Police Service should now be extended to the courts and prisons to consolidate crime-fighting initiatives, says Commissioner George Fivaz.

He has welcomed the appointment of brewery boss Meyer Kahn to head the service, saying it will free him to do the job he was hired to do

This view has been echoed by analysts, who maintain that Mr Fivaz's authority has not been curbed. Instead, they say, the commissioner has been empowered in his role as a crime-fighter

"Fivaz's powers are explicit both in the constitution and the Police Act. We see the delegation of responsibilities as a sign of good leadership," said Maxwell Mulaudzi, spokesman for Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi

This appointment and the lifting of the police recruitment moratorium last Thursday were "a step in the right direction", said Mr Mulaudzi

ARG 26/5/99

Mr Fivaz said the appointment was an opportunity which should be afforded to all government departments within the criminal justice system, which was struggling to handle increasing SAPS arrests

"Already many hardened criminals – out on bail – have been arrested on fresh charges without having been tried on initial charges," the commissioner said

Mr Kahn, South African Breweries group chairman, will take over the administrative role in the police for two years

He will spend two days a week with police during July before taking up his position on August 1. He will report to Mr Mufamadi and the president's office

Police said Mr Kahn's tasks would mainly be administrative support duties, as well as human resources and logistics management

The initiative for the civilian appointment came from Business Against Crime, which has enthusiastically supported the announcement

Business Against Crime chairwoman Wendy Lucas Bull said

(251)
yesterday that the new development signalled a focus on business involvement in combating crime – "what we believe is the key to solving the problem"

Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, who announced Mr Kahn's appointment at the weekend, said "Our selection of one of the private sector's toughest and ablest managers – and his willingness to answer the call – underscore the new era of partnership between the public and private sector to end the scourge of crime"

SAB's corporate affairs department said former African National Congress secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa would become acting non-executive chairman of the SAB board, while group managing director Graham Mackay would assume full executive responsibility during Mr Kahn's police secondment. Deputy chairman Selwyn MacFarlane would become chairman of the general purposes committee

■ Mr Kahn, in 31 years at SAB, turned the operation into one of the top four brewing companies in the world, with an annual turnover exceeding R37-billion

SAPS accused of dragging feet on affirmative action

(251)

'After three years everything is the same'

Star 27/5/97

(178)

By JOVIAL RANTAO
Cape Town

Parliament's safety and security committee has attacked the South African Police Service management for lack of transformation and non-implementation of affirmative action.

Committee chairman Rapu Molekane expressed concern yesterday after senior members from the police management made presentations to the committee. "Your presentations are empty. They don't address transformation at all. They don't say what is being done to ensure there is visible transformation

"They don't address the

problem of affirmative action and the shifting of resources for that purpose. They are vague. It has been three years now and the service is still the same," Molekane said.

Assistant commissioner Zelda Holtzman, head of the SAPS's equity component, told the committee that very little had been done in affirmative action because the process of compiling an affirmative action policy had been a long one.

She said the process had been delayed by objections from the SA Police Union, which wanted the implementation of affirmative action to be subject to negotiations with unions.

Assistant Louis Eloff told the committee that members of

the SAPS's change management team were currently in the provinces assessing progress and holding workshops.

"There is a higher level of service at stations and units where equality has been institutionalised," Eloff said.

■ It was revealed yesterday that 25 056 policemen, from a force of 136 000, had only a Std 8 qualification or less. The number of ordinary civil servants in the employ of the SAPS with Std 8 or less was 6 284.

The committee also heard that the police would require R12-million to resolve its internal communication problems by extending the areas reached by Pol-TV, the police internal TV channel.

'Sleeping giant' can win crime war - Kahn

By **MIKE MASIPA**
Crime Reporter

The SA Police Service is a sleeping giant which only needs to use its available resources effectively to win the war against crime, says newly appointed SAPS chief executive Meyer Kahn

Kahn, who starts his duties in August, said "I am thrilled to have the kind of support already shown to me by the police management. But I believe we have spent too much time managing the past. We now need to manage the future, and that we should do well."

He was speaking after a meeting with national Police Commissioner George Fivaz in Johannesburg. The mood at the

joint appearance was jovial, with Fivaz and Kahn hugging and joking.

The South African Breweries boss and Fivaz were bombarded with questions on how they planned to map the way forward for a service which is increasingly under public and government pressure to deliver.

Kahn is contracted to take over the police administrative duties for two years and will report to Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi and to the president's office.



Meyer Kahn

Credited with turning SAB into one of the top four breweries worldwide, Kahn said he intended to use "the old tried and trusted way that stood me in good stead in the past" to turn the SAPS around.

Fivaz said Kahn's appointment would enable him to focus entirely on crime-busting initiatives, but he warned that people should not be naive to believe a single role-player would turn everything around without proper co-operation.

The appointment has been met with widespread approval across the political spectrum and business bodies. The two main police unions - the SA Police Union and the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union - also praised the step.

Star 27/5/97 (251)

Calls grow for probe into prison raid

(251) Star 27/5/97

BY MELANIE-ANN FERIS

Widespread calls for an independent commission of inquiry into a raid at Pollsmoor prison in the Western Cape at the weekend have been supported by the SA Prisoners' Organisation for Human Rights (Sapohr)

Friday's raid was held to search the premises for four handguns and two grenades allegedly smuggled into the prison by warders

The search team came up empty handed, but prisoners alleged they were assaulted and robbed by members of the team who performed the raid.

Another nine-hour search, which ended early yesterday morning, was held after a tipoff

that the arms were still inside the prison. The items were not recovered

Meanwhile, Pollsmoor prisoners, human rights organisations and the Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, Njongkulu Ndungane, have called for an independent investigation into Friday's happenings

Sapohr president Golden Miles Bhudu said he believed a third force whose intention it was to cause disruptions in the Department of Correctional Services was responsible for the situation at the prison

"If the prisoners had retaliated to the assaults, there would have been chaos. This third force would use this to show that blacks are not qualified to run the prison," Bhudu said

He said another indication

of the third force's activities was the number of prisoners who escaped by using keys

Bhudu added that prisoners would have to rise up against incidents of brutality if the department did not react favourably to Friday's events.

He has called on the department to suspend those involved in the alleged assaults

Western Cape correctional services spokesman Eddie Johnson said last night the situation at the prison was calm

"The prisoners realise that the Pollsmoor warders were not involved in Friday's raid. They also realise the danger the handguns and grenades pose to them."

The tipoff about the alleged smuggling of arms into Pollsmoor by warders had not come from inside the prison, he added

Kahn and Fivaz enthusiastic after meeting

ED 27/6/97 (251)

Stephen Laufer

NEWLY appointed SA Police Service (SAPS) CEO Meyer Kahn met national commissioner George Fivaz yesterday and proclaimed the "start of a new partnership" between Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi. Fivaz and himself Kahn said he had the highest

regard for Fivaz's policing skills and those of many in the SAPS. They needed to be re-energised, and although help would be welcome from any quarter, it was premature to talk about drawing in further private sector skills.

Too much time had been spent managing the past, Kahn said. The task now was to manage the SAPS's future. Thus he intended

doing with tried and tested management systems, combining the right structures and people with the correct allocation of resources and a great deal of energy, motivation and passion for the job.

Once he had taken over at the SAPS in August he would devote every minute, every hour, every day to policing, Kahn said. A team in which he had "absolute confi-

dence that they will look after my baby" would run SA Breweries (SAB) for the two years he was with the SAPS.

He would spend the interim clearing his desk at SAB and familiarising himself with his new challenge. Fivaz had already given him a mound of paper to read, and the answer to the crime problem was perhaps to "drown the crim-

inals in paperwork", he quipped. Fivaz said he was "thrilled" by Kahn's appointment as it would allow him to focus on core policing responsibilities. While it was not to be expected that a single player would bring crime rates down alone, he had great confidence that Kahn would make a major contribution by improving resource use and allocation within the service.



The SA Police Service's new top team met in Braamfontein, as designated CE Meyer Kahn, left, hosted national commissioner George Fivaz

Picture ROBERT BOTHA

New police order: be nice to journalists

(251) ARG 27/5/97

It's not just the crime wave that worries the police; they care about their image, too.

According to proposed guidelines for communicating with the press announced yesterday, SA Police Service members must treat journalists with courtesy, dignity and respect – even if they are provoked

“The use of foul language or derogatory remarks of any nature in the presence of journalists is strictly prohibited,” say the guidelines

The media has the right to approach any member of the police force for information – and get something other than a “no comment”.

Instead, police officers should explain why certain information cannot be disclosed, it was suggested

“Members should refrain from making frivolous and irresponsible statements to journalists that may be quoted and used to create a negative perception of the police”

The 26-page document also warns officers to refrain from criticising the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, the Government or any state department

The guidelines have been through a consultation process in the police force.

They are now in the hands of Commissioner George Fivaz and his boss, Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi, for approval

Sapa-AP

Police vague on affirmative action

PARLIAMENT'S safety and security committee has attacked the S.A. Police Service management for lack of transformation and for not implementing affirmative action.

Your presentation are empty, said committee chairman Mr Rapan Molekane after senior police commander had appeared before the committee. "They don't say what is being done to ensure that there's viable transformation. They don't address the problem of affirmative action and the fitting of resources for that purpose. They are vague."

Acting commissioner Ms.elda Holtzman, head of the SAPS' equity component, told the committee that little had been done in affirmative action because compiling a policy had taken a long time. — Political Staff

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~~ET~~

ET 27/5/97

Union still wants Fiyaz out of the SAPS

By MIKE MASIPA

Crime Reporter

Star 29/5/97

The Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) will go on with its campaign to have police commissioner George Fiyaz ousted despite the appointment of Meyer Kahn to manage the SAPS.

The Government announced the appointment of SA Breweries boss Khan on a

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two-year contract as chief executive officer of the SAPS last week.

Popcru secretary-general Jacob Tsumane said that Fiyaz's role was not clear after Kahn's appointment, so he should resign.

He said the campaign to remove Fiyaz would continue and there could be a full-blown strike if Fiyaz failed to go by the end of next week.

Crackdown on racist cops

Pledge to punish old-style police who won't toe line

SEPH ABRAHAM
OF REPORTER

Police management say racism in the
force is still at "disturbing" levels
and they are poised to take radical
action to stamp it out.

One of the first targets is the Cape Town
radio control centre, whose staff may be
sent on rehabilitation courses.

The service's race and gender trouble-
shooter, Zeldá Holtzman, who is national
head of the equity component, says the
police are serious about combating racism
and management will get tough on those
unwilling to conform.

Yesterday, Assistant Commissioner
Holtzman, her Western Cape counterpart
Jenny du Plooy and the commanders of the
radio control centre, Ferdi Coetzee and

Greg Goss, met to discuss how to reduce
racism at the centre in Pinelands, which
was revealed by the Cape Argus.

Race relations at the unit reached a low
point when it was found that white staff
answering the 10111 emergency lines
washed phones with disinfectant after
Xhosa operators had used them.

Other allegations are that white person-
nel call their black counterparts "swart-

man" and "swartvrou" and that the use of
racially derogatory terms over the police
radio network is widespread.

Ms Holtzman said cases were being
investigated against members, who would
face disciplinary proceedings.

But the overall solution would include
rehabilitation courses, diversity training
and courses on gender and race sensitivity.
Mechanisms would be put in place to get

to the root of racism and if this included
changing the working environment at the
unit, it would be done.

She said she was optimistic solutions
would be found but she was extremely dis-
turbed at the extent of racism in the police.

"Unfortunately some members are still
caught in the logjam of the old police force
and have not made the transformation to the
new police order," she said. "Those unwill-

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ing to conform will face severe sanctions."
■ Another Cape Argus investigation,
into the wheelbarrow death of a Khayelit-
sha woman refused emergency medical
treatment, has been raised in Parliament.
Health Minister Nkosazana Zuma said she
had asked the Western Cape provincial
administration to investigate the death of
Thobeka Madaya.

Picture, page 6



MEYER KAHN & THE POLICE

A manager, not a Messiah

Bold as it is, government's hiring of SA Breweries' boss to head the police is just the first of several steps that must be taken if we are to beat back crime

Meyer Kahn's accession to the police leadership is almost certain to bring swift improvements in the manner of policing in SA. We feel confident in saying that for three reasons: the proven managerial qualities of the man, the virtual absence of cohesive leadership in the police service and the near-universal public support for Kahn's appointment.

He is justifiably renowned as a no-nonsense leader of SA's largest, and one of its most dynamic, industrial groups. With 105 000 employees and diverse operations in beer, hotels, retail and manufacturing, and with a turnover of R37bn, SA Breweries is comparable to the SA Police Service in size and scope.

The police service, as everyone knows, is in a parlous state. It would be naive to expect anyone to turn it into an efficient and effective organisation until well into the next decade, if at all — let alone in just the two years of Kahn's secondment.

But the good news, as Kahn himself suggests in an interview with the *FM* this week (see *FM News Focus*), is that the police are so disorganised that it is possible to make tangible improvements almost instantly, simply by applying basic managerial procedures at police stations and in the chains of command.

This is borne out by an independent study of the Pietersburg police station which indicates policing problems generally are caused less by a lack of manpower or equipment than by the virtual absence of modern management practices and training, poor accountability and outdated technology (see *Current Affairs*).

Some of these problems can be quickly remedied, others will take more time. But it needs a Kahn to unravel the furious whirl of ineptitude that has been preventing these solutions from filtering through the ranks.

The greatest challenge to Kahn's success is likely to be the bureaucratic fog of the civil service. Will the business manager be able to apply his profit-honed methods to an organisation as hierarchical, diffuse and procedure-driven as the police?

This is why public support for his appointment is

crucial. It should give Kahn the kind of leverage which a mere director-general (or police commissioner) does not have, to penetrate, or circumvent, much of the red tape. Being a special, nongovernment appointment, with direct access to Deputy President Thabo Mbeki — the nearest we have to a Prime Minister — is also bound to strengthen Kahn's arm.

The fact is — and everyone concerned knows this — SA cannot, dare not, allow Kahn to fail. Much domestic and international confidence depends on his succeeding, if only in part, in putting the police on a road to recovery.

Mbeki's choice of Kahn, after consultation with Business Against Crime, was a bold and inspired choice, and we heartily join in the applause.

But at the same time we caution for the need to keep perspective. It is indicative of our nation's despair over crime that it should cling with joyous hope to the appointment of one man to manage the police. As Kahn himself says: "I am a manager, not a Messiah."

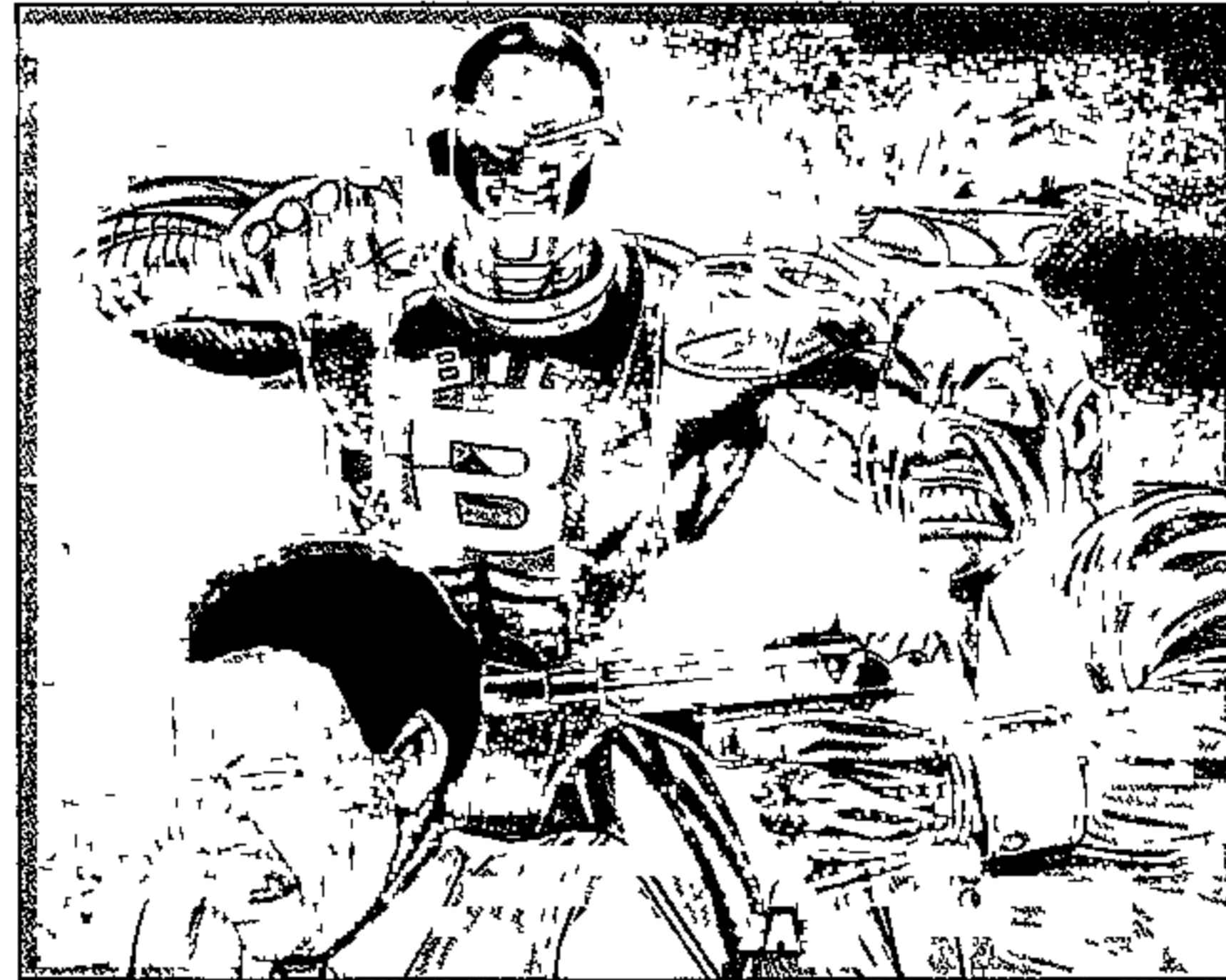
We would do well to remember that the "thin blue line" is but the cutting edge of the war on criminality.

Not for one minute should we fool ourselves that by strengthening a single link in the criminal justice chain we will be able to shackle the multiplex beast.

National Police Commissioner George Fivaz was right in saying that we need "Kahns" also in our justice and prisons services. Every day we read or hear about prisoners escaping, crime dockets "disappearing" and cases failing for lack of evidence, weak prosecution or absent prosecutors.

Our prisons, especially in metropolitan areas, are so overfull that they must release minor offenders to make room for new inmates. Half of them repeat offenders. Overcrowding results in another problem: escapes. Rehabilitation of criminals is practically non-existent. These failures are just as serious as poor policing.

Government has a duty to rectify these ills. But when all is said and done, neither the Kahns nor government officials can beat crime on their own. Responsibility for that rests with all of us. ■



POLICE STATIONS

FM 30/5/97

A breakdown in management

(251)

A study finds bad management, not staff shortages, hobbles city police

The Pietersburg police forum was so incensed about poor policing in the town that it hired a management consultancy to look into causes and recommend remedies for the problem

The two-week time and motion study found that, contrary to police claims, the precinct had more than enough staff and equipment. Usage of police vehicles was at only 61% of capacity

The main problems were outdated man-

agement processes, inefficient use of resources, outdated technology, lack of accountability, inadequate planning and low morale at all levels of management

"The good news," says Krestahague consultancy director Laurie Searle, "is that it would be possible to boost performance of the station quickly without adding staff"

Yet, a few weeks earlier, a provincial police management services group recommended that an extra 130 police officials be brought in to complement the station's 309

The consultancy found that detectives could not account for 38% of their time at work and spent only 13% of the time investigating crimes (see graph)

Fewer than one in 10 cases ever reached the courts

Six officers staffed the radio control room at any time, answering an average of 29 crime calls a day. For half of those calls, it took four hours or more for investigators to respond (see graph)

The officers made no distinction between emergency and less urgent calls — all reports were logged in the same way

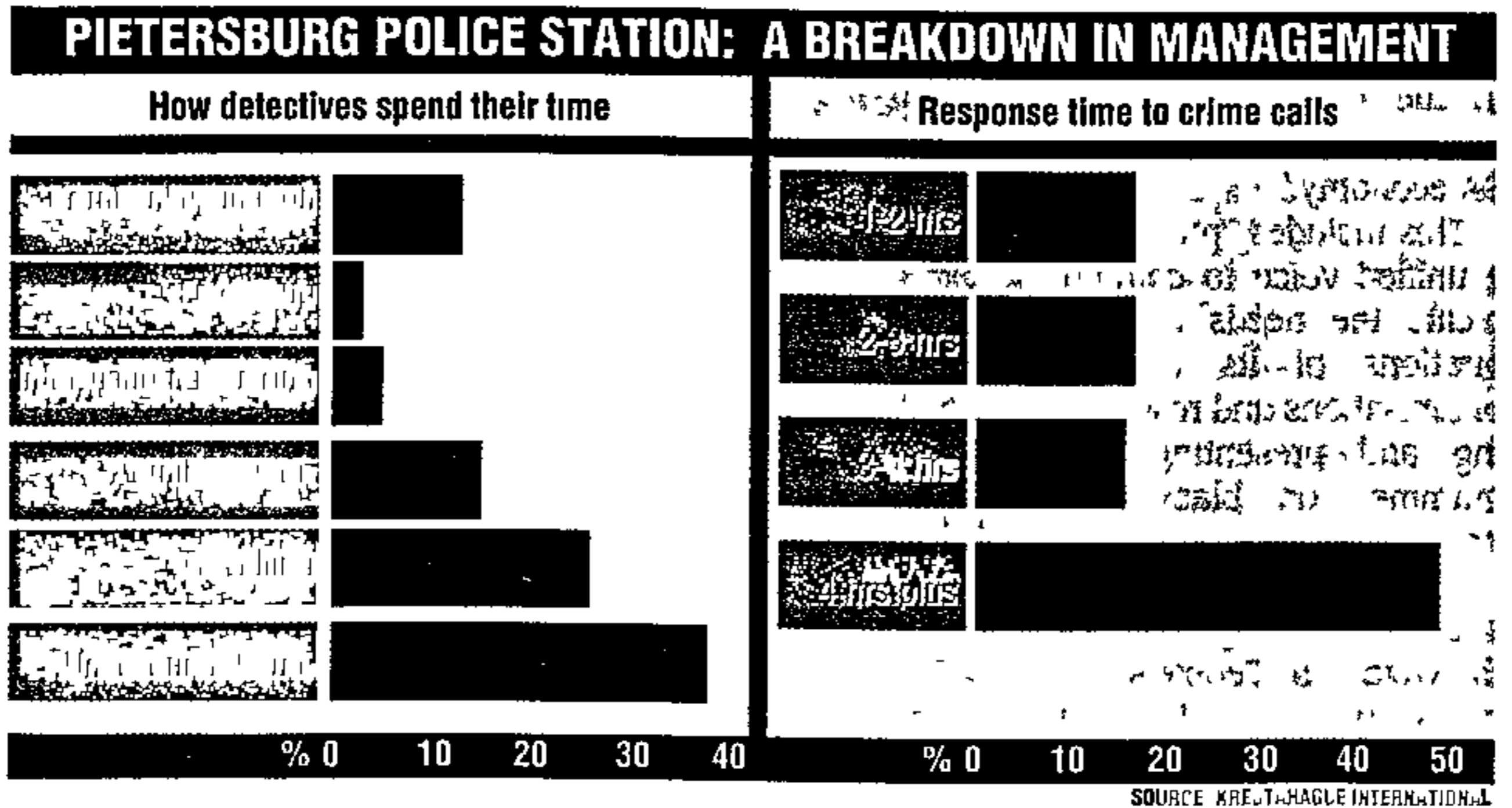
Nearly 80% of the police officers said they knew they were under-performing. About two-thirds of those questioned said they believed their performances could be improved by more than 40%

A spot check of officers on patrol showed that only 42% were in the area assigned to them, 46% were outside of their beats and 12% couldn't be found

Morning parades were generally unstructured, personnel arrived late (some not at all) and none of the active police officers wore their uniforms, the study found

The Pietersburg police forum and the consultancy now want to press ahead with an upgrading programme. When last heard from, they were trying to secure a meeting with newly appointed Police CEO Meyer Kahn

Peter Honey



(251)
Confidence in
SA police drops

EP 30/5/97
MOST South Africans believe the police are less effective than they were two or three years ago, a recent survey has found.

A decline of confidence in the SA Police Service was encountered especially among whites, with 67% saying police were not protecting them effectively.

About 53% of coloureds and 36% of Asians agreed with this view. Among blacks, 38% said the police had become more effective, while 36% disagreed.

The survey was conducted in October last year by the Human Sciences Research Council and the Institute for Security Studies

Overall, 42% of people believed police were less effective, while only 32% held an opposing view.

Researchers said the loss of confidence in the police was serious cause for concern — Sapa

Business methods face public service test

BD 2/6/97

New police boss Meyer Kahn may find that fixing the police force makes the business world seem positively straightforward, writes **Steven Friedman**

(251)

CAN business do for the police what the men in blue have failed to do for business? Or, to put it another way, can Meyer Kahn demonstrate that skills which work in business are also effective in government?

Kahn's appointment is not only one of the more imaginative government moves of the past three years. It also suggests that our leading politicians have bought into an idea which has been floating around the society for a while now — that business skills can solve public sector problems. It is a crucial test for that idea which could also provide a key to how our public service should be run.

The view that business skills can run government functions was particularly current after the 1994 election had business been called in to run parts of the show, it was claimed, the vote would not have been a logistical mess.

And it also had much to do with the appointment, before and after the election, of three businessmen to cabinet posts.

Yet, while business in this country is currently better run than government, it does not necessarily follow that business skills automatically translate into ability to run government functions.

The three business cabinet ministers did not uniformly cover themselves in glory.

One, former housing minister **Chris Shill**, alienated just about everyone involved in the sector and did little to solve the housing problem, finance ministers **Derek Leys** and **Chris Liebenberg** were competent, but were, ironically, less able to drive through market-friendly policies than politician **Yevor Manuel**.

Kahn, of course, is taking up a managerial, not a political job. Yet there are also cases in which introducing business methods into public management has failed.

One example, according to some of its critics, has been the **Post Office**, where the attempt to introduce business school techniques into a public bureaucracy is allegedly responsible for much of the ensuing chaos.

Business involvement in the peace committees which were active before 1994 also produced mixed results. Business resources and skills sometimes helped but often seemed to produce "solutions" which simply confirmed that you cannot use business methods to end political violence.

These examples illustrate some of the differences between public and private management.

In government, political sensitivities must matter. The gun-ho "getting things done" approach can work in a business responsible only to its shareholders and clients — both of whom can take their business elsewhere.

However, in a government which must be responsible to the entire society, it does not necessarily work. Methods which concentrate more on reaching a target than on taking as many influential groups along towards it could do more harm than good.

The principles which underlie a business are also different to those

in a democratic political system. The head of a business is the boss, entitled to issue orders to employees — politicians or public servants in a democracy are employees of those they are meant to govern. Business leaders who give orders can expect to be obeyed — politicians and officials who do this may be voted out of office, resisted or rejected.

The two often have different cultures: the sorts of people who work in post offices may not be amenable to behaving in the same way as people selling insurance. And police officers may not be very good at behaving like sales managers.

Also, business is about voluntary exchanges: companies have to deal only with those who have the money to buy their products and wish to do so. Government must often deal with people who prefer not to be dealt with. The conse-

quences are crucial — generally and for policing in particular.

Businesses do not have to sell goods to people who cannot pay for them. Governments may face severe conflict if they do not supply some services to people who will not or cannot pay. And, while businesses can ignore people who do not wish to buy, the police, like tax collectors, cannot ignore miscreants who do not wish to be caught.

The key point here is there is an automatic link, accepted by all

involved, between business and by those whom they deal with, making the relationship fairly manageable.

There is no necessary link between government and those whom they govern — it is up to governments to create it and this can be much harder than managing a business.

This means bringing business methods into government can provide nasty sur-

prises for those who try it — the people to whom the methods are applied may well find many unexpected ways of evading them.

In short, anyone who simply tries to apply successful business methods to public service problems in a complicated social and political environment is likely to come a cropper.

None of this means necessarily that Kahn — an enormously successful business executive — cannot do the police a power of good, for there is another way of looking at the issue.

This is to see management as a set of skills — an ability to solve problems, to take shrewd decisions, to motivate people — which can, with imagination, be applied to any organisation.

Here, the reason for bringing in a business manager is that the person concerned has shown that he can manage. He should therefore be smart and imaginative enough to work out ways to apply his skills to very different circumstances.

In this view, a good business manager taking on a public service function would realise that the two are different and adapt his managerial style to come up with new approaches suited to the new task.

Kahn is, therefore, now taking on a challenge very different to those he has mastered in the past. He will find that there is fa-

more in his new job that is beyond his control. As police commissioner **George Fivaz** has implied, he cannot force prisons to continue to hold those whom police arrest — and even now our prisons service is at least as much of a problem as the police. Nor can he stop complex politics deciding how much money he will have to take action.

And, to cut a much longer story very short, he will find that the sorts of problems the police face — internally and externally — may make even the most complicated large business seem positively straightforward.

He may also find that the only way of tackling these problems is to, at least in part, throw away the business management manual and to find new ways of dealing with problems.

Given all this, his appointment is not only a crucial phase in the attempt to tackle crime, but may also tell us something important about how to manage our public service. If one of our most respected executives cannot find a way of translating business managerial skills into effective public sector management, we will know that government is far more complicated than many in business believe and that it can be managed only by people specifically trained in — and skilled at — government.

Yet if he succeeds, he will have shown there is nothing wrong with our public sector that a large helping of management savvy cannot cure — and that government needs fewer people skilled in writing intricate position papers, and more who know how to get things done.

□ *Friedman is director of the Centre for Data and Statistics.*

R260m for system to keep track of criminals

02 3 | 6 | 97

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Wynndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — More than R260m has already been provided for phase one of an information system which will be able to track criminals from arrest to imprisonment and ultimately release and parole.

This emerged when a team from the National Crime Prevention Strategy (NCPS), including national commissioner of the SA Police Service George Prins and secretary for safety and security Azhar Cachala, briefed seven parliamentary committees on progress in the fight against crime.

Answering a question from De-

mocratic Party MP Douglas Gibson, the head of the NCPS, Bernie Fanaroff, said Finance Minister Trevor Manuel had committed R267m "up front" for the Enterprise Process Information System (EPIS). Gibson had suggested that unless the ambitious plans of the NCPS had been costed and budgeted "they will not happen".

Fanaroff, in reply to a further question from National Party MP Sheila Camerer, said there was also R43m in the pipeline for the new automated national fingerprint system. Fanaroff agreed with Camerer that this was a vital component of the reform of the criminal justice

system and the creation of an integrated approach. He said tenders had been sent out two months ago, but the awarding of the contract had been delayed when the tender board had returned the tenders to the companies for "comment".

This meant that the tender process would not be completed until the end of July. He declined to offer an opinion on the actions taken by the tender authorities.

Fanaroff told the assembled committees of safety and security, justice, intelligence, welfare, correctional services and status of women, that tenderers for the first phase of the criminal justice projects would

have to demonstrate that they had successful experience of putting integrated criminal justice management systems into place.

Updating the committees on the work of the NCPS, Fanaroff said the transformation of the criminal justice system from its present components — police, courts, prisons and welfare — could not be achieved overnight. Many changes would be completed in two or more years, while the long-term goals would be achieved in the new century.

Cachala, in his briefing to the committees, said the NCPS was rapidly being transformed from theory into concrete results, with

more than 24 crime-prevention projects launched during the past year. The NCPS had targeted crimes such as illegal firearms, vehicle crime, corruption in the criminal justice system, crime against women and children and commercial crime.

"The NCPS minister's committee meets regularly to review progress and make sure enough resources are available to keep the NCPS on track. The operational work of the NCPS is handled by the co-ordinating mechanism, a committee made up of officials from the NCPS departments who have been assigned responsibility for the various programmes," Cachala said.

Lack of money, staff hampers policing efforts

ET 3/5/99

(251)

POLITICAL STAFF

A LACK of money and full-time staff were the major obstacles in implementing the government's policies to stamp out crime, a special sitting of five parliamentary committees involved in the National Crime Prevention Strategy (NCPS) was told yesterday.

In an assessment of the NCPS, Safety and Security Secretary Mr Azhar Cachalia said government departments made people available on a part-time basis to work on projects.

"We need more fully dedicated expert help from the departments," he said.

He said the nature of co-operation as envisaged in the NCPS and reflected in the Department of Safety and Security's attempts to build links between NCPS departments over the last year, represented an entirely new way of running government.

"We would argue that our cluster of departments in the criminal justice area is setting the pace on co-ordination, but we're making mistakes and learning as we go along," he added.

He said the NCPS was being rapidly transformed from theory into concrete results through more than two dozen crime-prevention projects launched during the past year.

Cachalia said most of the projects undertaken since the strategy was approved by the cabinet in May last year focused on reforming the criminal justice system.

Leaders of interdepartmental project teams gave detailed briefings to the committee on progress in implementing the different programmes.

Among the NCPS criminal justice programmes are the creation of a new integrated fingerprint system, improved court management, tighter prison security, a victim-empowerment programme and better bail administration.

The most ambitious effort was the Enterprise Process Information

Crime syndicates better organised than business

TYRONE SEALE

EDINBURGH: Some of South Africa's criminal syndicates were better organised than companies, Safety and Security Minister Mr Sydney Mufamadi has told European investors.

He is addressing about 550 delegates at the Europe-SA Business and Finance Forum in the Scottish capital. The forum, of which Deputy President Thabo Mbeki is patron, brings together European investors, some of SA's largest businesses and representatives of national and provincial government.

Finance Minister Mr Trevor Manuel is heading the government delegation, which includes several cabinet ministers and their provincial counterparts.

Mufamadi said that in the past three years the government had been aiming for quick gains in crime while "our vision

remains focused on creating favourable conditions for a sustained uplift on crime."

The political transition however had created ideal conditions in which indigenous criminal and organised foreign syndicates could operate. For example, Bulgarians had recently been apprehended in connection with the theft of about 20 vehicles, and a Purron syndicate had been identified in a similar case involving a similar number of vehicles.

Until recently a firm in the North West Province had been operated by a syndicate that included nationals from SA, Botswana, Britain and India.

"You can see this syndicate is clearly better resourced than some of the companies operating in South Africa," Mufamadi said.

Vehicle hijacking, and attendant violence, were exacerbated by the demand in neighbouring countries for stolen cars. — IFS

Management programme, which would re-engineer the handling and tracking of cases from arrest to prosecution to prison and rehabilitation.

Cachalia said the tender for Phase One of this project would be published this month.

Besides the criminal justice system projects, the NCPS departments had initiated projects that would focus on priority crime areas such as firearms, vehicle crime, corruption in the criminal justice system, crimes against women and children and commercial crime.

Cachalia said the border control programme was an important example of how the strategy

would deliver improved crime prevention by co-ordinating the actions of the relevant government departments.

In April, the cabinet approved an NCPS task team's proposal to cut down the number of border posts open for bulk commercial traffic from 95 to 34 points before the end of the year. Strict procedures would be established at border posts and a unified border control command structure embracing immigration, customs and border police would be created.

"This will replace the fragmented system, which has proved vulnerable to smuggling and transnational criminal organisations."

Punished for beating crime

CT 4/6/96

(251)

HAVING THEIR area declassified as a "red area" may be a "feather in the cap" of the police members concerned, but not if they suffer financially for it. **ROGER FRIEDMAN** reports.

THE the hardworking policemen and police-women of Nyanga, Guguletu and Manenberg have been rewarded for helping to reduce crime in the first quarter of the year by having police management declassify their communities as "red areas" - and cancel their R300 a month special allowances.

Although the allowances are not called "danger pay", the criteria used to define red areas suggest that this is largely what the allowances are.

And with such areas as Woodstock, Kuils River and Bellville now on the list, questions are being asked about how the list is compiled.

Senior Nyanga- and Manenberg-based police officers told the Cape Times yesterday that the loss of allowances had seriously affected morale at their stations.

The director of a non-governmental organisation (NGO) in the policing field said the measure seemed counter-productive, and as "indicative of poor police management".

Official police spokesman Senior Superintendent John Sternberg said he realised that morale could be adversely affected, but that a shortage of funds had



OUT OF POCKET. Constable Thomalele Nomqalo (foreground) and his Nyanga-based colleagues are no longer paid a special R300 monthly allowance for working in a "red area", apparently because they proved too good at their work.

PICTURE BENNY GOOL

available resources as the situation changed. Sterrenberg said the Fed area list was re-evaluated every three months, using set criteria, including crime levels and the number of

attacks of attempted attacks on members of the police. Being removed from the list was not a punishment, but a "feather in the cap" of the police station concerned.

Nyanga station commissioner Director Gannef Daniels said the loss of the allowance had come as a huge blow to his staff, the lowest-paid of whom took home less than R1 000 a month after deductions.

"We set ourselves goals to reduce crime, and since January the crime rate has been going down. In the past three months crimes against businesses have come down by 50% and murders by 25%."

"Obviously we are pleased with our successes, but it is a pity that one of the results is a percep-

tion among members that they are being punished for doing a good job. I have raised the issue at our area commissioner's meeting, and hope that the criteria governing who should receive allowances will be re-evaluated."

Daniels is responsible for policing in Nyanga East, Philippi East, Brown's Farm and Crossroads.

Although he did not say it, one of the reasons for the drop in reported crime in his area could be Project Ithemba — the experiment in sector-policing launched earlier this year, which he will submit as an MBA thesis.

The street-level project has been run by Nyanga police in partnership with the Nyanga community and the Urban Monitoring Awareness Committee (Umac), an NGO.

Umac director Mr Stef Snell said that while he understood the need for creating incentives in the police service, "they must be managed more imaginatively, so that they don't become counter-productive."

"We, and others, have invested big resources to assist in the transformation of policing in Nyanga. They have achieved an overall 20% reduction in crime, and now they get dropped."

"It is indicative of poor police management. We can only hope this is the kind of area where Mr Meyer Kahn (the beer company executive recently appointed to oversee police management) will be able to make a difference."

Snell added that he thought it "very strange" that Bellville and Kuils River could be considered redder than Nyanga and Guguletu,

and he questioned the criteria being applied by police management.

The head of pro-active policing at Manenberg police station, Captain Jonathan van der Rhee, said the loss of allowances "definitely" affected morale at the station. The Manenberg police station serves Manenberg, Tamb Square, Heideveld, Surrey Estate and Green haven.

"What these guys are saying is 'Surely the majority of crimes in Woodstock are crime-against property and not against people. Why should the Woodstock members get the allowance and not us?' Crime in Manenberg has come down, but there is still a stigma attached to working at the Manenberg police station," Van der Rhee said.

Joining Woodstock, Kuils River, Bellville, Mitchells Plain and Khayelitsha on the red list are such notorious upcountry hot-spots as Kwa-Thema, Katlehong, Tokoza and Hillbrow.

They see themselves as being penalised for doing a good job.

Death and drudgery on the beat

M+G 20-26/6/97 (251)

There is a growing gulf between what is important to those at the top of the police force and those at the bottom, reports **Tangeni Amupadhi** after two weeks at a police station

CONSTABLE Mbekeni Mthetwa died for a car. Minutes before his shift was to end on the evening of May 26, the 34-year-old officer was called out to a west Johannesburg suburb. He walked into gunfire from a Riverlea house where the suspected car thieves were hiding, and took two bullets in the head.

Sergeant Joshua Williams, a fellow officer at the General Johann Coetzee police station in Newlands, was on his way home with his wife, Ursula, when he heard on the police radio that an officer had been shot.

Against his wife's wishes, Williams spun his car around and raced to the scene. He found three people lying on the ground with bullet wounds. One, the man whose car was stolen, was already dead. Mthetwa, his pulse weak, was dying.

Constable Mangizi Nukeri, who had accompanied Mthetwa to the original car theft incident, stood frozen in shock. "He did not even recognise me, but we have worked together for years," Williams says.

People in the street were shouting at Nukeri to call an ambulance for the third victim. "They were threatening to assault a man who was so traumatised he could not even move," Williams says. "They didn't even care about the policeman who was dying." As he drove home, Williams prayed Mthetwa would hang on, but the stricken officer did not make it to the hospital.

Williams told his shocked wife "Every morning when I kiss you good-bye, don't expect me to come home. Because, next time, it may be me."

On the Monday Mthetwa died, the public eye was firmly focused on businessman Meyer Kahn. The South African Breweries chief had just been appointed chief executive of the South African Police Service — a two-year secondment widely lauded, especially by Kahn's business peers. "Undeniably this is the most difficult job of my life," Kahn told the *Citizen* newspaper.

His plan, however, was simple — to apply the same principles to police stations, like General Johann Coetzee, that he has employed in a business empire which ranges from Castle Beer to OK Bazaars.

Kahn, after meeting national police commissioner George Fivaz that Monday afternoon, added that the police needed "shock treatment to get the process going".

The following day Williams was called to a robbery. He arrived a few moments after the robbers had shot the shop owner and fled, leaving him for dead. At that point Williams, who joined the force eight years ago, decided it was time to get out. "It is not the first time I have seen people die, but this time it got to me. I became stressed out. The image of blood flowing from the heads of other people is so sickening." The incident underlines what many

in the police see as a growing gulf between what's important to those at the top, and what really matters at the bottom. At the top it has recently been about Kahn's appointment, or the continued friction between Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi and Fivaz, or the correct monthly intervals between releasing crime statistics.

At General Johann Coetzee and stations like it across the country, it's always been about poor pay, poor prospects, racism and a public that doesn't care. "When a policeman dies, Mufamadi and Fivaz do not send messages of condolence," says one constable, "but they jump at the slightest opportunity to criticise us. The government treats the police as if all of us were involved in third force activities. They are all useless."

The station is one of Gauteng's busiest, handling more than 20 suburbs which include some of the province's richest such as Northcliff and one of its poorest, Westbury.

Westbury is the so-called coloured township from which, people joke, Gauteng numberplates got the initials GP (gangsters' paradise) because criminal syndicates command much of the territory.

The station's 109 police officers serve at least 300 000 people. Five years ago, it had 300 officers. Shifts had 30 uniformed officers in previous years, they now have one-third of this number.

The task of doing more with less falls to station commander, Senior Superintendent Marius Morland. A bulky man in his late-thirties, Morland is a career policeman with an easy smile whose door is open to any of his officers.

Recently he introduced a shift arrangement which cut chronic absenteeism at the station — a problem blamed for the police's lacklustre performance.

And while Fivaz is being rapped for not employing the services of former New York police chief William Bratton, Morland is quietly putting to work Bratton's techniques of "zero tolerance".

This means coming down hard on even the pettiest crimes — such as urinating in the street, which draws a public indecency charge.

Ironically, Morland believes it is the main product of Meyer Kahn's industry that should take much of the blame for crime. So drunks are routinely thrown into the police cells to sober up in a four-hour internment.

Shebeens are also hot targets. Last weekend, officers spent eight hours pounding on several of the region's busiest illicit bars. Deputy station commander David Oliphant, who masterminded the raids, kept the targets to himself until the very last minute — a move mainly driven by his attempts to protect his tipsters. "Let's go out and do pro-active policing," Oliphant beamed. "Pick up anyone who looks like a criminal."



Not a drop more: Police mark up the levels of confiscated alcohol

PHOTOGRAPHS KENNETH MULLER



Senior Superintendent Morland: Believes in zero tolerance of petty crime

Williams broke quietly away after the pep talk to pick up an R-5 rifle. These days, he doesn't feel his side-arm alone is enough to deter criminals with AK-47s.

As darkness fell, the officers moved swiftly among their targets, apprehending bar-tenders and impounding liquor. The shebeens' clients melted away before them, to other shebeens. The tour of the area's shebeens ended in Bosmont, with the officers surrounding and then invading a house where patrons were playing pool, drinking and dancing. "It is not necessary to close this place," one of the team admitted. "These people are professionals and they don't bother anybody."

Nevertheless, the Bosmont bust yielded up five crates of beer, and 40 bottles of whisky, rum and brandy. The owner's wife claimed a bottle of Jack Daniels was a present for Fathers Day. She was advised to buy another.

Morland sympathises with shebeen owners who say they're only trying to make a living. He just wants them to register and behave like legitimate businesses.

It's midday on Saturday. Inspector Rudi van Zyl and Constable Morne Joubert are out enjoying themselves, on patrol in their white van. Their mission varies between arresting drunks, and pouncing on illegal immigrants, with an average catch of 20 a day.

Van Zyl says Morland's station is the best he has worked in during 11 years on the job. He's been here a month, but believes he has found a

home. His other postings included the "Northern Transvaal", the Free State and six soul-destroying months at John Vorster Square — "People don't work together, and nobody laughs" — which almost drove him to resign. General Johann Coetzee has revived his faith in what he is doing.

He is 28, looks 17, and readily admits that he was once a "naughty boy" who has now matured. He does not, however, believe in shaving every day.

Joubert (24), has also found his dream station. He does not even entertain the thought of going back to Parkview or any of Johannesburg's northern suburbs — Newlands has been his home for two years, and has so much more to offer than the "boring" northern suburbs.

"There you get one body in a year. Here you get two in a shift," he grins.

Many of Van Zyl's black and coloured colleagues complain about discrimination. There are no black or coloured officers doing what Van Zyl and Joubert do, and no white officers working in the charge office or cells. Whites get to work on the "third floor" where they are given "unnecessary" administrative jobs. They also drive the smartest and fastest cars. One sergeant argues that putting two white officers on the same shift does not serve the public well.

It doesn't take too long to figure out why. On Saturday's patrol Van Zyl and Joubert nabbed a suspected illegal immigrant and drove him around for two hours. Back at the station they asked a black officer to get the suspect to talk in one of South Africa's African languages. They had

to release him when it became clear he was South African.

Sergeant Williams, the station's shop steward for the Police and Prison Civil Rights Union, says this "small racial incident" shows apartheid is alive in the police. Williams says there are three white officers at the station who refuse to work with their black colleagues.

Constable Thabo Mhlala, who works in the charge office, adds "Sometimes white people come in and ask to see a white policeman. They just don't expect black officers to know what they are doing."

If the daily drag of General Johann Coetzee could be summed up by two characters, they would be detectives Leon Naidoo and Hendrik Wagner. The two are spending the first day of the month, as they always do, wading through administrative work which has to be cleared before they can venture out. Both will quit as soon as good offers come along. "It's not worth being a policeman these days," they say, in chorus.

Their grievances include everything from workload to lack of logistical back-up. They are two of 18 detectives, dealing with an average 600 cases a month. Four years ago there were 35 detectives.

Wagner says getting days off to rest is something of the past. In 11 years on the force Naidoo has taken three months' leave — to study. "If you take long leave or sit back and relax the work will pile up," he says.

He has no time to be with his family, especially his two children, aged three and five. When he leaves home for work at 6am, they are sleeping. And when he comes back home, usually after 8pm, they are in bed. "When I'm lucky to get a Sunday off I'm too tired to take them out. That develops into a family problem."

Each detective puts in up to 80 extra hours a month — it is unpaid because there is no money for overtime. The officers do this because they feel they have to. But they say that senior management don't even meet them halfway. Detectives are expected to use their own cell-phones on duty and to pay for the station's supply of pens, although paper is provided.

Though salaries have improved, the Naidoo family would go unfed if the wife wasn't also at work. Naidoo takes home R1 200. He spends R400 on petrol, most used in the line of duty, and of course he can't claim it back. Such conditions, Naidoo and Wagner add, do not really promote a positive attitude.

Thin blue line advances in

How small police contingent is making streets of

There is only one policeman for every 2 000 residents in Khayelitsha, but the "thin blue line" believes it is winning the war against rampant crime in the densely populated township.

The danger from brazen criminals is acute last week, for example, nine weapons were stolen from the Harare satellite police station during a night attack by robbers.

But the serious crime rate in Khayelitsha has dropped sharply, and the brave men and women of the police contingent there are committed to reducing it even further.

There are only 314 policemen and 14

REPORT

ASHLEY SMITH



senior officers at work in the township, which has an estimated population of more than 650 000.

Since the beginning of the year, 2 499

crimes have been reported, and last week alone there were 76 "high-priority crimes", including three murders, nine armed robberies, four rapes and 18 assaults.

However, Captain Leon Jansen, who heads the 14-strong police crime reaction unit in Khayelitsha, says there has been a dramatic improvement in crime statistics in recent years.

"Weekly crime has decreased from an average 93 cases during last year to about 66 so far this year," he says.

Every night about 7pm, members of the unit take to the streets to confront the dangers lurking in the burgeoning community.

During their 12-hour shift they will be

called on to respond to murders, rapes and assaults, among other crimes.

Most of the crime occurs during the night over weekends, when revellers can turn shebeens into bloodbaths, Captain Jansen remarks, before asking me whether I want to drive in a bullet-proof vehicle.

"It gets pretty dangerous out here," he warns after I decide to drive with Sergeant Hein Viljoen, Constable Vukuza Ntombukana and Constable Luthando Hedeni in their unarmoured vehicle.

When Sergeant Viljoen joined the crime reaction unit he was fresh out of Bishop Lavis police college.

peril safer

ARG 5/6/97

Now, three years down the line, he is able to recount scores of harrowing experiences in the battle against criminals in Khayelitsha.

Asked what his most traumatic experience as a policeman had been so far, Sergeant Viljoen unhesitatingly replies "The N2 horror smash last month."

Constable Ntombukana, also a veteran of three years in the unit, lives in Khayelitsha and describes every night on patrol as dangerous.

Sergeant Viljoen says there has been a dramatic change in the community towards the police, with more people coming forward to assist in investigations.

Durban policemen strike, take hostages

BD 5/6/97

Farouk Chothia

(251)

DURBAN — Seven hundred Durban policemen went on strike and held four people hostage at the KwaMashu police station yesterday when a campaign against "ghost workers" resulted in them not receiving salaries.

SA Police Union (Sapu) secretary Bill Dennis said police management had decided to pay May salaries by cheque rather than into bank accounts to ensure that payments were not made to nonexistent policemen. The cheques were still "in the mail".

About 700 policemen in KwaMashu and Umlazi had embarked on a wildcat strike and police stations there were closed. Police spokesman Bala Naidoo said only KwaMashu had been hit by the strike. The strikers were receiving payments in cash last night.

Naidoo said four police employees had been locked up at the KwaMashu police station.

The four, who had gone to advance money to the strikers, were released later. Dennis said they had aggravated the situation by addressing the strikers on rules which required them to end the strike.

He said the anger of strikers had been fuelled by deductions for accommodation in officially provided housing. Some policemen who did not live in such accommodation faced deductions.

Another two deductions were made to rectify earlier errors.

Sapu had requested an urgent meeting of the national negotiations forum, but the request had been turned down, Dennis said.

Radical surgery Kahn's only likely option

HERE is a tinge of desperation to many of the latest jokes about the appointment of SA Breweries (SAB) chairman Meyer Kahn as police CEO by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi.

Someone has finally been put in charge who at least knows how to organise a booze-up in a brewery, goes one story often told in sorrow rather than in mirth.

After increasingly heated demands for more police resources, the humour signals a growing public understanding that many of the greatest challenges lie in learning to manage resources better. But there may be more to Kahn's job than a simple ability to make beer trucks and patrol vans run on time.

His appointment is one of Mufamadi's more inspired moves precisely because it has brought home the earnestness of the managerial crisis facing the SA Police Service (SAPS).

Announcing the appointment in the same week as a qualified lifting of the moratorium on recruitment sends an important signal to the police and the public alike — the age of professionalism is upon the SAPS.

This means that even if Kahn is able — as all assume he is — to bring private sector sense to the control and spending of the R11bn police budget, judgment of his SAPS tenure will have to be based on a broader analysis of his successes in transforming the service.

The easy part will be identifying logistical and managerial inefficiencies and rectifying them. Rapid progress can be expected on the outsourcing of large budget items such as fleet and information technology management, and bringing civilians into the administration, projects the SAPS has toyed with but where real progress has been slow.

As one of SA's most successful businessmen, Kahn is obviously well aware of the technical and human complexities of turning the lumbering blue tanker in the direction of professionalisation. His rapidly achieved backslapping rapport with SAPS commissioner George Fiyaz indicates that winning the hearts and minds of the incumbents in Pretoria, the SAPS headquarters in Pretoria, is a key element of his strategy.

Kahn needs the co-operation of the top brass because without them he will have difficulty navigating the intricacies of the current system. But while they will be key to his restructuring of management systems because they can help him unlock the existing assets and resources trapped within the Byzantine bureaucratic web, Kahn may find that he will need fresh blood to progress significantly in the crucial area of changing the ethos and attitudes at the heart of the SAPS.

First, he will have to define the nature of his relationship with Mufamadi and secretary-at-large Azhar Cachalia. Further meetings on the exact demarcation between the three top officials at Safety and Security — Kahn, Cachalia, and Fiyaz — will be necessary once Kahn has started work in July, we are told.

Meyer Kahn may find changing the ingrained ethos and attitude of the SAPS his most difficult task. Stephen Lauffer looks at the possible solutions



Plotting the future, new police CEO Meyer Kahn and Randburg crime prevention officers. There is a growing public understanding that many of the police's greatest challenges lie in learning to manage better the resources available to them



The problem is that few outside the magic circle of Mufamadi and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki were privy to the wooing which convinced Kahn to take the job. So there is still little clarity about his exact area of responsibility, or the extent of his authority.

Fiyaz will concentrate on hardcore policing, Kahn on managing the rest, including human resources, the formula

and a massive preponderance towards desk jobs.

Will Kahn be able to redeploy, or will Fiyaz argue against — or more likely, given the recent history of the SAPS, be deathly slow in implementing his moves on operational grounds?

More critically, Kahn will quickly discover that one of his four strategic pillars, structure, will require him to make wide-ranging proposals on the realignment of the SAPS around service delivery to the public. This could put him at loggerheads with the men whose job is the operational policing side. He may find, for example, that public order police, usually held in reserve, would be better used for visible policing under local station commanders. Senior officers interested in an ability to field riot squads might argue differently.

Kahn says leadership is key to his four-point strategy. But the demands he is used to making of top managers may go beyond what many in the current crop of senior officers can handle.

This is not necessarily a reflection on any individual, nor is it to discriminate against the policing skills of many good cops. But it is an inescapable truth that the best and brightest from the Afrikaner community — from which the vast majority of senior police officers has been drawn in the past 50 years — stopped going into the police once the private sector opened up to them in the 1960s.

Before 1994, 70% of police time and resources were spent on keeping the political situation under control. This left many senior officers without the classic forensic, investigative and organisational skills found in police services around the world.

More important, many of the technically best top brass formed their approach and attitudes to policing within a very specific political framework. While some have been successful at shaking off the old ethos, others appear deliberately to have let the reins go slack, accepting that the resultant upsurge in crime will damage efforts to build a democratic SA.

So Kahn would be well advised to address an idea long mooted by foreign policing experts and often grappled with by the safety and security ministry. Attempts at civilianisation have failed,

to alter the work ethic and attitudes inside the police, because the proponents of a radically different culture have not been serving officers.

The push for change has come from a small, peripheral body — the secretary-at-large — and has left the SAPS hierarchy of all colours cocooned.

In the face of established traditions, even well-meaning officers like Fiyaz have lacked the imagination or strength to go beyond lip service to the new policing approach to transformation, the time has come for a radical departure through a transplant of new skills and attitudes.

Unlike Defence Minister Joe Modise, Mufamadi has not had 14 000 recruits from the anti-government forces of old — many of them committed to a democratic SA through years of opposition to apartheid — from which to choose a new senior officer corps.

The combination of the herring moratorium and a radical reluctance by former ANC and Pan Africanist Congress activists to join the police has left the SAPS to look inward for its leadership.

But what is needed are officers deeply committed to democracy, transparency, human rights and the delivery of a service to the community. Officers whose socialisation has been in the broad movement for democracy and human rights in SA, and not in a corps used to oppose the aspirations of the majority.

The police differ from the private sector because they provide a monopoly service in wide areas.

Instead of clients with a choice of suppliers, most communities have no choice but to depend on the police for safety and security, and all depend on them for crime prevention and detection.

Kahn may find that the only reasonable solution lies in radical surgery, bringing in a whole new leadership from the civilian sector to replace every officer from area commissioner upwards and the commanders and their deputies in every specialised field like the detective corps.

This approach will require careful planning, recruitment of people experienced in a number of other walks of life, thorough training for the new leaders, and a programme which maintains the motivation of middle-ranking officers and rank and file SAPS personnel, who are already unhappy at the SAPS' archaic systems of promotion and mobility.

The answer may lie in a special lateral entry and rapid promotion programme. Perhaps 150 men and women from outside the public service and an equal number of younger, more junior officers inside the SAPS could be recruited.

To ensure this new officer corps has the necessary hard policing skills, they will have to receive thorough training from outside instructors, perhaps from the better Commonwealth police academies. A year or longer's training would provide enough time to work out a soft and amicable landing for the current senior incumbents asked to make way for the new.

Popperu to apply for court interdict

(251) Star 5/6/97

Attempt to stop action against members participating in 'mother tongue' campaign

By Gill Gifford
Crime Reporter

The Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union will today apply for a High Court interdict to prevent police management from taking disciplinary action against Popperu members participating in the union's "mother tongue" campaign.

Popperu general secretary Jacob Tsumane said Popperu was "busy with lawyers" to ensure members could "exercise their rights by writing and talking in their home

languages at work".

Tsumane said several members who had used their home languages in verbal and written communication had been charged with defeating the ends of justice, and one policeman in Carletonville had been suspended.

Although exact figures were not available, Tsumane said disciplinary measures had been taken against almost 20 Popperu members from the West Rand, Eastern Cape, North West Province, Potchefstroom and Kimberley. "The mother-tongue cam-

paign has been publicised as a protest action, but this is not true and the matter has been blown out of proportion," he said.

"We are not trying to frustrate police departments or use our rights as a weapon. We just believe that statements are more accurate when taken down in the language used in the investigation."

Tsumane said Popperu members had previously worked in English and Afrikaans as a compromise, but had decided to withdraw their co-operation after police com-

missioner George Fivaz failed to react quickly to a union memorandum sent to him a few months ago.

"We requested Fivaz to meet us and discuss an anti-crime campaign document, the restructuring of good resources and police leadership at provincial and area levels, but he did not respond," said Tsumane.

The request was resubmitted to Fivaz's office in April, and the commissioner replied with a scheduled meeting date. "We were not able to meet

him at the time he suggested as we were busy in Kimberley. We decided instead to go ahead with the planned mother-tongue action and call for Fivaz's resignation," Tsumane said.

Between 25 000 and 30 000 Popperu members are expected to participate tomorrow in a city march from Popperu's President Street offices to the Library Gardens, where a memorandum requesting Fivaz's resignation will be handed over to a representative from Deputy President Thabo Mbeki's office.

100 free BMWs stalled by red tape

A socially responsible car maker decides to donate vehicles to the SAPS and an almost unbelievable tale of tragi-comic bureaucratic buffoonery follows

By **TYRONE SEALE**
Edinburgh

If there is such a thing as a free lunch, it probably falls short of State Tender Board regulations. Thus is the moral of the donation by BMW SA of 100 Beemers to Gauteng police last year.

The tragi-comic tale of bureaucratic interference in a high-speed show of corporate social responsibility has found its way to Scotland, where Business Against Crime (BAC) chairman Wendy Lucas-Bull has shared the yarn with European investors.

As lunchtime speaker at the third annual Europe-South Africa Business and Finance Forum in Edinburgh, Lucas-Bull raised a good few (nervous) chuckles from disbelieving financiers. The plotline, briefly Gauteng

police complain they have too few vehicles for effective policing, and where they do have the wheels, these often cannot keep up with slightly racier getaways. In steps BAC and, before anyone can say "social responsibility", BMW offers a fleet of new cars, free of charge. Everyone's happy - except

Stripes on body not regulation width

Wendy Lucas-Bull, whose telephone rings in her office on a day overcast with official intransigence. On the line is a senior police officer saying the offer is all very nice, but in terms of State Tender Board rules, the police can only use vehicles

that have been the subject of a round of tendering.

The BAC chairman then attends four meetings in Pretoria where safety and security officials insist the donation has to comply with tender regulations.

Lucas-Bull changes down a gear and approaches Trade and Industry Minister Alec Erwin, who suggests that BMW offer the cars as a loan. Lucas-Bull sorts this out somehow.

Two days later, her phone rings. Again, it is the senior policeman, with a new problem because the cars are on loan, they are not entered in the register of state assets, so the police won't be allowed to maintain them. Lucas-Bull sorts this out somehow.

Then the phone rings. Same officer, new problem: because the cars don't appear on the register of state assets, they

cannot be insured. Lucas-Bull sorts this out somehow.

Then the phone rings. Same officer, new problem because the cars don't appear on the register, the policemen and women driving them will forfeit their group life insurance. Lucas-Bull sorts this out.

