SQUATTERS - CAPE

1991

NEWS

No cheer for Hout Bay squatters

On Christmas Eve a fire razed hundreds of shacks and claimed the lives of four people at Hout Bay's Sea Products squatter camp. Many good samaritans responded with help, but conditions are still desperate. Weekend Argus Reporter VUYO BAVUMA spoke to some about their plight.

IT was a New Year to forget.

While a festive spirit prevailed in most areas of the Peninsula, a gloomy atmosphere hung over the Sea Products squatter camp in the aftermath of Christmas Eve's devastating fire.

There were no celebrations or wild parties for those who had lost virtually everything they possessed — including their homes.

Most families had stocked up for Christmas dinners and had bought new clothes and toys for their children. These, too, went up in flames.

Several informal businesses were wiped out. Two of the six taps in the camp were damaged by the fire.

Residents had to evacuate the area.

Most women and children were housed in a local church from Christmas Day until New Year's Eve. The men remained in the devastated area where most slept under rudimentary plastic shelters.

Welfare organisations such as Child Welfare and Red Cross provided food for the families.

About 20 volunteers co-ordinated the relief operation which included providing tents and washing facilites for the squatters. They worked throughout the holiday period only leaving on New Year's Eve that had ensured that the 100 families had tents to sleep in, food to eat, clothes and washing facilities.

They left behind two field officers to give any further assistance.

Shortly after the mishap, the squatters were not allowed to re-occupy the land but this changed when the owner, Mr Mel Richter, withdrew a complaint of trespass.

Many of the squatters were adamant that they would not leave without getting proper housing.

This week children, most of them naked or in scraps of clothing, played with wire toys among the maze of bushes and tents.

Few pets were seen in the camp. Most had been killed in the inferno.

A health worker from the Regional Services Council came to "remind" mothers with newly-born babies to take them to local clinic for immunisation.

The worker, accompanied by one of residents, also went "tent-to-tent" in search of the TB pa-

She left behind some medication for emergency cases.

For others the disaster hit home only this week when they returned from holidays in the Transkei and Ciskei.

A local lay preacher of Abagcini baseZingisani congregation, Mr Sipho Mphosilwe, who left on December 14, returned on Thursday morning to find his shack destroyed.

Only his wife and pet dog "Sexy" survived. Among the possessions destroyed were his church gowns, six packets of candles and a drum.

A visibly worried Mr Mphosile said he first heard the bad news when he was in Transkei.

At that stage he had no money as he hoped his wife, Noplanti, would send him his fare to return.

Mr Mphosile said: "I had to borrow R120 from a burial society in order to come back. Now I have found all my possessions have been destroyed."

He planned to hold the first church service in his new "home" — a tent.

Soccer kit

"We are also going to hold a night vigil to prepare for the funeral of our colleague," he said.

Miss Julia Mahashe broke down and cried when she explained how his brother, Simon, died in the fire.

"When the fire broke out my brother came from another shack to rescue my three-year old son. He went again to try to save some goods but was suffocated by smoke.

"We ran away from the burning house, thinking that my brother had survived. We only learnt later that he had died."

Individuals have lost much but community activities will also suffer. Mr Clifford Mlitywa, a member of the committee, said two sets of soccer kit and boots belonging to his club, Eleven Experience, had gone up in smoke.

The first victim of the inferno, Mr Leonard Tabeni, was buried on Sunday. Two more will be

307 5/1/1991



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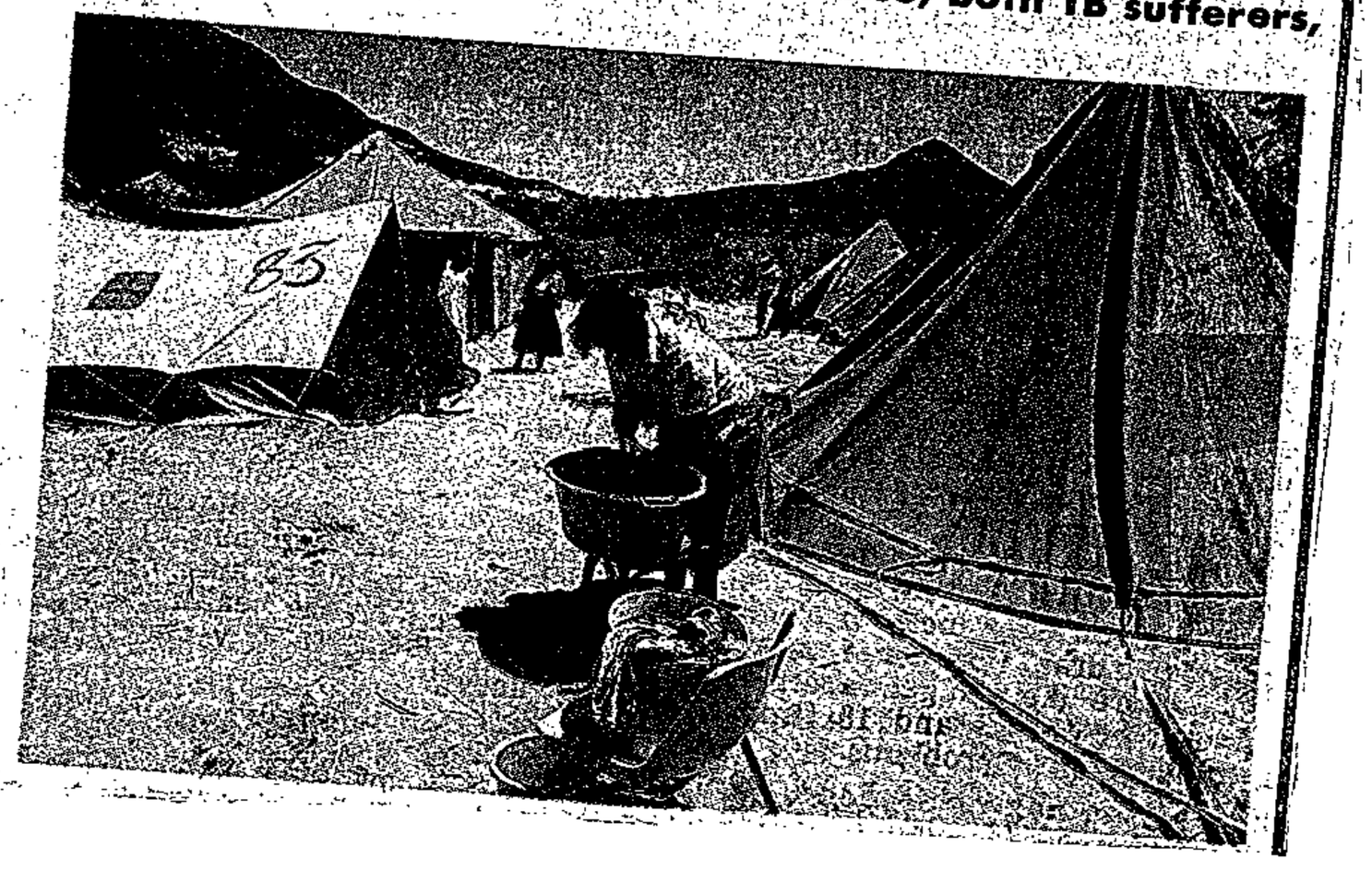
☐ Mrs Gloria Malumbazo and her children Calvin, in front, Thabiso, back, and Vuyo have to sleep on the floor because of the shortage of blankets. Mrs Malumbazo is worried that the health of Calvin and Thabiso, both TB sufferers, will get worse.





5/11/91 (307)

☐ Two Red Cross field workers, above, with the assistance of squatter committee members, help with the allocation of tents to families.

Pictures: LEON MULLER, Weekend Argus

☐ Karen Carelse, above right, does her laundry at a makeshift washing stand with the Red Cross tents in the background.

☐ Lay preacher Mr Sipho Mphosilwe, right, returned from the Transkei to find that only his wife, Noplanti and his dog "Sexy" (in picture) had survived the devastating fire.



COMM - TENTS 8/1/91 307

R5m set aside to buy land for squatters of Hout Bay

By PETER DENNEHY

THE government has set aside R5 million to buy land on which to rehouse the Hout Bay squatters.

But no decision has yet been taken on where the site will be.

Property Rights Association chairman Mr Tony Snelgar said yesterday that five separate parcels of land — some inside and some outside Hout Bay — would be considered at a meeting, probably next week, of representatives of all parties concerned.

He would not disclose which pieces of land would be discussed, but did say that none was in Noordhoek and that one was "probably in Tokai".

It was largely as a result of lobbying by the the association that the government had set aside the R5m, Mr Snelgar said.

An unidentified source in the Western Cape Regional Services Council said yesterday that a high-ranking RSC official had recently flown to Pretoria to discuss the use of some RSC land for squatters.

This could not be officially confirmed yesterday.

Ministerial representative Mr Koos Albertyn confirmed yesterday that he had heard of R5m being made available by the government itself, rather than by the Independent Development Trust, also known as the Jan Steyn Fund.

An application would be submitted for further funds from the Independent Development Trust, but no formal proposal had been put before it yet, said development consultant Mr Colin Appleton.

"I don't know at this stage whether the R5m is just for the land, or for other purposes as well," Mr Albertyn said.

He had asked for an appointment with the minister concerned, Mr Sam de Beer, as soon as possible after his office opened next week.

Mr Appleton confirmed yesterday that land would be sought outside Hout Bay as well as within.

"Clearly one is trying to create as many reasonable opportunities for the squatters as possible," Mr Appleton said. Land in Hout Bay could cost up to R500 000 a hectare, and there were "constraints of affordability".

There might be some squatters living in Hout Bay who did not work there, Mr Appleton said.

A legal representative for the squatters said yesterday that she had not yet been informed of either the R5m or the five possible sites.

police confirmed yesterday.

CAPE Times 15/1/91

Squatters get govt aid

307

RELIEF groups assisting Hout Bay squatters who had their shacks razed in a fire on Christmas Day have received a R100 000 donation promised by the government.

Squatters settled

CAPE TIMES 19/1/91 307

Ratepayers 'unhappy' at govt decision

Staff Reporters

HOUT BAY squatters are to be permanently settled on a piece of land with magnificent views near Penzance Estate, the government announced last night.

Ratepayers in Hout Bay responded angrily yesterday to the announcement by Mr Sam de Beer, Minister of Welfare and Housing in the House of Assembly.

Mr Rob Vos, chairman of the Hout Bay Ratepayers' Association, said Mr De Beer had told him at a meeting on Thursday that the decision about squatter land was his and that he did not have time to take the matter to the community for consideration.

Mr Pieter Oberholzer, a spokesman for Mr De Beer, said the matter had been urgent because the government had to provide the landowners who had taken legal action against the squatters with a solution by Monday.

"Our request to have the site subjected to community approval was rejected," Mr Vos complained.

Mr Mike de Nobrega of the Property Rights Association said his members, too, were very unhappy about what he called "the arbitrary manner in which the government has taken the decision without first referring it to the people of Hout Bay for comment".

However, the association also saw the restoration of land at present occupied by squatters to the owners as "a victory for the for the landowners of Hout Bay".

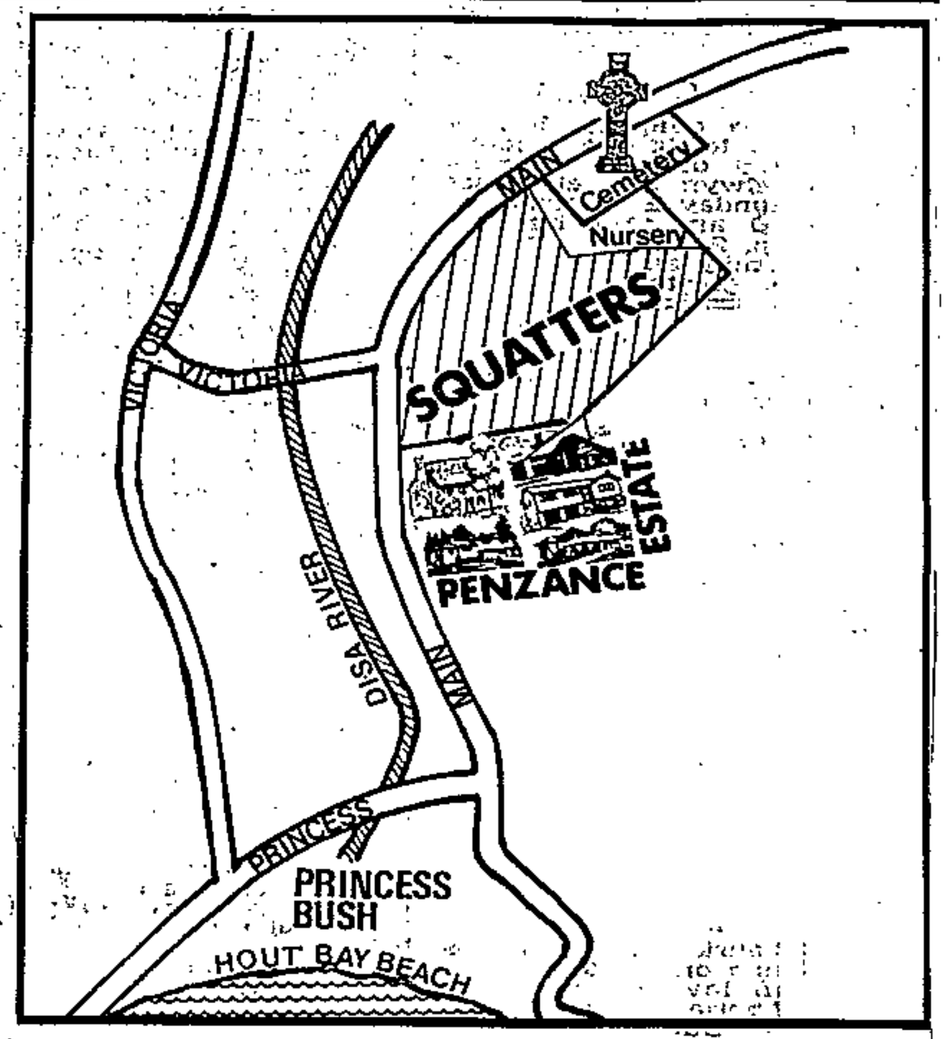
"It is quite a vast area, with a magnificent view. It is not ideal, but it is the only area in Hout Bay that is remotely suitable," Mr Oberholzer said.

It was hoped that about 400 families of squatters would start moving, with their dwellings, into the area in two weeks' time.

Reaction from residents of Penzance Estate was mixed yesterday. A couple who declined to be named said it was a wonderful idea, and good for the squatters.

Yet most residents were worried, and some said they would consider moving out.

Some were worried about security and others that the value of their property would drop.



LAND . . . The site allocated for squatter settlement.

'Nursery' home for squatters

W/End Argus 19/1/91 (307)

By HANS-PETER BAKKER
Weekend Argus Reporter

THE government has earmarked a site in Hout Bay to house squatters.

The House of Assembly's Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works, Mr Sam de Beer, said in a statement last night that land, used as a nursery by the Western Cape Regional Services Council, would be used to settle the Hout Bay squatters.

Mr Martin Hutton-Square of MLH Architects and Planners, commissioned by Mr De Beer's department, said some 33 pieces of land in the Hout Bay Valley had been considered for State-aided, very low cost, residential projects to meet the immediate requirements of both the Hout Bay squatter and the Hangberg communities.

A survey had shown that about 1 133 squatters living in 365 huts needed permanent homes, and that the Hangberg community, on the far side of the harbour, needed at least another 400 units.

Serviceable area

Mr Hutton-Square said the planning team believed that only the council's forestry site (erf no 2848) could provide a serviceable area into which the squatter communities could be immediately moved, and which could also be developed and upgraded to provide a permanent low-income residential area.

The council site had some 18ha of land which could be made available for residential development, he said.

"Depending upon the planning and township development approach adopted, in particular the residential density and type of houses that are built, between 450 and 900 families could be accomodated on this site.

"While there are a variety of environmental considerations to be borne in mind, including the stone pine trees, and the general aesthetic of the area, the site could be developed for very low-income housing in such a way as to protect its more valuable features and also to ensure that it harmoniously blends in the Hout Bay valley."



Mr Sam de Beer

Mr De Beer said negotiations were being held with the council to acquire the land.

He said the events of the past few weeks in which a fire destroyed one of the squatter areas and a court finding affecting another, "have meant that urgent decisions will have to be taken in order not to further compromise existing landowners and to alleviate the conditions in the squatter camps".

He said the decisions did not reflect a change in the government's view that the people of Hout Bay should continue to be involved in the development of the new low-income area.

"The squatters will be moved to a portion of this site shortly and provided with basic services until the permanent sites can be developed."

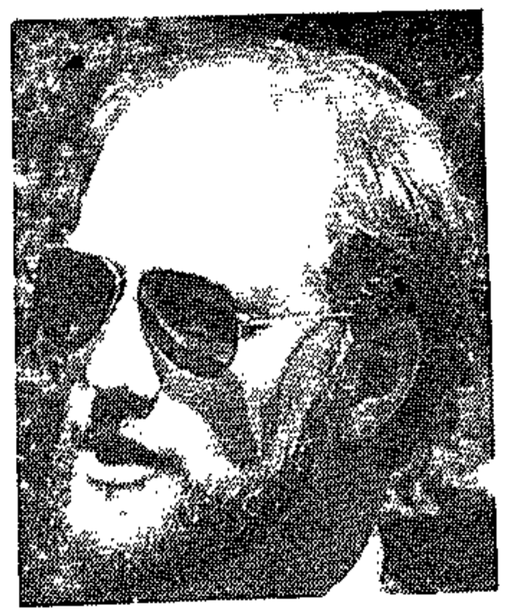
He said a town planning consultant would do the necessary survey and planning after which the site would be designated a township.

Effective control

"I am also sure that I can count on the co-operation and assistance of people living in Hout Bay. The State has set aside funds for the acquisition of the land and the installation of the infrastructure."

In the meantime there would be effective control to ensure that there was no further unauthorised influx of people to the newly-designated site. Landowners were requested to ensure adequate control of their own property.

"I also call on employers of squatters to assist them in obtaining legal and acceptable standard accommodation," Mr De Beer said.



Mr Rob Vos

Mr Rob Vos, chairman of the Hout Bay Ratepayers' Association, said the minister's decision was taken "without giving the people of Hout Bay an opportunity to influence it. This important decision will have a major and ongoing effect on our community".

He said the association had negotiated for over six months with the squatter representatives and done everything in its power to bring about a solution which would fit into the unique character of Hout Bay.

'Strong pleas'

Mr Vos said the minister had rejected the "strong pleas" of the association to "have the sites subjected to community approval".

Mr Colin Eglin, Democratic Party MP for Sea Point, said the minister's decision "paves the way for further practical developments".

"On the one hand, the rights of those property owners whose land is being occupied illegally will be restored.

"On the other hand, families and individuals who have been living in unacceptable squatter conditions will be given the opportunity of living normal lives with basic security of tenure."

CAPE TIMES 22/5/91

Some Hout Bay squatters 'sceptical'

Staff Reporter

THE Hout Bay squatters will move voluntarily to their newly allocated land near Penzance Estate as soon as water and sewage facilities have been provided, members of the Princess Bush and Sea Products communities said yesterday.

Some of the squatters approached by the Cape Times were not sure where their new home was and others remained sceptical of the government's intentions. Members of the Princess Bush executive committee who were taken to the area said they would relocate if the community was consulted beforehand.

Executive committee members Mrs Alice Mabija and Mr Mongezi Sonqwelo were unable to see the actual site as it is fenced off.

However, they were satisfied with the situation — a 10-minute walk from the centre of Hout Bay. Mr Sonqwelo was less impressed with the 2m gate and barbed-wire fence surrounding the site, saying he hoped this was not an attempt to control the squatters once they had left Princess Bush.

Meanwhile, Hout Bay residents whose homes border the present squatter areas expressed their delight at the impending move.

Mrs Anne Kleu said the presence of the Sea Products squatters had changed her family's lifestyle and devalued their property.

She said she hoped that building regulations would be enforced at Penzance, so that the community members would have permanent homes of which they could be proud.

Another home owner, who declined to be named, said she had been providing water for the squatters for over a year and had "never had any trouble".

"Generally speaking, I got the impression that these people just want to get on with their lives," she said.

Hout Bay squatters have mixed feelings over 'promised land'

South 24/1 – 30/1/91

By Musa Ndwandwe (307)

HOUT Bay's squatter communities are awaiting the move to their "promised land" with mixed feelings.

While most residents said they were "relieved" that land had been set aside for them, there is still uncertainty over what to expect.

"We are going there because we have no option," said Ms Beliwe Bethiwe, a Sea Products resident. "But we still need to be assured that we won't be evicted in future and there will be no more mysterious fires destroying our houses."

The expected move follows the weekend announcement by the House of Assembly's Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works, Mr Sam de Beer, that squatters could move on to land used as a nursery by the Western Cape Regional Services Council.

Residents from three squatter areas, the Princess Bush, Sea Products and the Hangberg areas, are expected to move before the end of February.

Most residents said they had not seen the land designated for their use but were eager to move. Government representatives on Monday took only a few squatters to see the land.

"This is a victory for the people in the sense that they are finally being accepted as permanent residents," said Mr Dick Meter of the Hout Bay Squatters Coordinating Committee.

However, residents of Sea Products — presently living in tents after mysterious fires razed their shacks during Christmas — are sceptical about the move.

Although he was not sure about who had started the fires, Meter said this was "a very crude way of trying to get rid of people".

Allaying fears of more evictions and fires, Meter said he expected no problems as the government had committed itself to accommodating the squatters.

"It would be silly of landowners to take any action now," he said.

There is also a feeling that the 18-hectare land allocated to squatters is not enough. "De Beer made it clear that he is talking only about those squatting in the white areas," said Meter. This would cause problems as hundreds of people were squatting at backyards in Hout Bay's black areas.

"For us, the struggle to secure enough land continues," said Meter.



NEW HOME: Mr Michael Mnamathele at the gates of the site where he and other Hout Bay squatters will be moved



NO OPTION: Ms Beliwe Bethiwe at the Sea Products squatter camp in Hout Bay

Hani to speak

THE chief of staff of the ANC's armed wing Umkhonto we Sizwe, Mr Chris Hani will address a mass meeting in Cape Town next week.

Hani will be the keynote speaker at a meeting organised by the Southern Suburbs branch of the ANC at the Retreat Civic Centre next Wednesday.

He will speak about violence and negotiations. The meeting will focus on developments since the ANC consultative conference last December.

Lights sit-in

MBEKWENI residents this week held sit-in demonstrations at two rent offices in the Paarl township.

The protests on Wednesday were to highlight demands that the authorities scrap electricity and rent arrears.

The township is in a state of crisis with essential services suspended following a rent and electricity boycott.

SQUATTERS (307)

MOVING IN FM 25/1/91

The allocation by government last week of an 18 ha site in Hout Bay for the resettlement of about 1 500 squatters in the area has not settled the issue. At least 1 000 residents are expected at a public meeting this weekend to discuss a response to what the Hout Bay Residents Association (HBRA) — which claims to represent most property-owners in the area — says was an arbitrary and unacceptable action by own affairs Welfare, Housing and Works Minister Sam de Beer.

The need to find land for the squatters became urgent last December when the Cape Town Supreme Court ordered the eviction from private property of one of the communities in the town (*Current Affairs* September 28 and December 21). The situation was further exacerbated two weeks later when a fire destroyed another camp.

The area allocated to the squatters borders on Hout Bay's main road and an upper-middle class residential area. It is currently used as a nursery by the Western Cape Regional Services Council. RSC officials estimate that between 450 and 900 families could be accommodated on the site, depending on how the area is laid out and what densities are decided on.

The HBRA argues that local residents should have been consulted by De Beer before the land was allocated. ■

Hout Bay owners to hire firm to combat squatting

By PETER DENNEHY

OWNERS of large properties in Hout Bay are prepared to pay R1 000 a month each to a private firm to keep squatters off their land.

This was confirmed yesterday by Property Rights Association chairman Mr Tony Snelgar, after the association had met on Saturday.

Mr Snelgar said a plan had been discussed for the 30 biggest owners of vacant land to club together and pay R1 000 a month each to protect their properties.

The private firm "would not be a hit-squad, a squatter eviction squad or an anti-black squad", he said.

Its appointment would be in line with a statement by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, that people would have to help the police to protect their homes and land.

Asked how anyone could afford R1 000 a month for security, Mr Snelgar said land in Hout Bay cost up to R350 000 for half a hectare.

He said property values had taken a blow.

"'I hope we can fix this. Hout Bay is going to become one of the most crime-free and secure areas in the Cape, and property prices will soar again," he predicted.

Squatters get new site

7/2/91
Cape Times
307

Municipal Reporter

HOUT BAY squatters are prepared to move to a new temporaray site this month, according to Mr Colin Appleton, who mediated in talks between squatter representatives and the authorities.

Mr Appleton said that the squatters would be moved to a temporary site on RSC nursery land and later onto an adjacent permanent site.

The squatters have asked for toilets and water to be provided at the temporary site.

The site is presently being cleared, Mr Appleton said.

(307)

8/2/91.

-Uncertain future for Noordhoek community-

2 000 squat on R

SUA

150m project

307

8/2/91

By EDWARD MOLOINYANE, Staff Reporter

MORE than 2 000 people squatting on land destined for a R150m luxury housing estate in Noordhoek face an uncertain future.

Five hundred houses are to be built around a lake on the 100 hectare site in the Noordhoek Valley, but squatters have been living there since 1979.

Roads are already built and the first houses are due to be completed by August, but the squatters say they have not been approached and do not know what the owners of the land, the government and the Regional Services Council have in store for them.

They live without basic facilities such as running water and toilets in ramshackle wood and corrugated iron shacks in thick bush on either side of the lake.

Water is supplied by the Western Cape Regional Services Council which transports it to the camp by means of tractors.

Most of the squatters are employed in the area as domestic workers, gardeners, construction workers and casual labourers and their children attend coloured schools in Kalk Bay and Ocean View.

Spokesman Mr Jonas Qozo said the community would be prepared to give way for the development as long as they were moved to a properly serviced area in the Noordhoek valley.

He said they had been living there since 1979 "during apartheid's cruelest days of pass raids".

"During the time of the passes they arrested us for being at this place and all our meagre salaries went on fines. When they established Khayelitsha they used all forms of harassment to force us to move there ... they demolished our shacks with bulldozers, bundled us into trucks and dumped us there.

"But after four months we were back here because Khayelitsha is very far from where we work.

"Some people here are gardeners who earn as little as R20 a day and if you are in Khayelitsha you spend all that on transport alone.

"We have spent so much money on pass offence fines that we feel we are entitled to our own place to stay, right here in Noordhoek like everbody else."

Mr Jonas said the squatters had been promised serviced sites as long ago as 1988 "but nothing has come of that".

"Instead they have built houses for the so-called coloured and continue to ignore us. They can spend millions on luxury houses but all we want is our place to stay as this place has developed through our labour."

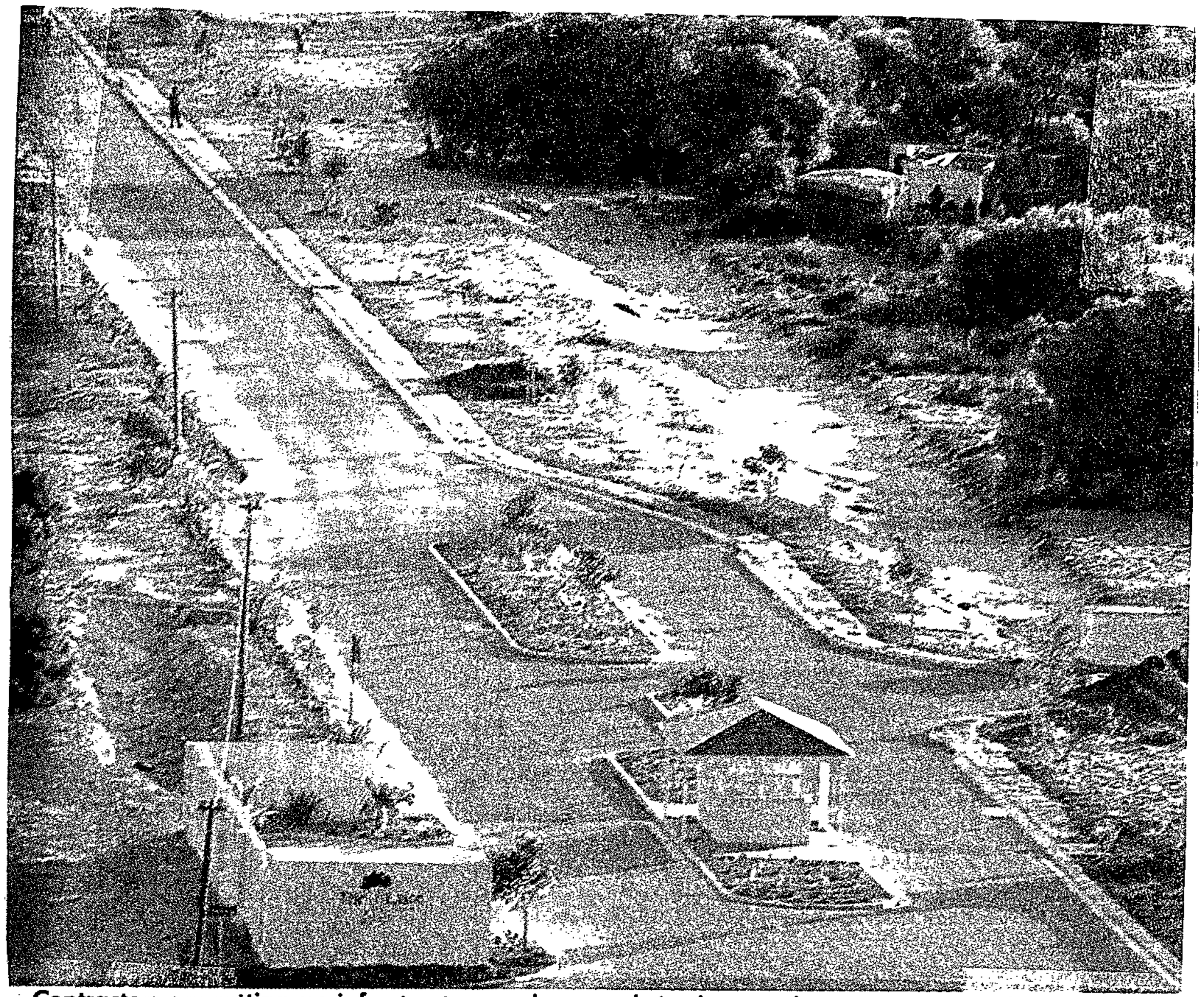
Mr Gavin Reeves, managing director of project managers and developers Protaen, referred all inquiries to Democratic Party MP Mr Jannie Momberg who he said was involved in negotiations over the squatters' resettlement.

However, Mr Momberg declined to discuss his involvement, saying the matter was the government's responsibility.

Regional director of Local Government, Housing and Works in the House of Assembly, Mr C J Van Niekerk, would say only that land for resettling the squatters had been identified at "Site Five" after long investigations".

"You are placing me in a difficult position because we are consulting with the squatters and we are arranging a meeting with their representatives."

A Western Cape Regional Services Council spokesman said the council was involved only with water supply to the camp.



Contractors are setting up infrastructure such as roads in the new housing estate in the Noordhoek Valley. The shacks of the squatters, who will have to be resettled to make way for luxury houses, can be seen in the bushes.

Pictures: LEON MÜLLER, The Argus

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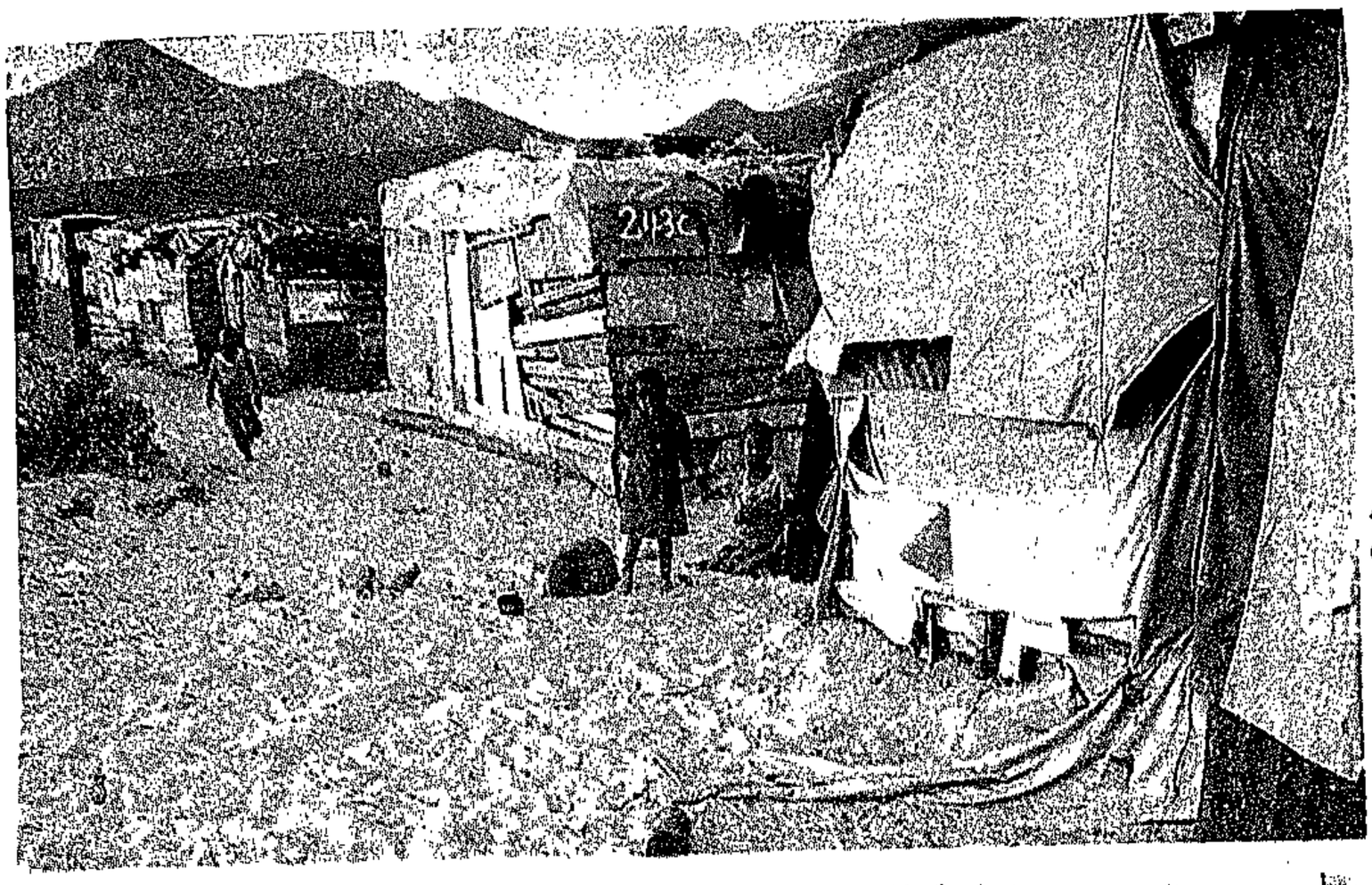
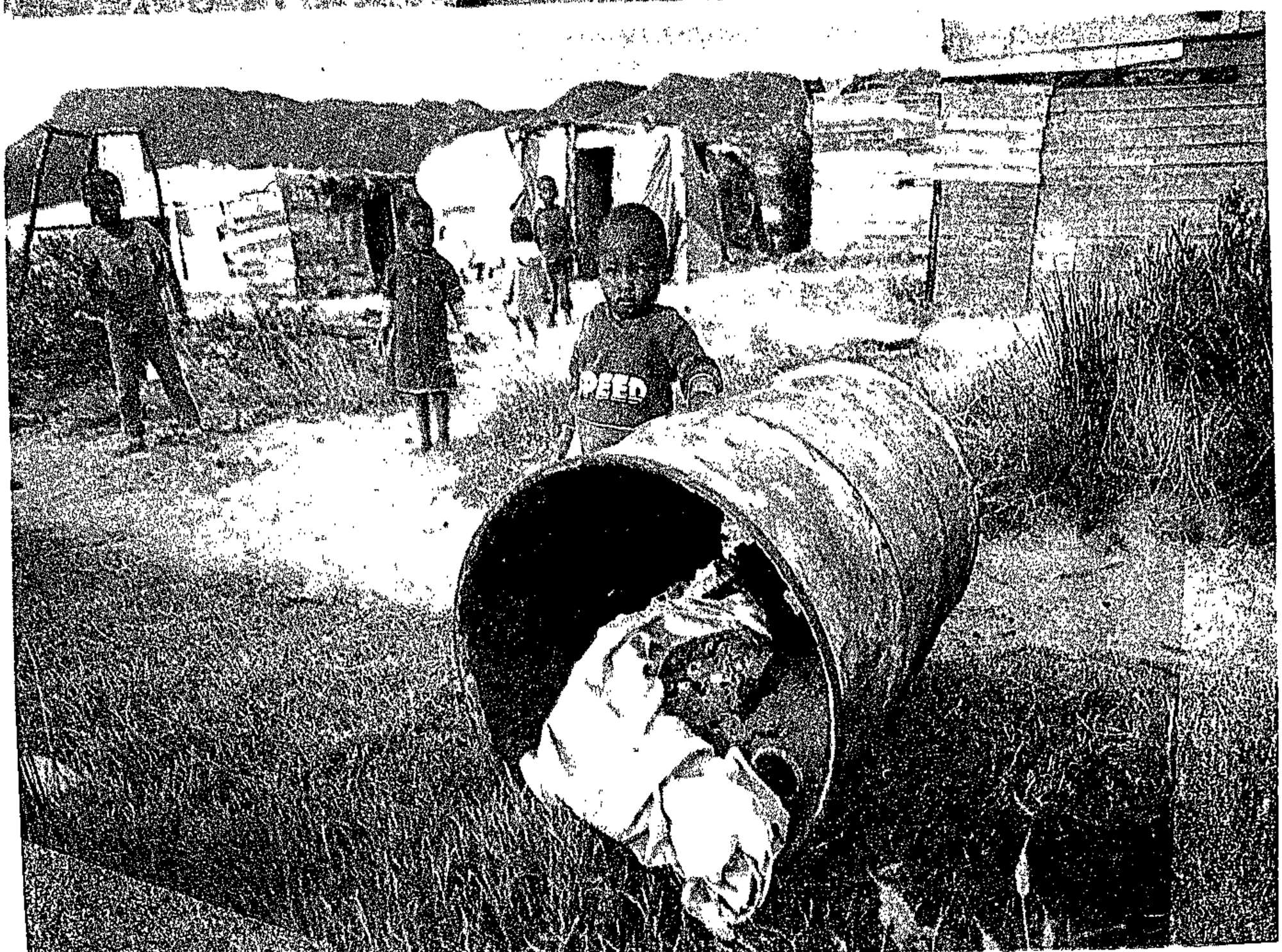
8/2/91.



At left children play among the squatter shacks.

Below: Squatter children outside their homes in the Noordhoek bush.



Squatter shot dead in 'attack'

CT Times 12/2/91

307

Staff Reporter

A PRINCESS Bush squatter was shot dead after allegedly attacking a Hout Bay man while breaking into his car.

According to police Mr Robert Marks, 26, was woken early on Saturday by the barking of his dogs and found three men in his car.

He fired one warning shot and after being attacked, fired more shots. One of the men was fatally wounded and another wounded in the shoulder. The third man fled.

Police liaison officer Major Jan Calitz said the dead man and the wounded man, who was later arrested, lived in the Princess Bush squatter camp.

No quick fix after apartheid is scrapped

Sowetan 13/2/91

307

HOLLIS Rula sees no reason to celebrate the imminent repeal of apartheid laws. He will still live in a one-room shack on the sand flats outside Cape Town, with no voice in his own future.

"You can scrap apartheid on paper, but when will it be scrapped here?" he asked, gesturing at the maze of shacks under flat-topped Table Mountain.

In the comfortable city on the other side of the mountain, President FW de Klerk announced on February 1 that South Africa's remaining apartheid laws will be repealed within months.

In black townships like Khayelitsha, it will take generations to erase apartheid's legacy.

Even if the last segregation laws are abolished this year, blacks will not have the vote immediately or be represented in the national government.

Election

De Klerk is not required to call an election until 1994, the target he has set for negotiating a new constitution that will give voting rights to the black majority.

"There's much talk of change, but we still don't have the vote, and that is what our people demand," said Walter Sisulu, a leader of the African National Congress, the leading black opposition group.

Apartheid, which segregated the races by law, built inequities and inefficiencies into almost every facet of life. From schools to housing to health care, South African institutions will have to be restructured to end white domination and erase black poverty based on economic apartheid.

Black townships are far from the downtown areas of major cities. Commuting can take hours and a huge part of black earnings.

Rula, a 33-year-old delivery man, spends R25 a week from his R125 wages, on bus and taxi fares.

The Government deliberately built inferior schools for blacks. Now the country is in a recession and desperately short of the skilled workers its diversified economy needs.

"I want to learn computers because it is a computer world," Rula said.

Reading

He reads as much as possible - several magazines were open on his bed - but has no high school diploma.

The limited educational opportunities available are beyond his means.

Under De Klerk's reforms, about 200 white schools in major cities began in January to accept a few black students.

Ten times that number still are segregated and will remain so unless white parents at the schools vote for integration.

Outside liberal neighborhoods in large cities, there is little chance of that.

De Klerk says his Government will not impose integration or affirmative action programmes, such as those in the United States.

Voluntary association and market forces will determine the pace of integration in all fields, the government says. Blacks say this will, in effect, give whites veto power over integration and continue to limit black opportunities.

For many blacks, the most immediate concern is improving their own facilities. Many students are turned away from black schools because classes already have 60 or more students.

Children

"I don't really want my kids to go to white schools," said Nelson Mqeke of Khayelitsha, who has six children. "I want them to have good schools here."

Housing is critically short in black areas, and for years Government housing policy included sending bulldozers to flatten shacks erected illegally on vacant land.

The Government has begun supplying water taps, bathrooms and other services in shantytowns, but concedes the squatter problem will get worse. About 7 million of the country's 30 million blacks live in shacks.

It is common for 10 or more people to live in a four-room house. Such overcrowding and poverty breed crime, violence and political instability that could threaten De Klerk's reform effort.

Allan Hendrickse, leader of the Labour Party, a moderate anti-apartheid group in the mixed-race chamber of parliament, says the Government owes reparations to blacks who were forcibly removed from their land.

During a forced removal near the southern city of Port Elizabeth in 1972, his family lost a plot of land on which their home, a school and a church stood.

The family received R76 000 worth of compensation, but the buildings were torn down and it now would cost about R45 000 just to buy the vacant plot.

Hendrickse, a minister in the United Congregational Church, says he is determined to rebuild the church on its original foundation. - *Sapa-AP*

(307)

Noordhoek squatters to be settled in valley

Cape Times 16/2/91

By CHRIS BATEMAN

AFTER months of bitterness and controversy, Noordhoek's squatters are to be finally resettled at a permanent site in the valley.

This was decided at a meeting late yesterday between Mr Sam de Beer, Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works, landowner and developer Mr David Bridgman and squatters.

In a statement issued after a week which saw fighting among squatters and right-wing statements by a minority of white residents, Mr De Beer said squatters were expected to vacate Mr Bridgman's land by the end of the month.

They will be allowed to resettle on a nearby site which has access from the Kommetjie road. The government-expropriated land, commonly known as Site Five, would accommodate the estimated 70 dwellings of the "Ncongolo" and "Green Point" communities, plus all other present squatter communities in the valley.

Site Five would be for the "permanent accommodation of the lower-income group of the Southern Peninsula", Mr De Beer said.

His spokesman clarified this, as referring to the Noordhoek Valley area.

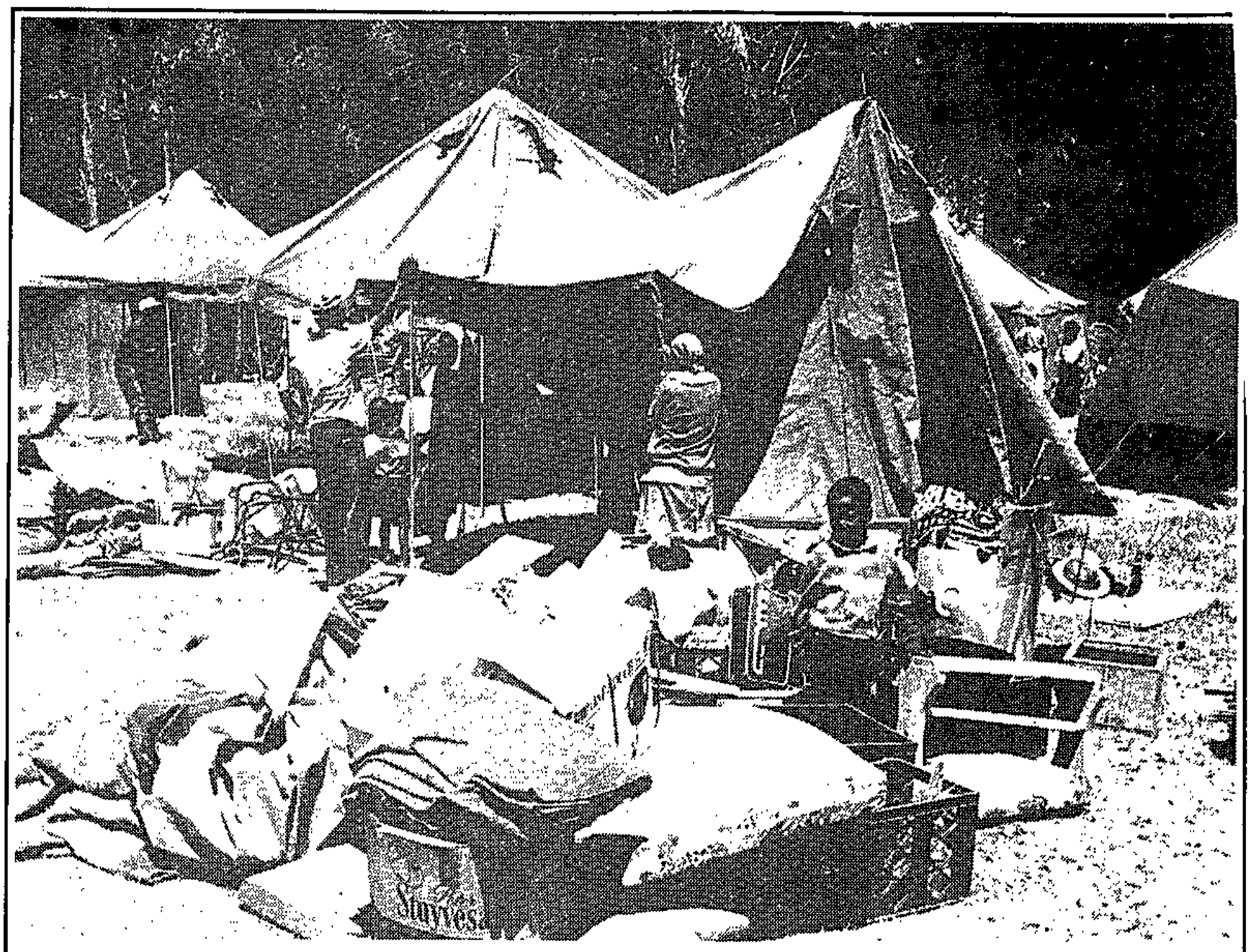
Mr De Beer said a joint working group of government and squatter delegates would devise a mutually-acceptable development plan for the new site.

Mr Bridgman's Great Lakes Development site was expected to be cleared by February 28, he said.

Mr De Beer said afterwards that he trusted that the "years of deadlock on this issue have now come to an end".

The development manager for the proposed multi-million rand marina, Mr Tony Marsh, expressed pleasure, saying the move had been "a long time coming".

Legal representatives for the squatters welcomed the decision.



SETTING UP HOME . . . Squatters of Hout Bay's Sea Products community yesterday began setting up home at the new 18-hectare site above the cemetery off Hout Bay Road.

Picture: ALAN TAYLOR

Squatters move to new home

By CHRIS BATEMAN

THE first 15 families of the Sea Products squatters in Hout Bay and their possessions were transported to the new 18-hectare Hout Bay Road site yesterday.

Excited members of the 400-strong community — ravaged by a mystery blaze which killed four men on Boxing Day last year — began erecting tents on cleared land above Hout Bay's cemetery.

Sources close to the Department of Local Government, Housing and Works said about 1 200 people from the Sea Products, Princess Bush, Blue Valley, Disa River and Dawid's Kraal squatter camps would eventually be settled there.

There was initial consternation yesterday as squatter leaders declared the new pegged-out sites as "impossibly small", but government, Urban Foundation and Red Cross officials pointed out that there had been a misunderstanding.

What squatters had taken to be individual sites were in fact four times that size. Officials on site yesterday said each family would have 63m² on which to erect their homes.

The intention was to house squatters in tents (which the Sea Products community has lived in since the Boxing Day fire), before they built shacks with the advice and assistance of the Urban Foundation.

As other squatters were trucked in they would take occupation of the vacated tents.

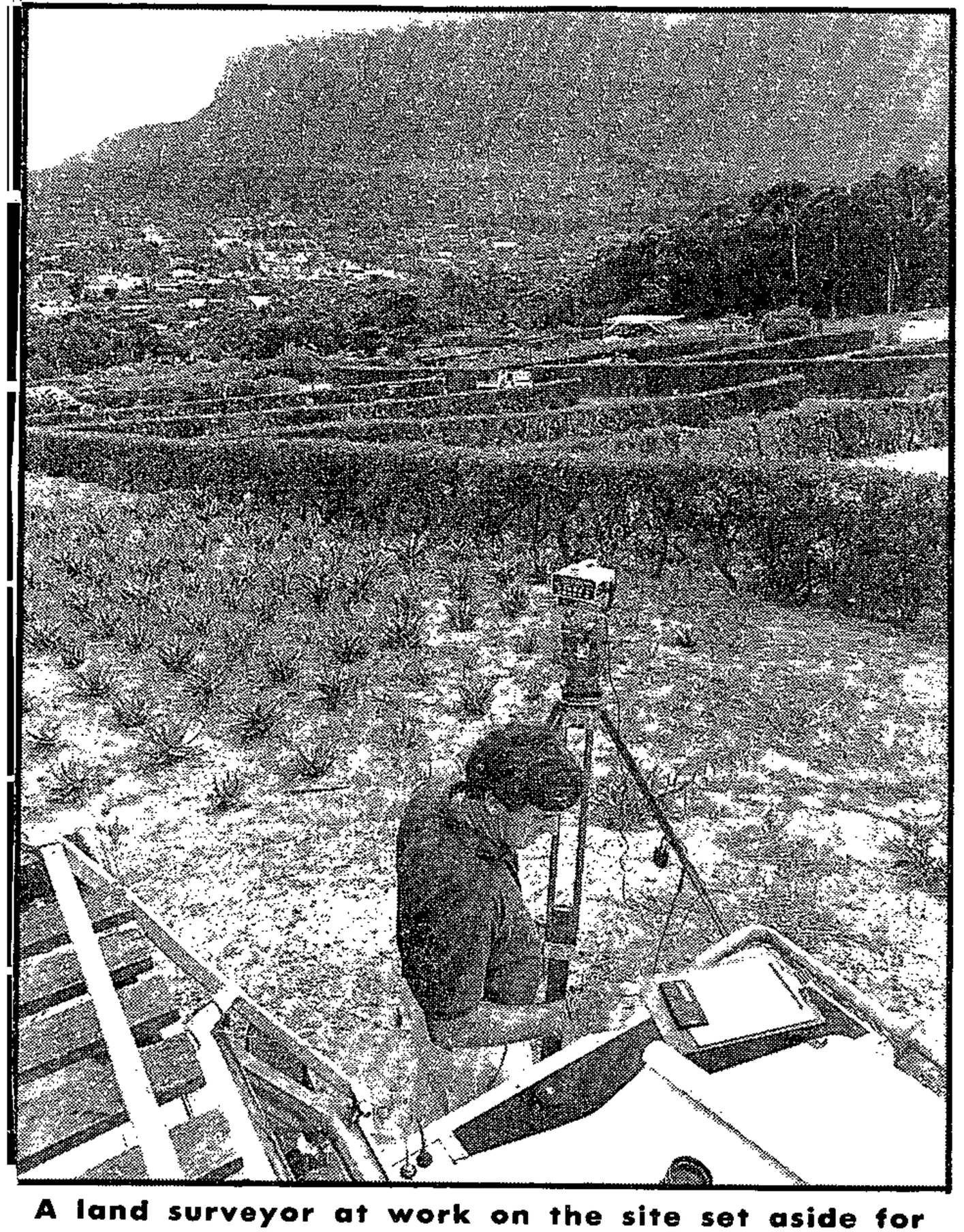
Senior project co-ordinator Mr Alistair Sempel said yesterday that the foundation would provide initial technical assistance, carpenters and builders, while skilled squatters would also be paid to help erect the new shanty town.

Sea Products camp chairman Mr Solly Makoba said homes would be spaced out to minimise the fire hazard. Residents were "very happy", he added.

Anger in Hout Bay as squatter deadline looms

w/c Mons 23/2/91 307

Report: DENNIS CRUYWAGEN
Pictures: ROY WIGLEY



A land surveyor at work on the site set aside for squatters.

UNEASINESS, fear and anger is growing in pristine Hughenden Estate and Riverside Terrace in Hout Bay as the deadline approaches for squatters to move in nearby.

As workers cleared an access road to the site where squatters begin settling on Monday, Hughenden residents spoke of their fears, anguish and disappointment.

Some residents, who spoke on condition that they remained anonymous because they feared intimidation, said the value of their properties would drop, crime — a rarity in Hughenden — would escalate, and noise pollution would reach new levels.

Protection

The site earmarked for the squatters is between Hughenden and Penzance estates near the Hout Bay cemetery.

One Hughenden resident said the community of 11 families had held a meeting with a Hout Bay police officer recently.

"He warned us to protect ourselves. He said police could not protect us for 24 hours, adding that we were responsible for our own safety and security," she said.

Hughenden residents had decided to "close off the estate completely", she said.

She and her husband had also revolved to fence their property and improve their burglar alarm system.

"All in all it will cost us a fortune and we have killed ourselves to build here."

She said she and her husband had turned down an offer of R450 000 for their house four months ago "because we thought it was a bit of a joke".



Unauthorised entry to Hughenden Cottage is a risky business.

"Now estate agents do not want to touch the place. They say that they can't sell the house because squatters will be living next door. We paid R250 000 for the plot and to build our house. Now we can't sell it."

She said the land set aside for the squatters was prime real estate.

"It's unbelievable that squatters will live there. It could sell for millions with its view of the mountains and the sea. Basically this is another stuff-up."

Mrs Esther Graf, whose property borders the access road, said Hughenden residents "feel we've been taken for a ride".

Promises to give residents a buffer zone had not been kept, she said.

"We've worked for 20 years to develop our property and have put every penny we have into it. It seems like we are going to the dogs. We would like to sit down with the authorities and get some facts and talk about compensation."

The opposition was not racist, she said.

"We have a R160 000 bond on our house. Here the house is not worth the bond. Who wants this place?"

She has registered her home as a guest house but she doubted if "tourists would want to look out on a squatter settlement".

Security worried her too. "I have a 15-year-old daughter and a 10-year-old son. I will worry about their safety. We have been happy and safe here. Now we are insecure."

She also feared squatters would raise the noise level and pose a fire risk.

Riverside Terreace resident Mr Barry Wrankmore said residents had not been consulted about the access road.

Minibus taxis would be residents' biggest problem, he said.

"They'll be coming in and out and stopping on the blind rise on the access road."

Residents had examined the possibility of having the road closed.

"At this stage senior counsel tells us that nobody has been prejudiced by the siting of the road and there is no legal recourse for an interdict putting an end to it."

The situation was delicate in Riverside Terrace and people were afraid to speak out "for fear of intimidation", he said.

He had "no problems with housing the people somewhere in the valley".

"It's just wrong to put them between two upmarket property developments without proper consultation," he said.



An excavator digs a trench on the site where squatter will be relocated.



Mrs Esther Graf, right, and a neighbour discuss their un happiness about the access road.

Heated discussion over squatters at Hout Bay

By MICHAEL MORRIS
Political Correspondent

CONTROVERSY over Hout Bay's squatter settlement flared in parliament yesterday in a short, sharp debate that found the government and the Democratic Party joining forces in a skirmish with Conservatives.

Replying to the noisiest of yesterday's three mini interpellation debates in the House of Assembly, Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works, Mr Sam de Beer said the government had a responsibility to provide land and reasonable services to squatters who had been settled in the area for some time and 70 percent of whom were economically active.

"We can't just throw them out," he said.

CP WARNED

And Democratic Party MP for Sea Point Mr Colin Eglin turned on the Conservative Party and warned: "Keep your racist hands off Hout Bay. You are doing South Africa a disservice by trying to exploit the squatter situation there for racial purposes."

The interpellation focused on a question by CP MP for Sasolburg Mr Louis Stofberg who wanted to know if Hout Bay landowners had been consulted about the settlement of squatters.

Mr De Beer said there had been extensive consultations and these would continue. The decision on land for squatters had not been lightly taken.

LANDOWNERS

He said there had been a series of meetings involving various groups in September and October last year.

However, quoting extensively from the records of a Supreme Court case that arose from the controversy, Mr Stofberg said landowning residents should have been given the opportunity to vote on the issue.

"The rights of owners have simply been ignored," he said.

Instead, they were saddled with a squatter camp that could be a breeding ground for terrorists.

Fish Hoek alarm at squatters

By CHRIS BATEMAN

THE Sunnydale Residents' Association has hit out at the government for landing it with a "fait accompli" with the resettlement of about 93 squatter families in the Noordhoek area at the weekend.

Secretary Mr Digby Marshall said the association had been misled and had not been consulted.

Mr Marshall said the association was afraid the squatters would spread beyond the allocated area.

He also feared adjacent smallholdings would be "plundered and stripped".

Mr Tony Marsh, developer of the Noordhoek marina — from where the squatters were moved — said rigid controls had been introduced and all boarders at the old camp evicted.

He challenged locals to visit the community. "It's no death-defying feat — they should contribute to community relationships instead of complaining."

'No promised land

South 28/2 - 6/3/91 (307)

By Musa Ndwandwe

THE joy of the Hout Bay squatters who moved to their "promised land" this week, was dampened when they arrived at the site and found it unsuitable and lacking in facilities.

Many of the Sea product squatters complained about the shortage of basic facilities like toilets and taps.

They said the government had unilaterally chosen the site for their new home.

The community, however, intend to celebrate their resettlement on the land with a ceremony to be held at a later date.

"We would like to claim this as a victory for the people as this is the first time that black people's struggle for land has been attended to by the government," said Ms Vanessa Matthews, spokesperson for the Hout Bay Housing Crisis Project.

There was still reason to "continue the struggle for affordable houses for all", said Matthews.

Hazard

She said the area where the squatters were being resettled was not properly serviced and inadequate for housing an estimated 2 000 people.

"Four to five families will have to share a single toilet and 20 families will share a tap," she said.

"Soon, this will constitute a health hazard," said Matthews.

Residents also complained that the plots accorded to each family were too small.

"This will create a possibility of a fire harzard," said Matthews.

A public meeting is being planned at which the dissatisfaction of squatters will be voiced.

Matthews said their grievances would be forwarded to the government.

"People are moving to this place to gain relief from the rightwing harassment they have been subjected to on the privately-owned land," said Mr Nkosinathi Majola, a resident.

Community leaders said an appropriate name would be given to the place after people have settled down.

"We are very likely to honour our comrades who died in the mysterious fire at Sea Products," said Matthews.

Most residents blamed the landowners for the fire that caused the death of four people on Christmas Day last year.

A spokesperson for the Regional Services Council representative, Mr Sam De Beer, said more land was to be made available to squatter communities at a later stage.

Squatters get Red Cross tents

CAPE Town 3/1/97 307

THE Red Cross has moved about 120 tents into the Sea Products squatter camp in Hout Bay, where fire destroyed more than 100 shacks and four people were burnt to death on Christmas night.

A spokeswoman for the squatters said that most of the people had been housed in tents.

The future of the Hout Bay squatters is uncertain after a Supreme Court order ejecting squatters at the nearby Princess Bush site, but the government has said it expects to identify an alternative site soon. — Sapa

New wrecks on Maputo road

Milnerton site for temporary squatter camp

By JOHAN SCHRÖNEN, Staff Reporter

MILNERTON municipality's proclaimed transit area for homeless people is a step closer after squatters and municipal officials met to discuss final arrangements for their relocation.

Town Clerk Mr Peter Gerber addressed a group of about 200 squatters at the site yesterday where he emphasised that the municipality was there "to do things for the people" and wanted to avoid conflict at all costs.

Mr Gerber, however, warned squatters that anybody found squatting outside the pegged "section 61" area after 15 January — the deadline set by the municipality — would "run the risk of prosecution".

