SERVICES SECTOR — ACCOM. LIQUOR & CATERING : GENERAL —

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JANUARY — MAY

2/1/97/288



HEADING FOR JAIL: The first visitors were ferried to Robben Island yesterday after the former prison island officially opened its doors as a museum. ***PICTURE: BENNY GOOL***

CT 2/1/97 288

ROBBEN ISLAND OPEN TO PUBLIC

New Year tourist wave hits historic jail

CT 2/1/97

THE FIRST tour to Robben Island, opened yesterday as a cultural showcase for the new South Africa, was sold out in an hour. Former prisoners were among the special guests.

THE first visitors to Robben Island set off by ferry yesterday for the prison, infamous for housing political prisoners — foremost among them President Nelson Mandela — since the 17th century.

Special guests on the first official tour of the Robben Island Museum included Gauteng premier Mr Tokyo Sexwale and other former prisoners. With them was American actress Cecily Tyson, who has helped to raise funds for former prisoners.

Three ferries are expected to take about 300 visitors a day to the island. Places on the first trip yesterday were sold out in an hour.

Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology Mr Lionel Mtshali said there was "an enormous challenge to preserve the integrity of Robben Island as perhaps the most symbolically important site in South Africa".

Former political prisoner Mr Ahmed Kathrada, sent to the island in 1964 with fellow Rivonia treason trialists, heads the Future of Robben Island Committee.

"While we will not forget the brutality of apartheid, we do not want Robben Island to be a monument to our hardship and suffering," Kathrada said. "We would want it to be a monument to the triumph of the human spirit against the forces of evil."

Mandela spent 18 of his 27 years in jail on the island. He has described it as the "harshest, most iron-fisted outpost in the South African penal system".

Tours include visits to his former B-section cell, where tourists panned video cameras through the bars yesterday.

"This is historic," said one, Mr Humphrey Matyeka, who had flown from Johannesburg with his family to be on the first tour. "This is where our freedom began, where (Mandela) took the first step on his long walk to freedom."

Tourists are driven in buses around the perimeter of the island while guides point out historic sites. Six of the guides are former political prisoners who served time on the island and three are former prison department warders.

As the tour bus circled the limestone quarry where Mandela and others toiled, Neil, a former prisons officer, and Lionel Davis, a former inmate, laughed together and cracked prison jokes.

"On your right is the island foghorn," said Neil. "The prison staff used to call it the baby-maker because when it sounded, it meant there was nothing else to do." — Staff Writer, Reuter

4/1/97/288

a few of the Mother City's draw cards



Yvette Beaulieu, US: Impressed by the people



Janet Barton, Britain: on honeymoon



Sabine Westermann, Germany: loves nightlife

cping city riding high on tourism wave

(288) ARG 4/1/97

The sea is what appeals to Paul de Luca the most – because it reminds him so much of his native Naples in Italy.

"The people are lovely and it is very nice here," said Mr de Luca, who has come to Cape Town with his wife, Mary Teresa.

The De Luca's were not too impressed with their visit to Johannesburg and are much happier in the tranquil Cape.

"I don't like Johannesburg too much, it is too dangerous. In only one night we had to spend R400 on taxis. It is impossible to get around alone," said Mr De Luca.

The Hout Bay area and Boulder's Beach were particularly appealing to the De Luca's.

Excellent cuisine and friendly people are the lasting impressions of the Mother City Bryan and Yvette Beaulieu will be taking home with them to Minnesota in the United States.

"We love it. The people are very friendly, it is very clean and the food is excellent," remarked Mrs Beaulieu.

The couple have been to Port Elizabeth, but prefer Cape Town because of the variety of things to do and the increased activity in the area.

They described the service at the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront as "superb" and could hardly wait to return to the Cape.

"We are anxious to get back and get people to come here, it is our favourite place," Mrs Beaulieu said.

Janet Barton left Cape Town for London 30 years ago and has now returned on honeymoon with her new husband, Ray.

The couple have been in Cape Town for a month and have decided to extend their stay.

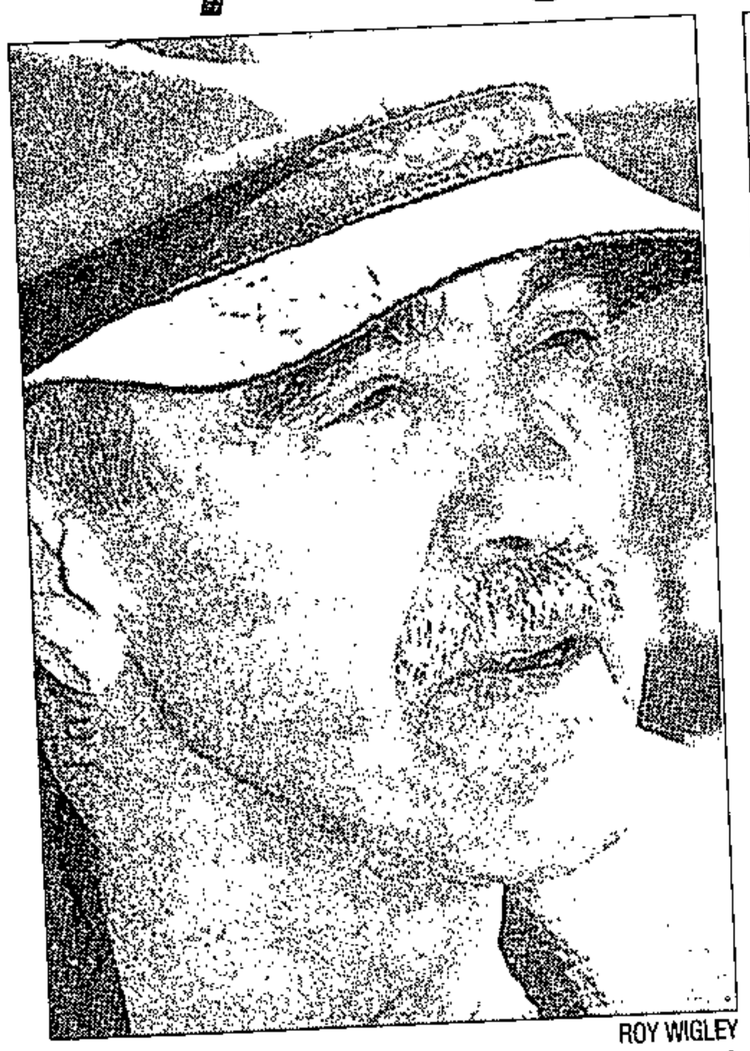
Mrs Barton has been very impressed with the sights in the Mother City, but feels legislation should be introduced in the field of architecture, which would make the city even more beautiful.

The vibrant nightlife and the modern look of the city is what appeals to Sabine Westermann from Hamburg in Germany.

"The people are very friendly and helpful. The city is also warm, unlike Hamburg, and it has a nice climate. The city has lots of nice bars, clubs and restaurants. The nightlife was fun and is the best in South Africa as far as I know," said Ms Westermann.

Whichever way you look at it, Cape Town is definitely a happening place to be.

Hospitality, natural beauty, history – just



ROY WIGLEY

Alan Scarth, Canada: came to see Robben Island



Yusuf Majiet, Sweden: amazed at city's beauty



Paul de Luca, Italy: enjoys the beaches best of all

Visitors fall for Cape Town en masse, kc

JERMAINE CRAIG
STAFF REPORTER

Cape Town still rules the roost in the local tourism industry, if a spot survey conducted among tourists at the Waterfront by Saturday Argus is anything to go by.

Friendly, hospitable people, Table Mountain, excellent service, open beaches, a vibrant nightlife and, of course, the infamous Robben Island are some of the factors which have tourists flocking to Cape Town in their thousands and then coming back for more.

Canadian pensioner Alan Scarth made it his goal to come to Cape Town to see Robben Island after reading President Mandela's *Long Walk To Freedom*.

He and his family are now in the Mother City to see the sights and experience the legendary island firsthand.

"I think it is a tremendous tourist draw. I know of hundreds of people in Canada who want to come across to see it," said Mr Scarth.

He has also been attracted to Cape Town by the ecological beauty of the area, but wondered how the city would be able to preserve its ecology with the tremendous influx of tourists coming into the country.

"The challenge is how can you run enough people through it to make it pay and at the same time preserve it," said Mr Scarth.

Yusuf Majiet made a poignant return to the city of his birth this week after leaving South Africa for Sweden in 1960 and was amazed at the changes the city has undergone.

"This is one of the best places in the southern hemisphere. I was born here, but have been staying abroad. I am back here now and have seen how this beautiful country has grown into something beautiful and futuristic," said Mr Majiet.

He is visiting Cape Town with his wife Brigitta, both of whom are teachers. They are being accompanied by a friend Gunnar Lax, who is an engineer.

Surprisingly all three of them would prefer it if Cape Town won the Olympic bid in 2004, rather than their own Stockholm, which is also one of the contenders.

Mr Majiet says another drawcard in favour of Cape Town is the friendliness and hospitality of its people.

JANUARY 6, 1997

OCCUPANCY LEVELS DOWN

City hotels missing out on tourist boom

(288) CT 6/1/97

VIRTUALLY the whole of Cape Town's tourist industry is recording bumper figures, but not the big hotel groups. **DAN SIMON** and **PETER DENNEHY** report.

TWO major hotel groups have reported a drop in hotel occupancy levels over the festive season compared with the previous year — even though figures show an increase in the number of visitors in the city and an increase in foreign exchange transactions.

Although the Waterfront reported a bumper year with an additional 300 000 visits during December alone, hotels took a dip in the number of bed nights sold, according to the Southern Sun and Protea Hotel groups.

Reasons given for the drop included an increase in the number of new hotels in the city, the boom in the guest house and bed-and-breakfast sectors, crime and recent demonstrations by People Against Gangsterism and Drugs.

But Southern Sun Hotels executive director of operations Mr Martin Vasselli also said that hotel prices could have had a negative impact.

"Maybe high prices did have an effect, but it is funny that our five-star hotels had less of a drop than our three-star hotels," Vasselli said.

Southern Sun operates the five-star Cape Sun and a number of three-star Garden Court hotels in the city.

Protea Hotels operate nine three- and four-star hotels in the city.

Although the group could not give an exact percentage, figures indicated that occupancy levels were down by about four percent across the board.

In contrast, the Waterfront's Ms Maureen Thomson said it experienced a boom in the number of visitors over the festive season.

About two million visits had been recorded in December.

This was up 300 000 visits compared to 1,7 million visits recorded last December.

"Since then we have doubled the size of our shopping centre and increased our parking area. As far as the Waterfront is concerned, there were definitely more people this year and our figures for total turnover will be up."

Thomson said the increase was also a reflection of the total growth for 1996 which saw total visits to the Waterfront jump to nearly 19 million, compared to 16 million during 1995.

But the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company (TMACC) said it had recorded virtually no increase in the number of visitors using the cableway.

TMACC managing director Mr John Harrison said: "We had virtually the same amount of closed days and the same amount of visitors as last year. We are basically still 18 000 people short of our record for December 1989."

The cableway is to close on January 12 for an extensive upgrading project lasting about 10 months.

As far as tourism spending in the city is concerned, indications are that foreign tourists were exchanging between 10% and 20% more foreign currency this year than last year.

However, Mrs Isla Ameels, the regional foreign exchange manager for American Express, refused to divulge figures for "security reasons". The same reason was cited by Rennies' foreign exchange division.

Ameels, however, did indicate that the average foreign tourist drew between R500 and R1 500 each time they exchanged traveller's cheques.

Transactions for each individual tourist were either daily or every other day.

But Ameels said even if all foreign exchange transactions were disclosed, the figure would represent only half the total amount of rands spent locally by tourists.

"People with foreign credit cards spend money, at hotels for example, which is charged directly to their cards. This does not show up on the exchange bureaux figures."

But judging from previous years, the city had not reached the peak of the extended holiday season yet.

"We are expecting to see much higher figures in March and April," she said.

The latest available figures on hotel occupancy from the Central Statistical Service show that in October the Western Cape as a whole had a 37,2% share of all bed nights sold countrywide to foreign tourists.

That is only marginally below the 37,7% share that the Western Cape had in October the previous year.

The Western Cape's nearest provincial rival was Gauteng, with its 29% market share of foreign tourists' nights in hotels. Comparing cities rather than provinces, Cape Town's lead is all the more pronounced, even if it is slipping slightly.

Greater Cape Town and the winelands had a 27,4% share of total nights spent by foreigners in hotels in October 1996, slightly below the 29,8% figure for the corresponding month the previous year.

Johannesburg had less than half of Cape Town's share, at just under 13% of the total. Durban had just over 5%.

Natal's holiday market 'changing'

(288) bo 9/11/97

Nicola Jenvey

DURBAN — The changing profile of KwaZulu-Natal's tourism market now demanded more low-budget accommodation, a Kessel Feinstein tourism, hospitality and leisure survey has shown.

The survey showed also that black holidaymakers accounted for more than 80% of the demand for middle-range accommodation during the past Christmas season.

Durban and Umhlanga hotels catering for middle-income tourists experienced one of the highest occupancy levels in recent years, with many achieving nearly 100% between Christmas and New Year.

Durban beachfront hotels fared better than perimeter hotels, but the more upmarket establishments surveyed experienced far lower occupancies than lower-budget hotels.

The survey found that room rate increases had kept pace with inflation, and concluded that fair pricing would be a vital factor affecting occupancies this year.

Kessel Feinstein manager Lee Maartens said the emerging black tourism market was finally being acknowledged as a segment with huge effect.

"This new market is showing the largest percentage growth in the local tourism industry and, as disposable income increases, will demand specific attractions.

Traditional

"Local hotel managers are already planning specifically for this market by introducing traditional cuisine in their restaurants and African music in their bars," she said.

However, Maartens said that in general Durban and Umhlanga hotels had experienced lower occupancy levels last year compared with the 1995 boom year.

Occupancies had been boosted by international sporting events and the novelty of being one of the world's emerging democracies.

"The decrease should not be viewed negatively, but as a return to a more realistic level with no artificial inflation by one-off attractions," she said.

Despite crime and litter problems, the foreign tourist market had not disappeared completely, with the budget-conscious traveller showing interest in the province.

This tourist market would be encouraged further by the building of the proposed La Mercy international airport.

Maartens said the growing conference market was another catalyst which served to set Durban apart from the rest of SA, and it established the city as a global contender.

"There is still a need to involve the local population by exposing them to the tourism culture and making them appreciate the enormous monetary contribution tourism makes to the local economy," she said.

New opposition and talk of job cuts cloud future of share price

Sun International faces first legal competition

(288) CT 9/1/97

HUI-YONG YU

Johannesburg — Shares of Sun International, down 40 percent in the past year, were hit anew yesterday by the first legal competition to its nationwide monopoly on casino gambling.

A report of possible job cuts at the unprofitable Sun City resort also clouded the outlook for earnings, which one analyst thinks could fall this year if illegal casinos continue to take market share.

Against a rising market, Sun International's shares closed 15c, or about 4 percent, down at R3,65. Over 1,7 million shares were traded, almost seven times the daily average of 243 600 in the past three months.

Mpumalanga named two "preferred finalists" for three licences in the province yesterday. In one of the regions, Witbank, Sun International's AfriSun Mpumalanga lost to Tsogo Sun Holdings, a joint venture between Southern Sun and black investment groups.

Tsogo was also named for the licence in Nelspruit, while Global Resorts (Southern Highveld), owned by RMB Holdings' Rand Merchant Bank unit, Genbel Securities, Malaysia's Mycom Berhad and a group of black investors, was named for the licence in Secunda.

The licences, which the Mpumalanga Gaming Board plans to award by the end of March, would mark the first clearance to operate casinos since South Africa legalised gambling last year.

Sun International holds all 17 casino licences in a holdover from the previous government.

Though the more important licences for Sun International are deemed to be in Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal and the Western Cape, had the company won in Mpumalanga, "it would have given the earnings stream a lot more stability", said Peter Armitage, an analyst at Deutsche Morgan Grenfell South Africa.

Analysts estimate Sun International will earn 55c a share in the year ending June 30, up 10,4 percent from 49,8c last year.

"The forecast risk is fairly high because a major factor in terms of earnings growth is whether the closing down of illegal casinos is effective," said Armitage. — Bloomberg

CAPE ARGUS, **THURSDAY,** JANUARY 9, 1997

NEWS

Robben Island standoff blamed on both sides

Captour urges new deal

(288) ARG 9/1/97

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

Captour chief executive Gordon Oliver has blamed Robben Island authorities and private boat operators for the stand-off during which 200 tourists who landed on the island were denied access to places of interest.

Mr Oliver said both sides were at fault for the incident at the weekend, when four charter boat operators allowed passengers to disembark in defiance of island regulations.

Island authorities blockaded the entrance to the village on the island and ordered the boats to leave.

The island is now a museum after the closure of the prison late last year.

Mr Oliver said the tour operators had been wrong to use the tourists as "a football" to achieve their goals, but also accused island authorities of not being inclusive.

The boat owners, who have been barred from landing on the island, are demanding a slice of the lucrative trade of ferrying tourists to the hugely popular attraction, which opened as a museum on New Year's Day.

At present only vessels operated by the Ministry of Arts and Culture are allowed to put passengers ashore on the island itself.

Mr Oliver said the commercial value of this sought-after cultural attraction and consumer needs could not be ignored.

"Private operators should be included in the future operation of the island," he said, criticising the lack of proper consultation during the hasty hand-over of the island by the prison authorities.

"Overseas visitors are desperate to experience what South Africans went through under the old regime and how it changed. Robben Island offers us an opportunity to promote our diverse cultures and offers tourists a different experience of our country," Mr Oliver said.



Tourists a 'football': Captour's Gordon Oliver

He said tourism bodies had to be included in the future management of the island.

Meanwhile, interim island administrator Tertius Bartmann said island authorities had to turn tourists away every day because of the huge demand to visit the former political prison.

He said about 290 tourists were allowed to visit the island daily during three official tours and any increase in numbers would have to be controlled carefully.

"We always intended including private operators and are still optimistic that a solution can be found, but the weekend's incident has left a bad taste in the mouth," Mr Bartmann said.

The chairman of the Boat Owners' and Charter Association, Richard Smith, said boat operators were open to discussion and had tried to set up an urgent meeting with the island authorities to resolve the issue.

The association represented 10 boat owners, five of whom were affected by the bar on private boats.

Eastern Cape fails tourists

(288) M+G (BM) 10-16/1/97

The Eastern Cape may have a lot of natural riches, but maladministration makes it a holiday in hell, writes Aspasia Karras

THE minutes of a staff meeting at the Dwesa nature reserve provide ample proof of the extent of the Eastern Cape's shambolic state. The final meeting of 1996, which began at 8.30 on a Friday morning, started by asking all drunk members of staff to leave.

A task team appointed last year by Minister of Public Service and Administration Dr Zola Skweyiya to identify management failures in provincial administrations has yet to report its findings, but if the Eastern Cape is any measure, the problems are indeed huge.

Dwesa, situated in some of the most sublime forest and coast land south of Port St Johns, and administered by the Eastern Cape Department of Conservation, confirms the impression of a province in chaos. Not only has it inherited the critical weaknesses of the homeland administrations, but it has failed to recognise its greatest economic potential, tourism.

There is no denying that physical beauty is the Eastern Cape's most viable asset. If one is prepared to disregard the potential attacks on tourists, the most recent example leaving two British daredevils liberated from both their motor vehicle and their clothes, the province is indeed a world in one oyster, as the recent media campaigns of the provincial government claim. The administration seems to have faith in the potential of its natural resources, but apart from slick campaigning to lure the tourists, it is doing very little to ensure it can actually deliver on its promises.

In fact, the concept became an executive political priority only in April last year when tourism was added to the portfolio of the MEC for Economic Affairs and Environment, Smuts Ngonyama. But neither the MEC, nor his representative, was available for comment at the time of publication.

My particular experience is enlightening. In February last year, I was told by the Eastern Cape Department of Conservation, which co-ordinates bookings in the reserves along the Wild Coast, that all the facilities were already booked up for December. An unlikely story. I found an ex-civil servant who had gone private, forming Wild Coast Reservations to bridge the gap, doing what she used to do for the Transkei administration. She repeated the fully-booked line, but after insistent requests booked me two cottages at Dwesa.

We set out in December, making a stop in Umtata to pick up the permit. Not surprisingly, the person with whom we had made an appointment to collect the permits had arrived at work that morning, and promptly left for the day, destination unknown. In the gloom of the Umtata offices (half the lighting was out of order) we battled for assistance. A chance encounter with the reserve manager, stationed in Umtata, saw us finally on our way, permits in hand. As an aside we were informed that the Umtata office could not communicate with Dwesa as the radio connection had broken years ago, and had never been repaired.

After a harrowing drive on a bad dirt road, and confusion at dissembling signposts, we finally arrived at the gate only to have the guard disappear without explanation, but with our permits, for half-an-hour.

The first thing we noticed was that all the cottages bar two were empty; four of the eight remained empty for the 10 days of our stay, despite their fully-booked status.

A hike in the reserve proved another headache. The rules and regulations (which were all-pervasive and obscure) demand that a guide accompany all hikers, and we naturally attempted to engage the services of one. The office was a model of administrative incompetence. The guide was unavailable the next day as a result of the end-of-year staff meeting, the following day because it was raining, and the day after he had to physically collect his pay cheque from Umtata — a full four hours away. He was never seen again.

Our travails did not end there. Laundry came back dirtier than before, gas stoves regularly started small domestic fires, and a board in the rickety balcony broke. All encounters with the 200-odd staff (half of whom are a model of labour-intensive grass-cutting projects) at Dwesa were frustrating in the extreme. The rules and regulations prevented anyone from making any decisions of any magnitude whatever. Even the positioning of the firebreaks had to be decided at head office.

As a case study of bureaucratic incompetence, the Eastern Cape tourism fiasco is a useful starting-point for debates about rule-driven organisations, weak administrations, demotivation, lack of training and human resources, and poor service delivery, which characterise weak governance.

It could even be argued that there is a causal link between the quality of an administration and political stability. But the bottom line is that it is a tragic case of the emperor's new clothes, as the British tourists so obviously discovered.

Tourism threatens Island

(288) M+G 10-16/11/97

Gustav Thiel

THE avalanche of sightseers and tourists wanting to visit Robben Island could result in permanent damage to the marine environment on the island.

This warning comes from the island's temporary administrator, Professor Andre Odendaal, and the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront's harbour master Bill Shewell. Odendaal said he was working on a tight schedule to ensure that proper structures were put in place to accommodate the requests from the many visitors wanting to visit the prison where President Nelson Mandela spent 27 years, and where thousands of other political prisoners were kept.

Visitors have been queuing at the Waterfont booking office early every morning, but numbers are currently restricted to 290 a day. Odendaal stressed that this could only be increased once proper structures were in place.

Island authorities blockaded the entrance to the island last weekend after four privately operated charter boats defied regulations and allowed an estimated 200 passengers to go ashore. Officials of the Arts and Culture Ministry used buses and taxis to block the entrance to the island village.

Odendaal said this week that a naval vessel with two personnel was used to prevent further transgressions. According to Odendaal, negotiations are continuing with the police to establish a station on the island to ensure permanent and proper control.

He took over the temporary administration of the island on January 1. He was appointed by the Ministry of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology, which assumed controlling authority of the island from the Department of Correctional Services.

Robben Island is to be run as a site museum, where the total environment is conserved in an integrated way. The prison will be converted into a museum of the freedom struggle in South Africa. Odendaal said initial problems with private boat companies seem to have been resolved after several parties, including the head of the ex-Political Prisoners Committee, Ahmed Kathrada, came out strongly against transgressions on the island.

In a letter to Odendaal, Shewell expressed his outrage at the actions of the private boat owners last weekend and added that the Waterfront would do "everything in its power to prevent similar actions".

Boat Owners' and Charter Association chairman Bruce See said earlier in the week that he was seeking legal advice about the way the government allegedly interfered with private enterprise by preventing more people from visiting the island.

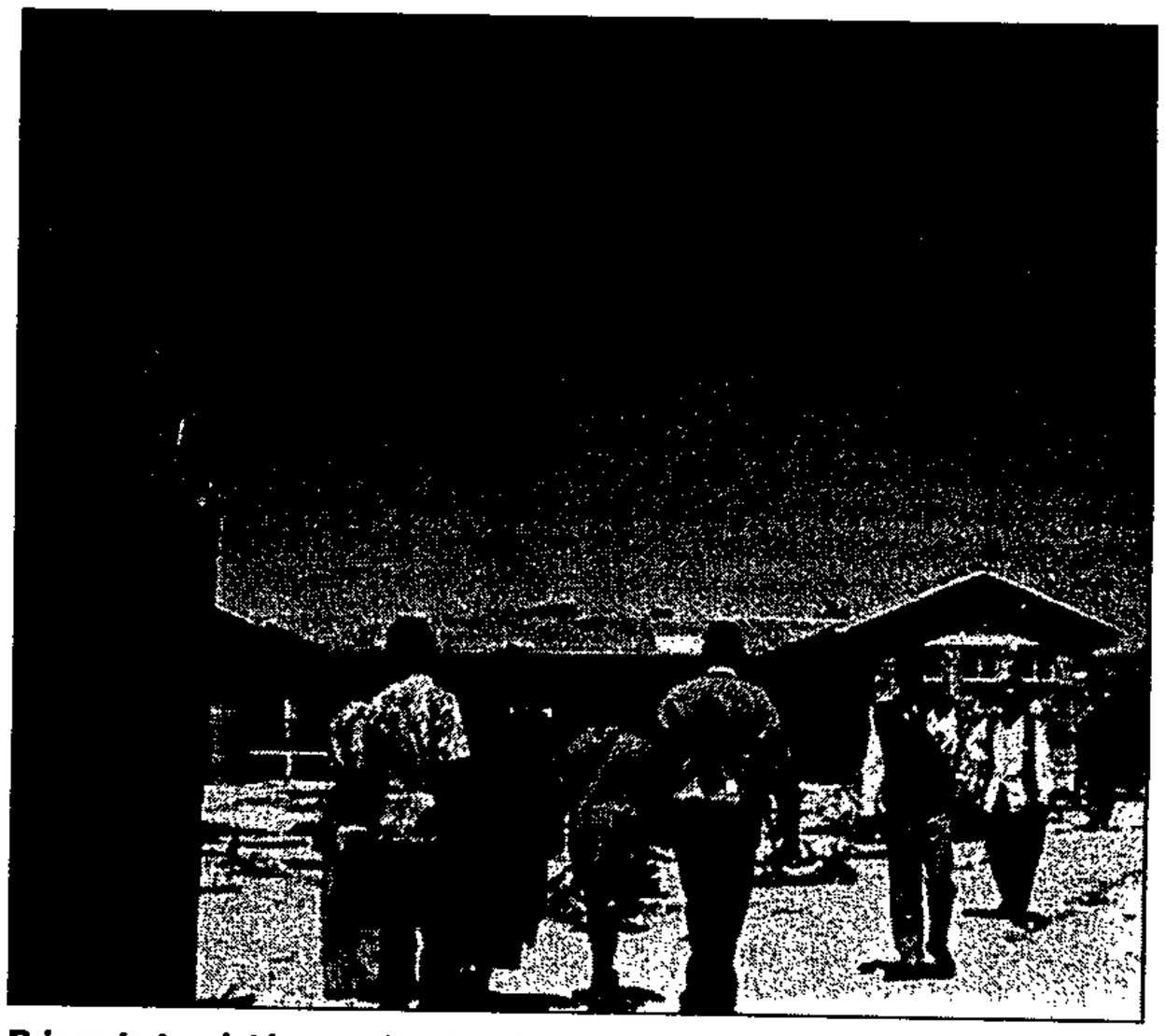
Oddendaal said it is "out of the question" that more visitors could be allowed. He added, however, that when the numbers were eventually increased all ferries operating to the island would be under the control of the Department of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology. "Our main concern at this stage is to prevent damage to the environment because the establishment of the museum is a long-term project. "Robben Island is a very sensitive area with a large penguin colony and a propensity for bush fires. If the area is disturbed in any way the marine environment could face permanent damage," said Odendaal.

Shewell said the Waterfront did not want to involve itself further with the running of island ferries. He did, however, express concern over the time-frame in which Odendaal had to complete his task. "I think they have performed wonders since New Year's day, but they are working under tremendous strain. Can you imagine the enormous damage done to the environment if 5 000 people a day are dumped on the island. This is a real possibility if the structures in place now allow that situation to develop."

Negotiations on the future of the historic departure point on Jetty 1 in the Table Bay harbour situated next to the Waterfront shopping complex were still continuing, according to Shewell. Odendaal disagrees and says all parties concerned have agreed that the site will be preserved in its current state. Marine manager of Portnet John Cosnett said this week that the future of the site was not yet secure.

"I know that there are several issues still under discussion. We control a large part of Jetty 1 and have made presentations to build another storey on top of the building at the point of departure for ferries to the island. To my knowledge these negotiations are still continuing," said Cosnett.

Kathrada and other ex-prisoners have, in the past, supported the preservation of the site in its current form, but was this week not willing to comment on the issue.



Prison to tourist haven: Robben Island faces a 'tourist onslaught'

CONSULTANT TO FACILITATE INTER-DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES ON HIV/AIDS

The Directorate: HIV/AIDS and STDs requires the services of a consultant to assist with the establishment of HIV/AIDS Programmes within National Government Departments.

Tenders are invited from persons with the necessary expertise to assist the Department with its Inter-departmental activities on HIV/AIDS by conducting presentations to top management of National Government Departments on the impact of the AIDS epidemic internally (on the workforce) and externally (on the sector served by the Department). The presentations will form an important part of the overall strategy to create a united and effective response by Government to the AIDS epidemic.

Tenders are obtainable from: **The Director General, Department of Health, 274 Struben Street, or Private Bag X828, Pretoria 0001.** *(Refer to tender: Ges 92/96-97)*

Tender documents must be forwarded to: The Director-General, Department of Health, Private Bag X828, Pretoria 0001, or deposited in the tender box at 274 Struben Street, Pretoria. Enquiries: Mr A. Lubbe/Mr J. Chikana, (012) 312-0915/0917.

Closing date: 31 January 1997.

Department of Health

SAATCHI & SAATCHI KLERCK & BARRETT RECRUITMENT 55374

Multi-billion Dolphin deal 'top secret'

MtG 10-16/1/97

The Dolphin Group has put together a deal that not only includes Mpumalanga's prime resorts, but could also be at public expense, reports Justin Arenstein

(288) (156)

THE Mpumalanga government has handed over its main natural assets to an unknown foreign company and has promised not to talk about the deal for 50 years.

The contract which has been leaked to the *Mail & Guardian* allows the mysterious Dolphin Group to plunder the province's tourist attractions in a deal which has enraged conservationists.

Since the extraordinary deal was announced with lavish fanfare on November 27, the Mpumalanga Parks Boa d, which arranged and signed it, has consistently refused to reveal details of its agreement with the mysterious group which has a convenience address in Dubai but is registered in Bermuda.

The contracts' terms are massively weighted in favour of the Dolphin Group and contain highly controversial provisions, which dismayed leading members of the province's Environmental Council.

They are shocked at the scope it gives Dolphin to exploit attractions including the Blyde River Canyon, Bourkes Luck, the Blyde River potholes and Pilgrim's Rest.

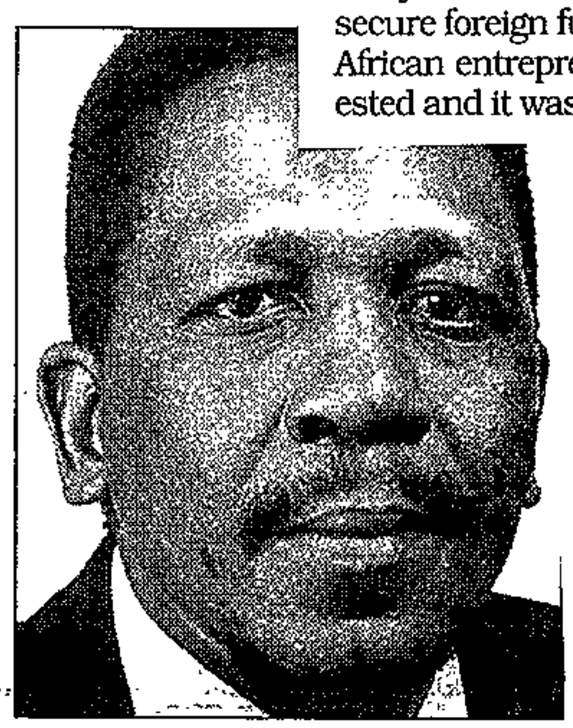
In return for parks board's largesse, Dolphin will for 50 years subsidise the budget of the board. The province will stop funding the parks board in eight years.

Although the contract does give the board the right to veto or adjust any Dolphin project on environmental grounds, this right is circumscribed by four clauses, one of which, for example, obliges it to "carry on responsible and sound conservation practice so as to best enable ... Dolphin to exercise their commercial rights".

The parks board boss Alan Gray has repeatedly denied that Dolphin's bankrolling of the parks board could create a conflict of interests when the board conducts environmental impact studies prior to approving Dolphin developments.

The parks board agrees in two additional clauses to "maximise developmental opportunities ... and maximise financial returns" for Dolphin in Mpumalanga Province as it relates to the parks board.

A lawyer who read through the contract this week questioned the failure of the government to call for public tenders for the project. At the launch Gray said the parks board had to secure foreign funding because South African entrepreneurs were not interested and it was too big for them.



Mathews Phosa: Approved the deal without reading it

PHOTOGRAPH: ANDREW MOHAMED

The lawyer also said the agreement could be restrictive in terms of the Competitions Act of 1979, because it puts so many public assets in one province in the hands of one business.

It contains one page of contributions Dolphin has to make and more than five pages of contributions the board must make.

Nowhere does it give any figures of the revenue or profits Dolphin expects. At the project launch Dolphin executives and Gray said the group would spend R300-million in "bricks and mortar" development in the first four years, which might rise to R400-million. Several thousand jobs would be created.

A diagram with the agreement allots up to 20% of shareholdings in some Dolphin subsidiaries to be established in Mpumalanga to "disadvantaged business and community" but gives no indication of what this means in money or jobs.

At the project launch both the board and Dolphin said the agreement would benefit disadvantaged communities.

Another section of the contract commits the board to endeavour to ensure the current contracts for Mpumalanga tourist sites in board reserves such as Aventura Lodges in the Blyde River Canyon, the exclusive Bongani Lodge in the Mthethonmusha Reserve, be shifted to Dolphin by negotiation or when they end.

These contracts will then be sold by Dolphin to sub-contractors for its own profit. The clause most seriously criticised by lawyers is that Dolphin may opt out of its financial obligations should there be any form of political instability, worsening security, civil unrest, or declining tourist arrivals over a period of only three months.

If the situation has not improved after a further six months, Dolphin will have to pay the board only 7% of any revenue generated from its Mpumalanga enterprises instead of wholly funding the board's operations. This 7% payment, moreover, will be for three months only while the board looks for loans to cover its deficit.

In a seeming breach of normal management practices, the board also has to advise and consult with Dolphin before making any internal policy changes that might hurt Dolphin's profits.

The contract will be debated on January 16 in Nelspruit at a joint meeting of the board and the Environment Council, whose members include environmentalists such as Dr John Hanks, of the Worldwide Fund For Nature, Rupert Lorimer, and Dr Sue Hart, founder of Ecolink as well as a National Parks Board member. The meeting is expected to be heated.

HOTEL INDUSTRY (288)

KILLING THE GOOSE

FM 10/1/97

Local tourists and businessmen appear to have become unwanted species in their own country. Many can no longer afford hotel dollar-based prices, or object to paying them, and are opting for alternative accommodation.

Foreign tourists who visited SA when it was a cheap holiday destination are also switching to nonhotel or alternative accommodation as hotel price increases eliminate the benefits of the falling rand and SA's reputation as a cheap holiday destination.

This switch is not affecting hotels at present. It's the height of tourist season, but the trend showed up in the Central Statistical Services (CSS)'s figures for September, a more normal month, when 78 268 foreign visitors arrived. Though that was 7 667 or 11% more than the 70 601 for September 1995, average hotel room occupancy decreased by 5,5% to 56,9%.

Hotel income was not affected. It dipped in areas such as the Free State and KwaZulu-Natal, but increased by 6,3% on average. In the Johannesburg area, room occupancy increased by 11,1% and income by 32,8%. In Cape Town, though room occupancy decreased by 8,1%, hotel income increased by 20,5%.

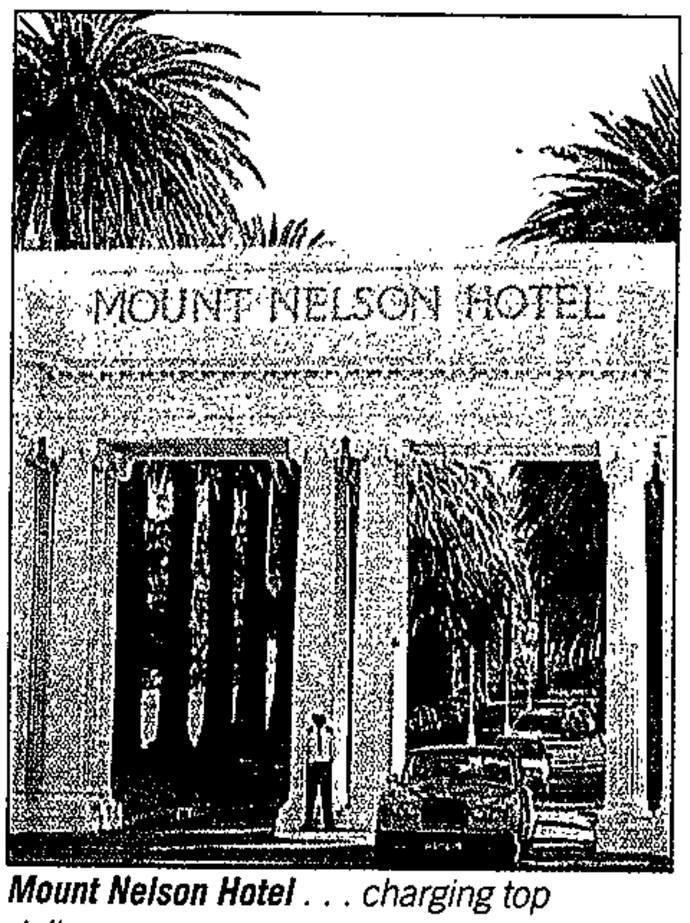
Liz Westby-Nunn, president of the SA Tourism Services Association (Satsa), confirms that disgruntled South Africans and frequent foreign visitors are staying in the nonhotel, or alternate accommodation sector. "The bed and breakfast sector really got started about three years ago, and since then 3 000 new establishments have opened up. Guesthouses are popular and their numbers are growing month by month. Suite hotels are relatively new, but businessmen are switching to them because they are professionally run and suit tight budgets. A lot of people now stay in self-catering accommodation."

Renate Benka of Wilson Collins says overseas tourists who come to SA for the first time don't seem to mind high hotel prices. In their currencies it's still reasonable, but those who come regularly complain about how quickly, and by how much tariffs have risen.

Several upmarket hotels have let the travel trade know South Africans are no longer the target market. A report in the November issue of *Captour News* states, "the fluctuation of the rand has forced the five-star Mount Nelson (which took a 20% hike in the off-season) to adopt a new pricing policy, to quote in dollars."

Accommodation in Cape Town is pitched at about R125 a night, sharing in a bed and breakfast establishment, and R150 sharing in a guest house. Those who opt for hotels will pay R595 for a room for two at the Capetonian, plus R40 each for breakfast. At the Cape Sun a single room costs R930, a double R1 030 and breakfast for one R60. At the more modest St George's a room for two costs R450 a night, a single room R284 and breakfasts R29.

The Mount Nelson's bed and breakfast normal rate for a single room quoted in Captour's November newsletter was R1 295 a night.



***Mount Nelson Hotel** . . . charging top dollar*

Roger Mackie, president of the Association of SA Travel Agents accepts hotels have had union problems and costs are escalating, but, he says, "they're showing good profits and it's time to rein in their price hikes. They're killing the goose that lays the golden egg. Four and five-star hotels are pricing themselves out of the market. Even bed and breakfast operations are becoming expensive.

"We still have a shortage of hotels, which is in their favour. Prices may come down if we have a downturn." They may also come down when the 60 to 80 hotels the SA Tourism Board claims will be built in the next two years open their doors. ■

Hot odds on Cape Town bid

M+G 10-16/1/97 (288)

Gustav Thiel

A LEADING British bookmaker, William Hill, is betting on Cape Town as the site for the 2004 Olympic at the very generous odds of six to four, followed by Rome at two to one.

However, the international magazine *Sports Business* puts Cape Town in third place, behind Rome and Stockholm.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) decides on March 7 on the final cities from which the eventual winner will be selected — to be announced on September 5. The IOC may initially elect four and if two cities are neck and neck, it can go for five.

The odds offered by William Hill on other cities are: Athens seven to two; Buenos Aires and Stockholm 12 to one; Rio de Janeiro 14 to one; St Petersburg 63 to one; Istanbul 20 to one; Lille 50 to one; San Juan 66 to one; and Seville 100 to one.

Chris Ball, chief executive officer of the Cape Town Bid company, told the *Mail & Guardian* this week he believes the city's proposal for the Games is unrivalled by any of the other 10 bidding cities: "I seriously believe we have put forward the best proposal to the IOC, and that we have the best logistical support."

Said a staunch bid opponent, former Cape Town city councillor Arthur Wienburg: "I suspect Cape Town will be included in the last four or five cities simply because this will be a politically correct decision by the IOC. Cape Town will also be included as it is the only African city to bid and the IOC will be keen to sustain worldwide interest in the bidding process.

"But the IOC must surely realise Cape Town is simply too small for the Olympic Games."

The bid company insists, however, that the Evaluation Commission of the IOC which visited Cape Town early last month was impressed with what the Mother City has to offer.

"Although the members of the Evaluation Commission are very professional and will not comment on what they saw here, the vibes I have picked up from them are very positive," said Ball. "One should always be cautious, but I think we will be in the final four or five cities. Thereafter I think we are still strongly in the running."

In the past, Ball has come under fire for his management style from various groups, including the Development Action Group, a housing forum opposed to the bid.

Ball said this week he was unaware of criticism levelled at him, but his door was open to anyone willing to confront him with complaints. "I am willing to admit I am imperfect and not always the most open person, but I have a job to do and that is to make sure Cape Town wins the bid."

He admitted there had in the past been "tensions" between the bid company and the National Olympic Committee of South Africa, and that these had undermined the bid. "This relationship is now very strong," he said.

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Parks on the JSE

(SS)(288)MK(BM)10-16/11/97

Justin Arenstein

THE Mpumalanga Parks Board (MPB) has signed an agreement with a foreign conglomerate that contractually obliges it to support the full listing of the commercial rights to some of South Africa's prime environmental assets on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE).

Assets include the second-biggest canyon in the world, Blyde River Canyon, South Africa's fifth most popular international tourist attraction, Pilgrim's Rest, other prime natural features, such as Bourkes Luck and Blyde River Potholes, and at least five provincial game reserves.

The secret "shareholders' contract" between MPB and the self-proclaimed "multi-billion dollar" conglomerate, Dolphin Group, signed on November 1, binds the MPB to secrecy for the full 50 years that the contract remains in force.

It grants Dolphin and its subsidiaries, Block Hotels and United Touring Company, the exclusive commercial management and development rights to all but one of MPB's game reserves.

Dolphin reserves the right to sell these management contracts later to sub-contractors for its own profit. In return, Dolphin undertakes to fund the MPB's budget deficit over the contract's 50-year term, as well as investing between R300- and R400-million in "bricks and mortar" projects in the parks.

MPB insists that it was forced to seek private-sector funding after the provincial government informed the parastatal that it would cease funding in 10 years' time.

FRIDAY
JANUARY 10, 1997 ★

MORE FOREIGN VISITORS EXPECTED

Bumper season as tourists flock to Cape

(288) CT 10/1/97

AS UP-COUNTRY visitors head home after a busy festive season in the city, Capetonians are bracing themselves for a second wave of visitors, this time from overseas.

WITH the domestic tourist season drawing to a close, Cape Town has yet to face the influx of foreign tourists, who are expected in the city in slightly larger numbers this year.

The Cape metropolitan region's tourism promotion body, Captour, said Cape Town had enjoyed an "improved" festive season compared with last year, with the only major glitch being traffic congestion.

Captour chief executive Mr Gordon Oliver said the domestic tourist market had increased significantly over previous years. This had also led to the inevitable number of complaints about service standards.

"The one major complaint was the level of traffic in the city over the Christmas and New Year period. But in all, it was definitely better than previous seasons.

"December was a quiet month as far as foreign tourism was concerned, but we can expect it to start picking up this month and carry on through to March and April," Oliver said.

Oliver said the 37 written complaints Captour had received were about accommodation, car hire, tour operators and restaurants.

Common complaints were about overpricing, bad service, bad food — and in some instances the failure to refund tourists for bookings that were cancelled.

"It is not as if the service is deteriorating or shocking. There were complaints, but there was also positive feedback," Oliver said.

Meanwhile, reports from outlying areas suggest that towns in rural areas also enjoyed a bumper holiday season.

The coastal town of Hermanus was swollen with tourists, causing traffic jams right through the town on some days.

Ms Jonitha Mckenzie, of the Hermanus' tourism bureau, said: "We have had a very busy festive season, with a definite increase in overseas visitors — and the December to January school holiday period was nothing less than chaotic."

Wine estates also reported brisk business.

"This has been one of the busiest seasons ever for us. We've had over 5 000 tourists in December alone," Ms Sunette Rust, of Nederburg in Paarl, said yesterday.

Bellingham representative Ms Paula Rossouw said: "The season has been fairly short, but incredibly busy. Our busiest day must have attracted about 1 000 visitors."

Bellingham, too, totalled at least 5 000 visitors for December.

Caledon, on the N2 and therefore a popular stop along the Garden Route, also felt the impact of the wave of tourism.

"The traffic through the town has totalled thousands each week," said Ms Tizzie Mangalli of Caledon's tourist bureau.

"The tourist rush doesn't seem to be quietening down just yet — this looks like being one of the busiest seasons so far." — Staff Writers

Giving away a jewel

288 CP 12/1/97

A STORM of controversy has blown up over a multi-million rand deal, supposed to remain secret for 50 years, which grants a foreign company exclusive commercial rights to Mpumalanga's prime tourism assets, with one of SA's leading conservationists slamming the way the deal was steamrolled through.

Dr John Hanks, World Wildlife Fund (WWF) executive director in South Africa and a member of the Mpumalanga Parks Board (MPB), stated in a letter to the board's chairman, Dr Patrick Maduna, that the MPB's "lack of transparency is totally unacceptable, and as a board member, I take strong exception to reading about the deal in the press when I knew nothing whatsoever about it".

Hanks' letter, dated November 29 – two days after the deal was announced with public fanfare – comes on the heels of revelations that the MPB signed an agreement with the Dolphin Group, the terms of which are meant to remain permanently secret and which virtually give control to Dolphin of most of Mpumalanga's prime natural assets and tourist attractions.

Another board member said "it's like giving the crown jewels to an unknown foreigner".

He and other dissatisfied board members are saying no more before Thursday's joint meeting of the MPB and the province's Environment Council (EC).

In his letter, Hanks raised several questions about the deal's validity:

☐ Why was no attempt made to send the draft of "the most important agreement in the history of conservation in Mpumalanga" to other board members before signature?

☐ How could the document be presented to the board for ratification after the chairman had admitted, under pressure from board members, that it was a fait accompli?

☐ Why was a foreign-based company granted exclusive commercial development rights without South African companies being given the chance to bid?

☐ If this was supposedly a genuine joint venture between the MPB and Dolphin, why did Dolphin get three directorships on the joint operating company while the MBP got only one?

☐ Hanks stated that a clause in the secret agreement states that the joint operating company would put all development plans to the MPB for prior approval. But, he asks, how could he have any faith in this when the original agreement was rushed through "without any form of consultation whatsoever"?

Hanks said he agreed to serve on the MPB in the hope he could make a positive contribution to its day-to-day running, but now questions "whether this is a wise use of my time".

"The way in which the majority of the board members were marginalised . . . makes me believe we will be bypassed when controversial development plans are presented for approval," he stated.

When approached for reaction to Hanks' charges on Friday, Maduna consistently refused to be drawn either on the issues raised in the letter or on the contents of the secret agreement between the MPB and Dolphin.

"The contents of Hanks' letter are not for public consumption or discussion, and I am not prepared to say anything in this regard until after our next board meeting.

"Until that meeting, I have no view on any of these issues," he said.

Adding that he wouldn't like to be "implicated" in speaking to the press, Maduna also refused to comment on why no reply to Hanks' questions had been drafted, six weeks after the issues were raised.

According to the secret agreement, Dolphin will subsidise the budget of the MPB for 50 years.

MPB's budget this year is R55 million and for 2006/7 is projected at R108 million with a R93 million shortfall. MPB head Alan Gray speculated that 50 years hence, the budget could top R12 billion.

Both parties to the agreement are bound for a full 50 years, despite the fact that the assets involved are public property and that the MPB is a publicly accountable parastatal.

The contract also inexplicably commits the MPB to establishing an office for the self-confessed "multi-billion dollar" Dolphin Group at public expense – including personnel and support services – for at least one year.

Although the agreement does give the MPB the right to veto or adjust any Dolphin project on environmental grounds, this right is circumscribed by clauses binding the MPB to "provide effective conservation management . . . in keeping with the development plans to be formulated by Dolphin", and to do its best to "assist Dolphin in obtaining all national and provincial government clearances, permits, licences and other statutory requirements", and obliging it to "carry on responsible and sound conservation practice so as to best enable . . . Dolphin to exercise their commercial rights".

The MPB agrees in two additional clauses in the preamble to "maximise development opportunities . . . and maximise financial returns" for Dolphin in Mpumalanga as it relates to the Parks Board.

But the clause which is most seriously being criticised in legal circles is that Dolphin may opt out of all its financial obligations should there be any form of political instability, worsening security, civil unrest or declining tourist arrivals – over a period of only three months.

The contract will be debated on January 6 in Nelspruit at a joint meeting of the MPB and EC.

Mpumalanga Premier Mathews Phosa, himself a lawyer, is understood not to have read the agreement personally but to have approved it on the recommendations of his advisors. – African Eye News Services.

Big Mac? Huh . . . try a Big Nellie!

ARG 1/2/97 (288)

CHARLENE CLAYTON
PROPERTY EDITOR

If you are staying at the Mount Nelson Hotel and feeling a little peckish, your hunger pangs could be instantly stilled by the price of the hamburgers ordered through room service.

At a whopping R110 for the BLT hamburger, that is a bacon, lettuce and tomato hamburger with two pure-beef fillet patties served with french fries, you would be munching the most expensive hamburger in Africa.

The price does not include a service fee, which is, of course, at your discretion.

Sean Parrott, the hotel's executive assistant manager, said the hamburgers were put on the menu at the request of guests.

"Especially the Americans like to have hamburgers, pizzas and club sandwiches," he said.

Other examples of the room service menu include R60 for soup of the day, while a club sandwich will also cost you R110. To quench your thirst, a fruit juice, as well as a cup of coffee or tea will run up your bill at R25 each. If you really feel adventurous, the Dom Perignon '88 champagne is R795 for a 750ml bottle, while a South African sparkling wine like Nederburg Cuvee Brut is R75 a bottle.

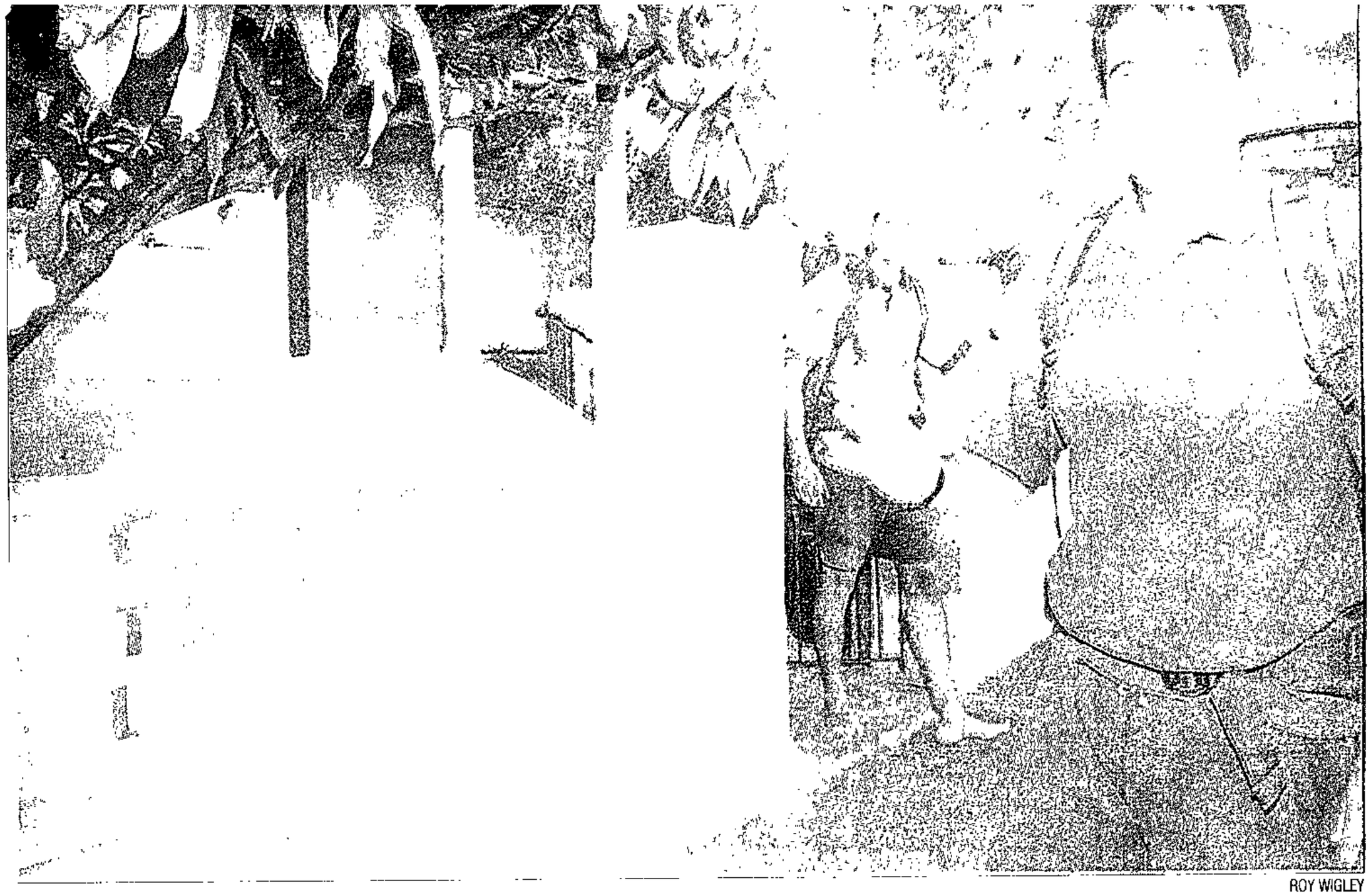
Mr Parrott said the hotel had a cross-section of pricing structures and the most expensive room service menu in South Africa did not mean their other services were the same.

"At our Cape Colony restaurant you can get a full dinner with wine for two people for R250," he said.

Other prices were R125 for the lunch buffet at the Oasis restaurant and R47,50 for the sumptuous afternoon tea.

While the afternoon tea sounded pricey, Mr Parrott pointed out that at London's Savoy Hotel tea would set you back £18,50 – and that's about R135.

The latest figures from the Central Statistical Service indicate that tourists to South Africa have been shunning five-star hotels in favour of cheaper accommodation.



ROY WIGLEY

Yuppies: Paul MacWhirter from Newcastle and Nick Green from Kent, both investment bankers, represent the new kind of backpacker in town

Stand by for the invasio

3/2/97/288

Well-off young professionals staying

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

THE CHANGING CITY



TRACKING A CITY IN TRANSITION

There is a new kind of backpacker on the streets of Cape Town.

In contrast to the common perception of tired and sweaty students in unwashed T-shirts, the new breed of backpackers are, more often than not, well-heeled foreign, young professionals.

Official estimates have put the number of backpacker establishments in the city at around 40 but backpacker owners believe there are closer to 50.

At about 40 beds a hostel, this translates to about 2 000 backpacker-beds in town.

Contrary to reports of reduced occupancy by hotels, backpacker establishments say they were full throughout the festive season.

Compared to a mere eight youth hostels in the city in 1993, the dramatic increase in hostels, concentrated mainly in Long, New Church and Kloof streets and in Sea Point, bears testament to the growth in this previously undeveloped market.

"Cape Town is being swamped with hostels and it remains to be seen if the market is big enough to carry them all, especially in the quieter winter season," said Fiona Jones, marketing manager for Hostelling International South Africa (HISA).

She says there is still a dire need for hostels on the outskirts of the city and in the rural areas like the Cedarberg and West Coast which are attracting more and more discerning young travellers.

Those in the know say although the backpackers may "sleep cheap" at around R15 to R35 a person a night in a dormitory, the new style of backpackers are not shy about parting with their money for transport, food, drinks and entertainment.

"Our estimates are that the average backpacker spends between R200 and R250 a day and they stay for at least two weeks, but often as long as six months," said Ms Jones.

She believes that backpackers could be contributing more to the city's tourism revenue than traditional tourists because the young travellers tend to spread their spending across a broader spectrum.

Steve Thomas of Daytripper Tours, which offers budget tours for backpackers, agrees: "They may be dressed in jeans and takkies, but the backpackers have a lot of money to spend.

"And they don't spend only in tourist spots because they go to places off the beaten track like the Karoo.

"They don't buy off the shelf but directly from the locals."

Jochen Beckert of Albergo Backpacker in Beckham Street, one of the first hostels in the city, has found that his clients are becoming more sophisticated.

"They arrive on my doorstep with an expensive hired car complete with cell phone and laptop. They are not kids any more," he said.

Industry specialists agree that the traditional profile of backpackers has changed dramatically over the past few years.

Not only are they older, with an average age over 25, but they are also more mature and streetwise.

This was confirmed by Mr Thomas: "Although they still have a reputation for just wanting to party, the majority are professional, intelligent and sophisticated



On the go: Michelle Knight of Cornwall, Matthew Austen of Cardiff and Alison Thomas of Cornwall, all graduates, have a quick bite before hitting the road

n of the backpackers

in hostels ... and spending money

(288) ARG 3/12/97

young people with ecological, cultural and political sensitivities.

"They are really interested in what is happening in our country and they are really interesting people."

This keen interest in the local culture and politics also means that the average backpacker is not deterred by Pagad marches, riots and crime statistics, unlike more conventional tourists.

"They would cash in on the cheaper flights to the country when other tourists cancel their trips as a result of this type of thing. For them it is an adventure. They realise it will not really affect them," said Mr Thomas.

Most of the young travellers arriving in the city come from England and Wales, followed by Germany and Australia, but last year saw an upsurge in the number of Asian, Scandinavian and Argentinian backpackers.

Apart from the cultural sites, most of the travellers visit Cape Point, the winelands and the Waterfront, while many also go for the more adventurous options such as kloofing, paragliding, windsurfing and township tours.

What does a local hostel offer which cannot be found in an hotel?

"They want a home from home, a clean, relaxed and friendly environment where they can interact with other travellers," says Lisa Mason, co-owner of Ashanti Lodge in Hof Street, where backpackers can make reservations and get tourist information.

Her establishment will soon include a pool deck, bar and souvenir shop.

Apart from offering cheap accommodation in far more interesting and ethnically genuine surroundings than most hotels, the city's youth hostels are also far more relaxed than their overseas counterparts, said Ms Jones.

Most of the HISA-affiliated hostels offer dormitory-style accommodation and double rooms. All have a common room and TV lounge, cooking facilities and an outdoor braai area.

Many have pubs and pool tables and they all offer an information and travel service, and often an airport shuttle.

There is one negative aspect however, say the backpacker specialists, and that is the tourism authorities' reluctance to acknowledge these travellers as an important part of the local tourism industry.

"Two thirds of the Australian and New Zealand tourism marketing budget is devoted to the backpacker industry. The local hostels provide a phenomenal service and they are still largely ignored by the big organisations. The Captours and Satours are beginning to recognise them but a lot still has to be done to promote the country as a backpacker destination," said Mr Thomas.

He believes that the service and information offered by the average local hostel far surpasses that of luxury hotels.

"The hostels are the best tourist information offices in town and the hotels can learn a lot from these people about personal service."

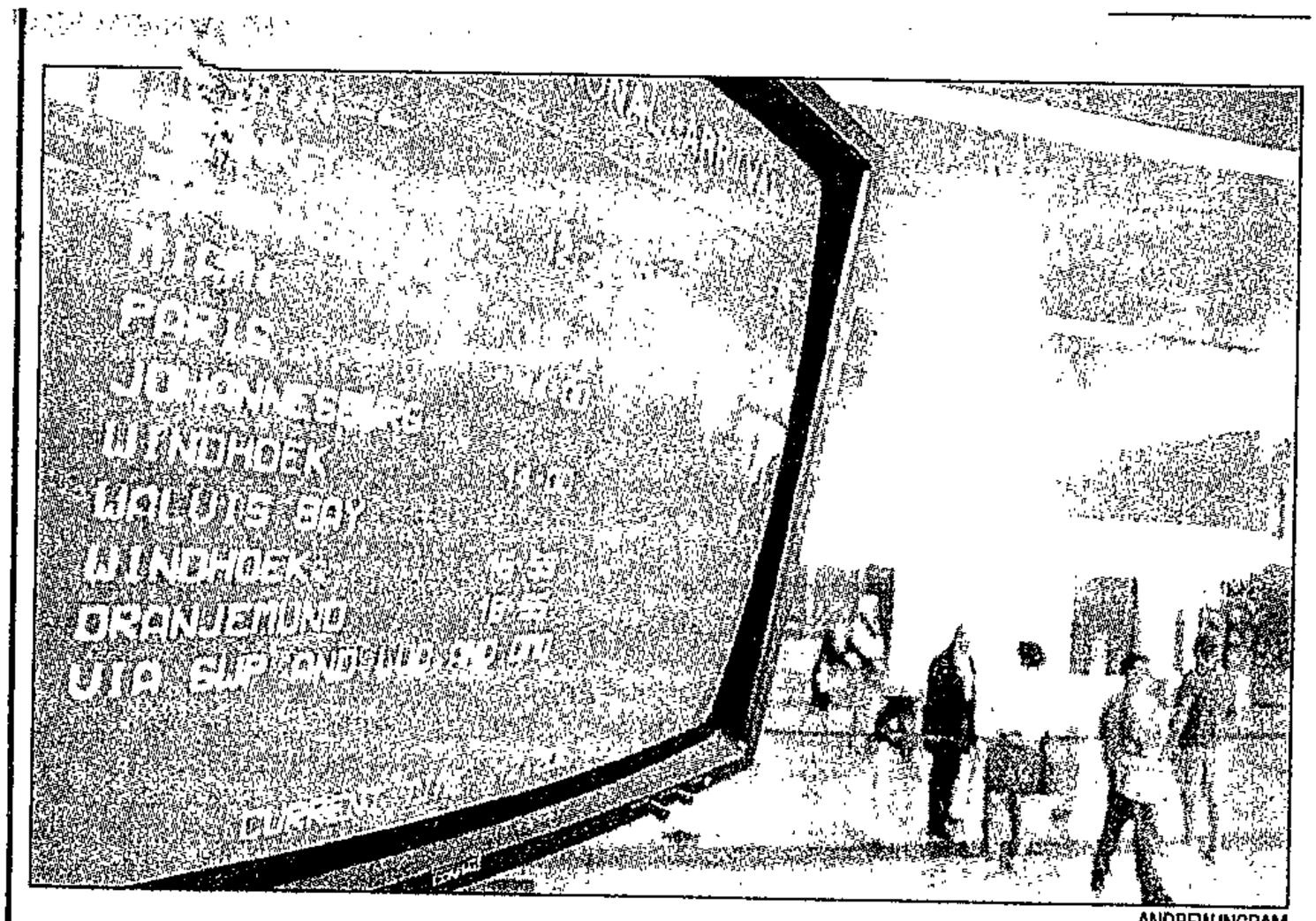
Ms Jones welcomed the fact that Satour, for the first time last year, recorded backpacker figures which she interpreted as a sign they were being accepted as an increasingly important part of the tourism marketplace.

She also enthused about the imminent launch of a freesheet tabloid newspaper aimed at backpackers which will offer travellers a variety of information and news that should make their stay more fulfilling.

The last word goes to the backpackers themselves.

"Cape Town is an excellent place and I will definitely be back," said Gemma, 24, from London.

Sandra van Bellighem of Utrecht in Holland agreed: "You have everything here, the sun, mountains, beaches. It is really wonderful."



ANDREW INGRAM

Tourist trickle: the flights are arriving but tourist numbers are on the decline

High prices, robberies 'mug' city tourism boom

(288) ARG 3/2/97

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

Cape Town's tourism boom went off the boil in December and January as foreign visitors began avoiding the city because of crime and high prices.

Early indications, ahead of official statistics, are that in spite of hopes of a bumper summer, the number of tourists in Cape Town during the peak season was well below expectation.

The newly-formed Western Cape Tourism Business Council, representing a wide range of hotels, guest houses, restaurants, tour operators and others in the hospitality industry, reports a sharp downturn in the number of foreign tourists and visitors from other parts of the country.

This resulted in a significant drop in tourism-related business during the season, contrary to popular belief.

Guest houses, hotels, bed-and-breakfast concerns, restaurants and tourist attractions also report a sharp decline in demand for the next few months, for which they blame crime and violence and the activities of People Against Gangsterism and Drugs (Pagad).

The Western Cape Tourism Board confirmed there had been indications of a drop-off in tourism business but stressed that over-pricing, especially in the accommodation sector, could have resulted in a greater spread of tourists to the more affordable regional centres.

Tourism Minister Lampie Fick expressed his shock at the severity of the

To page 3

High prices and crime hit tourism

(288) ARG 3/2/97

From page 1

situation after being briefed by the steering committee of the Western Cape Tourism Business Council.

The council, which is in the process of establishing a partnership with the provincial government, represents tourism concerns including the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, Sun International, Protea Hotels, City Lodge, the BMW Pavilion, South African Airways, Fedhasa, the Restaurant Guild, the Southern Africa Tourism Services Association and others.

"The pressure is not on. The phones are not ringing and the fax machines are not going. The crowds are not coming," said Liz Westby-Nunn, deputy chairwoman of the national Tourism Business Council, who is on the steering committee of the Western Cape council.

She said businesses were reporting far less pressure than at the same time last year and expected occupancy levels and profits for the past two months had not materialised.

Ms Westby-Nunn said the declining number of foreign visitors was an indication of the situation countrywide, because the Cape was seen as the barometer of the industry. Earlier reports of a "tourist boom" were based on figures which did not include the peak season months.

The Tourism Business Council's statistics show a 6 to 20 percent drop in hotel, guest-house and B&B occupancy during December and January. Restaurant business was 10 to 20 percent down on last year.

The Imax cinema at the BMW pavilion had 20 percent fewer visitors than expected and a R100 000 international conference there was cancelled because of worries about safety. International hotel groups have reportedly expressed "nervousness" about continued investment in the city.

The tourism council also is concerned about the recent withdrawal from the country of a number of foreign airlines.

Satour's office in Frankfurt reported an alarming 20 percent drop in inquiries about South Africa between June and December last year.

The Western Cape Tourism Business Council has urged Mr Fick to lobby his provincial and central government colleagues to urgently address the crime situation in the Cape and countrywide.

Tourist boom over – now to get it right, page 9

Skukuza security to be jacked up after thefts

(288)

Crime against tourists being hushed up, it is claimed

Star 4/2/97

By Shirley Woodgate

The Kruger National Park has been forced to install costly security measures to prevent theft from rest camps in one of South Africa's prime tourist attractions.

Tourists who left valuables in chalets at the popular Skukuza camp while out on game drives were hit on two successive weekends during the Christmas holidays, spokesman Chris van der Linde confirmed yesterday.

"The Johannesburg scene has extended into the park," he said.

"In this case, thieves simply walked into the unlocked bungalows and carried off visitors' suitcases containing passports, clothing and valuables, with one Australian tourist reporting a loss of R15 000."

Incidents of theft had been "an on/off problem" and the initial expenditure on an electronic security-card system at Skukuza alone was expected to be about R600 000.

"Tenders have already been called for Skukuza, which is being targeted as it is popular with tourist buses. But we have no money to secure the rest of the park at this stage," Van der Linde said.

Security had been stepped up and the thefts reported to the police.

SAPS Captain Ben Mkhonto said four cases of theft had been reported at Skukuza last month. No arrests had been made and police were investigating.

Information about crime in the Kruger Park was highlighted by Association of South African Travel Agents chief Roger Mackie.

He condemned what appeared to be a "definite hush-up" of crime against tourists, claiming details released to the media might be only the tip of the iceberg.

Calling for action to combat the rising tide of crime, Mackie said that in many cases, the criminals were not brought to book because their tourist victims were reluctant to return, at their own expense, for the court cases, he said.

It appeared police often emphasised this aspect, which led to cases being dropped. "What has happened to the so-called tourism police launched last year? As usual there has been a lot of talk and no action.

"The truth is that crime, not high prices or poor standards, are making it impossible to sell South Africa as a tourist destination in competition with Australia and New Zealand. This situation exists at a time when we are trying to win the Olympic Games in 2004. We can cope in every other way with the Games, except the crime aspect," Mackie said.

The SA Tourism Board echoed his call for action to control criminals apparently operating at will among tourists. Spokesman Estelle Walmsley said: "Every time word gets around about tourists being hit by crime, it affects the industry. But we are unable to do anything about it. It is the Government's job to curb the crime."

NEWS

Give Games to Cape, press board to tell IOC

E88) ARG 4/2/97

Key power brokers say bid is feasible, and a great boost to Africa

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Cape Town's Olympic project has been unanimously endorsed by Independent Newspapers' International Advisory Board.

The 12-member board gave its "full and enthusiastic" support to the bid, and members undertook to "use their influence where possible to convince the International Olympic Committee that it would be appropriate to hold the Games in Africa for the first time".

The bold endorsement was proposed by board member David Dinkins, the first black mayor of New York, and seconded by Dr Nthato Motlana, chairman of Nail. Other members of the board include Dr Tony O'Reilly, proprietor of Independent Newspapers, Ben Bradlee, editor of the Washington Post at the time of the Watergate scandal; Anthony Sampson, writer and biographer of Nelson Mandela, Andrew Young, former US ambassador to the United Nations, and Eric Molobi of Kagiso.

The motion notes that the board "believes that not only is it feasible to hold successful Games in Cape Town, but the event would be of immeasurable significance to South Africa, southern Africa, and indeed the African continent".

"The Games offer a unique opportunity to usher in a century of progress, development and optimism for the African continent."

The board passed the motion after a presentation by Bid Company chief executive Chris Ball, who was questioned closely on financial and planning aspects of the bid. He said the first African Olympic Games would be a landmark event for the Olympic Movement.

"It will be fresh, vigorous, African, a new culture in a new part of the world.

"You could hold the Olympics in Rome, again, and it wouldn't have much impact on anybody. But if you have it here, in Africa, it will change the lives of millions of people."

The economic activity stimulated by investment in the Games would generate an increase in Gross Domestic Product over 10 years of R30-billion, and additional tax revenue of more than R8-billion.



SAVILL SCHULMAN

Bid boosters: Tony O'Reilly and Andrew Young, with Bid Company chief executive Chris Ball

THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 6, 1997

Olympics: City set for short-list

(288)
CT 6/2/97

PETER DENNEHY

CAPE TOWN is almost certain to be among the five Olympic Games 2004 candidate cities which move through on March 7 to the next round of bidding, according to a highly-regarded overseas publication.

On that date, the 11 existing candidate cities will be reduced to five, or possibly even four.

The publication, Sport Intern, rates Cape Town's chances of actually getting the Games in 2004 as very low. Cape Town is ranked in third place on sentiment, after Athens and Rome, and way down in eighth place out of 11 in a separate ranking done just on the basis of "factual technical aspects".

Sport Intern, a German "inside sports newsletter", is edited by Mr Karl-Heinz Huba, who is said to be a friend of Dr Thomas Bach, chairman of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) evaluation commission for the 2004 Olympic Games, and member of the IOC executive board.

Some sources go as far as saying the newsletter is the unofficial mouthpiece of the IOC.

Sport Intern itself makes it clear that its rankings are speculative. Bach's commission is only due to present its full report on the various cities' plans and preparedness for the Games in the middle of this month, says Sport Intern.

Nonetheless, the newsletter decided to publish, in one of its January editions, two separate lists of rankings (on "sentiment", and on "technical aspects") to show how difficult the choice facing the selection college is.

The first list is entitled "sentiments and geopolitical aspects". In first place is Athens, then Rome, Cape Town, Seville, Rio de Janiero, St Petersburg, Istanbul, Stockholm, Buenos Aires, San Juan and Lille.

The second list, on "factual technical aspects", has Rome in first place, followed by Stockholm, Istanbul, Seville, St Petersburg, Athens, Rio de Janiero, Cape Town, San Juan, Buenos Aires and Lille.

Olympic Bid Company spokesman Mr Paul Johnson said in response yesterday that the article was speculative and built on a base of impressions.

"The (Cape Town) Bid Company presented a series of sound technical proposals to the IOC commission when it was here in December."

"The authoritative comment on the quality of Cape Town's bid will come on March 7. We fully expect to be among the five finalists."

Johnson said he had heard that the same publication had ranked Cape Town second in December.

Sport Intern said influential personalities within the Olympic movement were saying that three European cities, one from Africa and one from Latin America are likely to make it through to the last March-to-September round of competing against each other for the 2004 Games. The final decision on who gets the Games will be made in September.

"As there is only one African candidate, in that case Cape Town's qualification (in March) should be guaranteed," the newsletter said.

It bemoaned the entry of sentiment and "geopolitical aspects" into the competition. It assumed that just 12 years after the Barcelona Games, Seville in Spain had just as little chance of being chosen as the city that came last on both lists, Lille in France. Yet the newsletter speculated that the 2004 Games will be held in Europe.

ENVIRONMENT *Mpumalanga parks deal unconstitutional, claim lawyers*

(288) CT (OR) 6/2/97

Minister probes secret parks deal

JONATHAN ROSENTHAL

Johannesburg — An inquiry was launched yesterday into the effective sale of development rights to the Dolphin group of Mpumalanga's natural parks, by David Mkhwanazi, the province's environmental affairs minister, amid new allegations that the deal was unconstitutional.

The Dubai-based Dolphin group struck the secretive deal, which entailed the parks board selling the rights to Blyde River Canyon, Songimvelo, Pilgrim's Rest and Manyaleti parks for 50 years. Dolphin agreed to assume the parks board's budget deficit for the next 50 years and to invest up to R400 million in developing the reserves over the next three years.

The deal has come under fire from communities around the affected parks, some of whom have pending land claims against the parks, and environmentalists.



COMMITMENT *Alan Gray seeks responsible and sustainable development.* PHOTO: JOHN WOODROOF



CRUSADER *Environmentalist Rupert Lorimer is opposed to the deal* PHOTO: JOHN WOODROOF

Communities around Blyde River, Manyaleti game reserve and Loskop dam are believed to have submitted land claims.

Mkhwanazi said yesterday that he would form a specialist team to deal with concerns raised by "interest groups in the recent past". The members of team would be announced within the next few days, and the team would be asked to report within the next 30 days. Although he defended the project as fundamentally sound, Mkhwanazi said some clauses could be "perceived to be insensitive to environmental and economic interests, especially that of local groups within the province". He said his political intervention was motivated by the need for "local ownership of the project, transparency and the real need for development in the province".

Geoff Budlender, the director-general of the land affairs department, said this week the department was hoping to broker a negotiated solution to the pending land claims between communities and the parks board. But legal representatives of affected communities said yesterday they were advising their clients to use the courts. Melinda Swift, a fieldworker with the Transvaal Rural Action Committee, an advice body, said she was advising communities to file their land claims as soon as possible.

Catherine Warburton, an environmental lawyer working for the Wildlife Society, said the deal with Dolphin could be unconstitutional as it had been concluded in secret and threatened to undermine the constitutional rights of land claimants.

Alan Gray, the chairman of the parks board, yesterday reiterated his commitment to the deal as the only possible option to ensure "responsible and sustainable development" and conservation for the parks.

☐ Business Watch, Page 16

Dolphin Group deal raises ire of conservationists

BDG 12/97 (54) 288

Josey Ballenger

THE Mpumalanga Parks Board (MPB) clashed with a group of environmentalists, lawyers and community members yesterday regarding its 50-year agreement with the Dolphin Group to commercialise certain park areas.

Community members complained of the lack of community consultation in the deal-making, while environmentalists and lawyers objected to the "secret" deal on conservation grounds.

In terms of an agreement signed and announced last November, two of Dubai-based Dolphin's subsidiaries, Block Hotels and the United Touring Company, planned to develop tourism in the area in exchange for underwriting the parks board's budget.

"The whole (deal-making) process was not transparent, there was no public tender, the deal was concluded in secret and many people in some of the communities did not know about it," Mpumalanga Environmental Council member Rupert Lorimer said.

Board CE Alan Gray, who was not present, said last night the board had issued about 2 000 "portfolios of opportunity" last July. "We called for proposals, so it was widely publicised. With (this) type of arrangement ... you can't do a public tender. You have to get specific proposals."

Lorimer conceded that the board was "a statutory body, which divorces it somewhat from a normal government department", and interpretation was unclear.

Cape submits a draft bill for proposed tourism board

80 6/2/97 (288)

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Draft legislation for the establishment of a tourism organisation in the Western Cape was referred by the provincial cabinet yesterday to the legislature for consideration.

The Western Cape Tourism Bill, which would be distributed for public comment before being submitted to the relevant provincial standing committee, provided for the creation of a nine-member Western Cape Tourism Board.

The board's function would be to develop a tourism policy for the province within a framework approved by cabinet, formulate marketing and development strategies, and establish a sound database on the number of tourists.

Below the board would fall eight regional tourist organisations, and at local level there would be 85 local tourist bureaus, including Captour.

In terms of the draft, the board would be funded by the provincial legislature, donations, contributions and its own income.

Asian visitors not impressed with SA — survey

(288) BD 10/2/97

Nomavenda Mathiane

VISITORS from Asia and the Far East were not impressed with SA service standards, and Gauteng rated as the least friendly province, according to a survey recently carried out by Satour.

The survey, which canvassed visitors leaving SA's three international airports showed only 60% of visitors from the Far East would advise their family and friends to visit this country.

Responding to the findings, Hospitality Industries Training Board executive director Tony Ansara said the SA tourism industry could not afford to render services that were unacceptable to the international traveller.

Moves to tackle Bid team tension

Fears as rival cities gain ground

ARG 10/2/97

(288)

Internal wrangles plaguing Cape Town's Olympic bid have triggered moves to weld a stronger partnership between the Bid Company, the city and South Africa's Olympic ambassador Sam Ramsamy as the contest for the 2004 Games intensifies.

SPECIAL REPORT



MICHAEL MORRIS ON THE OLYMPIC BID

As Rome and other European bidders step up their campaigns in the run-up to the March 7 shortlisting, pressure is mounting on all candidate cities.

Perceptions that Cape Town is slipping in the Olympic pop charts – blamed partly on aggressive propaganda by Rome, Athens and other favourite contenders – have galvanised sentiment in the broader Cape Town bid camp to tackle internal problems some fear could damage the city's chances if left to fester.

Sources told the Cape Argus these problems included a lack of teamwork within the Bid Company, a lack of consultation between the company and its key partners – the city of Cape Town and Mr Ramsamy's National Olympic Committee of South Africa (Nocsa) – and allegations of an excessively autocratic management style by the Bid Company's inner circle and the risk, as a result of all these things, of insensitive and potentially damaging handling of contacts with key international figures.

Insiders say that, until now, city officials and Nocsa have been content to play as constructive a role as possible but that it is in the bid's interest that the issue be resolved satisfactorily before the start of the high-stakes international campaign next month. It is known that this has been the subject of recent talks in Johannesburg between Mr Ramsamy and the city's new management under chief executive Andrew Boraine.

Bid Company chief executive Chris Ball is in the United States and was not available to comment on the allegations of tensions within the bid team.

These are some of the issues the company will be seeking to resolve as it reshapes itself for the most gruelling phase of the project – winning votes from the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

Less than a month from today, the IOC in Lausanne will choose a shortlist of four or five of the 11 contending cities.

From that point, the bid will be geared up to a fully international footing with virtually all resources concentrated on winning IOC votes. The restructuring – which will include the establishment of a "war room" at the Bid Company's Waterfront headquarters – comes as international assessments of the contest show Cape Town in a reasonably strong position, but facing heavy competition from Rome, Athens and other European contenders.

The influential journal, Sport Intern, last month published two rankings, one based on "sentiment and geopolitical aspects" and the other on "factual technical aspects".

In the first, Sport Intern editor Karl-Heinz Huba – reputed to be close to IOC president Juan Samaranch – placed Cape Town third after Athens and Rome, and followed by Seville, Rio de Janeiro, St Petersburg, Istanbul, Stockholm, Buenos Aires, San Juan and Lille.

In the second, technical ranking, Cape Town comes eighth after Rome, Stockholm, Istanbul, Seville, St Petersburg, Athens and Rio de Janeiro, beating only San Juan, Buenos Aires and Lille.

Inter-city rivalry is expected to intensify in the months ahead. Strategically, however, the Cape Town team is resisting the temptation to alienate rival cities – when it comes to the final rounds of voting in September, today's rivals could well prove to be vital allies.

Sponsorships to date total about R75-million and, ideally, the Bid Company needs a further R20-million to see it through to September.

But potential new sponsors are holding back, mainly because they are waiting to see what happens on March 7.

Detente in Cape Town as Olympic bid hots up

(288)

SMH 11/2/97

OWN CORRESPONDENT
Cape Town

Less than a month from today the International Olympic Committee in Lausanne will choose a shortlist of four or five cities from 11 contenders for the 2004 Olympic Games.

Cape Town's bid is being endangered by internal wrangles and urgent steps are being taken to galvanise stronger ties between the Bid Company, the city and South Africa's Olympic ambassador, Sam Ramsamy.

As bidders step up campaigns in the run-up to the March 7 short-listing, pressure is mounting. Perceptions that Cape Town is slipping – partly as a result of aggressive propaganda by Rome and Athens – have galvanised moves to settle internal problems.

These include a lack of teamwork within the bid company; a lack of consultation between the company and key partners – the city of Cape Town and Sam Ramsamy's National Olympic Committee of South Africa (Nocsa); an autocratic management style by the inner circle at the company; and the risk of insensitive and potentially damaging handling of contacts with key international figures.

This has been the subject of recent talks between Ramsamy and the city's new management under chief executive Andrew Boraine.

The restructuring of the campaign, which will include the establishment of a "war room" at the Bid Company's Waterfront headquarters, comes as international assessments show Cape Town in a reasonably strong position, with heavy competition from Rome, Athens and other European cities.

The influential journal *Sport Intern* last month published two rankings, one based on "sentiment and geopolitical aspects" and the other on "factual technical aspects".

In the first, editor Karl-Heinz Huba, said to be close to IOC president Juan Samaranch, placed Cape Town third after Athens and Rome, followed by Seville, Rio de Janeiro, St Petersburg, Istanbul, Stockholm, Buenos Aires, San Juan and Lille.

In the technical ranking, Cape Town came eighth after Rome, Stockholm, Istanbul, Seville, St Petersburg, Athens and Rio de Janeiro, beating only San Juan, Buenos Aires and Lille.

Huba makes the point pressure groups are in their element in the shortlist run-up He notes influential personalities in the Olympic movement are saying three European, one African (Cape Town, the only African bid) and one Latin-American city will be shortlisted.

In a similar assessment, the South China Morning Post gives excellent ratings to Cape Town, Rome, Athens, Stockholm and Istanbul, and describes the Buenos Aires bid as good.

Cape Town is resisting the temptation to alienate rival cities. In the voting in September, today's rivals could well prove to be vital allies.

their request. We believe it is necessary in order to ensure that they come into the net, utilising the opportunity provided by the Act on tax relief measures. In respect of the amounts of money gained as a result of the tax relief measures, I am not in a position to disclose anything in relation to that.

On the autonomy of the SA Revenue Service, the matter is under discussion. It will be before Cabinet very soon, and thereafter we will endeavour to see that legislation through the parliamentary process at the earliest opportunity. We gave an undertaking that we would get it through in the first quarter of this year, and we stand by that. There is going to be less parliamentary time available in the first quarter, but we are working on the issue.

Mr K M ANDREW: Madam Speaker, further arising out of the Minister's reply, is the Government considering, in the light of the appeals of Nafcoc, extending the amnesty in terms of either scope or time?

The MINISTER: Madam Speaker, we have not exactly heard what the appeals are. However, given the need to ensure that the system of tax collection encompasses holism and integrity, it is very unlikely that we would accede to any request or appeal in this regard.

Job creation: objectives

*7. Mr M F CASSIM asked the Minister of Labour:

(1) Whether the Government has achieved its objectives in respect of large-scale job creation in the economy; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;

(2) Whether he will make a statement on the matter? N19E

The MINISTER OF LABOUR:

Since this Government came to power employment has risen from 4,9 million in March 1994 to 5,2 million in September 1996.

The Government is attacking unemployment by, among other things, creating jobs through public works programmes and RDP programmes and through the expansion of basic infrastructural services.

We are also fostering conditions in which jobs should be created by the private sector. This we are doing through our macroeconomic strategy and industrial restructuring programmes.

We are committed to getting as many of our people as possible into work and achieving higher and stable levels of employment.

Mr A J LEON: Madam Speaker, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, would he not concede that this is in fact a net loss in terms of jobs? The population growth in the period he described in fact outstripped the increase in the number of jobs generated by the economy.

Would the hon the Minister comment on the figures for the last year that we received from the Reserve Bank? These figures show that in the first quarter there was a loss of jobs in the realm of 3,9%, in the second quarter 1,1% and in the third quarter 1,4%. These are Reserve Bank figures. The fourth quarter figures are not yet available. In terms of the targets of Gear, since its introduction, we should already have created 83 300 jobs.

In the RDP document the hon the Minister stated that institutional arrangements had to be supportive of job opportunities. Is he satisfied that the institutional arrangements in his own legislation are supportive and inimical to the kinds of job targets which this Government intends to achieve for South Africa? If not, what is he going to do about this?

The MINISTER OF LABOUR: Madam Speaker, I do not mind sharing television time with the hon Tony Leon. But the fact of the matter is that the data that he has quoted is contestable. Figures have been released by the Central Statistical Service as well, and these are being worked through, in order to get reliable data on these questions.

As I indicated in my reply, the institutional framework is in place and is expected to make a major contribution towards job creation in the country. But, if I may, I would like to take advantage of this opportunity and indicate that job creation, or the creation of an environment conducive to job creation, is the responsibility not just of the Department of Labour, but of all policies of Government. What we are doing is to co-ordinate all the policies of Government to ensure that they move in the same direction to achieve the objectives which we have set for ourselves.

Mr A J LEON: Madam Speaker, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, might I ask him whether he is going to consider introducing amendments to existing legislation in order to create what he has termed "regulated flexibility" or "flexible regulation" – I am not sure which is the adjective and which is the noun – in order to enhance and speed up job creation and job-absorption opportunities in this country. Does he believe, for example, that our bargaining council or industrial council system is assisting in rapidly absorbing the number of workers Gear requires into the job market, or does he believe that in some ways it is holding it up? If it is, what is he going to do about it ?

The SPEAKER: Order! Are you rising on a point of order, Prof Turok?

Prof B TUROK: Madam Speaker, if I may, this is a follow-up on the same question. I would like to ask the Minister whether he could inform the hon Leon that a very detailed study by the ILO gas revealed that there is a much wider base of employment generation in the economy than the ... Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Hon member, you are trying to answer the question, not ask one. [Laughter.] [Interjections.] Hon Minister, I am sure the House has the fullest confidence that you can answer the question. [Laughter.]

The MINISTER: Madam Speaker, I appreciate the enthusiasm of hon members when it comes to helping out. I am sure it is all in the spirit of comradeship. To answer the hon Leon's question: Yes, we do intend to look at some of the sections of the Labour Relations Act in order to ensure harmony with the macroeconomic strategy. It is an intention to which we have committed ourselves.

However, the hon Leon would know very well that the Labour Relations Act itself creates a much better atmosphere for economic development and stability, something which has never happened before in this country. I am sure he is fully appreciative of the contribution which the Labour Relations Act is making.

Tourists: increase/decrease in 1996

*8. Mr N J J VAN R KOORNHOF asked the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism:†

(1) What was the increase or decrease in the number of tourists visiting the Republic in 1996 in comparison to 1995;

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? N50E

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM:

(*Reply partially laid upon Table with leave of House.*)

(1) Unfortunately the Central Statistical Service has not yet released the official traveller data for the period October 1996 to December 1996. The most recent data, that is to say, for the period January 1996 to September 1996, are contained in the statistics I shall table. These indicate the following:

- 2 571 050 visitors entered South Africa from mainland Africa, being 5,9% more than in 1995;
- 799 256 entered South Africa from overseas, being 6,8% more than in 1995; and
- 3 488 016 visitors entered South Africa in total being 6,5% more than in 1995.

ENVIRONMENT *'Committee was loaded with supporters of deal'*

Bid to end Dolphin row backfires

ET(BR) 12/2/97 (288) (35)

STAFF REPORTERS

Johannesburg — The Mpumalanga government's attempts to end the controversy surrounding the Dolphin deal by appointing an investigative committee backfired yesterday.

There were fresh allegations that the committee was loaded with supporters of the multi-million-rand deal to hand over control of the province's parks.

David Mkhwanazi, the province's environmental affairs minister, announced the formation of the committee last week after allegations that the deal was unconstitutional and that Ketan Somaia, the chief executive of the Dolphin group, was linked to the disappearance of public funds in Kenya.

"JC" Mhlongo, the head of the provincial environmental affairs and tourism department, will chair the committee. The other members are A Sobekwa, a legal adviser in the department, Elna Kotze, an environmentalist and board member of the Mpumalanga Parks Board, and Harvey Tyson, a member of the Mpumalanga Environmental Council.

"The majority of the committee members are not capable of viewing this matter objectively," Rupert Lorimer, a critic of the deal and Mkhwanazi's adviser, said yesterday.

"Elna Kotze has already nailed her colours to the mast as being solidly in favour of the agreement ... while Mhlongo was actually one of the people who went to Dubai," Lorimer said.

Kotze publicly announced her support for the Dolphin group and the deal itself in Johannesburg last week . She had just returned from an all-expenses paid trip to Kenya to examine Block Hotels, a subsidiary of Dolphin.

Yesterday Kotze said she would approach the inquiry with "an open mind" and that there was no conflict of interest between her duties as a member of the parks board, which favours the deal, and a member of the inquiry committee.

A provincial government spokesman said the committee had been set up to help the minister gather information.

Environmentalists disputed Mhlongo's impartiality because of his role in the meeting between the parks board and the environmental council last month.

Tourism chiefs not losing any sleep over empty beds

(288)

By Troye Lund

Star 13/2/97

South African tourism chiefs say they are not too concerned over the decline in hotel occupancy rates during last year's festive and holiday season.

Figures for last year showed a small drop compared to the same period in 1995.

But the South African Tourism Board (Satour) said this was not an indication of a declining tourism market.

While the board admitted that foreign perceptions of South Africa being a "crime-ridden and dangerous destination" had contributed to the decline, emphasis was placed on other "more significant" factors such the cost of hotels and increased hotel capacity last year.

Satour spokesman James Seymour said that apart from the trend to use alternative accommodation like guest houses and bed-and-breakfasts, December was no longer a key month for foreign tourists. Overseas travellers visited the country during all the summer months until April.

Seymour said 1995 had been a particularly good year for tourism. Figures had levelled off slightly since 1995, when South Africa was considered a "novel" destination.

According to Central Statistical Service (CSS) figures, from December 1995 room occupancies decreased by 6,7% to 51,2% and bed occupancy rates by 7,2% to 40% in the same period last year.

A bed-occupancy rate indicates how many people slept in the hotel, including rooms with more than one bed. Room rates would reflect only how many rooms were booked.

The Western Cape showed the largest drop in room occupancy, a decline of 15%.

Mpumalanga had the largest decline in bed occupancy with a drop of 14%.

CSS figures show lowest room-occupancy rates of 17,6% occurred in the Free State, followed by 21% in Mpumalanga and 28% in KwaZulu Natal. The Eastern Cape had the highest room occupancy of 68%.

One and two-star hotels showed the largest drop in room occupancies, while four-star hotels had the largest decline in bed occupancy.

In contrast, all five-star hotels showed increases close to 10% in December.

The total income from hotels in the country improved last year by 8,7%. Greater Johannesburg showed a 40% income increase, which was the largest.

The total trading revenue for South African hotels last year went up from R3,9-billion in 1995 to R4,4-billion.

The board was confident that social and economic factors would improve this year and succeed in attracting 1,4 million foreign and 3,7 million South African tourists in 1997. This would be a 10% increase on last year's figures.

Black tour operators needed — committee

BD 13/2/97 (288)

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Parliament's environment and tourism portfolio committee did not visit any townships during recent tours of the Western Cape and Gauteng because tour operators had cited a lack of safety as the reason they themselves did not go there.

The committee went on tours in both the Western Cape and Gauteng to discover what tourists were offered.

Committee chairman Gwen Mahlangu said that the tours highlighted the need to train black tour operators, an issue which would receive high priority this year. The committee believed tour operators should be graded, and tours allocated to them accordingly.

Mahlangu said in the coming year among the committee's tasks would be preparing a white paper on the environment and in formulating a comprehensive policy on waste.

City Lodge thrives in bad times

(288)

FRANÇOISE BOTHA

CT (BR) 13/2/97

Johannesburg — City Lodge Hotels reported a 23 percent increase in after-tax profit to R17,8 million for the interim period ending 31 December.

The results defied a drop in average occupancies for the hotel industry during the period.

Earnings a share increased 19 percent to 71c and an interim dividend of 19,5c a share was declared.

High levels of crime and violence, marred by the strong international focus on Pagad's activities in the Western Cape, had resulted in large numbers of group bookings being cancelled and had had an impact on the entire industry, said Andrew Widegger, the financial director of City Lodge.

Occupancy levels at the company's four brands of hotels — The Courtyard, City Lodge, Town Lodge and Road Lodge — remained above the industry average despite a decrease from 81 percent to 79 percent.

Clifford Ross, the managing director of the company, said it planned to introduce innovative packages, including an Internet booking service for travel agents, to boost weekend bookings.

The results were achieved off a 14 percent increase in turnover to R60,6 million. Operating margins were held stable with operating profit climbing 14 percent to R32,5 million.

Gearing added 2 percentage points to 22 percent over the period, with the inclusion of a R12,2 million increase in short-term bridging finance to complete the establishment of a Road Lodge at N1 City in the Western Cape and a Town Lodge in Sandton, Gauteng. The opening of the two hotels late in the reporting period meant that their contribution to group results would only be seen over the year to 30 June, said Widegger.

The company planned to open three hotels in the third quarter, with Road Lodges in Durban and Germiston and a Town Lodge in Pretoria.

Jordan to brief parliament on Dolphin deal

CT(BR)13/2/97 (56)(288)

JUSTEN ARENSTEIN & SAPA

Cape Town — Pallo Jordan, the environment minister, will brief the National Assembly's environment committee next week on the Mpumalanga Parks Board's multibillion-rand deal with the Dubai-based Dolphin Group, Gwen Mahlangu, the committee's chairman, said yesterday. The committee will then decide whether it should intervene in the controversial deal.

The province's parks board has granted Dolphin the commercial management of its parks for a 50-year period, including Blyde River Canyon, Loskop Dam and Pilgrim's Rest. In return, Dolphin has undertaken to pay the parks board budget deficit over that period — estimated to be about R12,2 billion.



STEPPING IN *Pallo Jordan, the environment minister, has become involved in the affair*

The deal, concluded within nine weeks, has been criticised by conservation organisations and affected communities. Land claim activists have also been outraged and pointed out that there are gazetted land claims on at least two of the core development areas.

"We will go to Mpumalanga," said Mahlangu. "We need more facts about it before we can act."

Attempts by David Mkhwanazi, the province's environmental minister, to defuse the growing controversy earlier this week by naming a four-member team to investigate the deal have succeeded only in fuelling it.

Two members of the committee, JC Mhlongo, the committee's chairman, and Elna Kotze, another committee member, helped broker the Dolphin deal. Kotze publicly expressed her support for the deal last week after returning from an all-expenses-paid trip to various Block Hotels and lodges in Kenya. Block is a Dolphin subsidiary.

Harvey Tyson, a former Star editor and member of the province's environmental council, was appointed without his knowledge or consultation but declined yesterday. "I told the MEC that, after due consideration, I believed it would be more proper for the committee to be composed of completely independent and unconnected judicial officers and other experts," he said.

The fourth member of the team was A Sobekwa, the legal adviser in the province's environment affairs department.

The Environmental Justice Networking Forum also objected to the committee's appointment yesterday.

Mhlongo said yesterday he was shocked by the "mud-slinging".

He said the committee had simply been tasked with "collating criticisms and collecting information about the deal".

Engen 'pulls off strategic coup'

(288) BD 13/2/97

Reinie Booysen

ENGEN, the local oil company controlled by Malaysian Petronas, has achieved a strategic coup by becoming the first SA oil refiner to secure a direct, long-term crude oil supply contract with the kingdom of Saudi Arabia, sources say.

Engen declined to comment on the deal, but impeccable sources said the company signed the contract recently with the kingdom's state oil company, Saudi Aramco.

Strategically, oil traders said, the contract placed Engen on an equal footing with SA refiners controlled by foreign multinationals. Although none of the other refiners have direct contractual relations with Saudi Arabia, they do mostly have the backing of substantial crude contracts between their head offices and the kingdom.

Term contracts with Saudi Arabia — the world's largest exporter of crude oil — are highly valued by refiners, as they offer long-term supplies at reasonable prices.

Oil traders said most of Saudi Aramco's 50-odd crude buyers, scattered all over the globe, tended to maintain steady commercial relationships with the kingdom over many years. Saudi Arabia produces about 8-million barrels a day of crude oil, of which it exports about 5,5-million to 6-million barrels a day.

The traders said oil supply contracts with Saudi Aramco could be secured only with the backing of a senior "sponsor" within the royal family, which rules Saudi Arabia with an iron hand. Aramco enforces a strict policy of selling only to end-users (refiners) and these cargoes can be resold to other entities only with Aramco's approval. The result is a very small spot market for Saudi crude.

Although there had been some sales of Saudi crude to SA in recent years, these had all been crude cargoes bought from the kingdom by overseas multinationals with operations in SA, and diverted to their SA subsidiaries, traders said.

To date the other SA refiners have been reluctant to commit themselves to long-term contracts with Saudi Aramco, largely because of the ready availability on the spot market of Iranian crude oil at relatively attractive prices.

SA's geographical location has been the cause of disagreement about the most appropriate pricing formula and benchmark to use for Saudi crude. SA refiners feel an SA pricing formula should reflect market fundamentals in the western oil markets, while the Saudis want a 50-50 split, with half the price determined by western benchmarks (either North Sea Brent Blend crude or West Texas Intermediate), and the other half by eastern benchmark prices (Dubai and Oman crude). For several decades oil prices in the eastern hemisphere, where economic growth has been spectacular, have mostly been substantially higher than in the western hemisphere.

Whether Engen has accepted the Saudi 50-50 formula is unclear. Like the other Durban refiners, Engen buys substantial volumes of crude also from a range of other Middle East producers.

City Lodge earnings growth slows down

(288) BD 13/2/97

Janet Parker

HOTEL group City Lodge reported a slowdown in earnings growth in the six months to December, with the group posting a smaller-than-usual increase of 25,2% to R19m as it felt the effects of a weaker trading environment and sharper competition.

Share earnings increased 18,9% to 71c and fully diluted share earnings rose 17,2% to 53,2c. The interim dividend improved 14,7% to 19,5c compared with 17c in the six months to December 1995.

Turnover was 14,3% higher at R60,6m as a result of increased room nights sold, and operating profit grew 13,7% to R32,5m.

Pretax profit rose 19,6% to R25m and tax for the interim period was R7,2m compared with R6,5m previously.

The group said the results were "satisfactory" despite a softening in demand in the hotel industry and increased capacity as various new hotels came on stream. In the six months to December 1995, earnings increased 47% to R15,2m, compared with the same period in 1994.

City Lodge executive chairman Hans Enderle said the main factors negatively influencing the hotel industry were continued high levels of crime and Satour's minimal international marketing after budget cutbacks.

He said although occupancy rates for the group's four brands — The Courtyard, City Lodge, Town Lodge and Road Lodge — decreased two percentage points to 79%, it was in line with industry trends and the group had room for expansion.

"The hospitality industry is becoming more competitive ... and the supply of alternative accommodation continues to increase," he said. The group would counter this by innovative marketing, and continuing its service excellence programme.

This strategy — added to the recent opening of two new hotels Road Lodge N1 City, Western Cape and Town Lodge Grayston Drive, Sandton — would result in "acceptable earnings growth for the full year to June 1997".

The group has three hotels under construction — in Durban, Germiston and Pretoria — to open in the third quarter of this year. They would contribute to earnings in the second half of the 1998 financial year.

1 DECEMBER 1996

TELS
IMITED

Satour confident despite fall in hotel occupancy

Sowetan 14/2/97 (288)

By *Sowetan* Correspondent

SOUTH African tourism chiefs are not losing any sleep over the decline in hotel occupancy rates during the last festive and holiday season.

Figures for 1996 shows a small drop when compared to the same period in 1995. But South Africa's Tourism Board (Satour) says this is not an indication of a declining tourism market.

The board says foreign perceptions of South Africa being a "crime-ridden and dangerous destination" has contributed to the decline. But emphasis is placed on other "more significant" factors, such as the cost of hotels and increased hotel capacity in 1996.

Satour spokesman James Seymour says apart from the trend to use alternative accommodation such as guest houses and bed and breakfasts, December is no longer a key month for foreign tourists.

Overseas travellers visit the country across all summer months until April. He says 1995 was a particularly good year for tourism in SA.

Figures have levelled off slightly since then, when SA was considered a "novel" destination.

According to Central Statistical Service (CSS) figures, from December 1995 room occupancies decreased by 6,7 percent to 51,2 percent, and bed occupancy rates by 7,2 percent to 40 percent in the same period last year. (Bed occupancy rate indicates how many people slept in the hotel, including rooms with more than one bed).

The Western Cape showed the largest drop in room occupancy, a decline of 15 percent. Mpumalanga had the largest decline in bed occupancy with a drop of 14 percent.

CSS figures show lowest room occupancy rates of 17,6 percent occurred in the Free State, followed by 21 percent in Mpumalanga and 28 percent in KwaZulu-Natal. The Eastern Cape had the highest room occupancy of 68 percent.

The total December-hotel-income for the country improved last year by 8,7 percent. Greater Johannesburg showed a 40 percent income increase, which was the largest. The total trading revenue for South African hotels last year went up from 1995's R3 9 billion to R4 4 billion.

The board is confident that social and economic factors in the country will improve this year and succeed in attracting 1,4 million foreign and 3,7 million African tourists to SA.

This will be a 10 percent increase on 1996 figures.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION & TOURISM

(288)

DOLPHIN LEAPS

fm 14/2/97

The embattled Mpumalanga Parks Board bounced back this week from a wave of criticism over its purported multibillion-rand deal with the Dubai-based Dolphin Group to commercialise the province's nature reserves.

Board chairman Alan Gray says that he's buoyed by a favourable report from a provincial government delegation which reviewed Dolphin's leisure operations in Kenya, run by subsidiary Block Hotels, which will spearhead the group's developments in SA.

The multiparty delegation was assigned to investigate Dolphin after media reports alleged that the group's president and CE Ketan Somaia was involved in shady international deals.

Senior provincial officials admit that there are weaknesses in the deal and say they will press the parties to "tighten up" contentious parts of the agreement.

But they insist that the concept and the partnership are essentially sound, that the development will reconcile tourism with conservation and become a model for environmental commercialisation.

Opponents of the deal, meanwhile, are stirring opposition among rural communities in the Blyde River Canyon and Loskop Dam areas (two of Dolphin's key development sites) and have asked central government to intervene.

They hope to scupper the deal, which they believe would ruin some of SA's most treasured sites.

Leading opponent Sue Hart, who heads Mpumalanga's advisory Environmental Council, has asked Environmental Affairs & Tourism Minister Pallo Jordan to launch an independent probe. She's also urging that the Mpumalanga parks be handed to the National Parks Board (probably not permissible under the Constitution).

Hart's efforts are intended to bypass Environmental Affairs MEC David Mkhwanazi, who reluctantly agreed last week to set up a local investigation into the constitutionality of the deal.

Hart and other like-minded environmentalists have been in uproar ever since the deal was announced on November 26 last year.

The deal (see diagram) sets up a joint operating company (75% Dolphin; 25% parks board, with veto right) that will establish development companies, with 20% representation from local businesses and communities, to manage and develop specified State reserves for 50 years, with a renewal option of 49 years.

Each development company is entitled to sublease camps and lodges within its reserve to outside companies. Outsiders may also tender for capital and operating projects. "Of course we'll want outside operators," says Block Hotels chairman John Small. "It's highly unlikely that we'd want to develop everything ourselves, because a lot of the accommodation facilities will not be in our niche, which is the four to five star range."

The agreement includes reserves in and around the Blyde River Canyon, Loskop Dam, Songimvelo (bordering Swaziland), Pilgrim's Rest and Manyaleti (adjoining the Kruger Park). Dolphin's only payment for these rights is to assume the parks board's deficit for 50 years and sink R400m into reserve developments over the next three years.

Gray maintains that Dolphin will effectively be paying more than R12bn — his calculation of the board's accumulated deficit for 50 years. Critics reject the figure as "a wild thumbsuck" designed to panic the province into accepting Dolphin.

Gray strongly denies any suggestion that he might have personal interests in the deal, or hidden shares in the development or joint operating companies.

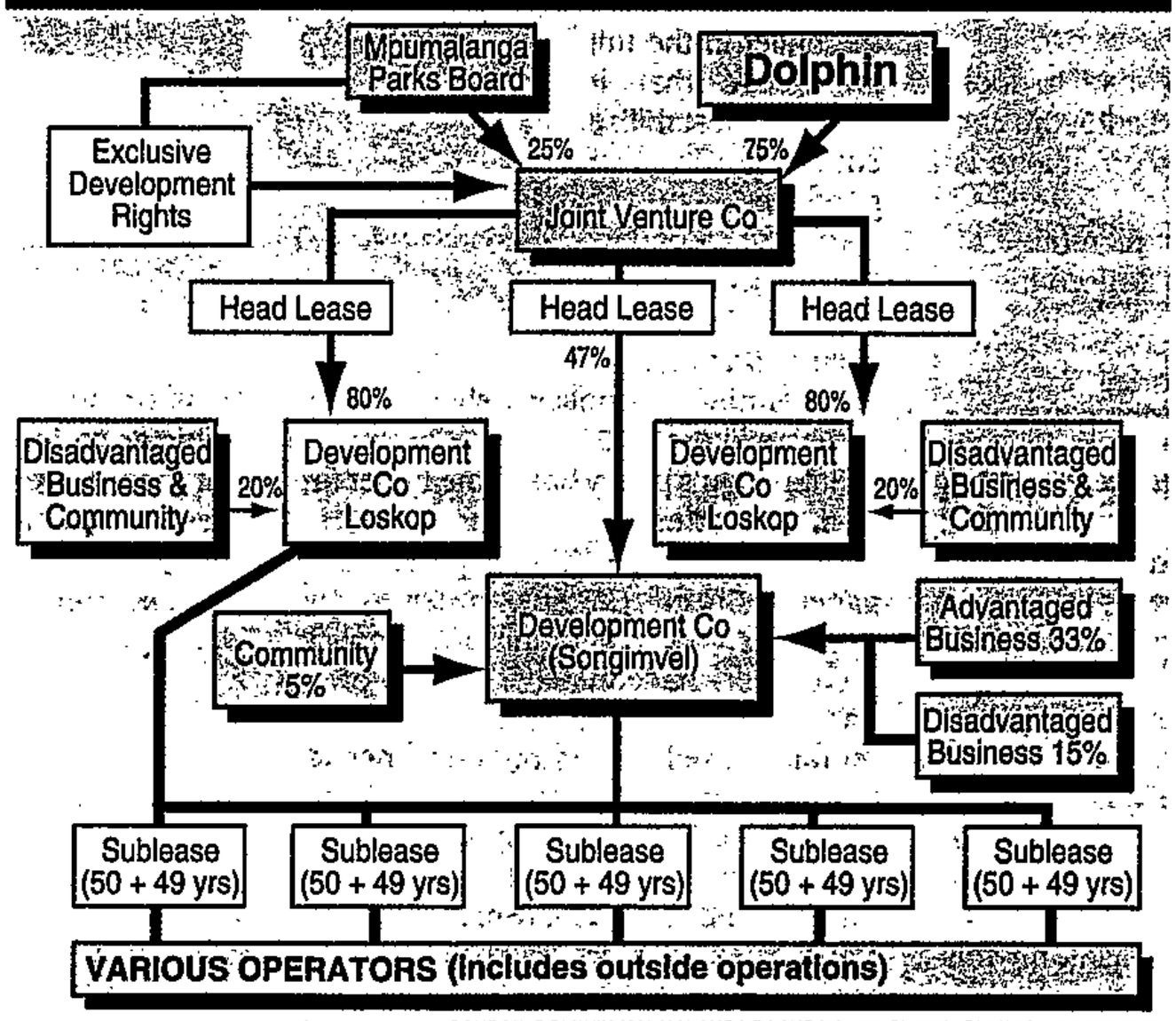
Gray's opponents base their objections to the deal on several factors, including:

- ❑ The lack of transparency in the parks board's negotiations with Dolphin;
- ❑ The granting of developmental rights to a single, foreign-based company for a period longer than most lifetimes;
- ❑ Insufficient consultation with communities in the affected areas, some of whom have gazetted land claims pending on parts of the Blyde River Canyon and Loskop;
- ❑ The haste in concluding the deal;
- ❑ Weak clauses in the agreement (which was leaked to the media), one of which appears to leave Dolphin a cheap way out if the deal turns sour;
- ❑ The absence of any bank guarantee to support Dolphin's promise to underwrite the parks board's mounting deficit for the duration of the contract; and
- ❑ The questionable background of Bermuda-registered Dolphin.

Less clearly delineated is an ideological clash within SA's small environmental community over the style and scale of commercialisation.

The critical lobby would have all wilderness areas nationalised, guaranteeing cheap access while allowing expensive, privately run camps on their peripheries — rather like the Kruger National Park with its privately owned adjuncts, such as Timbavati. Others, like the Mpumalanga Parks

HOW THE DOLPHIN DEAL IS STRUCTURED



SOURCE: DOLPHIN-MPUMALANGA PARKS BOARD SHAREHOLDERS' AGREEMENT

P.T.O.

Northern Province launches its own investigation

Legislators say 'yes' to Dolphin

CT (BR) 14/2/97 (288)

JONATHAN ROSENTHAL

Johannesburg — A multi-party team of provincial legislators yesterday gave support to the controversial deal to sell control of Mpumalanga's game reserves and parks to the Dubai-based Dolphin Group. The legislators had just returned from an all-expenses paid trip to Dolphin's operations in Kenya and Dubai.

The 50-year lease of several premier parks to Dolphin in exchange for the Dubai company bankrolling the Mpumalanga Parks Board has been attacked by environmentalists and communities since it was announced late last year.

Yesterday the provincial parliamentarians endorsed the deal. They said that they had "no reason to question the bona fides of the Dolphin group".

'We have no reason to question the bona fides of the Dolphin group'

There have been allegations that the deal lacked transparency and infringed the constitutional rights of land claimants with land claims over part of the parks pending.

The deal has also been dogged by unanswered questions about Ketan Somaia, the man behind Dolphin. Chief among these were allegations that Somaia was linked to the disappearance of state funds in Kenya.

Chris MacPherson, the National Party's chief whip in the Mpumalanga parliament, who was part of the delegation to Kenya, said yesterday he had put the allegations to Somaia, and was satisfied with Somaia's response. He said the all-expenses-paid trip to Dubai and Kenya was not an investigation, and was originally intended to familiarise the group with Dolphin's activities.

"We visited all the reserves in Kenya ... saw how they handled environmental matters (and) while being there we took it upon ourselves to see how Dolphin works."

MacPherson said he did not know who had paid for his trip as he had gone on the invitation of David Mkhwanazi, the province's environmental affairs minister.

"Why don't you ask the minister? I do not know, I was too afraid of asking," he said.

Hendrik Mentz, a Freedom Front member of the provincial parliament who also toured Dolphin's Kenyan and Dubai operations, said he was completely satisfied with what he saw.

"Block Hotels and United Touring Company (two Dolphin subsidiaries) are both impressive companies with a successful track record of operating within the African free market system," he said.

MacPherson slammed critics of the Dolphin deal, saying they were not working in the interests of the province. "Such actions will only serve to chase potential investors away rather than to attract much-needed foreign money and expertise," he said.

Row brews between central and provincial governments over the deal

Alan Gray, the chief executive of the Mpumalanga Parks Board, has previously said he has documents clearing Somaia of any wrongdoing. But the controversy in Kenya over a letter written by Michael Kijana Wamalwa, the chairman of the Kenyan parliament's Public Accounts Committee, allegedly clearing Somaia, took a new turn yesterday. The Kenyan newspaper East African Standard reported yesterday that the Public Accounts Committee had formally disowned Wamalwa over the letters.

Sources have also indicated that conflict between the national and provincial governments could be brewing because of the deal. A spokesman for Pallo Jordan, the national environmental affairs minister, said yesterday that Jordan was being briefed on the deal. But she said the deal was "a provincial competence ... the minister will not be getting involved directly".

MacPherson said the provincial government "will not allow them trying to tell us what we can do.

"They've got no powers to intervene," he said.

Meanwhile, African Eye News Service in Nelspruit reported that the Northern Province government was launching its own investigation into Mpumalanga's secret deal, which gives the Dubai-based Dolphin Group complete commercial control of key conservation areas, including a large game reserve in the Northern Province.

The Manyeleti Game Reserve, which is included in the Dolphin deal, is situated in the Northern Province and has not yet been transferred to Mpumalanga in a land-swap arrangement between the provinces.

"The reserve is a disputed area, but it still falls under our direct control, and as long as it does, any contract promising it to someone is null and void," provincial spokesman Tienie Burgers said.

CT. 14/2/97

Conservationists angered by rights granted Dolphin group

NELSPRUIT: The Mpumalanga Legislative Assembly has given the Dubai-based Dolphin Group its endorsement, but environmentalists are still trying to amend the deal the province signed with the group.

The group has been given the rights to develop several Mpumalanga ecotourism sites, including the Blyde River Canyon, but the deal has been criticised amid allegations of secrecy and loss of control of the environment.

Environmentalist Mr Rupert Lorimer, who serves on the Mpumalanga Environmental Council, said the agreement between Dolphin and the Mpumalanga Parks Board needed substantial amendment before it was acceptable.

A number of Mpumalanga legislative assembly members recently returned from an all-expenses paid trip to Dubai and Kenya, where they toured the group's resorts. NP member Mr Chris MacPhearson said he and the rest of the assembly members who went on the trip were impressed by the group's ventures in Kenya and Dubai and that there was no reason to question the Dolphin Group's bona fides.

Mpumalanga Environmental Affairs MEC Mr David Mkhwanazi, who on Tuesday announced the appointment of a committee to investigate the Dolphin Group deal in an attempt dispel the controversy over the arrangement with the group, has been criticised by environmentalists, who say most of the committee members were compromised in that they had already expressed support for the deal.

Lorimer said the council's main objections to the deal were its apparent secrecy and the monopolistic control the deal gave Dolphin over several of Mpumalanga's major attractions.

Although the parks board believed it would have conservation control over the developments, Lorimer said the legal situation was that it would have to carry out its conservation job according to plans laid down by Dolphin. — Sapa

65 808 56 866 59 055 GJ Gregory CA (SA) Secretary

'Off-the-book diamond deals endemic to industry'

BD 14/2/97 (288)

Deborah Fine

"OFF-the-book" transactions, of which there were seldom records, were endemic to the diamond industry, diamond expert Noel Newton told the Johannesburg High Court yesterday.

"It is something I've been born into, bred into and it is inherent in the industry. Anybody in the industry knows and understands this. They could not survive 10 days in the business if they did not have this knowledge,"

Newton was testifying in a civil action in which Gauteng diamond dealer Roger Lappeman is suing his former insurance brokers, MIB, for breach of duty on the basis that MIB broker Alec Holmes negligently failed to inform Lloyd's of London as to the "peculiar workings of the diamond industry", whereby few records are kept for certain transactions.

In papers before court, Lappeman explained that MIB had arranged insurance cover for his Randburg and Pietersburg diamond cutting premises through Lloyd's Merrett underwriting syndicate in 1990.

However, Merrett had rejected a claim by Lappeman for R31m after 82 788 diamonds were stolen from his Pietersburg premises in 1993, on the grounds that he had been unable to present full records of all his sales, purchases and other transactions in breach of certain of the policy's conditions.

Lappeman has alleged the repudiation was the consequence of MIB's failure to point out to Merrett the diamond industry's "informal recordkeeping" methods, as well as MIB's failure to alert him to the policy's conditions.

Opposing the civil action, MIB has denied knowledge of such methods, leaving Lappeman determined to prove that Holmes, a former police gold and diamond squad captain, must have been aware of diamond industry practices.

Testifying on Lappeman's behalf, Newton told the court that dealers would take diamonds from a seller, perhaps issue an IOU note, and then pass the stones onto a buyer. After taking a profit for himself, the dealer would then pay the seller.

The IOU note or any other documentation related to the deal was then destroyed, and the dealer would declare his profit as earnings. This constituted a fully lawful, "off-the-book" diamond industry transaction.

"There are few written contracts in this business. I accept a stone on my honour and integrity. If I lose the stone, or the buyer absconds without paying for it, I am responsible. A seller has no legal claim against me, but because of the integrity in the trade, I will pay him for the lost stone," Newton said.

He said the practice was as much due to the industry's traditional confidentiality as for security reasons. "We are moving around the world with parcels sometimes containing diamonds worth millions. The less people know who has what and where they are moving to, the less the likelihood of anything untoward happening."

The trial was postponed sine die to enable counsel to prepare for an application on Wednesday in which MIB are seeking almost R2m in security from Lappeman to cover MIB's legal costs should he lose the case.

Lappeman has opposed the application.

Tourism body seeks R330m

BD 14/2/97 (288)

Shareen Singh

THE Tourism Business Council of SA, a private sector initiative to promote tourism, has proposed to the government that a R300m national tourism budget be established, council chairman David Wigley said yesterday.

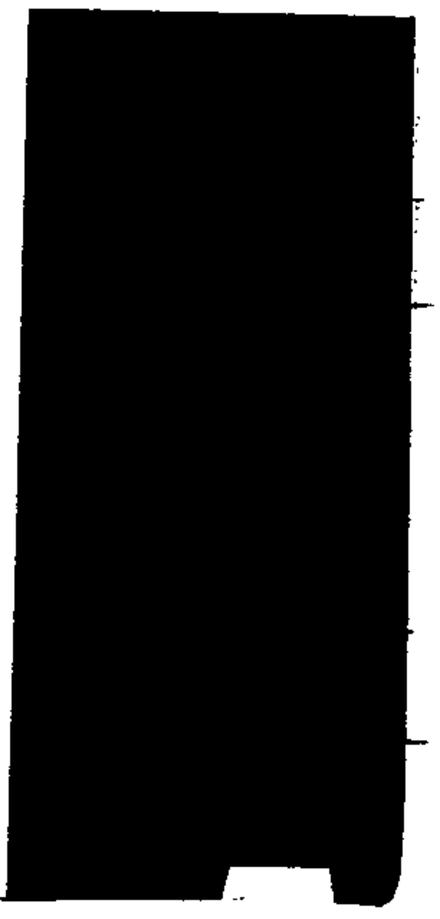
The council said the budget should be managed by the national tourism organisation to be established in terms of the department of environmental affairs and tourism's white paper.

Wigley said the council proposed that the R300m be funded by the government and the private sector and be used solely for the purpose of marketing SA as a tourist destination both internationally and locally. Research done by the council had found this amount was realistic enough to market SA effectively.

The council also recommended to government that it set targets for 2000 concerning the number of tourists the country should attract, foreign exchange earned through tourism and the number of jobs to be created by the industry.

Wigley said research showed that the industry could create 500 000 jobs over the next three to four years if tourism became a national priority.

He said small and medium enterprises could attract a significant chunk of the tourism market share and it was therefore important for organisations representing small business interests to become involved in significant tourism initiatives.



Visitors to SA rise by 8%

Cape Town – Unofficial figures show the number of international travellers to SA grew by 8% from 1995 to 1996, Tourism Minister Dr Pallo Jordan said yesterday.

- About 10 000 new jobs had been created in the tourism industry, he said.

Estimates showed the number of overseas tourists rose to 1,25million in 1996, up 100 000 from 1995. Visitors from the rest of Africa brought the total number to 4,7million.

Reports that hotel occupancies were down gave the misleading impression that the tourism market was declining. Many tourists now used alternative accommodation.

The minister admitted crime directed against tourists was a major concern.

While the Government did not want to play this down, it was not that significant compared to other parts of the world. – Sapa

Star 15/2/97 (288)

Let's play Games – PAC backs the bid

Olympics will 'lift our nation'

(288)

ARG 15/2/97

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

The Pan Africanist Congress has thrown its weight behind Cape Town's Olympic Bid, regarding it as an instrument of national unity and development. This means all the major parties in South Africa – the ANC, the National Party, the Democratic Party and the Inkatha Freedom Party – are firmly behind the bid.

The PAC's endorsement of the project followed discussions yesterday between Olympic Bid Company chief executive Chris Ball and PAC leader Bishop Stanley Mogoba, the party's Western Cape leader, Patricia de Lille, and parliamentary adviser Benny Bunsee.

Bishop Mogoba said: "We believe our nation has a chance of hosting the Games if only all our people work together in supporting the bid."

"We are supporting the project because we believe by doing so we are doing something for the nation, and for Africa."

'What we need are symbols that can unite us. The Olympics will do this'

He added: "South Africa is a divided, fragmented nation, and what we need and what we are searching for are symbols that can lift the nation above itself and be able to unite us. Other major sporting events have achieved this, but the Olympics will do this like nothing else has done before.

"We must ensure we do not miss this opportunity."

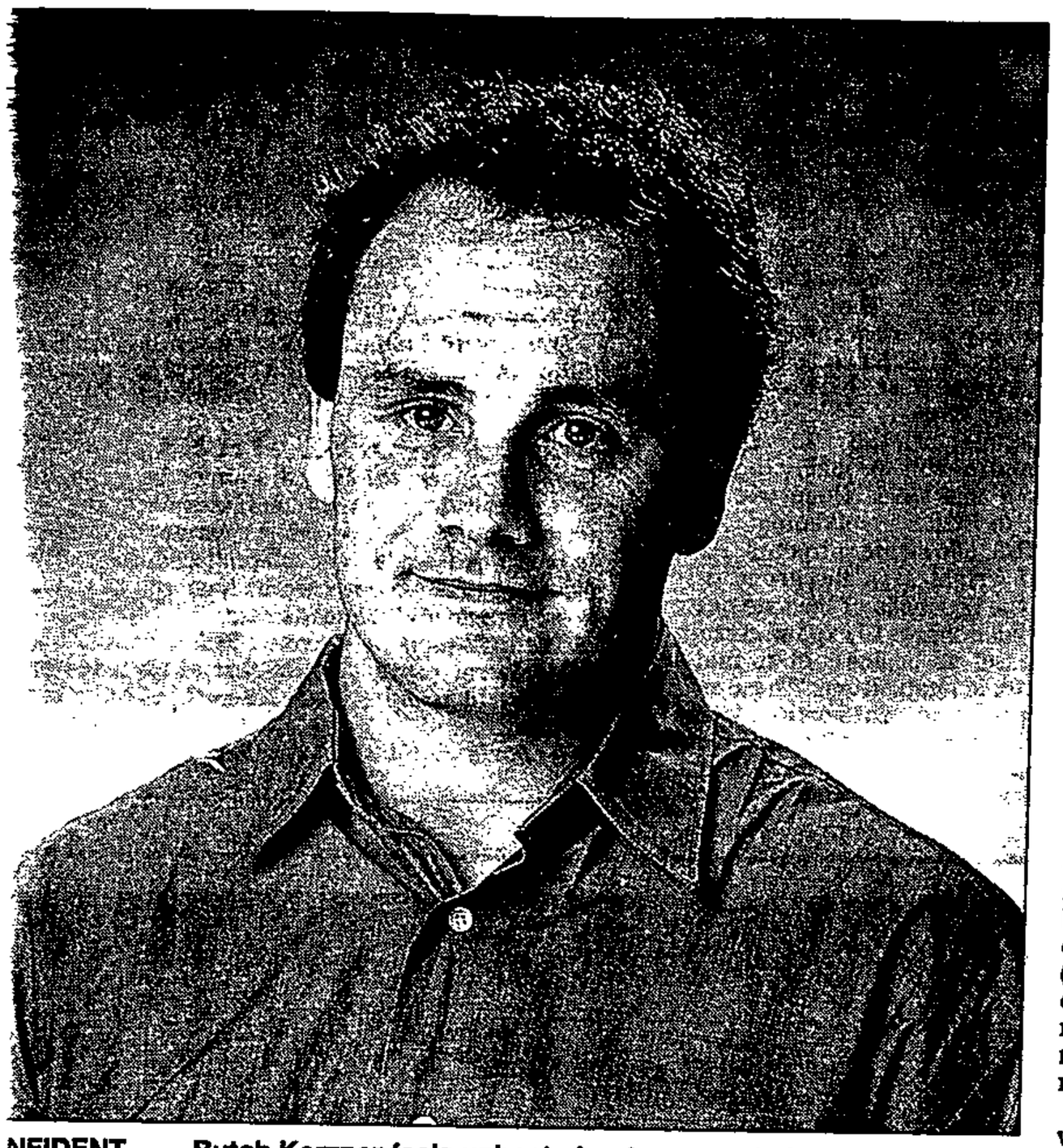
Bishop Mogoba added that every effort must be made to ensure the Olympic project made "a qualitative and quantitative change in the lives of the poor" and boosted participation in sports among communities which had not had access to facilities and training in the past.

"Our national and Olympic teams are still by and large white . . . and I am hoping that an Olympics here will generate such enthusiasm that we'll begin to see a change in the composition of sports squads. "We think there's a great thing here for us all."

Bishop Mogoba said the PAC would "use whatever opportunities we have to promote the bid".

He added with a grin: "We may be in government in 2004, so we certainly want to be seen to be supporting the Olympic bid."

Mr Ball said the Bid Company was delighted at the PAC endorsement, which counted as an important reflection of national support. "The Bid Company cannot get to all the people of South Africa. This is a national effort on behalf of all the people of South Africa and we would be



NFIDENT . . . Butch Kerzner feels upbeat about prospects in north America

Kerzner empire consolidates its US gaming conquests

ST (BT) 16/2/97 (288)

WHILE Eastern Cape Attorney General Christo Nel dithers on whether to prosecute Sol Kerzner for an alleged bribe of R2-million to George Matanzima, the hotel magnate continues to build his hotel and gambling empire in North America.

Butch Kerzner, Sol Kerzner's son and president of international gaming resorts for Sun International Hotels, the offshore operations of Sun International SA, would not comment on the impact of a possible prosecution.

In the meantime, however, the US operation is thriving. This week Sun International Hotels reported a jump of 82% in earnings for 1996 to $1.58 a share (1995: 47 US cents) on the back of casino and resort revenue totalling $225-million ($198-million). Operating income improved from $23-million to $34.3-million while net income surged to $45.7-million ($18.4-million).

Butch Kerzner would not provide a divisional breakdown, but said Paradise Island in the

SPINNING WHEELS

By THABO KOBOKOANE

Bahamas contributed over 50% to group turnover. The resort had an occupancy rate of 87%.

During the year, SIH opened the $300-million Mohegan Sun Casino, the joint venture with the Mohegan people in Connecticut, north of New York.

Kerzner says the Mohegan Sun had 60 000 visitors when it opened and is turning over more than $1-million a day.

Since the launch of the Mohegan Sun, earnings have received a significant boost. In the fourth quarter last year earnings per share of 47 US cents were more than 260% up on the 13c reported in the same quarter in 1995.

SIH also completed the acquisition of Griffin Gaming and Entertainment, which runs the Resort Casino in Atlantic City. Sun International paid $210-million and assumed Griffin's $127-million debt. SIH was granted an temporary licence to operate the Resort Casino and Kerzner is confident a licence will be awarded.

Kerzner ruled out further acquisitions for the time being. "Our hands are tied for the next three to four years as we consolidate our position."

Work has begun on the $450-million expansion of the Atlantis Resort in the Bahamas, which will add a further 1 200 rooms, new gaming facilities and water themes. In the short term, SIH will seek to bring the Resort Casino in Atlantic City "in line with the 21st century" and in the medium term spend $500-million on expansions.

Meanwhile Sun International SA reported a disappointing net profit rise of 5.1% to R208.8-million for the six months to end-December 1996 (interim 1995: R199-million).

Earnings were up marginally to 26.4c (25.8c) and the dividend was pegged at 15.5c.

Kehla Mthembu, chairman of Sisa, said that the group experienced "mixed trading conditions" in the period under review, as illegal casinos dented revenues in KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape, including a drop of 8% in the Eastern Cape, especially the Wild Coast Sun.

The closure of illegal casinos in Gauteng "had a favourable impact" on Sisa's operations in North West Province with revenue at Morula Sun and Carousel up 13%.

Mthembu said Sun City benefited from increased overseas visitors, although the group was still expecting a large loss in the current financial year.

The group is also expected to scale down its operations in the North West and Eastern Cape provinces from the current seven to three in each province in line with requirements of the National Gambling Act.

Mthembu said "good progress" had been made in discussions with provincial governments, potential buyers and others stakeholders on the disposal of the casinos.

It is widely speculated that Sisa might dispose of Thlabane Sun, Mmabatho Sun, Molopo Sun and Taung Sun.

New life for Wild Coast

ET 17/2/97 288 (4016)

OWN CORRESPONDENT

EAST LONDON: A R15 billion tourism, agriculture and forestry development plan is in the pipeline for the Eastern Cape Wild Coast, designed to make the region a leading international eco-tourism destination.

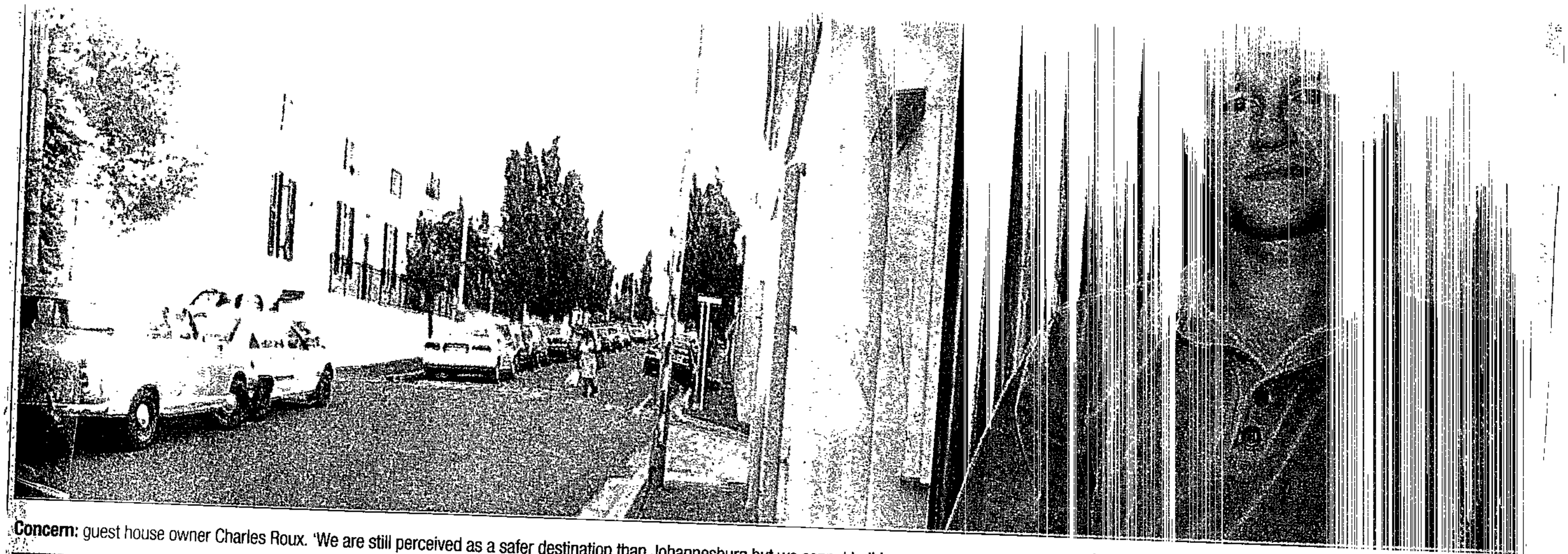
The Wild Coast Spatial Development Initiative (SDI) is expected to be high on the agenda during President Mandela's visit this week to Malaysia as Malaysian financial interests feature strongly in the initiative.

The plan will also involve development and upgrading of feeder roads, dam building and electrification on a large scale.

Closely connected will be the development of agriculture and forestry along the Wild Coast, partly to feed the tourism developments and partly to provide general upliftment in an economically depressed region.

High-rise development will not be permitted and casinos are definitely ruled out, according to sources close to the SDI. Most building development will have to be behind the coastal dunes.

The SDI is still being developed by a high-powered, multi-disciplinary task group representing national and provincial government, as well as the Development Bank of Southern Africa, the Industrial Development Corporation and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). Its final plan is to be unveiled at an international symposium in September.



Concern: guest house owner Charles Roux. 'We are still perceived as a safer destination than Johannesburg but we cannot build up a reputation of a crime-infested city. It takes years for that kind of stigma to disappear'

OBED ZILWA



Vigil: security guards Anthony Wingyo, left, and Kiyaam Pool in Loader Street, where incidents of harassment have decreased

Tourist safety a priority for guesthouses

Private security hired

(288)

ARG 18/2/97

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

THE CHANGING CITY

18/2/97 288

Police initiatives to stop muggings of tourists and other crime in Cape Town's central business district may well be working, but to the detriment of establishments bordering the city centre.

So says De Waterkant guesthouse owner Charles Roux who believes tight security in the CBD has forced criminals to prey on visitors staying in areas adjacent to the city centre.

Mr Roux and the owners of other tourist accommodation in Loader Street joined forces last year and hired two private security guards for 12 hours a night to protect their visitors. Mr Roux was reacting to the attack on two tourists who stayed at his Loader Street Lodge last week.

The couple left a pub at the Waterfront at 10pm last Wednesday and were attacked and robbed by three men, one of whom stabbed the man in the face.

"I always tell my guests not to walk alone at night, but they thought it was early enough to walk back to the lodge," said Mr Roux.



The security guards in Loader Street protect the guests at two guesthouses and several self-catering cottages.

"Initially we had about two car break-ins every night. Time and time again we would see tourists who had had a wonderful day in the city arrive at their cars the next morning to find the windows smashed and radios gone. That last impression stayed with them," said Mr Roux.

Since they introduced the guards, there had been only five car break-ins in the area and fewer vagrants harassed tourists in the streets.

Mr Roux believes the proprietors of tourism-related businesses in areas such as Tamboerskloof and Gardens will soon be forced to follow suit.

Business sector to take control of tourism drive

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

The proposed Western Cape Tourism Bill will put the private sector firmly in the driving seat of the tourist industry.

The bill, published for comment in the Government Gazette last week, aims to provide a basic framework within which businesses and other tourism roleplayers can organise themselves and formulate and implement policy.

Western Cape MEC for Tourism Lampie Fick said the bill was based on a new approach in terms of which private-sector expertise was used to promote government policy.

This would be done through the creation of a representative provincial tourism structure, which would be private-sector oriented.

It would comprise a provincial tourism board, eight regional tourism organisations and 85 local tourism bureaus.

The tourism board, whose task it would be to formulate a comprehensive tourism policy for the province, would have nine members, including one local and one provincial government representative, two representatives from regional tourism organisations and five publicly-nominated members.

Other goals of the board would be the accreditation of all tourism-related courses offered in the province, the establishment of a central database of tourist information and statistics and the promotion of tourism.

Regional organisations would comprise representatives from the areas of jurisdiction of local bureaus and local government representatives.

Tourism could be answer to many of SA's problems

Star 20/2/97 (288)

The world's biggest industry currently contributes 4,5% of our GDP, but if we could achieve the world average of 10% another million or more jobs could be created

By Gavin Lewis 20/2/97 266

As the March Budget looms ahead as the first testing point for the Government's strict macro-economic targets, so the mutterings of those concerned about the effects of those policies on jobs and social development (not least among them the unions) are growing.

Many see GEAR (the growth, employment and redistribution programme) as being at the expense of the RDP. Yet if there is any one sector of the economy that can reconcile the demands of both GEAR and the RDP, it is South Africa's growing tourism industry.

Tourism is the world's biggest industry. It contributes 4%-5% of South Africa's GDP, employing some 500 000 people and brings in foreign currency. The world average is 10% of GDP. If we reached that, we could create another million or more jobs.

Furthermore, tourism has the lowest ratio of investment to jobs created.

What makes tourism particularly RDP-friendly is that it has the capacity to reach deep into rural, marginalised areas, opening all sorts of opportunities for emerging businesses.

But for tourism in South Africa to meet RDP requirements of empowerment, capacity building and upliftment, it needs a focus on achieving these goals, if tourism in South Africa is not to be confined to the "big three" – Cape Town, Durban and the Kruger Park.

There are big problems. Chief among them is crime – people don't like spending large sums of money to go to a place where they are likely to be mugged. Then there are poor service standards, infrastructural bottlenecks, overcrowding and environmental degradation in some areas.

First among the solutions is the diversification of tourism destinations. As Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism Peter Mokaba pointed out in a recent discussion, we need to spread the benefits of tourism to under utilised attractions, so that our popular destinations do not get trampled underfoot.

Overcrowding can destroy attractions. A particularly successful way of doing this is through the promotion of "theme" tourism – archeological tourism, cultural tourism, adventure tourism – the list is almost endless.

For this to work, infrastructure needs to put into place and the attention of tourists needs to be drawn to the existence of these attractions, which means active promotion and marketing.

In addition, areas with great potential for traditional scenic tourism need infrastructure – road, rail, airports – to link them with already developed attractions.

Second, we need to open the industry to emerging small business and to the often neglected domestic tourist market. Only if the majority of the population is involved in, and perceives the direct benefits of tourism, will popular awareness of its importance grow.

How to achieve this on a realistic basis? Access to finance and technical assistance (for instance, in drawing up business plans) is

There are drawbacks, such as our soaring crime rate

critical, and here institutions open to micro-loans can play a key role.

The Government, along with the private sector (in which the recently formed Tourism Business Council is prominent), has plans to set up a tourism promotion growth fund to this end.

Mokaba also identifies two other areas open to intervention by emerging entrepreneurs – bottlenecks in existing tourism areas (eg transport) and specialist catering to specific segments of the domestic tourism market. In Durban, for instance, many black tourists arrive on buses and do not use existing tourist facilities.

They prefer to travel and stay in groups, for which hotel accommodation is too expensive and too impersonal. If infrastructure can be provided to give easy access to less used beaches, overcrowding can be eased, and new entrepreneurs can enter the industry by providing the needs for this segment of the market.

Third, we need to encourage meaningful participation in the tourism industry, particularly by blacks. Selling crafts to or carrying bags for tourists does provide important jobs, but not careers. Communities affected by tourism development will only change their attitudes to these developments and support them (including, for example, assisting with crime prevention) if they see direct benefits to themselves.

This means, among other things, preventing as far as possible the "leakage" of tourism revenues back to major centres. If tourism facilities fly in their fresh meat supplies, local abattoirs may need to be built to provide an alternative source of supply and recycling revenues within local communities.

Participation in tourist facilities needs to go beyond jobs to equity partnerships and shared ownership.

In sum, the prospect is an exciting one. One problem area is that the tourism industry in South Africa has long been neglected and remains underfunded. The Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism hopes to raise, together with the private sector, on a rand-for-rand basis, some R300-million this year to remedy matters.

Other problems include the fact that tourism is a provincial responsibility, which calls for a more coordinated approach by the provinces, so that, for example, all nine of them don't send separate delegations to international tourism exhibitions.

None of these obstacles are insuperable. Perhaps the most difficult of them is the low level of awareness among South Africans in general as to the tourism industry's real potential.

The Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism has committed itself to bringing every cabinet minister, every line department minister and the president himself on board on this issue, to bear the tourism sector in mind in their planning and their speeches, here and abroad.

Tourism is the one area which can reduce our rate of unemployment over the next five years.

■ *Dr Gavin Lewis is the editor of the independent monthlies, the RDP Monitor and Tourism in Brief.*

Crime and greed drive tourists out of city

288

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

ARG 20/2/97

Foreign visitors deterred by crime and high prices in Cape Town are spending more time in the Southern Cape, on the West Coast and in the winelands.

Regional tourism bureaus report a sharp increase in the number of foreign visitors over Christmas, while tourist-related concerns in the city say business was down on that in previous year.

An increase in car rentals by tourists also seems to indicate that tourists are travelling further from Cape Town.

Statistics from the Western Cape Tourism Board show that German, Dutch and British tourists in particular exchanged the hustle and bustle of the city for prolonged visits to the countryside.

But Americans still seemed to stick to urban areas, staying in international hotels familiar to them.

Western Cape Tourism Board interim chairman Theuns Vivian has attributed the boost in regional tourism to the high cost of accommodation and perceptions about crime and violence in the city.

Mr Vivian said Satour had long warned about the effect of hotel price increases, but noted that many guesthouse owners were now also guilty of over-pricing.

"Some guesthouses in the Peninsula are now charging more than R700 a night. This is simply not acceptable if you consider that tourists can get the same type of room, for a fraction of the price, less than an hour's drive from the city," he said.

He said recent accommodation price increases were creating the impression that Capetonians wanted to capitalise on the depreciation of the rand, rather than let the tourist and the region benefit from it.

Meanwhile lower occupancy levels at some major hotels could be attributed to a proliferation of other accommodation.

He said he did not believe that there had been any significant increase in the number of crimes involving foreigners. But the fact that foreigners' perception of personal safety had deteriorated was serious cause for concern.

"Another trend noted this season was an increase in spending by foreigners on gifts, curios, food and drink. This creates an opportunity for entrepreneurs to enter this lucrative market. Now is the time to create a curio market rather than allow people from other African countries to monopolise it," said Mr Vivian.



Dolphin Group CEO Ketan Somaia, left, and marketing manager Michael Sharpes discussing the Mpumalanga Parks Board deal and other investments in SA with journalists yesterday. Picture: ROBERT BOTHA

Dolphin's CEO responds to claims

BD 20/2/97 (288)

Josey Ballenger

KETAN Somaia, CEO of the Dolphin Group, which has entered a 50-year agreement with the Mpumalanga Parks Board to lease the development rights to certain natural areas, yesterday denied allegations of fraud in Kenya.

Somaia told journalists in Johannesburg the Kenyan public accounts committee "did request me to appear before them". He said the inquiry related to two contracts between European companies and the government which were unrelated to Dubai-based Dolphin and for whom he had acted as commercial agent in Kenya.

"I am not a director or a shareholder" in those companies, he said. Somaia said he had written to the committee to that effect, and therefore did not have to appear before the body.

Recent reports said Kenyan authorities were trying to ban any company affiliated with Somaia from doing business with the government again.

He said the allegations were of a political nature due to Dolphin's "entrepreneurial" and decisive nature, but said he was free to return to Kenya. He left in October.

Somaia and Dolphin marketing manager Michael Sharpes also said the group would present development plans for some of the Mpumalanga areas — those which were already partially developed and thus did not need to wait for environmental impact studies — to the provincial parks board next month.

On approval, the board would either "put up those plans for (construction) tender" or submit them to local architects.

This first round would be handled exclusively by Dolphin, although other developments could be joint ventures. They said management was meeting the parks board to sort out gazetted land claims in certain areas which would stall development plans.

They said the offshore group would finance the agreed-upon R400m "bricks and mortar" developments in the next three years as a result of the deal with the provincial parks board, as well as its separate, recent acquisitions of Promenade Holdings — which owned the Promenade Hotel in Nelspruit and the Royal Hotel in Pilgrim's Rest — and the Rivonia Inn (formerly Sleepy Hollow Hotel) in Rivonia.

TOURISM *Ketan Somaia says a dirty tricks campaign is under way to undermine Mpumalanga deal*

Dolphin chief cries sabotage

(288)

CT (BR) 20/2/97



CRYING FOUL *Ketan Somaia, chief executive of the Dolphin Group of Dubai* PHOTO: JOHN WOODROOF

JONATHAN ROSENTHAL

Johannesburg — Ketan Somaia, the chief executive of the Dolphin Group, claimed yesterday there was a dirty-tricks campaign against him to sabotage the group's rights to develop Mpumalanga's nature parks.

Somaia said the campaign to scupper the controversial R12 billion parks deal was motivated by people who were jealous of his personal success, but he did not disclose their identities at a press conference that was partly a public relations exercise to improve the Dubai-based company's image in South Africa.

Somaia, a Kenyan-born businessman, secured the commercial management of Mpumalanga's parks for 50 years, including Blyde River Canyon, Loskop Dam, Manyaleti game reserve and Pilgrim's Rest, a deal that was concluded within nine weeks, in exchange for an immediate R400 million investment in the province's parks and an undertaking to pay the parks board's budget deficit over that period. The board's deficit is projected to amount to R377 million in the next decade.

Dear Sir,

RE: MR. KETAN SOMAIA

In reply to your letter dated 3rd December, 1996, I wish to confirm that Mr. KETAN SOMAIA is not required to appear before the Public Accounts committee.

Yours faithfully,

HON. M. KIJANA WAMALWA, M.P
CHAIRMAN
PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Somaia has been implicated in financial irregularities in Kenya, allegations he said were "blown out of all proportion by the media".

He said 95 percent of South African media reports about Dolphin were fair, but there were reports which could have served "an agenda for a few individuals". Many business competitors were jealous of his success. Somaia said he was prey to unwelcome media attention because Dolphin was Kenya's single largest investor.

In Kenya, Somaia has been dogged by allegations that he received millions of dollars in public money for security equipment which he allegedly failed to supply. Last month his lawyers denied that there was any link between Somaia, Dolphin and the unnamed defaulting company. But at yesterday's press conference Somaia contradicted his previous statement by saying he was a "commissioned agent" of the European company involved in the transaction.

Somaia insisted he was not wanted for questioning by the Public Accounts Committee, a watchdog body of the Kenyan parliament. However, Kijana Wamalwa, the chairman of the committee, and other committee members had tried to get him to appear before it three times to answer questions. Yesterday Somaia said that, although he had acted as an agent, he had also tried to act as a facilitator between the committee and the company, which he declined to name. He said a letter from Wamalwa confirmed that he (Somaia) was not required to appear before the committee.

Gloom on Cape Olympic hopes

Star 21/2/97

(288)

But Nocsa's Sam Ramsamy still upbeat despite downbeat evaluation of crime, poor transport and hotels in Cape Town

OWN CORRESPONDENT
Durban

The National Olympic Committee (Nocsa) has moved swiftly to dispel fears that Cape Town's bid to stage the 2004 games has been knocked off course by what some regard as a damning evaluation of its prospects by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

A delegation from the IOC inspected Cape Town's facilities and resources during a visit late last year when their host was Nocsa chairman Sam Ramsamy.

The report released from IOC headquarters in Lausanne last night cites "serious crime" as a "challenge" to the bid and left no doubt that Rome leads the 11 rival cities at this stage of the proceedings.

Five cities will be shortlisted on March 7, and then six months later on September 5 the venue for the 2004 Olympic Games will be announced.

Ramsamy said this morning: "We are aware of the strengths and weaknesses in the Cape Town bid, and we are confident we will overcome those weaknesses and turn them into strengths.

"We are aware of the crime the IOC is referring to and we have structures in place to rectify the situation. We have plenty of time on our side to turn things around," Ramsamy added.

Cape Town's strengths, as listed by the IOC, are local support, venues and facilities, while the crime situation, questions regarding the environment, transport, budget and (lack of) hotels are regarded as weaknesses in the bid.

Ramsamy said Cape Town should remain upbeat and he was certain the city would be on the shortlist of five.

That would be half the battle won in the war to be fought out in the ballot between IOC members in September as Cape Town appears to have a few votes in the bag already. It was recently reported that the city has the backing of the African bloc, eager to see the Olympics come to the continent for the first time, and this could mean as much as 28 votes.

There is also an opinion that Sweden, Germany and the Netherlands are firmly behind the bid. The IOC document conceded that were Cape Town to stage the games it would "help unite South Africans in post-apartheid transition" and President Mandela has already given his full support to the bid.

Serious crime apart, it would appear the other two major problems with the bid are the lack of an effective railway system and inadequate airport facilities, as well as a lack of hotel accommodation.

Games bid thumbs-up from IOC, but crime still a concern

ARG 21/2/97

Warning over crime

Cape Town's Olympic plan is "very well thought out", showing "impressive depth of analysis and planning", the International Olympic Committee says today in a detailed and positive assessment of the bid.

The financial, transport and accommodation plans are singled out for praise, and though the report highlights the "serious crime situation facing the country", it notes that "through co-operation involving all responsible parties, significant plans and a detailed strategy have been developed in order to reduce crime and increase the level of safety and security".

These comments are contained in the evaluation commission's report on Cape Town's bid, due to be released today.

Initial news agency reports summarising IOC assessments of all 11 bidding cities gave a more negative impression, and this was rebutted today by Bid Company chief executive Chris Ball.

To page 3

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID



Sam Ramsamy: confident



Chris Ball: encouraged

Games bid thumbs-up from IOC, but crime still a concern

From page 1 (288) ARG 21/2/97

■ The overall plan "is very well thought out, making particular use of the expertise of the business community".

■ There is "an impressive depth of analysis and planning which even could be improved more by closer co-operation with sports experts".

■ Plans for the Olympic Village are "good generally", the rowing course being a "very good facility" which would leave a "great legacy", the IOC said.

■ The environmental programme "sets ambitious goals and covers a wide range of issues", would involve "a high degree of public participation and close co-operation between the Olympic organisers, NGOs and communities".

■ Transport infrastructure and plans "are thorough and detailed", demonstrating "an impressive awareness of Olympic needs".

■ The financial plan "demonstrates professional involvement and an in-depth approach, providing ample reserves ... thus demonstrating a basically conservative approach".

■ Guarantees are in general "detailed and precise".

Mr Ball said he believed Cape Town would rank "a confident fourth" in the shortlist to be announced on March 7.

Correspondent Gary Lemke reports that National Olympic Committee of South Africa chairman Sam Ramsamy dispelled fears that the bid could be knocked off course by the IOC's concerns about crime.

"We are aware of the strengths and weaknesses in the Cape Town bid and we are confident that we will overcome those weaknesses and turn them into strengths," Mr Ramsamy said today.

"We are aware of the crime the IOC is referring to ... we have plenty of time on our side to turn things around and I'm not particularly concerned about the details mentioned in the report."

inspected the [illegible] But it was still on the next morning, [illegible]
a gas leak, she says. They told her the

Mokaba vows to make SA safe for visitors

(288) ARG 21/2/97

The increased number of criminal attacks on tourists to South Africa is a national disgrace, says Deputy Environmental and Tourism Minister Peter Mokaba.

In a faxed statement yesterday after an attack on two German tourists in Cape Town, Mr Mokaba said a campaign was underway to make the country safer for tourists.

His department was working towards the formation of a directorate for safety and security of tourists and he called for speedy judicial handling of cases involving tourists.

He said his ministry was also in discussion with other ministries to halt crime, especially against tourists.

■ Two Swedish women volunteers from the Christian mercy ship Anastasis were attacked and robbed on the sand dunes between Eastern and Nahoon beaches in East London yesterday, police said.

The names of the women, aged 24 and 25, have not been released. Three suspects were arrested in the vicinity soon after the incident. – Sapa

Pagad claims Cape attorney general supported protest

ARG 21/2/97

JERMAINE CRAIG AND LINDSAY BARNES
STAFF REPORTERS

Pagad has vowed to release a tape recording on Monday that it says will embarrass Cape attorney-general Frank Kahn "out of his office".

Pagad chief co-ordinator Abdoes-Salaam Ebrahim said the group had a tape recording of a conversation in which Mr Kahn suggested that Pagad go to Cape Town International Airport to demonstrate – with his support.

The protest held in December was banned by Transport Minister Mac Maharaj, but Pagad went ahead with it and 26 members were arrested after violent clashes with police.

Five policemen were shot and wounded later when the members appeared in the Bellville Magistrate's Court.

Mr Kahn has rejected Pagad's claim as absurd, saying the conversation took place before the demonstration was banned and at no time did he indicate support for an illegal march

Mr Ebrahim said Mr Kahn was aware the recording was being made as the recorder was displayed openly on his desk.

Mr Ebrahim and other Pagad leaders Aslam Toefy and Sharief Khan yesterday met Enver Daniels, an adviser to Minister of Justice Dullah Omar, to discuss the contents of the tape.

Mr Ebrahim said Pagad had had a letter from Mr Omar to the effect that Mr Kahn was withdrawing from a meeting between Pagad and various ministers to discuss the fight against gangsterism and drugs.

He said Pagad had 40 copies of the tape and "will definitely bring it to the people".

Mr Ebrahim said Pagad was still committed to getting rid of gangsterism and drugs "within the framework of the law".

"Our mothers are still dying and our children being raped," he said.

Mr Kahn challenged the group to stop making threats and to publish a transcript of the tape. He said he was not aware that the conversation was being taped.

"That tape will not indicate support for any unlawful activity," he said. "I showed sympathy for the cause of a legal march and they have deliberately sought to say I was encouraging an illegal march.

"Their logic falls flat when viewed against the background circumstances."

The taped meeting was held before Mr Maharaj withdrew permission for the group to march at the airport, he said.

Mr Kahn said he met Pagad leaders again and informed them they would be prosecuted if they marched.

"It's absurd to suggest I told them I would support them if they marched unlawfully," he said.

"I see this latest devious move by Pagad as an attempt to intimidate my office because we have taken a hard line on them and applied the law very strictly.

"It's an empty attempt to discredit me and I treat it with the contempt it deserves."

He would continue to apply the law in a strict manner, he said.

IOC RELEASES GAMES VENUE REPORT

Crime rate harms city's Olympic hopes

ET 21/2/97 (288)

LAUSANNE: Promoters of Cape Town's 2004 Olympic Bid were undeterred by a report from the international organising committee seeming to favour other cities.

CAPE TOWN'S bid for the 2004 Olympic Games appeared to suffer a blow last night as Rome, Athens and Stockholm emerged as front-runners in a report released by the International Olympic Committee.

But the city may still hold an outside chance. Cape Town's bid appealed to the committee's social conscience by underlining that staging the Games in South Africa would create new jobs and help unify the country.

The IOC inspectors also noted that while the people of Cape Town were not generally against hosting the Olympics, many thought the city's candidature was premature, indicating that other priorities should prevail.

By far the biggest concern about Cape Town's bid was the crime rate.

The evaluation commission acknowledged that a detailed strategy had been developed to improve security, but added that full implementation of these plans over the coming years would be a challenge.

Examiners who visited all potential hosts of the Olympics said Cape Town's bid failed on several organisational points — including the positioning of rowing and canoeing courses in the Olympic Village, with potential security, noise and access difficulties. The quality of accommodation was highly praised, added the commission, which said the bid was well thought out.

But Olympic Bid Company chief Mr Chris Ball and Mayor Ms Theresa Solomon last night felt the IOC evaluation commission report had been positive and "heartwarming", and augured well for the city's chances of reaching the final four or five when the list of 11 cities is whittled on March 7.

"Generally, the comments (in the report) are very understanding and favourable," said Ball, adding that the report had been "very complimentary" about plans under the Olympic Bid Company's control — such as technical plans, transport, accommodation and finance.

There were "no stated significant errors" about Cape Town, only "minor issues" for which the company had "ready answers".

Ball conceded that cities such as Rome, Athens and Stockholm had an edge over Cape Town, as they had many facilities.

But, he said, "I believe the report puts us in a good position to be among the final cities".

Solomon said Cape Town was "going to Lausanne within the next two weeks, confident that we have an excellent chance of staying in the race for Olympics 2004".

She said there was "no doubt" that holding the Games in Cape Town would create jobs and help to unify all South Africans.

Solomon admitted that crime was "worrying" but that this was being addressed.

The report said all cities had proved their capability of organisation the games but some would need more time than others to implement their plans.

The most important criterion, according to the IOC report is "the best conditions for the best athletes of the world in environmentally friendly venues".

Rome's bid was praised by the IOC's evaluation commission as "excellently planned and prepared in a professional manner".

Athens would boast an excellent Olympic sports centre just 15 minutes from the Olympic village and the Greek government had made considerable efforts to improve the serious pollution problems in the city. — Staff Reporter, Sapa-AP

Strengths, weaknesses

STRENGTHS of Cape Town's bid for the Olympics:

● Local support: The committee says the Games will help unite South Africans in post-apartheid transition. Full government support although local poll results inconclusive.

● Venues: Some sites will help development. 75 000-seat Olympic Stadium to be built. Good conditions for most venues.

● Facilities: Generally good revised plans.

Weaknesses:

● Environment: Preliminary environmental studies needed.

● Security: Serious crime situation is a challenge.

● Transport: Good basic infrastructure but improvements needed for the airport and railways.

● Capacity: A 45% growth in hotel capacity foreseen. 5 000 existing and planned four-five star hotel rooms.

● Budget: Sponsorship and ticket sales revenues on high side.

● Legislation: New pieces of legislation needed.

Minister suspends Dolphin deal opponents

(96) (288) CT(BR) 21/2/97

JONATHAN ROSENTHAL

Johannesburg — David Mkhwanazi, Mpumalanga's environment minister, suspended his advisory council this week after it condemned the multibillion-rand deal to lease the province's natural parks to the Dubai-based Dolphin group for 50 years.

The Environmental Council is an unelected advisory body appointed by Mkhwanazi. But members of the council have been among the most vociferous critics of the Dolphin deal.

The advisory body publicly split with the minister after a special investigative task team was appointed to look into the deal. Members of the council alleged that the task team was loaded with the deal's supporters.

Earlier this week the council filed a report opposing the Dolphin deal. It said the deal may have violated the requirements of the State Tender Board Act, and could further hamper development and investment in the area.

It also said that Dolphin's financial guarantees appeared to be unsecured. "There is an urgent necessity, at the very least, for comprehensive amendments covering all points raised above," the report said.

On Tuesday, after the council presented its report, Don Hlatswayo, the head of administration at the provincial environmental affairs department, wrote a letter to one of the council's staff members saying "the functioning of the Mpumalanga Environmental Council is suspended by the MEC, pending the appointment of the right-sized council".

On Wednesday Dr R Mbuli, Mkhwanazi's assistant who had signing powers for him, wrote to Sue Hart, the chairman of the council. His letter confirmed that Hlatswayo "was within his rights to write the letter to staff members about their transfer and the removal of government property (from the council offices)".

This came after a letter last week in which Mkhwanazi said the "functioning of the council has been suspended until the right-sized council is announced".

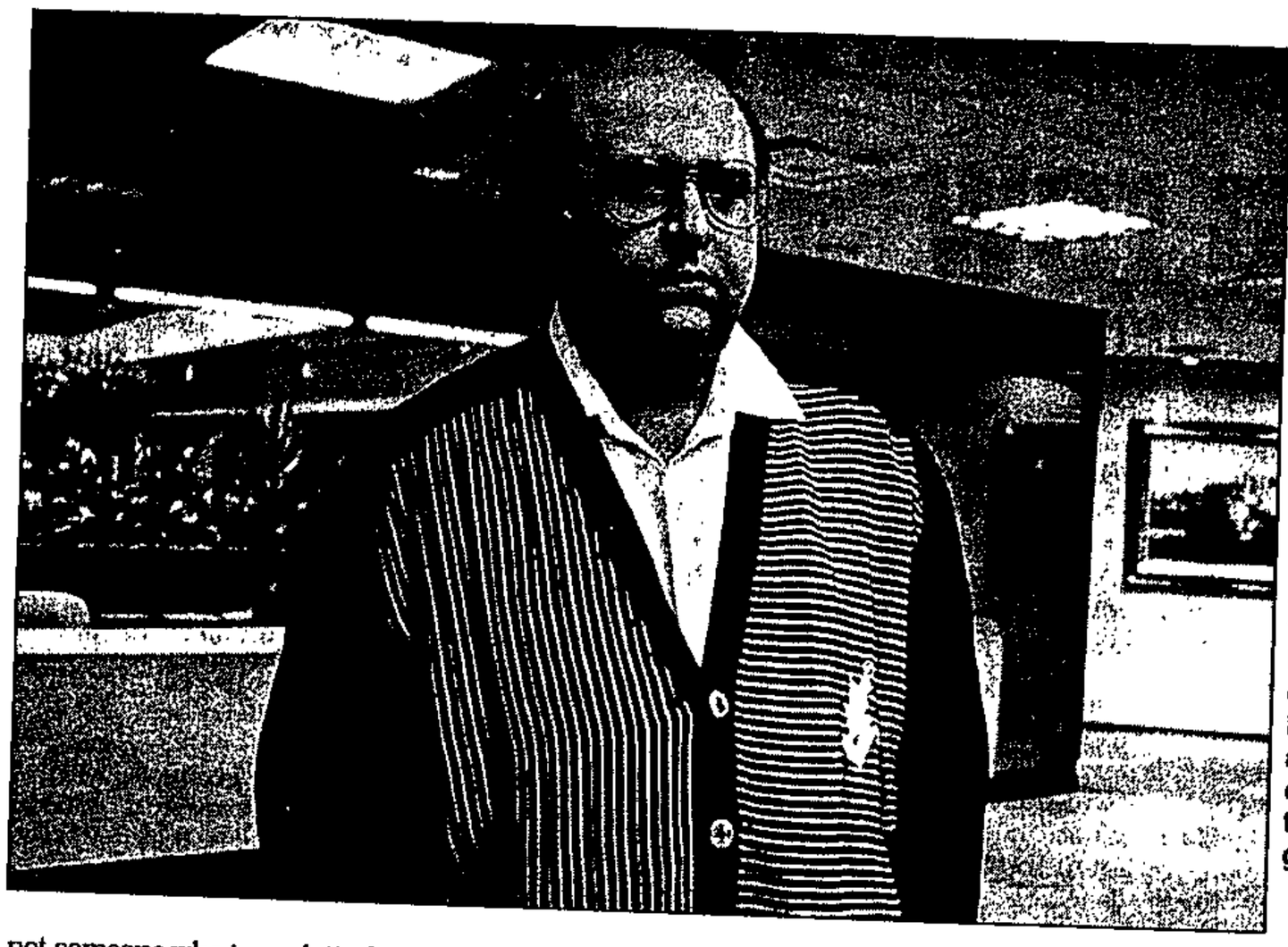
But yesterday Mkhwanazi denied that he had suspended the council. He said he had suspended several of its functions and reduced its size.

He said that the province could not afford to pay the almost 60 members of the Tourism Authority, parks board and environmental council, and had decided to make all three bodies smaller.

Rupert Lorimer, an outspoken critic of the deal who was axed from the council last week, had been appointed as a consultant and not a permanent member of the council, Mkhwanazi said.

Dolphin's dicey credentials

The Dolphin Group which has secured huge interests to develop tourism in Mpumalanga is struggling to defend its chief, reports Justin Arenstein



Ketan Somaia: Concerns about the Dolphin Group chief's past business dealings include allegations that he was involved in a defaulted R35-million arms contract with the Kenyan government

PHOTOGRAPH: RUTH MOTAU

THE public relations drive by nature reserve heavyweight Dolphin Group stumbled this week after Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi's office denied it had issued letters vindicating Dolphin chief Ketan Somaia.

The supposed letter was used by the Mpumalanga Parks Board — which has cut a deal giving Dolphin exclusive rights to prime nature reserves in the province — to dismiss concerns regarding Somaia's business dealings in Kenya.

Somaia's South African lawyers have previously used two other letters from Kenya supposedly vindicating Somaia to try to head off *M&G* articles on Dolphin and Somaia. The validity of both of these letters is now also in question.

Somaia did, however, concede this week that consultation over Dolphin's deal — which gives it exclusive commercial development rights to reserves including the Blyde River Canyon for 50 years — should have been better handled.

The deal has outraged rural communities, conservationists and land claim activists, who say affected communities have still not been consulted.

Somaia said he planned a series of presentations for local communities, and that he was prepared to revise Dolphin's contract with the board "in the interests of affected communities, the deal itself and South Africa at large".

Concerns about Somaia's past business dealings include allegations that he was involved in a defaulted R35-million arms contract with the Kenyan government.

Mpumalanga Parks Board chief Alan Gray said earlier this month that the letter from Moi cleared Somaia of involvement.

But Kenya's high commissioner to South Africa, Justice Mudavadi, said Gray's claim about the letter was "very strange and surprising", and that Moi would never address another country's officials directly.

"Protocol demands that my president would only write a letter to his counterpart, President Mandela, and not someone who is a relatively junior official — especially without informing my office. I know of no such letter and find this whole thing very strange and surprising," he explained.

Repeated requests this week to Gray for copies of the alleged letter and comment from the board on the Kenyan denial were unsuccessful.

But Somaia, who was in Johannesburg this week spearheading Dolphin's public relations roadshow, also refuted the existence of the letter, saying that Moi would have no motivation for writing it.



Alan Gray: His claims about the letter from Daniel arap Moi were 'very strange and surprising'

Somaia however reiterated that he was innocent of any wrongdoing in Kenya, where he has declined at least three formal requests to testify about the R35-million contract before Kenya's Public Accounts Committee.

He said he was linked to the two London companies which had defaulted on the contract and that he still served as their commissioned agent in Kenya.

"But I am not a director or shareholder in either company. I decided not to testify because the formalities of finally delivering on the contract had begun and I therefore felt that there was no need for me to appear before the Public Accounts Committee," he said.

The committee tabled a recommendation before the Kenyan Parliament last month calling for the government not to enter into any further contracts or agreements with Somaia or any companies associated with him.

Committee chairman Michael Wamalwa wrote to Somaia's South African lawyers on December 3 stating that the Kenyan billionaire no longer needed to testify.

In a second letter, dated January 17, Wamalwa said Somaia had helped the government recover 80% of the outstanding order.

Both letters were used by lawyers Cliffe Decker and Todd, to pre-empt articles the *M&G* planned to publish.

Other committee members however have denied the validity of Wamalwa's letters. Committee member Martin Chikuku said Wamalwa had been forced to apologise publicly for issuing the letters.

"We were shocked to hear that a letter absolving Somaia had been issued, because there is no way that he has been cleared," he told the *M&G*.

"The committee firmly believes that Somaia directly benefited from this episode because if a man has no interest or ownership in a company, then how can he force them to suddenly — after seven years — begin honouring their contracts?"

Wamalwa's election campaign coalition partners, the Democracy Party, also publicly cut ties with him last week after the apology, but retained their links with his party, Ford Kenya.

Moolman Mentz, a member of the Mpumalanga legislature team which recently returned from a tour of Dolphin's businesses in Kenya and Dubai, said he had quizzed Somaia and was satisfied with his explanations.

"Africa is not for sissies," Mentz said. "In any case, if you look at the amounts involved, then the alleged misappropriation is like a drop of water in the sea compared to the Kenyan economy — or even the Dolphin economy. All businessmen have at least some deals that go sour and some that work out."

Mentz said current negative publicity about Somaia and Dolphin were not in the province's interests.

"It is a fallacy to think the Mpumalanga government will ever subject investors to tender processes or in-depth investigations," he said.

"If we create the perception that investors will be investigated in this manner, it is doubtful that [we] will attract any investors at all," he added.

SUN INTERNATIONAL (288)

NOT SUCH A GOOD GAMBLE

SM 21/2/97

"Who would buy a company with sales growth of 6%, attributable earnings growth of 5% and cash flow diminishing year on year?" queries an analyst. "The prospects aren't good — resorts are too far from the main metropolitan areas and the group will soon face stiff competition, illegal casinos aside."

That sums it up. The counter has dropped from 575c to 360c. Some say on a p:e of 7,2 it offers good value, but the share is unlikely to improve for a while yet. And Sun International SA's pedestrian interim results confirm market fears.

Operating profit at R289m, 5% ahead of the previous period, reflects a margin cut partly by the imposition of Vat on gaming revenue with effect from October 1 1996. The other main factor was a 13,5% wage settlement effective July 1.

Police have clamped down on illegal gaming dens in Gauteng, but KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape are still largely uncontrolled. Longer-term competition will come from legal gaming resorts, most in more populous areas than Sun's resorts.

It is well known that Sun will have to close some casinos by 1999 in the former homelands, the only places to allow gambling in the old SA. It is planning to sell some hotels, probably eight. And the number of competitors' hotel beds is soaring, particularly in prime business and tourist areas.

DULL PERFORMANCE

Six months to	Dec 31 1995	Jun 30 1996	Dec 31 1996
Turnover (Rbn)	1,10	1,06	1,17
Operating income (Rm)	274,7	271,5	289,0
Attributable (Rm)	198,7	187,6	208,8
Earnings (c)	25,8	24,0	26,4
Dividends (c)	15,0	14,0	15,5

Priority will be given to black interests in any deal. Despite introducing black partners and bidding for new licences through the Afrisun leisure consortium partner, Sun has failed to pick up the first of three Mpumalanga casino licences.

This leads to another problem — delays in licence decisions in most provinces must be causing more uncertainty and problems for management.

On a positive note, the resorts still have relatively good occupancies, averaging 72% in the period, 1% more than last year. Gaming and rooms revenues rose 6% and 10% respectively.

Higher increases in Gauteng — Carousel and Morula were 13% up on the previous year — were offset by the 8% drop in revenue at Eastern Cape operations.

Sun City is cash-positive, "but has a huge debt burden since it developed Lost City," says new chairman Khehla Mthembu.

Though its viability is seriously threatened should a Gauteng licence be granted, Mthembu reckons improved controls in all resorts as well as Sun City are evident in operating profits.

Sun City's average occupancy was 81%, in line with last year. Mthembu — who took over from now-retired Buddy Hawton — reckons losses there should start dropping next year. It continues to draw foreign tourists. *Michelle Joubert*

Olympic bid committee set to play hard ball

ARG 22/2/97 (288)

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

A summit of sports federations convenes today to hammer out winning strategies with Olympic Bid supremo Chris Ball as the Games 2004 project gains momentum.

The meeting in Johannesburg between Mr Ball and representatives of all South Africa's sports federations follows what the bid teams regard as a "good news" assessment by the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) evaluation commission.

Getting everyone to work together in winning the Games is the key issue in today's meeting between Mr Ball and the sports federations.

The IOC report singled out key strengths in the South African bid's transport, financial, environmental, accommodation, and cultural programme plans and although it highlighted the crime problem, the IOC acknowledged that a strategy was in place to deal with it.

It does mention the need for improvements in the rail system and the airport, but notes the "thorough and detailed plans" to do this.

Mr Ball's verdict was that Cape Town would rank "a confident fourth" in the shortlisting on March 7.

"Technically, we are in with as much chance as Rome or Stockholm. The only difference is that we are in Africa and the Games have never been here before," Mr Ball said.

Signs that Cape Town was prepared to play a hard game in international lobbying emerged yesterday afternoon when Mr Ball noted that South Africa had been warned in advance there would be "all sorts of skulduggery, including disinformation".

In a sharp jibe at arch rival Rome, he said: "Rome is trying to knock us off. If Rome can persuade the world that Cape Town is not safe, then Cape Town can't beat Rome."

He added: "The IOC itself understands that crime is not an issue in the Games. The issue is security and Rome has bigger security problems than Cape Town."

Meanwhile, the Italian capital has its fair share of problems.

Opponents of Rome's candidacy have vowed to continue their campaign to block the bid and accused officials of lying about how they would pay for the Olympics.

"We're not surprised by (the IOC's) evaluation as it was based on superficial and falsely construed data provided by the bid's organising committee," said a spokesman for the Committee Against the Olympics in Rome.

The Committee is made up of hundreds of intellectuals and environmentalists who say the Games would be costly, disruptive and environmentally harmful to the ancient city.

The group has asked to meet the IOC to discuss the matter and has sent a dossier to the IOC detailing "the falsehoods".

"In particular, we underscored the financial instability of the Rome bid and the uncertainty of promises made by the state since they were made by neither the government nor approved by parliament," he said.

R1bn committed to four Hiltons in South Africa

CT(BR) 24/2/97 (288)

Armin Schroecker, the general manager of Sandton Hilton and the divisional director southern Africa of Hilton International, began life as a waiter.

However, Schroecker's humble beginnings have not deterred investors, who have committed nearly R1 billion to the four hotels comprising the first phase of Hilton's thrust into South Africa.

Perhaps the investors sensed that, having been a waiter for several years, Schroecker has developed insights into the hotel business not readily available to those who did not start at the bottom and work their way up.

"Waiters certainly have the opportunity to cheat," Schroecker confirms, "but they will never cheat while I am around. I know all the tricks, because I've witnessed them first hand."

After leaving school he did an apprenticeship as a waiter for three years, after which he worked at a winter ski resort before signing up as a steward on a round-the-world cruise. Then came hotel school followed by a job as a waiter at the Hilton in London.

"From there I worked my way up, through accounting and restaurants, before being appointed as manager of a remote Hilton property in Korea, after which I was transferred to Cairo, where I ran the Nile Hilton until my move to South Africa five months ago."

The Nile Hilton was not doing well when Schroecker took over. In the short space of several months he had turned it around "by cleaning out the dishonest waiters who had been ripping huge chunks out of the bottom line".

Schroecker's prime South African responsibility is to create a permanent presence. "Unlike the other multinational hotel groups to have come here, we are not in South Africa only in name. We've established an office in Johannesburg — a clear demonstration that we are here to stay."



JOHN SPIRA

The demonstration is underlined by Hilton's early commitment to four hotels in South Africa.

The first to open its doors will be the Durban Hilton, a 19-storey, 327-room property, which will be completed in July this year. The location, adjacent to the International Conference Centre, is ideal, Schroecker maintains.

Then, in September, the Sandton Hilton will welcome its first guests at a low-rise complex boasting 329 rooms, nine meeting rooms and a conference venue for up to 600 guests.

Cape Town will follow next year with a R300 million development comprising 400 rooms, after which Hilton will open its first resort hotel in South Africa at Zimbali on the north coast of KwaZulu Natal.

Hilton does not generally invest in hotels — the strategy is to manage them. "But in certain situations we do invest," says Schroecker. "We have an investment in the Durban Hilton and would have invested in the Sandton Hilton had there been the opportunity to do so. Problem was, the other investors got there first."

While acknowledging that investment is important to South Africa, he considers job creation and training more important.

"Jobs and training represents added value to tourism. Hilton's direct staffing will be 300 in each hotel without considering the big multiplier in the form of food suppliers, transport operators, curio shops, taxis and the like."

Schroecker concedes that South Africa's high crime rate represented a problem when it came to Hilton's decision to come to the country.

"Crime is anathema to tourism, especially in South Africa, where tourism has the potential to grow into the country's biggest single foreign exchange earner. I suggest crime in South Africa is a far from insoluble problem. I believe current levels of crime could be significantly reduced if the government really put its mind to it."

Surely the South African five-star hotel market is saturated, especially in Johannesburg, where they have been sprouting like mushrooms?

"I believe there is scope for another five-star hotel on the basis that South Africa's three- and four-star hotels are overpriced. There isn't a sufficient gap between those and the five-star rates. There's a lot more value for money in the five-star category than in the three- and four-star categories.

"The rates for hotels in South Africa are distorted. The five stars are underpriced across the board. I predict rates in the three- and four-star category will come down as hotel patrons come to realise just how much more they get from the five stars for relatively little additional money."

What was it that persuaded Hilton to come to South Africa?

"We are all over the world, with some hotels in the most unlikely of countries and the most unlikely of locations. They're all successful, indicating there are opportunities everywhere.

"South Africa is one of the most promising of the emerging markets in the world. Unlike some of the other countries in which we operate, it has a good infrastructure and offers the tourist a wide range of exciting alternatives.

"Hilton identified four emerging markets of note in the world — India, which is an extremely difficult market to penetrate; China, even more difficult; South America, not that difficult but we haven't got there yet; and South Africa, which has great potential for tourism — game parks, good weather, a business climate identical to western standards, wine and oysters.

"For me, wine and oysters all the year round are the biggest attraction."

Hilton's rates will be in the region of those of the Sandton Towers and the Hyatt, he says. "We'll see how the market responds. If it responds favourably, we might push up our rates a little; if not so positively, we might drop them. It's a free market, with prices determined by supply and demand."



LEISURE INDUSTRY *Armin Schroecker, the general manager of Sandton Hilton and divisional director southern Africa of Hilton International, oversees the construction and emergence of a Hilton hotel in anything but a leisurely manner*

CREDIT: JOHN WOODROOF

Protea's stable of hotels continues to grow

CT (BR) 24/2/97 (286)

MAGGIE ROWLEY

Cape Town — Protea Hotels had added 20 hotels to its stable since June last year and expected to sign up a further 10 by December, Arthur Gillis, the managing director, said on Friday.

This brings to 100 the number of hotels managed by the group, which operates in 10 African and Indian Ocean Island countries.

Protea's latest contract is for the 50-room King George III Hotel in George, which was recently acquired by local hoteliers Johnny Chrysomallos and Mike Kritzas, who also own the Foresters Protea Lodge. The hotel is to be substantially upgraded to four stars and extended by about 20 rooms.

Gillis said occupancies in the group had picked up after a quiet December and January in line with rest of the industry. This was particularly evident in Cape Town where the group's hotels were running on an average occupancy rate of more than 80 percent against an industry average for the country of about 60 to 63 percent.

"February and March are our busiest international tourist months and we are expecting the same kind of occupancy rate in Cape Town during March."

Gillis said a number of new hotels and luxury guest houses had sprung up in Cape Town in the past year, adding an estimated 1 500 beds. These included three new hotels operating under the Protea banner — Victoria Junction, Pier Place Club Suites and Hiddingh Mews.

Cape Town was still the first-choice destination of overseas visitors and the lack of beds last year forced many to look for accommodation elsewhere, benefiting other areas like the Garden Route. "These areas have not received as much extra business this year."

'Misunderstood' Ball upsets Rome

(288) CT 26/2/97

JOHANNESBURG: Cape Town's Olympic bid has been plunged deeper into controversy by official attempts to counter claims that the high crime rate has scotched any chance of the Mother City's hosting the 2004 Olympic Games.

Italian newspaper headlines claimed on Monday that Rome had been wrongly accused of skulduggery and smear campaigns against Cape Town.

The accusations were allegedly made by Mr Chris Ball, chief executive of Cape Town Olympic Bid Company, in reply to weekend reports that burgeoning crime had jeopardised Cape Town's bid.

However, Ball said his statements had not been aggressive and were consistent with the spirit of treating other bid cities with the utmost respect and diplomacy.

The statement that provoked the foreign media frenzy and led to Ball's offices being swamped with calls was given by Ball in response to a question about his level of confidence about Cape Town's being shortlisted for the Games. Reuters quoted Ball as saying he was not concerned about references to crime as the International Olympic Commission (IOC) report was "highly encouraging".

He was also quoted as saying that Rome was trying to knock Cape Town off and that he knew "all sorts of skulduggery and disinformation" were possible. If Rome could persuade the world that Cape Town was not safe, then Cape Town would not win.

Ball has since claimed that the remarks attributed to him were based on a misunderstanding. He said Cape Town's official position, in terms of bid cities trying to outmanoeuvre each other, was that the spirit of competition had been excellent.

"We have a professional task to do, within the spirit of the Olympic movement, and we must respect that at all times," Ball said. "This is a tough competition. Cape Town has consistently and meticulously complied with the procedures and spirit of competition."

Ball was not concerned about the IOC report's references to the crime problem.

The spokesman for the Cape Town City Council, Mr Ted Doman, said crime statistics had dropped and the positive findings recorded in the IOC report "far outweighed" remarks that crime "could" affect the Olympics. The council and the bid company were confident that Cape Town would be included in the shortlist of five cities to be announced next week.

— Own Correspondent

New hurdle for Cape Town bid

(288)

Chris Ball denies making derogatory remarks about Rome, whose officials said he had accused the Olympic-hopeful city of 'skulduggery'

Star 26/2/97

By Trove Lund

Cape Town's Olympic bid has been plunged deeper into controversy by official attempts to refute claims that crime has effectively ruled out any chance of the Mother City hosting the 2004 Olympic Games.

Italian newspaper headlines declared yesterday that Rome had been wrongly accused of skulduggery and smear campaigns against Cape Town.

The accusations were allegedly made by the chief executive officer of the company in charge of South Africa's bid, Chris Ball, when he reacted to weekend reports that burgeoning crime had jeopardised Cape Town's bid.

But Ball said on Monday that his statements were not aggressive and were consistent with the spirit of treating other bidding cities with utmost respect and diplomacy, while engaged in tough competition.

The words that fired foreign media into a frenzy and resulted in Ball's offices being swamped with calls stemmed from a question about how confident Ball was that Cape Town would be shortlisted for the Games on March 7 in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Reuters quoted Ball as saying he was not concerned about references to crime, as the International Olympic Commission (IOC) report was "highly encouraging".

Ball went on to say that Rome was trying to knock Cape Town off and that he knew that "all sorts of skulduggery and disinformation" were possible.

He was also reported as saying that if Rome could persuade the world that Cape Town was not safe, then Cape Town would not win the bid.

The remarks attributed to him were based on a misunderstanding, Ball claimed. He added that Cape Town's official position on the possibility of bidding cities trying to outposition each other was that the spirit of competition had so far been excellent.