And one fine day, the newly commandeered fleet is paraded through the streets of Johannesburg to show off the partnership between business and the police. The phone rings.

Same officer, new problem: the cars need to get off the road, because the striped markings running down the sides of the bodies don't meet the standards laid down in police standards regulations. "But don't worry I've sorted it out," the officer told the relieved Business Against Crime chairman, and the motorcade proceeded. - Star Foreign Service

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Cops take superiors hostage after delay in salary payouts (251)

DURBAN: Protesting Kwamashu policemen released three senior police officers late yesterday afternoon after holding them hostage over non-payment of salaries

All Kwamashu policemen went on strike yesterday morning because some had not received their May salaries

Police said an administrative hiccup caused a delay in the delivery of about 30 policemen's salary cheques.

The striking policemen said the excuse was unacceptable and demanded an inquiry.

Senior Superintendent Mel van der Vyver was among the three officers who were prevented from leaving His

vehicle tyres were also deflated, apparently by protesting junior colleagues

Van der Vyver said he did not feel his life was in danger at any stage.

The drama unfolded at 7.30am when about 150 policemen toyi-toyed outside and inside the complex and demanded immediate payment

An arrangement was made by the provincial SA Police Service office and the cheques were later delivered

Some of the protesters, smelling of liquor, became abusive when a journalist tried to get their version of the event. Earlier, the protesters blocked entrances to the premises and deflated the tyres of several cars — Sapa

ET 5/6/97

stade

Red tape ensnares 100-car gift

PRETORIA: The SA Police Service hopes to eliminate bureaucratic bungling and the mountains of red tape which stall even the most well-intended offers of help

Superintendent Leon Englebrecht, spokesman for the police's crime prevention and reaction units, was commenting yesterday on a series of obstacles which hindered the use of 100 BMW cars — donated to the police — in the fight against crime

Ms Wendy Lucas-Bull, head of Business Against Crime, on Tuesday told amused delegates to a conference in Edinburgh, Scotland, about the series of problems which arose in getting the police to accept the BMWs

Lucas-Bull said shortly after the donation was made, an official called to complain that the correct

tender procedures had not been followed in the purchase of the cars. She explained that the cars were a donation

The same official called back a while later to say the issue was still unresolved, as donations had to be declared and the correct procedures had to be followed

After a lengthy conversation it was decided instead to lend the cars to circumvent the red tape

Soon thereafter the matter took a fresh turn when the official called Lucas-Bull and told her that there was still a problem. Because the state did not own the vehicles, the government couldn't insure them

This problem was resolved when a business took out insurance on the cars

But a further problem arose. The policeman driving the vehicles

were not covered by insurance because the vehicles were not state-owned. This problem too, was eventually resolved through negotiation

Englebrecht, under whose division the vehicles resort, said after checking the accuracy of Lucas-Bull's remarks "It is precisely this kind of bureaucratic bungling and red tape that we are hoping will be sorted out with the arrival of Meyer Kahn (group chairman of SA Breweries who has been seconded to the police)"

Englebrecht said he had experienced great frustration due to red tape standing in the way of getting things done in the service

It was unacceptable that obstacles be placed in the way of using gifts such as the 100 BMWs, Englebrecht said — Sapa

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KEEN TO SERVE: Thousands of people wait outside Durban's CR Swart police headquarters to apply for posts offered by the SAPS

PICTURE: NATAL MERCURY

Thousands flock to apply for police jobs

PRETORIA: Thousands of job-seekers flocked to police headquarters yesterday in response to advertisements in Sunday newspapers about a police recruitment drive

More than 3 000 job-seekers, most of them clutching CVs, queued in Pretoria for application forms

In Durban at least 6 000 aspirant policemen converged on police headquarters for the 1 200 national posts offered.

At times the situation threatened to get out of hand, and the Public Order Policing Unit was called in to monitor the situation

Western Cape police human resources management head Director Colin Sherriff said last night that local reaction to advertisements for recruitments in the city had been less enthusiastic "than in

other centres".

"Ours was not too bad — we have been getting a lot of telephonic inquiries, but not so many visits to our offices," he said.

He said 10 specialised units — such as the Child Protection Unit and forensic laboratory — had been identified as key areas for recruitment.

However, because of the nature of the units most successful applicants would probably be experienced detectives, who would be replaced by other police members — who then would be replaced by recruits.

Sherriff stressed that many of the jobs on offer were vacant posts and had not been specially created — which meant that public concern about higher expenditure was unfounded.

The national advertisements followed the lifting of the moratorium on police recruitment by Minister of Safety and Security Mr Sydney Mufamadi two weeks ago

Only 40 people were needed for specialised positions such as forensic engineers and investigating officers, but an unspecified number of police officials were also needed, said the head of police recruitment, Captain Rachel Steyn, in Pretoria.

She said pandemonium broke out when one policeman tried to issue all the job applicants with the necessary forms

Inspector George Mokabela said: "I was pushed around and they almost stampeded trying to obtain the forms from me"

The recruitment drive, the first of its kind, requires applicants to

complete the necessary forms and post them with a full curriculum vitae to Pretoria West Police College

Applicants began converging at the door as early as 7am to obtain application forms, police spokesman Captain Morn van Wyk said

Mr Philip Senoelo, who has been unemployed for three years, said: "I saw the advertisement on Sunday and at about five this morning I was already on the doorstep of YK/Building."

Police officials at YK/Building spent the rest of the day issuing application forms, Van Wyk said

However, a spokesman for the police human resource department in Gauteng, Superintendent Strini Govender, said the vacancies were for "specific people with certain

qualifications"

He added that the posts were for stations throughout the country. People with the necessary qualifications would be posted in the detective services, fingerprint department, ballistic unit, family violence, child protection and sexual unit or the forensic unit

"These areas have been identified as key areas. The applicants will have to meet certain requirements," Govender said

Several applicants in Durban said the SAPS needed the extra manpower to put an end to spiralling crime

"Judging from the number of people pitching up today, they are sick and tired of the crime," Chesterville resident Mr Zwelakhe Duma said — Own Correspondents

(251) CT 10/6/97

Polmed asks for R400-m to meet debt

POLITICAL STAFF

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AALC 11/6/97
The corruption-plagued police medical aid, Polmed, has asked the Government for R400-million to cover its budgetary shortfall.

Polmed's chairman, Deputy Commissioner Gert Swart, warned in Parliament yesterday that Polmed's 131 000 principal members, some of them retired, would have to contribute if the Government could not make the funds available.

It emerged yesterday that of the 556 cases of fraud being investigated by the commercial branch and Polmed detectives against police, doctors and pharmacists, there had so far been only three convictions.

Among the cases of fraud brought to court was that of a Pretoria doctor who had appeared on 13 100 charges of fraud believe to involve nearly R1-million.

Deputy Commissioner Swart told Parliament's portfolio committee on safety and security that a new administrator of the medical aid would be announced tomorrow.

A task team including representatives of Business Against Crime had been formed to find short, medium and long-term solutions for the medical aid

New administrator for police scheme

CAPE TOWN — The process of appointing a new administrator for the police medical aid scheme (Polmed) would be finalised when the tender was awarded tomorrow, Gert Swart, deputy commissioner of the SA Police Services' (SAPS) human resources department, said yesterday.

Briefing the National Assembly's safety and security committee, he said an investigation had shown the current administrator was not fulfilling its tasks. With the new administrator Polmed would move 20 years ahead technology-wise, Swart, who is also chairman of the Polmed board, said.

Restructuring Polmed management would result in total savings of about R210m in the 1996/97 financial year

Polmed's investigation team was investigating about 100 cases of fraud totalling between R13m and R18m. Sixteen investigations had been completed and three people found guilty. Investigations into fraud in Polmed were being aided by doctors who were beginning to report offences by other doctors and even their partners.

Swart said important short- and long-term decisions included whether to make Polmed a separate receiver department, co-responsibility of members for payment and contributions, and the social responsibility of the SAPS as an employer.

Funding principles should be based on a fixed per capita budget as opposed to fixed benefits, he said — Sapa

Mandela tells union to think

BD 11/6/99
Nomavenda Mathlane

(251)
ALTHOUGH the meeting between President Nelson Mandela and the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) was cordial, it did not stop Mandela from criticising Popcru, the union said yesterday.

A Popcru delegation handed in a memorandum calling for the dismissal of National Police Commissioner George Fivaz and demanding the use of "mother tongue" language for suspects' statements.

Popcru general secretary Jacob Tsumane said Mandela told them to think about the ramifications of Fivaz being fired and come back to him — two days before their next meeting, scheduled for next month — with answers of what they would do in case things went wrong in the country. He said Mandela told them he appreciated their frustrations, but did not believe their actions would advance their cause or efforts to bring security to all citizens.

Team probing police corruption

Fivaz orders civilian investigators to take over

JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTER

The task team set up to investigate allegations of police corruption and complicity between criminal justice officials and Cape Flats gangsters has been disbanded.

Team spokesman Fazel Kader said this was decided at a meeting he had last week with national Police Commissioner George Fivaz

The disbanded team's resources and investigative capacity would be transferred to the newly formed civilian investigative unit, the Independent Complaints Directorate

The team, which was led by crack Johannesburg detective Willem Minnaar and Senior Superintendent Kader from Pretoria, was set up by Commissioner Fivaz last year to support the local police in their fight against corruption in the criminal justice system

There was a general perception among several community and anti-crime organisations at the time that some local police officers were colluding with gangsters.

Superintendent Kader said the task team had been nothing more than a temporary measure while the police waited for the Independent Complaints Directorate to be put in place

"Now that it is up and running, there is no need for the specialised task team to carry on operating as it would be a duplica-

tion of work

"The directorate's mandate is almost exactly the same as our's was and all the local detectives attached to the task team will now work for it," Superintendent Kader said

Members of the team, founded in September, alleged that senior Western Cape policemen hampered investigations

Local officers were accused of destabilising the team's work by withholding vital information about cases

(251)

The team was also severely under resourced, they said, and several requests to Commissioner Fivaz for more equipment - firearms, bullet-proof gear, motor vehicles and cellphones - had been unsuccessful.

Even so, members of the team helped uncover a smuggling operation at Pollsmoor prison, exposed a policeman for selling a case docket to an accused and handed several case dockets to the Western Cape anti-corruption unit

Riaz Saloojee of the complaints directorate said he was aware of the closure of the national task team, and said his civilian unit had the capacity to carry on the work.

"We have a very focused mandate to investigate the deaths of individuals in police custody and care, and to look at allegations of misconduct and corruption."

He said the directorate was operational and had moved into offices at 106 Adderley Street, Cape Town, and could be telephoned at 26 0700 and faxed at 26 0705

bad cops

the hunt for

is scrapped

Putting the punch back into policing

Training course boosts skills

APR 21/6/97

(251)

An innovative training programme is helping police change their management style **Jacqui Reeves** sat in on the discussions

Durban - Maritzburg detective **Tobey Govender** was beginning to lose his faith. But now, after attending a management training programme, he feels he can once again "go forward and preach the gospel of the SAPS".

Captain Govender was not being facetious - there were no senior officers in sight that he needed to impress

Captain Govender said he had been "converted" by the course, presented and sponsored by the Wits Graduate School of Public and Development Management and the Danish government

The programme draws together police officers of the same rank from across the country and exposes them to an intensive course of management techniques, ranging from problem solving strategies to a step-by-step guide to better communication

Far from being the usual "talk shop", delegates attend for the boost it will give their curriculum vitae

Course participants are first

presented with theory in as concise a form as possible, then given the opportunity to test it

"We give the delegates the theory and then they go into groups and try to implement the theory in practical problems that they have at their stations," said course trainer Poul Bentsen, a senior superintendent with the Danish police

Senior superintendent Bentsen, who worked in South Africa during the early 1990s as a peace monitor, said a definite change had since occurred within the police services

"While the police realise the enormous odds they are up against, many have still developed a very positive and determined approach to policing, making them keen to learn and participate," he said

Over the past two weeks, delegates have studied topics such as community policing, management, human rights, post traumatic stress disorder, and policing in the future

The terms bandied about during a typical session are sure to make the recently appointed SAPS chief execu-

tive Meyer Kahn breathe a little easier

Since his appointment Mr Kahn has stated that, contrary to popular belief, business has less to do with figures and a lot more to do with people

He added that if one assumed policing was all about people, one should give police the right tools, then ask where they needed to be employed

Sort out the structures, then move onto resources, then look at leadership and motivation, he has also stated in the past

Wits trainer Judy Klipin thinks along the same lines She hopes the course will encourage

police officers to take greater responsibility for their roles within the police service

"These projects are exciting because it exposes people with great potential and interest to a whole new way of looking at their work," she said

Ms Klipin encourages the officers to think more logically and within broader systems

"In the past police management may have sat and wondered why so many of their officers are unable to drive

"At this course we are train-

ing them to think beyond just the initial problem and to identify the root cause of the trouble," she said

Just as many South Africans wanted to know what beer boss Kahn could offer the police, so too are the Danes questioned on what a highly developed, established democracy can bring

"We can only suggest things that have worked for us Obviously there are differences, but the general strategies that helped us succeed can be adapted, and they can be used as a guide not only for the SAPS in general, but to every station at an individual level," Superintendent Bentsen said

Although the course was finalised yesterday, the programme will not end there

Course organisers have adopted the "cascading strategy" at each of the 12 participating stations

The process will be driven by the station commander and two captains from the 12 stations, who will "cascade" their newly acquired skills

The knowledge will be passed on to 72 officers drawn from neighbouring police stations

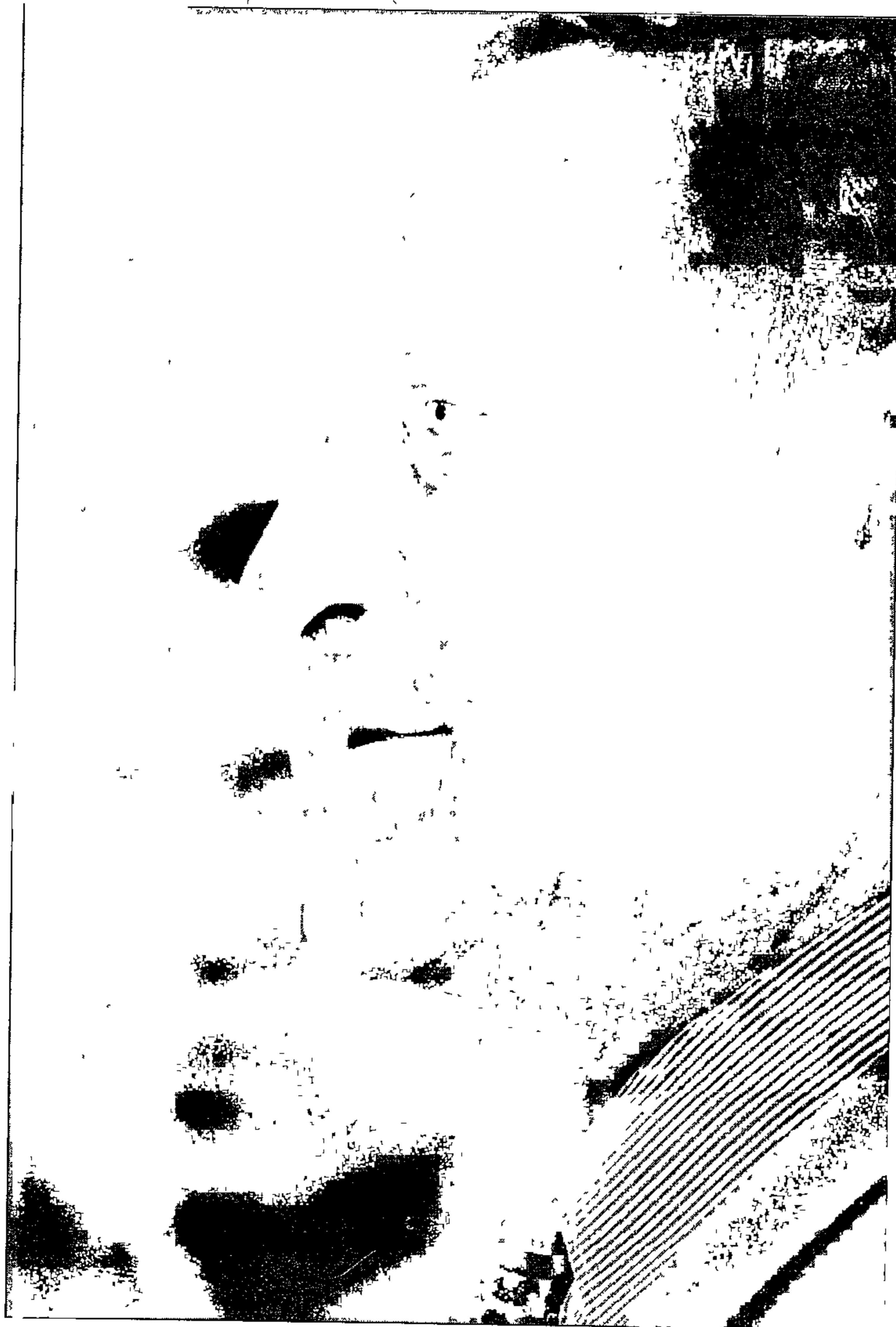
Tutorial sessions, a steering committee and regular progress reports will keep the process going

'These projects expose people to a whole new way of looking at their work'

ARCUS

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Top cop: Meyer Kahn is the new head of the police. His job is to turn around sagging morale and resources

Police square up for dispute over medical aid shortfall totalling millions of rands

By BEKIZULU MPOFU

Several thousand policemen got the shock of their lives when they received salaries slashed to as low as R3,81 in some cases after hefty medical aid deductions were made last month.

Former homeland policemen were worst affected. Most of them belonged to the Bonitus medical aid scheme, which police management said had been grossly abused by both members and service providers, resulting in shortfalls amounting to millions of rands.

Ryno Versters of the SA Police Service human resources in Pretoria

said that in the past, policemen in the former self-governing states received a 100% medical aid benefit for using Bonitus. He said most of them opted for Bonitus instead of Polmed, a police medical aid fund with a limited budget, because they were reaping huge illegal benefits.

"But now the public-service regulation for the police stipulates that if a member chooses to join an external medical aid scheme instead of Polmed, then contributions are their responsibility. Investigations have shown that there has been widespread abuse of the Bonitus scheme by doctors, pharmacists and members in which people claimed for funerals of their relatives.

"This was illegal and as a result there is about R24-million outstanding to Bonitus, which it is claiming from the SAPS."

The National Police Services Union (Napsu), made up largely of former homeland policemen, said it would take to the streets over the issue in Durban today. Napsu president Owen Zama saw it as a plot to force them to join what he called a "financially embattled Polmed."

"When we wanted to join Polmed years ago, central government at the time refused us and we joined Bonitus, from which we have been getting excellent benefits," Zama said. "Now that Polmed has run into a huge deficit, they want to force us to

become its members so that we can contribute to the recovery of the shortfall. To start with, we had nothing to do with the theft and losses and we were not even consulted. We want to remain with Bonitus."

Versters said that even the Polmed scheme was in deep financial trouble and its members might in future have to make a one-third contribution to the fund.

"Polmed has suffered losses over the years and in the near future people will have to start contributing to the fund when we change Polmed rules. With the amalgamation of the police services, there have been many people joining Polmed but the fund is unable to sustain increased

membership," Versters said. Spokesman for human resources management Johan Smal said Polmed's budget had been slashed from R1,6-billion to only R1-billion this year and proposals to have members contribute one-third to top up the difference were being finalised.

The South African Police Union said although the one-third contribution had not been effected, it had declared a dispute and would consider any deductions as illegal.

"We are declaring a dispute for arbitration over the issue. The department has been playing games with us in their response to our demands that the free, non-contributory scheme remains," it said.

Senior police soak up management skills

Wits Graduate School and Danish government showing the way

(251)

Star 21/6/97

An innovative training programme is helping officers to change their style and approach. **JACQUI REEVES** sat in on the discussions

Captain Tobey Govender says he now feels he can once again "go forward and preach the gospel of the SAPS". Surprisingly enough, he was not being facetious - there were no senior officers in sight that he needed to impress - he was being honest.

Govender, a detective from Pietermaritzburg, said he had been "converted" by a management training programme presented and sponsored this week by the Wits Graduate School of Public and Development Management along with the Danish government.

Intensive

The programme draws together police officers of the same rank, from across the country, and exposes them to an intensive course of management techniques that range from problem-solving strategies to better communication.

Far from being the usual "talkshop" delegates descend to attend simply for the boost it will give their curriculum vitae, the Wits/Danish association presents the theory, then tests it in practical situations.

"We give them (the delegates) the theory and then they go into groups and try to apply it to practical problems that they have at their stations," said Poul Bentsen, a senior superintendent with the Danish police and a course trainer.

Bentsen, who worked in South Africa during the early

1990s as a peace monitor, said a definite change had occurred within the pre-democratic police service he first encountered.

"While the police realise the enormous odds they are up against, many have still developed a very positive and determined approach to policing, making them keen to learn and participate," he said.

Over the past two weeks, delegates have studied issues such as community-policing management, human rights, post-traumatic stress disorder, systems organisation, and policing in the future. Sitting in on a session, the terms one hears bandied about are sure to make the



NEW APPROACH: Meyer Kahn would surely approve

recently appointed SAPS chief executive, Meyer Kahn, breathe a little easier.

Since his appointment, Kahn has stated that, contrary to popular belief, business has less to do with figures, and a lot more to do with people. He said that assuming the police service is all about people, one should give them the right tools, and that means structures.

"Kahnist" thought states that little will be achieved with incorrect structures. Assess the type of structure - levels of responsi-

bility, centralisation and decentralisation - then assess the tools you have and where they need to be employed.

Sort out the structures, then move on to resources, then look at leadership and motivation, Kahn has stated in the past.

Wits trainer Judy Klipin thinks along the same lines. She hopes the course will encourage the officers to take greater responsibility for their roles within the police service.

"These projects are exciting because it exposes people with great potential and interest to a whole new way of looking at their work," she said.

Klipin encourages the officers to think more logically and within broader systems.

Adapted

Bentsen added "We can only suggest things that have worked for us. Obviously there are differences, but the general strategies that helped us succeed can be adapted, and can be used as a guide not only for the SAPS in general, but to every station at an individual level."

Although the course was completed yesterday, the programme will not end there.

Course organisers have adopted a "cascading strategy" at each of the 12 participating stations. The process will be driven by the station commander and two captains from the 12 stations, who will "cascade" their newly acquired skills.

The knowledge will be passed on through a structured series of different officers, who will be drawn from neighbouring stations, extending the reach of this course to a further 72 SAPS members.

'Brain drain won't harm policing'

By DEREK RODNEY AND SAPA

Communities, plagued by crime and served by an ever-dwindling number of policemen, have been assured by police management that the current exodus has not affected its service delivery

Acting national commissioner John Manuel said yesterday that although severance packages amounted to R51-million this year, services to the community were not yet imperilled

Manuel's statement came amid alarming reports that more than 3 000 packages had already been approved by police headquarters.

The granting of the pack-

ages soared to R51-million in the past 10 weeks, just R7-million short of the R58-million total paid out in the entire previous financial year.

A total of 3 087 applications, consisting mainly of white officials (77,6%), has been approved since May 1

Of these, 1 794 were white men and 602 white women, 528 black men and 11 black women; 85 coloured men and six coloured women; and 57 Indian men and four Indian women

Eleven assistant commissioners, including five headquarters-based national commanders, have also taken packages.

Manuel reacted to media reports that almost 200 police-

men in the Eastern Cape - including top-ranked officers such as the provincial commissioner, directors and superintendents - have applied for voluntary severance packages in the past few months

"Several measures have been implemented to cushion the community from the effects of many police officials taking very attractive Government severance packages," he said

Manuel added that if such measures had not been implemented, the police would have had to seriously consider cutting back on services

Those accepting packages cannot again be employed by the SAPS or any other state department

Packages cost SAPS R51m

GRAHAMSTOWN — It emerged yesterday that the police financial services division has paid out R51m in severance package deals since April this year — most of it to white policemen and women, SA Police Service (SAPS) human resources spokesman Johan Smal said in Pretoria yesterday.

In the past two-and-a-half months, the total paid out is just R7-million short of the R58-million total paid out in the entire previous financial year.

Since May 1, said Smal, his division had approved 3 087 applications — 2 396 or 77,6% of whom were white. Nationally, 1 147 applications were still awaiting approval before being referred to the finance section. Of these 633 were white men and 200 white women, he said.

Referring to the R51m, Smal

said "only part of that comes from the SAPS budget. The other part is paid out by the National Pension Fund.

"What is most important is that some members whose packages have been approved, have not left the service yet. Their (leaving) dates have been set for a later date up until next year. Once they leave physically, they will receive their package."

He said applications had been approved for one provincial commissioner (the Eastern Cape's Gerrie Bezuidenhout), an assistant commissioner, seven directors, 10 senior superintendents, 28 superintendents, 32 captains, 100 inspectors, and 38 sergeants.

Police national support services spokesman Snr Supt Andrew Lesch said the package deals were the same as for any public

service worker.

SAPS acting national commissioner John Manuel said that although severance packages had led to a severe police "brain drain", the services to the community were not yet imperilled.

"A variety of measures have been implemented to cushion the community from the effects of many police officials taking extremely attractive government severance packages," he said.

Manuel said these included shifting personnel within the SAPS to key service-providing sectors; staggering approval of severance packages in key posts or policing areas; and renewed and focused recruitment aimed at addressing specific personnel needs "rather than the untargeted recruitment practices of the past".

— Ecna, Sapa.

BD 25/6/97 (251)

ED 26/6/97
'Solution to
Popcru protest
(251)

PORT ELIZABETH — A solution to the crisis provoked by the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) "mother tongue" protest may be to use policemen fluent in English and Xhosa as prosecutors

Port Elizabeth deputy area commissioner director Seuna Gouws put this forward at a meeting yesterday called by the Port Elizabeth Area Community Police Board in response to public anger over the release of suspects because of Xhosa dockets.

The meeting was attended by police, justice department officials, state prosecutors, Popcru and various community police forums

On the orders of Eastern Cape attorney-general Les Roberts, case dockets in Xhosa are rejected by state prosecutors as many do not understand the language

Since the beginning of the protest, more than 360 Eastern Cape dockets have been completed in Xhosa, leading to the release of more than 200 suspects from custody while translation and then rearrest is waited for — Ecna

Goodbye to the good cop, bad cop routine

Human rights form a significant part of the new police curriculum, reports **Tangeni Amupathi**

MTG 27/6-3/7/97 (291)

FROM now on police recruits will be trained to be nice to people, replacing the old-style "bandit-chasing". About 200 000 applications have poured in for the 1 300 police posts advertised so far. Training with the new curriculum kicks off in four months' time, after the lifting of the three-year moratorium on recruitment.

Afrikaans has been dumped from the syllabus, and nine other official languages will also not be used. English will be the only medium of instruction. The two police unions have criticised the language decision as arbitrary. They say they should have been consulted on the training policy.

"The curriculum has changed dramatically," said Mike Lombard, the commissioner in charge of basic training, who has been in the police for 20 years. "I'm very excited about it. This is the way the police should be going in a democracy." The new teaching, said Lombard, will aim at instilling in officers the outlook that they can perform their duties without having to shoot

people or to use force without provocation.

Training will aim for quality, as opposed to the large intakes of previous years. This means one instructor will serve 11 trainees, instead of 36.

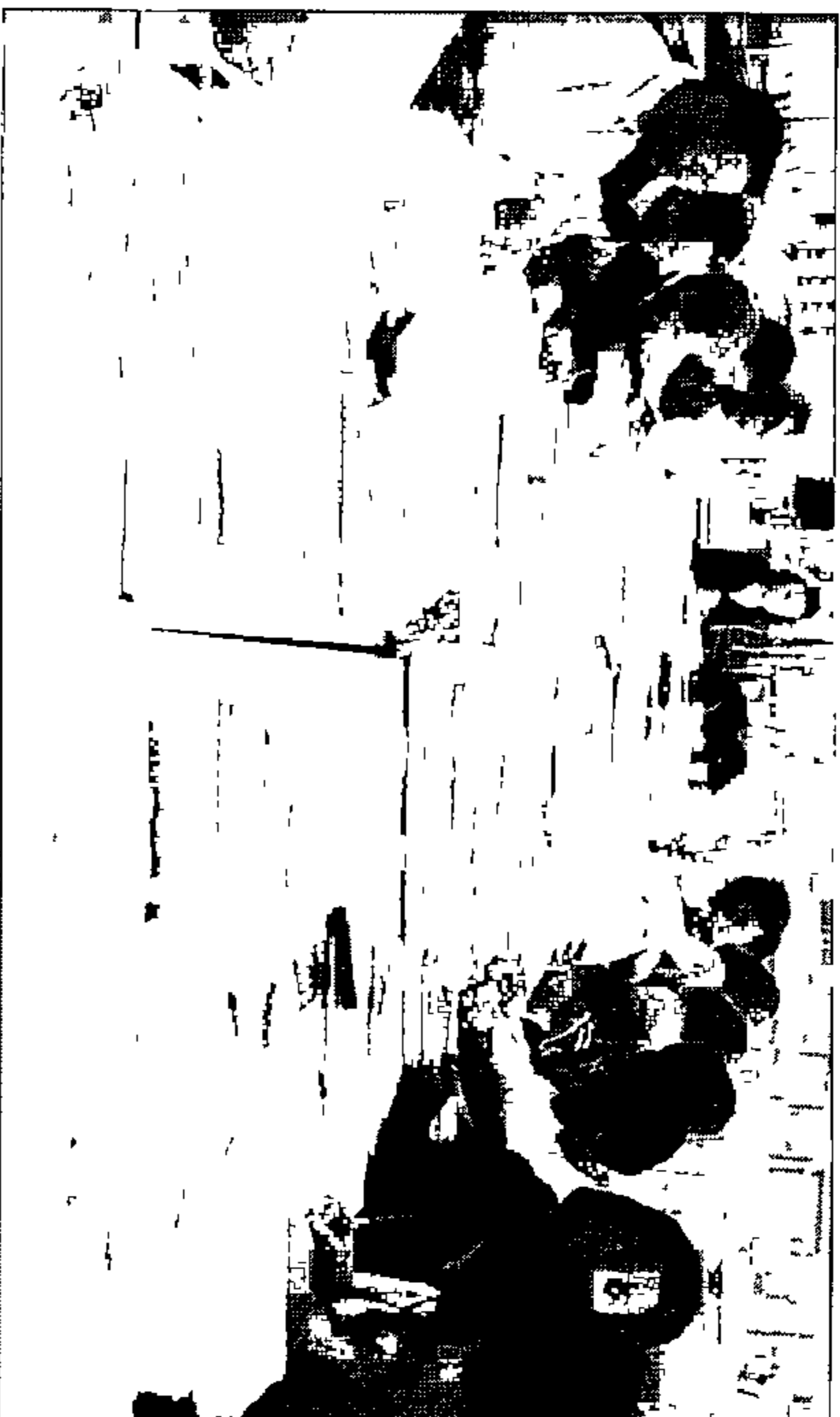
Screening applicants has begun. Lombard said selection will aim to reflect the country's demographics, and 50% of those chosen will be women.

The strict requirements will eliminate most of the aspiring police officers' minimum qualifications include matric plus a driver's licence. There will also be a thorough check of applicants' criminal records, which was not previously done.

The new trainees will be taught when to make an arrest, to what extent to use force and to read suspects their rights before arresting them. The emphasis will shift from physical training to communication skills and knowledge of the country's new laws. "We are going to be community-oriented and [concentrate on] problem-solving," Lombard said.

The curriculum took more than two years to complete and received input from the Human Rights Commission and non-governmental organisations. Guidance was also obtained from 20 countries.

The Human Rights Commission's head of



Piles of paperwork Screening the 200 000-odd applications for new posts

PHOTO: MAGHLETHERON

education, Greg Moran, said the organisation helped the police draft and edit the teaching manual on human rights. The subject is also being taught to officers currently in the force as an incentive for promotion.

"The issue of human rights in the police is of huge concern to us. That is why the police are our number one priority," said Moran.

The new curriculum will be implemented in November for the first batch of 450 recruits, spread out in three colleges.

The college in Pretoria will have the highest intake of 250, although its capacity is 2 000. But its head, Indra Chetty, said this does not mean the college is under-used because advanced

courses are offered to long-serving officers.

The English-only decision has irked the police unions. The Police and Prison Civil Rights Union (Popertu) believes the use of English automatically disqualifies many who might be interested in joining the police.

But Lombard said it would be impractical to use all languages, although trainees will be allowed to ask for clarifications in their mother tongues whenever possible.

The South African Police Union's Peter-Don Brandt said it regards using English only as the opinion of police management, and not as a final decision — because it has not been discussed with stakeholders.

Public's double standards set a poor example

Members of the public need to look to themselves and their actions in the fight against police corruption, writes Talha Syed

STORIES of police corruption or criminal behaviour in today's newspapers quite often focus on police collusion with organised crime, as in car hijacking rings, or assisting serious criminals in the evasion of justice — such as in the case of docket thefts

Such forms of police corruption are also the main focus of the Anti Corruption Unit's (ACU's) attention

Roughly so, since the ACU's resources are limited and there can be little doubt about the necessity to combat practices which have such a devastating effect on the criminal justice system

However, in the fight against corruption, what perhaps has not been adequately considered is the way in which both common social practices and the attitudes and actions of ordinary members of the general public

can have an effect on the extent of police corruption. We need to realise that it is not enough for us to say don't do crime or corruption. We need to stimulate a more substantial intolerance of crimes and corrupt acts committed by others

At the most basic level, members of the public often foster the existence of corrupt practices through their direct interactions with the police. Such corruption occurs when, in return for some type of benefit, legitimate police services are delivered faster or in greater proportion to a specific individual, group or business

One example of this is when, by payment of, say, R50 or a bottle of scotch, a person is able to get a firearm licence application

first step in identifying larger problems, putting the investigative spotlight on corrupt individuals, departments or procedures

An officer speeding up firearm licence applications may also be more likely to sell a docket than one who is not. However, as ACU national director Stefan Grobler said in a recent interview, without active public involvement the chances of successfully detecting and correcting these problem areas are much slimmer

On a broader level, there must be recognition that corruption in the police service does not flourish in isolation, detached from the rest of our society

Ghost workers on government payrolls, apartheid-era sanctions housing, public transport ticket fraud and high profile cases such as the bribery of former homeland officials by business people, all contribute to an environment of corruption and immunity from society's

processed in days rather than weeks. Another example is when a bar owner, in return for providing regular discounts or free meals to officers in the area, knows that he or she can count on receiving better police service, perhaps by way of increased police visibility in the area or more effective handling of troublesome customers

Also, many may think it not so serious when police co-operation in avoiding legal penalties for minor offences is sought, such as offering R20 to avoid arrest for the possession of dagga

Often, such forms of corruption are rationalised by claiming that they are for the sake of improving service or efficiency, or that there really is no victim, and thus no harm is done. How-

rules, where the feeling is everybody else is doing it, why can't I

Any attempt to fully engage with the problem of police corruption cannot abstract it from the larger problem in SA society. Officers immersed in a culture of corruption cannot reasonably be expected to act like saints

Furthermore, we need to acknowledge that a society which values material gain so highly, often above all else, encourages the attitude of getting whatever one can, even through legitimate avenues — as long as one does not get caught. The solution often proposed for this is simply increased monitoring and better detection of corrupt practices

However, in addition to such measures, to effectively combat and prevent corruption, people must recognise the consequences of their seemingly harmless acts and take responsibility for their role in fostering corrupt practices

ever, what is not acknowledged is how by actively soliciting or just going along with such infractions, members of the public are letting officers know that despite the law such behaviour is socially acceptable

These minor incidents may be an officer's introduction to rule-bending, and often have the effect of gradually making further, more serious corruption, easier to contemplate

Also, it is with such practices that some officers may start to increasingly expect some sort of extra incentive just to do their jobs, depending on corrupt funds to supplement their incomes

This can reach the point where officers do not do their assigned tasks, or at least do not do them properly, without some sort of bribery or extortion

In countries such as Indonesia and Pakistan, where this form of corruption is rife — not only in the police service but

in the public sector as a whole — the accepted view is that one cannot expect to get anything done without greasing the wheel

Eventually, even those who deplore them end up going along with such practices, further increasing their perceived legitimacy

In such cases of reluctant participation, for example when one is forced to pay a bribe to get a licence, the least that citizens can do is take seriously their responsibility to report such occurrences. These incidents are the few instances of corruption where there is a disgruntled party or identifiable victim who can provide testimony of the act

Thus, every time someone who is party to such a corrupt act fails to take action, a valuable opportunity is lost

In addition, citizen reporting of these not so serious incidents can lead not only to penalising the officer(s) involved in the specific case, but can also be the

Finally, as a society, South Africans need to explore values other than just material gain. In this regard, with morale in the SA Police Services being so low and frustration so high, the importance of public co-operation and mutual respect cannot be underestimated

Emphasising police responsibilities to and links with the community can prevent corruption without the threat of punishment, by helping to internalise values opposed to such behaviour

The satisfaction received from doing one's job well can provide a form of fulfilment besides material rewards. However, as long as the police feel isolated from what they perceive to be a hostile and unsympathetic public that neither cares to understand nor assist in their work, there may be little in the way of job fulfilment and the temptation to abuse power for gain may prove too great

□ Talha Syed is a researcher in the criminal justice policy unit at the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation

For Police Service

08 27 6 197

NEWS

Police strike looms over unpaid overtime

Department has cash troubles

ARL 27/6/97 (251)

JOSEPH ARANES AND ASHLEY SMITH
STAFF REPORTERS

Cape Flats policemen are threatening to strike because they have not been paid overtime for several months.

But public sentiment is likely to go against them, according to a survey by the Human Sciences Research Council which shows that 60 percent of South Africans believe the police should not be allowed to strike or demonstrate

Discontent is spiralling among detectives at the Steenberg police station, and several other Cape Flats policemen have threatened strike action because they will in all likelihood not get overtime pay because of a lack of funds

Detectives at Steenberg and their colleagues at Woodstock police station have already decided not to work overtime and at weekends – also regarded as overtime – because they are no longer

being paid for extra hours

At a meeting at the Steenberg station this week senior police management told the detectives, some of whom are owed more than R7 000 in overtime pay, that the service did not have the financial resources to pay them and they should take time off instead

Steenberg community policing forum chairman Llewellyn Jordaan said the community was disappointed that the hardworking detectives had not been paid for the overtime worked between November and May.

“As a community we find this appalling and we call on police management to rectify this situation as crime is escalating in the area and we cannot have a situation where we have fewer policemen working the beat,” he said

In the HSRC national survey of 2 200 people, 72 percent of National Party supporters – in the majority in the Western Cape –

voted “no” to dissatisfied police going on strike. Sixty percent of ANC supporters were against a police strike.

The survey showed that 60 percent of men and 63 percent of women polled were against strike action by police

In spite of the constitution and the Labour Relations Act making provision for police to demonstrate, the public are “seemingly more conservative” in their view of this, Ian Liebenberg, senior HSRC researcher, said

The results also showed people were against the army embarking on protests, with 62 percent saying the SANDF should not strike

“The respondents in our study appear to view both security services in the same light. This is, despite the fact that the new Labour Relations Act lists only the police and parliamentary services as essential services,” Mr Liebenberg said

Police medical aid asks for R400-m

Cape Town - The corruption-plagued police medical aid scheme, Polmed, has asked the Government for R400-million to make up its shortfall.

Polmed chairman Deputy Commissioner Gert Swart warned in Parliament yesterday that if the Government could not make the funds available, the South African Police Service would have to force its 131 000 principal members, including retired policemen, to start contributing to the fund

Swart warned that such a move would lead to an exodus of financially pressed members from the force. It would also introduce financial hardships to retired policemen

It emerged yesterday that of the 556 cases of fraud being investigated against police, doctors and pharmacists, there had been only three convictions

Swart told Parliament's portfolio committee on safety and security that a new administrator of the medical aid would be announced tomorrow

He was communicating with the Department of State Expenditure in an effort to secure extra funding from the treasury

A task team of the police, Business Against Crime and Polmed had been formed to determine short, medium and long-term solutions for the medical aid. - Own Correspondents.

~~500~~ (251)

Swart 11/6/97

Police-abuse levels highest in Gauteng

Star 4/7/97

(251)

Independent Complaints Directorate concerned about high number of deaths in custody

By **MIKE MASIPA**
Crime Reporter

Gauteng, already the crime centre of the country, also has the worst record when it comes to complaints of misconduct and serious abuses of human rights by the police services.

The first-ever statistics released by the Independent Complaints Directorate (ICD), a body established in April to investigate and supervise police conduct, had the province recording 117 cases of misconduct over three months.

The cases vary in degree, from death in custody to petty complaints. The total is 31 cases more than the next province, KwaZulu Natal.

KwaZulu Natal had the most cases, 43, when the ICD began its investigations in April. Gauteng recorded the highest monthly toll of 47 cases a month later.

There were 17 deaths in custody in Gauteng in the three months from April, four more than in KwaZulu Natal.

However, KwaZulu Natal recorded 52 cases of "deaths as a result of police action" Gauteng had 38 incidents.

Advocate and ICD executive director Neville Melville said the higher number of complaints in Gauteng and KwaZulu Natal was expected in

view of the size of the population in both provinces.

Nonetheless, the size of the population was no excuse for misconduct on the side of the police, he maintained.

"We are quite concerned particularly with the high incidence of death in police custody and death as a result of police action," Melville said.

"Torture is also still a problem, although there are not many cases coming to us."

Most of the cases reported to the ICD were still under investigation, and the directorate would let the law take its course.

The ICD is concentrating its investigations on a limited number of cases of a very serious nature.

Those of lesser gravity were referred to the SAPS but still remained under ICD monitoring and supervision, Melville explained.

Gauteng police spokesman Director Azwinndini Nengovhela said there might be some renegade individuals with the police service who still used methods such as torture, but the SAPS was prepared to help the ICD.

"What I can say now is that we have a new philosophy of respect for human rights, and that has to be implemented," Nengovhela said.

Big drop in serious crime, says Duarte

Gauteng safety and security authorities claimed yesterday there had been a substantial decrease in serious crimes in the past six months as a result of the continuing joint army, police and air force crime-prevention operations in the province.

Safety and Security MEC Jessie Duarte told a media briefing the murder rate had dropped by nearly 12% despite the highly publicised resurgence of taxi violence which has left at least 35 people dead in Gauteng since May.

Duarte said rape was down about 4%. The figures are for the second quarter of the year compared to the same period last year.

Duarte also claimed bank

robberies had dropped by 26,9% despite the serial robberies in Gauteng in April and May raising the number of bank robberies to at least 60 this year. Other robberies had been reduced by 10,2% Duarte said.

"The decrease can be attributed to the fact that more communities, different government departments, the police and other stakeholders are continuing to work together in making sure that these crimes are prioritised and that appropriate measures and necessary resources are put in place to deal with it (crime)," Duarte said.

Law enforcers had arrested 48 200 suspects for various offences over the past three months - Crime Reporter

Stress, alcohol blamed for more police suicides

Seven deaths in Western Cape alone

CRIME CORRESPONDENT AND ECH

The rising number of police suicides is top priority with police management monitoring stress levels among members after seven suicides in the Western Cape and five in the Transkei since the beginning of the year.

Worst affected appear to be police grappling with the transition of the service in the new dispensation, a senior police spokesman said.

In the latest incident, in Goodwood, a policeman shot himself with his service pistol late at night during an argument with his girlfriend. The spokesman said he felt that police, being exposed to violence in their work and having a gun readily available, were more prone to suicide.

Severe financial problems among lower level police and alcohol abuse were other contributing factors. In the Eastern Cape,

extra-marital affairs, alcohol abuse and poor weapons training have been blamed for the rising police suicide figures, along with violent family relationships in the crime-ridden province.

This "unacceptably high level" has prompted Eastern Cape area police commissioners to set up ways of pinpointing members at risk before tragedy strikes.

Transkei area commissioner Trevor Hayes has set up a 40-strong trouble shooting task committee, which met recently at the Umtata area headquarters to identify the chief causes of personal and family breakdown.

The committee comprises members of human resources management, legal services, spiritual and social services, and representatives of the South African Police Union and the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union.

Commissioner Hayes said chief causes

(251) AAU 4/7/97
pinpointed by the committee were extra-marital affairs, the abuse of alcohol and inadequate training in the handling and use of guns – as well as lack of training for commanders in dealing with personal and psychological issues.

Another was the lack of access to the centralised social and spiritual services which were located in the main cities.

A police source said this made it very difficult for district-bound officers to get the necessary guidance and counselling for personal problems.

The committee identified another cause as commanders lacking the necessary skills to identify and effectively deal with the personal and psychological problems of subordinates. Financial burdens were also suggested as reasons for extreme stress that could have tragic consequences. The committee resolved to provide monthly feedback to the commanders' forum.

City police 'on the cards'

But community cops already a big hit

ANDREA WEISS AND NORMAN JOSEPH
CITY DESK

A metropolitan police force for Cape Town is being considered, but community initiatives to fund additional police are already reaping rewards.

Councillor Chris Joubert, a member of a task team on the formation of a metropolitan force, said such a force was on the cards but it would take a bit longer to establish than some other anti-crime initiatives such as community policing.

He said the municipality was also forging ahead with plans to rationalise all its law enforcement agencies under one umbrella.

Mr Joubert believes the real success story is the partnership between business

and residents which has allowed for the employment of community police officers in Sea Point and the central business district.

Mr Joubert said Sea Point residents were paying R15 a month to employ an additional 20 uniformed policemen in Main Road and the beachfront.

In the Cape Town central business district, the City Community Patrol Board had collected R3-million in six months for additional police. There was also a success story in Mitchell's Plain where 18 neighbourhood watches with 2 000 members were active.

Mr Joubert said he would ask the municipality to consider sending out a request to residents on their electricity accounts to support a fund for employing more community police.

(251) ARG 4/7/97
Meanwhile acting national Police Commissioner John Manuel says South Africans should support police action to fight crime within a lawful framework rather than form their own private neighbourhood police forces.

He was responding to nation-wide reports that citizens were taking control of their streets by hiring armed security guards to patrol neighbourhoods, fencing in entire suburbs and setting up booms to control access.

Commissioner Manuel said in Bellville South yesterday the Police Act made provision for community police forums. People concerned by high crime in their areas should join their local forums.

■ Commissioner Manuel awarded medals and certificates to Western Cape police at a parade in Bellville South.

Chaos as top cops

Quit

5/7/97

Almost half the posts at Brixton are vacant

By PETA KROST

South Africa's biggest criminal investigation unit has lost almost half its detectives, who have not been replaced. The remaining 50 investigators at Brixton Murder and Robbery, barely able to cope with their own workloads, have now inherited the hundreds of unsolved serious-crime dockets that the "quitters" left behind.

The extremely serious situation could see victims of violent crime in Greater Johannesburg never seeing justice done - there are not enough detectives left to handle the load.

Within the past 12 months, 40 policemen have left the unit and they have not been replaced. Of those who left, 36 were top investigating officers.

Johannesburg is South Africa's crime capital. At any one time, Brixton Murder and Robbery detectives are forced to deal with up to 60 cases each. Top policemen say this is far too many for them to even consider dealing with. "A skilled detective can only really keep on top of a maximum of 20 cases," said police spokesman Superintendent Chris Wilken.

This week, the latest blow to Brixton was the departure of four of their top detectives, who bought their way out of the police to join a private security company.

A senior officer at Brixton, who requested anonymity for fear of reprisal, said "more will follow" because the remaining policemen could no longer cope. "They think they can push us and push us and we won't break - they are so wrong," he warned.

Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale was taken aback on hearing of the serious shortage of crack detectives in the crime capital of South Africa.

"We must replace them as a matter of urgency because we need top detectives to stem the flow of violent crime in Johannesburg," Sexwale said.

"Brixton was the headquarters of intensive criminal investigations and they were renowned for invariably cracking their cases - they had some of the finest policemen in the country," the premier said. The loss, he added, was "a dearth of some of the rarest skills in crime detecting - it is very worrisome to lose these people".

Commissioner Frans Malherbe, who was Johannesburg area commissioner until this week, said "It is no secret that we demanded more detectives but with the moratorium we were not given any".

"There was nothing we could do - the people just had to work overtime".

Malherbe added it was extremely difficult to replace such experienced officers because there was a huge shortage of trained detectives.

He maintained that while the exodus was felt more acutely at Murder and Robbery, where 45% of their staff complement had left, "there were other units who had lost 70% of their policemen".

Ian Robertson, a senior member of Gauteng's safety and security department, said he fully understood the problem but felt that "detectives should prioritise the cases better".

FROM PAGE 1

Police exodus (251)

"The top 30 cases could be insignificant in the greater scheme of things".

Captain Joseph Ngobeni, spokesman for national commissioner George Fivaz, said the SAPS was in the "process of conducting a resource allocation programme".

A top Brixton detective, who has remained at his post, said he loves his job, but if he could find something else he would "jump at it".

"We don't even mind working like dogs here and taking home very little, but I draw the line on having to take on four people's tasks and then being told off for not solving enough crime," he said. "I am tired of being hated by the public and ignored by police management when I have given this job my life".

The wife of one of the detectives who bought themselves out of the unit this week said that for all their married life, "the police came before anything, even the family".

She told of times her husband and his colleagues had worked 48-hour stretches without sleep. "For that, after between eight to 10 years at Brixton, he would bring home R1 400 a month and was always stressed," she said.

Salary tripled

"From his gross salary they would take off for parking, the sports club (which he never used), the widows' and orphans' fund, and others - half of which I had no clue what they meant."

She explained that for months her husband had been thinking of leaving because of the conditions, but "it's not so easy to leave something you love".

This week her husband's salary tripled on leaving the police and he was given a company car, among other perks.

"The sad thing is, the police lost a brilliant cop and all his informers, and my husband has so many of them who may not help other policemen. I really feel sorry for those guys who are staying on and have to try and pick up the slack."

She said she was one of the more understanding wives. "There are many others who cannot handle it anymore - it is not just the stress, but bad salaries and not seeing their husbands".

Her husband "is now a changed man - we can chat and laugh together, something we hardly did before".

He had left the force with an astounding 365 days of leave owing "because there was always far, far too much work for one man to do".

Call for provincial police

(25)

COLENZO, KwaZulu-Natal: Inkatha Freedom Party leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi yesterday reiterated his party's call for devolution of power to the provinces, saying crime syndicates in KwaZulu-Natal would be smashed in weeks if the province was empowered to establish its own police force

Speaking in Colenso in the Midlands, Buthelezi said the IFP's stand in favour of federalism and devolution of power stemmed from the party's commitment to the struggle for real liberation

Buthelezi said the centralised police system could not cope with escalating criminality and generalised lawlessness

"If we, as the IFP in government in

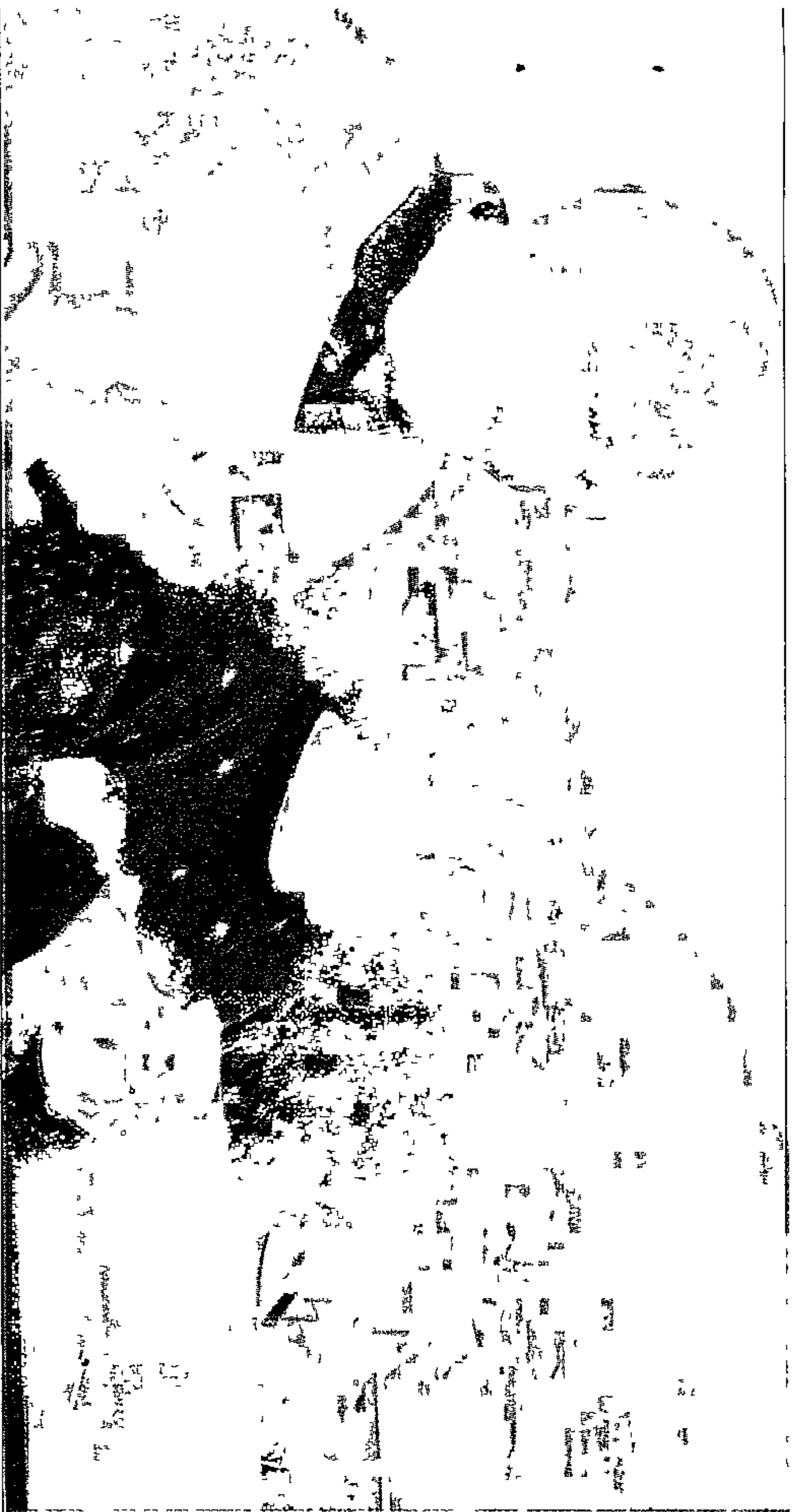
KwaZulu-Natal, had the institutional power to direct our own provincial police, criminal activities and organised criminal syndicates would be stamped out of this province in a matter of weeks," he said

"For this reason the IFP has tabled in Parliament amendments to the Constitution to give provinces the power to organise policing at a provincial level"

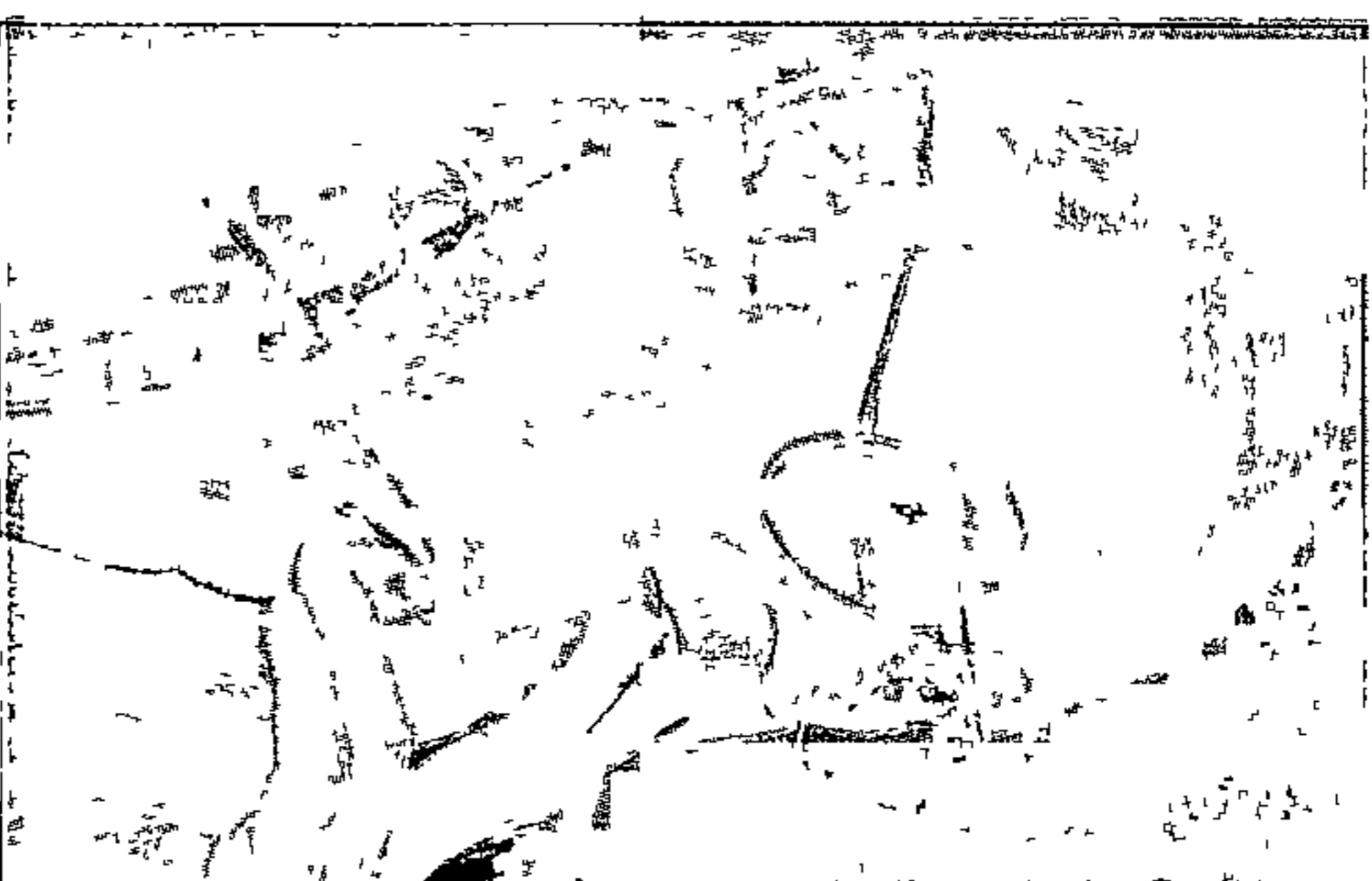
Buthelezi said it was satisfying for him that ANC provincial premiers were joining the call for the devolution of power to the provinces

"We feel it is necessary that we devolve downwards as much as possible the administrative capacity of central government departments," he said — Sapa

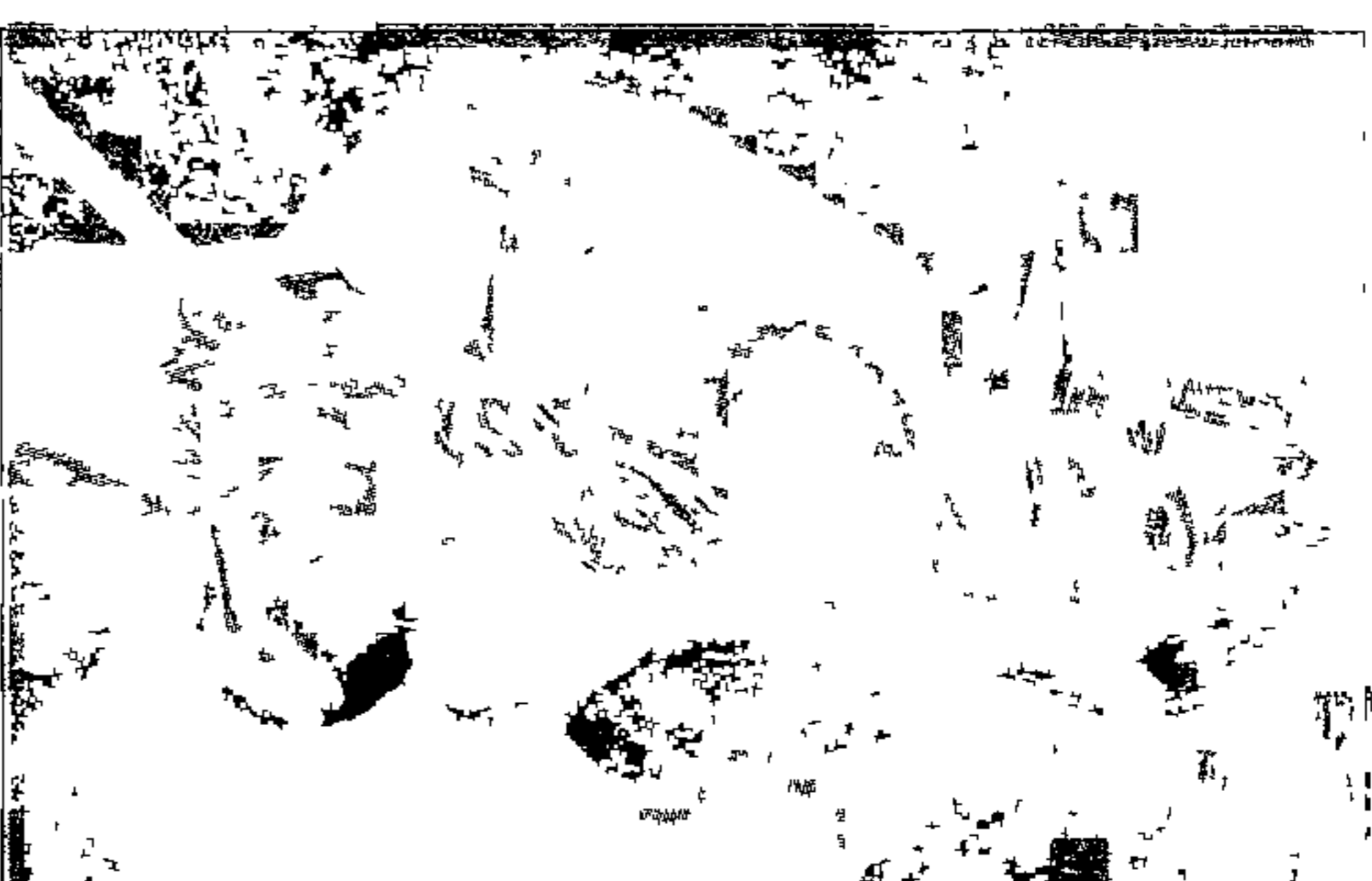
CT 7/7/97



inverts: Gordon and Sally Littlefield now believe the idea is a good one



Unique position: things have improved, says former Llandudno councillor Alfred Myers



Follow our lead: it's worth it if you can afford it, says Caroline Ackermann, with her trusted friend

CAVIB

End of road for Llandudno crime driver?

