SERVICES SECTOR — ACCOM. LIQUOR & CATERING - GENERAL

1996

APRIL – JULY.

Cableway lawyers to discuss dispute

288

ARG 1/4/96

ANDREA WEISS
Municipal Reporter

THE Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company is taking legal advice today following a decision by the National Monument's Council (NMC) to halt a proposed R60 million upgrade which was to have started today.

The NMC said that an integrated environmental impact procedure would have to be completed before it could agree to the upgrade.

The mountain is a national monument, making the NMC one of three authorities which have to give permission for the upgrade.

The other two - the Cape Town City Council and Western Cape Premier Hernus Kriel - have given conditional approval.

John Harrison, managing director of the company, said their lawyers would be meeting later today to discuss the situation.

A contract with the city council, which was one of the conditions imposed by them, was nearing completion, he said.

Dave Daniels, city planner, said on Friday that the final building plans would also still have to go before the city's urban planning committee.

Kobus Meiring, provincial Minister of Finance and Environment, faxed a letter to the company on Friday giving consent in terms of the Environmental Conservation Act to permit the upgrading.

Mr Meiring said the consent was conditional upon "reasonable modifications" being made to the proposed architecture of the new buildings at the lower and upper cables to satisfy suggestions by the review committee chaired by Revel Fox.

The Fox committee was appointed by the city council to review plans submitted by the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company.

Mr Meiring said an environmental impact assessment would also have to be prepared to the satisfaction of the city council and the National Parks Board.

This would have to cover the proposed waste water and sewerage system, as well as the removal or modification of existing overhead electrical supply cable.

MONDAY
APRIL 1, 1996 ★

UPGRADE COULD BE DELAYED BY YEAR

Cableway company seeks urgent meeting

CT 1/4/96

(288

THE CABLEWAY COMPANY wants to persuade the National Monuments Council to allow it to go ahead with its upgrade of buildings, despite the fact that environmental impact studies are incomplete. **PETER DENNEHY** reports.

URGENT talks will be sought today between the cableway company and the National Monuments Council, which last week effectively halted the impending R60-million cableway upgrading.

Chairman of the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company Mr Louis de Waal, said yesterday that while the mountain was a national monument the buildings on it were not.

He wants permission to go ahead immediately with proposed alterations to buildings on the mountain while the required environmental impact studies on the sewage, water and electricity, and other issues continue.

The NMC met on Friday, listened to a half-hour presentation by the cableway company, asked a few questions about whether the environmental studies had been completed and then sent a fax to the company saying the impact assessment must stand up to national and international scrutiny before the upgrade would be given the go-ahead.

A report to the Cape Town City Council last week said council planners had criticised the environmental studies commissioned by the cableway company, saying they had not considered enough alternatives — "such as directional drilling".

This drilling, which would incur high costs, would require mining company experts to shift their equipment to the top of the mountain to drill a 70mm-diameter hole through the mountain.

The shaft would start out going vertically downward, but gradually curve so that it came out horizontally at the bottom of the mountain, where it would be connected to the city's sewerage pipes.

Sewage from the toilets at the top of the mountain would have to be mulched before being sent down the drilled hole to minimise blockages.

City planners stressed that they wanted to stick to the principle that "what goes up must come down". They do not like the existing septic tank and soak-away system.

De Waal said his company had looked at the alternative of bringing the sewage down in the tanks under the proposed new cablecars, but rejected the idea.

"You drop a handful of sewage and it smells for a week."

A meeting with the NMC will be sought today. If the impact studies have to be completed before any engineering work is done, which includes installation of the cable machinery at the lower station instead of the upper station, the cableway upgrade will be delayed for at least a year.

The NMC's Mr George Hofmeyr could not be reached for comment yesterday.

Tour operators hit at cableway delay

ARG 2/4/96 (288)

Staff Reporters

BIG TOUR operators have expressed disbelief over the National Monuments Council (NMC) decision to delay the upgrading of the Table Mountain cableway.

But the Wildlife Society has expressed support for the NMC, saying developments should not take place before all the studies for an Integrated Environmental Management (IEM) process have been completed.

The Tour Operators Association of Cape Town, which has about 50 members including all leading tour bus companies, said in a statement that every group in the city had Table Mountain cableway on its itinerary.

Vice-chairman David Munton said in a statement: "People come thousands of miles to ascend Table Mountain. Since the elections and the boom in tourism, the old cableway cannot cope with the tourism traffic.

"It is in desperate need of upgrading. To delay the upgrade now will put tourism back years."

Mr Munton said this year would probably be the last winter that the cableway could close for eight months for upgrading because of the growth in tourism.

Mr Munton said his organisation believed there was a balance to be achieved between the environment and nature conservation issues.

However, his organisation's members were astounded "that after all the effort expended", the NMC should pronounce that the upgrade could not proceed.

The Wildlife Society told the chairman of the city council's urban planning committee, Siviwe Matika, that Table Mountain's facilities "should be of an international standard and any proposals considered should follow an environmental process of international standard".

"The most important aspect of an environmental impact assessment – the involvement of the public in the decision-making process – must still be completed.

"It would be a grave mistake to take a decision to allow construction to commence until such time as these requirements have been met," the Society said.

The NMC has jurisdiction over Table Mountain as a declared National Monument.

Captour shock

Heather Parker
BD 2/4/96

CAPTOUR, the non-profit Western Cape tourism body, has suffered a double blow with the simultaneous resignation of the manager and assistant manager in its marketing and public relations section.

Lauren de Wet, former manager, and Radka Kucera, assistant manager, left Captour last week after a combined service of nine years, to set up their own Cape Town-based tourism consultancy, Destination Marketing, ed

(288)

Monuments council hits back

288 ART 3/4/96

Row hots up over cableway upgrade

JOHN YELD
Environment Reporter

THE National Monuments Council (NMC) has hit back at critics of its decision to insist on the completion of an environmental impact assessment before approving the Table Mountain cableway company's plan to upgrade its facilities.

The company had hoped to start work this week. There had been strong support and political pressure from the provincial government and the Cape Town City Council to allow the cableway company to "bend the rules" of the Integrated Environmental Management (IEM) process which it had been following for the proposed upgrade.

But at its meeting last Friday, the NMC insisted that an impact assessment had to be completed first.

Table Mountain is a declared national monument.

In a statement, NMC director George Hofmeyr said it was not its intention to delay the proposed upgrade unnecessarily.

"The onus is on the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company to complete the environmental impact study as soon as possible. Reports of delays of more than a year are unfounded as far as the Monuments Council is concerned."

There was a misconception that the upper and lower cableway stations were not protected in terms of the National Monuments Act, Mr Hofmeyr said.

A spokesman for the cableway company had alleged that the company's delegation had been allowed only 30 minutes to make a presentation at the council's meeting on Friday.

"The facts are that the council agreed to have an extraordinary meeting at the request of the (cableway) company," Mr Hofmeyr said.

"Unfortunately this necessitated a relatively short meeting to fit in with flight arrangements of members from all over the country.

"The council's decisions were not only based on the presentation, but on all relevant information sent to members, as well as the advice of other organisations and senior staff."

30-year-old technology 'a legal risk'

ANDREA WEISS
Municipal Reporter

THE continued use of a 30-year-old electrical system and technical difficulties around evacuating a cable car if it was stranded over the upper cliff of Table Mountain, could have serious consequences for the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company, a Canadian firm of engineers has warned.

The firm was commissioned by the Cape Town City Council to evaluate the safety aspects of the cableway more than a year ago. The report surfaced again this week amid a heated dispute between the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company, which wants to proceed with a R61-million upgrade, and the National Monuments Council, which has called a halt to the project pending the finalisation of all relevant environmental studies.

While the report, by Robert McLellan, a retired cableway operator from Vancouver, Canada, did not predict any impending disasters, it warned that there could be "ample grounds for a lawsuit" in the event of an accident on the ropeway.

John Harrison, managing director of the company, said the report was refuted in recent court actions.

"The system clearly needs to be upgraded but there is no question of safety being compromised," he said.

Ball plays the game with the anxious greens

ARG 3/4/96 (288)

JOHN YELD
Environment Reporter

ENVIRONMENTALISTS are to meet Cape Town Olympic Bid chief executive Chris Ball today to discuss their further participation in the city's bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

The Olympics Environment Working Group is a coalition of representatives of the Wildlife Society, the Habitat Council, Captrust, the Khayelitsha Environment and Tourism Forum, Earthlife Africa, the Botanical Society and the People's Dialogue.

The group has compiled a list of "minimum requirements" for its future involvement, which it wants to discuss with Mr Ball at today's meeting.

The move follows widespread unhappiness in the "green" lobby that environmental issues have been downplayed in the bid process.

This is an an allegation rejected by the bid company, although it acknowledges there have been unfortunate delays in dealing with some environmental issues.

The bid company's head of planning and the environment, Peter de Tolly, told a recent workshop on environmental issues that the company was working under "terrific constraints".

"The environment still has to get off the ground in the way we would like," he said.

Top of the environmentalists' "minimum requirements" list is likely to be a demand for an Environmental Charter to be negotiated as soon as possible, and for this charter to be a document legally binding on all the parties involved.

The environmentalists have also asked whether environmental impact assessments (EIAs) of the proposed Olympic sites will be effective decision-making tools which could be used to rule out some sites – or whether the EIAs will be used only to determine mitigatory measures.

This concern may be reflected in the "minimum requirements".

Also there is no professional environmental voice on the bid company's board of directors.

The environmental lobby may insist on such representation.

Its list will be released publicly a few hours before the meeting and a joint Press conference has been scheduled for later.

Greenbacks versus green on cableway

CT 3/4/96 (288)

MELANIE GOSLING
ENVIRONMENT WRITER

THE Table Mountain cableway debacle has evolved into a battle between the environment and economics.

An urgent meeting scheduled for yesterday was postponed to today as the National Parks Board could not attend.

At today's meeting the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company (TMACC) will try to press the National Monuments Council (NMC) to revoke its decision not to let the R61-million upgrading go ahead until the integrated environmental process has been completed.

The NMC has said it will not back down and that it is up to the company to complete its environmental process before it gives the green light for the project.

The TMACC is backed by City Council and provincial politicians and by the local tourism industry. The NMC is supported by the National Parks Board, green non-government organisations, several academics and the management advisory committee of the Cape Peninsula Protected Natural Environment.

Those who want to protect the environment say it is essential that the project should not go ahead until the environmental impact assessments have been completed.

Those in favour of starting construction say the city cannot afford to lose out on next summer's tourist takings. They argue that the possible environmental impacts of sewage, electricity, water and other elements should be sorted out as construction progresses.

TMACC's director Mr Louis de Waal said yesterday: "Some people say we don't care about the mountain. That is hogwash. We've cleaned up the mountain more than anyone. The integrated environmental management process for upgrading the cableway has already cost us R100 000.

"Province and the City Council have said we can go ahead provided we sort out ... the sewage system, the electricity cable, the water supply and the control of parking. We've agreed to do that while we start construction of the cableway and restaurants."

The NMC's director, Mr George Hofmeyr, said his council and its environmental advisers did not believe it was possible to start a section of the project while the impacts of others were being studied.

"The onus is on the TMACC to complete the reports. It started the IEM process and then it seemed to peter out. The (NMC) council has taken a decision and it is definitely not going to overturn it," he said.

OWN CORRESPONDENT

'Disbelief' over delay of busy cableway upgrade

Star 3/4/96 (556) (288)

Cape Town – Major tour operators have expressed "total disbelief" at the National Monuments Council (NMC) decision to delay the upgrading of the Table Mountain cableway.

But the Wildlife Society has expressed support for the NMC, saying developments should not take place before all the studies for an Integrated Environmental Management (IEM) process have been completed.

The Tour Operators' Association of Cape Town, which has about 50 members – including all the major tour bus companies – issued a statement saying every group in the city had Table Mountain cableway on its itinerary.

Vice-chairman David Munton said in a statement: "People come thousands of miles to ascend Table Mountain. Since the elections and the boom in tourism, the old cableway cannot cope. It is in desperate need of upgrading. To delay the upgrade now will put tourism back years."

He said this year would probably be the last winter the cableway could close for eight months for an upgrade.

Cableway: NMC stands firm

CT 4/4/96 (.288)

MELANIE GOSLING

THE National Monuments Council has stuck to its guns in not approving the controversial R61-million upgrading of the Table Mountain cableway after a "long and hot debate" yesterday with the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company (TMACC).

The TMACC has appealed to the Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology, Dr Ben Ngubane, to have the NMC's decision overturned.

The NMC's director, Mr George Hofmeyr, said last night: "They (TMACC) hoped we would give approval for construction on the cableway buildings to begin while the integrated environmental management (IEM) process was incomplete. However, there are just too many loose ends for us to give approval."

He said the NMC agreed at the meeting to spell out exactly what IEM processes the TMACC still had to complete.

MAIL & GUARDIAN
April 4 to 11 1996

'Tourists, pay up,' says Home Affairs

MtG 4-11/4/96 (288)

The Home Affairs Department plans to charge exorbitant fees for permanent residence, work permit and visa applications, reports **Marion Edmunds**

ALL visitors to South Africa are going to have to pay up as the Department of Home Affairs is poised to charge for visas. And would-be permanent residents are in for a bigger shock — it will cost them more than R5 500 to lodge an application.

While Home Affairs officials say it is too early to comment on the tariffs, the *Mail & Guardian* has established that the department will charge more than R5 500 for applications for permanent residence, more than R350 for study or work permits or for renewal of those permits, and more than R150 for visas for tourists.

These tariffs could be introduced at the beginning of May when regulations flowing from the Aliens Control Amendment Act are scheduled to be promulgated. The Act, which was passed by Parliament last year but is yet to be implemented, was meant to introduce a new era of transparency and accountability to Home Affairs and, in particular, open up its immigration policy to public scrutiny.

The more the *M&G* probes, the greater the mystery surrounding the department's Immigration Board becomes. A legal adviser to the Home Affairs Department, Attie Tredoux, said this week that the board comprised five people who were not government officials and who evaluated applications centrally in Pretoria, but who could delegate responsibility to immigration committees if needs be.

He said that Home Affairs would be reluctant to identify these five people because they needed to be protected from members of the public, who might inundate them with requests for immigration permits. However, this need to protect the current Immigration Board is contradicted by the department's desire to elect a new Immigration Board through public hearings in a bid to make the immigration selection process more transparent.

The *M&G* has been contacted by members of the public who say they believe there is no real Immigration Board and that applications for permanent residence are processed by normal departmental officials. Two weeks' worth of faxes and telephone calls to the department requesting information about the board have not yet prompted clear answers.

HOTEL INDUSTRY (288)

SURE BET FM 5/4/96

Despite the fact that Protea Hotels has taken a policy decision not to become actively involved in casino operations, the hotel management group has shown its partners that it can coin money as well as roulette tables do. Within five months of operations at its newest venture in Africa, the balance sheets of the Grand Palm Hotel Casino resort in Botswana are in the black again.

"We have turned business around by 30%, from a 25% loss to a 5% profit," says Grand Palm GM Jo Huse. He says he is encouraged by the fact that occupancy has increased by about 15% since the Protea take-over.

Huse and Protea's performance is a far cry from the results which the Sheraton group had managed while running the Gaborone Sheraton Hotel & Towers. It was as a result of the huge losses incurred that Global Resort, the casino group headed by former Sun International executive Ernie Joubert succeeded in a take-over last year. Global Resorts' now own a 60% stake and the Botswana Development Corp the remaining 40%.

The Global Resorts/Protea relationship originated at the time the Sheraton-run hotel was in liquidation and Protea, Africa's largest hotel group, was operating the property on behalf of the liquidators. On September 1 1995 Protea secured a five-year management contract with the new owners to run the hotel.

The Grand Palm has now become Protea's 111th premier hotel in Africa. The others in the group's stables are seven in SA, and one each in Swaziland, Malawi and Egypt. "Botswana is an important link in the Cape-to-Egypt tourist access which became a reality last year with the signing of Protea's first hotel in Egypt," says Protea's group PR Ray Smuts.

Meanwhile, the Grand Palm's casino resort, built at a cost of R25m, had its roof-wetting last week. "We expect the resort to be completed by early April," says Huse. While Protea will not be involved with the running of the casino, Huse has personal experience in that field. He has managed Sun International's Swaziland hotels for many years. ■

HOTEL FINANCE

MORE ROOMS WITH A VIEW

(288) b FM 5/4/96

A burgeoning tourism industry and increasing room occupancies are leading property financiers to look actively again at hotel investments.

Traditionally, lending on hotel developments has been kept below 5% in most institutional portfolios. But Standard Corporate & Merchant Bank (SCMB) and Syfrets say that they're about to lift those thresholds — in Syfrets' case to between 5% and 10% by year-end.

SCMB property finance director Geoff Cannings says the difference of an extra few percentage points in room occupancies is turning hotel ventures into viable lending propositions.

"There's still a reluctance among hotel management companies to sign leases, as opposed to management contracts. This is one of the reasons why banks have shied away from the sector.

"But with occupancy rates up, the hotels' debt-servicing potential is increasing. Added to that, certain investors — primarily foreigners — are bringing more equity to the party in brand-name hotel projects."

Cannings believes that hotels need to be equity rather than debt financed. "Hotel debt financing levels are between 20% to 30%, which isn't high by normal property gearing standards of around 66% to 75%. If we could achieve that level of equity financing by foreign and local investors, we'd be delighted."

Cannings is looking at five hotel projects, two of which are linked to casino licence applications. Of those, three are in Cape Town and the remainder in Johannesburg.

Syfrets, a more proactive player in the hotel market than most other banks, generally takes a softer line on interest rates to make debt servicing easier. It's looking at projects in the three- to five-star market.

Syfrets Western Cape GM Derek Johnston says that, at average room occupancies of 70%, many hotels can break even. But each case is different.

Syfrets is financing the Cape Grace at the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, Kynsa Quays, the Mijlhof Manor Hotel in Cape Town, and Meyer Budow's President Hotel at Sea Point. Last week, the bank began discussions with foreign and local investors on a large development — which will include another city centre hotel.

Johnston says Syfrets may increase its loan exposure by R250m this year. "This is a more aggressive investment than last year's exposure of just under 4% of our book. We see the dire shortage of hotel rooms in the Western Cape and the importance of tourism as a window of opportunity."

Kessel Feinstein hotel analyst Delano Caras is encouraged by the positive stance being taken and believes banks are following the lead taken by other institutions, such as Iscor, Transnet's pension fund and Liberty Life Properties.

"While institutional nervousness was justified previously, because of low occupancies, they are recognising the strong growth in the industry," Caras says. "It would be foolish for them to be sceptical now. While a single hotel project requires a large capital investment, they seem at least to be looking at projects on their merit rather than adopting a blanket view. This is a positive development". ■

The man who's selling the Games to Cape Town

ARG 6/4/96 (288)

■ The all important task of selling the merits of Cape Town's Olympic bid to the world and to Capetonians has fallen on the shoulders of a leading journalist with political clout, writes ADELE BALETA, Staff Reporter

`I have given my life to the struggle for a democracy, one that would not be at the expense of the people. I certainly don't want to go down as a person leaving Cape Town with huge debt.'

IN the countdown to a final decision by the cabinet on the future of Cape Town's Olympic Bid, top journalist Ameen Akhalwaya has been appointed to the company's management team as media director.

Well known for his vitriolic political columns, the former founding editor of the Indicator, one of the alternative newspapers of the 1980s, apparently thrives on being in the hot seat.

But this well-respected journalist and Harvard University Nieman Fellow is now probably facing the greatest challenge of his career.

His brief is to convince Capetonians and the international lobby that the mother city is capable of hosting the world's most prestigious sports event - the Olympic Games.

With 22 years' experience in journalism, this former sports activist and trade union heavyweight is likely to be a major asset to the bid company in bringing the local community on-board for the 2004 Games.

Akhalwaya headed SABC-TV's current affairs coverage of the 1994 national election campaign, as well as the negotiation, organisation and editing of the internationally televised debate between President Nelson Mandela and one of his deputies, F W de Klerk.

He told SATURDAY Argus he was confident that the Cabinet would approve of the bid, that Cape Town would win it and that reliable research had shown the majority of Capetonians – 80 percent – were behind it.

"Winning the bid is important for the dignity of the African continent," he said.

Akhalwaya dismissed reports that there were a significant number of people who were opposed to the Games out of concern about, among other issues, bankruptcy of the city's coffers, environmental degradation and lack of sustainable development.

Referring to the "Stop the Bid" lobby and others who were opposed to the bid, he said: "What we are up against is a small group of people who raise the same old questions over and over again – questions about lack of consultation and lack of planning. We have answered these.

"I believe in the Olympic Games. The socio-economic impact of hosting the Games will be great. I have given my life to the struggle for a democracy – one that would not be at the expense of the people. I certainly don't want to go down as a person leaving Cape Town with huge debt."

He said he had consulted people in government and felt assured about taking up the position.

"Cape Town must be developed as a tourist centre. A reason for this is that it is one of the most seductive cities in the world.

"Our country is opening up not only to the international community, but to our own people.

"In the past black people in general were not allowed to stay in hotels when they came to visit Cape Town. We had to crash anywhere," he said.

Akhalwaya said he had been supplementing the work of the community relations department, which meant holding extensive discussions with the people in the community, informing them about the bid.

Akhalwaya left Absa Bank, as manager of media relations, to take up his position on the Bid's management team as media director at the beginning of March.

The post as media director sees him going full circle in his journalism career, which started out because of his love of sport.

His new post, he said, brought together his passions for the media, sport and sports politics.

Born in Fordsburg and raised in Sophiatown, he was a former Transvaal provincial cricketer on the old South African Cricket Board of Control headed by Hassan Howa.

He said the inequities in sport at the time and the lack of coverage of nonracial sport spurred him to become a journalist.

Akhalwaya joined the Rand Daily Mail 25 years ago, specialising in the political aspects of sport, including the Olympic Games.

He was later appointed as political reporter and metropolitan editor of the newspaper before moving on to become chief sub-editor of the Sunday Express.

He also spent eight years with the Indicator, which was acquired by the ANC in 1993.

Supporting the slogan of "No normal sport in an abnormal society", he worked closely with the SA Council on Sport (Sacos) and the exiled Sanroc.

"Now, in our exciting young democracy, I believe in the concept of developing sport in a democratic society.

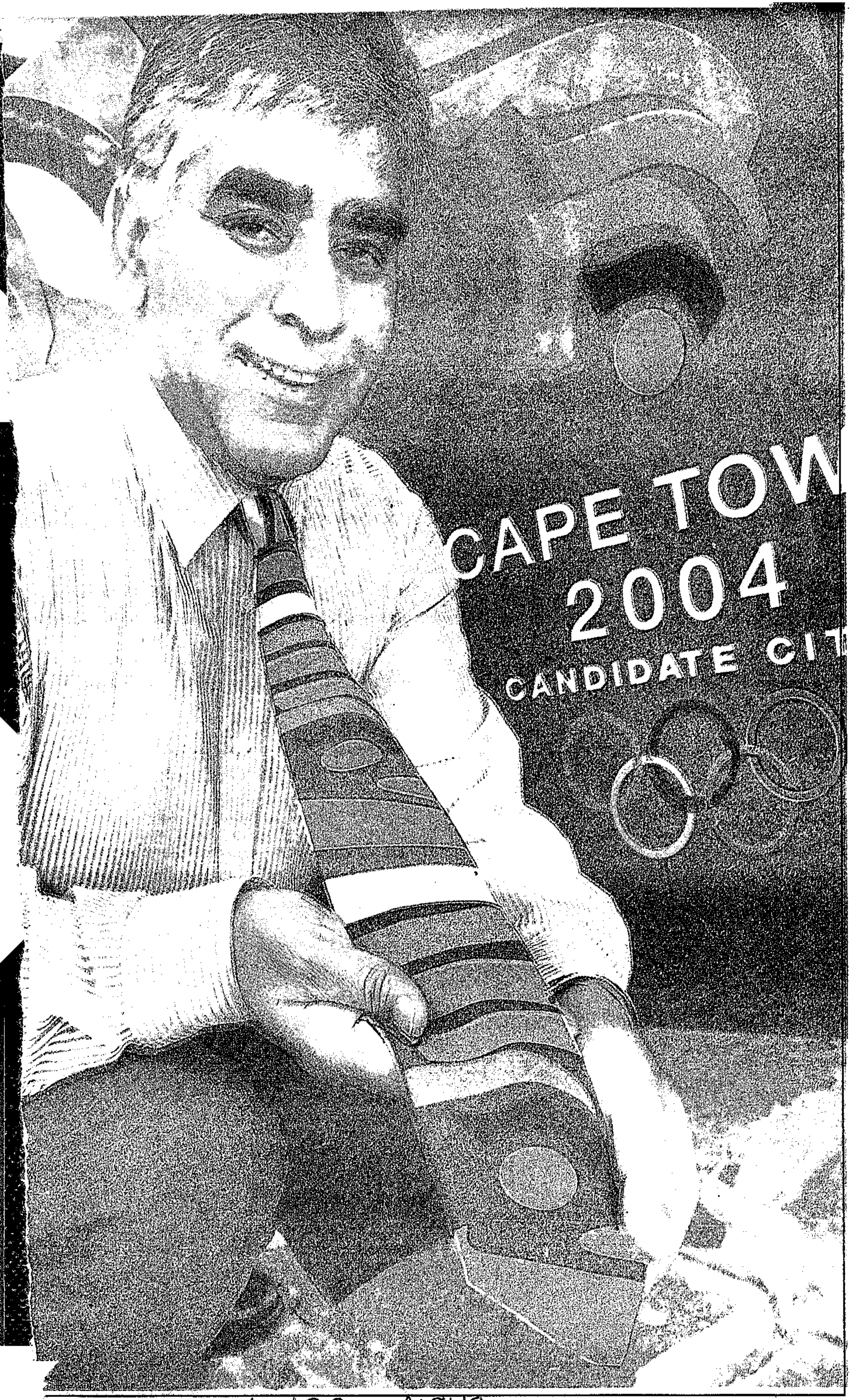
"The success of the Cape Town Olympic Bid would be the crowning glory for the many people who sacrificed so much to ensure there would be sporting justice in a democratic country," he said.

Akhalwaya lives in Rondebosch with his wife Farieda, also a journalist, and his three children.

His message to Cape Town: "No one will prescribe to you. I understand the consultative nature and needs of Capetonians. I am all for that.

"The people must point us in the right direction. If they think we are erring in some areas, then we will welcome constructive criticism to aid the process."

© M
com



6/4/96 Argus 288

Picture: OBED ZILWA, Staff Reporter

A BOSS: Ameen Akhalwaya settles into his office as the newly appointed media director of the Olympic bid
y.

Top journalist to sell Cape's Olympic bid

(288) Star 6/4/96

By ADELE BALETA

In the countdown to an imminent final decision by the Cabinet on the future of Cape Town's Olympic bid, senior journalist Ameen Akhalwaya has been appointed to the company's managment team as media director.

Well known for his vitriolic political columns, the former founding editor of the Indicator, one of the alternative newspapers of the 1980s, apparently thrives on being in the hot seat.

But this Harvard University Nieman Fellow is now probably facing the greatest challenge of his career.

His brief is to convince the international lobby that Cape Town is capable of hosting the world's most prestigious sporting event – the Olympic games.

With 22 years' experience in journalism, a former sports activist and trade union heavyweight, he is likely to be a major asset to the bid company in bringing the local community on board for the 2004 Games.

Akhalwaya headed SABC-TV's current affairs coverage of the 1994 national election campaign, as well as the negotation, organisation and editing of the internationally televised debate between President Nelson Mandela and one his deputies, F W de Klerk.

He is confident that the Cabinet will approve of the bid, that Cape Town will win it and that reliable research has shown that most Capetonians – 80% – are behind it. "Winning the bid is important for the dignity of the African continent," he says.

Akhalwaya dismisses reports that there are a significant number of people who are opposed to the games because they are concerned about the resultant bankruptcy of Cape Town's coffers, environmental degradation and lack of sustainable development, among other issues.

Referring to the "stop the bid" lobby and others who are opposed to the bid, he says: "What we are up against is a small group of people who raise the same old questions over and over again; questions about lack of consultation and lack of planning. We have answered these.

"I believe in the Olympic Games. The socio-economic impact of hosting the Games will be great. I have given my life to the struggle for a democracy, one that would not be at the expense of the people."

Akhalwaya says he has been supplementing the work of the community relations department, which means holding extensive discussions with the people in the community informing about the bid.



CAREER MOVED FULL CIRCLE: Senior journalist Ameen Akhalwaya

Akhalwaya left Absa Bank as manager of media relations to take up his position on the bid committee's management team as media director at the beginning of last month.

The post as media director sees him going full circle in his journalism career, which started out because of his love for sport. His new post, he says, brings together his passions for media, sport and sports politics.

Born in Fordsburg and raised in Sophiatown, he was a former Transvaal provincial cricketer in the old South African Cricket Board of Control.

Akhalwaya joined the Rand Daily Mail 25 years ago, specialising in the political aspects of sport, including the Olympic Games. He was later appointed political reporter and metropolitan editor of the newspaper, before moving on to become chief subeditor of the Sunday Express. He spent eight years with the Lenasia-based Indicator, which was acquired by the ANC in 1993.

He says: "The success of the Olympic bid would be the crowning glory for the many people who sacrificed so much to ensure there would be sporting justice in a democratic country."

W-Cape is booming for tourist businesses

(288) ARG 6/4/96

Staff Reporter

SUCH is the rapidly expanding Western Cape tourism industry that two of Captour's stalwarts, marketing and public relations manager Lauren de Wet and her deputy Radka Kucera, have opened on their own to specialise in marketing local facilities.

With their experience in marketing tourism, they are entering an area hardly touched. Clients will range from restaurants, hotels and guest houses to publicity associations and companies wishing to involve or attract tourists .

The main thrust of their business will be conference organising, public relations strategies and special events related to tourism.

Destination Marketing, the name they have given their company, has established trade links in Germany, the United Kingdom and South-East Asia, and will advise strategies to tourist companies targeting these key travel intermediaries.

"The tourist industry is an obvious growth market and we have daily inquiries for advice from entrepreneurs who want to join the industry and require specialist help," said Ms De Wet.

"We will draw up business plans for these organisations and ensure that their money is well spent on the correct media for their particular product or service.

"While publicity associations market the region generically, members of the industry definitely require individual marketing assistance to position them above and apart from their competitors.

"We will be serving many of our clients on a retainer basis, but will also offer a public relations service to clients on an ad hoc basis by way of press releases and feature articles aimed at the local and foreign media," said Ms Kucera.

"By mid-July we also hope to offer our clients an opportunity to take part in "alternative" packages, which we will market to key tour operators overseas.

"These packages will offer different aspects of the Cape and will not offer the usual mainstream tourism experience.

"We believe that tourists today are seeking destinations that offer value, and South Africa with its particular history has so much potential that has not as yet been tapped.

"These packages will also afford us the opportunity to exhibit at key travel shows like Indaba, World Travel Market, ITB in Berlin and major shows in Malaysia and Singapore," she added.

"While the organisation is essentially a small business, it will be taking advantage of the synergy relationships that are so popular in Cape Town.

"We will offer a 'full-house' service by way of working with other specialists in the industry on a project by project basis," said Ms Lauren.

"Cape Town is well known for having a healthy freelance industry and from our experience at Captour we have established contacts with special-event organisers, advertising agencies, research companies and the like.

"We will work in what is now know as a "through-the-line" approach to ensure that we keep our overheads as low as possible, while contracting in the very best team for the job."



Picture: HANNES THIART, Staff Photographer

❒ **GOING PLACES:** Radka Kucera and Lauren de Wet in the cockpit of a jumbo jet at Cape Town airport.

What would the 2004 Games cost Cape Town's ratepayers?

ARG 7/4/96 (288)

MONEY – how much of it will the ratepayers have to fork out?

That's the main question put to the Olympic Bid Company – which is answering questions on Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games – in the latest crop of letters sent in by the public.

The Olympic Bid has certainly been highly visible recently, at events like the SABC launch, UCT's Rag and the Argus Cycle Tour.

One just wonders to what extent ratepayers have had to foot the bill for all this lavish publicity?

All allocations within our marketing and publicity budget are accounted for in terms of our operating budget as a company until 1997.

This operating budget is covered by the succession of major private-sector sponsorship received by the bid since October 1995.

The Olympic involvement in the events specifically mentioned - as well as a number of others pending - was secured mostly on the basis of the goodwill of the respective organisers.

The decision by UCT's Rag Committee to adopt an Olympic theme for this year's procession resulted from an ongoing relationship of goodwill between the Rag Committee and the Bid Company, as well as from a recognition of Cape Town's exciting new status as a candidate city for the 2004 Olympic Games.

CAPE TOWN
2004
CANDIDATE CITY

The lavishly-coloured floats signifying past Olympic cities, as well as the Cape Town 2004 float, were the product of the hard work and enthusiasm of UCT students.

We also made our company cars available to lead the Rag procession. The arrangement was to the satisfaction of all concerned and the decision by UCT Rag was validated by one of the most enthusiastically-received processions in recent years.

The same applies to the organisers of the Argus Pick 'n Pay Cycle Tour, who warmly welcomed the Olympic Bid on board for the event, at no cost to the Bid.

The same also applies to the SABC launch, where our only costs extended to the provision of branding and merchandise for one production number.

The encouraging truth is we continue to be approached by organisers of major events, keen to do their part in ensuring the success of Cape Town's bid, whilst recognising that we are operating on a modest budget.

What is the role of the IOC's Evaluation Commission and who will pay for their visit to Cape Town?

The Evaluation Commission is charged by the International Olympic Committee with the task of visiting each of the candidate cities once all candidature files have been submitted.

The Commission inspects all sites proposed for the Games and holds meetings with the members of the respective Bid committees. All issues relating to the city's candidature are studied, discussed and assessed. At the end of the visit, the Evaluation Commission issues a final report.

The international travel costs of the Evaluation Commission are covered by the International Olympic Committee. Candidate cities bear the cost of room and board for the officials, whose visit, in terms of IOC regulations, may not exceed five days.

Queries on the bid should be sent to: Letters to the Editor, The Argus, Box 56, Cape Town, 8000, or faxed c/o Letters to the Editor to 488 4075, or sent to the Olympic Bid Company, Private Bag X2004, Cape Town, 8000.

Politicians under fire in cableway row

(288) (56) ST (CM) 7/4/96

By CHARL DE VILLIERS

THE row over Table Mountain's stalled cableway upgrade raged unchecked this week amid warnings that politicians were undermining confidence in integrated environmental management (IEM) processes.

Leading UCT environmental scientist Richard Fuggle this week blamed politicians for not ensuring that the cableway company stuck to its public commitment to an IEM process.

The R61-million upgrade, which was meant to start last Monday, is now on hold following a National Monuments Council decision to withhold approval until an IEM process had been completed.

The cableway company has lodged a formal appeal with the responsible cabinet minister, Ben Ngubane.

Western Cape Nature Conservation chief Johan Neethling has also reportedly advised the provincial government to appeal.

Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company chairman Louis de Waal this week told Metro he was not opposed to independent adjudication which could resolve the impasse.

The row over IEM processes flared just as the government released a national environmental policy discussion document which stresses an urgent need for decision-making processes which result in "win-win solutions, rather than ongoing conflict".

But according to Prof Fuggle, there was little confidence in the political processes which were meant to adjudicate integrated environmental management.

"We are finding that critics of development proposals increasingly have to turn to the courts for intervention.

"Instead of being tools which help make decisions, smooth out differences and set criteria for development, IEMs are now just becoming documents which tone down the worst aspects of projects. Nobody is satisfied," he said.

Prof Fuggle, who helped draft the Department of Environmental Affairs' official IEM guidelines and served on last year's probe into a steel mill at Saldanha Bay, said there was a "distinct gap" between what politicians were saying about the environment, and what they were doing.

He cited the RDP's "lip service" to its environmental commitments, a Western Cape provincial cabinet decision which ignored the Saldanha inquiry's recommendations about the siting of the steel mill and, most recently, the province's approval for the cableway upgrade despite warnings by official advisors and prominent conservation organisations.

"I ask myself, cynically, if politicians intend to preserve South Africa's environmental heritage at all," he said.

MONDAY
APRIL 8, 1996 ★

'PRICES NO LONGER VALUE FOR MONEY'

Rising hotel rates 'may frighten away tourists'

(288) CT 8/4/96

TOUR OPERATORS and hoteliers are alarmed by the rapid rise in hotel rates and say the industry is already feeling the international market's resistance. **DAN SIMON** reports.

RISING hotel rates are creating anxiety that international tour operators could drop South Africa as a destination in a couple of years if prices are no longer competitive.

Springbok Atlas tour manager Mr Steve McCulloch said hotel rates were becoming "increasingly expensive".

"South Africa's longstanding impression that its prices are value for money is nonsense," McCulloch said.

"The hotel industry is piling up the prices as if trying to catch up for the lost business in the past decade."

Protea Hotels executive chairman Mr Otto Stehlik said the hotel industry was beginning to feel the international market's "resistance" to price increases.

"We feel strongly about this," he said.

"Throughout the industry we see rates as an issue of great concern, especially as some hotel's rates are well over R1 000.

"There is great concern over the trap that the hotel industry is falling into."

Stehlik said Protea Hotels intended to increase its public and tour operator rates by a "logical and acceptable" 10% to 15%.

Southern Sun said yesterday it was expecting to increase its tour operators' rate and its public rate at the five-star Cape Sun Intercontinental hotel by more than 30% from next January.

The last public rate increase for the Cape Sun was in September last year and ranged from 12% to 15%. This brought its double bed rate to R900 a night and its single bed rate to R675 a night.

The increase in the tour operators' rate for the Cape Sun is similar to the public rate increase, but tour operators buy hotel rooms at substantially reduced prices to make a profit.

Accommodation rates for Southern Sun's three-star Garden Court hotels went up on January 31 by an "inflation margin" of between 10% and 15% for a single rate and between 20% and 25% for a double rate.

Prices at the city's Garden Court hotels are to increase by a similar percentage next year.

The reasons for the increases, said Southern Sun's director of operations, Mr Martin Vasselli, were "supply and demand, the rand's devaluation and refurbishing costs of R50 million".

McCulloch believed there was a real risk of international tour operators dropping South Africa as a destination in a couple of years if accommodation prices became uncompetitive.

"As a destination we are competing head-to-head with Australia, which is a First World destination compared with our First World/Third World situation, and they definitely have a higher standard of service."

McCulloch said most European visitors tended to stay at Garden Court hotels because of the prices, whereas Japanese tourists favoured the Cape Sun.

THE

Meeting delayed after Ball no-show

289 ALG 9/4/96

JOHN YELD
Environment Reporter

THE crucial meeting between environmentalists and the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company, which was scheduled for last week, has been postponed to today after Bid Company chief executive Chri Ball was unable to attend the discussions.

The meeting was originally arranged to present a strong list of "minimum requirements" for the involvement of the environmental sector in the bidding process for the 2004 Olympics.

One of their 10 requirements is for a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the short-to-long-term social, demographic, environmental and financial costs of the bid to the Cape Town metropole and surrounding areas.

Another requirement is for an independently-run poll to test public opinion on whether Cape Town should continue its bid to host the 2004 Games.

Also, the green groups want to draft an Environmental Charter which will, among other things, set environmental criteria for the bid.

They also want an Independent Environmental Commission to be set up to monitor the implementation of this charter, assess the findings of impact studies and review the results of the poll.

CAPE TOWN 2004 CANDIDATE CITY

The bid document, which has to be submitted to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in August, must include the concerns raised by the environmentalists, "specifically with respect to unrealistic and unacceptable time constraints", and this document has to be available for public comment before being submitted to the IOC.

The postponed meeting was called to discuss widespread unhappiness in the "green" lobby that environmental issues have been downplayed or sidelined in Cape Town's bid process – an allegation rejected by the Bid Company.

Mr Ball and his senior environmental and planning officials were to have met an Olympic Environment Working Group – a coalition of representatives of the Wildlife Society, Habitat Council, Captrust, Khayelitsha Environment and Tourism Forum, Earthlife Africa, Botanical Society and People's Dialogue - last Wednesday to discuss the minimum requirements.

However, Mr Ball was called to an urgent preparatory meeting for a meeting the following day of the cabinet committee which is investigating Cape Town's bid on behalf of the government.

The cabinet, which has already given conditional approval, is due to announce on May 1 whether it will officially endorse the bid.

Independent facilitator David Shandler, who was to have "refereed" last week's meeting, said Mr Ball had sent "profound apologies" for his non-appearance.

Because the environmental organisations had a mandate to negotiate with the bid company and with Mr Ball in particular, they had felt unable to continue the meeting without him.

The meeting was therefore postponed to today, Mr Shandler said.

Included in the "minimum requirements" list of the environmental lobby is that individual environmental impact assessments (EIAs) must be done at site level for all the proposed Olympic facilities and structures; and for any related structures.

"The individual EIAs must follow the Integrated Environmental Management procedure, and the terms of reference should be determined through consultation with the interested and affected parties," the environmentalists' document states.

These individual EIAs should be run in parallel with the strategic environmental assessment, and the findings of these EIAs should form part of the strategic assessment.

Summaries of all these assessments must be made freely available.

"The assessments must be completed by May 1997, three months before September 5, 1997, when the IOC will make a decision on which city is to be the host city for the 2004 Olympics.

This will make sure that there is sufficient time for the results of the Strategic Environmental Assessment to be publicised widely, as well as for an independent poll to be run and for an informed decision to be made on whether or not continuing to bid to host the Games is in the best interests of the sustainable development of the greater metropolitan Cape Town region, the document states.

Architects invited to design for 2004 bid

Staff Reporter

BUDDING architects are being invited to enter a competition to design Olympic facilities in six competition categories.

The competition, launched by the Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid, is "Africa-wide".

It is open to everyone with "strong, viable ideas on appropriate designs for components of the Cape Town 2004 complex".

The entrants placed first and second in each category can expect cash prizes of R10 000 and R5 000 respectively.

Olympic-bid architect Terry Bracher said the goal of the competition was to be as inclusive as possible in even the most technical areas of bid planning and preparation.

"We are hoping to evoke a response from innovative talents who come from a variety of backgrounds," said Mr Bracher.

"If they have a vision that's good enough, then we will follow it to its ultimate conclusion."

If the winning entrant is not an architect, he or she will be required to form a joint venture with a professional for the execution of the work.

Entrants have to confirm their intention to participate by April 29.

Full details are available from the Bid Company: telephone (021) 409-2062.

NSRI headquarters in Green Point.

Oliver calls for cableway compromise

(288) AKG 9/4/96

Municipal Reporter

CAPTOUR has added its voice to the Table Mountain cableway debate, expressing concern over the impasse reached over the upgrade plans.

Captour has some 1 400 member organisations and businesses in the tourism industry.

Chief executive Gordon Oliver said Captour was concerned about the delicate natural environment of the mountain, which, he said, had to be protected.

However, the cableway was the city's most popular tourist attraction.

"Clearly, both considerations are paramount.

"As tourism is a major contributor to the economy of the Western Cape, we must do everything possible not to thwart its role, but to actually promote and encourage it," Mr Oliver said.

"Of course, not at the expense of the natural environment, which makes our region such a popular holiday and business destination.

"Captour appeals to all the relevant authorities to find a way to permit the cableway redevelopment plans to go ahead while simultaneously requiring the environmental impact studies to be completed.

"We are totally confident that the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company has every intention of fulfilling its obligations to the community as required by the National Monuments Council.

"There is no question of principles being sacrificed or subverted and we do appeal to the NMC and the National Parks Board to reach a healthy and constructive compromise with the company in the interests of a win-win situation," Mr Oliver said.



Green issues agreement after Games bid talks

ARG 10/4/96 (286)

JOHN YELD
Environment Reporter

REPRESENTATIVES of key environmental groups and the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company have reached agreement on a wide range of "green issues" surrounding the city's bid for the 2004 Games after a meeting described as "extremely constructive".

Moves which will flow from the meeting include an "in principle" decision for an independent poll to test the opinion of residents of greater Cape Town on whether the city should continue its bid.

They also agreed to the urgent drawing up of an environmental charter to set criteria for the bid, and a request to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) for clarity on why a city's bid document had to be confidential.

The meeting yesterday between the bid company and the Olympic Environment Working Group – a coalition of representatives of the Wildlife Society, Habitat Council, Captrust, Khayelitsha Environment and Tourism Forum, Earthlife Africa, Botanical Society and People's Dialogue – had been postponed for a week because bid company chief executive Chris Ball had been called urgently to another meeting at short notice.

His absence last week was sharply criticised by the coalition, but after yesterday's meeting coalition spokesman Marlene Laros said Mr Ball had sent them a letter of "apology and regret".

"We accept the apology and we've moved forward from that quite positively," she said. Mr Ball attended yesterday's meeting, as did representatives of the Cape Town City Council.

Only three minor changes – two of them because of IOC requirements – were made to a set of 10 "minimum requirements" which the the coalition had set for the future involvement of the environmental sector in the bid process.

Requirements accepted without change included those of a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the short- to long-term social, demographic, environmental and financial costs.

They agreed to an independent environmental commission to monitor the implementation of the environmental charter, to assess the findings of environmental impact studies and to review the poll results.

Another requirement is that the bid document submitted to the IOC in August must include concerns raised by the environmental sector, "with respect to the time constraints and the limited participation of residents in the bid process".

But the last sentence of this requirement – that the bid document had to be available for public comment before being submitted to the IOC – was dropped because of IOC rules.

Mary-Jane Morris, the bid company's environmental coordinator, said the Cape Town situation was different to that in other Olympic cities because environmental issues had come "a lot earlier" in the bid process.

Said Howard Firth, the city council's legal representative: "You don't win a bid unless you're extremely environmentally focused."

CAPE

Keegan quits in dispute with Ball

(288)

JOHN YELD
Environment Reporter

ARG 10/4/96

CITY councillor Clive Keegan has resigned as deputy chairman of the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company, lashing out at chief executive officer Chris Ball and his senior management team for, he says, ignoring, marginalising and insulting the bid company's board of directors.

The bid company's board executive meets today to discuss the resignation row.

Mr Keegan also accused the bid company's management of having no real interest in "vital" issues such as a black empowerment policy, a sports development strategy and environmental issues.

Mr Keegan, who sent his letter of resignation last Thursday, said yesterday that he was not resigning from the board itself and did not want his criticism of Mr Ball to imply he no longer supported the city's bid.

"I am steadfastly committed to the benefits of the bid. This is purely about internal tensions."

Mr Ball has rejected Mr Keegan's accusations and said they did not reflect decisions taken at meetings of the board.

Mr Ball said Mr Keegan had not discussed his problems with him, the board or other senior bid officials.

In his strongly worded letter, Mr Keegan said that because the board was "routinely" ignored and marginalised by Mr Ball and his management team, he could no longer exercise his legal or ethical obligations as deputy chairman.

"I would be prepared to live with this pattern of insulting behaviour, were it not for my gathering conviction that Mr Ball's conduct of the bid is rapidly propelling this project towards domestic discredit."

Mr Keegan cited five instances that caused him "profound misgivings":

- Mr Ball's "progressive forfeiting" of the support of his domestic constituency because of his zeal to win the support of individual members of the International Olympic Committee.
- Mr Ball's "lack of frankness" about his negotiations and agreements with former bid leader Raymond Ackerman and consultants retained by the previous bid committee.
- The bid company's "inconsistency and ambivalence" in such vital matters as a black empowerment policy, sports development strategy and environmental issues.
- The "staggering lack of professionalism" that had led to the cancellation of the inaugural meeting of the Bid Convocation and Mr Ball's not inviting the company's directors to this.
- The "quite extraordinary" manner in which Mr Ball had applied to the Independent Broadcasting Authority for a community TV licence, "without even informing the board that he had embarked on an undertaking he must have known would prove contentious and risk-ridden".

Mr Keegan is to contest the May 29 local elections in an alliance with Arthur Wienburg, a critic of the bid.

City to be polled on hosting Games

CP 10/4/96 (288)

MELANIE GOSLING
ENVIRONMENT WRITER

THE people of Cape Town will be polled on whether the city should continue the bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games, the Olympic Bid Company and the local green lobby decided last night.

The two groups met to hammer out a list of tough minimum requirements, drawn up by the Olympics Environment Working Group, to which the bid company had to agree before the environmental sector would become involved in the bidding process.

The lobby group represents a broad spectrum of environmental NGOs which have been mandated to negotiate environmental conditions with the bid company.

The bid company has also agreed to carry out a strategic environmental assessment (SEA) for the greater Cape Town region — a major study which will look at the short- and long-term social, environmental and financial costs to Cape Town of bidding for and hosting the Olympics.

The poll to test public opinion will be run a month after the release of the findings of the SEA to enable Capetonians to make an informed decision.

The bid company also agreed, among other things, that the SEA and impact assessments for all the proposed Olympic facilities and infrastructure would be completed by the end of May 1997, three months before the IOC makes its decision on the host city for 2004.

● Meanwhile, **PETER DENNEHY** reports that the deputy chairman of the Olympic Bid Company, Mr Clive Keegan, has resigned. His resignation does not come as a complete surprise. Mr Keegan faces a tough local election battle in the next few weeks, without the support of a political party.

He has recently entered into an alliance of independent candidates, along with Mr Arthur Wienburg who has been a harsh critic of the bid from the start.

☐ BRIDGE 14 ☐ COMICS 4 ☐ SPORT 24
T ROLL 5 ☐ TV GUIDE 14 ☐ CROSSWORD 4

100 days to go ...

Atlanta worries about everything under the sun as the countdown to the Olympics begins

ARG 11/4/96 (288)

ERIC HARRISON of the Los Angeles Times reports from Atlanta.

THIS city spent almost two years trying to find a slogan and marketable image in time for the Summer Olympics. The winner? "Atlanta: Come Celebrate Our Dream."

But judging from all the Hollywood hoopla and the television personalities flitting around town these days, you would think the city had settled on "Los Angeles East".

The hosts of *Wheel of Fortune* and *Jeopardy!*, the official Olympic game shows, have been in town taping tie-in programmes; Emmy-award winning producer Don Mischer is here designing the opening and closing ceremonies, and John Williams, who composed the music for *Star Wars*, *Jurassic Park* and *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, recently unveiled the official Olympic theme music via satellite hookup from Los Angeles.

If that's Vanna White, this must be Atlanta.

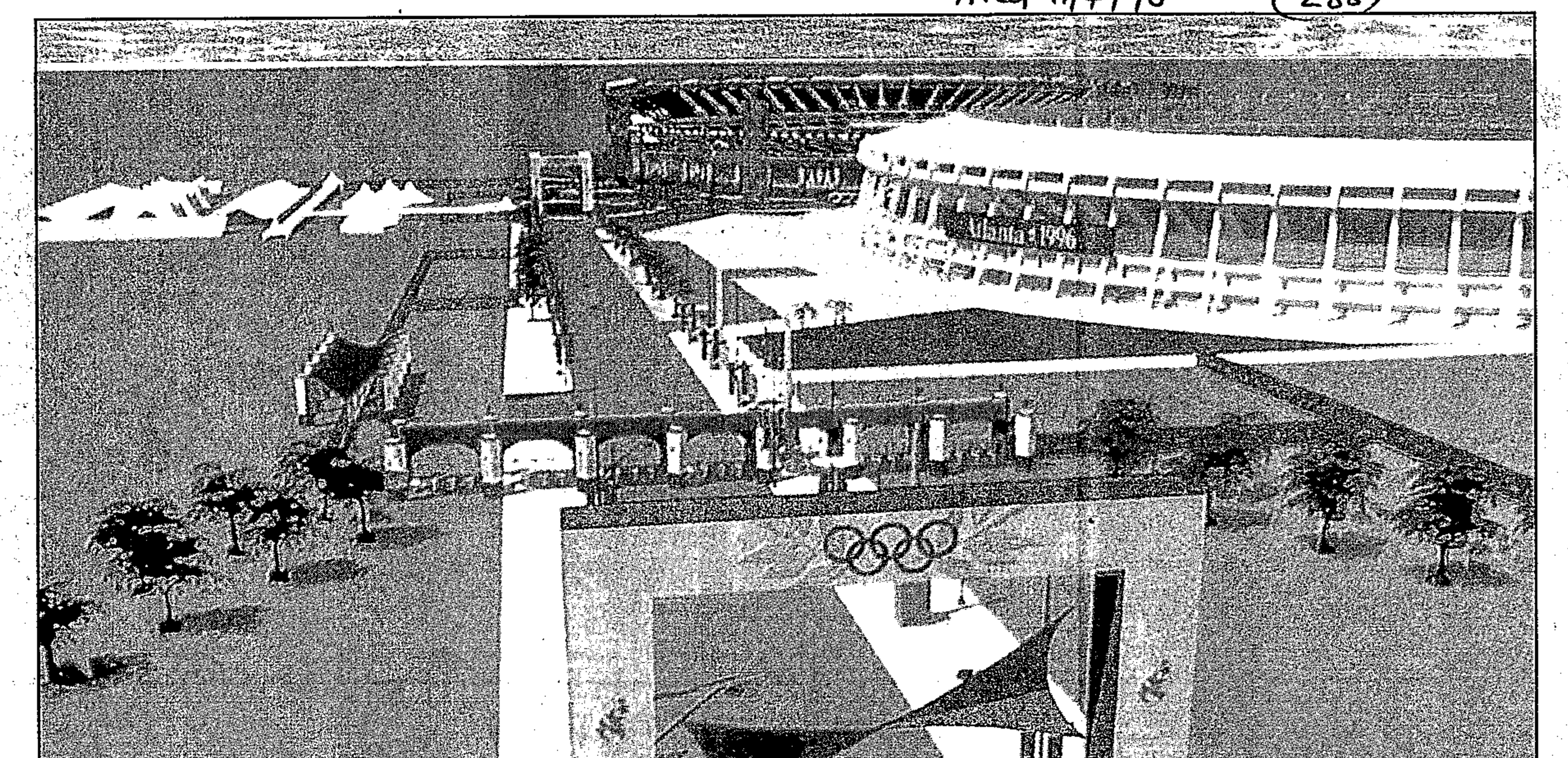
One hundred days before the start of the Summer Olympics Games, the host city seems to have an identity crisis – again.

Olympic and city officials hope that will be the only crisis they face between now and the Games, scheduled for July 19-August 4.

Almost from the day it was announced the city would host the event, Atlanta has been gripped with insecurity over whether it is sophisticated enough, exciting enough, pretty enough or safe enough to host two million visitors from around the world.

Large crowds tend to trip up the city. Atlanta is brought to its knees each April when a mere 200 000 college students come to cruise, drink and get rowdy during an annual spring bacchanal known as Freaknik.

Businesses shut down, residents leave town and it can take an hour for cars to move three blocks through the heavy traffic.



GAMES SCENARIO: An aerial view of the Olympic stadium to the rear, and its nearby promenade, are seen in this computer-generated graphic released by the Atlantic Committee for the Olympic Games. In the foreground is the baseball stadium used by the Atlanta Braves.

Locals, already tense over this year's onslaught, which begins on April 19, have a hard time visualising a gathering larger than that.

There also is concern about the quality of Olympic construction.

Worried about safety, workers temporarily abandoned a construction site last month after a five-ton truss fell from a roof being built over a seating area for an outdoor pool.

No one was hurt, but the accident happened almost a year to the day after a light tower buckled at the Olympic stadium, killing a scaffolder.

The worker's family has filed a lawsuit against the designers and the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games for unspecified damages.

The incidents, with the discovery last summer that dormitories being built for the Olympic Village were sinking as much as 20 centimetres more than expected, have raised questions about whether corners are being cut in the rush to complete construction in time.

Competing lawsuits have been filed over shoddy workmanship and cost overruns, but Olympic organisers maintain the venues are safe.

Billy Payne, ACOG president, says his only worry, apart from whether international tensions will boil over and affect the participation of all 197 countries included in the Olympic movement, is the scorching summer sun.

"I wonder how close we are going to come to my prediction of 75 degrees in the summer," he said, referring to the rather optimistic estimate he gave to the International Olympic Committee when Atlanta first bid for the Games.

"The things I worry about are things we really don't control," he said.

One is controversy that might detract from the carefully crafted image the city seeks to project. Payne's protestations aside, civic boosters view the Games as the ultimate marketing tool – hence the new slogan, which is being promoted through a reported $4 million (about R16,5 million) marketing blitz.

In designing the all-important opening and closing ceremonies, Mischer said he spent two years talking with local people about the tone and content.

While there would be nods to the international nature of the event, he said his goal was to reflect the "grace, beauty and diversity" of the American South while portraying Atlanta as "the world-class city that it is".

Image-makers walk a tightrope because the city's identification with *Gone With The Wind* and the antebellum South seems at odds with present-day Atlanta, with its predominantly African-American population.

One controversy Olympic organisers hope to sidestep involves display of the Confederate battle emblem, which is incorporated into the Georgia state flag. By law, the flag must fly over state-owned venues. Opponents of the flag have promised to protest, but Payne is intent on staying above the fray.

"We don't have a dog in that fight," he said. "We follow the law."

Unlike Los Angeles, which netted a $236 million (about R984 million) profit from hosting the 1984 Games, Atlanta organisers are operating with only a small margin of safety – $13 million (about R53 million) according to auditors.

In Los Angeles – the only other city to stage the Olympics without government underwriting – the Games were mostly held in existing facilities. But $500 million (about R2,7 billion) is being spent on new Olympic venues in Atlanta.

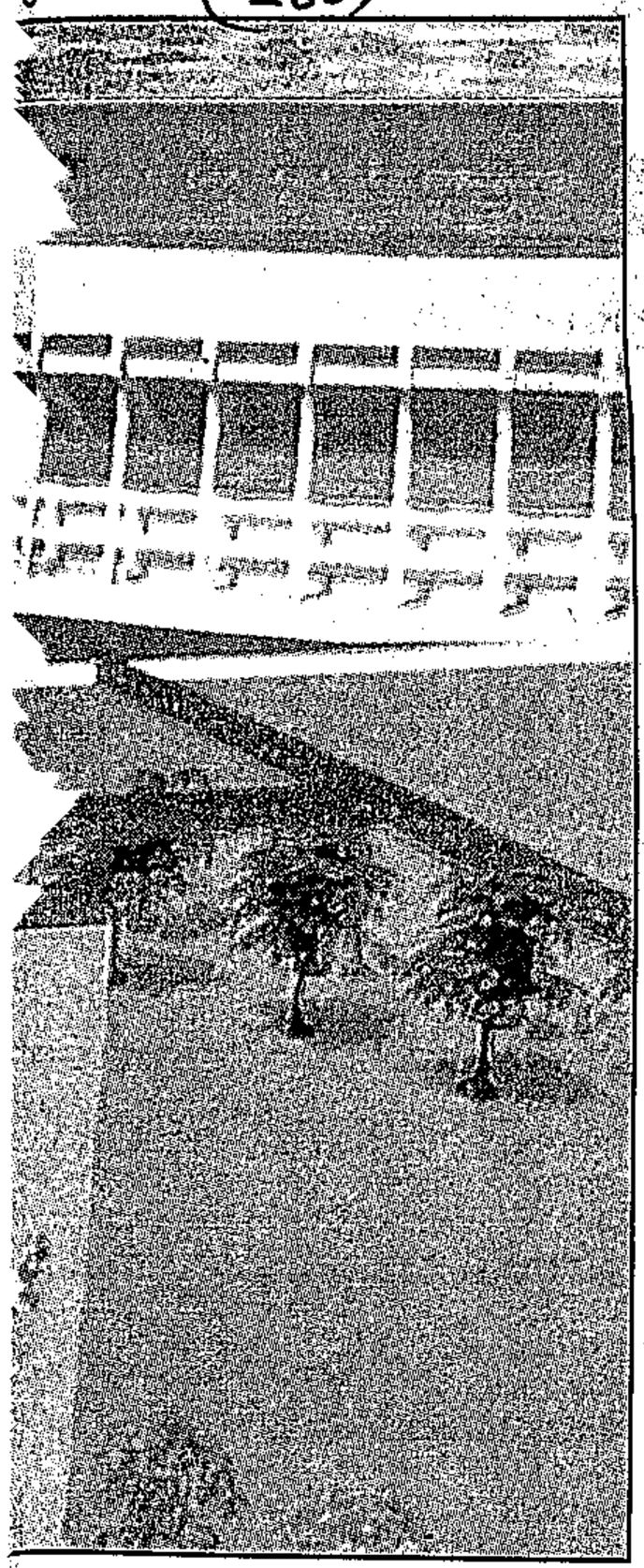
Organisers have still not raised all of the $1,7 billion (about R7 billion) they need to stage the Games but expect to raise the remaining $195 million (about R800 million) through ticket sales, broadcast rights and joint ventures.

The Atlanta Games are being called the most commercial in history. Corporate sponsors are largely financing it. Companies that gave $4 million (about R16,5 million) to sponsor the Los Angeles Olympics were asked for $40 million (about R165 million) for the Atlanta Games.

) go . . .

the countdown to the Olympics begins

(288)



re seen in this computer-generated tadium used by the Atlanta Braves.

The worker's family has filed a lawsuit against the designers and the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games for unspecified damages.

The incidents, with the discovery last summer that dormitories being built for the Olympic Village were sinking as much as 20 centimetres more than expected, have raised questions about whether corners are being cut in the rush to complete construction in time.

Competing lawsuits have been filed over shoddy workmanship and cost overruns, but Olympic organisers maintain the venues are safe.

Billy Payne, ACOG president, says his only worry, apart from whether international tensions will boil over and affect the participation of all 197 countries included in the Olympic movement, is the scorching summer sun.

"I wonder how close we are going to come to my prediction of 75 degrees in the summer," he said, referring to the rather optimistic estimate he gave to the International Olympic Committee when Atlanta first bid for the Games.

"The things I worry about are things we really don't control," he said.

One is controversy that might detract from the carefully crafted image the city seeks to project. Payne's protestations aside, civic boosters view the Games as the ultimate marketing tool – hence the new slogan, which is being promoted through a reported $4 million (about R16,5 million) marketing blitz.

In designing the all-important opening and closing ceremonies, Mischer said he spent two years talking with local people about the tone and content.

While there would be nods to the international nature of the event, he said his goal was to reflect the "grace, beauty and diversity" of the American South while portraying Atlanta as "the world-class city that it is".

Image-makers walk a tightrope because the city's identification with *Gone With The Wind* and the antebellum South seems at odds with present-day Atlanta, with its predominantly African-American population.

One controversy Olympic organisers hope to sidestep involves display of the Confederate battle emblem, which is incorporated into the Georgia state flag. By law, the flag must fly over state-owned venues. Opponents of the flag have promised to protest, but Payne is intent on staying above the fray.

"We don't have a dog in that fight," he said. "We follow the law."

Unlike Los Angeles, which netted a $236 million (about R980 million) profit from hosting the 1984 Games, Atlanta organisers are operating with only a small margin of safety – $13 million (about R53 million) according to auditors.

In Los Angeles – the only other city to stage the Olympics without government underwriting – the Games were mostly held in existing facilities. But $500 million (about R2,7 billion) is being spent on new Olympic venues in Atlanta.

Organisers have still not raised all of the $1,7 billion (about R7 billion) they need to stage the Games but expect to raise the remaining $195 million (about R800 million) through ticket sales, broadcast rights and joint ventures.

The Atlanta Games are being called the most commercial in history. Corporate sponsors are largely financing it. Companies that gave $4 million (about R16,5 million) to sponsor the Los Angeles Olympics were asked for $40 million (about R165 million) for the Atlanta Games.

Riemvasmaak

Masizakhe

Stedelike
tigting

Southern Cape
Land Committe

Instituut vir
Sosiale
Ontwikkeling

CRIC

DAG

SPP

R1,8-bn bill for Olympic Games

2004 Olympic Games

Bid company details cost of new venues — but expects operating profit (288)



ANDREA WEISS
Metro Reporter

OLYMPIC sporting facilities for the 2004 Games will cost an estimated R1,7 billion, and training facilities are likely to cost a further R141 million.

These figures, released by the Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid Company to the Cape Town City Council late yesterday, will be presented to the cabinet on April 24 when it makes its crucial final decision on the bid.

The capital estimates are based on the assumption that there will be no land acquisition costs, because the identified sites are largely publicly owned.

The budgets were compiled in consultation with local, regional and national government, the Metropolitan Transport Board, and professional consultants.

In its executive summary, the bid company said it aimed for a "low-budget Games" with a development focus, and had therefore chosen to follow IOC minimum requirements where possible.

Figures detailing what individual local authorities, notably the future Central and Tygerberg substructures, would be responsible for are still subject to negotiation.

On the operating budget, the bid company anticipated a net surplus of R94 million, in line with recent bids by other cities.

CAPE TOWN 2004 CANDIDATE CITY

Revenue from television rights of R2,1 billion would make up almost half of total. The rights were controlled and negotiated by the International Olympics Committee in consultation with the organising committee of the Games.

Local marketing and sponsorship figures pegged at R612 million were derived after consultation with marketing agents based on the size of the SA market.

Media costs for the bid were likely to take up 27 percent of the total operating expenditure at an estimated R1,2 billion.

A contingency budget of R185 million has also been set aside to cover issues such as environmental contingencies and risks attached to long-term forecasting.

The Olympic villages, with 8 000 housing units, are designed to be sold as low-income units after the Games, and R150 million has been budgeted to subsidise the selling price of these houses.

The bid company is proposing an extensive "home stay" programme to supplement the hotel stock, while harbour facilities in Cape Town and Simon's Town would accommodate more than 30 vessels.

Among the most expensive capital items budgeted for are a R183 million gymnastics and artistic exhibition centre at Culemborg, a R153 million volleyball and metropolitan entertainment centre at Granger Bay, and a R321 million athletics track at Wingfield.

Other pricy items are a R93,8 million rowing course at Wingfield, R77,5 million for equestrian facilities at Klapmuts and R63,6 million for a basketball venue at Philippi East.

'Frustration' led to Keegan's quitting

Paul Martin (285) BD 11/4/96

CAPE TOWN — The executive committee and board of the Cape Town 2004 Olympic bid committee had not always agreed with the arguments posed by former deputy chairman Clive Keegan, and this probably frustrated him into resigning his post, committee alternate director Llwellyn van Wyk said yesterday.

While the board regretted Keegan's resignation, it did not support his allegations about Chris Ball's actions as committee CEO. Keegan was frustrated when the board or its executive had not sided with his views in all instances, Van Wyk said.

"At each instance, sometime with a minority of one vote, being himself, the board after discussing the matters, has concurred with the position of the CEO and commended Mr Ball for his actions."

Van Wyk said the issues in question had been raised by Keegan before, and to say they were not dealt with or answered properly was incorrect.

Referring to Keegan's grievances — among which was his claim that Ball had not put the attitudes of citizens towards the bid as a top priority — Van Wyk said the purpose of the bid company was to win the bid, and to do so it was necessary to concentrate on gaining the support of the international community. However, "this was not done at the expense of the local community", he said. Of Keegan's reference to Ball's application to the Independent Broadcasting Authority for a community television licence, Van Wyk said the board had given the go-ahead on condition it was made at no cost to the bid company.

Sapa reports that committee senior deputy chairman Danie Malan said he would attempt to resolve the problems surrounding Keegan's resignation. Malan made it clear that Keegan had resigned only as deputy chairman and not from the bid committee board.

Support for Chris Ball

286

ET 11/4/96

From Page 1

Van Wyk said that, as chief executive officer, Ball had an obligation to become acquainted with people from past and present bidding cities such as Atlanta and Barcelona to gain insight into approaches to hosting the Games.

Ball had also been correct in canvassing IOC members, as Cape Town "needs the support of individual IOC members" to win the bid.

"He has gone with the full blessing of the board and it has not been at the expense of local and national constituencies."

Stekhoven said there was also not any lack of frankness about negotiations and agreements with former bid leader Mr Raymond Ackerman.

The bid company had always acknowledged the enormous amount Ackerman had done for the bid.

Accusations that the bid company was inconsistent in dealing with matters such as a black empowerment policy, a sports development strategy and environmental issues were also unfounded. These issues had been dealt with at successive board meetings.

An empowerment policy had been announced "some time ago" and a sports policy was "being developed".

There were also continuing meetings with environmental groups.

On the question of Ball's application for a community TV licence, the directors said Ball had been commended for taking the initiative in finding a way to inform the public.

● Meanwhile, MELANIE GOSLING reports that professional environmentalists have said unless there is clarity and a binding agreement on how the strategic environmental assessment (SEA) on the Olympic bid will be used, it could be a waste of money.

Head of UCT's department of environmental and geographical science, Professor Richard Fuggle, said yesterday that the green lobby tended to expect that if an environmental impact assessment produced negative findings, a development proposal would not go ahead.

Olympic bid directors rally to support Ball

(288)

ET 11/4/96

LINDIZ VAN ZILLA

OLYMPIC BID Company chief Mr Chris Ball and his board moved swiftly yesterday to repair damage caused by the resignation of Mr Clive Keegan as deputy chairman.

When he resigned on Tuesday Keegan accused Ball of ignoring, marginalising and insulting the company's board of directors.

But at a press conference yesterday, Ball and the board presented a united front.

Director Llewellyn van Wyk said the executive had considered Keegan's allegations in detail.

"There is absolutely no doubt in our minds that they are unfounded and not new," he said.

The directors also questioned Keegan's decision to resign as deputy chairman but to remain on the board.

If Keegan's differences had been so "fundamental" and a "matter of conscience", the logical thing would have been for him to cut his ties completely, one said.

Referring to Keegan's claim that the directors had been subjected to a long line of publically embarrassing snubs over a period of 10 months, Van Wyk said: "I have at no time felt embarrassed, snubbed or embarrassingly snubbed by the chief executive officer."

What was at issue, he said, was Keegan's "sense of self-importance".

Ball refused to be drawn on Keegan's comments. "I am here to do a professional task and to achieve a goal," he said.

He also denied that there was a personality clash between himself and Keegan.

Another director, Mr Roger Hulley, said Keegan's accusations were a "somewhat emotional outburst, not entirely disconnected from the local government elections", which he faces without the support of a political party.

Another director said Keegan was the only person on the 34-member board who had a problem with Ball.

Mr Michael Stekhoven said that if there was a personality clash, it was one-sided.

Van Wyk said that Keegan had raised the same issues on several occasions and each one had been discussed at great length by the board.

In each instance the board had disagreed with Keegan, which might have accounted for his frustration.

❑ To Page 3

Ball's in but Keegan out in cold

JOHN YELD (288)
Staff Reporter ARG 11/4/96

CAPE Town Olympic Bid company chief executive Chris Ball and his senior management team enjoy the confidence of an overwhelming majority of the 34-strong bid company board in their efforts to win the 2004 Games for Cape Town – and former board deputy chairman Clive Keegan has been left out on a limb.

This was the board's response at a media briefing yesterday, following their discussion of Mr Keegan's letter of resignation as non-executive deputy, in which Mr Keegan harshly criticised Mr Ball.

Roger Hulley, one of the delegation who addressed the media, said he believed Mr Keegan's "somewhat emotional outburst" in his three-page resignation letter last week was "not unconnected to local government elections".

Mr Keegan – who has indicated he plans to stay on as an ordinary board member representing the Cape Town city council – lashed out at Mr Ball and his senior management for, as he put it, ignoring, marginalising and insulting the board of directors.

This was rejected as unfounded by fellow councillor and bid company board member Llewellyn van Wyk, who acted as main spokesman during the board's media briefing.

The Star ... Thursday April 11 1996

Tourism enjoys silver lining under rand's cloud

Star 11/4/96 (288)

The good life is looking even better to people coming to South Africa with our exchange rates in tatters

By Nikki Whitfield

South Africa, already experiencing something of a tourist boom despite the depressing crime rate, is expected to become an even brighter tourist destination as the rand continues to reel against foreign currencies.

The rand plunged to an all-time low of R4,19 against the dollar in early afternoon trade yesterday, making tourism the silver lining in a mushrooming cloud of gloom.

South Africa's hotel and conference facilities, many of which are already full of overseas holiday-makers and businessmen, are expected to be stretched to the limit as the tourism industry enters an even more buoyant phase.

"Many facilities have already seen advanced bookings for the next three to six months," said Rupert Lawlor of the Association of South African Travel Agents. "The drop in the value of the rand will make this country all the more attractive.

"The tourism industry now needs to talk to the Government about improving the country's infrastructure and maximising the boom. Roads need to be improved, taxes on the building of coaches need to be relaxed and airports need to be expanded."

He said Australia got around 3,5 million tourists a year, while South Africa had 1,2 million last year. "If we are going to increase that three-fold, we need to do a lot of long-term planning."

James Seymour, Satour's head of tourism research, said investigations done last year showed many visitors regarded South Africa as an excellent value-for-money destination.

But Seymour said that while the crime rate needed to be viewed "in world context", research had shown that a scant 3% of foreigners regarded South Africa as safe.

"Crime is something that needs to be addressed even further."

Even top-of-the-range hotels in South Africa, which cost around R1 000 a night for a bed alone, are enjoying chock-a-block bookings as visitors from the United States, Britain and Europe convert their currency to revel in the luxury.

"There has been criticism that some hotels are too expensive, but when you've got pounds you aren't looking at spending very many of them for a night," Lawlor said. "But what's really taking off are the Garden Courts and City Lodges and there are bed-and-breakfasts popping up all over the place. But these need to get registered so people know where to find them."

Olympic Games bid costs escalate

(288) BD 12/4/96

Samantha Sharpe

CAPE TOWN — Sporting facilities for the 2004 Olympic Games are expected to cost about R1,78bn against previous forecasts of R1,25bn, figures released to the Cape Town City Council show.

Sapa reports that the Olympic Bid Company indicated yesterday that in addition to this, training facilities were expected to cost a further R141m. However, original and current estimates were not specified for this category.

The latest estimates are to be presented to the Cabinet later this month when government takes a final decision on whether to support the bid.

Olympic bid spokesman Michael Fuller said the latest estimate represented a worst case scenario as requested by government, and did not reflect a substantial difference from previous forecasts.

The most likely cost estimate would be in the region of R1,37bn, he said, with the budget revision also taking the effect of inflation into account.

Continued on Page 2

Olympics (288)

BD 12/4/96

Continued from Page 1

"Just under 50% of the cost will be funded out of income from operations."

The allocation of funding between local government, the private sector, the state and Olympic revenues still had to be negotiated, Fuller said.

The company said it aimed for a "low-budget Games" with a development focus and had therefore followed the International Olympic Committee's minimum requirements where it was possible.

The financial responsibilities of individual local authorities were still subject to negotiation.

On the operating budget, the bid company said it anticipated a net surplus of R94m, in line with recent bids by other cities. Revenue from television rights of R2,1bn would make up almost half of total revenue. Local marketing and sponsorship figures pegged at R612m were derived from consultation with marketing agents based on the size of the SA market.

The Olympic villages, with 8 000 housing units, would be sold as low-income housing after the Games, and R150m had been budgeted to subsidise the selling price of these houses.

Among the most expensive capital items budgeted for were a R183m gymnastics and artistic exhibition centre at Culemborg, a R153m volleyball and metropolitan entertainment centre at Granger Bay, and a R321m athletics track at Wingfield.

Meanwhile, the Olympic Bid Company announced yesterday that Archbishop Desmond Tutu had accepted an appointment as convenor of the company's convocation, which aims to represent the bid's interests.

See Back Page

Ball slated as deputy chairman of Olympic bid committee

resigns

BD 10/4/06

Paul Martin

CAPE TOWN — Former Cape Town mayor and executive committee member Clive Keegan has resigned as deputy chairman of the Cape Town 2004 Olympic bid committee.

In his letter of resignation to the 2004 Olympic Bid Company secretary, Keegan expressed his lack of confidence in the actions of bid committee CEO Chris Ball, saying: "I can, in conscience, no longer continue to hold senior office on a board which is ... ignored and marginalised by the CEO and his management team."

"I am no longer able to exercise my legal or ethical obligations in terms of the Companies Act, my fiduciary responsibilities to my council, or the provisions of the King Code of Corporate Governance to which the company is bound by terms of Mr Ball's contract of employment," he said.

"I would be prepared to live with this pattern of insulting behaviour, were it not for my gathering conviction that Mr Ball's conduct of the bid is rapidly propelling this project towards domestic discredit. Mr Ball's lack of frankness about his negotiations and agreements with Raymond Ackerman and the professional consultants retained by the previous bid committee has become intolerable."

Referring to an appeal for greater emphasis on satisfying all Cape Town ratepayers' questions and doubts about the bid, Keegan said this had fallen on deaf ears, while the company's marketing and public relations activities, "such as they are, continue to be characterised by amateur ineptness, arrogant dismissal of legitimate fears and lost marketing opportunities".

He said the ambivalence surrounding the company's black empowerment policy, sports development strategy and environmental issues indicated management had no genuine interest in addressing these areas of concern.

On the cancellation of the inaugural meeting of the bid convocation on April 2, Keegan said this was the latest in a line of snubs to which he and the directors, including de-facto chairman Danie Malan, had been subjected. "I have been forced to the conclusion that Mr Ball and many of his senior associates have no understanding of the principles of transparency, accountability and democratic practice."

Olympic bid committee media director Ameen Akhalwaya read a statement from Ball saying Keegan had not discussed the comments in his letter with him or the board. "The particular comments in his letter referring to me are incorrect, and in conflict with board decisions taken at meetings."

Bid firm urged to broaden appeal

ARG 12/4/96 (288)

TYRONE SEALE
Political Staff

PARLIAMENTARIANS have urged the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company to intensify promotion of the bid among "the masses" and to broaden its appeal to the rest of the country.

The calls were made yesterday by the parliamentary portfolio committee on sport and recreation at a media briefing convened to respond to harsh criticisms traded between the board of the company and Clive Keegan, who resigned this week as non-executive deputy chairman of the board.

He has accused bid company chief executive Chris Ball and senior management of "ignoring, marginalising and insulting the board of directors".

Mr Keegan's critics in turn say he has been frustrated by not getting the board to agree with him on several issues, including black economic empowerment, sports development and environmental concerns.

Yesterday, Lulu Xingwana, chairman of the parliamentary portfolio committee, reiterated the committee's unequivocal support for Mr Ball.

Ms Xingwana said the committee was "shocked and dismayed" by Mr Keegan's allegations of lack of transparency and accountability against Mr Ball, but fellow committee member Randall van den Heever refused to rule out the possibility of Mr Keegan being invited to address the committee about his concerns.

At the media briefing, Ms Xingwana, Mr Van den Heever and fellow committee members Zoe Kota and Andrew Mhlangeni each expressed support for the work done to date by Mr Ball and the rest of his company.

But, said Mr Van den Heever, the committee wished to see the bid company step up its consultative processes, including presentations "to the masses", as many did not know what the Olympic Games could do for reconstruction and development. Intensifying these efforts would bring "more converts," he added.

Norwegians 'very impressed' with bid

Staff Reporter

MEMBERS of the Norwegian Olympic Committee which organised the 1994 winter Olympics, are "very impressed" with the Cape Town Olympic Bid Committee which aims to win the 2004 summer Olympics.

The president of the Norwegian Olympic Committee Arne Myhrvold and a senior executive member, Marit Myrmael, said they were visiting Cape Town to advise and help the bid committee here.

Both members were involved in organising the 1994 Lillehamer Winter Games in Norway.

They complimented the Cape Town Olympic Bid Committee on the high percentage of women in the organisation and its plans for protecting the environment.

These would definitely count in its favour, they said.

The development of communities in the Western Cape as a result of a successful bid could also favour Cape Town's bid hopes.

They said the winter Games had a great impact on Norway, giving the economy a lift and boosting the tourism industry.

The Games had also helped to build national pride and the self-esteem of the Norwegian people.

Bishop Tutu accepts 2004 bid position

(288)

ARG 12/4/96

ANGLICAN Archbishop Desmond Tutu has accepted his appointment as convenor of a group of leaders advising and representing Cape Town's bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

Olympic Bid Company chief executive Chris Ball said yesterday the company was thrilled that an influential figure like Archbishop Tutu had accepted leadership of the company's Convocation and thrown his weight behind the bid.

"In the past few weeks more and more international personalities have given the thumbs-up to Cape Town," said Mr Ball.

The Convocation comprises leaders in various fields in Africa and aims to represent the interests of the bid and ensure it carries out its mandate with appropriate regard to key issues like the environment, reconstruction and development and economic empowerment.

Mr Ball said the Bid Company had consulted widely before drawing up a list of prospective members. The names of those who had accepted invitations would be released soon.

Archbishop Tutu said he had accepted his selection with "pleasure and excitement".

"South Africa's sportsmen and women have brought honour to our Rainbow Nation. We need to continue building on our achievements," he said. – Sapa.

Anglicans: Finding the middle road

Staff Reporter

THE Anglican Bishop of Kimberley and Kuruman, Winston Ndungane, who is a strong favourite to succeed Desmond Tutu as Archbishop of Cape Town, is expected to have some of the hottest church issues dumped on his lap if he takes over the church leadership in June.

These include whether the Anglican Church should accept gays as clergy – an issue that has deeply divided the mother church in England.

Bishop Ndungane is regarded as being on the progressive wing of the Anglican church – a position that will influence clerical and lay voters in the June election.

He told The Argus that church people were "very, very conservative" and he did not want to say anything on his policies at this stage as it might be misconstrued.

An advisory committee is meeting today to finalise the list of nominees to take over from Archbishop Tutu who retires in June.

He is also head of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

A senior church source – who asked not to be identified – said Archbishop Tutu's successor would have to find the middle-ground between the sharply opposed liberals and fundamentalists in the Anglican Church.

The liberals, he said, sought to adapt the church to a rapidly-changing world, whereas the fundamentalists adhered rigorously to the scriptures.

The new archbishop will have to confront the particularly thorny issue of gay priests, of which there are believed to be a considerable number in the Anglican clergy – although they do not have the sanction of the church.

One Cape Town priest spoke of the "human pain" caused by the church's "hypocritical" attitude to homosexuality.

"We must face up to a world in tremendous flux.

"Unless we do so, we will destroy ourselves and there will be no church," he said.

John Newby, a lecturer at George Whitfield theological college in Cape Town, said:

"The opposition to homosexuality is grounded in the Bible and in the fundamentalist's mind.

"What a liberal would call bias has been the attitude for ages.

"Homosexuals have been rejected for thousands of years.

"Society as a whole has rejected homosexuals", he said.

The Anglican Church remained opposed to homosexuality in principle.

This was so in spite of the guarantees under the new constitution of full rights for everyone, regardless of their sexual orientation, he said.

Another thorny issue to face the new archbishop is whether Anglican priests should be allowed to stand for election to political bodies such as parliament or provincial legislatures.

At present Anglican clergy are allowed to join political parties, but not to stand for political office.

A number of Anglican priests apparently want to stand in the 1999 elections, and the church will have to settle with the issue by then.

Archbishop Tutu was keen to maintain as much distance as possible between the church and party political issues.

Tutu to lead 2004 advisory group

(288)

ST 12/4/96

ANGLICAN Archbishop Desmond Tutu has accepted an appointment as convener of a group of leaders advising and representing Cape Town's bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

Olympic Bid Company chief executive Mr Chris Ball said yesterday the company was thrilled Tutu had accepted leadership of the company's Convocation and thrown his weight behind the bid.

The Convocation comprises leaders in various fields in Africa and aims to represent the interests of the bid and ensure it carries out its mandate with appropriate regard for key issues like the environment, reconstruction and development and economic empowerment.

Ball said the bid company had consulted widely before drawing up a list of prospective members. The names of those who had accepted invitations would be released soon.

Tutu said he had accepted his selection with "pleasure and excitement".

"South Africa's sportsmen and women have brought honour to our rainbow nation," he said.

"The spirit of Olympism dovetails well with our attempts to develop a just society."

Tutu, due to attend the 1996 Games in Atlanta in July, said he would use every opportunity to promote Cape Town's bid.

Meanwhile Parliament's Sport and Recreation committee entered the Olympic bid row yesterday, saying it was "unanimously satisfied" with the progress made.

However, it was "shocked and dismayed" at the allegations made against Ball by the company's former deputy chairman Mr Clive Keegan, chairperson Ms Lulu Xingwana said.

Ball had briefed the committee on March 27 about the bid's progress and developments, as well as the economic and environmental impact of hosting the 2004 Olympics, and the committee had given "its unequivocal support".

Keegan claimed earlier this week that Ball and his senior management had "ignored, marginalised and insulted" the bid company's board of directors. He also accused the bid management of having no real interest in vital issues such as a black empowerment policy, sports development strategy and environmental issues.

Ball rejected Keegan's accusations, which he said did not reflect decisions taken at board meetings. He had also not discussed his problems with him, the board or other senior officials. — Sapa

Govt acts to defuse Olympics row

(288) Star 12/4/96

Cape Town – The Government yesterday took steps to defuse a row threatening Cape Town's bid to stage the 2004 Olympics.

Member of the parliamentary sports and recreation committee, Randall van der Heever, said the Government would mediate to restore unity after a key promoter quit over a personality clash.

"We will exert our influence to bring about maximum unity with all role players. Shows of disunity are damaging to the bid," he said.

Clive Keegan, deputy chairman of the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company, said on Wednesday that he was resigning because chief executive Chris Ball had ignored his colleagues and shown no interest in black empowerment, sports development or environmental concerns.

The parliamentary sports and recreation committee has been involved as an observer since the bid company was formed, and the Government is to decide this month whether to underwrite Cape Town's bid. – Reuters.

Row flames in Olympic bid

(288)

~~CT~~ M+G 12-18/4/96



Running into trouble: The flags are flying confidently but there is dissent in the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company PHOTOGRAPH: RODGER BOSCH

Cape Town's Olympic Bid Company has closed the doors to public participation in the process of winning the Games for the city, critics told Rehana Rossouw

CAPE TOWN'S Olympic Bid Company is a farce which pays lip service to transparency and accountability to the public, but is structured to exclude them from real participation, critics have charged.

It emerged this week that the company gagged its detractors, board members and staff. And in answer to an avalanche of criticism, board members professed that they had no obligation to report back to their constituency communities.

The attack on the bid began with the resignation last week of its deputy chairman, Cape Town city councillor Clive Keegan, from his position. Keegan is still available to serve on the board.

He charged that bid CEO Chris Ball "manifestly and routinely ignored and marginalised" the bid company's board. "I have been forced to the conclusion that Mr Ball and many of his senior associates have absolutely no understanding of the principles of transparency, accountability and democratic practice," Keegan said in his letter of resignation.



Chris Ball: Has 'no understanding of the principles of transparency'

Keegan was one of the few who survived the transition from former bid chairman Pick 'n Pay chief Raymond Ackerman's Olympic Bid Committee. It was dissoved in April last year when a summit in Cape Town decided a Section 21 company should be formed to "professionalise" the process. The summit agreed on constituencies which should be represented by board members of the company.

One of Keegan's reasons for resigning was a "lack of frankness" in Ball's negotiations with Ackerman and consultants employed by the former bid committee to pay costs they incurred before April last year.

Ackerman's former right-hand man, Kevin Kevany, also hit out at Ball this week, revealing that he and Ackerman were silenced for almost a year by the bid company. Kevany's public relations company lost a lucrative marketing contract with the bid when the new company was formed.

"The agreement I had with the company has just lapsed so I can talk.

"We were constrained by arrangements made to repay the money owing to us. We had to sign documents saying we would not comment at all on the bid and that they would in turn settle with us on a monthly basis," Kevanny said.

"I was asked once when I came to the offices to collect a cheque if I would write a letter to the press saying how wonderful the bid is. I said I was not prepared to do so at this stage. It took a few days before I saw that cheque."

Kevanny wasted no opportunity to make up for time lost during his gagging. One of the nicer comments he had about the bid company was that it was run like a "country club".

"The bid company's mismanagement and absolute contempt for the people of Cape Town is threatening the viability of the bid. They are completely dismissive of the public's criticisms of what they are doing, and they will never win their support," he said.

"Under Raymond Ackerman we had a committee representing all the major groups in the Cape, on an absolutely equal basis. Now we have a farce of accountability and transparency.

"Having paid lip service to the summit last year, the bid company has firmly closed the door to stakeholders."

At a press conference on Wednesday where five of the 34 board members closed ranks around Ball to reject Keegan's criticisms, they admitted that board members could be constrained from reporting to constituencies by agreement to keep information confidential.

"Board members might represent a constituency but if something confidential comes up, they are obliged not to take it back to their constituency. They may not break that confidentiality.

"This has only applied twice in one year," said board member Michael Stekhoven.

The one occassion was when the board was briefed on the arrangement with Ackerman. The *Mail & Guardian* was unable to ascertain what information was withheld on the second occasion.

City councillor Llewellyn van Wyk said although the board was representative of key stakeholder groups, it had no obligation to be transparent to the community. "The board gets monthly reports so we all know what is going on."

Ball explained that members came to meetings as members of a board although they are appointed by constituencies. "They have to act in a judicial capacity to look after the interests of the company," he said.

"The bid is being put forward in the interests of South Africa, with the support of South Africans. These things which happened this week are par for the course in bidding, it has happened in other cities as well. It shouldn't disturb the strength of the bid."

Raymond Ackerman is out of the country and not available for comment, while a spokesman said bid chairman Minister of Sport Steve Tshwete had no comment.

(288)

AAG 13/4/96

Jewel in tourism crown for Foreshore

MICHAEL MORRIS
Staff Reporter

■ City planners are hard at work on preparatory plans for a R250 million convention centre for Cape Town but the success of the scheme rests on the support of the city council.

PLANS are taking shape for a multi-million rand convention centre on the Foreshore, billed as a priceless money-spinner for the city, and a potential jewel in the Western Cape's tourism crown.

But if the project is to succeed, the City Council must take the lead in securing the "right" site, committing itself to a joint venture with the private sector and helping to market it abroad "from day one".

This is the view of Rod Young, development coordinator for the City Council, and a key figure in promoting the idea of a world-class convention centre in Cape Town.

He told Saturday Argus he was already hard at work behind the scenes putting the preparatory phase of the plan together.

He is being helped by council planners, city architects and British consultant Barry Newman. But the scheme needs the wholehearted support of the council.

"If the council does not take the lead, there won't be one."

Mr Young argues that a R250-million convention centre would bring immeasurable economic benefits to the city, and probably to South Africa as whole.

Ideally, he insists, it must be on the Foreshore, on the site bounded by Coen Steytler Road, Heerengracht and the elevated Table Bay Freeway. The centre would have a plenary hall seating 2 000, "breakaway" rooms and exhibition halls.

There would be a hotel attached to it, but leased to a hotel company.

Part of the motivation for the Foreshore site is that it is adjacent to the power station site on which a French developer is building two five star hotels. Other hotels are planned nearby.

Mr Young believes other sites – in Goodwood or Milnerton – are simply too far away from shopping and entertainment areas, and hotels, and that the Waterfront is not ideal either because access routes become congested too easily and too often.

"If this plan is going to work, the site must be right – and I'm convinced the Foreshore site is the right one."

Funding is also vital. He does not believe there is a single entity which can afford the R250-million price tag, and that a joint venture combining the public (city, metropolitan and provincial government) and private sector would be the answer.

This would also contribute to ensuring both economic viability and meeting the public interest.

"We are working on preliminary plans and trying to put a funding package together.

"It is extremely desirable in financial terms, though to justify council expenditure is considered difficult because of the priorities the city must address.

People are expecting local authority spending to be delivered to the poor directly, and a convention centre is not seen in that light.

However, it will do more for the economy of the city than any other single development."

Significantly, he says, convention delegates spend an average of three to five times more than other tourists.

You are dealing with people with big expense accounts, or well-heeled people who come with money in their pockets. They spend it in shops, on hotels, entertainment and travel.

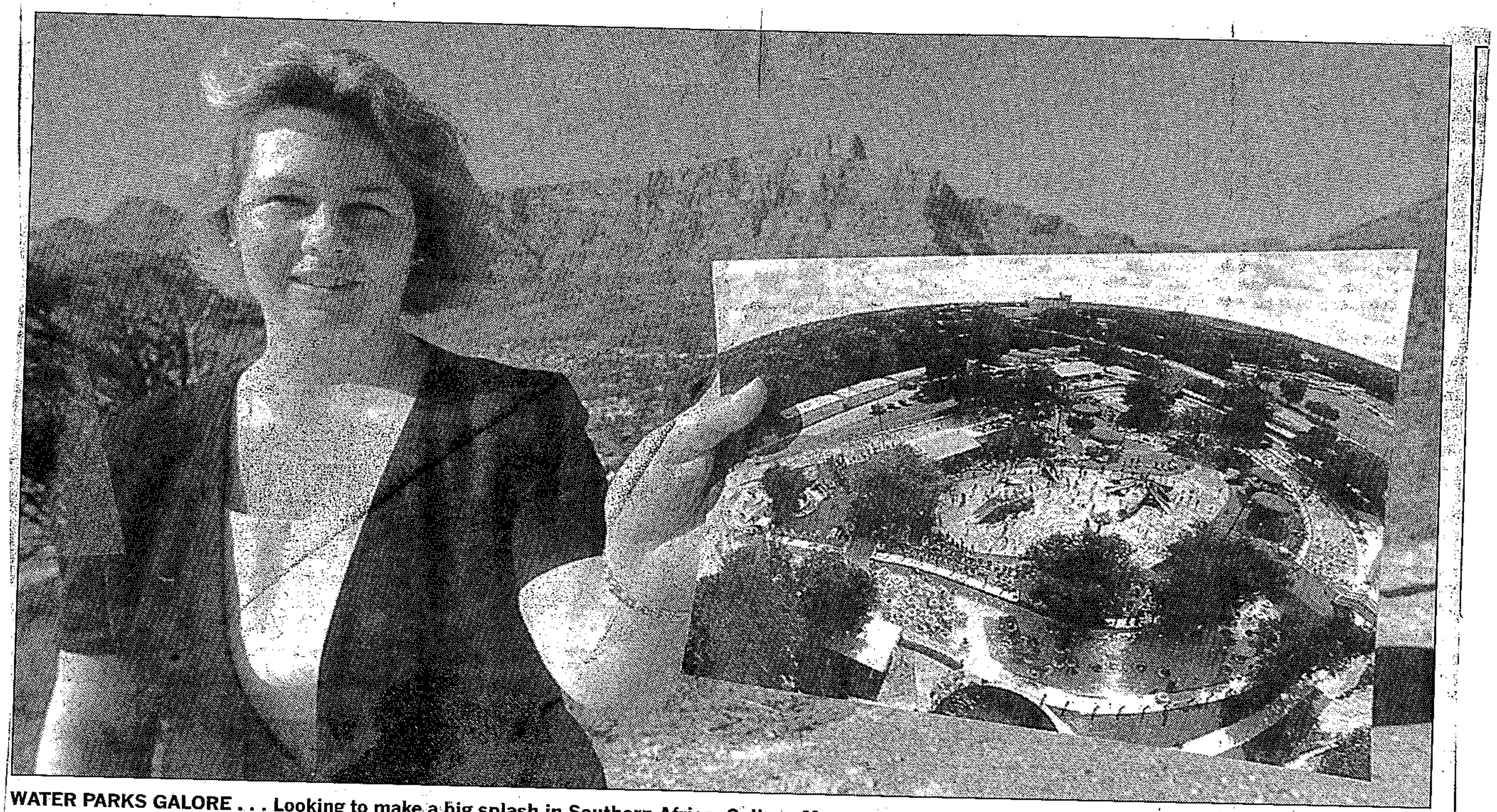
"They might come for a four day convention, but will invariably stay longer, or travel elsewhere in the same region."

Crucial to the success of such a venture in Cape Town would be the commitment of the city to start the marketing campaign the moment it agreed to go ahead with the plan.

"It is important to recognise that international conventions are planned between three to five years ahead, so you have to start advertising and promoting your centre the moment you start to build it.

"If our centre is going to succeed, we must get Cape Town firmly on the international convention map as soon as plans are confirmed."

ST(M) 14/4/96 288



WATER PARKS GALORE . . . Looking to make a big splash in Southern Africa, Colleen Meyer of NBGS

Picture: AMBROSE PETERS

US firm sees SA as water park heaven

By JEREMY WOODS

(288)
ST(M) 14/4/96

AMERICA'S largest water theme park developer and designer, NBGS, is setting up a head office for Southern Africa in Cape Town in what it believes is almost virgin territory for water parks.

"People over here don't have a clue what they are missing. No-one is developing world class water parks in South Africa as we do them," says Colleen Meyer, of NBGS.

"Water parks are big business and South Africa's climate makes it an ideal candidate for water park development.

"Water parks are a very family orientated leisure activity. It's fun, it's outdoors, and it isn't here," says Mrs Meyer.

NBGS identified South Africa as a potential site for water park development as soon as the sanctions era came to a close, and started doing its research.

"We found there wasn't a lot of family activity in the leisure market in a country that had an ideal climate for water parks," says Mrs Meyer.

She draws a sharp distinction between slide parks and water parks.

"We don't build slide parks. NBGS is the largest water park manufacturer in the US and we design, develop, build and manage water theme parks that have hundreds of rides."

A key factor in the company's favour is the development of its own technology.

"No-one has the technology we have. We develop our own slides and rides and test them in our own water parks before we use them elsewhere. You just don't build the definitive water park. Each year you add new rides and excitement."

Mrs Meyer says much of the repeat business in American water parks is generated by families coming back "to try out the new rides".

NBGS is talking to a number of developers about the construction of water parks in various parts of the country, but plans are mostly at the drawing board stage.

While Cape Town is the base for Southern Africa it will also be the head office for India and Sri Lanka.

"We operate all over the world in places like Malaysia, China, Brazil and Japan but we manufacture most of our rides at the company's manufacturing base in America." Key components and rides for water parks here would be made in America then shipped to Cape Town.