A spokesman for the squatters considered the statement "nothing but a threat" but Mr Gerber replied that it was "not the municipality's policy to threaten people" and that they were there to "do things for the people".

'DEALING WITH PEOPLE'

A squatter also wanted to know whether the transit area would be divided into portions for blacks and coloured people but Mr Gerber said "we are dealing with people, not blacks or coloureds".

An official of the municipality will be on the site on Monday to show squatter families their allocated 63 sq m sites which will make up the 8,1 hectare temporary transit area along Koeberg Road next to Montague Gardens.

The municipality decided to relocate squatters before providing services to cause as little disruption to people already living within the proclaimed area. The provision of services to the area would take about two to three weeks, according to the town clerk.

A spokesman for the municipality rejected allegations by the ratepayers association that the area would be "10 times too small" for the number of squatters.

Squatters without 'promised' water

By CHRIS BATEMAN

ABOUT 3 000 Old Crossroads refugees living in the Driftsands Nature Reserve opposite Khayelitsha say they are still without water four months after "promises" of rudimentary services were made by top CPA officials.

A CPA spokesman said the offer concerned 36 hectares of land in Philippi East to which the refugees refused to be moved last September.

Yesterday the deputy director of Community Services for the Western Cape, Mr Gerrit Erasmus, met a delegation of angry refugees in Old Crossroads after they had phoned him to complain.

Old Crossroads town councillor Mr Poni de Wet said that offers of land were all very well, "but what about basics such as water in the meantime? Are these people not human?".

Mr Erasmus said that in the absence of his regional director, Mr Faan Naude, he would investigate "within the limits of the legal practicalities".

It was reliably learnt yesterday that a bakkie has been used to transport water in drums from Old Crossroads to the refugee site.

Squatters fail to appear

307

Court Reporter CHRONICLE 12/1/87

WARRANTS of arrest were issued yesterday against 15 Princess Bush squatters facing charges of loitering and public drunkenness.

The squatters failed to appear in Wynberg Magistrate's Court, following their release shortly before Christmas with a warning to appear.

Mr Sidney Nelani, 28, Mr Xakele Konani, 28, Mr Mndineleli Ndudi, 18, Mr Erik Jamta, 26, Mr Mbonise Adams, 29, Mr Chief Mkwa, 34, Mr Sisa Siha, 18, Mr Jonas Nyoka, 26, Mr Leonard Xala, 39, Mr Goodman Mfosa, 52, Mr Bumile Ntshotshi, 18, Mr Wiseman Ngalo, 18, Mr Alfred Skhomkwa, 18, Mr Colin Mbi, 26, and Mr Hendrick Voyi, 24, all of Princess Bush, had not been officially charged or asked to plead.

They were arrested on December 18 and released the following day.

The hearing was postponed to February 15.

Teargas, 57 arrests as squatters invade land

Argus 5/2/91 (30)

By SHARON SOROUR, Staff Reporter

POLICE fired teargas and arrested 57 Villiersdorp residents after squatters invaded municipal land which was later set on fire.

Police liaison officer Major Gys Boonzaaier confirmed the arrests near Nuwedorp township after a confrontation with police last night.

They were released on bail of R100 each and will appear in Caledon Magistrate's Court on February 19 on charges of trespassing, Major Boonzaaier said.

Informal housing

He denied allegations that the fire was started by police and said it was started by the squatters on land which was originally set aside by the municipality for informal housing.

The fire started about 6pm and the Villiersdorp fire brigade fought the blaze for more than three hours to prevent it from spreading to the mountain areas, he said.

The squatters returned to the land last night to rebuild shacks which were allegedly demolished by police and farmers on Saturday after they were erected by about 80 squatters and residents.

Surplus People Project spokesman Miss Lala Steyn said about 150 people marched to the municipality yesterday to protest against the demolition of the shacks and occupied the municipal offices for about five hours.

"They were demanding land from the municipality to build shacks and the retraction of summonses issued to residents for rent arrears," she said.

Members of the Villiersdorp Civic Association later held discussions with the town clerk and the mayor.

They were told their demands would not be met, so they returned to the land to rebuild their shacks in protest, she said.

According to the Boland director of Lawyers for Human Rights, Mr Roger Chennels, the community had an ongoing dispute with the municipality over housing.

Mr Chennels said police fired teargas at squatters and other residents last night and the shacks were destroyed.

A Mitchell's Plain attorney, Mr Taswell Papier, spent the night arranging bail, he said.



PRE-CARNIVAL CHARMS: Two Brazilian women show off their charms during the *Baile do Havai* (Dance

Martin into third place, radio snags

47 Villiersdorp squatters held

307

CNA Trust 6/2/91

By PETER DENNEHY

FORTY-SEVEN would-be squatters from Villiersdorp, near Grabouw, were arrested on Monday night on charges of trespassing and released yesterday on R100 bail each, a spokesman for the group said.

Police liaison officer Major Gys Boonzaaier said he believed 57 people were arrested, one for riotous behaviour. They are due in court on February 19.

Some or all of them allegedly re-erected shacks on land near the coloured township of Nuwedorp after the municipality had demolished them at the weekend, police and residents said.

Mr Thomas Jansen of the ANC and the Villiersdorp branch of the Western Cape Civic Association said yesterday provision had been made for only 56 blacks in single-sex hostels in Villiersdorp. Women and children in the hostels had been told they would be arrested if they remained there this week.

People were sleeping in the bush, or on farms without permission, he said. The coloured township was also vastly overcrowded, with up to 21 people in a two-roomed house.

● Sapa reports that Villiersdorp town clerk Mr Johan Serfontein said site and service facilities will hopefully be available in six months.

Homeless workers vow to stay

THE homeless families of contract workers in Villiersdorp have vowed they are "not going to run again" after people believed to be white farmers destroyed their shacks on Tuesday.

The wives and children of workers at the Villiersdorp Co-op have moved back into the factory compounds where they have been staying as they have "no alternative accommodation", according to advice office worker and local priest, Rev Stanley Williams.

But on Wednesday, Co-op manager Mr Raubie Raubenheimer, said he would take action against those living "illegally" in the compounds.

Raubenheimer said the compounds could accommodate only about 60 people. Sowth 7/24 3/2/91

He said the "illegal" occupants had to leave so that workers who would arrive for the opening of the grape season next week could be accommodated.

The workers claimed their plight began last week when they were allegedly forced out of the compounds by the Co-op management.

The families had erected shacks on nearby municipal grounds. The shacks were destroyed — allegedly by white farmers.

On Monday, about 200 people occupied the municipal offices for five hours, demanding that they be given adequate housing and the return of their material.

They returned to the same site to rebuild their shacks when their their demands were not met, Williams said.

"The plight of the worker's families cannot be separated from that of the housing crisis in the area,", said a member of the Villiersdorp Civic Association, Mr Thomas Jansen.

He said about 600 people needed housing desperately in the area.



SHACK PROJECT ... Mandela Square squatter camp spokesman Mr Bhasi Belu (red T-shirt) supervises the erection of a shack on CPA land.

Pictures: DAVE MARRS



SCHOOL CRISIS ... 104 standard six pupils are crammed into one room with two teachers, at the Imekhaya Public School in Kwa Nonqaba township, near Mossel Bay.

Shacks mushroom on prime Mossel Bay site

By DAVE MARRS

DEFIANT ANC-backed squatters have taken over serviced CPA land in Mossel Bay worth over R2 million, and have built more than 300 shacks in three months.

The former coastal resort mushroomed after the discovery of natural gas in South African territorial waters nearby and work-hungry labourers flooded into the existing Kwa Nonqaba township, causing a drastic shortage of land for housing.

Spokesman for the Mandela Square squatters' housing and land campaign, Mr Bhasi Belu, said he had more than 1 600 names on a list of families waiting to occupy CPA land, which the ANC-backed committee was allocating in an ordered manner.

"We have been asking the CPA and the municipality for land for more than 10 years and in November last year we elected a committee and decided to do it ourselves, he said.

The shacks are situated on prime land overlooking the bay that has full electricity and sewerage facilities that are not connected. Only 21 buckets serve the sanitary needs of the entire population of Mandela Square.

Up to eight new shacks are being erected each day in neat lines on carefully measured and numbered plots.

Mr Belu said his committee discussed the erection of shacks with the CPA last week, and told them the squatters were not prepared to move to other land unless they were to be allocated proper houses.

While new schools and mass housing projects catered for the influx of white technical staff, township residents say the Mossel Bay council purposely did not make more land available for black housing, in the hope that this would discourage unwanted arrivals.

According to the town clerk of the township, Mr Johan Langenhoven, the population of the area has increased from 6 000 to 16 000 in less than three years.

Where there were 117 shacks in the back yards of established houses in the township in 1988, there are now more than 1 000. The number of shacks at the nearby JCC squatter settlement increased from 149 in 1989 to 750 this year.

The only school in Kwa Nonqaba, Imekhaya Public School, is now catering for over 1 600 primary and high school pupils. It was built to take 700 primary pupils. Teachers have had to adopt the platoon system, where classes are held all afternoon to make maximum use of classrooms.

In one room, 104 standard six pupils are taught by two teachers, crammed three to a desk and sharing the few text books that are available.

A standard seven class of 78 pupils has a single teacher.

"I honestly think that this is not right," says Mr Langenhoven. "We have pleaded with the children to come back to school and now some have to be turned away.

"The way these people have been treated is unjust and it is just not acceptable when the Department of Education and Training says it has no money to build more classrooms."

A high school is being built nearby, but will only be completed some time next year.

Squatter violence flares

By CHRIS BATEMAN

VIOLENCE erupted for the second time in 10 hours in the Noordhoek squatter camp early yesterday — minutes before an armed local shopkeeper intervened between panga and axe-wielding squatter factions.

Mr Aidan Rorke, whose business is alongside the camp, said he and a neighbour, Mr Marc de Rooy, intervened when elders chased youths up into the nearby Crofters Valley housing development.

"Youths were hurling rocks into the camp and a mass of elders emerged and chased them," he said.

Mr Rorke said he had taken his sidearm but had not used it.

Minutes later, Mr Jannie Momberg, MP for Simon's Town, arrived and berated the two groups for "playing into the hands of those whites who want them evicted from the valley".

No serious injuries were reported in the fighting which erupted on Wednesday night over the internal eviction of a "tenant" squatter, allegedly without notice.

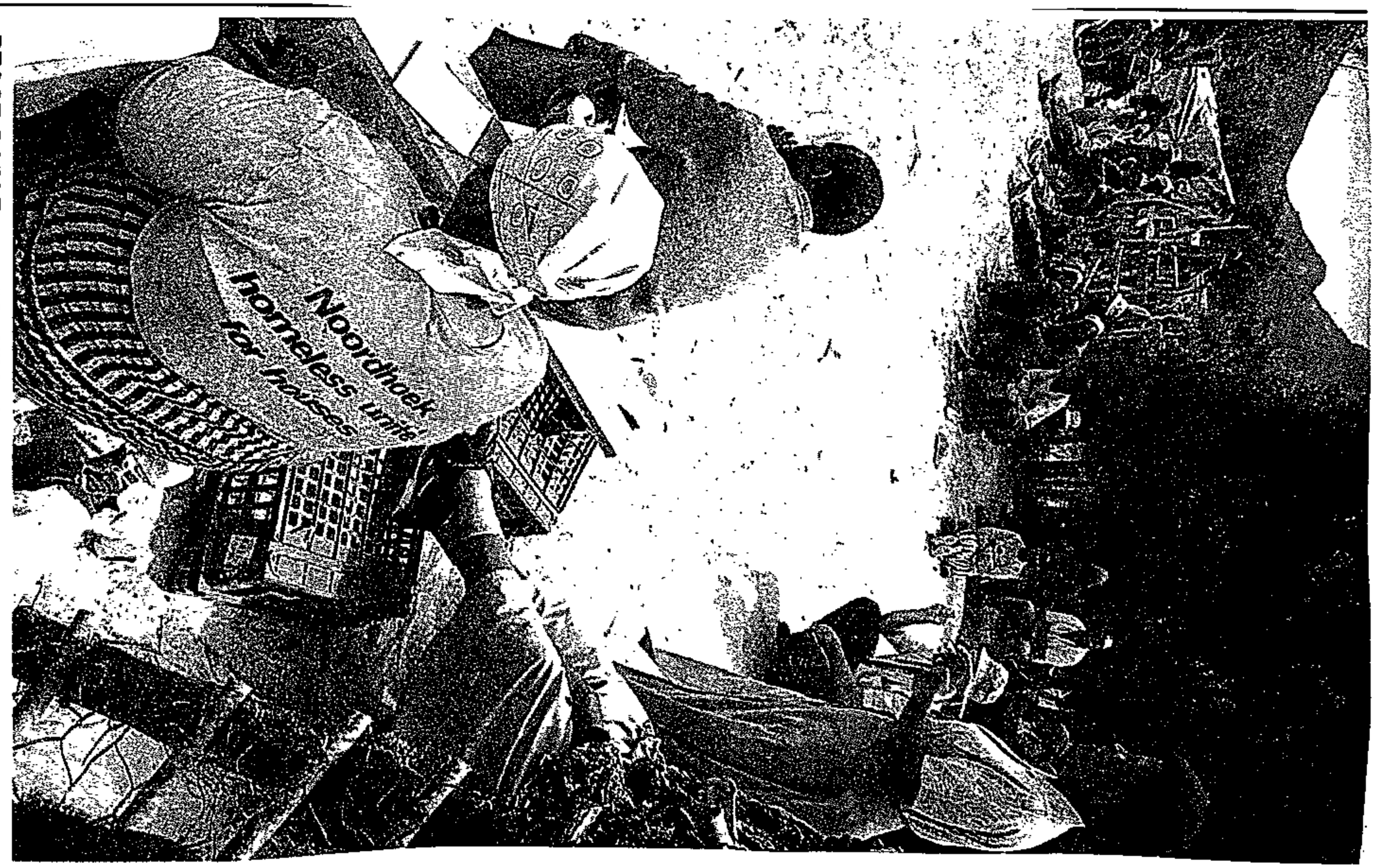
At a hasty peace meeting yesterday, ANC regional vice-president Ms Hilda Ndude allowed residents to put forward their version of events before suggesting steps to prevent a recurrence.

Yesterday Mr Sam de Beer, Minister of Housing, Welfare and Works, Mr Momberg and legal counsel for the squatters met to discuss the promised move of the squatters to nearby land.

Mr De Beer said that he would be consulting with squatters today about permanent settlement on the new site.

The squatter community is under threat of legal eviction by landowner Mr David Bridgeman, who is developing a multi-million rand marina around the vlei.

Police confirmed the violence, saying they pulled out at 4am yesterday but were called back at 7am. A spokesman said they would continue "monitoring the situation, low-profile". No arrests were made.



PEACE PARLEY ... Ms Hilda Ndude, regional vice-president of the ANC, addresses warring Noordhoek squatter residents at the camp yesterday.

Picture: BENNY GOOL

Milnerton's humane stand on squatters

307

By FRANS ESTERHUYSE
Weekend Argus Political Correspondent

MILNERTON municipality, now in the midst of a fierce row about squatters, has turned its back on rightwing racists and pledged itself to a negotiated and humane settlement of the town's problems.

Mayor Mr Willem van Staden summed up his council's verligte policy this week in these terms: "We saw the squatter problem as a challenge and a golden opportunity to do something constructive for fellow South Africans instead of giving them a few rands and sending them into the bushes.

"We see it as a problem that cannot be wished away. Our plan, worked out by negotiation, is pioneering work. We have the fullest support from the government, the provincial administration, the squatter community and the majority of our ratepayers.

Political capital

"It is sad, therefore, that there are people who oppose our efforts towards a peaceful and humane solution. They are clearly trying to make political capital out of this very sensitive issue."

In the forefront of a campaign for apartheid-style hardline action against squatters is the Conservative Party which is trying to turn it into a major issue in its fight against the National Party's Maitland by-election candidate, Mr Louis Pienaar, Minister of National Education and Environment Affairs.

Mr Pienaar said that within a week of becoming involved as NP candidate for Maitland in mid-January he learned as much as he could about the squatter situation.

He had discussions with the provincial and municipal authorities as well as the Milnerton Ratepayers Action Committee.

He said he was convinced the Milnerton municipality acted correctly by negotiating with the squatter community for their resettlement in the transit area. He commended the mayor and town clerk for their humane approach to the problem.

The alternative of forceful action could have led to confrontation and possible violence and demonstrations in support of the squatters. This would have given Milnerton the unwanted notoriety of an area of black/white confrontation.

Mr Pienaar said the next step was the identification of a site for resettlement — again in consultation with the squatters. Alternative sites had been identified by consultants and he was satisfied that negotiations on resettlement would be initiated soon. The ratepayers' association would also be consulted.

He was also pleased to confirm that after his representation to the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, the police in Milnerton had been reinforced. Patrols had been stepped up in response to many complaints by residents Milnerton on vagrancy, burglaries and thefts.

The by-election — on March 6 — is a straight fight between the NP and the CP. The Democratic Party is not contesting the seat but has urged its supporters to oppose the CP.

CP candidate Mr Theuns Kruger, who recently left the NP to join the CP, confirmed this week the CP's policy was that squatters "should go back where they came from".

He told The Weekend Argus he was convinced about 90 percent of Milnerton's squatters were from Transkei — and they should be sent back there. Some were said to be Portuguese-speaking and might have come from Angola or Mozambique.

"They don't belong here. We don't have the infrastructure to look after such people. They are a tremendous burden on local authorities and we just don't have the funds."

Mr Kruger said he believed the government was "directly responsible" for Milnerton's squatter problem.

Milnerton municipality, on the other hand, worked out a possible solution through negotiation and consultation with top government and provincial authorities, and representatives of the squatters.

The land used by the squatters is next to Koeberg Road and is owned by Telecom. There are 327 squatters' shacks, housing about 1 100 people.

Agreement was reached on a plan involving the declaration of 8,02 hectares of land as a temporary transit area for the housing of the homeless.

Milnerton town clerk Mr Peter Gerber said the costs, including providing basic services like water, refuse and sanitation, will be for the account of the provincial administration.

The squatter community will be asked to pay for such services at cost, and discussions were held with squatter representatives.

Community health-care services will be provided.

Mr Gerber gave an assurance that the present servicing as well as the acquisition and development of future areas would not place a burden on Milnerton's finances because money would be provided by the state.

It is expected the transit area will be used fo about 18 months, but this depends on the availabil ity of alternative sites and on how soon those site can get services.

Mr Gerber also said the municipality's action had been "humane, honest, and in the best interest of all parties concerned".

Many residents had acknowledged that "hars action against the most destitute sector of societ is not in the best interests of good human rela tions".

Meanwhile Milnerton Ratepayers' Associatio has had sharp clashes with the municipality ove the squatters.

Aspects which the association found "unaccep able" include the closeness of the transit area to major road, a threat of disruption, and a "potentia crime risk".

When things got hot

At one stage the dispute became so hot that th municipality's legal advisers warned the associa tion of legal action for alleged defamation of cour cillors and municipal officials.

Four out of five ratepayers' bodies in Milnerto had agreed with the municipality's handling of th issue and had given their full co-operation.

In a statement to The Weekend Argus, the mu nicipality says: "Milnerton is a local governmer institution that wishes and is committed to bein part of the future.

"It is furthermore committed to help shape th future through peaceful dialogue and negotiation including the upliftment of people and respectin the dignity and rights of all South Africans to liv in peace and harmony."

(Report by F S Esterhuyse, 122 St George's Street, Cap Town).

INTERPELLATION

The sign * indicates a translation. The sign †, used subsequently in the same interpellation, indicates the original language.

Own Affairs:

Squatters: land in Hout Bay

*1. Mr L F STOFBERG asked the Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works:

(1) Whether a piece of land in Hout Bay is going to be made available to squatters for permanent settlement; if so, what piece of land;

(2) whether the landowners of Hout Bay will be consulted in this regard; of not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

B338E.INT

*The MINISTER OF WELFARE, HOUSING AND WORKS: Mr Speaker, the answer to paragraph (1) of the interpellation is yes, land for the permanent settlement of the squatters in Hout Bay has already been identified. It is a portion of erf 2848 Hout Bay, which is commonly known as the nursery site.

The answer to paragraph (2) is that the landowners of Hout Bay have been consulted on many occasions with regard to the resettlement of the squatters, are at present being consulted and will be consulted again in future.

The final decision concerning the site on which the squatters will be settled was not taken haphazardly and was preceded by various activities. Apart from a firm of consultants which gave professional advice, Mr Colin Appleton, previously connected with the Urban Foundation and currently a professional development consultant, was appointed as mediator between the White community, the squatters and the department.

Mr Appleton went to great lengths to keep all the interested parties in Hout Bay informed, as one can see from the following example. He established a technical committee which represented the following interested parties: Hout Bay Ratepayers' Association, Hout Bay Delegation, Hout Bay Ratepayers' Association and Churches of Hout Bay, Hout Bay Property Rights Association, House of Representatives, Cape Provincial Administration, Western Cape Regional Services Council, Development Action Group and MLH Architects. The technical committee met on 14 September and 21 September, 8 October and 23 November 1990.

This technical committee narrowed all the possible sites down to 11, of which I identified one as the most suitable. I took this decision on the advice of and after consultation with the hon the Minister of the Budget and Local Government, the hon the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, the Acting Administrator of the Cape, the Chairman of the Western Cape Regional Services Council, the hon member for Sea Point who is the local MP, the Ministerial Representative as well as the departmental heads of various State departments. They all reached an agreement concerning the appropriate site and the way in which the issue would be dealt with further.

On 17 January 1991 I had a meeting with the leaders of the squatter community as well as the Property Rights Association and the Ratepayers' Association before making public my decision about that site.

A court order which required the urgent eviction of the squatters and a fire which caused devastation in one of the camps made it impossible to postpone a decision regarding the site for the squatters and further consultation any longer. I am therefore satisfied . . . [Time expired.]

*Mr L F STOFBERG: Mr Speaker, the hon the Minister consulted quite a few people, but how many of them actually have property interests in Hout Bay? [Interjections.] The hon the Ministers owes it to the community of Hout Bay to allow them to vote on this issue, to find out at the polls whether they really accept and welcome these developments. [Interjections.]

In the judgement of the three judges, Williamson, Van Niekerk and Foxcroft, it is expressly stated "that the squatters are in unlawful occupation of applicants' land". How can those people who were mentioned by the hon the Minister say it is in order for the squatters to continue their illegal occupation, and on top of that on land which the hon the Minister has newly allocated to them?

The judges expressly said "that the applicants have rights of ownership which have simply been ignored by the respondents". All those inquiries the hon the Minister made still do not resolve this issue.

Thirdly the judges said:

> It seems that many of the squatters have got together and have organised an informal body which represents a considerable number of them.

The worst aspect of all is that this squatting in Hout Bay is an organised affair. I went visiting there and the local inhabitants told me that there are some of these squatters, from what they could gather, who are terrorists and ANC supporters. [Interjections.]

Then there is the shocking case of a warrant officer De Villiers who was asked to assist in removing the squatters:

> He informed me that he had been given instructions by his superiors. He accordingly refused my request for any assistance.

This is according to a statement by the person concerned. The police, therefore, do not want him to continue with that issue.

What were the results? The judge says: "the police refuse to act". He goes on to say: "This is a recipe for anarchy and forceful self help with potential results that are frightening to contemplate". [Interjections.] That is what the judge said, and the hon the Minister acted here this afternoon as if it was nothing more than a minor enquiry which he had to institute. On top of that the Press claims that another 20 million Blacks in South Africa will stream to the cities within the next 25 years and they will have to be accommodated.

Here the hon the Minister has created the precedent and opened the door for these 20 million people to come and squat. [Interjections.] Once they have squatted illegally he will allocate them some land. Their crime is rewarded by him allocating them land in a jewel of a community such as Hout Bay. It is an absolute disgrace. [Interjections.]

Mr C W EGLIN: Mr Speaker, we will debate the Hout Bay issue more fully later on. All I want to do now is tell the CP to keep their racist hands off Hout Bay. [Interjections.] The people there, Black and White, are concerned about safety, standards and rights, but they are not racists. [Interjections.] The CP are doing not only Hout Bay but the whole of South Africa a disservice by trying to exploit this matter for racial purposes.

The people of Hout Bay have reason to be dissatisfied with the vacillation, indecision and lack of policy direction which characterised the Government's approach to the squatter issue for more than a year. For a year after I raised it with the Administrator of the Cape, way back in August 1989, the Government seemed to be paralysed. It was as if they had found the new South Africa, but they damn well did not know what to do about it. [Interjections.] So they sat there, not knowing what to do. With credit to this hon Minister, and in all fairness to him, he took over his responsibilities in November 1990, and from the time he was persuaded that a decision had to be taken, at least he had the guts to take a decision. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear!

Mr C W EGLIN: Yes, there should have been more consultation. He knows that is my view. Yes, the planning process could have been taken further. But there were other factors that had to be taken into account. There was an urgency. There was a court judgement. There was a disastrous fire. There was a health hazard in the Disa River. There were threats of more court actions. What is more, no alternative had been presented, either by the community, the town planners, the CP or by the officials, to the decision that the hon the Minister took.

I want to report that after the hon the Minister's decision there was a meeting of a policy committee, and in that policy committee the representatives of the local community, including representatives of the Penzance and the Hughenden Estates, which adjoin this property, unanimously decided to take a positive attitude towards the resettlement that has to take place. [Interjections.] [Time expired.]

The MINISTER OF HOUSING, WELFARE AND WORKS: Mr Speaker, I want to express my thanks and appreciation to the hon member for Sea Point. [Interjections.] I can only say that up to this point I have only had co-operation from him, and I appreciate it. [Interjections.]

The ACTING SPEAKER: Order!

*The MINISTER: The hon member for Sasolburg asked whether the owners of the land had been consulted about this decision, and when the answer did not suit him he jumped to the court case to try and create the impression that the court case supported his argument.

We also think the court passed down a good judgement; but now the hon member asks whether the people I mentioned here had any interests in the matter. He does not know what he is talking about. All the organisations I mentioned here are people who are part of the community of Hout Bay. [Interjections.]

I think the hon member should check his facts and, as the hon member for Sea Point says, stop trying to suck political venom from this issue. [Interjections.] The hon member says we should have had a referendum. Were we now supposed, amidst the unsavoury circumstances which prevailed and with a pending court decision, to have walked from door to door to ask everyone whether this matter had their approval? I find it very interesting to see that the hon members of the Official Opposition find themselves in the camp of those people who say yes, help the poor; give them a bus stop, but not in front of my door. [Interjections.]

It is that kind of mentality which fails to appreciate the realities of our country and which will cause us to have serious problems here. [Interjections.]

*The ACTING SPEAKER: Order!

*The MINISTER: That hon member's allegation that those people are terrorists, is outrageous. [Interjections.]

*The ACTING SPEAKER: Order!

*The MINISTER: More than 70% of those people are economically active. More than 90% of those people work in Hout Bay. Does that hon member want to say that the inhabitants of Hout Bay are employing terrorists? That is an indictment of that community. [Time expired.]

Mr J J S PRINSLOO: At the outset I want to say that it is very significant that the hon member for Sea Point is openly siding with illegal squatters. [Interjections.]

Illegal squatting is a worldwide problem, as we learnt again during a parliamentary tour in Europe during November of last year. [Interjections.] The way in which the problem is dealt with depends on the true political aims of the responsible government.

Sadly, in our country we cannot establish the true aims of the Government by referring to what it promises during election campaigns, but only by referring to its contradictory actions afterwards. [Interjections.] It promised the voters in the general municipal election in 1988 that strong action would be taken against illegal squatting. Its election manifesto read:

> Squatting is unacceptable and stricter laws to control the problem have already been tabled.

In a personal letter to the voters of Roodepoort city during that election campaign, the hon the Minister of Finance wrote the following:

> We need more stringent legislation to curtail squatting and we are getting it soon.

[Interjections.] In their shortened five-year plan of action for the general election of 6 September 1989, the NP said:

> The NP will within the next five years ensure the prevention of health hazards and poor social conditions caused by overpopulation and illegal squatting through the proper implementation of local by-laws and other applicable measures.

However, now the Hout Bay squatter issue has, in my opinion, clearly exposed the NP aiding the ANC and other non-White radicals in the creeping annexation of White land. I say that that is the true aim of this Government.

*Mr L F STOFBERG: Mr Speaker, the hon the Minister is not going to wiggle himself out of this thing. [Interjections.] He allocates land after the court had said that they are anarchists, it is anarchy, it borders on anarchy—he can read the finding for himself. He cannot allocate White land to them. If he is going to allocate White land in Hout Bay, it will affect the entire community. He cannot find a few people of whom a whole lot do not live there and say that he got their permission. He did not consult the community of Hout Bay on this issue. [Interjections.]

This hon Minister and the hon the State President are talking to Nelson Mandela and Nelson Mandela has in mind the redistribution of land in South Africa and here is one of the patterns according to which this redistribution of land is going to take place. [Interjections.] Here we have now seen that that hon Minister and this Government are prepared to reward people who have squatted for their squatting in a community such as Hout Bay which is, as I have said, a jewel of a community. [Interjections.] It is costing that hon Minister votes. I went visiting in Hout Bay

and I was surprised by the support which is leaning towards the CP in this regard.

This hon Minister is cutting his and the Government's throats with these measures which he is not adopting. As far as I am concerned he can carry on just as he has been, but he will pay the price for that in South Africa.

*The MINISTER OF WELFARE, HOUSING AND WORKS: Mr Speaker, the fact of the matter is that a very large percentage of the squatters who are at present in Hout Bay have been there for more than four years. There are squatter groups who have been living in that area for more than 30 years, but the fact of the matter is that the people are squatting illegally, as the court rightly pointed out. In terms of the law it surely places a responsibility on the landowner, but is also places a responsibility on the local authority, as well as on the Government. [Interjections.] It places a responsibility on the Government, because we cannot simply evict people without anywhere to go. Therefore the intention is for these people to be . . .

*Mr L F STOFBERG: You must evict them! [Interjections.]

*The MINISTER: Of course, but we must settle these people. [Interjections.] We must uplift these people. Therefore it is the Government's policy that enough land must be identified. Let us be honest with one another today and say that it is true that they did not identify sufficient land in time for these people. Land had to be found to accommodate these people and to give them a worthwhile existence. [Interjections.] I said just now that 70% of these people are economically active in Hout Bay. Does that community not owe them something? Those people also have a right to exist. That is why the Government has a duty to accommodate these people. Surely we must uplift the people and their standard of living. [Interjections.]

*The ACTING SPEAKER: Order!

*The MINISTER: I do not find it strange that the CP and certain other organisations find support there, because there are people in this country who begrudge other people an existence. [Interjections.] This Government's standpoint is, however, that we will look after the interests of the squatters. We will make the necessary arrangements to prevent squatting as much as possible. [Interjections.]

Debate concluded.

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version.

For oral reply:

Own Affairs:

Model B: teachers of all races

*1. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(1) Whether schools that have been given permission to implement Model B are permitted to employ teachers of all races; if not, why not; if so,

(2) whether there are any impediments which, in practice, prevent non-White teachers from qualifying for appointment to posts at Model B schools; if so, what are these impediments?

B183E

†The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

(1) Yes;

(2) no.

Teaching posts eliminated

*2. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(1) Whether any information is available on the number of teaching posts to be eliminated in each of the four provincial education departments in 1991; if not, why not; if so, (a) what is the total number of such posts and (b) what is the reason for their elimination;

(2) whether any persons currently occupying such teaching posts will be made redundant in 1991; if so, (a) what number of persons will lose their employment with his Department and (b) what efforts have been made to keep such persons in the teaching profession;

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

B204E

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Description of land

An area, approximately 1,6 ha in extent, starting at a point along the south-eastern boundary of the farm Nooitgedacht 9, situate at a distance of 235 metres from the southern corner of the farm Nooitgedacht 9, point B; thence in a north-easterly direction along the south-eastern boundary of the farm Nooitgedacht 9 for a distance of 136 metres, point K; thence in a south-easterly direction for a distance of 113 metres, point L; thence in a south-westerly direction to the northern corner of Erf 862, point C, and thence back in a north-westerly direction to the original point B. (A siteplan depitching the area described herein is available for inspection in the office of the undersigned.)

J. L. SERFONTEIN,
Town Clerk.
(Notice No. 2/1991)
18 February 1991.
(1 March 1991)

Beskrywing van grond

'n Gebied ongeveer 1,6 ha groot, omsluit deur 'n lyn wat begin by 'n punt op die suidoostelike grens van die plaas Nooitgedacht 9, geleë 'n afstand van 235 m vanaf die suidelike hoek van Nooitgedacht 9, punt B; dan in 'n noordoostelike rigting langs die suidoostelike grens van die plaas Nooitgedacht 9 vir 'n afstand van 136 m, punt K; daarna in 'n suidoostelike rigting vir 'n afstand van 113 m, punt L; daarna in 'n suidwestelike rigting tot by die noordelike hoek van Erf 862, punt C, en dan terug in 'n noordwestelike rigting tot by die oorspronklike punt B. ('n Terreinplan waarop die gebied aangedui word, lê ter insae in die kantoor van die ondergetekende.)

J. L. SERFONTEIN,
Stadsklerk.
(Kennisgewing No. 2/1991)
18 Februarie 1991.
(1 Maart 1991)

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Closing Times

(1) APPLICATIONS FOR LIQUOR LICENCES
(2) APPLICATIONS FOR REMOVAL OF LICENCES

Notice is hereby given that notices are to be submitted for acceptance on the Friday, two calendar weeks before date of publication.

*The closing time is **15:00** sharp on the following days:*

- **23 November 1990,** for the issue of Friday **7 December 1990.**
- **18 December 1990,** for the issue of Friday **4 January 1991.**
- **18 January 1991,** for the issue of Friday **1 February 1991.**
- **15 February 1991,** for the issue of Friday **1 March 1991.**
- **20 March 1991,** for the issue of Friday **5 April 1991.**
- **18 April 1991,** for the issue of Friday **3 May 1991.**

Note: Late notices will be placed in the subsequent issue.
Information will be reflected exactly as furnished on Form 2 and Form 28 of prospective applicant.

BELANGRIKE AANKONDIGING

Sluitingstye

(1) AANSOEKE OM DRANKLISENSIES
(2) AANSOEKE OM VERPLASINGS VAN LISENSIES

Hiermee word bekendgemaak dat kennisgewings vir aanname die Vrydag, twee kalenderweke voor datum van publikasie, ingedien moet word.

*Die sluitingstyd is stiptelik **15:00** op die volgende dae:*

- **23 November 1990,** vir die uitgawe van Vrydag **7 Desember 1990.**
- **18 Desember 1990,** vir die uitgawe van Vrydag **4 Januarie 1991.**
- **18 Januarie 1991,** vir die uitgawe van Vrydag **1 Februarie 1991.**
- **15 Februarie 1991,** vir die uitgawe van Vrydag **1 Maart 1991.**
- **20 Maart 1991,** vir die uitgawe van Vrydag **5 April 1991.**
- **18 April 1991,** vir die uitgawe van Vrydag **3 Mei 1991.**

L.W.: Laat kennisgewings sal in die daaropvolgende uitgawe geplaas word.
Gegewens word presies weergegee soos verstrek op Vorm 2 en Vorm 28 van voornemende aansoeker.

Weekend Argus, March 2 1991

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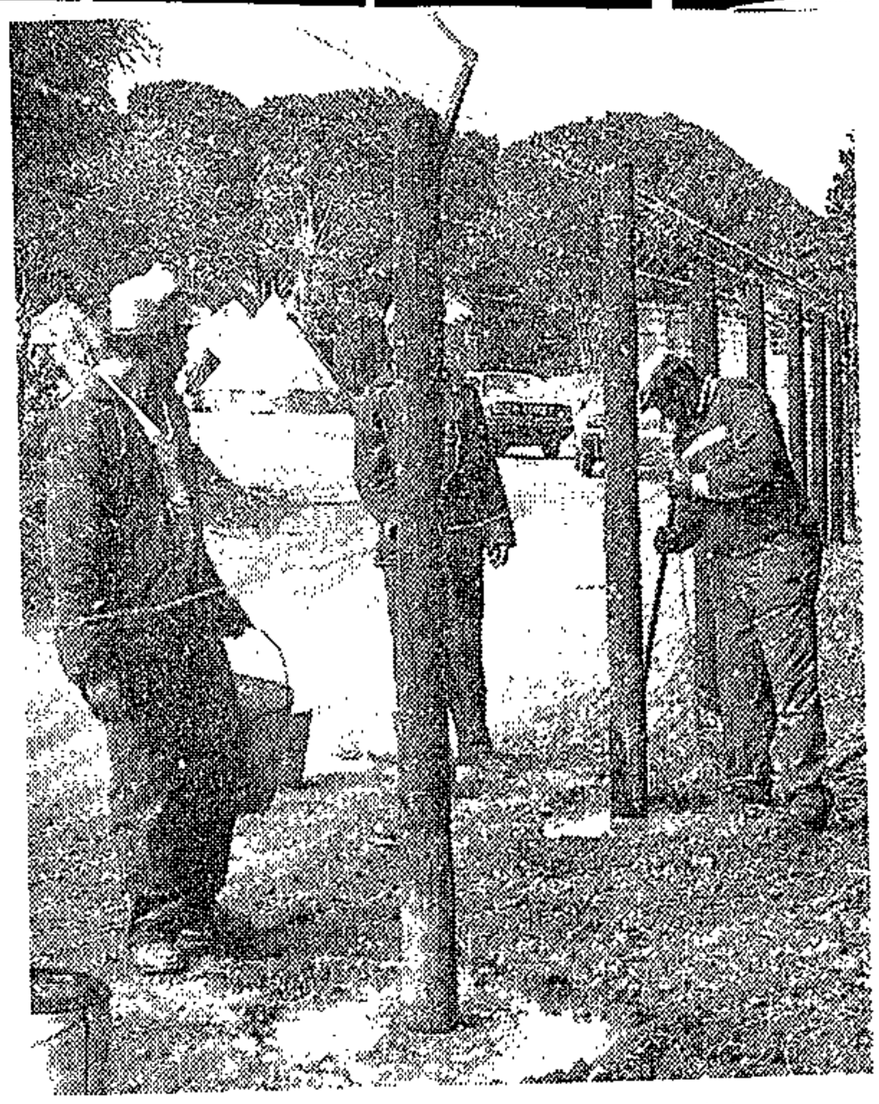
Fire and fence-cutting riddle as Bay Squatters move in



Pictures: WILLIE de KLERK, Weekend Argus.

Workers from the RSC forestry department fix the broken fence.

2/3/91

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By ESANN van RENSBURG
Weekend Argus Reporter

A FIRE and the mysterious vandalising of a new wire mesh boundary fence took place overnight as Hout Bay squatters spent their first weekend in a resettlement tent town.

The fire destroyed a small tract of fynbos before being doused by the Regional Services Council fire department. The squatter camp, about 100 metres from the fire, was not in danger.

The cause of the fire is not known, according to an RSC fire department spokesman.

Today workmen were repairing the fence between the camp and a Hout Bay nursery. The fence — put up by the Regional Services Council last week — appeared to have been cut by pliers and tyre tracks were spotted nearby.

A watchman reported at 7pm yesterday that the fence had been cut and that a vehicle had driven over it.

No charges

"It must have been cut between 5pm when we all went off duty and 7pm when the watchman spotted it," said a spokesman for the RSC forestry department.

Workers repaired the fence early today.

"We don't know why anyone would have done this. A gravel road gives access to the squatter camp. No one needs to cut through the fence to get in," said the spokesman.

● Squatter representatives have lashed out at the government for resettling squatters "simply to please whites" before adequate facilities were installed at the 18-hectare site.

They also demanded the devaluation of Hout Bay land to enable them to own homes.

At a joint Press conference yesterday the Hout Bay Action Committee and the Hout Bay Squatters' Co-ordinating Committee warned "the problem is far from solved" and vowed to intensify the struggle for permanent land.

Chaos

Miss Vanessa Matthews of the Co-ordinating Committee said the people were "dumped" to meet a deadline, although there were several problems at the new site which had led to increasing tension:

● The 63m² plots were too small and had resulted in "a lot of chaos".

● The government had promised the site would be prepared when the people were moved in, but on Monday there were no boundaries laid and the plots were not serviced.

● Four families were expected to share one toilet and 20 families had been assigned one tap.

● The toilets were allocated on specific plots, which was problematic.

● There were no recreation facilities for the young children or the community.

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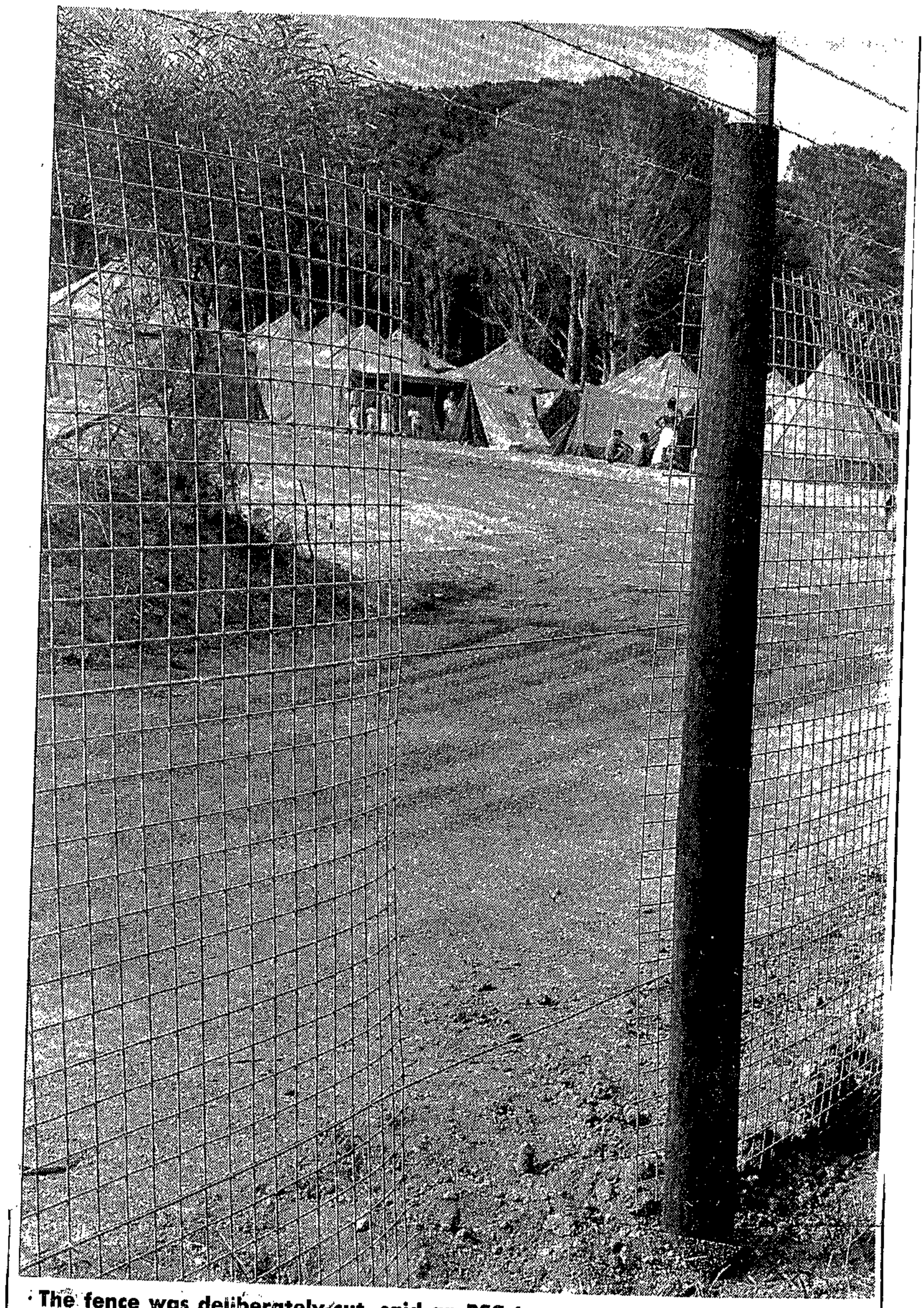
2/5/91



The fence was deliberately cut, said an RSC forestry department spokesman.

Truce declared at Bloekombos

By Waghied Misbach 307

A TRUCE has been declared between squatters and the police at the Bloekombos squatter camp outside Kraaifontein in Cape Town.

At a meeting recently between delegations of the African National Congress and the police, the ANC were assured the "legal parameters within which the police are entitled to conduct search operations will again be brought to the attention of all police members involved in such operations".

The police delegation was led by the Deputy Commissioner of Police in the Western Cape, Brigadier Ted Breytenbach. South 713-13/3/91

The squatters applied for a Supreme Court application to curb police activities in the area last month, but later withdrew the application in favour of meeting the police.

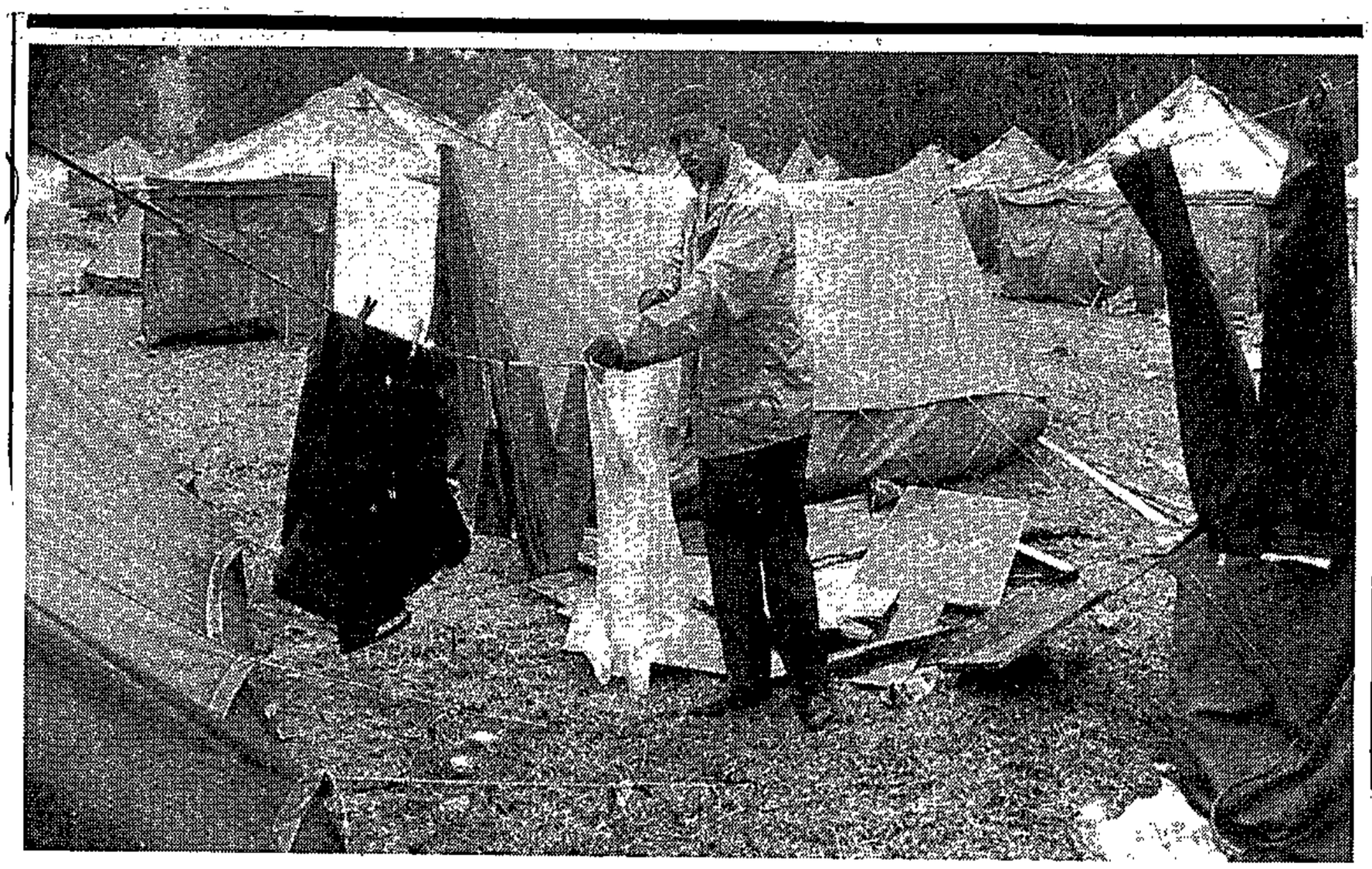
According to Mr Taswell Papier, the squatters' lawyer, residents complained about the manner in which search operations were conducted in the area on February 8, 10 and 12.

Residents alleged they were physically and verbally abused and property "uneccessarily damaged".

At the request of the residents, Papier intervened in a confrontation between the police and residents on February 10 when the police were allegedly ready to fire into the camp.

The situation was defused and the police withdrew from the area, Papier said.

Bloekombos was the scene of confrontation between residents and the police last year when the camp was raided on several occasions.



SQUATTER SETTLEMENT ... Hout Bay squatter Mr Johannes Wiston outside the rain-drenched tent which is his temporary home in the resettlement town created by the state for the Hout Bay squatters.

Picture: OBED ZILWA

CM Times 4/3/91 307

Squatters slam new camp

Staff Reporter

HOUT BAY squatters were unhappy about the "inadequate facilities" provided by the state at the new 18-hectare resettlement camp which yesterday turned into a rain-drenched mud bath.

Speaking for a group of squatters, Mrs Gladys Ngwana said there were not enough toilets. Four or more families had to share one mobile toilet and about 20 families one tap.

She said the 63m² plots were too small and the trees prevented them from building wooden structures.

The squatters are currently housed in Red Cross tents.

During a tour of the camp yesterday, many of the roads were impassable on foot as the gravel pathways had turned slippery as a result of the deep mud pools.

At a meeting on Saturday, squatter representatives from the Hout Bay Action Committee and the Hout Bay Squatter Co-ordinating Committee said the squatters had been moved to the new site to "please the whites".

Squatters also claimed they were being harassed. A high mesh fence was destroyed at the weekend, and a veld fire started about 100 metres from the camp.

Mrs Ngwana said a group of about 15 whites were seen walking around the camp late on Friday and Saturday night.

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BOARD NOTICE 18 OF 1991

MUNICIPALITY OF VILLIERSDORP

DECLARATION OF TRANSIT AREA

In terms of section 6 (1) of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act, 1951 (Act No. 52 of 1951), as amended, it is herewith confirmed that the following area under the jurisdiction of the Municipality, has been declared a transit area for the temporary accommodation of homeless persons with effect from publication hereof.

RAADSKENNISGEWING 18 VAN 1991

MUNISIPALITEIT VAN VILLIERSDORP

VERKLARING VAN 'N DEURGANGSGEBIED

Kragtens die bepalings van artikel 6 (1) van die Wet op die Voorkoming van Onregmatige Plakkery, 1951 (Wet No. 52 van 1951), soos gewysig, word hiermee bevestig dat, vanaf datum van afkondiging hiervan, die volgende grond binne die regsgebied van die Munisipaliteit tot 'n deurgangsgebied vir die tydelike huisvestig van daklose persone verklaar is.

CAPE TIMES 12/3/87 307

Squatter squabble 'wastes' site

By CHRIS BATEMAN

A R46-MILLION fully-serviced squatter site alongside Brown's Farm in Philippi has stood vacant for six months because of a dispute among the leaders of three communities over who should occupy it.

Vandals have plundered the site and the latest damage is expected to cost more than R100 000 to repair.

A second R40-million development phase has been scrapped and the money re-allocated.

The Cape Provincial Administration had intended that the site be used by squatters, led by Mr Christopher Toise, from the adjoining Brown's Farm while the land they were occupying was upgraded.

However, at least two other squatter leaders, Mr Alfred Siphika of Millers Camp and Mr Melford Yamile of Black City, have laid claim to the developed site.

Most residents of all three camps lived in the three satellite suburbs of Old Crossroads until they were driven out by a fire in May 1986.

A visit to the unoccupied 121-hectare site off Lansdowne Road yesterday found manhole covers, gratings, toilets and toilet doors were broken or missing.

More than half of the flushing toilets had been broken or were missing. Neighbours reported nightly plundering.

Most of the erven front onto tarred roads. Sewerage and water infrastructure and street and high-mast lights have been installed. About 20% of the erven have been prepared for electricity. The Philippi railway station is alongside the site.

It was reliably learned that the consulting civil engineers, Ninham Shand, were pressured by the CPA to complete the development by last September. They finished the job less than a month later.

Private developers and planners are upset about their efforts going to waste and materials deteriorating or being damaged.

One source said that had development been completed six months later, one-third o the costs — which had been pushed u by heavy rains — would have bee saved.

The site can accommodate more tha 14 000 squatters.

Mr Toise confirmed that his opp nents had suggested that each squatter camp l allocated an equal number of sites. However, h followers alone would not "fit in" the new develo ment.

"The only solution is to prepare more land so v can all be accommodated without bloodshed amor ourselves," he added.

An associate of Ninham Shand, Mr Mike Judd, sa he had "nothing to add in resolving the issue".

One source said developers were "tearing the hair out in frustration".

No CPA spokesmen were available for comment



UNOCCUPIED . . Brown's Farm squatter leader Mr Christoper Toise on the R46-million Philippi site no one occupi because everyone wants it. **INSET:** The 121-hectare Philippi site that has been standing vacant for six montl because of a dispute over who should occupy it.

Squatter 'objections' keep new site clear

Cape Times 14/3/91 307

By CHRIS BATEMAN

IN spite of agreement by all three former Old Crossroads refugee communities that they share the developed R46-million Philippi site, the CPA was still awaiting their reply on when and how occupation should begin.

This was said by Mr Gerrit Erasmus, acting regional director of Community Services, yesterday in partial response to why the fully developed site has stood unoccupied for six months.

He also urged squatters, following persistent rumours that "booking rights" to the 2 300 erven sites were being sold, to report this immediately to police.

"These plots are not for sale by private individuals — they will be subject to the same service charges levied on all other similarly developed sites," he said.

It was reliably learnt that the main objection by squatter leaders Mr Christopher Toise (Brown's Farm), Mr Melford Yamile (Black City) and Mr Alfred Siphika (Millers Camp) to moving on to the site was that it would be administered by the "discredited" Ikapa Town Council.

This is in line with sentiments expressed by other ANC-dominated communities in the Peninsula. No alternative administrator has been mooted.

Mr Lee Bozalek, legal representative for the squatters, confirmed that the three communities had "long since" agreed on an equal sharing of the new development.

Since then the communities and the CPA had been negotiating on the conditions under which the sites would be occupied. This included the kind of tenure, rental levels, service charges, regulations and local authority structures.

Negotiations had temporarily stalled but he hoped they would resume "as soon as possible".

Mr Erasmus said he was "cautiously optimistic" that the issues would be resolved as "this land cannot remain vacant indefinitely".

Squatters agree to move to new site

CAPE TIMES 19/3/91

307

By CHRIS BATEMAN

THE deadlock on some 14 000 squatters moving on to a fully developed 121-hectare Philippi site — which has stood vacant for the past six months — seemed set to be broken yesterday.

All three 1986 Old Crossroads refugee community leaders for the first time this year met two top local Community Services officials, Mr Gerrit Erasmus and Mr Faan Naude.

The 766 families from each community have refused to occupy the fully serviced sites unless they were given an undertaking that the new area would not be administered by the Ikapa Town Council which they view as a "puppet body".

According to Mr Erasmus yesterday, Mr Naude promised to give the leaders (Mr Christoper Toise of Brown's Farm, Mr Melford Yamile of Black City and Mr Alfred Siphika of Miller's Camp) a written undertaking that their new camp would not fall under the jurisdiction of the Ikapa council.

The squatter leaders had agreed to move, "as long as the CPA is the principal body", he said.

Cops warn on Sharpeville Day intimidation

By IKE MOTSAPI

POLICE will be out in full force today to protect people wanting to go to work.

Colonel Jack de Vries, head of the liaison division of the Soweto police, last night warned that the police would ensure that law and order was maintained as thousands of people countrywide commemorated the 31st anniversary of the March 21 1960 Sharpeville shootings. Sowetan 21/3/91

De Vries warned that intimidation would not be tolerated.

He said: "I want to assure people who use trains to go to work not to be afraid to use them today.

"Police are going to make sure that people carrying weapons are not allowed to board trains today."

ER Post Office workers on strike

Sowetan 21/3/91

WORKERS at the Alberton Post Office have been on strike since Tuesday, demanding the removal of a senior official, whom they accuse of arrogant and racist behaviour towards black staff.

In a statement yesterday, the workers accused the Post Office management of being reluctant to take steps to redress the issue.

The workers, members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association, had also called on management to scrap all alleged racist practices at the Post Office. - *Sapa*.

Boycott by squatters

GRAHAMSTOWN resembled a ghost town early yesterday as a three-day-old consumer boycott sparked by a squatter controversy began to make its mark. Sowetan 21/3/91

Most of the city's stores were deserted at the start of the day but filled up as the day progressed, mainly with white shoppers. 307

However, Grahamstown Chamber of Commerce president Mr Bobby Wynne said it was still premature to gauge the success of the economic siege because "mid-month trading figures are generally low".

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Five families thrown off farm, shacks bulldozed

CM-Tribune 21/3/91

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FIVE St Helena Bay families watched their shacks being bulldozed yesterday, even though they had paid their rent for March, said the local management committee chairman, Mr Gerhardus Cloete.

Two other shacks on the farm Sandy Point were also demolished after the landowner obtained an eviction order against the seven families, an attorney acting for the victims confirmed.

"We don't have housing for these people; there is already a waiting list of 180 applications," said Mr Cloete, who heads the management committee of the West Coast town about 130km north of Cape Town.

The affected families had lived on the land for about 30 years. Their employer accepted rent for March even though he had been granted an eviction order, the attorney said.

After Mr Cloete called in the help of attorneys, the families were given permission to remain on the land last night.

St Helena town clerk Mr Japie Keller offered the families tents and tarpaulins for temporary shelter, the lawyer added.

Negotiations between the victims' lawyers and the landowner would continue, he said. — Sapa

CAPE TIMES 27/3/91 (207 words)

Lawaaikamp being rebuilt

LAWAAIKAMP, the black township at George which was threatened with destruction during the P W Botha era, was being redeveloped with the help of the ANC-linked civic association, Cape Administrator Mr Kobus Meiring disclosed yesterday. He said 214 plots were being initially upgraded, and would be allocated by the civic association "as representatives of the community". 515 residential plots would eventually be provided for about 3 000 people, Mr Meiring said in response to a question tabled by Mr Jan van Eck (DP, Claremont).

KTC residents paid out soon

South 28/3 - 3/4/91.

(307)

By Musa Ndwandwe

THE KTC Trust Fund which was formed to solicit R2-million to pay damages to the residents of KTC, Nyanga Bush Camp, Nyanga Extension Camp and Portland Cement Camp, will start paying out early next month.

Mr Hugh Jagoe, the manager of the Trust Fund, confirmed that payments are scheduled to begin on Tuesday, April 9.

"We have between 2 600 and 3 000 people to pay and currently we are writing letters to inform them about details of when and how this is going to happen," said Jagoe.

There will also be community meetings to explain the details of the process.

The payment results from the out-of-court settlement in a R5-million action



Adriaan Volk

brought by the Methodist Church in Africa and KTC residents against the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok.

Residents accused the police of complicity in the destruction of their homes by helping the "witdoek" vigilantes in planning the attacks.

They claimed that police protected, escorted and transported the vigilantes.

Police also prevented residents from protecting their homes by firing teargas and ammunition at them, setting fire to their homes and permitting the looting and burning of property.

The incidents took place in 1986.

As part of the settlement, Vlok undertook to pay an initial amount of R1,5 million, said Jagoe.

"A further R500 000 would be payable on condition that the Trust raise the same amount from independent donors," said Jagoe.

Jagoe said there would be no cash payments.

"Every payment will be done through the South African Permanent Building Society, who have been extremely co-operative from the start of this project," he said.

He emphasised that only 100 would get paid a day. "We appeal to people not to crowd the pay point all at once."