Legal hitch may prevent renewal of private police contracts



A "private police" pilot project in Llandudno, where ratepayers pay a levy on their property rates for an armed response company to patrol their neighbourhood permanently, is an anti-crime success story doomed to collapse.

Legal constraints prevent local authorities from contracting private security companies to police a suburb, and then forcing every property owner to pay for the service.

Robin Hunt-Davis, head of Llandudno's armed response company Securri-Med, said the concept was such a success story in Llandudno because it was small, with only one access road to enter or exit, and but it would not be practical in most other parts of the Peninsula.

"Llandudno is unique in that it is a small, almost separate, residential area. There we had only 200 or so ratepayers who need to get on board unlike a suburb like Constanita where there are a couple of thousand property owners," he said.

But in spite of the positive geographical factors of Llandudno, the project, successfully driven into being by a small group of people three years ago, faces a legal challenge.

"In spite of suggestions that an across-the-board rates levy for a private policing arrangement was illegal, a ratepayers' referendum produced an overwhelming 99 percent in favour vote.

"The few other property owners did not vote against the concept but rather abstained," said Mr Hunt-Davis.

However, the legal question would anyway probably result in the Securri-Med contract not being renewed in two years when it expired, he said.

He planned then to approach each

ratepayer individually to subscribe to his company voluntarily.

A Llandudno resident of 20 years, Don Cook, said the people in Llandudno who initiated the idea of residents employing a private security firm were "years ahead of their time."

"I think you can work on the assumption that crime would have increased rapidly if they (Securri-Med) hadn't come in," he said.

Former Llandudno councillor Alfred Myer said crimes were not easily perpetrated in Llandudno because it had only one entry and exit point.

Residents have for some time talked about placing a boom at the entrance to control people coming and going, but the plan has been blocked by a debate over rights of access to the beach.

Prior to the introduction of the security firm to the area, house and car break-ins were increasing steadily and the residents decided to take action, led by the Llandudno council before it was disbanded two years ago.

The suburb was then placed back in the control of Hout Bay and now falls under the Southern Municipality.

Holiday homes were frequently ransacked and items such as garden furniture were taken overnight while theft out of vehicles was fairly common.

Residents say that since Securri-Med moved in, crime has dropped dramatically, especially the number of break-ins to houses in the suburb.

Houses still targeted by criminals tended to be those on the outskirts of the suburb, usually those without security systems.

There were fewer car break-ins and attacks on people are few and far between. The number of hawkers, beggars and others going from door to door looking for work had dropped drastically since the

employment of Securri-Med.

The patrol vehicles are a familiar sight to residents and visitors and the company visits houses regularly and slips handwritten notes into postboxes detailing what time they were there.

At the time the plan was passed, not all residents were happy with the increase in their rates to pay for the security firm, but some have since been won over by the service the company has provided.

Gordon and Sally Littlefield disagreed with the manner in which the suburb's local council cut back on other services to help subsidise Securri-Med.

Yet they are pleased with the security service and have gone one step further, installing a private panic button.

Mr Littlefield said special arrangements could be made with the Securri-Med patrol officer to meet residents at the entrance to Llandudno on their return late at night and to escort them to their homes.

The security officer could also check inside the house for intruders to ensure it was safe for them to enter.

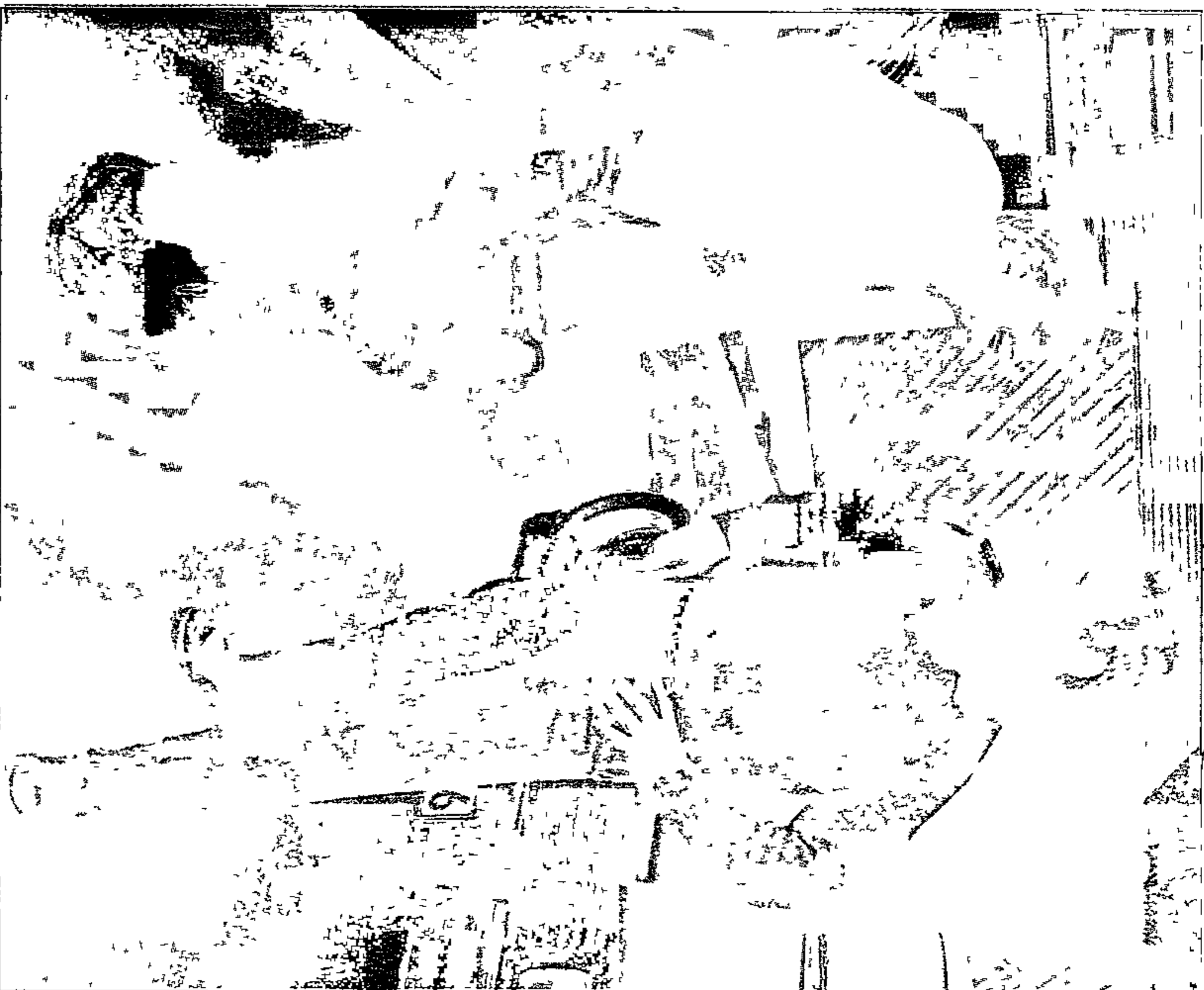
■ Six senior Brixton Murder and Robbery Unit detectives, among them one-time commander Charlie Landman, have left the police and accepted positions investigating armed robberies in the private security industry.

Mr Landman, who was commander at Brixton for 10 years until July last year, has been appointed to head the national investigation team at Khulani Springbok Patrols (KSP).

He said he felt the police had lost the ability to deal with crime.

More police officers were set to follow him out of the service, Mr Landman said.

KSP managing director Mick Bartmann confirmed that Mr Landman had been employed by the company and was already handling an investigation in KwaZulu Natal.



Just checking: resident Fiona Macgregor chats to Securri-Med response officer (Sgt. Al Kronstrom)

HANNES THART

MAC 7/7/14 7 (201)

FPUSMOUT bad cops, Mbeki

Sowetan Correspondent and Sapa

OPOSITION political parties yesterday called on Deputy President Thabo Mbeki to identify, charge and prosecute security force members loyal to the former government who he alleged are involved in organised crime syndicates

Mbeki said on Monday that syndicates led by security force members who had left the police force had the capacity to collapse the criminal-justice system and undermine South Africa's new democracy

He warned that South Africa's democracy could disintegrate if the corruption of the police and judicial system by crime syndicates was not stopped

Pan Africanist Congress general-secretary Mr Michael Muendane said yesterday they had had their suspicions all along that former security forces were involved in crime syndicates, specifically car hijackings and drug dealing

Complicating matters

He said Mbeki had the machinery to find out who these people were, appealing to him to obtain the names and ensure that they were prosecuted and dealt with

Muendane claimed that the Government could not act because liberation movements had worked with these criminals in the past, complicating matters when it came to dealing with the issue

Democratic Party MP Mr James Selfe expressed the hope that Mbeki's information would be made public as soon as possible and that arrests would be made swiftly

He said corruption in the criminal-justice system was crippling South Africa's attempts to tackle the crime problem

"The sooner this corruption is rooted out and

justice is seen to prevail, the sooner those in the police service who are honestly committed to this country will be freed to fulfil their task of protecting all citizens," he said

National Party MP and safety and security spokesman Mr André Fourie said the only defence the ANC Government had for its inability to combat crime was to bring forward this type of argument

He said there was a mutual obligation on Mbeki to disclose the names of these individuals and to either bring them before a court of law or to allow for normal crime service procedures

Mbeki's allegations had sowed distrust and were not in the interest of the security forces or SA as a whole

Took Mbeki to task

He took Mbeki to task for "whole-heartedly taking part in the denigration and destruction of South Africa's security forces"

While the NP was not excluding the possibility that individual policemen and soldiers could be involved in organised crime, the party could not allow someone of Mbeki's stature to take part in the demoralisation of the security forces as a whole, Fourie said

He accused ANC members of shirking their responsibility to address the crime situation by blaming everyone around them

"Furthermore they conveniently forget that organised bank robbers formed part of fundraising efforts by the liberation movements"

Inkatha Freedom Party MP Mr Velaphi Ndlovu joined the other parties in urging Mbeki to expose the ringleaders behind these syndicates

"The IFP wants to see the Deputy President's words translated into immediate action," Ndlovu said

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Sowetan 16/9/97

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Amnesty International attacks SA police brutality

Star 19/7/97
Amnesty International yesterday decried what it called the "apartheid-style" killings of at least 191 people by police since April 1, saying official brutality was still widespread in South Africa.

Fifty-six of the deaths occurred in police cells.

Another 135 deaths occurred during arrests or other "police actions outside a station", Amnesty International researcher Mary Rayner said.

At least some of the casualties were probably "illegal" acts, and more unrecorded deaths were "very possible," she said.

"Cases of torture, ill treatment, unjustified use of force, and denial of medical care frequently occur in the South African criminal justice system," Rayner said.

"The legacies of the past have not been overcome, and a lot of problems still exist within the agencies of the state," she added.

South Africa's Independent Complaints Directorate has begun probing alleged abuses in prisons and police stations, but the body has requested more funding to carry out its mandate.

Police authorities acknowledge that some officers were poorly trained and may have tortured criminal suspects to pry information from them, the Amnesty International official added.

"The police have a primary responsibility to uphold international human rights standards," Rayner said. "We hope that failures in the process of justice will be fully investigated."

South Africa needed a national prosecuting authority to standardise methods of "humanely" addressing the country's burgeoning crime rate.

Amnesty International Secretary General Pierre Sane nevertheless praised South Africa for achieving "fundamental changes" - including a democratic constitution and bill of rights - since the country's historic 1994 all-race elections. - AFP

Whites favoured, says Popcru

NORMAN JOSEPH
CRIME REPORTER

ARG 17/4/97

(251)

Allegations of racism and nepotism in favour of white officers have been levelled by the Helderberg branch of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru).

In reply Western Cape police commissioner Leon Wessels says the union's grievances can be taken to the Independent Complaints Directorate and the police negotiating forum

Popcru said there was racism, favouritism in promotion, corruption and victimisation of officers at Macassar Strand, Gordon's Bay and Somerset West police stations

Union spokesman Danie Julies said a recent meeting between Popcru and the provincial police management ended in deadlock

Commissioner Wessels said the Independent Complaints Directorate had been set up to investigate allegations independently of the police "in order to avoid allegations of irregular or biased investigations"

He said Popcru had failed to take part in negotiating forums at national and provincial levels

Commissioner Wessels called on Popcru "once again" to become involved in the provincial forum

He said invitations to Popcru to submit statements were usual-

ly met with the response that "white management" of the police was too corrupt.

In a lengthy statement Popcru alleged the commissioner could not explain how a white member who had recently been found guilty on a charge of defeating the ends of justice had been promoted to the rank of captain and had been put in charge of investigative work

A "non-white member" who had been found guilty in a departmental hearing had been fired, Popcru said

Mr Julies said Macassar police officers were all "non-white" and "we understand that white members refused to be transferred to Macassar".

Mbeki meets concerned cop top brass

(21)
21/7/97

By Morgan Naidu

DEPUTY President Thabo Mbeki rounded off a three-day tour of Gauteng with an informal meeting with the province's police top brass at the weekend

Among concerns raised at the meeting were the unequal distribution of police resources and the problem of police officers who were illiterate

Mbeki's tour started on Thursday when he helped launch the Greater Johannesburg council's ambitious plan to rebuild and revitalise the inner city

Mr Sefako Nyaka, spokesman in the premier's office, said the deputy president visited the province to "check on progress and to see how public funds are being spent"

Mbeki visited a paraplegic self-help centre in Soweto on Friday before moving on to discuss problems with hostel dwellers in Vosloorus.

He then attended a meeting of displaced people in Penduka Section before addressing a gathering at Phola Park, where a community building pro-

ject to erect 40 000 houses is under way
Nyaka said the deputy president met with Gauteng police commissioner Sharma Maharaj and other police top brass to discuss how resources could be better deployed

Mbeki ended his visit to the province by launching a Masakhane campaign in Johannesburg and attending the Iwisa Soccer Spectacular at FNB stadium

Development projects

His visit was part of the province's and Greater Johannesburg Council's concerted bid to show off the city and province as something other than crime-ridden and rundown

Millions of rands are being pumped into development projects and despite criticism that many other projects had failed to get off the ground, the city fathers are adamant that the latest effort was the real thing
"There is no place in the world where there isn't crime," Nyaka said, adding that Johannesburg was no different



Deputy president Thabo Mbeki and Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale in serious discussion during a visit to several development projects and community meetings on the East Rand at the weekend. On Thursday Mbeki launched the ambitious Johannesburg renewal plan. PIC VELL NHLAPO

Housing report hush-hush

By Joshua Raboroko

HOUSING Minister Mrs Sankie Mhembu-Mahanyele is studying the auditor-general's report into alleged irregularities in the R200 million Mpumalanga rural housing project which was temporarily stopped as a

result of the probe

The minister acknowledged at the weekend that she had received a report requesting her reply but declined to give details of the report, saying it was still too early to respond

The report was the first phase of a probe regarding several allegations

regarding the award of a R200 million rural low-cost housing project to Motheo Construction

Former director-general of housing Mr Bill Cobbett earlier called for the audit after raising concerns related to certain irregularities in awarding the project to Motheo

21/7/97

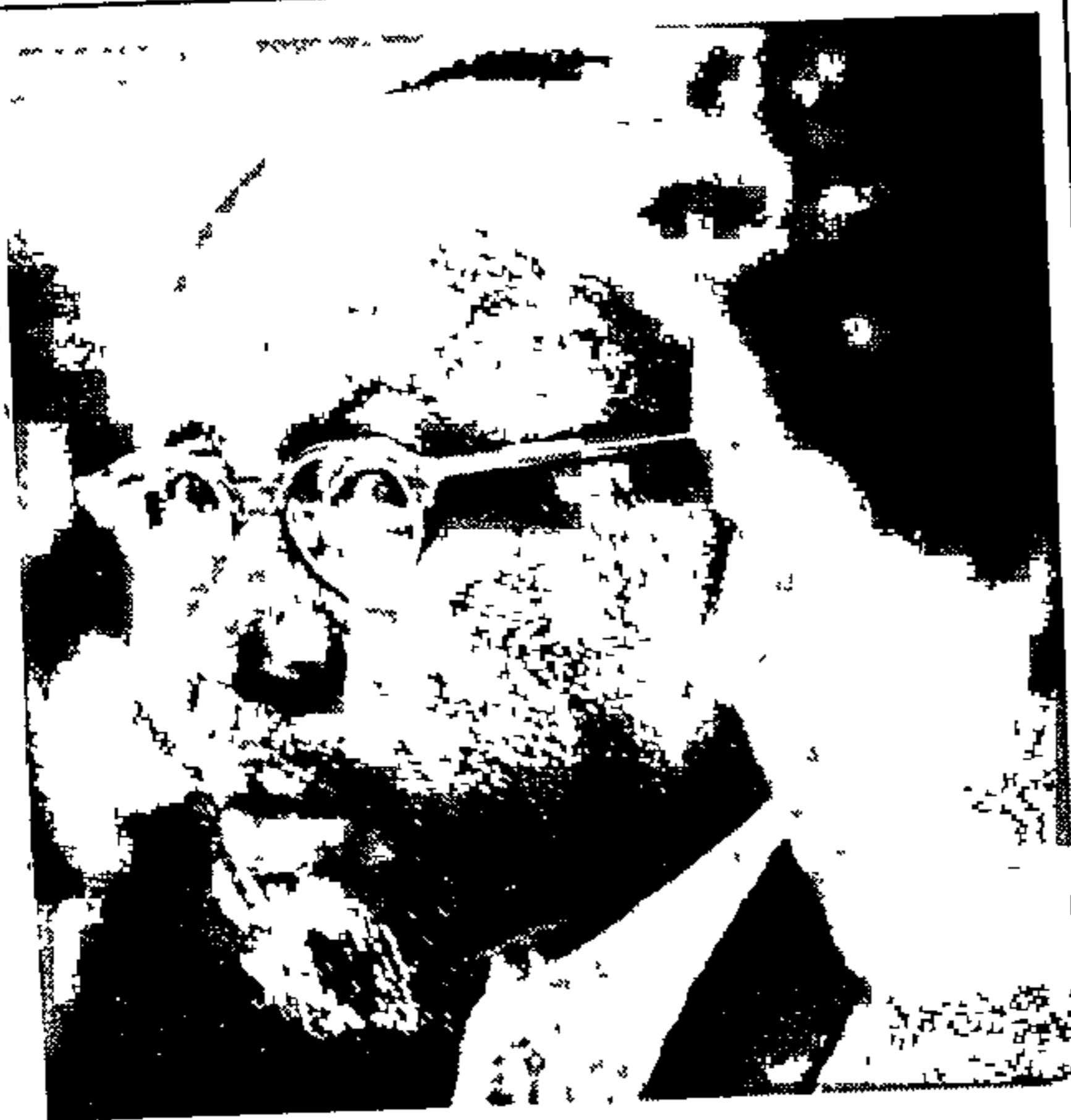
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list could be com-

Only listed suppliers could
bid for a new tender to be issued in
June 1998, said tactical procure-
ment manager Mike Midgley.

Last week Telkom admitted it
had withdrawn another contro-
versial tender that was widely
believed to have been written
specifically for one vendor.

Telkom said that tender, for
the creation of a new network, was
withdrawn because its equity
partners SBC and Telekom
Malaysia were reassessing their
network plans.



general secretary Pierre Sane at a news briefing on Friday at
the SA Police Service's conduct towards prisoners. Sane
Picture ROBERT BOTHA

Negotiators agree to speed up talks

John Dlodlu (25) BD 21/7/97

SA AND European Union (EU) negotiators have
agreed to a series of steps to accelerate the pace of co-
operation talks, but have for the first time officially
admitted that the negotiations will not be concluded
this year.

Working groups, formed from both sides, would
meet more regularly to intensify work on trade as-
pects, sources close to the negotiations said.

A fresh working programme, providing for month-
ly plenary sessions, starting in October as most of
Europe goes on holiday next month, had been agreed
to, the sources said.

This came after Friday's ministerial meeting in
Brussels between Trade Minister Alec Erwin and
João de Deus Pinheiro, the European commissioner
in charge of development and relations with SA.

Sources said the Erwin-Pinheiro meeting had giv-
en fresh political impetus to the talks, which had
almost ground to a halt before June.

According to the joint conclusions of the stock-tak-
ing meeting, negotiations on a fisheries accord would
resume early next year.

Crucially, the two parties said the EU-SA agree-
ment, including a free trade area to be developed over
a 12-year period, should "contain provisions to sup-
port the adjustment efforts that will be undertaken
in various economic sectors"

It is still unclear, though, how far the EU is pre-
pared to go in providing support for the mooted free
trade area, which would affect SA's neighbours in the
customs union.

It was agreed that in the accord the principle of
"assymetry" would be upheld, providing for fast lib-
eralisation by the EU

While the joint conclusions say both sides agreed
to pay special attention to the impact on southern
Africa, the EU has previously indicated that it be-
lieves that funds available for structural adjustment
from the Lomé Convention would be adequate to
meet the challenge.

Both Brussels and Pretoria also acknowledged the
"fact that certain sensitive sectors and products will
require special treatment".

'SAPS transformation should be speeded up'

Nomavenda Mathiane (25) BD 21/7/97

THERE was still a lot of work to be
done in the SA Police Service
(SAPS) to bring about an under-
standing of a human rights cul-
ture and the rights of prisoners,
visiting Amnesty International
human rights researcher Mary
Rayner said at the weekend.

She said 191 deaths in police
custody had been reported to the
Independent Complaints Direc-
torate since April, a fact which in-
dicated that the SA government
needed to speed up the transfor-
mation process in the SAPS

There were reports that
KwaZulu-Natal police still used
coercive interrogation methods
and that not many changes had
taken place in the criminal justice
system and legislation.

She said visits to prisons re-
vealed poor conditions and treat-
ment of prisoners. Reports to the
directorate showed the legacy of
the past had in some parts of the
country been carried into the new
SA.

On the question of the death
penalty being revoked, Rayner
said her organisation was totally
opposed to capital punishment.
The new SA constitution did not
provide for it and there was no
proof that the death penalty was a
crime deterrent.

She understood South
Africans' thinking that capital
punishment could solve the crime
problem, but research proved
crime needed to be dealt with by
addressing the causes

Rayner and the organisation's
general secretary Pierre Sane are

in SA to prepare for the 23rd
Amnesty International council
meeting at the University of the
Western Cape in December.

This will be the first time
Amnesty International holds a
conference in SA. The organisa-
tion monitors the violation of pris-
oners' human rights by lobbying
government for their release and
works with other humanitarian
organisations.

A large number of SA cabinet
ministers and leading govern-
ment officials who were impris-
oned by the National Party gov-
ernment were on its list. It was for
this reason that the previous gov-
ernment banned the organisation.

London-based Rayner was first
allowed into SA in 1990 and has
since returned on numerous fact-
finding missions

'Cruel, stupid, pathetic' - fury as community cops go

Residents fear crime wave

ARL 22/7/97

ASHLEY SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

Capetonians fear crime will spiral out of control if rent-a-cop projects are disbanded following a national police directive.

Western Cape police at grassroots level have also condemned the decision to "fire" their community police colleagues

A Cape Argus team last night canvassed opinions on a police decision to stop more than 300 rent-a-cops from operating in Cape Town - and found locals fuming

Prostitutes, policemen and residents expressed fears that an unprecedented crime wave was about to hit the Mother City and called the decision "pathetic"

Policemen at a station in the city centre expressed disappointment with senior management's decision "I hope the whole of Cape Town supports the rent-a-cops, because we as policemen know what a difference they've made in our battle against crime. In the city centre alone crime is down by 20 percent," said one policeman

Another said the decision to disband the rent-a-cops was "cruel" and "stupid"

"There is this rent-a-cop who got married last month and now he is sitting without work. Who will support his family?"

Daniel Mwelase from Khayelitsha described the decision as "a bad thing"

"Their decision is going to have several other implications, including that these rent-a-cops will be out of work. Some of them may even turn to crime themselves, as they have nothing to fall back on"

David Williams said he was disgusted the rent-a-cops were being "thrown to the dogs"

"In Sea Point these guys helped to exercise control over the nightclubs in the area and now that they're gone it will be business as usual for the pimps, drug dealers and racketeers," he said

Natasha, a prostitute who works in Sea Point, said many sex workers in the area feared for their safety

"The girls are very upset and they feel vulnerable again because the rent-a-cops offered some protection from perverts who try to beat up and hurt them," she said

Isaac Pekeche from Green Point said his community needed rent-a-cops as it was no longer safe to walk on the streets at night



'Crime is rising': Riaan van Biljon



'Bad decision': Daniel Mwelase



'Private police': Bernard Gotkin



'Needed': Brenda Gaya and Isaac Pekeche

Outrage as rent-a-cop scrapped

Crime surge feared

(35) (251)

ARC 22/7/97

JOHAN SCHRONEN, ANDREA WEISS
AND CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTERS

A row has broken out over urgent orders from police headquarters to disband the highly successful rent-a-cop programme immediately.

Police have pulled the plug on the community police programme, ostensibly because reservists may not be paid by private companies, but police sources suggest that the real reason is that Pretoria fears it is losing control.

The move could set off a surge in crime statistics in the central business district, the Atlantic seaboard and on trains where community police, all trained reservists, are currently deployed.

The police area commissioner for Cape Town, Raymond Dowd, said he understood the controversy over paying reservists but that the contribution of community patrol officers in the CBD was "immeasurable".

"These so-called rent-a-cops are a big factor in the 30 percent drop in crime in the city centre and city bowl," he said.

"There are about 70 reservists in the scheme in my service, of whom about 30 at any given time are deployed to enhance visible policing.

"These officers are professional, dedicated people who put the lid on crime, especially in problem areas such as Government Avenue, where muggings are now at an all-time low," said Director Dowd.

He warned he might have to close at least one satellite reporting office in his area if the disbandment went ahead.

Police commuter unit boss André van Huysteen, whose unit serves on trains and railway stations, said he was shocked by the announcement.

"I have about 50 community police on my books and they have contributed tremendously to safety and security on trains, which have been plagued by roving gangs of muggers," said Superintendent Van Huysteen.

"The departure of my very willing and able contingent of rent-a-cops will leave a big gap in policing on the trains."

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P.T.O.

Rent-A-Cop project may be stopped

CT 22/7/97 (251)
DAN SIMON

THE highly successful anti-crime project Rent-A-Cop, which enjoys financial and public support from the city's business community, Metrorail and the city council, is in danger of being terminated.

The SA Police Services yesterday issued instructions that the project — together with similar projects elsewhere in the country — be stopped with "immediate effect", saying their existence was "questionable" as they did not conform to legislation or to treasury instructions and could cause serious legal difficulties for the service.

The move could see a possible escalation of crime in the CBD and Sea Point if the 140 reservists, who function as highly visible bobbies on the beat, are pulled off the streets, police sources said.

Police spokesman Senior Superintendent John Sterrenberg said the instructions to stop the project were being studied by the province's top police management to determine the effects on existing projects.

City of Cape Town councillor Mr Chris Joubert, who is chairman of the Central City Patrol Board which collects the money to pay the reservists, said he was "deeply disturbed" by the news.

However, he said the police head office instruction had to be treated with caution at this stage as he was yet to meet with Safety and Security Minister Mr Sydney Mufamadi and National Commissioner George Fivaz.

The Rent-A-Cop concept came about over two years ago, at a time when crime levels in the city were increasing alarmingly.

In order to get the project off the ground the city's business community, the city council and Metrorail rallied together to collect funds to pay for the increased police manpower.

The police vetted all the reservists applying for the advertised posts. They were mainly drawn from disadvantaged communities such as Langa, Guguletu and Mitchells Plain.

Rent-a-cop reservists face uncertain future

(251) CT 28/17/97

CITY CENTRE CRIME dropped by almost half after the "bobby-on-the-beat" system was introduced with the help of business to assist short-staffed police, but now police management want it scrapped, reports **JAN SIMON.**

ABOUT 140 police reservists, some of whom gave up full-time jobs in the hope of becoming permanent members of the police force, face an uncertain future after Police Commissioner George Fivaz called for the popular Rent-A-Cop scheme to be discontinued.

The two-year-old community project, Rent-A-Cop, which helped reduce crime in the city by 40% over the Christmas period, is on the way out as it is illegal.

The initiative was funded by the city's business community, Metrorail and the City of Cape Town.

Yesterday four members of the community policing initiative spoke of the crime situation they encountered on the streets of Cape Town two years ago and the one prevailing today.

"I believe we made a big difference with our foot patrols. We were highly visible," said Constable Q M Benjamin.

"When we started out in groups of four or five, Adderley Street, Darling Street, Parliament Street and the Golden Acre were the areas identified as the crime hot-spots of the city, especially in front of OK Bazaars.

"There were muggings of tourists and theft from motor vehicles, especially in Parliament



MARCHING ORDERS: Constables M Lewis (left), R Basson and Q M Benjamin are among the 140 members of the highly successful Rent-A-Cop initiative given the boot after helping to reduce crime in the city.

PICTURE ALAN TAYLOR

Street. The muggings dropped when we got rid of the Junky Funky Kids from the Bo-Kaap. The skollie elements moved out of the city."

Being a reservist was a condition to join

"But I don't think it will ever happen. There were posts available but we were not considered."

An angry Sergeant A Linders said he suspected party politics played a key role in the decision to discontinue the project.

"This (the project) was a huge success. Cape Town's crime has never been so low. The police tried everything, but when visible policing was introduced the crime dropped," said Linders.

"If this was an ANC area then we'd have been in the police a long time ago. ANC supporters get drafted into the police force as colonels and directors. I've been a reservist for 15 years and I am still a reservist."

Constable R Basson said morale among the reservists had plummeted as a result of the decision to discontinue the project.

"We do the job because we love the job. We wanted to give something back to the community. Now crime will go up and then we'll lose the (Olympic) bid."

Inspector H S Rossouw, of Cape Town Central Police Station said they would be hard pressed to cope with the extra workload if the 64 reservists were pulled off the street.

"There is a lot of support for them in the police. There is no way Cape Town Central can replace the good work these men have done. In Cape Town the shifts cannot even put 45 men on the street. If you take 45 men off the street you'll never get to the corn-plants," said Rossouw.

A police spokesman from Pretoria said the rent-a-cop system would be downscaled in a systematic manner.

"They will have to disband eventually but we don't know when. The project cannot be legalised. The whole thing balances around funding," the spokesman said.

The South African Police Union is to meet with the reservists.

Don't tear us apart, say rent-a-cops

BEAUREGARD TROMP

(251)

STAFF REPORTER

AG 23/7/97

Police "rent-a-cop" reservists in Sea Point say disbanding their unit will be like tearing a family apart.

The rent-a-cop scheme, in which police reservists play a visible policing role in an area and are paid by the community, is supposed to be dismantled under a national police directive.

The 18 men who have patrolled the Sea Point promenade for nearly two years say it will be a sad day when they leave behind what has become a victory over crime.

"We had our teething problems but now we're like a family," said Johan Fourie.

"It's a calling to us we feel very sad it has to go in this manner," said Michael Samuels.

He hoped they would be made permanent policemen so the unit could continue to function under the police banner. "When we started here it was like a madhouse with rapes and stabblings. Now we have things relatively under control," said a dejected Sergeant Samuels.

Constable Fourie said "If we make the streets safe I go to sleep at night with a very good heart. Everyone who sees us thanks us for the visible policing, even street kids and vagrants. If they shut us down, we're all lost."

Wayne Assur, another member of the unit, was given the Sanlam Award for police service in the community when he saved a paddle-skier from drowning. The thankful father of the skier donated the paddle-ski to the unit so members would not have to swim out to save people.

Constable Assur recently married and has a child. His plans for his family have been dashed by the uncertainty hanging



Uncertain future: Sea Point community policemen Johan Fourie, left, Keith Africa, Michael Samuels, Annelise Rooy and Riccardo Johnson ponder their future

over his future in the police force.

The Sea Point team uses the popular British "bobby on the beat" concept. It reports widespread success - 124 arrests this month alone - in an area that stretches from Saunders Rocks to Mouille Point along the beachfront and from Queens Road to Glengariff Road.

Unit co-ordinator Francois Rosouw said the loss of the team would have a

negative impact on the community as police resources would again be stretched.

The team had been created as an RDP project to provide jobs for unemployed police reservists and was backed by the then Minister of Safety and Security in the Western Cape, Patrick Mackenzie, he said. Members of the unit are paid R1 700 a month.

Sea Point community reaction to the

directive to disband the rent-a-cop force has been angry, with critics calling the move "disgusting" and "pathetic".

A document explaining the decision to terminate says the police have to deliver an equal and transparent service to all South Africans and cannot be involved in "selective policing".

Police reservists serve voluntarily and may not be paid.

HANNES THART

Radio control paralysed by abusive hoax callers

50 000 fake emergencies a month (251)

PR 4 24/9/97

ASHLEY SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

An average of 50 000 abusive calls a month are wearing down police radio control operators - who say they are on the verge of breaking down emotionally.

Emergency operators spend half their 12-hour shift dealing with vulgar callers who sexually proposition them, and lines are jammed by children shouting obscenities.

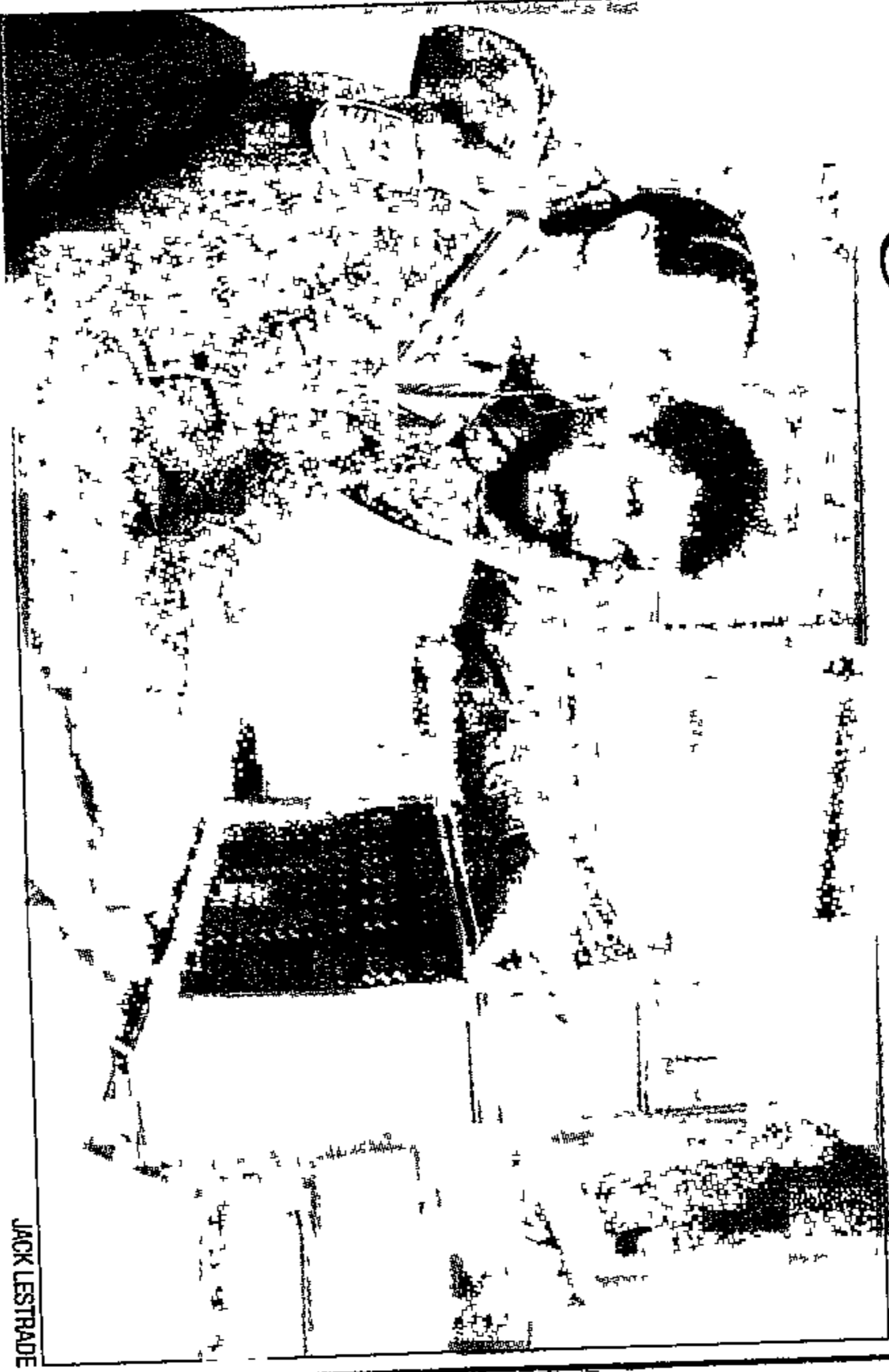
These disclosures were made last night when a Cape Argus news team visited the radio control unit in Pinelands and spent several hours with the 30 nightshift operators and dispatchers.

Radio control fielded close to two million calls last year - of which about half a million were from abusive or obscene callers.

Some staff were close to tears as they described how they were losing the battle to get policemen to the scene of serious crimes because of continual pestering by hoaxers.

Leon Nothnagel, who has been with radio control for four years, said that of the average 150 000 calls each month, fewer than 50 percent were genuine emergencies to which the police responded. Many of the operators were cracking under the pressure of dealing with perverts, he said.

"Our job is to get policemen to the scene of a murder, rape or robbery. At times minutes can mean the difference between life



JACK LESTRADE

Hard pressed: staffer Walter Jantjies puts information into a computer while Erroy Oransie offers advice

and death, but these people are disrupting the police service to such an extent that lives are lost in the process," Inspector Nothnagel said.

Graham Lewis started to work at radio control only two weeks ago, but he has already experienced "more stress" than when he arrested dangerous criminals on the Cape Flats in his first six years as a policeman.

"I never picked up stress when I was working on the streets, because you learn to handle yourself, but in the control room within days I was fielding calls from people who say things that I'm even too ashamed to repeat," he said.

Norman Josephs said "At the moment rapists, murderers and armed robbers are getting away because of these crank callers."

~~ARAF~~

Rent-A-Cop: Fivaz fears 'kitskonstabel debacle' (251)

CV 25/7/97

STAFF WRITER

THE SA Police Services cannot support community projects such as the popular Rent-A-Cop policing initiative because it has the potential to develop into another "kitskonstabel debacle", Police Commissioner George Fivaz said yesterday.

The two-year-old project, which helped reduce crime in the city by 40% over the Christmas period, has to be disbanded following a directive issued by Fivaz earlier this month.

The news has been greeted with alarm and dismay by the police reservists who make up the 140-strong force, and disappointment by the SA Police Union (SAPU) and the City Community Patrol Board which pays the reservists.

About 80 reservists whose livelihoods are in the balance attended a meeting, called by the union, at the Cape Town Central police station yesterday.

SAPU spokesman Mr Andy Miller urged

the reservists not to book in for duty until the issue had been resolved.

"I'm calling on reservists not to work any further don't book on duty until this is sorted out," said Miller.

He urged police reservists not to make the "big mistake" of taking to the streets and toy-toying, as this would give Fivaz an excuse to label them "undisciplined".

Fivaz said the SAPS was aware of the implications of summarily ending the project.

"Although fully appreciative of the sentiments behind rent-a-cop ... I believe that such resources would be better utilised in creating alternative community mechanisms to support policing," said Fivaz.

He said the crux of the matter was the "crucial question of accountability" and the many legal and administrative problems flowing from this.

"Negotiations are therefore under way with parties involved to find a solution acceptable to all," he said.

44 Gauteng policemen killed this year

(251)

More than 320 attacks in the province on law enforcers in the first six months of 1997.

By MIKE MASIPA
Crime Reporter

At least 44 policemen had been killed in more than 320 attacks on law enforcers in Gauteng since the beginning of the year, police said yesterday.

Police spokesman Director Azwimndini Nengovhela could not say how many of the police officers killed this year had been on duty.

Last year on-duty 72 policemen were killed throughout the country, Nengovhela said Gauteng

police had recorded 38 murders of policemen in the first six months of this year.

This figure excludes the three officers murdered in Soweto on Wednesday night and others who might have been killed elsewhere in the province this month.

The official figure of 38 murders, however, still represents a more than double the 17 Nengovhela reported killed during the first three months of the year.

Constable Elias Chauke (22), Sergeant David Nthulane and Sergeant Prince Ramothwala

(both 32) and a civilian, Noel Tlhabane (47), were killed at a Protea South satellite station, when two men fired on them with an AK-47 and a 9mm firearm late on Wednesday night.

Police have offered R500 000 for information leading to the arrest of the killers of the three policemen and Tlhabane.

The killings have brought to five the total number of policemen killed in Soweto since the beginning of the week.

Constable ZW Dinuzulu was shot dead in Chiawelo on Saturday night, and a Constable Mshenu was killed in Orlando

the next night. Inspector L.P. Mafeka of Evaton in the Vaal Triangle was also killed on Wednesday night, allegedly by a colleague.

Nengovhela said 228 of the 320 attacks on police in Gauteng were against members who were on duty while 87 were on off-duty officers.

A total of 121 police officers had been injured in attacks by the end of June.

He added 186 suspects had been arrested in connection with the killings. However, he could not say how many of these were still in custody.

The highest number of attacks against both on- and off-duty policemen in a single month was recorded in March, when 61 attacks on Gauteng police occurred.

Just one less attack was recorded in January.

Provincial police commissioner Sharma Maharaj yesterday condemned the attack on the Protea South satellite police station.

He said police were not going to be intimidated by such attacks on officers.

No one has been arrested in connection with the attack yet.

Star 25/7/97

Cops run up

R1-bn bill

for med aid

Probe under fire

ARG 25/9/97 (251)

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Polmed, the police medical aid fund at the centre of corruption allegations, is costing the taxpayer a staggering R1-billion a year in subsidies, Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi has disclosed.

The public money needed to bail out the fund, which is under investigation, has been rising at an average rate of 32,5 percent a year

In written answers to questions put to him in Parliament by African National Congress MP Willie Hofmeyr, Mr Mufamadi disclosed that the Government had contributed only R78-million to the fund 10 years ago

This had increased to R109-million the following year, R132-million the year after that, R157-million the year after that .. until spending passed the R1-billion mark in the current financial year.

No fees were contributed by members

Mr Hofmeyr said today that it was clear there had been "widespread abuse" of the Polmed scheme and he urged that it be

investigated "properly and seriously"

Although the police appeared to be doing something about the excessive increases, the figures for the years up to 1995 were "shocking", and no explanation for them appeared to have been offered.

"Very few people have been brought to book at this stage and it is clear that a lot more needs to be done," Mr Hofmeyr said.

Earlier this year, there were media disclosures that fraud alleged to involve tens of thousands of rands spent by Polmed was being investigated by Western Cape police

The irregularities were alleged to include unauthorised use of Polmed funds to pay for luxury items ranging from sunglasses and fashion accessories to swimming-pool cleaners.

Three police, ranging in rank from constable to senior superintendent, have appeared in court in connection with the alleged irregularities. Medical professionals were also alleged to have been involved

A special task unit is investigating Polmed and further arrests are expected.

A spokesman for Polmed's fund

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P.T.O.

Taxpayers foot R1-bn bill for police medical aid

From page 1

management said that membership of the fund had not remained static in the past 10 years.

Since 1995, the principal membership had increased by about 19 500 because of the integration of police agencies from former TBVC and self-governing territories into the SA Police Service.

The items driving costs for any medical scheme were medical inflation, increases in membership and increase in use, and the first two of these were not within the control of Polmed management.

The only factor that could be managed, the use of the service, had been handled "to great effect," the spokesman said.

Steps to achieve this had included appointing professional health care consultants, restricting Polmed management, and implementing various managed health-care strategies.

In the past financial year, this had resulted in a R210-million saving on the

(251)
budget, while use of the service had decreased by about 4 percent.

The spokesman said the total increase in expenses had been "managed down" to 6,6 percent from an average of about 25 percent over the previous years, which implied an increase of about 2,3 percent for each member.

"This is well below the norm in the health-care industry," he said.

In 1995 the eradication of possible fraud and abuse of the fund had been made a priority, and the national task team appointed.

"The results of this action can be seen in the providers and members already taken to court, as well as payments that were stopped to certain providers.

"Fraud and abuse are part of all medical schemes and Polmed has succeeded in managing this to a more acceptable level, although a lot more could still be done to totally prevent fraudulent actions."

Steps were being taken in the management strategy to ensure this was done.

Three optometrists arrested

JOHAN SCHRONEN
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

The police medical aid fund's fraud investigators have arrested three optometrists who allegedly had "agents" recruiting policemen with "eye problems" - who ended up with fashion sunglasses.

In another breakthrough, detectives uncovered a "lorry-load" of tablets in a garage at the Panorama home of a chemist.

Polmed investigations co-ordinator Sarel Engelbrecht said he was not connecting the pills to a Polmed fraud, nor were the tablets stolen or thought to be illegal - but the circumstances in which they were packaged and stored appeared to be illegal.

Meanwhile detectives are still sifting through a "mountain" of documents, including medical prescriptions and pharmacists' invoices, to establish the extent of the fraud.

A police spokesman said alleged fraudulent transactions involved hundreds of policemen from the rank of constable to senior superintendent, at least three chemists and more than one doctor.

One policeman and two former members of the service had been arrested but more were expected to be brought to book next month after the initial investigation.

In some cases cash is thought to have been advanced to policemen and then claimed from Polmed by pharmacists for fictitious medicines purchases.

All police to undergo training on SAPS's vision

Stephané Bothma

PRETORIA — All members of the SA Police Service (SAPS) will undergo training within the next year to develop a shared vision of creating a safe and secure environment for all the country's people

Launching the Ubunye (oneness) project yesterday, national police commissioner George Fivaz said the training would be a vehicle to promote and develop a shared vision and mission within the SAPS as well as a complete understanding of the police's corporate values.

"I am convinced that the Ubunye training intervention will support and enable all personnel in the SAPS — whether functional,

appointed under the Public Service Act, or reservist — effectively to focus all actions on, and also to participate in the creation of the safe and secure environment of all people in SA," Fivaz said

He said the training would contribute to the development of a vision-driven organisation and facilitate the understanding of the true role of the police in the community and also enhance the support of the community and other roleplayers.

"Insofar as the democratic transition of SA has dictated a fundamental transformation of policing in this country, the necessity to inform all individual members of the SAPS of the values, principles and concurrent ground rules of democratic policing has

become crucial to ensure compatibility between individual and corporate values.

"The nature and manner of policing have change and members need to be informed and educated in all related issues if they are to be effective in the delivery of their services and participation in related endeavours," Fivaz said.

He said the SAPS vision "to create a safe and secure environment for all people of SA" was not merely a far-fetched statement to be filed in cabinets and never to be revisited.

Ubunye would form the basis for further programmes such as diversity training, human rights training and community policing, which would follow shortly, Fivaz said.

BD 25/7/97 (251)

Medscheme to administer police medical aid fund

(251) ARG 26/9/97

Pretoria - The tender for the administration of the SA Police Service's medical aid scheme, Polmed, has been awarded to Medscheme by the State Tender Board.

Medscheme was one of a number of medical aid administrators which tendered for this contract of five years and will take over from the current administrator, Medihelp.

Medscheme has 22 offices countrywide with more than 2 700 staff members to assist in the administration of medical aid schemes. As the handing-over of the administration of Polmed is a mammoth undertaking, Medihelp has undertaken to assist Medscheme during this interim phase. All medical claims from members of Polmed and service providers must still be submitted to Medihelp until further notice.

The Saps emphasised that the fact that the tender was awarded to an administrator other than Medihelp did not in any way detract from the quality of service or relations between Medihelp and the Saps.

Own Correspondent

Success Was Rent-a-Cop's downfall

Security must not be preserve of those who have money - says ANC

JEAN LE MAY

The sudden axing of Cape Town's successful Rent-a-Cop scheme by police top brass has developed into a major political row between the African National Congress-led Government and opposition parties.

The Democratic Party's Douglas Gibson said that the only reason for the rise of Rent-a-Cop and similar schemes was that "the police were falling down in their duty to protect ordinary citizens".

The National Party's Andre Fourie said "The police must get their act together".

Rent-a-Cop was launched two years ago by the city council, Metrorail and the city's business community - which pledged R4-million in funding over the two years - and uses about 100 reservists as well as regular police officers.

Rent-a-Cop is run by the Community Police Officers Board which consists of police officers and representatives of all the bodies involved.

Central area police commissioner Raymond Dowd has attributed the 30 percent drop in crime on commuter trains, in the city centre and in the city bowl, to the Rent-a-Cops.

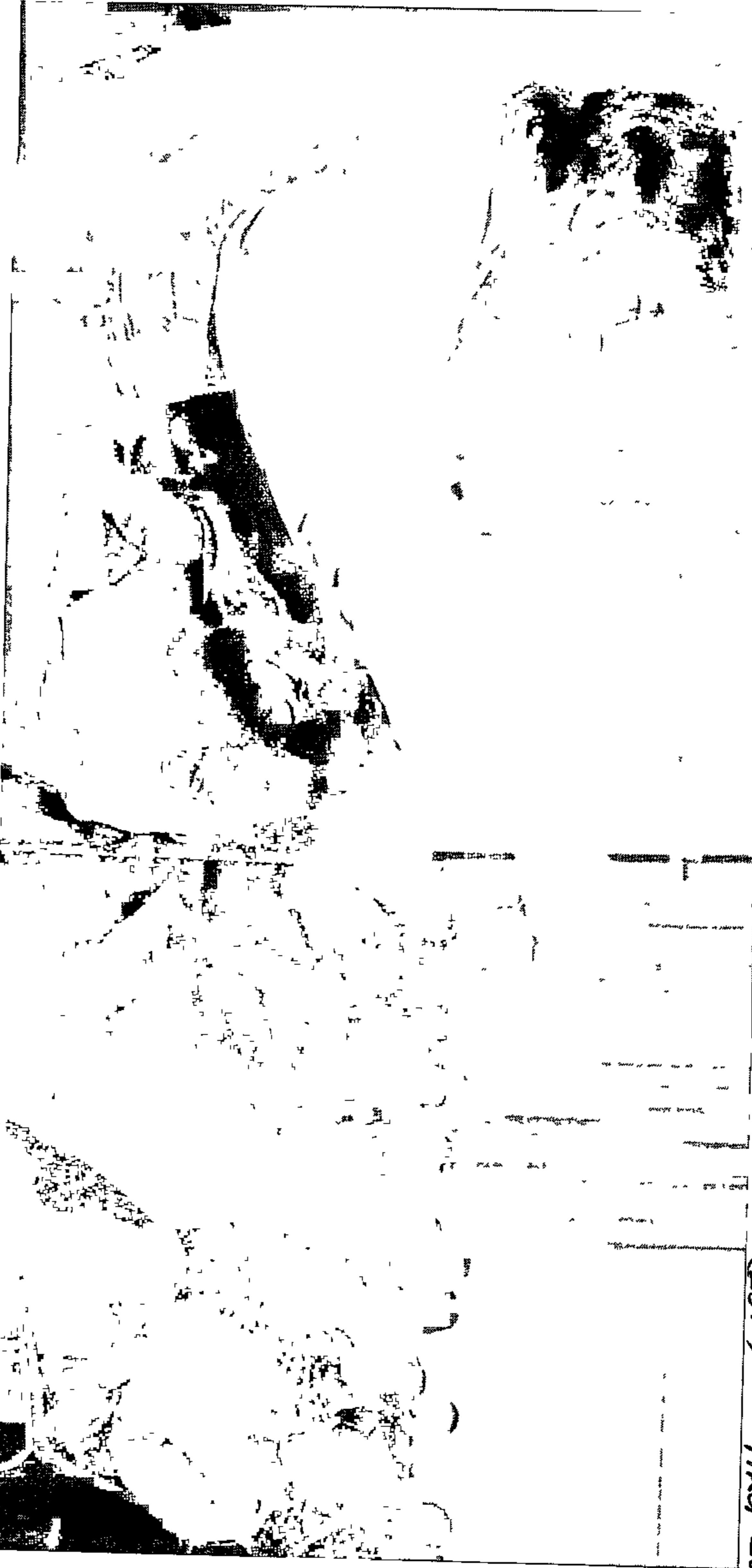
It was so successful that other communities have jumped on the band-wagon. Police spokesmen have claimed there were so many applications country-wide for Rent-a-Cop schemes that the situation was spiralling out of control.

However, faced with the possibility of thousands of police reservists being employed to give special police protection for people who could afford to pay for it, a special investigation was launched some time ago at police headquarters, headed by SAPS legal adviser Tertius Geldenhuys.

Police national commissioner George Fivaz circulated a directive earlier this month saying Cape Town's highly successful Rent-a-Cop scheme must be "terminated with immediate effect", together with similar projects in other provinces.

Suspensions have also been voiced that the debacle is a spin-off from the widely publicised row between police minister Sydney Mufamadi and Commissioner Fivaz, who is known to have given his personal backing to the scheme.

It is claimed that the African National Congress has put pressure on Mr Mufamadi to stop the



Rapid fire: the Rent-a-Cop scheme was the subject of a debate this week at Cape Town police headquarters. The SAPS is falling in its primary duty of protecting the ordinary citizen.

scheme, in line with ANC policy that "the SAPS is committed to an even-handed and transparent service to the South African community and must not be involved in any form of selective policing".

James Ngculu, ANC secretary-general in the Western Cape, told Saturday Argus that "security must not be the preserve of those who have money to rent a cop. It must be available across the board to disadvantaged people as well".

Eddie Johnson, spokesman for the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru), said "Rent-a-Cop must be disbanded. Business should continue contributing to the SAPS but the money should be

used to improve policing in high-crime areas on the Cape Flats, such as Manenberg, instead of in Sea Point.

"Reservists who serve in Rent-a-Cop should be taken into the SAPS as full members - the way they are being employed now is blatant exploitation".

However the rival SA Police Union has come out in full support of Rent-a-Cops.

Spokesman Andy Miller said "SAPS begs the community to get involved, but when they put their money where their mouth is, then they kick them in the teeth".

The axing of Rent-a-Cop was slammed by the DP

and NP. Mr Gibson said "The praiseworthy Rent-a-Cop scheme was a desperate measure undertaken because the SAPS has failed in its duty. If Commissioner Fivaz is going to axe Rent-a-Cop, he should deploy an equivalent number of police to take their places".

Mr Fourie of the NP said "The SAPS is obviously having practical and administrative problems but there is nothing that cannot be resolved. If the Rent-a-Cop scheme, or any other scheme, is feasible and effective, impediments should be removed".

Commissioner Fivaz's directive, distributed to station level earlier this month, gave a blow-by-blow

(251) ARLT 26/7/97

account of problems the SAPS had with Rent-a-Cop schemes.

While he admitted that the service could not cope with demands made on it, it could not be involved in projects "contrary to Government policy or which are not justified in terms of legislation," he said.

Among the problems were:
■ There could be serious financial implications if Rent-a-Cop reservists were killed or injured on duty because the conditions in which they served differed from those imposed by regulations and by Treasury instructions.

■ It was against the law for a police reservist to be paid with money not appropriated by Parliament.
■ Private police forces were forbidden by the constitution.

■ In some cases the reservist schemes put the SAPS in competition with private security companies.

■ Difficulties had arisen with command and control functions, salaries, conditions of service and trade unions. The Labour Relations Act could have serious implications in this respect.

■ The schemes placed an additional burden on the SAPS with regard to the use of personnel and equipment.

Alie Gardien, president of the Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry, has written to Mr Mufamadi challenging a statement that by paying police reservists the Community Police Officers (CPO) board was creating a private police service.

"Reservists employed by the board fall under the control of SAPS and are subject to its discipline," he said.

Mr Gardien also said that the claim that the CPOs were in competition with private security firms was not valid because the CPOs were "an extension of the police - to secure public streets and public places".

SAPS spokesman John Sterrenberg said that joint meetings between the provincial police commissioner Leon Wessels, and the CPO board were being held daily in an attempt to resolve the problem.

Commissioner Wessels said the meetings would discuss the impact the termination of the project would have on crime, and alternatives to this "highly successful programme".

Kahn brews plans for (251) better SAPS

Star 28/7/97

Priority will be to see that taxpayers are getting best service for money

By DEREK RODNEY
Crime Reporter

Sorting through the quicksand of police bureaucracy, politics, budget constraints and an unhealthy crime rate is going to take quite a bit of Meyer Kahn's gut feel, brain power and confidence when he walks into his office at police headquarters today

In a candid interview with The Star last week Kahn outlined some priorities that he would be giving

— 66 —
There are still plenty of good cops doing the job
— 99 —

his attention to as he sheds the mantle of a powerful businessman heading one of the largest breweries in the world and prepares to don a police cap and apply his formidable business acumen to solving some of the problems facing the force

His first order of business will be to examine existing police structures to see if the country's taxpayers are getting the best possible service for their money.

"To tell you the truth I'm

not sure if the budget is too big or too small and it will take some sorting out before I can make a call on the service's resource management," Kahn said

This investigation will lead directly into his second priority which is to examine if these structures are complementary to each other in the fight against crime

"I want to see if some structures do not handcuff others in the execution of their duties as it's impossible for the service to go anywhere if they don't know what to do," he said.

Another priority will be addressing the service's lagging morale.

"It is my opinion that there are plenty of good cops still doing the job (despite popular sentiment), but they get virtually no credit or support from the public or from within the service," he said

Kahn's ideal is to get ownership of the product (policing) down to the lowest level

"There are too many people from politicians, observers, the media and sections of the population, who are involved in the crime debate, but far too few are willing to take any responsibility," Kahn said

With a gleam in his eye Kahn concluded "Naturally, all this can change overnight and I reserve the right to change without notice," he said.

Decentralise police tasks, says report ⁽²⁵¹⁾

BD 28/7/97

Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — Central government should consider decentralising certain police functions to the provinces and devolving some political authority to safety and security MECs, a task team appointed by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi has suggested.

Mufamadi submitted the report of the four-member task team, chaired by Centre for Policy Studies research officer Khehla Shubane, to provincial MECs at a meeting on Friday.

Safety and security secretary Azhar Cachalia said the task team was unable to make a definitive recommendation on the devolution of political authority to MECs, but it said consideration should be given to devolving some form of authority in specific areas such as crime prevention and community policing forums.

The task team recommended also that metropolitan and municipal police forces be established with responsibility over crime prevention.

However, this should be a concurrent power with the SA Police Service. The SAPS should still have primary responsibility over crime prevention, the report said.

Cachalia said he believed that any form of devolution should not result in the single line of authority between the national minister and the national police commissioner being broken, and an MEC should not be able to give an instruction to police which contradicted that of the minister.

Mufamadi had asked the task team to compile the report in the wake of the adoption of the new constitution last year. Other members of the task team included academic Mark Shaw, lawyer Khalik Mayet and assistant national police commissioner Louis Eloff.

The report comes at a time when most provinces — including Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Mpumalanga and Western Cape — are clamouring for greater policing powers.

Cachalia said the task team had followed the principle that "policing must be closest to the community" and had tried to establish the needs of communities and police at different levels.

Its recommendation that consideration be given to decentralising certain key functions meant that local station commissioners could, for example, have control over their budgets at some point in the future.