Cableway boss lashes council

By CHARL DE VILLIERS

ST(M) 14/4/96

CAPE TOWN'S beleaguered cableway company may have to scrap its upgrade completely following ministerial delays in handling the operators' appeal against a National Monuments Council decision against the R61-million project.

"We have to make a decision this week if the upgrade goes ahead at all," Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company managing director John Harrison said yesterday.

He was reacting to a statement by Arts, Science, Culture and Technology Ministry spokesman Frans Basson that Dr Ben Ngubane would not be able to decide on the company's appeal this week.

The Monuments Council, which refused to approve the project because of inadequate environmental studies, had also laid down "impossible" new conditions on Friday, Mr Harrison added.

The NMC had called for another five studies before making a final decision.

"This means at least another year's delay to do the impact studies, and only then will the NMC review the project," Mr Harrison said, adding that the company wanted a retired judge to arbitrate on the deadlock.

Mr Harrison said the company had put up R260 000 for an environmental management plan, and an engineer approved by the National Parks Board had already started training construction workers.

He added: "Not going ahead with the upgrade is like not repairing a lift in the Eiffel Tower. Do the NMC and its advisors understand the implications of what they are doing?"

Atlanta takes the Olympic strain

(288) CT 15/4/96

DESPITE an 11th-hour scramble for Atlanta to transform itself for the Olympics, now less than 100 days away, **KEVIN SACK** of the New York Times reports that local officials are not yet reaching for the panic button.

THE Olympic torch is on its way, but if it arrived today, there would be nothing to light. Atlanta is so pock-marked with construction sites that contractors find themselves begging for a break. And for the moment, Atlanta's new 8.5ha Centennial Park would be usable only if the International Olympic Committee added mud wrestling as a demonstration sport.

Starting July 19, Atlanta will host the 26th Olympic Games. There is still an awful lot to do. And while the excitement is palpable throughout the city, polls show that anticipation co-exists with rising anxiety and frustration.

Construction of the Olympic caldron, which will sit atop a 37m erector-set tower adjacent to the already completed Olympic Stadium, will not begin until late this month.

Work at Centennial Park, which was designed to be the social epicentre of the Games, has been so hampered by rain that helicopters were flown in to dry the red clay.

And yet, local officials seem downright serene, possessed of the same audacious self-confidence that helped Atlanta win the Olympic Games in 1990. No other city has ever won the Games on its first bid. Although faced with innumerable logistical headaches, Billy Payne, the president of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games, or ACOG, flew twice in the last two weeks to witness the journey of the Olympic torch through the Greek countryside. For Easter, the committee shut down for a four-day weekend.

"It's all coming together very nicely," mayor Bill Campbell said, as pile drivers reverberated outside his office. "I think the city looks terrific if one can find beauty in construction cranes and renovated sidewalks and lights that haven't been installed just yet, housing that's almost completed. It's very much like watching a work of art where you're putting on the finishing touches."

As Olympic planning enters its final stages, virtually every aspect of Atlanta's civic life has been transformed. Impressive new athletic structures dot the cityscape. Downtown sidewalks have been widened. Parks and pedestrian plazas have been remade. Some of the poorest neighbourhoods have seen colourful town houses rise where tar-paper shacks once stood.

After the Games, the Atlanta Braves will have a new baseball park; Stone Mountain, just east of Atlanta, will have a 12 000-seat tennis stadium; Fulton County will have a state-of-the-art shooting range, and local colleges and universities will have new swimming pools, basketball arenas and dormitories, nearly all paid for by private money.

For now, all 197 of the invited delegations plan to participate in the 1996 Olympics, the first time that would happen in the history of the Games. To accommodate the 10 000 athletes and more than a million visitors, the Atlanta committee has put together a staff that will grow to 99 000 employees, contractors and volunteers by the opening ceremonies, more workers than are employed by 34 state governments.

The committee's $1.7 billion (R7 billion) budget has been financed by private money, with most of the revenue coming from the sale of broadcasting rights, tickets and corporate sponsorships. Although the committee's contingency fund has eroded to $13-million (R54-million) today from $100-million (R415-million) in 1992, Olympics officials expect to break even, at the least. Despite that good news, six years of preparations have taken a heavy toll on Atlanta.

For now, all 197 of the invited delegations plan to participate in the 1996 Olympics, the first time that would happen in the history of the Games. To accommodate the 10 000 athletes ... the committee has a staff of 99 000.

Olympics-related construction has closed lanes on highways that were already choked by record increases in traffic, creating brake-screeching, stop-and-go conditions at all hours.

At Hartsfield International Airport, which is undergoing $250-million (R1 04-billion) in renovations, travellers have entered concourses to find that every pay phone has been ripped from the walls.

Last month, a steel roof support collapsed and fell during construction at the Olympic aquatic centre, only 15 minutes after ironworkers climbed off the structure. The accident occurred almost exactly a year after a light tower crashed at Olympic Stadium, killing one worker and injuring two.

Construction complications have contributed to a cost overrun, over which the Atlanta committee and the team of engineers and architects that designed the Olympic Stadium are suing each other.

Despite the turmoil, Thomas L Brown, area director for the federal Occupational Health and Safety Administration, said he saw "no trends or indications that deadlines, pressures or activities by ACOG or the contractors show any evidence of not providing a safe place to work."

While trying to persuade visitors that the Olympics will be safe, officials of the Atlanta police have been exasperated by the propensity for run-of-the-mill muggings to become international incidents.

Last week, Rocco A Pozzi, the Westchester County, NY, probation commissioner, made headlines by writing to Campbell to complain about the police response to the armed robbery of one of his aides in mid-March in front of a downtown hotel. The aide, Robert Chace, an assistant commissioner in town to address a seminar, likened the holdup to an "Olympic tryout".

Last month, a steel roof-support collapsed and fell during construction at the Olympic aquatic centre, only 15 minutes after ironworkers climbed off the structure. A year ago, a light tower crashed ... killing a worker and injuring two.

And when Georgia Attorney General Michael J Bowers asserted last month that it was safer to walk in Sarajevo than in Atlanta, it was news in Tokyo and London.

Polls and interviews with residents detect growing concern about whether Atlanta can accommodate a 17-day influx of 1.4-million visitors, an invasion force equivalent to 41% of the metropolitan area's population. Some residents are angry that they could not get tickets. Others are simply worn down by the inescapable hype and intense commercialisation of the Games, an inevitable by-product of a privately financed Olympics.

One consequence: travel agents have been besieged with calls from Atlantans seeking a route out of town from July 19 to August 4. When Delta Air Lines offered discount fares for flights departing Atlanta during the Olympics, more than 20 000 reservations were made in the first two days, said Bill Berry, of Delta. "It seems like everybody wants to leave," said Rebel Bowden, the owner of Discount Travel. "They're just going anywhere."



Picture: DOUG PITHEY, The Argus.

MODEL CAR: Managing director of the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company John Harrison inspects a model of the proposed new cable-car his company intends operating on the mountain.

Warning on cableway upgrading

(60) (288)

JOSEPH ARANES
Municipal Staff

ARG 16/4/96

THE Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company (TMACC) has threatened to abandon its proposed improvement of the cableway network if it cannot get a guarantee that the National Monuments Council (NMC) will approve the upgrade.

John Harrison, managing director of TMACC, said in Cape Town today that although the company was committed to completing the integrated environmental management process (IEM), it could not continue to undertake studies with no guarantee that they would result in approval of the upgrade.

He said the company had asked that Arts, Culture, Science and Technology Minister Ben Ngubane intervene and reconsider the NMC's decision that the upgrading could begin only once the IEM report had been fully approved.

"The NMC has set impossible conditions with no guarantee of approval after the conditions are met while we feel that the specialist study can be done in tandem with the upgrade as the issues do not relate directly to the work but to the management of the top of the mountain," Mr Harrison said.

"We have already got conditional approval for the work from the Cape Town City Council and a permit from the provincial minister of finance and environmental affairs and we have put up financial guarantees of R1 million to ensure that further issues in this process can be addressed and the necessary changes made."

Mr Harrison said the company was just as concerned about all aspects of the upgrade.

"But we just believe the completion of the IEM study and the upgrade can run simultaneously. We have already involved about 300 interested and affected parties in the IEM and have made many amendments to the original plans following their inputs.

"This new time-consuming process which the NMC is proposing includes further review, further studies and input by specialists advisers to the NMC, who were invited to give input in the initial process.

"We have already lost millions of rands as a result of all the delays and will have to take a decision, possibly by the weekend, whether we will continue with the upgrade."

Views invited on Olympic bid

(288)

Samantha Sharpe

BD 16/4/96

PROVINCIAL government was concerned about the lack of public participation in the Cape Town 2004 Olympic bid process, Western Cape sport and recreation head Rod Solomon said yesterday.

He said the ministry had called on the public to come forward with its views, which would be "seriously considered" if negative.

Central government was expected to make a final decision on whether to lend its support to the bid next week, with the Olympic bid company set to brief a Cabinet subcommittee tomorrow.

Olympic bid company CEO Chris Ball said the company was in negotiations with the city council, local and provincial government about the allocation of costs.

The company has not released final forecasts on the cost to SA, but figures given to the council last week showed estimated expenditure on sporting and training facilities were at R1,9bn, compared with an earlier estimate of R1,25bn for sporting facilities.

This was a worst case scenario, as requested by central government.

NE

'STREET CHILDREN TURN TO CRIME'

117 tourists mugged in past three months

(288) CT 16/4/96

IN A BID TO curb attacks on tourists, police have stepped up security in a number of areas in the city where tourists are more vulnerable to muggers. **DAN SIMON** reports.

A TOTAL of 55 tourists have been attacked or mugged in the Cape Town CBD since the beginning of the year, according to the police.

In addition, 62 tourists were attacked or mugged in the city environs in the past three months, Cape Town police station commander Director Raymond Dowd said yesterday.

In the latest attack over the weekend, 54-year-old Gert Hellman of Germany was held up at knifepoint by two men in Bree Street on Saturday and robbed of camera equipment worth R5 000. Hellman managed to escape injury during the incident.

Last weekend an elderly Austrian tourist and an elderly couple from Scotland were attacked and robbed of cash and jewellery in the CBD in two separate incidents.

Dowd said police had identified a number of blackspots in the CBD where tourists were likely to be more vulnerable to attacks by gangs of muggers — some of them armed street children as young as seven.

"In one recent incident, a visiting British policeman and his wife were surrounded and attacked by street kids armed with knives and chisels. According to the policeman some of the attackers appeared to be as young as six or seven," he said.

Police had determined that tourists were particularly vulnerable to attacks near the Golden Acre in Adderley Street, Government Avenue and Castle Street adjoining St George's Mall.

However, as a result of stepped-up police patrols in these areas, muggers had taken to attacking tourists along Coen Steytler Avenue leading to the Waterfront.

"Tourists going to the Waterfront by taxi sometimes alight quite a distance away and walk the rest of the way along Coen Steytler to the Waterfront. We have found that quite a few muggings have taken place on that stretch of road in recent weeks," Dowd said.

He said on Saturdays extra police were deployed in the city as this was the busiest day for pickpockets.

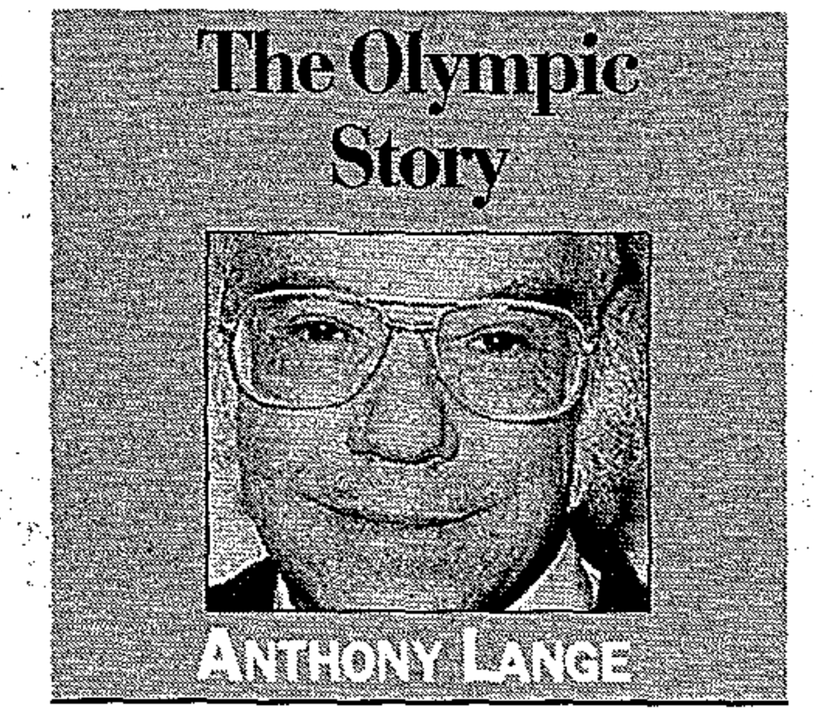
In addition, motorcycles were regularly used to patrol Government Avenue.

Captour chief executive Gordon Oliver said attacks on tourists were a "frustration shared" by the hospitality industry, police and business.

Reality dashed Olympic ideals

(288) CT 16/4/96

CAPE TOWN'S BID FOR the 2004 Olympics has created a controversy like no other concerning the Mother City in recent times. This week the Cape Times will publish, as an impartial contribution to the debate, three articles by Contributing Editor **ANTHONY LANGE**, a respected Gauteng architect, lecturer and newspaper columnist. In the first, published today, the history of the Games is put in perspective; in the second, tomorrow, he will explore Cape Town's chances of winning the bid, and in the third, on Thursday, he will put the IOC under the spotlight.





HORROR: Grim-faced, the Bavarian Minister of the Interior Mr Bruno Merk (second from left), tells the Press of the Arab attack on the Israeli Olympic team at Munich in 1972.

THE centennial Olympiad of the modern era will culminate in the 17 days of the Summer Games, which start in Atlanta on July 19. A global television audience of hundreds of millions is expected to watch the opening ceremony in the newly-built stadium. Past figures suggest that some 170 countries will be represented by nearly 10 000 athletes and 5 000 officials. Close to 20 000 journalists — most of them for TV — will report on events.

The dramatic increase in scale of the Olympics over the past 20 years presents vast technical and logistical problems for the host city. So does the ever-escalating commercialisation insisted upon by the International Olympic Committee, whose activities today may best be compared with those of a giant multi-national corporation. (The sale by the IOC of the TV rights for the 1992 Barcelona games and the Winter Olympics of 1990 and 1994 alone, brought in R4-billion).

It is against this background that Cape Town, having won the right to do so from Durban and Johannesburg, will submit its bid this August for the Olympics of 2004.

The current gigantism is a far cry from the single "one stadium" race at the first festival at Olympia in 776BC. Even then, however, events soon multiplied, and by the 25th Olympiad, chariot and horse races were staged before huge crowds in the Hippodrome.

The ancient games continued for 1 100 years before they were banned for being pagan. The first of the modern era took place at Athens in 1896; a modest beginning with 331 athletes contesting 43 events, one of them cricket. By 1924, in Paris, the number of participants had increased to 2 000, the first Winter Games had taken place and the US won the gold medal for rugby, beating France 17–3 in the final. Four years later, at Amsterdam, women competed for the first time — at lawn tennis.

The Olympic revival was the idea of Baron De Coubertin, a Frenchman with a passion for sports education, who believed that England's ascendancy in the 19th Century flowed from its emphasis on physical training — which prepared its young men to lead armies and win wars. He hoped that classical Greek ideals would inform the "Olympic Spirit", encouraging the noble traditions of amateurism, individualism and peace between competing nations. (In ancient times a mandatory truce was called for the duration of the Panhellenic games at Olympia.) In these hopes, however, the Baron was soon defeated by the tide of human affairs.

Amateurism was an issue from the outset. Working-class folk, whose sportsmen were used to being paid purses, protested that the leisured classes were intent on imposing their values and controlling sport, while scholars noted that the simple laurel wreath of the victor in classical times was always richly subvented by cash and kind back home. The policy became an obvious sham once the state-paid athletes of the USSR were admitted in 1952, but was formally dropped only in 1981.

The notion of individualism was defeated at an early stage, not only because of team games, but by the demand that entries be controlled by each nation's Olympic committee. (Delightfully, every American citizen has the right, under a 1978 law, to take part in the US trials).

As for peace, the Olympic movement is the heroic survivor of fearsome political manoeuvres by people who considered sport as "war by other means". The Games were cancelled twice because of world wars, SA was expelled in 1970, and terrorism struck at Munich in 1972 with the taking of the Israeli hostages, some of whom were killed.

During the years of superpower rivalry, the Games were shamelessly boycotted. Sixty-six countries withdrew from Moscow in 1980, and four years later the USSR retaliated by withdrawing from the Los Angeles Games. In Seoul in 1988, the security problem was so great that the US anchored two aircraft carriers off the coast and the 42km marathon route was lined by guards at metre intervals.

Cape Town may yet enjoy political favour for the Games of 2004, but the most fiercely contested event of the 28th modern Olympiad will be the competition to prove which city can best meet the demanding financial, technical and organisational requirements of the IOC. What is involved in winning that crown of laurel will be discussed in later articles.

N Province misses tourism boat

Star 16/4/96 (288)

Golden opportunity wasted as delegates to workshop are left high and dry

By Anita Allen
Science Writer

Bungling in the bushveld is an apt description for the lack of progress in formulating a conservation and tourism strategy in the Northern Province.

This emerged at a weekend workshop, hosted by the Phalaborwa Chamber of Commerce, at the Hans Merensky Golf Club.

In a blow to the stated objectives of the workshop, Northern Province government officials did not return after the morning tea break. As a result, delegates from Gaza Province in Mozambique, including director of industry, commerce and tourism Joao Macuche, were left high and dry.

Also snubbed were a top-level delegation from the National Parks Board, representatives of private game reserves, local entrepreneurs, and business and grassroots communities, some of whom had travelled 400km to attend.

The workshop got off to a bad start when Northern Province Environment and Tourism MEC Maris-Stella Sexwale-Mabitje arrived 45 minutes late.

In her opening address, she stressed that the holistic view of tourism emphasised the need for the interaction of all sectors.

"The Northern Province intends to turn the province into the world's No 1 ecotourism destination through the creation of a transfrontier park with Botswana, Zimbabwe and Mozambique, the integration of resources directed at tourism, the active participation of our people, and optimal utilisation of services in the province," Sexwale-Mabitje said.

"This can only be realised with closer co-operation between government, the private sector, ordinary people and our neighbouring countries."

However, having delivered her address, she left, and shortly thereafter the rest of the provincial officials also withdrew, dashing delegates' expectations of face-to-face discussions.

Disappointment and frustration were the main reactions from delegates, none of whom was prepared to be quoted in case it jeopardised relations with provincial officials.

"We have to hope that there will be progress soon, but it is difficult to work out what to do next to get provincial officials moving," one delegate said.

John Williams of the Lowveld Development Forum (LDF) highlighted the fact that his organisation had developed a plan for ecotourism based on Unesco's Man and the Biosphere programme.

Williams attended the workshop in the hope of presenting the plan, which has been developed at a cost of about R400 000. The LDF is made up of all stakeholders including grassroots and civic organisations. Despite presentations to the province, it has not yet received feedback.

Grant McLachlan, president of the Phalaborwa Chamber of Commerce, tabled a proposal for the creation of the town as the ecocapital of the region. The issues his organisation wanted to discuss included moving the administration of Kruger Park from Skukuza to Phalaborwa; the upgrading of the local airport, currently served by daily Airlink flights; the creation of the town as a key ecotourism training and education centre; and the creation of an access road between the town and Gaza Province through the Kruger Park.

As it turned out, none of the issues was discussed – "and Northern Province government officials missed a golden opportunity to take an important step towards developing a much-needed tourism strategy for the region," summarised one delegate.

Gaza Province director Macuche said the conference should have played an important role in the creation of a transfrontier Gaza Peace Park. Situated alongside the Kruger Park, the two parks would cover 6 million hectares and form the largest conservation area in the world.

With the withdrawal of provincial officials, the park and the related issue of opening a border post on the Kruger Park boundary were not discussed.



Arrived late ... Northern Province Environment and Tourism MEC Maris-Stella Sexwale-Mabitje.

'Crime threat to tourism'

(288)

Nicola Jenvey

20/7/4/96

DURBAN — SA's future as a tourist destination or as an attractive investment opportunity remained questionable, as crime still flourished openly and police had insufficient funding to operate efficiently, Marshalls chairman and MD David Marshall said.

He said in the property investment group's annual report that the government of national unity had undertaken "daunting responsibilities" when assuming power two years ago, and there had been disappointment and criticism from various quarters.

The time had, however, come for government to act against crime and provide funding to equip police in effectively carrying out their duties.

Marshall said that the average occupancy in Marshalls' properties was unchanged at 95% last year.

No portfolio changes were made, because all properties were believed to be well situated, with stable letting histories.

Gross assets stood at R113,8m (R111,2m) against long-term borrowings of R14,6m (R15,1m). Shareholders' funds amounted to R90m (R86,1m).

Cableway company threatens to abandon proposed upgrade

BD 17/4/96 (98) (288)

CAPE TOWN — The Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company threatened yesterday to abandon its proposed improvement of the cableway if it was not given a guarantee that the National Monuments Council would approve the upgrading.

MD John Harrison said although the company was committed to completing an integrated environmental management study, it could not continue to undertake studies with no guarantee they would result in approval of the upgrading.

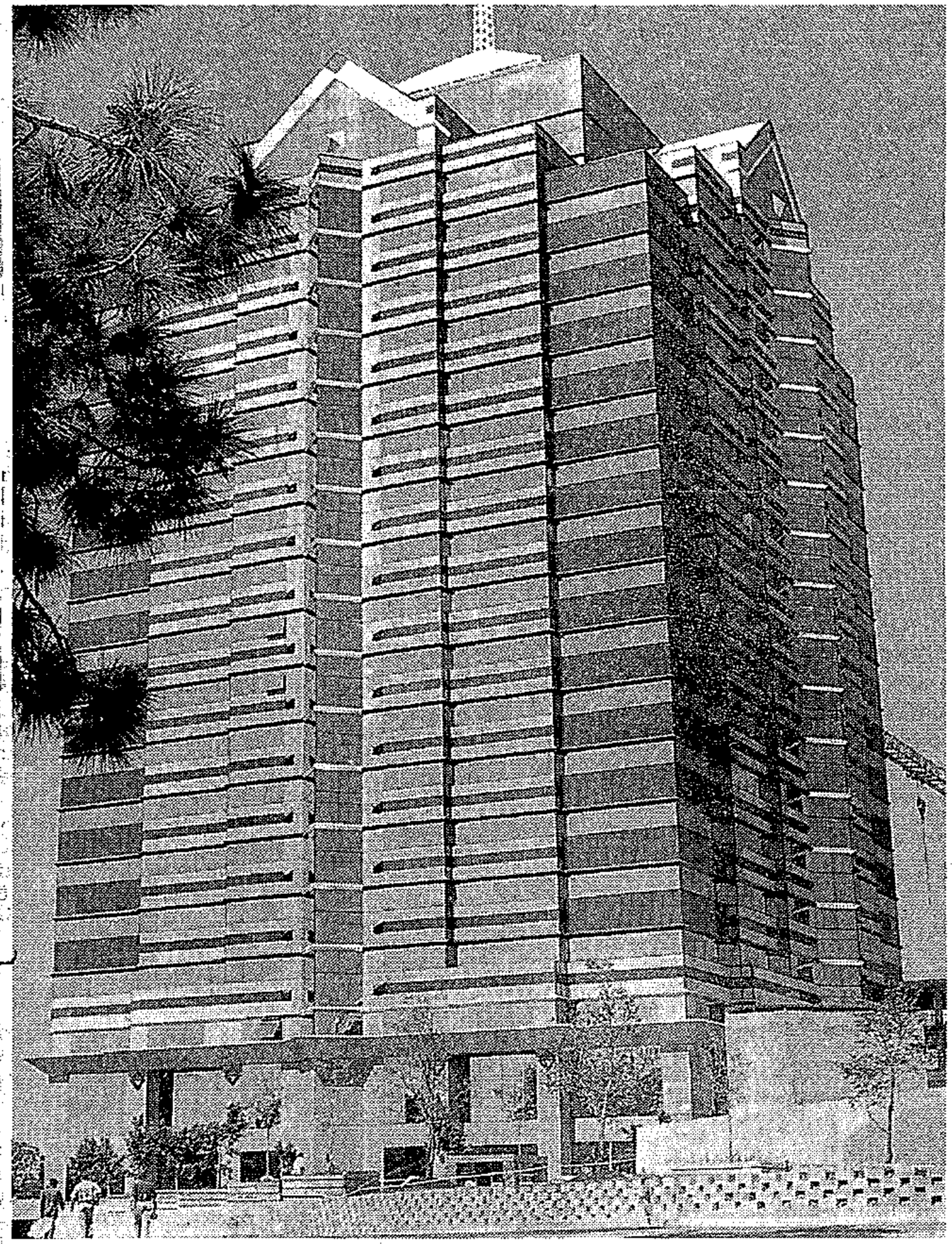
He said the company had asked Arts, Culture, Science and Technology Minister Ben Ngubane to intervene and reconsider the Monuments Council's decision that the upgrading could begin only when the environmental report had been fully approved.

"The (Monuments Council) has set impossible conditions with no guarantee of approval after the conditions are met, while we feel the specialist study can be done in tandem with the upgrade as the issues do not relate directly to the work but to the management of the top of the mountain.

"We have already got conditional approval for the work from the Cape Town City Council and a permit from the finance and environmental affairs MEC and we have put up financial guarantees of R1m to ensure further issues in this process can be addressed and the necessary changes made."

Harrison said the company was just as concerned about all aspects of the upgrading. "But we believe the completion of the study and the upgrade can run simultaneously. We have already involved about 300 interested and affected parties in the study and have made many amendments to the original plans.

"We have already lost millions of rands as a result of the delays and will have to take a decision whether we will continue with the upgrade." — Sapa.



RMB Properties' new 19-storey skyscraper in Sandton which was recently completed at a cost of R100m by Grinaker Construction.

Amtrad seeks a bigger slice of tourism cake

(288) BD 17/4/96

AMPROS Property Trading (Amtrad) has launched a subsidiary called Amtrad Leisure Developments, in a bid to make inroads into the estimated R10bn SA tourism industry.

Amtrad Leisure has been set up as a joint venture looking into the resort and gaming industries by Amtrad and Innovative Resorts, the SA promoter of the Casinos Austria consortium.

The Casinos Austria consortium is bidding for casino licences throughout the country.

The consortium consists of US-based Carlson Radisson hospitality group, FirstCorp Merchant Bank, Murray & Roberts Construction, Co-ordinated Network Investments, and the world's largest casino management company Casinos Austria.

Amtrad Leisure chairman Reuel Khoza said the organisation would be involved in the identification and acquisition of sites for investors, securing operators, negotiating funding arrangements and packaging projects for on-sale to institutional investors.

Khoza said the tourism and leisure industry was acknowledged as the world's largest earner of foreign exchange and there were vast opportunities to develop infrastructure in the new SA.

Ecotourism had grown dramatically over the past decade, and "ecotourists" to SA were bringing in about R4bn a year in foreign exchange.

"The growth in the number of overseas visitors to SA cannot be sustained without new leisure facilities and related infrastructure in the form of casinos, hotels, game reserves, golf estates, roads, trains, bus services and airlines, among others," he said.

Khoza said Amtrad Leisure had a strong commitment to the economic empowerment of the previously disadvantaged black community.

Amtrad chairman Grahame Lindop recently left for south-eastern Asia to talk to prospective investors in Amtrad Leisure developments following the entrance of Thai and Malaysians into the local property market.

Transport revamp bill likely to top R5 billion

(288)

ANDREA WEISS
Metro Reporter

ARG 18/4/96

UPGRADING Cape Town's transport system to an "acceptable" level for the 2004 Olympics is likely to cost R5,6 billion.

This will be a key issue considered by the cabinet when it meets next week to finalise its support for the 2004 bid.

Bid finance director Mike Fuller was unwilling to release financial details at this point.

But transport experts argue that it will be necessary to spend R5,6 billion on a public transport system to provide for expected growth in the metropole by the year 2010.

The Olympics would accelerate this spending to 2004.

CAPE TOWN 2004
CANDIDATE CITY

Meanwhile representatives of local and provincial government met yesterday to discuss a cost-sharing strategy for the Olympics.

Provincial government agreed to pay 15 percent of the total government contribution towards the cost of competition and training facilities and the upgrading of bulk services.

This agreement is subject to central government and local authorities committing themselves financially to supporting the bid.

In a statement, Premier Hernus Kriel said the fact that the Western Cape was supporting the bid financially would have to be taken into account by the Financial and Fiscal Commission when deciding on the province's financial allocation.

Also meeting yesterday, but behind closed doors, was the cabinet sub-committee which will be reporting to the full cabinet next week.

The cabinet meeting on April 24 is a crucial final hurdle before South Africa commits itself to hosting the world's premier sporting event, viewed by its protagonists as the country's best shot at kick-starting economic growth.

Transport costs are being dealt with separately from the projected R1,8 billion cost of building Olympic sporting facilities and training facilities made public last week.

The cost of sporting facilities is likely to be shared between government, the Organising Committee for the Olympic Games and the private sector.

However, transport funding is one of the big budget items for central government.

The thrust of the transport strategy would be to woo Cape Town's residents away from cars on to public transport, with bus lanes becoming a feature of the metro along with an upgraded rail network.

Director of metropolitan transport planning Dave Eadie said the transport plan was not specific to the Olympics, but had been worked out to meet the metro's needs, including demographic changes and population growth, until the year 2010.

Mr Eadie said the plan was aimed at providing public transport which people would find "usable in an acceptable sense of the word and not be dependent on cars".

Although the Olympic Games bid had brought the argument to a head", the issue of funding metropolitan transport was a national one, he argued.

Had the Olympics not been on the agenda, it was likely that the metropole would have been looking at launching a major campaign to increase transport spending which has been declining over the years.

Mr Eadie described the budget as "realistic for a good system".

But he said that his team was being asked to trim it.

Olympic planner Peter de Tolly said transport was being dealt with on the basis of what capital structures should be in place for the future growth of the metro, with or without the Olympics, up until 2010.

Survey: tourism inaccessible to disabled

BD 18/4/96 (288) (277)

Theo Rawana

ABOUT 3-million disabled southern Africans were denied access to many holiday and leisure facilities, an SA Tourism Board survey has found.

The survey, commissioned to assist Satour in its "national accessibility scheme", found only 48% of respondents went on holiday last year, and 50% of these stayed with friends or relatives — "possibly indicative of the lack of appropriate facilities in SA establishments".

The physically disabled encountered the most problems, with 100% of these travellers experiencing parking problems. More than 88% of the physically disabled respondents were dissatisfied with accommodation facilities, 80% with transport and 78% with public facilities.

"The disabled are forced to become 'handicapped' due to environments which emphasise their disabilities and it is for this reason that Satour has launched the national accessibility scheme," said Satour standards director Greg McManus. The scheme aimed to encourage owners, developers and operators of tourist accommodation and facilities to become more accessible to the vast market of disabled and aged.

It offered accreditation to establishments meeting the required criteria researched and developed from similar international programmes.

Meanwhile, the finalists of this year's Satour tourism awards have been announced. Satour said the Grande Roche Hotel, last year's hotel of the year, was in the running again and would face competition from Magaliesburg's Mount Grace, Hunter's Country House in Plettenberg Bay and Walkerson's Country Manor in Dullstroom.

Contenders for the guest house award included last year's winner Mimosa Lodge and nearby neighbour Kingna Lodge, Paarl's Mountain Shadows, Bloemfontein's Hobbit House, De Rust's Oulap and Kiepersol's Blue Mountain Lodge.

The bed and breakfast contenders included Plettenberg Bay's Cottage Pie, Knysna's Leisure Isle, Sea Point's Olaf's and Muizenberg's Miramar. Finalists of the self-catering establishment of the year include Noordhoek's Monkey Valley, Knysna's Old Drift Forest Lodge, Pilgrim's Rest's Crystal Springs and Aventura Badplaas.

The winners will be announced on May 7 at a gala ceremony at the Durban City Hall.

Ministers' committee to probe cableway plan

CAPE TOWN — The Cabinet had decided that a special ministers' committee would be formed to investigate and decide on the proposed development of Table Mountain facilities, Arts, Culture, Science and Technology Minister Ben Ngubane said on Tuesday.

He said this followed an appeal to him from the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company after the National Monuments Council blocked its plans to upgrade the cableway before an environmental impact study had been completed.

Since so many interests were involved, he had asked the Cabinet to take responsibility for any decisions involving the cableway. The committee, to be chaired by Ngubane, would consist of ministers Kader Asmal (water and forestry), Pik Botha (mineral and energy affairs), Dawie de Villiers (environmental affairs), and Derek Hanekom (land affairs).

A fine balance should be struck between conservation, preservation of the heritage and encouraging tourism, Ngubane said.

Meanwhile, National Monuments Council director George Hofmeyr said a properly completed environmental impact process was an essential prerequisite for the planned improvement of Table Mountain's cableway. He was responding to a threat by the cableway company to abandon the proposed improvement unless it was given a guarantee the monuments council would approve the upgrading.

MD John Harrison said on Tuesday the company was committed to completing an integrated environmental management process, but could not continue undertaking studies with no guarantee they would result in approval for the upgrading.

Hofmeyr denied the monuments council had set impossible conditions. "The point of the review stage of an (integrated environmental management) process is to assess whether the information available is adequate," he said. The council and its advisers felt justified to request adequate information on which to base their final decision. — Sapa.

BD 18/4/96

THURSDAY
APRIL 18, 1996 ★

R61M DECISION 'TOO COMPLICATED'

Ngubane asks for help on cableway controversy

(CT) (288) CT 18/4/96

THE FUTURE of the planned R61-million development of Table Mountain will be decided by a committee of the "St Lucia four" cabinet ministers, Dr Ben Ngubane announced yesterday. **MELANIE GOSLING** reports.

THE Table Mountain cableway controversy has proved too much of a hot potato for Arts and Science Minister Dr Ben Ngubane, who has called on four other cabinet ministers to help him decide whether to give the R61-million upgrading project the green light or not.

He announced yesterday that a special minister's committee — made up of the "St Lucia four" — had been appointed by the cabinet to investigate the issue. The committee members are Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom, Mineral and Energy Affairs Minister Pik Botha, Environment Affairs Minister Dr Dawie de Villiers and Water Affairs Minister Kader Asmal — the same four who were appointed earlier this year to make a decision on whether to allow mining on the St Lucia dunes in KwaZulu-Natal. This comes after the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company (TMACC) appealed to Ngubane last week to overturn the decision by the National Monuments Council who had refused to give the company the go-ahead for the upgrading until the integrated environmental management study had been completed.

Ngubane said the cableway controversy was too complicated a matter to be the responsibility of one minister alone.

A statement from Ngubane's office said: "Since there are so many interests involved, making it a very complicated matter, the minister is of the opinion that it should be a cabinet responsibility, rather than just a decision for one ministry to make."

Ngubane will head the committee which is likely to sit for the first time next week. He appealed for patience so that the committee could make a decision which had "the best interests of Table Mountain at heart".

TMACC managing director Mr John Harrison said yesterday: "We trust the committee will get together as soon as possible to bring this matter to an end."

He added that his company might still call off the development before the committee made a finding.

The move has been welcomed by vice-chairman of the Cape Peninsula Protected Natural Area Mr John Cobby, who said his organisation believed it was essential that the environmental studies be completed before construction began.

Mountain Club of SA spokesman Mr Lester Coelen said: "I hope the ministers make a decision based on sound environmental considerations only and not politics.

"Table Mountain is a priceless, irreplaceable asset and whatever we do to it cannot be undone later."

Tech to study tourism in Worcester

(288)
DAN SIMON
EP 18/4/96

THE Cape Technikon is to conduct an in-depth study of Worcester's tourism potential — the findings of which could provide a model for numerous Boland and platteland towns struggling to promote themselves as tourist destinations.

The survey, a product of the technikon's tourism research unit, is to be conducted next month by 110 marketing students who will interview 500 people living in the Peninsula. The findings will be available in September.

Worcester Publicity Association spokesman Mr Andre du Plessis said that the town's share of the tourism market currently consisted of weekend "day trippers", most of whom are Capetonians.

"We have a lot of visitors who come for the day, but for some reason they don't stay over. This suggests that there is something wrong with our marketing strategies," he said.

"I think the survey will show that local businessmen have to pull up their socks — especially because nothing is open on Saturday afternoons.

"If the study shows that a lot of visitors come to the town on weekends then I may be able to convince the business community to do something."

Head of the Cape Technikon's tourism research unit Mr Norbert Haydam said the survey would establish how many people visited the town and what its attractions are.

"Questions we will focus on are what people's impressions of the town are, and what attractions and events they associate with Worcester," he said. "In the end we will hopefully provide Worcester with a marketing plan which we will sell to the town and give them an idea of how to cater for foreign and local visitors.

"The survey will also prove invaluable when looking at tourism in the province as a whole."

North receives assurance on tourism strategy

Star 18/4/96 (288)

By Anita Allen
Science Writer

Northern Province's Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (Deat) has hastened to reassure residents that a strategy to develop regional conservation and tourism is very much on track.

The reassurances come after a report in The Star this week detailed the disappointment and frustration of participants at a workshop in Phalaborwa over the weekend.

Some had travelled 400km but the official delegation departed after the MEC gave her opening speech and before the final plenary session.

Deat spokesman Danny Msiza said yesterday that the workshop was part of a consultative process that would take a lot of time. "We have a plan and as part of that we have divided the province into four regions. In each one a regional forum has been established."

He said that two members of each forum were on the advisory board with six experts, including the director of the University of Pretoria's Centre for Ecotourism, Prof Phillip Hattingh.

Forum for role players to voice their ideas

Charles Maluleke, the provincial director of tourism, said: "The issue is not that we left early from the weekend workshop. I think there might have been a poor understanding of what the workshop was to achieve. It was not expected that any decisions would be made.

"Instead, the forum was an opportunity for role players to voice their ideas.

"In this world, where we are trying to bring all players aboard, it was part of an overall process co-ordinated by my department to give everyone an opportunity to voice concerns. We all have different dreams and the question my department faces is: can we bring all those dreams to reality and how do we reconcile the dreams?"

Msiza and Maluleke emphasised that the Phalaborwa workshop was one in a series being run by the University of Pretoria's Centre for Ecotourism.

The Star ... Thursday April 18 1996

Tourism funds 'too little'

(288) Star 18/4/96

Director-general slams tiny budget as hopeless

SAPA
Cape Town

The Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism was distinctly underfunded, its director-general Dr Colin Cameron said yesterday.

The department received only 0,18% of the R326,6-billion national budget for 1996/97 before payments to the National Parks Board, National Botanical Institute and Satour.

Its budget was derived from the function committee for nature conservation and the department of state expenditure, he said, briefing the National Assembly's environmental affairs and tourism committee on the department's budget.

In the 1996/97 budget R34,5-million was allocated to the National Botanical Institute and R46,2-million to the National Parks Board.

Satour received R56,7-million and Sea Fisheries R56,8-million.

Cameron said tourism was the most important part of the department's budget.

"It is totally inadequate for a country that wants to develop tourism," he said.

The department was reallocating its duties because of functions being transferred to the provinces and South Africa's re-entry to the international community.

Asked why certain provinces had not received their budgetary allocations, Cameron said this was a vexing issue.

Committee chairman Peter Mokaba said after the National Botanical Institute's (NBI) briefing that the institute should investigate closer co-operation with local government parks and recreation facilities.

Several committee members said botanical gardens should be spread evenly throughout the country so that they could be more accessible to disadvantaged communities.

The eight botanical gardens were situated in cities and served about 50% of the population, NBI chief executive Brian Huntley said.

Outreach programmes funded by the private sector had been started to introduce disadvantaged communities and school pupils to the gardens.

Ten percent of the NBI's income was derived from public donations.

The National Parks Boards' presentation on its budget was rejected, because NPB chief financial director André Friedman was unable to answer questions on policy implementation and projects.

"We can't accept this," committee member Joy Mabudafhasi said.

The NPB had been allocated R46,2-million for the 1996/97 financial year.

"The aim of this process is to see if allocations are justified. That is why we need projects explained," committee chairman Peter Mokaba said.

The committee's duty was to see that policy was implemented and finances controlled. – Sapa.

OLYMPIC BID (288)

AWAITING CABINET'S NOD

FM 19/4/96

The decision by the Cape Town Olympic Bid Committee (Bidco) to double its budget for training facilities for the Games to R141m is a clear message to Cabinet that developmental issues have been taken to heart.

Training facilities are being designed for easy conversion into multipurpose community centres, industrial hives and business premises after the Games and will be in previously neglected areas like Khayelitsha and Mitchell's Plain.

Cabinet endorsed the bid in October 1995 on condition that it was firmly linked to socio-economic development. Soon it must decide whether to take on the financial, legal and security responsibilities of hosting the event.

The State was originally asked to provide R979m for accelerated capital expenditure to 2004 but Bidco financial director Michael Fuller says the division of funding between the different tiers of government and the private sector is still under discussion and Cabinet will be presented with new funding scenarios.

At worst, competition facilities will cost R1,77bn compared with an original estimate of R1,27bn based on August 1995 prices. A realistic estimate is R1,37bn. Training facilities will cost R141m against the initial estimate of R70m.

Fuller says senior Cabinet members have been extensively involved in the determination of final estimates and are not in for a shock at the cost escalation. "There has been excellent co-operation from all levels of government and we have been aided by 40 volunteer teams of architects, quantity surveyors and engineers in ensuring the integrity of the information we present to Cabinet."

With the bid at such a sensitive stage, the resignation of the deputy chairman Clive Keegan last week and his stinging criticism of CEO Chris Ball could not have come at a worse time.

One of Keegan's complaints is that Ball has not been frank about Bidco's agreements with former bid chief Raymond Ackerman and his team of consultants whom it allegedly owes more than R10m.

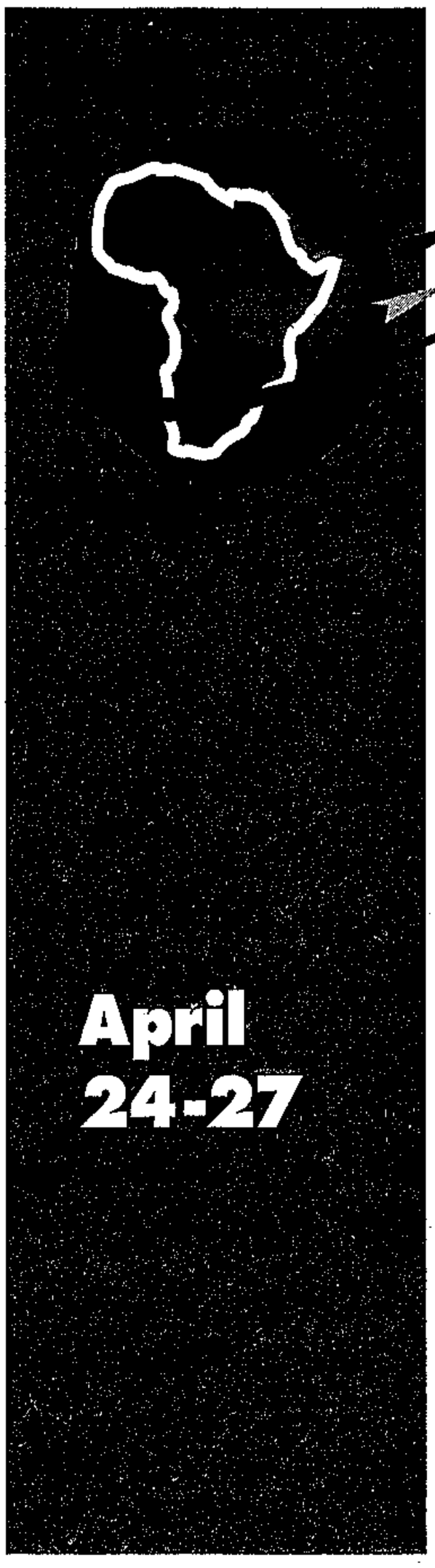
Fuller says Bidco has "done its best" to settle the amounts owed by its predecessor, the Cape Town 2004 Trust, to Ackerman, communication consultants Corporate Image, financial consultants Ove Arup, law firm Sonnenberg, Hoffman and Galombik and business advisers Arthur Andersen. Bidco had no legal responsibility to meet the debts incurred by another contracting party and had merely been recognising a moral obligation in agreeing to pay back some of the money. So it was unnecessary to reflect these "debts" in the company's books.

Keegan's main concern, however, is that though the technical side of the bid is in highly competent hands, the marketing and public relations "continue to be characterised by amateur ineptness, arrogant dismissal of legitimate fears and lost marketing opportunities."

The final straw that prompted his resignation was the last-minute postponement of the inaugural meeting of the company's convocation, a group of leading figures drawn from all over Africa which is likely to be headed by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Keegan, a former mayor of Cape Town, had been overlooked as a member of the convocation along with several of his 40 co-directors.

But Keegan's fellow directors have rallied to support Ball and poured cold water on Keegan's complaints, intimating that at the heart of his resignation is an unrequited "sense of self-importance."

Ball's marketing efforts have failed to galvanise Cape Town behind the bid, let alone the rest of SA. It could take Cabinet approval to turn the tide in this battle for the hearts and souls of ordinary South Africans. ■



Aviation Africa '96

Where Business & Aviation Come Together

Trade Days
April 24-26
Public Day April 27

SAA Technical Area
Johannesburg
International Airport

Enquiries: (011) 442-8546

Cape Olympic bid support in jeopardy

BD 19/4/96 (288)

Samantha Sharpe

THE finance and fiscal committee has indicated it might not take into account in its budget allocations the Western Cape government's financial backing for the 2004 Olympic bid. This could jeopardise the provincial government's support for the bid.

Committee chairman Murphy Morobe said yesterday although the commission was sympathetic to provincial "difficulties", the committee's recommendation for provincial allocations remained largely equity-driven.

"The best way to deal with matters like this — a once-off event notwithstanding its long-term implications — could be through the application of an ad hoc central government grant," Morobe said.

He said committee hesitancy was based on the likelihood of other sporting codes making similar demands in the future.

"We want the allocation formula to be a stable mechanism for ongoing expenditure," he said.

Olympic bid company financial director Michael Fuller said it would be inappropriate for the bid company to comment on what was essentially an intergovernmental issue. He said the critical issue was that the Western Cape government had come forward and supported the bid.

"This is really a national bid and each level of government will have to share the responsibility," Fuller said.

The DP said Cape Town should continue with the 2004 bid only provided central government furnished the city authorities with guarantees for any budget shortfalls, especially for capital projects.

Western Cape premier Hernus Kriel said earlier in the week that the province's financial support for the games depended on the committee taking these commitments into account when determining provincial financial allocations.

He said the province would contribute 15% of government's total contribution to competition and training facility costs, estimated at R206m.

How the Olympics' money is spent

(288)
CT 19/4/96

IN HIS THIRD and final article concerning the Olympic Games, Contributing Editor **ANTHONY LANGE** examines the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

THE headquarters of the IOC are pleasantly situated beside Lake Geneva, in Lausanne. The IOC is a self-electing body of 100 individuals, all of them unpaid, who represent the Olympic body to their countries, not vice-versa.

Since 1980, the president has been Mr José de Samaranch, previously Spain's ambassador in Moscow. Under him amateurism has been discarded and the Olympic movement transformed into a huge business enterprise.

According to Mr Christopher Hill of Manchester University, lurking behind this development was the late Mr Horst Dassler, the chairman of Adidas. His company had built up enormous prestige in the Soviet bloc and the Third World, acting frequently as "official suppliers". Hill suggests Dassler could control as many as 30 IOC votes and had delivered the presidency to Samaranch, and the 1992 Games to Barcelona. Dassler personally owned 51% of the company appointed to market the Games.

TV has been the main money-spinner, but product franchises are peddled, as well as various grades of "sponsorship" — the most valuable of which at Barcelona cost R85-million each. The IOC is a non-profit organisation and does not publish accounts. However, it is understood that two-thirds of the revenue goes to the host city to defray running costs (R6-R8-billion at Barcelona); one-ninth to the international sports federations; a similar proportion to the various National Olympic committees, via the Solidarity Fund, for development; while the rest funds the IOC.

Following the political disruptions at the two preceding Games, only Los Angeles bid for 1984. Public funds were refused, so a private group, led by Peter Ueberroth, a successful travel entrepreneur, took on the Games as a free-enterprise venture. Little was spent on facilities: The 1932 stadium was re-used, and accommodation provided at university residences. A hard bargain was driven with the IOC and the eventual handsome profits remained in the US. This experience persuaded the IOC to control future financial policy for its own benefit.

Although the Olympics caused considerable disruption even two years before they took place in Barcelona, 80% of its citizens were sure that the Games were a good thing for their city. This was hardly surprising, since the city had become very run down under Franco. Central government provided R28-billion for upgrading, and an extraordinary display of energy and creativity followed. Projects of exceptional architectural virtuosity were embarked upon all over the city. The celebrated American Richard Meier designed the Museum of Contemporary Art and Japan's Arata Isozaki the covered sports stadiums, while Spain's Rafael Moneo encased the new National Theatre of Barcelona in a Greek temple constructed of glass. A run-down industrial area on the coast was transformed into the Olympic village, with facilities for yacht races — a future marina.

The Games that will soon open in Atlanta represent a return to the free-enterprise ethic of Los Angeles and will rely heavily on corporate sponsorship (Coca-Cola has its headquarters in the city). Not more than R2-billion will be spent. Again, accommodation and sporting facilities will be spread across campuses. New buildings will be sold back to universities at a 25% discount.

Unfortunately, most of the architecture looks execrable. The main stadium will be the future home of the Atlanta Braves and is a triangular baseball stadium with an incongruous temporary loop for the running track.

However, a considerable effort has been made on the political side to include disadvantaged communities in the programme at every level. A federal grant will enable certain slum areas to be upgraded but, regrettably, this work will be limited to places visitors might see.

Cape Town's bid is a venture shared between the public and private sectors. Comprehensive answers will have to be prepared for the 558 questions posed by the IOC. Proof will have to be given that the demanding briefs supplied by all the various international sports federations can be met; solid financial guarantees arranged. Myriad technical factors will have to be considered, from how to deal with the South-Easter to how hundreds of thousands of visitors can be accommodated and transported. There are 47 professional teams at work. Remarkably, they have offered their services free. Cape Town now has political clout, is superbly telegenic, and, if spirit counts, it will surely win gold.

DP 'will review its support for Olympic bid'

(288)

POLITICAL WRITER

CT 19/4/96

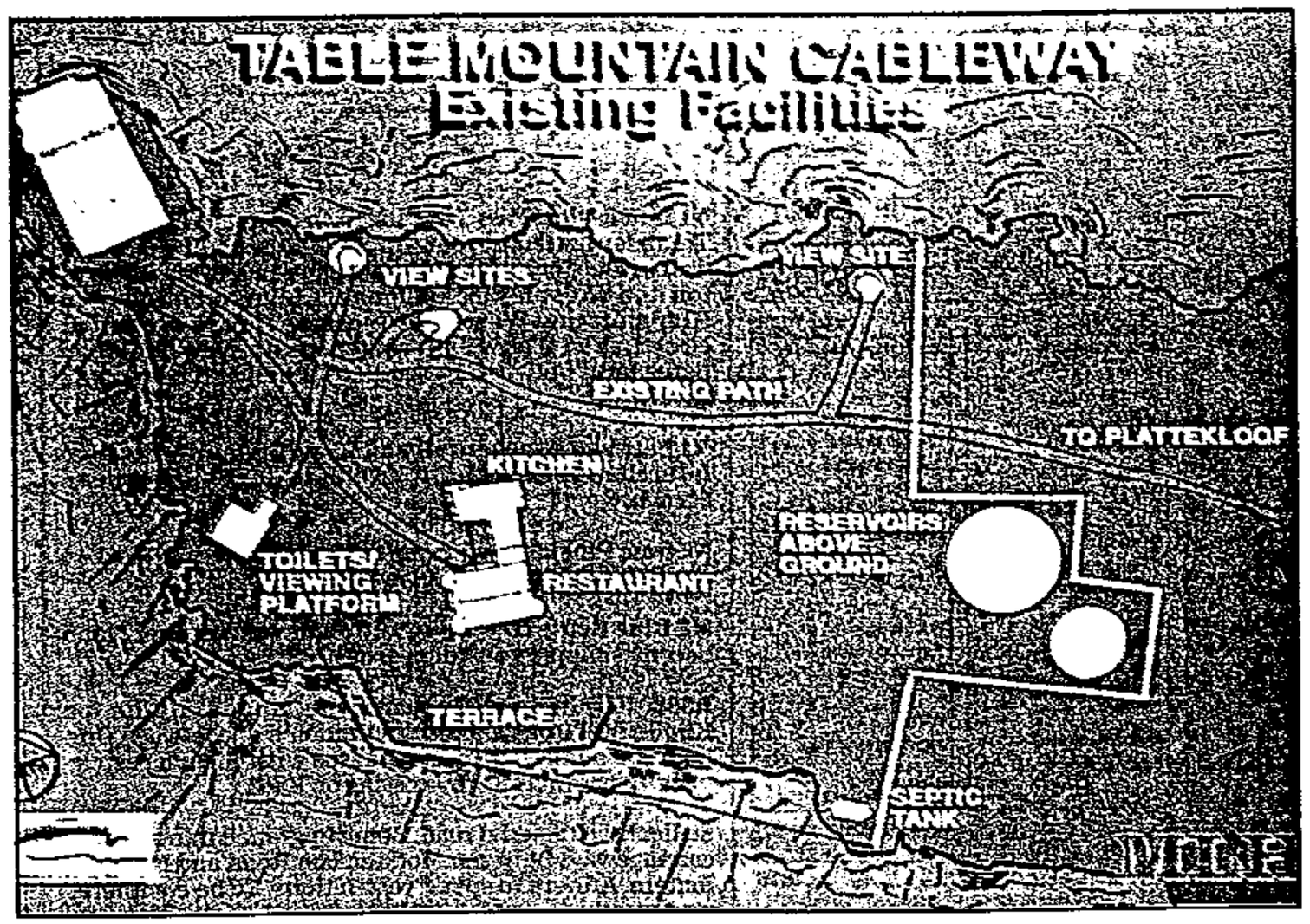
POTENTIAL benefits for Cape Town in hosting the 2004 Olympics were obvious but the risks of bad planning were daunting too, the Democratic Party said yesterday.

Because various questions surrounding the bid were still unresolved, the DP's support for it would be reviewed from time to time, said DP Western Cape leader Mr Hennie Bester.

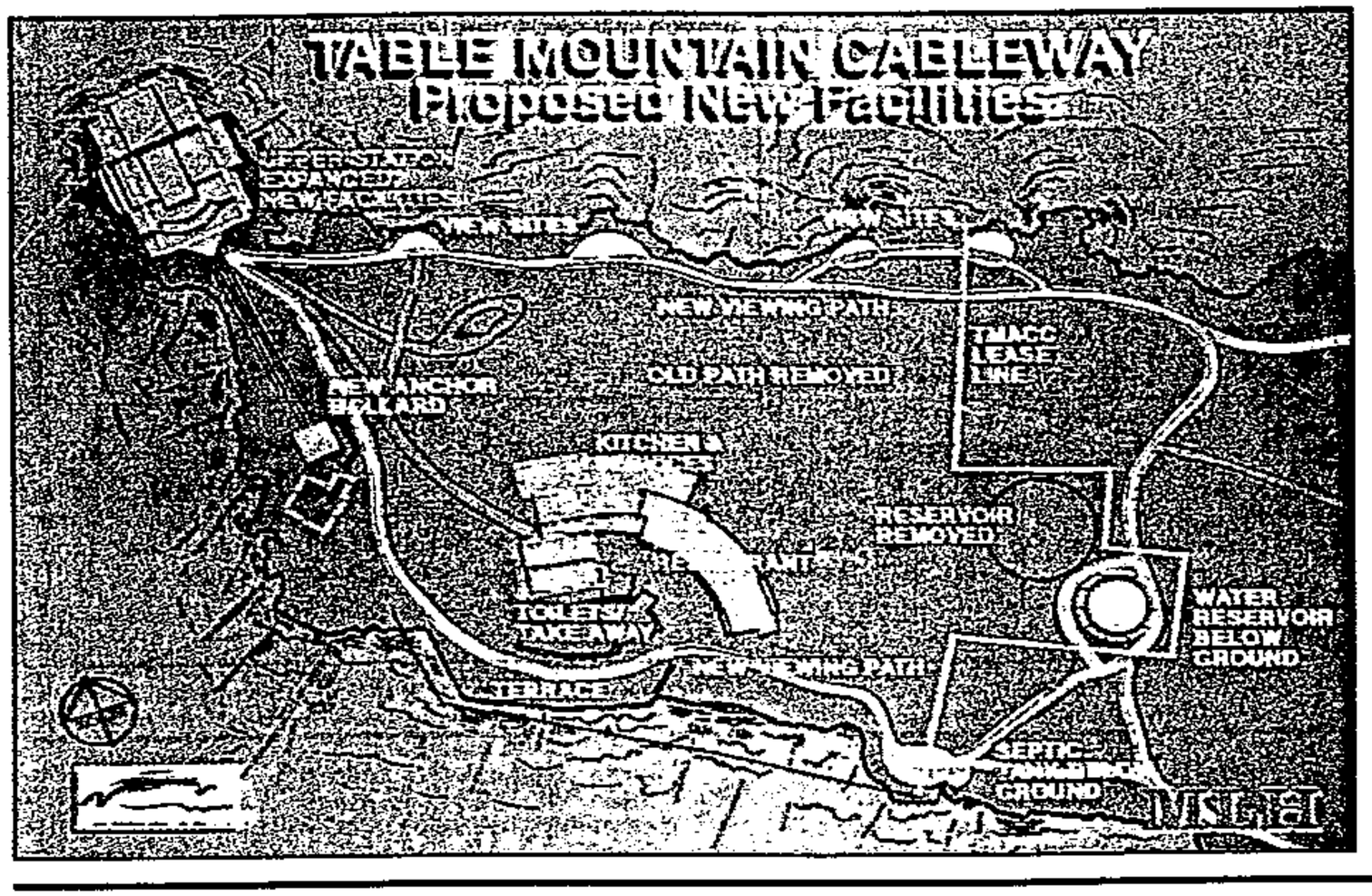
In its manifesto for metropolitan elections, the DP said the bid's potential benefits included more tourists, thousands of jobs and new developments.

But it said the risks included "large municipal debts due to capital developments necessary for the Games (and) environmental degradation in the rush to complete developments and scoop maximum profits".

In this light planning and management had to be transparent and public report-backs were essential.



"If we cannot even get a project such as the upgrading of the cableway under way after years of negotiations, numerous environmental studies and other assessments, how will we convince the international business and sport communities that we are ready and able to host a world event such as the 2004 Olympic Games?"



Tourism fear as cableway faces December closure

(288) (Fb) ARG 20/4/96

■ Time is running out fast for the proposed R61 million upgrading of the 67-year-old Table Mountain Cableway and a ministerial committee has now been appointed to investigate and resolve the controversial issue. **WILLEM STEENKAMP** reports.

TABLE Mountain's cableway will be closed this December if its controversial R61 million upgrading is not approved within 10 days

The closure, at the peak of the holiday season, would be a severe blow to tourism and would raise question marks over the city's ability to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

"If we do not get the go-ahead for this project within 10 days, the cableway will be closed in December to allow us to finish upgrading the cableway," said John Harrison, managing director of Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company (TMACC).

The company is already six weeks behind schedule on its construction programme.

It would be the cableway's first closure for reasons other than bad weather or maintenance.

"If we cannot even get a project such as the upgrading of the cableway under way after years of negotiations, numerous environmental studies and other assessments, how will we convince the international business and sport communities that we are ready and able to host a world event such as the 2004 Olympic Games?" said Mr Harrison.

Arts and Science Minister Ben Ngubane last week announced a special ministers' committee to resolve the cableway issue.

This step followed an appeal by TMACC to Dr Ngubane after the National Monuments Council (NMC) refused to give the go-ahead for the project until an integrated environmental impact study had been completed.

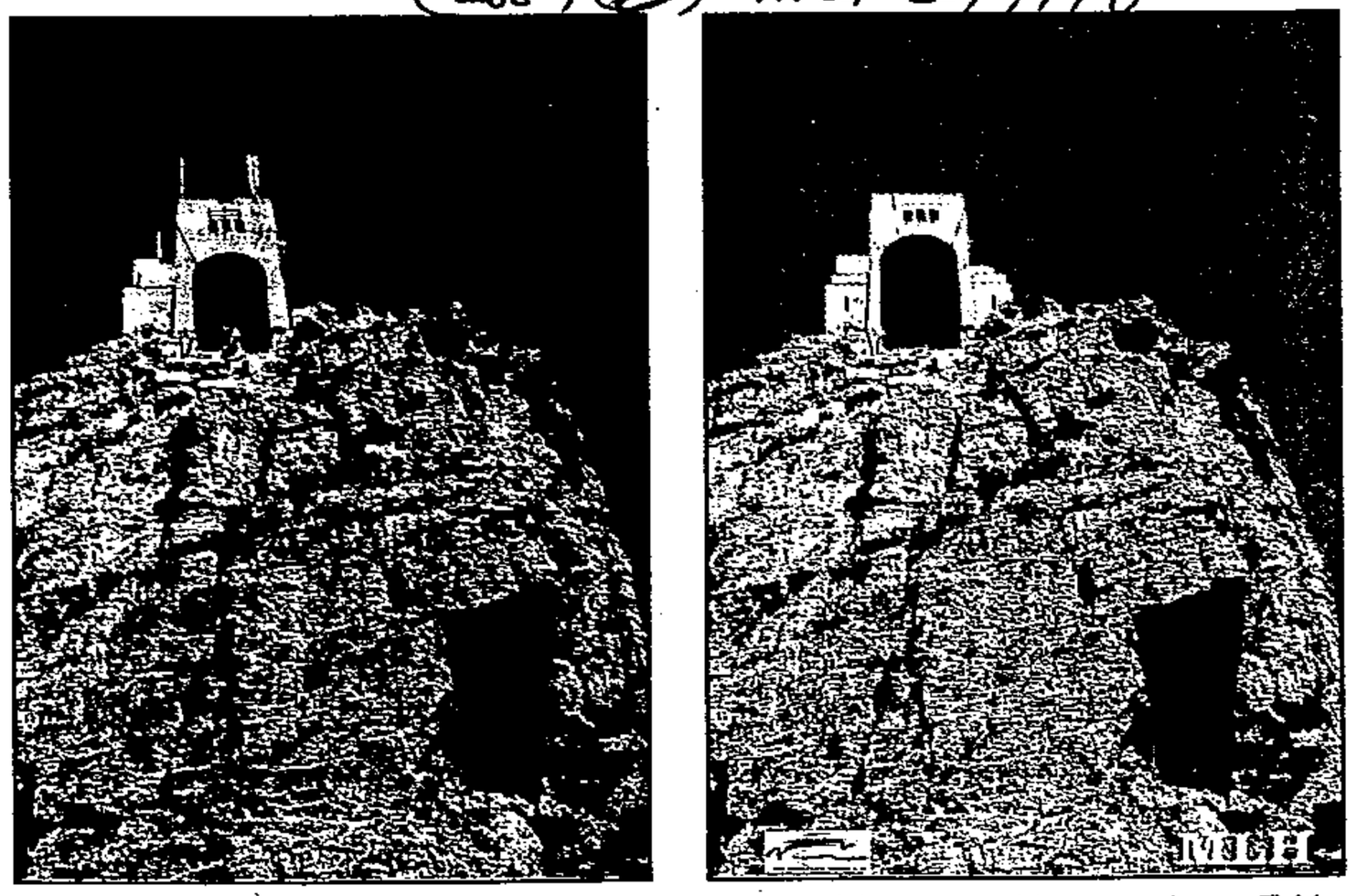
The ministerial committee consists of Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom, Mineral and Energy Affairs Minister Pik Botha, Environment Affairs Minister Dawie de Villiers and Water Affairs Minister Kader Asmal.

The committee is expected to sit for the first time next week.

Mr Harrison said he was baffled by the NMC's decision.

"Countless studies have been done and all along we have been working closely with the NMC," said Mr Harrison.

"There are only three environmental assessment studies which have not yet been completed. These include impact studies on waste removal, fresh water and electricity."



❒ **CABLEWAY REVAMP:** These before and after graphics of the upper cableway station on Table Mountain show that the station itself will undergo very little change to accommodate the new 65-seater circular cable cars.

Mr Harrison said financial guarantees had been given by TMACC that these studies would be completed and that any required changes would be made to the upgrading programme if and when necessary.

"The fact is the construction programme can continue and will have no impact on these assessments.

"We need an urgent decision so that we can either go ahead with the programme or scrap it."

Mr Harrison said if the go-ahead was not given for the project, the cableway could still be safely operated for the next 10 years.

"We have an excellent safety record, but the equipment is getting older and it is more difficult to get parts for the machinery.

"Also people are frustrated with the long queues and limited capacity of the cars and facilities," Mr Harrison said.

The R61 million upgrading programme includes two new circular cars with a capacity of 65 passengers each, new improved parking facilities at the bottom station, a new restaurant behind the existing one at the top station, to be sunk into the rock to lessen the visual impact, and the removal of the unsightly water reservoirs on the top of the mountain, which are to be replaced by sunken reservoirs.

The existing path in the centre of the mountain will be closed and a new circular path will be laid which will prevent people walking through the fynbos as they seek a better view from the edge of the mountain.

Meanwhile SATURDAY Argus has learnt from a reliable source that some of the people who advised the NMC on the cableway issue were also involved in an effort to expropriate the cableway from TMACC in 1993.

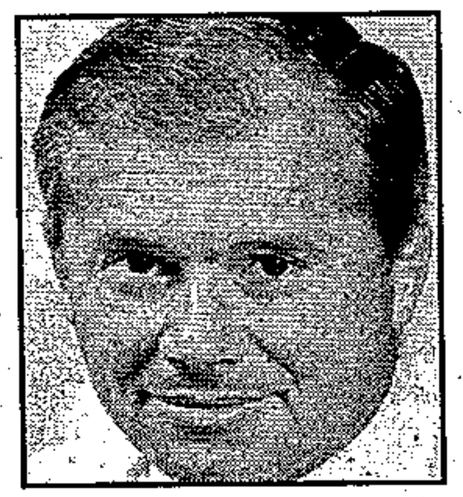
Some of the role players bluntly told SATURDAY Argus that there was a hidden agenda behind the NMC's decision.

Mr Harrison refused to comment on these allegations, saying he felt confident that the ministerial committee would make the right decision.

Give us your support – 'If Cape Town wins,

ARG 20/4/96

we all win!' (288)



■ The national cabinet is expected to decide this week whether or not to support Cape Town's bid to host the Olympic Games in 2004.

Chris Ball, CEO of the Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid, outlines why everyone needs to support the company's efforts.

THE dedicated and talented team at the Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid has put in a mighty effort in the past few months to prepare a proposal to host the Olympic Games in our region.

It has come up with a realistic and sound proposal that commits South Africa to a developmental Games. While Olympism has three pillars – sport, culture and environment – we see a fourth for South Africa's bid: development. The Olympic Charter refers specifically to the developmental nature of the Olympic movement and we are putting forward a proposal which enables it to give real meaning to this element of its principles.

A Games in South Africa will be Olympism in action.

Our proposal is aimed at improving the long-term quality of life of people in the region, particularly the most marginalised sector, in a manner that is environmentally, socially and economically sustainable. The impact will be felt throughout the sub-continent.

The proposal is in good shape and is being discussed with various levels of government.

It is encouraging that, without exception, the international experts who have visited us recently have responded well to the proposal. For example, the president of an international sports federation who has visited bidding cities over many years tells us he has never seen such detailed and professional preparation of a bid.

The president of a national Olympic committee involved in hosting an Olympic Games says our bid is extraordinarily well prepared – and we are at the stage they were two years after they had won their bid.

So, this loose maul of random critics that has formed around our bid is puzzling. (It is comforting to learn that it's the norm rather than the exception in bids! The CEO of the Atlanta Olympics had pickets outside his house for some time while Lilliehamer had difficulties with its local politicians.)

I guess our local loose maul may be caused by some or all of the following:

● The Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid is run as a corporate entity by a team employed to deliver its goals, but it overlaps political and local government processes and is far-reaching in its implications. By definition, there is therefore tension, but it has to be overcome by co-operation.

One way to deal with this is to have wide representation on the Bid's Board of Directors, including representation by political authorities.

● Not all participants in the Board may be familiar with the disciplines of company processes, which are very different from political processes. In particular, the Board deals with policy issues and delegates operating issues to the management. Moreover, Board members have a duty to maintain confidentiality of discussion at meetings and not to use information obtained within the Board elsewhere.

"I have learnt that sport may be more political than politics itself! Position and status are in many cases the key motivators of activity".

● A very large number of constituencies, with relevant views, need to be consulted. For example, there are scores of non-governmental organisations in the Western Cape and they each have consultative processes. It is not easy for the Bid's team to manage this communication to each one's satisfaction while dealing simultaneously with the awesome task of preparing inputs into the Bid Book within the timetable imposed on it.

● A small number of participants see it as an opportunity to achieve their own goals, whether travel, status or advancement of their profiles, and to kick up dust if they don't get their way.

● Some organisations see the Bid as a source of funds to support their own proposals or activities and refuse to take no for an answer. The Bid company, on the other hand, has a specific task to fulfil with the funds it has raised from the private sector.

● I have learnt that sport may be more political than politics itself! Position and status are in many cases the key motivators of activity.

● The Bid has emerged from a period of acrimony. The excellent team now in place does not include the previous participants, who nevertheless are understanding of the position – with the exception of one, who seems intent on waging a personal vendetta against the Bid.

Does all this matter then? In most cases, critics say they support the Bid, but are unhappy with specific issues. Some of them refuse to engage us in direct discussion.

But most significantly, there is co-operation between a large number of people of goodwill and it will continue. And there is a fundamentally sound Olympic Games proposition which is affordable and brings benefits to the whole of our sub-continent.

Former United States Ambassador and Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young says the Olympic Games is the greatest economic force in the world, meaning there is nothing which does more to stimulate energy and focus economic activity into any area than this event.

The primary purpose in pursuing the dream of hosting the Games in Cape Town is to increase significantly the size of the economic cake for the benefit of all, and thereby provide a large number of jobs for the people who need them.

Without a boost to employment opportunities, the Western Cape will deteriorate and its very precious environment will be threatened. One of our national Cabinet ministers has said the Games are essential for the future of our country. I agree with the sentiment.

The process of bidding is not easy. We have to set aside petty jealousies and support the proposal to ensure that South Africa and Africa take advantage of this unique opportunity to win the 2004 Games. That is the Bid Company's responsibility.

We will be focusing on the statement we believe is correct: "If Cape Town wins, we all win!"

(55) (288)

Cableway probe starts

ST(M) 21/4/96

By Charl de Villiers

A TOP-RANKING cabinet committee is likely to be faced with the question of whether Cape Town's cableway company had considered an "astronomic" increase in tourism when it decided to nearly treble the capacity of its 67-year-old facility.

A five-man committee, chaired by Arts, Science, Culture and Technology Minister Ben Ngubane, meets for the first time on Wednesday to investigate the R61-million project.

The upgrade was blocked for environmental reasons by the National Monuments Council three weeks ago.

The company says that it has lost R500 000 due to construction delays since mid-March and will have to close the popular cableway over Christmas and during January if it is not given the go-ahead by next Monday.

"If the upgrade is not approved by then, we'll have to decide whether to delay it for a year, or scrap it completely," cableway company managing director John Harrison said yesterday.

"We hope and pray that the ministers believe that their decision does not have to follow yet another long and drawn-out investigation," he added.

But according to an informed source, the politicians will probably have to consider arguments that the proposed increase in the cableway's carrying capacity would be swamped within five years by a 20 percent annual growth in tourism.

NMC director George Hofmeyr yesterday confirmed that this was one of the issues his council had raised last week with the company when calling for further impact assessments.

A spokesman for Dr Ngubane confirmed that UCT environmental scientist Prof Richard Fuggle had already given the minister a "strong" report on the environmental dispute which erupted when the NMC refused permission for the upgrade.

The NMC said it could not consider approval until an integrated environmental management process had been completed and has listed five studies it still wants done to resolve the company's "incomplete and flawed" IEM.

These must also be reviewed by the public, the NMC's own advisors, an internationally-recognised, independent specialist and the monuments council itself.

"A shortcut in this respect is not possible if the (IEM) process is to stand up proper scrutiny. There are just too many unanswered questions about the impact of this project," Mr Hofmeyr said.

The cableway company warned that it would not do outstanding impact studies without guarantees.

The other committee members are Water Affairs and Forestry minister Prof Kader Asmal, Mr Pik Botha (Mineral and Energy Affairs), Dr Dawie de Villiers (Environment Affairs and Tourism), and Mr Derek Hanekom (Land Affairs).

Answer the Olympics questions

(288) CT 22/4/96

CAPE TIMES Architectural Correspondent **JACK BARNETT** questions whether Cape Town's Olympic Bid Company expects to succeed if it plans to go into battle against the world with "a volunteer rag-tag army".

IN MY column (Cape Times, March 12), I asked a few straight questions to which I have had only partial answers or no answers at all, and some uncalled for insults.

In his reply, Robbie Stewart, Director of Sports and Facilities for Cape Town's Olympic Bid Company, says in the OBC-speak with which we are all now so familiar that in order to give all professionals in the Western Cape a chance to participate in planning and design, the Bid company asked them to volunteer their services.

I, for one, was never asked, and I would consider it beneath my dignity to reply to some general advertisement.

The OBC suffers from the sadly prevalent perception which lies at the very root of the uglification of our physical environment and the general devaluation of the arts in this country: That creative professional architects are really no different to anybody else — just whistle and they'll come bounding up to lick your hand, and if it isn't one it will be another. Architects are basically all the same, you know!

While I could support the idea of Cape Town hosting the Olympics, although financial reports are awfully slow in coming, let me ask the OBC again to tell us unequivocally:

• The names of the architects, engineers and planners who have been commissioned to work on which projects?

• The terms of their appointments and what undertakings have they been given should Cape Town win the bid?

It is the inherent responsibility of the OBC to attract the finest to its team and it certainly does not appear to have done this. It seems it plans to go into battle against the world with a rag-tag army of volunteers ...

Emerging triumphantly from 40 years in the cultural desert, a period in which the world felt it was morally bound to shun everything we did, however good, we are now presented with the golden opportunity through the Olympic Bid to demonstrate our abilities in the fields of architecture and engineering. We have already shown our prowess in government, soccer, rugby and cricket — we should not pass up the opportunity to do the same in other fields, including those of art and architecture.

Had the Olympic Bid Command been blessed with the broad imaginative vision it needs rather than the narrow one it has set itself, how blessed we would have been. Many of us would rather see the bid lost than win it and have the country embarrassed by a third-rate effort. Poor buildings and poor environments are no cheaper to produce than good ones. The best does not necessarily cost more.



CHRIS BALL: His Olympic Bid Company is accused of not answering vital Bid questions.

It is the inherent responsibility of the OBC to attract the finest talents to its team and it certainly does not appear to have done this. It seems it plans to go into battle against the world with a volunteer rag-tag army and yet it says it expects to succeed?

It is clear that the country's best architectural talents have been overlooked by the OBC and it is most upsetting that the president of the Cape Institute of Architects sees nothing at all wrong in all this. Surely, the Institute and its officers are there to safeguard and advance the cause of architecture — how is it possible that its president is aiding and abetting this lamentable OBC effort?

The rumours are flying, and if they are to be scotched, let the OBC in clear, unequivocal language give the public:

● The names of the people serving on the Project Management Steering Committee;

● The names of the project managers, architects and other professionals seconded to the bid who interviewed the job seekers and who decided what job went to whom, and assure the public that these people won't individually be benefiting.

The shortage-of-time argument used by Stewart for the OBC's failure to stage architectural competitions is totally unacceptable. There was plenty of time.

Clearly, the elements in control of the OBC policy who are ready to open architectural competitions of massive complexity to "anyone with an idea to offer" however unqualified, do nothing more than underline their own glaring incompetence to manage anything, never mind something as challenging as preparing for an Olympic games event a mere eight years away.

The Olympic Bid is going to cost an estimated R80-million; it is a bid that cannot be made without government support. It is a bid to be made on behalf of the whole country. So why are the appointments confined to the Cape ...?

The Olympic Bid alone is going to cost an estimated R80-million; it is a bid that cannot be made without government support. It is a bid to be made on behalf of the whole country. So why are the appointments confined to people in the Western Cape, when they should be open to the whole country?

On the issue of those architectural competitions, one asks how it can be that the Institute of Architects supports an appalling set of conditions which permits architects to compete against non-architects, had no board of assessors appointed (when I scrutinised them), and generally has countless major other deficiencies?

Llewellyn van Wyk's highly insulting and vituperative letter (Cape Times, March 16) accuses me of being obviously biased, uninformed, prejudiced etc.

I do not know why he felt it necessary to attack me when the issue of the OBC and its operations is raising questions throughout the country.

I have merely verbalised them. It takes courage in this town to ask a question, but neither Van Wyk nor any other will stop questions being asked until they are answered honestly one by one, with no evasions.

The public has a right to know and it will insist on knowing.

The Star ... Monday April 22 1996

Tourism industry boosted by rise in bookings due to rand's depreciation

(288) Star 22/4/96

By Hopewell Radebe
City Reporter

Tourism in Gauteng is booming, with hotels and conference facilities experiencing the highest levels of advance booking ever for the next three to six months because of the depreciation of the rand, according to the Association of South African Travel Agents.

Association spokesman Rupert Lawlor said South Africa had become one of the most popular tourist destinations for overseas holiday-makers and businessmen since the rand's value started falling in the international market.

He said this had prompted small businesses to venture into the tourism industry to "get a piece of the cake" of much needed foreign currency.

Lawlor said entrepreneurs were taking advantage of the situation by opening guest houses, especially in the vicinity of the Johannesburg airport.

Lawlor said competition to attract guests in the East Rand region in particular was high and hosts were offering tourists a variety of services.

Tourists were being collected at the airport and taken on industrial and township tours as well as organised visits to bird sanctuaries, monuments and museums.

The Eastern Gauteng Tourism Organisation (EGTO) has begun compiling a comprehensive tourist handbook and road map.

"The organisation wants to hear from anyone involved in the tourism sector within eastern Gauteng to get their details included," Lawlor said.

He added that the brochure was currently being updated and would be available to tourists at Johannesburg airport.

Tourism officials expect mini-boom when UN delegates arrive for talks

(288) Star 22/4/96

By Troye Lund

South Africa's tourism industry is psyching itself for a mini boom expected to be caused by the 3 000 United Nations delegates who will begin arriving in Johannesburg next week for a conference on trade and development.

Organisations involved in preparing for the two-week UN Conference on Trade and Development ((Unctad 9) to be held at Gallagher Estate from April 27, are determined that delegates should experience the sights and cultures of South Africa.

"Tourism has the potential to be SA's biggest money spinner and there is nothing as effective as positive word of mouth spread by influential people," said South African Tourism Board (Satour) spokesman Martin van Niekerk.

Aside from the potential investors the conference stands to attract, Satour believes one of the major beneficiaries of touring delegates will be rural communities because of the huge interest and growth in eco-tourism.

Van Niekerk said the opportunities the two-week conference holds for rural people are particularly significant in view of Unctad 9's theme of sustaining growth in developing countries at the same time as allowing them to participate in a globalising First World economy.

Tourism had the potential to rejuvenate the economy and empower impoverished rural populations.

"Tourism has the potential to become South Africa's biggest moneyspinner," said Wayne Suttie of Sabi-Sabi Game Lodge.

The several lodges in the 57 000ha Sabi-Sands reserve support about 100 000 Shangaan people by employing them at the lodges or generating jobs through crafts individuals make and sell at the markets that line the roads in the area.

"For every ten tourists, one job is created," said Suttie.

Small farmers in the area also benefit because they are able to sell more of their produce locally because there are more mouths to be fed when tourists come calling.

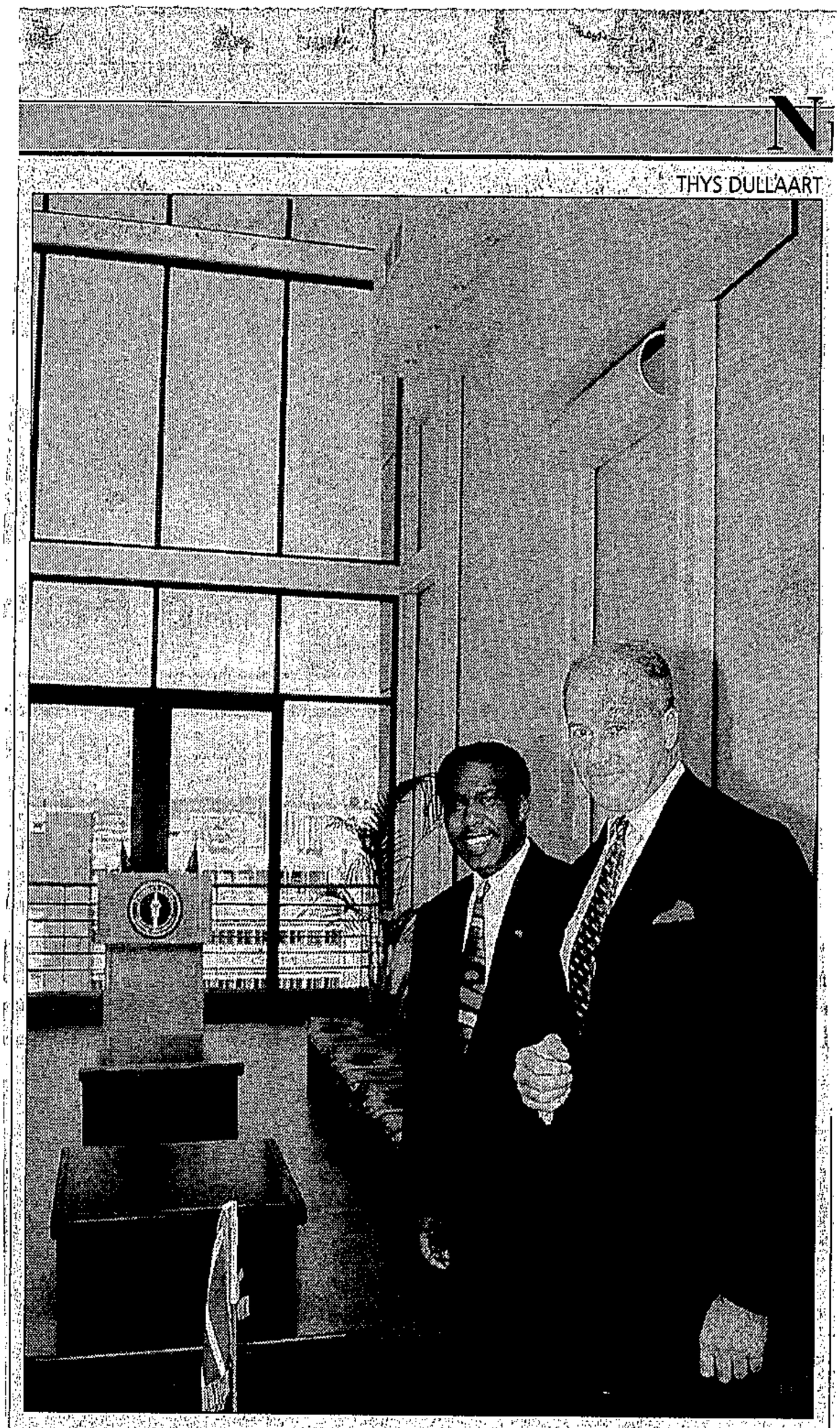
Courses on eco-tourism are also run at the lodges for schoolteachers in the area. Teachers then impart the eco-tourism philosophy and financial benefits of tourism to children in the schools.

Aside from the 170 Shangaans employed as hotel and game ranging staff at Sabi-Sabi, a full time community officer is employed to identify needs and educational possibilities of the communities.



According to Suttie: "The only way a wildlife sanctuary can survive is to have an eco-system based on sustainable development that employs labour and earns foreign currency.

Van Niekerk is also adamant, that the Government should spend more than the annual R50-million on promoting South Africa overseas as a tourist destination.



Bidding for Cape Town ... Premier Tokyo Sexwale announces his membership of the Olympics Bid 2004 Convocation to see the Mother City hosting the Olympics. With him is Olympics bid committee chief executive officer Chris Ball.

Sexwale supports Cape's Olympics bid

Star 23/4/96 (288)

Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale has announced his membership of the Olympics bid 2004 Convocation, a body that has to stand behind the bid to see Cape Town hosting the Olympics.

Sexwale said he was pleased to be a member of the convocation, adding that Gauteng supported Cape Town in its bid.

He said sport was crucial in reconciling people: "After the Truth and Reconciliation there is recreation."

The Olympics would also create jobs for multitudes of the unemployed, he said. Olympic Bid Committee chief executive officer Chris Ball said other premiers and prominent figures had been invited to join the convocation which is chaired by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. – Staff Reporter.

SA-Mozambique plan to improve trade, tourism

Sowetan 25/4/96

By Jorge Dique

MAPUTO – Mosambique and South Africa aim to increase trade and tourism levels through the new Maputo Development Corridor.

In the early 1970s, 40 percent of South Africa's exports and imports passed through the port of Maputo and 300 000 South Africa tourists visited Mozambique annually.

Now only five percent of South African trade passes through Maputo and the tourist figure is down to 3 000.

The corridor runs from Maputo to Witbank in Mpumalanga. It is planned as trade route and will include road, rail and telecommunication links.

More than R1 billion is to be spent on the development of the corridor.

About R666,7 million has been allocated for the construction of the 500km motorway between Maputo and Witbank and a rail link between Maputo and Komatipoort is being reconstructed at the cost of more than R20 million.

The restoration of Maputo port is seen as extremely important by South Africans. It is closer to the industrial heartland in Gauteng than either Durban or Cape Town.

The development of the corridor is expected to create employment for thousands of Mozambicans and South Africans.

Tourists sites between Ponta do Ouro in the Maputo province and Xai Xai in Gaza are to be developed in an attempt to bring back South African tourist levels of the 1970s.

Africa Information Afrique.

Cabinet delays on Games bid

Final government decision awaits report to ministers from bid committee in May

ARG 25/4/96 (288)

ANDREA WEISS
Metro Reporter

THE cabinet has still not yet decided whether to give financial backing for Cape Town's 2004 Olympic bid.

It was widely expected that final backing would be given this week.

Meanwhile Cosatu has announced that it will be taking up seats on the bid company after labour's representation was made equal to that of business.

A Press statement following yesterday's cabinet meeting said it had "noted a report from the Minister of Sport and Recreation (Steve Tshwete) that the Olympic Bid Committee will be making a presentation towards the end of May".

"This is in keeping with a previous cabinet decision committing government support for and co-operation in the preparation of the bid, with a presentation to be made to the cabinet at the appropriate time so as to enable a final decision to be reached on support for an eventual bid."

Also yesterday, the Cape Metropolitan Council endorsed the proposed plans for the location of sporting facilities after some debate.

CMC chairman Willie van Schoor said councillors were not being asked to debate whether the council supported the Olympics – because this decision had already been taken – but rather whether they agreed with proposals.

He said it would send out the wrong signals if the council reopened this debate.

But Pierre Uys, the leading candidate on the National Party's list for the CMC, expressed concern that competition venues were concentrated in the Tygerberg and Central substructures.

He said the executive committee had decided only to "note" the planning report and not to endorse it.

Arthur Wienburg, a candidate for the Cape Independent Alliance, argued that substructures had not been sufficiently consulted and no studies had been done on the cost of maintaining Olympic facilities.

Roger Hulley, leading candidate for the Democratic Party, said the question of costs would be dealt with separately.

Also, the location of training facilities was not written into the bid document, which made it possible for them to be moved.

Mr Hulley said the issue of financial guarantees would come up only after the elections and the new councils would be asked to finalise their positions before July 31.

That is the real crunch," he said.

Ruth Ortlepp said the CMC should "endorse and accept" the planning report. Her proposal eventually won the day.

Cosatu's central executive committee said in a statement that it had resolved a dispute with the bid company over its level of representation and was satisfied with being made equal to business.

"We welcome this, as it is consistent with the general principles of equal representation between key stakeholders in the economy, established at national level in structures like Nedlac."

Cosatu said its participation would focus on enhancing job creation, increasing transparency and accountability.

It would also strive to prevent board members from profiteering, would minimise the cost to local communities, seek to broaden representation on the bid company board, arrange "a conference of civil society" to resolve outstanding differences, and ensure tender procedures promoting workers' rights and labour standards were instituted.

"These concerns will now be taken up through our participation, with a view to making the bid a benefit, not a burden, for working people," Cosatu said.

UCT professor head of mountain probe

RICHARD Fuggle of the University of Cape Town is to be asked to head a probe into upgrading Table Mountain, says Ben Ngubane, chairman of the minister's committee on the upgrading.

Professor Fuggle is to head a committee whose brief is to identify and look into all aspects of upgrading the cable car system and facilities as part of the effort to increase the tourism potential of the mountain.

It will have to report to the minister's committee within three months.

A decision on upgrading should be taken only after a comprehensive study, rather than on the strength of what had so far been submitted, said Dr Ngubane, Minister of Arts, Science and Technology. – Sapa.

56 (288)
ARG 25/4/96



CABLEWAY REPRIEVE: Environmentalists have welcomed the decision to halt the cableway upgrading project until the environmental impact studies have been done. Giving the thumbs-up to the decision on environmental grounds are Mountain Club of SA spokesman Mr Lester Coelen, Ms Lee Jones of the Botanical Society and Ms Marlene Laros of the Wildlife Society.

PICTURE: CLIVE SMITH

MOUNTAIN PROJECT PROBED

Greens block cableway plan

CT 25/4/96 (286)

HOPES have been dashed that the upgrading of the Table Mountain cableway will take place this year and the project is under threat of being scuppered. Environment Writer **MELANIE GOSLING** reports.

ENVIRONMENTALISTS have won the first round in the battle of the Table Mountain cableway. A cabinet committee announced yesterday that the controversial R61-million project to upgrade the cableway could not go ahead until a "comprehensive and balanced" study had been done.

This means it is unlikely that the upgrading will go ahead this year and might result in the project being abandoned altogether.

The committee has appointed UCT environmental scientist Professor Richard Fuggle to investigate the entire project and submit a report to them within three months. They will take a final decision on the upgrading after he submits the report.

This ends months of wrangling between the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company (TMACC) and environmentalists, who have called for a halt to the project until all the environmental impact studies have been completed.

Arts and Science Minister Dr Ben Ngubane, who chaired the Cabinet committee, said yesterday: "The committee was unanimous that a final decision on the upgrading should only be taken after a comprehensive and balanced study was done, rather than one taken by the committee merely on the strength of what has been submitted until now."

He said while the committee was unanimous in its support for the need to upgrade the cableway and its facilities as a way to increase the tourism potential of Table Mountain, it also had accepted that there were certain "outstanding matters" which needed to be dealt with before the venture could be undertaken.

Fuggle's brief is to identify and examine "all relevant aspects" about the upgrading project.

TMACC chairman Mr Louis de Waal said yesterday he had not been officially informed of the committee's decision.

Asked if the delay would mean his company would scrap the upgrading project altogether, De Waal said: "We'll assess it when we get something in writing."

The TMACC said last week they might call off the project altogether if they were not given permission to start construction this month.

The cabinet committee's decision yesterday upholds the decision last month by the National Monuments Council (NMC), which would not approve the project until the integrated environmental process had been completed.

The company appealed to Ngubane to overturn the council decision.

While the move has been welcomed by a broad spectrum of environmentalists, Provincial Finance and Environment Minister Kobus Meiring has expressed his "disappointment" in the delay.

"The immediate consequence of the decision is that the upgrading will be delayed by at least a year, that costs will escalate, that visitors will still stand in long queues and that it will create a setback in the tourist potential of the Western Cape.

"There is a very real danger that the cableway company will abandon their upgrading project altogether and Cape Town will have to make do with the outdated cableway system," Meiring said.

National Parks Board spokesman Mr David Daitz said yesterday that he was "delighted and very relieved" with the committee's decision.

Monuments council director Mr George Hofmeyr said: "We're very pleased that such a prominent academic in environment science will investigate the whole matter and we hope it will result in a win-win situation for everyone."

Mountain Club of SA spokesman Mr Lester Coelen said the move was "sensible".

Table Mountain came a step closer to being a world heritage site yesterday when the Cape Metropolitan Council passed a recommendation supporting the application to have the Cape Peninsula declared a world heritage site.

Brilliant Brazil outmanoeuvre Bafana Bafana

HERMAN GIBBS

BRAZIL, 3-2 victors over Bafana Bafana at Soccer City last night, produced the sparkling samba style that has underpinned their reputation as the world's number one footballing nation.

The reigning World Cup champions appeared shell-shocked at the end of the first half, when they were trailing 2-0 after glorious goals by Philemon Masinga and Doctor Khumalo.

But Clive Barker's charges were soon overwhelmed by the Brazilians' spirited second-half start, which produced goals by Flavio and Rivaldo in quick succession. That double setback marked the beginning of the end for the African Nations Cup champions.

The Brazilians appeared unstoppable as the second half wound its course. The home side defence often found itself in disarray as the Brazilians swept upfield in a series of attacks. Finally, four minutes before the whistle, Bebeto — one of the world's most celebrated footballers — hammered the final nail in Bafana's coffin with an acrobatic match-winner.

During interval there had been suspicions that Brazil might have been battling with the Highveld altitude, but their class came shining through after the interval.

Instead it was the South African line-up, drawn essentially from foreign-based players who had arrived about 48 hours before the kick-off, that ran out of steam in the second half.

● See Back Page

Six new hotels planned for city

(288) CT 25/4/96

DAN SIMON

AT LEAST six hotels are to be built in the city over the next two years — with four earmarked for the site of the old Table Bay power station on the Foreshore.

Two of the hotels, which are under construction, are the 172-room Victoria Junction Protea Hotel in Somerset Road and Sun International's 330-room Table Bay Hotel in the V & A Waterfront.

The Victoria Junction is expected to open in November while the Table Bay will only be completed in June next year.

Of the four hotels to be erected on the power station site, two are to be built by the French company CBC. The other two are expected to be developed by Southern Sun, which recently concluded an agreement with the Devland Group which owns the properties.

Cape Town City Council's development co-ordinator Mr Rod Young said yesterday that one of the French developments was likely to be a Hilton hotel.

Besides the six firm hotel commitments, he said he believed that there were plans afoot to revamp AA House on the Foreshore and turn it into a hotel.

"I believe that Golden Tulip is planning to open a hotel at Cape Town Central Station."

However, a spokesman for Intersite, the property arm of the Rail Commuter Corporation, said there was no finality on plans for a hotel at the station.

Young said that besides these two possible developments, representatives of several major international hotel groups have been scouting the city for suitable sites.

● The high prices charged by South African hotels for accommodation, particularly four- and five-star hotels, has prompted the Association of Southern African Travel Agents (Asata) to hold its annual congress in Namibia.

The four-day congress, which attracts some 400 delegates from across Southern Africa, will be held in Windhoek in October, according to Asata executive director Mr Chris du Toit.

"We went out to secure the best and cheapest package and found Namibia to be much cheaper."

R1 680M CAPITAL COSTS

Olympic venues identified

(288) CT 25/4/96

THE CAPE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL endorsed a report from the Olympic Bid Company by a large majority yesterday. **PETER DENNEHY** reports.

THE most comprehensive figures yet released about proposed Olympic facilities were placed before the Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC) at its monthly meeting yesterday.

The 34 venues set out in the report from the Olympic Bid Company will have capital costs of R1 680 million. The cost of running the facilities after the Games is not mentioned in the report.

Metro councillors held a vehement debate over whether the report should merely be "noted", or more enthusiastically "endorsed and accepted". The pro-Olympics grouping won the vote at the end by a clear majority, with just four councillors out of over 100 present voting against endorsement.

Among the costs detailed are:

● R321,6m for a 65 000-seat Main Stadium at Wingfield, which will be owned by the Metropolitan Council although it is on land which will be owned by Central municipality;

● R183m for an Olympic Sport Hall for gymnastics, volleyball and basketball at Culemborg, with 15 000 seats. It will be owned by the Metro Council and used as an exhibition centre afterwards;

● R153m for a 15 000-seat indoor hall for Olympic volleyball on privately owned land in Granger Bay, for later use as an entertainment centre;

● R129m for a 12 000-seat "swimming/racing/diving" venue on the old Athlone Golf Course;

● R93,8m for a rowing course at Wingfield. Construction is due to start in 1999 and the environmental impact study has started;

● R77,5m for an equestrian centre at Klapmuts, seating 15 000, on Cape Agricultural Society land. It will be used as a showground afterwards;

● R28,3m for an indoor hall for wrestling, which will later become part of a convention centre for Cape Town. Its venue has not been disclosed yet, although the Bid Company says the environmental impact study has already started.

Mr Pierre Uys of Kuils River complained that most of the venues were in Tygerberg and Central. He would have liked a more equitable distribution of venues.

Mr Arthur Wienburg of Cape Town said the cost of keeping new facilities running was usually 20% a year of the capital cost. In Cape Town's case that amounted to R280m. He wanted a study done of exactly what the maintenance costs would be, and he wanted the Cape Town City Council to vote on whether it accepted its share of the financial responsibility.