30/3/91
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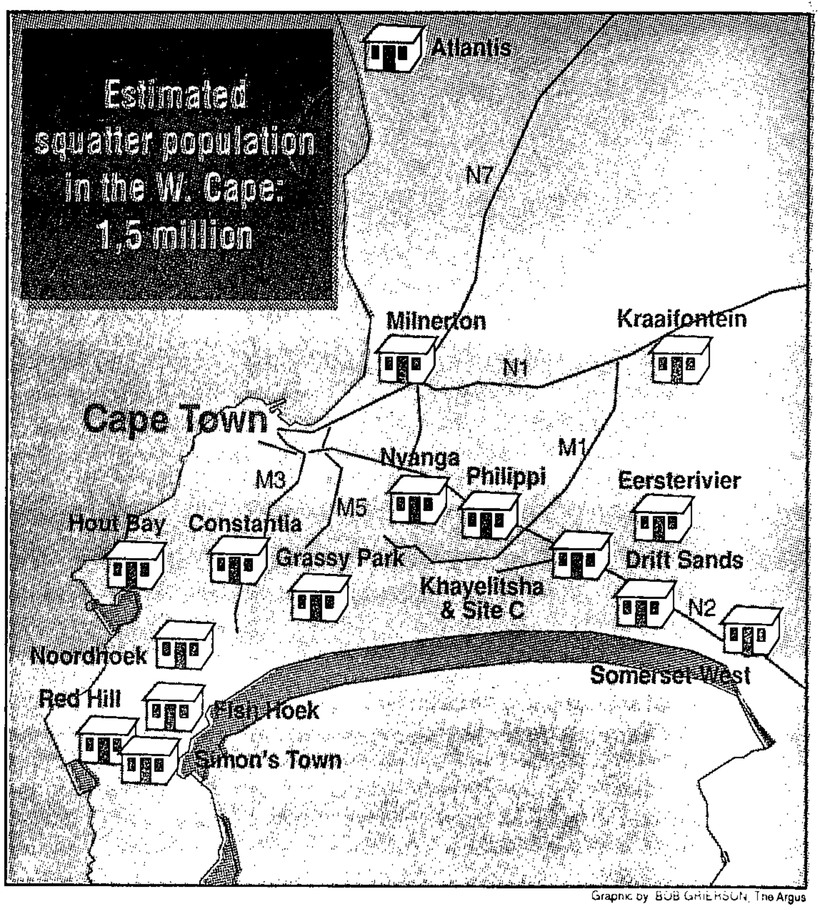
According to some estimates, up to 1,5 million shack-dwellers live in the greater Cape Town area — and the number is growing daily. Finding adequate housing and services to cope with that massive influx and its attendant overcrowding, health implications and social ills is the major challenge now facing planners. Weekend Argus Reporter LINDA GALLOWAY sketches the details.



Graphic by BOB GRIERSON, The Argus

Will a new South Africa transform the lives of the poorest of the poor? Writer RIAN MALAN asks this in a counterpoint to "Life in the Liberated Zone", a recent photographic essay by David Lurie.

NEW SA MUST RESCUE BLACKS FROM POVERTY

THE despair was always there, I suppose, but its true extent was long obscured by the pass laws. Africans without passes were required to live in the tribal homelands, where they might starve and suffer out of sight.

There were nine, 10, maybe even 12 million of them out there, desperate for food and work, kept at bay only by the pass laws and the cold-blooded bureaucracy that enforced them.

For decades, the police destroyed squatter camps wherever they appeared and "repatriated" their inhabitants to the homelands, but the illegals were too numerous and the homelands too hopeless and by Easter 1986 the government had given up. The pass laws were repealed and a vast tide of desperate blacks came flooding into "white" South Africa.

Five years ago the bleak salt flats outside Cape Town were empty and desolate, nothing there but sand dunes, scrub, thousands of corrugated iron toilets shaped like sentry boxes and wind blowing sand around.

Now it's a city of sorts, a metropolis of shacks and shanties, as densely packed and alley-driven as a walled medieval city and populated by fantastic characters — bootleggers, Cape Rastas, daggarokers, witchdoctors, thugs and revolutionaries plus a million ordinary working people for whom life is tough.

It's a liberated zone of sorts, a place where the white government has virtually no influence, and even the police dare not set foot. Some parts of it are ruled by people's committees, others by dictatorial strongmen in the traditional African mould.

THERE is courage here, and resourcefulness, and laughter, but there is appalling violence, hunger and hopelessness too.

In this, the Cape squatter cities are unfortunately not unique. One million squatters have settled in the veld around Johannesburg, a further two million in the bush around Durban. There are squatters on the outskirts of every white town, squatters on the rubbish dumps, squatters in the parks in well-off white suburbia.

The vast majority of them have no jobs, no access to schools or clinics. Some don't even have water. Many adults have tuberculosis, and their children suffer from nutritional diseases. There are so many of them, and their needs are so enormous that I cringe to think of them.

In a way, these images raise the single most important question in the emergeing "new South Africa", the question on which our collective fate depends. The apparently imminent institution of a new order will not in itself transform the lives of the poorest blacks.

Nelson Mandela might win full political rights for all black South Africans, but the squatters will still be huddled in their shacks, starving. So what then shall we do? I look at these pictures and long for Lenin's ghost to rise and ask me to dance again. Poverty so extreme seems to beg extreme solutions; to beg an immediate redistribution of bread and land and BMWs and everything else that white South Africans take more or less for granted and yet, and yet, and yet ... it wouldn't help. Or would it?

I don't know. All I know is that we'll have an ugly revolution if the present negotiations fail to redeem poor blacks from poverty. Is such redemption possible? Again, I just don't know.



From the air, squatter shacks assume an almost orderly look — but down on the ground overcrowding, health problems and social ills disturb the orderly image.

Squatters: Housing poser for planners

NOW that squatters are no longer battling guns and bulldozers for the right to live in the Western Cape, the problem has shifted to the provision of housing and facilities.

A Weekend Argus investigation this week highlighted the extent of the problem — according to provincial and Regional Services Council figures, between 500 000 and a million squatters live in the area bounded by Simon's Town in the south, Atlantis in the west, Kraaifontein in the north and Somerset West in the east.

The Western Cape United Squatters' Association (Wecusa) says it has 750 000 members and puts the overall number of shack-dwellers at closer to 1,5 million.

The Western Cape will always have a backlog in housing and welfare for blacks because of its previous coloured labour preference policy and influx control.

The trek of homeless and jobless from areas of desperate poverty to a perceived paradise has slowed to a trickle in the past 12 months, after huge numbers poured in when the influx control laws were abolished in 1985.

OVERCROWDED camps like Crossroads and Nyanga and a worsening economic situation have led squatter families to move out of established camps and closer to the areas where they might find work. Mostly, this has meant moving to private property.

itation and refuse removal. This has consequences for the health of small children and the spread of diseases in squatter camps.

Tuberculosis and meningococcal infections spread like wildfire in overcrowded areas. In addition, there are the socio-economic and social factors: violence, trauma, teenage pregnancies, sexually-transmitted diseases and burns caused by fires resulting from falling paraffin lamps and candles.

Usually unemployed and desperately poor, many squatters cannot afford the most basic of services like water, sanitation and refuse removal.

THE ANC believes it is the responsibility of the State to develop, plan an rezone land for low-income housing and to provide basic fascilities and water for the informal settlers but the billions required for this mammoth task are simply not available.

The informal housing areas in Nyanga, Khayelitsha, Phillipi, and KTC — together housing upwards of 700 000 people — are bursting at the seams.

Nyanga's Millers Camp, with 10 000 people, has no health service and has to rely on the Nyanga Clinic and Guguletu Day Hospital for medical care. The same applies to 25 000 KTC residents. The biggest informal housing area, Site B in Khayelitsha, with about 230 000 people, has overcrowded clinics and no electricity.

Regional Services Council health officials have dealings with squatter camps in Simon's Town, Fish Hoek and Constantia in addition to the well-publicised areas like Milnerton, Hout Bay and Kraaifontein.

The squatters living on land next to Milnerton Turf Club race course have been relocated to a 8,1 hectare site-and-serviced "transit area" off Koeberg road by the Milnerton municipality until suitable land is found. According to the CPA 260 families live there, with new squatters arriving every week.

About 3 000 Old Crossroads refugees who moved to Driftsands Nature Reserve opposite Khayelitsha in December last year after faction fighting in the area, have been joined by about 6 000 more.

There are two main squatter camps in the Kraaifontein area, Bloekombos and Uitkyk, with about 500 shacks at the Bloekombos camp and 200 at Uitkyk.

Bloekombos is on the northern boundary of Kraaifontein, between the N1 and the Old Paarl Road and next to the CPA road camp, about 3km out of Kraaifontein. Uitkyk is on the Old Botfontein road, opposite Scottsdene.

Mr Wally Johnston, chairman of the Kraaifontein Resident's Association, said the CPA had already bought land from private owners in the area after R4,5 million was set aside by the government for development at Bloekombos and Uitkyk.

Some of the Peninsula squatters — who came to the Cape in defiance of stringent legislation and endured every kind of hardship and persecution in their fight to remain — have lived in corrugated iron or cardboard shelters for 20 years or more.

The hazards — chronic illness brought on by living in damp and unhygienic conditions, the social problems associated with overcrowding, warlords battling for power — cannot be worse than the conditions from which they fled.

Personal hygiene and healthy food are not priorities in areas without adequate water, san-

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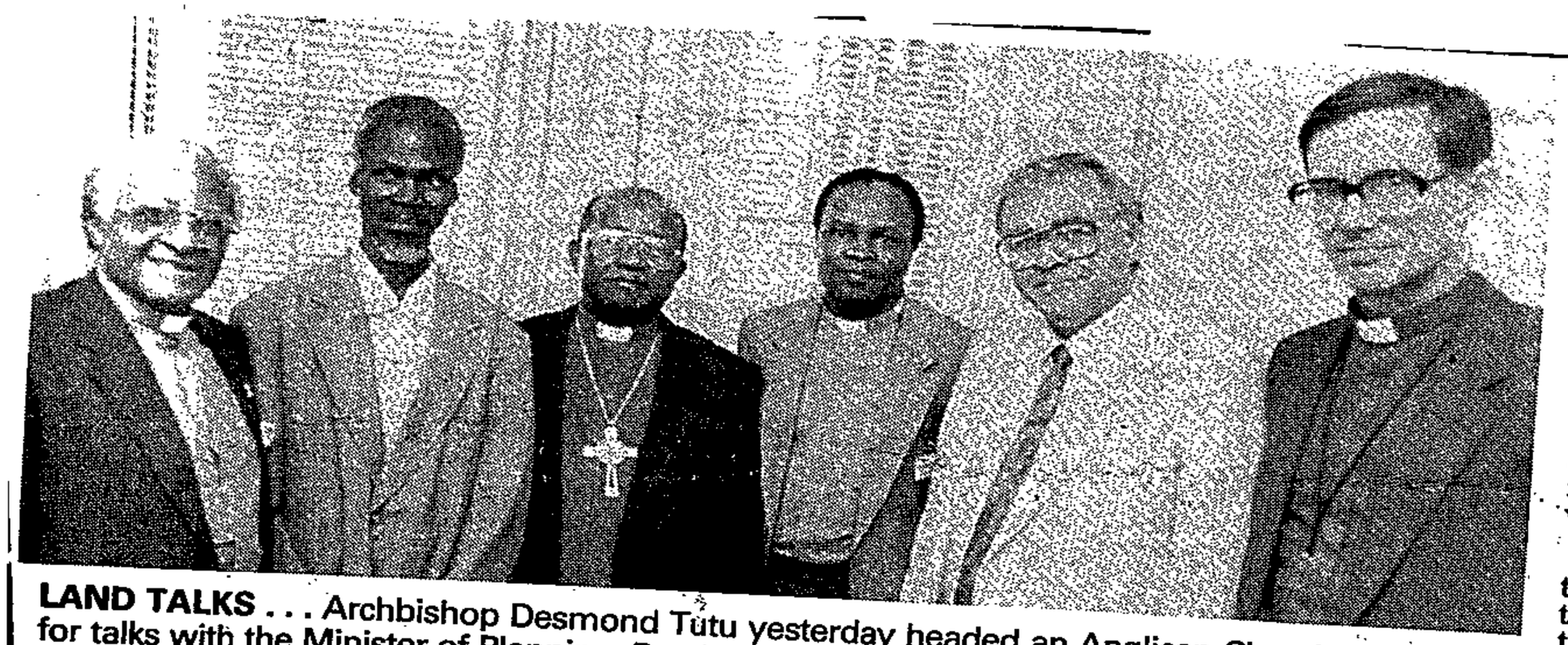


LAND TALKS . . . Archbishop Desmond Tutu yesterday headed an Anglican Church delegation for talks with the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, Mr Hernus Kriel. Others in the delegation were (from left to right), an evicted farmworker from Kei Road, Mr Molteno Mtantalala; the Bishop of Klerksdorp, Bishop David Nkwe; Archbishop Desmond Tutu's personal assistant, the Rev Mazwi Tisane; and the Bishop of Grahamstown, Bishop David Russell.

Picture: BENNY GOOL

Kei Road decision 'a victory'

CAAT Trufts 3/4/91 307

Political Staff

THE government's decision to allocate funds and serviced land for 500 displaced black families at Kei Road near East London was "a victory", Archbishop Desmond Tutu said yesterday.

"It says a great deal in a way about the possibilities for this new South Africa because it is a victory.

"It may not be a massive victory, but it is an important milestone in human relations and in the creation of the kind of atmosphere we are all seeking to see happen in this country."

The decision to provide the Kei Road families with services was announced yesterday by the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, Mr Hernus Kriel, after a short meeting with an Anglican Church delegation headed by Archbishop Tutu.

The Bishop of Grahamstown, Bishop David Russell, and a member of the squatter community, Mr Molteno Mtantalala, who was recently evicted from Thornpark farm in Kei Road, were in the delegation.

Conditions

The conditions of the decision are that the squatter community work with the local black council and that as soon as the serviced sites were provided the people who were at present squatting illegally should move to the ne sites.

Archbishop Tutu said the dis cussions were held in "a ver good spirit" and it was "a friend ly, very friendly meeting. W were surprised at the response"

One of the most important points the delegation had raised was that the people in the community were human beings, who even if they were not educated, were people of infinite worth.

In the view of the church they were as important as anyone else and the Anglican Church had sought to underline what it had constantly said in its campaign against apartheid: that the government was dealing with God's children as if they were less than this.

Demands for electricity and threat of global warming

ABOUT 30 MINUTES DRIVE from the centre of Cape Town, thousands of squatters live in squalor and deprivation — and with little hope that things will get any better. "It's not an easy life," says Vivienne Manong of Site B in Khayelitsha. "When it's raining the damp comes up, everything gets wet. The wind blows and everything gets spoilt with sand. There are no lights inside our shacks."

Vivienne Manong's response is typical of the many "illegal" squatters living on the borders Cape Town.

Long denied the basic rights of land ownership, the squatters are the legacy of apartheid. Even with changes in the air and the repeal of the infamous Land Acts of 1913 and 1936, the residents of Site B squatter camp in Khayelitsha on the Cape Flats, hold little hope that things will be any different.

Some have waited over four years in a "temporary" section dubbed The Yard, after what used to be a school playground, for housing in one of Khayelitsha's newer areas. The Yard is an area without sanitation or electricity.

Thomas Nobanda expressed the feelings of the community plainly, saying that "it's hopeless to even think about it".

Ecological issues in South Africa are essentially about the quality of life in a new South Africa. In a recent paper, Albie Sachs, the ANC's constitutional spokesman, said: "The environment is a poverty issue and the right to light, heat, water, communication facilities ... is fundamental to any environmental programme."

Yet, the provision of these basic necessities is perhaps far more complicated than would appear, reflecting the increasingly untenable nature of our modern lifestyles. Electricity supply, for one, is entangled in a variety of local and global issues.

For many South Africans the fact that less than a third of the population has access to electricity in their homes comes as a surprise. It is not for lack of generating capacity or equipment that the majority of black South Africans have been denied this modern necessity. Indeed, the country generates 60 percent of the continent's entire electrical output

Furthermore, Eskom, South Africa's electricity supply commission, is faced with an oversupply problem with many power stations being underused, some even mothballed — a result of over optimistic predictions of the country's economic growth made by Eskom in the 1970s

Things are changing though. Eskom has begun to focus its attention at last on the electrification of so called developing areas as well as squatter settlements.

According to Mr J C van der Walt, Eskom's Western Cape regional manager: "Eskom sees ordered squatting as part of the solution to alleviate the housing problem in South Africa and has begun to investigate the electrification of certain squatter areas."

However, while investigations continue, the most convenient and affordable supply of domestic energy — electricity — is unavailable to many black townships and squatter areas.

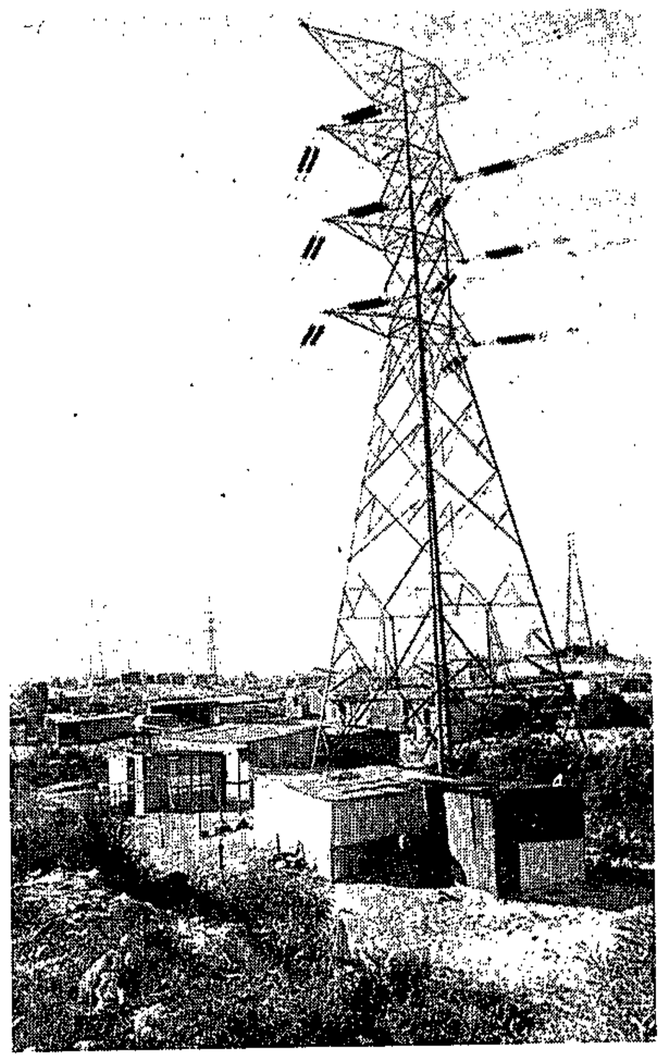
Consequently, people are forced to use fuels such as paraffin, coal, candles, wood and gas or car batteries. Fuels which are both costly and inconvenient

Wood is used predominantly in rural areas where it was once a readily available source of cheap energy. Now demand is outstripping supply, causing the forests to be cut down and the topsoil to be washed into the sea at an unprecedented rate.

The use of wood declines dramatically as one draws closer to the cities.

There is mixed emotion regarding the use of paraffin in Khayelitsha. In those households dependent on the fuel for most of their daily needs, while paraffin is seen as an affordable although dirty alternative.

There is always the constant threat of fires, says Thomas Nobanda. Paraffin is also not cheap. "I spend R3 a day on paraffin and it takes a long time to cook," complained Ms Mahdlomo from Browns Farm squatter camp.



Ecological issues are essentially tied up with the quality of life in a new South Africa. The right to light, heat, water, communication facilities and waste disposal is fundamental, yet the provision of these basic necessities is entangled in a variety of local and global issues, argues DAVID LEWIS.

Southside 4/4-10/4/91

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Indeed, the perception that paraffin is cheaper is not borne out by surveys taken by the Energy Research Institute of UCT. Says Professor Anton Erberhard: "Those who use wood or paraffin can no longer afford not to use electricity."

Once the initial costs of installation is paid, electricity is in most instances cheaper than other fuels. The question is, who exactly is responsible for the costs of installing electricity in low income areas?

It is quite feasible for shacks to be electrified. A good example is the experience of Brazil where more than 70 percent of squatter settlements have access to electricity.

Unfortunately, there is another dimension to the issue of electricity supply in Southern Africa. Much of South Africa's electricity is generated by coal-burning power stations whose excessive output of carbon dioxide is contributing to the subtle warming of the earth's climate.

South Africa is one of the world's top 20 major contributors to global warming, pumping an average of 246 million tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere every year, according to a report to the Presidents Council last year.

Coal fired power stations are responsible for about 182 million tons of this astronomical figure.

The exact consequences of this unrestricted altering of the earth's climate is not entirely clear. However, what scientists do know is that the world is experiencing a slow but consistent rise in temperature and that this is a direct result of a process called the "Greenhouse Effect".

Carbon dioxide in the atmosphere traps heat from the sun allowing the earth to support life. If this "Greenhouse Effect" did not exist, our planet would be an icy wasteland. Nevertheless, the 20th century has seen a rapid increase in the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere as well as other allied Greenhouse gases.

This is a direct result of burning fossil fuels such as the coal and oil used to power industry and to run our petrol-dependent motor cars.

Temperature records have already begun to show significant increases in average global temperatures and one of the most disturbing consequences of this warming is a predicted rise in the sea level of one meter by the year 2070.

Sea level measurements taken at Port Nolloth on the West Coast and Simon's Town in False Bay, have led researcher Peter Hughes of the Sea Level working group at UCT to conclude that large parts of the False Bay coastline will be vulnerable to flooding and erosion.

Unless serious prevention measures are taken, Mitchells Plain and Khayelitsha will experience immense problems with waterlogging caused by a rising water table.

At present the residents of Khayelitsha are plagued by severe storm water damage during winter. Rainwater often collects on open ground where it lies for days. The lack of drainage is a result of the shallow water table and complicated by an almost nonexistent storm water system.

Squatters often complain of waking up with their blankets soaking from the rising damp.

PREDICTIONS THAT Cape Town's population will increase by eight million people by the year 2020 leave little hope that the housing problem will be alleviated or that waterlogged areas will not have to serve as locations for shacks and prefabricated housing.

Another immediate effect of the rising sea level would be the encroachment of the coastal dunes on the township. Forced back by the erosion of the False Bay coastline, the dunes would exacerbate the sandy conditions that afflict Khayelitsha when the wind blows. Removing the dunes would take away an important natural barrier to storm flooding from the Indian Ocean.

Global warming would have still other local side-effects. The cold fronts that bring the Cape rain in winter could be pushed further south by warmer weather from the interior until they might eventually miss the Peninsula entirely.

This would change the Cape from a winter to a summer rainfall area. The result would be quite startling. Agriculture would be severely affected, threatening food supplies and creating unemployment.

With a dryer climate, fresh water would become a scarce resource. The fynbos vegetation would diminish, perhaps even become extinct, severely affecting the ability of mountain catchment areas to hold the little rainwater that falls and increasing the likelihood of flooding and erosion.

The Cape has never been blessed with extensive supplies of fresh water and any decline in the water reserves would have serious economic consequences. Some severe predictions see the Cape becoming much like the dry Karoo in which case the land would only be able to hold one tenth of today's population

The irony then is that the electricity long denied the many squatters on the Cape Flats will most likely be the cause of greater hardship and then possibly at a time when access to the long awaited electrical facilities are finally within reach.

As usual, it will be the poor who are most likely to suffer from the changes in climate.

This future scenario is not necessarily correct because there are alternatives that South Africa might very well implement.

The obvious solution is to reduce the country's output of carbon dioxide. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), has called for an immediate 60 percent reduction in man-made emissions of carbon dioxide and other Greenhouse gases.

This would entail shutting down most of the country's coal-fired power stations and implementing a considerable alternative energy programme.

Eskom favours nuclear power as an alternative but there are serious doubts as to the wisdom of relying on such a fuel. The relative safety of the nuclear industry is still open to debate while the cost and effort of keeping nuclear waste safe for the necessary thousands of years, stretches the imagination.

Clearly the answer lies in the often neglected area of "renewable" energy.

A recent study found that solar energy installations covering just 0.1 percent of Natal/KwaZulu, could produce all the electricity needs of the region.

Wind energy is another source of clean and relatively free power. A report by the National Energy Council noted that South Africa's coastal areas (such as Khayelitsha) have promising wind potential. More research needs to be done on inland areas. It is quite conceivable that somewhere on the Cape Flats a small wind station will provide free electricity to the local community

Hydroelectricity is perhaps the most promising source of renewable energy. Central and Southern Africa is rich in hydro-electric resources with many powerful rivers capable of delivering thousands of megawatts.

Of course, the simplest way to cope with the crisis would be to lower demand for the electricity in the first place. South Africa's industry which uses 75 percent of the electricity generated by Eskom has been criticised for wasting energy unnecessarily.

Instituting laws requiring energy efficiency would save the country money as well as making renewable energy more attractive.

However, there is no single solution that will cure the country's electricity needs. That is why renewable energy works best when used as an assortment of complimentary projects.

The ability of a future South African government to satisfy the aspirations of the majority of its citizens will depend heavily on how this issue is dealt with. □ PHOTOGRAPH: Yunus Mohamed

Evictions add to jostle for township housing

CAF Times 4/4/91

by CLAUDIA KING

A SPOKESMAN for the Ocean View Management Committee has accused Noordhoek landowners of "embarking on a crusade to rid the area of all blacks and browns before the Group Areas Act is scrapped".

Evictions

The acute housing shortage in Ocean View, where 1 200 locals are on a waiting list for accommodation, has been highlighted again by a spate of letters received by the committee's housing office from surrounding landowners.

The letters are from people — one of them in Noordhoek — who are subdividing their property and evicting others living there. They request the housing office to relocate the families.

The spokesman said: "Some of these people have been living and working on the farms for many years."

Removals

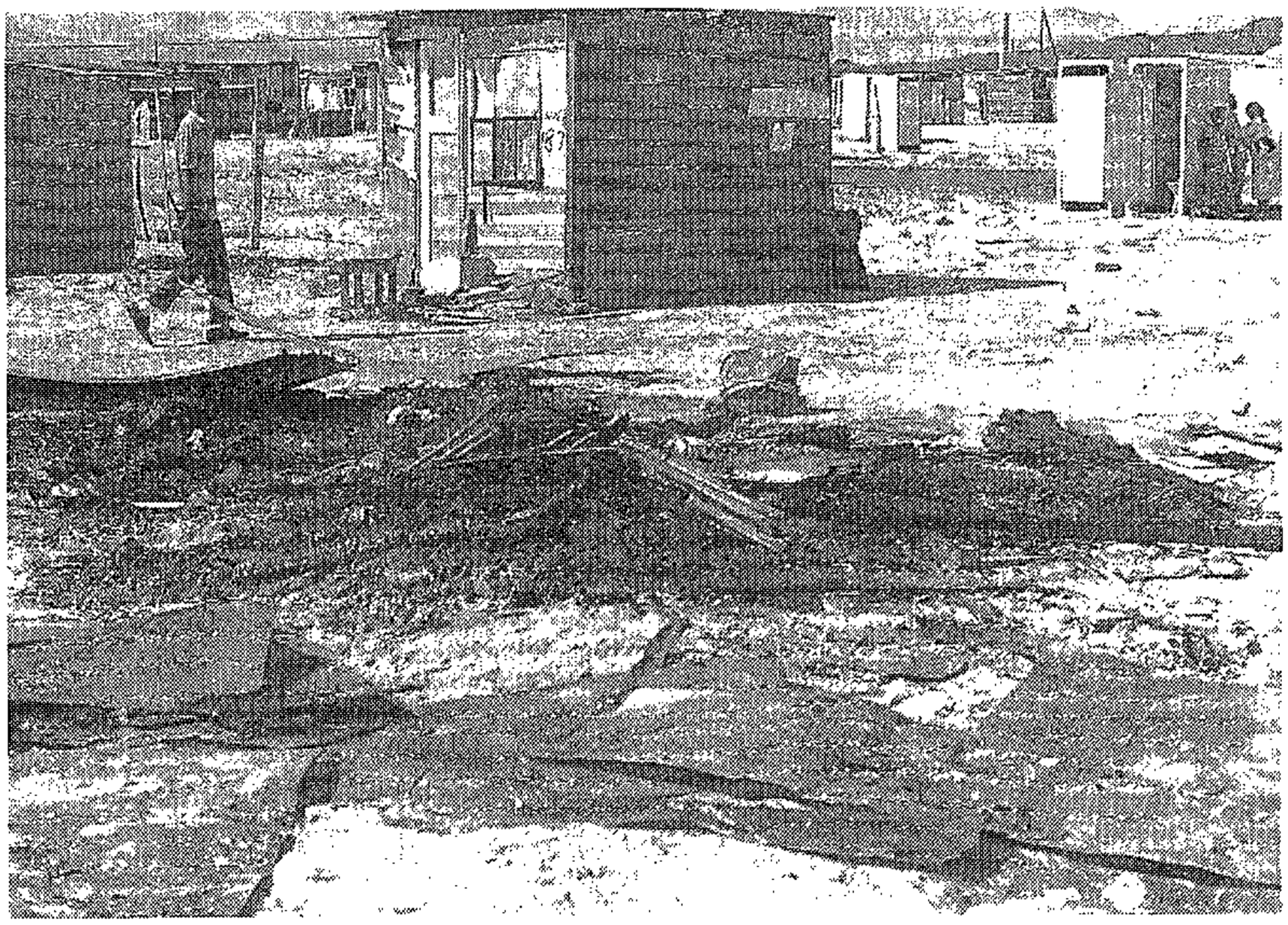
He said the last house built in Ocean View had been put up in 1985 by the divisional council and that since then "not even a dog box has been built".

Around the same time, he said, the House of Representatives had promised to see to providing additional low-cost housing but that this had not yet materialised.

He said: "We're in a dilemma as more and more people are moving into the area, yet we sit with the problem of housing our own people — the true victims of apartheid — who were moved from their homes in Simon's Town, Noordhoek and Sunnydale by the Group Areas Act.

"Right now 144 plots have been allocated to private developers to provide housing for those who can afford to pay anything from R650 to R870 a month, which may solve some problems but will in turn create more — what we need urgently is affordable housing for the poor."

CAPE NATIONAL



Picture: WILLIE de KLERK, The Argus.

GRUESOME: The remains of the Stefana shack in which the family was burnt on Sunday night. Burnt human remains still lay there yesterday.

Four murdered in Macassar

By EDWARD MOLOINYANE
Staff Reporter

SQUABBLES over the allocation of sites in Macassar, a new serviced area for former Green Point squatters, have resulted in four murders, shocked residents said.

A family of three and their neighbour died when gunmen opened fire on two shacks and set them alight in Macassar on Sunday night.

The dead were Mr Mteto Stefana, 35, his wife Noxolile, 30, their four-month old baby Mkhululе and Mr Mandla Qwaqwaze, 31, who lived 50 metres away.

A man and a woman were hacked and wounded.

Macassar, which has toilets, running water, mast lighting and tarred streets, is about five kilometres from Khayelitsha towards the sea.

Squatters from Green Point, one of Khayelitsha's most dilapidated and dangerous shack settlements, are being moved there. The victims had moved less than a month ago, residents said.

A "warlord" had vowed to "get" former Green Point squatters after a financial dispute involving site allocation.

The man had charged residents about R32 when they were still living in Green Point, "for ANC membership cards" which were photocopies.

The "last straw" was when sites in the new area were allocated early this year to "outsiders".

His Green Point home was subsequently burnt down by "comrades" and he had vowed to "get" those who had eroded his influence with the Lingelethu council.

Vlok to pay squatters R2-m

CAPE TOWN — An overall amount of R2 million will be paid out by the State to Cape Town squatters whose homes were burnt down during fighting in Crossroads, KTC and adjacent areas during 1986 riots.

Some 20 squatters sued the Minister of Law and Order, who settled out of court last year without an admission of liability.

Almost 3 300 households will receive compensation.

Individual households will receive between R10 000 and R300 000.

Homeless squatters awarded R2-million

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AN overall amount of R2 million will be paid out by the State to Cape Town squatters whose homes were burnt down during the fighting in Crossroads, KTC and adjacent areas during 1986.

The squatters sued the Minister of Law and Order after the fighting. Sowetan 10/4/91

The case, involving 20 of the squatters, was settled out of court last year, without admission of liability by the Minister.

Almost 3 300 households will receive compensation over the next few weeks. Individual households will receive between R10 000 and R300 000, depending on claims submitted.

The case was handled by the Legal Resources Centre. The distribution of the money will be administered by the KTC Relief Trust Fund. - *Sapa.*



RECOMPENSE ... KTC claimants, from left, Mrs Sheila Mzamka, her husband Patrick, Mrs Zelpha Siwe and her huband Alcott, whose homes and possessions were destroyed by fire in 1986 sign away their claim against the Minister of Law and Order in return for cash payments of R2 700 and R1 850 respectively at the Joseph Stone Auditorium in Athlone yesterday. Picture: OBED ZILWA

Cape Times 10/4/91 307

Squatters compensated for destroyed homes

By CHRIS BATEMAN

THE first 100 of 3 000 former residents of KTC, Nyanga Bush, Nyanga Extension and Portland Cement squatter communities whose homes were destroyed by witdoek vigilantes in 1986, yesterday received their portion of the R2-million government settlement.

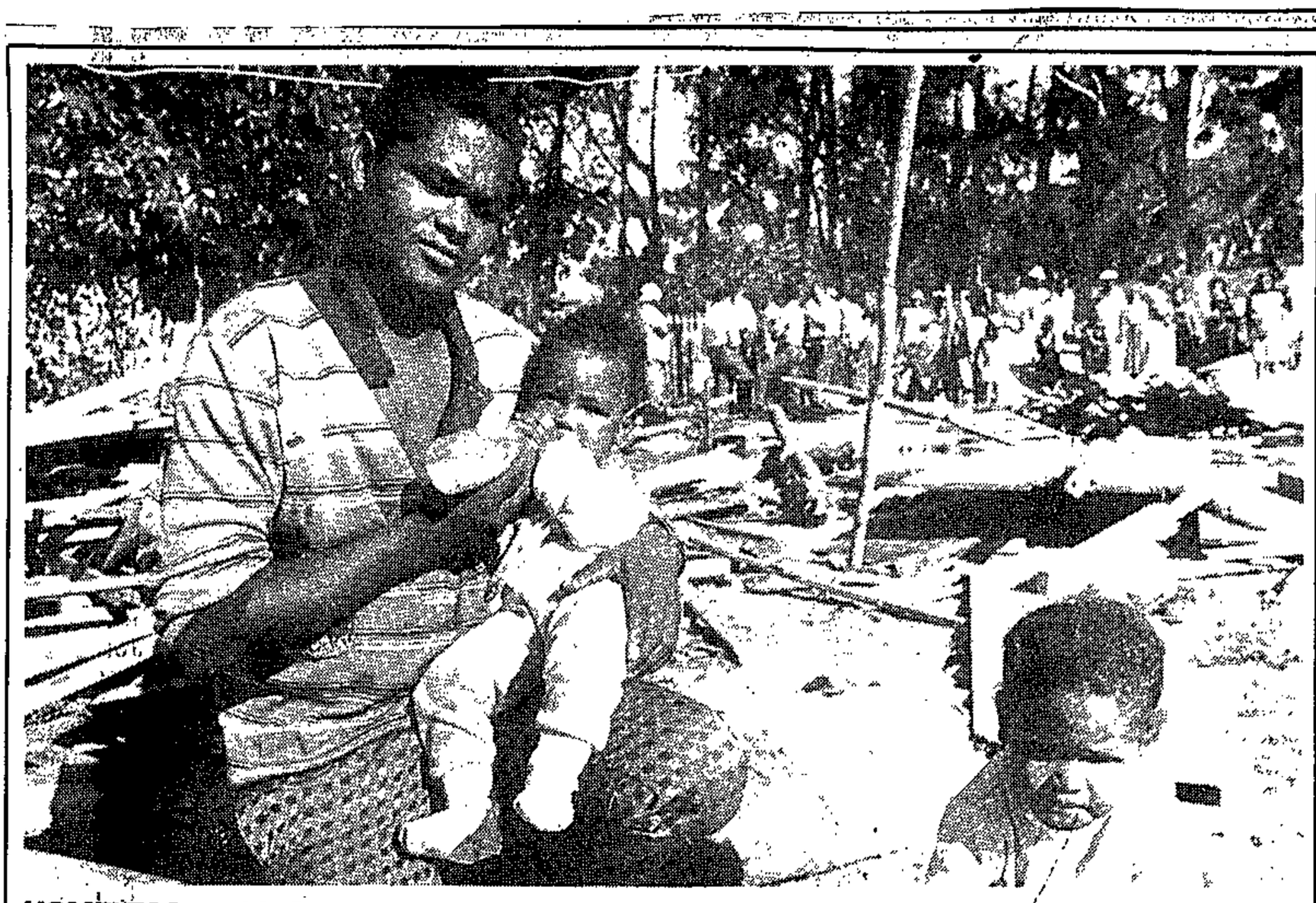
The settlement by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, reached without him accepting liability in return for a withdrawal of squatter allegations of police complicity, was made on March 5 last year.

Yesterday, during the slick pay-out operation organised by the KTC Relief Trust and the Legal Resources Centre, (LRC), residents received between several hundred and several thousand rand each.

According to LRC lawyer, Mr Steve Karnowitz, the top individual payment was about R10 000 to a small business destroyed in KTC.

Mr Hugh Jagoe, project manager of the KTC relief fund said his team had been very careful to "keep expectations realistic".

About 100 people had been notified of pay-out dates and amounts and pay-outs would continue (including Saturdays) until April 20, whereafter any outstanding payments would be met, he said.



HOMELESS . . . Mr Desmond Abrahams, 27, feeds his 18-month-old daughter Irene on the spot where his home at the "Sun City" squatter camp near Sir Lowry's Pass used to stand. His shack was among about 20 destroyed yesterday by Regional Services Council workers who were protected by police.

Pictures: ALAN TAYLOR

CAPE TIMES 13/4/91 (307)

Squatter camp destroyed

Staff Reporter

REGIONAL Services Council workers protected by police used pickaxe handles, chainsaws, axes and crowbars yesterday to demolish about 20 shacks in the controversial "Sun City" squatter camp below Sir Lowry's Pass.

Squatters in the camp said yesterday they were not given time to remove their personal belongings from their homes before they were destroyed.

The incident occurred about 9am when about six police vans, a Casspir and about 50 RSC workers arrived at the squatter camp.

Squatters said that an RSC official, armed with a handgun, had told them over a loudhailer to "get out, we are going to destroy your homes".



DESTROYED. . . Dr Allan Boesak, director of the Foundation for Peace and Justice, surveys damage to about 20 shacks in the "Sun City" squatter camp near Sir Lowry's Pass.

Mr Arthur van Aarde, chairman of the squatter camp, said he had been told by the official on Saturday that Mr Hernus Kriel, Minister of Local Government in the House of Assembly, had instructed him to demolish the shacks.

Mr Kriel was not available for comment last night.

Last night Mr Fred Stephens, head of general services for the Stellenbosch RSC, said the action had been taken because the squatters and the RSC had reached an agreement last year in which only 65 people would stay in the camp, and their numbers had exceeded this figure.

Mr Stephens claimed they had been given time to remove their personal belongings before the shacks were destroyed.

About an hour after the shacks were demolished, Dr Allan Boesak, director of the Foundation for Peace and Justice, arrived on the scene.

Dr Boesak said he had faxed a letter to Mr Kriel, demanding an explanation for the RSC's actions and a guarantee that the squatters would not be moved until alternative housing was made available for them.

Dr Boesak said that he was due to visit America tomorrow, but would remain with the squatters until Mr Kriel responded to his letter.

URBAN SPRAWL, POPULATION PRESSURES, TOURISM ... THE BATTLE IS ON FOR THE CITY'S SCARCE — AND PRECIOUS —

RESOURCES

CAPE TOWN

Will Cape Town be able to give its all to tourists when so many of its own people still don't feel at home?

By GAYE DAVIS

SIX thousand hectares of sandstone, fynbos and forest soaring up from the middle of Cape Town — for some Table Mountain is one of the country's biggest tourist attractions and the city's greatest natural asset.

But for others, struggling to survive 35km away in Khayelitsha, it looks like a good place to live: wood for fuel, water in clear mountain streams, the city centre and a possible job close by.

Right now the main threat to the mountain is the ecological damage caused by the increasing tourist load traversing its slopes.

But while Table Mountain is not yet faced with an influx of squatters, its status — and that of other tourist attractions — is under scrutiny as Cape Town steps into a post-apartheid future.

The city faces a critical shortage of jobs and housing. It took 295 years for Cape Town's population to reach 600 000 in 1945, another 30 years to double to 1,2-million and just 15 to double again to 2,4-million. Experts expect it to double again by the year 2000.

Housing is overcrowded: in African areas, an average of 12,6 people share a site; in coloured areas the figure is 6,6. Unemployment is rife. Last year, an estimated 120 000 people (11 percent of the labour force) were unemployed. This is expected to swell to 579 000 people (or 37 percent) by 2000.

Conditions like these contribute to the ill-health affecting the majority of the city's people. Tuberculosis has reached epidemic proportions — one in every 124 people in Cape Town is estimated to have TB — and infant mortality rates among African and coloured people are high.

W/mail 12/4 - 18/4/91

Small wonder, then, that in a region devoid of mineral resources and heavy industries, tourism is seen as the most significant force for economic growth.

At present, Cape Town has a 20 percent share of the domestic tourist market, compared to Durban's 30 percent. During 1989, South African visitors spent an estimated R823,2-million in the city. Foreign tourists (less than half include Cape Town in their itineraries) spent an estimated R81-million.

"Tourism creates jobs," says Louis Kreiner, city councillor and chairman of the city's marketing arm, Captour.

"While it can cost between R1 000 and R2 000 to create a new job in industry or commerce, in tourism you're looking at about R150."

Research by the Bureau for Economics at the University of Stellenbosch indicates that in some regions one new job is generated by every 11 tourists.

There are also indications that for each job created directly in the tourism industry a further five job opportunities are created or maintained, while tourist spending benefits a range of sectors in the economy.

"International literature is quite clear that tourism is not an instrument for radical redistribution of wealth," said economist Wolfgang Thomas. "One shouldn't see it as the answer to all our needs. But do we in the Western Cape have an alternative?"

But Cape Town's push for tourism could still conflict with some of the other tasks the city faces. Most visitors are drawn to the Cape because of its stunning natural beauty. But with the urbanisation pressures Cape Town is facing, it's not difficult to paint a scenario in which these natural assets are destroyed.

Cape Town's growth — and that of the region as a whole — has been dictated by apartheid policies and some ad hoc decisions. The site for Cape Town's biggest black township, Khayelitsha, was chosen by former president PW Botha during a helicopter flight over the area.

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Urban sprawl is now encroaching on the mountains, disfiguring the coastline and chewing up tracts of arable land and fynbos. If development continues at current densities, Cape Town will need as much space again as it covered in 1985.

The city also faces the environmental consequences of an ever-expanding road system: because of the cock-eyed location of the townships, developing an economical and efficient public transport system has proved impossible.

"We must discover how to guide growth to accommodate increasing needs and still retain the best of what we have," said Cape Town's deputy town planner, Peter de Tolly. "We need to ensure future urbanisation does not go ahead to the detriment of the environment."

To this end, several major planning studies are underway, all geared towards reconstructing a post-apartheid city.

The studies home in on critical areas such as land-use, economic growth and transport and are aimed at producing a regional development strategy that will help heal the angry divide carved between the city and its people by the apartheid planning of the past.

The emphasis is on the region as a whole. And crucially, in a painstaking process still in its early stages, communities are being canvassed about whether they want to take part in planning the city and, if so, how.

"We're not saying to people here's the plan, endorse it," said public affairs consultant Helen Zille. "It's a serious commitment to public participation."

Clive Keegan, chairman of the council's town planning committee, points out that the consultation process is no substitute for a democratically elected, non-racial system of local government.

"But it should give rise to a set of policies that enjoy legitimacy because they have been arrived at after due consultation," he said.

It's a process which will take four or five years, and real political differences will have to be overcome.

"Nobody feels complacent about the challenges facing us," said De Tolly. "But the dimensions of those challenges are known. The real challenge lies in developing responses to them — and doing so collectively."

Returning black farmers arrested

Own Correspondent

MACLEANTOWN. — Police have arrested 72 former Macleantown farmers who reoccupied land from which they had been removed forcibly 22 years ago.

The farmers had arrived at midnight on Friday and had worked through the night to construct shelters on land next to the East London-Stutterheim road.

Angry white farmers soon gathered at the roadside. Police arrived and gave the returnees an hour to leave.

When the hour had passed they were arrested and charged with trespassing, alternatively breaking the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act.

They were taken to the Fort Jackson police station, where dockets were opened, and removed to various places of detention. They are expected to appear in the East London Magistrate's Court today.

Before he was arrested, the secretary of the Macleantown Residents' Association, Mr Mongezi Ngxata, said the property to which they had returned had been communal land for black and white farmers.

Boesak stays night in squatter camp

By EDWARD MOLOINYANE and DENNIS CRUYWAGEN
Staff Reporters

DR Allan Boesak has resolved to stay at a Sir Lowry's Pass squatter camp where shacks have been demolished until Mr Hernus Kriel, Minister of Local Government, sends a representative to "to see what's happening".

Dr Boesak, director of the Foundation for Peace and Justice, spent the night at Sun City squatter camp where about 175 peopie, including babies, are homeless after 20 shacks were destroyed yesterday by Stellenbosch Regional Services Council workmen escorted by police.

The action taken against the squatters had "angered" Dr Boesak, said his secretary, Mrs Lucille Fester.

Yesterday Mr Kriel invited Dr Boesak to discuss the matter with him in his office today but "because of the situation at Sir Lowry's Pass he won't be able to see Mr Kriel", Mrs Fester said.

Dr Boesak said the night had been "uncomfortable".

ANC member the Rev Chris Nissen, Dr Boesak's personal assistant Mr Norman Micheals and colleague Mr Calvin Smith kept Dr Boesak company.

According to Mr George van Aarde, chairman of the 11-member Sun City Committee, the shacks were destroyed barely a fortnight after the committee had been assured at a meeting with council officials that no demolition would take place.

He said an RSC official who had been at the meeting visited the settlement on Saturday and "jokingly" said he would destroy the camp this week.

"What beats us is that the man was here again on Sunday but did not give us notice about the pending demolition."

Mr Van Aarde said the official, brandishing a gun and accompanied by "a huge" contingent of armed police in three vans and two Hippos, arrived about 8am yesterday.

"He ordered his workmen to remove all our belongings ... they used picks and saws to destroy our homes while police stood by to ensure we did not go nearer. We watched helplessly as our homes were destroyed."



Picture: WILLIE de KLERK, The Argus.

SALVED: Magda Barendse carries a friend's baby, eight-month-old Lionel Steyn, and a bag and a doll salved from shacks demolished by council workers at the Sun City squatter settlement.

Vlok in riot squad scrutiny

Political Staff

THE role of the riot squad in the Hout Bay squatter controversy would be investigated by the police, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said last night.

He said this at a press conference after Mr Colin Eglin, DP Sea Point, whose constituency includes Hout Bay, had strongly criticised the riot police for their role.

Mr Eglin said the local police in Hout Bay had played a credible role.

However, this could not be said about the riot police, who had moved in with teargas.

Minister quizzed

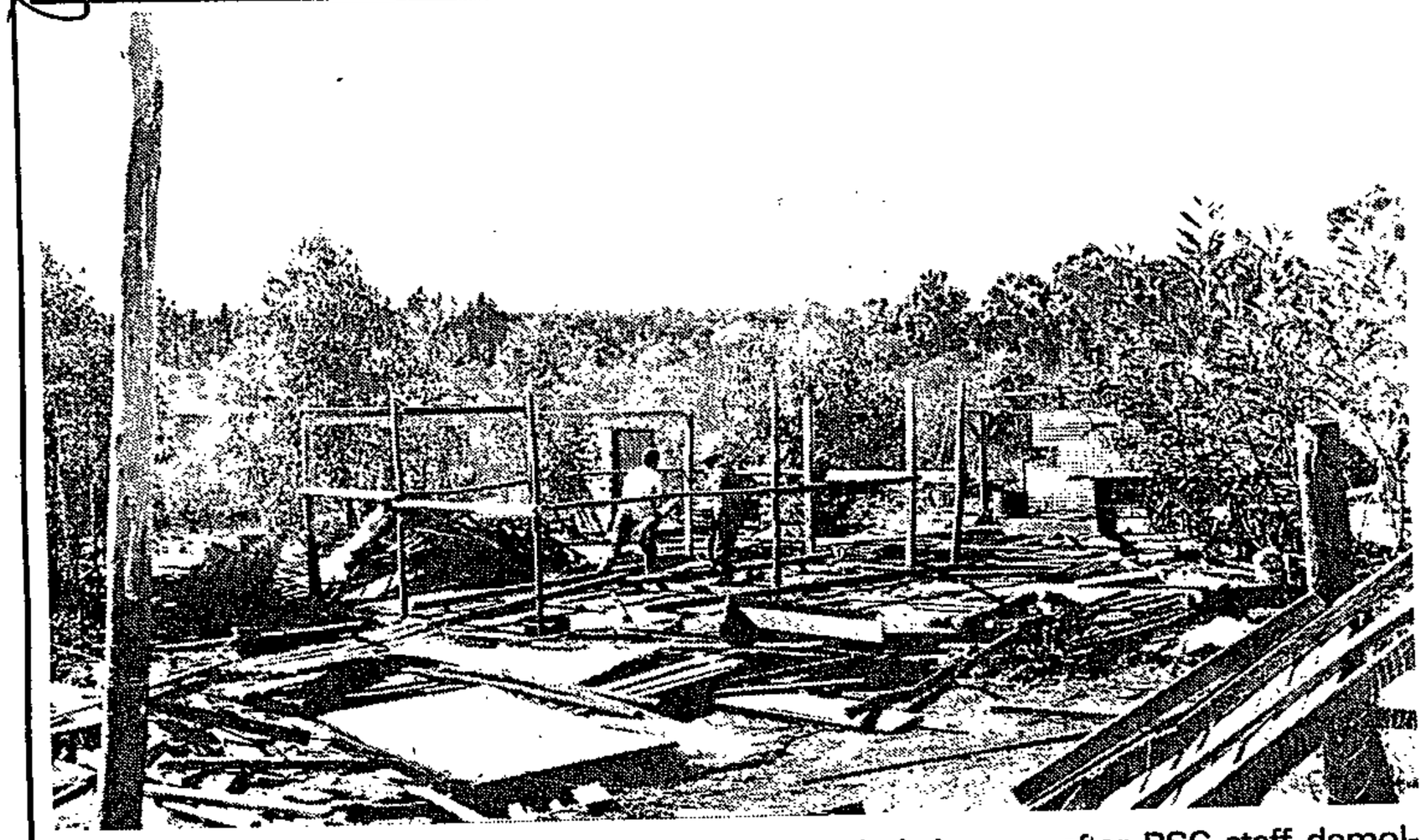
Crime prevention was important but the creation of a relationship of confidence between the police and the community would enhance the climate in which discussion and agreement could take place, Mr Eglin said during the debate on the housing and works budget in the House of Assembly.

Mr Vlok was later asked why the riot squad had entered the Hout Bay squatter crisis when the community was satisfied with local police actions.

He replied: "I have no information at this stage but I will investigate the matter."

'No Natal probe'

LAW and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok has denied that a senior officer had been appointed to investigate complaints of alleged police collusion with certain political groups in Natal.



REBUILDING ... Sun City squatters rebuilding their homes after RSC staff demolished them earlier this week. Lawyers intend applying for damage costs.

Squatters to sue RSC over broken shacks

Staff Reporter

LAWYERS were preparing affidavits yesterday from squatters in the "Sun City" camp below Sir Lowry's Pass to sue the Regional Services Council for repatriation to damaged shacks and to secure a court order to prevent a recurrence.

Early yesterday morning Dr Allan Boesak, director of the Foundation for Peace and Justice, left the squatter camp after refusing an invitation from the Minister of Local Government, Mr Hernus Kriel, to discuss the issue in the city.

Dr Boesak leaves South Africa today on a two-week tour of the United States. He said yesterday he would highlight the plight of the Sun City squatters during his trip abroad.

Group meets select committee on land

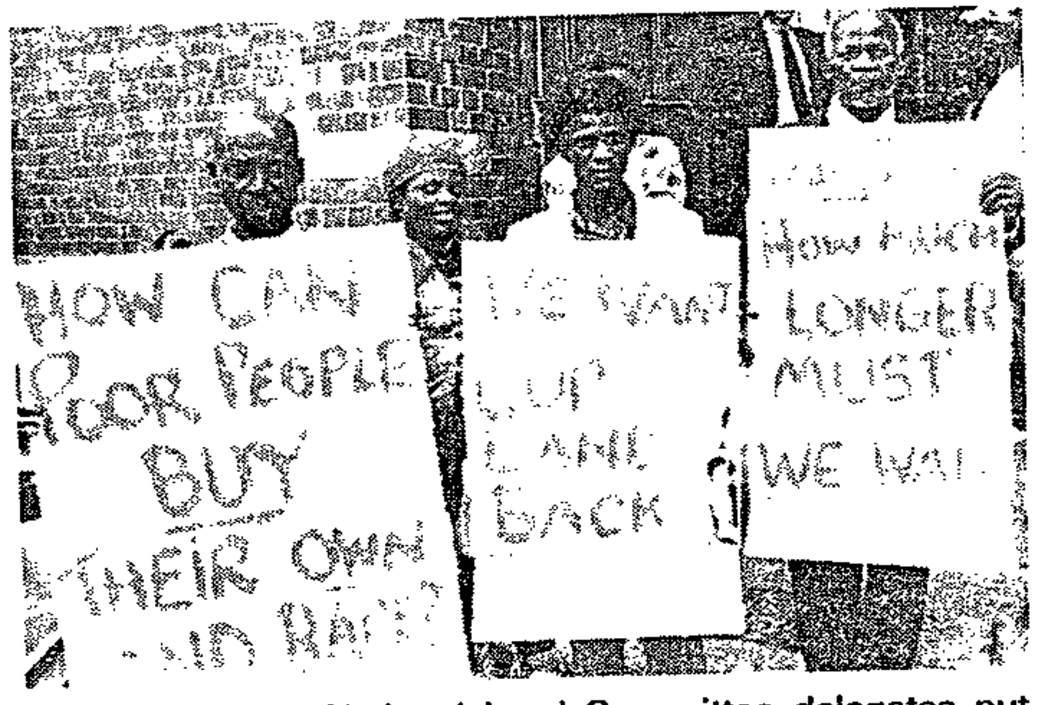
Staff Reporter

THIRTEEN delegates representing dispossessed communities met a parliamentary subcommittee on land reform yesterday to demand the return of their property.

Delegates said after the meeting — organised by the National Land Commission — that they had been "warmly received".

The NCL had suggested a special committee be commissioned to look at all cases of dispossession, including those of whites, spokesman Mr S Motswege said. "One believes they gave us answers in a way that they might actually do something."

Before the meeting, policemen barred the group from Parliament. Parliamentary staff intervened.



LANDLESS ... National Land Committee delegates put their case about reclaiming their former homes to a Parliamentary Select Committee yesterday. Picture: BENNY GOOL

CAPE TIMES 19/4/91

Court halts Sun City demolitions

Supreme Court Reporter

THE Supreme Court yesterday temporarily stopped the Western Cape RSC from evicting any more squatters from the "Sun City" site near Sir Lowry's Pass, and demolishing their houses.

After an urgent application, Mr Justice H L Berman ordered the RSC, with consent of the parties, to show by May 20 why it should not be ordered to restore the 17 applicants' possession of sites on the erf.

In papers, Mr Arthur James van Aarde, a 63-year-old pensioner and father of 10, said RSC workers, accompanied by police and dogs, had demolished his house at Sun City on Tuesday.

Court cracks down on RSC over squatters

By JOHN VILJOEN
Supreme Court Reporter

THE Supreme Court has ordered the Western Cape Regional Services Council to allow the Sun City squatters at Sir Lowry's Pass to return to sites where shacks were demolished this week.

Leader of the Sun City community Mr Arthur van Aarde, 63, said in court papers he was "shocked and dissapointed" by the RSC's "barbaric action".

Mr Justice H L Berman granted a temporary interdict yesterday restraining the RSC from evicting the squatters or demolishing their dwellings, allowing the squatters back on to the land.

Gave undertaking

In an affadavit, Mr Van Aarde said he lived at Sun City with his wife Angeline and their 10 children. He had lived in the Sir Lowry's Pass area since 1965 and built a dwelling at Sun City in November.

He had never been told his Sun City residence was illegal.

Lawyers representing the Sun City community and the RSC were negotiating on the community's future and the RSC had given an undertaking not to take unannounced action against them, he said.

No Sun City resident was warned of the removal of their belongings or the demolition of their dwellings, said Mr Van Aarde.

An RSC official, a Mr Van Wyk, once threatened eviction, but he was referred to the negotiations about accommodation for the community. Mr Van Aarde never expected the "vague threats" to be carried out.

"On Tuesday, about 120 armed policemen and two police dogs arrived at Sun City. Mr Van Aarde saw Mr Van Wyk, armed with a revolver, among them.

"I confronted him about what was going on. He ordered me to carry my belongings out of my house because my home was going to be demolished."

The police moved the crowd aside and prevented them from returning to their houses.

He was not given enough time to remove his belongings. RSC workers simply threw them aside and cut and chopped his home down, said Mr Van Aarde.

The materials he used to build his house were so badly damaged he could not re-use them and he estimated damage to his household goods at R2 000.

"I am shocked and disappointed at the barbaric and heavy-handed action against defenceless citizens in the present climate of reconciliation and negotiation," said Mr Van Aarde.

Verbal agreement

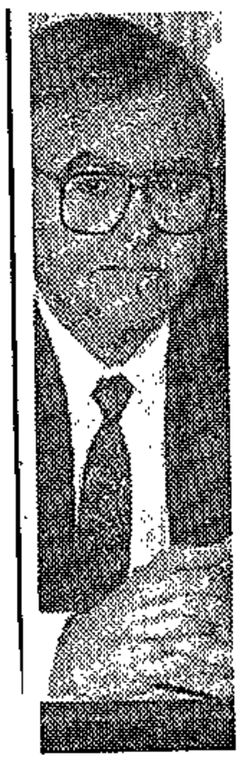
Stellenbosch attorney Mr Roger Chennels said in papers that his firm had represented the Sun City community over the past few years.

A binding verbal agreement had been reached to the effect that the RSC would not demolish dwellings without notifying his firm.

The RSC's unilateral action probably was illegal and contravened existing norms relating to dealing with informal settlements.

CAPE TIMES 26/4/91 (307)

'Proper settlement' for squatters



Hernus Kriel

Political Correspondent

THE government plans to move Sun City squatters camp to "a proper settlement" with adequate infrastructure for informal housing, the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and Housing, Mr Hernus Kriel, announced yesterday.

Western Cape Regional Service Council workers, accompanied by police and dogs, demolished a number of the squatter homes in the camp near Sir Lowry's Pass earlier this week. The action sparked an outcry from community leaders and political parties.

The Supreme Court subsequently ruled that the RSC should temporarily stop evicting any more squatters from the site.

Mr Kriel said that a meeting would be held on April 30 to identify land for informal housing in the Hottentots-Holland Basin.

Families whose shacks had been broken down at Sun City could remain in the squatter camp "but the area can presently not accommodate any more people".

"As soon as suitable land has been identified the government intends to settle the families presently living at Sun City in a proper settlement with adequate infrastructure for informal housing."

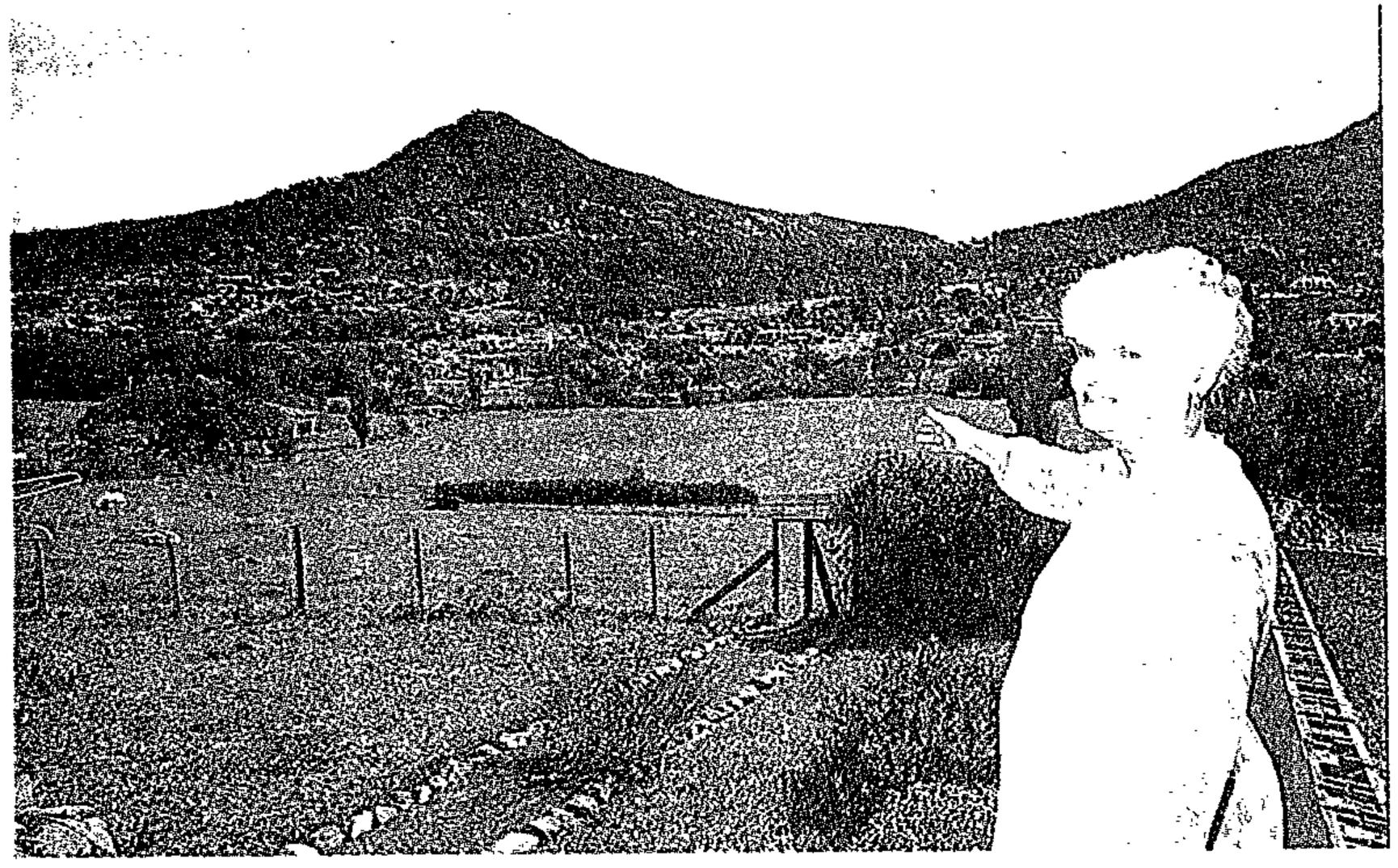
Mr Kriel said it would be necessary to move the squatters from the present site "as it is not possible to provide Sun City with water, sanitation and other facilities, except at very high cost."