"We have a professional task to do, within the spirit of the Olympic movement, and we must respect that at all times. This is a tough competition. Cape Town has consistently and meticulously complied with the procedures and spirit of competition," Ball said.

He was not concerned about references to South Africa's crime problem in the recent IOC report.

Ted Damon, spokesman for the Cape Town City Council, said crime statistics had dropped in the city and that the positive findings by the IOC report far outweighed remarks that crime could affect the Olympics.

The bid company said the report reaffirmed the extent and quality of the city's technical planning. It had commended the city's security plans and had illustrated how the IOC had expressed excitement about the cultural heritage of Africa for the first Olympic Games next century.

The council and bid company were confident that Cape Town would be one of the final five contenders to be announced next week.

Hansard.

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version
For written reply:

Tourists in SA

(288)

27. Mr N J J VAN R KOORNHOF asked the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism:†

(1) (a)How many tourists from (i) the United States of America, (ii) Europe, (iii) Japan, (iv) Taiwan and (v) India visited the Republic in 1996 and (b) what was the average amount spent by tourists in each of these categories in the Republic;

(2) whether his Department received any complaints from tourists or tourists agencies in that year about the standard of accommodation in the Republic; if so, what was the nature of these complaints?

N37E

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM:

(1) Unfortunately the Central Statistical Service has of yet not released the official travel data for the period October 1996 to December 1996. For the period January to September 1996 a total of:

(a)

(i) 85 135 visitors arrived in South Africa from the United States of America, be-ing 11,0% more than for the same period in 1995;

(ii) 508 606 European visitors (excluding workers and contract travellers) entered South Africa, being 8,4% more than for the same period in 1995;

(iii) 12 792 Japanese visitors entered South Africa, being 9,4% more than for the same period in 1995;

(iv) 20 769 Taiwanese visitors entered South Africa, being 19,9% less than for the same period in 1995; and

(v) 11 228 Indian visitors entered South Africa, being 3,2% more than for the same period in 1995.

(b) the visitors referred to in (a) *supra* respectively spent on the average per person the following amounts per day during the period January 1996 to September 1996:

(i) Visitors from the United States of America: R550
(ii) European visitors: R550
(iii) Japanese visitors: R900
(iv) Taiwanese visitors: R900
(v) Indian visitors: R900

Note: Respondents gave approximate expenditure estimates only. Many were either unwilling or unable to give information on their expenditure. Data on travel expenditure should, therefore, be treated with caution.

(2) Complaints have been received during the year. Complaints emphasised deceptive advertising, lacking hospitality, unacceptable standards and service.

Generally speaking, I would like to mention that visitors are requested to rate the facilities they have made use of according to a three-point scale, by indicating either "good", "fair" or "below average". Although not all visitors take the trouble to rate facilities, South African hotels are classified as "good" by visitors. (*See also attached media release.)*

MEDIA RELEASE

Information given to Parliament by DR Z Pallo Jordan, Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, on 19 February 1997

1 TOURIST STATISTICS FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 1996

⇨ The Central Statistics Centre has not yet released the official travel data for the period October to December 1996

⇨ The following statistics are for the period January to September 1996, and are compared to the same period in 1995.

	Countries	% Increase as Compared to 1995	No of Visitors to RSA	Rands Spent Per Person
1.	United States of America	11,0%	85 135	R550
2.	Europe	8,4%	508 606	R550
3.	Japan	9,4%	12 792	R900
4.	Taiwan	19,9%	20 769	R900
5.	India	3,2%	11 228	R900

NOTE: These are approximate expenditure estimates only. as respondents were either unwilling or unable to give conclusive information on their expenditure.

2. STANDARD OF SOUTH AFRICAN HOTELS ARE CLASSIFIED AS "GOOD" BY VISITORS.

⇨ Visitors are requested to rate the facilities they have made use of according to a three-point scale, "good", "fair" or "below average". Although not all visitors take the trouble to rate facilities, South African hotels are classified as "good" by visitors.

⇨ Some complaints received during the year referred to deceptive advertising, lacking hospitality and unacceptable standards and services.

Premier of each province: functions/posts

87. Dr T G ALANT asked the Minister for Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development:†

(a) (i) How many posts in each of the provinces falls directly under the office of the premier concerned and (ii) how many of these posts are filled in each case and (b) what total costs were budgeted for in respect of the 1996–97 financial year for all the functions and posts falling directly under the premier concerned of each province?

N173E

The MINISTER FOR PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

(a)(i) The number of posts in each of the provinces which falls directly under the office of the premier concerned is as follows:

PROVINCE NUMBER OF POSTS

Eastern Cape	283[1)]	
Free State	818[1)]	
Gauteng	64	
KwaZulu-Natal	461[1)]	
Mpumalanga	473[1)]	
Northern Cape	46	
Northern Province	858[1)]	
North West	17	272[1)]
Western Cape	22	

[1)]Line function activities which fall directly under the office of the premier concerned included.

(a) (ii) The number of posts which are filled in each case as follows:

PROVINCE	NUMBER OF POSTS	
Eastern Cape	143[1)]	
Free State	604[1)]	
Gauteng	46	
KwaZulu–Natal	338[1)]	
Mpumalanga	211[1)]	
Northern Cape	40	
Northern Province	573[1)]	
North West	13	207[1)]
Western Cape	17	

[1)] Line function activities which fall directly under the office of the premier concerned included.

(b) The total costs which were budgeted for in respect of the 1996–97 financial year for all the functions and posts falling directly under the premier concerned are as follows:

Hotels hit back on 'excessive rates'

(288)

SA 'still cheap' for tourists

ARG 27/2/97

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

The Tourism Business Council of South Africa, representing most of the country's larger hotel groups, has lashed back at accusations by Western Cape tourism authorities about "excessive rates".

The council was reacting to statements by Western Cape Tourism Board interim chairman Theuns Vivian, provincial Tourism Minister Lampie Fick and Captour chairman Gordon Oliver about the probability of the Western Cape losing its reputation for a value-for-money.

They blamed this largely on accommodation price increases.

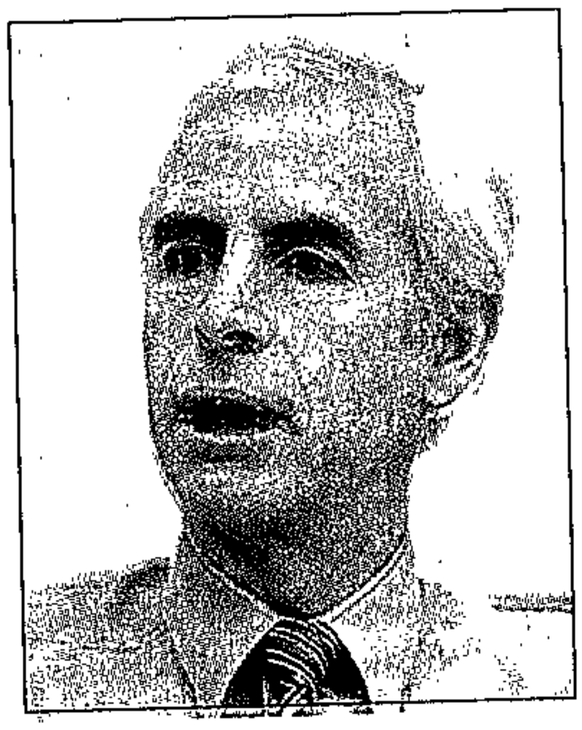
Tourism Business Council executive director Michael Farr strongly denied the accusations. He said statistics showed South Africa continued to be one of the best value-for-money destinations in the world.

He cited a cost comparison conducted by the international magazine Business Traveller in 1996 that found the cost of visiting Johannesburg, as an average South African city, to be 50 percent cheaper than London or New York and 69 percent cheaper than Tokyo.

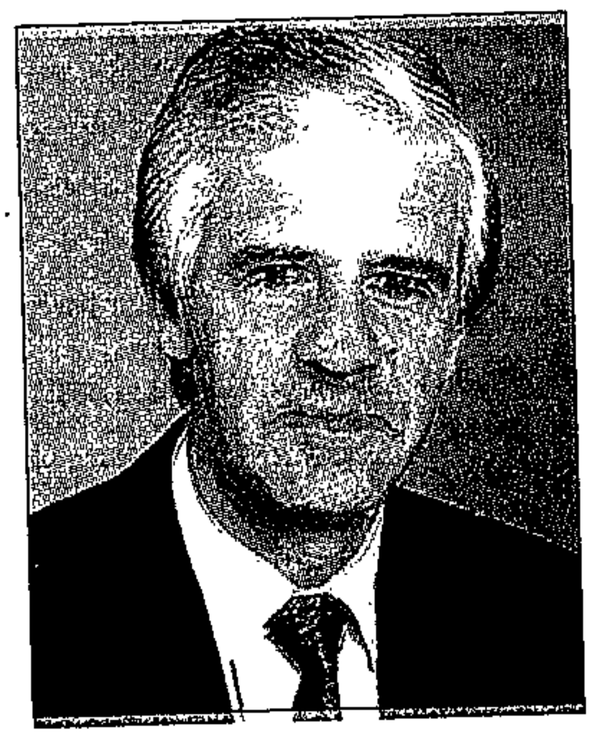
This analysis was done according to the daily cost of visiting Johannesburg at $88 (R391) for a 4-star single hotel room, $47 (R209) for meals and drinks, including breakfast, and $19 (R85) for intercity travel, laundry and incidental costs.

This, plus smaller amounts, came to $161,38 (R718), which constituted only a two percent increase in dollar terms over 1995 prices, but a 10 percent increase in rand terms.

"If one examines the current costs of staying in a 3-star hotel in South Africa, the average daily cost per person sharing, including breakfast, is the equivalent of about £25 (R181), which makes this category of accommodation among the cheapest in the world."



Lampie Fick



Gordon Oliver

He said that with the wide variety of accommodation available, the council believed the hospitality industry not only offered good value for money in all categories, but pricing structures that continued to rank favourably with other global destinations.

He was supported by Southern Sun hotel interests managing director Helder Pereira, who said it was about time for the record to be set straight on recent reports of hotel price increases and their effect on international tourism.

Mr Pereira said South African hotels still relied primarily on the price-sensitive domestic market and therefore had to be careful about rate increases.

"Southern Sun has not increased its leisure rate by more than 10 percent in line with inflation over the past year. In fact, in certain hotels the prices were reduced because a fall in domestic, disposable income resulted in a drop in demand," he said.

In the international market, hotel rate increases in this period varied from 10 percent to 35 percent through an adjustment to the base rate because many hotels charged "sub-economic rates" before 1992, said Mr Pereira.

Many hotels had had to expend major capital on refurbishment to upgrade and now required a reasonable return.

"In real terms the international consumer has had a percentage increase of around only 10 percent to 15 percent, when one considers the devaluation of the South African rand."

Other factors that had to be taken into account, according to Mr Pereira, included the fact that South Africa tended to be a multi-stop destination, which pushed up costs and meant Johannesburg could not be compared with single destinations elsewhere in the world.

He said the hotel component cost of a foreign visitor was relatively small when compared with the cost of air travel and various ground arrangements.

"The restricted number of airlines on prime routes has not helped to make South Africa a cheap destination. It is essential to adopt a more open-skies policy and encourage charter aircraft and tours, as air travel is often more expensive than comparable long-haul destinations."

Mr Pereira emphasised that the most critical component to sustainable growth in the international tourism market was safety and security, which had to be tackled by government, assisted by the private sector.

'WE'LL ASK WHOEVER WANTS TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION'

Why Olympic bid needs an extra R20m

CT 27/2/97 (288)

THE CMC YESTERDAY agreed to give the Olympic Bid Company R2,5 million after the company — which had asked for R5m — said it needed an extra R20m to make "a winning bid".

THE CITY'S Olympic Bid Company is asking for an extra R20 million to "ensure that Cape Town wins the bid" for the 2004 Olympic Games. The company has asked the Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC) for R5m.

The CMC yesterday agreed to pay R2,5m to the company, and will ask the Finance Minister for permission to give it an additional R2,5m.

CMC exco chief Mr Pierre Uys said paying the R2,5m would not reduce the amount the CMC would pass on to the councils under it in the coming financial year to enable them to keep their rates increases down.

"Nobody will lose," he said. "If necessary we will use reserves that we have."

The bid company's financial director, Mr Michael Fuller, maintained yesterday the bid could be run successfully on available funds, but the extra money was needed to ensure that Cape Town made "a winning bid".

Fuller said costs the bid company had not initially budgeted for included the pay-offs to the previous bid committee, which constituted "a substantial amount".

It had also decided to host three world sports events in SA before 2004 to strengthen the bid. These were the World Junior Weightlifting Championships, the World Junior Cycling Championships and the World Fencing Championships, which would cost R3m to stage.

The original budget approved in July 1995 for R75m had not taken these costs into account. This budget had been revised to R95m in early 1996 to cover these costs.

In addition it had to pay fees to local and international companies for the technical studies for the bid.

"To be really competitive we need to raise more."

Fuller confirmed the company had secured contracts from sponsors to the tune of R23m.

Asked what proportion of the extra R20m needed was paid to the previous Olympic bid trust, Fuller said this was confidential in terms of the agreement with the trust.

"The CMC has been asked now if they wish to contribute as we are in the final phase of the bid programme. The metropole has already benefited from government to the tune of R250m for transport infrastructure and R86m for sporting facilities on the basis of Cape Town pursuing this bid."

This week is crucial for the bid company, which flies to Lausanne, Switzerland, on Sunday to make its presentation to the International Olympic Committee's selection committee. All 11 candidate cities for the 2004 games will make presentations on March 6. The following day the 11 will be narrowed down to a short-list of five.

At yesterday's monthly CMC meeting Mr Brian Watkyns of the Democratic Party urged financial caution, but was outvoted by the ANC and the NP. He asked that the money be withheld until Cape Town made the shortlist.

Uys added yesterday that the private sector had financed the bid up to now, and he thought it was the responsibility of the public sector to become involved.

Part of the extra R20m will be spent on the bid presentation in Lausanne, which includes videos, brochures and glossy publications, audio-visual presentations and the travel and accommodation costs of bringing about 70 of the 108 voting members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to South Africa.

These will include Princess Anne and the Duke of Luxembourg.

In a letter to the CMC asking for the money, Fuller said: "Every effort is being made to sign on more private sponsors; however, due to the limited time frame remaining, a number of companies do not feel that they will be able to get commercial value from their investment".

"We're not forcing the CMC or the City of Cape Town to put money into the bid. We've said these are our cash requirements if we're going to present a winning bid. They make the decision to pay or not."

Asked if this meant the entire R20m would come from the public, Fuller said: "We are pretty confident we will raise further money from the private sector, but we'll ask whoever wants to make a contribution, the private or public sector."

Referring to past assurances by the bid company's chief executive, Mr Chris Ball, that the public would not be asked to pay towards the bid, Fuller said: "We're not forcing the CMC or the City of Cape Town to put money into the bid. We've said these are our cash requirements if we're going to present a winning bid. They make the decision to pay or not. And bear in mind the spin-offs to this region are enormous."

He denied that sponsors had been scared off by the IOC's report last week, which had put contenders Rome, Stockholm and Athens into pole positions.

● Those who will be leaving for Lausanne on Sunday are: Minister of Sport Mr Steve Tshwete, Nocsa head Mr Sam Ramsamy, Speaker of Parliament Dr Frene Ginwala, Mayor of Cape Town Mrs Theresa Solomon, Metropolitan Mayor the Rev William Bantom, city planner Mr David Daniels, legal adviser Mr Howard Firth, and bid personnel: Ball, Mr Ngconde Balfour, Mr Ameen Akhalwaya, Ms Anitha Soni, and Ms Carla Jones. Olympic swimmer Marianne Kriel will also be going.

The bid company, which has a travel budget of over R10m, will pay for its own staff and Kriel. The City of Cape Town is paying for its three people out of ratepayers' funds, and the CMC will pay Bantom's costs. The parliamentary contingent will be paid for by the central government. — Staff Writers



CHRIS BALL

THE Olympic Bid Company has often reassured Cape Town that ratepayers' money will not go to funding the bid. In one of his many presentations on the bid, chief executive of the Bid Company Mr Chris Ball told a meeting in June last year that "no extra strain" would be placed on local ratepayers.

He dismissed fears that the 2004 Olympic dream would be transposed into a financial nightmare. The "immense" financial reward for the state justified the effort, he promised

This is what he said at that meeting:

● Without the Olympic Games city rates would "undoubtedly" go up as Cape Town confronted the consequences of steady urbanisation and demands for development.

● The bid was a "magical" economic opportunity — for the city and the state.

● For a total outlay of about R350m the state would ultimately rake in about R8,6bn for housing and other development projects. This forecast was an independent assessment by the Development Bank of SA.

● Initial spending on facilities and infrastructure — R336m — would be spent by the state.

● Of the R1,75bn capital outlay, local authorities would have to contribute R293m over the next eight years.

● Cape Town would pay 20 to 30% of that, close to what is already being spent.

● The city was being asked only to continue spending what it is spending now on sports capital, which is about R20m a year.

● "This proposal does not ask the city to do any more than that. There will be no extra strain on ratepayers," he said.

Tourists urged to 'see SA with eyes downcast'

(288) Star 27/2/97

'Carry enough money to satisfy robbers, avoid trips after dark'

By Glen Elsas
Crime Reporter

Tourists entering sunny South Africa won't see much in the way of sights if they follow the advice of travel agents in several overseas countries.

Tourists who want to brave the larger centres are advised that they should keep their eyes downcast in case of an armed robbery while they are sightseeing, and also "carry enough money to satisfy the armed robber".

This advice is an elaboration on guidelines set out by the SAPS's tourist assistance unit in Johannesburg.

A Cape Town-based spokesman for the German embassy said the official guidelines warned tourists to be aware of certain security problems.

> **"Crime levels are crippling tourism hope"**

For example, political violence in Cape Town had almost stopped but there was an increase in gang warfare and taxi violence, and the Muslim vigilante group Pagad (People against Gangsterism and Drugs) was also active.

Car hijacking in the country was on the increase and tourists should travel with their doors and windows closed.

All valuables should also be locked inside the boot. Only photocopies of passports and other documents should be carried on their person.

Valuables should not be flaunted and cameras should be kept out of sight.

Elderly tourists should not travel alone and overland trips should be avoided at night.

The Australian high commission warns its nationals to be especially careful in Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town.

Visitors should take security precautions and avoid isolated areas and walking alone. It says car theft with violence is rife.

Other embassies and consulates, such as the French, Belgian, Danish and American, were of much the same opinion.

They said, however, that some travel agents had become over-enthusiastic when working some of the advice into their travel brochures.

Although the advice to keep eyes downcast and to have enough money to satisfy a robber was attributed to a German piece of literature, it could not be traced.

"It could come from any one of us," a consul employee said. "We are not responsible for what our travel agents may advise their clients to do to remain safe in the country," she added.

"We would certainly not advocate downcast eyes and carrying lots of money to satisfy the 'hit man' in the street.

"We would urge caution, and very little money. Otherwise, the tourist would really stick out as a target for a mugger," she said.

■ The Tourism Business Council of South Africa has blamed the slow growth of the tourism industry on a growing number of attacks on foreign tourists and lack of government funding.

The partially decomposed body of a man found near Soekmekaar, 50km north-east of Pietersburg, on February 14 was identified yesterday as that of a United States tourist. He had been shot.

His name was not released because his relatives in the US had not yet been informed. He was apparently on his way from Ermelo to Giyani in Northern Province.

Michael Farr, spokesman for the Tourism Business Council, said the contribution of tourism to South Africa's GDP was expected to have grown substantially last year, but did not.

He said the major reason for the slow growth was crime.

CAPE ARGUS, **FRIDAY,** FEBRUARY 28

Companies urged to help bring Games to city

(286)

From page 1

ARG. 28/2/97

chairman Bill Macadam said in a challenge to other companies: "We think the bid is very good for Cape Town and South Africa, and believe we should all give what help we can to push the project to the finish line.

"A lot of upfront expenditure is required to make sure we make the most of this opportunity, and one should not be small minded about it.

In another strong statement of support yesterday, chief executive of the Development Bank of South Africa Ian Goldin said: "We are absolutely convinced that the benefits far outweigh the costs.

"Any expenditures the government may incur will be more than compensated for by the additional tax income."

Dr Goldin, who with Deputy Finance Minister Gill Marcus has also joined the bid board, added: "I will certainly be strongly encouraging more of the private sector to come on board."

Bid Company chief executive Chris Ball said last night: "The next six months, the last phase of the bidding process, is the biggest promotional opportunity Cape Town will ever have. There is nothing the government or Captour could do to achieve greater, more beneficial exposure."

Business rallies to boost bid chances

(288)

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

ARG 28/2/97

Business and government have rallied behind the Olympic bid as the project team finalises its crucial presentation to be made in Lausanne next week, and this week pledges totalling R1,3-million have boosted the bid's coffers.

One of the city's oldest companies, the Board of Executors, has contributed R300 000, and challenged other companies to "follow suit".

The Industrial Development Corporation, the chief executive of which, Khaya Ngqula, has just joined the bid board, has contributed R500 000, and a further R500 000 has been contributed by a leading construction company. BoE executive

To page 3

Game parks are SA's important tourist drawcard

(288)

Deborah Fine BD 13/1/97

ECOTOURISM was probably the single most important part of the SA tourism industry, and it was only continuous development and expansion in this regard that would enable the country to compete on the international tourism market and achieve maximum growth levels, industry sources said last week.

Although they differed on what lured foreign tourists to SA, both SA Tourism Board (Satour) research head James Seymour and Conservation Corporation Africa deputy chairman Alan Bernstein agreed that SA's competitive advantage internationally was the varied, nature-based attractions.

"It's a popular misconception that tourists come here mainly for the wildlife — many of them are attracted by SA's extremely diverse and beautiful scenery. Wildlife is important, but not as important as many people believe," Seymour said.

Bernstein, however, cited wildlife as SA's "prominent, compelling drawcard", saying that most foreign visitors spent a large amount of their time game spotting before moving onto other attractions.

Whether tourists were drawn by scenery or wildlife, a Satour survey showed that game and nature reserves were the most popular tourist attractions, with 58% of all foreign visitors and 79% of foreign holidaymakers — including 74% of all European tourists — visiting a reserve last year.

Conservation Corporation, which operates about 20 game lodges throughout southern and east Africa, had been extremely well patronised by tourists in SA, with foreign visitors making up about 70% of the clientele at the corporation's more upmarket lodges, including its flagship, the Londolozi game reserve, as well as the Phinda Forest and Mountain Lodges, and the Zululand Tree Lodge, Bernstein said.

He said that although middle-of-the-range camps in SA were comparable to similar, more mass-market reserves in Zimbabwe, Botswana, Kenya, Tanzania and Namibia in terms of game viewing and habitat, there were few parks, with the possible exception of Botswana, that could compare with "the whole style of experience" provided by SA's luxury lodges.

Ecotourism was "the most important driver" in the SA industry, Bernstein said, and SA held "an enormous, enduring advantage" through its wildlife, which could also become an attractive foreign investment receptacle capable of providing solutions to many of the challenges facing SA. "But unless we develop ecotourism to its full potential, tourism growth in this country will always be limited."

Star 14/1/97

SA is '10th most dangerous' as a holiday destination

(288)

New York – South Africa, which desperately needs tourists to both bring in cash and create jobs, is on a list of the world's 10 most dangerous holiday destinations but is still seen as being not as bad as some United States cities.

The list is based on a recent travel industry poll in which Americans were asked to name the cities, countries or regions they are most afraid to visit.

A relatively modest 4% named South Africa, barely making the "least-bad" 10th spot. Russia and Miami, tied for number nine, are each feared by 8%.

The Middle East as a whole tops the list with 30%, although some countries in the region by themselves fare a little better – namely Iraq (18%), Israel (14%) and Iran (13%). Bosnia, a once-popular holiday travel destination, is seen as unsafe by 10%.

At 18%, New York shares second place with Iraq.

Los Angeles scares 12% of the poll respondents, three times as many as South Africa. – Sapa.

Tourists' favourite spots listed by Satour

BD 14/11/97 (288)

Deborah Fine

GERMAN and other European visitors to SA tended to enjoy visiting wildlife and nature reserves, Americans fancied tours to cultural villages, Australians favoured hiking and other adventure activities while 40% of all Asian tourists visited casinos.

This was according to statistics published recently by the SA Tourism Board (Satour), which also reflected the growing international tourism trend towards "nature-based, eco and adventure tourism", Satour research head James Seymour said last week.

"There is a definite move towards integrating culture, environment and ecology. People want to see what is endemic to countries," he said.

The trend could account for surveys which revealed that foreign holidaymakers were spending less time in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban and more time in surrounding, less metropolitan areas. Negative reports of big city crime could also be a factor, Seymour said.

As usual, two-thirds of all foreign visitors had travelled through Gauteng.

The Western Cape was the next province most visited by foreign tourists, followed by KwaZulu-Natal, Mpumalanga, the Eastern Cape, North West, the Free State, Northern Cape and Northern Province.

All four of SA's premier tourist attractions were located in the Western Cape: the waterfront; Cape Point; Table Mountain; and the wine route.

The Eastern Cape increased in popularity from 12% in 1995 to 15% last year.

Wildlife and nature reserves proved most popular and the Kruger National Park was still the most visited game reserve.

Land claim may derail Dolphin's parks deal

JONATHAN ROSENTHAL

CT(BR) 16/1/97

Johannesburg — A multimillion-rand deal between the Mpumalanga Parks Board and the Dubai-based Dolphin investment group could be scuppered if communities with pending land claims in the Blyde River Canyon apply for an interdict to halt any further development of the land.

A secret agreement signed late last year between the parks board and Dolphin, which has offices in Dubai and is registered in the Bahamas, grants exclusive commercial development rights of the Blyde River Canyon, Loskop Dam and several other flagship resorts to the Dolphin group for the next 50 years.

But the deal has overlooked communities around Blyde River, Manyaleti game reserve and Loskop Dam who submitted land claims in 1995 against sections of the parks. A lawyer representing some of the affected communities said yesterday that land owners could not undertake any acts, such as development and entering into long-term leases, which could negate a pending land claim.

Martin Dimba, the provincial chairman of the Environmental Justice Network Forum, said affected communities, including those who had lodged land claims over areas covered by the deal, had learned of Dolphin's 50-year lease through the media.

"We haven't heard of any consultation taking place," said Dimba, whose network represents more than 40 community-based organisations in the region. Dimba said that the forum was sending its own field-workers to communities with pending land claims to inform them of the deal.

It was unclear yesterday whether affected communities intend applying for an interdict, that would argue that their constitutional right to land restitution had been violated.

Representatives of the Commission on Restitution of Land Rights will be attending a meeting with the Mpumalanga Parks Board today, as will the legal representatives of some of the affected communities.

Also attending the meeting will be members of the provincial environmental council to raise environmental concerns about the proposed development, which could include helicopter safaris through the Blyde River Canyon, a wilderness area.

Dimba has also attacked the parks board's failure to consult with communities, saying it was following "a similar approach to the old government".

Dolphin has promised to invest R300 to R400 million in tourist facilities and to underwrite the parks board budget deficit for the next 50 years. The deficit is expected to reach R377,2 million over the next 10 years.

Queues grow shorter as Robben Island tour hysteria subsides

ET 17/1/97 (288)

DIANE CASSERE

THE Robben Island Tour hysteria is over. This I discovered to my cost when I rushed down to the Waterfront at 5am this week to join the massive queue I had been told to expect. Some people arrived by starlight with their deck chairs and flasks, I was informed.

I panicked when I couldn't find the ticket office and the queue. There was not a soul around to ask, just myself and my friend from the UK. When I had called the office on Monday, they had said to come really early. And someone who knew someone else who had gone had said she got there at 6.25am and bought the last tickets available for the day.

Eventually we found a Portnet worker and frantically inquired about the line: where do we go? Right here, he said pointing to the front door of the Robben Island Museum office where we were standing. We were the queue, he said.

Ten minutes later a man raced round the corner and did the same routine as us, only this time we could enlighten him. He was number three in the queue. We settled in for the long wait, certain that busloads of tourists would arrive any minute, leaving us feeling smug.

At 5.45am a Waterfront emergency services truck screamed round the corner and parked, immediately in front of us. Behind it was a red taxi from which an American visitor emerged. "Where is the Robben Island Tour?" she asked frantically. We indicated position number four. When the doors opened at 7.30am the queue was still a small, straggling line.

However, the three trips a day, at 9am, 11.45am and 1.15pm, are still selling out but it is now possible to get a ticket shortly before embarkation.

The Robben Island Museum tours only opened to the public on January 1 and the Department of Arts, Science, Technology and Culture were given only 14 days (including all the holidays) to get them off the ground.

"We decided to get started immediately, rather than wait for several months," said media officer Ms Silvana Dantu. "But from there, we are developing the tours slowly but correctly, rather than rushing into anything." She confirmed that the long queues had shortened since Monday.

American and German visitors, for instance, might find themselves at a loss on the Robben Island Tour. The boat used is the Dias, the one used to take political prisoners across, and it has a pitch and roll that could upset all but the best sea legs. There is no on-board service and the buses at the other end have no air-conditioning or adjustable seats. There are absolutely no hamburgers, sandwiches or drinks on sale, just cold drink vending machines at the island's harbour.

In short, the tour is basic in terms of facilities (loos are at the harbour or you brave the one in the prison). But it does offer a tour of unspoilt coastline, 72 species of birds, lovely Victorian buildings and a sense of our own history that is immediate and moving.

"Our approach is holistic and includes the environment, which is unique," said Dantu.

"We don't want people wandering around and removing shells and taking 'souvenirs' from the beach or the prison grounds. The breeding grounds of the penguin colony are also very sensitive and we don't want them disturbed.

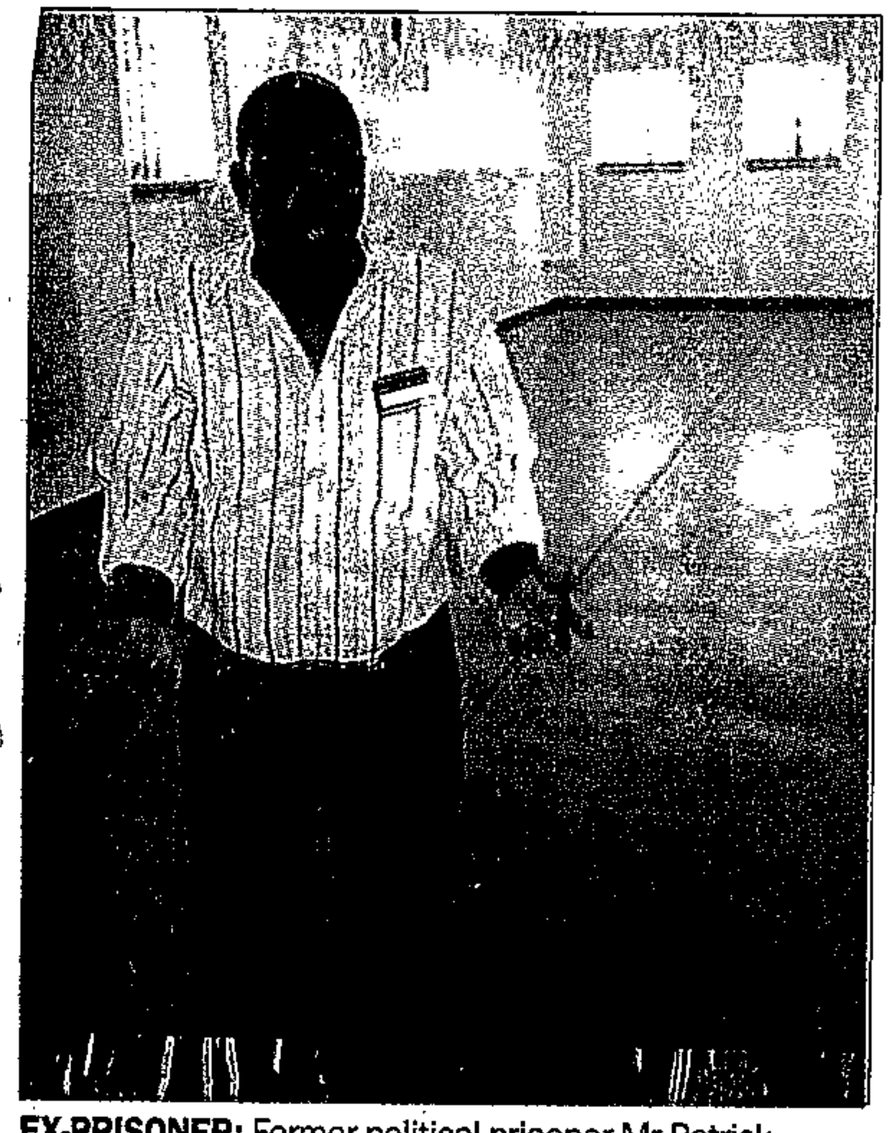
"The Robben Island tours will be developed, but they will be developed correctly. Eventually there will be school groups and walking tours, but this is a world heritage site and should be dealt with sensitively."

Dantu said they were receiving proposals "from around the globe", including five-star hotels, luxury boats and food chains. However, Robben Island would not become just another commercial venture.

Guides at the high security prison are ex-political prisoners. Ours was Mr Patrick Matanjana, who once occupied a cell opposite President Mandela's and was on Robben Island for 20 years from 1967 to 1987. His narrative was moving and he dealt with admirable aplomb with having American tourists asking to have their picture taken with him at the bars of Madiba's cell.

Sometimes drivers and guides on the bus are ex-warders and there has been the odd confrontation with visitors "who want to know why they could have been part of it", said Dantu. "But we are slowly ironing everything out."

● Only 290 tickets a day are available for the three trips. Tours cost R80 a person (R50 for pensioners and students). Each person is allowed to buy only two tickets (plus children). You can only book on the day.



EX-PRISONER: Former political prisoner Mr Patrick Matanjana is now a tour guide. ***PICTURE: RICHARD BELL***

Leadership training for the travel industry

(288)

Newton 17/1/97

THE Travel Training Institute has developed a management training programme specifically for the tourism and travel industry.

The Lead Management Training Programme is a two-year programme aimed at those in supervisory or management positions who have had no formal training in leadership skills.

"There has been a lack of management training programmes for the travel industry up to now," says TTI managing director Karen Long. "This is the first time that a series of modules has been packaged for the South African travel market."

The role of the travel agent as we know it now will change dramatically, perhaps even become redundant due mainly to the fact that travel information is readily available to anyone on the Internet.

Travellers also have the facility to purchase air tickets directly from airports. The pressure is on the industry to restructure to meet the demands of the 21st century and managers will be challenged to embrace these changes.

"Hopefully, that is what the Lead programme will do for them," she says.

Lagging behind

South Africa is three to four years behind the United States and already dramatic changes are taking place within American travel organisations. They are capitalising on advanced technology with a heavy emphasis on training.

However, Long does not see the need for travel agents to disappear altogether.

"Customers still like the one-on-one personal attention that can never be replaced by technology. "However, we have to become smarter in the way we deliver it," she said.

The autocratic approach of managing people is something of the past. A manager is a team member who is no more or less important than any other member of the staff.

Highly trained and professional personnel will be in demand. The onus is on the manager, therefore, to ensure that staff remain loyal by structuring appropriate employment packages to suit their needs.

The Lead Management Training Programme is divided into two phases. Each phase consist of 13 days training which includes a final course review.

This enables participants to consolidate the learning which has taken place during each phase. One module is presented each month and each phase will be covered within a 12 month period.

Western Cape tourism bonanza hits a whopping R4-billion high

ARG 18/11/97 (288)

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

The Western Cape has become the most popular destination for foreigners in the country, which can be witnessed in a staggering 38 percent increase in international spending in the region over the past year.

Western Cape Tourism Minister Lampie Fick has announced that tourism has become the region's biggest export product and that the industry could soon become the biggest contributor to the regional economy.

Mr Fick said foreigners spent an estimated R4-billion in the region in 1996, which constituted an increase of 38 percent on the previous year's spending of R2,9-billion.

About 560 000 international tourists visited the region last year, which is only 10 percent more than the previous year but still two percent more than the national average of eight percent.

"The Western Cape is the most popular destination in the country," said Mr Fick.

Statistics have shown that foreigners are spending more and more time outside the metropolitan area, boosting tourism figures for regional destinations.

As recently as two years ago foreigners spent 80 percent of their visiting time in the metropolitan area, but now spend only seven out of an average of 12 nights there. The other five days are spent exploring other parts of the region.

The small town of Clanwilliam at the foot of the Cedarberg, for instance, has seen an 80 percent increase in overseas visitors in the past year, while Langebaan and Saldanha recorded an increase of 39 percent.

"This is a positive shift in economic activities which will stimulate a more balanced development in the Western Cape tourism industry," said Mr Fick.

Another sector which has clocked record growth figures is the market for gifts and curios sold to foreigners, estimated at around R168-million.

"It provides an opportunity for the wider community to benefit from tourism," said Mr Fick.

However, the minister expressed concern that the majority of these products still came from outside the country and were increasingly being marketed by people from other countries.

Mr Fick also warned that Cape Town could maintain the growing market only by offering value for money and stressed that a new tendency of exploitation in the tourism industry had to be rooted out.

"My information is that hikes in hotel prices have resulted in bigger hotels not experiencing the same growth as establishments in the guesthouse industry," he said.

Prices dent Cape Town's image

BD 20/1/97 (288)

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The "hamburger index" suggests that Cape Town has lost its allure for SA holidaymakers who have apparently been kept away by the astronomical prices being charged by hotels and restaurants.

Reports of the "tourist prices" being charged, especially at the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront, have already led to warnings by tourist authorities that tourists might shun Cape Town in future in favour of other destinations offering greater value for money.

Cape Franchising CEO Ari Efstathiou, whose company operates Steers' Western Cape franchise, concluded from his slower-than-normal trading figures for December that the popularity of Cape Town's central business district and Atlantic coast holiday areas was waning.

Cape Franchising increased its fast food sales by an average 30% every month last year bar December when sales of 14,5% were notched.

Sales at both the Sea Point and Waterfront franchises were up a meagre 9% in contrast with the False Bay/south coast franchises which showed strong growth.

Common complaint

"These are revealing figures and in our opinion indicate that the central business district and Atlantic coast holiday areas of the Cape are losing favour.

"Our franchise holders tell us that a common complaint among holiday visitors was the high price of hotel rooms which is borne out by the amazing growth in the business being done by the cheaper bed-and-breakfast establishments and self-catering flats and the big reduction in hotel occupancy," he said.

Efstathiou noted that Central Statistical Service (CSS) figures showed that hotel occupancy in the Cape was down more than 8% in the months up to December.

He was convinced that the figure would be even worse for the industry in the last month of the year.

"According to the CSS, Cape hotels have increased income by more than 20% from these lower occupancies which says a lot about the prices they are charging," Efstathiou said.

"With the construction of five huge new hotels scheduled for the Cape Town central business district it is evident that something will have to change."

Mondi strike continues

Renee Grawitzky

- THE Mondi strike in KwaZulu-Natal enters its third day today with the company indicating a willingness to continue negotiations but the union claiming Mondi is not prepared to move.
- The Paper, Printing, Wood and Allied Workers' Union said it had lowered its demand for wage increases from 14,7% to 11%, but the company was not prepared to move off its 9% offer.
- Union members embarked on a strike last week after the Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration failed to resolve the dispute through conciliation. Mondi said that incidents of intimidation were not helping the situation.
- The commission said that the union wanted to refer the wage dispute to arbitration, but the company refused, saying the commission did not have the jurisdiction to arbitrate over the dispute.
- The commission said it could arbitrate over a dispute such as wages only if both parties were agreeable. Since the parties failed to agree on arbitration, the union had resorted to strike action.
- Mondi said a number of workers who chose to work had their homes stoned and one machine was damaged.

GOLD FIELDS PROPERTY COMPANY LIMITED

(Registration No: 01/01078/06)

Interim Report for the six months ended 31 December 1996

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT	*Six months ended 31 Dec 1996 R000	Six months ended 31 Dec 1995 R000	Six months ended 30 June 1996 R000
Revenue			
Income from rent and sale of property	7 633	6 838	8 219
Surplus on realisation of investments and fixed assets	9	237	—
Income from other sources	446	932	533
Income from investments	727	644	462
Interest received	533	538	494
	9 348	9 189	9 708
Expenditure	2 331	2 408	2 467
Administration and general	2 316	2 331	2 451
Interest paid	15	77	16
Profit before tax	7 017	6 781	7 241

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET	*At 31 Dec 1996 R000	At 31 Dec 1995 R000	At 30 June 1996 R000
Fixed assets	67 255	68 727	67 456
Investments	12 160	12 035	12 085
Land and township development	3 981	2 339	3 983
Net current assets	5 595	1 718	3 404
Current assets	12 821	9 902	9 693
Cash	9 007	7 775	6 138
Other current assets	3 814	2 127	3 555
Less current liabilities	7 226	8 184	6 289
	88 991	84 819	86 928
Share capital	256	256	256
Reserves	85 303	82 138	83 458
Deferred liabilities and provisions	3 432	2 425	3 214
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NEWS

Cape 'killing the golden goose'

City is no bargain holiday spot, says veteran visitor

ARG 20/11/97 (288)

CHENÉ BLIGHAUT
STAFF REPORTER

Journalist Johan van Kuyk of Amsterdam, who has visited Cape Town for 15 years running, has warned that the city must stop ripping off tourists or foreigners will take their money elsewhere.

Mr Van Kuyk was responding to a report in the Cape Argus last week which disclosed that some restaurants at the V&A Waterfront charged substantially more than city centre counterparts.

"Despite the low rand, Cape Town is no longer a bargain destination if you compare it to destinations such as Bali, Taipei, Indonesia and the Philippines," said Mr Van Kuyk.

"When I was here in 1995, I noticed the restaurants and hotels were getting very pricey."

He said he felt it necessary to respond to the Cape Argus report on tourist ripoffs because "Cape Town is throwing out the golden goose".

"A shopkeeper showed me the report in the newspaper and I immediately told her: 'I agree'," Mr Van Kuyk said.

He said the Tamboerskloof guest house where he used to stay had increased prices by 12 percent since his last visit.

"They also wanted me to stay in the cellar and that would have cost more than I normally pay for a hotel room in St Moritz (Switzerland) in the skiing season. It is crazy," said Mr Van Kuyk.

In response to a newspaper advertisement, he instead decided to rent a room in Vredehoek.

"The landlady first told me it would cost me R1 250, but a few days later she said I had misunderstood her and the cost would be R2 000 for the three days. When I refused she told me to leave or she would phone the police," he said.

He paid the difference in the end because he did not want to go to the trouble of finding another place to stay.

At restaurants, he was disappointed to find fish portions were getting smaller and prices higher.

"Cape Town has the best fish in the world but lately, in most restaurants, you get heaps of vegetables and chips but only a tiny piece of fish for very high prices. I can get vegetables and chips anywhere in the world but not fish," he said.

At a top five-star hotel, where he was a regular customer and always asked for the same table, Mr Van Kuyk said he had been disillusioned by prices and service.

"I had a club sandwich with fish for about R80 and I got sick afterwards. When I phoned to complain, I was told my digestive system was not used to fish.

"And another time a meal for four people cost me R800. I have felt and seen as a tourist here that people are being ripped off and even though I don't really mind because I love the environment here, other tourists might not come back a second time," he said.

Mr Van Kuyk also complained about the Sea Point swimming pool and cable car being closed during peak season.

"The mountain is your top tourist attraction. The Waterfront has nice shops, but if you have been there once, you have seen it all," he said.

"If the rand ever recovers, I see problems ahead for Cape Town."



RDY WIGLEY

Seasoned traveller: Visitor Johan van Kuyk of the Netherlands warns that Cape Town is becoming too expensive and could price itself out of the market

Government to focus on bad service in bid to boost tourism

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

The Government will launch a major drive to improve service in South Africa's tourism industry, Deputy Minister of Tourism Peter Mokaba told an international conference.

"We are very keen to take customer care and service satisfaction to the optimum levels which the unique South African hospitality of ubuntu can offer," Mr Mokaba told the Travel and Tourism World Summit in Portugal at the weekend.

He said the tourism ministry had identified human resource development as the single most important priority.

His department was finalising a study to audit South Africa's tourism resources and to pinpoint training needs.

The Government was taking steps to establish a tourism training academy which would be open to students from other countries in Southern Africa.

His department was working with the Education Department to introduce tourism to the school syllabus and it had linked up with the labour ministry to ensure tourism fitted into its human resource development strategy.

Mr Mokaba said his ministry had finalised an action plan for this year to promote and develop tourism. Bottlenecks affecting tourism facilities would be removed. Tourist areas with greater potential which had been under-used, such as the Kruger National Park and the area around Kimberley, would be made more accessible to tourists and investors.

The department also wanted to help develop potential tourist attractions in areas such as the Eastern Cape coast.

Mr Mokaba said the government's White Paper policy document on tourism envisaged its contribution to gross domestic product increasing to eight percent by 2000 and 10 percent by 2005.

It hoped to sustain a 15 percent yearly increase in the number of visitors over the next 10 years and to increase foreign exchange earnings through tourism from R10-billion last year to R40-billion in 2005.

(288) ARG 20/11/97

W Cape low on Olympic spirit

STAFF WRITER

CT 20/1/97 (288)

WESTERN Cape residents are the least enthusiastic of all South Africans to have the 2004 Olympic Games in Cape Town.

A countrywide survey undertaken in September by Market Research Africa (MRA) shows that the Olympic bid is favoured by 68% of people in the Western Cape compared with 73% nationwide.

"The loudest dissent came from white respondents," said Ms Hanna Fourie, managing director of MRA.

Of the 22% of people in the Western Cape who did not support the bid, half were white. Eight in 10 blacks and seven in 10 coloured people favoured the bid, with the strongest support coming from the youngest respondents. Ten percent of respondents were undecided.

The lower the income in the Western Cape households surveyed, the higher the level of support, which was not true of the rest of the country.

A total of 2 495 urban residents were interviewed in the survey and asked to choose one out of six responses as to how they felt about the bid.

"There's keen public support for Cape Town's proposal," says Fourie. "Nearly all respondents voiced an opinion, even if that opinion was one of unconcern."

Residents in Mpumalanga were most supportive of the bid, with eight out of 10 respondents in support. The bid was also highly favoured in the rest of the country, with seven out of 10 people in other provinces approving it.

The staunchest support came from Indians a group not represented in the Western Cape, of whom 82% supported the bid.

The survey showed that males and females differed to some notable degree on the matter. Seventy-six percent of males compared with 69% of females, were in favour of the bid.

Public meeting to assess bid

STAFF WRITER

CAPE Town's bid for the 2004 Olympics enters its "review phase" with an assessment team holding a public meeting this week.

The team responsible for the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Cape Town Olympic Bid has released a discussion document and will hold a public meeting on Thursday at 6pm at the Cape Town Civic Centre's exhibition hall.

"The SEA represents a local review which must be completed with full public participation by May 1997," said Mr David Shandler, a member of the SEA team.

"The Bid Company has agreed in principle to test public opinion in a poll around June once the final SEA report has been circulated."

The discussion document looks at what the impact of hosting the Games will be on "the economy, job-creation, social development, spatial restructuring of the Cape Metropolitan Region, public involvement in decision-making, and the natural environment".

Questions which have been identified by the assessment team include: How will the Games contribute to economic development? Will they alleviate poverty? Will they help to redress historical imbalances? What pressure will they place on scarce resources?

The discussion document is available at public libraries.

Poll to test public view of the bid

(288) ARG 20/1/97.

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

As International Olympic Committee evaluators finalise their crucial report on the 11-city contest for the 2004 Games this week, a comprehensive study of the impact of Cape Town's bid enters a new phase.

A public meeting is to be held at the Civic Centre on Thursday evening to give the people of the city an opportunity to help determine the scope of an independent professional study of the economic, environmental and social impact of Cape Town's bid.

This study, or strategic environmental assessment, will culminate in a public opinion survey on May. Meanwhile, the IOC evaluation commission's technical report will be presented to the IOC in Lausanne, and published, towards the end of next month.

Early in March, the report will be considered by the IOC selection college – consisting of all members of the executive board.

At this stage, each candidate city will have a chance to make another presentation and to comment on the technical report filed by the evaluation commission.

On March 7, the selection college will choose a shortlist of four or five candidate cities. Thereafter, all IOC members will have a chance to visit each of the candidate cities, and international lobbying will intensify. The final decision will be made in Lausanne at a plenary meeting of the IOC on September 5.

From Cape to Cairo: Africa backs the Bid

'Votes could swing it'

ARG 21/1/97 (28)

Cape Town's bid for the Olympics has been given a major boost in the run-up to the shortlist selection in March, with an endorsement by the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa.

This influential body carries 23 of the 106 International Olympic Committee votes. Cape Town will need 54 to win the bid in September.

The council threw its weight behind the Cape Town candidacy at its meeting in Algiers last month and the crucial endorsement was to be formally announced today at a briefing to be hosted by Sports Minister Steve Tshwete and Bid Company chief executive Chris Ball.

Bid Company staff said the announcement "validated perceptions of the strength of African support for the bid".

"It is extremely important," one said. "If it comes down to a swing vote, even a block of nine or 10 votes could do it.

"And if we are talking about 23 votes ... we are talking about putting Cape Town in a strong position, provided we get through to the crucial phases."

What is additionally significant is that Africa and South America are the only two continents yet to host the Games.

Whereas there are two candidate cities in South America – Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro, which introduces a divisive element into South American Olympic sentiment – Cape Town's is the only African effort, which now has strong continental

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

backing. The other bidding cities are San Juan, Stockholm, Rome, Athens, Istanbul, St Petersburg, Lille and Seville.

A report by the IOC evaluation commission, which recently visited all 11 cities to assess their technical capabilities, is to be published towards the end of next month. The shortlist of four or five cities will be announced on March 7.

When the final round of voting takes place in September, African support for Cape Town will be vital.

On the home front, there is overwhelming support for the bid among the largest and least well-off communities of the Western Cape, a survey has shown. This matches the enthusiasm nationally for the Games.

But according to a survey of the opinions of urban adults in September, anti-bid sentiment, chiefly among older, better-off

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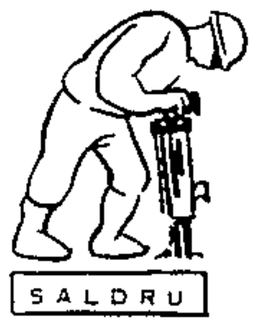

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Sun International group in battle for survival

(288) Sowetan 23/1/97

By Shadrack Mashalaba

SUN International, which owns a number resorts in some of the former homelands, is now becoming a victim of the laws that enriched it.

The gambling and entertainment group, whose competitors used to be small unlicensed operators, is going to be faced with much more formidable competition as the Government opens up the gambling industry.

As a result Sun International's resorts, such as Sun City and the Carousel, are threatened with closure because of impeding competition.

Sun International group managing director Peter Bacon says resorts such as the Carousel cannot even be converted into other forms of business ventures if they are forced to shut down.

"I do not think we can allow the conversion of the resort into other forms of alternative ventures. However, if such a move were considered it would be very difficult to achieve as its architectural structure was designed in a unique way," he says.

As things stand, the Carousel is the lifeboat to the survival of Sun City. Bacon argues that the Lost City, in particular, relies on cross-subsidisation from the Carousel.

"Currently the Carousel casino is valued at almost R950 million and if it is closed it would affect hundreds of jobs," says Bacon.

Since it was only allowed to operate in the former homelands, most of Sun International's resorts are located where South Africa bordered the then so-called independent states.

In most instances the resorts were built far from residential and industrial areas.

For instance, the Carousel is located between the border of the former Bophuthatswana (now called the North West), Gauteng and Northern Province.

With the process of issuing casino licences nationally expected to be in full swing this year, the company is faced with an uphill battle.

Mpumalanga suffers from lack of hotels

(288) B027/11/97

SURVEYS conducted on the tourism market in the Mpumalanga area indicate a positive increase in the number of visitors, though this is being offset by a lack of hotel accommodation.

Satour's international market survey shows that 20% of overseas tourists visit Mpumalanga for an average of five nights, equating to 200 000 visitors a year, requiring 1-million bed nights.

Three Cities Group travel trade manager Julian Katz says room occupancies have increased by 12,1%, resulting in additional potential for further quality hotels, particularly hotels offering conference facilities.

"Part of the tremendous growth in visitors to the area may be attributed not only to the scenic and wildlife attractions, but also to the fact that overseas tourists rate Mpumalanga as the safest province in SA," says Katz.

"It is also regarded as a prime site for large-scale investment, with tourism expected to be a major source of economic growth."

White River, at the heart of the Lowveld, is a thriving agricultural area as well as a popular destination for tourists intending to visit the Kruger Park and take in attractions such as the Mac-Mac Falls, God's Window and the historic mining towns of Pilgrims Rest and Barberton.

Katz says the 18-hole Gary Player championship golf course at the White River Country Club is another attraction in the area.

On the uppermost portion of the estate, with views overlooking the golf course and the Lowveld, is the new Suite Hotels property, Greenway Woods All Suite Resort and Conference Estate.

Greenway Woods comprises 50 self-contained suites, each with three twin/double bedrooms, two bathrooms, kitchen and dining facilities as well as a comfortable lounge area. Guests are offered the option of self-catering, or dining at the hotel restaurant.

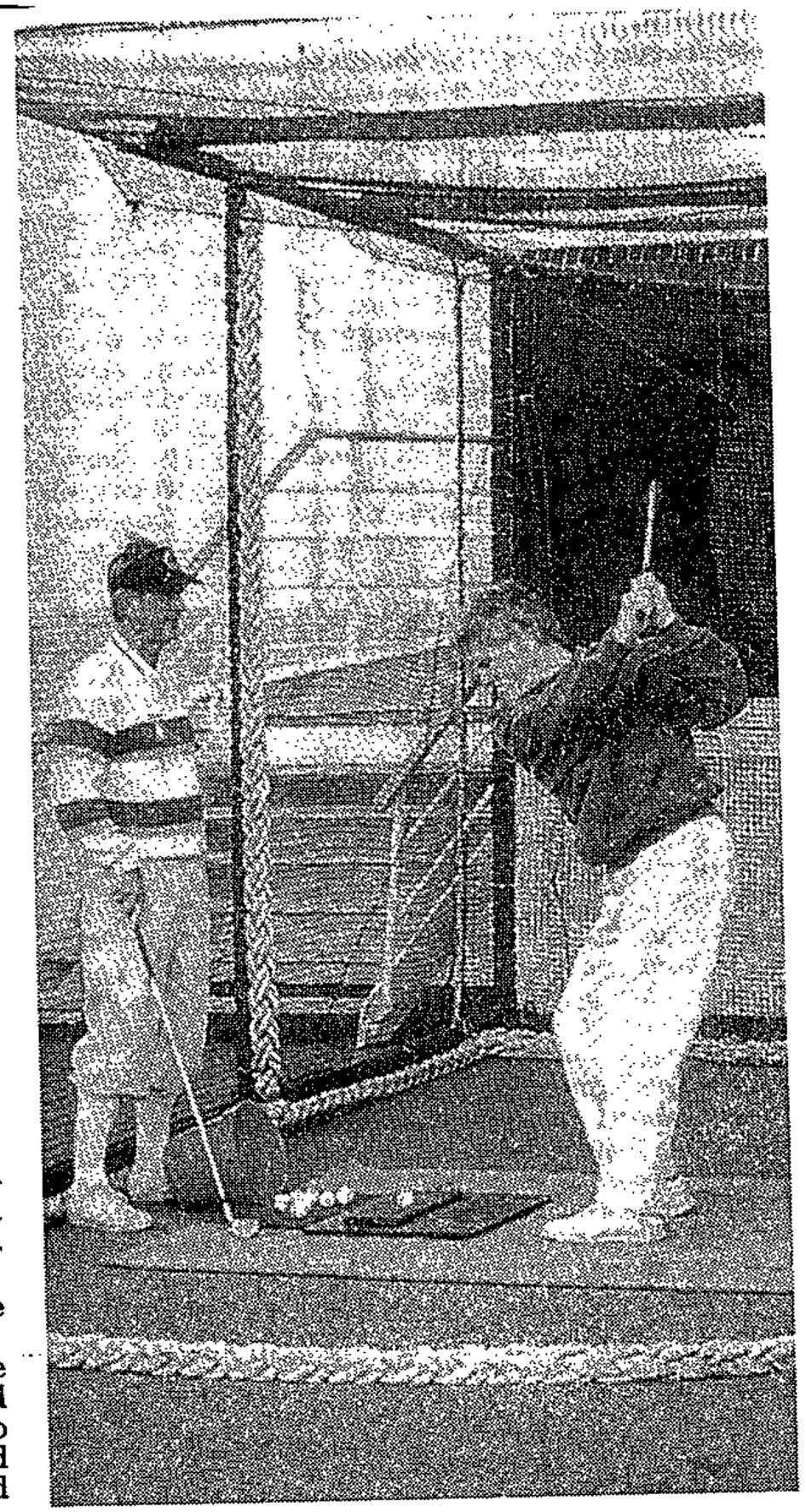
"One of the advantages offered by this hotel accommodation is that rates are charged per suite and not per guest, making it possible to contemplate a family holiday without breaking the bank.

"Due to the two-bathroomed configuration of the suites, families can share their living space and still retain the important element of privacy," Katz says.

The new hotel, which opened in December last year, also plans to tap into the conference market. Conference facilities at Greenway Woods are comprehensive, allowing comfortably for 50 to 100 delegates, says Katz.

The complex is managed by the Three Cities Group.

Other units in the group are the Kapenta Bay All-Suite Resort and Conference Hotel at Mbango Beach near Port Shepstone and Alpine Heath All-Suite Resort and Conference Village, near Bergville in the northern Drakensberg.



Honing one's golf skills can be part of a holiday cruise.

NEWS

Games impact in the spotlight

Public meeting highlights city's concerns

(288) ARGT 27/11/97

Hastened migration to the Cape from elsewhere in South Africa and Africa as a result of the Olympics, and the strain this would put on regional resources, have emerged as a key public concern.

This and many similar issues – including the impact of the Olympics on the natural environment, the prospects of local unemployed people having to compete for jobs with outsiders and the cost risks associated with the hosting the Games – were highlighted at a public meeting to launch the second phase of a comprehensive assessment of the impact of the Olympics.

Athough the strategic environmental assessment is avowedly intended to gauge the advisability of hosting the Olympics, it is more likely that the study will provide the basis of future planning if the city's bid is successful.

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

The city, backed by the national and provincial cabinets, has already undertaken to host the Games if the International Olympic Committee chooses Cape Town for the 2004 event when it makes the decision in September.

Bruce Glavovic, one of the specialists on the independent team charged with conducting the assessment, said in response to a question at the public meeting that the team's purpose was to "inform public debate".

He said that "to the extent that issues which emerge generate sufficient concern, (the study) would provide the basis for a review of the decision to proceed with the bid".

The public meeting was called to give the people of the city an opportunity to help determine the scope and shape of the investigation.

The assessment will be published in May, and will be followed by a public survey.

About 270 individuals and representatives of diverse organisations from all over the Peninsula attended the meeting.

The figure dwindled to about 70 over the more than four hours of discussions, but agreement was reached on a wide-ranging list of questions which citizens believe should be probed.

The Olympic Bid Company has fully endorsed the assessment initiative, but has not direct role in it.

French media warn of 'Cape Danger'

ARG 27/11/97 (288)

JAMES TOMLINS
FOREIGN SERVICE

Paris – Cape Town's tourist boom is threatened by Muslim extremists who have declared war in the city, a leading French publication has warned.

Figaro-Magazine's current issue carried a five-page report from Cape Town titled: "The Cape of all dangers".

"This new Eldorado has been attracting stars, tourists and investors. But today this seam of gold is under threat. Suburban gangs of criminals as well as Muslims have declared war ... just a short distance from hotels and beaches."

Figaro-Magazine emphasised the dangers of Islamic extremism: "The country is facing the kind of situation existing between France and Algeria."

It noted that several months ago President Mandela had called a special Cabinet meeting to hear an intelligence report on dangers posed by Islamic militants.

"South Africa must not believe that it is exempt from rising Islamic extremism, both religious and political. It is certain that countries with Islamic communities, like France for example, are targets of militant extremists."

Cape Town is attracting visitors as a "new French Riviera", the weekly said. But Jeremy Harris of Captour admitted: "The problem we face is that Pagad demonstrations and criminal gangs are arousing fear. If we let this kind of thing continue, then Cape Town could become a ghost city."

In another report focusing on crime problems in South Africa, Le Monde concentrated on Johannesburg, "where anybody looking like a tourist in the city centre cannot walk for 200 metres without being mugged".

A young Yugoslav visitor named Djordje was robbed by a gang as he left Joubert Park, the report said. "I was told that Johannesburg was dangerous, but not to that point," the tourist said.

A Swedish woman, Ami, went around Johannesburg only in a chartered tourist coach and went shopping with an armed guard. "Our television carries lots of reports of violence in South Africa, and ... one feels there is a problem."

But Mike Fabricius, chairman of a committee on tourist security, said: "There is criminal violence in this country, but less than two percent of our million tourists in 1996 were attacked."

Do we need a tourist crisis centre? page 11

Occupancy rates slip, but incomes rise

Samantha Sharpe

CAPE TOWN — Room occupancies in the Western Cape slipped 10,6% in November last year compared with the same time in 1995, although hotels' incomes rose 12,3% on average over the same period, latest Central Statistical Service (CSS) figures show.

Cape Tourism Board marketing manager Jeremy Harris said the unusual combination of rising income and falling occupancy rates could probably be attributed to higher charges.

However, while the Cape had come in for criticism over excessive pricing, the region offered accommodation across a broad price band and within reach of all budgets, Harris said.

The CSS said hotels in the Pretoria region showed the highest room occupancy for November at 80,2%, followed by the East Rand with 77,5%. Hotels in the Free State showed the lowest room occupancy at 25,6%.

"The average room occupancy for SA hotels decreased by 1,4% to 61,9%, while bed occupancy increased by 0,5% to 43,5% for November last year compared with November 1995."

Twenty-one of the 24 tourism regions surveyed showed an increase in hotel income in November, with the largest rise in the Johannesburg region at 63,8%, followed by Northern Province at 41,1%.

Community set to score with venues after Games

Designs to be adaptable for new uses

(288)

ARG 28/1/97

Only two of more than a dozen new Olympic facilities that will be built in the Peninsula if Cape Town wins the bid will remain dedicated sports venues after the event in 2004.

The rest are being designed to be easily adapted for other purposes, such as community halls, and accommodating civic services such as clinics and libraries, or offices for community organisations and shops. Each venue is being subjected to a detailed audit to assess its post-Games viability.

At least one of the venues, the basketball facility at Philippi East, will be turned into a shopping centre after the Games. At this stage, only the 6 000-seat venue for the handball prelims, earmarked for the Wingfield Olympic Village complex - and available for a range of indoor sports – and the adjacent 75 000-seat main stadium, will remain dedicated sports venues.

The village complex will be turned into a sports-cum-residential and commercial development.

If the rowing course goes ahead, it could become an alternative "waterfront", with shops and restaurants, as well as a conservation area and bird sanctuary.

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Innovative design techniques – and the use of temporary seating – will ensure that buildings that match Olympic standards for the duration of the Games will be useful and even profitable afterwards.

Apart from meeting Olympic standards, much of the planning to date has focused on reducing the after-Games burden to avoid a legacy of white elephants, a common concern of bid-detractors.

The intensive planning process is also likely to promote dynamic trends in South African architecture, including greater use of energy-saving technology and materials, and designs that enable the easy adaptation of buildings to fulfil a variety of functions.

Robbie Stewart, the Bid Company's director of sports facilities, is confident Cape Town's plan is a viable post-Olympics proposition. "We can assure the public that a lot of care is being taken to limit the cost of maintaining venues after the Games.

"There will, of course, be a multi-million-rand maintenance fund to contribute to upkeep, but we are looking beyond that in creating buildings that will not be limited to sporting purposes, that will have other uses and a means of generating their own income."

He added: "The ideal model is the Munich Olympic Park. When it was created for the 1972 Games, the organisers put aside DM250-million as a maintenance reserve. But in all this time, they have not had to touch that fund. The park pays for itself, and there is no reason why we can't do the same. The key lies in avoiding extravagance, and creating good-looking, functional buildings which are run on sound business lines."

Discussions are under way with various sectors of the business community on developing or using Olympic venues, and some of the planning is likely to be adjusted to match viability.

Residents 'not consulted' on Olympic complex

ASHLEY SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

Belthorn and Penlyn Estate residents are frustrated at not being consulted about the planning and building of an Olympic sports complex in their area.

Construction has already begun on the R10-million Turfhall Sports Complex, which will primarily be a softball venue if Cape Town's bid to host the 2004 Games is successful, but soccer and netball will also be played there.

At a meeting last night between the Olympic Bid Company, area ward councillor Saliem Mowzer, members of the project planning committee and concerned residents, it emerged that the community had not been given an opportunity to make a purposeful contribution to the planning of the complex.

Resident Eldrid Blanchard said the community was not aware of what arrangements were being made for parking and security before, during and after the Olympics, as they had not been directly involved in the planning.

Mr Mowzer admitted residents were not consulted and vowed to rectify this, but there was general consensus among those present that construction had begun and that their input would not carry much weight at this late stage.

Mr Blanchard said that soon after construction began, lights were removed from the street opposite the sportsground, creating a security risk for patrons of a nearby dance club who needed the light for safe passage home in the early hours of the morning.

If residents had been consulted, such problems could have been avoided, Mr Blanchard said.

Mr Blanchard added that the proposed entrance to the sportsground would result in spectators parking in front of driveways and hindering residents.

Ruben Reddy of the Bid Company said that the plan made provision for parking for more than 150 vehicles inside the complex.

Resident Kenneth Anthony said those involved in the project had to find better ways of keeping residents informed about the development, as meetings were usually advertised in the local community newspaper, which often did not reach them.

4

Western Cape hotel revenues up but occupancy rates down 10pc

BUSINESS EDITOR (288) ARG 28/1/97

Hotel revenues in the Western Cape and in the country as a whole are still rising in spite of dropping occupancy rates.

Central Statistical Service figures show hotel income in the Western Cape climbed 12,3 percent between November1995 and November last year.

Over the same period, room occupancy rates in the province dropped 10,6 percent.

For the country as a whole, hotel income is up 12,1 percent, while room occupancy rates are down 1,4 percent.

Occupancy rates are rising, though, at the top and bottom ends of the market: the CSS figures show rates in both five-star and nil-star hotels rose between November 1995 and November last year, while rates in one-star, two-star, three-star and four-star hotels dropped.

Tourists go for cheaper hotels

ARG 30/1/97 (288)

ASHLEY SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

Tourists to the Mother City have been shunning five-star hotels in favour of cheaper accommodation.

Bed nights sold to overseas visitors in three- and four-star hotels have increased by three percent, while more luxurious establishments showed a decrease of more than five percent for November.

But the total number of bed nights sold to tourists in Cape Town in November increased by 2,4 percent compared with last year's figure.

This is according to figures released by Central Statistical Services.

The figures show that bed nights sold to foreign tourists during November totalled 304 570.

This was an increase of 2,4 percent from 1995.

Statistics service chief Mark Orkin said that three-star hotels enjoyed the largest slice of the market – 30,9 percent.

"The market share of five-star hotels decreased by 5,3 percent for November compared with the previous year," said Dr Orkin.

He added that the Northern Province and the Northern Cape showed the largest decreases in market share, with 2,5 and 2,4 percent respectively, compared with November the previous year.

Mpumalanga's market share increased by 2,2 percent, he said.

City is most popular tourist destination in South Africa

(288)
CT 30/1/97

STAFF WRITER

It's official — Cape Town is the most popular tourist destination in South Africa, with the Waterfront the country's most visited place, followed by Cape Point.

Five of the top spots in South Africa that were visited by international tourists were in the Western Cape, according to the South African Tourism Board.

The Kruger National Park trailed in at sixth place, with Gold Reef City being the only Gauteng attraction in the top 10.

The Waterfront had a phenomenal year, with almost 18 million visitors, and Cape Point had 755 000 local and international tourists last year.

According to Satour, it's scenic beauty that grabs tourists the most, followed by wildlife. The top 10 attractions in descending order are:

1. V&A Waterfront
2. Cape Point
3. Table Mountain
4. Wine Route
5. Garden Route
6. Kruger National Park
7. Durban Beachfront
8. Ostrich Farms
9. Kirstenbosch
10. Gold Reef City

But Cape Town still has a long way to go to become the top international holiday spot. the Guinness Book of Records says the most popular destination is still France, with some 60 million foreign tourists in 1995.

Robben Island 'ready next tourist season'

Revamp defended

ARG 30/11/97

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

Robben Island's dramatic transformation from political prison to one of Cape Town's prime tourist attractions and cultural showcase of the new democracy should be finalised in time for the next tourist season.

This assurance was given by the island's chief administrator André Odendaal a month after the public were allowed on to the historical island for the first time. This followed the recent takeover of the island by the Department of Arts and Culture.

Professor Odendaal told Captour members during a breakfast meeting in Sea Point yesterday that the transformation of the island was well on track despite negative publicity over the confrontation with private boat owners and the more recent rape incident on the island.

Future plans for the island include overnight accommodation for 300 people, a youth camp in the prison's communal cells, a cultural centre and administration base on the mainland and a national heritage training programme on the island in July, he revealed.

"We are trying to reinforce the notion that Robben Island is not just an island out there on its own, but it is connected to the city, the rest of Africa and the world. We are adamant that it does not become just another dead monument, but the challenge is to ensure that the island remains relevant to the local people and continues to impact on the city," said Professor Odendaal.

The past month had seen an avalanche of inquiries about the island from foreign media groups and tourists, as well as local business people eager to become involved in its operation.

"The island has really been focusing international attention on Cape Town. And every day I have between 10 and 15 letters on my desk from people who want to open shops, guest houses or other concerns on the island," he said.

However, he said that no ad hoc decisions would be taken until a new governing council for the island was in place by April.

Meanwhile, the island's interim management committee had been hard at work providing basic services. Denying that the island operators were bureaucrats, he said they were pro-active and unconventional in their approach towards the island. About 250 people a day were visiting the island on three tours, he added.

City caught on wrong foot by tourist invasion – Oliver

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

Cape Town was ill-prepared for the recent influx of foreign tourists and only "barely coped" with the increase in visitors.

This is the word from Captour chief executive Gordon Oliver, who warned yesterday it would take time and effort before Cape Town was able to offer the kind of service to tourists comparable to that of other international cities.

Mr Oliver was speaking at a tourism workshop in the civic centre aimed at entrepreneurs wanting to become involved in the local industry.

He cautioned entrepreneurs about the "fickleness" of the industry, emphasising that local tourism businesses were still experiencing a lot of ups and downs.

"We are inundated daily with telephone calls from people wanting to start their own tourism-related concerns, but they don't realise it's not easy. The tourism industry is in its infancy and no one will get rich overnight," said Mr Oliver.

He blamed the media for creating false expectations and emphasised that dedication, time and effort were crucial elements for the success of a tourism-related business.

Although Cape Town had become very popular internationally over the past few years, several obstacles still faced the "fragile" tourism industry.

These included perceptions about political instability and insecurity, the huge cost in travelling to the city as a long-haul destination, overpricing, service standards and a general apathy and ignorance about the potential of tourism in the city.

Numbers were still "pitifully small" compared to other world destinations, he said.

We'll make it, Olympic chief says

It's D-Day for bid

ARG 6/3/97 (288)

MICHAEL MORRIS

ON THE OLYMPIC BID



Lausanne – There is no doubt Cape Town will be among the four or five shortlisted cities in the race for the 2004 Games.

This is the confident prediction of Sam Ramsamy, head of the National Olympic Committee of South Africa and the country's representative on the International Olympic Committee.

"Having observed the nuances, I believe there is no doubt we will make it in the first four or five," he said.

His optimism is shared today by Sports Minister Steve Tshwete, who said: "My own feeling is that there is no way Cape Town is not going to be on the shortlist."

He said his confidence "derives in part from the interaction we have had with a number of prominent individuals in the Olympic movement".

These predictions came as the South African bid team made its final 20-minute presentation to the selection college at the IOC's headquarters at Vidy today. The presentation emphasised, but did not rely on, the sentiment inherent in the African bid.

Now there is nothing more to be done but wait for the verdict of the college, due to be announced at 2pm SA time tomorrow.

Cape Town was third in line to make its presentation this morning, after Stockholm and San Juan. Dr Ramsamy opened the presentation with an undertaking that a Cape Town Games would match international standards and take heed of the lessons from previous Games.

IOC discussions this week reveal that while there is general satisfaction with the outcome, financially and otherwise, of the Atlanta Games, there was considerable unease at the level of commercialism and at the insufficient involvement of the public sector and specifically local government, in Atlanta itself.

Dr Ramsamy also made it clear that all

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TV riches await 2004 winner, page 2

Crunch day for Olympian dream, page 11

Cape Town a cert for Games bid shortlist, predicts Ramsamy

From page 1

(288)

sports federations in South Africa backed the bid, which had his "unqualified endorsement".

ARG 6/3/97

Cape Town mayor Theresa Solomon spoke next, making the point that infrastructural improvements in the city – some of which were highlighted in the evaluation commission report and will be essential for a successful Games – are part of broader strategic initiatives to redress past imbalances and tackle the legacy of apartheid.

Mr Tshwete said the Games in Africa would make "a real, practical difference to the lives of millions of young people".

He introduced a five-minute video message from Deputy-President Thabo Mbeki, who conveyed the Government's full support of the project, and highlighted its significance for Africa.

"Your acceptance of this bid will send a strong signal to the rest of the world that this is the beginning of the African renaissance." He concluded: "If I consider the history of your distinguished movement, then it seems to me that there has never been a city, a time, a place that is more exciting for the Olympic movement than Cape Town in 2004."

Mr Ball focused on the technical expertise of the bid team and hundreds of professional volunteers who have helped to shape the plan, and on sketching the outline of the plan itself.

The team – which, in addition to those closely associated with the bid, included Speaker Frene Ginwala and Olympic medallist Marianne Kriel – had gathered in a room in the Royal Savoy Hotel, effectively the Cape Town bid's headquarters, in Ouchy near the lakeside yesterday, for a brainstorming session on the script.

What Thabo told the IOC

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Lausanne – It was an Olympian master stroke: Deputy President Thabo Mbeki said in a video message that holding the Olympic Games in Cape Town in 2004 would herald a "second transformation miracle" for South Africa.

The message was regarded as a stroke of tactical genius as it was prepared in anticipation of the International Olympic Committee's concern for political stability in South Africa after Nelson Mandela was no longer president.

The committee was highly impressed by Mr Mbeki's filmed message on the eve of today's announcement of the cities shortlisted to hold the 2004 Games, particularly since he is regarded as Mr Mandela's most likely successor in 1999.

Mr Mbeki told the International Olympic Committee that a Cape Town Games would be a major turning point in the economic and socio-political history of the country.

Placing the bid on the shortlist, he said, would "send a strong signal to the rest of the world that this was the beginning of the African renaissance".

Mr Mbeki's message to the selection college yesterday was contained in one of two impressive video presentations that underpinned Cape Town's bid.

The second video presented a montage of alluring Cape images and documentary-style footage of life on the Cape Flats, with brief but pithy comments from key figures in public life and the private sector.

One of them, Geoff Heinebach, chief executive of Siemens, summed up the spirit of the enterprise by saying that "we are a can-do country", with the expertise and the will to make things happen.

The chief executive of Grinaker Construction, Bean Bornheimer, conveyed the message that South Africa's construction industry could more than comfortably handle the R7-billion Olympic capital programme in the next eight years.

And University of Cape Town Vice-Chancellor Mamphela Ramphele made the point that the very same spirit that impelled the Olympic movement underpinned South Africa's political transition.

Mr Mbeki hoped that the IOC would acknowledge Africa in its selection.

"The continent cannot enter the new millennium as a forgotten continent, remembered only when there is famine, drought, war or other human-made and natural catastrophe.

"It must take its place among the community of nations with dignity, self-respect and pride in what it is capable of, what it can achieve and what it can contribute to human civilisations.

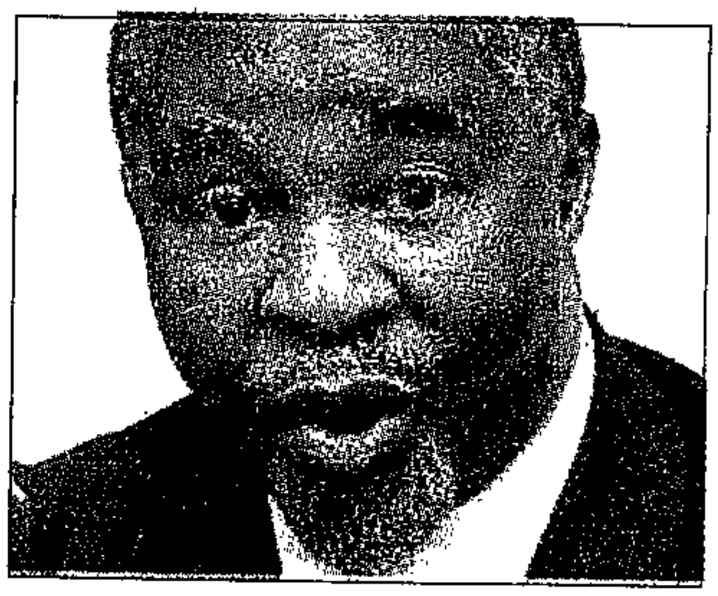
"The Olympic committee has the power to contribute to the achievement of this ideal, and that moment has arrived," he said.

ARG 7/3/97

SPECIAL EDITION

It's not often real-life journalists get to cry 'Hold the front page!' but that's what the Cape Argus is doing today. We're devoting a special late edition to the IOC announcement in Lausanne and you'll be able to buy a copy at the Waterfront from around 4pm. Don't miss it!

High praise from committee, page 2



Thabo Mbeki: Games would be 'a turning point'

288

Let the wining and dining begin

Cape Town confident of Africa's weight behind final Olympic push

(288) ST 9/3/97

PHYLICIA OPPELT
Lausanne
COLIN BRYDEN
Cape Town

CAPE TOWN is no longer merely bidding for the 2004 Olympics — it has gone into battle.

The South African delegation's euphoria after Friday's announcement in Lausanne that it had made it to the short list of five host cities, was tempered by the realisation that from now on life will be a frantic sales pitch.

In the next six months, Cape Town will wage war with Athens, Rome, Stockholm and Buenos Aires to impress the 109 members of the International Olympic Committee, whose final choice will be announced on September 5.

As much as R40-million will be spent as South Africa moves into top gear, involving its diplomats and allies around the world in what it has already turned into a contest between Africa and the rest of the world.

Cape Town will try to convince as many of the 108 voting members of the Olympic committee as it can to visit the city, flying them and their spouses first class to stay at a new luxury hotel on the Waterfront.

The chief executive officer of the bid, Chris Ball, said: "We plan on bringing out at least 75 members to show them that our confidence to have the Games is not superficial. It will be an intense lobbying process."

He said they would get South Africans of international influence and stature, like President Nelson Mandela, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, to entertain visiting IOC members.

The financial director of the bid, Michael Fuller, said Cape Town would spend between R35-million and R40-million. About R12-million has been budgeted for "international relations".

Also on the guest list will be heads of international sports bodies, technical experts and influential members of the media.

Ball said that on the day before the shortlist was announced, he had received 15 telephone calls from IOC members with an affinity for South Africa.

"We'll have to get more friends like them," he said.

Sam Ramsamy, the president of the National Olympic Committee of South Africa and an IOC member, said they were confident of gaining the support of the 20 African members of the committee.

"Of the 109 members, we need at least 54 votes and we hope that we can count on the African members for support," he said.

The bid has the support of the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa.

Another member of the Cape Town delegation, who did not want to be named, said they also hoped to find an ally in Britain.

In addition to the historic ties between the countries, London's bid for the 2008 games would have very little chance if another European city, Rome or Athens, won the bid for 2004.

The rest of Cape Town's bid budget will be spent on marketing and the preparation of detailed technical proposals.

Marketing will include a series of 38 10-minute programmes to be shown on SABC television on Saturday afternoons.

New billboards will make it obvious that Cape Town is a bid city and a local and international advertising campaign will be launched.

The amount to be spent over the next six months is part of the total R95-million budget of the bid company, R80-million of which has been raised from the private sector.

The budget, which was originally estimated at R75-million, increased largely as a result of a decision to pay what Fuller says is a "double digit millions" amount to creditors of the former bid trust headed by Raymond Ackerman.

Adding to the cost are the staging of international sports events which are seen as showcases of Cape Town's ability to host big events.

The Cape Metropolitan Council recently agreed to pay R2,5-million to the bid company. Other local councils are also being asked for contributions.

Fuller said he did not see this as a contradiction of the claim that the bid phase would be paid for entirely by private funds.

"As a result of the bid, the national government has agreed to spend R86-million for sporting facilities, primarily in disadvantaged areas, while R250-million has been released for transport improvements," he said.

"Having brought so much money to the table for Cape Town, the bid is in credit. To get some money from the councils can be seen as asking for a management fee."

Ball said the first of a series of strategy meetings would be held this week in Cape Town to discuss resources and how to involve various parties.

Ball said they could not afford to be too emotional about making the shortlist or in their marketing of the African involvement.

"If we throw too much emotion at the IOC members it is likely to scare them away.

"But we must draw in Africa as it is essential that we work as one. It will be the continent of Africa against the rest of the world."

As Mbeki said in his videotaped message in Cape Town's presentation: "It is an African bid and a strong signal to the rest of the world that the African renaissance is about to begin. Africa cannot remain a forgotten continent only to be remembered when there are catastrophes or famine.

"It is time to give Africa dignity, pride and self-respect."



UNITED FRONT: Western Cape ministers Lerumo Kalako (ANC), Gerald Morkel (NP) and Ebrahim Rassool (ANC) Picture: KIM LUDBROOK

Group sets out to change R12,2bn parks board deal

CT 4/3/97

(288)

NELSPRUIT: A team of experts opposed to a secret R12,2-billion development deal between the Mpumalanga Parks Board (MPB) and the Dolphin Group are to fly to London to meet the company's president, Mr Ketan Somaia, African Eye News Service reported yesterday.

The team, which includes former Mpumalanga Parks Board member Dr John Hanks, environmental council chairwoman Dr Sue Hart, conservationist Mr Rupert Lorimer and provincial environmental affairs MEC Mr David Mkhwanazi, will try to convince Somaia to change 10 aspects of his 50-year contract with the parks board.

Hanks resigned from the parks board in protest against the contract, which was signed without public consultation by MPB head Mr Alan Gray in November last year.

The deal gave the Dubai-based Dolphin Group all commercial development rights for 50 years to six state-owned game reserves, as well as to the world's second largest canyon at Blyde River and the historic town of Pilgrim's Rest.

In return, Dolphin pledged to bankroll the parks board's budget for 50 years — an amount estimated to be worth R12,2bn.

In addition, Dolphin undertook to build hotels and other infrastructure in Mpumalanga, worth R400 million, within the next three years.

Rural communities, land claim activists and conservationists have all objected to the deal.

After branding both the deal's critics and the press "reactionary saboteurs", the provincial government conceded last week there were flaws in both the agreement and the process leading up to it.

The clauses in the agreement which the review team would try to renegotiate include one demanding complete secrecy about the deal's specifics for at least 50 years, as well as a clause allowing Dolphin to pull out of the deal, without any liability, should the group feel not enough tourists were visiting the area.

The team will reportedly try to get Somaia to agree to reduce the period of the contract from 50 years to a series of smaller, renewable contracts. — Sapa

Olympic bid

By TOM HOOD and RAYMOND JOSEPH

URGENT negotiations are underway to rescue the problem-plagued world fencing championships, due to be held at Culemborg on the Cape Town Foreshore in July — and the outcome will be closely watched by the International Olympic Committee.

Although the organiser of the event, South African Fencing Association president George van Dugteren, was reluctant to comment this week, he conceded there was "a loophole that had to be closed" as this could "potentially cause a major problem".

At the heart of the problem is the failure so far to secure guarantees — said to be around R6-million — to cover the air fares of competitors coming from around the world.

Sources said Van Dugteren, who is due to fly to Paris shortly to attend the world junior fencing championships, might be forced to "pull the plug" unless he was able to get the necessary guarantees within the next few days.

South Africa won the bid to stage the world fencing championships against stiff opposition from several other countries.

The International Olympic Committee, which will decide who will stage the 2004 Olympics, will be closely watching the fencing competition as it will give a clear indication of Cape Town's ability to stage a major sporting event.

If the competition is cancelled at this late stage, it could prove a major blow to Cape Town's Olympic aspirations.

The organisers have received R1-million from the City Council to help stage the event and they expect to raise another R2,5-million from competitors' entry fees.

Adding to the problems is a reluctance of the developer of the Culemborg site, RPP Developments, who were awarded the right to build a major shopping centre in exchange for a R1-million commitment to provide fencing facilities.

Although the building of the new centre is already at an advanced stage, reliable sources say the developer is reluctant to go ahead with the costly work on the fencing venue unless they have a guarantee that it will take place. A spokesman for RPP on Friday refused to comment on the issue.

Ronnie Kingwill, the Bid Committee's director of sports events, said an urgent meeting of the executive committee had been held this week at which support of R2,5-million for the championships was approved. The committee also undertook to "assist and cover the balance" for the championships.

"We are aware that if this championship fails then Cape Town's entire bid will fail," he said.

Earlier this week the Bid Committee announced it was attempting to raise a further R20-million towards the 2004 Olympic bid. Paul Johnson,the Bid Committee's media director, said: "It is in the interest of the Bid Company to make sure that the fencing championships take place. We take the view that they would give us greater leverage for our bid"

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SAA to increase flights to cope with growth in tourism

(288) BD 3/3/97

Stephané Bothma

SA AIRWAYS (SAA) would increase its frequencies to the US, Europe, Australia and the Far East this year to cope with the steady growth in tourism to and from SA, the airline announced yesterday.

In addition, it would also introduce new services to the Danish capital Copenhagen and to Osaka in Japan.

However, SAA had been forced to cut services to Germany and South America to increase frequencies on more lucrative routes.

"Copenhagen has been identified as a potentially strong new destination and should appeal to the previously untapped Scandinavian market," SAA CE Mike Myburgh said.

The high demand for seats to the US had necessitated additional frequencies to New York and Miami. He said the inclusion of Osaka, as well as an additional weekly flight to Australia and Hong Kong and a 14th weekly flight to London, were indicative of the growth in tourism.

"This increase in frequency has not only increased passenger capacity, but has also resulted in an improved cargo schedule for importers and exporters," he said.

Except for the Osaka service which would start on April 3, timetable changes would come into effect on July 1.

SAA would no longer fly directly to Munich and Dusseldorf, but its alliance partner, Lufthansa, would provide connections from Frankfurt, an airline spokesman said. On the South American route, weekly services to Rio de Janeiro would be operated by Brazilian national carrier Varig.

ise call | counterpart, Ngoako Ramathlodi, both outlined plans aimed at enthemselves to public property, including state money destined for was "a matter of survival," Sapa reports.

Poll among cities bidding for Olympics shows Cape Town sharing third place

(288) Star 3/3/97

Cape Town – A poll among seven of the 11 cities bidding for the 2004 Olympic Games shows Cape Town sharing third place with Stockholm after Athens and Rome.

The International Olympic Committee's (IOC) selection college will make its assessment in Lausanne on Friday.

The survey was conducted by the international sports newsletter, Sport Intern. It is published and edited by Karl-Heinz Huba who is reputed to be close to IOC president Juan Samaranch.

Athens, with seven out of seven, was the only city named by all candidates as a certainty in the shortlisting. Rome got six votes. Cape Town and Stockholm got four votes each. – Own Correspondent.

Easterners spend most

(288) Sowetan 3/3/94

By Rafiq Rohan
Political Correspondent

THE biggest tourist spenders visiting South Africa came from the East and Far East, Environmental Affairs and Tourism Minister Dr Pallo Jordan told Parliament last week.

This contradicts the view that the big spenders come from Western countries.

Jordan said tourist statistics for visitors coming to South Africa revealed that the "big spenders are not from Europe or America but from the East and Far East".

He said the average visitor from the United States of America and Europe spent R550 a day in South Africa. This contrasted with tourists from India, Japan and Taiwan, who spent an average R900 a day.

Jordan said deceptive advertising, lack of hospitality and poor customer service accounted for some of the complaints received from the tourists. "Visitors are requested to rate the facilities they use on a three-point scale. They must indicate that the service is either good, fair or below average," he explained.

Statistics showed that most tourists came from the European bloc with a figure of 508 606. This was followed by 85 135 visitors from the US, 12 792 visitors from Japan, 20 769 from Taiwan and 11 228 from India.

Figures reflected a drop in visitors from Taiwan after the country lost its diplomatic status in favour of the People's Republic of China.



Mpumalanga premier Mathews Phosa believes the new hotel in White River will enhance tourism development.

Conference resort a boost for tourism

(288) Sowetan 3/3/97

By Themba Sepotokele

TOURISM and conferencing in the White River area in Mpumalanga received a massive boost with the opening of a new conference estate and resort worth more than R37 million.

Provincial premier Mr Mathews Phosa said the opening of Green Woods resort would further enhance his province's reputation as an exciting tourism destination as well as "broadening our facilities with a world-class conference centre".

He was officially opening this new top-notch conference centre and luxury holiday retreat last week.

The purpose-built conference centre includes the latest in multi-media tools.

The main auditorium seats 160 delegates and is divisible into two smaller venues with two additional boardrooms that offers maximum flexibility. The facility is managed by the Three Cities Hotel group.

Greenway Woods includes a first class international standard restaurant and full bar facilities. A multi-denominational chapel, which is available for weddings and other activities, has also been built in the grounds.

Owned by Suite Hotels, this "home-from-home" concept was pioneered and perfected in two separate developments in KwaZulu-Natal and the Drakensberg.

It offers guests a five-star resort as well as a conference estate, and forms part of the White River Country Club.

Graham Wilkins of Suite Hotels said several more facilities in the Eastern Cape, Western Cape and Northern Province were in the planning stage.

PRESENTATION MAY TIP SCALES

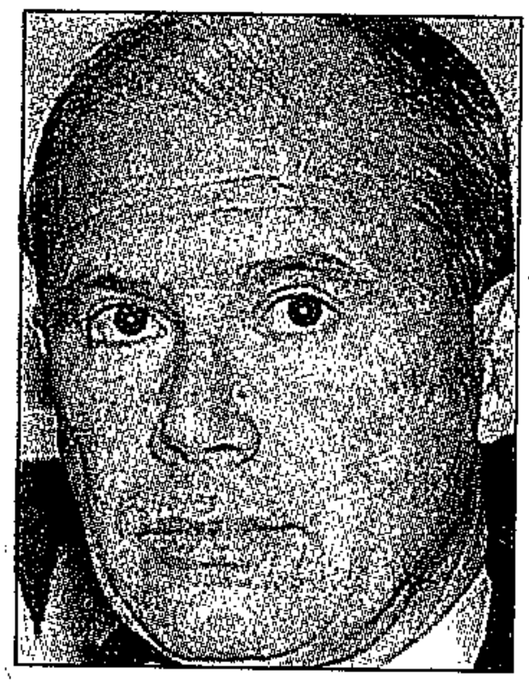
Team prepares pitch for last lap of Games bid

(288) CT 4/3/97

THE TEAM presenting Cape Town's case will have only 20 minutes to convince the International Olympic Committee's electoral college that it is the best candidate to host the 2004 Olympic Games. **DAN SIMON** reports.

CAPE TOWN'S crunch time comes on Thursday when a high-powered delegation representing the city's Olympic aspirations squares up to 10 other hopefuls for a place on the shortlist of candidate cities for the 2004 Games.

Members of Cape Town's 2004 Olympic Bid' Company and a number of high-ranking government and sports officials assemble in Lausanne, Switzerland, today to rehearse their parts in a crucial presentation — the success of which will determine whether Cape Town makes the shortlist of four or five candidate cities.



HIGH-POWERED DELEGATION: Olympic Bid chief Mr Chris Ball

The presentation team comprises Olympic Bid Company chief Mr Chris Ball, Sports Minister Mr Steve Tshwete, National Olympic Committee of SA chairman Mr Sam Ramsamy, Speaker of Parliament Dr Frene Ginwala, Metropolitan mayor the Rev William Bantom, Cape Town Mayor Ms Theresa Solomon and Olympic swimmer Marianne Kriel.

They will be given only 20 minutes to convince the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) electoral college that Cape Town is the most suitable city to host the 2004 Games. The IOC is to announce the shortlist on Friday.

Although confident, the Cape Town team is aware it is up against stiff competition — particularly from former Olympic Games hosts Athens, Rome and Stockholm.

Cape Town is expected to hold its own quite comfortably against the remainder of the field: Seville, Lille, Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, St Petersburg, Istanbul and San Juan.

A major factor favouring Cape Town, according to the IOC's Evaluation Commission report released last week, is that its hosting the Games would contribute enormously to South Africa's post-apartheid transition.

Other factors in its favour are President Nelson Mandela's solid backing for the bid and the city's unique setting.

However, detracting from the positive attributes are a high crime rate, uncertain public support, environmental challenges and the need for an improved major transport system.

Shortly before leaving at the weekend, Solomon read a message to all municipal staff in the Civic Centre in which she said staging the Games in Cape Town could be a "powerful catalyst" in accelerating the Reconstruction and Development Programme.

"The benefits could be immense," Solomon said.

"Not only will we in Cape Town benefit from this historic event, but it will also offer the youth of our nation and the peoples of our continent a unique opportunity to be part of the history of Olympism.

"We cannot do this alone. We need the support of all our citizens to make our African dream a reality."

Tourism can contribute to RDP and Gear, says Lewis

(288)

BUSINESS EDITOR

ARG 4/3/97

Investment in tourism could show visible and dramatic results by the year 2000, says researcher Gavin Lewis of the Centre for Southern African Studies at the University of the Western Cape.

Writing in his latest RDP Monitor, Dr Lewis says the growing tourism industry can reconcile the demands of the Reconstruction and Development Programme and the Government's Growth, Employment and Redistribution (Gear) strategy.

At present, he says, tourism contributes between 4 percent and 5 percent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employs 500 000 people.

The world average is 10 percent of GDP.

"If we reached that, we could create another million or more jobs.

"Furthermore, tourism has the lowest ratio of investment-to-jobs created, and has relatively short lead-in times."

Dr Lewis says tourism reaches deep into rural, marginalised areas, opening up opportunities for emerging businesses in crafts, food supply, transport, music and entertainment.

But a conscious focus on RDP goals is needed to spread the benefits, he says.

First, destinations need to be diversified so that population destinations do not get overcrowded.

"Theme" tourism – archeological, cultural, adventure or historical tourism – is a successful way of doing this, he says, but this needs planning and infrastructure.

Second, the tourism industry needs to be opened to emerging small businesses and to the important but neglected domestic tourism market.

Micro-lending and technical assistance to small businesses is critical for this to succeed.

Finally, says Dr Lewis, black participation in the tourism industry needs to be encouraged by preventing the leakage of revenues back to major centres.



TRICKS OF THE TRADE: Fish Hoek Senior Secondary School pupils enjoy a field trip to Peer's Cave near Fish Hoek with their teacher, Mr Duncan Duffett (wearing cap). The pupils are all studying Travel and Tourism at school — the first time the subject has been offered. ***PICTURE: GARTH STEAD***

from local myths and legends to details of car hire and caravan parks.

"I love nature and I hope to use what I learn at school to open my own travel business one day, maybe taking visitors climbing in the mountains or down a river. Anything to do with the outdoors," he said.

5/3/97/288

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 5, 1997 ★

MARKET WILL OFFER 'HUNDREDS OF JOBS'

Pupils tapping into 'tourism goldmine'

(288) CT 5/3/97

A PROJECT TO teach Tourism and Trade at secondary level may change the lives of school-leavers needing jobs, reports Education Writer **CAROL CAMPBELL.**



WHEN Damien Botha, 16, finishes school in two years' time he will more than likely be among the handful of matrics in South Africa who find a job.

The Standard 8 pupil at Fish Hoek Senior Secondary School has chosen Travel and Tourism as one of his six subjects this year — a course which will make it easier for him to find work in one of the fastest-growing industries in the country.

Teacher Mr Duncan Duffett said the Fish Hoek school, along with five other schools in the Western Cape, was part of a national project to offer the subject to pupils. The others are Pinelands High, Stellenbosch High, Hawston Secondary School, Intlanganiso High School in Khayelitsha and soon, Rocklands Secondary School in Mitchells Plain.

"This is not just a subject, it is a career option which will give these pupils a real opportunity for starting their own businesses or finding a job one day."

Fish Hoek principal Mr Des Duxbury said the subject was in line with a national initiative to revamp the school curriculum and make it meet the economic needs of the country.

"Everybody always says we are sitting on a tourist goldmine in the Western Cape and there are enormous opportunities for employment. This is just one way we can help our pupils tap into those opportunities."

The training director of the Southern Sun hotel group, Mr Allan Elias, said he recently visited Australia with the Hospitality Industry Training Board and was impressed by the co-operation between schools, tertiary education institutions and employers.

"They have a standard curriculum and a standard qualification, which makes it much easier for the industry when employing new staff."

Children can take a subject such as tourism at school and earn credits which will help them achieve a tertiary qualification.

They can also work immediately after finishing school and con-tinue studying at the same time, with the support of their employer.

"We hope to get to the point in South Africa where schools, employers and tertiary institutions are talking to each other and working towards a common goal," he said.

He pointed out that 115 new hotels, all with more than 50 beds, would open in South Africa in 1997.

"There are going to be hundreds of jobs opening up in this industry."

Satour, too, recently announced that the African tourism market grew by six to seven percent in 1996, compared with the world average of three percent for 1995.

Rennies Travel spokesman Mr Craig MacFarlane said tourism was one career option which was not "capital intensive" to set up.

"All you need is a desk, a telephone and the know-how, and you have a business."

For Damien the next three years look set to be good fun. He will learn about everything

'Government won't be blackmailed'

State warns on Dolphin legal furore

CT(BR)6/3/97 (M)(288)

JONATHAN ROSENTHAL AND SAPA

Johannesburg — The central government will not be blackmailed by the threat of R250 million in litigation costs over the R12 billion contract with the Dubai-based Dolphin group to lease out Mpumalanga's nature reserves for 50 years, Peter Mokaba, the environment deputy minister, said this week.

The deal grants exclusive development rights for the Blyde River Canyon, Loskop and Pilgrims Rest to the Dolphin group for the next half century. Dolphin has agreed to underwrite the Mpumalanga Parks Board's budget deficit for the period.

Mokaba's comments followed those by Chris McPherson, the chairman of Mpumalanga's select standing committee on finance, who told the African Eye News Service this week that the provincial government had decided not to cancel the deal because it could have faced up to R250 million in litigation costs.

"It would have been just too expensive to simply cancel. What it would actually have meant is that the (Mpumalanga Parks Board) would have had to fight the thing in foreign courts, which would have cost $50 million, or R250 million, and because it is a government parastatal, that money would come out of public funds — costing the taxpayer," McPherson said.

Central government has yet to make public its position on the deal, but is being briefed weekly about developments.

The Mpumalanga Parks Board, which met on Tuesday, said it had sent a review team to London to meet Ketan Somaia, Dolphin's president, in an attempt to persuade him to renegotiate 10 "flaws" in the contract.



Peter Mokaba

But the board emphasised the contract was legally binding on the government regardless of changes. "Although Mr Somaia has agreed to revisit clauses in the contract, if it is cancelled it could cost the province in the region of R250 million for breach of contract," the board said.

But Mokaba emphasised that central government would not be blackmailed by threats of litigation. "We are not in a fight with any developer, but nobody should stand in a position that they can blackmail government ... (if they do) we will be more angry and more willing to pull out," he said.

He said South African law allowed the government to cancel a deal if it threatened the environment. It would not be liable for damages if it cancelled the contract on that basis, he said.

Lisa Lombaard, of Mpumalanga Parks Board, said the agreement was constitutional.

"It contains a standard breach clause which could result in damages having to be paid to Dolphin for future loss of income," she said. The agreement was signed in South Africa and provided for arbitration to be held in Nelspruit, she said.

Revealing Olympic finances 'could compromise' 2004

(288) ARG 1/3/97

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

A political row is brewing over the Cape Metropolitan Council's decision to contribute R2,5-million to the Olympic bid with the Democratic Party insisting the payment be delayed until after the shortlist announcement next Friday.

The DP also says the money should not be given until the Bid Company has provided "detailed financial statements" to the Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC), and "detailed budgets" to show how the money is to be used. It wants the provincial government to block the payment in the meantime.

However, the African National Congress and the National Party have argued that the contribution is justified on the basis of strengthening a project that will have an immense impact on the economy and on development in the Western Cape.

The Bid Company told the CMC the money was to be used to pay for preparations for the presentation to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in Lausanne next Thursday and again in September and the travelling and accommodation costs of members of the bid team, as well as the costs of visits by IOC members in the next six months.

DP Olympic bid spokesman Glen Adams said that while his party fully supported the bid, the CMC's decision was "deeply disturbing". The DP was the only party to oppose the decision.

However, retiring CMC councillor and former Cape Town mayor Frank van der Velde dismissed concerns about the financial accountability of the Bid Company, and warned that it would be foolhardy to force the company to reveal budgetary details because of the risk that its bidding strategy – crucial to the success of the venture – could be compromised.

Mr Van der Velde said:"I know that the Bid Company's accounting checks and balances are written very strongly into the agreement between the company, the city and Nocsa ... so I have no concerns whatsoever about their accounting transparency.

"The key point is that I do not think you can publish a full account of their finances. We are in competition with the rest of the world and the last thing you want to do is put your cards on the table and reveal your strategies. Their accounting system is very strongly defined, but to make them to spell it out would force them to show their hand."

Mr Van der Velde said he fully supported the idea that the CMC should "underwrite the vision" to ensure that the bidding process continued. "The private sector is waiting to see if we make it on to the shortlist, and then confidence will be up again. All there is to underwrite at this stage is a vision.

"I happen to strongly share that vision and I feel we do need to underwrite it. After all, the community, generally, wants the Olympic Games.

"It simply boils down to the fact that the Bid Company needs a budget to make the bid process happen," he said.

CMC executive committee chair Pierre Uys argued this week that it was "the responsibility of the CMC and public enterprise to get involved".

He added:"We can't wait until March. The private sector have made vast contributions. Now we need to move forward."



JACK LESTRADE

Pin up: Paul Wilson and his bid pin producers, championing Cape Town's Olympic bid

You can all be champions – we live in a world-class city

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

As Cape Town gets set to face the jury in the Swiss lakeside city of Lausanne, everyone back home has the chance of a lifetime to champion the Mother City's Olympic hopes and project its status as a world-class capital.

Jobs, investment, development opportunities, new business, growing tourism – these are the prizes in next Friday's "semi-final", when the International Olympic Committee weighs Cape Town's merits against those of its 10 rivals as a host for the Games in 2004.

While the bid team strains against the starting blocks in Switzerland, promoters at home are mounting a major exercise to give people on the street the means to send a clear message to the Olympic selection that in mind, the non-profit organisation Champions for the Bid is going all-out to turn supporters into promoters.

Champions for the Bid does three things: it promotes the Olympic project, raises money for the bidding phase and a fund to develop sport, culture and the environment, and it creates jobs through the production of promotional T-shirts, caps, pins, posters and other merchandise.

Much of the work has been channelled to contractors in disadvantaged communities. Half the proceeds raised go to the Bid, the other half to the development fund.

In exchange for a donation of anything between R15 and R150, "Team 2004" members will receive Bid merchandise to show their support for the Bid.

Although it has its detractors, the overwhelming majority of South Africans are

SA proffers tourism deals to Germans

(288)

BD 10/3/97

Melanie Sergeant

BONN — Projects to boost tourism in SA, including Disneyland-type theme parks and ecotourism ventures, were offered to German investors at a seminar here last week by an SA team led by Environment and Tourism Minister Pallo Jordan.

Tourism authorities from seven SA provinces vied with each other to present a range of investment opportunities to Germany's investment community. The environment and tourism department's tourism development planning director Kingsley Sehularo said those projects involving state-owned land would be negotiated via contracts which would allow investors to build and manage facilities for a set number of years.

The contracts would, however, make it "worth the investors' while and could run for up to 30 years", he added.

Amid concerns that SA is selling off its national heritage to the highest bidders, speakers including Jordan stressed concepts such as partnerships, community involvement and joint ventures.

Investors were given a full deck of options, from overnight accommodation and conference facilities in national parks through to developing Disneyland-type theme parks and sites like the Taung Skull "cradle of man" region for tourism — and a R40m German Beer brewery and tavern in Badplaas.

North West plans to develop a sea water aquarium, cultural villages and other facilities at Hartbeestpoort Dam, while a Disney-type theme park called North West Africa Land was put up for grabs alongside options for the development of lodges and facilities at the Mandikwe Game Reserve.

Another plan was a new coach route development in Northern Province, while the Mariyeta Game Reserve bordering the SA side of the Kruger Park was sold as an ideal joint venture project with relocated communities. These communities could now be integrated into the industry through a host of new tourism facilities.

In Mpumalanga, opportunities for hunting, adventure tourism and even the opening up of new "beach holidays" in nearby Mozambique were given to investors, while in KwaZulu Natal 81 new developments were being planned with various communities.

With R30bn worth of sales for the new International Conference Centre in Durban (which opens in August this year) already confirmed, a hotel shortage called for a DM50m 300-bed hotel, while a casino, hotel and cable railway were mooted for the Tugela district. A "Disneyland-type" development on Durban's northern bank Bluff Island waterfront was also proposed.

Eastern Cape Tourism Board CEO Zandisile Pase said his province — "neglected by the previous government — was ripe for the development of marine tourism, a game lodge/hotel near Graaff-Reinet, as well as a health hydro and a range of other game projects.

Meanwhile, the Northern Cape is looking for investors to move into the Goegap Nature Reserve to develop overnight facilities, conference and other facilities at a cost of R20m — and

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Tourism

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there is the R11m option of developing the 400ha Kamfers Dam area outside Kimberley which has been designated a wetland of international importance.

As SA ambassador to Germany Lindiwe Mabuza said: "We know that we cannot look at investors to enter SA for altruistic reasons; they must reap their desired profits and rewards. But we do believe that credible and lasting developments must continue taking place to ensure the success of SA's democracy."

Jordan said that with financing mechanisms now being devised by government, there would be assistance for investors who should find "much of interest in SA".

Jordan said the tourism sector had great potential. It had been identified as a key part of government's macroeconomic programme because of the high potential it had as a job creator, and because it provided positive knock-on effects for almost all sectors of the economy. Although there was already about R71bn earmarked for spending on various tourism infrastructure projects over the next 10 years, government was devising finance mechanisms to help build the infrastructure to handle the boom in the industry which had brought a 10% annual growth in overseas tourism, he said.

Sehularo said: "Ecotourism must not have a negative effect on the SA environment." Government's discussions with the private sector regarding partnerships had been highly positive. "We are busy exploring various synergies" and have identified spatial development initiatives in underdeveloped areas to bring significant new developments to them through a cluster of SA ministries, he said.

Cape Town relies on solid bid to make Olympic 'finals'

BD 6/3/97 (288)

Cape Town's Olympic Bid Company is confident the mother city will be on the short list of candidates vying for the host city prize, writes Samantha Sharpe in Cape Town

AS AN estimated 1-million Brazilian citizens converged on Rio de Janeiro's Copacabana beach earlier this week to pray for divine intervention in the city's bid for a place on the Olympic Games 2004 host city short list, Cape Town began tentative party preparations for a top five placing.

Only five of the 11 candidate cities vying for the prize will make it onto the short list, to be announced in Lausanne tomorrow. The contenders are Cape Town, Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, St Juan, Istanbul, St Petersburg, Seville, Lille, Stockholm, Athens and Rome. The winner will be announced in September.

Michael Fuller, the financial director of Cape Town's Olympic Bid Company, said he was confident the mother city would be included in the host city short list with the other perceived frontrunners — Athens, Rome, Stockholm and Buenos Aires.

"Technically, we've produced a very strong argument for Cape Town and have been complimented by the International Olympic Committee's evaluation team on our planned transport infrastructure. The finances are in place, backed by government guarantees, and we have the support of every political party in SA and of the SA people themselves.

"Once past the technical issues, we believe Cape Town offers a unique opportunity for the Olympic Games movement to showcase the African culture, which is ultimately the fifth ring of the Olympic Games. We can show that the Olympic Games 2004 can be hosted efficiently and effectively in a nonfirst-world country, and that adds a new dimension to the games."

Fuller conceded that Cape Town had a tough battle against other first world cities like Athens and Rome in the race for first place, with Rome particularly having the infrastructure and sporting facilities already in place to hold the games.

Although there was no clear favourite in the olympic committee's set of evaluation reports released earlier this month — one report for each of the 11 cities — Athens and Rome received favourable reviews.

Recent reports have claimed Cape Town's chances for the bid were scuppered by its crime levels, but Fuller said the olympic committee's evaluation report was misinterpreted and distorted by media hype.

The committee said in its report: "All levels of authority in the country are aware of and concerned about the serious crime situation the country is facing. However, through co-operation involving all responsible parties, significant plans and a detailed strategy have been developed in order to reduce crime and increase the level of safety and security. The full implementation of these plans over the coming years will be a challenge."

There was no other reference to crime in the evaluation.

Fuller was more concerned about the olympic committee's comments that "the extent of public support for the candidature is difficult to assess". Bid experts said Stockholm's chances of hosting the games had been soured by a poll that said only 32% of the population were in favour of staging the games, with 52% against.

Fuller said a team making final presentations to the committee this week would stressthat three separate surveys on SA public support for the games indicated growing popularity for Cape Town's candidacy.

The latest, conducted exclusively for Business Day by Market Research Africa, showed 73% of the population supported the bid, with the loudest dissent from white respondents. Black and coloured communities were keen, with backing from both groups coming in at about 76%.

Should Cape Town make it onto the short list, the next six months should see a steady flow of committee members to SA as the Bid Company does its utmost to showcase the country and its ability to host the 2004 games.

While this is likely to be at considerable cost to the Bid Company, it also guarantees a host of celebrity figures including the Prince of Monaco, a spate of British royals and a Saudi Arabian prince or two to Cape Town, all of which add up to a marketing opportunity for the city, regardless of whether it wins the race to host the games.

A winning bid means SA stands to benefit from a R30bn boost to gross domestic product, the creation of 90 000 jobs and an R8bn increase in tax revenues up to 2006.

Of course none of this is for free. The Bid Company foresees total capital expenditure on the games of R7,25bn, with central government picking up about half the bill, the private sector R2,4bn and local government and the games organising committee shouldering 10% each of the cost.

Accompanying the costs are R5,6bn in operating revenue from television rights, sponsorship and ticket sales and operating expenditure budgeted at R4,18bn, resulting in a R1,42bn gross operating surplus. The olympic committee warned the revenue figures appeared "to be on the high side", although Fuller said a similar comment was found in every potential host city's report, with SA's estimates the most conservative.

If Cape Town failed to make it onto the host city short list, it was SA's corporate sponsors that stood to lose the most, Fuller said. A number of companies had committed millions of rands each to getting behind the games and a first round knockout would mean wasted marketing expenditure.

By September, the state will have spent approximately R250m upgrading the transport system and R86m on eight sport centres which, although some might claim the developments are cold comfort to citizens crying out for housing and basic services, would have been spent at some stage.

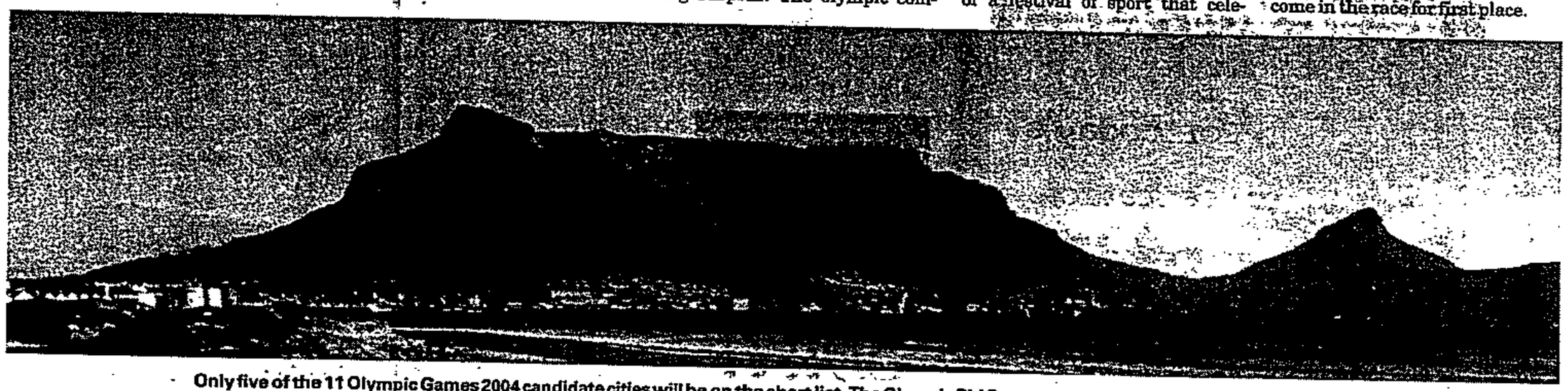
If political correctness has anything to do with a successful bid, Cape Town is guaranteed a place on the short list. The city is trading heavily on the Nelson Mandela/Bishop Desmond Tutu factor to add to the Olympic Games credo of a festival of sport that celebrates the unity of man and its status as a "developmental bid".

In a letter to the olympic committee contained in the bid book, Mandela said: "It (the games) would also be a rallying point for the unity of all South Africans, helping us redress the imbalances of the past. Indeed, we should certainly not bid for the games if that were not the case.

"SA has made great strides since the ending of the apartheid era in 1994 but our road to social and economic freedom still stretches out before us. It is my strong, personal conviction that the opportunity to host the games of the olympiad in 2004 will place a clear and inspiring marker on that road."

With the recent addition to the Bid Company's board of directors of Deputy Finance Minister Gill Marcus and Ian Golding, the CE of the Development Bank of SA, it is clear that the company is gearing up for a new organisational phase in its plans to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

However, while it appears almost certain that SA will make it onto the short list tomorrow, there still remains some intense lobbying and fierce competition to overcome in the race for first place.



Only five of the 11 Olympic Games 2004 candidate cities will be on the short list. The Olympic Bid Company hopes Cape Town will be one of them.

Tourism boom massive, says Jordan

BD 6/3/97 (288)

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — SA was experiencing a "massive" tourist boom with more than R15bn earned in foreign exchange in the first nine months of last year, Environmental Affairs and Tourism Minister Pallo Jordan said in Bonn, Germany, yesterday.

Of this amount, R14bn was spent on entertainment, R5,6bn on accommodation, R4bn on food, R4,3bn on transport inside SA, and R2bn on airfares travelling to SA.

Jordan said at the conference, Tourism in SA — An Investment Overview, that in the previous four years there had been an average annual increase of about 10% (about 100 000) in the number of tourists visiting SA.

From January to the end of September last year, 4,7-million people visited SA, about 1,25-million of whom came from overseas. Tourism created direct and indirect jobs for about 500 000 people and contributed 4,7% to the gross domestic product. Last year alone, more than 10 000 jobs were created by the growth in tourism.

"Statements of intent accumulated by the SA Tourism Board in the past year, indicate R71bn will be invested in tourism infrastructure alone during the next 10 years. This includes hotels and recreational developments," Jordan said.

He told delegates tourism was poised to become one of the leading sectors in the economy with the potential to attract greater investment to SA. It had assumed a new significance in government's overall economic strategy.

His department was attempting to broaden the base of the industry to facilitate greater ownership among previously marginalised communities and their involvement in ecotourism initiatives. These communities would be encouraged to participate in such ventures as real partners and shareholders.

"There is no doubt that the rich biological diversity in SA is one of our major tourism drawcards, and indeed, the natural, ecotourism experience is increasingly becoming the most sought-after tourist destination globally," Jordan said.

His week-long visit was intended to explore greater co-operation between Germany and SA.

Tourist growth 'remarkable'

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ANDREA BOTHA
STAFF REPORTER

ARG 6/3/97

The number of foreigners who visited South Africa last year was only slightly above the 1995 total but from a high base set in that year.

Last year 7,8 percent more foreigners visited the country, according to Central Statistical Services.

But the 1995 figure was up 52 percent on 1994, leading experts to describe the 1996 figure as "still remarkable".

"All increases in 1996 are extremely good, especially since they are calculated on the very high base levels in 1995," said Estelle Walmsley of the South African Tourism Board.

She said 1995 was an unusually good year for tourism. It was the year after democratic elections, when interest in the country was high. It was also the year of the Rugby World Cup.

The last quarter of 1996 showed an increase of 14,7 percent in the number of foreigners entering South Africa through international airports, compared with the same time in 1995.

Alida Castelein of Central Statistical Services said tourism statistics for 1996 had shown an increase for every month, compared with 1995, except in June.

"We had a particularly bad June in 1996, but in June 1995, we had the Rugby World Cup," she said.

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Cape expected to clear Olympic hurdle

BD 7/3/97 (288)

LAUSANNE — Cape Town, Athens, Rome, Stockholm, Buenos Aires and Istanbul are favourites to make the short list of cities bidding to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

Only four, possibly five, of these six will make the list after an Olympic panel put all 11 candidates through the hoops yesterday.

Lille (France), Rio de Janeiro, San Juan, Seville and St Petersburg are not expected to get close.

Athens and Rome are odds-on to make the short list, along with Cape Town and Buenos Aires as political choices — neither Africa nor South America has staged the games before. Istanbul is in the balance with Stockholm, only because the Swedish capital will give Europe three candidates if a fifth finalist is chosen.

Cape Town, considered one of the early frontrunners, suffers from what is seen as a high crime rate and the perception that South Africans feel 2004 is too early for the country.

Sapa-AP reports that leaders of Cape Town's bid sought to assure the International Olympic Committee yesterday that SA's crime problems were improving and would be under control within three years.

Cape Town was once seen as the sentimental favourite. But the bid has been hindered by concerns about the country's high crime rate and political uncertainty surrounding the succession to President Nelson Mandela.

Both issues were raised by the panel after the city's presentation.

"We explained that in 1994 we inherited an unacceptably high level of crime," SA house speaker Frene Ginwala said. "But we have taken measures which have had a visible impact on results. We are confident that by the year 2000 we will be in control of the situation totally."

Chris Ball, CE of the bid committee, said the latest national crime figures showed a "marked improvement" since 1994. He said the real issue was security, not crime, and that SA had "virtually no security threats" at any major events it had hosted.

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Games

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Responding to concerns over future political stability, Ginwala said SA had a tradition of "collective leadership that will continue regardless of who is sitting in the presidential chair".

The Cape Town officials stressed they were not relying on political sentiment to win the games. "We did not come here to ask for a political reward," Ginwala said. "Technically, we think we are on par with any other bid. But we add a special dimension."

Former Olympic fencer Thomas Bach of Germany led a team which drew up a 350-page report, assessing the strengths and weaknesses of each city's bid. Athens, Rome, Buenos Aires and Stockholm probably score more points for projects seen in Bach's report as "well conceived", "well located" and "very precise", while his report on Cape Town positively bristles with "more details required".



We've got to make it!

Sowetan

If Cape Town is not on the short list to host the 2004 games, more than our sporting egos will be bruised, Deputy Sports Editor **Victor Tsuai** explains...

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AS THE CLOCK ticks towards today's announcement of which five cities have made the short list to host the Olympics in 2004, the members of the Cape Town 2004 Bid Committee will be nervously twiddling their fingers in anticipation.

The news could either lift the country's already-sagging morale or lower it even further.

Such is the intense desire by Cape Town to be among the short-listed cities that defeat would not only be unthinkable, but would border on sacrilege.

The only news that could lift the gloom that is currently engulfing our fledgling democracy would be if Cape Town makes it to the last five.

Yesterday the Cape Town Bid Committee members made a presentation to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) selection committee to host the Olympics in 2004.

The winning city will be selected on September 4. To say that Cape Town faces formidable odds from the 11 other cities would be putting it mildly.

Even if it is included in the short list, the odds of being the eventual winner are still long.

For South Africa, hosting the Olympics has several ramifications that could help transform the nation.

Cape Town's bid is Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP)-driven.

As the Cape Town Bid Committee states in its introduction to the IOC report, human development, along the lines and ideals of the IOC, is the primary theme of its bid.

"Cape Town is determined that every aspect of its Olympic process, from bidding through hosting to the post-event stage, should contribute to the upliftment and quality of life of the people of the city, the country, the region and the continent. We place special emphasis on our disadvantaged communities."

Of special significance to Cape Town's bid is the support it has received from President Nelson Mandela and his Cabinet.

Mandela's awesome public aura and international stature was recognised by IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch, who said recently that Mandela's standing could swing the bid our way.

To a lesser extent, South Africa's performance at the Atlanta Olympics – where it won five medals, including three golds – could see it pose a serious threat.

Also, South Africa's close links with other African countries, which will be among the voters in the final selection, could also swing the vote its way today.

The IOC's main bone of contention at this stage is South Africa's high crime rate and perceived shortcomings in the transport system. It was therefore not surprising that one of its bidding rivals, Italy's capital, Rome, used the crime angle as a "bargaining" leverage against Cape Town.



Chris Ball is leading Cape Town's bid to host the Olympic Games in 2004.

Locally, opposition to the bid is largely muted. Concerns have been registered among upper-income municipal taxpayers that they will eventually foot the bill.

Not considered active threat

The other is a small pressure group calling itself "Stop 2004 Olympic Bid Forum", which also opposed the 1994 democratic elections. These groups, however, are not considered active threats to Cape Town's bid.

Of more significance is that there are few scruples in the cut-throat business of fighting to be the host city of an Olympics: when a country fights to be on the short list anything goes, including vilifying those you perceive to be your major threats.

Bitterness and recriminations were already at boiling point on Tuesday among some of the 11 candidates vying for the bid.

One of the bidders, Turkey, slammed the IOC technical report on the Istanbul bid as flawed, inaccurate and unfair. In addition, it accused the IOC of looking for excuses to eliminate Istanbul and other bidders.

Russian government leaders also criticised the report and continued to exert heavy political pressure on the IOC to make sure that St Petersburg makes the cut.

South American rivals Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) and Buenos Aires (Argentina) also entered the fray, with their own kind of mudslinging. Cape Town and Rome, considered outright favourites to make the short list, were involved in finger-pointing as well.

The leader of the Cape Town bid and its chief executive officer, Chris Ball, objected to Roman officials raising South Africa's high crime rate as an issue in the contest.

A peeved Ball later said: "The IOC itself understands that crime is not an issue in the Games. The issue is security and Rome has a bigger security problem than Cape Town."

Firing the salvos on behalf of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil's sports minister and soccer legend Pele said Argentina's capital – which received a very favourable IOC evaluation – does not deserve to make the final round.

He said: "If we look at what happened during the 1995 Pan American Games in Argentina, it's clear the Olympics shouldn't be there. The organisation was awful, and the IOC knows that."

Russia, through its prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, who reportedly lobbied vigorously for the bid, went as far as telephoning Samaranch to complain about "many mistakes and inadequacies" in the report.

At the end of the day, the compelling reason to have Cape Town among the last five would be its status as being part of Africa.

According to IOC rules, Africa is the fifth ring of the movement.

And Africa, which has produced countless Olympic stars, is the only continent where the Games have yet to be held.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION & TOURISM
FM 7/3/97

CRITICS SWIM TO DOLPHIN

(286) (800)

Leading critics of the multibillion-rand deal to commercialise Mpumalanga's nature reserves went to London this week in a government-sponsored team to renegotiate controversial elements of the contract with developer the Dolphin Group.

The critics — environmental consultant Rupert Lorimer and Sue Hart, head of the province's semi-official Environmental Council — joined Environmental Affairs & Tourism MEC David Mkhwanazi and environmental lawyers Steve Raney and Jeremy Ridl in the talks which were expected to finalise the deal that has been dogged by controversy since its announcement last November (*Current Affairs* February 14).

Mkhwanazi's invitation to Lorimer and Hart sprang from the intervention of Mpumalanga premier Mathews Phosa, who has been working behind the scenes to resolve the dispute. "I'd rather have them pissing out of the tent than into it," says Phosa.

Another leading environmentalist, John Hanks, who resigned from the Mpumalanga Parks Board over the issue, declined an invitation to join the talks as he had to go to Geneva. The team left for London on Tuesday night and were due to meet Dolphin president and CE Ketan Somaia on Wednesday morning.



***Sue Hart** . . . off to tackle Dolphin chief Somaia in London*

Mkhwanazi apparently assured Hart and Lorimer that they would be free to question the Dolphin executives and recommend that the contract be terminated if they cannot reach an agreement with the group. The contract allows for termination if government rejects the deal.

It is understood that Somaia has already agreed in principle to most of the proposed amendments to the contract during discussions with Mpumalanga officials in Johannesburg on February 20 and in subsequent telephone conversations. These include:

- ❑ Scrapping from the deal the envisaged inclusion of Pilgrim's Rest, Manyeleti game reserve and the proposed takeover of resorts in the ailing Aventura stable;
- ❑ Removing the confidentiality clause and any reference to secrecy in the agreement;
- ❑ Tightening the provision that dissolves Dolphin's commitment to underwrite the Mpumalanga Parks Board's annual deficit if tourism drops off due to civil unrest or political instability. Under the current deal, it would have to pay only 7% of gross turnover if tourism declined for these reasons;
- ❑ Firming Dolphin's commitment to spend between R320m-R400m on hotel and infrastructural development by 1999.

Mpumalanga also wants to raise the equity level of local communities and disadvantaged business in the envisaged nature park development companies from 20% to 50%. A compromise seems likely.

The primary focus of the London talks was expected to be the Mpumalanga team's request to cut the period of Dolphin's contract from 50 years renewable to 25 years renewable.

Somaia is believed to have already told the Mpumalanga Parks Board that such a reduction would necessitate a proportionate reduction in Dolphin's commitment to absorb the board's deficit and changes to dependent clauses in the contract. Parks board chairman Alan Gray has calculated that rising costs and the gradual phasing out of State subsidies will push the board's deficit — and hence Dolphin's commitment — over the 50 years to R12,2bn.

The exclusion from the deal of Pilgrim's Rest and Manyeleti leaves Blyde River Canyon, Songimvelo Reserve and Loskop Dam as the choice sites.

Parks board chairman Alan Gray hit back at critics of the deal this week, saying that only 0,2% of the surface area of Mpumalanga's conservation areas was targeted for development by Dolphin.

Dolphin's developments in SA would be handled by well-established subsidiaries Block Hotels and UTC Travel. Somaia says the two companies will substantially boost tourism in Mpumalanga, with spin-offs for other SA destinations such as Sun City and the Kruger Park. Dolphin marketing director Michael Sharpes said on Tuesday the company was "prepared to listen" to the Mpumalanga team's proposals.

"We feel there has been a lot of misinformation about the deal and we welcome the opportunity of clarifying the issues," he said.

"If the contract can be improved, we'll be happy to go along with it."

- ❑ Construction company Stocks & Stocks is already in the hunt for Dolphin's business. Sources involved with the deal say Stocks MD Bart Dorrestein met Dolphin representatives in London last week. It is not known if contracts were clinched. *Peter Honey*

'Time to mobilise to ensure we get the 2004 Games'

ARG 8/3/97 (288)

JERMAINE CRAIG AND JULIAN JACOBS
STAFF REPORTERS

An ecstatic Minister of Sports Steve Tshwete declared a victory for Cape Town as the city's bid came through the tough 11-city selection process with flying colours.

Celebrating at a Waterfront restaurant last night, Mr Tshwete told Saturday Argus: "We want to be the best and we shouldn't settle for second best ... It's a battle we have won, now we have to mobilise ourselves and fine-tune on areas and then make sure in September that we will win."

He said the announcement will boost the economy as well tourism and it will create much-needed jobs.

"As I left the election panel in Lausanne, I was convinced we would win," he said.

Mr Tshwete said while he was in Lausanne, people had told him that they would be coming to Cape Town to see Table Mountain. Until the city was shortlisted, people in Lausanne had not been aware of where Cape Town was on the map.

"Now we are known globally," he said. Having the Olympics in the Mother City would be profitable for all its people, said Mr Tshwete.

Meanwhile, Cape Town woke up to a giant hangover this morning, after the euphoria of yesterday's announcement that the city had made it on to the shortlist of cities still in the running to host the Olympic Games.

The announcement was greeted with joy and much partying from all quarters, but all agreed the task now is to gather international support for the city's bid in order to make Cape Town's Olympic dream a reality.

South African President Nelson Mandela hailed Cape Town's inclusion in the shortlist of cities bidding to host the Olympic Games in 2004 as a boost for the African continent.

"The prospect of an Olympic Games in Cape Town presents South Africa with yet another challenge to play an active role in the African renaissance," he said.

National Party MP and sport spokesperson Nick Koornhof said the news that Cape Town was on the Olympic shortlist was good news not only for South Africa, but for Africa as a whole.

"Cape Town today carries the flag with pride. We are on the brink of having a dream come true," Mr Koornhof said.

He said enormous demands would now be made on Capetonians to combat crime. A senior member of Cape Town's Olympic Bid Committee and former black activist, Ngconde Balfour, was confident the city would now go all the way and win the race to stage the Games.

"I knew deep down in my heart, I knew," he said. "In September we will win, and in 2004, we will present the most unique, the most magnificent, the most wonderful African Games."

Mr Balfour said Cape Town's bid was unique because it cast the Games as a central plank of social reconstruction after centuries of white rule. Western Cape Minister of Sport Lerumo Kalako described yesterday's announcement as a "great moment" for the citizens of Cape Town and the country as a whole.

"We were very confident that we would make the shortlist. I am sure that once we are there (on the shortlist), there is no way we can lose the Bid. We should double our efforts now so that we can make sure that we can win the bid. Now in the period up to September, we have to make sure that the lobbying is intensive," Mr Kalako said.

He said attempts would now be made to curb the high level of crime, which served as a deterrent for both investors and Cape Town's supporters. Bid Company media chief Ameen Akhalwaya, said he was "thrilled" and had no doubts whatsoever

To page 3

Time to 'mobilise ourselves' to win 2004 Olympics

From page 1

(288) ARG 8/3/97

that Cape Town would make the shortlist.

"I am delighted with the support we have received from the media and the public has also now begun to get behind us. Now people are finally realising that this is a very serious bid and we are going to win it. Those against the bid should realise we are going to go ahead. Their role should be to make sure we deliver for the benefit of the community," said Mr Akhalwaya.

Bid Company Financial Director Michael Fuller said Cape Town's shortlisting was a "vote of confidence from the international community in our city".

He said efforts would now be made to bring as many of the 108 International Olympic Committee members as possible to Cape Town to make sure the city wins the bid come September.

Western Cape Director of Sport Rod Solomons said Cape Town's Bid would contribute to the transformation of our country. "It will bring much-needed facilities to areas which need it, it is going to be excellent for our sportspeople and it is going to contribute to us resolving our differences.

"If we are going to be successful, we have no choice but to work together, both the Government and the private sector. We have also got to get the community behind us," Mr Solomons said.

The festivities continued long into the night as Capetonians celebrated, safe in the knowledge that the Mother City's



MOMENT OF JUBILATION: These youngsters waited in tense anticipation for the announcement of the shortlist of cities to host the 2004 Olympic Games before they released the pigeons, which soared over Cape Town in triumph

Star 8/3/97 (288)

Cape Town moves one step closer to hosting Olympics

By MICHAEL MORRIS

Lausanne, Switzerland – First there was this guy going on and on in French, and then, when he got to reading out the shortlist, the cheers from the Buenos Aires team drowned him out ... but I watched his lips, I actually lip-read them, and I knew it was Cape Town.

It was dramatic stuff. Hundreds of journalists and camera crews, candidate-city support staff, advisers, observers – a vast, milling crowd in the plush Olympic Museum at lakeside Ouchy – froze seconds before the shortlist was revealed.

Istanbul was bound to get in, this being its second bid, some said. And what about St Petersburg ... a possibility, at least, perhaps even a strong one.

A signal of succour from the West was due, others argued. Then the announcement began. Athens first. No surprises there. Sweat glistened on the forehead of bid media manager Paul Johnson, clutching a briefcase containing exultatory statements from President Mandela's office. Would they be needed after all, he might have been wondering.

Then Buenos Aires got in, and a great cheer went up, drowning out the next announcement, which was Cape Town. Enough of the team heard it, though – or lip-read it – to make their presence felt. A second bout of cheers. From then on, for the South Africans, nothing else mattered.

"This is very, very exciting. It's almost unbelievable," Deni Madzunya, bid director of technology and now responsible for government relations, was saying as microphones waved before him. Chris Ball, Sam Ramsamy, and mayors Theresa Solomon and William Bantom were still in the auditorium.

They had yet to face the nearly solid mass of the media. Swimmer Marianne Kriel was wiping tears from her cheeks.

"I was so nervous," she confessed, "especially when that guy was going on and on in French." But when she knew Cape Town had got through, she "just shrieked".

"We'd thought beforehand that we'd try to be reserved and well behaved ... but when the moment came, I just screamed and cried and laughed. It's quite incredible. It's a great honour."

In Cape Town, roars of enthusiasm rocked the Waterfront when it was announced that the city had made the shortlist of candidate cities for the 2004 Games. Olympic mania clearly had a firm grip on many Capetonians and visitors who streamed to the Waterfront to hear the crucial announcement from Switzerland.

But with most of the Waterfront complex, its staff and visitors sporting the Olympic colours in preparation for the celebration, visitors could have been forgiven for believing Cape Town had already won the bid.

The city's bid came through the 11-city selection process with flying colours to join Rome, Athens, Stockholm and Buenos Aires in the gruelling race to the finish on September 5.

Next Olympic move is to showcase Cape Town

CT 10/3/97 (288)

Samantha Sharpe

CAPE TOWN — SA's bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games has moved up a gear following the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) decision on Friday to include Cape Town as one of five short-listed cities in the running for host city status.

Cape Town's inclusion came as no surprise to bid experts who also successfully forecast that Rome, Athens, Buenos Aires and Stockholm would be chosen from among the 11 competing cities. The final decision by the IOC on the winning city will be made in September.

Olympic Bid Company financial director Michael Fuller said Cape Town's next move would be to showcase the city to the hundred-odd voting members of the IOC, with an estimated R35m to R40m expected to be spent over the next six months.

About 54 out of the total of 108 voting members would have to give Cape Town the thumbs up for the city to emerge ahead of the four other contenders.

SA would simultaneously work strongly on international networking, which would mean using SA ambassadors and consuls-general to drum up support for Cape Town's status as a candidate city.

The Olympic Bid Company has already used endorsements from President Nelson Mandela, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and Archbishop Desmond Tutu to market the bid.

The funds to be spent in the six months to September would be sourced from the Olympic Bid Company's existing resources and additional sponsors, Fuller said.

Sources close to the bid said SA had a tough race in the battle against front-runners Athens and Rome, with Rome already having most of the required infrastructure in place to host a games in 2004.

However, government's decision to spend R86m on sporting facilities and the release of R250m for transport improvements were a clear indication of SA's commitment to hosting the games.

The Olympic Bid Company has estimated that total capital expenditure on the games will be R7,5bn, with central government paying about half the targeted amount, the private sector R2,4bn and local government and the organising committee taking up 10% each.

This would be accompanied by R5,6bn in operating revenue from television rights, sponsorships and ticket sales.

Operating expenditure was budgeted at R4,18bn, with a R1,42bn gross operating surplus.

40% RISE IN TOURISM PREDICTED

City to benefit from Olympic shortlisting

CT 10/3/97 (288)

BY BEING shortlisted for the 2004 Olympic Games the city is set to become a world tourism capital, says Captour's Gordon Oliver. Bookings could be up 40% next summer.

CAPE TOWN would reap many benefits from being one of the cities shortlisted for hosting the 2004 Olympic Games, business, commerce and tourism industry leaders in the city said after the announcement in Lausanne on Friday.

The other four shortlisted cities are Athens, Buenos Aires, Rome and Stockholm. The International Olympic Committee will decide finally in Lausanne on September 5.

Western Cape Premier Mr Hernus Kriel said: "We need to convince the Olympic committee we can deliver the goods. Financial arrangements must be sorted out between central and local government."

Major sponsor Pick 'n Pay's chairman Mr Raymond Ackerman said he always believed South Africa could do it, and that Cape Town was absolutely the right place at the right time.

"We believe that South Africa's 2004 Olympic Bid has the potential to catapult the country on a new trajectory, and that is the main reason why as a company we became one of its main financial supporters."

Through the bidding process and the actual Games, South Africa would be able to showcase its tourism assets, investment potential and ability to deliver.

Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industries (Western Cape) president Mr Ali Gierdien said he was not surprised Cape Town was among the five cities.

"I was as confident we would be selected as I still am that we will be awarded the bid," Gierdien said.

His reasons include the "Madiba magic" and the fact that it will be the first time for Africa. He believes hosting the Olympics will result in economic expansion in South Africa and the Western Cape.

Infrastructural development would be speeded up and bring about more job opportunities. Facilities would be built in areas that needed them most and could be used after the Games.

Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut (Western and Northern Cape) regional manager Mr Tommy Joubert said: "We realise Cape Town will be in for a tough time to produce the goods and the infra-structure required, but we are convinced the spinoffs and the cash injection will really help the country. We support it through business in the Cape and will do whatever possible to make the games a success."

The vice-chairman of the Kaapstad Sakekamer Mr Stephen Claassen said the news that Cape Town has been shortlisted would enhance the confidence already shown in South Africa by the world and boost tourism and investment.

"The Bid Committee will also have to reassure the community that there will be no financial burden on them," Claassen said.

By being placed on the shortlist the city would become a world tourism capital, Captour's Gordon Oliver said. The positive spotlight on the region would serve as the greatest marketing initiative the country could hope for.

"I predict at least a 40% increase in tourist reservations for spring and summer this year." — Sapa

● See Page 20



CONGRATULATORY HUG: Executive committee chairperson Ms Nomaindia Mfeketo and deputy chair Mr Saleem Mowzer embrace at the Waterfront on Friday after hearing that Cape Town made the Olympic shortlist. *PICTURE: BENNY GOO*

Games could be lasting payday

CT 10/3/97 (288)

JOHANNESBURG: South Africa will win a lasting economic prize if it secures Africa's first Olympic Games, according to business leaders and analysts.

Capital spending of R7,5 billion on the event should help revive a flagging economy, and create tens of thousands of badly needed jobs and boost the earnings of construction, engineering, hotels and other companies, they say.

The Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) estimates a successful bid would inject R30bn into the economy between 1997 and 2006 and could generate more than 90 000 permanent jobs.

"It will have a very significant impact, particularly on the greater Cape Town area," said Mr Colin Boyes, deputy director of the Cape Chamber of Commerce.

"The Games will give us a badly needed upgrade of our infrastructure while the momentum of the tourist industry — in many ways Cape gold — should be carried forward a lot faster," said Boyes.

But gains will not be limited to the Western Cape, already SA's most dynamic region with a growth rate 1,5 to 2 percentage points ahead of the 3% national average. The DBSA estimates that 60% of the economic impact will actually be felt in other provinces. — Reuter

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● See Page 20



CONGRATULATORY HUG: Executive committee chairperson Ms Nomaindia Mfeketo and deputy chair Mr Saleem Mowzer embrace at the Waterfront on Friday after hearing that Cape Town made the Olympic shortlist. PICTURE: BENNY GOOL

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CT 10/3/97 (28C)

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STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF THE OLYMPIC CITIES

	Population	Previous games	Proposed dates	Proposed costs of games	Proposed surplus	Capital investments	Strengths	Weaknesses	Variables
ATHENS (Greece)	5 Million	1896	Aug 13 – 29	R7 billion	R112,8 million	R6,69 billion	Government and public support; good facilities; historic sites and ambience, projects to build new airport and improve metro and roads.	Worries over air pollution, high temperatures and possible transportation problems.	Chance for IOC to make amends to Athens after choosing Atlanta for Centennial Games in 1996.
BUENOS AIRES (Argentina)	11 Million	None	Sept 24 – Oct 10	R5,62 billion	R163,68 million	R33 billion	Government and public support; compact layout; most sites and facilities in "Olympic Corridor" area, including avenue reserved for Olympic traffic; athletes village located in quiet environment; good environmental programme.	Problems with some sports venues; hotel capacity needs major expansion; airport needs major improvements.	Token South American candidate.
CAPE TOWN (SA)	2,7 Million	None	Sept 17 – Oct 3	R5,75 billion	R98,12 million	R9,37 billion	Sentimental pull of helping SA's post-apartheid transition; backing of President Mandela; beautiful natural setting.	Crime rate; uncertain public support; environmental challenges; major transformation improvements needed.	First games for Africa.
ROME (Italy)	3 Million	1960	July 16 – Aug 1	R6,73 billion	R9,37 million	R8,92 billion	Government support; Italy's rich experience in organising major sports events; solid sports venue plan; good range of hotels; strong political influence of Italian Olympic and sports officials; history and beauty of city.	Traffic, need for major infrastructure improvements, uncertainty over planned government projects to renovate city.	Plan to turn Via Veneto into private "Dolce Vita" zone for Olympic officials could be too hard to pass up.
STOCKHOLM (Sweden)	1,7 Million	1912	Jul 9 – 25	R7,18 billion	R66,9 million	R4,90 billion	Most venues within 20 minutes of Olympic village; good sports facilities; vast network of good accommodation; reliable and extensive public support; high-technology standards; high-quality financial guarantees; Sweden's reputation as clean, efficient and safe.	Anti-bid sentiment on economic/ ecological grounds, including opinion poll showing 52% of population opposed.	Will Stockholm benefit from the success of the 1994 Winter Games in Lillehammer?.

man who is still respected in this Limpopo.

riotiate hatred: Rhodesia was racist country. So can I be blame

's tough challenge

(288) CT 10/3/97



was the first
IRE: GARTH STEAD

THE CITY faces a tough challenge over the next six months to ensure that it wins the right to host the 2004 Olympic Games. Tourism0 Writer **DAN SIMON** reports.

CAPE TOWN has a realistic chance of hosting the 2004 Summer Olympic Games even though it has less money, fewer resources and less technical expertise than the four co-candidate cities with which it was shortlisted on Friday.

This is according to Cape Town 2004 Bid Company chief Mr Chris Ball, who returned home in a buoyant mood from Switzerland yesterday after securing a place for the city on the 2004 shortlist with Athens, Buenos Aires, Rome and Stockholm.

"Getting on the shortlist is a great sense of joy and, notwithstanding, an enormous achievement for Cape Town. This is something to be proud of for South Africa. At this time in its history, it is no mean feat," Ball said.

He acknowledged that Cape Town was now faced with a "formidable challenge" in the run-up to the IOC announcement in September on which city will host the 2004 Games.

But he was optimistic about the city's chances of winning the grand prize.

"Each city has the same ticket. We have all been put in the final on an equal footing to host the Olympic Games — otherwise we wouldn't be there. We are now into the political election, based on the views of those 111 members (of the selection college) who will vote by secret ballot."

Ball said any suspicions or suggestions that Cape Town was placed on the list for "political reasons" because the city represented an African bid, were nonsense.

"There's no ranking of the cities. Stockholm may not have to build anything, but that is not a pre-condition for staging the Olympics.

"We're telling the IOC to stage the Olympics in Africa because it is the first time an African city has put in a bid.

"So, the possibility of Cape Town hosting the Olympics is even. The Olympics belongs to the world and it must travel."

Ball also said the IOC tended to think of Africa as homogeneous, and not culturally and racially diverse.

"But when they see Cape Town working as a modern city, they realise a successful Games can be hosted here.

"It could go back to Rome, but that is not what the Olympic spirit is about or what sports development is about."

But Ball pointed out that Cape Town had a tough fight ahead of it over the next six months.

"We must be realistic that this is a tough competition. We have less resources, fewer skilled people and less money to spend. Therefore, we must be more focused and make winning the 2004 Games a national priority."

Although the level of crime was "unsatisfactory", it was not a case of a city living under siege, he said. "Can we cope with the Games under these conditions? Yes, we can. Cape Town is satisfactory to host the Games and the International Olympic Committee says that."

● See Pages 3, 20

First fruits of Games at hand

PETER DENNEHY

THESE are the priority projects financed by the initial R86 million from central government:

● A 6 000-seat hall in Philippi East, near Crossroads, for a badminton and table tennis venue. This is estimated to cost R17m. Contractors will go on site from next month and plan to complete it by December, says Mr Ruben Reddy, priority projects manager for the Olympic Bid Company.

● The R10m upgrade of an existing softball facility at Turfhall, beside Jan Smuts and Belgravia roads. The earthworks are 80% complete. Stands will be built from next month.

● Putting a R5m roof over the existing cycling velodrome in Bellville. This has started, and will be complete in time for the World Junior Cycling Championship in July.

● Building a R18,5m indoor hall in Belhar for eventual use as a judo venue, due for completion by September.

● A R16,5m hall in Mew Way, Khayelitsha, which will be the boxing venue. Building will start in April. The structural work should be completed by September.

● A R5m hall near the N2 entrance to Langa, which will be a training venue for boxing. The facility is expected to cost over R800 000 a year in operational expenses. Construction will start later this month, and it should be finished by December.

● A R2m hall in Scottsdene, in the Eastern municipality. This is also a boxing training venue. The contract has been advertised, and builders should be on site from next month.

● A R2m indoor sports complex in Italian Road, Grassy Park, which will be a baseball training venue.

Cape Town gets set for last hurdle in race for Olympics

(288) CT(BR) 10/3/97

FROM BLOOMBERG



Johannesburg — Five cities from three continents will compete in September to host the 2004 Olympics, with construction and hotel companies expecting a share of the $4 billion-plus in revenue that flows into a host city.

Cape Town, Athens, Rome, Buenos Aires and Stockholm were chosen as finalists, declared the International Olympic Committee in Lausanne, Switzerland. The winner will be named September 5. They have all promised budgetary restraint, a necessity in the case of the three European capitals, because the 15 European Union member nations pursue austerity policies designed to qualify them for monetary union and conversion to a single currency.

All five finalists say they plan to fund the majority of the costs with public funds, with the balance coming from sponsorships and advance ticket sales. Extensive private funding is out of fashion, they say, after criticism of excessive commercialism and inadequate organisation of the Atlanta games last year.

Unsuccessful in their bid were Istanbul, Lille, Rio de Janeiro, San Juan, St Petersburg and Seville.

Hopes are high in Cape Town, which would be the first African city to host the Olympics.

"We see it as a mini-Marshall plan," said Gareth Ackerman, the managing director of Pick 'n Pay Stores, a retailer sponsoring Cape Town's bid.

"By focusing on one date, it will accelerate the development process by creating infrastructure, tourism and jobs, the development impetus the region needs. That's one of the reasons we've been behind it."

Hans-Olaf Karlsson, a spokesman of NNC AB, one of Sweden's largest construction companies, says: "We need a mental boost in Sweden after some tough years of economic recession.

"This might be something for Swedes to unite around."

Sweden's Stockholm 2004 Committee says it will handle the Olympics on a budget of 12,3 billion kronor (R7,1 billion). The games will generate 32,8 billion kronor for Swedish industry, according to accountants Ernst & Young.

The committee's budget involves updating the city's sports facilities, but not building the olympic village because the City of Stockholm will build it, converting it to 7 000 apartments after the games. An Olympic swimming pool, Erikdalsbadet, is already being built for the Police and Firemen's world championships in 1999.

Cape Town is considered a political favourite to host the 2004 games because of South Africa's 1994 transition to democracy and because an African city has never hosted the Olympics.

Also raising South Africa's chances are its recent successful hosting of the 1995 Rugby World Cup and last year's African Nations Cup soccer championship. Working against Cape Town is the country's high crime rate.

The South African government has pledged R3 billion to help finance the games, possibly through the sale of special Olympic bonds. Executives at Grinaker Construction and Stocks Hotels & Resorts said they would welcome Cape Town hosting the games, saying it would boost their business.

Athens is also a sentimental favourite, having been passed over as host of the centenary games by Atlanta last year. The Olympics were invented by the ancient Greeks, and the first games of the modern era were held in Athens in 1896.

The Greek equity market's construction index, which includes 10 of the country's construction companies, has rallied 38 percent this year, in part on hopes Athens will be picked to host the games.

The Athens committee says 72 percent of the necessary sports facilities exist already.

Regardless of the games, the Greek government has budgeted 1,6 trillion drachma (R27,5 billion) for a public investment programme to modernise the country's transport system. The Olympic committee will not have to pay for the Athens subway system, due to open in 2000, or the new city airport planned for 2001.

Athens' application is undermined by concern that even those projects will not ease its congestion, and by memories of its unsuccessful bid for last year's games.

Rome, which hosted the 1960 Olympics and whose stadium was recently upgraded for the 1990 Soccer World Cup, says it already has 80 percent of the sporting facilities needed. The city will also enlarge existing roads to ensure Rome's traditionally chaotic traffic does not interfere with the games.

An Olympic village will be built in the university area to the east of Rome. Imregilo, Italy's largest construction company, welcomed the news, which came a day after the government also unleashed spending for other long-awaited public works projects.

Rome says the cost of preparing for the games will be 2,5 trillion lire (R6,7 billion), most of it guaranteed by the government. That will be a small part of Italy's 88 trillion lira deficit targeted for this year.

If Buenos Aires wins, it will be the first South American city to host the games. Argentina hosted the 1978 Soccer World Cup, which it won.

The main opposition some of the cities face is from their own residents, who do not want the influx of traffic and visitors which comes with hosting one of the world's top sporting events.

☐ *Gregory Viscusi in Milan, with reporting by Marybeth Berger in Stockholm, Hui-yong Yu in Johannesburg, and Mikio Kumada in Athens*

Bidders plan to woo IOC

(288) Sowetan 10/3/97

Sowetan Correspondent

LAUSANNE – No fewer than 125 International Olympic Committee members are on Chris Ball's guest list for the next six months as Cape Town's bidders go to action stations to woo support for their final appointment in Switzerland in September.

Everything else they do from now on will be geared to securing votes. The determined pugnacity that must now define the exercise is reflected in the bid's choosing to establish a "war room" at its Waterfront headquarters in Cape Town, a nerve centre from which every contact with every IOC member will be noted and evaluated.

Cape Town – together with Athens, Rome, Buenos Aires and Stockholm – made it to the shortlist of the cities vying to stage the 2004 Olympic Games. The final choice will be made in September.

The company itself has been restructured to draw sports liaison and international relations into a closer operational arrangement. South Africa's ambassadors and consuls around the world have been drawn into a cooperative lobbying network masterminded jointly by the Bid Company and the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Elaborate invitations in the form of a smartly bound, illustrated book bearing signed messages from President Nelson Mandela, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, Sports Minister Steve Tshwete, National Olympic Committee of SA president Sam Ramsamy, top international sportsmen Magic Johnson, Edwin Moses, Francois Pienaar, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and mayor of Cape Town Theresa Solomon among others, are to be sent to the IOC members whose visits to the city are considered to be the key to the bid's success.

Bid battle triggers crime blitz

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Crime-busting is about to get going in Cape Town in a big way as the city moves to overturn international perceptions about the crime threat ahead of the September election of the host city for the 2004 Olympic Games.

Concerns about the implications of South Africa's high crime rate have emerged as a threat to the city's chances.

In fact the bid has turned out to be the catalyst of a range of practical initiatives to be launched in the next few weeks, not just to boost policing but to deal with the roots of crime to ensure steady, long-term gains.

These include:

■ Establishing, by the end of the month, a Business Against Crime unit, under a board of 15 to 20 top city executives and a full-time chief executive officer, to channel private-sector expertise and resources into the anti-crime drive.

■ Launching the first projects under the Integrated Planning Group, formed last year, aimed chiefly at the roots of crime.

The group – comprising "accountable deciders" from the police, army, intelligence, courts, prisons, the city and province, and business – is to meet for a summit next month.

Projects under this initiative include a programme for rehabilitation of street children; installation of closed-circuit TV in the city centre as a deterrent and policing aid; and the deployment of extra police in the city centre, paid for by business.

And a UN "Safe Cities" pilot project to be launched in Cape Town is expected to

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Olympic bid battle triggers crime blitz

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invest significant international expertise in crime prevention. All these initiatives fall under the National Crime Prevention Strategy of the Department of Safety and Security.

Additional, related initiatives are:

■ Establishing a metropolitan operations centre to manage and co-ordinate the responses of police, traffic officials, ambulance and fire services, hospitals, transport authorities and city officials to every incident in the course of mass events – anything from a hurricane to the Games.

■ Formulating a "quality assurance checklist" – essentially a tool to provide a comprehensive risk analysis for any big event.

■ Formulating an "operational manual" on the integrated management of big sports or other events. This deals with everything from security to protocol.

Cape Town's Olympic bid is the catalyst for most of the initiatives, and is likely to enhance their impact.

'We've got the tourist muggers'

Cops hold city gang

ARG 11/3/97 (288)

JOHAN SCHRONEN AND JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTERS

Police believe they have broken the back of attacks on tourists in central Cape Town with the arrest of a gang of young "habitual criminals".

The gang of children and teenagers between 12 and 18 allegedly operated a syndicate that has been linked to a wide range of crime, including street muggings.

Their arrests have coincided with a marked drop in attacks on tourists and others in the city, especially after dark.

Police also say the number of attacks on tourists has steadily declined over the past two years as they and business communities in tourist centres have increased their vigilance.


Crime and greed drive tourists out of city

Flashback: a Cape Argus report last month

Recent statistics of reported robberies and assaults on overseas visitors in the Cape Town central business district, the riskiest zone for tourists, showed only 0,02 percent of all foreigners visiting the city – one in 5 000 – were affected.

Western Cape police commissioner Leon Wessels has reported a significant reduction in tourist muggings.

Given a 28 percent increase in the numbers of foreign visitors to Cape Town between 1995 and last year, the 16 percent decrease in attacks was even more significant.

Records of attacks on tourists over the recent holiday period have also shown a marked drop.

Cape Town detective George Cook said the arrested gang was made up of "habitual criminals", some as young as 12. Some had as many as 20 allegations of robbery and theft against them.

Sergeant Cook said that until recently it had been difficult to keep the suspects behind bars, but thorough research into their criminal backgrounds had helped him prove in court they were habitual criminals, leading to their detention.

Although they were young, "the community needs to be protected against them and they need to face up to their deeds, the sooner the better, so that they can be rehabilitated and a get a chance of a new life before they get too old," he said.

"Today's petty thief who rips a gold chain from a tourist's neck and sells it for R5 is tomorrow's burglar and next year's armed robber.

"For the first time we are able to keep them inside. Up to now they were in and out of places of safety, but now their long lists of crimes have caught up with them,"

To page 3

Arrests halt kids' gang that preyed on tourists

ARG 11/3/97 (288)

From page 1

said Sergeant Cook. He cautioned that the streets were "by no means free of crime" and there were still elements, mostly homeless children, who were not put off by the fate of the arrested gang.

Another gang of marauding street children has struck since the arrests, their victims an elderly German couple.

Alexander Freywald of Düsseldorf and his wife were window-shopping in St George's Mall this week when they were approached by a child of "no older than nine".

"He asked us for money and we refused. The next thing I heard my wife shouting and the young scoundrel made off with her gold necklace," Mr Freywald said.

He gave chase and with the help of a passerby apprehended the boy, only to find that he no longer had the necklace.

They decided to march him to the police depot in Adderley Street, but as they rounded the corner in Darling Street they were confronted by about 20 of the thief's friends, who demanded they free him.

Fearing for their lives, they reluctantly released the boy.

Captour head Gordon Oliver said the tourism industry acknowledged the problem of attacks on holidaymakers but criticised the negative picture being presented.

Mr Oliver urged the community to be partners with the police against crime.

"We must do something about the crime threat to our visitors and then go on spending our energy promoting our city to the outside world."

Satour awaits bigger slice

ST 12/3/97 (286)

DAN SIMON
TOURISM WRITER

SOUTH AFRICA'S tourism promotion body, Satour, is hoping for a substantial increase to its annual budget when Finance Minister Mr Trevor Manuel unveils his first budget in Parliament today.

Satour says it has struggled over the past year to promote South Africa on a reduced budget of R48 million — which was further eroded by a sharp drop in the value of the rand.

As a result, it had to get an additional R40m from the government so that it could continue its work, Satour director Mr Hendrik Steyn said yesterday.

Foreign tourism to South Africa had earned the country some R13 billion in foreign exchange last year.

Steyn said that to operate efficiently, Satour needed at least R150 million. This was what Australia spent to market itself internationally.

But, Steyn said, Satour was not banking on receiving a huge budget increase, even though the government was now more aware of the importance of tourism to the country's economy.

He said the organisation was looking at a budget increase of between R15m and R25m for the new financial year.

This would increase Satour's annual budget to between R63m and R73m, which was still "very low".

Steyn said a study by the World Tourism Organisation showed that South Africa's tourism marketing budget did not measure up to "international trends". The country was way below standard when it came to government funding.

Tourism could do much to stimulate the economy and create jobs, if promoted correctly

Tourism could earn South Africa R30bn a year in the next few years.

The Tourism Business Council of South Africa and the Department of Environment Affairs and Tourism have established the basis of a business partnership to allocate more resources to market South Africa internationally and nationally.

TBCSA chief executive officer Mr Michael Farr said the basis of the agreement was that the private sector would meet the government with matching contributions to promote the country better.

In "rand-for-rand" deal the government and private sector contributions must be placed in a joint bank account, members of the hospitality industry must be adequately represented on the Satour board and no additional taxes must be levied on the tourism industry.

Cape Town needs huge bed boost for Olympics

CT 13/3/97 (288)

DAN SIMON
TOURISM WRITER

CAPE TOWN will need about 235 000 beds for the huge influx of visitors if the city hosts the 2004 Summer Olympic Games.

This figure excludes the needs of an estimated 10 000 athletes, 5 000 officials and 15 000 members of the media, who will be accommodated in special villages.

Because of the limited number of beds in hotels, guest houses and bed and breakfast establishments, additional accommodation will be provided on cruise ships, at the residences of educational institutions and in private homes.

A report compiled for the 2004 Olympic Bid Company by consultants Kessel Feinstein Consulting, in collaboration with the Cape Town City Council, estimates that if tourism to Cape Town continues to grow at its current pace, the city will have to provide accommodation for about 3,4 million visitors by the year 2000 and a possible 9,3m visitors in 2010.

The report, Cape Town Accommodation Requirements for the 2004 Olympic Games, notes that the city has a significant supply of tourist accommodation and that this supply was "growing at an unprecedented rate".

However, this phenomenon was "unrelated" to the prospect of hosting the Olympics.

It notes that there are currently 188 graded hotels in Greater Cape Town with a total of 9 200 rooms and that this number is to increase by 14 or 15 more hotels over the next two years.

But in keeping with trends in the hospitality industry elsewhere in the world, various forms of tourist accommodation, such as bed and breakfast establishments, guesthouses, cottages, bungalows, holiday flats and youth hostels have proliferated recently.

There are 1 182 such establishments in the Greater Cape Town area.

The consultants say there will be 26 000-34 000 rooms available in Greater Cape Town in 2004, and that other forms of accommodation could be made available for the influx of visitors.

This includes chartering luxury cruise liners to be berthed in Cape Town and Simon's Town harbours.

Educational institutions, such as the city's three universities, its technikons and schools have about 20 000 beds between them. This number is expected to increase to at least 25 000 by the year 2004.

There are also plans for foreign visitors to stay with local residents by way of a home-stay programme, a host programme and a friends and relatives programme.



DISPLAYING PAYING: Inform motorists appreciate the help

Medics argue merits of 'racial' data

PETER DENNEHY

DEBATE is raging in the medical fraternity over whether or not South African health statistics should be racially desegregated.

Arguments for and against are featured in the letter pages of the latest SA Medical Journal.

Five doctors — A R P Walker of Wits, F Sitas of the SA Institute for Medical Research, P E Cleaton-Jones of the Medical Research Council, H H Vorster of Potchestroom University and D E Whittaker of UCT — argue jointly for retaining racial categories for research purposes, which they say is internationally acceptable.

They say desegregated data in South Africa is often meaningless when compared with earlier work, which was reported in terms of racial categories.

For example, from 1978 to 1989, the mortality rate from coronary heart disease in the white population fell by 56%, while the rates for the Indian and coloured populations each fell by 36%. Doctors wanted to update the information, but this is no longer possible.

Both the Central Statistical Services and the public health departments in large cities have excluded ethnic sub-divisions from their mortality statistics.

Their information is therefore "no longer meaningfully citable in research publications".

Abandoning race-based statistics will stultify research and "diffuse the identity of ... (those) who are in most need of help".

The doctors who argue against them are G T H Ellison, T De Wet, C B Ijsselmuiden, and L M Richter. They say racial categories are just proxy measures of other phenomena, such as differences in levels of wealth.

"Studies that use racial categories to describe the distribution of different diseases provide little insight into the underlying causes of such disease," they say.

Removing race classification would give us a far better chance of confronting the causes of supposedly racial inequalities in health, the anti-classificationists argue.

CT 13/3/97 (58)

RGUS, THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1997

International group pushes R3-bn plan for Olympic site

(286)

SHARKEY ISAACS
TRANSPORT REPORTER ARG 13/3/97

Bidding for the right to develop the 45ha Culemborg site on the eastern periphery of the city – an integral part of the Olympics if Cape Town hosts the event in 2004 – is now a one-horse race.

An international conglomerate announced this week it was going ahead with a R3-billion investment plan after the withdrawal of rival bidder Global Resorts SA and its international partner Caesar's World Inc.

The proposed development includes several hotels, a huge theatre complex, an indoor arena, a 15 000-bed media village and a hi-tech broadcast centre.

The developers also hope to include a casino in the complex.

The plans were confirmed this week by Eduard le Marié, regional co-chairman of a South African consortium in which the Hyatt Regency hotel-casino group holds a leading share.

"As the only bidder now left in the race, we are going ahead with our project regardless and we have the full backing of our international partners," said Mr Le Marié.

The overall masterplan includes proposals for a multi-storey glass dome housing a world-class casino.

Jan van Dijken, regional property manager of Propnet, the property arm of Transnet, which owns the Culemborg site, said he was sorry to hear of the withdrawal of Global and its partner. But it would not stop the process of evaluation by a committee headed by Zukile Nomvete, in charge of properties at Transnet.

"The evaluation committee will sit soon to consider proposals. If members reach consensus and are satisfied with recommendations by the Olympic Bid Company, the go-ahead will be given."

He said he was not prepared to comment on the reasons for the withdrawal by Global and Caesar's, a big casino operator in the United States which runs Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas.

Global said it and Caesar's World Inc had withdrawn from bidding because they were unhappy with the tendering process.

They were unhappy about having to make a presentation to the Bid Company after undertaking the earlier tender procedure with Propnet.

Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

y Newspaper — Zurich, Saturday-Sunday, March 8-9, 1997

Stands Ground
ion Financing

nd First Lady's Aide,
nd-Raising System

96 re-election campaign and that
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on by passing for funds. He said
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Backers of Cape Town's candidacy to hold the 2004 Summer Olympic Games whooping it up on the city's waterfront after hearing it was chosen as one of five finalists, with Rome, Stockholm, Athens and Buenos Aires.

For 5 Hopefuls, an Olympian Step

2004 Finalists: Athens, Buenos Aires, Cape Town, Stockholm, Rome

By Ian Thomsen
International Herald Tribune

South Africa, which was still serving a 24-year ban from Olympic
ade began, was
five finalists in

its two and a half weeks of Olympic celebration.

An IOC evaluation report expressed concern that South Africa would not be ready for the job in its post-apartheid infancy. The country is beset
with a crime problem, and the unem

Africa, has never been host to an Olympics. Buenos Aires, which was given a good recommendation by the IOC technical-evaluation committee, is making its sec

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(288)

World class: if you are in this picture, you're famous – courtesy of the International Herald Tribune

ARG 13/3/97

Cape Town front-page news around the world

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Cape Town's celebration of its success in the Olympic shortlist race has earned the city front page exposure in the influential global newspaper, the International Herald Tribune.

Happy South African faces in the cheering crowd at the Waterfront on Friday after the announcement of Cape Town's inclusion in the shortlist of five cities vying to host the 2004 Games, formed the cheerful front page centrepiece of the Saturday/Sunday Zurich edition of a publication that is regarded as "the world's daily newspaper".

This is a reflection of the remarkable capacity of the bid to project the city into the boardrooms and living-rooms of the world.

A key element of the developmental and economic capacity of the bidding phase, as much as actually winning the bid, is the invaluable international exposure it provides for the city and the country as a whole.

This is particularly significant in view of the fact that tourism is the region's fastest growing industry and the sector of the economy that generates jobs faster than any other.

The predominant focus of the report accompanying the photograph was South Africa's achievement in gaining its shortlist ranking and the challenges that lie ahead if Cape Town is to succeed in hosting the 2004 Games.

True to present world perceptions, the report highlights the issues of crime and the relative lack of infrastructure as the key matters to address in the next six months of lobbying.

The International Herald Tribune report also reflects the curiously discriminating view that after having been "away" for two Games – Atlanta last year and Sydney in 2000 – the event could logically, as the argument goes, return "home" to Europe in 2004.

Many in Europe tend to discount Cape Town's organisational ability, not only in the exacting business of actually staging the Games, but also in the complex, subtle art of lobbying the International Olympic Committee, the task that will dominate the bidding agenda to September.

In fact, Europe's tendency to underestimate South Africa in this respect might ultimately count in Cape Town's favour.

OLYMPIC BID 288

BOOSTING THE FLATS

FM 14/3/97

Now that the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has given the nod to Cape Town as one of the five frontrunners to host the Games in 2004, essential spending is due to kick in before the final choice is made in September. Cape Town has to beat off challenges from Athens, Buenos Aires, Rome and Stockholm.

By design, the beneficiaries of accelerated spending will be those areas which suffer from what could be called an infrastructural deficit because of apartheid — particularly the Cape Flats. The realistic prospect of hosting the Olympics is to be used as a catalyst for investment in previously neglected areas.

The involvement of the private sector will be essential, according to Mike Fuller, director (finance & administration) of the Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid company headed by Chris Ball.

In the run-up to the final IOC choice, two issues accepted as lying at the heart of Cape Town's "weakness" as a bidder will be addressed. One is crime. The other is that Cape Town badly needs "transformation improvements," particularly in transport.



Chris Ball

These will also help generate greater popular support for the 2004 Olympics than has been noted among the city's notoriously insular citizens.

Eight projects — involving sports facilities and easy access to them — have been given "priority" status. All are in various stages of development. Government is committed to spending an initial R86m on the facilities, which are mainly located in the heart of the impoverished Cape Flats, including black townships like Khayelitsha. This money will come from public works.

Nicola Lloyd, planning manager of the Bid company, says: "The Olympic facilities are placed to complement the Metropolitan Spatial Development Framework which will guide the development of Cape Town over the next 20 years." The framework plan was drawn up by the city council to redress social inequalities.

Most workers in Cape Town spend one-third of their income on transport. "We wish to reverse this trend and create economic opportunities in these areas," Lloyd adds. "The Olympic priority projects will go a long way to this end."

The city's planners and those of the Olympic bid concur that future developments will be focused on town centres connected by public transport corridors. One example is Philippi East, south of Cape Town International airport. This centre will be a venue for badminton, baseball and basketball facilities.

But IOC requirements dictate 85 different training centres. Lloyd says: "Training venues are dispersed throughout local communities according to highest need. In so doing, the impact on communities is largest — bulk infrastructure connections will be put into place, increasing the investment potential in these areas."

So the much-needed improvement of transport in and around Cape Town should begin to become a reality, particularly since central government has agreed to come in with R250m for transport improvements. The money will be spent over the next two years and be funded from the transport vote.

The majority of the Olympic facilities on which construction has begun are within 10 minutes' walk from an existing or proposed transport interchange.

❑ The priority projects include competition venues at Philippi; Mew Way in Khayelitsha; Belhar; Bellville and Athlone. Training facilities are located at Langa, Scottsdene and Grassy Park. Total capital expenditure on the 2004 Games — assuming that Cape Town is the host — will be R7,5bn with half coming from government, and the rest from the private sector, local government and the organisers.

Piet Badenhorst & Peter Wilhelm

'US to back city Games'

CT 17/3/97

OWN CORRESPONDENT (288)

WASHINGTON: Archbishop Desmond Tutu and former Atlanta mayor Mr Andrew Young believe Cape Town will be selected to host the 2004 Olympic Games and say South Africa owes the world a big party for helping it to end apartheid rule.

"What better opportunity than for the Olympics to take place in a country which the world has helped to change?" Tutu said after receiving a sculpture, Olympic Africa, by American sculptor Tim Holmes and the Henry W Edgerton Civil Liberties Award from the American Civil Liberties Union.

Young said: "South Africa can count on the American vote in September. President Bill Clinton will do anything to help South Africa get the Games ... The world needs the Games in Cape Town for the 21st century.

"There is no other way for the world to reward South Africa than to give it a chance to host the Olympic Games. I am confident Cape Town is going to come tops."

Young said it was incorrect to say Cape Town did not have the facilities or the South African government the money to host the Games.

"Once Cape Town is declared the winner, you will be surprised at the way the private sector will pump money into the infrastructure and other projects."

Tutu said there were not many happy stories in the world, and especially Africa, today.

"The Olympics have never been held on African soil. It is going to be fabulous to have the Olympics in Africa in 2004. We are going to need the support of Americans to bring the Games to Africa," Tutu said.

The bronze sculpture, intended to help Cape Town publicise its bid, symbolised the kind of support South Africa needed to win the bid to host the Games, he said.

Holmes said South Africa needed the Olympics to complete its "miracle" transition to democracy.

Referring to the civil liberties award, Tutu said: "An honour that comes to me is not personal, it is representative."

Bid security alert amid spy fears

ART 17/3/97 (Q88)

MICHAEL MORRIS

ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Internal security at the Bid Company is likely to be stepped up in the next few weeks to counter the threat of espionage as high-stakes rivalry for the Games hots up.

The threat is not necessarily expected to come from rival teams in Rome, Stockholm, Athens and Buenos Aires, but from individuals seeking personal advantage in the multibillion-dollar contest.

One of the keys to the next six months will be the bid team's success in keeping details of its lobbying strategy under wraps.

A security lapse could cost the bid significant advantage in what is essentially a mammoth business proposal for South Africa, and there is concern that there may be insufficient security controls within the bid company.

John Pemberthy, co-ordinator of the bid team's security task group, is chiefly concerned about developing strategies to fight crime at large and to assure the International Olympic Committee that a Cape Town Games in 2004 would be staged under safe and secure conditions.

Extensive initiatives, involving the business community, police, courts, other government departments and non-government organisations, city and provincial officials, are to begin within the next few weeks.

But Mr Pemberthy is also worried about internal security. "The bid is a major multibillion-dollar proposal of global significance. The rewards are immense and the competition is fierce. I believe the bid must be more conscious of security, and have in place security measures."

Olympics: firm tightens security

(288) Star 18/3/97

OWN CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town – Internal security at the Olympic Bid Company is to be stepped up in the next few weeks to counter the threat of espionage as the high-stakes rivalry for the Games hots up.

The threat is not necessarily expected to come from rival teams in Rome, Stockholm, Athens and Buenos Aires, but from individuals seeking personal advantage in the multi-billion rand contest.

In the next six months one of the important aims for the bid team is to keep details of its lobbying strategy under wraps. A security lapse could cost the bid significant advantage in what is essentially a mammoth business proposal for South Africa, and there is concern that there may be insufficient security controls within the Bid Company.

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Extensive initiatives involving the business community, police, courts, NGOs in the field, other government departments, city and provincial officials and the bid, are to come on stream within the next few weeks.

But Pemberthy is also concerned about internal security.

"We need to shift into a new mindset and recognise the significance of what we are doing. The bid is a major multi-billion dollar proposal of global significance.

"The rewards are immense and the competition is fierce. There needs to be a heightened consciousness, and documents and plans need to be carefully handled and securely stored."

He said the bid team was commendably open and friendly, but would have to take care that this did not become a liability in the months ahead.

"There needs to be a degree of conditionality (in access) to guard what is a really important venture for Cape Town and South Africa," Pemberthy said.

vodag

Third force 'intent on sabotaging tourism'

Star 18/3/97

Businessman claims infiltrators are costing SA billions of rands in lost investment by scaring off potential investors

288

By Morgan Naidu

South Africa's tourism industry is losing billions of rands in potential foreign investment as a result of a sinister "third force" intent on sabotaging the industry.

The claim was made by KwaZulu Natal millionaire Vivian Reddy, who has just returned from Malaysia where he signed several deals totalling nearly R5-billion for the SAM (South Africa-Malaysia) Sisonke Corporation which he heads.

Reddy said he was taken aback by the perception many foreign businessmen had of South Africa.

"They have been led to believe that the country is ungovernable and that there is danger lurking at every street corner."

He accused the third force of infiltrating the tourism industry and using tour operators to scare off visitors and investors.

Top Malaysian investment group Hybrid Overseas Corporation, which has recently announced deals to invest around R2-billion in KwaZulu Natal, had the opportunity to enter the country two years ago but was scared off, Reddy claimed.

"What happened was that several representatives of these potential investment corporations were scared off by tour operators in South Africa who told them that the country's black labour force was unstable, disloyal and could not be trusted or relied on.

"They were given the impression that the workforce is fickle, and that black workers collected their wages on Friday and then did not return to work."

Several top foreign executives visited South Africa last year, but remained in their hotels after their business meetings because of warnings from their tour guides, Reddy said.

"Some of these executives wanted to visit Soweto, but they were told that the army would have to accompany them as they would be murdered there," Reddy said.

Asked to elaborate on the composition of the third force, Reddy said: "These are trained individuals who are planted in companies that specialise in destabilising this country by giving the tourism industry a bad name.

"The end result is that companies thinking of ploughing in money here will think twice and South Africa could end up the big loser of probably billions," he said.

Reddy said he intended asking the minister of tourism to investigate the attempted sabotaging of the industry.

Commenting on the allegations, the chief executive officer of the Tourism Business Council of SA, Michael Farr, said it was the first time he had heard of the theory of a third force in the tourism industry.

"Yes, there is a perception and a well-recognised observation that crime is, more than anything else, the greatest self-imposed ceiling on the growth and development of our tourism industry," said Farr.

He said if crime abated, the number of tourists would probably double.

Farr knew of at least one security company advertising its services on the Internet which warned foreigners not to bring their children to South Africa and to hire bodyguards for their visits.

"While this is the first we have heard of an organised force sabotaging tourism, we would no doubt be concerned if such evidence were to come to light," he added.

More top hotels could mean lower rates

(288) BD 19/3/97

Janet Parker

PLANS to increase upmarket hotels in SA's major cities indicate major growth in the three- to five-star market over a two- to three-year period, and could result in more competitive rates, says Kessel Feinstein Tourism, Hospitality and Leisure Specialists.

Company director Gillian Saunders said yesterday a medium-term oversupply in these sectors could result in a drop in occupancy levels.

"The demand growth is not equal to the current growth," she said. Statistics indicated that a gap might be developing in the three-star market.

In Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban, 62 new projects were identified which would increase by 20% the current estimated hotel base of about 800 hotels offering 50 000 rooms.

Following an 80% growth in five-star hotels over the past 18 months in Johannesburg's northern suburbs, a further 68% increase is expected in the supply of five-star hotels in the same region, while a 27% increase is expected in the four-star sector.

The growth figures in Cape Town indicate 116% increase in five-star supply and a 110% growth rate for four-star hotels.

Expected growth figures in the three-star sector are lower, with 42% growth expected in Pretoria, and 44% in Cape Town.

Tourism brings Cape R4 billion

CT 19/3/97 (288)

DAN SIMON
TOURISM WRITER

THE Western Cape continues to be the major drawcard for foreign tourists — in the process earning the province an estimated R4 billion in foreign exchange last year.

But despite the rosy outlook for increased growth in what is considered the province's biggest money-earner, a number of improvements are to make Cape Town safer and more attractive to visitors, says a report compiled by the Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC).

These include reducing the high crime rate, checking excessive price rises in the tourism industry and improving on expensive yet poor service standards, bolstering the Cape Metropole's tourism infrastructure and increasing tourism awareness in the region.

These sentiments were echoed by the Hospitality Industries Training Board (HITB), which said the city's hospitality industry was facing a crucial five-month period as about 100 official delegates and thousands of unofficial visitors flocked to the city to scrutinise its Olympic capability before the September announcement of the host city for the 2004 Olympic Games.

'If we can sort out the issues ... then the tourism outlook for the region and the Cape Metropolitan area can be very bright indeed' — Cape Metropolitan Council report.

In an overview of the tourism industry, the CMC report says about 560 000 foreign tourists visited the Western Cape last year — up 10% from 1995, and 2% more than the national average of 8%.

Foreign visitors spent an estimated R4bn in the region last year. This represented a 38% increase in international spending in the region, making the Western Cape the most popular tourist destination in South Africa.

The report also says that Europe was still South Africa's largest overseas visitor market and that most of the European visitors came from Britain and Germany.

Most foreign tourists tended to visit the city during the summer months, but the number of foreign visitors to the city during the winter months was increasing.

Topping the list of tourist attractions was the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, followed by Table Mountain, Cape Point Nature Reserve and the wine route. The most popular forms of accommodation were hotels, followed by guest houses, self-catering establishments and bed and breakfast establishments.

But the CMC said that although the region's share of the South African market appeared to be growing and the prospects for continued growth appeared to be excellent, it was clear that certain issues needed to be addressed.

"If we can sort out the issues ... then the tourism outlook for the region and the Cape Metropolitan area can be very bright indeed."

HITB executive director Mr Tony Ansara said the tourism industry's service standards would be placed under the spotlight more than ever while both local and international visitors evaluated the city's potential to host the 2004 Summer Olympics.

"In terms of service, South Africa's hospitality industry is already 10 to 12 years behind Australia, who host the Games in 2000.

"Obviously we cannot expect to train employees before the September announcement, but as a temporary measure industry personnel should visibly adapt their attitude towards service," Ansara said

Service was judged on how quickly a mistake was responded to, what was done to rectify it and, most importantly, the attitude in which it was responded to.

He added that should Cape Town clinch the bid, then more than 35 000 volunteers would have to be trained to serve the thousands who would congregate in the city in 2004.

Gauteng wins pot of gold at end of tourism rainbow

(288)

Most regions of country show increase in hotel income

Star 19/3/97

BY SHIRLEY WOODGATE

Despite the province's "crime capital of the world" status, latest Central Statistical Service figures indicate that hotels in Gauteng earned more income from tourists than any other province in January.

Highveld hotels claimed 25,3% of the total income of R341,2-million for the month, followed by Western Cape hotels (22,8%,) North West on 16,3%, KwaZulu Natal on 14,4%, Eastern Cape on 11,1%, Mpumalanga on 3,7%, Free State on 2,5%, Northern Province on 2%, and Northern Cape hotels bringing up the rear with 1,9%.

Fifteen out of the 24 regions showed an increase in hotel income.

Gauteng's claim to a quarter of the hotel market coincided with a year-on-year decrease in overall hotel occupancy rates for the second consecutive month, the CSS said.

All hotels showed decreases in both room and bed occupancy rates for January 1997 compared with 1996.

A total of 725 851 room nights were sold in January. There are 14 224 hotel rooms available every night in Gauteng and 8 859 in the Western Cape.

Countrywide, people stayed mainly in ungraded hotels, which had the highest income of R162,2-million. This comprised about 44% of total hotel income for January 1997, which was up by 6,8% compared with January last year.

Three-star hotels showed the largest drop in both room and bed occupancy rates (minus 14,6% and minus 15,1% respectively), while the Cape Town, Peninsula and Wineland tourism region showed the highest room occupancy rate (68,1%) for January 1997, followed by the Jacaranda area (64,3%).

The room occupancy rate of five-star hotels decreased by 8,7% and the bed occupancy rate by 10%, but overall hotel income increased by 10,4% during that time.

Johannesburg Metropolitan Tourism Association marketing and sales co-ordinator Jane Weaver said that, bearing in mind that 99% of tourists entered the country through Johannesburg international airport, the average stay in the region was about 11 nights out of three weeks spent in the country.

Despite bad publicity, the success of the region as a tourist destination was because it offered visitors some of the finest museums and art galleries in SA, she said.

In addition there were many outdoor attractions, from ancient caves such as those at Sterkfontein, to lion and animal parks as near as Krugersdorp, and huge, sophisticated malls which were a big attraction to shoppers from Eastern countries.

Southern Sun offers up to 80% discount

BD 20/3/97

(288)

Janet Parker

SOUTHERN Sun is offering rates reduced by as much as 80% in an aggressive retail strategy launched yesterday to capture a new market and move unsold inventory.

The scheme offers unsold rooms at selected hotels and resorts at heavily discounted rates on a first-come-first-serve basis, and the special offers — which vary weekly — are announced to the public on Wednesdays and are valid for the following seven days.

Southern Sun marketing services director Denis Cronson said although the rates were aggressive, the strategy was not a price war, but a "responsible application of yield management and a way to maximise distressed room stock".

Karos Hotels executive chairman Selwin Hurwitz said the strategy was probably as a result of Southern Sun anticipating depressed occupancy levels as a result of an overtraded market.

He said the industry was beginning to feel the effect of too many new hotels.

"Players in the SA market need to fight to boost international tourism," Hurwitz said, saying Karos Hotels were using their conference facilities to increase occupancy levels and were concentrating their efforts on penetrating the casino industry.

Sun International marketing director Tobin Prior said the scheme was an aggressive move and there would be some repercussions in the industry.

"It's a sign of the times as there is more inventory in the marketplace and less money in the pocket," Prior said.

Although it was a good retail strategy, Southern Sun would run the risk of undermining its fundamental pricing structures.

Southern Sun's "Wednesday price breaks" scheme was based on similar short lead-time promotions which were normally practised by airlines, and would encourage impulse purchasing as well as tap into a price-sensitive market, the group said.

Sophisticated reservation technology allowed the group to determine which hotels and resorts would have less capacity during a given week, allowing an appropriate pricing package to be structured, Southern Sun said.

Focus on service as province grapples with new tourism bill

(288)

ARG 20/3/97

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

Western Cape legislators debating a new tourism bill are worried about crime, service standards, over-pricing and making tourism structures representative.