Control over logistics could also fall under provincial SAPS offices rather than the national office.

Cachalia said that the metropolitan and municipal police forces would be established and funded by local authorities within the framework of national legislation.

KwaZulu-Natal premier Ben Ngubane said that while he had not yet studied the report, any move towards decentralisation needed to be welcomed. He said MECs should also be given a significant amount of "original" decision-making powers so that the fight against crime could receive an "added push".

Police union plans stayaway

Reneé Grawitzky

BD 29/7/97 (251)

THE SA Police Union (Sapu) said yesterday that between 25 and 35 police stations in KwaZulu-Natal would be affected by industrial action today while members in other parts of the country would launch go-slows.

Today's action is in support of the union's demand to remove wage discrimination by regrading the salary entry levels for police.

The union walked out of negotiations last week in protest against government's final wage offer of 7,5% coupled with the regrading of two positions.

The union's national secretary, Peter-Don Brandt, warned that the situation in other parts of the country was very volatile while station commanders in KwaZulu-Natal were sup-

porting the action of members who planned to book off sick today.

SA Police Services Sen Supt human resources Strim Govender said the provinces had as yet not reported any form of absenteeism.

Sapu members were warned that strike action would be illegal and could lead to dismissals as police services were classified as essential services, he said.

The union is demanding the upgrading of all police salaries because it believes police are different to other public servants, saying that in some European countries police salaries are up to 40% higher than those of other public servants.

It is understood however, that during negotiations the union failed to provide the information to substantiate its claim.

12 states link in crime battle

ASHLEY SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

The battle against crime syndicates operating across international borders is set to intensify with the signing in Cape Town of an agreement between police chiefs from 12 southern African states.

The landmark document was signed by South Africa, Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mauritius yesterday.

The chiefs were delegates to the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Co-operation Organisation conference which

was also attended by the FBI and the Drug Enforcement Agency from the United States, Interpol, and the US and United Kingdom customs.

The multilateral agreement is set to address crimes like hijacking, car thefts, drug smuggling, robbery and money laundering across southern African borders.

Minister of Safety and Security Sydney Mufamadi has been elected chairman of the organisation.

Commissioner of Police George Fivaz said the agreement would cement the working relationship between southern African countries. "Crime is not confined by borders, therefore the police must not be confined," he said.

Although southern African countries had worked together in the past, the agreement had the approval of the governments of the 12 countries, he said.

"Any international agreement takes a few years to be ratified by the governments concerned. However, in the meantime we have already cemented relationships among the police services of southern Africa," he said.

A good example of how southern African police had worked together was Operation V4, which spanned South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. Police seized stolen vehicles worth R100-million and a large arms cache was found in Mozambique.



Top job Minister of Safety and Security Sydney Mufamadi talks to the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Co-operation Organisation, police chiefs from 12 southern African countries, of which he was elected chairman.

Rent-a-cops axed because of labour law snag, says FIVAZ

ASHLEY SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

The rent-a-cop project was scrapped because a provision in the Labour Relations Act means reservists working for longer than three years will have the right to permanent jobs in the police service.

This was the reason given by Commissioner George Fivaz in reaction to the public outcry over the axing of 26 000 voluntary reservists countrywide. In Cape Town yesterday, Commissioner Fivaz said the rent-a-cop project "in its present form" could not continue, as police

would soon face a similar crisis to the "krikskonstabel" debacle.

Many of the "krikskonstabels" drafted into the police permanently recently were also not qualified and the standard of policing was suffering as a result.

A "misconception" had been created that the rent-a-cop project was being terminated because of ulterior motives in the police service.

Perhaps metropolitan councils could employ the reservists in a way similar to the police, he said.

"The rent-a-cops would then be answerable to these councils," Commissioner Fivaz added.

RA 31/7/97

(251)

Shroud covers deaths connected to police

By DAVID BRUCE

Statistics released at the beginning of July by the Independent Complaints Directorate (ICD) indicate that deaths in police custody or as a result of police action averaged more than 60 a month over the April to June period. This places a particular burden on the ICD which is required by law to investigate all such fatalities.

The ICD falls in with an international trend towards the involvement of independent (non-police) bodies in investigations against the police. There are powerful reasons for

Quality of probes into such deaths very poor

the involvement of such a body in investigations into custody and police action deaths.

Evidence from a wide range of countries is that the quality of police investigations into such deaths is consistently very poor. Former New York police officer, and authority on police killings, James Fyfe, refers to research demonstrating that police investigators into such deaths constantly fail to report non-police "alternate credible versions" of events.

In many cases, however, there are no such alternate versions as the police are the only witnesses. If the police are inclined not even to report the evidence of civilian witnesses to

shootings, there would appear to be little likelihood that they will conduct thorough investigations into such killings when there are no such witnesses.

While in principle therefore it makes good sense that a body such as the ICD should conduct investigations into killings of this kind, various issues arise relating to this requirement.

Broadly the ICD's role is to ensure that possible criminal offences or cases of misconduct involving members of the South African Police Service are efficiently and effectively investigated. In general the ICD would only involve itself in a case on the basis of a complaint or allegation that the police were involved in criminal conduct or the infringement of police disciplinary regulations.

In relation to custody and police action deaths, however, the law obliges the ICD to investigate such cases even where no allegation or complaint has been made regarding possible police criminality. Potentially, therefore, the involvement of the ICD in such an investigation may give rise to the mistaken impression there is evidence or suspicion of police misconduct even where there is no such evidence or suspicion.

A further source of possible confusion is the idea that all the deaths which the ICD investigates will be those of people who were killed by the police. One article, for instance, said the ICD statistics covered people "killed by police during arrest or while in custody".

In practice a number of

deaths, in custody particularly, are likely to be the result of other causes, such as suicide, or assault by other arrestees.

Nevertheless it appears true that the vast majority of the people whose deaths are recorded in the ICD statistics were killed by the police. Of the 191 deaths 120 are attributed to shootings by the police, 73 of these during the course of arrests. What is not at all clear however is what portion, if any, are the result of actions by the police which amount to forms of misconduct, or criminality.

One reason for suspecting that a number of these deaths may be related to criminality on the part of the police is the prevalence of vigilantism in South Africa today.

Participants in vigilantism frequently cite the ineffectiveness of the criminal justice system as justification for their actions. Evidence is that dissatisfaction with the criminal justice system, and with the restrictions imposed by the constitution, is also significant within the police service. It is therefore possible that members of the police service may use these factors to justify their own "police vigilantism".

A further issue relates to the requirement that the ICD investigate all custody and police action deaths. The ICD, a newly created body, is presently still in the process of putting together its team of investigators. While former detectives may potentially be recruited by the ICD, in order to have credibility as an independent body it is necessary that a significant number of investigators should

not be former police officers.

But, in order to acquire the necessary skills to operate effectively, such investigators will need not only to be trained but also to gain substantial experience. Particularly if custody and police action deaths continue at the current rate therefore, the ICD is currently unlikely to be able to shoulder the burden of properly investigating all such deaths.

If the ICD were to have the discretion to select for investigation cases where a stronger possibility of police misconduct appears to exist, it will

Of the 191 deaths, 120 attributed to shooting

then be far more likely to be able to conduct high quality investigations.

Arguably therefore, at least until it has increased its investigative capacity, the ICD will be more likely to succeed in investigating cases effectively if it is given the discretion to conduct a smaller number of targeted and thorough investigations.

Where it does not investigate cases itself it should monitor SAPS investigations to ensure that these are carried out properly.

David Bruce is a researcher in the criminal justice policy unit at the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation.

Spar 30/8/97 (251)

PUBLIC SECTOR - POLICE

1997

AUG. - DEC

Discrimination drove 300 gay SA police to suicide last year' (251)

CT 1/8/97

FATIMA SCHROEDER

OVER 300 homosexual policemen and policewomen in South Africa — out of a total force of about 14 000 — committed suicide last year, according to Sergeant Dennis Adriao of Johannesburg

Most of them ended their lives because they couldn't cope with discrimination in the force, said Adriao, who is in the city to monitor Western Cape police attitudes

"As members of the police we have to deal with the community. It is therefore important that the community understands us."

After they were given the go-ahead by National Police Commissioner George Fivaz, Adriao and representatives from other provinces launched the South African Lesbian and Gay Police Association last September to help support homosexual officers who are too scared to "come out of the closet"

Representatives of the organisation will monitor police stations to check whether there is discrimination against homosexuals

Adriao said the hardest part of being gay was "coming out of the closet"

"My parents are very conservative. When I told them I was gay all hell broke loose. They kicked me out of the house," he said

"It took three months for them to come to terms with it — and then only up to a certain point



SUPPORT: Three of the founders of the South African Lesbian and Gay Police Association — an organisation formed to help homosexual police members "come out of the closet" — are (from left) Grant Butler, André Collins and Dennis Adriao

PICTURE: LEON LESTRADE

Mr Grant Butler of the National Protection Services in Rondebosch and one of the founders of the organisation said "My mother was initially shocked, but she's accepting it now. She even started a support group for parents with gay children."

However, said Adriao, it

wouldn't have been accepted as easily a year ago

Sergeant André Collins of the Flying Squad in Pinelands pointed out "A year ago many police members were dismissed if they revealed their sexuality. Now, with the equality clause in the new Constitution, that should all

change"

Collins said many members of the police force were still too scared to reveal their sexuality. These were the people the organisation wanted to help

Homosexual police members who seek support or further advice should call 088 1281 902

Rent-a-cops win reprieve until year-end

Waterfront sets example

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT AND ANDREA WEISS
STAFF REPORTERS

Cape Town's rent-a-cop scheme has been reprieved until the end of the year after urgent appeals by business, politicians and residents.

The decision follows an outcry over the announcement by Police Commissioner George Fivaz that the project would be disbanded immediately.

Legal complications with the payment of the rent-a-cops and the fear of a "kitskonstabel" debacle were cited as the main reasons for the decision.

Chris Joubert, chairman of the City Community Patrol Board, which manages the scheme, said the latest development was "not good enough". He would continue to fight for the survival of the project and push for its legalisation by the end of the month.

The 300 reservists, paid for by the private sector, have contributed to a drop in crime in the city.

A spokesman for Western Cape Police Minister Gerald Morkel said the reprieve meant the project would stay in place until a "proper solution" had been found.

Draft legislation for the creation of a municipal or metropolitan police

force was signed by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi yesterday as a possible alternative to the rent-a-cop scheme, he said.

The decision to reprieve the rent-a-cops came hours after the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront's head of security, Paddy Allen, told the tourism industry that a private army of security guards had turned the Waterfront into "one of the safest places in the country".

The Waterfront has 50 security guards at any time in an area of about four square kilometres, compared to 60 police, including 40 reservists, in the six square kilometre city centre.

If the rent-a-cops go, 20 police will be available to patrol the city centre.

The strong presence of security officers in uniform and plain clothes had contributed to the Waterfront's reputation as the safest place in South Africa, said Mr Allen.

"Parents even feel comfortable leaving their children there for the day," he said.

The V & A Waterfront Company has appealed to Mr Morkel to extend its guards' powers. At present they have citizen's arrest powers, which means they can act only if they witness a crime.

(251)

ARG 1/8/97

Police take 'sick' strike action in bid for more pay

NORMAN JOSEPH

STAFF REPORTER

ARG 1/18/97

(251)

More than 30 policemen, all members of the South African Police Union, are off "sick", causing a major crisis at two stations on the Cape Flats.

Union spokesman Billy Daniels said it was part of a nationwide effort to demand "one salary notch increase in addition to a 7,5 percent increase"

Mr Daniels said members were also demanding overtime pay and were fed up with staff shortages and heavy workloads

He said police were doing a "unique job" serving communities and deserved to be recognised financially for their efforts

At Bishop Lavis police station, 19 Sapu members booked off sick, leaving station commissioner Hendrik Burger and captains Cedric October and John van der Ross working about 17 hours each yesterday

At Elsies River police station 14 union members went off sick

Many officers at the station are working double shifts without sleep

Senior Superintendent Burger said that according to police standing orders, members were entitled to sick leave

The sudden action by union members started yesterday morning when policemen and women, from the rank of constable to inspector, called in to charge offices to say they had flu, or were suffering from hypertension, stress or stomach viruses

Western Cape police spokeswoman Fieffe Phillips said the crisis at the two stations did not affect policing in communities. Skeleton staff would be doing duty

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Cop-shop criminals

Star 2/8/97 (251)

One in four policemen at John Vorster Square is being probed

By SASHA JENSEN

The already fragile credibility of policemen tasked with safeguarding Johannesburg's inner city has been dealt another blow at least 25% of policemen stationed at John Vorster Square are being investigated by an internal police investigative department.

More than 380 dockets have been opened and at least 50 cases are being heard in court against policemen who operate from South Africa's largest police station.

The allegations are widespread and include corruption, fraud, blackmail, assault, loss of firearms, and murder.

The John Vorster Square internal investigative unit is working around the clock to get on top of the huge number of case dockets that need to be investigated.

It is believed that a quarter of the policemen at John Vorster Square have a case docket registered against them.

Two of the policemen are currently being investigated for murder.

Director of John Vorster Square David Botha is very frank about the number of corrupt officers under his command. He is, however, irritated about the situation.

"We deal with every single case that comes on to our desks. Every allegation is investigated and we realise there is a problem. But we are trying to put it right."

"The only thing we can do is work through all the dockets.

But, if you look at the greater scheme of things, corruption is not as big a problem here as in the rest of the country," he said.

Every case reported to the internal investigative unit is given to the attorney-general's office for a decision on whether to prosecute.

Botha said the statistics were probably not correct because hundreds of people did not report cases of blackmail and fraud.

But one of the major concerns of Captain Piet Marais, of the internal investigative unit, is to catch the corrupt officers in the act.

Complex traps and surveillance equipment will be put in place in an effort to catch police offenders.

Detectives will go undercover to root out the troublemakers in the units. But Marais says prevention is the preferred strategy and that the aim is to stop crime from happening.

Suspended

Policemen under investigation are suspended only after due consideration is taken by department heads. Even though a crime may have been committed, the officer will be able to continue with his duties until the case docket has been fully investigated.

"Depending on how serious the crime is, the officer may be suspended, but in some cases they carry on with their duties," Marais explained.

Botha said there were sometimes two players in the corruption game. "The public is as

much to blame as the police in these situations.

"The public must stop offering bribes to the policemen, as much as the policemen must stop accepting them. It is a two-way street," he said.

A source told the *Saturday Star* that in some cases, police falsely report the loss of a firearm. Sometimes police officers sell their firearms and claim they have been attacked or mugged.

Attorney-General Andre de Vries said he was well aware of the severe corruption crisis in the SAPS and that he was very worried about what was happening all over Johannesburg, not only at John Vorster Square.

"We know of the problems and we work very closely with the anti-corruption unit. We are handed case dockets and we give them to the anti-corruption commander, who deals with them one by one," he said.

"We are inundated with corruption allegations from all over the place. There is a lot of work for us to do here," De Vries added.

Recent national statistics revealed that 4% of policemen have criminal records. More than 8 029 members of the SAPS have been investigated for criminal offences and by May this year 2 284 had been charged.

There were 63 murder charges and 28 of culpable homicide, 29 of attempted murder, as well as 22 of reported rape allegations resulting in charges. This year alone, 37 policemen have been charged with defeating the ends of justice and 15 with bribery.

380 corruption cases at John Vorster Square

Probe into fraud, blackmail, murder

SASHA JENSEN

The already fragile credibility of policemen tasked with safeguarding Johannesburg's inner city has been dealt another blow: at least 25 percent of officers at John Vorster Square are being investigated by an internal police investigation department.

Over 300 dockets have been opened and at least 50 cases are being heard in court against policemen who operate from South Africa's largest police station

The allegations are widespread. They include corruption, fraud, blackmail, assault, loss of firearms and murder.

The over-worked John Vorster Square Internal Investigative Unit is working around the clock to process case dockets that need investigation

It is believed that a quarter of the policemen at John Vorster Square have a case docket registered against them

Two policemen are suspected of murder

Director of John Vorster Square David Botha is honest about the number of corrupt officers under his command. He is also irritated about the situation

"We deal with every case that comes to our desks

"Every allegation is investigated and we realise there is a problem. But we are trying to put it right

"The only thing we can do is work through all the dockets

"But if you look at the greater scheme of things, corruption is not a bigger prob-

lem here as it is in the rest of the country," he said. Every case reported to the Internal Investigative Unit is given to the Attorney-General's office, which decides whether or not to prosecute the case

Mr Botha said the statistics were likely to be incorrect because hundreds of people did not report cases of blackmail or fraud

But one of the major concerns of Captain Piet Marais, of the Internal Investigative Unit, is to catch corrupt officers in the act.

Complex traps and surveillance would be set to catch police offenders

Detectives would go undercover to root out troublemakers.

But Captain Marais said prevention was the preferred strategy

The aim was to stop the crime before it occurred

Policemen under investigation are suspended only after due consideration by department heads

Although a crime may have been committed, the officer is often able to continue his duties until the case has been investigated

"Depending on how serious the crime, the officer will be suspended, but in some cases they carry on with their duties," Captain Marais said

Mr Botha said that often corruption involved more than just a police officer

"The public are as much to blame

"The public must stop offering bribes to the policemen as much as policemen must stop accepting them

"It is a two-way street," he said

ARC 2/8/97

One source said that in some cases police falsely reported the loss of their firearm

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Recent statistics revealed that four percent of policemen in South Africa had criminal records

Over 8 029 members of the SAPS have been investigated for criminal offences. By May this year, 2 284 members had been charged

There were 63 charges of murder, 28 of culpable homicide, 29 of attempted murder and 22 allegations of rape that resulted in charges

This year, 37 policemen have been charged with defeating the ends of justice. Fifteen have been charged with bribery

Overall, it is likely that John Vorster Square is representative of police stations throughout South Africa

Kempton Park gets own police force

Star 4/8/97 (251)

Community mobilised to get crime under control and make town a safer place

By Rodney Victor

Kempton Park is the first town in Gauteng to get its own city police - although they can't officially be called that until Parliament passes an amendment to the Police Act allowing local authorities to establish their own city police. Kempton Park had combined its traffic and security departments to form the new service, said the city's director of public safety Roelf Kruger. Members have undergone training, including a special weapons and

tactics course and training in court procedure.

Volunteers trained in skills to handle emergencies

The East Rand police commissioner had granted them the same powers as peace officers and they

could now make arrests and perform other functions normally carried out by the police.

The city police were part of Kempton Park's total anti-crime drive, Kruger said.

"Two years ago Kempton Park was a gangsters' paradise. Investment was not coming in anymore, and council decided we had to get things back under control," he said.

The city police had been distributed into fixed regions over Kempton Park and Tembisa. "They are working with the com-

munity, running crime prevention campaigns and mobilising people to make Kempton Park a safe place."

They were also training volunteers in paramedical and firefighting skills, following the United States model where such skills were widely distributed in the community.

"Johannesburg International Airport is one of our big concerns. If there were a plane crash, there could be a hell of a problem and we would need as many people as possible," Kruger said. The training programmes were paying off, he added.

Police officers to withhold overtime

By GILL GIFFORD

(251)

Star 4/8/97
they are not paid. By withholding these hours, policemen are not striking, yet they are making their voices heard," Van der Merwe said.

More than 25 000 policemen will embark on various forms of labour action this week in protest against the proposed 7,5% salary increase, according to the South African Police Union.

Sapu national organiser Gerhard van der Merwe said. "We believe a distinction should be made between police and other civil servants, and officials in the (police) service should be lifted at least one scale above their civil-service counterparts"

The intended labour action includes police using their right to take up to three days' sick leave without producing a medical certificate, and not working overtime for which they are not paid

"About a third of effective policing is reliant on overtime work done by police, for which

Police management spokesman Superintendent Strim Govender said such action could be regarded as illegal strike action.

More than 25 000 to take part

"Certain labour action constitutes misconduct, and will be investigated. At this stage there is no movement regarding the State's offer of 7,5%," he said

Van der Merwe said the provinces most affected were Gauteng, KwaZulu Natal and the Eastern and Western Cape

Bottlenecks in police, justice and prisons to be ironed out

New fingerprint system will cut identification down to hours instead of weeks

By **DEREK RODNEY**
Crime Reporter

The unwieldy criminal justice system is in dire need of an overhaul and the call has gone out to national and international consultants to come forward with a world-first model to breach existing bottlenecks in the cumbersome system.

National Crime Prevention Strategy (NCPS) co-ordinator Dr Bernie Faneroff said last week a tender had been issued for the creation of an integrated criminal justice information management system with the first phase earmarked for completion by March next year.

"The idea is not to reinvent the wheel, a number of departments including the police, justice and correctional services have extensively analysed the entire criminal justice process

within the framework of the NCPS and have identified a number of bottleneck areas which need urgent attention," Faneroff said

Although the ideal of an integrated justice system will not be a reality for a few years,

Fast-track schemes will achieve short-term objectives

fast track schemes such as an improved court management system, which will include the computerisation of the offices of the attorneys-general and improved access to criminal records, have already been identified.

"The different departments

will continue to implement fast track programmes to achieve short-term goals but the NCPS tender is aimed at creating a framework inside which all these different departments and initiatives will strive towards the same goal," he said.

One priority, the automated fingerprint identification system, has already gone to tender and once completed will bring the time for fingerprint identification down to less than 48 hours, and not weeks as is currently the situation.

Improved communication and co-operation between prosecutors and police is also being prioritised with joint training courses already taking place.

The SAPS and the Department of Justice have taken steps to ensure that the existing control system for dockets is properly applied. Issues of discipline and of morale are being addressed in the NCPS

Raw 4/8/97

programme on corruption. Pilot programmes have been instituted in courts in Cape Town aimed at providing valuable lessons for the preparation of bail hearings.

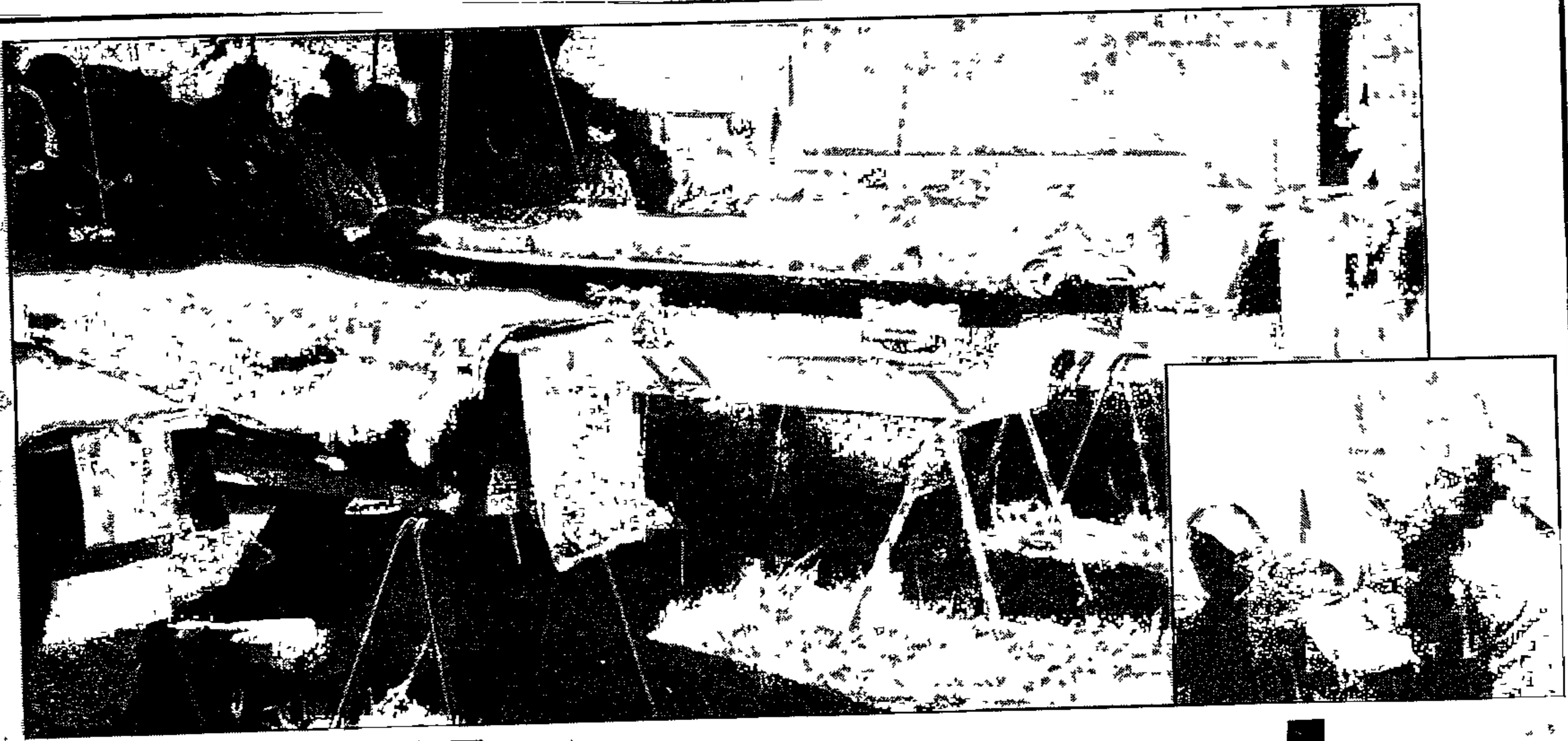
Other measures include improved administrative assistance to detectives and prosecutors, practical training for police and court officials focused on bail issues, training for court officials and police on the implications of the construction, measures to divert those charged with minor crimes out of the courts by providing alternatives and the improvement of the state's ability to deal with bail hearings properly.

The NCPS initiatives are being facilitated by Business Against Crime which has donated a project office and skilled personnel to assist departments in streamlining their initiatives.

Coffins of the five ANC members buried yesterday, from left: Boy Dlamini, Mduduzi Mtungwa, Mshiyeni Nyide, Mbongiseni Mchunu and Mkhokiseni Mchunu.

President Nelson Mandela cuddles two-month-old Siphesihle Dlamini, son of late ANC councillor Boy Dlamini. With Mandela is ANC KwaZulu-Natal leader Jacob Zuma.

PICS MASTER MOSUNKUTU



Mandela vows to root out bad cops

By Mbulelo Baloyi

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela yesterday vowed that rogue security policemen in the Greater Pietermaritzburg area would be removed soon.

He was speaking at the funeral of five African National Congress members, including newly-elected councillors, who were gunned down in Isimozomeni near Richmond a fortnight ago.

Councillors Bheki Musa Mchunu and Mbongiseni Mchunu and ANC supporters Boy Dlamini, Mduduzi Mtungwa and Mshiyeni Nyide were all buried yesterday. They were shot on July 22.

An angry Mandela said the Gov-

ernment would need to act "to nip the vile plots" of the rogue security policemen in the bud.

He said these policemen were driven by desperate attempts "to arrest the democratic transformation of South Africa and turn back the clock of history".

"We will apprehend the criminals who pulled the trigger and killed our people on July 22."

Political criminals

The President said the Government was not dealing with an individual or a small group of criminals in the Richmond area.

It was dealing with experienced political criminals in command of huge resources including finances,

weaponry, communication networks and connections in key positions.

"We are dealing with a highly coordinated network of people deployed in State organs such as the army and the police," he said.

He also conceded that these elements were in senior positions in the police force in the Pietermaritzburg area.

"Greater Pietermaritzburg is the headquarters of all third force elements in South Africa," he said.

Mandela urged mourners at the tense funeral not to be angry at the killings because "the third force wanted to pit members of the community against each other".

He said this would give the excuse for "the third force to butcher us under

the cover of so-called black-on-black violence". Let our sorrow and anger strengthen our determination that the days of enemies of democracy are numbered.

"Let them be warned that the power of the people will root them out from where they hide," he said.

Mandela said "the blood that Richmond has shed is a reminder that a democracy that cannot defend itself is not worth its salt".

Urged community

He also urged the Richmond community to cooperate with the special police task unit probing the killings.

Mandela also appealed to policemen with information on the recent killings to come forward.

"We want to know why and who decided to withdraw security forces, especially the soldiers, from this area on the day of the massacre".

Several ANC heavyweights, including Mrs Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, attended the funeral.

ANC Women's League president Madikizela-Mandela got a thunderous reception from mourners.

The funeral was held amid tight security following the killing of former Self Defence Unit (SDU) commander, M'Southern Zondi, and his girlfriend, Phumzile Nxele, on Friday night. Sources claimed Zondi was killed to stop him from naming those responsible for the violence that has claimed more than 400 lives in the area over the past seven years.

(251)

Sowetan 4/8/97

Kahn plans to take a simple approach to crime

Stephané Bothma

PRETORIA — SAPS CE Meyer Kahn last week officially took up his position at police headquarters, where he will spend the next two years working on converting

the service into an effective crime prevention agency

Kahn, seconded to government by SAB after a special request from Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, earlier said he planned to keep

to a simple approach to direct and accelerate a turnaround in the SAPS

He would start with reorganising the service's major assets, personnel, resources and motivational levels in the organisation, he said earlier

Kahn's office said he would not grant any media interviews or make any public speeches until much later this year or early next year

However, on Thursday, before officially taking up his position, Kahn met SA Police Union representatives to discuss the union's five major issues in its wage demand. These are salary regrad-

ing, the R600m budget cut in the police medical aid fund, the shortage in the overtime budget, the reinstatement of extraordinary allowances and fair distribution of performance bonuses

"What became clear was that although Khan was willing to do everything in his power to address these issues, he rightly said that he did not hold the purse strings of government," union vice-president Supt Arno Nel said after the meeting

Nel again warned that unless government addressed wage demands, police might take part in protest action



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BD 4/8/97
(25)

Apathy blamed on corruption

Stars 5/8/97

'Criminal is seen on the same corner the next day because public is afraid' (251)

By DENEK RODNEY
Crime Reporter

Police are concerned about public apathy and the perception that crimes are not worth reporting because of corruption in the force

At least 50 John Vorster Square policemen have been convicted of serious crimes in the past 10 months and more than 380 are being investigated for crimes ranging from reckless driving and assault to rape, armed robbery, corruption and murder

CBD commander Superintendent Jan Otto said public perceptions of crime in the inner city had been skewed by media coverage of attacks in the Smal Street Mall and hit-and-run crimes involving roving bands of criminals

"The reason the criminal is seen again on the same corner the next day is that the public is often too afraid to lay charges

when a suspect is caught, and ease of bail being granted encourages witnesses to back down," Otto said

Pedestrians and irate shop-owners have accused police of inefficiency and collusion with marauding gangs sometimes numbering more than 15 members, who ruthlessly attack unsuspecting tourists or first-time visitors to the city's heart

Many expressed frustration at the lack of any action once cases were reported, and attributed the decline in reported crime to the public's lack of faith in CBD police.

"It is horrifying for law-abiding citizens to see these crimes splashed on newspaper pages, but the truth of the matter is that reported muggings and other CBD crimes such as purse-snatching and smash-and-grab incidents have declined significantly since policing efforts were intensified in July last year," Otto said

He added that at least 150

policemen were deployed in four identified policing sectors daily and they were now being supported by more than 100 army personnel

John Vorster Square internal investigation unit head Captain Peet Marais said 50

66

Truth is that muggings are down significantly

policemen, excluding the 50 who had already been convicted, had been positively identified and linked to serious crimes such as murder (seven), corruption (seven) and armed robbery (two). Investigators were finalising their cases for trial.

Many more policemen had faced internal disciplinary measures such as demotions, transfers and fines

"A major problem for investigators is getting complainants to lay charges and getting witnesses to come forward so that we can get enough evidence to go to court," Marais said

The unit now had between 380 and 390 cases against police on hand, with between 50 and 80 cases reported each month, he added

Ironically, this figure is down from the 120 cases a month average at the beginning of 1996

"I believe the reason is because of the widespread exposure of corrupt police and their prosecution, and our efforts to crack down on crooked policemen is finally starting to bear fruit"

John Vorster Square station commissioner Director David Botha said a 24-hour hotline to his office was available for anyone wishing to report corrupt police. The hotline numbers are (011) 834-3577 (w) or 834-5549 (fax).

WE'RE GETTING OUR OWN COPS

WILLEM STEENKAMP

In an anti-crime breakthrough, the Western Cape is to get its own highly trained Metropolitan police force – with its own distinctive uniforms – from next year.

The Metropolitans will replace the hugely successful Rent-a-Cops in the city and will have the power to arrest and bring criminals to book

The new crimefighters could be ready to patrol city streets early in the new year

The Rent-a-Cop scheme is to be scrapped by the end of December after pressure from National Police Commissioner George Fivaz, who said it was in conflict with existing legislation

Dawie Joubert, a spokesman in the legal division of the SA Police Services, confirmed that Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi had signed draft legislation which would devolve power to provincial governments enabling them to deploy metropolitan police forces

It is expected that final legislation will be approved and promulgated soon, allowing the establishment of metropolitan police forces in the Western Cape and elsewhere

Mr Joubert said it was possible that the local Rent-a-Cop scheme be allowed to continue after the December cut-off date to ensure the Metropolitan force was in place before the Rent-a-Cop scheme was aban-

(251) ARG 9/8/97
done Western Cape Premier Hernus Kriel welcomed the long-awaited signing of the draft legislation, saying a metropolitan police force could play an important role in combating crime in the Western Cape

Mr Kriel has consistently campaigned for the establishment of metropolitan police forces. While he was still national Minister of Law and Order he pressed for the establishment of a metropolitan police

'Such a force will go a long way in ensuring the Cape is a safe place for its citizens'

force in Cape Town. He also has been instrumental in ensuring that the successful Rent-a-Cop scheme – which was under pressure to close down immediately – was given a reprieve till the end of December

Mr Kriel said "The establishment of a metropolitan police force in the Western Cape now will allow local authorities the opportunity to combat crime at grass-roots level. The crime rate in the Cape is at an unacceptable level and I welcome any steps which could help us bring crime under control in our region. Clearly, funding of

such a force may be a problem, but that is a bridge we will cross when the time comes

"The Western Cape government welcomes the opportunity to deploy a metropolitan police force and I will make every effort to ensure that such a force will be well-trained and professional

"Such a force will go a long way in ensuring that the Cape is a safe place for its citizens as well as the thousands of tourists who flock to our region every year

"Once legislation is in place – and I trust the legislation will ensure that such a force will have the necessary powers to indeed help combat crime effectively – we will go all out to ensure that the Cape's own metropolitan police force will be established as a matter of urgency," said Mr Kriel

David Frost, spokesman in the office of Western Cape Police Minister Gerald Morkel also welcomed the draft legislation

He said such a force would have its own distinctive uniform and would be highly trained

"Clearly the metropolitan force would also comply with national police standards as laid down by Mr Mufamadi

"We would want to have a look at the legislation to establish the exact powers of the metropolitan police force and clearly the funding of such a force would have to be investigated. Clearly we'll do everything in our power to ensure this is a highly trained, professional and capable force which will help combat crime in our region "

Police union plans a 'sick' protest tomorrow

(251)
STAFF REPORTER ARG 5/8/97

South African Police Union members, in large numbers countrywide, are to take sick leave from tomorrow and will not sign letters accepting a pay increase of 7,5 percent.

Heavy rain did not dampen the spirits of hundreds of policemen and women who yesterday attended a rally at the Pinelands Sportsgrounds, where they demanded a salary notch increase in addition to the 7,5 percent

Union president Arno Nel said police management had an estimated R190-million set aside for merit increases - but instead of them being given to members of the union, other "back-biters" were getting them

Members, huddled together in the rain and wind, chanted that they demanded increases "we deserve"

Mr Nel will be part of a delegation to meet police national management on August 12.

Sapu to intensify industrial action

Reneé Grawitzky

THE SA Police Union (Sapu) would intensify industrial action this week to challenge government's final 7,5% wage offer, it said yesterday.

The Police and Civil Rights Union (Popcu) warned members not to "fall into management's trap", after a decision by the police mandate committee to offer union and nonunion members the choice to accept the final offer

SA Police Service (SAPS) spokesman Strini Govender said a mandate had been received from the cabinet to implement salary increases. Therefore employees had been notified that they could accept the final offer without prejudice

Management had an obligation to communicate the offer to all its employees and allow them to exercise their choice, he said. Acceptance by union members did not prevent the continuation of negotiations for further increases

Sapu has challenged government's final offer which also provides for the rank promotion of 30 000 people in the police service who would effectively receive increases of up to 20%

The SAPS said yesterday that Sapu's action, which included union members taking extended sick leave and refusing to work overtime, had been sporadic and had not disrupted service significantly.

Sapu said up to 100 police stations had been affected by the action which would intensify this week and could result in marches in Gauteng.

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Sapu to intensify industrial action

Reneé Grawitzky

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Police 'cover up' torture claims

Attorneys general investigating police torture face the obstacle of corruption in the force, reports **Gustav Thiel**

(251) M+G 8/14/8/97

Dozens of cases detailing police torture to extract confessions or information from suspects have been handed to the Witwatersrand and Transvaal attorneys general during the past three years. Decisions about prosecutions are awaited

Jan Munnik:
"There are hundreds of torturers out there."
PHOTOGRAPH:
RUTH MOTAU



Jan Munnik, the advocate responsible for investigating complaints against the police, says he has come across many more cases of torture "There are hundreds of torturers out there."

However, his efforts to expose them have been stymied by rampant police corruption, including cover-ups by station commanders

Munnik's investigations led to the conviction late last year of four policemen in Vanderbijlpark, who were found guilty after torturing a suspect with electric shocks. The last successful conviction for torture was in April this year

His reports on another three cases, involving six policemen across the region, have been handed to Attorney General Andre de Vries. A representative says that De Vries has yet to decide whether or not to prosecute

In addition, dozens more cases were handed to Transvaal Attorney General Jan D'Oliviera from which only one conviction for torture followed

Munnik says that the evidence presented is strong "I can tell you that six policemen will be prosecuted if the attorney general follows the evidence" These cases are "just the tip of the iceberg"

Munnik's investigations, and those of other regional police complaints officers, were taken over at the start of last month by the Independent Complaints Directorate.

The directorate has already gone on record as saying that the number of deaths of suspects in custody or during police action is rising sharply. It is struggling to get full details

Similar problems faced Munnik in his three-year, often single-handed battle to prove that torture is widely used by members of the South African Police Service

"Unfortunately, the biggest problem is that almost all police station commanders cover for the people who work under them when they are fully aware that torture is going on at their stations"

The four policemen convicted last September for the assault on Benjamin Molefe in cells at the Vanderbijlpark murder and robbery unit were Detective T Chaka, Warrant Officer S Coetzee, Sergeant D van Heerden and Constable TT Skosana

They received sentences of 400 days' imprisonment or fines of R4 000 each, and a further 18 months' imprisonment suspended for

four years for the "extensive" harm they caused their victim through electric shocks.

Munnik says he was able to prove the use of electric shock torture in the cases by using a forensic system he devised which checks blood samples taken from the victims. The same tests were used to prepare the cases against the six policeman

He notes, however, that police have changed torture methods because they realise they can be detected. A current favourite is to pull the inner tube of a tyre over a suspect's head to induce suffocation. "There are cases of other kinds of torture where we have been unable to establish conclusively that the police were responsible," says Munnik

Munnik also warns that the directorate — an initiative of Minister of Safety and Security Sydney Mufamadi — "does not have the resources to address the problem"

The directorate's Pride Ndlovu says, however, that the police have been asked to forward current files of investigations into torture. The files being transferred are "still current and the directorate is therefore in no position to state which of these will result in prosecutions"

A representative for Mufamadi denies Munnik's allegations that station commanders are guilty of widespread cover-ups. He also says that it is impossible to comment on police torture as it is "very difficult" to keep statistics

No records are kept of convicted police torturers "since we as yet have no way of classifying the different kinds of torture employed"

Quantities of police files go to shredder

(251)

SAFETY and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi said yesterday, investigators had found that large numbers of security-branch files had been destroyed before the African National Congress took power in 1994.

However, investigators had uncovered a small number of apartheid security police files covering the period 1960-1994 which were not shredded, as well as some documents indicating which files had been destroyed, Mufamadi said.

He said he had met the investigators yesterday and, after consultation, decided not to reveal the contents of the unearthed documents in order not to prejudice investigations.

The investigators were overseen by the safety and security ministry, the truth commission, the Human Rights Commission and the National Archives.

A junior policeman told the truth commission in October last year that police in one small town had shredded a pile of files as big as a table. — Reuter.

60 818197

Police top brass had no idea 25% of John Vorster Square officers were under

By SASHA JENSEN

The SAPS's top leadership in Gauteng have admitted they were not informed that more than a quarter of the policemen at Johannesburg's John Vorster Square police station are under investigation. The first time they heard about the probes was when they read the *Saturday Star* last week.

This newspaper revealed that more than 380 dockets had been opened and at

least 50 policemen were due to appear in court on charges including murder, rape, fraud, blackmail and the loss of service firearms.

The director of John Vorster Square, David Botha, last week confirmed the number of cases against his officers but, it appears, these were not reported to the police's provincial leadership.

In a letter to the *Saturday Star*, acting provincial commissioner Hamilton Hlela expressed surprise and concern at the

large number of policemen who were being investigated. The matter had not been brought to his attention. Hlela vowed that the SAPS investigators, with the help of the various commissioners, would clean up John Vorster Square.

Director of communications Azwimndini Nengovhela, speaking on behalf of Hlela, said the commissioner would personally investigate each case docket and examine whether any of the policemen should be suspended.

Nengovhela said. "We do have to admit that some of our officers are involved in criminal activities. But we try to deal with these incidents on a daily basis, and if someone has not acted appropriately, they are usually suspended immediately."

Nengovhela said morale at the station had plummeted. He praised the loyal officers at John Vorster Square and said "only a percentage" were making it difficult for the others to do their work.

"There are many loyal officers at John Vorster Square 918197

(25/1)

Vorster and they are respected and thanked for their work. The wrong impression is sent out to members of the public who, we hope, won't lose faith in our work. But it is up to the good officers to help us weed out their colleagues who are behaving criminally. We need their help."

After the area commissioner had studied each case, the officers would be afforded a hearing, and each would be assessed thereafter, he added.

a cloud

Staff imbalances plague police stations

By JACQUI REEVES

Huge staffing disparities between police stations in Gauteng were revealed yesterday.

The South African Police Service's provincial management services department released figures to the *Saturday Star* yesterday which show some stations are understaffed by hundreds - and others hundreds overstaffed.

While the Eden Park, Rosebank, Sandton and Kameeldrift stations remain between 85 and 70,4% understaffed, the Katlehong police station has 199% or double the number of staff it needs.

The SAPS management service calculations, which follow a standard formula, have deter-

mined that Katlehong's ideal number of staff should be 307. The station's current staff complement is a shocking 611.

Captain Steven Moodley, of Rosebank police station, said his station's staffing problems continued to place his officers under tremendous pressure.

"We are doing very well in keeping things under control within our boundaries but the manpower issue desperately needs to be sorted out," he said. The staffing problem could be solved only with decisive management.

While many stations would benefit from a more evenly distributed police service, logistical issues would also have to be dealt with.

"Many stations need more

officers, but then we also need the cars and radios to make efficient use of them," Moodley said.

The management service statistics, which were calculated in June this year, were released to the *Saturday Star* after a question posed to Minister of Safety and Security Sydney Mufamadi by Douglas Gibson, a Democratic Party MP.

The question, requesting a written reply, was given to the minister in April this year. Gibson received the answers in July, reflecting statistics recorded two months earlier.

The May statistics indicated that Orlando police station had 946 policemen - it was overstaffed by 666 officers.

TO PAGE 2

Police problems

Star 9/18/97 (251)

The June statistics, however, paint a different picture. According to the updated figures, Orlando Station, now with 354 policemen, is "just" 26,4% overstaffed, with an excess of 74 officers.

The May statistics revealed that Protea Glen and Moroka stations had a 596 and 752-officer surplus respectively. Those figures have been reduced to 12 and 113.

Some of the more confusing statistics are centred around Brixton police station. Both the May and June analyses agree that the station's ideal staff number should be 379 officers. During the May analysis, the station had a reported 349 surplus officers. The station's "trimming" mechanisms appear, however, to have worked a little too efficiently, as the June figures claim the station is in need of 223 officers.

Reply

A spokesman for management services said the discrepancies may have occurred due to the inclusion of specialised units, not actually linked to the stations, being included in the total. He said further investigation would be necessary to pinpoint reasons for some of the extreme cases.

Maxwell Malaudzi, a Safety and Security Ministry spokesman, said he had not seen Mufamadi's reply and was unable to comment on the statistics. Gibson said he had forwarded the statistics to the recently appointed SAPS chief executive officer, Meyer Kahn, with further queries.

"We are not under-policed in terms of officers, we are under-policed in terms of the management systems of the SAPS," Gibson said. He called on those responsible for this "gross mismanagement" to be held accountable for their actions and for the current disparities to be solved.

(251)
More than 600 000 people apply
for 1 200 posts in police service

By GILL GIFFORD
Crime Reporter

A total of 618 327 people have applied for 1 200 positions advertised in the SA Police Service - on average, more than 500 applicants for each post - resulting in several months' delay in filling the vacancies.

More than 40 officials have been appointed to process the applications. While they have been putting in long hours, only about 200 000 applications had been screened by yesterday.

Most of the applicants are already employed and this is seen as an indication that

there is new confidence in the police service, and a belief that the SAPS offers good prospects.

The 1 200 open posts are mostly in the firearms, murder and robbery and fingerprint units, although some police stations have also been prioritised.

SAPS human resources manager Senior Superintendent Strini Govender said of the 200 000 processed applications, only 12% had been passed on to the next screening phase.

"Our basic criteria, as stated in our adverts, are a matric certificate, valid driver's licence and a complete CV The

application form also has to be properly completed," Govender said.

It was likely that all applications would be sorted by October.

The second stage of screening would then begin. This would include literacy tests and medical and physical fitness evaluations.

Govender said the filling of posts would start next year, with the first appointments being made in March "at the very earliest".

The posts were advertised after Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi lifted the moratorium on police recruitment in April.

Angry police members set to continue protests

(251) Star 11/8/97
By GILL GIFFORD
Crime Reporter

Thousands of angry policemen plan to continue protests this week against a 7,5% wage offer before they take strike action designed to "knock some sense into police management"

The Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) and the South African Police Union (Sapu) are asking for a pay hike of more than 9%, while the Government is offering 7,5%

SAPS human resources manager Superintendent Strini Govender said yesterday "The state has made its final offer, and this has been communicated to members. There has been no change, neither do we expect things to change"

Popcru general secretary Jacob Tsumane said Popcru's secretariat met in Johannesburg on Friday and drew up an action plan for consideration at national level this week.

He refused to divulge any recommendations, because they

had to be endorsed by the national executive

The planned actions will, however, be "strike action which complements the health and education sectors' stand", said Tsumane. He estimated that about 50 000 members would take to the streets.

Last week the police unions joined forces with National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union and South African Democratic Teachers' Union members. Nehawu embarked on a 48-hour strike in hospitals on Thursday and Sadtu went on a two-day strike on Wednesday

"We will continue with marches and demonstrations this week. Our aim is to look after ourselves, as we are the people who have to look after the community. We are optimistic, and hope sense will prevail," Tsumane said yesterday.

He added. "Not everyone will embark on the actions at the same time. We intend to have staff on duty at all times to handle emergencies"

Wage demands brought to book ...

By MIKE MASIPA

Constable Freddie Thibela (29) was very angry last week when he led a group of police officers into the Johannesburg Public Library, mistaking it for the nearby Gauteng Legislature

Thibela and about 200 fellow South African Police Union (Sapu) members chanted for nearly an hour outside the library, demanding that Safety and Security MEC Jessie Duarte receive a memorandum of demands - before finding they were at the wrong place

Sapu embarked on mass action after wage negotiations deadlocked two weeks ago.

"I am the sole breadwinner at home and I earn R2 400, which is reduced to R1 100 after deductions," Thibela said.

He added that besides his two children (one 2 years old and the other 6 months old) he sees to the education of his younger brother

Thibela believes that if his salary were increased "to at least R3 500" he would afford to buy his family a house on the subsidy scheme

More protests

over police pay

(251) ARG 11/8/97

Johannesburg - Thousands of angry police plan to continue with protests this week against a 7,5% wage offer before they take "strike action designed to knock some sense into police management"

Police and Prison's Civil Rights Union (Popcru) and the South African Police Union (Sapu) are asking for a pay rise of more than 9%. The Government is offering 7,5%. Popcru secretary-general Jacob Tsumane said planned protest would be "strike action which complements the health and education sectors' stand, and is designed to knock some sense into management". - Argus Correspondent

High suicide rate in police force as stress and violence take toll

(251) CT 13/8/97

OWN CORRESPONDENT

DURBAN: Scores of KwaZulu-Natal policemen are being treated daily for stress and depression and at least 20 have committed suicide this year

The suicides are attributed to a combination of factors, including the high level of violence and an "inefficient justice system"

An entire ward at a Durban hospital had been set aside for members of the police service suffering from stress and depression, a source said

Psychologists warned yesterday that the SAPS was "sitting on a time-bomb waiting to explode" should it not address the growing problem of demoralisation in the service.

In separate incidents Detective Sergeant Dhanabalan Naidoo, 22, based at the Chatsworth police station, and Constable Kamil Budhram, 24, of Maritzburg, shot and killed themselves at the weekend, pushing to 20 the number of

policemen in the province who have committed suicide this year

Constable Budhram was the nephew of Maritzburg police spokesperson, Superintendent Henry Budhram

Durban police spokesperson Director Bala Naidoo said the force's psychological services provided assistance to policemen seeking help

The number of policemen off duty as a result of stress and depression was causing concern, he said

Policemen who were interviewed said a demoralised service together with poor pay and poor working conditions had contributed greatly to the stress levels of policemen

Corruption scandals within the service were usually followed by a spate of suicides, a policeman said

"We risk our lives every day, but at the end, the criminal is the winner he has more rights He is out committing his next crime," the policeman said

Psychologist Dr Poobalan

Naidoo said policemen were working in "extraordinary conditions" and that new challenges, including affirmative action, an increase in violent crimes and general frustration were having an adverse effect on them.

He said good management was essential for change to occur.

Naidoo said the loss of senior police staff who had chosen severance had resulted in a demoralised service

The police psychological services — just three psychologists are employed in the province — are working "flat out" and are barely coping with the number of policemen needing assistance.

Marital problems, depression, tension and stress are common complaints

"The ideal is that we should have one psychologist to a station; instead we are down to three from a staff complement of 15 just two years ago," one psychologist said

"We have 22 000 policemen in the province"

'Rogue' cops accused of sabotaging probes

They're smearing us, say task teams

JOHAN SCHRONEN AND JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTERS

Senior Western Cape police officers are deliberately undermining the work of independent task teams and seriously threatening sensitive investigations, colleagues claim.

Two task teams have been the target of the provincial police hierarchy - one appointed by President Mandela to probe international crime syndicates operating from Cape Town and the other set up by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi to investigate alleged police corruption and complicity with gangsters.

André Lincoln, head of the presidential team investigating crime syndicates, said it seemed a cabal within the provincial police management was out to discredit and "padmouth" teams that reported their findings to national police structures.

During the past weeks, Director Lincoln's team has become the focus of attention of the group of "rogue" policemen, who have allegedly spread rumours and interfered with his work.

In June the Mufamadi team was disbanded after coming up against lack of co-operation and the withholding of vital information by Western Cape police.

Team leader Fazil Kader claimed R56 000 was deposited in his personal bank account to cast a shadow on his integrity and when he lodged a complaint the team was investigated.

He grew so frustrated that he threw in the towel and headed back to Pretoria. Now it appears the officers have turned their attention to the presidential unit.

Director Lincoln claims he has become the victim of rumours that he is involved with suspected crime bosses, as well as in a shooting incident and a car accident.

(251)
AR 13/8/92

"My unit is getting the same resistance, prompted either by professional jealousy or because we are treading on the toes of senior police, that caused them to rally and shut down Senior Superintendent Kader's team."

Director Lincoln laid a charge in June after a shooting allegedly at his Higgovale home in which he was wounded in the foot.

"I have been threatened with my life and the shooting may very well have been an attempt to kill me," he said.

But Cape Town detectives allege he was shot outside a nightspot in an alley off Prestwich Street, Cape Town, and that they have a sworn statement by a witness and transcripts of radio control telephone conversations to prove it.

Provincial Commissioner Leon Wessels is to decide whether local detectives should continue to investigate the case or it should be handed to someone else.

Striking police (251) fired

Sowetan 15/8/97
THIRTY striking police officers have been dismissed by the SAPS in KwaZulu-Natal, police spokesman Director Bala Naidoo said yesterday

The policemen, based at Mtubatuba police station, were dismissed on Wednesday after going on strike in support of their demand for the transfer of Mtubatuba police station commander Captain Botha

The policemen's demand for Botha's transfer followed the discovery of human skeletal remains at Mtubatuba police station

Naidoo said the investigating officer was requested to produce a full report, but to date there was no substantial evidence which could prompt police management to take a decision to transfer Botha

"Police management was forced to resort to this action after the dismissed members failed to heed three repeated warnings and one written ultimatum to return to work," said Naidoo

He said the members had been given the opportunity to appeal to National Police Commissioner George Fivaz to be reinstated - Sapa

was involved with Thebe subsidiary Vuna Health Care before Vuna entered an alliance with Sanlam subsidiary Sanlam

Court on August 26. However, the relationship between Thebe and Sanlam Health in terms of Saha was still good

KwaZulu-Natal police fires 30 striking officers

DURBAN — Thirty striking police officers had been dismissed by the SA Police Service in KwaZulu-Natal, police spokesman Bala Naidoo said yesterday.

The policemen, based at Mtubatuba, were dismissed on Wednesday after striking to demand the transfer of the Mtubatuba station commander, a Capt Botha, following the discovery of human skeletal re-

mains at Mtubatuba police station

Naidoo said an investigating officer had been requested to produce a report, but to date there was no substantial evidence to prompt Botha's transferral.

"Management was forced to resort to this action after dismissed members failed to heed three warnings and one ultimatum to return to work," he said — Sapa

Third of canvassed officers
accept 7,5% pay increase

More than a third of officers have accepted the Government's 7,5% pay rise offer, the police service's human resources spokesman Senior Superintendent Strini Govender said yesterday.

By Monday, 55 000 of the police force's 138 000 members had accepted the offer and about 3 000 had rejected it.

"The rest had by that time not yet responded."

Those who accepted would receive their increases, backdated to July, at the end of the month.

The SAPS, in a circular issued this week, assured personnel that acceptance or rejection of the offer would have no effect on future negotiations.

Labour unions recently rejected the state's offer and walked out of the national negotiating forum.

Acceptance or rejection of the offer had no bearing on medical aid benefits or the amount available for overtime, as claimed by the SA Police Union, the circular said - Sapa

(251) Star 16/8/97

Fivaz cracks whip on escapes from police cells

Star 19/8/97 (251)

Station commissioners and management personnel will be held accountable, and will face 'stringent steps' if found negligent

BY GILL GIFFORD
Crime Reporter

National Police Commissioner George Fivaz yesterday moved to stem the high rate of escape of prisoners from police custody, announcing that station commissioners and management personnel would be accountable for escapes from custody.

More than 100 prisoners - many of them hardened criminals - have escaped this year.

Fivaz's step follows the escape at the weekend of rape suspect Isaac Mofokeng, who made the headlines a few weeks ago after shooting Max, the Johannesburg Zoo gorilla.

Mofokeng (29) escaped through the roof of his Parkview cell on Friday, severely embarrassing the police.

Fivaz warned that escapes from custody were becoming a major crisis that damaged the image of the police.

He urged provincial commissioners to investigate prison escapes in conjunction with the general state of man-

agement and discipline at police stations.

"Station commissioners, as well as other responsible commanders, will be expected to act proactively at all times to anticipate possible escapes and to take preventative measures," he said in a statement.

"The most stringent criminal or departmental steps will be taken against officers found negligent or corrupt."

Fivaz said negligence, corruption and the lack of facilities were the main factors.

"Insufficient facilities cannot be regarded as the ultimate excuse for escapes ... this is especially the case where hardened criminals are concerned."

And it emerged yesterday that Mofokeng is a former policeman who served more than four years in the force.

His mother, Connie Mofokeng, told The Star her son had left after being implicated in vehicle thefts at Pretoria station.

"I want my son to be arrested and sent to jail. At least I will know where he is and that he is safe. I am scared the police will

come here and tell me he is dead," she said.

She claims she blew the whistle on her second son, Abraham Mofokeng (21), and had him arrested. Abraham is serving a 16-year sentence at Leeuwkop prison for shooting a man at a shebeen.

A hunt for Mofokeng, who may be linked to a series of housebreakings, rapes and armed robberies in the Parkview area, was launched immediately after the escape was discovered.

Police spokesman Inspector Mark Reynolds said a journalist had informed police she had been tipped off that Mofokeng had crossed the border and was hiding in Maputo. "We cannot confirm this at the moment, but will obviously keep it in mind during our investigations."

■ The International Fund for Animal Welfare is offering a R10 000 reward for information leading to Isaac Mofokeng's re-arrest and conviction.

► Award for Max

Page 7

18 Jan 19/8/97
**'Overworked'
black officers
want to strike**

(42) (251)
Boksburg's black traffic officers have threatened to strike tomorrow in protest over their working hours.

The Vosloorus branch of the Municipal Education, Safety and Health Allied Workers' Union (Meshawu) believes that only black traffic officers are being targeted to work 45 hours a week, as opposed to their white colleagues who are claimed to work 40 hours.

Meshawu East Rand chairman Simphiwe Mviko issued an ultimatum to Greater Boksburg traffic management that if the problem was not sorted out, union members would strike.

But Nic Swanepoel, director of community safety in Boksburg, said the council had not received an ultimatum and that all traffic inspectors who had been with the council for three years or less were required to work a 45-hour week.

"All new traffic inspectors and anyone being promoted has to abide by the new contract," Swanepoel said.

Talks to avert the strike are under way. - City Reporter



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► Award for Max

TOBACCO IS ADDICTIVE

Rent-a-cops may soon get back on the beat

CT 22/8/97

(251)

KARIN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL STAFF

CAPE TOWN's rent-a-cops could be on the beat again

The 140-strong community police force, known as rent-a-cop, was said to have contributed to a drop in crime of between 30 and 40% in the central business district

A recent decision to abolish the project caused outrage in the city

But talks today between National Police Commissioner George Fivaz and Western Cape Police Services Minister Gerald Morkel may put the scheme back on track

The two will discuss the possibility of cutting

through red tape to allow rent-a-cop to continue

The project, Morkel said, was terminated at national level due to certain technical difficulties relating to financial regulations

The Department of State Expenditure had questioned the payment of police reservists through a Section 21 company

A circular from Fivaz's office had announced that rent-a-cop was being abolished because of legal difficulties

Fivaz had said that although he appreciated the "sentiments behind rent-a-cop", he believed the resources could be better used in creating "alternative community mechanisms to

support policing"

Fivaz had been concerned about the "crucial questions of accountability"

Last month, Morkel made an urgent appeal to Fivaz and Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi asking them to meet him to find a solution

Premier Hennis Kriel earlier this month made a similar call to Mr Meyer Kahn, newly appointed chief executive officer of South African Police Services, to formulate a plan to halt gang warfare in the province

Legal experts and the Community Police Officers' Board were also expected at today's meeting

Cops must get back to basics, says Kahn

ARG 23/8/97
(251)

Cape Town – The South African Police Service has too many priorities to attend to and these have to be scaled down to make an impact on crime, according to SAPS chief executive officer Meyer Kahn.

The primary functions of the police were crime prevention and detection, and anything not helping these core functions had to be removed, Mr Kahn told the National Assembly's safety and security committee yesterday.

He and national Police Commissioner George Fivaz have agreed on a strategy to identify certain high profile areas – important to South Africa's image – on which to concentrate the fight against crime and to create "pockets of excellence".

These then would be used as models and gradually expanded to cover the whole country. This plan would be launched soon, the time for talking was over and it was now time to execute the plan, he said.

There was a perception among the public that the fight against crime had been lost, or was being lost.

Although the situation looked bleak, he did not believe this was the case.

But, enough was enough and it was time to start reclaiming the territory that had been lost to criminals.

Law enforcement was a "process, not a result", and the police needed adequate resources to meet its needs.

The SAPS suffered from structural and resource problems which prevented it from carrying out its core functions.

His task was to evaluate the SAPS and advise on what had to be done to set the foundation for sustainable law enforcement, which would take South Africa into the next century.

Mr Kahn said he saw his role as an integral part of the police. He was a manager and a doer, not a writer of reports making recommendations.

He hoped that when his two-year contract period expired, there would no longer be a need for a chief executive officer.

Mr Kahn is on a two-year secondment to the SAPS from South African Breweries and has been in the position for three weeks.

He will not accept a salary, preferring to donate the money to the police widows and orphans fund – Sapa

Star 23/8/97 (251)

Police fight on too many fronts – Kahn

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These would then be used as models and gradually expanded to cover the whole country, Kahn told the National Assembly's safety and security committee. This plan would be launched soon, the "time for talking is over and it is now time to do", he said.