Reacting to an ultimatum from Dr Allan Boesak to meet him at the camp, Mr Kriel said he had twice invited Dr Boesak to discuss the circumstances regarding the squatter families, but Dr Boesak "would not or could not" meet him.

Weekend FOCUS 3

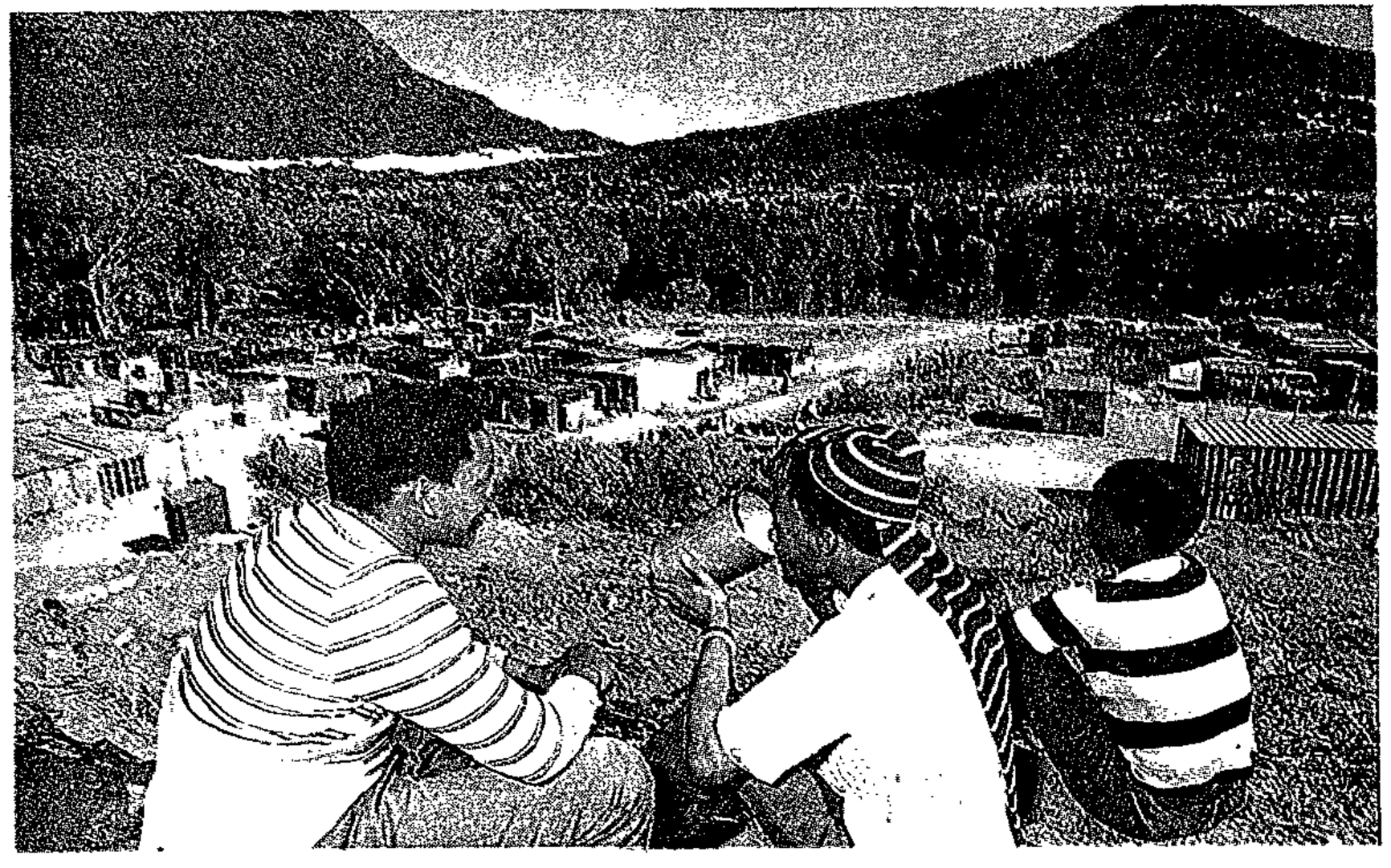
The tranquility of the green Hout Bay valley, with its country homesteads, stables and paddocks, has been shattered by the siting of a squatter camp on prime land close to some of the most expensive houses in the village. Mistrust, suspicion and polarisation are the bitter fruit of apartheid and all eyes have turned to Hout Bay — to see whether thorn trees or olive branches grow between the communities. Weekend Argus Reporter **LINDA GALLOWAY** spent a day talking to the people on both sides of the fence.

Valley of discontent . . . or peace?



How green was my valley. Mrs Carolina Labuschagne surveys the view from her garden in Hout Bay.

WILL THORN TREES OR OLIVE BRANCHES GROW BETWEEN HOUT BAY SQUATTERS AND THEIR WEALTHY WHITE NEIGHBOURS?



Sonwabo Mafenuka, left, Sipho Tsengwa and Jongikhayo Mapepeni sample home-brewed sorghum beer on a hill above the squatter camp.

THE RESIDENTS SAY:

MANY people who bought and developed land in Hout Bay at high prices are incensed that the squatters are living on government land at nominal rent.

They claim the value of their properties has plunged dramatically since the squatters moved in.

People who have worked hard to buy homes would have paid high prices for plots on what is now squatter land above the cemetery on Main Road, they say.

Most people in Hout Bay claim the dispute has nothing to do with colour prejudice. Their reaction, they say, would have been the same had white displaced people with a rudimentary education and limited means of support been given land close to theirs.

Among property owners most directly affected by the two-month-old Imizamo Yethu squatter camp are the residents of Riverside Terrace, some of whose plush homes front on Main Road, opposite the entrance to the camp.

A month after the squatters moved in in February, Riverside Terrace homeowners formed an association to look into their own security and what they believe is the State's responsibility towards them.

They met the Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works in the House of Assembly, Mr Sam de Beer, and proposed closing off the Riverside Terrace entrance closest to the camp and walling off the cluster of 8 000 sq m plots from Main Road.

MR Barry Wrankmore, chairman of the Riverside Terrace Homeowners Association, said the squatters were "dumped on our doorstep" without consultation.

"Our property has been drastically devalued. Jack Mudd owns four acres which was worth hundreds of thousands. Now he can't give it away. We are all paying off bonds and our properties aren't worth nearly what we paid for them.

"I am installing a burglar alarm and fencing my property. Others have installed electronic gates and intercom systems.

"One woman living alone with a vegetable garden has had all her veges pinched, fruit off her trees and potatoes from out of the ground, and woke up in the middle of the night to find thieves had stacked her household possessions out in the street."

TO illustrate the changing circumstances in the valley, Mr Wrankmore referred to the way in which the lifestyle of one of the residents, Mr Christiaan Labuschagne, changed virtually overnight.

Mr Labuschagne and his wife, Carolina, elderly Riverside Terrace residents, were at home last week when they were shocked and frightened by a midnight intruder who broke a pane in their front door to force an entrance to their home.

Mr Labuschagne, who beat the intruder with a footstool until the man ran away, said he treated the squatters as neighbours.

"We can help each other. I won't kill them and I don't expect them to kill me," he said.

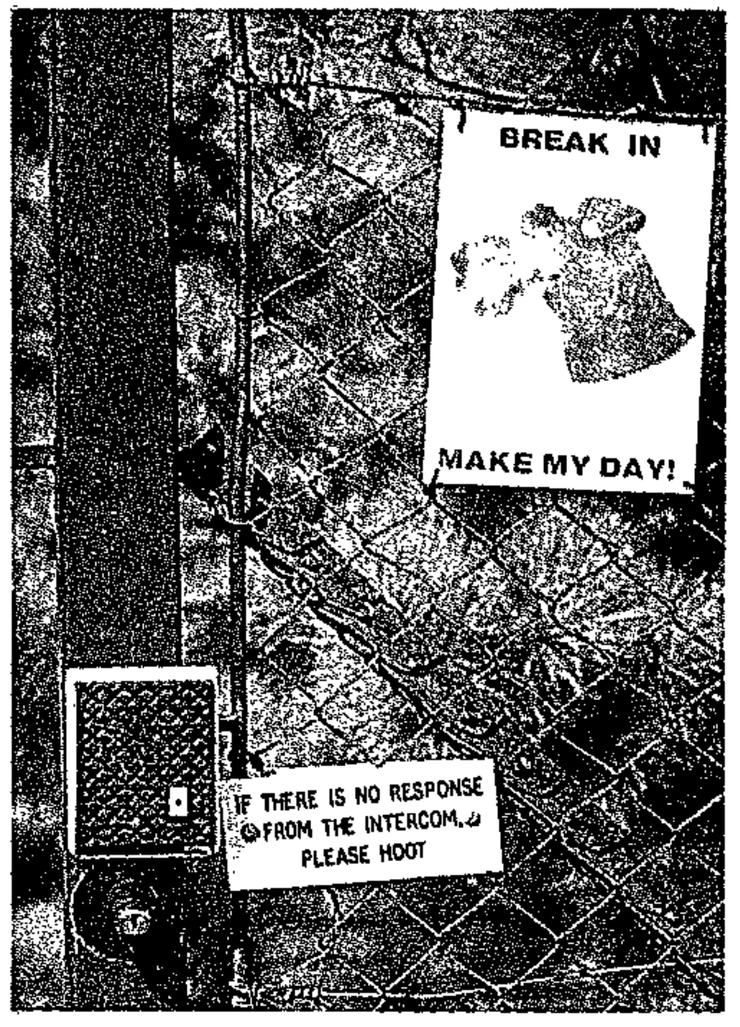
But he had had to build a 2m high concrete wall costing R9 000 on his property because taxis dropping passengers kept stopping in his driveway.

"The noise, the pollution, and the excrement in my garden were too much," he said.

Mr Wrankmore stressed that local anger was not directed at the squatters, "but at the authorities who have done this" and said he thought it was a good idea to meet the squatters to talk about mutual problems.

Democratic Party MP for the area Mr Colin Eglin said he attended liaison committee meetings at which various problems were discussed.

"I do believe that people should feel safe in their homes. The protection of ordinary people is of critical importance," he said.



High security at white homes reflects the tension between "haves" and "have-nots" in the valley, unfortunately translated into racial tension.

THE SQUATTERS SAY:

ACROSS the road and up the hill from Riverside Terrace is Imizamo Yethu (Our Efforts).

It is a baking hot day and the township committee invite us to sit in the shade above the camp and admire the panoramic view.

We are followed by a host of playful puppies who gambol in the long grass as we talk.

There is anger and frustration at the reaction of the white residents to the siting of the camp.

"We can't help it if many of us are unemployed and there are people who hate us. Why should we respect them? They are the ones who said 'get the kaffirs out of Hout Bay'," said Sipho bitterly.

"They don't see us as part of Hout Bay. We would like to establish a neighbourly relationship, but 2m high walls will not help."

Advice office worker Mrs Vanessa Matthews sums up the feelings of the squatter community, with nodding assent from her comrades: "We realise our neighbours are scared. We are also scared. We were thrown together without consultation.

"This is a social problem which we must work through.

"Many of those people are the ones who wanted us thrown out of Hout Bay ... but we must start somewhere. We have been kept apart for so long by apartheid we don't know or understand each other.

"Many employers in the valley won't give us work. We can't deny that we don't have money, but people shouldn't condemn us.

"BLACK people have always been the oppressed and deprived and they are the people who have prevented us from improving our quality of life.

"Trusting each other will take a long time. We have asked our people to be disciplined, not to commit crimes, but there is always a criminal element which you cannot control."

The wall would only build resentment and hostility between squatters and homeowners.

Another committee member quotes from the Bible: "Love your neighbour as you love yourself."

The thoughts come tumbling out.

"These people must abandon their 'old South Africa' ideas. We must stop discriminating between black and white, we must be one people. Those who don't agree must leave South Africa. We want unity in Hout Bay.

"We should meet each other and realise that we are not each others' enemies. We enjoy living in Hout Bay. We feel we are legal residents now and we don't expect to be harassed.

"But we were also moved here without consultation. All of us in our separate communities were under threat of eviction, with court orders hanging over our heads. We were happy living among the Hout Bay community but the whites forced us here.

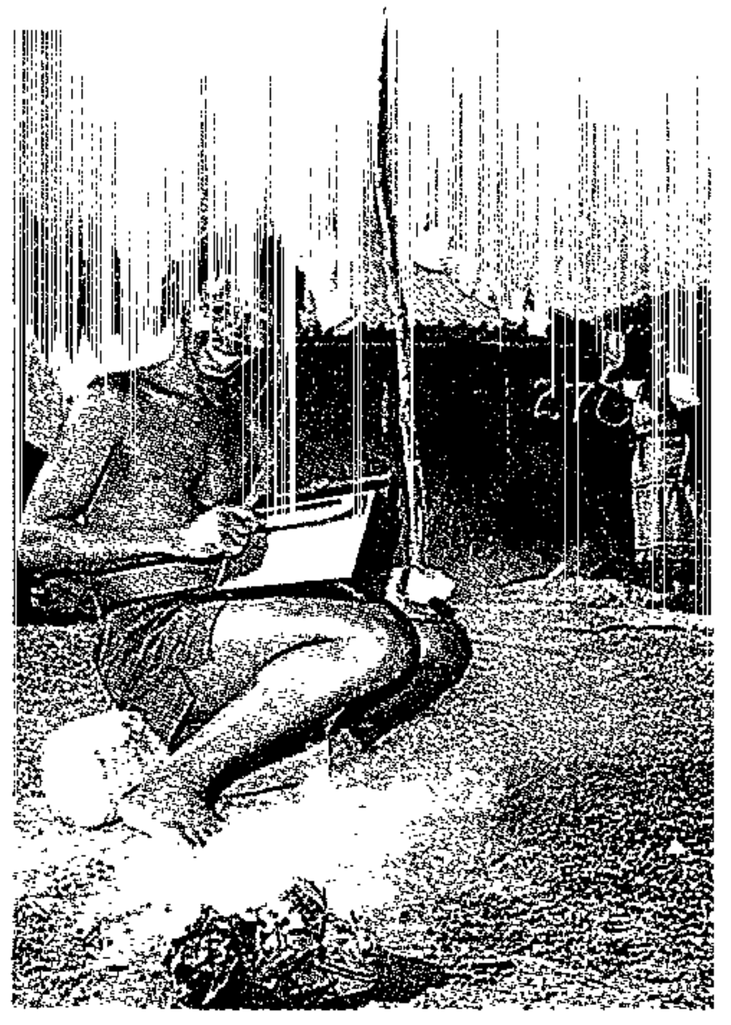
"It was traumatic. The Princess Bush and Sea Products camps felt that coming here offered them a better future. But the Disa River families found it very difficult. They were very heartsore and are still finding it difficult making the adjustment to living in a large community.

"THE government also made lots of promises — they promised that the sites, the water and toilets would be ready when the first families moved but nothing was ready. The materials they promised came weeks later and families had to sleep out in the open.

"We didn't know one another; we were thrown together. We are trying hard to respect one another and build up relationships and it seems to be working."

Mrs Matthews said there were still a lot of homeless people in Hout Bay but there was not enough land for more squatters at Imizamo Yethu.

"They must make more land available. All along our fight has been for all homeless people, not just ourselves, and if there is more land it would be all right for more people to come, even white people who have no homes would be welcome.



Mr Richmond Mhlekude catches a tan and a tune as he whiles away his day in the squatter camp on the hill.

"We have been promised permanent housing on this site and we are concerned that if any more squatters move in here this will never happen."

A great South African irony is that Regional Services Council officials, who systematically destroyed squatter shacks around Hout Bay, were the ones who welcomed them to the squatter camp and worked on the provision of services.

Mrs Matthews said: "When we went to register and my husband saw them he exploded. They apologised and said they felt bad but they were only doing their jobs and they have since made friends in the camp."

It was all done by signing a document without the consent of local homeowners or the ratepayers association. They never gave us a chance to hold a referendum on the siting of the camp. We are concerned about our security: last week a motorbike was stolen out a garage and an elderly couple were frightened by a midnight intruder.

"Yes, we know there are a lot of law-abiding squatters. We have no quarrel with them. It is the criminal element which must be eliminated. They walk around during the day, in twos and threes, looking for trouble.

"We have no problem with the people who work in the valley living here, but those without jobs have to eat and it is how they are going to do it that worries us.

"They are not on the same level and social standing as those around them — something Hernus Kriel promised in his White Paper on land reform.



owners, she sa...

Pictures
ROY WIGLEY
Weekend
Argus

A plush home set on a huge property in the Hout Bay valley — protected by razor wire, electronic gates, an intercom and a video camera concealed in the tree.

Hope for 'Sun City' squatters

w/c Argus 20/4/91

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By MICHAEL MORRIS
Political Correspondent

THE government has granted a reprieve to the "Sun City" squatters whose shacks were demolished by the Stellenbosch Regional Services Council on Tuesday.

The announcement yesterday by Mr Hernus Kriel, Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, came a day after a Supreme Court order stopping the demolitions.

He said families whose shacks on State-owned land near Sir Lowry's Pass had been demolished could remain in the camp.

No newcomers would be allowed.

Unsanitary health conditions

Ultimately, he said, the government intended resettling the families once a serviced site became available. Resettlement was necessary because it was impossible to provide water, sanitation and other facilities at the "Sun City" site, except at high cost.

Mr Kriel said discussions during the week with Housing Minister Mr David Curry and the chairman of the Regional Services Council, Mr Piet Loubser, made it clear there was not enough land for informal housing in the Hottentots-Holland Basin.

Mr Kriel said he was concerned about living conditions and the health risk at the "Sun City" camp.

All along the government had insisted squatting had to be managed in an orderly way.

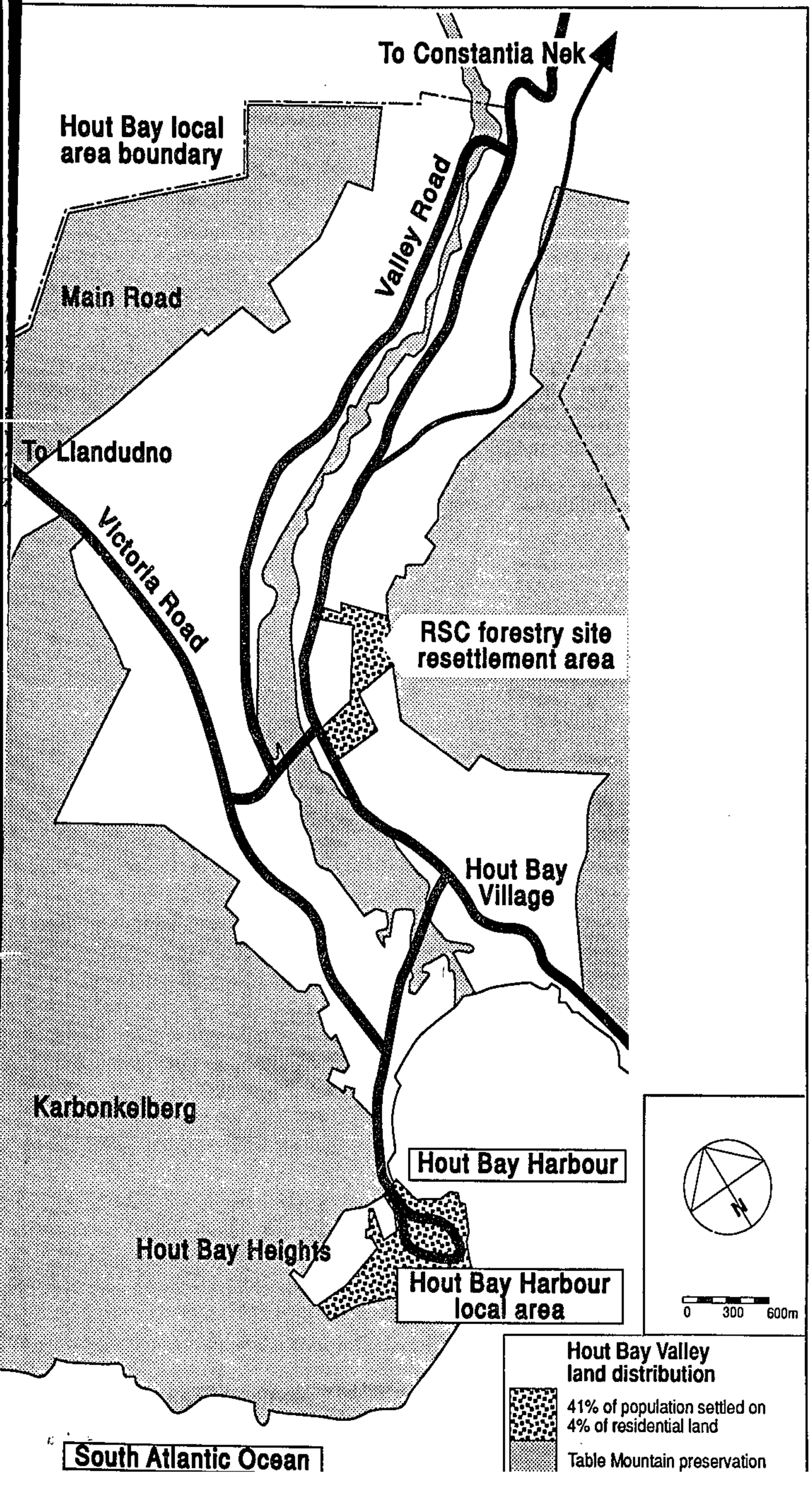
For some time, the issue of the "Sun City" camp had been addressed by Deputy Minister of Planning Mr André Fourie. A meeting, scheduled for April 30, was arranged some time ago to identify land for informal housing in the Hottentots-Holland Basin.

Council warning

Responding to the ultimatum by president of the Foundation for Peace and Justice Dr Allan Boesak to meet him at the squatter camp, Mr Kriel said he had twice invited Dr Boesak for discussions, but to no avail.

Mr Kriel said that "according to information from the RSC", the council had, in fact, warned that it would act against new squatters in terms of a previous agreement with squatter representatives.

Since 1989, about 10 new families a month had responded to warnings by the RSC not to put up shacks at Sun City, taking them down themselves in most cases.


To Constantia Nek
Hout Bay local area boundary
Valley Road
Main Road
To Llandudno
Victoria Road
RSC forestry site resettlement area
Hout Bay Village
Karbonkelberg
Hout Bay Harbour
Hout Bay Heights
Hout Bay Harbour local area
South Atlantic Ocean
N
0 300 600m
Hout Bay Valley land distribution
41% of population settled on 4% of residential land
Table Mountain preservation

Hout Bay 'squatters' were first

4/05/91

307

By Weekend Argus Reporter

A FIRM of architects and planners integrally involved in the siting and development of the squatter camp in Hout Bay has countered the objections of white residents with an "historical perspective" which shows how privileged whites have benefited over the years to the exclusion of their "other-than-white" neighbours.

The report is by Mr Cecil Madell and Mr Nigel Burls of MLH Architects and Planners, consultants to the government for the squatter camp, and is based largely on information in the honours thesis of Ms Caroline Green on "The origins and development of informal settlements in the Hout Bay area 1940-1986".

It points out that until February this year, when the Regional Services Council (RSC) forestry land on the hillside above the cemetery was proclaimed to house squatters, "other-than-white" groups had access to only two percent of the valley.

Hundred percent increase

The forestry site, now housing 2 200 squatters, increases the land available for other race groups to four percent.

"What is perhaps not widely appreciated is that as recently as 1980 there were 10 000 residents in Hout Bay. Some 45 percent were white, occupying 98 percent of the land set aside in the Hout Bay plan for residential purposes."

About 49 percent were coloured, occupying two percent of the residential land in Hout Bay in terms of a Group Areas proclamation.

"At present the white population has increased its proportion to approximately 59 percent of the total.

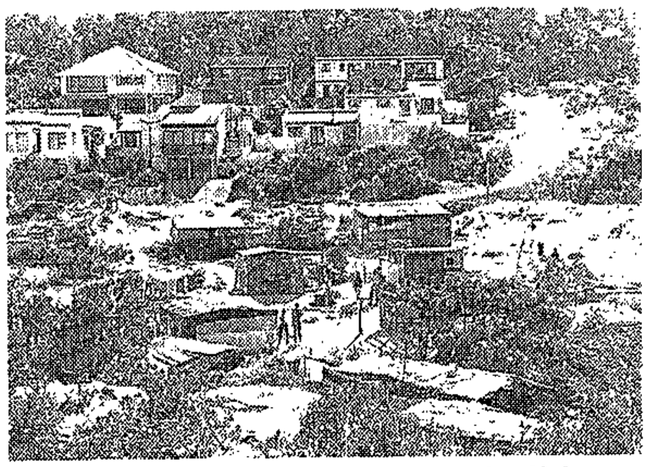
"A second misconception is that a large number of black and coloured people in Hout Bay are unemployed. The facts are that 'other-than-white' people have not only lived in the Hout Bay valley for longer than the white population but have also been gainfully employed there.

"While there are some unemployed people among the squatter residents, they are a minority and do not detract from the fact that the majority of 'other-than-white' residents have every bit as much right to live there as their more recently arrived white neighbours.

"The Group Areas act has enabled many whites to acquire property in the valley at competitive prices whereas the 'other than whites' have been denied this right. The response of this community to the white cries of 'depressed prices' and 'loss of value of property investments' is hardly likely to be sympathetic.

"There have been a number of complaints concerning the planning and consultation process in Hout Bay and no one would pretend that the process has been perfect or indeed equitable. However, this should be placed in perspective.

"Firstly the people who have until recently been



Shacks adjoin Hout Bay holiday homes.

forced to occupy only two percent of Hout Bay were not consulted about their preferences. Nor indeed were they consulted when a decision was taken to move all the squatters in the valley to the Hangberg community area.

"It was only because the community was prepared to fight the matter in court that such a step was not taken.

"It is noteworthy that the community insisted that action be taken to meet their housing crisis.

This was agreed to by the authorities who then ignored the community and proceeded to design housing without consultation. The community was not unnaturally incensed and again threatened court action and only then did consultation take place.

"A revised scheme was drawn up with the full co-operation of the authorities and the revised project was built to the satisfaction of both parties.

"The recent identification of land for Hout Bay's homeless was a difficult process arising mostly from the fact that two historically racially separate housing authorities were involved and all final decisions had to be ratified by the Cabinet. The complexity of this process resulted in top-down rather than bottom-up decision taking.

"However, in view of the vested interests of the economically powerful and legally empowered whites, this may have produced the only equitable result. Only when a properly constituted and fully representative local authority has been established can an equitable process be established."

The paper notes that the first farms were established in Hout Bay in the 1600s.

"An evaluation of the area's historical development indicates that a correlation exists between local economic activity and the provision or lack of provision of housing for low income workers."

"During the early years when primary activities such as farming and fishing were dominant, workers and their families were housed by their employers. The provision of shelter, although not always adequate, was nevertheless seen as a necessity.

"With the decline of farming activity in the valley and the expansion of the white residential component, a substantial number of low income workers were employed as domestic workers and gardeners on various estates.

Lived in Hout Bay for years

"Shelter was however only extended to the respective workers in accordance with the Group Areas Act and black homelands policy.

"The provision of a limited area in the harbour exclusively to house the 'coloured' people of Hout Bay was coupled with single sex hostels for work-permit-approved Africans.

"The rest of the homeless families, especially those employed on a temporary basis, started to occupy vacant land in the valley. Although recent surveys have indicated a large proportion of inhabitants of the informal settlements were recent migrants to the area, the founder members of the various settlements have lived there for many years.

"An overview of Hout Bay's history indicates low income workers have for decades been employed in various economic sectors in the area.

"Now is the time for the privileged community, who have enjoyed rights of access to land which are taken for granted in the Western World, to accept their poorer neighbours, to reach out and extend the hand of friendship and help. They will be astonished at the goodwill and mutual respect that such an effort will yield."



Squatters demand a right to build houses in the valley.

Robben Island prisoners refuse to move

CAR Trials
6/5/91 327

Staff Reporter

AN attempt was made by prison warders to remove the last political prisoners from Robben Island on Wednesday, but when they refused to move the authorities backed down.

This was said at a press conference at Quay Five yesterday by Mr Willie Hofmeyr, a lawyer for many of the remaining ANC prisoners on the island.

The prisoners are on the sixth day of a hunger strike until they are released or dead, according to relatives and friends who visited them yesterday.

A spokesman for the Department of Correctional Services said she would investigate Mr Hofmeyr's claim, but she doubted whether any comment would follow last week's statement that the department wanted to move the prisoners to Pollsmoor.

Mr Trevor Manuel, the ANC's Western Cape publicity secretary, accused the government of "tardiness" and "major bureaucratic bungling".

• Among the political prisoners still on the Island are: Mandla Shabangu and David Moisi, formerly on death row for attacks on Sasol Two; Mr Rafiq Rohan, a journalist who bombed Natal Command and CR Swart police headquarters; Mandla Maseko, convicted for planting land mines; Gordon Webster, convicted for bomb blasts in which one person died; and PAC prisoner Litha Mlahleki, sentenced in 1978 to 42 years' imprisonment.

Thousands starving in Eastern Cape

C/Press 19/5/91 307

By SOPHIE TEMA

OPERATION Hunger, which feeds millions of hungry and destitute people, has received an urgent appeal from the Eastern Cape's drought-stricken areas.

Thousands of hungry people there – mostly children – are staying on abandoned farms.

Scores of farms are up for sale because of the drought, and Operation Hunger has been inundated with pleas for food.

Hundreds of farm labourers are moving to towns and cities, where they hope to eke out a living.

Eastern Cape manager for Operation Hunger Glynis Baer said the drought, which is worsening, has forced people to move to cities and towns.

The land has turned arid and is no longer productive.

One local farmer said the plight of the destitute families had now reached critical proportions and there was an urgent need for food, clothing and money.

She said the situation was desperate and that about 8 000 people, mostly children, were without food or clothing.

Several residents in the poorest areas said some children had been seen drinking mud from the bottom of dams because boreholes had dried up, leaving them without clean drinking water.

Others, dressed in only rags, were often seen begging for food.

However, some children are flocking to farm schools where Operation Hunger has set up feeding schemes, in the hope of getting something to eat.

This had placed a burden on school principals and teachers who have to travel long distances to collect food to distribute to hungry children and destitute families.

Some teachers are said to have been buying food out of their meagre salaries because they cannot stand the sight of starving children.

One school principal who asked *City Press* not to publish his name said: "There are farmers who are still able to help and are doing so, but it is pathetic to think that those who were forced to leave their farms are now even unable to assist their own labourers who now have to cope on their own."

In many areas the soil on the farms is red or grey, and without any sign of life. Windmills are standing still and even prickly pear plants have died.

Nine places have already been declared drought disaster areas – Cradock, Aberdeen, Graaff-Reinet, Jansenville, Kirkwood, Somerset East, Pearson, Steytlerville and Uitenhage – and qualify for government assistance.

Squatters irk Belgravia residents

AHF 21/5/91

307

By JACQUELYN SWARTZ
Staff Reporter

BELGRAVIA residents are furious with the City Council for alleged lack of control of squatting in the suburb which, they say, has resulted in an influx of rats and a sanitation problem.

Residents say they were told two years ago that people would be allowed to squat on a field behind some houses.

They claim the council promised to maintain order, but things have deteriorated to such an extent that new shacks are being erected every weekend.

This had resulted in a "riotous" situation, said Mr Achmat Adams whose property backs on to the squatter camp.

"There is continual noise and swearing. Fighting occurs every night. The area has developed a terrible smell and smoke is a problem," said Mr Adams.

A lack of toilet facilities was a health hazard as squatters relieved themselves behind residents' walls. Residents say they have resorted to dumping rubbish over their back walls to disguise the smell.

Mr Adams also complained about barking dogs and stray cats.

"Our complaint is not against the squatters but against the council," Mr Adams said.

City Planner Mr Neville Rilley said he had noted Mr Adams's comments and sympathised with him about the disturbance caused by squatters.

"While Mr Adams has had discussions with staff of the squatter control section of my department, it might be helpful to describe council policy on squatters," he said.

The squatting issue had to be understood in the context of a council list of 40 000 families waiting for houses.

In the past year the State had provided funds for about 550 new houses. Until more funds were available, the squatting problem was unlikely to improve.

"It is accepted that all the inhabitants in the municipal area should be able to satisfy their need for adequate and affordable shelter and their basic hygiene requirements. It is essential that suitably sited land parcels (with minimum services) be set aside. Other local authorities should also set aside suitably sited land for squatters. Unrestrained squatting in the municipal area would not be acceptable."

Squatters should not be pressured to move from one local authority area to another and the province had been asked to promote a uniform policy among all local authorities.

The council was unable to offer squatters alternative housing because of the backlog and there was no approved site for them to move to by mutual agreement.

The role of the squatter control section was to keep records to monitor the growth of squatters and shacks in the municipal area and to provide services.

He said the first four structures were found on the Belgravia site in 1987. There were now 42 structures, 45 families and 140 people. Except for two families, all were from the Athlone area.

In 1987 the council laid a charge against squatters for illegal occupation of council land, but the State refused to prosecute, largely because of lack of alternatives.

"When the squatter control section finds a certain number of structures on a particular site, it recommends that certain basic services are provided.

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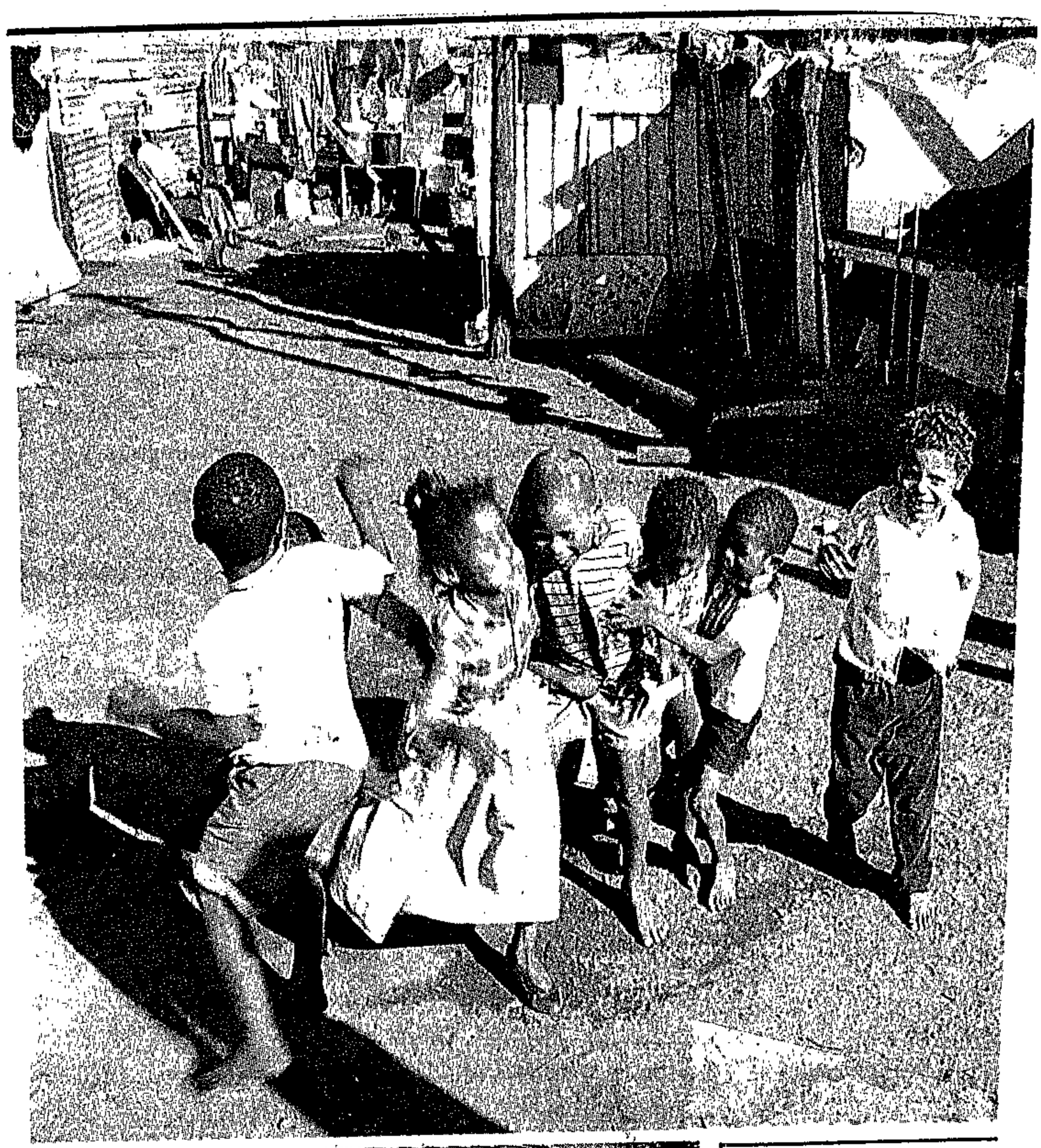
Arg 21/5/91.





AT PLAY: Squatter children play. Bottom picture, from left, Belgravia residents Mr Ronald Overmeyer, Mr Jay Charles and Mr Achmat Adams, are among those concerned about problems created by a squatter camp on their doorstep.

23/8/91

Squatting issue in Fish Hoek

(307)

Cape Time

A REQUEST by Fish Hoek Town Council that the government be asked to lay down a uniform procedure to deal with squatting was agreed to by an overwhelming majority at the recent congress of the Cape Municipal Association.

Fish Hoek also proposed that the congress express its disapproval over decisions of the council being over-ruled by government officials without explanation.

The proposal was adopted and a letter will be forwarded by the Cape Municipal Association to the minister concerned.

The congress, in Cape Town, was attended by the Mayor of Fish Hoek, Miss Marequita Townley-Johnson, and the Town Clerk, Mr Doug Smit.

The next and 85th congress will be held in East London.

Cr 28/5/91

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Crime: Hout Bay call for wall

Municipal Reporter

HOUT BAY residents have asked the government for help in putting up a 2m-high wall between their properties and the recently established squatter camp.

Mr Barry Wrankmore, chairman of the 20-member Riverside Terrace Home-Owners' Association, said yesterday that the number of burglaries in the area had risen dramatically since the squatters had moved there.

Mr Wrankmore said he had approached the government in March for financial assistance, but had not yet had a response.

● Yesterday Mr Pieter Oberholzer, a spokesman for the Department of Welfare, Housing and Works, said the minister, Mr Sam de Beer, "was trying to help, within the rules regarding the spending of taxpayers' money.

"We can't give the residents too much hope, but we are looking at the problem from every possible angle," Mr Oberholzer said.

The squatter community was trying to weed out criminal elements, he added.

The community's initial feeling of being unwanted in Hout Bay — which was not conducive to good neighbourly relations — was now dissipating as well, Mr Oberholzer said.

Erecting walls did not help this process.

RSC to employ squatters on land

ARGUS 30/5/91

307

Municipal Reporter

SQUATTERS will be hired for work on Regional Services Council-funded land as part of a Western Cape RSC job creation initiative.

A motion passed at yesterday's monthly RSC meeting said labour should be drawn from squatter communities for servicing land used by communities which were funded by the RSC.

Mr Danie Uys of Bellville said the RSC would have to use "correct procedures" to avoid having trade unions demand that temporary workers be given permanent status.

Mrs Eulalie Stott, chairman of the committee that tabled the motion, said the squatters would not be employed by the RSC or the Ikapa Town Council, but would be on the payroll of private contractors.



HOMELESS . . . Mrs Eunice Ngxatu and her son Zolani (left) lost their home and possessions in the demolition while two women (right), hopeless amid their cast-out belongings, watch in resignation as bulldozers demolish homes. They left the scene five hours later when police allowed people to help them move their furniture.

CT 30/5/91

(307

95 shacks demolished

By BRONWYN DAVIDS

POLICE and squatters clashed in Mbekweni near Paarl when private contractors demolished about 95 squatter homes yesterday.

After bulldozers had flattened the squatters' shacks, families watched as their possessions and building materials were heaped into a pile by contractors and torched.

Earlier squatters had tried to retrieve their meagre possessions but police fired teargas and rubber bullets to disperse them following a bout of stone-throwing.

Tension rose dramatically when the squatters returned to the site after holding a meeting and lines of police and squatters faced each other across about 50 metres of no-man's-land.

During the clashes between squatters and police a council garbage lorry was petrol-bombed.

Mbekweni Civic Association spokesman Mr Mzwandile Petros said 18 people were injured during the fracas and were treated by local doctors.

He said squatters had moved to the site on Sunday from the temporary shack town of Silvertown.

"The people were not allowed to fetch their things and their building materials were all bulldozed on to a heap. It's sad because the people have lost everything," said Mr Petros.



IN FLAMES . . . Possessions — including television sets — and building materials belonging to Mbekweni squatter families are torched Pictures: ANNE LAING

Mr Petros said there was a crucial housing shortage in Mbekweni with some 27 000 people crowded into about 1 317 houses.

Mbekweni Town Clerk Mr Marius Steyn said the squatters had homes in Silvertown. He said they were told to move to the new site by "political instigators in the community".

He said 299 low-cost houses were being planned for the demolished area, while 326 houses would be built at Silvertown and 130 sites were being made available elsewhere.

Mr Steyn could not say how much money would be spent on "orderly housing" for the area or when the project would get off the ground as private contractors, Cape Utilities Homes, were handling these details.

Squatters to be hired for Xroads upgrading

307

Municipal Reporter

CT 30/5/91

SQUATTERS from three of the poorest satellite camps of the Crossroads complex are to be temporarily employed to provide services such as water, sewerage and electricity to the land they occupy.

The Western Cape Regional Services Council (RSC) agreed yesterday in principle that Miller's Camp, Black City (formerly Black Plastic City) and Mpetha Square should be upgraded by means of labour drawn from the local community.

Mrs Eulalie Stott, who chairs the RSC's powerful "priorities committee", which allocates funds for upgrading, said local labour would be employed as an experiment.

She said neither the RSC nor the iKapa town council would employ the workers. Instead, they would be hired by contractors. Each worker would have an individual contract.

The RSC will provide the money for the upgrading.

Cape Times, Friday,

Operation Hunger aids Paarl squatters

(307) CT 31/5/91

Staff Reporter

ABOUT 195 families evicted from Mbekweni Town Council-owned land were yesterday sheltered in a community hall, where they were given blankets and food by Operation Hunger.

The town council ordered 95 squatter shacks demolished by bulldozers on Wednesday, after the families illegally occupied council land near Paarl on Sunday.

During the demolition, police fired teargas and rubber bullets to disperse the squatters.

Meanwhile, the Urban Foundation's construction wing, Cape Utility Homes, has been asked by the council to help build 800 low-cost houses on four council-owned properties.

The chief executive of Cape Utility Homes, Mr Nigel de la Rosa, said impact studies had been carried out in the area, but housing problems would be extensively canvassed with all community leaders before such a project was launched.

He said the company yesterday applied to the Independent Development Trust for a R6-million loan to provide serviced sites.

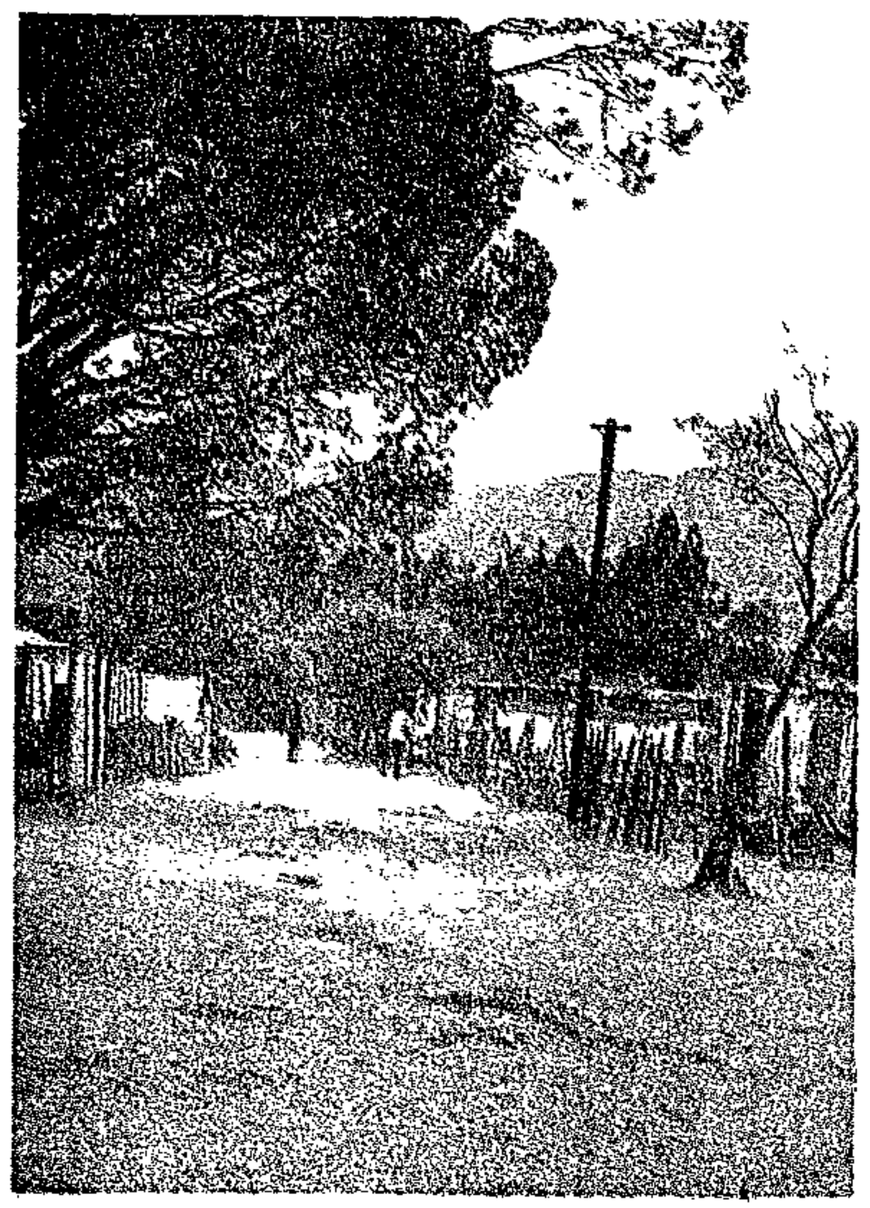
Operation Hunger spokesman Ms Sandra MacAllister said two loads of blankets, stoves and utensils were taken to the squatters who had been dispossessed.

Yesterday, Mbekweni Town Clerk Mr Marius Steyn denied allegations by squatters that possessions — including television sets — were destroyed when building materials were burnt on four heaps as police stood guard.

He said the squatters had homes in the Silvertown squatter area, and were urged to squat on council land by "political instigators" in the area.

Squatters are also people

ARGUS 1/6/91



☐ **ONE OF MANY:** Neat Street in a squatter camp.

REASONS for squatting include rapid urbanisation, deep and widespread poverty, unemployment and under-employment, limited accommodation and lack of housing.

Many people live in informal settlements because they have had to leave the parental home, or a job-related room or house, and there is nowhere else to go. Some have lost longstanding homes when farms adjoining towns were developed for white or better-class housing.

Most shack-dwellers simply cannot afford the cost of a house, even if it were available. When the breadwinner earns R400 or R500 a month, how can he pay rent or monthly payments as well as clothing, food and transport? And a great many disadvantaged families earn even less than that.

There are many documented cases of people on a waiting list for up to six years for rented accommodation.

There simply are not enough houses even for those who can afford them.

While lawlessness cannot be condoned, the situation of many shack-dwellers is fraught with difficulties not appreciated by those who are better off.

LIMITED CHOICE LITTLE PAY

STATISTICS

■ About seven million people live in squatter camps in South Africa, according to Mr Andre Fourie, Deputy Minister of Planning.

■ The Independent Development Trust and the Urban Foundation estimate that one in every six South Africans — about 7,8m of 40m — live in some type of informal housing.

■ In this category falls more than half-million inhabitants of Cape Town's Khayelitsha.

■ And at present only the top 10 percent of urban black income earners qualify for institutional housing loans.

■ A bottom-of-the-range 40sq m three-roomed house sells at around R17 000.

■ Professor Francis Wilson in February 1990 told of studies in Soweto showing that on average 20 people lived in four-

■ The Urban Foundation says it is generally agreed that South Africa must house more than 200 000 families *per year* between now and the year 2010.

Reports by CHRISTINE HARTWIG Weekend Argus Special Correspondent

307

Crossroads and a large part of Khayelitsha near Cape Town are now legally-accepted informal housing areas. Many other squatter camps in the Cape Province are not:

■ Shack-occupants are often harassed by officialdom as well as by nearby landowners.

■ They are threatened with eviction and homelessness.

■ Many shacks offer only partial shelter against the elements, but people are loathe to upgrade when they fear demolishment.

■ Squatters in "illegal" settlements do not have services and facilities such as sanitation, water, refuse removal, and schools.

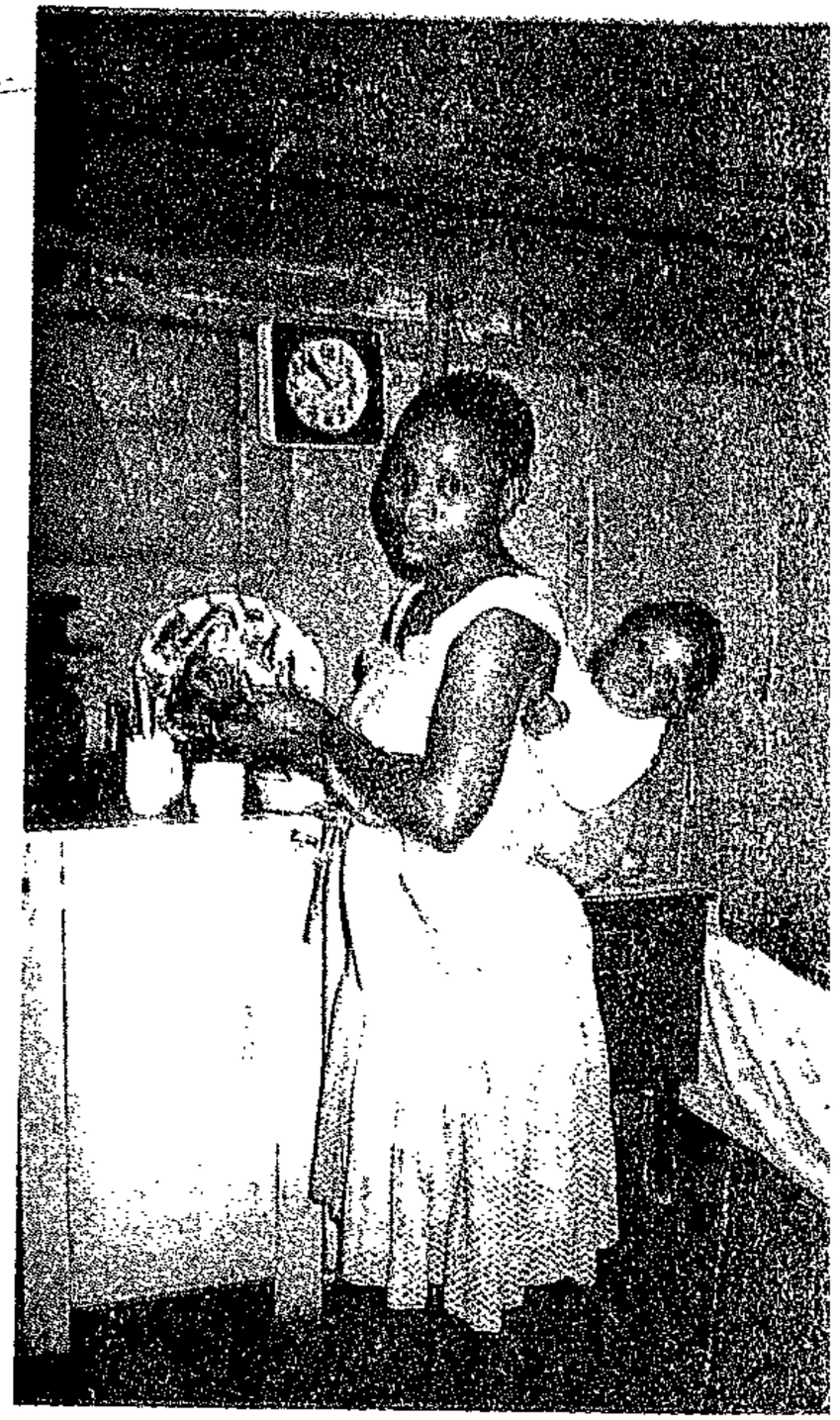
■ Water is often fetched from great distances, carried on women's heads, or conveyed in "borrowed" supermarket trolleys, or expensive taxis.

■ Transportation to schools, hospitals, work and shops is often at the mercy of taxies intent on profit.

■ Shack dwellers experience a stigma against them.

■ There are no community buildings or facilities for sport, leisure, church, creches or public meetings.

Squatters are also people: here are the stories of just three of them.



☐ **BASIC LIVING:** This young woman's home is spic and span but still very rudimentary.

LIVING IN A PLACE THEY CALL DIE BOS

IN February two years ago Mrs Dinah Adams was living happily with her husband, a municipal worker, and two babies.

With the latest baby's birth days before, she had left her employment but hoped to stay in her cottage as a rent-payer.

At seven that fateful morning, the farm manager hammered at the door. By four that afternoon the family must be out, he said.

Where could Dinah, Donovan, Petroleen and baby Dorothea go?

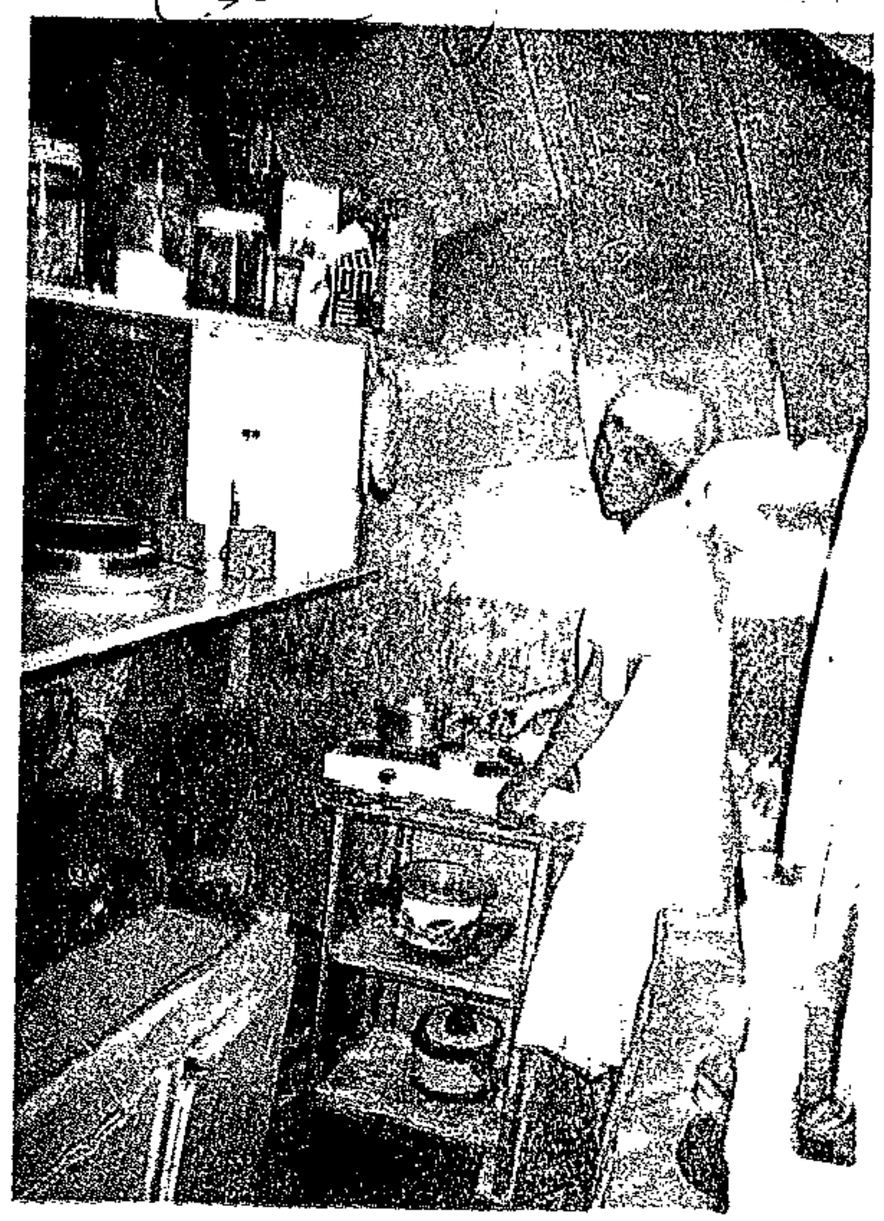
The problem was solved when they bought some builder's plastic sheeting for R15 and constructed a shelter for the night alongside three other derelict shacks.

Today "Die Bos", Somerset West, houses about 80 families.

The Adams' original plastic home has now grown to a kitchen, a living room and a bedroom, and an enclosed yard, all spotless and neat.

A woman full of smiles and obvious quality of character, is the chairman of the Residents' Committee at Die Bos.

But this is not her kind of place, really, she confides.



☐ **ACTIVE INTEREST:** Dinah Adams is a worthy woman who makes the best of what she has.

Dreams of a good family life

NOMALIZO Pikashe lives in a neat log-cabin style house in Waterkloof squatter camp, near Somerset West, on private land of an annoyed farmer.

"The house materials cost R600," she says. "Plus the transport of the stuff." Cardboard lines the interior, and the plank floor is covered with pieces of carpet.

"In winter," says Nomalizo, "we have to keep a fire burning all night — yes, it's dangerous, but it's very cold!" And in summer the little house stews.

Then why do this family choose to live here when they can afford a house in Khayelitsha?

Nomalizo's husband has a good job in a local mechanical firm, and Nomalizo sells sour milk, amasi, and other goods, to supplement family income.

"This is a good place to bring up children — the committee has rules, and stone-throwing and intimidation of people going to school or work is not allowed."

In any case, her husband's work is nearby. And saving f the children's education is mo important than a good house.

Nomalizo will gladly suff the problems caused by lack water, sanitation and electri ity for the dream of a goo family life.

Just her dream for her "oth business" — dressmaking — i stymied.

"If I knew we would not hav to break down and move agai I would get a solar cell to pow er my electric sewing machin and I could do more work. M hand machine is very basic."

Shabby shanty but it's home

BEN OKTOBER'S wood and iron shanty in Sun City squatter camp near Sir Lowry's Pass may not be your average businessman's dream, but it is a home. It is a place to be together with his family.

His hens scratch about near the kitten stalking wisps of imagination. His black dog lifts an eyelid as his crippled master moves about on his crutches near his sunny spot. Ben's eight-year-old son and six-year-old daughter scurry out of the house with a piece of vetkoek in each hand, back to their friends.

At one time, he and his wife lived in a three-roomed (not three bedrooms) house along with 11 other people. Another time, he was chased from his brother-in-law's home on rainy night.

He had to leave the house h got in Grabouw because his dis ability pension, which cover food, clothing, transport an rent, did not pay the rent.

His application for a house i Macassar, made on March 2 1988, has still yielded no abod

Where must a man and hi family live?