Lampie Fick, whose ministerial portfolio includes tourism, said in the provincial legislature in Cape Town yesterday the bill would introduce "real" statutory co-operation between government and business.

He cautioned that the co-operation of the private sector would have to be based on the development of the province and not on its own interests.

The main objectives of the statutory tourism agencies proposed in the bill would be the development of people and a culture of customer service.

"It will be futile for us to market our mountains, our beaches, our winelands, our ostrich farms, if the people living and working here do not understand the simple causes and effects of tourism locally and in the world," he said.

African National Congress tourism spokesman Russell McGregor said his party supported the bill, but had reservations about the composition of the provincial tourism board.

"Projections of potential job creation (through tourism) assume linkages to the community and medium-small enterprises. However, some would argue that the industry lacks these linkages and this would greatly reduce the potential economic growth and job creation," he said.

The ANC called for the guaranteed inclusion of trade unions operating in the tourism industry on the board, which will include seven publicly nominated members.

He also criticised the composition of the local tourism bureaus, arguing that they were already firmly entrenched in the hands of the big industry players.

Democratic Party provincial leader Hennie Bester said the provincial board was "too unwieldy and potentially bureaucratic". The DP felt the board had to be run like a business.

Mr Bester said the board should not dictate to regional or local tourism agencies, but should focus on promoting and developing tourism.

Serious consideration should be given to establishing a separate provincial tourism ministry.

Focus on service as province grapples with new tourism bill

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SOWETAN Thursday March 20 1997

R48-m for Olympic city upgrading

(288) Sowetan 20/3/97

By September Cape Town will be 'ready and able to handle the Games'

Sowetan Correspondent

CAPE Town's bid to stage the 2004 Olympic Games has been given a major boost with a R48 million injection to upgrade the public transport network, improve signalling on major routes and enhance the free flow of traffic.

The release of funds will allow for upgrading ahead of the September 5 cut-off date for the International Olympic Committee's final selection.

Provincial transport MEC Mr Leonard Ramatlakane said 16 projects totalling R28 million, which include the upgrading and construction of public transport interchanges, would go out for tender and that another R20 million was available for improving the signalling on major routes and enhancing the free flow of traffic.

In line with the government's development strategy, he said none of the projects would be constructed exclusively for the Olympics but were crucial for taking the metropole's transport network into the next century.

Cape Town's bid to host the Games had acted as a catalyst in getting central Government funding for much-needed improvements to the network.

Sence of urgency

"With the city being shortlisted by the International Olympic Committee, there is a sense of urgency in getting certain projects in place ahead of the September cut-off date.

"We are changing gear and are busy implementing plans that were painstakingly thought out.

Come September we will be in a position to demonstrate to the IOC that Cape Town is ready to handle the Games," Ramatlakane said.

'Contain crime to save bid'

Sowetan 21/3/97 (286)

Sowetan Correspondent

PUBLIC pressure will be vital in making sure promised Olympic-related initiatives to fight crime in Cape Town are launched on deadline and kept going.

This is the view of Mr John Pemberthy, coordinator of the bid's security task team, who warns that the city cannot afford to allow political lethargy or bureaucratic tardiness to undermine the initiatives that will be vital to the city's chances of hosting the 2004 Games.

Crime has been singled out as a key concern by the International Olympic Committee and measures put in place now, will be an essential demonstration of the city's capacity and will to act on crime before the selection of the winning city on September 5.

Overall strategy

The overall strategy of the new initiative is to tackle crime at its socio-economic roots to achieve long-term goals, while boosting the capacity of the authorities to detect and prosecute criminals in the short term.

But pressure from the public will be indispensable to making sure it all happens effectively and on time, according to Pemberthy.

"There's a strong public interest here.

"This is the biggest single investment opportunity South Africa is waiting for, while we have to give potential investors confidence in our keenness to tackle crime."

Protea Hotel's Pretoria spending totals millions

(288)

Stephané Bothma

BD 24/3/97

PRETORIA — The Protea Hotel group in past months has made multimillion-rand investments in the city, including R7m for the refurbishment and renovation of the former Assembly hotel near the central business district (CBD).

This month, too, the group launched the R76m Centurion Waterfront Suites — a sectional title development spearheaded by Krog Waterfront Developers — to be managed by Protea hotels.

About 15 units, worth R8m, of the suite development had already been sold, including all five penthouses at R750 000 each.

A second project at the waterfront, incorporating a R60m international hotel, is also planned. This forms part of the R1,3bn second phase of Centurion's CBD development.

Last year the hotel group spent more than R7m upgrading the Boulevard hotel in Pretoria — resulting in an occupancy rate above 80%.

Don Hamilton, MD of Boulevard group, which includes the former Assembly, now the Capital Protea, said the group's latest venture was expected to achieve at least 70% year-round occupancy.

Group chairman Grant McLachlan said: "We expect the new hotel to become a major drawcard for touring groups, domestic and international."

The hotel group also spent R6m to improve the Witbank Protea hotel and the Impala Inn at Phalaborwa.

Northern Province MEC tables budget of R10,8bn

BD 24/3/97

Stephen Laufer

NORTHERN Province finance MEC Edgar Mushwana has presented the Pietersburg legislature with a provincial budget for 1997/98 which is 8,1% larger than the previous allocation.

Mushwana said the province would spend R10 867,5m, the lion's share of which would come from national government. Capital expenditure would rise 18,5% to R940,2m, while current spending would rise 8,9%.

A capital projects committee comprising representatives of the tender board, public works, education, health, and local government departments and the director general's office had been formed to monitor project implementation. Tender advice centres would assist small suppliers in dealing with government documents as a route to economic empowerment.

The finance department had introduced a budgeting initiative which took revenue as its base rather than expenditure plans. "This constitutes a major shift because it compels us to be creative and draw up budgets that make us live within our means."

A programme to examine the real cost of running provincial departments was underway as a first step towards identifying possible savings. The aim was to classify various government activities as independent cost centres.

Salaries accounted for 59,9% of budgeted spending, Mushwana said. But recent decisions to improve public service salaries as motivation to improve services to the public had not borne fruit in the Northern Province.

"We were aggrieved beyond imagination when, in some instances, pensioners went for months without payments." It did not matter what excuses were given, because what had happened was a sign of a service provider who did not care about its clients.

Vehicle licensing fees were a major source of revenue for the province, Mushwana said. Telling drivers who registered their vehicles in other provinces that they should contribute to maintenance and improvement of the road infrastructure, he called on the provincial traffic police to crack down on defaulters.

Games bid gets R500 000 IDC boost

ARG 25/3/97 (288)

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

The Industrial Development Corporation has given R500 000 to help the next critical phase of Cape Town's Olympic bid, and has challenged corporate South Africa to follow suit.

As the Olympic Bid Company gears for September 5, when the 2004 Olympic host city is announced, corporation chief executive Khaya Ngqula said all contributions would ultimately help stimulate economic growth, job creation and the development of small business.

"The Olympic bid perfectly fits our objective of job creation and, in addition to that, it has a critical role to play in stimulating small business. Cape Town has more than a fair chance of winning the bid in September and the economic benefits are huge.

"We see our contribution of R500 000 not as a donation but an investment, and we challenge corporate South Africa to follow our lead," Mr Ngqula said.

"We have a history of running big, successful projects such as Sasol and Iscor and we have made a careful study of the Olympic project on the basis of this experience. That is why we are confidently supporting this project and encourage all South Africans to do the same."

Bid company chief executive Chris Ball said: "We are delighted at the IDC's contribution, particularly in view of its key role in economic development and job creation.

"We think this is a significant vote of confidence in the bid and a signal to others in South Africa."



ROY WIGLEY

Olympic handout: Industrial Development Corporation chief executive Khaya Ngqula hands a cheque for R500 000 to Bid Company chief executive Chris Ball

CAPE TIMES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1997 ★

'INFO COULD BE USED AGAINST US'

Council vetoes public scrutiny of Bid money

CT 26/3/97 (288)



THE COUNCIL is set to provide another R1 million towards the Olympic bid effort. **PETER DENNEHY** reports.

AN attempt to make the Olympic Bid Company's financial records open for inspection to members of the public failed dismally at the Cape Town City Council's monthly meeting yesterday.

Only two councillors — Mr Brian Watkyns and Mr Ian Iversen, both of the Democratic Party — voted in favour of the proposal.

More than 70 councillors, from all the political parties, voted against the attempt. They did, however, vote in favour of giving the company more money with fewer strings attached.

Watkyns had tried to make the council's proposed million rands' worth of financial assistance conditional upon the company making its financial statements available to city manager Mr Andrew Boraine, who would in turn "make them available on request".

Mr Philip Horstmann, a councillor who is also a director of the Bid Company, said if "Joe Public" were able to have a look at the financial statements, competing cities could possibly get news of "how much money we have and how we are spending it".

"The information will be used against us," he said.

National Party leader in the council Mr Leon Markovitz said it was not appropriate for the City of Cape Town to put obstacles in the way of the Bid Company.

Markovitz pointed out that Mr Daniel Silke of the DP was a director of the Bid Company, so he could attend the board meetings and ask his questions there.

After losing their amendment, both Watkyns and Iversen supported the main decision that the council provide up to a R1 million in assistance to the bid effort.

Watkyns said he and his party were in favour of the bid. He wore an Olympic tie at yesterday's meeting, but fellow councillor Mr Howard Parker of the National Party said this did not signify much.

The money will not necessarily go to the Bid Company itself. Much of it will be used on events which promote the bid.

It will come out of a special account formed two years ago — with an initial amount of R5m in it — for promoting sports events in the run-up to the Olympic Games. Just over R1m is left in this account.

Horstmann said the central government had provided R20m for a hall in Philippi East, R5m for a hall in Langa, and R10m for the upgrading of a softball facility at Turfhall. Without the bid for the Games, none of this money would have been forthcoming.

Councillor Mr Hanif Tiseker of the African National Congress said the central government had also earmarked R250m for expenditure on Cape Town's transport system.

"I am not uncomfortable spending R1m," said Horstmann. "The Bid Company has said it would like another R20m to make the bid successful."

● See Page 10

Municipality chips in extra R1-m for Olympic lobbying

(288) ARG 26/3/97

ANDREA WEISS
METRO CORRESPONDENT

The Cape Town municipality is to give the Olympic Bid Company a further R1-million to be used during the lobbying phase of the bid.

This was decided at yesterday's council meeting, with the proviso that the company produce appropriate quotations, invoices or other financial statements on how the money will be spent.

The council also decided not to call in bridging finance of just over R1-million to give the company further material relief.

The Democratic Party lost a motion calling for the R1-million grant to be subject to the financial statements of the company being made available to all councillors, officials and ratepayers. Proposer Brian Watkyns, said the DP was having difficulty getting information on the company's finances.

The motion was opposed by members of the National Party, who argued that the objective was to win the Games for Cape Town and that it would be counter-productive to air financial statements publicly.

NP councillor Philip Horstmann said several high-profile directors were on the bid company's board, which meant that there were sufficient checks and balances.

It was not necessary to allow "Joe Public" to scrutinise the financial statements of the company, because this is what "the other cities would like to see". "The information is not supposed to be spread over the whole town," Mr Horstmann said.

Cape 2004 logo to wing way to Lausanne

MICHAEL MORRIS
OF THE OLYMPIC BID

Cape Town's Olympic logo will take to the air soon, on the wings of a home-made aircraft on a commemorative trans-Africa flight to the Olympic movement's headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland.

The plane is due to land in Cape Town today on the outward flight from Switzerland, commemorating Swissair co-founder Walter Mittelholzer's epic flight from Europe to South Africa in 1927.

His journey took 77 days and 96 flying hours. The memorial flight by Swissair pilot Hans Georg Schmid in a 900kg home-built aircraft will have taken a week and about 50 flying hours.

The Cape Town Olympic bid logo is to be attached to the wings of the plane for Mr Schmid's return journey to Lausanne.

Will Cape Town miss Games tourism boat?

AAGT 26/3/97 (288)

Captour fears cuts will hit marketing

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

Cape Town's place on the shortlist of cities to host the 2004 Games is expected to have a huge knock-on effect on the local tourism industry during the next six months, traditionally regarded as the "lean" period.

However, uncertainty about the future role and funding of Captour could severely affect the city's marketing abroad during a time when it is needed most.

So says Captour marketing manager Jeremy Harris, who expects the number of local and international visitors to the country to increase by between 30 and 40 percent between now and September, when the International Olympic Committee will announce the successful bidder to host the Olympic Games in 2004.

Tourism to the city could increase by a further 60 percent if the city's bid was successful, said Mr Harris.

But he expressed concern about Captour's "shrinking" role in the Western Cape tourism industry, which he believes could have a serious effect on the city's international image, because no one else is currently promoting the area.

Captour was originally appointed by the city council 18 years ago to promote local tourism, but its role was extended to represent the whole Western Cape at international tourist exhibitions and trade shows. In terms of new provincial tourism legislation, the Cape Metropolitan Council has formed an interim Regional Tourism Organisation which reduces Captour to a municipal tourism bureau and limits its role to the promotion of Cape Town.

THE CHANGING CITY



TRACKING A CITY IN TRANSITION

The Regional Tourism Bureau has, however, agreed to Captour performing the interim marketing function of the metropole until June this year.

This function is, however, severely undermined by the fact that the CMC's R4,8-million allocation for tourism marketing and development has not yet been released to the RTO.

"We are the only body marketing Cape Town at the moment and we cannot afford to do it any more," said Mr Harris.

Captour's contention is that they should play a bigger role in local tourism alongside or merging with the Regional Tourism Organisation because of its 18 years' experience in the industry and because it represents 95 percent of the metropolitan tourism industry.

"Cape Town needs a professional image now. We cannot afford a six-to-twelve-month marketing break at a time when the city is becoming South Africa's shining light. No one else is marketing the region abroad. International tourists do not have the patience to wait for us to sort out our problems."

Mr Harris said Captour had the support of its 1 500 members and would continue to lobby support from provincial Tourism Minister Lampie Fick and the Regional Tourism Organisation to expand its future role in the Western Cape tourism industry.

Meanwhile, Captour has asked for a grant from the CMC for the period between December and June to enable it to continue its work.

"We have prioritised a number of projects for the next six months which we consider to be really urgent ,for which we will use these funds," said Mr Harris.

The projects include the expansion of Captour's website on the Internet, which was recently given a six out of ten rating by a US company and which is visited by about 15 000 people each month. "Just imagine what we could do if we improved our site. We are really selling ourselves short at the moment."

A regional publication for tourists has been identified as another priority project.

Okay for tourism body

(288)

To aid culture of customer service

ARG 29/3/97

STAFF REPORTER

A new tourism act that will allow the establishment of a provincial tourism board, governing all tourism-related issues in the province, was signed into law this week.

When premier Hernus Kriel signed the Western Cape Tourism Act on Thursday, he also opened the door for the establishment of what is believed to be a partnership between government and the tourism industry which is in line with the best international practice.

Lampie Fick, Western Cape minister of Agriculture and Tourism, said 70 percent of the objectives of the structures proposed in the act dealt with issues surrounding developing a culture and attitude about what tourism really is.

"It would be a futile exercise for us to market our mountains, our beaches, our winelands and our ostrich farms if the people living and working here do not sufficiently understand the simple causes and effects of tourism locally and in the world.

"For this reason, this act deals with the development and the opportunities for development, more than it deals with marketing, for instance."

The act provides for the establishment of a nine-member provincial tourism board.

Provision is made for one member representing local government, one from provincial government, two representing regional tourism organisations and five members nominated by the public.

Advertisements calling for nominations are expected within the next week, a spokesman for Mr Fick said.

The act also provides for the formation of two permanent committees to assist in marketing and development matters. These committees will have 10 members each.

The board is to be funded partly by the provincial government and partly through donations, sponsorships and the income it is expected to generate for itself.

On a regional level, the act allows for the establishment of a regional tourism organisation with tourism bureaus functioning on a local level.

The act is to ensure the least possible bureaucratic intervention in the operational activities of tourism structures.

The "hands-off" approach by government was also in line with the belief that tourism was a dynamic, aggressive and competitive international business, which must be market-driven and managed by proven experts, only guided by national and provincial development policy.

Mr Fick said: "Tourism in the Western Cape is still an infant compared to other world class tourism destinations with long histories and many decades of experience.

"Because of this, there is a need to develop a fundamental tourism culture of customer service in our province.

"We need to develop – with shop assistants, petrol pump attendants and taxi operators – a 'welcoming host' culture. Together with the exceptional beauty of our natural resources – this province will be the most talked about destination in the world."

Tourism experts called in

By Shadrack Mashalaba

THE success of South Africa's tourism industry depends on raising the standard of services to cope with the expected 1,3 million annual visitors before 2000.

In an endeavour to do this the South Africa Government has teamed up with the British ministry of trade and industry to network how to improve the situation by co-hosting the "Britain Means Business Week" which starts on April 22 in Cape Town.

Delegation's mandate

A delegation of tourism experts from Britain is expected to arrive in two weeks' time.

Their mandate is to sit down with officials and key players from the local tourism industry to examine the role that effective marketing, training and management can play in raising South African tourism standards to acceptable international levels.

The Duke of Kent and Environmental Affairs and Tourism Minister Pallo Jordan are expected to jointly open the "Britain Means Business" workshop.

Commenting on the workshop, Ministry of Environmental Affairs and Tourism director Dr Mike Fabricius said: "The fundamentals of the Gear programme lie in promoting non-mineral exports, stimulating the private sector and developing our human resources through interacting with our partners in the international community who are tourist markets and potential investors.

"Britain is the leading international market for South Africa and based on the President's visit last year, considerable interest has been expressed by British investors in local tourism.

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Opportunities

"We believe this workshop will contribute to realising concrete tourism investment opportunities."

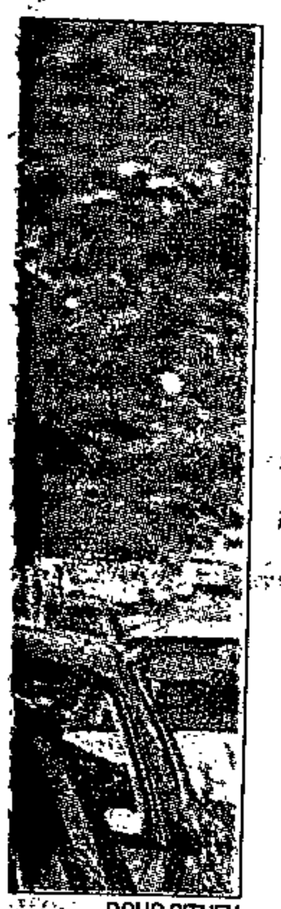
National Black Business Caucus executive member Danisa Baloyi and Cape Town Olympic Bid director Chris Ball will be among a number of local and international speakers expected to address the workshop.

Some of the discussions during the workshop will focus on managing and maintaining quality and preserving and generating income for heritage sites.

Sowetan 2/4/97

fiasco at Cape Point

long queues, sewage and baboons



DOUG PITHEY

CHENE BLIGNAUT AND PETER GOOSEN
STAFF REPORTERS

Tourists and conservationists say the revamped Cape Point tourist complex is a fiasco, with visitors having to put up with traffic chaos, aggressive baboons, long queues and the stench of raw sewage.

Problems at the new R13-million complex have drawn increasing complaints from visitors, especially foreigners. Cape Point, one of the Peninsula's premier tourist sites, had 750 000 visitors last year.

The R3,5-million funicular which takes visitors to the viewing site at the point has carried 150 000 passengers since it opened in December but has been plagued by breakdowns.

Other facilities, too, cannot cope. The sewerage system serving the new complex has broken down and the smell of raw sewage pervades the area.

There is a severe lack of parking and the restaurant and fast food shop appear unable to cope with demand.

In spite of the the best efforts of a "baboon chaser", increasing numbers of aggressive baboons are posing a threat to visitors.

Environmentalists have warned it will cost millions to rectify all the problems without disturbing the environment.

The developer, Concor, has acknowledged that facilities are inadequate in peak periods and says further development is needed to cope with increased demand. The Cape Metropolitan Council, the "owner" of the reserve, says the complex was never designed to handle the numbers now visiting.

Conservationists predicted many of the problems when the complex was being planned, but they were ignored by the developers. They fought to the bitter end to prevent the restaurant complex being built on its present site because the area was too small. Their worst fears are now being realised. Waste from the restaurant kitchen shares a soakaway sewer with the complex's toilets and the system is blocked.

The narrow entrance road to Cape Point is often congested for kilometres with cars parked on both sides. The main parking area is too small to cope with cars and up to 20 tour buses at a time in a space designed to take eight.

Plans for another parking area at Cape Point or at nearby Rooikrantz and a shuttle service have also been condemned by conservationists. Long queues form at the fast food shop and 200-seat restaurant, which battle to cope.

Peter Salter, chairman of the Simon's Town Flora Conservation Group, said the decision to move the restaurant from the Homestead to its present site was taken without public participation.

"We warned what would happen when you concentrate all your facilities in one small area at the Point."

Former Simon's Town councillor Diane Salter said Cape Point could not possibly cope with the large numbers of visitors. "We feel very sorry that these issues were not looked at more closely in the beginning, but what's done is done. We now have to focus on how the increasing numbers should be managed."

Concor director Leo Rohrig acknowledged there were problems with facilities which were inadequate during peak times. "But you can't lay out a facility according to peak demand. It will be boring and empty for the rest of the year."

Concor and the Cape Metropolitan Council could not have predicted the dramatic increase in visitors from 350 000 in 1994 to 750 000 last year, he said.

He said the sewage problem could be overcome technically at a cost of no more than R200 000. The sewers would be doubled to take care of future growth.

Mr Rohrig confirmed that the funicular

To page 3

Cape Point tourism fiasco

ARG 3/4/97 (288)

From page 1

occasionally had technical problems which he blamed on its complicated alignment and the fact that it was locally made.

He said there was no way parking could be increased because of physical constraints. He urged people to go by bus during peak hours.

The old Homestead restaurant in the centre of the nature reserve was never considered as the site for the new restaurant, but was now being looked at as a relief measure during peak periods, he said.

"Limits on the size of the restaurant were imposed by conservationists.

"In fact the development had been delayed a year and costs had increased by 30 to 40 percent as a result of having to implement conservationists' proposals," Mr Rohrig said.

Cape Metropolitan Cpuncil chief executive Stewart Fisher said the problem was caused by large numbers of visitors.

He said: "Our mandate here is to assist visitors to experience the beauty of the place in a manner that has minimum impact on the environment rather than to establish a high acreage of fast food outlets for visitors."

He said despite warnings, visitors still fed baboons which had become demanding and perhaps appeared intimidating.

"One alternative that has been suggested is that the entire baboon population be eradicated. This is obviously unacceptable."

Dr Fisher added that all the problems could be rectified without having a major impact on the environment and the unspoilt nature of the reserve.

R9m blow to Olympic bid coffers

(288)

DAN SIMON
TOURISM WRITER

CT 3/4/97

THE provincial government's spending on the Olympic bid process this year will be R9 million lower than originally budgeted for because of substantial cuts to the provincial budget.

This year's budget was the first time the provincial government had allocated funds for Olympic spending, said Mr Rod Solomons of the provincial sport and recreation department.

He said the department had initially budgeted R20m for the upgrading of existing sporting facilities which were designated for use during the Olympics.

This figure had now been reduced to R11m.

Solomons said his department received a total budget of R7m last year. This year the amount was increased to R20,8m.

"One cannot say that this is a cut, as we did not budget for Olympic spending last year — this amount was just a kick-start," said Solomons.

"We were looking to spend R20m a year for the next seven years on upgrading Olympic facilities, but we will now have to draw up a funding schedule and allocate funds according to our budget."

Solomons added that an additional amount had been provided for sport development courses and incentive awards.

Cape Town refits its airport for tourist boom

CT(BR) 2/4/97 (288)

AUDREY D'ANGELO

Cape Town — The Cape Town International Airport, which handled three million passengers in the past year, expects to cope with 14 million a year by 2015, even if the city does not host the Olympics, Hennie Taljaard, the regional general manager of the Airports Company, said this week.

He said the development of airport facilities would be more rapid if Cape Town was chosen to host the Olympic Games in 2004, but passenger numbers were increasing steadily every year.

Marlene Jacobs, the media liaison officer at the airport, said it was the only airport in the whole of Africa where aircraft with specialised technology could make instrument landings in bad weather. Even Johannesburg International Airport still lacked this facility and aircraft had to be diverted in some weather conditions.

Jacobs said the 3 260m runway was in the process of being resurfaced by Rand Roads, a division of LTA, at a cost of R13,6 million. The resurfacing is having to be done at night so as not to interfere with the everyday workings of the airport.

A R7 million contract for the supply and installation of new runway lights had been awarded to Siemens (SA).

Jacobs said the contracts were part of the new master plan for the airport.

City hotels experience mixed holiday fortunes

VISITORS who arrived in the city over the holiday weekend for the Two Oceans Marathon seem to have shied away from hotel accommodation this year.

Some city hotels reported a drop in occupancy levels, but others enjoyed a bumper weekend.

Captour said although the number of visitors was consistent with or even slighter higher than previous years, it seemed more visitors had stayed with friends and family. It added that hotel prices might be prohibitive for the average visitor.

The Newlands Holiday Inn Garden Court — long a favourite with Two Oceans runners — reported a sharp drop in occupancies.

"In the past we were full from the first day of Easter to the last. But this year it was very quiet," a staff member said.

But Greenmarket Holiday Inn Garden Court said they were fully booked over Easter. — Tourism Writer.

(288) ET 2/4/97

Jordan names new board to run Satour

Sowetan 2/4/97 (288)

ENVIRONMENTAL Affairs and Tourism Minister Pallo Jordan yesterday announced new board members of the South African Tourism Board (Satour).

Jordan said after receiving and reviewing a host of nominations from members of the public and the tourism industry, he appointed the board to give the country's key tourism marketing body a new direction and focus.

The successful nominees are representative of the principal constituents for a winning tourism strategy and are drawn from business, the community, labour and key specialists in tourism, Jordan said.

The new board, which consists of 21 members, will be chaired by a Cape Town businesswoman Liz Westbuy-Nunn.

Jordan said his ministry was fortunate to receive a list of highly talented people.

"While this made selection difficult, it also indicated to us the quality of persons involved in our tourism sector. The calibre of persons selected to serve will certainly enjoy the confidence of all involved in tourism," Jordan said.

He added that he is convinced the board will strengthen the relationship between Government and those engaged in the tourism business as employers and employees.

It is also charged with making the tourist industry more representative.

The new board assumes its responsibilities after an extremely successful year which has increased the probability of raising the contribution that tourism makes to our gross domestic product.

"I want to take the opportunity to thank the members of the interim board for the magnificent contribution they have made to the growth and development of the industry over the past three years.

"I expect the new board to build on the firm foundation laid by the men and women who preceded them," Jordan said.

Survey warns of hotel oversupply

Sowetan 2/4/97 (288)

By Coudjoe Amankwaa

THE supply of up-market hotels may soon outweigh demand, a study by Kessel Feinstein Tourism, hospitality and leisure specialists has indicated.

According to the survey, 62 projects were identified in the Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban and Pretoria areas yielding a total of 10 to 100 rooms in various stages of development.

Director of Kessel Feinstein Gillian Saunders said taking into account the current hotel base of an estimated 725 to 880 hotels offering 42 000 to 50 000 rooms, these projects alone represented a 20 percent increase in hotel stock.

She believes some of the figures are still estimates due to the number of unregistered, non-graded hotels.

The survey identified a 27 percent increase in four star and a 68 percent increase in five star hotels in the Johannesburg Northern Suburbs over the next three years.

This follows the 80 percent growth already experienced in five star hotels alone over the past 18 months.

In Cape Town, the figures are even more incredible with 110 percent growth indicated in the four star range and 116 percent in five star.

In contrast, only 44 percent and 42 percent growth is expected for three star hotels in the Cape Town and Pretoria areas respectively.

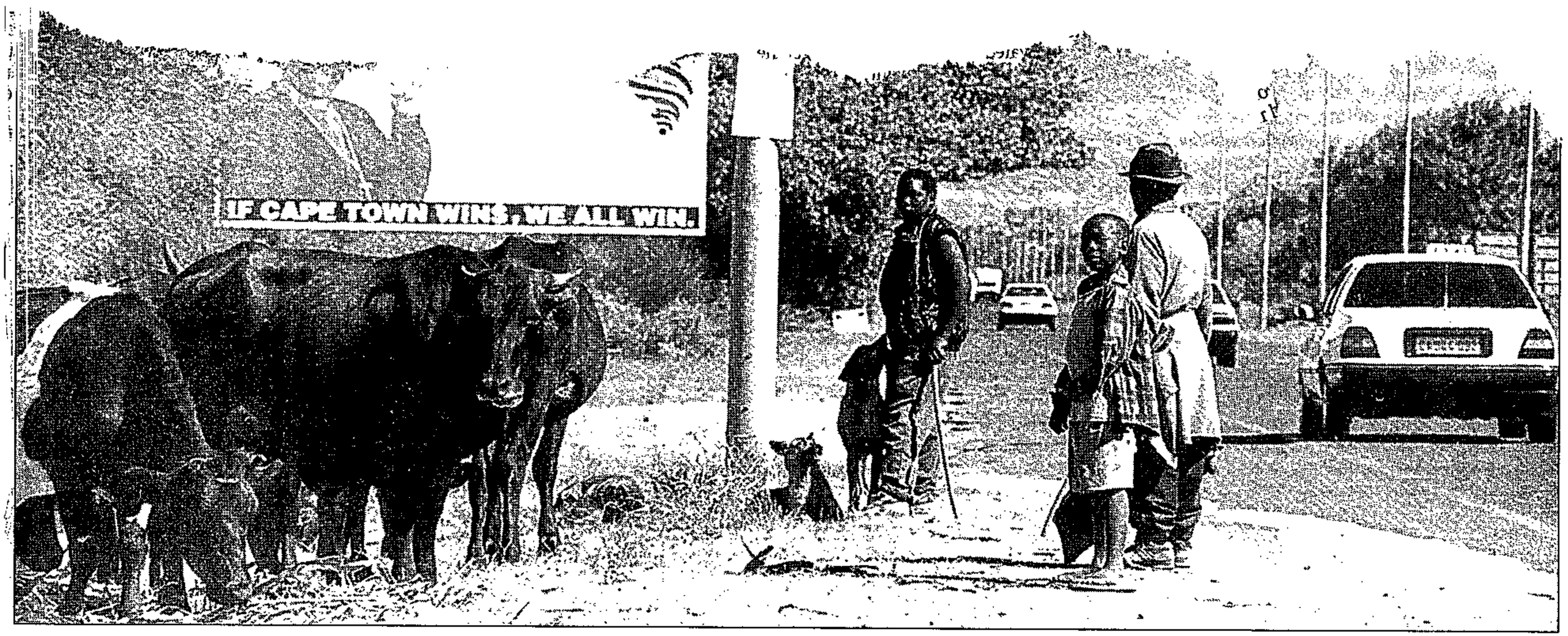
The survey indicates that a gap could be developing in the three star market.

Increased competition

The concentrated growth planned for the four and five star market suggests that there will be medium-term oversupply in this market sector.

This will result in increased competition in hotel rates and a decline in the average occupancy levels in this market.

Saunders says: "While it is true that there continues to be strong growth in demand in this industry, the demand growth is not equal to the current growth in the supply."



ET MOO, TUTU: Township herdsmen keep watch over their cattle next to the Cape Town International Airport approach road yesterday, beneath a 2004 Olympic bid sign featuring Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

PICTURE: GARTH STEAD

Survey shows Games a likely plus for city

(288) CT 3/4/97

THE possible benefits of staging the Olympic Games strongly outweigh the negatives, according to a survey conducted among the cities that hosted the past four Games.

The survey, conducted by the Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry, found that Atlanta, host of the 1996 Games, was expected to benefit from its economic bonanza well into the next century.

Mr Albert Schuitmaker, senior deputy director of the chamber, said yesterday all the cities were positive that staging the Games had benefited their economies, and only Barcelona had brought up the issue of the debt it was still paying.

Schuitmaker said the survey was conducted because of ongoing media reports and public comment.

Cape Town, with Athens, Buenos Aires, Rome and Stockholm, has been shortlisted as a potential host city.

"I decided to check with the business communities of the cities which held the last four Olympics...about the impact on business, the pros and cons of hosting the Games, and whether they would recommend being a host city," said Schuitmaker.

Atlanta responded by saying that from 1992 to 1996, the Centennial Olympic Games generated a multi-billion dollar economic impact for the city, and for the state of Georgia.

"The people of Atlanta are left with numerous legacies, including the Centennial Olympic Park; R2,2bn worth of state-of-the-art sporting venues paid for through private financing, many expansions and enhancements to colleges and universities in the area, and significant improvements to Hartsfield International Airport."

Schuitmaker reported that Barcelona said safety measures introduced in that city during the 1992 Games had resulted in less crime. They had also increased year-round tourism.

"It must be acknowledged that Barcelona is still paying the Olympic bill. However, the city has managed to achieve an admirable credit rating. While the income is high (from tourism), employment is also on the rise and expenditure, including running costs, has been reduced," the report said.

The enhancement of the nation's status in the world was among the most important factors mentioned by the Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry, whose capital, Seoul, hosted the 1988 Olympic Games.

Other advantages ascribed to hosting the Games were the improvement in protection of human rights, freedom of speech and democratisation.

The Korean chamber said there was a growth rate of about 12% in the Olympic year, as well as in the year before and, most importantly, in the year after.

Schuitmaker said it was likely that Cape Town would be faced with an ongoing Olympic bill, and at issue was how much, and what will ratepayers pay. But the pros outweighed the cons, he said.

(288)

SA tourism season still going strong

CT(BR) 3/4/97

AUDREY D'ANGELO

Cape Town — There is no sign yet of a seasonal tailing off of tourism to South Africa, Suzanne Himely, Air France's Cape manager, said yesterday.

And Patrick Murray, the sales manager of Malaysia Air in southern Africa, said its three services a week to this country were "choc-a-bloc".

Air France will on Friday increase its weekly service to South Africa from five flights to six flights, with three of them calling at Cape Town, which is now considered the country's main tourist destination.

"French people are now more interested in coming to this country and the tourist season has definitely extended," said Himely.

Malaysia Air has temporarily cut its services to South Africa from four a week to three, but Murray said the fourth flight would be restored in July.

He said the airline, which would celebrate its 50th anniversary at a banquet in Johannesburg tonight, was now using a larger Boeing 747-400 on the route instead of the McDonnell Douglas MD11s it had used for the past two years.

But because it was still awaiting the delivery of more Boeing 747s, the number of flights to Johannesburg and Cape Town had temporarily been cut from four to three.

The fourth flight would be restored when another aircraft became available.

Tourvest merger boosts tourism

Sowetan 3/4/97

By Isaac Moledi (288)

THE tourism industry was given a major boost yesterday with the launch of a new travel and retail consortium, Tourism Investment Corporation.

Tourvest, as the organisation is called, combines the tourism interests of Micor Industrial Corporation, which comprises Welcome Tours and Safaris, Wilson Collins Travel, Afro–Asian Travel Services and Micor Travel with the retail concerns of Tenure Jewellery and Tigers Eye Retail.

The latter has 21 outlets.

Tourvest chief executive Mike Beevers said the company will be listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange on Monday under the Beverage, Hotels and Leisure sector.

He said Tourvest would be the first non-hotel tourism group to be listed on the JSE.

The company intends controlling the in-bound tourist service and strategically position itself to supply the need of tourists across the entire tourism industry in Southern Africa.

"Our goal will be achieved by retaining the separate identities and entrepreneurial spirit of each business, while linking common goals and synergies," he said.

The other reason for the formation of Tourvest, added Beevers, was to identify and acquire strategic tourism assets to provide greater continuity to an otherwise fragmented tourism industry in the country.

A key strategy was to acquire tourism assets such as travel and retail which would enhance this service and several such assets are presently under consideration, he added.

Beevers said that at present, foreign tourists tend to be passed from one service provider to another, thereby neglecting the synergies inherent in providing a more comprehensive value chain to the in-bound market.

Each of the main shareholders – Micor Industrial Holdings (with 34,5% shareholding), Tanur Jewellery (36,5%) and Tiger Eye (19,7%) – will make shares available to black empowerment groups.

More than 90 percent of Tourvest's sales are derived from foreign tourists. Group turnover in the 1996 financial year was R144,5 million, a 69 percent increase over the previous year.

Turnover is projected to jump 31 percent to R238,7 million by next year.

Johannesburg Consolidated Industries chairman Pat Retief will also head Tourvest.

NEWS POLITICS

Tourists flow into SA despite crime

Sowetan 3/4/97 (288)

By Rafiq Rohan
Political Correspondent

ALTHOUGH much is made of South Africa's high crime statistics, foreign tourists are still coming into the country in droves and bringing with them much-needed foreign currency.

Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism Dr Pallo Jordan told Parliament this week that there had been a staggering 34,8 percent increase in 1996 tourist figures compared to 1994.

The 1996 figure, when compared with 1995 revealed a 10,2 percent increase.

Translated into actual figures, there were 1,2 million more visitors than in 1994 and 456 158 more than in 1995.

And these figures translated into monetary terms meant there was an increase of R7,5 billion in foreign exchange over the 1994 figures and R1,5 billion on the 1995 figures.

The minister has worked out a formula to illustrate the impact of every tourist to the country on the employment situation.

He said that if it was assumed that one direct and two indirect job opportunities were created by 33 additional visitors this meant:

- 17 000 direct and 34 000 indirect job opportunities were created in 1994;
- 24 000 direct and 48 000 indirect job opportunities were created in 1995; and
- 13 000 direct and 26 000 indirect job opportunities were created in 1996.

Jordan also told Parliament that research was under way by the Ministry of Minerals and Energy to examine dangers of motor vehicle emissions. The first phase is examining South Africa's air quality, the second involves testing SA cars with local fuels to determine their emission characteristics while the third phase will involve formulating policy.

f the 1970s, he believes 350 ty, the University of Natal

Budget cut 'won't affect Bid'

ARG 4/4/97 (288)

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

The R9-million cut in the Western Cape's Olympic budget vote will have no impact on the city's bid or bid-related work.

This has been confirmed by Rod Solomons, head of the provincial department of sport and recreation.

The provincial budget has no bearing on the amount of R86-million, for priority bid-related Olympic projects due for completion by September, or the amount of R250-million for priority transport projects. These amounts are drawn from national coffers.

Provincial spending – now cut from R20-million to R11-million for the next financial year – is earmarked for upgrading or rebuilding facilities that will be needed if the city wins the bid.

This work would be carried out over the next seven years.

"All this means is that we will be rescheduling spending patterns this year but it will not affect bid-related priority projects at all," said Mr Solomons.

The selection on September 5 of the host city for the 2004 Olympic Games will have a decisive impact on spending on sport facilities and development.

The trimming of the budget at this stage merely requires a technical adjustment in the long-term sport development budget.

SUBMISSIONS

Sectional Titles Amendment Bill (89-97)

The Portfolio Committee on Land Affairs invites individuals and organisations to submit written comments on the Sectional Titles Amendment Bill.

Interested parties should submit their comments by 16 April 1997.

It must be borne in mind that the Committee reserves the right of affording persons or institutions the opportunity of appearing before it.

Correspondence should be addressed to:
The Secretary to Parliament
Attention: Johnny Ramrock

Games bonanza for small, black firms

(288)

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Small and black-owned businesses are to be targeted as the major beneficiaries in a wide range of tenders for work on seven multi-million rand Olympic priority projects kicking off across the Peninsula.

An affirmative procurement policy devised for these projects means tenders will be judged according to points awarded for price as well as the extent to which they promote the goals of the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP).

This is in line with the Bid Company's commitment to ensuring the Cape Town Olympic project is strongly developmental,

THE CHANGING CITY



TRACKING A CITY IN TRANSITION

and that even if the city is not chosen to host the Games in 2004, bidding alone will have had a positive developmental impact.

The new policy will provide opportunities for emerging companies in the previously marginalised sector, as well as encourage larger, more established firms to form joint ventures and partnerships with black contractors and companies.

In effect, the new policy means the lowest acceptable tender will not automatically succeed if it fails to score points for promoting RDP principles.

These include awarding a prescribed portion of work to new and developing contractors; buying materials from previously marginalised suppliers; using local labour and developing human potential and resources; joint ventures with new and developing contractors; and stimulating the local economy as well as businesses from previously disadvantaged communities.

Furthermore, rather than following the

ARG 4/4/97

To page 3

Tenders to benefit small businesses

ARG 4/4/97 (288)

From page 1

customary route of drawing up a single tender to cover an entire project – which invariably means only big companies are able to submit tenders, and latterly subcontract portions of the work – the Olympic priority projects are being split up into as many as 20 "tender packages".

Roofing or electrical work, for instance, will be advertised as a tender package separate from the structural steel work or concrete construction elements of the project.

The projects for which tenders are to be called soon are:

■ A softball facility at the Turfhall Sports Complex in Athlone (R10-million).

■ A Belhar community, sports and recreation hall, earmarked for judo and taekwando during the Olympics (R18,25-million).

■ A multi-purpose hall for boxing in Langa (R5-million).

■ An indoor multi-purpose hall in Philippi East, earmarked for badminton (R18-million).

■ An indoor multi-purpose hall in Khayelitsha, earmarked for boxing (R16,7-million).

■ A multi-purpose hall in Scottsdene, also earmarked for boxing (R2-million).

■ An outdoor training facility for baseball in Grassy Park (R2-million).

Preparatory work has already begun on most of the sites but the tendering and construction phase is now about to begin.

These projects are being managed by Amsa Development, Project Design and Construction Management.

The regional managing-director of Amsa, Rob Addison, said community forums which Amsa had established in the areas in which the seven priority projects were being developed would be given advance notice of the tenders. Small and emergent businesses would be helped in preparing tenders.

"We will be handing out leaflets so that businesses which have no experience of the complex tendering procedure are not disadvantaged," he said.

Games plan: how they made it happen

Rebirth of our city was the goal as Olympic team designed the bid

ARG 7/4/97 (288)

THE PROSPECT OF LAYING DOWN A WORKABLE OLYMPIC PLAN WITHIN TWO YEARS MUST HAVE SEEMED, IN THE BID'S INFANCY, IF NOT QUITE IMPROBABLE, THEN CERTAINLY TANTALISINGLY REMOTE. BUT, AS MICHAEL MORRIS DISCOVERS, THE PHILOSOPHICAL GIST OF USING THE OLYMPIC PLAN TO REMOULD THE DESTINY OF THE METROPOLE WAS THE LODESTAR FROM THE START



ANDREW INGRAM

Team on top: the Olympic planners – from left, David Maralack, planning director Peter de Tolly, Nicola Lloyd, Mary-Jane Morris, Jac Snyman and Derek Thomas – are the men and women who, in essence, have been responsible for the shape of the bid blueprint, and its potential impact on the destiny of the metropole

At the outset, back in 1995, Cape Town's Olympic planners had only one table, one telephone and a few chairs.

Their barely furnished office on the 17th floor of the Civic Centre must have seemed as inauspicious a setting as you could find for the origin of the multi-billion rand blueprint that, within a year and a half, would successfully project Cape Town's worldly aspirations, and earn it a place on the shortlist for the 2004 Games.

What they did have, aside from an unnervingly compelling calendar of deadlines, was plenty of bright ideas.

The genesis of the Olympic plan always had everything to do with the overarching project of reshaping Cape Town, turning it into a dynamic, fair, vibrant, efficient and growing city, and deliberately altering features of the cityscape born of apartheid.

The philosophical gist was there, but the mechanics, the detail, were absent.

To spend an hour, today, with the planners in their Foreshore eyrie, spectacularly high above the gleaming expanse of Table Bay, it is inconceivable that there might ever have been any significant doubts.

But there have often been times, moments of frenzy or anguish, when they have had to steel themselves to pause and invoke what team leader Peter de Tolly calls "oriental calm".

He has also always insisted that "we must ultimately ensure that we have fun here".

These are no doubt elements the Deputy City Planner has brought to the project from his considerable experience at home and abroad in planning and urban design.

With degrees in architecture and urban design from the universities of Cape Town and Toronto, he has practised as an architect in Cape Town, and as a consultant urban designer/city planner in Toronto, specialist seconded to the Bid Company from Caltex, is a botany and geography graduate of the University of the Witwatersrand, and holds an honours degree in geography and environmental studies. She gained extensive experience in Environmental Impact Assessment during a six-year stint with an international firm of consultants, and is committed to "ensuring sound environmental practice in the bid".

■ David Maralack, who holds master's degrees in urban development planning from the University of London and in city and regional planning from the University of Cape Town, has had varied experience as a planning consultant, town planner, researcher and teacher in South Africa and the United States. He is presently

of Olympism – human development – was added to the international movement's long-established triad of principles: sport, culture and environment.

But what did "human development" mean in a real terms? How would it mesh with the dynamics of Cape Town, and the practical needs of putting on the biggest sporting spectacle in the world?

Nicola Lloyd recalls some of the first discussions, "when the idea of providing a developmental stimulus emerged, but, as Peter kept stressing, placed in the context of the metropole's future growth".

David Maralack says it "amounted to posing questions

'What they did have, aside from an unnerving calendar of deadlines

vidual elements of a plan to make human development – socially and economically – a real goal.

These were "exciting times", the planners remember, but difficult times too.

Winning public support was vital, and tiring. Each of the team spent at least three nights of the week during that period "out in the communities ... getting bashed", David Maralack recalls wryly. It was often discomforting, but it paid dividends.

There were also those deadlines. Derek Thomas says that to get the Cabinet's approval – a critical element – "we had to provide budget assessments in as

mental assessments, and engaging the Green sector in a project the bid team believed would provide invaluable opportunities for establishing new standards in environmental protection and planning.

From early 1996, planning activity became frenetic.

The Atlanta Games loomed in July – and it was important for the bid team to be there to learn lessons – and, a month later, the submission of the minutely detailed, 700-page Bid Book to the IOC in Switzerland.

Four months after that – in December – the IOC evaluation commission would touch down to cast a critical eye over all that had been done.

Overseeing the whole, Peter de Tolly's

Big slice of R21m outlay will build Games facilities

CT 4/14/97 (288)

CHRIS BATEMAN

THE Western Cape exco this week approved R21 million — mainly for building and upgrading sports centres and grassing playing fields across the province as part of the build-up of facilities towards the 2004 Olympics.

Part of the money will go to other RDP projects such as brickmaking machines in Sedgefield, rural beekeeping in Oudtshoorn, buying a new property for the Peter Pan Down Syndrome Centre in Salt River and creating an education and training institute in Atlantis.

Announcing this yesterday, RDP and Economic Affairs MEC Mr Chris Nissen said R14m worth of projects centred on the Cape Metropole, the Klein Karoo, Overberg, the Southern Cape, West Coast and Boland regions.

Nissen said that in his three years in office, 118 RDP projects totalling R2,88 billion had been launched in the Western Cape — many "kick-started" by the former RDP Provincial Discretionary Fund and now maintained and developed through community initiatives.

Literature handed out to journalists at a press conference yesterday included an outline for disadvantaged trainee beekeepers in Oudtshoorn.

SA way behind in realising tourism potential

(288) CT 4/4/97

YAZEED FAKIER

SOUTH Africa lagged "badly" in its tourism potential and in foreign tourism receipts per person, scored only 17th out of 25 countries surveyed in the emerging economies of the world, Arts, Culture, Science and Technology Minister Mr Lionel Mtshali said yesterday.

He was opening a conference in Newlands on a proposed national trust for South Africa.

Facilitated by the Cape Town Heritage Trust, the conference aims to establish a national organisation comprising NGOs, community representatives, individuals and corporate entities concerned about conserving heritage sites representing South Africa's different cultures.

Mtshali said the country's growth rate in tourism receipts between 1995 and 1996 was "disappointing, amounting to a mere 3,4%" compared with an average in the emerging markets of more than 11%.

"We talk a great deal about tourism and its potential, about eco-tourism and about cultural tourism, but we are clearly not doing enough in concrete terms to help the economy to realise its tourist potential.

Up to now the country's "magnificent" scenery had been its only competitive advantage. "We need to add components to our tourist attractions to attract hesitant tourists. The protection and promotion of cultural and historical sites is perhaps the most obvious component to add and we need to lose no time in this task."

He told the gathering, which met at the Josephine Mill and included keynote speaker and Constitutional Court judge Mr Justice Albie Sachs, that the factors which most threatened national reconciliation included crime, unemployment and conflicting demands on urban amenities and educational institutions.

Olympic planners had only one table, one telephone and a few chairs.

Their barely furnished office on the 17th floor of the Civic Centre must have seemed as inauspicious a setting as you could find for the origin of the multi-billion rand blueprint that, within a year and a half, would successfully project Cape Town's worldly aspirations, and earn it a place on the shortlist for the 2004 Games.

What they did have, aside from an unnervingly compelling calendar of deadlines, was plenty of bright ideas.

The genesis of the Olympic plan always had everything to do with the overarching project of reshaping Cape Town, turning it into a dynamic, fair, vibrant, efficient and growing city, and deliberately altering features of the cityscape born of apartheid.

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He has also always insisted that "we must ultimately ensure that we have fun here".

These are no doubt elements the Deputy City Planner has brought to the project from his considerable experience at home and abroad in planning and urban design.

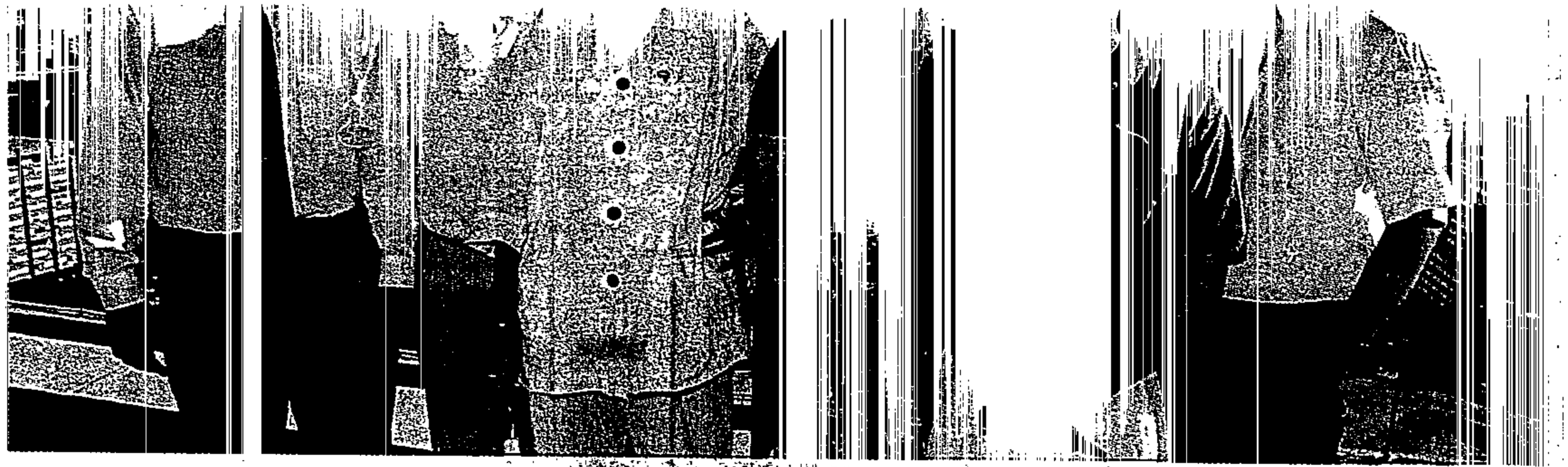
With degrees in architecture and urban design from the universities of Cape Town and Toronto, he has practised as an architect in Cape Town, and as a consultant urban designer/city planner in Toronto, where, among other things, he played a key role in the Canadian city's waterfront development.

Latterly, he was involved in the revitalisation of Cape Town's central city area, and in developing the city's world-class Waterfront.

He has extensive experience in strategic urban growth and change management.

His team comprises:

■ Fellow City of Cape Town secondee Nicola Lloyd is a senior planner with a master's degree in urban and regional planning, whose wide experience on inner and outer metro projects includes work on the redevelopment of District Six, and the building of the acclaimed Hartleyvale hockey venue.



ANDREW NORTH

Team on top: the Olympic planners – from left, David Maralack, planning director Peter de Tolly, Nicola Lloyd, Mary-Jane Morris, Jac Snyman and Derek Thomas – are the men and women who, in essence, have been responsible for the shape of the bid blueprint, and its potential impact on the destiny of the metropole

■ Mary Jane Morris, an environmental specialist seconded to the Bid Company from Caltex, is a botany and geography graduate of the University of the Witwatersrand, and holds an honours degree in geography and environmental studies. She gained extensive experience in Environmental Impact Assessment during a six-year stint with an international firm of consultants, and is committed to "ensuring sound environmental practice in the bid".

■ David Maralack, who holds master's degrees in urban development planning from the University of London and in city and regional planning from the University of Cape Town, has had varied experience as a planning consultant, town planner, researcher and teacher in South Africa and the United States. He is presently working on his PhD dissertation through the University of Minnesota.

■ Derek Thomas, an architecture graduate from Oxford and a practising architect for 30 years, has spent much of his professional life focusing on what he describes as "socially responsive and cost-efficient architecture". He has considerable expertise in mass housing, and is responsible for the Olympic villages in the bid plan.

■ Jac Snyman, an architecture graduate of the University of Cape Town, is an urban designer on secondment from the City of Cape Town. He has been involved in the plan for Kalk Bay harbour, and has worked on the Culemborg/Black River project.

It was when this team sat together in the early days of the bid that a fourth pillar of Olympism – human development – was added to the international movement's long-established triad of principles: sport, culture and environment.

But what did "human development" mean in a real terms? How would it mesh with the dynamics of Cape Town, and the practical needs of putting on the biggest sporting spectacle in the world?

Nicola Lloyd recalls some of the first discussions, "when the idea of providing a developmental stimulus emerged, but, as Peter kept stressing, placed in the context of the metropole's future growth".

David Maralack says it "amounted to posing questions about what Cape Town should be in 20 to 50 years from now, irrespective of the Games, and then asking how the Games could be used to kick-start these things".

'What they did have, aside from an unnerving calendar of deadlines, was plenty of bright ideas'

Once the Olympic planning was synchronised with the overarching, long-term progressive city plan, the Metropolitan Spatial Development Framework, its potential as an impressive stimulus, as the key to making things happen, emerged all the more clearly.

Jac Snyman describes how, once this basis was established, sites were identified against a checklist of factors such as availability of land, sports needs, transport, housing, redressing the apartheid legacy ... but, most importantly, as individual elements of a plan to make human development – socially and economically – a real goal.

These were "exciting times", the planners remember, but difficult times too.

Winning public support was vital, and tiring. Each of the team spent at least three nights of the week during that period "out in the communities ... getting bashed", David Maralack recalls wryly. It was often discomforting, but it paid dividends.

There were also those deadlines. Derek Thomas says that to get the Cabinet's approval – a critical element – "we had to provide budget assessments in as much detail as we could, but invariably we had to resort to generic, conceptualised assessments based on the floor area of facilities and little else.

"It was tough, and we had only a matter of weeks to get it done."

At the same time, a mammoth and difficult consultation process was launched, with the added complication, Nicola Lloyd recalls, of there being no democratically elected local authorities in the Peninsula. This was before the local elections which brought in the present six councils, and the planners were having to work with no fewer than 39 indecisive and politically weak transitional bodies.

Mary-Jane Morris was tasked with launching complex and sensitive environmental assessments, and engaging the Green sector in a project the bid team believed would provide invaluable opportunities for establishing new standards in environmental protection and planning.

From early 1996, planning activity became frenetic.

The Atlanta Games loomed in July – and it was important for the bid team to be there to learn lessons – and, a month later, the submission of the minutely detailed, 700-page Bid Book to the IOC in Switzerland.

Four months after that – in December – the IOC evaluation commission would touch down to cast a critical eye over all that had been done.

Overseeing the whole, Peter de Tolly's mind was fixed on maintaining the vision of a dynamic city of the future, catalysed by Olympic planning, a vision of making the bid philosophy a real, achievable goal.

"If you look at the civic structure of the city of the past 350 years, there are things which contain the essence of what makes this a great place.

"Now it is one of our responsibilities to create a new framework for the next 350 years.

"When it comes down to it, it's the absence of that vision that makes cities the sad places they often are.

"The work of this planning team has been a magnificent opportunity to provide the thrust to make all the difference to this city."

And it is, he says, "like a cosmic kick in the butt".

LOSS OF JOBS MOOTED

New board to usher in changes at Satour

CT 7/4/97 (288)

THE APPOINTMENT of a chief executive for the country's tourism marketing body is a first step towards changing its bureaucratic image. Tourism Writer **DAN SIMON** reports.

ALTHOUGH half the size it was three years ago, the new SA Tourism Board (Satour) may lose more staff as it begins transforming South Africa's key tourism marketing body from a bureaucracy into a business.

This is the word from Satour's new chairwoman, Ms Liz Westby-Nunn, appointed last week by the Minister of Environment Affairs and Tourism, Dr Pallo Jordan.

As part of the transformation of Satour, the private sector is now represented on the board, allowing it to have a say in how South Africa is marketed overseas.

Westby-Nunn, a Cape Town businesswoman with more than 15 years' experience in the tourism industry, said Satour still had a major problem in funding.

Although the government had increased Satour's budget to R64 million from R47m last year, other sources of funding would have to be sought.

Westby-Nunn also said Satour continued to be hampered by "tremendous bureaucratic red tape".

"Business operates very efficiently. We will have to flatten structures and look at our core business, international marketing.



TOP JOB: Liz Westby-Nunn

"We will also have to look at ways of expanding overseas offices ... and perhaps revisit what happens at our head office."

This could entail retrenchments, even though a large number of staff had left the organisation.

"People have been nervous and scared about saying it, but I guess there will be some casualties along the way," Westby-Nunn said.

"I don't think we can kid anyone about that. A lot of people have already left Satour. The organisation is a skeleton of what it was."

Westby-Nunn said the board's first task would be to appoint a new chief executive officer.

"The post was advertised by the previous board and apparently 50-odd nominations have been received.

"Our first task will be to examine this swiftly and appoint as quickly as possible someone who is competent, capable and effective and who can handle the transformation as well as the direction of the marketing. This is a huge task."

The new Satour board would re-examine its marketing strategy, Westby-Nunn said.

"There is no doubt that we have been marketing South Africa traditionally and I think we have to broaden this vision.

"We have great wildlife and scenery and these have been the two major thrusts of our marketing abroad.

"We need to broaden that considerably. We need to encompass all aspects of what South Africa represents because we are a rainbow nation and we have to use all its cultures and aspects.

"So, first we have to restructure how we market that product. Paul Hogan did it for Australia — and we must find clever and innovative ways to do it for South Africa. We need to be creative."

Cape Point buckling under wave of tourists

Star 7/4/97 (288)

Conservationists warned the developers that the reserve would never handle the ever-increasing number of visitors

OWN CORRESPONDENT
Cape Town

Tourists and conservationists say the newly-revamped Cape Point tourist complex is a fiasco. Visitors have to put up with the stench of raw sewage, traffic chaos, aggressive baboons and long queues.

Problems at the new R13-million tourist attraction have drawn increasing complaints from visitors, especially those from overseas. Cape Point, one of the Peninsula's premier tourist sites, had 750 000 visitors last year and more are expected this year.

The R3,5-million funicular taking visitors to the viewing site, which was opened in December and has already carried 150 000 passengers, has been plagued by breakdowns. Other facilities also cannot cope: the sewerage system serving the new complex has broken down and the smell of raw sewage pervades the area.

There is a marked lack of parking and the restaurant and fast food outlet appear unable to cope with the increased demand. And despite the best efforts of a "baboon chaser", aggressive baboons pose a threat to unsuspecting visitors. Environmentalists have warned it will cost millions to rectify the problems without disturbing the environment.

The developer, Concor, has acknowledged that the facilities are inadequate in peak periods and admit that further development is needed in the nature reserve to cope with increased demand.

The Cape Metropolitan Council, "owners" of the reserve, say the complex was never designed to handle the numbers now visiting Cape Point. Conservationists predicted many of the problems when the complex was being planned, but they were ignored by the developers.

They fought to the bitter end to prevent the restaurant complex being built on its present site because the area was too small, and their worst fears are now being realised.

Waste from the restaurant kitchen shares a soakaway sewer with the complex's toilets and the system has become blocked. The narrow entrance road to Cape Point is often congested for kilometres, with cars parked on both sides.

The main parking area is too small to cope with cars as well as up to 20 tour buses at a time in a space designed to take eight.

Plans to build another parking area at Cape Point or at nearby Rooikrantz – including a shuttle service – have also been condemned by conservationists.

Long queues form at the fast food outlet and 200-seat restaurant, which battle to cope with large numbers of tourists. Alida Croudace, chairman of the Redhill landowners' conservation group and a newly appointed member of the Table Mountain national park committee, said the current situation was "disgusting".

"All the things we predicted are now going wrong. They should have investigated all the problems beforehand," she said.

Former Simon's Town councillor Diane Salter said Cape Point could not possibly cope with the large numbers of visitors.

"We regret that these issues were not looked at more closely in the beginning, but what's done is done. We now have to focus on how the increasing numbers should be managed."

Concor director Leo Rohrig acknowledged there were problems with facilities which were inadequate during peak times. "But you can't lay out a facility according to peak demand. It will be boring and empty for the rest of the year."

Concor and the Cape Metropolitan Council could not have predicted the dramatic increase in visitors from 350 000 in 1994 to 750 000 in 1996, he said. Peak hours were between 11am and 2pm and there were also seasonal highs during which facilities were inadequate.

"But our mandate here is to assist visitors to experience the beauty of the place in a manner that has minimum impact on the environment rather than to establish a high acreage of fast food outlets for visitors."

Cape Town's tourism figures leap 49% in

BD 8/4/97

David Greybe

CAPE TOWN — The number of foreign visitors to Cape Town increased by 49% from 1994 to 1995 and was the business they brought with them was worth R2,9bn to the Western Cape, according to a new tourism report presented to the Cape Town city council yesterday.

The report, for the period 1992 to 1995, was presented to the city council's economic committee and said 836 020 foreign travellers visited Cape Town in 1995. It found the number of international visitors who passed through Cape Town International Airport increased — by 33% to 262 423 — between 1994 and 1995, and experienced a similar 33% increase — to 348 172 — last year. This translated into a 77% increase in international tourists between 1994 and last year.

Total hotel income in the Cape Peninsula grew by 7,7% to R278,8m between 1992 and 1993, and 20,8% to R336,9m between 1993 and 1994. An even higher 52% increase took place between 1994 and 1995 when hotel income grew to R512m. Room occupancy at hotels stood at 73% in 1995 — an increase of 17% compared with 1992's 56% occupancy rate. An average of 5 127 hotel rooms were available to tourists in 1995.

According to the report, in 1995 the Cape peninsula had 10 five-star hotels, 16 four-star hotels, 41 three-star hotels, 35 two-star hotels, and 86 one-star hotels. It had 484 guest houses, 169 bed and breakfast establishments, 119 holiday flats and self-catering units, 18 youth hostels and 33 caravan parks.

The report was based on figures provided by the Central Statistical Service, the SA Tourism Board (Satour), the Cape Town Tourism Authority and the Association for the Promotion of the Western Cape's Economic Growth (Wesgro).

As for domestic visitors to Cape Town, a small 5% increase — from 664 580 to 697 809 — was recorded between 1994 and 1995. More than a third (37%) of the domestic visitors in 1995 were on holiday in Cape Town, while the remaining 438 379 were in the city on business.

the space of a year

BD 8/4/97

Satour's world market surveys for 1995 found that foreign visitors to SA stayed in the Western Cape for an average of 12 nights — an increase of nine days compared with 1990.

"This market is valued at approximately R2,9bn," the report said. Foreign visitors on average stayed 21 days in SA, which, the report said, meant they spent almost half (49%) of their time in the Western Cape.

The top tourist attraction was the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, which attracted 16,5-million visitors in 1995, 84% more than in 1992. The other tourist attractions, in order of popularity in 1995, were: Groot Constantia wine estate (501 120 visitors), Kirstenbosch gardens (480 914), Table Mountain cableway (452 123), SA Museum (340 194), The Castle (130 856), World of Birds in Hout Bay (97 500) and the Cultural History Museum (48 854).

Storm cloud over tourist voyages to the Island

JERMAINE CRAIG
STAFF REPORTER

(288)
ARGT 8/4/97

Robben Island's transformation from political prison to premier tourist destination has brought more than its fair share of problems as people clamour to get the hottest tickets in town.

Another controversy involving the Robben Island museum erupted at the weekend, this time over the advance sale of tickets to people visiting the island.

A Canadian couple were incensed at having to stand in a queue of about 150 people for more than an hour-and-a-half on Friday, only to be told that just 30 tickets for the island were available that day.

Robert Yaccato and his wife Patricia were angry that most of the tickets had been bought beforehand from tour operators, although they had been told they could buy tickets only on the day of the trip from the museum's Waterfront offices.

The couple were unable to get tickets and had to cancel their trip.

They say that they should have been told the tickets were already sold out, saving them from queuing unnecessarily. They also say they should have been told by the staff at the Waterfront where to get tickets in advance.

A Robben Island spokeswoman said large crowds thronged the Island's Waterfront office over Easter and over the previous weekend, resulting in many people being turned away.

She denied that only 30 people were allowed on to the island on Friday, saying that the normal quota of about 300 had been accommodated.

Normally about half of the tickets available were sold in advance and the rest were allocated to people in the queue. She added that people were told when the tickets were sold out and did not have to stand in the queue unnecessarily. The island's management had always sold tickets in advance.

The opening of Robben Island to tourism has been plagued with problems. Soon after its opening, island authorities blocked the prison entrance to stop hundreds of passengers from four charter boats which had taken them to the island in defiance of regulations.

Inkatha MPs join Games bid support group

Others invited to join

ARG 8/4/97 (288)

Inkatha Freedom Party MPs have joined the informal committee of "MPs in Support of the Olympics 2004" formed last week to generate public support for the bid.

The MPs are also helping to clear bureaucratic obstacles in the way of bid-related development.

The politically non-aligned committee, formed by African National Congress MPs recently, has now been joined by four IFP MPs. They are Farouk Cassiem, Buyisiwe Nzimande, Eric Lucas and Ahmed Ally.

Other parties have been invited the back the initiative.

Mr Cassiem said: "We are keen to support any initiative to promote the bid, which we believe is an important opportunity for South Africa. We encourage all MPs to support this initiative."

The group has committed itself to:

■ Generate "an atmosphere of excitement" about the bid, encourage popular support and the formation of similar informal committees in education, business, sport, the churches and among ratepayers.

■ Help wherever possible to overcome bureaucratic or other obstacles in government to the bid.

■ Monitor conditions in Cape Town and highlight things that needed to be done to improve the city's chances in the five-city contest for the Games.

■ Conduct spot inspections at proposed Olympic locations and facilities "to ensure they are in good shape".

■ Monitor and recommend improvements on the transport network, a critical feature of the Olympic plan.

■ Try to "facilitate" whatever further resources were needed to ensure a successful bid.

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID



Singing for gold: Jennifer Jones with Olympic song-writers Selwyn Shandel, left, and Stan Lurie

Singer's 'Olympic Fever' definitel

MICHAEL MORRIS

Cape Town singer Jennifer Jones is filling the air with *Olympic Fever* – her contribution to the city's bid to host the 2004 Games.

Jones, backed by Gauteng soul group Family Factory, is the lead singer of the song *Olympic Fever* – written, composed and produced by Selwyn Shandel and Stan Lurie to project an upbeat message about the bid and generate public enthusiasm.

Jones made her mark as a top South African talent when she performed the theme song for the 1995 rugby World Cup at the opening ceremony at Newlands.

She also sang the song to commemorate officially the adoption of the new constitution.

Her *Olympic Fever* record also features rhythm guitarist Louis Mhlanga and Cape Town sax maestro Robbie Janssen.

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Contracts for Olympic poll and study signed

Assessment lags behind schedule

ARGUS 10/4/97 (288)

The long-awaited contract to undertake a strategic environmental assessment of Cape Town's bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games has been signed by the Olympic Bid Company and a group of consultants.

The strategic assessment has been commissioned to provide an independent assessment of the short- and long-term implications of the bid, and is one of the "minimum requirements" negotiated between the company and the environmental sector for environmentalists' participation in the bid process.

Another of the requirements negotiated between the company and the environmentalists is an independent poll to test the opinion of residents of the greater metropolitan region on whether Cape Town should continue its bid to host the Games.

The environmentalists argued that a proper strategic assessment and related environmental impact assessments of all the proposed Olympic sites were essential if residents were to make informed choices about hosting the Games during the poll.

In terms of their agreement, the poll should be conducted a month after the results of the assessment have been released. The actual mechanism of how the poll is to be conducted has yet to be decided.

Issues to be investigated during the strategic environmental assessment include: economic performance; small business opportunities; public finance; public involvement; urban development pattern; transport; nation-building; job creation; price effects; institutional capacity; population growth effects; housing; sport needs; and promoting sustainability.



YELD ON THE ENVIRONMENT

According to the original programme, the strategic assessment should have been commissioned in February; a draft working report produced by March; a review draft report by April-May; and the final report by the end of May. But the process is way behind schedule.

At the beginning of March the Wildlife and Environment Society, a key player in the environmental sector, wrote to the bid company saying the completion of the strategic assessment was a priority and asking it to ensure it was given priority funding.

Last week, not having had an answer, the society wrote again, asking for an urgent response.

"Recent decisions by city politicians will prevent the full disclosure of the bid company's financial records. This is cause for further concern regarding the funding of the SEA," the society's letter, signed by its Western Cape conservation ecologist, Marlene Laros, stated.

The bid company's environmental planner, Mary-Jane Morris, told the Cape Argus there was a commitment to a strategic assessment, as stated in the Bid Book which had been handed to the International Olympic Committee.

"The SEA was discussed with the Wildlife Society prior to its first letter of March 3 and I explained that there is full commitment by our management team to ensure the SEA is completed," she said.

"The bid company has indicated both verbally and in writing its willingness to deal with any questions any environmental organisation may have, and a telephone query would have been appropriate." A letter of appointment for the consultants had now been signed by chief executive Chris Ball, Ms Morris said.

Mr Ball and the company's financial director, Mike Fuller, had been concerned that funds used for the strategic assessment were spent effectively and there had been extensive talks with the consultants.

"We went through a comprehensive process of looking at all the work that needs to be done, and it has taken us longer than we would have liked," Ms Morris conceded.

BUILDING SPECIFICATIONS 'CUT BACK'

Roofless stands keep bid costs down

ET 10/4/97 (288)

THE OLYMPIC BID Company rule of no budget overruns for eight new sports venues will leave part of the Turfhall softball stadium roofless, reports **PETER DENNEHY.**

STANDS for the open-air softball stadium in Turfhall, Athlone, an Olympic priority project, will be built without roofs to avoid an R800 000 cost overrun.

This follows an Olympic Bid Company (OBC) ruling that there will be no cost overruns on the eight sports venues due to be built during the bidding phase.

When faced with a possible cost overrun, the technical task team responsible for these priority projects simply "cuts back" on the building specifications to bring costs back into line.

Mr Ruben Reddy, an architect and consultant to the OBC, who is in charge of the eight priority projects, said the Cape Town City Council or some other body could provide the money for roofs later.

This should happen some time between next year and 2002, when a world softball event is due to take place there.

"During the Olympic Games we have to have a roof (over the stands). That is part of being up to Olympic standards. But the International Olympic Committee can't tell us at this stage what we need to have in place. The IOC visitors (who will be coming to Cape Town in the next few months) already understand that we only have funding for the first phase. If we get the Olympics, completing the stadium to Olympic standard will be part of the Olympic funding."

The eight projects are to be paid for out of R86 million that the central government has made available for the establishment of sports venues during the bidding phase.

"Where we are faced with an overrun, we will relook at the building. We will make savings, even if it means we must cut the building back. We are aware that we will not get a cent more out of central government," Reddy said.

Another of the first new Olympic-related sports venues, a proposed judo hall in Belhar, was showing signs of overshooting cost estimates by R550 000 until architects gave it a cheaper roof.

The eight priority projects are:

- The Turfhall open-air softball stadium.
- The judo hall in Belhar.
- A boxing hall in Mew Way, Khayelitsha — still within budget.
- A hall in Italian Road, Grassy Park, where field laying is almost complete.
- A hall in Philippi East, the detailed design of which is in progress.
- A hall in Langa, the design of which has been agreed to by everyone concerned.
- A hall in Scottsdene, which was "slightly over budget" until savings were identified.
- The upgrading and roofing of the existing cycling velodrome in Bellville.

Reddy said the City of Tygerberg would pay most of the R40m for the upgrade of the Bellville cycling velodrome. Just R5m of the total amount will come from the R86m Olympic fund.

The R5m from Olympic funds will only be paid out on condition that the cycling velodrome has a roof and is sufficiently complete to host the World Junior Cycling Championships in July this year.

Reddy is confident that the deadline will be met. The contract between the Bid Company, the province and the City of Tygerberg "with regard to the R5m contribution" is still being prepared, he said.

According to a March 19 report on the status of the first eight new sports venue projects, drawn up by the Olympic Bid committee for submission to the Cape Metropolitan Council, the cycling velodrome is facing a R4m overrun.

But Reddy did not believe this would put upward pressure on the R5m from Olympic funds that is to be spent on the building.

Part of the reason for the cost overrun is the "requirements of the detailed design of the acoustic ceiling". Reddy explained that the City of Tygerberg wanted a venue for entertainment as well as sports events.

Another consultant who serves on the same technical task team, Mr Terry Bracher, said: "The acoustics relate to the use of the building for entertainment purposes. It is not the concern of the Olympics."

Reddy said the venue would be able to accommodate between 8 000 and 9 000 people, all of them under roof cover.

About 70% of the ceiling material was imported, which made it more difficult to estimate the cost in advance.

He expected the "super fast-tracked" velodrome project, now 25% complete, to break a lot of construction records. A ceremony to mark the first roof bolts being put in place has been scheduled for April 16.

> *'We are aware that we will not get a cent more out of central government.' — Ruben Reddy, architect*

Reddy said building costs are estimated several times, with increasing degrees of accuracy, as the development process unfolds. The first costing estimate is done on the basis of a rate per m^2 on a line drawing, the last one on a "bill of quantities" which a quantity surveyor provides and prices.

Progress on the other four "priority projects", which have not shown any sign of overshooting their budgets at this stage, is as follows:

- A contract for the earthworks at Mew Way has just been granted. The building is expected to be completed by September.
- The Grassy Park "field laying" should be completed by next week. Tenders for the building had to be handed in this week.
- A tender for the artificial-surface soccer field in Philippi East should be awarded by the end of this month.

The provincial administration is considering using the hall as an adult education centre before and after the Games.

- The first tender for the Langa Hall was awarded last week.

Top new Cape hotel unveiled

(288)

David Greybe BD 11/4/97

CAPE TOWN — Another exclusive hotel project in Cape Town, the R220m nine-floor Gateway hotel, was unveiled by a German developer yesterday.

German developer Jochen Büchel said he envisaged that The Gateway would have a "six-star finish in a five-star hotel".

Building is scheduled to begin in October on a site in Mouille Point, close to the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront, and to be completed 16 months later in 1999.

David Harris of Seeff Projects — which is involved in the marketing — said the site was "just about the finest undeveloped hotel site of its size left in Cape Town".

Büchel, Inner Cape Executive chairman, was a businessman and restaurant owner in Johannesburg until he moved to Cape Town and built the exclusive Place on the Bay in Camps Bay.

He said at the launch yesterday that two of the nine floors had already been sold to German investors. Three floors would target the SA market. Foreign interest had come from Malaysia, Germany, the UK and Dubai.

French group Le Meridien was expected to manage The Gateway.

Harris said he was not concerned about overtrading Cape Town's hotel market, which was scheduled to see the construction of five more luxury hotels and four "popularly" priced hotels in the next two years.

City gets help to gear up for tourism boom

Key role for UK experts

ARG 11/4/97 (288)

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

Cape Town's tourism industry and authorities will be able to gear up for the expected tourism boom and possible selection to host the 2004 Olympics with two big international workshops in the next few weeks.

On April 22 a delegation of tourism experts from Britain will sit down with government officials and key players in the industry to examine how local tourism standards can be raised to acceptable international levels and how to improve the industry's contribution tomacro-economic growth, employment and re-distribution (Gear) strategy.

Britain is the leading foreign market for South Africa and British investors expressed "considerable interest" in the local industry after President Mandela's visit there last year, according to Mike Fabricius, chief director of tourism.

"We believe this workshop will contribute to realising concrete tourism investment opportunities," said Dr Fabricius.

The workshop, which forms part of Britain Means Business Week, will be opened by the Duke of Kent and Tourism Minister, Pallo Jordan.

It will include a marketing module focusing on how South Africa can gain visibility on the international map; a module on training and improving standards; and a discussion on managing and maintaining quality and preserving and generating income for heritage sites.

Speakers will include Gareth James of the British Tourist Authority; Ernie Heath of the University of Pretoria; Dena Michelli of the London Business School; Danisa Baloyi of the SA National Black Business Caucus; Robben Island administrator André Odendaal; Raymond Chigot of the Hilton hotel group; and Delano Caras of Kessel Feinstein.

Gearing up for the Olympics will be the focus of a national tourism conference consisting of two one-day workshops at the Langenhoven Centre, University of Stellenbosch, on May 16 and 17.

Endorsed by the Olympic Bid Company, Satour and South African Airways, the conference will be hosted by Tourism Dynamic and focus on preparing and educating business people for the 2004 Games.

Organiser Charl Frank said it would be aimed at people wanting to enter the tourism industry and those already involved.



JACK LESTRADE

Tops in tourism: new Satour boss Liz Westby-Nunn believes a fresh approach is needed

Restoring pride in rainbow nation

ARG 11/4/97 (288)

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

Selling South Africa to the world in a way that promotes the country's diverse cultures as well as our scenery and wildlife is the challenge that awaits new Satour chairman Liz Westby-Nunn.

The dynamic Cape Town businesswoman with 20 years' experience in the tourism industry has been given the task of transforming the troubled, bureaucratic organisation into an effective and efficient marketing tool.

A fresh, creative approach and lateral vision are needed to market the country as a multicultural tourism destination in a way not done previously, she believes.

Broadening the focus on South Africa's wildlife and scenery to include the rainbow nation, the country's diversity of cultures, food, music, art and heritage sites such as Robben Island is what she hopes to achieve.

"Imagine a video with Sibongile Khumalo singing something out of an Italian aria against the backdrop of a star-studded night sky of the Karoo and which says in Italian: 'You've heard her at La Scala, now come and hear her in South Africa.'"

Making the tourism industry and South Africa into a "product" more representative of the population will be one of the new board's first challenges.

"We are lucky to have a huge diversity of culture and we should use it to our advantage," Ms Westby-Nunn said. Creating a sorely lacking tourism culture among South Africans will be a priority for the board.

"We need to make people aware of why it's important to smile at tourists in banks, shops, cafes and service stations. We have to give people a pride in their product and their product is South Africa. They have to promote it and take ownership of it and, of course, they have to be represented in that product," she said.

The challenge of realising these long-term visions for the tourism industry within the constraints of a severely limited budget has been handed firmly to the business sector with Ms Westby-Nunn's appointment to the main job.

South Africa's R64-million tourism budget for 1997 translates to a mere £9-million and compares poorly with Australia's R250-million budget. "We will have to look at clever and resourceful ways other than begging bowls to boost tourism and the industry will have to play a huge part," Ms Westby-Nunn said.

A proposal by the SA Tourism Business Council to match the government's tourism funding on a rand-for-rand basis was under discussion

Addressing crime and the perceptions of the country as a "crime-ridden" destination were other issues the board planned to tackle in conjunction with other government departments.

"Crime is our wild card. It will affect tourism, the Olympic Bid, everything, if something is not done."

On this score Ms Westby-Nunn is particularly disturbed by reports of expatriates bashing their country overseas and of locals discouraging foreigners from visiting South Africa.

But all in all she is realistic and optimistic:

"Our system has given us a bad start. We have to overcome our history and rebuild bridges. We will just have to give it our best shot."

TOURISM (288)

SAKÉ SAKÉ fm 11/4/97

There's many a slip twixt cup and lip but if SA Airways GM in Japan Flip Bekker is right, the twice weekly flights between the two countries will more than double the number of Japanese tourists to SA from 18 000/year in a short time.

Speaking in Osaka after the touchdown of SAA's first direct flight to Japan, he says "there's no reason this cannot happen. SA's foreign tourist potential is Asia. Every year 17m Japanese travel abroad and they can afford to do so comfortably. The average wage in Japan is US$4 000/month, income tax is about 10% and consumer tax is 5%. They save an average 35% of their earnings and when they go abroad, they are lavish spenders.

"They get only one week's leave a year, so they have to choose destinations they can get to comfortably in that time. The US is the preferred destination, but Australia, which only started attacking the Japanese market in the early Eighties now attracts more than a million a year — nearly as much as all SA's foreign visitors."

To get to SA before the direct flights started, Japanese tourists had to fly through Hong Kong, Bangkok, Singapore or Kuala Lumpur. Visitors can now fly directly. The first aircraft that came into Kansai airport at Osaka left 90 minutes later with 202 Japanese tourists.

Japanese visitors to southern Africa, Bekker says, have three musts: to see Cape Town, a game park and the Victoria Falls. They're not big on beaches as they have superb beaches nearer home — in Thailand, for example.

Bekker is convinced that in a few years, with the right marketing, SA will attract more Japanese tourists than Australia does. But, as with any new venture, there are complications. The first direct flight to Japan may see SAA implement an agreement it has with Japan Airlines (JAL) which could widen the rift between it and partner Lufthansa.

SAA has appointed JAL as its Japanese

general sales agent, but, as JAL already has an agreement with American Airlines, this may not go down well with Lufthansa. The German carrier is trying to persuade SAA to break its codeshare agreement with American Airlines because it sees SAA as a member of the nine-member alliance it is trying to set up with United Alliance.

The alliance is an attempt to counter the threat of the impending partnership of British Airways and American Airlines.

Lufthansa has asked that SAA break its agreement with American and replace it with a codeshare agreement with United Airlines. SAA has refused to comply. In any event, says CE Mike Myburgh, it doesn't want to join either camp before Public Enterprises Minister Stella Sigcau chooses its strategic partner.

This will not please Lufthansa. It's now expected that bringing the agreement with JAL into operation may force Lufthansa to not only withdraw the invitation to SAA to join its alliance but to also terminate its deal with SAA. Myburgh accepts SAA cannot have a foot in each camp and will have to withdraw from one. *David Pincus*

PROPERTY

Guesthouses are stiff competition for hotels

'Could even spark off a rate war'

ARG 12/4/97 (288)

CHARLENE CLAYTON
PROPERTY EDITOR

Upmarket guesthouses in the Cape could knock the hotel industry over the short term, and might even spark a rate war.

This is the view of Bryan Stevens, deputy general manager, property finance, of Cape of Good Hope Bank.

He said that in the short-term luxury guesthouses could take a lot of business away from the second class hotels.

"I wouldn't be surprised to see a rate war between the hotels of one-, two- and three-star (hotels) and guesthouses," he said.

Mark Tame, senior manager, commercial and industrial, property finance, at the bank said Cape Town was the preferred destination for virtually the whole of Africa in April.

This had sparked a trend towards developing projects in the leisure industry, with a surge in demand for finance for guesthouses, as well as a move towards hotel sectional title apartments which were let back to a hotel management company, and the construction of hotels.

Mr Stevens said the bank had adopted a cautious approach towards the leisure industry and while there was a definite trend towards guesthouses and similar types of accommodation, as a percentage it made up only a small proportion of Good Hope Bank's business.

"We like to look at financing where the property is for multi-use and not purely directed at the leisure industry," said Mr Casey van der Vlugt, assistant general manager for commercial and industrial property lending at the bank.

Cape of Good Hope Bank last year did a record R1 000-million-worth of new business in commercial and industrial property finance – further proof of the building boom that the Cape was experiencing, he said.

The bank has already lent R300 million in the first three months of this year, indicating a definite increase in the volumes compared to the same time last year.

Mr Van der Vlugt attributed the success enjoyed by the institution last year to the bank's strong focus on Cape property and the expertise it had built up in providing short term development finance.

The bank's property book has now topped R1,7 billion and property finance, including home loans, accounted for about two-thirds of its lending business.

There was also a trend in the property industry where institutionally held commercial properties were being sold to syndicates of private investors, which held on to the property, or sectionalised and sold off units.

The other major event, apart from tourism, was the influx of upcountry people to the Cape, resulting from the perception that the area was a safe haven from crime, said Mr Stevens.

This was providing a "huge boost to the region".

People from Gauteng, Natal and the Free State were acquiring factory and commercial premises in the Cape and were starting up businesses and buying homes, he said.

Glenn Davis, senior manager, commercial and industrial development finance, at the bank said there was a trend towards old buildings being bought, revamped and then retenanted in the central business district, and especially along the city rim areas.

The spine from Long, Loop and Bree streets up to Buitensingel was undergoing a revival with buildings being snapped up, to a large extent by non-residents.

Tourism helps to strengthen retail sales, says Unisa

Business Day Reporter (288)

BD 14/4/97

TOURISM and commuting workers contributed to the strong performance of local retail sales compared to personal disposable income, a University of SA market research report says.

Unisa's bureau of market research published the report on regional market potential indices for consumer goods in SA. The general market potential index measures the percentage of the national market for all goods and services that can be absorbed by a specific region.

Johannesburg has the highest general market potential index, holding 9,3% of the total, followed by Pretoria with 5,5% and Durban with 4%.

Gauteng could absorb 34,6% of all marketed goods and services while the Northern Cape could absorb only 2,2% of the total, the report says.

Some regions' share of retail sales is significantly higher than the region's share of both personal disposable income and population.

The Cape Peninsula's retail sales share is 11,1% against 9,4% of personal disposal income share and a population share figure of 4,9%. Greater Pretoria has a retail sales share of 8,1% and a share of personal disposable income of 6,5%.

In a study on the market potential for specific goods, 15,1% of all beverages were sold in the Cape Peninsula against a 10,8% share in food sales. A 44% slice of all sport and recreation equipment was sold in Gauteng.

Carving up Olympic pie so black firms get slice

Help at hand for small businesses

ARG 14/4/97 (288)

Cape Town's Community Olympic Forum is to help emergent black-owned businesses take advantage of special tendering procedures for multi-million rand bid-related projects.

Scores of small businesses and new contractors have come forward since the Cape Argus published a report last week on the introduction of an "affirmative procurement policy" devised specifically to target emergent enterprises from the previously disadvantaged sector. For many of them the tendering formalities are daunting.

Project management consultancy Amsa – which is responsible for managing the seven projects – said new businesses wanting to compete for work on these projects would be given advance warning of the tender calls and that leaflets spelling out how to tender would be distributed.

Last week the Community Olympic Forum, representing wide-ranging civic and community organisations, said it would also help new and small businesses.

Forum chairperson Brian Williams, former unionist and now director of the Department of Labour in the Western Cape, said: "Small businesses and people who feel they have the skills and could contribute to these projects should contact the forum."

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Rather than following the customary route of drawing up a single tender to cover an entire project – which means only big companies are able to submit tenders, then sub-contract portions of the work – the Olympic priority projects are being split up into as many as 20 "tender packages".

Roofing or electrical work, for instance, will be advertised as a tender package separate from the structural steel work or concrete construction elements of the project.

The projects for which tenders are to be called shortly are:

- a softball facility at the Turfhall Sports Complex in Athlone (R10-million);
- a Belhar community, sports and recreation hall, earmarked for judo during the Olympics (R18,25-million);
- a multi-purpose hall for boxing in Langa (R5-million);
- an indoor multi-purpose hall in Philippi East, earmarked for badminton in 2004 (R18-million);
- an indoor multi-purpose hall in Mew Way, Khayelitsha, earmarked for boxing (R16,7-million);
- a multi-purpose hall in Scottsdene, also earmarked for boxing (R2-million, in this case a contribution from the Cape Metropolitan Council); and
- an outdoor training facility for baseball in Grassy Park (R2-million).

The project managers at Amsa can be reached at 21 2363 and Mr Williams of the Community Olympic Forum can be reached at 460 5170.

Rescue bid for Games environment impact study

(288) 96

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

ARG 14/4/97

Talks are continuing this week to rescue Cape Town's Olympic strategic environmental assessment, which is running way behind schedule.

This follows delays in finalising the contract between the Bid Company and specialist consultants.

The study appeared to be in the balance last week, when the consultants said they were reviewing their approach and were not ready to sign the contract.

Earlier in the week the Bid Company committed itself to the next phase of the assessment.

David Shandler of the assessment team said the two sides had met at the weekend and had made progress.

"I'm hoping we will be able to resolve this within the next few days," he said.

Mr Shandler said: "A considerable amount of time has passed since our appointment, and although phase one of the study has been completed, the context and conditions have changed, and we are having to re-look at our approach given these changes.

"We would certainly like to see the assessment going ahead," he said.

The study is intended to provide an independent assessment of the short- and long-term implications of the bid, and is one of the "minimum requirements" negotiated between the company and the environmental sector for environmentalists' role in the bid process.

Another of the requirements negotiated between the company and the environmentalists is an independent poll to test public opinion on whether the bid should continue, based on the results of the study. Details of how the poll is to be conducted have yet to be decided.

The study is to assess the bid in terms of economic performance, small business opportunities, public finance, public involvement, urban development, transport, nation-building, job creation, price effects, institutional capacity, population growth effects, housing, sport needs and the promotion of sustainability.

According to the original programme, the strategic assessment should have been commissioned in February, a draft working report produced by March; a review drafted by April or May and the final report by the end of May.

See page 5

6

R500-million tourism boost for Muizenberg

Nissen bags European investments

(288)

ARG 14/4/97

THABO MABASO
BUSINESS REPORTER

A top European investor is planning to pump nearly R500-million into the hotel and catering industry in the Muizenberg area, says Western Cape Economic Affairs Minister Chris Nissen.

In an interview with the Cape Argus, Mr Nissen said he would not name the company because negotiations were "at a sensitive stage". The minister secured the investment during a visit to three European countries last month.

Other investments secured during the trip include R90-million for the upgrading of a city centre hotel, R60-million towards the establishment of a metal cap manufacturing plant by a French investor and R90-million for a company specialising in low-cost housing materials.

"During the trip we told them the Western Cape was an area they could come and invest in because we have the infrastructure and the environment," Mr Nissen said.

The Undivco group of France planned to open a plant manufacturing panels used in low-cost housing.

The Masilly group, also of France, would invest in the metal cap manufacturing plant.



Chris Nissen: attracting investment in W Cape

The cap manufacturing plant would be established in Blue Downs, Mitchell's Plain or Atlantis. A decision still had to be made about its location.

The hotel would probably be in the central business district. The investor,whom he would not name, would "probably buy an existing hotel and revamp it", he said.

Mr Nissen did not rule out joint ventures by the European investors with local companies.

"Some of the investors will probably team up with local companies and of course we encourage them to do that," he said.

Mr Nissen added that nearly 600 jobs would be created as a result of the investments.

The minister has always insisted that only investments that create jobs will be considered by the provincial government and his ministry.

He added that it would probably take three months for the companies to enter the country and make the investments.

The Western Cape is aiming to attract R16-billion in investments from overseas by the end of year.

An official in Mr Nissen's office said the province had attracted nearly R13-billion in investments this year.

"It is a very realistic target and we are confident that we will meet it," said the official.

The announcement of the intention by the four companies to invest in the province went a long way towards meeting that target, Mr Nissen said.

...gn by police "supernero" ... Cape teamed up to establish the field.

... contamination of the town's underground water supply.

Western Cape tourist boom 'way below its potential'

(288)

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

ARG 14/4/97

Growth in the tourism industry, particularly in the Western Cape, has been well below its potential, says an industry publication.

Tourism Info, a monthly newsletter aimed at "people who are serious about tourism", says in its latest issue that although growth appeared promising at first glance and had been hailed as a "boom" by Tourism Minister Pallo Jordan, there were still many concerns.

Chief among these was that the Western Cape's popularity was waning, which was underscored by "relatively poor figures" for the December-January period.

Some of the reasons were:

■ December was no longer the peak tourism month.

■ Hotel prices were too high (in spite of stagnant occupancy rates, profits rose).

■ Crime.

■ The paralysis in the marketing of South Africa abroad as a result of the restructuring of Satour.

"This clearly points to a problem that can only be aggravated for the hotel industry with the number of new hotels and resorts planned," Tourism Info says.

Market forces would resolve the pricing issue, but a concerted effort was also needed to expand the market and overcome obstacles.

This included the revamping of Satour, which began with the recent appointment of a new board, less fragmentation, the development of the domestic tourism market and, more particularly, of the emerging black tourism market.

Soweto's 'struggle village' set to become top attraction

Star 14/4/97 (288)

By Morgan Naidu

A major financial institution is set to pump thousands of rands into what could become Soweto's biggest tourist attraction – a "struggle village".

It will include the houses of President Mandela and his former wife Winnie, as well as those of Walter Sisulu, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Zeph Mothopeng, and the memorial site of 1976 riot victim Hector Peterson.

The scheme just off Orlando West's main road was given a boost recently by the Southern Council's pledge of funds, and looks set to get off the ground after two years of deliberation.

It will include curio stores, a shebeen and other tourist-friendly shops.

Johannesburg Metropolitan Tourism Association chief executive Keith Brebnor said a leading financial institution had offered an unspecified amount to turn the area into one of Greater Johannesburg's star tourist attractions.

The project forms part of the council's plans to revitalise Greater Johannesburg, which has earned the reputation of being the crime capital of the world.

"We are not depressed about the city. Latest figures show we are still leading the tourism stakes in the country.

"There is investment pouring in and the inner-city development forum is moving to bring new life to the city's downtown area."

Brebnor said the council, together with the association, would seek to establish new attractions for tourists in the city as well as in the suburbs.

"The struggle village will be one of them, especially since more than 15 tour operators take at least 3 000 visitors to the area every month.

"The problem is there is a lack of facilities for tourists and we hope to upgrade by putting in a park and arts and crafts stores to go along with a museum dedicated to the struggle," said Brebnor.

He said the area itself would not be drastically revamped as this would take away the "flavour" of Soweto.

Eskom workers join fight against revamp

Reneé Grawitzky

HUNDREDS of Eskom workers marched on the Pretoria offices of Minerals and Energy Minister Penuell Maduna yesterday to highlight opposition to government's plans to restructure the electricity supply industry.

The National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) and other unions in the industry claimed that they had not been party to any consultation on the positions adopted by government in March.

Union spokesman George Molebatsi said a memorandum was presented to Maduna, who indicated that nothing would happen regarding the restructuring until all the parties discussed the issues. Molebatsi said Maduna had hoped that discussions around restructuring would have been finalised by the end of August.

NUM said the report compiled by the electricity working group, which proposed autonomous regional electricity distributors, was about "taking us away from the employer we have been associated for many years without getting our views". This was contrary to what was discussed in Eskom's restructuring and transformation committee, the union said.

BD 15/4/97

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Govt support for role of hunting in SA

Michael Moon

BD 15/4/97

HUNTING in SA was making a real contribution to the protection of ecosystems and wildlife, deputy environmental affairs and tourism minister Peter Mokaba said yesterday.

"The only way to make conservation work in Africa is to make it pay," Mokaba told a seminar of the Wildlife Utilisation Forum of SA at Suikerbosrand, near Heidelberg.

Hunting for trophies and venison had developed into a very lucrative industry. Annual income for SA from foreign hunters was almost R117m in a 1996 survey, which did not include airfares, taxidermy and other expenses.

In places, game farming was more profitable than stock farming.

Mokaba said the realisation of game as a valuable resource contributed much to securing the continued existence of many species. The availability of suitable habitat is therefore essential, he said.

He said draft policy on conservation, due to be tabled in Parliament during the current session, contained the sentence, "Government .... will continue to support programmes that utilise indigenous wildlife sustainably for subsistence purposes and commercial gain".

Mokaba also said SA would back a proposal by Zimbabwe, Botswana and Namibia to have the world ban on trade in elephants and ivory lifted at the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (Cites) meeting in Harare in June.

SA's neighbours managed their elephant populations well and government was convinced that controlled international trade in ivory would not have a detrimental effect elsewhere in Africa. Conservation in the three countries was in dire need of the funds which could be realised from ivory stockpiles, said Mokaba.

At the Cites meeting, SA is to argue for the easing of restrictions on the trade in rhino horn.

City's stature boosted in top US travel magazine

DAN SIMON
TOURISM WRITER

CAPE TOWN'S growing stature as an international tourist destination has received a boost from the highly respected and influential American travel magazine National Geographic Traveler.

In its March/April edition, the magazine devotes no fewer than 18 pages to present the Mother City and its attractions to the huge US and Canadian tourist market with an article entitled The Fairest Cape. Beguiling Cape Town: Stepping into the sun.

Written by National Geographic Traveler editor Richard Busch, the feature is accompanied by photographs of the city and surrounding regions, including the winelands and Cape Point.

But Busch has added a personalised touch with an Editor's Note opinion piece.

"By any standard, the Cape Town region of South Africa is one of the most beautiful and compelling places to visit on the planet ... Here, in addition to a city with fascinating historical sites, excellent museums, vibrant markets, and a handsomely restored waterfront recreation area, I encountered mountain wilderness, rugged coastlines, sandy beaches, lush gardens, beautiful wine estates, superior hotels and restaurants and some of the warmest, most welcoming people I've ever met."

Busch says he was also "deeply impressed" by how safe he felt wherever he went.

"Which is not to say that one shouldn't take the usual precautions here that travellers should take anywhere."

(288) CT 15/4/97

back Lekota for senior ANC post

Lekota is currently the only directly elected ANC national executive committee (NEC) member in the top 60 of the NEC. Two other Free State representatives are part of 18 representatives drawn into the NEC from all provinces.

Lekota's name was mentioned in the recent leadership debacle in the North West ANC, where regional chairman and North West Premier Popo Molefe was reported to have insisted that Lekota's name be included in the final list of nominees, even though members had voted him out.

According to the list sent to The Star by the North West executive committee, Lekota's name did not feature at all in the top six. However, Molefe later said Lekota's name was omitted by mistake because he was supposed to have been nominated, together with Mpumalanga Premier Mathews Phosa, for the position of ANC deputy president.

The North West nominees were Deputy President Thabo Mbeki for president, Phosa as his deputy, Jacob Zuma as national chairman, Cheryl Carolus as secretary-general, Molefe as her deputy and UK high commissioner Mendi Msimang as treasurer-general.

Senior North West ANC members said Molefe was insisting on Lekota because they were friends and he had already promised him the nomination. Molefe denied this.

Lekota said Molefe had approached him to find out if he would be prepared to stand for the deputy presidency, to which he agreed. However, he said the request had nothing to do with their friendship but was based on the confidence people had in his leadership.

Call for tough action on campus vandalism

(288) Star 16/4/97

Durban – The trashing of the Technikon Natal campus in Durban on Monday has been condemned by the ANC Youth League in KwaZulu Natal.

The league yesterday blamed the suspended students' representative council for a rampage through lecture halls in which some students were forced out of lectures and others intimidated and assaulted.

The students were demonstrating against the SRC's suspension and the price of cafeteria food, and were demanding more financial aid.

ANCYL spokesman Sifiso Sonjica said the SRC was manipulating students.

"If needs be, culprits should be suspended and expulsion should be considered ... the technikon shall have public support."

He said students should distance themselves from a clique in the Azanian Students' Convention and Pan Africanist Students' Organisation that was bent on looting and vandalism.

"The ANCYL (also) calls upon students to distance themselves from racist tendencies practised by the SRC."

More than 500 students handed a note to the office of technikon principal Professor Bennie Khoapa, saying they wanted the suspension of the SRC revoked.

Technikon spokesman Kim Roderick said the march was peaceful. Lectures were continuing and the SRC was expected to meet supporters later in the day. – Sapa.

Hotels host fewer foreign tourists

The number of hotel bed-nights sold to foreign tourists decreased by 13,4% in January this year, the Central Statistical Service said yesterday.

It said 227 263 bed-nights were sold in January, more than 35 000 fewer than the 262 288 sold in January 1996.

The market share of four-star hotels increased by 6,7%, with the most bed-nights being sold in these and three-star hotels.

However, nil-star and five-star hotels had lost a share of their markets.

The Western Cape showed the largest increase in market shares for January, while there was a 3,9% decrease in the Gauteng market.

According to the Central Statistical Service, more bed-nights were sold to foreign tourists from Africa, Europe and Central and South America, while the North American market showed a slight decrease. – Sapa.

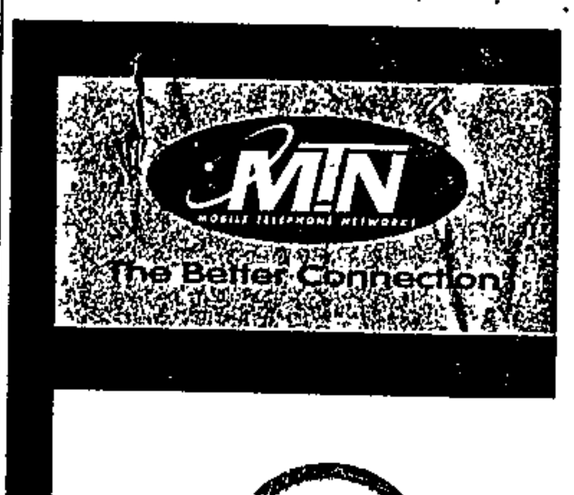
Star 16/4/97 (288)

University closed after boycotts

Empangeni – The University of Zululand has been closed until further notice after students ignored an ultimatum to return to class yesterday, university spokesman Carl de Villiers said.

He said a group of students began boycotting lectures on Monday, demanding that cash-strapped students be allowed to register without paying the required fees upfront. – Sapa.

(288) Star 16/4/97



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In the villages around Mount Frere, women have abandoned their craft projects and are looking to farming to make a living. Picture: KATHRYN STRACHAN

Tourists pay to carry water for the villagers

Self improvement programmes in rural settlements face formidable challenges. **Kathryn Strachan** discovered that 'cultural tourism' is one enterprise that could be a winner

BD 17/4/97 (288)

WOMEN carrying buckets of water from the Keneka River to the village over the hill are a common sight at Mount Frere in Transkei. So why do these women look so different? Perhaps it has something to do with the fact that they are Swedish.

They are here through the initiative of the people of Rode village, who struggle to survive in the desolate region. The locals have opened their homes to "cultural tourists", whom they charge R165 a night for the opportunity to experience day-to-day life in Transkei. The foreign visitors milk the cows and goats, feed the chickens, grind the maize and fetch the water. After a supper of umngqusho and umphokoqo, the visitors sit around the fire and listen to ancient Xhosa tales been passed down for generations.

Since the initiative began almost a year ago, the villagers have hosted more than 30 tourists from Sweden and more than 20 from the US. "They come to experience our way of life, our food and our history," says Zola Magida, director of the local nongovernment organisation, Isinamva, (which means he who dances last, dances best).

This is the only income-generating scheme that is having any effect in the area. Other projects like sewing and running a bakery have fallen through.

The women of Isinamva set up a bakery which has the capacity to supply two neighbouring schools with the bread they need for their school feeding schemes. Yet when they attended a recent tender meeting, they were told the contract had already been awarded to local businessmen. "They told us we were dirty and that our water was not clean," said Mantombela Sidlakadla, a mother of six children. "How can they say to us the mothers are dirty so they cannot feed their children?"

The bakery project has been suspended.

The women have tried other projects but have got nowhere. The answer, says Magida, is to move back to agriculture. Projects such as sewing fell away as the profit did not cover the cost of the material.

In the end the organisation found that a lot of development projects simply perpetuated underdevelopment — the chickens were eaten by wild animals, the vegetables were destroyed by pigs, and the sewing projects could not compete with shop prices.

Isinamva started with 35 villages, but it now focuses on five, trying to find a new direction which can be expanded later to all the villages. It has three staff members, and since foreign donor funding was shifted from nongovernmental organisations to the state two years ago, they have had to do their work without outside funding.

The organisation, nonetheless, is continuing with its attempts to uplift people in the villages with the small stipends it receives from locals. It provides health workers, women living in the community, who visit homes and provide basic health care. They are equipped with a first aid box, and assist in childbirth and in processing grant and pension forms.

At the centre of Isinamva's work is the concept that development needs to focus on people rather than structures. "People look to forces outside themselves, and in the end they do not know who they are. We want to help people regain their identity," says Magida.

The medicinal herb, ubuhlungwana, which grows in abundance in Mount Frere is a symbol of this. It has been an age-old cure for stomach ailments, and in the absence of any medicines, the organisation is encouraging people to look to it and other traditional remedies to cure themselves.

The organisation has drawn up maps of its villages, and marked on them are all the resources the village can call on, such as a retired nurse or a carpenter.

The maps set out which homes are afflicted with which diseases, so the organisation knows what it is dealing with when it looks at how it can promote health.

For Sidlakadla, the vast political changes taking place across the country have meant little to her life. "We see the electricity and the phones, but at the same time we still see only unemployment and no schools."

It's Madiba magic for Bid

President on line to IOC members

ARG 17/4/97 (288)

Madiba magic is being used to bolster Cape Town's bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

President Mandela is to make personal telephone calls to members of the International Olympic Committee – especially those in Africa – to canvass support for the bid.

This key strategy is among those now coming on stream as South Africa intensifies the lobbying of Olympic votes. With less than five months to go before the September 5 vote, deploying "Madiba magic" has become a strategic imperative.

Mr Mandela and Deputy-President Thabo Mbeki are to give up more of their time for personal contacts with IOC visitors – at least 54 of whom must vote for Cape Town if the city is the win the race to host the 2004 Games.

Maintaining and strengthening contact with the African members of the IOC is critical – this 20-strong bloc represents nearly half the number of votes the bid needs to win.

The president and deputy-president will seek to assure the IOC of the national commitment to tackle crime head-on, to convince them that South Africa's democracy is stable and that the institutional framework of the state will guarantee political and economic stability in a post-Mandela setting.

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

There are 40 confirmed IOC visits lined up, and the bid team is hoping to increase this number.

There have been four visits so far, and the fifth visitor, Louis Guirandou-N'Diaye of the Ivory Coast, arrived last night.

A bigger role for Mr Mandela and Mr Mbeki in the present critical lobbying phase was one of the main items on the agenda at a meeting this week between Mr Mbeki, other senior government officials and the Bid Company.

A month ago it was felt – especially in Europe – that South Africa's inclusion in the shortlist was just a "concession" and a reward of sorts for South Africa's "miracle" transition.

This month, though, the influential international sport newsletter Sport Intern reports that observers now place Buenos Aires last in the race.

Furthermore, the editor and publisher of Sport Intern, Karl-Heinz Huba, notes: "Here and there, there is alarm that an appearance by Nelson Mandela before the IOC session (in September) could turn all the technical-rational considerations upside down."

Reacting to this, Nocsa treasurer Kurt Hipper told the parliamentary sport portfolio committee yesterday: "This shows how important the Madiba magic is, and we must work on this now."

Bid Company finance director Michael Fuller and other members of the bid team made it clear that while IOC visitors so far had left with very favourable impressions of the city as an Olympic venue and of the technical details of the bid plan, key concerns were crime and future political and economic stability.

Mr Fuller also made it clear that the bid "desperately needs" more money to run an effective, competitive lobbying campaign over the next few months.

Mr Fuller said the shortage of money had limited the bid company's capacity to make the most of the recent athletics event at Green Point stadium and at events during the recent visit of foreign navies to the city.



Bolted down: Tygerberg mayor Lukas Oliver gets to work during

Tygerberg up to spe

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

The City of Tygerberg is rising to the occasion in meeting the tight construction deadline for the velodrome roof over the Bellville cycling track – an Olympic priority project.

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OLYMPIC PROGRESS: The first arch of the new roof over the Velodrome, a cycling track in Bellville, was bolted into place yesterday. Revamping the stadium will cost R38 million. The building must be ready by July to host the World Junior Cycling Championships. ***PICTURE: GARTH STEAD***

'Mandela factor' may secure IOC vote

CT 17/4/97 17/4/97 (288)

PETER DENNEHY

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela, the "trump card" of the African bid for the Olympic Games in 2004, will address International Olympic Committee (IOC) members just before they make their final decision in September on who hosts the Games.

This emerged yesterday during a bid company briefing of Parliament's portfolio committee on sport.

Bid company director Mr Ngconde Balfour said the president had made many telephone calls in an effort to help secure the vote of the 20 IOC members from Africa.

Cape Town needs 55 votes to get the Games. There are 20 African members out of a total of just over 100 IOC members.

Balfour said it was also important to secure the "second vote" of the IOC delegates to swing the final decision in Cape Town's favour.

"The president will also play a crucial role in respect of some of the visits (from IOC members)," said Balfour.

Mr Michael Fuller, financial director of the bid, reported to the committee that they expected 40 visits to Cape Town by IOC members in the run-up to the September decision.

"We have already had four visits from (the) IOC," said Fuller.

Mr Mluleki George, president of the National Sports Congress, expressed concern that the bid company was holding back on its "trump card", possibly until it was too late.

But Mr Danie Malan, vice-president of the National Olympic Committee of South Africa (Nocsa), said that in his opinion the "Mandela factor" should be reserved for the last moment.

Nocsa treasurer Mr Kurt Hipper quoted from the April 7 edition of Mr Karl-Heinz Huba's *Sport Intern* — an authoritative publication reporting on IOC matters — which has predicted that a European city will get the 2004 Games: "There is alarm that the appearance by Mandela (at the pre-decision presentations in Lausanne in September) could turn everything upside down."

If Mandela looked the IOC members in the eyes on September 5, Hipper said, "they may not dare to vote differently".

He suggested that Mandela and his deputy, Mr Thabo Mbeki, should set time aside to meet the IOC visitors.

"I was in Lausanne (when the five finalists were chosen)," said Hipper.

"The concern about crime was there, but greater is the worry about what happens when President Mandela steps down.

"They (IOC members) look around in Africa and Eastern Europe and see how change happens ... the president and the deputy president should meet them and convince them that every great man can be replaced eventually," he said.

● Nocsa has been given the task of developing excellence in Olympic sports.

"We have a programme in place ... we have already spent R9,5 million ... and we anticipate we will spend three times that before the Sydney Games (in the year 2000)," said Malan.

Lack of resources can hit Games bid

BD 18/4/97 (288)

Samantha Sharpe

CAPE TOWN — SA was underselling the commercial potential that would accompany its successful bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games, a factor that could harm Africa's first shot at holding the event, Olympic Bid Company director Michael Fuller said yesterday.

At a media briefing ahead of "Britain Means Business" week, a series of workshops linking UK and SA businessmen, he said SA's marketing to the international business community was only 20% of that undertaken by other candidate cities. A lack of resources was the culprit behind the underplay, according to Fuller.

He said the bid company was in discussions with government about the problem, with the presidential office now shifting its role from one of endorsement to one of actively supporting the city's bid ahead of a final decision early in September.

He said events like the Britain Means Business week, which started on Monday, were essential to the success of the games.

"While investment in the games means low risk for the private sector, it is essential that companies are brought in as much as possible in terms of Olympics-related infrastructural and related projects."

Cape Town is one of five cities, including Rome, Athens, Stockholm and Buenos Aires, bidding to host the 2004 Games. The final decision will be made in Lausanne in September.

UK-SA talks in city may net millions for bid

MICHAEL MORRIS AND CHÉNE BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTERS

ARG 18/4/97

Multimillion-rand joint venture opportunities in tourism, development and Olympic-related projects are expected to flow from intensive discussions in the city next week between top British executives and their South African counterparts.

The Britain Means Business workshops from Tuesday to Thursday hold the promise of injecting substantial British expertise into the preparations for the Olympic project, the development and expansion of tourism and mobilising investment capital nationally.

The high-powered 50-strong delegation, led by the Duke of Kent, reflects Britain's determination to forge stronger trade and investment links with South Africa.

Delegates include leading architect Norman Foster; Gordon Edington, chairman of the company that runs Heathrow and Gatwick airports near London; Gareth Evans, head of the British Tourist Authority; Raymond-Pierre Chigot, vice-president of Hilton International; Brian Pearse of Lucas Varity PLC; and Alastair Morton, honorary president of Eurotunnel Group.

British High Commissioner Maeve Fort said yesterday: "We mean to bring to Cape Town a blockbuster series of commercial, sporting and cultural events.

"The principal objective is to show how

To page 2

UK-SA talks may mean millions for Olympic bid

From page 1

Britain's global experience can help Cape Town score from the 2004 Olympics."

All events had been tailored to meet South Africa's developmental needs, she said.

Among the delegates visiting the city next week will be Rod McGeoch, a director of the organising committee for the Sydney Olympics, who will share the Australian experience with Cape Town's bid team.

Ms Fort pointed out that British finance houses had "scored major successes in advising the South African public sector on restructuring".

"Next week they will talk about financial engineering – the options available for turning the Olympic bid into a reality."

The Britain Means Business project, launched in 1994, "represents an ongoing UK commitment to the economic as well as political success of the new South Africa", she said.

Since it began, the initiative had brought together 1 500 British and South African potential partners. During the past year, British/South African partnership deals had been struck at a rate of one every fortnight.

Since 1994, South African exports to Britain had risen 26 percent and UK imports to South Africa 33 percent, Ms Fort said.

Bad service is harming city's image for visitors

(288)

STAFF REPORTER

Poor service from many sedan taxi operators in Cape Town is harming the city's image among foreign visitors, who say this international mode of transport is often not up to scratch.

This is according to a report on a service measurement pilot project undertaken for the Cape Town municipality as part of an initiative to jack up service in the tourism industry. ARG 18/4/97

The project identifies an urgent need for corrective and preventive measures to close the "service gaps".

Sixty foreign visitors from more than 10 countries were asked about their experiences in metered taxis.

Half said they had had service-related problems, ranging from attempts to overcharge, deliberately taking people to the wrong addresses and unnecessary detours, to difficulty hiring taxis from certain places and having to make use of "pirate" (illegal) taxis. Eight percent of participants would not advise others to use sedan taxis in Cape Town because of dissatisfaction with the service or prices.

The visitors interviewed had, on average, made more than four trips by metered taxi in the city and some had made as many as 20.

The average participant spent about R3 000 on accommodation, meals, tours, transport, entertainment, shopping and sundry expenses during his or her stay, and some spent as much as R8 500.

More than 50 percent were professionals, many in management positions. Older visitors and younger women are two important groups who used taxis.

The report stresses the "increasingly important role of meter taxis" as traffic flows in the inter city increased and streets get more congested during the Olympics, if Cape Town hosts the 2004 Games.

Metered taxis form a vital part of inner-city transportation networks world-wide.

There are believed to be about 400 sedan taxis in Cape Town, many of which operate illegally. In many instances poor service is the result of "deep-seated economic problems", increasing competition from tour buses and problems arising from illegal operators, the report says.

The situation is further compounded by low morale, lack of skills and poor communication with other tourism industries.

OFF

Betting is open on Sun International's recovery prospects

(288) ST (BT) 20/4/97

CASINOS

By JULIE WALKER

SUN International SA (Sisa) has been one of the JSE's worst performers: three years ago it was R10, now it is 280c and still falling. Yet its earnings have not dived: indeed they have climbed from 39.6c to 49.8c a share over the period and its borrowings have fallen to just about nil.

The reasons behind the share price drop relate to its prospects in the wake of a redefined gaming industry. The question is: Will it ever become a buy? Some think it already is, as there has been very large volume at 300c and below on institutional interest.

The facts are plain, the consequences not. Sisa currently operates 17 casinos and new legislation dictates it must have only nine by 1999. It may hold no more than two licences per province except in the Eastern Cape and North West Province, where it may hold three because of its existing investments.

Sisa's seven casinos in North West contributed two thirds of Sisa's earnings in the financial year to June 1996.

Secondly, holders of 36% of the Sisa equity — development corporations from the four former independent homelands — are obliged to sell their holdings primarily to remove potential conflicts of interest.

Thirdly, the rate of tax applicable to earnings has also increased since the businesses became incorporated under South African jurisdiction.



PETER BACON

Share-price weakness is only to be expected under these triple influences. However, nobody rings a bell when a share reaches the bottom and he who calls it corre[illegible]y makes money. Sisa has the assets, which are already paid for, and both the management and the experience to run casinos profitably.

Chief executive Peter Bacon says Sisa will move ahead with the compliance on licences sooner rather than later. "We are making good progress and it is not something we fear," he says. "It will involve the closure of some operations and the sale of others but it does mean that we are able to bid in areas where we previously had no presence, such as the Western Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, Gauteng, the Northern Province and Mpumalanga."

Bacon notes that Sisa is among the top five resort operators in the world: "We are very proud of our operations. We have made a significant contribution to tourism and infrastructure in the region and we do give our customers a world-class experience."

Sisa has joined forces with black empowerment grouping AfriSun Leisure Investments, whose members include Real Africa Investments and Thebe Investment Corporation, with which it is to make licence applications.

Gauteng is the key in that the North West casinos draw their customers from the newly created but tiny geographic concentration in which 45% of the nation's income is earned. The Gauteng government indicates it will grant six licences, and there has been a rush among potential casino operators to Midrand, halfway between Johannesburg and Pretoria and seen as offering the best of both worlds.

Sisa has bought a Midrand site and is believed to be planning a theme park. "People don't go to Sun City just to gamble. They go for fun too, and the gambling cross-subsidises the leisure aspects of our resorts.

"If there are six casinos in Gauteng roughly within 20 minutes drive of each other, competition will be fierce. Casinos are not a licence to print money in themselves," says Bacon.

Bacon says that four of gambling mad Australia's nine casinos are in difficulties and prospects in Namibia are not that great either.

The interim dividend was lifted 0.5c to 15.5c from earnings of R209-million or 26.4c a share. Bacon expects operating profits to show an improvement — thanks partly to the stamping out of illegal casinos — and even after the increase in tax, attributable earnings are expected to beat last year's 50c.

Sisa can currently be bought at 285c, about six times forward earnings and yielding a dividend of 10% or so.

The share price is also close to the tangible net asset value of 248c at 31 December.

Sure it's a risk to buy it at the price because it is not yet known what impact the closure of half its casinos and the cost of investing in any new ones will mean to earnings and dividends. But then gambling's like that. I think it's worth a punt at this price.

[illegible] ST (BT) [illegible]

R25m Games fund vetoed

TOM HOOD

THE Cape Metropolitan Council has been barred from setting up a R25-million special fund to be spent on infrastructure for the 2004 Olympic Games.

The Department of Finance refused to let the council include the R25-million provision in its annual budget.

However, now that Cape Town is on the short list of cities to host the Olympics, the Cape Metropolitan Council's finance committee wants the council to pressure the department to change its mind.

The government explanation was that the special Olympics facilities fund was not a fund approved by the Minister of Finance, and the hoarding of funds of this type conflicted with the Regional Services Act.

"Should the bid be successful, Olympic facilities would be reconsidered in a favourable light," said a departmental spokesman.

The CMC was also barred from spending R2,5-million on "cultural activities" and R1,8-million on tourism promotion. ST (am) 20/4/97

Olympic Bid Company financial director Michael Fuller said the R25-million was part of funds guaranteed by the CMC and would not be spent on infrastructure unless Cape Town won the bid to hold the 2004 Olympics.

(288)

maureenm@ctn.argus.co.za

Mbeki urges African backing for Olympic bid

(288)

From page 1

ARG 21/4/97

ment about the continent," Mbeki said.

"We need to put in all of the necessary effort to campaign. It is a matter that goes beyond the Olympics themselves. It is a matter that has to do with the struggling that all of our countries are involved in to achieve development for the African continent as a whole, to ensure that the African continent occupies its place among the world community of nations."

Last month Archbishop Tutu and former Atlanta mayor Andrew Young said they were hopeful Cape Town would be selected to host the 2004 Olympic Games, saying South Africa owed the world a big party for helping to end apartheid rule.

"What better opportunity for the Olympics to take place in a country which the world has helped to change," Archbishop Tutu said after receiving the Henry W Edgerton Civil Liberties Award from the American Civil Liberties Union.

Mr Young said: "South Africa can count on the American vote in September. The president (Bill Clinton) will do anything to help South Africa get the Games ... The world needs the Games in Cape Town for the 21st century."

Mr Mbeki said it was incorrect to think that the Olympics would drain funds from other social projects, thus delaying development in most pressing areas.

Athens, Rome, Stockholm, Cape Town and Buenos Aires are finalists in the race to host the 2004 Summer Olympics. The winner will be selected by the International Olympic Committee on September 5.

Mbeki gets Africa behind Bid

ARG 21/4/97

(288)

RICH MKHONDO
FOREIGN SERVICE

Washington – Deputy President Thabo Mbeki has mobilised Africa behind Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympics, emphasising that the bid is not a trial run for the 2008 Games.

"As the African continent we will be hosting the Olympics," Mr Mbeki told African ambassadors to the United States attending the Corporate Council on Africa summit dubbed "Attracting Capital to Africa."

He added: "Each one of us should get engaged in this process of working to ensure that the Olympic Games comes to Africa. It is not as though we are making this effort with the expectation that we might fail and therefore go for 2008."

The Washington summit is designed to increase the American private sector's awareness of the commercial opportunities that exist in Africa.

Mr Mbeki told the African ambassadors that Cape Town represented the entire African continent, not South Africa alone.

"As the African continent we will be hosting the Olympics," he said. "There are formidable competitors in this bid. This indicates the kind of effort Africa must put in to get the Games to the continent.

"The sports ministers in the African continent should be mobilised to join this campaign, talking to countries that have got members in the International Olympic Committee to put this global picture about the importance of filling this fifth ring among the five rings of the Olympic emblem. Everyone should spread the message that the time for Africa has come.

"The message of the Olympic Games held in South Africa will have relevance that goes beyond the narrow confines of South Africa in a real sense.

"When the Olympic Games were held in Mexico, they had an impact that went beyond Mexico. It was saying something about the part of the world, South America, which had been regarded as the backyard of the US. If the Olympics were to be held in South Africa, it would have the same state-

To page 2

SA 'needs top managers for Games'

(288)
CT 21/4/97

POTCHEFSTROOM: Tourism managers and sport administrators must bring their managerial, administrative and policy planning up to international standards if they are serious about hosting the Olympic Games.

This warning came from Professor Livin Bollaert of the Vrije University of Belgium and president of the European Association of Sport Management.

Bollaert is in the country to finalise a joint venture between his university and two South African universities to offer advanced training to tourism, sport and recreation managers.

The Vrije University, the Small Business Advisory Bureau, Potchefstroom University and the University of the Free State have joined forces to offer sport and recreation managers the skills to initiate sports events and manage them according to business principles.

Bollaert said his university's involvement in the venture was an extension of its policy to help South Africa in its democratic process of changing, "including being a presenter of a major sports event such as the Olympic Games". — Sapa

New boss and new vision for Satour

Sowetan 21/4/97 (288)

Efforts to give the country's key tourism marketing body new direction

By Isaac Moledi

SOUTH AFRICA could go a long way if all its people became partners and took collective responsibility for and ownership of tourism, businesswoman Liz Westby-Nunn, newly appointed chairwoman of the South African Tourism Board (Satour) says.

In an interview with *Sowetan Business*, Westby-Nunn said South African tourism is one industry capable of promoting and achieving key objectives of the Government's growth strategy (Gear) – provided all South Africans, together with the Government, assume their collective responsibility of tourism.

Westby-Nunn, a highly successful businesswoman in the tourism industry and also president of the South African Tourism Services Association, was appointed together with 19 other prominent representatives of the "principal constituents" to the Satour board by Environment and Tourism Minister Pallo Jordan last month to give the country's key tourism marketing body a new direction and focus.



Charismatic Western Cape businesswoman Liz Westby-Nunn, who is now Satour's new boss.

Inaugural meeting

The board is expected to have its inaugural meeting with Jordan in Pretoria today and the new chief executive officer will be appointed from 50 applicants who have applied for the post.

Westby-Nunn, a charismatic Western Cape-based entrepreneur, commands 20 years of hands-on experience in South Africa in both the macro and micro level of tourism.

She is also the founder and leader of Portfolio of Places, a tourism company that has played a dynamic part in the development and international promotion of quality accommodation in South Africa in the past 15 years.

Westby-Nunn sees her new job as challenging but says tourism objectives can be achieved if she and other new board members share a common vision for tourism development.

"I do have a vision and ideas for a prosperous tourism industry in South Africa but that vision has to be supported by all board members. We have to have a common approach in all we intend doing," she says.

Like other former office-bearers of the board, she also believes that the tourism body needs transformation and restructuring to remain with a leaner structure with fewer layers of positions.

She does not differ from her predecessors who complained of inadequate resources and funding which, they said, is a major constraint on Satour's capability to market South Africa as a tourist destination.

"A well-funded tourism industry and the expansion of our offices abroad is what this country needs and this is the message we intend taking to Finance Minister Trevor Manuel through Minister Jordan," she says.

She is of the opinion that government historically never understood the importance and the dynamics of tourism. However, she believes that the difference with the appointment of the present board is the new Government's recognition, and particularly of the Environment and Tourism Minister, of the role business can play in tourism development.

She says the appointment of two other business figures from the Tourism Business Council (Moss Mashishi and Michael Farr) in the board shows the value Jordan places on business as a partner and the driving force to ensure tourism development.

On Satour's previous marketing strategy she says: "We need to move away from a Eurocentric marketing approach to stress our cultural diversity and historical attractions.

"We need to promote our cuisine to include all those varieties that exist, because when tourists come to this country they want to feel what is African and be able to taste the flavour of what is South African," she says.

DP checks the books: 'Games money is not being wasted'

The Democratic Party has given the Olympic Bid Company's budgeting process a clean bill of health.

This follows a "frank discussion" between the Bid Company and DP Western Cape leader Hennie Bester following the party's request to "examine financial aspects of the bid process".

Earlier this year, DP councillors in the Cape Metropolitan Council and Cape Town municipality expressed qualms about the confidentiality of the bid's budget and suggested the provincial government should refuse to release money to the bid pending full public disclosure of its accounts.

It was pointed out at the time that this could seriously compromise the bid and blunt its competitive edge at a critical phase in the five-city contest for the 2004 Games. Because of this, the DP asked to see the bid's books.

Mr Bester said in light of the DP's obligation to ensure public money was spent "according to transparent budgets," he was "pleased with the preparedness of the Bid Company to disclose its current financial statements and projected budgets".

"We are satisfied with the financial controls and broadly satisfied with the budget. We accept that it is a difficult process to manage and that, as long as the financial controls are in place, one has to give the bid some leeway.

"We are fully behind the bid and are satisfied that public money that has gone into the process is not money down the drain," Mr Bester said.

Michael Fuller, financial director of the Bid Company said: "We were delighted to share information with the DP to ensure that it continues being one of our strong supporters."

More cash vital as bid test looms

(288) ARG 22/4/97

City to host world events

The Olympic bid faces a critical test as Cape Town hosts three big international sporting championships in the next few months.

But more money is needed to make the most of the chance to showcase the city's Olympic capabilities.

The successful hosting of the events could have a decisive impact on the outcome of the International Olympic Committee's decision on the 2004 host city.

Organisers are confident the events will be well-run, but say that in the absence of more sponsorship or government funding, budgets will have to be pared to essentials.

A drive is under way to attract more private-sector sponsors, and secure national and provincial government grants.

The three events are:

- The world junior weightlifting championships from May 27 to June 4.
- The world fencing championships, from July 13 to 19.
- The world junior cycling championships from July 29 to August 4.

The Bid company is committed to assisting the events as a "catalyst" for the Olympic bid.

Bid company director of events Ronnie Kingwill said Cape Town faced an exciting challenge in hosting events for Olympic sports which were not among South Africa's most popular codes.

"These events show there are new opportunities beginning to emerge now for the business sector to spread its wings in terms of sponsorships, to move beyond soccer, rugby and cricket," he said.

The championships were particularly

MICHAEL MORRIS



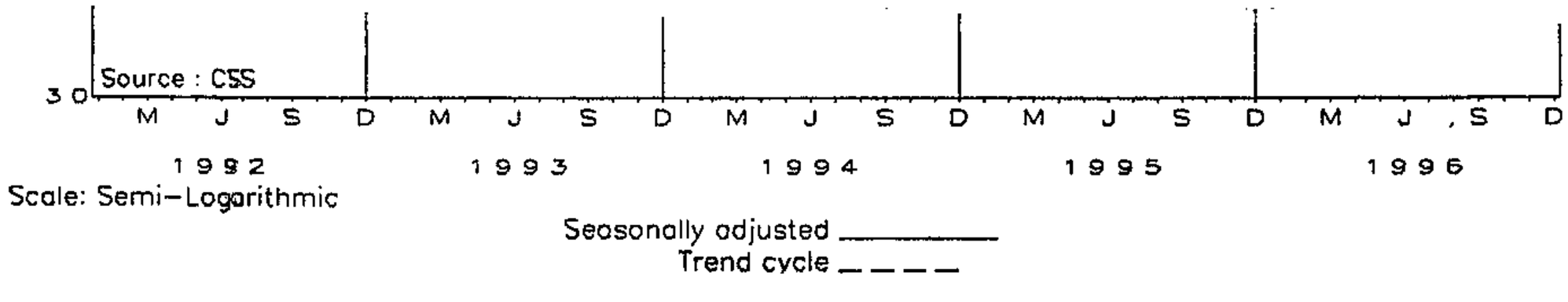
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

significant in view of their potential impact on the outcome of the city's bid, but money remained a critical issue.

"If we do not succeed in getting sufficient funding, there will be a series of cutbacks. The challenge is how much to cut back without impacting on the quality of the event.

"In all cases, the emphasis is on making sure the athletic performance area is top-notch. The pitch must be technically sound and appropriate for world-class performance. The second priority will be establishing the look and feel of an Olympic event, and the third the peripheral activity around the event, the hospitality, entertaining and so on."

He said the business sector would benefit from being involved. Applications for grants had also been made to the national and provincial sport departments. "Help from the Government will amount to a further recognition of the fact that the hosting of these events is part of the bidding strategy and we are asking them to give serious consideration to helping to make them a success," Mr Kingwill said.



Durban frames 25-year plan to boost tourism in the region

(238) CT(BR)22/4/97

SHIRLEY JONES

Durban — Durban's local government, the heads of tourism bodies and business leaders met at the weekend to start up a 25-year plan to manage and grow the city's R8 billion tourism industry.

The tourism strategy document — the first of its kind in the country — was likely to be finalised in the second half of the year, according to members of the Durban metro council.

Delegates included Renong, the Malaysian property developer that is behind the multibillion-rand Point Waterfront development, the Hilton Hotel and Portnet.

Geoff Austin, the chief executive of the city's tourism marketing body, and others, said the city was not prepared to sit back and lose market share.

Although figures recently released by the tourism body Satour showed the city was still the leading domestic destination, it was clear that high-income earners were being replaced by visitors from lower-income groups, translating into a large revenue loss for the city.

According to Satour, KwaZulu Natal has a 24,6 percent share of the domestic tourism pie, representing 32 percent of the total value, followed by Cape Town with 13 percent of domestic tourism, or 24 percent of total value.

Viv McMenamin, the head of the city's recently established economic urban strategy unit, said for the first time local government had a clear mandate to be directly involved in tourism. She said the council invested R18 million directly in tourism — far in excess of other cities.

However, Nick Webb, a spokesman for Durban's physical environmental service units, said there was an urgent need to create a "must see" attraction or tourist icon for the city. He said the controversial idea of a bridge across Durban harbour from the Ocean Terminal to Pier 1 had not yet been put to bed. He said to restore gloss to the beachfront, the area would have to be managed like a private resort.

Similarly, the central business district, because of its proximity to the beachfront and crucial tourist attractions such as the Victoria Embankment and the International Convention Centre, would now have to be managed like a regional shopping mall.

Webb said Durbanites and visitors were only now rediscovering the harbour. He said more ferry boats were needed to link attractions, and infrastructure was necessary to accommodate cruise liner traffic.

Visitors find service in SA's hospitality industry is lacking

(288) Star 22/4/97

Fewer than two-thirds of foreign visitors to South Africa rate service levels here as good, research by the South African Tourism Board (Satour) has shown.

Vanessa Sand, convener of this year's AA Travel Guides, said this figure needed to improve significantly if the tourism industry was to play its rightful role in the country's economy.

Sand said the Resort of the Year Award served as an incentive to hospitality establishments to maintain or improve standards. More than 9 000 entries had been received this year. Twenty-eight finalists have been selected.

"This is the only awards programme in the hospitality industry that is driven by the consumer.

"We find that the guest is increasingly becoming aware of the role he or she has to play in the maintaining of standards at accommodation establishments," Sand said.

She added that guests were the most important people in the hospitality industry and it was their needs to which accommodation establishments had to cater.

Meanwhile, Professor Livin Bollaert, president of the European Association of Sport Management, has warned that South African tourism managers and sport administrators needed to bring their managerial, administrative and policy planning skills up to international standards if South Africa was serious about hosting the Olympic Games.

Bollaert is on a visit to South Africa to finalise a joint venture between the Vrije University of Belgium and the universities of Potchefstroom and the Free State to offer advanced training to South African tourism, sport and recreation managers.

Bollaert said the project would offer sports and recreation managers and project leaders the skills to initiate sporting events and manage them according to business principles.

"Tourism entrepreneurs will also be offered the necessary training and advice so that they will be able to deal with an occurrence such as the Olympic Games," he said.

He added that his university's involvement in this venture was an extension of Vrije's policy to help South Africa in its democratic process of change. – Staff Reporter.

Joint venture for Olympics

22/4/97

SOUTH African tourism managers and sport administrators must bring their managerial, administrative and policy planning up to international standards if they are serious about hosting the Olympic Games here.

This warning comes from Professor Livin Bollaert of the Vrije University of Belgium and president of the European Association of Sport Management.

The Small Business Advisory Bureau (SBAB) said in a statement from Potchefstroom at the weekend that Bollaert was visiting South Africa to finalise a joint venture between his university and two South African universities to offer advanced training to South African tourism, sport and recreation managers.

The Vrije University, SBAB, Potchefstroom University and University of the Free State have joined forces to offer sport and recreation managers the necessary skills to initiate sports events and manage them according to business principles.

The UFS will facilitate the project, while the SBAB will control management and entrepreneurial training.

SBAB management consultants will offer managers in the tourism industry practical advice. Vrije University lecturers will present certain subjects and evaluate and accredit the courses.

Policy planning

Bollaert said it was possible for South Africa to host the 2004 Olympic Games provided its tourism managers and sport administrators were able to bring their managerial, administrative and policy planning in line with international standards.

He said his university's involvement in the venture was an extension of its policy to help South Africa in its democratic process of change "including being a presenter of a major sports event such as the Olympic Games".

New directorate will focus on security for tourists

(288) BD 23/4/97

Jacob Dlamini

CAPE TOWN — A special directorate focusing on the security of tourists, especially foreign visitors, would be set up, Environmental Affairs and Tourism Minister Pallo Jordan said yesterday.

Jordan said the directorate would focus on the security of tourists and would target criminals who preyed on foreign visitors. The department had printed a brochure with safety tips which was being given to incoming tourists passing through Johannesburg International airport.

Jordan said the department had run a successful meet-and-greet programme at the airport during the peak holiday season to provide visitors with appropriate information.

The creation of a task group to deal with the safety and security of tourists had led to good co-operation between the department, the private sector and the SA Police Services. This had resulted in a series of initiatives aimed at improving tourist safety.

The greatest danger to the industry came from the way citizens communicated the crime problem to the international marketplace. Jordan said the department had started granting tenders for a professional communications campaign which would be used to dispel wrong perceptions about the safety of SA as a destination.

Jordan said tourism had displayed consistent improvement, rising from 22% in 1995 to a 52% growth from profitable overseas markets, and a 12% growth from the African continent.

Jordan said travel and tourism had been one of the most consistent and highest growth sectors in the economy. He said tourism had earned SA an estimated R5,5bn in foreign exchange, created 200 000 new jobs and boosted its gross domestic product (GDP) contribution from 3% to 4,5%.

Last year South Africans took 17-million domestic tourism trips. Local and foreign tourists contributed about R14,8bn and R12,5bn respectively to total tourist expenditure.

Government had set the goal of increasing the tourism sector's contribution to GDP to 8%, boosting foreign exchange earnings to R23bn a year and increasing sustainable jobs to 860 000. The aim would be to achieve this by 2000, Jordan said.

His ministry was working with the labour department to devise a tourism training strategy and a new structure for the sector. The department had completed survey of training needs and was considering establishing a tourism school of excellence to meet them.

Games will transform region, Ball predicts

(288)

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

ARG 23/4/97

The impact of the 2004 Games on southern Africa "will be nothing less than transformational", says Bid Company chief Chris Ball.

He was speaking in the city last night to the high-powered delegation of British executives here for a series of Britain Means Business workshops.

Led by the Duke of Kent, the delegation is focusing on how Britain may help Cape Town in its Olympic preparations, develop tourism, and mobilise investment capital.

Mr Ball said projections showed that hosting the Games would increase the gross domestic product of southern Africa by one percent a year "for 10, years or more".

"There is nothing that anyone or any government can do to have a bigger impact on the region than bringing this event to the city.

"That is our mission and we believe that for our people and the economic community hosting the Games will be nothing less than transformational," he said.

Earlier, Brian Pearse, chairman of the United Kingdom's Committee on South African Trade, said: "We are very anxious to help ... and will certainly be with you in the run-up to the final decision in September."

Tourism industry urged to show face of the new SA

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

South Africa's heritage-based tourism needs an overhaul to get away from showing "offensive primitive stereotypes", says André Odendaal, interim administrator of the Robben Island museum.

Professor Odendaal was a guest speaker yesterday at the Britain Means Business leisure and tourism workshop at the Waterfront.

He wants tourists to see more of South Africa's new democracy and undeveloped areas.

"We need a major overhaul of the way our heritage tourism is packaged because our traditional image of colonialism and apartheid is a problem. It still permeates many of the things we do and we need to break the stereotypes that still exist," he said.

There was a need to "touch up" the old Satour brochures, which still promoted a "sanitised" picture and "offensive primitive stereotypes".

One of the ways to get away from this would be to appoint a heritage tourism unit to monitor, develop and educate people in this important sector of the tourism industry.

Tourism culture should highlight South Africa's new democracy and an undeveloped heritage tourism sector.

"There is a demand from people who were previously excluded from the tourism industry to have their heritage portrayed as well," he told the workshop participants.

Asmal upbeat on outlook for tourism in SA

'Symbol of hope' for Africa

ARG 23/4/97 (288)

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

South Africa had become a symbol of hope for a "tired world" and an "impoverished and forgotten" Africa, Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry Kader Asmal told a tourism workshop.

The growth in tourism on the continent was "very encouraging" to South Africa, he said at the launch of the British Means Business tourism and leisure workshop in Cape Town yesterday.

Africa had nine million visitors in 1990 and should have about 24 million by 2000, Professor Asmal said.

The workshop is aimed at bringing together South African and British expertise to develop South Africa's tourism and leisure industry.

"Tourism is one of the areas that we have identified as having a great potential for growth, in terms of conventional and ecotourism. Ecotourism in particular is attractive to us because it offers the opportunity for jobs, income and development in rural areas," said Professor Asmal.

The majority of poor people lived in rural areas, which included some of South Africa's most beautiful places. "Tourism development in these areas could bring immeasurable benefits to impoverished rural communities."

He said tourism development in southern Africa and elsewhere had too often taken place at the expense, rather than to the benefit, of local communities. He cited the Kruger National Park as an example of "land theft" to establish a tourism project.

In recent years a new approach in tourism development focused on how locals could benefit as much as tourists, tour companies and travel agencies.

Professor Asmal also emphasised the importance of ecologically sustainable development.

"We cannot afford the beauty of our coastline torn apart by uncontrolled and unsustainable hotel development. We do not want our precious water resources squandered in the short term search for profit." South Africa had the potential to become a tourist mecca for the wealthy traveller and backpacking student alike, he said.

Duke sees why we draw visitors

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

The Duke of Kent, on his first visit to South Africa, says he is pleased to see at first hand what makes it an international tourist drawcard.

He was opening the Britain Means Business leisure and tourism workshops in Cape Town yesterday.

The delegation aims to increase trade and investment between South Africa and Britain, which is already South Africa's biggest overseas tourist market.

The Duke said that preserving South Africa's natural beauty and rich cultural heritage depended on the people involved in the tourism industry.

Tourism and leisure was a main growth area and had the potential to strengthen ties between the two countries. "We hope that as a result of this workshop more South Africans, from all walks of life, can become involved in the tourism sector."

CAPE TIMES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 1997 ★

BUDGET INADEQUATE

Action plan on tourism to provide money, jobs

(288) ET 23/4/97

A PLAN ENDORSED by all involved in tourism is being finalised to harness the industry and serve SA's extensive need for growth which provides employment, not only foreign exchange.

ENVIRONMENTAL Affairs and Tourism Minister Dr Pallo Jordan, yesterday spelt out goals for the tourism industry which would see foreign exchange earnings rise to R23 million and sustainable employment opportunities increased to 860 000 by the year 2000.

Introducing the debate on his budget Jordan said his department was finalising an action programme for tourism development in consultation with other departments and the private sector.

Jordan said the programme's vision was that a globally competitive tourism industry would become a lead sector within the national economic strategy, and a major force in the government's growth and reconstruction efforts.

He said that the overall goal was to increase:

● The contribution of the tourist sector from 4,5 to 8% of GDP by 2000.

● Tourism foreign exchange earnings at an average growth rate of 15% a year from R12,5 billion a year to R23bn.

● Tourist arrivals from overseas to 2,2 million annually, from Africa to 4,8m, and domestic holiday trips to 19,5m.



TIME FOR CHANGE: Pallo Jordan

● Sustainable job opportunities in the sector from 550 000 to 860 000.

Jordan said the strategies which would underpin achievement of these targets would include the establishment of a tourist-friendly workforce and a population capable of consistently ensuring excellent service, hospitality, and safety of visitors.

It would also entail promoting and ensuring excellent and sustainable management of natural and cultural resources.

Further he said, the goal would be to focus investment, infrastructural improvement and visitor management programmes on under-developed areas as well as areas which were experiencing "visitor pressure".

The aim would also be to broaden and diversify the "product offering" to highlight the real African character of the destination, including lifestyles, cultures and history which were currently not exposed.

Jordan said one current initiative was the formation of a task group to address the issue of safety and security of tourists.

He said very good co-operation existed between his department, the private sector and the South African Police Services. This had led to a number of constructive initiatives to improve tourist safety.

"I would like to want that the biggest danger is not the situation on the ground, but the way our own people communicate this issue to the international marketplace," said Jordan.

His department was currently awarding tenders for a professional communications campaign "to rectify wrong perceptions".

The opportunities in the industry were endless, but they could not proceed without adequate resources, and the tourism budget was "totally inadequate", he said. — Political Staff

US chain to build in 15 SA cities

Hilton hits three-star hotel market

CT(BR) 23/4/97 (288)

AUDREY D'ANGELO

Cape Town — Hilton International, the worldwide hotel chain, is planning to open a new chain of three-star hotels in 15 South African cities as part of a multi-million-rand investment programme in this country, Raymond Chigot, the chain's vice-president for corporate development, said yesterday.

Chigot said the three-star chain would be run by Hilton but would not be known by that name. No name had yet been chosen. It was a new middle-market product, and South Africa had been identified as a suitable country in which to launch it. Similar chains were planned later for China and India.

The hotels would have a strong ethnic influence and would have 100 to 150 rooms. The room rate would be between R300 and R350 a night, compared with R900 at the Sandton Hilton, R800 at the Cape Town Hilton and R700 at the Durban Hilton.

Locations under consideration for the three-star hotels include Port Elizabeth, Durban, Pretoria, Midrand, Johannesburg and George.

Chigot said Hilton was confident its bids to build five-star hotels at Johannesburg and Cape Town airports would be successful despite competition from other international chains.

He said Hilton, which had 170 hotels in 51 countries, believed there had never been a better time to invest in the hotel and travel industry in South Africa.

Chigot was speaking at a tourism workshop organised by the British consulate as part of a Britain Means Business week.

He said Hilton and a Malaysian partner would build a 403-room, five-star hotel overlooking Cape Town's Victoria and Alfred Waterfront at a cost of between R380 million and R400 million.

Construction was due to start in September.

The group had only recently committed itself to the Cape Town Hilton, to be built on the site of the former power station on Hans Strijdom Road. The Malaysian partner is investor Amin Shah of Business Focus.

Construction of the Sandton Hilton and a Durban Hilton adjoining the new conference centre had already started.

The Sandton Hilton would have 329 rooms on seven floors and would cost about R240 million to build. The Durban Hilton would have 327 rooms and would cost about R230 million to build.

A Hilton Zimbali resort with 230 rooms and 30 bungalows would be built on the Natal coast near St Lucia.

Another five-star hotel, with 301 rooms overlooking Durban harbour, to be built in partnership with Malaysian listed company Renong, the partner in the Durban Hilton, was also under consideration.

Games time frame must not deter SA

BD 24/4/97

Samantha Sharpe

CAPE TOWN — SA should not be daunted by the seven-year time frame in which to complete the infrastructural development needed to host the 2004 Olympic Games, with the 2004 deadline a means to focus planning thoughts, Norman Foster, head of international architectural firm Foster & Partners, said yesterday.

Foster & Partners is responsible for the design of the new Reichstag in Berlin, the Commerzbank headquarters in Frankfurt, international airports in Hong Kong and London, and the new Wembley Stadium in London. It was also involved in building a tower in Barcelona.

He told a Britain Means Business workshop, intended to link UK and SA partners on infrastructural development and the Olympic bid, that deadlines were more to do with the speed with which decisions could be made than with construction time.

"Faced with a fixed time frame, the important thing is first to gain an overview, and then have enough time to think at the beginning. After thought and consultation things can often proceed quite swiftly.

"A lot of the improvements that the Olympics would have brought to the forefront would doubtless have been under consideration anyway. It is simply that the Olympic bid gives a goal and a great opportunity."

He said an Olympic Games in Cape Town would benefit the city and SA's infrastructure long after 2004 if 1992 Olympic Games host Barcelona's experience was anything to go by.

The Cape Town games were expected to be slightly larger in scale than Barcelona's — about the same size as the planned Sydney games and half the size of the event hosted in Atlanta.

Average annual figures for Barcelona between 1988 and 1995 showed a 53,6% increase in the number of open spaces in the city and a 49% surge in square metres of urban green space per city dweller, Foster said. The number of passengers using Barcelona airport during the games rose 56,4% to 7 234, the number of hotel beds grew 74,6% and the number of visitors to Barcelona on luxury cruisers increased 99,3% to 66 016. Emissions of sulphur dioxide in the city plunged 71% and noise pollution levels dropped 10,54%.

Olympic Bid Company financial director Michael Fuller said Cape Town ratepayers would be paying only for 4% of the total capital cost of the bid, which was cheap relative to the infrastructural benefit the city stood to gain.

He said this was largely attributable to the strong interaction between the public and private sector in their support for the games, which offered significant economic growth to the country as a whole.

Private sector role at airport urged

ARG 24/4/97

MICHAEL MORRIS

Quality shops and restaurants and other privately run facilities should be worked into the expansion plans for Cape Town airport to assure financial independence.

This is the advice of Gordon Edington, chairman of the British Airports Authority and a member of the delegation of high-powered British executives visiting Cape Town to offer expertise and experience to strengthen the city's Olympic project.

He said a successful, modern airport was effectively a "city within a city".

Spiralling consumer demand and steadily rising flight and passenger tallies placed enormous strain on airports, which, if they were to survive, had to expand facilities at great cost.

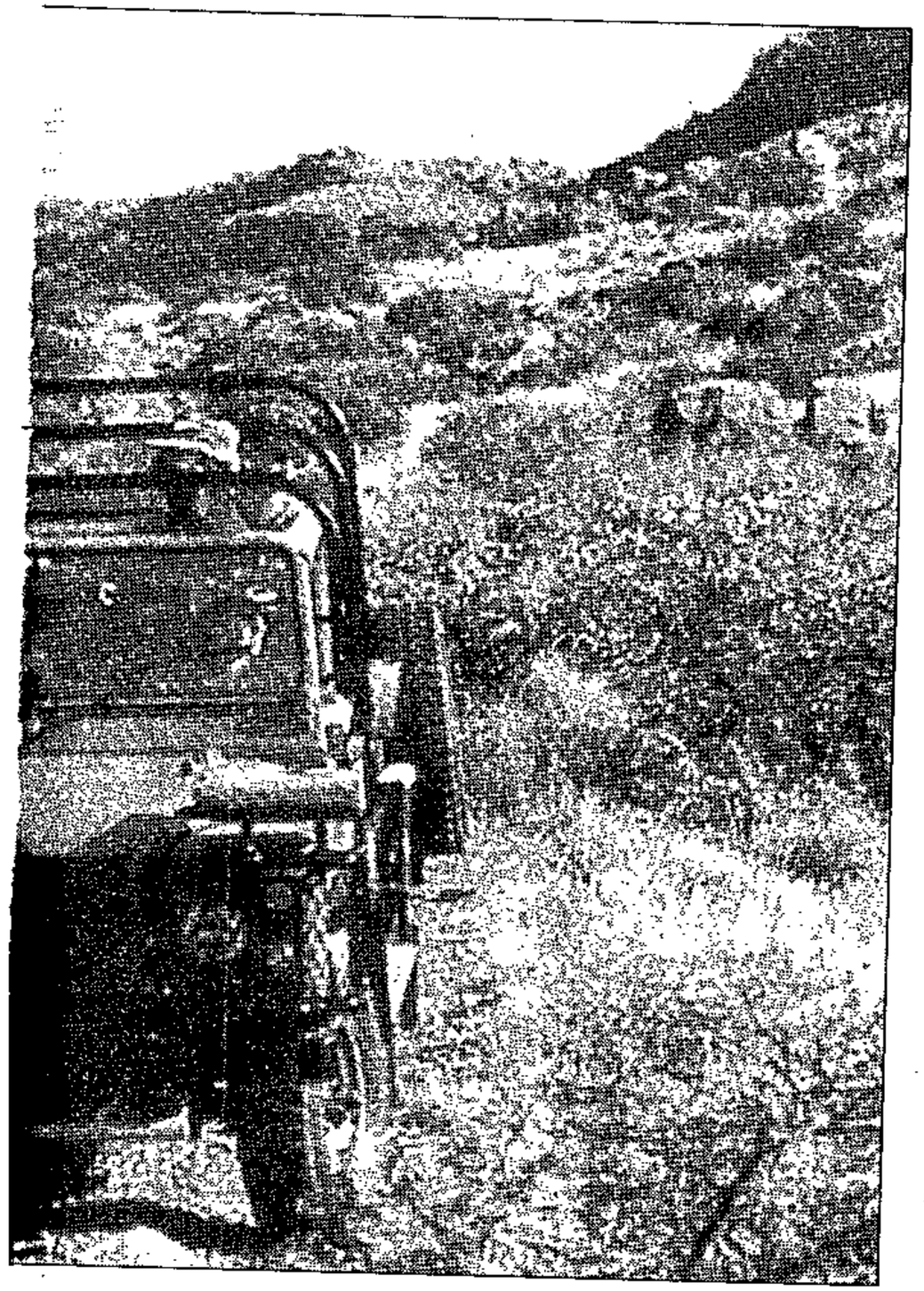
"As a result, the world's airports are at a crossroads.

"Funding for these hugely expensive projects must be found somewhere.

"Since most of the world's airports are state-owned or -run, it is the taxpayer who in many cases will have to bear the burden of developing and maintaining airport infrastructure at a time when demand for housing, hospitals and schools is growing."

He added: "But there is a solution.

"By involving the private sector it is possible to make an airport a profitable, going concern that raises the funds it needs for its continued development."



nds while taking a 4X4 ride through the Nieuweveldt mountains

Karoo tourism grows

Tranquillity attracts foreigners

ARG 26/4/97 (288) ARG 26/4/97

TWEET GAINSBOROUGH-WARING
STAFF REPORTER

The number of tourists visiting the Karoo has doubled in the past year after increased advertising and promotion sparked new interest in the area.

Karoo tourism co-ordinator Rose Willis, of Beaufort West, said: "The majority of visitors are from the Cape and Orange Free State, with more and more arriving from Europe.

"There's also been considerable interest from Australians, as its aridity reminds them of the outback and Germans have a particular interest in eco-tourism."

She said a brochure *Find yourself in the Great Karoo* had been used in an overseas advertising campaign.

A spokesman for the Western Cape Tourism Board said enquiries for holidays in the Karoo had risen dramatically.

The Karoo has much to offer the eco-tourist, and is proving popular with those who like hiking and game-spotting.

In addition to hiking trails there are also well-planned 4x4 trails into remote areas.

There is a variety of accommodation available with South African tourists showing an increasing interest in self-catering holidays.

"Several farms in the area have a second house, usually fairly close to the main farm house, which can be hired for holidays.

"This set up is very attractive to families wanting to experience farm life."

Ms Willis said these houses usually had an AGA stove which was set up for visitors as well as braai facilities.

She said in some cases the farmer would provide a cook to prepare meals.

The game farms, where visitors can both view and hunt game during the hunting season, have been heavily booked. Many of these farms have additional attractions like a traditional Xhosa kraal and bushmen paintings.

As the number of tourists to the area grows, so are more and more farms opening their doors to visitors. The Karoo is also proving increasingly popular among international film crews, particularly those from Germany.

Belinda Pienaar of the Lemoenfontein farm said: "Winter is our busy period as the hunting season is open, but this year saw good bookings earlier than usual as a film crew from Germany was here to shoot a German saga."

She said the number of Europeans making enquiries was on the increase. And local visitors who were beginning to spend more time in the area.

"Our initial business came from travellers looking for an overnight stop en route to Cape Town." she said.

In response to demand Mrs Pienaar and her husband have introduced game drives and a breakfast at the top of the Nieuweveldt mountain range.

"Tourists love the tranquillity of the Karoo and overseas people especially comment on the quietness. They also don't expect the mountains, tending to think of the Karoo as vast and flat."

City's tourism accommodation under scrutiny

Cape Metropolitan Council study will identify potential weaknesses

(288) ARG 26/4/97

Cape Town – The Cape Metropolitan Council is to undertake a key tourism accommodation study to determine the nature and whereabouts of affordable tourist accommodation in the area.

The study also aims to pinpoint the future and potential need for accommodation relevant to specific geographic areas and income brackets.

A firm of consultants has been appointed to undertake an initial study on affordable accommodation in the Cape Metropolitan area.

The chairperson of the CMC's metropolitan planning committee, Brian Watkyns, said Data Vision would manage and research the project.

"They will work with us towards developing a definition of what constitutes affordable accommodation, and just whom on the demand and supply sides should be included in the main survey," Mr Watkyns said in a statement yesterday.

"They will identify and formulate the issues and questions critical for inclusion in the main survey questionnaire, and compile a complete data base of all tourism accommodation available in the CMA."

The CMC has earmarked an amount of R110 000 for the project.

The chairman of the CMC's executive committee, Pierre Uys, said it had become increasingly urgent that potential weaknesses in the tourist accommodation pattern be identified as soon as possible.

■ Leading African tourism officials are currently attending a four-day seminar on "Safety and security for quality African tourism" in Abbis Ababa.

Ethiopia's President Negasso Gidada stressed the critical role of safety and security in attracting tourists to the continent, which often conjures up images of famine, war and other disasters in the minds of potential tourists.

World tourism receipts in 1996 totalled some $425 billion, said Francesco Frangialli, secretary general of the World Trade Organisation, which organised the seminar.

But Africa's share of those profits was only $7,621 billion, or 3,5 percent, with northern and southern Africa the main beneficiaries, he said.

Mr Frangialli said his organisation planned to vigorously promote a cultural tourism project launched last year with Unesco on the old slave routes of Africa. – Sapa-DPA

R1bn Hilton bonanza for Cape Town

TOM HOOD (288) ST(CM) 27/4/97

INTERNATIONAL hotel group Hilton International plans to spend about R1-billion on three new hotels in Cape Town, which will add to the frenzied building of hotels in the city.

About 42 hotels are planned or under construction in the city, according to Chris Ball, chief executive of the Olympic Bid Company.

Hilton's vice-president, corporate development, Raymond Chigot said in Cape Town this week the company was expanding its network of 170 hotels with over 53 000 bedrooms in 51 countries.

"There has never been a better time to participate in the successful development of the hotel industry in South Africa," he said.

After a six-month delay, construction will start in September on a R400-million five-star hotel with 403 rooms at the Foreshore, at the site of the old power station. It would open in about June 1999, said Chigot.

It will have three restaurants, three bars, a health club and will accommodate up to 2 000 people at conferences.

The second hotel is likely to be at Cape Town International Airport where Hilton has hopes of winning the bid to build. If successful, they would build a 160-room hotel, Chigot said.

The company already runs 11 hotels at airports worldwide.

Hilton Harbour View would be the name of the third hotel, with 301 rooms on 30 levels, planned for a site overlooking the Waterfront. The R250-million project is still being discussed with Malaysian partners.

It will have five restaurants, including one on a rooftop, a health club and conference rooms for up to 2 000 people.

Hilton also plans to build 15 three-star hotels throughout South Africa and R520-million will be spent on new hotels in Durban and Sandton.

European hopes for 2008 could boost Cape bid

Votes likely to favour south

(288)

ARG 29/4/97

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

European countries hoping to host the Olympics in 2008 could vote for Cape Town's 2004 bid in September because it would be to their strategic advantage.

It is in the prospective European host cities' interests that the 2004 event be held in a different part of the world to their own, and preferably its southern half.

London is known to be keen to host the 2008 Games, so would be grateful if a European city did not get the Games in 2004.

It has also emerged that after Lille's failure to make the grade this time, Paris is showing interest in making the most of the momentum built up by its northern sister city, and could well enter the fray for 2008 too.

And, though the Winter Games are a little different, it is significant that the Austrian town of Kitzbühel is making clear its intentions to bid for the 2006 games. Salzburg is also apparently interested.

One of the simplest equations in the complexity of Olympian decision-making is the avowed desirability of having the Games in a different part of the world every four years, and avoiding the squeals of protest that any hint of geo-political favouritism evokes.

The shortlist that Cape Town has earned a place on reflects, broadly, the sense of balance the International Olympic Committee is eager to project.

Of the initial list of 11 bidders, the shortlisted rivals are three of the seven European bids, one of the three Central and South American bids, and the only African bid.

When it comes to voting on September 5, IOC members representing countries with Olympic ambitions will be mindful of the strategic significance of the outcome.

It is virtually given that the British vote will come Cape Town's way. And if, before September, Paris's intentions firm up, the French vote could well be favourable too.

These things, coupled with the built-in first-round split in the European vote – between Rome, Athens and Stockholm – give the South African bid, and, arguably, the Buenos Aires project, undoubted advantage.

It has often been noted that the outcome of the Olympic ballot – which can go up to seven rounds – is essentially incalculable, with individual IOC members switching allegiances for personal, political or strategic reasons from one round to the next.

But the indirect strategic value of other European Olympic ambitions is a significant factor in the vote.

Job clock ticking for city's temporary Bid team

Resignations, uncertainty ahead of company's dissolution on September 5

(288) ART 30/4/97

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

For some in Cape Town's bid team, September 5 is an awesome prospect, and not only because it is the day on which the International Olympic Committee chooses the host city for the 2004 Games.

It is also, whether the city wins the bid or not, the day on which they will find themselves without a job, since the bidding procedure provides for the immediate dissolution of the Bid Company on that day.

This compelling reality has already prompted the departure of one senior bid official, marketing director Andre Krogh, who is returning to private consultancy.

Others are likely to follow, though most of the key directors, as well as other senior officials in planning and other departments, are on secondment from private companies, local authorities and the province, and their future is secure.

If the Cape Town bid is successful, the Bid Company will be replaced by an Organising Committee for the Olympic Games (OCOG), put together jointly by the City of Cape Town and the National Olympic Committee of South Africa (Nocsa).

The city and Nocsa have already started work on the blue-print – the organisational structure – for OCOG, and it is conceivable that at least some members of the bid team will be drawn into the new organisation.

Most of the directors under Chris Ball are on secondment and are therefore immune to the pressure of having to consider a fresh start after September 5.

These include finance director Michael Fuller, on secondment from Ernst and Young; planning director Peter de Tolly, on secondment from the City of Cape Town; technology director Deni Madzunya, on secondment from IBM; events director Ronnie Kingwill, on secondment from Eskom; and director of management information Manfred Grundlagh, on secondment from Daimler-Benz Aerospace.

However, given the overall uncertainty surrounding the professional future of people contracted to work for the bid, more resignations are anticipated.

For this category – about half of the bid team staff – it would probably be unwise to ignore any offers or opportunities that arise at this point.

In many instances, their departure between now and September would place a strain on those left behind to carry the bid through its final, critical stage.

Arguably, a leaner Bid Company could well find itself better off financially with less staff at a time when the expensive business of wooing IOC voters is its most important task.

Businesswoman heads tourism bureau

(288)

Susan Russell

BD 2/4/97

A NEW 20-member SA Tourism Bureau (Satour) board, under the chairmanship of Cape Town businesswoman Liz Westby-Nunn, was announced by Environmental Affairs and Tourism Minister Pallo Jordan yesterday. Jordan said the board had been chosen from nominees drawn from business, the community, labour and key tourism specialists.

The board will serve a three-year term and has representatives from the nine provinces, Cape Tour (Captour), Satour, Phalaborwa Association for Tourism, North West Tourism Council, national community organisations — the SA National Civics Organisation (Sanco) and Tourism Business Council of SA (TBCSA) — as well as one private nomination.

The full board is Westby-Nunn, David Allen (Northern Cape), Johannes Bensch (Phalaborwa Association for Tourism), Michael Farr and Moses Mashishi (TBCSA), Basil Green (NW Tourism Council), Makkie Isaacs (Captour), Mokwape Kgothadi (Mpumalanga), Nomtuse Mbere (National Institute for Public Interest), Marthinus Mouton (Northern Cape), Thabo Mpakanyane (KwaZulu-Natal), ME Mukhawane (Sanco), Shareen Parker (Western Cape Community Group), Anthea Rossouw (private nomination), M Saayman (North West), Menzi Simelane (Gauteng), Ramasimong Tau (Free State), Philip Thompson (KwaZulu-Natal), Graham Vass (Eastern Cape) and MJR Wessels (Western Cape).

Jordan said the new board would have the responsibility of giving Satour a new direction and focus. "I am convinced the board I have selected will strengthen the relationship between government and those engaged in the tourism business as employers and employees," Jordan said.

The new board, he said, assumed its responsibilities after an extremely successful year which had increased the likelihood of raising the contribution tourism made to GDP.

Jordan thanked the outgoing Satour board members for their "magnificent contribution".

Pearl Sebolao reports that Jordan's spokesman Cassandra Gabriel said the new board would be responsible for promoting the real potential, culture and vibrancy of SA because in the past it was not marketed properly and a lot of what it had to offer was overlooked.

She said the volume of foreign visitors to SA increased by 50% in 1995 and had since levelled off to an average annual increase of 10%. "And this was without a proper promotion strategy," she said.

Increase in foreign visitors to SA

(288) Star 1/5/97

The number of foreign visitors passing through Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban international airports in February was 108 915 – 15,4% more than in January and 14,5% more than in February last year, the Central Statistical Service said yesterday.

It said there had been a gradual decline in foreign visitors since October last year, but the trend reversed in January.

"This February (1997) figure is only surpassed by the phenomenal peak of 110 878 recorded in February 1995," the CSS said.

Foreigners came to South Africa mainly for holidays (71%), followed by business (18%).

There was a 41% rise in those visiting for study purposes.

The CSS said most visitors had come from Britain (28 449), followed by Germany (17 897), the United States (8 860), France (5 341), the Netherlands (4 598) and Zimbabwe (3 078).

Zimbabwe displaced Australia from sixth place.

The number of South African residents who temporarily travelled abroad in February was 54 335. – Sapa.

Leaders refuse to help launch anti-crime plan

Blow to new campaign

ARG 2/5/97 (288)

LINDSAY BARNES
STAFF REPORTER

The Cape Town Olympic Bid Company's novel plan to harness gangs to fight crime had a setback when four prominent community leaders refused to attend the launch.

Hours before yesterday's ceremony, the four, who had been asked to monitor the initiative, had requested a postponement on the grounds that it was "premature", said businessman and former political activist Peter Jones, speaking on the group's behalf.

The four community leaders had committed themselves to work for "significant community peace" and had been approached by Olympic bid chief Chris Ball's team to monitor the initiative.

Their refusal to take part in yesterday's launch at the Civic Centre was not a snub to the programme, Mr Jones said. "It is not ominous. We are not ready," he said.

"We have not fully satisfied ourselves as to the sustainability of the initiative in the manner in which it is now being put forward and we think it is premature."

The group consists of Mr Jones; Nombulelo Mkefa, chief executive director of the Community Peace Foundation; Matt Esau, a prominent Anglican cleric in Mitchell's Plain; and Gavin Pieterse, Western Cape president of the Black Management Forum.

"We need to understand fully what is being proposed and what it is we are supposed to monitor, and the level of seriousness and commitment of all parties," Mr Jones said.

At yesterday's launch there was an unlikely "marriage in brothership" between Rashied Staggie, a gang leader who says he has reformed, and Brian Williams, head of the Community Olympics Forum to make Cape Town a safer place.

Mr Williams denied any knowledge of the community leaders refusing to join the initiative because of the gangster element. At the ceremony, the gangsters signed an agreement to help slash crime – starting with the city centre – in the next few months in the run-up to the announcement in September of the 2004 Olympic Games host city.

A press conference was attended by bid company chief Chris Ball, bid representatives, community leaders and about 100 gangsters who say they have reformed, many of them decked out in designer sunglasses, baseball caps, American-style clothing and gold jewellery, and toting cellphones.

It was significant that instead of seeking help from the country's leaders, the Community Olympics Forum had turned to the community leadership at grassroots level, Mr Williams said.

The new anti-crime initiative was put to the Cabinet in Pretoria this week, but Mr Williams would not divulge details of the discussion and said it was up to the Cabinet to make a statement.

The declaration signed yesterday was historic in that during the next three months, reforming gangsters would attempt what the country's most powerful leaders had been unable to achieve. They would start with the city centre and later target Belhar and Mitchell's Plain, he said.

Mr Ball said the initiative was "brave" and "has to be a positive contribution".

"The risk is that the peace accord may not hold but it is better to have a peace accord and to attempt to do some good than not to try at all." Mr Ball made it clear the initiative was not a Bid Company project but was conceived by the Community Olympic Forum, elected independently by community organisations. He dismissed suggestions that it would legitimise gangsters. The exclusion of the drug trading issue from the agreement meant "any activity (such as drug dealing) which contravenes the law must be prosecuted".

CBD 'CLEAN-UP' UNDER WAY

Gangs, Olympic team tie knot for crime-free city

CT 2/5/99

(268)

THE POLICE were conspicuously absent yesterday at the launch of a gangster-run project to clean up crime in the Mother City. **ROGER FRIEDMAN** reports.

THE Olympic Peace Initiative, a three-month project involving the participation of gangsters to curb crime in Cape Town, was launched yesterday with an appeal by the head of the Community Olympics Forum, Mr Brian Williams, that society give gangsters a chance to demonstrate their social value.

And in a second appeal Williams urged that once the gangsters and reformed gangsters have demonstrated good faith, national government, provincial government and all other social structures intervene to assist in the much wider project of rebuilding the fabric of communities.

The initiative was largely inspired by Williams and the Community Outreach Forum (Core), a group of confessed gang leaders and reformed gangsters now campaigning for social upliftment and an end to the cycle of gangsterism in predominantly coloured neighbourhoods.

Other powerful groups — including The Firm, the 28s and the Americans — are involved; and the initiative has the backing of the Olympic Bid Company and various business, labour, community-based and non-governmental organisations.

The project's progress will be closely monitored by a group of respected community leaders, who will also act as mediators.

The first stage of the project will entail a crime clean-up of the Cape Town central business district, which is scheduled to be accomplished within two to three weeks.

The gang bosses will attempt to use their influence to stem theft, robbery, rape and murder. Then they will concentrate on other areas. The drug trade has not been mentioned as part of the crackdown.

At the Cape Town Civic Centre yesterday the media launch of the project was attended by the overwhelming majority of Western Cape gang leaders, members of the Community Olympic Forum and head of the Cape Town 2004 Olympics Bid Company Mr Chris Ball.

Williams, who chaired the conference, said crime, violence and gangsterism had been identified as a weakness in Cape Town's Olympic bid. The Community Olympic Forum had been mandated to work at grassroots level to help win the bid, and the Olympic Peace Initiative was a product of that work.

He said the initiative would clearly make the statement that every single citizen can play a role in reconciliation, and a crucial role in rebuilding South Africa.

Core leader Mr Rashied Staggie said he could live with being branded "scum" by some, but he did not want his children to be gangsters and to have to live with that label. Core's priority was preventing generations to come from falling into lives of crime.

Ball said nothing, which seemed to underline the difficulty for the bid company in being seen to forge alliances with known gang leaders. The government has not been willing to talk to the gangsters, but the government supports the Olympic bid and the Olympic bid company supports the initiative.

Although Core president Pastor Albern Martins performed a bizarre marriage ceremony between the blushing Staggie and Williams yesterday, questions were being asked whether this was not merely a marriage of convenience and whether it would have any impact on crime.

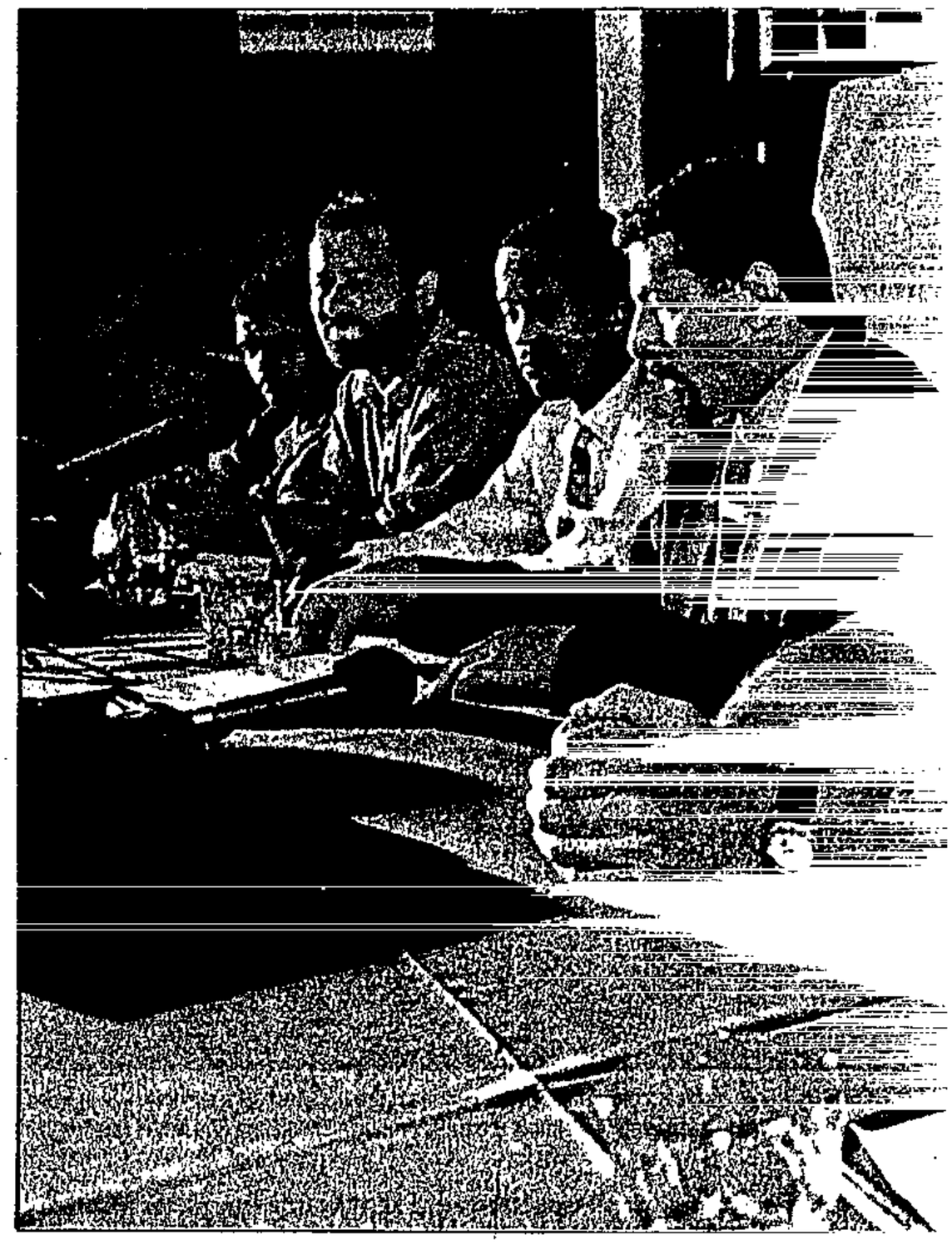
But clearly, relative peace is a requirement if Cape Town is to win the Games; and equally clearly, Core is demanding to be taken seriously. Which is not to mention that gangsterism continues to bedevil the Cape Flats.

Staggie and Williams were firm in their conviction that the initiative could boost Cape Town's chances of winning the right to host the Olympic Games in 2004 in the short-term, and benefit communities which spawn gangsterism in the long-term.

Firstly, however, the law-breakers will have to prove their mettle in the coming weeks as law-makers.

Those traditional upholders of the law, the police, were conspicuous in their absence yesterday; nor were they mentioned, aside from Staggie appealing to them to accept the anti-crime initiative and support it.

Asked to what extent the police backed the initiative, Williams said: "I'm sure every police agency and law-enforcement agency will be quite happy that their loads have been lightened."



LINE-UP (above): From left, Rashied Staggie, China Mpololo, Brian Williams, Chris Ball and Albe... (representing Core) and Williams (Community Olympics Forum).

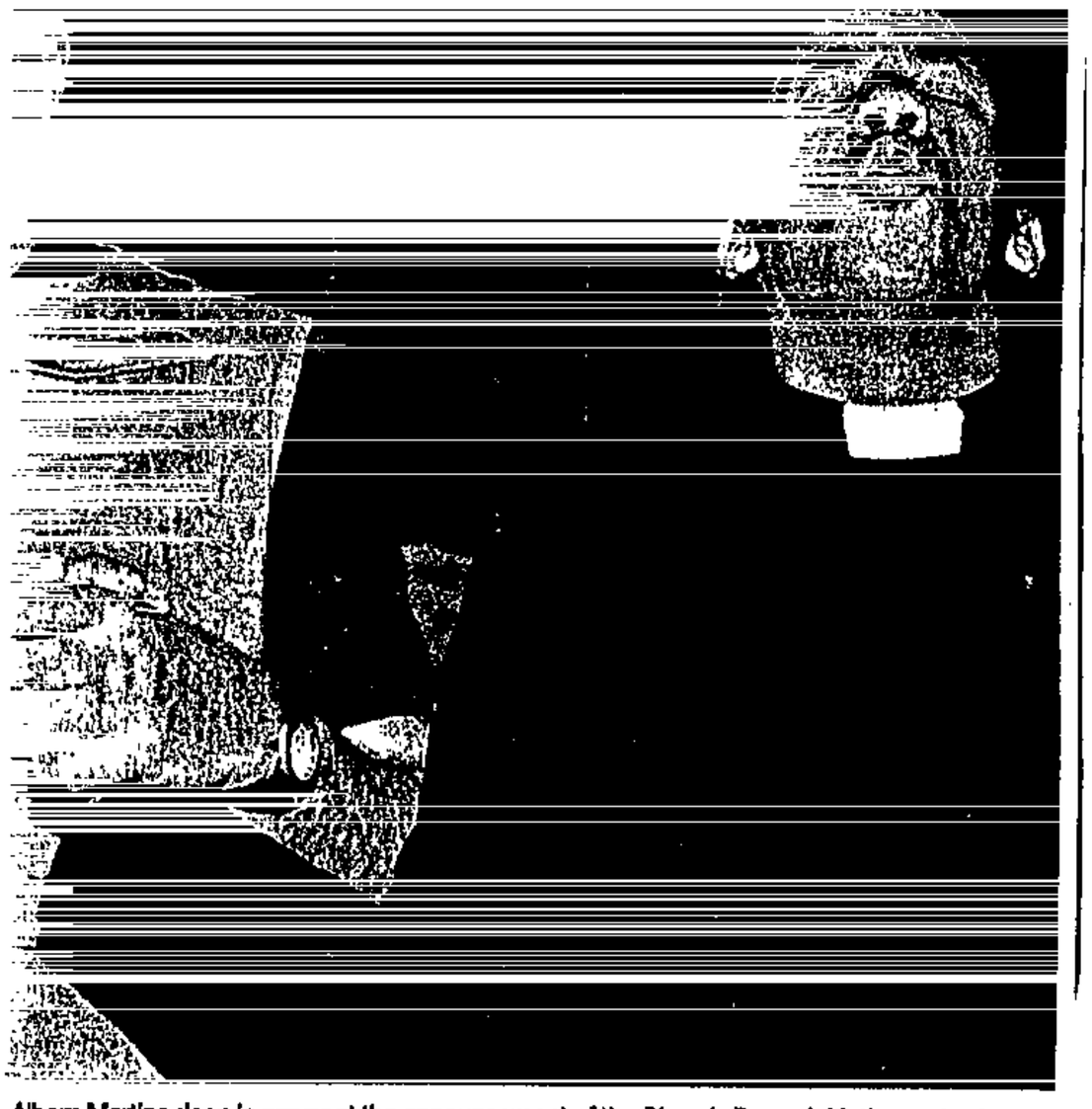


PEACEMAKERS: Bid Company chief Chris Ball and Core president Albern Martins deep in prayer at the announcement of the Olympic Pea...



:achled Staggie, China Mpololo, Brian Williams, Chris Ball and Albert Martins at yesterday's Olympic Peace Initiative launch. Martins went on to "marry" Staggie (Community Olympics Forum).

PICTURES: BENNY GOOL



Albert Martins deep in prayer at the announcement of the Olympic Peace Initiative yesterday.

TOURISM *Portnet talks to British group*

Floating hotel back on agenda for Durban

CT(BE) 2/5/97. (288)

SHIRLEY JONES
KWAZULU NATAL EDITOR

Durban — Portnet, the state ports authority, has sent the Robinson Group, a British tourism development company, a proposal outlining four possible sites for a floating hotel, industry sources said yesterday.

This comes after the furore that erupted when Portnet rejected the British leisure group's initial proposal to berth the decommissioned Canberra cruiseliner alongside the proposed Point waterfront development. The Canberra was to have been bought and revamped at a cost of R250 million.

Portnet's new proposals, which industry sources said were sent to the Robinson Group 10 days ago, outline sites along the Victoria Embankment. The sites would have to be dredged at an additional cost of between R13 million and R19 million.

The sources said some of the sites were even better than the initial site. Even if the Robinson Group rejected Portnet's proposals, the door had been opened for the transformation of other large cruiseliners in the process of decommission to be turned into hotels within the port.

In the document, Portnet said that although its primary activities were imports and exports, it recognised its role in supporting tourism development.

But the document also stated that the proposed berthing site for the Canberra posed a problem for the Durban port. The site, a deepwater berth, was used extensively for commercial handling, and such sites in the port were in "desperate short supply".

Portnet's proposal, which has also been circulated to other stakeholders within the city, shows that the Robinson Group had been analysing the potential for the development of a cruiseliner hotel for at least two years and had switched its choice of location from the Mediterranean to Durban.

The group's initial proposal notes that equity funding was available from the group and certain of its offshore partners, including German and Japanese investors, who had already indicated their interest in retaining equity participation in the project.

The industry sources confirmed that the Robinson Group had not yet replied to the Portnet proposal.



LEON MÜLLER

Gang treaty: members of The Firm, left, and the Americans shake hands, watched by ex-gangster Ivan Waldeck



Forgiving: Desmond Jack



Commun

Bid media boss quits to work for youth commission

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Bid Company media manager Paul Johnson leaves the bid team this month to join Deputy President Thabo Mbeki's office as communications director for the National Youth Commission.

He is the second senior bid official to leave the company in recent weeks. The first was marketing director André Krogh.

Mr Johnson said the opportunity to be part of Mr Mbeki's team was a "compelling challenge", though he remained an "active supporter and voluntary agent" of the bid.

He added that "with a low-maintenance, systems-based plan and a sound media team in place, there is no issue around my departure impacting in any significant way on the ongoing bid media programme".

Departures from the bid team have required some minor restructuring of staff, but have not come as a surprise. Whether or not Cape Town wins the bid on September 5, the Bid Company will be dissolved on that date, and staff employed on contract will be without jobs. It is natural that opportunities that arise between now and then will be seriously considered by staff in this position.

In contrast, most senior staff have been seconded from private companies and various levels of government, and their professional future is secure.

'A time to heal'

I'll forgive, says victim a

ASHLEY SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

A young man suffering from brain damage after he was shot in the back of the head by Elsies River gangsters earlier this year says he is prepared to "forgive and forget" if gangs keep their promise to work for peace.

Desmond Jack was speaking yesterday at a meeting in Elsies River of the Community Outreach Forum (Core) which represents gangsters who say they have reformed. The meeting aimed to end gang warfare in the suburb between rival gangs The Firm and the Americans.

Mr Jack told members of the organisation, led by Rashied Staggie, that he trusted that at last peace would come to the war-torn township.

The peace agreement, signed by the gangs on Workers' Day last week after an initiative launched by the Community Olympic Forum, stated: "We the undersigned representatives and leaders of various gang structures and gang networks hereby pledge to the Western Cape and South Africa that we are committed to the Olympic Peace Initiative. Our main objective is to reduce crime and violence in the Western Cape."

But the peace agreement has come too late for Mr Jack and his friend Thurlo Swanepoel, who was killed on March 16 in a shooting incident.

Mr Jack is unable to walk without the

Drug dealers won't escap

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

The Olympic Peace Initiative launched with local gangs last week does not oblige gangsters to stop their lucrative drugs trade and it will not protect them against prosecution.

The issue of drugs is the most controversial element of what Bid Company chief executive Chris Ball describes as a "brave" initiative. But Mr Ball, who made it clear the gangs-for-peace strategy was not a bid project but an initiative of the independent Cape Town Community Olympic Forum, emphasised: "Any activity which contravenes the law must be prosecuted."