There was a perception among the public that the fight against crime had already been lost, or was being lost.

Although the situation looked bleak, he did not believe this was the case. But enough was enough and it was time to start reclaiming the territory that had been surrendered to criminals.

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Kahn is on a two-year secondment to the SAPS from South African Breweries and has been in the position for three weeks. He will not accept any salary for the duties he performs, preferring to donate it to the police widows' and orphans' fund. – Sapa



Cheryl Deavall, left, and her Siberian husky Alcintas Rave Review, are congratulated by Miss SA Kerishne Nalcker after winning the Dogmor 1997 dog of the year competition. Picture TYRONE ARTHUR

Mandela football club member seeks amnesty

25/8/97 BD

KATITZA Cebekhulu, a key witness who vanished from SA before testifying at Winnie Madikizela-Mandela's trial for the 1989 kidnap and murder of 14-year-old Stompie Seipei, had applied from England for amnesty, the truth commission confirmed yesterday.

Cebekhulu, a former member of the Mandela United Football Club, surfaced in London, where former Conservative MP Emma Nicholson became his guardian.

Commission spokesman Christelle Terreblanche said Cebekhulu had submitted an amnesty application, but could not say what acts he was seeking amnesty for.

"If it is for gross human rights violations, the hearing would have to be in public and he would have to come back to SA," she said.

Terreblanche said that any amnesty hearing for Cebekhulu would be completely separate from the session where Madikizela-Mandela would appear. No date for her testimony had

been set.

Truth commission deputy chairman Alex Boraine said on Friday Madikizela-Mandela had been subpoenaed to testify at a closed hearing to help investigations into several cases, including Seipei's.

"There are a number of inquiries... made at public hearings of the commission surrounding the deaths and disappearance of youngsters... (It's) about seeking information relating to gross human rights violations. We think Mrs Mandela will be able to assist us," Boraine said.

Seipei's body was found in a ditch with his throat cut in January 1989. The parents of at least two other black boys who disappeared in Soweto at the time of Seipei's murder have asked the commission to try to find out what happened.

Madikizela-Mandela said she wanted to testify in public, not at a closed-door hearing. Madikizela-Mandela was convicted and fined for kidnaping Seipei. — Reuter.

'SAPS strategy must not be made public'

Jacob Dlamini

CAPE TOWN — It would not make sense for the SA Police Service (SAPS) to make its crime-combating strategies public, new CEO Meyer Kahn said at the weekend.

Doing so would raise expectations and give criminals the edge over police. Speaking at a briefing with the parliamentary safety and security committee, Kahn said the "police were besieged with too much to do". There was a need for the SAPS to scale down the high levels of activity within the force. Kahn said he believed SAPS mem-

bers were grossly underpaid, even by the worst international standards.

However, he would be able to argue for the lot of the police to be improved only if they improved their performance and the service offered to communities. There was a case to be made for the SAPS to be treated as a special service to be lifted out of the public service.

SAPS Labour Relations manager Sakkie Steyn said about 50% of the labour force had accepted the 7,05% wage increase offered. Some unorganised staff had rejected the offer and demanded a 20% increase. It would cost R4,9bn to meet this demand, he said.

Twenty-three illegal taxis impounded

Bonile Ngqiyaza

BD 26/8/97

TWENTY-three taxis operating illegally in Hammanskraal and townships around Pretoria were impounded last week by the Gauteng and North West governments in roadblocks set up for the purpose, Gauteng transport spokesman Kate Bapela said.

The vehicles were impounded under "Operation Thiba" — an exercise set up in terms of extraordinary powers given last month to Gauteng and North West transport MECs Paul Mashatile and Star Vilakazi by their respective legislatures.

The operation is targeting areas north of Pretoria. Impounded vehicles would remain in custody for up to 14 days and a R500 administration fee would be charged. The fee did not include the R1 500 fine.

Sapa reports that transport and roads committee member Lennox Mabaso said that many in the industry had accused Gauteng of ruthlessness in amending the Road Transportation Act to force taxi operators to register and get permits.

However, Bapela warned the confiscation of taxis without valid permits would begin in Johannesburg soon.

Results against crime soon – Kahn

Star 25/8/97 (251)

By Jovial Rantao
and Stuart Kelly

Meyer Kahn, the man South Africans hope can arrest the crime rate, believes the time for talking is over and the time to act has arrived.

In his first appearance before Parliament's safety and security committee, Kahn – recently appointed chief executive of the SA Police Service – said the Government's anti-crime strategy should yield results as soon as November.

"Enough is enough. The time for talking is long gone and the time for doing has now arrived. We have to start reclaiming the territory lost to the criminals," he said.

The former SAB boss appeared before the safety and se-

curity committee with National Police Commissioner George Fivaz and safety and security secretary Azhar Cachalia.

Kahn said he and Fivaz had agreed on a plan to be launched within 30 days, but they would not disclose details in order to maximise its efficiency.

The strategy, he explained, would involve identifying areas that were important to SA's reputation and to throw appropriate resources – human and material – into them in order to create pockets of excellence.

"We will then use a pocket of excellence as a model for other areas in the country. Having established pockets of excellence, we will widen them into circles of excellence so that we will, over the medium term, reclaim the country from criminal ele-

ments," he said.

Highly placed Johannesburg Community Police Forum sources believe part of Kahn's plan could be based on a report submitted to Fivaz concerning crime in Johannesburg's CBD.

The report, an analysis of the failed Business Watch system in the CBD, outlined reasons for its failure and proposed a number of changes. The new plan, called CBD Watch, was formulated at the request of the SA Chamber of Business.

A source said CBD Watch was in keeping with Kahn's goal of protecting "high-profile areas important to South Africa's reputation" and was recommended by Commissioner André Pruis, head of national standards and management services.

New bid to rescue city rent-a-cops

(251)

ARG 26/8/97

The city's "rent-a-cop" project could be saved after a meeting between Commissioner George Fivaz and Western Cape representatives of business and government

The community police programme is due to be discontinued at the end of the year because of legal problems in paying police reservists

It was confirmed at the meeting last Friday that the Exchequer Act was the main problem, and a sub-committee has been appointed to consider ways of restructuring the rent-a-cop initiative so that it does not fall foul of the law

Among those who attended were provincial ministers Gerald Morkel (Police Services) and Chris Nissen (Economic Affairs and RDP). Business representatives included Alan Lighton, executive director of the Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Sam Montsi of Montsi and Associates

The sub-committee is to report back by the end of November - Staff Reporter

R15-m prison drug trade

JERMAINE CRAIG AND BEAUREGARD TROMP
STAFF REPORTERS

Gangsters and corrupt warders net more than R15-million a year from drug trafficking in Pollsmoor prison.

This emerged in the investigation by a board of inquiry appointed by Correctional Services Minister Sipo Mzimela into the assault of scores of prisoners by warders during a weapons search in May

The inquiry, by Nkola John Motala and Elias Gasewabona Kotsi, found that during the search prisoners were beaten and robbed by warders

ARG 27/8/97 (251)

The full report, released yesterday, calls for the dismissal of warders found guilty of attacking prisoners.

The inquiry also revealed on-going drug trafficking in the prison, with about R300 000 a week changing hands. The board found drugs were brought into the prison by staff who were bribed and threatened by gangsters outside.

The inquiry found there was "gross understaffing" of the prison which accommodates 4 078 prisoners instead of the 1 924 for which it was intended.

The board called for strong security measures to be put in place at Pollsmoor

FBI to help beef up local law enforcement

BD 27 | 8 | 1977

(251) (21)

Stephen Laufer

THE US government has posted representatives of four federal law enforcement agencies to SA to beef up co-operation in the fight against international crime syndicates and help with local training programmes

Attached to the US embassy in Pretoria, the agents represent the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Drug Enforcement Administration, the US Customs Service, and the Immigration and Naturalisation Service

With local police, the revenue service and home affairs, they will target international money laundering, drug trafficking, smuggling of goods, arms, endangered species and illegal aliens,

and other cross-border crime

The agents will be responsible for liaising with the authorities in a number of countries in sub-Saharan Africa. They will be involved in training members of the SA Police Service (SAPS) and other enforcement agencies, help plan a local detectives' academy and identify candidates for leadership courses in the US. Two SAPS officers are to be invited to do the equivalent of a master's degree in law enforcement at the FBI's Quantico academy.

Experts said yesterday that SA had become a playground for international crime syndicates because entry barriers were low, communications and banking infrastructure were good, and control mechanisms were weak. SA

was behind the times in understanding the sophistication of Russian, Japanese, Italian, Nigerian, Latin American and other syndicates operating in and through the region, and which were "making hay while the sun shines"

International organised crime was "a threat to the security and sovereignty of nation states". There was a need to expedite laws preventing money laundering and providing for seizure of the proceeds of criminal activities.

The agents' postings to Pretoria follow the signing of a memorandum of understanding on law enforcement co-operation by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and US Vice-President Al Gore during a bilateral commission meeting last year.

Survey could help police forums

GRAHAMSTOWN — Eastern Cape tertiary education bodies have joined forces for a survey that could see community police forums receive up to R7m in funding from the British Overseas Development Administration and the European Union.

The Institute for the Study and Resolution of Conflict and the department of political studies at Port Elizabeth University (UPE) have been commissioned by the Overseas Development Administration-European Union East Cape Police Project to conduct a survey of all community police forums in the province. Six Eastern Cape institutions — UPE, Rhodes, Fort Hare, Transkei University, Vista and Technikon SA — are involved in the project, co-ordinated by UPE.

The purpose of the survey is to determine the needs of the various forums at station level.

It will be conducted on an inter-institutional and multidisciplinary basis throughout the province, with field-work support by departments at Rhodes, the universities of Fort Hare and Transkei, Vista and Technikon SA, and the Independent Mediation Service of SA.

The results of the comprehensive survey will be used to assist the East Cape policing project and policy makers at the highest level.

UPE political science lecturer Aynon Doyle said yesterday: "The Overseas Development Administration is awaiting the results to see how funds can best be used" — ECN.

(251)

BD 28 | 8 | 97

Police watchdog reports on obstacles to efficiency

BD 29/8/97

(251)

Vuyo Mvoko

THE Independent Complaints Directorate yesterday released its first annual report, citing SA Police Service (SAPS) intransigence and lack of resources as having been major hindrances to effectiveness of this police watchdog.

In terms of its statutory powers the directorate may investigate complaints or refer them to the SAPS for investigation. So far the directorate has received complaints on death as a result of police actions, torture, assault, corruption, lack of progress in investigations, abuse of power, racism and victimisation.

Directorate executive director Neville Melville told a news briefing ahead of Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi's tabling of the report in Parliament yesterday that since the opening of the office on April 1 the directorate had received 484 complaints against the police.

Of those reported cases 52% were said to have occurred either in police custody, or as a result of police action, or during the course of arrest.

While that alone served as a validation of the creation of the directorate, Melville said pressure mounted on the directorate "to justify its existence in terms of finalised cases," despite its lack of resources and infrastructure.

Only 33 cases could be finalised by July 30.

Gauteng, with 170, was the overall leader in the number of cases reported. KwaZulu-Natal led the deaths in detention stakes with 81 reported cases, followed closely by Gauteng's 74.

Melville, however, pointed out it was possible lower figures from other provinces could "be attributed to the absence or ignorance about the directorate's operations and not because fewer instances of misconduct occur there."

Owing to financial constraints,

the directorate had offices only in Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal and the Western Cape. It operates on a R15,4m budget this year and with a staff complement of 30 it was unable to reach out to other provinces, he said.

Tensions, marked by "heated exchanges", arose between the directorate and the SAPS after the latter would not help with temporary accommodation and furniture as had been agreed upon.

"A further difficulty was that the SAPS, which administered the directorate's budget, was unable to provide updated balances of funds available," the report said.

Chief among other "practical difficulties" of the directorate was its inability to find investigators. The SAPS had "loaned" a few

Melville said the directorate did not see speedy closure of files as its sole purpose. It was more important to ensure that investigations were conducted thoroughly and that justice was served.

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(b)

Stations	April 1996 - March 1997			
	(i)	(ii)	(iii)*	(iv)
Orlando	24	96	1	31
Protea-Glen	5	26	1	2
Jabulani	26	126	0	20
Meadowlands	29	148	0	20
Moroko	61	221	1	51
Brixton	3	6	0	7
Alexandra	38	35	3	29

Note
* Hijackings form a sub-category of armed robberies and the totals for these crimes are therefore also included in the totals for armed robberies

Howard

INTERPELLATIONS

The sign * indicates a translation. The sign †, used subsequently in the same interpellation, indicates the original language.

Results of Census 1996 evaluated

1 Dr T GALANT asked the Minister of Finance *

- (1) Whether the Government has evaluated the results of Census 1996, if not, what is the position in this regard, if so, what are the relevant details.
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

N2130E INT

The MINISTER OF FINANCE Madam Speaker, hon members, indeed I am pleased to announce that the Government is well satisfied with the interim results of Census 1996. The Government does consider the census as exceedingly important because we need a baseline of information. Such a baseline has never really been available in South Africa.

We can make this announcement because a number of different factors have contributed to convincing the Government of the veracity of the interim results of the census. Firstly, with regard to the actual interim results, there has been persuasive independent evidence supporting these. Hon members may have heard about various supporting independent studies, including, firstly two studies on rural areas in the Northern Province, secondly, fertility studies by the HSRC, and thirdly, population studies in two of the largest metropolitan areas, namely the Durban metropolitan area and Soweto.

I should point out in this context as well that the advisory committee of the Statistics Council, which was chaired by Prof Charl Simkins of Wits University, indicated that they could find no fault with the methodology employed in Census '96.

Secondly, and something that always pleases the exchequer, is that Census '96 was completed within budget and on time, despite the short time available for preparation of the census. Thirdly, there is growing awareness that the totals in the so-called census of 1991 were not a count but an

inflated model based on the work of Prof Sadie of Stellenbosch University, who had used the baseline in 1970 and had skewed fertility estimates. The assumption in Prof Sadie's estimates was that black people breed like anything.

If one therefore analyses the data from the so-called 1991 census and compares it with a number of other statistics, one will find that in reality there was no census but a line projected by a model, and figures were adjusted upwards to meet that model.

In respect of the preliminary report we can say, without fear of contradiction, that the results of Census '96 are empirically grounded, carefully calculated preliminary estimates of the population, and the results do show that on the night of 9 and 10 October 1996, there were 37,9 million people in South Africa.

Census '96 was very carefully executed and was conducted in accordance with internationally recognised methods, with the assistance of Statistics Sweden, the United Nations Population Fund and the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

The census was undertaken in three phases. The first phase is the demarcation phase in which the entire country is broken up into smaller geographic units, each with very clearly delimited boundaries. These become the enumerator areas for later work. In each of the areas the number of dwellings is counted as a first bit of work.

The second area of work, the contact area, is the enumeration itself, and 100 000 people were employed as a field force to visit every house and ascertain the number of people in the house on that night [Time expired].

Dr T GALANT Madam Speaker, I want to thank the hon the Minister for his willingness to engage in this debate.

The 1996 census was indeed an opportunity to put matters like regional planning, commercial marketing, important parameters in the national accounts, election planning and the assessment of the socioeconomic circumstances of South Africa on a firm basis.

As the hon the Minister has said, population

furnish remain proprietary to the official and the Minister concerned. Out of respect to the official it would never be correct to undermine his or her probity in any way. It is for this reason that I must request that this is not an issue for further discussion or questions, and

- (2) I will not be making any statement on the matter

SANDEF budget curbed

*30 Mr J A MARAIS asked the Minister of Finance †

What are the reasons for curbing the budget of the South African National Defence Force?
N1454E

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

I would like to reply to the hon member's question by providing the following information

The budget request of the South African National Defence Force was considered in relation to similar requests from other departments against the background of the availability of financial resources and urgent needs such as socio-economic upliftment, crime prevention, lags of poverty medical treatment for all housing and borrowing limitations of the State

Although various fundamental defence capabilities are necessary, it should also be viewed in the Southern African context where peaceful co-operation between states does exist and the South African National Defence Force must move towards a defensive posture as stated in the Defence White Paper. The South African National Defence Force has also embarked on a transformation process that should bring about organisational structure changes and subsequent savings. The savings could then be redirected to those areas where significant decreases occur

New questions

Permit for export of Namibian manufactured clothing

*1. Mr A J LEON asked the Minister of Trade and Industry

- (1) Whether, with reference to the issuing of permit No 460 11 by the Namibian government providing for the export of Namibian

manufactured clothing, he or his Department has been informed that the permit allows for the export of goods in excess of the capacity of the Namibian clothing industry, if so, what are the relevant details,

- (2) whether he or his Department is or intends investigating the possibility of irregularities with regard to importing and re-exporting clothing from South Africa which may be allowed in terms of this permit, if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant details?
N1561E

THE MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

- (1) The Department of Trade and Industry and I are aware of permits that have been issued by the Namibian Government in terms of item 460 11 of Schedule 4 to the Customs and Excise Act. This item governs importation of certain textile and clothing products in terms of the Duty Credit Certificate Scheme (DCCS). In terms of the scheme an exporter of textile and clothing products can earn a duty credit certificate on the basis of its exports, which allows the owner of such certificate credit, to the value of the certificate, on customs duties payable on prescribed textile and clothing products. The DTI was notified by the Office of the Commissioner for Customs and Excise of 460 11 permits/certificates which were issued by the Namibian authorities in terms of which goods were entering South Africa. The DTI has its concerns about the magnitude of the permits/certificates applicable

- (2) Yes. The matter is being taken up with the Namibian Government with the view to discussion and exchange of information pertaining to the administration of the Duty Credit Certificate Scheme for exporters of textiles and clothing, and verification of certificates issued by Namibia

The DTI will meet with the Namibian authorities on this matter soon

Training of police detectives for criminal investigations

*2 Mr W L FOURIE asked the Minister for Safety and Security

- (1) How many active police detectives have not yet been adequately trained to carry out criminal investigations,
(2) whether he or the South African Police Service has any plans to improve the training of police detectives, if not, what is the position in this regard, if so, (a) when will such plans be put into effect and (b) what do these plans entail,
(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?
N1562E

THE MINISTER FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY

- (1) 6 052
(2) Yes
(a) During 1997/1998

(b) The detective and specialised units training programmes are currently being revised. These training programmes are being developed to enhance the investigative skills of the investigators. This is done by developing these training programmes according to competence- and outcomes based training as prescribed by South African Qualifications Authority and in line with the priorities of the South African Police Service

- (3) No

Task team appointed to investigate Sarfu

*3 Mr A J LEON asked the Minister of Sport and Recreation

- (1) Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 22 on 26 March 1997, the task team that was appointed to investigate the South African Rugby Football Union has completed its task, if not, what is the position in this regard, if so, (a) what were its findings and (b) what action has been taken as a result,
(2) whether Sarfu has co-operated fully with the task team, if not, what action has been taken as a result,
(3) whether he intends to take any other action in regard to South African rugby, if not, what is the position in this regard, if so, what action?
N1563E

The MINISTER FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY

- (1) Yes

(a) The National Crime Prevention Strategy (NCPS) is currently managed by the Cabinet Committee for Security and

THE MINISTER OF SPORT AND RECREATION

- (1) No

The Task Team had indicated that their task would be completed by the end of September 1997 but SARFU urged its provincial affiliates not to co-operate with the Task Team toward the end of July 1997, and gave the Task Team an ultimatum to provide them with specific allegations by 15 August 1997, failing which they would seek a High Court order to obtain same

- (a) The Task Team has not yet completed its task
(b) None

(2) No Arrangements will be made to initiate a Commission of Inquiry in this regard

(3) A written application for the institution of a Commission of Inquiry has to be submitted to the President

*4 Mr M J ELLIS - Education [Withdrawn]

Crime Prevention Strategy: powers extended

*5 Mr D H M GIBSON asked the Minister for Safety and Security

- (1) Whether the Government intends strengthening political management over and increasing the role of the Presidency and the Cabinet in respect of the National Crime Prevention Strategy, if not, what is the position in this regard, if so, (a) what form will these measures take, (b) when will they be introduced, and (c) why are they considered necessary,
(2) whether these measures have been discussed with the South African Police Service if not, what is the position in this regard, if so, what was the response thereto?
N1565E

THE MINISTER FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY

- (1) Yes

(a) The National Crime Prevention Strategy (NCPS) is currently managed by the Cabinet Committee for Security and

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Intelligence (CCSI), which is chaired by the President and, in his absence, the Deputy President. The CCSI has mandated the Committee of NCPS Ministers to oversee the NCPS. This Committee meets monthly to receive reports and to give political direction. Reports are provided to the CCSI on matters requiring Cabinet decisions.

(b) The review of the first year of the NCPS has now been finalised and approved by the Committee of NCPS Ministers, and will be presented to the CCSI during August 1997.

(c) The success of the NCPS requires very good co-operation and co-ordination between the responsible Ministers. A fair level of co-operation has been achieved and the Annual Review notes areas where this can be further strengthened.

(2) Yes. The South African Police Service has been party to all discussions and is represented in the meetings of Ministers and Directors General by the National Commissioner.

Apprehension of wanted persons

*6 Mr D H M GIBSON asked the Minister for Safety and Security

(1) Whether with reference to his reply to Question No 312 on 24 April 1997, any steps are currently being taken to apprehend the 48 936 persons endorsed as wanted by the Criminal Record Centre in 1996,

(2) whether lists of such wanted persons are being published, if not, why not, if so, (a) where and (b) when.

(3) whether he has considered enlisting the aid of the media in publishing the names of these persons to facilitate public assistance in apprehending the wanted persons, if not why not, if so, what are the relevant details? N1566E

The MINISTER FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY

(1) Yes. Since the implementation of the Sword and Shield project, Tracing Units have been established. The purpose of these units is to trace wanted persons. The Criminal Record

Centre (CRC) receives daily requests for the cancellation of wanted persons who have been apprehended. This is an indication that arrests have been made.

(2) Yes

(a) The lists are distributed to all provinces for execution.

(b) Every three (3) months.

(3) Yes. The aid of the media in publishing the names of wanted persons is utilized by the investigating officers. The investigation officer requests the media communication officials to assist in having the details of the wanted person or persons published, whether in printed form or through television.

*7 Mr M J ELLIS - Education [Question standing over]

SAPS: disruption by police trade union

*8 Mr A FOURIE asked the Minister for Safety and Security †

(1) Whether he or the South African Police Service intends taking any steps in respect of the alleged disruption in the SAPS being caused by a certain police trade union, whose name has been furnished to the SAPS for the purpose of his reply, if not, why not, if so, what steps.

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? N1568E

The MINISTER FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY

(1) Yes, instructions have been issued by senior management of the South African Police Service management to take the appropriate disciplinary steps (in terms of SAPS disciplinary code) against any member causing any disruption of service. At present departmental enquiries are underway.

(2) No

Teaching posts created: action taken against provinces

*9 Mr R S SCHOEMAN asked the Minister of Education †

Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 72 on 7 May 1997, he or his Department intends taking any steps against

those provinces that failed to furnish information to him or his Department in respect of the number of teaching posts that were created in each province during the period 1 July to 31 December 1996, if not, why not, if so, what steps? N1569E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION

This matter has to do with provincial education budgets, and is fully within the competence of a provincial education authority. All questions on such matters should therefore be directed to the relevant representatives in the provincial legislatures.

My Ministry attempts to assist colleagues in Parliament as far as is practical in obtaining information from the provincial education departments. It was on this basis that the information was provided in the reply to Question 72 on 7 May 1997.

I do not intend to take any steps against provinces in regard to a matter which should not have been raised with me in the first place.

State advocates/prosecutors: access to Internet

*10 Mr D M BAKKER asked the Minister of Justice †

(1) Whether he or his Department has investigated the issue of state advocates and prosecutors acquiring computers and information technology and access to Internet, if not why not, if so, what progress has already been made in this regard.

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? N1570E

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE

(1) and (2) Yes, the Attorney General's Office in Cape Town has been fully computerised and provided with Internet facilities. All advocates at the Attorney General's Office in Pretoria have been supplied with microcomputers. A local area network and Internet facility are still to be installed.

The Department has prioritised the provisioning of computer equipment to all Attorneys General Offices augmented in a local area network with Internet facilities as one of its fast-tracking projects.

In this regard, the Department has already completed the functional specification for the computerisation of the administrative procedures in the offices of the Attorneys General. Tender specifications are currently being prepared and tenders for the development of the system will soon be invited.

In the meantime, the Departmental Information Committee recently approved the acquisition of Justat Electronic Information systems to the value of 4,7 million rand. Installation at all Attorneys General Offices as well as several Magistrates Offices countrywide will accordingly be effected.

*11 Rev K R MESHOE - Correctional Services [Question standing over]

Protection of RSA's coastlines

*12 Rev K R MESHOE asked the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism

(1) Whether the amount of R10 million donated by the British Overseas Development Administration will cover the costs of educating the public and allowing public participation in respect of the protection of the Republic's coastlines, if not why not, if so, what are the relevant details.

(2) whether it is the intention to organise any public meetings in this regard, if not, why not, if so, when will such meetings be held? N1572E

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM

(1) The amount approved by the British Overseas Development Administration (BODA) for the Coastal Management Policy Programme was 1 671 509 British pounds. At an exchange rate of R7 to the pound this amount converts to approximately R11 million. The Programme strongly emphasizes public participation as well as building on the existing scientific knowledge base. Twenty nine percent of the total budget has been allocated to "capacity building" to allow meaningful broad participation in the policy formulation process. Capacity building will be achieved through

- Knowledge transfer whereby relevant information is conveyed through the

(a) Name	(b) Purpose	(c) Remuneration
Price Waterhouse	Satellite Television Project Organizational Workshop	653 980,00
Co-ordinated Management Consulting (Pty) Ltd	SABC Organisational Profile Study	276 498,82
Mr W J J Harnise	Satellite Television Project Sentech Separation	230 811,00 11 300,00
Mr P H Lotriet	Consultant to Chief Executive Radio	240 000,00
Klein Management Consultants cc	Consultant to SABC Topsport and GCE	166 000,00
Woodburn Hovey	Broadbanding	128 280,00
MIB	Insurance - Consulting Brokers	96 496,00
Australian Broadcasting Corporation	Consulting on Music and Entertainment	96 000,00
Dr A Maree	Decentralizing and Management of Research Unit for Radio	42 000,00
Zimele Broadcasting Services (Pty) Ltd	Consultant on Satellite Project	38 500,00
Casragh Corporation	Staff Audit to correct structural Human Resource weaknesses in SABC 1	36 980,00
Institute for Advancement of Journalism	Agenda News team consultant	36 000,00
Integrated Risk Consultants	Insurance Risk Analysis	35 548,67
FSA Consultants	SABC Human Resources parity study	32 648,67
KPMG	Work on Sentech Task Group for separation purposes	23 725,00
International Campus	Strategic Management Project	22 500,00
B Dyke	Evaluation for Appointment of news staff	17 600,00
Corporate Risk Management (Pty) Ltd	Motor Fleet Risk Survey	13 000,00
International Compensation Total	Various Remuneration issues	3 600,88 2 399 666,04

The list does not include the following

- Services supplied by people belonging to professional societies eg
 - Attorneys
 - Advocates
 - Architects
 - Engineers
 - Doctors
- External parties presenting training courses at the SABC
- External parties acting as facilitators on courses training or labour relation issues

Police officers: valid driver's licences

1025 Mr R H GROENEWALD asked the Minister for Safety and Security

How many police officers of the South African Police Service in each of the provinces did not possess valid driver's licences (a) in (i) 1994, (ii) 1995 and (iii) 1996 and (b) during the period 1 January 1997 up to the latest specified date for which information is available?

N1736E

The MINISTER FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY

[Latest specified date 1997-08-27]

(a) (i), (ii), (iii) and (b) See column

Province	No drivers licence - August 1996	No drivers licence - August 1997
Free State Province	1 031	3 012
Eastern Cape	7 830	7 778
North West Province	3 323	3 301
Northern Cape	952	933
Gauteng	12 001	11 919
KwaZulu Natal	7 499	7 478
Western Cape	4 170	4 078
Mpumalanga	984	944
Northern Province	5 087	5 080
Head Office Pretoria	188	188
Colleges	218	218
Training Centres	1 007	1 007
Total	46 290	45 886

Note

The obtaining of a driver's licence was not considered as a prerequisite for recruitment or promotion in the South African Police Service before 1997. It was not required from a member to inform the organisation if a driver's licence was obtained, except before permission was granted to drive a state vehicle. Due to this fact no records in this regard exist in the SAPS.

A survey conducted during August 1996 revealed that a total number of 46 290 members were not in possession of valid driver's licence. Since January 1997 to date a total of 394 members were trained by the SAPS. At present a project is under way to train non-licensed employees in order of priority

need of the Service (The present situation is indicated in the table.)

As mentioned above, the figures might not be a true and verifiable reflection of the situation

SAPS strikes

1039 Mr D H M GIBSON asked the Minister for Safety and Security

(1) Whether any strikes involving members of the South African Police Service took place during the latest specified 12-month period for which information is available, if so, (a) how many and (b) how many man-hours were lost as a result of these strikes.

(2) whether any action has been taken against any such persons involved in these strikes, if not what is the position in this regard, if so, (a) what action and (b) against how many persons?

The MINISTER FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY

(1) Yes

(a) Sixty two (62) incidents of work stoppages
One (1) incident of retardation of work
Incidents of "sick leave"

(b) 1 272 Man-hours lost due to work stoppages
Cannot be calculated
27 672 Man-hours lost due to "sick leave"

(2) Yes

(a) and (b) Forty three (43) members have been summarily dismissed. Nineteen (19) members have been charged due to work stoppages

One (1) member has been suspended due to retardation of work

Three hundred and seven (307) members have been charged due to "unauthorized sick leave"

SABC officials: flight costs/subsistence for overseas visits

1060 Mr J J DOWRY asked the Minister for Posts, Telecommunications and Broadcasting

What was the total expenditure on (a) flight costs, (b) subsistence and (c) other items in respect of overseas visits by members of the

SABC: consultants purpose is each being used and (d) what is the remuneration formula with regard to each of these consultants? N1815E

1062 Mr J J DOWRY asked the Minister for Posts, Telecommunications and Broadcasting

(a) Which consultants do the SABC currently use (b) who are these consultants (c) for what purpose (d) what is the remuneration formula with regard to each of these consultants? N1815E

The MINISTER FOR POSTS, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND BROADCASTING

The Chairperson of the SABC has informed me as follows

(a) and (b) Name	(c) Purpose	(d) Remuneration
McKinsey Incorporated	Resources Review	8 402 685
PW Corporate Finance	Professional services rendered in relation to Astrasat project	315 760
The Public Trustees	Consulting on satellite project	786 604
Dr A Maree	Management Research unit for radio Broadbanding	141 120
Woodburn Hovey	Consulting on computer network system	109 400
Blue Sky Networks	SABC Human Resources Party Study	88 000
FSA Consultants	Research work done for Radio Active Production	83 861
Market Support Associates	Staff incentive scheme	83 000
The Incentive Consulting Group	Consulting on retrenchment assistance programme	74 042
Chart Career Training	Consultation on satellite	52 500
Edward Nathan & Friendland Incorporated	Consultants to Group Chief Executive on Senior Staff appointments	46 610
Spencer Stuart	Consulting on retrenchment assistance programme	40 000
Dr Renate Volpe	Revaluation of SABC's post retirement medical and liability	39 906
SA Actuarial Consultants	News team consultant	39 230
Institute for Advancement of Journalism	Assist with PR strategy and IDA presentation	38 666
Sonnenberg Murphy Leo Burnett	Information technology network consultants	35 000
Spartan Services	Consultant in satellite project	30 000
Zimbe Broadcasting Services (Pty) Ltd	Assessment of switchboard and reception and recommendation of strategy for change	28 809
The Voice Consultants	Overview of performance reporting	29 900
Sihson & Company	Work on Sentech Task Group for Separation Purposes	27 238
KPMG	Assistance with 1994 US Federal tax refunds including correspondence with Internal Revenue Services	300
Stevenson & Partners	Investigating of improper commercial practice by members of staff	5 275
Other	Various consulting services	4 181
		14 000
		77 030

All consultant fees were remunerated on a professional per hour fee basis

The list does not include the following:

- Services supplied by people belonging to professional societies
- Attorneys
- Advocates
- Architects
- Engineers
- Doctors
- External parties presenting training courses at the SABC
- External parties acting as facilitators on courses training or labour relation issues

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

Durban metropolitan area: police officers

1037 Mr D H M GIBSON asked the Minister for Safety and Security

(1) How many police officers were stationed (a) within, and (b) at each police station in, the Durban metropolitan area on 1 July (i) 1996 and (ii) 1997, (251)

(2) whether the figures in respect of any of these dates indicate a shortage of police officers in the said area and/or at the said police stations, if so, (a) what was the percentage shortage in each case and (b) what was the actual shortage in the number of police officers stationed in the area and/or at each police station.

(3) whether the figures in respect of any of these dates indicate an overstaffing of police officers in the area and/or at the said police stations, if so, (a) what was the percentage overstaffing in each case and (b) what was the extent of overstaffing in respect of the number of police officers stationed in the area and/or at each police station.

(4) whether any steps have been taken to rectify imbalances between police stations in respect of staff numbers, if so, (a) what steps and (b) with what measure of success? N1748E

The MINISTER FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY

(1) (a) (i) 1 459 (ii) 1 402

(b) (i) Station C R Swart - 728 (ii) Station C R Swart - 741

Station	1996	1997
Point	173	155
Berea	125	112
Umbilo	161	139
Mayville	89	87
Cato	85	74
Manor	-	-
Maydon	98	94
Wharf	-	-

(2) Yes

(a)

Station	% Shortage in 1996	Station	% Shortage in 1997
C R Swart	37%	C R Swart	36%
Point	23%	Point	34%
Berea	30%	Berea	31%
Umbilo	35%	Umbilo	44%
Mayville	56%	Mayville	57%
Cato Manor	17%	Cato Manor	27%
Maydon Wharf	22%	Maydon Wharf	25%

(b)

Station	Manpower July 1996	Shortage	Manpower July 1997	Shortage
C R Swart	728	430	741	417
Point	173	63	155	81
Berea	125	53	112	66
Umbilo	161	88	139	110
Mayville	89	111	87	113
Cato Manor	85	17	74	28
Maydon Wharf	98	28	94	32

The imbalance of the above stations is of such nature that the percentage imbalance is not critical if one considers that the general shortage of manpower in the Durban Area is 24%

There was also a moratorium on recruitment. The only steps that were taken to address the shortage were the normal applications for transfers by the members

(3) No

(a) and (b) Not applicable

(4) Yes

(a) The only steps that were taken to address the shortage was the normal applications for transfers by the members

(b) The imbalances of the police stations in the Durban metropolitan area could only be addressed by normal transfers. The moratorium on recruitment largely prohibited the rectifying of imbalances

Handwritten signature: Handman

Howard

Cape Town metropolitan area: police officers

1038 Mr D H M GIBSON asked the Minister for Safety and Security

- (1) How many police officers were stationed (a) within, and (b) at each police station in, the Cape Town metropolitan area on 1 July (i) 11996 and (ii) 1997.

251

The MINISTER FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY

- (2) whether the figures in respect of any of these dates indicate a shortage of police officers in the said area and/or at the said police stations, if so, (a) what was the percentage shortage in each case and (b) what was the actual shortage in the number of police officers stationed in the area and/or at each police station.

- (1) (a) (i) 7 539 (ii) 8 222
- (b) (i) and (ii) Please see Annexure A
- (2) (a) and (b) See Annexure A
- (3) (a) and (b) See Annexure A
- (4) Yes

- (3) whether the figures in respect of any of these dates indicate an overstaffing of police officers in the area and/or at the said police stations, if so, (a) what was the percentage overstaffing in each case and (b) what was the extent of overstaffing in respect of the number of police officers stationed in the area and/or at each police station.

- (a) Steps being taken to address these imbalances are the lifting of the moratorium on recruitment, the Resource Utilization Program and the redistribution of all resources throughout the South African Police Service
- (b) These processes are being implemented

Stations	1996	%	Shortage	Surplus	%	1997	%	Shortage	Surplus	%
Stations	1996	%	Shortage	Surplus	%	1997	%	Shortage	Surplus	%
Wyberg	220	0.00	0	1	0.45	227	0.00	0	7	3.18
Sunstonon	44	86.36	38	0	0.00	28	36.36	16	0	0.00
Muzenberg	144	53.47	77	0	0.00	77	46.53	67	0	0.00
Hout Bay	105	47.62	50	0	0.00	52	50.48	53	0	0.00
Claremont	195	42.56	83	0	0.00	100	48.72	95	0	0.00
Kirstenhof	106	47.17	50	0	0.00	61	42.45	45	0	0.00
Nwanga	288	31.60	91	0	0.00	203	29.51	85	0	0.00
Guguletu	185	0.00	0	30	13.95	200	0.00	0	15	8.11
Philippi	159	22.64	36	0	0.00	122	23.27	37	0	0.00
Mitchells Plain	684	49.27	337	0	0.00	357	47.81	327	0	0.00
Fish Hoek	94	3.19	3	0	0.00	73	22.34	21	0	0.00
Rondebosch	114	29.82	34	0	0.00	58	49.12	56	0	0.00
Mowbray	111	57.66	64	0	0.00	51	54.05	60	0	0.00
Diep River	136	50.00	68	0	0.00	63	53.68	73	0	0.00
Steenberg	177	50.28	89	0	0.00	90	49.15	87	0	0.00
Athlone	189	0.00	0	118	38.44	279	0.00	0	90	47.62
Grassy Park	155	30.97	48	0	0.00	106	31.61	49	0	0.00
Landsdowne	124	35.48	44	0	0.00	82	33.87	42	0	0.00
Manenberg	178	39.33	70	0	0.00	108	39.33	70	0	0.00
Cape Town Central	625	0.00	0	640	50.59	1 289	0.00	0	664	106.24

Stations	1996	%	Shortage	Surplus	%	1997	%	Shortage	Surplus	%	
Stations	1996	%	Shortage	Surplus	%	1997	%	Shortage	Surplus	%	
Camps Bay	65	90.77	59	0	0.00	26	60.00	39	0	0.00	
Langa	125	20.80	26	0	0.00	26	23.20	29	0	0.00	
Pineclands	107	62.62	67	0	0.00	48	55.14	59	0	0.00	
Table Bay Harbour	111	41.44	46	0	0.00	65	41.44	46	0	0.00	
Ocean View	69	0.00	0	0	0.00	23	66.67	46	0	0.00	
Kensington	86	44.19	38	0	0.00	48	44.19	38	0	0.00	
Marland	133	0.00	0	52	28.11	649	0.00	0	516	387.97	
Sea Point	204	38.24	78	0	0.00	127	37.75	77	0	0.00	
Woodstock	206	48.54	100	0	0.00	96	53.40	110	0	0.00	
Khayelitsha	453	30.24	137	0	0.00	319	29.58	134	0	0.00	
Strand	168	44.05	74	0	0.00	100	40.48	68	0	0.00	
Table View	107	52.34	56	0	0.00	52	51.40	55	0	0.00	
Atlantis	206	33.98	70	0	0.00	132	35.92	74	0	0.00	
Bellville South	313	30.67	96	0	0.00	296	5.43	17	0	0.00	
Goodwood	171	28.65	49	0	0.00	136	20.47	35	0	0.00	
Kuils River	475	0.00	0	345	42.07	813	0.00	0	338	71.16	
Elmes River	176	13.07	23	0	0.00	147	16.48	29	0	0.00	
Brackenfell	105	84	20.00	21	0	0.00	69	34.29	36	0	0.00
Bishop Lays	230	165	28.26	65	0	0.00	151	34.35	79	0	0.00
Mecasas	87	82	5.75	5	0	0.00	51	41.38	36	0	0.00
Milnerton	181	120	33.70	61	0	0.00	124	31.49	57	0	0.00
Mellbosstrand	54	6	88.89	48	0	0.00	29	46.30	25	0	0.00
Bellville	325	28.62	93	0	0.00	303	6.77	22	0	0.00	
Durbanville	89	59	33.71	30	0	0.00	62	30.34	27	0	0.00
Kraaifontein	250	154	38.40	96	0	0.00	151	39.60	99	0	0.00
Parow	284	149	47.54	135	0	0.00	206	27.46	78	0	0.00
Ravensmead	161	102	36.65	59	0	0.00	102	36.65	59	0	0.00
Gordons Bay	55	47	14.55	8	0	0.00	50	9.09	5	0	0.00
Somerset West	173	115	33.53	58	0	0.00	125	27.75	48	0	0.00

SAPS: witness protection programmes

1065 Mr A J LEON asked the Minister for Safety and Security

- (1) How many persons are currently protected under the South African Police Service's witness protection programmes and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished.
- (2) whether any persons protected under witness protection programmes (a)(i) were killed, (ii) were injured and (iii) reported
- (3) what procedures are generally employed in providing such witness protection.
- (4) whether such witness protection programmes have been found to provide adequate protection, if so, what are the relevant details, if not, why not.

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that they were being threatened or intimidated during the latest specified period of three years for which information is available and (b) what was the total number of persons who were protected under witness protection programmes during this period.

3

4

New police phone system to cut delays

Exchange now able to handle 100 000 calls a month

BY DEREK RODNEY
Crime Reporter

A state-of-the-art emergency call centre for Johannesburg's Flying Squad has been touted as the solution to congested and busy phone lines – the bane of many frustrated callers

The rapid crime reaction unit, which also acts as a base for the province's fleet of BMW highway patrol vehicles, has undergone a R900 000 upgrade of its outdated telephone system which could not handle the more than 2 800 calls the centre receives daily

The call centre was officially opened by MEC for safety and security Jessie Duarte and provincial police Commissioner Sharma Maharaj yesterday

"Helping those who need help and service delivery is a major priority to this office and this centre's two-second response time will probably not be matched by any other police services and must place it among the best in the world,"

Duarte said

The Siemens Hicom telephone system, according to its designers, is capable of handling in excess of 100 000 calls a month and is equipped with a number of features aimed at making the task of receiving and dispatching calls as efficient as possible

Flying squad commander Senior Superintendent David "Fires" van Vuuren said the unit, with support from the highway patrol, was now capable of pushing more than 45 vehicles into the field for each shift, greatly reducing the response times to priority crime scenes

"A few months ago we were running at about four cars a shift and I know that with quicker complaint receiving times and more vehicles on the road we have been making a difference to our response times on the streets, where it really counts," Van Vuuren said

The system is also able to identify the name and address of each caller, thereby making it risky for hoax callers and

also discarding the standard police routine of acquiring such information before a vehicle can be dispatched

"If someone calls in and gives the number he is dialling from we can immediately call up the address and area of the telephone which means we won't lose the details should the line cut out for some reason," said call centre operator Sergeant George Botes

Since the system became operational in June, police have detected an additional 200 calls a day which the old system never picked up

"We found that these extra calls belonged to people who, in the past, hung up believing we were not doing our jobs and with our new re-routing system we can put them in touch with one of 14 operators in the shortest possible time," said police information technology expert Superintendent André Wiese.

Several calls to 10111 by The Star at various times of the day yesterday resulted in a waiting time of no more than five seconds

Star 4/9/97 (251)

Police stations 'audited' to improve efficiency

Star 4/9/97 (251)
By DEREK RODNEY
Crime Reporter

Senior inspectors are scrutinising Johannesburg police stations and specialist units to improve efficiency and discipline, as part of a low-key anti-crime operation.

"Project Johannesburg" forms part of a national strategy to tackle crime hotspots. One high-crime area in each province is being targeted for scrutiny before the campaign moves on to lower-crime areas.

Stations on the East Rand, which along with Johannesburg have been identified as having "extreme" crime levels, will be probed next.

So far stations in Sandton, Alexandra, Randburg and Jeppe have been inspected and reports on their operation and efficiency are expected to be completed by the end of next week.

The inspections are only one aspect of a broad strategy to lower the crime rate.

While targeted stations are being "audited", detectives from lower-crime areas have been roped in to assist in sta-

tions where detectives are snowed under by heavy case-loads

Rapid-response points - manned by South African National Defence Force members and policemen equipped with motorcycles, vehicles and horses - have also been set up to improve response times.

SANDF spokesmen said six companies (about 840 members) were permanently deployed in anti-crime operations in Gauteng, and were bolstering the campaign.

Response times have also improved after the Johannesburg flying squad was fitted with a state-of-the-art call-centre capable of dealing efficiently with more than 2 800 daily calls.

The inspection teams are part of the SAPS' resurrected inspectorate directorate, which has been revived to ensure that headquarters can monitor and discipline errant stations and specialised police units. The directorate was mothballed after the 1994 elections.

National police inspectorate director Piet du Toit said the teams would not be pulling any punches in their findings.

Committee fails to decide on police powers

Wynndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — A top-level committee set up by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi has failed to come up with a solution to provincial policing powers, but has recommended that legislation be prepared to allow municipalities to set up their own police forces.

The Shubane committee was established to investigate the devolution of political authority to the

provinces, the decentralisation of policing functions and municipal or metropolitan policing.

Safety and security secretary Azhar Cachalia, briefing the National Assembly's safety and security committee, said essentially the issue of police powers for the provinces remained unresolved.

He said this was different from the issue of decentralising police functions, and on this the committee was clear that priorities for policing

should be made as close to the action as possible.

Provincial police powers remain a thorny political issue with KwaZulu-Natal and Western Cape, the two non-African National Congress (ANC) provinces, wanting more direct control of policing in their regions. Cachalia said that it was a political decision and would have to be resolved in the "white paper process" under way to develop a new policy framework for the SA Police

Service.

The committee, headed by Khehla Shubane of the Centre for Policy Studies, said that consideration should be given to devolving some policing functions, but these should be limited to crime prevention, community police forums, private security companies, the police budget and logistical and support services. The recommendation is unlikely to satisfy the calls from KwaZulu-Natal and Western Cape for polit-

real control of policing.

Cachalia noted that the constitution insisted on a national police force and this meant policy should be developed at national level.

On the issue of municipal police forces, he said that legislation was being drafted to provide municipalities the option of creating their own forces under specific guidelines stipulating their functions, expenditure, co-ordination, training, oversight and minimum standards

BD 4/9/97

(251)

Lower ranks gain

(251)

in police pay boost 'Backbone' of SAPS wins 9%

Pretoria - The salaries of all police up to the rank of inspector have been increased by at least 9% and backdated to July 1, the SA Police Service has announced.

Labour relations chief Sakkie Steyn said today that captains would receive 8,5%, superintendents and senior superintendents 8%, directors 5% and assistant commissioners 3%.

Divisional commissioners, provincial commissioners and the national commissioner would not receive increases.
Constables and first-leg sergeants would receive up to

20% extra, as their salary scales had been regraded.

"This is in line with top management's commitment to improving the salary packages of those members who are regarded as being the backbone of the police service, those in the lower ranks," Mr Steyn said.

"SAPS management and the labour unions have agreed that no change in respect of medical benefits will be effected without first being negotiated in the National Negotiation Forum."

He said the previous offer of a 7,5% increase, made directly by management to all members,

which was intended to overcome an impasse between management and the unions, was no longer relevant.

"This meant that all members would receive their relevant increases, backdated to July 1, irrespective of whether they had accepted management's earlier offer or not, or even if they had abstained.

"I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to all members who supported management in our efforts to improve the salary structures for all members not at management level," Mr Steyn said.

Calls for private policing

The security industry is pressing for some policing powers, writes Ann Eveleth

The burgeoning private security industry — which employs about one in every 200 South Africans, many former police officers and paramilitary members — wants the government to give its members arrest and search-and-seizure powers

It also wants the power to “demand a name and address”, as well as wider access to automatic weapons and armoured vehicles

More than 180 000 private security officers are registered with the Security Officers Board which regulates the industry. More than 120 000 are actively employed in a full-time capacity by one of about 4 000 security firms. A further 50 000 to 100 000 security guards are employed directly by businesses across the country

Many of these security officers currently effect citizens' or private arrests of suspects in the course of their work, before handing them over to police

But this week the board said these powers were insufficient. In a position paper, it called on the government to extend “at least the power of arrest without warrant, the power to demand a name and address and the powers of search/seizure after arrest” to senior private security personnel in terms of the Criminal Procedure Act which governs the South African Police Service (SAPS)

Safety and Security Ministry representative Maxwell Malaudzi said, however, that these powers remained the responsibility of the SAPS and would not easily be handed over to private security companies

“I don't think the ministry is going to be stampeded into acceding to the demands of the private security industry,” he said

The board said the state's failure to grant these powers “may possibly constitute some kind of unfair discrimination” and that the state may have a “constitutional duty” to extend these powers in a bid to bolster an overstretched SAPS in the fight against crime

“Where the state's financial, human and other resources are insufficient to provide a comprehensive police service on its own, it may be seen as [the state's] constitutional duty to assist private security in any other reasonable manner possible to extend the protection of rights of the members of society,” the board argues



Sense of security: Guards want 'search-and-seizure' powers PHOTO: DANNY HOFFMAN

Ironically, say critics, the proposal to effectively privatise public policing function follows hot on the heels of the first legislative steps toward the external regulation of the industry

For the past five years the security industry has been regulated by a body consisting mostly of people inside the industry. It has also been governed by legislation that has as its objective the “maintenance, promotion and protection of the occupation of security officers”

Last week the National Assembly unanimously amended existing legislation to provide for the dismantling of the current board, the appointment of a more representative interim board with an independent chair appointed by the Ministry of Safety and Security, and an 18-month overhaul of laws regulating the industry

At stake is the future of the industry, and as the Network of Independent Monitors (NIM) argues, the “interests of the general public”. NIM director Jenni Irish said the current board's domination by members of the industry has meant it has served the industry's “vested in-

terests” rather than those of the public

While security board registrar Patrick Ronan argues the existing body is no more a vested interest body than other self-regulatory professional bodies like the Law Society, the fact that board chair Mick Bartmann is also a major player in the industry through his ownership of Khulani-Springbok Patrols has bred dissent — even within the industry

Jenny Ibbotson, a representative of industry leader Gray Security and board member, went further than the government this week when she said “the existence of the board-itself needs to be questioned”

“The issue of the legislation and regulation of the industry should not be about the protection of the practitioners, but about the protection of the public. If your focus is the protection of the public then that is clearly a state function,” she said

The interim board will consist of three security employers representatives, three employee representatives, three private security users, three additional “fit and proper persons” and one independent chair

Calls for private policing

mtg 12-18/9/97 (251)

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Police commissioner George Fivaz at the launch of the competition for the best community policing forum in the country, held at the Pretoria West police college
Picture CATHY PINNOCK

Fivaz starts police station competition

Pule Molebelo
POLICE commissioner George Fivaz launched a new competition worth R200 000 yesterday, intended to boost community policing throughout the country

The launch took place at Pretoria West police college where a cheque was presented to Fivaz by Saambou Bank MD Johan Myburgh

In his acceptance speech, Fivaz said it was sometimes frustrating to see the kind of service delivery in the country

On the other hand, he said, it was also encouraging to find police stations where there was professionalism and better relations between the police and communities

The commissioner said he would like to see a corruption-free and motivated police service focused on delivery

"I am not in this profession for the money I would have resigned a long time ago because there is no money in the police unless you are involved in corruption," Fivaz said

More than 1 100 police stations are expected to enter the competition which will be launched by the commissioner before October 15

The provincial winner, to be selected on January 15, stands to win R15 000

The overall national winner, to be announced on March 31, would receive R30 000 and a floating trophy

The prize money would be used by police after consulting with personnel and their local community forum, but it should not be used to perform functional police duties

Police director Wessel van der Westhuizen said the aim of the competition was to give recognition to police stations that provided good service and met the goals of community policing

Candidate stations would explain what they were doing to implement community policing principles and describe their priorities and objectives for the year

Westhuizen said they would identify good police practises out of the competition which could then be spread through the entire police service

Gencor in R17m school project

Kevin O'Grady

GENCOR and its London-listed sister company Biltton launch an ambitious R17m, three-year project today that will improve infrastructure and the quality of teaching and governance at 60 schools in seven provinces

The Masifunde project, to be launched officially by Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu at a school near Evander in Mpumalanga, follows a recent "presidential project" in Northern Province where, at President Nelson Mandela's request, three new clinics were built and six schools upgraded

Gencor and Biltton chairman Brian Gilbertson said yesterday the success of the Northern Province initiative, coupled with the recognition that if Gencor was to compete internationally it would need access to well-educated employees, prompted the Gencor board to approve the new project

Biltton SA senior manager Eric Ratshikhopha said the Masifunde project would target 60 schools in areas

where Gencor had operations — all the provinces except Western Cape and Eastern Cape — and would follow the "whole school development concept"

This entailed upgrading the schools' infrastructure, improving the quality of teaching — particularly in the fields of maths, science and English — and improving the management skills of those running the schools, he said

Full details of the project, which for the most part would employ local skills and service providers, would be recorded during the three-year period up to its completion. These would be compiled in a "manual which can be used for reference in future projects" run by government or other private companies, Ratshikhopha said

Details of the Masifunde project were worked out in close co-operation with Bengu, the provincial education departments and the communities in which the schools were situated. Plants and mines would continue to support the schools closest to them after the project had ended



JCI Limited

(Registration number 66/08888/06)
(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)
(JCI)

Cautionary announcement: Exchange of shares in Anglo American Platinum Limited ("Amplats") for shares in Lonrho Plc

Agreement in principle has been reached between JCI Anglo American Corporate Limited ("AAC") and De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited ("De Beers") pursuant to exchange its total interest in Amplats for Lonrho shares which are currently De Beers ("the Swap")

Following the conclusion of a written agreement a further announcement will be made detailing the financial effects of the Swap and the date of the general meeting of JCI at which those shareholders will consider and if deemed fit approve the Swap. A circular letter detailing the Swap will be forwarded to JCI shareholders. Shareholders are advised to continue to exercise caution in their dealings in the interim until further announcement is made.

Johannesburg
12 September 1997

Joint merchant banks



Capital Alliance Bank Limited

(Registration number 60/03693/06)

INVESTEC
MERCHANT BANKING
Investec Bank Limited
(Reg No 690476306)

Attorn

MCM
BRINK & LE ROUX
ATTOR

Sponsoring



Capital Alliance Securities
(Registration number
Member of the Johannesburg)

LUCAS LEDWABA

So much crime, so few police vehicles

INSPECTOR Johannes Putuka should be a busy man. But instead of investigating the 76 case dockets he has on his desk, Putuka has spent the past two weeks sitting under a thorn tree, waiting for a chance to use the one vehicle he and his colleagues have at their disposal.

Winterveldt, 60km northwest of Pretoria, is home to about one million people. However, the murder and robbery unit, to which Putuka belongs, has been assigned only three vehicles.

One is used by branch commander Captain Josiah Pheko to monitor the 14-member team, lead them to crime scenes and ensure that dockets get to court when investigations are complete.

The second remains at the station and is used to respond to calls.

The third, a battered old minibus, is the one for which Putuka and his colleagues wait in line. It is the only one with a two-

Criminals are taking cops who have no transport for a ride in some parts of SA

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way radio system. Taking turns to use the one vehicle allocated for investigations, the team finds the going tough. In April last year, Putuka, a detective for 10 years, was told to investigate the murder of 36-year-old Joshua Khumalo of Jericho village, about 50km away.

"I spent several days waiting my turn to use the car. I finally went to the village and interviewed several people. I was told the suspect was hiding in the Free State, but I couldn't go there as there were 13 others waiting to use the car," he says. The case remains unsolved. Then there is the case

of Johannah Mkhabela, 35, who was raped and murdered last October. Says Putuka, "I've tried my best to investigate the case, but each time I get new leads there is no transport. That case, too, remains unsolved. Another problem in Winterveldt is the lack of



A SPOKE IN THE WHEELS: Josiah Pheko and his station's battered old minibus

telephones, even at the station. The unit has only one means of communication, Pheko's cellphone. The office does not have a phone line. To make matters worse, few house-

holds in Winterveldt's slums have phone lines. Pheko says, "Some people still have faith in us, but they are slowly losing it. It is coming to a point where people will carry

out their own justice. "Without transport we can't do anything. We are left with no option but to sit under the trees and hope for a miracle." Putuka feels he has

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S. Times



Picture: JULANI VAN DER WESTHUIZEN

use for private purposes by members aggravate the problem, he adds

Lesch says a system to evaluate the vehicle fleet in the police service is under way, but will be completed only next year

The severity of the problem appears to vary among provinces

In Kwazulu Natal there are no problems, the provincial commissioner's office said. Statistics released by the office of the national commissioner show it has 5 403 police vehicles, the second-highest figure after Gauteng, with 7 500 vehicles

Captain Solly Lesia, a spokesman for the Free State police, says the province has 1 902 vehicles, but the ideal number would be 2 308

He says 2 539 policemen in the province have driver's licences, and those who do not can attend a six-week course at the SAPS Benoni Driving School. Similar programmes are in place in the Northern Cape and Mpumalanga

Police statistics show that about 30 percent of policemen do not have driver's licences

The Northern Cape has the least vehicles — 837. Says Commissioner Johan Deysel "We need more, but we're coping with what we have. Maybe a few more vehicles will improve our effectiveness and efficiency"

Senior Superintendent Theo de Bruyn, a spokesman for the Mpumalanga commissioner, says the province has 6 120 personnel with 1 394 vehicles. "That makes it four people to a car, which is hampering investigations, especially in the specialised units"

failed the community. "When complainants inquire about the progress in their case we always give them the same answer 'There are no vehicles. Go home — we'll come to you'."

Pheko says robbers take advantage of their plight. "They know we don't have enough vehicles. By the time we respond to a crime call, it's already too late because we have to inform the officers using the car. Sometimes they're too far from the crime scene. The vehicles are not in good condition and the robbers use vehicles that are"

The station has brought the matter to the attention of the authorities many times. "But all they do is come here and make empty promises."

Many police stations

face a similar problem. Policemen from Phuthanong police station in Soshanguve near Pretoria had to watch helplessly last month as hijackers sped past the station — they did not have a car to give chase

The policemen said later they had only three vehicles, and all were out

Senior Superintendent Andrew Lesch, a communication officer at police headquarters in Pretoria, says budgetary constraints and the abuse of vehicles by policemen are behind the shortage

In a statement released on behalf of National Commissioner George Fivaz, Lesch says provincial commissioners have the task of allocating vehicles to stations in their provinces. Poor allocation of vehicles and their

Kahn criticises (251) 'jobs Star 16/9/97 process'

PRETORIA
CORRESPONDENT

Police chief executive officer Meyer Kahn has criticised the en masse process in which all police members had to re-apply for their jobs

Addressing a conference of police dog unit commanders in the city yesterday, Kahn said the unpopular process had caused too much uncertainty and misunderstanding among police

The process was embarked on because of the integration of the police forces of former self-governing states and homelands into the South African Police Service (SAPS). However, as the process was almost completed it was irreversible. He said nothing should stand in the way of "the core functions of the police - crime prevention and crime detection".

Although he was a firm believer in affirmative action and equity and fairness for everyone, crime prevention and crime detection were urgent and immediate businesses that must be dealt with

"It is important that we, as members of the police, should not bluff ourselves - it is fair to say that serious crime has reached alarming proportions

"Police must accept that crime prevention and detection has become a national crisis"

He hoped that at the end of his two years secondment the SAPS would be an entirely different law enforcement agency. He added that law enforcement was a process, not a result.

"Crime, like taxes, will always be with us. Turning around a ship the size of the SAPS is a little bit like making love to an elephant, first of all there's very little pleasure in it, there's every likelihood you could be crushed, and I know from my house doctor it takes years to see the result," Kahn said

Sowetan 16/9/97 (251)

Duarte hails pupils' decision

By Dan Fuphe

GAUTENG MEC for safety and security Mrs Jessie Duarte has lent her support to the commitment by the pupils of KwaThema, Springs, to go back to school after a class boycott lasting five weeks

Duarte said the pupils' decision would enhance the culture of teaching and learning

She said the action would go a long way to creating stability at schools and to end the violence that had afflicted the area for some time

Memorandum

Duarte's statement comes barely a week after pupils in KwaThema, represented by Mr Martin Msczane and others, submitted a memorandum to MEC for education Mrs Mary Metcalfe calling for

● The release from detention of convicted students and the withdrawal of pending cases against others,

● The possibility of commuting sentences to community sentences on the basis of the merits of each case,

● Taking into account the fact that the violence that afflicted the area started in the 1980s when it was precipitated by infiltration of student and community organisations by the then SA Police and SA Defence Force, with a view to destabilise the area,

● To explore the possibility of a special hearing by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of cases, and

Duarte said the Ministers of Justice and the Correctional Services were already working on mechanisms that could strengthen the chances of release of those imprisoned

Kahn slams police mass appointments

Stephane Bothma

PRETORIA — The SA Police Service's en masse appointments, in terms of which a large number of policemen had to reapply for their positions, was strongly criticised by newly appointed police CEO Meyer Kahn yesterday.