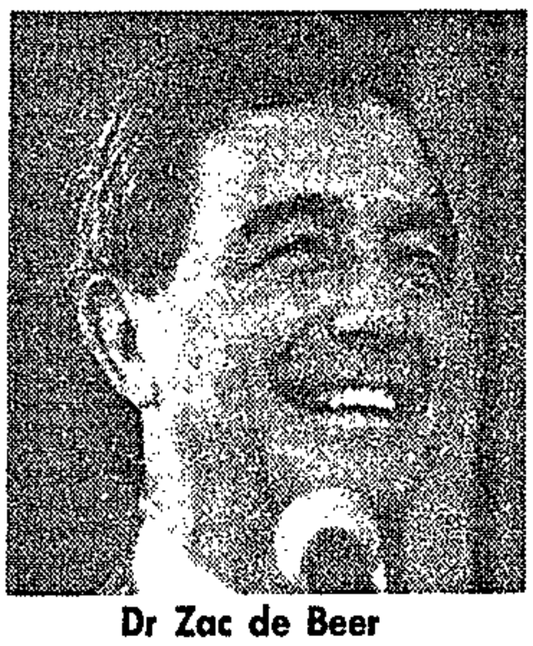
DP slams 'heartless' Mbekweni evictions

ARGUS 4/6/91

307



Mr Jasper Walsh



Dr Zac de Beer

Political Correspondent

GOVERNMENT action against squatters from Paarl's Mbekweni township has been strongly criticised in parliament as "heartless" and "deplorable".

Mr Jasper Walsh, Democratic Party MP for Pinelands, said that while many positive things were happening in the country which the DP supported, there were still certain incidents "that confirm the view that ours is a repressive, heartless State".

"It is in this category that I place events in Mbekweni township outside Paarl last week," he said.

Recounting how photographs depicted "a line of policemen preventing the residents from rescuing their meagre belongings which had been bulldozed into an enormous pile and were being burnt", Mr Walsh said: "Only the heartless would fail to be moved by such a sight."

He added: "The simple fact is that we cannot afford such publicity, and assuming the publicity depicts the facts, we cannot afford to allow such things to happen.

"Legally, the issue appears clear. A group of squatters created their shacks on land not belonging to them without permission. Normally, such actions are illegal and the law takes its course.

"But there are other factors to be taken into account.

"Mbekweni township is grossly overcrowded. About 27 000 people live in 1 317 homes — slightly more than 20 per house. Such conditions are intolerable.

"Squatters do not squat because they like squatting, but because they have no alternative."

However, Mr Walsh said, the government's handling of the Mbekweni affair did not inspire confidence in its ability to meet the challenge of not merely scrapping apartheid, but ensuring the benefits of this were allowed to reach the people.

● DP leader Dr Zac de Beer told parliament yesterday that the only government "which has a chance is one which can command the loyalty of both the economic leaders and of the masses.

"This just has to be a government of national unity".

Everybody in South Africa needed "this alliance of the centre", he said.

Page 2

He said he was told by the police-

Squatters' housing 'is ruled by warlords'

CT 4/6/91

Municipal Reporter

WARLORDS gain control over the land allocation process in almost all squatter areas — and then use this as a lever for political patronage and enrichment, a study on black patterns of movement by UCT's Urban Problems Research Unit has found.

The study said movement within Cape Town was rife as blacks struggled to secure permanent homes.

The main generators of movement were the search for security of tenure, and for a good location in relation to employment opportunities; and flight from "warlording".

Warlording occurs in almost all informal settlements with small groups gaining control over communities and the land allocation process.

This is then used for the purposes of political patronage and financial enrichment.

Struggles break out between groupings either within or outside a given settlement, mostly over allegiances.

A commonly used weapon of struggle is fire, which has devastating consequences in dense informal settlements.

With the majority of the population from Transkei, the study found there was considerable migration between the city and the homeland.

Many women moved to the city to give birth due to deficient medical care in Transkei, while children were sent to school in the homeland.

The researchers say this is because school boycotts often bring the urban education system to a virtual standstill.

A survey last year in Khayelitsha found that 42% of respondents had children attending school outside Cape Town.

Other findings were:

● Two primary reasons for migration to Cape Town are economic and familial. Unemployment in Transkei is higher than in the city. Even those who have jobs there struggle to survive.

Wages as low as R7 a week have been recorded in Transkei, and according to Hostel Dwellers' Association executives, "'salaries" of R40 a fortnight are not unusual.

● A third of respondents in a Khayelitsha survey said they had land in a homeland.

It was common for those blacks who had spare money to invest in assets in the homelands rather than upgrade their living conditions in the city.

● Most bus companies serving the townships and homelands run casual services at least four times a week, and "between 20 and 30 buses may be sent out by a single company on any one, if not all, of these days".

60 000 shacks in Cape Town

By PETER DENNEHY

THERE are more than 60 000 squatter shacks in greater Cape Town, according to a new study by the Urban Problems Research Unit at UCT.

It says the main shack areas are Khayelitsha and Crossroads where there are 58 084 squatter shacks.

The study, Movement Patterns of the African Population in Cape Town, was done by Professor Dave Dewar, Ms Vanessa Watson and Mr Tevia Rosmarin. It shows complex patterns of movement which make it difficult to estimate the total black population.

However, they say the black population of greater Cape Town is about 750 000 — roughly 50% up from the adjusted 1985 census figure of just over 500 000.

In 1990, according to the Human Sciences Research Council, the all-race population of greater Cape Town was 2,6 million.

Estimates of how many blacks



will be in Cape Town by the year 2000 vary from 327 000 (HSRC) to over a million (Metropolitan Transport Planners).

Among the figures given in the UCT study are:

● That the number of free-standing squatter shacks in "peripheral and peri-urban areas" of greater Cape Town (apart from Khayelitsha and Crossroads) is 4 121.

● In Khayelitsha alone, which has a total population of 300 000, there are more than 18 000 shacks in Site B, more than 7 000 in Site C, 3 853 in Green Point, 2 000 in Silvertown and 9 900 in "interspersed areas".

● Crossroads has 6 375 shacks, KTC 5 250, Brown's Farm 1 170, Miller's Camp 1 381 and Tambo Square in Guguletu 480.

● In Hout Bay the numbers of shacks in peripheral areas listed in the study date back to before the Hout Bay squatters moved. The total for Hout Bay was then 380.

● Milnerton has a total of 1 000 shacks, although the source quoted in the study is a newspaper. Noordhoek has over 200, Simon's Town 83, and Kraaifontein 320.

The study notes that there are still vast discrepancies between some official and actual figures.

For example, the official population of the hostels of Lwandle, near Strand, is 2 000, but the actual population, including "illegals", "may be as high a 8 000".

s provisions.

(300 III) GT 12/6/91

Evans: Visit was 'circus'

(307)

JOHANNESBURG. — Australian Foreign Minister Mr Gareth Evans said yesterday that the South African police turned his visit to black squatter camps outside Cape Town into a "circus".

Mr Evans caused a diplomatic storm at the weekend when he allegedly swore at a police officer during a visit to Khayelitsha.

A spokesman for the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said last night that no formal statement would be made on the issue.

Mr Evans denied press reports that he had called one policeman "useless" during the visit on Saturday.



MINISTER ... Mr Gareth Evans

"I had wanted the visit to be as unobtrusive and low-key as possible," he said. It was meant to be only three cars but we ended up with about nine."

Brigadier Leon Mellet, spokesman for the Minister of Law and Order, said last night: "I can't confirm that he made this remark, but if it's true then I would like to congratulate the policemen, who were not switched off by the incident but continued to do their job, as was expected of them." — Own Correspondent and Sapa-Reuter

Squatters outnumbered at Hout Bay service

307

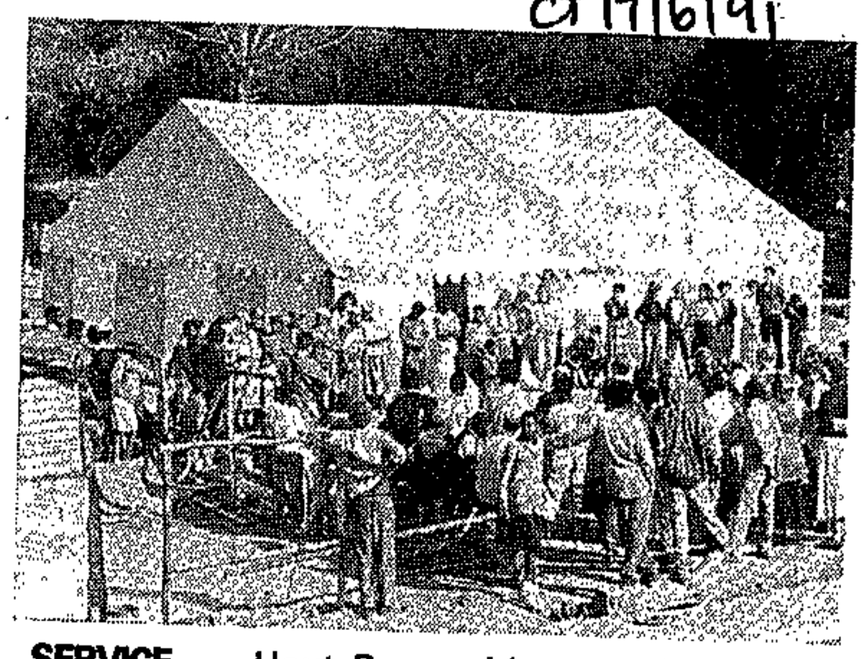
CT 17/6/91

Staff Reporters

WHITE Hout Bay residents outnumbered squatters at an interdenominational church service at the Imizamo Yethu (our efforts) settlement yesterday.

About 150 people from various local congregations gathered for the service yesterday morning at the new squatter camp which houses about 2 000 people.

Squatters dotted the mountainside and watched the worshippers, but later about 15 of them moved closer and accompanied the singing and prayers.



SERVICE ... Hout Bay residents and Imizamo Yethu squatters sing together during an interdenominational service yesterday.

Picture: ALAN TAYLOR

Squatter leader Ms Vanessa Matthews said the service was "to show appreciation for the role played by the churches in our struggles to stay in Hout Bay".

Relations between the squatters and other Hout Bay residents were improving, she said.

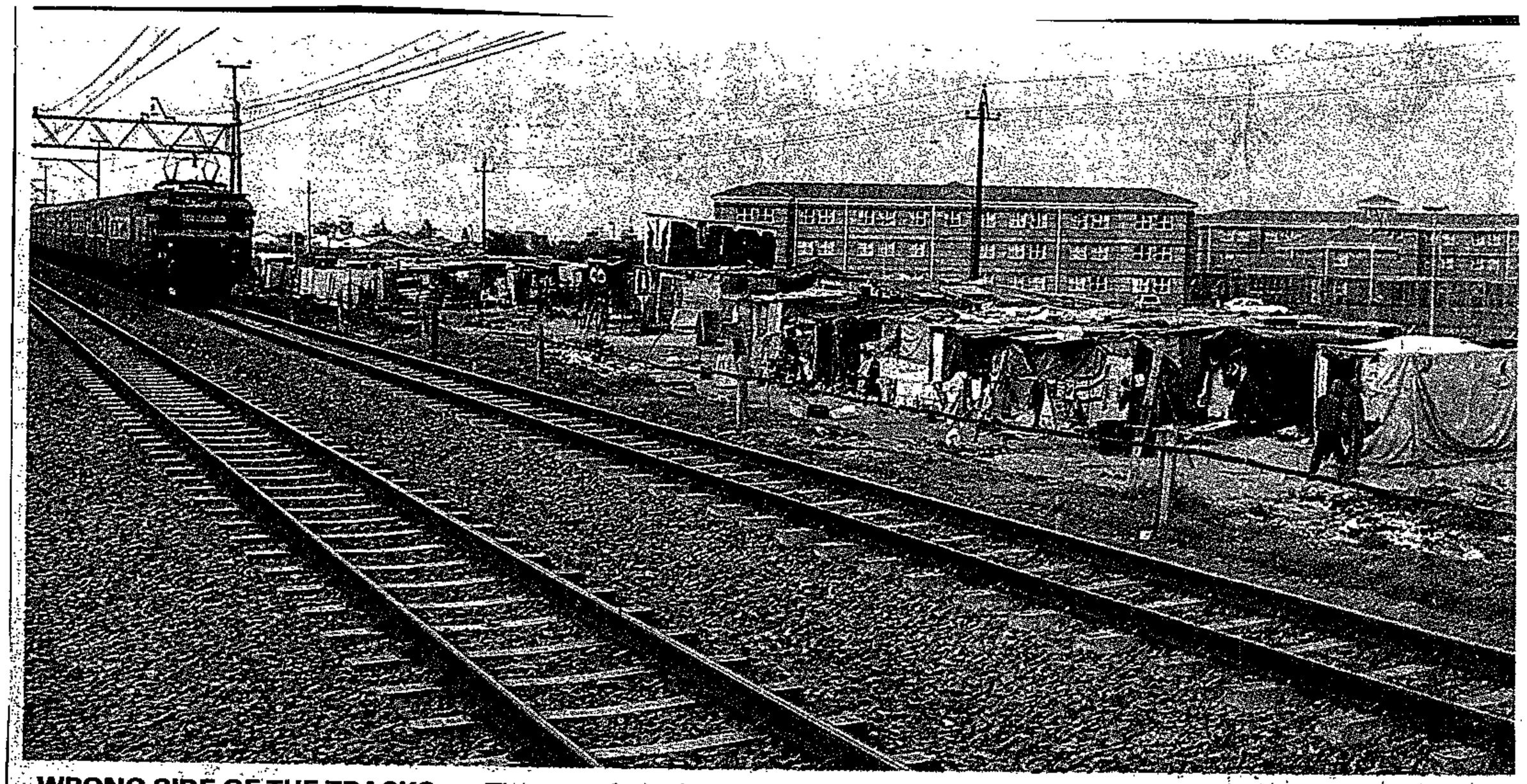
ANC information department head Dr Pallo Jordan told Hout Bay squatters later yesterday that they had won the land the government had granted them, but their struggle was not yet over.

Addressing about 200 of the squatters at a June 16 celebration of the land victory, Dr Jordan said: "Your marches, rallies and campaigning against the government has forced it to give you this land.

"Today we are going to rest as we celebrate getting this land, but tomorrow we must continue with the fight."

Brick houses had been built all over Hout Bay, but the squatters were still in shacks on their land. To continue the struggle for better housing, a constituent assembly leading to a new democratic government was needed, he said.

Community leader Mr Dick Meter said: "When we started to organise the squatters we were losing, but now we are at the half-way station, and we are on a roll to victory."



WRONG SIDE OF THE TRACKS . . . The roar of passing trains has not deterred about 500 squatters who have been living for some time alongside the Eerste River-to-Cape Town railway line, just before Kuils River station. In the background is the Bellville College of Education.

(367) CT 20/6/91

Picture: HAROLD KING

provision of accommodation to general affairs departments by means of erection, purchase or the hire thereof, and the resultant administration of the properties including maintenance. The amount of R1 416 239 000 is subdivided under the heading buildings, structures and equipment into the following sub-aims, and primarily in respect of items (a) to (d) according to the priorities of user departments:

(a)	the erection or purchase of buildings and structures including engineering services;	R408 602 000
(b)	the hiring and adaptation of office accommodation;	R296 348 000
(c)	the hiring of official quarters;	R41 746 000
(d)	maintenance, repair and renovation of buildings and structures;	R237 156 000
(e)	the cleaning of buildings and tending of gardens;	R78 526 000
(f)	payment of municipal services and levies;	R230 000 000
(g)	the day-to-day repair and maintenance of buildings and structures as well as minor works;	R1 000 000
(h)	auxiliary services for attaining the above- mentioned sub-aims including provision of prestige and other furniture;	R4 657 000
(i)	administration cost including the salaries of officials and funds for the appointment of private consultants for the planning of projects.	R118 204 000

Mbekweni: demolition of shacks

444. Mr J J WALSH asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) Whether he ordered the demolition of shacks in Mbekweni near Paarl on or about 29 May 1991; if not, (a) who was responsible for the order, (b) for what reasons was it issued and (c) how many shacks were demolished;

(2) whether the squatters were given the opportunity to retrieve their belongings before their shacks were demolished; if not, why not;

(3) whether members of the South African Police fired teargas at squatters trying to retrieve their belongings; if so, why;

(4) whether these squatters have been offered alternative accommodation; if not, why not; if so, (a) where, (b) when and (c) what is the nature of this accommodation?

B1154E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) No.

(a) The Town Council of Mbekweni, through the Secretary.

(b) The persons squatted illegally on ground which was earmarked for development.

(c) Approximately 50 completed and 60 partially constructed shacks.

(2) Yes.

(3) No, not while they were removing their belongings from the scene. The South African Police did, however, fire teargas when approximately 350 squatters attacked them with stones and petrol-bombs, injuring members of the South African Police and damaging a Police vehicle.

(4) No, all the squatters in question had accommodation in Mbekweni which they vacated so as to squat on the terrain.

(a) to (c) Fall away.

Mzamka case: details of counsel

445. Mr C W EGLIN asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) Whether one of the counsel to whom he referred in his reply to Question No 9 on 28 May 1991 is the same counsel to whom he referred in his reply to Question No 8 on 23 April 1991; if so, (a) what is the name of this counsel, (b) of what Bar is he a member, (c) at what stage of the Mzamka case was he appointed, (d)(i) on whose initiative, (ii) on whose recommendation and (iii) for what reasons was he so appointed, (e)(i) what was the amount of the fee paid to him and (ii) on what basis was the fee calculated and (f) on how many days did he appear in court in the execution of his brief;

(2) whether this counsel received any benefits in the form of (a) housing, (b) transportation and (c) equipment; if so, what was the (i) nature and (ii) value of these benefits;

(3) whether, during the period fo which this counsel was paid the above fee, he acted for the Ministry of Law and Order in respect of any other cases; if so, (a) how many other cases are involved and (b) what total amount was he paid in fees in respect of these cases?

B1153E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) Yes.

(a) Advocate L J L Visser (SC).

(b) The Pretoria Bar.

(c) Approximately a week before the trial started.

(d) (i) to (iii)

As a result of the great public interest of the case, and the enormous magnitude thereof, the Minister decided, after consultation with the Commissioner and the head of the Legal Services of the South African Police, that it was desirable to appoint another senior advocate.

During the preparation for the trial of the Mzamka-case it became clear that the case would take on an enormous magnitude. On these grounds it was decided to appoint a second senior advocate.

(e) (i) Advocate Visser's fees for professional services rendered for the period 15 September 1987 until 5 March 1990 was R1 270 650,00. This figure differs from the totals which were given on a previous occasion because the complete officially approved statements were not available before.

(ii) From 15 September 1987 until and including 1 January 1989 the fee structure was R3 000,00 per day. From 2 January 1989 an adjustment of 15% was made on the fees.

(f) Advocate G D Griessel (SC) who was the leader of the team made a work division. On account of this it was senseless to continually use two senior advocates simultaneously in court and advocate Visser had to, on a daily basis, evaluate previous evidence for the purpose of cross-examination by advocate Griessel.

This method of working made it possible to indicate accurately where and at what moment certain alleged members and vehicles of the South African Police were present. Unfounded allegations by the claimant's witnesses could be eliminated in this way. Advocate Visser did cross-examine single witnesses in court although it was not his work according to the work division.

(2) (a)(i) and (ii)

Yes, he stayed in a flat which was also used as office space for having consultations and computer processing of evidence. This flat was initially rented at R1 100,00 per month till the end of April 1989 after which the costs were increased to R1 400,00 per month. The flat was rented since hotel accommodation and the renting of an office was much more expensive. Advocate Visser initially stayed in a hotel and rented advocates chambers.

(b)(i) and (ii)

Yes, initially for the first three months of the trial a vehicle was rented from a motor rental agency at R2 546,00 per month. These costs were thereafter cut through renting a vehicle from a private instance at R1 500,00 per month.

(c)(i) and (ii)

No, advocate Visser did, however, purchase a facsimile machine, a photostat machine, a computer with a screen and a printer in that period. No costs were recovered from the South African Police for the use of that equipment.

(3) No, Advocate Visser charged no fee for

New sites identified for Milnerton squatters

(3-1)

ET 22/6/91

Staff Reporter

MILNERTON municipality has identified three sites that could become a permanent home for the squatter community presently living in a transit camp.

The transit camp covers eight hectares of land near Montague Gardens.

The situation and extent of the sites will be revealed at a public meeting next Tuesday.

Meanwhile, Table View residents are resisting a suggestion that the squatters be moved two kilometres along Koeberg Road to an area north of the Killarney Hotel.

The residents fear that providing land for squatters will attract a "flood" of homeless people.

Uitsig squatters appeal sentence

Supreme Court Reporter

THE conviction and three-month sentence of nine Uitsig, Stellenbosch, squatters for trespassing on municipal ground was yesterday set aside on appeal in the Supreme Court.

Mr Justice A J Lategan, with Mr Justice L Rose-Innes concurring, found that the state had failed to prove that the Mrs Katrina Pienaar and eight others had unlawfully occupied the land.

There was also no evidence that a group of tent dwellers had not given the squatters permission to live there.

From page 1

Deluge

Trains were also delayed when a farm dam wall burst and flooded the Muldersvlei railway. The line between Mbekweni and Dal Josafat stations was also flooded, said Miss Olwage.

In Vredehoek, where overflowing mountain streams had washed sludge down Devil's Peak, council workers used front-end loaders and trucks to clear Derry, Chelmsford, Aloe and Belladonna roads.

A spokesman for City Tramways said buses were diverted from Foreshore routes yesterday morning because of fears that the strong winds would blow them over.

Regional Services Council spokesman Mr Fred Mostert said there had been rockfalls and mudslides on the Noordhoek side of Chapman's Peak but the road had not been closed.

Part of the Rondebosch golf course was under water yesterday after the Vygieskraal River burst its banks.

One house and a cricket field were flooded in Boshof Avenue, Fernwood Estate, Newlands.

Traffic in Claremont was severely disrupted during the morning peak period due to "ponding" at the intersection of Edinburgh Drive and Paradise Road.

A spokesman for the D F Malan weather bureau said Kirstenbosch had the highest rainfall in the 24 hours ending at 8am yesterday, with 209mm.

Newlands recorded 208mm and Groote Schuur 109mm, the airport 42mm, Franschhoek 88mm, Paarl 120mm, Stellenbosch 57mm, Simon's Town 74mm, Cape Aghulhas 37mm and Somerset West 60mm.

l swamps city

Under water

THE deluge of the past wo days has turned Khayelitsha into a virtual swamp, flooding 500 shacks and marooning nore than 1 000 people.

The township was hardest hit a a day when heavy rain disupted the lives of thousands roughout the Peninsula and /estern Cape.

In Khayelitsha much of the ackbreaking work in restoring ome order in the squatter acks of Sites B and C was left the women and children as ost of the men had gone to ork.

A Cape Times team visited the ea yesterday and saw scenes chaos and devastation.

In Site C a woman pleaded for lp as she removed barrow ads of sand from her shack. eporters and photographers tched in to help.

Close by a mother carrying an -month-old baby on her back iled to clear her flooded ack. The baby slipped from r back and fell into the flood water before she was able to catch the child. The baby was pulled out frightened but unhurt.

Everywhere women frantically dug trenches around their homes as the light faded and fears of another downpour mounted.

Mr Graham Lawrence, the town clerk of Lingelethu West, under which Khayelitsha falls, said council workers were helping residents but were fighting a losing battle against the flooding.

Swept away

In the Boland a bridge was washed away and in the Peninsula and on the Cape Flats trains were delayed and traffic disrupted as heavy rain and strong winds continued.

But after the damage of the past few days the weather will clear today, says the weather bureau.

Yesterday the flooding Berg River swept away a 20-metre section of the bridge on the main Franschhoek-Paarl road about 8am, forcing motorists to divert by nearly 30km to reach the Peninsula road network.

Western Cape District Road engineer Mr Clyde Barnes said the possibility of temporarily repairing the bridge was being investigated. But constructing a permanent structure would take about three years and could cost R3,5 to R5 million, he said.

On Table Mountain, the Hely Hutchinson dam, which was 70% full last week, was overflowing.

The Wemmershoek Dam has increased its capacity from 41,8% to 57%, the Voëlvlei from 55,2% to 57,3% and the Steenbras Lower Dam from 50,3% to 54,2% over the past week.

Cape Town train services were severely disrupted when water flooded railway lines, causing a breakdown in electronic signals.

Spoornet spokesman Miss Yvette Olwage said peak-hour trains were delayed for 100 minutes on the Khayelitsha line, for about 40 minutes on the Bellville line and between 10 to 20 minutes on the Cape Flats and Simon's Town lines yesterday

To page 5

Battle for control of Crossroads

South 27/6 - 3/7/91. (307)

By Rehana Rossouw

TENSIONS are mounting between residents in Crossroads amid claims that attempts are being made by community councillors to reinstate ousted squatter leader Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana.

In the past week, shacks and houses in the area have been burnt and residents attacked by panga-wielding groups in the struggle for control of the area.

Although both groups involved are ANC supportive, it appears that the tensions have arisen around the struggle for housing in the area and not political differences.

Central to the dispute are the chairperson of the 5 000 member-strong ANC branch Mr Jeffrey Nongwe and members of the ANC Youth League who say they have been driven from the area by Nongwe.

Defied

However, Nongwe said the Youth League only represented young people in the Nyati housing scheme and not those in the squatter camp.

He said he had blocked squatters from moving into Phase Two because the houses were not suitable for them to live in and needed to be improved.

However, some squatters moved into the houses. Since then, the Youth League claimed, they have been harassed by Nongwe's supporters.

"Our homes have been burnt down, our members have been axed and we are now in hiding," said Mr Loyiso Tyalimpi, secretary of the Youth League.

Nongwe denied that the Youth League members were part of his ANC branch.

He claimed they were linked to community councillors who were attempting to reinstate Ngxobongwana as a leader in Crossroads.

The Nyati youth, he claimed, were trained by councillors and the police, and were given police protection when they attacked his supporters.

This claim has been backed by Democratic Party MP Mr Jan van Eck who said he had affidavits from residents who claimed the police backed the Nyati residents during fighting between the two groups.

This claim was denied by the police.

Nongwe denied that his supporters had attacked the Nyati youth. "They are the fighters," he said.

He showed SOUTH two of "his" Youth League members who had been allegedly attacked by Nyati youth members.

However, the Nyati group also produced members who claimed they were injured during attacks from Nongwe's supporters. One of them has lost the use of two fingers after being slashed with pangas by a crowd of 20 men.

"If these people are real members of the ANC, why don't they contact the national office to make a real complaint about me?" Nongwe asked.

"Yesterday, while I was walking near their area with Mr van Eck they jeered and swore at me," he said.

"But the real Youth League, the members who live in the squatter section, are giving us no trouble."

Tyalimpi said the conflict between the Youth League and Nongwe stemmed from the system of "headmanship" in Crossroads.

They claimed Nongwe was as much disliked as Ngxobongwana, whom he had driven out of Crossroads.

"The way he was elected chairperson of the Crossroads ANC branch was undemocratic — only the headmen could decide, not the rank and file members," Tyalimpi said.

"Since the launch of the branch in June last year there have been no branch meetings.

"Nongwe wanted his position for the power it brings him — he regards himself as the landlord of Crossroads.

"He makes the decisions and no-one is allowed to oppose him."

Nongwe denied this claim. He said his ANC branch has held numerous meetings since its launch, some attended by more than a 1000 people.

"Our ANC branch is very democratic. We have thousands of people at our meetings and everyone is allowed to vote on every issue," he said.

Tyalimpi said Nongwe had not delivered on the promises he made to Crossroads residents.

Nongwe said he was prepared to make peace with the Nyati youth if they apologised for their actions.

"I will even speak to Ngxobongwana if he gets rid of the councillors he is connected with," he said.

"What we want in Crossroads is peace".



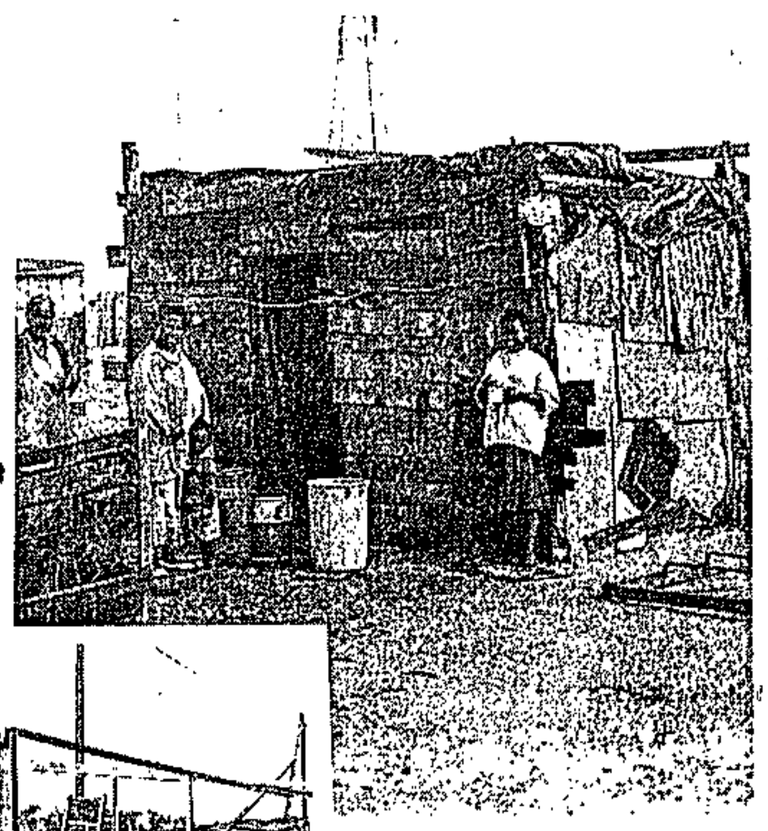
CROSSROADS VICTIM: Youth League member Sibongile Rala has lost the use of two fingers after allegedly being assaulted with a Panga during an attack at the squatter camp

Cape Town's homeless find haven in Philippi

(307) ARGUS 27/6/91

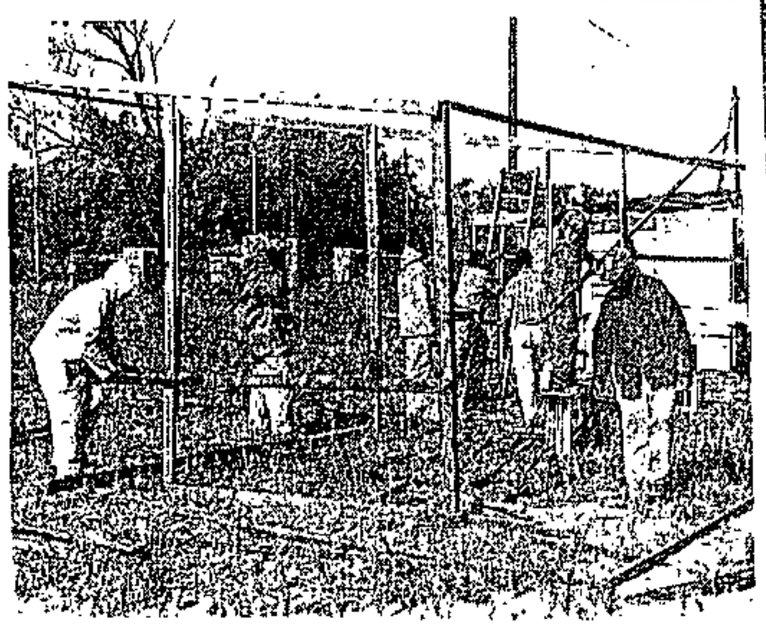


ABOVE: A family guard their worldly goods while waiting for their shack to be erected.



RIGHT: Brown's Farm has provided a safe haven for these squatters from Miller's Camp.

BOTTOM: Shack dwellers erect their homes in a site-and-service area at Brown's Farm.



Pictures. WILLIE de KLERK, The Argus

By HANS-PETER BAKKER, Staff Reporter

CONDITIONS that would make some people give up on life itself make others weep with joy. In the miserable Cape Town winter weather, hundreds of former squatters are being transported to sites at Brown's Farm, Philippi.

About 3 000 sites, each about 200sq m large and boasting a cement cubicle with a flush toilet and a single tap, have been made available for the homeless people.

About 20 families are moved from squatter sites in Miller's Camp and Nyanga Bush every day, and to date more than 200 shacks have already been moved to the new sites.

For years they have been hounded as illegal residents of Cape Town, caught between police and local authorities on the one hand and township warlords on the other.

Now, after months of negotiations and with the co-operation of the Ikapa Town Council, the Cape Provincial Administration, community organisations and the people themselves, they have found what may become a permanent home.

Mr Isaac Johnson, of the Masiphatisane Development Centre, said the families could obtain a 99-year lease on the properties for R2,60 a square metre. An average site could become the property of a family for 99 years at a cost of R520, payable over six months.

On arrival at the new sites, Ikapa Town Council officials mark the site and inspect the toilets and water supply before the piles of carefully collected "building materials" are unloaded.

Groups of men go to work erecting dwellings. If they have not completed their task by the end of the day they can stay in tents provided for them by the CPA.

One of the community leaders, Mr John Njwele, said the people were "very happy" at being given the opportunity to belong somewhere and to rid themselves of the "rentlords".

But their problems are not over: their shacks of plastic and boards are not fit for the Cape winter weather, their children are in desperate need of pre-school care, and, although some of them may soon become limited "landowners", they will continue to be poor.

A residents' leader, Ms Sindi Swa, said: "The little children are walking the streets of this new area, they don't know the place and most of the mothers are away at work all day."

She said the "most urgent need" of the people was for a pre-school centre.

Mr Njwele said the possessions of the many of the families had been damaged in the move and that they needed clothes and blankets to survive the winter weather.

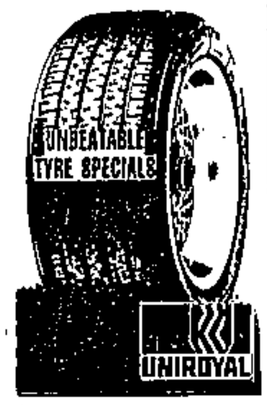
Ms Swa also called on "rich people" to help them settle and to offer food and building equipment to the people. "We don't want charity, we are willing to buy it for reduced prices," she said.



HOUSEWIFE'S CHORES: Mrs Cynthia Nkazo, formerly of Nyanga Bush, hangs out her washing. She now has a permanent place for her family at Brown's Farm.

ATS TYRE CENTRE

SOLE AGENTS FOR SA



GRAND OPENING

OF OUR

MAITLAND STORE

255 VOORTREKKER ROAD, MAITLAND

Town planners looking at Milnerton sites for squatters

(307) ARGUS 20/4/91

By LINDA GALLOWAY
Staff Reporter

TOWN planners are looking at "several possible sites" in Milnerton to which the temporarily housed Montague Gardens squatters will be moved, according to the mayor, Mr Willem van Staden.

He said rumours that a decision had been taken on moving them 2 km along Koeberg Road, to an area north of the Killarney Hotel, were not true.

The matter had been discussed with the Administrator but had not yet come before council "and in any case we can't take any decision without talking to all the people involved", he said.

But Table View ratepayers reacted to the rumours by making representations to the MP for the area and Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry Mr Gert Kotze.

Mr Kotze confirmed that he was "aware of certain intentions to move the informal settlement at Montague Gardens to an area inside his constituency north of the Killarney Hotel between the N7 and Koeberg Road".

Residents of Table View had indicated unhappiness with the proposed move and called on the minister to oppose the relocation. Mr Kotze said he was "considering the matter".

Mr Van Staden said he had not discussed the matter with any of the three MPs whose constituencies made up Milnerton, but had "heard rumours that certain ministers have given undertakings to their voters" that no squatters would be allowed in their area.

The squatters are at present in the Maitland constituency of Mr Louis Pienaar, Minister of Environment Affairs.

Mr Van Staden said: "We have a municipality to run and we work as a council, not politicians. We are not involved in any undertakings to voters, we must look at the good of Milnerton ratepayers as a whole."

Milnerton open about squatters

307 ET 2/7/91

Municipal Reporter

MILNERTON municipality seems ready to keep the public informed about the choice of land for its squatters.

It has invited the press to a presentation on possible sites for informal settlement.

The meeting, on July 23 at 5.30pm in the Milnerton library's lecture theatre, is not open to members of the public, but representatives of various organisations, interest groups and the press have been invited.

In other areas where land has been allocated to squatters there has been criticism about the procedure followed. Aggrieved residents in Hout Bay and Noordhoek complained that they had not been properly consulted.

There was a long and involved consultation procedure with interest groups before land in both those areas was allocated, but the press was excluded from most of this before the final decisions were taken.

The government and all local authorities in the Peninsula decided secretly as long ago as 1988 to make land available to squatters, and drew up reports identifying which land might be suitable.



STAND-IN? . . . Villagers from Casablanca wanted to sit-in at the municipal offices in Strand, but were not granted access to the building.

Residents angry at Strand village conditions

(307) CT 4/7/91

Municipal Reporter

RESIDENTS of Casablanca village — a semi-formal settlement outside Strand — protested outside the Strand municipal offices yesterday over living conditions.

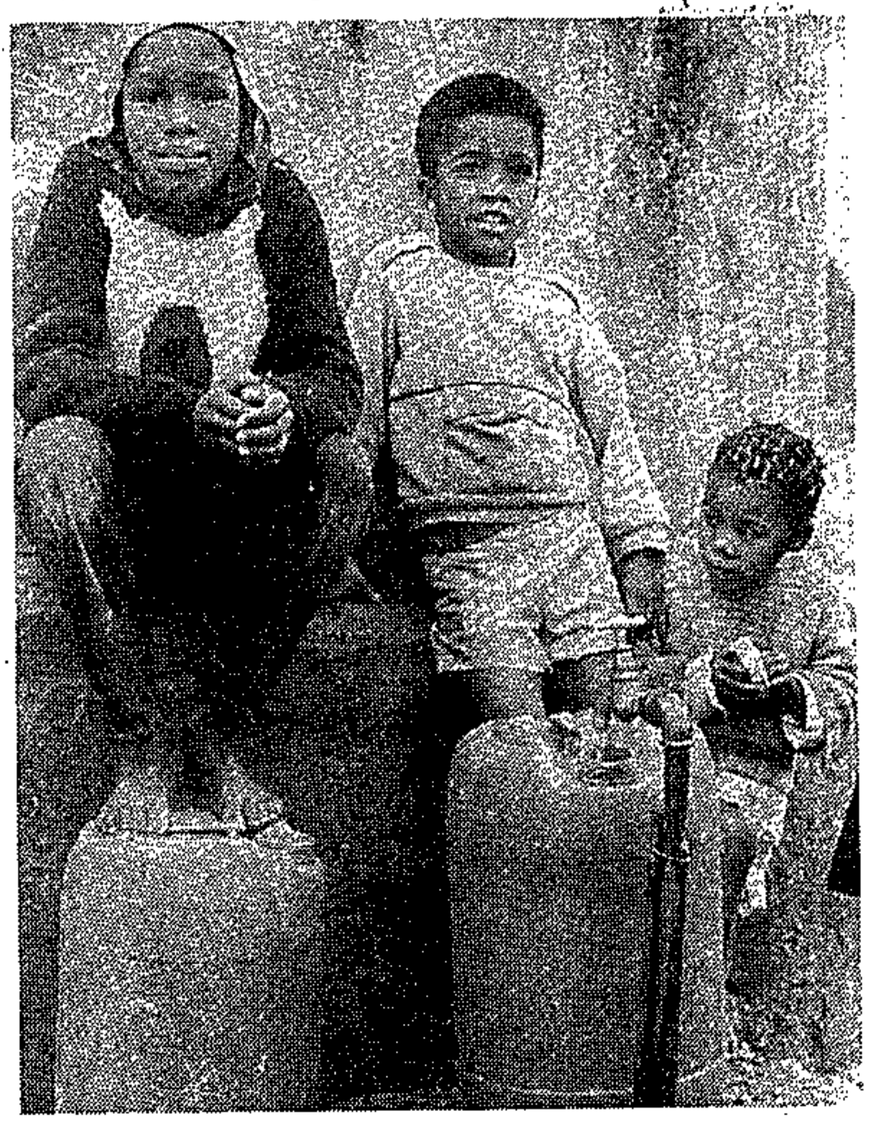
Ms Miriam Adams, a spokeswoman for the Strand Community Action Committee, said children queued for hours every day at the single tap that served the 400-family village.

There were also complaints about mud all over the village, she added.

Yesterday the protesters were frustrated in their attempt to hold a sit-in at the municipal offices when only two of them were allowed in.

Strand town clerk Mr C Groenewald said municipal security men were keeping the protesters out, with the assistance of police who had arrived of their own accord.

"I explained to the people twice this week that Casablanca is on private land, so we can't provide services there unless the owner applies for them.



WATER QUEUE . . . As rain poured down yesterday, muddied youngsters from Casablanca village outside Strand queued as usual at the communal tap. On the left is Vernon Matroos, beside him is Riaan Brits, and the little girl is Christelene Witbooi.

Picture: HAROLD KING

"We have spoken to the owner's agent, and three applications for extra water connections and meters came in to us at lunchtime today.

"All we can do is provide the meters and connections, and these will be in place by Monday. We understand that the owner will provide taps."

Regarding the muddy conditions, Mr Groenewald said there was not much the municipality could do on private land.

"The weather is causing the problem."

Vlok denies police order on squatters

(307)

CT 13/7/91

Political Correspondent

THE police did not order the demolition of about 110 squatter shacks in Mbekweni near Paarl at the end of May, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said yesterday.

The town council of Mbekweni had ordered the action because the illegal squatting was on ground earmarked for development.

Replying to a question for written reply from Mr Jasper Walsh (DP Pinelands), Mr Vlok said the police did not fire teargas at the squatters while they were removing their belongings from the scene.

The police had, however, fired teargas when "approximately 350 squatters attacked them".

esday, July 16 1991

New crackdown on squatting

CT 16/7/91

307

By ANTHONY JOHNSON
Political Correspondent

IN a major new crackdown on illegal squatting, the government has announced the immediate formation of a countrywide network of "hut squads" and a 24-hour hotline to assist rapid response units to nip fresh squatter settlements in the bud.

The government yesterday also urged the general public to look out for emergent settlements and "to report any obviously illegal structures immediately to ensure that new squatting can be prevented in time".

In the Cape the MEC responsible for urbanisation and squatters, Mr. Koos Theron, said: "These uncontrolled illegal activities will no longer be permitted." The Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act would be implemented.

The moves were immediately condemned by the ANC, which predicted they would "give further impetus to right-wing thuggery and encourage a national campaign of snooping by racists on the homeless".

Powers

ANC spokesman Mr Carl Niehaus said: "We totally reject this kind of action which will have the effect of criminalising citizens who are homeless largely because of the government's apartheid policies and economic mismanagement."

Mr Theron said in his statement yesterday that "some" landowners, who were primarily responsible for preventing the illegal building of structures on their land, "are obviously or otherwise allowing squatting on their properties".

The staff of the countrywide network of "squatter support units" being set up by the gevernnment will be vested with the power to enter private land and institute legal proceedings.

The telephone numbers for the squatter units in the Cape are: Western Cape (021) 591-2136; Eastern Cape (041) 390-911; Southern Cape (0441) 74-4489; Central Cape (0443) 29-2130; and Northern Cape (0531) 3-2711.

The authorities have also decided to lay on after-hours numbers: Western, Southern and Central Cape (021) 591-2136; Eastern Cape (041) 390-2222; Northern Cape (0531) 3-2711.

Mr Theron said that any local authority or office of the SA Police could also be contacted to investigate complaints about squatting.

Policemen pelted at camp

307

ET 15/7/91

Staff Reporter

SQUATTERS pelted policemen with stones a number of times at the Imizamo Yethu settlement in Hout Bay on Friday, following a police raid on an illegal shebeen at the camp.

Police spokeman Major Gys Boonzaaier said police raided the shebeen about 2.30pm on Friday. They confiscated a large amount of liquor and arrested Ms Veronica Finca, 35.

Ms Finca was later released on bail of R100.

While police were loading the liquor into their vehicles, however, stones were thrown at them.

About 4pm a foot patrol in the settlement was also attacked by stone-throwers, Major Boonzaaier said.

'Hut squads' to crack down on illegal squatter camps

CAPE TOWN — In a major crackdown on illegal squatting, government has announced the immediate formation of a countrywide network of "hut squads" and a 24-hour hotline to assist rapid response units to nip squatter settlements in the bud.

Government yesterday also urged people to look out for emerging settlements and "to report any obviously illegal structures immediately to ensure that new squatting can be prevented in time".

The latest get-tough approach on the squatting problem will be aimed at squatters and landowners alike.

Announcing the Cape leg of the national initiative, MEC for urbanisation and squatters Koos Theron said: "These uncontrolled illegal activities will no longer be permitted.

"Steps will be taken in future to prevent illegal actions in terms of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act."

The moves were immediately condemned by the ANC, which predicted they would "give further impetus to right-wing thuggery and encourage a national campaign of snooping by racists on the homeless".

Political Staff

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Theron said in his statement yesterday that the rights of landowners had increasingly been violated by squatters.

But he added that "some" landowners, who were responsible for preventing illegal building structures on their land and "obviously or otherwise allowing squatting on their properties."

In order to prevent and counter such trends, government had decided to institute immediately "squatting support units" at all provincial regional offices.

These units would provide "advice, support and guidance" to local authorities, land-owners and "anyone else" to counter illegal squatting.

The staff at the units would be vested with the power to enter private land and institute legal proceedings.

DP calls for affirmative action for women

THE DP would adopt a programme of "affirmative action" or positive discrimination for women if it came into power, according to a discussion paper released yesterday.

The paper, compiled by a group of largely women DP members, calls for a future government to embrace the UN Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against women.

The convention advocates affirmative action "as a temporary measure" to correct discrimination against women.

DARIUS SANAI

The paper calls either for a women's ministry or a women's desk to be set up in each government department. Women would also have to protected from marital rape.

DP spokesman James Selfe said yesterday the paper would be discussed further before being presented to the party's national conference.

He said some of the proposals could change "quite a lot" before the conference, but that most of them were in line with thinking among rank-and-file party members.

The paper says that white, coloured and Indian women suffer less of a disadvantage than black women in SA, but that all women suffer from a societal imbalance that can be corrected by temporary affirmative action.

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sses the problems now ... time ...

Squatter huts row brews

CT 17/7/91.

307

By PETER DENNEHY and RAMOTENA MABOTE

WESTERN Cape United Civics chairman Mr Wilson Sidina warned provincial MEC Mr Koos Theron yesterday that civic organisations would defend squatters against his "hut squad", which aims to halt the erection of new shacks.

Meanwhile, three petrol bombs were thrown at the offices of the Hout Bay squatter camp control office at 1.30am on Monday.

Only one caught alight and slightly burned the outside of the office. Two other petrol-filled bottles came through the window but did not explode.

Camp manager Mr E F van Jaarsveld, an official of the Department of Local Government Housing and Works, said his office had to ensure that no unauthorised shacks are added to the 417 existing ones at Imizamo Yethu camp.

His control office is not part of the countrywide "hut squad" network, despite its similar tasks.

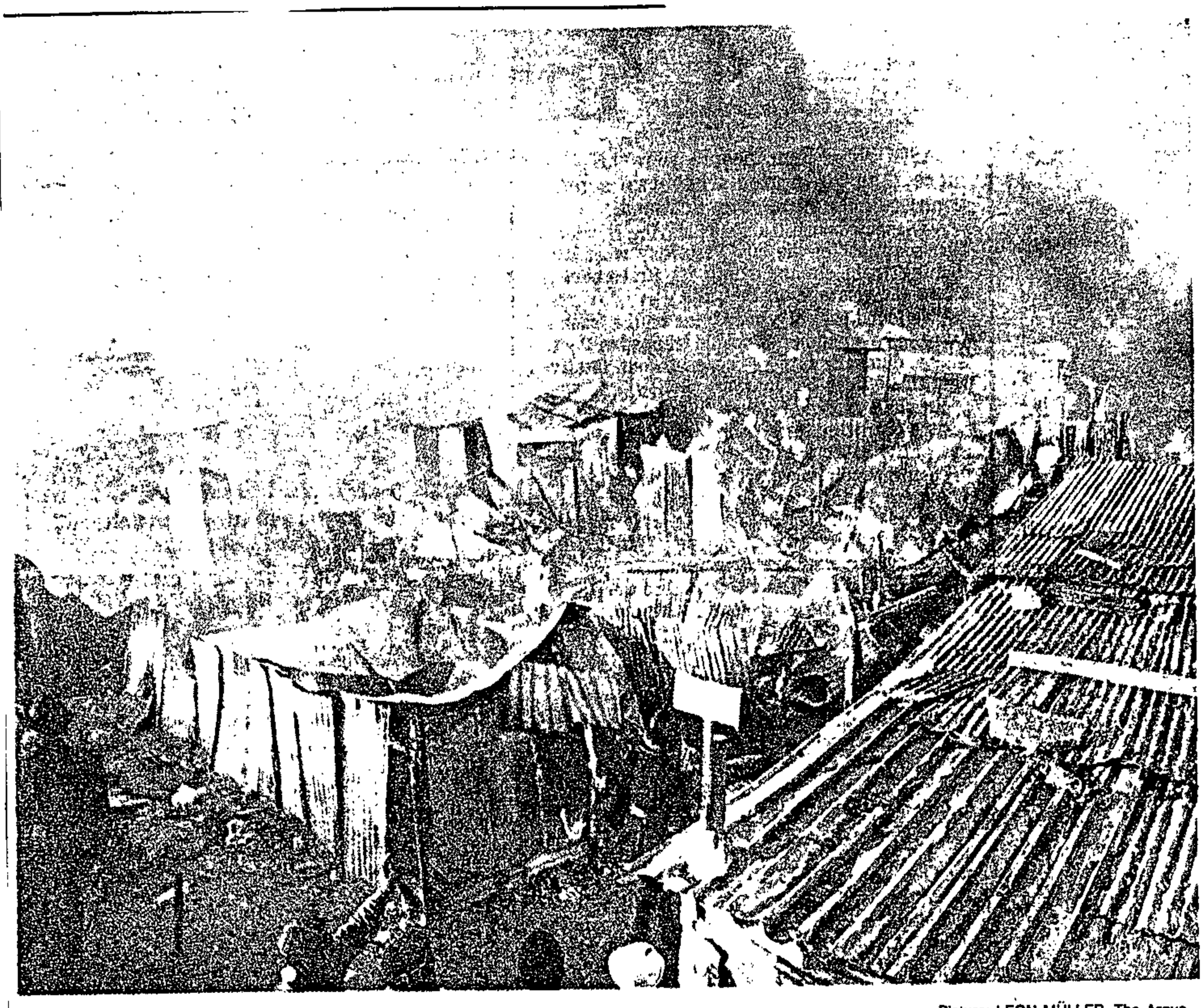
Hout Bay squatter camp committee members Mr Solly Makoba and Mrs Ethelina Nkume said they did not know why the office had been petrol-bombed, or who had done it. Yet they said there was discontent in the camp over the prohibition on new shacks.

Mr Makoba said there seemed to be land available for expansion, and some of the shacks were very crowded, with 10 or more people living in them.

Mr Sidina, who is also a member of the Western Cape Civic Association executive, said Mr Theron might "burn his fingers" if he proceeded with his hut squad plans.

"We cannot stand aloof while he tries to give the right wing the ability to hurt our people. We will defend them with all the means at our disposal. If the authorities want to do something about squatters, they must first consult the relevant people. They are dealing with human beings here, not animals."

DP MP Mr Jan van Eck said yesterday that instead of returning to the "kragdadige" days of Mr P W Botha, the government should address the causes of illegal squatting — including its own unwillingness to identify suitable housing land in every town and village.



Picture: LEON MÜLLER, The Argus.

SHACK FIRE: Smoke rises from several burning shacks at the sprawling shantytown at New Crossroads near Philippi yesterday afternoon. Members of the Cape Town fire brigade battled for 30 minutes to put out the blaze. No one was injured.

ARGUS 22/7/91

35 die in fires, accidents, assaults

Staff Reporter

THIRTY-FIVE people died violently in the Peninsula at the weekend in shack fires, accidents, assaults and shooting incidents.

Two men died last night when their hut near Koeberg Road, Milnerton, was turned into an inferno by a brazier which fell over.

The blaze spread to four other shacks before it was put out by the Milnerton fire brigade about 9pm.

Another fire swept through several shacks at New Crossroads yesterday afternoon before staff of the Cape Town Fire Brigade brought the flames under control. No one was injured

Twelve pedestrians died in road accidents and a young woman was struck and killed by a train.

Eighteen men died in alleged assaults and two died from gunshot wounds in Cape Flats townships.

A man was shot dead near Boys' Town, Nyanga, and another man was found with 16 bullet wounds at Khayelitsha. Police are investigating.

● In the 24-hour unrest report, Sapa reports from Pretoria that police found the bodies of two black men and two black women with bullet wounds and a wounded child at Table Mountain, Maritzburg,.

At Sebokeng township, Vereeniging, three policemen were slightly injured when a group of blacks threw stones at the dwelling of a policeman.

An explosive device detonated at Hillview High School, Pretoria, yesterday. No injuries were reported. Police are investigating.

At Seeisoville Stadium, in Maokeng township, near Kroonstad, six people were arrested during an illegal gathering.

Four squatters die in Peninsula shack fires

(307)

Staff Reporter CT 23/7/91

FOUR people have died in shack fires in the Peninsula since Sunday, police said yesterday.

Spokesman Major Jan Calitz said a hut was destroyed in a fire in Old Crossroads on Sunday afternoon, after a child knocked over a stove. Nobody was hurt.

Two men died in a fire at the Plastic City squatter camp in Milnerton on Sunday night.

Early yesterday, a paraffin stove in a shack in Crossroads was knocked over and set the shack alight. Two people died and another was injured in the fire, Major Calitz said.



HOMELESS . . . At the ruins of their home are Mr Patrick Sotyalike, his wife Thelma and their son Mzovuyo, who was injured in the blaze. Picture: RICHARD BELL

807 CT 23/1/91

Boland squatter families burnt out

ABOUT 37 squatter families have been left homeless after a devastating fire swept through the Waterworks squatter camp in Grabouw at the weekend.

The 37 shacks were completely destroyed in the fire, which started at 2am on Sunday, said community worker Mr Clinton Bron.

The families were yesterday given shelter in the Gerald Wright Memorial Hall in the Pineview township, where the SA Red Cross gave them blankets and food.

"The spot where the shacks stood is a mass of burnt-out wood, iron and mattresses. Some people were able to save the mattresses but they lost everything else," said Mr Bron.

The cause of the fire was not yet known, he said.

Mr Bron said the families were among a group of 200 families who had settled in Grabouw about a year ago. Many were migrant labourers and farm workers who had been evicted from farms in the area.

Hundreds homeless after fires

307

Sowetan 24/7/91

HUNDREDS of people were left homeless yesterday after arsonists torched 40 shacks in Crossroads, Cape Town, following a clash between rival teenage factions.

In another area of the township, two people were burned to death when several shacks caught fire after a paraffin stove overturned.

Twenty firemen battled for more than three hours to control the fire on Monday night, but the homes of many families were reduced to smoking ruins.

Many people, including small children, were huddled in the open with no shelter when the cold front struck the Peninsula yesterday, bringing with it high winds and rain.

Police said that about 4.40pm on Monday an unidentified man was shot and wounded in the township.

Soon thereafter 150 teenagers from rival groups at Boys Town clashed.

The youths were armed with sticks and sharp weapons. They were dispersed by a police unrest unit.

About 8.30pm the first shacks in the township were set alight.

Residents terrified

Firemen in three fire engines, accompanied by a water tender and a police escort, were sent to the area.

Terrified residents hastily evacuated the area. Soon afterwards about 40 shacks were ablaze.

About 3.40am yesterday firemen were again called out to put out a fire at Boys Town after a shack was torched. - *Sowetan Correspondent.*

Shacks destroyed by fire

TWO shacks were destroyed by fire in continuing violence in Peninsula townships, a police spokesman said yesterday.

The spokesman said that about 1am yesterday, a shack in Site B, Khayelitsha, was destroyed when it was petrol-bombed by unknown people.

He said that about 4.10am on Tuesday morning, a shack situated along Klipfontein Road in Old Crossroads was destroyed by fire. It is not known how the fire was caused and no one was injured in any of the incidents.

A taxi was set alight and extensively damaged in Gugulethu, the daily police report said yesterday.

A group of blacks threw stones at buses and set a bus alight at Embalanwe, Langverwacht, the report said.

At Duduza, Nigel, a group of blacks gathered illegally. Police warned the group to disperse. They started throwing stones at members of the police. Police fired a number of rounds, wounding a black man and a woman. Seven black men were arrested. At Grabouw, Western Cape, 16 people were arrested after refusing to leave the municipal building, where they had gathered for a meeting.

A man was shot dead and two others were wounded when commuters were attacked while boarding a bus at Maqongqo in Table Mountain near Maritzburg on Monday morning.

Police spokesman Lieutenant Henry Budhram said seven armed men fired at commuters.

● A Maritzburg inquest court on Tuesday held an in loco inspection at KwaShange, where the hacked bodies of 16 Inkatha supporters and one ANC member were found after an alleged bus attack in February.

● The Black Sash Repression Monitoring Group yesterday reported 31 people killed in political fighting in the Natal Coastal region during the first half of July and said allegations of security force provocation in the violence was increasing.

In a bulletin this week, the RMG said: "More allegations of security forces playing a provocative role in the violence have been made by ANC supporters, IFP supporters and unrest monitors."

The bulletin cites several cases where the security forces had been implicated in violence in some way between July 1 and 15 in the Natal Coastal region. — Staff Reporter, Sapa

Angry man and Labour Party neighbours

South 25/7 - 31/7/91

Labour Party ovo

Angry man and neighbours

Labour Party man and neighbours

Labour Party man and neighbour squatters

Labour Party neighbour squatters

By Thoraya Pandy

THE chairperson of the Manenberg branch of the Labour Party, Mr Yusuf Sampson, is concerned that the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA) did not consult his party on the decision to grant land in the area to "such a large number" of African squatters.

The CPA has allotted an open field bordering Manenberg and Guguletu to squatters presently living at Tambo Square in Guguletu.

"The cultural differences between coloured and Africans are too great for us to work together," said Sampson, who also serves on the Athlone District Management Committee

The Management Committee circulated a petition objecting to the squatters being given land that Manenberg residents needed for housing.

The petition, with 900 signatures, was sent to the CPA.

Upsetting

Sampson said he met with the Administrator of the Cape, Mr Kobus Meiring, three times to discuss the matter.

"It is upsetting because there are about 2 000 people on a housing waiting list in Manenberg. The land should be used to build houses for them."

A spokesperson for the CPA , Mr Van Heerden Heunis, confirmed that the meetings had taken place and the petition was received.

Heunis said the land fell within the legal jurisdiction of the Ikapa Town Council and if any land was vacant after the squatters moved in, it would be made available to the backyard dwellers in Ikapa.

SOUTH interviewed residents living near the site and found that most were in favour of the move.

Mr G Jacobs said: "I have no problem with Africans staying here. Everyone should have a house and live where they feel."

Another resident, Mrs M Menton, said she would have a problem if the squatters lived in shacks and not houses, but in principle had no problem with the move.

Dissatisfaction

Mrs K Adonis, who expressed dissatisfaction with the move, said: "The Tambo Square people should not stay here, facilities should be provided for the people of Manenberg on the land. They can get land somewhere else."

Meanwhile, the Manenberg Civic Association has start an awareness campaign informing and preparing residents in the area for the move.

"The response from the community was relatively positive and most people do not have a problem with the move," a spokesperson said.

The civic association had given its full support to the squatters and would assist them in any way possible.

A creche in Tambo Square which was recently built by the Women's League of Tambo Square and Wynberg will have to be broken down when the squatters are relocated.

Question of squatters unanswered

307
CT 25/7/91

Staff Reporter

THE question of accommodation of squatters in Milnerton remains unanswered after the presentation of a report to interested parties at a closed meeting on Tuesday night.

The report, commissioned by the Milnerton municipality in November last year, investigated 21 possible sites to house squatters now residing on Post Office land near Montague Gardens. Of the possible sites, four were identified by the surveyors as having priority.

The meeting, attended by various affected ratepayers' and industrial associations, the Milnerton Action Group, the Cape Provincial Administration, the Western Cape Regional Servces Council, squatter representatives and support groups such as the Development Action Group and the Surplus People Project, was called to present the report's findings and invite written observations.

The ratepayers' associations, including Milnerton, Bothasig, Richwood and Table View, expressed opposition at the meeting to squatters being housed close to established suburbs.

The squatters rejected the report's findings, saying they preferred to stay on the Post Office land because it was close to their workplaces.

The Milnerton municipality has, however, indicated that it is opposed to the squatters staying on the Post Office land, which was declared a temporary transit area in November last year in terms of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act.

Milnerton mayor Mr Willem van Staden said at the meeting that this was done "to bring about some order and control, as well as to enable (the municipality) to provide basic, essential services to the squatter community".

Interested parties have till August 26 to make written representations to the municipality on the issue.

JOHANNESBURG. — The African National Congress PWV region said eight people were seriously injured when police opened fire on squatters without warning at Ivory Park near Midrand yesterday.