On the tricky subject of the exclusion drug dealing from the terms of the revolutionary accord between the forum a local gangs, Mr Ball said: "It would be n to wave a flag and stop drug activ

Cape tops tourism bill – in Durban

Region the drawcard as world comes to Indaba 97

ARG 5/5/97 (288)

The Western Cape is expected to be the main drawcard for hundreds of international delegates attending the biggest tourism travel show in Africa, Indaba 1997 – in Durban.

Cape Town cannot host Indaba because it still does not have a large enough conference venue.

The show runs from today until Thursday at the Durban Exhibition Centre.

About 900 international tour operators and travel agents from 60 countries will be attending the annual exhibition to compile itineraries, tour packages and price lists for the next travel season.

A strong contingent of 70 international travel journalists will attend.

"The Western Cape will be the biggest product and will represent the largest group out of 600 local exhibitors at Indaba," said Reg Swarts, acting chief executive of Satour, which organises this event on the international tourism calendar.

Indaba was initiated in 1987 with about 200 international delegates and it has been growing tremendously since then, with a 20 percent rise in the number of exhibitors this year compared with last year's figure.

SPECIAL REPORT



CHENÉ BLIGNAUT

Many local tourism businesses had to be turned away because of the demand for exhibition stands, ranging in price from R3 000 to R7 000.

Newly appointed Satour chairman Liz Westby-Nunn described Indaba as "a brilliant opportunity for the Western Cape to refocus itself and draw attention to new products, as well as to heighten awareness of the city's bid for the 2004 Games."

The theme of the exhibition, the country's cultural heritage, is also Satour's marketing strategy.

For the first time, all the Western Cape products will be concentrated in one section at Indaba, which will be adorned with traditional Cape Dutch gables and the Olympic Bid Company's logo.

The Western Cape Tourism Board will co-ordinate the reception within this section and will also be introducing the 1997/98 Western Cape Travel Guide.

"The Western Cape will definitely be the drawcard at Indaba and we are looking forward to lots of meaningful negotiations that will ensure the province stays the No 1 tourism destination in the country," said Western Cape Tourism Board marketing manager Pieter Rossouw.

Lampie Fick, Western Cape tourism MEC, who will be at Indaba to support exhibitors, believes it gives the region the opportunity to prove why it is the most important tourism destination in the country. "We have to prove we are worthy of that reputation," said Mr Fick.

Cape Town radio station Good Hope FM will be broadcasting live from the Captour stand at the show to 600 000 Western Cape listeners, giving running commentary of events at the exhibition.

Captour marketing manager Jeremy Harris will be focusing on new opportunities in the local tourism industry in his promotion of Cape Town.

Apart from the city's "good old-fashioned charm", Mr Harris will also be punting its facilities for smaller conferences.

The development of 30 new hotels in the city to cope with increasing numbers of foreign visitors would be another strong selling point.

Mr Harris will suggest new tourism opportunities to tour operators during the Cape's winter months, historically the city's quiet travel period.

The big international companies represented at the show include Thomas Cook Holidays, Virgin Atlantic, USA Fun Safaris, Ikarus Travel, Impala Tours and Munich International Airport.

Indonesia, Denmark, Scandinavia and Japan will be be strongly represented and delegates from the Virgin Islands and Bermuda will attend for the first time.

"We are seeing many newcomers who didn't like us before because of our political dispensation," said Mr Swarts.

Seaside Cinderella to become beachfront belle

New hotels, Waterfront link on the cards as Mouille Point gets a facelift

(288) ARG 5/5/97

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
TOURISM REPORTER

Mouille Point, once the Cinderella stretch of the Atlantic coastline, is set to become the Riviera of the Cape, with major developments and a massive upgrade of facilities planned for the area.

Plans for a new Waterfront access road, a public park, pedestrian walkways and cycle paths, improved sport and recreational facilities, international hotels and a multi-million rand upgrade of the beachfront are expected to transform this neglected part of the city into a tourist hub.

By providing improved facilities, the city council hopes to form a natural link between this area and the Waterfront.

"With the growth of tourism in the Western Cape, Mouille Point has become an area with enormous development potential," said deputy city planner Basil Tommy.

The spectacular views of the sea and the mountains from this area and its proximity to the beaches of the Atlantic seaboard, the central business district and the Waterfront all added to the attraction, he said.

Plans for the area include a new road linking the Western Boulevard to Beach Rd in Mouille Point, as part of a development framework for the Green Point common area. The road, parallel to Portswood Road, will provide easier access to the Waterfront from the Atlantic Seaboard side, and alleviate traffic congestion.

Other ideas for the council-owned common include pedestrian walkways and cycle pathways with links to surrounding areas, improved sporting facilities and a public park. The framework has been negotiated through an extensive public participation programme and is expected to be finalised by June.

Meanwhile, private-owned land along the coastline is being snapped up by developers who see Mouille Point as the perfect location for hotels.

Planned projects along the coastline include the R150-million five-star sectional title Villa Via hotel at Granger Bay, the R220-million Gateway sectional title hotel project and a R200-million international hotel between Surrey and Rothsay roads.

THE CHANGING CITY

CAPE ARGUS

TRACKING A CITY IN TRANSITION

The Villa Via, at the Water Club in Granger Bay, is under construction and building of the other two hotels is expected to start later this year.

La Splendida Luxury Suites, a new R10-million hotel development along this coastline, opened its doors in March.

To increase the viability of their projects some investors have undertaken to contribute to the upliftment of the beachfront area between Granger Bay and the lighthouse at a cost of millions of rands.

Plans for this area include extensive landscaping and the creation of a spectacular ocean boulevard. The beachfront plan is expected to be completed by the middle of the year and implementation is expected before December.

"We have the opportunity to reintroduce the kind of activities that used to take place along the Sea Point promenade at the old Carousel, which was a place where people met and socialised," said Mr Tommy of the planned ocean walkway.

Rollerbladers and joggers already frequent the pavement stretch between Granger Bay and the lighthouse.

Town planners are also negotiating with lease-holders on council land on the stretch between the lighthouse and the Three Anchor Bay boat ramp to get them to improve facilities in this area. Among these are the little blue train, the maze and the putt-putt course.

The possible downgrading of Beach Road, which is a provincial main road, is being investigated. The plan is to reduce traffic on this road and make it safer to cross to the beachfront.

Contributing to the area's facelift is the recent upgrading of the Mouille Point lighthouse, the revamp of the commercial building at 129 Beach Road and the renovation of several older buildings along the coastline. The historic Fort Wynyard will be upgraded to house a military museum.

More development opportunities could become available along Portswood Road, with the consolidation of health facilities at City Park and Somerset hospitals and the subsequent disposal of surplus land and buildings, said Mr Tommy.

Inner Cape investment chairman Jochen Buechel, developer of the Gateway project, will contribute between R1-million and R1,5-million to the upgrading of the beachfront in front of this hotel.

"This area is fast becoming the Cote d'Azur of the Cape," said Mr Buechel.

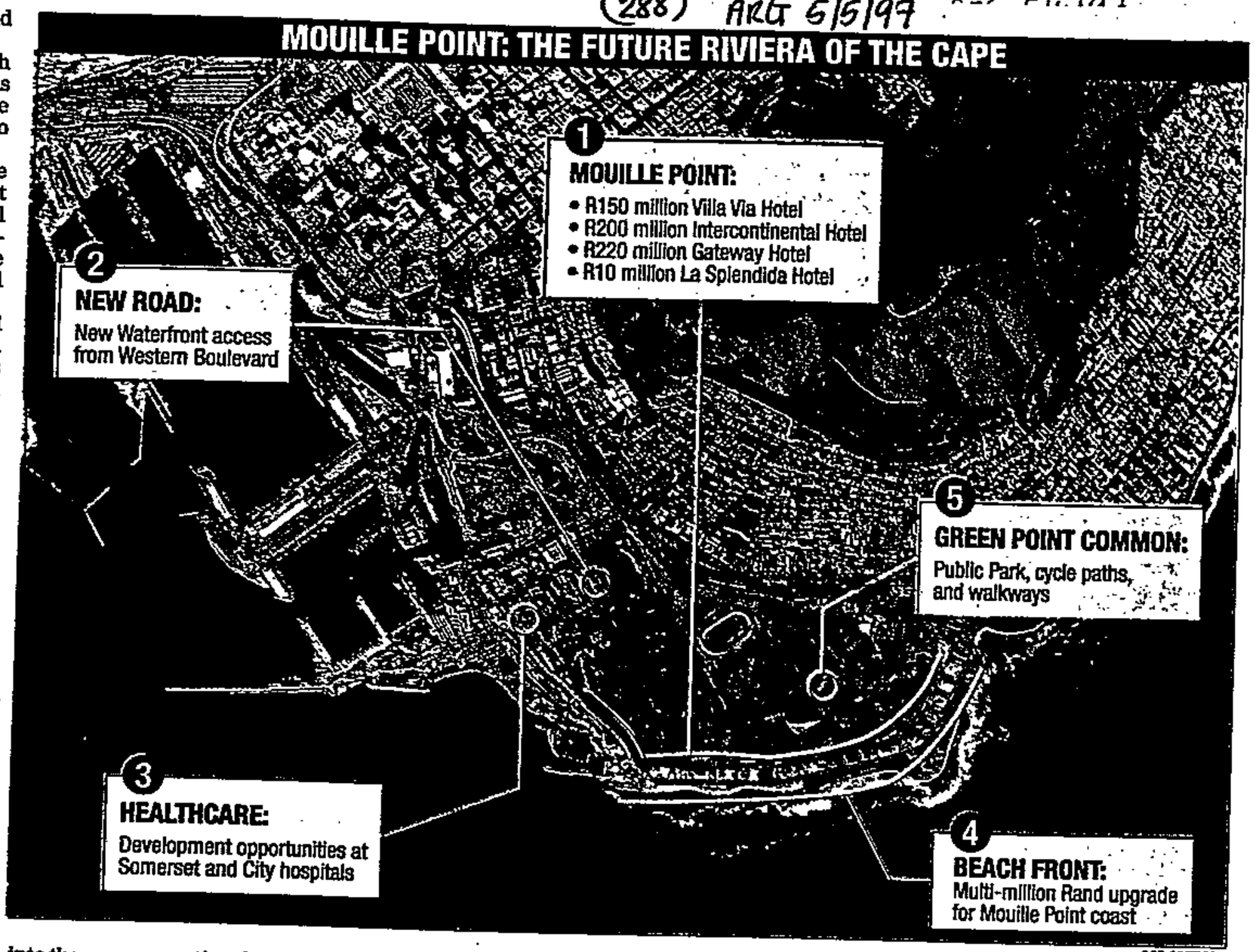
Mr Buechel, who said developers should contribute to the upliftment of the areas in which they build, has pledged R500 000 towards a community project to look after street children in the area.

Roy Licht, director of TDC which will develop the still unnamed hotel between Surrey and Rothsay roads with an international hotel group, is kicking off the transformation of the beachfront by financing drawing up of the plan. He will pay another R1-million towards implementation.

"Mouille Point is a fantastic location and it has the potential to become the jewel of the Cape, it just needs an impetus. This can become the Riviera of Cape Town and we are planning to give Camps Bay a run for its money," said Mr Licht.

He said upgrading of the beachfront as the first phase of the extension of the Waterfront. The beachfront upgrade would make the Waterfront "work better", because it had become "commercialised".

"The upgrade will melt the Waterfront into the open recreational areas of Mouille Point," he said.



BOB GRIERSON

Mr Licht said Cape Town, with its international reputation, was the "buzz word" in property and Mouille Point was "the right side of the railway line".

The Granger BayTrust, developers of Villa Via, have brick-paved and landscaped the sidewalk area outside the Water Club as part of their contribution towards the link between the Waterfront and Mouille Point. "Our project acted as a catalyst for development in this area," said project manager Clive Lurie.

Meanwhile, local residents have accepted that they "cannot put a finger in the dyke" of development in the area, said Bronnie Harding, chairman of the Mouille Point Ratepayers' Association.

"Providing the development conforms to council regulations, we cannot stop it. With the ever-increasing Waterfront, Mouille Point has become the most sought-after area in the city," she said.

Tussle over slice of tourist pie

CT (BR) 5/5/97 (288)

RAVIN MAHARAJ

Durban — KwaZulu Natal and Durban could lose their dominant slice of the domestic tourism market if shareholders from the province were not elected onto the Tourism Board, a prominent industry executive said last week.

On the eve of South Africa's premier tourism show, the Indaba, which starts today at the Durban Exhibition Centre, Ted Hirst, the director of Tourism Durban,warned that the region could see tourism decline if there were not enough representatives to bid for Durban as the official host of the annual exhibition.

There are nine board members from Gauteng, eight from the Western Cape and two from KwaZulu Natal.

Hirst believed shareholders here could easily be outvoted, and tourism revenue and international investment deals lost, especially to Gauteng — the economic hub of South Africa — and the Cape, which has leapt into the spotlight after Cape Town made the shortlist for the 2004 Olympics.

But Thabo Mpakanyane, a KwaZulu Natal board member, was upbeat about the future of Durban's famed Indaba, saying the imminent opening of Durban's showpiece, the International Convention Centre, and the dramatic reshaping of the Point, expanded Durban's capacity to host future tourism events.

Durban, he said, had a good track record when it came to hosting the Indaba. "We will continue to spotlight Durban as a tourism and international business venue. This can be done even if there are only two representatives on the board."

Dave Hibbs, the senior marketing manager of KwaZulu Natal, echoed Mpakanyane's sentiments, saying there were moves afoot, both by Tourism KwaZulu Natal and Tourism Durban, to secure Durban as the annual, official hosts of the Indaba.

The seventh consecutive Indaba is expected to inject R2,5 million into the city, and billions of rands in foreign investment deals are expected to be concluded.

Official Satour estimates indicate that international delegates and guests from other provinces are expected to spend an average of R608 a day. This amounts to more than R2 million during their stay until Thursday. Delegates are also expected to generate billions of rands in business for the province.

At present, 40 percent of the province's tourism income is generated from outside the country's borders. The Indaba will have 600 exhibitors, 90 percent of whom are from South Africa.

Tourism board in place despite snags

Star 5/5/97 (288)

By Troye Lund

Tourism in Gauteng looks set for a boost despite snags in appointing its members.

The names of the new board members, who will manage a proposed R5-million budget and market the province's tourism locally and internationally, are expected to be announced this week.

But, despite last Tuesday's announcement by finance and economic affairs MEC, Jabu Moleketi, which marks the end of a year-long process to establish the board, there is concern among legislature members.

The finance and economic affairs standing committee has been told that most applicants being interviewed for five positions on the 11-man Gauteng Tourism Agency Board, have not been of suitable calibre.

The board, chaired by Moleketi, will market Gauteng as a tourism destination locally and internationally, concentrating especially on the province being the business capital of the country and related business tourism.

Aside from board representatives from each of Gauteng's five tourism regions, five experts in the fields of auditing, conservation and environment, labour relations, and black empowerment are needed.

Following advertisements in four national newspapers, NP MPL Patricia Lion-Cachet told the committee that two, possibly three applicants have so far been acceptable. Interviews are being conducted by MPLs and officials from Moleketi's department.

Calibre of applicants caused concern

Lion-Cachet called on committee members to headhunt other candidates.

Because the successful group of five also had to be representative of different races and genders, the DP said, the search was for a "rare animal" and that professionals already working in the tourism industry should be appointed instead.

Moleketi says that "what applicants were and were not suitable was a matter of opinion" and that he was already in a position to appoint five experts.

DP MPL, Ian Davidson said: "With the level of applicants, we have no hope of ... an exciting, let alone viable board. Instead of getting the race, genders and fields of knowledge right, let's get professionals in the industry."

He also proposed that the role of the government in the board be downplayed by allowing a private individual to chair it.

Moleketi said because the board was funded by the government and was a partnership between business, communities and labour, a government chairman was necessary to begin with.

A meeting to finalise salaries and to appoint a CEO is planned for mid-May.

Durbs, Cape in tourism

Visitors prefer Mother City – Satour →

ARG 6/6/97

ALAN COOPER IN DURBAN
AND CHENÉ BLIGNAUT IN CAPE TOWN

The tourism industry has been hit by a war of words over where international delegates to a tourism indaba would prefer to be – Durban or Cape Town.

Durban is miffed because one of South Africa's tourism bosses has said the visitors to the conference in that city would "love to be" in Cape Town.

Durban's pique surfaced as Indaba '97 opened yesterday at the Durban Exhibition Centre, attracting nearly 1 000 foreign delegates and journalists.

Remarks by Reg Swarts, acting chief executive of Satour, which organises the hugely popular expo, have drawn criticism form Durban's metropolitan council and tourism promoters.

In an interview with the Cape Argus, Mr Swarts said: "All the international people would love to be at the Indaba in Cape Town, but you (Cape Town) just don't have the facility to accommodate all of them."

Durban's marketing bosses are seething at the remark, which they said implied that Cape Town would be a better choice of venue than Durban for the country's top tourism and travel expo.

With Durban already losing ground to Cape Town in the race to attract overseas visitors, the remarks have struck a raw nerve with city promoters.

Metro council communications director Peter Bendheim said: "If Mr Swarts has been quoted correctly, his comments are extremely unfortunate, coming from someone who is supposed to represent South African tourism as a whole, not individual cities."

He said the foreign delegates he had spoken to were more than impressed with Durban and its conference facilities.

"Even if Cape Town were to come up with better exhibition facilities, which is unlikely, given the fact that our International Convention Centre comes on line in

→ *boss*
(288)

August, Durban would still be the better venue.

"It's South Africa's only truly African city. In Cape Town, delegates might as well be in Europe with a pretty mountain in the background."

Tourism Durban declined a direct response, but privately, officials say the last time Cape Town hosted the Indaba in 1991, the "shambles" that ensued resulted in Durban's being awarded the show for the next six years running.

W Cape pulls out all the stops for tourism Indaba

(288) CT 6/5/97

DURBAN has put out the welcome mat for nearly 1 000 visitors from 60 countries, and has transformed the city's exhibition centre into a slick and upmarket bazaar ... a veritable extravaganza of anything to do with travel and tourism.

And many of the merchants, dressed up in dark suits, vibrant traditional costume or the ubiquitous game-ranger khaki, have spared no expense in attracting prospective clients at Indaba 1997.

About 600 Southern African companies have come to this year's jamboree, and exhibitors are hoping to peddle their select wares not just to the traditional tourism markets of Europe, North America and Australasia, but also to the emerging markets in the Far East.

The Western Cape has surrounded its display area with unique Cape-Dutch entrance portals, especially commissioned for the Indaba at a cost of R100 000.

Close to 150 Western Cape companies have fought for space, with some having to share stalls on a morning and afternoon shift basis. Local radio station, Good Hope FM is broadcasting live from the Captour stand.

Captour marketing director Mr Jeremy Harris said at the four-day exhibition: "The thinking behind using Good Hope FM is that we are keen to maximise our presence. They have been well received and have provided a tremendous impact for the province.

"It's one way of bombarding the delegates with tourist information from the Cape."

Western Cape Tourism Board spokesman Mr Pieter Roussow said exhibitors from his province had spent about R300 000 on floor space alone. "We believe it's all money well spent, and Satour deserves credit for fantastic organisation," he said.

Harris said funding for Captour's presence amounted to more than R45 000.

Besides selling sponsorships, the city's tourism marketing body had received R25 000 from the Western Cape Tourism Board to set up its stand while R25 000 was provided by a city jeweller to pay for Good Hope FM's presence.

"I've also brought a small specialist team which will help give a broad overview of tourism in the Cape and identify new membership for Captour.

"Captour must be proactive in sourcing its own financial resources," Roussow said.

In a separate development, Harris said Captour had approached the Robben Island Museum to form a "business partnership" to better market the island as SA's foremost heritage site.

Major hotel groups such as Sun International and Southern Sun have erected mock hotels, complete with plush reception lobbies.

Protea Hotels has spent nearly R200 000 erecting a rustic, thatched roof reception area to market its rapidly expanding chain of 86 hotels in Africa. Spokesman Mr Allan Duke announced plans to create a new Landmark chain of 26 "affordable" hotels.

Mr Glenn Phillips of the exclusive Kapama Lodge and game reserve in Northern Province was optimistic that his company's presence at the Indaba would lead to rich rewards. Aiming mainly at foreign tourists, the lodge charges R1 700 a night. — Tourism Writers

Yes, Indaba delegates would prefer to be here

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
TOURISM REPORTER

ARG 7/6/97

Durban – "Eat your heart out Durban!" That's the message from Western Cape exhibitors at Indaba '97 who say Cape Town is definitely the city of choice among foreign delegates and media attending the popular annual travel expo here. (288)

A snap Cape Argus survey also suggested that most overseas visitors would indeed prefer to be in the Mother City.

This follows a war of words over a comment by Indaba organiser and Satour acting chief executive Reg Swart, who said international delegates would love to be in Cape Town but that the city could not accommodate them.

Durban metro communications director Peter Bendheim said Durban's superior conference facilities and true African nature made it the better venue.


Tourism men angry at 'Cape is best' remark

Not amused: how a Durban newspaper sees it

Western Cape tourism authorities have hit back, saying millions of visitors would "beg to differ".

Austrian tour executive Sonja Lomatch said she would like the Indaba to be in Cape Town.

A Zimbabwean delegate agreed: "It would be nice to have it in Cape Town because the shopping is better and it is a better place to be, isn't it?"

Crime biggest threat to tourism

CT 7/5/97 (288)

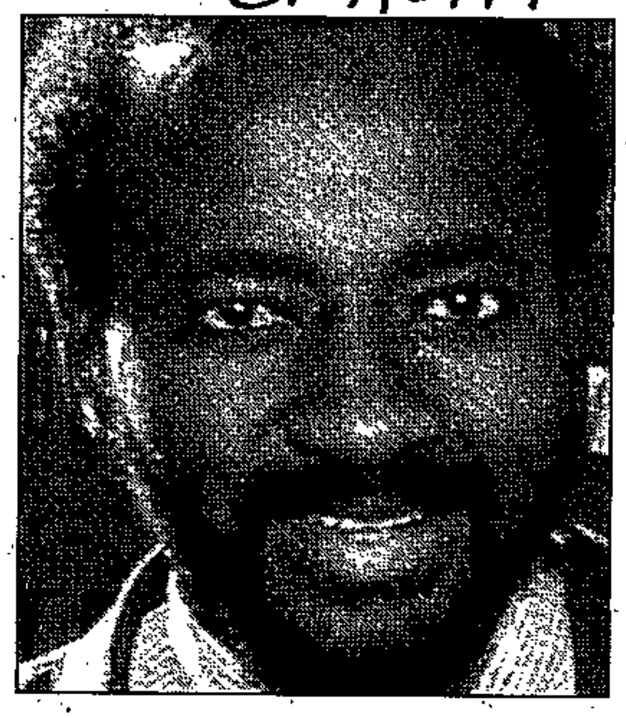
DAN SIMON

DURBAN: While the government did not want to underplay the serious effects of crime on South Africa's developing tourism industry there was a need to maintain some perspective on the true situation, Environmental Affairs and Tourism Minister Dr Pallo Jordan said yesterday.

Addressing the Indaba 1997 media conference which was attended by 110 foreign and local journalists, Jordan said the "biggest danger" to the growth of the tourism industry was the perception that South Africa was a dangerous destination.

Since the country's transition to democracy in 1994, "new benchmarks" had been set in South African tourism, he said. But tremendous poverty and high unemployment could seriously undermine future growth.

"During the past few years international arrivals have increased steadily and this demonstrates that tourism has great potential for this country as no other sector has shown this kind of rapid growth.



'PERSPECTIVE' PLEA: Pallo Jordan

"Conservatively calculated, the figures we see imply that in the past five years tourism has earned an additional R5,5 billion in foreign exchange and has created 200 000 new jobs and raised its contribution to the gross domestic product from 3% to 4,5%.

"All these trends indicate to us the sustainability of tourism and the potential of further growth."

But the "chief danger" to growth in the industry was the perception that South Africa was an unsafe destination.

"The events of the past week, including the heinous murder of Dr (Ronnie) Bethlehem (one of South Africa's foremost economists) I'm sure added to these perceptions.

"While we don't want to underplay the significance of crime as a deterrent to tourists to South Africa, we do, however, say it is important to maintain some perspective on these figures.

"We are concerned about the perceptions of South Africa's being a dangerous and unsafe destination. We don't think South Africa is any less safe than many other foreign tourist destinations."

His department was setting up a special directorate that would focus on tourism safety and security. "We don't take the threat of crime lightly."

Satour 'desperately seeking more money'

DURBAN: A cash-strapped SA Tourism Board (Satour) is to be transformed this year by its new members appointed last month.

The transformation would be in politics and business, Satour chairman Ms Liz Westby-Nunn said yesterday at the Indaba 1997 Travel and Tourism Exhibition media conference here.

This would be followed by a fresh marketing strategy for South Africa, she said.

Discussing the organisation's financial woes, Westby-Nunn said South African tourism was between a "rock and a hard place" in terms of international marketing.

"We simply don't have the funding. We are desperately seeking more money and as you know R64 million (budgeted) goes nowhere.

"Just translate that into dollars," she said. — Tourism Writer

Durban hosts extravagant tourism show

BD 8/5/97 (288)

Nicola Jenvey

DURBAN — The welcome mat has been extended to nearly 1 000 foreign visitors from 60 nations as the city's exhibition centre has been transformed into an extravagant and prestigious tribute to the SA travel and tourism industry.

Indaba '97, the largest tourism show of its kind in Africa, has attracted nearly 600 firms from SA and the southern part of the continent, with the exhibitors aiming to show the benefits of tourism and travel in the region to the markets of Europe, North America, Australasia and the Far East.

Resort Condominium International MD Ian Sandler said yesterday that as the world's largest industry, tourism had in the past few years also been one of the most consistent and highest growth sectors in the SA economy.

He estimated that last year total tourism expenditure amounted to R28bn of which R12,5bn came from foreigners. The industry employed one out of every 25 workers in SA's economy.

Indaba was started in 1987 with about 200 international delegates. It has grown rapidly since, with huge demand for stands now.

The theme of Indaba '97 is the country's cultural heritage, which is also Satour's marketing campaign for the next three years.

Four months to D-Day for Bid team

Right-sized Games seen as a deterrent to rampant commercialism

ARG 8/5/97 (288)

THE MODEST SCALE, AND THE IMMENSE POTENTIAL REWARDS, OF CAPE TOWN'S OLYMPIC BID ARE, AS A SUM, THE PROJECT'S BEST SELLING POINT IN THE ONE-TO-ONE LOBBYING OF INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE VOTERS. WITH JUST FOUR MONTHS TO GO, MICHAEL MORRIS ASSESSES THE SOUTH AFRICAN BID'S PROGRESS IN THE FIVE-CITY RACE

The Hollywoodian fizzle of the archetypal Olympic Games of the past two decades, hyped to the nines, brash and brassy, has worn a little thin as a model for the future.

The air of excess, the expense, the commercialism – these things have come to be regarded as inimical to the ideals that are meant to instil faith in the wholesomeness of Olympism.

Last year's event in Atlanta was possibly the apotheosis.

Driven almost entirely by private enterprise, it was the biggest commercial event in the 100-year history of the modern Olympic movement.

Critics said the organisers overdid the commercialism, selling sponsors the right to put the Olympic rings on everything from game shows to hamburgers.

Feats of endurance and record-breaking achievements in the sports arenas were matched by a merchandising bonanza of mind-boggling proportions on the streets outside, attended, unsurprisingly, by a certain queasiness, a sense that the Olympics was less about taking part and struggling well (the precepts at the heart of the Olympic movement) than making the most bucks by the easiest means.

The idea that the Olympic spirit is just another saleable item is tacky. It makes the IOC itself look a bit tacky, too.

Which is why Cape Town's plan for 2004 is especially appealing to the influential grandees touring the world to find the best site for the Games after Sydney.

Cape Town's proposal is quite different from those of its rivals – Rome, Athens and Stockholm in Europe, and Buenos Aires across the ocean in South America.

The least tangible is the impact the bid will have – and already is having – on the nature of Cape Town as a city.

Today's planners have inherited a warped, inefficient, and costly urban matrix shaped by the unjust and impractical dictates of apartheid ideology.

Political reforms have overtaken, but not redressed, the myriad deficiencies in the physical make-up of the city and, unless they are tackled, the social and economic costs will mount.

The Olympic plan on its own, especially given its modest scope, is not to be regarded as the ultimate panacea, but it is already proving to be the most significant catalyst the city has seen.

It is being used effectively to "seed" new development where it's most needed, re-focus transport and land-use planning, and provide tight time-frames for the achievement of realistic developmental goals.

The creation of Olympic, or sporting, facilities is only one by-product of the overall scheme.

These are being strategically located to stimulate new business and service opportunities which, in the absence of the Olympic projects, would not have a foundation on which to grow.

Coupled with this is a deliberate stratagem to spread the benefits equitably, to ensure that contracts and projects will help small and emergent businesses gain a foothold in the economic mainstream, and provide advantage to previously disadvantaged communities.

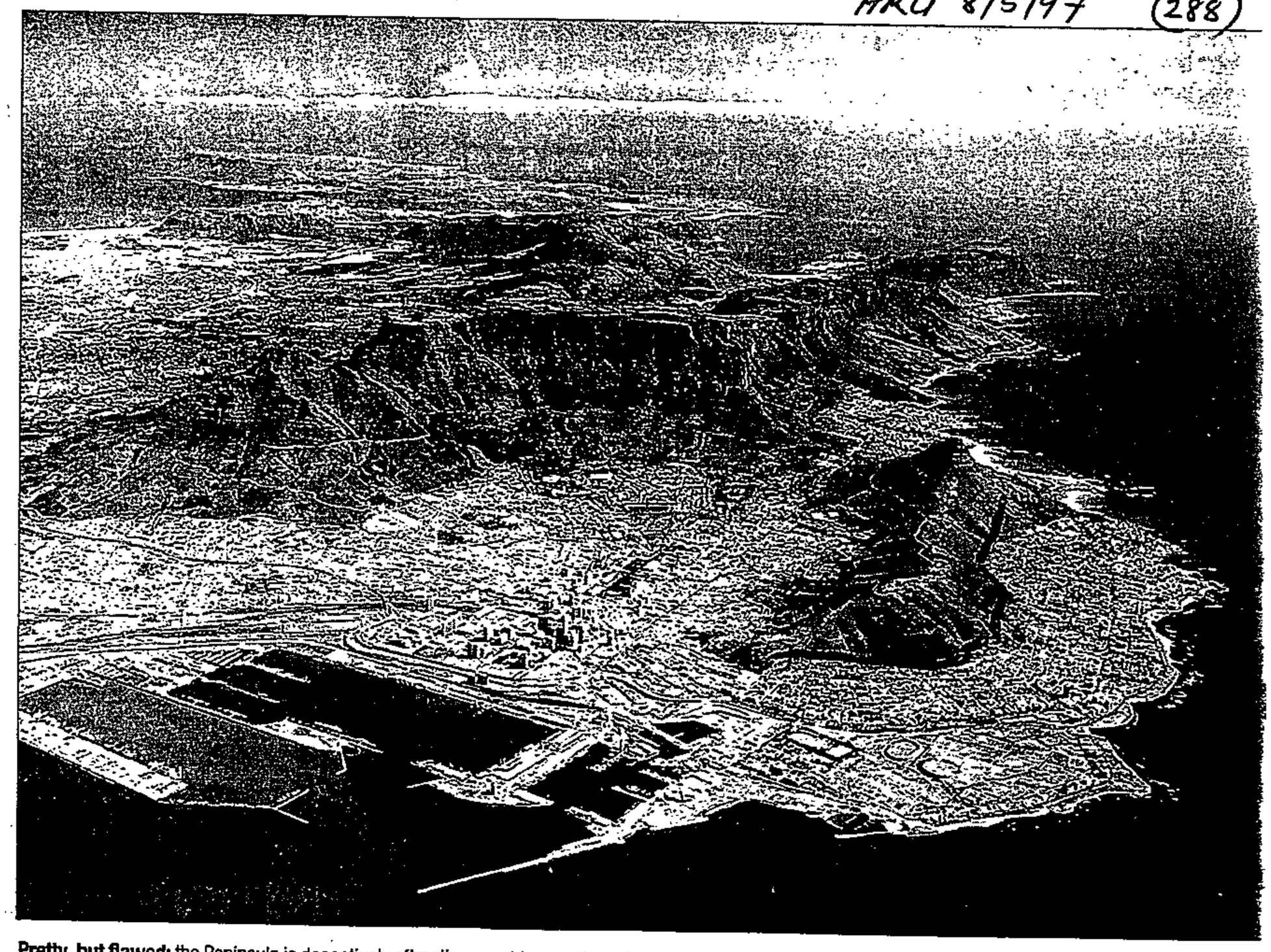
In this way, the developmental pillar of the bid is intended as a means of practical empowerment.

And in macro-economic terms, one is looking at an event that has the potential to raise the Gross Domestic Product of southern Africa by one percent a year for 10 years.

The predicted growth for South Africa is R30-billion over 10 years, with additional tax revenue of R8-billion.

The job-creation potential is immense – between 90 000 and 100 000 permanent jobs.

And contrary to the arguments trotted



Pretty, but flawed: the Peninsula is deceptively attractive, masking costly socio-economic problems whose solutions are at the core of the Olympic project

Athens, Stockholm), where the impact will be barely evident.

It is the sense that the African bid really is an opportunity to show that Olympism need not be overblown and overly commercial and can be inspirational that is, by all accounts, being appreciated by visiting IOC members.

tive launched last week by the Cape Town Community Olympic Forum.

It is founded on the idea that if it is possible to secure peace accords between gangs, and between gangs and society as a first step towards drawing gangsters into a peaceable existence in the mainstream, then crime and violence will be dramati-

to be given the chance to take the first step away from crime by themselves.

Time will tell whether this novel approach bears fruit.

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Which is why Cape Town's plan for 2004 is especially appealing to the influential grandees touring the world to find the best site for the Games after Sydney.

Cape Town's proposal is quite different from those of its rivals – Rome, Athens and Stockholm in Europe, and Buenos Aires across the ocean in South America.

For a start, it is what, in business-speak, is called a "right-sized" event, a realistically modest proposal, about half the size of the Atlanta Games and tailored to South Africa's economic capacity.

Furthermore, the considerable public-sector component of the budget will effectively prevent, or obviate the need for, the kind of rampant commercialism that a wholly private-sector affair cultivates.

And both the capital and operating budgets, fully underwritten by the national government, carry substantial contingency reserves that provide financial security, and allow a pragmatic degree of flexibility as the project unfolds.

In adding a fourth "developmental" pillar to the traditional three pillars of Olympism – sport, culture, environment – the Cape Town plan comes into its own as an instrument of good and a symbolic opportunity for the IOC to redeem and reinvigorate the ideals of Olympism and refresh its own image, through a unique, and genuinely consequential landmark event.

This occurs on three levels.

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The predicted growth for South Africa is R30-billion over 10 years, with additional tax revenue of R8-billion.

The job-creation potential is immense – between 90 000 and 100 000 permanent jobs.

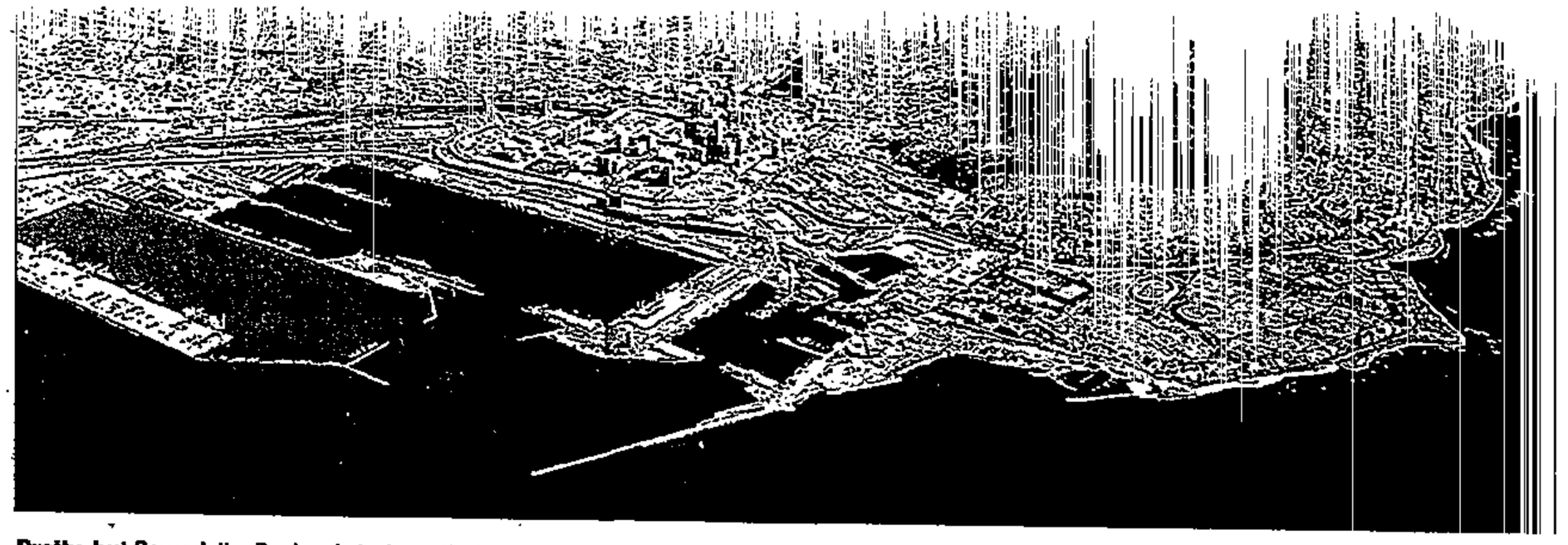
And contrary to the arguments trotted out – this week again – by the abysmally ill-informed, anti-bid lobby, these are not merely jobs on Olympic stadium construction sites, or jobs that will end once the athletes pack up and go home.

They are genuinely permanent jobs in tourism and all the industries that feed off it. In effect, these cover the entire spectrum of the economy from agriculture and food production to manufacturing, financial services and commerce.

However you look at it, it's an impressive impact.

Chris Ball likes to illustrate the point in another way. He says you could put the Olympic Games in London and the Gross Domestic Product of Britain would hardly reflect it.The British capital already attracts visitors in their millions, and foreign investment on a bewildering scale.

Without having to say it in so many words, the real point is that if you really want to make a difference to the lives of millions of people, and positively influence the future of a city, a country, a whole continent, don't put the Games in yet another European capital (read Rome, Athens, Stockholm), where the impact will be barely evident.



Pretty, but flawed: the Peninsula is deceptively attractive, masking costly socio-economic problems whose solutions are at the core of the Olympic project

It is the sense that the African bid really is an opportunity to show that Olympism need not be overblown and overly commercial and can be inspirational that is, by all accounts, being appreciated by visiting IOC members.

It is the right bid for the right time.

With less than four months to go before the September 5 vote, getting this message across, personally, to as many IOC members as possible, is the bid team's priority. It is difficult to judge accurately, but it seems to be making its mark.

'The job-creation potential is immense – between 90 000 and 100 000 permanent jobs'

In tandem with this, there are a number of other initiatives under way.

President Mandela and his deputy Thabo Mbeki are living up to their promise to campaign for the bid more visibly, and to do all they can to allay what is on the face of it an irrational concern on the part of some in the IOC about the prospects of political stability in a post-Mandela setting.

South Africa is not immune to Afro-pessimism, and this is a reflection of it.

Tackling the other key concern – crime – is the goal of an unusual and risky initiative launched last week by the Cape Town Community Olympic Forum.

It is founded on the idea that if it is possible to secure peace accords between gangs, and between gangs and society as a first step towards drawing gangsters into a peaceable existence in the mainstream, then crime and violence will be dramatically reduced.

The Achilles heel of the initiative is the exclusion of drug dealing from the accords, so that while gangsters may well reduce violent crime by virtue of ceasing the ir own criminally violent activities, they are not going as far as ceasing to be criminals.

There is a view that the bid is working with criminals in an unholy alliance.

Can one fault that view? Of course, the forum is independent from the bid, so it is not technically a bid initiative. That aside, forum chairman Brian Williams does contest the negative view.

He argues that everything else has been tried, and has failed. He argues, too, that if the problem of gang warfare is to be seriously tackled, then the gangsters must somehow be engaged. What better way, he feels, than to give gangs a measure of responsibility to prove their bona fides, and to be given the chance to take the first step away from crime by themselves.

Time will tell whether this novel approach bears fruit.

A lingering weakness in the bid as a whole is, of course, the apathy, the careless inertia, in which too many of Cape Town's often most influential residents invest a perverse pride.

It is spurred on by the effete and tiresome bluster of commentators who ought to know better.

There is no doubt there are legitimate concerns, but it is doubtful any of the most vocal detractors has bothered to establish whether they are being addressed or not, how and by whom. If they did, they would find a level of planning, expertise, vigilance and concern in the broader bid team which far exceeds their own.

African National Congress MP Willie Hofmeyr made the point succinctly this week when he said: "I must emphasise that it is good to be sceptical about the Olympic bid – as some people are – but let us try to stick to the facts. It would be sad if we threw away a huge opportunity for our country because of prejudice rather than fact."

And he added that "it is quite wrong to argue that the money spent on the Olympics could be better spent on education, housing and other social needs. Without the Olympics, the money simply would not be there to spend".

That's the crux of it.

N E W

'Abandon gangsters or we'll stop Olympic Bid'

Pagad threatens to 'mobilise masses'

ARG 8/5/97 (288)

ASHLEY SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

Pagad national commander Aslam Toefy has threatened to "mobilise the masses" against Cape Town's Olympic Bid if it continues to associate with known gangsters such as Rashied Staggie.

Speaking at a People against Gangsterism and Drugs (Pagad) meeting at Spes Bona High School in Athlone last night, Mr Toefy said although Pagad was not against the city hosting the 2004 Olympic Games, it would oppose the bid if it was promoted in this way.

"There can be no Olympics without the people and liberation hasn't reached us yet. Pagad is going to bring about true liberation, justice and dignity for our people," he said.

Mr Toefy said the Olympics must benefit the oppressed masses in the Western Cape, and children should be given every chance to develop and have a fair chance to take part.

But gangsterism and drugs would prevent them from being able to rise to the occasion.

He said the Olympic Peace Initiative signed by gangsters who said they had reformed, led by Mr Staggie, and the Community Olympic Forum, was a scam to pull the wool over the eyes of people on the Cape Flats who yearned for peace.

Pagad member Madelief Botha said the "marriage" between Brian Williams of the Community Olympic Forum and Mr Staggie had been made in hell.

She blamed the current political climate for allowing known gangsters to sit on a public platform without making a commitment to stop selling drugs.

■ Mr Williams was wrongly associated with the Community Outreach Forum in a caption on yesterday's Cape Argus Attitudes page.



DOUG PITHEY

Flying the flag: Mr Bantom and Bid Company secretary Candice Langley leave for South Korea

Cape bid team lobbies in Asia

NORMAN JOSEPH
STAFF REPORTER

Cape Town is marketing its bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games among influential Asian sports administrators in South Korea, where the East Asian Games are being held later this month.

Senior bid officials and VIPs left yesterday for the South Korean city of Pusan, at the invitation of the International Olympic Committee.

Included in Cape Town's team are Bid Company head Chris Ball, Cape Metropolitan Council mayor William Bantom, bid director Ngconde Balfour and lobbyists Tidi Khobane and Anita Soni.

Mr Ball said they would attend the largest gathering of IOC members before September 5, when the host city would be announced.

Durban turns icy in war of two cities

ARG 8/5/97 (288)

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
TOURISM REPORTER

Durban – Durban's anger at the prospect of losing future Indaba travel shows to Cape Town is continuing to sour relations between the two cities, with Durban promoters apparently snubbing Cape exhibitors and tourism authorities.

The furore follows a remark by Reg Swart, Satour's acting chief executive and Indaba organiser, that international delegates would prefer to be in Cape Town but that this was not possible as Cape Town did not have a suitable venue for such an expo.

Captour marketing manager Jeremy Harris said Durban tourism authorities were being "cordially polite" since the war of words erupted.

Mr Swart told Cape Argus yesterday that previous surveys had shown that international delegates preferred Cape Town.

However, he did not want to say anything more and hinted that his job was at stake.

The row has sparked strong support from Capetonians demanding to have Indaba in the Cape.

Western Cape Tourism Minister Lampie Fick, in an interview with Radio Good Hope at Indaba '97, said Cape Town would not "hijack" the show next year, but should respond to the need for a convention centre as soon as possible.

During a phone-in programme on the station, Cape Town callers agreed that Indaba should be given to the Cape.

"It's great, at last we are creating possessiveness and ownership of the city among locals," said Mr Harris.

He said it had been a "very unhappy" Indaba for Durban. "They are whingeing and moaning all the time, first about Mr Swart's remark and then about the fact that they believed they didn't have enough space at the show."

Although Cape Town did not pretend to believe it could host Indaba next year, Mr Harris said he hoped the city's increasing popularity would act as a "kick in the bum" to provide the facilities needed.

Mr Harris said he was not impressed with Durban's accommodation facilities because of the "shockingly slow service" and "lack of hygiene" at the three-star central Durban hotel at which he stayed. "It makes Beirut look like Club Med".

Bid transport projects 'huge lift for W Cape'

R750-m GDP boost seen (288)

Olympic-related transport spending of R250-million has the potential to raise the Western Cape's gross domestic product by up to R750-million and create considerable employment.

This was spelled out yesterday at a conference at the Waterfront. Contractors are to start work on 49 priority projects across the metropolitan area by September. They will be completed whether or not the bid succeeds.

The investment of R250-million – which is coupled with supplemental projects costing a further R233-million – has been approved by the treasury.

Rob Vos, technical director of the Southern African Bitumen Association (Sabita), told the Bituminous Materials Liaison Committee meeting yesterday that research "repeatedly underlined the pivotal role of roads in generating short-term employment and long-term economic growth".

"This in turn leads directly to social reconstruction because people have lower transport costs, cheaper consumer goods, easier access to schools, recreation facilities, jobs and business opportunities, and entrepreneurs are encouraged to expand into areas which to date have been commercially sterile," said Mr Vos.

"One of our findings is that a one

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

ARG 9/5/97

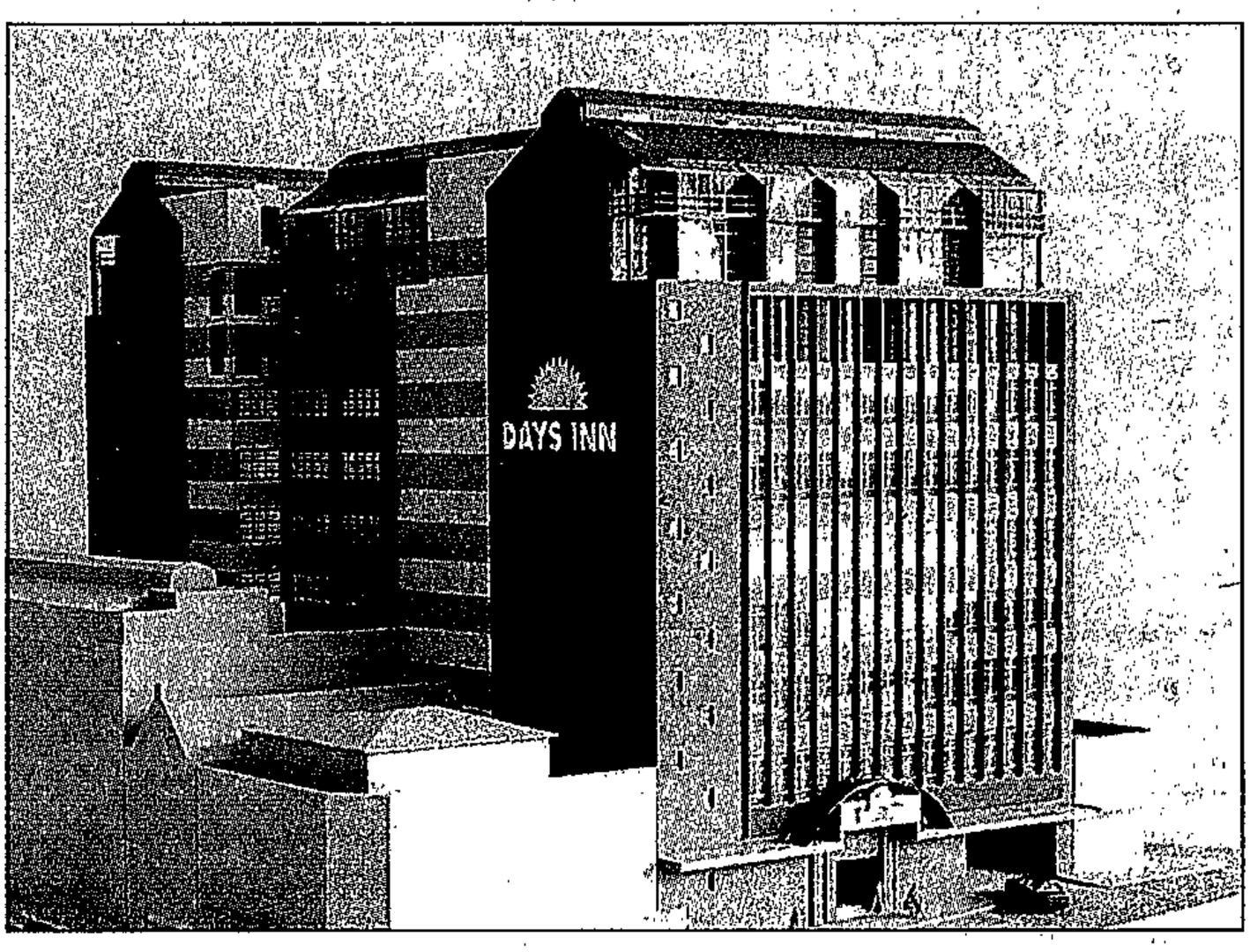
percent growth in infrastructure value, particularly on the road network, results in a net increase in gross domestic product of between 2 and 3 percent.

"In this scenario the impact of the metropolitan transport planning priority projects on the Western Cape economy must be obvious."

He said the priority projects, most of which were in the public transport network, had been designed to provide economic links between economic hubs and dormitory towns left over from the apartheid era.

They included key road, rail and interchange projects. "Whether or not the Olympic bid is successful, its kick-start value in setting this process in motion will have inestimable benefits for the economy and the people of the Western Cape," he said.

Three more plush hotels for Cape



BIG PLANS: A plan of the the Days Inn Hotel which is due to open in Cape Town in December.

CT 9/5/97 (288)

SARAH-JANE BOSCH

IF THE number of hotels opening up in Cape Town is anything to go by, the city's accommodation problems should soon be over.

In the past six months, the Table Bay Sun Hotel and the Cape Grace Hotel opened on the Waterfront and La Splendida Luxury Suites became the first hotel in Mouille Point. Several hotels are planned for the Foreshore and US hotel giant, Days Inn Hotels, plans to open a 118-suite hotel in the city centre in December.

The R26,5-million Days Inn Cape Town will occupy three floors of Manhattan Place, which is bounded by Buitengracht, Bree and Dorp streets.

Sales of the studios, lofts and sectional title hotel units will be handled by Devmark. Buyers will enter into a rental pool agreement with the operating company who will manage the hotel.

Director of Devmark, Thomas Altmann, said that, at a proposed 60% occupancy rate, investors would realise a return of 15% in the first year. Suites are priced from R169 000.

Hotel sectional title has become extremely popular as a safe property investment for companies and private investors, and a month the other Cape hotels to be financed in this way is the five-star Cape Grace Hotel, a boutique hotel owned by the Brand family who also own the Mount Grace Hotel in the Magaliesburg. The emphasis here is on personal service.

The atmosphere is intimate and relaxed, with comfortable groupings of furniture and a private library where guests can browse or read at leisure and accommodation is luxurious and compares with the best anywhere in the world.

Seeff Residential Properties has sold six of the apartments at R2,45-million each and three at R3,5-million each.

Some apartments have panoramic views over the harbour, while others have a splendid view of Table Mountain and the marina.

The two and three-bedroom self-catering apartments have been decorated by interior designers with a home in mind rather than an hotel.

Every apartment is equipped to ensure luxury and comfort, from air-conditioning to ceramic tiles.

The R10-million La Splendida Luxury Suites Hotel, is an exception to the sectional title trend. Situated on Beach Road, opposite the lighthouse in Mouille Point it has 22 rooms, suites and penthouses all with views of the sea, Signal Hill or Lion's Head.

Olympic 'shotgun wedding' misfires

288

M+G 9-15 5/97

Gustav Thiel

ONE week after staging a mock wedding ceremony with Cape Town's most notorious gangsters, the city's Olympic Bid Company is quietly muttering about irreconcilable differences.

The two sides signed their Olympic Peace Initiative late last week, in a carefully managed show — complete with priest — designed to persuade the International Olympic Committee that gangsterism should not stand in the way of Cape Town's bid for the 2004 games.

Away from international eyes, however, two areas of conflict have already emerged, with company officials privately conceding that the gangsters gained most from the marriage.

Bid officials took to the stage under protest. Chief executive Chris Ball said the show was not the company's idea — it came instead from the powerful Olympics community forum. The company has also scorned the gangsters' claims that the initiative has ended all their activities in the Western Cape.

"My friend, it is clear to me that there are no longer any gang activities in the Western Cape and that is all due to this agreement," says Pastor Albern Martins, a self-appointed "missionary" to the gangsters.

But the bid's media director, Paul Johnson, says it is obvious that the statement cannot be true.

The bid company's decision to endorse the initiative followed much hand-wringing. The determining argument seems to have been that the city's escalating crime problem could be a key barrier to a successful bid.

Ball, nevertheless, balked at the prospect of joining Rashied Staggie, the leader of the Hard Livings gang, and Martins, on stage.

The group which Martins represents, the Community Outreach Forum, draws most of its membership from The Firm, an umbrella organisation for gangs whose main activity is regulating supplies of mandrax, heroin and dagga.

Such activities, police say, continue unabated, although Martins has committed his members to helping the police should the games be staged in the Mother City.

Ball this week refused to comment publicly about such misgivings, instead terming the show a "brave" initiative. "It is not our task to restructure the social fabric of the community, but if the bid can be used as a catalyst to achieve something constructive, then it is to be encouraged," he said.

Zaliegah Zardad, the bid's director of community relations, added that she believed it time "to give these people a chance". Other bid officials, speaking privately, are concerned that the initiative has merely helped the gangsters' search for respectability.

Martins and Staggie, both now claiming to be reformed, have already announced their plans to contest the 1999 general election through a newly formed party for coloured people, Die Suid-Afrikan.

"I think maybe the Olympic people made a mistake in signing this agreement," said police spokesman John Sterrenberg.

Making money out of Africa

(288) M+G 9-15/5/97

By offering tourists the authentic 'African experience', communities can share their culture — and make money. Sharon Hammond reports



Bearers of wood: A tourist has a hands-on experience of the household duties of rural women PHOTO: AFRICAN EYE NEWS SERVICE

YOUNG entrepreneurs in Mpumalanga are learning to cash in on their cultural heritage by converting their verandahs into traditional restaurants and taxis into township tour-buses.

At the beginning of last year, Nelspruit taxi driver Petros Ndimande discovered that taking tourists on a tour of peri-urban townships in his 15-seater mini-bus taxi could be more lucrative than ferrying passengers to and fro for a few rands.

"Some Chinese tourists got off a train in Nelspruit and asked me to take them to the Kruger National Park, then to Cape Town, Knysna, and George in my taxi. They said they would pay for everything," he says.

For three weeks of touring the country, Ndimande earned about R12 000 — and hasn't looked back since.

But he's not only interested in making a profit for himself. His one-man company, Induna Tours, makes sure that the communities he visits also earn those Deutsche mark, dollars and pounds when they entertain guests.

"One village can make R2 000 in a morning for singing and dancing and allowing guests to consult a sangoma," Ndimande explains.

Careful to avoid turning villages into circus shows where residents pander to tourists, Ndimande makes sure he visits different communities on different tours, to give tourists a genuine feel for everyday township or rural life.

By varying the destinations, Ndimande also makes sure that as many communities as possible benefit financially from his township tours.

Also understanding the tourist's yearning for authentic Africa is Annie Nkosi, the second wife of Swazi Chief Yedwa Nkosi of Msogwaba, who has established what is probably the first Swazi restuarant in the country, catering for tourists curious about local cuisine.

Situated after several kilometres of severely pot-holed dirt roads and tucked behind the family bottle store, Kayedwa restaurant is as authentic as it comes. Staff, including Nkosi, speak poor English, but the table stretching the length of one half of Annie's verandah speaks volumes for the hungry.

The colourfully decorated table groans under eclectic dishes filled with five types of spinach, some of which are allegedly aphrodisiacs, and just as many types of flavoured mielie pap and beans. No Western food is served and even the drinks are the three traditional mealie meal drinks: mnati, mqombothi and magewu.

The potent mqombothi is wholesomely brewed over three days. Those with delicate constitutions needn't fear life-threatening ingredients such as battery acid and paraffin. Sizzling meat is served straight off an open fire on skewered sticks.

Nelspruit chairperson of the National African Federated Chamber of Commerce (Nafcoc) Sam Zwane, is spearheading an attempt to combine similar grassroots ventures into a Swazi cultural village.

Local archaeologists are also encouraging curio makers to produce more authentic tourist trinkets than the usual run-of-the-mill wooden giraffes and mass produced "African" masks.

"Africa can give tourism a touch of the mystical, something unique that no other country has," explains archaeologist, Sidney Miller, who hit headlines last year with the discovery of the 12th-century stone-walled city of Thulamela, near Pafuri, in the Kruger National Park.

"Instead of carving wooden giraffes and birds, local sculptors should rediscover the craftsmanship of their Thulamela ancestors and replicate the ancient intricately carved gold bracelets and beads," Miller explains. — *African Eye News Service*

Group bookings for the restaurant can be made via Sam on 082-451-6200. For a taxi tour, make a booking via Ethni Cameron at Going Africa on (013) 751-1638

Conflict swells in Olympic Bid

Senior officials angry about plan to co-operate with

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Mounting disquiet and anger about the Olympic Bid Company's link with the controversial gangs-for-peace initiative is being mirrored by growing tension in the bid team over what is widely regarded as an ill-advised scheme.

Several senior Bid Company officials and many rank-and-file staff are deeply unhappy about the high-risk Olympic Peace Initiative, especially in the light of increasingly vituperative responses from Pagad (People Against Gangsterism and Drugs) and the Peninsula's Muslim radio stations, Radio 786 and Voice of the Cape.

Other sections of the community have ridiculed the initiative.

Many bid team staff, particularly those who live on the Cape Flats, are concerned about their safety, and are angry that the Bid Company did not seem to consider the public's response before endorsing the initiative.

Negative attitudes stem mostly from the fact that the anti-crime or peace accords do not oblige the gangs to give up their stake in the lucrative drugs trade.

The rumpus has prompted a statement from the Bid Company, pointing out that the initiative was the brainchild of the independent Cape Town Community Olympic Forum, not the company. The statement effectively distances the Bid Company from the initiative, and increases pressure on the forum.

Tension within the forum broke out into the open yesterday when a key member, Hassan Khan of the Cape Peninsula Informal Traders' Association, resigned. Sources have told Saturday Argus that the Bid Company endorsed the initiative despite advice to the contrary from within the bid team, as well as from intelligence and security sources.

One view expressed within the intelligence community is that "the word naive does not begin to describe this initiative".

Earlier this week, Pagad national commander Aslam Toefy warned that the organisation would "mobilise the masses" against the bid if it continued to associate with known gangsters such as Rashied Staggie.

He said although Pagad was not against the city hosting the 2004 Olympic Games, it would oppose them if it was promoted in this way.

He described the Olympic Peace Initiative as a "scam" to pull the wool over the eyes of people on the Cape Flats who yearned for peace.

(288) ARG 10/5/97

One bid source said of the initiative: "This is crazy. We have only three months to go and we are now heading into a crisis. One cannot see, even in a best-case scenario, how the benefits would outweigh the risks."

Another said: "Many of the staff here are deeply concerned about their safety, and they are wondering why this was not considered."

There have been calls on the Muslim radio stations for the community to mobilise against the bid, and there are fears that the Bid Company could find itself becoming the target of anti-drugs activism at a time when it can ill afford to be distracted from the key task of lobbying International Olympic Committee members. Bid Company spokesman Paul Johnson said the bid's involvement at the initiative's launch a week ago should be seen in the "context of our often stated commitment to supporting the widest range of peace initiatives".

"This is not our initiative, but we were invited to attend."

He said the decision on whether or not the initiative should go ahead was "not a Bid Company decision".

He added: "This is seen as one step in a broader process which will only have value if there are further steps."

Gangs Company

SA NEWS DIGEST

□ KWAZULU NATAL

CT(BR) 12/5/97

R600m tourism development plan to boost Durban convention centre

Nomvuzo Shabalala, the deputy chairman of the South Central Council executive committee, said last week the council was considering proposals for a R600 million development to complement Durban's R260 million International Convention Centre.

Shabalala said the proposals, drawn up by Swana & Associates, a leading black-owned marketing company, placed the convention centre at the hub of several tourist-related developments extending from Commercial Road to Ordnance Road on one side, and from Soldiers' Way to the beachfront on the other.

The plan was to integrate Durban's entertainment and hospitality industries with expanding private business interests in the geographic area around the convention centre. The centre opens on August 8. — *Ravin Maharaj, Durban*

(288)

Days Inn invests in Cape Town

Lukanyo Mnyanda (288) BD 14/5/97

INTERNATIONAL hotel group Days Inn will invest R26,5m in its first SA venture — Days Inn Cape Town, a sectional title operation in the city centre.

Almost half the units, valued at more than R11m, were snapped up by investors in three days when they went on sale last week.

The group said the project could lead to further developments in southern Africa. It had already opened an office in Gauteng.

Days Inn of Southern Africa is the territorial master franchiser for Days Inn of America — a division of Hospitality Franchise Systems (HFS), which is listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

Days Inn said it was the largest and most profitable brand in the HFS hospitality division, with more than 1 600 Days Inn properties in the US and more than 1 700 hotels worldwide.

The Cape Town hotel would have 118 suites in the "mid-price range" and would occupy three floors of a building bounded by Buitengracht, Dorp and Bree streets. Property marketing company Devmark had been appointed to handle the sales by sectional title of the studios, lofts and other units, and had a mandate to ensure long-term capital appreciation and strong monthly returns, with Days Inn as the operator.

Devmark director Thomas Altmann said buyers would enter a proven rental pool agreement with the operating company.

Buyers effectively became co-owners of the hotel and shared profits based on their percentage participation share. Altmann said investors would realise a return of 15% on an "extremely conservative" projected occupancy rate of 60%.

Days Inn Hotels' entry into SA was a sign of confidence in the future of the travel and tourism market in Cape Town, Altmann said.

He was confident that the available units would be sold quickly. Bantry Bay Suites — also marketed by Devmark — was the first sectional title hotel sold in the same manner and had an average occupancy rate of more than 70% over the past six months.

Gangsters pact: Pagad calls on bid team to quit

JOSEPH ARANES, LINDSAY BARNES AND MICHAEL MORRIS
STAFF REPORTERS

288

ARG 14/5/97

Pagad has called for the resignation of Olympic Bid Company staff and the provincial director of labour, Brian Williams, over the signing of an anti-crime initiative with alleged gangsters.

The agreement, signed with the Community Outreach Forum (Core) – the organisation of gangsters who say they have reformed – did not include an undertaking to stop dealing in drugs.

The initiative involves using gangs to help fight crime in Cape Town to boost the city's 2004 Olympic bid.

In the programme's manifesto, the gangsters declared their willingness to act as "protectors of communities", rid the city centre and Bo-Kaap of criminal activity and clear street youth gangs from the area by today.

People Against Gangsterism and Drugs national secretary Shariff Khan said his organisation was not anti-Olympic and acknowledged the Games to be a noble institution with noble efforts.

"But we are against a corrupt Olympics where known drug dealers and gangsters form part of the bidding process."

The situation was now that the Bid Company, the Government and big business had formed an alliance with gangsters at the expense of law-abiding citizens.

"It is now in the hands of drug dealers and gangsters to determine the destiny of a sane and sober society. As Pagad we say 'No' to this alliance and call for the resignation of all Olympic bid officials and of Mr Williams, who initiated the plan. If this situation is not rectified immediately, Pagad will call for a boycott of the Olympic bid and big businesses supporting the bid."

The Bid Company intends issuing a statement soon. It is understood the company hopes to hold discussions with Pagad.

Cabinet nod for committee to boost Olympic bid

BD 15/5/97 (288)

Jacob Dlamini

CAPE TOWN — The cabinet yesterday approved the creation of a high-powered lobbying committee chaired by Sports Minister Steve Tshwete to boost Cape Town's 2004 Olympic bid.

Tshwete said the committee would target Africa, Asia and Latin America in an extensive campaign to secure support for the bid.

The campaign would be financed by a special fund set up outside the government fiscus with donations from foreign companies supportive of Cape Town's bid, Tshwete said.

He said officials in SA's foreign missions would market the bid to the international community and ministers on overseas trips would be expected to lobby for it.

Tshwete said the campaign would emphasise that Cape Town's bid was an African venture in order to dispel the "subdued complaint that the Africanness of the bid did not show itself". Tshwete said the committee would work in close co-operation with the bid company while maintaining a high political profile.

Asmal announces plan to boost water supply

Jacob Dlamini

BD 15/5/97

CAPE TOWN — Plans to speed up the delivery of water supply projects and to guarantee free recreational access to privately owned forests were announced by Water Affairs and Forestry Minister Kader Asmal yesterday.

Asmal said his department had introduced a new system to involve the private sector in the provision of water supply projects and training of local authorities. In terms of the build, operate, train and transfer system, tenders would be granted on an area basis for the building of a water supply project.

The successful company would be expected to operate the project for a limited time, during which it would be expected to train the local authority and the community. Asmal said the department had received 25 tenders for contracts worth about R700m.

He said the system would initially be applied in the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, Northern Province and Mpumalanga, which accounted for 80% of the backlog. The tenders, in which black business involvement was a requirement for local and foreign firms, were being considered by the tender board.

He said local government was responsible for the provision of water services and it was the department's task to help it develop the capacity.

Asmal said there would soon be an announcement about a transformed hiking board, which would contribute to the opening up of SA's countryside. He said the community forestry action programme, which provided fuel wood and building timber to rural communities, had resulted in the planting of 4-million trees in three years.

Robyn Chalmers reports that the Forest Industries Association, which represents the majority of all commercial timber growers, said yesterday the national water policy could have serious implications for the industry, which feared it could find itself having to obtain permission to use and to pay for rainfall.

Fights erupt at Pretoria school

Kevin O'Grady

RACIAL violence flared for the second day at Pretoria West's Elandspoort High School yesterday, but officials were confident classes would resume peacefully today, a police spokesman said.

One pupil, Chris Janse van Rensburg, was injured in yesterday's fighting, which started on Tuesday after two black pupils were allegedly assaulted for insulting a white teacher. The school was closed early on Tuesday and again when fighting resumed yesterday.

Nobody had been identified as responsible for yesterday's attack on Janse van Rensburg, police spokesman Capt George Francis said.

He said one white parent arrived at the school armed with a rifle yesterday but was persuaded to leave. Other white parents threatened to take their children out of the school.

The violence resumed yesterday when two black pupils confronted a white boy and allegedly started punching him.

Cape third favourite for tourists

(288)

CT 16/6/97

WITH Cape Town continuing to be the focal point of tourism in South Africa, 1,8 million foreign tourists are expected to visit the city this year.

The Western Cape is considered the third most favoured destination in the world after San Francisco and Vancouver, according to a survey in Harper's Travel magazine, and the growth in tourism to the area has created 75 000 direct jobs and 300 000 jobs in support industries.

But there is room for growth as international tourism to South Africa accounted for only 0,2% of the global tourism market.

Victoria & Alfred Waterfront director Mr Piet van Zyl said the Waterfront led the province's tourism industry in popularity.

It would be "the playground" of the 2004 Olympics if the city hosted the Games.

Addressing delegates at the Transnet/Western Cape — Moving Ahead conference at Club Mykonos on the West Coast yesterday, Van Zyl said the Waterfront had a record of more than 17 million visits during 1996 — up one million from the previous year.

However, there had been a decrease in foreign and domestic tourists which had not yet been explained.

The record number of visitors to the Waterfront had been made up by the increased number of locals visiting the complex, Van Zyl said.

Most of the leisure attractions had been completed and the development programme from now till 2004 would focus on office and residential complexes.

"The position we find ourselves in is that the Waterfront will be the playground of the 2004 Olympics. On a busy day we can accommodate 100 000 visitors. If we can enhance the public transport system then there is no reason why we can't increase this by 50% or double that," Van Zyl added. — Tourism Writer

BID NEEDS AFRICAN FACE

Cabinet in Olympic lobby

CT 15/5/97 (288)

POLITICAL LEADERS are to jet off around the world on an undisclosed amount of donor money to help sell Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Games, reports **PETER DENNEHY**

THE cabinet has set up a sub-committee to lobby political support for Cape Town's bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

Chairman of the sub-committee, Sports Minister Mr Steve Tshwete said the cabinet had detected some areas in which the Olympic Bid Company's hand could be strengthened.

"There is a feeling on this continent that we should be far more aggressive and forthright in promoting the bid," Tshwete said.

"This is a bid for all of Africa and must be seen (as such), through the people doing the talking. The point has been made that this Africanness is not coming through."

Other members of the cabinet sub-committee are Mr Kader Asmal, Dr Essop Pahad, Mr Jeff Radebe, Ms Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Ms Thoko Didiza, Mr Penuell Maduna, Mr Derek Hanekom, and the legal consultant to Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, Ms Mojanke Gumbi, who is to be a consultant also for the committee.

Tshwete said sufficient funds had been raised from foreign companies "to take us through the (African) continent, and on to the Americas, (as well as) Asia".

He would not say how much money had been raised for the world-wide lobbying.

Tshwete said each member of the cabinet committee was mandated to speak to the media, and to take promotional material with them on trips abroad, to popularise Cape Town's bid.

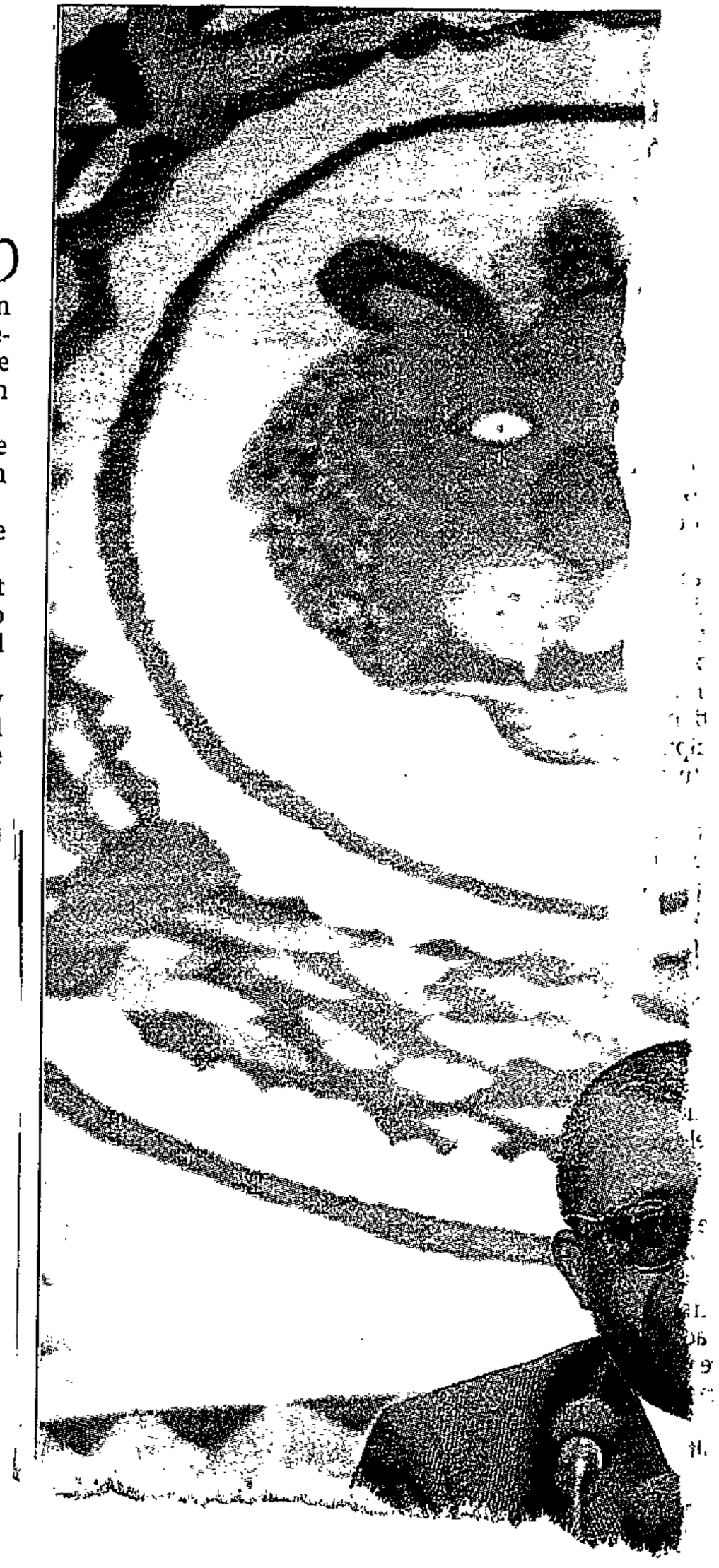
"We want to make Cape Town a name recognised in every household in Africa. The prospects are quite bright for South Africa to win the bid," Tshwete said.

Asmal said that during the exile years a host of contacts had been cultivated abroad.

The time had come to use those contacts, he said.

There were restraints on what the Bid Company could do to lobby for the Games, in political terms.

"Our committee is not similarly constrained," Asmal said. "We will decide on the involvement of the president."



SA NEWS DIGEST

(288)

☐ HOTELS

CT (BR) 15/5/97

Occupancy levels decrease, but Western Cape suffers the least

The average room and bed occupancy of hotels in South Africa decreased substantially from March last year to March this year, the Central Statistical Service (CSS) said yesterday.

The CSS said average room occupancy dropped 7,4 percent to 56,4 percent, while bed occupancy declined 9 percent to 39,3 percent. Hotels in Cape Town, the Peninsula and the wineland tourism region performed the best, with room occupancies of 79,2 percent for March this year, the CSS said.

Worst-hit regions were the Northern Cape and the North West, with decreases in room occupancies of 27,8 percent and 13,1 percent respectively.

Looking at room occupancy by star gradings, three-star hotels dropped by 10,7 percent, while one- and two-star hotels dropped by 10,1 percent and four-star hotels by 9,8 percent from March last year to March this year.

The total hotel income for March this year increased by 6,1 percent compared with March last year, the CSS said. — *Clyde Russell, Johannesburg.*

☐ MICRO-FINANCE

Captour spells out what we must do to net the big 'indabas'

ARG 15/5/97 (288)

WHILE BOTH DURBAN AND CAPE TOWN ARE LICKING THEIR WOUNDS OVER THE TOURISM INDABA ROW, STAFF REPORTER CHENÉ BLIGNAUT REPORTS ON THE CHANCES OF CAPE TOWN HOSTING THE EVENT IN THE FUTURE

The fiery debate between Durban and Cape Town over which city should host Indaba, the country's premier tourism trade show, has illustrated the importance of this lucrative industry to both cities.

The "war of words" was sparked by a remark by Satour acting chief executive Reg Swart, who told the Cape Argus that international delegates to the show would have preferred to be in Cape Town.

This drew sharp criticism and sparked an outcry from Durban tourism authorities about Mr Swart's "questionable" impartiality.

Meanwhile, Cape Town tourism authorities and locals have come out in huge support of the Mother City, but demanded that authorities address the lack of conference facilities urgently in order to be considered for future indabas.

In an effort to resolve the debate, the Cape Argus asked Captour marketing manager Jeremy Harris and Tourism Durban communications director Clive Booth each to tell us why his city should host the Indaba.

Declining the opportunity to promote his home town, Mr Booth indicated in a formal one-line fax that he saw "no point in discussing the matter any further and no further comments will therefore be made by this office."

Mr Harris, on the other hand, welcomed the chance to reaffirm Cape Town's popularity and to put the "war" in perspective.

He said the 1997 Indaba Tourism Expo ran its course very successfully in Durban last week and had shown itself to indeed be the premier tourism industry trade show for this country.

Indaba, however, seemed unfortunately set to be remembered more for the remark made by Mr Swart than for the many business deals closed and contacts made.

From a Cape Town tourism perspective, he said, we obviously would welcome the privilege of playing host to this premier event, but there were certain basic considerations which needed exploring:

■ Cape Town simply did not have the venue to host Indaba which had the Durban Exhibition Centre bursting at the seams. From another perspective though, if the lack of venue was Cape Town's only real obstacle to hosting Indaba (and it seems that it is) then the challenge of delivering this "super-structure" should be laid squarely at the feet of the industry and local and provincial government.

The commercial boost to the local industry if Cape Town played host to Indaba was a significant and sufficient motivation, surely, to more seriously consider the development of a venue.

■ By virtue of the fact that South Africa was a long-haul destination for most of the Indaba delegates, it followed that pre- and post-tours related to Indaba would result in visits to other cities.

Following this premise, Cape Town was poised to still benefit commercially from a Durban-based Indaba.

Mr Harris said he had sympathy for Mr Swart whom he believed had quite innocently made his remark merely to report back on comments he had received from delegates attending the Indaba.

"I do sincerely hope though, that this issue will find a natural resting place and be considered closed to be discussed again only when Cape Town has the venue to play host to the event.

"Until then, this rather academic, albeit contentious, issue is not contributing positively to and is certainly detracting from what was an enormously successful and popular Indaba '97."

of the future

Olympic 'wedding' on rocks

Gangsters get the boot

ST(CM)18/5/97 (288) (288) (288)

KEN VERNON

THE controversial "marriage" between Cape Flats gangsters and the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company (Bidco) is on the rocks.

Fears of a bloodbath in central Cape Town have forced the removal of gangsters detailed to "clean up" the city centre as part of the "nuptial" agreement.

Police and securocrats intervened this week to convince Bidco officials that gangsters from outside the CBD could clash with gangs operating in the city centre if the planned "clean-up" went ahead.

"It would also have meant a complete abrogation by government of its duty," said one senior policeman, "We could not allow that to happen."

Plans by gangsters to put a brake on crime in areas outside the CBD have also hastily been shelved.

Some members of Core (Community Outreach — a coalition of "reformed" gangsters) had already begun "policing" parts of the city such as the main railway station, an area plagued by gangs of street kids, and had visited nightclubs and had met inner city gangsters, according to Bidco director Brian Williams.

Police sources have privately slated Bidco's "Olympic Peace Initiative" which, they say, is "muddying the water" of attempts to resolve the complex question of gangsterism and drug-related crime in Cape Town.

The "marriage", a bizarre ceremony conducted by a priest, between Bidco and Core has enraged anti-crime organisation Pagad. The movement has threatened to mount a boycott against businesses supporting the Bid in retaliation.

In a dramatic move this week to try and revive the flagging initiative, Core members teetered on the edge of making a historic promise to hand back all their ill-gotten gains in return for political forgiveness — but they pulled back at the last instant.

In return for their "reformation" they are demanding face-to-face talks with the government. However, well-informed police sources say there is no way the government will be seen talking to criminals unless they stop all illegal activities — including drug dealing.

The gangsters' step-down widened cracks in the two-week-old accord between the Bid Committee and Core, intended to convince the International Olympic Committee that the problem of crime in Cape Town could be controlled.

Some senior Bidco staff are reportedly extremely unhappy about the committee's alliance with known gangsters involved in drug-dealing and organised crime.

But Williams, the man behind the controversial alliance with the gangs, points out that Cape Town has just a three-month "window of opportunity" to convince the IOC that crime is not a problem in Cape Town.

"In March the IOC short-listed Cape Town for 2004, but said crime was our biggest problem. By August the IOC's final decision will be made and if we are to win we will have to succeed in changing their minds," said Williams.

However, a press conference scheduled for Thursday to announce the gangsters' plans to give back their wealth had to be cancelled at the last moment because not all the gangsters arrived at the meeting, said Williams.

And on Thursday one of the homes of Core leader Rashied Staggie was twice raided and cocaine and crack cocaine seized, but police stressed this was purely "coincidental".

GIANT SHOPPING CENTRE PLANNED

Take-off for local airport

CT 19/5/97 (288)

A MULTI-MILLION rand plan will be implemented over the next five years to transform Cape Town International Airport. And if the city hosts the 2004 Olympics, the plan will be accelerated. Tourism Writer **DAN SIMON** reports.

THE future look of Cape Town International Airport is one of "giant shopping centres where aeroplanes park".

Airports Company managing director Mr Dirk Ackerman last week spelt out the future of the airport when he disclosed details of the company's master plan to transform and upgrade the facility well into the next millennium.

The multi-million rand plan will be a phased development over the next five years, regardless of whether Cape Town hosts the 2004 Olympic Games or not, he said.

Should the city host the Games, the plan would be accelerated.

Ackerman said the Airports Company has first concentrated on an aviation master plan to establish the infrastructural needs for the terminal buildings, runway and other support infrastructure.

The master plan will be followed by a property development plan for the commercial opportunities available at the airport, such as hotels, office blocks, freight parks and retail stores.

Keen interest is already being shown by Edgars, McDonald's and the Brazilian Coffee Shop.

The plan does not include the establishment of a dedicated rail link between the airport and the city to shuttle airline passengers to and from the airport.

However, several countries have expressed an interest to fund such a project.

"Give us the commercial opportunities so that we don't prejudice the airline industry by increasing airport charges," said Ackerman.

"We are an entrepreneurial Airports Company and the vision is one of giant shopping centres where aeroplanes park."

Ackerman said many airports internationally were being forced to re-examine their sources of revenue.

The complete transformation of the British Airports Authority (BAA) had demonstrated globally the promising rewards of integrated consumerism in the airport industry.

The BAA was also keen to establish a business partnership with the Airports Company to pass on its expertise.

Ackerman said the existing terminals were being upgraded with mezzanine floors to provide much needed accommodation for the growing number of airlines flying to Cape Town.

Plans are also in the pipeline to build a new fire station and five additional aircraft parking bays to alleviate the shortage created by the additional flights into Cape Town.

The car park is being extended to provide five hundred extra bays to cope with the increased number of airport users.

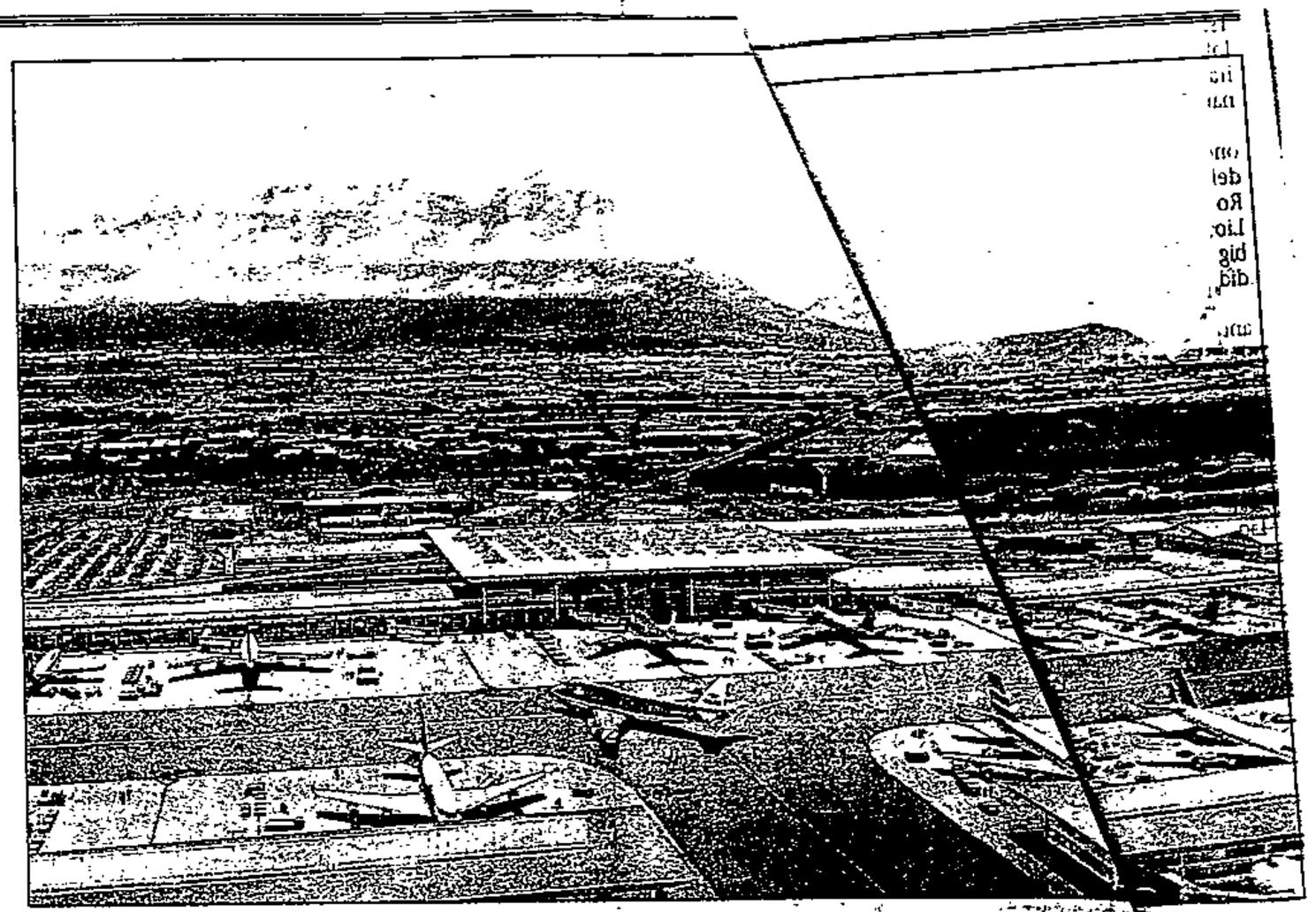
On completion of the fire station, the existing building will be demolished and a new multi-storey terminal will be built.

The central processing unit will provide facilities for check-ins, luggage handling, passport control, retail outlets and administration offices for the airlines as well as the Airports Company.

On completion of the processing unit, the existing terminal buildings will be utilised as holding areas for both domestic and international passengers.

Ackerman said the existing runway was being rehabilitated at a cost of R14 million.

The runway lights have also been upgraded and the air traffic navigation system has already undergone major maintenance work.



AERO-CITY: An artist's impression of what Cape Town International Airport could look like in the future. This design, which looks similar to that of Schipol Airport outside Amsterdam, is one of two artist's impressions of South Africa's future aero-cities.

R20-million set aside for eco-tourism and game farming

(288) Star 19/5/97

By Hopewell Radebe
Provincial Reporter

Gauteng's Agriculture department has set aside R20-million to stimulate an interest among disadvantaged communities in eco-tourism and game farming in the Enkeldoornspoort region, north-east of Gauteng.

Tabling her department's budget at the legislature, Agriculture, Conservation and Environment MEC Nomvula Mokonyane said small-scale commercial farming was gaining momentum in 19 rural areas in the province.

The department has identified about 200 000ha in the Enkeldoornspoort region as being unsuitable for general farming purposes and it wanted people to start game farming there.

To improve small farmers' livestock production levels, the department's veterinary directorate was servicing about 36 000 animal inspection points where animal diseases were treated and controlled.

Farmers were educated on detecting and preventing various animal and plant diseases in these centres.

Tourism 'to play bigger economic role'

Botswana is pushing tourism in a bid to reduce its reliance on the diamond industry, writes freelance journalist Prof Malema

BD 20/5/97 (288) 50

GABORONE — The government is pulling out the stops to promote Botswana's rapidly expanding tourism industry in a bid to reduce the country's overwhelming reliance on diamond mining.

Tour operators in the northern parts of the country say record numbers of tourists are pouring into the area, while the Central Statistics Office says 728 000 holidaymakers arrived in the first quarter of this year, well above previous figures.

Statistics show that the tourism industry's contribution jumped from 2% of gross domestic product to 3,5% last year — equalling the contribution of agriculture.

The number of jobs in the tourism industry had doubled in the past three years to 6 000 full-time employees.

Commerce and Industry Minister George Kgoroba has travelled to many countries to sell Botswana's tourist attractions to investors.

A new tourism policy was introduced in 1990 which seeks to promote rural development, to increase foreign exchange earnings and to generate more employment, especially in rural areas, in an effort to curb rural-urban migration.

Kgoroba's ministry has extended government's financial assistance policy grants — which were previously enjoyed only by manufacturing, agriculture, small-scale mining and mineral prospecting — to the development of tourism. This help has also been extended to community trusts and co-operatives involved in the sector.

Tenders for consultancy companies that could help launch a strategic tourism development programme have been advertised widely. So far the tourism department had short-listed several companies for the tender, including THR-WES of Spain; SRL/SECA of Italy; and Scottish Development Overseas and Tourism Partnership of the UK.

A spokesman for the tourism division in the commerce and industry ministry, Bapasi Mphusu, said the tourism development programme would focus on planning and development, education and training, marketing and promotion, research and institution building.

"The tender is expected to be awarded in the third quarter of this year," he said.

"Developing tourism is crucial for Botswana since the major tourist attractions are in the rural, low-income areas, where there is a special need for income and employment," Mphusu said.

"We have also embarked on a programme geared towards selling the country's tourism.

"We participated in the Glothernburg show in Sweden, the Berlin show, the Indaba show in Durban, and we are planning to attend the World Travel show in the UK. We also plan to go to Orlando, Florida, in the US in October if the situation permits."

However, the Hotel and Tourism of Botswana organisation is not impressed with the way government is handling tourism development and accuses the ministry of being lax in dealing with pertinent issues.

The organisation's director, Modisa Mothoagoae, said government had made its policy intentions known but the organisation was worried about management issues, such as the capacity to implement projects, and had raised these concerns during the consultative meetings. Photographic areas, multipurpose areas and community areas had been set aside but new developments had not started yet.

He also said lease terms being offered to prospective investors were too short. Security of tenure was granted for up to 15 years, but most leases were broken into five-year phases after which licences were up for renewal. "That can discourage a number of people," he said.

Under those circumstances prospective investors could not get loans from financial institutions, adding to the problems already faced by local investors.

He accused government of discouraging investors by failing to speed up licensing procedures.

"On average I get five inquiries a day from prospective investors who want to know when their licences will be issued," Mothoagoae said.

This was disheartening at a time when a new breed of multinational investor was seeking opportunities in the country.

"Unfortunately, the money that is being collected from the booming tourism sector is not being invested back into developing the industry."

However, the manager of the Kubu Lodge in Kasane, Heidy Allmendingeir, was optimistic about the prospects, saying tourists from a far wider range of countries were visiting the area and general occupancy rates were now at 65-68%.

Botswana's tourism industry revolves around wildlife and wilderness areas, as well as the small islands on the Chobe River and at its confluence with the Zambezi. Another key area is the Okavango delta wetland, which is threatened by the Namibian government's plans to divert some water from the Okavango River to supply Namibia's south-central regions.

Major boost for SA hotel group

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
TOURISM REPORTER

ARG 21/5/97

One of Cape Town's new hotels, the Villa Via Granger Bay, has pulled off a major coup by being the first hotel in southern Africa to become affiliated to prestigious French hotel group Concorde.

The 203-suite, five-star flagship of the Villa Via group is expected to open in November this year and is one of a number of international hotels planned for the increasingly popular Mouille Point area.

Another marina-based hotel, Villa Via Harbour's Edge in Gordon's Bay, is expected to open later this year.

By linking up with Concorde, Villa Via joins the ranks of world famous hotels such as the Grand Hotel de l'Opera and de Crillon in Paris, St James Court in London and Century Tower in Milan. Concorde, which markets only "deluxe" hotels, has 69 member establishments in 17 countries, totalling 14 000 rooms.

Villa Via managing-director Stan Evans said "Product, position and people" were the criteria applied by Concorde to select Villa Via as a member from eight other competing international hotels.

"Concorde's presence in South Africa represents a major boost for Cape Town's positioning as a global player," said Mr Evans.

Concorde will market the company overseas, earning commission for every Villa Via booking secured by them.

The Granger Bay hotel boasts its own private marina, conference facilities, a bistro and a seafood restaurant.

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Cape takes vital step on tourism

(288)

11-strong team named

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
TOURISM REPORTER ARG 22/5/97

The Western Cape has become the first province to appoint a tourism board to promote and develop what has become the region's most important industry.

Western Cape Tourism Minister Lampie Fick has announced the names of the 11 members of the Western Cape Tourism Board.

The board, which includes representatives of the business sector and provincial and local government, will be inaugurated officially tomorrow.

The board's main functions will include the promotion of tourism, the formulation of a comprehensive tourism policy, the establishment of a database of tourism information and the development of criteria for the accreditation of local tourism bureaus and tourism-related courses.

The provincial government has allocated R3-million for the board in this financial year.

The members are Usman Ahmed, managing director and chairman of Flywell Travel Holdings; Basil Cupido, a tourism operator; David Jack, managing director of the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront Company; Shoni Khangala of the National Parks Board; Deon Kruse, a municipal representative; Johan Neethling, a provincial representative; Jans Rautenbach, a guesthouse owner; Anthea Rossouw, a tourism expert; Otto Stehlik, MD of Protea Hotels; Rick Taylor, chairman of the permanent committee on marketing; and Neels Zietsman, chairman of the permanent committee on development.

The board is a backer of the first Western Cape Tourism Expo, which was opened on the Market Square at the Waterfront last night.

Showcasing the province for Capetonians is the philosophy behind the expo, sponsored by the V&A Waterfront Company and the Western Cape Tourism Board and endorsed by Radio KFM.

All nine provinces have stalls at the expo, which will be open from 10am to 9pm daily until Sunday.

Western Cape Tourism Board marketing chief Pieter Rossouw said: "We have neglected domestic tourism in the past. We are trying to change that."



NEW ARRIVAL *Peter Bacon, left, the managing director of Sun International, marketing consultant Kesh Tilakraw and Rob Bolton, a director of AfriSun KZN, celebrate the launch of the Zimbali Forest Lodge, a joint venture between business and empowerment groups* PHOTO: PETER DUFFY

AfriSun KZN empowers tourism

(288)CT(BR)22/5/97

SHIRLEY JONES
KWAZULU NATAL EDITOR

Durban — AfriSun KZN, KwaZulu Natal's newest tourism and leisure company comprising a joint venture between Sun International, the Tongaat Hulett group and a group of consortia representing disadvantaged communities, was launched in Durban last night.

Oscar Dhlomo, the head of Dynamo Investments and the chairman of the new leisure group, and Peter Bacon, the managing director of Sun International, formally announced AfriSun KZN's pilot project, This is the R82 million Zimbali Forest Lodge on the KwaZulu Natal north coast.

They said the new group was looking at a number of additional investment possibilities, including an internationally competitive gaming mega-resort within the Durban metropolitan region.

An announcement of the project would follow within weeks, they said.

According to Dhlomo, 46 percent of the company's equity would be held by previously disadvantaged groups; 5 percent by Tongaat Hulett through Moreland Estates, its property development arm; and the balance by Sun International.

He said 26 percent of the equity held by the various empowerment organisations would be held by Dolcoast Investments, an umbrella company representing the interests of a group of community-based and empowerment organisations.

"A locally owned and managed tourism group which can compete at the highest levels is long overdue," Dhlomo said.

Bacon said the new company represented Sun International's new approach to South Africa's tourism industry.

"The launch of AfriSun KZN ... (represents) a new philosophy which we are implementing nationwide and which, we believe, can serve as a model for commercial partnerships throughout our economy."

He said the creation of the new company would place the levers of economic influence and the benefits of financial success in the hands of local communities.

Listed hotels slide into freefall

(288)CT(BR) 22/5/97

MATT GETZ

Johannesburg — The emergence of new hotels and a slowdown in the economy have sent the stocks of JSE-listed hotel groups into freefall, analysts said yesterday.

"Hotels are suffering from occupancy pressure for a few main reasons," said one analyst. "There's the subdued domestic economy, a lot more activity from the informal sector and a whole lot of new hotels."

Yesterday, City Lodge, the Don group and Karos all fell to long-term lows while Sun International hovered close to its all-time low. City Lodge had fallen from R21,80 on May 12 to R17 yesterday, when it lost 80c.

"International tourism has declined more than expected, which is certainly a reason for the rerating," Clifford Ross, City Lodge's managing director, said yesterday.

"But why the drop has been so dramatic we don't know. Everything at City Lodge is the same as it's been for the last five years."

Analysts said the spate of new hotel building, especially in Sandton, Cape Town and around Johannesburg international airport, had hurt the more established local companies.

Those hotels, which included Hyatt, Hilton and Holiday Inns, were putting pressure on the local chains through their very presence and through discounting.

"It's partly a function of pricing and partly that the alternatives have made themselves more attractive," said one analyst.

Hotel groups were also being affected by the tendency, especially in Cape Town, for tourists to stay in more informal lodgings like guest houses and bed and breakfasts.

Crime was also seen as a factor in the general slowdown. "Crime is clearly a major issue," said Ross. But analysts said the hotels' problems would not last. "In a few years, indications are that demand will outstrip supply," said one.

☐ **Business Watch**

City deserves Games, says IOC man

'Success of bid would restore dignity to the continent'

(288) ARG 23|5|97

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

CapeTown's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games has been praised by Algerian International Olympic Committee member Mohamed Zerguini, who says his vote for the city will not be for sentiment alone.

He said after a working visit to Cape Town yesterday that he was impressed by the quality of the city's bid and would urge all his IOC colleagues to visit it "and see what's happening for themselves".

"I am sure they will be overwhelmed by the enthusiasm in Cape Town," he added.

Mr Zerguini, a former officer in the French and Algerian armies who fought in the Algerian liberation, and a former government minister and ambassador, ranks as a senior and experienced member of the Olympic movement, having become an IOC member in 1974.

He stressed the importance of the bid to Africa as a whole, and said a successful Games in Cape Town would spur an African renaissance and restore dignity to the continent.

A Cape Town Games in 2004 would have far-reaching economic, political and social implications for the continent as a whole. He said through an interpreter that he had become keen to visit the city after studying all the documents relating to the bid "in order to have a more complete overview" of the project.

"Because I am an African, my feelings would be to vote for Cape Town, without actually coming here. But I am not that sort of person. I wanted to see Cape Town and I see it deserves the bid, and that the report and presentations are very serious."



BRENTON GEACH

Penny for his thoughts: Algerian Olympic official Mohamed Zerguini with a portrait of South African double gold medallist swimmer Penny Heyns

He said he had "asked a lot of questions of all members of the team on matters ranging from the organisation of the Games, to security and finance and the answers I have been given are very satisfactory".

He added: "If I vote for Cape Town, it would not be just for sentiment."

Mr Zerguini, who has already visited rival bid cities Rome and Buenos Aires and intends visiting Athens and Stockholm, was tactfully non-committal about the city's chances in the five-bid race.

"Cape Town has as much of a chance as all the other cities," he said.

But he spoke at length about the importance of ensuring that if Cape Town won the Games, the event should be well-run.

"I have expressed to the bid team my concern as an African that Cape Town should not only try to get the Games, but make a success of them.

"The reason I say this is that the four other continents have already organised the Games, and Africa has never done so. So the quality of the organisation will be very important, because we want everybody to say that Africa can organise the Games.

"And if the organisation is good, it will open the doors to other African countries, such as Egypt, Nigeria and Algeria, and this will give credibility to Africa's organisational skills.

"It's essential that all South Africans pull together to make sure that the Games are a success."

'Get Games — for Africa'

(288)

DAN SIMON
TOURISM WRITER

CT 23/5/97

CAPE TOWN should not only try to get the 2004 Olympic Games — it should aim to make a success of the Games for the benefit of the African continent.

This was the opinion of senior International Olympic Committee (IOC) delegate Mr Mohamed Zerguini, of Algeria, who yesterday ended a three-day evaluation visit to Cape Town at the invitation of the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company.

Zerguini is the 13th IOC delegate to visit Cape Town since it was shortlisted in the race for the 2004 Games.

A number of the IOC delegates who will vote on the IOC body that selects the Olympic host city for 2004 are to visit the city next month.

Zerguini said he was very impressed with the city, its bid to stage the Games and the bid company's technical report.

"Cape Town deserves the Games," he said. "Because I am African, my feeling was to vote for Cape Town straight away. But I first had to visit the city."

Cape Town, he said, should not merely try to get the Games, but should also strive to make a success of them.

"The other continents have hosted the Games but Africa has never done so. The quality of the organisation of the Games will be very important to show the world that Africa can host an Olympic Games.

"If the organisation of the Games is good, it will open the door for other African countries."

Zerguini said he would recommend to fellow IOC delegates that they visit the city, "to see what is happening. I am sure they will be overwhelmed".

Airport move will harm tourism - Molefe

Sowetan 23/5/97 (288)

By Pamela Dube

THE decision by Cabinet to reduce the number of immigration control-clearing airports would hurt the economies of other provinces dependent on tourism, North West premier Popo Molefe said in Johannesburg yesterday.

Early this month, Cabinet stated that international criminal syndicates were using mainly smaller airports and strips to transport illegal goods.

It was then decided that many such airports would be closed so that clearing of goods leaving and entering the country would be done through Johannesburg International and Cape Town airports.

Also, international travellers would have to go through those airports before proceeding to their intended destinations. "This is bad for us because some tourists may not want to come first to Johannesburg before proceeding to Sun City," Molefe said during a media briefing at Shell House.

He acknowledged, however, that the action "is necessary for crime prevention, but we are worried about what impact it will have on the economies of other provinces".

Molefe added that the recent initiative to establish an Aviation Academy in Mafikeng – intended to be used as a training facility for pilots with an international focus – had attracted international investors' attention.

The North West government also intended to resist the Government's intention to centralise some operations like justice.

A burning issue at present is the move to relocate the courts in Mafikeng to Potchefstroom.

Molefe said this was the doing of "some guys sitting in Pretoria who do not understand that those facilities are serving the broader rural communities around Mafikeng. We intend to fight that."

Good progress

However, Molefe said the past three years of governance had been effective, with provision of housing, education, water and sanitation progressing well.

North West was catering for a third of water provision nationally and had already built 8 000 housing units – making the province the third in provision of housing after Gauteng and Northern Province.

Also, Molefe boasted, the North West "is recognised nationally as the leading province in the area of public service transformation".

HOTEL INDUSTRY

Branding makes the grade (288)

No more polish for the stars of yesterday FM 23|5|97

The hotel industry is turning its back on the star grading system and switching to branding, says Greg McManus, MD of Qualitour, a tourism quality assurance company.

McManus, who previously was the SA Tourism Board's director of standards promotion, says "several new quality hotels, including the Rosebank Hyatt and the Michelangelo in Sandton haven't applied to be graded. And the Hilton is hesitant. They say branding is more important than grading."

There are only 460 graded hotels left in SA as against the 1 250 at the beginning of 1993. Protea Hotel's executive chairman Otto Stehlik says the day of the independent hotelier is ending. To succeed hotels have to belong to groups or chains and abide by fixed standards. "City Lodges, Holiday Inns and Protea Hotels are brands that stand for something and make a statement. When people choose to stay in a City Lodge they don't do so because of their star grading, but because they know there is little difference, if any, between their pricing, the accommodation they provide and the standard of service they offer."

Southern Sun Hotels' MD Hotels Helder Pereira sees room for branding, and for grading for hotels not affiliated to the bigger groups. "They can rely on grading. It's a mechanism to protect the consumer and to assist the hotel in meeting standards."

That concept is catching on in SA. Protea Hotels is grouping its 85 hotels into four categories, those it believes are four-star hotels fall into its Protea Premier group, its three star hotels (its core brand) are classified as Protea Hotels, its apartments are classified as Protea Apartments and the new two-to-three star properties fall into its Landmark Lodge grouping.

The Southern Sun group took that route a long time ago. It has its five-star Southern Sun Inter-Continental Africa hotels at the top. Its budget hotels are Formule 1 and Formule Inn. In between it has its Southern Sun Resorts, Holiday Inn Crowne Plazas, Holiday Inns, Holiday Inn Garden Courts and Holiday Inn Expresses. **David Pincus**

TOURISM

No government lifeboat for beleaguered industry

It's now down to the private sector to continue attracting the sunburnt rubbernecks (288) FM 23/5/97

Government is reaping billions in taxes from tourism and reinvesting only a fraction to promote the industry. So, to continue growing, tourism will have to turn to the private sector for funds.

University of Pretoria tourism management Prof Ernie Heath puts the case for preferential treatment. He says "every additional R20m invested in international tourism promotion generates at least another 25 000 foreign tourists.

"That creates 850 more direct jobs and an extra 1 700 indirect jobs. The average foreign tourist spends R11 000 here; so that many more would generate R275m. With an induced economic impact of 1,5, that works out at R412m.

"If we take 36% as taxes, government gets an extra R148m. This projection is in line with a study by the British Tourism Authority which found that £23 is earned for each pound invested in tourism promotion.

"Government must also realise tourism is a renewable resource that creates the mechanism it needs to fund health, housing and education, particularly for the previously disadvantaged."



Michael Farr

In the last Budget drawn up by the NP government for fiscal 1994, the SA Tourism Board (Satour), which has to market SA abroad, got its best yet allocation of R97m. Despite the 22% growth of overseas tourists to SA in calendar 1994, a 51,1% increase in 1995 and a 9,4% increase to 1,17m in 1996 — against the World Tourism Authority's preliminary world average of 4,69% — government allocated only R63m to Satour for the current financial year.

Industry pundits agree that R63m for promotion is too little, considering SA has to compete with Australia and several developing countries. They say it is not easy to convince the Finance Minister to allocate more to tourism promotion when he has to support the Ministers of Health, Education and Land Affairs. "We have to take another route."

That implies calling on the private sector to top up Satour's funds, which government has already done by creating a funding committee comprising government and private-sector elements.

Tourism Business Council executive director Michael Farr expects the council to recommend "sensible funding mechanisms" and devise ways to raise Satour's funding to R200m this year.

David Pincus

Probe into impact of Games

THE Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) of Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Games is back on track after the Olympic Bid Company agreed to cover the budget to complete the project.

An independent Olympic assessment team of consultants was appointed in November to conduct a study with full public participation, but they ran out of funds.

A spokesman for the assessment team, David Shandler, said on Wednesday that a new schedule had been worked out and the SEA draft report was expected to be ready by the middle of July.

The team would hold a public meeting early in August to hear public comments and the final report was expected by August 11.

The bid company's environmental co-ordinator, Mary-Jane Morris, said of the SEA: "It can contribute to the knowledge and awareness of the public and decision-makers about the long-term impact of the Games on key aspects of life in the Cape metropolitan area and South Africa as a whole." — Sapa

ST (CM) 25/5/97 (288)

Tourism employs 11% of world's workforce

ARG 26/5/97 (288)

Geneva – The tourist trade directly or indirectly employs more than 200-million people, or 11 percent of the world's working population.

And the figure will rise by 70 percent to 340-million by 2005, according to a report on the tourist sector published by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in Geneva.

The travel and tourist trade was one of the fastest-growing industries in the world, the ILO report said. It was also creating the most new jobs.

However, employment in tourism is characterised by low wage rises, overtime and irregular working hours. In many areas, part-time and seasonal workers make up a large portion of employees. – Reuter

100 days war starts today

ARG 27/5/97

Africa's Games boss boosts bid

(288)

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Cape Town begins the final 100-day sprint of its multimillion-rand Olympic bid marathon today, with a challenge from Africa's sports supremo to pull out all the stops and make it a winning African bid.

With just over three months to go before the 110-member International Olympic Committee convenes its 106th session in Lausanne to choose the host city for the 2004 Games, pressure on the bid team is mounting and lobbying is intensifying.

But Africa needs more attention. This is the clear message from Jean-Claude Ganga, president of the Association of African Olympic Committees of Africa and the IOC member for Congo.

In a frank interview with the Cape Argus yesterday at the start of his three-day visit to the city, Mr Ganga said he was "experienced enough to know that patting Cape Town on the back is not what is required at this critical point, three months before the vote".

"I am not here to tell you what a good bid you have. I am here to tell you how much work there is to be done. We must work very hard now and the most important thing is to do much more to make this an African bid," he said.

"As Africans we are ready to help, but we must see that Cape Town wants to be helped, that Cape Town is taking these initiatives too."

Mr Ganga, the most influential Olympic figure in Africa, said he had conveyed this message to the Bid Company and the City of Cape Town and would send it to the Government if necessary.

The Cape Argus marks the start of the 100-day countdown today with a comprehensive eight-page supplement that sets out what is to be done to win the Games, what winning would mean for Cape Town, South Africa and Africa, and what the bidding process alone has done for the Peninsula, whether or not the bid succeeds. Lobbying initiatives across a broad front over the next 100 days are geared to securing the support of at least 55 IOC members.

Africa's 20 IOC members – six of whom, excluding Mr Ganga, have visited the city so far – will be critical to Cape Town's performance in September.

Mr Ganga said: "We do not hear enough about the bid in Africa, and I don't think the world hears enough about it, as an African bid.

"It is not enough that Cape Town supports the bid ... we must have all of Africa behind it, and that is not yet the case.

"We have three months now, and we must make sure we get that message out."

In addition to contact with African IOC members, it was essential to make contact with African media, with all the national Olympic committees on the continent and with African governments.

"All your embassies must become more active. The other countries' embassies are already working very hard," he said.

A strategic emphasis on African support is one of the key goals of the recently formed high-powered Cabinet committee under Sport Minister Steve Tshwete.

It will also focus special attention on the Latin vote – the 11 IOC members in South and Central America – and the 16 IOC members in Asia, the Far East and Pacific.

This initiative is being guided by South Africa's Olympic chief, Sam Ramsamy, head of the National Olympic Committee.

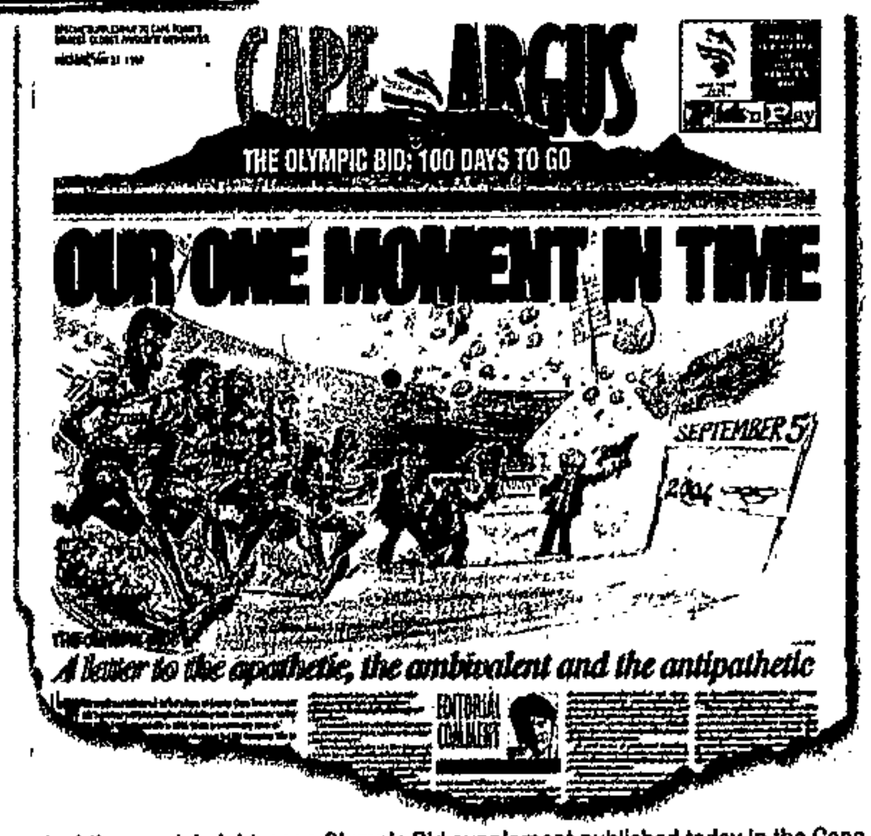
Over the next month a dozen more IOC members are due to visit Cape Town.

On the home front, the Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry is encouraging businesses to display support by decking their premises with bid flags and bunting.

The chamber is promoting the bid as the kick-start of a 30-year development programme in the region.

Starting this week, the city has an opportunity to showcase its abilities with the staging of three big international competitions. The first – from today until June 4 – is the Junior World Weightlifting Championships at the Good Hope Centre.

INSIDE today *Special eight-page Bid supplement*



Extra, extra! the special eight-page Olympic Bid supplement published today in the Cape Argus. Extra copies of the supplement have been printed to ensure the widest distribution. The Cape Argus acknowledges the following companies which, to show their support for the Bid, contributed to the costs: Pick 'n Pay, the Bid Company, Millennium Expotainment, Protea Hotels, Auto Atlantic BMW, V&A Waterfront, Hunt Lascaris TBWA, The Bay Hotel, Adidas, Pam Golding Properties



Jean-Claude Ganga: 'much work to be done'

Tell us how to win

Cape Town's bid team needs every bit of help in the next 100 days in its campaign to win the Olympics for the city, for South Africa, and for Africa.

If you have any good ideas on how to help make sure Cape Town wins on September 5, send them to us and we'll publish them. Write to:

- Michael Morris, Cape Argus, PO Box 56, Cape Town, 8000
- Fax: 021 488 4075
- E-mail: argusnews@ctn.independent.co.za.

R1,2bn to transform major airport centres

BD 27/5/97 (288)

Robyn Chalmers

TRANSPORT Minister Mac Maharaj has unveiled a R1,2bn plan to transform the major airports at Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban over five years, and to develop dormant land adjacent to airports around SA.

Maharaj also said at least eight international airport authorities had expressed an interest in taking an equity stake in the Airports Company. Government recently clinched an agreement with labour which paved the way for a strategic equity partner to take a minority stake — probably 49% — in the Airports Company.

Maharaj said about 15-million passengers used SA's nine national and international airports each year, and this was a huge market waiting to be serviced. "Why shouldn't these centres be developed as places of entertainment and commercial activity? Hotels, conference centres and commercial developments that enhance the airport environment all become options that need to be examined and planned for."

He said a national policy on airports and air space management, and a review of local civil aviation to ensure safety standards, was being finalised.

The R1,2bn would be used for projects including new domestic and international terminal facilities at Johannesburg International Airport. Durban International Airport would get upgraded passenger facilities and Cape Town International Airport faced a major redevelopment should the city be awarded the Olympic Games in September, otherwise the scale of the redevelopment would be downgraded.

However, the available funds are significantly less than the R2,2bn that Airports Company MD Dirk Ackerman recently estimated was needed over the next five to six years to meet the growing demand for services.

Ackerman said yesterday the potential of the dormant land holdings would be turned into real value through partnerships between the public and private sectors. Proposals included office and industrial parks, shopping centres, entertainment centres, hotels, service stations, exhibition centres and conference facilities.

Maharaj said by turning a 1993 deficit of R58m into a pretax profit of R143m in 1995 and R223m in 1996, the Airports Company "has been a story of rare success for a state corporation". It had been restructured last year into three divisions — aviation services, property development and retail.

He said from a base of almost zero in 1993, more than 40% of the company's middle management positions and 25% of its senior positions were now held by blacks.

The success of the Airports Company could be measured by the interest generated internationally among companies looking to buy into it. Companies understood to have expressed interest include Lockheed Martin AGI Soros Investments, the British Airports Authority, Schipol Amsterdam, Daimler-Benz, the Malaysian Airports Authority, Vienna Airport, Singapore Airport and the Challenger Group.

Maharaj said an important aspect that a strategic equity partner was likely to bring was a strategy to grow nonaeronautical income. Presently the aeronautical component was almost 80% of the company's total income, but at leading airports overseas this was often less than a quarter.

Maharaj previously said government expected to receive R1,2bn from the sale of a 49% stake in the Airports Company, which was valued at about R2,5bn. He said the proceeds were likely to go to the central fiscus.

Body to set code for city tour guides

(288) (284)

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER
ARG 28/6/99

Growing animosity between tour guides and operators in the city could be eased by setting standards of conduct for both sectors.

This will be one of the aims of the Trainers, Operators and Guides Co-ordinating Committee (TOGCC), formally established last month.

Committee chairman Kevin Estment said they would co-ordinate the efforts of their constituents and act as the mouthpiece of the tourism sector in which tour guiding falls.

The committee represents 250 guides from the South African Association of Registered Tourist Guides, 64 operators from the Tour Operators' Association of Cape Town, the South African Tourism Services Association and eight local tour guide training institutions.

Mr Estment admitted the problems in the industry identified in a recent Cape Argus report were "very real".

Among them were a total oversupply of guides, long working hours, faulty vehicles, inadequate insurance and use of illegally rented cars by operators.

"A lot of guides have problems with a lot of operators but many of them are not prepared to put a name to it. Some of them could be victims of blacklisting," said Mr Estment.

However, he said local tour guide Cara Spencer, who was quoted in the Cape Argus article, had been accused of "unprofessional behaviour" by operators because she arrived late several times. She had also not been guiding in terms of the conditions of her registration, Mr Estment said.

The committee will seek representation at provincial government level and will co-ordinate discussions among industry players around the issues of training and legislative requirements.



LEON MÜLLER

Showtime: Cravenby Secondary School pupils stage a play on the benefits of the Games

Pupils make their play for a Cape Town Olympics

STAFF REPORTER

Pupils at a Cape Town school have given Olympic VIPs a dramatic account of why it is so important for the city to host the 2004 Games.

Cravenby Secondary School yesterday put on a play for a high-powered delegation to illustrate economic and other benefits of hosting the Games.

Their audience included Jean-Claude Ganga of the Congo, president of the Association of African Olympic Committees, International Olympic Committee members James Easton of the United States and Shamil Tarpischev of Russia, and Cape Town bid chief Chris Ball.

The Olympic officials also had a taste of Indian culture, as pupils entertained them with traditional Indian dancing.

Mr Ganga told them Cape Town was working very hard to get the Games.

"Africa has not had the opportunity to organise the Games and therefore the bid is not only for Cape Town, but for the whole of Africa," he said.

Games: public to have its say on the bid in August

Impact study – then a poll

(288)

ARG 28/6/97

Public opinion on Cape Town's bid will be tested in a poll in August, after publication of an overarching assessment of the economic, environmental and social impact of the project.

The opinion poll will be carried out about two weeks after the release of a report on the strategic environmental assessment so people can express an informed opinion.

The assessment, by an independent team of consultants, is looking at the impact of the bid in the broadest sense, including financial implications for the city and other levels of government, and the wider economic, social and environmental consequences.

The project was to have been completed this month, but difficulties in securing funding have delayed the process. But David Shandler of the assessment team said the Bid Company had agreed to cover the budget.

"We expect to complete the Strategic Environmental Assessment draft report by mid-July. A public meeting will be organised early in August to hear public comment on the draft, and we plan to complete the final report by the second week in August," he said.

Mary-Jane Morris, the Bid Company's environmental co-ordinator, is visiting New Orleans this week to present a paper on the environmental lessons of the bid at a major conference of the International Association of Impact Assessment.

The paper argues that the bidding process can help achieve a "historic consensus" on the environment and could "set the foundation for conservation and development for decades to come".

It adds: "In this way, the bidding process will have played a vital role, whether or not we get the Games."

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID



'Bid is for all of Africa': Jean-Claude Ganga

Lure of drugs sends tourist muggings soaring (288)

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

Attacks on young tourists who go out late at night, often seeking drugs in seedy parts of the city, are increasing.

Free trade in drugs in the city and gangs of street children who targeted tourists were hampering police efforts to curb tourist-related crime, Cape Town station commander Raymond Dowd told the Tourism Assistance Unit yesterday.

Last month there were 20 attacks on tourists, five more than the previous April.

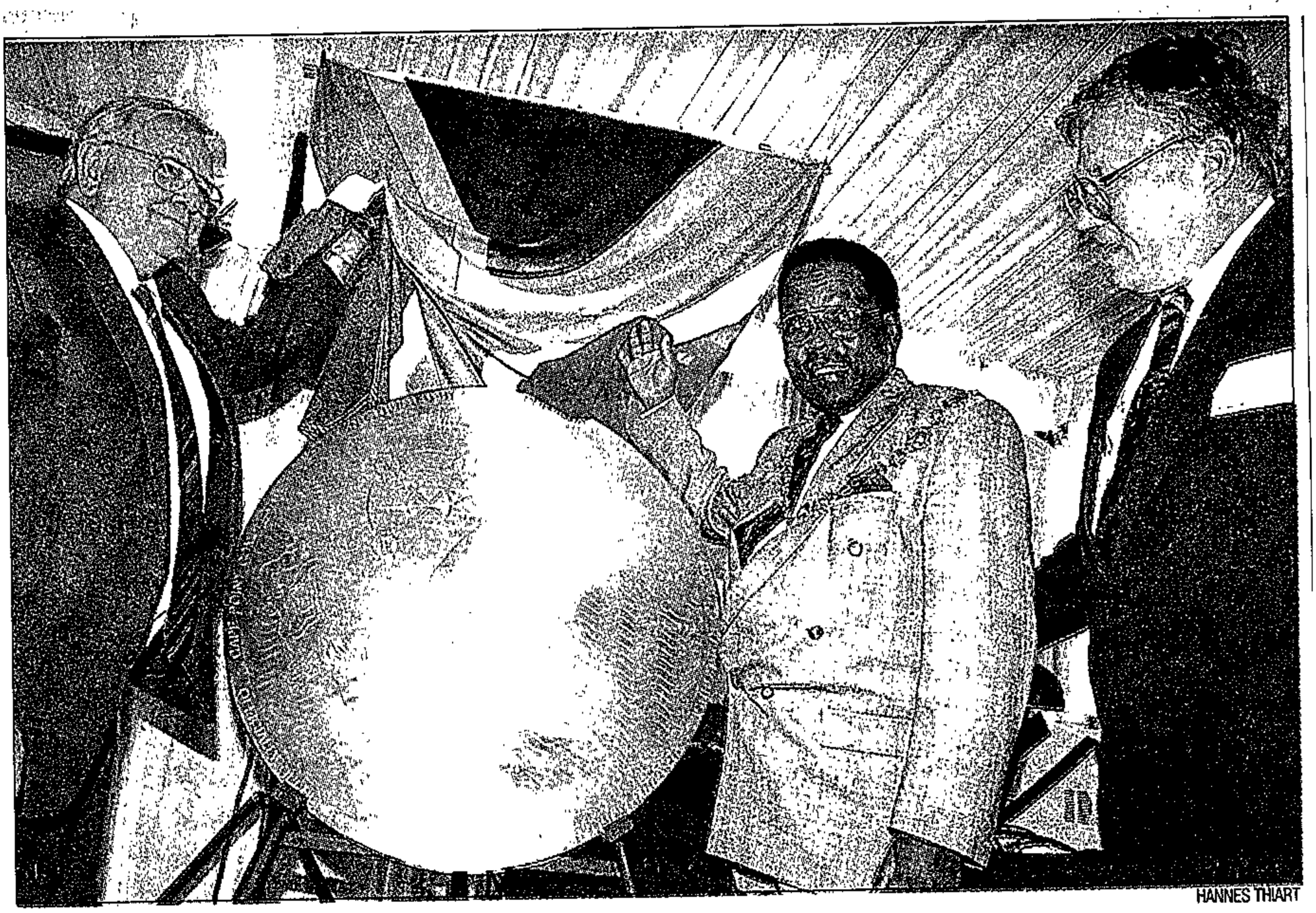
Director Dowd said most of the attacks on tourists in the central area were aimed at individuals and happened late at night, often near nightclubs.

But Cape Town was still "reasonably safe" compared with most other cities and increased police visibility in crime "hot spots" such as Government Avenue and the Company Gardens had brought down the number of attacks in those areas.

The availability of drugs on the streets was a huge problem which often attracted younger tourists to seedy parts of the city because "they know they can get anything there", Director Dowd said.

The other major headache was gangs of street children as young as seven who targeted tourists by following them and grabbing handbags and necklaces. Director Dowd said police "hands are tied" because the children were "untouchable" under the law.

ARG 28/5/97



HANNES THIART

Opening move: Hernus Kriel unveils a plaque at Cape Point. With him is metropolitan mayor William Bantom and Leo Röhrig of Concor

Furore as Kriel insults 'Transvaalers'

(288)

ARG 28/5/97

From page 1

of the Cape Metropolitan Council. Mr Kriel's speech was described by a guest as "eccentric" and "un-premier-like", while another said he had been "amazed".

During the speech, Mr Kriel sang the praises of the Western Cape, saying it was a "lovely area, a wonderful province, and just great (mos lekker) to live here". He told nature officials – "you guys with the badges on your shoulders" – he believed nature areas should be open to the public and not reserved for conservationists.

He said the way to preserve natural areas was to open them up through public-private sector partnerships which could raise the money for their upkeep. These partnerships could achieve a balance between development and conservation.

At the outset of his speech Mr Kriel joked that he was expecting his name to be displayed as Hernus Meyer or Roelf Kriel.

He talked about the baboons of Cape Point, which he likened to the people of the Western Cape for their love of seafood.

"Where else in the world would you find a baboon troupe which eats seafood?" The baboons were allowed to remove "all sorts of wonderful things" from the sea out of season. "Perish the thought that we should stop them," he said.

He also offered to return to Cape Point at the end of the week for the opening of a second sewerage soak-away, which has been built to cope with the increasing numbers of tourists in the reserve.

"I insist that I also officiate at that. I have never opened up something like that before," he said.

When he started speaking Mr Kriel praised the Hare family who once owned Cape Point for having the foresight to protect the land

A spokesman for Mr Kriel said he had departed from his prepared text and had "cracked a few jokes".

Furore as Kriel hits at 'Vaalies'

Speech rocks VIPs

ARG 28/5/97

(288)

ANDREA WEISS AND JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTERS

Western Cape premier Hernus Kriel has caused a furore with a rambling speech at the opening of the Cape Point Nature Reserve tourist complex which insulted "Transvaalers".

Before an audience that included several diplomats, he also dealt a backhander to conservation officials and likened the people of the Western Cape to seafood-eating baboons.

He volunteered his services to return to the reserve to open a sewerage soak-away, because, he said, "Can you imagine the possibilities?"

Mr Kriel made his tourism gaffe with a remark that it was "soms lekker" (sometimes nice) when it rained because "then all the Transvaalers don't come here".

Mr Kriel was speaking at a lunch yesterday to celebrate the opening of the R15-million complex developed by Concor on behalf of the Cape Metropolitan Council.

Captour chairman Usman Ahmed said Mr Kriel's utterances were totally uncalled-for and childish and he should retract them immediately.



HANNES THIART

Outcry: Hernus Kriel at Cape Point yesterday

"It is unacceptable for a premier, irrespective of his political affiliations, to make such statements as it is very damaging to the tourism industry. Mr Kriel should apologise to the people of the province and country immediately."

Among the guests at the function were several diplomats. Hosts were the chairman of Concor Limited, Brian Murphy, who is from Gauteng, and William Bantom

To page 5

Ideas flood in as city finally gets Bid fever

ARG 29|5|97 (288)

'Let's all fly the flag'

As lobbying intensifies in the race for the Games, Cape Argus readers are coming forward with wide-ranging and practical ideas to project the city's Olympic hopes.

With the 100-day countdown to the September 5 decision ticking away, supporters are girding themselves for a marathon three-month effort to show the world that Cape Town should be the host city in 2004.

Bid flags and banners should be flown all along the route from the airport to the city, and on all main highways, suggests Andrew Hammond, executive chef at the Cape Grace Hotel, and all the city's hotels and big complexes should fly the flag too.

He notes that people in Europe and the United States "are extremely proud of flying their flag". It is, he says, a visual and colourful way to promote the bid and create good spirit.

It is generating that spirit that concerns others too.

Peter Holtzhausen of Kenilworth has no doubt about the positive potential of hosting the Games, as his clear challenge to "laid-back" Cape Town indicates: "Just suppose that your lack of enthusiasm for the Olympic Bid contributes to Cape Town not winning – what are you going to say to your children when they get old enough to understand? Wake up! Let's make it happen ... so that we don't have to apologise to future generations."

One person who has been convinced is Jerry Hartley of Kenilworth, who admits that until now he has been "something of a fence-sitter". But he adds: "The time for action has clearly arrived."

He is putting his money where his mouth is and is offering his services as a print consultant to the bid.

Of course, there are many things which are of great concern to people when they contemplate the prospect of Cape Town hosting an event of the scale of the Olympics. One of these is transport.

Marié Jansen of Richwood feels the city's chances could be improved by the relatively simple means of keeping the streets clean. "As a cyclist," she writes, "I see plenty of rubbish (litter, glass, and even gravel) on the side of the road. This is not only dangerous but very unattractive."

Keeping the roads clean would make the city safer, but also more attractive.

Christiana Groenewoud of Bloubergrant is also worried about the roads – particularly the rush-hour crush on the Milnerton-city section, and she believes this could be eased, for the sake of a winning Olympic plan, by re-opening the harbour road with a double lane exit from Paarden Island.

Crime is uppermost in the mind of Ben de Kock of Bellville. His appeal is to the Government to give maximum support to newly appointed police chief executive Meyer Kahn to act speedily against crime "and help Cape Town to win the bid".

There is a suggestion that all Cape Town companies with Internet homepage facilities should express support on the Net. This idea comes from Frank Dwyer, who writes: "At this time in our history we need a single and definitive goal for which we can all strive."

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Readers who missed Tuesday's Cape Argus supplement on the Olympic Bid can buy copies at Newspaper House in St George's Mall for R1

Kriel pooh-poohs row over 'Vaalie' speech

ARG 29/5/97 (268)

ANDREA WEISS AND JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTERS

Western Cape Premier Hernus Kriel has dismissed as "laughable" criticism of his rambling speech at the opening of new tourist facilities at Cape Point, in which he welcomed the bad weather because it kept Transvaalers away.

Mr Kriel's spokesman, Chris Koole, said the Premier's reaction was that the story was "laughable and his time is more precious to him than to comment on such laughable matters".

Political parties have added their voice to criticism of the speech in which Mr Kriel also likened the baboons of the Cape Point nature reserve to the people of the Western Cape for their love of seafood.

Hennie Bester, leader of the Democratic Party in the province, confined himself to criticism of the Premier's remark about "Transvaalers", saying it was "uncalled for and not in good taste".

"The fact remains that we are dependent on domestic tourists as much as foreigners. It is contrary to the interests of this province to give them the cold shoulder," he said.

Ebrahim Rasool, leader of the ANC caucus in the provincial legislature, said: "If it is indeed true that the Premier likened citizens of this province to 'apes' it is a sad day for the province.

"Citizens of this province can be forgiven for seeing this as a continuation of previous statements by NP leaders about South Africa's coloured and black communities.

"The ANC calls on the Premier to apologise unreservedly to every citizen of this province, if indeed the reports are true."

Alfred Nzo, tireless promoter of Mother City's Olympic bid

ET(BR) 29/5/97 (288)

Alfred Nzo, the foreign minister, is taking literally the Cabinet support promised to Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games.

He does not let an opportunity go by without putting in a plug for the Mother City to become the venue for the world's largest sportsfest seven years from now.

Nzo has set up a desk in his department to liaise with the Olympic bid committee, and has given a directive to his diplomats abroad to do everything possible to support the bid. This includes informing the bid committee of any prominent foreign visitors to South Africa.

This week, for example, the committee got to see visiting Ugandan president Yoweri Museveni. In Harare right now, Nzo is furiously lobbying for support for the bid from his counterparts gathered for the ministers' meeting preparatory to next week's summit of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

Nzo is confident he will get support for his draft resolution endorsing Cape Town's efforts as the African bid.

That resolution recognises the importance of the Olympics in promoting and developing international co-operation and solidarity between people, especially athletes, of all nations.



JEAN-JACQUES CORNISH

It is "cognisant of the fact that hosting the Olympic Games on the African continent would complete the five rings of the Olympic movement".

The crunch of the resolution would have the OAU "express unequivocally its total support for Cape Town as the city for the 2004 Games" and "appeal to members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to vote for Cape Town in order to completely integrate the spirit and ideals of the Olympic movement".

Last week Nzo used a gathering of the 30 African ambassadors to South Africa once again to boost Cape Town's Olympic dream. "This initiative needs the support of all the countries in Africa in solidarity with the sportsmen and women of our continent," he told the envoys celebrating Africa Day.

The 18 African members of the IOC are obviously prime targets for the Capetonians. South Africa must get as many of these as possible to secure the 56 votes necessary to win the bid.

IOC members from other regions are visiting Cape Town, and the other candidates cities in the months leading up to the final vote in Lausanne in September. However good it looks, Cape Town cannot reasonably be expected to win the votes of those members from regions that have candidate cities.

African leaders, ministers and ambassadors are a good bet, but not an absolute win, to bring influence to bear on their IOC members. Some would refuse to take a brief from their governments.

The shadow of the Japanese embassy siege in Lima continues to darken diplomatic gatherings, in South Africa at least.

The cold weather and a strong turnout of 300 diplomats made for cosy conditions at the Argentine national day celebration in Pretoria on Monday.

When the lights went out, mine was the Gauteng reflex of covering my wallet pocket. Others reacted differently. As the power was restored, barely 20 seconds later, I noticed an athletic young man less than 2m away from me returning a huge handgun to his waistband.

"Everyone is jumpy because of what happened in Peru," one ambassador explained. "And national day celebrations are particularly nerve-wracking now."

It was, of course, the celebration of Japan's national day at their embassy in Lima that was prolonged by several months by the Tupac Amaru guerrilla group who took the ambassador and guests hostage before being killed in the Peruvian armed forces operation to end the crisis.

Many embassies now prefer to hold their national day celebration at lunchtime when they believe the chances of a terrorist raid are less likely.

Crime won't affect city's bid for Olympics — IOC

CT 29/5/97 (288)

LISA Ttempleton

CRIME won't shackle Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympics.

"It won't be a factor," said visiting International Olympic Committee (IOC) member Mr James L Easton, who returned to his home in Los Angeles last night after a four-day visit to assess Cape Town's bid.

"In most cities the crime rate drops dramatically during the Games because there is so much security. We used to joke in Los Angeles that the crime dropped because all the criminals were at home watching the Games on television," he said.

He said Cape Town was running neck-and-neck with the four other cities bidding for the 2004 Olympic Games. With only 98 days to go there were no clear leaders in the race to win the bid.

He has already visited Rome and Athens, will visit Stockholm in August, and later this year meet the Buenos Aires bid company in Los Angeles. Another seven members of the committee are due in Cape Town in dribs and drabs next week.

"Cape Town is on a comparable level with the other cities we have seen," Easton said yesterday in an interview at a Waterfront hotel. "There is no clear favourite in this bid, no early leaders.



TOUGH DECISION: James Easton

"If a place has never hosted the Games before it gains a little weight. It would be great to have the Olympics in Africa for the first time."

He said the IOC would judge which city was technically best for the Games but there was also a strong emotional deciding factor.

The IOC, Easton said, would have a very tough time making a decision on the host city, as each had its drawcard: Athens was the traditional home of the Games, Rome had hosted the event before and had a 3 000-strong Olympic bid committee, and Buenos Aires would be the first city in South America to host the games.

Easton, a businessman who manufactures sporting goods, was joined by his wife Phyllis and spent his time in Cape Town visiting the proposed Olympic sites, studying the layout of the city and the transport network.

"We have been impressed. The Olympic Bid Company (Bidco) has done an excellent job."

He commended Cape Town's use of existing facilities and the building of structures, such as the velodrome, which would be used by the local community in the future. Olympic host cities in the past had spent money on "white elephants" which could not be used again.

One of Cape Town's strong points was that the financial backing and government support were strong, as was the enthusiasm of city inhabitants.

And the city's pitfalls?

"I don't see how the public transport system could fully support the huge numbers the Games would attract," he said.

"Cape Town would be a great location, people would come just to see South Africa — it has become such a popular place — and the Olympic junkies would come for the Games."

Hotel chief issues warning on tourism

BD 30/5/97 (288)

David Greybe

CAPE TOWN — "Grime, not crime" had started driving foreign tourists from SA, Protea Hotels executive chairman Otto Stehlik warned yesterday.

Tour operators had begun withdrawing from the SA tourist market following an increase in incidents such as stabbings and vagrants "urinating on tour buses" in front of tourists, Stehlik told a Western Cape business development panel discussion.

Crime, however unacceptable, was an international phenomenon, but poor levels of tourist service were endemic to SA and this was turning tour operators away.

The discussion, hosted jointly by Cape of Good Hope Bank and Wesgro, also heard that figures showed the Western Cape tourist boom of recent years was slowing down considerably.

The growth in tourists had almost halved compared with three years ago.

Western Cape deputy director-general of economic affairs Tony Ruiters said contrary to reports there were three or four "mega hotel projects" planned for the region, and not 10. He said the construction cost was about R6,8bn.

Stehlik said tourist promotion in SA was "100% underfunded" compared with other countries. Satour's R62m annual budget was about one-tenth of Australia's.

He said SA needed an annual budget of between R300m and R350m if it wanted to promote the country in any significant way. An estimated 4,9-million tourists out of 600-million tourists worldwide visited SA.

Tourism was supposed to be central to the Western Cape's economic future, yet the provincial government had slashed its tourism budget from R12m to R3m, Stehlik said.

He said his company, Protea Hotels, was experiencing its lowest hotel occupancy levels "in living memory" — about 30% in the off season. "The situation is bad," Stehlik said.

Woolies wraps up R1/2-m gift for our Olympic bid

(288)

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

ARG 30/6/97

An upmarket retail chain is giving R500 000 to the city's Olympic bid team today as a contribution to the vital lobbying efforts between now and September 5, when the 2004 Games host city is selected.

The announcement was made by Woolworths chairman Syd Muller at the Bid Company's Waterfront headquarters.

Negotiations are continuing with several other major companies and further announcements of financial support are expected soon.

With 97 days to go before the International Olympic Committee chooses the host city for the 2004 Games, a steady flow of IOC visitors is generating growing interest in Cape Town's bid.

Among IOC members due in the city in the next few days are those from Fiji, Israel, Guatemala, Mongolia, Mali and the Dominican Republic.

'Tell the world we want the Games', page 2

City gets rave review from top travel writer

Loves wines, hotels but not prices

(288)

ARG 30/5/97

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

One of Germany's top travel writers on a whistle-stop tour to Cape Town has raved about the service standards in city hotels and the quality of the area's wines, but warned against overpricing.

Michael Hill, seasoned traveller and editor of a business travel section in the Handelsblatt, said he would rate Cape Town among the top 10 tourist destinations in the world, with Vancouver his first choice. The daily newspaper is popular among German business people.

On his second visit to the city, Mr Hill said he was very impressed with the changes that had taken place in the country.

"The whole mood is better and easier with all the people living together and everything seems brighter. I was very depressed by what I saw during my last visit in 1992," said Mr Hill, who has been a travel writer for 30 years.

His sample of the "upper section of the hotel market" convinced Mr Hill that the service standards in the city had improved greatly. He visited several five-star hotels, including the new Table Bay and Cape Grace hotels and the Mount Nelson. He found they compared "very favourably" with hotels in other international cities.

So impressed was he with the local wines that Mr Hill plans to devote the entire page of his monthly wine column to the "high quality wines and wineries of the Cape".

On the restaurant scene, Mr Hill said there was a plethora of good restaurants to choose from in the city, while "I could not find one good restaurant during my last visit". He thought this had something to do with the "influx of chefs from abroad".

On a negative note, Mr Hill warned that South African restaurant and hotel prices were very high compared to those in other international cities.

"High price levels are more of a threat to the city's tourism industry than your crime situation," he said.

But he admitted that perceptions about crime in the Cape among Germans abroad were bad. Another concern was that the CBD was "not very interesting" and old historical buildings had been replaced with "modern, cosmopolitan buildings".

He had "mixed feelings" about the Waterfront, which he found to be "enjoyable and lively, but too artificial and aimed at the cheap tourists". There were too many souvenir shops, he added.

Tell the world we want the Games, supporters urge

'Stand up and be counted'

(288)

ARG 30/6/97

A bright, visual city-wide display of support for the bid is what supporters believe Cape Town should have in the run-up to the September 5 choice of city to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

They want to see flags, bunting, banners and bumper stickers – enough of them to show the world Cape Town is serious.

There have also been suggestions for a big parade, or a "twilight run" through the streets of the city on the eve of the decision.

Llewellyn Sasman of Blue Downs favours the idea of a bumper sticker campaign. "I think this would be a great way for people to show their support," he believes.

Dennis van Rensburg of Rondebosch, who wants to see all South Africa's embassies working harder to get the Olympic message across, suggests the Bid Company issue bunting and flags free to all businesses in the main commercial areas of the city "so that visitors and all the television world can see that we support the African Olympics".

This should be extended to all cities in South Africa, he says.

Mr Van Rensburg would also like to see Nelson Mandela, his cabinet colleagues and other prominent people promoting the bid more forcibly on television and in the press.

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Readers who missed Tuesday's Cape Argus supplement on the Olympic Bid can buy copies at Newspaper House in St George's Mall for R1

K Belford says that "all communities will benefit from the bid, so all local authorities and community organisations should hoist the bid flag at all their properties to increase public awareness and commitment".

Riedwaan Ahmed suggests a "twilight run" through the city centre a day or two before the IOC makes its decision.

"I am sure that the IOC will be pleased to see thousands of people marching in the streets to bring the Olympics to Africa.

"And while all these people are marching, the sun will be setting over Table Mountain, and the beauty of this city will be highlighted."

Olympics a 'window of opportunity for SA'

ARG 30/5/97 (288)

GRAHAM NORRIS
BUSINESS REPORTER

Winning the Olympic Games for Cape Town in 2004 would place a wedge in the rapidly closing window of opportunity for South Africa, says Mike Fuller, financial director of the Olympic Bid Company.

He was speaking during a Western Cape business development panel discussion, a joint initiative of Cape of Good Hope Bank and Wesgro.

Mr Fuller said overseas investors were losing patience with South Africa's bureaucratic foot-dragging where companies sometimes had to wait 18 months for a decision on major projects. He said a successful bid would send the right message to the world and bring enormous benefits.

His views were echoed by other panellists including Cape Union Mart managing director Mike Krawitz. He said an increased influx of people into the Western Cape, one of the main concerns of opponents of the bid, should be seen as an opportunity for economic growth rather than a threat.

The Western Cape's unemployment rate of 17 percent compared with the 32 percent national figure meant that people would be coming here anyway.

Tony Ruiters, deputy director general, economic affairs and RDP of the Western Cape government, said there was a racist element in the question of influxes and that people were really concerned about changing voting patterns.

Otto Stehlik, executive chairman of Protea Hotels, warned that tourism was underperforming and said much more would have to be done to market it. Satour's budget of R62-m was a 10th of the amount Australia spent on attracting tourists.

On a more positive note, Mr Stehlik said the new hotels being built in Cape Town would cause an oversupply in the short term which would result in lower rates.

CULLINAN HOTEL (288) FM 30/5/97

Banking on foreign visitors

The share price has been treated severely despite expansion plans

That Cullinan Hotel & Leisure (Cultel)'s share price should drop is understandable. But the severity of the fall — 60% in 12 months — may be unjustifiable.

The general downrating of hotel stocks (see *Fox*) is only part of the explanation.

Besides that, Cultel's travel division — now generating most of the earnings — was hit by crime and, presumably, loss of market share. Earnings dropped by 28%.

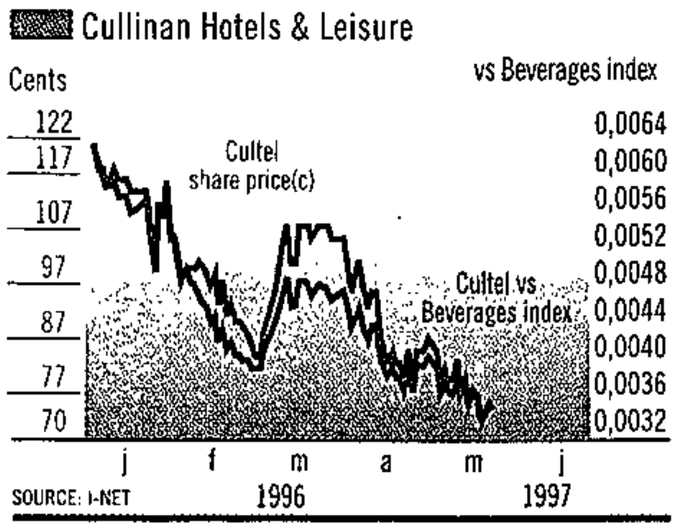
Freight's profitability rocketed but the division is not big enough to have an impact. And prospects for the hotel industry, where most growth is expected, aren't encouraging.

- **ACTIVITIES:** *Hotel and travel business.*
- **CONTROL** *Directors (directly and indirectly) 56,1%.*
- **CHAIRMAN:** *S Krok. MD: J M Rodrigues.*
- **CAPITAL STRUCTURE:** *17,38m ords. Market capitalisation: R129m.*
- **SHARE MARKET:** *Price: 74c. Yields: 7,1% on dividend; 14,2% on earnings; p:e ratio, 7; cover, 2. 12-month high, 128c; low, 73c. Trading volume last quarter, 2,66m shares.*

Year to December 31	'95	'96
ST debt (Rm)	1,3	—
LT debt (Rm)	0,6	0,5
Debt:equity ratio	0,14	0,01
Shareholders' interest	0,47	0,51
Return on cap (%)	11,4	11,8
Turnover (Rm)	27,7	31,2
Pre-int profit (Rm)	3,4	3,6
Earnings (c)	10,4	10,5
Dividends (c)	5,0	5,25
Tangible NAV (c)	78	83

In flowery language, the annual report explains new MD Martin Rodrigues' rationale for listing.

"Before the 1994 election, Cultel had the foresight to recognise the need for additional hotel accommodation in SA. This view was vindicated when the birth of the new nation saw SA's re-emergence into the world arena." Poetic. But for now, as suggested from the downrating of listed hotel groups, not sufficient justification.



In retrospect, the idea was good but the timing of the listing unfortunate. Cultel, chaired by Solly Krok and with ex-MD of listing vehicle Concorde Travel Allan Lunz on the board, aims to use City Lodge's select service model to build a national chain of hotels. The synergy between this development and a popular, widely used travel service with global links is clear.

Moreover, consider City Lodge's success and the potential for increased commercial and holiday travel.

For expansion to occur at the rate Rodrigues hopes it will, though, the venture needs adequate macro-economic growth and business confidence in SA. Not only are these in doubt but local and foreign developers have rushed to build hotels in SA. Competition is growing rapidly.

Rodrigues admits prospects in the hotel industry are discouraging — due to crime and the fall in SA's popularity. "But we are confident of an increase in foreign visitors." He plans to spend about R158m on hotel expansion this year and next.

Concorde Travel franchises are planned for areas where Concorde doesn't have offices. The number of franchise offices is expected to double to 14 this year. The freight division has grown more than 50% (compound) over the past four years. Further improvement is planned.

The disposal of the ailing Russian operation — for a nominal value after the loss on the investment was written off in 1995 — is good news for the group. This operation is probably responsible for a small assessed tax loss for 1997.

The balance sheet looks healthy; lower interest-bearing debt means gearing is effectively nil. Shareholders Old Mutual (24%) and Southern Life (7%) will probably back a rights issue, planned for 1998-1999. That will fund hotel expansion in Cape Town, Durban and Pretoria. Cultel has two hotels in Johannesburg's northern suburbs. It is too soon to draw conclusions about Cultel's prospects; the group was listed only in January. And with a development of this kind, investors can't take a short-term view. Rodrigues has a track record and Krok's participation may lend weight to the venture. Cultel hasn't set itself an easy task.

The current low rating may offer opportunities for speculators. **Michelle Joubert**

HOTEL SHARES (288)

Saturation threatens

KM 30/5/97

Competition is growing and the share prices are falling

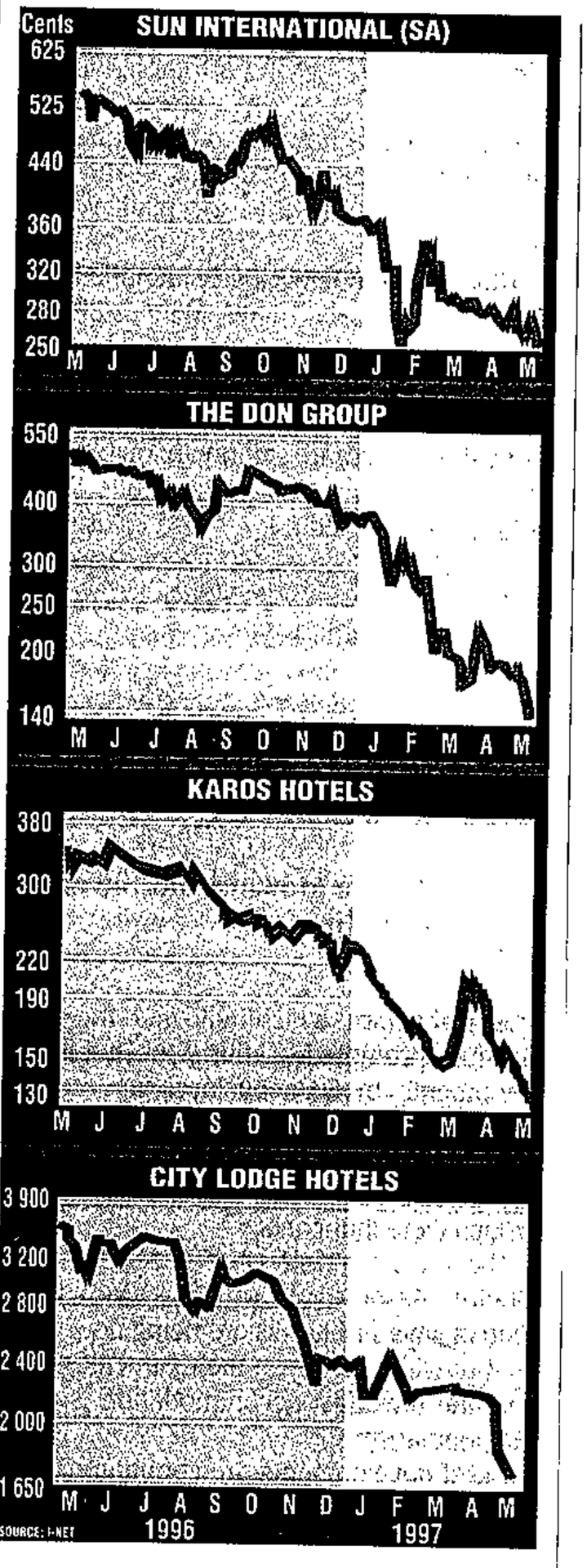
The optimism which followed the 1994 election prompted a flurry of hotel developments in SA's business and tourist centres. Despite warnings of saturation — particularly in parts of Johannesburg and Cape Town — chains expanded and new groups were launched.

The pace isn't slowing. Federated Hospitality Association of SA head Deon Viljoen says 115 hotels are being developed countrywide, mostly in the main cities. And bed and breakfast accommodation is gaining popularity.

But if developments are continuing, public enthusiasm isn't, as is evident in the sharp downrating of listed hotel groups. "The market is negative about hotel prospects," says BOE NatWest analyst Sid Vianello. "Expansion has been rapid, prime areas are saturated, tourism is dropping — investors reckon the industry is in trouble."

City Lodge MD Clifford Ross acknowledges profitability is dropping — City Lodge's as well as the rest of the industry. "Competition is increasing as more hotels are built. That is affecting volumes. There is saturation in certain areas of the country. The economy is slowing, hitting business travel. Crime isn't helping. And marketing of SA as a tourist destination has slowed."

The graphs tell the story. Two years ago, hotels — traditionally seen as a seasonal and high-risk industry — were drawing investments from pension funds. The developments were showing strong growth for the first time in years.



Vianello reckons the location of hotels is all-important. "If a group's hotels are predominantly in overtraded areas, then it has a problem in this market. **Cultel**, for example, only has hotels in Sandton (see *Companies*). The area is overtraded.

"That is one of **The Don Group's** difficulties; the other is that the concept of self-catering accommodation hasn't taken off. But City Lodge, which has only four hotels in that area, offers value at its current price. Its hotels are countrywide."

"Occupancies were down two percentage points to 79% at the interim stage and the softer trend continues," says Ross. "But we are up on industry averages."

Delays in awarding gambling licences have added to negative perceptions of hotel groups that are vying for casinos. **Karos Hotels**, for example, has long been seen as overgeared and a risky investment. Targeting the five-star market doesn't seem to be paying off. But now, as the group awaits the outcome of casino licence bids, the risk is growing. And, say many in the industry, top-of-the-range hotels are suffering more than the rest.

Both factors are also affecting **Sun International**. "I wouldn't advocate a stake in Sun International until the gaming industry settles down," says Vianello. Prospects aren't good — resorts are too far from the main metropolitan areas and when licences are awarded the group will face stiff competition, illegal casinos aside.

Sun's most recent share price drop wasn't related to gaming, though. Some investors are nervous about group chairman Khehla Mthembu. He also chairs New Age Beverages, which has just gone into provisional liquidation (see p 76).

Michelle Joubert

SERVICES SECTOR — ACCOMM. LIQUOR & Catering — GENERAL

1997

JUNE — AUG.

Tourism a key industry in future

Sowetan 2/6/97 (288)

By Isaac Moledi

TOURISM occupies a central place in the Government's plans for sustained growth and development, President Nelson Mandela said in Cape Town at the weekend.

"And as the year 2004 approaches, the eyes of the world are increasingly turning to Cape Town, not only as a fashionable tourist destination, but as a possible host to Africa's first Olympic Games," Mandela added.

Opening the Table Bay Hotel on Friday evening, the President said the hotel marked not only the "addition of a major asset to our national tourism infrastructure," but also represented a substantial commitment to community empowerment and black economic development.

With half its equity owned by black shareholders and investment opportunities for nearly 20 000 previously disadvantaged small investors, Mandela said the establishment of the hotel would promote a community stake in a rapidly growing sector of the economy.



President Nelson Mandela holds hands with his companion, Graca Machel, at the opening of the Table Bay Hotel in Cape Town on Friday. In his speech, Mandela said that tourism could create over 800 000 jobs in South Africa by the year 2000.
PIC: AP

Enter the economy

"Likewise, the company's procurement and tendering policies, in line with the Government thinking, will assist newly-established black business to enter the mainstream economy for the first time."

Mandela said the tourism industry was a powerful engine for job-creation, economic revival and would generate much-needed foreign currency.

He said the Government was creating an environment that would make South Africa an attractive option for domestic and foreign tourism operations.

But, he argued, it was up to the industry itself to stimulate the markets, develop the infrastructure, and create the tourism-friendly conditions that would make South Africa globally competitive.

Mandela said that the Government was convinced that tourism could earn as much as R20 billion a year in foreign exchange and create over 800 000 employment opportunities by the year 2000.

He added that the tourist sector's contribution to the Gross Domestic Product would increase significantly.

"If we strive for these targets with the participation of affected communities, and if we do so with respect for our natural environment, then tourism will be a vital force for the sustainable development of our country," argued Mandela.

"Our long history of oppression and enforced separation has created an immense backlog of social and development needs.

"Our first democratic Government has also inherited a massive debt which consumes resources and reduces the pace at which these needs can be fully addressed," Mandela added.

Bold expression

He said the hotel investment, together with the contribution to redressing the historical imbalances within the private sector by including blacks in the bid, were a bold expression of commercial confidence in the future of South Africa, an example to be emulated by other South African corporations.

By boosting the chances of Cape Town becoming the venue of the 2004 Olympic Games, Mandela said the hotel was also promoting a victory for the entire African continent.

Tourism can boost coffers by R20bn — Mandela

Samantha Sharpe (288)

CAPE TOWN — Tourism could boost SA's foreign exchange coffers by R20bn and create more than 800 000 jobs by 2000, providing a critical piece to government's macroeconomic strategy, President Nelson Mandela said at the weekend.

Speaking at the official launch of the new R260m Table Bay Hotel in Cape Town, Mandela said the contribution from the tourism sector to SA's gross domestic product would increase from 4,5% to 8% by the turn of the century.

"As we set out on the path of sustained growth and development, tourism occupies a central place in our plans.

"And as 2004 approaches, the eyes of the world are increasingly turning to Cape Town, not only as a newly fashionable tourism destination, but as a possible host to Africa's first Olympic Games," said Mandela.

"Provided that we strive for these targets with the participation of affected communities, provided that we do so with respect for the natural environment, then tourism will be a vital force for the sustainable development of our country."

The Olympic Bid Company announced at the weekend that it had procured an additional R500 000 in corporate sponsorship from Wooltru subsidiary Woolworths, bringing total corporate sponsorship so far to R85m.

Bid Company financial director Michael Fuller said while this was still short of the company's budget requirements, it was an indication that progress was being made in the search for additional funding.

Olympic Bid Company CE Chris Ball, speaking of the visits to SA so far by International Olympic Committee members, said these were going well, with Cape Town making an "extraordinary impact" on the touring members. "People are beginning to understand the ease of our plan and that we can deliver what is required in 2004."

BD 2/6/97

Bidco helps staff in job hunt

ET 2/6/97 (288)

DAN SIMON
TOURISM WRITER

THE Cape Town Olympic Bid Company (Bidco) is assisting staff to find new jobs as the countdown in the race for the 2004 Olympic Games gains pace and the number of working days decreases for the 30-odd full-time employees.

In 94 days, in Lausanne, Switzerland, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) will announce the host city for the 2004 Summer Olympics.

The four cities competing with Cape Town to stage the world's top sporting extravaganza are Athens, Buenos Aires, Rome and Stockholm.

Once the IOC announces the host city, on September 5, Bidco as a company will cease to exist — whether or not Cape Town wins the bid — and its employment contracts with staff will be ended.

Mindful of this, Bidco finance and human resources director Mr Michael Fuller has invited a number of employment agencies to address staff on job opportunities after the announcement.

Since the city was shortlisted in March three Bidco employees have already left for new jobs.

The most recent move was by Olympic Bid media manager Mr Paul Johnson, who has taken up a post as communications director for the National Youth Commission in the office of the Deputy President Mr Thabo Mbeki.

Two other staff members who have already left are Olympic Bid marketing head Mr André Krogh, and Mr Brent Walters, who was attached to the community relations department.

Krogh has taken up a consultancy post and Walters is now attached to the provincial department of sport and recreation.

Fuller said media reports had created a perception that staff were leaving Bidco. What was not mentioned, however, was that Bidco was "actively assisting" staff to find jobs.

"I have a moral responsibility to help staff find new employment. It's not a negative factor that people are leaving, but a positive one."

Fuller said working on the damnding bid process had enhanced the skills profiles and opportunities of staff members.

Bidco has received R85 million in corporate sponsorships since its inception two years ago.

On Friday, Woolworths contributed R500 000 to assist the bid process ahead of Cape Town's presentation to IOC members on September 4.

The contribution will be partly in cash and partly clothing, according to Woolworths chairman Mr Syd Muller.

The clothing portion includes dressing officials for two world championships to be hosted by Bidco in Cape Town and dressing the South African delegation that is to make the final presentation to the IOC before it votes for the host city.

We're shooting ourselves in foot, say tourist bosses

(~~152~~) (~~146~~) ARG 3/6/97 (288)

STAFF REPORTERS AND ARGUS CORRESPONDENTS

The Tourism Business Council has lamented the "negative impact" of yesterday's Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) stayaway on industry and on tourists.

And while business and the labour movement are at odds over the success of yesterday's nationwide strike, the national council's chief executive, Michael Farr, said there was "no doubt" this kind of industrial action was to the detriment of tourism businesses and tourists countrywide.

Apart from the direct effect that staff stayaways had on service at hotels and other tourist businesses, visitors could also be indirectly affected by the breakdown of other services such as transport.

Although Cosatu described the stayaway as a victory for workers and claimed more than two million heeded its call, business leaders said the union's figures were wrong and that the strike, to protest against key provisions of the Basic Conditions of Employment Bill, attracted only sporadic observance.

In Cape Town, about 8 000 workers marched through the streets to Parliament.



Long march: Cosatu's Sam Shilowa yesterday

In Johannesburg traffic was severely disrupted in the city centre as roads were closed to enable thousands of marchers to gather at the Library Gardens.

Cosatu secretary-general Sam Shilowa

To page 3

Dispute over Cosatu strike

(288) ARG 3/6/97 (~~152~~) (~~146~~)

From page 1

said more than 250 000 workers attended its national protest rallies but the South African Chamber of Business (Sacob), Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Chamber of Mines said their estimates showed a very poor turnout and that the strike did not bring the Johannesburg city centre to a standstill.

Sacob spokesman Janet Dickman said some companies had a 100 percent stayaway while others had full attendance. Chamber of Mines spokesman Llewellyn Kriel said the impact of the strike on productivity differed from place to place.

"Our perception is that the strike serves to do more harm to the main players than good," said Mr Kriel.

About 5 000 Cosatu supporters marched on the Union Buildings in Pretoria.

The workers took to the streets in protest against certain provisions of the Basic Conditions of Employment Draft Bill.

Cosatu is demanding a 40-hour working week and six months' maternity leave, at least four months of which should be paid.

The Government is proposing an ordinary 45-hour working week, which now ranges from 46 to 68 hours depending on the type of work, and four months' maternity leave, but no agreement has been reached on payment.

Mr Shilowa said: "There will be no agreement in the National Economic Development and Labour Council on the bill unless there is agreement that women should have a right to at least four months' paid maternity leave."

Clothing industry turnover hit, page 16

NEWS

Tourism staff fear jobs will go in new board's shake-up (288)

'Push to clear out old regime'

ARG 3/6/97

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

Staff at the Western Cape Tourism Board offices in Bellville are anxiously awaiting a decision from the newly appointed board about their future in the organisation.

There is widespread uncertainty about how the board's planned restructuring will affect their positions.

An industry source told the Cape Argus that the 16 permanent employees had been put on three months' probation and everybody "from the secretary to the chief executive officer" would have to re-apply for their jobs.

He said there was pressure on the board to "clean out the old regime" and a face-lift was planned to "get rid of the stigma of the old Satour and old South Africa".

It is understood that most permanent employees are Afrikaans-speaking whites.

But board deputy chairman Johan Neethling dismissed concerns and denied that all the jobs would be advertised. "It is an over-reaction," he said. "We inherited the 16 employees and there is a feeling that we need extra hands."

These new posts would be advertised and present employees could apply for them, Dr Neethling added.

Nobody would lose their jobs, but some people could find themselves in "other positions" after a restructuring.

This would only be through negotiation with the employees concerned.

A private company had been involved in evaluating the employees, and these evaluations would be used as guidelines in the restructuring, in terms of which some people could be asked to apply for other jobs after consultation.

"The last thing we need now is to make them unhappy," said Dr Neethling.

He believed that there should be 25 permanent employees, but the board was restricted by a tight budget of about R4-million for this financial year.

The board's first priority would be to appoint a new chief executive, and this position would be discussed this week.

Cape Town gangs are on the game for Olympics bid

Cape Town has received support for its bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games from a highly unexpected source that is ready to put its muscle where its mouth is — the city's top gangsters. Sophie Pons reports

BD 4/6/97 (288)

CAPE TOWN — Rashied Staggie, head of the Hard Livings, sounded more like a rising politician plugging for a seat on the city council than the dreaded leader of one of Cape Town's most powerful gangs.

"The Olympics will create jobs; we support the Olympics," said Staggie in the latest of his increasing press statements and meetings to promote what he calls the "peace initiative".

With an energy that points to unspoken organisational skills -- given the talk that his boys control the regional cocaine trade — he has brought other gang leaders together in a group called the Community Outreach Forum, or Core, to back Cape Town's Olympic bid in the runup to a final choice, probably next September.

Their immediate goal: to improve Cape Town's image.

To do this, Core, like any officially sanctioned committee, signed a "peace manifesto" amid much fanfare in the presence of Chris Ball, president of SA's Olympic Bid Committee.

The gangsters pledged to work together to "reduce crime levels" and "monitor crime trouble spots" in this key port city of more than 776 000.

Core groups the heads of the city's most notorious gangs — the Americans, the Sexy Boys, the Scorpions and a mysterious outfit that calls itself The Firm. They aim to trim down murders, robbery, theft, child prostitution, vandalism, rape and gun smuggling, but "drugs is not a priority", according to William "Ivan" Waldeck, a Core leader.

In a goodwill gesture to show they mean business, Core turned over to police this week two men suspected of raping a retired 82-year-old in the city's Manenberg district, the fiefdom of the Hard Livings.

"Only the gangsters can restore security in the communities" they have terrorised, said Waldeck. A former member of the Americans, he is now a social worker after a 10-year stint in prison for murder. His life was changed there by what he called a "holistic revelation", he said.

He insisted that Core had already reformed about 130 gangs, with more than 80 000 members, that had carved up this city like a pie, each having their own slice to control.

Like Waldeck, Staggie sees gangs as a product of the old apartheid system in which people were pushed into crime to survive, but are ready now to change their ways if the new SA gives them that chance.

Some people have welcomed Core's efforts. Among these is Michael Fuller, finance director for the SA Olympic Bid Committee.

"We support their peace initiative because all legitimate attempts to integrate people should be supported," Fuller said.

Saaliegah Zardad, director of community relations for the Olympic Committee, noted that Core was trying to address one of three concerns listed by the International Olympic Committee for Cape Town's candidacy for the 2004 games: a smooth succession to Nelson Mandela's presidency, infrastructures and crime rates.

"We are not saying they are angels," he said, but "we support all initiatives that can improve the process".

However, not all have taken kindly to the notion of gangsters-turned-vigilantes to police what is the legislative capital of SA.

Irvin Kinnes, chairman of the Western Cape Anti-Crime Forum, which has fought hard to clean up mixed-race districts run down by misery and violence, saw Core as a publicity stunt and warned that any attempt by gangsters to unite was simply "not good".

Local police superintendent John Sterrenberg was sceptical also.

"For the moment, crime is still being perpetrated and there is no significant change. The official position is that police do not talk with gangsters."

A police official, an inspector for anti-organised crime unit, warned that Core was seeking a veneer of "respectability". "A reformed gangster means he becomes more sophisticated. Those who believe them are naive," the police inspector said.

Wilfried Shard, a professor at Cape Town's Institute of Criminolgy, said: "Our reading of the offer is that some of the leaders are ready to make the transition from doing business on the wrong side of the law to doing business within the law."

But, he said, it could mean that SA's gangsters were replacing their former family-orientated structure with "classical networks" to keep up with the competition.

Brian Williams, director of the province's labour department, said either way the gangsters' "peace initiative" had forced a healthy debate and the "gangsters should be given a chance to show their goodwill". — Sapa-AFP.

Upbeat Ackerman says bid win almost certain

'90% sure of a Cape Town victory'

ARG 5/6/97 (28B)

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Supermarket magnate Raymond Ackerman, the key figure in the launch of Cape Town's Olympic bid, is "over 90 percent" sure South Africa will win the Games for 2004.

Mr Ackerman says the main competition will be from Athens and Rome, but feels the city's chances are "extremely strong".

"I would go as far as to say over 90 percent," he said.

His comments appear in an interview with the fortnightly political and economic newsletter Insight, produced by Omega Investment Research.

Mr Ackerman was the chief executive of the first Cape Town bid team. Chris Ball, whom he praises for doing "an outstanding job", took over from him.

Technically, he says, "Cape Town's bid is as good as any other city".

Other strengths are the beauty of Cape Town, the leadership of Nelson Mandela and the fact that Africa has never hosted the Games before.

Weaknesses, he believes, are "merely perceived". There is a perception, for instance, that South Africa "is not economically strong enough to host the Games".

On crime, Mr Ackerman says Los Angeles and Seoul both successfully hosted the Games "and both had crime levels more than equitable to our own".

"I don't see any real weaknesses. I just see that we are going to win," he said.

The economic and social benefits "would be enormous", and the country, and Cape Town, would be "placed on the map forever".

"In quantified terms, we are looking at an inflow of R30-to-R40-billion and 100 000 to 150 000 permanent jobs, besides 12 years of enormous tourism growth. This aside, the Games will bring unity to South Africa one thousand times more powerful than the effect of the Rugby World Cup."

Omega chairman Denis Worrall said Mr Ackerman's opinions should be taken seriously because of his long involvement with, and knowledge of, the Olympics. "It is a signal to all Capetonians to get behind Chris Ball and his team."

Langa catches Olympic fever

Noluyolo Buqa may have been a bit nervous, but her message was self-assured enough.

As the youngest, smallest speaker in the esteemed gathering at the edge of Langa township yesterday – the site of one of eight priority Olympic projects and the scene of a sod-turning ceremony attended by four visiting International Olympic Committee (IOC) members – Noluyolo's voice betrayed her shyness. But there was nothing shy about the sentiment.

"We want you, the IOC, to know that the schools and youth of Cape Town, South Africa and Africa have caught the Olympics fever like never before," the 13-year-old Mokone Public Primary School pupil said.

"And for that reason, we ask you to complete the five rings of the Olympic movement by ensuring Cape Town hosts the 2004 Games on behalf of Africa."

Her sentiments were amplified by others: Western Cape Sports and Recreation Minister Lerumo Kalako, chairperson of the Langa Development Forum's sport desk Mbulelo Msizi, and city councillor John Mokoena.

The message was aimed directly at the four IOC visitors: Lamine Keita of Mali, Willi Kaltschmitt Lujan of Guatemala, Roque Napoleon Munoz Pena of the Dominican Republic and Shagdarjav Magvan of Mongolia, who on September 5 will decide with the rest of their IOC colleagues which of the five short-listed cities will get the Games.

The four IOC members were left in little doubt about how the city's marginalised people – the vast majority – feel about the Olympic bid.

■ The time had come for the rest of Africa to play a stronger role in lobbying for the Cape Town bid, Lamine Keita, the International Olympic Committee member from Mali, said in Langa yesterday. "We must start to run. Now the time has come for all of Africa to participate in the bid," he said. Mr Keita, a French-trained engineer, an ambassador and former government minister, said he was very pleased to be visiting "this beautiful city", and was "very impressed" with what he had seen of the bid team's plans so far.



OBED ZILWA

Lobby: Lamine Keita, centre, Lerumo Kalako and Sam Ramsamy in Langa yesterday

Wake up and help us win Games, SA diplomats urged

Africa envoys doing too little, says IOC man

(288) AAG 5/6/97

South Africa's ambassadors in Africa need a wake-up call if they are to help make sure Cape Town secures the first Olympic Games to be held on the continent.

They are not yet doing enough to promote the bid among fellow Africans.

This is the candid view of Lamine Keita, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) member for Mali and holder of one of the 20 African votes crucial to Cape Town in the September 5 ballot in Lausanne, Switzerland.

This echoes the opinion of another recent African visitor, Jean-Claude Ganga, president of the influential Association of African Olympic Committees of Africa and the IOC member for Congo.

He also singled out the role of ambassadors, cautioning that "the other countries' embassies are already working very hard".

Yesterday, Mr Keita – who is passionate about the Bid's potential to promote development in Africa and reform international perceptions of the continent – made a plea for a more concerted effort to involve the whole of Africa in the bidding.



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

One of the first steps should be to ensure South Africa's ambassadors became more active.

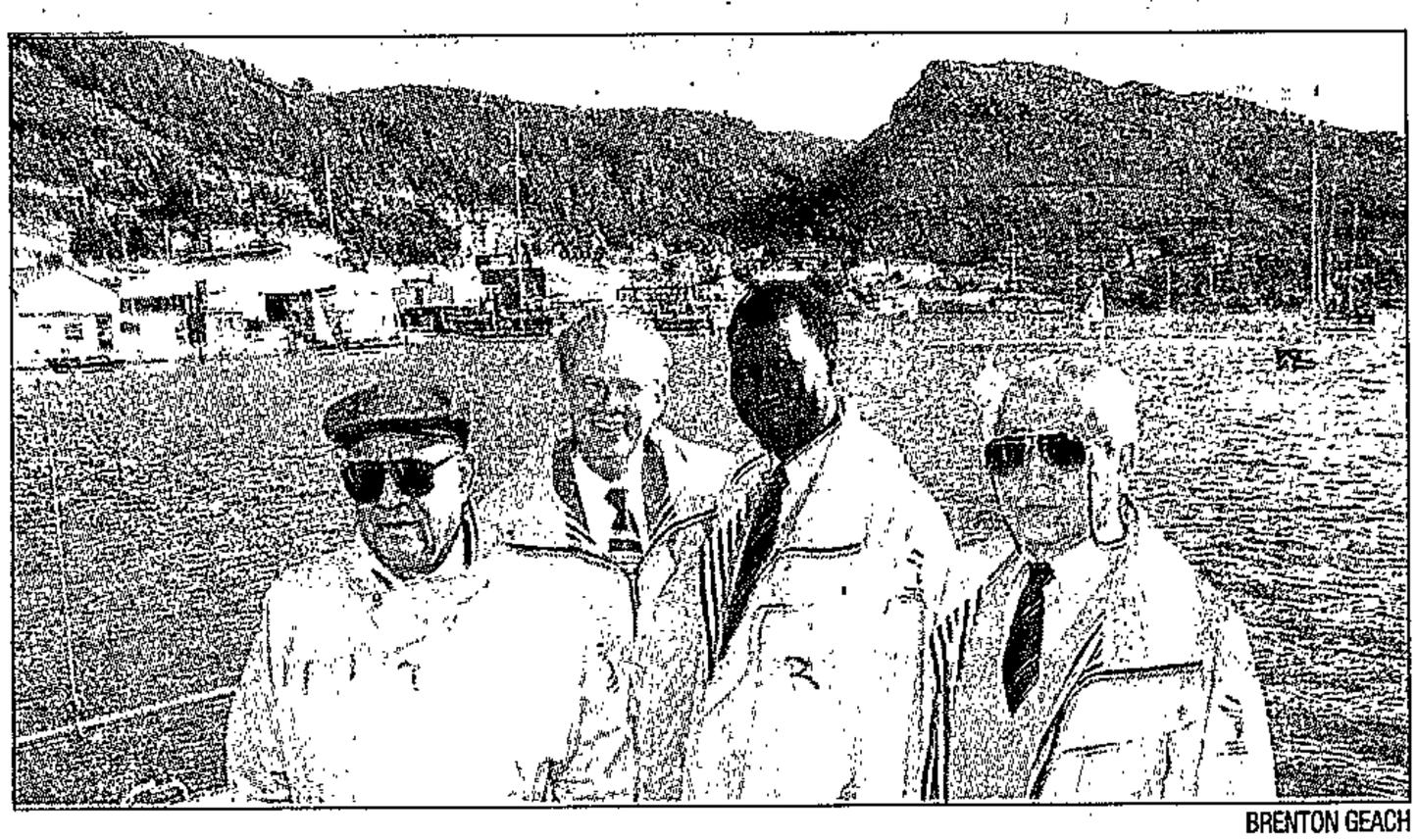
"When I went to Abidjan recently, I should have been contacted by the ambassador. I wasn't. When I went to Dakar to get my visa to come here, I should have been contacted, but I wasn't. These are opportunities that should be used.

"We must push the ambassadors to be more aware of the importance of this bid, and to promote it actively, especially through contacts with African IOC members. They are not playing their role yet, and that is a pity."

It was important to promote the bid among the African IOC members "because they will then extend those explanations to other IOC members ... they all become ambassadors for the bid. This is starting to happen, but we must work harder at it."

Mr Keita, a French-trained engineer, an ambassador and former government minister, said the bid would be immeasurably strengthened if it was seen as an all-Africa effort.

The goal was to secure the Games for Africa, he said.



BRENTON GEACH

Baywatch: the visiting IOC members aboard a naval vessel in Simon's Town harbour

Cape Town bid driven by 'good causes'

(288) ARG 5/16/97

Cape Town's Olympic project is not only technically good, but is driven by "good causes" – and the combination is very appealing, says the visiting International Olympic Committee (IOC) member from Guatemala, Willi Kaltschmitt Lujan.

Speaking during a visit to the proposed Olympic yachting venue at Simon's Town, he said: "The Olympics is not only about having the capacity to host the Games. It is also about having good causes. These alone will not win the race, but the fact is that Cape Town has both these things."

He said he was very impressed with the city, the bid plan and the people of Cape Town.

Earlier in the day, Mr Kaltschmitt Lujan told pupils at the Zonnebloem Nest School in Walmer Estate that the Olympic ideals of bringing people together, of freedom and fair play, were embodied in Nelson Mandela. "What you have today, a new country, a country of equality, is a result of these things. And that's why I think it would be a great place for the Olympics."

Olympic Bid cuts link with gangs

(288)

ARG 6/6/97

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

The Olympic connection with the controversial gangs-for-peace initiative in the Western Cape has ended.

The Cape Town Community Olympic Forum – which is associated with the Bid Company, but operates independently from it – has withdrawn from the initiative, which is now to be monitored and co-ordinated by other organisations as part of a broad anti-crime campaign.

The move comes on the eve of a major People Against Gangsterism and Drugs (Pagad) rally on the Grand Parade on Sunday, and effectively neutralises criticism of the bid on the basis of any association with gangs.

The withdrawal of the Olympic Forum from the so-called Olympic Peace Initiative – now to be referred to as the Peace Initiative – is confirmed in a letter from Bid Company community relations director Saaliegah Zardad to Shariff Khan of Pagad.

Pagad has been threatening to launch a boycott of businesses supporting the bid.

Ms Zardad's letter seeks to defuse tension between the Bid Company and Pagad. She notes that after a meeting of anti-crime groupings in the Western Cape earlier this week, "the co-ordination and monitoring of the Peace Initiative and activities around crime will be managed by groups such as the Community Peace Foundation, an anti-crime NGO.

"The Olympic Forum's involvement in the Peace Initiative, functioning largely as a catalyst, therefore ceases as a result, and community groupings will hereafter manage the process."

She adds: "I need to point out that the Bid Company is committed to an anti-gangs and anti-crime position, and our policy has always been to support all initiatives that are geared towards reducing crime and improving the quality of life within our communities."

The Olympic Forum, the letter says, was established last November to give "grassroots communities" access to the bidding process. Combating crime was "one of the first priorities" identified by the Forum, and the Peace Initiative "should be seen in that context".

The objective was significantly to reduce crime levels and contribute to peace and reconstruction in the Western Cape.

Ms Zardad said the Bid Company had attended the launch of the gangs-for-peace initiative "because we support initiatives aimed at reducing crime".

Sanlam's Games petition, page 5

Sanlam aims for a million signatures on Games petition

Fruit ships to carry message

ARG 6/6/97 (288)

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Insurance giant Sanlam is campaigning to collect a million signatures in support of the Olympic bid, one of several key initiatives planned at home and abroad.

Sanlam will give a R100 000 cash prize to one of the people who has signed the petition when the host city is chosen on September 5

In other important developments:

■ Unifruco will be using 14 cargo ships sailing to foreign ports to spread South Africa's Olympic message.

■ Chris Ball and fellow Bid Company director Deni Madzunya have flown to Europe for a meeting with more than three dozen South African ambassadors and consuls-general to brief them on how to help in the intensifying lobbying programme.

■ All Southern African Development Community member states gave their unanimous support to the bid at a meeting of SADC ministers of sport in Lusaka, asking all African heads of state to endorse the resolution.

The bold initiatives by Sanlam and Unifruco, both in conjunction with the Bid Company, are to be unveiled on Monday.

The Sanlam petition to support the bid is to be opened on Monday morning, along with one for those who do not support it.

The insurance company is to "dress" its headquarters in Olympic flags and banners, and will be handing out bid bumper stickers, and flyers on the advantages of hosting the Games.

Unifruco's initiative, beginning on Monday afternoon, is aimed at taking the Olympic message abroad.

Although it is nearing the end of its export season – which will have seen some 50-million cartons of Cape fruit leaving the country – 14 vessels are still to be loaded.

Each ship will carry a message of goodwill from Cape Town mayor Theresa Solomon, on behalf of the city and the Cape fruit industry, to the mayors of European ports at which the fruit is to be discharged.

Mr Ball and Mr Madzunya will brief all European-based South African heads of mission this weekend on the latest bid developments. The meeting will also be attended by Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo, Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi and Trade and Industry Minister Alec Erwin.

Government support is a key strength of Cape Town's bid, and the bid team is keen to project this. Mr Ball said: "The establishment of a cabinet committee and the involvement of our missions reinforces government commitment.

The bid team has so far hosted more than 20 International Olympic Committee visitors to Cape Town, and expects more than half the 110 voting members to have visited the city before in Lausanne vote.

OLYMPIC GAMES

(288)
FM 6/6/97

Ball running tight ship

Not all downhill as Cape Town's Bid Committee does its sums

The fighting fund for Cape Town's Olympic bid now stands at R86m — leaving a shortfall of R8m. The kitty of R94m is earmarked for marketing, entertaining over 100 IOC members, lobbying and operating costs. The R86m has been raised through local sponsorships.

Bid Committee CE Chris Ball admits a "tight ship" is being run. But, he says, funds have been promised. "Cape Town is the only bid city outside the US which has been financed by the private sector," he says.

Figures presented by the committee show an operating surplus of R1,4bn which includes revenue of R5,6bn and costs of R4,9bn. Once certain costs have been deducted such as maintaining the facilities after the games, paying a portion of the costs of building venues and a transfer from operating surplus to invest in facilities, the surplus of R94m will go into a fund for sports development.

But how set are these figures and what is the risk of them changing should Cape Town win the bid battle? Ball says the risk is low though the figures could change. Set income will come from television contracts of R2,4bn which have already been negotiated and sponsorships of R453m from international sponsors.

Local sponsorships will be negotiated only if Cape Town wins the bid and income from ticket sales could vary. None of the expenses is set but Ball says the budget is conservative.

Capital expenditure of R7,3bn prior to the games will be incurred. Eight new sports venues costing R86m will be built whether the bid is won or not. These will be paid for by a grant from the central government, Ball says, and the private sector, especially by the group which gets the Western Cape casino licence. The building and renovation of all sports venues will cost R1,8bn in total — R610m from the public sector; R415m from the private sector and R775m from the cash flow of the games. The second largest capex cost of R1,1bn will be spent on the Olympic Village which will be used afterwards for housing.

Ball says budgets have been audited by Price Waterhouse and there will be no surprises.