Councillor Llewellyn van Wyk, of Cape Town, said there had been wide consultation over the past 10 months about venues, with RDP forums and sports bodies and at public meetings.

The "bid book" must be completed by the end of July, he said. Councillors should not take the attitude of "what am I getting in my backyard".

Mr Roger Hulley, deputy chair of the CMC, said the final decision on venues would have to be taken by new councils after the elections, by July 31. A financial guarantee would be required at that time too.

● BARRY STREEK reports that the Olympic Bid Company will make a presentation to the cabinet towards the end of May.

Cabinet secretary Dr Jakes Gerwel said this was in keeping with a previous cabinet decision committing government support for and co-operation in the preparation of the bid, with a presentation to be made at the appropriate time to enable a final decision to be reached on support for a bid.

TABLE MOUNTAIN CABLEWAY

ENVIRONMENT CHALLENGE

(50)(288) FM 26/4/96

The Cabinet committee appointed to decide the fate of the R61m upgrading of Cape Town's Table Mountain cableway must decide whether to relax environmental management procedures to facilitate the much-needed development.

The National Monuments Council has refused the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Co (TMACC) permission to start upgrading until it has completed the R1,4m Integrated Environmental Management (IEM) process it started last September.

Cape Town City Council has compromised by granting the company planning permission to conduct the IEM and the upgrading concurrently, provided certain guarantees are obtained beforehand.

TMACC has appealed against the National Monuments Council ruling to Minister of Arts, Science, Culture & Technology Ben Ngubane, who chairs the Cabinet committee that will decide the matter.



Ben Ngubane

TMACC MD John Harrison says that unless the committee can reach a decision by April 26, work will not be completed in time for the summer season and the project may have to be delayed until next winter or scrapped completely. He says he cannot continue to undertake studies with no guarantee that they will result in approval.

The upgrading includes the installation of larger, faster and more stable Swiss-made gondolas to increase the carrying capacity from 230 people/hour to 650, improving the vehicular and pedestrian arrival area, building a new restaurant and expanding the upper and lower cable stations.

The National Monuments Council is concerned that insufficient investigation has been conducted into the effect this leap in the number of visitors will have on the sensitive mountain environment.

There's also the argument that, with tourism expected to increase by 20% a year, even trebling capacity will not lessen the nine-hour queues that dent Cape Town's image as a world-class tourist destination.

The IEM process is designed to ensure that environmental consequences of development proposals are adequately considered in the planning process. However, the project was subjected to IEM procedures only once the proposals had reached a relatively advanced stage. As a result, alternative and mitigating measures have not been explored.

Says National Parks Board's David Daitz: "They started with architectural and engineering solutions and approached the IEM as an afterthought." The board wants the project delayed for a year so that environmental considerations can be dealt with properly.

The National Monuments Council says further information is required on water and electricity supply, sewerage and litter removal, parking and traffic management, the building of buildings and restaurants and the bollards that will anchor the cables.

Only a draft environmental impact assessment summary has been completed. It has been reviewed by a wide range of specialists, authorities and nongovernmental organisations. There's broad agreement that it falls short of the mark.

It is unlikely that the Cabinet committee will allow the outcome of the IEM process to be pre-empted because the developer waited too long before embarking on this crucial action. The committee is made up of the same Cabinet Ministers who ruled against the mining of St Lucia's dunes and it has appointed as its technical adviser Professor Richard Fuggle, an architect of the IEM process.

It should be remembered that Table Mountain is a nature reserve and a national monument as well as a designated national park, which will almost certainly receive world heritage status. It can only be hoped that no environmental compromises will be allowed. ■

Hotels on a high

Own Correspondent

288

ARG 27/4/96

PRETORIA – Hotels in the capital and the Western Cape have the highest room-occupancy rates in the country, according to the latest figures issued by the Central Statistical Service.

Cape Town, the Peninsula and the Winelands showed the highest room occupancy for February – 87,7 percent – followed by Pretoria with 79,5 percent.

The service said the largest increase in room occupancy was in the Northern Cape – 46,1 percent – and this province also showed the largest increase in hotel income – 44,4 percent.

The figures are based on the results of a sample survey of hoteliers and extrapolated to represent all hotels according to star grading and tourism region. Time-share hotels were excluded. All income figures included VAT.

Northern Province continues to have the largest decrease in room occupancy – 26,9 percent. Room occupancy for February increased by only 1,6 percent to 60,4 percent compared to the same period last year, whereas the bed occupancy remained constant at 41,6 percent for the same period. But hotel income increased by 21 percent.

Half the tourism regions showed increases in bed occupancy with the largest increase – 24,5% – shown by Garden Route hotels.

Eastern Cape development will 'spread like fire', Holomisa assures planning workshop

(288) Star 29/4/96

Tourism minister tells delegates that province has tremendous potential for ecotourism

By Anita Allen
Science Writer

The development process in the Eastern Cape was launched at a five-day Participatory Planning Workshop in Port St Johns over the weekend, dominated by the presence of Environment and Tourism Minister Bantu Holomisa.

Starting later than other provinces, "it will spread like fire", he said.

Back among the people where he grew up, Holomisa was loudly applauded when he made it clear that much-needed development would have to be driven by environmental concerns to capitalise on the ecotourism potential of the region.

"If any development should take place along the Wild Coast, it should be development that is sustainable, for the benefit of present generations as well as our children's children," Holomisa said in his opening address to about 100 workshop delegates.

"The Wild Coast is one of South Africa's most exciting and unexploited areas. It is the only part of the country today which is still in its natural and normal state."

Holomisa said the planning process had to be underpinned by three principles:

- It had to be based on consultation with all communities affected by the development;
- It had to be in accordance with the coastal zone management programme being prepared by his department;
- Integrated environmental management procedures, including environmental impact assessments, would have to be applied in accordance with existing environmental policies.

A highlight of the workshop was a public-participation meeting at the Port St Johns Town Hall.

Attacked at one stage for Government's lack of delivery on election promises, Holomisa made it clear that the days of "Pretoria providing" were over and communities would have to play their part in helping themselves.

He pointed out that small towns were last subsidised by Government in 1975, but now that the Eastern Cape was part of the South Africa, all would benefit again.

"The most important thing is control of finances. After this we have to decide how to cut up the rice in the mix," he said.

"Part of the struggle resulted in a culture of non-payment. Now things have changed. The party that advocated non-payment is now saying everyone must pay for services," he said. "I hope the workshop can identify what the community can and cannot do. Only then, will we notify Government to see what it can do."

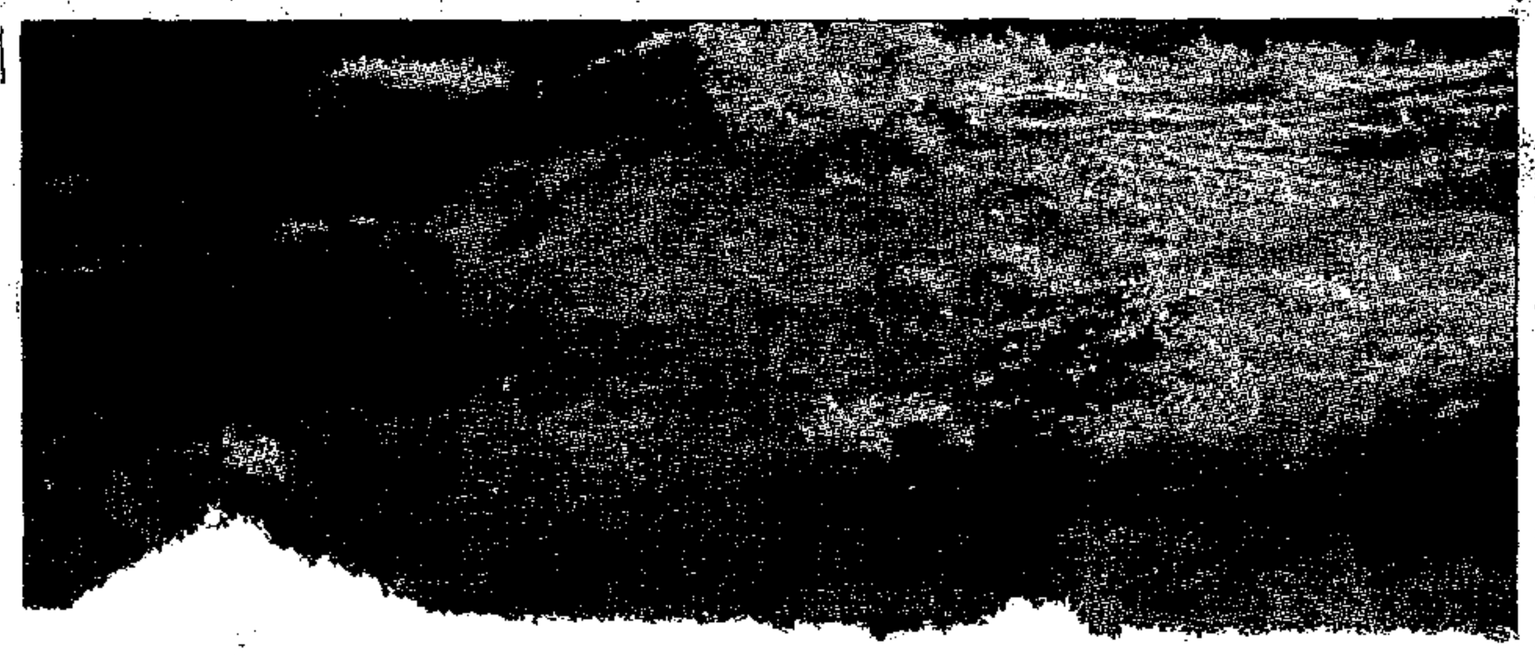
Attended by national, provincial and local authorities and representatives of local communities, the workshop focused on a planning strategy for the Port St Johns magisterial district. The specific task was to identify and prioritise development projects under five themes - agriculture and forestry; tourism development; economic activities; services and infrastructure; and conservation and resource utilisation.

Top of the list was the development of the now abandoned Mount Thesiger army base as a multipurpose education and training centre. The sprawling complex was built in the 70s.

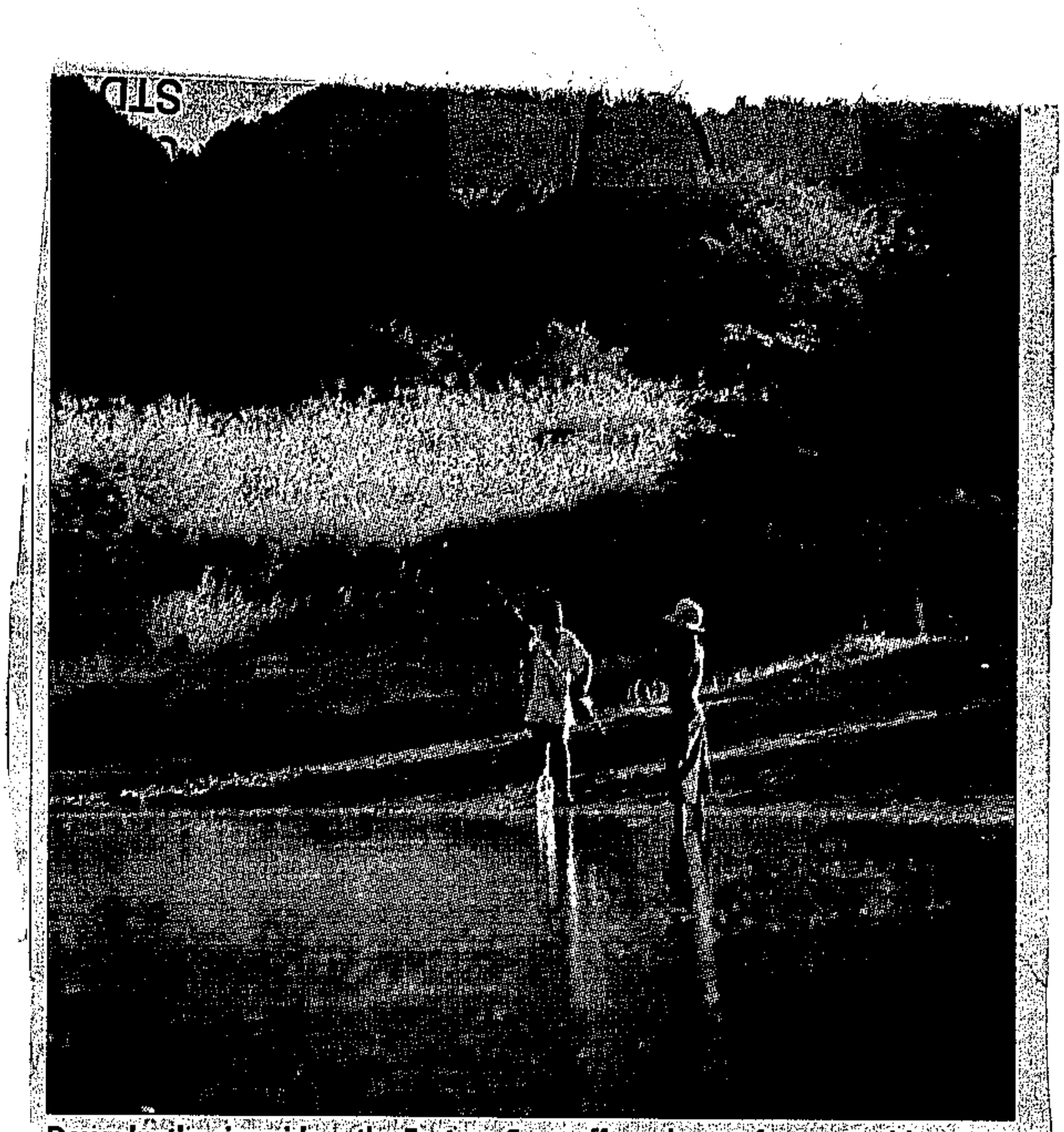
The workshop was the first in a series of meetings which will now take place in various magisterial districts of the Eastern Province, according to recently appointed MEC for environment and tourism Maria Mbengashe.

It was funded by the Goldfields Foundation, run by Cape Town-based consultants Metaplan, and organised by the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF). The Green Trust, funded by Nedbank, donated R50 000 for experts in various fields to be present.

The workshop is part of a long-term multimillion-rand commitment by Goldfields aimed at supporting health, education, welfare and environment programmes in an area from which it draws 20% of its 80 000-strong labour force on its mines.



29/4/96
STAR
288



Down by the riverside ... the Eastern Cape offers plenty of opportunities to escape to tranquillity. Here two children enjoy a day at the river .

Tourists keep coming back to W-Cape, says report

288

Staff Reporter

ARG 30/4/96

TOURISM is booming in the Western Cape, if the latest hotel occupancy figures, compiled by the Central Statistical Service, are anything to go by.

Cape Town, the Peninsula and the Winelands top-scored in room occupancy rate for February, at 87,7 percent, as reflected by the figures which were obtained from reports from the various tourism regions.

This region was followed by Jacaranda (Pretoria area) at 79,5 percent.

The largest increase in room occupancy occurred in the rest of the Northern Cape area, 46,1 percent, and this region also recorded the biggest increase in hotel income (44,4 percent).

Northern Province, however, went against the trend and showed the biggest drop in room occupancy – 26,9 percent.

Room occupancy for February showed a nationwide average increase of only 1,6 percent to 60,4 percent compared to February last year, showing that apart from the Jacaranda region, the Western Cape was the powerhouse of tourism.

Bed occupancy remained the same, however, at 47,6 percent. Hotel income increased by 21,9 percent nationwide.

On a regional basis, the Garden Route fared the best as far as bed occupancy is concerned, with a growth of 24,5 percent.

This figure is believed to indicate whether there was an increase in the number of people visiting a region.

The biggest decreases in bed occupancy were shown by Northern Province and the rest of Mpumalanga region at a percentage decrease of 14,3 percent.

Tourists preferred so-called "nil-star" hotels with their lower rates.

These hotels showed the largest increases in room occupancy and hotel income.

At the same time though, one and two-star hotels showed the greatest increase in bed occupancy (indicating rooms shared).

The room occupancy rate in 15 of the 24 tourism regions of the country was higher in February this year than it was in the same month last year.

Of the 24 regions, 22 showed an increase in hotel income, while 12 showed an increase in bed occupancy.

Travel in turmoil as rand slides

(288)

LINDSAY BARNES
Staff Reporter

ARG 30/4/96

THE travel industry has been thrown into turmoil by the declining rand and agents are bracing themselves for yet another sharp international air fare rise in June.

This follows the annual fare increase of between two and five percent this month.

Overseas package tour fares are expected to leap by a further 12 to 15 percent next month to compensate for the poor exchange rate and should continue to increase by about five percent every three months, said Association of SA Travel Agents (Asata) regional director for the Western Cape, Usman Ahmed.

Until recently, most tour operators had absorbed exchange rate losses.

He predicted the rand would decline further, to R5 to the dollar, before the end of the year, due to "political uncertainty".

South African Airways confirmed the adjustment of fares was under scrutiny as the company's operating costs were significantly affected by the rand/dollar exchange rate.

Although some travel agents have had a slowdown in bookings, many have not yet been affected. But the fall in the value of the rand is expected to take its toll over the next few months.

Agents are waiting hopefully for the rand to stabilise before plotting the way forward and are budgeting according to the exchange rate.

Among travellers, a new pattern is emerging. The leisure market is expected to show the biggest changes, and elderly travellers and families will probably cut back on expenses.

Locals are beginning to avoid Europe and head for cheaper destinations such as Asia.

Trips of four weeks' duration are being cut to three weeks and travellers are downgrading their hotel accommodation.

Companies are cutting down on the number of employees going on business trips together, but otherwise this sector of the industry showed little change.

Gauteng catching up with Cape in tourism

Theo Rawana

BD 30/4/96 (288)

GAUTENG hotels increased their market share of bed nights for foreign tourists in February, while those of Cape hotels decreased significantly, the Central Statistical Services said at the weekend.

The market share of Gauteng hotels increased by 0,8% to 32,2% in February over the same month last year, while that of Western Cape hotels decreased by 4% to 35,9% during this period.

Figures released by the CSS showed that the total number of bed nights sold to foreign tourists during February this year (288 933) increased by 35,6% compared with last year's 213 096.

Johannesburg increased its market share from 14% (29 760) in February last year to 16,3% (47 075) in February this year.

Bed nights sold to foreign tourists as a percentage of all bed nights sold during February this year showed a 25,2% rise compared with the 22,3% for January. The CSS said nil-star hotels reflected the largest number of bed nights sold to foreign tourists in February, with a market share of 20,9%, followed by three-star hotels with 27,3%.

It said the percentage bed nights sold to tourists from the various continents for February this year compared with the same month last year showed that Europe increased its market share by 7,5 percentage points. Asia's market share decreased by 5,3 percentage points over the same period. The service points out that hotels in the former TBVC states were included in the survey and visitors from these areas were no longer regarded as foreign tourists.

Residential hotels and hotels operating mainly on a time-sharing basis were excluded for the purpose of the survey.

Declining exchange rate puts SA travel industry in turmoil

(288) Star 1/5/96

The travel industry has been thrown into turmoil by the declining rand and agents are bracing themselves for yet another international air fare hike in June. This follows the annual fare increase of between two and five percent this month.

Overseas package tour fares are expected to leap by another 12 to 15% this month to compensate for the poor exchange rate and should continue to increase by about 5% every three months, said Association of SA Travel Agents regional director for the Western Cape, Usman Ahmed.

Until recently, most tour operators had absorbed the exchange rate losses. He predicted the rand would decline further to R5 to the dollar before the end of the year.

South African Airways confirmed the adjustment of airfares was under scrutiny as SAA's operating costs were significantly affected by the exchange rate.

While some travel agents have experienced a slowing down in bookings, many have not yet been affected but the fall in value of the rand is expected to take its toll over the next few months.

Among travellers a new pattern is emerging. The leisure market is expected to show the biggest changes and elderly travellers and families will probably cut back on expenses. Locals are beginning to avoid Europe and are heading for cheaper destinations such as Asia, while shortening their package tours to accommodate the weaker rand.

Trips of four weeks duration are being cut down to three and travellers are downgrading their hotel accommodation, often from five stars to three. Companies are also cutting down on the number of employees going on business trips altogether.

Relatively unaffected though will be the "VFR" or visiting friends and relatives sector, especially visitors to the UK and Australia, where travellers have free accommodation for much of their stay.

Keith Gow, managing director of Associated Tour Operators speculated that the declining rand would have a more positive effect on regional travel within South Africa and to neighbouring states.

Hotels in the Maldives, for instance, had already dropped their rates to meet the falling rand. Once the rand stabilised, South Africans would grow used to the weaker currency and would continue to travel, insiders said.

Meanwhile, South Africa has become a paradise for overseas visitors and a flood of tourists is expected.

As a travel destination, the country is fast becoming the "favoured country of the decade", said Ahmed. The Western Cape looks set to enjoy a booming winter season and 1996 should show 10 to 15% more foreign visitors than last year.

However, travel agents believe South Africa is no longer a cheap country to travel to, due to extremely high prices possibly being set by "greedy" hoteliers.

Compared to Far East countries such as Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam, South African hotels are overpriced, said Wally Gaynor, managing director of Club Travel.

But eating out, alcohol and cigarettes are still at "bargain basement" prices, making the country a hot international destination. – Staff Reporter.

Watchful tourists have stun-guns, bodyguards

288

CT 2/5/96

DAN SIMON
TOURISM WRITER

OVERSEAS tourists are being warned on the Internet of the high level of crime against foreign visitors in South African cities, and some are resorting to bodyguards and stun-guns to protect themselves.

In its March update to US citizens travelling to South Africa, the US State Department's travel information service on the Internet says that although the "vast majority of visitors" complete their travels to South Africa without incident, visitors should be aware that criminal activity, sometimes violent, was reported on a routine basis.

"Criminal activity in South Africa is perceived to be a significant threat to the overall stability of the new government and to the welfare of its citizens. Criminal activity, such as assault and armed robbery, is present in areas surrounding downtown and suburban hotels and public transportation centres, especially in major cities."

Visitors are also told that car hijacking is prevalent and that credit card fraud was "routinely reported".

City bodyguard Mr Craig Pedersen runs a company which specialises in providing a VIP bodyguard service and now offers a protection service to tourists.

Pedersen said that since the beginning of the year, the company had provided a "close protection service" to 24 tourists, mainly from Europe.

In addition to the service, bodyguards also double as tour guides and personal assistants. Fees for the service vary between R350 to R500 a day.

"Everyone says tourists are scared, but what do people do about it?

"Some tourists have gone looking for mace and stun-guns at a number of gunshops," said Pedersen.

Police statistics paint a grim picture of the high levels of crime against tourists over the past six months.

The figures show that roughly 20 tourists are mugged or attacked in the city centre each month. A total of 55 tourists have been attacked in the city since January, and 62 tourists were attacked or mugged in the city between October and December last year.

"Just one mugging creates a ripple effect. Tourists meet easily and discuss their experiences," Pedersen said.

● See Page 8

R70m plan to turn Blue Train into 'leading hotel'

(288) CT 3/5/96

DAN SIMON

SPOORNET is pulling out all the stops to capture the top end of the international tourist market by refurbishing the Blue Train at a cost of R70 million.

Minister of Public Enterprises Ms Stella Sigcau, who announced the project yesterday, said SA would gain a "major new international tourist attraction" with the launch in October.

A capital outlay of R70 million for the refurbishment of Spoornet's two Blue Trains was a "worthwhile investment" considering the returns.

Projected profits, she said, were expected to grow from about R5 million this year to about R64 million in the year 2000.

Spoornet chief executive Mr Braam le Roux said the new Blue Train would be a "showpiece for the South African tourism industry".

"The industry is one of the great hopes for the economy and the new Blue Train will demonstrate how our young democracy can produce a travelling masterpiece.

"This will not just be a train but one of the world's leading hotels," he said.

Currently, 90% of the passengers are international visitors and the new train is likely to continue that trend. It will cost R4 500 a person sharing a compartment for a one-way trip between Pretoria and Cape Town.

Each air-conditioned compartment will have a bathroom or shower, TV, radio and telephone, while the luxury suites will include CD players.

There will also be a large screen in the lounge car where guests can enjoy the locomotive driver's view of the track and scenery ahead.

A professionally trained butler will be on call for guests in each compartment 24 hours a day.

Spoornet executive manager Dr Charles Wright said once both trains were refurbished, they would be capable of transporting 20 000 visitors a year. This included the 12 trips from Pretoria to the Victoria Falls.

"In the old days we had an occupancy rate of 75%. We believe this will increase to 80%," he said.

Games to cost province and councils R55-m a year

(288)

ANDREA WEISS
Metro Reporter

ARG 3/5/96

PROVINCIAL and local government in the Western Cape will be expected to pick up 16 percent of the estimated R1.8 billion cost of building Olympic venues and practice facilities.

These figures were released today by Chris Ball, chief executive officer of the Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid Company.

Mr Ball said this would amount to just under R55-million a year to be split between the province, the Cape Metropolitan Council and other local authorities. It is proposed that the province take responsibility for 30 percent of the cost, while the CMC will take care of another 30 percent.

The remainder will be shared by the Cape Town City Council, which will pick up 20 percent, and other substructures, which will share the other 20 percent.

"In the case of the City of Cape Town, the amount to be spent per annum on the venues and practice facilities will be less than the current level of annual expenditure on new sports facilities and venues. It is not proposed that borrowings be incurred to finance the facilities," Mr Ball said.

The bid company has asked for R250-million to be spent on improvement to road and rails services in the Western Cape before the end of 1997.

Mr Ball said that the proposed dates for the Olympics in 2004, if they came to Cape Town, would be from September 17 to October 3, the same dates used by Seoul in South Korea for the 1992 Games.

Park (Goodwood). Laboria Park

Games 'will aid city's economy'

(288) BD 3/5/96

Heather Parker

CAPE TOWN — Ngconde Balfour, one of the directors of the Olympic bid committee, tells a story that comes out of a public meeting held to bring the Games message to the good citizens of Cape Town:

"Tell me something," says one woman at the Claremont meeting, directing her question at Balfour, "are you a ratepayer?"

"Tell me why you want to know," he says, "and then I will answer you." The woman explodes in a diatribe about "you people", rent and rates boycotts, and general fiscal irresponsibility.

"This whole thing is not about rates and taxes, it is about black and white," says an angry Balfour, who has been a ratepayer in adjacent Rondebosch for three years. And ignorance. Ignorance about the reasons behind the township boycotts; and about how the Olympics work in the economic arena.

"The bid is like putting a big searchlight on SA for eight years," says Olympic bid CEO Chris Ball. It focuses attention on the country — attention which brings visitors and business. The more firmly SA falls into the world's frame of tourism and business references, the more the traffic escalates. Should Cape Town win the Games, says Ball, SA will never look back.

So why are Cape Town's people, who are in the frontline for amenities and developments of Olympian proportions, so unhappy?

Their fears centre on rates and taxes. There have been some decisions in past years which have cast doubt over the city fathers' capacity for clear thinking on this issue. Many Capetonians believe the city is bound to foot big bills.

However it is, also, about black and white. Capetonians, who tend to drag their heels when it comes to change and innovation, have blamed the Olympic bid for creating false hope of employment, and hence for the mushrooming squatter settlements around the city, and increasing crime.

Ball is not prepared to take responsibility for the country's social problems, but he does point out increased economic activity as a consequence of the Games would have a ripple effect.

"Every person who visits Cape Town also goes somewhere else — and therefore spends money elsewhere," says Ball. "Also, Cape Town doesn't supply its own goods and services. Increased economic activity here has to mean increased activity elsewhere."

As for the fears of increased rates, the capital budget is reassuring. If the council maintains its present spending on the development of sports facilities — about R2m a year — it will fulfil its Olympics obligation to provide facilities.

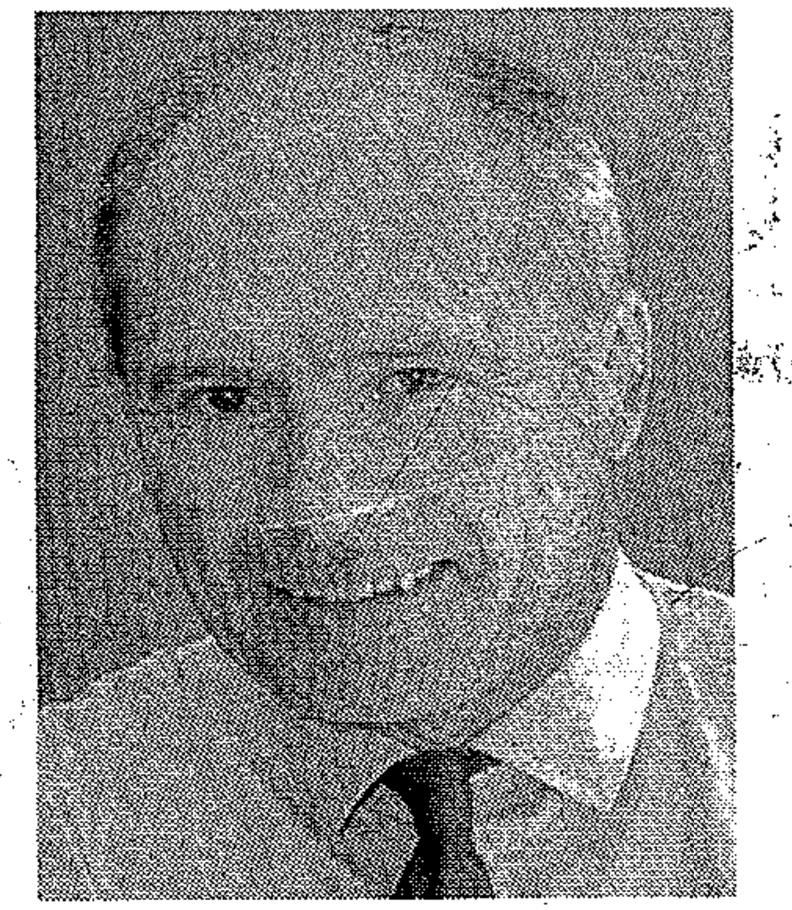
The only other part of the budget in which local government is required to make input is in the establishment of bulk services in parts of the peninsula which will be newly developed. This expenditure is budgeted at R570m, to be split between all levels of government over the next eight years.

The budget for the Cape Town Olympic bid was produced by KMPG, the international accountants who also produced the figures for Atlanta and Sydney.

A regular criticism levelled at the bid is it is an extravagance SA cannot afford as long as there is a backlog of housing, electrification and other basic services.

In answer, Ball refers to the operating budget for the Games: it is all paid for, he says, by the income from television rights, sponsorships and tickets. The expected revenue is estimated at R5bn, and games operations are expected to cost R3,6bn. Of the R5bn, 80% has already been contracted in television rights with NBC and the EBU (European Broadcasting Union).

The other area of concern is the sustainability of resources. "It can be done," says Ball. "Sports facilities do not generate the kind of capital that allows you to repay loans, so we are planning on paying for everything upfront. But they can cover their operating costs. Sydney's Olympic pool, for example, does so — it was built as an entertainment centre and it works."



BALL

The issue of central government spending remains murky, with funding of facilities by all levels of government pegged at R610m.

Assuming central government takes responsibility for half of this, that represents more than R300m in new spending related specifically to the Olympics.

The government will also be required to make its contribution to the R570m required for the provision of bulk services. Finally, and most controversially, government will have to accelerate its spending to upgrade the transport infrastructure in Western Cape to the tune of about R900m.

Ball says, however, that would not mean a substantial change in scheduled work in other provinces, because in terms of the RDP's R56bn five-year plan, the total reallocation of spending amounts to about 1%.

The Cape Town 2004 Olympic bid

Operating budget of the event	Rm
Television & international marketing	3 100
Local marketing, sponsorship & tickets	1 900
Total revenue	5 000
Less games operations	3 600
Operating surplus	1 400
Applied as follows:	775
- Development of facilities	625
- Reserves	1 400

Capital budget		Rm
Facilities (Training & competition)		1 800
Funding of facilities		
- OCOG	43%	775
- Private sector	23%	415
- All levels of government	34%	610
Accelerated transport infrastructure (Funded by national government)		900
Bulk services (funded by all levels of government)		570
Villages and media centre (Funded by the private sector)		1 433

Truth Commission prepares for KwaZulu Natal sittings

Star 4/5/96

Durban – At least 25 people are expected to testify before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission during its Durban sittings. Commissioners said yesterday they expected a scramble for the 300-odd tickets that will be made available on Monday.

KwaZulu Natal commissioner Richard Lyster said security would be tight. He stressed that only ticket-holders would be allowed into the hearings at the Jewish Hall in Old Fort Road.

He expressed concern that the hearings might be affected by a strike planned by the ANC for Friday, cutting sittings to three days from four.

It is expected that former Returned Exiles Committee chairman Pat Hlongwane will testify as a victim of human rights abuse and as a perpetrator. He is expected to tell of his life as a torture victim in the ANC camps in exile and to recount his role in the state-sponsored propaganda campaign waged by the International Freedom Foundation against the ANC.

Tickets and information can be obtained from the commission's offices at 391 Metlife Building, Smith Street, Durban, or by phoning (031) 307-6767.

Locals to bear 16% of Olympic costs

(288) Star 4/5/96

By ANDREA WEISS

Provincial and local government in the Western Cape will be expected to pick up 16% of the estimated R1,8-billion cost of building Olympic venues and practice facilities.

This was said yesterday by Chris Ball, chief executive officer of the Cape Town 2004 Olympic bid company. The amount would come to just less than R55-million a year, he said.

It is proposed that the province take responsibility for 30% of the cost and the Cape Metropolitan Council for another 30%. The rest will be shared equally by the Cape Town City Council and other substructures. It is not suggested that borrowings be incurred to finance the facilities, Ball said.

Thin rand helps boom in tourism

ST (BT) 9/5/96 (288)

By THABO KOBOKOANE

THE tourist industry had a bumper fourth quarter last year and the trend seems set to continue as a weak rand makes travel to South Africa relatively inexpensive.

Figures released by Central Statistical Services show profitability of major hotel chains increased to 17,1% in the fourth quarter of 1995 against 10,7% in the third quarter.

For the 12 months to December 1995, net profit increased 47% on the back of a 16% increase in turnover.

Since the start of the year, Cape Town, the peninsula and winelands have seen the highest occupancy rate for February at 87,7%, followed by Pretoria with 79,5%, the CSS figures show. However, room occupancy for the same period increased by only 1,6% to 60,4% compared with February 1995 and bed occupancy remained at 41,6% for the same period. Hotel income increased by 21,9%.

The CSS notes that the largest increase in hotel occupancy occurred in the Northern Cape at 46,1% with a consequent increase in hotel income of 44,4%. The Northern Province still lags behind other provinces.

The total number of bednights sold to foreign tourists during February 1996 increased by 35,6% to 288 933 from 213 096 in February 1995, the CSS figures show.

Gauteng had the highest share of foreign tourists at 32,2% while the Western Cape's market share decreased by 4% to 35,9%.

Last year, over one million foreign tourists, excluding visitors from other African countries, are estimated to have arrived in South Africa, a 22,3% increase over 1994. Industry sources are upbeat about growth in the current financial year.

Selwin Hurwitz, executive chairman of Karos Hotels, which operates 15 hotels with a total of 2 138 rooms, is optimistic about prospects for the year. "South Africa's status as flavour of the month has gone to flavour of the year," he says.

Mr Hurwitz says the fall of the rand helps foreign tourists.

Last year Karos posted a 9% increase in turnover and operating profit rose by 7% for the interim six months ended September. Karos has forecast a considerably better year for the year ending March 1997.

A positive Hans Enderle, executive chairman of City Lodge, says if crime and violence can be brought under control, there is no reason why the trend should not continue.

He says City Lodge is doing "quite nicely". For the six months ending December 1995, City Lodge's occupancy rates were up to 82%.

He sees the good trend of foreign visitors continuing, boosted by the recent United Nations Trade and Development Conference, which has attracted at least 3 000 delegates.

Danny Bryer, sales and marketing manager at Protea Hotels, says there is every sign that the foreign tourist market will continue to grow, given impetus by extra flights, availability of rooms and the major currencies' relative strength against a fragile rand.

However, he warns that the domestic market, which accounts for 70% of the tourist industry, is cash-strapped as a result of the current economic climate and inflation. He says something has to be done to make holidays affordable.



PACKAGE DEAL *José Arunasalon, Mauritius' tourism minister, right, with Cyril Vadamootoo of the Mauritius tourist office* PHOTO: ANDREW BROWN

SA cashes in on Indian Ocean tourism boom

(288) CT (BR) 6/5/96

By Audrey d'Angelo

Cape Town — Mauritius' thriving tourism industry benefited South Africa because the Indian Ocean island imported food, wines, furniture and other consumer goods from this country, José Arunasalon, the Mauritian tourism minister, said in Cape Town last week.

He met Dawie de Villiers, his South African counterpart to discuss joint marketing and ways to attract tourists to the southern African region.

Arunasalon said that marketing Mauritius in a joint package with southern Africa could be more effective than selling a single destination.

Mauritius was conducting a survey to determine how much was spent on imports for the tourism industry. It was also considering how many tourists the island could accommodate without damaging the environment, said Arunasalon.

South Africa was its biggest supplier and France its biggest export market, Arunasalon said. He said that Mauritius served two distinct tourism markets. It was a value-for-money destination for cost-conscious South Africans, because the rand had not declined much against the rupee.

It was also an exotic, upmarket, long-haul destination for Europeans.

Second bank is closed in 14 days

Port Louis — The Mauritian central bank said at the weekend it was shutting down the Union International Bank in a crackdown on fraud and financial irregularities. The central bank said Union International would cease operations at the end of business on Saturday.

The central bank said fraudulent activities at Union had been brought to its attention by auditors.

This is the second commercial bank to be closed down in two weeks, following action taken against the Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank for mismanaging loans.

The number of South African tourists dipped in 1994 when new destinations became available, but it recovered last year, when 42 653 South Africans visited the island.

This compared with 116 701 from France, 41 637 from Germany and 31 324 from Britain.

Sun International had a 20 percent stake in one of the two major hotel groups in Mauritius, Protea Hotels, the Cape Town-based group, also managed a hotel there.

Olympic bid 'a low-risk proposal for state'

BD 6/5/96 (288)

Samantha Sharpe

CAPE TOWN — Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games was a low-risk proposal for central government despite a requirement of at least R1,2bn from state coffers, Olympic Bid Company CE Chris Ball said at the weekend.

Government still has to give its final stamp of approval to the Cape Town bid — a move which will involve signed guarantees to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) that the bid proposal will be given effect.

While government was expected to contribute R309m to Olympic Games venues — about 17% of the R1,78bn needed for facilities — and R900m to accelerated transport infrastructure, this was considered to be "modest in relation to the benefits to SA", Ball said.

Ball said the risk of an operating loss in the games was considered to be low, given the high level of television revenues and the fixed contracts for these revenues.

Government was expected to earn more than R7bn in tax revenue from increased tourism associated with the games, which was also expected to create 110 000 sustainable jobs, Ball said.

Marcus praises ecotourism

BD 7/5/96

PORT ELIZABETH — Ecotourism had the biggest job-creation potential in the Eastern Cape but was the most under-utilised sector there, Deputy Finance Minister Gill Marcus said yesterday.

Marcus was addressing the Investment and Business Linkages Conference in Port Elizabeth. Another speaker, Development Bank of South Africa GM Johan Kruger, cited the lack of infrastructure as the biggest reason for the failure of developing nations.

He said government should provide the infrastructure. Marcus told the conference that government did not have money, and the money the government did have came from the people and should be well spent.

Referring to fraud in the province, Marcus said it should be contained through proper control measures. —Sapa.

(288)

'Ecotourism under-utilised'

288 ARG 7/5/96

PORT ELIZABETH. – Ecotourism had the biggest job creation potential in the Eastern Cape, but was the most under-utilised, Deputy Finance Minister Gill Marcus has said.

She was addressing the Investment and Business Linkages Conference in Port Elizabeth.

Another speaker, Development of South Africa general manager Johan Kruger, cited the lack of infrastructure as the biggest reason for the failure of developing nations.

He said many parts of the Eastern Cape had infrastructures which had to be subsidised by the government.

A formula should be found by government by which infrastructure would be provided.

Ms Marcus said the government did not have money, but what money the government did have came from the people and should be well spent. – Sapa.

'Too few flights limit tourism growth in SA'

(288) CT(BR) 7/5/96

By Audrey d'Angelo

Cape Town — There were still too few flights into South Africa by foreign airlines and this was limiting the growth of the economy, George Cooper, the new British Airways director for the United Kingdom and Africa, said yesterday.

BA, which already has 14 flights a week, will introduce two more in August — one from Johannesburg, and a fourth non-stop flight from Cape Town.

But Cooper said the bilateral agreement limiting the number allowed, based on expected passenger numbers from each carrier's home market, would have to be renegotiated in the next year to allow for further growth.

"We want more flights than we are operating now. This country doesn't have enough flights from airlines coming here and there is a danger that this will limit growth in tourism, which is a major industry throughout the world.

"Five years ago there were only 10 airlines competing on routes to South Africa. Now there are 59 and SAA competes on fewer than half of these routes. The way to grow this economy is not to limit the number of flights to SAA's ability to compete."

Cooper and John Hanlon, BA's new general manager for Africa, were appointed as part of a management reorganisation following the appointment of Robert Ayling as chief executive officer.

Cooper said South Africa was in the top five of BA's world markets in order of strategic importance. The South African market, and the route to Cape Town in particular, was growing faster than any other in Africa.

"We have doubled our capacity and even so our planes are flying full," he said.

Admitting that BA had benefited from a shortage of seats on direct flights to the US from here, causing many people to travel by way of London, Cooper said: "We do a lot of cargo and passenger business between here and the US."

Although the introduction of three flights a week by US-based World Airlines would "undoubtedly have an impact on us we still expect numbers to grow."

John Hanlon said BA would want a prospectus if shares in South African Airways (SAA) went on offer and would give serious consideration to taking a stake in it. While emphasising that BA did not normally discuss any deal before it was made, Hanlon said that it was "always open to approaches from other carriers" and pointed out that there was already heavy British investment in South Africa.

Ian Petrie, BA's general manager for the Cape, Natal and Namibia, said yesterday that BA would introduce two daylight flights from Cape Town in response to demand.

COMPANIES

Protea Hotels moves into Ghana

BD 7/5/96

Samantha Sharpe (288)

CAPE TOWN — Protea Hotels has stepped up its activities in Africa with an agreement with Ghana's Oguaa Hotels to manage a new R11m hotel.

Protea Africa director Bernard Cassar said that the latest agreement brought to nine the African countries in which the group operated, with Protea also planning to expand further into African countries where the group was already established.

"That means along the east coast from Cape to Cairo, as well as looking to develop a business and tourism axis from the Cape to Ghana on the west coat of Africa."

Oguaa Hotels chairman James Owusu-Bonsu said that Protea would also market the three-star Ghanian Ridge Royal hotel — a 56-room development — with the hotel set to gain from its new corporate identity and the goodwill associated with an internationally recognised chain.

Cassar said Protea was involved with several other projects in Africa, which included a R30m upgrade of its Malawian-managed hotels and the opening of a R14m Protea-operated hotel in Uganda on July 1.

Protea Hotels spokesman Ray Smuts said that Africa offered the group a lucrative market, with Protea well positioned to work as operators in the region.

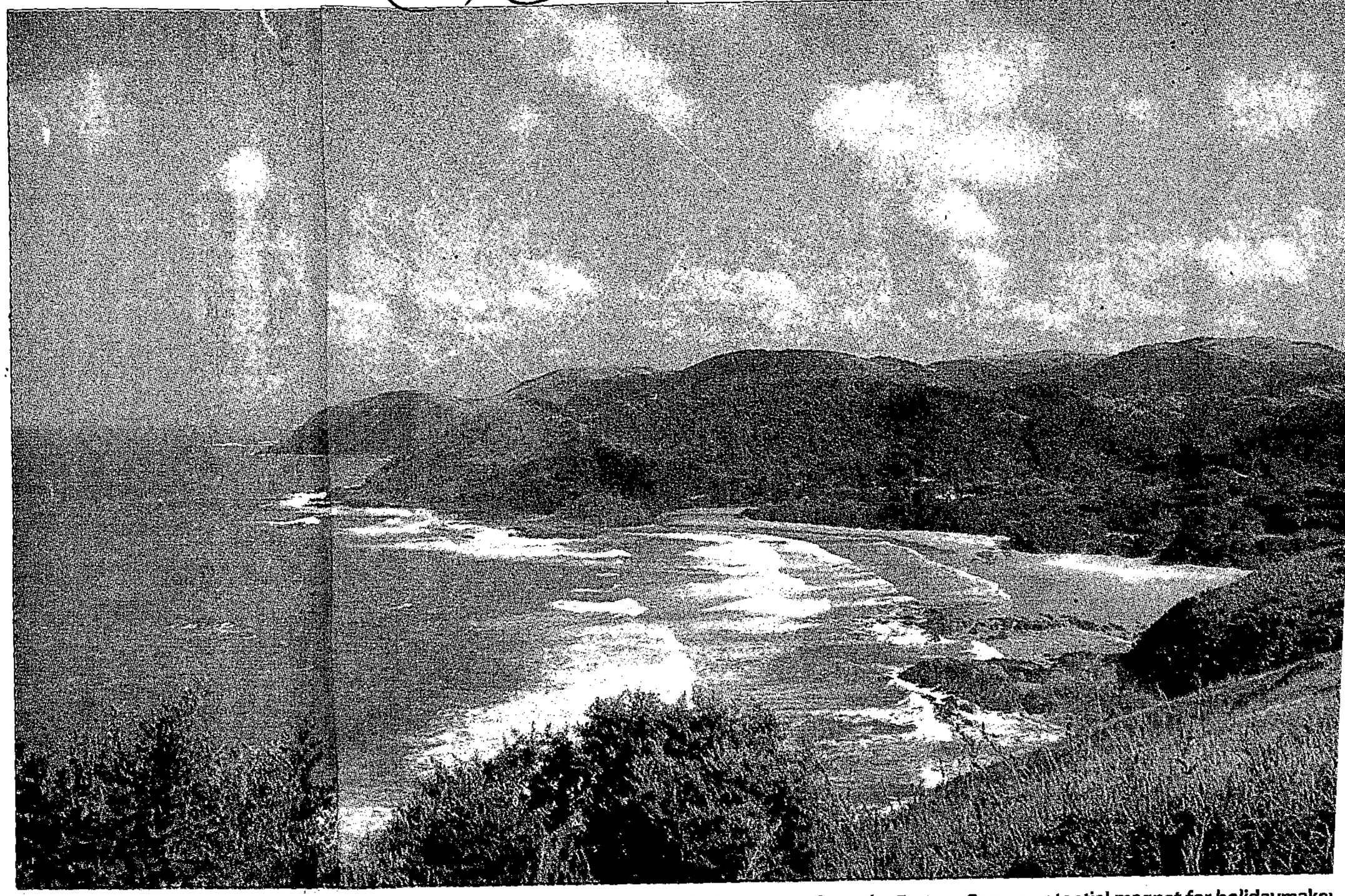
The group already operated about 80 hotels in Africa and the Indian Ocean Islands.

The greenest light for the Eastern Cape

(288) Star 8/5/96

ANITA

Against huge odds, the people of this breathtaking province have taken good care of their natural resources and are clearly determined to get it right for a tourist-laden future



The Wild Coast ... Second Beach at Port St Johns is typical of the long, undisturbed coastline along the Eastern Cape, a potential magnet for holidaymaker

By Anita Allen
Science Writer

Welcome to my squatter camp, is how Environment and Tourism Deputy Minister Bantu Holomisa greeted The Star at his home town, Port St Johns.

The occasion was the first day of a week-long workshop to thrash out an action plan for development in the Eastern Cape.

We met under the cool canopy of huge fig trees on the banks of the Bulolo River, which cuts through one of the stunningly beautiful afro-montane forests unique to the Eastern Cape.

"Some squatter camp!" I said. "This is paradise."

"Of course, but you know what I mean," Holomisa said with a nudge.

The popular perception of the Eastern Cape is one of a region racked with violence, financial mismanagement and environmental degradation.

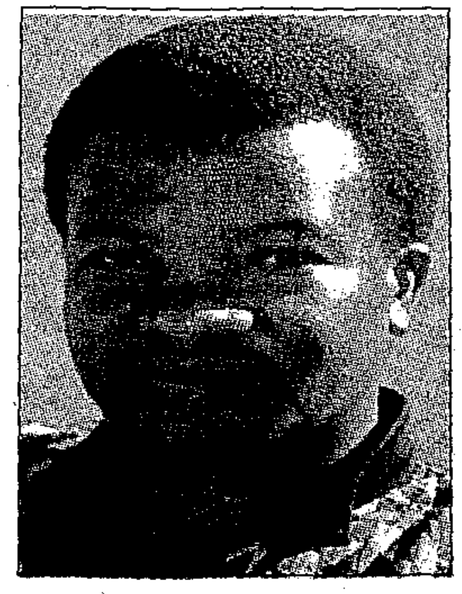
The facts are that the majority of people live peacefully at the mercy of a few thugs. But financial controls and proper auditing of government institutions are now in place.

The people of the Eastern Cape, against huge odds, have taken good care of their natural resources. Yes, there have been negative impacts on pristine environments, but the province has the finest undisturbed coastline in South Africa, and unparalled indigenous forests.

Close to 40 000ha of magnificent evergreen forests remain. In additon, the people for the most part live in harmony with their surroundings.

Well-constructed homesteads, painted in white, blue, green and yellow, are surrounded by grass and trees, instead of barren patches of earth. Neatly fenced croplands are the norm, as are the keeping of geese, pigs, sheep and cattle. The dwellings do not detract from the natural scenic beauty, instead they add a picture postcard charm.

Legend among seafarers is that the Wild Coast is the watery grave of sailors. It's an inhospitable coastline, with tempestuous seas and soaring cliffs surrounded by treacherous reefs. For sailors, the one break in the high



Major player ... the Deputy Minister of Environment and Tourism, Bantu Holomisa.

Table Mountain Sandstones is the great gateway cut by the mighty Umzimvubu River. On its western bank lies the town of Port St Johns, which was incorporated into the independent Transkei in the mid-70s.

"Given the high prices which the South African Government was prepared to pay for properties and the failure of the Transkei government to offer concrete guarantees of security of tenure to whites, the Port St Johns whites departed, virtually en masse," Clive Napier and Laurence Schlemmer commented in their 1985 study "Broken Promises and Lost Opportunities".

The revitalisation of Port St Johns as a unique tourist resort is now back on track, following last month's workshop. It has been identified as a priority in the development of the region, and a draft development plan for the town, commissioned by the Department of Local Government and Land Tenure has been prepared by Van de Verre Apsey Robinson and Associates.

In addition, audits of the region's natural resource base are comprehensive. Compiled by experts, these studies cover everything from flora and fauna to historical and cultural assets.

Existing development plans include a comprehensive Transkei Coastal Development Plan by Guy Nicholson Consulting Services for the Transkei Development Corporation.

A computerised database containing all the published and unpublished reports on environmental management, planning and research has been compiled by Coastal and Environmental Services.

The Grahamstown-based consultants have also identified gaps and made several suggestions for further study.

Opportunities abound, from zoned sites for hotels, to residential areas with spectacular views of the coastline, and business nodes. However, would-be developers will have to take note that the Eastern Cape has staked its claim as the Green Province of South Africa.

The unanimous resolution by all roleplayers from government to grassroots organisations at the Port St Johns workshop was that all development proposals will have to include an assessment of their environmental impact before implementation.

The resolution exceeds current national legal requirements where environmental impact assessments of development are not yet required by law.

The General, as Holomisa is called in his home town, made it quite clear at the workshop that he will remain a major player in the development of the Eastern Cape.

Together with the Goldfields Foundation, he was a prime mover behind the workshop, which was the first in a series of planning meetings that will take place throughout the Eastern Cape.

Goldfields involvement dates back some three years, when it began a long-term multimillion-rand social investment programme in the region from which it draws 20% of its 80 000-strong labour force for its mines.

The Port St Johns workshop represented the coming together of government, grassroots organisations and the private sector, united in a commitment to put the Eastern Cape on the road to sustainable development.

At an information sharing meeting in the Port St Johns town hall, Holomisa told the 200 or so people who had gathered, that the next step in the battle to put the land of their forefathers on the world map, was to market the town as the Gateway to the Wild Coast.

The outcome of the workshop was a set of priority projects. These included the compilation of an integrated development plan for Port St Johns and the Umzimvubu district; the development of a system of walking trails and a central craft market with a system of smaller satellite markets.

Also a priority for capacity building and training is the conversion of the Mount Thesiger military base at Port St Johns.

The sprawling complex, rumoured to have cost billions of rand to construct, was used for counter-insurgency training of 700 soldiers at a time, and was at one stage under the command of Selous Scout Ron Reed-Daly.

The RDP committee wants the base converted to an educational and skills training centre.

Already, the University of South Africa uses part of the base for accommodation and lectures for some 200 students.

Chairman of the Goldfields Foundation Mike Tagg said that his organisation would look at funding educational projects at the base.

All over the Eastern Cape, there are signs of returning investment. Many of the family-type holiday resorts have been revamped or are in th being upgraded after of neglect.

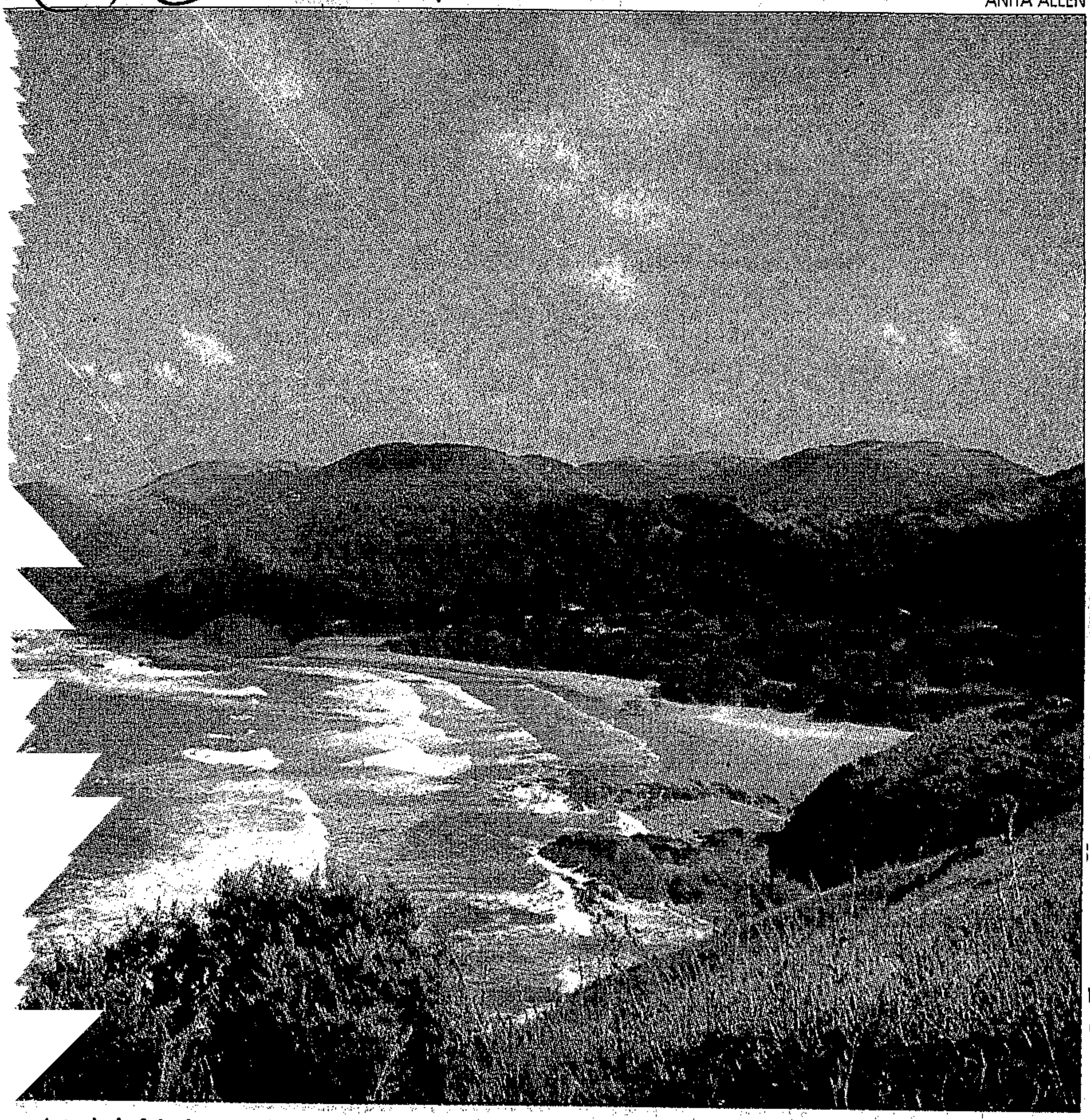
In Port St Johns, nicipal and provincia nature reserves offe commodation and ca ties. Umngazi River few kilometres from is currently running pancy, further alo Seagulls and Wave in business after ex vations.

The Eastern Ca is poised to exploi potential for touri ation – the world's industry.

the Eastern Cape

(288) (B) Star 8/5/96

ANITA ALLEN



ıns is typical of the long, undisturbed coastline along the Eastern Cape, a potential magnet for holidaymakers.

-term multimillion- investment pro- e region from which of its 80 000-strong or its mines.

St Johns workshop ıe coming together it, grassroots organi- the private sector, nmitment to put the on the road to sus- opment.

formation sharing Port St Johns town a told the 200 or so d gathered, that the, ıe battle to put the forefathers on the vas to market the town as the Gateway to the Wild Coast.

The outcome of the workshop was a set of priority projects. These included the compilation of an integrated development plan for Port St Johns and the Umzimvubu district; the development of a system of walking trails and a central craft market with a system of smaller satellite markets.

Also a priority for capacity building and training is the conversion of the Mount Thesiger military base at Port St Johns.

The sprawling complex, rumoured to have cost billions of rand to construct, was used for counter-insurgency training of 700 soldiers at a time, and was at one stage under the command of Selous Scout Ron Reed-Daly.

The RDP committee wants the base converted to an educational and skills training centre.

Already, the University of South Africa uses part of the base for accommodation and lectures for some 200 students.

Chairman of the Goldfields Foundation Mike Tagg said that his organisation would look at funding educational projects at the base.

All over the Eastern Cape, there are signs of returning investment. Many of the family-type holiday resorts have been revamped or are in the process of being upgraded after many years of neglect.

In Port St Johns, private, municipal and provincial camps and nature reserves offer holiday accommodation and camping facilities. Umngazi River Bungalows, a few kilometres from Port St Johns is currently running at 70% occupancy, further along the coast Seagulls and Wavecrest are back in business after expensive renovations.

The Eastern Cape, it appears, is poised to exploit its enormous potential for tourism and recreation – the world's fastest growth industry.

Call for changed tourism setup

BD 8/5/96 (286)

Bonile Ngqiyaza

COMMUNITY and labour organisations called on government yesterday to set up a representative tourism structure of community, labour and business organisations.

The two-day community and labour tourism conference — organised by the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union, the SA National Civics Organisation, and the International Labour Resource and Information Group — was attended by unions from southern Africa, delegates from the National Rural Development Forum and international participants like the Ecumenical Coalition on Third World Tourism.

Speaking at the conference in Johannesburg, the conveners said the proposed authority's powers should supersede existing structures, including Satour.

The conference suggested the state retain Aventura and other tourist facilities to ensure "affordable holidays for poor and working people". It was also agreed to set up a community and labour tourism network to facilitate the flow of information. The conference noted that the "highly elitist" nature of the tourist industry in SA meant that it benefited big business, and rich domestic and international tourists.

Farmers prepare for Mozambique

Stephen Lauter

BD 8/5/96

MAPUTO — Up to 700 Afrikaner farming families would start leaving SA within six weeks to settle in Mozambique following an agreement between presidents Nelson Mandela and Joaquim Chissano, Transvaal Agricultural Union president Dries Bruwer said in Maputo yesterday.

About 200 000ha of prime farming land had been identified in Niassa province for the first stage of the programme. Mozambique was to make the land available on a 50-year renewable concession to a joint venture between the SA Chamber for Agricultural Development in Africa and Mozambican farming organisations.

Farmers would get up to 1 000ha free, depending on the type of farming they planned.

For every three SA farmers settled, one Mozambican commercial farmer would receive assistance to settle. Subsistence farmers would be helped to improve their yields.

School and medical facilities would be created in communities where the SA farmers would concentrate. Individual farmers were likely to require an investment in excess of R200 000.

The agreement says the scheme aims to revive agricultural production, agri-industries and ecotourism in Mozambique, particularly in the northern provinces of Niassa, Cabo Delgado, Nammula, Zambezia and Tete.

Tourists: future projections

228. Mr J C N WAUGH asked the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism:

(1) Whether his Department has made an assessment of the number of tourists expected in each of the following five years; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;

(2) whether his Department has made an assessment of the accommodation required in order to accommodate these tourists satisfactorily; if not, why not; if so, (a) what were the findings and (b) what steps are envisaged to ensure that there will be adequate facilities available to accommodate these tourists?

N422E

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM:

(1) Yes. Based on the expected positive growth trends it is estimated that the number of overseas tourists will increase from 1 070 000 in 1995 to 1 230 000 in 1996, 1 488 300 in 1997, 1 771 077 in 1998, 2 107 582 in 1999 and 2 444 795 in 2000. International visitor members from Africa are expected to increase from 3 500 000 in 1995, to 3 935 208 in 1996, 4 328 729 in 1997, 4 718 314 in 1998, 5 142 962 in 1999 and 5 605 829 in 2000.

(2) Yes.

(a) Based on the above projections an additional ± 18 262 000 bed nights per annum or 50 033 beds per day will be required by 2000. The estimated demand is expected to be distributed as follows among the various accommodation types: hotels 48%, public game parks 11%, guest houses 9%, private game parks 7%, bed and breakfast 3,5%, farm accommodation 3,5%, other 18%.

(b) The view is that the market mechanisms should not be unnecessarily disturbed, in order to avoid a future oversupply of accommodation. Any artificial stimulation of supply during a period of sudden high growth levels, as is currently being experienced in South Africa should take cognisance of the potential danger that the demand could stabilise within a fairly short period, which could result in an oversupply. This danger is of particular relevance to the South African situation, when viewed against the backdrop of the various new hotels currently being developed in the country, which will substantially increase the supply of accommodation within the next 18 to 24 months. The Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism thus takesw a careful approach towards the issue of incentives to stimulate the supply of accommodation. The Industrial Development Corporation does, however, provide favourable financing schemes which are particularly aimed at the refurbishment of existing facilities as well as the development of new medium-sized concerns such as guest houses.

Financial aid to victims of floods

230. Mr J W MAREE asked the Minister for Welfare and Population Development:†

(1) What amounts were paid out by the Government from the Disaster Relief Fund in each of the past 10 years to support individuals in Ladysmith who suffered losses as a result of floods;

(2) whether the Government will be prepared to make funds available for individuals who suffered losses as a result of floods this year; if not, why not; if so, what amount?

N424E

The MINISTER FOR WELFARE AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(1) During 1987 and 1988 the floods caused by Demoina that occurred in KwaZulu-Natal were handled on an *ad hoc* basis and the figures for Ladysmith alone cannot be provided. In 1987 R20 million was paid out to victims of disasters and in 1988, R56 million. In 1994, R9,9 million was paid to 1 947 victims in Ladysmith.

(2) On 19 March 1996 the President declared Ladysmith to be a disaster area. Application for financial assistance is being processed. To date no amount for remuneration is available.

Tourists: countries of origin/expenditure/ complaints

231. Mrs A VAN WYK asked the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism:

(1) (a) How many tourists from (i) the USA, (ii) Europe, (iii) Japan, (iv) Taiwan and (v) India visited South Africa in (aa) 1995 and (bb) 1996 and (b) what was the average amount spent in South Africa by each category of tourist referred to above in each of these two years;

(2) whether his Department received any complaints in these two years from tourists or tourist agencies in regard to the standard of accommodation in South Africa; if so, what was the nature of these complaints;

(3) whether his Department has taken any steps to remedy the situation; if not, why not; if so, what steps?

N425E

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM:

(1) (a) Numbers of tourists who visited South Africa

(aa) in 1995 (January to December)

(i)	USA	103 466
(ii)	Europe	697 539
(iii)	Japan	15 974
(iv)	Taiwan	27 242
(v)	India	14 478

(bb) in 1996 (January and February, arrivals at airports)

(i)	USA	14 732
(ii)	Europe	118 543
(iii)	Japan	2 474
(iv)	Taiwan	4 345
(v)	India	1 388

(b) The average amount spent in South Africa by each category of tourist referred to above (pre-payments excluded)

— USA—R10 400

— Europe—R8 900 (varied between R7 950 (UK) and R11 350 (Germany))

— Asia—R9 100

(2) Yes. During 1995 the South African Tourism Board (SATOUR) received 19 letters of complaint pertaining to listed and graded hotels and self-catering establishments. To date seven letters have been received during 1996.

The nature of the complaints varied from plumbing (5), noise (3), heating/cooling (2), beds (4), carpeting (1), linen and towels (2), bedroom furniture (2), service levels (23), cost of services (3), food preparation (5), attitude of staff and management (8), renovations being in progress (1), loss/theft of belongings (3) and a number of general comments.

(3) Yes. Each letter of complaint is acknowledged and the complainant is given the assurance that the reported incident(s) will be investigated. Depending on the nature and seriousness of the complaint the following actions or combinations thereof are instituted:

(a) The consultant responsible for the area is instructed to investigate the complaint forthwith and if found to be substantiated to instruct hotelier/operator to take remedial action.

(b) The hotelier/operator is sent a copy of the letter of complaint with the request to let Satour have his/her response as well as information as to what remedial action has been taken. If the hotelier/operator has written to the complainant, Satour requests to be furnished with a copy of the correspondence.

(c) The complaint will be investigated during the next routine assessment of the property.

Eastern Cape: school feeding schemes

232. Mr T D LEE asked the Minister for Health:†

(1) (a) How many schools in the Eastern Cape were registered for the school feeding schemes in 1995 and (b) what is the total

(d) from which premises is the Commission currently conducting its operations;

(2) whether the members and/or staff members of the Commission are entitled to any (a) car, (b) travel, (c) subsistence and/or (d) other specified allowances; if so, what allowances in each case;

(3) whether the Commission has purchased any premises from which to conduct its operations; if so, (a) which premises, (b) at what cost and (c) what other expenses were incurred or are being incurred as a result of this purchase; if not,

(4) whether the Commission is renting any premises; if so, what is the annual rental?

N334E

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

(1) (a) Amounts of R6 176 000 for the 1995/96 financial year, R6 436 000 for the 1996/97 financial year and R12 745 000 for the 1997/98 financial year have been budgeted for the Human Rights Commission. The budget for the 1998/99 financial year has not been considered yet.

(b) (i) The Commission comprises of 11 members.

(ii) The Human Rights Commission is at the moment negotiating an organisation and establishment consisting of 39 posts with the Public Service Commission.

(c) (i) The President has not yet determined the remuneration package of the members of the Commission. In the meantime, the members are compensated in accordance with the proposals of the Department of State Expenditure.

Full-time member:

A basic salary of R183 432 and R142 731 per annum for the Chairperson and a member respectively.

Part-time member:

A basic salary of R142 731 per annum (i.e. remuneration of R71 per hour or part thereof).

(ii) Staff

Under section 19 of the Human Rights Commission Act, 1994 (Act 54 of 1994), the President may, after consultation with the Public Service Commission and in consultation with the Minister of Finance, make regulations relating to, *inter alia*, the different categories of salaries and scales of salaries which shall be applicable to the different categories of members of staff. The Public Service Commission proposed an organisation and establishment, consisting of 28 posts, for the staff of the Human Rights Commission. The Human Rights Commission, however, rejected the proposal by the Public Service Commission and proposed its own organisation and establishment consisting of 39 posts, which have not yet been approved by the Public Service Commission and is presently being considered. The salary scales for the personnel are currently also being considered by the Public Service Commissions.

(d) The Commission is currently conducting its operations from the SANLAM CENTRE, 11th Floor, c/o Jeppe and Von Willigh Streets, Johannesburg.

Full-time members

(2) (a) Full-time members receive a non-pensionable motor vehicle allowance based on the particular loan limits and the official interest rate applicable to officials in the Management Echelon of the Public Service.

(b) All members are entitled to be reimbursed for expenses incurred in respect of travelling for official purposes in accordance with the tariffs applicable to public servants.

(c) All members are entitled to be reimbursed for expenses incurred in respect of subsistence for official purposes.

(d) Full-time members are also entitled to the following service benefits: Leave, leave gratuity and a service bonus in accordance with the principles as applicable in the Public Service. A housing allowance in accordance with the principles as applicable in the Public Service. Contribution to a medical aid scheme of two thirds of the membership fees up to a maximum of R500 per month. Pension benefits as determined by the Members of Statutory Bodies Pension Act, 1969 (Act 94 of 1969) or a pension fund of a member's choice calculated at a rate of 12,5% of the basic salary.

Staff

(2) (a) to (d) Allowances payable to the staff of the Commission are currently being considered by the Public Service Commission.

(3) (a) No

(b) Falls away.

(c) Falls away.

(4) No. Part of the 11th floor of the SANLAM CENTRE has been made available by SANLAM free of charge, until the State Tender Board approves a lease for a suitable premises.

State pension schemes

178. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Finance:

(a) How many State pension schemes were there as at the latest specified date for which information is available, (b) what are their names and (c) what was the total value of the assets held by each of these schemes as at that date?

N336E

The MINISTER OF FINANCE:

State Pension Funds	*Total Value in Rand*
Government Service Pension Fund	71 448 810 580,01
Temporary Employees Pension Fund	3 990 120 693,68
Associated Institutions Pension Fund	4 836 466 099,59
Authorities Service Pension Fund	11 961 136 612,65
Authorities Service Superannuation Fund	540 402 380,98
	92 776 936 366,91

International tourists: trends

179. Mr M F CASSIM asked the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism:

Whether there were any noticeable trends in respect of international tourists coming to South Africa during the latest specified period of 12 months for which information is available; if so, (a) what was the nature of such trends and (b) what were the economic implications of these trends?

N337E

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM:

Yes.

(a) A very strong growth trend in international tourists arrivals was recorded during 1995. Overseas arrivals increased by 52,1% when compared with 1994 (from 704 630 to 1 071 839). Arrivals from Africa grew by 12,4% (from 2 927 982 to 3 290 931) resulting in a 22,3% growth in total foreign arrivals (from 3 668 956 to 4 488 272). Europe is still the most important overseas source of tourists (65,1% with Asia second). The UK is still our single biggest market and arrivals from the UK increased by 52,6% during 1995. Hong Kong, New Zealand and France recorded some of the highest growth figures—11,8%, 113% and 99,1% respectively.

(b) The economic implications of these trends is a dramatic increase in foreign exchange earnings to an estimated R13 billion while approximately 33 000 new jobs were created.

Foreign visits by Minister/Deputy Minister

181. Ms M SMUTS asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

(a) How many times did (i) he, (ii) his Deputy Minister and (iii) members of staff of the Ministry go on overseas trips funded entirely or partially by the State in the latest specified calendar year for which information is avail-

The above figures include the Police Assistants that were appointed as permanent members during this period.

(b) (aa) 1993	(i)	(ii)
Lieutenant-General	—	3
Major-General	—	—
Brigadier	—	15
Colonel	6	21
Lieutenant-Colonel	7	29
Major	21	28
Captain	33	25
Lieutenant	26	18
Warrant-Officer	207	425
Sergeant	305	344
Lance Sergeant	160	4
Constable	1 409	195
Total	2 174	1 107

(aa) 1994	(i)	(ii)
Lieutenant-General	—	1
Major-General	—	2
Brigadier	—	8
Colonel	1	6
Lieutenant-Colonel	5	3
Major	10	4
Captain	33	2
Lieutenant	26	—
Warrant-Officer	106	46
Sergeant	321	77
Lance Sergeant	155	—
Constable	1 092	49
Total	1 749	198

(aa) 1995	(i)	(ii)
General	—	1
Lieutenant-General	—	5
Major-General	—	14
Brigadier	—	8
Colonel	1	7
Lieutenant-Colonel	8	5
Major	18	4
Captain	30	3
Lieutenant	61	3
Warrant-Officer	136	50
Sergeant	402	53
Lance Sergeant	222	—
Constable	890	11
Total	1 768	164

Tourism: percentage of total GDP

128. Sen E K MOORCROFT asked the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism:

What percentage of the total GDP did tourism account for in (a) 1990, (b) 1991, (c) 1992, (d) 1993, (e) 1994 and (f) 1995?

S202E

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM:

According to the Reserve Bank the percentage of the total GDP accounted for by tourism was:

(a) 4% in 1990

(b) 4% in 1991

(c) 4% in 1992

(d) 4% in 1993

(e) 4% in 1994

(f) 4,5% in 1995 (estimated)

Government villages for occupation by MPs

132. Sen W F MNISI asked the Minister of Public Works:

(1) (a)(i) How many units at government villages specifically set aside for occupation by Members of Parliament are owned by his Department and (ii) how many of these units are currently occupied and (b) what are the annual upkeep and maintenance costs of these villages;

(2) whether these costs are covered by rentals received from the occupants of such units; if not, what is the shortfall;

(3) whether he or his Department is considering the sale of any of these units; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

S206E

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS:

(1) (a) (i) and (ii) The Government Villages are Acacia Park, Laboria Park and Pelican Park and comprise the following total number of units:

Acacia Park—546 units
Laboria Park—65 units
Pelican Park—108 units

Members of Parliament occupy the following number of units in the villages:

Acacia Park—154 units
Laboria Park—65 units
Pelican Park—61 units

(b) R8 613 649 in total.

(2) Rentals received are R1 638 631 from MP's and R217 696 from officials. The shortfall is R6 757 322.

(3) No, the sale of the units is not being considered at this stage.

Tenders for contracts: prescribed procedures

135. Sen Dr G W KOORNHOF asked the Minister of Finance:†

(1) (a) What are the prescribed procedures in respect of the calling for tenders for contracts entered into by the State and (b) under what circumstances do tenders not have to be called for;

(2) whether provincial governments are bound by the prescribed procedures in respect of contracts being entered into by such governments; if not, why not; if so,

(3) whether any control is being exercised by the central government in this regard; if not, why not; if so, what is the nature of such control?

S217E

The MINISTER OF FINANCE:

(1) (a) At national level all requirements that exceed the financial limit of R7 500 are advertised in the State Tender Bulletin at least. The official tender documents are used to invite tenders and the conditions that were approved by the State Tender Board and State Attorney, apply. Departments are authorised to prepare tender documents and invite tenders up to the financial limits delegated by the State Tender Board, which limit is R75 000 for general goods and services. Requests for goods and services that exceed the delegated financial limits are dealt with by the Board.

(b) Price quotations are called for when the estimated cost is less than R7 500 per case while neither tenders nor price quotations need be called for when the cost is less than R1 500 per case.

(2) Yes.

(3) No, in terms of section 187(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1993, procurement of goods and services by provincial governments is regulated by provincial legislation. This includes tender procedures.

With IOC propensity to award Olympics as prize for reform, SA still has a chance

Star 9/5/96 (288)

By Anthony Lange

Cape Town must be a strong contender for the Olympic Games in 2004 if the selection of previous venues is anything to go by.

From the outset there has been a propensity to award the games to cities in countries which have successfully emerged from the political wilderness and been re-accepted into the comity of nations. Not only does the world smile on them, but at that point they tend to be politically stable, with their citizens possessed of a new-found energy and will.

The Greeks were anxious to stage the first games of the modern era which were held in Athens in 1896, not merely because it was the home of the Olympics, but because they had cast off the Turkish yoke and wanted to reassert their culture and stimulate the development of their desperately poor country – which could not even boast a railway link to Europe.

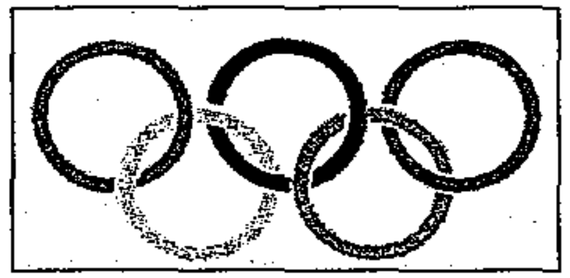
The dream was made reality through the munificence of George Averoff, a rich builder, who restored the 45 000-seat marble stadium below the Acropolis dating back to the 4th century BC.

Similar reasoning does not apply to the choice of London for 1908: it was then the hub of the greatest empire in history. Nevertheless the construction of the first truly modern stadium at White City did much for British prestige, and inaugurated a new era in athletics.

Unlike the narrow classical stadium at Athens with its sharp curves, the track turned sweetly around an immense grass expanse into which were sunk the swimming and diving pools. The success of the design led to the building of several other giant stadiums, particularly in America.

Antwerp received the 1920 games as a reward for Belgium's role in World War 1, and in 1931 Berlin was chosen as the venue for 1936. Germany had at that stage been readmitted to the Olympic fold after its post-war ban, and had become a democratic republic. This, however, was promptly dismantled when the Nazis came to power and the games were turned into a massive propaganda opportunity.

A celebrated film of the proceedings made by Leni Riefenstahl, which the Reich tried to promote in the US, records the overpowering nature of the opening ceremony. It was the



first occasion the Olympic flame was carried from Olympia.

It was delivered to the Lustgarten, where Herman Goebbels harangued a vast crowd of German youth as well as members of the IOC.

From there it was borne to the stadium along an 8km parade route, decked solidly with swastikas and Olympic banners and lined by more than a million spectators who were constantly addressed through loudspeakers.

Hitler, having made a triumphal entrance, awaited it in the arena. Later, to his fury, his theory of Aryan superiority was overturned when the black American Jesse Owens won four gold medals.

The games did not return to Germany until Munich in 1972 – the prize for creating the West German Federal Republic. In response the city developed a stunning athletic complex, conceived as a landscape into which the various stadiums were gently moulded, with their roofs of fabric and plexiglass lightly suspended above sculptured mounds, like Bedouin tents. Regrettably, the nearby Olympic Village was a mini-city of ugly exposed concrete apartment blocks.

The 1940 games, scheduled for Tokyo, were cancelled when Japan invaded Manchuria, but were re-awarded in 1964 for much the same reasons as in Munich. Kenzo Tange, Japan's great 20th century architect, took the opportunity to create what must rate as the greatest of Olympic structures.

These are two covered stadiums with roofs suspended from masts which swoop down like those of traditional temples, flaring up at the edges where they are anchored to the cantilevered tiers of seats.

Together their shapes create a compelling, dynamic composition, worthy in every way of Japan's great architectural heritage. (It is noteworthy that there were only 185 parking bays for 21 000 spectators – which tells all about the public transport system.)

The Tokyo Olympics were the first in Asia. Cape Town's bid could result in the first for Africa – but however sweetly the political breezes blow, the city will have to satisfy the daunting requirements the IOC demands of host cities. The final article in this series will examine just what this means.

■ *Anthony Lange is a Johannesburg architect.*

In its Olympic bid, Cape Town takes on a gigantic business enterprise and must satisfy the most demanding criteria

(288) Star 10/5/96

By Anthony Lange

The headquarters of the International Olympic Committee are pleasantly situated beside Lake Geneva in Lausanne. The IOC is a self-electing body of some 100 individuals, all of them unpaid, who represent the Olympic body to their countries, not vice versa.

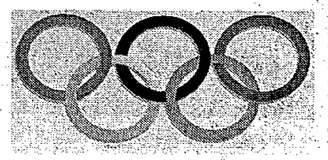
Since 1980, the president of the IOC has been the Marques Juan Antonio de Samaranch, previously Spain's ambassador to Moscow. Under him the farce of amateurism has been discarded and the Olympic movement transformed into a gigantic business enterprise.

According to Christopher Hill of Manchester University, lurking behind this development was the late Horst Dassler, the chairman of German sports goods manufacturer Adidas. Adidas had prestige in the Soviet bloc and the Third World, acting frequently as "official suppliers". Dassler could control as many as 30 IOC votes and had delivered the presidency to Samaranch, and the 1992 games to Barcelona. Dassler owned 51% of the company appointed to market the games.

TV has been the main money spinner, but product franchises are peddled, as well as various grades of "sponsorship" – the most valuable of which at Barcelona cost R85-million each.

The IOC is a non-profit organisation and does not publish accounts. However, two-thirds of the revenue goes to the host city to defray running costs (R6-billion to R8-billion at Barcelona); one-ninth to the international sports federations, a similar proportion to the various national Olympic committees for development, while the rest funds the IOC.

Following political disruptions at the two preceding games, only Los Angeles bid for 1984. Public funds were refused, so a private group took on the games as a free enterprise venture. Little was spent on facilities: the 1932 stadium was reused, and accommodation provided at university residences.



A hard bargain was driven with the IOC, who were hardly in a position to argue, and the eventual handsome profits (the Russian boycott resulted, ironically, in a wave of American support) remained in the US. This experience persuaded the IOC to control future financial policy.

Before its own games, Barcelona had become very run down. Central government provided R28-billion for upgrading, and an extraordinary display of energy and creativity followed. Projects of exceptional architectural virtuosity were embarked upon.

The celebrated American Richard Meier designed the Museum of Contemporary Art and Japan's Arata Isozaki the covered sports stadiums, while Spain's Rafael Monco encased the new National Theatre of Barcelona in a Greek temple made of glass.

The games that will shortly open in Atlanta represent a return to the free enterprise ethic of Los Angeles and will rely heavily on corporate sponsorship. Not more than R2-billion will be spent.

Again, accommodation and sporting facilities will be spread across campuses and new buildings will be sold back to the universities at a 25% discount. Unfortunately, most of the architecture looks execrable. The main stadium will be the future home of the Atlanta Braves and is a triangular baseball stadium with an incongruous loop temporarily added, to contain the running track.

However, a considerable effort has been made to include disadvantaged communities in the programme. A federal grant will enable certain slum areas to be upgraded, but regrettably this work will be limited to places visitors might see.

Cape Town's bid is shared between the public and private sectors. Comprehensive answers will have to be prepared for the 558 questions posed by the IOC. Proof will have to be given that the demanding briefs from all the international sports federations can met; and solid financial guarantees arranged. A myriad technical factors will have to be considered from how to deal with the southeaster to how hundreds of thousands of visitors can be accommodated and transported.

There are 47 professional teams at work. Remarkably, they have offered their services free. Cape Town now has political clout, it is superbly telegenic, and if spirit counts, it should win gold.

■ *Anthony Lange is a Johannesburg architect.*

most demanding criteria

Star 10/5/96

anta Braves and is a triangular eball stadium with an incon- ious loop temporarily added, ontain the running track.

However, a considerable effort been made to include disad- taged communities in the pro- mme. A federal grant will en- e certain slum areas to be graded, but regrettably this rk will be limited to places visi- might see.

Cape Town's bid is shared be- en the public and private sec- . Comprehensive answers will e to be prepared for the 558 stions posed by the IOC. Proof have to be given that the demanding briefs from all the international sports federations can be met; and solid financial guarantees arranged. A myriad technical factors will have to be considered, from how to deal with the southeaster to how hundreds of thousands of visitors can be accommodated and transported.

There are 47 professional teams at work. Remarkably, they have offered their services free. Cape Town now has political clout, it is superbly telegenic, and if spirit counts, it should win gold.

■ *Anthony Lange is a Johannesburg architect.*

Dr A W Paterson
Executor
Building #3
CSIR
P O Box 395
Pretoria 0001

Dr Anton Eberhardt
Energy and Development Research C
UCT

Dr Brian Clarke
Managing Director and CEO
TELKOM
Private Bag
X2670
Pretoria 0001

George Elis
Mathematics and Applied Mathematic
UCT

'Rand's fall cost Satour R4,5m

(288)

CT 10/5/96

DAN SIMON
TOURISM WRITER

DURBAN: The plunging rand has devalued Satour's annual budget by R4,5 million — forcing South Africa's official tourism marketing body to hunt for more funds to pay its overseas staff.

Satour chairman Mr Peter Swartz told a media conference at the Indaba Tourism and Travel Exhibition this was just one of several problems facing Satour, which had to market the country on a budget of R48m — down R8m from 1995's R56m budget.

Swartz said the government should stop paying "lip service" to tourism and back words with action.

"The government does not give enough support to the tourism industry. The plunging rand has cost us R4,5m today and we will now have to find this money to pay our staff overseas."

● Stringent cost-saving measures, more profitable international flights and innovative marketing meant South African Airways was likely to make a profit in excess of R300m in its current financial year, SAA's chief executive Mr Gert Myburgh said.

Race against time for Cape's Olympic bid

Star 11/5/96 (288)

By ANDREA WEISS

The Cape Town 2004 Olympic bid committee is fighting time as deadlines for the submission of the bid file to the International Olympic Committee close in.

The outgoing city council has been asked to give town clerk Keith Nicol and senior city officials the authority to approve the final content of the city's Olympic bid file before the new council is elected.

The bid file will become Cape Town's contract with the International Olympic Committee if it wins the bid to host the 2004 Games. While the incoming council will not be able to change the contents, its members will decide whether the document should be submitted to the IOC on August 15, the final deadline for cities hoping to host the Games in 2004. The August 15 deadline makes it necessary for "virtually all its contents" to be finalised before the local elections on May 29.

The Cabinet's delay in making a decision on the bid has complicated the situation because the outgoing council is unable to reach any "solid conclusions" on cost-sharing proposals for the bid. Indications are that the Cabinet will make its final decision on May 22, a week before local elections in the Cape metropole.

Nicol will also take the place of outgoing city councillors on the board of directors of the bid company when it holds its annual general meeting early next month, because the new council will not have had a chance to appoint new directors.

Peter Lever, Olympic bid liaison officer for the Cape Town City Council, has written a report detailing the time constraints facing the bid company. All the factual and technical content of the file, which covers 19 Olympic themes, has to be approved before the document is handed to Edward Griffiths, who has been employed to "rescript" the document to achieve consistency of style. The document then has to be translated into French.

The city is clearly compromised by the timing of the local government elections in terms of political approval of the bid file content and it is necessary, therefore, to seek a delegation to the city's senior officials to approve the final content of the documentation.

Three specialist commissions – dealing with the environment, the RDP and an audit of the bid – which could have monitored the compilation of the document are also not in place because they would have been created by a convocation which has not yet been convened.

Lever noted that the incoming council would have the ultimate responsibility of deciding whether to submit the file, and this decision was not aimed at binding them in any way, but was rather a means "of assisting them in that decision".

Number of visitors to SA poised to rocket

Star 11/5/96 (288)

By CAROL LAZAR
TRAVEL EDITOR

South Africa's tourism industry will space-rocket upwards if Indaba, Africa's leading annual travel and tourism show, is any indication. Indaba, organised by the SA Tourism Board at Durban's Exhibition Centre, is the largest yet held.

A record 1 500 international travel agents, tour operators and top travel journalists have visited Indaba, where 500 companies are exhibiting the best of southern African tourism.

Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism Dr Dawie de Villiers said: "The Government of National Unity has officially identified tourism as one of the growth factors for the economy. Tourism creates more jobs than any other industry."

The flavour of Indaba is one of a hi-tech First World mixed with vivid African colour, exotic Indian textures, and safaris and velskoens.

For the rest of the world, South Africa is a remarkably attractive destination. It offers the African experience supported by an excellent infrastructure. We have a strong ecotourism and conservation ethic.

Add to that ample accommodation with leading international hotel chains building new hotels in all major centres, the increasing involvement of local and previously disadvantaged communities in tourist ventures, great wildlife, and a fascinating and colourful cultural mix. Politically we are desirable as we have democratised peacefully.

A weak rand means SA is outstanding value for the foreign traveller, and that locals can less afford overseas travel and are more likely to holiday at home.

Crime is the main threat to tourists. To combat this, the Government and private sector are working together on all levels. Says De Villiers: "One of the main challenges we face today is crime and changing the perception that might develop about South Africa as an unsafe destination."

Pressure is on as Bid deadline nears

ARG 11/5/96 (285)

ANDREA WEISS
Metro Reporter

THE Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid Committee is fighting against time as deadlines for the submission of the bid file to the International Olympics Committee (IOC) close in.

The outgoing council has been asked to give town clerk Keith Nicol and senior city officials the authority to approve the final content of the city's Olympic bid file before the new council is elected.

The bid file will become Cape Town's contract with the International Olympics Committee if it wins the bid to host the 2004 Olympics.

While the incoming council will not be able to change the file's contents, its members will ultimately decide whether the document should be submitted to the IOC on August 15, the final deadline for cities hoping to host the Olympic Games in 2004.

The August 15 deadline makes it necessary for "virtually all its contents" to be finalised

■ **The newly elected Central Council, which will replace the Cape Town City Council, will have little say in the plans for Cape Town's 2004 Olympic bid because of time constraints. What they will decide is whether to proceed with the bid for the Games or**

before the election on May 29.

The Cabinet's delay in coming to a decision on the bid has also complicated the situation, because the outgoing council is unable to reach any "solid conclusions" about cost-sharing proposals for the bid.

Indications are that the Cabinet will make its final decision on May 22, a week before local elections in the Cape metropole.

Mr Nicol will also take the place of outgoing city councillors on the board of directors of the bid company when it holds its annual meeting early next month, because the new council will not have had a chance to appoint new directors.

Peter Lever, Olympic bid liaison officer for the Cape Town City Council, has written a report detailing the time constraints facing the bid company.

All the factual and technical content of the file, which covers 19 Olympic themes, has to be approved before the document is handed over to Edward Griffiths, the man who has been employed to "rescript" the document to achieve consistency of style.

The document then has to be translated into French, followed by artwork, layout, technical production, proof reading and printing.

"The deadlines are such that virtually all of the content has to be finalised within the month of May.

"The city is clearly compromised by the timing of the local government elections in terms of political approval of the bid file content.

"It is necessary, therefore, to seek a delegation to the city's senior officials to approve the final content of the documentation.

"It is again stressed that the incoming council will have the ultimate decision on whether the bid file is to be submitted to the IOC or not," Mr Lever said.

Three specialist commissions, which could have monitored the compilation of the document in terms of the environment, the Reconstruction and Development Programme and financial matters, are also not in place.

For these reasons, Mr Lever has asked the council to instruct its chief executive officer, in conjunction with the relevant heads of department, to ensure that the bid file addresses the needs of the city and region, with particular emphasis on the environmental, developmental and financial aspects of the proposals.

This decision was not aimed at binding the incoming council in any way, but was rather a means "of assisting them in that important decision", Mr Lever said.

■ **Grumbles and hysteria as Atlantans make way for the Olympics – page 18.**

'Fund needed to finance the upkeep of olympics facilities'

MICHAEL MORRIS
Staff Reporter

A TRUST fund should be established to pay for the upkeep of Cape Town's multi-million rand Olympic facilities, the city's business fraternity has suggested.

In a statement endorsing the bid, the Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry said it was particularly concerned that attention be given to the "ongoing maintenance costs of the facilities beyond the Olympics".

It believes a trust fund should be established for this purpose and that the anticipated surplus on the Olympics operating budget should contribute towards it.

A further contribution from this surplus should go towards the capital cost that will be incurred by local government.

The chamber also believes the cost burden should be shared countrywide "as the Games will benefit the whole country".

Deputy director of the chamber, Colin Boyes, said the business fraternity supported the bid because it had the potential to foster economic growth "through a massive investment in much needed infrastructural development", create many jobs and empower disadvantaged people.

It could also accelerate Cape Town and South Africa's tourist industry through the provision of hotels and upgraded recreational facilities, unify the nation and fulfil the dream of hosting an Olympics in Africa, he said.

But it was essential that the bid be run on "sound business lines" which must not be compromised for ideological reasons.

"It is incumbent on the Olympic Bid Committee to obtain an undertaking from local government contributors that their involvement will not precipitate any increase in local rates and taxes", said Mr Boyes.

Among other concerns are that facilities should not exceed the needs of the region once the Games are over, and that the bid should not be a vehicle for "extravagant projects that go beyond sound, affordable limits".

The chamber also stressed the importance of using the bid to promote economic empowerment among disadvantaged communities.

"During the construction phase, every effort should be made to employ people from the most disadvantaged communities," said Mr Boyes.

COURT BID TO STOP DEVELOPMENT

Parks Board moves on Oudekraal plan

(288) (@) CT 13/5/96

THE DECISION TO approve plans for a controversial hotel at Oudekraal was "unauthorised", the National Parks Board says. **MELANIE GOSLING** reports.



THE National Parks Board is going to court this week in a bid to halt the controversial multi-million Oudekraal Hotel development on the site of the landmark White House at the foot of the Twelve Apostles.

The board is launching Supreme Court action on Wednesday against the developers — Hottentots Huisie Pty Ltd — the Llandudno/Hout Bay local authority and the MEC for planning, Mr Lampie Fick.

This comes just weeks after the National Monuments Council dug in its heels by refusing to give the go-ahead for the Table Mountain cableway upgrading project until the environmental impact assessment of the project had been completed — a clear signal that statutory conservation organisations are flexing their muscles over development issues which affect the Peninsula's mountain chain.

In court papers the National Parks Board has applied for an interdict to stop the developers from demolishing the White House and from proceeding with any clearing, excavation or construction work on the property.

The board has sought the interdict pending a review of the processes whereby rezoning of the property and the Oudekraal Hotel complex development plans were approved by the authorities.

The board claims that the decision to approve the plan was made through "unauthorised and unfair procedure".

The developers and the local council had failed to get comment from the public and from public bodies who might object to "the desecration of a nature area". They also ignored a specific request from the South Peninsula Environmental Forum that the public be properly advised of the applications.

The National Parks Board also submits that the Llandudno/Hout Bay council failed to have sufficient regard to the fact that the Oudekraal property was in an area of "considerable national and international value by virtue of its unique natural beauty, biodiversity and other natural qualities which the provincial, national and international community have seen fit to protect".

READERS FOCUS ON CABLECAR — PAGE 4

They submit, too, that the local council had failed to have regard to the fact that their decision to approve the development could set a precedent and lead to further incremental development on the slopes of the Twelve Apostles.

The court action follows a public outcry earlier this year over the proposed 70-bedroomed hotel and conference centre on the scenic Victoria Road — on the border of what is to become the Table Mountain and Peninsula national park.

Protesters led a march on Parliament to voice their opposition to the development.

They also took up occupation of the White House, forcing the owner to get a court order to have them removed.

Professional environmentalists say the Parks Board's court action and the recent stance taken by the National Monuments Council show a departure from the days when authorities "rolled over" and gave in to developments in environmentally sensitive areas, leaving it up to the public and green lobby groups to stand up for protection of the Peninsula.

The Fuggle Report on the future management of the Peninsula mountain chain recommended that the sweep of mountain from the skyline of the Twelve Apostles to the sea should be preserved.

formally integrated into the school curriculum, but as yet has had no success. Traffic safety now needs to be given its rightful place at school level so that each child will be able to participate responsibly in the traffic environment. Thus I would like to appeal to the Minister of Education to ensure that traffic safety is integrated into the school curriculum.

(b) It is very difficult to isolate the specific causes or reasons for collisions, whether in the Eastern Cape or in any of the other provinces, as statistical data received from the Central Statistical Services does not indicate the causes of accidents.

Johannesburg International Airport: use by passenger airline companies/air freight companies

140. Sen J SELFE asked the Minister of Transport:

(1) How many (a) passenger airline companies and (b) air freight companies (i) currently make use of the Johannesburg International Airport and (ii)(aa) applied for and (bb) were granted licences to make use of the airport during the latest specified 12-month period for which information is available;

(2) whether it is anticipated that any new licences will be issued in the next 12 months; if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant details;

(3) what is currently the average number of (a) aeroplanes and (b) passengers (i) departing from and (ii) arriving at the airport each day? S222E

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT:

(1) (i) There are currently (a) 54 international and 7 domestic passenger airline companies offering scheduled air services and (b) 6 air freight companies making use of the Johannesburg International Airport.

(ii) (aa) 7 Foreign airlines and 3 domestic air service operators applied for authorization to make use of the airport during the period March 1995 to February 1996. (bb) All 7 Foreign airlines and 2 domestic air service operators were authorised to make use of the airport during the mentioned period.

(2) It is expected that new licences will be issued in the next 12 months. Relevant details can, unfortunately, not be provided prior to the receipt of applications.

(3) (a) There are an average of 136 aircraft arrivals and departures daily.

(b) The average number of passengers arriving at the airport each day is 9 500 and the average daily number of passengers departing from the airport is 9 475.

QUESTIONS

*Indicates translated version.

For written reply: 288

Number of tourists that visited provinces

123. Sen M G E WILEY asked the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism:†

(a) What is the estimated number of tourists that visited each of the provinces during the period 1 May 1994 to 31 December 1995 and (b) what did the estimated income from tourism amount to during this period? S197E

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM:

(a) The estimated number of tourists that visited each of the provinces during the period 1 May 1994 to 31 December 1995 and (b) the estimated income from tourism during this period was as follows:

	Overseas and Africa arrivals by air		*Domestic Visits*	
Province	*Total visits*	*Income R (million)*	*Total visits*	*Income R (million)*
Northern Cape	229 126	549	466 667	474
Western Cape	935 598	4 733	3 010 000	4 983
Eastern Cape	267 314	734	2 170 000	1 997
KwaZulu-Natal	591 909	1 258	5 740 000	5 065
Mpumalanga	381 877	875	1 773 333	1 565
Northern Province	152 751	461	2 076 667	1 833
North West	152 751	233	2 356 667	2 080
Free State	133 657	295	1 540 000	1 359
Gauteng	1 260 193	5 647	3 733 333	3 295

Importation of cupric arsenide

152. Sen E K MOORCROFT asked the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism:

(1) Whether he or his Department granted permission for the importation of the toxic waste substance cupric arsenide into South Africa; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, (a) what quantities were involved, (b) for what purpose was it being imported and (c) who was the intended recipient of this substance;

(2) whether the recipient was paid for receiving this substance; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter? S240E

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM:

(1) Yes, the Department granted permission for the importation of cupric arsenide waste which is considered as a hazardous waste under the Basel Convention. The consignment was returned before reaching South Africa.