The area was under siege with police refusing independent people access to the area, the ANC charged in a statement.

Police had earlier reported that five people were injured when they used teargas, rubber bullets and shotguns to disperse a group of squatters carrying dangerous weapons.

A police spokesman said teargas and rubber bullets were used on squatters when they threatened Transvaal Provincial Administration officials who were pulling down their shacks. — Sapa

Mbekweni squatters guilty

(307) CT 26/7/91

PAARL. — Mbekweni township squatters, who squatted illegally in the Mbekweni community hall for two months, have been found guilty of trespassing.

About 90 men, women and children sought shelter in the community hall from rainy weather after their shacks were bulldozed and burnt two months ago by the Mbekweni town council.

On Wednesday in Paarl Magistrate's Court, the 48 adults were each given suspended sentences of a R90 fine or 90 days in prison. — Sapa



RAZED: Mr Velile Mhambi, 48, and Miss Beauty Mazothana, 37, said they were left with no possessions when arsonists attacked their shacks during the week.

Pictures: ANDREW INGRAM, The Argus.

Squatters appeal to mayor for help

(307) ARG 30/7/90

VUSI KAMA
Staff Reporter

ANC-SUPPORTING Crossroads squatters who have fallen out with ANC leader Mr Jeffrey Nongwe have appealed to rival leader, mayor Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana, to help them find a safer place to live.

The squatters, mostly women, say they have had enough of the violence and want to leave.

They are living with neighbours after their shacks were burnt last week in clashes between two rival ANC factions, one led by Mr Nongwe.

Almost 40 families have been left homeless in the latest spate of violence.

A woman and her child were burnt to death in their shack and two families who shared a shack are homeless after their shack was razed on Wednesday night. Several people have been shot at in recent incidents.

Mr Ngxobongwana, whose supporters were defeated in clashes with Mr Nongwe's supporters in October, welcomed the group and said he had asked the government to build proper houses for the squatters, "as they promised us three years ago".

A spokesman for the squatter group said circumstances had forced them to seek help from a man who was opposed to them politically.

"We do not know what to do now," said Crossroads town clerk Mr Ricky Schelhase.

"Crossroads has no space for these people and we are going to negotiate with the Cape Provincial Administration to alleviate the situation."

Squatters interviewed said they still belonged to the ANC, although they believed that the attacks on them were launched by Mr Nongwe's supporters.

When asked what the cause of the conflict was, they said they did not know, as they believed Crossroads was ANC territory.

"The people who attack us belong to the ANC and we are also ANC-supporters.

"We do not know why they are burning our houses," they said.

Some blamed their leaders in Crossroads for the confusion and claimed that they involved the community in their personal conflicts.

Since their defeat in clashes with Mr Nongwe's people, Mr Ngxobongwana's supporters have been living at the Driftsand Nature Reserve, near Faure.

Red Cross field-workers distributed blankets to the victims of the violence.

Plans to house Flats homeless

MAJOR plans are on the cards to house the homeless of Crossroads, Langa, Nyanga and Guguletu.

The new move follows a breakthrough agreement between the major players in the townships — the ANC, PAC, Western Cape Civic Association, Hostel Dwellers' Association, Squatters' Association and the Ikapa and Crossroads councils — and local authorities.

According to a statement released by the Cape Provincial Administration last night, "all parties have committed themselves to identifying enough suitably-located land to meet the demands of the communities living in identified squatter settlements, in backyards and in hostels".

All participants in the planning process recognise that conditions in the squatter settlements in and around Crossroads are unacceptable, according to the CPA.

Other parties in the agreement are the city council and the RSC.

Attempts to settle the housing crisis facing township residents have been scuppered in the past as competing factions fought over piecemeal allocations, leading to violence and tension in the townships.

"Once land has been acquired, implementing agencies will be established, with community participation, to undertake detailed planning in each area," the statement said. "Planning proposals will be implemented to create as many jobs as possible and promote community development."

Mr Koos Theron, MEC for Community Development, Land Development and Coordination, said: "The initiative seeks to ensure equitable access to land and services, taking into account competing land claims."

According to Mr Colin Appleton, a development consultant closely involved in the agreement, there is a need for over 40 000 houses in the areas.

As a first phase, lasting about six months, suitable land will be targeted and agreement will be reached on allocation, after which finance will be sought for implementation.

Mbekweni squatters battling for land

South 1/8-7/8/91 (307)

By Thoraya Pandy

ABOUT 73 squatters in Mbekweni whose shacks were demolished by police a few months ago have occupied land illegally and built a large shack to house them and their children.

At first the squatters occupied the town hall when their shacks were demolished and stayed there until they were arrested on July 23.

"Our decision to occupy the town hall came after numerous attempts by the civic to get land for the squatters," said the chairperson of the Mbekweni Civic Association, Mr Simon Makamba.

The squatters were charged with trespassing and pleaded guilty. They were sentenced to R90 or 90 days, suspended for five years.

A police spokesperson confirmed the arrest and said the squatters had been warned before the arrests were made.

After their release, the squatters were given refuge in a local church but were asked to move out before Sunday services.

"This led to our decision to occupy the land. We have nowhere else to go," one of the squatters said.

The town clerk of Mbekweni, Mr Marius Steyn, said he could not comment on the occupation of the land as he was unaware of it.

He said the council was looking into providing houses and stands for informal housing.

"We already allocated land for development and are waiting on Cape Utility Homes to start the process once we receive the money," Steyn said.

The civic, which has a membership of 8 000, decided to halt all negotiations with the town council because they claim the council is unprepared to provide land for the squatters and refuses to acknowledge them.

One of the squatters, Mrs Nozimasile Ntunzi, 39, has three children and has been living in informal housing for more than eight years.

"It hurts me very much having to live like this, with no security for my children. We lose many of our possessions every time we move," she said.

She said her children were constantly ill and she often did not have money for medication.

"Our greatest problem is squatting in people's backyards. They ask for a lot of money that we cannot afford. If they get better offers, then they just throw us out. There is no security," she said.

Ntunzi said the squatters were prepared to pay for housing and services if they were granted land.

5 white families among Milnerton squatters

HENRIETTE GELDENHUYS and HENRI du PLESSIS
Tygerberg Bureau

FIVE white families have moved in with the squatters at the Marconi Beam camp in Milnerton.

They settled there without any fanfare some months ago, forced to do so because of the high cost of living.

Mr Hendrik Johannes Wegewarth lives there with his wife and four children.

"Two of the children go to school in Rylands, where his wife also occasionally lives.

"It is very difficult to find work and I cannot afford to pay for a house.

"I've been living here for six months and built my own house. The cost of living keeps going up and eventually you find you cannot stay up there. If you lose your job you lose everything."

Mr Wegewarth worked as a guard and dog handler for a Cape Town security firm until he was laid off.

He said the other white families living in the camp were "mostly in the same situation as I am".

It took Mr Wegewarth two weeks to build his shack. Later he added another small room, in which a Muslim family live.

"I am one of these people and I understand them. Others do not understand what is going on here.

"It is a battle to stay alive, to make a living. I know why these people do not want to move.

"The municipality should provide proper services in this area. If they want to move the people they will have to bear the cost of moving them and their material too.

"If the municipality did not want squatters here in the first place, they should not have allowed the situation to develop the way it did. They should have done something about it right from the start."

Squatter committee member Mrs Princess Matshaya confirmed that whites were among the squatters.

She said two white men — Mr Wegewarth and a man named Steve, who had a job — lived in her area of responsibility.

Top level ANC probe of Crossroads

SOUTH, AUGUST 8 TO 14 1991 3

By Rehana Rossouw

SIMMERING conflict in Cape Town's Crossroads squatter camp which has left scores of residents homeless, could be perpetrated by a shadowy "killing force", a top-level ANC commission of inquiry into the violence believes.

"What puzzles people on both sides is that everytime they embark on a process of reconciliation the violence in the area escalated," said commission member Mr Sindiswa Mfenyana, after extensive meetings in Crossroads this week.

The commission was appointed by the national executive committee of the ANC to investigate and mediate the conflict in Crossroads.

It consists of Johannesburg ANC officials Mfenyana, Mr Simon Makana, Mr Vincent Diba and Cape Town attorney Mr Essa Moosa.

Opposing

They were sent at the request of the regional executive committee of the ANC in the Western Cape.

Their first task was to call a meeting between the two opposing sides — the Unathi community and Crossroads squatters — to hear what they believed was the cause of the conflict.

"We also helped them reach a preliminary agreement on Sunday to forge trust and confidence between the communities," Mfenyana said.

The communities agreed to suspend the violence and ensure that Crossroads students attend school regularly as schooling had been disrupted by the conflict.

The youth agreed to call off their campaign against the headmen in the area until the commission completed its work.

Both communities also agreed that youth who had fled the area after fearing for their safety would be allowed to return unharmed.

Shots fired

However, their first agreement was marred later the same day when shots were fired and a house was burnt at Crossroads.

"We came to Cape Town last week thinking that this was a simple problem which could be cleared up easily, but we have since realised that the problem goes much deeper," he said.

"What we have to determine is the source of the conflict. People are talking about a third force, but we believe it is the first force in this country that is responsible.

He said the commission intended meeting with the police this week to raise the community's concern that they were "turning a blind eye" to the violence.

Conflict

They will also be meeting the town secretary of Crossroads, Mr Ricky Schelhase, to hear his views on the conflict and put some of the residents' allegations to him.

Crossroads residents on both sides of the conflict had made serious allegations against the police and the SADF and their concerns needed to be seriously addressed.

He said the immediate concern of the commission was to find a way to bring peace to Crossroads.

The commission hopes to end its work by witnessing the adoption of a joint agreement between the opposing Crossroads communities.

"I don't think that this is a problem that can only be solved by the ANC, the violence is a national disaster affecting everyone," Mfenyana said.

Help from an unlikely quarter

LINDA GALLOWAY

Star 10/8/91

CAPE TOWN — In the halcyon apartheid years they were at the forefront of the battle against illegal squatting, and the sight of their thundering bulldozers spelt disaster for squatter settlements.

But changing times now see them putting their tools of destruction into mothballs and learning to negotiate with the people whose homes it was their job to pull down.

Officially known as the Department of Land Occupation in the Cape Provincial Administration, cynics have already dubbed them "the hut squads", a nickname they reject.

The MEC for local government, Koos Theron, admitted this week that the announcement of "high-powered squatter units" had given the impression of teams of men in combat uniforms armed with bulldozers, truncheons and teargas.

"They are skilled negotiators with years of experience who will liaise with squatter communities and local authorities and assist in identifying land for informal housing settlements," he said.

The man who will head the units in the Western Cape is Henk van Dyk, who has negotiated with squatters at settlements throughout Cape Province.

His attitude is that squatting is illegal, but living in an informal house is not. It's not what you do, it's where you do it that counts.

"These units, at all our regional offices, are a way to increase our ability to manage urbanisation in an orderly way," said Mr Theron.

Where people are squatting — as opposed to living legally in informal settlements — the local authority will be helped to identify suitable land to which services can be provided.

30M

Advice

They will give advice where a local authority cannot cope and needs this service.

"Many local authorities have taken the attitude that squatters are not their problem," said Mr Theron.

"We have told them that they have to make provision for informal housing. There are restraining factors — often the squatters are not happy with the land identified, and established communities object to having informal housing settlements next door to them — the 'not-in-my-backyard' (Nimby) syndrome."

It was also important to take into account how the provision of sewerage and water would slot into bulk services.

He acknowledged that in rural areas there was often bad feeling between local authorities and black people over the provision of land, particularly in areas where land had never been designated for black housing.

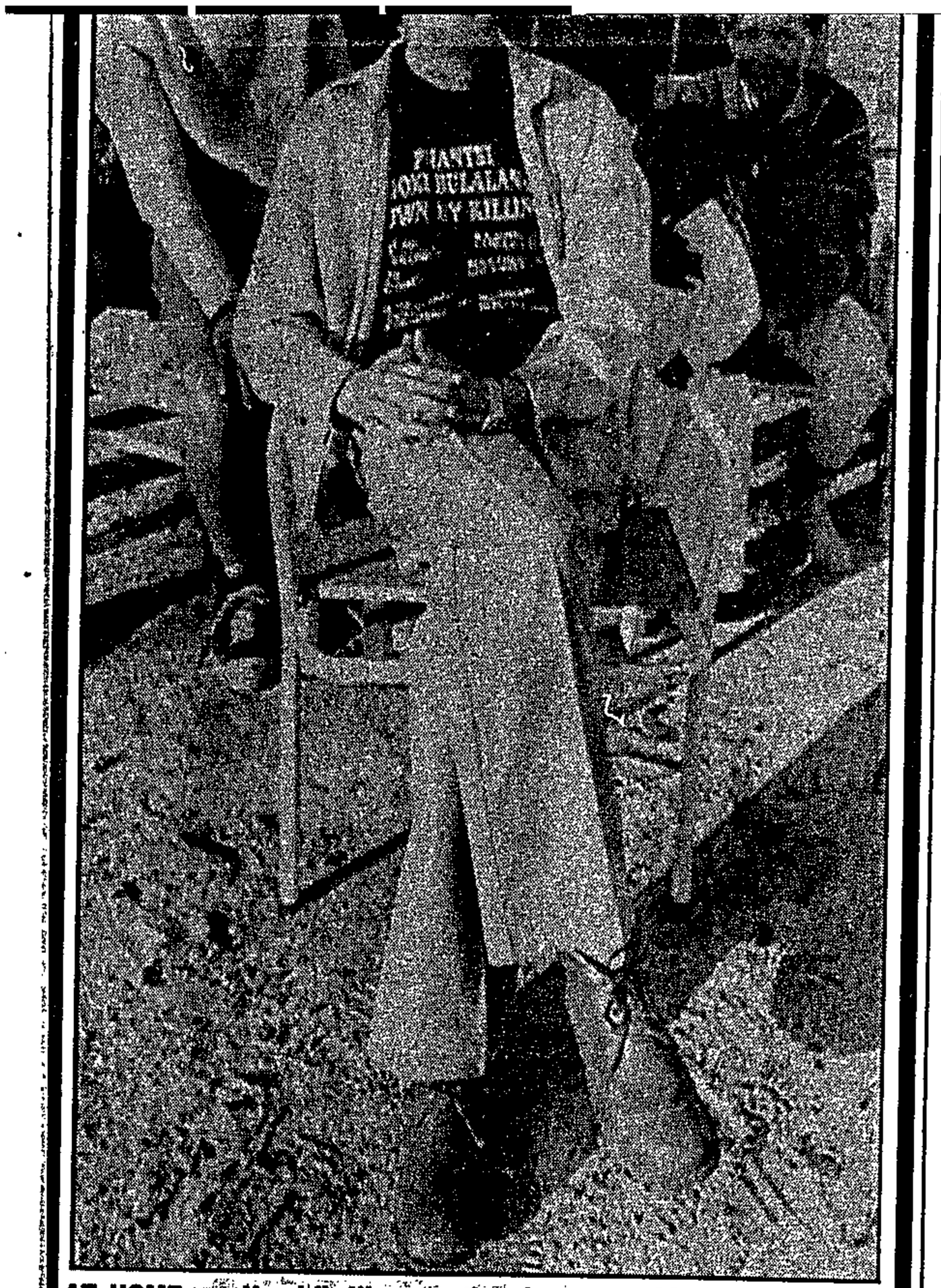
"Yes, we know that is the case in some areas. We have had long talks with these councils and I believe we are winning. The fact that we have got some of these authorities to identify possible pieces of land shows that we have made breakthroughs."

The Land Occupation units did not relieve landowners or local authorities of their responsibility not to allow squatting on their property, he said.

"We will definitely act against land owners who start farming with squatters," said Mr Theron.

"They let squatters onto their property, and even charge them to stay there, but when it gets out of hand then suddenly it's our problem."

Mr Van Dyk's department will ultimately have 26 people serving the area east from Cape Point to Plettenberg Bay, west to Port Nolloth and north to Uniondale.



AT HOME ... Hendrik Wegewarth relaxes outside his shack with friends Mogamed Frederiks and Marge Maneweck.

Shackland's home for white families

CP Correspondent

HENDRIK Johannes Wegewarth is a squatter with a difference.

Wegewarth is from one of the five white families living in a shack settlement on the outskirts of Cape Town's plush coastal suburb of Milnerton.

Wegewarth moved to the camp with his wife and four children six months ago, from the largely Afrikaans conservative suburb of Goodwood.

It took him two weeks to build his iron and wood shack, a portion of which he rents out to a Muslim family.

"Without work, it is impossible to make ends meet. I lost my job as a guard and dog handler with a security firm because of the economic recession.

"Even before I became unemployed, we were struggling to survive."

He said he got on well with the black residents in the camp.

"Only those who are forced to live in shacks can understand our problems. Instead of evicting us, the council should provide proper services. If people want us to move, then we must be given land and houses. Everyone needs shelter," he said.

The first white to settle in the camp, Steve Schloss, 50, said he was "very happy" there.

Schloss and his "coloured" wife, Wilma, built their shack eight years ago.

Beauty Mafani, a member of the committee which runs the camp, said whites were welcome to live there.

"We don't practice apartheid. Anyone can come and live here," she said.

However, camp residents face an uncertain future.

Milnerton residents, many of whom live in luxury houses, want the camp removed.

The Milnerton municipality has identified four possible sites for relocation.



AFRIKANER SQUATTER: Mr Hendrik Johannes Wegewarth, 31, with two little squatter friends in front of Marconi Beam squatter camp off Koeberg Road in Milnerton.

28 (30) ARG 13/8/91

I'm happy, says white squatter

HENRIËTTE GELDENHUYS
Staff Reporter

IN a neat wooden shack in a corner of the Marconi Beam squatter camp in Milnerton lives a white Afrikaner.

Mr Hendrik Johannes Wegewarth, 31, says: "People can say what they want, but it's a free world and I choose to live here. Whites live in squatter camps, but nobody knows about it.

"You get sulky and friendly people here like anywhere else, but I'm at ease.

"I'm very happy. I don't pay rent. I live here for free. God never said we should buy land. He said we should rule the land.

"We are all people. One family. With God there is no difference. Why do people fight because of skin colour? We all have feelings, no matter what colour we are."

Mr Wegewarth was born in Epping in 1960 and grew up in Cape Town with nine brothers and a sister.

"My family suffered. My parents, who live in Malmesbury, struggled to bring up 11 children.

Mr Wegewarth completed Standard 7 at Westcliff Industrial School and worked as a doghandler, security guard and cabinetmaker. In 1986, he worked on mines in the Transvaal.

But he hasn't had a job for four months.

He built his one-roomed shack himself and moved in with two beds and a television set six months ago.

The TV works off a small generator and he plans to install lights soon.

He wants to put up a small post office for the squatters so that they can correspond with the outside world.

There are about 330 shacks and nearly 2 000 squatters at the Marconi Beam site off Koeberg road.

They have longdrop toilets and a few taps situated at central points.

"Even if you are poor, you can be clean," Mr Wegewarth said as he explained how they washed in a tin bath.

His problems are the same as that of any other squatter and he talks about them passionately.

One of the most immediate facing the Marconi Beam community is the prospect of being moved to another site.

"I don't see why we have to move. We live here near the factories. It's Jerusalem here. We help each other, give each other shelter.

"We spent money on these shacks. We bought the equipment ourselves and built it with our own hands. Who is going to refund us?," he said, his ideas loudly confirmed by six squatter friends who call him "whitey".

He said he knew four white people who lived in mixed families at Marconi Beam.

Mr Shorty Marulanqa, squatter committee member for Section 1, said there were about six white people in the camp.

"Anybody is welcome here. We accept blacks, coloureds and whites. They're all the same. We must work together. Apartheid is gone," he said.

307
Ag 13/8/91



Pictures: **WILLIE de KLERK**, The Argus.

TOGETHERNESS: Afrikaner squatter Mr Hendrik Johannes Wegewarth surrounded by visiting neighbours inside his wooden shack in the eastern corner of the Marconi Beam squatter camp.

Squatter being booted about, says mayor

307
ET 13/8/91

Staff Reporter

SQUATTERS in Milnerton are being used as the "football of unreason" by ratepayers on the one hand and self-appointed advisers on the other, Milnerton mayor Mr Willem van Staden said.

He said yesterday the municipality recognised that the only way to solve the social problems associated with urbanisation was to identify land for permanent settlement.

"People are quite normally and naturally flocking to metropoles in search of work and a better quality of life," Mr Van Staden said. The municipality recognised this as a "fact" and was prepared to "face that reality".

As workers — especially those from the disadvantaged community — needed to be accommodated close to work the municipality had commissioned a report to identify suitable land to house squatters, and sites at Summer Greens, Frankendale, Du Noon and Annadale had been proposed as alternatives.

It was "not physically possible" to provide permanent services at the present site near Montague Gardens, he said.

"But now the Milnerton municipality finds itself in a catch 22 situation." The community was refusing to permit squatters to be housed close to established suburbs, while squatter support groups were encouraging squatters not to move from the present site.

"We are saying: Here is the land, establish yourselves permanently."

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White man is a squatter

UNEMPLOYED and homeless, a 31-year-old white man has built his own wooden shack and moved in among about 2 000 black squatters.

Hendrik Wegewarth has been living for the past six months in his one-room shelter on the sandy soil of the the Marconi Beam squatter camp near Milnerton, 15km outside Cape Town.

The shack stands among more than 300 others which have no electricity, sanitation and no rent charges.

The black and coloured community welcomed Wegewarth with open arms.

"We live like a family here. If you have nothing, other people help you. Why do people fight because of skin colour? With God there is no difference," Wegewarth said. - *Sapa-AP.*

'Eviction' for future city squatters

(307) CT 16/8/91

Staff Reporter

DISGRUNTLED residents of a multi-million-rand property development in Milnerton yesterday threatened "to evict squatters and march on Parliament" if the Montague Gardens squatters were allowed to move into the area.

Milnerton residents were reacting to the identification of four sites for the relocation of the squatters — Summer Greens, the Visserhoek dumping site, Potsdam Road, and Bosmansdam Road.

The sites were identified by independent town planning consultants at a public meeting at the Bothasig Town Hall on Monday night.

"We have just bought homes as first-time home-owners at Summer Greens and if the government allows the squatters to move in it will result in a fall in property prices, an increase in crime and a fall-off in potential buyers," said Mr Marc Strange, a Summer Greens resident who recently paid R89 000 for his home, part of a major development by Ilco Homes Pty Ltd.

"Why should we pay these prices as well as rates and taxes when squatters will be allowed to live across the road for nothing?" he asked.

"The Milnerton municipality has already decided where the squatters will be located," Mr Strange claimed.

Home-owners interviewed said the Ilco Homes development in Milnerton was the biggest in the Southern Hemisphere and the 10-year project entailed building about 8 000 houses with prices ranging from about R64 000 to R125 000.

"Why should a development which will provide housing for about 8 000 families be sacrificed for 600 shacks which will lower the tone of the whole area?" residents asked.

Milnerton town clerk Mr Peter Grobler denied that any final decisions had been made regarding a permanent informal housing settlement for the homeless.

Milnerton mayor Mr Willem van Staden earlier this week said it was not "physically possible" to provide permanent services at the present site near Montague Gardens.

He added that between the community and squatter-support groups the municipality found itself in a "Catch 22 situation".

Cops under fire in the Peninsula

ATTACKS on police are becoming regular in Peninsula townships with police reporting members being shot at every week while attending to complaints or conducting routine patrols.

In two of the latest attacks, police on Wednesday said an off-duty assistant constable was shot and wounded and a police patrol was shot at when they went to investigate a shooting incident in Old Crossroads.

Police spokesman Major Gys Boonzaaier said the attacks brought to three the number of times police have been shot at this week in the townships.

On Monday night, police came under shotgun fire when they were forced to remove a barricade in Zola Budd Avenue in Khayelitsha. No one was injured in the incident.

During the past six weeks, SAP members have come under attack on at least 10 occasions. Most of the incidents occurred in Khayelitsha.

Boonzaaier said at about 9.50pm on Tuesday night, Assistant Constable James Booi, 41, of Old Crossroads, was shot when he investigated a commotion in his backyard.

Once outside, he found a running gun battle was in progress and that 10 people had taken refuge in his yard.

Booi said: "I told the people to get off my property which they did. Then another group of men came running down the road and started chasing these men. One man in this group saw me and fired three shots at me."

In the second incident on Tuesday night, Boonzaaier said four SAP members, including a policewoman, came under fire while investigating a shooting incident in Old Klipfontein Road at 6pm.

White man is a squatter

UNEMPLOYED and homeless, a 31-year-old white man has built his own wooden shack and moved in among about 2 000 black squatters.

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Township rivals agree to bury hatchet

VUYO BAVUMA
Staff Reporter ARG 19/8/91

KHAYELITSHA and Crossroads town councillors and four ANC-aligned squatter leaders have agreed to bury their differences and work for peace in the townships.

This emerged after an historic four-hour meeting yesterday organised by a three-man ANC commission.

Estranged Crossroads mayor Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana, who fled the squatter camp after his overthrow last year, met with his rival, Mr Jeffrey Nongwe, ANC chairman in Crossroads.

Members of Masincedane, the KTC camp committee, mayor of Lingelethu West Mr Mali Hoza and his councillors spoke with a delegation led by the Brown's Farm ANC chairman, Mr Christopher Toise, who fled Portland Cement squatter camp during the witdoeke war in 1986, and Mr M Yamile of Nyanga Bush.

The former bitter rivals also agreed to work towards unity.

They expressed concern about escalating violence in the squatter areas, especially Crossroads and Khayelitsha.

In the past two weeks, more than 10 Crossroads residents have been killed and several homes destroyed in conflict between Unathi ANC members and Mr Nongwe and his supporters.

In Khayelitsha in the past week, six people, including five members of a Site C family, have been killed by gunmen.

The parties vowed to work for peace so that violence could not be manipulated by "third forces" with sinister plans to destroy the black community.

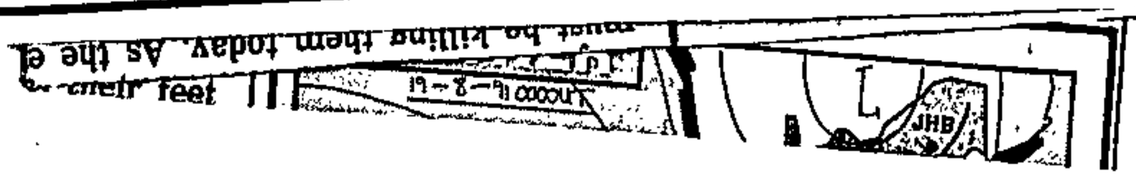
They expressed an urgent need for drastic steps to implement their aims.

Mr Sondiso Mfenyane, a member of the ANC national executive, described the meeting as constructive and said it took place in "good spirit.

"It was heartening to hear old rivals talking to each other like this. We want first to create unity among the squatters and those in the local authorities.

"Our next step is to meet the civic associations," Mr Mfenyane said.

The squatters would meet later today to work out details for unity, he said.



Squatter leaders meet on violence

367

CT 19/8/91

By PETER DENNEHY

DOZENS of squatter leaders, many of them former bitter enemies, met yesterday to hammer out a solution to the problem of ongoing violence over houses and land in Western Cape townships.

Among the three dozen or so people at the meeting were the mayor of Crossroads, Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana, rival Crossroads leader Mr Jeffrey Nongwe, the mayor of Lingelethu West, Mr Mali Hoza, Mr Jerry Tutu of Khayelitsha, Mr Christopher Toise of Brown's Farm, Mr Alfred Siphika and Mr Melford Yamile.

The meeting, held at the Careers Research and Information Centre (Cric) in Athlone, was hosted by a top-level ANC commission investigating the violence in Crossroads and elsewhere in the Western Cape.

It was chaired by Mr Mfenyana Sindiso, who had been assigned the task of calling the meeting by the national executive committee of the ANC.

Mr Vincent Diba, a member of the commission, said the problems that gave rise to the violence emanated from the lack of proper housing.

"Whenever areas of land or houses are provided to the people, ill-feeling and conflict is the result. It comes from some people feeling left out," he explained.

"As a starting point, we felt we must unite all the squatter leaders.

"They had to come together and talk to each other. With this achieved, the initial problem has been eliminated."

Not all the violence in the townships was related to housing, he said. Some of it had to do with rivalries between taxi organisations.

"We hope to come to some definite agreements, but I can't pre-empt these.

"The meeting is still continuing," he said after it had been going on for at least a couple of hours.

By last night the outcome of the meeting, from which the press was excluded, was not known, but it is expected that further meetings of the forum will take place.

Leaders seek cure for violence

By CHRIS BATEMAN

SQUATTER leaders, community councillors and mayors from Khayelitsha and Old Crossroads yesterday agreed in principle to try to find ways to end the violence in their communities.

Concern centred on violence which recently claimed the lives of the wife and four children of an ANC zone leader in Khayelitsha and included petrol bombings and shootings in Old Crossroads.

Brown's Farm leader Mr Christopher Toise, speaking for the squatter delegation, which included the Western Cape United Squatters Association, said the meeting was postponed until today to allow Old Crossroads ANC leader Mr Jeffry Nongwe to attend.

Probe

All other leaders, including Khayelitsha mayor Mr Mali Hoza and refugee Old Crossroads mayor Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana, were present yesterday.

Mr Toise said ANC investigators sent from Johannesburg to probe local township violence — much of it internal fighting between ANC supporters — were instrumental in setting up the meeting.

"While no consensus has yet been reached on how we will end the violence, we hope to make some progress (today)," Mr Toise said yesterday.

'For the sake of our children'

South 22/8/91 - 28/8/91

MRS Aletta Titus and her husband Sael were married at Elandskloof 35 years ago, and they hope to be buried there, alongside their ancestors.

"We must get Elandskloof back for the sake of our children," said Mrs Titus.

"I don't want to leave them this shack when I die. I want to leave them a proper house and some land the way my parents did.

"When we moved to Allendale we tried our best to keep the traditions of Elandskloof alive.

"We continued our prayer meetings and taught our children the way our teachers taught us at the school in Elandskloof."

Her daughter Mercia, 17, has seen her parents' former home on Elandskloof only once, but shares the longing to return.

"They talk about Elandskloof almost every day. I also regard myself as an Elandsklower. I want to go back with my parents and I want to live there until I die," she said.

Sael Titus has a reasonably well-paid job with a bus company, but swears he will walk out the day he can return to Elandskloof.

"That will be the best thing that could ever happen to me — to work for myself and be my own boss," Titus said.

Aletta Titus said she would never, and could never forget Elandskloof.

"I can go back tomorrow and walk in the dark without tripping once. I know where every stone, every rock is situated.

"It was very difficult to adjust to our new way of life. What was hard for me was having to buy what I needed from shops instead of picking it myself or making it myself."



DETERMINED TO RETURN: Sael and Aletta Titus were born on Elandskloof

Squatters: Objection deadline expires

(307) CT 27/8/91

Staff Reporter

THE deadline for public objections to proposals by the Milnerton town council to relocate the Marconi Beam squatters to four proposed sites expired yesterday.

However, a final decision on the squatters' future could still take months.

A spokesman for the Milnerton town council said yesterday that Telecom, the owners of the area the squatters currently occupied, had plans to develop the land.

In July this year a public meeting was held in Milnerton and the four relocation areas were proposed.

The areas are in Montagu Gardens, Sanddrift, an area north of Richwood, and an area on the eastern side of Potsdam road on the N7 adjacent to the Visserhoek dumping site.

The Milnerton town clerk, Mr Pieter Gerber, said yesterday that objections received by the council would still have to be evaluated and a final decision could still take some time.

● Meanwhile, squatters at the Marconi Beam camp will have to pay R15 a month for services and rent in terms of legislation published in the latest government gazette.

All squatters will have to sign a lease with the council, undertaking to pay a nominal 10c a month in rent and R14,90 for services.

City growing fastest in SA

By ANTHONY JOHNSON
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN has overtaken Durban as the fastest-growing metropolitan area in South Africa, a major Urban Foundation report released yesterday has found.

Between 7 000 and 10 000 squatters are streaming into the Cape metropolitan area each month, the report on the national housing crisis estimates.

The influx of newcomers are settling mainly in the Khayelitsha, Crossroads, KTC, Nyanga, Noordhoek and Hout Bay areas.

The total population of the area last year was estimated at 2 555 800, with a black population of 570 000.

The Urban Foundation report notes that the racial composition of the Cape Town metropolitan area will undergo significant changes in coming years. While blacks comprised one in every five members of the area's population in 1985, it was projected that blacks would comprise about one-third of the total population of about four million by the year 2010.

It also says that inhabitants of informal settlements "are mostly long-standing urban residents forced into shacks through the shortage of housing and their own poverty".

The report notes that considerable differences exist about the number of people living in "informal housing" (shelters constructed with unconventional building materials acquired informally) in the Cape Town area.

Official estimates suggest that the informal population is between 330 000 and 425 000 people, while unofficial estimates place this figure as high as 500 000.

The report identifies three dominant categories of free-standing informal settlements in the Western Cape, each with differing levels of legal and security of tenure. These are:

- Legal or "legalised" enclaves with local authority structures (Khayelitsha, Old Crossroads).
- Settlements where occupants have tacit permission to remain (Brown's Farm, Miller's Camp).
- "Peri-urban" settlements, such as in Hout Bay and Noordhoek.

On the Cape Flats, Brown's Farm is now the fastest-growing region.

The report notes that spontaneous informal housing is a national phenomenon. "Over seven million people live in informal houses in South African urban and metropolitan areas. This includes slightly over half the black metropolitan population of the country."

ARG 3/9/91 (307)

Churches seek key to Allendale land argument

Staff Reporters

A WEST Coast Council of Churches delegation is to meet the owner of Elandskloof farm, Mrs Molly Smit, to ask for a permanent tract for the Allendale community.

The move follows two-months' grace given by the owner of Allendale, Mr Danie du Plessis, for the community to vacate his farm and seek alternative land.

WCCC field worker Mr Boyce Williams said they were shocked by Mr Du Plessis's two-month offer as they had asked for "reasonable" time to solve the crisis.

"We are concerned that the community may be evicted even before the two months have expired," he said. "We will negotiate with Mrs Smit to find land for them."

The latest eviction order, if put into operation, will be a second in 30 years. They were first evicted in 1960 when the Ned Geref Kerk sold land they claim was given to them by Queen Victoria and moved to nearby Allendale.

The squatters believes that the NGK should hand back their ancestral ground.

The community is relying on the NGK signature to the Rustenburg Declaration of November 1990, at which the church acknowledged its sin in accepting apartheid and said: "As a first step towards restitution, the church must examine its land ownership and work for the return of land expropriated from re-located communities to its original owners."

But the Rev T E Lombard of the NGK, who is involved in negotiations at Allendale, said the land belonged to the church.

He said a decision to sell was taken because it was no longer functioning as a mission station and because most of the community were members of the Sendingkerk, the "coloured" wing of the NGK.

The church at the time said the land was being farmed uneconomically, inefficiently and unscientifically. The Department of Coloured Affairs turned down a chance to buy.

Mr Lombard said the church was involved in negotiations at Elandskloof "not out of guilt", but because there was "a problem which must be solved."

Dr Allan Boesak, who visited the community as the eviction deadline drew near, said they had been robbed.

"They were independent farmers who have been reduced to abject poverty.

"They cannot be further subjected to injustice. There is nowhere for them to go.

"The Land Act has been scrapped, but no provision has been made for people to reclaim their land. I find this situation almost more iniquitous than before the legislation was scrapped."

307

Arg 5/9/91



(307) ARG 5/9/91

Pictures: OBED ZILWA, The Argus.

FAMILY IN CRISIS: Mr Hendrik Loots, his wife Sophie and their son Hendrik, 18 months, are happy they have a place to stay.

Homeless happy to shack up at graveyard

VUSI KAMA, Staff Reporter

ABOUT 50 families have built shacks a few metres from a cemetery.

The squatters, many of whom were living in bushes and pipes before they were offered the site by the Paarl municipality, said they did not mind the location.

The area, five hectares along Bo-Daljosafat Road, is big enough for about 500 families.

More homeless people from Paarl East and Mbekweni are expected to join the settlement.

The only white squatter in the group, Mr Hendrik Loots, 37, said he was the first to set up a tent next to the graveyard.

He had read a report in a newspaper inviting destitute people to apply for sites in a "transit" camp.

A former Groote Schuur Hospital porter who now lives on a disability pension, he said his family and their neighbours were happy there was land available for them.

"Before I came here I used to live in water pipes and bushes," he said. "This is a far better place to live."

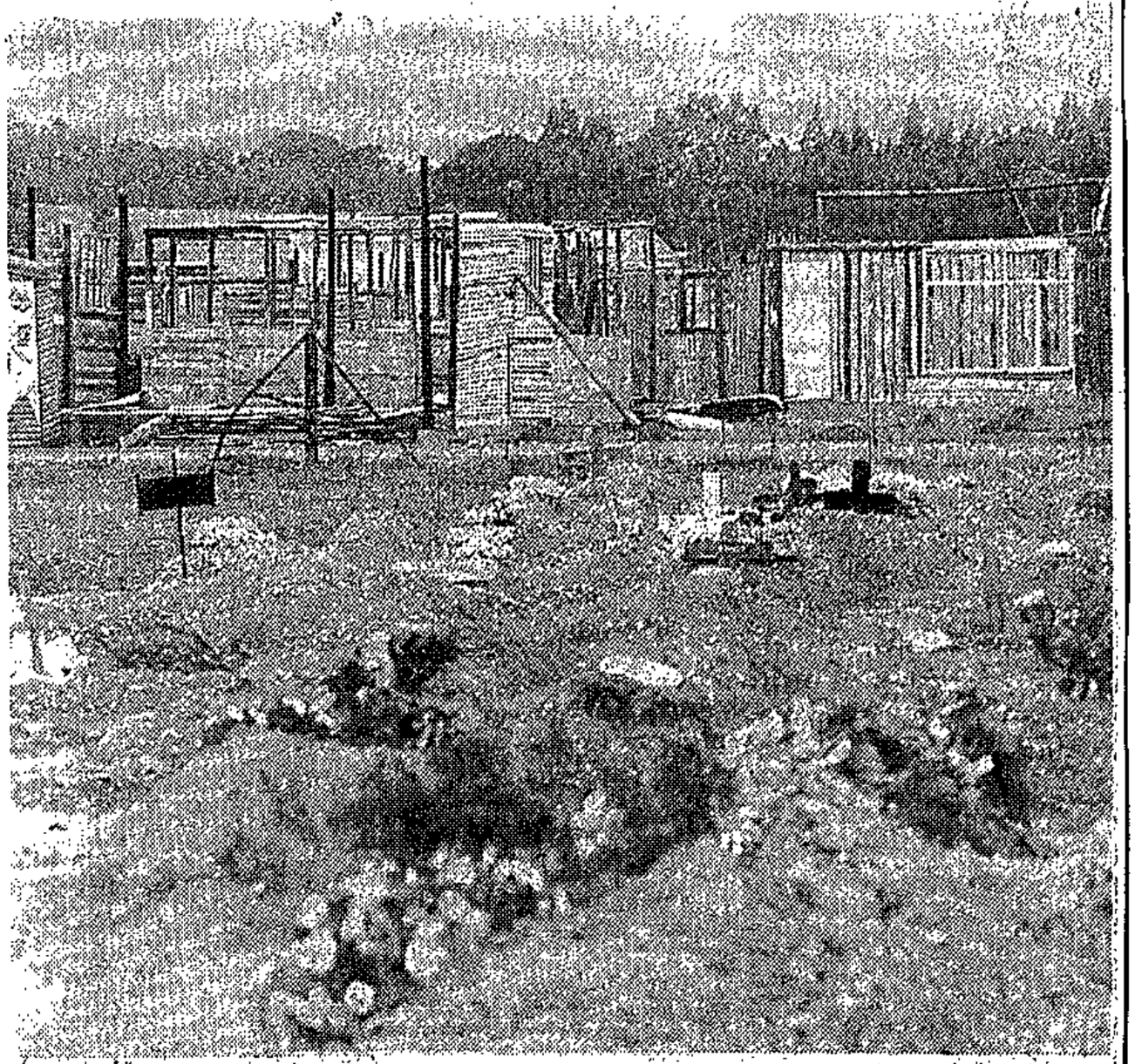
Asked if he was concerned about living next to a graveyard, he said: "I have lived in a graveyard before. In fact, seven years ago I used to sleep with my wife right next to a grave."

A resident, Mr Klaas Toontjies, has opened a spaza shop and the municipality has provided communal taps and toilets. The squatters, who started moving in at the end of July, pay R5 a week for the services.

Paarl Town Clerk Mr Hennie Liebenberg said his council had approved the building of shacks in the area.

"This is a temporary measure," he said. "These people will be allowed to live there for as long as it takes for us to find suitable sites for them to live permanently."

The accommodation of squatters in the area has been criticised by farmers, businessmen and some residents of nearby Dalvale and Greenhill.



GRAVESIDE HOMES: Some of the shacks in the newly developed transit area for the homeless of Paarl

Greenpoint squatters reel under renewed violence

By Heather Robertson

IT was like a war zone on Wednesday night at the squatter settlement of Section DM in Khayelitsha, otherwise known as Greenpoint.

Terrified residents packed their furniture on the backs of trucks and dismantled their homes in fear of another attack by rival taxi groups — and, some alleged, the police.

Those residents who had no place to go, resigned themselves to yet another night of panic and mayhem.

Over one hundred shacks were razed on Tuesday night by a mob of armed men who raided homes searching for supporters of the Taxi Co-ordinating Committee and the ANC who were involved in the boycott of the Western Cape Black Taxi Association (Webta).

Miss Pamela Ranton who was sitting in her barren shack waiting for transport to leave on Wednesday expressed the sentiments of many residents caught in the crossfire.

"I fear for my life. I cannot stay here," she said.

According to her, the faceless attackers were shouting the names of men in the area to come out of the houses so they could shoot them. But many residents including children became hapless victims

The Khayelitsha Day Hospital treated two children aged four and seven with with burns on their abdomen.

The seven-year-old had also been assaulted.

The Red Cross Children's Hospital admitted a child with burns on Tuesday night. Four people with gunshot wounds were admitted to the Khayalitsha Day Hospital.

One person died there and two corpses were collected from Greenpoint by the CID.

Many women who were staying at the Shawco clinic and at the Khayelitsha Day Hospital on Wednesday were worried because their husbands had disappeared.

They also claimed they had been threatened by the police that more homes would be burnt.

The week of terror began on Sunday night when four shacks in Greenpoint were allegedly burnt by members of Webta.

At 4am on Tuesday morning

● TURN TO PAGE

last month, the community in Greenpoint continued boycotting Webta and incidents of stoning and burning of Webta taxies by youths have been reported.

Green Point also lies at one of the most busy taxi routes in Khayelitsha and hence is a prime site for conflict.

While residents embark on a mass exodus from the trouble zone, angry youths are saying they are tired of being victims of attacks and the time has come to defend themselves.

Vumile Siximba, an executive member of the ANC Youth League in Khayelitsha, said he doesn't see any solution to the conflict.

"On both sides people have been killed We think that Webta and the police are responsible for the attack."

"When people's houses are burnt the youth want revenge by attacking Webta members because of the innocent blood that they have spilled So we don't see any peace."

These sentiments are, however, not supported by the ANC's regional office which is still attempting to find some kind of peace accord between rival taxi groups and end the conflict.

The youth, however, seem less patient.

Said one: "Whatever the ANC does, it calls for peace. Now we are sick and tired of calling for peace when Webta uses violence against us. Now we're going to attack them."

● FROM PAGE ONE

residents claim that two hippos and four police vans were seen near the shacks of Mr Lucas Mahlogazi and Mr Nelson Bashe in Greenpoint.

Mr Mahlogazi told SOUTH that a Lagunya taxi had seen the police and had warned residents of an attack. The residents allege that police poured petrol over the shacks.

Later, three houses were attacked and set alight in DM section "I was shot inside my house when I was in bed. I didn't know what was happening", said Bashe showing SOUTH a bullet wound in his back.

The Lagunya driver was hacked to death and kicked and his taxi was burnt by the assailants, reported Mahlogazi.

Allegations of police involvement in the attacks and complicity with the Western Cape Black Taxi Association were repeated by the ANC on Wednesday, but Major Gys Boonzaaier has rejected such claims. (see story above in box).

However, Dr David Harrison of the Child Health Unit who was called into Khayelitsha on Wednesday by Shawco, has levelled criticism at police conduct during the conflict.

"While we were in the area there were three policeman in a white sedan with registration CA 51865 who were taunting the squatters over the megaphone," he said.

destabilise townships by operating under the cloak of the taxi wars".

While most of the residents SOUTH spoke to said they did not understand why they were targets of the attack, "comrades" sympathetic to the ANC and the civic organisation are convinced that the attackers are members of Webta assisted by police.

It is believed by many ANC and civic supporters that Webta is run by white shareholders and works with the support of the police.

These rumours are denied by Webta, which withdrew from the taxi peace talks earlier this year — accusing the ANC and the Taxi Coordinating Committee of favouring the Lagunya taxis.

Despite an easing of taxi tensions

of "African and White people" One resident has scratch marks on his face after grappling with what he says was a white assailant.

Mr Jan Van Eck of the Democratic Party who witnessed the burning on Tuesday night said that he had no doubt that the attackers comprised both black and white men.

He could not confirm however whether the police were involved.

"The taxi war is being used by people who are settling other political scores. People blame the killing of (ANC activist) Pro Jack on the taxi wars, but I have no doubt that his murder is an attempt to get rid of ANC middle leadership.

"There is a definite attempt to

Dr Harrison, who has worked in clinics with refugees from the Natal violence in Port Shepstone, said that the situation in Khayalitsha was similar.

"Rumours play a big role in the creation of an atmosphere of violence and fear.

"The attitudes and responses of police, some of whom warned people to expect more on Wednesday night, were highly insensitive and definitely adds to the feeling of insecurity.

"If police think they can play with fire and stomp it out when they want, they're wrong. Like Natal and the Transvaal, fire just fans itself."

Some of the residents said they saw the attackers firing incendiary devices and claimed that they were a mixture

Farm buyers sue seller after squatters move in

ARG 6/9/91

JACQUELYN SWARTZ (307)
Staff Reporter

A NOORDHOEK couple who paid nearly R1-million for a farm are suing the former owner after squatters moved next door shortly after they took up residence.

Mr Barry Mayes and his wife Helen claim that Mr Gert Noordhof did not tell them of the situation, in spite of having known of its existence.

The couple say they would have paid far less than R950 000 had they known about the squatters.

The farm consists of a house, outbuildings, stables, a tea-garden, nursery and landscaping business.

The court record shows that Mr Noordhof wrote a letter of objection on June 5 last year to the company investigating the squatter situation. He wrote of his five daughters who could not go out after dark because of the squatter presence.

However, he sold the property to the Mayes family the following month, telling them only that there were a few "bergies" in the area.

Yesterday Advocate B Doctor S C, for the couple, told the court of a letter to the Noordhoek residents pointing out eight spots in the area where the squatters could be moved.

The court heard that following this Mr Noordhof had called a meeting of about 70 people to discuss the problem. A short time later he sold the property.

Squatters a 'deterrent to land buyers'

309 CT 10/9/91

By BRONWYN DAVIDS

NOORDHOEK Valley residents who own smallholdings near a squatter site cannot get buyers for their properties, a smallholdings specialist in the area told the Supreme Court yesterday.

Estate agent Mr Jörg Teske was giving evidence in the damages claim brought by Mr Barry Mayes and Mrs Helen Mayes against Mr Gert (Gerry) Noordhof, who allegedly sold them the Noordhof Nursery and smallholding for R950 000 without telling them there were squatters living in the nearby bushes.

The Mayes want the purchase price reduced to R400 000. They have already paid R750 000.

They are claiming R200 000 from Mr Noordhof and want to be released from repaying him a R150 000 loan.

Evidence was heard supporting the Mayes' claim that before he sold the property to them on June 2 last year Mr Noordhof was aware of a government plan to allocate 500 sites to squatters on 30 to 40 hectares in the valley.

Mr Teske said Mr Mayes had asked him to put the nursery and smallholding on the market in April this year.

A written offer of R300 000 had been made by a prospective buyer, who was not prepared to increase the offer, as "he was aware of the squatters" living in the area, said Mr Teske.

Since the first half of 1990 fewer than five properties had been sold, and all the landowners living near the squatter site had placed their properties on Mr Teske's books.

"Every weekend I advertise 'Smallholdings galore' in the newspapers.

"People phone in, and I point out there are squatters, and when they hear this they are not even interested in seeing the properties. Lots of people want to sell," said Mr Teske.

Town planner Mr John Ducksbury, of the consultants Van der Merwe, Ducksbury and Dunn, said the Cape Provincial Council had given them one-and-a-half months to do a study identifying a suitable site for squatters in Noordhoek Valley.

A letter asking for suggestions had been sent to residents in the area, but not to Mr Noordhof.

Mr Noordhof had telephoned him the day before he sold the property to the Mayes to find out if land had been found for the squatters and ask for a list of people to whom letters had been sent, said Mr Ducksbury.

The hearing continues today.

Mr Justice J Fagan is presiding. Mr P van Blerk, instructed by Brian Kahn and associates, is appearing for the Mayes. Mr F D J Brand SC and Mr W R E Duminy, instructed by Buchanan, Boyes and Klosser, appear for Mr Noordhof.

Couple sue over farm next to squatter camp

ARG 10/9/91

JACQUELYN SWARTZ
Staff Reporter

307

A NOORDHOEK couple who unwittingly bought a farm next to a proposed squatter camp are having difficulty selling it now the squatters have moved in, the Supreme Court has been told.

Mr Barry Mayes and his wife, Helen, are suing the previous owner, Mr Gert Noordhof, who they claim did not tell them about the squatters when they bought the property.

They claim they would have paid far less than R950 000 had they known.

Soon after the Mayes family moved to the farm, an area next door was allocated to squatters.

Yesterday an estate agent acting for the Mayeses, Mr Jörg Teske, told the court he had been trying to sell the property for a while.

He had taken people to see it and had an offer of R300 000, but this was not acceptable.

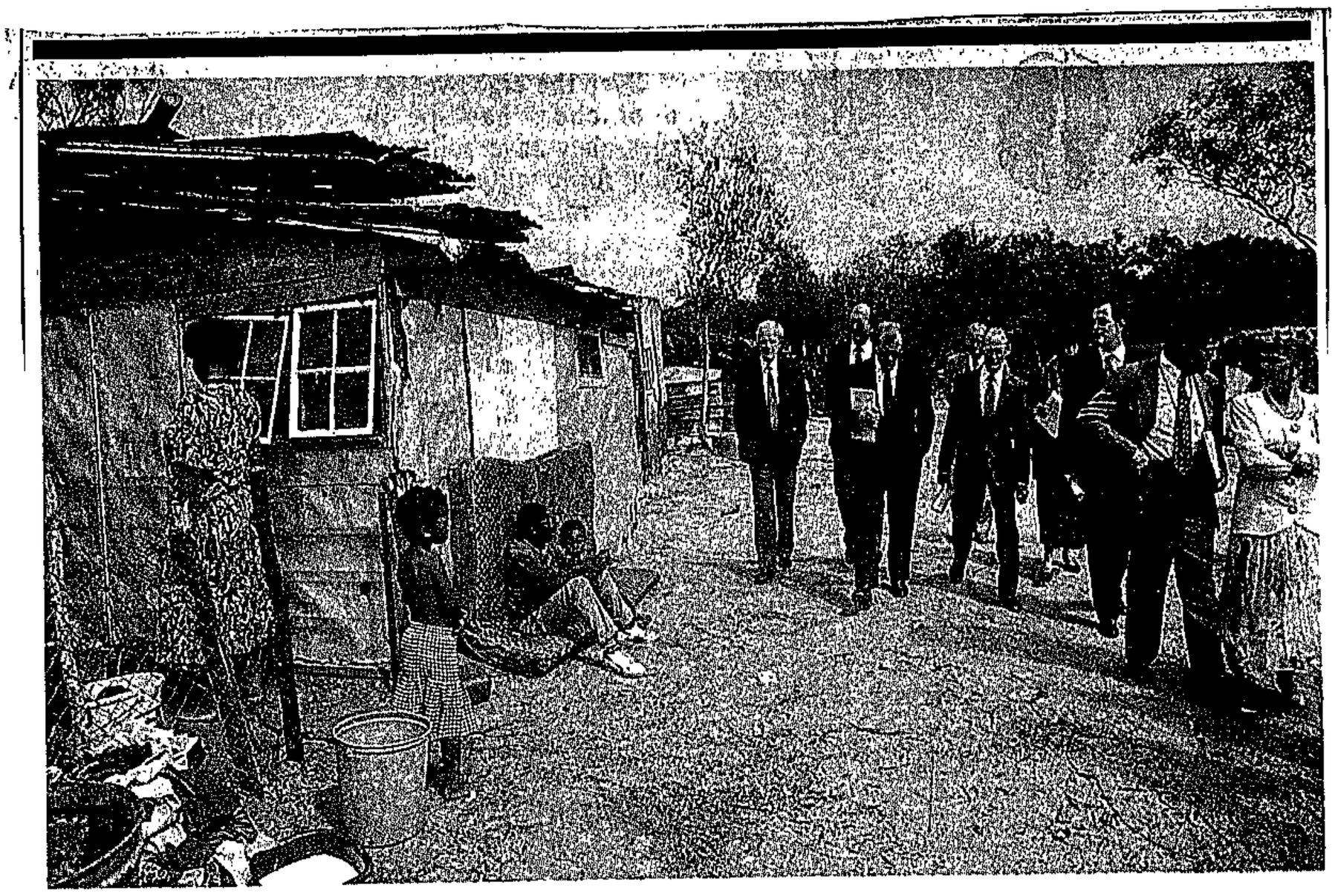
Town and regional planner Mr John Duxberry gave evidence about his role in the selection of a site for the squatters.

He told the court he had a telephone call from Mr Noordhof in June last year asking if a site had been selected.

Mr Duxberry said he had been conducting a study into a suitable site and had sent letters to people telling them of the investigation.

Mr Noordhof, who did not get a letter, asked Mr Duxberry for a list of all people who had been sent letters.

(Proceeding)



Squatter threats to neighbours

307

CT 11/9/91 By BRONWYN DAVIDS

NOORDHOEK squatters threatened to burn the Noordhof nursery complex after the owners opened a shop in competition with squatter shops, the Supreme Court heard yesterday.

This was said by Ms Shelley Knox, the daughter of Mrs Helen Mayes and Mr Barry Mayes who are claiming that the purchasing price of the R950 000 Noordhof nursery complex bought from Mr Geert (Gerry) Noordhof be dropped to R400 000 because he had been aware that the government was to settle squatters next to the complex.

Yesterday the court also went on an inspection-in-loco of the property.

Ms Knox, who lives on the property, said the family is plagued with begging, squatter drunks and people disturbing them at all hours of the night to ask for use of the phone.

To make money and to help the squatters they opened a shop on the property for squatter use, in competition with six squatter shops on Site 5.

They had 15 burglaries between February this year and June, when they were forced to close.

"When people came to buy, other squatters would threaten and manhandle them. They threatened to burn down our property and we were to scared to leave for two weeks," said Ms Knox.

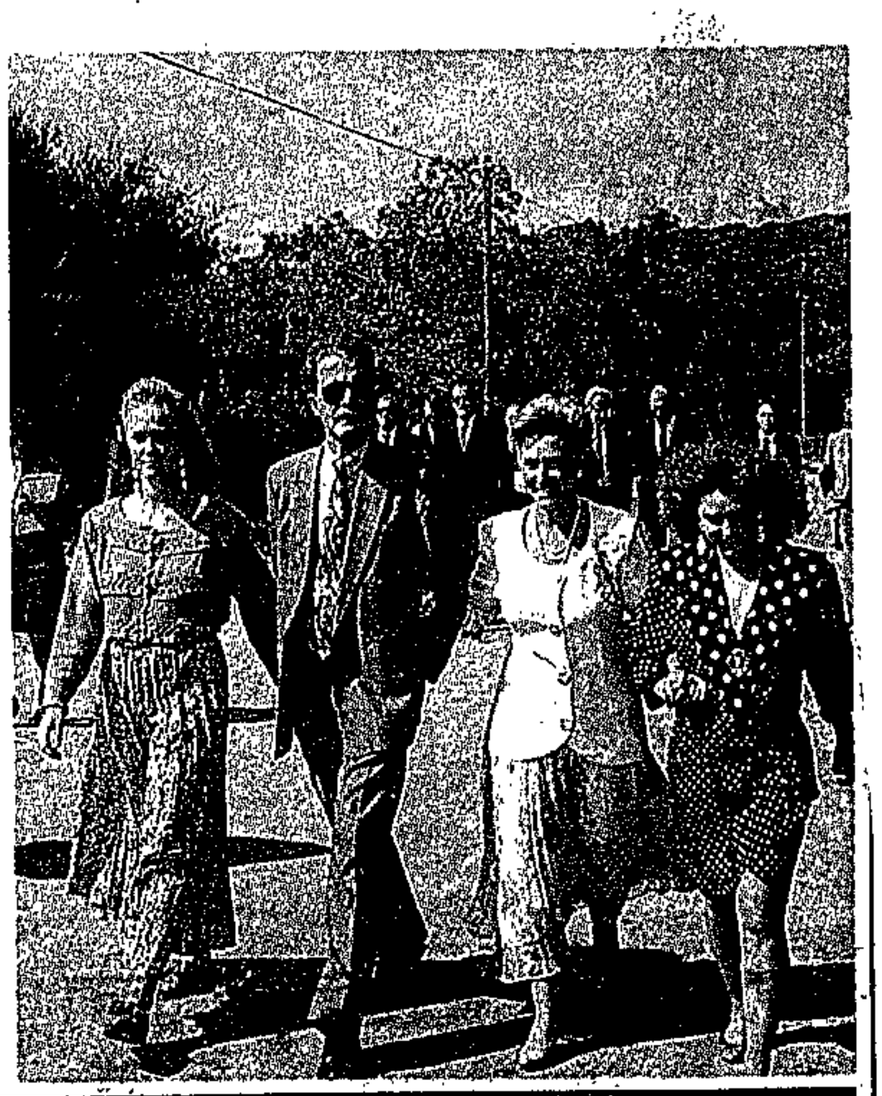
Under cross-examination she said she had received verbal threats on three or four occassions when threats were made to burn down the property.

The hearing continues today.

Mr Justice J J Fagan is presiding. Mr Doctor is assisted by Mr P van Blerk instructed by Brian Kahn and attorneys. Mr F D J Brand SC and Mr W R E Duminy instructed by Buchanan, Boyes and Klosser appear for Mr Noordhof.

COURT INSPECTION ... A Supreme Court inspection-in-loco of the Site Five squatter camp in Noordhoek which is about 300 metres away from the Noordhof nursery complex. **BELOW**: The family — Miss Caryn Mayes, Mr Barry Mayes, Mrs Helen Mayes and Miss Shelley Knox lead the way down Chasmay Avenue to the squatter camp.

Pictures: ALAN TAYLOR



Bought gun because of the squatters — woman

(351) ARG 11/9/91

JACQUELYN SWARTZ
Staff Reporter

A WOMAN who moved to a Noordhoek farm just before squatters settled next door told the Supreme Court she had to acquire a handgun because of threats.

Miss Shelley Knox was giving evidence yesterday in a civil trial in which her parents, Mr Barry Mayes and Mrs Helen Mayes, claim they bought the farm for R950 000 without knowing about the squatter situation.

They claim they would have paid much less had the previous owner, Mr Gert Noordhof, told them about the squatters.

Miss Knox said she had been threatened by squatters and had to acquire a gun. She and her sister, who were often alone, also kept a shotgun in the house.

She told the court that a shop on the farm had to be closed after threats and 15 break-ins, apparently because the squatters had their own shops and did not like competition.

Miss Knox said the squatter camp, which had since been declared a township, was affecting business at her restaurant on the farm.

They had been trying to draw people to the restaurant in spite of drunkenness and begging in the area.

Noise from the camp kept them awake at night and this was especially bad at weekends.

Squatters frequently called, wanting to use their telephone, and there was an incident of a woman nearly giving birth to a baby outside the restaurant.

She said the family had moved to the farm in search of "a good quality of life".

● An inspection in loco of the the farm and squatter camp was held yesterday.

'No sale' if woman knew of squatters

CT 12/9/91

(307)

A JOHANNESBURG woman who bought a R950 000 Noordhoek nursery complex told the Supreme Court yesterday that she would not have signed the purchasing agreement if she had known of a plan to move squatters to an adjacent site.

Mrs Helen Mayes and her husband Mr Barry Mayes are claiming about R350 000 in damages agianst Mr Geert (Gerry) Noordhof.

Mrs Mayes said that if she had known of the letter circulated by town-planning consutants concerning the designation of land in Noordhoek Valley for squatters, she would not have entered into the agreement to buy.

Farm-seller: I knew of squatter problem

JACQUELYN SWARTZ, Staff Reporter

COUNSEL for Mr Gert Noordhof, being sued for selling his Noordhoek farm under false pretences, has admitted he knew about a squatter problem in the area.