Heather Formby

Olympic forum drops gangs, but Pagad plans protest

'Deal still in place'

ARG 7/8/97 (288)

JULIAN JACOBS
STAFF REPORTER

Pagad is threatening to hold more mass protests at tourist attractions such as Cape Town's V&A Waterfront and International Airport to oppose "the deal" that was struck between the Community Olympic Forum and gangs.

This was in spite of an announcement by the forum, ahead of Pagad's mass rally tomorrow, that it had cut the Olympic connection with the controversial gangs-for-peace initiative. Last night Pagad national secretary Sharief Khan told Saturday Argus that Pagad will go ahead with the rally on the Grand Parade, in spite of the forum's reported withdrawal.

Mr Khan said Pagad believed the original deal struck between the gangs and the forum was still in place. The rally was to protest against the alliance and call for the resignation of members of the executive committee serving on the Olympic Board.

"If our demands are not met we will continue with the mass protests, but we are open for discussions," he said.

He added that Pagad would contact Bid Company community relations director Saaliegah Zardad and discuss their differences with her before tomorrow's rally.

Mr Khan said the organisation was not anti-Olympics, but opposed an Olympic Games in which gangsters and drug dealers were involved.

"We will engage in mass protests at all tourists attractions like the Waterfront and at the airport until the alliance is broken," said Mr Khan.

He said Pagad would not support any Olympic bid built on the "blood of innocent victims of gangsterism and drugs".

In similar demonstrations last year, Achmat Najjaar, a member of People Against Gangsterism And Drugs (Pagad), was killed at the Waterfront. Thirteen supporters were also arrested at the airport during a demonstration. And Pagad members were arrested and several policemen wounded in clashes outside the Bellville Magistrate's Court.

Pagad has condemned the alliance, which is aimed at reducing crime in the runup to the selection, on September 5, of the city to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

At tomorrow's rally, Pagad intends to call for boycotts of businesses supporting the Olympic bid unless the alliance with the gangsters is broken.

Meanwhile, the Community Outreach Forum (Core) said they had reformed and were keeping to their side of the bargain to combat crime. They cited the example of the arrest of two suspects in Manenberg for allegedly raping an 82-year-old woman.

They said they were setting up street committees to monitor criminal activities.

"The Cape Town Olympic Community Forum's peace initiative has reached its projected third phase, where former gangsters have taken to public platforms convincing communities to back the Cape Town 2004 Olympics," said a Community Olympic Forum spokesman.

At a recent meeting attended by about 200 people in Manenberg, Sollie Staggie, brother of Core leader Rashied, said gangsters were now committed to promoting peace in communities.

Ms Zardad said the Bid Company acknowledged the effective role the Cape Town Community Olympic Forum's peace initiative had played in recent weeks.

"The role of the Olympic Forum was to articulate the needs of people at grassroots level and have them support the Olympic bid in the communities," she said.

The Community Olympic Forum operates on a voluntary basis and independently from the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company, with no finances and no fulltime staff. A spokesman said one of the first goals of the Community Olympic Forum peace initiative was to end gang warfare and to convince gangsters to undergo rehabilitation.

Core has signed an agreement to eradicate drugs and the distribution of drugs, but said this would only be done if the Government worked with them.

"Our desire to be respected citizens in our community and country has resulted in our decision to make public our commitment to strive for peace," said Core chairman Ivan Waldeck.

Many guest houses not built to last

Technikon study forecasts casualties if downturn comes

(288) ARG 9/6/97

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

There could be quite a few "casualties" in the Cape Peninsula's booming guest house sector over the next few years, a study by the Cape Technikon tourism research unit has found.

The research project established that the majority of the guest houses in the Peninsula have been in existence for no longer than three years and have not yet experienced a full economic cycle of between five and seven years.

Most of the guest houses have not yet experienced a full downturn in the tourism sector and it is expected that some of them would not survive it, the study has found.

Another problem identified for the industry was that 60 percent of all earnings came from foreigners, which meant that spiralling crime, the "What happens if Mandela dies?" factor and a downturn in the economy could cause the clientele to dry up overnight.



"In such a situation only well-organised and established houses will survive," the researchers reported.

Private guest houses were identified as the biggest part of the formal accommodation sector, accounting for 36,2 percent of all the formal accommodation establishments in the region.

Although a guest house requires a relatively high capital outlay, it is relatively easy to start one, as there are virtually no legalities involved.

The study found that more than 70 percent of all guest houses are either sole proprietors or partnerships and only 23 percent have opted for legal protection as companies or close corporations.

English was the most common business language used by guest house owners, followed by German.

The number of people employed in the industry was estimated at 958, with an additional 252 finding part-time work in the sector.

There are about 3 300 beds available in guest houses in the Peninsula.

During the period of the study – one week in October last year – the average occupancy rate was 51 percent. A profile of 59 guest house owners found the majority to be "no fools", with 52,8 percent boasting a post-matriculation qualification.

Only 32 percent of the guest houses surveyed belonged to the Guest House Association of South Africa, and about 55 percent were members of Captour.

Word of mouth was the most popular promotional method used to advertise guest houses, followed by advertisements in magazines, according to the study.

* 4.4

US legislators back Cape Town's bid for Olympics

Games bill a 'symbolic gesture' for city

(288)
AMG 9/6/97

RICH MKHONDO
FOREIGN SERVICE

Washington – About 38 members of the American Congress are sponsoring a bill to support Cape Town's bid to host the 2004 Olympics.

Calling it an unprecedented but symbolic gesture, the members of House of Representatives – led by Elizabeth Furse of Oregon, Maxine Waters of California, Carrie Meek of Florida, Eddie Bernice Johnson of Texas and 34 others – said they were sponsoring the bill because the Olympic Games had never been held in Africa.

"Cape Town is a modern city with the history, beauty and attractions to keep the world and visitors captivated for years to come – and President Mandela, who serves as the honourary president of the Cape Town 2004 Olympic bid, has endorsed Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Summer Olympic Games.

"We members of the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), support Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Summer Olympic Games," said the bill, which has been referred to the Committee on International Relations for adoption and presentation to the US Congress for a vote before Congress goes on recess at the end of July.

Athens, Rome, Stockholm, Cape Town and Buenos Aires are finalists in the race to host the 2004 Summer Olympics.

The winner will be announced on September 5.

Cape Town and the four other cities were chosen from a record field of 11 candidates. The six cities eliminated from the race were Istanbul; Lille, France; San Juan; Seville, Spain; St Petersburg; and Rio de Janeiro.

The United States did not have a city bidding to host the games.

Atlanta, in the state of Georgia, hosted the Olympic Games last July.

"South Africa ended years of apartheid control in 1994 and elected a government committed to democracy and the national unity of all its citizens," the draft bill said.

"The country continues to promote national reconciliation among all South Africans, and recognises the capacity of sports to unify the nation.

"South Africa has adopted a constitution as the supreme law of the land and in through it guarantees democratic values, social justice, fundamental human rights, and economic opportunities for all."

Although Congress watchers said the bill had no chance of being passed by the Senate because of the strong Greek and Italian lobbies, they said it was a strong psychological and symbolic gesture for South Africa.

"Americans of Greek descent would like to see Athens get the games. Italian Americans prefer Rome." said one analyst.

"Apart from that the bill or resolution (is not binding on) the Olympic bid committee. They will make their own decisions."

Olympic bid breaks ties with gang 'peace drive'

BD 9/6/97 (288)

Samantha Sharpe

CAPE TOWN — The Cape Town 2004 Olympic bid's association with the gangs-for-peace initiative in the Western Cape has ended following the withdrawal of the Cape Town Community Olympic Forum's involvement in the process.

The move preceded yesterday's People Against Gangsterism and Drugs (Pagad) rally in Cape Town. Pagad has threatened to boycott businesses supporting the bid.

The forum, established in November as an independent organisation seeking to involve community stakeholders in the 2004 bid, is highly involved with the bid process. Its departure from the peace initiative effectively clears the bid of any perception of being gang-friendly.

Olympic Bid Company community relations director Saaliegah Zardad said in a letter to Pagad's Shariff Khan that the Bid Company was "committed to antigangs and anticrime and our policy has always been to support all initiatives that are geared towards reducing crime and improving the quality of life within our communities".

While the forum had supported the gangs-for-peace initiative as a "high-impact intervention tool" aimed at mobilising community resources to combat crime — one of the first priorities facing the forum — its catalytic function had been served.

Zardad said the co-ordination and monitoring of the peace initiative and activities around crime would be taken over by several groups, including an anticrime nongovernmental organisation. "The forum's involvement in the peace initiative ... therefore ceases as a result. The Olympic Bid Company concentrates on its own mandate (winning the bid) and is not itself involved in issues of crime prevention," she said.

Linda Ensor reports that at its rally yesterday Pagad threatened a mass boycott of those companies which had sponsored the Olympic Bid Company unless its chief executive and the executive committee resigned with immediate effect.

Pagad national co-ordinator Abdoes-Salaam Ebrahim said in an address to about 800 people at a rally on the Grand Parade yesterday that Chris Ball and his team of "economic gangsters" had to resign because of the so-called peace pact they had reached with Cape Town's drug-dealing gangs.

Sponsoring companies earmarked for boycott if the executive committee refused to play ball included Pick 'n Pay, Telkom, Sun International, Mercedes Benz, Unifruco, Caltex and Nedbank.

Ebrahim said the pact gave credibility and legality to the gangsters and drug dealers. He called for the reinstatement of the death penalty for drug dealers, rapists and murderers, saying "we must kill" anyone who dealt in any way with drugs.

Other speakers argued against holding the 2004 Olympic Games in Cape Town, which had other socio-economic problems which needed to be urgently addressed.

New group lines up with Pagad against Bid

CT 9/6/99 (288)

CYNTHIA VONGAI

THE Stop 2004 Olympic Bid Committee — a new organisation opposed to the city's Olympic Bid — allied itself with Pagad at a rally on the Grand Parade yesterday.

Speaking for Stop 2004, Mr Ivan Abrahams slammed Olympic Bid Company chief executive Mr Chris Ball for his "alliance with drug lords".

It was only for his personal gain that Ball wanted the city to host the Olympics, he claimed.

Abrahams said his organisation and Pagad were opposed to the country's being awarded the 2004 Olympics Games as there were other priorities — like housing for the poor — that the government needed to address before it spent millions of rands on a sporting event.

Criticising the recent alliance between the Olympic Bid company and Core, representing former gangsters, he said it had been "an act of desperation (by Ball) to gain votes for the bid". Their severing of ties had been "a victory for Pagad" and his organisation, Abrahams said.

"Ackerman and Ball see millions of rands and this was the reason behind their alliance with the drug lords.

"If the Games do come, just as Ball is looking for new avenues of profits, so the drug lords will be looking for new avenues to bring their drugs in."

He questioned how the government could consider hosting the Games when it could not control the rising levels of serious and petty crime.

"We ask: How can you spend so much on sport before you address housing?

"Wait 16 years then, after building infrastructure in the country, you can hold the Games — not in 2004.

"If you can't solve crime in the country, how can you spend R7 million in taxpayers' money on a sporting event?"

Mr Cassiem Parker, Pagad co-ordinator, said the reason for calling yesterday's meeting was to ensure that the alliance between the Olympic Bid Company and Core was exposed.

"We, the community, are saying that we reject any alliance with drug lords.

"We do not take kindly to gangsters getting involved in community projects.

"Pressure from organisations such as Pagad has brought the withdrawal of the Bid Company from this alliance," Parker said.

"We reaffirm our position and we want to send a clear message that (gangsters) must not try to fool the community with their agreements."

Dutch put money on SA tourism

CT(BR)9/6/97 (288)

AUDREY D'ANGELO

Cape Town — The Netherlands Board of Tourism, a commercial organisation that invoices the Dutch government and other clients for work done instead of receiving a subsidy, has opened an office in South Africa for the first time.

Hans Cornelissen, the managing director of the board, said the arrangement encouraged initiative and made it necessary for the board to produce results that would justify its charges.

The government was the board's main client, providing 44 percent of its income. The balance was from clients in the travel and tourism industries.

Cornelissen said the tourism industry in Holland had an annual turnover of R100 billion and employed 280 000 people, or one-fifth of the labour force.

Out of 6,5 million foreign visitors every year, only 15 000 came from South Africa. Cornelissen was confident that could be doubled by effective marketing.

He said Holland was one of the cheapest countries in Western Europe for South Africans to visit, despite the weak rand.

Jan Palmer, the Cape manager of KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, said its four flights a week to Johannesburg and Cape Town had good passenger loads, and a fifth flight would be started at the end of this month.

But Palmer said many South African passengers were travelling indirectly to Britain and the US, changing planes at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport without going into the city.



DUTCH TREAT *Michiel van Diggele, the Netherlands Board of Tourism director for intercontinental markets, and Lydie Vellema, who heads the board's new office in Johannesburg*

Michiel van Diggele, the board's director of intercontinental markets, said it planned to interest the travel trade in marketing holidays in the Netherlands.



ROY WIGLEY

Fruitful liaison: Mayor Theresa Solomon hands her Olympic message to skipper of the Winter Moon, Captain Kent Strömborg

Tutu starts million-signature Olympic petition

ARG 10/6/97

(288)

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Archbishop Desmond Tutu has launched the Sanlam Centre/KFM Radio campaign for a million signatures in support of the bid, with a challenge to the public to project the Olympic message into the world, loud and clear.

"If it becomes clear, as I am sure it will, that there is enthusiastic public support in addition to the strong backing from all levels of government, then it will be power to our bid," he said.

Scores of shoppers had signed the petition within an hour of the launch. One of the people who has signed will be awarded a R100 000 cash prize in a draw on September 5, the day on which the International Olympic Committee chooses the host city for the 2004 Games.

The Sanlam Centre in Parow is being dressed in hundreds of Olympic flags and banners in a promotion the organisers say will create the "first Olympic Bid shopping centre" in the Cape Peninsula.

Flyers with five key reasons Cape Town should host the Games will be distributed among people who sign the petition and bumper stickers will be given to every 100th person who signs.

The campaign has the support of all shop owners in the centre.

Cape Town's Olympic bid has support of 38 US congressmen

(288) Star 10/6/97

Large group says its support is a symbolic gesture made to a continent which has never hosted the Games

By Rich Mkhondo
Washington Bureau

A large group of American parliamentarians is sponsoring a bill in the US Congress to support Cape Town's bid to host the 2004 Summer Olympic Games.

Calling it an unprecedented but symbolic gesture, members of the House of Representatives led by Elizabeth Furse of Oregon, Maxine Waters of California, Carrie Meek of Florida, Eddie Bernice Johnson of Texas and 34 others, said they were sponsoring the bill because the Olympic Games have never been held on the African continent even though it has 53 countries and a population of more than 650 million.

"Cape Town is a modern city with a history, beauty and attractions to keep the world and visitors captivated for years to come; and President Nelson Mandela, who serves as the honorary president of the Cape Town 2004 Olympic bid, has endorsed Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Summer Olympic Games.

"We members of the House of Representatives (the senate concurring), support Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Summer Olympic Games," said the bill, which has been referred to the Committee on International Relations for adoption and presentation to the US Congress for a vote before congress go on recess at the end of July.

Athens, Rome, Stockholm, Cape Town and Buenos Aires have been selected as finalists in the race to host the 2004 summer Olympics.

The winner will be selected by the full International Olympic Committee (IOC) on September 5.

Cape Town and the four other cities were chosen from a record field of 11 candidates. The six other cities eliminated were Istanbul (Turkey), Lille, (France), San Juan (Porto Rico), Seville (Spain), St Petersburg (Russia), and Rio de Janeiro (Brazil).

The United States did not have a city bidding to host the games. Atlanta, in the state of Georgia, hosted the Olympic Games last July.

"South Africa ended years of apartheid control in 1994 and elected a government committed to democracy and the national unity of all its citizens.

"The country continues to promote national reconciliation among all South Africans, and recognises the capacity of sport to unify the nation.

"South Africa has adopted a constitution as the supreme law of the land and through it guarantees democratic values, social justice, fundamental human rights, and economic opportunities for all," the draft bill said.

Although US Congress watchers said the bill has no chance of being passed by the senate because of the strong Greek and Italian lobbies, they said it was a strong psychological and symbolic gesture.

"Americans of Greek descent would like to see Athens get the games. Italian Americans prefer Rome. Apart from that the bill or resolution has no binding effect on the Olympic bid committee. They will make their own decisions," one analyst said.

Fruit industry does its bit for city's Games bid

(288) CT 10 16 197

DECIDUOUS fruit from the Western Cape will carry a message of Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games to the rest of the world, Unifruco's international marketing group said yesterday.

Reefer vessels which transport fruit from Cape Town will carry an Olympic bid message from Cape Town's mayor to the mayors of port cities abroad.

Part of the message reads: "The 300 000 workers involved in the fruit industry in South Africa are looking forward to welcoming you to one of the most beautiful parts of the world in 2004."

The first message was handed yesterday to the captain of a fruit ship in Cape Town harbour for the mayor of Sheerness in the UK. — Sapa

IOC men impressed by our Bid

(288)

AR(G 11/6/97

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

International Olympic Committee visitors from France and Switzerland left the city today with a "very positive impression" and certainty about Cape Town's capacity to organise a technically good, secure Games in 2004.

But they made it clear that hosting the Games was an awesome challenge that meant "everyone has to pull in the same direction". Nevertheless, their overall impression was "fantastic".

"This could be a good Olympic city," said French IOC member and chief executive of the Tour de France, Jean-Claude Killy, who also spoke on behalf of his Swiss counterpart, Rene Fasel.

Both Mr Killy and Mr Fasel – who is also president of the International Ice Hockey Federation – became IOC members in 1995.

Mr Killy noted the "professionalism" in the bid team and that the proposal was "compact" and "makes sense, technically".

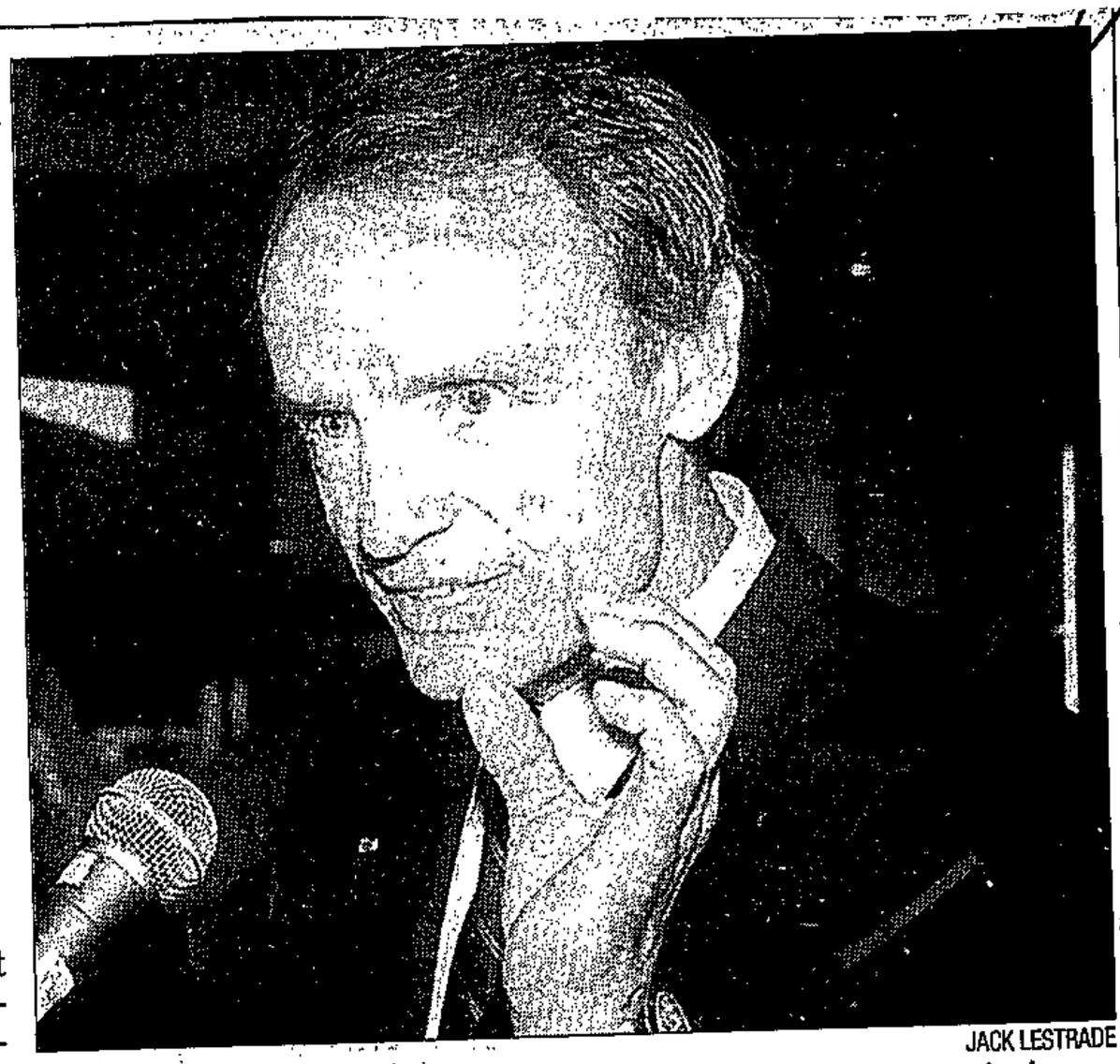
"We came with two concerns," he said. "We wanted to be reassured about your capacity to organise the games and we wanted to be assured that the games would be well secured, that there would be security.

"And, yes, absolutely, those conditions have been met."

He added: "We know there are problems, but what country does not have problems today?"

Asked if Africa's exclusion from hosting the Games so far was a significant factor, Mr Killy replied: "The Olympics is well represented throughout the world. But I think it is important that nobody is left out."

He added: "I expected this city to be exactly what I saw in the Bid Book. But the beauty is absolutely breathtaking. We flew over Cape Point, and it is absolutely magnificent."



JACK LESTRADE

Olympic visitor: French IOC member Jean-Claude Killy in Cape Town yesterday

Games will mark Africa's recovery – Mbeki

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Deputy President Thabo Mbeki says holding the 2004 Olympic Games in Cape Town will signal that the world has agreed the next century will be African.

Such a decision, Mr Mbeki said during his budget speech to the National Assembly yesterday, "will mark the recovery of our continent from an experience of many centuries, some of the distinguishing features of which have been the slave trade, colonial domination and exploitation, apartheid, bad African governance and the identification of what is bad with the colour black".

NEWS

Big business gets stuck into crime war

Olympic bid spurs new project

ARGT 11/6/97 (288)

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

A high-powered Business Against Crime initiative, spurred in part by the Olympic bid, is to be launched in Cape Town today.

The BAC initiative will effectively channel private sector expertise and resources into the anti-crime drive, and is likely to enlist support from all key sectors of the province's economy.

If it follows the pattern established elsewhere, a four-pronged strategy will cover short and long-term objectives – fighting crime; researching and advising the Government on legislative measures; developing initiatives to secure economic upliftment; and steps to achieve community rehabilitation.

Today's launch will be attended by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi, and his Western Cape counterpart, Gerald Morkel.

A Who's Who of prominent city business executives, as well as top city and provincial government officials, will serve on the BAC board. Bid Company chief executive Chris Ball will also be a member of the board.

Crime was highlighted by the International Olympic Committee in March as one of several key concerns about Cape Town's bid.

Although individual IOC members have indicated that they do not consider crime an impediment to the city's Olympic hopes, the bid team has sought to use the Games project to promote strategies aimed at improving security and curbing crime.

John Pemberthy, co-ordinator of the bid team's security task group, and a key figure in the BAC project, said success in fighting crime would depend on measurable strategies to boost policing as well as to tackle the causes of crime.

Highlighting the benefits of business-backed initiatives, he noted: "These are not people who stand on ceremony. They want things done. They ask two things: what's to be done, and when? Their role will be to identify practical steps and find the resources to achieve them."

Mr Pemberthy added: "The bid, the police and the business sector have joined hands to work together.

"Law enforcement will always be the responsibility of the police, but they need help."

Sports plan to attract foreign visitors to SA

(288)

Janet Parker

BD 11/6/97

SA SPORTS Tourism, an international public relations campaign set up to attract foreign visitors, is expected to generate annual foreign exchange income of more than R200m and create 20 000 jobs in the tourism and service industries.

The initiative, launched this week by London-based Parallel Media Group (PMG) and the environmental affairs and tourism department, would capitalise on SA's reputation for competitive sporting excellence, PMG CE David Ciclitira said.

Ciclitira said sports tourism was one of the fastest growing sectors in the global tourism market, and included sporting enthusiasts as well as tourists seeking an active holiday in an exotic location. As a first-world sporting nation, sport was an excellent vehicle to improve its image abroad, he said.

Ciclitira said PMG had been working on the initiative since the Rugby World Cup in 1995 and would focus its campaign on Europe and Asia, via SA Sports Tourism television programming, print media, multimedia and internet websites. The group had formed a partnership with NBC Supersports, which broadcasts to 39 countries in Europe and Asia, he said.

The campaign was initially funded by PMG, but the group was in discussions with two SA conglomerates which have agreed in principle to sponsorship. It was also holding talks with a local tourism group and an international credit card company.

Deputy Environmental Affairs and Tourism Minister Peter Mokaba said "we have often spoken of the need for the SA business community to invest and participate actively with government to create a strong economy. Sports tourism is an example of this philosophy being translated into action."

BRENTON GEACH

nt in glowing technicolour

R1-m boost for bid from private sector

ARG 12/6/97 (288)

The Bid will get a R1-million boost next week through two major contributions from the private sector.

The contributions, each worth R500 000, will be formally handed over on Tuesday. They are being made by business tycoon Christo Wiese and Grinaker Construction.

Grinaker is the key player in the development of the Bellville velodrome – venue for the World Junior Cycling Championships next month. This six-month fast-tracked project is built to Olympic standards.

The latest financial contributions to the bid coincide with a steadily intensifying, and costly, lobbying process.

In addition to visits to Cape Town by International Olympic Committee members, bid officials have embarked on a punishing programme of travel abroad to woo IOC voters.

Captour thrown R1,5-m lifeline

Budget is 'a pittance'

(288)

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

ARG 13/6/97

Captour has been thrown a R1,5-million lifeline by the Cape Town City Council which will enable it to continue marketing the city locally and abroad.

But Captour is still hoping to extend its role beyond the city's borders to form part of a bigger marketing body for the metropolitan area and even the province. It had asked the council for R2-million.

Most of the grant will go towards funding the information bureau at the Tourism Gateway in Adderley Street. The rest will be spent on marketing.

Chief executive Gordon Oliver welcomed the council's decision, but said Captour still had a serious problem with restructuring the local tourism scene.

In terms of the new structure, Captour's role has been reduced to one of six municipal tourism bureaus.

Mr Oliver said Captour's total budget for the coming financial year was R3-million, which was a "pittance" compared with Durban's budget of R10-million. The rest of the funds will come from the private sector and membership fees.

"We are still in a precarious position and we still believe we have a bigger role to play," said Mr Oliver.

Captour had a track record as a big roleplayer in the tourism industry and its previous marketing efforts and status were being undermined. "Cape Town is the magnet and gateway to the rest of the province and it has to be marketed efficiently," said Mr Oliver.

Captour would have a strategic planning meeting later this month where its future role would be discussed. A report would be given to the Captour board in July, after which the way forward would be determined.

Tourism project anchored at the Wild Coast

(285)
M+G (BM) 13-19/6/97

A billion-rand Wild Coast tourism development project must benefit the local communities while being eco-friendly, reports **Craig Bishop**

JUST 30km of coastline separate Port Edward from Mkambati, but as holiday destinations they are oceans apart.

Port Edward is linked to Durban by 200km of flat coastal road allowing easy access for hundreds of thousands of holidaymakers bound for South Coast resorts every summer. Mkambati Nature Reserve lies on one of the world's most dramatic stretches of coastline, but is visited by a just a sprinkling of motorists willing to brave the appalling road from Flagstaff (over 100km inland) and the difficulty of getting a permit from Umtata bureaucrats.

As a result, tourism has never brought significant benefits to communities living on the Wild Coast. Worse, in the policy vacuum created by the dismantling of the former Transkei, these communities looked on helplessly as chiefs and headmen *sold off chunks of priceless communal* coastline to commercial developers for as little as R50 (a "registration fee"), a bottle of brandy and a few sheep.

In a watershed case last June, the Wildlife Society won a supreme court action over 300 illegal holiday cottages and shacks on the Transkei coast. Justice DJ Pickering ruled that the chiefs had no authority to allocate sites and that this had caused "considerable and irreversible damage" to the Transkei coastline.

Meanwhile, some poor communities are fighting for increased access to coastal resources denied them by the creation of nature reserves in the Bantustan era. In the recent past, communities at Cwebe and Dwesa stripped shellfish from 14km of protected coastline in protest against their lack of access to ancestral graves, trees, shellfish, ritual sea water, sand and sea-grass.

Enter the R3-billion Wild Coast Spatial Development Initiative (SDI) — launched last November by the Eastern Cape Department of Economic and Environmental Affairs — which could be the second most significant of its kind after the Maputo Corridor.

Government is inviting the private sector to put forward proposals for the construction of key projects, which will anchor eco-tourism development on four main nodes of the inaccessible coastline between Port Edward and East London: the Dwesa/Cwebe nature reserves, Coffee Bay/Hole in the Wall, Port St Johns and Mkambati.

Estimated SDI expenditure includes R1,8-billion for construction of the toll road from Port Edward to Port St Johns, R500-million to develop 1 222-bed accommodation in the Dwesa/Cwebe reserves and R400-million for electrification and communications. It is hoped a road will be built from the inland town of Idutywa to the coast at Nqabara-Dwesa and that a bridge and road will link Dwesa and Cwebe nature reserves. In addition, R60-million has been set aside for the construction of infrastructure to support private-sector developments.

But, says Eastern Cape nature conservation scientist Jim Feely, the SDI should not be allowed to "ride roughshod over locals".

"Before development can take place, we need to ask who owns Wild Coast land." According to Feely, the SDI is currently focused on areas where land claims are in dispute —10% of the coastline. "We need to find out the value of the land, the economic potential, the terrestrial resources and the marine life to prevent communities from selling their land to developers and then being alienated from their traditional homes."

Wild Coast SDI project manager Vuyo Mahlati agrees, adding that before the SDI can fast-track development in the region and create an investor-friendly environment, serious issues need to be addressed.

"We need clear legislation to give guidance to relations between private sector investors and Wild Coast communities. Communities need to be well informed and need guidance so that they are on an equal footing with private investors."

Research is being carried out by various universities and the Oceanographic Research Institute in the fields of botany, zoology, marine biology, sociology and social anthropology, and this will form a comprehensive database, accessible to SDI project facilitators.

Meanwhile, more than 70 representatives from government environmental agencies, community organisations, universities and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) attended an SDI-linked CoastCare workshop in Umtata last week.

The workshop sought to create a workable programme for generating development research and focused on issues surrounding coastal management, including access to beaches, land-use planning, dune and estuary management, and limits for off-road vehicles.

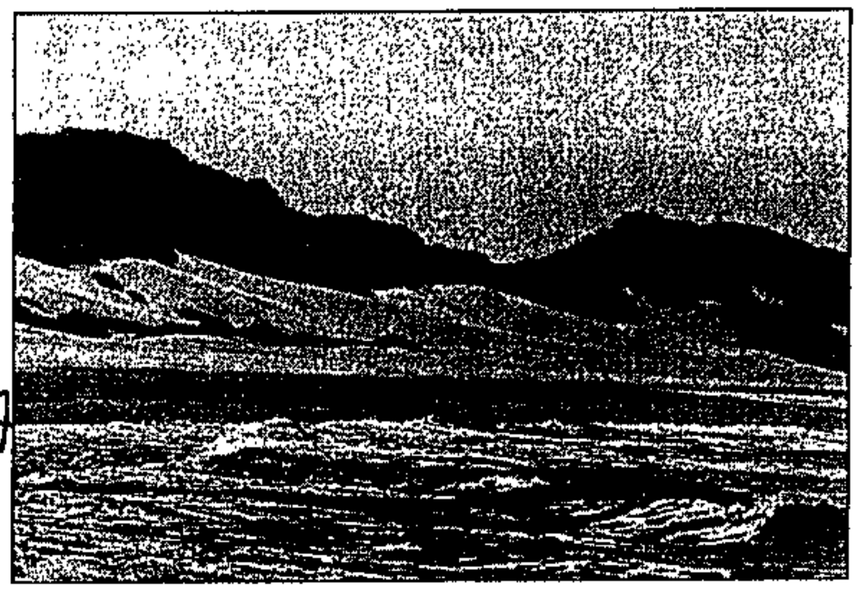
Communities looked on helplessly as chiefs and headmen sold off chunks of priceless communal coastline ... for as little as R50

Workshop facilitator, CoastCare's Hugh Tyrrell, highlighted the importance of utilising already-existing community knowledge in the development process: "Indigenous people have over the years gathered a wealth of knowledge about living with their particular environments.

"Sharing and pooling this indigenous knowledge can lead to a richer understanding all round," said Tyrrell.

However, fears about the potential negative impact of "eco-tourism" on local culture and environment have been raised by Professor Peggy Luzwazi of the University of the Transkei. She recently warned the Parliamentary Committee on Arts, Science, Culture and Technology about a tourist-induced culture of begging, bribery and tips, environmental destruction and the alienation of local communities from their land as they sell it to commercial developers.

In addition, some commentators are concerned about the SDI's ability to balance the priorities of local communities with macro-economic development policy.



Wild Coast: Locals should benefit from tourism PHOTOGRAPH: JUSTIN SHONK

Community Resource Optimisation Programme director Eddy Russell argues that community involvement in SDI planning is not yet happening.

"The SDI have just fielded their team of facilitators, but I am concerned that no detailed assessment has yet been done. Research into issues like the capacity for accommodation in Mkambati should be ready before the Eastern Cape Investors Conference scheduled for October." Highlighting the example of the Port St Johns-Port Edward road, Russell asks if the Department of Transport has the R1,8-billion necessary to construct the road, and whether the toll road will be able to generate the R1-million (30 000 cars a day) necessary to pay off the interest alone.

"Should the department not have the money, there is talk about creating concessions where anchor projects such as at Mkambati will be packaged into the road deal. This will severely lessen the bargaining power of these communities, as they will be part of a package deal, rather than retaining ownership over their own project. And besides, what about the communities outside the anchor projects that are not being focused on?"

SDI task teams have been set up to deal with these concerns. Four teams deal with environment, infrastructure, small businesses and land affairs, and all report to a fifth, the Community Participation Co-ordinating Committee, which aims to place community participation at the heart of the SDI policy.

Various parastatals and NGOs are represented on the task teams, including the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), the Industrial Development Corporation, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research and the Mineral and Energy Policy Centre.

DBSA's Dave Arkwright argues these task teams and parastatals all help to minimise state intervention and government expenditure, although a R200-million Capital Feed Fund has been set up for all eight SDIs across the country should the government decide that it needs to intervene.

"The whole principle of the SDI is to leverage interest from the private sector for underutilised areas with clear development potential. Initial state intervention will show the private sector that government is committed to the SDI, but this must be short-lived. This will leave behind the capacity to continue running the SDI as part of provincial and local government's day-to-day business," says Arkwright.

SOUTH AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY
SATRA

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS ON DETERMINING UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND CONTRIBUTIONS BY LICENSEES IN THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SECTOR

1. BACKGROUND

The Telecommunications Act, Act No. 103 of 1996, calls for the establishment of the Universal Service Fund [Section 65 (1)] made up of contributions by licensees in the telecommunications sector. This fund will be used exclusively to subsidise:

(a) needy persons towards the cost of the provision to or use by them of telecommunications services;

(b) Telkom (during period of exclusivity) and to any other holder of a license which imposes obligations on the holder relating to the extension of its PSTS to areas and communities which are not served or not adequately served by telecommunications services, for the purposes of financing such extension [Section 66 (1) (a) and (b) of Act].

Section 67 (2) calls for SATRA to:

(a) prescribe the basis and manner of determination of such contributions;

(b) prescribe the dates when such contributions shall become payable and the manner in which they shall be paid.

2. OBJECTIVES OF CONSULTANCY

2.1 To come up with a formula to be used to determine the Universal Service Fund Contributions by the various licensees, as well as when and how these should be paid.

2.2 To determine who among service providers [Section 66 (1) (b) of the Act] shall make applications for subsidies, how and what criteria is to be used to pay out.

2.3 How to apportion the Fund amongst the two areas of subsidy mentioned above.

2.4 To assist SATRA through public consultations on findings from 2.1 above to the point of the adoption of the formula for determining USF contributions.

3. SPECIFICATIONS

3.1 The formula has to be scientific, fair and equitable across the various licensees.

3.2 Implementation of formula to be transparent and easy to understand.

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CONSULTANTS

The Consultant(s) should:

4.1 make explicit in their response the methodology to be used in determining the abovementioned objectives;

4.2 estimate the amount of time needed to complete the task;

4.3 itemise the anticipated costs to the Consultants;

4.4 clearly indicate the relevant experience acquired to date;

4.5 be prepared to report in writing to Council and making oral presentations regularly at times to be specified in the contract of appointment;

4.6 agree not to disclose any information of a confidential nature that has been obtained in the course of the Consultancy;

4.7 some kind of skills transfer to SATRA and or to the previously disadvantaged will be an added advantage.

Proposals should be sent to Ms Ronelle Barnwell at fax number (011) 448-2499 by Monday, June 30, 1997. Enquiries, tel: (011) 448-2482. ADCOM GRAPHICS 3029

Chris Ball cuts short globetrotting to face Olympic Bid shake-up

By LINDA RULASHE

GOVERNMENT this week excuted a major shake-up of the Cape Town Olympic Games Bid Committee.

In a move viewed as a last-ditch effort to revive the bid – which has three months to go before the announcement of the winning city on September 5 – Cabinet has clamped down on the role of bid chief executive officer Chris Ball.

The decision to sideline Ball, who was lobbying in Italy – home of one of the candidate cities, Rome – was taken by the Olympic Cabinet Committee on Tuesday.

☐ City Press has learnt that Ball has cut short his overseas trip as a result of the developments.

☐ Cabinet ministers with executive powers have been seconded to the Bid Committee's offices in the Mother City because of the bid's "negative vibes" in recent months.

According to recent surveys abroad, Cape Town is lying third behind top contenders Rome (Italy) and Athens (Greece). Other candidates are Buenos Aires (Argentina) and Stockholm (Sweden).

Steve Tshwete, minister of Sport, said the decision to beef up the bid was taken at a meeting of the Olympic cabinet committee on Tuesday.

The bid's media budget has been pepped up with R500 000 from overseas companies and a national roadshow is also in the pipeline.

Sam Ramsamy (National Olympic Committee of South Africa president), Mojanku Gumbi (Deputy President Thabo Mbeki's legal adviser) and Phumzile Ngcuka (Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry), will vet all decisions made by the bid committee.

High-profile black business and civic people will also be seconded to the bid effort this week.

After lengthy discussions with Tshwete, Ramsamy said: "We decided a complementary organ was needed if we were to put on a good show."

Gumbi said plenty of work had already been put into the bid and many problems had been addressed.

Other Olympic cabinet committee members are: Professor Kader Asmal, Derrick Hanekom , Jeff Radebe, Essop Pahad , Aziz Pahad , Thoko Msane-Didiza, Pennuel Maduna and Lionel Mtshali.

☐ Tshwete said: "We need to know who is being lobbied and from which countries. Overseas trips also be scrutinised and if delegations are too large, they will have to be reduced.

"We are investing R9 million into this bid and there has to be direct involvement of national and provincial government."

Ball would also have to spend more time at home, "perfecting the technical side of the bid committee".

☐ The minister said cabinet had decided the bid needed the more visible participation of black people because Africans in the Olympic movement had queried the notion that Cape Town represented the rest of the continent.

"Overseas presentations are said to be by whites and there has been little content from the black people of South Africa," he said.

☐ Criticism of the bid staff's foreign content has been particularly vociferous..

Ball also came under fire from the cabinet committee for his 'excessive' globe-trotting and perceived nepotism in allowing his wife and daughter to work on the bid.

☐ The CEO will meet Gumbi this morning on his arrival back from Italy. He is said to claim that the involvement of his wife is an age-old tradition of the Olympic bid lobbying process.

However, Tshwete said: "People have expressed their indignation at his family's inclusion and we have decided they should never be associated with the bid again.

"It should not be a Ball bid."

But Tshwete said that while the CEO had made a number of "mistakes and blunders", no bid was watertight and Ball was still a "capable man".

"We don't say Chris has failed, in fact he has done a sterling job which has resulted in us being shortlisted.

"He is still at the helm, but he needs some hands on deck.. He should not be steering the ship alone."

The Ball is not in Bid Committee's court

HOTEL INDUSTRY

(285)
FM 13/5/97

Throwing down the red carpet

US group lines up 75 new hotels for southern Africa

Days Inn SA plans to open 75 hotels in southern Africa in the next decade at a cost of R1,5bn.

Parent company Days Inn of America is a division of the US$15bn Hospitality Franchise Systems (HFS), which also owns Avis Rent-a-Car, Resort Condominiums International and Century 21, the world's largest franchised real estate brokerage.

Marketing director Peter Rostron says each hotel will cost an average of R20m to develop — but the company will not invest a cent of its own.

"We are a franchise company. We provide the expertise and the management and find developers and potential franchisees, and arrange the whole package, including finance."

The group's first hotel, of 118 rooms, is being built by Le Roux Construction between Buitengracht and Bree streets in Cape Town, and will open in December. Construction of its second hotel, of 114 rooms, being built by Matrix Projects in Midrand alongside the N1, started in May and is expected to open by March.

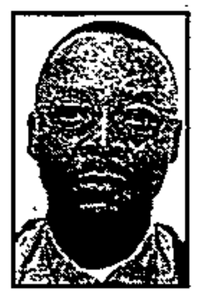
The group is also building a 60-room hotel in Lusaka, Zambia. "We are looking at, and negotiating, about 12 more fairly firm projects," says Rostron.

The group's hotels will be "three-star by Satour standards."

David Pincus

Olympic Bid gone haywire

(288) CP 15/6/97



By VICTOR TSUAI
Sports Editor

WHEN the city of Cape Town made it to the final five candidates for the 2004 Olympic Games in March this year there were wild scenes of celebration.

Now, two months later, the euphoria that greeted the city's breathtaking nod from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) appears to have receded like a mirage.

Cape Town received the thumbs-up from the IOC together with four other strong candidates from an equally tough contest by 11 countries.

The Mother City, whose bid was described as "very well thought out" by the IOC, made it to the last five together with Rome, Stockholm, Buenos Aires and Athens.

With three months left before the selection of the sole and final candidate in September, the Cape Town Olympic Bid seems to have degenerated into organisational shambles and has been widely described as a possible non-starter.

It is no secret that since the formation of the Bid Company two years ago, it has been bedevilled by petty bickering and mistrust among its key players.

Lately, the Bidding Committee's woes have spilled into the open with claims that the committee has failed dismally to promote the bid both internally and internally.

It is an open secret that since Cape Town's inclusion among the final five candidates in March, the Bid Committee has inexplicably withdrawn into a shell and retreated into their fiefdom, the city of Cape Town and its environs.

If anything, the Cape Town Bid seems to be only just that. There seems to be little if no word at all from the committee about the virtues of Cape Town making it as the final candidate city.

The more than 45-million South Africans, who are every bit of the way a sports partisans lot, have been constantly kept in the dark about what is happening.

Olympic experts fear that with Cape Town facing formidable opposition from the four others, with Rome and Stockholm the most serious, the low key profile adopted by the committee in marketing the bid could help torpedo South Africa's challenge.

The fact that Cape Town's bid is considered to be Africa's bid has also added to the urgency to "get the physical chemistry" into play.

Should Cape Town fail in their attempt, the effects of this will be felt far and wide throughout the continent.

The continent of Africa is the only one so far among the five member continents of the Olympic Movement that still has to host the Olympic Games, which started way back in Athens in 1896.

The Olympic Movement completed a century of the games with 1996 Atlanta Centennial Games in Georgia, USA.

Most observers, as well as sympathisers, feel that the IOC owes it to Africa to bring the 2004 Olympics to the continent. They argue that apart from being staunch members of the Olympic Movement, Africa has over the years provided the games with above par opposition and has subsequently become an intergral part of the whole process.

Some of the most notable athletes who have made an indelible impression in the Olympic Games include Ethiopian 10 000m runner Haile Gabreselasie, Mozambique's 400m star Maria Mutale, Zambia's Samuel Matete and Namibia's 100 and 200m sensation Frankie Fredericks.

As recently as last year, South Africa staked its claim among its Africa's Olympic powerhouses by producing an Olympic marathon champion in Josiah Thugwane and swept the boards in the 100m and 200m swimming events through sensational Penny Heyns.

Heyns and Thugwane contributed three gold medals, South Africa's highest since our return to the Olympic in Barcelona in 1992.

These factors, more than anything, have placed more strain on the Cape Town Bidding Committee to win the games for Africa.

The decision this week by the Government to "lift the bid off its feet" by co-opting key cabinet members to the Bid Committee in a concerted effort, is a last-ditch attempt to stymie the lethargy and rot that seems to have set in.

In terms of the new agreement, the powers of Bid Committe chief executive officer Chris Ball will be substantially watered down.

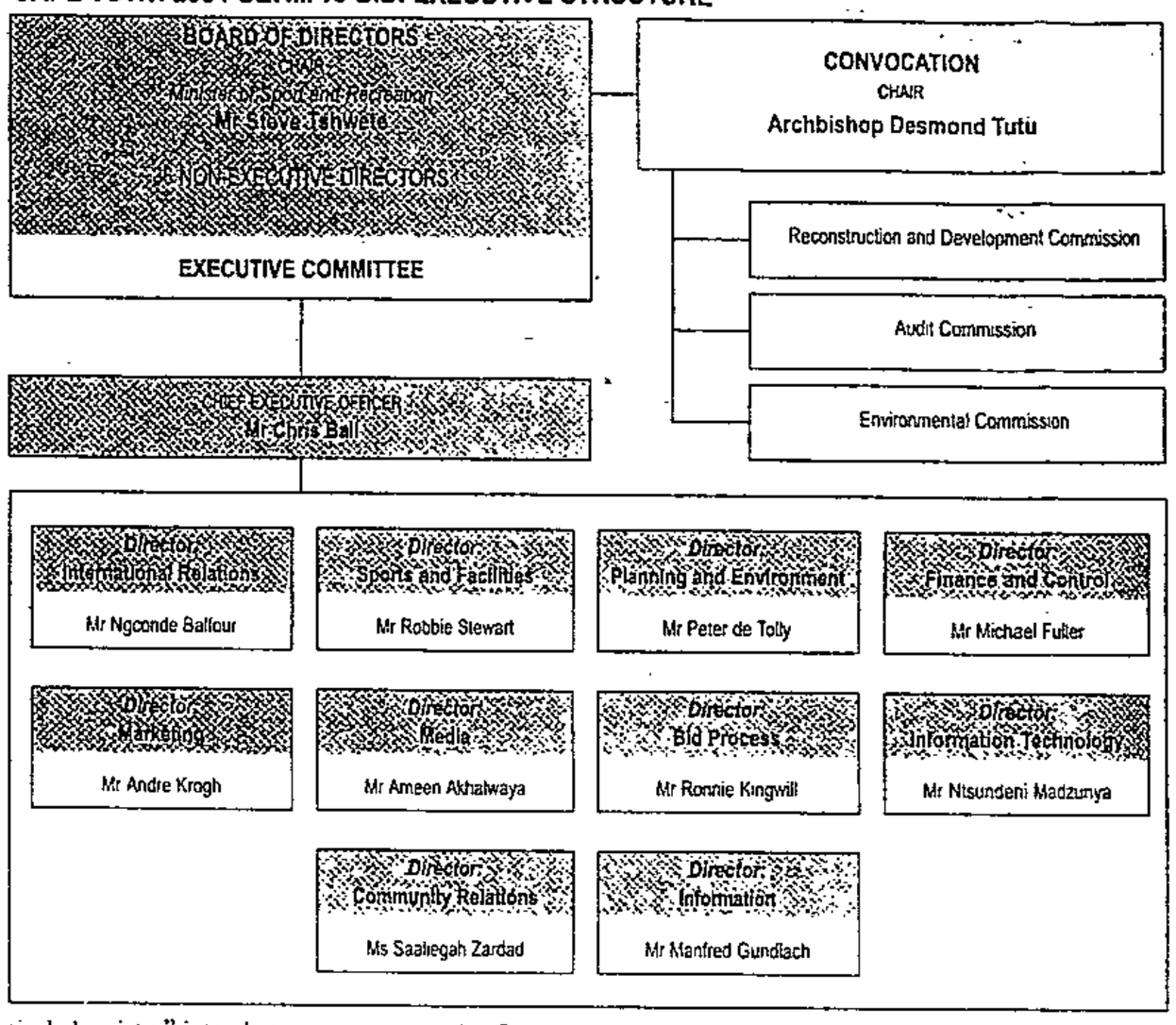
The incumbents, appointed this week by the cabinet committee are Mojanku Gumbi from the office of the Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, Dr Sam Ramsamy and Phumzile Ngcuka, the Minister of Trade and Industry.

Last month a Cape Town Bidding Cabinet Committee consisting of Steve Tshwete, the Minister of Sport and Recreation, Professor Kader Asmal, the Minister of Water Affairs, Penuel Maduna, the Minister of Energy Affairs, Derek Hanekom, the Minister of Agriculture and his deputy Thoko Msane-Didiza, Jeff Radebe, the Minister of Public Works, Aziz Pahad, the deputy minister of foreign Affairs, Lionel Mtshali, the Minister of Arts and Culture, Essop Pahad and Gumbi from Mbeki's office and Ngcuka was put in place.

In another development aimed at maximising Cape Town's bid, part of the committee's public relations task will be moved from Cape Town to Johannesburg. It was announced that a Johannesburg public relations company, Gilian Gamsy International, would handle part of the bid's media work, especially inland.

With barely two months left before the announcement of the final city, it remains to be seen whether the changes would finally secure the games for Cape Town, South Afrca and the continent.

CAPE TOWN 2004 OLYMPIC BID: EXECUTIVE STRUCTURE



CAPE TOWN 2004



BIDDING HEAVYWEIGHT . . . Sports Minister Steve Tshwete.



GOLDEN PRIDE. . . Marathon king Thugwane and ace swimmer Heyns.

Legal aspects in line for Olympics

THE CAPE Town 2004 Organising Committee of the Games (OCOG) will be a company incorporated under the South Africa Companies Act. It will be an autonomous legal entity not for gain, having as its main objective the organising of the Summer Olympic Games in Cape Town in 2004.

Its members and directors will include the South African International Olympic Committee member; the president and the secretary-general of the National Olympic Committee of SA (NOCSA); representatives of the Government of SA, the Cape Metropolitan Council, the city of Cape Town and other municipalities in the Western Cape; representatives of business, labour, environment, cultural, sport and other interest groups.

The chief executive officer will be appointed by the directors. The board of directors will be representative of the society of Cape Town, and of South Africa.

Representatives of the Government, provincial government, city of Cape Town, private sector and NOCSA will ensure continuity bewteen Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid and Cape Town 2004 OCOG.

Mandela's guarantees to the IOC

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela has provided the International Olympic Committee (IOC) with the following covenants:

I, the undersigned, Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, in my capacity as President of the Republic of South Africa, and by virtue of the powers vested in me, do hereby state that my Cabinet and I have carefully considered all the terms of the Olympic Charter and the Host City Contract to be signed in the event of the Bid of the City of Cape Town being successful, which Charter and Contract we will honour and respect.

I confirm that my Government in all respect supports the cadidature of the City of Cape Town to host the games of the XXVIII Olympiad in Cape Town in 2004; understands that all representations, warranties and covenants contained in the City's Cadidature File as well as all other commitments made, either in writing or orally, by the City or NOCSA (National Olympics Committee of SA) to the IOC, shall be binding on the City; guarantees that it shall take all necessary measures to ensure that the City fulfills its obligations completely and guarantees free access to and free movement around the host country for all accredited persons on the basis of a passport (or equivalent document) and the Olympic identity card referred to in the Olympic Charter, together with appropriate executive authorites and in terms of Trade Marks Act, and supported by common law relating to unlawful competition and passing off, is capable of providing adequate and continuing legal protection for the Olympic symbol, the terms "Olympic" and "Olympiad" and the Olympic motto in the name of the IOC.

Should this protection, however, not be to the satisfaction of the IOC, lundertake to promote the legislation of further provisions to the satisfaction of the IOC.

This statement is listed under Theme 19 and the original is supplied in the Appendix for Gurantees.

Tshwete gives Ball red card for 'nepotism'

Olympic bid chief told family must 'disappear'

ST 15/6/97

(288)



TICKED OFF: Chris Ball, who was rapped over the knuckles by a cabinet subcommittee for giving jobs to family members Picture: JOHAN KUUS

CYRIL MADLALA and HENRY LUDSKI

OLYMPIC bid chief Chris Ball was this week hauled over the coals by the Minister of Sport, Steve Tshwete, who levelled charges of nepotism against him for giving his son and daughter jobs at Cape Town's Olympic Bid Company.

On Tuesday, just hours before he left for a Mediterranean Games Council gathering in Bari, Italy to lobby International Olympic Committee members there, Ball was called to Tshwete's office in Cape Town to appear before a powerful cabinet bid subcommittee.

Tshwete, who chairs the subcommittee, said it was put to Ball that the high-profile "presence" of Ball's family was "creating problems" for the bid.

It had to be "discussed and addressed".

Said Tshwete: "We said the family must disappear."

A number of other issues were raised with Ball, including the fact that South Africa's bid to become the first country in Africa to host the Olympic Games was seriously lacking in "African content", he said.

Also at the meeting were Public Works Minister Jeff Radebe, Water Affairs and Forestry Minister Kader Asmal, Agriculture Deputy Minister Thoko Didiza, Trade and Industry Deputy Minister Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki's legal adviser, advocate Mojanku Gumbi.

The charges of nepotism levelled at Ball related to the close involvement of members of his family in the day-to-day running of the bid company, of which he is chief executive officer.

The involvement of young Lucy Ball as the "official" photographer at certain high-profile bid company events and the roping in of his son, Andrew, who is fluent in French, as a translator and an escort for IOC members around the city has long been a bone of contention among sections of the staff.

A bid company insider said this week: "Lucy and Andrew were still there the one day and the next day they were gone."

Tshwete said the committee had also expressed disquiet at the high-profile involvement of non-South Africans in bid presentations, particularly that of the director of Olympic family protocol, Carla Jones, a black American from Atlanta who had joined the company late last year.

The bid company has also been warned to distance itself from politically-sensitive issues, such as its recent involvement with the "reformed" gangster organisation Community Outreach (Core).

Two weeks ago the bid company ended its much-publicised "marriage" with Core, which had been aimed at eradicating crime — identified by the IOC as a major problem in Cape Town's bid — from the city's streets.

But Tshwete emphasised yesterday that the discussion with Ball had been amicable.

He said: "We met here as a cabinet subcommittee to make our observations that these are weaknesses that will compromise us.

"These things have been brought to our attention by international well-wishers.

"It was put to Chris that we have confidence in him. He has got the business acumen and the energy that is required to execute this job.

"He is an appropriate person to do it. His integrity is not being questioned at all. But we need to assist Chris.

"He needs to get the sense that the government at central and provincial levels is fully rallied behind him and when there are mistakes they have to be jointly addressed.

"He understands that, and there is no intention on the part of the government to take over the running of the bid.

"We don't have the expertise to do so."

Ball, speaking from a hotel in Bari on Friday night, dismissed the accusations of nepotism as "nonsense".

He said: "My children didn't get one cent out of doing work on the bid."

However, regarding these and the other accusations that have been levelled against him, a restrained Ball said he was reluctant to comment on anything that could harm the bid.

He said he wanted to win the bid "for the children of Africa", which was his primary focus, and he did not want to divert his attention from trying to attain this goal.

"I have not seen or heard what has been said about what was a confidential meeting to discuss how to win the bid," he said.

He added that he would have to assess the situation when he returned to Cape Town.

"Cape Town stands a very good chance of winning the bid and I don't want to say anything that will kill our chances of hosting the event."

Since the process kicked off more than two years ago, Cape Town's bid has lurched from one damaging controversy to the next.

With less than 90 days to go before the IOC takes its final decision on September 5 on which city will host the 2004 games, the criticism from government quarters could not have come at a worse time.

But it is a standoff that people close to the bid, both inside and outside the Olympic Bid Company, said they had seen coming.

They said it was a known fact that a number of IOC and African Olympic observers had voiced their concern about the "African content" of the bid.

A comment by Ivory Coast IOC representative Louis Guirandou-n'Diaye during a recent visit to Cape Town that the bid needed more black involvement is said to have struck a nerve.

Another of his concerns had been that the value of the bid as an African bid had not been sufficiently driven home, said a person closely involved in the bid.

This concern is believed to have been one of the reasons behind the government's appointment last month of a committee comprising several cabinet ministers to strengthen the bid's lobbying arm.

Another insider said the bid lobbying team had also been "suddenly" changed to include relatively junior black bid staff members.

At the time, Tshwete said there was a "feeling on this continent that we should be far more aggressive and forthright in promoting the bid.

"This is a bid for all of Africa and must be seen (as such) through the people doing the talking.

"The point has been made that this Africanness is not coming through," he said.

Tshwete's committee, seen as a channel of communication between the bid company and the cabinet, has also drawn on the expertise of Mlambo-Ngcuka, Gumbi, MP Ngconde Balfour and National Olympics Committee of South Africa president, Sam Ramsamy.

The bid has exacted a heavy toll on the people driving the process, which has seen the departure of a number of senior bid staff members who have sought new jobs as the September deadline for the bid company to disband draws closer.

General disquiet about the involvement of Ball's children — Lucy, Andrew and another daughter, Joanna, who at one stage also helped out with photographic work — is known to have originated from within the bid company itself.

"It was an issue which certain members of staff last week took up as an issue of concern and this was conveyed to Tshwete," said a person involved with the bid.

This has since been confirmed by an independent source.

However, professional photographers in Cape Town are also known to have voiced concern over the fact that Ball's daughter was allowed unrestricted access to IOC members, which had been denied to press photographers.

"Even if she was doing it on a voluntary basis, it denied an opportunity to other photographers who would have been proud to have had the Olympic job on their resume.

"Obviously he (Ball) trusted his family more than anyone else," said a senior bid official.



BIG STICK: Sports Minister Steve Tshwete, who says Chris Ball was told that his family was creating problems for the bid Picture: JON HRUSA

NEWS

SA beats Kenya in tourism stakes

German travellers are heading for the Western Cape

(288) ARG 16/6/97

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
TOURISM REPORTER

The Western Cape is set to benefit most from the influx of German cash into the country with the news that South Africa has officially overtaken Kenya as the most popular destination south of the Sahara for German travellers.

The Western Cape is apparently at the top of their itineraries.

Statistics from Satour and the Western Cape Tourism Board show that German visitor arrivals in South Africa increased by 20 percent last year, a much bigger growth than the average nine percent increase in overall overseas arrivals registered for 1996.

South Africa's travel trade expects the growth rate to pick up even further this year.

Although Germany is South Africa's second biggest tourism market after the United Kingdom, German travellers stay longer and are bigger spenders.

Friedrich-Carl Bruns, German consul-general in Cape Town, confirmed the Western Cape's popularity is on the increase.

Mr Bruns said people were beginning to realise that the crime situation was not as bad as was reported in the overseas media.

He said large groups of Germans were flocking into the region but the steep prices of inner-city hotels were forcing many to look for cheaper accommodation on the outskirts of the city.

A 1996 Western Cape Tourism Board study found that German travellers to South Africa were looking primarily for "experience-oriented" and active forms of holidays.

German holidaymakers were also fascinated by the country's unique landscapes, wildlife and cultural diversity.

The Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, Table Mountain, the wine route, Cape Point and the Garden Route were the most popular local attractions for German visitors.

The majority of them - 70 percent – stayed in hotels, although many opted for smaller accommodation establishments such as guest houses, self-catering and bed-and-breakfast concerns.

The average time spent in the country was 21 days, of which about eight days were spent in the Cape.

The average German traveller spent about R500 a day or R11 000 a trip, bringing the total expenditure for German visitors to the country to about R1 900 million.

The age groups between 14 and 29 and older than 50 have been targeted for potential future growth of the German travel market.

Reports of Ball meeting 'exaggerated'

CT 16/6/1997 (288)

OWN CORRESPONDENT

JOHANNESBURG: Colleagues of Olympic Bid chief Mr Chris Ball have denied weekend reports that his power has been curtailed and the bid embroiled in controversy.

Olympic Bid Company media director Mr Ameen Akhalwaya said newspaper reports that Ball had been "hauled over the coals" and the government had "clamped down on Ball's role as chief executive officer" were exaggerated.

Ball was called to attend a cabinet bid subcommittee meeting in Minister of Sport Mr Steve Tshwete's office in Cape Town on Tuesday to discuss, among other things, the involvement of family members and the bid's perceived lack of "African content".

Akhalwaya said Ball's son, Andrew, was fluent in French and for this reason had been assigned to show International Olympic Committee officials around. Ball's daughter, Lucy, had taken several scenic photographs that were used in a brochure. She had also taken pictures of IOC officials who had been entertained in Ball's home.

Neither had been paid a cent for their efforts, Akhalwaya said.

In response to criticisms that the bid company was not representative of Africa, Akhalwaya said: "We are being criticised for the lack of blacks involved with the bid. That is understandable and the issue is being addressed."

It was not true that Ball and Tshwete had fallen out. "The minister has largely expressed his support for Ball's efforts to win the bid. (This) seems to have been played down in several of the reports."

Ball is to comment today.

Tourism gets stung by winter's tale

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
TOURISM REPORTER

The winter tourist season in the Western Cape is looking bleak, with a serious drop in hotel and guest house occupancy.

Although the winter months are traditionally quieter, tourism experts have expressed concern that the absence of an aggressive marketing campaign and an oversupply of hotel accommodation are further depressing the market.

Hugh von Zahn, chairman of the Western Cape Tourism Business Council, confirmed that domestic tourism had dropped off and the growth in international tourism was not as strong as it should be.

"This is the winter that counts and I think it is going to be a very cold winter," Mr Von Zahn said.

There was a growing awareness in the industry that marketing efforts "leave a lot to be desired". Mr Von Zahn added: "Everyone is working on a new vision or mission but there is no action. It is all cerebral and we are missing out in the meantime. We need action now."

Satour was restructuring, the Western Cape Tourism Board was struggling to find its feet and Captour and the Regional Tourism Organisation were going their own ways.

"The fragmented and unco-ordinated marketing efforts of these bodies are of concern to the industry."

He expected "casualties" in the guest

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Bleak winter in store for Cape tourism

From page 1

house market this winter, especially among newer establishments which were not yet well connected in terms of marketing.

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Otto Stehlik, executive chairman of Protea Hotels and chairman of the National Hotel Industry Liaison Group, which consists of major hotel groups such as City Lodge, Southern Sun, Holiday Inn, Hilton and Sun International, said there was "a lot of concern" among hoteliers about dropping occupancy levels.

These were "naturally low" during the off season but the numbers had been affected further by the number of new hotels.

Although hotels in the Western Cape still have relatively high occupancy rates compared with those in the rest of the country, the Central Statistical Service says the average room occupancy rate for hotels nationwide dropped 7,4 percentage points to 56,4 percent and the bed rate by nine points to 39,3 percent between March last year and March 1997.

"There has been an 80 percent growth in the availability of hotel accommodation on a year-to-year basis, and the market would virtually have to double to absorb the new rooms," said Mr Stehlik. He believed it would take four to five years for the situation to correct itself, whether or not Cape Town won the race to host the 2004 Games.

Responding to a widespread perception that hotels were pricing themselves out of the market, Mr Stehlik agreed that some were guilty of this but warned against generalisations.

"The industry has to make sure it has the right price structures. That does not mean dropping prices in a panic but a more realistic long-term strategy. We must get our house in order.

"We do need hotels but the development should be planned and should not happen on an ad hoc basis as it does at the moment." He agreed the Western Cape needed a more focused marketing campaign. "The various tourism constituencies should not each be doing their own international marketing," he said.

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Cableway's closure hits tourism hard

ARG 18/6/97

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT AND JERMAINE CRAIG
STAFF REPORTERS

(288)

Thousands of tourists are cancelling visits to Cape Town because they cannot go up Table Mountain.

One German tour operator alone was reported to have recorded thousands of cancellations, an indication of the demand for one of the world's most spectacular views, said John Harrison, Cape Town Aerial Cableway Company managing director.

But he was confident that visitors would be attracted by the new and improved mountain cableway.

When the R80-million upgrade was completed, visitors could expect fewer parking hassles, shorter queues, a smoother and faster ride in high-tech cars, spectacular new look-out spots, a new restaurant and bistro and clearly-designated pathways.

Journalists were taken to the summit by helicopter yesterday in icy conditions to see the progress of the project, and to enjoy a hearty meal in the staff canteen.

About 130 workers are toiling feverishly on the mountain, sometimes in sub-zero conditions, to meet the October deadline for the re-opening.

During their two-week shifts on the summit, the workers sleep in converted containers.

They are lifted onto the mountain by helicopter, but the more energetic among them can earn hard cash by walking up.

For every four workers who walk up, the company pays them the equivalent of what it saves in helicopter fees.

"We have paid out R3 500 since January," said Mr Harrison.

Six new look-out spots surrounded by stone walls and connected by a concrete walkway were under construction, offering unparalleled views of the Mother City.

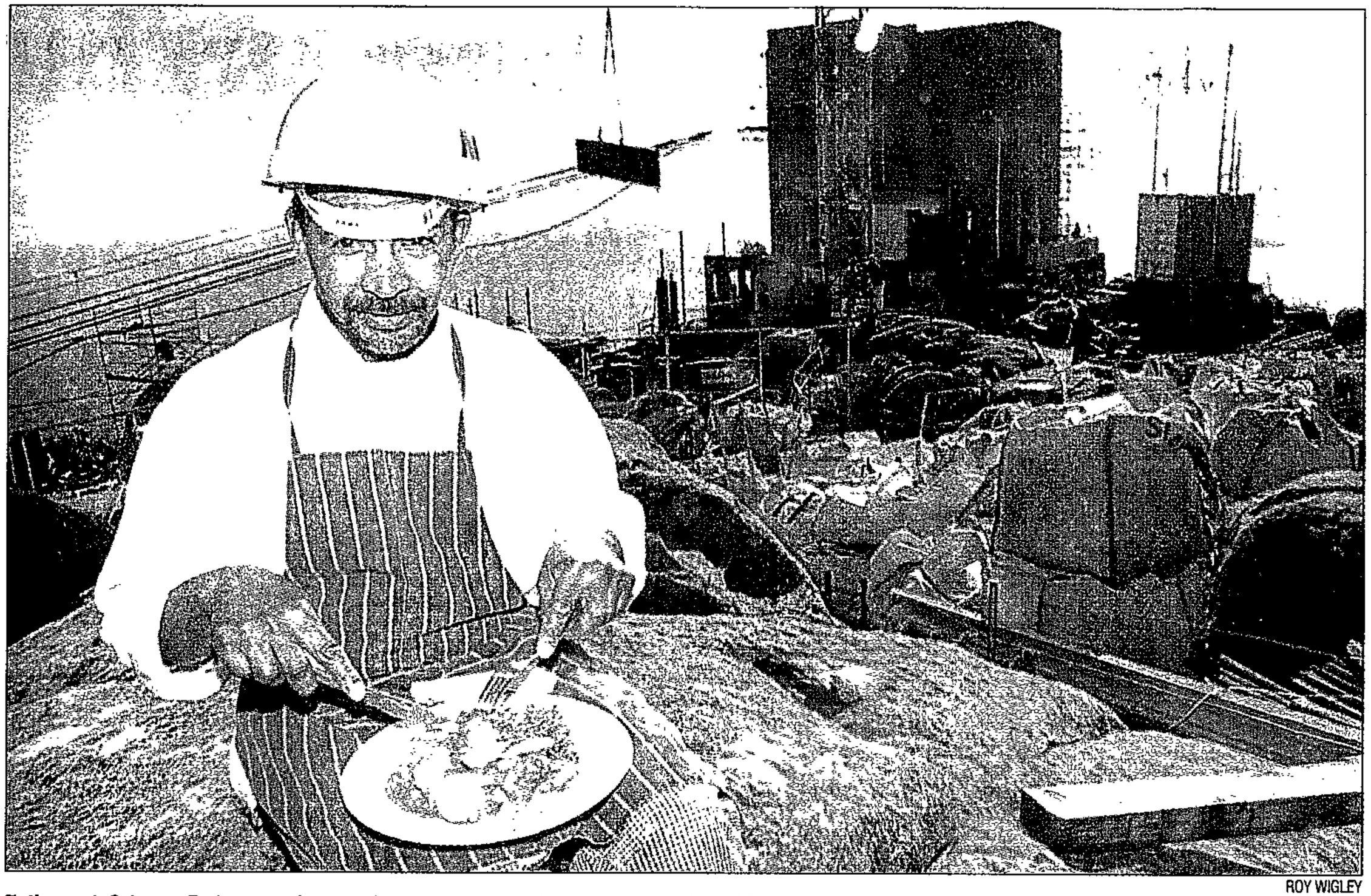
"People want to be closer to the edge, so we bring them to the edge," said Mr Harrison.

Three new pathways would provide easier access to remote parts of the mountain. The user-friendly pathways had been dyed a distinct brown to ensure walkers did not go astray or trample the Fynbos.

Excavations had begun for the U-shaped 140-seater restaurant, which would have stone walls and several glass panels overlooking the city from the west side of the mountain. The existing restaurant is to be turned into a curio shop.

However, Mr Harrison said the new cableway plans had still not yet been officially passed by the city council.

The National Monuments Council has expressed concern about the erection of a 15-metre mast to house 40 aerials of different companies on the roof of the upper station building, including Telkom and the city council. They fear the mast will be visually intrusive, said Mr Harrison.



ROY WIGLEY

Eating out: Solomon Botha, one of the chefs keeping the construction crew on the cableway upgrade happy, takes the *al fresco* concept to new heights

Massive vote against Games dismissed

Community papers' poll 'inaccurate'

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(288)

A huge "no" in the Cape Community Newspapers Olympic poll has been dismissed by the Bid Company as an inherently inaccurate reflection of popular opinion.

It has also noted that 20 000 pro-bid forms collected by the Cape Town Community Olympic Forum, which it claims were handed in at the newspapers' offices, were not reflected in the final tally. The Forum is investigating their omission.

The survey drew 32 200 responses, of which 24 689 (77 percent) were against and 6 879 (21 percent) were in favour.

It also produced some widely divergent results – 80 percent against in Athlone, but 79 percent in favour in Mitchell's Plain, for instance.

A high "yes" vote – 64 percent – was also registered among readers of the Northern Echo, which circulates in Elsies River, Maitland, Bishop Lavis, Kensington and Cravenby, among others.

The survey was conducted through community newspapers distributed across parts of the Cape Flats, the southern suburbs, northern areas, False Bay and the Atlantic seaboard.

Readers were not restricted to submitting only the printed ballot, but were allowed to send photocopies, faxes and e-mail responses. Observers said this exposed the survey to abuse by campaigners.



MICHAEL MORRIS

ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Cape Community Newspapers (CCN) has acknowledged that its poll has no scientific foundation.

One of the survey's main weaknesses is that it excludes virtually the entire African community of the Peninsula, but includes all the well-off white suburbs from which most of the opposition to the bid has come, based largely on fears about an increased rates burden.

The CCN poll follows the pattern of other similar polls – one in the Peninsula Times and an early Argus phone-in poll, which both registered large "no" votes.

In contrast, the Bid Company points out, three independent, scientifically run polls between 1995 and late 1996 showed support ranging from 69 to 81 percent.

A final scientific survey will be conducted in August once the results of an overarching Strategic Environmental Assessment of the bid have been published.

The Bid Company director of community relations, Saaliegah Zardad, said the survey was "an interesting exercise" but, as in the case of a similar poll by the Peninsula Times, "it cannot be considered as an accurate reflection of the true views of the people of Cape Town".

On the other hand, "independent, scientifically based surveys ... by reputable agencies involved in the field have come up with remarkably similar figures. They show support for the bid ranging from 69 percent to 81 percent."

David Hill, editor of Cape Community Newspapers, said: "I suppose with such a big 'no' vote it was predictable the Bid Company would try to dismiss our poll.

"By ignoring the results of our poll they are turning their backs on the views of tens of thousands of Capetonians who do not want the Olympic Games here.

"We have always said that our poll was not scientific. We wanted the community at large to be able to have a say on an issue which will affect their future and the future of the city. Many, many people who feel they have not been properly consulted have thanked us for this opportunity to express their view.

"As for the so-called extra '20 000' votes which were not counted: two men, one wearing a pro-Bid tie and carrying three boxes full of votes, rushed into our offices breathlessly two-and-a-half hours after deadline. They said they had been canvassing schools. Whether their votes were genuine or not, I cannot say. The fact is they missed the deadline."


ATHLONE NEWS

A CAPE NEWSPAPERS PUBLICATION

It's a great big NO!

OLYMPIC VOTE results at a glance

Do you, or do you not, support Cape Town's Bid for the Olympic Games in 2004?

Total votes 32 200

YES 6 879 (21.36%)

NO 24 689 (76.67%)

Spoilt 632 (1.96%)

IF CAPE TOWN wins, it could be a BALLS-UP!

Is it true? this week's front page of one of the 14 Cape Community Newspapers which carried the Bid 'poll'

Bid Company challenges green lobby to get involved

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The Bid Company has thrown down the gauntlet to the green lobby, challenging environmentalists to prove they genuinely want to resolve environmental concerns raised by the bid.

The challenge is made in a hard-hitting letter to Graham Avery, chairman of the Western Cape region of the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa.

Signed by Bid Company director of planning and environment Peter de Tolly and environment specialist Mary-Jane Morris, the letter is in response to Dr Avery's criticism of the bid – and the Government – for what he calls a failure to "provide substantive answers" to convince the public of the economic and environmental soundness of the bid.

Dr Avery also says the Bid Company has signalled "a limited degree of commitment" to environmental concerns through a lack of economic and financial disclosure.

Mr De Tolly and Ms Morris respond: "It is our view that if the society considers itself to be poorly informed about the Olympic Bid, this is a consequence of how it has elected to interact in this project and is itself responsible for its level of knowledge." They say they have offered, verbally and in writing, on several occasions, to discuss the concerns of the society.

■ Disquiet is mounting in the bid team at signs of "one-sidedness" and a lack of professionalism in some of the specialist studies that underpin the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Olympic project.

Bid sources have expressed alarm at the failure of some researchers to familiarise themselves with basic documents on the bid process and plan, and the consequent failure of their reports to cover crucial elements. A presentation on the draft reports of the SEA was to be made to Parliament's environment and tourism portfolio committee early today.



ROY WIGLEY

Grinaker's gift: Olympic Bid Company chief executive Chris Ball receives a cheque for R500 000 from Grinaker Construction chief executive Dean Bomheimer, right, at the Bellville velodrome

Tshwete backs Ball to counter rift speculation

(288) ARG 18/6/97

Sports Minister Steve Tshwete has expressed his fullest confidence in Bid chief executive Chris Ball, in a move to repair damage caused by reports that the Government was at loggerheads with him.

Mr Tshwete and Sam Ramsamy, president of the National Olympic Committee of SA noted: "It is regrettable that (weekend) media reports commented on the voluntary involvement of Mr Ball's family in the bid."

Families of bid officials were involved in hosting visitors, including members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), to ensure the success of the bid, they said.

This damage-limitation exercise suggests that what was apparently meant to be a government attempt to signal to African IOC members that the bid team was not a whites-only outfit, spun out of control and turned into a free-for-all attack on Mr Ball.

Dept: exodus of officials

*33. Mr D K PADIACHEY asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:†

Whether the exodus from his Department of officials with many years of experience is having a negative impact on the work of his Department; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what steps does he envisage to counteract such negative impact? N1458E

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

The Department has administered the severance package process in terms of the conditions determined by the Public Service Commission. In any such situation, be it governmental or non-governmental, the departure of officials could have both a positive and negative impact on the functioning of any institution.

The Department of Foreign Affairs regrets the loss of some of the more experienced cadres. However, relative to the post establishment of the Department, the number of officials whose applications for the severance package has been approved, has neither seriously weakened the establishment nor has it significantly impacted on the work of the Department. Over the past two years, training programmes within the Department have been intensified to counteract possible loss of expertise but more importantly, to address the new challenges in South Africa's regional and international relations.

SABC: funding

*34. Mr M C J VAN SCHALKWYK asked the Minister for Posts, Telecommunications and Broadcasting:†

Whether the Government intends funding the SABC on a greater scale; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? N1459E

The MINISTER FOR POSTS, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND BROADCASTING:

No. Government has not yet taken a decision on the question of funding for the SABC for the current or future financial years. This matter will be considered once the restructuring of SABC has been finalised and with due consideration to the implementation of a clearly defined business plan aimed at achieving a commercially viable broadcaster within the medium term framework of Government expenditure.

*35. Mr N J J VAN R KOORNHOF – Environmental Affairs and Tourism.† [Withdrawn]

SANDF: cases of sexual harassment investigated

*36. Col N G RAMAREMISA asked the Minister of Defence:†

(a) How many cases of sexual harassment did the South African National Defence Force investigate in 1997 and (b)(i) how many of these cases led to court martials and (ii) with what result in each case? N1461E

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

(a) The Military Police of the SA National Defence Force has been called upon to investigate 17 cases of sexual harassment during 1997.

(i) Rape – 3.

(ii) *Crimen injuria* of a sexual nature – 12.

(iii) Indecent assault – 2.

(b) (i) To date four of these investigations have led to trials by court martial. Charges of rape or attempted rape committed within the borders of South Africa, are referred to the civilian criminal courts for trial.

(ii) Results of the four courts martial were:

(aa) One colonel was sentenced to cashiering, however, the Council of Review amended the sentence to reduction in the rank to major.

(bb) One major was sentenced to cashiering. This sentence is still to be reviewed by the Council of Review.

(cc) One major was sentenced to reduction in the rank to captain.

(dd) One colonel was fined R3 000,00.

Environmental ombudsman for SA

*37. Mr N J J VAN R KOORNHOF asked the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism:†

Whether it is the intention to appoint an environmental ombudsman for South Africa; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? N1462E

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM:

The Draft White Paper on Environmental Management Policy, tabled before the Cabinet Committee for Economic Affairs on Wednesday 11 June 1997, does make provision for the setting up of dispute resolution, appeal and review mechanisms, that apply to both intergovernmental disputes as well as appeals against decisions in all spheres of government. It does, however, not specifically refer to an 'environmental ombudsman'. The reason being that this is a framework policy that establishes certain principles, criteria and directives for environmental governance. The details of the government's new integrated environmental management and regulatory system will be worked out further through a comprehensive legal and institutional audit and review, and inter-ministerial and -governmental negotiations. The implementation of these details will be set out in the National Environmental Strategy and Action Plans, inter-governmental agreements and legislative and institutional reform. The intention is that further and thorough investigation needs to be made of the advantages and disadvantages as well as the cost implications of different dispute resolution, appeal and review mechanisms, before government can commit itself to a particular model.

Satour: spending of state funds

*38. Mr J W LE ROUX asked the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism:†

Whether he will give a breakdown of Satour's spending of funds it receives from the State; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? N1463E

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM:

Although the State's contribution to the 1997/98 SATOUR budget is R64 828 m (= 63%), it is not possible to indicate the exact application. Accordingly, the general sources and application of funds is outlined below:

Sources/Income	*Rm*
State contribution (grant)	62 969
State contribution (Forex loss)	1 859
Levy from graded establishments	22 387
Participation fees to shows, workshops, etc.	9 876
Sale of items	2 534
General (VAT reclaim, interest income, etc.)	3 159
Total	R102 784

Application of Funds/Expenditure

Note:

The ratio between overhead and operating costs are:

Administration	:	16,7%
Indirect Marketing	:	33,9%
Direct Marketing	:	49,4%

Application of Funds/Expenditure (Cont)

	R'm	Administration	Indirect Marketing
Administration			
Salaries, wages and allowances	34,669	22,2%	77,8%
Balance Sheet items	2,162	100,0%	0,0%
Other overheads	15,238	47,9%	52,1%
SUBTOTAL	52,069	33,0%	67,0%
Marketing			
Internat. actions			
Public and media relations	5,251		
Advertising	1,225		
Seminars, w/shops, etc.	3,036		
Travel shows	10,296		
Distribution and mail costs	5,714		
Other actions	0,980		
SUB TOTAL	26,502		

	R'm	Admini-stration	Indirect Marketing
Support services: internat. marketing			
Production: printed	11,811		
Research	0,548		
Liaison: Provinces	0,867		
Other costs	2,134		
SUB TOTAL	15,360		
Standards promotion			
Refund: levies	7,413		
Other costs	1,440		
SUB TOTAL	8,853		
Total	50,715		
Marketing Expenditure	102,784		

Legislation on environment: international standards

*39. Mrs A VAN WYK asked the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism:

Whether South African legislation regulating matters with regard to the environment meets international standards; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? N1464E

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM:

No. The Republic, being a developing country, cannot afford all first world standards. However, as the Republic is a member of most of the international conventions relating to environmental management, we are moving in the direction of greater compliance with international standards.

Development projects in Cuba: funding

*40. Dr B L GELDENHUYS asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:†

Whether South Africa is currently financing development projects in Cuba; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? N1465E

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

No. The South African Government is currently not financing development projects in Cuba.

GEAR: macro-economic policy of Government

*41. Dr T G ALANT asked the Minister of Finance:†

(1) Whether GEAR still represents the macro-economic policy of the Government: if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;

(2) whether the Government will be prepared to come to an agreement in regard to GEAR because of the opposition it is encountering from different sources; if so, what are the relevant details? N1456E

The MINISTER OF FINANCE:

(1) GEAR remains the policy of government and the vision that guides its economic policy.

(2) It is the view of government that the policies set out in GEAR continue to represent the best option for South Africa, as the means to implement the reconstruction and development programme. In implementing these policies, there is ongoing interaction within government, particularly through the new MTEF process. And as was seen in the Budget tabled in March this year, the objective is to enhance government spending on social services, which received almost 60% of the non-interest portion of the budget.

There is concern that GDP and employment growth are both lower than projected. The first quarter GDP results for this year are over-influenced by the impact of agriculture. Non-agricultural GDP rose by 1,4%, while manufacturing rose of 3,6%. What we aimed to do was bring about a strong increase in manufacturing out and in exports, and there is growing evidence that this is now beginning to occur.

The latest employment figures have already been discussed, and remain of major concern,

not simply in relation to GEAR but because of the importance job creation has for a growing economy. The approach of GEAR is that employment growth occurs as a result of increased investment. It takes time to build factories and an even longer time for the employment so generated to show up in official statistics.

Moreover, the statistics coming from the October Household Survey indicate a more positive employment trend than the employer-generated series on which the main body of our statistics are based. We are investigating these discrepancies further.

The continued strength of investment should result in employment growth in manufacturing.

But obviously, job creation is multi-faceted and needs the all-round involvement of government, parastatals and the private sector to achieve.

Questions transferred for oral reply in terms of Rule 202:

Funding of research by groups other than Virodene researchers

*1. Dr R RABINOWITZ asked the Minister of Health: [Written Question No. 494.]

(1) Whether she will consider funding research projects by groups other than the Virodene researchers; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so,

(2) whether such groups may approach her directly; if so, on what basis will she decide whether or not to fund their work;

(3) whether she intends continuing the funding related to Virodene research; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, on what grounds will she take a decision in this regard;

(4) whether she will consider changing the requirements laid down by the Interim South African Medical and Dental Council in respect of new drug trials on live humans; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? N784E

The MINISTER OF HEALTH:

(1) We will treat each case on its own merit.

(2), (3) and (4) Fall away.

Register for reflexologists/hypnotherapists/ masseurs/colour therapists

*2. Dr R RABINOWITZ asked the Minister of Health: [Written Question No. 571.]

(1) Whether she has recognised or intends recognising the policy of the Chiropractors, Homeopaths and Allied Health Service Professions Interim Council to open its register to reflexologists, hypnotherapists, masseurs and/or practitioners of colour therapies and other therapies; if so, (a) on what ethical basis and (b) in respect of what levels of training and responsibility will she recognise the various therapies; if not,

(2) whether she has placed a moratorium on the further registration of practitioners; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? N956E

The MINISTER OF HEALTH:

(1) At the Chiropractors, Homeopaths and Allied Health Services Profession Interim Council's meeting held on the 24 May 1997, a decision was made that the register's of Reflexologists, Aromatherapists and Massage Therapists be opened with regards to this matter. A submission will be made by the Council to my Office in due course, they have yet to inform me on the decision.

(a) and (b) Fall away.

(2) No, no moratorium will be placed on further registration of Chiropractors, Homeopaths and ayurvedics because these groups are currently registrable with the Council.

Let's first put our house in order

(288) (1217) CT 18/6/97

WHAT impact would hosting the 2004 Olympic Games have on Cape Town's primary need — housing? **EULALIE STOTT** grapples with the issue.

I AM sure that many of us who believe that our city should not try to host the 2004 Olympics would be delighted to find that our concerns are baseless. For this reason, I believe that answers are needed to some of the questions below.

In the early 1980s Cape Town city's debt from non-payment of rents and services by the lower-income families in its housing estates was about two percent. Since the general election in 1994, about 50% are not paying and in some areas of self-help schemes (such as Tafelsig) about 86% are not paying.

Cape Town municipality is not alone in this; other local authorities are also owed millions of rand. Last year, the national figure given was R6 billion. In the Cape Town metropolitan area it is R1,18bn.

I believe Khayelitsha is costing about R7,4 million per month on services such as clinics, water, sewerage, refuse removal and staff administration, but its income from residents is about R300 000 per month.

In greater Cape Town, the R1,18bn owed is for electricity, water, rates and services. How much of that sum is owed to the Cape Town City Council (who signed the Olympic Bid Book) and for what? Who will pay these amounts? What possibility is there of low-income families paying these arrears and when will it happen?

About R460m is owed.

It is not the council's fault that it has found itself in this situation. At least one local authority is unable to meet next month's bills without an overdraft.

President Nelson Mandela justifiably enjoys international and local acclaim and prestige but, in spite of his repeated requests, the non-payment situation has only worsened in Cape Town since 1993.

The Development Bank of South Africa's financial estimates were submitted to the cabinet for examination. Why have they not been made available to the public? This seems strange. Will the cabinet undertake to fund Cape Town if our city has no funds available to improve the cleansing services and to rectify the present under-funding of maintenance?

Until recently, the Cape Metropolitan Council's income has funded new capital projects (such as a civic hall for Langa) and systematically attended to the storm-water drainage needs of the area, the provision of bulk services on a metropolitan level, the rehabilitation of streets, extensions to cemeteries, water reticulation projects, playing fields, and high-mast lighting. However, since the new substructures may not be viable, R209m of the Cape Metropolitan Council's levy income this year is to be used for the relief of rates in those areas.

I find it totally unacceptable that anyone who is conscious of the need for Cape Town's workers to be housed near the city, should propose that the area between Kensington and Goodwood be used for anything but housing.

Is this sustainable?

It is not surprising, nor a reason for criticism, that the future financial viability of local authorities in the metropolitan areas is uncertain. It is an understandable consequence of the need to re-incorporate the black areas into the city and to restructure former municipalities.

But since the final distribution of debits and credits will not be done until about next year and since there is no certainty that the various local authorities will agree to accept any debts incurred before this year, what will happen to the millions owed to Cape Town? And what will happen if the money is not forthcoming?

For 40 years, I have been well aware that the number one need in Cape Town is houses, houses and houses, and for that reason, I joined the council in 1961 to try to help reduce the housing shortage for all races. I now find it totally unacceptable that anyone who is conscious of the need for Cape Town's workers to be housed near the city, should propose that the area between Kensington and Goodwood be used for anything but housing, namely, three- or four-storey blocks of flats, which will be of benefit to our citizens for 365 days every year.

The Olympic stadium and the rowing canal on the other hand will be an unnecessary luxury after the three-week Olympic period is over. One has only to look at the TV sports programmes to see that, in many instances, the seats at numerous sports stadiums are generally far from fully occupied.

The building programme for the Olympics will possibly exhaust scarce building materials (bricks and cement, for example). This is bound to increase building costs to the disadvantage of homeless workers. Experience in the mid-1970s showed that when there was a shortage of materials, costs increased. (More recently, after the Barcelona Games it was found that house prices more than doubled in the Catalonia region.)

Building a "media" village at Culemborg and a stadium, rowing canal and athletes village at Wingfield to be sold for bout R90 000 a unit will hardly "facilitate the socio-economic development of disadvantaged communities through the housing process".

Present policy decrees that a husband and wife whose joint monthly income is R2 000 qualify for only a R9 500 state housing subsidy. All the "old" waiting-list people are supposedly to be housed by "densification along existing corridors". It is impossible to build flats for R9 500. And it will be impossible for low-income workers to borrow money at 19,5% interest rates. Self-help can hardly be used to build flats.

Those in need of a home may therefore suffer, not benefit, from Cape Town's hosting of the Olympics.

The IOC decides on the distribution of the income from the Games. The host city has to bring into being an "organising committee for the Olympic Games". This organisation is given the income decided upon by the IOC. Apparently, it took 40% of the income from the previous Games but intends taking 50% in future. Is this correct? What is the reason? What percentage will it take in 2004?

Incidentally, the Olympics will benefit the state as it will receive 14% VAT on every building constructed and from every souvenir, Coca-Cola or meal sold.

In August 1996, Mr AD Frazier of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) said: "There's not going to be a big win for anyone. I'll tell you that right now. If there's anything at all, it's going to be very low numbers."

The chairman of the Metropolitan Atlanta Olympic Games Authority said: "The ACOG tends to be more optimistic than we are. We want to see all the numbers before we feel comfortable."

The Cape Times quoted the IOC from Lausanne some time ago as stating that the Atlanta Games had run at a loss. The ACOG had no government safety net. Will the Cape Town Committee have a government safety net? If not, who will cover any losses?

Is it not possible that the city will be in dire financial straits long before 2004, hard-pressed to meet its basic commitments as a local authority? Can the IOC take a chance in 1997 on a city, with such financial problems, hosting the Olympics? Imagine the shame and odium if, ultimately, we are not able to host the Olympics competently.

Dare we take such a risk?

❑ *Eulalie Stott is an alderman of the city of Cape Town.*

BALL DISMISSES SURVEY

2004 Olympic bid: the great divide

(288) CT 19/6/97

THE RESULTS of a Cape Community Newspapers' opinion poll show there is strong opposition to Cape Town hosting the 2004 Olympic Games. **DAN SIMON** reports.

DO Capetonians want the city to stage the 2004 Summer Olympic Games or not?

With only 77 days to go before the International Olympic Committee announces the host city for the 2004 Games, the debate over whether Cape Town should or should not stage the Games rages on.

But what muddies the waters are the conflicting results of scientific opinion polls versus independent opinion polls, conducted since 1995, which have either shown solid support for or fierce opposition against Cape Town hosting the Games.

The results of the latest opinion poll — carried out by Cape Community Newspapers and published this week — show clear opposition to the city hosting the Games.

In a count of 32 200 votes, the "No" vote outweighed the "Yes" vote by a whopping 24 689 (76,6%) to 6 879 (21,3%).

A total of one million ballots were distributed throughout the Peninsula, showing the response to be about 2%.

Even though Olympic Bid chief Mr Chris Ball labelled the results of the latest survey a "meaningless exercise", it nevertheless indicates there is a large anti-bid lobby.

Two other independently organised "straw polls" have also shown public sentiment to be anti-Games. A poll carried out last year by the now defunct Peninsula Times newspaper, and an Argus newspaper phone-in poll, both registered large "No" votes.

However, three scientifically based surveys commissioned by the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company, Business Day newspaper and Independent Newspapers, found that most people sampled were in favour of the Games. Percentage tallies in these polls ranged from 69% (Cape Town only) to 81% nationally.

In reacting to the latest straw poll, Ball said the survey by Cape Community Newspapers was a meaningless exercise as it was "not statistically accurate and was open to manipulation".

"The people who responded are generally those who have the motivation to be negative," said Ball.

"In a similar exercise, Stockholm registered a 90% vote against the (2004) Games; it's the nature of these polls."

Ball said the result was "not a surprise" and in some way the finding was "beneficial" to the city's bid.

"We know what the level of support is (for the bid) in the community," he said.

"This is based on the findings of the (three) scientific polls and the constant feedback we get from a range of people."

He said that when the Bid Company looked into the key issues raised by people with doubts, it was found that these were a result of a lack of information, or an unwillingness on the part of detractors to discuss their concerns.

"Some people say we should not have the Games because we should spend the money on other things," he said.

"But the money we will spend is all new money.

"All the budgets for social services in government are not affected by the bid; the benefits far outweigh the negative issues."

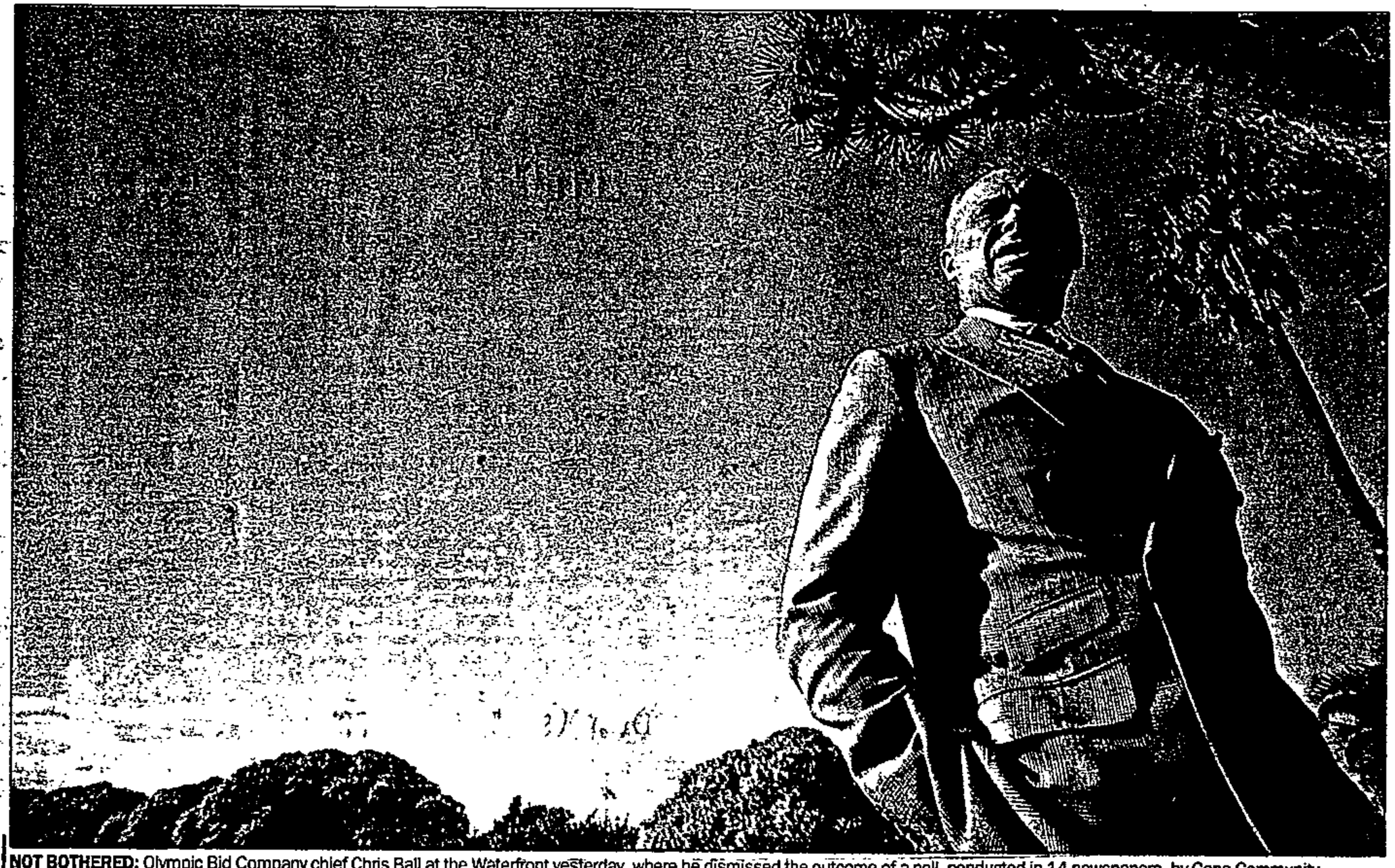
Meanwhile, Sapa reports the bid team will succeed in bringing the 2004 Games to Cape Town only if it has the support of all the peoples of South Africa.

Hosting a media group from Gauteng and Natal newspapers at the new Victoria Junction Hotel, Mr Otto Stehlik, executive chairman of Protea Hospitality Corporation, said it was up to the present generation to prove to the world that something good could come out of Africa.

"Even more important, we are talking about the opportunity to build our nation, we are talking about the unity the Games can bring to South Africa and the pride, the self-respect, sense of responsibility and achievement that can be generated for so many previously disadvantaged people."

The media had a vital role to play in helping the bid team attain its goal, said Stehlik.

He said Protea Hotels wished to "put its money where its mouth is" by contributing R250 000 to the bid team for the specific purpose of bringing representatives of the international, African and Southern African media to Cape Town.



NOT BOTHERED: Olympic Bid Company chief Chris Ball at the Waterfront yesterday, where he dismissed the outcome of a poll, conducted in 14 newspapers, by Cape Community Newspapers. The poll drew 32 300 responses, of which 24 689 (77%) were against and 6 879 (21%) were in favour. *PICTURE: GARTH STEAD*

Poll shows 76,67% of respondents oppose the bid

CT 19/6/97 (288)

ELISSA GOOTMAN

ALTHOUGH the Cape Community Newspapers (CCN) poll was scientifically flawed, it showed strong feelings about whether Cape Town should host the Olympic Games, experts said.

Of the 32 200 votes received, 24 689 (76,67%) declared opposition to Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympics. Favourable votes numbered 6 879 (21,36%), and 632 (1,96%) votes were spoilt.

Professor Lawrence Schlemmer, a director at MarkData, a strategic and commercial research company, said the newspaper poll "cannot estimate the size" of the Olympic opposition.

"In no way is (the poll) scientific," said Professor Johann Louw, head of the UCT Department of Psychology.

However, both Louw and Schlemmer pointed out that an unscientific poll is not an insignificant one.

Based on the poll results, "one can say that there is a significant cluster of opposition to the Olympics", said Schlemmer.

Louw said the poll "is meaningful in that at least 32 000 people in Cape Town felt seriously enough about this issue to send in a ballot paper".

"You can't say it is a scientific survey, but it is something that shows ... you get quite a response against the Olympic bid."

Mr David Hill, editor of CCN, said the poll was never intended to be scientifically sound, but described it as "hugely successful".

"The point is that there is a strong body of people out there who are against the vote; I think if you dismiss the poll, it is an affront to these people," he said.

Report on effect of Games delayed

CT 19/6/97 (286)

MELANIE GOSLING
ENVIRONMENT WRITER

THE definitive report on how hosting the 2004 Olympics will affect Cape Town has been delayed by two months because the Olympic Bid Company did not come up with the money to pay the consultants in time.

The study, called a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), will now be completed on August 11, only 25 days before the International Olympic Committee announces the winning host city.

And the Department of Finance has withheld a macro-economic study it commissioned from the Development Bank of SA (DBSA) — which is believed to include the costs and benefits of hosting the Games — from the public and the consultants doing the SEA.

The DBSA told the Cape Times yesterday that they had had many requests from the public to release the document, and had therefore asked their client, the Department of Finance, if they could release it.

The department had still not given the bank a reply. The Cape Times asked the department yesterday why the DBSA economic report has been kept secret, but has also not received a reply.

The bid company has committed itself to conducting an opinion poll to assess what the public feels about Cape Town's hosting of the Games "one or two weeks" after the release of the SEA in August.

The Olympic Assessment Team, — independent consultants commissioned by the bid company to do the SEA — gave a presentation to the parliamentary environment portfolio committee yesterday.

Several committee members expressed dissatisfaction that the report would be released so late, instead of as scheduled in May. A member said: "If we have a negative report on August 11, what will we be able to do by September 5?"

The consultants, which included Mr David Shandler, Mr Tony Barbour and Mr Bruce Glavovic, told the committee that they shared the committee's concern about the delay.

They said the first phase of the SEA had been financed by the Cape Metropolitan Council, and had been finished in February.

Then there was a delay of two months, when the the bid company — which had undertaken to pay for the remaining three phases — had had difficulty raising money from the private sector, so the work on the SEA was suspended.

Glavovic said the SEA aimed to assess the long-term economic, social and biophysical impacts on the metropole of hosting the Games. "The SEA is meant to assist people to make an informed decision about the consequences of hosting the bid," he said.

The director of the bid company's planning, environment and facilities section, Mr Peter de Tolly, confirmed there had been a hold-up while they "went to look for money", but said the consultants' claim of a two-month delay was "an exaggeration".

The chairman of the Wildlife and Environment Society's Western Cape Region, Dr Graham Avery, has written to bid company chief Mr Chris Ball saying he believes it is "vital" that the DBSA report be made public and given to the SEA consultants.

Baptists may boycott Disney

DALLAS: The Southern Baptist Convention may boycott

EBB & SAV

Games 'will give tourism big lift'

ARG 19/6/97 (288)

A Cape Town Games would give South Africa tourism growth above the world average for 12 years, says Otto Stehlik, executive chairman of Protea Hotels.

"The average annual growth of world tourism is about 3,5 percent. What we have here, with the bid, is the opportunity to increase that (South Africa's tourism growth) to between 8 percent and 12 percent for 12 years," he said.

But if the country was to succeed in achieving this, the bid needed the support of everybody in South Africa.

"The time has come for us all to concentrate our combined efforts on this objective," he said.

Mr Stehlik, who announced that Protea Hotels was contributing R250 000 to the bid team to pay for visits to the city by regional and international journalists, was speaking at a bid briefing yesterday.

The setting, the technical plan and the political backing, coupled with the immense socio-economic benefits, made Cape Town's bid an excellent proposal, he said. "This is a good cause and it deserves our best shot."

Flame that could ignite Africa investment

The planned route of the 2004 Olympic flame through 30 African countries could provide a focus for South African investment in the continent, cabinet ministers have suggested. This could form part of a tangible Olympic commitment to Africa if Cape Town won.

At a media briefing yesterday, Bid Company community relations director Saaliegah Zardad said the Cabinet's Olympic sub-committee had suggested the route on which African athletes would carry the flame from Olympia in Greece to Cape Town would create a logical focus for infrastructural investment. "The thought was that if there was a need for a bridge, say, along this route, this could be the kind of development that would merit South African investment."

SA is urged to back 2004 bid

(288)

David Greybe

BD 19/6/97

CAPE TOWN — With 77 bid days to go, it was time that all of SA stood up and backed Cape Town's bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games, bid committee CEO Chris Ball said yesterday.

The bid was not only for Cape Town but for SA and Africa, and it was an integral part of what Deputy President Thabo Mbeki called the African renaissance, Ball said at a media briefing.

Backing Ball, Protea Hotels executive chairman Otto Stehlik said "the time had come" for everyone in SA to stand together to secure the bid "for Africa, SA and indeed Cape Town".

Stehlik showed Protea Hotels' "commitment" to the bid by his announcement of a R250 000 donation to aid the team to bring local and foreign media to Cape Town.

Stehlik said the Development Bank of Southern Africa had estimated that if Cape Town got the games it would generate at least R30bn in extra gross domestic product up to 2006, lift the tax base about R8,3bn and create at least 100 000 new jobs.

Olympic bid company slams latest survey

(288)

Star 19/6/97

Cape Community Newspapers' tally has been dismissed as inaccurate

OWN CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town – A huge "no" in the Cape Community Newspaper's Olympic vote has been dismissed by the bid company as an inherently inaccurate reflection of popular opinion.

It has also noted that 20 000 pro-bid forms collected by the Cape Town Community Olympic Forum, which it claims were handed in at the newspaper's offices, are not reflected.

The Forum is investigating their omission. The survey drew 32 200 responses, of which 24 689 (77%) were against, and 6 879 (21%) were in favour. It also produced some widely divergent results – 80% against in Athlone, but 79% in favour in Mitchell's Plain, for instance. A high "yes" vote – 64% – was also registered among readers of the Northern Echo, which circulates in Elsie's River, Maitland, Bishop Lavis, Kensington and Cravenby.

The survey was conducted using community newspapers distributed across parts of the Cape Flats, the southern suburbs, northern suburbs, False Bay and the Atlantic seaboard.

Readers were not restricted to submitting only the printed ballot, but were allowed to send photocopies, faxes and e-mail responses. Observers pointed out that this exposed the survey to abuse by campaigners.

Cape Community Newspapers (CCN) has acknowledged that its poll has no scientific foundation. One of the survey's weaknesses is that it excludes virtually the entire black community of the Peninsula, but includes all the well-off white suburbs from which most of the opposition to the bid has come, based largely on fears of increased rates.

The CCN poll follows the pattern of other similar polls – one in the Peninsula Times – and an early Argus phone-in poll, which both registered large "no" votes.

In contrast, the bid company points out, three independent, scientifically-run polls between 1995 and late 1996 showed support ranging from 69% to 81%.

A final scientific survey will be conducted in August once the results of an overarching strategic environmental assessment of the bid have been published.

Business and tourism sources said they were puzzled at the point behind the CCN poll. "Why go to all this trouble when you're admitting that the information is essentially pointless?" asked one.

Degrees 'for sale' should be withdrawn

Star 19/6/97

STAFF REPORTER

(288)

Public Protector Advocate Selby Baqwa has recommended that courses, degrees and diplomas which had been improperly obtained in the University of Zululand "degrees for sale" scam be withdrawn.

In a lengthy report he said about 1 500 changes effected to the academic record of students were investigated by his office and four people had been charged with fraud.

Baqwa said: "I found that 142 students did not validly pass a total of 362 semester courses, although their academic record indicated that they had passed the said courses.

"Fifty-six students validly passed, or obtained credits in 90 courses, and changes effected to their academic record in respect of the latter courses were valid changes.

"Twenty-one degrees, two secondary teacher's diplomas and one University Education Diploma were invalidly conferred on or awarded to students who did not pass all the necessary courses to qualify for such degrees or diplomas; and two students died prior to the commencement of the investigation."

He said many of the students who collaborated in the fraud saw the attainment of a certificate by whatever means as a goal in itself.

Baqwa warned: "Let those who are inclined to commit this kind of fraud, note that there is now a zero tolerance for such activities. Such people shall be routed out wherever and whenever they are found."



Donor display: Nadene de Kock, 15, with bid donors Jan le Roux, Christo Wiese, and Chris de Beer

Games coffers swell by R2,1-m

(288) ARGUS 20/6/97

Bid coffers have been given a R2,1-million boost in the past few days.

The biggest contribution was announced yesterday by business tycoon Christo Wiese at a lunch at his Lanzerac wine estate. The Wiese Family Trust, as well as Pepkor and Boland Bank, each gave R250 000. Mr Wiese is chairman of both Pepkor and Boland Bank.

Other contributions in the past two days include: R570 000 from Standard Bank, R500 000 from Grinaker Construction, R50 000 from Case Construction Equipment and R250 000 from Protea Hotels.

The Standard Bank donation, and part of the sum announced by Mr Wiese yesterday, will help fund the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), an independent assessment commissioned by the Bid Company of the short- and long-term implications of preparing for and hosting the Games.

■ The SEA will assess the impact of the Games on the economy, job creation, nation building, housing, small business, metropolitan demographic trends, urban development, transport, natural resources and sport and recreational facilities.

The study will provide valuable guidance for the hosting phase as well as a base for developing an Environmental Management System for the Games. It is being co-ordinated by a team of independent specialists, and is scheduled to be completed by August 11.

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

MAIL & GUARDIAN
June 20 to 26 1997

Criticism that SA's bid is not African enough lies behind the latest row, write **Julian Drew** and **Stefaans Brümmer**

'Racism' sparked 2004 leak



Anti-Olympic 2004 rally: About 1 000 people listened as Pagad speakers in Cape Town criticised attempts by the bid committee to make peace deals with gangsters PHOTOGRAPH: ERIC MILLER/I-AFRIKA

(288)

THE furore around Cape Town Olympic bid chief Chris Ball's "nepotism" and autocratic style was sparked by outside criticism that the bid is not African enough.

Intervention last week by a Cabinet sub-committee, and a strategic media leak by Minister of Sport and Recreation Steve Tshwete, were intended to send a clear message: the African National Congress-led government is in control and the bid is an African one.

While Cape Town did well to reach the final stage of the 2004 selection process, there has long been a concern that the bid company does not reflect the demographic make-up of the country, particularly at senior management level.

The bid company's — and the government's — attempts to sell the Cape Town bid as a potential victory for all of Africa have only served to emphasise the chasm between intent and reality.

Last year a senior International Olympic Committee (IOC) member from Africa was quoted in *Sport Intern*, a quasi-mouthpiece for sports power-brokers and IOC members published in Germany, as saying: "That is not really a South African bid, and certainly not an African bid, but rather a bid from Cape Town, which is still a stronghold of whites."

Things came to a head in April when Ivory Coast IOC member Louis Guirandou N'Diaye, on a visit to Cape Town, told several people connected to the bid that it was too white. This was a determining factor in the formation of a Cabinet sub-committee in May — chaired by Tshwete and featuring several high-ranking ANC Cabinet ministers — to lobby political support for the bid.

It was this sub-committee which on Tuesday last week "reined in" Ball.

M+G 20-26/6/97

Careful leaks to the Sunday press suggested Ball had been "hauled over the coals" by Tshwete and his sub-committee over the impression that Ball had indulged in nepotism, and over the bid's lack of African content.

Ball was also, according to the reports, warned to stay away from politically sensitive issues such as the bid company's recent endorsement of an anti-crime initiative involving the "reformed" gangster organisation Community Outreach (Core).

Tshwete, whether or not he was the original source of the leak, used the opportunity to emphasise that Ball would no longer be running a white show. "He is still at the helm, but he needs some hands on deck. He should not be steering this ship alone," *City Press* quoted Tshwete as saying.

Ball maintained the media outburst was "a misunderstanding" and "nothing has changed in terms of my decision-making and authority". Upset at the allegations of nepotism (his daughter Lucy had acted as photographer when IOC members visited Cape Town and his son Andrew as an escort to IOC members), Ball said: "Voluntarism is an essential part of Olympism and all the families of people in the bid act as volunteers."

Ball admitted the lack of black people in upper management was a problem. "We have tried hard to get additional senior black people on the bid. That's been a serious topic of discussion between Steve Tshwete, myself and the government for the past 18 months and I think it has become an issue that is being resolved [by the sub-committee]."

By Tuesday, it was clear the Tshwete media intervention had partially backfired when he and National Olympic Committee president Sam Ramsamy issued a joint statement saying that the weekend's reports on the voluntary involvement of Ball's family were regrettable.



Chris Ball: 'Should not be steering the ship alone' PHOTOGRAPH: RODGER BOSCH

Although Ball's management style and personality have long caused unease in bid circles, both Tshwete and Ramsamy remain publicly committed to his leadership. "It's a very difficult job and he has had to stay very focused. On the balance, he's done an extremely good job," Ramsamy said.

Ball has been accused of being autocratic and a "control freak", but it may well be that it is these traits which have seen the bid progress as far as it has. Such perceptions are exacerbated by Ball's austere and conservative banking background, which is at odds with the consultative approach of some bid participants' "struggle" background.

Said Ball: "You've got 10 important decisions to make every day. You can't afford the luxury of walking around and going through committees. You've got to get the job done."

While Ball successfully fended off the nepotism charges, questions remain about some of his appointments.

One of his first appointments in 1995 was that of sports marketing firm API to handle marketing for the bid. API's then MD, Stewart Banner, is the father of Ian Banner, a business associate of Ball's during his London days. Like many other contracts, the bid company did not put the work out to tender.

Said one bid insider: "Priority jobs are always given to people trusted as peers by Ball ... which has caused damage to the bid."

Replied Ball: "You look around and you find where the real talents are, and if somebody comes to you and says, 'These are the unquestioned talents,' you use them."

Many factors, including Ball's abrasive style and perceptions that there is no real commitment to some of the black empowerment clauses in the bid charter, has led to an exodus of key personnel.

"The sad thing is that the really passionate people have thrown in the towel and now the only people left are the 'Yes Chris, no Chris, anything you say Chris' kind of people," said a professional associated with the bid.

Ball's judgment has also been questioned on occasion; for example, when he caused outrage in Rome with remarks about Rome using "dirty tricks" against Cape Town.

A similar *faux pas* was his endorsement of the Olympic Peace Initiative with Core. Designed to reassure the IOC that something was being done about crime, it backfired and was later, embarrassingly, dropped.

To what extent the latest row will affect the bid's chances remains unclear. Those who have most to lose argue that the harm is not irreversible.

Said Ramsamy: "We are hoping it's not going to damage the bid and the matter will be quickly forgotten. We've got a few months to go still, and we can correct the situation."

Africa owns the Olympic bid, PAGE 24





Pagad confronts authority . . . irresistible force meets immovable object

PAGAD & THE OLYMPIC BID

Fanatics spread tacks on the track

Cape Town's efforts to cut crime can't seem to satisfy the vigilantes' thirst for publicity

(288) (30)
FM 20/6/99

It has shocked with its tactics, splintered and engaged in divisive recrimination; yet People Against Gangsterism & Drugs (Pagad) remains a force to be reckoned with in the Western Cape.

Pagad's latest target is the 2004 Olympic Bid Company because it became temporarily linked with an outfit of reformed gangsters who, in the guise of a community forum, said they would curb their own efforts and bring Peninsula crime rates down.

Despite the bid company's subsequent dissociation from the gangsters, Pagad held a mass meeting on the Parade this month where it threatened to boycott companies that have lent support to the bid — including Pick 'n Pay, Caltex, Mercedes-Benz and Telkom.

The bid company's subsequent attempts to reassure Pagad of its antigang stance have been snubbed.

Throughout its contorted history, one golden thread has run through Pagad's activities (apart from its willingness to break the law in the name of stopping the gangs): a love of publicity.

Pagad mounted a violent — and illegal — march on Cape Town International airport last December to emphasise its accusations that the criminal justice system was neglecting crime.

The police duly vowed to crack down on Pagad, by then known to have been deeply influenced by fundamentalist Islamic principles. In the event, curbs placed on leaders merely led to new leaders achieving prominence. Pagad members continue to march masked and armed in defiance of the law.

The bid company's director of community relations, Saaliegah Zardad, has written to Pagad's current luminary, Shariff Khan, to protest against the anti-Olympic disruptions and boycotts threatened in the run-up to the decision in Lausanne in September on the host city for the 2004 Games.

Her letter essentially said that the appearance on a public platform with "reformed gangsters" of bid figures such as Chris Ball was to be understood in the context of a concerted attempt to bring down crime — the main obstacle seen to be compromising Cape Town's chances.

The gangsters' lobby, called the Community Outreach Forum (Core), is associated with Rashied Staggie, brother of Rashaad who was murdered by vigilante elements last year at the time that Pagad first came to prominence.

A meeting of major anticrime groupings in the province — including Core and, naively, the bid company — took place on June 3. That triggered the Parade demonstration.

However, Zardad insists that "the co-ordination and monitoring of the peace initiative and activities around crime will be managed by groups such as the Community Peace Forum, an anticrime NGO."

This means that though the bid company supports efforts against crime in principle, it is not directly involved in actions that may be associated with Core. The company intends to "concentrate on its own mandate — winning the bid — and is not involved in issues of crime prevention."

Pagad has ignored this explanation.

The bid company, probably with the best of intentions, found itself caught in the tangled web of Cape community politics.

Pagad has said it is not against the Olympic bid but it would be inappropriate to hold the Games in a city where so little is being done about the drug and gang cultures that flourish on the Flats.

The association of the broad community peace effort with Core was described at the time as a "marriage." That connection has broken down, though Pagad still links it with the bid company's anticrime stance.

This is unfair but typical of the irrationality with which Pagad has consistently mounted its crusade, targeting any person or company it views as being less fanatical than itself in having no truck with crime.

Peter Wilhelm

Businessmen unite to counter 'unscientific' poll against Bid

(5) ARG 21/6/99 (288)

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Western Cape business leaders have joined hands in boosting Cape Town's Bid for the Games, with donations of more than R2-million and a collective expression of confidence in public support.

They downplayed the results of a newspaper poll, which drew a 77-percent "no" vote from three percent of its readers, saying that since the poll was unscientific, it carried little weight as a reflection of public sentiment.

Donations this week amount to R2,1-million. The biggest sum is R750 000 from tycoon Christo Wiese, and R250 000 each from the Wiese Family Trust, Pepkor and Boland Bank, companies of which he is chairman.

Standard Bank gave R570 000, Grinaker/Construction R500 000, Case Construction Equipment R50 000, and Protea Hotels R250 000.

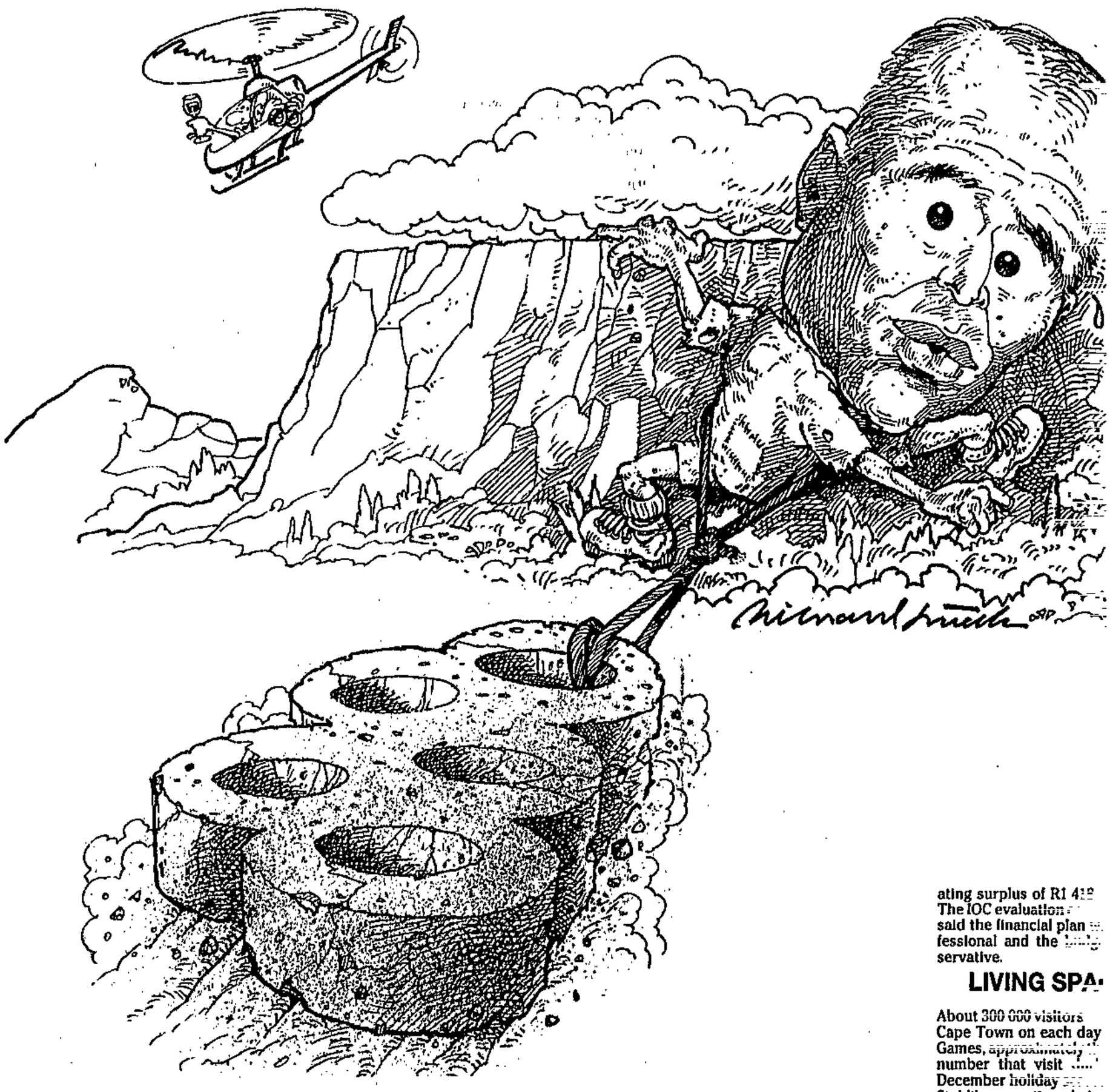
Mr Wiese said many people in Cape Town "believe that at some point we have to take risks if we are serious about rebuilding our country".

■ Cape Town's 2004 Olympic ambitions have earned a roar of approval from none other than the British Lions.

A group of Brits took time off yesterday to fly around the Peninsula by helicopter, arranged by the Bid Company, and liked what they saw. Flyhalf Gregor Townsend said: "This is a beautiful city... and we really hope you guys win the Bid."

Cape Town longs to carry

Despite the bid committee's inept public relations campaign, the Mother City still runs rings round th



WITH only 74 days to go before the International Olympic Committee decides which city will host the 2004 Olympics, Cape Town's bid is running on a shoestring budget with lukewarm public support.

Yet the city has an excellent case for becoming the first African city to stage the Games, signalling what Deputy President Thabo Mbeki claims will be an "African renaissance" and providing South Africans with a positive focus extending five years beyond the retirement of President Nelson Mandela.

South Africans need to look beyond the bid company's inept local marketing efforts. In many ways Cape Town is better equipped to handle the Olympics than Atlanta, which staged them in 1996.

Apart from being the most scenic venue yet, Cape Town has put together a sound, workable plan which has withstood stringent examination by an IOC technical committee.

A Cape Town Olympics is virtually guaranteed to generate operating profit and stimulate economic growth throughout the country.

The message, though, hasn't been communicated successfully to the public — the bid company has been unable to generate the excitement that characterised Sydney's successful bid for 2000.

Chief executive Chris Ball has had a torrid time. Stiff and formal, he doesn't have the enthusiasm-generating warmth of a Desmond Tutu, one of the many public figures who have endorsed the bid.

Ball's image has been harmed by publicity over his R900 000-plus salary package; a breach of the IOC's diplomatic code when he criticised rival bidder Rome; a disastrous and short-lived "anti-crime" partnership with Cape Town gangsters; and, last week's disclosure that members of his family have been involved in bid work.

Because of limited funds, Ball's team decided to concentrate their public relations efforts on the 109 IOC members who will vote in Lausanne on September 5. With Cape Town paying for first-class airfares, five-star accommodation, helicopter flips around the peninsula and fine dining for the "lords of the rings" and their spouses, there hasn't been enough money to woo a sceptical local public.

Billboards on highways, a handful of banners on city buildings and flags on the road to the Waterfront development are almost the only outward signs that Cape Town is a bidding city.

"South Africans tend to undersell themselves," says Ncgonde Balfour, a bid director. Staging the 2004 Games, he says "will be a celebration of 10 years of democracy since the 1994 elections".

The bid company has been a victim of its pledge not to use public funds. Although almost R86-million was raised from the private sector, some sponsorships have been paid in instalments.

"We are working on a monthly cash flow basis," says bid financial director Mike Fuller. "We only undertake projects if we have the funds."

Fuller says the priorities have been to produce a "more than excellent technical product" and to mount a full-scale international lobbying process.

A belated public relations campaign was launched last week at the instigation of sponsors. But on the same day, the results of a write-in opinion poll were published in community newspapers showing 76 percent of respondents were against the bid.

The poll was woefully unscientific and unrepresentative, with a two percent response rate. And although it was dismissed as meaningless by Ball, his team has been unable to hit back with recent scientific data. The only formal survey commissioned was in September 1995 — it showed 80 percent of Capetonians were in favour of the Games. A recent poll by Cape students indicated support remains high.

In the 10 weeks leading up to Lausanne, the bid company has to convince the IOC that Cape Town can not only stage the Games but that its people are more than passive supporters.

There are plenty of facts they can use in their campaign.

ORGANISATION

The sports events are run by the international federations. The local organising committee is responsible for providing the venues and getting the athletes and officials to them. The recent junior world championships were described as an outstanding success by the world weightlifting body.

MONEY

The capital cost of staging the Games is R7,2-billion, more than half of which will be provided by national and local government. There seems little doubt that spending on the Games and then hosting them will generate new jobs and increase tax revenues. The Games themselves are almost sure to make a profit — the IOC has signed TV and sponsorship deals which guarantee almost $1-billion for the host city. Based on a rand/dollar exchange rate of R4,25 the bid has budgeted for an operating surplus of R1 4[illegible]. The IOC evaluation [illegible] said the financial plan [illegible] fessional and the [illegible] servative.

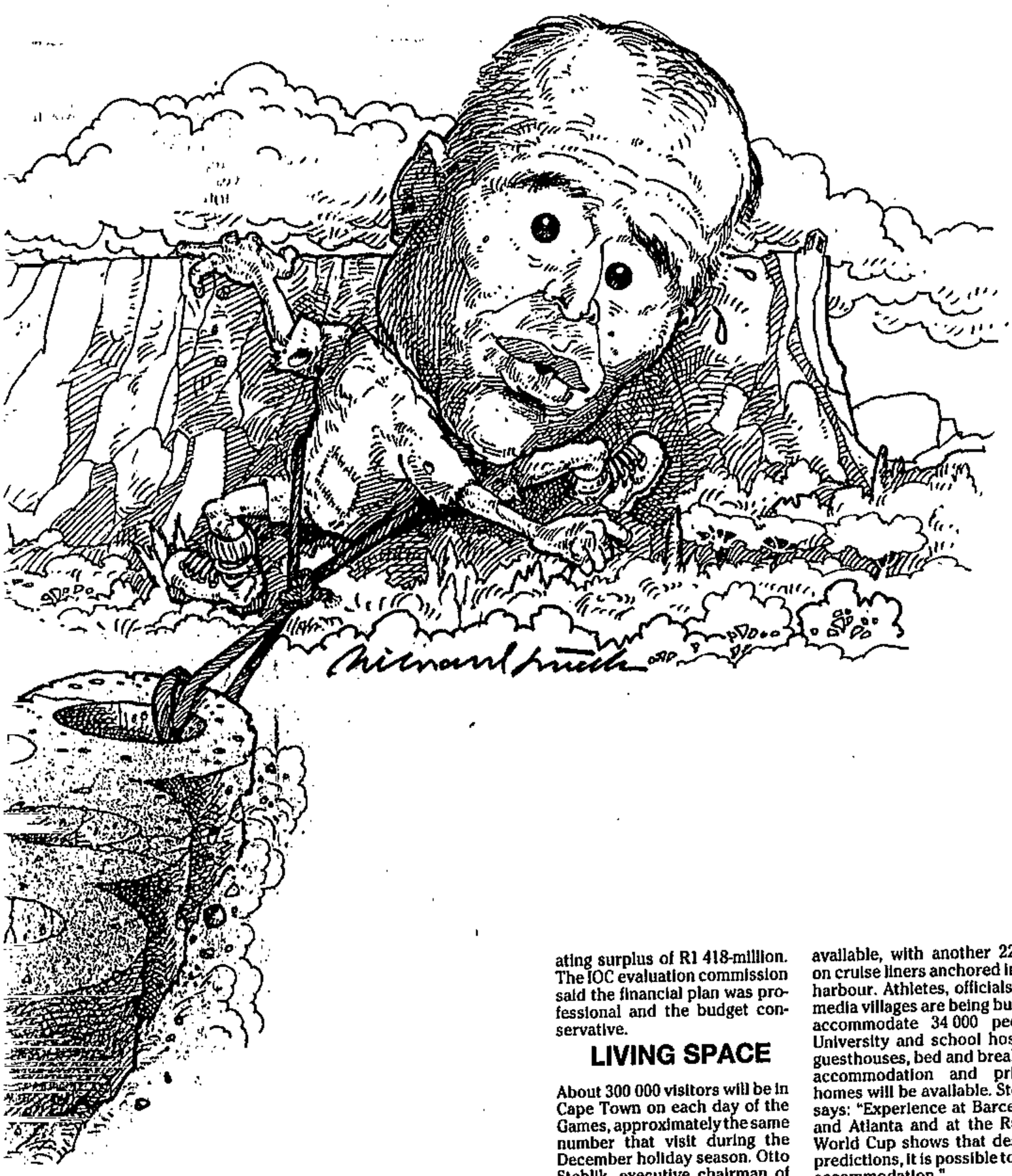
LIVING SPA[illegible]

About 300 000 visitors [illegible] Cape Town on each day [illegible] Games, [illegible] number that visit [illegible] December holiday [illegible] Stehlik, executive [illegible] Protea hotels and [illegible] hotels co-ordinating [illegible] tee, is confident Cape T[illegible] cope. Given the current [illegible] in the hotel industry, [illegible] be about 50 000 hotel

ongs to carry the torch

(288) ST 22/6/97

campaign, the Mother City still runs rings round the opposition, writes COLIN BRYDEN



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MONEY

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LIVING SPACE

About 300 000 visitors will be in Cape Town on each day of the Games, approximately the same number that visit during the December holiday season. Otto Stehlik, executive chairman of Protea hotels and chairman of a hotels co-ordinating committee, is confident Cape Town will cope. Given the current growth in the hotel industry, there will be about 50 000 hotel beds available, with another 22 000 on cruise liners anchored in the harbour. Athletes, officials and media villages are being built to accommodate 34 000 people. University and school hostels, guesthouses, bed and breakfast accommodation and private homes will be available. Stehlik says: "Experience at Barcelona and Atlanta and at the Rugby World Cup shows that despite predictions, it is possible to find accommodation."

FACILITIES

Most of Cape Town's facilities, including a 75 000-seater main stadium, will only be commissioned after the Games are awarded. Already, though, the city boasts some facilities superior to those used in Atlanta, notably the roofed cycling velodrome in Bellville. The venues used for the recent junior world weightlifting championships and the Hartleyvale hockey complex are better than their Atlanta equivalents. Although its use during the Games would be peripheral, the Sports Science Institute at Newlands has been hailed by IOC visitors as a world-class facility. A large number of training facilities are still required and most will be built in underprivileged areas.

TRANSPORT

Most of the venues will be on railway lines. Public transport will be the key. As in Atlanta, locals will need to be persuaded to use 'park and ride' facilities. The IOC evaluators described the bid's transport plan as "thorough and detailed", although noting many improvements are needed. One problem could be the harbour and waterfront area in view of the large number of people expected to be accommodated on cruise liners. Normal traffic is enough to clog Cape Town's freeways but bid planners are confident that upgrades to the system and a campaign encouraging the use of public transport will solve many problems.

SECURITY

Crime was identified as a big problem. The experience of other Olympic cities, though, is that because of the high level of security around all venues and events, crime tends to drop. It is likely Atlanta's example will be followed, providing separate, safe "corridors" for competitors, media and public between drop-off points and venues.

CULTURE

IOC members have been impressed by the "Journey to light the sky" Olympic campaign introduced in 2 000 Cape schools, while the evaluation commission praised Cape Town's cultural programme, which includes a plan for an Olympic torch relay through 30 African countries. On a broader level, Chris Ball is confident that South Africa's "can-do" culture will ensure success, citing the construction of the R36-million Bellville velodrome in five months. Once Cape Town gets the Games, Ball believes the same energy will galvanise the city.

SA 'connection' leads lobby to get US Congress to support Cape Town's bid to host Games

Star

By Rich Mkhondo
Washington Bureau

Dozens of American parliamentarians led by Elizabeth Furse, who was raised in South Africa, are intensifying their efforts to get US Congress support for Cape Town's bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

Furse and her colleagues said their resolution supporting Cape Town's bid had been signed by more than 100 members of the House of Representatives since they launched the campaign 10 days ago.

They need more than 280 supporters for the resolution to be carried by both the House of Representatives and Senate. If passed, the resolution will be symbolic, not binding.

"I was raised in South Africa, and witnessed the cruel effects of the apartheid government. And sports play a unique role in unifying the nation and the world and South Africa realises the impact of the Olympics. I urge all members of Congress to support this resolution, and call on everyone who believes in democracy and national unity, to embrace and support South Africa's bid," said Furse, a congresswoman from Oregon.

She and other powerful politicians such as Charles Rangel of New York, Maxine Waters, California, Melvin Watt, North Carolina, Ron Dellums, California and Donald Payne, New Jersey, said they were supporting the bid because it "is Africa's turn to host the Games."

Dellums said: "Having worked for 30 years to fight apartheid in South Africa, it is my belief that this opportunity represents a positive step toward supporting harmony not only for the people of South Africa, but for all nations. The Olympics, from its inception, has celebrated a spirit of unification and togetherness."

No US city is bidding to host the games. Atlanta, hosted the Games last July.

Athens, Rome, Stockholm, Cape Town and Buenos Aires are finalists and the winner will be chosen by the International Olympic Committee on September 5.

The finalists were chosen from a record field of 11 candidates. The six cities eliminated from the race, were Istanbul; Lille; San Juan; Seville; St. Petersburg and Rio de Janeiro.

Payne said:"South Africa is ready to host the international summer Olympics. We boycotted many of the Olympics Games in the past, but now we must recognise that South Africa is a different country ... the selection of this nation as the site of the Olympics would be a crowning achievement.

Supporting their efforts, Franklin Sonn, South African Ambassador to the US, said: "It is building time in South Africa. We are happy that our friends in the US are going to help us do that."

Although the resolution passed by Congress will not be binding to the US Olympic Committee's vote on September 5, Furse, Payne and Sonn said they had spoken to members of the committee and had seen "some smiles and nods."

The resolution, which is being circulated around the US capital will be voted for adoption before Congress goes on recess at the end of July reads – "Cape Town is a modern city with a history, beauty and attractions to keep the world and visitors captivated for years to come; and President Nelson Mandela, who serves as the honourary President of the Cape Town 2004 Olympic bid, has endorsed Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Summer Olympic Games.

"South Africa ended years of apartheid control in 1994 and elected a government committed to democracy and the national unity of all its citizens.

"The country continues to promote national reconciliation among all South Africans, and recognises the capacity of sports to unify the nation.

"South Africa has adopted a constitution as the supreme law of the land and through it guarantees democratic values, social justice, fundamental human rights, and economic opportunities for all.

"We members of the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), support Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Summer Olympic Games."

23/6/97 (288)

NOTES

Specialists to report on bid impact today

Specialist studies on the likely impact of bidding for and hosting the Olympic Games in Cape Town are to be published today.

The reports form an integral part of the so-called strategic environmental assessment, an over-arching study commissioned by the Bid Company.

The assessment is not an Olympic requirement but reflects the bid planners' commitment to professional scrutiny of the bid proposals, and their impacts.

The planners believe the study will prove invaluable as a tool in guiding implementation of the plan, and avoiding environmental pitfalls, should Cape Town win the vote on September 5.

The assessment will detail the impact of the Games on the economy, employment, nation building, housing and small businesses, and on metropolitan demographic trends, urban development, transport, natural resources and recreational facilities.

The study is scheduled to be completed by August 11.

New polls confirm backing for Olympic bid

Ball's team 'more than willing to discuss concerns of detractors'

(288) ARG 24/6/93

Two new scientific polls confirm comprehensive public support for Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games.

A survey by SA Sports Illustrated magazine shows that of 7 112 people polled in the Western Cape and Gauteng, an overwhelming majority of 4 200 (59 percent) back the bid. And just over half also believe Cape Town will win the bid.

A quarter of those polled – 25 percent – voted no while about 16 percent were unsure.

This echoes another national poll, conducted by Research Surveys in April, which asked whether people supported or opposed the Government providing funds for the bid.

In this scientifically weighted survey of 2 800 people in metropolitan centres, 67 percent were in favour.

Support was highest in African and Asian communities – 74 and 75 percent. It showed support among coloured people was 63 percent and among whites 47 percent.

Only 15 percent were wholly opposed. Of these, about a third said they opposed spending on the bid because they felt the money could be put to better use on housing provision and the creation of jobs.

MICHAEL MORRIS ON THE OLYMPIC BID



In other developments:

■ Bid chief executive Chris Ball said that while he did not accept the statistical soundness of last week's Cape Community Newspapers' poll (which showed 77 percent opposition to the bid), he did "respect" the views of no-voters. The bid team was more than willing to meet bid detractors to discuss their concerns.

It was unfortunate that the Stop the 2004 Bid Forum had resolutely refused to meet the bid. "I believe that if the group's members were willing to sit down with us and discuss the bid, we would learn from one another."

■ Anthony Coombe of Price Waterhouse, which oversaw the counting of the Cape Community Newspapers poll, said he was disappointed at the result, but added: "It was not scientifically drawn up and therefore could not reflect a scientific result." Price Waterhouse "is an active supporter of the bid, and remains so".

■ Ali Gierdien, president of the Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said the poll did not include safeguards against abuse, which could have "inflated the no vote", and was "not taken from a fair cross-section of the community in a scientific manner". Most important, he said, the facts about the bid "are not that well known and are often distorted".

Use top sports events to promote Cape Town, DP urges mayor

Democratic Party city councillors have called on the city to make better use of major sports and cultural events – such as the weekend rugby test – to promote the Olympic bid.

In a letter to Nomaindia Mfeketo, chairwoman of the executive committee, DP councillor Ian Iversen bemoans the fact that the rugby test was not used to better advantage to show off the bid.

International television coverage, he argues, would have taken the bid message far and wide but "there wasn't an Olympic flag or banner in sight".

He has asked Ms Mfeketo to ensure that city officials make a bigger effort to use sport and cultural events to project the city's Olympic ambitions.

■ The Bid Company has pointed out that its budget does not allow free distribution of flags, banners and bunting, given that its primary focus is on lobbying International Olympic Committee members. The company has to pay for their visits to Cape Town. However, companies and individuals are urged to contact directly the licensed manufacturers of flags and other bid promotional merchandise. Details are available from the marketing department of the bid, on (021) 419 2004.

Survey suggests most people favour govt's aiding Olympic bid

DAN SIMON

A NATIONAL survey has found that the majority of South Africans are in favour of the government's giving financial support to Cape Town's bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

During the survey, carried out in April by Research Surveys, 2 700 men and women of all races in six metropolitan areas were asked one question: "Would you support or oppose the government's providing funds to support Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games?"

Respondents were asked to rate their opinion according to one of five answers, graded from "strongly support" to "strongly oppose".

Of the total sample, 67% of the respondents were in favour of the government's providing funds to support Cape Town's bid, said Mr Henry Barenblatt, joint chairman of Research Surveys.

The poll on the Olympics is the seventh since 1995.

An opinion poll conducted by Cape Community Newspapers last week found clear opposition to Cape Town's hosting the Games.

Barenblatt said the survey had been undertaken at his company's initiative. Research Surveys considered the Olympics an important issue affecting society at large.

"We do work with issues that are important to society at large — such as rape and capital punishment. These issues are important to the lives of people."

Barenblatt said a breakdown of the degree of support showed there was 65% support among the Cape Town sample of 432 respondents.

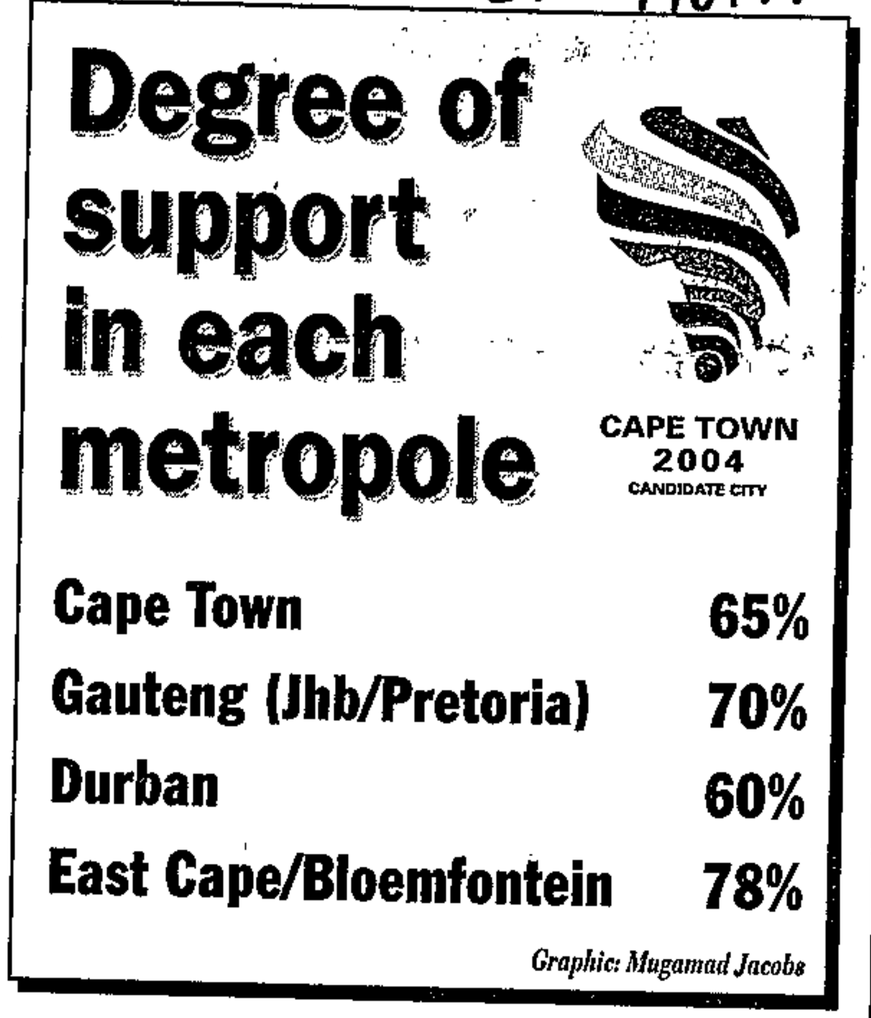
In Johannesburg and Pretoria, where there were 1 296 respondents, there was 70% support; in Durban, there was 60% support among 648 respondents; and in the Eastern Cape/Bloemfontein, 78% support among 324 respondents.

Of the respondents, 1 849 were black, 574 white, 170 coloured and 107 Asian, Barenblatt said.

"The sample comprised all race groups and the respondents were drawn to be representative of metro populations in terms of age, gender, language and income.

"All the people had to be over the age of 18 to qualify."

Barenblatt said that although the sample was scientific enough to produce a sound national response to the question, the regional samples were not large enough to allow analysis of which areas were most and least in favour of the bid.



CAPE TIMES
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 1997 ★

'ALL AFRICA WILL BACK CAPE TOWN'

Top sports official supports city's bid

(288) CT 25/6/97

"I WILL WORK tirelessly to convince my colleagues in the IOC to vote for Cape Town," says a senior official of the world athletics body. **DAN SIMON** reports.

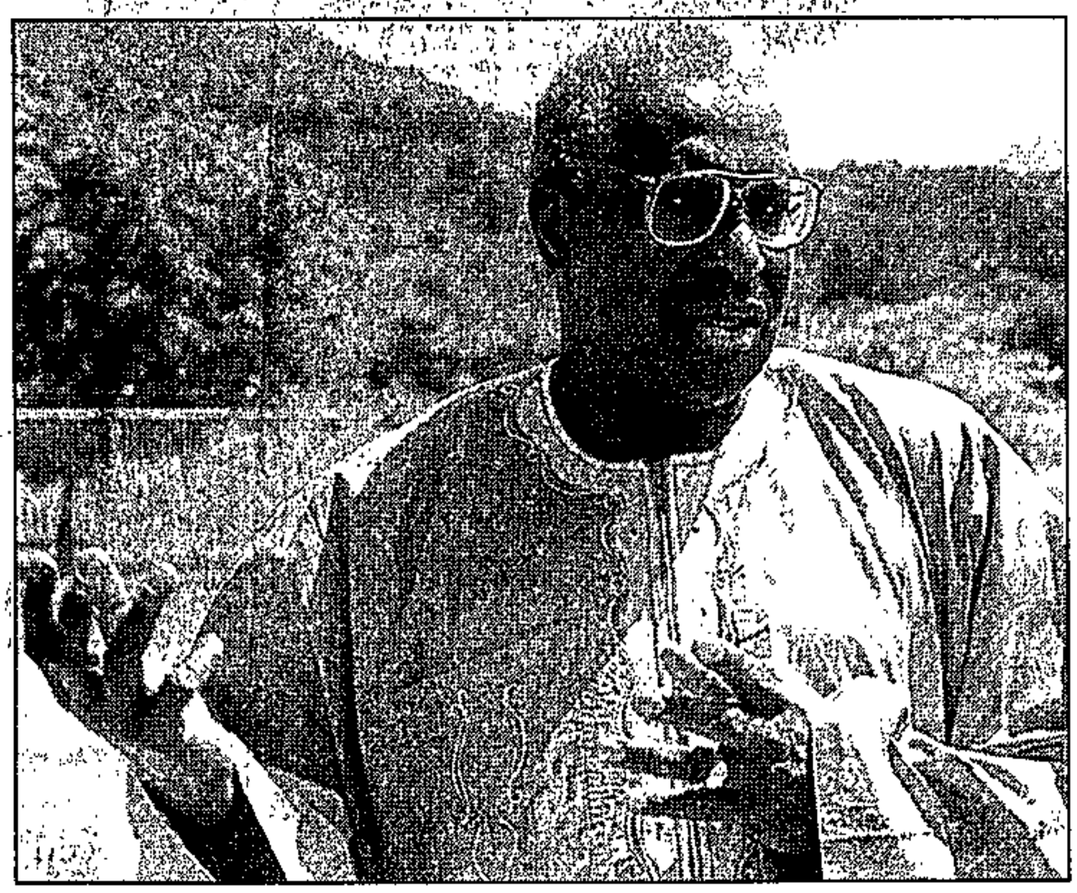
CAPE TOWN'S bid to stage the 2004 Summer Olympic Games has received a strong boost from one of the world's top sports officials who endorses it as an "African bid" and says it will have wide support on the African continent.

Mr Lamine Diack of Senegal, vice president of the International Amateur Athletics Federation, said he fully supported Cape Town's bid and would use his influence and contacts in the world sporting arena to generate support for the city.

Diack, who arrived in the city yesterday, is on a whistle-stop visit to assess Cape Town's bid before he embarks on a series of business trips to promote the city.

"Although I cannot vote (in the International Olympic Committee's secret ballot), I do have good links and I do hold important positions. I want to confirm that I will be on your side and that I will work tirelessly to convince my colleagues in the IOC to vote for Cape Town.

"This bid is an African one and you will have all of Africa behind you. Africa will back you."



BID BACKER: Lamine Diack, of Senegal *FILE PICTURE*

Diack reiterated that the Supreme Council of Sport in Africa had endorsed Cape Town's bid as an African bid. He also said he was happy with the way the bid was being run by the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company.

"I have been following carefully what has been going on here ... and I think the bid is being very well run by South Africa."

Diack added: "I will be turning 71 in 2004 and I want to celebrate my birthday in Cape Town."

Meanwhile, Mr Ntsundeni Madzunya, Bidco's director of technology and international affairs, has returned from an eight-day visit to the Far East to secure support for the city from the IOC's Asian bloc vote.

Madzunya, who met IOC officials in Malaysia, Indonesia, Pakistan, Thailand, Taiwan and the Philippines, said his trip had been encouraging as he had been told that if Cape Town secured the Games, investment would follow.

"For the first time the Olympics will integrate all South Africans, who have been divided for more than 300 years. We have been advised that Africa is an emerging market and that getting sponsorship will not be difficult.

"This crusade (to the Far East) will continue until all 18 Asian members are visited. We believe we will get the Asian bloc vote."

Madzunya added that he would be visiting six IOC officials in South Korea, the People's Republic of China and Japan, from July 3.

"I hope to come back with dates for their visits to Cape Town."

'All of Africa will benefit from 2004 Games'

Star 26/6/97 (288)

President Mandela is out to persuade the International Olympic Committee that the 2004 Games in Cape Town would be an African Olympics benefiting the whole continent.

"We believe the road towards 2004 will accelerate the healing and reconstruction process, not only in South Africa but on the entire continent," he told guests and several African members of the IOC at an awards ceremony at the presidential guesthouse in Pretoria yesterday.

He was joined in his pitch by Sports Minister Steve Tshwete and National Olympic Committee of South Africa president Sam Ramsamy.

Receiving the Pierre de Coubertin International Fair Play Award, Mandela said sport was a great force for unity and reconciliation.

"If we are nominated to stage the Olympic Games of 2004, we can assure you that it will be an African Olympics and an event of which the entire world will be very proud," he told IOC delegates.

Tshwete said South Africa wanted the 2004 event because it made economic and political sense. "It will serve as a catalyst for the African renaissance," he said.

Presenting the award, IOC member and interim president of the International Committee for Fair Play, Louis Guirandou-N'Diaye, told Mandela: "You have applied your sense of fair play acquired in sport to the political life of South Africa, and you have emerged as a legitimate – and especially as a fair – spokesman for your continent in many difficult missions."

■ Every year the International Committee for Fair Play, which is backed by the IOC, presents the International Fair Play Award to an outstanding athlete or personality who, by his or her exceptional behaviour, serves as an example to the world. – Own Correspondent.



President Nelson Mandela receives the Pierre de Coubertin International Fair Play award from International Olympic committee member Louis Guirandou-N'Diaye, left, yesterday. The award, named after the founder of the modern Olympic movement, is awarded annually to an athlete or personality who, through their exceptional behaviour, serves as an example to the world. Picture: LORI WASELCHUK

SA to stage an 'African Olympics'

BD 26/6/97 (288)

SA INTENDED to stage an African Olympics if it was selected to present the 2004 games, President Nelson Mandela said yesterday.

Accepting the Pierre de Coubertin Fair Play Award in Pretoria, he assured his audience SA would organise an Olympic event of which the world could be proud.

The award, named after the founder of the modern Olympic movement, was conferred by International Olympic Committee (IOC) member Louis Guirandou N'Diaye, who is acting president of the International Committee for Fair Play.

Mandela said Africa had been in the forefront of the fight against apartheid. Many of its potential medallists withdrew from the 1976 Olympics in protest against oppression in SA.

Several African members of the IOC attended the award luncheon at the presidential guest house.

Mandela said sport was a great force for unity and reconciliation. For this reason SA was committed to having the 2004 games in Cape Town.

"We believe that the road towards 2004 will accelerate the healing and reconstruction process," Mandela said.

Sports Minister Steve Tshwete said SA wanted to host the games because "it will serve as a catalyst for the African renaissance".

N'Diaye said the fair play award was presented annually to an outstanding athlete or personality who served as an example through exceptional behaviour. Mandela had embodied the spiritual foundations of the ideal of fair play.

"You were in your youth a successful boxer. You also played football and competed in cross-country races. You steeled your body ... and you overcame many hardships through fair play." He had excelled in applying the sense of fair play he acquired in sport to the political life of SA, N'Diaye said. — Sapa.

'CONSTRAINTS OVERLOOKED'

Games benefit forecast flawed — economist

CT 27/6/97

(288)

A SPECIALIST report drawn up for the Olympic assessment team says predictions on which the cabinet agreed to back the Olympic bid were overestimated. **DAN SIMON** reports.

THE Development Bank of Southern Africa's forecast of economic benefits to be gained from staging the 2004 Olympic Games in Cape Town is flawed, says a UCT economist.

This is contained in a specialist report released yesterday by the Olympic assessment team appointed to conduct a strategic environmental assessment of the bid and its socio-economic consequences.

The report is one of several to be included in a draft environmental impact assessment report to be released next month for public comment.

The macro-economic benefits envisaged by the DBSA strongly influenced the cabinet decision to guarantee financial commitments.

But UCT economist Mr John Stuart says the economic model used by the Development Bank to formulate its forecast "overestimated" the likely economic benefits to the Western Cape and the gross domestic product.

The bank told the cabinet last year that in the medium to long term (1998 to 2004 and beyond), the impact of the Games on the city's economy and the country's GDP would amount to about R30 billion by 2006.

There would also be a "recurring impact" of about R5bn a year after that.

The bank also estimated that about half of the economic impact would be felt in the Western Cape and the rest elsewhere in South Africa.

It said increased business activity generated by a successful bid would result in 90 000 additional jobs and that the GDP would increase by 0,9% a year.

Stuart says that although he has not yet seen the Development Bank's report, he has based his analysis on the economic model it used to arrive at its economic forecast.

"An analysis of the published version of the model reveals that it has a bias towards being capacity-endogenous, that is, it sees the economy as being relatively unconstrained," he says.

He found that the forecast was limited in that it "overlooked or understated" various economic constraints on investment growth, output growth, employment creation, construction capacity and inflation containment.

Given the problems cited and issues raised, he recommends that the predictions held up by the Development Bank study be treated as an "optimistic assessment".

"Of far more use than any simulation forecast is a thorough comparative analysis ... of past experience by Olympic-holding cities, while taking into account the specific structural characteristics and idiosyncrasies of the Cape Town economy, the Western Cape regional economy and the macro-economy."

He says that more prominence should be given to the inflationary ramifications, which were downplayed by the Development Bank model.

The balance of payments ramifications should also be reassessed.

However, Olympic bid company co-director of finance Mr Michael Fuller believes the bank's report is "very realistic".

"We believe we can minimise the impact on the fiscus," Fuller adds.

New guide aimed at Cape's tourists

(288)

DAN SIMON
TOURISM WRITER

CT 27/6/97

VISITORS to Cape Town have never had it easier, since the release of a new tourist guide.

Instead of pounding the streets in search of affordable accommodation or appropriate entertainment, tourists can now consult a unique pocket-size brochure which puts a wide range of useful information only a telephone call away.

Launched this week, the *Captourist Phone Guide* is a comprehensive, 24-hour tourist information system, presented in English, German and French.

The guide is a joint venture between Captour, the National Sea Rescue Institute, and the Audiotex Telephone Company (ATC). ATC managing director Mr Chris Jacobs said the information system provided access to up-to-date information on a comprehensive range of amenities at the push of a button.

"With the advent of the phone guide we have permanently changed the sourcing of much-needed, accurate tourist information in South Africa," said Jacobs.

"Similar guides for all areas of the country are in the pipeline."

To make use of the service, users must first ensure there is a star (*) button and a hash (#) button on the telephone they are using. They then dial 083 90012, followed by a category number. Wine farms are listed as category 40, and adult entertainment is listed as category number 19.

The instructions guide users through a simple procedure until they find the exact information they need in any given category. The guide covers seven areas, including the city, the West Coast and the Winelands.

Jacobs said the system would start working next week.

Brochures will be available at Cape Town International Airport, guest houses, hotels, travel agencies and other tourist-related outlets.

Olympic projections 'were off the mark'

BD 27/6/97 (268)

CAPE TOWN — A report forming part of an assessment of the Cape Town 2004 Olympic bid says the Development Bank of Southern Africa's macroeconomic predictions for the games were off the mark.

"As a result, the benefits of the games had been overestimated and so have the revenue and employment predictions," it said.

The report, compiled by University of Cape Town economist John Stuart, was released yesterday by the Olympic assessment team, appointed to conduct a strategic environmental assessment of the bid and its wider ramifications on the socioeconomic front.

It said the bank's predictions "overlook or understate various economic constraints on investment growth, output growth, employment creation and construction capacity".

The scenario envisaged by the bank played a key role in the approval of the bid by the cabinet and in the granting of guarantees for government's financial commitments. Its statistics were frequently quoted by the Olympic Bid Company in describing the bid's macroeconomic implications.

The report also expressed concern that the large scale of indoor venues could limit post-event utilisation. "The construction of two separate indoor sports arenas should be reassessed."

It said the rowing course at Wingfield, the proposal for a Newlands swimming pool and the proposal for temporary tennis courts at Green Point Stadium should be reassessed from a cost perspective.

The games would, however, result in an incremental increase in tourist arrivals, in the development of new tourist facilities and in the upgrading of existing facilities.

The report said its assessment would not provide a yes or no answer on whether the bid should go ahead. Rather, it aimed to assess issues of strategic importance to inform the public and decision makers about the potential benefits and costs associated with hosting the games. — Sapa.

NEWS

Bid impact study sends mixed signal

Caution on economy benefits

(288) ARG 27/6/97

Preliminary specialist studies of Cape Town's Olympic project send a mixed signal about the likely impact of the Games, balancing positive with negative potential consequences.

But this is not the final assessment of the impact of the bid. The publication of the reports forms part of the third phase of the Strategic Environmental Assessment. The full picture of the impact will only emerge once the final report has been drawn up, by mid-July.

Among the key findings of the specialist studies are that:

■ The results of the Development Bank of Southern Africa's economic study for the Cabinet (R30-billion boost in gross domestic product, R8-billion tax boost and 90 000 "permanent" jobs) may be over-optimistic or inflated.

■ The Games will "fast-track" tourism and provide a significant jobs and development boost across all tourism sectors.

■ The impact on population growth of the metropole is expected to be "minimal".

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

■ The proposed Wingfield Olympic Stadium and rowing course raise cost and after-use concerns, while other elements of the sports plan could make a meaningful contribution to recreational needs in disadvantaged areas.

■ Plans and policies developed by the Bid Company "indicate a high degree of environmental awareness", but their success will depend on the commitment of the organising committee and government.

The most critical overall concern was that the private sector "takes a significant amount of responsibility" for infrastructure and development, to reduce the burden on the public sector, said specialist researcher Kam Chetty.

"If the private sector defaulted, there would be a lot of problems," he said.

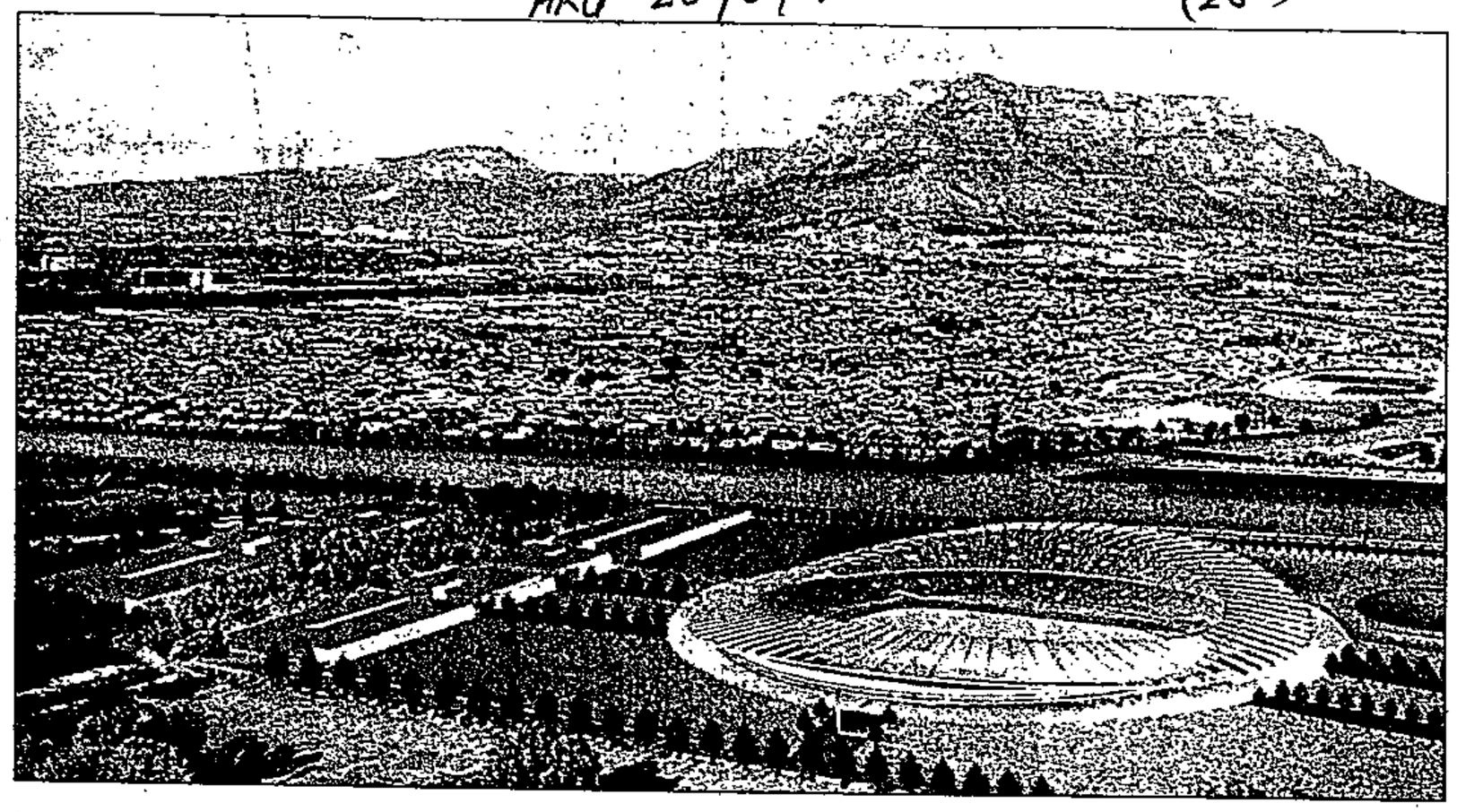


Award: President Mandela receives the Pierre de Coubertin Fair Play Award from the International Olympic Committee's Louis Guirandou N'Diaye, and calls for African supportfor the bid

Cape Town's Olympic bid goes on trial

ARG 28/6/97 (288)

The independent Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Olympic bid – a first in the 100-year history of cities bidding for the Games – gives Cape Town a vital planning tool to predict and pre-empt the kind of mega-event pitfalls that lurk in bid detractors' worst nightmares. Michael Morris examines the 11 specialist reports, the building blocks of the SEA, which highlight benefits and matters of concern



Impression: an artist's impression of the Olympic staduim at Wingfield. A report has been released of the enviromental impact of the Games

One has to take care not to jump the gun.

There is a great temptation to regard the material contained in these reports as the last word, as a truth which overtakes everything else said or written about the bid. But until the Olympic Assessment Team draws up its final report in the next few weeks, the specialist studies cannot be regarded as conclusive. As David Shandler, spokesman for the team, puts it: "These reports do not reflect the SEA team's assessment of the bid, and should not be regarded as the SEA finding.

Nevertheless, these reports offer significant pointers. These are the key findings:

■ Population growth (report by Larry Aberman Town Planning). The overall impact of the Games on the population growth of the Cape metropole "is expected to be minimal". It "could result in a migration related increase" of an additional 41 000 people in the year 2005 and 81 000 people in the year 2015. The report also finds that the natural population growth rate of all groups in South Africa – and the migration of all groups into Cape Town – is declining.

■ Institutional capacity (report by Simon Ratcliffe, BDM Consulting). There are key concerns about the institutional capacity of the Cape Town municipality and of the rest of metropolitan level administration. The most "thoroughly considered operational plans" are for security, transport, medical services and running of venues, but public sector "interventions" associated with the Games will carry a cost. Successful delivery of the Games will depend on efficient and cost-effective contract awarding systems, strong private sector involvement, a strong partnership between the private and public sectors, and effective financial management. The public sector should not play a direct role in actually running the Games, and there should be a monitoring structure to oversee public spending to protect taxpayers' interests.

■ Sports and recreation planning (report by Ninham Shand). Training facilities (74 percent of the 77 facilities) are dispersed to meet the sports and recreational needs of previously disadvantaged communities. If scale and maintenance-cost goals are met, these could make a meaningful contribution. Competition venues, based largely on existing facilities, will not specifically address the needs of the disadvantaged, but are "appropriate" in terms of "economic efficiency" criteria. New facilities are well placed in relation to transport networks, and are generally accessible to the public. But there are concerns about after-use viability and maintenance costs. The proposed Olympic stadium at Wingfield could "seriously impact" on the viability of existing stadia at Newlands, Athlone, Bellville and Greenpoint. From a cost perspective, the rowing course at Wingfield should be re-assessed.

The event will enhance the image of Cape Town as a tourist destination

■ Natural-urban systems dynamics (report by Ninham Shand). The Games are "not likely to have a significant impact" on water resources, energy supply, the natural environment and sewage and waste disposal. However, accelerated growth of the metropole associated with the Games may require additional water resources being exploited about one year sooner. If properly managed, the Games have the potential to act as a "show case" for water saving technologies and techniques, and waste disposal management. Impacts on the natural environment at Wingfield, and the canoe slalom course on the Berg River, would need attention. A potential concern is the ecological impact of sewage disposal from liners berthed in Cape Town and Simon's Town. In general, the bid has shown "a high degree of environmental awareness".

■ Tourism (report by Heidi Keyser, Cape Town Technikon). The Games will "fast-track" tourism development, result in an incremental increase in tourist arrivals – and foreign exchange earnings – before, during and after the event, and spur development of new tourist facilities. The event will enhance the profile and image of Cape Town and South Africa as a tourist destination. This will create new jobs in all sectors, and all levels of the tourism industry, and provide opportunities for small and medium-sized businesses. Crime and security will need attention.

■ Assessment of the macro-economic projections (report by John Stuart, School of Economics, UCT). The Development Bank of Southern Africa's assessment (R30-billion GDP growth, R8-billion tax growth, 90 000 permanent jobs) is "possible" but a "less likely high road", and is therefore over-optimistic. The DBSA report overlooks or understates economic constraints on investment, productivity, construction capacity and inflation containment. Interest and discount costs added to the Government debits could lead to a Government deficit. Price increases related to the Games construction programme could fuel inflation. If the private sector defaults on its involvement, the Government could sustain a net cost.

■ Construction industry (report by Andrew Merrifield, Centre for Scientific and Industrial Research). Capacity constraints in the construction industry could be overcome by involving international firms, and promoting small and medium-sized businesses from disadvantaged areas. The construction programme could help developmental goals through job creation and opportunities for new or black businesses. Construction cost increases could be offset by involving international firms. This would improve South Africa's competitiveness and ensure a transfer of skills to disadvantaged firms. The developmental impact could be enhanced by involving such "affirmable" companies.

Price increases related to the construction programme could fuel inflation

■ Transportation (report by JWM Cameron). The proposals "strike a happy medium" between meeting Games needs and the city's transport needs, but will not be sustainable through user-charging mechanisms. The plan will help reinstate public transport in Cape Town. The Games will serve as a catalyst for upgrading transport, benefiting tourism and job creation, but there will be little prospect of the Government recovering the capital cost involved. Overall, the plan will benefit public transport, improve the efficiency and convenience of road transport, improve accessibility to work opportunities, improve the general mobility of people, and access to sport, cultural and recreational facilities for local residents. Integrating all public transport services must be a priority well in advance of the Games, and cost recovery policies need to be developed and implemented.

■ Public finance (report by Diraj Abedian, UCT and BDM Consulting). There is a risk that accelerated Games spending will put pressure on public sector finances, with a likely "effective rise in taxation". This will be mitigated by an increased tax base, but remains a concern. There is "likely to be significantly increased revenue from the expansion of the rate base and hence rate increases". There could be a tendency by local authorities to neglect spending on under-developed areas of the Peninsula. Government guarantees risk reducing the motivation for the private sector to become involved in capital spending on the Games. Investment and organisational functions of the Games should be separated to ensure that the fullest participation of the Government is not in conflict with the goal of assuring an operating surplus.

■ Urban development dynamics (report by Simon Nicks and Michelle du Toit, Chittenden and Nicks Partnership). The bid proposals have sought to ensure the Games will be as developmental as possible, though most of the investment in facilities will be in Cape Town Central and Wingfield. The priority projects are providing encouragement to public and private investment on the Cape Flats that will leave a legacy even if the Games are not awarded. The major benefits to the disadvantaged areas will be through training venues and priority transport projects.

■ Housing and accommodation (report by Simon Nicks and Michelle du Toit, Chittenden and Nicks Partnership). The bid has "put considerable thought into the need for environmentally sound practices in housing". The Games will not have direct benefits – or negatively affect – basic housing needs in the metropole, but the bid housing proposals, which are not aimed at low income needs, are financially sustainable. They are likely to have a positive impact on urban renewal in and around Wingfield and Culemborg due to the influx of middle income groups. But the displacement of lower income groups is likely to occur if remedial steps are not put in place. The Wingfield site offers an opportunity for very low and low income housing.

Audit will track down irregularities

Satour vows to expose corruption

ROY COKAYNE CT(BE) 21/7/97(288)

Pretoria — A forensic audit of all South African Tourism Board (Satour) offices would be conducted to identify irregularities and inefficiencies in its financial management practices, Michael Farr, the board's interim executive director, said yesterday.

"Decisive action needs to be taken in the process of investigating, examining and restructuring Satour. This specifically implies action against findings regarding misconduct and/or corruption," he said.

Farr expected the forensic audit by Anthony Chait, a specialist management team member and chartered accountant, would be completed by the end of this month.

He said the code of conduct agreed by Satour's board outlined the procedure that would be followed if the forensic audits picked up any irregularities.

Farr stressed he was not suggesting the audit would lead to disciplinary hearings. However, he said he had reason to believe Satour had been characterised by mismanagement in the past and "it is possible there have been irregularities".

He said a report by the auditor-general had pointed out that since 1995 Satour had had a lack of internal controls and proper financial management systems. Forensic audits of these deficiencies were the first thing that had to be done.

Farr said certain irregularities had already been picked up, but controls had been put in place to prevent them occurring in the future.

All contracts were being handed to Chait to scrutinise and determine if they adhered to procedures. If any flaws were found, Satour would look at closing the contracts, although it might have to negotiate with companies where costs had already been incurred.

Farr said the specialist management team intended to be transparent and everything that was wrong with Satour had to be disclosed. "Seeing it is a publicly funded body, it is everyone's right to know about financial irregularities. That is also the only way people have a good understanding of why and how it has to change, including employees of the organisation."

Other objectives of the special management team were to keep Satour going and to redesign the organisation.

With regard to the objective of keeping it going, Farr said the special management team had identified the need during the transformation period to ensure the efficient day-to-day operation of Satour, and decisive action was needed to maintain the effective operation and sound management of the organisation.

With regard to redesigning Satour, Farr said a holistic and system-specific approach would be followed, starting with the development of a vision, mission and organisational strategy.

THE BIG STORY

Bid means new hope for all Af

South African Government lays it on the line for Olymp

ARG 1/7/97

WHAT PERSUADED THE GOVERNMENT TO BACK CAPE TOWN'S TENDER FOR THE 2004 OLYMPICS WITH MORE COMMITMENT THAN ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN TO AN OLYMPIC BID? KADER ASMAL, MINISTER OF WATER AFFAIRS AND FORESTRY, GAVE THE ANSWERS TO THE CRANS MONTANA FORUM IN SWITZERLAND AT THE WEEKEND. THESE ARE EXCERPTS FROM HIS SPEECH

It is obvious that securing the 2004 Olympic Games for Cape Town, for South Africa, and for Africa is of direct importance to those who live there.

Yet securing the Games in Cape Town would be a matter of global significance. It would benefit the whole international community in ways that would be unique to both Olympic and world history.

These particular Games would eclipse local sporting and commercial considerations.

Because of the careful way they have been planned, they would give a developmental helping hand to large parts of the continent, confirming the view that an African revival is at hand.

This revival without doubt promises immense social and economic consequences for humankind.

It is, therefore, from a world point of view that the subject is best approached – not from the point of view of narrow pride, self-interest, commercial gain or sense of competition.

Let it be said: Africa is, finally, emerging – with increasing confidence and realism – from its difficulties.

Africa now boasts numbers of countries which are banding together in regional groupings to address long-neglected problems of development and reconstruction.

There is a new emphasis on the need for democratic government in Africa to go hand-in-hand with economic advance.

The continent of Africa is getting down to work – all the challenges and setbacks notwithstanding. Do not doubt that.

Other nations in history have been able to spend a leisurely century or more, after convulsive national events, in achieving reconstruction – and even they still openly admit to imperfection, mind you.

Africa does not have time for that.

South Africa does not have time for that.

Cape Town does not have time for that.

The year 2004 falls on the 10th anniversary of South Africa's transition to democracy.

It is, incidentally, a year in which we can reasonably hope that we shall be blessed with the presence of one of Africa's greatest sons, Nelson Mandela, in his youthful mid-80s – retired from office but cheering on the athletes in Cape Town.

The year 2004 is also arguably the outer limit by when a doubting world must be shown that an African revival is really getting under way.

A signal given later could be too late to grapple with the vast legacy of African problems.

The year 2004 is an auspicious occasion for a spectacular display of South African gratitude to the whole world for the many years of solidarity in the struggle against apartheid.

This will be our chance to say: thank-you – if necessary in all our eleven languages!

Apartheid in sport was an issue which pricked the conscience of people everywhere.

It was an arena where fair play for all was seen as a vital touchstone.

It caused the International Olympic Committee to suspend South Africa.

It caused individual sports players to refuse to play against apartheid teams and it brought hundreds of thousands of people onto the streets to demonstrate their disapproval.

Sporting boycotts gave strength to people inside South Africa to continue their campaigns for equality on the sportsfields.

The Olympic Games will thus give South Africa the opportunity to display its thanks to the world.

They will give us the chance to celebrate – with you, with sports people, with sporting enthusiasts from all over the world – to celebrate South Africa's renewal taking place in Africa.

It is a chance to share a historic moment with friends internationally while we celebrate worthwhile things like renewal, sport, youth, tolerance and democracy.

One of the mechanisms for success is the South African resolve to hold a uniquely developmental Games in Cape Town – Games which will confirm the seriousness of South Africans in playing their parts in sharing, with Africa, new hope for the future.

There are many striking things about the South African plans for the Games.

As an example, one is the fact that the snaking progress of the Olympic torch traditionally brought from Athens will take a full six months to reach Cape Town.

Why?

Because it will be carried over no fewer than 30 African countries, across the hills and valleys of this garden continent, past the hamlets and kraals of people gaining a new self-confidence ... and down, down, under the Southern Cross, down to a sparkling mountain city, Cape Town.

Let me list but a few of the compelling reasons why, we believe, the Games in Cape Town in 2004 are a practical proposition.

There is already a firm guarantee of financial and material success, given by the South African Government – a guarantee that arguably goes further than similar arrangements, past or present, elsewhere.

The Cape Town Games will be underwritten by the only authority competent to do this: the Government of Nelson Mandela.

The Government is thus not to be seen in the role of opportunistic onlooker, ready to reap rewards if things work out well, or fade fast if not.

It is a partner in the effort.

It is intimately tied in to the success of the Games as a developmental prospect for Africa.

A cabinet sub-committee on which I serve monitors this commitment.

President Mandela has enthusiastically lent his name and office to a successful bid. Government has provided specific support for individual projects on a scale that is impressive for a city of Cape Town's size and means – for instance R86-million for competition and training facilities and R250-million for transport improvements, particularly public transport.



Oh yes we do! Kader Asmal says the South African government supports Cape Town's Olympic bid because it holds hope

Solid provincial, local authority and substantial private sector help is also at hand.

The benefits in terms of economic growth, tourism and job creation will spill over deep into the continent

Names prominent in world business are listed as corporate supporters or suppliers, such as Mercedes-Benz, Caltex, IBM, Siemens, Ernst & Young, Anglo American.

Preparation for land and facilities worthy of the Games – for instance the allocation of a massive 330ha site for outdoor sports at an Olympic Park 16km north of the city centre of Cape Town – are tied in closely with the developmental needs of Cape Town as a city.

We shall build both what the Olympics require and what our community needs. We shall not indulge in bequeathing white elephants to future generations. We do not want ratepayers to pay an Olympic levy on their accounts for decades. Holding the Games in Cape Town will be a practical help to the city in ridding itself of its apartheid past. The planners will ensure that the facilities and infrastructure are part of a physical reversal of previous racist "development".

The benefits in terms of economic growth, tourism and job creation will spill over not only into other regions of South Africa, but deep into the continent. Tourism, perhaps the world's biggest industry, will be boosted in the continent as a result of a successful holding of the Games in Cape Town.

The psychological climate for business with and investment in Africa will be improved. The developmental aspects for Africa could not be more in tune with all that is best in the Olympic Movement as enshrined in the IOC charter, with emphasis on peace through sport. We shall see Olympism in action.

Add to this the fact that the most influential organisations of continental African opinion are backing the Cape Town bid, and the picture of solidarity and resolve is complete. Cape Town is believed to be the first bidding city to have under-

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ARG. 1/7/97 (286)

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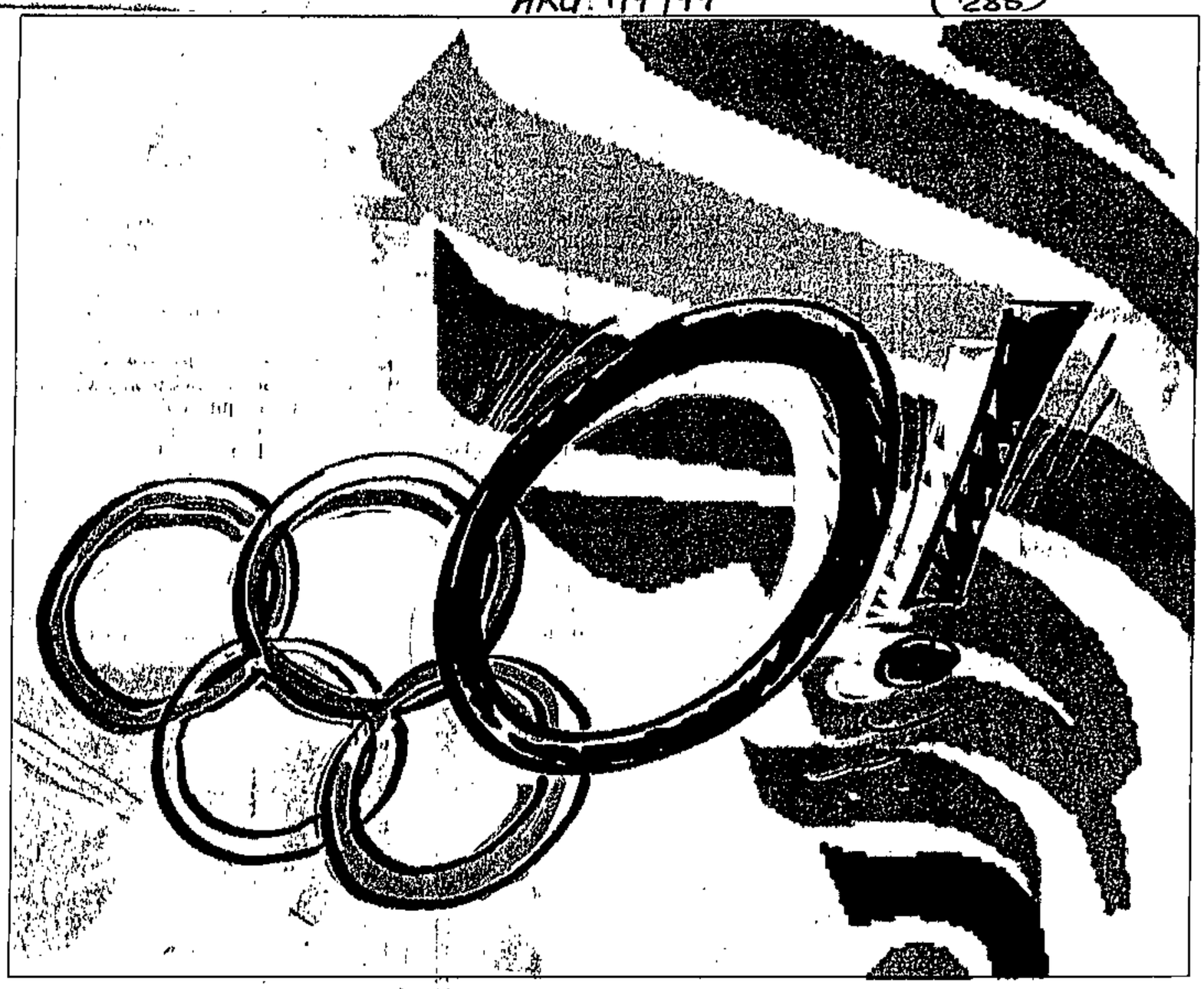

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Add to this the fact that the most influential organisations of continental African opinion are backing the Cape Town bid, and the picture of solidarity and resolve is complete. Cape Town is believed to be the first bidding city to have undertaken a Strategic Environmental Assessment, which is now under way.

The city falls within one of the six floral kingdoms of the world, an exquisite environment with a multitude of pristine beaches, rich wetlands, mountains, bird life, small mammals and the world-renowned "fynbos" or fine bush that carpets vast areas.

The Games, if awarded, will thus be environmentally friendly, and at the same time will boost sustainable development of people but in acceptable ways.

Let it be admitted that, for a country so freshly emerged from the passions, deprivation and misery of past conflict, no one could expect a totally smooth crossing for the idea that South African should dare to offer to host the Games. But critics should take note that South Africans, acting together, are remarkably quick to learn – for instance, from the mistakes of other host cities in the past.

And South Africans have shown that they can take calculated chances and win.

There is no doubt at all in my mind that there is steady, growing, support for the Games, this process being reinforced when people are given access to the results of the research and hard work of the planners, such as the respected Development Bank of South Africa whose report was largely instrumental in swinging the Cabinet behind the idea.

Cape Town bid 'a force to be reckoned with'

IOC visitor impressed

ARG 2/7/97 (288)

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Cape Town's bid is a "force to be reckoned with" and is being taken seriously in the race for the 2004 Games, says Kevan Gosper, one of two visiting International Olympic Committee members from Australia.

"Of all the five bids, this is the most ambitious and complex, and the one that's most important to the IOC because it is the first serious contender from this continent," he said.

Mr Gosper was speaking at the donation of R228 000 to the Bid Company by Shell South Africa as a contribution towards funding visits by IOC members.

Mr Gosper, who first visited South Africa in the early 1990s with an IOC commission sent to judge whether the country should be allowed back into the Olympic fraternity, added: "The fact that Cape Town is a finalist is very important. It means you have already defeated six great cities in the bid for 2004, and you can win."

He believed Cape Town's bid was important "because it demonstrates this country's determination to reconcile the past and the present. It is complex and important because of the message it can send the world".

He was particularly encouraged by the high level of government, corporate and public support for the project, and stressed the importance of ensuring the support of African nations.

Errol Marshall, managing director of Shell South Africa's oil products division, said the corporation was keen to back the bid because "we feel the 2004 Games will not only be a success for Cape Town, but also for South Africa and Africa as a continent".