(a) An initial application was for 2 800 tons, provisional permission was granted for one shipment of 500 tons.

(b) Recovery.

(c) JAD Metals, Benoni.

(2) Falls away.

(3) No, the matter is subject to a Commission of Inquiry.

Race quota for Olympic contractors

(288) CT 15/5/96

THE CAPE TOWN OLYMPIC Bid Company has set out in its draft policy how it aims to empower blacks through the contracts it awards. **DALE GRANGER** reports.



COMPANIES hoping to tender for Olympic bid contracts have until July to meet a stringent condition that 40% of their owners and employees must be black.

This is set out in a draft policy document on black economic empowerment that has been sent to companies.

Many of them have been working voluntarily for the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company and now hope to secure building contracts when the first of these are awarded in July.

Another requirement is that contracted companies pay the bid company a retention fee of 12% of the value of the contract. This is to be forfeited if the company fails to comply with any of the conditions of the contract. This fee will not apply to any company that is fully owned by blacks.

The cabinet is to decide on May 22 whether to commit R900 million to the Olympic bid. If it agrees to this, R86m is to be released for the building of sports facilities. These include a badminton hall in Philippi East, a boxing centre at Khayelitsha and indoor training facilities in Langa, Scottsdene and Grassy Park.

Cabinet delays in committing financial support have put the bid company under pressure in preparing for the visit in December by an International Olympic Committee evaluation committee — which expects to see, at least, that the construction of sports facilities is underway.

The first of the tenders is to be awarded by July and building is expected to begin in August.

In business circles, questions have been raised about there being sufficient suitably qualified black professionals — specifically in architecture, quantity surveying and building — to comply with the bid company's requirements.

A quantity surveyor said that the reaction from businessmen who met the bid company last week to discuss its policy was "stony silence".

The Cape Town Chamber of Commerce and the Master Builders and Allied Association (MBA), endorse black empowerment, but do not support the policy of prescribing racial quotas.

Mr Mike Loy, director of the MBA, said the policy was "extremely ambitious", but the MBA welcomed the opportunity to discuss it with the bid committee.

Mr Alan Lighton, executive director of the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce, said the chamber supported joint ventures between black- and white-owned businesses and the bid company's efforts to promote black empowerment. However, it believed it was "unwise" for the bid company to opt for rigid empowerment policies and that each case should be taken on its merits.

The director of sports and facilities for the Olympic bid company, Mr Robbie Stewart, said of the racial quota: "We are serious and are going to meet those targets."

He warned companies against tokenism. "There are guys who go around as black fronts ... those guys are not going to last long. We want to be profitable and we can't afford to carry anybody.

"We want to have people properly empowered at the end of it and we are going to weed out the fakes. The only way we are going to create a lot more professional firms in the marginalised sector (is) by giving them the opportunity through the Olympic bid to gain experience they might not have had.

"This is about the people of South Africa bidding for the Olympics ... we believe we will have enough quantity surveyors and architects in 1998 when major construction gets under way. Companies must be ready for it and try to achieve those targets."

The bid company hoped that contractors north of the Western Province would also be drawn into the projects, Stewart said.

Mr Rob Meek, a director of Gapp Architects, co-designer with black firm ACG of the new Hartleyvale hockey stadium, an Olympic standard facility, said the joint venture had "no problem" with the 50-50 arrangement.

● **BARRY STREEK** reports that the Minister of Sport and Recreation, Steve Tshwete, has rejected perceptions that the government is taking too long to reach a decision about supporting the Olympic bid. "Given the magnitude of the hosting and the cost this implies for all tiers of government, it is prudent that everything (necessary) is done, to justify cabinet's decision."



SUPPORT: Residents of Beacon Valley, Mitchells Plain, held aloft signs showing support for President Nelson Mandela yesterday. The demonstration followed an incident last week w racial insults were shouted by a group of National Party supporters at the President when he visited the Cape Flats. **PICTURE: BENNY**

Council nod for body to build Games venues

288

PETER DENNEHY

CT 15/5/96

A LARGE majority of councillors voted in favour yesterday of setting up a new body to finance and co-ordinate the construction of Olympic Games venues.

After much debate, 51 councillors voted for the motion, and four against. The councillors stressed that it would be up to the new elected city council next month to decide whether to sign the "bid book" and take on the contractual obligations that go with it.

The councillors said the town clerk should be allowed to oversee preparation of the bid book.

The council agreed yesterday that a Joint Funding and Development Agency should be set up by all the public sector bodies that will be putting up money for the venues, namely the council, central government, provincial government, metropolitan government, and other municipalities in the metropole.

Arrears poverty test may be dropped

METRO WRITER

THE Cape Town City Council is poised to drop the idea of a "poverty test" to determine which consumers qualify for arrears to be written off.

Earlier this year the council debated whether only those whose household income was less than R1 500 a month should qualify.

In a recommendation yesterday, the executive committee said poverty criteria should be dropped. Instead, all in arrears with water or rates at the end of January 1994 and still owing the money two years later, should be credited with the lesser of the two amounts.

Budget accommodation for Durban beachfront planned

(288) BD 15/5/96

Nicola Jenvey

DURBAN — Southern Sun would spend about R31m refurbishing its Durban beachfront and Umhlanga hotels this year, and another R19m was available for an investment in a low-budget hotel, chief operating executive Helder Perreira said yesterday.

The group wanted to build a budget bed-and-breakfast Holiday Express hotel offering a set room rate, and was looking for a suitable site on the Durban beachfront.

There was also the possibility of a second Holiday Express elsewhere in the Durban area, possibly towards the western suburbs.

Holiday Inn Crown Plaza — formerly the Elangeni — had been given a R10m upgrade in 1993 and another R10m would be spent this year on finishing the lobby and pool deck, upgrading the conference centre and refurbishing the bedrooms.

The group had spent R12m converting the Malibu Hotel — now Holiday Inn Garden Court South Beach — four years ago and another R2,25m refurbishment was under way. This included building four new rooms and refurbishing four floors.

Perreira said converting the Maharani Hotel into the Holiday Inn Garden Court North Beach had cost R5m, and another R2,25m was being spent on converting the suites into two separate bedrooms.

Carpeting at the Marine Parade Holiday Inn was being replaced at a cost of R500 000, five years after the hotel's R5m upgrade.

At Umhlanga, the group was spending R7m on upgrading the lobby and entrance area for the Beverley Hills Intercontinental Sun and R9m on renovations to the Cabana Beach and Umhlanga Sands timeshare resorts.

Luxury tourist hotels planned

(288) Sowetan 16/5/96

Creation of many jobs and investment

By Isaac Moledi

THE TOURISM INDUSTRY is to get a R100 million investment with the development of five luxury hotels in South Africa this year. A leading international hotelier Peter Weaver and a South African contracting group Condev are jointly planning to build exclusive hotels in South Africa's major cities with the aim of tapping the high inflow of foreign company executives into the country.

The hotels – with one of them already planned for construction in Sandown, Johannesburg, in August – will be known as Executive Clubs and will be managed on a five-year contract basis by The Three Cities Hotels group.

Three Cities is renowned for its management capability of The Carlton Hotel in Johannesburg, The Royal Hotel in Durban and The Peninsula Hotel in Cape Town.

Weaver, who owns several hotels in Britain and the United States, says because of their high level of technical operation, the planned hotels will provide specialised job opportunities which will need special training.

He says Three Cities was chosen to manage the hotels due to its experience in leisure industry and staff development.

Although most of the jobs will require specialised people, there will still be general jobs like cleaning, house-keeping and so on, he says.

Weaver says South Africa has shown potential of attracting high profile business executives who want to have luxury accommodation to themselves.

"We have seen since 1994 a high influx of foreign business executives coming into South Africa and opening their offices either on a short-term or long-term – something that has never been witnessed before," he says.

According to Weaver, there has been extraordinary interest from this market. "Fifty percent of the Sandown Executive Club suites were sold off-plan within 10 days and negotiations are proceeding with institutions who are anxious to reserve suites in this development," he says.

Condev executive director, Graham Wilkins says: "This is the most innovative concept and we are happy to back it as developers. Together we shall provide the much-needed facility for local and international business travellers wanting discreet accommodation in a grand style," he says.

Land claim a blow to Sun group expansion

BD 16/5/96

(288)

Louise Cook

PRETORIA — A land claim has been lodged against Sun International's main Free State gambling and hotel operation, prompting the group to rethink new development across the spectrum of its SA businesses.

The land claims commission said yesterday 80 families had lodged the claim against the Thaba'Nchu Sun hotel and casino. The families claimed that they had been thrown off the land without compensation by the former Bophuthatswana government in 1982, three years before the hotel was built.

A spokesman said research had shown the claim was legitimate and would be gazetted within days. A gazetted claim would bar Sun International from doing anything with the land or property until the claim had been heard in the Land Claims Court.

Sun International MD Peter Bacon said the group had not planned developments for the Thaba'Nchu site, but it would now study its other operations, checking for potential land claims, before pushing ahead with new development. He was not aware of other claims on land held by the group.

The leasehold land and buildings for the 120-room Thaba'Nchu hotel were valued at R47,3m for the year to June 1995.

The group's lease is due to expire in September 2084, with the rent currently running at R80 000 a year. It operates the smaller Naledi Sun Hotel on the Thaba'Nchu site.

The commission said it was unclear whether the claimants wanted alternative land or compensation.

It said other claims had been lodged against residential land at Fairview, Salisbury Park and Korsten in Port Elizabeth, and on land near Pretoria's Mountain View suburb.

Court action halts Oudekraal development

BD 16/5/96 (58) (288)

Samantha Sharpe

CAPE TOWN — Developers at the Oudekraal hotel site at the foot of Cape Town's Twelve Apostles have agreed to stop work pending the outcome of an application in the Cape Town Supreme Court for a review of its rezoning.

The application, brought by the National Parks Board against the developer Hottentots Huisie, the Llandudno/Hout Bay local authority and Western Cape development and tourism MEC Lampie Fick, was scheduled to come before the court yesterday, but was set aside until June 18.

The parks board claimed in court papers that the local authority's decision to rezone portion 3 of the Cape farm was outside its legal power.

The court action followed a public outcry over the planned 70-roomed hotel and conference centre, and the refusal by the National Monuments Council to give the go-ahead before an environmental impact assessment.

Olympic works terms cause alarm

(288)

Samantha Sharpe

CAPE TOWN — The Olympic bid company is demanding that companies tendering for contracts linked to the Games be 40% black-owned and staffed, triggering alarm throughout the construction industry.

The company's draft policy tendering document also says bidders that are 100% black-owned will not have to table the retention fee — worth 12% of the contract's value — applicable to other contractors and forfeited on breach of contract.

The first contracts for the R1,78bn venue development are to be awarded later this year. BD 16/5/96

Bid director Ngconde Balfour said yesterday the rules were only part of a draft proposal and were open to further negotiation. "The issue is really about encouraging companies to work towards the 40% level so that we can remain true to the bid's emphasis on economic empowerment."

The requirement should be seen as a means to encourage joint ventures between established companies and previously disadvantaged communities, he said.

SA Institute of Civil Engineers executive director Dawie Botha said the institute supported black economic empowerment, but could not subscribe

Continued on Page 2

Olympic bid

(288)

Continued from Page BD 16/5/96

to a quota system. "People employed in the industry must have the skills and knowledge to do the job, and it takes some time before the necessary skills transfer and training of professionals can take place," Botha said.

Master Builders' and Allied Trades Association director Mike Loy said the proposals were "extremely ambitious" and the 12% retention fee onerous. The association wanted to discuss the matter with the bid company.

The SA Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors was studying the proposals.

Government is expected to give the go ahead for the Cape Town bid next week — a move that would mean a R900m commitment to the Olympic bid, with R86m to be released immediately for sport facility construction.

The private sector was expected to put up about R413m.

It emerged earlier this week that the State Tender Board had adopted a procurement strategy which could leave government paying a premium of 18% on prime contracts to favour companies supporting RDP goals.

'Unsafe' image threatens SA

ARG 17/5/96
(288)

Beating crime vital to R10-bn tourist industry says De Villiers

JOHN YELD
Environment Reporter

THERE is a growing perception internationally that South Africa is not safe to visit, says Environmental Affairs and Tourism Minister Dawie de Villiers.

In his budget speech to parliament yesterday, Dr De Villiers said there were governments which warned citizens planning to travel to South Africa about "very high levels" of crime and violence here.

"Everything must be put into the struggle to solve this problem and to check this perception timeously," Dr De Villiers said.

Since the 1994 elections, international tourism to South Africa had grown beyond expectation, and in 1995 there had been 1,07 million overseas tourists – 52 percent more than the previous year.

They had contributed R10 billion in foreign exchange and sustained 550 000 jobs, Dr De Villiers said.

"It is generally agreed that no other industry has such potential for economic growth and employment creation."

A draft White Paper on tourism was being discussed by cabinet and would be tabled in parliament.

One objective of this White Paper was to attract 2 million overseas visitors by 2000, resulting in about a million jobs.

But such growth could only be achieved if several critical "success factors" were in place, Dr De Villiers warned.

"These include the maintenance of acceptable service levels, the provision of the required public and private sector infrastructure – communications network, transportation, roads, hotels, etc – to serve the growth in numbers, sustaining environmental quality, and, very importantly, ensuring the safety and security of visitors."

The government had committed itself to tackling the high crime rate with everything at its disposal and to improve the security situation for everyone, Dr De Villiers said.

Taxpayer cannot avoid paying for the Olympics – Wienburg

(288) ARG 17/5/96

Staff Reporter

IF your drain's blocked you don't telephone Tony Leon, Nelson Mandela or F W De Klerk, so why should ratepayers in Cape Town vote for a political party candidate in the May 29 local government election, says Cape Independent Alliance candidate Arthur Wienburg.

He told a meeting addressed by three independent candidates in the Claremont Civic Centre this week that the political parties had so far managed to tell the electorate what the election was not about.

"This election is not about abortion or the crime wave. The city council doesn't have the power to put more policemen on the streets. That's the job of central government," he said.

Political party candidates who were sitting councillors like the NP's Leon Markovitz, the DP's Neil Ross and the ANC's Nomaindiya Mfeketo were apparently not good enough for their parties to put them on a public platform, he said.

The council had become a huge bureaucracy in which good governance had become unimportant against the bare face of nasty party politics.

"It's no longer what's good for you, but what's good for the party," Mr Wienburg said.

The council was about to write off all water arrears because it had been told it would take too long and be too expensive to sort out those who had not paid through genuine financial hardship. The effect would be that those who boycotted paying their bills with the excuse that this was politically correct, were being rewarded for their stand.

Speaking about the 2004 Olympic bid, Mr Wienburg said the bid committee had given the assurance that the ratepayer would not be responsible for funding the Olympics and that they would be underwritten by the government.

"And where will the government get the money from? The taxpayer. So if they don't take the money out of my rates pocket they'll take it out of my tax pocket."

Expenditure on the Olympics included upgrading the Newlands cricket ground to the cost of R31,6 million, the Newlands rugby ground for R7,4 million, Hartleyvale (R15 million) and the Good Hope Centre for R22,1 million.

"To stage the beach volleyball finals on Camps Bay beach will cost R12 million and to build a rowing course at Wingfield R93 million," said Mr Wienburg.

"Will even one of these things improve the quality of life of any Capetonian?" he asked.

Speaking at the same meeting, Clive Keegan said political parties saw the local government election as no more than an extension of the national political debate. They waffled on about the TRC, the education policy and fighting crime while at the same time removing all reference to municipal or metropolitan police from the new constitution.

"Instead of political rhetoric, the ANC government should be telling us what they are going to do about the R120 million they owe Cape Town from the previous black local authorities or what they are doing about a national housing policy to house the homeless," he said.

Now or never for tourism

Western Cape warned to get house in order before next record summer season

MAUREEN MARUD
Business Reporter

SOUTH Africa, and especially the Western Cape, must either seize the once-in-a-lifetime chance to be a tourist mecca, or forever regret the missed opportunity and lost revenue, two high powered speakers have warned at a seminar in Cape Town.

If public safety concerns became a priority, and an excellent tourism infrastructure with quality service was in place, South Africa could see growth rates of 20-30 percent in the next five years.

In 10 years the country could earn about R250 billion and create nearly a million new jobs, Ernie Heath of the University of Pretoria told a seminar on investment in the tourism and hospitality industry yesterday.

And provincial Tourism Minister Lampie Fick used Winston Churchill's famous phrase, "Action this day", to urge the tourism industry to get its house in order before the next record summer season.

Mr Fick said complaints were reaching his office with "alarming frequency" about the deterioration and breakdown of tourism services. There were also warnings that South Africa was "pricing itself out of the international markets".

About 56 percent of all foreign visitors to South Africa came to the Western Cape. The most recent statistics show that Oudtshoorn's ostrich farms attracted more tourists than the Kruger National Park, Mr Fick said.

His office placed a high premium on careful planning around the types of tourism the region wanted to attract, and how to avoid making the mistakes so many post World War 2 countries made by overindulging in boom-time foreign investment opportunities.

"We are given the chance of a lifetime to plan around the present tourism boom.

"If we make a mess of it we will have destroyed the very assets we are now employing to attract visitors to our region."

Mr Fick said he would soon announce a draft policy framework for tourism in the Western Cape, and would table a new provincial Tourism Act to provide for a three-tier tourism structure at provincial, regional and community level.

"It is intended that this structure be formally inaugurated when the Western Cape Tourism Board starts its activities on July 1, 1996."

Professor Heath said tourism, information technology and telecommunications were the three interconnected services that would drive the engines of the next century.

The environment was becoming increasingly important to tourists. Research had proved that the main reasons for people coming to South Africa were environmentally-based.

If this country lost its uniqueness through over-development, it would just become another role model of what not to do.

South Africa was well placed to capitalise on key market trends in international tourism, such as getting back to nature, adventure, and experiencing and interacting with local people and cultures.

But tourism here was still largely underperforming in global terms, although it was the fourth largest foreign exchange earner and employed more than 500 000 people, positively influencing the quality of life of more than two million people.

Tourism here earned less than one percent of world foreign exchange, its employment ratio was below the world average, and it contributed about five percent to the GDP versus the world average contribution of nine percent.

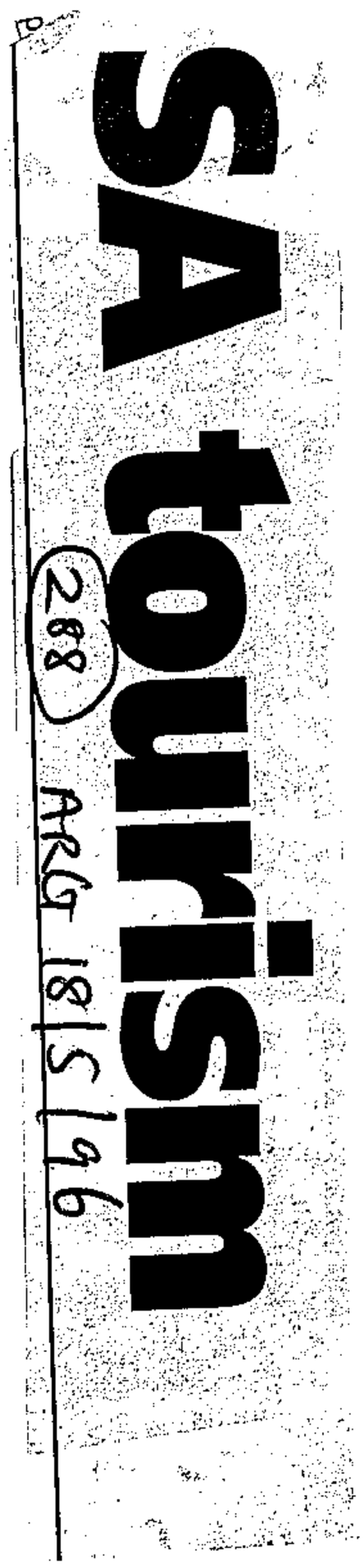
Although the outlook was positive, the perception and reality of personal safety had to be improved.

It was projected that South Africa could increase overseas arrivals from 704 610 in 1994 to more than 2,3 million by 2000 and arrivals from Africa from 2,9 million in 1994 to more than 5,3 million by 2000.

These projections could translate into a cumulative sum of about R100 billion in 1994 prices in foreign exchange and about 120 000 direct and 240 000 indirect job opportunities between 1996 and 2000.

But if crime, violence and personal safety did not improve, infrastructure collapsed and environmental degradation escalated, a rapid deterioration could follow, even though "we may still experience good growth for the next one to two years, based on the current window of opportunity and positive international climate".

Professor Heath challenged investors in tourism to "make it happen" in a proactive, market-driven and environmentally responsible manner.



Tourism created 30 000 jobs last year

(288)

DAN SIMON
TOURISM WRITER

CT 20/5/96

THE number of foreign visitors to South Africa grew by 52% last year, during which tourism generated about R13 billion in foreign exchange earnings and created 30 000 jobs.

Ernie Heath, professor of tourism at the University of Pretoria, disclosed this at a seminar in Cape Town on investment in the tourism and hospitality industry.

South Africa's ranking in the world as a tourist destination had risen from 55th in 1985 to 30th in 1994, he said. In Africa, its position as a world destination had improved from fourth in 1985 to second behind Tunisia in 1994.

"In terms of receipts, South Africa's position has improved from No 3 in 1985 to No 1 in 1994 with 26% of the earnings," Heath said.

However, South Africa was still performing below its potential.

"In spite of its being the fourth-largest earner of foreign exchange and employing more than 500 000 people, tourism in South Africa is still largely underperforming in global terms.

"The country earned less than one percent of world foreign exchange earnings while its tourism employment ratio was about one to 25, compared with the world average of one to 15.

"Tourism also contributes about five percent to South Africa's gross domestic product, compared with the world average of about nine percent."

However, the outlook for tourism to the year 2000 seemed positive — provided that perceptions about personal safety improved and international promotion of the country was "intensified".

"Based on global and competitive trends such as market trend analysis, airline capacity and expert opinion from key stakeholders ... it is projected that South Africa can increase overseas arrivals from 704 610 in 1994 to more than two million by 2000 and arrivals from Africa from 2,9 m in 1994 to 5,3 m."

City lawyer quits Olympic Bid position

(288)

STAFF WRITER

CT 21/5/96

CITY lawyer Ms Christine Qunta has resigned as co-ordinator of the group that submitted a black empowerment draft policy document to the Olympic Bid Company recently, citing workload pressures and a lack of "good faith" from the Bid Company.

The draft policy document submitted by the Economic Empowerment Steering Committee recommended that companies hoping to tender for Olympic Bid contracts must have 40% black ownership, and that successful tenderers must pay the company a retention fee of 12% of the value of their contracts.

The retention fee will not apply to black-owned businesses.

Qunta said yesterday she had resigned "because (her bid obligations) was taking up too much of my time and the Bid Company has not been acting in good faith".

She claimed the steering committee had been involved with the Bid Company since last October "with no tangible progress", and the company had "only paid lip service" to the notion of black economic empowerment.

She is, however, still in favour of the bid.

Olympic Bid spokesman Mr Paul Johnson said yesterday the company felt the draft policy document had stemmed from a process that "was not as representative as it could have been", and had set up a sub-committee to proceed with the matter "in a consultative manner".

The company emphasised that the draft policy document was not "the official policy of the Olympic Bid Company" and all its clauses, including the 40% quota stipulation and the 12% retention fee remained "subject to the consultation and evaluation processes of the bid company and its board".

Peninsula and wineland hotels 86,1% full in March

HOTELS in the Peninsula had bed occupancy rates of 86,1% in March and those in the winelands had 61% — far higher than the rest of the country.

Nationally, hotel bed occupancies averaged about 43,2% for the month — 3,4% more than in the same month last year, according to figures released yesterday by the Central Statistical Service. (288)

Hotel income was 17,6% more. However, room occupancy had increased by only 1,1% over last March. — Staff Reporter

ST 21/5/96

Hotel trade gets a boost

Sowetan 22/5/96 288

By Shadrack Mashalaba

THE INFLUX of tourists to South Africa has not only brought foreign exchange to the country but has increased the hotel room occupancy rate as well.

According to the results of a sample survey of hoteliers released by the Central Statistical Service, the areas that showed an increase are those in the Western Cape such as Cape Town and peninsula and the winelands.

These areas showed the highest room occupancy rates of 86,1 percent and 61,0 percent, respectively, for March.

Largest increase

The CSS said the largest increase in room occupancy for March 1996 compared with 1995 occurred in the Algoa region – up by 25,8 percent.

Hotels in the Free State showed the largest decrease – 24,1 percent – for the same period.

South African Tourism Board media liaison Martin van Niekerk says there has been a large number of visitors to the country, especially to the Western Cape.

"The region has shown an increase in its occupancy rate as a result of its scenery and the West Coast," says Van Niekerk.

He says while the Free State is a tourist destination it is not known as a traditional tourist attraction like the Western Cape and Gauteng for instance.

For this reason it showed a decrease in its room and bed occupancy rates.

Bed occupancy

The statistics show that bed occupancy for South African hotels is 43,2 percent for March 1996.

This was an increase of 3,4 percent compared with March 1995.

Room occupancy increased by only 1,1 percent for the same period while hotel income increased by 17,6 percent.

The CSS says hotels without stars showed the largest increase in room occupancy and hotel income (5,9 and 25,7 percent, respectively) and one- and two-star hotels the largest increase in bed occupancy (9,7 percent).

"With the increase in the number of visitors, the country is coping very well, even our hotels are among the best by international standards," adds Van Niekerk.

Tourist guides plan approved

(288)

DAN SIMON
CT 22/5/96

AN INNOVATIVE pilot project to recruit and train hundreds of unemployed people and deploy them at South Africa's three main international airports as "hospitality guides" for foreign tourists has been given the green light by the Tourism Safety Task Group.

The plan is to recruit some 500 unemployed people aged between 20 and 35 with "demonstrable" communication skills.

They will be given training similar to that undergone by police reservists and tour guides and then used to help with the safety and information needs of tourists at airports.

Senior Superintendent Eric Pelser said the primary function of the hospitality guides would be to support existing security personnel at airports.

He said the guides would be issued with identifiable "tourist-friendly" uniforms and would be able to communicate immediately with airport security services and police.

They would not be issued with firearms, he said.

Discussions would be held with relevant organisations to gauge the feasibility of hospitality guides being admitted to hotel school after one year's service.

"This will provide an incentive for suitable people to offer their services," Pelser said.

● See Page 5

Code of conduct for MPs gets approval

BD 22/5/96

CAPE TOWN — An MPs' code of conduct was approved by Parliament's joint rules committee yesterday after the ANC defeated an attempt by minority parties to secure the most seats on the disciplinary committee it will establish.

The code will oblige parliamentarians, including ministers, to register interests such as shares, jobs outside Parliament, directorships, gifts and fixed property when it comes into operation within the next month.

It will also force them to say when they have a direct interest in issues debated in Parliament, and prevent them from getting paid for lobbying.

Water Affairs Minister Kader Asmal — largely responsible for drafting and negotiating the document — said the code was "very important for the health of our democracy".

"It establishes the principle that MPs must be above reproach; that you do not exploit your role as MP for personal benefit." National Assembly speaker Dr Frene Ginwala said the code was a "terrific achievement".

It will be supervised by a committee on members' interests, on which the ANC will hold most seats. The NP, supported by the DP and IFP, made an unsuccessful bid yesterday for a committee on which combined opposition parties would have more seats than the ANC. Johnny de Lange of the ANC said it was a "load of hogwash" to believe an ANC-dominated committee would "sit somewhere in secret and try to hide things".

NP whip Piet Matthee said there would be no question of minority domination in the committee, as the opposition parties were not a single body. "What the majority party is asking us to do is to put our trust, our political lives so to speak, in the hands, wisdom and good judgment of our political opponents. That we cannot do." — Sapa.

Police to launch hospitality guide project to help tourists

(288)

Stephané Bothma

BD 22/5/96

PRETORIA — A hospitality guide project aimed at assisting tourists at international airports would be launched within the next three months to enhance a safe and secure environment for foreigners visiting SA, the SAPS said yesterday.

The tourism safety task group — consisting of the SAPS, Satour, the environmental affairs and tourism department, Business Against Crime and the Tourist Business Council — agreed to the development of hospitality guides last week.

A pilot report shows 93 incidents involving 103 tourists were reported to the SAPS during the period January to end April. Data indicated robbery (75 incidents) and theft (14) were the main crimes.

SAPS communications officer Snr Supt Eric Pelser said quarterly reports of incidents involving tourists, enabling detailed trend analyses, would be available from June to the tourism industry.

Although no financial details had been finalised, it was agreed that the project would entail the selective recruitment, in stages, of about 500 unemployed people with communications skills to be employed as guides. Pelser said the recruits would be provided with training similar to that given to police reservists and tour guides.



SERIOUS E
FAX DETAILS
FAX : (021
& CELL : 08
FULL COLOU
AND BUILDING SURVI

PRIVATI

CUSSEN AS
(021) 79

Cabinet backing for Olympic bid on hold before independent audit

(288) BD 22/5/96

Samantha Sharpe and Robyn Chalmers

CAPE TOWN — Cabinet's decision on whether to support Cape Town's Olympic bid has been put on hold pending an independent audit, raising fears that government enthusiasm for the bid has cooled.

The sport and recreation ministry said yesterday the decision on "underwriting the bid, expected today, would have to wait for the outcome of a Development Bank of SA investigation of the bid company's cost estimates.

The finance ministry has already been through the estimates, which are thought to put a worst-case price tag of R1,7bn on competition facilities.

A sport and recreation ministry spokesman said: "We appreciate the all-round anxiety, but we cannot decide either way on a serious matter like this one without such advice."

The decision to delay an announcement and call in the bank has raised fears that government could decide not to support the bid. A formal bid has to be submitted to the International Olympic Committee by August 15.

Olympic bid spokesman Paul Johnson said the delay had taken the bid company by surprise.

A series of controversies, including disputes between the bid company and its predecessor, the Cape Town 2004 Trust, and the resignation of deputy chairman Clive Keegan, have dogged the city's bid for the 2004 games.

It emerged yesterday that Cape Town lawyer Christine Quinta, citing workload pressures and a lack of good faith on the part of the bid company, had resigned as co-ordinator of the group that submitted a black empowerment draft policy for the bid.

The finance ministry said it had assessed the bid figures thoroughly, but government wanted an additional independent audit. A spokesman declined to comment on whether the ministry's findings supported proposals.

Development bank operations GM De Villiers Botha said the bank expected to pass its comments to government by next week at the latest.

Reuter reports that the public bill for hosting the Sydney 2 000 Olympics has risen to A$1,9bn, an increase of A$370m since the city submitted its bid for the games in 1992.

The bill, inflated partly by a decision to improve the quality and seating capacity of facilities, did not include the A$750m cost of building an Olympic village. The Sydney Olympic committee estimated running costs at A$1,87bn. The state government, as underwriters, originally budgeted A$1,54bn for infrastructure in its bid.

Plan to help tourists at airports

Star 23/5/96 (288)

Project will see jobless people – who are to receive the same training as police reservists and tour guides – welcoming, helping and protecting visitors

By Anso Thom

A group of unemployed people will be trained within the next three months to assist with the safety and information needs of tourists arriving at South African airports.

This decision was taken at a meeting of the Tourism Safety Task Group, which consists of representatives of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Business Against Crime (BAC), the Tourism Business Council (TBC), the SA Tourism Board and the police.

Both BAC and the TBC indicated their support for the pilot project aimed at developing hospitality guides with good communication skills.

It was agreed that the project would entail the selective recruitment in stages of about 500 unemployed people aged between 20 and 35.

A smaller group of guides will first be trained and deployed at Johannesburg international airport for evaluation purposes. The guides will operate under the auspices of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism.

The department, BAC and the TBC will in the next three months campaign for funding and develop the criteria for selection.

The guides will be provided with training similar to that given to police reservists and tour guides.

"The primary function of such hospitality guides would be to support existing security personnel at the airports and not to be policemen," said National Standards and Management Services communication officer Senior Supt Eric Pelser.

When deployed, the guides will be dressed in identifiable, tourist-friendly uniforms and will be equipped by police with the means to communicate immediately with airport security services and SAPS members deployed at the airports.

The guides will not be armed.

Detailed criteria for the recruitment and selection of suitable candidates and the required training curricula are currently being developed.

It was also agreed that discussions with relevant organisations would take place to gauge the feasibility of hospitality guides being admitted to hotel school after one year of service. It was felt this would provide an incentive for suitable people to offer their services as hospitality guides and then to develop careers in the hotel or tourism industry.

A total of 93 incidents involving 103 tourists were reported to the SAPS between January and April this year.

Pelser pointed out that while these figures were of great concern to the SAPS, 381 157 foreign tourists visited the country in January alone. During February, 106 556 tourists arrived at the three main international airports in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban.

Further analysis of the data indicated that robbery (75 incidents) and theft (14) were the most reported crimes and that almost one-third of the reported crimes occurred between 4pm and 8pm.

A communication strategy aimed at highlighting the issue of tourist safety and the measures taken by all role-players to improve it will be implemented in time for the July peak tourist season.

Lack of facilities may slow tourism

(288) Sowetan 23/5/96

By Isaac Moledi

SOUTH AFRICA'S lack of capacity to handle huge tourism arrivals could place constraints on the industry's growth, says consultancy firm Kessel Feinstein.

Launching an updated edition of its booklet on tourism, called *Tourism Talk*, company chief executive Delano Caras said on Monday that capacity problems were already affecting some segments of the industry.

Worst hit were inbound tour operators, who had to deal with the lack of good infrastructure such as lack of coaches, and appropriate accommodation during peak seasons.

Compounding the problem, says Caras, is the fact that local international airports are already operating at close to capacity.

"We have also cautioned that growth in business will probably exacerbate the already low service standards," argues Caras, adding that lack of proper infrastructure and service threatens the the growth of the industry, which is expected to be worth about R42 billion by the turn of the century.

Other problems, according to Caras, include a shortage of guides who speak foreign languages.

Caras believes that tourism can ultimately become a mega industry in South Africa. It represents nearly six percent of the country's Gross Domestic Product. Last year tourism contributed about R18 billion, nearly four percent, of GDP.

In addition, the company's estimates are that by the turn of the century, foreign tourism will probably generate foreign exchange earnings higher than those of gold.

Although South Africa is set for a continuing improvement in foreign tourist arrivals this year, it is unlikely that the growth rate will match that achieved last year.

Industry should be 'market-led'

Hotelier warns against flooding the market

(T(BR)23/5/96 (288

By Audrey d'Angelo

Cape Town — New hotel development should be carefully planned so as not to flood the market, Otto Stehlik, the chairman of Protea Hotels, warned yesterday.

He said building new hotels should be market-led rather than encouraged by incentives which could lead to an over-supply followed by closures as happened in the United States in the 1980s.

Although the demand for hotel rooms had exceeded supply in some areas, Stehlik said this was not unusual in other tourist destinations, such as London, at peak season.

Charles Brand, whose family was building a R70 million five-star hotel, the Cape Grace, at Cape Town's waterfront, said: "We expect continued growth, particularly in the Cape. But, although there is a shortage of hotel rooms in all categories in the most desirable locations, we must be careful to avoid building an over-supply in the good times."

However, Brand, whose family owns and operates the Mount Grace Hotel in Magaliesburg and is developing a hotel in Rosebank, Johannesburg, said there was scope for more five-star hotels.

Stehlik's Protea chain is building a four-star hotel, the Victoria Junction, near Cape Town's city centre.

Stehlik and Brand both pointed out that many of the international hotel groups showing interest in South Africa wanted management contracts rather than investing in new hotels themselves.

Stehlik said he expected some to come into South Africa through partnerships with existing chains, as Intercontinental had already done.

Ian Mitchell, the joint managing director of Richard Ellis Africa, said recently he thought the market in Sandton would be saturated when hotels under construction were completed.

But other property experts, including economist John Rayner of stockbrokers Edey Rogers, and Karen Mitchell, a director of Liberty Life Properties, thought there was scope for more hotel development in some areas.

Stehlik told a tourism seminar in Cape Town that this was a good time to invest in hotels because, although southern Africa attracted only a tiny fraction of the world tourism market, its share would grow as Europe's declined.

He also expected more visitors from other African countries.

Stehlik said figures issued by the World Tourism Organisation showed that about 500 million tourists were travelling internationally this year. Of these, 300 million went to Europe, 100 million to the Americas and 83 million to Australia.

Africa's share was about 17 million and about 10 million of these went to North Africa, where Morocco alone attracted 8 million last year. Another 3 million went to East Africa and 4 million to South Africa, which included visitors from other parts of the region.

However, Stehlik said, Europe was "turning into a museum" and its annual 2,7 percent growth in tourism was expected to drop to 2,5 percent between 2000 and 2050.

More people were expected to go on long-haul journeys from Europe and the United States. International tourist numbers from Japan alone were expected to grow from 13 million a year to 30 million by 2005. The 5 percent growth in tourism to Africa forecast by the World Tourism Organisation could be exceeded, Stehlik said.

'Most foreign tourists stay in cheaper hotels'

By Audrey d'Angelo

Cape Town — More foreign tourists are staying in cheaper ungraded or three-star hotels than in luxury accommodation, the Central Statistical Service said yesterday.

There were more visitors from other African countries in March, but the number of visitors from Asia dropped 3,3 percent.

Roger Mackie, the president of the Association of Southern African Travel Agents, said that this did not surprise him. "South Africa is getting a reputation overseas as an expensive, dangerous place. We must do something here to curb crime and our hotels must be seen to offer value for money."

The statistical service's latest report showed that foreign tourists staying in South African hotels rose 30,2 percent in March compared with the same month last year.

But foreign visitors made up only 21,6 percent of the total number of hotel guests in March, down from 25,2 percent in February.

Most foreigners stayed in cheaper accommodation.

The service said that nil-star hotels showed the largest number of bednights sold to foreign tourists with a market share of 29 percent for March. They were followed by three-star hotels with 26,4 percent.

Only 15 percent of bednights in five-star hotels were sold to foreign visitors in March. This was compared with 14,1 percent in February and 19,9 percent in March last year.

Four-star hotels sold 22,4 percent of bednights to foreign visitors in March and 22,1 percent in February. This was compared with 24,6 percent last March.

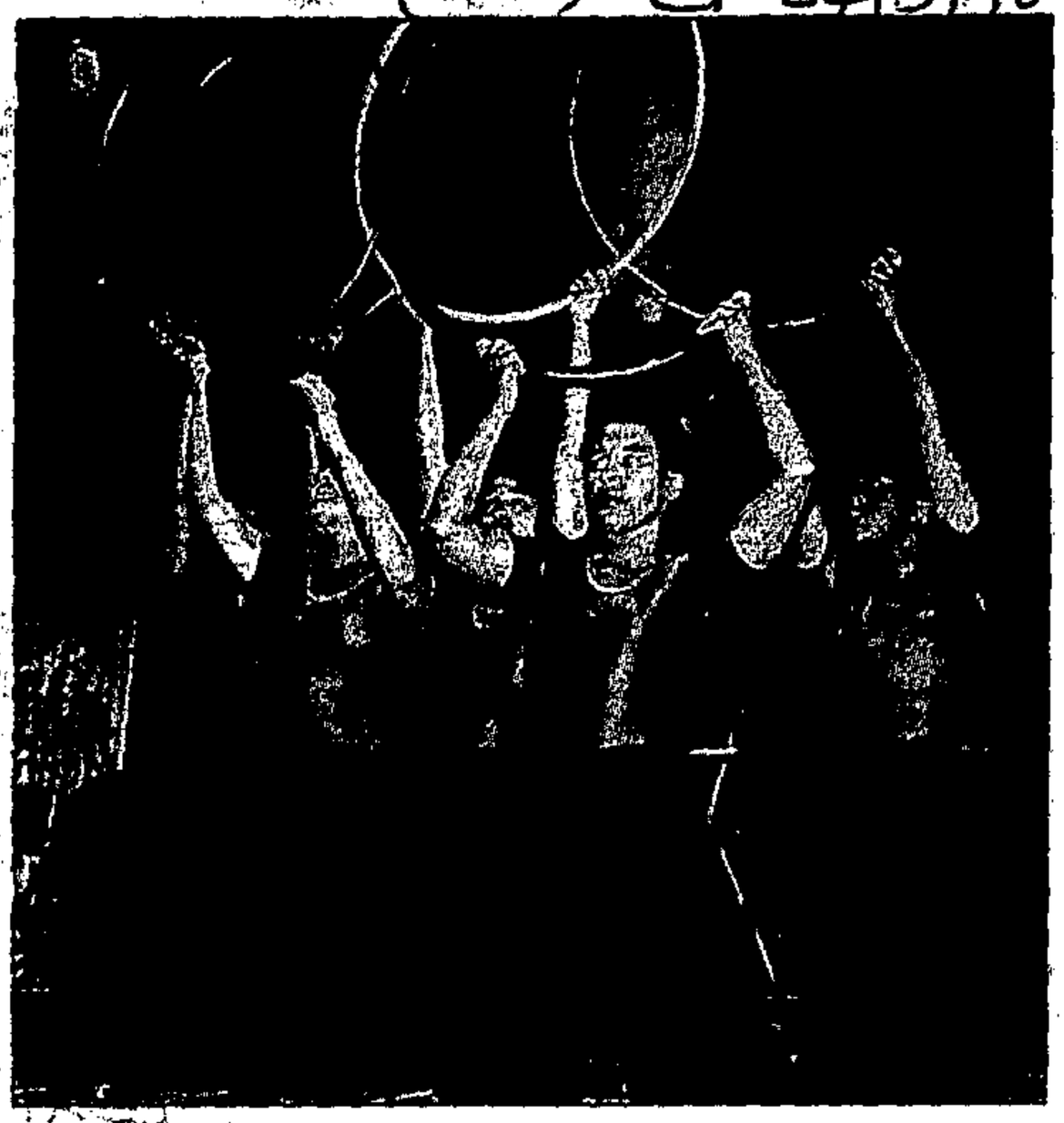
In March 275 966 bednights were sold to foreign visitors compared with 211 906 in March last year. The Western Cape sold the most bednights with 36,6 percent, followed by Gauteng with 31,5 percent.

STANDING OVATION FOR GAMES TROUPE

2004 roadshow set to win hearts and minds

288 CT 24/5/96

A COMMUNITY theatre group has made its stage debut — on behalf of the Olympic Bid Company — to enthusiastic applause. **DALE GRANGER** reports.



SMASH HIT: Performing for the first time under lights with mixed music equipment, the Buwa Theatre Company yesterday launched the Olympic bid roadshow. *PICTURE: ALAN TAYLOR*

ONLY the smile on Mr Chris Ball's face was as enthusiastic as the standing ovation of a singing and clapping audience in Athlone yesterday as the Olympic Bid Company launched their roadshow to win the hearts and minds of Capetonians for the 2004 Games.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Cape Town Mayor Mr William Bantom and boxer Nika Khumalo were all at the Joseph Stone Auditorium to watch the Buwa Theatre Company — a community-based group — make their debut on stage, using lights with mixed music for the first time.

They had just three frantic weeks to rehearse for the opening show and wowed the crowd with energetic and acrobatic dance routines and catchy songs in Xhosa, Afrikaans and English praising the merits of a Cape Town Olympics.

The group will tour the Western Cape by bus to perform in a series of shows at shopping malls, schools and community halls. Their main purpose is to reach out to people who do not have access to the electronic media and, either through illiteracy or lack of finance, do not read newspapers.

"I was very impressed," said Mr Ngconde Balfour, the Olympic Bid Company's director of international relations and sports development. "They are able to reach out in a way that doesn't bombard people with figures. They symbolise the energy of the bid and their non-stop activity is exactly what we need to get things going".

Before the show, Ball, the company's chief executive officer, announced that Cape Town's bid had enlisted a new supporter in Nawal El Noutawakel-Bennis of Morocco, the first African to win an Olympic gold medal. She would be coming to Cape Town soon.

Addressing the audience, Bantom spoke of the miracle of the 1994 elections and the success of SA's sports teams and said the extension of this was the "unique opportunity" to bring the Olympics to Africa, SA and Cape Town.

He was aware of people's fears and these would be taken into account "so that in the end no one will lose out. I believe in the end we will all be winners", he said.

"Let the Olympic flame be a sign of our unity and let us do it for the sake of all the peoples of our land and most of all, our city", he said.

Community leader Mr Faried Esack said there was no way the bid could go ahead without the support of the community and it was an opportunity to show the world "what this country has arrived at, in spite of and because of our history".

He said many people did not have the foresight to see how the massive expenditure on an Olympic Games would benefit them in the long run, but SA was a "country of miracles" which had transformed "like no other country in Africa".

"The bid company should not allow any fringe elements to derail the miracle we are once again going to pull off in this country, both in the way we run the bid and how we pull it off in the end, to ensure the people of SA are the winners," he said.

'Green group' holds key to quick approval of cableway

WILLEM STEENKAMP
Staff Reporter
ARG 25/5/96

THE upgrade of Table Mountain's cableway could be approved within two months if a special committee solved environmental problems.

But even if the project is backed, work on the cableway would not start before February to prevent disruption of the peak holiday season.

UCT Professor Richard Fugal will lead the committee, which was set up by Arts and Science Minister Ben Ngubane.

The formation of the committee follows the National Monuments Council's refusal to approve the controversial project until an integrated environmental impact study had been completed.

Louis de Waal, chairman of the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company, welcomed the appointment and said the company was keen to help Professor Fugal's investigation.

"We believe Professor Fugal's report will be handed to Mr Ngubane for his decision by the end of July. We are still hopeful that we will get the go-ahead for the redevelopment."

Captour chief executive Gordon Oliver has appealed to all the relevant authorities to ensure the redevelopment goes ahead.

Mr Oliver said Captour was confident that the cableway company intended to fulfil its obligations to the community as required by the National Monuments Council.

"There is no question of principles being sacrificed or subverted and we do appeal to the National Monuments Council and the Parks Board to reach a healthy and constructive compromise with the (cableway) company in the interest of a win-win situation."

The R61 million upgrading programme includes two new circular cars which could carry 65 passengers each, improved parking facilities, a new restaurant – behind the existing one – at the top which will be sunk into the rock to lessen the visual impact and the replacement of unsightly water reservoirs on the summit by sunken reservoirs.

The existing path in the centre of the mountain will be replaced by a new circular path with the aim of stopping people walking through the fynbos as they seek a better view from the edge of the mountain.

SA tourism rockets but crime blots the picture

(288) ST 26/5/96

By DON ROBERTSON

SOUTH AFRICA has experienced unique growth in foreign tourism during the past nine years and the upswing is expected to continue, says Delano Caras, chief executive of Kessel Feinstein Consulting.

However, crime could put a stop to the boom.

The influx of foreign tourists, excluding those from Africa, has increased by 13% a year since 1986.

Although off a low base, such growth in tourism is probably unique in the world, outperforming countries such as Australia, Egypt, Israel, Kenya and Mauritius.

In its fourth survey of the tourism industry, Kessel Feinstein Consulting says that after a 40% improvement in tourism last year, spurred by the Rugby World Cup, growth in 1996 should be about 15%, made up of 1,1-million people from overseas and 1,2-million from Africa. A further 2,4-million can be expected from neighbouring countries such as Botswana, Swaziland, Lesotho and Namibia.

Tourism growth is likely to increase by between 10-12% a year. By 2000 it should generate foreign earnings of R42-billion — more than gold exports —



DELANO CARAS

and represent 6% of the GDP. Foreign visitors will outnumber domestic holidaymakers.

But the rise in tourist volumes has created a shortage of accommodation and infrastructure such as coaches and guides, resulting in a decline in service standards during peak periods. A positive aspect, however, is the increased competition from international hotel groups which could prompt the industry to redouble its staff training and quality control.

The continuing high incidence of violent crime is a severe problem for the industry.

All the advantages that could accrue from sustained tourism growth could be lost unless the environment for tourism can be made safe.

Legislation for metro police under review

BD 27/5/96

Mduduzi ka Harvey

SAFETY and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi and Gauteng MEC Jesse Duarte have established a joint ministerial task team to look at legislative steps towards the speedy establishment of a metropolitan police unit in the province.

Gauteng safety and security policy planning and audit deputy director Sylvester Rakgoadi said the task team would look into the legislative framework required to set up metropolitan police units and find ways of bringing this legislation in line with the new constitution.

He said the team had been in contact with the transport ministry and the different tiers of government who had started with different feasibility studies aimed at establishing such a police unit.

In addition, the team was defining the role and function of the unit and how it would best enforce laws, prevent crime and control traffic as well as how local government could fund it.

Another outstanding issue the task team was investigating was the role it could play in facilitating an environment where the unit would work with the SAPS.

In a departmental concept document entitled Metropolitan and Municipal Policing, it is suggested that the Police Act should be amended to include guidelines contained in the constitution, and calls for debates around the appropriateness of any new services at a local government level considering community crime prevention initiatives. It outlines the guidelines, saying they should be accountable to communities, reflect a civilian and not a paramilitary ethos, operate as service oriented organisations and subscribe to efficient and effective management techniques.

The province also believed that for metropolitan policing to be successful it should prioritise high crime areas such as taxi ranks, the CBD and tourist areas.

In order to avoid duplication and fragmentation of law enforcement authorities, metropolitan and municipal police services should hold traffic control and enforcement of traffic regulations as key functions.

The document also suggests that the powers of the officers should only apply within their local authority, except in special circumstances. Their uniform training should be prescribed at national level and their lines of accountability should be drawn at substructure and metropolitan level.

The day to day running of the unit should also be the responsibility of the councils, while a provincial inspectorate would be established to ensure acceptable standards and levels of service were maintained across the province.

The funding of the metropolitan police unit and determination of remuneration of unit members would be the responsibility of local authorities and at a provincial level the ministry would consider a number of funding options.

Travel industry funds training

Nomavenda Mathiane

(288)

IN SPITE of government's insistence on education and training for the tourism industry, it had failed to "put its money where its mouth is", Association of SA Travel Agencies (Asata) director Roger Mackie said yesterday.

Instead, Asata members have raised funds to create the Travel Agency Education and Training Authority of SA, which has developed training courses for students interested in careers in travel and tourism. These will be offered at colleges and technikons.

The first two courses, each running for six months, begin this year.

BD 27/5/96

1/2/F

RHOE

RHOEX LIMIT

(Registration number 87/01
("Rhoex")

Unaudited group

for the six months ended 31

	Six mo e 31 March
Consolidated income statement	
Turnover	4
Net operating profit/(loss) before interest	1
Net interest (paid)/received	(
Net operating profit	1
Abnormal item	
Surplus on disposal of investments	

Lessons from Atlanta

(288) ARG 27/5/96

THE Olympic Bid Company's recent visit to Atlanta is in the spotlight this week as the public seeks clarity on Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games.

Who represented the Bid Company in Atlanta recently and why exactly were they there?

Officials from the Bid Company were in Atlanta two weeks ago at the invitation of the Atlanta Organising Committee for the Olympic Games.

The Bid Company was represented by Chris Ball and directors of finance, sports facilities, media and technology, as well as a planning manager.

Along with delegates from the 10 other bidding cities, they attended what is known as the Observer Conference. Seminars were presented on a range of topics of an essential nature to bidding and organising committees, and visits arranged to the sports venues, athletes' village and media centre. Delegates from Sydney's Organising Committee for the 2000 Olympics were also in attendance, as were members of Kuala Lumpur's committee for the 1998 Commonwealth Games in Malaysia.

The trip also offered an opportunity to strengthen links with Cape Town's international allies, as well as to develop new contacts. Constructive meetings were held with NBC, the official Olympic television broadcaster, and other media. The team reports that the dynamic development in Atlanta has reinforced its conviction that the Olympic Games will be a tremendous boost to our economy.

Who is responsible for the Bid's roadshow and what is the thinking behind it?

The roadshow is an initiative of our community relations department, and forms part of the Bid Company's ongoing community engagement programme.

The community-based Buwa Theatre Company has been charged with producing and presenting the show.

Community relations director Saalie gah Zardad says the roadshow would seek to reach people who may not have received all the bid-related information necessary for an informed opinion.

The première of the roadshow was staged at Athlone's Joseph Stone Auditorium last Thursday. The show consists of drama, dance routines and songs in English, Xhosa and Afrikaans. It invites audience interaction, encouraging people to forward ideas and views.

Queries on the Bid should be sent to: Letters to the Editor, The Argus, Box 56, Cape Town, 8000, or faxed c/o Letters to the Editor to 488 4075, or sent to the Olympic Bid Company, Private Bag 2004, Cape Town, 8000.

Tourism industry on the rise

BD 27/6/96 (288)

Nomavenda Mathiane

BY 2000, the tourism industry would net about R42bn and foreign tourism would be more than twice the size of domestic tourism, said Kessel Feinstein Consultants in a book, Tourism Talk, launched on Friday.

Kessel Feinstein director Delano Caras was optimistic that the SA tourism industry was on the rise.

Indications from the research conducted by Kessel Feinstein on the industry were that the 1994 tourism figures surpassed those of last year.

The 71-page book, a businessman's guide to SA tourism, deals with all aspects of the industry, from foreign to local tourism, hotels in SA and neighbouring countries and trading conditions in the industry.

It says that in the past eight years, foreign tourism to SA grew at13% per annum. Although off a low base, this growth, spread over nearly a decade, is unusual — and perhaps even unique — in world terms.

It out-performs the long-term growth in countries which are roughly comparable to SA, such as Australia, Egypt, Ireland, Israel, Kenya, Malaysia, Mauritius and Zimbabwe.

The book argues that little is known about domestic tourism in SA, South Africans generally seem to be in favour of a growing tourist industry and that about 8-million locals take at least one holiday (of one or more nights away from home) a year.

The most popular provincial destinations for South Africans are KwaZulu-Natal, Gauteng and the Western Cape.

Figures show that an estimated 3% of the population makes at least one business trip a year and 63% of business trips are undertaken by car and 23% by plane.

Very few South Africans — only 16% — have heard of the term ecotourism.

Many believe that southern Africa has unique and in many ways superior attractions for the "eco" tourist and that, if properly handled, huge and sustainable benefits could accrue to the region. The book also deals with tourism in Botswana, Lesotho, Mauritius, Namibia, Swaziland and Zimbabwe.

The book projects that foreign tourism will grow at about 15% this year and over the longer-term at an annual rate of11% to 12%. It says that provided the domestic economy continues to grow, expansion in domestic tourism will take place.

for debate on tourism

(288) Sowetan 29/5/96

Regional cooperation will benefit economies of all countries involved

Sowetan Business Correspondent

MPUMALANGA premier Mr Mathews Phosa says there is a need for debate between South Africa, Swaziland and Mozambique on how to enhance the tourism and casino industry in the two countries.

The focus of such a debate should be how to establish an environment that will eliminate unnecessary competition among the three countries.

Addressing the Swaziland Chamber of Business and Industry, Swazi parliamentarians, trade unionists and government officials in Swaziland on Tuesday, Phosa said the three countries had a great tourism potential.

World of opportunities

"Negotiations are currently taking place for the development of a national park which will border the Kruger National Park and will include areas of Mpumalanga, Mozambique, Swaziland and Zimbabwe.

"This initiative could open up a world of opportunities in the tourism industry of all of the neighbouring countries. It will result in sustainable jobs for many people in all of these countries," Phosa said.

He said the manufacturing sector was one of the major creators of jobs, skills and wealth. It was important for Swaziland and Mpumalanga to put emphasis on this industrial activity.

"This can only be done in an environment of regional cooperation, peace and stability. We need to find creative solutions to the criticisms aimed at us that we do not offer attractive enough incentives for international investors."

He said the Maputo Corridor was seen by the international community as a milestone towards regional economic cooperation.

Phosa, who just returned from a two-week visit to Britain, said the British government through its department of trade and industry was fully behind the Maputo Corridor project. The Confederation of British Industries was also excited about the initiative, he said.

As a result the British Overseas Development Administration would, together with the Mpumalanga government, investigate the involvement of Britain in the Maputo Corridor initiative.

"A formal announcement, detailing the British government's involvement in the initiative will be made once the investigation into support mechanisms is finalised," he said.

In addition to strengthening trade ties between Mpumalanga and Swaziland, Phosa's visit to the tiny kingdom has been interpreted by some analysts as an attempt to calm fears that Swaziland was being left out of the Maputo Corridor project.

Voiced concern

The Swazi government was quoted last week as voicing its concern that the country was not considered when the corridor project was accepted.

Phosa said it was time for all stakeholders in the corridor to translate the initiative into projects that would create sustainable jobs over political boundaries.

"A vision is not enough to sell to investors. We need to add more tangible projects especially foreign companies that are interested in what we are doing as a region," he said.

Phosa said the Maguga Dam project in Northern Hhohho, Swaziland, should create an environment for entrepreneurs from both Swaziland and South Africa.

He said other projects such as the building of roads, construction, infrastructure development and electricity distribution could also be developed at a regional level.

Phosa calls

Maharaj says skies policy does not hinder tourism

(286) CT (BR) 29/5/96

By Audrey d'Angelo

Cape Town — Agreements between countries which limit the number of flights by foreign airlines into South Africa are not hindering the growth of tourism, Mac Maharaj, the transport minister, said yesterday.

He said the number of permitted flights was being increased gradually to keep pace with passenger growth.

"The aviation industry is now in a phase of globalisation," he said. "If we just opened our skies we would destroy our national industry. It must be done step-by-step in a controlled process.

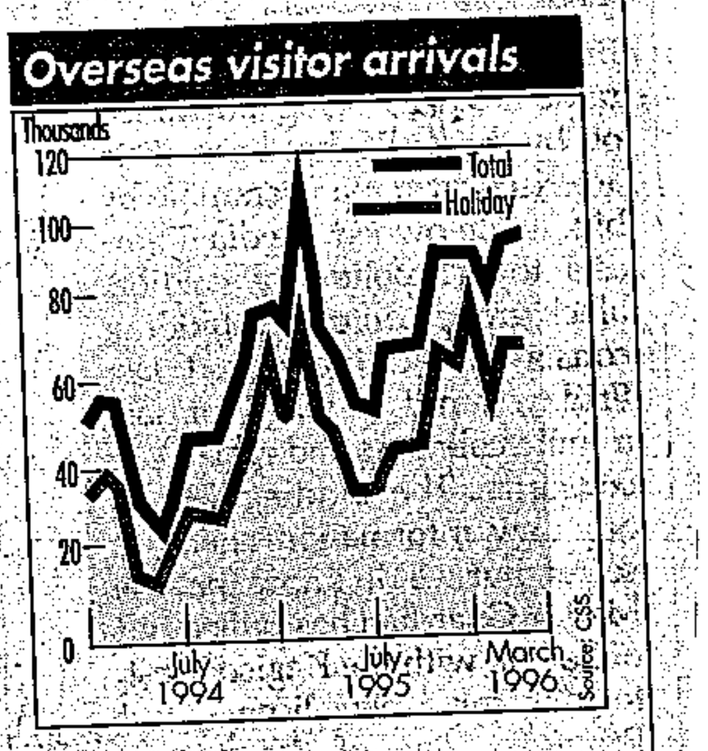
"We are increasing the number of flights for all airlines, based on an increase in traffic flow. I think we are keeping up with the increase in traffic."

Figures released by the Central Statistical Service yesterday showed that 323 789 foreign visitors entered South Africa through the three international airports at Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban in the first quarter of this year. This was 3,4 percent more than in the same period last year.

But the number of foreign visitors entering the country on holiday soared 30,4 percent in March compared with the same month last year. The figures show that out of 112 990 coming in that month, 77 851, or 68,9 percent, were on holiday.

Altogether, 66 259 visitors from Europe entered South Africa in March, compared with 50 727 in March the previous year.

This compares with 11 717 from North America, up from 8 670 in March the previous year.



WEDNESDAY
MAY 29, 1996 ★

CT 29/5/96

80% support for Olympic bid — survey

288

ALTOGETHER 80% of voters in the Western Cape support the city's bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games, a pre-election survey has shown.

Welcoming the findings of the Independent Newspapers poll, Bid Company chief executive Mr Chris Ball said they were encouraging.

"The findings of this independent poll are all the more striking in that they correlate significantly with our own benchmark public opinion survey conducted late last year," Ball said.

"That survey also set the level of support by Capetonians for the Olympic bid at 80%."

He said they would now try to convince the sceptic 20% that the impact of a well-managed, modestly-executed Olympic Games in 2004 will be to the benefit of all.

With 10 cities competing for the chance to host the 2004 Olympic Games, it was crucial to the city's bid that its people showed solid support, he said. — Sapa

SA 'should target rich tourists'

(288)

By Audrey d'Angelo

Cape Town — South Africa's tourism industry should target countries whose tourists are known to be big spenders rather than pushing up numbers, Berendien Lubbe, a lecturer in the department of communication at Unisa, said yesterday.

"We are having a tourism boom and have almost reached capacity in the numbers we can handle with our present infrastructure," she told delegates to the annual conference of the Public Relations Institute of South Africa.

"So perhaps we should be looking at countries which send tourists who spend lots of money. Australia already has a problem in that large numbers of tourists who go there are backpackers who spend very little in the country."

She said that promotional information about South Africa as a tourist destination should be targeted more precisely to meet differing needs and attract certain sectors.

Lubbe also said that there was a need to give tourists advice that would keep them safe while they were visiting the country. This included putting the crime problem in perspective by pointing out the small proportion of tourists who were attacked, she said.

CT(BR) 29/5/96



The bickering between business and labour will have to stop if South Africa is to progress, says Cyril Ramaphosa, seen here at the annual banquet of the South African Chamber of Business on Tuesday night. PIC JOE MOLEFE

Tourism to boost job figures in S Africa

(.28E)

Sowetan 30/5/96

While tourism is ranked number one in many countries, in SA it is number four

By Gerry Reilly

EMPLOYMENT in South Africa's tourism industry is likely to double to nearly a million by the close of the century provided the current inflow of foreign visitors is maintained.

The number of tourists to this country increased by 53 percent in the past year.

Currently the tourism industry employs 550 000. This is equivalent to the total number of people employed in the country's mining industry.

But according to a professor of tourism management at Pretoria University and deputy head of Satour, Ernie Heath, billions of rands will have to be invested in tourism infrastructure if the industry hopes to compete with other popular tourist destinations.

However, he argues, growth in the tourism industry would depend heavily on the extent to which crime is curbed and service standards are upgraded to international norms.

Heath's concern is that hotel prices are soaring but standards have remained static.

Latest statistics, he says, show that tourism has great potential in this country.

The statistics show that international and domestic tourism contributes 10 percent of the gross domestic product worldwide. The figure for South Africa is 15 percent, he says.

However, in many countries tourism is ranked number one as a major earner of foreign exchange. In South Africa it is number four, adds Heath.

Figures from the South Africa Tourism Board show that tourist arrivals internationally totalled 567 million last year and only 4,5 million of these came to South Africa.

Foreign exchange earned from tourism worldwide in 1995 amounted to R1 140-billion with South Africa earnings from the industry standing at R13-billion.

According to Central Statistical Service the profitability of major hotels in South Africa shot up by 17,1 percent in the fifth quarter as a result of a surge in the number of tourists.

Gloom takes hold of inner city

In the wake of the Carlton Hotel's downscaling and lay-offs, businesses say that without a thriving tourist trade they may not be able to survive

(288)
Star 31/5/96

By Troye Lund

The drastic downscaling of Johannesburg's prestigious Carlton Hotel may have sounded the death knell for many surrounding shops and could put inner-city rejuvenations out of reach, Carlton Centre businesses believe.

The hotel blamed the severe cuts to its five-star services and its 185 retrenchments on delays in the issuing of gaming licences and negative perceptions of the inner city.

"Business is over for us if we lose the sales from the hotel tourists. Local people buy nothing and tourists spend huge amounts of hard cash," said the manager of Third Base boutique, Enoch Nyathi. He said tourists staying at the hotel spent between R3 000 and R4 000 every time they visited the boutique.

An employee at Loving Boutique, who asked not to be named, said: "There is more to it than sales. Tourists are a massive source of foreign currency, many shopowners deal in dollars or pounds. They rely completely on the foreign trade. When a landmark like the Carlton goes, you know there is a problem."

Manageress of Truworths in the centre, Prem Naidoo, said she would lose "vast sums" without the tourist market. She had noticed a "considerable drop" in the number of tourists visiting the centre from August last year.

"There are always people running into the shop saying they have been mugged or had their wallet stolen. If the centre and the CBD is to survive, a plan must be made to attract business back," said Naidoo.

SAA spokesman Etienne Olivier said their decision to move out of the centre was not motivated by reduced business, but because the airline had opened new offices at Johannesburg airport.

But he was adamant: "Tourists are not used to so much filth that it causes the escalators to jam. If one compares this situation with the one offered in Sandton, it is clear there is no choice."

Carlton Centre's general manager, Christopher Timble, stressed that the influx of street traders, "uncontrolled" taxis and muggings had scared people away. He confirmed that the hotel would close completely if the latest cuts were unable to increase profits.

"If we were granted a gaming licence and offered a nightlife and entertainment centre that is found nowhere else in Johannesburg, people would have a reason to come into town. This would have a snowball effect. We and other companies would jazz up the streets.

"More businesses would come in and more people would be employed. The whole thing would contribute enormously to the rejuvenation of the CBD. It is a case of simple economics.

"At the moment, we are caught in a negative vicious circle – people are losing jobs; business is moving to Sandton; and the city centre is dying," said Timble.

The Central Johannesburg Partnership (CJP) – the business arm of the Inner City Renewal Forum – said the hotel's cutbacks were a major setback for the city. CJP spokesman Neil Fraser shared business's frustration that nothing had been done since the renewal plan was announced two years ago, but added that he was optimistic about the rejuvenation drive.

"It took 100 years to screw the city up. Rejuvenation will not be overnight and the Carlton is just one of the setbacks we will experience on the way. Working with the authorities and after a trip overseas to learn how other cities were revived, I am very optimistic," said Fraser.

The Transitional Metropolitan Councillor on the renewal forum Lindsay Bremner, was not available for comment at the time of going to press.

The swift decline of Johannesburg's grand 5-star hotels

By Troye Lund

Drastic reductions to five-star services offered by the Carlton Hotel may mark the fall of the last in a string of the Golden City's finest hotels and be a sign of a steady flight of international jetsetters from Johannesburg's CBD.

The first 100 years in the city's life was dominated by a race for bigger and better establishments. But, as the city grew, so did crime and pollution. The good fortunes of the inner city started changing as businesses moved to more spacious suburbs and five-star hotel guests opted for more tranquil, safer accommodation.

Once it began, the fall of Johannesburg's luxury hotels was swift. When the five-star, R125-million Johannesburg Sun opened its doors in the city 11 years ago, there were five other luxury hotels to compete with – The Carlton, Landdrost, President, the four-star Rand International and Victoria.

The first to go was the President which closed its doors in October 1985. The Landdrost followed a month later when it was converted to the Downtown Johannesburg Holiday Inn and is now a police barracks.

The ladies of the 100 Club, a coterie of Johannesburg's high society who met at the Landdrost's Annabel's as it offered special security arrangements for their furs and jewellery, moved their meeting place to the Oppenheimers' home in the northern suburbs.

The Victoria Hotel, which dated back to 1889, closed next and the Rand International was downgraded shortly after this.

By 1993, the Carlton, although it had already closed six floors, was all that remained of the city's former splendid accommodation. However, hand-in-hand with 185 retrenchments, the hotel announced a dramatic downgrading this week.

It blamed its demise on the delays in gambling licences and the "diabolical" perceptions of the crime and filth of Johannesburg's inner city.

Federated Hospitality Association of South Africa's executive director, Deon Viljoen said the "shocking filth and uncontrolled street trading" were not conducive to luxury hotels or business. He urged the government to pass the gaming law and "stop paying lip-service" to the notion of revitalising the inner city "before it is too late".

Gauteng's MEC for Finance Jabu Moleketi was not available for comment yesterday nor was the chairman of the province's economic affairs committee, Andrew Feinstein.

Subregion's tourism industry to develop

Sowetan 31/5/96 (286) ~~297~~ ~~[illegible]~~

By Emmanuel Koro

HARARE – As Southern Africa moves towards closer regional economic co-operation, many exciting developments aimed at either complementing or boosting the tourism industry are taking shape.

Since the beginning of the decade of the '90s, when democracy and relative stability dawned throughout Southern Africa, some people began talking about marketing the region as a unit to international tourists.

Apart from the usual mainstream tourist attraction centres like wildlife and landmark sceneries found in this region, Southern African tourism is beginning to talk about what they term "cultural tourism".

This notion, one of the unusual subjects to emerge from the region's tourism industry forums, has never been a topic of interest in the minds of tourism executives who have only focused on usual tourist attractions such as wildlife, Zimbabwe's Victoria Falls and South Africa's Kruger National Park.

Until recently, cultural tourism has been ignored and underrated by virtually all who were supposed to champion it.

Now the notion is being discussed by individuals in the industry as a way of broadening the region's attraction base, thus showing the world that there is still more to come from Southern Africa, both in wildlife and artistic cultural heritage.

At an international conference held at Potchefstroom University early this year, cultural tourism featured as one of its major topics.

The director of the university's Institute for Tourism and Leisure Studies, Melville Saayman, said there was a lot of enthusiasm shown by participants on the issue of cultural tourism.

Also, out of South Africa has emerged attempts to open up the tourism industry.

Campaign

Championing the campaign is a South African-based organisation called Open Africa Initiative, which has started the quest to open the region's tourism industry through a multifaceted culturally enriched programme.

During his visit to Zimbabwe a few months ago, Open Africa Initiative's director Noel de Villiers said his organisation's vision is to see Africa achieve the highest tourism standards through what he termed "Afrotourism".

Afrotourism, he adds, is "a concept based on the uniqueness and protection of Africa's nature and cultural resources.

This concept of Afrotourism augurs well for the tourism industry in Southern Africa. This region is brimming with top class artistic and cultural entertainers as well as attractions that are still to be discovered by the tourist and offer even more value for money than the usual tourist attractions.

Music, theatre, sculpture, traditional dance, rock and cave paintings, cultural sites, ruins, and so on, are so abundant but many of these largely go unnoticed.

In Zimbabwe, cultural tourism is already happening. There are a number of tourists who visit far away places for artistic and cultural satisfaction. Cultural tours of African villages are becoming a lucrative tourist venture.

The cultural tourism phenomenon will also mean that much needed rural development will speed up. It could enable families and communities to band together and contribute to their own development.

Peasants can also react more positively to their immediate environment as well as create a culture of awareness the residents of rural Southern Africa, who for a long time have been blamed for environmental degradation. – *Africa Information Afrique.*

Crime and cost ravage tourism boom

(288) Star 31/5/96

Although foreigners are still visiting SA, figures show the upswing has slowed dramatically

By Shirley Woodgate

Increasing costs and rampant crime have put the brakes on the tourism boom, with the record 58% increase in visitors in the first quarter of 1995 slumping to only a 3,4% improvement from January to March this year.

The total upswing for 1995 was an all-time high of 51,1%, which saw the 729 480 tourists in 1994 increased to 1 101 899.

The latest Central Statistical Services report indicates that 323 789 foreign visitors entered SA through the three international airports in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban in the first three months of the year compared with 313 153 during the same time last year.

The drop prompted a warning from Association of SA Travel Agents (Asata) president Roger Mackie: "The euphoria is over and SA is no longer the flavour of the tourist month. Now we will have to deliver."

Although the recent boom started from a very low base, it was clear the numbers were levelling off, which was almost entirely due to the "two Cs" – crime and cost – he said.

Satour's general manager for Europe, Dale Pretorius, disagreed. He stressed the German, Swiss and Austrian markets, which accounted for by far the largest numbers of tourists to South Africa, had notched up big increases in March. Germany was up from 12 230 to 19 421; Switzerland from 19 200 to 22 001; and Austria from 981 to 1 851.

According to Mackie, it is openly said that SA has the biggest crime problem in the world outside of war zones.

Despite the favourable exchange rate for foreigners, the cost factor was reflected in the drop in bookings at four- and five-star hotels in favour of three-star (Garden Court and City Lodge) and bed and breakfast establishments.

"Prices are high at the top hotels where service levels are pathetic and charges are between R800 and R1 100 a night for room only. These places are being used mainly by politicians and overseas government representatives and the picture does not reflect the tourist source we should be focusing on," Mackie said.

Another cost factor was that SA was a long-haul destination.

The CSS said almost 70% of the foreigners who headed for SA in the last three hot months were holidaymakers (223 620), followed by business people (61 886).

The European and North American market improved slightly, but fewer tourists arrived from all other regions. Visitors from Europe increased from 173 350 to 188 800 and North America was up from 29 332 to 30 880.

Central and South America was down from 10 810 to 8 003; Australia and New Zealand dropped from 10 662 to 10 482; the Middle East from 5 447 to 5 357; Asia from 31 009 to 28 631; Mauritius, Reunion and the Seychelles from 3 108 to 3 014; and visitors from Africa decreased from 48 870 to 47 379.

Turning to the Government's role in tourism, Mackie said: "They talk a lot about tourism, but the Government is strangely quiet when it comes to putting its money where its mouth is.

"The budget for Satour, which has enormous experience, has declined over the last three years to R48-million (down from last year's R56-million), which is nothing in world terms.

"On the other hand, there is no tax incentive for private operators who exhibit on stands anywhere from Berlin to Italy.

"Instead of helping private companies with expertise, the provincial bodies are promoted by being allowed to send up to 12 people per province to overseas shows, clogging up stands and staying at top hotels.

"Nothing about tourism has improved since the days of the previous government, when a new tourism minister was appointed every 16 months.

"What is needed is consistency, with a long-term minister drawn from the well-informed private sector. It is time the Government acted positively on expectations that tourism is set to overtake mining as the country's top revenue source," Mackie said.

Satour spokesman Martin van Heerden did not share Mackie's pessimism. He said crime was not as big a factor as suggested, but admitted SA was becoming expensive. Previously, cheap internal travel compensated for expensive airfares to SA. But inland commuting was beginning to cost more.

Van Heerden said the infrastructure could not handle the continued soaring influx of the last few years and he predicted the target 20% increase in tourism would be achieved this year.

However, it should be taken into consideration that the above-mentioned figures are based on registration figures for the 29 May 1996 election, which date has now been postponed to 26 June 1996. An additional registration period will be allowed from 24 to 27 May 1996. These registration figures will affect the above-mentioned figures.

(b) In the Western Cape, the following number of voters have been registered for the 29 May 1996 election:

Metropole:	1 315 847	(±92% of available voters)
Rural areas:	157 296	±80% of available voters)
Total	1 473 143	

(2) A statement is not regarded as necessary at this point in time.

†Mr H J BEKKER: Madam Speaker, arising from the hon the Minister's reply in respect of the number of people on the voter's roll for KwaZulu-Natal, I should like to ask him whether he can tell us how the voters' roll for KwaZulu-Natal compares with the previous roll for Gauteng as far as correctness is concerned. Is it true that the voters' roll is much better and contains far fewer mistakes than in Gauteng, for example?

†The MINISTER FOR PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Madam Speaker, the voters' roll for KwaZulu-Natal compares very well with those of all the other provinces as far as the percentage of registered voters as well as irregularities arising therefrom are concerned, and in many instances the voters' rolls there are better than many of those we have seen in the elections in other provinces. Considering the steps taken under the leadership of the presidential task group and the excellent co-operation from the local MEC, as well as everything that still needs to be done before 26 June, I believe it is safe to say that KwaZulu-Natal will be going into the local government elections with excellent voters' rolls.

Tourists: increase/decrease

*18. Mr J C N WAUGH asked the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism:†

(1) Whether there was an increase in the number of tourists in 1995 compared to 1994; if so, what was the percentage increase; if not, what was the percentage decrease;

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

N633E

†The MINISTER FOR PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT (for the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism):

(1) Yes. Tourists from overseas countries increased by approximately 52% during 1995, compared to 1994. Tourists from countries in Africa increased by approximately 12%. The percentage increase in the total number of international tourists during the mentioned period was approximately 22%.

(2) Yes, various statements have been made concerning this matter.

Lomé Convention: SA membership

*19. Mr M VAN S HAMMAN asked the Minister of Trade and Industry:†

(1) Whether his Department is currently engaged in negotiations with regard to South Africa's membership of the Lomé Convention; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, (a) with which bodies and (b) when will these negotiations be completed;

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

N634E

The MINISTER OF LABOUR (for the Minister of Trade and Industry):

(1) Yes. The Department of Trade and Industry, in conjunction with the Departments of Foreign Affairs, Agriculture and Finance, has engaged in negotiations with regard to South Africa's accession to the Lomé Convention with the European Union Commission since June 1995. These negotiations are still in progress. It was our intention to complete the Lomé track as soon as possible to allow South Africa's accession during the June ACP-EU Ministerial Council meeting. However, the EU Commission and certain member states

kept on insisting on linking the finalisation of the Lomé Protocol to the conclusion of the bilateral trade negotiations.

In trade terms, the Lomé offer would be severely restricted and qualified. South Africa would not be eligible for market access under the Convention. Similarly the cumulation of the rules of origin, which will allow South African inputs in ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific) exports to the EU, will only be permitted on an "ad hoc" basis. South African firms will only be able to participate in the European Development Fund (EDF) tenders for the EU-funded contracts in ACP countries offered under the 8th EDF.

(2) The relevant departments will regularly issue press statements in order to keep interested parties informed of developments and the outcome of the negotiations.

*20. Mr A G MOHAMMED—Public Works. [Question standing over.]

*21. Mr C M GEORGE—Arts, Culture, Science and Technology.† [Withdrawn.]

IBA: decisions taken

*22. Mr J J DOWRY asked the Minister for Posts, Telecommunications and Broadcasting:†

(1) Whether the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) took any decisions during the period 1 April 1996 to 19 April 1996; if not, why not; if so, how many;

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? N638E

The MINISTER FOR POSTS, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND BROADCASTING:

(1) No. During April 1996 there were no Council meetings as Councillors were engaged in hearings on amending legislation and broadcasting Bills as instructed by the Minister.

(2) As above.

*23. Mrs T J MALAN—Education. [Question standing over.]

Business interrupted in accordance with Rule 199(3) of the Standing Rules for the National Assembly.

*24. Dr W A ODENDAAL—Health. [Question standing over.]

Exploitation of shingles between Struisbaai and Franskraal

*25. Mr N J J VAN R KOORNHOF asked the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs:†

(1) Whether his Department is currently considering applications for permits for the exploitation of shingles on the coast between Struisbaai and Franskraal; if so,

(2) whether he or his Department will consider undertaking an environment impact study or having such a study undertaken before such permits are granted; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

N642E

The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND ENERGY AFFAIRS:

(1) My Department is currently considering two applications for mining permits for the small scale removal of shingles from the beach (between the high and low water marks) between Struisbaai and Uilenkraalsmond. Three other similar applications over the same area have in the past been rejected by the Regional Director in Cape Town.

The applications which are currently under consideration were submitted by Messrs W C Theron and E Visser, both being applicants to whom permits have been issued in the past.

(2) Any applicant for a mining permit or mining license, in terms of the Minerals Act, 1991 (Act No 50 of 1991) must submit an environmental management programme to the Regional Director concerned, before mining activities may commence.

In 1987, the CSIR, together with the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, conducted an abridged impact study on Mr Theron's behalf. The opinion then was that the shingles represent a continuously supplemented source. Their small scale removal would not have a significant effect on the beach. The above authorities supported Mr Theron's applica-

TOURISM

(288) FM 24/5/96

MYOPIA AND CHICANERY POSE THREAT TO GLITTERING FUTURE

High prices and falling standards

Tourism has become a thriving industry that can earn SA billions of rand in foreign exchange and kick-start the RDP. But there's a danger that greed in some quarters of the private sector — and a government inclination to view the industry as a cow that can be milked but not fed — may impede its future growth.

The number of overseas tourists visiting SA reached its nadir in 1986, when just 297 060 trickled through our border posts. But numbers started improving gradually after that. In 1994, 704 630 tourists arrived. Last year, the number of visitors easily exceeded 1m. SA earned R10bn in foreign currency from tourists in 1995, outgoing Minister of Environmental Affairs & Tourism Dawie de Villiers told parliament last week.

Tourism is the world's largest industry. Figures compiled by Ernie Heath, professor of tourism management at the University of Pretoria's Graduate School of Business, show that, worldwide, tourism generates US$3,4 trillion — or more than 10% of world GDP. SA's share is a minute 0,7% of the world's tourist arrivals and receipts.

Heath estimates that SA could attract 2,3m overseas tourists in the year 2000 and that between now and then they should spend an average R16bn a year here (at 1994 values) and create an additional 113 000 direct and 226 500 indirect jobs.

To many, SA's 1995 figures mean that the good times will never end. However, prudent specialists realise the industry needs to be nurtured.

Those who are far-sighted want to tempt visitors to come back, by taking reasonable profits, giving genuine value for money and providing a better service. Those who are myopic — perhaps especially those operating at the top end of the market — seek to maximise immediate profits without much thought for the future.

Micor Travel deputy group MD Mike Beevers claims that SA hotels increased their prices by roughly 25% — from low bases — during sanctions.

Some five-star hotels, however, increased their tariffs more than once during the past year. Some observers believe SA may now be paying the price, in the form of a decrease in tourists flowing through SA's three international airports — Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban — in February.

But market forces will apply, says Tourism Business Council of SA chairman David Wigley. Hoteliers are risking their own money and if they find their prices are scaring visitors away, they will have to adjust them despite the sharp decline in the rand.

Government's reaction to the growing number of tourists is difficult to understand. It isn't doing anything to bolster their numbers. Apparently ignoring recent figures, its attitude seems to be: "They're pouring in anyway; so let's cut what we give to the SA Tourism Board (Satour) to sell SA abroad."

New Satour chairman Peter Swartz vigorously criticised this when he addressed an international news conference at a recent Durban indaba. "I can never understand people telling us we're a marketing authority, then taking away our means of marketing SA. Tourism is a business. Unless you invest in a business, you can't expect returns."

He's right. The biggest State cash injection Satour ever got was the R97m in financial 1994 — the last year of the apartheid government.

The new government lost no time in reducing its contribution, in real terms, to Satour because, under the interim constitution, tourism management and creating a tourist infrastructure is largely a provincial matter.

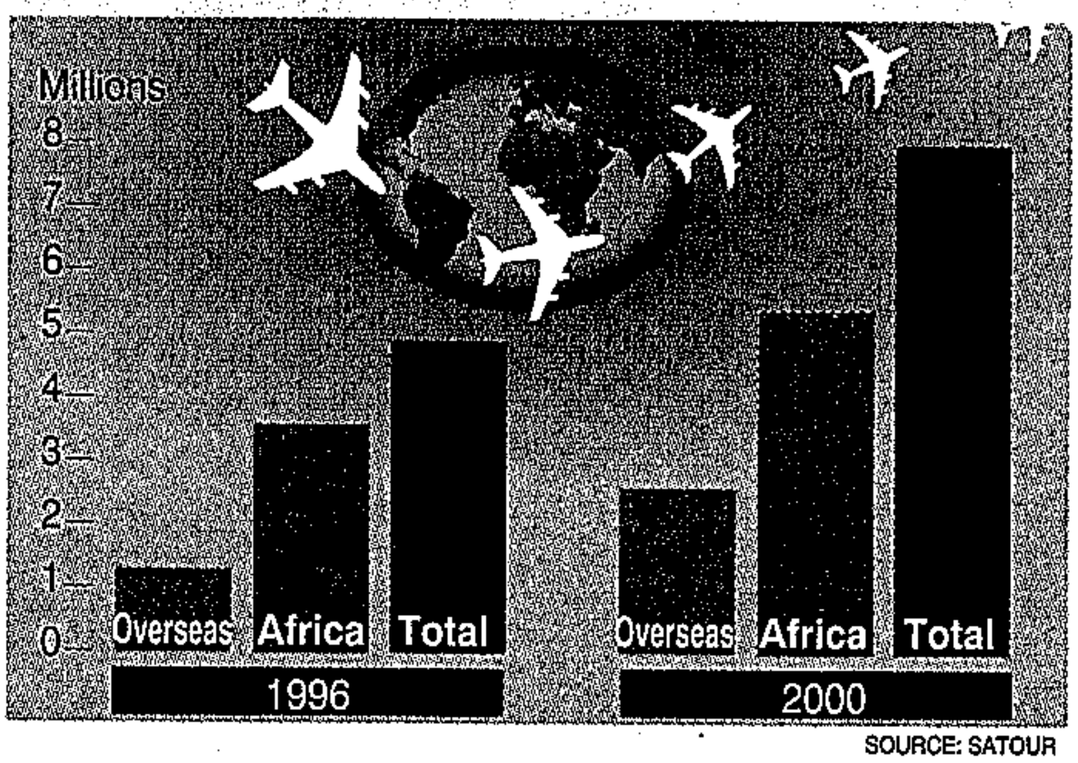
Allowing for inflation at 8% and discounting the fall of the rand, Satour's 1997 budget of R52,2m to promote tourism internationally is worth just R46,4m of the R50,6m allocated in its 1996 financial year. That's miserly. According to the latest figures (and excluding private-sector contributions), Greece spent almost R615m in 1993 to entice foreigners, Mexico R598m and Spain more than R533m. SA's "marketing spend" for each visitor in 1993 was R18,33, Australia's R64,77 and Bermuda's R125,23.

In the forthcoming tourism White Paper, the contribution the industry can make to the RDP is understood. "The tourism industry has the lowest ratio of investment to job creation," the White Paper states.

Heath spells it out in his paper *Making Tourism a Winning Industry for all South Africans: the challenges between 1995 and 2000*, which he co-authored with Mike Fabricius: "In the current positive marketing climate, it is projected that for every R10m invested in international marketing an additional 25 000 tourists can be expected — at least. This converts into

Continued on page 34

PROJECTION Foreign tourist arrivals



SOURCE: SATOUR

Continued from page 30

an additional earning in foreign exchange of more than R110m (with a multiplier of 1,5 to R168m), 2 500 direct and indirect job opportunities and increased government revenue of more than R60m."

Against a background like that, Swartz's angry response at a media conference is not surprising: "Politicians have been parading tourism on every platform for years and lauding its benefits and its positive aspects but never had the guts to put their money where their mouths are."

Government is adamant that Satour's name must change. The White Paper argues: "Satour has come to be associated with the old SA and the old privileged tourism and it is still undergoing restructuring to accommodate a new reality — greater representation of the previously disadvantaged groups, greater authority and autonomy of the provinces and the general restructuring of the industry. The most appropriate name could be Tourism SA."

The representatives of the nine provinces on its board "will ensure the organisation is driven by the provinces in a co-ordinated national strategy." Once the representatives of labour, communities, national parks and national government take their seats on the board of 20, there won't be much room for private-sector members, whose capital, risk-taking and expertise fuel tourism. Delegating so much power to the provinces has already led to duplication. They're all going abroad to market and compete among themselves and with Satour.

Satour needs to do more than change its name — it needs to avoid statistical sophistry.

The health of the industry has traditionally been gauged by the number of visitors from Europe, the Americas, Australasia, Asia, the Middle East and Indian Ocean islands — tourists who have to either fly or come by ship. There would be no quarrel if Satour regarded visitors from Kenya, Egypt and Zaire — which don't share a common border with SA — as overseas tourists. But there's no way it can justify describing the 1,05m people who came from Lesotho last year, the 128 232 from Mozambique or the 647 466 from Swaziland as tourists.

As the World Tourism Organisation knows only too well, they came either as contract workers or crossed SA's borders to shop — more value to the retail trade than the travel industry. But by adding those who came from all of Africa to those from its traditional overseas markets, Satour was able to claim that SA attracted 5,5m foreign visitors last year.

Since January, Satour has been adding those visiting SA from the whole of Africa to those hailing from its traditional overseas markets. By including the 272 760 (1995: 258 824) who arrived from Africa with the 94 499 (1995: 84 447) who came from its traditional overseas markets, Satour could claim that 367 259 foreigners visited SA in January 1995 — almost 8% more than the total for January 1994.

This is misleading. The 2 203 who came from Angola and the 908 from Kenya must be regarded as genuine tourists, but not the 97 155 from Lesotho, 52 978 from Swaziland and 33 255 from Botswana.

One wonders whether Satour is reverting to the apartheid era system which excluded foreigners who visited the now-defunct TBVC states from SA statistics while counting visitors from the TBVC states as foreign tourists.

The crucial question is whether the predicted growth in tourism can be achieved?

Warning signs started flashing in January, when the growth of overseas tourists slowed to 8%.The red lights flashed more ominously in February, when there was a 5% drop in overseas tourists through SA's three main airport entry points — down from 124 609 in February last year to 95 131.

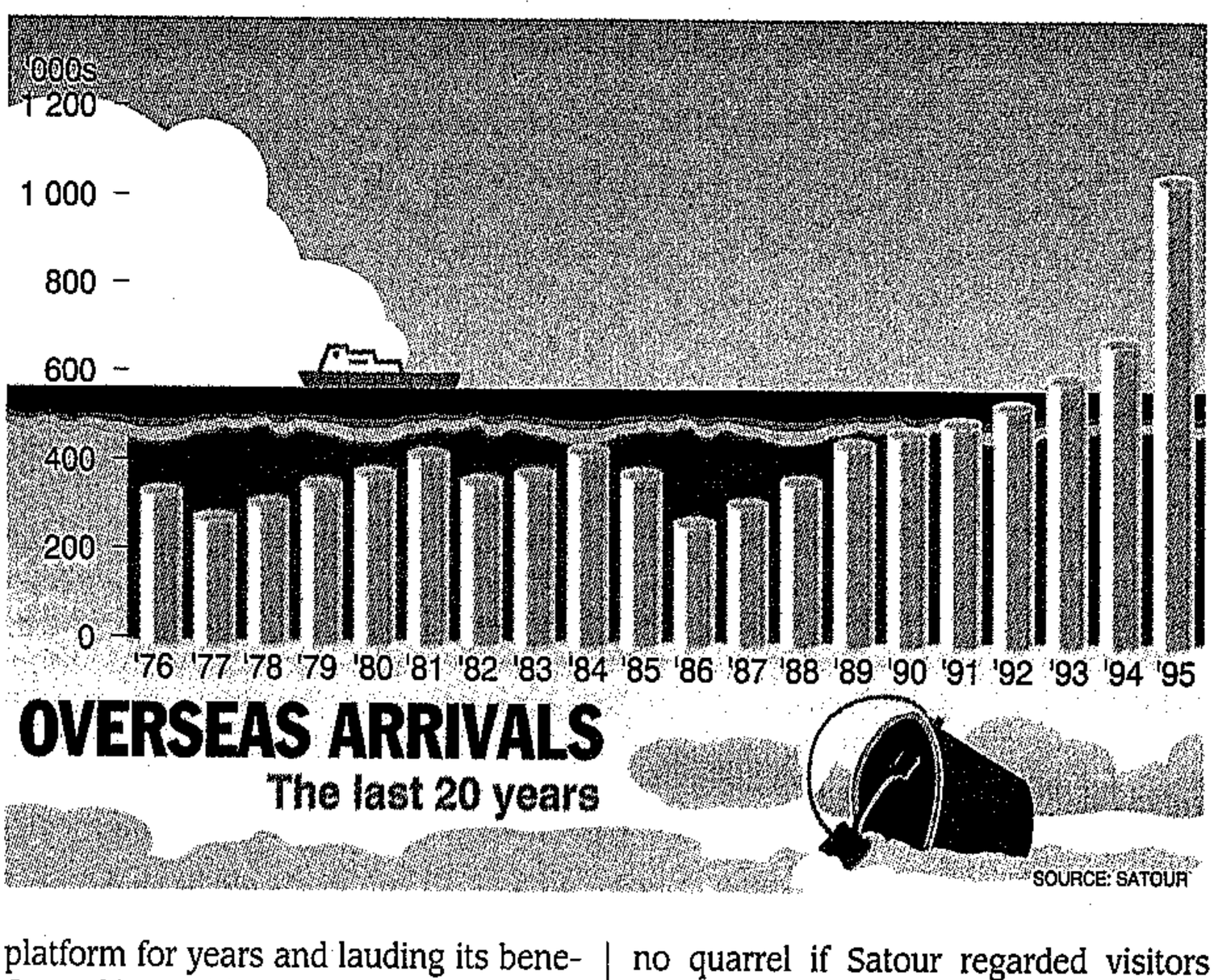
Satour dismisses the downturn as a predictable but temporary glitch after many months of continuous growth. But it may signal that SA is pricing itself out of the market. John Deverell, MD of leading British tour operator Bluebird, seems to think so. "Tourism isn't expanding into the right demand areas," he says. "It caters extremely well for the business traveller, whose budget permits him to sleep at an hotel that charges R700 a night and more. That does nothing to persuade many in Britain that SA is a good destination.

"It's bonanza time for SA hoteliers, many of whom have instituted exorbitant tariff increases — which is fine if you're Japanese but not if you're an average Brit or European. And that, unfortunately, excludes an enormous number of tourists who want good accommodation at affordable prices when they go on holiday.

"Some upmarket European destinations as well as Florida in the US, Goa in India and Thailand offer accommodation that's as good, if not better, for less."

Deverell complains that there's no noticeable improvement in the service offered by SA hotels. Wigley disagrees. He believes SA hotels still offer excellent value for money. Hospitality Industry Training Board executive director Tony Ansara accepts that SA is 12 years behind Australia. But he's confident this country will catch up in the next seven or 10 years. "We're brighter and we're spending millions on training," he says.

If Wigley and Ansara are wrong, SA could kill the milch cow — irrespective of whether government feeds it or not. ■



NEW CAPE RESERVE 'PRESERVES UNIQUE HERITAGE'

Eco-tourism a top earner for SA

(288) CT 3/6/96

SPEAKING AT the opening of the Bushmans Kloof Private Nature Reserve in the Cedarberg, Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism Dr Dawie de Villiers said the SA tourist industry had the potential to generate up to R40-billion annually. **EVELYN HOLTZHAUSEN** reports.

THE government is expecting an 18% growth in international tourism which will contribute up to R40-billion to the Gross National Product (GNP) by the turn of the century, the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism Dr Dawie de Villiers said at the weekend.

De Villiers was speaking at the opening of the exclusive Bushmans Kloof private nature reserve and conference centre in the Cedarberg, near Clanwilliam.

He disclosed that a government White Paper on tourism, which is expected to be tabled in parliament soon, envisioned an 18% annual growth in international tourism to South Africa.

"Based on a conservative projection of South Africa's tourism potential, it is estimated that the industry can triple its contribution to the GNP from just over 3% to 10% by 2 000.

"That would double our foreign exchange earnings from R10-billion to R20-billion," De Villiers said.

"Growth of this order would generate some R40-billion annually and would require innovative tourism development and marketing strategies.

"This implies a pro-active approach by tourism industry partners to develop, market and manage the tourism industry in a responsible manner.

"A national tourism strategy has been developed and will be tabled as a White Paper in parliament shortly," he added.

Dr De Villiers praised Bushmans Kloof — the first private nature reserve of its kind in the Cape — as an excellent example of an environmentally sensitive development which could make a vital contribution towards eco-tourism in the Cape.

"It is a prime eco-tourism destination, where not only flora and fauna of the region will receive priority, but so will the unique heritage of the Bushmen who lived in this area for thousands of years."

There are more than 125 sites of Bushman rock art — some among the best preserved in South Africa — in the reserve.

"Bushmans Kloof matches the best reserves of this kind in the country. The people of the Cape can now boast that we have our own Mala Mala — only better," De Villiers said.

He added that tourism could be the single most powerful catalyst for substantial growth, development and job creation in South Africa.

Bushmans Kloof is a South African Natural Heritage Site in the foothills of the Cedarberg mountains, bordering on the Cedarberg wilderness area.

It was developed by Bill McAdam, last year's Cape Times Businessman of the Year and the Board of Executors chairman.

At the opening, McAdam said eco-tourism was not just about developing a tourist destination, but about the restoration of the land, the re-introduction of game species and the involvement of the local community.

He said it had been policy from the outset to use local contractors in the development of the reserve and conference centre and he intended developing this.

"Just as sport has united our country, tourism, by involving local communities and creating a spirit of unity, can play a major role in uplifting people who become proud of their heritage and willing to preserve it," he said.

The fenced 5 000-hectare game farm has been stocked with a wide variety of game which once roamed the area, including eland, zebra, gemsbok, black wildebeest, bontebok, klipspringer, duiker and grey rhebuck.

There is also a breeding herd of rare Cape mountain zebra and a breeding programme for Cape hunting dogs.

Lion and black rhino will be introduced later this year.

"Bushmans Kloof is a unique, Cape experience, ideally poised to act as a magnet, drawing tourists to visit the region for its natural wealth — from carpets of glorious spring wild flowers to Bushman rock art and the rugged, breathtaking beauty of the landscape," said McAdam.



NEW RESERVE: Mr Bill McAdam, Board of Executors chairman and developer of Bushmans Kloof private nature reserve, with his wife Mrs Penny McAdam. The reserve is located in the foothills of the Cedarberg and has been stocked with a wide variety of game.