Following this disclosure in the Supreme Court, Cape Town, the applicants, Mr Barry Mayes and his wife Helen, were given leave by the court to change certain facts in their claim.

The couple claim they would not have bought the farm for R950 000 had they known there was a possibility squatters would move in next door, which subsequently happened.

Mr Noordhof admitted yesterday for the first time knowing of the existence of the squatters, although a letter showing otherwise had previously been handed to the court.

He sold the farm to the Mayes in July last year, but in June had sent a letter to a company investigating the squatter situation.

In it he said he objected "most strongly" to the settlement of squatters on a permanent basis anywhere in the Noordhoek valley.

"I have five daughters and my home is surrounded by squatter-infected bush. I cannot go out after dark for fear of their lives," the letter reads.

In her evidence yesterday Mrs Mayes told the court they had plans for the farm and had wanted to build a lodge and chalets.

She said that before they had decided to buy the property they had heard of a squatter problem in Hout Bay, but had been assured by Mr Noordhof there were "only bergies" in Noordhoek.

He had told them the land now occupied by the squatters was to be developed for higher-income groups. (307) ARG 12/9/91

Meiring sought on squatting policy

Municipal Reporter 307 ARG 13/10/91

URGENT attempts will be made by the Cape Town City Council to meet Administrator Mr Kobus Meiring to formulate a regional policy on squatting, the executive committee resolved.

The council decided in June to push for a regional policy on the issue and wrote to Mr Meiring on July 1 asking for an interview.

According to a council report, Mr Meiring had not replied to the request.

The June policy statement on squatting by the then Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, Mr Hernus Kriel, and an August provincial circular, only repeated previous policy statements, the report said.

Efforts to arrange a meeting with the Administrator would continue, it said.

Shanties and shacks to stay

307

AREA 14/9/91

SHACKS and shanties will have to form a cornerstone of housing policy in a new South Africa, and the country can no longer view such housing as a temporary phase of development near our cities.

Recognising this, housing subsidies should be applied to support informal housing, said Mr Graham Lawrence, town clerk of the Lingelethu West Town Council which controls Khayelistha.

Mr Lawrence was speaking at a conference on "informal settlement — the engineer's challenge and responsibilities" held at UCT.

Mr Lawrence said that poverty and "low levels of living in informal housing" are a fact of life for three-quarters of the world's population.

Less than 10 years ago informal housing conjured up images of slums, with anti-social and unsanitary conditions.

"They were seen as dens of iniquity, to be avoided, discouraged and destroyed at all costs" said Mr Lawrence.

WILLIAM BARKER
Business Staff

Since 1985, however, there had been a dramatic change in the official attitude, and there was now concensus as to the inevitability — if not desireability — of informal settlements. What was needed, said Mr Lawrence, were administrative changes designed to cope with the phenomenon.

Such changes would include:

- Frameworks which offered people a range of choices and encouraged them to help themselves;
- A role in the decision-making processes that affected their lives; and
- Access to land.

Difficulties arose when governments built homes for the poor.

"Without a clear understanding of the needs of the poor, building standards have been too high, and too expensive, and this has added to an already difficult situation" said Mr Lawrence.

It was estimated that more than seven million South Africans lived this way, and the number was increasing, said Mr Lawrence. Misconceptions also hampered acceptance.

The black sociologist Ademola Salau had said that overcrowding is regarded by most Africans as a "naturally acceptable cultural practice", and privacy was not a major concern.

"Resources directed to solve the problem of overcrowding is Africa may be tantamount to waste," said Mr Lawrence.

By allowing the poor access to resources, the State would acutally be encouraging and supporting housing action taken by the poor themselves.

"Informal housing should be acknowledged as a basis for a practical housing policy — in short a recognition of the poor's ingenious answer to their housing needs."

Immovable, so plans for squatters change

(307) CT 20/9/91

Municipal Reporter

CHANGES have had to be made to Muizenberg's structural plan because the Vrygrond squatters won't move.

"A road had to be moved, and some small changes were made," said director of planning Mr Rod Young yesterday.

The squatters have lived on Vrygrond in Muizenberg East since the 1940s.

Mr Young said that after a local structure plan for Muizenberg East had been approved by the council last year, it became clear that the squatters were not going to move to Lavender Hill, to the north.

The plan was then amended. "Very minor amendments were needed," Mr Young said. "We have defined the perimeter of the Vrygrond settlement and we have accommodated them in a rectangular section at top left-hand corner of the area."

Most of the 510ha area of Muizenberg East — between Prince George Drive, the proposed False Bay Arterial, Baden Powell Drive and the Cape Flats Sewage Works — will have middle-class housing built on it. Planners anticipate that it will eventually accommodate 20 000 people, with a high school and three primary schools.

The battle of two ministers

ARG 21/9/91

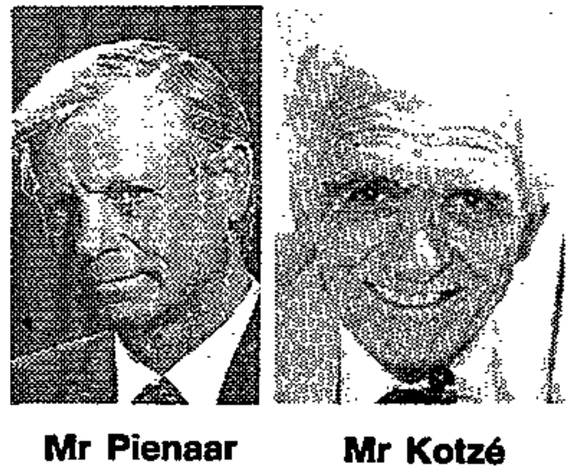
page 2.

Housing hassles, squatters raise cabinet tension

"Not-in-my-backyard" pressure over black housing from Milnerton and Maitland constituents has two ministers ducking and diving. But they are both seasoned politicians and used to controversy. LINDA GALLOWAY of Weekend Argus reports.

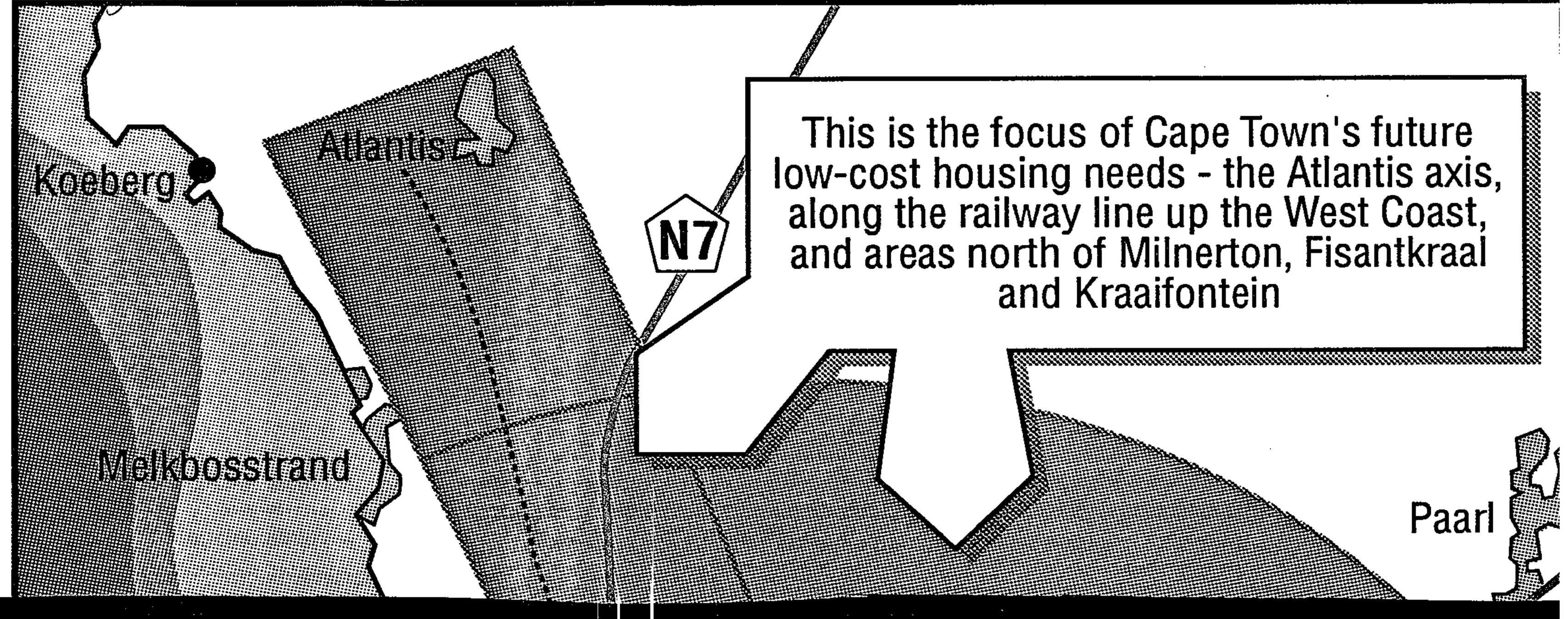
THE wrangle over a new site for Milnerton squatters, and subsequent debate over the siting of a black township north of Milnerton, has illuminated a power struggle between cabinet ministers Louis Pienaar and Gert Kotzé.

They have adjoining constituencies: Mr Pienaar's Maitland area stretches to the edge of Milnerton, where Mr Kotzé's plans for a low-cost housing



Mr Pienaar

Mr Kotzé



...v.a.mes burg co... gins.

Hapless Mr Kotzé — whose low-profile Water and Forestry Affairs portfolio has been given to another controversial character, former defence minister Magnus Malan — was first the Minister for the Environment until he was relieved of that portfolio last year.

Mr Pienaar took over the sensitive position, and has faced criticism himself.

Mr Kotzé landed in the midst of several major controversies in his relatively short term in that office — gill netting, sealculling, St Lucia and Noordhoek mining debates, toxic waste, cycad exports — and his handling of some aspects was justifiably criticised.

But his tenure also coincided with some potentially exciting gains for conservation — the new Environment Conservation Act, amendments to Sea Fisheries legislation, and action on gill netting.

Mr Pienaar took over two intense portfolios, national education and environment affairs.

A former Administrator of Namibia, he was also the chairman of the Publications Appeal Board before his appointment.

He beat off a determined Conservative Party challenge to take the Maitland seat after National Party colleague Mr Kent Durr was appointed South African ambassador in London.

Mr Kotze made an election promise — that there would be no informal housing (squatters) in his constituency — which he is going to find very hard to fulfill.

Mr Pienaar, who is keen to move the Marconi Beam squatters there, has also announced ...nerton, which would also fall in Mr Kotzé's constituency.

It is understood that an area north of the Killarney Hotel — 2 km from where they are now and in Mr Kotzé's constituency — was looked on very favourably by Mr Pienaar.

Although four possible sites are being mooted by town planners, the announcement that a low-cost housing area is proposed in that vicinity will influence the decision.

Sources said both MP's were actively lobbying their cabinet colleagues — against each other — on the four sites proposed.

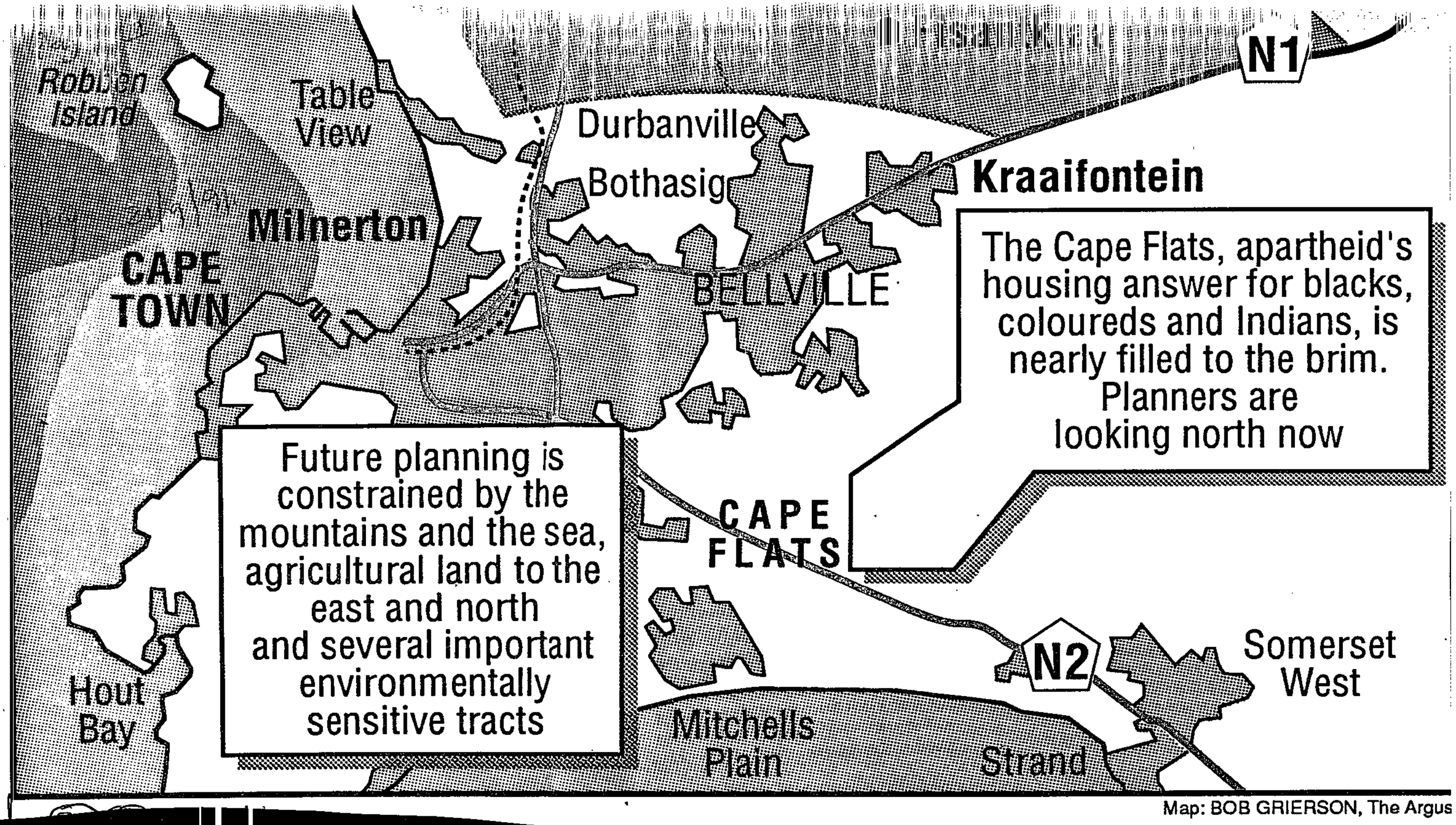
Table View ratepayers have turned to Mr Kotzé for support against the siting of squatters in the vicinity, and Milnerton ratepayers are keen to have them moved out of the area.

A final decision on both the site for the Marconi Beam community and a future township development, will be made by the cabinet, but Mr Pienaar's opinion will undoubtedly be influential in deciding the issue.

It would seem that Mr Pienaar has more clout — Mr Kotzé will be out of the cabinet at the end of the month.

A spokesman for Mr Kotzé's office said the minister was out of the country and not available for comment, but that as far as he was aware there were "no bad feelings" between the two ministers.

He said the decision now lay with the cabinet and was out of the hands of Mr Pienaar and Mr Kotzé.



Map: BOB GRIERSON, The Argus

SOT ARG 21/9/91

Limited land, so much need

AS the Western Cape continues to fill with immigrants from rural areas and other South African towns and cities, planners are assessing the options for the residential settlements of the future. Political Correspondent MICHAEL MORRIS reports.

THERE is only so much vacant land left in the Peninsula, and looking to the north beyond Milnerton and the Tygerberg is the only answer for Cape Town's future low-cost housing needs.

This, in essence, is the government's argument. There are, after all, several immutable constraints. Apart from the existing urban fabric, there is sea, mountains, and rich, important agricultural land with environmentally sensitive areas which need protection.

That leaves the northern areas and the West Coast strip.

This argument is contested by some who have called for a process of "in-filling" — using up the quite considerable patches of vacant land dotted throughout the Peninsula.

Even they concede, though, that after the burgeoning settlements of Mitchell's Plain, Khayelitsha and Blue Downs, the focus has now shifted to the north.

It was sharpened during the week when Minister of Environment Affairs, Mr Louis Pienaar, told a meeting in Cape Town on environmental concerns in False Bay that there was simply not enough room on the Cape Flats to accommodate further urbanisation on the scale of the development of Khayelitsha.

He said the government was now assessing sites in areas to the north of Milnerton, Kraaifontein and Fisantekraal.

While denying later that he had meant there would be a settlement of the *magnitude* of Khayelitsha in the northern areas, that is the impression that has stuck in many people's minds.

In law townships as separate dormitory areas for black people are a thing of the past. The crumbling of apartheid has — or should have — erased the concept from planners' thinking.

An Urban Foundation report indicated only last month that between 7 000 and 10 000 new squatters were streaming into the Cape metropolitan area each month, settling mainly in the Khayelitsha, Crossroads, KTC, Nyanga, Noordhoek and Hout Bay areas.

With the Western Cape's relatively rosy economic outlook — as well as the attraction of a generally more peaceful *milieu* — compared to the violence and turmoil on the Witwatersrand — Cape Town will continue to be a magnet.

The initial challenge for planners in Maitland and Milnerton, is to find suitable and acceptable land for the relocation of squatters whose presence in the area has generated considerable controversy.

Various sites have been mooted, but locals are still discussing them and the cabinet has yet to approve any scheme.

It is thought that in the longer term the rail link between Atlantis and Cape Town would form the spine of some new settlements to meet the needs of the thousands of blacks still streaming into the Peninsula.

Presently, the line carries virtually only goods traffic, but Spoornet has expressed interest in establishing a passenger service to and from Atlantis.

This option actually highlights one of two critical aspects of planning large-scale residential development, particularly for people with little or no money.

One of the most acute lessons to be learned from apartheid planning is the social and economic cost of siting low-cost housing far from jobs and efficient transport routes.

And in the post Group Areas setting, there is another consideration.

There is no legal determination now to force blacks — or any other race and income group — to live in one place and not another.

In this context planning takes on a different meaning.

(307) Arg 21/9/91



☐ **SQUATTER SQUALOR:** What Mr Gert Kotzé promised would not happen in his constituency.

Meiring calls for land for squatters

307
CT 24/9/91

Municipal Reporter

THE Administrator of the Cape, Mr Kobus Meiring, appealed yesterday to every local authority to set aside land for squatters without delay.

He also appealed to everyone to show tolerance in granting living space to the poorer groups "and to play an active part in social programmes with a view to their upliftment".

Suitable, easily accessible land should be earmarked for the poorest communities before undesirable squatting took place, he said.

One-sided legal action was not the solution to the squatter problem, Mr Meiring said.

If settled communities remained intolerant of the presence of poorer communities this would only promote polarisation and antagonism.

This in turn would provoke lawlessness and militant behaviour by squatters.

Many law-abiding people in squatter communities sought only reasonable opportunities to earn a decent living.

Mr Meiring suggested that these be helped to reduce the influence of "bad elements" within their own communites.

"A partnership between existing residents, squatter communities and the authorities will have to be established for this purpose," he said.

Only when poor people's need for living space had been handled with understanding would it become possible to start nation-building.

Mr Meiring said squatters should be prosecuted only when they "infringe upon other people's property rights and impose upon the existing structured, developed and natural environment when an alternative suitable site for settlement is available close by".

The government had accepted the responsibility — within its available finances — of providing rudimentary serviced plots to the poorest members of the community in an orderly way.

Ambulance Park shacks demolished

ET 28/9/91 (307) **Staff Reporter**

SIX squatter shacks were demolished at the Ambulance Park squatter area near Somerset West by municipal workers on Thursday, it was learnt yesterday.

About 50 policemen watched the demolition, during which two people were arrested.

Somerset West town clerk Mr G J Human said yesterday that the demolition was carried out in terms of a court order granted to the municipality on September 19.

"The area is a protected nature area and is not suitable for residential purposes," he said.

The families and their possessions were moved to the Waterkloof transit camp. Another 71 families were still illegally squatting in the area and a decision on their fate was expected soon, he said.

Somerset West police station commander Captain J N Lourens said one man was arrested for assaulting a policeman and a second for obstructing police.

Fate of 72 squatters at Paarl uncertain

CT 2/10/91. (307)

By CHRIS BATEMAN

THE fate of 72 Mbekweni squatters, living in overcrowded and "unsanitary" conditions outside Paarl, remained uncertain yesterday amid allegations of corruption among the recently deposed local civic association executive.

The group is sharing a large shack erected with Operation Hunger aid alongside the United Methodist Church in Mbekweni after a string of evictions and demolitions of their shacks.

Veteran Mbekweni campaigner Ms Lydia Mdingi said yesterday that the old civic association executive (a new executive was elected last week) "squandered" Red Cross blankets, food and R10 000 intended for the group.

Both Mr Marius Steyn, Mbekweni's town clerk, and Mr Isaac Vusani Hendry, newly elected treasurer of the Mbekweni civic, were unable to say yesterday what the fate of the 72 would be.

Mr Mzwandile Petros, a member of both the old and new civic executive, said Ms Mdingi worked with Mr Steyn's council and "these are just allegations".

Guards flatten squatter camp

By Henry Ludski (307)



WHERE TO NOW? Their former homes now part of a wasteland, dazed Pelican Park squatters ponder their future

PIC: YUNUS MOHAMED

ARMED security guards were deployed this week to back up a bulldozer that ripped through and destroyed a small squatter settlement in Pelican Park.

The families who fled Crossroads and Site B in Khayelitsha three years ago to escape the continuing violence in these settlements now face a new torment — the uncertainty of not knowing what the next day has in store for them.

An hour after the demolition all that remained of the 10 shacks — home to 63 people — was a heap of broken furniture, corrugated iron and plastic sheeting.

The demolition was carried out on Monday by Combat Force of Natal, the security firm contracted by the House of Delegates to remove the families from the land earmarked for a self-help housing scheme.

The next day the homeless squatter families sat huddled together on a windswept stretch of land, their only comfort being blankets and food donated by the Red Cross Society.

The demolition has been described as a "disgusting and inhumane act" by a teacher from a nearby school who tried in vain to stop the destruction of the shacks.

"We have lost everything. I can't find my identity document and don't have any money and food," said Mr Peter Rabie whose three children are at a school in Khayelitsha. "I don't know what I will tell them when they come home this weekend," said Rabie.

"They (security guards) said they would return if we did not leave the area," said Mr Ismail Madiwabe, who arrived home from work on Monday to find his home destroyed and his wife Albertina and nine-month-old son Thobile out in the cold.

Madiwabe lost his job the next day when he told his boss he could not come to work because of the problem at "home".

On Tuesday afternoon an air of despair hung over the small squatter settlement as the remains of their dwellings and possessions lay strewn amid the tracks of the bulldozer.

"We know that these people will come back, but we don't have anywhere to go," said Rabie.

Mr Martin van Zyl, Director of Housing in the House of Delegates, was not available for comment on Tuesday.

Mr Colin Reeves, the manager of Combat Force in the Western Cape, has refused to comment on the demolition.

Mr Robert Ross, managing director of demolition firm Ross & Sons which cleared the bush, said that he wouldn't demolish the homes of squatters for "all the money in the world".

"We cleared the ground for the House of Delegates but I refused to allow my bulldozers to be used to destroy the homes of squatters," he said.

Ross said he believed the bulldozer of a Johannesburg company was used in the demolition, but this could not be confirmed.

South 9/10 - 16/10/91

'All I have left now is my ID book'

South 9/10 – 16/10/91 (307)

By Heather Robertson

MS Esther Sofute was walking back to KTC on Saturday night, preparing to pack her bags for a trip to her family in the Transkei, when she saw the flames engulfing her shack.

"All I have now is my ID document," she says.

She stands with her six-month-old baby Humphrey clinging to her breast, staring at the charred remains of furniture and belongings that once was her home.

"I lost my Paarl dining-room suite, hifi, heater, two bed bases with headboards, wardrobe and all my clothes. My baby has no napkins to wear," she shrugs.

This is the first time since the war between "witdoeke" and "comrades" in 1986 that the shacks of KTC residents have been destroyed.

Esther's husband, who is afraid to give his name for fear of reprisals from the police, says their house was torched because some members of the Taxi Co-ordinating Committee lived in KTC.



NOTHING LEFT: Esther Sofute
PIC: FANIE JASON

"Our houses were torched because of the neighbouring houses," he says, explaining that drivers who worked for Lagunya Taxis ran into KTC to escape Webta gunmen.

Previously Esther and her husband stayed in Khayelitsha, where she watched her house being burnt in 1989 during the clash between headmen.

"This time I don't understand why they burnt our houses. They were white people shooting at the boys who were helping to put out the fires. Everyone had to run away from the bullets," she said.

Esther does not know when her house could be built again. At the moment she does not even know where she will sleep. Some of the families are staying at the KTC Hall where the Red Cross is assisting with basic food and blankets.

Mr Patrick Katikati, a KTC spaza shopowner, lost goods, including wines, groceries and foodstuffs, worth R5 000.

His shop has also been burnt down before. The last time was in 1986. He managed to rebuild his business then by "borrowing bits of money here and there". Now he does not know how he will cope.

"We don't have weapons in KTC. We need protection," he says.

Ms Eunice Hans feels she was lucky her house missed the flames. But her clothes, watch, cutlery and TV were stolen in the mayhem.

"When there is misery, when houses are on fire, you see people you have never seen before helping themselves to your things. I saw a man running away with my iron," she says.

She came to Cape Town 20 years ago to work as a domestic worker. Now she makes a living by selling clothes in KTC. Despite the vigilante attacks and the taxi war she still feels that living in KTC is better than living in the Ciskei.

"I will still stay in KTC and never go back to the Ciskei. There is no work there," she says.

Blaze at squatter camp

ST Times 6/10/91

367

By EUGENE ABRAHAMS

MORE than 15 shacks in a Cape Town squatter camp were burnt to the ground yesterday afternoon.

It took 17 members of the Mitchell's Plain Fire Brigade, using five fire engines and two water tenders, three hours to extinguish the huge blaze at the KTC squatter camp.

About 200 men, women and children hurled verbal abuse at members of the riot police unit who arrived on the scene to protect the firemen.

The fire is believed to have been started by arsonists as, earlier in the day, there was trouble near the Nyanga taxi terminus.

Large numbers of heavily armed men were seen congregating in the area after a minibus taxi of the Lagunya Taxi Association was attacked and burnt nearby.

The taxi terminus has been the scene of recent violent clashes between members of the rival Lagunya and Webta taxi associations.

Nurse opens her home to squatters

Staff Reporter

A NURSING sister who took in a group of squatters after their shacks were demolished is appealing to "all Christians" for help.

About 12 shacks were torn down in Pelican Park, near Lotus River.

About 30 people and two children slept in the field while the woman, who lives in a three-bedroomed house, took in about 14 people.

The woman, who asked not to be named, has appealed for clothes, food and even caravans.

She plans to set these up in her yard to house the people.

An appeal for bibles has also been made.

Anyone who wants to help can phone ☎ 73 7261 or go to 17 Bosbok Avenue, Lotus River.

A spokesman for the House of Delegates — which was responsible for the demolition — said the site was needed for a new township. The people had been given ample notice and had offered no resistance when the shacks were torn down.

"We don't just go in and do nasty things like that," he said.

White man too poor to build shack

A WHITE man has been elected chairman of a squatter camp committee in Paarl. (307)

Hendrik Loots cannot afford to build a shack, and is living in a tent at the camp with his "coloured" wife. CP Pres 20/10/91

A low-budget shack cost R260 to build and a better one R400.

CP Reporters and Sapa

TAXI WAR

Caught in crossfire

'All I have is a bag of clothing — even my money was burned'

South 24/10 - 30/10/91.



ALL IS LOST: On Tuesday night Mrs Nowisile Sinsile lost all her possessions, except a bag of clothing, when her house and three taxis were torched

"WE HAVE nothing left ... all is lost," a woman lamented. She was one of over 2 000 Khayelitsha residents left homeless by the taxi war.

"All I have is a bag of clothing given to me, even my money was burned," said Mrs Nowisile Sinsile after her husband's three taxis and their shack were burnt.

Mrs Nonimba Memane (right) was hit with a rifle butt in her stomach a week before her daughter was born. After her house was destroyed she spent the night cowering in bushes with her seven-year-old child.

On Tuesday, 12 shacks and five taxis were torched in Site B.

Lagunya driver Mr David Mbexa, top right, whose taxi was destroyed, said he did not know how he was going to support his family.



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PAARL SHACK PEOPLE ELECT HOMELESS

HENDRIK AS CHIEF TROUBLESHOOTER

White man heads squatter camp

S1 Times (CM) 27/10/91

3 of 1

By KURT SWART

A FORMER hospital worker has been elected the first white leader of a squatter camp in the country.

Mr Hendrik Loots was made chairman of the squatter committee last month — just three months after he, his wife, Sophi, and baby son, "Hendrikkie", had moved into the settlement near the Dal Josafat Stadium in Paarl.

The white squatter has encountered little opposition from the community.

"The only problem I have had was from some people who said they were going to kill me and burn my shack because I said I don't like dagga and alcohol in the camp," Mr Loots said.

"The people accept me as a leader and they come to me with their problems. I don't really feel like I'm the leader. I feel more as if I'm just one of them.

"I do the books, list the complaints and I talk to the municipality on their behalf."

Floodlights

Mr Loots's day is devoted to doing the rounds of the community and attending to its problems — and the people seem oblivious to his blond hair and blue eyes.

Residents pay the Paarl municipality R20 a month for their plots in the "legal" settlement. The municipality has installed a row of outside toilets and floodlights.

Chief among the squatters' complaints are water that stands in pools after rain, burst road pipes, blocked toilets and dogs that rip open refuse bags.

"I also have to deal with personal problems. Last night a man put out his wife and child to take in a girlfriend. There was a big fight between the two women," Mr Loots said.

"If I can sort the problem out, I do. If not, I call the municipality or the police, but I first try to sort out problems locally. If they need something here I get it for them.

"In four months' time we'll choose a chairman at a proper meeting — but I'm not going to stand. I'm being kept up night after night with the camp's problems."

Mr Loots, 37, was born in Port Elizabeth and lived in the Transvaal before moving to Wellington. He worked as a hospital porter at Groote Schuur Hospital and later as a long-distance driver.

When his father, an official in the Department of Water Affairs, died in January 1986, his mother moved into a home for the aged.

Mr Loots, who had lost his job as a driver, was left homeless and unemployed.

"I lived in the bushes, where I met Sophi. We slept together in drain pipes and graveyards. After struggling for nearly a year we found a tent site in Orleans Park in Paarl."

Grant

The couple were married in December 1986 and baby Hendrik was born in January last year.

"We love each other," said Mr Loots.

Mrs Loots, 27, laughed shyly and nodded her head in agreement.

Mr Loots said he kept in touch with his mother who had "no problem" with his choice of lifestyle and wife.

"I still see my (white) friends. They don't have anything bad to say about me."

Mr Loots gets a disability grant of R314. His wife receives a grant of R351.

"I don't think we'll stay here. I want to get a plot in Riversdale or Beaufort West, start poultry farming and keep a garden for vegetables," Mr Loots said.

Group to ease squatter tension

Municipal Reporter (307)

A "potentially volatile situation" between Vrygrond squatters and Marina da Gama residents could be defused by a steering committee convened by Mr Jannie Momberg MP, says an executive committee report tabled in the council.

Mrs Isobel Edelstein, who owns property in Marina da Gama, said she was disappointed in the residents' association's views on the squatters.

She hoped Mr Momberg's committee would promote "cross-cultural tolerance".

Vrygrond was sparse, clean and did not seemed overcrowded, she said.

The report said lack of council funds had prevented upgrading the area.

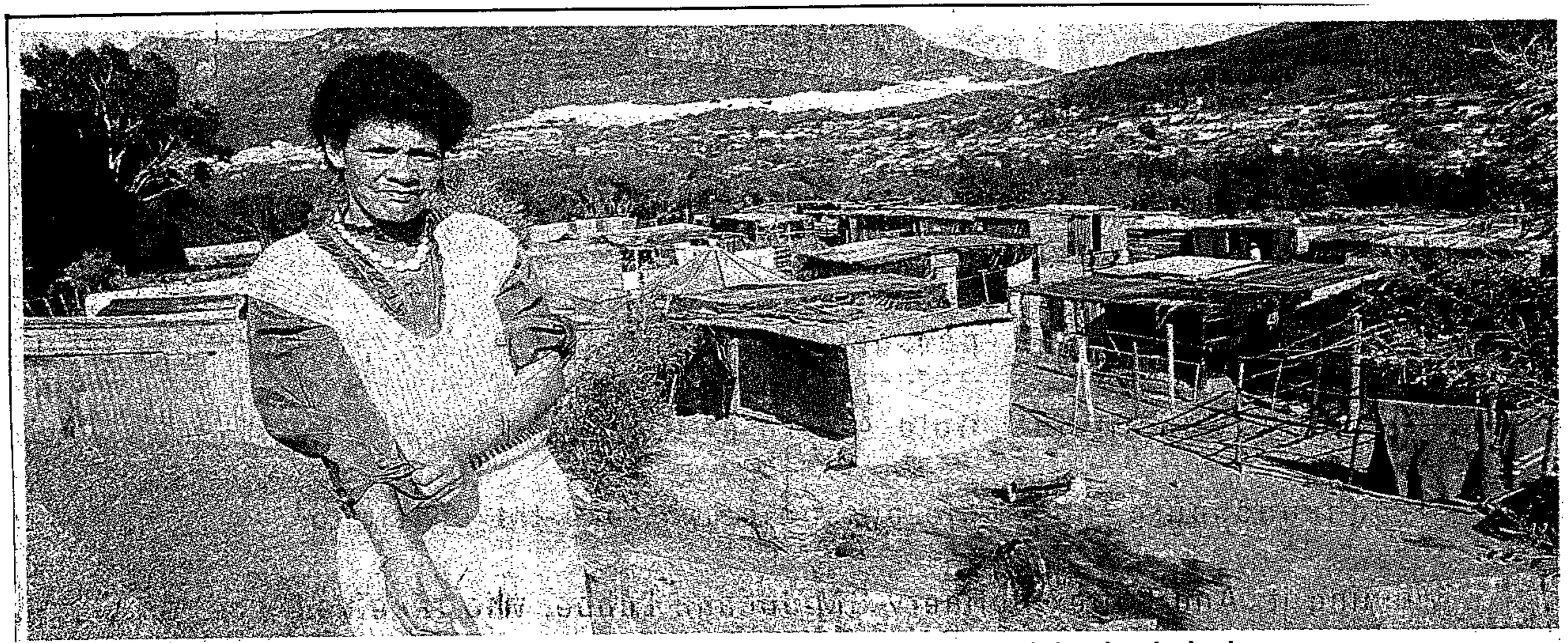
Statistics had been exaggerated and misinterpreted.

A city planner's report said there were claims the settlement had grown by 500 percent, which was not true.

Mrs Joye Gibbs said Vrygrond was the first example in the Peninsula of a conflict between squatters and higher-income residents. ARG 1/11/9

S|Times (CM) 307

3/11/91.



SHARING SKILLS ... Hout Bay community worker Vanessa Matthews is learning the hard way

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Vanessa builds a life out of sticks, struggle

30M
ST Times (CM) 3/11/91

By ZUBEIDA JAFFER

ROWS of neatly arranged bamboo sticks form the "ceiling" of the shack Vanessa Mathews calls home.

She and Clifford Anthony, father of her two children, clambered high into the Hout Bay mountains to cut them as they were determined to build a sturdy shack to provide the security they fought so hard for.

After years of intense struggle, in which many lost their houses and some their lives, they and 500 other Hout Bay squatter families won the right to build homes the authorities could no longer tear down.

Stretch

Ms Mathews is a popular leader of this predominantly black settlement — no small feat for this slightly-built 31-year-old coloured woman who does not speak an African language.

The eldest of a family of five, she was born in Lavender Hill, where, at 19, she took responsibility for her sisters and brother when her mother died.

When she joined Clifford in the squatter camp in 1985, she knew about struggling for survival in a council flat and making her meagre wage as a clothing worker stretch to feed the family. But she knew little or nothing about building a house, finding water to live from and battling to prevent that house from being ripped down.

But her experience in the civic movement in Lavender Hill in the early '80s, her efforts to help organise her fellow clothing workers and her involvement in campaigns of the United Democratic Front, stood her in good stead when love took her from her childhood home.

As the police and local authorities waged war on the families of Disa River — the oldest of five Hout Bay squatter settlements — Vanessa became the natural leader as she shared her skills with the community and won their respect.

She taught people how to make placards with which they lined the scenic drive leading to the fishing village, organised candle vigils and took endless legal advice before their final victory — a permanent site for people from five camps.

But she says it is the skills the community taught her that have become her focus.

Clifford and his family have been squatters for more than 30 years, says Vanessa. Through constant harassment, they have become experts at reconstructing demolished shacks and Vanessa had to learn to collect any piece of wood she could find — old or new — to build the shelter.

Before they were moved from Disa River to this permanent site, they built a home with steps leading down into different rooms and a barrel fixed with a tap for water.

The ritual of boiling water and sterilising containers has become part of her life — points of hygiene not yet observed by all in the camp.

Toilets had to be shifted when the holes overflowed. Holes were closed but the health hazards grew.

Share

Appointed by the local committee as community worker, Vanessa is now making it a priority to ensure that skills and knowledge about house construction and health be spread.

While drawing on outside experience, they are trying to use the skills within the community and share them with the rest.

Her work has earned her the privilege of travelling to Canada last year at the invitation of Oxfam to tell the story of this life which has become her own.

It is Vanessa and others like her who will benefit the more than seven million homeless South Africans in the hard years to come.

'Jungle law' forced on squatter women

WOMEN in the Hout Bay squatter settlement are battling against the "law of the jungle" imposed by their men.

Granted permanent residency on a new site, they are now spared the harassment of the authorities — but the infidelities and violence of their men have left many in despair.

Local squatter leader, Ms Vanessa Mathews, who has herself been a victim of abuse, says many women and children are being battered by the men in the camp.

"When frustration arises — there is no food, no money — the men also feel pain," said Ms Mathews. "They feel guilty, hurt and embarrassed and sometimes this makes them beat up their women very badly."

30M

Ms Mathews believes the problem is economic and cultural. But there are also men who are "very jealous or very lazy".

"They expect a woman to cook, clean the house, work and still take care of the children." ST Times (CM) 3/11/91

If the women don't manage, the mean beat them.

Women who want to get away have nowhere to go with their children. They end up leaving to stay with friends temporarily and then inevitably coming back.

Some who are faced with the infidelity of their men can only fight back by insisting that they can't bring them home.

"I told him he mustn't bring her into my house," said Ms Laetitia Darries, 25. "I won't allow that."

That women have to fight for such basic decency is indicative of the serious disadvantages they suffer.

The discussion around the equality of women taking place within the broad democratic movement is far removed from the reality faced by the women of Hout Bay.

prisonment, suspended for three years, for disturbing the peace after using an amplifier without a permit.

council was stopping him doing so.

Others feared Mbelo would eventually be jailed.

Squatter rules provoke anger

307

Cl Pres 24/11/94

ANGRY squatters in Beacon Bay, East London, say a proposed list of rules for squatters – including outlawing fortune telling and making offensive smells – was "tempting the community to respond violently".

The draft regulations, spelt out in a six-page proposal by the Amatola Regional Services Council (ARSC), say nobody may live in the transit area without a permit and anybody could be required to move from there.

Sweeping clauses like no "causing of unpleasantness or offensive smells" are alongside more obscure clauses like no person may "tell fortunes for compensation".

The Beacon Bay Residents' Association said the regulations were "tempting the community to respond violently". After meeting with service organisations this week, the association called for a mass meeting today.

ARSC chief executive officer Chris van den Berg said the recent proclamation of the area as a temporary transit camp allowed the local authorities to introduce regulations in terms of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act. – Elnews

Hout Bay squatter camp is expected to expand

CT 27/11/91

307

THE Hout Bay squatter camp Imizamo Yethu (Our Efforts) is expected to expand, according to the Regional Services Council and the Cape Provincial Administration.

This is clear from a report to the Western Cape RSC about the provision of water to the Hout Bay and Noordhoek squatter camps, which comprise 430 and 130 dwellings respectively.

Officials were less than forthcoming when asked yesterday in which direction the Hout Bay camp might expand.

An RSC spokesman said the CPA was handling the planning.

Mr Andries Visser of the CPA said he could not comment at this stage as "the whole thing is still in the planning phase".

However, rumours circulating among worried Hout Bay property owners that the informal housing might eventually spread across the Main Road were shot down yesterday by ratepayers' representatives.

Professor Rob Millar, the ratepayers' association chairman, said this was highly unlikely.

"The 3 000 or so residents of the camp are on about eight or 10 hectares of land," he said. "Eighteen hectares in that area have been designated for the camp."

CP no to R6-m for black squatters

THE Conservative Party said this week there was no political motive for the Uitenhage City Council to reject a R6-million housing project for the city's black homeless.

The Independent Development Trust (IDT) had made available the money for the development of 802 plots at Kabah-Langa, but earlier this week, the CP-dominated council rejected the plan to house 5 000 people.

Former mayor Nic Claassen said the CP did not want squatters in the area, but wanted "decent houses" for everybody.

Cape Herald 16/2/91

White gets squatter vote

THE white man who set up home at a transit squatter camp on the outskirts of Paarl is doing well.

Hendrik Loots, 37, who formerly lived in Port Elizabeth and the Transvaal, was recently elected leader of the squatters and remains the first white leader of a squatter camp in South Africa.

When Loots and his "coloured" wife Sophi arrived at the camp about four months ago they were forced to live in a tent but he has since built his own makeshift home on a site made available by the Paarl municipality.

Paarl East housing manager James Solomon, under whose jurisdiction the squatter camp falls, has nothing but praise for Loots, who remains the only white squatter at the camp.

"Loots has been accepted by everybody in the camp and when there are complaints they come to see him," said Solomon.

Solomon said he and Loots discuss problems where necessary and Loots returns to the squatter camp to "put matters right" with the community.

"The temporary transit squatters camp proved a big success," Solomon said.

Loots and his wife were married in December 1986 and have a 22-month-old son, Hendrik. – Sapa

Use cable funds for squatters — PAC

30M

South 5/12 - 11/12/91

By Sabata Ngcai

THE massive R50 million earmarked for building a cableway could be better used to build houses for thousands of people squatting in shacks in the Western Cape townships, says the PAC.

PAC foreign affairs secretary Ms Patricia de Lille said: "The cableway is unnecessary as the African people won't be able to afford to use it.

"The money would have been better used to build houses to accommodate squatters. We have an influx of tens of thousands of people coming to Cape Town without accommodation," De Lille said.

The Waterfront Signal Hill Cableway project would build a multi-million rand cableway estimated to create between 100 and 200 jobs, countered the planners.

The cableway, expected to be operational in 1993, would have to carry about 500 000 passengers each year to be profitable, they said.

Project consultant Mr Ken Sturgeon said it was the responsibility of the government to build houses for squatters. He said the cableway project "was only designed to create job opportunities for the people".

"We are not a government. It is the duty of the government to look after its citizens. The project would create more jobs for the people, so that those who have no accommodation could be able to buy houses.

"The cableway is necessary so that we can attract visitors from overseas.

"They will spend money that will boost the country's economy and create more job opportunities."

He said a restaurant and an education centre, among other things, would be built to provide employment opportunities.

ANC regional secretary Mr Tony Yengeni said his organisation was approached prior to the planning of the project. "We expressed concern at the project as it won't be accessible to the lower income groups because of its expected high prices. We are also concerned whether there would be any involvement of black staff in the project."

DIY palaces beat squatter squalor

(30M)
S/Times (CM)
22/15/91

By CHIARA CARTER

THIS Christmas will be memorable for Mr Lindile Maki and his wife, Nokhanyisile — it will be their first in their dream home, an 11-roomed, double-storeyed mansion that towers over the shacks of their neighbourhood at Brown's Farm squatter camp in Philippi.

The Makis' last home was a tent in Green Point, Khayelitsha.

Businessman Mr Maki, 32, has spent more than R50 000 in the past four months building the tin-and-timber house, which is in the style of a Swiss chalet, complete with wooden windowsills and wide balcony.

Upstairs, a long passage leads into an open-plan kitchen/lounge that has panoramic views of Table Mountain.

Because of the risk of fire, Mr Maki is building brick inner walls.

The floorboards and walls are slightly uneven, but the couple don't mind.



DREAM HOME . . . Lindile Maki and his wife Nokhanyisile outside their 11-roomed, double-storey mansion which towers over neighbouring shacks in Brown's Farm squatter camp

Picture: FANIE JASON

"We are spending Christmas in the house of our dreams," they said.

Handsome

Although the Maki home has astounded the Brown's Farm community, it is not the only mansion-shack in Cape Town.

Mrs Nowethu Mazele, 25, a shebeen owner in Site C, Khayelitsha, is building a wooden, eight-roomed double-storey to house her business and her family.

"I had hoped to have my new home ready by Christmas, but the house-warming has been postponed until early next year," Mrs Mazele said with a broad smile.

Mr George Mamile, 35, and his wife Patience, 31, also have a handsome double-storeyed home in Site C.

The exterior is in face-brick and wood. The second floor has finely carved facades and a balcony that juts over a front path lined with flowers. The cosy interior is panelled in wood and Mr Mamile is laying chic ceramic tiles on the concrete floors.

Mr Mamile, who is unemployed, says the house has cost about R15 000, but he estimates he will need another R5 000 to complete the tiling and the balcony.

He has extended his home for his growing family and doubts he will move.

"It's the home we want and have worked for," he says.

307.

S/ Times (CM)

22/15/91.

SQUATTERS – CAPE

1992

Thirty shacks destroyed

(307)
Soweto
2/1/92.

A FIRE at Khayelitsha, near Cape Town, yesterday morning destroyed 30 squatter dwellings.

No one was injured.

A police spokesman said the fire was apparently started when a number of tyres were set alight.

Stones were also thrown at police vehicles, he said. - *Sapa.*

Camp killing, man attacked

307 CT 3/1/92

AN angry crowd drove a stake into the head of a man who had allegedly stabbed a Hout Bay squatter camp leader to death on New Year's Day.

Police spokesman Major Gys Boonzaaier said the 30-year-old man, who may not be named, was taken to hospital after a police patrol found a group of about 300 people about to necklace a man at the Mandela Park squatter camp.

The attack, about 6.15am, was apparently in revenge for the murder of a 35-year-old community leader known as "Solly", who was stabbed to death earlier that morning.

He said no arrests had yet been made. A hospital spokesman said the injured man was in a stable condition.

● Two hostels in Bruntville township near Mooi River in Natal were attacked by alleged ANC supporters early yesterday, the IFP charged.

Mr Kim Hodgson, head of the Inkatha Institute's violence study unit, said that in one attack, a hostel was slightly damaged by a grenade blast. In the other, another hostel was damaged when eight "hostel units" were burnt down.

No one was hurt in the attacks, he said.

● A petrol-bomb blast destroyed the home of ANC member Mr Proo Bazo in Sebokeng on the Vaal Triangle late on Tuesday night, but no one was hurt, a community official said on Wednesday.

Mr Tlaks Banda, head of the Vaal Civic Association's violence-monitoring committee, said damage was estimated at about R7 000.

He said the motive for the attack was unknown. — Staff Reporter and Sapa

Rent first, toilets later

Elpress 12/1/92

THE town council of East London's Duncan Village won't use R4,3-million set aside for improving the township's toilets unless residents promise to pay rent and service charges.

The chief executive officer for the Gompo Town Committee, Petrus van Zyl Cronje, confirmed this week that the Cape Provincial Administration had set aside R4,3-million as a loan for improving sewerage and sanitation facilities in the township.

But the money could only be taken up if there was "firm acceptance" from the Duncan Village Residents Association (DVRA) that service charges would be paid.

Cronje said the DVRA should encourage residents to stop the six-year old rent boycott and pay for their services.

"The money that we were promised will be given out, provided people, including shack-dwellers, pay their rents," Cronje said.

The DVRA said it would have to consult its members before responding to the ultimatum.

However, a statement issued on behalf of the organisation by Dr Trudy Thomas, a member of the DVRA's health committee, criticised the council for not consulting the DVRA about the use of the money.

This was despite the fact that it was through the DVRA's efforts in highlighting the toilet problem that the funds were obtained, Thomas said.

Cronje said in response: "It is strange for Dr Thomas to say they were not consulted as we held numerous meetings with DVRA during the last few months about getting funds from the government." – Elnews

Squatter camp smashed after right-wing letter

South 23/11-29/11/92. (304)

By Mbuyiselo Mtsheketshe

BALACLAVA-CLAD men assisted police and municipal workers in destroying squatter shacks in the Boland town of Grabouw on Wednesday morning.

Grabouw civic members said they suspected the men hid their faces because they were well-known in the area and possibly had right-wing sympathies.

Grabouw Civic Association spokesperson, Mr John Michael, said the men, municipal workers and police destroyed the 28 shacks at the Waterworks Squatter Camp with "no prior warning".

Municipal workers confiscated the squatters' material and damaged their possessions which were still inside when the shacks were destroyed, Michael claimed.

"We met with the municipality to discuss the issue on Monday, and they agreed with our request to postpone the destruction of the camp until we called in the ANC to mediate the issue," he said.

"The municipality had allocated 44 hectares of ground to be serviced for squatters and were going to destroy the Waterworks camp only after the squatters had moved."

Michaels said he suspected rightwingers in the town were responsible for the decision to destroy the shacks as they had previously threatened the squatters.

In November last year, a letter was pasted in the squatter settlement, warning them that they were invoking the "wrath of God" by squatting in the area.

"What you are doing here is a violation of the Holy law of God's justice," the letter warned.

"In his name, leave this place and return to your territory. We are saying in the name of God that we declare war on anyone who is against justice.

"May his blessings fall upon all those who choose to walk in his path. Today, the kingdom of God is within your reach."

Michael said the Grabouw civic was organising a mass meeting to consider what action to take against the municipality.

"Our trust in them has been destroyed and we will now think twice before we negotiate with them again," he said.

Police spokesperson Colonel Anthony Dewhurst rejected allegations of police involvement in the demolition of the shacks. Dewhurst said the police were asked to give protection to the municipal workers.

Grabouw town clerk Mr M Dudley did not respond to frequent attempts to reach him for comment.

'Squatters must pay'

307

Municipal Reporter

SQUATTERS at Hout Bay and Noordhoek are not yet paying for their water and other municipal services, but they will soon be required to pay their way.

"Negotiations are underway concerning the future rates at which the people will be required to pay for their water and other municipal services," said Mr Koos Theron, a member of the Cape Provincial executive committee.

CT 29/1/92

"We have a commitment from the communities that they will pay, but I cannot give you the amounts at this stage."

By late last year there were 430 dwellings at Imizamo Yethu encampment at Hout Bay, and 130 at "Site Five" in Noordhoek.

January 30 to February 5 1992

Rightists claim security force 'infiltration'

South 30/1-5/2/92

307

By Claire Keeton

THE national chairperson of the Republican Unity Movement of South Africa (Rumosa), Mr Clive Derby-Lewis, has accused the security forces of trying to discredit the movement.

Derby-Lewis, a Conservative Party MP, denied Rumosa had burnt down a squatter shack on the outskirts of East London last week and left Rumosa pamphlets with the occupants.

Two white men in balaclavas poured petrol on the occupants of the shack and then set the structure alight.

"Somebody from the security forces has infiltrated the organisation and planted this information to discredit Rumosa," Derby-Lewis claimed.

Border police liaison officer, Major Christo Louw, and an officer from Group Eight of the SADF, declined to comment on Derby-Lewis' allegations.

A caller claiming to represent the group telephoned an East London newspaper to admit responsibility.

The caller said the shack had been burned down "as a warning that no squatting will be tolerated on white land".

Derby-Lewis said one of the pamphlets left at the scene was an authentic Rumosa publication.

The pamphlet opposed negotiations. However, Rumosa knew nothing of the second pamphlet telling squatters to move or be forced to move.

He said the Rumosa East London branch chairman told him that on the night of the attack, the movement had discussed whether to distribute the anti-negotiations pamphlet.

"It was the ideal opportunity. (The security forces) knew it was going to be distributed and thought it would prove Rumosa is involved," said Derby-Lewis.

However no organisation would leave pamphlets at the scene of an attack, he said.

Derby-Lewis was surprised there were not more incidents like this perpetrated, since the squatters were behaving illegally.

He said the government's failure to act against squatting was criminal.

Rumosa is an anti-ANC movement with branches in East London, Port Alfred/Bathurst and Grahamstown.

It recently placed an advertisement in a Grahamstown paper to recruit those "of Settler stock who are interested in becoming involved in joint action to ensure the promotion and protection of their Western culture".

—*ELNEWS*

Sit-in protest in mayor's garden

Sowl 30/11 - 5/2/92

30/1

THE MAYOR of East London, Mr Carl Burger, received a surprise visit at his home last Friday night.

Homeless Orange Grove squatters and representatives of 13 organisations staged a sit-in in Burger's garden to protest against the demolition of their shacks by the municipality.

The demolition came days after a right-wing arson attack destroyed a shack.

Burger, who was attending a meeting in Bisho, was not present, and many protesters refused to leave until his return at midnight.

However, negotiations between the group, the police, and the town clerk, Mr Les Kumm, secured the 11 squatters temporary shelter for the night and a meeting with Burger.

The squatters are demanding the right to remain behind Orange Grove Hotel until they find an alternative site, the return of their confiscated building materials and steps to protect them from further right-wing attacks.

—ECNA

Masked men destroy shacks

CT 23/1/92 (307)

ABOUT 10 men, wearing balaclavas to mask their identities and believed to be municipal workers, yesterday destroyed 17 shacks at the Waterworks squatter camp near Grabouw.

Under protection from police, the men removed the building materials in a truck with covered number plates, said a spokesman for the Grabouw Advice Office.

The demolition was ordered by the Grabouw municipality as the uncompleted structures "had presented a serious health hazard".

The spokesman said the squatters rebuilt their shacks on the site after their old shacks were destroyed by fire in July last year.

Grabouw town clerk Mr V Dudley, who refused to speak to the Cape Times, told Sapa the men and the truck's number plates were masked. "It is a normal procedure which I'm sure is also used elsewhere," he said.

He declined to comment further, saying he could not answer "unreasonable questions".

Mr Dudley said the demolitions were cleared with the residents of the squatter camp. "The land planning forum is negotiating a resettlement programme and 168 sites with basic services were made available for informal housing in the past year," he said. — Staff Reporter and Sapa

Milnerton bid on squatters

307

Staff Reporter CT 5/2/92

MILNERTON Town Council has decided to ask "all interested parties" to submit their views and opinions about the squatter issue to the council in writing.

It hopes to resolve "the squatter issue" in Milnerton this year, it said. Senior counsel had advised it to do so to ensure that it was acting in a lawful and fair way.

No restrictions will be imposed on the content of the representations. They must be received at the office of the town clerk in Pienaar Road by March 2.

The background is that the Milnerton council was persuaded by government agencies to provide a temporary site for squatters at the Marconi Beam site.

Since then, the council had been asked to consider "whether there is any suitable area in Milnerton or surrounds for the permanent accommodation of those concerned".

Squatters made life 'intolerable'

307

ARG 4/2/92

Supreme Court Reporter

LIFE at a "tranquil" Noordhoek smallholding became "intolerable" because of the disturbance created by squatters, the Supreme Court heard.

This was alleged yesterday in the damages claim by a Johannesburg couple against Mr Geert Noordhof who, they say, sold them Noordhof nursery without warning them of the squatter community nearby.

Mr Barry Mayes and his wife Helen are claiming R200 000 from Mr Noordhof and a release from all outstanding payments on the property which they bought for R950 000 in 1990.

Before the sale the Mayes' were advised to ask if there were problems in Noordhoek, the court heard.

Mr Noordhof told the Mayes' there were "a few Bergies" who lived in the bush.

Mr Noordhof told the couple he had not had a day's trouble and the area was so safe he did not lock the doors, the court was told.

Cops, squatters clash: 8 hurt

LT 6/2/92 (307)

Staff Reporter

EIGHT people were injured when police fired birdshot at Grabouw squatters who had erected burning barricades while their shacks were being demolished by balaclava-clad municipal policemen yesterday.

A local attorney said the number plates of the municipal vehicles had been concealed with masking tape.

A police spokeswoman said birdshot had been fired at the squatters when they stoned police who were trying to remove the barricades in the road. Six people were arrested.

The spokeswoman said Grabouw municipal workers were sent to demolish unoccupied structures and police accompanied them.

Late last night violence continued in the squatter camp with patrolling police vans firing off shots, according to local residents.

Another woman was injured, residents said, but this could not be confirmed last night.

● Local ANC spokesman Mr Willy Hofmeyr said last night it was an outrage that police should be protecting people disguised with balaclavas driving unidentifiable vehicles.

He said the squatters had been trying to negotiate with the local town council about their homes and had requested a meeting yesterday.

30T Reg 7/2/92.

Stop, stop,

stop!



Pictures: SABC TV.

OUTRAGE: The pictures that shocked South Africa — hooded workers demolish squatter shelters in Grabouw.



Row over hooded demolition squad

(30) ARG 7/2/92

HENRIËTTE GELDENHUYS and CLIVE SAWYER
Staff Reporters

AS the row grew today over shack demolitions in Grabouw by municipal officials in Ku Klux Klan-style disguises, the municipality has pledged not to destroy an more shelters for the time being.

The ANC today demanded a public inquiry into Wednesday's events which sparked an outcry when pictures of hooded workers smashing shelters and carting them away on disguised trucks were shown on television news.

The Grabouw Community Organisation (Graco) has given the municipality until 5pm today to return confiscated squatters' building materials — or face court action.

But town clerk Mr Valdor Dudley said he was not aware of such a demand.

Western Cape ANC leader Dr Allan Boesak last night met the municipality, Graco and other bodies in an attempt to defuse the conflict.

At the meeting the municipality promised not to demolish existing structures before the next Grabouw Land Planning Forum meeting which would be attended by squatter representatives.

The forum was initiated by the municipality to discuss the future of a 44-hectare piece of land earmarked for formal settlement and how a R1,8 million Independent Development Trust grant to extend services to 250 sites was to be used.

Mr Dudley accused Graco of violating an agreement to prevent people settling on the land where the demolitions took place and repeated an earlier claim that the shacks demolished by masked municipal workers were unoccupied.

But Graco chairman Mr Denis Marinus alleged that an elderly couple's shack was broken down while they were inside — after they begged officials to leave it.

ANC spokesman Mr Willie Hofmeyr strongly condemned police involvement in the demolitions as a "disgrace" and a "flagrant violation of the spirit of the national peace accord".



Pictures: BRENTON GEACH, The Argus.

DAMAGES: A smiling Mrs Helen Mayes, second from left, leaves the Supreme Court with her husband Barry and lawyers after the couple won their court action. Inset: Mr Geert Noordhof.

R550 000 award in squatter wrangle

(307) ARG 7/2/92

JOHN VILJOEN
Supreme Court Reporter

MR Geert Noordhof has been ordered to pay a Johannesburg couple damages of R200 000 for acting "dishonestly and fraudulently" in not telling them squatters were to be settled next to the Noordhoek property he sold them for R950 000.

In the Supreme Court yesterday Mr Justice J J Fagan also freed Mr Barry Mayes and his wife Helen from paying R350 000 they still owe for the property and ordered Mr Noordhof to pay costs on the punitive attorney-and-client scale.

The Mayeses bought the property, a tea-room, nursery and a 39 percent share in a landscaping business in June 1990.

They sold it this week for R400 000. A squatter settlement was established on land next door in 1990.

Mr Noordhof assured the Mayeses there was no squatter problem before they agreed to the sale, the judge said.

In October 1990 he told the Mayeses there had been a squatter problem for only six weeks, but he had objected to the proposed settlement in a letter written in June.

He had told the Mayeses in October: "Nobody knows what is going to happen," the judge said.

This could not possibly have been true as he knew the site bordering his land was the preferred site for the Noordhoek squatter settlement.

He was not being truthful when he told the Mayeses he did not perceive the squatter settlement as a threat. He was in fact most concerned about the squatters coming close to his property, the judge said.

Mr Noordhof, who did not testify, had produced no evidence to counter the inference that he purposely witheld this information from the Mayeses, the judge said.

Mrs Mayes, who told the court how life on the smallholding became intolerable and of "very bad experiences" with noise, litter, drunks and faction fighting, was an excellent witness, the judge said.

She was intelligent and displayed an excellent memory. There was no reason to doubt any of her evidence, the judge said.

Mr Noordhof allowed the Mayeses to sign the sale agreement under the impression there was no squatter problem.

Mr Justice Fagan said Mr Noordhof's conduct had been deceitful and fraudulent. For this reason he was to pay all the Mayeses costs.

Cape Klan-style clear-up criticised

STAR 7/2/92

CAPE TOWN — Ku Klux Klan-style disguises worn by Grabouw municipal officials during a controversial squatter clearing operation this week were condemned yesterday as "outrageous, bizarre and out of step with Government reforms".