Mr Ball said: "We are getting plenty of advice and are trying hard to assimilate it and give effect to it."

10 000 municipal strikers bring Jo'burg to standstill

ARG 2/7/97 (266)

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

Johannesburg – Commuters were stranded and cleaning services ground to a halt as three-quarters of Johannesburg's municipal workforce took part in a protest march against privatisation.

More than 10 000 members of the South African Municipal Workers Union (Samwu) gathered at the Library Gardens yesterday and marched to the civic centre to hand over memorandums to Greater Johannesburg Metro Council chief executive officer Nicky Padayachee and the chairman of the executive committee, Kenny Fihla.

Bus services were severely disrupted and cleaning services were affected at all of Johannesburg's local councils.

Samwu branch chairman Christoph Mabaso told the crowd of chanting workers that the "threat of privatisation was always there".

Three memorandums were handed to the council officials, one demanding speedy resolution of wage negotiations; the second demanding the employment of all casual and temporary workers and the final one demanding that all privatisation efforts of the council be stopped.

Mr Fihla replied that the metro council had not made a decision to privatise and would not change its policy without negotiating with workers.

TRADE

CT(BR) 4/7/97 (288)

SA dealings with Pakistan increase tenfold

Trade between Pakistan and South Africa has increased from R63 million to R600 million between 1993 and this year and was still continuing on an upward trend, Anneesuddin Ahmed, the outgoing high commissioner for Pakistan, said yesterday.

Ahmed said trade between the two countries focused primarily on a narrow range of traditional exports and imports. South Africa's exports to Pakistan were dominated by base metals, downstream petrochemicals products and textiles, while imports from Pakistan were dominated by textiles, leather goods, carpets and sporting goods.

Reports over the past two years have indicated that Pakistan has also purchased various weapons and missile systems from South Africa. But defence industry and diplomatic sources have pointed out that India, which experiences strained relations with Pakistan, could put pressure on South Africa to limit arms deals with Pakistan. — *Jonathan Rosenthal, Johannesburg*

TOURISM CT(BR)4/7/97 (288)

Karoo towns form a marketing partnership

Tourism marketing authorities from central and northern Karoo towns along the N1 highway, one of the busiest roads in the country, have formed a new partnership in tourism, they said yesterday.

Rose Willis, the central Karoo regional tourism co-ordinator, said tourists from up-country normally only stopped overnight in Karoo towns. "They miss experiencing the charm of the Great Karoo," she said. "By encouraging tourists to stop and explore the little villages along the route, enjoy refreshments, or purchase local crafts, we feel we would not only be contributing to road safety but also persuading users of the N1 that getting there is half the fun. For that reason our focus will be on ensuring standards, attending to education and training of staff who deal with tourists and the dissemination of tourist-friendly information." — *Sapa, Cape Town*

Poll picks Rome, but Cape bid team is still optimistic

Games survey 'was not representative'

(288) ARG 4/7/97

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Cape Town's bid team remains "quietly optimistic" in the face of a Reuter's survey which purports to show that the International Olympic Committee looks set to pick Rome as the venue for the 2004 Games.

In fact, while Reuter approached all international summer Olympic sports federations, plus principal sponsors and prominent journalists, only 14 responded, 13 of them anonymously. Most of these put Rome in the top slot, followed by Athens.

Sports professionals among the 14 favoured Stockholm as the best candidate. Cape Town and Buenos Aires were deemed "rank outsiders". Only one thought the IOC would give Cape Town a chance.

"Africa's never held the Olympics and there is a view that it should be encouraged," this respondent said.

Bid Company media director Ameen Akhalwaya said: "We are confident that those who have visited Cape Town, looked at its infrastructure and its potential, have a very positive view of the city's bid.

"Many factors are taken into account before the IOC members make up their minds. While the survey is interesting, we remain quietly optimistic about our chances."

He said it was unlikely that a survey of only 14 people from the ranks of the international federations, sponsors and Olympic journalists would "in any way reflect the thinking" of the more than 100 IOC members who would choose the winning city.

The survey tipped Rome as the IOC's choice because of superb facilities and strong backing from local people.

The winning city must gain more than 50 percent of the votes from the IOC.

Cape Town bid: R86-m spent so far

(288) Sowetan 7/7/97

Mother City shells out millions for facilities for the Olympic Games

By Shadrack Mashalaba

THE Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid Committee has so far spent R86 million on financing facilities that will be used during the Olympics if the Mother City is selected to host the Games.

The facilities, some of which are under construction, include a boxing arena in Khayelitsha, an indoor arena in Langa and a number of multipurpose centres around Cape Town.

Olympic Bid Committee director of finance Michael Fuller dismissed a *Reuter* survey which suggests that the International Olympic Committee will favour Rome instead of Cape Town as a report "of people who do not have a vote".

"Our main focus is on people who vote. Cape Town has been endorsed by 28 sporting organisations across the world," said Fuller.

The *Reuter* survey was conducted among principal sponsors, international Olympic sports federations and prominent journalists.

The survey also found that International Amateur Athletics Federation president Primo Nebiolo, an Italian, had a lot of clout and his powerful influence at the IOC would sway the bid in Rome's favour.

Fuller said the Cape Town Olympic Bid has been given a R95 000 budget. It will be utilised till September 5 when the International Olympic Committee (IOC) announces the city that will host the 2004 Olympics.

The Olympic Bid budget covers salaries, technical teams, travel, marketing and administration. Funding for the bid process comes entirely from the private sector and no ratepayers' money is used in the bid phase.

Two months left

A total of 43 people serve on the board of directors led by chief executive Chris Ball. The directors are assisted by a staff of 70 people.

Fuller said with about two months left the committee is still bringing over IOC members to brief them on Cape Town's bid.

The five cities in the running to host the 2004 Olympics are Cape Town, Rome, Stockholm, Buenos Aires and Athens.

An estimated 91 000 permanent jobs will be created between 1997 and 2006 if Cape Town's bid proves to be successful.

Tourism funding tops R227m

NCABA HLOPHE

Johannesburg — The Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) and the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) have provided funding to the tourism industry valued at more than R227 million, sources from both institutions said yesterday.

The DBSA had committed cumulative funding of R12,88 million directly to five tourism projects at an average of R4 million a project since 1984, said Sandile Madolo, its spokesman.

The IDC had approved 58 applications, valued at R215 million, for tourism development projects, which could create 1 200 jobs over the next three years, said Jan De Bruyn, a deputy director of the IDC.

The IDC had budgeted R600 million over a period of 6 years to fund eco-tourism schemes.

...ranging Portnet's restrictive pa...

The restrictions gave Cartage, a Portnet subsidiary,

NEWS

Now it's R55 for a ride up mountain

Increase will put cableway out of reach for many locals

ARG 10/7/97 (288)

CHENE BLIGHAUT AND ANDREA WEISS
City Desk

South Africans wanting to go up Table Mountain in future may have to resort to walking because the fare by cableway is set to increase steeply when it reopens in October.

The adult price for a return cablecar trip will be R55 – R25 more than the pre-upgrade price.

Tour operators have expressed concern over the increase, which will put the cableway out of reach for many cash-strapped locals.

Foreigners, on the other hand, are expected to pay up without complaint because the trip up the mountain remains at the top of their itineraries. The increase could, however, contribute to the perception that Cape Town was becoming an expensive tourist destination compared with other cities, warned the operators.

John Harrison of the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company said prices for children and pensioners had not yet been set.

The price had to be seen in the context of the old fare of R30 which now included a 7,5 percent levy for he National Parks Board and 2,5 percent for the Cape Town municipality, both present and future landowners of that portion of mountain. It also included 14 percent VAT.

The levies and tax made up about a quarter of the ticket price, which had been set to provide what he believed was a "fair return" after the R80-million upgrade.

He said the new Austrian ticketing system called Skidata allowed for a great deal of flexibility, making it possible for the company to offer special prices, for instance on St Valentine's Day or during the low season.

"It is not the same as going to the top of the Eiffel Tower in Paris or the Tower of London where you have to pay the price. Here you can walk up the mountain, so we are not holding anyone to ransom," he said.

The new price had to be seen in the context of prices such as the airport shuttle service to the Waterfront, which cost R80.

Kevin Estment, chairman of The Tour Operators' Association of Cape Town, said there could be "some justification" for the increase if service improved as promised.

But operators were generally worried that Cape Town was "pricing itself out of the market" after a spate of recent increases, including the doubling of entrance fees to Boulders Beach.

He believed tour operators had to be consulted about price increases because "we have to justify to clients where the money is going in the end".

"It is often assumed that because an attraction is unique, tourists will pay whatever is being charged," said Mr Estment.

Hilton Ross director Claus Tworeck agreed that the increase would be acceptable to foreigners, but said locals would find it "exorbitant".

"Although we understand that a lot of money was spent on the upgrade, prices have to remain market-related," he said. Walking up the mountain was not really a viable alternative for a 75-year-old local visitor, he said.

David Cochrane, operations manager of Crown Travel, which caters for Chinese tourists, said everyone was "horrified" at the increase, but "someone has to pay for the improved service".

The experience of going up the mountain would be "stunning" and not many international experiences could be compared with it.

"Table Mountain will remain a must for foreigners but they (the cableway company) will make a fortune."

German tourists, regarded as the biggest spenders, are not expected to balk at the new price.

Michael von Kotze, director of Incentive Touring, which brings in German tourists, said the increase was "not more than we expected".

He said German visitors would not mind paying more for the "unique" experience and improved facilities.

"Our main concern would be for the price to remain stable for at least the next two years because there have been constant price increases at various attractions over the past few years and tourists are becoming more price-conscious," said Mr Von Kotze.

John Carne of Paradise tours did not expect tourists to object to the price hike because R55 was the "going price" at similar attractions overseas.

Captour marketing manager Jeremy Harris said R55 would be "well worth it" in the light of the huge improvements and the experience tourists would get.

He said it compared favourably with other prices such as the trip to Robben Island, which cost R80 for an adult.

TRIPPING THE TOP SPOTS: comparative costs around the world



Go to flap

is household

031

NEWS



JACK LESTRADE

Spadework: Adelaide Tambo joins visiting International Olympic Committee members and other dignitaries at a ceremony at the Khayelitsha Olympic site

Olympic dream emerges from a dumping ground

ARG 10/7/97

Venue symbol of hope, IOC group told

(288)

Deep chevron tracks criss-crossing the sand just off the N2 in Khayelitsha hint at the mammoth exercise that is turning a stinking rubbish dump into a showcase Olympic facility.

The bare Mew Way site – which, within months, will be distinguishable as a R16,7-million boxing venue-cum-indoor multi-purpose hall – became an informal car park yesterday as six visiting International Olympic Committee members, accompanied by government, council and community dignitaries, converged for a sod-turning ceremony that sets the project on its next phase.

The facility, one of eight priority Olympic projects scattered across the Peninsula, would have been unthinkable, as provincial Sports Minister Lerumo Kalako put it, without the bid.

He told the IOC members – Austin Sealy of Barbados, Sergio Santander of Chile, Patrick Hickey of Ireland, Gerhard Heiberg of Norway, Niels Holst-Sorensen of Denmark and Vladimir Cernusak of Slovakia – that it represented the hopes of Khayelitsha and South Africa's yearning to host the Games in 2004.

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Tygerberg mayor Lukas Olivier said the bid was "not just about fun and games" but development for people whose lives were defined by "tremendous need".

Earlier, at the site of the youth centre at Scottsdene in Kraaifontein – another of the priority projects – Adelaide Tambo, widow of African National Congress leader Oliver Tambo, urged the international community to join South Africa in the second phase of its struggle, this time for development.

Mr Holst-Sorensen told the gathering at Scottsdene that although the Olympics was usually associated with gold medals and world records, participation in sport and using sport to develop communities was really at the heart of Olympism. "We are very happy that this community has chosen to use sport to develop a democratic and healthy society," he said.

The IOC visitors helped plant indigenous trees, donated by Stodels Nurseries, at the Scottsdene site. The managing director of the company, Robert Stodel, said he felt it was "fitting to make a contribution to enhancing the city".

City in 'a very close contest' for Olympics

(288) ARG 11/7/97

Sydney – An outright favourite has yet to emerge in the five-way contest to host the next-but-one Olympics, Australia's representatives on the selection committee said today.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) meets on September 6 at its headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland, to select a host for the world's greatest sporting spectacle in seven years' time.

Sydney is staging the 2000 games while Athens, Buenos Aires, Cape Town, Rome and Stockholm all hope to be the venue for the 2004 Olympiad.

"It's certainly shaping up to be a very close contes, twith no real players emerging at this stage," said Phil Coles, one of two Australian representatives on the IOC.

Mr Coles was speaking in Sydney after returning from Buenos Aires, which he said had a good chance of being fifth time lucky in its bid for the Games.

"They're very enthusiastic and would provide a very good Games," he said. – Sapa-DPA

■ Cape Town has all it takes to host a successful Olympic Games in 2004, says Vladimir Cernusak of Slovakia, one of six International Olympic Committee members visiting the city this week.

"It is my impression that the city has all the prerequisites for a successful Games," he said in an interview.

MAIL & GUARDIAN
July 11 to 17 1997

It's time for Africa's games

MtG 11-17/7/97 (288)



The Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid's attempts to 'Africanise' its programme may be too little, too late, argues **Julian Drew**

DEPUTY Foreign Affairs Minister Essop Pahad has shared a vital fact with Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, a fact that has so far eluded the bid company: the first known records of organised sport are from Africa.

With just eight weeks remaining before the vote in Lausanne, Cape Town is at last moving with some urgency to align Africa behind its bid for the 2004 Olympic Games. While this alliance alone will not ensure a South African victory, without a strong African identity and the support of the whole continent the bid is doomed to failure.

Recently the International Olympic Committee (IOC) member for Cote d'Ivoire, Louis Guirandou N'Diaye, pointed out that the bid company was too white, precipitating the formation of a Cabinet sub-committee to help promote the bid.

Although the bid company produced sound technical and financial proposals which won Cape Town a place on the five-city shortlist, most of the upper echelons of management are white, forming the core of the IOC lobby team. N'Diaye's comments merely confirmed what had long been a concern both inside and outside the bid.

The question that should be asked, however, is why it took so long to address what was obviously a fundamental flaw for a bid whose main selling point is that it is one for all Africa — the only continent yet to stage the games.

Perhaps the answer lies in a comment from Jean-Claude Ganga, president of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa and IOC member for Congo-Brazzaville. "I think what is important is not whether they are white or black. It's what they have in their minds."

This sentiment was echoed by N'Diaye: "We want to see blacks and whites together. We don't want to give you numbers, but let us feel that you are together. It's not a question of colour. It's a question of the mind."

Technically competent the bid team may be, but do they have what it takes to reach out to Africa? It is a question which faces many South Africans who have yet to accept that their future and that of this country is inextricably bound with that of Africa.

If the exemplar is bid chief executive Chris Ball, the signs have not been encouraging. The appointment of white "peers" to priority jobs and a lack of commitment to black empowerment are common criticisms of his leadership that indicate a lingering Eurocentrism.

While it is easy to say that there were no suitably qualified black people to fill many key positions, and in some instances this is true, in the final analysis it is these outward perceptions which create the real impressions of the bid.

The Olympic bid is a clarion call to unite South Africa behind something which can provide hope for all Africans and act as a catalyst for what Mbeki calls the African renaissance.

Fine rhetoric you might say, but what does Cape Town do now with so little time left? As the government and bid company quite rightly point out, the emphasis must be on lobbying IOC members — for it is they who will vote — and fine-tuning the final presentation for Lausanne in September.

If Africa is so central to the origins of known sport and the African diaspora increasingly dominant in modern sport, is it not time to stage the Olympic Games in Africa?

Communicating with Africa is not easy, but many members of the African media have been to Cape Town recently and they will now begin to inform people about Cape Town's bid — and hopefully that it is for Africa.

Keeping them updated with new developments is difficult, however, owing to poor technology. Few have fax machines and even fewer have e-mail. Television too has an extremely limited audience, although many opinion-makers in urban centres have access to television.

According to the bid's media director, Ameen Akhalwaya, it is radio which has proved to be a godsend. "Our strategic target for Africa was always through radio more than anything else because we thought that would be the most effective medium.

"We have also started to use our embassies in Africa to distribute information and monitor the situation which is working reasonably well," said Akhalwaya. But will it be a case of too little too late?

"I just came from a tour of West Africa and I can tell you that nobody thinks of this bid as their bid. They think about Cape Town at the same level as Stockholm or Athens," said Ganga.

The involvement of the government will help, but what is more essential is a beefed-up marketing campaign, requiring people with their finger on the pulse of Africa — and there seem to be few of them in the bid company. You get the feeling that those behind marketing strategy wouldn't know whether to dunk Petit Pays into Koffi Olomide or get down and boogie to them.

Pauline Carstens, who heads the bid's marketing team, agrees that this is a valid criticism but says her company, Ogilvy and Mather, "has offices in Africa and we are working with them to help us spread the word".

If the historians and archaeologists of the 19th century hadn't practised a narrow Eurocentrism that for so long kept Africa and the Third World on the outside, ancient Egypt and not Greece might have provided the inspiration for Baron Pierre de Coubertin's revival of a global sporting festival that now goes by the name of the Olympic Games.

Sport in the Egypt of the pharaohs may have been overshadowed by sport in ancient Greece, but recent research shows that the Egyptians held regular sporting contests over a period of 2 700 years from the beginning of the third millennium BC — far longer than the 1 200 years of the ancient Olympics and predating them by more than 2 000 years.

Surely then if Africa is so central to the origins of known sport and the African diaspora increasingly dominant in modern sport, is it not time to stage the Olympic Games in Africa?

De Coubertin himself was a strong campaigner for the development of sport in Africa — it was his motivation at the 1923 IOC session in Rome which led to the organisation of the 1929 All Africa Games in Alexandria, cancelled at the last minute by the colonial powers.

While the IOC of today may have moved far away from the original ideals of De Coubertin in an increasingly commercial age, it will not be before time if De Coubertin's games finally come to Africa.

RETURN TICKET R55

Cableway price shock: Call for dual system

CT 11/7/97

(288)

LOCALS want to pay less than foreigners for a trip up Table Mountain, but the cableway boss says he has R80m to pay back and he does not want to die with debt. **MELANIE GOSLING** reports.

THE big hike in the price of a cable car ride up Table Mountain — from R30 to R55 for an adult's return ticket — will put the cableway out of the reach of the bulk of locals, say Capetonians.

Some fear this is another national asset that is being closed to most South Africans because of money, and have called for a dual price system in which locals would pay less for access to the country's natural areas.

South African Mountain Club spokesman Mr Lester Coelen said yesterday: "For overseas tourists who are paying dollars, R55 is okay, but it's going to price the cableway out of the market for the bulk of locals.

"This is one of my big concerns. We can't have all the natural areas quietly closed off to the bulk of the South Africans just because the tourist industry wants to earn dollars.

"This tariff is out of the reach of most people countrywide, and that's not right."

Coelen said it was time the tourist industry and the authorities started looking seriously at differential price systems, which were in place in many poor countries.

The system meant that the foreign tourists, who scored on the highly profitable exchange rates, paid a higher tariff than local people.

This system is applied to entrance fees to national parks in Botswana and Zambia, and to many hotels and lodges in Zimbabwe.

Wildlife and Environment spokesperson Ms Marlene Laros said the need of affordability and accessibility to natural areas in this country needed to be addressed soon.

"Many South Africans have never had a chance to use the cable car and now will have even less.

"R55 is nothing for an international tourist, but to ensure the cableway doesn't become exclusive, they should introduce a dual price system, with a lower price for locals, particularly youth groups and environmental groups that come from disadvantaged areas," Laros said.

Chairman of the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company, Mr Louis de Waal, said his company would get only about R43 from the R55 ticket price, as 14% of it went to VAT and 10% would be paid to the National Parks Board as a contribution to the management of the future Cape Peninsula National Park.

Said De Waal: "I don't believe for one bit that the cableway will be priced out of the local market.

"I realise that it is higher than the former R30 price, but the price of the upgrading of the cableway was increased to R80-million because of all the delays in getting approval.

"We have to pay back the R80m loan.

"I don't want to die and not be free of debt," said De Waal.

He said 80% of the people who used the cableway were South Africans and 20% foreigners. There were 450 000 visitors last financial year.

"It is important we keep South Africans coming. They're our biggest customers."

Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company would reduce the tariffs in the off-season, during winter, when locals would pay less, but had not decided what the price would be, he said.

IOC jazz-lovers' night ends with a flat

ARG 12/7/97 (288)

JULIAN JACOBS
STAFF REPORTER

A night in which International Olympic Committee members were treated to some of the best local music talent ended on a flat note after two 2004 Olympic Bid Company cars were tampered with.

At the invitation of the company the six IOC members spent an evening at the Manenberg Jazz Café where Bayete entertained the crowd with African sounds and welcomed the IOC members.

But on returning to their cars parked some distance away two company officials found that two tyres on each of their cars had been deflated.

Eric Dalton, manager of a furniture and appliance store on the corner of Adderley and Longmarket streets, said he was outraged when he noticed that the flat tyres had the Olympic 2004 logo. They were parked behind one another. He said there was no doubt about sabotage.

"Whoever did this has a warped mind. I am certain it is people who are anti the bid, trying to show their opposition."

Mr Dalton, strongly in favour of Cape Town winning the bid, said attempts to undermine it were "a lost cause".



Deflated: Eric Dalton noticed that the tyres of two 2004 bid company vehicles had been tampered with



Party time: IOC member Austin Sealy and Nocsa's Sam Ramsamy

"I was very distressed when I arrived at work at 6.45am yesterday and noticed that the air in the tyres of the two cars had been let out," he said.

But the driver of one of the cars and Olympic Bid Company finance director Michael Fuller believed it was a prank, "probably by a couple of kids", and that it was no "big deal".

He said there was no evidence of vandalism.

"It was a slight inconvenience because I had to wait for someone to help.

"If they really wanted to be vindictive they would have scratched the vehicles or broken into them."

Another bid official, Saaliegah Zardad, said: "If it was vandalism it was a cowardly act. The bid company has always been willing to talk to people. Our doors are always open."

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Park Day Hospital

Goodbye Captour, hello Cape Town Tourism

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
TOURISM REPORTER

(288)
ARG 14/7/97

Captour's role as the premier body marketing tourism in the Western Cape is about to end.

After 18 years of promoting the Western Cape, its future activities are expected to be confined to the city of Cape Town.

This will reduce Captour to one of six tourism bureaus serving the six municipalities in the metropolitan area, which will each have its own tourism body.

The reshuffling of Captour will mean the rationalisation of its resources, including its 25 employees, and is likely to include a name change, a new logo and changes to its constitution. The board of directors will be reduced from 20 to 10.

The new name being envisaged is "Cape Town Tourism", which it is believed will more accurately reflect the organisation's role in branding the city internationally.

But the Captour name will not be discarded completely as the new body will be known as "Captour trading as Cape Town Tourism". The section 21 company will combine Cape Town municipality's new Table Mountain logo with the current Captour logo on its letterheads.

The Captour name is believed to be worth millions of rands.

The new approach follows an informal "bosberaad" of Captour and other parties last month to discuss the way forward for the cash-strapped organisation.

Up-country premiers rally to back bid as 'national asset'

(288)

ARG 15/7 199

ANDREA WEISS
City Editor

Cape Town's Olympic Games bid has been described as a "national asset" after a briefing in the city for up-country premiers.

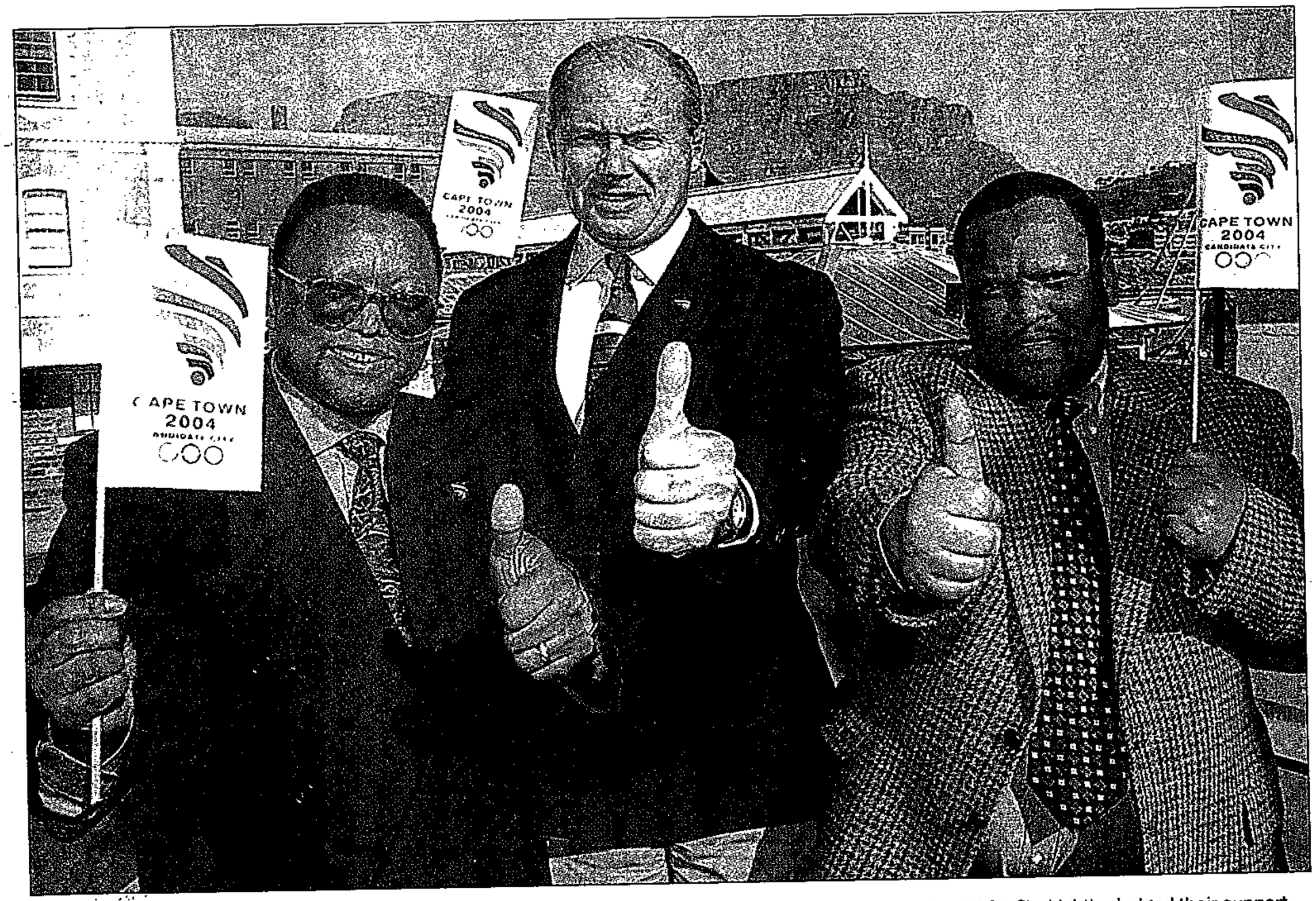
Premiers Popo Molefe of North West Province and Arnold Stofile from the Eastern Cape attended the meeting yesterday along with representatives from Northern Province and Mpumalanga.

The absence of the other premiers was ascribed to a late invitation which only reached them last Thursday.

Northern Province MEC for sport Collins Chabane described the bid as one which was "beginning to become a national asset".

Mr Molefe said there had been discussion on the potential benefits for the provinces, ranging from increased tourism to a boost in support industries to supply construction materials. There was also the poaaibility of sub-contracts being spread around the country along with education and training programmes.

He said it had been agreed there was a need to establish a programme to reach out to people in rural areas.



VIVA, CAPE TOWN!: North West province premier Popo Molefe (left) and his Eastern Cape counterpart, Arnold Stofile (right), pledged their support for Cape Town's Olympic bid yesterday. With them is Olympic Bid Company chief Chris Ball. With 51 days left before the name of the host city is announced, the government is working hard to muster all possible support for the bid. ***PICTURE: THEMBINKOSI DWAYISA***

Bid cities always win — IOC man

(288)

TOURISM WRITER
CT 15/7/97

CITIES which bid to host an Olympic Games always come out winners — and this applies to Cape Town even if it loses the race to stage the 2004 Summer Olympic Games.

This is the view of the head of the IOC's media commission and president of the International Sports Writers' Association, Mr Toga Bayatli, of Turkey.

Bayatli, who was closely involved in Istanbul's 2004 Olympic bid, is on a three-day visit to assess the city's media arrangements for the Games.

He said the bidding process created international awareness of a country and a city.

"Bidding is not a waste of money ... it is very useful. It begins the recognition of a country and a city and it helps to develop sport in a country with the upgrading of facilities. You never lose. You only win when you bid."

Bayatli said Cape Town had a good chance of securing the Games as there was much popular support for its bid.

He said there were seven European countries which would back the Cape Town bid. There was also the "neutral" IOC Asian bloc which had given every indication that it would support the city.

"This is a tactical bid. If the IOC's African bloc all support Cape Town, then it will get into the final."

● Eastern Cape premier the Rev Arnold Stofile and North West premier Mr Popo Molefe praised the Olympic Bid Company for its "professionalism" in putting together a technically sound bid.

However, Stofile said "the co-ordination of South Africa's voice" needed "to be sharpened. It must be an audible and visible voice ... and we need to enlist the rest of the African continent".

Section 3 (continued)

Section 2 (continued)

City scores hit with fencers

Competitors back Cape Town for Olympics

HANEEM MAJIET
STAFF REPORTER

Cape Town has scored a hit with competitors in the world fencing championships, who are having a whale of a time in the Mother City.

The United States team, which has some of the youngest competitors, is especially enjoying the sights.

Some competitors are loading up on groceries, which they say are far cheaper here.

Terrence Lasker, 19, from Kansas City, has been fencing for seven years and this is his first senior championship. It is also his first visit to the rainbow nation.

"I like the mental aspect of the game; it's just as calculating as chess," he said.

Silvia Helene Lesoil, 21, a psychology student from Norway, has been fencing for 12 years and enjoys the thrill of competition. "Cape Town is very nice and I love the fish, especially the kingklip. Even though Stockholm would be more practical for me, I'll be crossing my fingers for your Olympic bid," she said.

Aknaten Spencer-El, an 18-year-old New Yorker, has visited the Waterfront and would like to see more of the city.

"I would like to see the Olympics on the African continent," he added.

Championship reports, page 19



REUTER

Elation: France's Erick Sreki is held aloft by teammates after beating Russian Pavel Kolobkov in the final of the Men's Épée



Good luck: Steve Tshwete greets contestants

Africa fully behind the bid, Tshwete tells top fencers

(288) ARG 16/7/97

There was massive and united support in Africa for Cape Town to host the 2004 Olympic Games, Minister of Sport and Recreation Steve Tshwete said at the world fencing championships in the city.

Mr Tshwete, who has returned from a extensive visit to Africa and Jamaica, said South Africa was assured of the votes of Africa and the Commonwealth and was hard at work securing Asian support.

He said he had been due to meet the rugby Springboks in Gauteng yesterday but had flown to Cape Town especially to convey his and the Government's support for South Africa's fencers.

He inspected the Culemborg facility where the championships are being held. They will be used should Cape Town's Olympic bid succeed.

He said the current event would boost Cape Town's bid, as competitors and officials would be impressed by the facilities and organisation.

Commenting on the high crime rate and particularly the mugging of an overseas visitor to the fencing at the weekend, Mr Tshwete said muggings happened all over the world.

"We must guarantee the safety and security of athletes and spectators, and we will be able to give this guarantee." – Sapa

Crime low on list of IOC's bid concerns, says Mbeki aide

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

9 ARG 16/7/97

Johannesburg – Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games will not be affected by the national crime wave, according to a government representative on the bid committee.

Mojanku Gumbi, a special adviser to Deputy President Thabo Mbeki who has been seconded to help the bid, said she believed the crime problem was low on the list of concerns for the International Olympic Committee.

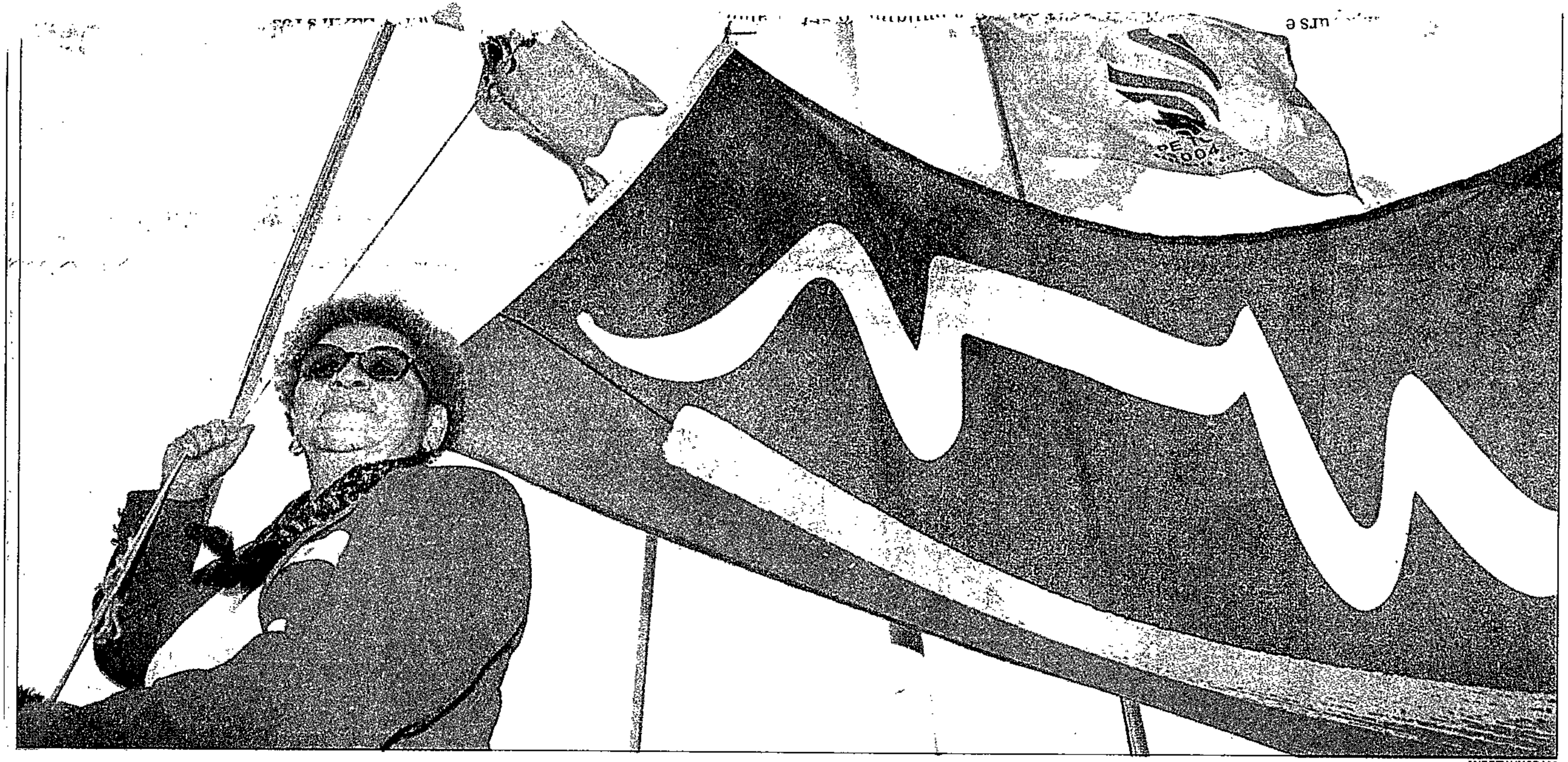
"The first thing the IOC officials look at is capacity ... the ability of the city to cope with the Games," Ms Gumbi said.

"Crime is right down there. It's not their No 1 concern. The IOC officials who have been to Cape Town regularly are able to put the crime problem in perspective. They have experienced sporting events in South Africa and have seen them go off smoothly."

(288)

Having important facilities close together would help ensure a secure Games. "The plan is to have a central point of control. That's why there will be no problems keeping the area secure."

Cape Town is up against Rome, Stockholm, Buenos Aires and Athens. The winner will be announced in Lausanne on September 5. – Sapa



ANDREW INGRAM

Rally round the flag: mayor Theresa Solomon raises Cape Town's new emblem at the Bid Company's Waterfront HQ after a meeting of mayors from around the country pledging support for the 2004 Olympic bid

Cape business backs Olympic bid with R5,5-million

ARG 17/7/97 (288)

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Cape businesses injected R5,5-million into the Olympic Bid today in a major signal of optimism in Cape Town's intensifying lobbying for the 2004 Games.

The initiative, supported by 28 companies, was spearheaded by four corporate chairmen: Marinus Daling of Sanlam, Rob Angel of Engen, Christo Wiese of Pepkor, Boland Bank and Shoprite, and Ton Vosloo of Nasionale Pers.

The contribution comes as the countdown to the big decision drops below the 50-day mark.

The 111-member International Olympic Committee meets in Lausanne on September 5 to choose the host city from the five shortlisted candidates: Cape Town, Rome, Athens, Stockholm and Buenos Aires.

Sanlam's Mr Daling, understood to be the key player in the latest boost to the bid, ascribed the strong support for the project from the business community to the "enormous" potential economic benefits and significantly-increased levels of infrastructure investment, tourism and job creation.

Presenting the R5,5-million cheque at a function in Stellenbosch, Mr Daling said he had no doubt that holding the Games in Cape Town would have "tremendous" economic and other benefits for the city, region and country.

He acknowledged that "as with all business ventures, there will be a risk involved", but projections showed that the

To page 3

Games bid boosted by R5,5-m

From page 1

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ARG 17/7/97

sale of television rights alone would "more than cover" the operating budget.

Mr Daling said that while the potential economic benefits were "critical", there were other "equally important benefits".

"The most important of these is that the challenge of presenting a successful Games will require a team effort by government, business, labour and the community. This, in itself, will contribute to the fostering of a greater sense of national unity."

■ Contributors to the R5,5-million are Sanlam, Engen, Woolworths, Nasionale Pers, Cape Wine and Spirit Institute, BP, Pepkor, Christo Wiese Family and Lanzerac Estate, Boland Bank, Shell, Norwich, Southern Life, Santam, Ceres Fruit Juices, Golden Arrow Bus Services, SA Nylon Spinners, Trencor, Plessey, New Clicks Holdings, Metropolitan Life, CSE Equipment Company, Warner Lambert, Homechoice Holdings, Oceana Fishing Group, Leisurenet, Lenco Holdings, Medi-Clinic Corporation and Polo Manufacturing.

Mayors come out in support of Games bid

CT 17/7/97 (288)

DAN SIMON
STAFF WRITER

MAYORS of the municipalities of major South African cities and towns — including Johannesburg, which lost in the national contest to bid for the Games — have thrown their weight behind Cape Town's 2004 Olympic bid.

The mayors, numbering about 30, visited the city yesterday to attend a briefing by the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company.

Durban Metropolitan Council mayor Mr Obed Mlaba, who spoke on behalf of the group, said Cape Town and South Africa would benefit immensely by the success of the bid.

"Our president, Mr Nelson Mandela, and the cabinet have endorsed Cape Town's bid to the full and because of this we wish to state that it will become the cornerstone towards nation-building."

Minister of Sport Mr Steve Tshwete said there was "massive and united" support in Africa for Cape Town to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

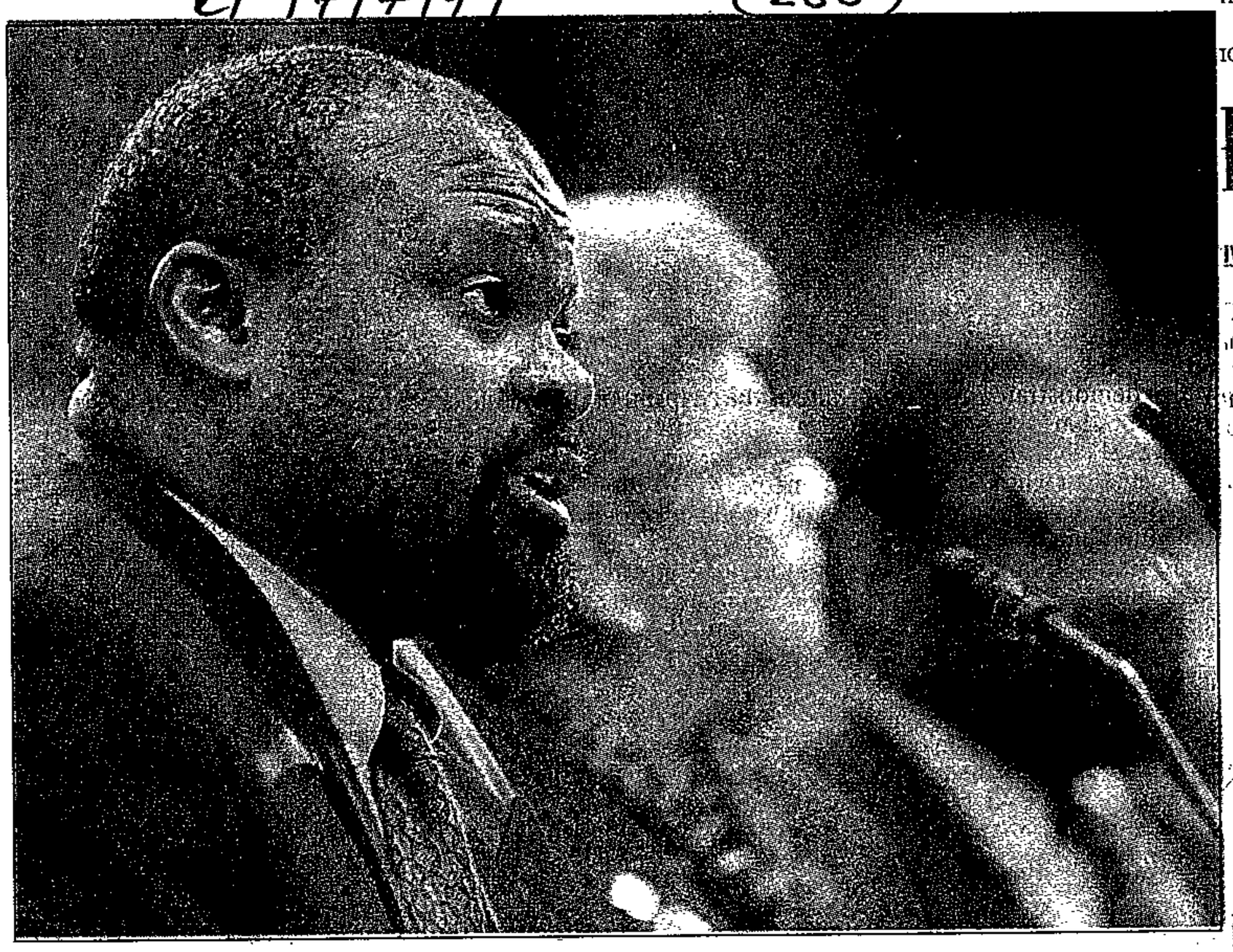
Tshwete, who recently returned from an extensive visit to Africa and Jamaica, said South Africa was assured of the votes of Africa and the Commonwealth, and was hard at work securing Asian support.

The sports minister said he would be going to Melbourne which would be donating some "material" for the city's bid.

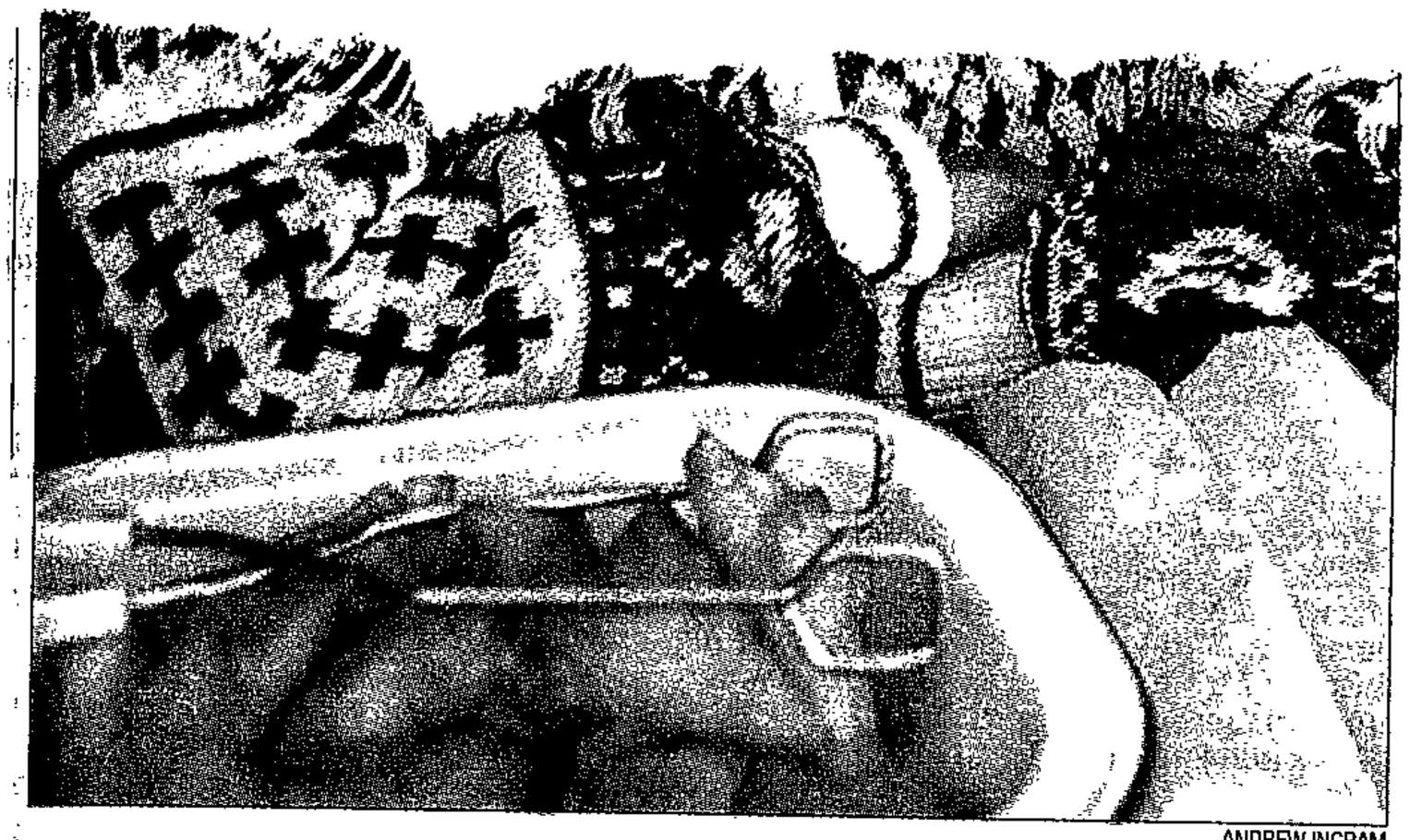
"What we are getting is that the world is solidifying behind the bid," Tshwete said.

He lamented what he termed the small segment of the city's population who were against the bid.

"One hopes that in time they will be appreciative of the economic development and reconciliation that the Games will bring to South Africa."

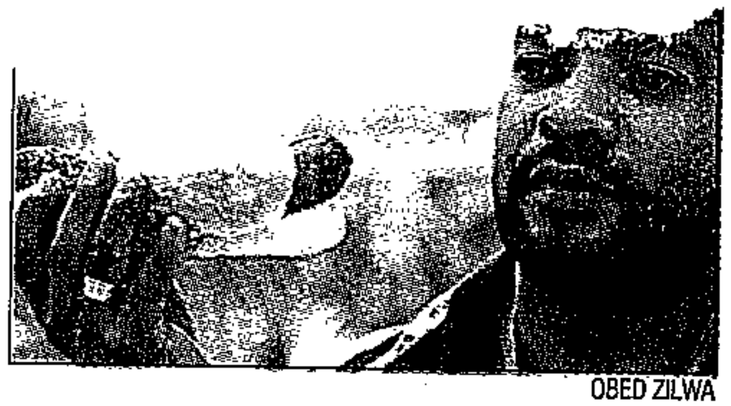


BACKING THE BID: Durban Metropolitan Council mayor Obed Mlaba supported a call by Sports Minister Steve Tshwete for national support for the Cape Town's Olympic bid. About 30 mayors from the country's cities and major town's assembled in Cape Town yesterday to lend their support to the bid. ***PICTURE: KARIN RETIEF***



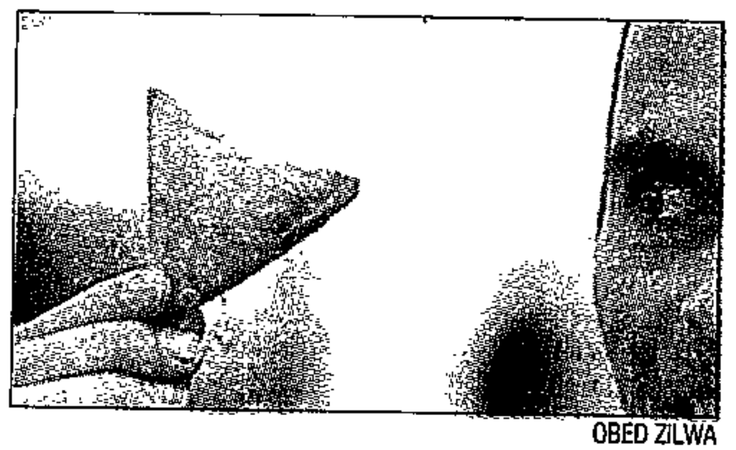
ANDREW INGRAM

Fenced out: foodstall owner Taheera Mohamed who was squeezed out of the fencing venue



OBED ZILWA

'Twice the price': council worker Vincent Strauss



OBED ZILWA

'Rip off': spectator Jean Snijders



OBED ZILWA

'Cheaper here': Australian Seamus Robinson

Anger over high food prices at fencing event

(288) ARG 18/7/97

HANEEM MAJIET
STAFF REPORTER

High food prices at the World Fencing Championships in Cape Town are the unkindest cut for spectators at the Culemborg Exhibition Centre.

The irony is that they could have been buying food and soft drinks much more cheaply from the stall owner who normally operates in the centre – but she had to give way to big business.

Taheera Mohamed, co-owner of the Culemborg Cafe & Take Away, was given the cold shoulder by the event's organising committee, which gave Cape Sun Intercontinental Caterers the franchise. The Cape Sun in turn sub-contracted the takeaway franchise to The Real Food Manufacturer, which has a stall inside the venue and has been selling food for about double the price charged by the previous occupant.

HOW THEY COMPARE

	Culemborg Cafe	The Real Food Manufacturer
Simba chips	R1,30	R3,00
Samoosa	R1,00	R3,00
500ml Coke	R2,30	R4,00
Boerewors roll	R4,20	R10,50
Burger	R4,99	R10,50

Real Food Manufacturer owner Paul Hartman said the Cape Sun had determined the final prices after he had given them his price list.

Mrs Mohamed has been trading inside the centre for almost two years. Business has not been good since she was forced to move outside the centre. "The informal traders or smaller cafe owners must also make a living," she said.

John Allen, project manager for the World Fencing Championships, said it was a "world-class event and so world-class catering was needed".

"There is no rule that forbids people from bringing their own foodstuff along," he said. Only alcohol and cans were banned, Mr Allen added.

The Cape Town municipality's Department of Sports and Recreation has brought juveniles from Pollsmoor prison, children and senior citizens to the event. They have eaten at the Cape Sun's restaurant in the centre, rather than getting takeaways.

Spectator Francois de Jager bought a sandwich for R5 from the official stall and commented: "These prices are more expensive compared to the outside and the sandwich wasn't that appetising either."

"A definite rip-off for locals," he said.

Jean Snijders refused to buy anything at the venue because "the prices are too high and I could buy a samoosa for a third of the price anywhere outside," he said.

For Australian participant Seamus Robinson, the price of coffee and pie (R6) was fair. "In Australia I would pay the equivalent of R7, so it's a little bit cheaper."

One of the assistants at the foodstall refused to sell an apple to the Cape Argus and criticised the newspaper for "looking for news". Only when the owner, Mr Hartman, returned did he sell the apple – for R1.

Jeremy Harris, marketing manager of Captour, said prices had been "blown out of proportion".

Municipal workers Salie Davids and Solomon Alexander bring their own food there.

"Outside a boerewors roll would cost R2,50-R3. Selling it perhaps for R5 wouldn't be that bad but R10,50 is much too expensive," said Mr Davids.

B&Bs unite to open 'the largest hotel in the land'

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT (288)
TOURISM REPORTER
ARG 18/7/97

Bed and breakfast establishment owners, the poor relations of South Africa's hospitality industry, have formed a new organisation to capture more of the lucrative tourism market.

The Bed and Breakfast Bureau aims to establish "the largest hotel in South Africa" by bringing together all the "rooms to let" in the country in one central organisation.

The essential difference between a typical B&B establishment and a guest house, explains bureau co-ordinator Christina Krige, is that guest houses rent out most of the rooms in the house while B&B clients usually occupy only one or two rooms in a family home.

This type of accommodation was becoming increasingly popular among foreigners who enjoyed the interaction with locals while business travellers also preferred the "personal atmosphere", said Ms Krige.

"As most of the small entrepreneurs don't advertise on the outside of their homes and find it too expensive to advertise in newspapers, glossy brochures, magazines and agencies with high listing fees, potential customers are often not able to find them," said Ms Krige.

She added that B&Bs also had very little help from cash-strapped official bodies like Captour and Satour.

This is the reason small B&Bs have been co-ordinating their strategy for the summer holiday "onslaught".

The bureau has about 120 Western Cape members on its books already and has been asked to extend its service countrywide.

Members are required to pay R100 a month and in turn the bureau will refer customers to them through a central booking number and will advertise their services on the Internet, in the media and through pamphlets.

Ms Krige said some B&Bs were already struggling to keep up with the demand for accommodation.

'Sick' cop dies

City's Olympic hopes get a multiple boost

Praise from IOC member

(288)
ARG 18/7/97

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Cape Town's Olympic hopes have been given a multiple boost with high praise from top figures in the Olympic movement, a major private sector cash injection and mounting public support.

In a big day for the bid yesterday:

■ Lobbying coffers were boosted by a R5,5-million contribution from the private sector.

■ Praise was heaped on Cape Town's plan by the visiting International Olympic Committee member from Malaysia.

■ The World Fencing Championships in the city, a key test for the bid, was described as "the best ever" by world fencing boss Rene Roch.

■ The Yellow Ribbon campaign, launched recently to promote support for the bid, moved into a higher gear, with the rival Cata and Codeta taxi associations backing the initiative. Seardel Investment Corporation and Julius Solomon Pty Ltd have donated 6 000 metres of yellow ribbon to the campaign

Speaking at a luncheon at Lanzerac at which the Bid Company was given cheques totalling R5,5-million from 28 local companies, Malaysian IOC member, Tan Seri Hamzah, said Cape Town had cleared the first hurdle in making it on to the shortlist, "and I am confident you will be able to jump the other hurdles".

He said: "After looking at your plan, I have no alternative but to say that you are one of the favourite cities in contention for the Games."

Mr Hamzah is the 43rd IOC member to visit the city.

"To be honest, I never anticipated that there would be such a good plan here. You have done extremely good work," he said.

Yesterday's cash boost for the bid marks a significant shift in business and public confidence in the project. The initiative was spearheaded by four leading corporate chairmen - Marinus Daling of Sanlam, Rob Angel of Engen, Christo Wiese of Pepkor, Boland Bank and Shoprite, and Ton Vosloo of Nasionale Pers.

John Temple, chief executive of the Plessey Corporation, which contributed R100 000, said: "Securing international confidence and capital are core ingredients of the bid.

"So too is creating a hopeful start in a new millennium for a continent that needs a renaissance."

Earlier in the day, president of the World Fencing Federation Rene Roch said of the Cape Town championships – which run until tomorrow: "We have never had such a good event before.

"From the point of the view of organisational capacity and from the participants point of view, this was the best. I congratulate you."

WATER FILTH PUTS DAMPER ON BID

Stockholm – Praising Stockholm's cleanliness for delegates assessing the city's 2004 Olympic bid, the mayor offered them drinks from the city's vast lake – which turned out to have high levels of bacteria.

Mayor Mats Hulth gave several International Olympic Committee delegates drinks from Lake Malaren. But then tests found high levels of coliform bacteria in the water.

"You'd have to be pretty thirsty if you drink this water," said an environmental official. – Sapa-AP

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Satour postpones its audit report release

288
Sowetan 18/7/97

By Shadrack Mashalaba

THE South African Tourism Board (Satour) has postponed the release of its audit report because their preliminary results have shown that "there is more to it than it initially indicated".

The tourism body's new chief executive officer Michael Farr announced at a media briefing recently that Satour was conducting a forensic and performance audit of the organisation's affairs when it discovered that the organisation was not properly run.

Farr said yesterday that the results, which were expected to be released some time this week, had to be postponed to mid-August as the auditors – Hoffman, Fisher, Sithole – had discovered that there was more to investigate than was originally expected.

Farr said that proper financial procedures have not been followed since 1995.



Michael Farr

The process of conducting the audit reports forms part of Satour's transformation which is expected to last six months.

Once completed, it is expected that the organisation will be streamlined. This will enable the organisation to run efficiently in its endeavour to promote South Africa as a tourist destination.

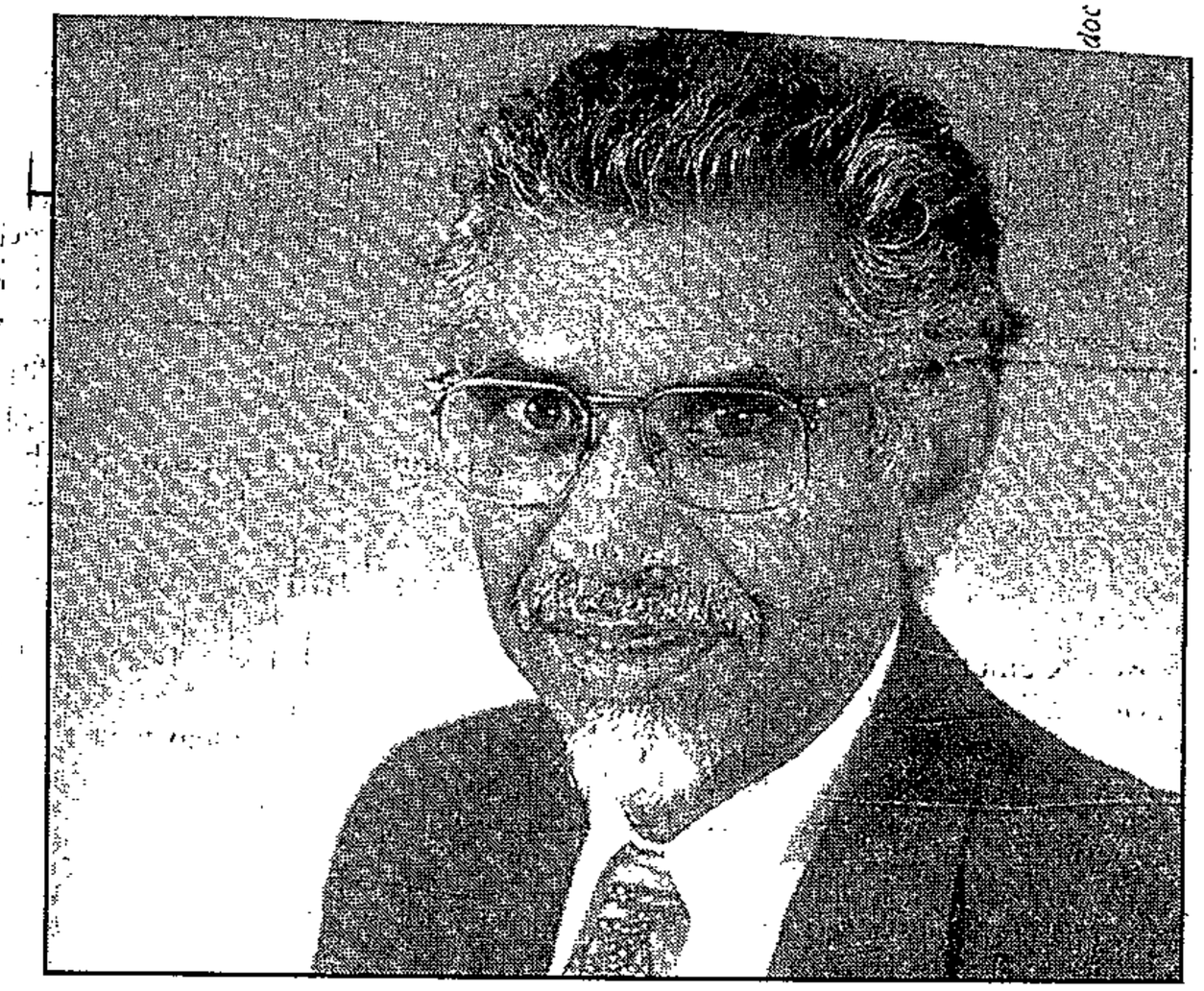
"The audit's main focus will be on the procurement procedures because this forms the main component within the organisation's activities.

"We think the public deserves the right to know what had happened, which is why we are doing this audit.

"Once the reports are released and it is found that individuals were involved, these individuals will have to be held responsible for their actions," added Farr.

He said the transformation presently being undertaken will also include Satour's 12 offices overseas.

Satour currently employs about 115 people at their head office in Pretoria and have 54 workers on their books at their offices abroad



Mac Maharaj

Race for Airports group adviser

TRANSPORT Minister Mac Maharaj and Public Enterprises Minister Stella Sigcau yesterday announced three candidates for the post of transaction adviser in the restructuring of the Airports Company.

The candidates are SBC Warburg in partnership with Gobodo Incorporated, a firm of accountants and consultants; Standard Corporate and Merchant Bank in partnership with Morgan Stanley and Coordinated Management Consulting; and Deutsche Morgan Grenfell.

They were chosen out of 17 bids received when the deadline closed on July 14, the Transport Department said.

The parties will be interviewed by the restructuring committee on July 25 and the successful candidate will be announced shortly afterwards. – *Sapa.*

Hotel industry shows an 'upward trend'

(288) BD 18/7/97

Janet Parker

PROSPECTS for SA's hotel industry were good and in aggregate the industry was doing better than two years ago, although individually, hotels in certain areas were battling, Kessel Feinstein senior consulting partner Delano Caras said yesterday.

Hotel occupancies had "softened", but the industry should take into account the "significant increase in hotel capacity" which had come on stream, particularly in Sandton, and Johannesburg's northern suburbs, he said.

Calculated on occupancy alone, figures in the hotel sector did not reflect an accurate picture of the industry's growth as it omitted the increase in hotel capacity.

"But when you take inflation out of the growth figures, deseasonalise the industry and calculate growth according to revenue per available room, SA's hotel industry shows a general upward trend and is still better off now than it was two years ago."

Although domestic tourism had sagged slightly and SA's economy had contracted, hotel operating environments had not "suddenly gone bad", and the main factor influencing the industry was simply supply versus demand.

"The climate is good, but not as good as the developers want it to be. You can't turn the development tap on and off."

Caras said even though the supply for hotel capacity in Cape Town was growing, development was outgrowing it and the city's hotel industry would run into an oversupply problem in the next two years. "If development slows down in the areas of potential oversupply, occupancies will pick up once demand has mopped up that supply."

Foreign tourism had increased 15% compounded annually for the last ten years, although this uninterrupted growth had come off a low base, "so the increase is quite staggering ... you can't ask for more than that", he said.

However, the casino industry could potentially aggravate the oversupply problem as most casino licence bids consisted of developments which included one or two hotels.

CAPE TIMES
FRIDAY, JULY 18, 1997 ★

MORE SECURITY NEEDED ON STREETS

City unsafe, say fencers

er 18/7/97 (288)

THE FACILITIES MAY be good and the events start on time, but if Cape Town wants the Olympics, it must improve its security. **DALE GRANGER** and **FATIMA SCHROEDER** report.

FRENCH double Olympic fencing gold medallist Laura Flessel loves Cape Town, but says overseas competitors feel unsafe and are scared to walk the streets of the city after several violent attacks on visiting fencers.

Fencers at the Culemborg Exhibition Centre told yesterday of money being stolen from their hotel rooms earlier this week.

Cuban fencer Iva'n Trevejo said his wallet was stolen from his hotel room while he was out training.

"I think the money was stolen by someone who works at the hotel," an angry Trejevo said.

This is in contrast to claims by Cape Town Central police chief Director Raymond Dowd that this year's World Fencing Championships were virtually crime free.

Dowd claims the city's security at the championships has been successful in curbing crime. "Only two incidents have been reported. Obviously the policing systems must then be very good."

However Flessel, 26, said she was particularly shaken by the violent attack on veteran French fencer Guy Colin, who was robbed by five men armed with knives outside the Tulbagh Protea Hotel.

Colin, 74, and a fellow Frenchman were walking to his hotel when the muggers stabbed him in the head and upper torso. He was rushed to City Park Hospital.

"I'm not angry. It can happen anywhere, but I think better security is needed if Cape Town wants to host the Olympic Games," he said.

Flessel said the crime and violence had been a major talking point among the visiting fencers.

She and her husband, French journalist Denis Colovic, said a second Frenchman, a Pole, and a Hungarian were also mugged at knifepoint last week, and this week another Pole and Hungarian were robbed at gunpoint.

"Yes, you can host the Olympics," she said. "The organisation and facilities have been good and everything always started on time. The only insecurity is crime and we never felt safe walking in the streets of the city."

"What sickened us (about the attack) was that two of the (French) men attacked were old people," said Colovic.

He described Atlanta as a city "with the same problems, it is also a violent place," but added: "It was no problem (at the Olympics). You could not walk for 2m without seeing a cop. We never saw the same thing in Cape Town."

A Russian journalist was mugged and threatened in Woodstock on Saturday by four men armed with knives. The muggers took his passport and money.

Two Ukranians also claimed that money was stolen from them.

Mother City Olympic frenzy

(288) Sowetan 22/7/97

School kids drawn into bid to be *the* host country

By Rafiq Rohan
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN has moved into top gear as the countdown to the naming of the host city for the 2004 Olympic Games reaches frenzied proportions. It's a frenzy that will only end – victorious or otherwise - in September.

It has also introduced a unique programme aimed at educating students about the event. The Cape Town Bid Company has searched schools for young adults to officially act as ambassadors of the Cape Olympics.

This is not the only innovation that is on the cards from those involved in the bid process. A youth programme, spearheaded by the Bid Committee's director of community relations, Saaliegah Zardad, has been described as unique in the history of the Olympics.

Full of praise

The Youth Education Programme was one of the elements of the Cape bid that left officials from the International Olympic Committee full of praise when they visited the country just before the five finalist cities were announced.

"Our Youth Education Programme is aimed at inspiring and educating people about our bid and about the Olympics," Zardad pointed out.

While citizens in most countries have a good understanding of the Olympics, the years of isolation have left South Africans with a limited understanding of the event.

The average pupil or student will explain the Olympics away as a four-yearly sports event where sports people gather to compete. It is a lot more than that – especially to South Africans in the new democracy.

"Many of the goals of the Olympics coincide with our national reconstruction and development programme, which promotes peace and human development," Zardad said.

The community relations department of the Bid Company has put into effect an ambitious programme which draws in schools from throughout the Peninsula and the country.

The flagship activity involving schools is a programme called "A Journey to Light the Sky". It gives pupils a more concrete idea of what the bid involves.

Every city making a bid for the Olympics has to submit a Bid Book, which is essentially the city's plans and strategies for staging the Olympics.

What "A Journey to Light the Sky" does is to get schools involved in the process by getting them to come up with their own Bid Book. The school that comes up with the most creative and innovative Bid Book will walk off with the top awards at a gala ceremony in August.

The school Bid Book will consist of a compilation of essays, sketches, poems, songs and letters to the IOC, which detail why Cape Town deserves to stage the Games.

Zardad said: "This book belongs to the youth of Cape Town. Its composition includes anything that will demonstrate to the IOC how appointing our city as the host for the 2004 Games will enhance the ideals of peace and unity between the nations of the world."

Hundreds of schools have responded to the competition and the best entries are in the process of being compiled into an official Cape Town 2004 Schools' Bid Book.

"A Journey to Light the Sky" also encompasses other unique features – the Ambassadors' Programme and the Major League Programme. These are designed to engage youth as the pioneering spirit in the Cape bid.

Zardad explained: "Each school was requested to nominate one pupil candidate to be an ambassador for the Cape Town 2004 Bid.

"We were looking for well-informed, articulate, charismatic and spirited young adults who will champion the cause of the Olympic Games in our city."

An exciting period lies ahead for those selected to make up the group of 10 ambassadors. Their role includes being the bid leaders at their schools and they will be responsible for promoting the bid process.

Envoys who will travel

"These envoys will be authorised to travel to schools and attend official ceremonies and conferences as representatives of Cape Town 2004 Bid."

Earlier this year the third aspect of the "Journey to Light the Sky" programme was implemented – the Major League Programme. Pupils with initiative, ambition and an interest in acting as torchbearers for the bid were selected to become major leaguers.

Five pupils from each school were selected, one of them as the bid leader. They will attend workshops which will provide a wide range of skills including project organisation and leadership.

"These skills will allow them to take charge of implementing an Olympic bid promotional and cultural programme at their schools."

To add to this novel programme, the Cape Town Bid Committee has been engaged in making presentations to some 80 000 students and teachers in 2 000 schools.

The Western Cape education MEC has also agreed to an hour a week being included in the school curriculum, during which various aspects of the Olympics are discussed.

Zardad explained that an overwhelming number of schoolteachers voluntarily attended workshops for ideas on what they could teach in the one-hour weekly lesson.

The Cape Olympic Committee has provided the schools with documents that detail the history of the Olympic Games and an overview of the Olympic Movement.





Chris Ball's Olympic Bid Committee is educating students about Cape Town's bid.

South Africa's role is not a happy one. Apartheid saw to that. When this pernicious system was introduced in South Africa, there was worldwide condemnation.

One of the most telling punishments was the suspension of South Africa from the Games in 1960 and then its expulsion in 1972.

World unity

But the Olympic Movement itself has not always been united.

World Wars or political power games have been the main obstacle. Only as recently as 1992 did the Olympic Games truly show world unity. Now, all that is left for the final success of the Olympics themselves is for the five Olympic rings that represent the five different continents to be true to its meaning – and give the Olympics to Africa for the first time by making Cape Town the winner of the bid to host the 2004 Games.

Bookies put their bid money on Rome

BD 22/7/97 (288)

Samantha Sharpe

CAPE TOWN — Local bookmakers have identified Cape Town as the third favourite city, after Rome and Athens, to host the 2004 Olympic games, offering odds of 4-1 for those wanting to bet on the mother city.

Cape Town is on a shortlist of five cities, including Rome, Athens, Stockholm and Buenos Aires, that are vying to hold the 2004 games. The winner will be chosen in Lausanne on September 5.

Cape Town bookmaker Michael Hayman said that Rome remained the odds on favourite to win, with punters being quoted 8-10, followed by Athens at 5-2 and Cape Town at 4-1.

"Buenos Aires and Stockholm are pretty much rank outsiders at 12-1 and 33-1 respectively, which puts them out of the picture in terms of the betting game," a Michael Hayman spokesman said.

He said punters had already placed several "significant" bets on Cape Town, with a few putting money behind Athens, but "nothing on Rome".

"However, we're receiving a lot of phone calls as the bid city race generates increasing interest closer to the cut off, with punters mostly placing bets in accordance with their patriotic zeal," he said.

The odds were not expected to change much before the September 5 announcement of the winning bid city.

Reuter reports UK bookmaker William Hill also makes Rome the odds-on favourite, ahead of Athens and Cape Town.

The organisation is quoting odds of 4-7 on Rome, 11-4 for Athens and 4-1 for Cape Town, with Stockholm and Buenos Aires the outsiders at odds of 7-1 and 14-1 respectively.

A survey of Olympic sports federations, sponsors and sports journalists earlier this month also predicted that the International Olympic Committee would probably choose Rome.

te will be close, says Prince Albert

ARG 23/7/97 (288)

SA's crime problems played down



y staff after flying back to Cape Town from Pretoria yesterday

OBED ZILWA

Prince Albert of Monaco has downplayed the significance of South Africa's crime problems to Cape Town's chances in the five-city contest for Olympic host status.

After meeting President Mandela in Pretoria yesterday, the prince noted that all major cities in the world had crime problems and said: "It is nothing new – and I don't think that is the primary criterion for choosing a candidate city."

Other International Olympic Committee members have made similar observations. Sapa reports that Prince Albert would not be drawn on South Africa's chances of hosting the Olympic Games but believed all candidate cities had very strong bids. "Whatever the outcome, it will be a very close vote, a very tight competition."

President Mandela used the occasion to dismiss suggestions that some groups in Parliament opposed the bid.

"Nothing could be further from the truth. The Cabinet is united in supporting the bid," he told reporters.

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Prince Albert said the IOC had received an anonymous letter saying certain groups in South Africa opposed the bid.

He told reporters the IOC did not usually take such letters into consideration, unless they originated from an official source. "Anyone can write an anonymous letter. That shouldn't be taken seriously at this point."

Mr Mandela told Prince Albert that Africa was the only continent which had not yet hosted the Olympic Games.

"We have pointed out that the Olympic logo has five rings, each representing a continent. We told them the logo should be translated into practice by accepting our bid."

It had been very difficult to get any indication from visiting IOC members wether or not they supported Cape Town's bid as they were born diplomats, Mr Mandela said.

"They merely listened and noted and said nothing.

"We sincerely hope that the fact that the Olympic Games have never come to Africa will be taken into account."

Prince Albert ends his three-day visit to South Africa today. He said he had been impressed with the beauty of Cape Town and the hospitality of the people.

"Unfortunately it is a very short visit – but it will give us a good idea of what the bid is all about," said Prince Albert.

Angry hoteliers threaten to stop paying Satour's bills

ARG 23/7/97 (288)

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
TOURISM REPORTER

Fed-up hotel owners across the country are threatening to withhold payment of Satour bed levies before the end of the year unless the burden is spread more fairly across the tourism industry.

The owners of Satour-graded hotels – the major groups and 270 smaller ones – have thrown down the gauntlet to the Government because they believe others in the industry should also pay towards Satour's international marketing funds.

The boycotting of hotel bed levies would mean an annual loss of R22-million to the cash-strapped tourism body, which has a R63-million budget for this year.

The industry is meeting Satour today to discuss the issue.

An airport departure tax has been mooted as a viable alternative for generating funds for marketing South Africa abroad.

The Western Cape Tourism Board, with its R3-million budget for this year, would lose R1,7-million if the levies were not paid.

The levies, determined according to grading, have been paid on a voluntary

To page 3

SATOUR BED LEVIES

FOR ALL GRADED ACCOMMODATION
(per room occupied, per night)

HOTELS:	
★	R1
★★	R2
★★★	R3
★★★★	R4
★★★★★	R5
GUEST HOUSES:	R3
BED & BREAKFAST:	R2

(excluding VAT)

Levies produce an annual income of R22 million for Satour, of which the Western Cape Tourism Board receives R1,7 million.

Hotels throw down R22-m gauntlet to Satour

From page 1

(288) ARG 23/7/97

contract basis by all the Satour-graded establishments since 1989.

But dropping hotel occupancy levels, increasing competition from guest-houses and growing unhappiness with Satour's performance have prompted the hotel owners to put pressure on the Government to change the system.

"There has been a lot of unhappiness in the industry about Satour's performance – and the feeling is that if Satour's restructure and transformation don't take place soon to include input from the private sector, the hotel owners will not pay the levies anymore," said Willem Fick, chairman of the National Hotel Association.

He said the levies, which were added to customers' accounts, amounted to ab.. 1,5 percent of a hotel's annual turnover.

The NHA and the National Hotel Industry Liaison group, which represents the big groups including Southern Sun, Protea, City Lodge and Holiday Inn, want the grading and levy system to be separated.

Satour chairwoman Liz Westby-Nunn said the organisation had agreed that an alternative levy be investigated. However, over the past month the hotels had stepped up the pressure because they wanted the ..han later".

The current levy system is determined per room occupied per night: a one-star hotel pays R1, a two-star R2, a three-star R3, a four-star R4 and a five-star R5.

Join tourism industry, says the SBDC

(288)

Patrick Wadula
BD 23/7/97

THERE was relatively low exploitation of tourism and related activities in all parts of the country by small and medium-sized businesses, Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) MD Jo Schwenke said yesterday.

He said small and medium-sized enterprises were already involved directly in the broader tourism industry including restaurants, small hotels, guest houses, bed and breakfast establishments and tour companies mainly in Gauteng and the Western Cape provinces.

However, he said it was time to exploit the provincial areas including the Northern Province and the Eastern, Southern and Northern Cape.

Schwenke said small and medium businesses could only exist and thrive if some form of stimulus of economic activity took place.

He said basic economic stimuli involved agriculture, forestry, mining, manufacturing, tourism, transport and education centres.

These, he said, led to demand for retail outlets, service providers and small manufacturing, which in turn would generate their own demands.

TOURISM

Hotels and Satour meet over levy dispute

Representatives of most South African hotel groups met senior executives of the South African Tourism Board (Satour) yesterday afternoon over the hoteliers' threat to stop paying levies to Satour.

The levies, ranging from R1 a night for one-star hotels to R5 a night for five-star hotels, contribute R22 million towards Satour's budget, which was R63 million this year — an amount considered too low for the tourism body to carry out effective marketing. The hoteliers have called for the levy to be spread more widely throughout the tourism industry and for more effective marketing of South Africa overseas.

A shakeup at Satour has led to the departure of many staff and a freeze on job replacement, which has caused some remaining staff to take on extra responsibilities. Michael Farr, Satour's new executive director, was not available for comment yesterday.

— *Audrey d'Angelo, Cape Town*

City's good points make mark on ranks of IOC

(288)

ARG 24/7/97

Latest group puts crime in its place

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Cape Town's strong points as a contender for the 2004 Games are hitting the mark in the ranks of the International Olympic Committee as the race intensifies.

With just over a month to go before the September 5 vote in Lausanne, it is emerging that the city's key assets in the race are the good causes underpinning the bid, the African link, the sound technical plan, and the unexpected impression the city and its environment make on first-time visitors.

Although visiting IOC members tend to be predisposed to making complimentary assessments of the bid without actually declaring their voting intentions, there is a growing consensus that the bid is a strong contender in the five-city race. This is reflected in comments by three visiting IOC members yesterday.

Prince Albert of Monaco, Antun Vrdoljak of Croatia and Bashir Mohamed Attarabulsi of Libya effectively dismissed concern about crime. They drew a distinction between crime and security and highlighted other elements that stand Cape Town in good stead.

Mr Vrdoljak provoked a ripple of laughter during the press conference when he noted that "democracy is not always good for security. I lived for 45 years under communism – security was excellent, but life was bad, not free".

Prince Albert noted: "The technical aspects of Cape Town's bid are extremely solid and the beauty of the city and its surroundings are certainly on your side.

"What we have seen here is a strong bid, but that does not mean it's the best bid. The other four bids are very strong too, but we are very impressed by what we have seen."

Mr Attarabulsi singled out the fact that the bid was "not ashamed to show us poverty and the reality of what you have here" as a positive feature of the lobbying.

"In some places, they hide the bad things but I think it is excellent and positive that we were shown the poverty here."

He was particularly impressed by the transport plan for the Cape Town Games.

He said it was more significant to ask why the Games should be held in a particular city than simply where they should be held.

So far, 48 of the 111 IOC members have visited Cape Town.

By September 5, the bid team is hoping to have brought between 70 and 75 to the city. More than 20 other members have been canvassed abroad.

Fifa chief favours Buenos Aires for 2004 Games

Buenos Aires – Joao Havelange, the Brazilian-born president of the international football body, Fifa, has openly endorsed Argentina's bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

"I knew of Buenos Aires' bid and thought it was good. But when I saw it myself I was thrilled – the proposal is the most solid and feasible one to organise the Olympic Games," Mr Havelange told a news conference in Argentina.

"When Rio de Janeiro lost the candidacy, I immediately threw my support behind Argentina because that way I get to keep the ball," he said. "I know Buenos Aires well; it has long been my second home. I even spent my honeymoon here and that was a long time ago."

Mr Havelange, who was granted the country's highest decoration, the Mayor Order for Merit, by President Carlos Menem, showered praise on Argentina.

He said athletes would not have to travel long distances to take part in Olympic events.

He also said he backed the candidacy of Argentine Football Association (AFA) president Julio Grondona as his successor when he retired next year. – Reuter

Tourists vote city No 3

(288) ARG 24/7/97

New York – An up-market travel newsletter survey places Cape Town third among the 10 most attractive cities in the world.

Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report rated cities on the basis of the 1 500 responses it received after asking readers to identify the ones they liked most – and those to stay away from.

San Francisco and Vancouver were the only cities receiving more than 99 "approval rating" points, but third-place Cape Town did almost as well, scoring 98,9.

Other favourites, in order of preference, were Sydney, Jerusalem, Kyoto, Florence, London, Venice and Boston.

Detroit, Los Angeles, Mexico City and Miami were named as places that should be avoided. – Sapa

NEWS

SA no longer 'flavour of the month'

Tourism has to become a priority, warns minister

ARG 25/7/97 (288)

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
TOURISM REPORTER

South Africa has lost its "special interest" status among international travellers with the Western Cape being of "limited global importance", says Western Cape MEC for tourism Lampie Fick.

Mr Fick made the remarks on his return from a Tourism and Travel conference in Crans Montana, Switzerland, where global development trends, sustainable growth in tourism and job opportunities flowing from the tourism industry were discussed by about 1 200 delegates from Western and Eastern Europe and Africa.

Tourism and travel were identified as one of the three super industries expected to drive developed economies in the 21st century, with a growth forecast of 42 percent in real terms during the next decade.

However, South Africa's share of this super industry should not be accepted as a fait accompli, warned Mr Fick.

"We will have to go and fetch our share in consistent performance and in competition with some very clever new emerging markets who fully understand the enormous benefits of this industry," he said.

A host of destinations in Africa, Latin America, Eastern Europe and the Far East were presenting value for money in places equally as beautiful as the Cape.

Mr Fick emphasised that the national and provincial governments would have to make tourism a strategic economic development and employment priority if they wanted to secure a corner of this lucrative market.

"Although this has been accepted by the provincial government, budget cuts by central government mean we are unable to put our money where our beliefs are," the minister said.

Tourism created jobs, especially for small and medium-sized enterprises and often in rural areas, where structural unemployment was most severe.

Mr Fick said the industry had the potential to grow at twice the rate of the provincial GDP provided that certain barriers to growth were eliminated. These included provision of safety and security for tourists, the development of human resources and a service culture, stability in hotel prices and intelligent taxing to promote growth and exports.

Big hotel groups seek to solve Satour funding crisis

R300-m a year needed to boost tourism

(288)

ARG 28/7/97

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
TOURISM REPORTER

Owners of leading hotel groups are determined to find a solution to the funding crisis undermining the tourism industry.

This is in spite of their notifying Satour last week that they intend to stop paying hotel levies.

The levies, paid by all Satour-graded establishments, provide the cash-strapped tourism marketing authority with about R22-million a year, intended for the promotion of South Africa overseas.

But because of Satour's limited budget, it is believed, some of these funds are used for operating expenses.

The big hotels have become increasingly unhappy about having to bear the funding burden on behalf of the rest of the industry and are putting pressure on Satour to come up with a more equitable alternative.

The hotel owners met Satour in Pretoria last week to discuss the issue.

Otto Stehlik, chairman of the hotel industry liaison group representing the big hotels, said the system was unfair because the big hotels ended up paying while many other players enjoyed a "free ride". This was because the system was voluntary and many were simply not paying.

"We end up paying because we realise our responsibility towards the industry even when it does not suit our needs," Mr Stehlik said.

The levies were linked to the grading of hotels, but some of the bigger groups had their own grading schemes.

"We have excellent co-operation with Satour and have respect for their new management, but everyone agrees that a new way will have to be found to raise funds for the tourism industry," Mr Stehlik said.

Everyone recognised the potential of tourism and accepted that Satour had the right people and structures in place but they still needed money.

To compete with other long-haul destinations, about R300-million a year was needed, he added.

Director Michael Farr said Satour regarded the hotels' demands as reasonable and agreed that a new funding mechanism would have to be found.

An airport departure tax was one of the proposals.

"We agreed to explore this and other options in detail in a process linked to Satour's redesign," Mr Farr said.

Satour hoped to come up by September this year with a proposal acceptable to the hotel industry.

New crime blow to

Fears drive world 4x4 launch out of

Cape (288)

ARG 29/7/97

City

HENRI DU PLESSIS AND CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTERS

Foreign perceptions about crime have dealt another serious blow to the Western Cape tourism industry with the cancellation of a big international vehicle launch in Cape Town.

Land-Rover's new Freelander would have been unveiled to about 3 000 foreign guests, including the world's motoring media, later this year at a launch in the city expected to cost an estimated R6-million.

But Cape Town was scrapped as the venue after invited foreign delegates expressed concern about the level of crime here, a Land-Rover of South Africa spokesman confirmed. The possible new venue is in Spain.

Tourism experts expressed disappointment and concern about the cancellation of the launch, which would have meant huge financial spin-offs and maximum international exposure for the city.

This blow comes while the city's tourism industry is reeling from the announcement that the successful rent-a-cop scheme will be disbanded, raising fears that crime will soar in the city centre.

The 3 000 foreign guests to the launch would have stayed in the city's hotels in groups for six weeks. "We cannot put a monetary value on Cape Town's loss, but other people have offered figures in the region of about R6-million," said Land-Rover public relations manager Bruce Robertson.

He said the cancellation was a result of concern about unacceptably high crime rather than the actual situation.

"At the end of the day, a lot of negative concerns were expressed by a number of international delegates and we decided to cancel. The last thing you need is for something to go wrong after you've insisted on going to a particular venue your guests had reservations about," Mr Robertson said.

"At the moment it seems as if Spain will be the venue, but the final decision has yet to be made."

Western Cape Tourism Board chairman David Jack said the decision to cancel the launch of a leading product, which

To page 3

New blow to city as crime kills big launch

From page 1

(288)

ARG 29/7/97

would be sold worldwide, was "most unfortunate".

The company's rationale for cancelling showed that "unless the situation is addressed by the highest levels of government, the enormous potential of the tourism industry to create jobs and generate foreign revenue will not materialise".

Mr Jack said the business sector and the Government should work together to address the situation and said he hoped the decision to disband the rent-a-cop scheme would be reviewed.

The board's deputy chairman, Johan Neethling, said negative publicity surrounding the cancellation of the event could lead to a "domino effect", putting off other businesses and potential visitors.

Hugh von Zahn, chairman of the Western Cape Tourism Business Council, described the loss of income as "tragic". "One has to ask oneself what is being done about crime and what wheels are turning to change the situation."

He said attempts to secure the inner city had failed because of a lack of capability in the police, justice and prisons departments.

On the disbanding of rent-a-cops, Mr Von Zahn said: "It is retrogressive. I feel we are constantly moving backwards."

Captour chairman Gordon Oliver, who was involved in earlier talks with Land-Rover about the city, was "disturbed" about the cancellation.

It once again justified calls from the tourism industry for the country and the city to "get a grip" on the crime situation.

The local promoters of the launch cited "commercial reasons" for the cancellation.

Shaun Blake, managing director of promoters The Inside Edge, accused Mr Robertson of having "a big mouth" and questioned Land-Rover's professionalism for pulling out several months before the scheduled launch.

Back bid, US business urged

Erwin sketches new SA as investor's dream

(288) ARG 29/7/97

FOREIGN SERVICE AND REUTER

Washington – Trade and Industry Minister Alec Erwin has called on US business leaders to support Cape Town's bid to host the Olympics in 2004, saying the Games would create jobs for hundreds of South Africans.

Mr Erwin told about 300 business leaders at a two-day South African trade and investment conference that hosting the Olympics would be a symbolic gesture of recognition for the people of South Africa and the entire African continent.

In his keynote speech at the conference hosted by his US counterpart, Commerce Secretary William Daley, Mr Erwin punted South Africa as an investor's dream destination.

He said the country's economic reconstruction was moving beyond the process of stabilisation and into a phase where new projects were coming on stream.

"If the strongest economy in Africa – South Africa – is capable of expanding, growing, and bringing about sustainable socio-economic development, then this must be positive for the revival of Africa."

Mr Erwin praised the Southern African Development Community (SADC) saying it was playing an important role in the revitalisation of southern Africa. He said SADC leaders had a "new determination" to implement serious economic reforms.

"If the southern African economy revives, if Africa revives, then a bridge forms between the rapidly growing areas of East Asia ... and Latin America, and a new configuration of economic interaction begins to become a reality in the world – an economic configuration of the countries in the southern hemisphere, which begin to interact, trade, and invest between themselves," he said.

Mr Daley said his department would make an aggressive effort to promote US trade and investment with Africa.

As part of that push, he said, he would lead a delegation of US business leaders on a trade mission to Africa early next year and would make sure his agency's export assistance centres promoted opportunities in Africa.

The conference is part of the US-South Africa Binational Commission summit co-chaired by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and US Vice-President Al Gore.

The US Trade and Development Agency, one of the sponsors, released a list of 45 new South African projects in transportation, environment, telecommunications, industry, power and tourism that could offer business opportunities for US companies.

Mr Daley said South Africa could be a good place to start for many US businesses.

"We are seeking to emphasise the significant opportunity, not only in South Africa but in the entire continent," he said. "Part of our message today is that South Africa clearly is an economy and a market well worthy of very serious market attention.

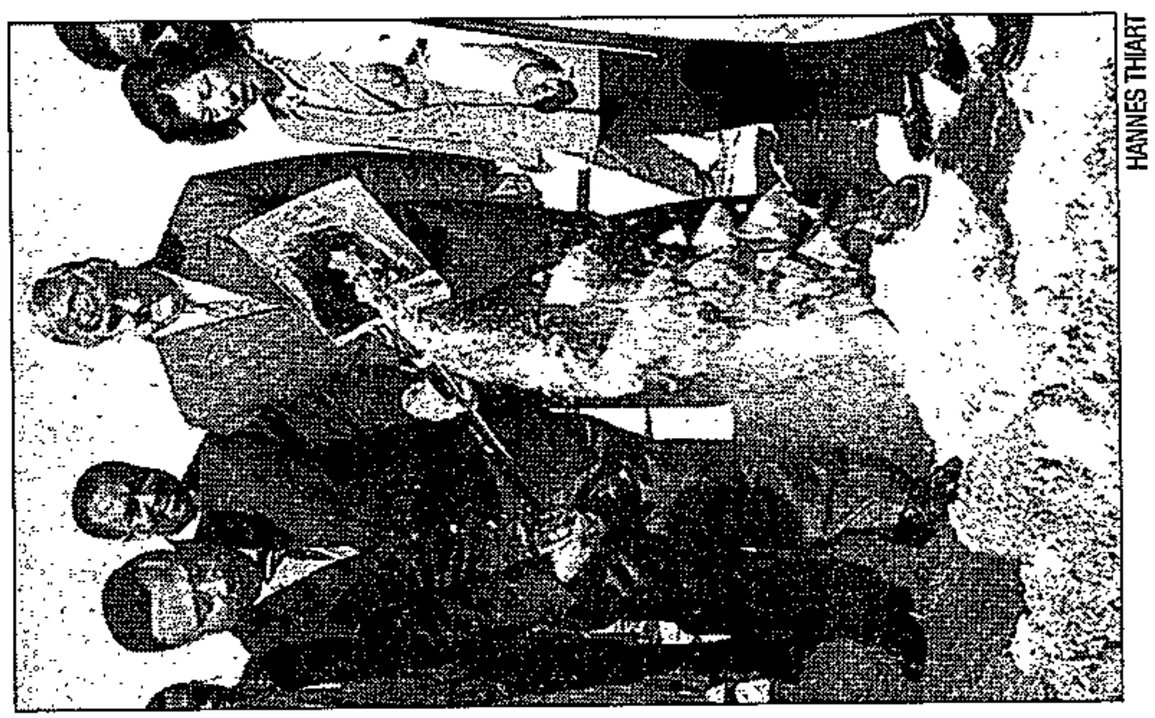
"The other side of that message is that South Africa itself is both a platform and also a launching point for exploring the other African markets that US firms may have overlooked."

Mr Mbeki and Mr Gore are due to meet later this week.

One of the participants, Defence Minister Joe Modise, was given full military honours yesterday when he visited the Pentagon to meet his US counterpart, William Cohen.

Mr Modise is in the US to launch a defence committee, the seventh such committee, for the binational commission.

During the past week, US and South African military leaders have been closeted in meetings to thrash out the terms of reference for the committee, which will be formally launched tomorrow.



HANNES THIART

Games milestone: Tony Yengeni MP turns the first sod at the Philippi site of the facility earmarked for badminton during the 2004 Games as IOC members Anthonius Geesink of Holland, centre, and Shengrong Lu of China, right, look on

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

Private sector skills boost RDP delivery

Jacob Dlamini

CAPE TOWN — The involvement of private sector managers in running the reconstruction and development programme (RDP) had helped result in a massive rise in expenditure, the finance department said yesterday.

Figures compiled by the department show that spending on RDP projects rose from R600m in 1994/95 to about R1,8bn in 1995/96. Spending in the past financial year was expected to rise more than fourfold.

Neil Nel, the department's national co-ordinator for programme management services, said managers seconded to government by private sector companies had contributed significantly to the increase.

There were eight managers working in government departments while their respective employers paid their salaries. The cost of the secondments to the private sector was estimated at R3,6m annually.

He said the managers had introduced and help draw up sound business plans, resulting in improved delivery and more efficient management structures.

The managers would soon be involved in monitoring projects funded by foreign donors in an attempt to speed up delivery. This followed complaints by donors that money had not been spent because of a lack of business plans and co-ordination.

Nel, who was seconded to government by the Agricultural Research Council before being recruited by the finance ministry, said significant progress had been made since the closure of the RDP office in May last year.

The constitutional development department had spent 82% of the R1,3bn allocated to it for the municipal infrastructure programme. RDP funds had also been used for the Masakhane campaign. Progress on the campaign had been slower than expected because of a lack of infrastructure.

Government had also committed R7m of RDP funds to improving the criminal justice system.

Consultants brought in to help manage the primary school nutrition programme had made a telling difference. Most provinces had now spent 100% of their allocations, while the renovation of schools and the construc-

Continued on Page 2

BD 29/7/97

Departure tax mooted to lift tourism

BD 29/7/97 (288)

Stephane Bothma

PRETORIA — The environmental affairs and tourism department has proposed an international departure tax, of about $15 payable by every person leaving SA, as a means of funding the promotion of tourism.

If accepted the departure tax would be introduced by the end of the year to replace the existing "bed levies" collected from guests by establishments on behalf of government, Satour executive director Michael Farr said yesterday..

The tax will be charged in addition to an airport tax of R122 on international flights and R39 on domestic flights for the upgrading and maintenance of SA's airports.

The bed levies raised between R22m and R26m, and were collected on a voluntary basis by establishments which were Satour-graded.

"It has been estimated that an international departure tax of between $10 and $15 would earn government between R90m and R120m," Farr said.

Government and the tourism industry believed that a departure tax was the easiest to administer, he said.

Satour had several problems collecting the bed levies from hotels. "There is currently about R600 000 outstanding from 289 accommodation establishments," he said.

The proposal of the departure tax followed complaints by the hotel industry that the bed levy system was not equitable and threats that hotels would not collect the levy next year.

Farr said the current thinking was that Satour would receive 50% of the departure tax; that 30% would go to the provinces to promote tourism; and 20% would go towards the development of tourism nationwide.

SA earned about R12,5bn in foreign exchange from tourism, while Satour received R64m from government. The rest of its R102m budget was obtained from the bed levy and from money generated by the organisation. Of the R102m, 55% was spent on administration and 45% on promoting SA.

Key Market Movements 25/7 to 28/7

IN

Satour director threatened in wake of audit

BD 29/7/97 (288)

Stephané Bothma

PRETORIA — Satour executive director Michael Farr's personal safety, and that of his family, is being threatened as forensic auditors continue to uncover evidence of financial and other misconduct at SA's tourism body.

Farr said at a news briefing yesterday that since taking control of Satour less than two months ago, the specialist management team appointed to clean up and transform the organisation had started investigating the actions of three individuals in connection with fraud and the misappropriation of funds.

Farr said it was too early to give details of the investigations — all at Satour's head office — and added that no serious forensic investigations had been launched yet at the organisation's foreign offices. To date, one employee had been dismissed, he said.

But a fourth case which was revealed by the auditor-general last year, involving the defrauding of Satour of R307 000 by employees at the organisation's Paris office, was handed over to the police last week.

The matter related to social welfare benefit payments which were not paid to the French government.

"I have been receiving telephone calls warning me to keep out of certain investigations. They threatened that they knew where I lived," Farr said. "These threats give me reason to believe we are doing the right thing. Our investigations are obviously creating panic in somebody's mind and there is quite clearly something worth looking for."

Tourism and Environmental Affairs Minister Pallo Jordan has been informed of the threats.

Forensic audits also uncovered inefficient management and financial management systems, the virtual absence of internal controls and the lack of proper business plans.

Farr said about 65% of Satour employees supported the transformation and restructuring of the organisation and that the services of only "clean and competent" people would be retained once structures for the new Satour were in place.

A moratorium had been placed on all promotions and recruitments while the restructuring took place, and only the "sensible activities" of Satour continued. The restructuring process should be completed by the end of this year.

Farr said the management team had started investigating all agreements and contracts entered into by Satour. Financially sound and viable contracts would be continued, while others would be renegotiated or terminated.

Proper budgetary planning and proper tender procedures had also been put in place, he said.

The forensic audit, which should be completed late next month, was costing Satour R50 000.

Sensitive development can be of benefit to all

ET 29/7/97 (288)

FAR FROM being a disaster — as has been claimed by environmentalists — the R350-million country estate and golf course development on the East Head at Knysna and other developments planned for the region, provide a key to the survival of a community in transition, says long-time Knysna resident and local newspaper editor **ANGELA LEE**.

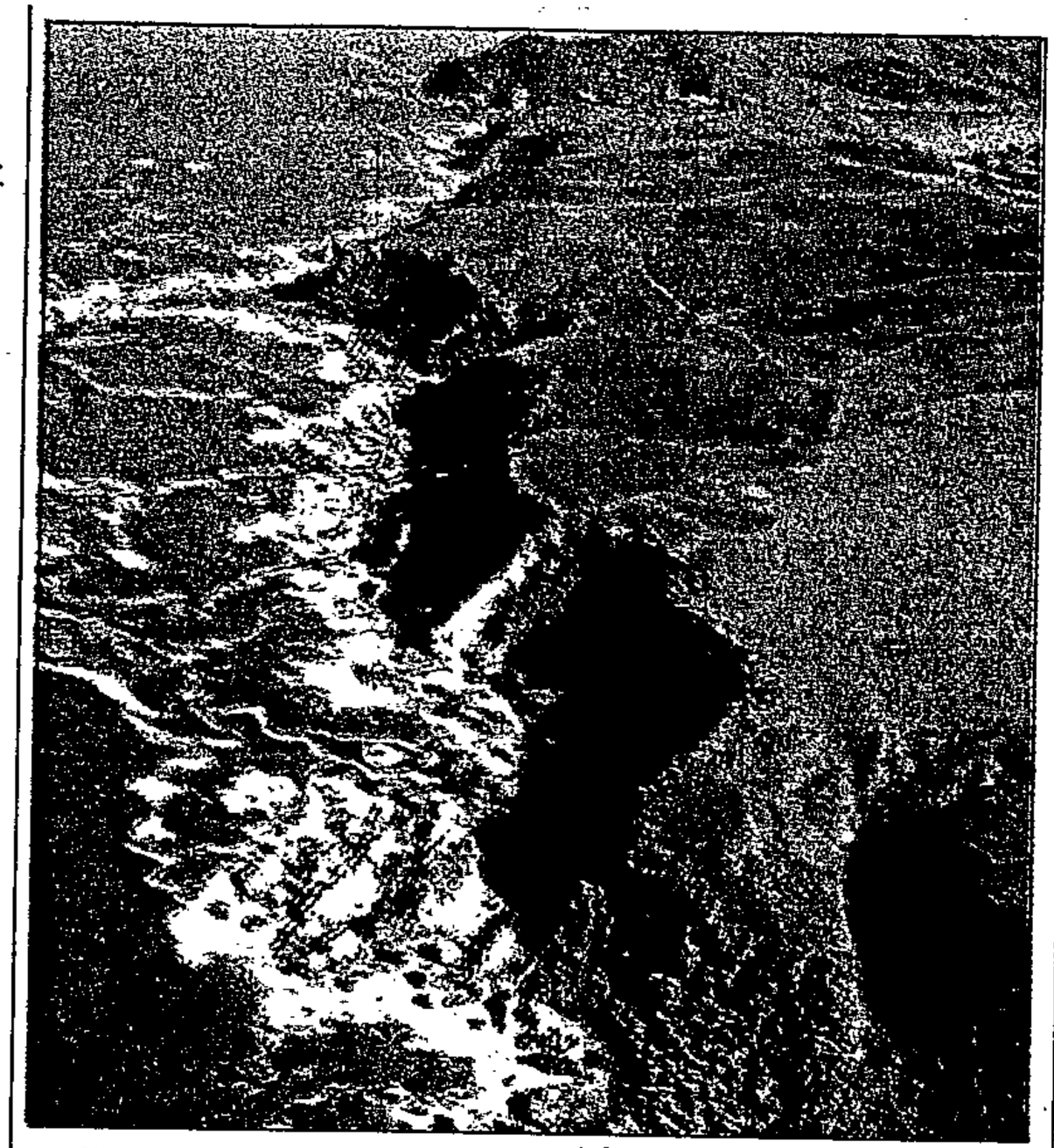
THERE are no such things as problems, only opportunities — so claims John Kehoe, author of *Mind Power*.

If one looks hard, a positive side can always be found in any situation, and in the R350 million Sparrebosch development at Knysna — and other environmentally sensitive developments planned for the region — there are huge plus factors which our community cannot afford to ignore.

The quiet little Garden Route town of Knysna, as we knew it, is already a memory. We will be wise to accept investment graciously when it offers a return — particularly when developers and investors are prepared to consider local sensitivities and compromise.

International tourists, who help to sustain the economic growth of communities such as ours, expect international standards. Developments such as Simola Golf & Country Estate and Sparrebosch Country Estate offer Knysna international standards which will attract tourists — national and international — and the economic upliftment their spending brings.

Must we miss the boat and eventually, out of economic necessity, be forced to accept whatever development we can get — concrete jungles flashing signboards, amusement arcades and a lagoon covered in concrete to solve the parking problem?



DEVELOPING: Proposed site for Sparrebosch.

Or are we prepared to accept controlled development sensitive to the environment and to the needs of our community?

Tourism is already a contentious issue in Knysna, particularly for those who came here to retire and who, understandably, would prefer their peace and quiet to remain undisturbed.

However, the very beauty and tranquillity which attracts them to Knysna is what is drawing the developers. Controlled development will secure our future and retain, as much as possible, Kynsna's atmosphere, which is of such appeal to our residents and our visitors.

It will entice visitors to prolong their stay and spend their money, and thereby support local businesses and, importantly, help create much-needed jobs — particularly among the disadvantaged.

Much has been written about the R350 million Sparrebosch development. Knysna residents obviously have mixed feelings about the project. Very few people, however, have taken the trouble to investigate the situation for themselves.

The development, planned for the East Head plateau, is seven kilometres from the centre of Knysna and one-and-a-half kilometres from the end of Duthie Drive, in Rexford, which flanks the East Head. It will not be visible from Knysna.

The area to be developed is absolutely bereft of trees! (a potential paradise for alien vegetation?). A nursery nurturing young indigenous trees to be planted on the site is already in existence.

The cattle — which grazed here when it was farmland — are in less profusion and fynbos has taken over the previously ploughed land, as Knysna people know it will.

The site is particularly beautiful, but if it does suffer disturbance, fynbos and nature — as always — will triumph. On the furthest perimeter is the existing 45,2ha Sparrebos forest, which is not part of the Sparrebosch development, although the land is owned by PK Development.

There are plans however to create a "Sparrebosch Forest Nature Reserve" and negotiations are under way with the municipality as to how this will be managed.

The quiet over this vast undulating area is disturbed only by the sound of the sea and birds. A full-time conservation officer is to be appointed by the developers to ensure minimum impact during development and to ensure that the forest is preserved for future generations.

The total extent of the development is 254ha, on which only 25% will have any development at all. The actual density of the development is less than two residential units per hectare. Sixty percent of the space will be open land (excluding the golf course), giving Knysna a new "green belt".

The low profile, upmarket hotel and golf courses' anticipated completion date is October 1999. The development of the residential units is expected to take a little longer.

There is to be a shared access to the development elsewhere, taking some of the pressure away from Duthie Drive. Another consolation for Rexford residents is that international standards of site management will apply. No site spoil will appear beyond the site perimeter and people will be employed to ensure this is enforced.

The ball is already rolling; it cannot be stopped. But with the tenacity of the people who fought so hard to prevent Duthie Drive being used as an access road it can be tempered with reason and a good helping of common sense.

Instead of acting against the interests of the broader Knysna community by seeking to halt development, perhaps it's time for concerned residents and those who lobby to protect the environment to form an aesthetics committee made up of various members of the entire community.

They could join forces with the very strong Knysna Ratepayers Association, to work with developers and ensure that the unique charm of our region is maintained.

This will encourage the right kind of development — the kind which gives all sections of our community an opportunity to prosper but ensures that we do not, heaven forbid, force developers to turn tail and run.

With Simola and Sparrebosch, I believe, we are heading in the right direction by making sure that that Knysna does not become an economically depressed and forgotten backwater but thrives well into the future.

❑ *Angela Lee is the editor of **Knysna Home Ads**. This article has been adapted from an editorial published in **Knysna Home Ads** on July 24, 1997.*

Erwin asks US business leaders to back our Olympic bid

Star 30/9/97

Not only will it create thousands of desperately needed jobs, but will be a symbolic gesture of recognition for entire African continent

By Rich Mkhondo

Washington – Trade and Industry Minister Alec Erwin has called on American business leaders to support Cape Town's bid to host the Olympics in 2004, saying the games would create jobs for thousands of South Africans.

Erwin told about 300 business leaders at a two-day South African Trade and Investment Conference, that hosting the Olympics would be a symbolic gesture of recognition for the people of South Africa and the entire African continent.

"South Africa and its neighbours have a common destiny. For us, hosting the Olympics

Praise for important role of the SADC

will be a symbolic gesture of recognition for the people of the entire African continent."

Athens, Rome, Stockholm, Cape Town and Buenos Aires have been selected as finalists in the race to host the 2004 Summer Olympics. The winner will be selected by the full International Olympic Committee (IOC) on September 5.

Cape Town and the four other cities were chosen from a record field of 11 candidates. The six cities eliminated from the race, were Istanbul; Lille, France; San Juan; Seville, Spain; St. Petersburg, Russia and Rio de Janeiro.

In his keynote speech at the conference hosted by his US counterpart, William Daley, Erwin punted South Africa as any investor's dream destination.

"If the strongest economy in Africa – South Africa – is capable of expanding, growing, and bringing about sustainable socio-economic development, then this must be positive for the revival of Africa," he said.

Erwin also praised the Southern African Development Community (SADC) , saying it is playing an important role in the revitalisation of southern Africa. He said SADC leaders have a "new determination" to implement serious economic reforms.

"If the southern African economy revives, if Africa revives, then a bridge forms between the rapidly growing areas of east Asia ... and Latin America, and a new configuration of economic interaction begins to become a reality in the world – an economic configuration of the countries in the southern hemisphere, which begin to interact, trade, and invest between themselves."

The conference, which is part of the US-South Africa Binational Commission summit co-chaired by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and US

Potential of a dynamic market is recognised

Vice-President Al Gore, has four co-sponsors, the US Trade and Development Agency, the Overseas Private Investment Corp, the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and Daley's Department of Commerce.

Daley praised US and SA business leaders, saying: "Your presence here tells me you and your companies are prepared to compete. "You all recognise the importance and potential of this dynamic South Africa market and the larger potential of an African continent of strong democracies and strong economies fully engaged in the global marketplace." – Star Foreign Service.

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Olympic Games would provide money for development

The 2004 Olympics in SA would be concerned with a lot more than a fortnight of fun and games, writes **Ameen Akhalwaya**, media director of the Cape Town bid

(288) BD 30/7/97

AT THE end of his four-day visit to Cape Town last week, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) member in Libya, Bashir Attarabulsi, made an interesting observation. He told a news conference that the Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid had not hidden the poverty-stricken parts of the city from him.

We were pleasantly surprised by his remarks, because some of us had taken for granted that showing our visitors the stark differences created by apartheid, by economic privilege and economic deprivation, was a central part of our programme.

Had Cape Town just been another western city, another fully-developed city, its sole reason for hosting an Olympic Games would be to provide 16 days of sports competition and fun. But our bid is more serious than that. It is about development — people development, economic development and social development.

The majority of people in the city remember our struggle for human dignity, for the right to play sport and have equitable access to facilities — in a society in which we would be respected for our worth as people — in short, in a democratic system.

We united under the banner of "no normal sport in an abnormal society". Today, we have our democracy, but our society is still far from normal. The deep divisions created by generations of apartheid and other iniquitous forms of social engineering cannot be eliminated by gloating about our past achievements. We are trying hard to develop our political miracle into a miracle of economic and social transformation.

The Olympic Games provides such an opportunity. In fact, no other single event promises to bring such huge amounts of "new" money into the country, the region and the continent.

It is a fact recognised by all our major political parties and all levels of government. Hence government's decision to establish a Cabinet subcommittee to supplement the bid company's lobbying efforts.

President Nelson Mandela and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki have singled out the staging of the Olympics as a platform to launch the "African renaissance". It is no idle dream.

To be a model for the rest of Africa, we have to demonstrate our ability to find acceptable socio-economic solutions at home. The squalid settlements Attarabulsi, other IOC members and visiting journalists have seen are terrible indictments. Replacing them with homes in which humans can live with dignity is a major challenge for those of us who are more privileged. It is also a challenge to train and create jobs and opportunities for them.

The question is not whether vast sums of money would come into the country; it is whether those funds would be used to benefit those most in need.

This would probably be the greatest challenge facing the organising committee for the Olympic Games if Cape Town was chosen as the 2004 host city.

It would also be a challenge for the small groups which oppose the staging of the games in SA. We share their view that priority must be given to the provision of housing, the creation of jobs, the improvement of health services and education, the redressing of economic imbalances.

Where we differ is in our contention that "new money" that would pour into the country would contribute meaningfully towards that process.

In discussions with individuals and groups on the Cape Flats, where most of apartheid's victims live, we have found that the Olympic Games process represents hope for people trapped in poverty and lack of motivation. We have found that they too are concerned whether they would benefit from the games.

If they are betrayed, democratic processes should ensure that the culprits in the organising committee are thrown out of office.

Consequently, the challenge for the antibid groups is to monitor and direct the channelling of the funds brought in by the Olympic process. One way is to get directly involved in those structures where decisions are made. In other words, to be part of the process to ensure that development criteria are met, and not to stay out and complain after they have been misdirected or misused.

Yes, boycotts were among our strongest nonviolent methods of opposing apartheid. But in a democracy that is still far from perfect, sniping from idle sidelines is no longer a viable option. It becomes a weapon of opportunism.

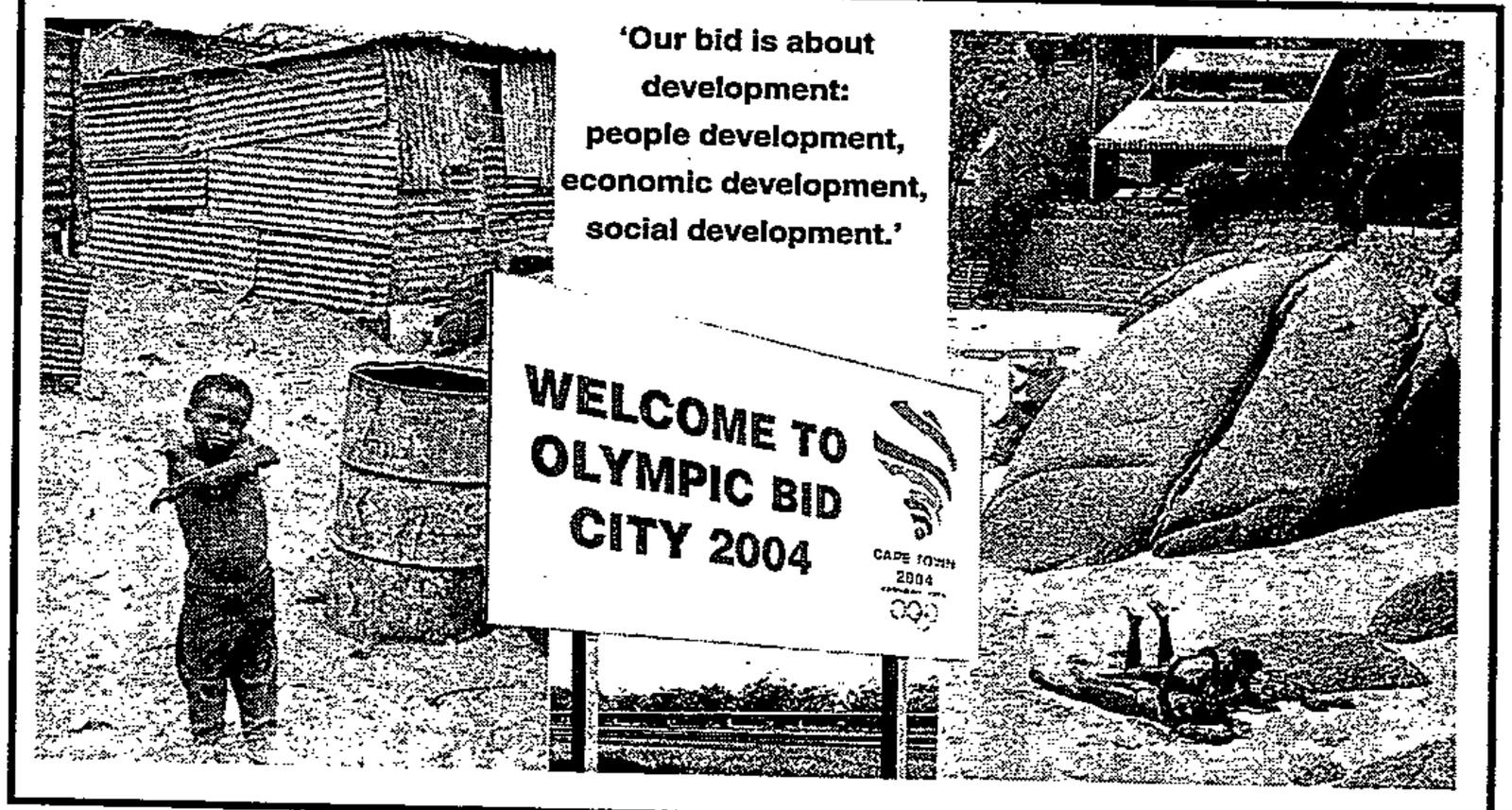
As a long-time activist and anti-apartheid journalist, I know how easy it is to be cynical and critical from the sidelines. It is far, far more difficult to contribute actively to building a just new society.

The Olympic movement contributed to the downfall of apartheid in SA by isolating it. Mandela has reminded members of the movement of this, and has called on them now to strengthen our democracy by offering us this unique developmental opportunity, not only for the sake of Cape Town, but for the continent.

Our visitors are fascinated by efforts across the political spectrum to build our democracy. They are captivated by Cape Town's beauty. They are intrigued by its religious and cultural diversity. They are deeply touched when they visit parts of the Cape Flats, when they visit Robben Island and learn about our people's capacity to forgive. They learn about our "ubuntu".

We hope to persuade them that we want the African renaissance to begin at home, to spread from Cape to Cairo, from Durban to Dakar. And to kick-start it, we need members of the IOC to fire the starter's gun when they meet in Lausanne on September 5.

Hoping to bridge the divide in Cape Town



NEWS

Yes, the Olympics will be good for us

ARG 30/7/97 (288)

Experts give thumbs-up

Specialist assessors of the bid are "cautiously confident" that an Olympic Games in Cape Town will be affordable, beneficial to the city and country and not an unmanageable burden on the economy.

This is the bottom-line conclusion of the Strategic Environmental Assessment draft report published yesterday. Copies will be available at 29 Peninsula libraries for public comment, to be submitted by next Wednesday. A public meeting on the findings will be held at the City Hall on Monday at 6pm. The final report will be published on August 11.

The expression of measured confidence in the bid by the independent assessment team follows months of intensive study by specialists.

The draft report dispels two key popular misconceptions about the Games: it warns against any unduly high expectation that it will solve all South Africa's economic and developmental woes, and it finds on the basis of research by leading demographers that fears of a huge influx of job-seekers into the Peninsula are unfounded.

The report balances "significant" developmental and economic benefits with a range of risks, chiefly in the financial sphere, and suggests strategies and mechanisms to avoid them.

The main benefits are seen as the international profile of the Games and the likelihood of more investment and jobs, and gains associated with accelerated capital spending.

The assessors say the Games-related population increases "are not likely to pose a major risk to the region's natural resources and natural-urban systems", provided there is effective environmental management.

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

The "major risks" are linked to financial aspects of the Games. The assessors note that while government spending – of between R4-billion and almost R9-billion, depending on accelerated transport expenditure – will increase Gross Domestic Product and taxes, "spending on this scale over the next seven years will mean that less money is available for the provision of other basic needs, and will place pressure on the public finance system".

This risk will be exacerbated if the private sector does not provide its expected share of between R2,4-billion and R4-billion.

However, the team says that in examining the likelihood of the risks being avoided, it is "encouraged" by several important factors. These include the government's GEAR and RDP strategies to get the most out of Games-related investment;

■ Public comment should be sent to the assessment team at 45 Lower Main Road, Observatory, 7925, faxed to 021-448 1980, or e-mailed to zsa@aztec.co.za by 10am on August 6.

Why Durban may miss the boat

CT (POR) 30/7/97 (288)

SHIRLEY JONES
KWAZULU NATAL EDITOR

Durban — A R300 million investment in South Africa's first floating hotel in Durban harbour is likely to sink without a trace because of bureaucratic bungling, Don Robinson, the chief executive of the international Robinson Hotel Group, said yesterday.

Robinson intended to berth the decommissioned liner Canberra in Durban permanently as a floating hotel, predominantly for foreign tourists.

Speaking from London, a deeply disappointed Robinson said he would look at alternative sites. "The way things have gone, I have a serious lack of confidence in investing in South Africa. I feel we aren't wanted. We wanted to make a big investment, but we are getting nowhere," he said.

He had switched locations for the liner to Durban after hearing an appeal for investment in South Africa by Thabo Mbeki, the deputy president, towards the end of last year.

However, deliberations and debate had stalled the project for nearly a year and had cost the Robinson Group a great deal in both time and money. Robinson said at least 10 company representatives had visited South Africa since August last year.

"I have businesses around the world in America, Europe and now even in Bulgaria, but this has been the most frustrating thing with which I've ever had to deal," Robinson said.

Now the Robinson Group was considering locating the Canberra in Sydney harbour for the Olympic Games in 2000.

Robinson said he had been told by one investor that the city did not want the 800-room Canberra, but a smaller ship. Without the Canberra or a liner of similar size, Robinson said, he would not invest as it would preclude him from bringing in the numbers of international tourists intended.

Ted Hirst, a spokesman for Tourism Durban, said local parties were not aware of Robinson's intention to cancel the project. "But the Canberra is a big ship. It is not a dinky toy, and it has presented massive infrastructural problems."

Portnet could not be reached for comment.

CT 30/7/97 (288)

'Hosting Olympics is no panacea'

HOSTING the Olympic Games in Cape Town in 2004 would not redress the deep-rooted economic imbalances caused by decades of apartheid, the Olympic Assessment Team (OAT) said in Cape Town yesterday.

The OAT released a draft executive summary of their strategic environmental assessment of the Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid and expressed "cautious confidence" that the Games would not pose an "unmanageable burden" on the economy and public finance system, and were "likely to be affordable and beneficial to South Africa and the Cape Metropolitan Region".

The OAT has invited public comment on their findings before the final report is released on August 11.

It said hosting the Olympics has been seen by many as alleviating some of the developmental problems in the Cape metropolitan region, such as poverty, crime, unemployment, improving education and skills, providing homes and redressing the spatial inequalities caused by apartheid.

However, the report says it is impossible for the Olympics to address these massive needs. But, hosting the Olympics would create a number of unique opportunities for the CMR and South Africa.

In order to host the Olympics, government will have to provide a considerable amount of the capital expenditure required (R4,037-R8,680 billion depending on the extent of transport expenditure).

While government expenditure will result in an increase in gross domestic product, spending on this scale over the next seven years, it will mean that less money is available for the provision of other basic needs and will place pressure on the public finance system.

"The potential benefits associated with increased government expenditure therefore need to be assessed against the potential opportunity costs and risks to the public finance system," the executive summary said.

Key recommendations include:

- Government should put in place the necessary policies and mechanisms to maximise private sector involvement in the Games.
- Government should maintain a macroeconomic environment that is conducive to achieving Growth, Employment and Reconstruction (Gear) targets and encouraging foreign and domestic investment.
- The Olympic Games Organising Committee should be established as an independent body, accountable to the public sector, the private sector, civil society and labour.
- Public expenditure on the Games and the workings of the OCOG be carefully monitored by an independent commission appointed by national government.
- The OCOG ensures that an Environmental Charter is in place and that the environmental principles are implemented. — Sapa.

Help us keep Parliament, Olympic bid team urged

ARG 31/7/97 (288)

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Lobbyists for the campaign to keep Parliament in Cape Town will try to recruit the support of the Olympic Bid Company.

This follows reports that should Cape Town's bid succeed, the decision to move Parliament would be taken almost immediately after the announcement.

The Citizens Alliance for Parliament (CAP) described attempts to link the two issues as part of Pretoria's campaign to manipulate the African National Congress, which will approve a decision at its national conference in December on where Parliament should be located.

CAP executive director Kallie Hanekom said support for Cape Town among other provinces, equally sensitive to marginalisation by Gauteng, was as solid as ever.

Metropolitan mayor William Bantom said he would urgently approach the board of the Bid Company to ensure that it backed Parliament remaining in Cape Town.

He wanted the Bid Company's assurance that it would not sanction, or be part of, any trade-off between the Olympics and Parliament.

"This action could be interpreted overseas as a national vote of no-confidence in Cape Town's Olympic bid. We need to have Parliament where the Olympics are staged."

ANC whip Jannie Momberg said the location of Parliament and the Olympic bid were unrelated and could not be linked.

"What is most important is that we cannot be in a position where all the money and power is situated in one place – it is simply not in South Africa's interests."

Mampe Ramotsamai, the Deputy Speaker of the Western Cape Legislature, said she found it hard to believe that decision makers in politics were not sensitive to the likely reaction in the Western Cape, especially in the wake of the last Budget, were Parliament to be moved.

NEWS

Beware of Greeks bearing Olympic-winning tactics

MARK ETHERIDGE (288) ARG 1/8/97

Athens – The Greek capital of Athens is pulling out all the stops in its spectacular efforts to show the world why it should be chosen to stage the 2004 Olympic Games.

Little more than a month before the International Olympic Committee announces the candidate city in Lausanne, Switzerland, the Greeks are staging the sixth world track and field championships from today to August 10.

And members of the Cape Town 2004 Bid Company can be nothing but impressed at the rival city's set-up.

From the moment anybody connected with the championships sets foot at Athens airport, VIP treatment is the norm, with separate express check-in facilities.

All along the 20-minute drive to the central business district are IAAF world championship banners and Athens 2004 posters.

Memorabilia promoting the Games is on sale on street corners and, generally, the city is as clean, if not cleaner, than Cape Town.

With a total of close on 10 000 people involved in the championships daily, security is highly visible, with more than 8 000 policemen on duty for the 10 days.

About 400 police vehicles and 250 motorcycles are involved.

The Olympic Stadium itself is an impressive sight. Inaugurated in 1982 for the European championships, it has a seating capacity of 75 000, and organisers boast that the stadium can be emptied in 10 minutes.

Nothing in South Africa comes close to matching the facilities, which include an indoor basketball stadium (18 500 capacity), an open air swimming pool complex with five pools and seating capacity that can be extended to 10 000, a tennis area (5 000 seats) and a large indoor training hall.

Also available are a doping control facility, ergometric centre, guest houses and a restaurant.

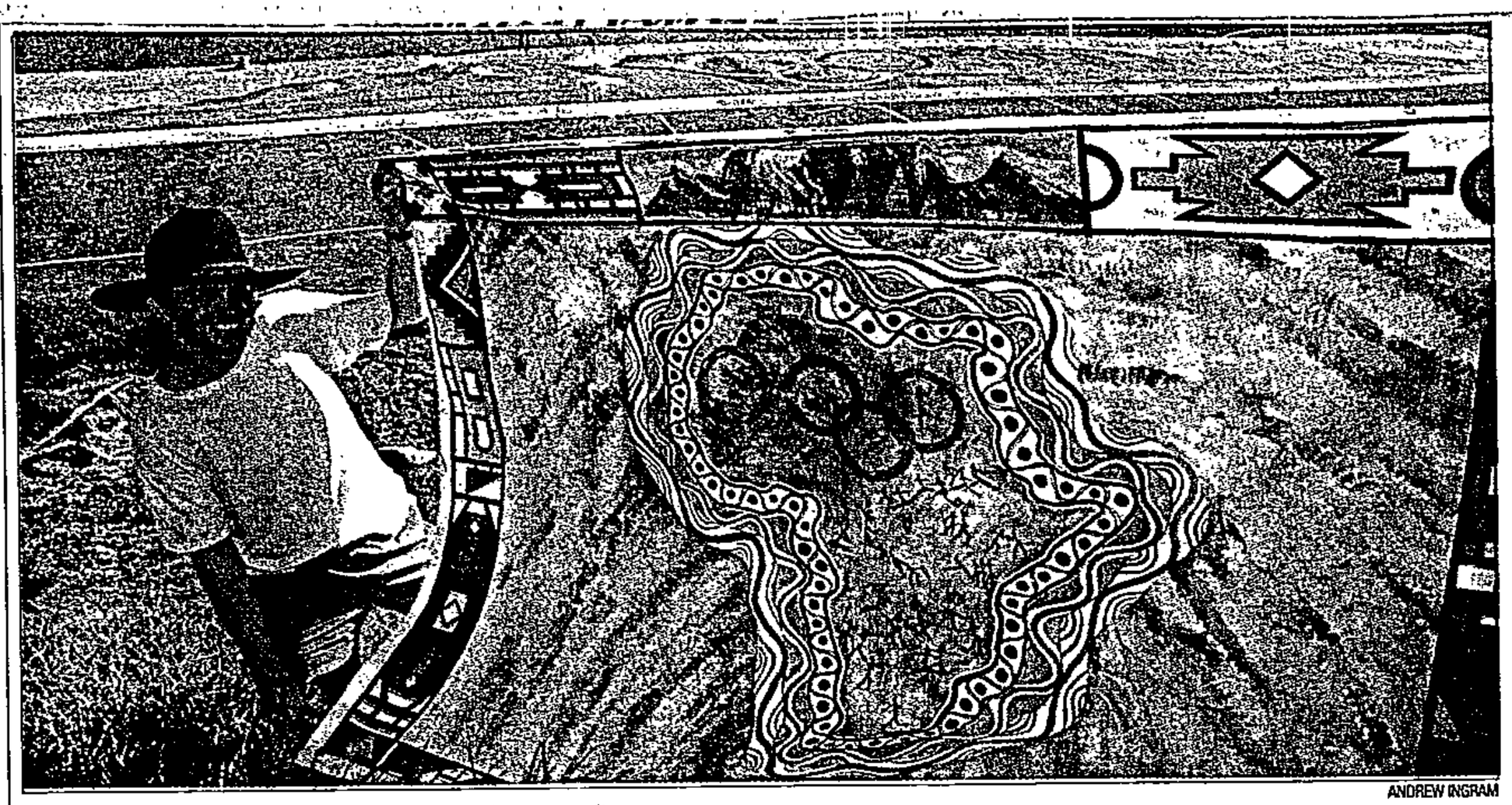
As far as the numbers game goes, more than 200 countries will compete, represented by 2 000 athletes.

The championships will be broadcast to 205 countries, and a television audience of more than 3,1 billion.

Tonight's opening ceremony will feature 12 choruses, 500 singers, 90 gymnasts, 250 dancers and 23 construction companies.

More trivia: photo-journalists will shoot more than 30km of film, 22 tons of paper will be used, and at the end of the championships, 66 sets of gold, silver and bronze medals will have been awarded.

Among them, hopefully, will be South Africa's first medal of any kind in only their third world championships.



ANDREW INGRAM

World record: artist Brandon Challis with the first part of the giant artwork depicting Cape Town's bid for the Olympic Games in 2004

Linking Parliament to bid 'may hurt Games chances'

CLIVE SAWYER ARG 1/8/97
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Linking the issue of the future location of Parliament to the Olympic bid could hurt Cape Town's chances of hosting the Games, says Cape Town's Citizens Alliance for Parliament.

Addressing the Tafelberg Rotary Club last night, CAP executive director Kallie Hanekom said he had heard that "several cabinet ministers" had tried to link the location of Parliament to the outcome of the Olympic bid.

Mr Hanekom said he was still awaiting a response to metropolitan mayor William Bantom's call for the Bid Company to stand behind Parliament remaining in Cape Town.

"I realise the Bid Company executives have a lot on their minds at present, with the announcement only a few weeks away, but a lack of response could be seen as a vote of no confidence in the city, which could be harmful to Cape Town when the International Olympic Committee votes on September 5.

"Imagine the negative message we will send to the outside world if we win and then spend the next few years re-locating the political heart of the country away from the 2004 Olympic city," he said.

Artist needs help for his sweeping vision

STAFF REPORTER

A colossal painting with the theme "The Olympics in Africa" is to make a bid for the Guinness Book of Records.

The work, by Cape Town artist Brandon Challis, will be big enough to cover the surface of Green Point stadium.

The first part is complete but to beat the world record for the largest painting created his picture must be about 8 600 sq m.

Although Mr Challis has been officially endorsed by the Olympic Bid Company, he needs funds to launch his assault on the world record

"I financed the first section of the painting myself. But I am hoping to receive a sponsorship so I can put Africa and Cape Town firmly on the Olympic map," he said.

He will invite schools and street children to help him create the rest of the painting.

Mr Challis can be contacted at 618 222.

Benefits of Games can outweigh risks

ARG 1/8/97

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Guidelines spelt out in the strategic environmental assessment of the bid will enable the city to maximise the benefits and minimise the risks of staging the Games, if Cape Town wins on September 5.

This is the view of the Bid Company's environmental specialist Mary-Jane Morris, in response to the SEA draft report released this week. Welcoming the report, she said it confirmed the Bid Company's view that a successful Games would hinge on "efficient management", and provided useful pointers to achieve this.

While some had argued that the SEA had been undertaken too late in the bidding process, "we would argue that an advantage in having it completed now is that it does provide a platform for a smooth transition from the bidding to the hosting phase, since recommendations can be taken forward without delay".

The SEA report fully assesses the opportunities and risks involved in hosting the Games.

The report concludes that "on balance, (we are) cautiously confident that the Games will not pose an unmanageable burden on the economy and public finance system, and is likely to be affordable and beneficial to South Africa and the Cape metropolitan region".

Ms Morris said the Bid Company fully agreed with the SEA finding that it was "unrealistic" to expect the Olympics to redress all of the social imbalances and social needs of the metropolitan region.

"We have always seen the Games as an opportunity to contribute to addressing these issues."

The value of the SEA was that it enabled a full understanding of the opportunities and risks, and this made it essential in "ensuring successful management to minimise the risks and maximise the benefits".



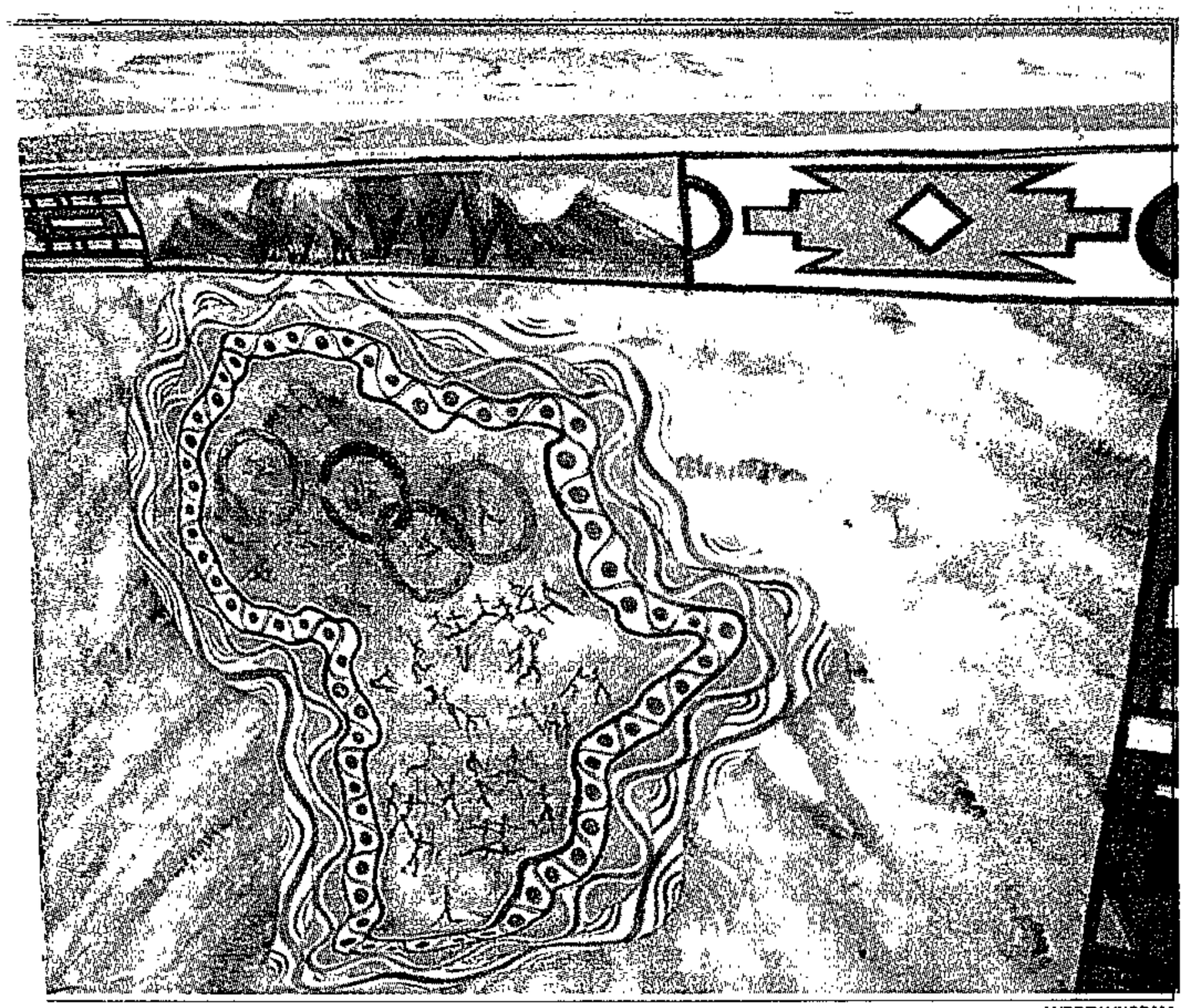
2004 effort on the agenda as Botswana gears up for trade summit

Gaborone – Cape Town's Olympic bid will be on the agenda when Botswana plays host to a major two-day southern African economic summit in November aimed at stimulating trade and investment in the region, an organiser said today.

The presidents of Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe, along with South African Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, were expected to attend the Southern Africa Trade and Investment Summit from November 18 to 19, organiser Fiona Cowan said here.

Corporate speakers from Botswana, Britain, Canada, Chile, Malaysia, South Africa, the United States and Zambia among other countries were scheduled to make presentations at the gathering, she said.

Among topics to be covered is Cape Town's bid to bring the Olympic Games to Africa in 2004. The summit is being organised by the International Herald Tribune, with support from various corporate groups. – Sapa-AFP



ANDREW INGRAM

iant artwork depicting Cape Town's bid for the Olympic Games in 2004

Benefits of Games can outweigh risks

(288)

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

B ARG 1/8/97

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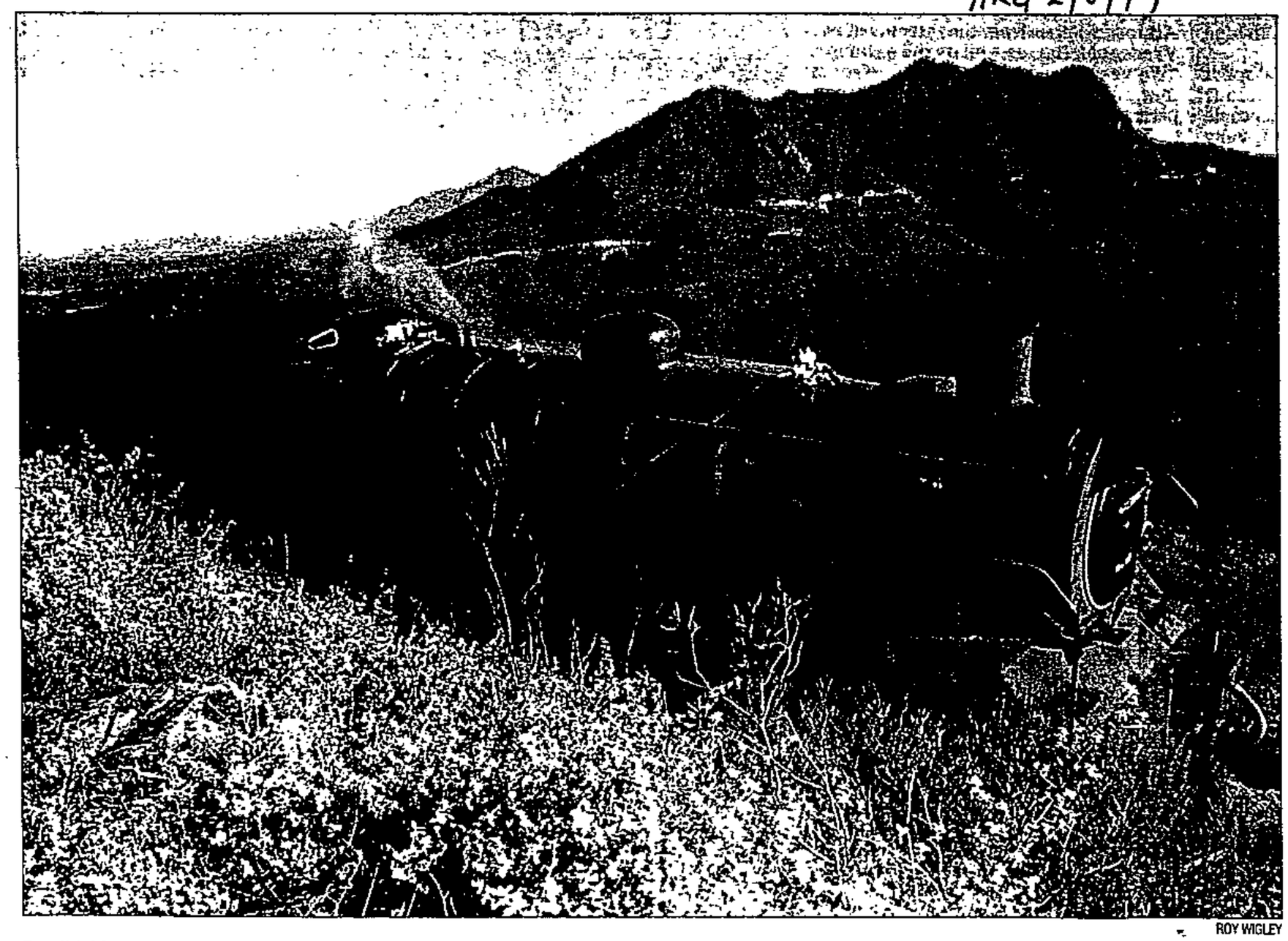
George and Oudtshoorn get on the road to a tourism boom

Upgraded Outeniqua pass takes strain off travel

ARG 2/8/97 (288)



ROY WIGLEY

Breathtaking: a train steams up the pass with a majestic view of the refurbished Outeniqua Pass in the background

JERMAINE CRAIG

The communities of George and Oudtshoorn are getting ready for a tourist boom after the re-opening of the upgraded Outeniqua Pass this week.

The R45-million upgrade is expected to add to the appeal of the popular area, famous for its part in the Garden Route and the Cango Caves.

People will now be able to undertake a journey through the beauty of the Outeniqua area on a much safer road.

The Outeniqua Pass was originally opened in 1951, but increased traffic in recent years has caused the road to deteriorate badly, making an upgrade a necessity.

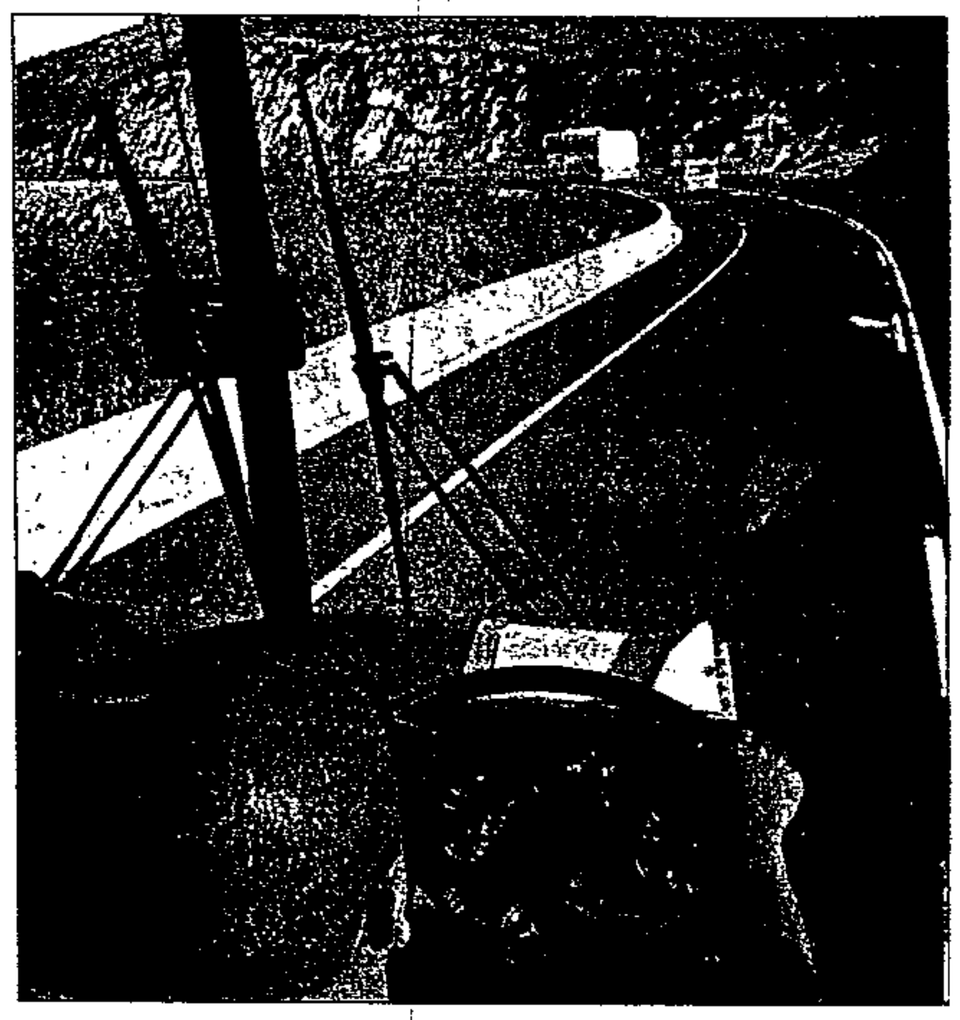
The mayor of George, Sydney Opperman, was confident that the reconstructed pass would encourage tourists to visit the area, as they would now be able to travel much more comfortably along this route.

"I believe it will have a tremendous impact on tourists coming to this area. The beauty of the pass will also underline the beauty of the region and help to increase the popularity of the Southern Cape," Mr Opperman said.

His sentiments were echoed by Oudtshoorn's mayor, Sipho Kroma, who also anticipated a tourism boom for his area.

"I think it is going to play a major role as far as tourism is concerned as it will make it much easier for visitors to reach the Outeniqua and will definitely affect our tourist potential."

Cash-strapped local residents have already benefited from the construction of the pass, with 220 people being employed over the four-year construction period. The construction project also provided skills training.



Bird's eye view: bus driver Elliott Matiwane negotiates the new pass

At least a bronze – but we can be Olympics winners

ARG 2/8/97 (288)

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Cape Town has moved up to third place in the 2004 Olympic bid stakes – after being a rank outsider in March – and is going all-out to secure first-round votes ahead of challenging its big rivals, Rome and Athens.

Betting in London puts Cape Town in third place ahead of Stockholm and Buenos Aires, with Rome still odds-on favourites, with Athens in second place. However, much rests on securing the 20-strong African vote in the critical first round of the ballot late on the afternoon of Friday September 5.

The 111-member International Olympic Committee will spend most of that Friday taking stock of the five candidate cities' final presentations. Then, at 5pm, the doors will close, and the voting will begin. There are likely to be four rounds. The winner is the first city to gain an outright majority. The announcement will be made between 6.30pm and 7pm.

Just five weeks from today all the results will be published in the Saturday Argus, with full reports on the legacy of the bidding phases, and the implications of the result for the future of the region.

IOC members are accountable only to the IOC itself, so geo-political considerations, or bonds of history or trade are unreliable indicators of the likely outcome.

Except in the first round.

It is at this point that IOC members are likely to exercise a loyalty or conscience vote – Africans for Cape Town, South Americans for Buenos Aires, and so on. A illustration of this emerges from recent statements by Joao Havelange, president of the international soccer body FIFA, and IOC member for Brazil.

A few months ago, he made it clear that Rome was his favourite and would probably earn his vote. But just a few weeks back he warmly endorsed Buenos Aires. It is expected that Buenos Aires will earn only a first-round vote from Mr Havelange.

To get through the first round, cities will need at least 23 votes. This probably gives Cape Town an edge, since it can count on virtually all of the 20 African IOC members, plus support, at the very least, from the United States (2, and possibly Canada's 2) and England (2).

Buenos Aires is not in a strong position here. There are 11 IOC members in South America, and three in the Caribbean. For this, as well as some perceived shortcomings on the technical front, the Argentinian capital is considered the most likely first round casualty.

This would be good news for Cape Town, since from the second round on, the voting can be expected to be what an IOC-insider describes as "fluid".

South Africa might not secure Mr Havelange's vote, but there are indications that, if Buenos Aires goes in the first round, much of the South American vote will swing Cape Town's way, and probably stay there for the next two rounds.

The optimistic assessment of round two – with Cape Town facing Rome, Athens and Stockholm – is that a split in the European vote, and Stockholm's low public support – will see the Swedish capital fall by the wayside.

Ultimately, the voting is incalculable and there can be little certainty in predictions. But the essential strategic priority at this stage lies in securing African loyalty.



Bid support: Chris Ball of the Olympic Bid company. Government has published a Bill supporting the Games

New bill to pave way for 2004

Pretoria – A bill formalising Government's support for Cape Town's bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games has been published in the Government Gazette.

The bill, released for public comment on Thursday, authorises Cape Town to enter into any contract, agreement or arrangement should it win the bid.

In order to comply with the provisions of such a contract, the bill allows the Minister of Sport and Recreation to exempt the host city, the National Olympic Committee of South Africa or the Organising Committee of the Games (OCOG) from complying with the procedures of any other law.

"In preparing for the bid, the city in question or the bid committee may accept any commitment or liability set out by the endorsement contract, or required by Nocsa or the International Olympic Committee," the bill states.

The bid committee was also allowed to "make any deposit required by the endorsement contract, Nocsa or the IOC, irrespective of the currency".

The bill also authorises any organ of the state to provide any guarantee required by the bid committee, or to enter into any commitment in support of the bid.

Should the contract be granted, the host city can make any deposit and set up any structure or institution required by the contract.

A memorandum attached to the bill states that it was deemed desirable for the government to convey its support for the Olympic bid in a legal framework.

"It is the intention with the bill to provide a legal framework for present as well as future actions towards the hosting of the Olympic Games by a South African city."

Comment on the Olympic Bid and Hosting Bill is open until August 8. – Sapa

Thrown to the sharks

Poor safety risks tourists' lives in Great White viewing cages

ST(291) 3/8/97 (288)

CHARL DE VILLIERS

TOUR operators are risking customers' lives while they fight competitors for a piece of the lucrative Great White shark-sighting market.

Safety precautions are not up to scratch and the underwater cages used by operators are potential death traps if anything goes wrong at sea, Sea Fisheries and nature conservation officials have warned.

Operators, however, are adamant that their precautions are adequate and their cages strong enough to ensure the safety of tourists.

The presence of Great Whites has made Gansbaai, on the southern Cape coast, a popular destination for visitors who slip into a cage to view the 1 500kg predators.

Department of Transport marine surveyor Captain Emilio da Souza has accused tour operators at Gansbaai of "fighting to steal customers instead of improving and developing their industry — which they're going to destroy in the process".

"We keep hearing claims of unseaworthy boats, rumours of illegal seal culling for bait and warnings that the 100m channel between Dyer Island and Geyser Rock is sometimes dangerously congested by competing operators," Sea Fisheries Research Institute spokesman Herman Oosthuizen said.

"We've set up a working group in a bid to get the operators to draft a code of conduct, but proposals so far have been full of serious gaps. For example, we've received no proposals from the White Shark Association on emergency procedures to deal with shark bites."

The working group was to meet again on August 20, Oosthuizen said.

Other criticisms of the Gansbaai shark operators have been made by the public, who have complained about unqualified guides, overcrowded boats and poor catering.

An obstacle to regulating the service and ensuring safety standards is that operators have failed to unite under the banner of the White Shark Association, which sources say has fallen apart because of "back-biting and jealousy".

"Skippers must be qualified, there should be a qualified dive master on board when free-floating cages are used and each boat should have at least one crew member qualified in first aid for shark bites," Oosthuizen said.

"Boats should also be accompanied by registered Satour guides who have qualified in marine ecology."

Cape Nature Conservation had suggested that Dyer Island's reserve boundary be extended 500m into the sea so access to the shark waters could be regulated strictly by permit, its regional manager, Duncan Heard, said.

Another option officials are considering is to amend the Sea Fisheries Act to outlaw chumming — baiting Great Whites with bags or nets filled with offal — unless operators comply with a code of conduct.

Fisheries scientist Dr Jeremy David said little was known the effect chumming had on Great Whites. "It has been banned within two nautical miles of some parts of the southern Australian coast, so there must be some concern."

Another source, who asked not to be named, said some operators seemed to underestimate the power of Great Whites as they took tourists out on boats that were too small to withstand being butted by the huge sharks.

Another dangerous practice was allowing the cages to drift up to 10m from the viewing vessel.

"Some operators then let the bait bags drift on either side of the cage," the source said. "This raises the danger of sharks' swimming away with the bait, entangling the cage and snapping the line attached to the boat. Anyone in the cage would probably drown."

One operator described Great Whites as inquisitive and docile creatures if left alone. However, White Shark Association secretary Kim Mac Lean said that "if they want to, they can butt holes in the boat and trash the cage".

Mac Lean said she was satisfied the cage she used — a 2,5m cylinder of reinforced galvanised steel mesh — was strong enough to withstand attack.

She confirmed that members of the association had fallen out — chiefly because of "a lot of back-biting, jealousy and bad vibes".

The association's former chairman, Jackie Smit, said he had stood down because some members thought his standards were too high and that he was trying to price them out of business.

"Tourists' safety is essential when you're going to sea to deal with a wild and potentially dangerous animal."

JBO JBO JBO JBO JBO JBO JBO JBO JBO JBO
PUBLIC AUCTION - 2 VALUABLE BLOCKS OF 17 FLATS
(TO BE SOLD TOGETHER. 7 UNITS IN ONE BLOCK AND 10 SECTIONAL TITLE UNITS IN THE OTHER) THIS IS AN EXCELLENT PROPERTY INVESTMENT
THE OWNER IN HIS OPINION HAS INSTRUCTED THE BEST AUCTIONEER IN CAPE TOWN i.e. JULIUS BUCHINSKY "THE ORGANISATION WITH THE REPUTATION" TO SELL
BY PUBLIC AUCTION:
THESE ATTRACTIVE BLOCKS OF FLATS-GROSS ANNUAL INCOME R264 000.00
"53 ON PARK"

SA one of not-so-hot travel spots

TOURISM WRITER

VIETNAM, Uganda, Libya, Ethiopia and Namibia. That's the exclusive club that South Africa falls into in global perception as a tourist destination.

Each was a notorious hot-spot, long considered off limits to tourists, and now being lumped together by the mass circulation international magazine Marie Claire as the new lot of "exotic" locations. Like it or not, that is how the world views SA. These are the perceptions of SA that the government needs funds to dispel.

"Since President Nelson Mandela took the political throne, South Africa has become one of the world's premier tourist destinations, its visitors drawn by a 'heady mix' of scenery, beaches, game parks and the sights of Cape Town," says the magazine's travel writer.

And Libya: "With few flights, the hassle of obtaining visas and a general lack of tourist information, Libya remains practically off-limits to most travellers. But it is surprisingly easy to visit by sea."

Uganda, "rife with violence throughout the 1970s and 1980s, and during the rule of Idi Amin, is now back on the safari map ... with the chance of a face-to-face encounter with a gorilla".

Namibia is exalted for its "empty roads, uncrowded game parks, perhaps the most spectacular desert on earth, as well as penguins, little German towns, friendly people and — unusually for Africa — plenty of mid-range accommodation".

Ethiopia: "With the civil war now over and Eritrea an independent state, Ethiopia is welcoming its first tourists, mostly to the capital Addis Ababa, but also to Lake Tana to visit Tisisiat Falls, the medieval kingdom of Gonder ... the sacred city of Axum."

Not forgetting the huge US market, the magazine had this to say about Vietnam: "For many people Vietnam means Oliver Stone movies and the hi-tech military might of America being brought to its knees by pyjama-clad waifs ... But despite the war ... the country has changed very little in the past 50 years."

INDUSTRY SET TO GROW BY 42%

Fick: Don't let SA miss tourism boat

288

CT 4/8/97

TOURISM is set to become one of the "super" industries — and South Africa will have to shape up if it wants to claim its share. Tourism Writer **DAN SIMON** reports.

THREE "super industries" are likely to drive the world economy at the turn of the century: information technology, telecommunications and, surprisingly, tourism.

With more leisure time and money available world-wide, international tourism is expected to nearly double and create 121 million new jobs over the next 10 years, and the industry will quadruple in the next 15 years.

But South Africa could miss the boat and find itself unprepared to capitalise on the growth of this super industry if it does not provide tourism with the support it needs.

This is according to Western Cape MEC for Tourism, Mr Lample Fick, who attended the World Tourism Organisation's (WTO) international tourism and travel conference in Switzerland last month.

More than 1 200 international delegates attended the WTO conference, including a 40-strong South African delegation headed by Environmental Affairs and Tourism Minister Dr Pallo Jordan.

"Travel and tourism is forecast to grow globally by 42,3% in real terms over the next decade," says Fick. "It is also estimated that 121,5 million new jobs will be created by international tourism from 1997 to 2007."

The London-based World Travel and Tourism Council, the representative body of the private sector in the industry worldwide, estimated that in 1997 R2,4 billion was spent by international travellers, a figure likely to increase to nearly R4 billion in a decade.

According to these forecasts, Fick said, the Western Cape was expected to employ 22% more people in tourism in 10 years' time.

This would, however, need a greater level of commitment from all levels of government if South Africa was to capitalise on this growth.



WARNING: Western Cape MEC for Tourism Lample Fick

"South Africa will not get its share of this super industry as a matter of course.

"We will have to go and fetch our share with consistent performance and in some competition with some very clever new emerging markets, who already fully understand the enormous benefits of this super industry."

Fick said South Africa had lost its special interest status and was no longer the focus of attention.

"A whole host of new destinations in Africa, Latin America, Eastern Europe and the Far East are presenting value for money in places equally as beautiful as the Cape. We will have to learn quickly that sentiments of the past will not bring us any new business."

Fick said that in view of the budget allocations for tourism in the Western Cape (R3 million) and in the national budget (R63m), one had to agree that at this stage both the provincial and national governments were still unable to deliver fully on their roles in supporting tourism development.

"We will have to make tourism a strategic economic development and employment priority.

"This has been accepted in the provincial growth and development strategy but unfortunately, because of budget cuts from central government, we were this year unable to put our money where our beliefs are."

Fick said it was a fact that tourism created jobs across the employment spectrum.

"These jobs will pay higher than average wages and be particularly accessible to women and new entrants into the job market.

"Contrary to popular belief, the majority of tourism jobs are in small and medium-sized enterprises often in rural areas, where unemployment is most severe.

"Considering our portion of the global industry, the Western Cape is still a destination of limited global importance at the moment."

Fick said the industry had the potential to grow at twice the rate of the provincial GDP, provided the following requirements were met:

- Providing visitor safety and security.
- Developing human resources and upgrading service culture.
- Taxing intelligently to promote growth and exports.
- Ensuring stability in the hotel industry's pricing practices.
- Recognising the importance of a local tourism and travel market, which is globally more than 60%.

Fick said the Western Cape already had the infrastructure by way of the newly established provincial tourism board, its regional organisations and local bureaus.

"The board should be given a reasonable chance to help develop an industry still in its infancy to become a major player in the 21st century," he added.

2004: We're all set for a flying finish

ARG 4/8/97 (288)

Top events aid city

Cape Town is starting the final month of lobbying ahead of Olympic D-day on September 5 with key credits under its belt for its handling of three world championships in two months.

The city has emerged from these testing events with flying colours, and will use the final month to capitalise on the international credit these have earned.

The junior weightlifting and fencing and finally the junior cycling championships, which ended at the weekend, are regarded as a telling measure of Cape Town's big-event capability and an important element of the bid.

In the latest assessment, Hein Verbruggen, president of the International Cycling Federation and a member of the International Olympic Committee, described the Bellville velodrome, the venue for the cycling event, as "a beautiful facility", the completion of which presented "a real challenge" to Cape Town. The result, he said, "is magnificent".

He described the organisation of the championships as "perfect", and proof that the city was "capable of organising a big event".

In similar vein last month, the president of the World Fencing Federation,

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

René Roch, said of the Cape Town championships: "We have not had such a good event before.

"From the point of the view of organisational capacity and from the participants' point of view, this was the best," he said.

In June, Tamas Ajan, president of the International Weightlifting Federation, commented: "This is Olympic-level organisation. We could hold the senior event here, which is 10 times bigger, tomorrow. Everything has been excellent – the accommodation, the meals, the transport, the security, the documentation."

Meanwhile, in Athens, one of Cape Town's four rivals in the 2004 Games race,

To page 3

P.T.O.

Rest of the country will gain from successful Games bid

Star 5/8/97 (288)

By Stuart Kelly

If there's a perceived apathy about the Olympic bid that goes some way beyond the feelings that Gautengers traditionally hold for their brethren in Cape Town, the Olympic Bid Committee is not denying it.

The bid will be sold on the merits of a single city. That is the rule. Even so, recent criticism that the bid's "African flavour" was being eroded in the process has been met with some disquiet, prompting efforts by the bid committee to raise the bid's profile as a national effort.

The lack of overt and enthusiastic support from other South African cities has also spurred them to action that will be more substantial than the imploring signs at Johannesburg bus stops: "If Cape Town wins, we all win".

"Perhaps a lot more marketing could have been done in other cities, but we realised in the very beginning that we weren't going to win on a sentimental ticket," said the Cape Town bid's finance director Michael Fuller. "A decision was taken to focus our budget on the technological capabilities of Cape Town to host the games."

In the past few weeks the committee has tried to change that approach. All the country's premiers have been invited on a tour where they will learn more about the bid and next week a road show will embark on a nationwide attempt to drum up support.

Fuller suggests that the committee make no bones about Gauteng's massive support potential.

Up to R90-million has been donated so far by businesses. "Many of these companies have their head offices in Gauteng. The province is the industrial and financial backbone of the bid. If we win, these companies can expect their share of the reward."

Businesses have given R90-million

Just how much can Gauteng expect to profit?

The International Olympic Committee has already sold the television rights to the 2004 Games and, should Cape Town win, Johannesburg businesses can expect to receive the spin-offs of a $1 000-million (about R4 600-million) cash injection towards building the Games' infrastructure.

"Sydney put forward a bid for the 2000 Olympics which was in many ways similar to ours. The projected cumulative growth for their economy as a result is in excess of (US) $5-billion (about R23-billion). Tell me we can't do with that kind of money," said Fuller.

About 55% of the Game's ultimate impact is expected to be absorbed by areas outside the Western Cape.

The Gauteng Department of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture quotes a 1996 forecast by the Central Economic Advisory Services that the GDP will increase by about R26-billion as a result of the Games, and 80% of that figure will be captured by the rest of the country. The figure includes the windfall expected from tourism and other related activities.

If the man on Eloff Street has yet to be convinced, the Gauteng government hasn't exactly jumped into the pond either.

It has not allocated any funds towards the bid. Gauteng is, however, touting the upcoming Gauteng Masakhane Games as a platform to draw further attention to the bid.

It's hard to deny that from now until September Cape Town will be one of the five most talked-about cities in the world.

"In itself, that's worth millions. We're on a massive marketing drive for South Africa," Fuller added.

The Star ... Tuesday August 5 1997

Gauteng gets in on bid for Olympics in Cape

(288)

If this country wins the Games, spinoffs in tourism, marketing and merchandising will benefit whole economy

Star 5/8/97

By Shirley Woodgate

Gauteng has started flexing its muscles in an effort to grab a significant slice of the estimated R30-billion growth in gross domestic product that is expected to be generated if Cape Town wins the bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

The bid is being contested by Cape Town, Stockholm, Athens, Rome and Buenos Aires, and the winner is to be announced next month.

As D-Day, September 5, draws near, Gauteng businesses are hoping for a Cape Town success – and a substantial boost to the province's local economy, even though they will be some 1 500km away from the sporting action if the Cape Town bid succeeds.

Spinoffs in the tourism, hospitality, marketing and merchandising, construction, and telecommunications and media sectors are expected in the case of a successful Cape Town bid.

According to the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), the Western Cape could be expected to grab about 40% of the R30-billion in GDP growth and about half the jobs that would be created. The rest of the country would benefit from greatly increased tourism.



Deon Viljoen, executive director of the Federated Hospitality Association of South Africa, said there would be an increased demand for products – ranging from bricks to stoves, vehicles to roof tiles and bathroom fittings to cutlery – that were manufactured outside the Western Cape, as well as an increased use of the three international Reef airports, accommodation and restaurants.

"Television coverage generated by the games will mean that Johannesburg, the business centre of Southern Africa, will benefit as well. Much of the air traffic to the games will pass through our airports, with passengers staying over in local hotels and eating at some of the world-class restaurants in Johannesburg, which has always been a business rather than a resort centre," Viljoen said.

Johannesburg international airport spokesman Nikki Rose-Innes said the R230-million, five-year upgrading was on track, and improvements would ensure that the airport could handle the expected increase in passengers.

Total capital expenditure on the Olympics was expected to be R9-billion between 1998 and 2004, says a report by Gordon Taylor, an analyst at stockbrokers Smith Borkum and Hare.

Gauteng Tourism Authority spokesman Keith Brebnor said the Greater Johannesburg area would pocket about 60% of the profit from every service or manufactured item related to the games.

Most head offices were already situated in the country's "engine room" and it was uneconomical to set up factories in the Cape for a mere couple of weeks, he said.

► More reports ... Pages 8, 15

Mother City confident of win in race after completing tough tests

(268)

By Michael Morris
Cape Town
Star 5/8/97

Cape Town is set to begin the final month of lobbying ahead of Olympic D-day on September 5 with key credits under its belt for its handling of three world championships in the past two months.

The city has emerged from these testing events with flying colours, and will use the last month to capitalise on the international credit they have earned.

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In June, Tamas Ajan, president of the International Weightlifting Federation, commented: "This is Olympic-level organisation. We could hold the senior event here, which is 10 times bigger, tomorrow. Everything has been excellent – the accommodation, the meals, the transport, the security, the documentation ... everything."

Meanwhile, in Athens, one of Cape Town's four rivals in the 2004 race, organisers of the world athletics championships are going all-out to project the virtues of the Greek bid.

A spectacular pageant on Friday not only opened the 10-day competition, but signalled the beginning of the home stretch for Athens' bid for the 2004 Games.

The core of Athens' Olympic pitch – nostalgia with a glitzy frosting of contemporary showmanship – was on full display. Undecided IOC delegates will be watching the championships closely for any signs of disorganisation as well as how Athens deals with the broader problems of traffic congestion and security.

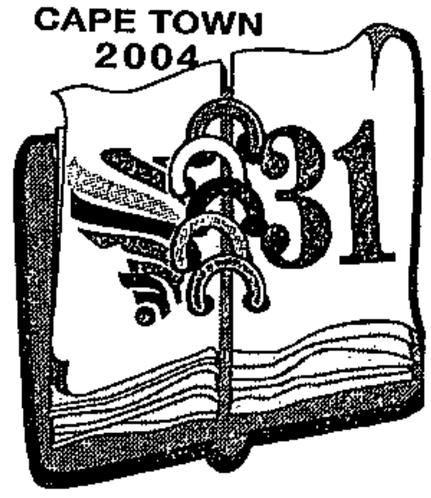
Meanwhile, others will be hunting for flaws to promote competing bids.

A big Cape Town delegation is in the Greek capital to lobby IOC members.

In another development, People Against Gangsterism and Drugs (Pagad) has come out against the Olympic bid. A few months ago the organisation pledged its support for the Games project, but in an about-turn, said a statement that it was "strongly opposed" to the bid.

It accused the Bid Company of being uninterested in "pressing socio-economic problems", and said priority attention should be given to housing, jobs, health, welfare and education, and curbing crime and the drug trade.

"Until such time as South Africa effectively addresses the domestic problems, Pagad cannot and will not support the hosting of the Games," the statement said.



OLYMPIC BID
DAYS TO GO

Time for Olympics to come to Africa

THE man who brought a bit of the East to the Olympics suggested it was time the Games headed south.

International Olympic Committee member Dr Un Young Kim left for Seoul in his native South Korea yesterday, after a day and a half in Cape Town.

He is one of the most senior and highly respected IOC members, said Olympic Bid Company head, Mr Chris Ball.

Yesterday, Kim said: "The Olympic spirit and Olympic charter talk about universality. Hosting the Games on all the continents will be a great contribution to the Olympics." Africa has not yet hosted the Games. — Staff Writer

(288) CT 5/8/97

Gauteng eyes a slice of the 2004 Olympic cake

ARG 5/8/97 (288)

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

Johannesburg – Gauteng has begun flexing its muscles to cut a significant slice of the estimated R30-billion growth in gross domestic product expected to be generated if Cape Town wins its bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

Gauteng businesses are hoping for a Cape Town success in the International Olympic Committee vote on September 5 – and a substantial boost to the province's economy.

Spin-offs in tourism, hospitality, marketing and merchandising, construction, telecommunications and media are expected to follow a successful Cape Town bid.

The Development Bank of Southern Africa says the Western Cape could be expected to take about 40 percent of the R30-billion, and about half the jobs created. The rest of the country would benefit from greatly increased tourism.

Deon Viljoen, executive director of the Federated Hospitality Association of South Africa, said there would be an increased demand for products – ranging from bricks to stoves, vehicles to roof tiles, and bathroom fittings to cutlery – made outside the Western Cape.

Use would be made of the three international Reef airports, as well as accommodation and restaurants. "Much of the air traffic to the Games will pass through our airports," said Mr Viljoen.

Total capital expenditure on the Olympics between next year and 2004 is estimated at R9-billion by Gordon Taylor at stockbrokers Smith Borkum and Hare.

City twigs to Arbor Day snag

ANDREA WEISS
City Editor

The Cape Town municipality is to postpone its Arbor Day ceremonies because they may clash with Olympic events planned for September 5.

Arbor Day is traditionally celebrated on the first Friday of September.

The parks and bathing amenities services team responsible for planning Arbor Day believes it would be wise to postpone the official events to Friday, October 3.

The team says major celebrations are planned for September 5 and dignitaries and senior officials who should take part in Arbor Day plantings will be involved "in that very important day for Cape Town".

This year, national Arbor Day has been extended to National Arbor Week so trees can be planted in under-developed areas.

Requests for trees can be made by telephone to the nursery at 689 4184/5. This year's trees are the Ziziphus rivularis (false "wag 'n bietjie") and the Rapanea melanofleecis (Cape beech).

World's top athlete backs Cape Town bid

(288)

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

ARG 5/8/97

African athletes have competed the world over, but they want their own Olympics – and they want them now.

With this declaration at the World Athletics Championships in Athens, Ethiopian middle-distance runner Haile Gebrselassie – regarded as the world's top athlete – yesterday threw his weight behind Cape Town's 2004 bid.

His endorsement added to the pressures on rival Athens yesterday as the Greeks came under fire from International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) president Primo Nebiolo, frontrunner Rome's kingpin, who blamed poor organisation by local officials for the lack of spectators at the 100-metre finals on Sunday night.

Gebrselassie's support for Cape Town projects a powerful and important message: Africa backs the bid. It reinforces other expressions of support by the Organisation of African Unity and the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa. Namibian sprint sensation Frankie Fredericks has also endorsed the Cape Town bid.

Gebrselassie, the 5 000m and 10 000m world record holder, said: "I am an admirer of Nelson Mandela. He is a role model for Africa, for the world, and I share his view that Africa is capable of staging a memorable Olympic Games.

"I share President Mandela's view that staging the Olympic Games in Cape Town would signal the start of an African renaissance."

As the countdown to the final decision in Lausanne touches the month mark, tension is mounting on all fronts for the five bid cities.

Mr Nebiolo's sharp remarks about Sunday's poor turnout have deeply perturbed Greek bid officials. The Olympic Stadium was half empty for the blue-riband event even though the organisers said beforehand that the event was sold out.

"It was very disappointing," Mr Nebiolo said. "The organisers did not do a great promotional job before the championships. They did not understand."

In Pretoria today, Mr Mandela will meet a delegation of five International Olympic Committee members representing Spain, India, Korea, Cuba and Switzerland.

The Korean IOC member, Un Yong Kim, one of the most influential figures in the Asian Olympic fraternity, said at a Press briefing yesterday that he was very impressed by what he had seen of Cape Town and its people, and judged the bid to be as good as any other.

He believed it would be important for the Olympic movement to honour the spirit of its charter by staging a Games in Africa.



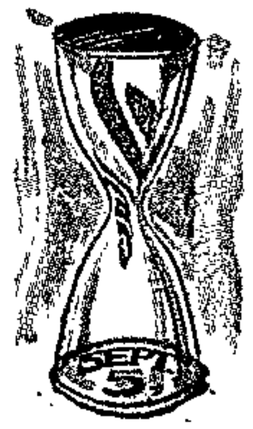
ROY WIGLEY

Bid booster: Cape Argus editor Moegsien Williams, right, and Cape Times editor Ryland Fisher hand bid chief executive Chris Ball a 16-page newspaper chronicling Cape Town's Olympic dream, as told by the titles of Independent Newspapers Cape. The Bid Company will use the paper in its last month of lobbying ahead of the IOC vote. A limited number of copies are available at Newspaper House in St George's Mall

31 OLYMPIC BID DAYS TO GO!

- A lobbying team from the Cape Town Bid Company is using a luxury German stretch limousine to get around Athens during the World Athletics Championships
- Olympic 100m champion Donovan Bailey has thrown his weight behind the Athens bid

Latest odds: Rome 4-7, Athens, 11-4, Cape Town 4-1, Stockholm 7-1, Buenos Aires 14-1



Gauteng set to muscle in on bonanza, page 3

Why Arbor Day will be late in Cape Town, page 3

Bookies back Cape Town in early voting, page 8

NEWS

Western Cape tourism shambles feared separate plans

Experts warn as organisations forge ahead with

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
TOURISM REPORTER

Lack of co-ordination among tourism organisations in the Western Cape could paralyse the industry and waste taxpayers' money, industry experts have warned.

"Everyone is pulling in opposite directions and we are very worried about conflicting messages being sent out by the various bodies," said Hugh von Zahn, chairman of the Western Cape Tourism Business Council.

The tourism business sector is concerned that the absence of common goals and vision could lead to the squandering of the limited funds available for marketing the region.

The local, metropolitan and provincial structures created under the Western Cape Tourism Act, and funded from various sources, are working on their individual tourism policies and marketing strategies.

The Western Cape Tourism Board, which has a R4,5-million budget, is drawing up a policy framework.

The Cape Metropolitan Regional Tourism Organisation, which oversees the six municipal tourism bureaus, is preparing its own marketing and development plans.

A plan of objectives and strategies for tourism in the metropolitan area was commissioned from private consultants in 1993 by the then Regional Services Council at a cost to taxpayers of R600 000. The plan, yet to be completed, will be used by the Regional Tourism Organisation as a guideline.

This organisation is funded by the Cape Metropolitan Council to the tune of R3-million.

Meanwhile, the metropolitan council's economic and social development department also believes it has a tourism promotion function in terms of the Local Government Transition Act.

Captour, which has a budget of R3-million and has been reduced to one of the six municipal tourism bureaus, has its own marketing plan for the city. Some departments in the city council have also been doing tourism-related studies.

The private sector has its own ideas.

The Cape Town Chamber of Commerce and Industry is in the process of compiling a vision for the city's future.

The Tourism Business Council, representing tourism concerns, has proposed a commercial vision for the region.

This should be seen as an attempt to "facilitate the co-ordination of common goals for everyone in the industry", said Mr Von Zahn.

The acting chief executive officer of the Regional Tourism Organisation, Jeanine de Wet, admitted that the local tourism scene was very "complicated" and "fragmented". "There is no clear vision and there is uncertainty about who is supposed to be doing what."

Captour marketing manager Jeremy Harris agreed that fragmentation and a lack of co-ordination were problems.

However, the board's interim chief executive officer, Theuns Vivian, denied there was a duplication of functions.

Mr Vivian said the business sector was contributing to the problem by looking at tourism from only its own point of view.

(288)
ARG 5/8/94

THE BIG STORY

Cape Town's odds are looking g

Bookies favouring Mother City in first legs of Olympics 'j

THE CRUNCH MONTH HAS BEGUN. IN 31 DAYS FROM TODAY, CAPE TOWN'S OLYMPIC BID FACES ITS FINAL TEST WHEN THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE MEETS IN LAUSANNE TO CHOOSE THE CITY TO HOST THE 2004 GAMES. MICHAEL MORRIS ASSESSES THE ELEMENTS OF THE RACE

Going by the odds in London, Cape Town will make it through to the third round, at least, where it will face a tough fight with favourite Rome, and Athens, ranked second, for a place in the final round.

Bookies think Stockholm and Buenos Aires will fall out in round one and round two, which is very much in accord with the Cape Town bid's optimistic assessment.

All things considered, there is a good chance that Cape Town will beat Athens in round three – given a likely split in the European vote at this point, and the prospect of picking up support from Scandinavia and northern and eastern Europe and go through to a final showdown with Rome.

Priority number one will be to secure the 20-strong African vote to get through the first round. Twenty-three votes will assure it.

Thereafter, voting will be fluid, and allegiances could well shift dramatically.

And it is to this end that the bid strategy has been refined; the objective being, broadly, to offer something of value to the IOC as a whole, to appeal as strongly and openly to obvious friends as much as to perceived foes.

At its simplest, the virtue of this approach is well illustrated by the opportunity of picking up Scandinavian and South American votes in round three when, in the first rounds, they will have been hostile.

The drama that will play itself out in a hushed and sealed inner chamber of the Palace de Beaulieu between 5pm and 6.30pm on Friday, September 5, can be roughly estimated, but it is not calculable.

Politics, whims and fancies, deals even, will play a part.

The pretty Swiss lakeside city will be at its most tense.

Thousands there, and millions around the world, will nervously await the result without ever really being sure of their assessments.

Some things, though, are more certain.

Africa's special claim is one of them.

It is indisputable that there is a strong case for awarding an Olympic Games to the only continent that has yet to host the event in the 100 years of the modern Olympic Movement.

In a way, this has become a challenge of principle for the IOC.

It is also indisputable that the one man who will bear the African plea more powerfully than any other is Nelson Mandela.

These are, of course, merely sentimental claims. There is a risk in counting on them, as Athens did, logically enough, in its bid for the centennial event.

But the sentiment in Africa's case is buttressed by practical things, too.

In the past two months, for instance, Cape Town has amply demonstrated its technical and organisational capabilities in the successful hosting of three world championship events.

The junior weightlifting, fencing and junior cycling championships earned plaudits from the international federations and helped to give substance to bid undertakings and assurances.

But, detractors would say, what about the mammoth construction exercise that would have to occur in Cape Town?

And how developmental, how helpful to the previously disadvantaged, can that be expected to be?

Well, bid projects so far offer a compelling reflection not only of what is possible, but of what is actually being achieved in establishing a developmental benchmark.

Ruben Reddy, priority projects manager at the Bid Company, points out that of the R86-million earmarked for priority projects, tenders worth R36-million have been awarded already and work is under way on each of the seven sites.

Among these are the softball venue at Turfhall, the basketball venue at Belhar and the boxing venue in Khayelitsha.

All seven will be built whether or not the city wins the bid, and will serve in the interim as much-needed, multipurpose indoor halls.

What is significant about these contracts is that 54 percent – or R19,4-million – of the business has gone to small or medium contractors from the disadvantaged communities (a total of R7,6-million of the R12-million spent so far on consultancy fees has gone to consultants from the disadvantaged sector).

"It is notable," Mr Reddy says, "that most of these contracts, at this stage, are highly mechanised. The sorts of jobs include dynamic compaction and pile-driving (to stabilise the ground before upper structures are built), and the small companies don't have this sort of equipment.

"But, even at this stage, we have managed to achieve a 54 percent affirmative element. Much of the work is done through 50/50 joint ventures.

"In the phases to follow, the percentage will be higher.

"We are effectively applying the Government's affirmative action procurement policies for the first time here in the Western Cape, and we are managing to show that they are workable and productive."

In addition, the terms of the contracts oblige companies to draw at least 30 percent of their labour from the immediate area.

"We are setting a pattern here ... genuine black economic empowerment combined with job creation, and the local Olympic steering committees in the communities in which the projects are situated are effectively steering the process," says Mr Reddy.

It is these things that underpin the developmental philosophy of the bid and it is essential to selling it to the IOC.

One or two IOC visitors have made plain the Olympic movement's desire to be associated with "good causes" and they have identified this as a key strength in Cape Town's Olympic project.

It is a reaction, in part, to the glitz and commercial excess that distinguished the Atlanta Games last year.

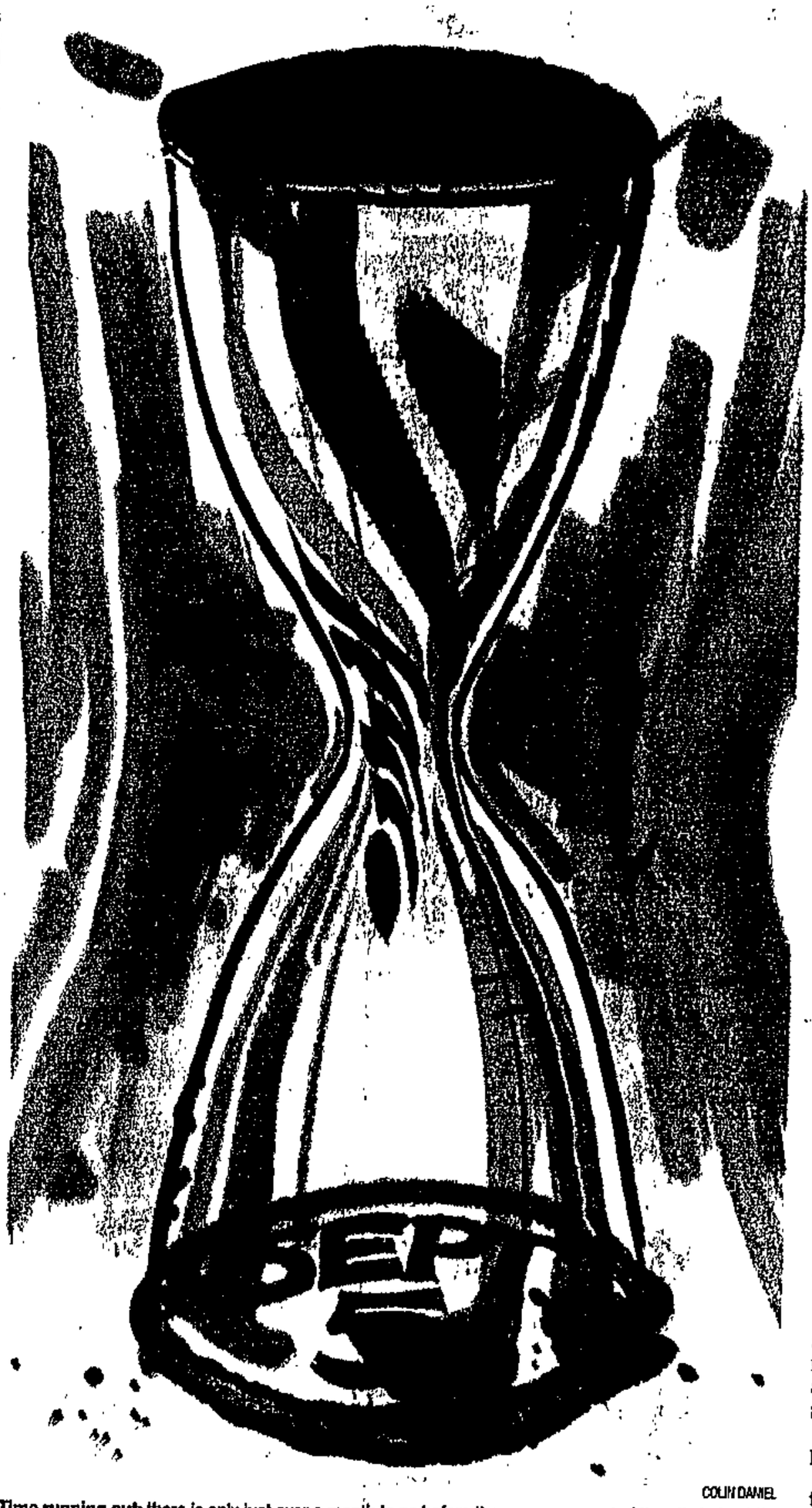
The Atlanta experience, in fact, points to the danger of false or unduly inflated expectations of the impact of the Olympics.