CABINET BACKS OLYMPIC BID

R30bn boost for economy

CT 6/6/96 (288)

THE CABINET'S unanimous decision to endorse Cape Town's Olympic bid was widely welcomed yesterday, writes **BARRY STREEK.**

THE cabinet was "delighted" to announce that it fully backed Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympics which would boost the national economy by R30 billion, Sports Minister Steve Tshwete said yesterday.

If the bid is successful, the Games are expected to cost R7,5 billion in capital costs, half to be provided by the private sector, and provide 90 000 permanent jobs, 45 000 of them in the Western Cape.

The cabinet decision was welcomed by the head of the bid company, Mr Chris Ball, MEC for Sport and Recreation Lerumo Kalako and the acting chief executive of Cape Town's central substructure, Mr Keith Nicol.

Ball, who addressed bid company staff outside Parliament, was applauded when he announced the decision. He said he was "absolutely delighted", and pledged that although the Games would generate Olympic-standard facilities they would be uniquely African.

Kalako said the provincial government was very pleased with the cabinet decision, which would benefit everyone in the Western Cape.

It also showed that, despite claims to the contrary, the ANC government was not punishing the Western Cape for supporting the National Party.

Nicol said the decision was "excellent news for the city and region as a whole" and Cape Town now had "a wonderful opportunity to unite in pursuit of the prize which could really kick-start the regional economy, even during the balance of this bidding phase".

Tshwete said the cabinet took its decision after an examination of submissions by the Olympic Bid Company, the department of finance and a comprehensive analysis by the Development Bank of South Africa (DBSA).



IN THE STARTING BLOCKS: Minister of Sport Steve Tshwete and head of the Olympic Bid company Mr Chris Ball share their delight at the decision by the cabinet to back Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympics. PICTURE: CLIVE SMITH

"Holding the Olympics in South Africa will contribute to overall growth and development and the bid will continue to be carefully aligned with the basic approach to the RDP.

"The basic guidelines in formulating the bid were that it should be developmental, it should not result in an unmanageable debt burden, and it should be national bid that benefits the whole of South Africa."

Tshwete made the announcement at a press conference together with Ball, Deputy Finance Minister Gill Marcus, Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom and DBSA chief Dr Ian Goldin.

He said the DBSA had estimated the overall boost to the national economy from the Olympics would be more than R30bn between 1997 and 2006, based on 1996 prices, and 60% of the income gains would be in the Western Cape.

More than 90 000 permanent jobs were also likely to be created, half of them in the Western Cape.

"The total capital cost of staging the games will be approximately R7,5bn, about half of which will be accounted for by private sector investment."

The balance would be shared by different tiers of national, provincial and local government. The additional public expenditure would be offset by the extra revenue created, which would in fact generate a surplus.

Marcus said new taxes would not be levied to finance the Games, although the government was looking at other special initiatives such as Olympic bonds.

"The key to success is private sector involvement. The government's role will be as a facilitator and helping to organise. This is South Africa's bid."

She also said the estimated costs were based on the assumption that any land used at places like Wingfield and Culemburg would be paid for, and that interest and VAT were included.

Goldin said the DBSA's assessment was that "the incremental costs will not

❐ Turn to Page 6

Cabinet backs Olympic bid

CT 6/6/96 (28)

From Page 1

increase the burden on the Western Cape or any other part of the country.

"We do not believe the Western Cape will suffer. Indeed, as we have indicated, 40% of the income and 50% of the employment will be in the Western Cape."

The proposed R7,5bn capital expenditure included about R2,3bn which would be spent on building stadiums and Olympic villages, R1,2bn on moving naval personnel from Youngsfield army base, R650m on bulk services and R1,5bn on transport infrastructure, Goldin said.

Tshwete said the cabinet decision had been unanimous, despite reports that the cabinet had been divided on the Olympic bid.

"We wanted to be sure that whatever decision we came up with, we would be able to justify and defend it."

Hanekom said some cabinet ministers did initially have reservations about the bid and wanted to be absolutely certain about the likely costs.

The decision was met with widespread approval — and a note of caution.

NP sports spokesman Mr Nick Koornhof described it as "fantastic". "We trust that Cape Town will succeed with the final bid."

He warned, however, that sound financial discipline would have to be maintained.

Mr Keith Nicol, acting chief executive officer of the central substructure, said that in the period up to September 1997 international attention on Cape Town would increase as one of the leading contenders in the 2004 bid.

He warned, however, that "lots of hard work remains to be done between now and September 1997", when the host city will be announced.

The chief executive of Wesgro, Dr David Bridgman, welcomed the decision and said the Games "represents a major opportunity to leverage the development needs of this city and region".

● See Page 17

Satour hopeful about new funding

CT 31/8/96 (288)

DAN SIMON
TOURISM WRITER

THE South African Tourism Board (Satour) is confident its budget will be increased, following the release last week of the new tourism white paper, which identifies inadequate resources and funding as a major constraint of the tourism industry.

Satour executive director Mr Mavuso Msimang said yesterday he was optimistic more funds for the development and promotion of tourism in South Africa would be forthcoming, saying the government had shown its commitment to tourism through the release of the white paper.

"The white paper identifies inadequate resources and funding as a major constraint for the tourism industry and recommends an urgent review of the government's financial contribution to tourism," Msimang said.

Satour chairman Mr Peter Swartz, criticised government at the annual Indaba Travel and Tourism Exhibition in May, when Satour's R48-million budget was eroded by R4,5 million as a result of the plunging rand.

At the time he said he would have to find the shortfall just to meet basic overheads, before promoting South Africa as a tourism destination.

Msimang said that due to "reduced funding and the devaluation of the rand", Satour had been forced to review its business plans.

"However, we have been in the fortunate position to state our case to the Minister of Environment Affairs and Tourism Dr Pallo Jordan and to the office of Deputy President Thabo Mbeki.

"We have also had the opportunity to present a revised business plan to the Department of Finance.

"Satour's board is committed to obtaining additional funding for the organisation. We are hopeful that it will be forthcoming soon," Msimang added.

Rise in hotel rates would 'put off German tourists'

CT(BR) 4/6/96 (288)

By Audrey d'Angelo

Cape Town — Any further increases in South African hotel rates would price them out of the growing German tourist market, the industry was warned yesterday.

Roland Oettinger, the managing director of the Deutscher Reisebeuro Verband (German Travel Agents and Tour Operators' Association), said he was also concerned about the safety of some local tour buses and the hours the drivers worked.

Oettinger said he had seen tour buses in use which would never be licensed to carry passengers in Germany.

The tourism boom meant that some drivers were having to work excessive hours, which could cause accidents. "South Africa should recruit experienced tour bus drivers overseas until they have sufficient properly trained ones here."

There was a need for better staff training in some hotels and restaurants, and many needed to employ more people to cope with the increase in customers.

Germany sent more tourists to South Africa than any other overseas country except Britain last year, and its travel agents' association is holding its annual conference here this week.

Oettinger said he expected tourism from Germany to grow.

But he cautioned: "It already costs three times as much for a German to have a holiday in South Africa than in Florida.

"The ticket to South Africa alone costs as much as a one-week package holiday in a five-star hotel in Florida.

"And South Africa is competing with other exotic and fascinating destinations such as Bali.

"But I heard at the Indaba travel show in Durban that there was a possibility of hotel rates rising another 30 or 40 percent — and that would certainly have an impact on the number of Germans coming here."

Oettinger said he expected an "on the job" training scheme in Germany for South African hotel and restaurant staff to start in six months' time.

"Goodwill alone is not enough. Tourists paying a lot of money to come here are not inclined to make allowances for lack of sophistication or lower standards of service."

Potential boost to economy secures Cabinet backing for Olympics

(288) BD 6/6/96

Samantha Sharpe

CAPE TOWN — The Cabinet has thrown its weight behind Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games after deciding that the potential R30bn boost to the economy will far outweigh the staging costs.

Sports and Recreation Minister Steve Tshwete said yesterday the decision followed a thorough analysis of cost estimates by the finance department and the Development Bank of Southern Africa. The bank had estimated that the cost of the games would be R7,5bn, but the games were also expected to provide a R30bn boost to SA's economy between 1997 and 2006 measured in 1996 prices.

"More than 90 000 permanent jobs are likely to be generated, with approximately 60% of the income gains and 50% of the employment gains benefiting regions other than the Western Cape," Tshwete said.

Deputy Finance Minister Gill Marcus said national, provincial and local government would be responsible for half of the R7,5bn needed to fund an SA Olympic Games, with the private sector expected to come up with the rest.

The state still had to decide how it would finance its share — the possibility of an Olympic bond was mooted — but Marcus said that in principle funds would not be drawn from existing budgets or reallocated from other provinces to the Western Cape.

The incremental public expenditure arising out of the games would, in any case, be more than offset by the additional revenue created, ensuring a surplus that would be used to further the aims of the RDP, she said.

Marcus said the Cabinet would install managerial and co-ordinating structures in the national government to ensure the bid's success, with a Cabinet subcommittee to oversee departmental co-ordination.

Development bank CE Ian Golding said the bank's assessments had taken into account worst-case scenarios, with the R7,5bn cost estimate consisting of R5bn in direct infrastructure spending and R2,5bn in indirect investment.

Bid company CE Chris Ball said he was "delighted" with the decision. The bid company was on target to file its "bid book" — the bid's tender document by August 15.

The International Olympic Committee will decide in September next year which of the bidding cities will host the games.

Potential boost to economy secures Cabinet backing for Olympics

(288) BD 6/6/96

Samantha Sharpe

CAPE TOWN — The Cabinet has thrown its weight behind Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games after deciding that the potential R30bn boost to the economy will far outweigh the staging costs.

Sports and Recreation Minister Steve Tshwete said yesterday the decision followed a thorough analysis of cost estimates by the finance department and the Development Bank of Southern Africa. The bank had estimated that the cost of the games would be R7,5bn, but the games were also expected to provide a R30bn boost to SA's economy between 1997 and 2006 measured in 1996 prices.

"More than 90 000 permanent jobs are likely to be generated, with approximately 60% of the income gains and 50% of the employment gains benefiting regions other than the Western Cape," Tshwete said.

Deputy Finance Minister Gill Marcus said national, provincial and local government would be responsible for half of the R7,5bn needed to fund an SA Olympic Games, with the private sector expected to come up with the rest.

The state still had to decide how it would finance its share — the possibility of an Olympic bond was mooted — but Marcus said that in principle funds would not be drawn from existing budgets or reallocated from other provinces to the Western Cape.

The incremental public expenditure arising out of the games would, in any case, be more than offset by the additional revenue created, ensuring a surplus that would be used to further the aims of the RDP, she said.

Marcus said the Cabinet would install managerial and co-ordinating structures in the national government to ensure the bid's success, with a Cabinet subcommittee to oversee departmental co-ordination.

Development bank CE Ian Golding said the bank's assessments had taken into account worst-case scenarios, with the R7,5bn cost estimate consisting of R5bn in direct infrastructure spending and R2,5bn in indirect investment.

Bid company CE Chris Ball said he was "delighted" with the decision. The bid company was on target to file its "bid book" — the bid's tender document by August 15.

The International Olympic Committee will decide in September next year which of the bidding cities will host the games.

Next two years 'will decide the Carlton Hotel's future'

(288) BD 6/6/96

David McKay

THE Carlton Hotel — once the jewel in the crown of Anglo American Properties (Amaprop) — has an estimated two-year period in which to break even or face possible closure forever.

So claims GM Christopher Trimble, who despite the seemingly tough goal he has been set by the company is confident the task can be achieved.

He bases his judgment on the worsening perception of inner city life with which the Carlton has, by association, been saddled.

While he believes the Carlton will have to reduce its costs, it is also up to government to turn the Johannesburg CBD into a safe haven for visitors and entertainment seekers.

His confidence — a mixture of "must-win" fervour and sheer hope — hinges on retaining the Carlton Hotel's position as the premier hotel in SA.

This is despite closing down several floors, retrenching about 185 staff members and shutting seemingly unimpeachable features of the hotel such as the Koffiehuis restaurant.

"The short-term future for the Carlton is to downsize its operations without downsizing its standards," he says.

In the end, the decision to downsize the hotel was influenced by economics. It had been losing about R1m a month, creating a net loss of about R14m.

Ironically, it is through good economic sense that Trimble envisages the hotel's eventual recovery. "When you add features that satisfy and attract more people to a well-known landmark like the Carlton Centre, it creates jobs and stimulates economic growth.

"The basic plan is to create a R500m to R600m entertainment centre — an innovation that will involve adding up to six floors on the existing Sky Rink buildings. This will involve removing the Sky Rink," he says.

The plan is to install a world-class centre with a variety of features including a large casino and some sporting activities. A convention centre catering for about 2 000 people and an indoor sports arena with seating for 3 300 are other essential elements in the entertainment centre. The go-ahead depends on receiving a casino licence from the Gauteng gambling board to proceed with the casino — arguably the central aspect of the development.

"The permit seems to have been delayed, but when it arrives we hope to put our plan into action. It did not arrive in time to save the partial closure of the Carlton," Trimble says.

The projected knock-on effect of the entertainment centre is considerable. Funds generated by the development are aimed to initiate a R60m rehabilitation of the Carlton Shopping Centre.

The centre would also attract new clientele for the hotel.

The plan is an ambitious one, but is being frustrated by a lengthy process of lip service and meaningless rhetoric. Illegal casinos are being allowed to operate while the Carlton is forced to retrench, Trimble says.

He claims local and provincial government must implement plans to improve the CBD before it is too late.

There is also the shabbiness of some parts of inner city Johannesburg which when compounded with the growing crime rate, is ruining business opportunities for the CBD and is not the environment for a five-star hotel.

In the meantime, Trimble is committed to increasing the renowned quality of the Carlton — an aim he hopes to achieve through staff who are "more committed and more quality-orientated than ever", he says.

Trimble was able to retain staff members who were multiskilled. But by and large, a last in, first out policy was followed during retrenchments.

Trimble aims to re-employ the staff he retrenched if the Carlton is able to recover to its former glory. He believes it is through the commitment of the existing Carlton staff that the retrenchments can be reversed.

Olympic Games has Govt blessing

288
Sowetan 6/6/96

By Rafiq Rohan Political Correspondent

SOUTH Africa's bid for the Olympic Games is on in earnest – and this could mean that a jobs bonanza is on the cards.

Yesterday, immediately after the weekly Cabinet meeting, the Government gave its official blessing to the Olympic Bid Committee to go ahead with elaborate plans for South Africa to host the Games in 2004. Flanked by the head of the committee, Mr Chris Ball, Minister of Sport Steve Tshwete said the Cabinet was delighted to announce its support.

"Holding the Olympics in South Africa will contribute to the overall growth and development, and the bid will continue to be carefully aligned with the basic approach to the RDP," Tshwete said.

Also present were Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom and Deputy Minister of Finance Ms Gill Marcus.

Unmanageable debt

"The basic guidelines in formulating the bid were that it should be developmental, should not result in an unmanageable debt burden for any level of government, and it should be a national bid that benefits the whole of South Africa," Tshwete said.

The Development Bank of Southern Africa had estimated that the overall boost to the national economy provided by the games was likely to be more than R30 billion in the period 1997 to 2006, Tshwete said.

"Over 90 000 permanent jobs are likely to be generated, with approximately 60 percent of the income gains and 50 percent of the employment gains benefiting regions other than the Western Cape."

Additional State revenue from hosting the Games would be more than the required investments.

"The total capital cost of staging the Games is estimated to be approximately R7,5 billion, of which about half will be accounted for by private sector investment. The remainder will be shared by different tiers of national, provincial and local government," said Tshwete.

6/6/96
Argus p8

Staff Reporters

A DREAM just over two years ago has come dramatically closer to reality with the cabinet throwing its weight behind Cape Town's bid to host the Olympics in 2004.

The decision by the cabinet means there will be an immediate injection of cash into the city and surrounding areas.

Even if Cape Town loses the final bid, it will still be a winner.

Yesterday the cabinet gave its full approval and a commitment to making Cape Town's bid a success.

In the next few weeks, they will release R1,5 billion for the upgrading of the city's transport system.

Within two years, four new Olympic competition venues will be constructed, along with three training centres.

The probable location of these facilities will be in Belhar (judo/taekwando), Philippi East (badminton), Turfhall (softball) and the Velodrome in Bellville which will be reroofed as a cycling venue.

The facilities will be designed to fit the needs of the community, and for use as community centres.

Central government is considering issuing an Olympic Bond to help cover its share of financing the 2004 Olympics if Cape Town succeeds in its bid next year.

The government is intensifying its discussions over the next few weeks on how it will finance its share of the costs to support the bid which could inject R30 billion into the national economy.

This follows yesterday's cabinet decision to support Cape Town's candidacy.

Minister of Sport Steve Tshwete was confident revenue from the Games would generate a surplus.

The total capital cost of staging the games has been estimated officially to be about R7,5 billion, of which half will come from private sector investment.

The rest will be shared by national, provincial and local government.

Gill Marcus, Deputy Minister of Finance, said options for special initiatives to finance the central government's contribution were to be considered.

Possibilities included an "Olympic Bond". The government's preference would be for leveraging finance rather than direct taxation.

Responding to questions whether, on the other hand, the government would accept its share of the burden if the games made a loss, Ian Goldin of the Development Bank of Southern Africa said he believed the Games would achieve a surplus.



Picture: LEON MULLER, Chief Photographer.

WINNING TEAM: The management team of the Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid Company are over the moon about the cabinet's decision to back the bid after this was announced yesterday. In the foreground are, from left, Ngconde Balfour, Chris Ball (chief executive officer) and Ntsudeni Madsunna. At the back, from left, are Peter de Tolly, Manfred Gundlach, Ronnie Kingwell, Andre Krogh, Saaliegah Zardad, Michael Fuller, Robbie Stewart and Ameen Akhalwaya.

Mr Tshwete said guidelines in formulating the bid were that it should be developmental, that it should not result in an unmanageable debt burden for any level of government, and that it should be a national bid which benefited the whole country.

The cabinet was confident, after an in-depth assessment, that the bid complied with these conditions.

The cabinet would put in place the necessary managerial and co-ordinating structures at national level to assist the bid.

A cabinet sub-committee would oversee the process of co-ordinating departments and the Bid Company.

Mr Tshwete said the Development Bank had estimated the overall boost to the national economy would be more than R30 billion between 1997 and 2006.

More than 90 000 permanent jobs were likely to be created, the bank said. Other regions would also benefit.

The Bid Book was in the final stages of preparation, and would be signed by President Nelson Mandela when completed.

"The cabinet's decision marks a proud moment for our country, enabling us to contribute to the development of Olympic ideals," Mr Tshwete said.

Chris Ball, chief executive of the Bid Company, said he was "absolutely delighted" by the cabinet's decision.

He said the Cape Town Games would be "distinctly South African and African in its flavour and would be fresh, vibrant and uniquely different".

It's full for city

steam ahead Olympic bid

(288) ARG 6/6/96

State proposes issuing Olympic bond to fund its share of the Games

(288) CT(BR) 6/6/96

By Christo Volschenk

Cape Town — The state would fund its share of the capital cost of the Olympic Games by issuing an Olympic bond, which would be repaid out of income generated by the event, Gill Marcus, the deputy minister of finance, said yesterday.

Analysts said they expected the Olympic bond to be issued only if South Africa was awarded the 2004 Games.

"Government will not increase taxes to fund the capital expenditure for the infrastructure which has to be put in place before 2004," said Marcus.

The estimated capital cost of staging the Games is R7,5 billion, of which half would be carried by the private sector. The other half would be shared by the national, provincial and local governments.

Part of the state's share would be funded by the bond.

South Africa's bid for the Games will be submitted to the International Olympic Committee before August 15 and the committee will announce the successful bidder in September next year.

All debt incurred by the different levels of government would be repaid out of money generated by the Games, said Marcus.

Steve Tswete, the minister of sport, said: "Our calculations show there will be a surplus after all the costs have been taken into account. The surplus will be used to fund RDP projects all over South Africa."

Recently, government officials said they had reservations about the budget presented to the government by Chris Ball's Olympic committee, but Tswete and Marcus said the cabinet decision to support the bid was unanimous.

Marcus said any reservations were swept away when a 12-man team of experts at the Development Bank of South Africa calculated that the potential benefits of staging the Games were greater than Ball's committee had estimated.

The team estimated that an additional R30 billion would be added to the GDP between 1997 and 2006. Over 30 000 permanent jobs would be created, Marcus said.

Earlier, sources said Ball's committee had omitted several important items from the budget he presented.

The committee had also assumed that the government would donate land to private sector developers for low-cost accommodation which would be sold by the developers after the Games.

Marcus said the team from the bank had calculated that there would be a profit after the items which Ball had omitted were included in the cost.

□ See Business Watch Page 18

Gambling investment 'could harm tourism'

Samantha Sharpe

BD 7/6/96 (288)

FIERCE competition between provinces for gaming investment could harm SA's fragile tourism industry, putting existing multibillion-rand tourism infrastructure investments at risk, Sun International MD Peter Bacon said yesterday.

Speaking at the Cape Chambers of Commerce and Industry congress, Bacon warned that SA's fledgling gaming industry had the potential to wreak havoc in the tourism industry at a time when its first real growth signs were emerging.

Provincial governments could be understood for wanting to attract new investment in tourism through new gaming licences, but without careful casino location the process could be disastrous.

"In the northern part of the country, where five provinces are almost totally dependent on a single market in Gauteng, it is clear that a mega urban casino in that province ... will render financially unviable destination and resort casinos in neighbouring provinces," Bacon said.

In the Western Cape, an urban casino was justifiable provided it did not undermine existing tourism assets in the metropolitan area.

7 1996

THE

Court told parks board has no say in hotel dispute

(288)

Negotiations not making progress

ARG 7/6/96

JOHN YELD
Environment Reporter

THE head of Western Cape Environmental Affairs Department has told the Supreme Court that the National Parks Board has no legal standing to contest the proposed Oudekraal Hotel development on the former White House site between Bakoven and Llandudno.

Johan Neethling also told the court in an affidavit that negotiations between the parks board and the Western Cape government over the proposed national park in the Cape Peninsula had made "no progress at all".

Last month the National Parks Board went to the court to apply for an urgent interdict preventing further development of the proposed Oudekraal Hotel pending a legal review of the validity of the Western Cape provisional structure plan. Also sought was a review of the rezoning of the White House property.

In terms of an agreement with the developer, Hottentots Huisie (Pty) Ltd – made an order of the court – no further clearing, demolition, earthmoving, excavation or work would be done at the site pending the outcome of a trial to begin on June 18.

One of the respondents in the National Parks Board's application was Western Cape Development and Tourism Minister Lampie Fick.

In its application to the Supreme Court, the National Parks Board said that in December last year Western Cape Environmental Affairs minister Kobus Meiring had publicly announced that the board had been appointed the authority to control and manage the Cape Peninsula nature area as a contractual national park, to be established subject to conditions.

On the same day Mr Meiring had issued a Press release confirming that the board would henceforth be the official management authority of the Cape Peninsula Protected Natural Environment" (CPPNE).

But this was contested in a nine-page replying affidavit filed in the Supreme Court this week by Dr Neethling, head of the Western Cape's Department of Environmental and Cultural Affairs (formerly Cape Nature Conservation).

He said that in terms of the Constitution, nature conservation – excluding national parks – and the environment were a provincial responsibility.

Dr Neethling conceded that the so-called Huntley committee had been appointed in June last year to advise on an appropriate legal framework for a single statutory authority for the CPPNE.

"It should be pointed out that the Huntley Committee exceeded its mandate by recommending that land outside the CPPNE should be included in the protected area," he stated.

Mr Meiring had announced that the Western Cape cabinet had agreed – subject to specific conditions – that the CPPNE should be declared a national park and that the National Parks Board should be appointed its management authority, Dr Neethling said.

"I respectfully point out that the decision of the cabinet did not constitute the appointment of the National Parks Board as the management body for the CPPNE, but merely accepted the principle that the National Parks Board be appointed if certain conditions could be met.

"I deny the allegation that the MEC (Mr Meiring) announced that the National Parks Board had been appointed as the authority to control and manage the CPPNE."

Dr Neethling "specifically" denied that the national parks board's submission that it anticipated a national park would be formally proclaimed in part of the Cape Peninsula's natural area this year.

The Olympics, The Argus, and you

ARG 7/6/96 (288)

THE cabinet's enthusiastic endorsement of Cape Town's bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games is a great milestone in the history of our city and region.

There is no question any longer of whether or not the bid will be made: President Mandela has sounded the starter's gun and the race is on.

The forces required to push forward such a mammoth undertaking have finally assembled; there is no turning back. The Olympic bid will, for the next 15 months, be a presence in our city as imposing and visible as Table Mountain itself.

Between now and the evening of September 5, 1997, Cape Town will, on behalf of the whole country, be put to the test by the world to see whether it is worthy and capable of staging this sporting spectacle.

The tests will be rigorous and microscopic, technical and trying. But in reaching a decision on whether we are fit to become Africa's first Olympic city, the powers behind the Games will be asking another, more human question: Do the people who live in and love this region really want the Olympics?

It is possible that the answer to this – rather than the quality of the architects' elevations or the accuracy of the accountants' calculations – could prove decisive.

Here, we believe, The Argus comes into the picture. As Cape Town's largest and oldest daily newspaper, part of the life of the city for 139 years, we believe we can play a vital and constructive role in ensuring that the people of this area are fully informed on every aspect of this initiative which holds such profound implications for the city and for future generations.

And so we take the unusual step of setting out before you today what our approach will be over the coming months.

The Argus is, with all the optimism, faith, vision and realism it can summon, foursquare behind the Olympic dream.

We believe, for reasons which will be advanced in great detail as the saga unfolds, that not only would it be fitting for Cape Town to earn such an honour, but that if properly planned and managed, the hosting of the Games could seal a prosperous future for all in our region, especially its poorer people. It is an opportunity which may never again come our way.

In stating our position so forcefully, it is vital for us to make clear what this commitment does not mean.

It does not mean that we propose to become a megaphone for the Olympic Bid Company.

It does not mean that we will suppress the views of those who are properly concerned about aspects of the inordinately complex undertaking.

It does not mean that we will shy away from sounding warning bells, loud and long, if through our researches we believe mistakes are being made.

What it does mean is that in terms of our editorial stance we will be trying to convince our readers to share with us the thrilling vision of a rare event in the life of a city, an unprecedented event which holds the potential to secure its future in a world where the realities grow ever harder.

South Africans have before this achieved the seemingly impossible, in magnificent style, and it's time to grasp another miracle.

Our reporting, as distinct from the opinions we offer, will not be moulded to fit in with our editorial stance: the bad will be reported along with the good, as it emerges.

We are adopting this position after keen consideration, and with a deep awareness that it is the very future of Cape Town which is being decided upon.

We will be here long after the Olympic Bid Company has been disbanded: our efforts will be for the Cape.

In due course we shall introduce to you the journalists who will, from now until September next year, throw all their energies into covering excellently every aspect of the Olympic bid.

You will see at the top of the page that The Argus is from today carrying the emblem of our candidate city.

We hope that you will appreciate and enjoy the reporting of this fascinating and crucial interlude. And we certainly know that you will take us to task if we fail to live up to our commitment to integrity in our coverage, sincerely made today.

– The Editor

● Boost for Cape Town – see page 17.



Picture: BRENTON GEACH, The Argus

ALL SMILES: Vanessa Fish, Rodney Govender and Kamilla Swart at the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company's Foreshore offices, tog themselves out in colourful Cape Town 2004 Olympic Games bid gear after this week's government support for the bid.

Cabinet backing leaves Cape Town a serious contender for Olympic Bid

Cape Town cleared a significant hurdle in its race to win the bid for the 2004 Olympic Games when the cabinet gave its seal of approval to the bid this week. But the city is up against stiff competition and will need to give everything it has got if it hopes to achieve success. Metro Reporter ANDREA WEISS examines the issue.

(288) ARG 7/6/96

NEWS of the South African government's decision to give Cape Town its full backing in its bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games has flashed around the world – sending a message to the 10 other contenders that the country is serious in its efforts to secure the Olympics for Africa.

According to Olympic commentators, the race between the 11 cities which have formally notified the International Olympics Committee they are bidding for 2004 is an extremely open one – with each of the cities putting forward a strong argument.

The bidding cities are: Cape Town, Lille (France), Stockholm (Sweden), Rome (Italy), Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), Istanbul (Turkey), Seville (Spain), Athens (Greece), Buenos Aires (Argentina), San Juan (Puerto Rico) and St Petersburg (Russia).

These cities will have to meet an August 15 deadline, the final date for the submission of the "bid file" to the IOC in Lausanne – the document which sets out in minute detail the basis of their respective bids.

The cities will then live in suspense until March next year when the IOC announces a short-list of about five cities. The winning city will be announced on September 5 1997, after members of the IOC have visited each of the finalists to make their own assessments.

All the cities have already been actively engaged in selling themselves to win as many of the 106 IOC votes possible that they need to tip the scales in their favour. Brazilian President Fernando Henrique Cardoso has been lobbying support in Europe for Rio's bid, accompanied by soccer hero and Brazilian Sports Minister Pele.

Cape Town too will be sending a high-powered delegation to Atlanta in a month's time It will include retired Anglican archbishop Desmond Tutu and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki. With them will be key people from the bid company, local government and the province.

Chris Ball, chief executive officer for Cape Town's bid, said the intention was "to present a very strong face in Atlanta".

"We're going to make it absolutely clear to the IOC family how strong we are going to be as a competitor."

Cape Town is also counting on the 23 African votes within the IOC, but will have to persuade other members of the IOC family to come on board. The city has been given a boost by the offer of the Moroccan National Olympic Committee to send the first woman African gold medallist – Nawahl El Moutawakel-Bennis – to help the city lobby for international support.

The question which will tax the IOC is whether the 2004 Olympics should be awarded to a well-established city such as Rome, or whether it should give the opportunity to an emerging country such as South Africa or Russia.

● Rome is widely held to be one of the strongest contenders, and has already drawn favourable comment from IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch, who praised the city for its unity of purpose. Its bid is being led by the extremely influential Primo Nebiola, president of the International Amateur Athletics Federation and a member of the IOC. Counting against Rome is the fact that the Olympics was held there in 1960, but Italy's success in managing international sporting events is a big plus. According to Manfred Gundlach, information director for Cape Town's bid, Rome has pulled in "every top person in the country, including sports leaders and politicians" to get the Games. Rome's pitch is that it is the city which for the past 2 000 years has given the modern world culture. But the city has come in for criticism because its public transport networks are unmanageable.

● St Petersburg has in its favour the fact that it is an ancient city steeped in history. Similar to South Africa, Russia is also in a period of immense change and the Games could aid its economic revival. But recent news of a change in the mayoralty from the reformist Anatoly Sobchak to his former deputy, Vladimir Yakovlev, has dented its chances of success. Yakovlev went on record this week as saying that St Petersburg would not spend one rouble of city funds on the Olympics.

● The South American cities of Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, and Buenos Aires in Argentina, are also selling their bids along developmental lines similar to Cape Town. While the Olympics were once held in Uruguay, the South Americans feel it is high time they returned to them. Rio recently dealt a blow to its Olympic chances when customs officials sawed Olympic pole-vaulter Sergei Bubka's pole in half, searching for drugs. Like South Africa, Rio also has a poor image when it comes to crime and social problems.

● San Juan, the Caribbean island in Puerto Rico, hopes to win the bid by winning its war against drug-trafficking and crime. But Puerto Rico, which is part of the Commonwealth of the United States and whose residents enjoy American citizenship, is considered too close to the United States, which is hosting this year's Games in Atlanta, as well as the 2002 Winter Games in Salt Lake City. A third Olympics in this part of the world might lead to criticism that the IOC is not spreading the Olympics around the world.

● Athens, the city which lost to Atlanta for this year's Games, is hoping to win the bid on the emotional pitch that it was robbed of the Centennial Games in 1996, which by rights should have been held in the birthplace of Olympism. Athenians were deeply hurt by the decision of the IOC to award the Games to Atlanta; a decision which proved that winning bids is not only about sentiment.

● Istanbul has already bid several times for the Games – a "quite normal" practice on the part of bidding cities which try again if they fall out of the race the first time.

● Lille is similar in size to Cape Town and, according to observers, should not be under-estimated even though Paris was once an Olympic venue.

● Seville's bid probably comes a little too soon after the 1992 Games in Barcelona, despite the close ties Mr Samaranch has with Spain. The city is viewed as seeking to reap publicity and investment benefits from the bid, rather than the Games themselves.

● Stockholm is putting up a strong fight for the Games, arguing that it has everything that is needed already in place. It has put together a formidable, professional bid and could also be a frontrunner.

While it may not be sporting to bad-mouth other bidding cities, it is common practice for them to watch each other's progress closely, and news of any setback spreads fast in Olympic circles. With the cabinet's approval in the bag, Cape Town hopes that it will be restored to the position of sentimental favourite and is now focusing all its efforts on meeting technical requirements.

Planning director Peter de Tolly believes Cape Town will do best to focus on technical efficiency and management, rather than contemplating the shortcomings of other bidding cities.

At the end of the day, though, it's still an open race.



HARD AT WORK: Members of the Olympic bid management team gather around the table to discuss the strategy for Cape Town's bid to host the Games in 2004. From left are Michael Fuller, Saaliegah Zardad, Chris Ball (chief executive officer), Ameen Akhalwaya, Robbie Stewart, Ronnie Kingwell, Ngconde Balfour, Manfred Gundlach, Ntsudeni Madsunna, Andre Krogh and Peter de Tolly.

Cape prices scare off prospective visitors

288

DAN SIMON

CT 716196

GERMAN travel agents this week held their annual destination conference in Cape Town — but just over a third pitched, apparently due to the high travel prices and exorbitant hotel tariffs in the city.

Mr Gerd Hesselmann, president of the Deutsche Reisburo Verband (German Travel Agents' Association), warned yesterday South Africa could price itself out of the international tourism market as a long-haul destination.

He said the DRV "made history" in SA when only 140 of the expected 350 German travel agents attended the conference.

The reason? Perceptions of personal safety and the high cost of the five-day package compared to other long-haul destinations where similar conferences were held.

"It is the first time we have had this reaction. The local tourism industry and many German travel representatives missed an excellent opportunity," he said.

Hesselmann said the five-day package deal at the Cape Sun Intercontinental cost each delegate over Dm1 500 (about R4 280). This included accommodation, meals, conference fees and nights out.

However, the same package for the DRV conference in Rio de Janeiro last year cost each delegate Dm1 000 (about R2 850). Similar deals were negotiated for DRV conferences in Tel Aviv, Israel and Orlando in Florida.

Hesselmann said Cape Town was chosen because the DRV — which has 4 500 members — preferred destinations which faced political or socio-economic challenges — ones they can market as long-haul destinations. Such conferences helped members to better understand a foreign destination.

"Most delegates are positive about the local tourism industry. Their visions for the potential of local tourism were fully met by the superb presentations."

He warned costs should not increase without an increase in productivity and service. Greece and its tourism industry had suffered because of that.

Meanwhile, an international tourism consultant told delegates although tourism to SA had grown by about 50% last year, this growth could not sustained as SA did not have the infrastructure to absorb it.

Dr Eric Holm-Petersen, of the Danish firm Hoff & Overgaard, said fast-growing tourism in a developing country was "not good".

"A forecast of 15% to 20% this year is more in line with SA's limited tourism infrastructure. The growth for SA should be about 15% so that it can cope, otherwise the tourism industry will kill itself."

Olympic bid on the mega-project list

CT(BR) 13/6/96 (288)

Commercial sector shows good growth

The Western Cape's already strong financial sector could benefit further from the policies of major financial conglomerates to decentralise technical, research and other specialised services, according to the Western Cape Economic Monitor annual review.

The province is already the core location for the country's rapidly growing insurance industry and has a significant financial and banking sector.

The financial and business services sector contributes R8,65 billion (14,3 percent) to the regional economy. Commerce, catering and accommodation adds another R12,64 billion (20,9 percent) to the overall business sector.

Wholesale, retail and foreign trade constitute a major economic sector of the province.

The Monitor sees no reason why the commercial sector should not continue to grow at least in line with aggregate RSA growth trends.

The Western Cape's comparatively soundly performing economy is about to receive a number of potentially "significant catalytic" injections from mega-projects, including the Olympic Games bid.

The projects listed in the Western Cape economic review include:

❒ The Olympic Games bid which would see a number of infrastructure and sports facility projects underway over the next 15 months in the greater Cape Town area. These projects needed to be on stream by next year to substantiate South Africa's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games.

"Should South Africa's bid be successful, the investment strategy of the region will be dramatically influenced by the Olympic needs during the seven years leading up to the event."

❒ The Capricorn Research and Industry Park. This 25-year project, envisaging a vast industrial, technology and research park in the Muizenberg area of greater Cape Town, was now in the first of four planning stages. A number of infrastructure hurdles still had to be overcome before the green light could be given for property developments linked to the project.

Conceptually the project fitted in with the Western Cape's goal of attracting high value/low mass industries to the area, linking up with research and technology potential of the three local universities, two technikons and existing hi-tech industries as well as specialised services.

❒ Namakwa Sands. Although the project, which got underway in 1995, could be judged as a relatively modest mining, mineral processing and export project in the West Coast area it could be seen as the start of a new phase of low-grade ore extraction. The project had already had a stimulatory effect on the West Coast and could be viewed as the forerunner of the larger Saldanha Steel project.

❒ The Saldanha Steel project. Construction had now started on the R6,5 billion project to produce high quality steel ingots for the export market. The bulk of the construction should be completed within two years.

The company had said initially that the plant would be fully export-oriented but it should be seen as a first step towards bringing a heavy industry facility to the Western Cape.

Forward and backward linking follow-up ventures were feasible with several possibilities currently being investigated, including a cement factory.

❒ The restructuring of Mossgas. The review said that with all the negative publicity given to Mossgas because of its cost escalation and apparent lack of competitivesness," it is sometimes forgotten that the project did succeed in establishing a modern petrochemical facility in the southern Cape."

CAPE TOWN 2004

There was a possibility that some of the refining and processing capacity (which could include the use of imported crude or piped natural gas) could be used in an economically viable way. Negotiations were underway with a number of interested foreign investors and the outcome could be known before year end.

The project had been given an extra lease on life with the recent government go-ahead to exploit supplementary gas fields.

❒ Convention facilities for the Cape Town metropolitan area. Within the next 12 months there should be greater clarity over convention projects linked to casino options. Two major contenders for a mega-facility appeared to be the proposed Century City project in Milnerton and the nearby Goodwood showgrounds option;

❒ The Philippi business development node. With more than a million people living within a 10 km perimeter of the Philippi/Lansdowne centre, the development of a multi-sectorial node had been under consideration for sometime.

Preparatory work included the planning of a R60 million shopping complex, three Olympic sports facilities, a transport interchange, a fresh produce and informal sector market, expansions to the Philippi industrial area, a hospital, and high density housing and residential infrastructure development.

❒ Reconstruction and Development Project-related infrastructure projects. The Western Cape had received more than 20 percent of RDP allocations in 1995/96 because its project proposals were ready and implementation could start. Although the share of RDP allocations could decline in the future as the other provinces came on-stream, the overall rate of implementation would increase and the current momentum should be maintained in the province.

Recent shifts in departmental responsibilities for the social development programmes with the phasing out of the national RDP department should not adversely affect the momentum.

❒ Expansion of existing projects including Cape Town Airport, Cape Town centre, Saldanha and Mossel Bay harbours, the V&A Waterfront, the Tygervalley Centre and projects that were likely to arise from the re-use of the AECI complex in Somerset West where 1 000 hectares of suitable land for commercial, industrial, residential and recreational use could take on the size and impact of a mega-project.

❒ Expanded tertiary education facilities. About 20 percent of all research was already taking place in the Western Cape and 22 percent of the country's tertiary students were studying in the province. The sector was still one of the most strategically important elements in the provincial development process and would have to be given increasing attention over the next few years.

Olympic planners pump millions into township

ST916196 (288)

By COLIN BRYDEN

THE building of five Olympic stadiums will start almost immediately as Cape Town sets out to prove it is serious about winning the 2004 Olympic Games.

A cabinet decision to back the Cape Town bid will mean the release in the short term of more than R300-million in government funds.

Bid chief executive Chris Ball said five multipurpose facilities would be built in the underdeveloped south-eastern areas of Cape Town, in and around Khayelitsha.

"We want to build five Olympic venues immediately to show we are serious," said Mr Ball. "We would like the facilities to be completed and in use by local communities long before the members of the International Olympic Committee cast their votes in September 1997."

The budget for what Mr Ball labels "the five priority projects" is R86-million, which will come from government funds. The stadiums will accommodate sports such as boxing, basketball and gymnastics.

Mr Ball also expects the first R250-million of government money for upgrading transport infrastructure around Cape Town to be spent in the next year.

The bid company has asked that almost R900-million be spent on transport infrastructure between this year and 2004.

Mr Ball said the delay in government approval had hurt the bid. "It would have been better if they had made their decision a few months earlier. But in the overall context the delay is not significant."

The key deadlines are August 15, when the official bid documents have to be submitted to the International Olympic Committee; early December, when an evaluation commission will visit Cape Town to decide whether the city has the technical ability to stage the Olympics; and March or April, when the international committee will use the technical evaluations to short-list four or five final candidate cities.

If Cape Town makes the short list, the bid company will have between April and September next year to make an all-out effort to win the vote in Lausanne on September 5.

Mr Ball believes Cape Town is among the favourites. Eleven cities are in contention. "From what I hear in the international community, Rome and Cape Town are regarded as the strongest candidates."

A budget of R86-million, separate from the R86-million earmarked for the construction of the stadiums, has been allocated for the bid process.

This will be privately funded, with R72-million already raised in sponsorship. Mr Ball is confident the balance will be raised from sponsors and the Champions of the Bid programme, which enables individuals and companies not formally connected to the bid to contribute.

The bid budget will cover the cost of ferrying International Olympic Committee members to Cape Town and marketing and administration costs.

Strict guidelines cover visits by the 106 members. The bidding city is entitled to host each member once only. The guidelines also put a limit on the value of gifts to members. Mr Ball said about 75 members were likely to visit the city.

He said he did not agree with criticism that Cape Town would not be able to manage an event as large as the Olympics. "I think the evaluation committee will be pleasantly surprised. We are well ahead in our planning on the technical side, particularly in telecommunications."

In giving its support to the bid, the cabinet said government at national, provincial and local level would take responsibility for half of the estimated R7,5-billion needed to fund the games. The government estimates the Olympics will provide a boost of R30-billion to the economy.

Focus on tourism

ST(BR) 10/6/96 (288)

British charters to boost summer tourism

By Audrey d'Angelo

Cape Town — Regular charter flights between Britain and South Africa should give tourism a boost this summer.

Britannia Airlines, which is based in Britain, has been granted a permit to bring tourists to this country twice a week and Caledonian Airways will apply for a new permit for two flights a week when the present one expires at the end of next month.

Britannia's permit is to bring incoming tourists on package holidays including accommodation.

Johann Biermann, the deputy director of air transport regulation said last week that they would be happy to extend the flights which call once a week in Johannesburg and once a week in Cape Town.

Caledonian Airways has a permit to fly the route for British tour operator Bluebird Holidays, transporting passengers in both directions.

It is entitled to sell seats without accommodation.

Caledonian suspended flights this month and last, because the planes were not sufficiently filled during the low season. Passengers were transferred to scheduled flights at no extra cost.

George Blundell-Pound, the commerical director of Caledonian Airways, said flights would resume on July 2.

Caledonian will apply for a new licence allowing it to fly once a week to Johannesburg and Cape Town, going on to Durban, when their licence expires at the end of next month.

John Deverell, Bluebird's director, said it hoped to offer flights between South Africa and Manchester and Glasgow next year. Manchester is Britain's third largest airport.

Deverell and Blundell-Pound said that they did not plan to compete head-on with the scheduled airlines. They served a different market and were bringing tourists who would not normally come to South Africa.

The rand's weakness meant that most of their business this summer would be bringing visitors to South Africa rather than taking South Africans abroad.

Blundell-Pound said 50 percent of air travellers in Europe now travelled on charter services.

He said the number of British people going on long-haul flights was increasing at a rate of about 12 percent a year.

SAA opposed Caledonian's original licence application on the grounds that it was a scheduled service and not a charter service, as flights were regular.

R250-m tourist complex for the Bluff

Durban – A R250-million plan to transform the Bluff into a major tourist attraction could begin in January.

Developers say the project, unveiled at the weekend, would go hand-in-hand with another, the Point Waterfront.

The brainchild of the Bluff Development Company, a 10ha site has been earmarked for the development at the foot of the Bluff on the south side, directly opposite the Point Waterfront.

Included is a proposal to build a 250-bedroom five-star hotel, which would be linked to a large deck extended over the water where a complex of restaurants, pubs, craft, and gift shops, maritime and locomotive museums and another smaller hotel would be constructed.

The complex would be accessed via ferries from the Point and the Victoria Embankment, said Simon Stockley of the Bluff Development Company.

Stockley said the project, which rests on finding an international partner, would take off by January 1. He said the project had many advantages. One was that there was only one landowner, Transnet, while The Point Waterfront Development had to deal with two, Transnet and the City. – Own Correspondent.

(288) Star 11/6/96

Tourism slows as hotel costs rise

(288)

Growing safety fears knock SA as holiday destination

ARG 11/6/96

LINDSAY BARNES
Staff Reporter

ESCALATING hotel costs and the perception overseas that it is becoming increasingly unsafe to travel in South Africa have contributed to a marked slowing down of tourism here.

South Africa has lost its "flavour of the month" status and it is time to address the issues that affect our tourism industry, says Satour executive director Mavuso Msimang.

The number of foreign tourists arriving by air increased narrowly by three percent in the first four months of this year, compared to the same time last year, and in April there was a rise of only 1,2 percent in tourists – 1 021 people – who arrived by other means of transport.

European arrivals increased by eight percent between January and April and Americans by six percent. Compared to the same period last year, there has been a 23 percent decrease in the number of tourists from central and South America, a one percent decrease from Australia, a nine percent decrease from Asia and the Middle East and a three percent decrease from Africa.

And, Roland Oettinger, manager of German tourism association Deutscher Reisebeuro Verband has warned that any further surge in hotel rates would drastically affect the number of German tourists visiting the country.

He slated an intended escalation of between 30 to 40 percent in accommodation prices and said tour-bus drivers and hotel and restaurant staff needed better training to offer the standard of service paid for by tourists.

While he expected a further increase in tourists from Germany, he cautioned that Africa's hottest destination already cost three times as much as a holiday in Florida.

But, not all is bad news.

According to the World Tourism Organisation, South Africa replaced Tunisia as the most popular African tourist destination in 1995. Tunisia now ranks second, followed by Morocco.

South Africa is seeing a boost in infrastructural developments in tourism and more and more international airlines are introducing flights or increasing their frequency of flights to the country, said Mr Msimang.

'CRIME-RIDDEN, DIRTY'

Crisis call to revive city centre

CT 11/6/96 (A9) (288)

THE CHAMBER of Commerce and Industry, alarmed at the decay of the city's CBD and the threat to trade and tourism, wants to meet Central's Exco to thrash out a plan of action. **WILLEM STEENKAMP** reports.

THE Cape Town Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) is to push for a master plan to rejuvenate the city's decaying heart — but may find itself having to balance this with the need to create jobs.

It has called for an urgent meeting with the Central substructure's executive committee — to which council spokesman Mr Ted Doman has responded that Exco would have no objection.

"I think their concerns are our concerns," Doman said yesterday.

Chief among the CCI's concerns — listed in its advertisements, headlined "Declining city standards", in the press yesterday — are "street crime, vagrancy, informal trade, prostitution, littering, street children and related pavement activities".

The negative effects of these elements on business and tourism form the main thrust of the CCI's arguments for action.

Lending weight to the CCI call was Satour's report yesterday that tourism to the country was slowing down because of crime and high costs.

Blaming the trend on a perception that South Africa was becoming increasingly unsafe, Satour's executive director, Mr Mavuso Msimang, said the number of visitors had increased by only 2,9% in the first four months of the year. Last year, figures were 35,7% higher than the year before.

In Cape Town, in finding ways to counter this trend and reverse the CBD's deterioration, the CCI will find itself balancing the interests of trade, tourism and citizens with the needs for job-creation and to boost an understaffed police force.

Says Cape Town central police station commander Director Raymond Dowd: "The police can't solve socio-economic circumstances."

His area was understaffed and needed at least 150 more policemen and four more patrol vans, he said yesterday.

Mugging and theft from cars had been reduced "quite substantially" in the past three months. However, the police were too stretched to deal with by-law infractions, which "should be the priority of the city's law-enforcement agencies".

These problems Doman attributed to the scrapping about four years ago, to allow job-creation, of by-laws controlling informal trading.

The burgeoning of informal trade had led to the increase in associated problems, such as littering and crime — but there was little the council could do until the province promulgated new by-laws for informal trading, Doman said.

A few years ago, anyone could walk down Adderley Street's pavements safe from petty criminals and unhindered by pavement vendors.

Now muggings of tourists in the CBD are widely reported — reflecting a negative image of the city.

Citizens call for more police, more controls and more action, politicians make promises and officials struggle to make do with dwindling resources, but little seems to be effective.

In its advertisements, the CCI signalled its intent to act and called for "an integrated master plan" to deal with these problems.

The advertisements were echoed by the lead story in yesterday's CCI Business Bulletin. It expressed "concern that the city is falling into decay", complained of ineffectual and haphazard measures and said:

"Instead of the city centre being the magnet that attracts tourists to wander around its streets and squares while enjoying a controlled range of activities ... we find it is becoming positively unsafe, decidedly dirty and an unpleasant experience."

Hotel units to sell fast

Lukanyo Mnyanda

THE developers of the new four-star self-catering hotel at the entrance to the R350m Harbour Island waterfront development in Gordon's Bay expect the 86 units to be sold out quickly.

Beymark spokesman Thomas Altman, whose company is handling the unit sales, said: "Harbour's Edge Hotel offers an excellent blue chip investment, because of a unique formula that provides long term capital appreciation and strong monthly returns."

The luxury suites were being made available as full sectional title property and buyers effectively became owners and shared in profits, based on their percentage participation shares.

Altmann said that the projected rates of return indicated that the investment would eventually pay for itself.

Developer Cas Scharrighuisen said that the sectional title aspect of the development would give it a huge boost.

He expected that it would make Harbour's Edge a popular investment for companies and private investors.

Games bid backing may boost region

BT 12/6/96 (288)

Lukanyo Mnyanda

THE Cabinet's decision to back Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games could have a positive effect on the region's economy but it was still too early to judge the extent, as the host city would not be named until next September, sources said yesterday.

Sanlam Properties Cape Town regional manager Kokkie Rall said: "The effect on Cape Town could be positive, but it's too early to be specific."

He called on the Olympic Bid Company to move quickly on improving facilities, such as the Cape Town airport, which was not yet up to international standards. Access roads to and from the airport would also have to be improved to accommodate the flood of visitors if Cape Town held the Games.

"I am still not convinced of how widespread support is for the bid. The bid company needs to sell it to the wider community and make it everyone's event," Rall said.

He said Cape Town people also needed to be convinced that the bid would not translate into an extra tax burden. "They (the bid company) can't do their figures in isolation."

Rall said a successful bid would represent a major injection for the region's economy and would instil confidence in its property market.

Old Mutual Properties operations manager Stuart Findlay agreed that it was too early to make assessments on the issue. "Real decisions will only be made once the city has been finally selected," he said.

However, the bid represented an expression of confidence in Cape Town and could have a major effect on the tourist industry. The hotel industry was already expanding and further development would be influenced by the bid's outcome.

RH Morris MD Frank Wright said the construction industry was "elated" that Cape Town was definitely going to bid. "This is a major boost for the industry, especially leisure and hotel development, and will inspire confidence in the Western Cape economy."

The industry now needed specific information from the bid company on what was planned before the International Olympic Committee made its decision next year.

"If we succeed, the Western Cape will take off. The games will generate large amounts of money, and individual property prices will also go up."

BMI Business Research Strategy consulting unit director Llewellyn Lewis said the impact of winning the games would be "massive". The construction of the Olympic villages would be a good investment as they could later be used later to help in meeting the region's housing needs.

"The development of infrastructure will have a positive impact on Cape Town, and the whole country will benefit," he said.

SA crime forces British tour agents to seek cover

Star 13/6/96 (288)

Mugged tourists say they were not warned of dangers

ALAN ROBINSON
London

British travel agents and holiday companies may soon have to issue formal warnings to tourists about the dangers and risks of visiting South Africa.

Already, one British couple who visited Durban earlier this year and were mugged taking a stroll from their four-star hotel are reported to be claiming compensation from their travel agent.

The couple, who have not been named, are basing their claim on the fact that they were not warned of the danger of visiting South Africa.

The case has alarmed the holiday industry in the UK, which is feeling the effects of an increasingly litigious age in which companies are being sued for even the most minor inconveniences, including slipping on wet tiles and falling out of a safari vehicle.

Two women who complained of sexual harassment when Tunisian waiters made suggestive remarks to them were awarded a total of R20 000. One claimed the incident had resulted in her having to take anti-depressant drugs.

Surge in claims after holidays

Another woman who gashed her thigh on metal steps into a swimming pool after drinking heavily turned down an offer of R65 000 and then lost her case.

Tour operators say the rise in claims for anything from a lumpy mattress to unsatisfactory food has been phenomenal and will add considerably to the cost of package holidays.

The surge in claims follows a European Union directive that makes travel companies liable for every part of a holiday, from excursions to illness, and not just the travel and accommodation arrangements.

Tim Oliver, a partner in London solicitors Berrymans, which acts for holiday giant Thomson, is particularly concerned about the implications of the Durban case.

He said: "They (the couple) are saying that the travel agent should have warned them of the danger of visiting South Africa. If you start saying that travel agents have a duty to warn people of every possible incident, you could not in all honesty let anyone go anywhere." – Star Foreign Service.

Olympics jobs bonanza

Atlanta companies are competing with each other and with the city's Olympic organisers to fill a huge number of new jobs as the countdown to Atlanta's Olympics begins, reports EDITH STANLEY of The Los Angeles Times in Atlanta.

(288) ARG 13/6/96

FROM upscale boutiques to fast-food outlets, the signs are everywhere. Some are hand-scribbled on cardboard, others neatly printed on banners. Still more fill roadside displays. "Help Wanted." "Positions Available." "Now Hiring." "Job Opportunities." "Join Our Team."

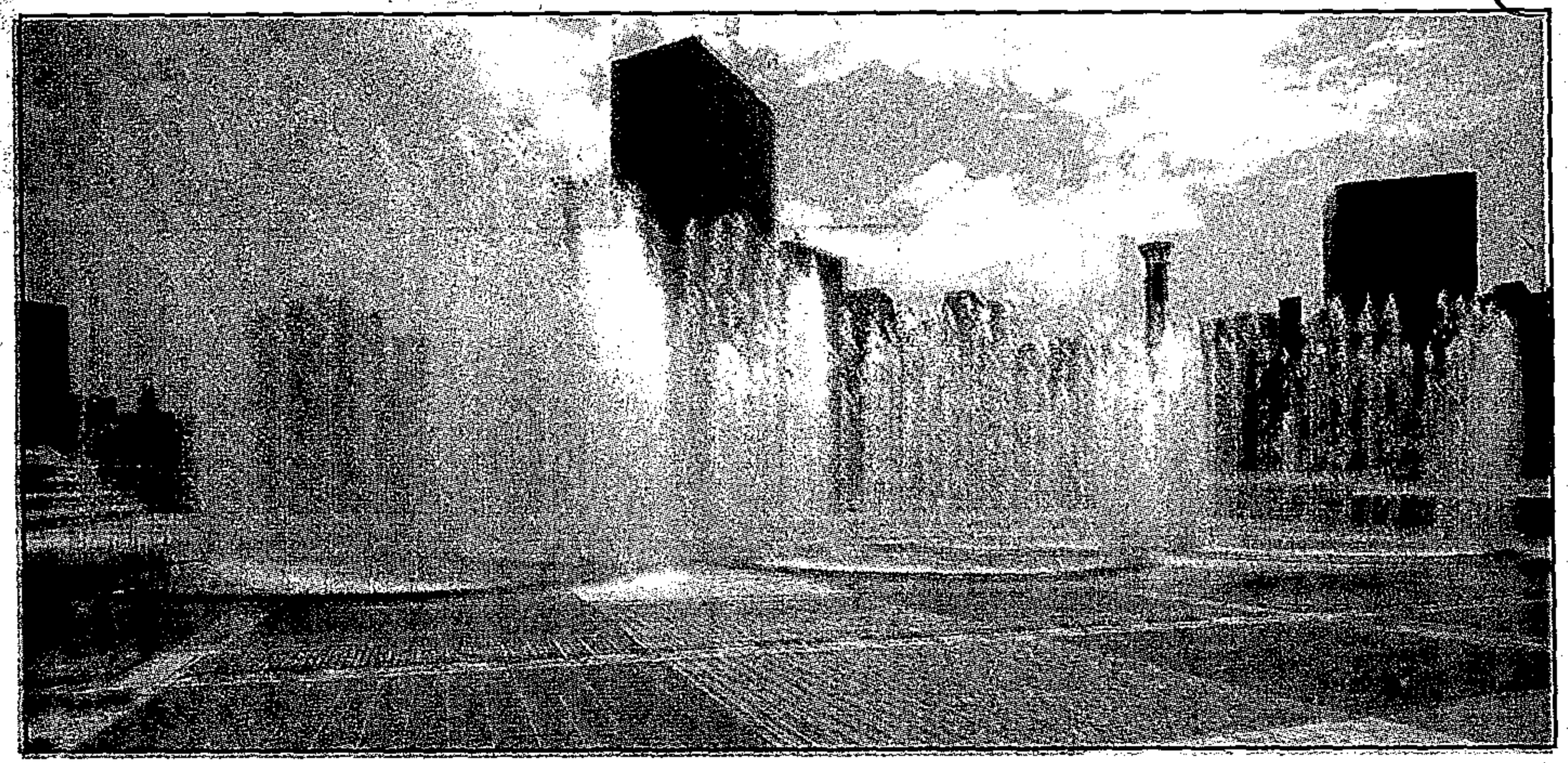
Welcome to the Summer of 1996 – the time Atlantans have anticipated with excitement and trepidation since September 1990, when this city was proclaimed host to the Centennial Olympic Games.

The new stadium stands ready. The caldron awaits the torch. But qualified workers are in short supply. And the limited labour pool, a problem compounded by an unexplained rise in positive pre-employment drug tests, has left employers scrambling.

Glen Thomas, general manager of G&K Services, an Atlanta uniform-leasing company, knows what it's like to have an expanding business and not be able to find employees. Hoping to add a second shift, Thomas has been interviewing candidates. He has become discouraged.

"Our dilemma is that there are people out there but certainly not the calibre we've been accustomed to," Thomas said, adding that "there has been a large increase in positives on drug and alcohol screening in the last three or four weeks. I have no idea what is causing this."

Rosalind Stone, vice president for Corporate Wellness Inc., which manages drug-free workplace programmes, has confirmed that she has seen more positive drug tests from Atlanta during the past month than in her 15 years in the business. "Although the specific cause is unclear to us, we are concerned about the relationship between low unemployment and high positive pre-employment drug screens," Stone said. "Although low unemployment in Atlanta may be due to the Olympics, other parts of the country with similar unemployment numbers may soon see high positive rates."



Atlanta's new Olympic rings fountain – in the shape of the five Olympics rings – has become a popular landmark in the city's centre.

Atlanta's jobless rate is at a 23-year low of 3,5 percent.

The service industry, with jobs that tend to be on the low end of the pay scale, has been hardest hit. Companies are competing not only with each other but with the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games.

With about 40 000 paying jobs, that organisation in many cases offers higher salaries, bigger perks and the Olympic experience.

To counteract ACOG's appeal, private industry has become creative. Kroger supermarkets are including R1 000 bonuses in employment packages. Some fast-food restaurants have raised their pay to R30 an hour.

Temporary staffing companies are offering medical benefits and paid vacations.

Recruitment has expanded across the Southeastern United States.

Students, teachers and school bus drivers, on summer break, are being courted. Some Atlanta hotels are rotating employees in from hotels in other areas of the country.

Randstad Staffing Services, the Olympics staffing sponsor, has interviewed more than 35 000 people. About 12 000 have been employed.

The critical shortage Randstad is facing is in bus drivers. Although the company has employed 2 500, 1 000 more are needed to transport spectators.

At shopping malls, community centres, Atlanta Braves baseball games and on college campuses, the brightly coloured Randstad 32-foot recruiting caravan has rolled up in search of applicants.

Outfitted with testing tables, interview stations and computers, the caravan has been the site of 4 000 job allocations in the past two months.

"The good part is it goes to people who don't necessarily think about stopping by our branch office," said Debra Drew, director of Olympic programs for Randstad.

The company will hold a job fair at 16 Georgia Department of Labour offices. Anyone who walks in can apply for Olympics work – in some cases at pay far exceeding the amount they receive in unemployment benefits.

"It will be a wonderful time for folks to take a break from their job search and come and have a good time and work a little," Drew said.

Satour battling to sell S Africa

(288) Sowetan 13/6/96

... and there has been a drop in number of tourists coming this way

By Isaac Moledi

THE SOUTH African Tourism Board (Satour) says it needs more funds to effectively market South Africa abroad.

Satour says lack of funds is taking its toll on the country's tourism industry as the number of foreign tourists coming to South Africa has slowed down considerably since the beginning of this year.

The declining value of the rand has seriously eroded the organisation's international marketing budget, making it increasingly difficult for Satour's offices abroad to maintain South Africa's visibility in the international market.

Satour's media liaison officer Martin van Niekerk says discussions are taking place with the Government and he is hopeful that a solution will be found once a new tourism white paper has been finalised. The blue print is expected to be finalised before the end of this year.

He says Satour is presently engaged in forming partnerships with the private sector to solicit funding.

Satour's executive director Mavuso Msimang says the number of foreign tourists arriving in South Africa by air has only showed a 2,9 percent increase during the first four months of this year compared to more than 30 percent over the same period last year.

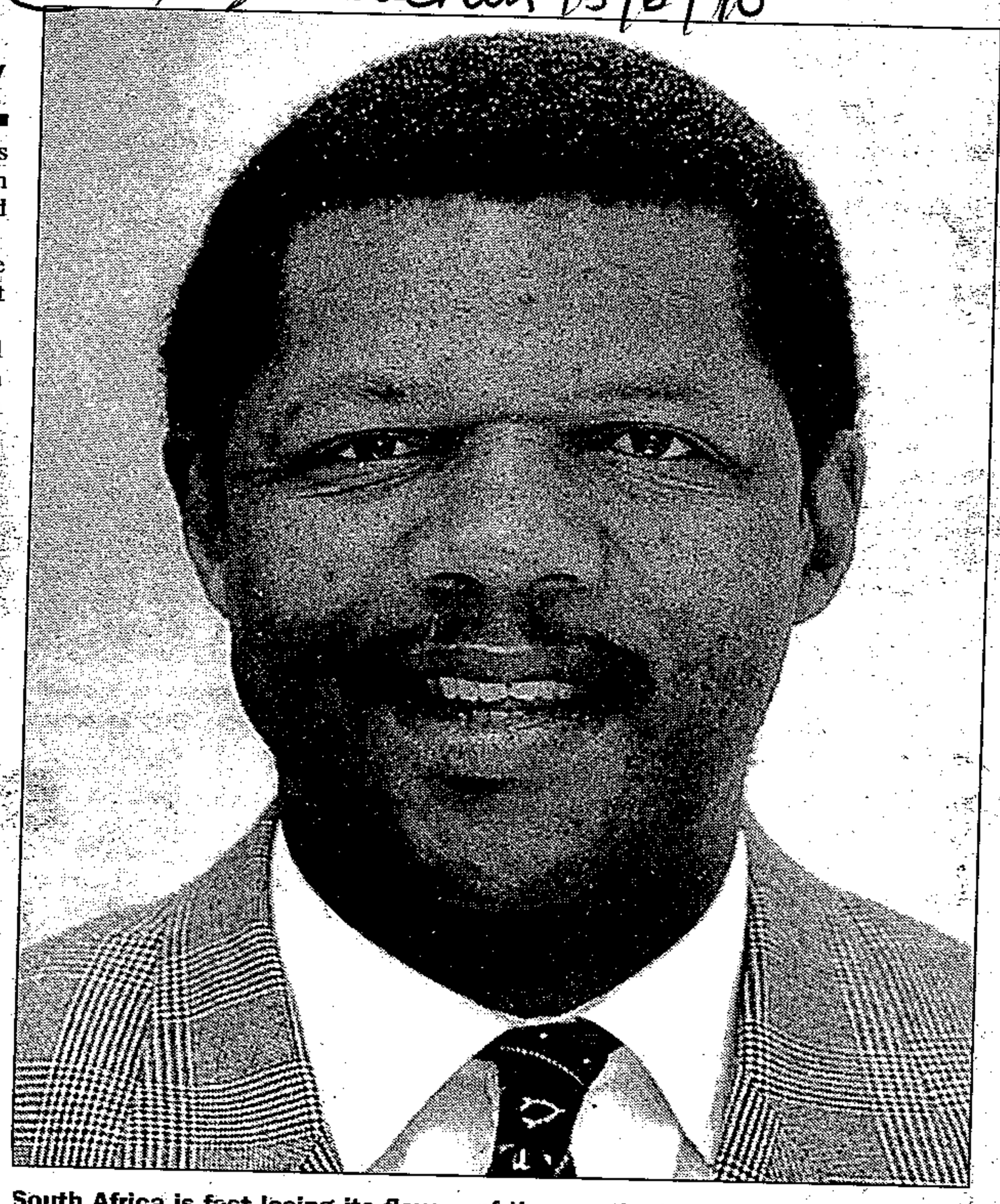
Also, there was an increase of only 1,2 percent in the number of foreign tourists coming here in April – which is about 1 021 additional tourists.

Between January and April this year, the number of air arrivals from Europe increased by 8 percent and from North America by 6,7 percent.

These figures represent a decrease of 22,5 percent compared with last year.

Numbers of tourists from Central and South America, Australia, Asia and the Middle East as well as from the rest of Africa are also declining.

"It is clear that South Africa is fast losing its flavour of the month status," says Msimang. Other factors contributing to the problem, according to Msimang, are a significant increase in the cost of accommodation, as well as South Africa's escalating wave of violent crimes.



South Africa is fast losing its flavour of the month status, says Mavuso Msimang.

With or without Olympic Games bid, tourism still set to perform

CT(BR) 13/6/96 (288)

Tourism is set to become one of the star performers in the Western Cape economy – even without a successful Olympic bid.

Currently tourism contributes between 6 and 8 percent of the gross regional product (GRP) of the Western Cape, but this share could grow to 10 percent over the next five to seven years, the latest Western Cape Economic Monitor annual review has found.

Prepared by the Cape of Good Hope Bank and regional development organisation, Wesgro, the review says the Western Cape is well placed to capture substantially more than the average national growth rate of tourist numbers.

However, to achieve continued growth in the sector, concerted action will be required on both the demand (marketing) and the supply side, with responsibility falling on the full spectrum of economic stakeholders, including the private sector, local authorities, provincial government and parastatals.

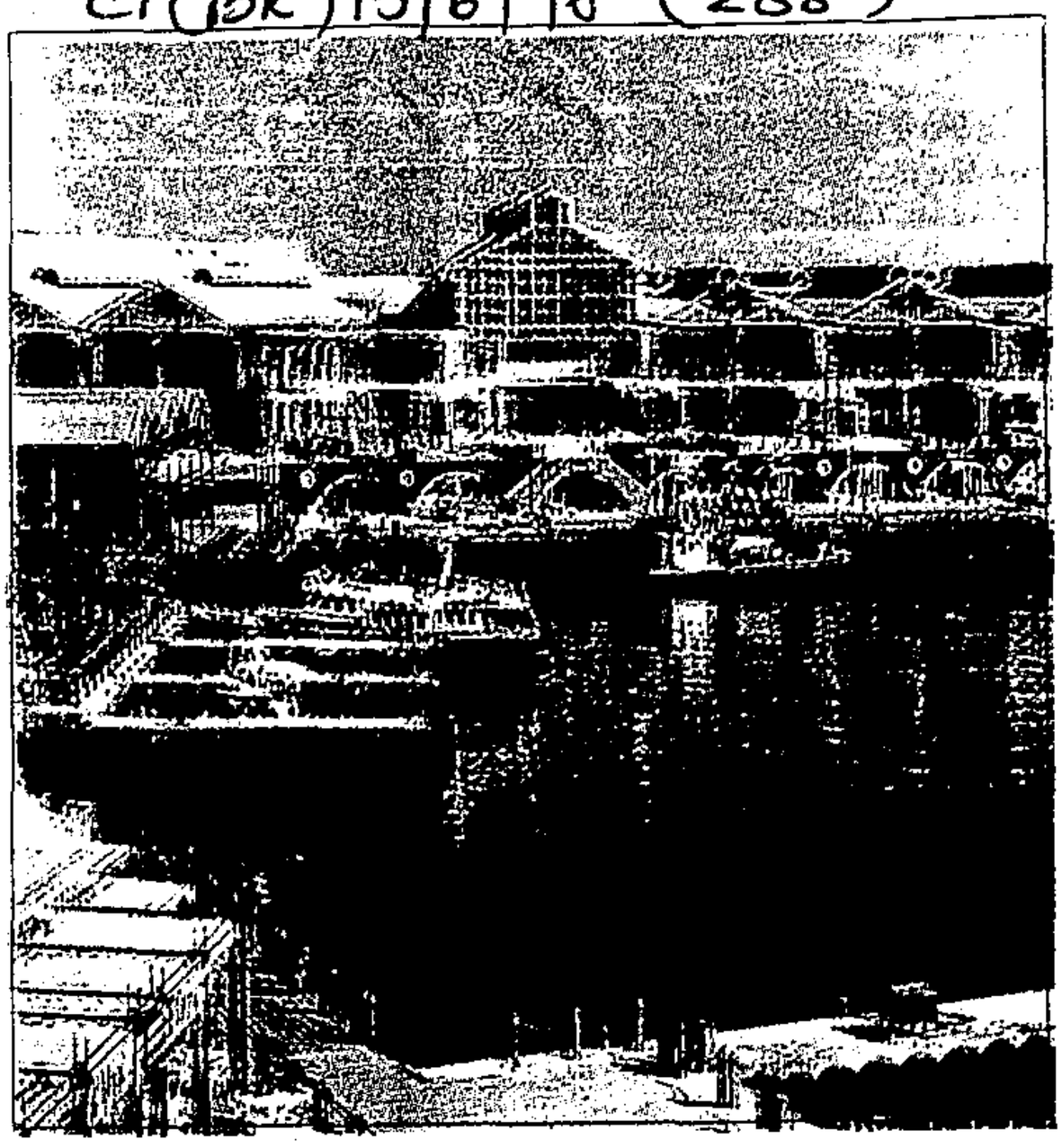
Competition from other South and Southern African regions is likely to grow in the future increasingl challenges to the local industry.

The metropolitan areas in the Western Cape grabbed about 85 percent of the tourist spending of the region with the rural areas attracting 15 percent.

In the metropolitan areas individual holidaymakers contributed 31 percent, package tours about 27 percent, business about 12 percent, conferences 10 percent and youth/backpackers 5percent.

Wesgro, which is currently studying tourism in the Western Cape, said the percentages of the contribution to the GRP were currently difficult to provide with accuracy because the industry cut across about three sectors and involved significant informal sector activity.

Arrivals and departures of international passengers at Cape Town airport had passed the 55 000 mark in December and had climbed to a record 65 000 in February.



THE WATERFRONT: One of Cape Town's major tourist attractions. Millions of visitors spend hours browsing through the array of shops and relaxing at the many eateries.

'Bullish' Chris Ball on route to Europe for high-profile support

ARG 14/6/96 (288)

CAPE TOWN'S Olympic effort goes international this weekend when Chris Ball, chief executive of the Bid Company, flies to Europe to net high-profile support for the African challenge towards the 2004 Games.

He disclosed yesterday that his "Friends of the Bid" campaign in the international community already had secured "a very high-profile" endorsement in Britain. An announcement on international backers was expected soon.

Hot on the heels of an encouraging trip to London this week, Mr Ball jets off to Europe this weekend in bullish mood. He said yesterday: "There has been a massive reaction following the cabinet's announcement of its support for the bid, both in South Africa and internationally.

"There has been a very warm and supportive response in Europe, the United States and Britain. The people I saw in London were very enthusiastic.

"I'm now concentrating on building a strong 'Friends of the Bid' campaign around the world."

It was not a question of going cap in hand, asking for money, he said.

"We have largely raised the money we need. What we are



asking for is their endorsement. Of course, if they want to make finance available that will be great, but the principal idea is to go to the world and get people to say: 'This is a project worth supporting.'

"We are going for high-profile individuals ... and one very high-profile figure in Britain already has said 'yes'."

Much of the focus of this initiative would be on the "implications for Africa".

"People do understand the concept that this bid is Olympism in action – the response is very good, and the whole idea of Olympism in action will be one of the key ideas of the next phase of the campaign."

Mr Ball was equally encouraged by a shift in attitudes on the home front. "I'm confident attitudes are changing and people are beginning to understand that what we have said has been confirmed by the Development Bank of Southern Africa."

The bank has estimated the overall boost to the national economy will be more than R30-billion between 1997 and 2006, and that more than 90 000 permanent jobs will be created.

In a race against time, Bid Company staff are working flat out on the crucial bid book, the formal document which sets out in minute detail the basis of South Africa's bid for the 2004 Games. The weighty, three-volume document must be delivered to the International Olympics Committee in Lausanne by August 15.

Ronnie Kingwill, director of the bid process, said yesterday that the first volume – which sets out the background to the bid and its historical and national context – and the third volume – which deals with the myriad logistical features such as transport and accommodation – were "in the final stages of fine-tuning". There was still a "couple of weeks' work" left to do on the second volume, which dealt with the sports events themselves, the locations and the costs.



Picture: ANDREW INGRAM, The Argus.

BOOKING THE BID: Tackling a heap of Bid Book drafts are, from left, Debbie Moos, Bid Book assistant, Kariann AaruP, Bid Book manager, and Ronnie Kingwill, director of the bid process. The Bid Book - the formal, technical document which puts the case for Cape Town's shot at the 2004 Games - must be delivered to the International Olympics Committee by August 15.

Wingfield site dispute goes back to transfer deeds signed in the 1940s

FRESH details have emerged about negotiations between Graaffs' Trust Limited – owners of the land at Wingfield earmarked for the main Games stadium – and the Olympic Bid Company.

It has emerged that 356,3 morgen (about 302 hectares) of this land was bought from the estate of the late Sir David Graaff by the government of the Union of South Africa on April 21 1943, for £14 610 (R96 426 at today's exchange rate).

The deed of transfer gives Graaffs' Trust Limited a pre-emptive right to buy back the land, under certain conditions.

The deed of transfer says that if the government no longer needs the land – "or any portion thereof" – for defence purposes or for a civil airfield, and does not want to sell it "to the government of Great Britain for like purposes" or to a local authority to be used as an airport, the "transferor shall have the right of pre-emption to repurchase the said land".

The deed says the land should be bought back for the purchase price, plus three percent a year, plus the value of any improvements the government may not wish to remove.

The right of pre-emption must be exercised in writing within three months of being given written notice that the government no longer needs the land. This is the basis of negotiations between Graaffs' Trust Limited and the Olympic Bid Company.

Special postal service to Atlanta

ESANN de KOCK, Staff Reporter

A SPECIAL postal service to and from Atlanta has been launched to ensure easy and smooth communication between members and officials of the national Olympic team and their supporters.

To write to the team in Atlanta, the Post Office has created a special postal address: Box 800, Pretoria 0001. The cost is a standard 70c. Mail will be sent daily to Atlanta.

On July 5 the Post Office will issue six stamps and two commemorative envelopes to mark the 1996 Games.

Setback for our ma rival city Rome as its bid chief quits

ROME'S Olympic bid team – considered to be Cape Town's main opposition in the 11-city contest for the 2004 Games – has had a serious setback with the resignation of a key figure.

Governing director Pietro Calabrese – the Italian capital's equivalent of the Cape Town Bid Company's chief executive Chris Ball – is understood to have pulled out because of tension in the Roman camp.

Reacting yesterday, Mr Ball said Mr Calabrese had left the Rome team to join a big publishing group. "I am told there was tension," he said.

But he added: "Rome will continue to be one of our most formidable competitors, and a set-up of that nature will not be materially undermined (Mr Calabrese's departu

Bid company source lieved there had been mo tension between Mr Cala and Primo Nebiola, o leader of Rome's bid and the most influential figu world sport.

He is president of the national Amateur Ath Federation and a memb the International Olyn Committee (IOC).

● Rome, which hoste Olympics in 1960, is mou an all-out effort to secur 2004 Games. Significant has already earned appr comment from IOC pres Juan Antonio Samaranch praised Rome for its uni purpose.

Big sweep cuts crim threat to '96 Games

ATLANTA. – In a sweep coordinated by federal marshals, officers from 23 law enforcement agencies made 765 arrests during the past 10 weeks to reduce the crime threat to Olympic visitors, said authorities here.

The sweep, dubbed "Operation Olympus," resulted in 428 arrests in the Atlanta area, 241 in Macon and Columbus, Georgia and 96 in Birmingham, Alabama.

Because some of the suspects face multiple charges, the arrests cleared up 985 outstanding warrants, federal authorities said.

"Olympus targeted career criminals," said Robert McMichael, US marshal in Atlanta. "Criminals with a history of crimes against persons were the main object."

With about two million visitors expected for the Olympics, security has been a longstanding concern. Until now, attention has centered mostly on preventing terrorism rather than street crime.

Such multi-agency sweeps are not unusual, but this one was larger than most.

"The message is pe should feel good about co to Atlanta," said US Atto Kent Alexander. "People could do harm during Olympics are now off streets."

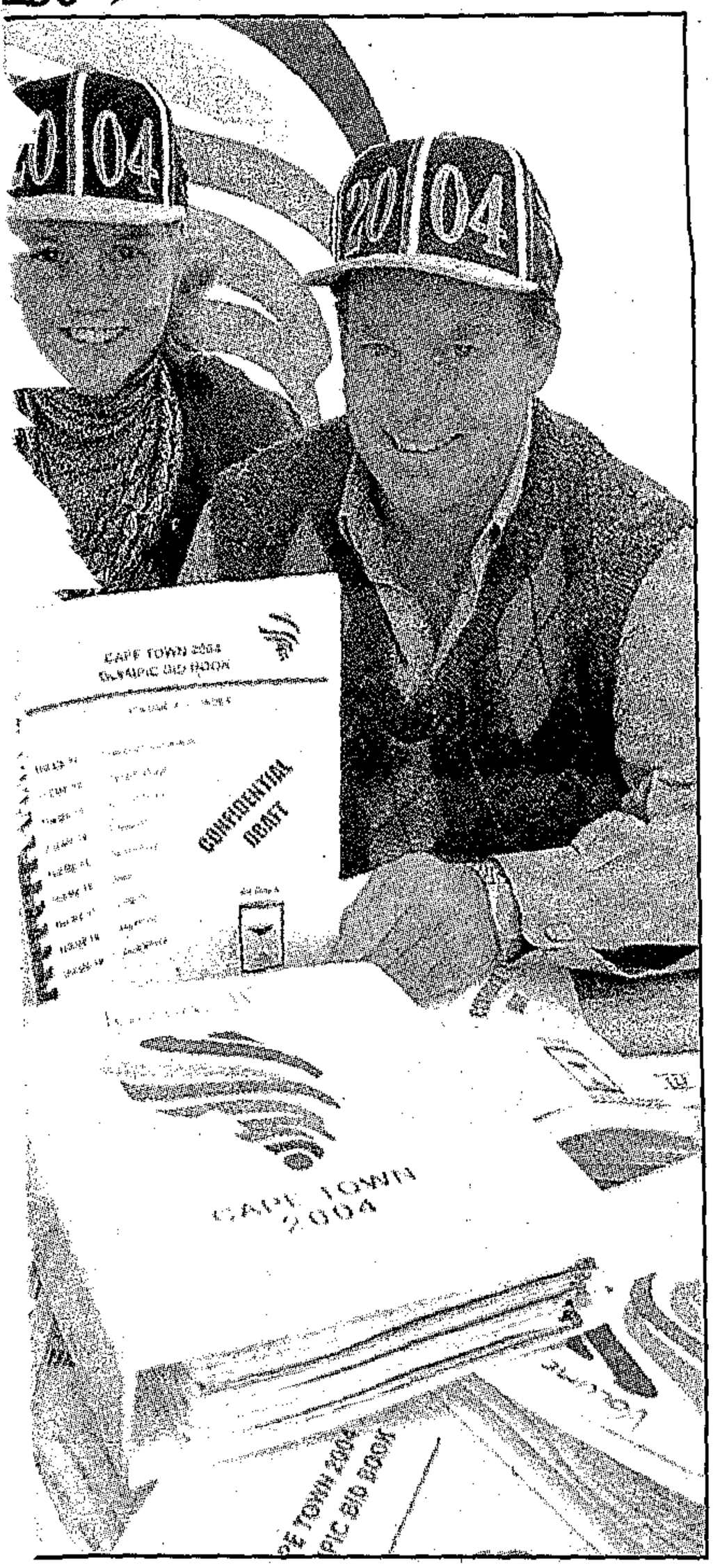
Authorities hedged on much of a bite the crackd actually would take out of Olympic crime threat.

"A known recidivist vio offender doesn't have tim work a legitimate job – the going to have to commit cri for survival," said Cobb Cou sheriff Bill Hutson, wh department took part in sweep.

"So, we can make an assu tion that by taking them off street, we will reduce cri But I can't give you number

Authorities acknowledg that some of those arrested the sweep could be back on t streets before the Games freed on bail before the July opening ceremony. But repe offenders and probation vio tors would probably have a d ficult time being freed. – Sa AP.

oute to support



Special postal service to Atlanta

ESANN de KOCK, Staff Reporter

A SPECIAL postal service to and from Atlanta has been launched to ensure easy and smooth communication between members and officials of the national Olympic team and their supporters.

To write to the team in Atlanta, the Post Office has created a special postal address: Box 800, Pretoria 0001. The cost is a standard 70c. Mail will be sent daily to Atlanta.

On July 5 the Post Office will issue six stamps and two commemorative envelopes to mark the 1996 Games.

Setback for our main rival city Rome as its bid chief quits

ROME'S Olympic bid team – considered to be Cape Town's main opposition in the 11-city contest for the 2004 Games – has had a serious setback with the resignation of a key figure.

Governing director Pietro Calabrese – the Italian capital's equivalent of the Cape Town Bid Company's chief executive Chris Ball – is understood to have pulled out because of tension in the Roman camp.

Reacting yesterday, Mr Ball said Mr Calabrese had left the Rome team to join a big publishing group. "I am told there was tension," he said.

But he added: "Rome will continue to be one of our most formidable competitors, and a set-up of that nature will not be materially undermined by this (Mr Calabrese's departure)."

Bid company sources believed there had been mounting tension between Mr Calabrese and Primo Nebiola, overall leader of Rome's bid and one of the most influential figures in world sport.

He is president of the International Amateur Athletics Federation and a member of the International Olympics Committee (IOC).

● Rome, which hosted the Olympics in 1960, is mounting an all-out effort to secure the 2004 Games. Significantly, it has already earned approving comment from IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch, who praised Rome for its unity of purpose.

Big sweep cuts crime threat to '96 Games

ATLANTA. – In a sweep coordinated by federal marshals, officers from 23 law enforcement agencies made 765 arrests during the past 10 weeks to reduce the crime threat to Olympic visitors, said authorities here.

The sweep, dubbed "Operation Olympus," resulted in 428 arrests in the Atlanta area, 241 in Macon and Columbus, Georgia and 96 in Birmingham, Alabama.

Because some of the suspects face multiple charges, the arrests cleared up 985 outstanding warrants, federal authorities said.

"Olympus targeted career criminals," said Robert McMichael, US marshal in Atlanta. "Criminals with a history of crimes against persons were the main object."

With about two million visitors expected for the Olympics, security has been a longstanding concern. Until now, attention has centered mostly on preventing terrorism rather than street crime.

Such multi-agency sweeps are not unusual, but this one was larger than most.

"The message is people should feel good about coming to Atlanta," said US Attorney Kent Alexander. "People who could do harm during the Olympics are now off the streets."

Authorities hedged on how much of a bite the crackdown actually would take out of the Olympic crime threat.

"A known recidivist violent offender doesn't have time to work a legitimate job – they're going to have to commit crimes for survival," said Cobb County sheriff Bill Hutson, whose department took part in the sweep.

"So, we can make an assumption that by taking them off the street, we will reduce crime. But I can't give you numbers."

Authorities acknowledged that some of those arrested in the sweep could be back on the streets before the Games if freed on bail before the July 19 opening ceremony. But repeat offenders and probation violators would probably have a difficult time being freed. – Sapa-AP.

asmaak
Vision
ation
er
Vision
us Raad
erke
us Raad v
e
Sake
orasie
C
ration
ger

d up by land prices

(288) ST 16/6/96

Olympic bid trip

By KEN VERNON and JESSICA BEZUIDENHOUT

CAPE TOWN's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games has hit a hurdle with disclosures that two key parcels of land earmarked for major Olympic facilities are privately owned and may cost more than R130-million to buy.

A key factor in the cost structure of the Cape Town bid has been the free use of public land, a fact noted in a highly touted Price Waterhouse audit of the bid company figures for the games — but the Sunday Times has discovered that the bid company knew over two years ago it might have to buy the land.

In the past week it has been revealed that more that 250ha of land close to the city centre at Wingfield, identified by the Olympic Bid Company last year as the site for the main Olympic village, the main arena and several other sporting facilities, is under effective control of the Graaff Family Trust.

Another vital 70ha at Phillipi East, earmarked for indoor sports such as basketball, badminton and table-tennis, a baseball stadium and a large outdoor practice arena, is owned by the National Portland Cement Company (NPC).

Both organisations are keen to sell their land — for a price — but by identifying the need for the sites without previously securing iron-clad options to buy, the bid company may have driven the price of the land sky high.

In a September 1995 review of the preliminary operating and capital budget for the games bid by Price Waterhouse, it was clearly stated that a major assumption of the budget was there would be no capital outlay for the acquisition of land.

That budget showed a surplus of R94-million, but indications are that the cost of the two parcels of land will be far more. While the land at Phillipi East would cost in the region of R5,6-million to R7-million, the Wingfield site could cost more than R129-million — wiping out the modest profit forecast by the auditors.

Land prices in the Phillipi East area are depressed because of the nearby Crossroads squatter camp. "There has been virtually no demand for land in the area for some time," one valuer said.

But despite the depressed state of the market, NPC turned down the undisclosed offer of representatives of the bid company, the city council and the provincial administration.

James Slabbert, the head of housing in the Western Cape, confirmed an offer had been made by the "competent authority", but was coy about revealing the price.

Jock Fergus, a spokesman for NPC parent company Anglo Alpha Coal, this week confirmed the property had been on the market for "several years" and was still available — but would not disclose a price. "We are definitely a willing seller," was all he would say, discounting any possibility of the site being expropriated.

The Philippi East site has, however, been identified by the Cape Metropolitan Council for at least two other developments, meaning the council or the provincial government might pick up some of the tab for the land, depending on how much they need.

But that is not the case with the Wingfield site where the Graaff Family Trust is aiming to turn a very tidy profit from the land it has effective control over.

The 259ha site at Wingfield is at present in possession of the defence force, although it does not own the site. In a wartime patriotic gesture the Graaff Trust "sold" the land cheaply to the South African government — with the proviso that the government had to sell the land back to the trust the moment it was no longer needed for defence purposes.

Taking into account a set interest rate of three percent a year laid down in the original deal, the trust would have to pay the government approximately R255 000 to buy back the land — but stands to sell it for 500 times that price.

Land at the Wingfield site is regarded as prime industrial and commercial land, fetching top prices. Commercial land valuers contacted by the Sunday Times put the value of the 259ha at a conservative R129-million.

This week a member of the trust, who preferred not to be named, said the trust was "unashamedly" using the fact that the bid company had identified the site in order to try to pry the land out of the hands of the defence force. If the trust can regain control of the land it is willing to sell the land "at the right price".

The chairman of the Graaff trust, Richard Knight, said this week that discussions had been held with the Olympic Bid Company for more than two years regarding purchase of the land, a point confirmed by Peter de Tolly, director of the bid company's planning section.

Asked how the bid company could allow Price Waterhouse to draw up a budget that did not take into account land purchase when the bid company had known for more than two years it might have to buy the Wingfield site, Mr De Tolly said that negotiations had been about "land reservation".

"If we do not get the nod to hold the games then we will have nothing to discuss. If we do, then it will really be a government matter because a government body will have to buy the land, not the bid company."

He said local, provincial and national government bodies would have to be formed to decide on what land was bought, for what price, and what each sector would contribute.

A former city councillor and executive committee member, Arthur Wienberg, a well known critic of the Cape Town bid, said the revelations about the land availability showed the "ineptitude and poor planning" of the bid company.

"If they have got even the land question wrong, one can only wonder what else they've got wrong," he said.

Flexibility key to Games planning

The Cape Town Olympic Bid Company does not anticipate any major disruption of its existing blueprint and it insists it has included land costs in its assessments. The company is in the process of negotiating land for Olympic venues at Wingfield and Philippi.

ARG 18/6/96 (288)

OLYMPIC bid planners have contingency plans to change the locality of key facilities – such as the main stadium at Wingfield – if environmental factors or difficulties in procuring land prove insurmountable.

But the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company does not anticipate any major disruption of its existing blueprint and, contrary to weekend reports, insists it has included land costs in its assessments.

Michael Morris on the



OLYMPIC BID

Negotiations are in progress to secure land for Olympic venues at Wingfield and at Philippi.

In both cases the Bid Company's role is restricted to reserving the land for development, rather than actually buying it.

"We have drawn up prototypical guarantees and these have been forwarded to the government, and they must be signed," said director of planning Peter de Tolly.

However, while development of the Wingfield site depends on the bid succeeding (work would begin on the site only in 1999), the Philippi facility is one of three on the Cape Flats scheduled to be completed before the outcome of the bid in September next year.

The land is owned by an Anglo-Alpha subsidiary, the National Portland Cement Company.

Mr De Tolly told The Argus yesterday that Anglo-Alpha executives had "reserved the property for Olympics purposes some time ago".

"They have been very reasonable. We have an informal agreement on the basis of discussions in the past, and they have said they understand what we are doing and think it's a good thing.

"They have laid down certain conditions, and further negotiations will take place today."

Central to the negotiations is the Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC), because the Philippi site has been identified as a key business development node on the Cape Flats and is expected to become a concentration that matches Claremont and Tygerberg.

The CMC has development goals in the area independent from the Olympics bid. However, the Bid Company has tried to dovetail its planning with the broader metropolitan scheme.

Mr De Tolly said: "We are trying to make sure that each of the Olympics facilities fits in with other development goals set out in the Metropolitan Spatial Development Framework, in this case the Philippi subcentre."

He said that there was less urgency in the case of the Wingfield land, for which the Graaffs' Trust Limited held the first option.

If the Defence Force no longer needed the land, a decision likely only after the outcome of Cape Town's bid next September, the Graaffs' Trust had a pre-emptive right to buy it back. It would then be in a position to sell it to the developers of the main Olympics facilities planned for Wingfield.

However, Mr De Tolly pointed out that the Graaffs' Trust land "affects only the top section of the rowing course and the stadium".

He added: "In the worst case scenario, we can move the stadium to the south of the site and redesign the rowing course. "The IOC is very cautious about promises made in the Bid Bo which is a contractual do ment, but everybody reali that there must be some fle bility.

"If it affects a particu sport, the change must be ca fully negotiated with the spo ing bodies involved, the int national federation and the I directorate itself. But we ha made it clear in the Bid Bo that the rowing course, instance, is not fixed, and c not be.

"The rowing course may sited elsewhere, possibly Zeekoevlei, or even out of to This depends also on envir mental impact assessments

"We are monitoring grou water levels and quality ri now and will continue thro winter and spring."

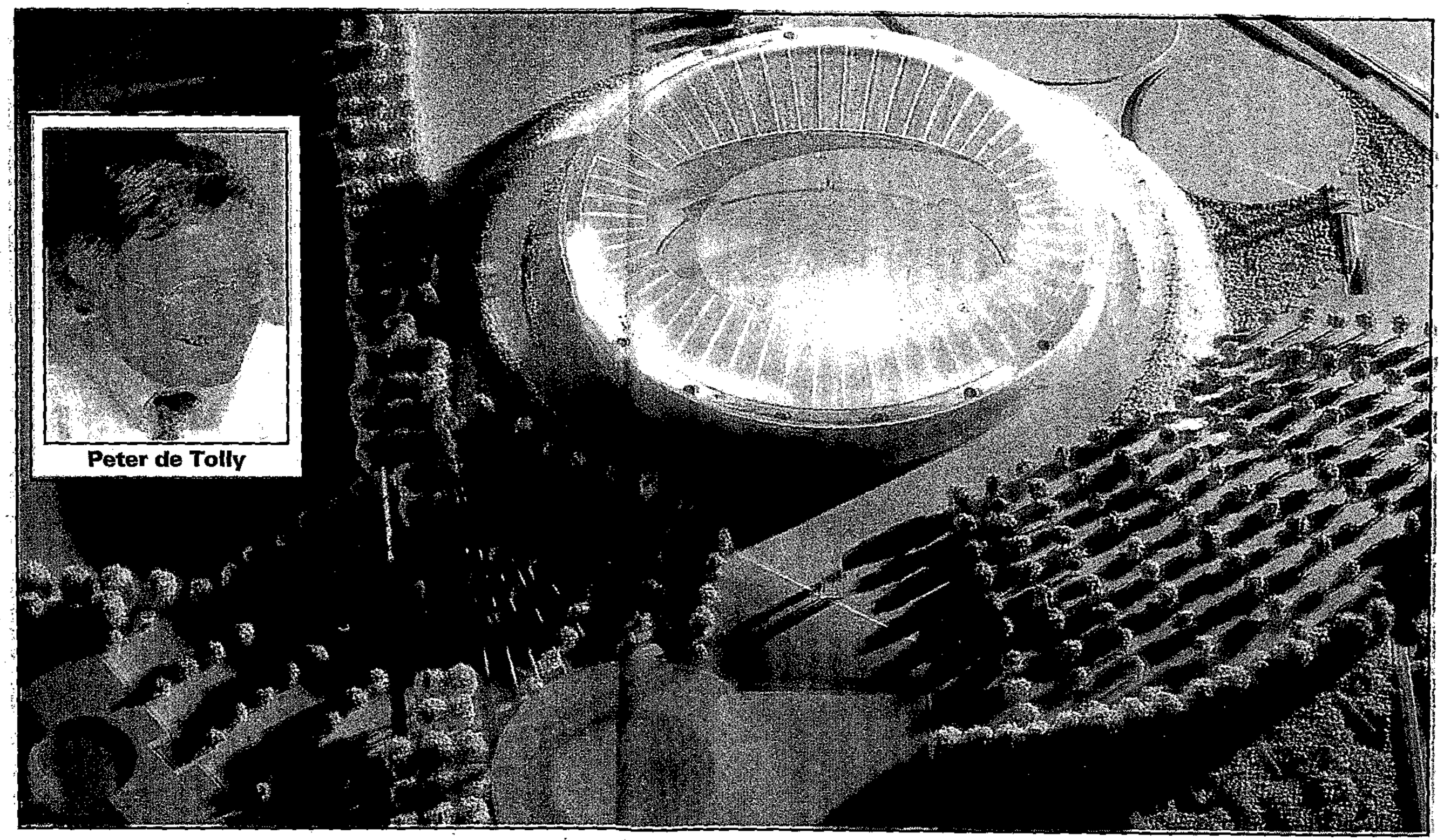
Reacting to a weekend rep Mr De Tolly said a land pr had been built into the p ning of all Olympics venue

"I was very careful to b land value into all our calc tions, and I'm told our estim for Wingfield may prove to h been inflated."

He added: "I might point that we have been told by IOC that they have not be seen as much technical d in a bid preparation.

"Bidding is extremely plex, hosting more so. O the problems we have h that people do not know facts, and as a result the fear.

We are acting on that. " more energy is now going publicising the guts of th so that people can see for selves the care that has into the planning."