Describing the process as "wrong", Kahn told a conference for dog unit commanders that it had caused great uncertainty among police officers. He said about 40 000 of the police's 135 000 members were still not certain about their futures, as the process has been only about 70% completed. The mass appointments had been forced by the amalgamation of the country's 11 former police agencies.

However, police commissioner George Fivaz later defended the process, saying that in total only about 8 000 policemen would be affected

"It is only the middle management of the SAPS who will be affected — officers with the rank of captain and superintendent," Fivaz told a news briefing.

He said the process gave middle management the opportunity to voluntarily ask for transfers and specific positions. The only other option was for Fivaz to decide himself about appointments and transfers on an ad hoc basis. "That would have been autocratic and would have caused even more unhappiness among members."

Fivaz said a crisis line had been opened by the SAPS to assist police officers with the process.

Meanwhile, Kahn told the conference that he would not allow politics to stand in the way of police doing their jobs. Police priorities had been identified as detecting and preventing crime.

"Anything that stands in the way of the SAPS doing its job, I will fight tooth and nail," he said.

Kahn remained optimistic that the battle against crime would be won.



A Netstar team arrests a suspect after tracking down a stolen vehicle

Tracking down thieves for a living

Sowetan 17/9/97 (251)

Trackers recover more stolen cars than the SA police

By Sharon Chetty

ERIC WAS TALKING furiously into his cellphone as Bennie calmly manoeuvred his way in the traffic — a chase was under way and speed was of the essence.

It was after lunch on a Thursday and the two men were in their bakkie heading north towards Pretoria on the trail of a four-ton truck full of furniture that had just been hijacked.

Armed with mobile tracking equipment, cellphones and nerves of steel, the two former policemen were determined to get their target which had been spotted somewhere in Pretoria.

On the Eersterus-Mamelodi road the signal was strong and with the help of a Netstar helicopter above, an attempt was made to get the exact location of the hijacked vehicle.

But their luck was running out and the signal was lost.

On the way Eric had called the South African Police Service's (SAPS) flying squad in Pretoria for help in the search.

A patrol car had been dispatched and now followed the bakkie closely, its blaring siren and flashing blue light helping to cut a path through the traffic.

An hour or so later word came through that the police had located the truck. A quick drive to check on the state of the vehicle, only to find that the men in blue had moved the truck, probably to the police pound.

And just as quickly as the action had started, it was over.

Space-age equipment

For these modern-day cowboys, their frontiers are the highways, their aim to track down and retrieve stolen vehicles, only now it is with the help of space-age equipment and fast cars.

The introduction of cellphones to South Africa in 1994 has led to several technological spinoffs. Vehicle tracking network is one of them.

And the high crime rate, especially the numerous car hijackings, has also contributed to the new growth industry.

Vehicles are fitted with transponder units which relay signals to a base station. Parts and wiring are integrated into the car's system so that the unit cannot be dismantled easily.

Once a panic button is activated or

For these modern-day cowboys, their frontiers are the highways of the country, their aim to track down and retrieve stolen cars

the trackers are alerted, ground and air teams are dispatched to follow the signal, although not all service providers do air searches.

Besides working out the geographical details of the vehicle's location, often the base station is able to pick up specific detail, such as if the engine has been switched on or if the boot and doors have been opened.

In the case of trucks, the information is especially important to work out if goods are being off-loaded at the hijacking scene.

Tracker services can also be used to monitor internal corruption and driver collusion.

Often, drivers of goods trucks are unaware that their vehicle is fitted with a tracking device. And in some instances, routes are programmed into the tracking system. So, if there are unscheduled stops and deviations from the route, it will be noted.

The technology also helps in arresting the thieves.

As competition and the number of companies providing this service has grown, numerous options are available to the consumer.

Some systems have a "self-arming" device, others may promise a daily test of the equipment and some offer access to trauma counselling, the AA and medical help.

They boast a recovery rate of up to 95 percent, far more than the police are able to recover.

Police also use technology which enables their specially equipped patrol vehicles to respond to an alert in the normal course of their duties.

The added benefit of the United States designed tracker system used by the SAPS is that tracking computers are also at border posts and ports throughout South Africa.

For an initial investment of between R1 500 and R4 000 and a monthly sub-

scription there is a good chance of getting your vehicle back in a matter of hours.

The big attraction is that there are highly skilled and dedicated teams of men out there whose sole aim is to find your stolen car.

Unlike the overworked and under-resourced police who have to prioritise (a murder would naturally take precedence over a stolen car, for example), private tracking units are focused and geared entirely to vehicle recovery.

It's privatised policing, South African style.

Eric and Bennie, of the Netstar team, consider themselves "old boys" on the block. They are both ex-policemen who specialised in car theft cases. So are the rest of their colleagues who work the highways.

"I won't take on a guy unless he's been a policeman with at least five years experience. By then he can deal with anything and knows the law," says Eric.

Theft syndicate

They are reluctant to be fully identified as they have been told that a car theft syndicate has put a price of R5 000 on each one of their heads.

And although they've come under attack from armed thieves, they're grateful that no one has died.

As registered members of the security officers board, they are entitled to carry licensed handguns, but say they prefer to get back-up from the police when trying to recover a vehicle.

Matrix, another service provider using one of South Africa's biggest cellular networks, relies on private security companies.

Mr Steve Nahman, a director of the company, says they do not work with the SAPS as they want to avoid red tape and delays as the police are obliged to respond to more urgent calls first. And while the tracking industry may be growing rapidly, recruits are never taken off the street or trained from scratch — they must have either worked in the police or the security industry.

Ms Jacqui Aubery, public relations officer of Datatrak, says all staff undergo stringent background tests and a condition of employment is that they have to undergo polygraph tests regularly.

For the fed-up policeman, there's now another option — and while the risks are there, there's less paperwork, and the pay is better.

Infamous John Vorster Square gets the boot

APR 25/9/97

(251)

Renaming ceremony attended by wives and relatives of activists who died or suffered while detained in the building

CRIME REPORTER

John Vorster Square police station, once the embodiment of the violence of the apartheid system, is no more.

The largest police station in the country was yesterday officially renamed Johannesburg Central police station during a ceremony attended by dignitaries and the wives and relatives of several activists who died or suffered while detained at the station in the 1970s and 80s

Dignitaries, including ANC Women's League president Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, Cosatu general secretary Sam Shilowa, Greater Johannesburg mayor Isaac Mogase and journalist and poet Don Mattera joined Gauteng Safety and Security MEC Jessie Duarte - herself an erstwhile detainee - in remembering the deaths in detention of activists who suffered or died while being interrogated by the police's notorious security branch at John Vorster Square.

Duarte, in her address, said the change of name constituted a milestone in the country's history "John Vorster Square

was indeed a true embodiment of the violence of the apartheid system, but that now belongs in the past

"The people of Johannesburg, Gauteng and, not least, the nation are saying 'never again shall we have the rights of people trampled upon'."

Provincial police commissioner Sharma Maharaj said the name change was a historic moment for the SA Police Service, which had undergone

change "in leaps and bounds" over a short period of time

"We (the SAPS) appreciate the community's assistance in our fight against crime, where police officers who once wore civilian clothes to work can now proudly walk in their uniforms, and we are able to assist in former no-go areas," Maharaj said.

He added that police, in conjunction with the South African National Defence Force and other players, would continue low-key initiatives which had seen crime levels stabilising in the province over the past six months

Comment
ag u



THEMBA HADEBE

New era ... Isaac Mogase, mayor of Greater Johannesburg, unveils a name board for Johannesburg Central police station during a special Heritage Day ceremony yesterday while the station's community policing forum chairman Paul O'Sullivan watches.

Rail police count cost in blood

NORMAN JOSEPH
STAFF REPORTER

ARG 1/10/97 (251)
Police rail commuter unit members have revealed that 19 of their colleagues have been killed and many others assaulted since the unit's formation in 1991.

The most recent casualty, inspector Joe Treurnicht, is being treated for serious hand and back injuries in the N1 City hospital in Goodwood following a vicious knife attack last Friday night at Philippi railway station, about 100m from the police station.

He managed to reach the charge office where he collapsed in a pool of blood.

A large police contingent searched the area for the suspects but were unsuccessful.

Unit spokesman Bertram Croutz said Inspector Treurnicht's firearm was stolen by the gang.

David Scheepers, 30, and colleague Aubrey Stanley, 29, both constables, were shot dead 10 days ago on Woltemade station when they approached a gang hiding behind a passenger shelter.

Sergeant Croutz said an average of two policemen died each year on duty on railway stations in the Peninsula.

Many more stationed at Philippi and Cape Town stations were assaulted either on duty or while going home, especially at weekends.

"We don't count anymore how many of our members are assaulted by gangsters," Sergeant Croutz said.

"We are fed up with gangsters operating on the trains and the public's reluctance to report crimes and give information."

Unit commander Bennie Gouws said police had been appealing to commuters since 1991 for help in curbing crime on trains and stations.

He again appealed to people with information to call either 0800 11 12 13 or 10111 all hours.

Fivaz takes on Mbeki police squad

Mail & Guardian reporters

National Police Commissioner George Fivaz has quietly ordered an investigation into an undercover police unit that reports directly to Deputy President Thabo Mbeki.

Members of the Cape Town-based unit, led by a former bodyguard of President Nelson Mandela, believe the action against them is the result of their investigations into high-ranking police officers involved in organised crime and Third-Force activity dating back to the previous government.

But police detractors of the unit, from both "old guard" and African National Congress backgrounds, claim the unit's director, Andre Lincoln, has become too close to crime syndicate bosses himself; that the unit has overstepped its authority and has proved to be inefficient.

Lincoln, a former member of the ANC's department of intelligence and security (DIS) and later of the powerful National Intelligence Coordinating Committee, has previously said his unit is working on foreign crime syndicates in the city.

Fivaz this week said his investigation was merely an "inspection" of the unit and its use of resources, which is at a "sensitive" stage. He declined further comment. But the *Mail & Guardian* has established that the probe is headed by the Western Cape's top sleuth, serious violent crime division head Leonard Knipe, and that checking "wild" allegations against the unit's members is part of his brief.

Among the claims is the alleged close relationship of Lincoln with suspected foreign and local crime leaders in Cape Town. Lincoln's contacts include Vito Palazzolo, a notorious Sicilian businessman residing in Franschoek.

Lincoln is on friendly terms with many of the country's top ANC politicians. Mbeki has previously warned that the government is tar-



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M&G 3-9/10/97

No showdown: Mbeki is reported 'not to object' to Fivaz's investigation

getting police officers who are engaged in criminal activities. Minister of Justice Dullah Omar also claims that a Third-Force element is involved in fanning violence on the Cape Flats — a claim possibly based in part on intelligence provided by Lincoln's unit.

While Fivaz's action against Lincoln and his unit may be seen as a new episode in the spat between Fivaz and his political masters earlier this year — when Fivaz complained of "political interference" and Minister of Safety and Security, Sydney Mufamadi, of police inability to reform — senior police officers in the Western Cape this week claimed Mbeki refused he had been "misled" and would not object to Fivaz's intervention.

Knipe is three weeks into his probe, and is dealing with Fivaz through Western Cape police commissioner Leon Wessels. He has still to

contact Lincoln. Lincoln declines to comment on Fivaz's action. "I haven't spoken to Fivaz, and I don't want to get into a situation where we're contradicting each other."

An officer who resigned from Lincoln's 11-man team confirms that Knipe's investigation is serious, but declines to give further details or be identified, fearing reprisals. But other unit members say they believe the probe is focused on procedural irregularities.

Unit members also believe the allegations against them stem from their attempts to root out corrupt senior policemen. They add that Fivaz, as well as Mbeki, has been briefed on the unit's work in monthly reports.

Since it was created last year, the unit's reported activities include pursuing a foreign-run racket which is extorting around R8-million from businesses and nightclubs in Cape Town's

city centre. Lincoln's men have also pounced on a German tax dodger. Lincoln personally briefs members of the Cape Town press.

But the M&G has established that its main focus is on police officers involved in organised crime. Such work, which has thrown up a large number of police names, has sparked fierce opposition from other police officers. Symptoms of that opposition emerged this week, with a string of highly damaging allegations levelled against the unit, in particular Lincoln.

One top police insider in Pretoria alleges that Lincoln has been socialising in Cape Town's bars and night clubs with the very people his unit is supposed to be tracking.

Palazzolo absconded from a Swiss jail in 1986 after serving one year of a five-year sentence on drugs-related charges. He surfaced in the Eastern Cape, where he earned the patronage of Ciskei and National Party politicians, who smoothed his stay. The scandal cost NP East London MP Peet de Pontes his political career. Palazzolo was deported from South Africa as an "illegal immigrant" in 1991, but he was soon back.

The M&G has established that DIS members also had a degree of contact with Palazzolo in the early 1990s. This contact was one factor in a drugs probe against three DIS members, two of them also bodyguards of Mandela, who were never charged but had to leave the DIS.

Another specific allegation against the unit is that it removed a convicted fraudster from Pollsmoor prison last year without proper authorisation after the prisoner promised to cooperate in an investigation. He has not been returned to Pollsmoor in spite of the fact that his "co-operation" has led to no arrests to date.

Lincoln denies such claims, adding that there is much confusion about what his unit is supposed to be doing, and that race may also be a factor. Mbeki and Mufamadi are out of the country.

Fivaz explains police probe

ARG 4/110/97

(251)

JACKIE CAMERON

Police commissioner George Fivaz ordered clandestine surveillance of an undercover police unit to prevent a Vlakplaas-style operation taking root again.

This was the justification from his office yesterday after a report that he had "quietly ordered" an investigation into a unit that reports directly to Deputy President Thabo Mbeki. The unit was formed to probe third force-type activities and any other "sensitive" criminal activities the deputy president's office believes should be investigated as a priority, sources said.

The unit has been investigating allegations that police officers, at the highest level, are

involved in organised crime. It has also reportedly received information that senior police officers are helping anti-crime group Pagad.

Members of the police task force believe the heat has become too much for top officers close to Commissioner Fivaz, and that they leaked information to the newspaper to subvert investigations.

Fivaz's office issued a statement late yesterday defending the clandestine investigation into the investigators as "a formal system of inspection and oversight".

The commissioner said. "I must point out that this unit was in fact set up by President Nelson Mandela and myself. This unit reports directly to me and it is therefore totally false to imply that its management is in the hands of the deputy president.

NP slams 'covert' police unit

CAPE TOWN — The National Party (NP) yesterday condemned reports that a special unit said to be investigating the possibility of links between organised crime and high-ranking policemen was reporting directly to Deputy President Thabo Mbeki.

"However commendable the idea might be that a police unit investigates the possibility of high-ranking police officials' involvement in organised crime, it is totally unacceptable for such a unit to report directly to Deputy President Thabo Mbeki," NP chief spokesman on safety and security Piet Matthee said in a statement.

Matthee was commenting on reports that police commissioner George Fivaz had ordered a probe of the unit. He welcomed the investigation of the covert unit ordered by Fivaz.

He said where units of the police or military were allowed to operate under the direct control of a head of state, his deputy or any other politician, it could lead to a situation where the unit's loyalty was to an individual, not the country it was supposed to serve. It could also lead to so-called third force activ-

ity, where a unit operated outside of the normal lines of command. There was a danger such a unit could be used against political opponents, he said.

"Given the background of the unit's director this was not a far-fetched possibility," Matthee said. Andre Lincoln, the unit's director, is a former member of the African National Congress's department of intelligence and security and of the National Intelligence Co-ordinating Committee.

Fivaz has been quoted as defending his probe of the unit, saying it was part of a formal system of inspection and supervision of its activities.

He said the unit had been set up directly by President Nelson Mandela and himself and that the unit reported to him directly. To imply that its management was in Mbeki's hands was, therefore, false.

Fivaz said he had briefed Mbeki on the unit's operational responsibility. It was in the circumstances ridiculous to suggest there was any tension over the matter. Allegations against the unit and its members would be investigated as with any other unit — Sapa

BD 6/10/97 (251)

Cop v cop in maze of suspicion

JOHAN SCHROENEN
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

Western Cape police are so busy investigating one another that their ability to deal with crime is under serious threat.

Sources say the confirmation at the weekend of the investigation of Deputy President Thabo Mbeki's Presidential Investigations Task Unit by Commissioner George Fivaz is only the tip of an iceberg

It emerged that Commissioner Fivaz was closely monitoring Mr Mbeki's unit to prevent a "Vlakplaas-style" operation taking root again, after allegations of corruption were made against the unit

A police director in the Western Cape got a mandate from Commissioner Fivaz to investigate suspicious incidents involving a senior unit officer, including two shootings and the officer's alleged link with kingpins in the nightclub underworld

But unit members believe other high-powered officers who felt threatened by the probe leaked information to derail the investigation and give them "breathing space"

ARG 8/10/97
(251)

There are now so many probes under way that some police are questioning the integrity of the entire police hierarchy in the Western Cape

They say that if so many top investigators are investigating one another in a raging internal war, there is no time to fight crime

Detectives in the Anti-Corruption Unit, the Independent Complaints Directorate, the Presidential Task Team and the Polmed Fraud Unit are all probing allegations against one another

An Anti-Corruption Unit officer facing charges of fraud involving the Polmed sick fund is himself leading a fraud investigation against a Polmed member who allegedly pocketed informers' reward money. The anti-corruption detective is also being probed by an Independent Complaints Directorate detective who is accusing him of leaking information about a sensitive investigation to the media

But the anti-corruption detective is in turn probing the Independent Complaints Directorate detective for alleged misconduct involving a prisoner he allegedly allowed to roam the streets to commit more crime

In another case, a Presidential Task Unit detective, who faces charges of crimen injuria laid by the Anti-Corruption Unit, turned the tables on the unit and is considering legal action against them

The member was accused of bad-mouthing members of the Anti-Corruption Unit on a specific date

But he said he could prove he was not even in Cape Town and produced cash slips from petrol stations in other parts of the country where he had filled up his car on an official trip

Meanwhile, Commissioner Fivaz is adding his own investigation team, dubbed his "Sweeper Squad", thus compounding the confusion

Provincial Commissioner Leon Wessels said all allegations of corruption and involvement in crime against police were being investigated. In many cases the allegations were false and made with malice

"Some members were specifically appointed to investigate corruption, fraud and other allegations against fellow members, a commitment and duty we have to the community"

Statistics show that the rot starts in Gauteng's copshops

By PETA KROST (251)

Star 11/10/97 robbery following close behind.

More than 1 000 members of the 32 000-strong Gauteng police force have been charged for committing crimes - an average of eight policemen per station

These horrifying statistics, released this week, emanate from research done between January 1996 and May 1997 for the Gauteng ministry of safety and security

The most serious offences committed by policemen include murder, rape, corruption, armed robbery and fraud.

The most "popular reasons" cited for Gauteng police suspensions were policemen being connected to "unspecified serious crimes", with murder and corruption taking a joint second place on this list. In Soweto, the most common reason for suspension was also given as unspecified crimes, followed by murder, while on the West Rand, rape is the second most common offence

In Pretoria, murder, corruption and other unspecified crimes were equally common but in Johannesburg, corruption tops the list, with armed

robbery following close behind. Since January 1996 in Johannesburg there have been 197 policemen - an average of 10 per station - charged with crimes, while 79 members were suspended. In the whole of Gauteng, 239 policemen have been suspended during this period

There are 2 771 departmental charges facing Gauteng police, which include petty offences like late-coming, absenteeism without consent, insubordination, failure to respect a lawful command by a senior officer, and misuse of police vehicle or state property

Safety and Security MEC Jessie Duarte said it was "heartening to know the police were being open about this" and that "it takes a special individual to come into the police and remain untainted"

She said one had to take into account that "from their own admission to these problems, the police are clearly serious about self-cleansing"

The research also showed that the numbers of resignations and staff shortages were exceptionally high

Fivaz demands more spit and

polish

Star 16/10/97

(251)

Discipline 'virtually non-existent' and senior ranks not showing the way

PRETORIA CORRESPONDENT

National Police Commissioner George Fivaz has issued a harshly worded internal circular to senior police stating his dissatisfaction with cases of virtually non-existent discipline in the service.

He found it totally unacceptable that police commanders and commissioned officers were apparently unwilling to address the problem.

The circular was addressed to all deputy national commissioners, provincial commissioners, divisional commissioners, commanders and section heads.

In the letter, Fivaz addressed a number of issues ranging from police who did not wear their caps, to officers who did not command respect.

He warned the current attitude must stop immediately and that departmental steps would be taken against members who did not comply.

Aspects such as rank system, neatness, mutual respect, self-esteem and honour are being ignored and are, in some instances, virtually non-existent.

"I am particularly dissatisfied with the current state of affairs in this regard at training institutions within the service," Fivaz wrote in the circular, dated September 19.

Training institutions, which are supposed to lead regarding discipline, had caused him extreme concern because of the prevailing casual and "don't care" attitude.

"Some members are

strolling around as if on holiday. They recognise a police officer by means of a half-hearted salute, while others don't even bother to salute at all."

Orders were given that members should evaluate their environment be it an office, a vehicle or a barracks room and make sure it was clean and neat, and that regular inspections were carried out.

Good manners and neatness has nothing to do with issues such as racism, victimisation and sexism, and the latter must not be used as an excuse to oppose good discipline.

Police unions reacted to the circular by warning against a return to what they termed a military style in the SAPS.

The national organiser of the South African Police Union (Sapu), Gerhard van der Merwe, said they disapproved of a militaristic approach in the police service, although healthy discipline and a work ethic must be maintained.

Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) general secretary Jacob Tsumane said although Popcru supported a neat and disciplined police service, they expected discipline from Fivaz downwards.

Tsumane said poor discipline was rife among senior personnel, some of whom regarded union representatives as "terrorists".

Most policemen, informally surveyed by the Star today said they had not seen the circular, though some said a crackdown on discipline in the service would be welcome.

Fivaz scolds top cops over bad discipline

Orders to smarten up

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

(251) ARG 16/10/97

Pretoria – National Police Commissioner George Fivaz has issued a harshly-worded internal circular to senior police about cases of virtually non-existent discipline in the service.

He found it unacceptable that police commanders and commissioned officers were seemingly unwilling to tackle the problem.

The circular, dated September 19, was addressed to all deputy national commissioners, provincial commissioners, divisional commissioners, heads, commanders and section heads.

In the letter, Commissioner Fivaz raised issues ranging from police who did not wear their caps to officers who did not command respect.

He issued a stern warning that the current attitude must be abandoned immediately and that departmental steps would be taken against members who did not comply.

"Aspects such as the rank system, neatness, mutual respect, self-esteem and honour are being ignored and are, in some instances, virtually non-existent.

"I am particularly dissatisfied with the current state of affairs in this regard at training institutions within the South African Police Service," wrote Commissioner Fivaz.

Training institutions, which were supposed to lead regarding discipline, had caused him extreme concern because of the prevailing casual and

"don't care" attitude

"Some members are strolling around as if on holiday. They recognise a police officer by means of a half-hearted salute, while others don't even bother to salute at all."

Commissioner Fivaz called on all members to improve their discipline.

Police unions reacted by warning against a return to what they termed a military style in the SAPS.

The national organiser of the South African Police Union (Sapu),

Gerhard van der Merwe, said they disapproved of a militaristic approach in the police service, although strict discipline in training institutions was understandable.

Healthy discipline and a work ethic must be retained, Mr Van der Merwe said, but he criticised what he described as a reactionary approach in

which discipline was addressed to solve a problem of management.

He said there was no disciplinary crisis in the police, although incidents of poor service did happen occasionally.

Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) general-secretary Jacob Tsumane said: "We have a problem with what seems to be a return to a military style of instruction."

Although Popcru supported a neat and disciplined police service, they expected discipline from Commissioner Fivaz downwards.

Mr Tsumane said poor discipline was rife among senior personnel.



Discipline lacking: George Fivaz



SA Police Services CEO Meyer Kahn addresses the Midrand Community Police Forum business luncheon in Midrand on Friday

Picture TREVOR SAMSON

Police must change public opinion, says Meyer Kahn

(251)

Thesy Reuttner

BD 20/10/97

POLICE would have to work hard to change public opinion and the communities would have to learn to collaborate with the force, police CEO Meyer Kahn told a meeting of the Midrand Community Police Forum on Friday

He said community involvement was important to help the police achieve the transition from the "evil that was left in 1994 to a thriving democracy of the future"

The reputation of the police would have to change, Kahn said. He stressed that he believed being a policeman was a difficult and noble profession but that at present the public did not give them the respect they deserved.

The best way to change perceptions was to change the facts.

It would be hard to reduce the load of police work and to successfully create an efficient system, Kahn said. However, he was confident it was possible.

"I have never come across a problem that was not manageable"

Paul Farrall, Midrand community police forum chairman, said Midrand had the lowest crime rate in Gauteng. Kahn suggested he pass on their experience and knowledge to the rest of the country.

Popcru likely to split

HUNDREDS of Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) members in the Western Cape are expected to break away from the union in the next few weeks and form a new organisation that will exclude Correctional Service warders

Members of the rebel group, who asked not to be identified, said they are "fed up" with Popcru's top officials

They claim the officials fly aimlessly around the country, drive flashy cars and have cellphones - all at the union's expense. They also allege that union funds are being used for "minor issues"

Well-placed sources in the police allege that the union's top brass regularly issue statements without mandates and that they recently walked out of sensitive national negotiations

The "rebels" are also unhappy about the way the union's top structure operates

Sources told *Cape Argus* the split was envisaged only in the Western Cape at this stage. Tensions had been simmering for about 12 months

In answer to the allegations, Popcru's provincial spokesman Mr Alvina Abrahams said it appeared that

"a few people are busy with a plot"

Popcru's provincial secretary Mr Eddie Johnson said he had heard "the rumour". It was an apparent attempt by rivals to discredit the union, he said

The union's Helderberg region media officer Mr Danie Julies said the rumours had been doing the rounds for many months

Mr Oupa Motsa, Popcru's national media officer, said from Johannesburg the breakaway attempts would come to nothing. There were "proper structures" for members to air their grievances - *Sowetan Correspondent*

Sowetan 28/10/97

(251)

Police linked to Cape war

An internal investigation has uncovered startling evidence of police complicity in a series of hand-grenade attacks.

Andy Duffy reports

Western Cape police have been implicated in the supply of hand grenades to warring factions on the Cape Flats — the strongest claim yet of police complicity in fanning the violence

An internal investigation has discovered that a senior officer in the Cape Town police's intelligence squad confiscated and then returned a defused grenade to the vigilante group People against Gangsterism and Drugs (Pagad). The probe also found that his colleagues made no attempt to trace the grenade's origin

The dud grenade was thrown days later in an attack on an alleged drug dealer in Crawford, triggering a series of tit-for-tat attacks. Both sides in the Cape Flats war have thrown grenades from the same stolen batch in attacks this year in Athlone, Atlantis and Manenberg. A gangsters' grenade killed a pregnant woman in one of the incidents. Some of the grenades are still in circulation.

Members of the province's serious violent crime unit, who started the internal probe, tracked the source of the grenades in just two days, and arrested two people, including a Pagad leader. However, the police officer responsible for arming Pagad with the dummy bomb has been promoted.

National Police Commissioner George Fivaz has now sent in a team from the national inspectorate in Pretoria, led by director Piet du Toit, to investigate.

Senior police sources in the province claim collusion in the violence is rife, and that the officer who was caught must have acted with the sanction of senior management. The officer, who was arrested on unrelated fraud charges last weekend, was still at work this week.

Western Cape police chief Leon Wessels's office referred all queries to Du Toit's team. The team was unable to comment before the *Mail & Guardian* went to press.

The government has previously claimed that



Masters of fear: The evidence suggests claims that police are stoking violence between gangsters and Pagad are well founded. PHOTO: I-AFRIKA

elements within the police are stoking violence between gangsters and groups such as Pagad. The hand-grenade incident and Fivaz's decision to send in Du Toit's team suggest such claims are well founded.

Fivaz also recently appointed director Ivor Human to lead police efforts to curb violence on the Cape Flats. Human has specialised in "third force" and police corruption probes. His brief on the Cape Flats includes investigating police complicity.

Serious violent crime unit director Leonard Knipe says his officers first picked up the grenade lead following the Atlantis grenade attack in March. His team discovered that a grenade from the same batch had been handed over by a Pagad member, Rushdien Abrahams, to internal security unit Inspector Wymar O'Reilly five months earlier. The internal security unit runs the police's intelligence-gathering operation on the Cape Flats.

The grenade was made safe and then returned to Abrahams, apparently in an attempt to infiltrate Pagad. Knipe says Abrahams was a police informer. But the plan shattered the

rules governing police covert activities — that officers cannot act in a manner likely to promote violence.

"It was a very stupid operation," Knipe says. "My unit doesn't hand guns back to robbers, even if we take away the bullets. It drove me into a blind rage.. People will think, 'My God, what are the police doing?'"

Knipe's team discovered that police had also made no effort to find where the grenades had come from. His officers traced the bombs back to a batch stolen in July 1996 from Philippi-based Swartklip Products, the main supplier of hand grenades to the military and police in the Western Cape. The man charged with the theft from Swartklip has still to be brought to court. The Pagad leader to whom he allegedly gave the seven grenades has since been released, apparently because of lack of evidence.

Knipe took his findings to Wessels and his deputy, head of detectives Willem Smit, who in turn reported to Fivaz. Knipe is unable to say whether Wessels or Smit had sanctioned O'Reilly's action, or whether the incident is symptomatic of wider police collusion.

Survey shows public jaundiced on police services

Pearl Sebolao

(251)

28/10/97

THE majority of South Africans had no respect for the police and more than half (58%) blamed police for the high crime rate, according to a survey conducted by Research Surveys in major metropolitan centres from June to September this year.

Two thousand respondents, white and black men and women representative of the urban population in terms of age and income, were interviewed on a face-to-face basis throughout the country to

evaluate public attitudes towards the SA Police Service (SAPS)

On a scale of one to seven indicating satisfaction or dissatisfaction with police in terms of performance as protectors of the public and keepers of law and order, whites were slightly happier than blacks with a mean rating of 4,1 as compared to a black average score of 3,7.

The study indicated that 29% felt that police service was improving. Few respondents said that the appointment of Meyer Khan as SAPS CE was likely to improve things.

At least half the respondents felt that the police were corrupt, 44% said that they were untrained and 78% were of the opinion that a higher standard should be maintained in selection of police personnel.

Sixty-two percent of the total respondents claimed that police numbers were too few to enable effective policing — 84% of whites compared to 55% of blacks.

High-income respondents saw police salaries as inadequate for the amount and type of work that they were required to do.

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Liquidate Bidco, says Cape Metro Council

ARG 29/10/97

Won't make R1,25m loan a grant

ANDREA WEISS
CITY EDITOR

The Cape Metropolitan Council today moved to liquidate the Olympic Bid company.

This followed a war of words between the bid company's chief executive officer Chris Ball and Leon Markovitz, who served on both the Cape Town Municipality and the Metropolitan Council.

Today the council moved to approach the Cape Town Municipality "with a view to liquidating the bid company".

The council was also not willing to convert a R1,25-million loan to the bid company into a grant. But it said it was willing to seriously consider sub-

ordinating its claim against the bid company to any other creditors outside local government.

According to city council reports, the Olympic Bid Company would end up in debt if it was forced to repay its loans to the councils

Immediately after the announcement that Athens had been selected as the host city for the 2004 Olympic games, the Metro Council submitted a claim to the Olympic Bid Company for the repayment of its loan.

Mr Ball later requested that the R2,5-million bridging finance provided by the council and Cape Town Municipality be regarded as payment for intellectual property and goodwill that the city gained out of the bid.

Initially the council was planning

to convert the loan but today it did an about turn on its earlier recommendations which were that the company should not be liquidated and that the municipality and the council share ownership of intellectual property on a fifty-fifty basis.

A company balance sheet dated October 14 shows that the bid company needs R4-million to wind up its business. Had the council not taken this action the bid company would in all likelihood have been able to wind up its business on November 10.

The metro council's debate today took place in the open after it was originally going to be tabled on secret green paper. Councillors, however, felt the matter was of sufficient public interest to be dealt with openly.

Police fury at plan to split Cape Flats team

(251) ARG 29/10/97

JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTER

The task team assembled to combat Cape Flats violence will be split into two components - to the dismay of the police involved, who have threatened possible strike action.

But police management say the move is geared to provide a more streamlined and co-ordinated approach to the problem by deploying

the personnel, both the National Defence Force and police, in areas where they are needed most.

In terms of the policing strategy for the Western Cape, the province is divided into four areas, East Metropole, West Metropole, Boland and the Southern Cape. Because most of the violence, gang activity, drug peddling and Pagad-related incidents happen across the Peninsula and in effect across the boundaries of the West and East metropolises, the task team initial-

ly worked without these artificial boundary constraints.

Several policemen phoned the Cape Argus expressing their disgust over the move to split the team. One said members were so unhappy that many had threatened not to work on the new task teams.

Police have scuppered Pagad plans to stage a night-time march on November 8 and have advised the group to hold their protest during the day.

Police union makes eyes at Cosatu

NORMAN JOSEPH

STAFF REPORTER

ART 30/10/97

The South African Police Union, apparently seeking ties with the Congress of South African Trades Unions (Cosatu), has invited the organisation to its national congress in December

Sapu national organiser Gerhard van der Merwe said from Pretoria that the union had had several discussions with Cosatu and had "a long-standing mandate" to join a federation

Cosatu education official Anthony Dietrich confirmed Sapu's intentions, saying that if the union wanted to affiliate it must be prepared to "ride the tide"

Mr. Van der Merwe said Sapu officials had talks with Cosatu general-secretary Sam Shilowa and other major unions, and invited them to its annual congress

"We are seeking a good working relationship with Cosatu," Mr Van der Merwe said

At the congress Sapu would ask "each federation to put forward its position"

Meanwhile, the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) has criticised Sapu's stance, alleging that the union is National Party-aligned

The union claimed that Sapu was formed a month before the 1994 elections, was not actually a union and questioned why "they were formed at the 11th hour"

Popcru national general-secretary Jacob Tsumane said his union would ask the national Safety and Security Ministry to investigate "exactly why Sapu was formed at that time"

Popcru was committed to the African National Congress

"Our members are also angry at Sapu for claiming in its newsletter that we recently withdrew from the National Negotiating Forum"

Mr Van der Merwe responded that Sapu was formed "much earlier than 1994", and that its books "are open for investigation"

Police granted extraordinary powers

Pule Molebeledi

DD 31/10/97 (251)

NATIONAL police commissioner George Fivaz this week granted police in the Cape Flats extraordinary powers of search and seizure in a bid to deal with conflict between gangsters and militant members of People Against Gangsterism and Drugs (Pagad).

The move, which Fivaz authorised in the Cape Flats area of Silver City on Wednesday, would allow police to search any premises, vehicles or people without a search warrant until midnight last night, Fivaz said.

He said he intended using extraor-

dinary powers on a recurrent basis.

The special powers were authorised in terms of the Police Act, he said.

However, Pagad spokesman Cassim Parker said the powers given to police "undermine the constitution and the right of individuals to privacy".

"If the police persist in this manner by resorting to old apartheid styles, the community will have no choice but to lose confidence in them," Parker said.

Police spokesman Wicus Hölzhausen said the community supported the campaign. Several arrests in connection with drug dealing, vehicle theft and possession of firearms were made.

Body probed 370 deaths 'linked' to police action

PD 31110/97 (251)

PRETORIA — More than 370 deaths in police custody, or as a result of police action, had been reported to the Independent Complaints Directorate in the six months ending September, the directorate said yesterday.

Another 236 reports of serious criminal offences, allegedly committed by police, were received over the same period. These included 55 complaints of torture of which 49 were in Gauteng.

Executive director Neville Melville told reporters in Pretoria the number of complaints received to date was much higher than had been anticipated. From about 1 100 files opened since the directorate started its work in April, about 56 had been closed by the end of August.

Of these, the body recommended that 10 police officers be prosecuted, one be charged departmentally, and one face disciplinary action.

Of the 372 reports of deaths in police custody, or as a result of police action during arrest and investigation, 113 had been from Gauteng. In KwaZulu-Natal, 106 such cases were reported compared with six in Northern Cape, 41 in Eastern Cape and 15 in Northern

Province

Fifty-one people were allegedly shot during the course of arrests in Gauteng, and 53 in KwaZulu-Natal.

Melville said concern had been expressed from several quarters about the apparent high incidence of torture and of deaths during arrests.

"It is disappointing to see the allegations continue," he said. "We would have hoped for some changes in policing techniques, especially in interrogation methods."

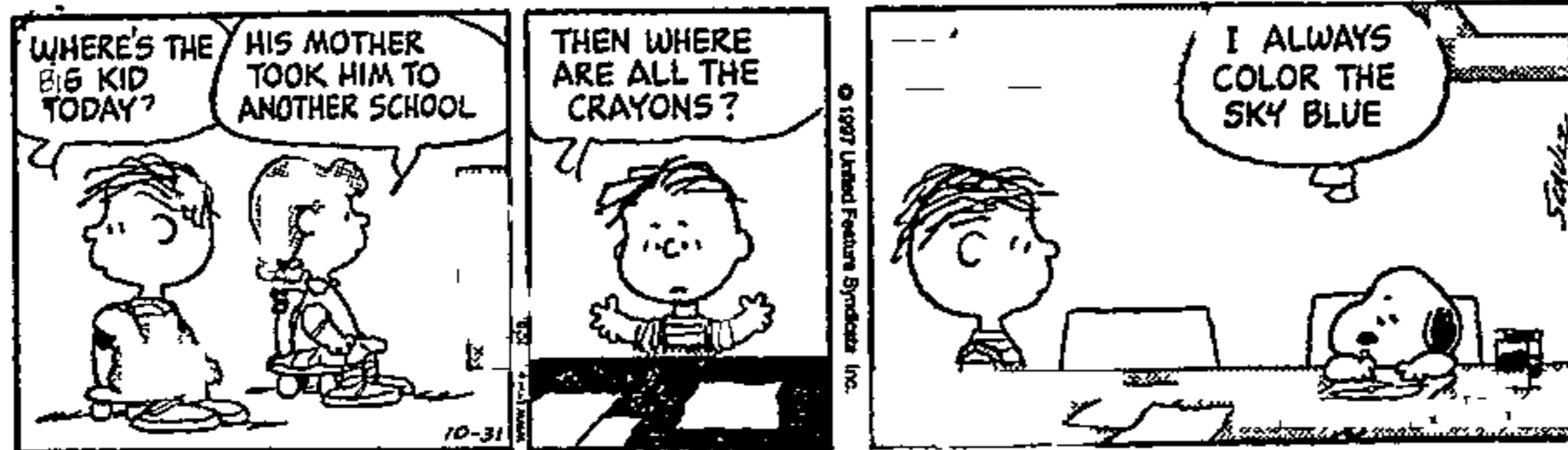
Melville welcomed the new detective academy which opened in Pretoria recently, but said it was a pity the courses presented there did not focus enough on policing ethics.

Melville said the directorate hoped to help with the transformation of the SA Police Service, to make it more accountable and thereby restore some public confidence in the police.

The directorate, however, would like to see its powers enhanced to include, for example, the ability to issue subpoenas to possible witnesses. Increased search and seizure capabilities would also help it to investigate claims more effectively — Sapa.

PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz



A SPECIAL REC



Civilian on the job ... police reservist Constable Brenda Abrahams is doing her bit to assist the new community-run police station in Lyndhurst, Johannesburg.

Lyndhurst leads the way in privately funded police stations

By ANNA COX

The first privately funded, community manned police station has opened its doors in Lyndhurst under the auspices of the Sandringham SAPS.

The Johannesburg north eastern police district community raised R500 000 for the station, vehicles and equipment. It has a record number of 151 police reservists and 64 civilian volunteers to run the station, in addition to 12 permanent SAPS staff.

A similarly privately funded

police station is in existence in Gallo Manor, Sandton, but that station is manned mainly by SAPS members.

This trend towards communities privately funding police stations has been welcomed by the SAPS, which says that because of the limited funds available, existing funds for new stations can be reprioritised to disadvantaged areas where communities cannot afford to fund stations.

SAPS communications Senior Superintendent Andrew Lesch said there were only

between five and 10 such privately funded police station throughout the country. Most of these were merely satellite contact points, not fully fledged stations.

The new Lyndhurst station, in conjunction with Sandringham police station, covers an area of 81sq km and 33 suburbs in the north-east.

Funds raised have been used to buy four police vehicles, a 15-seat bus for police roadblocks, equipment, furniture, and an internal radio communication system. The only functions vol-

untary staff will not be able to carry out are commissioner-of-oaths functions and firearm matters.

Funding comes from 300 families who are making monthly contributions, but police are looking for more donations to keep the station running.

Volunteer Louis Margolis, who is semi-retired, said he had decided to help out because he realised the police needed help to protect the community. He has undergone a six-week training course and will be doing ad-

ministrative work, freeing the reservists and permanent police to do patrol and police work.

Volunteer Mike Binkin, who is retired, said he felt he was making a good contribution to combating crime by helping out a few hours each month.

Reservist Brenda Abrahams, who has put in about 250 hours a month during her three years as a reservist, has a full-time job but felt the need to do something constructive.

The station will be open 24 hours a day. The telephone number is (011) 882-5411.

Star 10/11/97 (251)

Thin blue line gets thinner

JOHAN SCHRONEN
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

ARG 10/11/97 (251)
The police service is shrinking fast and even the much-lauded recruitment campaign - which starts in April with the appointment of about 2 700 members - will not replace the number of experienced police who have quit.

The crisis emerged last week when police admitted that up to 500 men and women were resigning each month.

Johan Small of the police's human resources management confirmed that up to 500 members nationwide had left the service every month for the past three years, for reasons varying from resignation to dismissal.

The rate at which members were leaving, recorded in the first six months this year, suggested that this year would be as bad as previous years, leaving the police force further depleted.

To page 3

Thin blue line gets thinner as 500 a month quit

From page 1

This meant that the undertaking by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi, who recently lifted the moratorium on recruitment, to fill 2 730 vacant posts was actually a step backwards and too little, too late. Politicians in the Western Cape slated the "short-sightedness" of Mr

Mufamadi, claiming his undertaking to bolster police personnel by only 2 730 new recruits by mid-1998 was "no help at all" and "a bluff".

Mr Mufamadi recently lifted the moratorium on police recruitment, promising to fill all 2 730 vacant posts by April, instead of only 1 200 as promised earlier.

Seen against the backdrop of the

exodus in the past three and a half years - about 18 000 police - this move was "too little, too late", said Democratic Party spokesman for safety and security Douglas Gibson.

Superintendent Small said more than 5 000 police had left every year since 1994. Because of this exodus the staff contingent had dwindled to 135 000, about 20 000 of whom were

office-bound. The 115 000 functional police left were further thinned out by leave and suspension from duty pending disciplinary action, leaving policing on the ground to too few members. Adding to the predicament was the fact that senior, expert and trained police left the service while inexperienced new recruits joined up.

Up to 500 quit the police service every month

Mufamadi under fire as recruitment cannot keep up with exodus: DP calls for a total rethink

OWN CORRESPONDENT
Cape Town

The police force is shrinking fast and even the much-lauded recruitment campaign, which starts in April with the appointment of about 2 700 members, will not replace the number of experienced policemen who have quit.

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This means the undertaking by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi, who recently lifted the moratorium on recruitment, to fill 2 730 vacancies, is actually a step backwards and too little, too late.

Politicians in the Western Cape have stated the "short-sightedness" of Mufamadi, claiming his undertaking to bolster police personnel by only 2 730 new recruits by mid-1998 was "no help at all" and "a bluff".

Mufamadi recently lifted the moratorium on police recruitment, promising to fill all 2 730 vacant posts by April instead of only 1 200 as promised earlier.

Seen against the backdrop of the exodus in the past three-and-a-half years - about 18 000 policemen and women - this move was "too little, too late", said Democratic Party spokesman for safety and secu-

rity Douglas Gibson

He said the "promised few" would hardly make up for the depletion the service would suffer until these new recruits reported for duty, let alone the number lost since Mufamadi took office.

Gibson also stated the "gross maldistribution" of human resources in the police, citing up to 500% overstaffing at certain stations while other stations around the country were seriously understaffed.

"I have another concern and that is (former law and order minister Adriaan) Vlok's kitskonstabels, the old municipal police and former homeland police who were absorbed into the police. They bolster numbers but, sad to say, with members who are often substandard, under-trained and under-educated.

"The situation is actually far worse than the books show

When it comes to new recruits we need to be assured they will add value to the service in terms of education, physical qualities and character."

Small said more than 5 000 members had left the South African Police Service every

few 11 11 97

out by sick, study and annual leave (and suspension from duty pending disciplinary action) leaving policing on the ground to too few members.

Adding to the predicament was the fact that senior, expert and trained police left the service while inexperienced new recruits joined up.

Gibson said it seemed Mufamadi had not done his homework: "We cannot fight crime with a thinned-out police service. A situation of too few police also puts undue pressure on the members left behind who are expected to provide a satisfactory service to the community.

"I call for a total rethink by the minister as a matter of urgency."

Small said "concerns over crime and the shortage of functional members" had prompted the decision to fill "all vacant posts".

Vlok's former kitskonstabels among those who stay on

year since 1994. Because of this exodus the staff contingent had dwindled to 135 000, about 20 000 of whom were office-bound.

The 115 000 functional police left were further thinned

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About 49 000 applications had been received and these candidates would be screened in several phases until April when the first intake of 2 730 would start training.

Small explained that a new post structure, which would be finalised with the en masse redeployment process, would place more police in areas where they were most urgently needed.

Western Cape police MEC Gerald Morke's spokesman David Frost said the police staffing problem was a priority. He said the 2 700 new recruits had to be shared by nine provinces but 2 700 extra civilians were to be employed to release policemen and women doing administrative duties.

Police authorities in the Western Cape had also slowed down the exodus of members by turning down applications for early retirement packages



Gauteng safety and security MEC Jessie Duarte addresses a seminar on 'the new role of the SA Police Service in crime prevention in the province' at a hotel in Johannesburg yesterday.

Picture LORI WASELCHUK

Duarte slams white community policing forums for 'racist' attitude to govt

Bohle Ngqiyaza

(251)

GAUTENG Safety and Security MEC Jessie Duarte has criticised some community-policing forums — particularly those based in traditionally white communities — for racist attitudes towards government and criticism which was "not constructive".

At a seminar to unveil a new code of conduct for the SA Police Service (SAPS), Duarte said community policing forums had to rein in such attitudes and realise that "white is not always right and black always wrong".

She said contrary to the perception — emanating partly from government's adopted policy of transparency — that SA was a crime-infested country, it was one grappling with crime.

"Crime has stabilised. But I think it is still high," she said.

Duarte said there was a great need to co-ordinate the activities of community policing forums in order to maximise assistance to these bodies and make them more representative.

Referring to corruption and other problems plaguing the police services, she said remedies had to come from within and not be imposed from without, as there was always the risk that the latter would be unworkable.

The code of conduct, Duarte said, should not be used as an instrument to impose punishment. Its potential as a development tool should be stressed instead.

At the seminar, Gauteng legislature member Vusi Mavuso said there was a need for international organisations to strengthen co-operation in law enforcement, as crime syndicates had become highly sophisticated.

Police stations warned not to exceed budgets

Belt-tightening measures may hamper anti-crime operations as management urges that spending be kept to minimum

BY MIKE MASIPA AND DEREK RODNEY

Police stations are going to bear the brunt of police management's belt-tightening drive to stay within budget limitations, despite assurances by senior officials that operational efficiency will not be affected

The directive to avoid overspending on budgets, issued this week, comes in the wake of national police management attempts to keep within the R12,5-billion national budget.

The cutbacks could mean that already depleted police stations in Johannesburg and Soweto, two of the biggest recipients of funds from Gauteng's budget, are facing a tough future as police headquarters tightens financial reins to curb overexpenditure.

National Support Services spokesman Senior Superintendent Andrew Lesch said yesterday the service had been forced to introduce unpopular cuts to avoid overspending on its budget. Salaries and personnel expenditure, such as bonuses and medical aid benefits, which make up about 80% of the budget, are not affected

Cuts include restricting telephone calls and the private use of official vehicles, and the buying of vehicle spares on demand rather than stockpiling

Star 13/11/97 (251)
"Staff transfers have also been postponed as far as possible, and air tickets for the attendance of conferences or meetings will be limited, while an attempt is being made to cut back on the amount of standby time police officials work to reduce expenditure on standby allowances," Lesch said

According to Lesch, the available money would be used on policing priorities, which included crime prevention

Provincial police commissioners have been given guidelines on how to cut expenditure, while police management was calculating how much spending needed to be curbed to stay within budget limits

New appointments to the service will not be affected because training of the more than 2 700 recruits will begin only in April.

Captain Ian Loubser of Parkview police station - widely regarded as one of the better equipped in Johannesburg - said they had run with only a third of the required fleet of patrol vehicles. Loubser said all Johannesburg police stations had been ordered to run at about 60% of their fleet requirements

Seven of the 22 patrol vehicles at Parkview were currently lying in garages waiting for repairs, Loubser said. He said all their vehicles had recorded high mileage and were thus not

ideal for the demands placed on them by crime prevention patrols. On top of this, shortages of essentials such as stationery were becoming more frequent.

But the commander of Johannesburg Central police station, Director David Botha, said tightening the rein on finances did not mean only gloom

"People should not start panicking because (the move) will enforce maximum efficiency into our ways of policing through better management of resources. Stricter control will, in turn, only benefit the public. I do not see this hampering our work at all. I see the cutbacks affecting only luxury items with no serious impact," Botha said

The SA Police Union called the budget restraint order "scandalous" and said it negated the plea that policing be prioritised in the face of the rising crime rate.

Barbara Holtmann of Business Against Crime (BAC) said she believed Gauteng police stations were generally prepared for the cutbacks

She appealed to the public and business to throw their weight behind the police. Businesses wanting to help can contact the BAC resource centre at (011) 726-3380. Individuals can go to their local community policing forums for advice on how to help

Community policing forums can provide help

BY RODNEY VICTOR

Community policing forums (CPF's) around the country are ensuring that cash-strapped police stations continue operating by buying them equipment ranging from toilet paper to vehicles.

The hundreds of community policing forums in major urban centres such as Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban have been very active in equipping police stations in their respective areas

"They've bought cars and motorcycles for the police, they've supplied them with radio equipment and in some cases they've even had to supply them with basic equipment such as flak jackets and torches," said Gerald Heine, chairman of the Johannesburg community policing area board.

In Johannesburg, the Sandringham CPF has provided the finance to open a new police station in the nearby suburb of Lyndhurst. The Bramley CPF has been pulling in volunteers to take over administrative functions so that the police can concentrate on their crime-combating duties, and the Cleveland CPF has arranged for station management to attend management courses and for charge-office staff to attend training sessions on how to deal with the public and how to answer telephones.

Heine appealed to people to join their local CPF and to take an interest in the functioning of their local police station

"It's a crisis situation and we've got to all pitch in and help. If we don't, we'll all sink together under the overwhelming flood of crime," he said



Showing them the light ... Superintendent Andre Barkhuizen leads his charges in class at the Detective Academy in Silverton, Pretoria. The academy is the first institution of its kind in Africa.

New detective academy will serve sub-continent

The aim is to raise the quality of many aspects

of policing throughout southern Africa

(251)

Star 13/11/97

By MIKE MASIPA
Crime Reporter

The opening of the SAPS' Detective Academy in Pretoria last month heralded the fulfilment of a dream long cherished by policemen across the country to have a place they could go to to refine their skills and gain knowledge

For acting manager and director Jan van Wyk de Vries, the academy would also "provide a home where South African detectives, and indeed their sub-continent counterparts, would find their roots"

Safety and security authorities have often lamented the shortage of experienced detectives, and a new breed as well, as one of the reasons behind the escalating levels of crime.

"The ideal of establishing such an institution started many years ago. I first heard talk about a detective training centre way back in 1982 and throughout the years it has been a spark that refused to die out. And now that it has finally arrived, the academy should be a living organism," De Vries said

"Although the academy is modelled on similar institutions from leading commercial countries overseas, we should be careful not

to copy anyone, but to adapt the best aspects of other systems into our own to suit our needs," De Vries said.

Superintendent Andre Barkhuizen's vehicle theft lecture last week was attended by two students each from 11 southern African countries and is one of the first courses offered by the academy.

The Southern Africa Regional Police Chiefs' Co-ordinating Organisation courses are aimed at

Dream of an academy took years to be reality

pooling police resources across the sub-continent in the fight against crime.

It follows an undertaking made by police services from 12 southern African countries which saw the need for standardised detective training and development in the region

"One never stops learning in this business. I have spent 27 years in the police service back home, 23 of those in the detective branch, but the lessons at the academy this week were quite

eye-opening," said Superintendent Zephania Mgabhi from Swaziland

Next door to Barkhuizen's class was the organised crime course attended by South African detectives and members of the National Intelligence Agency

De Vries said the two were the first of a series of courses that would include specialised functions such as child protection, murder and robbery, arms proliferation, polygraphy and others

Besides trainers from abroad, the bulk of tutors would be drawn from the line functions of the South African Police Service, tertiary institutions and consultants.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation of the United States has, over the past two weeks, been offering organised crime lectures jointly with South African trainers

De Vries added that they had dealt with teething problems "quite handsomely" and were looking forward to a "brighter future", but the main problem they were anticipating with an influx of course participants was a shortage of space

The current facility can accommodate 90 trainees but plans are afoot to have the building extended.

Police stations tighten belts in budget battle

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

(251)
ARG 13/11/97
Johannesburg - Police stations are going to bear the brunt of management's belt-tightening to stay within budget limitations, despite assurances by senior officials that operational efficiency will not be affected.

The directive, issued this week, comes in the wake of police management attempts to keep within the R12,5-billion national budget.

Cuts include restricting telephone calls and the private use of official vehicles, the buying of vehicle spares on demand rather than stockpiling.

The financial cutbacks could mean that already depleted police stations in Johannesburg and Soweto, two of the biggest recipients of funds from Gauteng's budget, are facing a tough festive season as headquarters tightens financial reins to head off overspending.

National Support Services spokesman Andrew Lesch said "Staff transfers have also been postponed as far as possible and air tickets for the attendance of conferences or meetings will be limited, while an attempt is being made to cut back on the amount of stand-by time police officials work to

reduce expenditure on stand-by allowances."

Salaries and personnel spending, such as bonuses and medical aid benefits, which make up about 80% of the budget, are not affected.

New appointments to the service will not be affected as training of the more than 2 700 recruits will only begin in April.

According to Senior Superintendent Lesch, the available money would be used on policing priorities, which included crime prevention.

Provincial commissioners have been given guidelines on how to cut spending and management was calculating how much spending needed to be curbed to stay within budget limits.

But for the commander of Johannesburg Central, Director David Botha, tighter finances did not spell only gloom.

"People should not start panicking, because this will force maximum efficiency into our ways of policing, through better management of resources. I see the cutbacks affecting only luxury items with no serious impact"

The SA Police Union called the budget restraint order "scandalous"

(251)
**Shock at
return of
criminal
police to
the Cape**

CHARL DE VILLIERS

WESTERN Cape police chief Leon Wessels has expressed shock at the decision by a civilian appeals board to reinstate four rogue policemen who have criminal convictions ranging from corruption to assault.

In an angry letter to Commissioner George Fivaz, Wessels warned that the "re-employment of serious criminals constitutes a deliberate undermining of discipline".

The four policemen — two sergeants and two constables — were convicted of offences which included hitting a commanding officer over the head with a chair, stealing an R-5 rifle, shooting up a house, threatening to kill two security guards, and selling a dossier.

The four were dismissed from the police after their convictions, but were reinstated by a Pretoria-based civilian appeals authority.

The Western Cape provincial police director of legal and disciplinary services, Johann Nortjé, slammed the appeal decisions as "incomprehensible and unacceptable".

"No personal circumstances of any police official, irrespective of rank, can justify corruption or serious misconduct in the South African Police Service," he said yesterday.

These are the details of the four policemen's offences:

● Sergeant A was off-duty when he got drunk and went to his charge office, where he hit the commanding officer over the head with a chair. He took the keys to the weapons safe and removed an R-5 automatic rifle, a magazine and 30 rounds. He then went home and fired off shots at, and inside, the house. He was convicted of assault and theft of a firearm;

● Sergeant B was convicted of defeating the ends of justice and corruption after selling a police dossier;

● Constable A was convicted on several counts under the Arms and Ammunition Act and of assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm after he threatened to kill two security guards with his service pistol while drunk, and

● Constable D stole clothes from a shop.

Dumbfounded by the decision to allow the four policemen back into the service, Wessels has recommended urgent, practical steps to prevent "an absolute degeneration of discipline".

The appeals authority was appointed on August 8 in terms of police disciplinary regulations.

Its three members — Professor A Skeen, and advocates W M Mojapelo and S Potterill — were appointed by the Minister of Safety and Security, Sydney Mufamadi, in consultation with the police's national negotiating forum.

Fivaz's spokesman, Director Joseph Ngubene, this week played down Wessels' criticism of the appeal system.

"It is not true, the provincial commissioner only wrote a letter to inform the national commissioner that certain SAPS members had been reinstated," he said.

Five of the 15 appeals lodged with the authority since it was set up have been upheld.

Cash flows out but police are confident

Belt-tightening measures in place as budget overspending looms

(257) Shaw 17/11/97

BY DEREK RODNEY
Crime Reporter

Police have already spent more than three-quarters of their R2,1-billion operational budget, but the management is adamant that crime-fighting operations will not be affected by the pressure to stay within fiscal limits.

With more than four months to go before the next budget, national finance head Assistant Commissioner Pat Bosman said a preliminary annual

review of expenditure had revealed that police had exceeded operational spending by as much as 10%.

"I must stress that the higher spending was due largely to advance payments such as the purchase of vehicles and information technology which took a large bite out of the operational budget, and that there are no more such expenditures for the rest of this financial year," he said.

The service has been compelled to introduce potentially

unpopular cuts to avoid overspending on its R11,9-billion budget following a review of expenditure earlier this month.

Salaries, overtime and bonuses, which make up 80% of the total budget, are not affected.

"We made budget last year, and although there is pressure on us to do it again this year, it's too early to say whether we are going to be over budget. We are not in a crisis yet," Bosman said.

He added that crime-fighting

operations such as those under way in Johannesburg and the Western Cape, which were collectively costing almost R5-million a month, were in no danger of being curtailed.

"Stations should not be experiencing logistical shortages as the goods are still in the storerooms, but each policeman must work towards cutting down on wastage. It all boils down to working smarter with existing funds and channelling money saved in one area to other priority

areas," Bosman said.

Cuts include the restricting of telephone calls, the private use of official vehicles and the buying of car spares on demand rather than stockpiling.

Staff transfers would be postponed as far as possible and air tickets for the attendance of conferences or meetings would be limited.

An attempt would also be made to cut back on the amount of standby time police members worked, to reduce the total spent on standby allowances

SOUTH AFRICA'S SUPER SLEUTHS

NATIONAL PRESIDENTIAL TAXI TASK TEAM (NPITT)
 Commander: Director Neville Thoms
Years in police: 38
Police experience: Murder and Robbery, commanded specialist units in the West Rand and Soweto before joining Transvaal Attorney General Jan d'Oliveira's special task team which investigated Third Force activities. After a brief spell he was seconded to the NPITT to investigate taximatas in the cut-throat industry.
Investigations: The unit with small branches in six of the country's provinces has already identified more than 200 greed-driven organisations which among them are squabbling for control of the industry. Thoms' teams are concentrating their efforts on 30 kingpins at the moment and in the past two months have arrested more than 30 taxi mafia suspects during operations in the Eastern Cape.

TRANS-NATIONAL CRIME
 Commander: Director Henk Heslinga
Years in police: 33
Police experience: Stock theft, South African Narcotics Bureau, Murder and Robbery, special investigator for the Goldstone Commission which investigated violence on commuter trains, Third Force activities, Bopatonq massacre and involved in probe of Military Intelligence front companies as well as their activities in neighbouring states.
Investigations: Heslinga has the unenviable task of tracing hundreds of stolen vehicles and other South African commodities to their destinations in neighbouring African states. Co-operation and the integration of criminal record systems by the 12 SADC countries has already resulted in the exposure of an international 4X4 and luxury vehicle theft and re-registry scam involving hundreds of vehicles spread across southern Africa.

NATIONAL SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT
 Commander: Director Bushie Engelbrecht
Years in police: 21
Police experience: Hamman-skraal station commander, transferred to KwaZulu Natal where he got first taste of political violence before joining special investigations in December 1995.
Investigations: Engelbrecht is no stranger to danger, he has two permanent bodyguards at his side to keep him alive, but his candid character and relentless pursuit of those behind the shootings in and around the KwaZulu Natal town of Richmond has won him the respect of his peers and more importantly the community. With Engelbrecht spending most of his time in Richmond the NSIU, under Senior Superintendent Peeri van Rooyen, has shifted its attention to the multi-million cash-in-transit heists which have amounted to the loss of more than R80-million this year.