One recent report puts it like this: "It has been a year since the world left town and Atlantans are still groping for a legacy to the 1996 Olympic Games."

Dana White, a professor of Urban Studies at Emory University, who has studied the impact of the Games on the Atlanta metropolitan area, commented: "In a way, it's like the Olympics never happened.

"I think a lot of people feel that way. They're looking around wondering if Olympics really did take place here."

Politicians and some business leaders were so giddy before the Games, this report says, they thought the Olympics would help transform Atlanta into an



COLIN DANIEL

Time running out: there is only just over a month to go before the announcement of the city to host the 2004 Olympic Games – and Cape Town is among the final five contesting cities

n's odds are looking good

Mother City in first legs of Olympics 'final' (288)

ART 6/8/97

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The Atlanta experience, in fact, points to the danger of false or unduly inflated expectations of the impact of the Olympics.

One recent report puts it like this: "It has been a year since the world left town and Atlantans are still groping for a legacy to the 1996 Olympic Games."

Dana White, a professor of Urban Studies at Emory University, who has studied the impact of the Games on the Atlanta metropolitan area, commented: "In a way, it's like the Olympics never happened.

"I think a lot of people feel that way. They're looking around wondering if Olympics really did take place here."

Politicians and some business leaders were so giddy before the Games, this report says, they thought the Olympics would help transform Atlanta into an international business colossus, repair broken inner city neighbourhoods, and inspire great personal sacrifice.

The Olympics did none of that.

"I think there has been a considerable letdown in Atlanta since last year because the bar was set so high," says White. "People were expecting the Olympics to change Atlanta into a 24-hour city and give it a great boost. It just didn't happen."

But even if the Games did not leave behind a legacy, they also did not leave behind a debt for taxpayers. Private enterprise picked up the $1,72-billion tab. Barcelona, which hosted the 1992 Olympics, was left with a $1,4-billion debt.

Atlanta did receive a new, state-of-the-art baseball field for the Atlanta Braves, at an estimated cost of $209-million. Of course, there is more to it.

The State of Georgia has benefited to the tune of $4-billion or $5-billion (about R23-billion).

Jerry Bartels, head of Atlanta's Chamber of Commerce and a key figure in promoting the bid, says: "It doesn't take a financial genius to figure out that if you can get the businesses of the world and the sports-minded people of the world to invest $1,6-billion (about R7,3-billion) in an enterprise going on in your city, it does not make much difference whether you've attracted $4-billion or $5-billion. It's still a lot of money."

One example of the Atlanta strategy to use the Games for economic development is the initiative named Operation Legacy, run by Georgia Power.

Operation Legacy targeted specific sectors – corporate headquarters, agricultural business, telecommunications, business information and the sports industry – and used the Games as a lure to show off the city to chief executives considering relocations.

The target was 6 000 new jobs, to be created by 20 new companies.

So far, with two more years to go, 18 companies which took part in the programme have moved to the city, bringing 3 100 jobs with them.

In the run-up to the Centennial Games, Atlanta led the nation in new business relocations and expansions.

Atlanta's unemployment rate is expected to continue being a percentage point below the national average.

Georgia's economy – of which Atlanta accounts for 56 percent – grew in 1995 at five percent, well ahead of the national average. Georgia is expected to register growth of about 4,5 percent this year.

The Olympic face-lift to Atlanta has paid off, too.

This year, a record number of conventions – 57 – will be held in the city, and facilities are fully booked to the turn of the century.

This all translates into jobs and an improvement in living standards.

Cape Town's own strategic environmental assessment offers a view of the opportunities and risks in hosting the Games, which presents a further reason for IOC optimism in the bid's good causes.

The specialist assessors say they are "cautiously confident" that an Olympic Games in Cape Town will be affordable, beneficial to the city and country and not an unmanageable burden on the economy.

We really can do it, says Ball

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

ARG 6/8/97

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Cape Town's bid strategy will peak with a punch on September 5 – and the city is going all-out to win.

This is the message bid supremo Chris Ball delivered at a "month-to-go" party at his Waterfront headquarters last night.

"In elections, timing is everything, and we have planned this race to be at the shoulders of the so-called leaders in the final race. Now we are accelerating," he said.

"We believe we are going to win. Other people are beginning to believe that, too. We are succeeding in getting people to ask the question: why vote against Africa?"

In other developments:

■ The bid was endorsed in Athens by sprint king Frankie Fredericks, former world 800m champion Maria Mutola of Mozambique and world 10 000m champion Haile Gebrselassie

■ Nelson Mandela told International Olympic Committee visitors from Switzerland, Cuba, India, Spain and South Korea that South Africa deserved a thank-you for showing the world how the problems of a country could be solved without bloodshed. "Your vote for Africa would be a vote for the deepening of democracy," he said

■ In Athens, a war of words broke out over international athletics boss Primo Nebiolo's criticism of World Athletics Championship organisers for the poor turnout at key events. The Greek Press accused Mr Nebiolo of trying to sabotage the Athens bid.

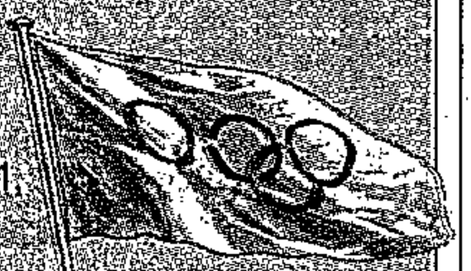
■ The Olympic message was taken to the Northern Province capital, Pietersburg, where premier Ngoako Ramatlhodi hoisted a bid flag to signify his government's support for the Mother City's candidacy.

30 OLYMPIC BID DAYS TO GO

■ Asked to explain why South Africa had produced two medallists in two days after two barren World Championships, javelin winner Marius Corbett said: 'We want the 2004 Games for Cape Town. We have to do something.'

■ Italian tenor Luciano Pavarotti said today that he planned to be in Lausanne for the IOC vote on September 5, singing the praises of Rome's bid.

Latest odds
Rome 4-7, Athens 11-4, Cape Town 4-1, Stockholm 7-1, Buenos Aires 14-1



■ **Cape Town bid chief puts his foot in the deep end, page 2**

BUSINESS

Cape tourist bodies told to pull together

Sowetan 7/8/97

Mixed messages damage tourism potential (288)

LACK OF COORDINATION among tourism bodies in the Western Cape could paralyse the industry and waste taxpayers' money, tourism experts have warned.

"Everyone is pulling in opposite directions," said Hugh von Zahn, chairman of the Western Cape Tourism Business Council, "and we are very worried about conflicting messages being sent out by the various bodies".

The tourism business sector is concerned that the absence of common goals and a common vision among tourism roleplayers could lead to the squandering of limited funds available for marketing the region.

The local, metropolitan and provincial structures created in terms of the Western Cape Tourism Act and funded from different sources are all working on their own tourism policies and marketing strategies.

The Western Cape Tourism Board with its R4,5-million budget is drawing up a policy framework for the province.

The Cape Metropolitan Regional Tourism Organisation, which oversees the six municipal tourism bureaus, is also drawing up its own independent marketing and development plans.

In addition, a tourism plan containing objectives and strategies for tourism in the metropolitan area was commissioned from private consultants in 1993 (by the Regional Services Council) at a cost to the taxpayer of R600 000 and will be used by the Regional Tourism Organisation as a guideline.

Meanwhile, the CMC's economic and social development department also believes it has a tourism promotion function in terms of the Local Government Transition Act.

Some departments in the city council have also been doing tourism-related studies.

The Tourism Business Council, representing tourism businesses, has proposed a commercial vision for the region in an attempt to "facilitate the coordination of common goals for everyone in the industry", said Von Zahn.

Acting chief executive officer of the Regional Tourism Organisation Jeanine de Wet admitted that the local tourism scene was very "complicated" and "fragmented".

"There is no clear vision and there is uncertainty about who is supposed to be doing what," she said.

De Wet said the CMC and Regional Tourism Organisation would hold a joint workshop later this month to get clarity on their respective roles and responsibilities. – *Sapa.*

Townships linked to ocean in Bid plan

ARG 7/8/97

(288)

PETER GOOSEN
CITY DESK

A R5-million Olympic transport project, the pedestrian-cycle path along the Lotus River canal from Guguletu to Strandfontein, is about to take off.

It is one of the biggest "greening" projects yet undertaken on the Cape Flats and will link a large portion of the "inland" Flats to the coast. It will also improve access to schools, places of interest, recreational areas and job opportunities.

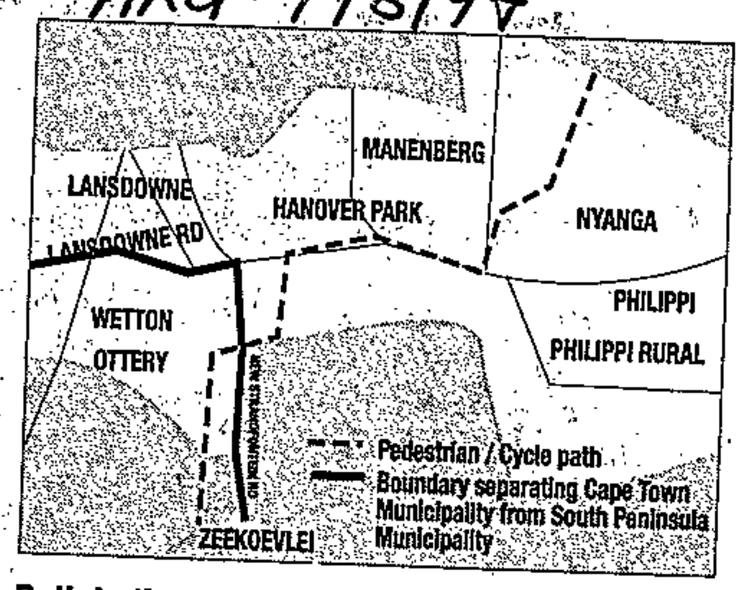
Public meetings and workshops to involve the community and affected property-owners are on a tight schedule to have final approval of the project by the end of the month.

The project is being planned by consulting engineers Ninham Shand and the Chittenden Nicks Partnership, for the transportation and traffic directorate of the Cape Metropolitan Council.

The path falls within the jurisdiction of the City of Cape Town and the South Peninsula municipality.

In a report to the urban planning committee of the South Peninsula Council, the planners said upgrading of the canal was already taking place.

The track would also link the residential areas of Lotus River to Zeekoevlei.

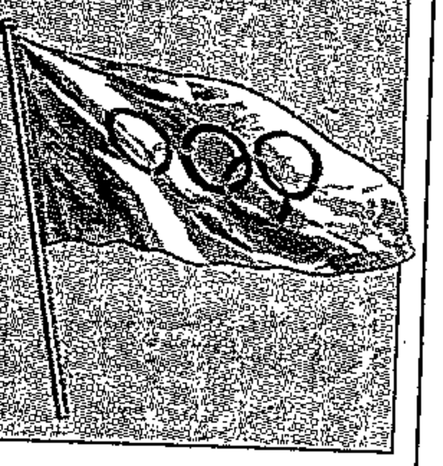


Path to the sea: the route of the pedestrian/cycle path linking Guguletu to Strandfontein

29 OLYMPIC BID DAYS TO GO

■ Haile Gebrselassie can't make up his mind about the 2004 Olympics. After winning the 10 000m title in Athens last night, the Ethiopian athlete said: 'Cape Town is my continent. I want Cape Town to get the bid, but I also want Stockholm to get it because I want to run very fast there . . . it's complicated!' In seven years Gebrselassie expects to switch to the marathon. 'For me, Stockholm is better,' he said.

Latest odds:
Rome 4-7
Athens 11-4
Cape Town 4-1
Stockholm 7-1
Buenos Aires 14-1



Olympic bid reports, page 2

Schools' bid envoys ready for big exam

Not only are they bubbling with enthusiasm, but they are articulate, and passionately certain about what they have to say.

The 15 pupils from Peninsula schools who will be flying to Lausanne at the end of the month to help convince the International Olympic Committee to give Cape Town the 2004 Games are more than eager to explain why.

The Standard 9 and 10 girls and boys gave an ample preview during a press briefing yesterday of just how they intend to woo the IOC, spelling out how the Games could "be the perfect catalyst to rebuild the bridge destroyed by apartheid, and give people goals to strive for", as one of them put it.

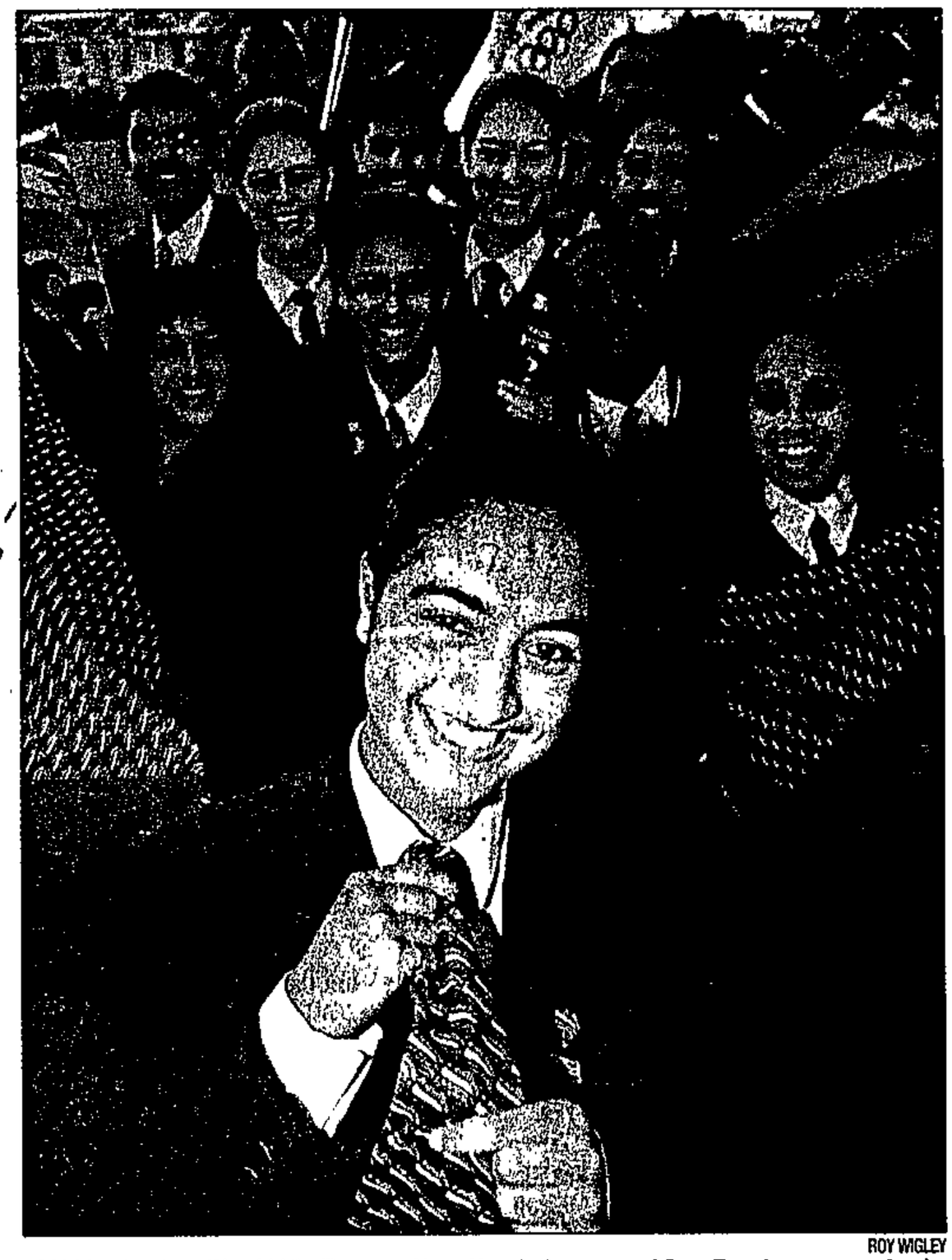
"This is our chance," said Tasneem Ahmed of Cravenby State School, "to show the world that the youth of Cape Town are a force to be reckoned with, and that we can achieve something great."

Rashay Magan of Wynberg Boys' High, added: "We are going to Lausanne to demonstrate our excitement and showcase our passion for the 2004 bid."

The African connection was important for Patricia Mrhabalala of Heathfield High School.

"Africa is not just a place of wars and poverty. There's a lot of passion, confidence, enthusiasm and beauty, and that's what we'll be going to Lausanne to demonstrate," she said.

Chantel Seaton of Settlers High School said:"The bid has given the youth an opportunity to be taken seriously."



ROY WIGLEY

Bid kids: showing off her bid tie, Tasneem Ahmed heads the envoys of Cape Town's young people who will fly to Lausanne at the end of the month to help convince Olympic chiefs to give us the Games.

Madiba is the ace up Cape Town's sleeve

(288) ARG 7/8/97

President v Pavarotti in final lap

Frontrunner Rome has signed up Pavarotti to sing its praises, but South Africa's "Mr Olympics", Sam Ramsamy, is confident Nelson Mandela could be the decisive factor for Cape Town.

As the rivalry hots up, bidding cities are trying their utmost to outdo each other in endorsements.

A day after Cape Town scored support from top athletes Frankie Fredericks, Mozambican Maria Mutola and Ethiopian 10 000m champion Haile Gebreselassie, Rome triumphantly announced the opera maestro's endorsement.

But Sam Ramsamy, head of the National Olympic Committee of SA, believes President Mandela will be hard to beat.

It is not confirmed that Mr Mandela will play a role in the final days of lobbying, but he is making a point of seeing as many visiting International Olympic Committee members as he can manage, and he has a powerful pro-Africa message.

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

So far, 66 of the 111 IOC members have visited Cape Town, and of these, 25 have met Mr Mandela. Ten more visitors are due in the next few weeks.

Fifteen young bid ambassadors, drawn from the ranks of Standard Nine and matriculation pupils at Peninsula schools, will join the bid team in Lausanne from the beginning of next month.

In Johannesburg yesterday, Mr Ramsamy was confident Cape Town was making a strong finish. He was certain the Government's active participation in recent weeks had had a positive impact, and felt the contributions by Mr Mandela and Mr Mbeki "could prove decisive in the end".

Coupled with Cape Town's very good technical plan, South Africa would be presenting a formidable bid on September 5. He did not think there was a clear leader among the five bidding cities.

In another development yesterday, the SA Property Owners' Association (Sapoa) has called on South Africans to show their support for the bid. Sapoa chief executive Brian Kirchman said in a statement to members: "The income to be derived by the property industry in general will kickstart a long-term process of increased employment and a consequent improvement in the quality of life at all levels of our transforming society.

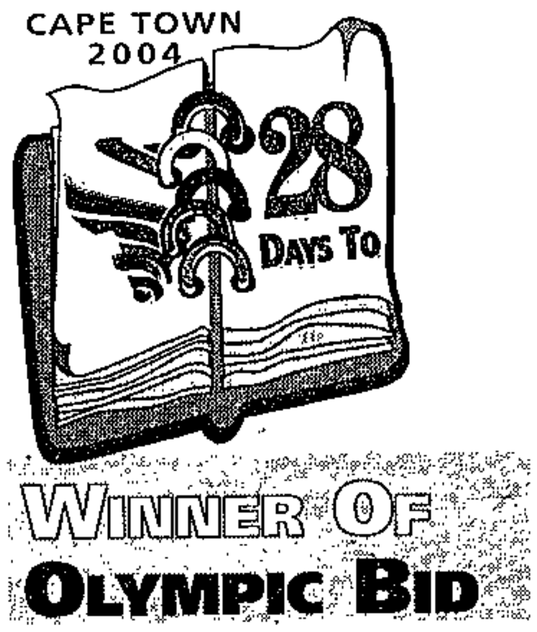
"In the interest of the property industry and the broader economy, your positive response would contribute meaningfully to this campaign."

Mandela and Govt's support have had a positive impact, says Ramsamy

Star 8/8/97 (288)

By Vida Tong

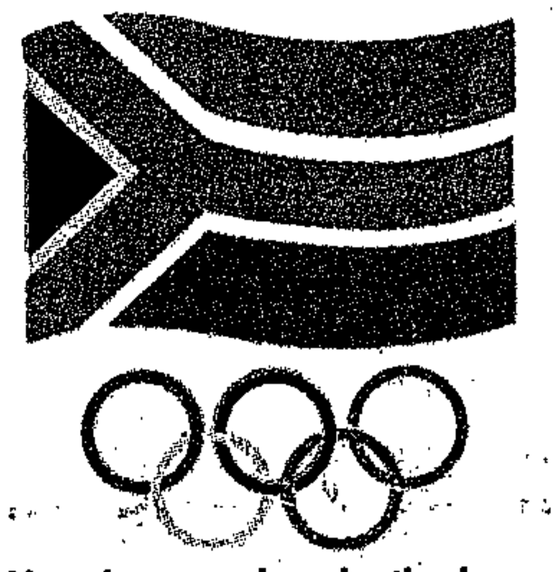
While Sam Ramsamy, president of the National Olympic Committee of South Africa (Nocsa), admits the country's new Olympic logo – the Olympic rings below the national flag – is not an original concept, no other country's colours come close to encompassing the spirit of the world's biggest sporting event. "The colours of our rainbow nation are exactly reflected in the colours of the Olympic emblem, and President Mandela and his government's support of the country's bid for the 2004 Olympics has had a very positive impact," said Ramsamy.



The International Olympic Committee is due to announce the host city for the 2004 Olympics in Switzerland on September 5. The logo replaces the "running team" San logo used for the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, while the Nocsa team logo will be retained for the Sydney Olympics in 2000 and be carried through to the 2004 Olympics,.

Ramsamy said Mandela had met yesterday with five IOC members who are in the country to view South Africa's bid.

"There is no clear favourite among the final five countries. It's a fairly open race, which increases our chances," he said. Ramsamy said the new corporate logo will be used by the seven Nocsa sponsors who will start their promotional and advertising campaigns shortly. He said the Nocsa four-year sponsorship has been increased from R2,5-million to R5-million, and the funds will be used to finance the athletes' preparations through "Operation Excellence". "We're planning to send a team representing all Nocsa's sporting codes to the 2000 Olympic Games and we're hoping to double our medal count from Atlanta," said Ramsamy.



Yawn! ... an unimaginative logo

Boksburg backs Cape Town Olympic bid to the hilt

(288)

Star 8/8/97

By Rodney Victor

Eastern Gauteng has been identified as an ideal high-altitude training ground for Olympic athletes, according to Suzanne van Rensburg, director of the Boksburg Information and Publicity Association.

And, she adds, the region could experience a major boom if the 2004 Olympic Games are awarded to Cape Town.

Hundreds of international athletes would make Eastern Gauteng their base for their final training programmes, she said. Most would head for Boksburg because of its proximity to Johannesburg international airport and because the city had some of the best sporting facilities in Gauteng.

Boksburg fully supported Cape Town's bid for the Games, which it had a real prospect of winning, Van Rensburg said.

"We're just as excited as Cape Town, and we're holding a carnival on September 5 – the day the International Olympic Committee decides which city will host the 2004 Olympic Games," she said.

The carnival starts in the afternoon, with drum majorettes leading a procession from Trichardt Road to the City Hall, where all further festivities will take place.

Mayors from all over Gauteng will arrive in the evening, along with foreign ambassadors and trade consuls, to watch a live satellite linkup to Cape Town and to Lucerne in Switzerland, where the IOC members will be voting.

A win for Cape Town would have a massive political, social and economic impact on all of South Africa, Van Rensburg said. Studies by KPMG and NN Gobodo & Associates had estimated that more than 91 000 jobs would be created, of which 45 000 would be in Gauteng.

South Africa's gross domestic product would increase by R30-billion, and there would be new investment in Gauteng alone of R10-billion, she said.

City's Games security plan gets top marks

ARG 8/8/97

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

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Cape Town's security plan for 2004 has passed the scrutiny of top Olympic security specialist Ashwini Kumar and the man who ran the Atlanta Games security operation, William Rathburn.

Both said they were impressed by Cape Town's plans and were confident security arrangements would match the big-event demands of an Olympic Games in 2004.

Meanwhile, in Athens, Cape Town has earned another key endorsement, from the African Amateur Athletics Confederation.

Mr Kumar, India's International Olympic Committee member, and a long-time specialist on Olympic security, said at a briefing yesterday that he had had a forthright discussion with key security personnel "on the plus and minus points" of Cape Town's Olympic plan.

"They were able to satisfy me on all the points I raised, about the expertise, the strategies, the accommodation and organisation, the reception of up to 100 heads of state, crowd control and the security at the events themselves. I am more than happy."

He said that although he did not circulate his assessment of the bid security plans among his IOC colleagues, "I keep my president (IOC president Juan Samaranch) well informed".

Mr Rathburn said: "I have a high level of confidence that in South Africa you have the security resources and expertise to do what is necessary."

He added: "In the United States, we don't hear much about crime in South Africa, because we have such a high crime rate ourselves.

"But Los Angeles had a high crime rate and so did Atlanta, but we were able to stage the Games in both cities, and stage them without crime."

R1-m boost from bottlers will add financial fizz to bid

(288)
MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID
ARG 9/8/97

Coca Cola's Western Cape bottler, Peninsula Beverage Company, has given R1-million to the bid in what the international beverage giant sees as a signal of Coke's "great confidence" in South Africa. The donation was made this week to Bid Company director Ncgonde Balfour.

The company (PenBev) described the investment as a "huge expression of confidence", based on its certainty that the Olympic Games would provide a "tremendous" economic boost to the region, the country and the continent.

Managing director David Lewis said the bid was a vital opportunity to generate new business and create jobs, across all sectors of the economy.

"We see this as a tremendous opportunity for the Western Cape.

"It will bring special experiences for the people, but also help to create wealth and jobs," he said.

In a separate statement, Charlie Frenette, president of Coca-Cola Southern Africa, noted: "We're proud to be a long-term supporter of the Olympics, and we see Peninsula Beverage's support for Cape Town's bid as another clear example of the great confidence in the future of South Africa."

Mr Lewis believed the donation was "not dissimilar to an investment".

"I believe the returns will be great. The risk is that you don't get it – but if you don't try, you never will get it."

He added: "There is no doubt that our customers will benefit tremendously from the Olympics and that runs from the 2 200 spaza shops we supply in the Western Cape to the big retailers."



ANDREW BROWN

Things go better: Peter Flanders, right, and Peter Childs, left, of Coca-Cola bottler Peninsula Beverage company hand a cheque to Bid director Ncgonde Balfour

It would also boost the company's innovative empowerment scheme. "This is the owner-driver programme run by former driver-salesmen who now own and operate an independent distribution and selling service. We have 44 owner-drivers who service 4 400 customers a week.

That's 40% of PenBev's business. "You can imagine the impact of the Games on this programme," Mr Lewis said. The Olympics boost would also invigorate the company's micro-enterprise development programme, which was geared to providing spaza shops with coolers and other equipment, and business training.

Mr Lewis noted that spaza shops accounted for 15% of the company's business, and more than 20% of their retail business in South Africa.

Five cities vying to host Games begin sprint down the straight

Star 11/8/97 (288)

By Shirley Woodgate

The last five cities bidding to host the 2004 Olympics have symbolically entered the stadium and are racing down the straight to the podium in the International Olympic Committee's headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland.

There are 25 days before the winner reaches the finishing line, which will signal the end for four contestants and the start of seven years of feverish activity for the city that wins gold.

The current betting on the shortlisted cities is 4-7 on Rome (which hosted the games in 1960), Athens 11-4, Cape Town 4-1, Stockholm 7-1 and Beunos Aires 14-1.

In November 1995, IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch said that while Rome's bid to host the 2004 summer Olympics was "one of the most important to date", Cape Town needed to do "a lot of work" to stage the games.

Emphasising that Rome's great strength was its unity – agreement between the government, the city and the people – he said Cape Town's bid was "suggestive", adding that Africa had not organised an Olympics before.

The question, therefore, is whether or not Cape Town has successfully addressed the concerns of the IOC president.

The unity issue is best illustrated by the fact that the man who cemented together the rainbow nation, President Mandela himself, will head the delegation when it jets into Switzerland for the vote.

Going one up on the European contestants, the South African Bid Committee boasts not only local support but that of the entire continent after the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa recently endorsed the 2004 campaign as "a candidature for the whole of Africa".

A string of well-organised celebrity visits, international sporting events and mega-music concerts ranging from tours by Queen Elizabeth, US Vice-President Al Gore and Pope John Paul II to superstars Pavarotti and Tina Turner, are proof of organisational expertise.

Intense behind-scenes lobbying (which has brought some 50 members of the IOC to see for themselves in South Africa) has also included extensive plans to upgrade existing facilities and infrastructures and develop new facilities dedicated to the games.



Chris Ball's high-powered management team has produced a R95-million bid funded almost entirely by the private sector, addressing vital issues which include transport (to be funded by government), accommodation and economic and social empowerment to redress the imbalances of the past.

The concept plan envisages two main competition venues located close to public transport, particularly rail, with buses and taxis in an important back-up role

The indoor hall will be at Culemborg Centre, next to the city centre.

The main athletics stadium, the indoor swimming facility and the athletes' and officials' villages will be at Cape Town Olympic Park 10km away, where a rowing and sprint canoeing course will be situated on water introduced into the vast area.

Three future centres at Philippi East, Belhar and Mew Way in Khayelitsha will contain new Olympic venues.

The 85 new training facilities required for the games will be located at the historically disadvantaged areas of Blue Downs, Langa, New Crossroads, Wynberg, Grassy Park, Retreat, Kuils River, Athlone and Elsies River.

Existing sports facilities will be upgraded. With the exception of slalom, canoeing, shooting, modern pentathlon and mountain biking, all competition venues will be less than 52km from the village.

The Government has backed its guarantee to provide the necessary infrastructure for the games by allocating R250-million for immediate transport projects. Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban international airports are already being upgraded and rail and rolling stock are being improved.

While the athletes will be housed with all home comforts in the main village, the 300 000 additional daily visitors to the city will be accommodated in anything from 17 cruise liners anchored in the bay, to the parliamentary village, school and university hostels, existing hotels or 42 hotels now in the pipeline at the Cape.

The South African telecommunications network is capable of handling the vast demands which will be placed on it.

Vital media and broadcasting facilities will be in place, from the media village for the 15 000 media members living a kilometre away from the action, to state of the art technology updated after the Sydney Games.

Security will be co-ordinated by a multi-agency committee including police and private security firms, a combination which successfully policed recent official state visits and international events.

Some of these facts contained in the Cape Town bid suggest the real question should be: "How can the International Olympics Committee refuse Africa the 2004 games."

But still the million-dollar question remains unresolved – Barcelona in 1992, Atlanta in 1966, Sydney in 2000, Cape Town in 2004 ... ?

Fury over Games plan for sweeping powers

Nats fear province will be sidelined

(288) ARG 11/8/97

MICHAEL MORRIS AND CLIVE SAWYER
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

A political row has erupted over the Government's hastily tabled Olympic Bid and Hosting Bill containing a sweeping clause that would allow extensive legal exemptions for Olympic-related work.

The National Party fears it will allow central government to ride roughshod over provincial and local government and environmental groups, and others are concerned about the clause on "exemptions from provisions of any law".

The draft states that "in order to comply with the provisions of the host contract, the Minister may by proclamation in the Government Gazette and on the conditions determined by herself or himself, exempt the host city, the National Olympic Committee or the Organising Committee of the Olympic Games, from complying with specific procedures required by any law".

Any such exemption may be applied or amended retrospectively.

It appears highly likely that the Government will alter the clause, particularly as the City of Cape Town – the institution responsible for the host contract – has itself sought an amendment to the clause.

In fact, strong environmental and other commitments contained in the Bid Book will become paramount if the city's bid wins, because the Bid Book effectively will be a binding contract.

It contains guarantees from the national, provincial and local government of



Nick Koornhof: 'an attempt to ignore the W Cape'

internationally recognised integrated environmental management procedures that involve environmental impact assessment and public consultation.

Nevertheless, there is deep concern at the import of the bill.

"It's completely in line with the current African National Congress strategy to shunt other bodies, especially other political parties, out of involvement in the Olympic bid," said National Party MP Nick Koornhof.

The bill gave far too much power to the minister of sport and was an attempt to shut out local authorities, he said.

"There was also no reference to the competencies of provincial authorities and it looks like a deliberate attempt to ignore the NP-controlled Western Cape," Mr Koornhof said.

There was a danger that the Bill would be plunged into controversy, which would damage the Bid. "Given the content of the bill, its timing is most unfortunate."

Mr Koornhof said the Government's "total obsession" with power, as reflected in the bill, did not serve the Olympic spirit.

He said the Government should withdraw the bill and negotiate a new version with provincial and local governments.

"The disunity that this bill will cause just a few weeks away from September 5 could be fatal to Cape Town's chances. The ANC government's strategy is wrong and irresponsible," Mr Koornhof said.

The NP had referred the bill to its legal advisers.

In a strongly worded submission, the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa said it believed the draft law was "unconstitutional, as it is in conflict with a number of constitutional rights".

It said: "We object in the strongest possible manner to any legislation that effectively hinders the developing participatory democracy in South Africa.

"Another important aspect ... is that it can apply retrospectively.

"This could 'absolve' all levels of government, the Olympic Bid Company and other proponents of the Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid from past irregularities in terms of any law."

Parties in doubt over Olympic Bid and Hosting Bill

(288)

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

ARG 11/8/97

Opposition parties have queried the necessity of the controversial Olympic Bid and Hosting Bill which, if approved by Parliament, will stay in effect whether or not Cape Town is awarded the 2004 Games.

Constitutional development officials have been asked by Parliament's constitutional committee to urgently ask the Western Cape provincial government for its views on the draft bill.

If Parliament approves the bill, South Africa will become only the second country in the world to have such legislation.

Dirk du Toit, an ANC member of the National Assembly's constitutional committee, called for a careful thinking-through of the bill's proposed provision that contracts would be subject to Swiss law.

"This means that the private law of Switzerland will dominate the decisions and discretions of the municipality of Cape Town."

Colin Eglin of the Democratic Party said he was unconvinced that the country needed a permanent law on the Olympic games.

Violent threats to athletes hammer Stockholm's bid

Lives at stake, warns mysterious group

Stockholm's bid has suffered a serious setback, with an anonymous group threatening to target athletes and the public if the Swedish capital city is awarded the 2004 Olympic Games.

The Swedish bid, widely ranked fourth after Cape Town, has been bedevilled from the start by poor public support.

The latest unconfirmed claims could prove fatal toits chances. Reuter reports that the anonymous group, whose existence was immediately challenged by police, said in a letter to the Swedish news agency TT that it was responsible for eight recent fires at sports venues and a bomb explosion last week at Stockholm's Olympic stadium.

The group, calling itself "We Who Built Sweden", and claiming to have "large amounts of explosives, grenade launchers, automatic weapons as well as ammunition", said it represented the country's poor and oppressed.

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

In a grim warning, the group said: "Eight fires and one explosion have been our warning. We have sought to avoid harm to people. We will continue until the IOC (International Olympic Committee) makes its decision. From then on, human lives will be at stake."

"I doubt that the letter has been written by the people responsible for the recent attacks," said police spokesman Claes Cassel.

On the home front, Cape Town has emerged as the clear second favourite among local punters, with odds of 2-1.

Rome is still the even-money favourite at 1-1, with Athens running third at 3-1, and Stockholm and Buenos Aires trailing at 12-1 and 14-1.

As the sense of anticipation mounts, stockbroking firm Smith Borkum Hare, a member of the international Merrill Lynch Group, has advised clients to be prepared for the potential impact of Cape Town winning the bid.

The company believes Cape Town will make it through two rounds at the expense of Buenos Aires and Stockholm, but stands only a "dark horse" chance of winning, relying on the IOC's sentiment towards affording Africa the Olympics for the first time.

Nevertheless, it believes that "the expected impact on the construction sector should the bid be successful warrants that attention be paid in preparation".

Olympic Bid countdown has an element

(288) ARG

missing 11/8/94

The final countdown to the announcement of which city will host the 2004 Olympic Games is proving to be a tense affair.

It was bad enough in those heady days of early 1994, when the rivalry was merely between South African cities vying for the right to make a bid on behalf of our country. Who among those lucky enough to have been invited to the function at a Waterfront pub to watch a video feed of the announcement will forget the whoops of joy and the popping of champagne corks when our city's name was called out?

That initial excitement and enthusiasm of some of the early supporters of the bid has been tempered in the intervening months as the hard business of planning and decision-making got under way.

It is true that some of the initial sceptics and the "undecided" have been brought on board and are now ardent supporters of Cape Town's efforts to host the Games. It is equally true that some of the opposition have remained as resolute as ever, and that there are also those who have changed their minds along the way and now either oppose the bid or harbour various doubts.

There's also a third group which has always appreciated the potential spin-offs associated with a successful bid – notably, the formal adoption and legal implementation of important planning initiatives like the Metropolitan Spatial Development Framework, which should once and for all end the creeping erosion of Cape Town's wonderful natural and cultural heritage.

This group, which also fully appreciates the vital social and economic opportunities for Cape Town's previously disadvantaged communities in a successful bid, includes a fair number of environmentalists.

Although the environment is officially one of the three pillars of the modern Olympic movement, I believe it fair to say that this sector has not enjoyed an appropriate profile during the local bid process.

There are various reasons for this, including the lack of environmental representation on the bid company's board of directors (appointed by the Government). This is not an attempt to point fingers at individuals in the bid company. Indeed, some of them have torn their hair out at times in frustration at what they see as the

CLEAN GREEN



JOHN YELD

intransigence of some greens and their seeming inability to take decisions.

The environmentalists, on the other hand, can respond that their entirely reasonable concerns have not always been treated with the priority they deserve. For example, they can point out that, with just days to go to the decision, the agreed environmental charter still has not been formalised, nor has the promised opinion poll been held because of serious delays – not of their making – in completing the Strategic Environmental Assessment process.

I would venture to suggest that those differences, while deep, can (and hopefully will) be overcome. But there is now a new development which is likely to put the opposing parties on a firm collision course: the publication of the Olympic Bid and Hosting Bill by the Ministry for Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development.

The motivation for this bill is understandable. It includes, inter alia, to provide authority for a city in South Africa – read Cape Town – to enter a bid for the Olympic Games; to provide authority for a host city to sign the host contract on being awarded the hosting of the Games; and, particularly, to make provision for the protection of Olympic symbols. So far so good.

But then it goes on to add "to provide for the exemption from complying with specific procedures required by law", and that such exemption, on conditions determined solely by the minister, applies to the host city, the National Olympic Committee and the Olympic Organising Committee.

Valli Moosa's department seems to have woken up very late, and an attempt is being made to rush the bill through before the International Olympic Committee makes its decision on September 5.

The bill was only published in the Government Gazette on July 31, yet the department required comments by last Friday, August 8. To make matters worse, the particular gazette apparently has been unavailable at the Government Printers in Cape Town. Clearly, that is quite unacceptable, as is the period of just seven days allowed for comment.

As the Wildlife Society has stated in its strong objection, several of the bill's provisions will exempt the relevant authorities from involving the public in decision-making, and thus prevent accountability and transparency, in land-use planning, environmental impact assessment and financial accountability.

To non-lawyers, the bill appears to enable the minister to do away with these at the stroke of a pen. This may not be his intention, but the possibility seems real enough, and it is quite unacceptable, Olympic Games or no Olympic Games.

This is one initiative that arrived late and is already flying off down the track after a false start. It must be called back to the starting blocks now.

New bill is threat to SA's Olympic bid, say Nats

(288)

Star 12/8/97

Wildlife Society has also slammed draft law

OWN CORRESPONDENT
Cape Town

A political row has erupted over the Government's hastily tabled Olympic Bid and Hosting Bill, which contains a sweeping clause allowing extensive legal exemptions for Olympic-related work.

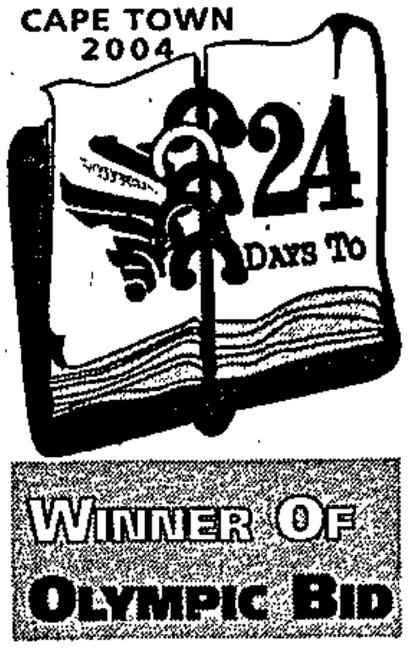
The National Party fears it will allow central Government to ride roughshod over provincial and local government, and environmental groups and others are particularly concerned about the clause on "exemptions from provisions of any law".

It states in the draft that "in order to comply with the provisions of the host contract, the minister may by proclamation in the Government Gazette and on the conditions determined by herself or himself, exempt the host city, the National Olympic Committee of the Organising Committee of the Olympic Games, from complying with specific procedures required by any law".

Any such exemption may be applied or amended retrospectively. It appears highly likely that the Government will alter the clause, particularly as the City of Cape Town – the institution responsible for the host contract – has itself sought an amendment to the clause.

In fact, strong environmental and other commitments contained in the Bid Book will become paramount if the city wins the bid, because the Bid Book effectively will be a binding contract.

It contains guarantees from the national, provincial and local governments to internationally recognised integrated environmental management procedures, which involved environmental impact assessment and public consultation.



Nevertheless, there is deep concern at the import of the bill. "It's completely in line with the current ANC strategy to shunt other bodies, especially other political parties, out of involvement in the Olympic bid, " said NP MP Nick Koornhof.

The bill gave far too much power to the minister of sport and was clearly an attempt to shut out local authorities," he said.

"There is also no reference to the competencies of provincial authorities and it looks like a deliberate attempt to ignore the NP-controlled Western Cape."

There was a danger that the bill would be plunged into controversy, which would damage the bid. "Given the content of the bill, its timing is most unfortunate," he said.

Koornhof said the Government's total obsession with power, as reflected in the bill, did not serve the Olympic spirit. He said the Government should withdraw the bill and negotiate a new version with provincial and local governments.

"The disunity which this bill will cause just a few weeks away from September 5 could be fatal to Cape Town's chances. The ANC Government's strategy is wrong and irresponsible."

The NP had referred the bill to its legal advisers, Koornhof said.

In a strongly worded submission, the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa said it believed the draft law was "unconstitutional."

It said it objected to "any legislation which hinders developing participatory democracy in South Africa.

"We believe a number of provisions in the bill will exempt the host city and other organs of government from involving the public in decision-making and prevent accountability and transparency in decision-making."

MPs question need for Olympic bill

CT 12/8/97

(288)

MEMBERS of Parliament from various political parties questioned yesterday the need for hastily-prepared draft legislation on South Africa's efforts concerning the Olympics.

Briefing Parliament's constitutional affairs portfolio committee on an initial version of the Olympic Bid and Hosting Bill, the director of legal services in the Department of Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs, Dr Petra Bouwer, said the bill would convey the national government's support for the bid.

He said its timing was geared to the September 5 announcement date of the winning city in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Answering questions on why a clause had been inserted which would exempt the host city and organising bodies from legal provisions, Bouwer said there "was no real rationale ... we worked through the night ... it was just putting our minds to paper".

The clause had been removed from the bill, which would have been ready by late yesterday or early this morning.

The gist of the measure was to capture the sentiment that a host city and country would have to play by the rules of the International Olympic Committee.

Guarantees mentioned in the bill were not just monetary. They also included such aspects as making the city's traffic authorities available for the marathon route.

DP MP Mr Colin Eglin said he was unsure whether South Africa needed such an act.

"We should (rather) apply our minds to what to do to secure this bid, and not concentrate on a grand statute to last forever."

NP sports spokesperson Mr Nick Koornhof said the bill's timing was "completely wrong and insensitive ... it only stimulates unnecessary emotions and can hinder rather than promote Cape Town's chances". He called on Constitutional Affairs Minister Mr Mohammed Valli Moosa to withdraw it immediately.

Answering a question from Mr Peter Smith (IFP), Bouwer said no clause in the bill was "absolutely necessary" for the bid to succeed.

The bill will be discussed again today. — Sapa

SABC to donate airtime to promote city's Olympic bid

ET 12/8/97 (288)

DAN SIMON

THE SABC is to provide free airtime worth about R5 million to promote Cape Town's 2004 Olympic bid.

The television and radio airtime package is to be announced at noon today at SABC headquarters in Johannesburg.

Last week rival 2004 bid city Athens secured invaluable airtime on CNN International to launch an aggressive one-minute global promotional blitz as the September 5 announcement of the 2004 host city draws closer.

The move to win the hearts and minds of South Africans through a national advertising campaign was confirmed yesterday by the bid company, which refused to elaborate on the deal, except to say that airtime would be provided by the SABC on its three main television channels.

SABC radio stations that will also carry advertisements promoting Cape Town's Olympic bid are Good Hope FM, SAfm, Radio Lotus, Radio Metro and Radio 5.

Herdbuoys Gauteng, the advertising agency that is undertaking the advertising campaign, said the advertisements' underlying message would be: "Bring the world back home (to Africa) where humanity originally started".

Herdbuoys Gauteng communications director Mr Demape Sereyane said the campaign would aim to get all South Africans to back the bid. The advertisement is to be shown later this week or early next week.

"The campaign is repositioning the Cape Town bid as a South African bid; and secondly it is repositioning the Cape Town bid as a bid for the Olympics to happen in Africa," Sereyane said.

"We believe we have found a common interest for all South Africans to support the bid and to give the South Africans and the rest of Africa emotional ownership of the Cape Town bid."

Videotaped copies of the advertisement would be sent to International Olympic Committee members and numerous government ministries in Africa, the Middle East and Europe.

The costs of producing the advertisement would be carried by a host of sponsors who had "pitched in for the national interest", Sereyane said.

● See Page 6

Group vows to use bombs to scupper Swedish bid

STOCKHOLM: A group opposing Stockholm's bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games has claimed responsibility for the bomb that damaged part of the city's 1912 Olympic Stadium four days ago.

The group, previously unknown and calling itself "We who built up Sweden", said in a note to the Swedish news agency, TT, that it would attack other venues that might be used for Olympic events.

It said the Swedish people were "walking on crutches" and the sick were lying in hospital corridors because of cuts in pensions and unemployment and sickness benefits.

Meanwhile, those in power were "enjoying themselves with an Olympics which can cost us huge amounts", the note said.

Police said the claim of responsibility for the attack, which damaged the stadium press box, should be treated with caution.

Several sports venues have been damaged by arsonists in Stockholm since May in attacks linked to anti-Olympic protests.

However, police said the stadium blast on Thursday was an "isolated incident". There were no signs that it had been an attempt to sabotage the bid to host the Olympics.

Mr Olof Stenhammer, head of the Stockholm Olympic organising committee, said he did not believe the attacks would affect the city's chances of winning the bid next month.

— Sapa-DPA

Bitter Atlanta licks its Olympic wounds

ET 12/8/97 (288)

ONE YEAR ON, many Atlanta residents regret staging the last Olympics, reports **IAN BRODIE.**

A SARDONIC joke heard in Atlanta nowadays is that the only amateurs left in the Olympic Games are the unfortunate civic leaders forced to organise them.

A year on, Atlantans still feel bruised by their 17 steamy days in the world spotlight as Olympic hosts, although they were left with more than R8billion in improvements, including a refurbished convention district, a new baseball stadium for the Atlanta Braves and Centennial Olympic Park.

What a city goes through to prepare for the games is a "grinding, exhausting, interminable hell", says Bert Roughton, who covered the Olympic saga for the Atlanta journal Constitution, from the bidding days of 1989 to the closing ceremonies.

The Atlanta Olympics were the best attended ever, but none ever received worse reviews. The litany of complaints reported around the world included lost bus drivers, an underground railway with only sporadic air-conditioning, shameless prices, technology on the blink and the endless torrents of commercialism, some of it tacky, that inundated the games.

One legacy has been enormous bitterness among street vendors, mostly black, who were enticed by city officials with promotions of a "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity" at the "largest public gathering in history". Vendors who paid at least $10 000 (about R47 000) for a street site often found the spot had been sold to someone else.

The upshot has been two legal actions seeking damages of more than $20 million (R93m) for 220 vendors who accused the city of fraudulent mismanagement.

There are many accounts of bankruptcies, mortgage foreclosures, ruined businesses and liquidations. Indeed, after Richard Jewell was cleared as a suspect in the bombing at Centennial Park, the FBI began wondering if the explosion was the work of an outraged vendor.

Billy Payne, the property lawyer who almost single-handedly persuaded the International Olympic Committee to choose Atlanta, has not received the national hero status accorded to Peter Ueberroth, who made $225m (about R1bn) on the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles and donated it to sport.

The Atlanta Olympics are said to have broken even, although the latest balance sheet had a contingency reserve of nearly $40m (R187m) that could become a surplus if unused. Payne now earns $500 000 (R2,3m) a year to round up new business as a vice-president at Nations Bank, a company with which he fostered a close relationship before and during the games as his first sponsor to pay $40-million.

The bank also took the chance on granting a $300m (R1,4bn) line of credit to Payne's organising committee.

From his office on the 55th floor of the bank building, he looks back nostalgically to the intensity of Atlanta's efforts and reckons they were worth it.

He said: "I think the legacy of the games is the spirit of the people, the longing to experience that kind of environment again, the happiness and celebration that were a part of it."

He even suggests that, in the years to come, Atlanta might try to bid for the games again. There was a spectacular postscript to the Atlanta Olympics on Saturday when, with a series of dynamite charges, the old stadium next door to the new Olympic Stadium was toppled to make way for a car park.

The Olympic village where athletes were housed has been converted into halls of residence for college students. — The Times, London

Rome's bid — not over till the fat man sings

ET 12/8/97 (288)

THE ROME 2004 Olympic Bid committee is facing increasing pressure from influential environmental opponents.

ITALY'S capital, Rome, is increasingly confident it will be chosen to host the Olympics in 2004. Preparations are in full swing and the government has signed up Luciano Pavarotti to serenade the opening ceremony.

But with less than a month to go before the winner of the competition to host the Games is announced, influential Italian environmental groups have launched a last-ditch drive to undermine Rome's increasingly ebullient campaign, led by Francesco Rutelli, the left-wing mayor. Leading members of the Green Party and Italia Nostra, the equivalent of English Heritage, said that Rome was unable to cope with preparations for the millennium, and its ancient, crowded streets "of unmatched historic and artistic value" were completely unsuitable either for thousands of millennium pilgrims or for an influx of tourists and sports fans in 2004.

The critics, under the banner "Campaign against the Rome Olympics", accuse Rutelli, a former leading Green, of allowing Italy's big building firms to profit from huge "white elephant" projects, known in Italian as "cathedrals in the desert". Such projects include allegedly unusable stadiums for games such as baseball, not an Italian pastime, and "unwanted" housing for 9 000 journalists at Torre Spaccata, an inconvenient and run down area on the city outskirts.

Rutelli says he has every confidence in Rome's qualifications: "We will do a magnificent job." He has staked his prestige on projects designed to make Rome fit for 2000 and the Olympics four years later. The International Olympic Committee will announce next month whether Rome's bid has beaten Athens, Stockholm, Beunos Aires and Cape Town.

But Romans are becoming increasingly irritated by the way in which the Eternal City has been turned into a gigantic building site, with streets ripped up for new tram lines and the installation of underground fibre-optic cables in a bright blue-ribbed plastic casing which has become as much one of the sights of Rome as the Colosseum or the Trevi Fountain.

The campaign to "stop this madness" has the backing of figures such as Carlo Ripa di Meana, the former EU Commissioner and a leading Green, and Federico Zeri, the leading art expert.

Rutelli's opponents complain in a report entitled Ten Good Reasons to Say No to the Olympics that many of the construction bosses who stand to gain from projects linked to the millennium or the Olympics, or in some cases both, are also on the official committees allocating contracts. Italy, they say, is repeating the errors of the 1990 football World Cup, when huge sums of public money were "squandered" on new stadiums, one of which, in Turin, is to be razed because of building flaws and high running costs.

Rome is being "choked by benzene and ozone pollution", the report says, and has inadequate public transport and rubbish disposal arrangements. In their attempts to impress the Olympic decision-makers, Rutelli and the "Rome 2004" Committee are alleged to have have "grossly exaggerated" the number of hospitals, the efficiency of its telephone service and underestimated the level of crime.

There is also controversy over plans to build an Olympic village to accommodate 18 000 athletes and officials at Tor Vergata, the suburban campus of one of Rome's three universities. Transport between the Olympic venues and sights in the crowded centre, such as the Vatican and the Colosseum, will be a nightmare, the report says. "The 2004 Committee fraudulently claims that it takes 23 minutes to get into town from the main airport at Fiumicino and 17 minutes from the second airport at Ciampino ... anyone who lives in Rome knows that is a joke."

On finance, the critics describe Rutelli's claim that the Olympics will "make Rome rich" as "propaganda". They say, "The Olympics are profitable for sponsors and merchandising, but the people are left with debts."

In a separate report, Italia Nostra said that work on a traffic underpass at the Castel San Angelo, on the Tiber embankment, had stopped because excavators had hit ancient foundations, "as archaeologists predicted all along".

Behind such charges lies the contention that Rutelli is a Green "turncoat" who, before his election as mayor in 1993, opposed the allocation of the Olympic Games to Italy (Milan was then the favoured site) on the ground that it would divert scarce resources from "real problems" such as urban decay and pollution.

Dario Fo, the left-wing playwright, suggested that perhaps Rutelli really intended to use the Olympic village after 2004 to house Albanian refugees and would turn the unwanted "Media Village" into "an open prison for corrupt politicians and construction bosses". — The Times, London

Cape Town passes Athens

ARG 12/8/97

TYRONE SEALE AND MICHAEL MORRIS
On the Olympic Bid

(288)

Cape Town has moved up to second place in London betting on the 2004 Olympics race, nudging big rival Athens into third place.

British gamblers' faith in Cape Town's bid matches the bid team's own assessment of the September 5 vote, with the city facing Rome in the final showdown in round four of the ballot.

And, ironically, Cape Town is likely to gain even more as a result of Rome supremo Primo Nebiolo's petulant sparring with Athens.

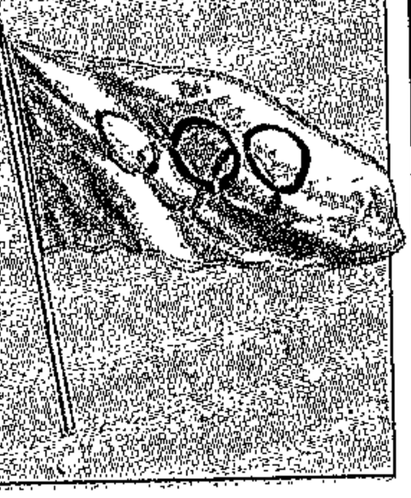
The mounting feud could help to neutralise South Africa's opposition on September 5. If it came down to a choice between Rome and Cape Town, Athens supporters would be more than likely to back Cape Town to teach Mr Nebiolo a lesson.

24 OLYMPIC BID DAYS TO GO

■ Influential Italian environmental groups have launched a last-ditch drive to undermine favourite Rome's campaign. They say the Italian capital's ancient streets 'of unmatched historic and artistic value' are completely unsuitable for an influx of tourists and sports fans in 2004

Latest odds in London

Rome 4-6
Cape Town 9-4
Athens 3-1
Stockholm 8-1
Buenos Aires 50-1



Bid report, page 2

Bombers deal Stockholm chances a blow

Star 13/8/97 (288)

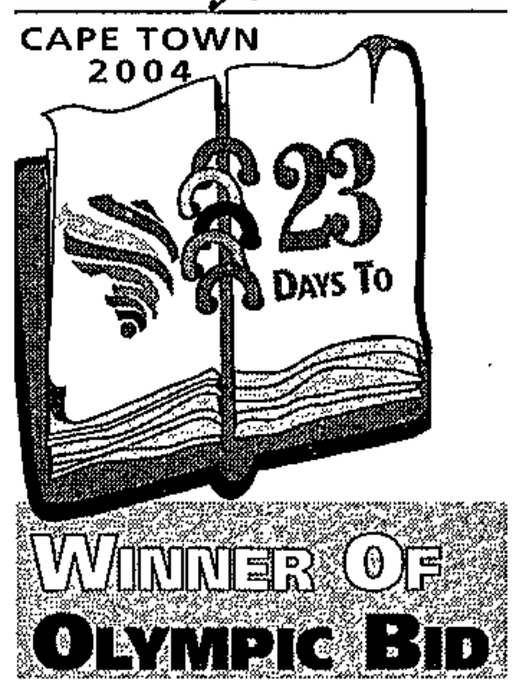
Stockholm's bid has suffered a major setback with an anonymous group threatening to target athletes and the public if the Swedish capital city is awarded the 2004 Olympic Games.

The Swedish bid, widely ranked fourth after Cape Town, has been bedevilled from the start by poor public support. The latest claims could prove fatal.

Reuters reports that the anonymous group, whose existence was immediately challenged by police, said in a letter to the news agency, TT, that it was responsible for eight recent fires at sports venues and a bomb explosion last week at Stockholm's Olympic stadium.

The group, calling itself "We Who Built Sweden", and claiming to have "large amounts of explosives, grenade launchers, automatic weapons as well as ammunition", said it represented the country's poor and oppressed.

In a grim warning, the group said: "Eight fires and one explosion have been our warning. We have sought to avoid harm to people. We will continue until the IOC (International Olympic Committee) makes its decision. From then on, human lives will be at stake."



"I doubt that the letter has been written by the people responsible for the recent attacks," said Stockholm police spokesman Claes Cassel.

On the home front, Cape Town has emerged as the clear second favourite among local punters, with odds of 2-1. Rome is still the favourite at 1-1, with Athens running third at 3-1, and Stockholm and Buenos Aires trailing at 12-1 and 14-1.

As the sense of anticipation mounts, stockbrokers Smith Borkum Hare, a member of the international Merril Lynch Group, have advised clients to be prepared for the potential impact of Cape Town winning the Games.

The company believes Cape Town will make it through two rounds at the expense of Buenos Aires and Stockholm, but stands only a "dark horse" chance of winning, relying on the IOC's sentiment towards affording Africa the Olympics for the first time.

Nevertheless, it believes "the expected impact on the construction sector should the bid be successful warrants that attention be paid in preparation". It estimates of the total capital expenditure of about R9-billion between 1998 and 2004, about R6,8-billion would be construction-related spending.

"We estimate that the national impact could peak at about 2,6% additional growth in 2003 and the impact on the Western Cape could peak at 21,1% additional growth the same year.

Gauteng pushes support for Olympic bid

(288) Star 13/8/97

By Shirley Woodgate

Support for Cape Town's 2004 Olympic bid is snowballing, with the countdown only 23 days away from the announcement on September 5 in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Gauteng became the sixth province to throw its full weight behind the Mother City yesterday, when Premier Tokyo Sexwale raised the flag with great fanfare in the Johannesburg city centre.

Hours later, the SABC pledged R5-million in air-time to promote the Cape's fight to become the host city.

The messages were different but the goal was the same.

SABC chairman Professor Paulus Zulu pledged the full might of the public broadcaster to get vital public support for the bid at this critical stage.

As the South African Olympic flag was hoisted outside the SABC headquarters, upbeat Sports Minister Steve Tshwete stressed it was security, not crime, that bothered the International Olympic Committee.

All Africa deserves fifth ring – Sexwale

"Without trying to minimise our problem and the need to eliminate locally bred or alien criminals, you will read about hijacking, rape and stabbings in newspapers in Sydney, New York and Athens," he said.

While Tshwete stressed the winning city would be decided by the excellence of its technical presentation, Sexwale and Johannesburg mayor Isaac Mogase raised the flag in the heart of the city with an ardent appeal to the heart.

"Cape Town and all of Africa not only desires but deserves the fifth ring in the Olympic logo," said Sexwale, sporting an Olympic cap, jacket and scarf.

"What more do we need than the Olympics to demonstrate the spirit of reconciliation? What better time than during the lifetime of President Nelson Mandela?" he asked as the trumpets played, the choir sang and the drum-majorettes marched.

Gauteng supports city's Olympic bid

(288)

CT 13/8/97

OWN CORRESPONDENT

JOHANNESBURG: Support for Cape Town's 2004 Olympic bid is snowballing, with the countdown now only 23 days away from the announcement of the winner on September 5 in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Yesterday Gauteng became the sixth province to throw its weight behind Cape Town when Premier Mr Tokyo Sexwale raised the flag with great fanfare in central Johannesburg.

Later, the SABC pledged R5 million in air time to promote the Cape's fight to become the host city.

The messages were different, but the goal was the same.

The Olympic ideal of international solidarity would not be realised until an African country hosted the Olympic Games, Sexwale said.

He was addressing several hundred people at a presentation here by Cape Town's Olympic Bid Company.

He said Cape Town's bid embodied the dreams of Africa.

"Give this continent a chance," Sexwale said, adding that the games would serve as a catalyst for development in Africa.

The awarding of the games would see "a rebirth of the African spirit" and would be a celebration of renaissance in Africa.

After receiving IOC members earlier at his official Pretoria residence, President Nelson Mandela said he had told his guests that the five rings of the Olympic logo — each representing a continent — would remain incomplete until Africa was awarded the games.

"If South Africa's bid was successful, it will provide jobs for more than 92 000 people, and will bring facilities to South Africa that were never here," Mandela said. — Sapa

Parties set to back revised Olympic bill

(288)
CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT
ARG 13/8/97

All parties in Parliament's constitutional committee have vowed to support, in principle, the Olympic Bid and Hosting Bill.

This follows the scrapping from the tabled version of the bill of a controversial clause in an earlier draft.

This gave substantial powers to the Government to exempt a host city, Nocsa or the Organising Committee of the Games from complying with any law.

The clause empowered the Government to issue this exemption retrospectively.

Committee chairman Pravin Gordhan said all parties had undertaken to take part constructively in debate on the bill.

Meanwhile, lawyers for Cape Town City Council are to brief the committee next week on the background to the bill, which provides for the host city to enter contracts in regard to the Games, validates past actions in the bid, and provides for protection of Olympic symbols.

The bill would have to be approved before the September 5 announcement of which city would host the 2004 Games.

Zam Titus, director-general of constitutional development, said the Government had drafted the bill after concerns expressed by council lawyers.

Athens raises stakes in war of words with Rome

ARG 13/8/97 (288)

Greek minister slams athletics chief

As Cape Town pushes ahead with its campaign at home and abroad, the Olympic spat between Rome and Athens has burst into the political arena – with Greek Foreign Minister Theodoros Pangalos slamming world athletics chief Primo Nebiolo.

Greek anger could count heavily against Rome if – and it's a distinct possibility – Cape Town ends up in a final showdown with the Italian capital.

There are also indications that Mr Nebiolo's inflammatory approach is irksome to many in the International Olympic Committee who are anxious to emphasise the fair, wholesome precepts that are meant to underpin the Olympic movement.

The unedifying Mediterranean feud has dominated international coverage of the bid race for the past few days, with Greek newspapers referring to Mr Nebiolo as "Mafioso" and "Duce" – the nickname of Italy's Fascist wartime dictator Benito Mussolini.

In the latest development, the Greek foreign minister accused Mr Nebiolo of acting out of turn by meddling in politics.

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

The International Amateur Athletics Federation president provoked Athens' wrath by saying on Greek television that the bid would not solve Greece's political and economic problems, and that the success of last week's world athletics championships owed more to the IAAF than the Greek organisers.

"Mr Nebiolo committed a gross violation of a very basic rule," the outspoken Mr Pangalos said late yesterday. "Politicians are allowed to speak about sports, but sports officials are not allowed to speak about politics."

He added: "Italy uses its armed forces to deal with the terrifying problem of the Mafia, which it exports to the rest of the world, like the United States and, recently, Albania.

"But I would never say that the Mafia characterises Italy and therefore Rome does not deserve the Games. Rome will not win the Games, simply because Athens is better," he said.

Meanwhile in Sweden, sporting federations addressed an open letter to the anonymous group behind attacks against sports venues in the Swedish capital, pleading with them not to ruin the city's bid.

And back home, Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale led a ceremony in Johannesburg yesterday to express national support for the bid.

He said the Olympic ideal of solidarity would not be realised until an African country hosted the Games.

Govt moves to 'patent' Robben Island

BD 13/8/97

(288)

Samantha Sharpe

CAPE TOWN — Tour operators and curio vendors will have to tread carefully when marketing Robben Island as a tourist attraction following a move by government to "patent" the name.

This follows a recent clash with a private company, The Original Robben Island Trading Store, which attempted to sell T-shirts, caps and smiling toy seals in striped prison gear at the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront. The store was forced to close after three days.

Trade and Industry Minister Alec Erwin said in the latest government gazette that use of the phrase "Robben Island" and any combination of the words "Robben" and "Island" were now strictly the ownership of the Interim Management Authority of Robben Island or its successor.

This meant that "Robben Island" was off limits when linked with any trade, business or occupation "or in connection with a trade mark, mark or description applied to goods".

Tour operators and parties who used the name to indicate the geographical location of the island were safe from prosecution provided they did not mislead the public, Erwin said.

A spokesman for The Original Robben Island Trading Store, Willem Steenkamp, said the move followed the company's legal registration of "Robben Island" as a trademark about eight months ago.

"Nothing we're doing is to the detriment of the island ... in fact the Interim Management Authority of Robben Island is now planning to do exactly the same thing ... Effectively they've taken away our legally acquired right and used it for themselves."

The company's legal advisers had suggested that the decision by government to withdraw the commercial use of the name was unconstitutional and the matter would be taken further.

"Nowhere in the Merchandise Marks Act does it prohibit the commercial use of a national monument's name ... curios based on tourist attractions like Buckingham Palace are not for exclusive use by government," said Steenkamp.

SABC to spend R5m to promote Olympics bid

BD 13/8/97 (288)

Janet Parker

THE SA Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) announced yesterday it had committed R5m in air time to promote the Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid campaign in the countdown to the September 5 announcement of the winning city.

The broadcaster will flight a concentrated awareness campaign throughout its programmed scheduling including about 20% prime-time advertising.

SABC Board chairman Paulus Zulu said as a national broadcaster the SABC must be "actively involved in this campaign, primarily to add weight to our bid, but also because the SABC has the resources to make a positive contribution".

Advertising company Herdbuoys McCann created the campaign which will break on radio and outdoor advertising sites today and on television on Friday. Herbuoys McCann executive chairman Peter Vundla said the campaign was aimed at "nationalising awareness, creating excitement and Africanising the bid".

SABC CE Zwelakhe Sisulu said the broadcaster was "excited" about the prospects of a successful bid, as it was of national interest and would hold immediate and long-term benefits for human and economic development, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. "The SABC has the expertise, commitment and will to ensure the world receives quality coverage which is second to none, and is a powerful enough medium to generate the awareness enthusiasm and euphoria that Cape Town's bid deserves from the continent."



Gauteng premier Tokyo Sexwale at an Olympic bid stakeholders' meeting yesterday. Picture: CATHY PINNOCK

Meanwhile, **Nomavenda Mathiane** reports that Gauteng endorsed the Cape Town Olympic Games bid with a parade in the centre of Johannesburg yesterday.

Gauteng premier Tokyo Sexwale said Cape Town's victory would be one for Gauteng and the continent as well and asked the Olympics committee to give Africa a chance.

NP accuses Meyer of

Arms industry

Games boss angers Greeks, feud spills into political arena

Star 14/8/97 (288)

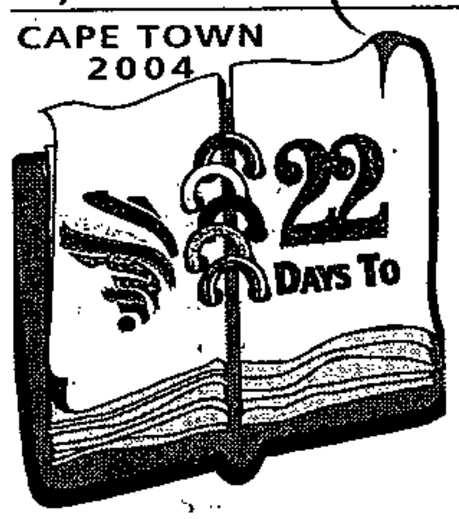
OWN CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town – As Cape Town pushes ahead intently with a steadily mounting lobbying campaign at home and abroad, the Olympic spat between Rome and Athens has burst into the political arena with Greek Foreign Minister Theodoros Pangalos slamming world athletics chief Primo Nebiolo.

Greek anger could count heavily against Rome if – and it's a distinct possibility – Cape Town ends up in a final showdown with the Italian capital.

There are also indications that Nebiolo's inflammatory approach is irksome to many in the International Olympic Committee who are anxious to emphasise the fair, wholesome precepts that are meant to underpin the Olympic movement.

The unedifying Mediterranean feud has dominated international coverage of the bid race for the past few days, with Greek newspapers referring to Nebiolo as "Mafioso" and "Il Duce" the nickname of fascist dictator Benito Mussolini.



WINNER OF OLYMPIC BID

In the latest development, the Greek Foreign Minister accused Nebiolo of acting out of turn by meddling in politics.

The IAAF chief provoked Athens' wrath by saying on Greek television that their bid "would not solve Greece's political and economic problems", and that anyway, the success of last week's world athletics championships owed more to the IAAF than to the Greek organisers.

"Mr Nebiolo committed a gross violation of a very basic rule," the outspoken Pangalos said. "Politicians are allowed to speak about sports but sports officials are not allowed to speak about politics."

He added: "Italy uses its armed forces to deal with the terrifying problem of the mafia, which it exports to the rest of the world, like the United States and more recently Albania.

"But I would never say that the mafia characterises Italy and therefore Rome does not deserve the Games. Rome will not win the Games simply because Athens is better," he said.

Andreas Fouras, the Greek secretary of state for sports, said of Nebiolo: "I won't even attempt to disguise the fact that I am very much ill at ease with his attitude."

Greek newspapers accused Nebiolo of shamelessly favouring Rome's bid. Athens' chances had hinged on a well-run championships.

A nearly empty stadium on the first weekend was an embarrassment to organisers who blamed it on the long duration of the event and the expensive tickets. Even the blue riband race, the 100m men's final, failed to attract a full house.

Nebiolo was quick to criticise both Greek organisers and the public. His comments

> **"Committed a gross violation of a very basic rule ..."**

prompted a flurry of reaction and he was greeted with loud boos at the closing ceremony on Sunday.

In Sweden, sporting federations addressed an open letter to the anonymous group behind a series of attacks against sports venues in the Swedish capital, pleading with them not to ruin the city's bid.

"Enough is enough! Stop destroying sports venues," the letter reads.

"The entire sporting movement is in despair and angry. You who are responsible for the attacks should know that it is sport as a whole, and the youths, who are affected," it said.

Back home, Gauteng premier Tokyo Sexwale led a colourful ceremony in Johannesburg yesterday to express national support for the bid.

He told a crowd of several hundred that the Olympic ideal of international solidarity would not be realised until an African country hosted the Games.

"Give this continent a chance," he said, adding that the Games would serve as a catalyst for development in Africa. Gauteng is the sixth province to throw its weight behind the bid.

An Olympic roadshow is expected to extend the support to all provinces before the vote in Lausanne on September 5.

Satour 'in chaos', fraud being probed

(288) Star 14/8/97

Cape Town – The parastatal body charged with promoting tourism to South Africa is in chaos and four managers are being probed for fraud or corruption, Michael Farr, the body's new chief executive officer, said yesterday.

Farr, appointed earlier this year to head a management shake-up of the SA Tourism Board, told a parliamentary committee that Deputy President Thabo Mbeki had authorised additional help for the investigation into irregularities at Satour's head office and at its office in Paris.

"The complication to the process (of transformation) is the state of chaos of the organisation," Farr said.

"It is difficult to understand how it could have malfunctioned as long as it has malfunctioned, especially when the auditor-general had in the past three years brought to the attention of Parliament the fact that this is an organisation which lacks internal controls or financial-management systems ...

"In any organisation characterised by such a lack of control, it is inevitable that you are going to find irregularities," he said.

Farr declined to divulge the names of any of the people being investigated, but said the irregularities included the manipulation of tender procedures to favour certain companies.

Citing an example of past mismanagement, he said Satour six years ago signed a 25-year lease on office space in Wimbledon, London at £10 (R75)/sq m above market rates. – Reuters

Squeezed operating margins depress profit

City Lodge hit by lower levels of occupancy

(288) CT (BR) 14/8/97

ANN CROTTY

Johannesburg — Reduced occupancy levels in the six months to June 30 squeezed operating margins at City Lodge and resulted in a mere 7 percent rise in earnings for financial 1997 to 104,2c a share from 97,1c, the company announced yesterday.

A final dividend of 33,5c a share has been declared for a full-year payout of 53c a share. Shareholders are offered the option of a scrip dividend.

Analysts said although the earnings increase was in line with market expectations, it would disappoint shareholders who had become accustomed to a yearly increase in earnings of about 40 percent.

The share price closed yesterday at R21,10 (rising 10c on the day), which is higher from its 12-month low of R17 (touched in May), but significantly lower than the share's all-time high of R38 (reached in February last year).

Hans Enderle, the executive chairman, said the group faced difficult trading conditions during financial 1997, "particularly in the second six months, because of a general slowdown in the economy, market saturation in certain areas and lower-than-expected foreign arrivals mainly because of high crime levels".

Average occupancy levels at the group's four chains (Courtyard, City Lodge, Town Lodge and Road Lodge) fell from 81 percent to 77 percent. In the first half, average occupancy was 79 percent, and this fell to about 75 percent in the second half. Enderle said every percentage point drop in occupancy levels knocked about R1 million to R2 million off pretax profit.

Although the group suffered a drop in occupancy levels, the levels are still higher than the hospitality industry average of about 55 percent. The group's most important market, the South African business traveller, held up well in areas that had not been saturated by the additional capacity added in recent years. Weekend occupancies were hard hit, reflecting a fall in leisure travellers, including tourists.



HARD-HIT *Hans Enderle, the executive chairman of City Lodge* PHOTO: JOHN WOODROOF

Of the group's chains, the Courtyard, which is operated as a joint venture, suffered the highest drop in occupancy. Income from the Courtyard dropped 21 percent to R1,8 million.

For the full year, group turnover rose 13 percent to R123 million, from R109 million, and operating profit rose 10 percent to R65,9 million, from R60 million. A drop in the effective tax rate, from 30,5 percent to 28,1 percent, helped to lift the increase in taxed profit by 14 percent to R35,7 million from R31,3 million.

But Enderle is optimistic about medium-term to longer-term prospects, and the group is continuing with an active expansion programme.

EXPERT LOOKS AT GAMES SECURITY

Safety plan for city Olympics praised

CT 14/8/97 (288)

PROVIDING SECURITY at the Olympic Games took much effort, time and resources, the security director for the Atlanta Games warned yesterday. **DAN SIMON** reports.

IN SPITE of a high crime rate, providing security for the Olympic Games in Cape Town would be easier than it was for law enforcement agencies and Olympic organisers in Los Angeles and Atlanta.

This is the view of retired US police chief turned security expert Mr William Rathburn, who was the director of security for the 1996 Centennial Games in Atlanta and the security planning co-ordinator for the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

The Atlanta event was the largest peacetime event in history with more than 17 000 athletes and officials from 107 countries involved in competition at 36 venues and attended by 8,6 million spectators.

Rathburn has been in the country for a week and is assessing the city's security arrangements. His visit forms part of a "long tradition" of Olympic host cities helping potential host cities with security arrangements.

During his visit Rathburn has met Safety and Security Minister Mr Sydney Mufamadi and Police Commissioner George Fivaz.

Rathburn said: "I believe I have more confidence in your ability to protect yourselves than you as South Africans do."

Rathburn, a former police chief in Dallas, Texas, and deputy police chief in the Los Angeles Police Department, said that although there was a high level of crime in South Africa, he was confident the country had the resources to provide security for a "safe and secure" Olympic Games.

"Providing security (for an Olympics) is a difficult task. It takes a lot of effort, time and resources.

> *'It will take a lot of resources (to provide security at the Games) ... but it will be easier in Cape Town than it was in Los Angeles and Atlanta.'* — ***Atlanta games director of security William Rathburn***

But it is achievable. Los Angeles and Atlanta had a lot of crime and there it was achievable.

"In Cape Town it will take a lot of resources ... but it will be easier in Cape Town than it was in Los Angeles and Atlanta.

"One big difference is that you have a national policing agency in South Africa. This helps with the deployment of law enforcement personnel.

"In Atlanta and Los Angeles there are more than 50 different law enforcement agencies which required a lot of co-ordinating."

Rathburn said he had studied the city's security plan and found that it provided enough resources for security.

For security the Olympic Bid Company plans to enlist a task force of about 30 000, including police, security guards and emergency staff, of which 12 000 people will be on the street at any given time during the 17-day event.

"There is a high level of crime in South Africa," said Rathburn. "You just have to pick up the (news)papers. But we had the same problems in Los Angeles and Atlanta. And this crime (in South Africa) appears to be neighbourhood-oriented.

"Atlanta had one of the highest crime rates and this was a major concern in the years leading up to the games and a major focus of the media. We were concerned that street crime would be a major story. Besides the pipe bomb, street crime did not become the major story. This was a result of the huge security staffing resources."

Rathburn said that "traditionally" crime dropped during the Olympics and that the added security requirements and training needed for the Olympic games helped to bring about better law enforcement agencies once the Olympics were over.

"What I do know about the crime situation in Atlanta and Los Angeles is that the requirements, training and resources improved and that the agencies are now better equipped to serve the communities than they were before the Games."

More stars set to board Cape Town's bandwagon

Confidence grows as rival cities fall out

ARG 14/8/97

(288)

More top athletes are expected to endorse Cape Town's bid in the run-up to the September 5 decision on the host city for the Olympic Games, consolidating growing support internationally and confirming mounting confidence at home.

The bid secured several top endorsements in Athens last week, and bid sources say further expressions of support will send a strong signal to the International Olympic Committee about the extent of support in Africa and elsewhere for South Africa's candidature.

While the row between Rome and Athens over the world championships has been perceived as a setback for both cities, there is growing confidence in Cape Town.

Former sports administrator and now African National Congress MP Jannie Momberg said he had returned from the Greek capital feeling "very optimistic".

"I really believe Rome has lost ground because of the behaviour of Primo Nebiolo, and the criticism of the championships has harmed Athens. Stockholm has clearly been affected by the bomb blast.

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

"They have all lost ground, but we have moved forward. I have always been hopeful about Cape Town, but now I am very confident," he said.

In other developments yesterday, the bid's security plan earned an informed vote of confidence from Bill Rathburn, who headed the Atlanta Games security team, and the Strategic Environmental Assessment team confirmed its finding that if the Games organisation stuck to key recommendations on financial and environmental control, the event would be affordable and beneficial to Cape Town and South Africa, and would not place an unmanageable burden on the Peninsula.

Mr Rathburn said: "Your security plan takes what we had in Atlanta and moves it up to the next tier. Cape Town had people in Atlanta for the Games and they have learned from our mistakes.

"The plans are good, and there is an understanding of the complexity of the event, and I have no doubt at all that you can and will provide a safe and peaceful environment for the Games."

Mr Rathburn, a former senior police officer in Los Angeles and Dallas, added: "I make my assessment on the basis of my experience of law enforcement and the Olympics, and I suspect I have more confidence in your Games security plan than the people of South Africa have."

Meanwhile, the sports committee is pushing ahead with arrangements for a day of festivities at Parliament on August 27 as a send-off for the bid team on the eve of its departure for Lausanne.

Plans are being made for bid supporters to walk to Parliament from several venues in the city. They will be addressed by President Mandela as well as other dignitaries.



DOUG PITHEY

Security men: Business Against Crime chairman Mike Thompson, MEC for safety and security Gerald Morkel and Grey Security director Mntungwa Morojele

Stockholm bid foes threaten officials

(288) ARG 14/8/97

Stockholm – The Swedish news agency TT has received a threat saying that Olympic bid opponents will go after officials with poison arrows if Stockholm hosts the Games.

The faxed threat came five days after a bomb wrecked part of Stockholm's old Olympic stadium, where the Games were held in 1912. The bomb, like several arson attacks this year on sports facilities, was believed to be a protest against the Swedish capital's bid.

TT said the threat to fire the arrows from blowguns and air pistols was sent by fax from a machine that did not stamp an originating telephone number. It said the threat was signed with blurry initials that appeared to be VSBS.

That is the Swedish acronym for "We Who Built Sweden". A letter received by TT on Monday claimed responsibility for the stadium bombing on behalf of a group with that name.

Several bomb threats against stores were made in December using that name, but police have not determined whether such a group actually exists. – Sapa-AP

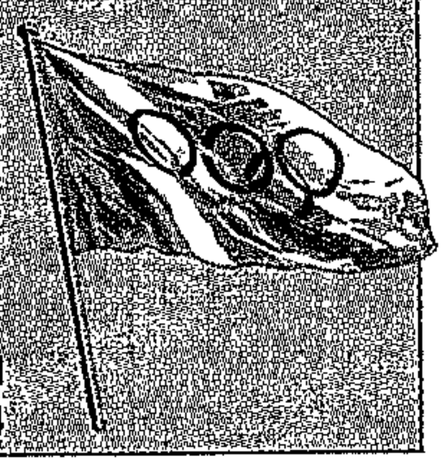
22 OLYMPIC BID DAYS TO GO

■ KwaZulu Natal today became the latest province to back Cape Town's bid to host the 2004 Games. Premier Ben Ngubane was due to deliver the keynote address at a Durban Exhibition Centre ceremony.

■ More top athletes are expected to endorse Cape Town's bid, consolidating growing support internationally and confirming mounting confidence at home.

Latest odds in London:

Rome	4-5
Cape Town	11-8
Athens	7-2
Stockholm	8-1
Buenos Aires	80-1



Olympic bid reports, page 4

Athens hopes in ruins, say punters

(288)

ARG 14/8/97

Bournemouth – There is something to be said for an international athletics meeting where world records remain unscathed and ticket queues are nice and short.

Athens last week comes to mind.

A largely lacklustre affair that produced few new performance benchmarks, the World Athletics Championships seems to have snuffed out the torch Greece carries for the 2004 Olympic Games.

This is according to British gamblers, who are progressively staking more money on Cape Town.

A William Hill spokesman said: "The general opinion seems to be that Athens has done itself no favours. Rome has a number of major problems, whereas there have been few downsides appearing in Cape Town's bid." – Foreign Service

OLYMPICS

ET (BR) 16/8/97 (288)

Even worst-case result will boost economy

Even under the worst-case scenario regarding revenue flows and costs, the Olympic event of 2004 would still give the economy a substantial boost, Ian Goldin, the chief executive officer of the Development Bank of Southern Africa, said last night. He was reacting to suggestions that the assessment of the economic impact the 2004 Olympics would have on the economy done by the Development Bank for government was based on over-optimistic assumptions of revenue inflows and costs.

Goldin was speaking at the annual meeting of Wesgro, the Western Cape-based economic initiative. He said an additional 55 000 foreign tourists were expected to come to South Africa every year between 2002 and 2004 unrelated to the Olympic event. About 145 000 tourists would visit South Africa in 2004 to attend the Olympic event, he said. Over a 10-year period R30 billion would flow into the local economy should Cape Town be awarded the 2004 Olympic event, he said. — *Christo Volschenk, Cape Town*

Swedish bid chiefs get poison message

STOCKHOLM: Opponents of this city's 2004 Olympic bid have threatened to kill organisers and athletes if the games are awarded to the Swedish capital, police say.

A letter signed by a group calling itself VSBS (Vi Som Byggde Sverige — We Who Built Sweden) was sent to the Swedish news agency TT and newspaper Goeteborgs-Posten on Wednesday.

"If Stockholm gets the Olympic Games in 2004, arrows with prussic acid will be fired by blowpipes and air pistols against both participants and selected people in high-ranking positions," warned the group.

In an anonymous letter received by various media on Monday, believed to be written by VSBS and claiming responsibility for the bombing of Stockholm's old Olympic stadium on August 8, the writers complained of the enormous sums spent on the Olympic bid while the Social Democratic government slashed social programmes and benefits.

Stockholm is competing against Athens, Rome, Buenos Aires and Cape Town to host the games.

Stockholm's bid has been jeopardised by a series of mysterious attacks on sports venues around the Swedish capital since May. The bombing at the stadium used in the 1912 Olympics was the ninth attack, following fires at seven other sports venues and the home of former Swedish Prime Minister and Stockholm 2004 Foundation president Mr Ingvar Carlsson.

So far, no one has been injured in any of the attacks, but the Monday letter warned that lives would be lost if Stockholm were awarded the games.

Stockholm police said yesterday they did not believe the letter-writers were linked to the attacks, but said they would examine the letters closely.

"I see no evidence that the person or persons behind the letters would have anything to do with the attacks other than the fact that they have taken advantage of an already existing situation to write the letters," said Stockholm police commissioner Gunno Gunnmo.

He added that the threats had led to confusion and unwarranted public concern. — Sapa-AFP

NEBIOLO, GREEK MINISTER LOCK HORNS

Rome, Athens trade insults in games spat

(288) CT 15/8/97

ROME: The recent World Athletics Championships, the Mafia and the 55 Italian governments since World War 2 are all ingredients in a titanic battle between Italy and Greece.

IN a latter-day reflection of the struggle for domination of the ancient world, Athens and Rome each tried this week to prove that the other was an unsuitable venue for the Olympic Games in 2004.

The row, which began with an outspoken attack on Athens' qualifications by Mr Primo Nebiolo, the noted Italian sports official, lawyer and former athlete, is seen as a sign of the increasingly heated atmosphere as the International Olympic Committee (IOC) prepares to make its final decision on the 2004 games on September 5.

Rome and Athens are neck and neck in the last lap, with Cape Town and Buenos Aires also on the short-list. Stockholm is the fifth contender, but its chances are thought to have received a setback when an explosion destroyed part of the Stockholm Olympic stadium at the end of last week.

Nebiolo, who heads the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) and is also on the IOC, raised Greek hackles by making scathing remarks about Athens' handling of the World Athletics Championships, which ended in Greece last Sunday.

The event was widely seen as a test of Greece's ability to stage the Olympics in seven years' time.

The games, revived in 1896, had their origins in ancient Greece 30 centuries ago, and Athens was bitterly disappointed not to be chosen to host the centenary games in 1996, which went to Atlanta.

Nebiolo, a former Italian athletics champion known for his sharp tongue and dominant personality, told Greek television after attending the athletics championship that Greek organisation had been "mediocre" at best. Any success was largely due to the IAAF rather than the hosts, he said.

Many of the events had been poorly attended and overpriced, with near-empty stadiums, he said.

"I suppose the people of Athens all headed for the seaside instead," he said. "But you Greeks have the sea all year round. Surely you can forget the sea for a week."

In an even sharper dig at Greek pride, he said Greece was burdened by political and economic problems over meeting the Maastricht criteria for the European single currency, and had high unemployment and an unstable currency.

Greek Foreign Minister Mr Theodoros Pangalos, who is also known for his outspoken manner and Mediterranean temperament, retorted that Nebiolo had broken "a very basic rule: although politicians are allowed to speak about sport, sports officials are not allowed to speak about politics".

Italy, Pangalos pointed out, had had to mobilise its armed forces to try to suppress the "terrifying problem" of the Mafia, a reference to the use of troops to patrol both Palermo and Naples.

"But I would not dream of saying that the Mafia characterises Italy, and that Rome therefore does not deserve the games. If Rome does not win, it will simply be because Athens was better," he said.

A country such as Italy, which had had 55 governments since World War 2, was in no position to accuse Greece of instability, he added. — The Times, London



SPORTING GRINS: International Olympic Committee members Walther Tröger (second from left), of Germany, and Francis Nyangweso, (second from right) of Uganda, arrived in Cape Town yesterday to assess its Olympic bid. The IOC members, together with their wives Almuth and Naomi, were later guests of honour at a lunch hosted by the Speaker of Parliament, Frene Ginwala. ***PICTURE: ALAN TAYLOR***

Bookies shut up shop as Cape Town surges ahead

TYRONE SEALE
FOREIGN SERVICE

Bournemouth, England – If Cape Town wins, we all lose.

No, this not a billboard outside Athens international airport. It is the line taken by British bookmaker William Hill, which has "suspended the book" on betting on the International Olympic Committee's September 5 announcement.

This simply means the bookies believe that those backing second-favourite Cape Town are on to a good thing.

The problem at William Hill is that it has offered odds that are long enough to clear out the tills in the event of a win by Cape Town, which is quoted at 11-8, behind favourite Rome (4-5).

The company is rethinking the price at which it will re-open betting on the IOC decision – and it's not taking bets until then.

A William Hill spokeswoman said yesterday: "We've decided to close the books for the time being. There's a lot of speculation out there, and a lot of favourable things are apparently being said about Cape Town.

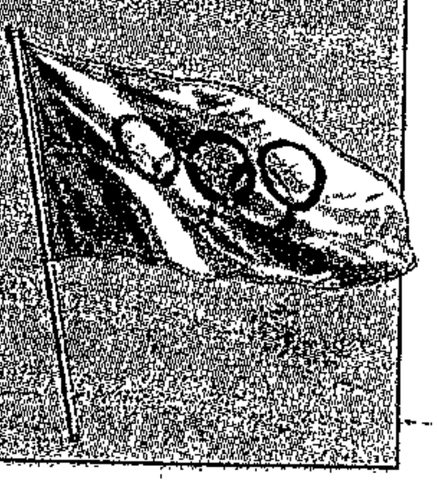
21 OLYMPIC BID DAYS TO GO

■ World athletics chief Primo Nebiolo poured more cold water on Athens' bid to host the 2004 Games. Nebiolo, a key player in Rome's bid, said the World Athletics Championships in the Greek capital ran smoothly only because of the efforts of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), which he heads.

Latest odds:

Rome	4-5
Cape Town	11-8
Athens	11-2
Stockholm	9-1
Buenos Aires	80-1

Olympic bid report, page 5



"We can tell by the bets that Cape Town is way ahead." William Hill stopped taking bets yesterday and the spokeswoman said it was not certain that the book would be reopened before September 5.

SA's greats set to back the bid

Mandela hosts VIP bash

(288)
ARG 15/8/97

Cape Town's steadily mounting Olympic campaign is to be endorsed today by South African "greats", including Nobel-winning writer Nadine Gordimer, jazz maestro Hugh Masekela, Comrades star Bruce Fordyce and marathon champion Josiah Thugwane.

They will join scores of others at an event hosted by President Mandela, Sports Minister Steve Tshwete and acting African National Congress secretary-general Cheryl Carolus at the party's headquarters in Johannesburg.

Others who are to endorse the bid at the event include Chief Rabbi Cyril Harris, boxer "Baby" Jake Matlala, the general secretary, of the National Olympic Committee of South Africa, Dan Moyo; Mvuso Mbebe of the National Sports Council, and Malusi Gigaba, president of the ANC Youth League.

Among other developments, a scientific opinion poll to gauge support for the bid is to be conducted in the Peninsula over the next week.

The poll stems from a commitment by the Bid Company to the environmental lobby last year and follows publication of the final report of the Strategic Environmental Assessment.

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

The report, the first conducted by a bidding city in the Olympic movement's 100-year history, has been welcomed by the Bid Company as a model to "maximise the benefits and minimise the risks" associated with the Games.

Meanwhile, the feud between Rome and Athens is intensifying. Reuter reports that world athletics chief Primo Nebiolo has poured more cold water on Athens' bid, questioning the city's ability to hold big athletics events.

"The reality is that the Greeks are not capable of organising an event of that nature," he said.

In a further jibe, he said the event was held in Athens only as compensation for the Greek capital's loss of the 1996 centennial Olympic Games.

People 'the worst bar to tourism in the region'

BD 15/8/97

Stephané Bothma

(288)

PRETORIA — The biggest constraint on southern Africa's ability to achieve its tourism potential was its people, Pretoria University hotel and tourism department head Ernie Heath said yesterday.

The people should appreciate southern Africa's tourism potential, develop a shared tourism vision and invest adequately in appropriate tourism development and marketing, Heath said at the SA Beyond 2000 conference at the university.

According to the World Tourism Organisation, more than 1-billion international tourists would be travelling annually by the year 2010. "Given current scenario assumptions, only 37-million (3,6%) of these tourists will be travelling to Africa," Heath said.

International tourism receipts were forecast to grow to $621bn in the year 2000.

Heath said that given the region's abundant environmental and cultural resources, it was apparent that it was performing below potential.

He agreed with this year's World Tourism Report on Africa said "the region remains an undeveloped market, a blank on the world tourism map".

This reality could be turned around through a shared vision and a co-ordinated effort among all stakeholders, he said.

Co-ordinated and focused effort was key to achieve this shared vision and optimise the tourism potential of the subcontinent.

This could result in a stronger regional identity, positioning and umbrella marketing thrust; co-ordinated access to investment and development opportunities; a database and research programme; a broader base of accessible training, skills and standards expertise; and the promotion of a more consistent service standard throughout the region.

According to the World Travel and Tourism Council, travel and tourism was expected to generate employment for 260-million people across the global economy — 10,6% of the total workforce.

This would grow to 383-million by 2007, creating well over 100-million new jobs worldwide over the next decade.

Study warns of Olympics pitfalls

BD 15/8/97 (288)

David Greybe

CAPE TOWN — Government has to meet certain preconditions and implement recommendations such as greater private-sector involvement if Cape Town is to host an affordable and beneficial Olympic Games in 2004, research released yesterday says.

The independent environmental impact study, commissioned by the Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid Company, warns that the games could entail macroeconomic risks and cause government a long-term net loss.

"This risk is associated with a less-than-expected increase in gross domestic product (GDP), which could result in government revenue generated by the games not being sufficient to offset the government's capital expenditure for the period 1997-2006."

If the recommendations were not implemented, "the financial burden on the public sector could become unacceptably high, which would undermine the government's ability to meet its reconstruction and development programme, and growth, employment and redistribution (Gear) objectives".

The report also warns that the games could become a divisive issue if they are not truly developmental, or if the organisers fail to communicate their developmental goals.

The report was commissioned to assess the long-term social, economic and environmental impact of preparing for and hosting the games, and to identify specific proposals in the bid plan which needed to be reconsidered.

SA will know on September 5 whether Cape Town will host the 2004 Olympic Games.

Bid planning and environment director Peter de Tolly said it was the first time such a study had been undertaken by a bidding city.

Key recommendations included:

- Government had to put in place the necessary policies and mechanisms to maximise private sector involvement in the games;
- It had to maintain a macroeconomic environment that was conducive to achieving Gear targets and encouraging foreign and domestic investment;
- The organising committee for the games should be established as an independent body, accountable to representatives from the public sector, the private sector, civil society and labour, and operating under the constitution and national and provincial laws, and
- The Cape Town Olympic Committee's terms of reference had to ensure national, provincial, metropolitan and local public finance objectives were not compromised by expenditure.

The report said total public sector investment would be R4,037bn if transport expenditure was limited to the portion of the service to be accelerated for the games. However, this would rise to R8,68bn if all metropolitan transport needs were met.

"While government expenditure will result in an increase in GDP, spending on this scale over the next seven years will mean that less money is available for the provision of other basic needs, and will place pressure on the public finance system."

The opportunity costs and risks to the public finance system would be aggravated if the private sector did not provide all the expected funding or if the costs escalated beyond the contingencies provided for, the report warns.

"Unless these risks are recognised and adequately managed, the developmental opportunities associated with the games will be compromised and the limitations further exacerbated."

'Games bill could harm Cape Town bid'

Jacob Dlamini

CAPE TOWN — Cape Town's chances of winning the Olympic bid could be harmed if government passed a bill designed to provide a framework for the city to host the games, said National Party (NP) spokesman Nick Koornhof yesterday.

The Olympic Bid and Hosting bill, tabled in Parliament this week, is intended to enable Cape Town to enter into relevant contracts if it wins the bid to host the 2004 Games.

The bill will provide a legal framework to allow Cape Town to comply with the requirements laid down for cities bidding for the games by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the National Olympic Committee of SA. It will make provision for the protection of trademarks and logos and give Cape Town permission to host the games.

Koornhof charged that the bill had been drafted with the intention of wrestling control of the games away from NP-controlled councils in the Western Cape and said the bill had been introduced without the knowledge of the Olympic Bid committee.

Bid Company finance director Michael Fuller said the body had not been "consulted broadly" on the bill, which gave ministers "sweeping legislative powers" and which needed to be tightened, but said it supported provision for trademark protection.

Madiba Magic ready to win Olympic votes

With Mbeki as reserve

ARG 16/8/97 (288)

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Madiba Magic is the Mother City's trump card, and it is striking the fear of Zeus into the hearts of Cape Town's rival Olympic bidders, including Rome and Athens.

Nelson Mandela's presence in Lausanne is expected to electrify the atmosphere in the run-up to the vote on the afternoon of Friday September 5 for Cape Town to host the 2004 Games. But there is more to it: his deputy, and likely successor, Thabo Mbeki, will be at his side at the final, crucial presentation to the International Olympic Committee on that Friday morning.

The two respected leaders will project a powerful South African and African message that will signal Cape Town's commitment to the continent as a whole, and underpin the wholesome developmental philosophy that has proved to be one of the bid's most appealing ingredients.

Mr Mbeki's presence is critical as an expression of South Africa's future commitment to economic and political stability.

The succession – and South Africa's post-Madiba prospects – was a key concern of the IOC in March, and some of this has lingered.

The president's role will be telling. None of the other bidding cities has a figure to match Mr Mandela. And that is worrying them.

Jannie Momberg, former sports administrator and an African National Congress MP, has a story from the recent World Athletics Championships in Athens that illustrates this.

One of the Italian team turned smugly to Mr Momberg one day: "Don't forget," he gloated, "we have the Pope."

"Ah, yes," Mr Momberg replied grandly, "and we have Madiba."

The Roman paled.

Clearly, the appearance of Mr Mandela and Mr Mbeki before the IOC on the final Friday morning will be the key element in bringing the African bid to a dramatic climax. Their appearance will be



Nelson Mandela: that Madiba magic

televised live on SABC 1 in a special broadcast on Friday morning. The programme will kick off with Martin Locke, in Cape Town, and then cross to Lausanne at 10.15am once the city's presentation begins.

Later, a second broadcast from 6.15 pm, will bring viewers the latest news from Cape Town, and, from 6.30pm on, the final announcement ceremony in Lausanne.

The prospect of Cape Town facing favourite Rome in the final round – probably the fourth – appears to be gaining credence. Rome's kingpin Primo Nebiolo, who is also IOC vice-president and head of the International Amateur Athletics Federation, has gone out of his way to trash the Greek bid.

While this will may harm the Athens bid, it could well play into Cape Town's hands too. If, as is now increasingly likely, Cape Town is in a final showdown with the Italian capital, Athens and its supporters may well be more inclined to back Africa and snub Mr Nebiolo.

A critical strategy in these last weeks is for Cape Town to nurture its friendships with its rival cities, especially Buenos Aires, Stockholm and Athens. The cardinal rule of the Olympic ballot is that first-round foes must be regarded as potential allies when the crunch comes.

Meanwhile, the row between Rome and Athens has taken another twist with Greece announcing it will send no team to the upcoming World Student Games in Sicily.

A telegramme from Greek officials stated "technical reasons" for not showing up at the event, scheduled for later this month in Palermo.

This move was expected by Mr Nebiolo in the wake of his criticism of the Greek organisers at the World Athletics Championships which ended last Sunday in Athens.

"I expect Greek attacks against the university games because I am the head of that body," said Mr Nebiolo.

The IOC vice-president was jeered by the Greek crowd at the world championship closing ceremony.

In a telling comment, Mr Nebiolo said the boos were "not directed against myself but against Rome and its bid. If I had been an African nobody would have booed".

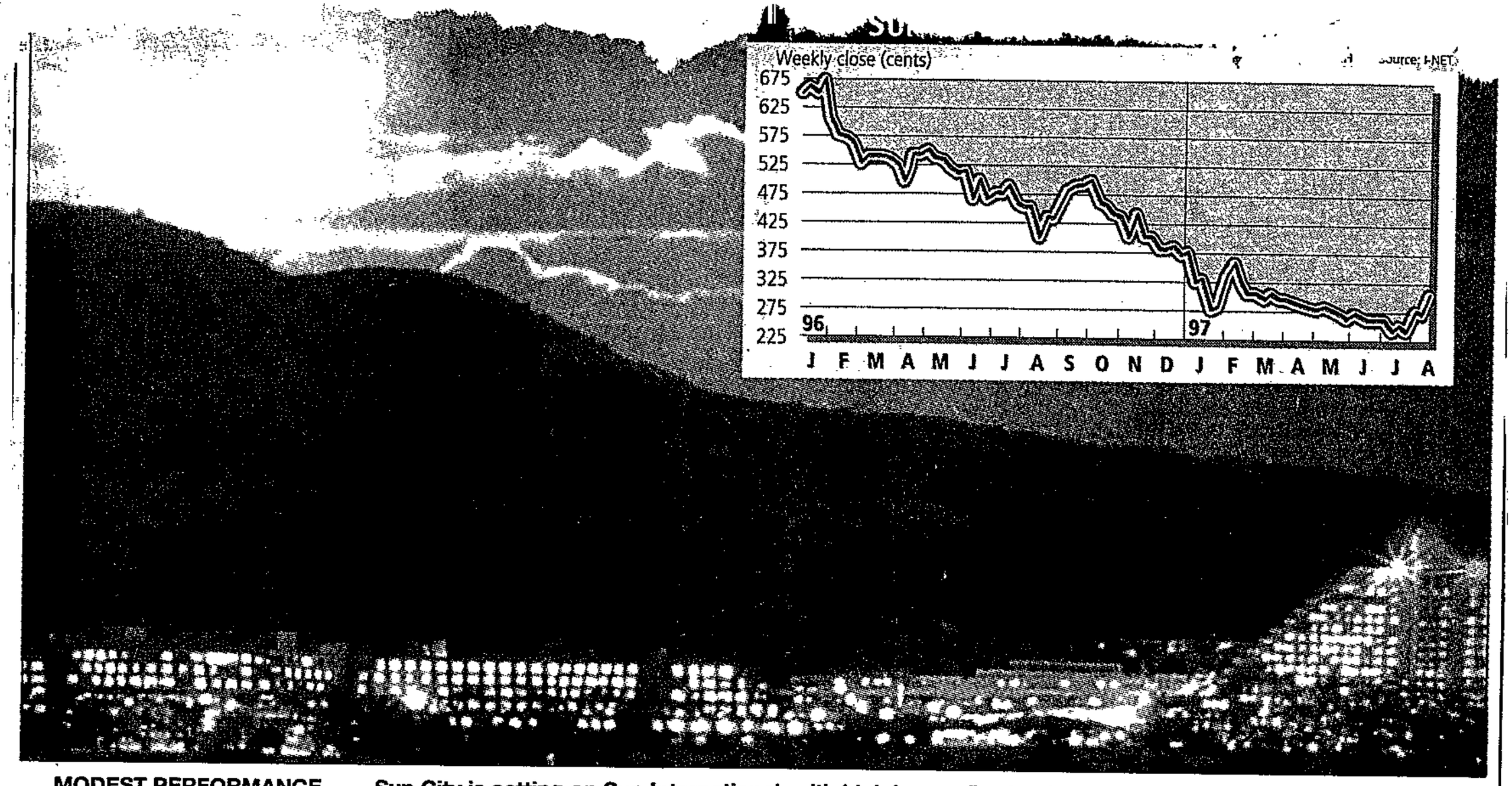
And in Stockholm, security police have arrested a man suspected of sending a letter bomb to Sweden's justice minister, Leila Frievalds. The bomb, sent in March, was detected at a post office before being delivered. It was not rigged to explode.

The deputy chief prosecutor denied a newspaper report yesterday, which said the man was also suspected in a firebombing at the home of former Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson, a top advocate of Stockholm's bid for the 2004 Olympics.

The fire in June at Mr Carlsson's home was one of several attacks seen as possibly connected to opposition to Stockholm's bid for the Games.

The most recent attack was a bomb blast that wrecked a portion of Stockholm's old Olympic stadium, where the Games were held in 1912.

Stockholm's Olympic bid has been well-received, but the city is seen by many as being out of the running because of relatively low public support for the Games.



MODEST PERFORMANCE . . . Sun City is setting on Sun International, with high losses flowing from retrenchments and lower revenue

R50m bad hand hits Sun City's pocket

ST(BT) 17/8/97 (288)

A LOSS of R50-million at Sun City, illegal gambling and lower hotel occupancies continue to make inroads into the profitability of hotel and casino group Sun International SA.

Sun International on Friday reported a modest 6% rise in headline earnings to 52.9c in the year to end-June from 49.8c previously.

Peter Bacon, managing director, says trading conditions remained difficult for most of the year, reflecting poor economic growth.

Revenue was up 8% to R2.3-billion (1996: R2.2-billion) with gaming and hospitality turnover up 9% and 5% respectively. Occupancy levels fell to 67% — a three percentage-point drop on 1996 — as occupancies in the industry came under severe pressure.

RESULTS

By THABO KOBOKOANE

Bacon says gaming revenue grew satisfactorily despite the proliferation of illegal gaming. In Eastern Cape illegal gambling limited the province's revenue growth to 3%.

Sun City, SISA's flagship, incurred losses of more than R50-million due to high restructuring costs. In the 1996 financial year SISA lost R39-million and this is likely to continue for some time as new casino operations come on stream in Gauteng.

These operations are expected to put a strain on all SISA's operations in North West which rely heavily on traffic from Gauteng.

Bacon says the restructuring undertaken in the past financial year — including retrenching 1 200 employees — has cost the group R18.4-million and has been reflected as an exceptional expenditure.

Bacon says prospects for the year are favourable in view of the closure of illegal operations in KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng and the fact that competitive new casino operations will not have an effect in the current financial year.

The group will comply with the requirements of the National Gambling Act, in terms of which it has to cut its existing 17 casino licences nationally to nine by May 1999. It is in talks to sell five of these operations, in North-West and Eastern Cape and Northern Province, to Moribo Investments, a subsidiary of Thebe Investment Corporations.

SISA's major thrust would be to position itself with empowerment groupings "to seek licences in provinces where it has no presence, and look for tourism and related opportunities". It is a partner in AfriSun-KZN and controls 49% of Sun West, a joint venture with empowerment partners in Western Cape.

Olympic bid receives boost

Sowetan 18/8/97

ABOUT 30 ambassadors from African countries pledged their support for South Africa's Olympic bid at a function at Deputy President Thabo Mbeki's Pretoria home yesterday.

Mbeki said this would go a long way to strengthen Cape Town's bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

"This is seen not as a bid for Cape Town or South Africa, but as an African bid," he said.

Mbeki said the continent, which was the only one not to have hosted the Olympics, was ready and keen to do so.

(288)

Manu Mahougoa, dean of the South African diplomatic core, said Africa had come a long way since Ethiopian runners first started performing well internationally.

"It is our wish that the Olympic Games of the new century should come to Africa. This will ensure it is a universal event for everybody," he said

Countries represented at yesterday's event included Kenya, Mauritius, Lesotho, and Malawi. – *Sapa.*

CAPE TIMES
ONDAY, AUGUST18, 1997

Tourism: SA just a blank

CT 18/8/97

DAN SIMON
TOURISM WRITER

288

SOUTHERN Africa remains an "undeveloped market and a blank on the world tourism map", says the World Tourism Organisation's (WTO) 1997 report on Africa.

Delivering a paper last week entitled Appropriate Tourism: A Strategic Opportunity for Southern Africa, Professor Ernie Heath of the University of Pretoria said Southern Africa, including South Africa, was operating well below par, given the region's abundant environmental and cultural resources.

Heath said the book *Global Paradox* by John Naisbitt disclosed that travel and tourism, information technology and telecommunications would drive the engines of the 21st century.

"This reference to tourism appears to be justified when considering the following tourism statistics provided by the World Travel and Tourism Council: 'In 1997 travel and tourism is expected to generate employment for 260 million people across the global economy (10,6% of the total work force) and is forecast to grow to 383m by 2007, creating well over 100m new jobs worldwide over the next decade'," said Heath.

He asked where Southern Africa stood in this industry.

"According to the WTO, Southern Africa had 6,4m tourism arrivals last year (31% of the total arrivals for Africa), which is a mere 1,08% of the 594m international arrivals during last year.

"Southern Africa has even a smaller share of global tourism spending. During 1996 tourism receipts in Southern Africa were estimated at $2,5 billion (R11,7bn — 31% of the total receipts for Africa), which is less than 0,6% of global tourism receipts."

NEWS

Tour guides join cableway outcry

ARG 18/8/97

City only for the 'super-rich'?

(288)

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
TOURISM REPORTER

Cape Town tour guides believe their service to tourists will be seriously undermined if they can no longer afford to accompany clients to the top of Table Mountain.

The guides have added their voice to the outcry highlighted recently in Cape Argus over the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company's decision to charge guides the same price as customers for a cableway ride and offer discounts only to big tour operators.

The ticket price will increase from R25 to R55 when the revamped cableway re-opens in October.

The guides, who previously did not have to pay, say they cannot afford it and will have to stay at the bottom. This will affect the service to the tourist considerably, they fear.

But John Harrison of the Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company said it was a "misguided conception" that guides had to accompany groups wherever they went because in Europe guides often left their groups to their own devices for a few hours at a time.

The guides say, however, that they would no longer be able to do "the little things" such as showing tourists where to buy stamps for postcards and pointing out different areas of the city from the look-out points.



BRENTON GEACH

Important role: tour guides Sonja Keschner and Hannelore Wotroba

Sonja Keschner, chairwoman of the Western Cape region of the South African Association for Registered Tourist Guides, said: "We train guides to always stay with their people. What happens if someone slips and falls or if no one can serve them in their language?" she asked.

Their training, including first aid, would be completely useless, she argued, if they were not with their group. The guides would also no longer be able to count the group to ensure no one wandered off and got lost or left behind.

"There are a 101 things to point out to them on the way up. Who will explain to them what a dassie is?" asked Ms Keschner.

The guides are worried about a general attitude that "foreigners have hard currency and will pay any price".

They fear Cape Town is becoming too expensive for many travellers. "Are we catering only for the super-rich?" asked guide Ms Hannelore Wotroba.

"We realize that someone has to pay for the upgrade but does it have to be us? They cannot expect to recoup all the money in one year," Ms Keschner said.

Mr Harrison said the Cableway would offer a 10% discount for operators with more than 30 people in their group. "That means three people go up free, one of which is the guide."

Guides also fear that other companies will be tempted to follow the example of the Cableway company in refusing guides free entry to tourist attractions.

The guides feel there should be more co-operation between the various industry roleplayers to "ensure the best possible service for tourists"



JOHN YELD

Roof of Africa: Cape Argus reporter Andrea Botha, guide Bongo Faresi and Working for Water members Wayne Didloff and Liziwe Nogqala on the summit

Olympic Bid scales Africa's heights

ARG 18/8/97 (288)

ANDREA BOTHA AND JOHN YELD
STAFF REPORTERS

They came, they saw, they conquered ... and their message that Cape Town is ready to host the 2004 Olympic Games on behalf of all Africa is being heard by other nations on the continent.

Members of the Cape Argus-Ernst & Young Kilimanjaro Expedition who flew the Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid flag from the summit of Africa's highest mountain last week were welcomed by senior Tanzanian officials on their return.

They were told that if any African country could host an Olympic Games, it was South Africa.

At the team's base at the Uhuru Hostel in Moshi on Friday, just after they had completed the last leg of their journey down the 5 895m Mt Kilimanjaro. Tanzanian district commissioner Simon Mbesere accepted the personal message they were carrying from President Mandela to Tanzanian president Benjamin Mkapa.

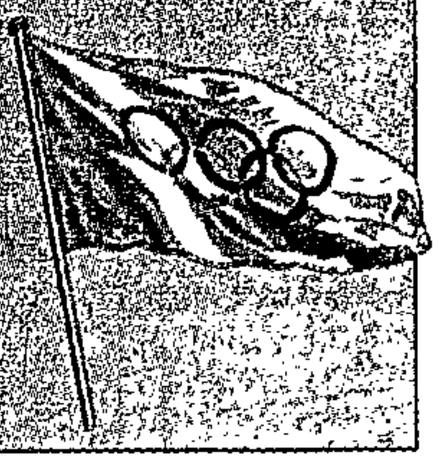
WORKING FOR WATER PROGRAMME
KILIMANJARO EXPEDITION
1997
CAPE ARGUS
ERNST & YOUNG

Mr Mbesere, who noted that Kilimanjaro was a symbol of Africa, said he was sure South Africa was able to host the Games and it would be a victory for all

To page 3

18 OLYMPIC BID DAYS TO GO

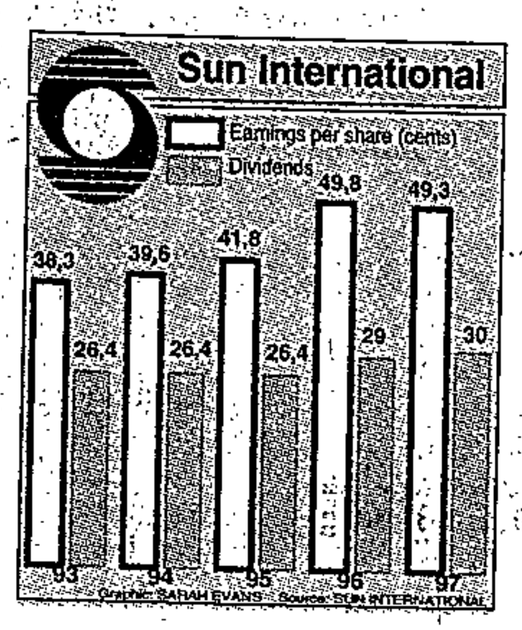
■ Cape Town's elevation to second place in the London betting may be an unreliable indicator of sentiment in the International Olympic Committee, but it tallies with Rome's worst fears. The Italian concern about a last-round fight with Cape Town is summed up by a Rome journalist who fears 'a showdown between the Eternal City and the Mother City'



Latest odds:
Rome 4-5
Cape Town 11-8
Athens 11-2
Stockholm 9-1
Buenos Aires 80-1

P.T.O.

Sun City becomes loss city for Sun



Janet Parker

HEAVY losses incurred by its Sun City operation, as well as overall difficult trading conditions and depressed occupancies, resulted in Sun International SA (Sisa) lifting attributable earnings before exceptional items 8% to R418,6m in the year to June.

Sisa MD Peter Bacon said losses at Sun City amounted to just below R60m, including restructuring costs. Despite benefiting from the closure of illegal casinos in Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal, the group experienced difficult trading conditions for most of the year, due to high real interest rates, a slowdown in business activity and severe pressure on occupancy levels in the local hotel industry.

Share earnings before exceptional items rose 6% to 52,9c and a final dividend of 14,5c was declared, bringing the total dividend for the year under review to 30c (1996: 29c).

Revenue increased 8% to R2,336bn with gambling revenue increasing 9%, despite illegal casino activity throughout the year in the southeastern Cape. Group occupancy levels fell 3% to a 67% occupancy, resulting in a slim 5% increase in hospitality revenue.

Operating profit rose 5% to R547m, while the exceptional item of R33,4m is comprised of R18,4m in restructuring costs at Sun City and R15m set aside to write off unsuccessful or aborted casino licence bid costs. About 20% of Sun City staff, or 980 employees have been affected by the group's cost-cutting, restructuring and outsourcing programmes. Financial benefits to Sisa as a result of the restructuring would accrue from this month.

The group received interest income of R8,8m, compared to interest expense of R23,3m in the previous comparable period, due to strong cash flow and reduced borrowings. The tax bill rose 19,9% to R132,2, due to higher STC charges and improved earnings.

Sisa's attributable earnings after exceptional items grew 1% to R390,2m, while share earnings after exceptional items lost 1% to 49,3c. Analysts said Sisa's earnings growth would peak this financial year as the group saw the benefits of restructuring coming through before the new casinos began inroads into Sisa's markets and profit. One analyst forecast 10% share earnings growth to about 59c to June next year.

Bacon said Sisa's trading prospects for the next financial year looked "favourable" but disposable income would remain under pressure and SA's high crime rate would continue to influence international tourism growth.

Sisa, in accordance with the National Gambling Act, has reduced its casino licences by two and reached agreement in principle to sell five casino operations in North West Province and the Eastern Cape to Thebe Investments subsidiary Moribo Investments.

International

(288)

BD 18/8/97

Durban festival draws R178m

(288)

Nicola Jenvey

BD 18/8/97

DURBAN's July holiday season had been boosted to new heights by the 10-day beach and water-sports festival, Ocean Action, which this year attracted R178m (1996: R90m) in direct income for the local economy.

The economic impact report on the festival, released by the University of Durban-Westville social and economic research institute, indicated that the success of Ocean Action had seen the event grow from five days to 10 days, culminating in the Gunston 500 surf competition.

The report calculated that the 700 000 people attending this year's festival had spent about R230 a day (R150). A further R16m was injected into the hotel trade.

A market for 'the new Satour'

(288)
CT(BR) 19/8/97

Delegates reject plan to align school holidays

AUDREY D'ANGELO

Cape Town — Inadequate funding for marketing was the biggest single obstacle to attracting more foreign tourists, Pallo Jordan, the minister of the environment and tourism, said yesterday.

He told the annual Fedhasa congress: "We all need to put our heads together to come up with solutions. I remain optimistic this problem will be addressed by the government."

Jordan said Satour was in the process of reorganisation, and "the new Satour" would be ready to play a more effective role by the end of this year.

The number of international visitors had grown at a rate of 16 percent a year over the past three years.Of these, 11 percent came from Africa.

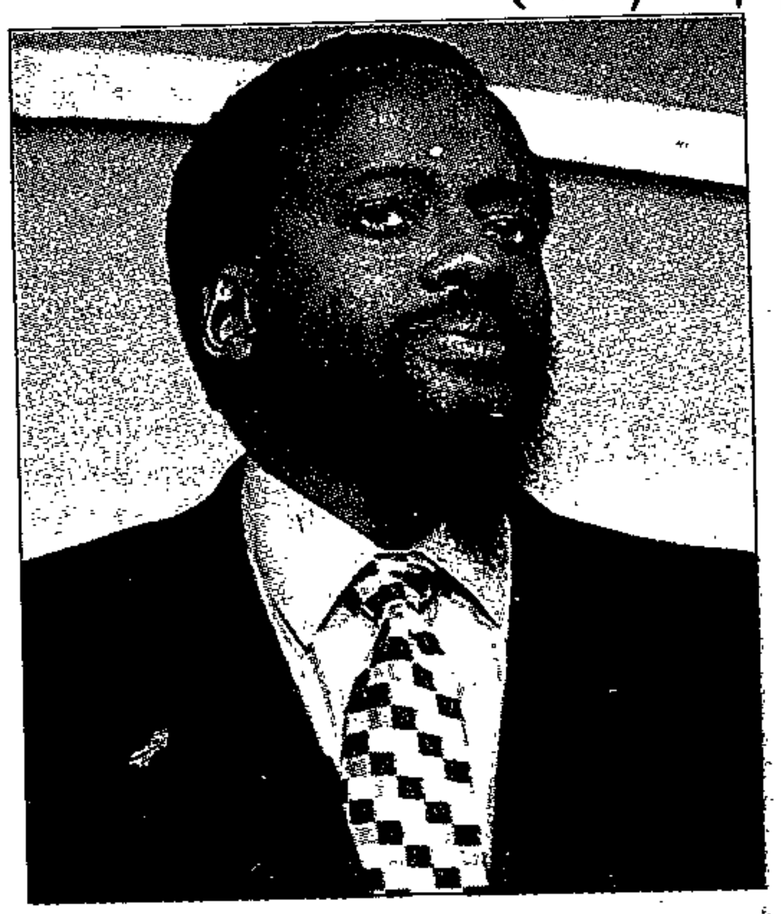
"Despite this healthy growth, for a host of reasons South Africa has not been able to maximise its tourism potential," the minister continued.

"We have already identified the key weaknesses which led to underperformance and are engaged in correcting them."

Jordan said a fresh, strategic and professional approach was needed to market South Africa, focusing on the growth of "high-yield markets with an average spend per visitor in excess of R7 000".

Capacity had to be increased and the poor service ethic corrected. Domestic tourism needed to be developed, with the aggressive promotion of entrepreneurship and real community participation, he said.

"Security and safety for everyone must improve radically if we are to dispel the perception that South Africa is a haven for tourist muggers," Jordan said.



FRESH APPROACH *Pallo Jordan, the minister of environment and tourism*

AUDREY D'ANGELO

Cape Town — The tourism industry would have to put up with the problems that arose from the plan to synchronise school holidays countrywide next year, Pallo Jordan, the minister of the environment and tourism, told delegates to the annual congress of the Federated Hospitality Association of South Africa (Fedhasa) yesterday.

But tourism delegates said the plan would result in carnage on overcrowded roads, a shortening of the tourist season and fewer tourism-related jobs.

Jordan received an unsympathetic hearing when he told the congress he had not discussed the matter with Sibusiso Bengu, the minister of education, adding that it was a priority to standardise the school curriculum throughout the country.

Admitting he had not realised the standardisation of school holidays throughout the nine provinces would cause any problems for the tourism industry, Jordan said he was sure the issue would "sort itself out in time". Meanwhile, he said, it was something the industry would have to put up with.

However, after delegates explained they were in favour of a standardised curriculum but did not see why this should mean school holidays should all be at the same time, Jordan said he would ask Bengu to receive a Fedhasa delegation to discuss the matter.

William Hirst, the director of tourism in Durban, told Business Report he was concerned about the apparent lack of communication between cabinet ministers.

It was worrying that Bengu had not discussed a matter of such importance to tourism with Jordan before deciding to abandon staggered school holidays, he said.

FEDHASA CONFERENCE *SA far off pace of leading competitors*

Call for imported skills to strengthen tourism sector

(288) CT (BR) 19/8/97

AUDREY D'ANGELO

Cape Town — The job-intensive tourism industry could not develop to its full potential unless it was allowed to bring skilled staff into the country, Ken Forrester, the president of the Federated Hospitality Association of South Africa (Fedhasa), warned at the federation's annual congress in Somerset West yesterday.

"We want to import qualified staff — chefs, housekeepers, managers. We would gladly ensure these people are used to train and develop local skills."

Forrester said South Africa's tourism industry should aim at higher growth than the world average of 8 percent a year. Its growth at present was less than half that, while in France the industry was growing at 40 percent a year and in New Zealand at 30 percent.

But South Africa could not cope with a big increase in tourism without importing appropriate skills.

"We have a desperate shortage of skills. Let us bridge that gap. Let us look to work permits linked to training courses, but don't turn away the skills we need now," he said.

Pressing for the tourism portfolio to be given higher status in the cabinet, Forrester said: "We require our ministry to use the internal channels to government to provide an environment conducive to doubling the size of our business.

"We need to waken this previously slumbering portfolio and insist on a new vision, one which is serious about nurturing the best hope for job creation and for solving the rampant crime wave which has gripped this country. We need politicians who have the guts to stand up and make a difference."

He also called for southern Africa to be marketed overseas as one destination — using Johannesburg and Cape Town as hubs — instead of the present policy of spending thousands of rands on "trying to sell Pofadder or Pretoria" at tourism fairs.

South Africa would also have to find a new drawcard to bring in foreign tourists if its bid to host the Olympics failed, he said.



LEON MULLER

Raising the standard: Speaker Frene Ginwala joins parliamentary officials in hoisting the Olympic bid flag at Parliament today in support of Cape Town's challenge to host the Games in 2004

Missing Ball stalls Olympic bill as 'inept' drafting slated

(288)

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT
ARG 19/8/97

Approval by the National Assembly of the Olympic Bid and Hosting Bill has been delayed because bid chief executive Chris Ball was unavailable for a parliamentary committee meeting to finalise the bill.

Meanwhile, Cape Town City Council lawyers have come in for harsh criticism from a Western Cape provincial minister for "inept" work on the bill.

The legislation, which provides a legal framework for contracting to be the host city, is meant to be in place before September 5, the date the International Olympic Committee will announce which city will host the 2004 Olympics.

The bill was to have been approved today by the Assembly before being referred to the National Council of Provinces. Instead, the portfolio committees on sport and on constitutional affairs will deal with the bill tomorrow.

Zam Titus, director-general of constitutional affairs, was to meet Cape Town council lawyers, the prime movers behind the bill, to clarify certain issues.

Sapa reports that a senior National Party MP said it seemed his party would be satisfied with the content of the bill, provided that it was redrafted to allow the involvement of the provincial government, with the national Minister of Finance, in giving the go-ahead for the host city to enter into a hosting contract.

However, some observers believe the bill may have to redrafted further or even withdrawn. Lampie Fick, Western Cape MEC for tourism, said the bill had been badly and over-hastily formulated and there had been too little consultation.

Mr Ball was reported en route back from the Far East and constitutional affairs committee chief Pravin Gordhan was to ask him to attend tomorrow's meeting.

Bid fever mounts as the city's shops put hopes on display

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Olympic fever is mounting in the city as the September 5 D-Day looms, with local businesses responding to calls to dress up their shops and display their hopes for a successful Bid.

Indications in recent days that Cape Town's chances have improved markedly have helped stir popular sentiment.

This has been echoed by mounting support throughout Africa.

With a little help from the fire brigade, the Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry raised a bid banner at its Foreshore headquarters.

Chamber president Ali Gierdien, who hoisted the banner with the help of senior fireman William Conway, said: "Now's the time to show our support."

He appealed to businesses across the Peninsula to follow suit, and to use Bid regalia, posters and banners to dress up their premises, and encourage staff to wear yellow ribbons to show their support.

This is a prelude to more than a week of festivities and sports displays from tomorrow to raise Cape Town's profile and provide a rousing send-off to the Bid team, which leaves for Lausanne and the final lobbying next weekend.

The week of special events will end with a march through the city on August 27.

2000 Games help Sydney to the top

Sydney – The 2000 Olympics venue has been voted the world's top city for the second straight year in a survey of American travellers, Australian tourism officials announced today.

They said the accolade had been awarded after Travel & Leisure magazine's annual reader survey, which also put another Australian city, Melbourne, in the top five.

The top five in the survey were Sydney, Florence, Rome, San Francisco and Melbourne.

John Morse, managing director of the Australian Tourist Commission, said the ATC was trying to use the increased international attention generated by Sydney's hosting of the 2000 Games, and the survey was a sign of its success. – Reuter

(288)

...vill mean for us

ARG 19/8/97

...d risks to Cape Town



Cape if we get the 2004 Olympic Games. The Strategic Environmental Assessment report spells it out

taged areas. The Games will provide an opportunity to replace old trains which are reaching the end of their life-span, and an opportunity to upgrade security on trains and stations. A metropolitan operation centre will be established as part of the Games plan to manage and co-ordinate transport.

■ Limitations and risks: average trip distances are unlikely to be significantly reduced in the short-term. Transport spending of R7,7-billion could detract from other spending, compromise the Government's ability to manage the deficit, and compromise other cities' infrastructure upgrade plans. Large-scale infrastructure costs may be borne by taxpayers. There may be scant short-term benefits, although transport improvements could lead to more job opportunities closer to where people live, in the longer-term.

...g economic ...fter the Games ...sure ...e jobs'

■ Critical conditions: local authorities must promote public transport as a safe and efficient alternative. Rail authorities must ensure effective cost-recovery systems and market public transport. Security must be improved. The impact of R7,7-billion transport funding on the national scene must be investigated.

Promoting sustainable use of the environment

■ Opportunities: the Bid's environmental principles are "progressive" and could promote environmental awareness and showcase eco-friendly technologies. There is potential to create formal conservation areas as part of facilities. The Games may provide an opportunity to encourage greater use of public transport, which could improve air quality in the long term. Use of zero-emission buses during the Games could promote "clean air" consciousness. Environment impact assessments (EIAs) have been done on all priority sites, and initial investigations on the remainder. Many competition venues will be existing facilities, thus using fewer resources and limiting the "footprint" of the Games.

■ Limitations and risks: full EIAs have not been done on all sites, and the authorities lack capacity and coherent environmental policies. There is no natural resource database for the region. Additional water resources may be needed six months earlier than would have been the case without the Games. There could be a negative impact on some indigenous vegetation, and impacts on other sensitive areas as a result of increased visitors.

■ Critical conditions: environmental monitoring and management must be beefed up. Bid principles must be applied by the Ocog, and there must be an environmental commission and environmental charter.

Nation-building

■ Opportunities: the Games will foster unity, address sporting inequalities, inspire the youth, heal divisions, promote national pride and spur an "African renaissance".

■ Limitations and risks: the perception that the Games will not benefit the whole country, or that benefits will be limited to the well-off of the Western Cape.

■ Critical conditions: the Ocog and the Government must ensure the Games are a national event, and have appropriate measures to make the event accessible and affordable to average South Africans.

THE BIG STORY

What the Games really will mean

Assessment report spells out benefits and risks to Cape T

THE STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF CAPE TOWN'S BID CONFIRMS THE IMMENSE OPPORTUNITIES THE CITY WILL HAVE IN HOSTING THE GAMES, WHILE HIGHLIGHTING THE PITFALLS AND MEASURES TO AVOID THEM. MICHAEL MORRIS REPORTS

If Cape Town wins the bid, the Strategic Environmental Assessment will be the model for making the most of the Games, consolidating the benefits and reducing the risks.

Right now, though, the SEA provides the public with the opportunity to make up its mind on the basis of informed and independent research.

The SEA team's conclusion is that "on balance, (we are) cautiously confident that the Games will not pose an unmanageable burden on the economy and public finance system, and is likely to be affordable and beneficial to South Africa and the Cape metropolitan region".

This is a summary of the findings.

Economic development, investment and exports

■ Opportunities: unique international exposure, promoting tourism and business confidence. Opportunities for public/private sector partnerships and accelerated private and public spending. Increased gross domestic product, gross regional product, and tax base. New and upgraded infrastructure to enhance long-term economic development. Increased business opportunities and competitiveness, and growth in construction and tourism.

■ Limitations and risks: The over-arching government guarantee could reduce the incentive for private sector involvement, and allocation of government funds could divert money from other basic needs. Interest payments on government borrowing could increase costs to the Government, reduce the projected surplus and compromise deficit-reducing policies. Inflation could rise because of capacity constraints in the construction industry. Budget overruns and shortfalls could lead to tax increases. Increased tourism could push up service and property prices.

■ Critical conditions: there should be a private-sector target contribution of 35% to Games infrastructure, and high private sector involvement in the Organising Committee for the Games (Ocog). The Ocog should be independent, and monitored by an independent commission.

Job creation, empowerment and human resource development

■ Opportunities: jobs will be created in the construction and tourism industries, coupled with opportunities for historically-disadvantaged communities and small businesses. Involvement of small businesses and contractors in the construction sector to date – on Olympic-related projects – has been good. Skills development will accrue in construction, tourism and communications, and there will be opportunities for partnerships between new and established enterprises, with concomitant skills and knowledge transfers. A higher tourist profile will increase long-term employment prospects.

■ Limitations and risks: the number of jobs is likely to have been overstated, although this has been contested by the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), and most of the jobs will be in the lower-skilled and paid categories. Most tourism jobs are likely to be seasonal and temporary. Unemployment in construction industry will increase after 2004. Only lasting economic growth after the Games will ensure sustainable jobs.

Critical conditions: the Ocog should have a programme for human resource development, plus training, labour protection and quality management programmes. Games-related tender and contract documents should be helpful to small and disadvantaged businesses, and tender procedures should be open and transparent. The Ocog staff should match South Africa's demographic profile.

Basic needs

■ Opportunities: the semi-dispersed nature of the Games will provide much-needed facilities in historically disadvantaged areas. There will be multipurpose community facilities after the Games. Some will be provided even if CapeTown loses. Infrastructure and basic services associated with the venues will be upgraded as will the transportation system and public transport. Funds will be mobilised for otherwise unaffordable projects.

■ Limitations and risks: the Games will not directly provide low-cost housing, and distances to work places will not be significantly altered in the short-term. Government spending could displace funds from other basic needs. High maintenance costs may affect the economic viability of some of the multipurpose facilities and result in "white elephants".

■ Critical conditions: the Government must monitor the impact of the Games spending on other national and regional projects. The Ocog must involve communities in planning for post-Games opportunities to ensure that the facilities meet community needs.

Restructuring the metropolitan region and improving access to facilities and opportunities

■ Opportunities: Games spending on semi-dispersed, multipurpose facilities and the upgrading of infrastructure in historically disadvantaged areas may act as a catalyst to attract future public and private investment to these areas. Seven such facilities will be built, whether the bid wins or not. Seventy-four percent of training facilities and seven competition venues are located in historically disadvantaged areas. The Games-related housing proposals, the largest single investment in housing in the region to date, are financially viable and provide an opportunity to involve the private sector. Games-related investment at Wingfield and Culemborg may lead to urban renewal in the surrounding areas. Placing the major competition venues in relatively more affluent areas does improve the financial sustainability of these facilities.

■ Limitations and risks: most spending on Olympic facilities will be on the major competition venues, particularly at Wingfield and Culemborg. While there are good reasons for the choice of venues, this investment pattern will serve to reinforce existing spatial patterns. Development of facilities to International Olympic Committee standards may make it difficult to ensure long-term sustainability. Maintenance and operation costs could make them uneconomical in the long-term. Possible gentrification and increased property prices and rates associated with the Games could contribute to displacement of lower-income groups. The establishment of venues or facilities on their own is not sufficient to guarantee future public or private sector investment in any area.

■ Critical conditions: the Ocog must ensure adequate funds for after-Games maintenance. Local authorities must have strategies to promote investment around multi-purpose facilities in historically disadvantaged areas. There should be measures to protect tenants' rights and prevent displacement. Cross-subsidisation should be considered to provide low-income housing, especially at Wingfield, and Ocog should ensure housing proposals keep pace with the market.

'Only lasting economic growth after the Olympic Games will ensure sustainable jobs'

Creating and promoting viable public transport

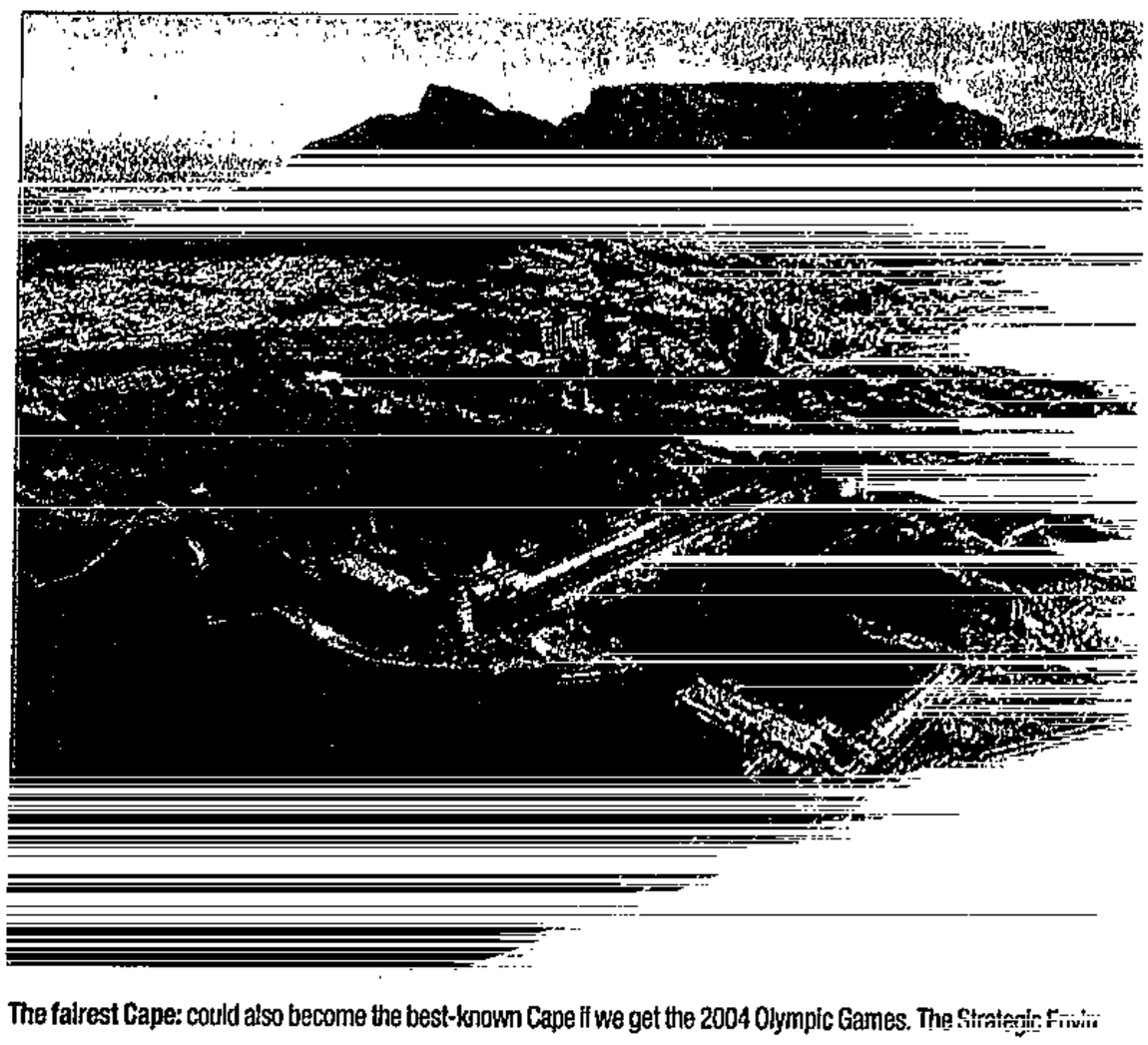
■ Opportunities: the Games may serve as a catalyst for implementing the "Moving Ahead" transport plan, and enhance the long-term economic performance of the region. The transport plan potentially will improve the mobility of people. A sum of R250-million will be spent on transport, whether or not Cape Town wins. Between 65% and 80% of the "Moving Ahead" budget will be spent in historically disadvantaged areas. The Games will provide an opportunity to replace old trains which are reaching the end of their life-span, and an opportunity to upgrade security on trains and stations. A metropolitan operation centre will be established as part of the Games plan to manage and co-ordinate transport.

■ Limitations and risks: average trip distances are unlikely to be significantly reduced in the short-term. Transport spending of R7,7-billion could detract from other spending, compromise the Government's ability to manage the deficit, and compromise other cities' infrastructure upgrade plans. Large-scale infrastructure costs may be borne by taxpayers. There may be scant short-term benefits, although transport improvements could lead to more job opportunities closer to where people live, in the longer-term.

■ Critical conditions: local authorities must promote public transport as a safe and efficient alternative. Rail authorities must ensure effective cost-recovery systems and market public transport. Security must be improved. The impact of R7,7-billion transport funding on the national scene must be investigated.

Promoting sustainable use of the environment

■ Opportunities: the Bid's environmental principles are "progressive" and could promote environmental awareness and showcase eco-friendly technologies. There is potential to create formal conservation areas as part of facilities. The Games may provide an opportunity to



The fairest Cape: could also become the best-known Cape if we get the 2004 Olympic Games. The Strategic Envir... which long... ing the ... assess... priority the ... will be ... resour... the C...

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Hansard

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version.

For oral reply:

Questions standing over from Tuesday, 17 June 1997:

Olympic bid: funds from private sector companies (288)

*5. Mr W F MNISI asked the Minister of Sport and Recreation:

(1) Whether the Olympic Bid Committee has received any confirmed commitments by private sector companies to provide funds to support the Cape Town 2004 Olympic bid; if so,

(2) whether he will disclose the (a) name of each such company and (b) amount that each of these companies has (i) promised to contribute and/or (ii) already contributed towards the bid; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details in each case? C223E

The MINISTER OF SPORT AND RECREATION:

(1) Yes

(2) Grinaker Sport Marketing, official fund-raising agent of the Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid Company, supplied the following information:

A. Supporters

Mercedes-Benz of South Africa	R 10,0 million
Pick 'n Pay	R 7,5 million
Telkom	R 7,5 million
Sun International	R 7,5 million
Nedbank	R 7,5 million
Unifruco	R 6,0 million
South African Airways	R 10,0 million
Caltex Oil	R 7,5 million
Total:	R 63,5 million

B. Suppliers

IBM	R 2,5 million
V and A Waterfront	R 2,5 million
Eskom	R 2,5 million
Primedia Ad Displays	R 2,5 million
Siemens	R 4,0 million
Opportunity Communications	R 2,5 million
SAP SA	R 2,5 million
Vodacom	R 1,0 million
Total:	R 20,0 million

C. Donations

Anglo American Corporation	R 2 000 000
SASOL	R 500 000
Standard Bank	R 500 000
Woolworths	R 500 000
Ingwe Coal Corporation	R 500 000
Grinaker Construction	R 500 000
Industrial Development Corp.	R 500 000
BOE	R 300 000
Grey Security	R 250 000
Total:	R 5 550 000
Total amount raised to date	R89 050 000

SANDF members involved in ivory smuggling

*6. Mr E K MOORCROFT asked the Minister for Safety and Security:

(1) Whether his or the South African Police Service's attention has been drawn to allegations that certain members of the South African National Defence Force are involved in ivory smuggling; if so,

(2) whether he or the SAPS has investigated or is investigating any such allegations; if not, why not; if so,

(3) whether charges have been laid against any persons in connection with these allegations; if so, (a) against whom and (b) what are the charges; if not, why not;

(4) whether it is the intention to lay any charges in this regard; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? C224E

Gauteng	12
Total	115
(iii) Western Cape	0
Eastern Cape	1
Northern Cape	0
Free State	2
Mpumalanga	2
KwaZulu-Natal	1
North West	0
Northern Province	2
Gauteng	5
Total	13

(NB: Persons charged in 1996 are only now beginning to appear in court, due to the postponement of cases and the granting of bail.)

(c)	Western Cape	46 plus 1 hand grenade
	Eastern Cape	62 plus 1 hand grenade
	Northern Cape	0
	Free State	7
	Mpumalanga	12
	KwaZulu-Natal	26
	North West	15
	Northern Province	17
	Gauteng	66
	Total	251 plus 2 hand grenades

Provinces: tourism

193. Mr E K MOORCROFT asked the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism:

What was the estimated (a) number of tourists who visited each of the provinces in 1996 and (b) income from tourism in that year? C206E

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM:

(a) The estimated number of tourists who visited each province in 1996 was:

Province	Air Arrivals	%	Domestic Travel	%
Gauteng	931 000	66,5	2 400 000	15
Western Cape	721 000	51,5	1 920 000	12
KwaZulu-Natal	399 999	28,5	4 800 000	30
Mpumalanga	287 000	20,5	1 120 000	7
Eastern Cape	224 000	16,0	2 240 000	14
North West	105 000	7,5	1 440 000	9
Free State	70 000	5,0	960 000	6
Northern Cape	70 000	5,0	320 000	2
Northern Province	70 000	5,0	800 000	5

(b) The estimated tourism income generated by these figures was approximately R31 billion for the year 1996 which is made up of:

International Market Revenue = R12 bn

Domestic Market Revenue = R19 bn

SANDF staff: absence

195. Mr J SELFE asked the Minister of Defence:

(1) (a) How many persons were employed by the South African National Defence Force as at the latest specified date for which information is available and (b)(i)(aa) what was the total number of man-days lost as a result of absenteeism during the latest specified period of 12 months for which information is available and (bb) what percentage of the total number of working days during this period does this figure constitute, (ii)(aa) to what causes was such absenteeism attributable and (bb) how many man-days were lost due to each of these causes and (iii) what was the average number of employees absent on each working day during the above-mentioned period;

(2) whether he or the SANDF has taken or intends taking any steps aimed at reducing the absenteeism rate in the SANDF; if not, why not; if so, what steps? C208E

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

(1) (a) As on 31 May 1997, there were 99 324 persons employed by the SANDF.

(b) (i) (aa) Total number of man-days lost to absenteeism – 324 931.

(bb) Percentage man-days lost out of the total man-days available – 1,63%.

(ii) (aa) Causes of absenteeism;

(i) Absent without leave (AWOL), [transport problems, imprisonment, financial problems, domestic problems, indiscipline, substance abuse, traditional ceremonies such as initiation].

(ii) Medical reasons.

(bb) Percentage man-days lost to;

(i) AWOL – 1,37%.

(ii) Medical – 0,26%.

(iii) Average number of employees absent each working day;

(aa) AWOL – 1 366.

(bb) Medical – 258.

(2) Yes. The SANDF is continuously taking steps aimed at reducing absenteeism. They include:

(a) Discharge of members who are AWOL for more than 183 days.

(b) Vigorous application of the Military Discipline Code (MDC).

(c) Command communication sessions to inform members of the procedures for obtaining official leave and the consequences of AWOL. A system for long weekends has also been created to accommodate transportation problems. Public or private transport has been arranged if a sufficient number of members travel in a specific direction.

(d) Consultations with commanders, welfare officers and chaplains is strongly recommended for professional support and to solve social and domestic problems.

(e) Appeals to medical officers to authorise sick-leave only when necessary.

(f) Demands for medical certificates for periods of absence due to illness.

Deportations

199. Dr G W KOORNHOF asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

(a) How many persons were deported from South Africa to their countries of origin in (i) 1996 and (ii) during the period 1 January 1997 up to the latest specified date for which information is available and (b) what are the (i) names of these persons and (ii) reasons for their deportation in each case? C212E

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:

(*Reply bound in Annexures of House – see M337/97.*)

Foreign companies: business concerns established in SA

204. Mr A E VAN NIEKERK asked the Minister of Trade and Industry:†

(a) How many foreign companies established business concerns in South Africa in (i) 1996 and (ii) the first four months of 1997, (b) what are the names of these companies, (c) under what industrial sectors do such companies fall and (d) what, according to the South African Reserve Bank, did the total net inflow of foreign investments amount to in each of the above-mentioned periods? C217E

The MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY:

South Africa does not currently have a comprehensive investment tracking system that could record all of the information on the basis requested. For this reason Investment South Africa (ISA) has been mandated to establish such an investment tracking system. The Department of Trade and Industry obtained the following figures from the offices of the Registrar of Companies, the Board for Regional Industrial Development and the South African Reserve Bank. Their figures indicate that:

(a) The Registrar of Companies indicated that a total number of 225 foreign companies registered during 1996 and the first four months of 1997.

(b) Enclosed are the names of those companies registered during that period (Annexure A). *[Partially illegible reply furnished by Department.]*

(c) The Board for Regional Industrial Development indicated that investments by

Nellie drops dollar and quotes in (288) rands again

ARG 19/8/90

Prices at Cape Town's Mount Nelson Hotel and its sister hotel, The Westcliff, in Johannesburg, will be given in rands again instead of American dollars from today.

An Orient-Express Hotels spokesman said Mount Nelson prices and bookings at The Westcliff, opening in October, had been quoted in American dollars since January this year.

This had been done to offset the effect of the rand's instability on the company's capital investments in southern Africa, as well as in the interests of its shareholder.

Nick Seewer, managing director of African Collection Orient Express Hotels, said: "Although the rand's weakness over the past two years has been a cause of concern, a dollar-based pricing structure brought a different set of problems.

"These were chiefly in the invoicing, tour packaging and administration areas. The situation was further complicated by continual fluctuations in the value of the rand."

He said that the Mount Nelson was sensitive to feedback from corporations, business travellers and tour operators, and had responded as swiftly as possible.

He said the decision to revert to a rand-based pricing structure had been made by local management, after representations had been made to principals in London and New York.

He said that other strategies would have to be applied to protect the company's dollar investment in the region.

"It would be negligent, even reckless management practice not to safeguard profitability.

"We cannot afford further devaluation of the rand, and will have to adjust our rates in line with any further major movements in its value," he said. – Sapa

School holiday plan upsets hoteliers

ARG 19/8/97

Tourism Minister Pallo Jordan is take up the controversial issue of the timing of school holidays with Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu on behalf in the hospitality industry.

The industry is gravely concerned about Professor Bengu's announcement that school holidays in the various provinces will no longer be staggered.

Owners of hotels, restaurants and clubs say the decision will affect their turnover, training and the development of the industry.

Dr Jordan agreed to "raise the concerns of the industry" with Professor Bengu. – Staff Reporter

(288)

Goal 2000: double tourism cash

ARG 19/8/97 (288)

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
TOURISM REPORTER

An action programme aimed at almost doubling tourism's contribution to South Africa's coffers by 2000 has been unveiled by Tourism Minister Pallo Jordan.

At the annual meeting of the Federation of Hospitality Associations of South Africa in Somerset West yesterday, he said the goal was to increase the contribution of the tourism sector to the gross domestic product from 4,5 % to 8% by 2000.

"Our vision is that a globally-competitive South African tourism industry can become a lead sector within the national economic strategy and a major force in the growth and reconstruction efforts of the Government," said Dr Jordan.

Targets over the next four years included increasing tourism foreign exchange earnings, at an average rate of 15% a year, from R12,5-billion to R23-billion a year.

Another aim was to grow tourism arrivals from overseas by an average rate of 17% a year to 2,2-million and domestic holiday trips by 2,5% to 19,5-million.

The aim is to increase sustainable employment opportunities from 550 000 to 860 000.

Another priority would be to address the improvement of skills and service levels in the industry through a training strategy.

Dr Jordan's department is also involved in an investigation into infrastructure requirements, focusing on underdeveloped areas with tourism potential.

"The single biggest obstacle to implementing our plans is inadequate funding. We all need to put our heads together to come up with solutions," said Dr Jordan.

Other "weaknesses" which meant South Africa could not yet realise its tourism potential included ineffective marketing overseas, insufficient marketing funds, a poor service ethic and culture and perceptions about South Africa being "a tourist-muggers' haven".

The restructuring of Satour was on track and the transformation in the organisation would produce a "leaner, more effective Satour in the not too distant future".

On the issue of hotel bed levies to raise marketing funds for Satour, Dr Jordan said the Government was trying to find "alternative workable funding sources".

Bank takes firm stand on Games benefits forecast

(288) ARLT 19/8/97

The Development Bank of Southern Africa is sticking to its guns on its forecast of the benefits of hosting the 2004 Olympics – dismissing suggestions by a Cape Town academic that they are over-optimistic.

The bank's assessment a year ago – that the Games would generate a gross domestic product (GDP) boost of R30-billion over 10 years, a tax boost of R8-billion and job creation of about 90 000 person years in the same period – underpinned the Cabinet's endorsement of the bid.

But in one of the specialist studies conducted for the Strategic Environmental Assessment,

John Stuart, a policy analyst at UCT's school of economics, questioned the model used by the bank. Mr Stuart concluded that the bank's figures should be "treated as an optimistic assessment".

The bank says Mr Stuart "systematically ignored" literature on the kind of modelling it used to make its assessment of the Games. – Staff Reporter

What the Games will really mean for us, page 10

17 OLYMPIC BID DAYS TO GO

■ The World University Games, which open today in Sicily, turn the spotlight on Rome's bid to host the 2004 Games, two weeks after Athens emerged bruised and battered from the World Athletics Championships.

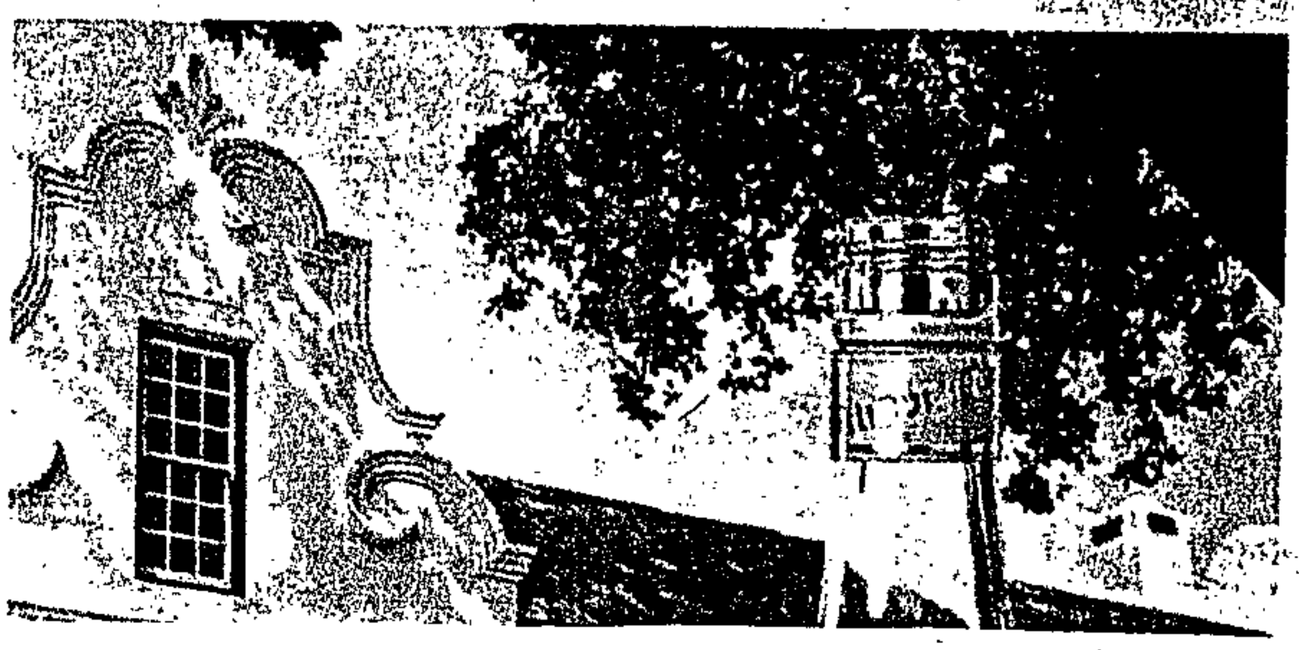
The University Games are seen as a final test of Italy's ability to stage large events, and Italian National Olympic Committee officials have expressed concern over problems that plagued the Sicilian event's preparation.

Latest odds:

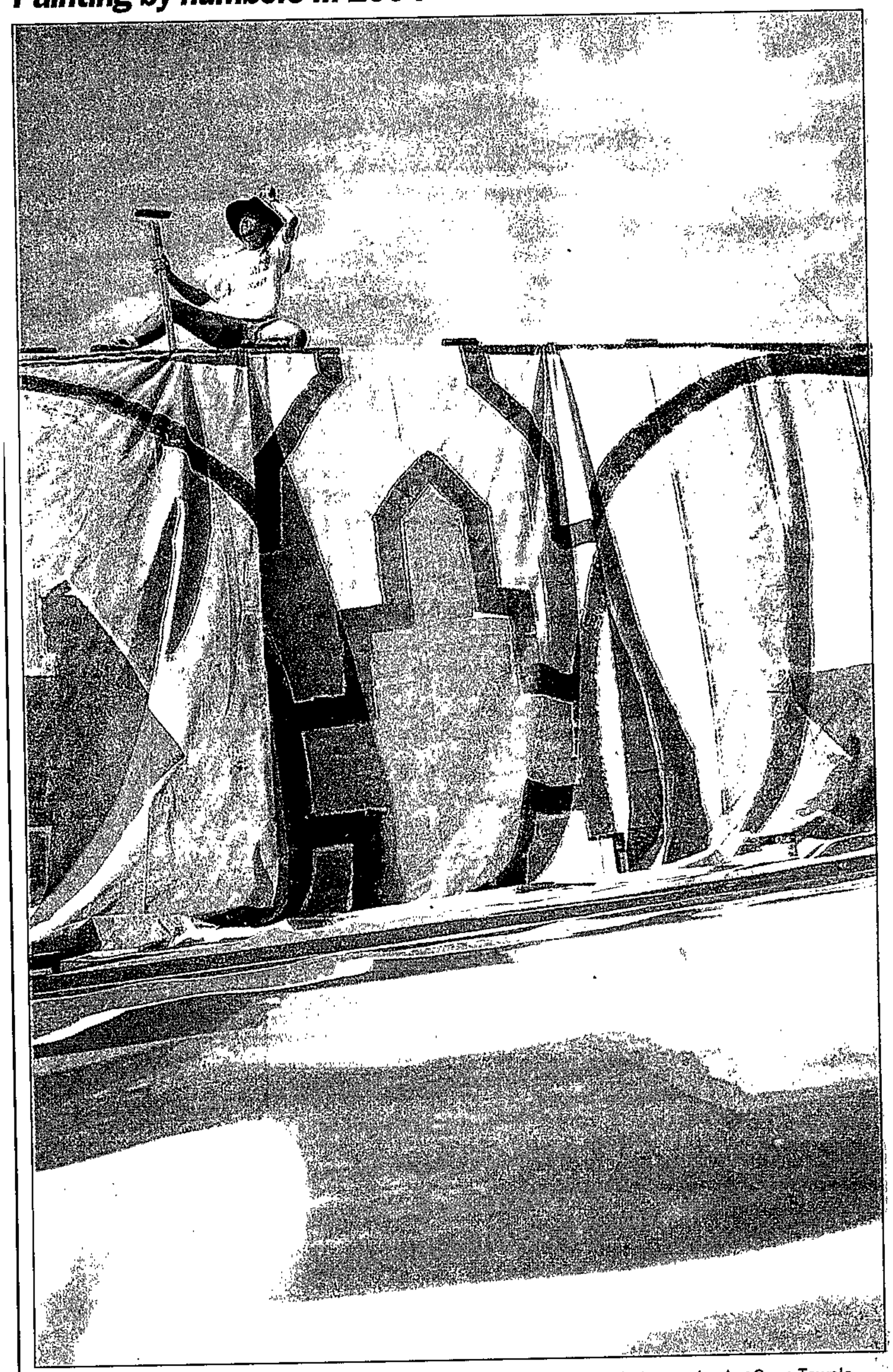
Rome	4-5
Cape Town	11-8
Athens	11-2
Stockholm	9-1
Buenos Aires	80-1



Olympic bid reports, page 2



Painting by numbers ... 2004



RECORD ATTEMPT: Brandon Challis, a city graphic artist, with part of his painting endorsing Cape Town's 2004 Olympic Bid. Challis wants to set a world record with his 8 600-square-metre painting and take it to Lausanne, Switzerland, in time for the IOC's decision on the host city on September 5. ***PICTURE: GARTH STEAD***

Let Ubuntu Games begin — Asmal

(288)

CT 19/8/1997

OWN CORRESPONDENT

PRETORIA: If Oom Paul could have turned his head, he would have looked down on enthusiastic city residents and celebrities who joined hands at Church Square yesterday to cheer Cape Town in its 2004 Olympic Games bid.

Flanked by Miss South Africa 1997 Kerishnie Naicker, Home Affairs Minister and IFP leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, and a host of celebrities and dignitaries from embassies around Pretoria, Water Affairs Minister Mr Kader Asmal said Cape Town's bid would go down in history as the Ubuntu Games — which means to show respect for one another.

With only 17 days to go to the announcement of the winning city, Asmal said: "We in South Africa are confident we can bring something new to the Games, it would benefit the entire international community in ways that would be unique to both Olympic and world history."

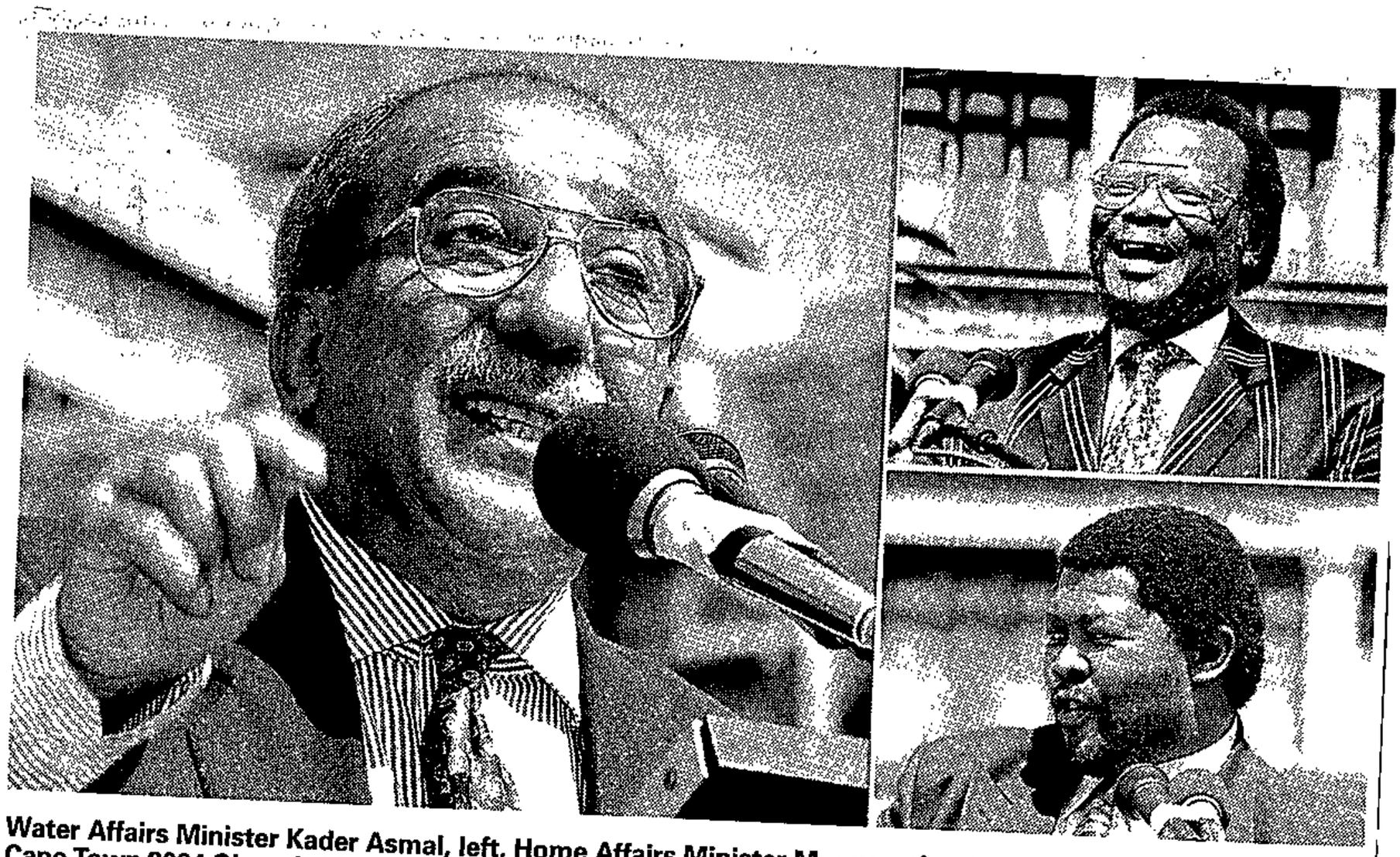
Asmal, who is also a member of the cabinet sub-committee on the Olympic Bid, said Cape Town would "bring our values to the Games, our kind of professionalism, our African rhythms, scenes and music".

The Games would also be developmental to eradicate poverty, which, he said, formed the base of crime in the country.

Cape Town was the first bidding city to undertake an environmental impact study to highlight its commitment to the environment, he said.

It would also give thanks to many African athletes who boycotted the 1976 Olympics in Montreal to call for political transition in South Africa.

"We want to say bayete (thank you) to those who sacrificed gold medals for us ... and to the rest of the world for the many years of solidarity in the struggle against apartheid and in bringing democracy and freedom to South Africa," Asmal said.



Water Affairs Minister Kader Asmal, left, Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi, top right, and MP and Cape Town 2004 Olympic bid international relations director Ngconde Balfour at a gathering in Church Square, Pretoria, in support of the Cape Town bid.

Picture: CATHY PINNOCK

Welsh academics pan Olympic bid

BD 9/8/97 (288)

Reneé Grawitzky

THE beneficiaries of a successful 2004 Cape Town Olympic bid would not be ordinary working people being sold a "bowl of watered-down nationalist pap" and a clutch of shallow promises, but large corporations, a report in the SA Labour Bulletin said.

Howard Harris and Alan Lipman, two architecture lecturers from the University of Cardiff in Wales questioned whether SA could afford to redeploy its limited resources for a "few weeks of global entertainment".

They argued that the SA population was being told that the games would be a force for economic development, would ensure "wonderful buildings", soaring tourism and put the country on the global superhighway of media electronics.

The reality, they argued, was that once the games moved on, the local population, based on international experience, would be left with "costly reminders".

The bid was being sold on the basis that there were no losers, no costs and everyone won. The authors dispute this based on the "mess of Barcelona in 1992 and Manchester's hugely expensive bid for the year 2000".

Harris and Lipman said "who recalls Montreal, Moscow and Seoul, where are their long-term tourist booms" and what happened to their "architectural statements".

The Barcelona Olympic village built in the docks areas which used to house poor people now accommodated more "presentable and respectable people".

Lipman and Harris argued that SA business would benefit while the media was linking support for the bid to "nation building" and anyone opposed was unpatriotic.

Satour reports missing funds

(288)

Linda Ensor
BD 19/8/97

CAPE TOWN — Irregularities involving about R307 216 had been uncovered at the Paris office of the SA Tourism Board (Satour), chairman Liz Westby-Nunn told Parliament's joint standing committee on public accounts.

In reply to questions arising out of the 1995/96 auditor-general's report, Westby-Nunn said that of this amount R194 443 was due to the French authorities for the medical and social welfare benefits for one of Satour's staff members who had misappropriated the sum for his own benefit.

"The balance of R112 773,24 was also misappropriated by employees who are no longer in Satour's employ," she said.

Bank confident about benefits of Games

Star 20/8/97 (288)

OWN CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town – The Development Bank of Southern Africa is sticking to its guns on its forecast of the benefits of hosting the Olympic Games in Cape Town.

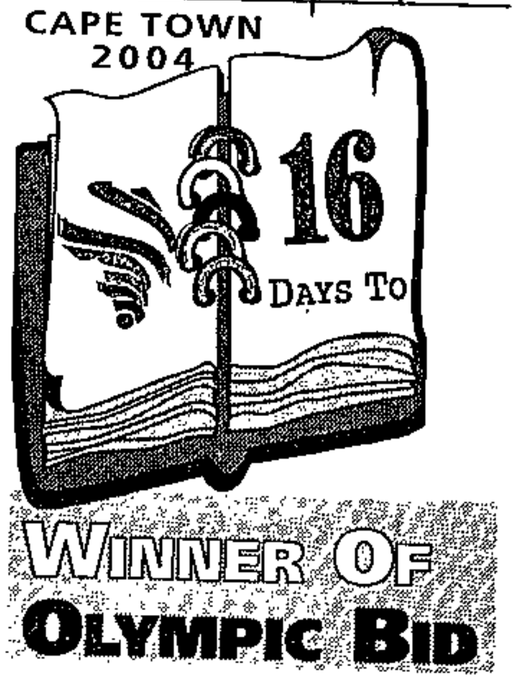
It has dismissed suggestions by a Cape Town academic that the forecasts are over-optimistic.

The DBSA's assessment a year ago (that the games would generate a gross domestic product boost of R30-billion over 10 years, a tax boost of R8-billion and job creation of about 90 000 "person years" in the same period) underpinned the Cabinet's endorsement of the bid.

In a specialist study for the Strategic Environmental Assessment, John Stuart, a policy analyst at the University of Cape Town's school of economics, questioned the model used by the DBSA and concluded the bank's figures should be treated as an optimistic assessment.

The DBSA says Stuart systematically ignored literature on the kind of modelling used by the bank to make its assessment of the games.

"It is not a 'second-best technique', but one widely used in data-rich countries and regions like the United States and the European Community, and by leading international organisations such as the World Bank and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development."



While noting the "neo-classical perfectly competitive market economy which underlies Stuart's views", the bank says "in the real world of policy-making, governments, organisations and policy analysts make widespread use of various kinds of simulation models".

The bank believes its exercise "provides a reasonably robust basis for decision-making", and concludes: "We are confident our macro-economic estimates will stand the test of any balanced scrutiny."

Warnings against draft liquor bill

CT 20/8/97 (28)

DAN SIMON
TOURISM WRITER

THE proposed draft liquor bill will have "disastrous consequences" for some members of the South African hospitality industry if it becomes law, a legal expert told the Federated Hospitality Association of South Africa '97 Congress this week.

And Fedhasa executive director Mr Deon Viljoen has warned that according to the proposed legislation, hotels, restaurants and clubs could lose the special "right of admission reserved" to their premises, meaning establishments may have to make cases of trespassing against individuals as opposed to calling the police to remove troublesome customers.

Legal expert Mr Leon Louw, who is executive director of the Law Review Project and the Free Market Foundation, and head of the Liquor Initiative, told about 400 delegates in Somerset West that the liquor industry wanted to renegotiate parts of the proposed draft bill, some provisions of which might be "unconstitutional".

Some provisions in the bill, which provided for changes to the Liquor Act, were a "total contradiction" of the government's policy document which outlined the proposed liquor law changes on which the government and parties in the liquor industry had agreed.

The draft bill, he said, was unconstitutional, in that it conferred "unlimited and unrestricted discretionary powers" with no checks and balances or right of appeal to the Liquor Authority in the granting of licences.

"The bill does not create opportunities for business, but instead tends to prescribe who and what may get a licence."

Louw said the policy document proposed ease of entry into the liquor industry whereas the draft bill did not cater for this.

"We have met with Trade and Industry Minister Mr Alec Erwin who agrees with the policy document and has indicated the possibility of renegotiating the bill to bring it in line with the document.

Viljoen said the proposed bill would "dramatically change" the operations of industry members.

"As the draft bill does away with on-consumption and off-consumption licences, it will mean in effect, that a bottle store could operate a pub and vice versa."



Uplifting: an electric lift allows efficient access for the disabled. A 44-seater coach was converted to cater for 15 wheelchair passengers at a cost of R250 000

Bus specially converted

(288) ARG 20/8/97

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
TOURISM REPORTER

A Cape Town tour operator has taken the lead to show disabled tourists that they are welcome.

Faced with a lack of facilities for large groups of disabled people, Go Tourism Promotions in Camps Bay put together an itinerary for 25 disabled French tourists who arrived in the city this week.

The company persuaded bus company Elwierda Tours to convert a 44-seater coach to cater for the 15 wheelchair passengers in the group, at a cost of R250 000.

The five-star coach, equipped with an electric lift for wheelchairs, is the first of its kind in South Africa. The seats are easily removed to make space for wheelchairs, which are fastened to the floor with nylon straps. The door is 1m wide and 2,5m high and passengers are lifted on to a platform in their wheelchairs. The toilet has had to be removed because there is no space for it.

Go Tourism co-owner Gilles Guiot said the company agreed to arrange the trip, although they had not catered for disabled tourists previously.

"We discovered that there are virtually no facilities for disabled people in the country. One or two wheelchairs are not a problem, but as soon as you mention the size of the group, people panic," said Mr Guiot. But people were very helpful and tried their best to accommodate the group, he added.

Transport was the first major problem because they did not want the group separated in several minibuses. Lifting people in and out of wheelchairs was not only embarrassing for the disabled but hampered their independence, said Mr Guiot.

Elwierda Tours agreed to convert one of their older coaches, provided they could use the bus for normal passengers as well.

This eliminated the problem of finding more than one guide to accompany the group. "Very few guides feel comfortable with disabled tourists. They also have to be men because they need to be quite strong to help lift the passengers," said Mr Guiot. A nurse will accompany the group.

"Our next headache was hotels. Most hotels only have one or two rooms for disabled people," he said.

The rooms and especially bathrooms of most modern hotels are too small for wheelchair access and movement. The only suitable hotel in Cape Town was the Eastern Boulevard Holiday Inn because of easy access and bigger rooms and bathrooms.

Another major problem was toilet facilities at restaurants. "We had to go from restaurant to restaurant, measuring the doors of the toilets to determine if they were wide enough for wheelchairs," he said. Only Hildebrand, Blue Marlin and Spier met their requirements.

In Knysna the group will have to stop at a service station with a toilet for disabled people before having lunch at the Tsitsikamma Forest Inn.

During their stay in Cape Town, the group will visit Cape Point, but will not be able to go up to the lookout point or restaurant because of the stairs, said Mr Guiot.

They will be taken on a Seal Island boat trip on the vessel Drum Beat which has a large deck and ramp for wheelchairs.

"We have done all the homework now. We have already had another booking for a disabled family to come here in December. I think there is a big market out there and we will definitely be doing more of these tours," he said.

F VIR ONTWIKKELING

LEISURE *'Sensitivity to feedback' sees dollars dumped for rands*

Reversal of fortune for Mount Nelson

CT(BR)20/8/97 288

MARC HASENFUSS
CAPE EDITOR

Cape Town — Orient Express Hotels, the American owners of the five-star Mount Nelson in Cape Town and the soon-to-be-opened Westcliff in Johannesburg, has reversed its controversial dollar-pricing policy scarcely a year after its implementation.

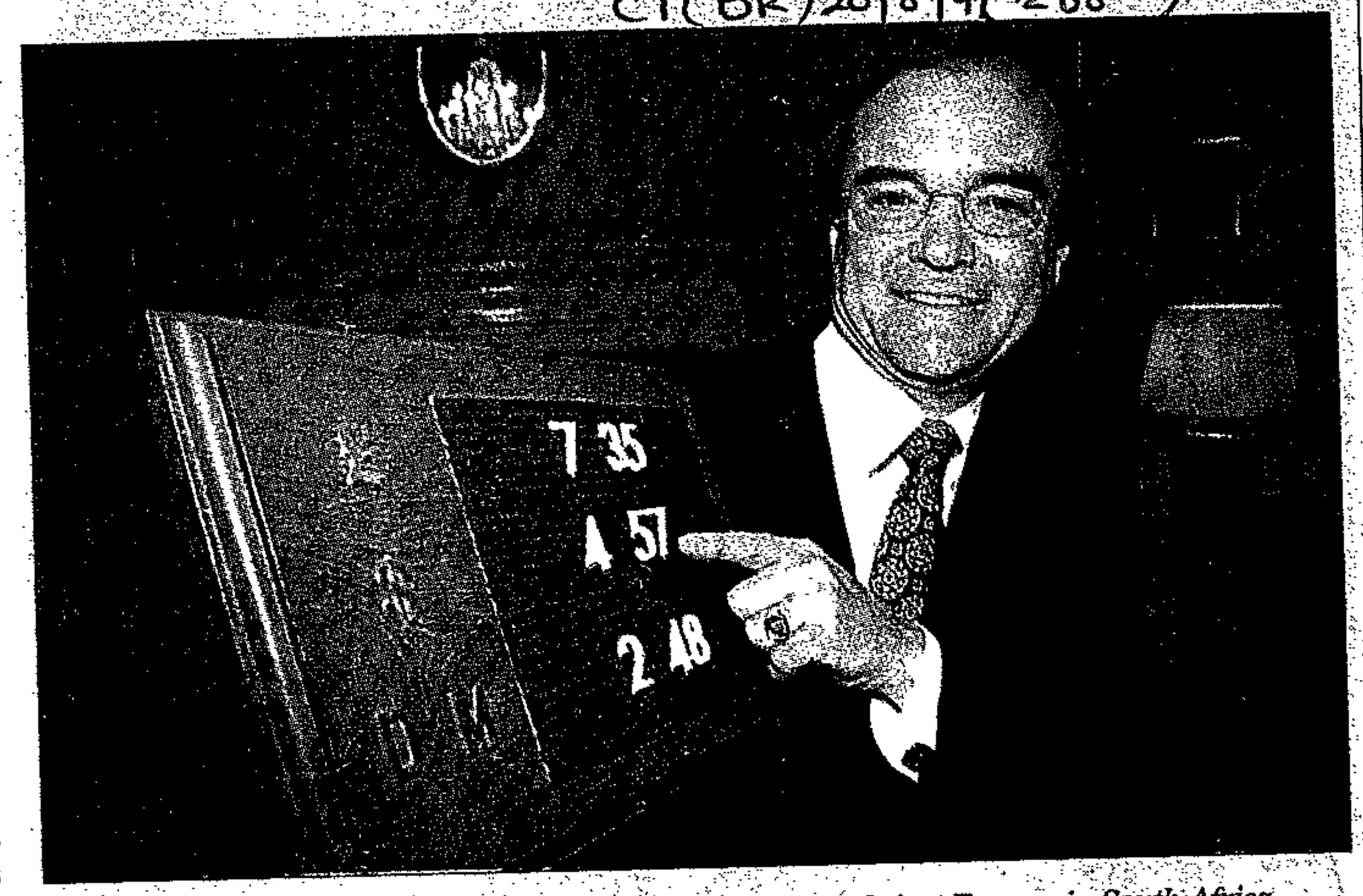
Nick Seewer, the hotel director at Orient Express, confirmed yesterday that both hotels would revert to rand-based rates with immediate effect.

The initial dollar-pricing policy was intended to offset the effect of the rand's instability on the company's considerable capital investments in South Africa, he said.

"Although the rand's weakness over the last two years has been a cause of concern, a dollar-based pricing structure brought with it a different set of problems."

These were invoicing, tour packaging and administration matters which were further complicated by the continual fluctuations in the rand's value.

Seewer contended that the Mount Nelson, which was sensitive to feedback from corporates and travel operators, had responded as quickly as possible.



HEDGING THEIR BEDS *Nick Seewer, the hotel director for Orient Express in South Africa, rings the currency changes at the Mount Nelson*
PHOTO: ANDREW BROWN

He explained that the decision to revert to a rand-based pricing structure had been made by local management after representation to its principals in London and New York.

Seewer stressed that other strategies would have to be applied to protect the company's considerable dollar investment in the region. Orient Express was committed to spending more than $30 million on expanding its operations in southern Africa.

"It would be negligent, even reckless, management practice not to safeguard profitability," he said.

"We cannot afford the further devaluation of the rand, and would have to adjust our rates in line with any further major decrease in the value of the South African currency."

Bid party fever grips the city

From page 1

ARG 20/8/97 (288)

IOC members will vote in Lausanne at 6.45pm SA time, but the programme on the Parade will start at 3pm. Arrangements are being made to screen the proceedings in Lausanne live on the Parade.

Olympic countdown fever has gripped Cape Town, with a week-long bid festival kicking-off today. Western Cape Premier Hernus Kriel and provincial sports minister Lerumo Kalako launched Olympic Week, a festival of entertainment and sports demonstrations in St George's Mall.

Every day there will be bands, buskers, dancing and sports demonstrations. A parade on August 27 featuring 1 000 Cape minstrels will start at 10am on the corner of Adderley and Riebeeck streets. It will be led by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and Mr Kriel, who will hand over a pledge of support, endorsed by all nine provincial premiers, to President Mandela.

The city will make its last crucial presentation to the IOC on the morning of Friday, September 5. The key figures in the presentation team will be Mr Mandela and Mr Mbeki.

In another development, Mr Kalako announced details of a rural tour this weekend to draw smaller Western Cape towns into the bid countdown.

Hop, step and bump

Nocsa chairman and Olympic bid pundit Sam Ramsamy unwittingly attempted a novel long jump last night – but the event is not likely to be included in the 2004 Olympics.

A hapless Mr Ramsamy drove his luxury German car half-way down a flight of concrete steps on Parliament's Stalplein, coming to rest with the front wheels dangling in mid-air.

Mr Ramsamy, who had attended an Olympic flag-raising ceremony at Parliament, was not hurt. He is not the first motorist to fall prey to the notorious steps. – Sapa

Madiba for Swiss visit

Pretoria – President Nelson Mandela will visit Switzerland on September 3, two days before the International Olympic Committee announces the country to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

Mr Mandela leaves on September 2 at the invitation of Switzerland's President Arnold Koller, a Department of Foreign Affairs spokesman said today.

Mr Mandela will be at the IOC headquarters in Lausanne for the September 5 announcement.

He will be accompanied by Sports Minister Steve Tshwete.

He will return to South Africa after the announcement, the Foreign Affairs spokesman said – Sapa

New-look Olympic Bill goes to House

(288) ARG 20/8/97

A revamped Olympic Bill was approved by all parties in Parliament's constitutional affairs portfolio committee today.

MPs of the various parties said they hoped their unanimous support would send a signal to Africa, the world and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) that South Africans stood united behind Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Games.

The bill – simply entitled "Olympic Bill" – differs sharply from its predecessor, the Olympic Bid and Hosting Bill, in that its focus is specifically on Cape Town's bid.

The bill will now have to pass through the National Assembly before being signed into law by President Mandela. – Sapa

16 OLYMPIC BID DAYS TO GO

■ Pupils taking part in the Journey to Light the Sky bid awareness programme gave 15 junior ambassadors a rousing send-off to Lausanne at the Baxter Theatre last night.

■ Nursery company Stodels said it would give 200 Western Cape schools a total of 2004 trees as a contribution to the legacy of the bid phase.

Latest odds:

Rome	4-5
Cape Town	11-8
Athens	11-2
Stockholm	9-1
Buenos Aires	80-1



Olympic bid reports, page 3

Mother of parties for Games D-Day

ANDREA WEISS AND MICHAEL MORRIS
STAFF REPORTERS

Cape Town is planning the mother of all parties for September 5 – when the International Olympic Committee chooses the 2004 Olympic host city.

The six-hour party on the Grand Parade is billed to "surpass anything and everything that has gone before".

Highlights will include appearances by celebrities and a firework display.

A select group of 1 200 guests will attend a party in the City Hall.

To page 3

Athletics chief risks new bid row

(288) ARG 20/8/97

Palermo – World athletics chief Primo Nebiolo has put his foot in it again with a thinly veiled punt for the Rome Olympic bid at the start of the World Student Games.

Dr Nebiolo, president of the student games authority Fisu as well as the International Amateur Athletics Federation, dropped his hint to the International Olympic Committee in front of IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch and fellow IOC member Prince Albert of Monaco.