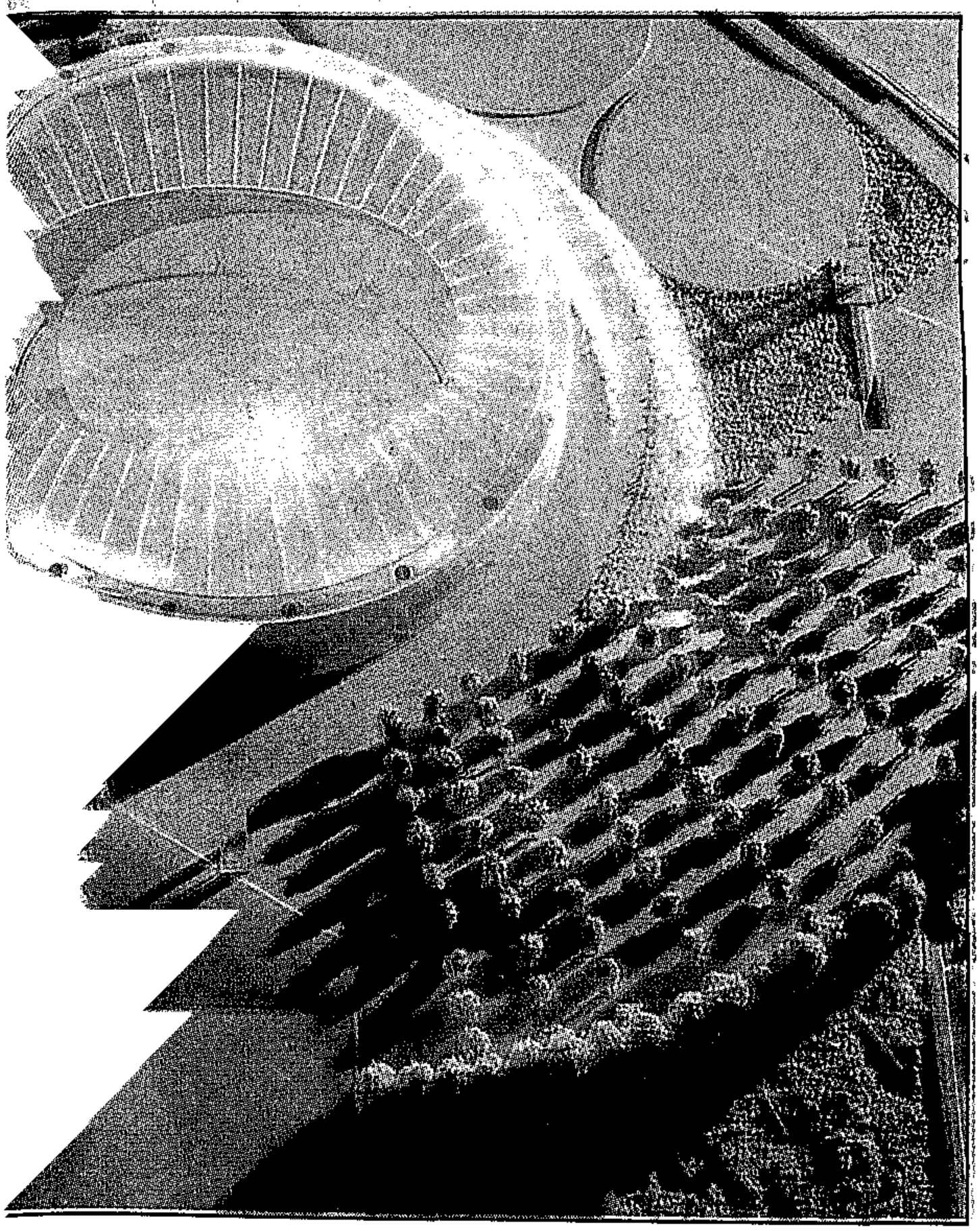


Peter de Tolly

NERVE CENTRE: The Wingfield Olympic Centre comprises the main stadium, villages for 15 000 athletes and officials and 15 000 media people and parking for 5 000 cars.

ames planning

ing blueprint and it insists it has included land costs in its assessments.
mpic venues at Wingfield and Philippi.



es the main stadium, villages for 15 000 athletes and officials and 15 000

out-
next
Trust
o buy
in a
evel-

opers of the main Olympics facilities planned for Wingfield.

However, Mr De Tolly pointed out that the Graaffs' Trust land "affects only the top section of the rowing course and the stadium".

He added: "In the worst case scenario, we can move the stadium to the south of the site and redesign the rowing course. "The IOC is very cautious about promises made in the Bid Book, which is a contractual document, but everybody realises that there must be some flexibility.

"If it affects a particular sport, the change must be carefully negotiated with the sporting bodies involved, the international federation and the IOC directorate itself. But we have made it clear in the Bid Book that the rowing course, for instance, is not fixed, and cannot be.

"The rowing course may be sited elsewhere, possibly at Zeekoevlei, or even out of town. This depends also on environmental impact assessments.

"We are monitoring groundwater levels and quality right now and will continue through winter and spring."

Reacting to a weekend report, Mr De Tolly said a land price had been built into the planning of all Olympics venues.

"I was very careful to build land value into all our calculations, and I'm told our estimate for Wingfield may prove to have been inflated."

He added: "I might point out that we have been told by the IOC that they have not before seen as much technical detail in a bid preparation.

"Bidding is extremely complex, hosting more so. One of the problems we have had is that people do not know the facts, and as a result there is fear.

We are acting on that. "A lot more energy is now going into publicising the guts of the bid so that people can see for themselves the care that has gone into the planning."

roo

orge

orge

rge

rge

altsdorp

antis

naggas

maqualand

Bid company out to win over doubters

(288) ALG 19/6/96

DISPELLING negative perceptions of Cape Town's Olympic effort and securing city-wide support in the crucial run-up to the bid evaluation are the issues expected to dominate the Olympic Bid Company's annual meeting tomorrow.

Chris Ball, chief executive of the bid company, returns tomorrow morning from a week of wooing high-profile figures abroad to tackle this pressing matter. Tomorrow afternoon's meeting will review progress.

The most important deadline looming is August 15, the date on which the crucial bid book – the contractual document setting out the technical minutiae of the bid – must be delivered to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in Lausanne.

Public support, though, is crucial. Olympic planners are heartened by what they describe as a significant shift towards a more favourable view of the city's Olympic bid, but they are conscious of widespread doubt about Cape



Town's capacity to host the 2004 Games, and, to a lesser extent, the wisdom of attempting to do so at all.

There is concern that lingering antipathy, or apathy, could take the shine off what is avowedly first-rate technical preparation and planning. One of the key elements of the IOC's assessment – which, between mid-August and early next year, will determine whether Cape Town makes it to the shortlist of four of five of the 11 bidding cities – will be the degree to which the bid is endorsed by the people of the metropole.

The cabinet's backing, coupled with the Development Bank of Southern Africa's buoyant forecast of likely economic benefits for Cape Town and the country as a whole, has given the process a big confidence boost.

Bid-company initiatives, such as the Olympics "road show", a schools programme, and the "Champions of the Bid" project – through which individuals are invited to endorse the Olympic effort – have helped to broaden support.

So, too, has an intensified effort to inform the public, dispel misconceptions, and "consult" widely in the preparation of the bid book and the planning of facilities.

Yet, bid company staffers acknowledge that in many quarters, the Olympic dream is still regarded with distrust, or lack of interest.

"The feeling in the company is that technically the bid is excellent, but that there's a problem with communication," said a spokesman. "We'll be looking closely at that. We have ample communications mechanisms in place – what we have to do is fine-tune the message to tackle negative perceptions."

These perceptions range from the view that the bid process was "driven by white males" to one that it is driven by "affirmative-action appointees".

"Also, the suburban reaction to Chris Ball was negative from the start. One of the things we have to recognise is that the beef is not rational, and that we started out with a legacy of negative feelings. We have been working through it and now we are making gains."

The bid company is confident of getting the city "on board" by demonstrating the potential gains for the region of achieving a constructive partnership with the public.

Crime and transport key public concerns

CAREFUL control of Cape Town's Olympic bid finances, tackling crime, having efficient public transport, and improving service delivery "a hundred-fold" are key public concerns about the city's effort to host the 2004 Games.

This emerges from a survey by the Department of Sport and Recreation in the Western Cape.

Sport Minister Lerumo Kalako told the provincial legislature yesterday that a major challenge facing the region was to ensure "full and effective public participation in the (bid) process and ensure that the majority of the people of the Western Cape are supportive of the bid".

"We cannot proceed with the bid if the people don't want it," he said, introducing debate on his budget vote.

Success in winning the public's confidence – and, ultimately, in holding the Games – meant making sure that:

- Crime was tackled successfully.
- There was an efficient and effective public transport system.
- Service delivery was improved "a hundred-fold".
- Spending was well-managed to avoid waste.

Describing the Olympic bid as a "golden opportunity that we dare not miss", Mr Kalako said winning the bid and hosting a successful Games was one of the most exciting challenges facing the country and the Western Cape.

"It holds numerous opportunities and we must ensure that as many people as possible benefit from it."

Polana 'set to take off'

(288)

Amanda Vermeulen

BD 21/6/96

HOTELS group Karos lifted attributable profit to R4,8m (R3,9m) for the year to March, despite a loss stemming mainly from the Polana Hotel in Mozambique.

Share earnings rose to 7,5c from 6,6c and a dividend of 1,48c (2,65c) was declared.

Group chairman Selwin Hurwitz said the Mozambican economy was improving, and prospects for the Polana Hotel looked good for the 1996/97 financial year.

Turnover had increased only marginally to R134,9m (R127,7m), due to the closure of the Edward Hotel in Durban for major refurbishment.

Operating profit was R34,1m (R33,5m).

After charges of more than R26m related to operating leases, net interest, depreciation and amortisation, pre-tax profit was higher at R7,8m (R4,9m).

Tax of R457 000 (R355 000) left taxed profit at R7,3m from R4,6m in the previous year. Hurwitz said the Edward Hotel would open again in July as a five-star hotel.

With the increase in tourism in Durban and the opening of a convention centre there next year, the hotel should benefit substantially. The group had focused its activities on the proposed casino dispensation and had finalised its consortium partners for the provincial bids.

The Polana had been awarded a casino licence and would begin operating in October.

Hurwitz said the current financial year should show "further encouraging increases".

R4m allocated for Johannesburg tourism

(288)

Mduduzi ka Harvey

BD 21/6/96

THE greater Johannesburg council yesterday approved a payment of R4m to be made to the Johannesburg Metropolitan Tourism Association in a bid to tackle crime against tourists and promote tourism in the city.

The council's executive committee acknowledged that tourism was a vital component of economic development in the area and that the council should maintain its leading edge by considering further funding to tourism when required.

The funding will be used to tackle not only tourist-related crimes, but also the city's economic development. The association will produce a brochure for distribution when council representatives travel overseas, and start a membership drive among beneficiaries of tourism with the aim of obtaining additional funding.

The marketing of tourism and all tourism-related activities would be co-ordinated.

The funds will be targeted at some of the association's prime tasks, which include promoting environmentally responsible and sustainable tourism, a tourist mix focused on niche marketing and supporting community-driven tourism.

PETER SWARTZ (288)

SATOUR'S RENAISSANCE MAN

FM 21/6/96

The SA Tourism Board (Satour) will soon be restructured in terms of the White Paper on tourism, which has yet to be tabled in parliament. If government had planned to replace quiet but firm outgoing chairman Pieter van Hoven with a yes-man, it was mistaken when it chose multitalented Peter Swartz.

He has made it clear he will not submit to anyone's will. At Satour's annual exhibition of tourist products, he vowed never to ease the pressure on government to increase its grant to the board.

"Tourism is a business," he said, "and no business thrives without investment." It will, he reckons, take about a year to complete Satour's restructuring. After that, it will be the property of a new board — with nine members appointed by the provinces and 11 by the Minister.

Whether Swartz will be happy with an institution that seems destined to be top-heavy with public-sector representation remains to be seen. After all, he got to the top by finding gaps in the apartheid system and barging through them.

Today, Swartz is a director of, among others, Absa, Distillers Corp, the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, Toyota, Plessey Corp and Ellerine Holdings. He is also chairman and trustee of several associations.

Swartz has played piano professionally and seems just as dextrous in knowing when to get into a business and when to get out. He started out building cinemas for coloured communities "because there was so little entertainment for them." They made money but he sold them when television arrived.

Swartz then bought into a chain of liquor stores and sold out in 1990 when the industry was deregulated and he realised more licences would be granted.

In1985, he built the three-star Inn on the Plain in Mitchell's Plain. He sold it five years later. Meanwhile, he had bought a chain of seven supermarkets and persuaded Checkers, then owned by Greatermans, to take a minority share and manage the chain for him. He also sold that in 1990 and started building up a chain of Kentucky Fried Chicken outlets, of which he now has eight.



Peter Swartz

Swartz and his wife, Elaine, have two children, a pigeon pair, grown up now. ■

The Director
South African Labour & Development
Research Unit (SALDRU)
School of Economics

Greater Johannesburg boosts city tourism with R4-m subsidy and new brochure

CITY REPORTER

The Johannesburg Metropolitan Tourism Association (JMTA) is to get a R4-million subsidy from the Greater Johannesburg Transitional Metropolitan Council (GJTMC).

The subsidy, which was endorsed by the council yesterday, is expected to help boost tourism in Greater Johannesburg.

Executive director of JMTA Keith Brebnor said according to the South African Tourism Board (Satour), 66% of of all overseas tourists visited Gauteng for at least one night in 1995.

He said tourists spent an average of 11 nights in Gauteng.

"In order to keep our dominance and take full advantage of the tourism boom, it is crucial we step up Greater Johannesburg's tourism marketing," . Brebnor said.

The GJTMC's executive committee has also decided to support the JMTA's proposal to produce a tourism brochure to be distributed by council representatives on overseas travel.

Tourism is vital to development and consideration should be given to additional tourism funding when needed, an executive committee report said.

Star 21/6/96 (288)

Cape tops in tourism

(288) ARG 21/6/96

Rest of the country experiences decline while visitors still flock to the Mother City and environs

JOSEPH ARANES
Staff Reporter

TOURISM is booming in the Western Cape but is beginning to slow down in the rest of the country.

More foreign tourists are visiting the Western Cape than when the country hosted the Rugby World Cup last year.

Figures from officials at Cape Town International Airport and the regional office of the Department of Home Affairs show that for the first four months of this year, all previous tourism records in the region were broken with an increase of 41 percent over the same period in 1995.

But while tourists flock to the Western Cape, the rest of the country appears to have lost its appeal as the novelty of the new South Africa wears off and reports of crime put off foreign visitors.

According to Central Statistical Services, there was only a 2,2 percent increase in foreign visitors to South Africa through the three international airports in April, compared to the same month last year.

The number of foreign visitors in South Africa as a whole for business increased by 18,6 percent, while the number here on holiday actually decreased by 2,1 percent. A total of 88 243 flew in in that month.

The largest decrease of 31,8 percent came from visitors from the Indian Ocean islands such as Mauritius and Reunion, followed by Asia with a decrease of 14,7 percent.

Although there was a drop in visitors to the Western Cape at the beginning of May compared to April, this is normal as fewer people usually take their holidays in winter. There were actually a staggering 31 percent more visitors to the province than at the start of the Rugby World Cup (RWC) in May last year.

Nick Malherbe, chairman of the tourism committee of the Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said they envisaged that 400 000 international tourists would visit our shores if the current trend continued, which was appreciably more than the 265 000 who visited last year.

"Before the RWC many sceptics believed that Cape Town would not be able to handle the influx of people attending the tournament, yet now we are comfortably hosting twice as many RWC visitors.

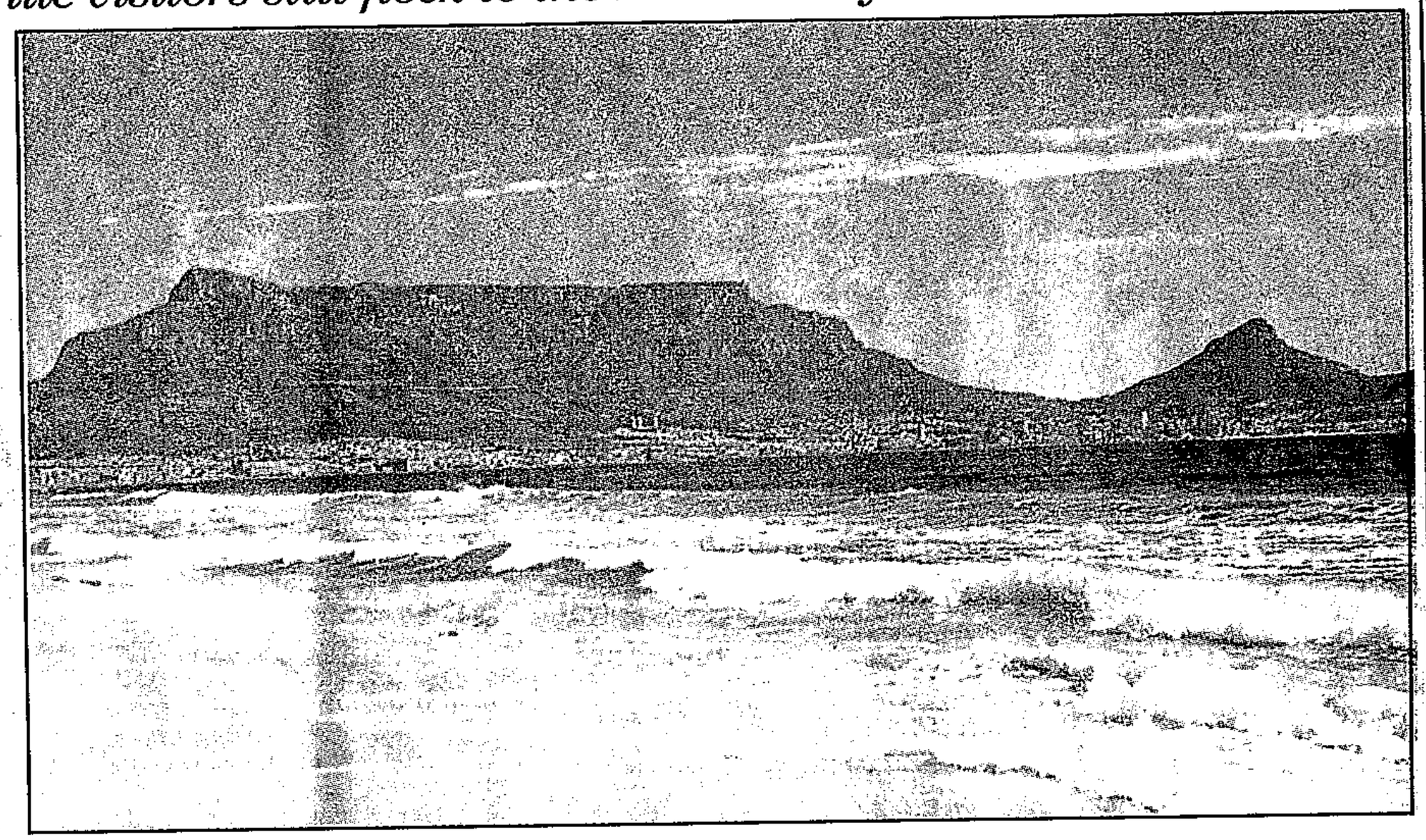
"The growth in the visitors' totals, in all categories, being international, domestic business, and domestic holiday, at a conservative forecast of half the annual growth rate achieved in the past four years, indicates that in 2004, without taking into effect the Olympic Games, we will host six million visitors."

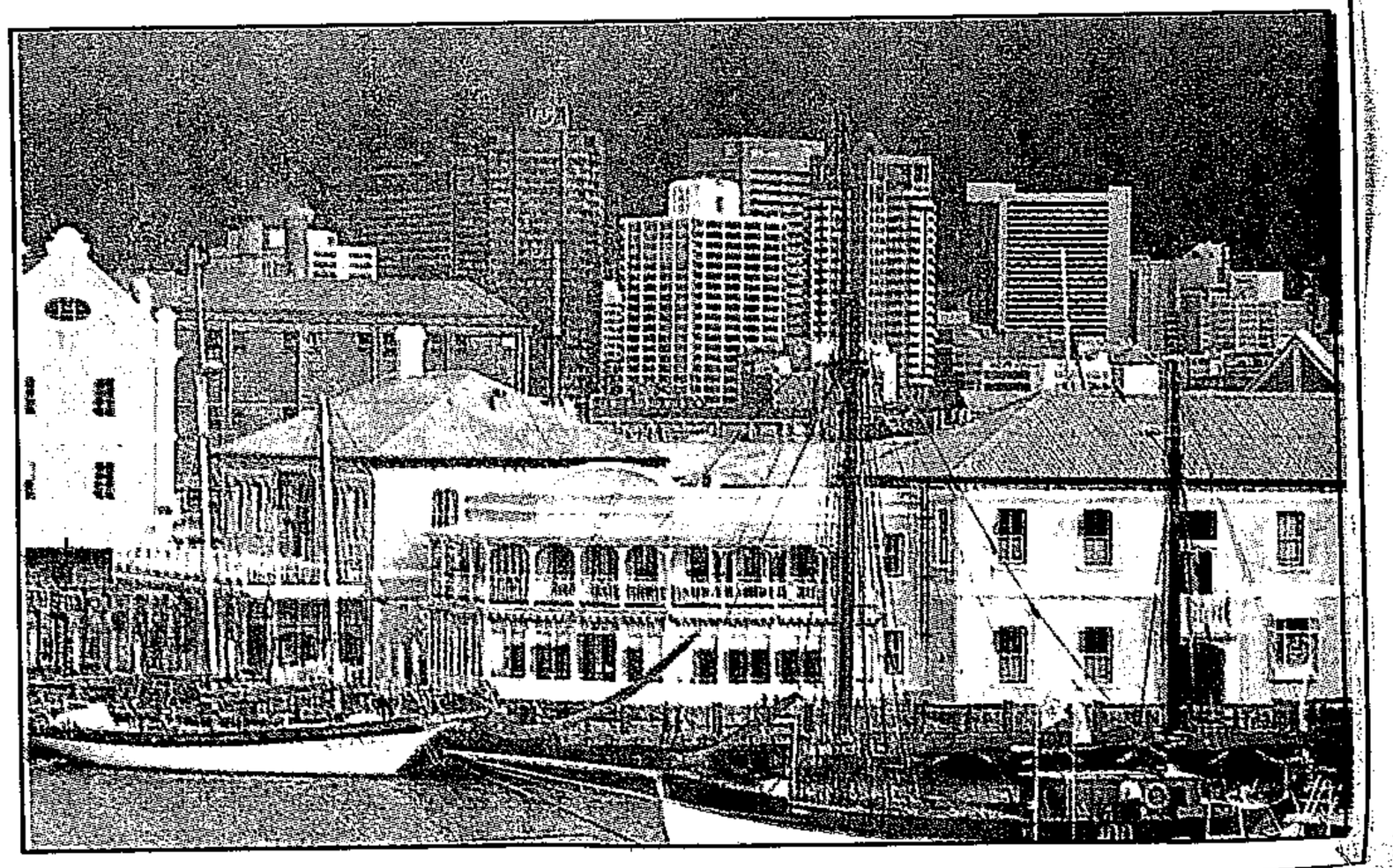
Mr Malherbe said the infrastructure in the hospitality sector and handling facilities at key tourist destinations like Table Mountain, Cape Point, Kirstenbosch and the Waterfront would have to be constructed and put in place to handle the tourism business.

He said the tourism sector of the economy would soon be the greatest generator of income in the province, employ the most people and be the largest foreign capital earner.

"It is not necessary to only concentrate on the numbers of visitors, but we must start marketing to get the correct groups, who will stay longer and spend more, to come to the region.

"We have to upgrade all our facilities for the massive growth envisaged in the tourism business so that we will be able to handle the expected six million visitors. With this infrastructure in place, it would certainly remove many of the burdens put at the door of the Olympic Bid Company," said Mr Malherbe.





POPULAR DESTINATIONS: Two of Cape Town's major attractions, Table Mountain, above, and the Waterfront, right, are drawing a record-breaking number of tourists to the Western Cape.

ANC to blame for SA's housing crisis, says NP

(288)

ARG 21/6/96

JOSEPH ARANES
Municipal Staff

THE National Party has blamed the African National Congress for the housing crisis facing South Africa, claiming it was a critical issue the ANC failed to implement or deliver.

The NP has itself put together a comprehensive housing policy and strategy, according to NP housing spokesman Jac Rabie.

"Sufficient money has been allocated for housing and loans, but the lack of a clear housing policy has hampered the department and the ministry.

"According to Minister of Housing Sankie Mthembi-Nkondo, there are 622 000 serviced plots, yet she provides a further R600 million for infrastructure instead of building houses," he said.

Mr Rabie said the ANC had failed on the following fronts:

- Lack of creating and implementing a workable housing policy;
- The ANC policy had not yet addressed the dire need for rental accommodation;
- Not building a sufficient number of houses, despite the availability of serviced sites;
- Inadequate technical and managerial capacities in the provinces and at local level;
- Political manipulation of the process of social accords;
- Local authorities and communities have not been empowered.

Mr Rabie said the NP proposed several guidelines, which it believed could drive the housing delivery process.

"These include the housing budget being substantially increased, all the country's people having access to adequate housing and that housing does not remain the responsibility of only the government and the banks, but that communities be included in the process."

He said the NP further proposed restructuring and empowerment of institutions in the housing delivery process, including all levels of government, private and agricultural sectors, communities and individuals.

Local authorities should be capable of introducing a leasehold system for land in their possession and non-governmental organisations and utility companies must, through legislation, be empowered to play an effective role.

Personal loans for housing of up to R35 000 must be provided by the government and they must establish housing support centres.

Mr Rabie said the NP was in a privileged position to possess the necessary skills and expertise to make housing delivery a success.

"This however requires the commitment of all relevant role players and the combined effort of administrators to optimally utilise available resources," he said.

WINNING ENTRY UNVEILED

City firms' Olympic stadium design tops

(288)

THE DESIGN for the main Olympic stadium by two city architectural firms has beaten 18 other entries with its concave convex roof to deal with the south-easter. Staff Writer **DAN SIMON** reports.

CT 21/6/96

THE design of a 75 000-seater Olympic stadium with a concave convex roof to deal with the Cape's south-easter has won a competition launched by the Olympic Bid Company in April.

At the unveiling at the company's Waterfront offices yesterday, Bid Company chief executive officer Mr Chris Ball said the final design of the main Olympic stadium would be a combination of the winning entry and input from the other entries.

Should the city succeed next year in winning the bid to host the Games, the stadium will be built at Wingfield at a cost of about R320 million in 1999.

The design, by city architectural firm Bergman Ingerop, who collaborated with another city architectural firm, Edge Harper Hooke Conningham and Sieberhagen, beat 18 other submissions for the main stadium.

The firms will share the R10 000 first prize for their design, which was described by the panel of judges as "outstanding" and one that projected a "powerful image and presence" for the city.

The competition for the design of a stadium formed part of an "ideas" competition which covered six categories of venues considered critical for the city's Olympic bid book.

The other categories were designs for the bridge linking the banks of the rowing course, a sports hall, a 15 000-seater indoor arena, an archery range and a section of the Olympic village.

The competition drew 133 designs, mainly from architects, designers and architectural or design students from Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban.

Mr Antonio de Souza, a former city architect and professor at the New Jersey Institute of Technology, and head of the panel of judges, said the design addressed the "complex environmental and technical requirements" of the brief.

"The design brings the Wingfield site into conjunction with the surrounding landscape of the city. The ramped approaches to the stadium ... and the configuration of the roof, are all dramatic responses to the geography of the Peninsula and its weather and wind. The poetry of the setting is heightened and made accessible to spectators."

Despite the outstanding design, De Souza said the jury considered some aspects of the design to be unresolved.

However, the standard of entries, considering the brief period allowed and the complexities of the brief, allowed the Bid Company to get an idea of what the stadium should look like.

Bid Company director of sport and facilities Mr Robby Stewart said a model of the winning design and those of the two runner-up designs would be built for wind tunnel tests which would be carried out with the help of the CSIR this year and which were expected to cost R100 000.

Stewart said the designs would be exhibited nationally soon.

(283)

New tourism head for North West province

ARG 22/6/96

MMBATHO. – North West acting premier Satish Roopa has announced that agriculture MEC Johannes Tselapedi will temporarily take over the portfolio of tourism and environmental affairs.

This followed the decision by the National Party to withdraw from the national and provincial governments, said North West spokesman Neil Lewis.

NP member of the provincial legislature Amie Venter will vacate his post as tourism and environmental affairs MEC at the end of June.

Mr Roopa said ANC parliamentarian Edna Molewa would eventually take over the post.

Mr Roopa is acting premier of the North West while Premier Popo Molefe is abroad. – Sapa.

White House saga: defender steps in

(288) ST(CM) 23/6/96

By CHARL DE VILLIERS

IN A dramatic last-minute bid to prevent the legal campaign against the R40-million "White House" hotel development at Oudekraal from being thrown out of the Supreme Court, Table Mountain warden David Daitz has stepped in to confront the developers personally

Both Mr Daitz and the National Parks Board argue the development would compromise the integrity of the future Cape Peninsula national park.

They also say it would go against the recommendations of two public investigations into environmental management policies and control of the Cape Peninsula Protected Natural Environment.

After four days of intense legal parrying before two judges in Cape Town this week, the attempt by the NPB to stop the development was in danger of being dismissed because of doubts over the board's legal standing.

Mr Daitz's personal entry to the case followed an all-out onslaught on the NPB's *locus standi* by the developer's legal team.

In reply, parks board lawyer Dawid de Villiers Q C said the attack on its legal standing was being used as a shield to prevent it from getting to the substantive issues surrounding the disputed development.

The parks board had taken up the cudgels for people who had an interest in the preservation of the environment. "If this could not happen, who could be expected to take up the cudgels with enormous costs if actions like this do not succeed?"

Shortly before 4pm on Friday, Mr de Villiers announced that a second applicant would join the NPB's application.

The White House lawyers told Judge Fagan and Mr Justice Brand that their client could not afford a postponement, or risk a fresh application by the parks board.

They said Mr Daitz would have to show that the development interfered with his constitutional rights.

The NPB wants the court to overturn a local authority decision which lifted restrictive conditions on the White House property.

It says the rezoning decision should have followed integrated environmental management principles and also argued that the local council had not been authorised to make its decision. It also had ignored the provisions of the Removal of Restrictions Act.

Lawyers for the developer, Mr Steve Jones, said the parks board was trying to turn back the clock to before the White House was built in 1926.

They said Mr Jones had lawfully set about to achieve a sensitive balance between environmental conservation and a necessary development which met the requirements of the most detailed scientific study available.

The developers and the NPB have been given till Monday to respond.

Germans wary of SA due to malaria scare

(288) BD 24/6/96

Melanie Sergeant

MUNICH — German tourist numbers to SA, which were expected to top 200 000 this year, could be dented by widespread concerns over malaria.

Tourists are cancelling trips to SA following the contracting of malaria by German Finance Minister Gunther Rexrodt during a recent visit to southern Africa.

Rexrodt is recovering from malaria tropicana, and his case is receiving extensive media coverage.

Tourism operators into SA report widespread concern from tourists, with a number cancelling trips.

The industry expected about 200 000 Germans to travel to SA this year, up from last year's 158 000.

Rexrodt's media spokesman Stephanie Kage said: "We believe the malaria was contracted either in Tanzania, where the minister's plane stopped to refuel, or in Zimbabwe which he visited after his trip to Johannesburg."

Asked about the confusion in the media, Kage said "southern Africa" was erroneously replaced with "South Africa" in most media reports.

SA embassy spokesman Chris Koole said: "We are fielding regular calls from concerned tourists questioning the malaria threat in SA; we refer most of the telephone calls to Satour".

A spokesman for SAA in Frankfurt said: "There is no reason to cancel — the media has put out incorrect information. At this stage we have not had a large number of cancellations."

Munich-based Feria Reisen, which sends about 2 000 tourists to SA each year, has had a number of calls from concerned passengers. Product manager for Africa Christina Glania says: "We have had some cancellations and we are hoping the numbers do not increase."

Another Munich-based agency said: "We now have health as well as political and security problems with which to deal, and regret the undifferentiated way in which the malaria matter has been reported."

Satour's German manager Walter Damman said: "The malaria problem is published in Germany at regular intervals and we don't expect too many cancellations; fortunately it's low season now and the public's attention has ... been on the Russian elections and on the European football matches."

Rather, he said, some tourists are changing their destination from SA because of high hotel costs — like a large group which was booked to visit Sun City on an incentive tour next year but which chose a different destination because of the high prices.

Wits opens skills unit

Bonile Ngqiyaza

BD 24/6/96

WITS Business School has launcheda management development unit to help combat the "severe shortage" of management skills in SA.

Jonathan Cook, the unit's director, said yesterday it would train students in the skills required for the corporate market and also for academic courses at Wits Business School.

The one- to three-day corporate modules would start in September. They would be facilitated by managers on the cutting edge of management practice and focus on specific management skills, he said.

The first modules would cover thinking skills, performance management and team effectiveness, he said.

"Our aim is to help with creation of world-class SA business management and leadership competence."

Participants would be helped to assess their competence before their courses, and when they returned to work.

Ball seeks to win over opponents

(288) ARG 24/6/96

Chance for southern suburbs critics to have say

CAPE Town's Olympic Bid supremo Chris Ball turns his attention today to winning over southern suburbs ratepayers, some of whom are among the most critical of the bid and its financial consequences for the city.

The first of three public meetings at which Mr Ball will seek to allay the qualms of this influential constituency is in Rondebosch tonight.

Demonstrable city-wide support for the bid is a critical factor in the International Olympic Committee's assessment of Cape Town as the host city for the 2004 Games.

While surveys have shown huge support for the bid across the metropole, there have been pockets of resistance – notably in the southern suburbs "green belt" – based largely on fears about the impact on the city's rates bill of the multimillion rand development that the bid entails.

The Olympic Bid Company reported significant shifts in attitude since the cabinet's endorsement of the bid and the Development Bank of Southern Africa's rosy forecast of the likely economic benefits that will accrue, especially to Cape Town and the Western Cape.



But bid planners want to ensure that there was enthusiastic support for the project and believed that engaging ratepayers at public meetings was a vital element of the public awareness campaign.

They said much resistance had already been broken down by providing simple, clear answers to questions raised by the public.

Spokesman Ameen Akhalwaya said: "This next series of public meetings is part of our ongoing community relations exercise.

"The idea is to have a two-way exchange - Chris Ball will be there to explain the bid, as well as to answer questions and concerns.

"We have found these meetings extremely useful in helping us to keep in touch with the public's thinking and the issues they think are important."

Similar meetings had already been held across the Cape Flats, in Guguletu, Athlone, Khayelitsha, and Mitchell's Plain, among others.

Spokesman Paul Johnson said the public meetings would be supplemented soon by the distribution of "fact sheets" dealing with 19 key elements of the bid process, including details of the Bid Company's budget, the people behind the bid, financial expertise and the likely benefits of hosting the Olympics.

Mr Ball has been canvassing support abroad.

He said that "what I call strengthening the bid, getting support for it in influential quarters overseas, is very important".

●Tonight's meeting is at Rondebosch Boys' Preparatory School at 7.30pm.

The second meeting will be at Claremont Civic Centre on Thursday at 7.30pm, and the third at Alphen Centre in Constantia on Wednesday, July 3, also at 7.30pm.

Local councils to consider bid contributions

THE metropole's six new councils – plus the councils of Paarl and Stellenbosch – will be deciding over the next four weeks how much money to commit to Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games.

The suggested formula is that the public sector's contribution to the R1,7-billion tab for the Games, amounting to about R600-million between now and 2004, should be shared by central government (50%), the province (25%) and local government (the remainder shared between the Cape Metropolitan Council, the six substructures of the metropole and the councils of Paarl and Stellenbosch).

A decision must be made by the end of July. Local authority discussions over the next four weeks follow a top-level meeting on Friday between representatives of all the substructures in the region, Western Cape minister of finance and environment affairs Kobus Meiring, and chief executive of the Bid Company, Chris Ball.

The provincial government endorsed the bid and acknowledged its financial responsibility towards the Olympic goal in April. This was followed two weeks ago by endorsement by the national cabinet. Now local government in the region is being asked to do the same. The May 29 election meant a decision could not be taken earlier.

Mr Meiring convened Friday's meeting to brief council representatives.

"They were fully briefed on where things stand, and what is expected of them," he said. "Full background detail was provided by Mr Ball and Cape Town treasurer Peter Lever.

"They have now being asked to go back to their councils, debate the matter in full, and report back by the end of the July.

"Up to now, we have been dealing with sentiment, and the sentiment has been that this is a wonderful opportunity. Now we have reached the point where we have to come to grips with the reality."

MONDAY
JUNE 24, 1996 ★

City's Games -budget released

288

CT 24/6/96

METRO WRITER

THE Cape Town council expects to spend R53 million on Olympics-related facilities in the coming year.

Council's budget figures released on Friday show that R30m is to be spent on upgrading Athlone Stadium and R8m on Vygiekraal Stadium.

Next year another R10m will be spent on Athlone and another R2m on Vygiekraal.

A further R1m is earmarked for the Turfhall Road sports complex, and R1,8m is budgeted for the Chukker Road playing fields.

City council documents show R10m in the 1996/7 budget as the first instalment on an international conference centre that will cost R250m, of which R40m will be the council's share. The centre will probably be the venue for one or more Olympic events.

The Good Hope Centre will be developed as a "venue requirement for fencing championships" at a cost of R1,8m. Nothing more will be needed for this in subsequent years.

A further R350 000 is to be spent on the Olympics hockey venue at Hartleyvale. Nearly R21m has already been spent on this facility. But no more will be needed.

'Reward justifies spending'

Ball assures ratepayers that bid will not strain Cape Town city coffers

ARG 25/6/96 (288)

CAPE Town's Olympic bid will place "no extra strain" on ratepayers, and the immense financial reward for the state is ample justification for it as a "social project".

This is the assurance Bid Company chief executive Chris Ball gave to ratepayers in Rondebosch last night.

Without the Olympic Games, however, city rates would undoubtedly go up as Cape Town confronted the consequences of steady urbanisation and demands for development.

The Games bid was a "magical" economic opportunity – for the city, as much as the state.

For a total outlay of about R350 million, the state would ultimately rake in about R8,6-billion for housing and other development projects, he told the well-attended meeting. This was based not on the Olympic Bid Company's cautious forecast, but on an independent assessment by the Development Bank of Southern Africa.

Scepticism faded demonstrably last night – and there were several rounds of applause – as Mr Ball took his audience of about100 through



RINGS IN REACH: The cast of the bid company's song-and-dance roadshow delights Rondebosch ratepayers.

Picture: ANDREW INGRAM, The Argus.

the detailed financial analysis of the bid proposal, convincingly dispelling fears that the 2004 Olympic dream would be transposed into a financial nightmare for Cape Town ratepayers. Initial spending on facilities and infrastructure – R336-million – would be spent by the government. Of the R1,75 billion capital outlay required to host the Games, local authorities across the metropole would have to contribute only R293 million over the next eight years.

"The city of Cape Town will be putting up 20 to 30 % of that. It is very similar to what the city is spending at the moment. The city is being asked only to continue spending what it is spending now on sports capital, which is about R20-million a year. This proposal does not ask the city to do any more than that. There will be no extra strain on ratepayers.

"The Western Cape gets R1,75-billion worth of facilities for R293 million. That looks like a very good deal to me."

The Olympics, he said, was "like having a blinding light in the sky shining down on us... there is no greater economic force, nothing that generates as much attention and energy as the Olympic Games."

He added: "A lot of us don't want thousands of people coming here. We just want the mountain to ourselves, and the beaches, and we don't want anyone else around. But the fact is that by 2004 there will be another three quarters of a million people living here."

The critical feature of the Olympics effort was its commitment to development.

This was underscored by the extensive development planned for the Cape Flats. It was reinforced by tender procedures that would ensure that Olympic contracts would empower businesses owned or part-owned by people from disadvantaged communities.

The bid was a huge challenge, "a quantum leap in capacity for the people of Cape Town. Some of us would simply like to be the way we are, but if we want to ensure we have increased economic activity, and a better city, we must accept the challenge.

"The future of the region is on the Cape Flats, not in Rondebosch. It is not pretty and it is not stable. We cannot leave Khayelitsha like it is, and if you do not put in facilities, what will you do?"

The impact of the Games on Cape Town would be "monumental".

"The city will be changing in an interesting way. There will be more hotels, which we need. There will be more jobs...

There will be community access to sports, greater economic activity and greater stability."

● The second meeting in the "southern suburbs" series will be at the Claremont Civic Centre on Thursday at 7pm, and the third at the Alphen Centre in Constantia on Wednesday July 3, also at 7pm. The meetings are significant in that demonstrable city-wide support will be critically assessed by the International Olympic Committee when it judges Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Games.

Michael Morris on the



OLYMPIC BID

Cape Town to offer 'magical' event

CHRIS Ball has turned to culinary metaphors to define the kind of Olympic Games he has in mind for Cape Town.

The first African Games – if the city won – would not be a "caviar Olympics", he said to chuckles from the audience at last night's public meeting in Rondebosch.

He was not "an egoist trying to put on a fancy show".

Then he smiled, adding: "But it won't be a coffee-and-rusks Olympics either."

Cape Town, he believed, would offer the world a "magical" Games, blending its rich cultural diversity with the "brilliance" of its environment.

If it was to succeed, though, it would have to accept the challenge and make it happen.

Asians lead stayaway as tourism rise falters

CT(BR) 25/6/96 (288)

By Audrey d'Angelo

Cape Town — The number of tourists arriving in South Africa rose a dismal 2,9 percent between January and April this year despite the new weakness in the rand. And the latest official figures show that the total hotel bed occupancy rate fell by 4,5 percent to 40,5 percent in April compared with the same month last year.

The biggest drop in numbers came from Taiwan and mainland China, which accounted for 5,3 percent of visitors compared with 7,8 percent in April last year.

A spokesman for the SA Tourism Organisation (Satour) conceded yesterday that growth in tourism had been disappointing in the first quarter of this year.

"This was from a high base," he said. "We experienced phenomenal growth last year and we could not reasonably expect it to continue at that rate, but we were expecting higher growth this year than we have had so far," he said.

He said rising crime could be one reason for disappointing growth. Another could be inadequate marketing overseas. Satour had a "ridiculous" budget of less than R50 million.

Roger Mackie, president of the Association of Southern African Travel Agents (Asata) said that foreign television was giving tourists a picture of this country as an unsafe place. Foreign travel agents were beginning to steer clients away.

"Last week we had a message from the Association of British Travel Agents telling us that a travel agent there was being sued by a client who was mugged in Durban, for failing to warn him that it could be dangerous.

"I think some travel agents overseas may be steering people away from South Africa as a destination. Apart from our high crime rate we have become an expensive destination at the end of a long haul journey. Our new minister of tourism will have to hit the ground running, and take action quickly."

Central Statistical Service figures show that the market share of hotels in the Western Cape fell 3,4 percent in April compared with the same month a year ago. It had 34,5 percent of foreign tourists compared with 38 percent last year. Gauteng had 31,8 percent of foreign tourists compared with 33,4 percent in the same month last year.

Cape Town loses millions in conference cash

CT(BR) 25/6/96 (288)

By Audrey d'Angelo

Cape Town — Cape Town is losing about R500 million a year because it lacks a large convention centre, Brian McDonald, the managing director of Global Conferences, said last week.

He said out of 4 000 foreign organisations that were asked how they saw South Africa as a potential conference destination, 750 "responded positively and 80 percent ... identified Cape Town as their preference".

"If we had only a 36 percent success rate, the business from international conferences could be worth R214 million a year to Cape Town. Add to this potential conference business of R281 million and Cape Town loses R495 million a year. There are also major synergies with development of business links as most conferences are trade and industry orientated," he said.

Brian Kirchmann, the chief executive officer of the SA Property Owners Association, said it had outgrown Cape Town's conference facilities. He he did not think the association could meet there again until a larger venue was provided.

New Durban centre 'will bring tourists'

(288) BD 26/6/96

Business Day Reporter

DURBAN's Ocean Action sporting events at the newly completed North Beach centre from July 12-21 would boost the area's tourist potential, generating more than R50m and creating at least 1 000 jobs, said the organisers.

"This projected income includes money spent on hotels, restaurants, fast food outlets and other businesses in the area," said Ocean Action sports and media co-ordinator Paul Botha.

"We hope to attract more than 500 000 people — about 50% of whom will be visitors — and create about 1 000 jobs in greater Durban," he said.

The organisers intended to spend about R850 000 this year, mainly on infrastructure and media coverage.

Durban Corporation would provide assistance, but Botha stressed that Ocean Group was raising its own funds through advertising or the sale of sponsorship tied to various events.

KwaZulu-Natal economic affairs and tourism MEC Jacob Zuma, said: "Successful sporting events such as Ocean Action Durban go a long way towards placing our city on the tourism map." Events include beach volleyball, the Bodyboard Classic and karate.

Ramsamy condemns Olympic logo piracy

BD 26/6/96 (288)

Mark Smit

THE National Olympic Committee of SA yesterday accused the Spar supermarket chain, Kelly Personnel and SA Sports Illustrated magazine of using International Olympic Committee marques without permission.

Nocsa president Sam Ramsamy said this practice threatened to jeopardise agreements with Nocsa's 10 Olympic sponsors.

The marques include the words "Olympic Games", the five Olympic rings and the Atlanta Olympics logo.

Three advertisements — a Kelly Personnel-branded tear-out schedule for the games in SAA magazine Flying Springbok, Spar's games-associated television ad and the Atlanta logo on the cover of an SA Sports Illustrated magazine were mentioned by Nocsa.

Ramsamy said the adverts had continued despite warnings from Nocsa.

Nocsa official Stan Brickwa said the body had written to 3 000 decision-makers in advertising, marketing and production, explaining who could associate brands with the games and why. Companies which ignored this advisory were subsequently sent legal letters which had "not had the desired effect".

If the ads continued to be used, Nocsa would investigate legal action and lodge an official complaint with the Advertising Standards Authority.

Ramsamy said Nocsa would approach government in the hope of getting legislation enacted to protect the marques. Although the IOC had copyright protection in most countries, it was not enforced in SA. "If we can't guarantee protection, we will not stand a chance of hosting the 2004 games."

Bonile Ngqiyaza reports that Spar group marketing director Brian Beavon last night denied that the chain had used the Atlanta Olympics logos. "Our television commercials were cleared by the ASA and the SABC before we flighted them."

showing amber light

(288) ARG 26/6/96



Picture: ROY WIGLEY, The Argus.

OLYMPIC DREAMER: Nastassja Conning, 7, looks on as mother Avril fills in the form that could lead to years of intensive training and give her a shot at the 2004 Olympics.

Nastassja's smile of hope ...

NASTASSJA Conning is a typically shy seven-year-old.

The sum of her smile is a single tooth that breaks the line of her little mouth, just off-centre. But it's a bright, hopeful smile. And little wonder.

Nastassja, a sub B pupil at Mitchell's Plain Primary, is one of 150 children who have been selected from 88 schools across the Peninsula for their natural potential in the gym.

She now stands a chance of being chosen for the kind of intensive training – up to six hours a week, and more – that could turn her into a world-class gymnast.

The prospect seems far from her mind as she casts about to identify the gym activities she most enjoys. It is the bar exercises, she decides eventually, that she likes best.

Her mother Avril is ecstatic at the thought of the opportunities that lie ahead for Nastassja, the youngest of her and husband Colin's three daughters.

"This is absolutely wonderful," she said. "I will do everything to encourage her. I was so thrilled when I received the letter inviting her for the trials here, and I'm sure it's something that will really be worth it for her."

But making gymnastics training worthwhile for talented children like Nastassja, coaches say, is the provision of better facilities and the funding that is essential in preparing South Africa's Olympics hopefuls of the future.

26/6/96
Argus
28

Greens

Environmental concerns discussed

ENVIRONMENTALISTS have given notice that they will be intensifying their vigilance over Cape Town's Olympic bid process, as well as signalling their concerns to the International Olympic Committee.

The Environmental Charter they are drafting as the guiding document for every conceivable environment-related feature of the bid, is likely to set tough targets and restraints on developers. This emerged last night from the fourth workshop in a series under the general title: "Olympics: An Environmental Threat – Towards a Collective and Co-ordinated Solution".

The workshop, the product of a broad alliance of about 30 environmental and other non-governmental organisations, met to work through the third draft of the charter, which will guide the environmental assessment of all Olympic bid planning.

It was suggested that the charter – the framing of which the Bid Company agreed to in May – should set strict, measurable targets for things like energy and water consumption at Olympic facilities, and ensure the use of environment-friendly technology in every possible sphere.

The charter will have to be endorsed by the local, provincial and national governments, the bid company and, if Cape Town wins, its successor, the Olympic hosting company.

Last night's workshop also decided to:

- Write to the IOC to question the policy of considering bids from cities before the bidders have completed environmental impact assessments "according to accepted environmental practice in their country".
- Have an independent facilitator appointed to negotiate the setting up of an environmental commission to oversee impact assessments, and the establishment of an environmental trust fund to give environmentalists the wherewithal to monitor and guide the bid.

The alliance is a wide grouping – ranging from the Wildlife Society of SA, Earthlife Africa, the Botanical Society of SA and the Khayelitsha Environment and Tourism Forum to smaller anti-Olympics groups such as the northern suburbs-based Concerned Citizens Against the Olympic Games.

Some of the organisations are implacably opposed to the Olympics, while others favour it, in part as a vehicle for development and upliftment. The fault lines in the alliance came to the fore at last night's meeting when one the participants, Win Foord of the National Council of Women expressed the fear that excessive emphasis on environmental concerns "might mean that we are making it difficult for disadvantaged people to come in on something they have not had before".

She added: "I am for the environment, but I'm also for the disadvantaged, and I think they are beginning to see something to look forward to."

Ms Foord said she had been impressed by Bid Company chief executive Chris Ball's presentation in Rondebosch on Monday and was anxious that the opportunity the Olympics offered should not be lost.

This was disputed by Virginia Roaf of People's Dialogue who said that her research of the experience of other Olympic cities showed that the "disadvantaged always become poorer".

Meeting chairman Marlene Laros of the Wildlife Society, stepped in, pointing out that "the major concern is that not enough consideration is being given to the environment".

She added: "We cannot say, as a collective, that we are for or against the Olympics because some in the alliance are dead against and others are passionately for, the Games."

The essential thing was to maintain a critical focus on the environmental element of the bid, Ms Laros said.

Michael Morris on the OLYMPIC BID



People's plan for tourism

DURBAN: The white paper on tourism to be released today sought to redress past injustices against disadvantaged communities in the tourism business, Deputy Environment Minister Mr Bantu Holomisa said yesterday.

He told a business summit here that the document said the perception that tourism was a "white man's thing" had to be addressed. The document said ways had to be found to create access to educational and training institutions to build capacity and meaningful participation in the tourism industry by "the majority of our people".

(288) CT 26/6/96

Sapa

Move to fight Games 'freeloaders'

(288) CT 26/6/96

JOHANNESBURG: The National Olympic Committee of South Africa is to fight for new laws governing sponsors' rights and to prevent so-called "ambush marketing".

Nocsa president Mr Sam Ramsamy said the laws were essential to Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympics. A number of companies had tried to take a free ride on the Olympic bandwagon to the detriment of Nocsa's official sponsors for the Atlanta Games.

In a strongly worded statement, Ramsamy called the companies "parasites," after their refusal to back down on advertising campaigns relating to the Olympics and admitted that the problem could affect Cape Town's bid hopes.

"We have to sort this thing out if Cape Town hopes to get the Olympics," Ramsamy said. "It is something that the IOC is very strict about."

Ten official sponsors have each paid R2,5 million to Nocsa for the rights to use the Olympic name and logo in advertising campaigns but as yet there is no law prohibiting other companies from using the logos .

"There are only common law rules to stop this sort of thing," Nocsa executive member in charge of marketing, Mr Stan Brickwa said.

"Taking a company to court is a long drawn-out process, it's a last resort."

It might be Nocsa's only option in dealing "with enemy number one", supermarket chain Spar, who also "ambushed" the Barcelona Olympics in 1992, he said.

The company has ignored letters written by Nocsa and has continued to flight a television advertisement where the word "Olympics" is used.

Other unauthorised users include Kelly Girl, Motorola and an SA Sports Illustrated special Olympic edition, which links non-Olympic advertisers to the Games.

"It is innocent athletes that stand to lose," Brickwa said. — Sapa

nouncing
a cut in
prime and
sing loan
rates.

Bank are pleased to
e to 19,50%, and our
96. By reacting as fast
money markets and a
've been able to drop
our rates and pass the benefit on to the consumer as quickly as possible.
We sincerely hope that a successful implementation of the
government's macro-economic policy will facilitate and allow for the
reduction in the absolute rate levels in our country.
And bring even more financial relief to all South Africans.

NEDBANK
Permanent Bank
Divisions of Nedcor Bank Limited (Reg No 51/00009/06)

OGILVY & MATHER, RIGHTFORD, SEARLE-TRAPP & MANN PG1784

Companies slam Nocsa's accusations

Deborah Fine (288)

KELLY Personnel and SA Sports Illustrated Magazine have slammed accusations by the National Olympic Committee of SA that they had used International Olympic Committee marques without permission to associate their own brands with the Olympic Games. BD 27/6/96

Protesting his organisation's "total innocence", Kelly group MD Neville Mackay said yesterday he "deeply resented and rejected" Nocsa's allegations, while Sports Illustrated publisher Rob Moore dismissed the claims as "ludicrous and outrageous".

Nocsa accused Kelly of "ambushing" the marques — which include the words "Olympic Games", the five Olympic rings and the Atlanta Olympics logo — by means of a Kelly-branded tear-out games schedule in the SAA publication, Flying Springbok. Sports Illustrated was accused of illegitimately using the Atlanta logo on its cover.

Mackay said the "stark facts" were that Flying Springbok had created and designed the schedule — with all the Olympic logos — and had afterwards approached Kelly to sponsor the publication. Flying Springbok had then inserted Kelly's logo on the schedule.

Pointing out that SAA was an official Olympics sponsor, Mackay said Kelly had every right to assume that the schedule was legitimate and legal.

"We have in no way tried to pose as an official Olympic sponsor. Nocsa should address objections to Flying Springbok and SAA," he said.

He said Kelly was consulting its attorneys regarding any damage that may have been caused to the agency's "good name".

Moore said there was no copyright anywhere on editorial regarding the Olympics and that Sports Illustrated had never tried to pass itself off as SA's official Olympics publication.

Nocsa's accusations were also "completely unwarranted" given the fact that Sports Illustrated had given Nocsa free advertising worth R34 000 since January.

He hoped Nocsa would clear up the matter amicably.

Tourism 'can be big creator of jobs'

BD 27/6/96

288

PRETORIA — The SA tourism industry had the potential for significant job creation, the tourism white paper released by Environmental Affairs and Tourism Minister Dawie de Villiers yesterday said.

A media release from the evironmental affairs and tourism department, after the white paper's release, stated that tourism, which at present contributed 4% of GDP, had the potential to increase to 8% of GDP by 2000 and to 10% by 2005.

In monetary terms, this would represent an increase in foreign exchange earnings from the present R10bn to R40bn by 2005.

It was estimated that if such growth could be achieved, a million or more jobs could be created, directly and indirectly.

Constraints on growth mentioned in the white paper included inadequate resourcing and funding of the industry, inadequate training of locals to improve service levels and supply the industry's labour needs, absence of sound evironmental management, and lack of infrastructure particularly in the rural areas.

Also mentioned in this regard were the growing levels of crime and violence.

The white paper's departure point was the sustainable development of tourism as a national priority in a way which would significantly improve the quality of life of all of SA's people.

Among specific guidelines envisaged for implementation were a special tourism safety and security programme, a single tourism training institution, improved access to funding through government channels, an investigation into tourism incentives, and an aggressive local and international marketing programme. —Sapa.

The Star ... Thursday June 27 1996

Tourism: 'million new jobs possible'

Star 27/6/96 (288)

Report names crime, below-par transport and poor service as obstacles to growth

By Karin Schimke and Bobby Brown

The Government believes the tourism industry can grow to 10% of gross domestic product by the year 2005, earning the country R40-billion in foreign exchange and creating about a million jobs if factors inhibiting the industry can be overcome.

A white paper, "Development and Promotion of Tourism in South Africa", was released in Pretoria yesterday, and names crime, poor service, inadequate protection of the environment, unsatisfactory ground transport systems, and inadequate tourism education and awareness as some of the issues limiting the growth of the industry.

Association of South African Travel Agents president Roger Mackie said the paper was, in essence, a good one, but he questioned the Government's willingness to provide funding.

While education and training in the industry was imperative, the R50-million allocated to tourism this financial year was inadequate, he said.

Environmental Affairs and Tourism Minister Dawie de Villiers said tourism contributed 4% to South Africa's GDP.

"This is well under the world average and nowhere close to the percentage of countries with well-organised tourism industries," he said.

If tourism could achieve 10% of GDP by 2005, South Africa would be in the top league.

The white paper outlines key policies which need to be developed to "ignite the tourism engine of growth in South Africa" and states that the document is to be followed by an implementation strategy.

"This strategy will also contain details regarding projects and target dates, and is planned to be completed by September 1996," said De Villiers.

Some critical programmes such as training and safety and security were already being addressed, but full-blown implementation of the policies would start only towards the end of this year.

De Villiers said the Government took the problem of crime as seriously as did the private sector, and short and long-term action was being taken.

The document advises that visitors need to be given information to improve their own safety and that appropriate legal procedures need to be implemented to "facilitate speedy and effective prosecution for cases where tourists are involved".

Mackie said 1% of tourists in South Africa were attacked and this had a major influence on figures. "We have to compete in a strong market and other countries can use our bad crime record to sway tourists into their market," he said.

The paper lists several policies that need to be followed up to improve tourism.

One of the major observations of the document is that the role of Satour, the national tourism agency, needs careful review. It suggests that a new body – to be called Tourism South Africa – be formed, to incorporate the infrastructure and personnel of Satour. This body would spearhead the international marketing effort.

Black head for Satour in US

ST 27/6/96 (288)

DAN SIMON
TOURISM WRITER

THE South African Tourism Board (Satour) has appointed its first black manager to head its North American operations, an important tourist market.

Satour said Mr Blacky Komani, 32, a finalist in the 1995 Marketer of the Year competition of the Institute of Marketing Management, would take up the position from July 1.

He replaces Mr Michael Jackson, who has held the post since January 1993.

Satour said Komani would be based at Satour's offices in New York, where he would be responsible for co-ordinating the organisation's "strategic actions" in North America.

Satour also has offices in Los Angeles and Toronto.

The US is third on the list of South Africa's most important overseas tourist markets, with 103 466 visitors to South Africa last year.

Canada, placed 12th, had just under 21 000 visitors.

Komani, acting chief executive officer of the Eastern Cape Tourism Board, said yesterday he aimed to "allay fears and perceptions that South Africa was an unsafe destination".

"We must restore confidence in those countries that the South African government is in control of the situation," Komani said from his office in Bisho.

He takes up his new position after an impeccable record in the tourism industry, both in marketing and standards promotion.

After joining Contour, the tourism arm of the former Ciskei government, in 1985, he worked for the organisation in a number of capacities, including hotel inspector, sales consultant, sales manager, marketing manager and general manager of tourism and marketing.

He has also represented the Eastern Cape at a number of international tourism marketing platforms. These include the world travel market in London and the international tourism exchange in Berlin.

De Villiers upbeat on SA tourism

PRETORIA: Tourism in South Africa is set to become a major contributor to economic growth and the RDP.

This emerged yesterday when outgoing Tourism Minister Dawie de Villiers presented a White Paper on the development and promotion of tourism in South Africa.

He said that tourism, which constitutes about four percent of GDP, has the potential to increase its share to 10% by the year 2000 and 12% by 2005.

This will result in a dramatic increase in SA's annual foreign exchange earnings from about R10 billion this year to R40bn in 2005, and create about one million additional direct and indirect jobs.
— Own Correspondent

HOTELS (288)

NO ROOM AT THE INN

FM 28/6/96

There's no question that SA needs further hotel development. But residents of Melrose in Sandton are concerned that hotel developers are about to turn Corlett Drive into another "Golden Mile."

This week an Eastern MSS tribunal will hear arguments for and against a proposed five-star, eight-storey, 280-room hotel on the south-east corner of Corlett Drive and Rudd Road — The Wanderers Hotel.

Meanwhile, a hearing is imminent on another 200-room, five-star hotel planned for a site on the north-east corner of the same intersection. The project manager is the Schneid Group.

Town planning officials of the old Johannesburg municipal administration — soon to be replaced by Eastern MSS officials — are apparently supporting both applications.

Residents negotiating with The Wanderers Hotel developer — UK-based Morrison's Development — have managed to reduce the visual impact of the proposed building. However, they're still objecting to the proposed changed land use on what was previously Wanderers Sports Club ground and an expected increase in traffic.

Morrison's town planning consultant Mitsi Venn says that the success of the proposal "is not only guaranteed by market research; the scheme has been developed in consultation with various local residents' associations, metropolitan road planning and local planning authorities."

Another plus factor is that it will ensure the financial stability of the Wanderers Club. Venn says that at least 10 hotel operators have approached Morrison's, but a firm deal with any one of them would depend on securing development rights.

Responding to criticism that the plan to build hotels on Corlett Drive appears arbitrary, Schneid Group townplanning consultant Bob Warren & Associates says: "In the absence of structure plans, ad hoc planning cannot be avoided in growing cities. Authorities must ensure infrastructure is in place to allow for economic growth."

Melrose Ratepayers' Association committee member Bill Copeland says residents are concerned about increased traffic, vagrancy and crime and that he's personally worried the Wanderers Club is in danger of being overrun by both developments: "I'd prefer to be a member of a club than an hotel," he says.

In Sandton's Katherine Street, EuroAfrica Hotels Southern Africa, through local developer Pemexco, is building a three-star, 142-room hotel, the second of 25 Golden Tulip hotels and Inns planned for the next five years. The hotel opens on November 1.

EuroAfrica holds the SA Golden Tulip franchise from Utell International, which recently merged with Golden Tulip worldwide, itself 20% owned by Dutch airline KLM. Golden Tulip is the 10th biggest hotel group in the world.

EuroAfrica's first Tulip Inn is the former 82-room Skyway Hotel on the corner of Strand and Bree streets in Cape Town and refurbished two years ago. Owner Jacques Osse and Durban-based Pemexco chairman Gary Perlman have formed EuroAfrica. They are MD and chairman respectively.

EuroAfrica's third hotel deal is expected to be signed this week, also in Cape Town. The site is close to Protea's four-star hotel in the Victoria Junction complex near the entrance to the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront. Plans are for a 60-room all-suite hotel, opening in September next year. From summer prebookings, Perlman anticipates 70% foreign occupancies in his Cape Town hotels and 60% at Sandton.

EuroAfrica's next ventures are likely to be in Durban, where it holds an option on a site close to the International Convention Centre. It plans a three-star, 150-room, 11-storey building with conference facilities for 150 people. "All the planning has been done. We're just waiting for certain things to fall into place," says Perlman. Next will be Hazyview in the Lowveld and then George on the Garden Route. ■

FINANCIAL MAIL · JUNE 28 · 1996

Let the Games begin

As South Africa's 1996 Olympics team jets off to Atlanta this weekend, the prospect of toppled records and extraordinary feats of athletic ability, and the pageantry and drama of the 16-day Games, has begun to concentrate the minds of millions around the world, not least avid Olympics followers in Cape Town. In the Peninsula, interest and excitement are mounting over the city's own bid for the Games.

(288) ARG 28/6/96

Michael Morris on the



OLYMPIC BID

He looks like an inventor, in early photographs, with his rich black Gaulish moustache, hands almost boyishly thrust into the pockets of his jacket; the very picture of a self-assured visionary. But Pierre de Coubertin, baron and conceiver of the Olympic renaissance 100 years ago, could not have envisioned the jamboree of commerce and competition that would make the Olympic Games the multi-billion rand international spectacle that it is today.

IT IS not entirely surprising that a cleric – the Archbishop of Pennsylvania, in 1904 – coined the central tenet of the modern Olympic Movement, the idea that the important thing is "not to win but to take part, for the essential thing in life is not to conquer, but to struggle well".

"Struggling well" is a very clerical sentiment and, as sentiments go, a fine one to aspire to. It is meant to be what makes sport an admirable pursuit.

In fact, what makes today's Olympics a compelling spectacle for millions around the world – and, for competitors, the challenge of a lifetime in the sports arena – is precisely the ideal of winning, of achieving record feats and claiming unprecedented fame.

In this, the modern Olympics is akin to its classical origins.

The bestowal of a mere olive wreath on the ancient winners belied the importance of victory – and the disgrace brought by defeat – to the polis, or city-state.

But it was Pierre de Coubertin who revived the Games 100 years ago. Fascinated as a young man by the unearthing of the Olympia site by German archaeologist Ernst Curtius in the late 1870s, Baron de Coubertin was intrigued as much by the ancient concept of the human being, as he was by the impact of sport on society.

In this he was strongly influenced by the British tradition of physical education and – especially after the French defeat by the Germans in the war of 1870/71 – the significance of physical prowess in building national pride and strength.

But his idea was not to reinvigorate a brutish contest of brawn versus brawn. It was the "noble and chivalrous character of physical exercise" that appealed to him, and the indispensable prerequisite that the participants be amateurs.

The rewards, he believed, must come from participation in a sporting activity, and there should be no profit incentives, no material gifts and no commercial interference in the games.

When first he voiced his dream, in 1892 of reviving the Olympics it was met with what has been described as "little comprehension". But he was undeterred. Two years later he invited interested people from around the world to a sports congress in Paris, at the Sorbonne.

That conference, in June 1894, gave Baron de Coubertin exactly what he wanted: unanimous support for the revival of the Olympic Games, with the first event to be held two years later – exactly100 years ago – in Athens.

So was formed the International Olympic Committee, and the pattern of international Games every four years, hosted in turn by different capitals of the world. But even then working out the nitty-gritty of what would become a huge international event was not achieved without difficulty.

There was scant public interest in Britain and America, and France and Germany were actually hostile to the Games.

Greece itself – newly unified, but poor, after shaking off the yoke of Turkish rule – was worried about the cost. There was a lobby, however, which argued that the event was an opportunity, much like Cape Town's bid, to stimulate development and reassert national culture.

There was also the knotty issue of amateurism. Baron de Coubertin feared corruption would ensue if money played any role in the Olympic Movement, but his opponents argued that the absence of some form of compensation would restrict the Games to the leisured classes.

(It took two decades to resolve this – after years of negotiations, the IOC finally agreed to loss-of-income compensation to wage-earning athletes.)

Nevertheless, the 1896 Games got off the ground.

Construction and armaments magnate George Averoff paid for a new stadium, and donations and gifts from Greek communities in Marseilles, Alexandria and London helped to prepare Athens for the contest.

Poor communications between Greece and the rest of Europe made it difficult to attract foreign athletes, so that of the sum of 311 participants from 13 countries, 230 were Greek.

There were 43 events covering nine sports codes. Rowing and sailing events were cancelled because of bad weather and cricket was abandoned because there weren't enough chaps to play!

But there was track and field – including the marathon, which was won, fittingly, by the Greek athlete Spiridon – weight-lifting, gymnastics, wrestling, fencing, shooting, swimming, cycling and lawn tennis. Baron de Coubertin was disappointed that the programme excluded polo, football and boxing. Boxing, the founding congress had decided, was "too uncivilised".

But the baron – the second IOC president, from 1896 to 1925 – did have the satisfaction of knowing his romantic vision had come into being.

What he had imagined was the "youth of the world" meeting in peaceful competition, and leaving to future generations the ideals of "olympism": dignity, tolerance, friendship and fairness.

What he almost certainly did not foresee was the magnitude of the commercialism that the revival of the Games would bring. The mega-enterprise that is the modern Olympics, and the executives who run it, is the subject of much controversy and criticism.

But the event remains compelling, enthralling and crammed with opportunity.

Pushing past boundaries of excellence

THE 100-year history of the modern Olympics offers but one certainty: Records will fall.

Boycotts, world wars and other disruptions have raised doubts in some years whether the games would be held at all. But, when the world's best athletes gather as they will next week in Atlanta, records are usually set in a wide range of events, from the hammer throw to the marathon race.

In some cases, the reasons for improvement seem obvious. Almost anyone could pedal a modern, Kevlar-framed, aerodynamic bicycle faster than the clunkers pedalled at the Athens Olympics of 1896. But the shot-put, both then and now, has weighed 16 pounds. A marathon is still 26 miles, 385 yards in length. Swimmers still swim in water.

The improvements in performance are not small. American Robert Garrett won the gold medal in Athens for putting the shot 36 feet, 9 ¾ inches. The current record holder, Ulf Timmerman of Germany, set his mark in 1988 with a 73 feet, 8 ¾ inch-toss. In the 400m foot race, Quincy Watts of the United States set an Olympic record in 1992 by running 20 percent faster than the gold medalist of 1896.

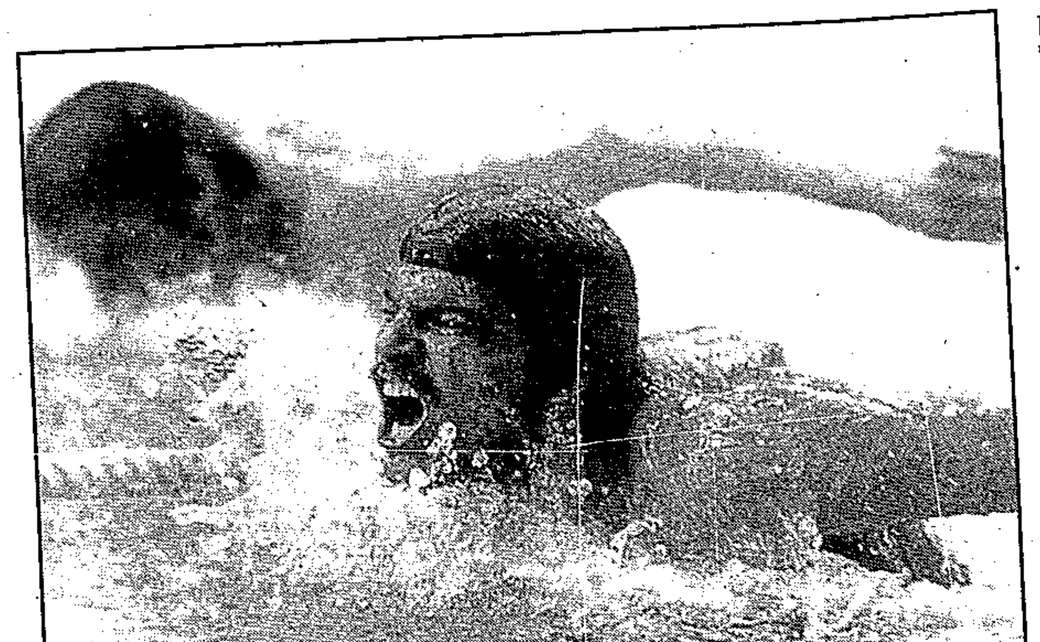
Even phenomenal performers compete with the knowledge that their records may have a short life. James Thorpe set his remarkable world record in the decathlon in 1912; the record had fallen by the 1924 Games, and a world record was set in that and each of the next three Olympics.

Of the seven world records set by swimmer Mark Spitz and team mates in the 1972 Games, all but two were broken in the next Olympics. All of them had been eclipsed by 1984.

Which raises the questions: Are humans getting better? And, if so, why? Humans are indeed taller, stronger and faster than they were 100 years ago.

But, Olympic performance has as much to do with economics and technology as with sheer athleticism.

"It may be that people today are coming closer to their (biological) potential," says Jack Daniels, an Olympic pentathlon medalist and professor of physical education at the State University of New York College at Cortland. "The initial improvements way back came as a result of them just beginning to train.



GOING FOR GOLD: Mark Spitz sets a new Olympic record in 1972. Of the seven world records set by Spitz and team mates in the 1972 Games, all but two were broken in the next Olympics.

"It used to be just a fun thing to do. Once we got into the 1960s and 1970s, people got very serious."

Some improvement in performance is an inevitable consequence of population growth, which increases the potential for standouts.

The pool of competitors also has been enlarged by air travel, the enhanced prestige of the Games and the demise of racial barriers: In the Athens games, only 311 men from 13 countries competed. Atlanta is expecting 10 800 athletes from 197 countries.

Equipment has played a role, too. In pole-vaulting, bamboo has been replaced by stronger, more flexible materials.

High-performance track surfaces bear little resemblance to the dirt lanes of the early games. Shoes are lighter and better designed.

Swimming is done indoors, in a 50m pool.

In 1896, swimmers were ferried by boat into the open sea off Greece. Hungarian Alfred Hajos braved 4m waves and 11-degree water to win the 100m freestyle gold medal. His time of 1 minute, 22 seconds is twice as long as the 1992 winning time of just over 49 seconds.

The emergence of full-time Olympians who could afford to train intensely for years is a relatively new phenomenon. It began in the 1960s in communist countries that sought international validation by drafting promising youngsters and paying them to train for the Olympics.

Later, as the games grew in profile, athletes found ways to make money at even obscure sports.

Bruce Jenner parlayed a gold medal in the 1976 decathlon into a career in broadcasting and product promotion, including a stint on Wheaties boxes.

Corporate money has grown even more influential, as the popularity of the games has increased.

Sponsors now finance many sports, providing athletes with stipends, housing and expert coaching.

That wasn't the case when Professor Daniels won the silver medal in the team pentathlon at the 1956 Melbourne games.

"It used to be that the Olympics were full of college athletes who would then go on with life. We had a regular turnover of athletes. Nowadays, there's enough money in the sport that a guy will stay with it," says Professor Daniels.

Innovations in technique – often a function of chance inspiration – also affects the outcome of many events.

Dick Fosbury's backward, head-first high-jump style, in which he kept his centre of gravity below the bar, won him the 1968 gold and became an immediate sensation. The "Fosbury Flop" is still the standard.

Computers also have replaced dumbbells in training rooms of many athletes, who use the machines to monitor their workouts or to refine the biomechanics of their performance.

"It's an accumulation of knowledge," says Walter Gove, a sociology professor at Vanderbilt University who has studied Olympians. "People know how to exercise a particular muscle. They didn't used to know how to do that."

The impact is seen in the scores. In the 1992 Games, new Olympic or world records were established in one fourth of the 24 men's track and field events. And that was a below average year.

According to the book Olympic Trends, by AB and Melinda Johnson, in each of the 21 modern Olympic Games between 1896 and 19[illegible] records were set in an average of [illegible] percent of the men's track and field events. In swimming, records were set in an average of 81 percent of events.

Phil Sparling, a professor of exercise physiology at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, says there was no sophisticated testing of athletes 100 years ago, but assumes today's best performers use oxygen more efficiently and have less body fat than their predecessors.

"I think it's primarily a consequence of being able to select and screen for the best athletes," says Professor Sparling. "If there has been an improvement in the species, then you would expect to see the general level in fitness tests we give to children to increase. Those records have not, and in some cases have declined."

Women's scores mirror the advances of the men. Women's events were added to the Olympics much later and the scores improved dramatically in the first few decades. They now are flattening out. [illegible] trend that probably will hold for men and women as the top athletes begin to bump up against biological limitations.

"We're still getting improvement, but there's a flattening of improvement," says Professor Sparling. "I don't think we'll see dramatic change anymore." – Los Angeles Times-Washington Post.

Games begin

ekend, the prospect of toppled records and extraordinary feats of athletic ability, and the pageantry
inds of millions around the world, not least avid Olympics followers in Cape Town. In the Peninsula,
:nt are mounting over the city's own bid for the Games.

ARG 28/6/96

Pushing past boundaries of excellence

THE 100-year history of the modern Olympics offers but one certainty: Records will fall.

Boycotts, world wars and other disruptions have raised doubts in some years whether the games would be held at all. But, when the world's best athletes gather as they will next week in Atlanta, records are usually set in a wide range of events, from the hammer throw to the marathon race.

In some cases, the reasons for improvement seem obvious. Almost anyone could pedal a modern, Kevlar-framed, aerodynamic bicycle faster than the clunkers pedalled at the Athens Olympics of 1896. But the shot-put, both then and now, has weighed 16 pounds. A marathon is still 26 miles, 385 yards in length. Swimmers still swim in water.

The improvements in performance are not small. American Robert Garrett won the gold medal in Athens for putting the shot 36 feet, 9 ¾ inches. The current record holder, Ulf Timmerman of Germany, set his mark in 1988 with a 73 feet, 8 ¾ inch-toss. In the 400m foot race, Quincy Watts of the United States set an Olympic record in 1992 by running 20 percent faster than the gold medalist of 1896.

Even phenomenal performers compete with the knowledge that their records may have a short life. James Thorpe set his remarkable world record in the decathlon in 1912; the record had fallen by the 1924 Games, and a world record was set in that and each of the next three Olympics.

Of the seven world records set by swimmer Mark Spitz and team mates in the 1972 Games, all but two were broken in the next Olympics. All of them had been eclipsed by 1984.

Which raises the questions: Are humans getting better? And, if so, why? Humans are indeed taller, stronger and faster than they were 100 years ago.

But, Olympic performance has as much to do with economics and technology as with sheer athleticism.

"It may be that people today are coming closer to their (biological) potential," says Jack Daniels, an Olympic pentathlon medalist and professor of physical education at the State University of New York College at Cortland. "The initial improvements way back came as a result of *them just beginning to train.*



GOING FOR GOLD: Mark Spitz sets a new Olympic record in 1972. Of the seven world records set by Spitz and team mates in the 1972 Games, all but two were broken in the next Olympics.

"It used to be just a fun thing to do. Once we got into the 1960s and 1970s, people got very serious."

Some improvement in performance is an inevitable consequence of population growth, which increases the potential for standouts.

The pool of competitors also has been enlarged by air travel, the enhanced prestige of the Games and the demise of racial barriers: In the Athens games, only 311 men from 13 countries competed. Atlanta is expecting 10 800 athletes from 197 countries.

Equipment has played a role, too. In pole-vaulting, bamboo has been replaced by stronger, more flexible materials.

High-performance track surfaces bear little resemblance to the dirt lanes of the early games. Shoes are lighter and better designed.

Swimming is done indoors, in a 50m pool.

In 1896, swimmers were ferried by boat into the open sea off Greece. Hungarian Alfred Hajos braved 4m waves and 11-degree water to win the 100m freestyle gold medal. His time of 1 minute, 22 seconds is twice as long as the 1992 winning time of just over 49 seconds.

The emergence of full-time Olympians who could afford to train intensely for years is a relatively new phenomenon. It began in the 1960s in communist countries that sought international validation by drafting promising youngsters and paying them to train for the Olympics.

Later, as the games grew in profile, athletes found ways to make money at even obscure sports.

Bruce Jenner parlayed a gold medal in the 1976 decathlon into a career in broadcasting and product promotion, including a stint on Wheaties boxes.

Corporate money has grown even more influential, as the popularity of the games has increased.

Sponsors now finance many sports, providing athletes with stipends, housing and expert coaching.

That wasn't the case when Professor Daniels won the silver medal in the team pentathlon at the 1956 Melbourne games.

"It used to be that the Olympics were full of college athletes who would then go on with life. We had a regular turnover of athletes. Nowadays, there's enough money in the sport that a guy will stay with it," says Professor Daniels.

Innovations in technique – often a function of chance inspiration – also affects the outcome of many events.

Dick Fosbury's backward, head-first high-jump style, in which he kept his centre of gravity below the bar, won him the 1968 gold and became an immediate sensation. The "Fosbury Flop" is still the standard.

Computers also have replaced dumbbells in training rooms of many athletes, who use the machines to monitor their workouts or to refine the biomechanics of their performance.

"It's an accumulation of knowledge," says Walter Gove, a sociology professor at Vanderbilt University who has studied Olympians. "People know how to exercise a particular muscle. They didn't used to know how to do that."

The impact is seen in the scores. In the 1992 Games, new Olympic or world records were established in one fourth of the 24 men's track and field events. And that was a below-average year.

According to the book Olympic Trends, by AB and Melinda Johnson, in each of the 21 modern Olympic Games between 1896 and 1988, records were set in an average of 67 percent of the men's track and field events. In swimming, records were set in an average of 81 percent of the events.

Phil Sparling, a professor of exercise physiology at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, says there was no sophisticated testing of athletes 100 years ago, but assumes today's best performers use oxygen more efficiently and have less body fat than their predecessors.

"I think it's primarily a consequence of being able to select and screen for the best athletes," says Professor Sparling. "If there was an improvement in the species, then you would expect to see the general level in fitness tests we give our children to increase. Those really have not, and in some cases have declined."

Women's scores mirror the advances of the men. Women's events were added to the Olympics much later and the scores improved dramatically in the first few decades. They now are flattening out. It is a trend that probably will hold for men and women as the top athletes begin to bump up against biological limitations.

"We're still getting improvement, but there's a flattening of improvement," says Professor Sparling. "I don't think we'll see dramatic change anymore." – *Los Angeles Times-Washington Post.*

'Crime wave could sink our hopes of hosting Olympics'

ARG 28/6/96 (288)

Cape Town has been warned to get its act together on crime or lose the bid, writes Metro Reporter ANDREA WEISS.

IF South Africa's crime situation does not improve by September next year, there is no hope of winning the Olympic Bid.

This view was expressed by Chris Ball, chief executive officer of the Bid Company, at a briefing for new members of the Cape Town City Council.

September 1997 is when the International Olympic Committee will announce the host city for the 2004 Games.

The new 74-member council, 60 of whom are first-time councillors, will be asked to decide whether the bid book should be submitted to the International Olympics Committee at its monthly meeting at the end of July. Mr Ball was responding to a question from Democratic Party councillor Chris Joubert on the security situation in central Cape Town.

Mr Joubert suggested that the Bid Company should sponsor several "rent-a-cops" to help the city clean up its act. He argued that spending the money on 10 extra policemen would serve the purpose of a security marketing exercise.

"What is happening in Cape Town can do the bid no good," said Mr Joubert.

Mr Ball responded that it was not the bid company's business to spend money on security, but that it could influence the government to take action.

The Olympic Games themselves were very secure, and a very large portion of the budget for it would go towards security. Every venue would be fenced to protect ticket-holders and prevent acts of terrorism, and 30 000 volunteer security staff would be employed, he said.

Mr Ball said the crime wave in South Africa also affected Cape Town's image, even although there were indications of a downward trend in tourist-related incidents in the city.

"If, in September next year, the crime position is as it is now in South Africa, you can be absolutely sure we won't win the bid," he said.

But, Mr Ball also reassured the councillors that Cape Town stood a very good chance, saying it appeared to be one of three favourites.

CAPE TOWN 2004 CANDIDATE CITY

The other two were Stockholm in Sweden and Rome in Italy.

Other concerns expressed by councillors centred on the absence of Olympic facilities in Mitchell's Plain, the conversion of houses into bed-and-breakfast establishments, black empowerment through the awarding of Olympic contracts, and a potential influx of unemployed people into the city because of the Games.

On black empowerment, Mr Ball said the bid company had a charter which said that 40 percent of the ownership of companies tendering for contracts should be by people from previously marginalised groups.

He said where skills were lacking, people would be encouraged to go into joint ventures, not for enrichment contracts, but to build expertise.

But, he added that work would have to meet the Olympics' tight deadlines imposed by the IOC. For instance, by December work on three projects must have started so that an IOC evaluation commission could see them.

The IOC evaluation commission will visit Cape Town between December 6 and 10 this year, after the bid book has been handed in. Shortlisting of the bidding cities will take place in March next year.

Tourism set to play key role in RDP

ARLT 28/6/96 (-288)

The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. – Tourism in South Africa is set become a major contributor to economic growth and the Reconstruction and Development Plan.

This emerged yesterday when outgoing Tourism Minister Dawie de Villiers presented a White Paper on the development and promotion of tourism in South Africa.

The cabinet approved the White Paper and tourism is set to take off, he told a media conference at the Union Buildings.

The government realised tourism was an important facet of the national economic strategy, he added.

It is anticipated tourism, which constitutes about 4% of the GDP (Gross Domestic Product) has the potential to increase its share to 10% by the year 2000 and 12% by 2005.

This will not only result in a dramatic increase in South Africa's annual foreign exchange earnings from about R10-billion this year to R40-billion in 2005, but will also create an estimated one million additional direct and indirect jobs, said Dr De Villiers.

Tourism is the fourth largest earner of foreign exchange in South Africa, but has the potential to become the country's number one industry, he said.

In terms of the RDP, Dr de Villiers said tourism more than any other industry can provide sturdy, effective and sustainable legs for it to walk on.

On tourism and the RDP the White Paper concludes: "The tourism sector could provide the basis for and sustain the RDP. To achieve this mandate, tourism must be developed as a strategic industry. A 'wait and see what happens' approach pervades the industry.

"Unless tourism is viewed and developed as a strategically important industry – the greatest engine of growth for the South African economy – the true wealth-creating potential of the tourism sector will never be realised."

The White Paper also proposed the creation of a new national tourism organisation – Tourism South Africa.

The new body would incorporate Satour's infrastructure and personnel and spearhead international marketing and research.

Dr de Villiers said the White Paper was a milestone in the history of South Africa tourism, adding that the policy guidelines should be implemented as soon as possible.

An implementation strategy would be drawn up by September, he said. Legislation in this regard would be passed during the second half of the year, he added.

"I have also obtained cabinet approval for changes to the Satour Act to enable speedy creation and implementation of Tourism South Africa."

(288)

Councillors question aspects of Games bid

28/6/96

PETER DENNEHY

WHILE the city's Olympic Games bid met with no opposition from Cape Town councillors who attended a presentation on the bid yesterday, several aired concerns about how ratepayers would finance the Games and cope with their consequences.

After a presentation by Bid Company chief executive officer Mr Chris Ball, councillor Mr Owen Kinahan of Observatory said he was concerned about Cape Town attracting illegal job-seekers from the rest of southern Africa.

Mrs Belinda Walker of the City Bowl said people in her area were concerned about development pressure on the city's buildings, particularly those of historic value.

Ball emphasised that Cape Town would grow dramatically, and that within two decades, Cape Town Airport would process twice the volume of air traffic as Johannesburg now does.

Mr Daniel Silke of the Democratic Party said he hoped the bid would succeed, but questioned the effect hosting the Games would have on property rates. He also wanted to know at what stage the city would have to start paying.

Ball said raising property rates would be a political decision, not one in the hands of the bid company. He also said that provincial and local governments' share of the cost was R744 million over the next seven years, of which the provincial government would pay 30%, the Metro Council another 30%. The six municipalities would have to pay R298m between them over the seven years.

Asked at what stage capital spending would be halted if the bid should not succeed, Ball said it would be after the first R86m had been spent on projects in Philippi East, Mew Way in Khayelitsha, and Belhar, and R250m on transport infrastructure.

New eco-tourism firm set up

CT (BR) 28 | 6 | 96 (288)

By John Spira

DEPUTY EDITOR

Johannesburg — A new leisure company, Chapman Leisure, with assets of R32,5 million, has been established to capitalise on South Africa's vast eco-tourism potential.

Chapman Leisure, trading as Country Escapes, has been created by the EG Chapman Group, JSE-listed Yabeng Investment Holdings, Tiny Barnetson, the managing director of Ovland, and hotelier Graham Ledger.

Country Escapes, which envisages a JSE listing three to five years hence, has acquired four resorts — Mount Sheba Hotel and Nature Reserve near Pilgrim's Rest, Hulala Lakeside Lodge between Hazyview and White River, Glenshiel Country Lodge in Magoebaskloof and Madikwe River Lodge in the North West Province.

The Chapman Group, Yabeng, and Barnetson and Ledger each hold a third of the equity in the new company.

Announcing the formation of the new company yesterday, Barnetson said the intention was to grow the company's portfolio to a gross asset value of between R150 million and R250 million in three to five years.

Country Escapes would extend its manor house-country lodge arm into Johannesburg's northern suburbs, Cape Town and environs, and the southeastern suburbs of Pretoria.

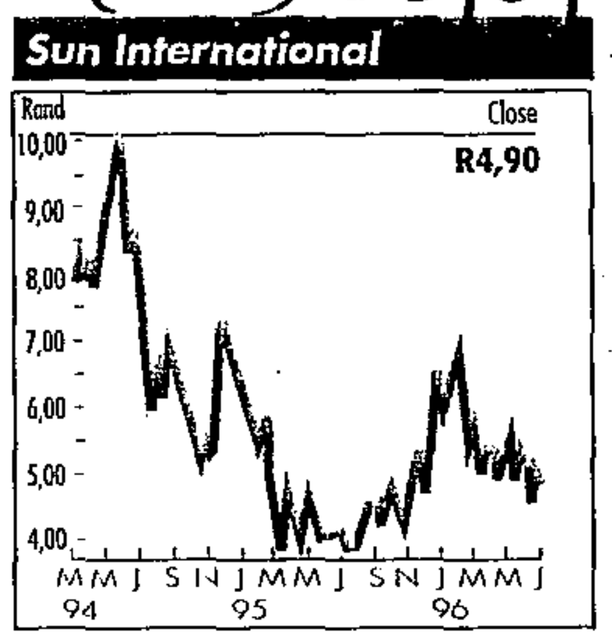
Barnetson said that South Africa had a poor share of the world tourism market but great upside potential from a very low base. He said Country Escapes already had permanent representatives overseas.

Y NEWS

'Not all bad news' for Sun International

(288) CT (BR) 28/6/96

By Audrey d'Angelo



Cape Town — New gambling legislation should not hurt Sun International South Africa's operations as much as many people think, according to Wynand van Zyl, an analyst with Senekal Mouton Kitshoff Securities.

He said yesterday that although there was an element of risk, he expected the share price of Sun International SA to rise to R9,42 with a price-earnings rating of 16 by the end of the financial year to June next year in anticipation of higher earnings. The share is now trading at about R4,90.

Others were more cautious. Shaun Stockigt, of Appleton's Cape Town office, said that while Sun International SA should benefit from the growth in tourism, there were uncertainties over the gambling operations.

"And no one will go to Sun City to gamble when there is a casino near home."

Van Zyl was reacting to the report earlier this week from rating agency IBCA, saying that it had put the Safren Rennies group on a long-term negative rating watch because of uncertainty about the casino interests of subsidiary Kersaf Investments, the parent company of Sun International SA.

Van Zyl said that, under the National Gambling Bill, Sun International SA would be allowed to retain three gambling licences in the Northwest and Eastern Cape provinces and two in the other provinces.

"Using last year's figures as a base, Sun International SA will experience only a 14 percent drop in turnover, or approximately R275 million, through rationalisation. In this rationalisation process, Sun International SA will dispose of eight of its present 17 gambling licences, retaining a total of nine casinos. So the impact of rationalisation ... will be less than expected.

"The key issue is that Sun International SA will be able to retain all the value-drivers, including the Carousel ... This development will allow (it) to become a more focused operation while disposing of mainly weaker contributors."

The location of new casinos would be a critical issue. Indications were that a compromise would be made and locations chosen to maximise employment opportunities and uplift undeveloped communities.

Both key requirements would benefit Sun International SA as they implied that new casinos would be located where the impact on its remaining casinos would be limited. Van Zyl also expected consortia lead by Sun International SA to receive at least three new licences.

NY NEWS

'Not all bad news' for Sun International

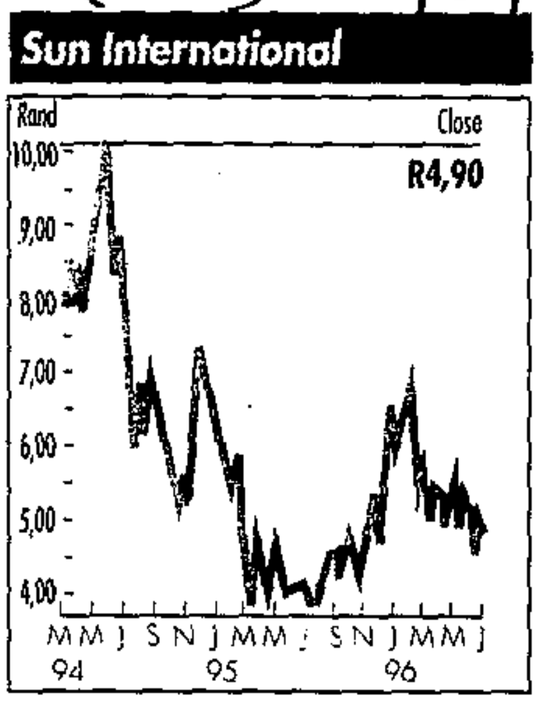
(288) CT (BR) 28/6/96

By Audrey d'Angelo

Cape Town — New gambling legislation should not hurt Sun International South Africa's operations as much as many people think, according to Wynand van Zyl, an analyst with Senekal Mouton Kitshoff Securities.

He said yesterday that although there was an element of risk, he expected the share price of Sun International SA to rise to R9,42 with a price-earnings rating of 16 by the end of the financial year to June next year in anticipation of higher earnings. The share is now trading at about R4,90.

Others were more cautious. Shaun Stockigt, of Appleton's Cape Town office, said that while Sun International SA should benefit from the growth in tourism, there were uncertainties over the gambling operations.



"And no one will go to Sun City to gamble when there is a casino near home."

Van Zyl was reacting to the report earlier this week from rating agency IBCA, saying that it had put the Safren Rennies group on a long-term negative rating watch because of uncertainty about the casino interests of subsidiary Kersaf Investments, the parent company of Sun International SA.

Van Zyl said that, under the National Gambling Bill, Sun International SA would be allowed to retain three gambling licences in the Northwest and Eastern Cape provinces and two in the other provinces.

"Using last year's figures as a base, Sun International SA will experience only a 14 percent drop in turnover, or approximately R275 million, through rationalisation. In this rationalisation process, Sun International SA will dispose of eight of its present 17 gambling licences, retaining a total of nine casinos. So the impact of rationalisation ... will be less than expected.

"The key issue is that Sun International SA will be able to retain all the value-drivers, including the Carousel ... This development will allow (it) to become a more focused operation while disposing of mainly weaker contributors."

The location of new casinos would be a critical issue. Indications were that a compromise would be made and locations chosen to maximise employment opportunities and uplift undeveloped communities.

Both key requirements would benefit Sun International SA as they implied that new casinos would be located where the impact on its remaining casinos would be limited. Van Zyl also expected consortia lead by Sun International SA to receive at least three new licences.

Oudekraal hotel gets the green light – for now

(288)

DENNIS CAVERNELIS
Supreme Court Reporter

ARG 29/6/96

THE controversial Oudekraal Hotel Development is set to go ahead following the Cape Supreme Court dismissal of an application by the National Parks Board for a review of the decision allowing the development.

The Parks Board and David Daitz, the manager appointed to co-ordinate the establishment of a National Park on the Cape Peninsula, brought the application for a review of the validity of the Western Cape provisional structure plan and of the rezoning of the Oudekraal property in terms of the Land Use Planning Ordinance.

The respondents were the owners of the Oudekraal property Hottentots Huisie, the Transitional Metropolitan substructure of Llandudno/Hout Bay and the Western Cape MEC for Development and Tourism.

"The decision is not whether this court believes that the hotel development should proceed or not. That decision was and remains the prerogative and the responsibility of the Transitional Metropolitan substructure of Llandudno/Hout Bay," the judges said.

They said their decision related to the correctness of the process, rather than the correctness of the decision to allow the development.

They added they had to decide on the reasonableness, and not the rightness of the decisions of the Transitional Metropolitan substructure of Llandudno/Hout Bay.

The White House advertising agency was located on a section of the farm Oudekraal from 1988, when the land was rezoned for commercial use. The agency moved from the farm in 1991.

In 1993 an application was made to the then Western Cape Regional Services Council for an amendment to the rezoning conditions, to allow for a hotel development.

The development plan is for a hotel with 70 accommodation units, a restaurant, bar, conference room and parking facilities.

In 1994 the council said the development "as proposed was totally unacceptable", but decided not to refuse the application for the hotel development and instead said the matter should be negotiated further.

When the regional services council was dissolved in 1995 it was succeeded by the Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC).

Subsequently the authority to decide the application for the amendment of the rezoning conditions was transferred to the Transitional Metropolitan substructure of Llandudno/Hout Bay.

In 1995 permission was granted for the hotel development, subject to certain conditions. The

■ Turn to page 3

Court gives Oudekraal green light – for now

(288) (F6)

■ From page 1

ARG 29/6/96

Transitional Metropolitan substructure of Llandudno/Hout Bay had to approve the overall development plan; an environmental consultant had to be appointed; and acceptable environmental conditions had to be adhered to.

In May this year the developers and the Transitional Metropolitan substructure of Llandudno/Hout Bay entered into an environmental contract.

The Parks Board argued that this substructure did not have the authority to amend the rezoning conditions, and that the regional services council should have refused the rezoning application.

The Parks Board also argued that the transitional substructure should have refused the application in the interests of conservation and the natural environment.

Mr Justice F D J Brand and Mr Justice J J Fagan said in their judgement that they could not find that the council's decision to allow further negotiations before allowing the development was unreasonable.

The application was dismissed, with costs.

Gaming licence or bust as Carlton puts cards on table

Star 29/6/96 (288)

By CRAIG URQUHART

The future of Johannesburg's thrusting CBD balances on a knife-edge. Crime, violence and the exodus of big business over the past decade have left a gap which has been taken by an unconstrained sector. Formal and informal traders work alongside each other – a microcosm of the First and Third World that co-exists throughout South Africa today.

Negative perceptions override the part of the city that was once a hive of arts, culture and big business. Tourists, workers and the handful of remaining residents speak of the deterioration of basic services and crime levels that would be unacceptable anywhere else in the world.

Cutbacks

They say the CBD began decaying many years ago and the downward spiral is now irreversible. Even the 24-year-old Carlton Hotel, which squats in the shadow of the 50-storey international trade centre, has undertaken drastic cutbacks of its operations to stay alive.

The downscaling, which included a staff cutback of 40% (185 workers) and the closure of the 63-room Carlton Court annexe, was an attempt to put the operation back on course following a R14-million loss last year. Gone are the days when you had to wait in line to book into one of the 605 rooms in Johannesburg's premier hotel. Seven floors have been boarded up and only 169 deluxe rooms and suites are available.

The decision to downscale was a difficult task for general manager Christopher Trimble. He seems resigned to the fact that the businesses which have left the city centre are unlikely to return. After a flood of negative publicity about the Carlton's "demise" earlier this month, Trimble implemented damage control. An advertising campaign claims that "contrary to popular belief, we're still in great shape" and "our five stars shine as brightly as ever".