SPECIAL PROJECTS AND CRIME INTELLIGENCE
 Commander: Director Soweto Molaba
Years in police: 3
Experience: former Umkhonto weSizwe (MK) operative, specialist in covert operations.
Investigations: The most secretive component of Britz's team. Primary role is to convert information gathered from informer and covert agent networks into usable intelligence which can be used for the planning of police operations. The most visible successes of this component were the arrests of eight suspects, including former Umkhonto weSizwe operatives, in connection with the spate of military-style cash-in-transit robberies around the country. Although hesitant to reveal what investigations this component is working on, police admit that this unit was making inroads into the "Russian Matias" in South Africa.

MURDER, ROBBERY, HIJACKING AND GANG VIOLENCE INVESTIGATIONS
 Commander: Director Ivor Human
Years in police: 36
Police Experience: Murder and Robbery units, South African Narcotics Bureau, special investigator on Transvaal Attorney General Jan d'Oliveira's special task team which investigated Third Force activities, IFP and police hit-squads in KwaZulu Natal, Eugene de Kock and Chris Hanu assassination investigations.
Investigations: Human is the newest team member, having joined in September this year. But he is no stranger to investigating high-profile or sensitive investigations. He has already been sent to the Western Cape where he is leading the gang violence investigation. The unit is also probing links between organised crime syndicates and the hijacking of passenger as well as cargo vehicles.

FIREARMS INVESTIGATION UNIT
 Commander: Superintendent Henning Brand
Years in police: 21
Police experience: former security branch policeman, specialist in covert operations.
Investigations: The unit has already achieved significant successes in tracing hundreds of arms caches in Mozambique in an attempt to close the tap on the continuing flow of weapons into South Africa. The unit also assists in local investigations by tracing weapons used in a wide range of violent crimes to their sources. Brand's men are currently following the trail of weapons to their destinations, be it East Rand hostels or gang groupings in Pretoria, Johannesburg and the Western Cape.

Assistant Commissioner Sukler Britz

PICTURE COURTESY OF PARAMOUNT PICTURES CORPORATION GRAPHIC BY JASON ASKEW

Police's 'Mr Fixit' has the right tools for a good job on crime

SAFETY & SECURITY

Kahn tackles the first Augean stable

Industrialist-turned-cop says new work programmes are just the first steps in "a long, hard grind" to make a better police service

Meyer Kahn recalls how, a few months after taking office as Chief Executive of the SA Police Service, he was brought down to earth

"We were testing a new anticrime model in Johannesburg, and we'd had virtually no serious crime for two full days. In my naiveté and simplicity, I thought we'd made a major breakthrough. I was walking around with my arms in the air like Attila the Hun.

"And then the next day we had some serious hijackings and murders. It dawned on me then: 'Boy, this is going to be a hard road.'

"But we're going to walk that road and we won't be swayed. Eventually the programmes and the anticrime models will work — I know they will, but it's going to take time."

Nearly five months after taking office Kahn is realistic but upbeat about his progress. He has negotiated a series of work programmes to boost police performance and improve co-ordination with the Justice and Prisons departments in the new year. But he is not so foolish as to believe that these improvements will make the police efficient overnight.

"It's going to be a long, hard grind," says the SA Breweries (SAB) boss who moved into the police management in August — at the request of Deputy President Thabo Mbeki — to help improve the structural and operational efficiency of the police.

The work programmes are the key to Kahn's strategy because they can be achieved with existing manpower and resources and don't require additional expenditure. In fact they might even save money.

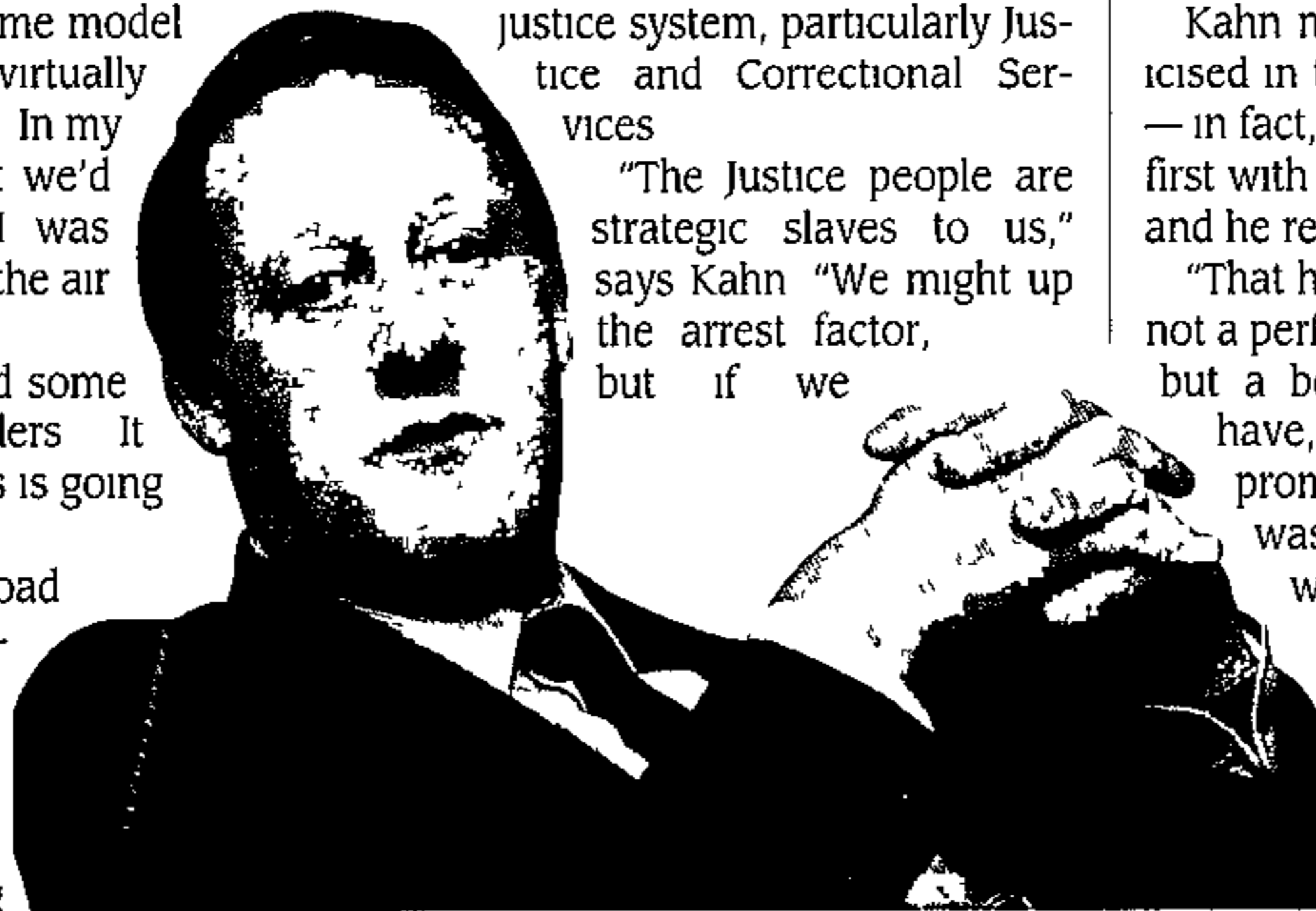
He won't give details of the programmes, saying he doesn't want to give away his secrets to the crime syndicates. But in broad terms, they focus on

- Upgrading police procedures,
- Revising manpower deployments and equipment allocations,

- Enforcing disciplinary codes and performance standards, and

- Improving police co-ordination with other departments in the criminal justice system, particularly Justice and Correctional Services.

"The Justice people are strategic slaves to us," says Kahn. "We might up the arrest factor, but if we



Meyer Kahn upbeat, but realistic, about the criminal challenge

don't have enough holding cells, and the courts can't handle the influx of prisoners, and there isn't enough room in our prisons for them, and you have to ship them back at enormous cost — what sense does it make?" he asks.

There have already been some notable developments since Kahn took office: arrest rates have risen (with a consequent rise in breakouts from police holding cells), the police force has adopted its first general code of conduct and the budgeting process has been more closely linked to operational needs.

Kahn is loathe to claim credit for any of this. His input, he says, has been entirely co-operative, the ideas developed in consultation with National Commissioner George Fivaz, his deputies and provincial commissioners.

"I've had some long, positive arguments with them, some I've won, some I've lost," he says. "These people are not dodos."

"I suppose I've brought some fresh thinking, but any outsider could have done that

I'm no messiah, I've got no ego drive and I'm not looking for medals. All I want is to play a role in making this country safe for my children and grandchildren and for all South Africans."

Though modest, Kahn's assessment of his contribution seems honest enough, as some of the efficiency initiatives now bearing fruit were started by police management long before Kahn came on board. Nonetheless, it is clear from discussions with officers at Wachthuis, the national police headquarters in Pretoria where Kahn occupies the old office of former Commissioner Johann van der Merwe, that the industrialist's presence has injected a sense of confidence and urgency into those around him.

Kahn notes gruffly that he has been criticised in the press for keeping a low profile — in fact, this interview with the *FM* was his first with the media since joining the police, and he refused to have photographs taken.

"That has been very, very deliberate. I am not a performer. I have never been anything but a believer in trying to do the job I have," he says. "I don't like making promises, I'd far rather be judged, as I was at SAB, not by what SAB said but what SAB did."

Kahn may have cultivated a low public profile, but his exposure inside the service has already been quite extensive. He has appeared several times on the police's internal television and in the police magazine and has visited dozens of police stations and community police forums in

Gauteng and neighbouring provinces.

On a sweltering Monday last week he drove to Loskop Dam, 130 km east of Pretoria, for a discussion with senior officers of the Highveld area policing region in western Mpumalanga. The meeting, at the area commissioner's invitation, involved officers from more than two dozen far-flung police stations who wanted to find out what was afoot in the service. It was the first time any of them could remember that a top police manager had come to discuss the business of policing with them — which tells you something about police management of the past and, hopefully, of the future.

"Mr Kahn made a big impression on all of us," says senior superintendent George Seswike, area head of crime prevention. "His plans for budgeting and police discipline especially will make a big difference."

"His value to us is his vision," says senior superintendent Manus Oosthuizen, area head of management services. "We know

how successful he's been in business, and that's something he can teach us because, though we're not a company, we are in the business of service delivery

But Kahn sees a big difference in the style and methods of the police and the private sector

"In the private sector, speed of action is the rule, particularly in the fast-moving consumer market where I come from. There are few internal inhibitions against getting the work done, because we're responsible to ourselves

"The SA Police Service, on the other hand, is dominated by a very different culture - an enormous bureaucracy where consultation is a necessity. Communication is made more difficult because there isn't a common purpose in the police service"

Coupled to these factors are inhibitions

such as the Police Act, the Constitution and Bill of Rights, the need to co-ordinate with government departments, and political obstacles such as parliamentary portfolio committees and provincial MECs

"I'm not saying these things are a major handcuff against getting things done, but they must of necessity slow things down"

There is some irony in this coming from a businessman who was hired to cut through the red tape largely because organised business felt Commissioner Fivaz was too bureaucracy-bound to do the job quickly. Is there a danger that Kahn himself may be co-opted into the bureaucratic mindset?

"The danger does exist," he admits, but he cites two reasons why he will be able to resist it. Firstly, he is by nature "a maverick, a wild man, and it's probably too late for me to change". Secondly, he has a deadline

of only two years in which to make a difference, so he cannot afford to get tied up in bureaucracy

Kahn says he was not aware of the tension between Commissioner Fivaz and Safety & Security Minister Mufamadi at the time of his appointment, that his appointment was in fact a wedge to take police control away from Fivaz. If that was so, it's not the case now, says Kahn. He says that he gets along well with both Fivaz and Mufamadi

The important thing is that most serious crimes have stopped getting worse. It's not much to crow about, but it's a start

Despite the enormity of the challenge, Kahn says "If I was asked to take this job today, and knowing what I know now, I'd take it all over again. I have no regrets"

Peter Honey

Our own 'Untouchables' right on target

(201) AR 19/11/97

DEREK RODNEY
ABQUS CORRESPONDENT

Johannesburg - Tackling the inter-linking tentacles of violent crime in South Africa is the daunting task facing a small group of investigators handpicked by the police's own "Mr Fixit" to re-establish the police's hold on sprawling villany.

Assistant Commissioner "Sulker" Britz, a 36-year veteran who has survived the purging of the old guard in the new amalgamated police service, is the man in the trenches, tasked with leading the country's murder and robbery, illegal firearms and special projects investigations into the next millennium.

Whether it's investigating the theft of an ATM out of police headquarters, tackling the Richmond murders in the KwaZulu Natal midlands, tracking more than 40 armed robbers identified as part of a paramilitary gang specialising in multi-million cash-in-transit heists, pinpointing the origin of smuggled weapons or cross-border vehicle theft syndicates, Britz is the man with his finger on the pulse.

A streetwise commander who is not averse to getting his shoes dirty on a crime scene, Britz has assembled a formidable array of experienced detectives who are regarded as "simply the best" by their commander.

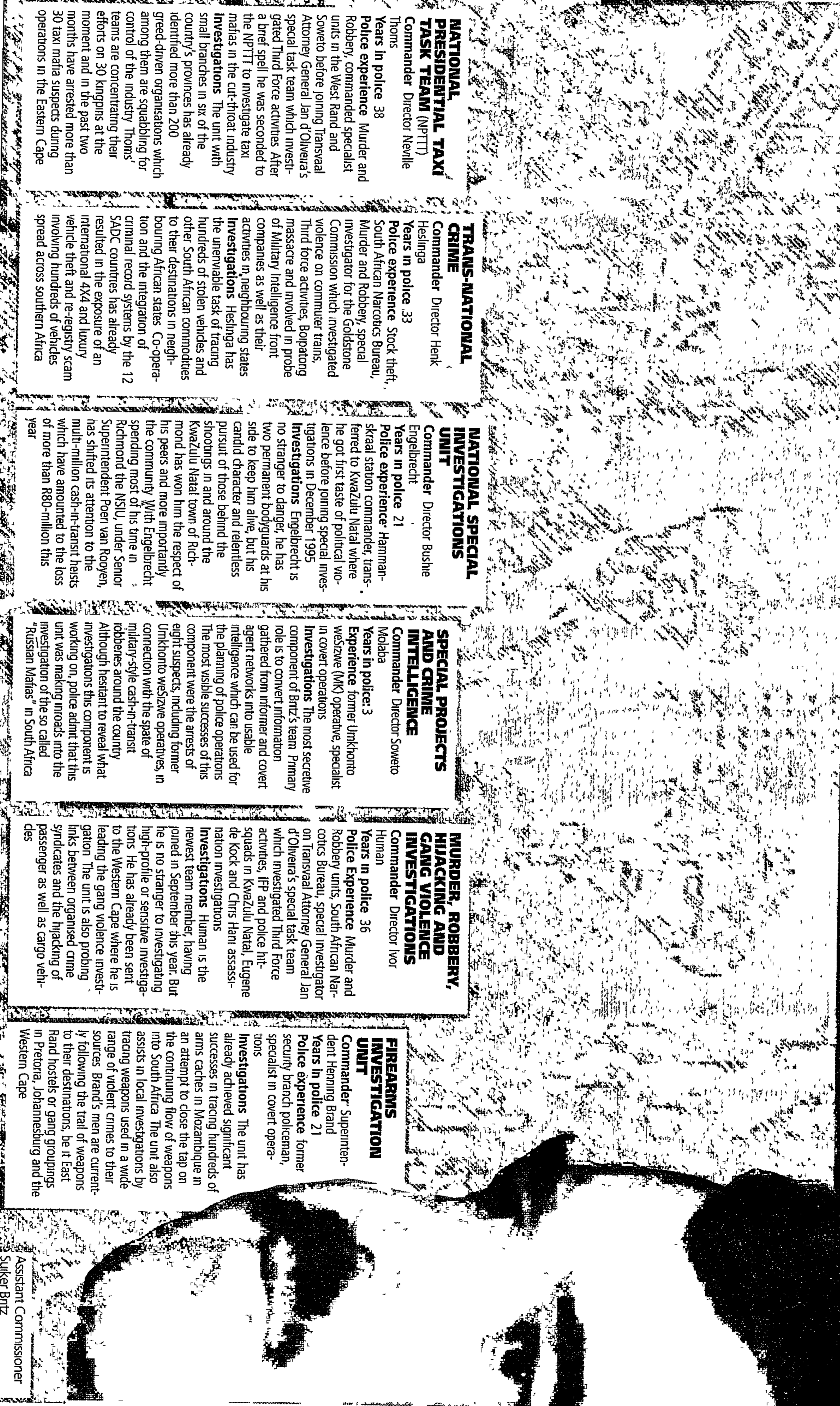
The average experiential age of Britz's investigators is between 12 and 15 years, almost triple the average of detectives at station level.

"There is a perception that people are tortured during detention, but I have made it crystal clear to my people that suspects are to be handled humanely, and if anyone makes themselves guilty of these tactics, I will personally chase them away," says Britz.

According to Britz, there are few criminals who can stand up to police questioning, especially since his teams are geared towards presenting evidence-based dockets which have to stand up to court scrutiny.

"These members were picked for their experience and abilities. You cannot expect results in cases, many of which are high profile, requiring efficient and professional expertise, from inexperienced youngsters."

SOUTH AFRICA'S SUPER SLEUTHS



Assistant Commissioner Sulker Britz

PICTURE COURTESY OF PARAMOUNT PICTURES CORPORATION GRAPHIC BY JASON ASKEW

NATIONAL PRESIDENTIAL TAXI TASK TEAM (NPITT)

Commander Director Neville Thoms
Years in police 38
Police experience Murder and Robbery, commanded specialist units in the West Rand and Soweto before joining Transvaal Attorney General Jan d'Olivera's special task team which investigated Third Force activities. After a brief spell he was seconded to the NPITT to investigate taxi mafias in the cut-throat industry.

TRANS-NATIONAL CRIME

Commander Director Henk Hestlinga
Years in police 33
Police experience Stock theft, Murder and Robbery, special investigator for the Goldstone Commission which investigated violence on commuter trains, Third Force activities, Boipatong massacre and involved in probe of Military Intelligence front companies as well as their activities in neighbouring states.

NATIONAL SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

Commander Director Bushie Engelbrecht
Years in police 21
Police experience Hamman-skraal station commander, transferred to KwaZulu Natal where he got first taste of political violence before joining special investigations in December 1995.

SPECIAL PROJECTS AND CRIME INTELLIGENCE

Commander Director Soweto Molaba
Years in police 3
Experience former Umkhonto weSizwe (MK) operative, specialist in covert operations.

MURDER, ROBBERY, HIJACKING AND GANG VIOLENCE INVESTIGATIONS

Commander Director Ivor Human
Years in police 36
Police experience Murder and Robbery units, South African Narcotics Bureau, special investigator on Transvaal Attorney General Jan d'Olivera's special task team which investigated Third Force activities, JFP and police hit-squads in KwaZulu Natal, Eugene de Kock and Chris Hanu assassinations.

FIREARMS INVESTIGATION UNIT

Commander Superintendent Henning Brand
Years in police 21
Police experience former security branch policeman, specialist in covert operations.

NATIONAL level

Priority investigations identified by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi or National Commissioner George Prins are passed direct to Britz. He co-ordinates trans-national

at crime, murder and robbery, hijacking and gangs, the national presidential taxi task team, special investigations and illegal firearms components, which all have a crime intelligence-gathering capacity.

Director "Bushy" Engelbrecht, who has earned the respect of his peers and the community for his efforts in the Richmond murders, is the head of the national special investigations unit (NSIU).

Has team includes a number of specialist investigators, among them two of South Africa's top serial-killer investigators, Superintendent Frans van Niekerk and Captain Vinol Viljoen, who tracked and apprehend-

ed Moses Strole, the alleged Attidgeville, Boksburg and Cleveland killer. NSIU investigators also are supported by forensic experts who provide efficient back-up for field teams.

"The bottom line is that we work as a team, whether as an investigator, intelligence expert or a forensic person. We share information with the firearms or hijacking guys so we can throw all our resources at a particular crime," says Van Rooyen.

Black 10111 woman angry over 'sex pest' *'White hands gripped my ankles'*

C.T. 19/11/97

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JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTER

A black policewoman, brought to the police radio control centre in Pinelands five months ago to help overcome the shortage of Xhosa-speaking telephone operators, has accused her white and coloured colleagues of sexual harassment and of racially insulting her and President Mandela.

Inspector Mimi Mraji alleges that a fellow officer stuck his hand up her skirt while she was answering a 10111 emergency call

Earlier this year there were allegations of racism at the unit. It was claimed that white staff washed telephones with disinfectant after volunteer Xhosa operators had used them.

The latest complaints, which include an on-duty officer saying he hated President Mandela and

did not recognise him as the country's president, have been lodged with the unit's head and the Independent Complaints Directorate.

Inspector Mraji said problems began a few weeks after she started at Pinelands but she did not report any of them because she did not want to be seen as a "moaner".

"But I have had enough and these latest incidents have pushed me over the edge," she said.

She said that on November 1 she felt somebody touching her legs from under her desk. "I looked down and was shocked to see big white hands touching my ankles."

She said that on an earlier occasion one of her colleagues had insulted the president. "He went on to say he knew there was a 'swartvark' who was 'going to tell' what he had just said."

"The rest of the staff was laughing and was egging him to repeat what he was saying in Afrikaans as they could not understand Eng-

lish," said Inspector Mraji.

She said that was one of the few occasions the officer had spoken English. Normally all communication was in Afrikaans.

"I get the feeling they are trying to frustrate and isolate me because they don't want me or any black people here," she said.

Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union shop steward Johannes Campher said this was not the first time complaints had been received from black personnel at radio control, and would not be the last - unless police management enforced changes that would make it impossible for staff to act in such a racist and discriminatory way.

Provincial head of proactive policing Fanie Bouver said "If the allegations are proved to be true, serious and harsh measures will be taken against those involved."

He said it was police policy to use a language all personnel could understand.

BD 20/11/97
(251)

Public claims R4,8m from police

CAPE TOWN — Members of the public lodged 261 claims amounting to more than R4,8m against the police since January this year for the loss of or damage to goods in their safekeeping, Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi said yesterday.

Twelve claims totalling R96 177 had been paid out, he said in written reply to a question in parliament by the National Party's Michael Henry.

Mufamadi said an internal investigation had been held and guidelines

drafted to ensure proper control and safekeeping of public property.

A total of 124 claims amounting to R2m had been lodged against police in Gauteng, 14 in the North West (R1,2m), nine in Mpumalanga (R537 405), 41 in KwaZulu-Natal (R351 697), 23 in the Eastern Cape (R234 362), 12 in the Free State (R176 938), 10 in the Northern Province (R139 499), one in the Northern Cape (R4 000) and another at head office (R2 000) ← Sapa

Affirmative action plan for police force set in motion

By WILLEM STEENKAMP

An aggressive affirmative action programme in the SA Police Service aims to ensure that more than half the force will be filled by people of colour by 2000, while 30% of the police will be women.

Police then expect the once white-dominated police force to become representative of the population, of which whites make up less than 15%.

Under the continuing rationalisation process, national police commissioner George Fivaz is expected to announce shortly the appointment of captains and superintendents in various strategic positions around the country.

In some parts of the country, special attention has been given to appointing women and black, coloured or Indian captains and superintendents as station commanders in historically white areas.

This is being done specifically to ensure that the police will become visibly more representative of the population.

The SAPS's equity unit in the Western Cape has proposed to the national office that an accelerated development programme be instituted to ensure that people from disadvantaged groups be moved into senior positions.

High-flyers

Candidates showing potential will be put on a fast-track programme and they will become the so-called high-flyers in the SAPS. It has also been proposed that talented policemen from disadvantaged communities will be placed in shadow posts to learn the required expertise from experienced officers.

The commander of the police's equity unit, Senior Superintendent Jenny du Plooy, said Fivaz was expected to make the announcement of the placement of numerous captains

and superintendents in specific positions before the end of the year.

Du Plooy said a special multidisciplinary equity committee had been established to help implement a programme to ensure the police in the Western Cape became more representative of the population.

In an effort to reach the required affirmative action appointments in the force by 2000, 70% of all intakes at entry level will be people from the disadvantaged sector.

Du Plooy said both the affirmative action policy and the equity programme had been welcomed in the force. She said there would be a strong drive to employ women in the force, with a target of 30% by 2000.

By the same time, 2% of the force should be made up of disabled people. The police also hope to launch a preferential training programme through which people from the disadvan-

tagged sector will receive special training, including being sent on overseas training trips. Affirmative candidates will receive preferential treatment.

Du Plooy said that in an effort to ensure that affirmative action targets were met, people from the disadvantaged sector would receive extra points when applying for senior positions in an effort to ensure that they had a more than average chance of being appointed in such positions.

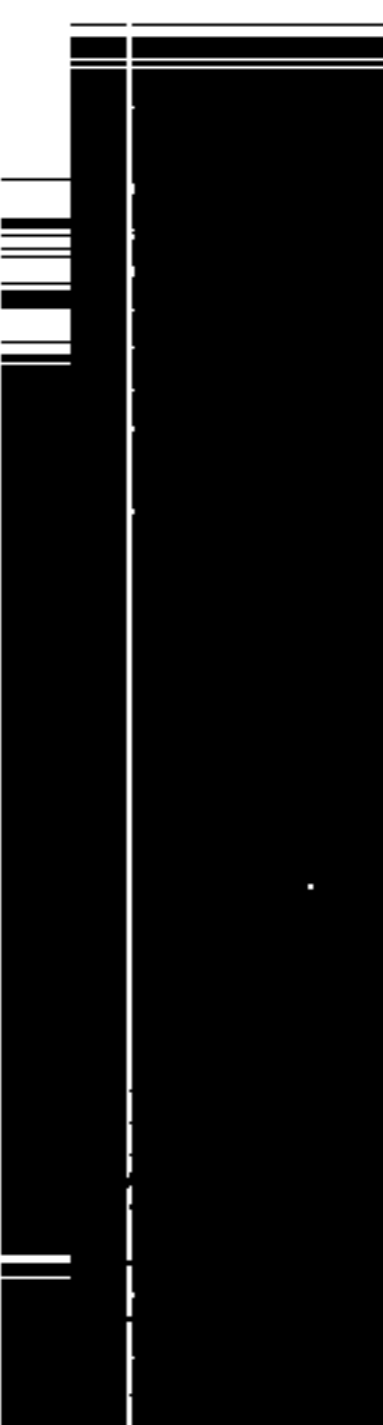
Standards

She said that under both the affirmative action policy and the equity programme, gender issues, equality and an eradication of discriminatory issues would be addressed.

Service standards would be improved and it was hoped that, through making the police more representative, members would become more acceptable in, and receive greater support from, the communities they served.



SOMETHING TO BE PROUD OF: Assistant Commissioner Magda Stander yesterday became the first woman police officer to receive the SAPS Star for Outstanding Service. PHOTOGRAPH ANDREAS VLACHAKIS



Police aim at race balance by 2000

'Half to be people of colour'

WILLEM STEENKAMP

An aggressive affirmative action programme in the South African Police Services aims to ensure that more than half the force will be people of colour by the year 2000 and 30% of them women.

Police then expect the once white-dominated force to become representative of the population, of which whites make up less than 10%.

Under the continuing rationalisation process Police Commissioner George Fivaz is expected to announce shortly the appointment of captains and superintendents in strategic posts around the country.

In the Western Cape special attention has been given to putting women and black, coloured or Indian captains and superintendents as station commanders in historically white areas. This is being done specifically to ensure that the police in the region will visibly become more representative of the population.

Western Cape commander of the police equity unit Jenny du Plooy said Commissioner Fivaz

ARG 22/11/97 (251)
was expected to announce the placement of several captains and superintendents in specific posts before the end of the year.

Senior Superintendent Du Plooy said a special multidisciplinary equity committee had also been established to help implement a programme to ensure the police in the Western Cape became more representative of the population.

In an effort to reach the required affirmative action appointments in the force by the year 2000, 70% of all intakes at entry level would be people from the disadvantaged sector.

The Western Cape equity unit had also proposed to the national office that an accelerated development programme be instituted to ensure that people from disadvantaged groups be moved into senior positions.

Candidates showing potential would be put on a fast-track programme, and they would become the so called "high-flyers" in the police.

It had also been proposed that talented policemen from disadvantaged communities be placed in

shadow posts to learn from experienced officers.

Superintendent Du Plooy said the affirmative action policy and the equity programme had been welcomed in the force. She said there would be a strong drive to employ women in the force, with a target of 30% by the year 2000, when 2% of the force would comprise disabled people.

The police also hoped to introduce a preferential training programme through which people from the disadvantaged sector would get special training, some of it overseas.

Superintendent Du Plooy said that in an effort to ensure that affirmative action targets were met, people from the disadvantaged sector would receive extra points when applying for senior positions in an effort to ensure that they had a more-than-average chance of being appointed.

She said that under the affirmative action policy and the equity programme, gender issues, equality and an eradication of discriminatory issues would be addressed. Service standards would be improved.

Cop sparks race row with 'stupid kaffir' slur

LAURICE TAITZ, ANDRÉ
JURGENS and
LUCAS LEDWABA

ST 23/11/97
THE policeman in charge of South Africa's largest detective force has sparked a race row by calling one of his colleagues a "stupid kaffir"

Assistant Commissioner Louis van der Westhuizen is the head of the police detective service in Gauteng. He is one of three assistant commissioners who work directly under Gauteng's police commissioner, Sharma Maharaj, and is responsible for all detectives in the province

Yesterday, both National Commissioner George Fivaz and Maharaj said Van der Westhuizen's alleged comment would be investigated. Gauteng safety and security MEC Jessie Duarte said she would consult with Maharaj

Van der Westhuizen told a Sunday Times reporter that Maharaj's spokesman, director Azwinndini Nengovhela, was a "stupid kaffir"

He was responding to a query about a probe in which he, Van der Westhuizen, was said to be involved. Angered at being disturbed at the weekend, he asked who said he knew about the probe. When told it was Nengovhela, he made the racial slur, and slammed the phone down

On Friday, Van der Westhuizen was given a police medal for outstanding service. He is due to retire next year

Fivaz said "If this is true, I'll be extremely shocked and disappointed... Racism is not allowed. We'll investigate it and take departmental steps, depending on the outcome"

(251)
Khalik Mayet, special adviser to Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi, said: "Racism affects what people see as being important. If a decision maker is racist, their thinking process is driven by their beliefs as to what is important"

Jacob Tsumane, national general secretary of Popcru, said "Popcru is sick and tired of these racial insults, which keep being reported. We insist a full investigation be held into this incident, and harsh steps be taken if it is true"

"Mufamadi can condemn racism. He can even stand on his head. But it will not go away until the 'old guard' of racists is rooted out of the force"

Oupa Mmotsa, the organisation's national spokesman, said white policemen still believed they were the "baases"

When contacted for comment later, Van der Westhuizen at first denied his earlier conversation, and then said he did not want to be bothered

"We will appoint someone more senior (to Van der Westhuizen) to investigate the allegation. If he is found guilty, it is within our capacity as a department to take steps. We have a number of options — the harshest would be removal from his post"

Maharaj said "I am speechless. This is unacceptable. One would not expect a constable to talk like that, and certainly not an assistant commissioner for the province"

A shocked Nengovhela said "I never expected that I am rather disappointed. I think it shows we have a lot of people, even at senior level, living in the past"

NATIONAL NEWS

Cops wait in vain for promotion

By Morgan Naidu

(251) Sowetan 24/11/97

TWO policemen have accused their superiors in the South African Police Service of practising racism regarding the promotion of black members

Sergeants Jacob Rapholo and John Matlapeng have fought an ongoing battle for promotion since 1980 and were turned down six times before attaining their current ranks in 1995

However, the two long-serving members, who have at least four decades of service between them, claim they are being pushed from pillar to post in their attempts to seek promotion to the ranks of inspector

"Since 1980 we waited for 15 years before we were promoted to sergeants and all the white officers who were junior to us or had less experience were promoted

"Even though we had completed various studies and courses we were still overlooked while a white officer who did not even have Matric was eventually promoted and made our commanding officer," Rapholo said

He added that their applications were repeatedly turned down and since 1995 they have had no joy in their attempts to become rank inspectors

Letter of complaint

"We then lodged a grievance but were never granted a hearing. Our letters of complaint were sent to the area commissioner, our station commander at Johannesburg police station, the provincial commissioner's office, and the office of the national commissioner

"Instead of hearing our grievance, the buck was passed from one person to the next and we are still left without answers today," said Rapholo

He said that while the transformation of the police service was taking place there were many pockets of resistance and black members were still being victimised and discriminated against

Director Joseph Ngobeni, spokesman for Commissioner George Fivaz, said the SAPS was a "legitimate police service which is democratic and does not tolerate racism or discrimination of any kind"

He urged any member who felt aggrieved to lodge a complaint through the correct channels to the various grievance offices in the service

A spokesman in the office of Provincial Commissioner Sharma Maharaj said the matter was being looked into

Police spokesman Andy Pieke said the police human resources department in Johannesburg had responded to the two's grievance this year

"They were informed that they did not qualify for promotion (to inspector) because they had only four years' service as sergeants"

Pieke said they needed a minimum of five years of service as sergeants before being considered for the rank of inspector

He did not know why the application for promotion to their current ranks had taken so long

Traffic (25)
officers on
go-slow (25)
over pay

26/11/98
By ANNA COX
Sandton Bureau

Sandton traffic officers, who allege that the Greater Johannesburg council's payrolls are in chaos and that some colleagues have not received their salaries for three months, are on an informal go-slow.

Because traffic officers are classed as emergency staff, they are not allowed to strike.

However, officers said they would do only emergency work such as attend accident scenes and man traffic points until their problems were resolved.

Administrative work would not be done in the meantime, they said.

Randburg and Roodepoort traffic officers are experiencing similar problems with salaries.

The traffic officers were previously paid by their own councils, but, since January when the salaries were centralised under the metro council, they claim they have been unable to survive financially because of the chaos.

Officers claim that complaints are ignored and there is a general intolerance of their problems by metro staff.

They say they are getting bad credit ratings at banks because of this. Many are being denied overdraft facilities or that the facilities are being withdrawn. It is also resulting in added banking costs because of dishonoured cheques and debit orders. The officers are concerned about payment of long and short-term insurance because premiums are often not paid.

They say overtime has not been paid or is underpaid. Some have more than one employee number, their salary slips do not reflect medical aid benefits, and over-taxation complaints are not dealt with.

"We cannot carry on with this financial uncertainty, we cannot plan for the future. No one will listen to our problems," said one.

Not one officer who spoke to The Star would be named, for fear of victimisation.

Sandton chief traffic officer Mathokosa Kgaswane denied that staff had not been paid for months.

He said there were discrepancies over pension and overtime money owing, but these problems would be addressed.

"We will not condone or allow go-slow strikes which could put the community in danger," he added.

10 000 in police force arrested in 16-month period but only 4% convicted, Mufamadi tells

By GASMAT ARABER

More than 10 000 members of the South African Police Services have been arrested in 17 months for crimes such as armed robbery and theft, contributing to South Africa's spiralling crime situation.

Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi said in Parliament that 10 313 SAPS members were arrested from January 1996 to May 8 1997. Some 4%

have been convicted so far.

In a written reply to a question put to Mufamadi by Democratic Party MP Douglas Gibson in Parliament earlier this year, Mufamadi said 8 029 SAPS members were arrested for criminal offences nationally in 1996.

From January 1 to May 8 1997, 2 284 members were arrested, for crimes ranging from reckless driving, driving a vehicle without a licence and the

keeping of vicious dogs, to rape, murder and corruption.

The crimes committed in the two periods - the latest figures available - included 107 armed robberies, 92 housebreakings, 101 robberies, 95 stockthefts, 71 vehicle thefts, 653 general thefts and 193 for corruption.

Of the members arrested, 321 were convicted last year while 91 were found guilty in the first five months of 1997. Convictions older than five

years were scrapped from the records and not considered in the statistics.

In Gauteng, for the period January to May 1997, 3 255 cases of police crimes were reported, of whom 109 were prosecuted and 53 convicted. In the first five months of 1997 the number of reported crimes was already more than half of last year's total figure of 6 693 reported cases.

In the latest incident in Gauteng, police inspector Theminkosi Ntando (31) of Protea Glenn was arrested in connection with a robbery at the Kibler Park post office in Johannesburg's southern suburbs.

He faces charges of robbery, the illegal possession of a firearm and theft of driving a car without the owner's permission. Police said Ntando and accomplices fled with about R7 000.

Spokesman for National Police Commissioner George Fivaz, Director Joseph Ngobeni said the 4% conviction figure was misleading, because cases were still pending an outcome.

He said the reason for police members committing crime was a result of the formation of an umbrella SAPS when 11 policing agencies amalgamated in 1995.

This caused much confusion with different disciplinary

Parliament

codes, he said

Ngobeni said there were misconceptions among members that "in the new South Africa there were no disciplinary measures". He said there were transformation problems and an element of uncertainty with the changeover of one policing body.

But the service was trying to address the problem and had come a long way in dealing with police crimes

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Informers tells of whores and rides with 'corrupt police'

RIAN HO

He alleges he had a mandate to actively pursue and entice, and that he trapped seven officers in four months

By **DEREK RODNEY**
Crime Reporter

Catching corrupt policemen is as easy as paging through a telephone directory

This is the claim of a police informer who, in an effort to claim lucrative reward money for the arrest of corrupt policemen, systematically telephoned Johannesburg police stations and enticed policemen into accepting bribes

Ronnie Chetty is a professional police informer. A fast mouth has helped to feed his drug habit and, having had run-ins with the law in the past, this operator knows how the criminal mind works and has the savvy to make it work for him

In the past year Ronnie has been a paid informer for a police anti-corruption unit (ACU) — a unit which Ronnie claims gave him a mandate to actively pursue and entice policemen and women with money

In the four months from May to August, Ronnie claims to have trapped seven police of-

ficials: a captain, an inspector and five sergeants, in five separate operations

Johnny claims one police captain in the unit, whose name is known to The Star, received a 25% "commission" from the informer for each bust that he brought to the unit

"After each bust, I and Captain 'M' would go into Johannesburg and I'd buy him and myself a whore, which we paid for in cocaine, and have a great time for a few days while driving around in an ACU vehicle," he said.

The trap was simple, Ronnie would call up a police station and then speak to whoever answered the telephone.

"I'd say that I had a Nigerian dealer who was interested in selling drugs and that, if he wanted to, we could set him up," he said. After the arrest the policeman would pocket the cash and Johnny would take the coke.

Once the policeman had agreed, Ronnie contacted the unit and the trap was set.

In one instance, the Hill-

brow captain arrested Johnny and the ACU undercover operative and seized all the goods but was arrested by surrounding ACU detectives before he could take them all back to the station

"This guy had done his job according to police procedures but still they arrested him," Ronnie said

Not all cases went according to plan. In another botched operation involving an undercover Johannesburg narcotics unit, heated exchanges and dropped charges resulted after it became apparent that the narcotics policemen were in the process of arresting Johnny and the ACU agent.

■ The Witwatersrand attorney-general's office told The Star the ACU did not make use of informers to "set up" officials on an ongoing basis.

"I am aware of certain individuals claiming to have such a wide-ranging mandate but no credence can be attached to such flights of fancy," a fax letter signed by chief clerk Madelen de Jager read.



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Occupational hazard ... being a paid police informer is not without its dangers and this held true for Ronnie Chetty whose Lenas South house was petrol-bombed in September. Chetty is bitter about the lack of state protection, especially with several high-profile police corruption cases pending. He went into hiding this week fearing further revenge attacks.

Northern Cape police dig dirt

MTG 28/11-4/12/97

Northern Cape police commissioner Johan

Deyzel is investigating a special police task force for fraud, writes **Gustav Thiel** (251)

The four members of a special investigative team that found evidence of widespread police corruption in the Northern Cape are themselves now under investigation for fraud by the province's police commissioner, Johan Deyzel

The members of the task team, which was created in December 1996 by Northern Cape Premier Manne Dipico, say the fraud allegations are false, and that they are part of a campaign by Deyzel to discredit the team and ultimately the team's findings

The deputy chair of the task team, South African National Civic Organisation (Sanco) national treasurer Ross Henderson, said he had warned when the report was released in September that police in the province were unlikely to follow up the report because of the involvement of Deyzel

Dipico appointed the task team after detectives in the province expressed concern about the conduct of members of the Kimberley anti-corruption unit and the South African Narcotics and Alcohol Bureau

The most publicised of the allegations the team investigated were claims that police were using an abandoned Kimberley mine shaft to dispose of bodies of street children and vagrants they had killed. The task team recommended that individual police should be prosecuted for the killings, but no action has been taken. Deyzel says the team had no authority to recommend prosecutions, the team says it was instructed to do so by Dipico himself

There have been other clashes between members of the task team and the police commissioner, including Deyzel's insistence that the report should not have been made public — it was released by Dipico — because team members signed a confidentiality clause. Henderson says that is not true

The three other members of the investigative team now being investigated by the police are its chair, advocate Thebogo Rakgoale, Reverend JR Phenyeke and John Kearns from the Department of Safety and Security. The charges against Rakgoale and Kearns "suddenly surfaced this week", says Henderson

Phenyeke is being investigated by police for his involvement in the purchase of vehicles for Sanco, the civics organisation had experienced serious financial problems last year which led to their repossession

Phenyeke has maintained there was no fraud on his part, and has said he has evidence of police complicity with Wesbank and other banks involved in the repossession

Henderson is being investigated for allegedly representing someone in a 1994 alimony case in Kimberley without having the legal qualifications to represent her. The woman in question, however, has said in a sworn affidavit,

of which the *Mail & Guardian* has a copy, that Henderson had never in fact, represented her, and that she had never asked police to pursue a case against him

Henderson says the police tried to raid his house in December 1996 to search for documents in the task team's possession, but he turned them away because "they had a search warrant for Sanco's offices, but not my house"

"What I found very strange was that the police were accompanied by an official of the attorney general's office, and to my mind this compromised the integrity of that office. I have received no satisfactory explanation as to why this happened"

Several witnesses whose testimony was used by the task team in their report are also being charged with criminal activity, which Henderson says is further evidence of police attempts to discredit the report

The Northern Cape police have other image problems, notably the case of a dismissed officer who says he has been the victim of racism

Sergeant Abel Loeto insists that his

1989 dismissal for insubordination was the result of "racist action by white police officers of the old order who could not stand my attitude towards them"

Loeto has been trying since his dismissal to be reinstated, with the support of a number of people, including the station commissioner of the police in Kimberley DW Tyuthuza has said he believes Loeto was un-

fairly dismissed because of his outspoken attitude

Henderson said, in a sworn affidavit filed in the old Transvaal Supreme Court, that Loeto was "very strict about assaults on political detainees, cleanliness on prison premises and he refused to let his seniors assault or ill-treat prisoners". He said charges against Loeto, including rape, possession of dagga and untidiness, were "unfounded"

The provincial secretary general in the Northern Cape, William Steenkamp, has written to Deputy President Thabo Mbeki on his behalf

Henderson says Loeto's case, and the handling of the task team's report by Deyzel, prove that "there are still a lot of people in power who perpetuated dirty tricks under apartheid and they are being allowed to get away with it. Something must be done"

Deyzel says the task team was officially disbanded by Dipico in September, and that the members are being investigated as individuals

"It is a mere coincidence that they are all being investigated. Nobody is above the law and must get a decent hiding if they are guilty, even myself"

In the meantime, the police's Independent Complaints Directorate is compiling a report about the task team's findings. This, says Deyzel, will put to rest "speculation" about police corruption in the Northern Cape



Manne Dipico:
Allegations are false

Crackling cases the easy way

CP 2/11/97

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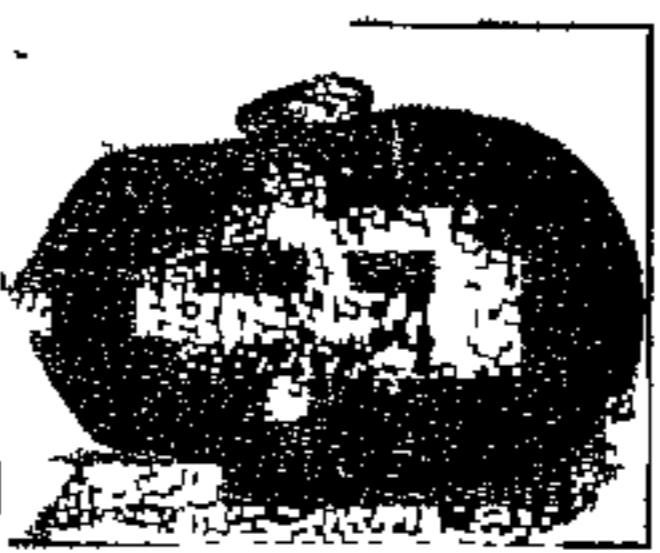
New school
for sleuths
to produce
supercops

New Academy will enable police to do sophisticated tests to investigate crime

Experienced ...

Superintendent Johann van Niekerk of the SAPS's Forensic Science Laboratory explains DNA-analysis to detectives from SA and 12 southern African

Chief Crime Reporter



THE days of policemen torturing criminals for confessions are gone. The opening of the Detective Academy in Pretoria — a milestone in the history of the South African Police Service — will in future be seen as the cradle of detective training after new life was given to the ingenuity, perseverance and knowledge which is demanded from the modern detective.

The academy's responsibility for training is based on the point of view that the investigator will attain far greater success through the establishment of an effective crime intelligence capability. Knowledge of criminal law and expertise in gathering objective and subjective testimony, rather than depending on the interrogation muscles of detectives.

When City Press visited the academy this week, police detectives Mahmood Golanngouse from Mauritius and Amos Mahlare from Sekhukhune in the Northern Province, and 19 others, were attending a biology class where they were being taught forensic DNA-analysis.

The aim of DNA-analysis is to analyse genetic information found in biological material of human origin. Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) is the molecule which carries genetically inherited information. Each individual, with the exception of identical twins, has his or her own specific DNA composition. In the case of identical twins, both twins' DNA produces the same result.

DNA can be isolated from any of the following biological samples: blood tissues, bone, teeth and hair roots. Examples of criminal cases in which DNA analysis can be used are murder, rape, concealment of birth and disputed parentage.

Mahlare, who worked for the former Lebowa Police, said the course was an eye-opener and would be of great



crossing the land and sea borders of South Africa. Crime intelligence is the life blood of criminal investigation. The former police force saw the importance of intelligence from a politically orientated perspective. Crime investigation is dependent on the initiative of the individual detectives to establish information networks, on the process of questioning, as well as on the contribution made by the forensic specialists. This approach, while it was successful, could not be sustained in the long-term. The lack of an effective intelligence network and the blatant violation of human rights was a recipe for the collapse of the process of investigation in South Africa.

The process of democratisation that commenced in South Africa in April 1994 has created new demands and new expectations, even in the police service.

The process of transformation in the service has brought

and an ever-increasing backlog in the training of detectives concerning crime.

National Police Commissioner George Fivaz made his vision known to the South African detective service on May 25 last year when various strategic guidelines were laid down.

According to Van Wyk de Vries, "practice, as opposed to the theory of investigation, will remain a strict guideline in training. Besides the FBI agents, the police's greatest experts in their respective fields, including directors Bushne Engelbrecht and Sukker Brits, will give classes."

He added that the detectives would also receive most

of their training from police's Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL), which is adjacent to the academy.

The FSL's objective is the application of scientific methods and techniques to the investigative process. Captain Pieter Gausnard of the FSL said crime takes many forms, from the most sophisticated in the field of high finance and computers, to those crimes from which we turn with revulsion.

"A common characteristic, is that, with the explosion of knowledge, the uncovering and proving of crime has become more complicated and of a more sophisticated nature. It is in this area that the Forensic Science Laboratory has proved worth," Gausnard said.

THE South African Police Service's detective academy — the first of its kind in Africa — was officially opened with the enrolment of 60 investigators from South Africa and neighbouring countries.

Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi said the best expertise in the world would be available to detectives at the academy to enhance the region's capacity to fight organised crime.

Mufamadi said the police service was in dire need of a new breed of detectives to tackle crime.

Presently, only 2 414 of the 19 761 detectives in the police service meet the selection criteria for enrolling, as they have completed specialist investigations courses and have more than two years of experience in a specialist unit and are regarded as senior members of their units.

The first courses, which started on Tuesday, are being attended by students from Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Namibia and Zimbabwe, as well as members of the police service, National Intelligence Agency (NIA), the Justice Department, and the Secret Service. The courses are presented by South Africans and by FBI experts from the United States.

The academy is expected to play a vital role in increasing the professionalism necessary to investigate crime more effectively.

Each of the 10 courses presented at the academy will be recognised by the FBI, and accredited jointly by the University of South Africa and Technikon Pretoria.

The academy is in Silverton, Pretoria, and is equipped to accommodate and train 90 persons.

Academy in Silverton Pretoria, who are from the southern African region and are being equipped to combat sophisticated organised crime

Since last week, the best expertise in the world is available at the academy, which will address the huge backlog in training investigators in the South African Police Service (SAPS) and in other law-enforcement agencies in the region

The academy, which will be able to accommodate at least 90 investigators at a time once the upgrading of facilities was completed, received international assistance in the form of eight agents from the United States' Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

While the main aim of the academy is to train South African detectives, it is envisaged that detectives from other countries, particularly from southern Africa, will also be invited to participate in training courses

Presently 61 members who work undercover in the Organised Crime Unit, representatives from the Department of Justice, the National Intelligence Agency (NIA), the South African Secret Service, and 24 others from specialist units which deal with drugs, vehicle theft, firearms and murder and robbery in South Africa and 12 southern African countries, are attending

The acting head of the academy, Director Jan van Wyk de Vries told City Press that the academy would play a vital role in increasing the professionalism, knowledge, skills and specialist training necessary to enable detectives to investigate crime more effectively

"The academy will not only be to the benefit of the SAPS, but to the South African and southern African community at large," he said

The dream of having their own detective academy has been in the hearts and minds of many experienced detectives attached to the South African Police Service (SAPS) This dream could, however, never be realised within a police force which was bound in an organisational culture, in which the success of the detective service, was based on force and other methods of questioning

In a detective service which was noted for its confession driven culture, there was no room for a professional training body which would cater exclusively for the training of detectives

With the former police force, the detective service was a closed crime investigation machine.

Very little, if any, contact or work relations were made with neighbouring states or other countries in Africa

This island approach made transborder investigation impossible Today, the detective service is experiencing the result of that approach - large scale organised crime

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Police to get world-class system

Lesley Stones

A R10m tender to devise a technology system to integrate the work of the police, courts and prison services has been awarded to a consortium led by IBM SA and US-based TRW

The contract is the first phase of the National Crime Prevention Strategy which could ultimately cost about R1bn and take at least three years to implement

For the next six months IBM, system integration specialist TRW and local black partners Motswedi Technology, Everest Systems, Safika Technologies and CHM-Vuwani, will draw up a detailed architecture for the systems and business processes needed to create an integrated criminal justice system. Together the companies, operating as the Mulweli consortium, beat off rivals including Andersen Consulting and Deloitte & Touche

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The strategy system will be able to track criminals from the moment of arrest and identification through to their release. "We will develop an architecture to integrate information systems across the police, justice, correctional services and welfare departments," said Roger Madison, IBM's GM for global government industry

Once the systems were linked, information could be shared to improve response times and help people make well-informed decisions for issues such as bail hearings, probation or ensuring people's rights were not violated.

For the tender, the consortium presented a framework which IBM and TRW had implemented in several countries. But Madison said because SA had fewer existing IT systems to consolidate, the country could leapfrog straight into the most sophisticated developments. "In SA we have a unique

BD 3/11/97
opportunity to implement an entire national system which will be world class," he said

The Mulweli consortium will propose fast-track projects to achieve immediate improvements in the criminal justice system. One recommendation will be to implement an automated fingerprint identification system as the most foolproof way of identifying suspects

Software proposed by the consortium would run on open computer systems rather than proprietary machines, so existing equipment would remain useful. "The departments have already made huge investments and our recommendation is to use open systems which will not require large amounts of equipment to be scrapped," Madison said.

Once the framework is complete, further tenders will be issued for supplying the chosen technology.

Police officers must adhere to code of conduct

CRIME REPORTER

(271)

Police officers will be required to sign and accept a new code of conduct which allows for criminal charges and departmental steps against transgressors

The new code of conduct, the first for the South African Police Service, was implemented at the weekend.

National commissioner George Fivaz and chief executive appointee Meyer Kahn were the first to endorse the 254-word code, which all officials are expected to sign and adhere to in terms of the new Police Act, under which all officials serve. The code will be signed by all serving and newly recruited members of the police.

"Top management has no

desire to return to the militaristic disciplinary style of the past, but this (demilitarisation) must not be interpreted as a loosening of discipline within the SAPS," Fivaz said.

Launching the police code of conduct in Pretoria, Fivaz said the disciplinary style within the police had changed, but good discipline remained non-negotiable.

National support services spokesman Senior Superintendent Andrew Lesch said yesterday the code was intended as a means of moving away from enforcing service delivery from a top-down perspective towards a more willing approach by police officials to uphold the constitution while providing a "responsible and effective service of high

quality which is accessible to every person" in the community

Some undertakings in the code stipulate that officials must utilise all resources responsibly, develop their skills and those of their peers to ensure equal opportunities for all, and uphold the fundamental rights of all people and act impartially, courteously, honestly, respectfully, transparently and in an accountable manner

The last undertaking calls on each official to "work actively towards preventing any form of corruption and to bring the perpetrators thereof to justice".

"I have no hesitation whatsoever in signing this code, which is an internal social contract which boils down to good manners and commonsense," Fivaz said

More cops back on beat as crime falls

POLITICAL STAFF

Parliament began a snap debate on crime and vigilantism today as figures were released showing a significant drop in most categories of serious crime across the country

And Deputy President Thabo Mbeki revealed that about 30 000 police officers who are now desk-bound will soon be redeployed on active crime-fighting duties

The new "cops-on-the-beat" policy is believed to be an early initiative by new police chief executive Meyer Khan, the former head of South African Breweries who was seconded to the South African Police Service earlier this year

Today the South African Institute of Race

Relations released the results of a new analysis of police crime statistics showing 20% fewer murders in the first six months of 1997 compared with the previous six months

Crime was analysed in relation to growing population figures rather than by comparing absolute statistics

Over the same period, the study shows, the incidence of robbery with aggravating circumstances - which includes car hijacking - fell by 26%

But not all crime figures are falling Rape increased by 23% and household burglaries by 4% in the first six months of 1997, but there is still an overall downwards trend

Political Correspondent Clive Sawyer reports that, ahead of today's debate, African National Congress MP Willie

ARG 5/11/97 (251) (34)
Hofmeyr declared "We may have reached a turning point in the fight against crime"

Using direct comparisons of SAPS figures - a different approach to the one used in the SAIRR study - he said the total serious crime rate had fallen by a significant 2,2%

The rate for all serious crimes increased by 1,3% in 1995, stabilised in 1996, and this year dropped by 4,5%

"The crime rate is now 3,3% lower than in 1994, if one takes account of the population increase," Mr Hofmeyr said

The three most serious violent crimes showed some of the biggest decreases between 1994 and this year

These were murders, down by 6% over the three years, attempted murder (down 3%) and aggravated robbery (down 6%)

Make Kahn a cabinet minister, urges Viljoen

DONWALD PRESSLY
PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU

FREEDOM Front (FF) leader General Constand Viljoen has proposed that the South African Police Service's chief executive officer, Mr Meyer Kahn, be appointed as a senior minister in the cabinet to take political charge of the fight against crime. The party has also proposed

that a national referendum on the reintroduction of the death penalty be held at the same time as the national election in 1999.

During an interpellation debate in the National Assembly, FF chief whip Mr Joseph Chiole said no one could give an unqualified yes to the question whether the national crime prevention strategy was achieving its goals.

The strategy, approved by the cabinet early last year, appeared not to have saved SA "from a wave of lawlessness", said Chiole.

He proposed that the three principal departments dealing with crime — correctional services, safety and security and justice — co-ordinate all matters concerning internal stability. Kahn should be in charge of all matters relating to internal stability.

"He must have his own staff of selected experts and he should report directly to Parliament."

The FF also proposed that a new committee of Parliament — an internal stability portfolio committee — should be created. Also, the government should consider corporal punishment in specific circumstances, the reintroduction of hard labour in some prisons and the retraining

of the SA Police Service

Replying, Safety and Security Minister Mr Sydney Mufamadi said that until he had replied in person to Viljoen, he could not respond to his recommendations made at the request of President Nelson Mandela.

He said, however, that the national crime prevention strategy should be given two years to run before it could be assessed.

Fivaz row as rent-a-cops threaten to quit

Arising rumours spark fears of festive season crime crisis in city

LINDSAY BARNES
Crime Desk

Cape Town's acclaimed rent-a-cops are threatening to quit at the end of this month after rumours surfaced this week that the project would be closed down after Christmas.

Fears have been expressed that Cape Town could find itself in a security crisis if the "exceptional" work of the project's members was terminated.

Since the introduction of the community police programme, the crime rate in the city centre, Atlantic seaboard and on trains has dropped by about 30%, and this has been attributed to the visible policing provided by the rent-a-cops.

At Cape Town central police station yesterday, the angry police lashed out at Commissioner George Fivaz, accusing him of "using" them to see the city safely through the holiday period before axing them.

A rent-a-cop delegation and SA Police Union officials delivered an ultimatum to the City Community Patrol Board - a section 21 company that initiated the project - to "come up with the way forward" by November 15.

Failing this, the officers would resign en masse at the end of the month, said Sapu provincial organiser Billy Daniels.

More than 130 trained police reservists patrolled the streets in terms of the scheme, which was funded by the business sector and the Cape Town municipality to the tune of R250 000 a month, said CCPB

chief executive officer Heather Tager. Fears have been expressed that crime will surge once more if the rent-a-cops are axed, as a shortage of manpower has long crippled police efforts to patrol the city effectively.

Ms Tager said the termination of the project would leave a tremendous vacuum in the city, resulting in a security crisis.

"The instruction from Commissioner Fivaz to his legal team to find a solution (on the future of the scheme) worries the members because they need permanency before the December cut-off date," she said.

In July, police headquarters issued orders that the programme be scrapped because police reservists could not legally be paid by private companies. Other sources suggested that the real reason was that top-level police feared Pretoria was losing control of the scheme.

Rather than wait for an official announcement of the closure of the project in a month or six weeks' time, Mr Daniels and a rent-a-cop delegation led by Brian Johnson met the board at the Cape Town Civic Centre yesterday to deliver the ultimatum. "We can no longer wait for Pretoria to decide the way forward. We feel (Mr Fivaz's) intention is definitely to close the project," Mr Daniels said.

"The (rent-a-cops) have no intention of policing the city in the festive season to assist the police. They feel they are being used and would rather be without jobs than continue in uncertainty."

Sapu is to seek legal advice on severance packages for the officers.

safer, merely for their presence. And it has not been without cost: at least three men have died in the line of duty and more have been injured in attacks.

But he thanks they have got in return they could do without. Their anti-crime reign may soon come to an abrupt end at the behest of George Fivaz, national police commissioner.

Exactly what his working committee's decision will be and when it will be made



Hell hath no fury: rent-a-cop members draw battle plans. 'We gave our lives for the police and now they have decided we are going to be scrapped'

ANDREW REISMAN

Bitter lawmen call on business sector to 'stand up for us'

LINDSAY BARNES

They are bitterly angry.

Lured away from their jobs to join Cape Town's successful "rent-a-cop" project over two years ago the dedicated group of 130 trained police reservists has made a dramatic contribution to the fight against crime.

Statistics prove that the streets and trains they now patrol are considerably

known is not yet clear. Yet the rent-a-cop reservists believe they have it on good authority their days of operation are almost over.

They are loathe to keep quiet, as they were requested.

At Cape Town Central Police Station they gathered yesterday to vent their bitterness and to talk about the difference they know they made. Speaking to Cape Argus on condition of anonymity, they

called on the business community - which has provided the scheme with substantial funding - to stand up for them.

"We gave our lives for the police and now they (police headquarters) have decided we are going to be scrapped."

"For two-and-a-half years we have been out there working for the community. Incorporate us into the police service, the municipality or something," one pleaded. Another said "We have got so much

support in Cape Town. Even the prostitutes support us and they show respect for us."

The rent-a-cops have not been exempted from a Community Outreach (Core) "hit list" of police.

"I'm not living in my house anymore," said a reservist.

What is the real reason behind the axing, they ask? Politics? Whatever the theories, they have a right to be angry.

No money for police contracts ...

MHC 7-12/11/97 (251)

Gustav Thiel

Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi's plans to tie the entire police force into performance contracts could be throttled by a lack of funds

The plans, which Mufamadi unveiled in February, were vaunted as a key step toward lifting police performance—rewarding the good and punishing slackers—in a strategy

designed to shore up flagging public confidence in the police. Even National Police Commissioner George Fivaz was supposed to sign a performance contract.

But Mufamadi's office says there are no funds available to launch the contracts, nor to reward top performers, and no one is sure who should be responsible for evaluating police efforts.