"These games could be the launching pad for the final sprint finish of the Rome bid," said Dr Nebiolo. The statement may well come back to haunt him, as his Greek rivals in Athens will be waiting for their chance to avenge themselves over his criticisms during the recent athletics world championships.

They saw these as a deliberate sabotage campaign, which prompted them to withhold sending their team here until the last possible moment.

Dr Nebiolo's appeal was at cross purposes with the mayor of Palermo, Leoluca Orlando. The conflict got the event off on the wrong foot by sending out different messages about what the student games should achieve.

Mr Orlando, who leads the anti-Mafia political party La Rete in the Italian parliament, joined with athlete Ana Sidoti in using the student event as yet another illustration of how Sicily could beat the Mafia and present a new, young image.

The charismatic Mr Orlando, certain to be re-elected in October as mayor, hit out at the corruption of old-style Sicily.

"There is one aim for these games: to present the real Sicily, to show the world this land wants to change." – Sapa–AFP

Firms give Games bid R90-m boost

The private sector has paid nearly R90-million to support Cape Town's 2004 Olympic Bid.

Minister of Sport and Recreation Steve Tshwete has told the National Council of Provinces that a further six companies are negotiating offers. The amount paid so far was broken down into support (R63,5-million), supplies (R20-million) and donations (R5,5-million). Shell South Africa and Lonrho had offered to pay for the visits of IOC members. – Political Staff

Mount Nelson Hotel reverts to rand rates

BD 20/8/97 (288)

Janet Parker

ORIENT Express Hotels said yesterday its Cape Town-based Mount Nelson Hotel and The Westcliff in Johannesburg would revert to rand-based rates immediately, following problems experienced with the dollar-based pricing structure.

Analysts said Orient Express Hotels was criticised from many quarters when the Mount Nelson switched to dollar rates in January. Prebookings for The Westcliff, due to open in October, had also been quoted in dollars.

The group said the move was meant to offset the effect of the rand's instability on the company's capital investment in southern Africa, and protect the interests of its shareholders.

Analysts applauded the move to abandon the dollar-based rates system, saying it had been insulting to the local market.

African Collection Orient Express Hotels MD Nick Seewer said the dollar-based pricing structure had caused problems in the invoicing, tour packaging and administration areas. The Mount Nelson was sensitive to feedback from corporates and travel operators and had responded swiftly.

Local management had taken the decision to revert to rand-based structures after representation to principles in London and New York, Seewer said.

Delano Caras, a senior partner with auditors Kessel Feinstein, which specialises in tourism hospitality and leisure, said yesterday the group had been "misguided" to introduce a dollar-based structure in the first place.

"Even affluent local business travellers and tourists are not gladdened by dollar-rates. The group should be applauded for having the guts to change its policy back to rand-based rates."

Seewer said other strategies would be used to protect the group's investment in the region as it would be "negligent, even reckless management practice not to safeguard profitability". As with other hotels in the upper-end of the market, rates would be adjusted upwards in line with any sizeable devaluation in the value of the SA currency.

Disgruntled

However, Caras said hotel and leisure operators in SA should avoid a two-tiered pricing system like that found in Zimbabwe, which applied local prices to locals, and dollar prices to foreigners, as it disgruntled tourists who were aware of discrepancies between the two prices.

The UK-based Orient Express Hotels — a subsidiary of New York Stock Exchange listed Sea Containers Ltd — also owns the Gametrackers safari lodges and camps in Botswana.

The group is investing $30m on expanding and upgrading is southern African operations.

Nats refute Games 'deal'

288

Sowetan 20/8/97

By Ido Lekota
Political Reporter

THE National Party has dismissed suggestions that the outcome to the current debate about moving Parliament to Pretoria depended on whether Cape Town was successful in its 2004 Olympics bid.

Spokesman for Western Cape Premier Hernus Kriel, Mr Chris Koola, said yesterday the NP was opposed to Parliament moving whether "Cape Town got the Olympic bid or not".

"Even if we get the Olympics that cannot compensate for the job losses if Parliament is moved to Pretoria.

"At least 10 000 jobs will be lost. Therefore the two events should not be linked," Koola said.

Recent media reports speculated that there could be a compromise between the Western Cape government and the African National Congress to move Parliament if Cape Town won the Olympic bid.

Meanwhile, within the ANC the debate has been halted pending the decision to be taken at the party's executive committee at the end of the year.

However, ANC sources said moving Parliament to Pretoria would be "suicidal" for the organisation.

They said it was now time for the ANC to consolidate itself in the Western Cape "due to the lack of delivery from the NP-dominated provincial government".



Bridge of promises ...the words 'The Olympics will help take care of unfinished business' on the incomplete bridge on Cape Town's foreshore are written proof of the authorities' intentions if the Mother City wins the 2004 Olympic Games on September 5.

Optimistic report on future stability boosts SA support

Star 21/8/97 (288)

Cape Town – A clear signal of South Africa's future political and economic stability is being projected into the ranks of the International Olympic Committee on the eve of its decision on the 2004 Games.

The reassuring sentiments are contained in a glossy 88-page report, Investing in South Africa, which assesses the opportunities and political risks over the next decade.

Five hundred copies of the report, produced by Omega Investment Research of Cape Town, are being used by the Bid Company in lobbying the IOC.

The upbeat assessment in the report, edited by political scientist David Welsh, is particularly significant given the qualms expressed by some in the IOC about South Africa's post-Mandela future.

If the games are awarded to Cape Town, the event will occur well after Mandela's departure from politics. On this point, Professor Welsh notes: "We anticipate that the end of the Mandela era will not lead to instability. We are confident that the ANC will adhere to moderate and pragmatic policies."

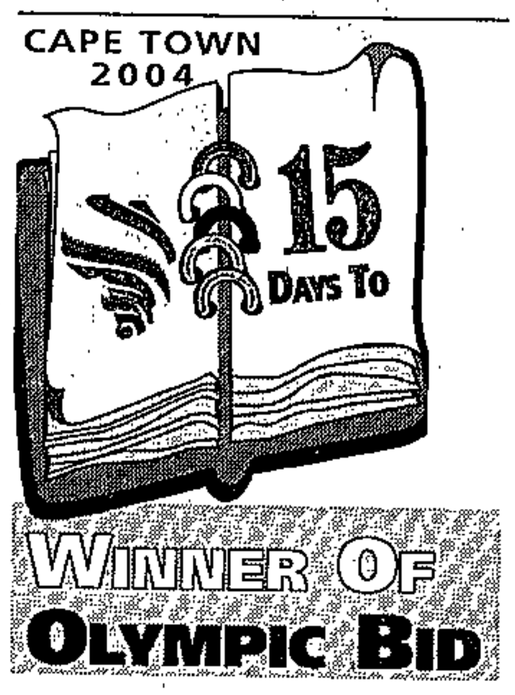
The document also contains messages of support for the bid from President Nelson Mandela and Bid Company chief executive Chris Ball.

In general, the assessment concludes that "South Africa's overall political stability is reasonably assured".

"We have stressed that South Africa is unlike any other state in Africa in terms of its degree of development and the sophistication of its politicians.

"Implosion of the state, dictatorship or military coups, which have occurred elsewhere, are not likely fates for South Africa.

"Possibly, even probably, the kind of democracy that develops will not satisfy purists, since it is unlikely to feature regular rotation of governing parties or shifting coalitions, at least in the foreseeable future. The chances, however, that it will remain a reasonably open society are good."



The report expresses hope that the conflict in KwaZulu Natal "is abating" and that while crime remains a major problem, there "is a fair chance that the crime rate will stabilise by 1999".

The report says the ANC is likely to remain the dominant force in South African politics for the foreseeable future. It also believes that the party retains the stronger hand in its relationship with the union alliance, Cosatu, and that the unions are not likely to be able to "exercise a veto power over ANC economic policies". – Own Correspondent

All parties support Olympic Bill

(288)
Sowetan 21/8/97

Show of unity is to score points with IOC before September 5 deadline

By Rafiq Rohan
Political Correspondent

POLITICAL PARTIES in the portfolio committee on constitutional affairs yesterday demonstrated a show of unity when they unanimously approved the Olympic Bill.

This show of support was aimed at scoring points with the International Olympic Committee when it votes on September 5 for the winning bid city.

What the Bill does is to give the city of Cape Town the authority to implement the host contract.

What is of significance is the united front demonstrated by political parties to strengthen South Africa's bid for the Olympics in 2004.

Committee member Mr Peter Hendrickse explained: "We are acting in the spirit of Olympism and national interest by unanimously supporting this Bill.

"This is a manifestation of the support of all spheres of government for the Olympic bid."

The Bill endorses the covenant given by Government in respect of the bid by Cape Town to host the Olympics.

The Bill defines this covenant as "the covenant by the national Government to respect the provisions of the Olympic Charter and to meet the requirements set by the IOC for the hosting of the Games".

In terms of the Bill, Cape Town is authorised to comply with all the provisions of the host city contract and fulfil any obligation imposed on it by the IOC.

It also entitles the city of Cape Town to enter into any agreement required by the host city contract.

ET(BL) 21/8/97

Tourism enriches KwaZulu Natal

(288)

RAVIN MAHARAJ

Durban — KwaZulu Natal's tourism market was worth between R2 billion and R3 billion a year, James Seymour, the information and research manager of the KwaZulu Natal Tourism Authority, said yesterday.

Seymour said new research indicated that a foreign visitor spent about R608 a day and 12 nights in the province on average.

About a third of all international air travellers who visited South Africa visited KwaZulu Natal. This amounted to 406 000 visitors last year, 4,1 percent higher than the previous year's 390 000.

The research showed that KwaZulu Natal's key foreign tourism markets were the UK (24 percent), Germany (22 percent), France (9 percent), Holland (5 percent), and North America (5 percent).

He said the peak period for foreign tourism was in October and November.

CAPE TIMES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 1997 ★

CITY CONFIDENT OF WINNING OLYMPICS

Mother of all parties planned for bid day

(288)

CONFIDENT OF winning the Olympic bid, Cape Town is planning an array of festivities to coincide with the announcement. **DAN SIMON** reports.

CAPETONIANS should prepare themselves for the mother of all parties on September 5 — the day on which the International Olympic Committee announces the winning city for the 2004 Summer Olympic Games.

Confident of winning the bid, Cape Town will be throwing a party for between 30 000 to 40 000 people to mark the historic occasion.

The festivities will include a variety of top musical acts and a fireworks display from the top of the Golden Acre Centre in Adderley Street.

Though two weeks away from the announcement, Cape Town entered a festive mood yesterday with the Western Cape government sponsoring a number of bands as part of its endorsement of the city's bid.

The bands will be performing during lunch hours in St George's Mall over the next week.

A street mile race involving 30 of the country's top runners took place from the Mount Nelson Hotel to the station in Adderley Street yesterday. The men's event was won by John Morapedi in 3min 44sec, while the women's event was won by Gwen Griffiths in 4 min 28sec.

The official Olympic party on September 5 will be beamed live via a two-way link to Lausanne in Switzerland where the IOC will make its announcement (at 6.45pm South African time) and to the homes of millions of television viewers across the country.

More than 1 500 VIP guests from across South Africa and the African continent have been invited to the bash at the Grand Parade.

The IOC regulations require each of the five candidate cities to hold a public event to coincide with the announcement of the winning city for the 2004 Olympic Games. The other cities are Athens, Buenos Aires, Rome and Stockholm.

Ms Nomaindia Mfeketo, chairperson the council's executive committee, said: "We are planning an event which will reflect the developmental nature of the Cape Town bid.

"We see this day as a day for South Africa and Africa to show support for the city's bid and we want to send a strong signal to the international community that the world family is not complete if the black (Olympic) ring is not included."

CT 21/8/97

IOC members donate air fares to Flats schools

DAN SIMON

AFTER receiving close on R90 million in sponsorships to promote Cape Town's 2004 Olympic bid, the bid company yesterday had the opportunity to donate a little something towards local sports development — courtesy of three IOC members.

On a tour of the Peninsula, the members were able to see the lack of sports equipment at schools they visited on the Cape Flats.

The three IOC members were prompted to hand back the return air tickets bought for them by the bid company.

They asked bid company chief Mr Chris Ball to cash in the air tickets (at a hefty R10 000 apiece) and to donate the money to five Cape Flats schools as the company's contribution to sports development.

As a result, five high schools each received a R6 000 cheque which Ball handed over during a brief ceremony at the bid company's Waterfront offices.

The deputy principal of Aloe High School in Mitchells Plain, Mr Keith Damon, said the windfall could not have come at a better time for the school.

"We have had problems with a lack of funding for so many things, including sports equipment," Damon said.

Ms Cynthia Sherry, a teacher at Manenberg Secondary School, said the money would go towards buying soccer, rugby and hockey equipment for pupils.

Three other schools which benefited from the IOC members' generosity were Steenberg High School, I D Mkhize High School in Guguletu and Mathew Goniwe High School in Khayelitsha.

Cape Town gets black power

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

At 50, Lee Evans is well beyond the Olympian feats that earned him a medal – and no small measure of controversy – at the Mexico Games nearly 20 years ago.

But it was the acutely-remembered defiance of Evans and his somewhat more demonstrative colleagues, Tommie Smith and John Carlos, that led to the former world 400m champion sprinter's endorsement of Cape Town's bid.

Evans's 43,86-second win in Mexico City in 1968 came after his teammates, fellow sprinters Smith and Carlos, were ordered out of the Olympic Village for protesting against African-American poverty and



Lee Evans: defiant stand

lack of coaching opportunities by raising black-gloved fists on the medals stand.

Evans considered withdrawing from his event, but instead he wore a black beret to the stand and removed it during the national anthem. In fact, he was criticised by both sides. Some thought it disrespectful; others said it didn't go far enough. But he was satisfied, he told the newspaper USA Today.

"We drew attention to the problem, and

To page 3

15 OLYMPIC BID DAYS TO GO

■ Discus thrower Fritz Potgieter and his javelin-throwing teammate Marius Corbett are poised to continue their rise to stardom at the World Student Games in Sicily – and by helping South Africa into the top echelon of international athletics they could boost Cape Town's chances of winning the Games, say international pundits

Latest odds in London:

Rome	4-5
Cape Town	11-8
Athens	11-2
Stockholm	9-1
Buenos Aires	80-1

Olympic bid reports, page 3

Bid gets an injection of black power

From page 1

ARG 21/8/97 (288)

it was after those Games that coaching opportunities began to open up, especially in the universities around the country. The almost-total segregation ended," he said. "I was happy to have played a part."

These events had a special significance for Ameen Akhalwaya, former journalist and now Bid Company media director.

He recalled the civil rights protest during a chance meeting with Evans at the world athletics championships in Athens.

He told Evans that, as a young articled clerk, he remembered being in a Fordsburg cinema in Johannesburg in 1968, when French newsreel footage of the event was screened.

"When the newsreel narrator denounced the three Americans for their 'disgraceful' political act, the cinema erupted in wild applause and caps were thrown into the air as people expressed their solidarity with the three."

Mr Akhalwaya recalled that Evans was "fascinated" by this account of a protest that had inspired people in South Africa.



DOUG PITHEY

High spirits: Steenberg High's Riedwaan Gaffoor, centre, celebrates the donation to his school with pupils from the other schools which benefited

Sporting IOC boost for Cape Flats schools

ARG 21/8/97

ASHLEY SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

(288)

Representatives of five Cape Flats high schools could not contain their excitement over cheques for R6 000 each from three International Olympic Committee officials.

The officials donated the money to the schools in lieu of the R30 000 they would have had to pay for air tickets to visit the city if Cape Town had not paid.

Yesterday Olympic Bid Committee chief Chris Ball handed the cheques to teachers from Aloe, Steenberg, Matthew Goniwe, Manenberg and I D Mkize high schools.

The money will be used for sport development.

Matthew Goniwe principal Lulama Mabusela said the money had come at the right time as her school had been trying to raise funds for sporting equipment.

An ecstatic Ms Mabusela said there were many budding cricketers among the pupils at the school and the money was a dream come true.

Cedric van Wyk, sports co-ordinator at Steenberg High, said the money would be used to boost the sport academy at the school. But at least 10% of the R6 000 would be used for drama classes as culture played an important part in staging the Olympic Games, he added.



JACK LESTRADE

On the ball: Western Cape minister of sport Lerumo Kalako and Faried George play basketball in St George's Mall at the start of the 2004 bid festival yesterday

City to lobby 'up to last minute'

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

(1288)
ARG 21/8/97

Cape Town will be counting on intensive 11th hour lobbying in Lausanne by its team of more than 200 to secure as much leverage in a tough battle against the strong European rivals Athens and Rome.

The winner is expected to be one of the three, but a city's ability to pick up votes from those knocked out in earlier rounds will be critical. This must the key of the Lausanne strategy.

So says Sam Ramsamy, South Africa's International Olympic Committee member and head of the country's national Olympic committee (Nocsa).

He told the Cape Argus yesterday: "I am confident we will be in the final three, and we have a very good chance of winning. "Obviously it will be a tough fight, but our chances will be better if the two others are European bids, because we have a strong regional base, and they do not, and that could help overcome any deficiencies."

Mr Ramsamy added: "I think, by and large, most IOC members have made up their minds, but what is important for us is to regard each of them as a potential voter.

"The point is that we do not know who will be knocked out in rounds one and two, and we have to pick up those votes if we are going to have a chance of winning.

"This is my experience of the voting for the 1996 and 2000 Games. You have to pick up the support of the cities that have been knocked out. So lobbying will continue intensively right up to the last minute."

Committee approves Olympic bill

BD 21/8/97 (288)

Jacob Dlamini

CAPE TOWN — The Olympic Bid and Host Bill, which is designed to create a legal framework for Cape Town to bid for the 2004 Olympic Games and to enter appropriate contracts, was approved by the parliamentary constitutional affairs committee yesterday.

The bill differed from the previous draft which had been criticised by opposition parties as it had contained provisions granting Sports Minister Steve Tshwete powers to act without consultation. The bill's approval was welcomed by National Party spokesman Nick Koornhof, who said this would allow all parties to form a united multiparty front for the bid.

The committee also approved the Constitution of the Republic of SA Bill, which allows senior judges to administer the oath taken by an acting president in the absence of the judge-president of the Constitutional Court.

The bill also permits the deputy president of the Constitutional Court or the judge-president of the High Court to administer the oath.

The committee was told current legislation permitted only the Constitutional Court judge-president or his deputy to administer the oath.

This had resulted in problems, with an acting president having to be sworn in by satellite from abroad on one occasion.

'Success of hosting Games depends on keeping the House'

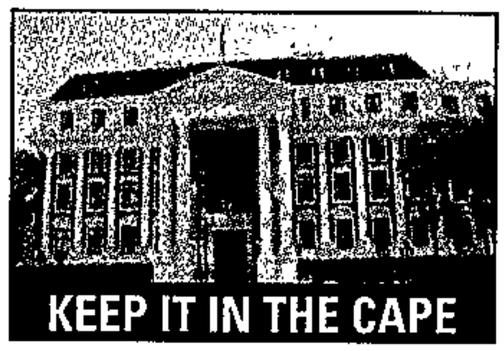
(288) (Star) CT 22/8/97

SWOPPING PARLIAMENT FOR the Olympics is not the answer for national unity, says Pick 'n Pay chief executive Raymond Ackerman. Nor will it benefit the Olympic city if we win. **DIANE CASSERE** reports.



CAPETONIANS need to wake up and extend old-fashioned courtesy to parliamentarians to make them feel welcome in our city, says top businessman Raymond Ackerman.

In defence of keeping Parliament in the Cape, Ackerman said he did not wish to take "a narrow, Cape Town view".



KEEP IT IN THE CAPE

"I run a national company and I'm trying to think of the country. The purpose of having Parliament here and the administrative capital in Pretoria in 1910 (when the union was formed) was the same as it is today: to unite the country and prevent fractions and arguments.

"Don't create rivalry between the centres, leave the status quo," argues Ackerman.

"The Government of National Unity was formed to keep the country together. Unfortunately the Nats pulled out, but I suggest we don't do anything about this (moving Parliament) until after the turn of the millennium.

"The worst thing would be for the world to see Cape Town denuded of Parliament if we win on September 5 — and I think we will win," he says.

"The worst thing would be for the world to see Cape Town denuded of Parliament if we win on September 5 — and I think we will ... stripping Cape Town of Parliament will be like Samson losing his hair."

Ackerman believes the Mother City should not lose Parliament until after 2004, if at all: "My strongest appeal is that we wait (for the move) until after 2004. President Nelson Mandela is a wise man, he will understand this. It would be a disastrous move for the success of the Olympics.

"Stripping Cape Town of Parliament will not be a good move, it will be like Samson losing his hair."

Asked about the economic implications of Cape Town losing Parliament, Ackerman repeated that he did not want to take "only the Cape Town view".

"My main argument is keeping the country together in the new South Africa. I realise there are practical problems, but with today's communications it is more than possible. In 1910 they managed, and they had to catch trains back and forth.

"If it was alright then, we can manage it now. Don't disturb the country now," says Ackerman.

He also appealed to Capetonians to "jump up and welcome the parliamentarians here".

"If they don't feel welcome here, Cape Town had better wake up and make them feel welcome, with old-fashioned courtesy.

"We must welcome them when they move into their new homes, into new shops or restaurants. Capetonians have a reputation for being isolationist and rather unfriendly. The city is very cliquy," says Ackerman.

He added that the rest of the country, those who supported a move to Pretoria, should "wake up to" the effect the move would have on the unity of the country.

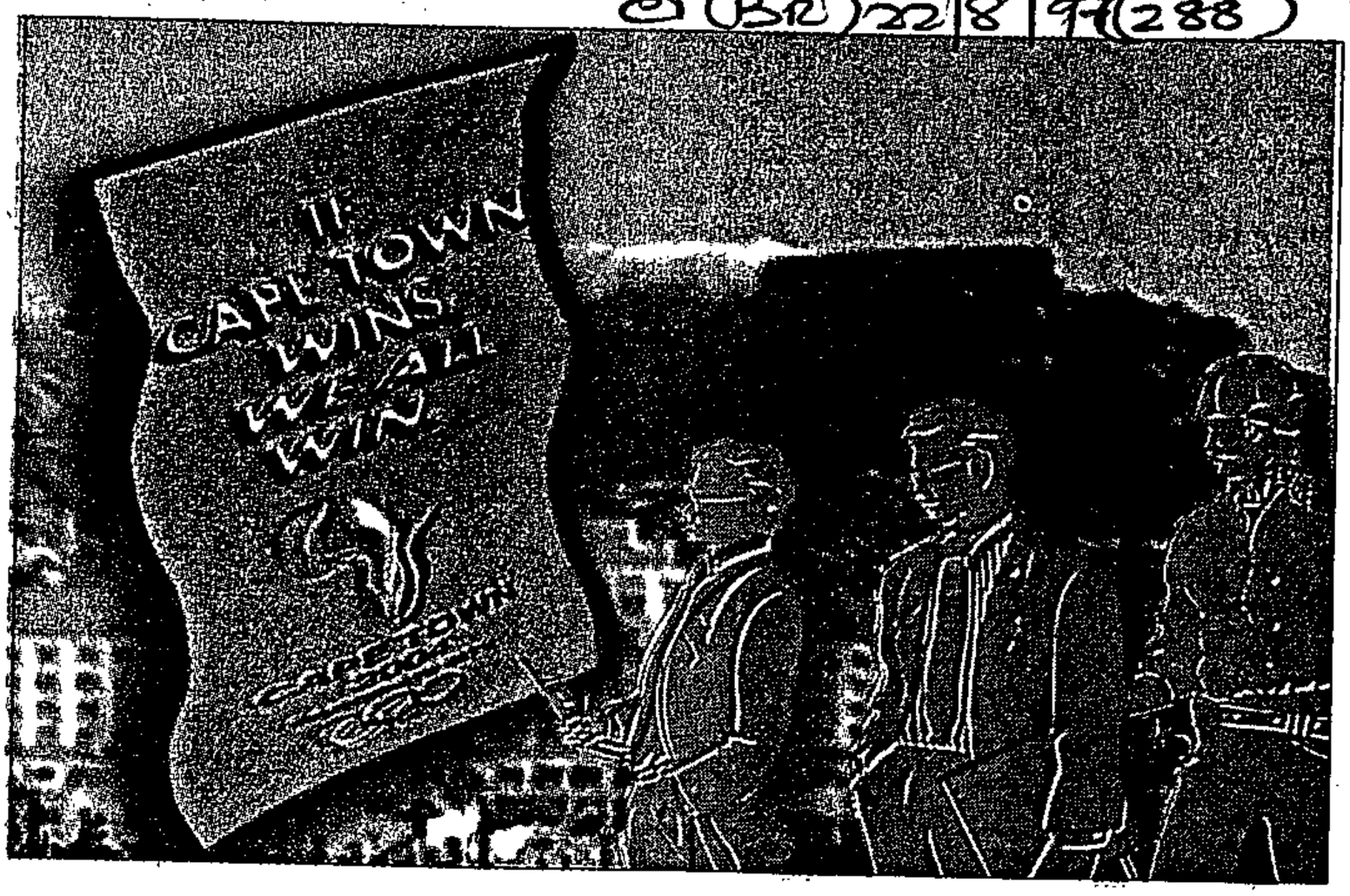
"Don't let's make any disastrous mistakes," Ackerman appealed.

CAPE TOWN 2004

The rich will win gold at the Games

ET (BR) 22/8/97 (288)

FRANK NXUMALO



If Cape Town wins "we all win". So claims a giant billboard on a bus shelter in Johannesburg, as if heralding some self-evident, scientific and apparently patriotic truth for the whole world to see.

But who really stands to win from the 2004 Olympic bid? Is there something, if anything at all, in it for South African workers? Researcher Howard Harris, an active trade unionist who teaches interior architecture in Cardiff, Wales, and Alan Lipman, an architect-sociologist who taught at the University of Wales during 27 years of exile from South Africa, ask this apparently unpatriotic yet important question in this month's issue of the South African Labour Bulletin.

Their paper shows that, if Cape Town succeeds in the bid, "the rich will be the main beneficiaries" and little benefit will accrue to the working people of this country.

They say international experience is most instructive in this regard. "For Japan (1964) and Germany (1972), the games were opportunities to display the strength of their economies and, as significant, to signal their return to the fold of nations. "The bloated size of the Olympic stadium in Barcelona makes it unsuitable as a place for home events, it has become a massive architectural joke, there is not so much laughter from those who continue to scratch for the money to pay for it."

And what about the Olympic village? Here again the writers say the experience of the Spanish city is instructive. The Olympic village was built in a dock area where some of the city's poorest citizens, mostly stevedores, used to live. They were moved out for the new development and never returned. Instead, the village now accommodates "more presentable, more respectable people".

"Cape Town's winning architectural entry in the recent competition for the Olympic village on the Culemborg foreshore hangs dismally in the balance."

They said this was because the finances weren't forthcoming, as the ANC had apparently abandoned state-funded housing, the private sector found poor returns from social housing and the land hadn't been allocated yet, but most damaging of all because there was "no infrastructure at Culemborg and this alone could make the project costly".

However, Ameen Akhalwaya, the bid's media officer, said these assertions were flawed as there were a number of black empowerment schemes that were already in place. "It is very sad that these academics did not ask us about the policy and the practices of the bid.

"While it is true that big business stands to benefit because of sponsorship and returns on sponsorship, we have (had) in place empowerment projects since the inception of the bid. For example, at least 50 percent of our expenditures go to companies that are black owned or companies with a demonstrable black empowerment policy". Priorities were also given to companies that had joint ventures between established and emerging businesses.

He said eight multipurpose projects were being built in disadvantaged areas through government funding independent of whether the city won the bid or not.

"Nearly 70 percent of the staff on the bid company are not white and although it closes down in September, many young people who worked for this company were empowered with sufficient skills which enabled them to obtain advanced employment."

Akhalwaya said a recent Development Bank of Southern Africa report showed that more than 90 000 jobs were created as a result of the bid and that more than half of these were outside the Western Cape. The country stood to gain R30 billion in additional revenue plus a contribution of 1 percent to the GDP.

But Harris and Lipman are sceptical that "the games will provide wonderful buildings, soaring tourism, that they will put us firmly on the global superhighway of media electronics and that we will be plugged into the circuits of world finance and power, and we will be truly be back in the main stream".

Are the Olympic games a real chance for economic development or a golden opportunity for greedy capitalists to line their pockets?

Is it significant for the people of Africa, in real economic terms, that the Olympic games have never been held on the continent? Too many times in the past Africans have had their names unscrupulously used for the economic gain of others.

Harris and Lipman say in their article that the "few who publicly question (the bid) are dismissed and treated with contempt, they are apparently not patriots, they are not the sporting folk ... .

"They whine on and on about resources for other priorities like housing, health and education, they are obviously killjoys and are certainly not true daughters and sons of this sporting soil."

They ask what will happen after the shouting of 2004. They would like to know what will happen to the jobs, who will use the gigantic Olympic facilities, who will enjoy the sporting business goodies?

"The people" of course will enjoy the sporting goodies, seems to be the natural answer.

Harris and Lipman say: "If you believe that you will believe anything that's pumped at you, 'they', the well heeled, the cozily comfortable, the peoples' agitators on the board of directors will have won.

"Behind the adverts and overblown editorials, there is a straight-forward message: what is good for corporate business is good for South Africa."

Bid in home straight as betting intensifies

From page 1

ARG 22/8/97 (288)

Nebiolo a lot. He heads the most important sports federation at the Olympics. But like the rest of the world, he can make mistakes," said Mr Samaranch. Rome and Athens are Cape Town's key rivals.

The IOC visits placed enormous demands on the bid team, and most of the 40-odd members who did not travel to Cape Town were lobbied abroad.

While the bid appeared to make a positive impression, most of the visitors declined to declare their voting intentions. And while all found something good to say about Cape Town, this pattern of courtesy bedevils attempts to divine the outcome from the members' public utterances.

Nevertheless, bid staffers say the most significant consequence of the visitor programme is that while security and the prospects for political stability in a post-Mandela setting were universally "top-of-the-mind" concerns among the IOC members on their arrival, these qualms were successfully dispelled.

The visitors were impressed by the Olympic plan and South Africa's technological capacity as much as by the magnificent setting and the enthusiasm of the South African people. The developmental potential of the bid clearly appealed to many of them.

The bid is now in its final critical phase. Lobbying will continue right up to the last day. The campaign will peak with Cape Town's presentation to the IOC on the morning of the vote two weeks today. President Mandela and his deputy, Thabo Mbeki, will be in the line-up.

Games countdown goes with a bang

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

There will be no mistaking the final 10-day countdown to the Olympic decision on September 5 – the South African Navy will signal the count with a daily 11am bang from Lion Battery.

And if Cape Town wins, there will be a special 28-gun salute, to mark the fact that the 2004 Games is the 28th Olympiad.

The 10 firings from Tuesday are being paid for by the Cape Town City Council, at R186,96 each. A saluting gun – which uses a different, more expensive charge from the Noon Day Gun – is used for these firings. The 28-gun salute, if Cape Town wins, will be sponsored by Lovemore and Company.

■ Stodels Nurseries has donated 2004 indigenous trees to the 200 schools taking part in the bid's youth awareness programme, Journey to Light the Sky.

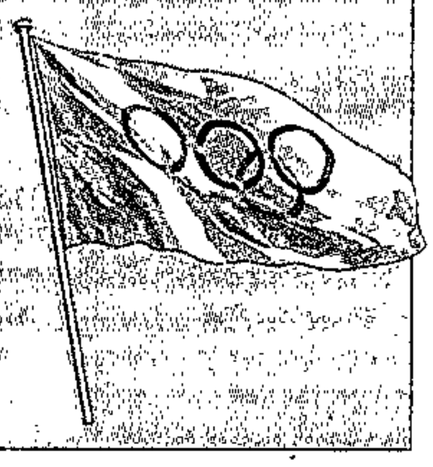
14 OLYMPIC BID DAYS TO GO

■ The 'mother of all parties' on the Grand Parade on September 5 will cost ratepayers R500 000. Sponsors will pay another R1-m

Latest odds in Cape Town:

Rome	8-10
Cape Town	13-10
Athens	6-1
Stockholm	20-1
Buenos Aires	20-1

Olympic bid report, page 3



Bid team into home straight

MICHAEL MORRIS (288)
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

ARG 22/8/97

Cape Town moves into the final critical lobbying phase today as the last of 66 International Olympic Committee members to visit the city leaves for home.

The departure of Ching-Kuo Wu, of the People's Republic of China, ends a key phase of the six-month multimillion-rand exercise to win IOC hearts and minds.

Meanwhile, betting in Cape Town is intensifying. Michael Hayman bookmakers have shortened the odds on the city's bid to 13-10 and report keen interest from local punters. One man is believed to have staked close on R100 000 on Cape Town.

Bid betting in London was suspended last week as a result of the huge sums being put on Cape Town.

IOC president Juan Samaranch said in Spain yesterday that he expected a close race for the 2004 Games. "I expect a very competitive and very tight race," he said.

He also mildly criticised world athletics boss and Rome bid supremo Primo Nebiolo for his sniping at the Athens bid. "I respect

To page 3

Military moves, African flair in final Bid days

OAU backs Cape Town's Olympic hopes

(288)

ARG 23/8/97

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Potent African flair combined with subtle professional sophistication will be the hallmark of the elaborate strategy to project Cape Town's Olympic ambitions in Lausanne in just over a week from now.

The huge South Africa team of between 250 and 270 people will operate as one, with all their varied activities carefully co-ordinated to make the most of every opportunity in the final critical days before the September 5 vote.

The team will be out to impress, to be different, visible and dynamic, but not ostentatious. A subtle blend of sophistication and homegrown flair underpins the plan.

It has also been revealed that internationally acclaimed film-maker Anant Singh is producing a "knock-out" video film to complement the address by President Mandela in the last, crucial hour-long presentation to the IOC on the morning of Friday September 5.

Singh is putting the finishing touches to the film this weekend. Bid staffers who have seen the initial version describe it as "vibey, very different, and very impressive".

In another powerful boost yesterday, the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) put the full political weight of Africa behind the Bid. In a strongly worded statement, OAU secretary general Salim Ahmed Salim urged the IOC "to recognise that Africa's turn has come" and that awarding the Games to Cape Town "will in itself be a manifestation of the Olympic tradition of fair play among the world's five continents".

A vote for Cape Town, he said, "is a vote for the consolidation of democracy in Africa" and "will send out a strong signal of encouragement to Nelson Mandela's rainbow nation".

Dr Salim noted that Africa had contributed much to the success of the Olympic movement and that, increasingly, African athletes had distinguished themselves by their excellent performance.

Meanwhile, details of what amounts to South Africa's biggest international marketing exercise in Lausanne have been worked out with military precision. Built into the strategy is a network of communication between a six-strong committee of strategists led by Chris Ball and the broader lobbying team to provide for a quick and efficient response to changing circumstances.

Activities in Lausanne will be constrained by strict IOC protocol, which effectively mean that no bidding team can pre-arrange lobbying opportunities. There are also strict limitations on public promotional events.

Mr Ball made it clear yesterday that while the team would seek to be visible and different, discipline would be the watchword, and the group would project a sense of sophisticated professionalism. Even the notoriously "loud" bid ties are being replaced by more restrained neck wear.

Everybody would be expected to work hard, starting with strategy meetings in their 13 hotels at 7am every morning. A "hotel captain" has been appointed at each hotel to co-ordinate daily activities, starting between 8 or 8.30am.

"We are not going to Switzerland for a holiday, we are going there to win the Bid," he told yesterday's war council.

Mr Mandela's first official visit to Switzerland will start in Zurich on September 2 with a luncheon with selected Swiss business leaders. He will leave for Berne the next morning where his first official appointment will be an interview with Swiss television, a vital opportunity to subtly promote Cape Town's Bid.

Later in the day, he will meet Swiss President Arnold Koller, and attend a State dinner in the evening. He will go on to Lausanne the next day to make final preparations for the presentation on Friday.



Eager envoys: the young Capetonians who will

Olympic bid heads for home straight

(288)

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

ARG 28/8/97

The biggest marketing exercise abroad by South Africa comes together in a dynamic, sophisticated strategy to woo the International Olympic Committee in Lausanne in the final, critical week of the bid.

The Lausanne lobbying team will range from President Mandela to 10-year-old dancers from Meadowlands in Johannesburg. There will be athletes, mayors, politicians, school ambassadors, council and government officials, sponsors and scores of others.

All will operate under a strategy that has been worked out with military precision. Details were spelled out by bid chief executive Chris Ball at a war council for most of the 270-strong team yesterday.

African flair meets military precision – page 5

Cape Town's bid seen as boost for whole continent

Star 23/8/97

(288)

By MICHAEL MORRIS

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A subtle blend of sophistication and homegrown flair underpins the plan. It has also been revealed that internationally acclaimed filmmaker Anant Singh is producing a "knock-out" video to complement the address by President Nelson Mandela in the last, crucial hour-long presentation to the IOC on the morning of September 5.

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"The Cape Town bid is an African bid." A vote for Cape Town, Salim said, "is a vote for the consolidation of democracy in Africa" and "will send out a strong signal of encouragement to Nelson Mandela's rainbow nation".

Highlighting the plan for an Olympic torch relay through the continent, he said: "This will be a tremendous inspiration to the continent as a whole, and a particular boost to the development of sport throughout Africa."

Salim noted that Africa had contributed much to the success of the Olympic movement and that, increasingly, African athletes had distinguished themselves by their excellent performances.

"An international solidarity and sporting spirit based on our common humanity has evolved. Let us bring this spirit to fruition by giving Africa a chance".

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TOP POST ENDS POLITICAL CAREER

Tourism 'challenge' for De Villiers

(288) CT 25/8/97

SOUTH AFRICAN tourism has a long way to go, says Dr Dawie de Villiers, who is set to take a top job with the World Tourism Organisation. Tourism Writer **DAN SIMON** reports.

SOUTH AFRICA'S tourism industry will soon have a powerful ally occupying the second most senior position at the headquarters of the World Tourism Organisation (WTO) in Madrid.

After discarding his Springbok rugby boots and entering the world of politics 27 years ago, former Environmental Affairs and Tourism Minister Dr Dawie De Villiers is preparing for his job as deputy secretary-general of the WTO.

He will take up his four-year appointment in the Spanish capital on September 1 — as will the newly appointed secretary-general of the WTO, Mr Francesco Frangialli.

No stranger to the workings of the WTO, De Villiers was nominated for the post of secretary-general by the South African government when the position became vacant last year.

He lost to Frangialli and was appointed the deputy.

De Villiers is the first South African politician to become a senior member of a major intergovernmental organisation.

The Cape Times caught up with him last week as he was preparing to move out of his parliamentary office in the Marks building.

Speaking of his appointment, De Villiers said: "This is a nice challenge to end my political career. Now I have another career before I retire. I've had a long spell in politics and (it was) a great fulfilment.

"I contributed to the transformation in South Africa and this appointment concludes my political involvement. I entered politics at a time when we (the NP) were motivated by change and reform. That has been achieved. Now it's time to look to another challenge."

He said his appointment did not come as "a surprise" as he had served on the WTO's executive as a representative for South Africa for the past three years.

"They knew me and I knew them. When the vacancy came, it was discussed and the government nominated me," he said.

And his duties?

"That will be subject to the understanding that the secretary-general and I work out to manage the organisation's affairs.

"We'll work out how our responsibilities will be shared. The WTO works with seven regions. I may take responsibility for four of these regions, including Africa."

De Villiers said the WTO, of which South Africa became a member in 1994, was an inter-governmental organisation to which 133 countries belonged.

"The organisation has a secretariat which promotes tourism. Its most important function is to create a platform for countries to interact with each other.

"It also provides guidance in terms of sharing experience and a forum for countries to brainstorm issues concerning tourism.

"It does a lot of research and its publications are highly regarded. And last, but not least, it keeps statistics which countries use to plan their tourism policies.

"The WTO also acts as an early warning system regarding changes in global travel patterns."

Regarding tourism in South Africa, De Villiers said the country had a long way to go.

"In 1996, South Africa for the first time got one million tourists. This is low compared with Spain, which gets 60 million tourists a year. We have a great country with enormous potential for tourism. We should grow above the world trend over the next few years.

"But what concerns me are the price increases, which are not matched by quality and attention to service and detail."

Leading body

THE World Tourism Organisation (WTO), formed 25 years ago, is the top inter-governmental organisation in tourism.

With its headquarters in Madrid, the WTO is entrusted by 133 countries and territories with the promotion and development of tourism.

Its mission statement is to develop tourism as a significant means of fostering international peace and understanding, economic development and international trade.

With an affiliate membership of over 300, the WTO is the only inter-governmental organisation open to the operating sector. It provides a vital forum for governments and the industry to meet and address issues of common interest and concern.

Fee hikes scaring visitors

DURBAN: Overseas visitors are being scared off by tax increases and huge hikes in entrance fees for tourist attractions in South Africa.

In spite of the low value of the rand, tourists are not finding South Africa as cheap as they expected, the Association of South African Travel Agents (Asata) has warned.

The chairman of the Incoming Division of Asata, Mr Michael von Kotze, said South Africa had become 21% more expensive for German tourists this year.

"If we don't stay competitive, we could lose out," he warned.

The director of tourism for Tourism Durban, Mr Ted Hirst, said the "honeymoon period" for overseas visitors was over. "Many tour operators, especially those in Germany, are not happy with the 'boisterous' increases."

These included a hike of 100% in the entrance fee for the Stellenbosch Museum, 83% for the Table Mountain cable car, 33% for the Kruger National Park and 60% for the Voortrekker Monument.

The increases had made pricing difficult for tour operators, Von Kotze said.

"Most operators offer their packages to tourists 12 to 18 months earlier. When they arrive in South Africa, they are suddenly faced with additional costs."

In Europe it is illegal for tour operators to raise prices four months before the departure date. If they do, the tourist can cancel. This law does not apply in South Africa. Communities who increased fees did not realise tour operators had to pay the difference, Von Kotze said.

Tax hikes were also becoming a problem.

"A departure tax of R70 has been proposed to replace the present hotel levies, which are 1% of the bill."

If this tax was introduced, it would be 240% more than the levies, Von Kotze said.

"Tourists are not cows to be milked indefinitely," he said.

Hirst said the tourist industry would have to ensure quality and standards met international expectations.

"There is a shortage of skills and training in the industry. Foreigners notice when quality and standards are not on a par with the price."

On average, hotels in Durban charged R50 less a night than those in Cape Town, Hirst said. — Own Correspondent

Flaws, but cable upgrade earns the green light

Top scientist runs probe

ARG 25/8/97 (288) (~~35~~)

JOHN YELD
ENVIRONMENT REPORTER

An environmental audit of the cableway upgrading has found that environmental safeguards were not implemented in one instance at the upper station and nine at the lower.

Overall, the audit found that construction was being conducted according to requirements of the environmental management programme devised for the upgrading, and that the environmental impact of work at the upper and lower stations was "minimal and temporary".

More requirements of the programme were met, or partially met, at the upper station than at the lower, probably because the on-site environmental control officer spent more time at the top of the mountain.

The audit, which covered 102 conditions – 55 at the upper station and 46 at the lower – was undertaken by a team headed by John Raimondo, one of South Africa's most experienced and respected environmental scientists.

The only instance of non-compliance with requirements at the upper station was the lack of corrective action to resolve problems with the sewerage soakaway.

Non-compliance at the lower station included gas and fuel being stored in the same area; no boarding to prevent stockpiled material from spilling over a boundary fence; chemical drums being stored outside an approved area; waste water from a temporary concrete mixing area being discharged into a stormwater channel; and, a lack of suitable facilities to catch possible contaminated waste water in some areas.

Debbie Bonner, a member of the audit team, said the sewerage problem at the upper station could be remedied.

"But it's a question of timing. We felt they were taking too long," she sad.

In spite of the infringements, the audit team did not believe the upgrading was causing any serious environmental impact, Ms Bonner said.

"On the whole, we felt the spirit and philosophy of environmental management was being applied quite rigorously and was being taken seriously."

Cableway Company managing director John Harrison said the company had "aimed high" with the programme.

"I believe the results show it's been a great success, particularly at the upper station," he said.

Durban chamber calls for withdrawal of new Liquor Bill

BD 25/8/97 (1324) (288)

Nicola Jenvey

DURBAN — The Durban Chamber of Commerce and Industry has called for the withdrawal of the Liquor Bill, gazetted by the trade and industry department on July 11, and has requested a review of its intent and mechanisms.

In a statement endorsed by the SA Chamber of Business (Sacob), the chamber said the bill aimed for "a simplified procedure" for entry to the market, and for the "promotion of public education programmes on the harmful effects" of alcohol abuse via an additional levy.

The bill would establish a three-tier licensing system for manufacturing, wholesale and retail. Several restrictions for each licence were proposed. The most important restriction was that no organisation could hold more than one licence. This meant any company operating a distribution system would be forced to dispose of one or more of its interests within a set time.

The chamber believed this would affect distributors and new developments, including in-house micro-breweries.

In addition, the bill required the submission of a business plan detailing turnover, and provision of "conclusive" proof that the premises was properly zoned and a premises plan.

Sacob and the chamber opposed the bill on grounds that liquor levies must not feature in the tax system.

In addition, the socioeconomic goals in the bill would raise prices and lead to further illicit trade, the chamber said.

Airport access to be upgraded

JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTER

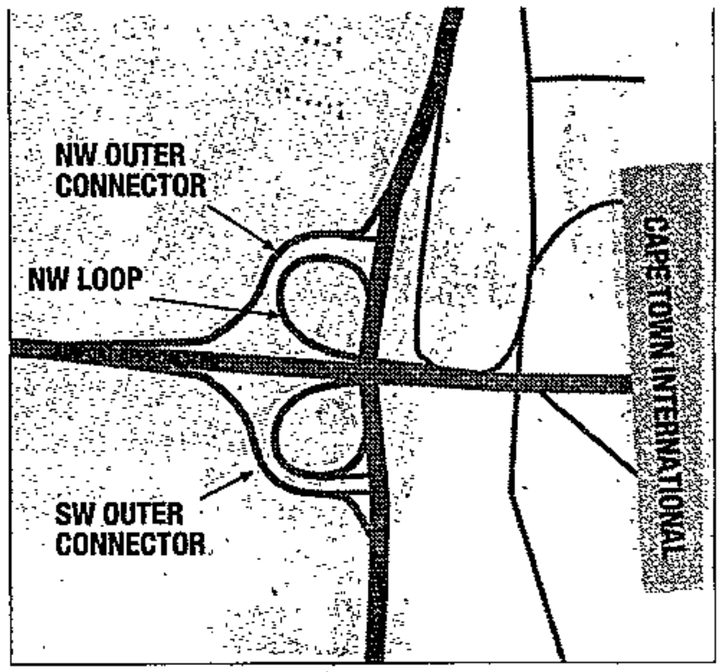
Access roads to Cape Town International Airport are to be upgraded.

The R40-million contract, work on which will start immediately and be completed in 18 months, was signed at a ceremony in provincial Transport Minister Leonard Ramatlakane's office yesterday.

Mr Ramatlakane said Borcherds Quarry Road and the airport access road would be upgraded to four lane, dual carriageways, with the extra lanes designated for public transport.

He said the airport now handled 4 million passengers a year and this figure was growing by 14% a year.

"Even if further increases can be catered for by moving towards public transport, the vast increase expected in air travel by 2015, four times the current peak demand, means we cannot afford to delay the upgrading of the roads.



"During the past five years south-bound traffic on Borcherds Quarry Road has increased by 37%," he said.

Mr Ramatlakane said the construction of Mahobe Drive in Nyanga-Crossroads, would be an important link connecting Mitchell's Plain and Philippi with the airport, Bellville and Parow.

Cape Town odds shorten as bets pour in

ARG 26/8/97 (268)

Cape Town punters are reflecting the buoyant mood of the bid team by putting their money on an African Olympic Games in 2004.

A weekend bet of R10 000 helped shorten the odds on the city again, from 13-10 late last week to an almost even bet at 11-10.

Rome is still marginally ahead, but Cape Town's other rivals have lost ground in the local ranking. Bookmakers say they have "never seen this kind of money coming in" for a single event.

A bright and colourful expression of the mounting excitement about the bid will be on display tomorrow with a mass march – "Africa's Olympic River of Colour" as it is being called – through the central city.

Bands, drum majorettes, Cape minstrels, the cast of *Ipi Ntombi*, sporting celebrities, ambassadors, politicians and a cavalcade of traffic police and mounted police will help project the city's Olympic aspirations. The public is invited to join in.

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

There will also be a fly-past by the SAA Olympic plane, Ndizani, and aircraft of the South African National Defence Force.

The march, starting at 9am in Adderley Street, will be led by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and the provincial premiers.

The procession will head up Adderley Street and enter the parliamentary precincts at the main gate in Plein Street. Mayor of Cape Town Theresa Solomon will hand a scroll signed by all the provincial premiers to Western Cape Premier Hernus Kriel, who will hand it to President Mandela.

Mr Mandela will address the nation from the steps of Parliament, in a prelude to the final presentation to the International Olympic Committee in Lausanne next week.

In other developments abroad, the Stockholm bid has suffered another setback with a second bomb explosion, this time at a sports stadium in Gothenburg where soccer matches would be played if Sweden were to win the 2004 Olympics. No one was injured.

The blast at the Ullevi Stadium is the latest in a series of attacks against Swedish sports facilities apparently aimed at scuppering Sweden's pending Olympic bid. All previous attacks have been in Stockholm.

Ironically, though, the latest opinion polls show growing public support for Stockholm's bid.

Stockholm bid committee president Olof Stenhammar said IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch had contacted him yesterday to express support after the bombing at Ullevi.

Meanwhile, in Palermo, Sicily, Primo Nebiolo, president of the World Student Games governing body Fisu, moved quickly to dismiss claims by Leoluca Orlando, the mayor of Palermo, that he was to blame for bad publicity surrounding the Rome Games bid.

Professor Orlando, a European Parliament MP and also leader of the anti-Mafia political party La Rete, said Dr Nebiolo should not have linked the World Student Games to Rome's bid for the 2004 Olympics.

Professor Orlando said: "He opened the way for the enemies of the bid to have a field day at our expense."

However, a spokesman for Dr Nebiolo said he "has never wanted to link the University Games to the Rome bid because he knew that they were two different games".

10 OLYMPIC BID DAYS TO GO

■ The mayor of Palermo in Sicily, Leoluca Orlando, also a European Parliament MP, has gone out of his way to criticise both Athens' and Rome's Olympic bids. "It is very sad to see two ancient cultures such as Athens and Rome fighting over the Olympic bid. Besides, they are too old and congested," he said.

Latest odds:

Rome	8-10
Cape Town	11-10
Athens	6-1
Stockholm	20-1
Buenos Aires	20-1



Bid reports, pages 2 and 5

Korean city backs our Games bid

(288)

STEPHEN WROTTESLEY
NEWS EDITOR ARG 26/8/97

More backing has come for Cape Town's bid for the Olympic Games in 2004 – this time from the South Korean city of Pusan.

Deputy mayor Choi In-Sup gave his full backing for the bid at an official dinner in his honour at Leeuwenhof, official residence of Western Cape Premier Hernus Krial, last night.

Mr Choi, who has been in the city discussing investment opportunities, said of the bid: "This is what I'm hoping for. This is what I pray for – that the Olympics are in Cape Town in 2004."

CAPE ARGUS, **TUESDAY,** AUGUST 26, 1997

Tourism sounds the alarm over street kid crime

Attacks deter visitors

ARG 26/8/97 (288)

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
TOURISM REPORTER

Alarm bells are sounding in the tourism industry over the increasingly aggressive, criminal behaviour of street children in Cape Town.

Western Cape Tourism Board deputy chairman Johan Neethling said his board was extremely concerned at the message being sent to the world that street children were adding to the city's crime problem.

This follows the recent attack by street children in Green Point on an American editor and writer for the New York metropolitan Museum of Art and her teenage son.

Barbara Burn, 57, had to have surgery for a severed artery and nerve in her right arm after she was mugged by a gang of street children last month. She was returning from the Waterfront to the Victoria Junction Hotel with her son and his friend when they were attacked.

They vowed never to return to the city.

"This incident has turned the spotlight on the problem of street children," Dr Neethling said. The attack had had a lot of publicity abroad and could fuel the perception that the Western Cape was unsafe.

He said the mere presence of the street children was not really a problem because tourists expected to see them in a Third World city, but their aggressive behaviour would be a major deterrent for tourists.

He said the problem was a social one and should be addressed by the Welfare Department in conjunction with the police and Justice Department.

The solution was not to remove them from the streets but perhaps to place them in rehabilitation centres such as Boys' Town. Business could perhaps contribute financially to such an initiative.

Cape Town Tourism (Captour) marketing manager Jeremy Harris agreed that street children were becoming an increasing problem for the tourism industry.

Although the problem was not yet serious, they were concerned about tourists' reports of being hassled "quite aggressively" by the children.

"We can hear the alarm bells ringing for tourism," said Mr Harris.

He said he would support an initiative whereby the children were given jobs or some kind of responsibility such as cleaning the pavements. "If they are going to be in the city, they may as well be useful."

Olympics body takes bid to Parliament

(288)

Sowetan 26/8/97

Mandela leads a 250-member delegation to Lausanne for the important announcement

By Rafiq Rohan

A SPECTACULAR programme on South Africa's Olympic Bid, which includes an address to the nation by President Nelson Mandela, will be presented in Parliament tomorrow.

Although played down, Mandela is the trump card for South Africa in the countdown to the announcement on September 5 of which city will host the 2004 Olympics.

It is simply more than a coincidence that Mandela will be on a state visit to Switzerland at exactly the same time the announcement will be made. It will also reflect on whether the world will have the collective ability to say no to the President.

An elaborate programme is planned for Parliament tomorrow. A procession will be held through Cape Town's historic Adderley Street led by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and the nine premiers.

The guests include National Olympic Committee of South Africa (Nocsa) president, Sam Ramsamy and Sports Minister Steve Tshwete. The function will include a fly-past by the Air Force sporting a "Good Luck" message.

At midday, Mandela will address the nation as the colourful South African Airways plane, Ndizani, flies over. He will be presented with a map of Africa by school children just before making the address.

A delegation of 250 South Africans, including top government officials, will fly out to Switzerland on Sunday. The delegates have all been given tasks to perform in Lausanne in the week leading up to the announcement.

South Africa's leading filmmaker Anant Singh was assigned to work on a video film to be used as part of the Cape Town Bid presentation. Although its contents are still a secret, the film is said to be extremely powerful.

At a briefing on Friday, Bid leader Mr Chris Ball said: "We are not going to Switzerland for a holiday. We are going there to win the Bid."

Last week the Bid received its biggest boost when the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) threw its considerable weight behind it.

CAPE TOWN 2004

(288)

OLYMPIC GAMES

FM 22/8/97

Cape Town holds its breath

Mother city proves capable of playing in the big league

Cape Town's prospects of winning the bid for the 2004 Olympic Games have never looked better.

With a tight finish predicted between Rome, Cape Town and Athens in Lausanne on September 5, the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company (Bidco) is leaving nothing to chance.

Bidco's strategy is three-pronged: stay out of trouble, lobby International Olympic Committee (IOC) members quietly but relentlessly, and highlight Africa's and the SA government's support for the bid.

The violent opposition to Stockholm's bid (the bombing of the 1912 Olympic stadium was the ninth attack) and the mudslinging between Athens and Rome are perceived to have harmed their bids, while Cape Town's has been steadily gaining stature.

The successful staging of three world championships in two months has proved the city can play in the big league, while the construction of the R44m Bellville velodrome in a mere five months has dispelled some scepticism about its ability to deliver.

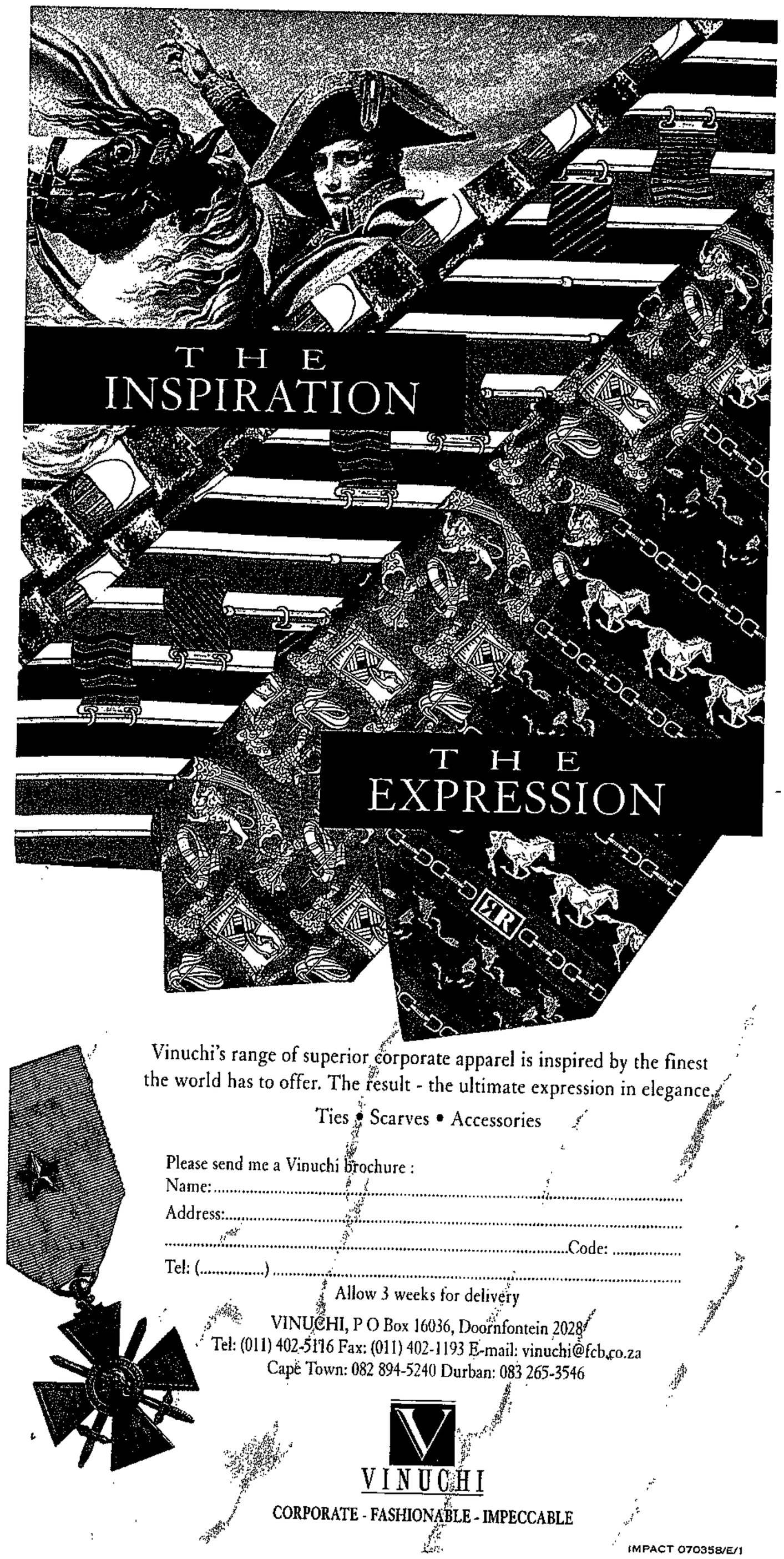
The "clincher," says Bidco development planner David Maralack, was the public support for Cape Town in Athens by the African Amateur Athletics Confederation, securing Africa's 20 IOC votes for the city.

Cape Town is the only city to have moved up the rankings and earlier this week was second, with odds of 11-8, to Rome at 4-5. Athens was 11-2, Stockholm 9-1 and Buenos Aires 80-1.

If all else fails, SA has the trump card of President Mandela appearing in Lausanne — the biggest fear of other bidding cities.

Meanwhile, central government is committed to spending R3,3bn on Games infrastructure and finding an additional R2,4bn if the private sector fails to meet its obligations. But unless mechanisms are introduced to maximise private contributions and contain costs, government could fall short of its Gear targets and incur a long-term net loss, the Olympic Assessment Team warns in an impact study released last week.

Even if Cape Town's bid fails, the State will spend R336m on Games infrastructure: R250m upgrading transport and R86m towards eight sports centres. **Claire Bisseker**



The NHBRC was established to provide consumers of this country with much needed consumer protection. Let us not forget that under the old regime our consumers, particularly those from disadvantaged communities, such as Delft, Meadowlands and Tokoza had suffered at the hands of unscrupulous builders, who built poor housing products with many side effects.

The NHBRC has a Board of 20 Directors representing a broad spectrum of the home building industry.

They are:

* African Builders Association (ABA)
* Association of Mortgage Lenders (AML)
* Association of Development Professionals (ADP)
* BIFSA
* Department of Public Works
* Department of Trade and Industry
* Housing Consumer Protection Trust (HCPT)
* Investment specialist
* Local Government Building Control Inspectorate
* National African Builders and Allied Trades Forum (NABCAT)
* National African Federation for the Building Industry (NAFBI)
* National Association of Home Builders and Urban Developers (NAHB)
* National Housing Forum
* South African Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors (SAFCEC)
* South African Insurance Association
* South African Black Technical Organisation
* Non-traditional mortgage lenders.

Public hearings have taken place, and many useful written submissions have been received. In addition, officials of my department have held consultations with all the major stakeholders including BIFSA. I refer, in particular to a stakeholder meeting on 15 August 1997.

I am satisfied therefore, that given the history of the NHBRC, and in the light of the various consultation processes referred to and the fact that there are 20 stakeholders on the board representing the building industry, there has most certainly been consultation with the relevant stakeholders.

(2) As to the progress that has been made with the Bill, my Department is currently busy to incorporate the useful submissions received and thereby accommodating the majority of the stakeholders requests. At the meeting of 15 August 1997, I presented the changes that we intended to make to the first draft of the Bill.

What should be noted is that in the new democratic South Africa, there are a number of representatives of the Building Industry, and BIFSA is by no means the only player in this field.

BIFSA is campaigning against the Bill, but they should rather take note of the positive attitude of other building industry representatives such as the Black Construction Industry, who despite some reservations, support the ongoing development of the Bill.

(3) No I do not intend to make any statement on the matter.

Use of Meritum Hostels for aliens evaluated

*21. Ms M SMUTS asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

(1) Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 44 on 26 March 1997, the experimental use of Meritum Hostels over a twelve month-period for the detention of illegal aliens, has been evaluated after the conclusion of this period; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what were the results of the evaluation;

(2) whether normal tender procedures in respect of future detention facilities have been instituted; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? N1782E

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:

(1) Yes, the use of the hostel was constantly monitored over a period of twelve months, and the Department is satisfied that the hostel meets the requirements of the Department. The Director-General could arrange for a visit should any member wish to inspect the hostel personally.

(2) No, but they are in the process of being instituted.

*22. Mr J A JORDAAN – Public Works. [Question standing over.]

Former Zairian army generals in SA

*23. Mr C W EGLIN asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

(1) Whether any former Zairian army generals are currently resident in South Africa; if so, (a) what are their names, (b) when did they arrive in South Africa and (c) on what authority (i) did they enter South Africa and (ii) are they residing in South Africa;

(2) whether any conditions are attached to their presence in South Africa; if not, why not; if so, what conditions? N1784E

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:

(1) and (2) Following a series of articles in the media alleging intelligence involvement in unauthorised or illegal actions with regard to former Zairian high military officials, a Ministerial Investigative Task Team had been appointed by the Deputy Minister for Intelligence Services to fully investigate the issue.

The Task Team will, among other issues, investigate whether any generals of the former Zairian defence force (FAZ) are currently in South Africa and if so, the particular circumstances – surrounding their admission and subsequent stay in the country.

It is therefore suggested that the report of the Ministerial Investigative Task Team be awaited before this matter is discussed any further with the Minister concerned.

DBSA: study into costs/benefits of Cape Town hosting the Games

*24. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Finance:

(1) Whether his Department has commissioned the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) to conduct a macro-economic study, including an assessment related to the costs and benefits involved in Cape Town hosting the Olympic Games; if so, when;

(2) whether the DBSA has completed this study; if so, (a) on what date and (b) what were the findings;

(3) whether the results of this study have been made available to any person or body outside his Department; if not, why not; if so, (a) to whom and (b) on what date in each case? N1786E

The MINISTER OF FINANCE

(1) In April 1996 the Olympic Bid Company made a submission to the Department of Finance, seeking Cabinet support for its bid to stage the 2004 Olympics in Cape Town. The Department of Finance (following its own internal review) then requested the Development Bank of Southern Africa to give an independent assessment related to the costs and benefits in the Bid Company's submission.

(2) Yes

(a) 3 June 1996

(b) The findings were that the Games would be beneficial for South Africa if appropriately managed, and would lead to sharp increases in the Gross Domestic Product and employment. It was found that the benefits would outweigh the costs of holding the Games in Cape Town.

(3) The National Government authorised the DBSA on 25 February 1997 to release the findings of their study and since that date it has

been distributed to, inter alia, academics, the media and institutions and individuals who have requested it.

Pollution of Millstream River

*25. Mr G Q M DOIDGE asked the Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry:

(1) Whether his Department has received a report through his Department's regional office in Durban that the Millstream River was being polluted by run-off water from stand pipes in the Twist Valley area of Kokstad prior to the 1994 elections; if so,

(2) whether he or his Department has taken or intends taking any steps in respect of the ongoing pollution of the Millstream River; if not, why not; if so, what steps;

(3) whether the Kokstad local authority has given an undertaking to address the issue; if so,

(4) whether the implementation of the undertaking has been or is being monitored by his Department; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;

(5) what is the present situation regarding the flow of effluent into the Millstream River? N1787E

The MINISTER OF WATER AFFAIRS AND FORESTRY:

(1) Officials of the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry's Regional Office in KwaZulu-Natal were first notified of pollution of the Millstream River in Kokstad from run-off from standpipes in 1992. Their investigations confirmed that wash water and run-off from standpipes in the Twist Valley area were entering the Millstream River due to a lack of a sewerage system and the then Borough of Kokstad was instructed to rectify the situation.

(2) Due to the lack of resources and the need to immediately prevent the wash water from entering the stream, my Department accepted the Borough of Kokstad's proposal to divert the wash water onto adjacent land and engineer the area to create an artificial wetland for treatment of the run-off. The Borough was also required to investigate financing options for the provision of sewage reticulation of the area and in 1992 a water borne sewage reticulation system was constructed.

(3) In order to assist residents in the area with the costs of connecting into the reticulation system, a "self help" scheme was put in place during 1993 where the Borough assisted residents with obtaining funding for connections. Of the 81 sites, it is reported that 50 sites are connected into the reticulation system, 19 connections are in progress and 12 are remaining.

(4) My Department was satisfied that the wetland was functioning in treating the wash water and that no further pollution of the Millstream River was occurring. An investigation conducted by my Department in September 1995 into the impacts of the discharge of treated effluent on the water quality and instream aquatic health of the Mzintlava River showed that this River, downstream of the Millstream confluence, was unimpaired.

(5) Although the Millstream River falls within the jurisdiction of the Kokstad Transitional Local Council and provision of services within this area is their responsibility, my Department is ultimately responsible for water quality in the area. I have been informed that no problems have since been experienced nor has any further complaint been received on this matter in the past four years. Officials from my Department are confident that the problems have been resolved, but undertake to reinvestigate the area to confirm this.

Registration of vehicles: different licensing systems

*26. Mr G Q M DOIDGE asked the Minister of Transport:

(1) Whether different licensing systems to register vehicles are still being used in the areas of any former homeland administrations in the Province of the Eastern Cape; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, why;

(2) whether a uniform system is being implemented throughout the province; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what timeframes are envisaged for the implementation of this system;

(3) whether any delays in the implementation of this system throughout the province have been experienced; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, why;

(4) where is each testing centre for the issuing of roadworthy certificates in the former Transkei located;

(5) whether these testing centres comply with the necessary requirements; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? N1788E

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT:

(1) Yes. The registering authorities in the former Transkei and Ciskei currently utilise manual licensing systems, whilst a computerised system is in use in the remainder of the Province of the Eastern Cape.

This situation arises from the fact that at present, road traffic in the Province of the Eastern Cape is regulated by three separate Acts, namely the Ciskeian Road Traffic Act, 1989 (Act No 18 of 1989) the Transkei Road Traffic Act, 1967 (Act No 5 of 1967) and the Road Traffic Act, 1989 (Act No 29 of 1989).

The situation of non-uniformity in the province has led to various difficulties, in particular with regard to the implementation of the National Traffic Information System (NaTIS), which was developed by the national Department of Transport in consultation with the provincial administrations to support the provisions of the Road Traffic Act, 1989 inter alia in respect of the registration and licensing of vehicles. As the provisions of the Transkei and Ciskei Road Traffic Acts do not permit the implementation of NaTIS in these areas, the Province requested the Department not to proceed with the implementation of the computerised system until enabling legislation had been promulgated.

(2) The objective is to implement the NaTIS system throughout the province. To enable this, a Road Traffic (Transitional Provisions) Bill was drafted, which was approved by the Standing Committee for Transport in the Eastern Cape on 5 August 1997. The Bill will be tabled in the provincial legislature during the current legislative session which commenced on 14 August 1997.

The Department expects NaTIS to be fully implemented in the Former Transkei and Ciskei by the end of February 1998.

(3) Telkom infrastructure problems are currently being experienced at 4 of the licensing offices which have been commissioned. Various alternative solutions are being investigated, but the possibility exists that these offices might have to continue operating manual systems until Telkom is in a position to provide them with data lines.

The implementation of the NaTIS system in the remainder of the province commenced in December 1994 and was completed in November 1995.

(4) There are currently 5 testing stations in the former Transkei and 2 in the former Ciskei. The testing stations in Transkei are located as follows:

i. Umtata

ii. Butterworth

iii. Engcobo

iv. Lusikisiki

v. Mount Frere.

The 2 testing stations in the former Ciskei are located as follows:

i. Zwelitsha

ii. Mdantsane.

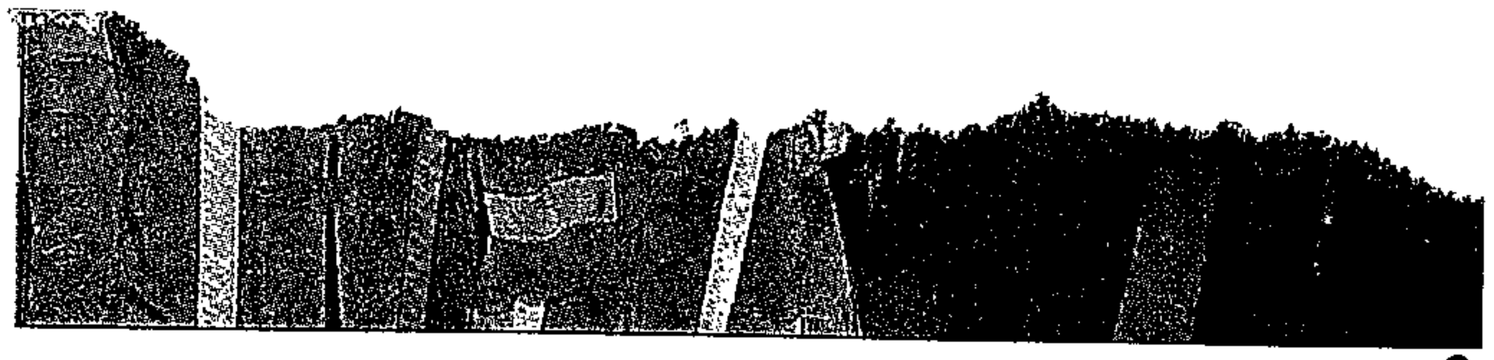
Due to its close proximity to King William's Town, the testing station at Zwelitsha will shortly be (or may already have been) closed.

(5) No. The testing stations do not comply with the standards prescribed by the Road Traffic Act, 1989. The Road Traffic Act makes provision for a period ending 1 January 2000



LEON MÜLLER

Jovial Jake: boxing star Baby Jake Matlala flies the flag for the bid in today's mass march



Mayoral marchers: Cape mayors William Bantom and Theresa Solomon join Western Cape Premier Hernus Kriel and provincial Police Minister Gerald Morkel at the head of the march

City streams out to cheer on Olympic River of Colour

JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTER

(288)
ARG 27/8/97

Cape Town's colourful Olympic bid road show for the 2004 Games has finally hit the streets, bringing traffic to a halt and drawing hundreds of office workers out to join the parade.

The march, called "Africa's Olympic River of Colour", was the official send-off for the country's Olympic delegation to Lausanne, Switzerland, where the International Olympic Committee will decide on Friday week which of the five shortlisted cities will host the 2004 Games.

Marchers, many carrying miniature Olympic Bid flags, gathered near Cape Town station and the procession moved slowly to Parliament, where they were entertained by drum-majorette troupes from several schools.

Escorted by a cavalcade of traffic police on motorcycles and in patrol cars, the crowd was addressed by Deputy-President Thabo Mbeki, chairman of the National Council of Provinces Patrick Lekota and Western Cape Premier Hernus Kriel.

Not even a light drizzle could dampen their high spirits and the crowd applauded loudly when Mr Mbeki told them Cape Town, South Africa and the continent of Africa were ready to host the world's premier sporting showcase.

Mr Mbeki, flanked on the makeshift stage at the gate to Parliament by fellow Cabinet members and other dignitaries, said the whole country was committed to bringing the Games to Africa.

"A lot of work has been done, we have convinced people in all corners of the globe we are ready to host the Games and to complete the last circle in the Olympic logo."

He said the fact that hundreds had gathered, in spite of the rain, showed the city was united and fully supported the bid to host the Games.

National Assembly gives unanimous yes to 2004

POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

On the eve of today's Olympic Day festivities at Parliament, the National Assembly gave a unanimous yes to the Olympic Hosting Bill.

The bill sets the legal framework for Cape Town to sign the contract to host the Games. Sports Minister Steve Tshwete, speaking during the debate, said the bill was "historic".

"The bell has rung for the final lap in the race for the 2004 Olympics and for the five short-listed contenders the finishing line is in sight," he said.

"The eyes of the world are upon these five cities as they sprint the last few yards to the line, but it has been a long hard race."

Speakers in the debate emphasised the meaning for Africa of the Cape Town Bid for the Games.

Mr Tshwete said: "Barely a week goes by without an African athlete setting a new world record, but Africa's place in the Olympics should not be simply to send our athletes abroad to compete.

"We should bring the world to Africa, so we can compete on African soil, under an African sun.

"We must show the world Africa has the capacity to organise and convene the Olympic Games as well as everyone."

The Cape Town Olympic Games would not be merely a South African public relations exercise, because they would bring jobs, income and investment.

"Cape Town 2004 will be a source of considerable and justified pride for our nation and for Africa," Mr Tshwete said.

Olympic Bid Company to dissolve if successful

BD 27/8/97 (286)

Samantha Sharpe

CAPE TOWN — SA's Olympic Bid Company would have to be dissolved within eight months of a successful bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games in Cape Town, Olympic Bid director Chris Ball said yesterday.

At a media briefing ahead of his departure for Lausanne, where the International Olympic Committee would vote on which of five competing cities would host the games, Ball said a new organising committee would take over from the Bid Company as part of Olympic protocol.

"The Bid Company was employed to win the bid ... and we will need a new organising committee started from afresh within eight months of the September 5 decision."

Ball indicated that discussions about who would head the committee and how it would be constituted still had to be held. However, government's Bid Company representative, Monjanku Gumbi, said preliminary talks between the city council and the National Olympic committee had taken place at a conceptual level.

Ball said he was confident that Cape Town was a "winning city", with the city's biggest asset being that it represented a bid on behalf of Africa.

The fact that the bid was based on its developmental potential was expected to appeal to some of the 110 International Olympic Committee's voting members.

Linda Ensor reports that the Western Cape government had insisted on being given a recognised, central role in the Olympic Games legislation tabled in Parliament recently, premier Hernus Kriel said in the legislature yesterday.

Sources said the National Party (NP)-controlled provincial government had been determined to prevent the bid being hijacked by the African National Congress-dominated central government.

The SA Olympic Bid and Hosting Bill, intended to establish a framework for Cape Town to host the games and enable it to enter relevant contracts if it won the bid, was redrafted to take account of significant amendments introduced by the Western Cape, Kriel said.

The NP opposed the original draft of the bill for giving Sports Minister Steve Tshwete too much power.

Kriel, who leads a delegation leaving for Lausanne today to begin lobbying for Cape Town's bid, said he had insisted in discussions with Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Valli Moosa and Tshwete that the provincial government and the surrounding authorities be given a strong role to play.

"The Western Cape has now got proper recognition," he said.

CAMPAIGN HAS RAISED INTERNATIONAL PROFILE

'Win or lose, Olympic bid has enriched city'

AT 27/8/97 (288)

AS THE FOCUS moves to Lausanne, Olympic Bid Company chief executive officer Chris Ball says the key to clinching the 2004 Games is to consolidate Cape Town's position as one of the favourites. **DAN SIMON** reports.

CAPE TOWN'S 2004 Olympic bid process will leave a lasting legacy in terms of enriching the city and securing its future.

Bid Company chief executive officer Mr Chris Ball expressed this sentiment yesterday, the eve of his departure for London tonight where he is to give interviews to the media before joining the South African delegation in Lausanne, Switzerland, at the weekend.

Ball and his team of directors were buoyant as they held their last media conference at the Bid Company's V & A Waterfront offices.

The briefing marked the end in South Africa of the long bid process. It now moves into the final phase in Lausanne that will culminate in the International Olympic Committee's announcement of the host city next Friday.

Parliament's portfolio committee on sport and recreation is hosting a colourful send-off for the 250-strong delegation today. This will include an open-air programme, with an address by President Nelson Mandela, on the steps of Parliament and a march through the city.

The march, known as "Africa's Olympic River of Colour", will include politicians, civic leaders, sporting celebrities and a host of entertainers.

The organisers are encouraging Capetonians to adopt a street child for the day, as an expression of the Olympic spirit.

Ball said the key to Olympic success was to "relax and consolidate" the good position in which Cape Town found itself.

"These are exciting times," he said.

"There is a lot happening and there is a tremendous flow of energy and goodwill towards South Africa and Africa's bid.

"The spirit in Cape Town is consolidating. We are excited that we are at the completion of our journey in South Africa — and are on our way to Lausanne.

"We are in the position we intended to be at this point. Cape Town's bid is in good shape. We are running faster than the other cities and we believe that, when it comes to the tape on Friday next week, we are going to be ahead of the other people."

Ball thanked his team for their work in taking Cape Town close to Olympic glory.

"The team has done an extraordinary job. It's a job that's been acknowledged around the world. People are enormously impressed by the quality of Cape Town's bid and by the Bid team.

"The key now is to relax, take it easy and consolidate on the good position that we have, to remind the IOC members that we are there.

"To make sure that they remember us, that they remember their visits to Cape Town, that they remember the strength of our proposition — and then receive the presentation that we will make on Friday morning next week," he said.

Ball said that, win or lose, Cape Town would have benefited enormously, in terms of impact, by its bidding for the 2004 Games.

"The first thing we should try to get into perspective is that it's no mean feat to get into the position we're in. It's a victory in itself.

"Cape Town is in the final group. We beat six international cities to get here. Within that final group we seem to be one of the favourites. We might win.

"So that is success for Cape Town. It's a success for the people of South Africa and a success for the people of Africa.

"I think the impact (of the bid) on Cape Town is clear and I think the people of Cape Town understand that things are different now from what they were when we started bidding.

"If I think of what Cape Town was a number of years ago, the city has changed — it has become an international city. And I think the attitudes of people in Cape Town have changed over this period.

"But having said that, don't for a moment think that we don't intend to win.

"We are going to Lausanne as a winning team. We plan to achieve victory. We can't guarantee victory, but that is what we plan to achieve."



ALL ABOARD: The directors of the Cape Town 2004 Olympic Bid Company wound up their South African campaign with a media briefing yesterday. They are (back row, from left): Michael Fuller, Peter de Tolly, Chris Ball, Robbie Stewart and Elspeth Graham. In front are Ameen Akhalwaya, Carla Jones, Pauline Carstens, Saaliegah Zardad and Deni Madzunya. *PICTURE: THEMBINKOSI DWAYISA*

CAPE TOWN WILL FILL 5TH RING'

Olympics delegation get colourful send-off

(288)

CT 28/8/97

DEPUTY PRESIDENT Thabo Mbeki says the country, as a whole, will ensure that the fifth Olympic ring is filled by Cape Town in 2004.

A CARNIVAL atmosphere took hold of the city centre yesterday in honour of South Africa's Olympic delegation.

They were given a colourful send-off ahead of their trip this weekend to Lausanne, Switzerland, to secure the 2004 Summer Olympic Games for Cape Town.

Capetonians lined the city's streets in their hundreds to wave and cheer on the "Africa's Olympic River of Colour" send-off march, reports a Staff Writer.

The march from Adderley Street to the entrance of Parliament in Plein Street, was organised by Parliament's sport and recreation portfolio committee.

Led by Western Cape Premier Mr Hernus Kriel and metropolitan and city mayors the Rev William Bantom and Mrs Theresa Solomon, the colourful procession included sporting celebrities, school bands, a pipe band, drum majorettes, a traffic department cavalcade of motor bikes, police on horseback and entertainers.

At Parliament Deputy President Thabo Mbeki was presented with a scroll containing the signatures of all of the nine provincial premiers supporting Cape Town's bid.

Addressing the large crowd, Mbeki said: "The whole country is committed to ensuring that we bring the Games to Africa ... As a nation we are going to make sure that the fifth (Olympic) ring, which is empty, is filled by Cape Town."

● Dumbfounded parliamentary security staff found a stolen firearm in the bag of a 21-year-old student yesterday when she tried to enter the legislature, reports **FATIMA SCHROEDER**.

The firearm was discovered when the Philippi student's bag was passed through an X-ray machine at the entrance to the new wing, police said last night.

When she was arrested she claimed the bag belonged to her boyfriend and that she had been unaware it contained a gun.

Police traced the Pitro Beretta .22-calibre pistol to a Mr H C Visser of Hartenbos. It had been stolen some time ago.

The student is in custody and will appear in the Cape Town Magistrate's Court today.

● See Page 6



Cape Town bids Olympic delegation colourful farewell

(288) BD 28/8/97

CAPE TOWN — Hundreds of Capetonians braved rain and an icy cold southeaster to show their support for the city's 2004 Olympic bid yesterday at a colourful send-off for the SA Olympic delegation to Lausanne, Switzerland.

The International Olympic Committee is to choose the host city for the 2004 Games on September 5.

A huge procession, led by a police band and including Western Cape premier Hernus Kriel, several mayors, a host of politicians, sporting celebrities, civic leaders and other dignitaries snaked down Cape Town's Adderley Street towards the Parliament buildings.

Drum majorettes, a pipe band, several marching bands, a cavalcade of traffic officers on motorcycle and on horseback, Cape minstrels and tour buses added to the spectacle of "Africa's Olympic River of Colour".

During a special ceremony at Parliament, Kriel presented a scroll to Deputy President Thabo Mbeki signed by all nine provincial premiers pledging support for the bid.

Mbeki, sporting a bid tie, told the crowd SA had been concerned that in the 100 years of the modern Olympics, the Games had never come to the African continent.

It was time for the African ring in the Olympic logo to be filled, he said.

The people of the African continent had made material sacrifices to help end apartheid, and it seemed correct that SA, which had gained liberation through a common effort, should have the opportunity to give something back to the world.

"And it would seem to us that this is the moment when the rest of the world should celebrate with the peoples of our continent as they change their lives for the better. As they end the civil wars and remove from television screens the pictures of bloated stomachs of children ... that the rest of the world says 'we support the peoples of Africa as they move forward to reconstruct and rebuild their continent'," he said.

Olympic Bid Company chairman Chris Ball said the delegation's plans were in place, and that they were travelling to Lausanne full of confidence.

A civil engineering and building contractors' company meanwhile has donated R100 000 to the bid company.

Wilson Bayly Holmes Ovcon will pay the travelling costs of the Cape school children who will be going to Lausanne for the announcement. — Sapa.



LEON MÜLLER

On the move: thousands joined the colourful Olympic parade to officially send off the delegation to Switzerland. These smart drummies led the way



Budding basketballers: local school pupils entertained the crowds with their basketball skills



We will win: a confident Thabo Mbeki

Cape Town upbeat as Greeks, Swedes run into trouble

(288)

ARG 28/8/97

From page 1

days, where an advance operations team is setting up the Bid's Lausanne headquarters to continue its lobby to boost Cape Town's chances.

Bid supremo Chris Ball left for Switzerland last night. The remainder of the team will be following him at the weekend.

In developments abroad, opponents of Athens' Olympic bid have threatened they will become involved in prolonged legal battles if the Greek capital wins the 2004 Games.

Only days before the International Olympic Committee (IOC) picks a city to host the Games, the Citizens Initiative Against Hosting the 2004 Olympics in Athens vowed it would do its utmost to cancel or delay major projects by taking them to Greece's highest court.

"Our target is to stop construction projects that are harmful to Athens and our weapon is the Council of State (court) which has a history of stopping such projects," George Sariyannis, a professor of city planning at Athens' Polytechnic University, told a news conference.

And in Sweden, a group calling itself "We Who Built Sweden" has claimed responsibility for powerful bombs which exploded and caused extensive damage but no injuries at two sports stadiums in the western Swedish port of Gothenburg on Monday.

We Who Built Sweden sent out a grim warning to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) that if it chose Stockholm on September 5 as the venue for the 2004 Olympic Games, Sweden should prepare itself for an extended campaign of continuing guerrilla warfare throughout the city.

Bid show brings House down

(288)

ARG 28/8/97

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Singing and dancing brought some levity to Parliament when the "Africa's Olympic River of Colour" march through the city drew to a colourful and cheerful close.

Cape Premier Hernus Kriel, several mayors, scores of politicians and other dignitaries braved blustery August weather yesterday to project the city's Olympic spirit and endorse the bid team's hopes of victory in Lausanne next week.

It was time, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki told the gathering, for the Olympic movement to fulfil its commitment to internationalism by awarding a Games to Africa, "And it would seem to us that this is the moment when the rest of the world should celebrate with the peoples of our continent as they change their lives for the better," he said.

"As they end the civil wars and remove from television screens the pictures of bloated stomachs of children ... that the rest of the world says we support the peoples of Africa as they move forward to reconstruct and rebuild their continent."

With the demanding lobbying of the past six months now over, the lull has given the bid team a chance to prepare for its final, critical presentation.

Huge quantities of promotional material will be flown to Europe in the next few

To page 5



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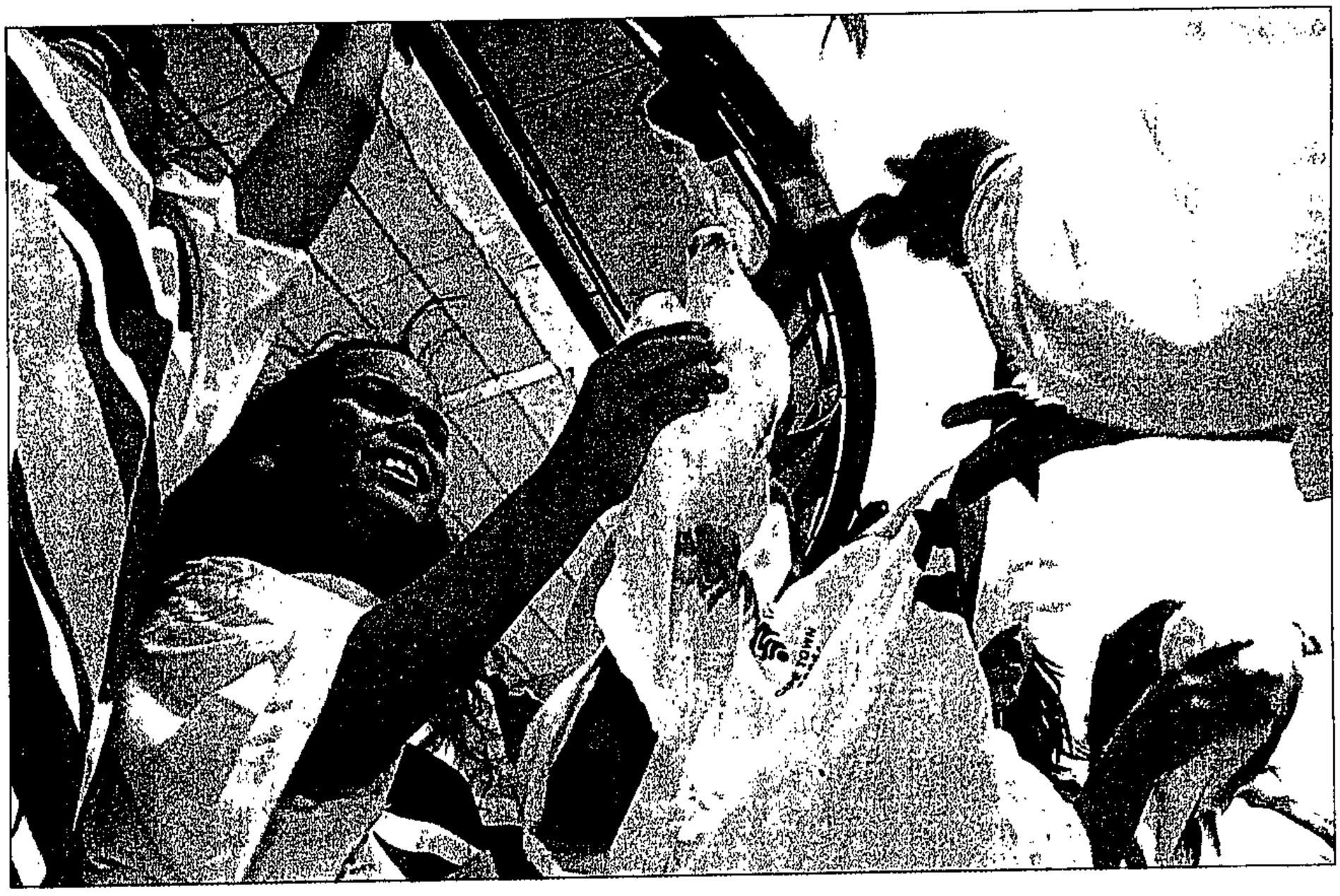
■ An extremist group opposed to Stockholm's bid for the 2004 Games threatened to turn the city into a "war zone" if it was awarded the games. Meanwhile, Sweden's police chief said the country could "adequately protect the Olympics, but conceded there was no guarantee against completely insane crimes

Latest odds:
Rome 8-10
Cape Town 11-10
Athens 6-1
Stockholm 20-1
Buenos Aires 20-1

Olympic bid

Sports, page 5

Will winning the bid transform or destroy Cape Town? That is the burning



High-flying hopes: Cape Town is already a fast-growing city attracting more and more tourists, but the main apartheid problems of poverty, bad public transport and lack of housing are still in place

PHOTOGRAPHS: I-AFRIKA

A mega-project to transform the city

M&G 29/8-4/9/97 (288)

John Young

Supporters of Cape Town's Olympic Bid say the city will be unrecognisable in 2004 if it hosts the games. They insist there will be plenty of time to build the hotels and transport links, stadiums and practice venues needed to host the greatest show on earth.

To get an idea of how much can be achieved in seven years, it's worth looking at how much Cape Town has changed since 1990.

The Victoria and Alfred Waterfront has grown from a gleam in the eye of ambitious developers to a defining symbol of Cape Town, the property market has taken off, high-income earners are living in a revitalised CBD, shopping centres have expanded massively, the Yellow Pages directory has grown by 34% and the poorest part of the metropole, the south-east (including Khayelitsha), has become home to over a third of the population.

But perhaps the most important change has been in the attitude of Capetonians.

Business is confident, occupancy rates are at an all-time high, the city has an exciting international feel and business parks are springing up all over. Economists and planners agree that privatisation and internationalisation have been the main factors behind the change.

"The change in the last five to seven years has been dramatic," says the Tourism Business Council's Hugh Von Zahn. Last year some R3,5-billion was injected into the economy from tourism, while the region's staple — agriculture — netted R4-billion.

In 1993, 346 000 overseas tourists visited Cape Town, and that has been rising every year: for example 1996 was 28% up on the previous year. Over 800 000 foreign visitors are expected in 1997.

In response, 39 hotels are going up in greater Cape Town. Another indicator of the boom is the number of restaurants — about 1 500, according to Von Zahn. As Cape Town tourism marketing manager Jeremy Harris says: "We are not even at the million mark yet, but we have to have the hotels to attract the tourists."

The inner city's renaissance really started in the early Eighties. Peter de Tolly, who was involved in the city council's moves to revitalise the city centre and is now the Olympic bid company's director of environment and planning, says that Greening the City, the pedestrian network (including St George's Mall) and conservation control, "completely changed the perception of central Cape Town. It became the place to go to and be seen in."

Now the CBD has loft developments sprouting off the top of blocks old and new. Vacancy rates in A-grade buildings were over 10% in 1993 and are now 2%. Western Cape growth rates average 1% better than the national average and the Cape index on the JSE has consistently been the top performer since 1995.

The strength of the Western Cape economy is diversity. "In the absence of heavy industry, it is a small and medium enterprise-led region," says Wolfgang Thomas, Wesgro's general manager, economic development. "Cape Town is not a city where a single major project shapes change. The exception is the Waterfront."

One man who believes the city has *not* changed is Cape Town's de-



Changing face: 'Largely cosmetic' changes in Cape Town

velopment director, Rod Young: "What have the growth of Tygerberg and the growth of the Waterfront done for the average guy sitting out at Guguletu?" he asks. "The fundamental structure of the city has not changed."

The main apartheid problems are still in place: poverty, bad public transport and lack of housing. Since 1990, crime has escalated and tens of thousands of jobs have been lost in the textile industry. But a crucial difference is that a plan is in place to solve these problems.

Planning for the Olympic bid has plugged into a scheme for greater Cape Town which aims to integrate the poorer south-east with the richer west and north — the Metropolitan Spatial Development Framework (MSDF). Planning started in 1991 and it was published in 1996.

Priority projects of the Olympic bid are being built in Khayelitsha, Belhar and Philippi in terms of the MSDF. A black empowerment project has seen 54% of tenders for R36-million in work go the way of black business.

De Tolly points to the R86-million for facilities and R250-million for transport earmarked as priority spending as tangible evidence of the impact of the bidding process on helping to shape a new Cape Town. "This is development you would not have seen otherwise," he says.

If Cape Town is to change beyond what Young calls the "largely cosmetic", then it needs a mega-project over the next seven years. If Cape Town wins the Olympic Games, will that allow the planning of the last seven years to come to fruition and genuinely reshape the city?

"The Games can help immeasurably," says Young. He believes that "if we are to solve the transport problems, then the only hope is the Olympics". But a note of caution is sounded by town planner Jens Kuhn of the Cape Metropolitan Council, who believes that "public transport in Cape Town is likely to get worse". Winning the Games would be "very, very good" but a precondition for success would be for central government to keep its promises.

According to Kuhn, R470-million was pledged for transport in 1994, and was reduced to R250-million, of which about R15-million has so far been released by central government.

De Tolly believes that the Olympic bid has filled the gap. "Cape Town 2004 is a surrogate vision," he says. "It is entirely tangible and practical. It says we want to put Cape Town on the global map. There is no organisation that plays the role that the bid company plays. It is a partnership between authorities, the private sector and the public sector. It may not be a perfect partnership, but it is the only one around."

The Olympic Games would be the sort of mega-project that could transform Cape Town — properly.

It seems Cape Town has not got all its eggs in the Olympic basket. Young is confident that a convention centre will bring R1-billion of "new spend". The R3,5-billion Capricorn Science and Research project is on course and should create 15 000 jobs, the R2-billion Saldanha Steel works will make a major impact on the regional economy, AECI are investing heavily at their Strand site, Century City is building and the Planet Hollywood restaurant is going ahead at a cost of R17-million.

The tourist industry will keep growing, Olympics or no Olympics.

Cape Town is a more confident place. It hosted the World Fencing Championship in a hall built at lightning speed. The Bellville Cycling Velodrome and the Hartleyvale Astroturf are world-class facilities. "If we don't get the bid," says Harris, "we can host other sporting events. Sport is an enormous industry."

Thomas is looking forward to September 5. "If we get the Games, then you sit with deadlines and this is what you need." But he believes that not getting the Games could also have a positive side effect if Capetonians are shocked into asking themselves how to make the city a great centre — for technology, conferences, education or sport.

John Young is a freelance writer and director of an adult learning centre in Cape Town

question as the city awaits the announcement on September 5

If Cape Town wins, run for cover...

(288)
MrG 29/84/9/97



Flying the flag: Winning the Olympics would mean jobs, but how many?

Pieter de Lange

In Olympic terms an African Games is certainly the missing link and therefore the first African Games could expect widespread and enthusiastic support. But what would be so unique about it?

After all, South America has never hosted the Olympics, although Buenos Aires entered the bidding stakes in 1936, 1956 and 1968 and has yet to succeed.

An African Games would be unique simply because the continent that is very likely the cradle of the human race has become the have-not continent in socio-economic terms.

Africa's failure in food production, which declined by 11,6% per person since 1960, is one tragic example. In contrast, Latin America's food production for the same period (1961-1995) grew by 31,4% per person, while Asia's expanded by 70,6% per person, according to Jeffrey Sachs, director of the Harvard Institute for International Development.

The Economist conveyed a sombre message in a comprehensive report on sub-Saharan Africa in 1994: "To grasp the scale of Africa's poverty, consider this statistic: the combined gross national product of the entire continent south of the Sahara is less than that of Holland."

Amidst all the recent atrocities and seemingly mindless power struggles in the Great Lakes area, there are also promising developments and enough evidence of an economic revival in Southern Africa to prompt *The Economist* to do "An African Success Story" in 1997.

But it is clear that the world would be critical of a wasteful first African Games, and it is obvious that huge white-elephant sports structures will not be tolerated. In short, will a Cape Town Olympics support the long expected and much hoped for African renaissance?

Because Africa is so under-developed in economic terms, any credible Olympic bid would have to demonstrate serious and realistic developmental intentions, both human and physical. Unfortunately Cape Town's strategic approach has been confused and contradictory to say the least.

On the one hand there is the commitment to a "lean and light Games", so as not to alarm the taxpayers; on the other hand there is the emphasis on human development which is quantified in terms of the expected number of jobs to be created by the 2004 Olympics.

But these two basic philosophies are contradictory and incompatible. Cape Town's emphasis is understandably on human development, but because the city is so under-developed in terms of the infrastructure required for an Olympic Games, there would have to be huge and expensive developments of the physical kind as well.

It would be the beginning of the biggest Olympic soap opera in history

Expensive infrastructure cannot be erected just to comply with International Olympic Commitee (IOC) requirements because the Olympics is a one-time event and not a primary source of demand. The lean and light philosophy does not extend to the salary of the chief executive, Chris Ball, which was reported to be about R1-million per year, prompting Councillor Arthur Wienberg to demand full disclosure — without success.

With crippling and widespread unemployment the issue of the likely number of jobs created by the Games is an intense and emotional one. When the Cabinet gave the green light to South Africa's Olympic effort on June 6 1996, the potential for job creation was obviously a major plus point.

The 90 000 to 110 000 permanent or sustainable jobs promised by the bid company and the government became a constant phrase which the proponents of the bid used to impress the gullible or convince the undecided. But in the bid books to the IOC the figure all of a sudden became a mere 90 000 person years.

This term is obviously open to varying interpretations but a study done by KPMG Consulting UK for Manchester's bid for the 2000 Games clearly adopted the "conventional assumption that 10 person years of employment is equivalent to a full-time job".

Europeans will suddenly discover the Koeberg nuclear reactor in the vicinity

When this principle is applied, the Cape Town bid company can be accused of exaggerating the potential for job creation tenfold and of misleading the Cabinet.

The hard-sell approach can be construed as extremely cynical in view of the fact that many thousands of desperate people will probably flock to Cape Town in the hope of sharing in these often promised job opportunities should the city be awarded the Games. This happened in Atlanta to such an extent that soup kitchens had to be established.

To build a R350-million stadium in a city where the existing stadium is not even properly utilised seems absurd. Cape Town was not included in the African Nations Cup because of poor regular support for soccer matches.

The R110-million controversial Olympic rowing and canoeing course (both the IOC report and the Olympic sub-committee of the Cape Town municipality expressed serious reservations about the site) and the R117-million aquatic centre are two of the more exotic dishes on an Olympic menu loaded with expensive goodies.

The problem is that the local population is short of basic amenities like housing and proper schooling and while they would certainly utilise the boxing and baseball facilities, baseball and archery are not priorities.

The horrific incidence of violent crime in South Africa also needed a face-lift before it could be entered into Cape Town's impressive set of bid books. After all, we cannot have the Western Cape's murder rate of 85,5 per 100 000 of the population alongside the Swede's paltry two murders or the 2,14 of the Greeks or the three homicides per 100 000 of the Argentinian population.

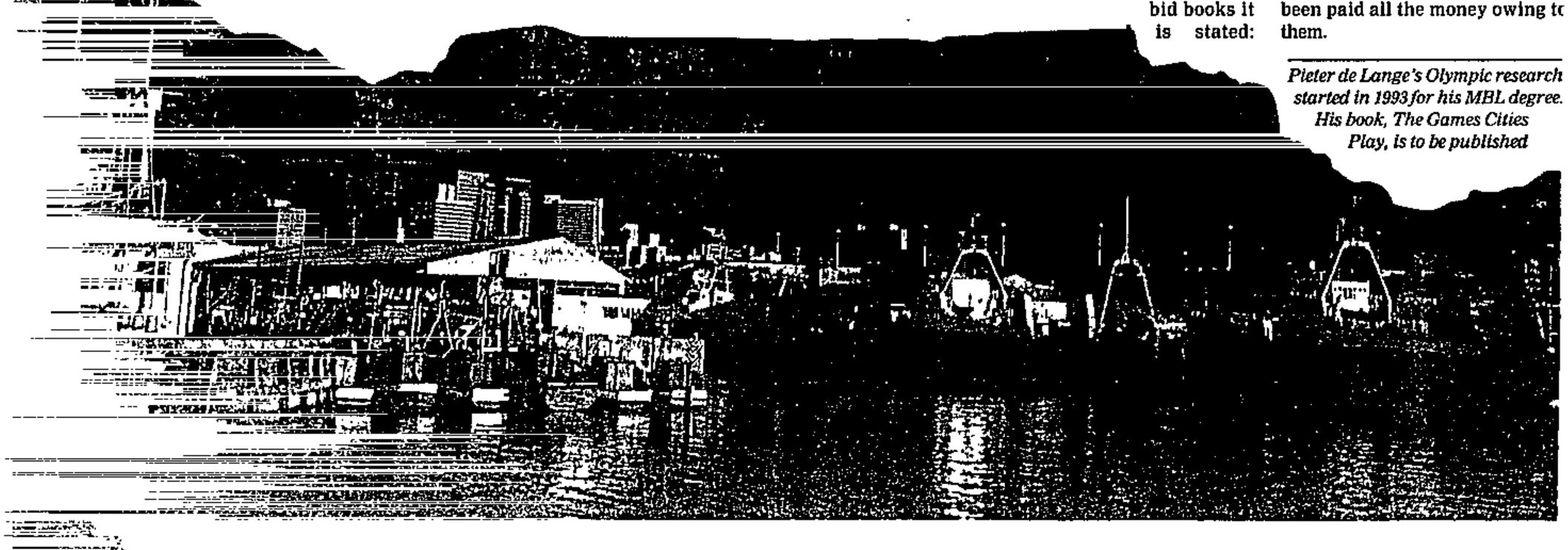
So Cape Town's wise men entered the nonsensical term "violations" which can be anything from a traffic offence to mass murder. On page 16 of volume one of the Cape Town bid books it is stated: "While crime is currently at a high level in parts of South Africa, Cape Town is generally regarded as among the country's safest cities."

But according to the police the ratio for both murder and rape increased in Cape Town over the last three years and, in both cases, is well above the national average. For example, in 1996 the murder rate of 85,5 was well above the national average of 61,1, while in the case of rape, the shocking figure of 165 is well in excess of the already shameful average of 119,5.

If Cape Town fails on September 5, all will be well, and our precious but vulnerable tourism destination can just resume its strong, natural growth which, after all, is based on real demand.

Should Cape Town be picked, run for cover, because it would be the beginning of the biggest Olympic soap opera in history. Among others, land claims by the Graaff family trust and the Ndabeni Restitution Committee against Wingfield where the Olympic stadium will be sited would intensify, Europeans will suddenly discover the Koeberg nuclear reactor in the vicinity, taxpayers will have to be told that the bulk services at the sports stadiums were not properly included in the costs, and a Cape Town 2004 trade mark dispute would feature because the initial registrations were done by the original bidding committee and all indications are that they have not been paid all the money owing to them.

Pieter de Lange's Olympic research started in 1993 for his MBL degree. His book, The Games Cities Play, is to be published



Cape Town a 'hot bet' for Games

Cape Town's chances are looking good, especially on the betting books, writes **Julian Drew**



Leading a merry dance: President Nelson Mandela has thrown his support behind the Cape Town bid. Here he dances with singer Vicky Sampson at the bid's launch. PHOTOGRAPH: MIKE HUTCHINGS /I-AFRIKA

As excitement mounts in anticipation of next Friday's vote for the 2004 Olympics, Cape Town has risen to second behind Rome on London bookmakers' lists.

The city has come from behind in the past month and is receiving increasingly positive coverage in the international media. Previous front-runners Athens and Rome have both been damaged by squabbling following the World Athletics Championships in Athens earlier this month.

Cape Town appears to hold most of the trump cards as the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) 111 members gather in Lausanne, Switzerland, for the most important task in their pampered existence, one on which they are called to deliberate every four years.

Although representatives of the five bidding cities — Athens, Buenos Aires, Cape Town, Rome and Stockholm — will be conducting a last, frantic round of lobbying with IOC members, the outcome of the vote could hinge on whoever delivers the most passionate message during the final presentations to the IOC before it goes behind closed doors for the secret ballot.

In that respect Cape Town cannot be matched. The bid company is remaining evasive about President Nelson Mandela's involvement but he will be in Switzerland next week on an official state visit and is expected in Lausanne on Thursday.

"If he's there he will be doing the presentation," says Cape Town bid committee finance director Michael Fuller. That said, it could be taken as a given that Mandela will be presenting Cape Town's case — the biggest fear of the other cities. In emotional stakes, nobody carries bigger clout than the world's most popular man.

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Mandela will not have to do it all on his own, though. At around 250, Cape Town is taking the smallest delegation to Lausanne but it is a mission that aims to have the most impact.

They will be accompanied by top African athletes including Frankie Fredericks of Namibia, Maria Mutda of Mozambique and South African Olympic champions Penny Heyns and Josiah Thugwane.

"There will be two aspects to the lobbying. Firstly, the IOC members need to be comfortable that the technical aspects have been properly addressed, and secondly they need to know we have the support of government," says Fuller.

"The government will be represented there at national, provincial and local level and we'll also have some senior private-sector people with us. Each person has a role to play and we aim to provide the IOC members with a comfort zone that will enable them to vote for us."

Cape Town will set up an office in Lausanne and a team has already left to ensure that everything is running smoothly by the time the main lobby group arrives on Monday. A display stand at the IOC hotel will provide technical and planning information to IOC members.

The crucial, final presentation will include a specially commissioned video from South Africa's top film director, Anant Singh.

While for some the jury may still be out on the merits of staging the Games, Fuller believes that win or lose, the exercise has been worthwhile. "I think it has been good for the country and a very positive experience. I can certainly say without hesitation that the bid has increased South Africa's profile internationally and the downside has been minimal," he says.

If Cape Town wins, run for cover, PAGE 52

Best wishes, Ball & Co, PAGE 28

Cape Town the underdog as poll puts Rome in front

(288)

CT 29/8/97

LONDON: The 2004 Olympics look set for Rome after an exclusive Reuters survey published yesterday put the Italian capital firmly at the front of the five-city contest to host the Games.

Athens, pipped at the post to stage the centennial Games in 1996, may miss out again, according to the poll, despite the success of the World Athletics Championships held there this month.

Stockholm, voted the clear personal choice of respondents in a similar survey carried out at the beginning of July, has failed to catch the top two after a spate of bomb attacks around Sweden.

But Rome's superb facilities and powerful local support for the Games, as well as the lure of the Via Veneto, are drawing the International Olympic Committee (IOC) towards Rome above Athens, Buenos Aires, Cape Town, and Stockholm.

Sixteen of the 21 contributors thought Rome would be the IOC's first choice when it meets in Lausanne next Friday. Four said they thought the IOC would pick Athens and one thought Stockholm would prevail.

"Rome has the best technical facilities. It's a great city," one respondent said.

"All the IOC members will be cocooned in luxury, which will suit them very nicely," he added.

Athens — the spiritual home of the Olympics — remains Rome's hottest rival, according to the survey of international sports federations, sponsors and journalists who follow the Olympics.

The relatively smooth running of the World Athletics Championships, marred only by poor attendances, has boosted confidence in Greece.

However, severe transport and pollution problems may sway the IOC away from Athens.

Normally non-violent, environmentally-friendly Sweden impressed in the first Reuters survey when nine of the 14 respondents said if they could vote, Stockholm would win.

But the Stockholm bid has suffered following a bomb and arson campaign which damaged the city's Olympic stadium and a Gothenburg arena earmarked for soccer matches.

The winning city must receive at least 50% of the votes. Voting takes place in rounds, with the losing candidate stepping down each time until a winner is left.

Cape Town and Buenos Aires remain the contest's underdogs, although a number of panellists pointed out that both venues were perfectly well equipped to host the Games or they would not have got to this final stage.

Perceptions of burgeoning crime in Cape Town and a lack of support from the black community despite the strong backing of President Nelson Mandela have hurt the city's chances.

Buenos Aires has pleasantly surprised IOC members, respondents said. Most venues are situated in a 14 km 'Olympic corridor' which, after the transport fiascos of Atlanta, would please competitors and spectators alike.

But there are lingering concerns over accommodation and a lack of local support. — Reuter

Why Cape Town should host the Olympics

ET 29/8/97 (288)

AS THE Olympic torch-bearer for the African continent, an opportunity exists for Cape Town to assume a role as a major international city. **MARK PRETORIUS** found that many public figures in the Mother City welcome this possibility.

TABLE MOUNTAIN, Cape Town's signature landmark, is the dramatic backdrop to South Africa's multibillion rand Olympic plan. It is also as good a reflection as you could find of the assertive optimism inherent in Cape Town's bid prospects. The Cape Peninsula's natural theatre augurs well for the drama and challenge of impressive physical developments required by 2004. In the opinion of some public figures in the city, this prospect bears wider promise.

Professor Richard van der Ross, a former rector of UWC and now a member of both the Provincial Parliament and the Olympic Bid Convocation, is inclined to take the optimistic view. He sees a Cape Town Games as an "opportune economic stimulus ... a launching platform for sustained development beyond 2004".

The confidence-building skills acquired in Olympic construction projects will promote new leadership for the housing industry. Other technology-intensive enterprises (for example, communications) will also take off on account of the Olympics.

The modernising of Cape Town's transport infrastructure will loosen the economic fetters of apartheid planning. Also, increased numbers of public transport routes and improvements to Cape Town's bus service will be widely welcome — with economic benefits to all commuters.

Exposure to customers from every nation and culture should improve service in the tourist industry. For instance, in the restaurant and hotel business, the needs of different cultural groups will have to be catered for. This, as well as faster and friendlier service, should eventually draw a wider mix of tourists to Cape Town. Van der Ross believes excellence in the tourist industry to be a necessary and cost-effective approach to job creation.

A South Africa with greater numbers of employed people and greater foreign investment will generate increased tax revenues. This will have favourable implications for both the health and education sectors. Van der Ross's view is that a pronounced international profile for the Mother City will naturally stimulate investor interest — and job opportunities — in the rest of the country.

A Cape Town gearing up for greater numbers of visitors will want to showcase its natural treasures — be it fynbos, coastline or mountains.

Cape Town city manager Andrew Boraine expressed confidence in this regard. "We are committed to a successfully managed city and welcome the Olympic Games because it represents foreign investment — which creates jobs and wealth," he said. "The city has a very strong conservation policy, both of the natural and built environments. For example, the slopes of Table Mountain as well as historical buildings feature in our protection plan."

The Bid Company Report claims that the Games will stimulate effective measures to check the spread of crime in tourist centres. This is partly because of the International Olympic Committee's (IOC's) safety and security needs at Olympic host cities. A strong international media focus on Cape Town will also stimulate such measures.

Western Cape attorney-general Frank Kahn, when asked his views on this, said: "Cape Town will be prioritised from the point of view of resources ... (this focus) could even become an experiment for reducing crime levels."

Western Cape MEC for Sport Lerumo Kalako believes an Olympic win will also reduce crime in the longer term. He maintains that a seven-year focus on the ideals of Olympic movement will be a tonic for a corruption- and crime-ridden society.

Kalako claimed that the youth, especially, would have a counterbalance to drugs, street gangs and other social evils. "If we win the Games, then for seven years up to 2004, a whole generation of primary and high schoolchildren will be touched, directly or indirectly, by the ideals of Olympic movement. This should set a positive tone for SA in the 21st century," he said.

Another member of the provincial parliament, Tasneem Essop said: "If won, the Olympics must serve to draw those who are on the margins of Cape Town society into a pact for development."

Many leading figures in the community are convinced that Cape Town offers something unique to the spirit of the Olympics and that hosting the Games will significantly improve living conditions for people on the Cape Peninsula.

Gordon Oliver, the CEO of Captour, put it this way: "What South Africans need most desperately is to focus on a goal. An Olympic Games would, by a sheer surge of patriotism, make all South Africans focus like never before."

Tygerberg's mayor, Lucas Olivier, said: "We are in full support of the Bid, the main reason being that the Tygerberg has vast areas (such as Khayelitsha and Delft) where people have been disadvantaged and where few facilities exist. The reality is that we have to create facilities for the people anyway. What the Olympic Games will do for the city of Tygerberg is to enable it — through capital inflows — to establish facilities sooner and not at overwhelming cost to the rate-payer."

The impression that a great majority in Cape Town favour the bid was also conveyed by Crosby Booi, regional secretary of the South African Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu). He said that his union along with its umbrella body, Cosatu, supports the bid.

Some Capetonians, however, are opposed to the bid. One of them is Ivan Williams of the "Stop The 2004 Olympic Bid Forum".

Williams claimed: "An Olympic Games cannot address the priorities of a country that has just emerged from an oppressive past. These priorities are housing, employment, proper health and education services, and combating crime.

"SA is a Third World country with little infrastructure — which should firstly be put in place. Furthermore, its burgeoning population means that providing basic services is the ongoing priority."

He contrasted the bid-projected job increase of 110 000 with the current Western Cape unemployment figure of more than 300 000.

According to him, the unemployment figure would increase to "well over 500 000" in the event of a win. This was because "people from all over South Africa and Africa would flock to Cape Town in search of jobs".

Williams predicted that Cape Town would face a crisis because of the pressure on schools, hospitals and basic services. He is also sceptical of the developmental nature of the bid.

The view of Vincent Colby, trustee of the District Six Museum Foundation, was that "some people would make a lot of money from a Cape Town Games". He was, however, not sure about its overall benefit to Cape Town's historically disadvantaged people.

People strongly supportive of the bid are keen to be heard and made some perceptive comments in response to the question: what unique aspect does Cape Town have to offer the Olympic movement?

The Premier of the Western Cape, Hernus Kriel, said: "Cape Town and its surrounding areas boast a pollution-free and fresh-air environment, which is equalled by no other contender. In addition, the city is prepared and competent and has the technical ability to host the Games."

He also said that it has available space for housing and other facilities, a new transport plan and the commitment and support of the majority of the public.

"All of this shows that Cape Town is offering much more than the other contenders."

The rector of Stellenbosch University, Professor Andreas van Wyk, said that Cape Town uniquely offers "the excitement of a founding city, engaged in building a new society". He also said it could be a model for similar societies in future.

On putting the question to Achmat Davids, who is renowned for his intimate knowledge of the culture and history of Cape Town, his immediate response was: "The mountain and impressive scenic beauty."

Davids supports the bid because of its "potential for reconstruction" and said that Cape Town, as "an example of a melting-pot situation", is appropriate at the turn of the century. He also felt that its distinctive way of life, music and culture would deliver a receptive international audience to the Olympic movement.

A comment made by a member of the Provincial Parliament, Lynette Brown, hints at the city's unique potential. She said that people are increasingly enthusiastic about a win. Indeed, given the outstanding technical work of the Bid Company, that enthusiasm can assure a successful first African Olympic Games.

Such a prize may be the best on offer to the IOC.

❑ *Mark Pretorius is a freelance journalist.*

JUDICIAL INQUIRY URGED

Consider financial aspect over winning of Games

(288)

ET 29/8/97

FOSTERING THE GROWTH of secondary economic regions is a factor that should be considered regarding the siting of Parliament, says the Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry. **DIANE CASSERE** reports.

ANY decision to relocate Parliament should be based on the financial and other considerations that bear directly on Parliament and how it operates, says the president of the Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mr Ali Gierdien.

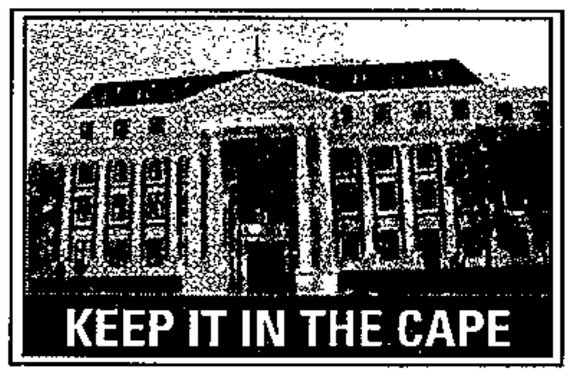
Gierdien adds that winning the Olympic Games should have nothing to do with the location of Parliament and that the two issues should be separated.

Reacting to reports that Cape Town could lose Parliament, Gierdien said that the Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry supported President Nelson Mandela's statement of July 1 in which he said that a mechanism should be found for all South Africans, irrespective of their province, to exchange views to reaching consensus on where Parliament should be.

Gierdien says that the Constitutional Assembly had already considered the issue of where Parliament should be and had decided on Cape Town: "This decision followed a broad consultative process and was based on a wide range of submissions, including that of this chamber.

"It has enormous economic, political and other implications — not only for the regions involved, but also for the nation. The decision of the Constitutional Assembly to site Parliament in Cape Town was taken democratically and unless there is overwhelming evidence to the contrary, this decision should not be changed," says Gierdien.

"However, we urge that any debate relating to the seat of Parliament be conducted publicly and with a full opportunity for input by all interested parties. We believe that the relative strength of individual lobbies, vested interests and/or political factors should not be allowed to override conclusions drawn on the basis of a dispassionate consideration of all the economic, political and other practical implications relating to the seat of Parliament."



Gierdien said any review of the siting of Parliament should not be focused solely on the immediate effects of a move, but also on the requirements of Parliament in 10 to 20 years: "Advances in communications technology and changes in the way that Parliament functions have already resulted in efficiencies.

"Over the past 10 years, the number of executive and administrative support staff that have had to move to Cape Town annually for Parliament has decreased substantially. Rapid technological advances in the future can be expected to further change the way that Parliament functions, and this needs to be taken into account.

"Estimates of any cost of any move also need to be treated with caution," warns Gierdien. "Experience has shown that estimates are invariably short of the mark. The estimate for moving the Provincial Government from Pretoria to Johannesburg, for example, was R22 million, whereas the actual cost of the move proved to be more than double that.

"We wish to emphasise that regard must be had not only for the direct costs of any proposed move, but also for the broader economic effects. Experience around the world underlines the importance of fostering the growth of secondary economic regions to relieve infrastructural pressures and inefficiencies that result from over-concentration.

"Gauteng already dominates the economy, providing 43% of the GDP. Any move to this region would aggravate the over-concentration of economic power there. Parliament influences the location of ancillary government functions and support services, as well as foreign diplomatic missions and head offices of major corporations. The extent of this impact needs to be carefully assessed."

Gierdien says that the chamber believes the best mechanism to ensure that the decision-making process is generally perceived to be fair and equitable and in the best interests of the country, would be a public judicial inquiry: "We propose that this issue be referred to a judicial Commission of Inquiry with wide terms of reference to hear all arguments and take a decision based on the national interest."

Chance to air siting debate

KARIN SCHIMKE

THE debate on keeping Parliament in Cape Town will intensify if the city is chosen to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

The topic is likely to arise today when President Nelson Mandela addresses the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) for the first time since it started business at the beginning of this year.

His address is expected to be a mid-term review of the government's progress this year, and the problems it is having in carrying out policies.

During the debate that follows, Western Cape members of the NCOP are likely to bring up some of their provincial gripes, one being the suggestion that Parliament be moved from Cape Town.

An emotive issue is the perception that a handful of key figures will decide on whether or not Parliament stays. The counter-argument is that the issue should be publicly debated before a free vote in Parliament.

The ANC is to take an official position on the matter at its October 10 national executive meeting, and the decision will then be ratified at its Mafikeng conference in December.

Mandela has committed himself to open deliberation, saying it was something "the people" would decide. This statement may prompt politicians to try to get him to agree to a referendum.

Recent reports show an underlying current of opinion that if Cape Town gets the Olympics it should not also be allowed to keep Parliament. Western Cape politicians have slammed this as further evidence that the province is being "punished".

Ball reins in enthusiasm about Olympic bid

(288)

Tim Cohen

LONDON — Cape Town bid committee chairman Chris Ball yesterday put a damper on over-enthusiasm about Cape Town's chances, claiming not to be encouraged by a dramatic fall in the odds on Cape Town hosting the 2004 games at British betting shops.

It was impossible to predict the outcome of the voting, which would take place next Friday in Lucerne, Switzerland, he said. Although Cape Town would put in a strong bid, the race to host the 2004 Olympics was still wide open.

He said this round of bidding to host the games was one of the tightest ever, with all the cities having a chance.

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BD 29/8/97

Commission backs union officials' right to access

Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — The Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration (CCMA) has ordered the University of Durban-Westville to partially lift banning and suspension orders on two union officials so that they can act on behalf of the union on the campus.

The affected union, the Combined Staff Association (Comsa), represents about 70% of employees at the university. Comsa hailed the ruling as "progressive", saying that the new Labour Relations Act had "fundamentally altered the common law rights to private property of employers".

The university had suspended staff member and Comsa office bearer Prea Banwari pending the outcome of a disciplinary hearing into claims that he had been involved in acts of serious misconduct during campus conflict.

Heinrich Bohmke, a Comsa full-time organiser who was not a university employee, was banned from the campus on the grounds that he was an "undesirable person", a decision reached on the findings of a government-appointed commission of inquiry into campus conflict.

Comsa challenged the decision, saying the two union representatives were entitled to enter university premises to conduct their official union duties. In preventing Banwari and Bohmke from doing so, rights conferred to the union in terms of the Labour Relations Act had been breached. The two wanted to attend the union's annual general council meeting on campus. The union also wanted them to be representatives in wage negotiations, but university management had refused to allow this.

Defending its position, the university argued that organisational rights were collective rights, and not individual rights. Comsa had not been deprived of these collective rights because of Bohmke's banning and Banwari's suspension.

CCMA commissioner E van Zuydman said the suspension and banning did not constitute an unfair labour practice. However, Comsa was entitled to exercise its organisational rights through its elected office bearers and appointed officials. Banwari and Bohmke should be given access to the campus, but only for the purposes of participating in wage negotiations and the annual general meeting.

Comsa said the finding meant the Act vested the organisational rights of unions in individuals. It was no longer possible for employers to exclude those whom they regarded as "undesirable" union officials from negotiating teams.

BD 29/8/97

Premiership election aborted

Vuyo Mvoko

THE Gauteng premiership battle took another turn yesterday with the announcement that all proceedings to date had been aborted after being found to have "generated a lot more heat than light".

Outgoing premier Tokyo Sexwale said he had now decided to "break the logjam" by first stepping down from the provincial chairmanship of the African National Congress (ANC), instead of

surances at the ANC provincial general council on August 18 the that premiership would be decided by election.

At that stage there were two candidates — provincial ANC treasurer Amos Masondo, favoured by the leadership, and deputy chairman Mathole Motshekga, the branch favourite.

Sexwale, addressing a news conference yesterday, said the ANC's branches had been consulted on Tuesday and had "in principle" accepted the new ap-

proach. He denied they had

Ball reins in enthusiasm about Olympic bid

(288)

Tim Cohen

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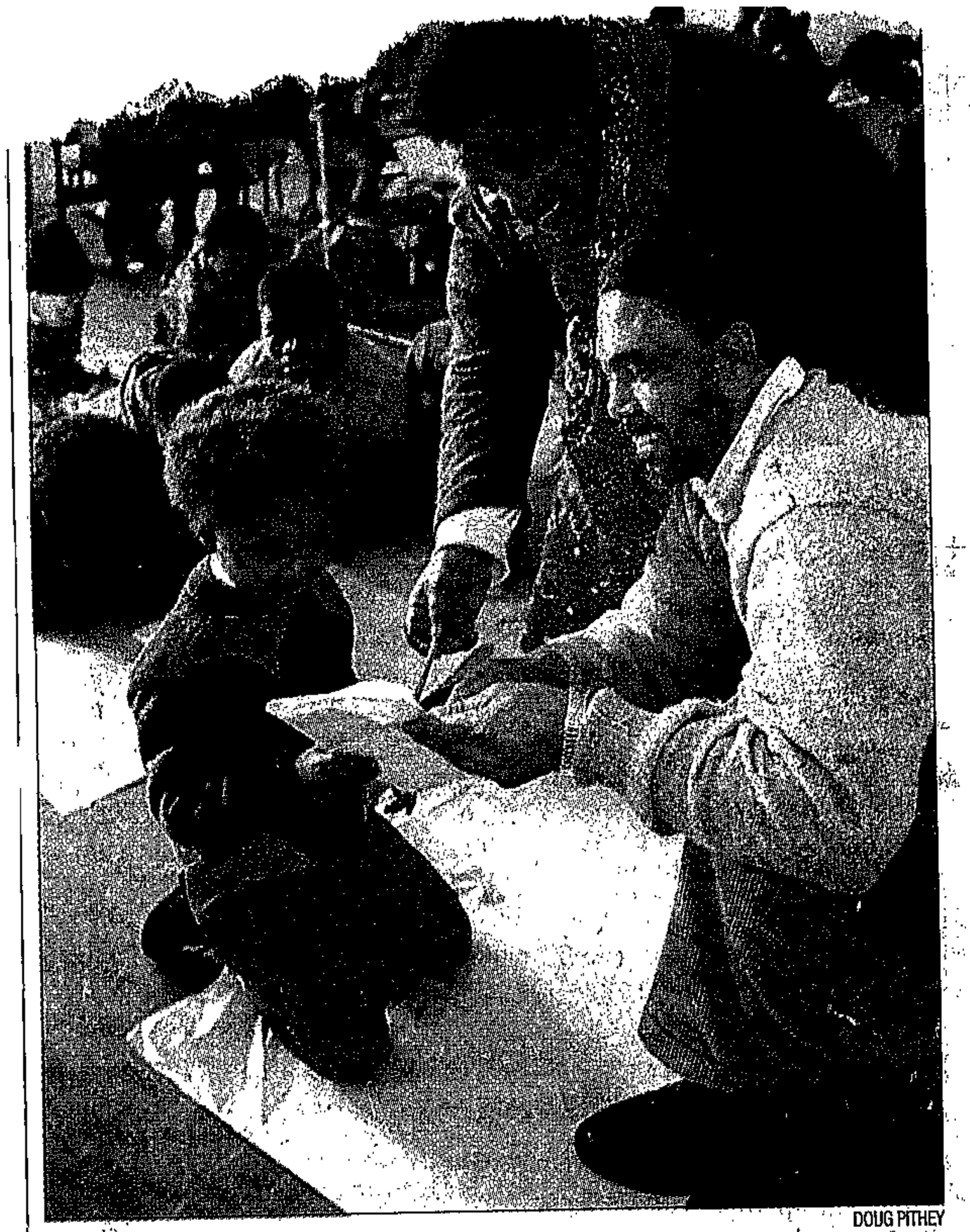
BD 29/8/97



DOUG PITHEY

The other side: Fiaz Noordien of Legend Tours with Maureen Jacobs, principal of the Chris Hani Literacy Centre in Langa, and pupil Siphokazi Tabalaza, 6, during one of his tours

Tourists take walk on the wild side

ARG 29/8/97 (288)

Pioneer tour an eye-opener

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
TOURISM REPORTER

Foreign visitors to Cape Town are increasingly demanding to see everything the Mother City has to offer – not just the traditional tourist hotspots of the Waterfront and Table Mountain.

The new type of "pioneer tourist" is interested in the city's history and its people, yet the mainstream tourism industry has not yet cottoned on to this, says emerging tour operator Fiaz Noordien, owner of Legend Tours in Lansdowne.

As one of only a handful of operators offering cross-cultural tours of Cape Town, Mr Noordien caters for this new market by exposing tourists to the city's rich cultural tapestry from the Bo-Kaap to District Six, to the townships, the Cape Flats and Robben Island.

His "Walk to Freedom tour" is not only a hit with foreigners but has also become popular among Capetonians who want to learn more about the diverse city in which they live. For many of them it is an eye-opener.

The tour is also increasingly being used as a way to "bridge the gap" between schoolchildren and students from the various local communities.

After 12 years as a taxi driver in the central city, Mr Noordien saw a gap in the tourism industry in 1995.

Overcoming severe financial constraints and a lack of support from tourism authorities, Mr Noordien says his business has grown slowly into a highly successful operation.

Give us Games for growth, Ball urges IOC voters

'Cape Town can deliver'

TYRONE SEALE
FOREIGN SERVICE

London – The International Olympic Committee should consider awarding the Games in future specifically to stimulate growth in countries or regions, says Cape Town's bid chief, Chris Ball.

Mr Ball was in London yesterday to brief international media with just a week to go before the International Olympic Committee announces its decision.

He said awarding the Games to Cape Town presented a unique opportunity to the IOC to stimulate growth in South Africa and the rest of the continent.

Sitting alongside High Commissioner Mendi Msimang in South Africa House, he affirmed that Cape Town was leading an African bid.

And then he declared that he was "an African, a white African" whose family had been in Africa for 320 years.

Asked to rate Cape Town's chances, Mr Ball said there was at this stage no clear leader in the race for IOC approval in Lausanne, Switzerland, next Friday.

While venturing that the stronger candidates were certain to emerge during the next few days, he naturally gave Cape Town the benefit of his lack of doubt.

"We plan to win; we think we can win, but this should always be a friendly competition. The process is extremely important for each city."

Later, discussing the sophistication of Cape Town's technical plans and the projects completed to date, he said: "Cape Town is prepared. Cape Town can deliver and Cape Town will deliver."

As proof of the friendly spirit in which Cape Town approached the home straight, Mr Ball, the banker turned professional Olympian torch-bearer, revealed that Cape Town had expressed support to Stockholm, where anti-Games saboteurs have bombed stadiums.

He hoped IOC voters would not be influenced by the bombings.

Turning to opposition to Cape Town's bid, he said the source was a small band of people who had a background in sport and felt excluded by changes in sport since the democratic transition.

"There's nothing that causes us to have concern," he said about his opponents who, he added, had misconceptions about the impact of the Games on housing provision, for example.

He said these campaigners were arguing that houses should be built instead of sports facilities.

Mr Ball said the problem in South Africa was not the provision of housing so much as it was the creation of jobs that would pay for new houses.

The 2004 Games would create 100 000 permanent jobs through an estimated one percent increase in gross domestic product, and those jobs in turn would be able to support the construction of 100 000 houses.

But, he said, South Africa would not be the only country to benefit.

The Government was investigating how to help other African states in providing facilities along the route along which the Olympic torch would be carried by Africa's finest athletes in the six months leading up to the Games.

A fund had also been set up to collect money for sport elsewhere in Africa.

Mr Ball expressed the wish that IOC members from developing countries would consider the developmental implications of the Cape Town Games for Africa; and that IOC voters from more developed countries would see it in the same way, and that they would regard this as a unique opportunity.

"The impact of the Olympic Games on Africa is nothing less than awesome, and the impact is on people," he said.

The spirit of the Olympics could be harnessed as a catalyst to promote growth in areas where it was needed.



ROY WIGLEY

Cheers! finance director Michael Fuller and lobbyist Carla Jones, show off the new-look bid wardrobe



With love from: Desireé Marthinus, left, and Charlotte Volkwyn with Madiba's new shirt

Madiba spoiled for a choice in Bid wardrobe

President Mandela has quite a choice of attire for when he arrives in Lausanne later in the week.

In addition to the bid shirt unveiled this week, local designers have been hard at work conceiving and producing Olympic-motif wear fit for a president.

Anne Eales, owner of the Naartjie store, helped by pattern-maker Desireé Marthinus and machinist Charlotte Volkwyn, has come up with a comic, colourful version featuring animals of Africa cavorting Olympic-style. Another alternative – and just as colourful – based in part on the bid logo, has been produced by Ruth Prowse textile design students.

The bid presentation team is also getting a new look courtesy of Woolworths – sleek, mandarin suits, set off with Ndebele-inspired beadwork. – Staff Reporter

Winning would be big Green light for city

MICHAEL MORRIS
ON THE OLYMPIC BID

Development under the aegis of the Olympic Games would be "the best thing possible" for the environment because it would take place under the most stringent conditions, says the head of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) in South Africa.

Ian Macdonald, chief executive of the WWF, said: "We have a strong belief that the environmental legacy of the Olympic Games would be extremely valuable for South Africa and Cape Town.

"We know that we will need massive development in the years to come to meet the requirements of our urbanising population, and it will be a very good thing for the environment if development takes place under the stringent conditions of the Olympics, and the scrutiny to which all projects will be subjected."

He added: "Development under the aegis of the Olympics is the best possible thing for the future of the environment in our country."

Dr Macdonald made these remarks on receiving a cheque for R22 500 from the Bid Company. The money will go towards the Table Mountain Fund.

Bid Company finance director Michael Fuller said the money derived from royalties earned through the bid's licensing programme. "In the early days of the bid, we committed ourselves to giving R25 000 to the WWF and this cheque (for R22 500) is the final payment."

Mary-Jane Morris, environmental expert at the Bid Company, said: "This donation is significant in terms of its contribution to conserving a natural asset that is very special to Capetonians and I am thrilled that we have been able to see through this commitment."

Sprint stars back Rome, but we're in the running

Cantania, Sicily – Sprint stars Merlene Ottey and Gail Devers say they support Rome's 2004 Olympic bid while Nigerian 100 metres specialists Osmond and Davidson Ezinwa argue the Games should go to Africa.

Jamaica's Juliet Cuthbert said yesterday she wanted the Italian capital to win the right to host the Games while Canada's Bruny Surin said they should go to either Rome or Cape Town.

None of the runners, who were in Sicily for a "festival of sprint" at the World Student Games this weekend, said the Olympics should be awarded to Athens.

"My gut feeling is that Rome will get it (the 2004 Games)," Olympic 100 metres champion Devers said. "I'm only basing that on 1987 when I was in Rome for the world championships and the Italians put on a great event with a great atmosphere."

Ottey, who spoke to reporters in Italian, said: "Rome's bid for 2004 is good. I just like Italy and I like Rome."

A Reuters poll of international sports federations, sponsors and journalists showed 16 out of 21 contributors thought Rome would be the first choice of the International Olympic Committee.

The Ezinwa brothers said they felt the IOC should accept Cape Town's bid.

"It's too bad Rome and Cape Town are both bidding at the same time," Davidson Ezinwa said. "Rome has a great bid but the rightful place for the Olympics to go right now is Cape Town and Africa." – Reuter

Now we're favourites for 2004

F21/8

ARG 29/8/97 (288)

Tough final week

Cape Town begins the final push for the 2004 Olympic Games as the favourite among local punters – but facing tough opposition from European rivals and a gruelling week of tactful lobbying in Lausanne.

From an opening call of 7-1 a few weeks ago, the odds on Cape Town have shortened to 8-10, nudging Rome into second place on the local book.

Punters "are getting really excited", according to Michael Hayman bookmakers. "We've never seen anything like this."

The excitement is mounting elsewhere too. So is the tension.

As the anti-bid lobby prepares to stage a demonstration tomorrow to argue the case for postponing the bid until 2008, the bid team and support staff from all levels of government and the private sector are packing today for Switzerland.

Their mood is bullish, but all realise it will be a tough contest.

An indication of perceptions in Europe emerges from a Reuter poll – of 21 unnamed respondents, presumably from the sporting world – which gives Rome a crushing lead and dismisses Cape Town as a no-hoper.

Cape Town lobbyists question the credentials of the respondents, citing the curious observation in the Reuter story that "a lack of support from the black community has overshadowed the bid". In fact the opposite is true.

Without doubt, Cape Town has garnered more support than many Europeans imagine, and the strategy for next week will focus on consolidating it.

The bid presentation team will be projecting a striking blend of sophistication and African vibrance in black mandarin suits with Ndebele-inspired beadwork on the collar. Lobbyists will wear neutral-toned stone suits with navy zebra-design shirts, scarves and ties. The "new-look" outfits form part of Woolworths' R500 000 contribution to the bid. The store's design team consulted top designers Elzbieta Rosenwerth and Don Simelane.

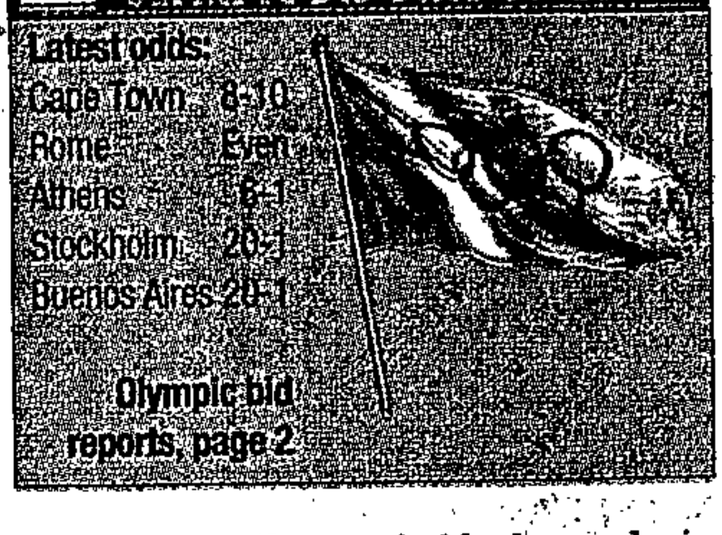
■ Michael Morris leaves for Lausanne tonight, and will provide comprehensive coverage of events in the Olympic capital over the next week.

MICHAEL MORRIS



ON THE OLYMPIC BID

7 OLYMPIC BID DAYS TO GO





Up, up and away: Ruwayda Edries leads SAA staff to Lausanne, Switzerland where Cape Town hopes to win the bid for the 2004 Olympic Games

Team jets off with Cape Town's 2004 hopes

ARG 30/8/97 (288)

DEIRDRE HUSSEY AND MICHAEL MORRIS

A high powered management team of the Cape Town Olympic Bid Company winged their way to Switzerland from the Mother City last night – carrying with them the hopes of millions that they will win the 2004 Games Cape for Cape Town, South Africa and Africa.

They hope to celebrate with the rest of the continent the announcement on September 5 that the Mother City will host the 2004 Olympic Games.

But while hopes are high that the Mother City will be successful in its efforts, anti-bid lobbyists, including People Against Gangsterism & Drugs (Pagad), will today consider whether they will go ahead with a motorcade through the streets of Wynberg and Mowbray to show their "disgust" at the bid. The groups have been denied permission by the Cape Town City Council to hold the procession, but Pagad maintains that they do not need permission and that they simply applied for a permit as "courtesy to the city".

The five-city contest draws to a close in less than a week when the International Olympic Committee concludes its 106th session in Lausanne with a secret ballot to choose the host city for the 2004 Games.

There were singing, dancing, hugs and kisses as the first of two Olympic delegations left for Switzerland.

The team which includes Cape Town mayor, Theresa Solomon, was seen off at the airport by well-wishers and family members.

"The bid process alone has been amazing experience for our city," said Mrs Solomon.

"We are confident when we come home on the 7th, we will come home with 2004."

The bigger team, led by Sports Minister Steve Tshwete flies out in SAA's brightly liveried Ndizani jumbo tomorrow.

A key element will be the appearance of both President Mandela and his deputy, Thabo Mbeki, in the final presentation team for the last shot at influencing the 111-member IOC on the morning of the vote.

■ Full details of the result, filed by Michael Morris in Lausanne, reports on the legacy of the bidding phase and the prospects for the future of Cape Town will be published in a special edition of Saturday Argus next weekend. **Going for gold, page 24**

Saturday Star
August 30 1997

On your marks, get set ... go for gold, Cape Town!

Star 30/8/97 (288)

By DEIRDRE HUSSEY and MICHAEL MORRIS

Cape Town's bid team is winging its way to Switzerland this weekend, bearing the Olympic hopes of the city and the continent as the race for gold enters the last lap.

The five-city contest draws to a close in less than a week when the International Olympic Committee concludes its 106th session in Lausanne with a secret ballot to choose the host city for the 2004 Games.

Two teams are flying out this weekend. The first, comprising mainly support staff, left last night. The bigger team, led by Sports Minister Steve Tshwete, and Cape Town's mayors Theresa Solomon and William Bantom, fly out in SAA's brightly liveried Ndizani jumbo tomorrow.

South Africa will be counting on a technically accomplished plan, a considered and tactful lobbying strategy and a dash of African flair to get the Games.

A key element will be the appearance of both President Nelson Mandela and his deputy Thabo Mbeki in the final presentation team for the last shot at influencing the 111-member IOC on the morning of the vote.

But sentiment is not all. While Rome, Cape Town's toughest rival, is known to be troubled by a showdown between the Mother City and the Eternal City, the Italian capital has good reason to be confident in the technical quality of its bid.

Three camps

Athens, for all the often petulant fallout after the recent world athletics championships there, is a strong contender too.

And Stockholm and Buenos Aires should not be discounted. Both have appeal and supporters. What has emerged is that there are essentially three kinds of thinking in the IOC.

The purists, who are concerned chiefly about the technical aspects of the event and are unmoved by matters of sentiment or geopolitics, will support Rome. The sentimental bloc, who warm to the prospect of seeing the Games return to its Olympian roots, favour Athens – especially since the Greek capital lost the centennial event to Atlanta.

And then there's the political vote: those who want to see Africa brought in from the cold. Crucially, though, the positions may not be as fixed, at this point, as in the past.

There is reason to believe that, in the minds of the IOC, there is no clear favourite. Each of the three groupings is a strong factor, but as the vote progresses there could be a decisive degree of fluidity.

Cape Town's chances will improve after the first of probably four rounds. Over the next week, the Cape Town lobbying team will try to capitalise on this fluidity. It requires sophisticated, tactful lobbying: you want round-one foes to be round-three friends.

■ Full details of the result filed by Michael Morris on the spot in Lausanne, plus reports on the legacy of the bidding phase and prospects for the future of Cape Town, will be published in a special edition of the *Saturday Star* next weekend.

■ See Page 9

Call to consider Olympic hosts' need for growth

Star 30/8/97

By TYRONE SEALE

(288)

London – Stimulating growth in countries and regions that need it should be a primary consideration when the International Olympic Committee in future decides on allocating host cities for the Games.

This recommendation comes from Chris Ball, chief executive officer of the Cape Town 2004 Olympic bid company, who was in London this week to brief international media with just a week to go before the IOC announces its decision.

Ball said awarding the Games to Cape Town presented a unique opportunity to the IOC to stimulate growth in South Africa and the rest of the continent.

Sitting alongside high commissioner Mendi Msimang in South Africa House, he affirmed that Cape Town was leading an African bid.

Asked to rate Cape Town's chances, Ball said there was at this stage no clear leader in the race for IOC approval in Lausanne on Friday.

"We plan to win; we think we can win, but this should always be a friendly competition. The process is extremely important for each city."

Later, discussing the sophistication of Cape Town's technical plans and the projects completed so far, he said: "Cape Town is prepared. Cape Town can deliver and Cape Town will deliver."

As proof of the friendly spirit in which Cape Town approached the home straight, the banker-turned-professional Olympic torch-bearer revealed that Cape Town had expressed its support to Stockholm, where anti-Olympic saboteurs recently bombed stadiums.
– Independent Foreign Service

Hidden countdown to the sealed envelope

Process of elimination will decide winning city

(288)

ST 31/8/97

COLIN BRYDEN
Lausanne

A SERIES of secret ballots will decide the host city for the 2004 Olympics — but the city which gains the most votes in the first round will not necessarily be the winner.

After each of the five candidate cities has made a 55-minute presentation on Friday, the 109 eligible IOC members will vote.

In order to stage the Games, a city has to win an outright majority of the votes. Assuming all 109 voters cast their ballots, 55 votes will be needed.

Because there are five candidate cities this year, it is unlikely there will be a winner on the first ballot. Judge Keba Mbaye of Senegal, one of the members, will head a team of three scrutineers who will count the votes.

If there is no winner, the city with the fewest votes will be eliminated and the members will vote again, with four candidates. This process will be repeated until there is a winner.

Members will not be told the figures for each round on Friday so as to prevent early results influencing succeeding ballots. When the winner is finally chosen, Judge Mbaye and the scrutineers will be the only people who know which city has won. Then IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch will be handed a sealed envelope which will be opened only when he announces the winner at about 6.30pm.

Since the success of the 1984 Games in Los Angeles, many cities have bid for the Olympics. Los Angeles was the only candidate in 1977 when the 1984 Games were awarded, and Seoul had only to defeat the bid by Nagoya, Japan, in 1981 when the hosts for 1988 were decided.

After Los Angeles made a big profit in 1984, six cities bid for the 1992 Games, with Barcelona winning in the third round from Paris, Brisbane, Belgrade, Birmingham and Amsterdam.

There was a hotly contested race for the Centennial Games of 1996, with Athens the emotional favourites to be the hosts 100 years after staging the first modern Olympics. Athens led the voting through the first two rounds as Belgrade, then Manchester were eliminated. Melbourne and Toronto also fell out, with most of their supporters voting for Atlanta, which won in the final round by 51 votes to 35.

Four years ago the race for the 2000 Games produced the closest contest yet. Beijing had the most votes in each of the first three rounds, with Sydney in second place. Istanbul and Berlin were early casualties, with Manchester dropping out after three rounds. At that stage Beijing had 40 votes, Sydney 37 and Manchester 11. But in the final round Sydney prevailed by 45 votes to 43. One more vote for Beijing, and Samaranch would have had to exercise his casting vote.

By electing a host city seven years before each Olympics, the IOC ensures it has a major event each year. The Winter Olympics will be held in Nagano, Japan, next year. The hosts for the 2006 Winter Games will be elected in 1999. The Summer Games in Sydney will be the focus in 2000.

The IOC will milk the maximum amount of publicity from Friday's vote by turning a simple democratic procedure into a worldwide television event. It is a condition of candidature that each city stages a public party so television viewers will see pictures from each of the five finalist cities before the announcement. This will be followed by pictures of celebrations in the winning city.

Capetonians will gather on the city's Grand Parade where live music and fireworks have been promised.



Anti-bid protest fizzles out

YVETTE VAN BREDA ST 31/8/97 (288)

A MOTORCADE to protest the 2004 Olympic bid fizzled out in a confusion of traffic congestion, pouring rain, and month-end shoppers in Claremont yesterday.

The Stop the 2004 Olympic Bid Forum and the anti-crime group Pagad joined forces and planned the motorcade for the Cape Flats and southern suburbs.

But the protest action was fraught with difficulties from the beginning when people arriving at Athlone stadium to start the motorcade were turned away by a large contingent of police, who arrived with huge rolls of barbed wire and declared the action illegal.

Earlier a police spokesman said the application to hold the motorcade had been turned down because it would disrupt traffic.

After being refused entry to the stadium, a group with about 80 cars agreed to meet at a busy parking lot in Claremont. There, a heavy downpour, month-end shoppers and traffic caused so much confusion that the motorcade was called off.

Determined groups distributed anti-bid pamphlets in shopping centres while a few more followed the original route, displaying anti-bid posters on their cars.

Forum spokesman Harry Hendricks said he believed the application had been turned down because of the possibility that traffic could be disrupted, but he did not rule out the possibility that it was also turned down because it would attract adverse publicity for Cape Town's bid.

"The council is behind the bid and they do not want any bad publicity or opposition to be seen in Lausanne," said another protester.

Who's the fairest of them all?

Cape Town has one more hurdle in the final lap of its sprint for the 2004 Games — the other contenders for the prize

ST 31/8/97
(288)

COLIN BRYDEN
Sunday Times man on the spot reports from Lausanne, Switzerland



TO WIN its bid to host the 2004 Games, Cape Town will have to write a new chapter in Olympic bidding history. Never before have International Olympic Committee members awarded the Games to a country outside Europe three times in a row.

Cape Town will pit politics, an emotional appeal by President Nelson Mandela and the beauty of the Cape against the proven expertise of Europe in the final sprint for the 2004 Olympics.

The race will end on Friday at 6.30pm, when Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president of the IOC, will announce the host city.

"That we are one of the finalists means the IOC is confident we can stage the Games," said a bid insider.

"But the fact is that in terms of facilities, Cape Town rates fifth out of the five. What makes our bid unique is the political importance of taking the Games to Africa for the first time."

Mandela's presence at the final presentation in Lausanne, Switzerland, on Friday morning is a trump card none of the other four finalists can match.

A Cape Town victory would also defy the popular Olympic wisdom that no country wins the bid at the first attempt. When Sydney was awarded the 2000 Games it followed unsuccessful bids by two other Australian cities — Brisbane and Melbourne — for the 1992 and the 1996 Games.

Although five cities are in contention, most observers believe it is a three-horse race. Buenos Aires has always been regarded as an outsider, while acts of sabotage by a protest group have undermined Stockholm's campaign.

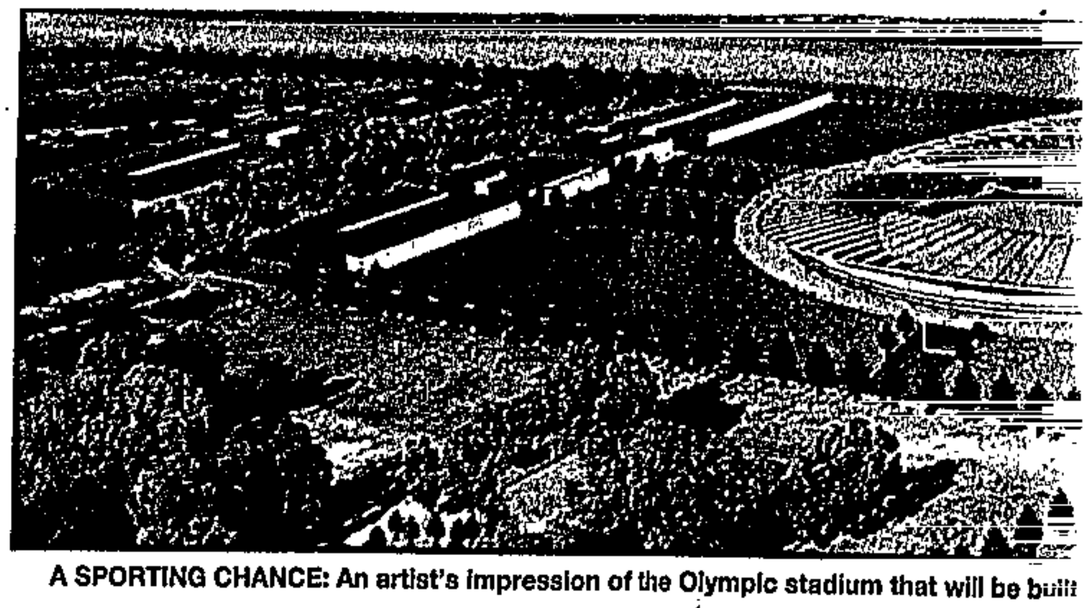
Rome and Athens — two great, ancient cities — are Cape Town's main rivals. Rome has long been the bookmakers' favourite, but Athens has a compelling case.

If Mandela's appeal does not sway wavering voters on Friday, it could be the sentimental tug of a return to the roots of the Olympic Games that wins the biggest prize in sport.

THE OLYMPIC BID WEB SITES

CAPE TOWN
http://www.ct2004.org.za/
ATHENS 2004
http://www.athens2004.gr/
ROME 2004
http://www.roma2004.it/
BUENOS AIRES 2004
http://argentina.commerce.com/BA2004/ingles/index.html
STOCKHOLM 2004
http://www.stockholm2004.se/
INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE
http://www.olympic.org/

THE CONTENDERS



A SPORTING CHANCE: An artist's impression of the Olympic stadium that will be built

ATHENS 2004
CANDIDATE CITY

TWO factors conspired against Athens's bid to host the 1996 Olympics: unacceptable levels of air pollution and the slick lobbying of IOC members by Atlanta's marketing experts.

Athens has mounted a far more sophisticated campaign this time, and can boast that air pollution is being brought under control.

The recent world athletics championships in the proposed Olympic stadium were a crucial, expensive test. It seemed money down the drain when a disappointing crowd watched the first day and Primo Nebiolo, the athletics boss and a prime mover of Rome's bid, savaged the organisers.

But Nebiolo's opportunism proved to be a double-edged sword.

More than any other finalist, the Athens bid has overwhelming support from the local populace. The stadium was packed for the remaining days, IOC guests were impressed by the organisation and Nebiolo was widely criticised for his uncouthness.

BUENOS AIRES 2004

SO PLEASED was Buenos Aires to make the short list ahead of South American rivals Rio de Janeiro that the Argentinian city describes itself proudly as "finalist city". It is unlikely it will be able to replace that tag with "Olympic hosts".

Buenos Aires put together a strong bid that has the enthusiastic support of President Carlos Menem, a renowned sports fan. No fewer than 24 of the 28 sports facilities would be in an Olympic corridor, a feature that greatly impressed the evaluation commission.

The city has a good transport infrastructure and a reasonable number of hotel rooms.

The biggest concern for the IOC would be the ability of the Argentinians to deliver on their financial guarantees, given a recent past of economic problems. It is also a disadvantage that Argentinians have a poor record in the Olympics, not having won a gold medal since 1952.

CAPE TOWN 2004

INITIALLY criticised by the very African members in whose names it said it was bidding, Cape Town's message of an Olympic Games for Africa has gained momentum in the crucial closing weeks of the campaign.

A key factor has been the personal involvement of Deputy President Thabo Mbeki. The bid ties in with his vision of an African renaissance.

Many IOC members expressed concern about what would happen after Mandela's retirement. Mbeki has used the bid as a platform to indicate that he will provide strong, stable leadership into the new millennium.

IOC members have praised the technical quality of Cape Town's bid, and they generally seem to have been impressed by the city's infrastructure and its potential.

Three "test" events were staged successfully, including the world junior cycling championships at the impressive Bellville Velodrome.

The hosting of the 1995 Rugby World Cup and the 1996 Soccer Cup of Nations underlines South Africa's ability to organise big sports events.

Crime was cited as a concern by the evaluation commission, on whose reports the original 11 candidate cities were trimmed to five in March.

The bid company is confident the problem can be contained, and it has not featured as a major issue with IOC members.

ROMA 2004
CANDIDATE CITY

THE favourite virtually since it announced its candidacy, Rome may yet prove the truth of the adage that cities cannot win a bid in the closing weeks of a campaign, but they can lose it.

The fact that it staged the Games in 1960 may count against it, but Rome has easily the best infrastructure of the bidding cities, judging by the evaluation commission's reports. It has so many world-class facilities that it could virtually stage the Games immediately.

Rome has a proven record of staging big events, such as the World Cup soccer finals, the world athletics championships and the world swimming championships.

Europe last staged the Games in 1992 and, if the pattern of the past is maintained, it will be due to host them again in 2004. Perhaps that is why Primo Nebiolo, the world athletics president, IOC member and leading light in Rome's bid, was so outspoken in his criticism of Athens's recent staging of the world athletics championships. He would undoubtedly have identified Athens as Rome's most serious rival in Europe.

Many IOC members were in Athens, and Nebiolo's outbursts would not have been well received in an organisation that makes much, in public at least, of fair play. In an appropriate twist of irony, Nebiolo has subsequently been criticised for his stewardship of the world student games in Sicily.

STOCKHOLM 2004 CANDIDATE CITY

STOCKHOLM has an excellent technical bid, but the weakest support base of any of the finalists. Early opinion polls showed most of its citizens opposed hosting the Games. Later polls have been more encouraging, but its bid has probably been wrecked by a group calling itself We Who Built Sweden.

Just three weeks ago, there was an explosion in the stadium where Stockholm's Olympic announcement party was due to be held. Several other sports venues have also been targeted.

Its bid offers strong government support, solid financial backing, expertise in staging sports events and excellent facilities. But it seems unlikely the IOC will risk putting on the Games where most people appear not to want them.

IN A NUTSHELL

ATHENS:
Population : 772 000 (region 3,52 million)
Olympic budget: $1,6-billion
Financial evaluation: Budget well set up; seems realistic
Strengths: 29 of 39 venues ready, among them the Olympic stadium; technological infrastructure of a high standard; inclusion of ancient Olympic history in the Games
Weakness: High pollution; can increase due to hot temperatures
Previous Games: 1896 Summer Games in Athens
Time: August 13-29 2004

BUENOS AIRES:
Population: 1,28 million (region 11,97 million)
Budget: $2,8-billion
Financial evaluation: Conservative budget; too low in some areas
Strengths: General sports concept excellent; most venues along a "green Olympic corridor" between city limits and River Plate; only a few disturbances of environment necessary
Weaknesses: Most stadiums have to be built or modernised, including River Plate to host athletics events; temperatures of 10°C possible in winter
Previous Games: None
Time: September 24 to October 10 2004

CAPE TOWN:
Population: 2,9 million (region 4,04 million)
Budget: $1,3-billion
Financial evaluation: Budget shows high professionalism; offers reserves
Strengths: Olympics never staged in Africa; good general concept
Weaknesses: Most venues, including Olympic and swimming stadiums, have to be built; high crime rate; public support difficult to evaluate
Previous Games: None
Time: September 17 to October 3 2004

ROME:
Population: 3,77 million (region 5,19 million)
Budget: $1,52-billion
Financial evaluation: Some income estimated too high; budget for communal investment too low
Strengths: Most important venues ready; excellent professional planning
Weakness: Heavy traffic
Previous Games: Summer Games 1960 Rome; Winter Games 1956 Cortina d'Ampezzo
Time: July 16 to August 1 2004

STOCKHOLM:
Population: 711 000 (region 1,73 million)
Budget: $1,63-billion
Financial evaluation: Well balanced between communal and organisers' investments; some construction costs too low
Strengths: Professional, efficient bidding team; highly condensed sports concept; most venues ready; only few environmental problems
Weaknesses: Lacking public support; new Olympic stadium has to be built
Previous Games: Summer Games 1912 Stockholm
Time: July 9-25 2004



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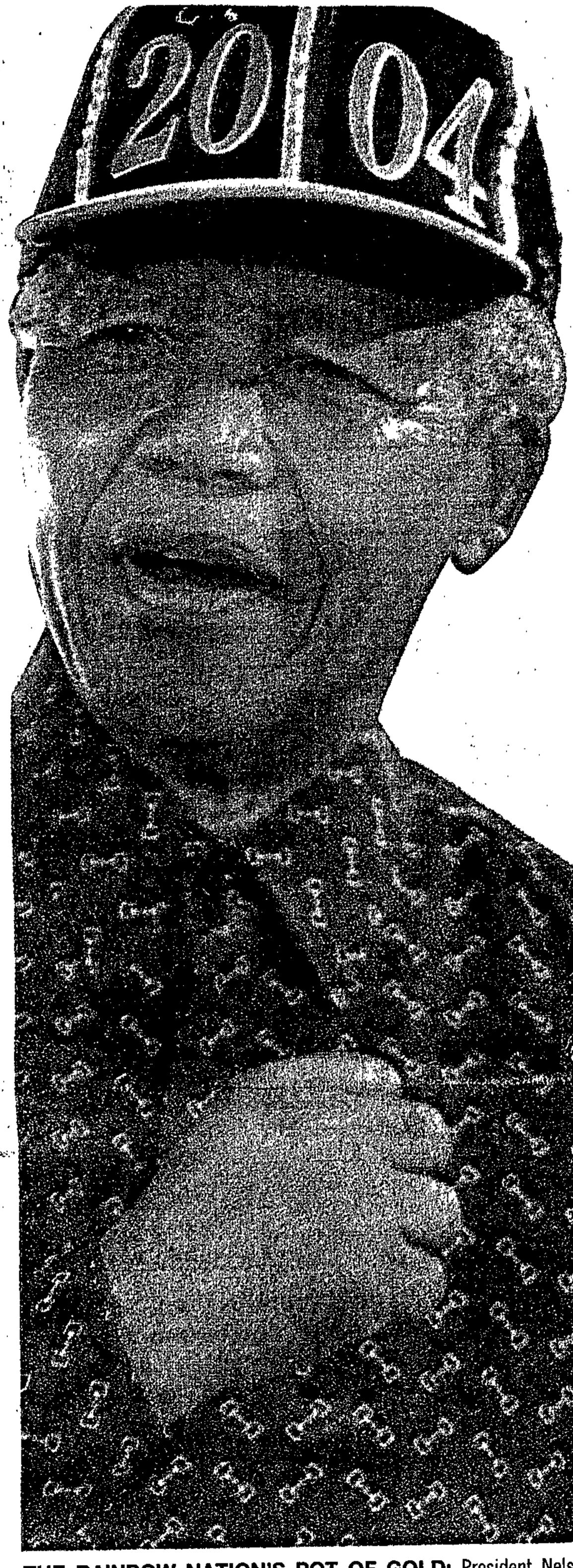


THE RAINBOW NATION'S POT OF GOLD: President Nelson Mandela will make Cape Town's final bid on Friday to bring the 2004 Olympic Games to Africa for the first time

Mandela goes hea head with Pavarott battle for Olympic

COLIN BRYDEN
Lausanne

SOUTH Africa's Olympic bid hopes rest on the shoulders of one man — President Nelson Mandela.

With only five days to go before the host city for the 2004 Games is chosen, the Cape Town bid committee is pulling out all the stops to swing the vote Africa's way.

Mandela has emerged as South Africa's trump card. He takes on the celebrities being used to promote the other bidding cities — tenor Luciano Pavarotti for Rome, Wimbledon champions Stefan Edberg and Bjorn Borg for Stockholm, singer Yanni for Athens and President Carlos Menem for Buenos Aires.

Mandela's big moment will come when he delivers the key speech during Cape Town's final presentation in Lausanne on Friday, just hours before the 109 International Olympic Committee members cast their votes.

The Cape's finest wines and fruit have already arrived in Switzerland, along with secret gifts for IOC members.

The bid received a last-minute boost yesterday with the result of an independent survey conducted this month showing support from 73 percent of people in the Western Cape.

Rome is the bookmakers' favourite, but its supporters now acknowledge the possible effect of "Mandela magic". A headline in a newspaper in Rome this week described the President's presence in Lausanne as a "coup" for Cape Town.

South Africa is also trotting out top African athletes to bolster its bid. Gold medallists Penny Heyns and Josiah Thugwane will accompany Kenya's Paul Tergat, Namibia's Frankie Fredericks and Maria Mutola of Mozambique.

Among Italian bid supporters are soccer stars Paolo Maldini and Roberto Baggio, and fashion designer Va... appear in a ... for Lausanne. ... newspapers ... week Pavarotti ... attend in per...

Although it ... Mandela will ... uncommitted ... Cape Town ... ing IOC memb... last minute ... maximum sup... internationa... Ntsundeni ... who arrived in ... on Friday, sai... tactical thrust ... by team in th... days was to w... ondary" votes.

"We are c... having ... votes to get ... least the first ... of voting," he ... need to win ... those memb... first-choice ... eliminated."

Madzunya ... that Cape To... ing to ... bitter rival... Rome and A... ed as its main ...

South Af... member Sam ... who will ... Cape Town ... on Friday, ... had reached ... because of ... transform... country.

"The world ... for convert... to reality," he ...

"I am ... on my IOC ... we are ... verting a ... into a reality ... acle. The IO... commission ... firmed that ... technical ...

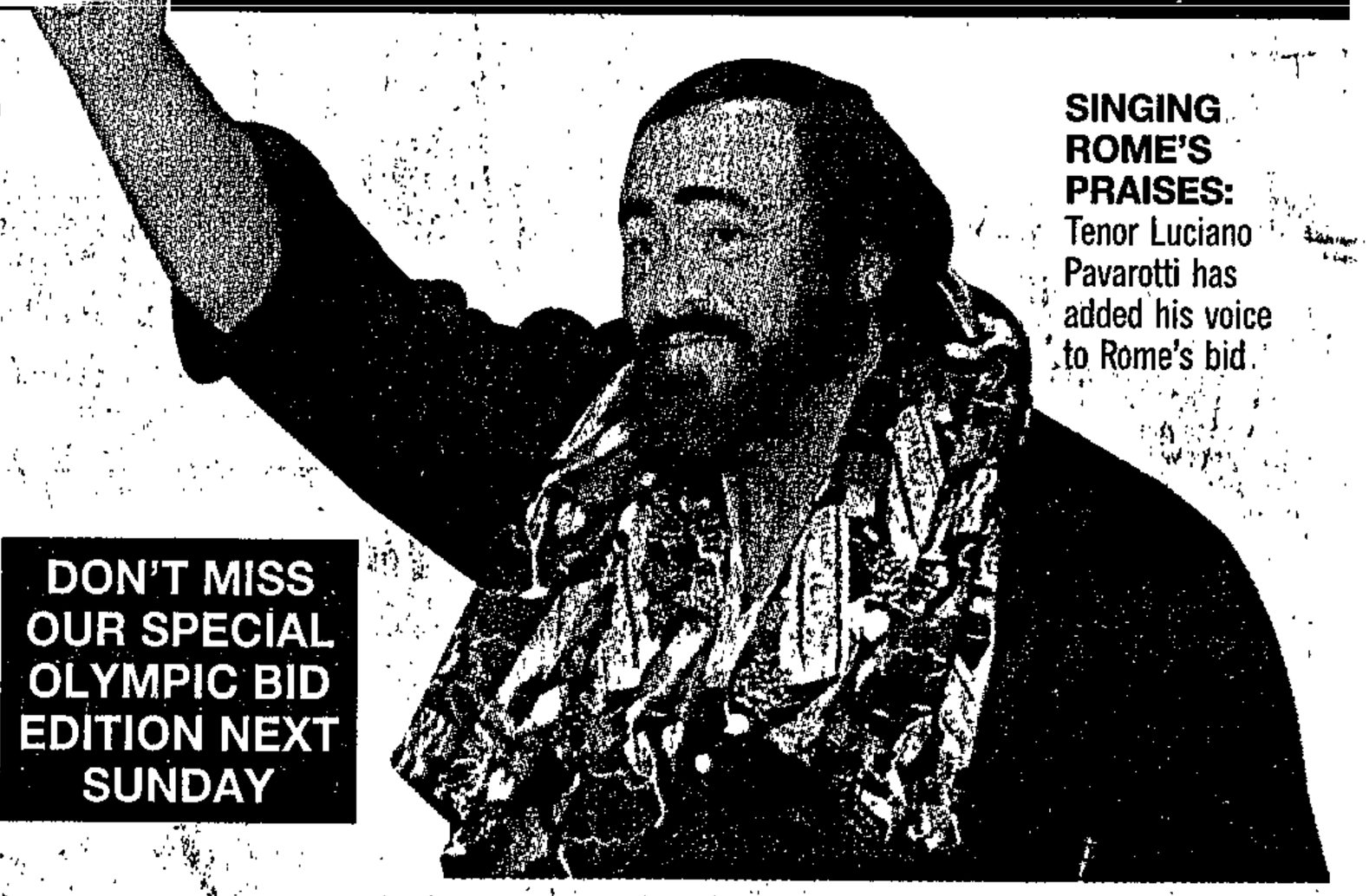
CAPE TOWN 2004

INSIDE

● The man they call Mister Big / 4
● Who's the fairest of them all? / 5
● It's time to right the wrongs of history / 28

:E FINAL
UNTDOWN
288 ST 31/8/97

›es head to 'avarotti in Olympics



SINGING ROME'S PRAISES: Tenor Luciano Pavarotti has added his voice to Rome's bid.

DON'T MISS OUR SPECIAL OLYMPIC BID EDITION NEXT SUNDAY

designer Valentino, who appear in a video made for Lausanne. But Italian newspapers said this week Pavarotti could also attend in person.

Although it is hoped Mandela will sway the uncommitted voters, Cape Town will be lobbying IOC members until the last minute to ensure maximum support.

International lobbyist Ntsundeni Madzunya, who arrived in Lausanne on Friday, said the main tactical thrust of the lobby team in the next few days was to work on "secondary" votes.

"We are confident of having enough primary votes to get through at least the first two rounds of voting," he said. "We need to win the votes of those members whose first-choice cities are eliminated."

Madzunya admitted that Cape Town was hoping to capitalise on the bitter rivalry between Rome and Athens, regarded as its main threats.

South African IOC member Sam Ramsamy, who will introduce the Cape Town presentation on Friday, said the city had reached the final five because of the political transformation in the country.

"The world respects us for converting a dream into reality," he said.

"I am going to impress on my IOC colleagues that we are capable of converting a second dream into a reality and a miracle. The IOC evaluation commission have confirmed that we have the technical capacity to stage the Olympic Games and it will be a great triumph for the Olympic movement as a whole if the Games are held in Africa for the first time."

Bid chief executive Chris Ball said in Lausanne yesterday that respondents in the Western Cape poll, conducted by Research Surveys, cited job creation as the most important reason why Cape Town should get the Games.

"This result will help us to convince the IOC that they should grasp this extraordinary opportunity, the first they have had in more than 100 years of their history, to award the Games to Africa," Ball said.

Support was highest among blacks and coloureds, although backing from whites was also above 50 percent.

Planning manager Nicola Lloyd has headed a seven-member logistical advance guard for the bulk of the South African delegation which will make a spectacular arrival in the bid aircraft, Ndizani, tomorrow. It will fly low over Lake Geneva and the "Swiss Riviera" which includes the towns of Lausanne and Montreux where IOC members and bid city delegates are gathering.

Yesterday Lloyd supervised the arrival of four tons of cargo which included the gifts for IOC members.

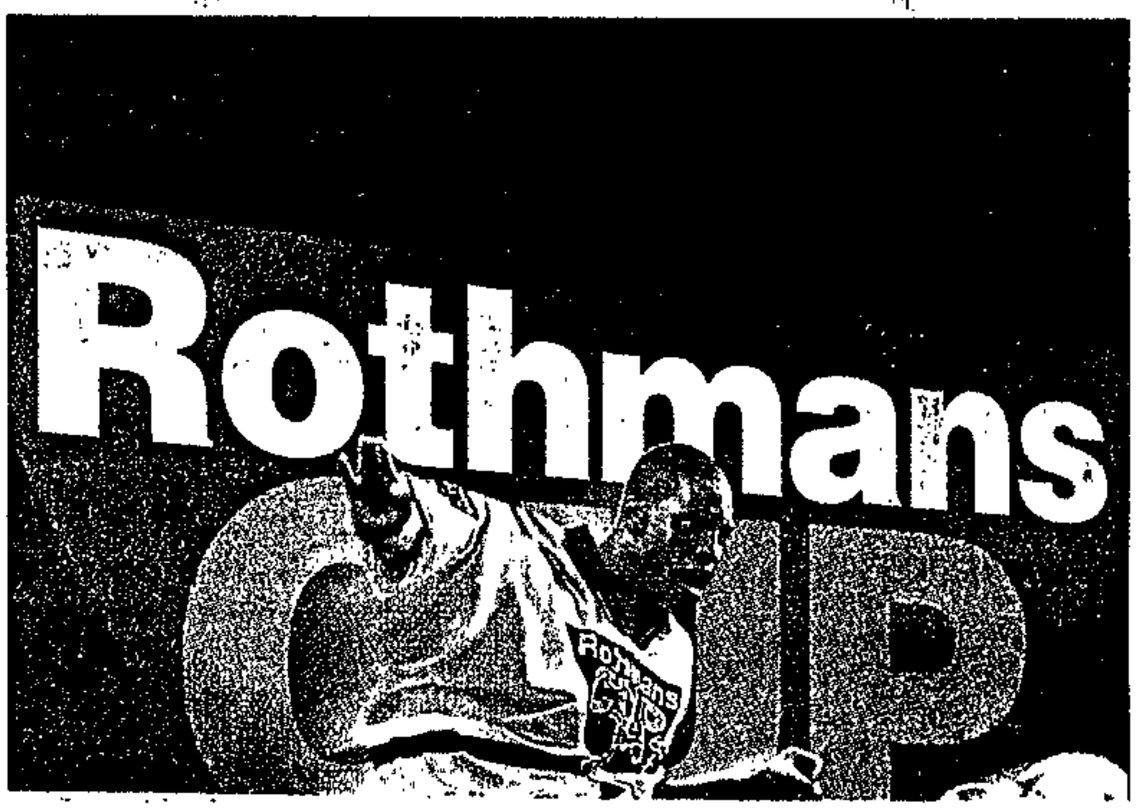
"We are playing by the rules, which means a limit of $350 (about R1 645) in value," said lobbyist Madzunya. "They are small gifts but we want to surprise the members when we hand them out during the week."

Cape Town and Stockholm have established an early presence in Switzerland, with the bright orange T-shirts of Stockholm's bid personnel competing with the rainbow colours of the Cape Town bid logo.

Ball held his first strategy meeting yesterday afternoon despite the absence of several bid executives who will arrive only today after a flight delay in Johannesburg.

Cape Town mayor Theresa Solomon said she looked forward to a crucial week in the city's history. "I'm here to work," she said.

● See Business Times for Internet details



NEW SONG . . . Nafcoc president Joe Hlongwane and Women's Forum president Pam Mgulwa lead delegates in song.



ECONOMIC CHAINS . . . Joe Hlongwane, helped by vice president Peter Raball, puts on his presidential chain.



BITTER PILL . . . Reuel Khoza, Eskom chairman, said executives sometimes only brought their blackness to the negotiating table. ■Pics: ANDRIES MCINEKA.

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added: "After the Black-
worlds and African Banks
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the (cases of) National Sor-
ries, the New Age Bever-
New Nations."
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a need for a "new frame-
"African Renaissance" in

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The question of "African" time continued to dog the conference. At one stage the programme was running two hours late.

Said PAC president Dr Stanley Mogoba: "We need a new personality – the African personality – which will inspire new commitment to hard work, higher productivity and creativity."

Nafcoc president Rev Joe Hlongwane concurred that black business was in a critical situation and faced many challenges.

He said, apart from the challenge of organising a national conference of all stakeholders to discuss black economic empowerment, one challenge was to create a working relationship with trade unions.

Referring to labour demands for a 40-hour working week which Nafcoc opposed, he said black business is SME oriented and he felt a 40-hour week would have a devastating effect.

Hlongwane was also critical about of Trevor Manuel's Gear policy, warning that black business people should not be lulled into a "false" sense of thinking that it will deliver jobs.

He said Nafcoc will lobby government to exempt SMEs from the Basic Conditions of Employment Bill.

However, analysts at the conference felt that Nafcoc's new political insensitivity is ill-conceived and may cut into its credibility and support from grassroots worker organisations led by Cosatu.

"Workers are workers, even if they are employed by black business – and they need their rights and concerns to be respected," said a black waiter at the hotel where the conference was being held.

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EP 31/8/97 (288)

If Cape Town wins, Africa will be the winner

Cape Town's Olympic bid is considered Africa's own. But it will be facing stiff competition from Athens, where the games were born, writes **VICTOR TSUAI.**

WE'VE taken on and beaten the rest of them in the sporting world.

Now, in just over four days, South Africa and Africa take up a fight of a different kind when the drawn-out battle to win the 2004 Olympic Games reaches its climax in Lausanne, Switzerland.

The long wait for the announcement of the winning city will finally be over.

Millions of South Africans, who have been anxiously holding their breaths, will hear whether Cape Town has made it or not.

The Olympic euphoria does not end with Cape Town or South Africa.

The Cape Town bid is largely perceived as Africa's bid as well.

As the eyes of the world zoom in on the International Olympic Committee (IOC) headquarters in Switzerland for the final vote, Cape Town will be facing stiff competition from Athens, the city where the Olympic games originated more than a century ago.

Athens is regarded as a firm favourite.

The other strong contender, Rome, seems to have fallen by the wayside – largely due to the undiplomatic bleatings of one of its foremost citizens, Primo Nebiolo.

Nebiolo, president of the International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF), inadvertently surprised and angered the Olympic movement when he criticised Athens for its handling of the World championships and boldly declared that Rome would have done better.

If anything, Nebiolo's blusterings have greatly improved Cape Town's chances, and, to some extent, evoked a measure of sympathy for Athens.

Even at this very late stage, the other two cities are simply no-hopers.

Stockholm's bid has been hampered by domestic rejection, with a bomb blast at the local Olympic Stadium signalling its death knell.

The other city, Argentina's Buenos Aires, is yet to make its bid felt.

Both have can safely be regarded as dark horses with little chance of beating either Athens or Cape Town.

But in the final analysis,the outcome could be more intricate than simply choosing the winning city.

The whole voting process works by a process of elimination.

The 110 voting delegates will receive a piece of paper with the names of the five cities on it to make their choice

Should any of the five get an outright majority or poll more than half the required votes, it will be the winner.

The daunting scenario for Cape Town would be if Buenos Aires drops out first, since there is a distinct danger that their votes could fortify Rome's bid and thus endanger Cape Town's chances more than those of Athens.

On the other hand, if Stockholm were to go first, then Cape Town could go up a notch over Rome, as most of Stockholm votes would benefit Cape Town.

And if both Athens and Rome go first, which is rather unlikely, then Cape Town will be home and dry.

However, there is a ray of sunshine in Cape Town's favour – most, if not all, African countries will rally behind it to see the Olympics being staged in Africa for the first time in the 101-year history of the games.

At the forefront of the African lobby is IAAF vice-president, Lamine Diack, of Senegal.

Diack's athletics connections and an overwhelming desire by African delegates to have the games in their backyard, will do much to strengthen the African bid.

Votes aside, Africa hopes to make it purely though sentiment.

There is the unwavering support the bid to hold the games in Cape Town continues to receive from President Nelson Mandela – which could be decisive.

Mandela is expected to make an impassioned plea in Lausanne to the IOC to give the games to Cape Town.

His stature as a world renowned stateman, a fact to which IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch alluded during his visit to South Africa two years ago, could also swing things in Africa's favour.

But some IOC insiders feel that the voting committee would be too hard-pressed to listen to Mandela and that granting the games to Africa would serve as just another form of reward for the veteran human-rights fighter.

The support of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) for Cape Town, and subsequently Africa, will also be taken seriously by the IOC.

Two weeks ago, world 10 000m record holder Haille Gebresellasie, of Ethiopia, came out in full support of Cape Town at the IAAF championships in Athens.

As the clock ticks towards Friday, the rallying cry countrywide is: "Give the Games to Cape Town".

And, indeed why not?

Voting for their own privileges

(288) ST 31/8/97

THE 102 men and nine women who will decide the venue of the 2004 Olympic Games are arguably the world's most pampered sports officials, writes **COLIN BRYDEN.**

Members of the International Olympic Committee — who are beholden to no country or organisation other than the Olympic movement — are used to travelling first class with their spouses and staying in five-star hotels.

As they did at last year's Olympic Games in Atlanta, the committee have taken total control over accommodation arrangements in Lausanne.

The city's smartest hotel, the Lausanne Palais, will be reserved exclusively for committee members for the three-day meeting which will culminate in Friday's crucial vote.

No one else will be able to gain access to even the lobby.

Limousines will shuttle the committee members to the nearby Palais de Beaulieu where the deliberations will be held.

Bid "VIPs" will stay in another smart Lausanne hotel, the Beau Rivage, but most bid personnel will be accommodated in the nearby towns of Montreux and Vevey.

The bulk of the 500 journalists expected in Switzerland will be forced to commute from Geneva, a 50-minute train ride away.

Once elected, the committee members — a mixture of royalty, high-ranking military officers, diplomats, businessmen and sports officials — have many years in which to enjoy the fruits of their labours for sport, loyalty to the Olympic movement or simply their value in terms of power and influence.

Eight members, elected before 1966, are life members. The others have to retire at 80.

Having decided in 1966 to set a retirement age of 72, the members have twice voted to extend their tenures. In 1985 the limit was raised to 75 and in 1995 it was pushed out to 80 in what is widely regarded as a ploy by Juan Antonio Samaranch, 77, to enabled himself to be re-elected as president this week.

In a move similar to that by which Louis Luyt was able to crush an attempted rebellion in Gauteng rugby, Samaranch called for a show of hands to approve an age limit of 80 after an earlier attempt to raise the limit to 78 had failed in a secret ballot.

Already a collection of elderly men (most of the women have been elected fairly recently), the average age of the committee is set to climb even higher. No fewer than 32 are aged 70 or more and another 35 are between 60 and 69.

Only three members may have to stand down before they reach 80. They are the heads of international ice hockey, gymnastics and swimming, whose membership is dependent on their remaining presidents of their federations.

All other members are elected as individuals.

Although there are 111 members, only 109 will vote on Friday.

A maximum of three members from a country with a candidate city are entitled to cast a ballot and Italy has four members.

The president votes only if a casting vote is necessary.

Europe, with 45, has the largest number of members, a total lifted to 47 if federation heads are included. Africa has 20 and Asia, including the Middle East, 19.

Of the countries with candidate cities, Italy has three voters, Greece and Sweden two each and Argentina and South Africa one. South Africa's man at the committee is Sam Ramsamy, 59.

Price of playing Games

OPINIONS are divided on whether hosting the Olympic Games will mean boom or bust for the South African economy, writes MARCIA KLEIN. Many former host cities are still paying for the honour.

In its study on the economic impact of the games, the Development Bank of Southern Africa has said that a well managed process would secure major benefits for Cape Town and South Africa, leading to increased foreign investment, job opportunities and significant capital expenditure on sports centres, transport and infrastructure.

However, according to the Olympic bid's strategic environmental assessment, experience from previous host cities shows there are risks, from inaccurate budgeting, public debt, inappropriate transport infrastructure, building unnecessary facilities to the uneven allocation of benefits.