But Trimble seems aware that downtown Johannesburg now needs a different sort of hotel complex. His options are limited: accept the consensus that the city centre has "had it", bide his time and hope that the crime and anarchy will somehow be contained, or chart a new course in order to keep the Carlton afloat. It may seem a strange time to be thinking about expanding the operation, but Trimble and his team have chosen the latter.

Development would help to spark a new pattern of growth for an emerging market in the inner city

They have a vision of the Carlton regaining its splendour and becoming the centre of a dynamic entertainment and conference hub. The plan rests on the granting of a gaming licence which would provide the capital for the massive restructuring of the Carlton complex.

The plan, which examined the effects of the planned project on the inner city, was formulated by Anglo American Properties two years ago. It was predicted that its establishment would make a significant contribution to the revitalisation of the inner city. The design of the entertainment and conference centre would have spillover effects on surrounding neighbourhoods, generating more business and employment.

With delays in the issuing of a gambling licence and the ongoing problems plaguing the CBD, the planned development has been delayed. However, the recent passing of the National Gambling Bill by the Senate has provided more than a glimmer of hope. The Gauteng government will grant operators six casino licences within the next few months.

Trimble believes the CBD and the Carlton Centre cannot survive without each other.

"The casino is just a cog in a giant wheel, but we need it before we can undertake any redevelopment. It will help to spark a new pattern of growth and development in the inner city. If we lived in a normal city, the Carlton Hotel would be running at full steam, but we now need to think differently."

Tom Molinar, business development manager for the Three Cities Hotel Group, says the plan would result in a themed entertainment hub. The casino would provide the economic anchor and activity generator.

The Skyrink would be replaced with a banquet hall which could convert into an indoor sports arena. Four extra storeys would be built on top of the existing building to serve as the rest of the convention centre.

The plan also includes renovation and upgrading of the Carlton Centre shopping complex, which still remains popular and is, according to Trimble, "virtually a crime-free island".

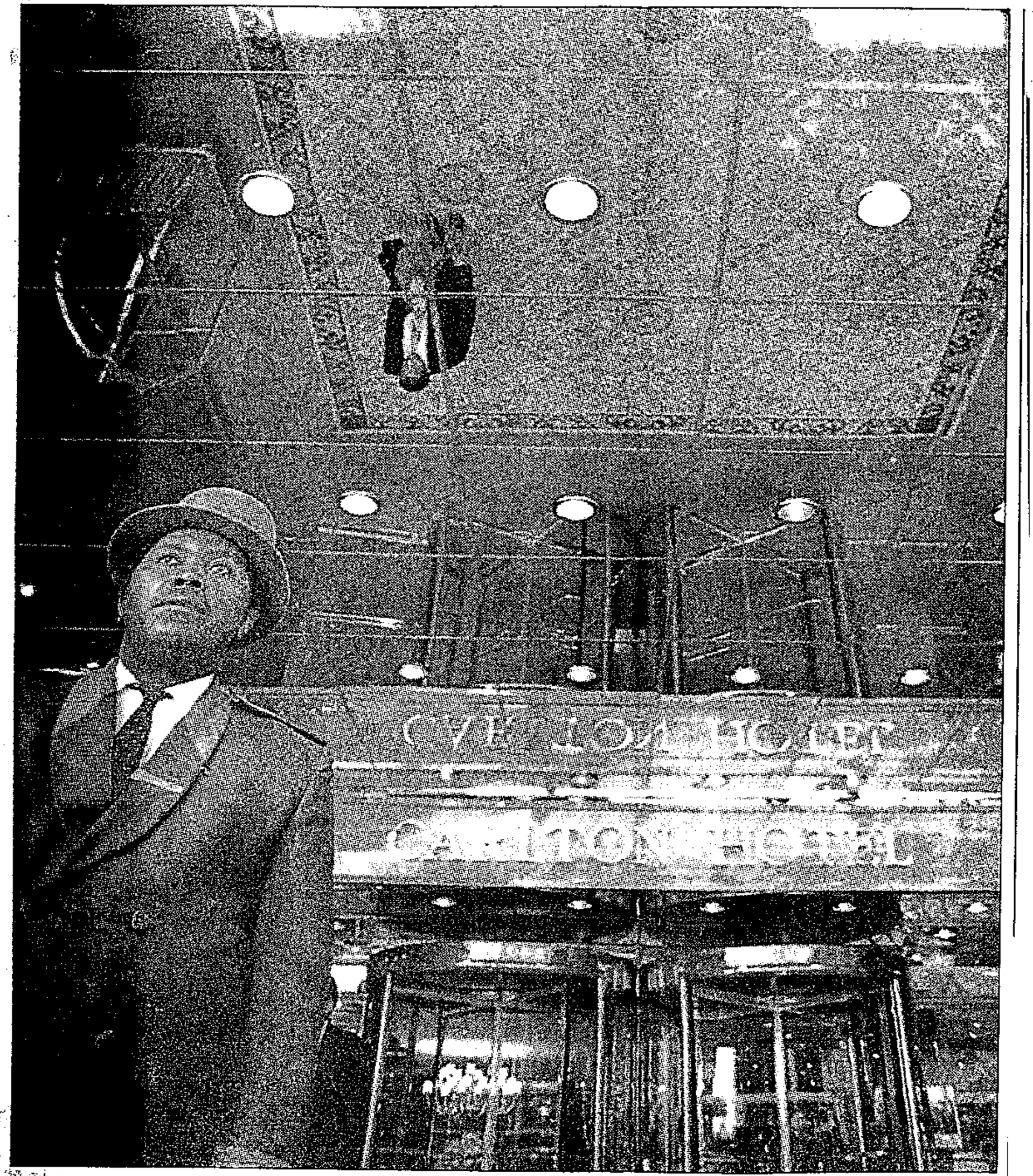
Revenue

The cherry on top of the development – and the lifeblood of the complex – would be a ground level mega-casino above the shopping centre.

The casino is planned to house 900 slot machines and 36 gaming tables, which would provide a steady revenue for the entire operation.

"Our vision is two-fold. Firstly, to provide a quality entertainment, shopping and leisure experience for a new emerging market in central Johannesburg. Secondly, to attract the larger domestic market and overseas visitors through the establishment of an international convention centre," Trimble says.

The proposal, which would surely have appeared extraordinary a few years ago, could well be the saviour of the CBD.



PUTTING ON THE RITZ: If things go according to plan, glamour could return to the life of doorman Jim Malewana and the Carlton Hotel PHOTOGRAPH: ANTON HAMMERL



The commercialisation of Denel in 1992 has brought about spectacular revenue that has surpassed expectations, says managing director Johan Alberts. PIC: SIPHIWE SIBEKO

Buoyant Denel saves 8 000 jobs

(288) sowetan 1/7/96

The company aims to reach a target of R7-b by the turn of the century

By Shadrack Mashalaba

STATE-CONTROLLED armaments and commercial products giant, Denel, said 8 000 jobs were saved after it became self-supporting in 1992.

Announcing the group's year-end results last week, Denel's managing director Johan Alberts said the resilience that had been shown by his company after the state stopped its subsidies had surpassed expectations.

Denel's exports for the year ended March 1996 topped R1 billion, with a steep rise in demand. The total income for the year end was R3,401 billion – R387 million higher than the previous year.

The net profit after taxation attributable to the shareholder for 1995/1996 amounted to R379 million while in the previous year it was R310 million. A dividend of R100 million was declared.

Denel also announced that it has received orders from four countries for the Rooivalk combat aircraft.

"Because we are bound by the non-disclosure clause which our clients insisted upon before we sign the terms of our contracts, we cannot reveal the names of the countries concerned," Alberts said.

Some of Denel's involvement in the commercial field was in the health, security, mining, agriculture and electric sectors. It distributed its products in Africa, Southern America, Europe and Asia.

Increased trends shown by the group, said Alberts, came amid continued declining market share among international competitors.

Denel credited the South African Government for their actions to improve the export control process.

The group also clarified its stance that it was not part of Armscor which is the procurement arm of the defence force, but it was an independent company which often receives orders from Armscor.

It also announced that its export policy was governed by a stricter control which entails adherence to regulations, international treaties, compliance with foreign policy and transparent and accountable behaviour.

In less than eight months after the establishment of the National Conventional Arms Control Committee (NCACC), the process adopted to control exports contributed and assisted Denel and the South African defence industry in its export drive.

He said that Denel's objective was to reach a whopping turnover target of R7 billion by the turn of the century. The plan was to achieve that through a 70 to 30 percent ratio conversion of commercial compared with military products.

Satour's man in the US

(288) sowetan 1/7/96

THE South African Tourism Board (Satour) has appointed Blacky Komani to the position of coordinating manager in North America.

The appointment came into effect from today.

Komani will be based at the Satour office in New York. He will be responsible for coordinating the organisation's strategic programmes in the rest of North America.

He has an illustrious career in the tourism industry – currently he is acting chief executive officer of the Eastern Cape Tourism Board and has a vast experience in marketing and standards promotion.

"He has an illustrious career in the tourism industry. Currently he is acting CEO of the Eastern Cape Tourism Board"

After joining the tourism arm of the defunct Ciskei in 1985, he worked for the organisation in a number of capacities including that of hotel inspector, sales consultant, sales manager and marketing.

Komani is a full member of the Institute for Marketing Management and SKAL – an international association for senior persons in the travel industry, and was last year IMM's finalist in their marketer of the year competition.

He holds a B.Admin Hons degree from Fort Hare University and has a number of marketing management courses.

Hotel project beckons as consortium puts San Vito back on track

(288) CT(MR) 1/7/96

By Marc Hasenfuss
CAPE EDITOR

Cape Town — San Vito Development has been brought out of limbo by a consortium intent on developing its existing properties into hotels.

San Vito Development, which previously traded as Faircape Homes, will be relisted on the JSE today after a two-year suspension.

The property company nearly folded after the estate of Saverio Polero, its controlling shareholder, was sequestrated.

The share was suspended after the Reserve Bank launched an investigation into the company after a multimillion-rand foreign-exchange scam. Polero, an Italian, fled the country.

The consortium acquired a controlling stake in San Vito from the various liquidators of the Polero estate. The remaining minority shareholders are expected to stay on board for the ride.

The consortium has already appointed new directors, including Monty Kaplan, a former chief executive at Cape of Good Hope Bank; Dennis Davis, a leading academic and television personality; and Philip Joffe, the financial director at Spur.

Allan Groll will serve as the managing director.

The company's main assets are properties at Bantry Bay and in Cape Town's central business district.

The Bantry Bay site, originally earmarked for a block of flats, will now be developed as a self-catering apartment-hotel. A director reported that sales had been satisfactory and that the development would be complete by next month.

Negotiations for converting a commercial building in Cape Town's Tulbagh Square into a self-catering hotel were also at an advanced stage. The hotel should be completed by the first quarter of next year.

The director said both projects were expected to produce a satisfactory profit and bolster the company's capital position.

"We think San Vito can move back into the black by the end of the financial year to end June 1997," he said.

He said that other property development projects in Johannesburg and Pretoria were under consideration.

San Vito traded at 65c before suspension and showed a net asset value of 0,13c in its interim report to December 31.

Imagine not inviting Mrs Ball...

(288) cr 2/87/1%

DAN SIMON
TOURISM WRITER

WHILE South Africa's athletes prepare for the Centennial Olympic Games starting on July 19, Cape Town Olympic Bid chief executive Mr Chris Ball, his directors and his wife Sue, are set to jet off to Atlanta to lobby international support for Cape Town as an Olympic venue.

It was disclosed yesterday that the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company was moving into "international gear" and that Ball, his team of 10 directors and his wife would arrive in Atlanta next week to conduct a "series of projects".

The inclusion of Ball's wife on the trip to Atlanta was sanctioned by the Bid Company's directors and paid for through the company's operating budget. Ball and his wife leave on Sunday and will be in the US for four weeks.

Nine other cities putting together bids for the 2004 Summer Olympics are also sending delegations to generate support for their respective cities.

Ball said yesterday that the purpose of the trip was twofold.

"We will be extending our contacts with members of the Olympic family, including the International Olympic Committee. Now is a good opportunity to get to know them.

"And secondly, to study the operations of the event so we can increase our expertise and modify or enhance our plans to deal more professionally with the visit of the evaluation commission."

Ball said the inclusion of his wife on the Bid team "was necessary" so that she could meet with and assist in the "lobbying" of IOC members' wives.

"The board says it is essential that she be there. Some of the key people in the lobbying process are wives," Ball said.

Meanwhile, those still keen on a glimpse of the Games will have to pay dearly. Hotels and other accommodation facilities in Atlanta are full and the nearest available room is situated a half-hour's drive from the city. It will cost R12 720 per person sharing, for six nights.

A city travel agent said those who could scrape together R10 697 would still get a room 45 minutes driving time from the city. These prices do not include the cost of commuting daily or meals.

Olympic bid gets 'divine leadership' from Tutu

TOURISM WRITER

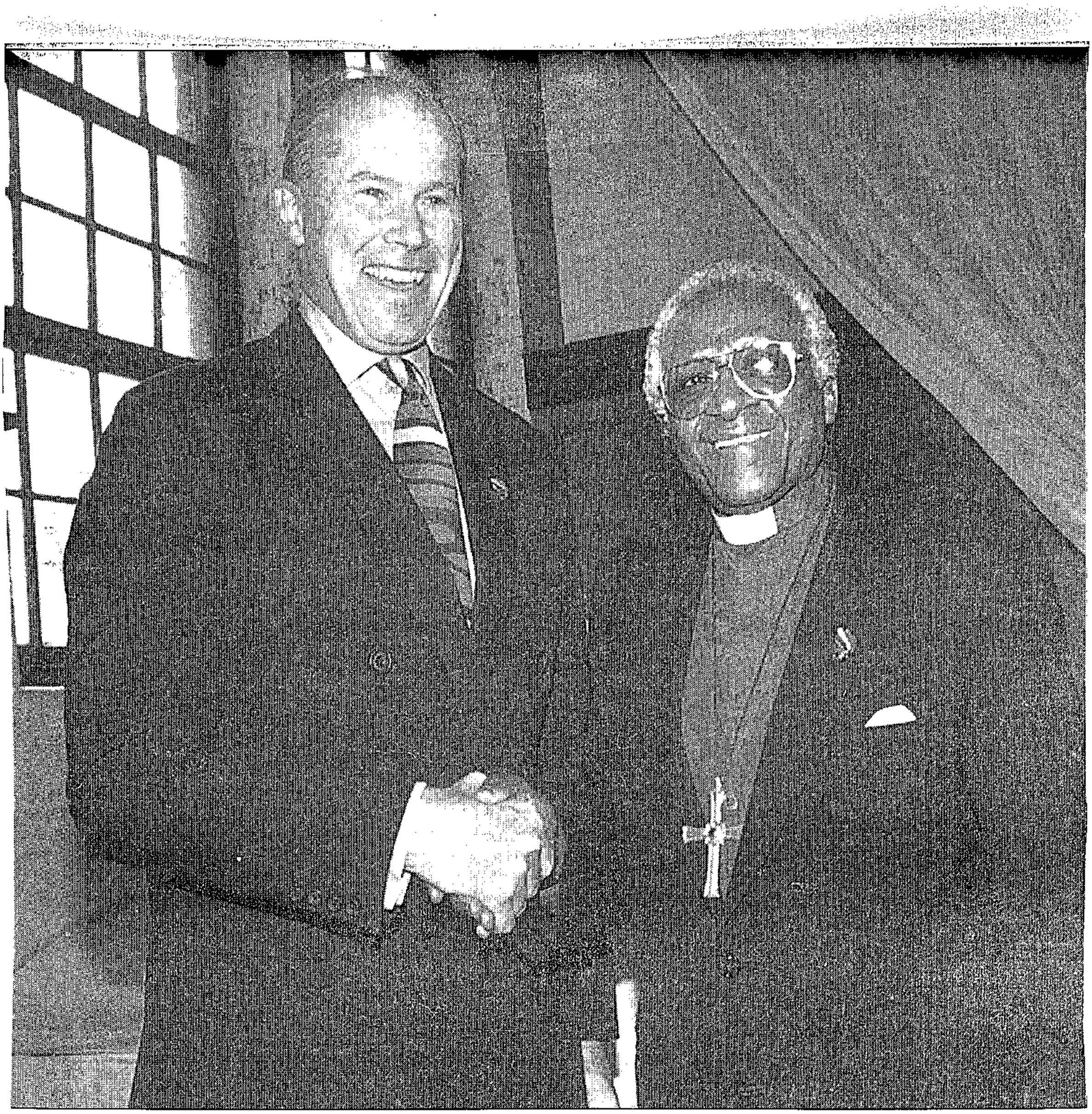
LEADING South African personalities have thrown their weight behind the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company's efforts to secure the Games for the city, and have agreed to serve as members of its newly constituted convocation.

The convocation, launched at the V & A Waterfront yesterday, is to serve as an "honorary national and pan-African" advisory body to the Bid Company and will be headed by retired Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who was elected president.

Among the 45 leading personalities to join the body are Professor Andre Brink, Gauteng Premier Mr Tokyo Sexwale and Cape Town mayor Mrs Theresa Solomon.

Invitations have been extended to sports leaders, mayors of major African cities, provincial premiers and rectors of Cape universities and technikons.

2/7/96
CT
288



COME, LET US BID: Cape Town Olympic Bid chief executive officer, Mr Chris Ball, and former Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu at yesterday's launch of the Cape Town Olympic Bid Convocation. Tutu, who was elected president of the body, will be joined by other leading South African personalities, in giving advice to the Bid Company in an honorary capacity. ***PICTURE: CLIVE SMITH***

Oudekraal: Parks Board 'won't give in'

CT 2/7/96

(288)

THE National Parks Board will go to court "time and time again" to stop development on the borders of the proposed Table Mountain National Park.

Commenting on the Supreme Court's dismissal on Friday of the board's application to review the decision allowing development of the controversial Oudekraal Hotel, Dr Robbie Robinson, NPB chief executive, said the board would go to court repeatedly to protect the environmentally sensitive borders of the park.

The multi-million rand hotel, restaurant and conference centre is to be built on the site of the White House, on the pristine strip of coast line between Bakoven and Llandudno.

"We will never give in. We are trying to stop the tremendous onslaught on the environment and are going to have to protect the area between the high water mark and the national park, even if it means amending the National Parks Act or asking the Minister of Environment to limit development," Robinson said.

He said the urban fringe was of vital importance to the value of Table Mountain as a national park, in visual impact and environmental sensitivity.

He did not believe the developers had shown sufficient sensitivity to the environment of the scenic beauty of the site in their hotel proposals.

Ms Marlene Laros, a Wildlife Society of South Africa conservation ecologist, said buffer zones between the national park and high density urban areas were vital to protect the pristine natural area.

Her biggest concern was looming future development proposals in the Twelve Apostles area.

Developers cancelled a meeting with the Cape Times yesterday.

Games bid sets growth deadline for city

(288) ARG 2/7/96

OLYMPIC planning has given an unprecedented boost to Cape Town's overarching ambition to reshape the apartheid city - the artificial, essentially soulless, fragmentation of living and working areas on the basis of race. And the transport network is a key to the reformation.

Michael Morris on the OLYMPIC BID

ON a fine evening, the high-rise view from the Foreshore takes in much of the serene glitter of the Waterfront.

The twinkling lights of cranes swung out over the unfinished hulks of new buildings, ships' reflections snaking across the water, cars streaming along the scalextrix of harbourside freeways - these are mosaic pieces of a dynamic image: a vibrant city, a wealth of opportunity.

But over to the right, the greater metropole is a dim, hazy mass that, from the vantage point of the office of Dave Eadie, director of Metropolitan Transport Planning, offers a featureless and unlovely prospect. Nobody would expect, or want, it to be like the Waterfront, but the striking truth is that most of the metropole's populace have had little choice in making this smoky sprawl their home.

It is not a well-serviced suburbia. It's a vast dormitory, far from workplaces, far from the thriving market places of Claremont and Wynberg, of Bellville, and the city centre.

To someone like Dave Eadie, accustomed to divining the geometry of city charts, the meaning of Cape Town's urban network can be reduced to three biggish dots which define the Bellville-city centre-Claremont triangle, and two fat lines that link Bellville and Cape Town and Cape Town and Claremont.

This is where the action is: the money, the shops, the jobs, the markets, places where people congregate, and like to be.

What vexes the director of Transport Planning is that the metropolitan reality is not the triangle that its infrastructural network defines ... there ought to be a fourth biggish dot - about where the bulk of the populace lives - and two more lines that link it to the others.

The fact that there isn't a fourth node is very much a product of apartheid, and the entrenched patterns of settlement and land use that stemmed from it.

Yet, the prospect of this deficiency being corrected sooner rather than later is a direct consequence of Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games. It is not as if the Olympic Bid Company has dreamed up the answer.

In fact, the key to understanding the city's bid, and its value as a developmental exercise with lasting impact on every facet of city life, is the way it is woven into the fabric of other kinds of detailed planning: how land should be used, where roads should go, how trains should operate, how the poor should be empowered, how new entrepreneurs should be encouraged, how the fynbos should be protected and False Bay kept clean, how jobs should be created, and new houses built - in short, how to make a better city, give people tangible reasons to believe it's achievable, and help make it happen.

The wefts and warps of the planning fabric are all there. There's the RDP, the Metropolitan Transport Plan and its associated public-participation programme, Moving Ahead, and there's the Metropolitan Spacial Development Framework. The labels are obtuse, but the substance is not. Now they must be woven together.

One of the key features of all these plans is the development of "sub-centres" - commercial-cum-services hubs - in ill-served areas where apartheid decided most of the people should live. Philippi East is one of the main ones, which accounts for Philippi's prominence in the Olympic plan.

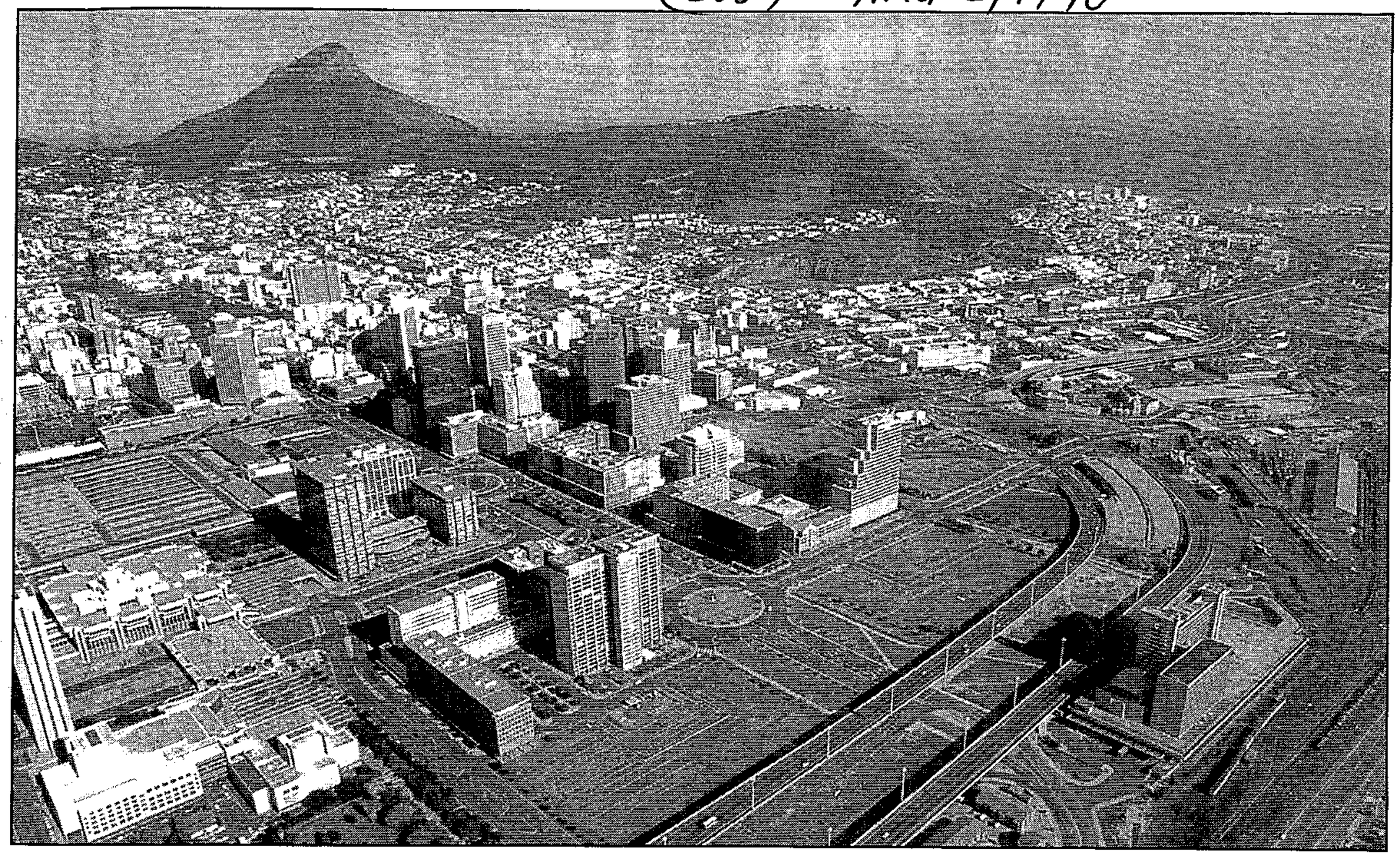
What the Olympic bid does is to provide opportunities to "seed" development, concentrate the planning focus, and impose deadlines. If the thing is to succeed, deadlines must be met, and meeting the deadlines means the city gets cracking.

That's simply stated, but however you look at it, it's rather more than a 16-day dazzle of international athletics. The point is not lost on Dave Eadie and his team.

"The Olympics bid has accelerated planning," he says, "and it's been amazing from that point of view. We cannot drift. Things must be done, and the Olympics has put a deadline on a lot of planning, which cuts out procrastination."

One of the "biggest" benefits of the bid, he says, is the fast-tracking of the 2010 transport plan for the Peninsula, which matches population needs (about one million more people by then), job demands and budgetary constraints.

The metropole would need it without the Olympics ... but with the Olympics, it's getting it sooner, at a cost to the government of R850 million.



CITY HUB: The glitter of the Waterfront and city centre gives way to the dim hazy mass of the Cape Flats, a poorly serviced suburbia which is far from the three thriving hubs of the Peninsula. Transport Planner Dave Eadie believes the city's Olympic bid offers a chance to introduce an infrastructural network that will generate a fourth hub for the city.

Under the Moving Ahead initiative, details will be workshopped with directly affected stakeholders, and the whole plan will be put together for comment and discussion by June next year. "Thereafter, it will be a dynamic document, reviewed annually and capable of responding to changed needs."

A shortlist of priority projects forms part of the bid process itself, which will be intended, along with other Olympic developments, to demonstrate to the International Olympic Committee Cape Town's capacity and will to host the Games in 2004. These projects will be funded from the R250 million committed by the government for bid-related infrastructure.

In a speech last week, Western Cape Minister of Transport Leonard Ramatlakane described transport as the "servant of development". Dave Eadie concurs. He sees transport - of people as much as goods - as a critical factor in getting development to happen where it's needed. It helps to serve entrepreneurship, community stability, personal well-being, and service provision. It helps to reshape the city.

And the real developmental nature of the Olympic bid lies precisely in the extent to which it dovetails with this vision.

Nelspruit tourism plans hinge on airport tussle

(288) BD 2/7/96

Amanda Vermeulen

A MASSIVE hotel and entertainment zone outside Nelspruit, with an estimated cost of between R2bn and R4bn, hinges on the outcome of a tussle between two major international groups backing two proposed international airports in Mpumalanga.

The airports — one based at Hazyview and the other outside Nelspruit — are competing for tourism traffic into the province which sees one in five foreign tourists visit the region, according to Satour statistics.

The Hazyview airport is backed by Daimler-Benz Aerospace, which has a 33% stake in the consortium, while the Nelspruit airport at Primkop is backed by Malaysian company Mycom, a large French construction group, and a Saudi Arabian company called Famco.

Hazyview airport has received national government and department of civil aviation approval, and Primkop airport is endorsed by the Mpumalanga cabinet.

A large entertainment zone adjacent to the Primkop airport has been proposed, and several international hotel groups, including Hyatt, Hilton, Sheraton, Regent and Caesar's World have expressed interest in developing as many as 20 hotels on the 120km² site. Famco was also considering a joint venture development with Sheraton.

However, the airport developers have warned this development, which could touch R4bn, may not proceed if the Hazyview airport goes ahead. The airport, two years in the planning, had been intended to replace Skukuza airport, and would be used to ferry tourist and business traffic into the region.

Izak Fick, the lead negotiator on the project, said the airport had already been granted a licence and could be operational two years before its rival.

Primkop airport is at least a year away from being granted a licence.

SOWETAN Wednesday July 3 1996

Tourism report is 'not accurate'

(288) sowetan 3/7/96

By Isaac Moledi

MANAGEMENT consulting firm Kessel Feinstein has denied reports that the number of tourists visiting South Africa is declining.

The company was responding to figures released by the Central Statistical Service which indicated that the number of the tourists arriving from overseas had decreased by 22 percent.

Kessel Feinstein said South African Tourism Board (Satour) international airport arrivals figures for the period January to April were misconstrued.

"The 22 percent decrease that was widely quoted in the Press is only representative of a drop in visitors from Central and South American regions – a very small segment of South Africa's foreign tourism market," said the company's director Gillian Saunders.

"The other statistics not broadly published show, in fact, a positive growth."

Tourism in general was up by three percent while overseas arrivals rose by four percent. "Specifically, there was an increase of eight percent in visitors from Europe and seven percent in arrivals from the United States."

Although South Africa could expect continued growth in the foreign tourist arrivals figures during 1996, it was unlikely that the rate of growth would match that achieved last year.

"The 1995 statistics were boosted by the 1995 Rugby World Cup."

Other obstacles to foreign tourism growth, according to Kessel Feinstein, included high prices, poor standards, the escalating crime rate as well as a lack of Government commitment to the industry and a national marketing body constrained by a low and shrinking budget.

"Unless these issues are addressed, South Africa's tourism potential would never be realised and growth rates may tail off further," argued Saunders.

Plans set to benefit lo

Central government to contribute R250 million for provision of services and

cal councils

R86 million for building of facilities

(8)

ARG 3/7/96

MICHAEL MORRIS
on the Olympic Bid

THE first five "strategic" Olympic projects being built during the next year to demonstrate Cape Town's commitment and capacity to host the 2004 Games will give metropolitan councils "discount" opportunities to extend local services.

Local authorities could "build on" to the Olympic multi-purpose halls – several of which will be located across the Peninsula – to add amenities such as a satellite library, day-care centre or day clinic without having to foot the huge bill for services like sewerage, roads, water and electricity.

Former city councillor Llewellyn van Wyk – one of a team of 20 voluntary professional advisers, who meet once a week to mull over plans and offer multi-disciplinary assistance to the bid company's planners – said this opportunity underlined the developmental nature of the bid.

The first facilities, to be built between now and September next year, will be funded by R86 million from central government. Services will be funded from a further amount of R250 million committed by the government.

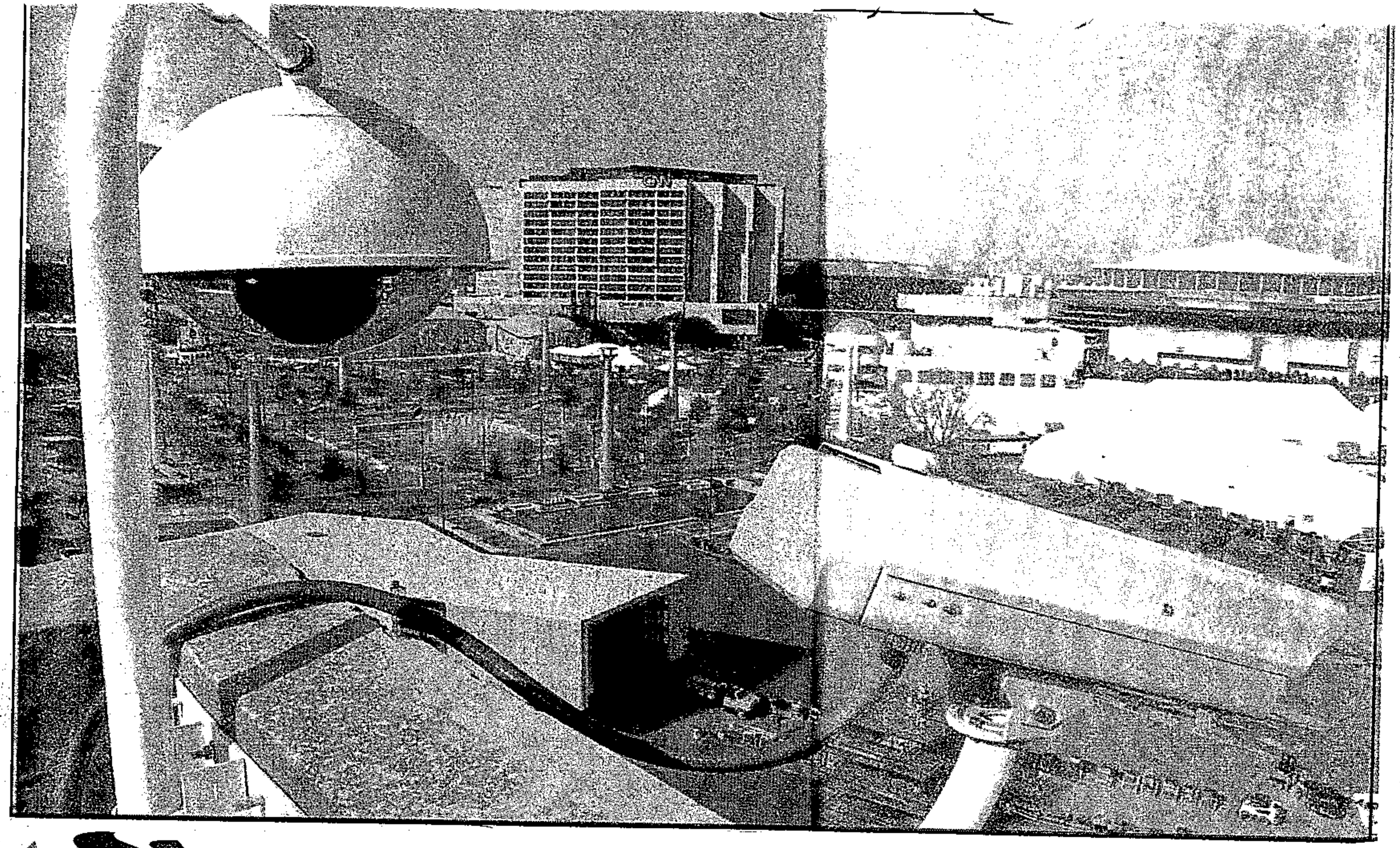
"These are targeted in disadvantaged areas, and even if we are not successful in the bid, the facilities will be available to communities."

But he added: "The creation of facilities must go beyond the notion of four walls and a roof. Each facility must be accessible to the community, so it becomes a forum, a place where children can play and parents can meet. It must make a substantial contribution to the social aura of the community.

"This is not the job of the Bid Company, but the local authority has the option to spend extra money on the facility. You could, for instance, add an educare centre, a day-clinic, or a satellite library to the sports facility and this would come at a major discount to the local authority since all the services are paid for and the initial infrastructure cost – usually the most costly element – is provided by central government. I have no doubt the local councils will use this opportunity."

Mr Van Wyk, in fact, has been instrumental in restructuring the voluntary advisory group, precisely to keep better track of the developmental opportunities and how they are being used.

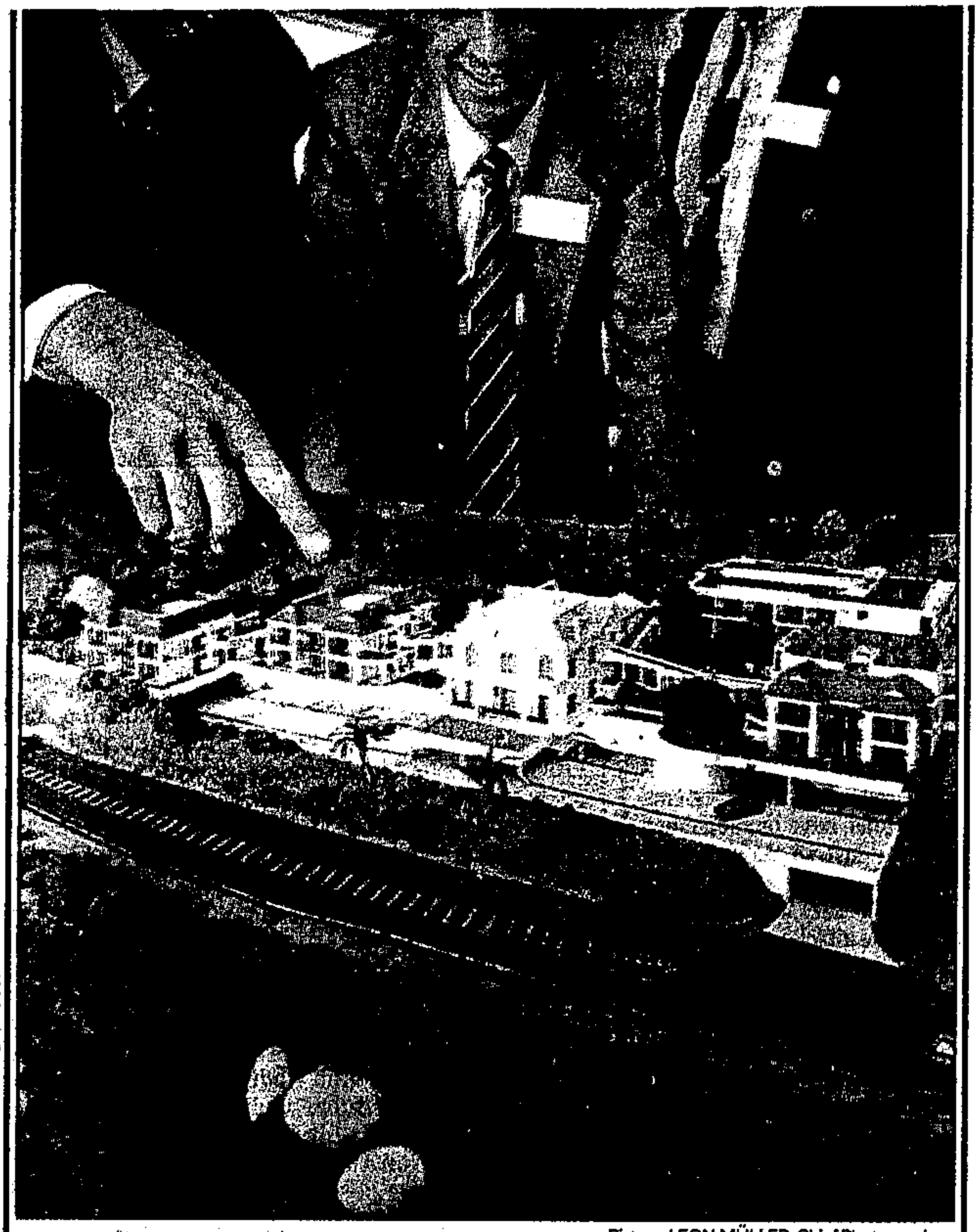
"We have suggested there be a co-ordinating team to take on the five strategic projects – Olympic facilities in Philippi East, Belhar, Khayelitsha, Bellville and Langa – to concentrate on delivery, and then a second, project advisory team of volunteers to help by giving guidance on the best ways to proceed, involving anything from tender procedures to environmental concerns."



BIG BROTHER: Cameras mounted on top of the Inforum in Atlanta monitor the Olympic Park 24 hours a day. The cameras are two of several stationed in the lamp posts and within the Olympic venues to monitor security at the Olympic Games.

CAPE TOWN
2004
CANDIDATE CITY

3/7/96
Argus
288



Picture: LEON MÜLLER, Chief Photographer.

MODEL HOTEL: Oudekraal Hotel developer Steve Jones, centre, with his architects Gary Martin, left, and Charl Steytler.

Luxury Oudekraal hotel to open doors next year

ARG 4/7/96 (288) (288)

JOSEPH ARANES
Staff Reporter

THE proposed hotel at the White House site in Oudekraal between Camps Bay and Llandudno, which has been dogged by controversy since the developer applied for rezoning in 1993, is set to open its doors during the spring next year.

Work on the site is expected to begin in the next few weeks.

Developer Steve Jones said that the R45 million development had met all legal and environmental requirements and he was thrilled that the tourist facility had finally been given the go-ahead.

The Cape Supreme Court last week dismissed an application by the National Parks Board for a review of the decision allowing the development.

Mr Jones said the Oudekraal coastal area was one of outstanding natural beauty and he wanted to assure Capetonians that this had played a major role in the design of the small country-style hotel.

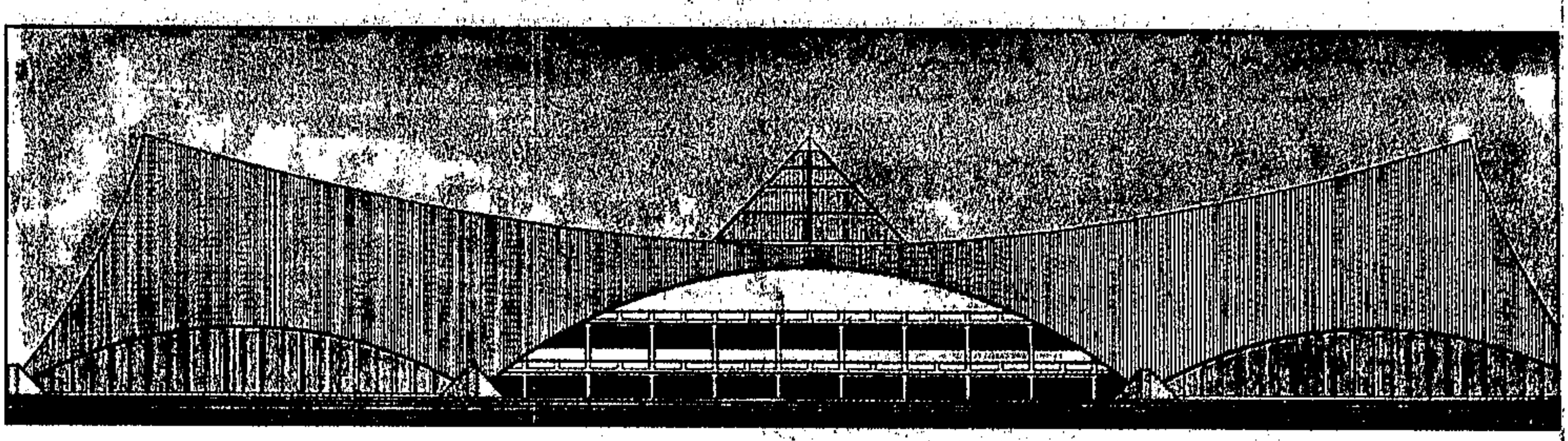
"The development of the 70-room, five-star luxury hotel with a tea garden, conference facilities and ample parking is much needed in the Southern substructure and will be a boost to Cape Town's chances of hosting the 2004 Olympic Games."

He said that contrary to general belief, the 6 000 sq m hotel site was not on the national parks boundary and was in fact surrounded by privately owned land.

"From an environmental perspective, we have complied with all the conditions set out in the Victoria Road coastal structural plan and an independent environmental consultant has been appointed to advise on and monitor the development.

"If the city wants tourists and foreign investment, it must make way for some development as long as it is controlled and environmentally sensitive."

Mr Jones said the operator of the hotel, Romcor Hospitality, trading as Relais Hotels of the Cape, was a signatory to the international environmental charter for hotels, which set out clear guidelines on environmental management.



OLYMPIC TRACK: An artist's impression of the northern elevation of the R40 million velodrome roof planned for the existing Bellville cycling track, the proposed main venue for Olympic 2004 cycling events.

Major boost for 2004 Olympic bid

Massive upgrade for Bellville sports stadium

288
ARG 4/7/96

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
Staff Reporter

CAPE TOWN's 2004 Olympic Bid has received a major boost with the approval of a massive upgrade of the Bellville sports stadium, which will include a R40 million velodrome roof over the existing Olympic standard cycling track.

In a move which will put the Tygerberg firmly on the international sport map as an integral part of Cape Town's Olympic bid, the Tygerberg Substructure's new executive committee (exco) yesterday gave the provisional go-ahead for the project.

It will include the impressive 38m-high roof structure over the existing cycle track as well as 5 000 additional permanent seats, a mini stadium, a three-star hotel and a multipurpose concrete floor.

An aquatic centre, which will include an Olympic size swimming pool and 10 000 additional permanent seats, is planned for the second phase of the project.

The new council is expected to ratify the exco decision at the end of this month.

The 250m cycling track, which forms an integral part of the Bellville stadium directly south of the Tyger Valley shopping centre, has been earmarked as the main venue for Olympic cycling events if Cape Town wins the bid to host the Olympics in 2004.

CAPE TOWN
2004
CANDIDATE CITY

The Olympic Bid Company has also agreed to contribute R5 million to the the roofing of the track, which is necessary to counter the Cape's unpredictable weather.

The plan is to create a multipurpose sports complex which could be used for sports, exhibition and entertainment activities long after the 2004 Olympics.

To make the project financially viable, an adjoining portion of council land, 4,2 hectares in extent, will be made available to a development consortium as a part of the proposal.

The land, with an estimated value of R21 million, will be developed for commercial, office and hotel purposes, to help finance the erection of the velodrome and the ancillary changes to the stadium.

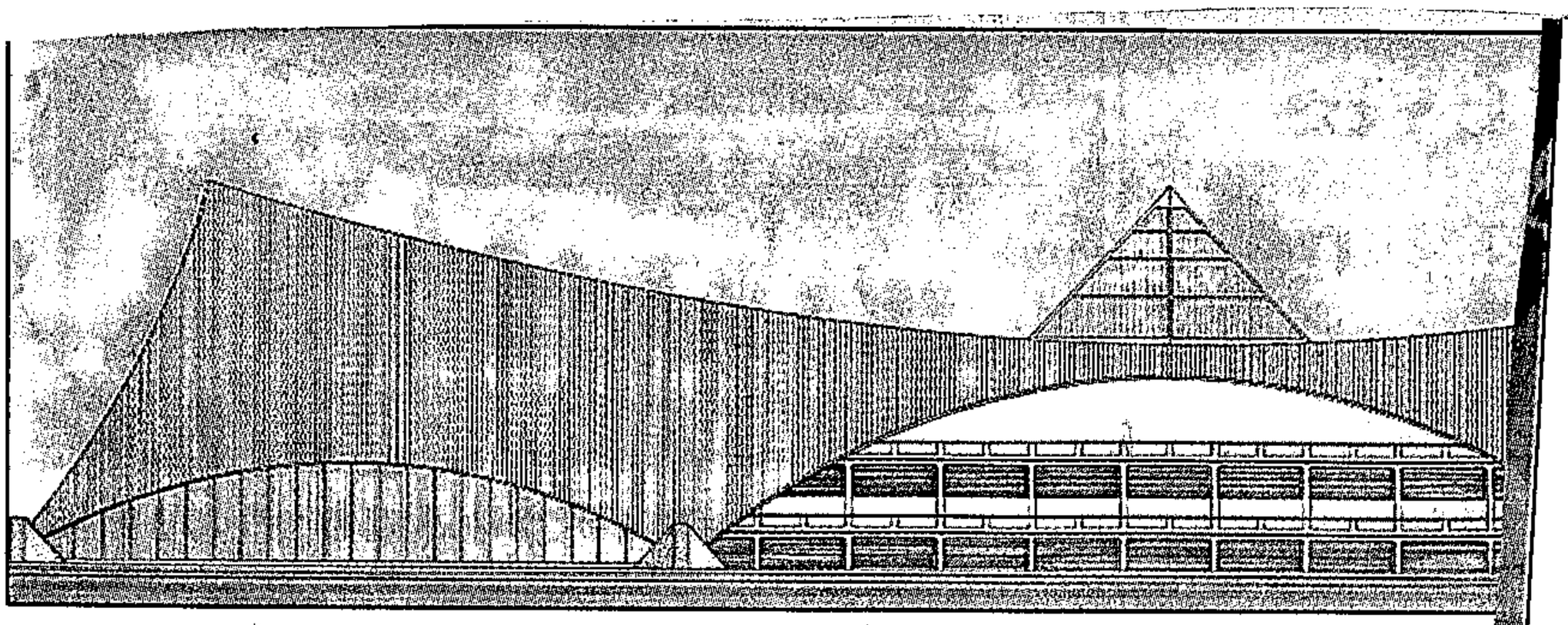
This proposed package deal will mean that the extensive upgrade of the sports centre will not cost the Tygerberg ratepayers a cent, because the cost of the velodrome and its facilities will be covered by the income generated from the projects on the council land.

Guidelines for the development of the land include 34 000sq m of offices, 14 000sq m of retail, entertainment and fitness centre space, and two hotels with150 and 160 rooms respectively.

The tender for the huge development has been provisionally awarded to a development consortium, comprising architects J. Sadan and Partners, who will be backed by Murray and Roberts, Devprop Projects and Cape Consult The roofing of the track has to be completed for next year's World Junior Cycling Championships.



INJURED RUNNER: Adri de Jongh, who is a competitor in the women's 200 metres event at the Atlanta Olympic Games, relaxes at the Lagrange training camp in Georgia, with her foot bandaged. There is some doubt whether her foot will respond to treatment in time for her to take part in the event.



OLYMPIC TRACK: An artist's impression of the northern elevation of the R40 million velodrome the proposed main venue for Olympic 2004 cycling events.

Major boost for 2004 Olympic bid

Massive upgrade for Bellville sports stadium

(288)

ARG 4/7/96

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
Staff Reporter

CAPE TOWN's 2004 Olympic Bid has received a major boost with the approval of a massive upgrade of the Bellville sports stadium, which will include a R40 million velodrome roof over the existing Olympic standard cycling track.

In a move which will put the Tygerberg firmly on the international sport map as an integral part of Cape Town's Olympic bid, the Tygerberg Substructure's new executive committee (exco) yesterday gave the provisional go-ahead for the project.

It will include the impressive 38m-high roof structure over the existing cycle track as well as 5 000 additional permanent seats, a mini stadium, a three-star hotel and a multi-purpose concrete floor.

An aquatic centre, which will include an Olympic size swimming pool and 10 000 additional permanent seats, is planned for the second phase of the project.

The new council is expected to ratify the exco decision at the end of this month.

The 250m cycling track, which forms an integral part of the Bellville stadium directly south of the Tyger Valley shopping centre, has been earmarked as the main venue for Olympic cycling events if Cape Town wins the bid to host the Olympics in 2004.

CAPE TOWN 2004 CANDIDATE CITY

The Olympic Bid Company has also agreed to contribute R5 million to the the roofing of the track, which is necessary to counter the Cape's unpredictable weather.

The plan is to create a multi-purpose sports complex which could be used for sports, exhibition and entertainment activities long after the 2004 Olympics.

To make the project financially viable, an adjoining portion of council land, 4,2 hectares in extent, will be made available to a development consortium as a part of the proposal.

The land, with an estimated value of R21 million, will be developed for commercial, office and hotel purposes, to help finance the erection of the velodrome and the ancillary changes to the stadium.

This proposed package deal will mean that the extensive upgrade of the sports centre will not cost the Tygerberg ratepayers a cent, because the cost of the velodrome and its facilities will be covered by the income generated from the projects on the council land.

Guidelines for the development of the land include 34 000sq m of offices, 14 000sq m of retail, entertainment and fitness centre space, and two hotels with150 and 160 rooms respectively.

The tender for the huge development has been provisionally awarded to a development consortium, comprising architects J. Sadan and Partners, who will be backed by Murray and Roberts, Devprop Projects and Cape Consult The roofing of the track has to be completed for next year's World Junior Cycling Championships.

Playe in pai

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG – Pai game craze in which o soft paint-filled balls at already caused serious e permanent visual loss players.

And there appears to other reports of eye injur players countrywide si

Bid site claims unresolved

Louise Cook (288)

MS 417796

THE tug of war over the Wingfield military base, Cape Town's main Olympic site, was building, with the Ndabeni land restitution committee claiming the site.

It said yesterday it would not settle for alternative land suggested by government and the Olympic bid company.

The Thabeni community, ejected from Ndabeni in 1927 by the previous government, was locked in continuing talks with government officials and the Commission on the Restitution of Land Rights.

Ndabeni, near Wingfield, was now industrialised and claimants had chosen the military base as an alternative. Up to 5 000 families could seek restitution.

If no settlement was reached the Land Claims Court would probably have to rule on the issue.

The bid tender is to go to the International Olympic Committee by August 15.

Southern Sun threatens pullout over casino tax

BD 4/7/96 (288)

Amanda Vermeulen

SOUTHERN Sun has threatened to pull out of the proposed R2,4bn Century City project in Cape Town, blaming the Western Cape's planned gambling tax regime.

The group, involved in the project through its joint venture casino resort company Tsogo Sun, said yesterday its returns on its component of Century City would be rendered "unviable" by proposals to hit casino operators with a tax bill of up to 26% of revenues.

"A large casino will generate revenue of up to R500m a year. On top of 14% VAT, an extra 12% could be levied on the operator, which would make a sizeable dent in its ability to generate adequate returns," said MD Ron Stringfellow.

Tsogo Sun CE Jabu Mabuza said the investment could still proceed, but would be scaled down if the proposed tax — the highest among all the provinces — was legislated.

Monex Investments, which is developing the Milnerton site through listed subsidiary Ilco Homes, said yesterday it was not aware of the withdrawal or scale-down plans.

Tsogo and Southern Sun announced plans in January to build a casino complex as part of the development planned for the 800ha Milnerton site, which includes hotel, retail, office and entertainment facilities.

The proposed tax regime has already led Sun International and Global Resorts — both planning licence bids— to warn their proposed developments could be reduced.

Mabuza said the province was being short-sighted. Money accruing — about R50m yearly from the proposed 12% tax — would not compensate for the benefits of cross-subsidisation by casinos of tourism infrastructure.

VICTOR

THE CAPE

Green lobby's help needed

(288) ARG 5/7/96

OLYMPIC planning is giving Cape Town a matchless opportunity to forge and implement progressive environmental policies and processes, but it is essential that the "green" lobby helps to negotiate solutions.

So says Mary-Jane Morris, responsible for the environmental portfolio of Cape Town's Olympic bid, under director of planning Peter de Tolly.

The apparent reluctance of the environmental sector to "come eyeball to eyeball with us" and try to find solutions was regrettable, she said.

Ms Morris was speaking on the eve of a major two-day conference this weekend, which will bring together bid company planners and a wide spectrum of non-governmental and community-based organisations.

Environmental concerns – and criticism from the "green" lobby that the bid has been formulated without sufficient attention to environmental impact – are expected to be a key feature of debate. Ms Morris hoped the conference would lead to "real debate".

"My view of the Olympic bid is that one thing it is doing for the city is to get people to focus on issues that are critical to its future.

"There's nothing that concentrates the mind like a deadline. This applies not only to the environmental lobby, but to the local and other government authorities, and professionals.



"There are a lot of people getting their heads around this, and there's an opportunity to use the Olympics as a vehicle to implement the sort of environmental policies and processes one would like to see.

"It's an ideal vehicle because it's such a focused project. It's not nebulous pie-in-the-sky."

She added: "Speaking as an environmental professional, the key issue is unpicking the implications, the negative and the positive. That's why we need the Environmental Impact Assessment process.

"It's not a question of selling the bid. Our environmental process is not there to sell the bid, but to critically evaluate it and make sure we make environmentally sound decisions."

She rejected the notion that the Bid Company "has been sitting on its hands waiting for the NGOs" to formulate an environmental charter.

Extensive work, including environmental assessments associated with the RDP and the Metropolitan Spatial Development Framework, "has been going on for the past six or seven months.

"If we did not go through the process of 'what ifs', we could do disastrous things, and the NGOs play a valuable role because they are very good at raising the 'what ifs'."

But there was a reluctance on the part of NGOs to enter deliberations.

Ms Morris said: "This whole business of not eye-balling flies in the face of the tradition of negotiation in the new South Africa. Let's identify the common ground and then debate the differences and see whether we can find some way of resolving them. I am hoping this will be central to tomorrow's conference.

"Ultimately, we want a healthy city that's a good place for people to live in, but we need to meet one another and find the answers."

She said she understood the NGOs' fear of co-option, but believed the Olympic bid provided a real option for discussion.

JOBS

Government hopes to pump tourism up into job creation engine (288)

ST(BT) 7/7/96

The White Paper on tourism released last week sets out guidelines for developing the SA tourism industry. **ZILLA EFRAT** looks at the government's vision.

TWO-million jobs could be created by the year 2000 if South Africa developed its tourism industry effectively, according to the White Paper released last week by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism.

The White Paper provides a policy framework and guidelines for tourism development in South Africa and will soon be followed by an implementation strategy and action plan. It says that tourism, perhaps more than any other sector in the economy, has the potential to create jobs and to create them quickly.

South Africa's tourism sector currently employs about 480 000 people and contributed about 4% to gross domestic product in 1995 — low by international standards.

The World Travel and Tourism Council estimates that last year tourism contributed 10,9% to the GDP of the world economy. Travel and tourism is also the world's largest creator of jobs, employing 212-million people.

Last year the industry accounted for 10,7% of the global workforce and provided one in every nine jobs.

Between 1995 and the year 2000, travel and tourism will add one new job every 2,5 seconds and create 125-million new and indirect jobs.

The White Paper says if tourism contributed 10% to South Africa's GDP, as it does in the US, the industry will generate R40-billion a year and create 2-million jobs.

One of the White Paper's specific targets is to increase the contribution of tourism to GDP to 8% by 2000 and 10% by 2005. But to do so, the government will have to overcome a host of constraints including crime and violence, inadequate funding, a myopic private sector, lack of infrastructure and poor education, training and awareness.

According to the document, tourism could be an engine for growth, rejuvenating other sectors of the SA economy. It could also sustain the reconstruction and development programme.

The potential for South Africa, with its diverse attractions, to increase both arrivals and spending from the overseas, regional and domestic markets is substantial. In addition, the tourism industry has the lowest ratio of investment to job creation, which means more jobs can be created per unit of capital invested.

Tourism is able to provide immediate employment. For example, if one quarter of South Africa's tourist establishments began offering live entertainment to guests, at an average of three entertainers per group thousands of performers could be employed within days.

The tourism industry draws on a multiplicity of skills from accountants and hairdressers to tour guides and trackers, providing enormous potential for on-the-job training.

The industry is able to accommodate a lively informal sector as many of its activities are within the reach of small operators. Facilitating the involvement of those groups previously neglected by the tourism industry, not only in the supply of labour services but also in entrepreneurial activities, has been set out as a priority in the White Paper.

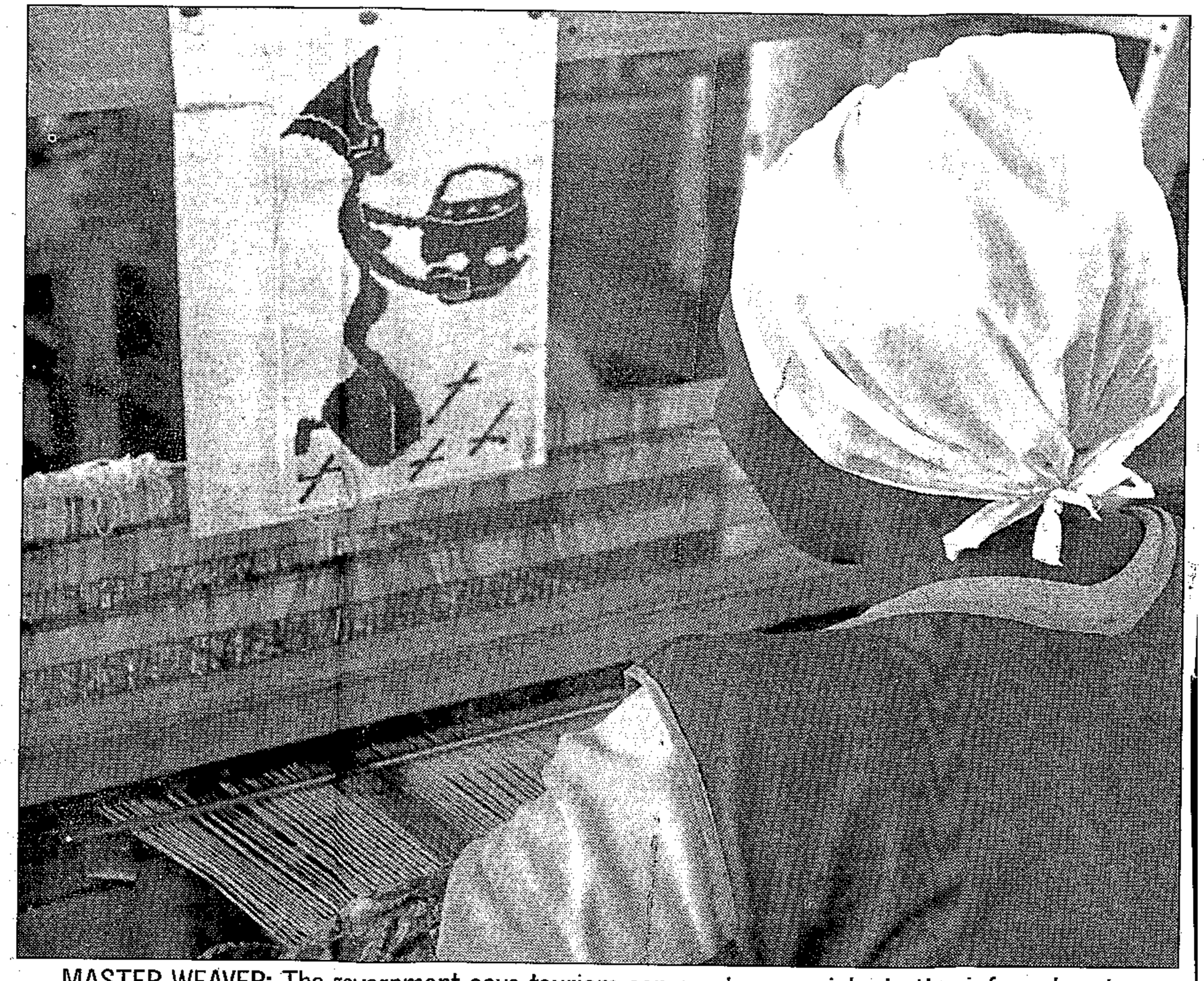
Tourism offers entrepreneurs endless opportunities from entertainment, laundry, interior decorating and construction to tour guiding, hunting services, beach manicures and selling African foods.

Entrepreneurs could also fill the gaps in South Africa's tourism infrastructure. For example, taxis and other disadvantaged transport operators could be used to improve ground transport facilities.

But the White Paper says despite these opportunities, many factors limit the meaningful involvement of local communities in the tourism industry. These include a lack of information, know-how, training, finance and interest on the part of existing establishments in building partnerships with local communities and suppliers.

To ensure responsible development of tourism, the government will encourage the development of partnerships between the private sector and local communities.

An example of how large resorts can create opportunities for surrounding communities has been demonstrated by the Sandals Resort in the Caribbean. It opens its doors once a week allowing craft providers to show off their wares and their skills to guests who view the event as a prime attraction.



MASTER WEAVER: The government says tourism can create many jobs in the informal sector

While the tourism industry has tremendous potential to create jobs, the White Paper says the government recognises that appropriate skills and experience are necessary to facilitate employment growth.

With large projected staffing needs and the lack of physical and financial capacity to deliver education and training, the industry will increasingly be faced with a critical skills shortage. The White Paper outlines various ways to boost education and training, including promoting private sector involvement and creating dedicated funding mechanisms. Access to training opportunities could also be fostered by a system of scholarships, student loans and incentives.

With lack of finance viewed as a major constraint to tourism growth, the White Paper recommends that the government consider a large initial capital injection to "kick-start" tourism development over the next three years. The government should also investigate broadening the tourism funding base through a single departure tax and review the levy system with a view to de-linking the levy from the grading system.

Gaming tax scares off hotel group

(288)(292) 4/7/96
By JEREMY WOODS
ST (CM)

HIGH gaming taxes in the Western Cape have led Southern Sun and its black partnership company, Tsogo Sun, to withdraw their support for key elements of the R2,4-billion Century City development.

Tsogo Sun has paid R30-million for land in the development, which lies alongside the N1 north of Cape Town.

Their intention was to jointly develop the tourism part of the project — one of the biggest tourism infrastructure spends planned for the Cape — jointly with the developers of Century City.

The plan was to include hotels, an international theme park, a world-class theatre and a "showplex" for major rock concerts.

But these vital tourism facilities, which would have created hundreds of jobs and generated millions of rands in foreign exchange, will now not be provided by Tsogo Sun.

It blames high taxes, pegged at 26 percent by the Western Cape provincial government, for its pull-out.

"The casino initiative was an ideal opportunity for Cape Town to benefit from some cross-subsidising with that money going into tourism projects like a new conference centre, which the city badly needs in the quiet winter months," said Ron Stringfellow, the managing director of Southern Sun.

"These opportunities have now been lost to Cape Town, so far as we are concerned, and our whole plan has been put in jeopardy. If you only have to pay 16 percent in other provinces, why bid in a province where you have to pay 26 percent?"

Stringfellow said his group was seriously debating whether they would now bid.

"It's Cape Town's loss. A great opportunity to develop the city's tourism infrastructure has passed by," he said.

The rest of Century City will go ahead as planned.

Martin Wragge, the chief executive responsible for the development, said the threatened venture with Tsogo Sun did not affect other projects.

Optimism as Goverments aids tourism

Sowetan 8/7/96

288

Industry is buoyant but real growth has slowed down considerably

By Shadrack Mashalaba

THE GOVERNMENT'S intention to increase funding for tourism has increased optimism about future prospects for this industry.

Government's move comes in the wake of the of the new tourism white paper entitled Development and Promotion of Tourism in South Africa released last week after a long-drawn process of consultations with all stakeholders in the industry.

Satour executive director Mavuso Msimango is happy with the Government's interest in the industry.

"The new draft identifies inadequate resources and funding as a major constraint for the tourism industry and recommends an urgent review of the Government's financial contribution to tourism," says Msimango.

According to statistics, tourism's contribution to South Africa's total domestic output or gross domestic product (GDP) was four percent last year. But on the other hand, it contributed 10,9 percent to the world's total output.

The industry currently employs 550.000 people in South Africa.

For every 25 people employed in South Africa, one person is employed in the tourism sector. Its biggest budget slice comes from the Government, with the rest of the funds being raised through "bed levies". This, according to Satour, accounts for an average of R20 million a year.

Msimango says due to lack of funds and the depreciation of the rand against the American dollar, Satour has been forced to review its business plans, including staff cutbacks in some cases.

Apart from the Government, Satour says it will also solicit funding from the private sector.

"Satour's board is committed to obtaining additional funding for the organisation. We are hopeful that it will be forthcoming soon," he says.

Government support

The organisation's information director, Martin van Niekerk, says the parastatal, whose financial year ends next March, has a R48 million in its budget.

"With increased Government support we hope to recover losses made as a result of the depreciation of the rand in April. Tourism is the fourth biggest industry in the country which has the potential to earn more foreign exchange in the future," says van Niekerk.

The industry is buoyant but real growth has slowed down considerably.

"Crime aside, South Africa is no longer seen as a cheap tourist destination because of skyrocketing accommodation rates.

"To stem this we will need to embark on an aggressive marketing strategy," he says.

Ackerman and Ball make peace

(288) AKG 8/7/96

MICHAEL MORRIS
on the Olympic Bid

LATEST

IN a far-reaching multi-million rand deal, supermarket magnate Raymond Ackerman's differences with Chris Ball's Olympic Bid Company have been settled and Pick-'n Pay has become a major sponsor of Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Games.

Details of the settlement have not yet emerged but the agreement is being hailed as a breakthrough. Mr Ackerman had made a claim for about R8-million which he had spent on the initial bidding process.

Mr Ackerman resigned as Bid Committee chief executive and co-chairman, and as a trustee of the bid, in March 1994 after weeks of acrimony over the then bid company's right to sign an endorsement contract on behalf of the Cape Town City Council.

The move drew strong criticism, not least from Sports Minister Steve Tshwete, who had tried in vain to broker a peace deal at the time.

Bid Company sources said today the agreement – which would see Pick'n Pay and Mr Ackerman throwing their full weight behind the Olympic effort – was an important milestone in Cape Town's bid.

Personal intervention by present chief executive of the Bid Company, Chris Ball, is understood to have been decisive in securing the deal.

Meintjes rejected any argument

nger consult wit-
cted to contribute
nment's target of
n 400 000 jobs an-
it the high rate of
ins a deterrent.
ould create more
by 2005, boosting
arnings to R40bn
sent, according to
ates released in
major initiatives
ealise this poten-
onmental affairs
ter Dawie de Vil-

a safety and se-
e, improving ac-
nd an aggressive
marketing pro-

n Board (Satour),
hat 10 000 direct
ted this year, af-

Tourism 'central to job creation drive'

BD 8/7/96 (288)

ter 20 000 last year, believed security was a critical issue

"Overall, we believe in a growth rate of more than 20% a year until the end of the century, but we will do so only if perceptions of personal safety are improved," Satour research head James Seymour said.

More than 1-million foreign tourists visited last year, more than 50% up from 704 630 the previous year. But this still compares poorly with other countries. Spain, by contrast, gets 40 times that number.

SA's position improved significantly from its ranking as 55th-top destination in the world in 1985 to number 30 in 1994, University of Pretoria tourism management Prof Ernie Heath said.

The sector would undoubtedly benefit from the rand's fall of a fifth against the dollar since mid-February, making SA and its main centre of attraction for visitors, Cape Town, a cheaper destination.

Despite being the fourth-largest earner of foreign exchange and employing more than 500 000 people, tourism was still underperforming, Heath said.

"SA contributes about 5% to GDP versus the world average contribution of about 9%," he said.

The tourism white paper said factors inhibiting tourism growth included poor training, lack of infrastructure in rural areas and inadequate funding of the industry.

Heath said SA could increase the number of foreign visitors to more than 2,3-million by 2000 and during the years until then they could spend about R100bn (at 1994 prices) in foreign exchange, creating an additional 120 000 direct and 240 000 indirect job opportunities.

Inner Cape Investment Corporation MD Jochen Beuchel was confident that Cape Town could expect about 1,5-million tourists this year and between 4- and 6-million in 2004 if the Olympic Games bid was successful.

"Over the next eight years between 200 000 and 300 000 additional direct jobs and between 1- and 1,5-million indirect jobs could be created," he said.

He expects significant increases in the number of visitors "because Cape Town has become one of the major long-haul tourist destinations in the world. Most overseas visitors stay in Johannesburg for a day, visit the game parks and move on to their main destination, Cape Town."

The economy of Western Cape could surge in terms of growth if Cape Town's 2004 Olympic bid was successful.

Sports Minister Steve Tshwete had estimated that the total capital cost of staging the games would be R7,5bn. He said more than 90 000 permanent jobs were likely to be generated with about 60% of the income gains and 50% of the employment gains benefiting regions other than Western Cape. —Reuter.

288

Bid Company pays Ackerman

CT 9/7/96

DAN SIMON

SUPERMARKET magnate Mr Raymond Ackerman has been paid about R5,6 million of the R8m owed to him by the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company.

This is part of a reimbursement deal negotiated last year when Ackerman pulled out of the bid process under a dark cloud.

And in a separate development, Pick 'n Pay yesterday disclosed that it had become a major sponsor of the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company and would be sponsoring the 2004 Olympic bid process to the tune of R10m.

In September last year, the Olympic Bid Company's chief executive officer Mr Chris Ball agreed to pay the costs of the former Bid Committee headed by Ackerman as reimbursement for the money Ackerman spent on Cape Town's 2004 Olympic Bid since the inception of the Bid Committee in 1993.

At the time, the Pick 'n Pay chairman said he had "personally stood surety" for a R5m loan from the Good Hope Bank and had spent about R2,8m of his "own money" to get the bid process under way.

Ackerman also said an amount of R3,5m was also outstanding for services rendered by consultants.

The payout to Ackerman, which amounted to 70% of the R8m, was paid out by the Bid Company last week, according to Ackerman's son Gareth, who is Pick 'n Pay's managing director for group enterprising.

The Bid Company's director of finance, Mr Mike Fuller, yesterday confirmed the payout saying the money had been raised from the company's "ongoing sponsorship programmes".

However, he refused to divulge the amount.

Mr Ackerman said his father was overseas and had been notified of the payment. The outstanding amount, he said, would be repaid "in tranches" over the next few months.

In February last year, Ackerman gave his first hint that all was not well when he announced that he was reconsidering his role in the Bid Committee he was co-chairing, because city councillors were questioning the committee's legitimacy.

Matters came to a head when he fell out with National Olympic Congress of South Africa (Nocsa) chairman Mr Sam Ramsamy who refused to sign an agreement with the Bid Committee which would allow sponsors' money to be freed to pursue the bid.

He finally pulled out of the bid process in May on the eve of the first board meeting of the newly constituted Bid Company.

Yesterday Pick 'n Pay's marketing director Mr Martin Rosen said the R10m sponsorship for the Bid Company had been made possible as the Ackerman/Nocsa affair had been resolved.

Pick 'n Pay in R10m Cape Olympics sponsorship bid

(288)
BD 9/7/96

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The Ackermans will be reimbursed the R8,5m the family ploughed into Cape Town's Olympic bid campaign and, in a separate deal, family-controlled retail chain Pick 'n Pay has committed R10m to become an official sponsor of SA's bid.

Pick 'n Pay marketing director Martin Rosen said the two deals were completely separate. He said the sponsorship deal, finalised yesterday, would have gone ahead even if the Ackermans had not been repaid because "it made sound business sense".

Pick 'n Pay group enterprises MD Gareth Ackerman said the company did not want to kill the bid, but at the same time was determined to recoup the money spent on running the bid for more than two years, including the costs of major feasibility studies.

The Olympic Bid Company already had paid the bulk of the R8,5m, and the balance would be paid in instalments during the next six months. The major stumbling block in the tough, months-long negotiations had been the bid company's lack of funds.

Rosen said that the sponsorship was only for the SA bid. Pick 'n Pay now joins an elite group of sponsors for the SA bid, including Mercedes Benz, SAA, Unifruco, Caltex, Sun International, Nedbank, IBM, V&A, Waterfront, Eskom, Primedia Ad Display, Siemens and Opportunity.

Atlanta's rush holds lessons for Cape Town

(288) Star 10/7/96

By Michael Sparks

Driving along on a six-lane highway in the suburbs of Atlanta, listening on the radio to how people in the city are worrying about how they will cope with the influx of visitors, one cannot but ask the same question of another city that is hoping to host the Olympic Games in eight years' time.

Atlanta has a well-developed infrastructure of highways, public transportation including buses and underground train service, both of which run efficiently, if a three-day visit sponsored by South African Airways is anything to go by.

But what the city has is clearly not enough, as buses are brought in from as far away as New York, to help transport residents and visitors to the capital of the "new South".

That is equivalent to driving Johannesburg municipal buses to Cape Town to assist that city with moving people around with their great influx if they are awarded the Games in 2004.

Of course, Cape Town will then have traffic jams it has never dreamt of as all the buses and cars try and negotiate the city's few major routes as regular workers continue going to work. Unless they do as Atlantans do, with stories abounding of people fleeing town and renting out their houses, with costs estimated at $800 (more than R3 400) a day for the duration of the Games.

But the influx of travellers is not the only problem. In the lead-up to the Games, the city is giving itself a major facelift, resurfacing many of the roads downtown, which is causing congestion all of its own.

The last seven years since Atlanta knew it would host the Games appears to have achieved very little, as everyone rushes around in a mad flurry to resurface the last roads, or put the finishing touches to the Olympic Stadium.

The concern of being finished in time was epitomised by a cartoon in the Atlanta Journal and Constitution showing the city's Olympic mascot Izzy, juxtaposed with a roadworker digging furiously with his jackhammer. Above the mascot, the slogan read "Izzy", and above the roadworker "Isn't ready".

People everywhere are also talking about how the city will manage to transport the extra half a million people they anticipate will want to move around the city each day to see the various events.

That is in addition to all the Atlantans who will want to go places, if not to work, when the Games begin at the end of next week.

There have also been other palls hanging over the city which came in for strong criticism, like giving its homeless a one-way ticket out of town.

A court case brought an end to that and now the homeless are being employed in various capacities including selling drinks and Olympic novelties on street corners.

But that is not to say that people are opposed to the Games being hosted in their city. It seems to have sparked a patriotic fervour.

Coupled with a trip on Independence Day, everyone seems obsessed with ensuring the Games in Atlanta will be a success.

Another feature where South Africans will have to catch up in a big way if they want to host such an event successfully is in levels of service, whether you are visiting a posh downtown hotel or a sleazy suburban burger joint.

It is normal to be greeted almost as a long-lost friend. Initially, one is sceptical coming from paranoid South Africa, until you realise it is simply the "southern way"; an all-encompassing description that embraces much of what happens in this wonderful city.

Atlanta is so wonderful, and indeed so well situated geographically, that it is understood that South African Airways is considering using its Hartsfield Airport, the country's second busiest airport (after Chicago's O'Hare) as a destination for direct flights from South Africa.

Those who are part of the Cape Town bid are already in close contact with officials in Atlanta who were part of their bid, in the hope of finding out what it takes to land the Games successfully.

But if Cape Town's bid is successful, a huge task lies ahead as they set about rebuilding the Mother City.

it won't cost a cent to earn a fortune.

For expert investment advice call us on
0800-11-77-66 TOLL-FREE.

ABSA
Insurance Brokers

SMLB E5730

Top Swiss lawyers to study Games contract

Star 10/7/96. (288)

Michael Morris on the OLYMPIC BID

TOP Swiss lawyers will scrutinise Cape Town's multi-billion rand Olympic bid contract before the council signs it to ensure maximum protection of the city's interests.

The contractual aspects arising from the Bid will be interpreted under Swiss law and disputes will be settled in the Court of Sports Arbitration in Lausanne, headquarters of the International Olympic Committee.

All guarantees required to be signed by the city council will first be thoroughly vetted by the Swiss lawyers to protect the city's interests.

City officials are also carefully studying the bid contract, and have built in a range of protection clauses, including the investigation of international cancellation insurance.

This emerges from a report to a special meeting of councillors today.

The executive and the property and economic development committees were sitting in joint session this afternoon to give first round approval to the Bid and all the contractual obligations that go with it. One of these is payment of a $100 000 deposit to the IOC.

The full council will meet towards the end of the month to ratify today's decisions. Approval hinges on the government providing an over-arching guarantee, plus promised funding, and the finalisation of cost and risk-sharing proposals. The council has reserved the right ultimately to decide whether to go ahead with the bid or not.

The Bid Book, the contractual document that binds the city to hosting the Games, and determines how the Games will be run, must be signed and underwritten by the city, and delivered to the IOC in Lausanne by August 15.

Cape Town is one of 11 cities bidding for the 2004 Games. A short list of four or five cities will be chosen in March next year, and the winning city will be announced in September 1997.

Today, councillors were considering a detailed report by the council's Olympic Bid liaison officer Peter Lever, spelling out the benefits and the risks, the costs, and details of how they are to be shared.

Mr Lever says the bid is achievable and that "at this stage it is clear the city's bid has a good chance of success". Among likely benefits, he cites economic growth, job creation, international attention and investment, tourism stimulation, provision of sporting and recreational facilities and new infrastructure such as roads, and a keen focus on solving problems related to security, transport and development.

There will also be benefits from the bidding process, even if Cape Town does not win the Games. In the event of the bid succeeding, he notes that the state "will provide an over-arching guarantee which effectively absolves the city from the onerous financial responsibilities imposed under the Host City Contract".

However, there will be some sharing of costs, and sharing of risks. Of the total capital expenditure of R7,2-billion, the national government will pay R3,3-billion, the private sector R2,4-billion, the Organising Committee of the Olympic Games R776-million and provincial and local governments R735-million.

This last sum - which will form contributions to competition venues, training venues and bulk services - will, it is proposed, be shared on the following basis: province - 30 percent (R220-million); Cape Metropolitan Council - 30 percent (R220-million); and the central substructure, plus the other five in the Peninsula, plus Stellenbosch and Paarl - 40 percent (R295-million).

ATLANTA'S TORCH: Cape Town bid company director Ngconde Balfour receives a limited edition replica of the Olympic Torch used at the Atlanta Games from Timothy Dumasi, district sales manager of the Peninsula Beverage Company, bottler's of the Coca Cola.

10/7/96
STAR
288



Picture: JACK Le STRADE. The

Levels of service in tourism a drawback

(288)

Deborah Fine

BD 10/7/96

SA's comparatively poor level of service in the hospitality and tourism industry was one of the reasons behind the recent decrease in foreign tourists visiting the country, Hospitality Industries Training Board executive director Tony Ansara said yesterday.

He said the enormous potential of the international tourist market — which had brought in R13bn in foreign exchange last year — would not materialise if the industry failed to deliver the same level of service as world class markets. Statistics had shown 47% of Far East visitors were especially critical of service levels in Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal, and would not recommend SA as a tourist destination.

In view of this, Ansara said the hospitality industry would have to reassess training needs to deliver service standards comparable with the world's best.

To ensure this goal was met, the board had developed performance standards for operators, providing the basis for the development of a workforce qualified in accordance with nationally agreed standards.

Meanwhile, the policy and decision-making body of the education department has approved the framework of a new matric subject, travel and tourism, following extensive lobbying by the travel and tourism industry to develop service standards.

The subject will be based on the travel and tourism programme, established last year by the American Express Foundation, Reach and Teach, American Express Travel SA and industry representatives.

The subject will serve to develop an awareness of the importance of the industry through a broad study of the social, environmental, economic and political effects of tourism in SA.

The programme is currently being piloted at 16 high schools in Gauteng. American Express will donate R2,5m to the programme. Partners include the Southern Sun Group, Rennies Travel, SAA, Avis, Imperial Car Rental, Fedics, Protea Hotels, Budget Rent-a-Car, Sabi Sabi and the Johannesburg Publicity Association.

'Parasite advertisers' may face charges over Olympic logo

Sports officials are meeting to discuss the legal protection of five-ring symbol

Star 11/7/96 (288)

By Cheryl Hunter

Publications and marketers which have illegally used the Olympic Games five-ring symbol may face criminal charges for similar indiscretions in future if a meeting planned between top sporting officials this week is successful.

Sports Minister Steve Tshwete, Trade Minister Alec Erwin and Grinaker Sports Management chairman Clive Grinaker (marketing agents for the National Olympic Committee of South Africa) are meeting to discuss the possibility of legislating to make the use of logos or symbols covered in the Trade Marks Act a criminal offence.

It happened during the Comrades – Nike urged runners to wear their logo during the race despite Reebok having pumped thousands of rands in sponsorship into the event.

Now it's happening again. Companies are using the Olympic Atlanta emblem, associating themselves with the games and, in the words of Grinaker's lawyers, "trading on the goodwill surrounding the games and representing to the public that they are an authorised sponsor".



Sport and Recreation Minister ... Steve Tshwete

The latest publication of Sports Illustrated, which claims to be the "Fan's Guide to the Olympic Games", was pulled from the shelves last Wednesday after the magazine was informed of the incorrect usage of the symbol.

Grinaker calls it "parasite advertising" and claims that the 10 sponsors of the South African Olympic team, who each paid R2,5-million to use the logo as official sponsors, have said they are hesitant about sponsoring the team for the 2000 games in Sydney.

"They are asking why they should spend so much money when other companies are using the same symbols for nothing," Grinaker said.

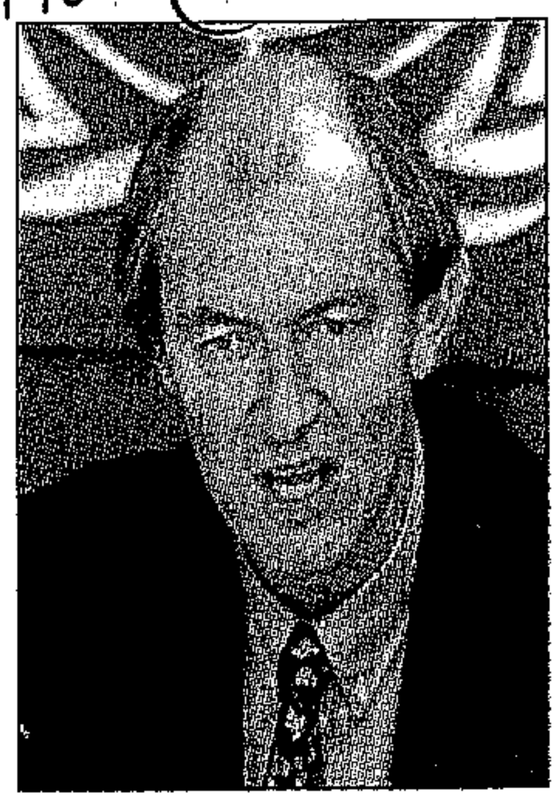
Should these companies decide to withdraw sponsorship, the R50-million expected to train athletes for the next games will not be forthcoming.

"This sponsorship money keeps us independent of the Government and enables us to train athletes properly. Without it, there simply would be no funds for training because the Government does not have the resources," he said.

"Sports Illustrated made their money on the issue with plenty of advertising by companies who wanted to be associated with the games and they were on the shelves for two weeks.

"Likewise, Spar used the logo and associated themselves with the Olympics before withdrawing it from their stores last week," Grinaker said.

His worry is that companies will continue to act illegally as long as the sponsoring companies are not adequately protected by the law.



Trade and Industry Minister ... Alec Erwin

"These glory-seekers will continue to steal from our athletes and put nothing into the future of these men and women until it becomes a criminal offence for them to do so," he said.

■ Independent Newspapers recently paid R100 000 for the rights to publish an official souvenir programme to the games.

COUNCILLORS TO DECIDE ON BID

Huge Olympic bill for city

(288) CT 11/7/96

CAPE TOWN city councillors will negotiate this month the exact amount the city will have to pay to help cover the costs of the Olympics before deciding whether to support the bid. Local Government Writer **PETER DENNEHY** reports.

THE city will have to pay the lion share of the R294 million the six new municipalities must come up with should Cape Town city councillors decide this month to support the Olympic bid.

The reason the city will have to shoulder a large share of the burden is that most of the new venues and facilities will be within the city's boundaries.

August 15 is the deadline for the Olympic Bid Company to make its submission to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on how the Games will be staged.

The three volumes of the Bid Book, which outlines how the Games will be staged, is being printed.

The council undertaking means that should the city win the bid, it will immediately sign a contract to organise the Games along the lines set out in the Bid Book.

Negotiations on how the financial burden will be shared between the six municipalities, as well as Paarl and Stellenbosch, will take place later this month.

Yesterday, deputy city treasurer Mr Peter Lever outlined to the councillors what had been decided so far.

He said the costs the provincial, metropolitan and local governments will be expected to share between September next year and September 2004 will amount to R735 million.

It represents only 10% of the total capital budget, and it will cover local and provincial governments' share of the costs of competition venues (R298m), training venues (R112m) and municipal services infrastructure (R325m).

The provincial government has agreed to take on 30% of the R735m cost, which comes to R220,5m. The Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC) has been approached to match that.

Lever said the CMC executive committee "more or less went along with that yesterday".

That left 40% of the R735m to be shared among the six new municipalities. Paarl and Stellenbosch will also be asked to help cover the costs as some of the venues will be situated there.

Lever would not say how much city officials thought its share should be.

However, he indicated there is a possibility that the city's share will be limited to "about what we are spending now each year" on new sports infrastructure, which is about R20m.

Lever felt the Games will be affordable for local government because central government was taking on much of the spending.

He believes the government has been persuaded to provide an overarching guarantee to pick up the tab should the private sector renege on any of its R1,7 billion Olympic capital spending commitments.

The private sector will be expected to chip in R384m as its share of spending on sports venues, over R1bn for the athletes' and officials' villages, and R256m for the broadcasting centres.

Assistant city legal adviser Mr Howard Firth said the government should be the bid's "banker of last resort".

He hoped that President Nelson Mandela would sign a guarantee underwriting the bid.

Arrears 'bad for Bid'

(288) ARG 11/7/96

Rethink may be needed, council warned

MICHAEL MORRIS
on the Olympic Bid

CITY councillors have been warned that unless the steady growth of rental and service fee arrears is arrested, Cape Town may have to rethink its commitment to hosting the Olympic Games.

Cape Town City Council's Olympic Bid liaison officer Peter Lever said bidding alone for the 2004 Games would yield immense benefits for the region, and winning the Games would be an inestimable opportunity.

But unless the arrears problem was tackled realistically, head-on, the city could end up with an impossible burden.

It was up to local government politicians to get the message across to ratepayers that the benefits of the Games would be seriously undermined if the arrears trend was not reversed he said.

Mr Lever was addressing a joint special session of the city's executive and property and economic development committees yesterday.

The committees gave first-round approval to the Bid and all the contractual obligations that go with it.

One of these is payment of a US$100 000 (R432 000) deposit to the International Olympic Committee.

The full council will meet towards the end of the month to ratify today's decisions. Approval hinges on the government providing an over-arching guarantee, plus promised funding, and the finalisation of cost- and risk-sharing proposals.

These will be a negotiated at a meeting of local authority representatives on July 29.

On the impact of the Olympics, Mr Lever told councillors:

"I cannot think of any other single event that we could deliberately influence that would actually boost the economy of the Western Cape for the next 10 years.

"One thing we know is that this will get us going."

But he added: "Unless the arrears trend is reversed we will have to seriously ask ourselves whether we will have the capacity to undertake the major capital projects of the Olympics.

"We must get the message out to communities that unless we start paying our way we will lose out.

"I am not saying we must get it down to zero, but the trend must be reversed. This would give us the confidence to go ahead."

The arrears burden, crime, the cost of post-Olympics maintenance of facilities and the cost to the city's cleansing and greening bill for hosting the Olympics were among key issues raised by councillors yesterday.

Mr Lever said a budgetary provision of between R100 million and R230 million had been made for post-Olympics maintenance needs, but this was an important matter that required further debate between the different levels of government.

City legal adviser Howard Firth took the meeting through the technical detail of the Host City Contract, the terms of which would be binding on Cape Town if it were chosen to host the 2004 Games.

It was deemed critically important that the government provided an over-arching guarantee.

"This means that if there are any losses, the government must be the banker of last resort," he said.

In a report to the committees, Mr Lever pointed out that just as there would be a sharing of costs among local authorities, so they would also share some of the risks.

Of the total capital expenditure of R7,2 billion, the national government would pay R3,3 billion, the private sector R2,4 billion, the Organising Committee of the Olympic Games R776 million and provincial and local governments R735 million.

A HOLE IN ONE?

FM 12/7/96

Scenic Knysna is on the verge of an ecotourism, investment and development boom driven by a mix of golf course, hotel and residential developments. These include:

- The Pinnacles, a R500m, 18-hole golf course, 250-room hotel and a 500-unit residential development on a 257 ha site overlooking the sea and lagoon. Though it still has to pass environmental impact assessment and plan and subdivision approval stages, it has received rezoning approval;
- The R280m Simola 18-hole golf course, with an 80-room hotel, sports complex and 50 residential units on a 200 ha site at Gouna, near Knysna. The first eight holes have already been "shaped" by Jack Nicklaus, and hotel construction will begin on August 1; and
- Condev's R150m Knysna Quays project fronting the lagoon beach. Work on the project — a 70-room hotel, 2 500 m² commercial complex, 127 erven and about 80 apartments — has begun.

Other local projects include about 26 wooden chalets being built at the Heads and a R16m project to build about 800 low cost houses.

Two regional infrastructural projects are also planned — a 20 km, R140m national road bypass above the town and the privatisation and upgrading of Plettenberg Bay's small Robberg airstrip.

Amtrad MD Grahame Lindop, who recently sold the Pinnacles site to P K Development (affiliate of Thailand's Italian-Thai Development Co), says facilities such as those at the Pinnacles will only succeed if Knysna is globally marketed as a tourist destination and a local airport built capable of handling jumbo jets.

California-based Ronald Fream, of the Golfplan Design Group, believes the Pinnacles "has all the attributes of becoming the most spectacular golf course development in the southern hemisphere."

Fream believes another 10-15 golf courses could be developed near Knysna, as the trend is to fly into a "core attraction" and then play other nearby courses. ■

Chain store boss back as major Olympic sponsor

(288)

By *Sowetan* Business Correspondent

Sowetan

SUPERMARKET magnate Raymond Ackerman has settled his differences with Chris Ball's Olympic Bid Company and *Pick'n Pay* has become a major sponsor of the city's bid for 2004.

Details of the settlement have not yet been made but the agreement has been hailed as a breakthrough.

Ackerman had made a claim for about R8 million which he had spent on the initial bidding process. He resigned as bid committee chief executive and co-chairman, and as a trustee of the bid in March 1994.

His resignation followed weeks of acrimony over the then bid company's right to sign an endorsement contract on behalf of the Cape Town City Council.

The move drew strong criticism, not least from Sports Minister Steve Tshwete who had tried in vain to broker a peace deal at the time.

"Bid company sources said the agreement was an important milestone in Cape Town's bid"

Bid Company sources said yesterday the agreement which would see *Pick'n Pay* and Ackerman throwing their full weight behind the Olympic effort was an important milestone in Cape Town's bid.

Personal intervention by present chief executive of the Bid Company, Chris Ball, is understood to have been decisive in securing the deal.

Six more tourists attacked in city

ARG 15/7/96 (288)

JOHAN SCHRONEN
Crime Reporter

SIX more tourists have been attacked in Cape Town's city centre as street children continue to prey on visitors to the city.

In another incident, a woman tourist hitchhiking through the Western Cape was raped in a truck by the driver who offered her a lift near Bredasdorp.

The latest spate of tourist attacks began in Government Avenue in the Company Gardens when two people were attacked and robbed of valuables. This was followed by another mugging in which an overseas holidaymaker was robbed in Adderley Street, two in Buitengracht Street and one in Coen Steytler Avenue on the Foreshore.

The tourists, from Britain, Norway, Italy and Poland were robbed of cash and valuables worth a total of more than R6 000. They were held at knifepoint by their attackers who were mostly youths and street children. None of the victims was injured in the attacks.

Cape Town police say they will step up patrols in tourist-frequented areas and have appealed to holidaymakers carrying valuables such as cameras and baggage to beware of thugs.

Senior police spokesman John Sterrenberg said crime against tourists in Cape Town had long been a major concern and a priority with police.

"We have identified loitering youths as the major culprits who prowl the streets, preying on tourists who themselves stick out like sore thumbs openly carrying cameras, video equipment and conspicuous travel luggage," said Superintendent Sterrenberg.

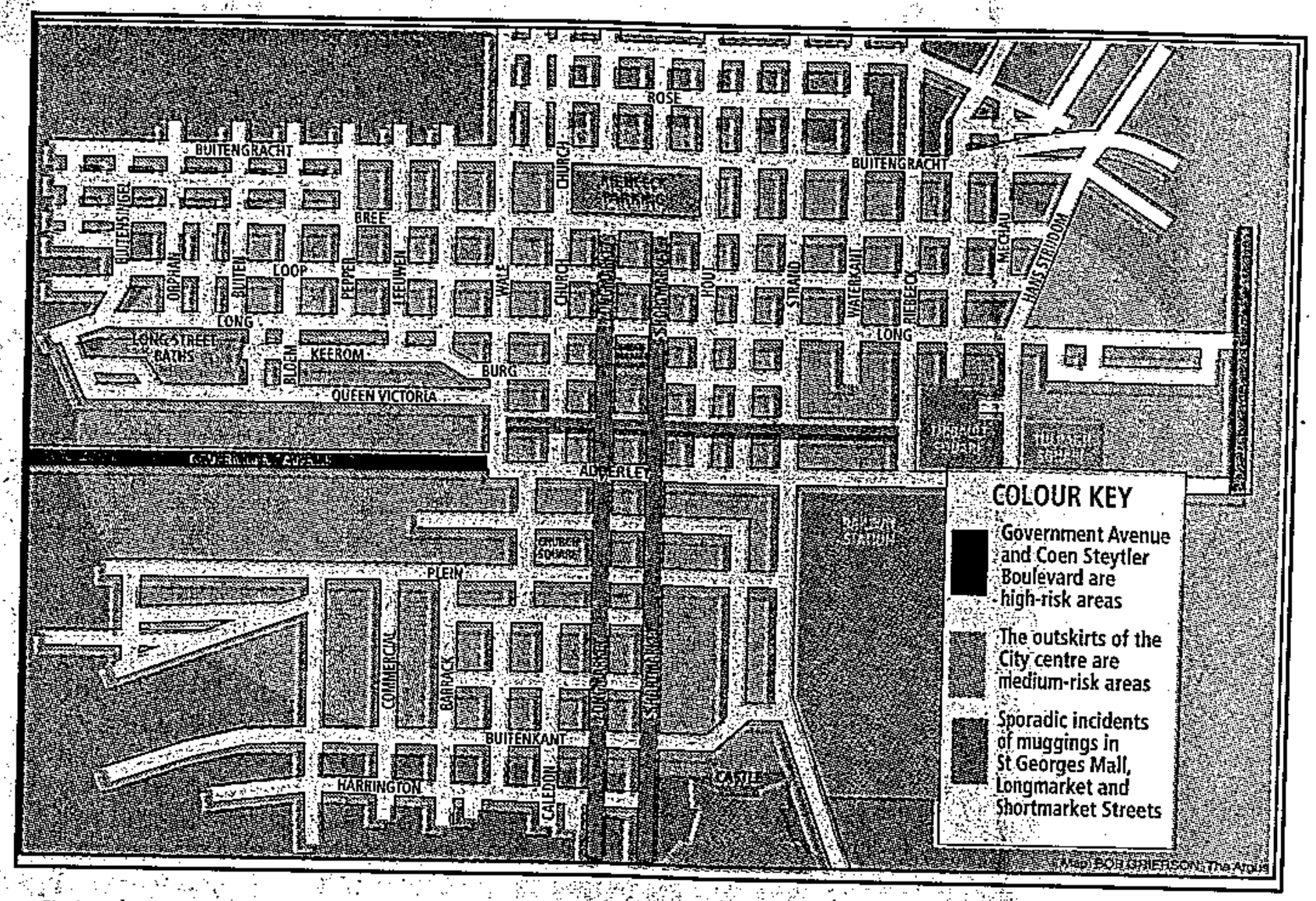
"As a pro-active approach we try to have as much visible patrols on the streets and specifically in high tourist traffic areas.