Fivaz's office adds that "there are a lot of legal issues still to be sorted out." The recently appointed chief executive of the South African Police Service, businessman Meyer Kahn, declines to comment.

Mufamadi's failure to get the plans off the ground is likely to fuel criticism that policing policy is based too much on fanfare announcements, rather than practical implementation on the ground.

When the minister announced the plans, he said the contracts would be designed to ensure that all police officers could be "properly" evaluated

Fivaz went further, warning that "heads are likely to roll at all levels" after a major evaluation of "performance, service and productivity"

Mufamadi wanted Fivaz to sign a contract stipulating that he would be fired if he did not meet his performance targets.

Mufamadi and Fivaz also promised to implement the plans quickly and they set up a committee, which included the head of the Safety and Security Secretariat, Azhar Cachalia.

Mufamadi's office says negotiations "about the nature of the contracts are in a very sensitive stage. At this stage it is safe to say the discussions about the contracts are considered a high priority. Their ultimate aim is to provide a better level of policing in this country," says representative Thembi Mboisa.

But a lack of cash and bickering about responsibility for the evaluations "made any announcement about the contracts impossible," Fivaz has not signed his performance contract.

"We simply do not know where the money will come from for these performance contracts," Mboisa adds. "We are not even sure whether the performance contracts will become a reality."

Decline in convictions: an emerging crisis in South Africa

Nov 2/12/97

One major problem is overworked personnel, both in the police services and the prosecutor's office

By SARAH OPPLER AND ANTONETTE LOUW

The latest official estimates indicate that convictions for most crimes have declined steadily since 1992/93.

According to the police, rates of reported crimes - in real terms and measured per 100 000 of the population - have recently stabilised and in some cases, are declining.

If fewer crimes are reported to, and investigated by, police, it stands to reason that the numbers of convictions, too, would drop.

But the disturbing reality is that the decline in convictions preceded the levelling off of reported crimes - by several years.

In fact, many of the serious crimes were still on the increase when convictions began their descent.

Members of the South African Police Service - as the front end representatives of the criminal justice system who are battling

computerised, and court sentencing figures are unavailable. Furthermore, a trend peculiar to South Africa is that the police - and not the justice department - collect court statistics. So, once dockets of cases which have proceeded to court are returned to the police station which issued them, copies of the final disposal are sent to Central Statistical Services for summary and publication.

Some of the problems which the police experience in the collecting and processing of their own data on the Crime Administration System, arguably also apply to the statistics reflecting the police's clearance rate and subsequent court proceedings.

CLEARANCE RATES

The "clearance rate" is calculated as the ratio of the number of cases handled by the police which are referred to court, withdrawn or unfounded, to the total number of cases either cleared or undetected (see Figure 1). This definition is similar to that used in Europe, as are some clearance rates - particularly for crimes which are simultaneously recorded and cleared up, like shoplifting, drug related offenses and illegal possession of firearms.

For violent crimes, particularly murder, the SAPS's clearance rate is substantially lower than that in European countries.

Between January and June 1997, nearly 40% of murder cases remained undetected (representing a 60,4% clearance rate) (Source: SAPS Crime Information Management Centre September 1997).

A recent victim survey conducted by the Institute for Security Studies and Greater Johannesburg Safer Cities established that more than half of murder victims knew their attackers, most by name.

This trend suggests that securing convictions for these crimes should be easier than for others.

Among the violent crimes, aggravated robbery had the lowest clearance rate, with 77% of cases remaining undetected.

Property crimes, with the exception of shoplifting, are notoriously difficult to solve, with between 80% and 90% of burglaries and theft of, and out of, motor vehicles going undetected (Figure 2) (Source: SAPS Crime Information Management Centre September 1997).

And of those cases which eventually do reach court, a large proportion are withdrawn during proceedings - one of the main factors contributing to declining conviction rates.

Nearly half of all cases of attempted murder, aggravated robbery, rape, serious assault and other robbery were withdrawn in court in the first six months of this year (Figure 3).

WITHDRAWALS IN COURT

There are several possible reasons for this.

Prosecutors can decline to proceed with a case if there is insufficient evidence - something which may only be established on the day of the court appearance due to extensive workloads.

The lack of evidence in turn relates to poor detective work by investigating officers - a predictable symptom of bad management and the continuous "brain drain" from police investi-

Poor police work is a symptom of SAPS brain drain

gating departments. Consequently, the system of police docket inspection has collapsed.

Cases are also frequently postponed when investigating officers fail to bring the case docket to court or to subpoena witnesses.

The legacy of using torture to extract confessions has also inhibited police investigating skills.

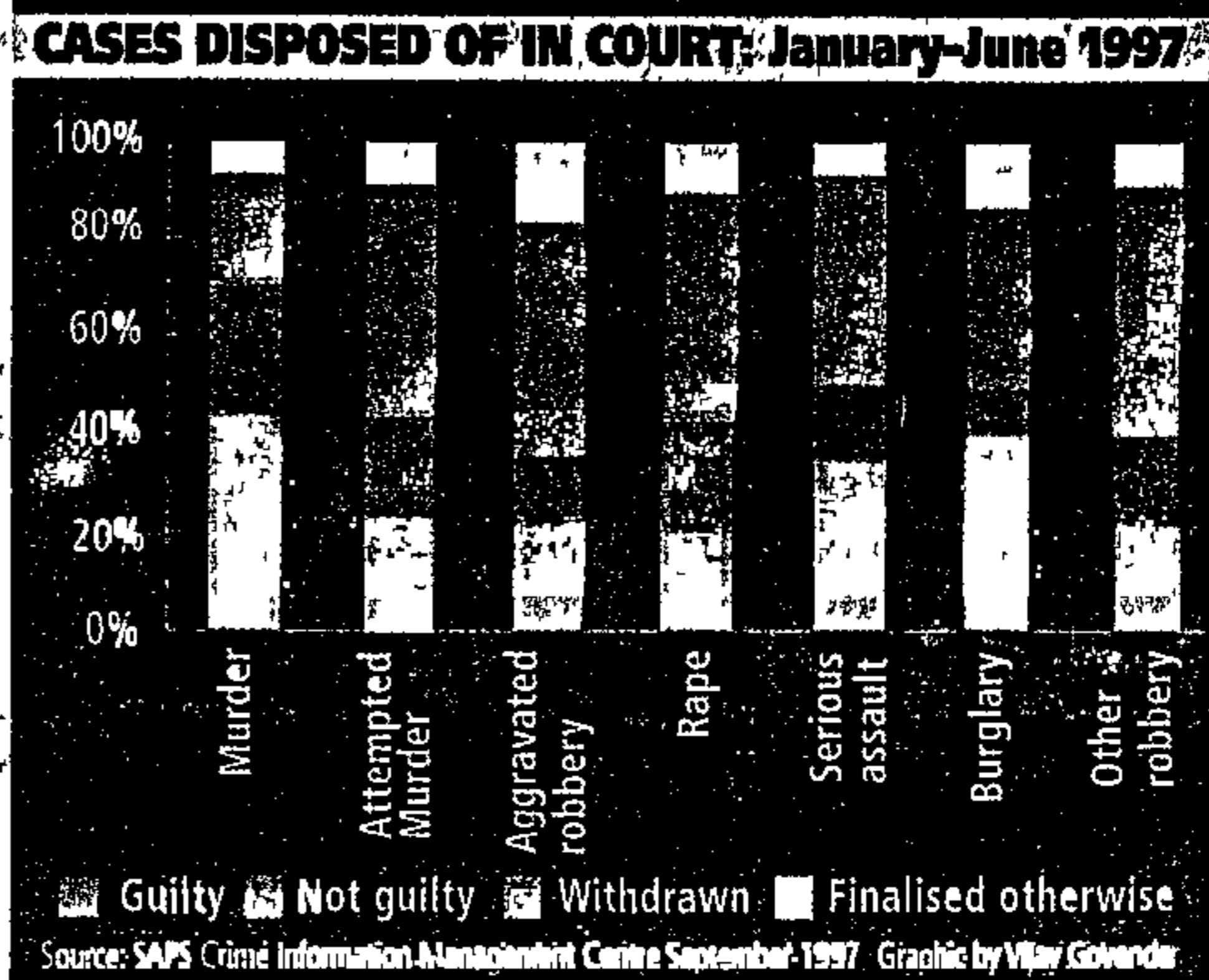
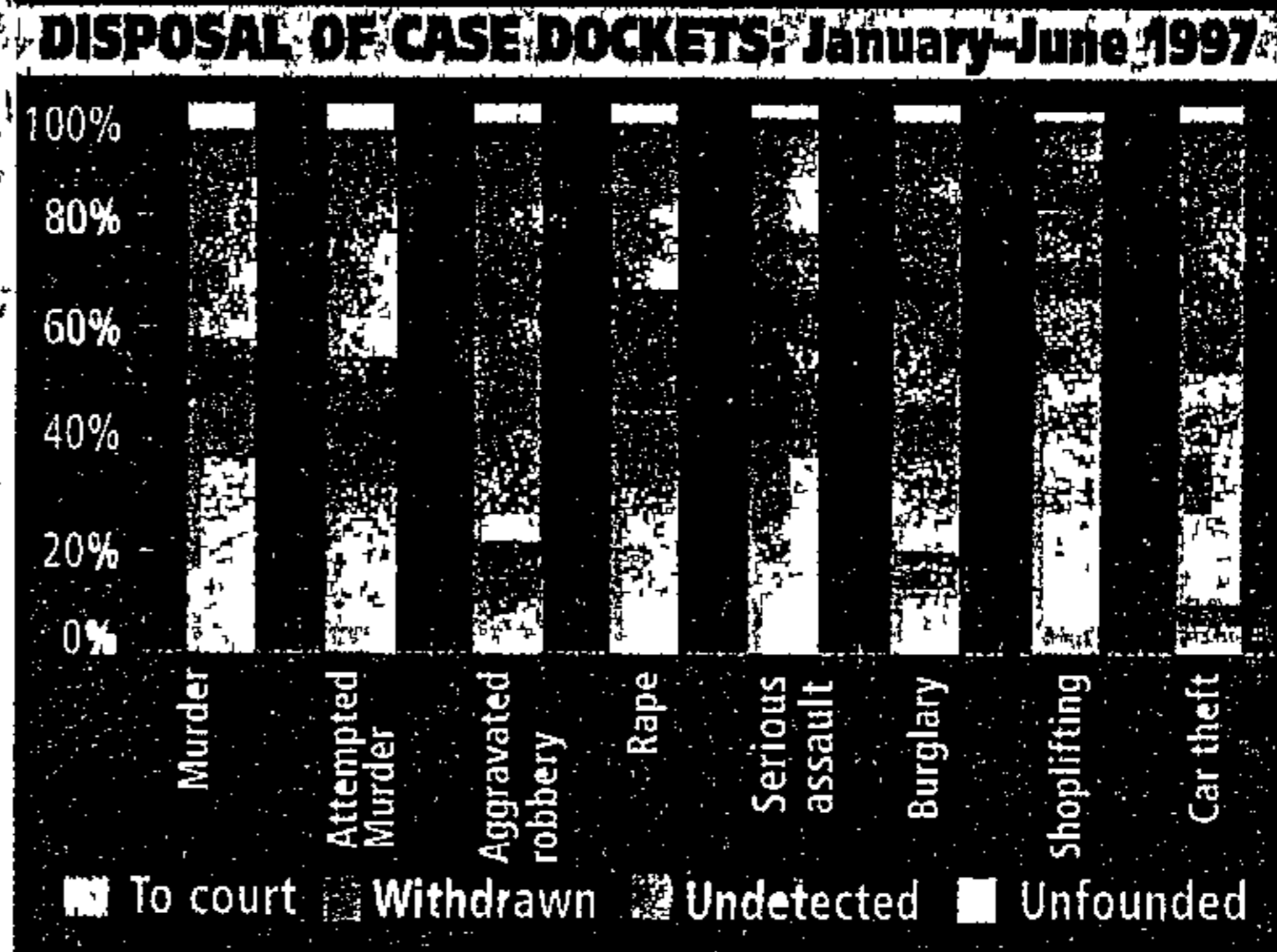
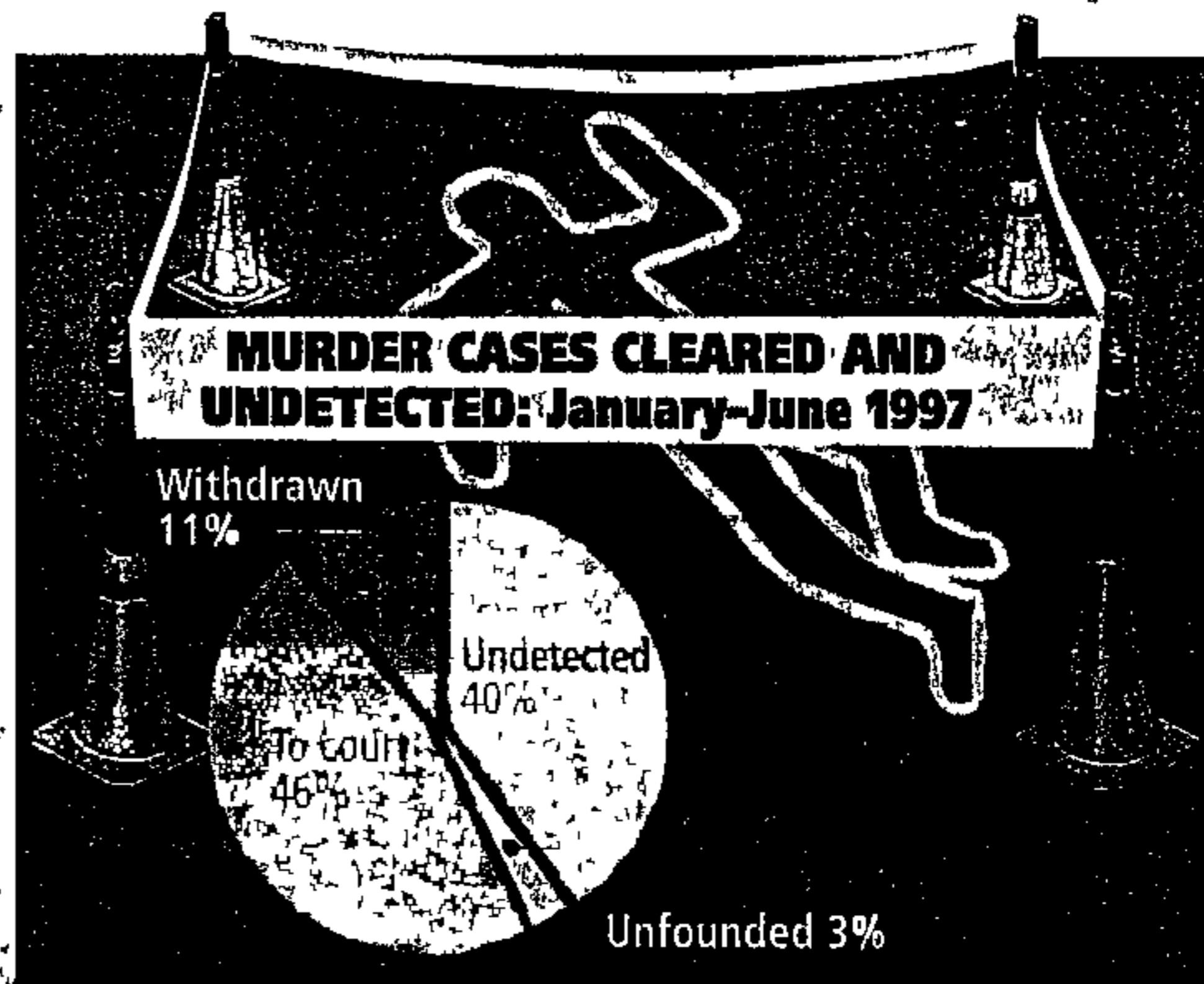
The police and courts are not solely to blame though.

Withdrawals also result from the disappearance or death of witnesses, or when victims retract the charges before finalisation of the case, particularly in cases of domestic violence and rape.

It is not, however, only withdrawals in court that pose a problem.

Half of common assaults, more than two-thirds of serious assaults and 23% of rape charges are withdrawn before reaching court.

While this is often regarded (especially by the police) as the victim's decision, the type of service provided by the police (and legal system) and their attitude towards victims reporting crimes at police stations, probably plays a crucial role



in decisions to withdraw cases.

EXPERTISE AND RESOURCES Incompetent investigating on the police's part is also perpetuated by prosecutors' inexperience in guiding investigations.

According to one magistrate "Without exception the job of a state prosecutor is a stepping stone to an other career in the field of justice."

That the 20 prosecutors at the Johannesburg Magistrates' Court have already worked 3 800 hours of un-

paid overtime from January to August this year, is one example of the unprofessional treatment, including low salaries, that state prosecutors have to tolerate.

The Department of Justice's "penny foolish and pound wise" policy is affecting victims' cooperation with the judicial system as well as the state's ability to convict.

There is a lack of essential equipment, such as photocopiers, fax machines and computers.

Limited office space - the 23 prosecutors at the Johan-

nesburg Magistrates' Court only have two offices - means victims and witnesses are often interviewed in an office with 10 people in it.

Lacking expertise, basic resources and with 15 cases a day it is unsurprising that prosecutors seek greener pastures and that the consequent high turnover prevents the development of expertise.

Sarah Oppler and Antonette Louw Crime and Policing Programme, Institute for Security Studies

Public has most contact with police in justice

high crime levels - come into more contact with the general public than any other agency in the delivery of safety and security.

So problems in the police, of which detection and statistics collection are major headaches, have not escaped public scrutiny.

By contrast, too little is known about court processes and attendant problems and, crucially, the detective-prosecutor relationship.

The steady drop in convictions even for drug related crimes and traffic offences - which rely almost entirely on police action and usually provide the prosecution with concrete evidence - reflect grave deficiencies in this area.

While these trends are too consistent across varying crime types to be attributable to statistical peculiarities, the collection of conviction figures is not without its problems.

Statistics on the workloads of courts (involving the number of cases police bring to court, backlogs etc) are presently recorded manually from court records - indeed no information in the Department of Justice is

NATIONAL NEWS

Detectives to go for further training

(251) (S) - *Sowetan* 3/12/97

By Noxolo Kweza

POLICE detectives who are investigating organised or syndicate crimes have been directed to undergo advanced training courses at the newly-established police detective academy in Pretoria.

South African Police Service National Commissioner George Fivaz said this in a statement released yesterday. The courses are expected to start soon.

Fivaz said the training was aimed at preventing incidents such as the one in Durban last month. Two suspects in a multi-million rand armed robbery, walked free after police investigator bungled the case.

Mr Rajan Naidoo and Mr Logan Naidoo were acquitted in the Durban

High Court of charges involving theft of R31 million in August last year. The court ruled that illegal investigative methods were used.

Fivaz said there was no substitute for objective and solid investigative work to secure a conviction.

It is completely unjustifiable for either police officials or court prosecutors to attempt to take investigative or judicial short-cuts in the hopes of a 'quick-fix' prosecution," he said.

Fivaz said he was "committed to establishing a tradition of investigative excellence" within the SAPS that would be respected by both the courts and the community.

"The freeing of the two suspects on the basis of improper procedure, illegal and unconstitutional investigative methods is a blow to this goal."

SAPS black managers to crush racism

Angella Johnson

Senior black managers in the South African Police Service (SAPS) warned this week that they are no longer prepared to accept widespread and endemic racism from white colleagues, and would strike if necessary to force the police to stamp out racism.

Officers from national and provincial police structures met on November 2 to highlight what they describe as "covert and overt" acts of racism, which they claim undermine their ability to function effectively. They plan to form an organised body, the Black Managers' Forum, to represent them in their campaign "We need a platform to put issues

on the national agenda among all this transformation stuff," said Azwindingini Nengovhela, a director and SAPS media representative for Gauteng, who was reportedly referred to as a kaffir by a senior white officer.

"I had expected that we could have risen above this kind of thing, but it has not been the case. Many junior black members are now saying: 'If it can happen to you, imagine what it is like for the rest of us.' But we don't really know how much of a problem this is."

Those who attended the three-hour meeting in Pretoria were clearly angry that, despite the SAPS's claim to be an equal opportunity employer with an affirmative action programme, more than 90% of SAPS

managers were white and more than 90% of official documents were written in Afrikaans.

Racial discrimination — such as areas where toilets are still reserved for white members — was the main grievance highlighted by the meeting.

"We also have an issue with the under-allocation of resources to traditionally disadvantaged areas," complained Strini Govender, a senior superintendent in national SAPS human resources management. "And nothing has been done to remedy the situation."

Willen Basson, an assistant director in the safety and security secretariat, claimed there is a racist resistance to change which is organised from a senior level by white su-

premacist groups within the SAPS. He is one of seven officers who has been co-opted into an interim steering committee for the planned Black Managers' Forum.

Basson argued that too often black managers were put in positions where their weaknesses would be exposed. These weaknesses were then used as examples to show that black people are not up to the job.

Free State social worker Paul Mphahyeke agreed. "We are especially marginalised in the former homelands by white managers who not only see us as corrupt, but think they can do the job better than us. Yet when they have to make senior black appointments they usually opt for the least capable of us to act as window dressing"



Azwindingini Nengovhela: Referred to as a kaffir by a white officer

The forum, which will be launched in February next year, is intended to unite all black SAPS members in the fight for their rights, to instil a sense of pride in what they do and to eradicate racism from the service

MTG 5-11/97 (251)

Mandela attacks 'spy' bodies for incompetence

Stephane Bothma (251)

PRETORIA — President Nelson Mandela has launched a scathing attack on the competence and integrity of SA's intelligence services, calling on the National Intelligence Agency (NIA) and the SA Secret Service (SASS) to examine themselves closely.

Addressing a function to celebrate the opening of the intelligence services' R166m headquarters, east of Pretoria, on Friday, Mandela said the spate of thefts from NIA and SASS buildings in the past six months — particularly the loss of vehicles and computer equipment — was of "urgent concern".

"It is indeed alarming by any standards that this kind of thing should happen at the headquarters of any intelligence agency. For how can you claim with any measure of integrity that you are competent to protect the country if you cannot secure your own premises?" Mandela told the function.

He said it was quite clear from the nature of the thefts that there were el-

ements within the intelligence structures who were working with "sinister forces including possibly crime syndicates and foreign intelligence agencies" to undermine democracy.

He said no doubt existed that the confidence of government and of the nation in the intelligence community would depend on the NIA's and SASS's capacity to apprehend culprits and prevent any further such incidents.

As the intelligence services moved into their new headquarters, "we will, more than ever before, continue to cast a critical eye on the quality of your products and the service you provide."

"It must be said that there has been unevenness in the quality of your work, and at times firm action has been necessary for a more resolute effort to produce intelligence of quality."

Responding to Mandela's criticism, Deputy Intelligence Services Minister Joe Nhlanhla said "we will find those (mini) buses and equipment, wherever they are. ... The culprits should know the law has a long arm."

DD 8/12/97

700 Gauteng policemen awaiting trial — Duarte

Vuyo Mvoko

(251)

SD 11/12/97

MORE than 700 Gauteng policemen were awaiting trial for crimes such as rape, armed robbery, arms dealings with gangsters, aiding in prison escapes and theft, provincial safety and security MEC Jessie Duarte said yesterday.

Reviewing the past year, Duarte said the high level of corruption in the police service "doesn't mean we have the worst police service". Instead, "we should be congratulated and not demonised for being transparent".

Duarte said there was a "chronically high" rate of absenteeism at the province's police stations, due mainly to police being overworked, and to the lack of enthusiasm and management controls.

"Endemic racism" was another problem that plagued the service, Duarte said, and this affected their treatment of the public. Duarte said the fact that 72% of senior positions were held by whites in a province where 81% of the population was black could no longer be tolerated. The provincial department wanted to ensure at

least 40% of senior positions would soon be held by blacks.

Duarte said certain community policing forums had taken effective control of police stations, which left station commanders without much effective authority.

Although the situation was far from ideal, progress was being made. International experts were teaching police about "policing within a human rights culture".

About 1 410 police had been trained to deal with rape victims and trauma centres had been set up in some hospitals.

Fivaz throws weight behind rural crime unit

ET 11/12/97

JOHANNESBURG: Two top cops, — appointed yesterday in a desperate bid to curb soaring farm killings — have been given carte blanche to assemble their own teams of crack detectives in the campaign against violent rural crime

Assistant Commissioner "Suiker" Britz and Director Errol Seyisi were told by national Commissioner George Fivaz that they had the difficult task of co-ordinating national efforts to stop the attacks

Britz is a veteran murder and robbery detective and Seyisi the former head of Ciskei's detective force.

Last month 13 farmers were killed and four have been murdered so far this month. Most of the killings and attacks took place in the Free State, KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga

In the latest attacks, farmer Mr Christoffel Fourie, 41, from the Roadside area near Vrede was stabbed by an intruder on Tuesday night

And in Bothaville, Ms Magdalena Erasmus, 63, was stabbed in her home

Britz said it would take about two weeks to formulate a new plan which will be presented to President Nelson Mandela. The president was given a long-awaited intelligence report on farm killings earlier this week but this would only be made public next year

Meanwhile, farmers at a meeting in Newcastle, KwaZulu-Natal, said a three-month state of emergency should be declared to enable security forces to crack down on criminals, especially those in possession of unlicensed guns

● Yesterday, government officials, farmers and police met to discuss a Day of Prayer concerning crime set for December 21 — Own Correspondent

Jail escape: prison officials suspended

(251) ARG 13/11/98 12/97

Pretoria - Five prison officials have been suspended pending an investigation into the escape of prisoners from Pretoria local prison a week ago.

The Department of Correctional Services announced in Pretoria yesterday that the officials had allegedly been negligent

Prison head Johannes Makgoba, earlier accused of accepting a bribe, was temporarily relieved of his post pending the outcome of the probe

He was removed to ensure objec-

tivity for the investigation team, the department said. Spokesman Rudi Potgieter said Mr Makgoba had not been suspended

"Allegations by two awaiting-trial prisoners that Mr Makgoba has taken R100 000 to supply a prisoner with a gun could not be substantiated," Mr Potgieter said

A sixth prison official was notified that he faced possible suspension. He has since reported sick and has not yet responded. Prison authorities were trying to trace him yesterday

Notice of intended suspension to two other officials was withdrawn after they provided satisfactory explanations for their conduct, the department said. It said disciplinary actions had already been initiated against four other officials for their alleged role in the escape a week ago

The prisoners broke out last Friday night after hijacking a car on the prison premises. They are Dennis Ngobese, Oupa Seeane, Collin Chouke, Abdul Kafoor Kalla and Selashe Jimmy - Sapa

We're on the right track, says cop boss

'I believe we can win this war'

(251)

ARG 13/149812/97

OWN CORRESPONDENT

Pretoria - The man entrusted with the mighty task of turning the police service into an effective and democratic machine believes the police are on the right track.

But police chief executive Meyer Kahn conceded in an interview this week that there were major problems in the service, and the continuing escapes of awaiting-trial prisoners from police holding cells was not the least of them.

He said this was the result of a combination of factors.

"Without a shadow of a doubt more arrests are being made now, and the infrastructure is not up to scratch to deal with this.

"Sadly, one also has to concede there has been

corruption, and equally sadly, there has been negligence as well," Mr Kahn said.

But these problem areas were being addressed. In the short term they would

tackle negligence and the lack of standards "And we are working very hard on fighting corruption."

Looking back at his first four months in office - he was appointed on August 1 - he said "There's not been a single moment that I have had regrets about joining the SAPS.

"Yes, we do have very major problems, many are socio-political, many are transitional in nature, and many are structural, but generally we are on a sound track."

He said they had started addressing structural issues and had compiled a substantial work programme for the new year to lay a strong foundation for law enforcement.

The structural changes that would be implemented in the service related to basic fundamentals like policing operations, human and material

resources and the role they played in the whole of the criminal justice system, which he described as hugely overloaded.

"We'll have to find alternative ways of

dealing with this. There are many ways to skin a cat."

He said admission-of-guilt fines, spot fines and mobile courts could relieve work loads and pressure.

But Mr Kahn, who was CEO of South African Breweries prior to joining the SAPS, is still an outsider in the service?

"In all honesty, although I visited many stations over the past four months, my real involvement has been with command structures.

"And, at that level, I have really been overwhelmed by the generosity and friendship shown toward me."

But at station level, he found an enormous appetite among people wanting to work together and sort out the problems.

"I honestly believe we can win this war and I want to be part of the team which wins it," he said.

Mr Kahn has worked closely with National Commissioner George Fivaz, his deputies and the provincial commissioners - but generally, he is a one-man band "with my secretary over here."

In true police fashion, he said: "The one thing we don't do in the police service is tell people about the programmes we are developing."



Confident: police boss Meyer Khan

Kahn's plan to overhaul police force

BD 15/12/97 (251)

Stephen Laufer

POLICE CE Meyer Kahn and SA Police Service (SAPS) top management have agreed on a four-point plan aimed at a turnaround in the crime-fighting ability of SA's finest policemen.

To be implemented in stages, the plan concentrates on structural and attitude changes which can be expected to lead to improved performance within budget constraints. It was finalised at a meeting in November attended by national commissioner George Fivaz, his deputies, and divisional and provincial commissioners.

Kahn said in an interview at the weekend that he would introduce the plan to 42 command structures across SA by June.

Kahn, who took office in August, said he and the SAPS senior management had identified policing areas fundamental to the future of safety and security and able to give a quick return once turned around.

Models of policing excellence would be created in geographical and functional areas in several parts of SA, including metropolitan and rural police stations and specialist units such as murder and robbery squads.

Plans drawn up at headquarters with the assistance of specialist officers would aim to create the right personnel mix and equipment levels for each unit, the most functional shift patterns and the best use of crime intelligence. A constant monitoring process and regular discussions with responsible commanders would ensure that experience on the ground contributed to the optimal use of human

and material resources.

Once a model had been fine-tuned with the assistance of local and provincial commanders and was judged to be delivering the required level of service, it would be "rolled out" across the SAPS. It was hoped that a model for effective police station management would be in place by March and that other models would follow.

Gauteng's specialised bank robbery unit had already achieved notable successes in curbing attacks on credit institutions. The model would be implemented soon in other areas where bank robbery was a priority crime.

His plan drew on the skills and resources already available to the SAPS and sought to apply them more effectively, Kahn said. It was "not a rocket ship" but driven by common sense, practicality and cost-effectiveness.

Kahn said a fundamental change in attitude among serving police personnel was vital to the new system. The recently introduced code of conduct gave the SAPS clear rules defining what was expected.

Programmes would ensure consequences of violations of the code were known across the SAPS. Equally, rewards for good performance within the code would be instituted. Absenteeism, drinking on duty, lack of care, corruption, and abuse of state assets would be treated as offences. Increased resources would be dedicated to internal controls and inspection units so that there could be an impartial calling to account of wrongdoers.

Greater emphasis would be placed

Continued on Page 2

Kahn

BD 15/12/97
Continued from Page 1
(251)

on respect for rank and command structures. "We will not allow friendships, camaraderie, political influence or racism to inhibit us" in restoring standards, Kahn said. On the other side of the discipline coin, greater emphasis would be placed on internal and public recognition for good officers.

A system of performance standards to be introduced over three years would allow a more accurate assessment of

individual performance. Achievers would be promoted, and pay differentials within grades would make it possible to reward good work.

Kahn said his plan also depended on progress with reforms of the entire criminal justice system to which the SAPS was contributing. It was necessary to lighten the burden on the police, courts and prisons by allowing spot fines or admission of guilt payments in many less important cases.

None of the problems facing SA crime fighters was unmanageable. The key was to decide which were important and to focus on them first.

Black cops' body wants real change

(251)

Sowetan 16/12/97

By Abdul Milazi

AFTER decades of playing second fiddle to whites, black police officers are now standing up for their rights and are poised to take control of transformation in the South African Police Service (SAPS)

The formation of the Gauteng-based steering committee of black officers-managers two weeks ago drew criticism from many quarters, including National Police Commissioner George Fivaz and the media

Committee director Mr Mpho Mmutle told *Sowetan* yesterday that the initiative was to ensure that black SAPS officers and managers, who already had some level of authority to influence the policing process, were encouraged to do so

Mmutle argued that tangible transformation programmes, which were supposed to benefit blacks both in the SAPS and the community, were non-existent

"Policing in black communities has not improved and is almost collapsing even though these areas are to a very large extent policed by black officers," said Mmutle

Stop blaming

He said these officers should stop blaming apartheid and whites for the conditions in the townships, but should do something about it

Mmutle also said black officers had to be assertive and shake off the stigma of tokenism and the "ja baas" mentality which served to confirm white perceptions that blacks were incapable

"Black officers will therefore have to play a leading role in introducing programmes that will enhance their self-confidence," he said

The new political dispensation gave senior black officers, many of whom had been in the forefront of the oppression of their communities, a second chance to correct their past mistakes

"Most black senior officers were trusted by the old regime and our communities came to accept that they were not capable of fighting for their own people's rights

"The interim committee calls upon black officers and managers to ensure that by January 31, all provinces have interim structures which will culminate in the official launch of a national structure on February 26," Mmutle said

Black cops get 'shabby treatment'

(251)

Sowetan 17/12/97

By Sipho Khumalo

KWAZULU-NATAL violence monitor and University of Natal academic Ms Marry de Haas has accused the African National Congress-led Government of letting down hard working black policemen in favour of whites

De Haas made this accusation in a letter to President Nelson Mandela, his deputy Mr Thabo Mbeki and Safety and Security Minister Mr Sydney Mufamadi

She challenged the ANC to critically evaluate its lack of progress in transforming the police service

"It (ANC) must consider seriously the plight of police members, especially those who were disadvantaged by apartheid," said De Haas

She claimed that little had been done to address the imbalances of apartheid as far as black police officers are concerned

"Power in the police remains in the hands of the 'old largely white order' with black members receiving little in the way of recognition for the work they do"

Peace monitor says Government favours white police officers

To illustrate her argument, De Haas drew parallels between treatment afforded to Director Harold "Bushy" Engelbrecht and Captain Mandla Vilakazi

Vilakazi heads the Northern KwaZulu-Natal national investigative unit while Engelbrecht has been active at violence flashpoints on the South Coast and in the Midlands

Government support

From all accounts, says De Haas, Engelbrecht has received every conceivable form of Government support and police management in his investigations

"No expenses appear to have been spared in providing resources needed in Richmond investigations. When death threats were made special protection was provided," she said

However, De Haas claimed that the "shabby" treatment meted out on

Vilakazi and members of his team stands in "stark" contrast to that enjoyed by Engelbrecht

She said in spite of Vilakazi making immediate breakthroughs in Mandeni, the small, under-resourced team fought a long battle to remain in existence and to obtain resources

"Police management not only tried to shut it down but attempted to remove Vilakazi and place some highly unsuitable members in the team

"Members have worked under constant threats - but unlike Engelbrecht, have received no protection whatsoever," she said

De Haas said her aim in pointing out these differences was not to stir racial animosity

"I believe that if nothing is done very soon to address the gross racial imbalance in the police force reverse racism will find an increasingly fertile ground," she warned

Outcry over Cape 'police brutality'

Death rate 'alarming'

ARG 18/12/97

LINDSAY BARNES

CRIME DESK

Human rights groups have accused the South African police of gross abuses leading to the deaths of hundreds of people this year.

Torture and assaults on suspects are continuing unabated in spite of international condemnation of South African police brutality, the groups allege.

Almost 500 people died in police custody or as a result of police action between April and November, according to statistics disclosed by the Independent Complaints Directorate.

Last year civil claims against Minister of Safety and Security Sydney Mufamadi cost the state a whopping R410 million, said police spokesman Joseph Ngobeni.

The directorate is a civilian watchdog on police which investigates deaths in police custody or as a result of police action. Police were obliged to inform the directorate of every death, said ICD Cape Town regional director Riaz Saloojee.

The statistics have alarmed the Trauma Centre for Victims of Violence and Torture, Amnesty International South Africa and the Human Rights Commission.

They have slated the deaths as an indictment of the lack of transformation in the police in spite of claims to the contrary by management.

Every second day the death of a suspect in police action or custody is reported to the Cape Town office of the directorate, which oversees police in the Western, Eastern and Northern Cape.

Since April, 150 deaths have been reported to the office and the most of

these were in the Western Cape. Of the 197 Western Cape cases under investigation by the Cape Town office, 36 are assaults - 26 during arrest and six after arrest. Nine are suicides, 10 listed as simply "died in custody" and 21 shot dead by police. The others are less serious complaints.

"The frequency of deaths in the Western Cape is alarming," said Mr Saloojee. "The fact that citizens go into (police) custody and don't come out alive is a serious indictment of where we are as a police service today."

Hangings in cells were frequently reported as were vaguely explained injuries of suspects. Many deaths could have been averted if proper and urgent medical attention had been provided, Mr Saloojee said.

The groups said assaults on criminal suspects were reported extensively across the country and although incidents of torture were less frequent it was believed many victims might not be reporting cases. Police in Gauteng, the Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal were allegedly the worst perpetrators.

In Cape Town, police of Bellville South police station, the Violent Crimes Unit and Mitchell's Plain police station have been cited by the groups as the most frequent alleged perpetrators of violence.

Police spokesman John Sterrenberg said charges were frequently laid against police after arrests as a way of intimidating police.

"On many occasions the minute a police officer makes an arrest the suspect lays charges, whether it be crimen injuria or assault.

"These are made merely to intimidate officers."

See page 15

Deaths in custody at crisis point

ACT 18/1/98

Police 'still using old techniques of apartheid era'

SPECIAL REPORT



LINDSAY BARNES

The large number of deaths in police custody has been declared a national crisis by Cape Town human rights organisations

Police were using torture methods extensively against criminal suspects, but relatively few cases were officially reported, said Tom Winslow of the Trauma Centre for Victims of Violence and Torture

The average criminal suspect today did not have easy access to a lawyer or support structures. This might contribute to the relatively small number of alleged torture cases reported in recent times compared with the apartheid years when allegations of torture of political detainees were common, he said.

Formerly, human rights groups focused on the ill treatment of detainees. They believed that once a democracy was in place gross human rights abuse by police would stop.

But, no fewer than 450 cases of torture and assault by police were reported nationally between 1990 and 1995, mostly against criminal suspects in the Western Cape, Gauteng and KwaZulu Natal. No new statistics are available.

These cases are recorded in a document, *Breaking With The Past?* by Network Independent Monitors and the Trauma Centre.

Mr Winslow said, "It was a shock to us to realise that torture hadn't come to an end."

"Torture still is continuing in South Africa on a fairly extensive basis."

The number of deaths in police custody is high in South Africa. In Australia last year, six deaths of suspects were reported nationwide, provoking a national inquiry.

"Here, our 470 cases (over eight months this year) are treated as if it is par for the course. It's a national crisis transformation (of the police) is happening on a macro level, but not on the ground," said Mr Winslow.

Torture was used as a shortcut in a criminal investigation. It was designed to break down suspects and elicit information.

In the apartheid years, it was used to instill fear in opponents to the regime and inflict psychological and physical harm.

Whereas in the past the police used torture in a perceived fight against the onslaught of communism, today the emphasis has shifted to a "war" on crime.

Police still were using the old techniques, he said.

He named Bellville South police station, where the Peninsula murder and robbery unit is based, and the

violent crimes unit, as causing most of the cases of alleged abuse of suspects. He declined to say how many alleged torture victims the centre was counselling.

Considering that an estimated one in 20 South Africans was arrested every year as a crime suspect, it should be the concern of all to ensure the wellbeing of suspects in police care, he said.

He accused the state of being unwilling to acknowledge that torture still was widely used by police and of failing to tackle the problem head on.

"You would think the police would take proactive steps to put a stop to it. A smart cop who wants to beat crime will use legal methods to obtain information."

The fact that police were not treating the issue with the gravity it deserved indicated poor management at the very least. Cutting down on the number of complainants against police was a simple matter of efficiency, he said.

The cost to the state, in terms of the trial of assault cases against police, was enormous. That money could be used better funding more police staff and resources. He said a simple step Western Cape police could take to reduce the number of assault charges against police was to detect repeat offenders and reassign them to administrative tasks.

"Police know who the repeat offenders are, but we have not been able to get this information," said Mr

Winslow. A civilian solution that would be the most effective deterrent had been declined by Western Cape police with no reasons given. Over the past few years, human rights groups had repeatedly asked for permission to make unannounced visits to police cells to check on suspects, to no avail.

"They deliberately do not want human rights organisations to go into police stations to help them prevent future human rights abuses. I don't see why they resist unless they have something to hide."

"Human rights organisations can work constructively with the police. We can offer support and help people in charge of detainees to reduce the likelihood of complaints against police, the number of detention deaths and the incidence of torture."

The privilege had been granted to community policing forums, but this was problematic, said Mr Winslow.

Suburban forums lacked a provincial perspective of the problem and when they did detect an assault, they reported it to that police station, almost certainly the source of the assault. Nor did the forums have much power to effect change.

Human rights groups had charged that a number of forums, particularly on the Cape Flats, were suspected of lacking independence from police and therefore were not regarded as true watchdogs.

Nor did the attorney-general's office put enough priority on crimes by police. Such cases should be dealt

with quickly and efficiently or they would continue to erode the image of police, undermine public confidence and bash police morale, said Mr Winslow.

At present, there is no law against torture in South Africa. While South Africa signed the United Nations Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment as Punishment in 1993, this still has to be ratified by Parliament.

Once it has been accepted to, the onus will be on the state to prosecute people alleged to be involved in torture.

Amnesty International South Africa chairman Noel van Breda said his organisation was applying pressure on the Government to ratify the treaty as soon as possible.

He said there had been many incidents of torture in police cells in the 1990s. Suspects had been subjected to cigarette burns, sleep deprivation, withholding of food and assault by police.

"During the apartheid years, it was mostly political detainees who were tortured. Now it is the criminal element. Torture is more widespread now because of the high crime rate," said Mr Van Breda.

He blamed the use of torture on the police's inability to use other methods to extract information from suspects, hardened criminals in particular.

"It's purely because the police don't know any better. This was their

The many faces of torture

Torture methods allegedly used by police include:

- The threat of rape and rape of women suspects who did not confess or submit to their investigator's authority
- Blindfolding to disorientate and prevent recognition of torturers
- Gagging to silence screams
- Partial suffocation using curtains or plastic bags, often filled up with water through holes
- Immersing suspects' heads in water or toilet bowls
- Electric shocks to inflame excruciating pain, especially on genitalia. In 1994 and 1995, electric shock devices were found in detective offices at Mitchell's Plain, Mooi River, Nelspruit and Vanderbijlpark
- Suspension for long periods, such as dangling suspects upside down from a ceiling or the "hell copier" method of suspending a suspect on a bar between two tables and spinning them around while assaulting them
- Handcuffing people in excruciatingly uncomfortable positions for prolonged periods
- Non-stop interrogation by investigators working in shifts around the clock
- Sleep deprivation which disorients and confuses detainees
- Food deprivation - withholding food, regulating the size of rations or ensuring the food is inedible to coerce suspects to make statements
- Forcing them to stand
- Withholding medical treatment
- Humiliation, such as forcing suspect to strip naked in front of other people during questioning
- Using the "good cop, bad cop" method where one interrogator threatens violence, alternating with a co-fession in a friendly asks for a confession in a friendly manner
- Mock executions or life-threatening trauma, for example a politician allegedly held a baby out of the window of a speeding car, threatening to drop the child unless the politician co-operated
- Witnessing the torture of others as intimidation
- Solitary confinement

modus operandi in the past. It is clear that mostly the police have not changed their mindset, top down," he said.

Riaz Saloojee, regional director of the Independent Complainants Directorate in Cape Town, blamed many of the deaths on poor management by the heads of police stations, who were usually not around at critical times to ensure procedures were complied with.

Police in senior management positions, who were incapable of fulfilling

their responsibilities should be fired, he said.

"Many of the cases could have been prevented if police complied with procedures such as making regular check ups on (suspects in) cells and identifying suspects with suicidal tendencies.

"It's a question of training and effective management." He urged police management to conduct widespread retraining of police in the use of acceptable techniques to elicit information

SAFETY & SECURITY

Kahn tackles the first Augean stable

Industrialist-turned-cop says new work programmes are just the first steps in "a long, hard grind" to make a better police service

Meyer Kahn recalls how, a few months after taking office as Chief Executive of the SA Police Service, he was brought down to earth

"We were testing a new anticrime model in Johannesburg, and we'd had virtually no serious crime for two full days. In my naivete and simplicity, I thought we'd made a major breakthrough. I was walking around with my arms in the air like Attila the Hun.

"And then the next day we had some serious hijackings and murders. It dawned on me then 'Boytyie, this is going to be a hard road'.

"But we're going to walk that road and we won't be swayed. Eventually the programmes and the anticrime models will work — I know they will, but it's going to take time."

Nearly five months after taking office Kahn is realistic but upbeat about his progress. He has negotiated a series of work programmes to boost police performance and improve co-ordination with the Justice and Prisons departments in the new year. But he is not so foolish as to believe that these improvements will make the police efficient overnight.

"It's going to be a long, hard grind," says the SA Breweries (SAB) boss who moved into the police management in August — at the request of Deputy President Thabo Mbeki — to help improve the structural and operational efficiency of the police.

The work programmes are the key to Kahn's strategy because they can be achieved with existing manpower and resources and don't require additional expenditure. In fact they might even save money.

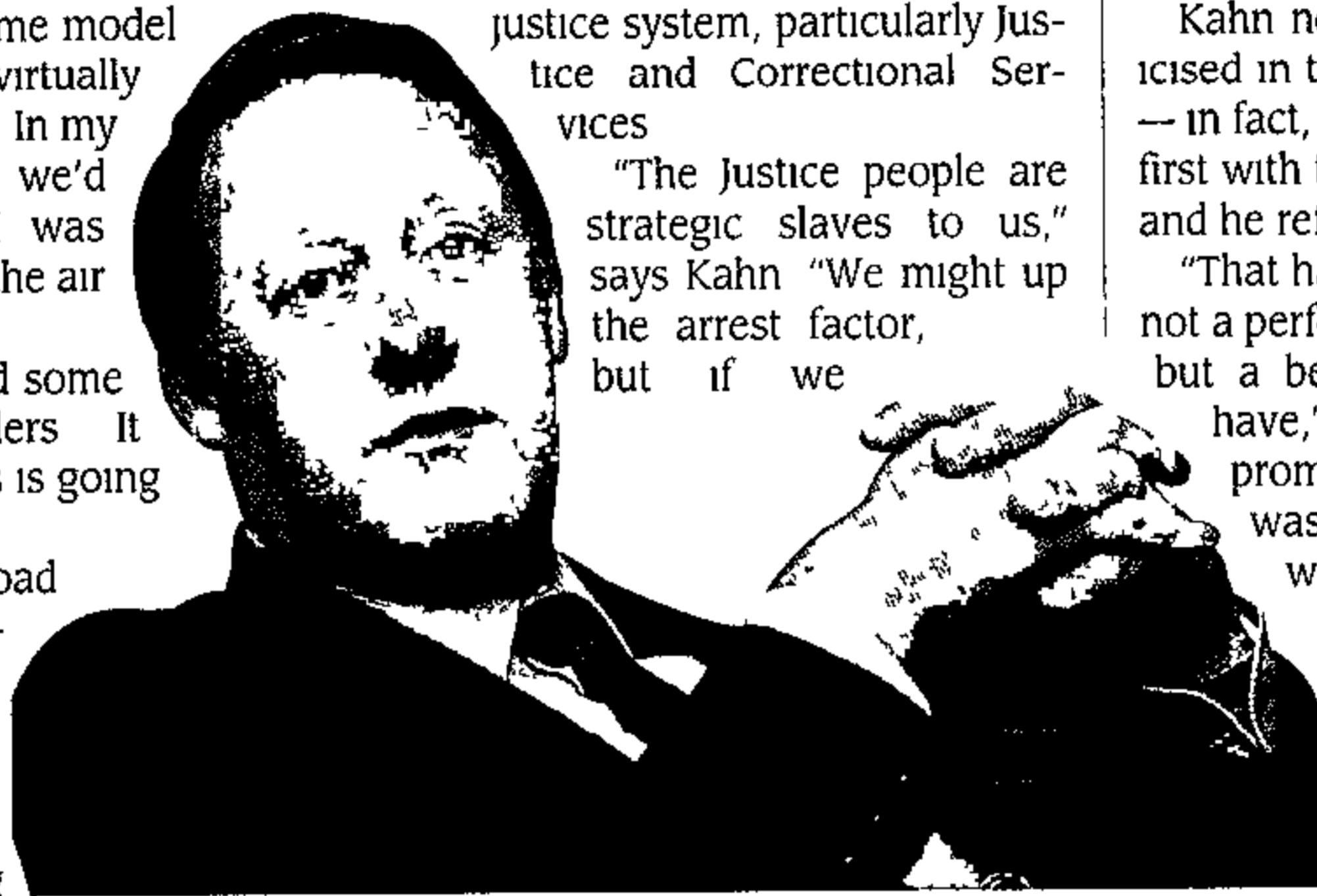
He won't give details of the programmes, saying he doesn't want to give away his secrets to the crime syndicates. But in broad terms, they focus on

- Upgrading police procedures,
- Revising manpower deployments and equipment allocations,

- Enforcing disciplinary codes and performance standards, and

- Improving police co-ordination with other departments in the criminal justice system, particularly Justice and Correctional Services.

"The Justice people are strategic slaves to us," says Kahn. "We might up the arrest factor, but if we



Meyer Kahn upbeat, but realistic, about the criminal challenge

don't have enough holding cells, and the courts can't handle the influx of prisoners, and there isn't enough room in our prisons for them, and you have to ship them back at enormous cost — what sense does it make?" he asks.

There have already been some notable developments since Kahn took office: arrest rates have risen (with a consequent rise in breakouts from police holding cells), the police force has adopted its first general code of conduct and the budgeting process has been more closely linked to operational needs.

Kahn is loathe to claim credit for any of this. His input, he says, has been entirely co-operative, the ideas developed in consultation with National Commissioner George Fivaz, his deputies and provincial commissioners.

"I've had some long, positive arguments with them, some I've won, some I've lost," he says. "These people are not dodos."

"I suppose I've brought some fresh thinking, but any outsider could have done that

I'm no messiah, I've got no ego drive and I'm not looking for medals. All I want is to play a role in making this country safe for my children and grandchildren and for all South Africans."

Though modest, Kahn's assessment of his contribution seems honest enough, as some of the efficiency initiatives now bearing fruit were started by police management long before Kahn came on board. Nonetheless, it is clear from discussions with officers at Wachthuis, the national police headquarters in Pretoria where Kahn occupies the old office of former Commissioner Johann van der Merwe, that the industrialist's presence has injected a sense of confidence and urgency into those around him.

Kahn notes gruffly that he has been criticised in the press for keeping a low profile — in fact, this interview with the *FM* was his first with the media since joining the police, and he refused to have photographs taken.

"That has been very, very deliberate. I am not a performer. I have never been anything but a believer in trying to do the job I have," he says. "I don't like making promises, I'd far rather be judged, as I was at SAB, not by what SAB said but what SAB did."

Kahn may have cultivated a low public profile, but his exposure inside the service has already been quite extensive. He has appeared several times on the police's internal television and in the police magazine and has visited dozens of police stations and community police forums in Gauteng and neighbouring provinces.

On a sweltering Monday last week he drove to Loskop Dam, 130 km east of Pretoria, for a discussion with senior officers of the Highveld area policing region in western Mpumalanga. The meeting, at the area commissioner's invitation, involved officers from more than two dozen far-flung police stations who wanted to find out what was afoot in the service. It was the first time any of them could remember that a top police manager had come to discuss the business of policing with them — which tells you something about police management of the past and, hopefully, of the future.

"Mr Kahn made a big impression on all of us," says senior superintendent George Seswike, area head of crime prevention. "His plans for budgeting and police discipline especially will make a big difference."

"His value to us is his vision," says senior superintendent Manus Oosthuizen, area head of management services. "We know

How Far From Austerlitz? Napoleon 1805-1815 by Alistair Horne (Papermac, 433pp, R94)

In 1805, after Austerlitz, Napoleon was the master of Europe, seemingly unchallengeable. Ten years later he was on his way to St Helena, defeated, discredited and — but for the remnants of his Grand Armée — deserted. Why and how his fortunes changed is Horne's primary theme, but he goes much further than that.

On the one hand, he outlines Napoleon's rise to power, so that this is virtually a full biography, on the other, he ruminates on the nature of authoritarianism, on why so many absolute rulers make the same mistakes, and compares Napoleon with other European despots — notably Hitler.

Horne points out that the two short men's rules lasted much the same time. At the height their empires were similar. Both foundered on a disastrous invasion of Russia (though Napoleon at least, if briefly, occupied Moscow) and Britain's control of the oceans.

Yet Hitler left no legacy other than hatred and prejudice, almost 200 years later, hardly an element of French society lacks a Napoleonic influence. The Code Napoleon and the metric system are mighty legacies. He was even an early advocate of a single European currency, to facilitate trade.

But he took censorship and spying

on the citizenry to depths unimagined by the Bourbons. He had no faith in freedom, and to the extent that the arts flourished under Napoleon, it was the decorative rather than creative arts.

Tellingly, Horne quotes Napoleon's own youthful comment "Ambition is never content, even on the summit of greatness." There were a number of occasions when Napoleon could have reached a settlement that would have left his rule intact, indeed, several times he thought he'd achieved just that, but over-reaching ambition always intervened.

And while he had a remarkable capacity for inspiring loyalty, it sometimes left him in the lurch. At crucial moments he lost the support of important allies, like Talleyrand and Bernadotte — who, ironically, through the Swedish monarchy is the last Bonapartist ruling house. His desire to look after members of his family led to damaging appointments — and at the end his brothers Lucien and Louis both defected.

His need for an heir, leading to the divorce from Josephine and remarriage with an Austrian princess, alienated French Catholics and the Pope without securing a long-term alliance with Austria.

Horne concentrates on Napoleon's military career, and his description of the triumphs, weaknesses

and final destruction of the Grand Armée — and of its long-term cost to French society — is masterly. The loss of young French manhood weakened the economy for decades. As Horne points out, Napoleon suffered almost as many casualties at the battle of Leipzig alone as the British in the entire Peninsular War.

It's also made clear that — in a tradition dating back at least to Julius Caesar — Napoleon's own versions of his victories stressed his own genius at the expense of factors, sometimes just as important, like chance, good fortune, the incompetence of most of his opposing generals and the difficulty of putting together a lasting coalition against him.

The illustrations are carefully chosen and informative, but the battle maps are disappointing. The map of Austerlitz itself fails to show the key Pratzen Heights or the village of Kobelnitz. And while his writing style is generally flowing and engaging, at times he's jarringly demotic.

The editing is not perfect, either. We do not need to be told twice that Marshal Lannes had been a dyer's apprentice, nor twice on the same page that Madison succeeded Jefferson as US President in 1809.

But these are small flaws in this enthralling story of a military and administrative giant who, at the same time, was a perfect Aristotelian tragic hero: a great man brought down by his own weaknesses.

Michael Coulson

for him that develops into obsession.

But she has betrayed the family with her reckless passion and must pay the consequences. Two murders ensue, the community rejects Elise and she must face life, and the immediate problems of drought and harvest, alone.

Turner's characters are redolent of the fear and hatred that come from having their world turned upside down. They are uncomplicated, but they ring true. I can almost imagine Ina's shocked rage on hearing of her best friend's flirtation with a black "terrorist."

"Ina stared. Her lips were thin and her eyes dreadful. Elise reached out to touch her, to take hold of Ina's comforting arm and pull her back to her side, but Ina flinched as she stood up and stepped back, stepped away. Her mouth trembled and she was breathless with disgust when she spoke.

"How could you?"

Turner's love for the Cape farm her characters work shines through in her descriptions, like images caught by a photographic lens. "Long lines of fir trees clung like huge caterpillars to the distant slopes. As the sun sank

the mountains stood black against the electric blue of the sky and the clouds were tissues of tangerine and pink."

The novel is replete with lovely touches that breathe life into the SA reality. We feel the "simple serenity" of the lonely woman whose life has been confined to a shack knocked together out of white waste, the door still bearing the *Dames, slegs blankes* it boasted when it was the entrance to the SA Railways ladies' toilet.

Heartland pays homage to the land and



the people who work it. Turner brilliantly captures Elise's gut-wrenching disorientation when separated from it. "Going shopping on a Saturday morning she'd watch people with their lists, families and couples, their lives integrated, no

broken circuits as far as she could tell, and she felt like a ghost hovering among them."

Elise is a strong character and I felt bereft with loss on finishing the novel, but Turner has left it at a point where it could easily be picked up. At 629 pages, it could have been more tightly plotted, but its timing is perfect for the long, lazy holidays ahead.

It contains the key to anyone wondering about the future of this nation. And the answer is love.

Anna Christensen

FM

19/12/97

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how successful he's been in business, and that's something he can teach us because, though we're not a company, we are in the business of service delivery

But Kahn sees a big difference in the style and methods of the police and the private sector

"In the private sector, speed of action is the rule, particularly in the fast-moving consumer market where I come from. There are few internal inhibitions against getting the work done, because we're responsible to ourselves

"The SA Police Service, on the other hand, is dominated by a very different culture - an enormous bureaucracy where consultation is a necessity. Communication is made more difficult because there isn't a common purpose in the police service."

Coupled to these factors are inhibitions

such as the Police Act, the Constitution and Bill of Rights, the need to co-ordinate with government departments, and political obstacles such as parliamentary portfolio committees and provincial MECs

"I'm not saying these things are a major handicap against getting things done, but they must of necessity slow things down"

There is some irony in this coming from a businessman who was hired to cut through the red tape largely because organised business felt Commissioner Fivaz was too bureaucracy-bound to do the job quickly. Is there a danger that Kahn himself may be co-opted into the bureaucratic mindset?

"The danger does exist," he admits, but he cites two reasons why he will be able to resist it. Firstly, he is by nature "a maverick, a wild man, and it's probably too late for me to change." Secondly, he has a deadline

of only two years in which to make a difference, so he cannot afford to get tied up in bureaucracy

Kahn says he was not aware of the tension between Commissioner Fivaz and Safety & Security Minister Mufamadi at the time of his appointment, that his appointment was in fact a wedge to take police control away from Fivaz. If that was so, it's not the case now, says Kahn. He says that he gets along well with both Fivaz and Mufamadi

The important thing is that most serious crimes have stopped getting worse. It's not much to crow about, but it's a start

Despite the enormity of the challenge, Kahn says "If I was asked to take this job today, and knowing what I know now, I'd take it all over again. I have no regrets."

Peter Honey

KNIPE SPARKS FURORE

Super police plan for city

CT 24/12/97
(251)

THE PROPOSAL by top policeman Director Leonard Knipe to establish a "super murder and robbery police unit" has been dismissed by the Western Cape Anti-Crime Forum as an exercise in "empire-building". Crime Writer **LINDIZ VAN ZILLA** reports.

A FURORE has erupted over a proposal by a senior Western Cape policeman to establish a "super police unit" to spearhead the battle against gangsterism and violent crime

The head of the serious violent crime unit, Director Leonard Knipe, has proposed the formation of a super murder and robbery unit comprising all specialised police units involved in fighting violent crime

Units that would be incorporated include the task team dealing with the conflict on the Cape Flats, the gang investigation unit, the anti-hijacking unit, the taxi violence unit and the murder and robbery branch

Knipe's proposal has encountered strong resistance from several of the units affected, several community police forums and the powerful Western Cape Anti-Crime Forum

The anti-crime forum dismissed Knipe's argument that a super unit would do away with the "overspecialisation" in the police force and lead to more efficient policing. At the meeting in Bellville on Monday, it questioned Knipe's motives and accused him of "empire-building"

"Who is going to be in control of this unit?" Knipe said forum chairperson Mrs Gaynor Vasser

Knipe had called the meeting as a sounding board

A properly managed super unit would bridge communication gaps between the lines of policing and lead to greater sharing of information, said Knipe. However, at the heated meeting, the anti-crime forum said the unit was an attempt by senior white officers to look after their own interests

Vasser asked yesterday why all the senior officers at the meeting were white. These officers head the police units that would be incorporated into the new structure. The only non-white officer in charge of a violent crime unit, the taxi violence unit, was not present at the meeting

The forum accused Knipe of trying to secure senior management posts for senior white police officers who, in the restructuring of the police force, would have been assigned to ordinary station-level duty

Vasser said that during restructuring several of the units, such as the highly successful taxi violence and anti-hijacking units, had become redundant

Terming the proposal a "white scenario", she asked why the forum should "rubber stamp" the proposal

Community police forum and anti-crime delegates at the meeting argued that a super unit would lead to a "loss of focus". They said the "gang unit ought to be bolstered" rather than "de-specialised" as individual units had had great success in combating crime

Several police officers in affected units expressed shock at the proposal last night

"We were not invited," said a senior police official. "We heard about it from community members and were shocked because we were excluded from the process"

Knipe could not be reached for comment