"But the street gangs play cat-and-mouse with us. When we are busy at one spot they pop up in another area.

"The ideal would be to have police on every street corner," said Superintendent Sterrenberg.

"At the moment, we have a delegation headed by Director Raymond Dowd of Cape Town Central Police in France where they are studying a closed-circuit video monitoring system of the streets.

"These electronic eyes, linked to a 24-hour base station, would effectively be the bionic eyes of the police where we could not physically have patrols."



Crime is a grave threat to the Cape Town's chances in its bid to host the 2004 Games. Cape Town Olympic Bid Company chief executive Chris Ball has warned that if the crime situation does not improve by September next year – when the International Olympic Committee chooses the host city for 2004 – Cape Town has no chance of winning the bid.

● South African Narcotics Squad detectives swooped on two city bowl homes and confiscated a large quantity of cocaine and dagga. Detectives arrested two Nigerian citizens in a raid on Friday, after they were found in possession of 80g of cocaine worth about R17 000. And in a house in Gardens, a 43-year-old local man was arrested for possession of 26 kg of dagga worth about R30 000.

Our bureaucratic Olympic squad looks overweight

(288) Star 18/7/96

Better to have sent underprivileged athletes, writes Peter Fabricius

IN WASHINGTON



Deputy President Thabo Mbeki opens the South African pavilion at the Atlanta Olympic Games today before attending the opening ceremony of the Games tomorrow.

Assisting him in this task – one must assume that the SA pavilion has very heavy doors – will be at least four cabinet ministers, one or two provincial premiers, at least three deputy ministers and an unknown number of lesser officials.

Public Enterprises Minister Stella Sigcau, Transport Minister Mac Maharaj, Correctional Services Minister Sipo Mzimela, Public Works Minister Jeff Radebe and North West Premier Popo Molefe will be among them, according to officials.

Mbeki and the deputies will be going on to Washington where they will be joined by seven more ministers and about 80 other officials to take part in the US/SA Binational Commission.

At a stretch, one could justify the size of the delegation, since that is a kind of showpiece of relations with an extremely important country. But the size and seniority of our bureaucratic Olympic squad surely demands greater explanation.

By way of random comparison, Britain is sending just its sports minister to the opening ceremony and his deputy to the closing ceremony.

That comparison does not flatter a country dedicated to the upliftment of the poor – even if the taxpayers money lavished on all those airfares and hotel rooms would only build a couple of classrooms. False economy, perhaps.

These Games are very important to SA; they are after all the first Games since the new Government took office; they have a special meaning for the ANC because of its historical rapport with black Americans – and especially Atlanta Olympics Games Committee co-chairman Andy Young – and most of all because South Africa is bidding for the 2004 Games.

All true. There is something special about these Games for South Africa. In a sense it is the South – and particularly the "New South" – which is hosting them, rather than America as a whole.

And the New South is in many ways like the New South Africa. Both are recuperating from a segregationist past and making a conscious effort to put it behind them.

No one questions the importance of the occasion; only the assumption that a large ministerial delegation has to go to Atlanta to demonstrate it.

Have they come to learn lessons for Cape Town's bid? The minister of public works, perhaps, but how do you explain the presence of the minister of correctional services?

Maybe this is flogging a dead horse; so the gravy train is going to Atlanta this time, big deal, end of story.

But there is a slightly wider issue here; the peculiar susceptibility of the Government at this time to what is after all a pretty universal malaise.

This will not be the first time that an official overseas delegation has confused business and recreation, and probably sincerely.

SA's – and especially President Mandela's – new-found popularity seems to have deceived some politicians into thinking they have a social obligation to go abroad to be feted or the world will be offended. In that they are confusing the importance and prestige of the country and President Mandela with their own.

Fear not, conscientious ministers! The world will not be hurt if you do not come to the party.

It is appropriate that Mbeki should represent SA in Atlanta but for the rest, government ministers should remember they are not the only representatives of the country.

If it were absolutely necessary for SA to have put out more flags in Atlanta, perhaps this could have been done by sending a delegation of say, underprivileged but promising athletes, ideally, sponsored by private business. (if it hasn't already been done!)

You could call it privatising the gravy train.

Cableway company bids to bring in black investors

Top UCT expert to deliver report on environmental study of R61 millon upgrade this month

ARG 17/7/96 (288)

JOHN YELD
Environment Reporter

THE COMPANY that operates the Table Mountain cableway has been making presentations to groups of black investors with a view to making its shareholders more representative of South African society.

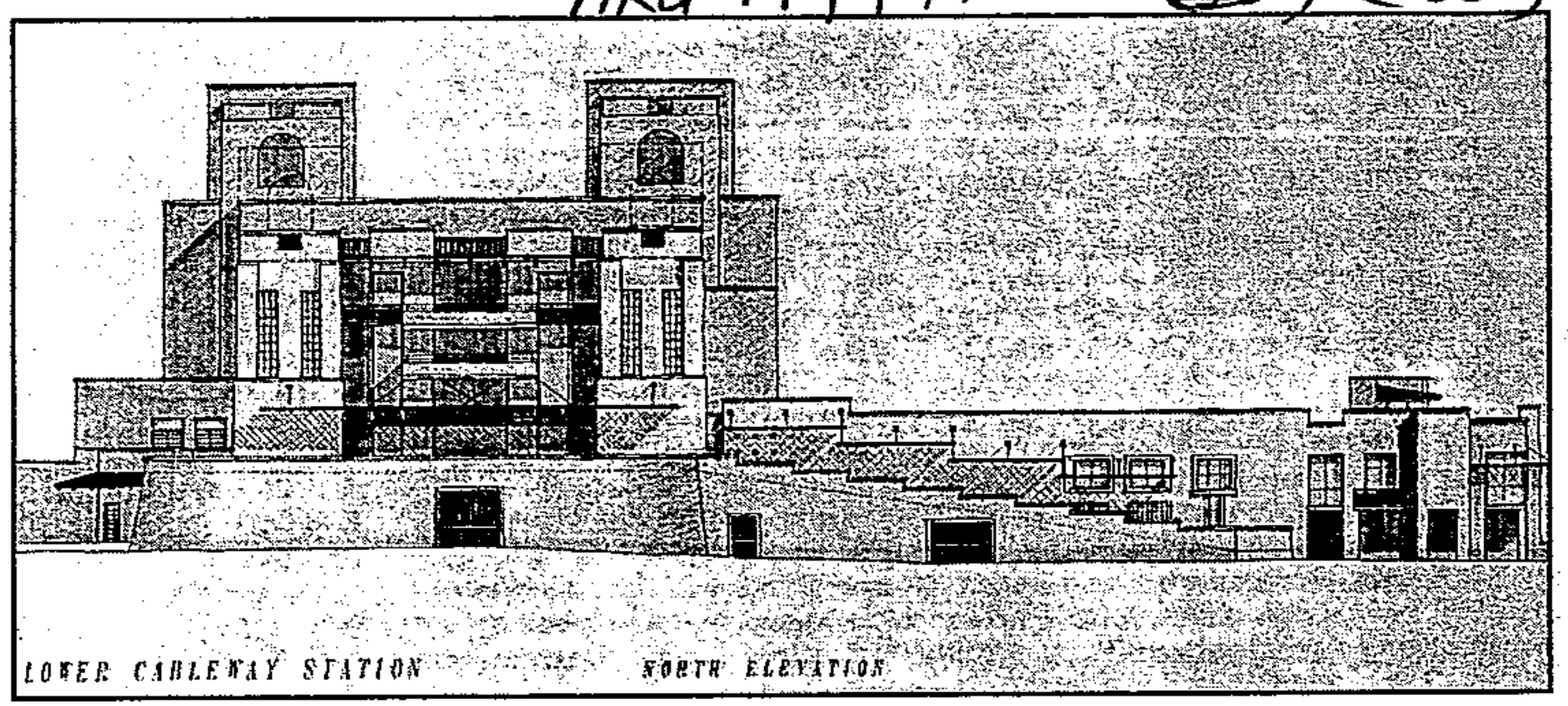
This was in line with the company's agreement with the former Cape Town city council, which leases the upper cable station area to the company, said chairman Louis de Waal.

He was speaking at a meeting of about 120 people at the Civic Centre last night, when representatives of the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company and its consultants made a presentation on the status of the cableway upgrade.

The company has conditional approval from the former city council and the Western Cape provincial government for a controversial R61 million upgrade of the cableway.

This includes new, bigger cars capable of taking up to 890 people an hour to the summit of the Western Table - more than three times the present capacity of 230 an hour.

But the mountain is a declared national monument, and the the National Monuments Council refused to issue a permit for the upgrade before a full Integrated Environmental Management (IEM) process into the upgrade, initiated last year, had been completed.



NEW DESIGN: An architect's drawing of the proposed new lower cable station on Table Mountain, incorporating changes recommended by a review committee headed by architect Revel Fox.

This decision was strongly supported by many conservationists, who accused the cableway company of breaking its commitment to the process by wanting to start the upgrade before completing all the environmental studies.

In response to an appeal by the cableway company against the monuments council's decision, Ben Ngubane, the Minister of Arts, Science, Culture and Technology, in April appointed prominent University of Cape Town environmentalist, Richard Fuggle to head a committee to investigate the entire upgrading proposal.

Professor Fuggle is due to send a report – which must not be longer than five pages – to Dr Ngubane by the end of the month for a decision, and has said he will ask the minister to make his recommendations public.

At last night's meeting, leading members of the Mountain Club and Wildlife Society conservation ecologist Marlene Laros pointed out that outstanding environmental issues, such as sewerage and solid waste disposal, and water and power supplies at the upper cableway station, would have been much closer to being resolved had the IEM process been followed as agreed.

But most members of the audience, who appeared to be involved in the region's tourism industry, supported speakers who urged the cableway company to complete the upgrade as soon as possible.

These included Nick Malherbe of the Cape Town Chamber of Business, who claimed 30 people walking up the mountain caused more environmental damage than 3 000 taken up by cableway.

"Tourism is going to be the greatest industry in the Western Cape. We want this (upgrade) project to go ahead without delay, with the proviso that there is full (environmental) monitoring at all times," he said to applause.

A speaker in the audience suggested that when considering whether to approve the upgrade, Dr Ngubane and the cabinet would take into account the fact that the cableway operators were "an old, traditional, white-owned company" and that Table Mountain was a public asset.

The company should be held to a commitment to black economic empowerment, he said.

Mr De Waal said in response that the cableway company was a public company, although not listed on the stock exchange.

"We have discussed the shareholding with several investment groups that are not my colour," he said.

He told The Argus after the meeting that the company was worth between "R40 million and R50 million".

"There are some shares becoming available. Our agreement with the city was to make the company more accessible to South Africans and that is taking place.

"We have made presentations to groups so that they can see whether to invest, but there is no giveaway," he said.

Earlier this year, the company appointed its first black director – Cape Town civil engineer Monde Skade.

Mr De Waal said the directors were considering a possible listing on the stock exchange "in due course".

Base Games city choice on environment, IOC urged

(288) CT 18/7/96

MELANIE GOSLING
ENVIRONMENT WRITER

THIRTY South African environmental and community-based organisations have called on the International Olympic Committee in Switzerland to make environmental impact assessments (EIA) the basis on which a bid city is chosen to host the Games.

In a letter to IOC president Mr Juan Samaranch, the organisations said it was accepted practice in South Africa that any large-scale or high impact development first be subjected to an EIA.

"Our sector is committed to ensuring ecologically, socially and economically sustainable development. We have agreed to be involved in a process of environmental evaluation after submission of the bid.

"However, we are extremely concerned that the decision to bid to host the Olympics in 2004 in Cape Town was not based on any environmental impact assessment," the organisations said.

They said that according to the Bid Manual for cities to host the Games in 2004, cities must follow accepted environmental practices of the host country.

"Our question to you is what type of consideration will a bidding city receive if it has not followed accepted environmental practice of its country?"

Some of the organisations who have signed the letter are the Wildlife Society of SA, Earthlife Africa, Botanical Society, Habitat Council, Khayelitsha Environmental and Tourism Forum, Coalition of Sustainable Cities, Energy and Development Research Centre, Mountain Club of SA, National Council of Women, Peninsula Mountain Forum and Western Cape Civic Organisation.

HOTEL INDUSTRY

IS THE BOOM A MIRAGE?

FM 19/7/96 (288)

Cape Town's multimillion-rand hotel boom may not be as big as forecast. After disclosures two months ago that 30 new hotels were planned, analysts now say that could be wishful thinking.

Still, hoteliers have not been discouraged from adding to the list of possible hotel projects in the Mother City.

The Cape Chamber of Commerce & Industry lists 24 potential projects and Gastro Cape MD Horst Meurer, whose company provides a "turnkey" service to the industry, recently cited 20 more in various stages of planning.

Meurer says that, in his 35 years in the hospitality industry, nowhere in the world has he seen such a quantum surge in hotel planning over such a short period. Municipal officials are now suggesting that land for suitable hotel development may soon be hard to get.

Sun International is apparently planning various budget-priced hotels with the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront the preferred location. And international groups showing interest in Cape Town's tourist market include Hilton, Hyatt and Sheraton as well as Dutch group Golden Tulip.

However, the acting head of Wesgro's economics department, Ian Marisberg, takes a more conservative view of future hotel building. He forecasts that about eight or 10 of the new hotels being planned may actually reach completion.

Occupancy rates during the past summer season pleased hoteliers, he says, but there is not enough data to tell the industry what it needs to know about the people it hosts. Now, for the first time, Wesgro is going to undertake a comprehensive survey of the hotel industry in the Western Cape, from September.

Commissioned by the Western Cape Tourism Board, the project will finally quantify tourism's role in and significance to the area. Information gained from previous surveys, he says, was never satisfactory as it had been fragmentary and offered only "smudged" data.

Wesgro's survey will look at: foreign and local tourist numbers; tourism's contribution to the gross regional product; the roles of metropolitan and rural areas; and the cash brought in to the region by tourism.

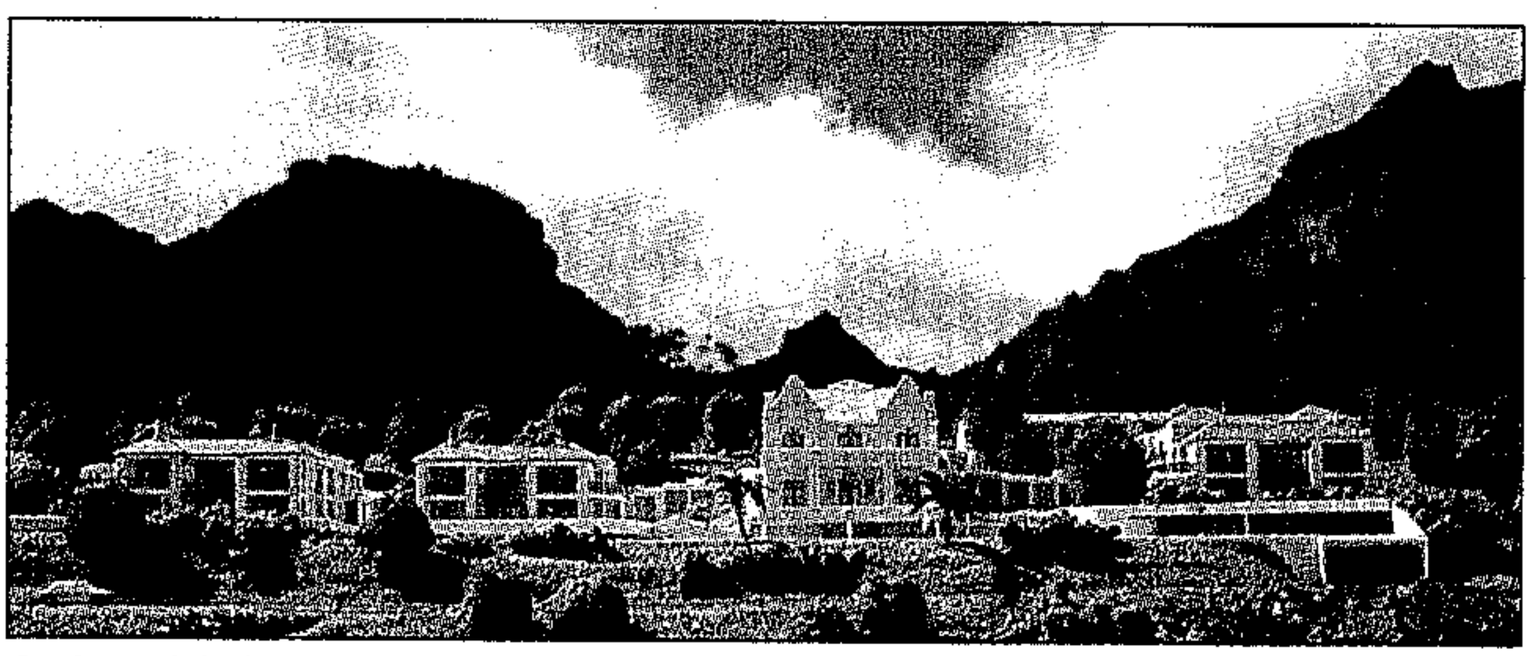
Marisberg says several such studies have been done in the past, but, for instance, the 1994 Satour survey had only 500-600 questionnaires. Such a small sample, he says, can lead to distortions.

The Satour survey found that 1,1m foreign tourists visited that year, of whom 52% went to the Western Cape. By rule of thumb, it was estimated that domestic tourism to the Cape was 10 times that of foreign tourism. Satour maintained that an extra 101 000 businessmen visited the Western Cape in the same period.

Gerald Musikanth, who chairs the False Bay Publicity Association, likewise thinks the last survey by Captour — when 1 400 questionnaires were distributed with only a 16% return — did not give a realistic picture of the number of visitors. So he welcomes the forthcoming survey.

Musikanth says there is room for lower priced family hotels in False Bay.

But he notes that False Bay had been found wanting when an international yachting competition was held there in April. Over three weeks, 700 international yachtsmen and women had been shoehorned into a limited number of hotels, lodges and caravan parks. Lodges and self-catering establishments were filled but the main shortage was in three- and four-star establishments. ■



Scale model of the Oudekraal Hotel *. . . Supreme Court cleared for go-ahead*

LAND AUCTIONS

BOMBING BADLY

The myth that Durban's CBD would prove the exception to the decentralisation rule was exploded last week at a city land auction.

There were high hopes for a successful sale of Durban's two prime Centrum sites, strategically located on the fringe of the CBD near the Workshop shopping centre, the Reserve Bank, and the NBS.

It was believed the properties would attract interest from institutional investors and property developers and would fetch about R24m. They had been valued at R15m or more. There were only two bidders and the properties were jointly knocked down to Hans Enderle of City Lodge for a paltry R2,5m and R1 respectively.

Though there was no upset price, the auction was subject to confirmation. Disappointed, the council is almost certain to rescind the sale.

The auction's failure might not be that significant were it not for the fact that a recent auction of decentralised office sites at Westville's Westway office park realised R12,5m for 13 sites.

Take-up of sites north of the city at Mount Edgecombe's Fairways office park and Umhlanga's Gateway and La Lucia Ridge is lively. Development sites worth R45m have been sold at Fairways;

the 13 000 m² Gateway complex is sold out; and the marketing of the first of the seven phases at La Lucia Ridge (approval has been granted for 117 000 m² of offices) is attracting widespread interest.

A "deeply disappointed" Estates Department director Wim van Heerden acknowledges the decentralisation factor, but doubts this was the sole cause for the failure. "The timing was wrong. Undoubtedly, we would have achieved our price target had we sold the land when we wanted to a few years ago."

Since then, he says, the area's popularity has declined. It is competing with other areas, particularly the CBD (there is 27 000 m² of new space in Old Mutual Centre in West Street), and other more decentralised areas. "I can understand why people prefer to work at Gateway rather than having to travel to the city."

Auctioneers Colliers RMS's Kevin Dunkley subscribes to the decentralisation theory: "The sale was aggressively marketed by JHI, RMBT and ourselves and there was keen interest. But the Centrum sites came on the market at a time when there are large tracts of decentralised land available. Eighteen months ago Gateway and Westway had not been announced, so any large organisation considering relocating would have targeted the CBD fringe."

Dunkley believes that unrealistically high price expectations played a part in dampening interest. "Though there was no upset price, everyone knew the council expected about R24m — though we had told them this was too high." ■

CIVIC ISSUES

THE BIG CLEANUP?

Johannesburg's Southern Metropolitan Substructure (SMSS) has committed itself to improving services. The area under its jurisdiction includes the Johannesburg CBD (with Hillbrow, Jeppestown and Troyeville) and Soweto (except Meadowlands).

Gauteng premier Tokoyo Sexwale should add impetus to the campaign soon by announcing six designated hawker trading areas in the CBD. Three of the areas agreed so far are along Commissioner Street; Hoek Street and the Miami Bazaar (eastern sector of the CBD).

Southern MSS Section 59 planning and development committee chairman Parks Tau says the TMC will employ 1 000 additional street cleaners on a contract basis at a municipal union agreed wage of R50/day. There are 1 600 workers (contract and permanent) in the southern MSS, but how the new cleaners are being allocated is not clear. Wages of permanent workers are R1 500/month, almost double the R800/month paid by black-owned cleaning companies contracted by the private sector in the Carlton Hotel area. Tau says business has made privatisation proposals to the TMC but these have to be discussed with unions.

According to Tau the clean-up campaign will focus on the CBD. He says the three-shift municipal cleaning programme introduced recently has not been successful. The TMC's emergency pavement repair programme in the CBD has also come under fire. The Central Johannesburg Partnership (CJP), which represents city business, says the use of concrete paving blocks is unsuitable for CBD conditions.

In Soweto, R40m has been budgeted for the repair of sewers, installation of stormwater drains, and for the tarring of roads used by public transport.

According to CJP executive director Neil Fraser street cleaning and security services have been adequate in the two Business Improvement Districts (bids) — an area covering seven blocks between the Carlton Centre and the Johannesburg Sun; and around the Gencor HQ. ■

DECENTRALISATION

BRUMA'S NEW BROOM

Four of SA's largest institutions have unveiled major development plans for the Bedfordview-Bruma office node in response to growing demand — apparently being driven by "the phenomenal growth" in the travel and freight business generated by Johannesburg International airport.

One manifestation of that growth, according to property brokers Russell Marriot and Boyd Trust, is the relocation of office tenants from the prime nodes to the industrial areas of Isando, Jet Park and Route 24, where office rentals are around R25/m² gross.

Brokers Bradford McCormack & Associates claim that factory and warehouse vacancies in these areas are low enough for institutions to consider new developments to capitalise on the renewed surge in export and manufacturing activity.

They say the increased industrial activity has produced a spin-off for the Bedfordview-Bruma office and retail node. Local office vacancies were at 8,5% in May — down from 13,3% a year earlier. Rentals are around R40/m² gross.

Now Liberty Life Properties, which owns the Eastgate shopping centre, plans to build a bridge across the R24 to link the centre with the Bruma Lake office park. There are rumours that it also plans to develop two hotels and more offices in the vicinity, but director Eric Bernstein says little has been finalised. He promises an announcement later this year.

Ampros, which manages Fisherman's Village and the Game store at Bruma lake, will later this year (through subsidiary Amtrad) promote a R260m mixed use development called Bruma Broadway — an hotel, offices and leisure centre — on the corner of Broadway and Marcia streets on the Game side of the lake. Investors are now being sought for the project.

Last week, Abland announced that it will develop four new motor dealerships in Bruma for Sanlam Properties at a total cost of R30m.

Once the Cinderella of Johannesburg's decentralised locations, Bradford McCormack says Bedfordview-Bruma is now attracting a host of new office tenants. These include travel, airline, freight-forwarding and import/export companies as well as financial institutions, such as Sanlam and Santam. In one of the biggest Bruma deals, 1 200 m² was let to Ellerman & Bucknall, the SA subsidiary of international ferry and freight company P&O.

Dulux SA has recently established its HQ there, and other high profile tenants include Murray & Roberts, Pick 'n Pay's regional HQ, Bristol Myers Squibb, Eagle Freight, Enterprise Foods, Homes & Hospital Dispensary, Rennies and Sasol. New tenants in the past two years are Air Zimbabwe, Air Tanzania, Royal Swazi Airlines, Uganda Airlines, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Consulate General of Cyprus and the Zambian National Tourist Board.

Abland MD Paul Kotze, who says motor dealerships tend to follow already established growth areas (new ones are planned in Bryanston and Kya Sands), says Bruma was chosen by Barlow Motor Investments because of the substantial new office and residential development in the area and the high volume of through traffic between Johannesburg and the East Rand. ■

City tour companies import state-of-the art luxury coaches

ET 19/7/96

(288)

DAN SIMON
TOURISM WRITER

A NUMBER of city tour bus companies are spending millions to boost their fleets with state-of-the-art luxury coaches kitted out with the latest in hi-tech audio visual systems and safety features.

With increasing numbers of European tourists choosing South Africa as a holiday destination, coach operators are now "fleeting-up" for the coming summer tourist season.

Three companies alone are to take delivery of 30 new luxury coaches this year. The vehicles incorporate features aimed at elevating coach travel to the highest international standards.

Springbok Atlas said yesterday that it was to take delivery of 18 new coaches at the end of August.

The new purchases would complement the 12 new coaches bought last year, bringing the company's total investment in new luxury coaches to R30 million, said managing director Mr Andy Miles.

ProTours financial accountant Mr Pieter Bezuidenhout said the company was importing 10 luxury coaches from Brazil.

It had decided to import fully built-up coaches to "relieve the pressure" on local coach builders who were struggling to keep up with the increased demand for luxury coaches.

"Since October last year to August, we will have increased our fleet by 22 new luxury coaches at a cost of about R24m.

"They are fully luxury with a four-star grading and incorporate air conditioning, heaters, a toilet and a PA system," Bezuidenhout said.

Mr Pierre Steyn, incoming manager of tour operations for iKapa Tours & Travel, said the company would be taking delivery of its first two luxury coaches in September.

"These are top-of-the-range, 44-seater coaches which cost about R1,3m each with PA systems, TV monitors and fridges," Steyn said.

• São Paulo's poor live in the outer parts of the city,

integrated all parts of the urban system to meet the

MUNICIPALITIES TO DISCUSS BID COSTS

City gets R149m price tag for Games venues

(288) CT 19/7/96

THE OLYMPIC BID COMPANY has proposed how much each of the new local authorities in the Greater Cape Town area must cough up for Games venues, writes **PETER DENNEHY.**

CAPE TOWN municipality should pay R149 million towards Olympic Games venues over seven years, Tygerberg R44m, and Northern and Southern R22m each, says a proposal by the Olympic Bid Company.

The Eastern municipality and Helderberg, Paarl and Stellenbosch should each pay R14,5m, according to the proposal — due to be negotiated at a meeting on July 29.

At this meeting, all the municipalities as well as the Cape Metropolitan Council will try to agree on the costs each should pay.

Representatives for Cape Town municipality said they were happy with the proposal, but those for Southern were not.

None of the municipalities have decided yet on their official responses to the proposals.

However, Cape Town's acting executive committee chairman Mr Saleem Mowzer (ANC) said yesterday the proposal was in line with what his council spent annually on sports amenities "in a normal budget year" — just over R20m.

Mowzer said the initial proposal would not have an impact on rates. But if other municipalities did not accept their shares, city property rates might have to be increased.

Southern exco chairman Mr Graham Lawrence said his council had not yet decided on the matter.

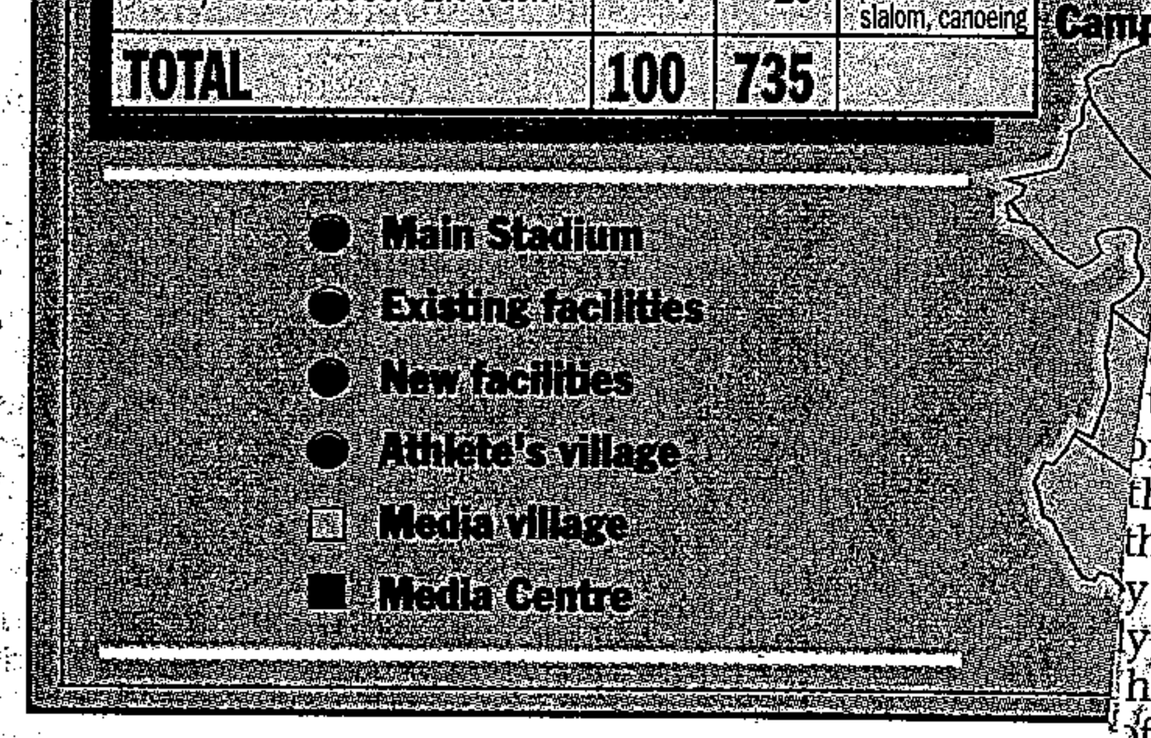
But he wanted the Bid Company to acknowledge that preparations for the Games would burden the ratepayers. "I voiced my concern as a ratepayer about the funding and the public participation, but I did not get a direct answer."

Provincial and local government's share of the cost of establishing competition and training venues comes to R735m.

Bid Company officials said yesterday that between 86 and 90 training venues were planned, but this could change. Representatives of several sporting codes will only detail their needs after the Atlanta Games.

PROPOSED

	%age	Rm	Venues
Province Administration	30	220	
Metro Council	30	220	Main Stadium
Cape Town	20	149	Venues for most Olympic sports
Tygerberg	6	44	Baseball Stadium Boxing Hall
Northern/Southern 3% each	6	44	Shooting, yachting
Eastern/Helderberg 2% each	4	29	Training venues
Paarl/Stellenbosch 2% each	4	29	Mountain biking, pentathlon slalom, canoeing
TOTAL	**100**	**735**	



integrated planning and financial management.
Curitiba's leadership, under a determined mayor,

with commercial and service facilities. This

Sun International targets Atlantic City

(288)

Amanda Vermeulen BD 19/7/96

SUN International SA's offshore arm is vying to build a $700m casino resort in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Chairman Buddy Hawton said yesterday that Sun International Hotels was still engaged in the early stages of planning and was trying to secure land before putting its licence bid together.

The plans follow the New York-listed company's decision to build a $300m resort, the Mohegan Sun, on an Indian reservation in Connecticut. The resort is due to open in October.

Sun International Hotels is also expanding its Paradise Island resort in the Bahamas at a cost of $275m.

In February the offshore arm raised $340m in an 8-million share offer in the US to finance part of the Mohegan Sun and Paradise Island plans, and to repay borrowings.

Sun International has previously said its expansion would focus on offshore developments. Sun International SA is still planning to bid for several licences in SA, applying for its first in Mpumalanga this week.

R3m cutback shock for Captour

(288) ST (CM) 21/7/96

By TOM HOOD

CAPE Town's official tourism bureau, Captour, was warned this week that it may receive only R1,5-million from the city council towards its R4,8-million budget for the year.

Captour was fully funded in the past by the city but the executive committee this week decided on a cutback to R1,5-million, a figure the city council will be asked to approve on July 30.

Captour asked for a grant towards the R615 500 cost of its Adderley Street visitors' information bureau and marketing and promotional expenses of R4,1-million.

The committee agreed to pay the costs of the bureau but only R800 000 towards the marketing budget, based on the council's 38 percent proportion of voters in the Cape metropolitan area.

The chief executive of Captour, Gordon Oliver, said the council's grant would "keep us afloat" while Captour approached five other municipalities and the Cape Metropolitan Council for funds.

"We are reasonably confident they will support us," he said.

In a letter to the executive committee, he said he expected the metropolitan council to accept at least 50 percent of the cost, leaving R2-million to be shared by the other substructures.

The funds were vital if province was to remain a major tourist destination.

"Working under our current budgetary limitations severely short-changes our city and its people," he said.

Tourism was the industry with the best potential for generating new money and enlarging the city's tax base through business expansion and development.

"If we do not market ourselves aggressively we will simply not be able to meet these needs and our tourism industry, currently contributing R3-billion a year, will wither and die."

Airport revamp in dump jeopardy

ARG 22/7/96

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
Staff Reporter
(288)

THE BIG upgrade to Cape Town International Airport, which is crucial to the city's 2004 Olympic bid, could be jeopardised if a dispute over additional power supply to the airport is not resolved soon.

Airport engineer Louis Pretorius said no extensions would be possible if Eskom's electricity supply to the airport was not increased soon. The airport was already using most of its supply.

But an ongoing row between Eskom and residents of Belhar over the erection of overhead power lines between Belhar and airport substations is threatening to jeopardise the urgently needed power boost.

Eskom is one of 12 principal sponsors of Cape Town's 2004 Olympic bid. The sponsors will provide a total of R85 million for the bid process.

The critical date for the completion of the 66kV circuit power lines to serve the airport is in February next year, but Eskom has not been able to get the green light for construction from the Belhar community.

Eskom has been trying for more than a year to get the go-ahead for the project from the Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC).

The CMC approved it in principle, but rejected the construction of overhead power lines through Belhar on the basis that most residents were opposed to it.

Eskom media spokesman Charles Cooper confirmed that the present power supply to the airport would be insufficient.

"We cannot delay it (the construction of the new power lines) any longer," he said. "It is critical that these lines are in place by February."

Mr Cooper blamed the CMC for the delay. Eskom has already approached the new Tygerberg council in a desperate attempt to get the CMC decision overturned.

Mr Cooper said the cost of laying underground cables in the one-kilometre stretch through Belhar would add another R5,2 million to the cost of the project, which was "unacceptable" to Eskom.

"An independent survey of the 48 affected households has shown 62 percent of them approve of the overhead lines," he said.

This was disputed by the CMC chief of engineering services, Chris Atkins, who said the survey showed that a number of residents remained opposed to the lines.

The alleged lack of support was confirmed by Desmond Poole, former Belhar mayor and chairman of the local residents' association, who said the public participation process had not been broad enough.

Environmentalists vs Olympic planners: The 2004 bid in different shades of green

(288) ARG 22/9/96 (5b)

Over 30 local organisations have expressed extreme concern over the lack of proper environmental assessment surrounding Cape Town's 2004 Olympic bid. JOHN YELD, Environment Reporter, investigates.

Officials insist they are committed to appropriate environmental assessment before moving ahead with their plans for Cape Town's 2004 Olympic bid, reports MICHAEL MORRIS, Olympic Bid writer.

A GROUP of more than 30 local organisations have told International Olympic Committee (IOC) president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, they are "extremely concerned" that Cape Town's bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games is not based on proper environmental impact assessments.

And one of them – the Botanical Society – has told Cape Town Olympic Bid Committee chief executive Chris Ball that reference to it in the city's draft Bid Book for submission to the IOC in August is "misleading".

Lee Jones, the Botanical Society's co-ordinator: search and rescue project, told Mr Ball in a strongly worded letter that while the society has been participating in the Bid process and in the environment working group, this did not constitute support for the Bid.

The comments in the draft version of Cape Town's Bid Book relating to Theme Four (the environment) were "misleading and of grave concern", Ms Jones said.

"The groups mentioned in the draft have been working together to ensure that the environment is not forgotten in the flurry of big finance and corporate interest for the Bid.

"It would appear, however, that this may have been a significant mistake on some levels since the Bid Company's phrasing of issues ... is ambiguous.

"It 'appears' erroneously as if we, as the Botanical Society, individually and as part of the working group, have been supporting the bid ...

"Should the name of the Botanical Society appear in the final draft of the Bid Book without unambiguous statement that the Society's participation does not under any premise constitute support for the bid, it will be construed as prevarication and a misrepresentation of fact."

This concern is echoed in the letter to Mr Samaranch, signed by Marlene Laros of the Wildlife Society on behalf of the Olympics Environment Working Group, a collective of more than 30 organisations concerned with the environment and development-related issues.

The letter states that South Africa will be submitting a bid for Cape Town to host the 2004 Olympics before any environment impact assessments (EIAs) have been completed.

Such EIAs are accepted environmental practice in South Africa for any large-scale or high-impact development projects.



CONTACTED: IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch.

"Our sector is committed to ensuring ecologically, socially and economically sustainable development.

"We have agreed to be involved in a process of environmental evaluation after submission of the Bid.

"However, we are extremely concerned that the decision to bid to host the Olympics in 2004 was not based on any EIAs.

"We must impress on you that our involvement in any aspect of the Bid does not constitute support for Cape Town bidding for, or hosting of, the Olympic Games in 2004," said the letter.

The IOC had instituted "environment" as the third pillar of Olympianism, the letter noted. The IOC had also adopted the principle of including environmental considerations and obligatory ecological studies in the process of evaluating cities bidding to host the Games.

"As organisations committed to ecologically, socially and economically sustainable development, it is our collective opinion that EIAs should be the basis on which the decision is made to host the Olympic Games," said the letter.

OLYMPIC Bid Company planners have reaffirmed their commitment to comprehensive environmental impact assessments, engaging the green lobby in finding sustainable solutions and advancing the cause of ecological preservation.

The planners say local government planning over several years, into which the bid plans have been integrated and which have given shape to the bid, follows the key principles of nationally and internationally-recognised environmental philosophy.

At the heart of the debate is criticism from environment and development organisations that the Bid Company is submitting the bid for the 2004 Games without having done Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) within the terms of the accepted Integrated Environmental Management (IEM) framework.

But the Bid Company argues it is committed to ongoing site-specific EIAs, as well as an over-arching strategic assessment (which goes beyond International Olympic Committee requirements) and to involving the non-governmental sector in planning and carrying them out. This has been made clear to the IOC in the Bid Book, the contractual document that is the basis of Cape Town's bid.

There is palpable frustration in the Bid Company at what it perceives to be an inability or unwillingness on the part of the environmental lobby to engage constructively on the basis of principled negotiation, for the sake of the environment they are so eager to preserve.

Bid company environmental planner Mary Jane Morris said the "principles underpinning the Metropolitan Spatial Development Framework (MSDF) – created by metropolitan local government planners – correspond very well with the principles of IEM: public participation, informed decision-making, accountability, checks and balances in terms of development and undertaking appropriate development in appropriate locations".

"So the fact that the Olympic plan is founded on the RDP, the MSDF and (another similar plan) the Metro South East Plan means we are very much in line with the philosophy incorporated in the IEM."

It was the principles of the IEM that were critical to its successful application.

"Some argue that if you do not follow the IEM step by step to the nth degree, you are not following the process.

"But most professionals agree that the IEM is a framework and as such can be applied, it's flexible.

"What's critical is the principles, rather than following it step by step.

"The bid company is committed to this framework and to site-specific EIAs and in that context, I find it difficult to understand why it is necessary to raise the whole EIA issue with the IOC.

"The responses in the Bid Book are clear – that it's ongoing and that the EIAs are not completed," said Ms Morris.

The Bid Company was "trying to find a balance between moving things forward and not being pre-emptive".

"It would be useful in terms of our agreement with the environment lobby to have their thoughts on the environment charter as part of starting EIAs, but we have not heard from them yet," she said.

Ms Morris also argued that the environmental studies and critiques done so far by the Bid Company "are well within the bounds of IEM".

"They are part of it: IEM is always a process where you identify the level of impact assessment required and these studies are part of identifying that level of assessment," she said.

Peter de Tolly, planning director of the Bid Company, noted: "I would be very surprised if the environmental organisations on the Environment Working Group were to differ from the overall philosophy or the environmental philosophy of the Bid.

"What we are talking about in the bid is infinitesimal in contrast to the quantum of urbanisation which this metropole will see between now and 2015.

"Our population will grow by one million people and if the present low-density housing policy continues, that's the major challenge facing the Cape Flats.

"What we are trying to do with the Olympics is put into place those sub-centres so badly needed, to serve present and future communities, in advance."

"We are not defensive about our position," he said.

"We are not embarrassed about what we have done. "We have done the best we could with the time and resources available and we have tried to keep the debate open ... and we have turned down options on environmental grounds."

Upgrade to airport on hold as suburb digs in its heels

(288)

Cape Town – A major upgrade to Cape Town International Airport, crucial to the city's 2004 Olympic bid, could be jeopardised if a dispute over additional power supply to it is not resolved soon.

Airport engineer Louis Pretorius said no extensions would be possible if Eskom's electricity supply to the airport was not increased. The airport was already using up most of its supply. Star 23/7/96

But an ongoing row, between Eskom and residents of Belhar over the erection of overhead powerlines between the suburb and airport substations, is threatening to jeopardise the urgently needed power boost.

Eskom is one of 12 major sponsors of Cape Town's 2004 Olympic bid. The sponsors will provide a total of R85-million for the bid process.

The critical date for the completion of the 66kV circuit power lines to serve the airport is in February, but up to now Eskom has not been able to get the green light from the Belhar community, for its construction.

Eskom has been trying, for more than a year, to get the go ahead for the project from the Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC) as the relevant local authority.

The CMC approved it in principle, but rejected the construction of overhead power lines through Belhar on the basis that the majority of locals were opposed to it.

Eskom media spokesman Charles Cooper confirmed that the current power supply to the airport would be insufficient in the light of the proposed developments.

"We cannot delay it (the construction of the new power lines) any longer. The demand at the airport and in the surrounding airport industrial areas is growing rapidly and time is running out," he said.

Cooper said the cost of laying underground cables in the one-kilometre stretch through Belhar would add another R5,2-million to the cost of the project, which was "unacceptable" to Eskom.

Who will pick up tab for Bid?

(288) ARG 23/7/96

ANDREA WEISS
Metro Reporter

LOCAL authorities meet on July 29 to reach agreement over the cost-sharing arrangements for the city's Olympic Bid.

In an important step yesterday, the Cape Metropolitan Council's executive committee recommended that it pick up 30 percent of the local and provincial government's share of hosting the Games in 2004. In terms of the current budget this will amount to R220 million.

This amount also matches the figure already pledged by provincial government.

Local and provincial government are being asked to put up R735 million towards the estimated R7,2 billion capital expenditure a successful bid will generate. Other sources of income will be national government, the private sector and the organising committee for the Games, with national government expected to provide an over-arching guarantee for the total cost.

A proposal which will be put forward at the July 29 meeting is that the City of Cape Town should put up R149 million (20 percent of the local/provincial government share), Tygerberg R44 million (six percent), Northern and Southern substructures R44 million together, Eastern and Helderberg R29 million (four percent), and the Paarl and Stellenbosch councils also a joint R29 million.

Agreement on cost-sharing has to be reached by July 31 for the bid to proceed.

During a briefing session, deputy city treasurer Peter Lever told the CMC's executive committee that one of the biggest risks was construction cost inflation if demand for construction exceeded supply. He said this could impact seriously on local government, which had "less elastic" budgets than central government.

There also had been a plea to central government for VAT exemption for Olympic projects because the tax added 14 percent to all the costs. This had not been resolved yet.

Further costs were the high deposits required by the International Olympics Committee (a total of $5 million (R21,5-m) by 2004) and post-Games operating costs of large facilities such as the indoor arena, swimming complex and Olympic stadium.

These three facilities, which are regional in nature, are likely to fall under the control of the CMC after the Games.

Mr Lever said a Joint Olympic Funding and Development Agency (Jofada) would be formed to manage Olympic funding.

Cape Town rated tops as foreign tourists' prime destination in SA

ASHLEY SMITH
Staff Reporter

(288)
ARG 23/7/96

CAPE Town has advanced its position as prime destination for foreign tourists to South Africa, with figures for the first half of this year showing an increase of 37 percent over the same period last year.

Statistics issued by the Cape Chamber of Commerce show the Western Cape "sitting pretty" as foreign tourists flock to enjoy its scenic beauty and favourable exchange rates.

Nick Malherbe, chairman of the tourism committee for the Cape Chamber, said: "The number of overseas flights has increased dramatically to at least three flights a day, with consistently full aircraft."

Continuing on a wave of optimism, Mr Malherbe said: "A 1996 total in excess of 400 000 overseas visitors and 1,6 million domestic visitors through Cape Town Airport is envisaged."

Cape regional director of the South African Tourism Board Theuns Vivan said the "overall economic climate and the amount of disposable income" has impacted positively on the tourism industry in the Western Cape.

Of the 1,1 million overseas visitors to South Africa last year, 49 percent visited the Western Cape.

Key statistics from the South African tourism industry show that the average international tourist spends R16 100 during a visit to South Africa.

This figure includes airfare, prepaid expenses, accommodation, meals, gifts, transport and entertainment.

In 1995, tourism earned South Africa a whopping R13 billion and was the fourth highest earner of foreign exchange.

However, James Seymour, head of the research and information department at the South African Tourism Association in Pretoria, was less enthusiastic about the growth of tourism nationally.

"Growth was relatively slow and projected increases didn't materialise. There was only a 2,5 percent increase in cumulative total growth in the foreign visitor market."

He said growth had been "phenomenal" last year and that it was unreasonable to expect a substantial increase "on those figures".

San Vito developing its second sectional-title hotel in Cape Town

(28s) CT(BR) 24/7/96

By Marc Hasenfuss

CAPE EDITOR

Cape Town — San Vito Development, which has been resuscitated after serving a two-year suspension from the JSE, has concluded negotiations for a second hotel of sectional-title suites.

The company's newest venture, the Pier Place Club Suites Hotel in Cape Town's CBD, is a joint venture with Seeff Holdings and Protea Hotels. The development is in line with San Vito's new shareholders' intention to transform existing properties into hotels.

San Vito, which previously traded as Faircape Homes, was suspended in May 1994 after a Reserve Bank investigation into the company after a multimillion-rand foreign-exchange scam.

Last month a consortium of high-profile businessmen snapped up a controlling stake in the property development company. They included Dennis Davis, the academic and television personality, Monty Kaplan, the former chairman of Cape of Good Hope Bank, and Phillip Joffe, the financial director of Spur.

They acquired their stake from the liquidators of the estate of Saverio Polero, the former controlling shareholder who fled the country on hearing of the Reserve Bank investigation.

Allan Groll, the managing director of San Vito, said work had begun to convert the AA Life Building in Cape Town's Tulbagh Square into the Pier Place Club with 56 sectional-title suites.

This company's sectional-title Bantry Bay Hotel opens for business next month.

Groll said the Bantry Bay Hotel was heavily sold and that judging from bookings for the summer months the development should exceed the returns of its projections when it was launched.

He said the plan for the Pier Place Club Suites was to create a hotel with a business club atmosphere. The sectional-title suites would be sold to investors with an initial projected return of 14 percent on 65 percent occupancy.

The newest venture is a joint one with Seeff Holdings and Protea Hotels

"Protea Hotels in the immediate area are currently running in excess of 75 percent, so we don't believe that our predictions of 65 percent are in any way optimistic.

"We've already proven that our predictions for the Bantry Bay were far too conservative," Groll said.

San Vito's shares rose 3c to 43c on the JSE yesterday.

Councillors angry as Bid company doesn't arrive

ARG 24/7/96 (288)

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
Staff Reporter

CAPE Town's Olympic Bid company which wants local authorities to put up big money to sponsor the 2004 bid, has infuriated the Eastern substructure by failing to arrive for a meeting to explain its plea for cash.

A bid company delegation was to address the full council of the Eastern substructure at its monthly meeting last night, but did not arrive.

The presentation would have been to inform councillors of the financial implications for the metropole, to enable them to make an informed decision about the substructure's possible contribution.

The bid company wants the substructure to commit R14 million over the next eight years. The contract must be signed before July 31 in time for the formal submission of the bid on August 15.

"The council was very disappointed and we felt if this was going to be their attitude, then they must not expect a financial contribution from us," said mayor Jacobus Brynard.

He said the bid company had sent a fax to each of the councillors to say they would not be able to attend the meeting because of a communication problem, for which the company accepted full responsibility.

Exco chairman Daniel de la Cruz, who has been dealing directly with the company representatives, also expressed his disappointment with the company, saying the "ball was now in their court."

He said the bid company expected money, but did not appear to be serious: "How can they expect the council to make a final decision if we have not been properly informed?"

Local and provincial government are being asked for R735 million towards the estimated R7,2 billion capital expenditure a successful bid will cost.

●The Bid company said today it accepted full responsibility for the lapse, and had apologised to each councillor.

"There was an unfortunate misunderstanding, for which we accept full responsibility," a spokesperson said.

Bid company financial director Mike Fuller, who is in Atlanta, would send a full financial motivation to Eastern substructure councillors today, she said.

Asking R14-m, but Olympic Bid company misses key talks

Star 25/A/96 (288)

Cape Town – The city's Olympic Bid company, which wants local authorities in the area to put up big money to sponsor the 2004 bid, has infuriated the Eastern substructure by failing to arrive for a meeting to explain its plea for cash. A delegation was scheduled to address the full council of the Eastern substructure at its monthly meeting on Tuesday night, but they did not turn up.

The purpose of the presentation was to inform the councillors about the financial implications of the bid for the metropole and enable them to make an informed decision about the substructure's possible contribution. The bid company wants the substructure to put up R14-million and the contract has to be signed before the end of the month in time for the formal submission of the bid on August 15.

"The council was very disappointed and we felt if this was going to be their attitude, then they must not expect a financial contribution from us," said mayor Jacobus Brynard.

Exco chairman Daniel de la Cruz, who has been dealing with the company representatives, also expressed his disappointment with the company, saying the "ball was now in their court".

He said the bid company expected money, but did not appear to be serious about the whole issue. "How can they expect the council to make a final decision if we have not been properly informed?" he asked.

He added that R14-million was a very large sum of money, which the substructure could not afford. Local and provincial government are being asked to put up R735-million towards the estimated R7,2-billion capital expenditure a successful bid will cost.

Agreement on cost-sharing has to be reached by July 31 for the bid to proceed.

The Olympic Bid company could not be reached for comment. – Own Correspondent.

TOMORROW'S BIG SPENDERS

Backpacking boom in city

(288) CT 25/7/96

IT IS ESTIMATED that during the peak holiday season last summer there were between 1 500 and 1 800 backpackers in the city. These young travellers are seen as tomorrow's repeat tourists. **DAN SIMON** reports.

TODAY'S backpackers are tomorrow's big spenders — this is the message for the city's tourism industry, as figures show that on any given day during the peak holiday season last summer, there were between 1 500 and 1 800 of these informal travellers in Cape Town.

And with the steady growth of backpacker establishments in the city over the past three years, role-players in the tourism industry are beginning to take serious note of the potential of these young travellers as tomorrow's repeat tourists.

Most are students who travel the world in small groups and often seek out hidden cultures, away from mainstream tourist areas and crowded beaches.

They live on low budgets, overnight in inexpensive hostels and club together for meals and sightseeing trips. The real money surfaces when opportunities to bungi jump, abseil or diving present themselves in the far-flung corners of the world.

Another characteristic setting them apart from conventional tourists is the length of their visits.

Captour chief executive Mr Gordon Oliver said: "Although their daily spending may be less than the average tourist, these youngsters spend much more time in our city.

"In the long term these are our future repeat tourists.

"From a marketing point of view, we have got to attract backpackers and encourage them to stay."

Mr Leon Cronjé, owner of the Lion's Den backpacker lodge in Long Street, estimated that on any given day during the peak holiday season last summer, there were between 1 500 and 1 800 backpackers in the city.

Ms Fiona Jones, the city's marketing and public relations manager for Hostelling International South Africa (HISA), said growth in the number of backpacker beds in the greater Cape Town area between 1993 and 1996 had risen by 121% — from 799 to 1 763.

"Greatest growth areas in bed numbers are Long Street, New Church Street and Sea Point."

HISA has 23 full-member youth hostels in the Western Cape and 37 throughout the country.

Although no accurate research exists on the growing backpacker industry in Cape Town, hostel owners and managers estimate that each backpacker spends about R150 a day in the city.

Cronjé said: "It is the cheapest way to see the world. Backpacking in South Africa is booming, with travellers tending to stay in the city for one to three weeks.

"From the tourist industry's point of view they are very good for business as they create good income for Cape Town."

Mr Stephen Atkinson, the owner of Long Street Backpackers, pointed out that although backpackers tended to seek out the cheapest accommodation available, they also looked for a clean environment with hot water.

British backpacker Mr Neil Sarkar, 21, a medical student at the University of London, said the backpacking bug bit him when a number of countries "opened up" before him in a dream.

"This is the 10th country I am visiting in seven weeks, on a budget of about $1 500 (R6 600)."



TOMORROW'S REPEAT TOURISTS: International backpackers are flocking to Cape Town. Here Laurent Ballut, from France, and Natasha Doyon, from Canada, map their next move.

PICTURE: THEMBINKOSI DWAYISA

Atlanta chaos 'good for Cape bid'

(288) BD 25/7/96

CAPE TOWN — The logistical chaos that had marred the Atlanta games would help Cape Town's bid to host the 2004 Olympics, a director of the city's bid committee said yesterday.

"The chaos is reinforcing Cape Town's case," Ronnie Kingwill said, describing Cape Town's plan for the Olympics as one appropriate for the developing world.

"Cape Town's proposition is not for a gigantic affair like Barcelona, Atlanta or Sydney. We will work within our capacity," he said. Barcelona staged the 1992 Olympics and Sydney will stage the next games in 2000.

"We don't have the accessibility for huge amounts of people that Atlanta has. There aren't enough planes flying here, for one thing."

Kingwill said spectating at future games would shift towards TV coverage from live attendance. A team from the Cape Town bid committee was in Atlanta and would study what had gone wrong between the planning stage and implementation, he said.

The International Olympic Committee will decide by September 5 next year which city will stage the 2004 Games. Athens, Rome, Stockholm and Cape Town have been tipped as favourites, but Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, San Juan, Seville, St Petersburg, Lille in France and Istanbul are also in the running. — Reuter.

TOURISM (288)

HEAD COUNT DROPS

FM 26/7/96

Foreign tourists are still visiting but the rush is over, say industry spokesmen.

The slowdown in the rate of arrivals is being blamed on high prices, poor hotel standards and rising crime, says Kessel Feinstein director Gillian Saunders.

She adds that these factors, along with a lack of government commitment to the tourism industry "and a national body constrained by a low, shrinking budget," are contributing to lower growth.

Saunders predicts a small growth in the rate of foreign arrivals this year but warns this is not likely to match levels achieved last year when the influx was boosted by the Rugby World Cup.

"Statistics show foreign arrivals rose 4% in the first five months of the year with an 8% increase in arrivals from Europe and a 7% increase from the US."

Where they stay is another matter. Though some use hotels, many stay with family or friends to avoid rising hotel costs. SA Tourism Board grading scheme administrator Greg McManus says there was a 2% drop in January-June hotel occupancies this year, compared with the same period last year.

McManus, who bases his findings on the returns of the 1 069 establishments that render monthly reports, says hotels in the Western Cape were 57% full in the first quarter of this year, compared with the 67% mark in the same quarter of last year. In the year to April, all the hotels were 54,4% full, compared with 56,6% full in the first four months of last year.

Stocks Hotels group MD Bruno Corte says the foreign tourist trade has shrunk because of crime rather than high prices. "When tour operators look at your property, they also look at security to assess whether it's safe for clients."

He says hotel prices are reasonable but concedes they are high in some places such as Sandton and Cape Town's Waterfront during peak demand periods.

Tourism Business Council chairman David Wigley says hotels are not overcharging: "The average room rate achieved — not what is advertised — is not far above the inflation rate."

Wigley argues that if hotels overcharge, they lose custom and, being private sector-orientated, cut prices again.

Figures released by the Central Statistical Service (CSS) tell a different story. In April, bed occupancy countrywide fell 4,5% but income rose 16,4%. In Johannesburg, bed occupancy dropped 12,2% and room occupancy 2,4% but hotel income increased by 31,6%.

In March, says the CSS, about 113 000 foreign visitors arrived here, compared with 90 000 in the same month last year and 42 000 in that month the year before; hoteliers sold 276 000 bednights to foreign tourists (1995: 212 000; 1994: 133 000). ■

All set for tourism take-off

(288) ET 26/7/96

Major international airlines flying to Cape Town forecast that the boom in airline traffic to the city is projected to grow.

Several major carriers report heavy bookings for both inbound and outbound flights from November to April next year with many flights already fully booked.

In response to projected increase in foreign tourism to the city, several major airlines have recently boosted their flight frequencies to the city, while others have announced that increased flight frequencies will be added in the coming months.

World airlines are eyeing Cape Town as one of the world's future major long distance destinations. Figures forecast by the management of Cape Town International Airport project that growth will be dramatic, with the 3,6 million passengers passing through the airport last year growing to seven million by the year 2004 and 14 million by 2015.

The huge year-on-year growth could even exceed these projections, according to Hennie Taljaard, general manager of Cape Town International Airport.

He said international passengers handled by the airport during May this year soared to 56 744 compared to 25 788 for the corresponding month last year, while 46 356 passed through the International Terminals during May this year compared to 20 102 during May 1995.

Increased aircraft movements also reflected the continual growth in air traffic, said Mr Taljaard. For the period April 1994 to March 1995 there were 22 267 domestic flights, growing to 28 600 for the corresponding 1995/96 period. Regional flights increased from 982 to 1 166 with international flights growing from 531 to 640.

The airport presently handled 70 international flight departures each week to destinations in the Far East, Europe, United States, South America and Africa.

A number of airlines flying to Cape Town have indicated they will boost their weekly frequencies to coincide with the introduction of the new timetables in November.

Lufthansa's recently introduced non-stop flight to and and from Frankfurt has gained considerable support, according to Karen Duncker, the airlines marketing manager in Johannesburg. Cape Town will get a second non-stop flight next year, boosting Lufthansa's weekly flights to five, she said.

Air France and Swissair will add a third weekly flight to its Cape Town network while KLM recently added a fourth and is planning a fifth weekly flight.

Flights options to the Far East are also being increased following the announcements by Singapore Airlines, Malaysia Airlines and SAA to increase flights in and out of Cape Town.

CAPE METRO BUDGET (288) (HERT)

BOOSTING TOURISM, GROWTH

FM 26/7/96

For the first time, local government in the Western Cape has made specific provision in its R1,3bn metropolitan budget for tourism and economic development.

Though the R4,8m allocated to the regional tourism board and R2m for the Western Cape Investment & Trade Promotion Agency pale next to the R437m set aside for RDP projects, their inclusion in the Cape Metropolitan Council's first budget is significant.

These two categories were inadequately catered for through the subterfuge of grants in aid. Now the Local Government Transition Act empowers the council to spend money on these two functions. The actual amounts are in compliance with a request from the provincial government and are a "drastic increase" on previous allocations, says council financial director Hein Herbst.

Captour CE Gordon Oliver says the move is "an enormous step forward."

Tourism has been the province's star performer, growing by more than 50% in two years and providing 75 000 jobs.

Captour, its de facto regional tourism authority, asked for an annual budget of R4,8m, rising to R10m within three years. Its budget has never exceeded R2m whereas Durban's has long been R10m.

Western Cape Investment & Trade Promotion Agency CE David Bridgman says that unlike every other country, SA prevented local government from contributing to economic development.

The agency, established in April 1996, is the first provincial public company to be created since the 1994 general election. Its R7m budget is controlled by a board representing provincial government, the metro council, substructures, district councils, labour and business.

□ The Cape Chamber of Commerce & Industry is against the 12% rates increase. It claims Cape Town businesses already pay higher rates and electricity tariffs than any other city in SA.

However, rates would have rocketed were it not for a R373m subsidy from the council and the province to the six substructures — 46% of the total rates income of the metropole.

Council executive committee chairman Pierre Uys stresses that the subsidy is just to help the new substructures on to their feet and cannot be repeated every year. (see next page). ■

Cape Town airport 'will cope in 2004'

688

CHENÉ BEIGNAUT
Staff Reporter

ARG 26/7/96

CAPE TOWN International Airport will have no problems in coping if the city hosts the 2004 Olympics, says airport boss Hennie Taljaard after returning from a visit to Atlanta where transport problems have plagued the 1996 Games.

Mr Taljaard said the airport authority could not allow Cape Town's planned airport upgrade to be delayed by a dispute on overhead powerlines through Belhar to increase the electricity supply to the airport.

"A solution will simply have to be found," he said, referring to the dispute between Eskom and the Belhar community, which is holding up the crucial power boost to the airport.

Mr Taljaard, who returned from a four-day visit to Atlanta yesterday, is confident that if Cape Town gets the nod for the 2004 Olympics next year, the company will have no difficulty in rising to the occasion in the eight year run-up to the Games.

He said the planned R400 million upgrade of airport facilities over the next five years was crucial, whether Cape Town secured the bid or not. It was needed to cope with the dramatic increase in overseas visitors to the city. The airport has seen a 38 percent increase in international tourists in the past six months, compared with the same period last year. Over the past three months, the number of overseas visitors has increased by 24 percent over last year's figures, which included the five games of the World Rugby Cup.

"But, if we do get the bid we will obviously look at pushing forward some of the components of the five-year development plan," he said.

Comparing Cape Town's airport to its Atlanta counterpart, Mr Taljaard said the basic layout of the airport compared very favourably.

The creation of additional parking space for aircraft was the most crucial change needed to meet Olympic requirements, he said.

An additional passenger terminal and more public parking garages would also be critical.

Tshwete returns from Atlanta confident Cape Town will host the 2004 Olympics

Star 27/7/96

By RODNEY HARTMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

Sports Minister Steve Tshwete returned from Atlanta early yesterday in a positively upbeat mood: Cape Town, he declared, was a clear early favourite to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

"The buzz word in Atlanta is that the 2004 Games are ours to lose rather than to win," he said.

Tshwete told reporters at Johannesburg international airport that the atmosphere among influential people at the current Olympics was in favour of Cape Town as the host city in eight years' time. He had come away from meetings with government counterparts and sports officials from a number of nations with the clear understanding that he had their support.

"We played on the fact that the five Olympic rings (symbolising the continents of the world) would not be complete without Africa, as well as the transformation South Africa is undergoing."

Tshwete reaffirmed the Government's support for the 2004 bid and promised that a growing number of state departments would soon be working "hand in glove" with the Cape Town bid committee, which had a high-profile delegation in Atlanta, to bring the Games to South Africa.

"There is no time to lose. This is a huge operation. We have to start now to prepare for a successful hosting in 2004. It will not be for lack of international support that we lose the Games, only through our own dithering," he said.

Tshwete suggested that Cape Town should be inspired to overcome the sort of glitches being experienced in Atlanta. "The correct posture for us is not to see these problems as a negative but rather as a challenge."

The minister was a victim of Atlanta's transport problems. "We drove right past the Olympic stadium on the opening day and I thought the driver was taking us to Canada."

He and a busload of international dignitaries were forced to spend an hour and a half in their vehicle without the benefit of air-conditioning.

A disgruntled Australian government official apparently used the time to communicate the shambles to newspapers back home via his cellphone.

TO PAGE 2

♦Olympics

(288)
Star 27/7/96

Atlanta's problem, said Tshwete, lay not so much in a lack of fundamental logistics but rather in small but vital areas like hiring people from out of town as bus drivers. Invariably they lost their way.

The minister held "very positive" talks with his counterparts from Australia and Canada, and envisaged a greater level of support in areas of sporting expertise. This co-operation was likely to extend to "twinning" South African provinces with states and provinces in their countries.

Tshwete was effusive in his praise for South Africa's Olympians, notably Penny Heyns, whom he described as "a humble and dedicated athlete who has done a tremendous piece of work" in inspiring the entire South African contingent.

His gut feeling was that more medals would follow – not necessarily gold – and that South Africa's final tally would be anything between seven and 10.

"Our country has already made a meaningful contribution to enhancing the image of the continent in swimming. We have raised the image of our country as a continental force and dispelled the notion that we have de-Africanised ourselves."

■The Olympic women's marathon, featuring South Africa's Elana Meyer, will be shown live on SABC-TV2 tomorrow. The race starts at 1.07pm and is expected to finish soon after 3.30pm. SABC2 is expected to cross to Atlanta about 12.30pm.

■See sports pages

27/7/96
Argus
228

■ THE Olympic family's torturous experience of Atlantan traffic this week underscores the value of first-hand observation by Cape Town's bid planners encamped in the Georgia capital. In fact Atlanta's traffic snarls were anticipated – and they do not foreshadow what Cape Town may expect in 2004.

MICHAEL MORRIS
on the Olympic Bid

ONE of the most cherished illusions about the United States is that its cities are infrastructurally advanced beyond compare.

Self-deprecatory observations this week that Cape Town wouldn't have a chance of matching the sophistication of an Atlanta – even with eight years to do it in – betray the error.

Where escalating urbanisation is arguably the South African city's principal challenge, flight from city to suburbs – and the steady growth of metropoles as a whole – is their American counterparts' biggest woe.

What happens to a city as a result of this exodus from its core is quite simply a massive loss of money, and concomitant decline.

Atlanta, though a prime illustration of this, is probably better off than Washington, which a leading US daily newspaper described last month as "literally crumbling from neglect and colossal financial mismanagement", with highways and bridges "falling apart".

Even so, Atlanta's appearance as a modern, gleaming citadel is misleading.

When I visited the city last month – just two weeks before the start of the Games – its main metropolitan newspaper, the Atlanta Journal and Constitution, presented a candid assessment of the metropole's transport capacity.

"Metro Atlanta," it said bluntly, "is choking on traffic, literally and figuratively. It will only get worse. The influx of two million visitors for the Olympics will provide a glimpse of what traffic will be like in the next century – when metro Atlanta's population will exceed five million."

This probably comes as a surprise to those South Africans who imagined this major American city possessed the very best, slickest First World transport system, well beyond the wildest dreams of the Mother City.

Couple Atlanta's already choked road network with the city's Olympic plan – which deliberately focused attention on the socio-economically hard-pressed inner-city as part of its developmental commitment – and the reasons for the grave transport difficulties of the past week begin to emerge with greater clarity.

The clustering of venues within a tight radius of the inner-city (the opposite is true of Cape Town's Olympic blueprint), and the siting of the Olympic Village some distance from the main stadium and other key arenas (again, Cape Town's plan places the village and main stadium within walking distance of each other) have exacerbated the logistical headaches that have plagued the centennial Games.

In that editorial a fortnight ago the Atlanta Journal and Constitution mapped out briefly what it believed ought to be done.

It proposed that "the only way out of this polluted jam is to develop commuter rail systems, expand and upgrade MARTA (Atlanta's underground rail system), and change suburban patterns to include more sidewalks and neighbourhood stores".

Yes, that was two weeks ago. In other words, fixing the city's transport system was not a central element of Atlanta's highly commercial, private sector-funded Olympic vision.

This is not to say that Atlanta's infrastructure will not benefit from the considerable tax-dollars expected to accrue from the Games, but in drawing comparisons with Cape Town's plan the distinction is instructive.

In the next 18 months alone, priority transport spending in the Peninsula will run to some R250 million, and accelerated transport spending over the next eight years will amount to some R900 million.

The envisaged acceleration of the planning and spending is the direct result of the Olympic bid – but the transport needs it will seek to satisfy arise from the projected growth of the city, even without the Olympics.

Finally, Atlanta's airport – and its airport-to-city freeways – have also been presented, in contrast, as immutable evidence of Cape Town's deficiency. In fact, the comparison is weak: Atlanta's Hartsfield Airport is indeed impressive, and not surprisingly, since it ranks as the second busiest in the world.

The city happens to be a major transport hub, which has nothing to do with the Olympics. What's more, neither its excellent airport, nor its six-lane highways have in any way eased the nightmare of Olympian traffic jams.

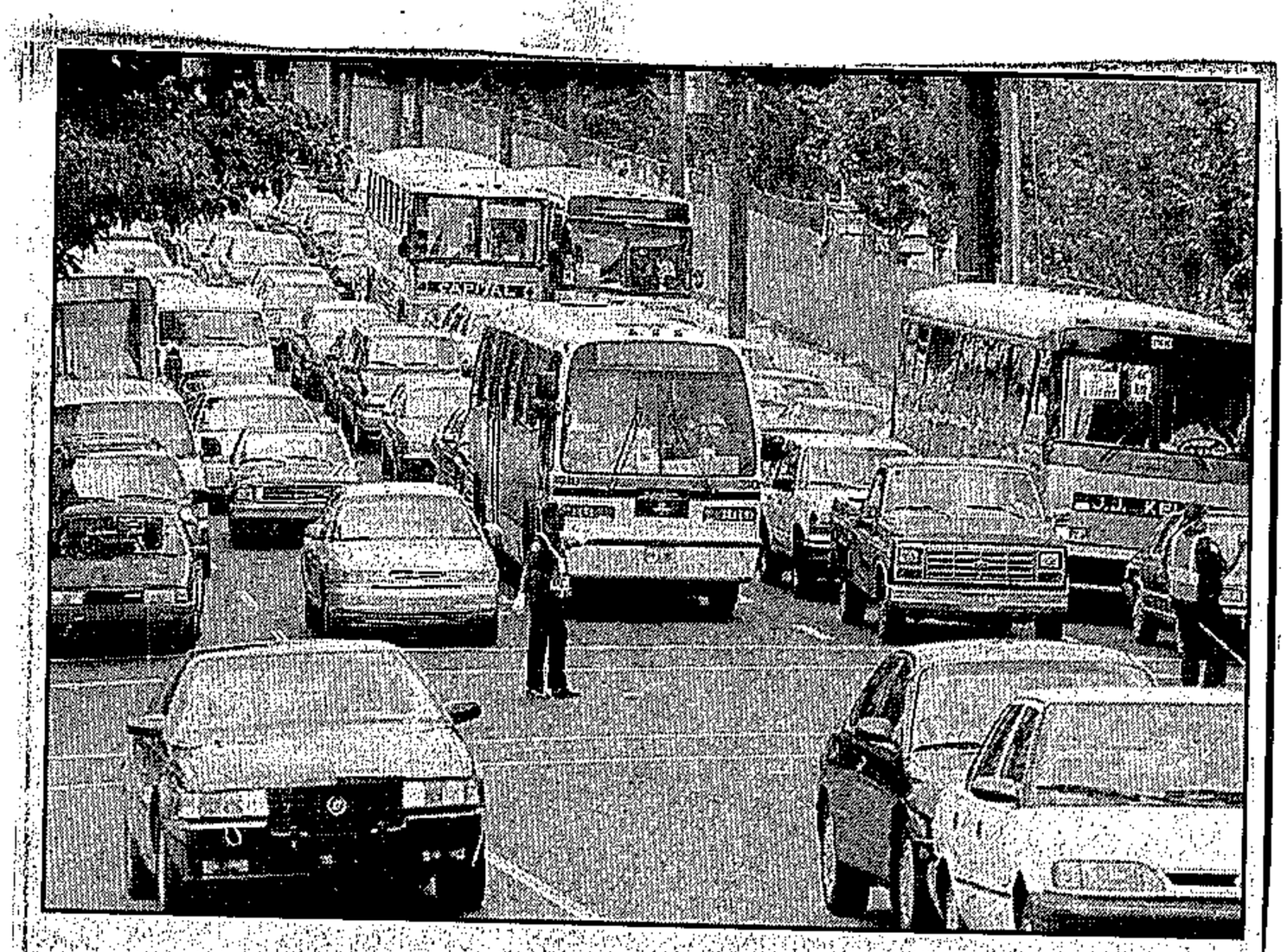
And it's significant that Cape Town Airport's multi-million upgrade is needed not to match a prospective two-week sports bonanza in September 2004, but the demands of the region's rapidly growing tourist industry.

In assessing the Atlanta experience from the point of view of Cape Town's bid, there is no place for cringing self-effacement.

The city's bid planners – including director of planning Peter de Tolly – went to the centennial Games with the express purpose of learning lessons, and there have been plenty.

Certainly the International Olympic Committee's scrutiny of bidding cities' transport plans will, from now on, be that much more rigorous, and Cape Town's planners will no doubt draw on their experience of the centennial event in reviewing their own plans.

But there's a stronger case for confidence than despondence in matching Cape Town and Atlanta.



❒ **SNARL-UP:** Traffic is still a problem in Atlanta during the Olympic Games. Highways are running smoothly, but the centre is congested.

(288)

Cape Town won't see repeat of Atlanta woes

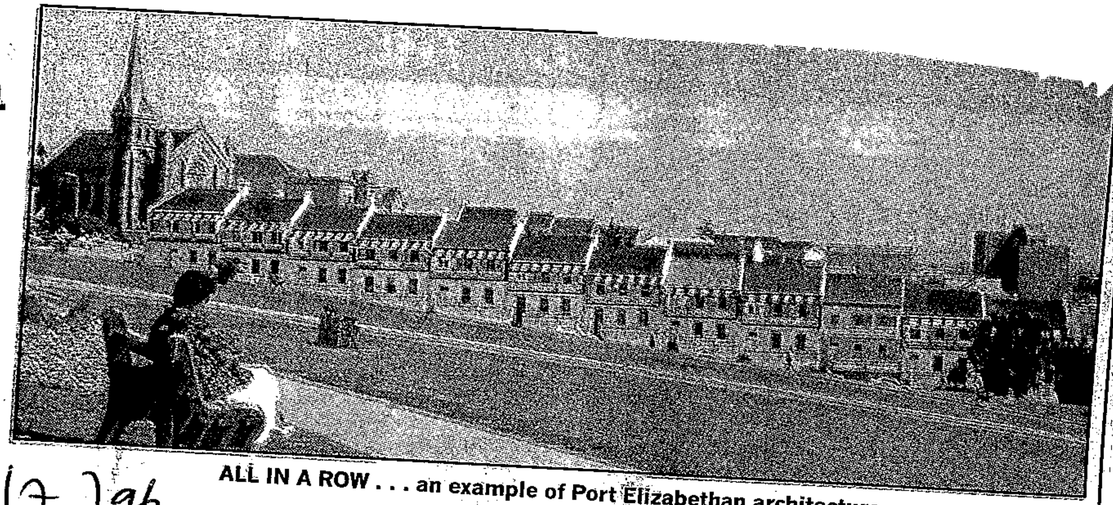
ARG 27/7/96

WHAT A NEW INTERNATIONAL GUIDE BOOK SAYS OF PORT ELIZABETH

'After the splendours of the Garden Route, it can leave a bad taste in your mouth...'

THE ANGRY CITY

(288)



ALL IN A ROW . . . an example of Port Elizabethan architecture



SUN AND SURF . . . as long as it's not too windy, which it often is, the city's beaches are popular enough among holidaymakers

By BRETT ADKINS

ST 28(7)96

PORT ELIZABETH is smarting — and confused. A respected international travel guide says it leaves "a bad taste in your mouth" after the Garden Route, and the city is not quite sure how to take the insult.

Having gone to all the trouble of giving itself a multimillion-rand makeover in an attempt to look like a tourist destination, one man has destroyed the city's efforts with his vitriolic pen.

That, in a nutshell, is how the city fathers and publicity chiefs see it.

But Andrew Barbour's cutting remarks about Port Elizabeth in the first edition of *Fodor's South Africa* — one in a top-selling series on countries around the world — have elicited support from some of the city's most faithful campaigners.

In a place which suffers from what at times appears to be a terminal inferiority complex, the bad press has fed an all-too-familiar debate.

Newspapers have been flooded with letters for and against the remarks, the names Fodor and Barbour have been bandied about in pubs and restaurants and the mayor and tourism director have made no secret of their anger. The city is up in arms. The only trouble is, it isn't sure whether it should be.

"Is Andrew Barbour right? Are we a deadly boring city?" is the question on the tips of most pens.

The South African-born travel writer, who is based in New York, says any place which has to employ the label "the Friendly City" is clearly trying too hard.

"You know it's having a hard time finding a reason for tourists to visit," he writes in his brief overview.

"Indeed, the city has little to hold you long, and most foreign travellers use Port Elizabeth only as an entry and exit point for the Garden Route."

After a brief reference to a highly developed beach front and "kitschy amusement parks", Barbour declares: "After the splendours of the Garden Route, it can leave a bad taste in your mouth."

He acknowledges that there are some "interesting" historical buildings in the city, but advises day visitors to head rather for the Addo Elephant National Park.

Lashing out at Barbour and other "PE bashers", the tourism chief, Shaun van Eck, said he did not believe the author had set foot in the city.

"I find Mr Barbour's pedantic slight about our Friendly City tag to be in bad taste and unnecessary, and his coverage of our accommodation and tours to be hopelessly incomplete," he said.

With the whole city caught up in the debate, Van Eck publicly appealed for a more positive outlook.

Port Elizabeth's mayor, Nceba Faku, questioned Barbour's motives. "You wonder if the author is looking at assisting or destroying this city," he said.

And the minister of tourism in the Eastern Cape, Smuts Ngonyama, dismissed Barbour's effort as "a selfish marketing ploy written by someone with no clear picture of what he's writing about".

But there were many in Port Elizabeth who agreed with Barbour — and they were vocal in their support on the streets and in the newspaper letters pages.

"Fodor's comments about Port Elizabeth are correct in that this city is not a tourist destination. We do not have the equivalent of Cape Town's Table Mountain or the scenery of Mpumalanga," said local business expert Hylton Marks.

"Rather than spending time and money trying to convince others (and ourselves) that Port Elizabeth is a tourist haven, the city fathers and Shaun van Eck need to devise incentive schemes to attract new business investment."

Then there were those who thought Barbour had been too generous towards their home town.

"What possessed him to give Port Elizabeth a mention in a travel guide in the first place?" wrote a Newton Park resident, Citizen Dick.

"Face it, Shaun (van Eck) & Co, one can visit the Donkin Reserve, walk the pier and appreciate the 'breathtaking' scenery only so many times. And heaven help us when the last of the dolphins turn belly-up."

Other residents of the city mentioned the "unmentionables": the foul-smelling sewage-processing plant and other stench-emitting factories alongside the busy N2 freeway into the city from the north.

The author who caused all the trouble was unrepentant.

"You could strap me to a wheel and beat me until I'm blue, but I won't change my opinion that Port Elizabeth isn't a tourist destination," he said.

Main attractions fall by travel guide's wayside

By GRAEME ADDISON

IF PORT Elizabeth is damned in the first Fodor's guide on South Africa, other popular or potential tourist destinations in the country hardly get a look in.

The popular series of guides to destinations around the world bills itself as the "King of Guidebooks", but *Fodor's South Africa*, edited by Andrew Barbour, might be more aptly called a misguide for the number of gaps in its coverage.

These include:

● A lack of information on Soweto. There is a brief reference to a tour of the township, but tourists to Johannesburg are advised to "stick to the city centre and the northern suburbs";

● No information on Kimberley, the rich-in-history centre of the country's diamond rush, or on Mafikeng, scene of the famous Boer War siege;

● Nothing on East London and very little information on Grahamstown, site of the second-largest cultural festival in the world.

The guide mentions that the city is the setting of an arts festival, but gives no further details.

Shelagh Stowe, director of Grahamstown Tourism, said the book gave a "very incomplete picture of what the Sunshine Coast and Settler Country of the Eastern Cape have to offer";

● Still calling Mpumalanga the Eastern Transvaal, even though the guide was published this year;

● Very little coverage is given to adventure and cultural tourism, which tourism authorities say appeals to the New Wave tourists who are fuelling SA's tourist boom;

● Nothing about the canoe tours on the Orange River and little on scuba diving, hiking or other outdoor adventures available; and,

● Scant information about bed and breakfasts, even though these are increasingly popular among local and foreign visitors alike.

The guide's strengths are its coverage of the Western Cape winelands and the information provided on upmarket restaurants and game lodges.

The main local contributors to the book were food and wine writers.

The target reader is the well-heeled American tourist with an interest in well-known South African destinations and wildlife.

Barbour, a South African based in New York, stoutly defended his work this week.

He conceded that it was selective but said he had written an opinionated book to advise American tourists on how best to spend their time and money.

He said most criticisms of the guide were "incorrect, uninformed, or show a complete misunderstanding of the target audience and the travel guide industry".

Kimberley and Grahamstown had been cut out of the edited version because of lack of space, although he would dearly have loved to include them, he said.

"We did extensive research on American tourists and we presented destinations that had been statistically identified as relevant to them," he said.

Fodor's could not produce a 500-page volume for an emerging tourism destination like South Africa when only 20 000 Americans had visited the country in the past year.

"I set out to advise readers on where they could best spend their time and money. Very few guidebooks actually take an opinionated stand, as I did, to provide this kind of advice.

"We are not in the business of publishing a tourism Yellow Pages.

"I worked extremely hard on that book and I am very proud of it."

● *Fodor's — South Africa: The Complete Guide to the Game Parks, Cities, Winelands, and Beaches, Plus Victoria Falls is distributed in South Africa by Random House (R78,95)*

Protea blooms in Bantry Bay

(288) ST (BT) 28/7/96

By ZILLA EFRAT

PROTEA Hotels has won the contract to operate the new R165-million President Hotel in Cape Town amid stiff competition from other local and international hospitality groups.

The hotel, of four-star standard, will be developed on the site of the old President Hotel in Bantry Bay and will consist of 347 fully furnished rooms and suites. Each suite will have up to three bedrooms, a living area and a kitchen.

So far sales of these units as sectional title investments total R80-million. Owners have the right to occupy their units for 30 days a year. During the rest of the year, Protea will let these out as normal hotel rooms and owners will earn a return determined by occupancy levels.

When sales started six months ago, units were going for between R246 000 and R800 000. According to Devmark, the Cape-based sales agents, prices have since risen by 15% to 25%.

The hotel, which will take on Protea's Premier brand, is scheduled to open in the last quarter of 1997 or in early 1998 and will have two restaurants, conference facilities, a gymnasium, swimming pool and on-site parking. The project, financed by Syfrets, will be built by Murray & Roberts, starting in August.

Travel industry says winter downturn better

(288) BD 29/7/96

Andrew Gillingham

THE verdict from the travel industry on the traditional winter downturn is that it has proved better than in previous years.

While leisure travel has been almost non-existent, business travellers have more than made up for the shortfall.

Budget Rent-A-Car sales and marketing director Mark Jakins says in terms of corporate rental days the company is about 8% ahead of this time last year. This is despite that fact that business was good in the previous year. He says the business market is strong with high demand during the week.

"Last year there was the rugby World Cup and many business people opted not to travel as they were concerned about not finding accommodation. Now they are travelling.

"In addition, the Voyager frequent flyer programme continues to attract the corporate traveller. However, the leisure market has been somewhat disappointing.

"South Africans seem to be tightening their belts. High interest rates have eroded people's disposable incomes and the winter has been particularly cold.

"This side of the market is significantly down on last year and brought our overall performance in line with last year's despite the boost in corporate business.

"We are predicting that, as the market turns in September, demand should increase substantially, over 10% up on last year's very high demand. Last year we ran a fleet of about 4 500 vehicles, in the new financial year we expect the fleet to top 5 000 vehicles," Jakin says.

Budget has received a surprisingly high level of advance bookings from the international market, particularly leisure travellers, and this should boost the average rental period from 3-4 days up to over six days. While this market is highly discounted, operational efficiencies are better as the rental periods are longer.

Imperial Car Rental has experienced a similar pattern though an intense marketing effort has served to improve its overall performance.

Marketing director Dawn Jones says the company is experiencing a 15% increase in business this year over the same period last year, despite the fact the rugby World Cup was held in SA last year. The leisure market is almost non-existent but the corporate traveller has more than made up the difference. There are a lot of business travellers moving around, though there was the usual dip in July during the school holidays.

"We have marketed to both the business and leisure car rental market during this period. We have packages to both Durban and Cape Town, and our Voyager millionaire miles promotion is proving even more successful than last year's with the number entrants up 14%.

"This is serving to boost business. Our strategy is to market heavily during this period to make up for the shortfall. We started doing this last year and it has proved the right way to go."

"We will start restocking in mid-August and we expect business will significantly up on last year. There are now far more international companies operating in SA than last year, international conferences are picking SA as a venue, international tourism is up, and the local corporate market starts travelling more after winter."

Turning to the hotel sector, City Lodge financial director Andrew Widegger says it is difficult to compare this winter with last year as the Rugby World Cup pushed up occupancies.

However, comparing this winter with the same period in 1994 shows a significant improvement with more international visitors.

"The tailoff really started in the beginning of June instead of May. The fall off has been as severe but not really because of the seasonal factors. June showed poor occupancies."

Crime SA's enemy if Cape Town to

Violence needs to be curbed if bid is to be successful, writes Gary Lemke from

(288) Star 30/7/96



These Centennial Olympics aren't what Baron Pierre de Coubertin had on his mind when he started the modern Games back in Athens in 1896. The credo of "it's not the winning that's important, but the taking part" continues only in print – commercialisation through the passage of time has seen to it that winning is everything.

Now however, we are faced with a different problem. Have the Olympics become too big as a sporting event and an easy target for individual of groups of terrorists?

In a word, yes.

The Games will continue, through Atlanta, through Sydney in 2000, and if the bookmakers have called it right, through Cape Town in 2004.

But at what price? Already the 10 000 Olympic athletes drawn from 197 countries are housed behind the heaviest security imaginable. Very rarely do they venture outside the electric fences, entrances guarded by gun-toting security guards. Escaping from Alcatraz was easier than breaching the athletes' village.

"Sure I'm a little scared about going out at night to public places, particularly after Friday's bombing. In the village we feel secure, but it would be better if we could at least experience some of the things that the general public are able to," says South Africa's double gold medallist Penny Heyns.

Friday's bombing also brings a new perspective to the Cape Town 2004 bid.

Talk to anyone within the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and they'll privately inform you that sentiment is going to play a huge part in the allocation of the 2004 venue when the decision is made in September next year.

In a nutshell, should President Mandela ask for the Games, the chances are strong we'll get them.

The bid itself isn't being seen as that of one city. It's that of one country, and perhaps significantly, that of one continent, the only one which has yet to stage the Olympics.

However, there remain two extremely crucial issues, once sentiment is pushed to one side, that Atlanta has highlighted and which could yet put a spanner in the Cape Town works.

Violence and the lack of a workable public transport system.

In the latter issue, Atlanta's underground Marta structure has struggled to cope with the demands of over 1-million passengers on a daily basis. The train service has buckled under the load. Schedules more often than not run way behind – and in the US, anything longer than 30 minutes is way behind.

Cape Town, indeed South Africa, simply doesn't have the current infrastructure to cope with the increased workload.

Much was made of the fact that the country successfully staged last year's Rugby World Cup.

What we have to remember is that on that occasion 16 countries competed in eight cities over a period of a month. The Olympics brings 197 countries to one city over a period of 16 days.

Yet bid officials here in Atlanta are quietly confident that Cape Town is able to cope better from a public transport point of view than Atlanta has.

At the heart of the issue, they argue, is that Cape Town will have many more train carriages available to transport the public around than Atlanta currently has.

However, while the debate of whether or not Cape Town has the public transport to host the biggest sporting event of them all continues, perhaps a more damaging negative to the bid is the issue of violence.

With Friday's bomb in Centennial Park relegating, for once over this period, the sports happenings to the back page, IOC president Juan-Antonio Samaranch and his officials will have security as their number one priority for the staging of future Games.

Until South Africa – a country that possesses one of the highest rates of crime in the world – can prove that it bring the crime rate down to reasonable proportions, I, for one, have my doubts about the bid.

Olympics

Hotel group buys into lodges

BD 30/7 P96

Jacqueline Zaina (288)

HOTEL group Southern Sun, owned by SA Breweries, has invested R30m in cash and equity to acquire a 10,6% share in Conservation Corporation Africa, the largest private game reserve and lodge operator in Africa.

Southern Sun Group MD Ron Stringfellow said the group had always seen game lodges as playing an important role in the tourism package. The deal would enable both firms to leverage joint marketing and sales synergies.

The group would be happy to expand its investment in the corporation in time. All further ecotourism sector acquisitions would be integrated into the corporation's portfolio.

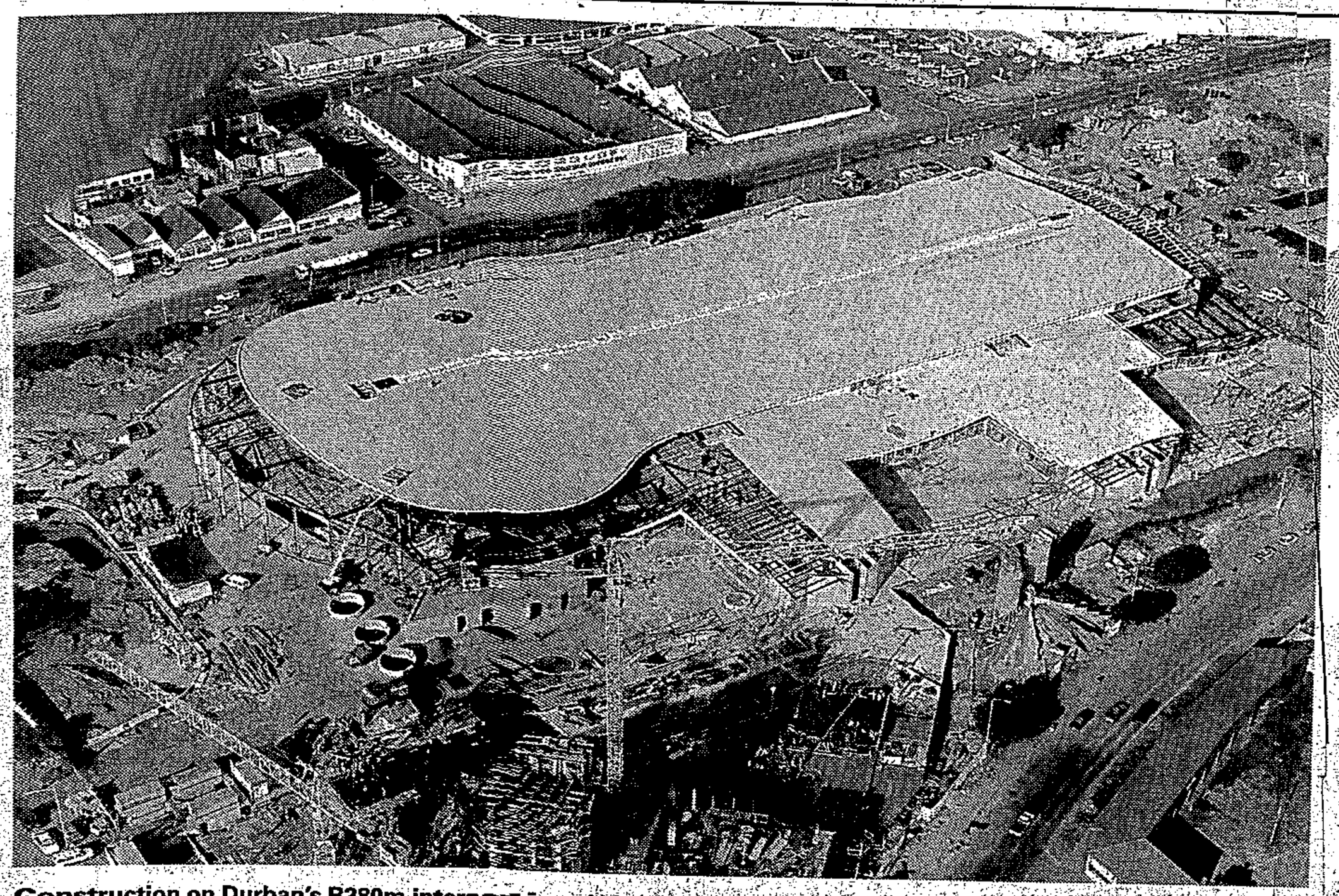
The deal would afford the companies greater flexibility in taking advantage of acquisition opportunities as they would be able to integrate hotel and game lodge interests into their portfolios.

Corporation deputy chairman Alan Bernstein said the company would acquire Southern Sun's game lodge operations — Zululand Tree Lodge, Bongani Mountain Lodge and Tau Game Lodge.

It would start operating the properties from September 1. The group would then have 19 lodges in Africa, including lodges in Zimbabwe, Kenya, Tanzania and Zanzibar. The corporation, valued at R300m, planned to list on the London Stock Exchange or a US exchange in the next 18 months.

Bernstein expected turnover in its current financial year to end June 1997 to be about R150m.

Southern Sun Group, which reported earnings of R114m (R71m) in the year to March, will start managing the corporation's Mayfair Court Hotel in Nairobi later this year.



Construction on Durban's R280m international convention centre is now concentrated on the lower wave-like roof structures following completion of the main roof. More than 2 000m² of roofing was damaged in a severe storm recently.

Centre to boost Natal economy

BD 31/7/96

Nicola Jenvey

DURBAN — Conventions destined for Durban's International Convention Centre from September next year would boost the regional economy by about R300m, acting director Alec Gilbert said yesterday.

Durban attracted only 9% of the international tourists visiting SA, despite the city's cosmopolitan cultural mix and solid tourism infrastructure. However, the R280m centre would change this.

Twenty-nine firm bookings for conventions had already been made, and there were another 60 provisional bookings. "This well timed initiative, coinciding with the international interest focused on post-apartheid SA, will establish Durban as a unique international business destination."

The centre, offering 8 700m² of lettable space, is being built by the Construction Company Joint Venture.

The group, comprising Murray & Roberts Natal in association with KwaZumba African Builders, and Grinaker Building Natal in association with Phambili Construction, won the contract in 1993.

Gilbert said the venture had become a blueprint for affirmative action projects. The "construction protocol" was set up in terms of the reconstruction and development programme, and had provided structured training, development and mentoring programmes for previously disadvantaged contractors.

Tenderers had apportioned part of their work on the 5,8ha site near the CBD to 63 disadvantaged subcontractors and suppliers who in turn subcontracted to individuals.

The convention centre would focus international attention on Durban and KwaZulu-Natal. The convention-going "supertourist" was estimated to spend five times more than the usual tourist, and the conventions would provide "a convenient window to the world" for local business.

Mark II hotel funded by sectional title

288

Nicola Jenvey

BD 31/7/96

DURBAN — Mark II Projects, Wilson Bayley Homes-Ovcon, Protea Hotels and Resort Condominium International SA have joined forces to launch a R51m four-star hotel funded by sectional title ownership.

The landmark Athlone Hotel in Durban North will be demolished to accommodate the new development, due for opening in October next year.

The novel concept of financing through sectional title purchases becomes the second eLan Park hotel developed by Mark II Projects.

The developers have already launched The President Hotel in Bantry Bay, Cape Town, and are planning a development in Johannesburg.

The 140 suites at the Athlone will cost between R270 000 and R570 000, and purchasers will be able to utilise their apartments for 30 days a year. When the apartments are not occupied by the investor, they will be rented out and generate revenue expected to exceed the bond servicing.

Mark II project facilitating partner Mark Taylor said surface parking for 164 cars would be provided. Other amenities included an Indian-style restaurant, action bar and steakhouse, gymnasium, bistro and function room.

Olympic bid go-ahead will depend on council cost-sharing

CAPE TOWN — Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games will proceed only if agreement can be reached on cost-sharing between local authorities, the Cape metropolitan council and provincial government, the city council decided yesterday.

However, councillors voted unanimously to proceed with the bid on condition that cost-sharing arrangements were finalised. A further condition was that central government issued an "unfettered overarching guarantee" for the games.

At a meeting — held partially in camera — with provincial planning MEC Lampie Fick, parties involved failed to reach agreement on the percentage of costs and risks each should take responsibility for.

Saleem Mowzer of the ANC said a report back on Fick's meeting should be given in committee, and the media and public were asked to leave.

When they returned, an amendment was moved that the submission of the bid file be withheld until cost-sharing arrangements had been finalised to the satisfaction of the Cape Town city council.

During the ensuing debate, several councillors expressed concern about security aspects within Cape Town in the light of the bomb explosion in Atlanta where this year's Olympics are being held.

The need for an improved public relations profile for the bid company was also mentioned. — Sapa.

(288) BD 31/7/96

See Pages 14, 28.