A row over the municipality's approach was sparked by pic tures on TV on Wednesday of hooded officials demolishing shacks and carting building material away in disguised trucks.

Eight people were wounded.

DP MP Jan van Eck said: "Men wearing pillow cases over their heads looking like the Ku Klux Klan presented a most bizarre and frightening picture. The situation is outrageous."

Town clerk V Dudley said municipal workers wore pillow slips on their heads, and the name of the private contractor was painted out on trucks used to remove building material, to protect identities and prevent intimidation. — Sapa.

Squatter warning on home values

307
CT 1/2/92

By RONNIE MORRIS and GUY OLIVER

LOCAL authorities and property owners could be taken to court if they allowed squatter settlements to develop on land next to their properties that decreased the value of other properties, a city property expert said yesterday.

The expert, who would not be named, said this after Mr Justice J J Fagan ordered a Noordhoek man, Mr Geert Noordhof, to pay a Johannesburg couple, Mr Barry Mayes and Mrs Helen Mayes, R550 000 damages for "fraudulently" failing to disclose that a squatter settlement would be located on land next to property he had sold them for R[illegible]0 000.

The couple subsequently sold the property, which they had improved, and a nursery business and tearoom for R400 000 this week, but the new owner, Ms Margie Coeshall, has had difficulty obtaining a bond for the property.

The expert, who described Mr Justice Fagan's judgment as "precedent setting" said sellers were obliged to disclose any defect they were aware of to a potential buyer.

She said "every bank has refused loans" and she was now waiting to hear from a building society.

Ms Coeshall, who has lived alone in the house on the 3½-acre plot with her 10-year-old daughter Tanya since November last year, said yesterday she rode her horse through the "ordered" community regularly.

"It's like living in the middle of Africa with the singing and drumming at night," she said.

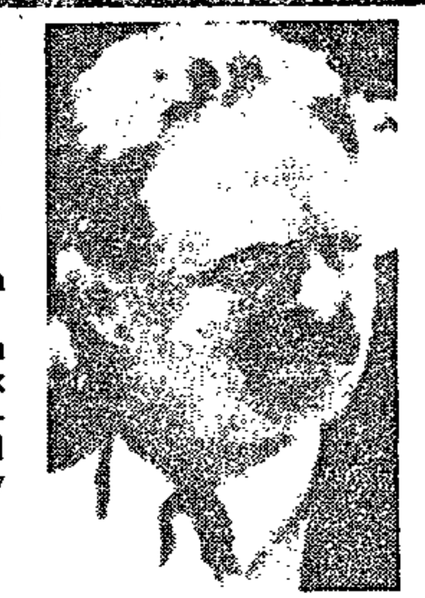
Mr Noordhof said: "I am the first victim of the new South Africa, when the colour of a neighbour's skin is a defect on your property."

● This week United Bank refused bonds for homes near a squatter area in Randburg.

Referring to the squatter wrangle in Randburg's Bloubosrand, United Bank general manager Mr Kevin Gibb said until the situation in the area was cleared up "we will not be appointing any new bonds".

● Judge's decision — Page 2







LAND DISPUTE . . . Mr John Doolan at work in the Noordhoek nursery which was the subject of a court battle this week. The nursery, which is next to a squatter camp, was bought by Mr Barry Mayes (right), who has been awarded R550 000 damages and costs, which are to be paid by the original owner, Mr Geert Noordhof (far right).

Pictures: ANNE LAING and RONNIE MORRIS

Squatter dispute: R550 000 awarded

ET 7/2/92 (307)

By RONNIE MORRIS
Supreme Court Reporter

A NOORDHOEK man who sold his property to a Johannesburg couple for R950 000 without telling them that a squatter settlement would be located next to it was ordered in the Supreme Court yesterday to pay them damages of R550 000.

In addition Mr Justice J J Fagan ordered Mr Geert Noordhof to pay all the legal costs of Mr Barry Mayes and his wife Helen, including the costs of two counsel, on an attorney-and-client scale, and the qualifying costs of their expert witness.

The attorney-and-client costs order is a punitive order and a mark of the court's displeasure at the conduct of litigation.

At the conclusion of his 2½-hour judgment Mr Justice Fagan found that Mr Noordhof had "designedly withheld" information from the Mayes that a squatter settlement would be established on land next to the property.

The Mayes had agreed to pay R750 000 for the property and R200 000 for an adjoining nursery business and tearoom.

Mr Justice Fagan criticised aspects of Mr Noordhof's evidence and said he had "not been truthful in many respects".

In the absence of any evidence by Mr Noordhof the court found as a fact that he had been "obviously dishonest and fraudulent" when he "designedly withheld" information from the Mayes.

Mr Peter van Blerk, instructed by Brian Kahn, attorney, of Johannesburg, appeared for the Mayes. Mr Noordhof conducted his own case.

Council to keep squatter shelters

(307) CT 8/2/92

By BRENT SIMONS

THE Grabouw municipality yesterday refused to return squatters' building materials confiscated on Wednesday when hooded men hired by the municipality demolished squatter shelters.

According to town clerk Mr Valdor Dudley, the Ku Klux Klan-style disguises were not worn by municipality workers but by employees of a hired private company.

The Minister of Law and Order, Mr Hernus Kriel, was "unavailable" yesterday for a meeting with the ANC on alleged police involvement in the Grabouw issue.

Grabouw Community Organisation (Graco) chairman Mr Dennis Martinus said the municipality had until 5pm yesterday to return the building materials or face court action.

Mr Dudley said he had received a letter from an attorney representing the squatters but denied it contained the 5pm deadline. He said the municipality would not destroy any more shacks at least until next Wednesday's Grabouw land planning meeting.

Western Cape ANC leader Dr Allan Boesak, who has met the Grabouw squatter community and the municipality, described charges that the demolition men appeared to be protected by police as an "outrage".

A two-year-old boy was shot in the face during clashes between police and squatters on Wednesday.

Ramotena Mabote reports that the Western Cape United Squatters Association (Wecusa) said yesterday that the CPA had broken an agreement made with Wecusa on January 15 that any decision on squatter settlements in the Western Cape would be discussed between the two groups.

The CPA could not be reached for comment. (307) CT 8/2/92

Police 'beat civic leader'

THE treasurer of the Grabouw Civic Association was last night "beaten by police" and then arrested on a charge of drunkenness after attending a civic meeting, his attorney Mr Gary Jansen said last night.

Mr Jansen said after Mr J Fourie had left the meeting he had walked up to two police vehicles parked outside to ask them what they were doing there. He was then beaten, Mr Jansen claimed.

Commenting on the incident, local police spokesman Major Gys Boonzaaier said last night that Mr Fourie had been arrested on a charge of being drunk in public after swearing at police.

Judgment sets stage for action

CT 8/2/92

307

Staff Reporter

OWNERS of properties next to squatter settlements have been provided with an important precedent by this week's judgment in the Noordhoek squatter case.

The court held that the buyer of a property whose value was seriously diminished by the subsequent arrival of squatters was entitled to compensation from the seller if the seller had withheld knowledge of the eventuality of the squatter settlement.

Property lawyer Mr Frank Mugglestone said that the seller was obliged to inform a prospective buyer of any defects on the property.

In the judgment involving the Noordhoek nursery, Mr Justice J J Fagan had "extended the concept of a defect to encompass the area around the property", he said.

On the strength of this precedent, Mr Mugglestone felt that sellers should be wary of not disclosing all information to prospective buyers.

The precedent could also be applicable in circumstances where sellers withheld information on the likelihood of changes to neighbouring properties.

A city property expert said if a property owner allowed uncontrolled squatting on his land which prejudiced the value of adjoining properties, he could be liable for legal action.

A number of estate agencies canvassed said it was the duty of both the agent and the seller to inform buyers of all defects attached to a property and there was every possibility of their being sued if they failed to do so.

Hout Bay residents next to the squatter settlement there are hoping that the case will also form a precedent that will entitle them to seek state compensation for their diminished property values.

A Penzance Estate house-owner said she had been advised by her lawyer to delay legal action "until such time as a precedent had been set".

"Now I feel I have the right to claim for loss of property value," she said.

Ms Anne Miller, a branch manager for Pam Golding Properties, said property values in the whole of Penzance Estate had been affected and houses on the borderline could "only be sold at bargain prices".

A property expert who spoke to the Cape Times this week and described Mr Justice Fagan's judgment as "precedent-setting", said sellers were obliged to disclose any defect they were aware of to a potential buyer.

There were two approaches to this issue adopted by the courts, he said.

In the first approach, adopted by the Transvaal Provincial Division of the Supreme Court, all you had to do to get around the "voetstoots" clause was to prove that a defect existed and that the seller knew about it but failed to disclose it.

However, the second approach, adopted in an Appellate Division judgment last year in the case of Van der Merwe vs Mead, 1991 (2) SA Law Reports, the court held that one must prove the defect existed, that the seller knew about it and had then "designedly concealed" it.

(307) ARG8/2/92

Grabouw squatter shacks burnt

HENRIËTTE GELDENHUYS and CLIVE SAWYER
Weekend Argus Reporters

More than 60 shacks at the Waterworks squatter camp in Grabouw — where shacks were demolished by "Ku Klux Klan" masked men this week — were destroyed when a fire broke out in the camp early today.

No-one was injured in the blaze and the cause of the fire has not been established.

The squatters are to take legal action against the Grabouw municipality after buiding materials removed in the demolition were not returned by 5 pm yesterday.

Mr Gary Jansen, the legal representative of the Grabouw community organisation (Graco), said he would apply for the immediate recovery of the structures.

He said the municipality had ignored an ultimatum to return the demolished shacks by 5 pm or face legal action.

Graco president Mr Dennis Marinus said the structures were still lying on municipal ground where they had been dumped.

The Grabouw municipality was not available for comment last night.

According to Graco committee member Mr John Michaels, the organisation's cashier, Mr Jafphta Fortuin, was arrested last night after he asked police what they were doing at the Graco offices in the Gerald Wright Memorial Hall, opposite the squatter camp.

According to eyewitnesses, Mr Fortuin said: "Why are you watching us? Why don't you just leave?" before being arrested and allegedly beaten by police.

Police liaison officer Captain Gys Boonzaaier confirmed his arrest, but said it was for drunk and disorderly behaviour.

Mr Michaels said the police searched their cash register before arresting Mr Fortuin.

He said police were parked outside their offices for more than three hours last night.

Police also patrolled the squatter camp, but community leaders have urged squatters to remain calm under all circumstances, said Mr Michaels.

Hundreds of squatters marched in Ou Kaapse Weg and erected burning barricades in the road on Wednesday and Thursday in protest against the demolitions.

The Provincial Administration was monitoring the controversy, said CPA director general Mr Herbert Beukes.

However, the CPA would not step in unless at the request of the Grabouw Town Council or one of the other parties involved.

50 shacks burnt in squatter camp

ST Times (CM) 307
9/2/92 208

By KURT SWART

FIFTY Grabouw squatter shacks were destroyed yesterday in a fire which broke out in the early hours of the morning — three days after Ku Klux Klan-style hooded men hired by the Grabouw Municipality broke down shacks under the protection of heavily armed police.

But yesterday a police spokesman said foul play was not suspected and the blaze was "allegedly caused by a lamp or a candle falling".

Although no one was injured in the fire, a two-year-old boy, Ryan de Klerk, was shot in the face on Wednesday during clashes between police and angry squatters.

Police spokesman Major Gys Boonzaier said no one was hurt in the fire or when squatters stoned a police vehicle guarding firemen.

A journalist at the scene said shocked squatters had stood at the edge of the camp while others searched the smouldering ruins for their possessions.

Mr Clinton Bronn of the ANC's Grabouw Interim Committee said 55 shacks were destroyed, leaving 86 adults and 88 children homeless.

"It's difficult to ascertain the cause of the fire. Police told us a shack belonging to a mentally disturbed person had caught alight and the fire had spread.

"Last night (Friday) there was a huge police presence. Riot police were stationed around the camp and private cars rode through it. It was very intimidating. They acted as if they owned the place."

Mr Bronn said he had been told Red Cross workers would visit the camp this weekend, bringing blankets and food parcels.

The ANC was "outraged" at the "vigilante actions" of the Grabouw Municipality.



AFTER THE BLAZE . . . Grabouw squatters left homeless by a devastating fire that destroyed about 55 shacks at the Waterworks squatter camp early on Saturday, comb the debris for their possessions at first light.

Picture: BENNY GOOL

307 CT 10/2/92

Grabouw squatters build again

Staff Reporter

ABOUT 55 Grabouw squatter families yesterday began rebuilding their shacks which had been destroyed by fire — days after the Grabouw municipality, using Klu Klux Klan-style hooded men, broke down homes at the squatter camp.

The chairman of the Grabouw Community Organisation (Graco), Mr Denis Marinus, said the community was "suspicious" about the circumstances surrounding the fire, which started around 2am on Saturday at the Waterworks squatter camp.

About 86 adults and 88 children were left homeless and possessionless by the fire.

They were housed in the Gerald Wright Community Hall on Saturday night and were fed and clothed by Red Cross workers.

Mr Marinus dismissed allegations that the fire had started at the home of a mentally disturbed man.

A police spokesman said no foul play was suspected and the fire was probably caused by a falling candle or lamp.

● Police spokesman Major Gys Boonzaaier said a municipal truck had been stolen and parked at the Waterworks squatter camp.

He said squatters had threatened to set the damaged truck alight if anyone removed it, but police later took it to the Grabouw police station.

Mr Marinus said yesterday squatters told Graco that they had not stolen the truck but had seen a "white man park it in the camp and then walk to a waiting police van" early on Sunday morning.

House loss 'due to squatters'

CT 11/2/92 (307)

Staff Reporter

A NOORDHOEK home valued at "between R400 000 and R500 000" in January last year has been sold for R250 000, and the former owners say squatters have made that difference.

Mrs Caro Smit, formerly of Guinea Fowl cottage in Chasmay Road, said yesterday that she and her husband Mike had decided to leave because they had been worried for their children.

Their squatter neighbours had not been malicious, but they just had a very different culture, she said.

"For example, they might mark some happy occasion with dancing and the drums go on until 4am.

"It is just a situation of poor people having a good time, with values different from ours."

Meetings had been held with the squatters at which they had been asked to tone down the drumming, and this did help for a while, Mrs Smit said.

She worried about her husband, who is a doctor, being called on to tend to an injured person and then being stabbed if the person died. She had heard that had happened in a township once.

● It was not possible to get comments from the squatters yesterday.

Grabouw talks over squatters

Staff Reporter

THE Grabouw Forum, which consists of the municipality and community organisations, will meet tomorrow to discuss the move of about 40 families from the Waterworks squatter camp to the nearby Rooibakke camp.

The discussions follow last week's demolition of shacks by hooded men from the municipality and the weekend fire that destroyed 55 shacks. Community leader Mr Denis Marinu said building material confiscated by the municipality last week would be returned soon.

CT 11/2/92 (307)

ARG 12/2/92 (307)

ARG 12/2/92 (307)

Squatter talks today

Bid to solve housing problems at Grabouw



DON HOLLIDAY
Staff Reporter

A VITAL meeting is to be held in Grabouw today between the municipality and community leaders to thrash out a solution to pressing housing problems.

The town has been the scene of heated confrontation between squatter communities and the municipality, which is trying to move and limit shack settlements.

For the first time the Gra-

ART 12/2/92. (307)

bouw Community Organisation (Graco), which claims overwhelming support in the squatter settlements, will take part in formal discussions with the municipality and with other community leaders.

Graco is aligned with the independent Cape Areas Housing Action Committee.

Town clerk Mr Valdor Dudley is trying to resettle most of the squatters — claimed to be living illegally in the Waterworks and Gaffley Street camps — to Rooidakke on the other side of town where, he said, better facilities could be provided.

He said ratepayers were angry about illegal camps bordering their properties. The shacks had caused a huge drop in property values.

Squatters built shacks in areas that could not be serviced and were serious health hazards.

Ratepayers also complained it was unfair to have to pay for water consumed by squatters at the Waterworks camp in the light of severe water restrictions in the town.

The Waterworks camp gets its name from a nearby water filtration plant.

Squatters emptied nightsoil buckets into the river below the plant, which flowed into the Palmiet River, said Mr Dudley.

Graco spokesman Mr John Lackay admitted this had happened and agreed it was a serious health hazard.

"But we cannot just wish the problem away. These people are here and they have to be housed properly.

"The people are not at all keen to move to Rooidakke because it is on the other side of the town away from the industries. They cannot afford transport to and from work. Also, the site is too small."

He said the Gaffley Street camp had about 136 families, each of between four and nine people, and the Waterworks camp nearly 200 families.

Ablution facilities at Rooidakke were not nearly adequate, he said.

Another issue for the meeting was what do about the building materials dumped in a municipal storage yard after dozens of shacks were demolished last week.

Mr Dudley has said the materials may be collected by those who can prove ownership.

He has said he would not hesitate to have any new shacks torn down.

Squatters were yesterday rebuilding about 50 shacks burnt down in a mysterious blaze at the Waterworks camp at the weekend.

Police said they suspected a candle had caused the fire, but Mr Lackay said he suspected arson.

Pictures: DON HOLLIDAY, The Argus.

RISING FROM THE ASHES: Men, women and children are hard at work rebuilding shacks that were burnt down at the Waterworks squatter camp in Grabouw at the weekend.



BUILDING MATERIALS: Mr John Lackay, of the Grabouw Community Organisation, points to the remains of the torn down shacks which are being stored in a municipal yard.



SINGLE TAP: Residents use the only tap in the Waterworks squatter camp, home to almost 200 families. In the background is the water filtration plant which gives the camp its name.

Grabouw moves on housing homeless

(307)

Staff Reporter

ARG 13/2/92

A COMMITTEE has been formed in Grabouw to find land for housing homeless families.

Municipal and Provincial Administration officials and representatives of community organisations met yesterday to discuss squatter problems that have led to friction in the town.

Chairman Dr B Ten Brink said the site chosen would have to house the 60 families who lost their shacks in a fire at the weekend and were living in Red Cross tents.

"Families from other camps where suitable services cannot be provided will also be housed in the new camp," he said.

Grabouw Community Organisation (Graco) president Mr Dennis Marinus said his organisation felt positive about the outcome of the meeting.

"We want to avoid conflict and find a peaceful solution to this problem."

A memorandum on a Graco resolution demanding the immediate resignation of town clerk Mr Valdor Dudley and chief health inspector Mr H J Greeff was handed out at the meeting.

Grabouw squatter agreement

CT 13/2/92

Staff Reporter

GRABOUW community organisations and authorities have agreed to upgrade two squatter camps and identify land for further settlement.

The decisions follow a "positive" meeting yesterday between the municipality, the Cape Provincial Administration and 10 community organisations in the Grabouw Land Forum.

Squatter shacks were demolished in the town last week by hooded men employed by the town council. (307)

Grabouw Community Organisation (Gracow) chairman Mr Denis Marinu said land would be identified to rehouse the families who had lost their homes in a fire in the Water Works squatter camp last week.

Also, the Gaffney and Russel Street camps would be upgraded, and services provided.

Tensions running high in Grabouw

By Quentin Wilson

TENSIONS are still running high in the Boland town of Grabouw as residents of three squatter camps refuse to budge from the area — despite sufferers of forced evictions by white authorities.

For whites the squatter camps are not only an eyesore and a health risk but the cause of their property being devalued.

"You should see these people, they shit and urinate and litter," a white resident said ironically as he watched his cornflakes and spewing food from his mouth as he spoke.

"I do not know what has to be done but there is no way that they can stay here," he said.

"All the squatters ask is a place to stay without being harassed.

"I do not have anywhere else to go, no one wants me wherever I go. If I leave, it will not be different anywhere else," a squatter said.

White residents want squatters to move to Rooidakke, a "legal" squatter camp further away from the heart of the town. However, the Grabouw Advice Office insists the camp cannot accommodate them.

Most squatters are from surrounding farms and have grown up in the area. A few are migrant workers.

They first began squatting in Grabouw in 1989. The local municipality has made no provision for African housing in the town, forcing even those gainfully employed to remain squatters.

Moves are afoot to clear a 44-hectare area for all the squatters but the Advice Office is not optimistic that the Grabouw municipality will gain permission from the Department of Forestry to use this land.

Suspicion still surrounds the cause of last Saturday's blaze at the Waterworks Camp in which damage estimated at R12 000 was incurred when 62 shacks were destroyed.

The fire occurred three days after hooded vigilantes demolished 47 shacks at the Gaffley Street Camp. Ten days earlier masked municipal workers destroyed shacks at the Waterworks Camp. Community leaders insist the fire was part of the municipality's campaign to forcibly remove squatters in the area, rather than an accidental blaze caused by a falling candle in one of the shacks — as alleged by police.

Reliable sources say the Grabouw municipality has paid out R18 000 in three weeks for contractors to carry out the two demolition jobs.

Last Wednesday's Ku Klux Klan-type attack was a carbon copy of events on January 26 — the same contracting company recruited 20 hooded men to destroy shacks under police protection.

It is alleged the contracting company was paid R9 000 on each occasion.

Eye-witnesses said the masked men were of different races and alleged they included squatters from nearby camps.

Wednesday's mayhem included the shooting of nine squatters, all treated for injuries.

When they left the area police fired a hail of rubber bullets and teargas cannisters, provoking residents into later blocking access with burning barricades.

The situation calmed by 11:30pm after police had stopped patrolling.

Residents allege police were "very provocative" the following day and threatened to break up a gathering they claimed was illegal.

According to residents, police confronted them later that evening and swore at them, hurling insults. Again the barricades went up.

On Friday the squatter camps were visited by security police who left after dark, after rushing through the squatter camp in a vehicle with a spotlight.

The fire broke out at 2:30am on Saturday and the fire department arrived 45 minutes later.

Police arrived at 6am, claiming they had received statements saying the fire had been caused by a fallen candle in a shack belonging to an insane resident.

A worker at the Grabouw Advice Office, Mr Clinton Bronn, said it was unlikely anyone from the squatter camp would have gone to the police to give information as the police are feared by the community.

"It is strange because no-one from the squatter camp ever goes to the police to make statements," Bronn said.

As squatters begin rebuilding their homes, they are anxious to know what will happen next.

"I do not know, maybe a death," was the grim prediction of community leader Mr John Lackay.



DESTITUTE: Waterworks Squatter Camp resident Mr Kenn Ta and his son Zuko in their emergency tent surrounded by the only possessions the family has left after Saturday's blaze — a stove, two pots and a few plates. PIC: YUNUS MOHAMED

South 13/2 - 19/2/92 (307)



SQUATTERS . . . Celia Yamana, 69, from Transkei and her five-year-old great-granddaughter Nomtan-azo. Mrs Yamana is staying with relatives at Site 5 while undergoing medical treatment in Cape Town

Picture: AMBROSE PETERS

How mean is our valley of squatters and scarce bonds

ST Times [CM] 16/2/92

307

PROPERTY-OWNERS in the picturesque Noordhoek Valley believe their homesteads have become "worthless" since a small group of squatters were settled there by the Cape Provincial Administration.

The squatters live in about 50 shacks in the heart of the rural suburb of Sunnydale in the valley. The CPA says there are roughly 730 squatters on Site 5 and that it is to prepare about 455 erven, but ratepayers fear there are plans to settle up to 5 000 people there.

The Supreme Court recently ordered Mr Geert Noordhof to pay damages of R550 000 rand to a Johannesburg couple to whom he had sold his property for R950 000, because he had not told them the squatter settlement would be located adjacent to it.

Barry and Helen Mayes said they would not have bought the property had they known about the squatters.

Estate agents have listed several cases of properties' being sold for far less than their market value because of the squatters' presence.

By DIANA STREAK

Noordhoek estate agent Ms Roni Finlay said any squatter camp in any area would devalue nearby property because of the problems associated with unemployment.

Mrs Margaret Coeshall, who bought the Noordhof Nursery from the Mayes for R400 000, feels she got a bargain. She intends establishing a kennel and cattery on the property, which already has a busy nursery and restaurant.

The only drawback is that she has struggled to get a bond. "I have been turned down by 12 banks and building societies."

Estate Agent Ms Sheila Robinson agreed that it was difficult to get bonds for the area. "If you do manage to find a buyer, the building society won't give a bond."

The presence of the squatters doesn't bother Mrs Coeshall.

"At night you hear the drums, singing and chanting, but I quite like the noise — it's quite magical.

"If you're positive about things, you don't invite disaster."

Mrs Coeshall's immediate neighbour, Mr Ian Myers, does not feel threatened, but is concerned about the devaluation of his R500 000 property.

"We put all our life savings into this for retirement," he said.

"I feel resentment, not at the squatters but at the authorities, because they just dumped them here with no employment."

The secretary of the Sunnydale Ratepayers Association, Mr Digby Marshall, is also angry at the authorities — for their lack of foresight.

"We're not objecting to people being settled in the area, but provision must be made. We object to the ad hoc basis.

"Everyone is entitled to be there. We can't say they can't live there because they don't work here or because they're unemployed."

There was a desperate need for cheap housing to bridge the gap between squatter camps and expensive, established areas, Mr Marshall said.

Grabouw's growing pains



HOMELESS ... Some of the people whose shacks were destroyed in the recent fire, with the few belongings they saved.
■ Pics: FANIE JASON

CP Correspondent

THE small Boland town of Grabouw has become the centre of conflict over squatting in the Cape.

Tucked into a tranquil mountain setting with lush farms, the town, which is half-an-hour's drive from Cape Town, is an unlikely setting for evictions, barricades, birdshot and violence.

The row is over attempts by the municipality to control informal settlement and contain the people in a camp called Rooidakke on the perimeter of the town.

Like many small towns, Grabouw's attempts to grapple with new problems are handicapped by the past.

No provision was made for black housing in the area, so blacks were forced either to live in the "coloured" township or put up shacks wherever they could find room.

Meanwhile, an increasing number of people have moved into the area.

No one knows precisely how many people live in the three camps but the figure runs into thousands. The municipality wants them to move but they have reacted fiercely to heavy-handed demolitions.

Grabouw Town clerk Valdor Dudley said living conditions were unhygienic in the illegal Gaffey Street and Waterworks camps.

Dudley said there were no toilet facilities, and sewage was seeping into the town's stormwater drains which could pollute the water supply.

An underlying concern is the proximity of the shacks to what Dudley termed "high-income housing" – white residential areas where owners are concerned at the effect shacks will have on property values.

Community leaders have pointed out that the camps are also close to the industrial areas where many of the people work.

Dudley said the shacks were so close together it was impossible for fire-fighting teams to get into the area – a reference to a mysterious fire in the Waterworks camp last week which destroyed more than 60 shacks.

The previous week, hooded demolition teams hired by the municipality demolished illegal shacks in the Waterworks camp. A similar demolition took place in Gaffey Street last month.

Several people were injured in the clashes which followed.



HOPELESS ... His home swept away by the fire, this boy looks for any valuables that may have survived among the debris.

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HOPELESS . . . His home swept away by the fire, this boy looks for a valuables that may have survived among the debris.

KTC burns as taxi warriors battle

By CHIARA CARTER

KTC squatter settlement was tense this weekend as residents braced themselves for further conflict following a renewed outbreak of the Cape taxi war. (307)

Residents have been erecting barricades to protect themselves from warring taxi groups, Legunya and Webta.

The funeral of a Legunya driver takes place at KTC this weekend and the community fears an attack from Webta drivers who are based at the nearby Nyanga terminus.

Yesterday morning police prevented a convoy of Webta taxis from entering the area.

According to the Black Sash, two minibuses were set ablaze in the area and another car was found riddled with bullets yesterday morning.

The Blask Sash is investigating the alleged abduction of two brothers – Xolile and Lindile Madonela – from a shop opposite the Nyanga terminus. C\Press 16/2/92

Late on Friday afternoon the burning body of an unknown man was found in a KTC street next to his blazing taxi.

Meanwhile, three men – including MK western Cape deputy commander Mxolisi Phethane and Sgt John Tutuse Ngubeni – accused of murdering a Webta driver last September, were this week referred to the Supreme Court for trial.

Police complicity in taxi war

w/Mail 21/2-27/2/92

KTC squatter camp is ablaze but the war 'is a political war — not one over taxi routes and ranks'.

By **GAYE DAVIS**

307

BARRICADES put up by residents sealed off access to Cape Town's KTC squatter settlement this week as men patrolled the area armed with sticks, pangas and iron piping, mounting a round-the-clock watch against incursions into the area by members of the Western Cape Black Taxi Association (Webta).

Their action followed weekend attacks in which taxis belonging to members of the rival faction, Lagunya Taxi Association, were torched within KTC's maze of shacks, residents shot at and shacks set alight.

The KTC settlement abuts the Nyanga terminus, flashpoint in the long-running taxi war. Within KTC, the general perception is that the police are on Webta's side, based on witnesses' accounts of police vehicles accompanying Webta members during attacks and allegations that police themselves were seen setting shacks alight.

KTC resident Elliot Bolani, a member of the African National Congress' Peace Committee, and his son, Sandile, were wounded early last Saturday morning by shots fired by a man Bolani says was white: "his hands and forearms were bare". Other residents told of seeing police vans and Casspirs accompanying Webta minibuses entering KTC.

Police denials of complicity or partiality notwithstanding, KTC residents believe that Webta members' grievances are being exploited by the police in an attempt to break the community.

"This war is a political war — not one over taxi routes and ranks," said KTC leader Gladstone Ntamo. "KTC is an ANC and South African Communist Party stronghold, and this is an attempt to destroy the area.

"We believe the government has got an opportunity with the taxi war to create a bigger violence — and we're expecting more violence if our leaders can't act swiftly."

Surrounding areas are being drawn into the conflict: residents of the near-

w/mail 21/2 - 27/2/92

by Nyanga hostels marched on the local police station this week to demand the removal of Webta members from the Nyanga terminus in the interests of peace. Later, hostels were torched — and residents are convinced the arsonists were Webta members.

Residents are also outraged at what they believe is a reluctance on the part of the police to investigate allegations. They cite the case of KTC teenagers, Xolile and Lindile Madonela, whom witnesses saw being dragged into a taxi a the Nyanga terminus last Friday, allegedly by Webta drivers. The boys are still missing: police have now launched an investigation into their disappearance.

This week the Joint Forum on Policing, consisting of a range of organisations monitoring the role of police in township violence, said trust levels between the police and the KTC community were at "an all time low.

"The community's belief that the police are involved in attacks has eroded any trust in the police being a source of protection or justice, perceived police partiality aggravates the conflict and the result is that the community takes the law into its own hands," the forum said.

Regular meetings between senior police officers and the forum ended last November because former security branch members were included in the special unit set up in terms of the National Peace Accord to investigate complaints against police.

"Monitoring and legal groups feel unable to encourage witnesses to present statements or affidavits to the very people who have intimidated them over the years," the forum said. "Our repeated attempts to get this problem addressed by national police structures have met with no response."

307

Members of the forum include representatives of the ANC, ANC Women's League, Black Sash, Centre for Intergroup Studies, Democratic Party, Human Rights Commission, Lawyers for Human Rights, Idasa, Cape Town's mayor and deputy mayor and the Unrest Montoring Action Committee.

A total of 83 affidavits so far collected by the forum in relation to taxi-war violence cite police complicity or inaction at the time of attacks. Unrest Monitoring Action Committee coordinator Stef Snel said: "Of the 83 affidavits, 61 allege some form of unacceptable police behaviour — and all of them concern the riot police."

There was a gap between assurances given at senior police level and what happened on the ground, said forum member Susan Collins, of the Centre for Intergroup Studies.

"This isn't a police-bashing exercise. It's a demand for accountable and proper policing in terms of the police code of conduct as set down by the National Peace Accord. It's a demand for policing that allows trust to build so that the community feels that it has recourse to the policing that is its right in terms of the law of the land and ultimately, it's a demand that the community have the policing that ensures that it can live in peace, in its own place."

Police liaison officer in the Western Cape Colonel Anthony Dewhurst said that after meeting KTC ANC branch members and community representatives, police had undertaken to inform the leaders of both Webta and Lagunya of the KTC community's demands: that unless the violence stopped, the terminus would be a no-go area for all taxis.

"We also informed them that all complaints in connection with police actions would be fully investigated," Dewhurst said. "They led us to understand that from now on they would work with the police to try and resolve the conflict."

He said the SAP's Complaints Investigation Unit comprised members drawn from all branches of the force and not only Crime Investigation Services (formerly the security branch).

"They are investigating and making regular progress reports to the police general designated in terms of the National Peace Accord. The system is functioning," he said.

●Members of the recently formed Regional Dispute Resolution Committee set up in the Western Cape in terms of the National Peace Accord yesterday visited flashpoints of the taxi-war violence.

Shack dwellers gain reprieve

(307)
CT. 22/2/92

Supreme Court Reporter

GRABOUW squatters whose shacks were demolished won a reprieve yesterday when the municipality undertook in the Supreme Court to provide them with plots at Rooidakke.

In addition the municipality undertook to allow three families to continue living at Waterworks pending the completion of the court case.

The undertaking, by agreement, was made an order of court by Mr Justice H L Berman on the day that the "Grabouw Community Organisation and Others" brought an action against the municipality.

The applicants sought an order directing the municipality to return building materials taken on January 22 and February 5 and rebuild certain homes.

They also sought an order restraining the municipality from demolishing structures they wanted to rebuild.

Mr J E H Smith, for the municipality, said it had obtained 42 hectares from the Department of Forestry and was developing and installing services on the site. As an interim measure the squatters could erect shacks at Rooidakke.

The application was postponed.

Shack dwellers flee balaclava-clad killers

W\mail 2\2 - 27\2\92 (30")

By GAYE DAVIS: Cape Town

HUNDREDS of residents of Khayelitsha's Site C shack settlement dismantled their homes and fled the area this week after an attack in the early hours of the morning by balaclava-clad men which left five people dead and at least 36 dwellings razed.

One man died of bullet and panga wounds and a couple and their two children burned to death after being trapped in their blazing shack during the attack on Tuesday night, police confirmed.

Women marched on Khayelitsha's police station on Wednesday afternoon bearing placards asking: "Who is behind the balaclavas?" and calling for the Lingelethu-West Town Council, which they believe is behind the violence, to take action.

Assistant town clerk Gerhard Ras has denied the council's involvement.

African National Congress regional executive committee member Vincent Diba, whose portfolio is conflict resolution, said residents told him their attackers shouted that they were going to "clear the ANC out of the area". The section attacked is known as Mxolisi Petane, after its ANC branch named for an Umkhonto weSizwe commander.

The attack is the latest in a series of violent incidents in Site C in recent months. According to Diba, those behind the attacks are attempting to force residents to move into areas falling under the control of Lingelethu-West town councillors.

The complexities of the situation are compounded by a long-running dispute between Khayelitsha's civic association and the Western Cape United Squatters Association (Wecusa) over who had the right to organise shack dwellers.

Site C "comrades" have registered complaints with regional ANC officials that Wecusa is also involved in the attacks, and suspicions have been further inflamed by an apparent rapprochement recently reached between Wecusa leaders and Khayelitsha mayor Mali Hoza grounded on Wecusa's need for serviced sites in the area.

camp in Malmesbury.

Kinnock, squatters meet

ARG 22/7/92 (307)

EDWARD MOLOINYANE
Weekend Argus Reporter

MRS Glenys Kinnock, wife of the leader of British opposition Labour Party leader Mr Neil Kinnock, yesterday rounded off her visit to South Africa with a visit to a squatter community in Malmesbury.

Accompanied by members of the Surplus Peoples Project — a grouping offering assistance to poor communities — Mrs Kinnock visited Steve Tshwete squatter camp a few kilometres from the town. The settlement consists of dilapidated blocks of hostels and a cluster of shacks which are home to more than 2 000 people.

She toured the settlement and spoke to residents, who told of how women wishing to be with their husbands living in the hostels had been harassed by the authorities in the past.

It was only through a "struggle" in 1987 that raids and the demolition of shacks ceased, said Mrs Pamela Mbovu, an ANC organiser in the camp.

The Malmesbury municipality and Surplus People have begun negotiations for land for the squatters.

The shack area has no running water or toilets. Running water is only available in the tumbledown hostel blocks, which residents said had been built in the 1940s for single men.

Mrs Kinnock said that since her tour began on Sunday she had visited a number of projects her organisation — One World Action — was undertaking in underprivileged communities.

These projects were operating in several countries and included housing, health and, of particular concern to her, children.

"Our organisation is very much involved with grassroots organisations and keen to be involved in the transition in South Africa.

Many people in Britain often hold that because many apartheid laws are gone and that (Mr) Mandela is free, everything is fine ... far from it," she said.

She hoped not only to raise funds on her return for communities like the Steve Tswhete squatters, but also to present a "true picture" to the British public about the situation here.

What are the chances of the Labour Party in the coming elections, she was asked as a parting shot.

"Of course it's already known ... we are going to make it, come April 9," she and her two aides replied, almost simultaneously.

Squatters in court bid after demolitions

(307)

MG 22/2/92

LIBBY PEACOCK
Supreme Court Reporter

THE Grabouw Community Organisation has asked the Supreme Court to order the return of building materials confiscated this month when hooded men hired by the municipality demolished squatter shelters.

The community wants a court order directing Grabouw Municipality to return squatters' building materials, confiscated on January 22 and February 5, and to re-erect their homes.

Yesterday Mr Justice H L Berman ordered that the matter be postponed to March 17 for trial.

The applicants also seek an order declaring that the municipality unlawfully took goods from certain squatters; and an interdict restraining the municipality from demolishing structures built by, or on behalf of, squatters.

Pending the final determination of the matter, the Grabouw municipality was ordered to make plots at Rooidakke squatter camp available to certain squatters whose homes were burnt down at the Waterworks squatter camp.

Others living in tents at the Waterworks camp are to be allowed to remain there.

Mrs L J Krige appeared for the community organisation and Mr J Smith for the municipality.

Family burn to death in shack

By CHIARA CARTER

TUMEKA· Boto was looking forward to learning to read and write. Now that will never happen.

The six-year-old Sub-A pupil, her sister Portia 12, and their parents Themba Boto and Nontombi Felakhe were burnt to death this week when a group of attackers set light to about 30 shacks in Khayelitsha Site C early on Wednesday morning.

According to neighbours the family screamed from inside their burning shack but the armed attackers would not allow them to escape.

Nearby another man lay dying from a gunshot wound.

Pupils and teachers from Phuzamanzi Primary School which Portia and Tumeka attended voiced their outrage at the horrific attack by staging a placard demonstration next to the ruins of the family's shack.

Later, hundreds of residents marched to Kahayelitsha Police Station in Site B.

Hundreds of residents have fled the troubled area.

Two petrol bombs were thrown and shots were fired at the home of Lingelethu West Mayor, Mali Hoza, on Wednesday night.

An ANC spokesman in the area, Buyani Nguka, claimed violence began last weekend when an Ilinelethu West councillor known as Jada started shooting at residents. Unknown gunmen returned fire and Jada fled the scene. His car was then set alight.

The residents alleged a group of armed men, including whites, opened fire on a home guard patrol and shacks were burnt on Sunday night.

Col Tony Durhurst said the SAP special investigations unit was investigating the deaths.



FACE OF MISERY ... A shocked child sits alone among the devastation of wrecked shacks in Khayelitsha after the world he knew was destroyed overnight. Thirty shacks were torched by a marauding gang, a family died in the inferno and a man was fatally shot. Residents later marched to the local police station to protest.

■ Pic: FANIE JASO

Family burn to death in shack

By CHIARA CARTER Cl Pers 23/2/92 307

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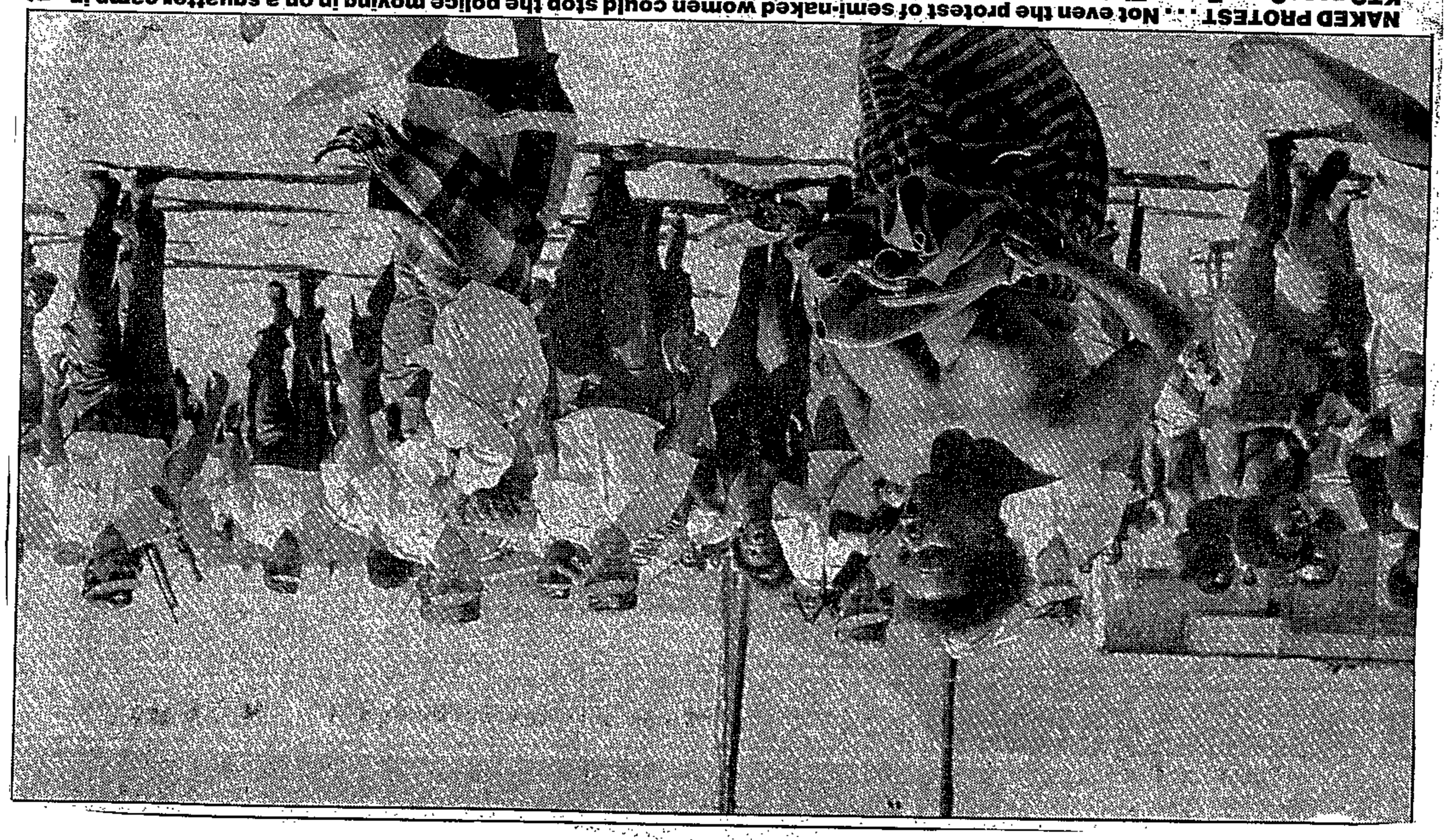


NAKED PROTEST . . . Not even the protest of semi-naked women could stop the police moving in on a squatter camp in KTC near Cape Town. The women, who blame police for taking sides in the taxi war that has torn the area apart, this week decided to "force" the security forces out of the squatter camp by undressing. They failed. ■ Pic: FANIE JASON

BT Pg 24/2/92

Promise of plots

(307)

SHACK dwellers at Grabouw, whose homes were demolished by men with Ku Klux Klan-style masks, won a reprieve yesterday when the municipality undertook in the Supreme Court to provide them with plots at Rooidakke, where they could rebuild the structures earlier burnt and destroyed.

Refugees find peace in bush

New settlement for those ousted from Crossroads

EDWARD MOLOINYANE
Staff Reporter

LIFE is improving for former Crossroads residents who have been squatting at Driftsand in the bush at Faure since being driven from the shanty town more than a year ago.

The more than 2 000 squatters, all supporters of controversial Crossroads mayor Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana, claim the peace that reigns in their settlement has led to the area being swamped by refugees from other flashpoints of violence in the townships.

The squatters left for Driftsand after a power squabble between Mr Ngxobongwana and his former right-hand man Mr Jeffrey Nongwe in November 1990.

Many people were killed and hundreds of shacks were burnt in the feuding, leaving the refugees with no building material at the new area.

But hundreds of shacks have sprung up and most of the features of life in Crossroads, including the election of 16 headmen to run community matters, have been revived.

Mr Ngxobongwana said his supporters, most of whom were happy to live at Draftsand, wanted to be left alone.

He said negotiations with the Cape Provincial Administration to be allowed to stay permanently were continuing and the CPA installed two communal taps when squatters said they would pay for the water.

A tiny shack serves as an office for collecting water payments.

The settlement looks tidy. Refuse is packed into plastic bags and collected by women twice a week.

Several shack gardens are green with vegetables and there are plans for a creche.

The Department of Education and Training had been approached to make teaching posts available for a primary school, Mr Ngxobongwana said.

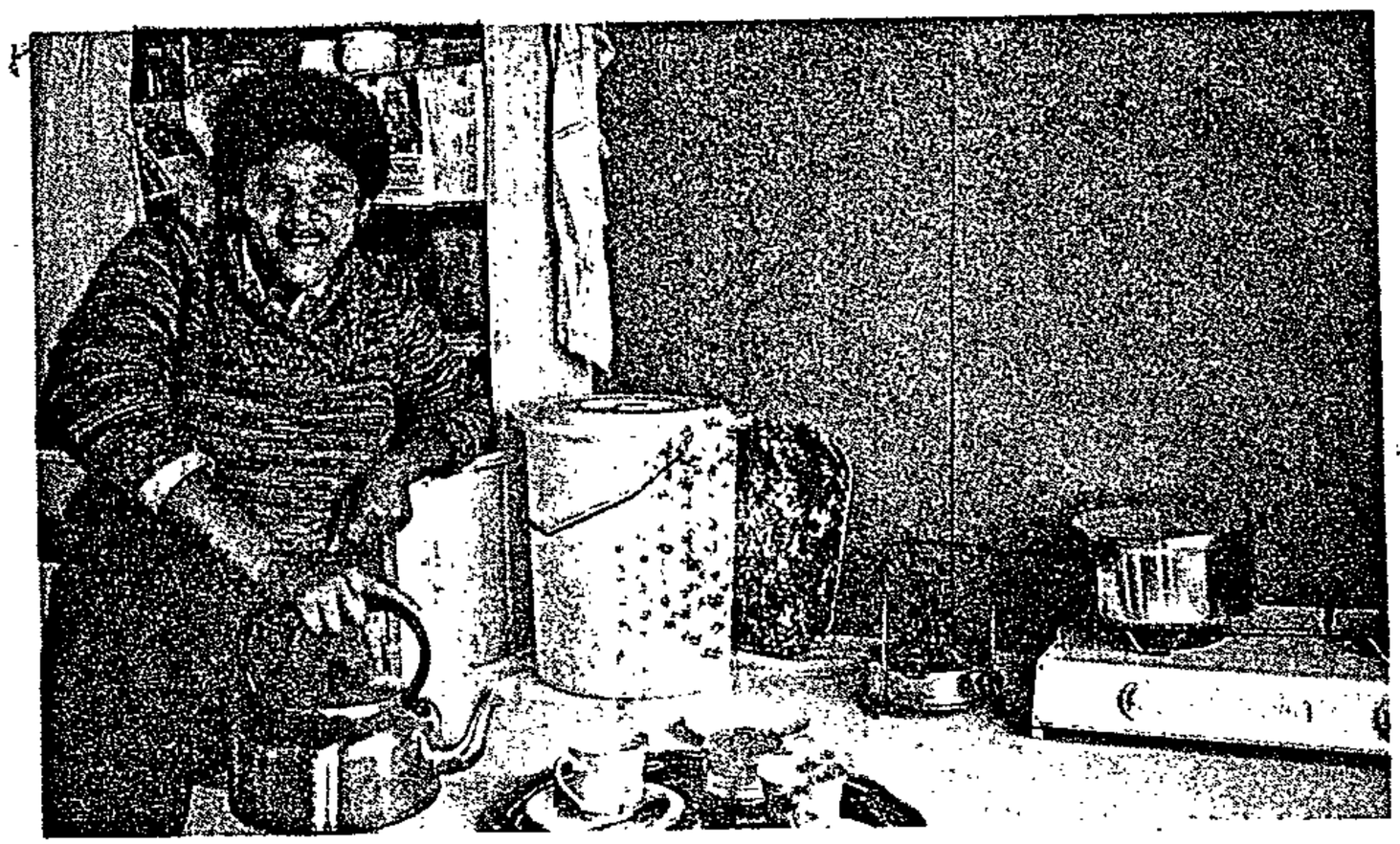
An elderly resident said the area was peaceful "and there is no fighting here".

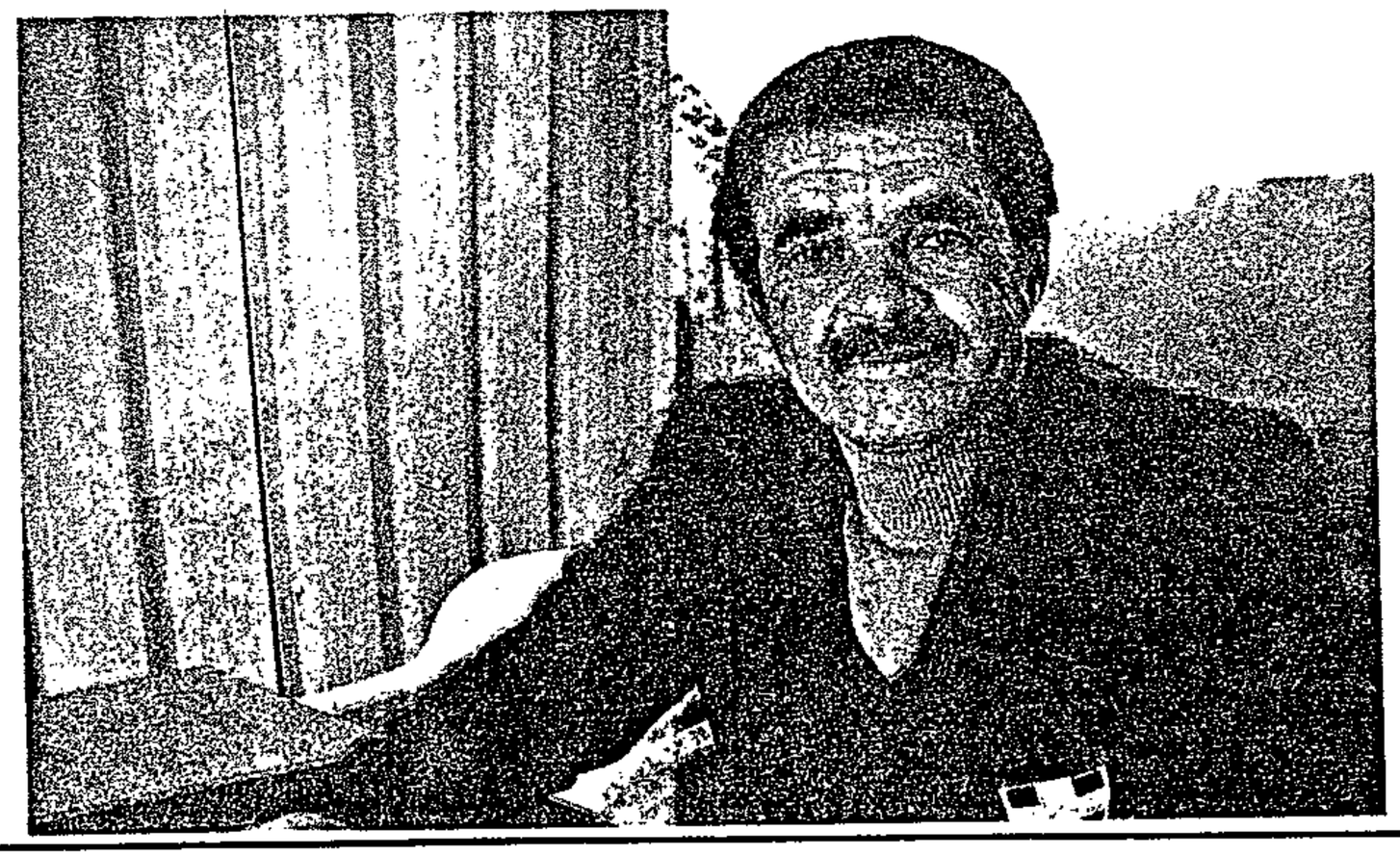
Mr Ngxobongwana, whose green painted four-roomed shack stands prominently in the bush, is obviously still the undisputed leader here.

He said the area was being swamped by refugees, especially from Site C, Khayelitsha.

Refugees "from anywhere" were welcome "as long as they abide by the rules," he said.

These included being prepared to pay for "whatever services are made available to the residents of this camp".





Pictures: BRENTON GEACH, The Argus

MAYOR'S YARD: Men working on old bricks being sold by Crossroads mayor Mr Johnson Ngxbongwana in his yard, right, at the Driftsand squatter camp.

DAUGHTER: Miss Zimasa Ngxobongwana, left and above, in her father's four roomed shack at Driftsand.

OFFICE: Mr Ngxobongwana in a shack, left, which serves as a rent office in the bushes at Driftsand.



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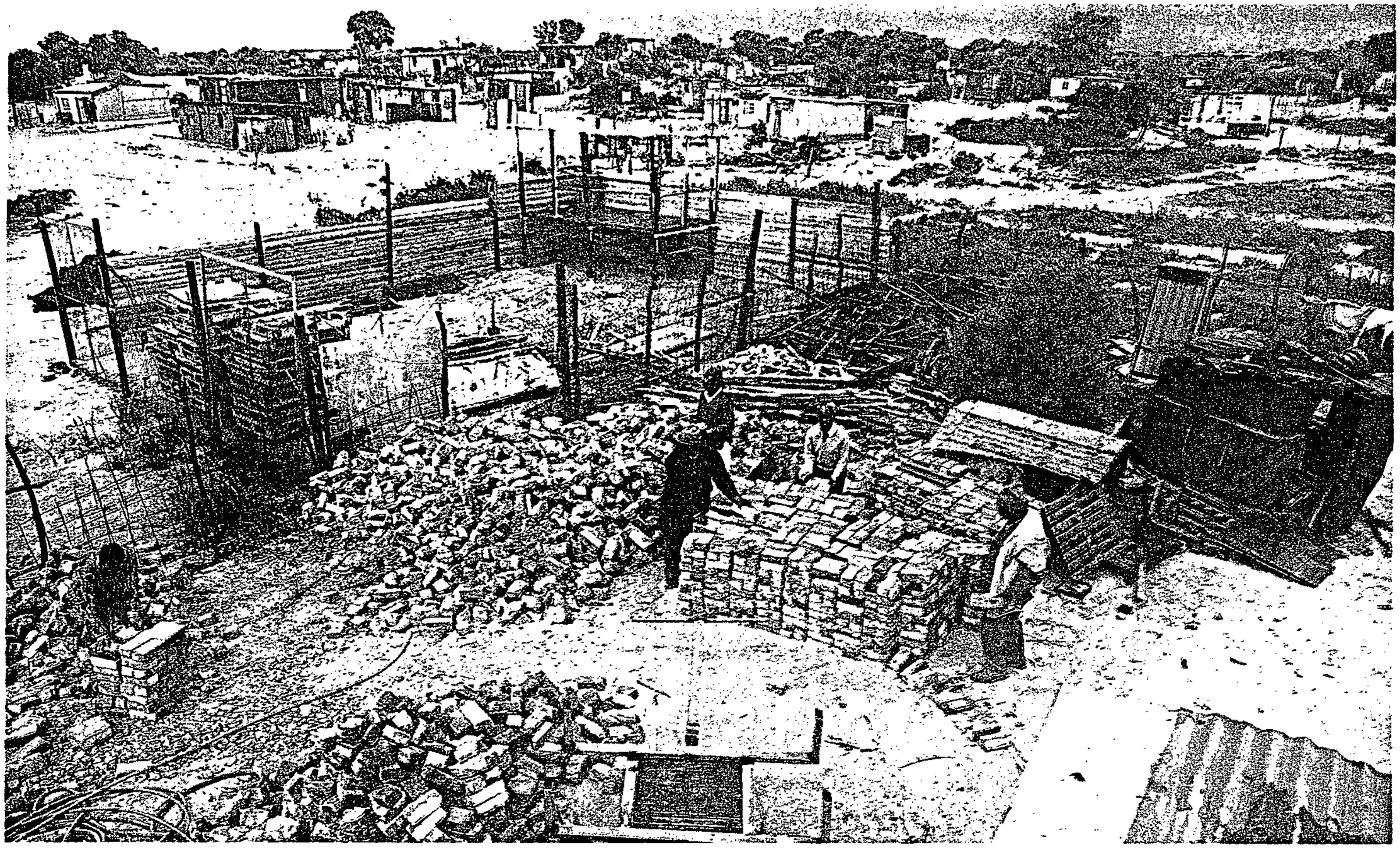

Sleepless KTC in a siege of fear

ST Times [CM] 1/3/92 (307)

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RESIDENTS of KTC squatter camp are living in constant fear that their settlement is about to be attacked and razed.

Resident self-defence groups have been set up for night patrols and the roads around the camp have been barricaded with stones, concrete slabs and tree trunks.

The feared enemy they are preparing to face has been identified by residents as the Western Cape Black Taxi Association (Webta), allegedly assisted by the South African Police.

Webta and the police have denied involvement in recent attacks on KTC.

KTC, regarded as an ANC stronghold, has borne the brunt of attacks from right-wing vigilante groups in the past and was almost destroyed when it was torched by the notorious "Witdoeke" in 1986.

Reports from journalists on the scene as well as photographs and video material were used in a marathon court action against the police. The evidence included dramatic footage of police Casspirs escorting armed Witdoeke into the settlement before the shacks were destroyed.

Mr Adriaan Volk, then Minister of Law and Order, was sued for more than R5 million by an estimated 60 000 KTC residents who lost their homes.

In an out-of-court settlement last year the government undertook to pay KTC victims R2 million, without admitting liability and in return for a withdrawal of squatter allegations of



A schoolgirl said: "At night the cops operate with Webta and burn our shacks. They shoot a kind of gun at the houses and then the houses burst into flames.

"They are shot from private cars with both blacks and whites in them. The



RAIDERS . . . army and police units on a "crime prevention operation" in KTC this week incurred the wrath of residents, many of whom blamed the police for recent violence in the townships

Pictures: FANIE JASON

S|Times[CM]

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police complicity.

Denial

Last year the Western Cape taxi war began spilling over into residential areas neighbouring the Nyanga East terminus.

Residents found themselves under attack from mysterious groups of men, some disguised with balaclavas, who fired at residents and burned down their shacks at night.

Repeated allegations have been made that the attackers are Webta members assisted by white men. Residents claim that often these men are in police uniform.

Today there is hardly a resident who does not believe Webta and the police are working hand in hand in fomenting and prolonging the violence, with the aim of neutralising KTC as an ANC stronghold.

Just as consistently, the police force has vehemently denied allegations that its members are involved and has called for evidence.

"We are in danger here. Our fear is of the police. When Webta comes to KTC, they come with the police," said elderly Mr Elliot Bolani, a member of the KTC Peace Committee.

"The attacks happen during the night mostly. We can't sleep. At night we now have people's patrols for our protection."

Schoolchildren interviewed at random also blamed Webta and the police.

whites are in balaclavas, but you know it's them from the colour of their eyes and hands and arms."

Said Mr Bolani: "At night the police play very loud music from their parked Casspirs and sound off the sirens. We have asked the government to take the police away at night."

Last Saturday, a bullet pierced the wall of Mr Bolani's shack and struck him in the right thigh.

"The man who shot me was white. He was not in police uniform. When Webta attacked us that day, they came with police in Casspirs and a police van.

"KTC is in danger. They can burn KTC any time.

"In my opinion, the violence they are causing is aimed at stopping people from voting for the ANC in the coming elections."

Biased

KTC's connection with the taxi war stemmed from the election of a leading resident, Mr Gladstone Ntamo, on to the Taxi Crisis Co-Ordination Committee (TCCC).

The TCCC was formed in a vain attempt to stop the taxi war by facilitating the merger of Webta and Lagunya into one taxi association.

"Webta said they did not want to speak to Mr Ntamo and accused the TCCC of being biased against them."

Lagunya has remained popular in the townships because of its apparent willingness to amalgamate with Webta.

Wailing women signal police raids

ST Times (EM) 1/3/92 307 ESS

By KURT SWART

THE first sign that a police raid in KTC was imminent was the distant sound of women ululating.

The sound grew louder as I interviewed Mr Elliot Bolani, a community elder and a member of the KTC Peace Committee.

"When the women start, we know the police have come. They will not stop until the police leave again," he said.

The chanting women are part of the defence system of KTC — a besieged community which fears that the police and vigilantes are out to destroy their "ANC stronghold".

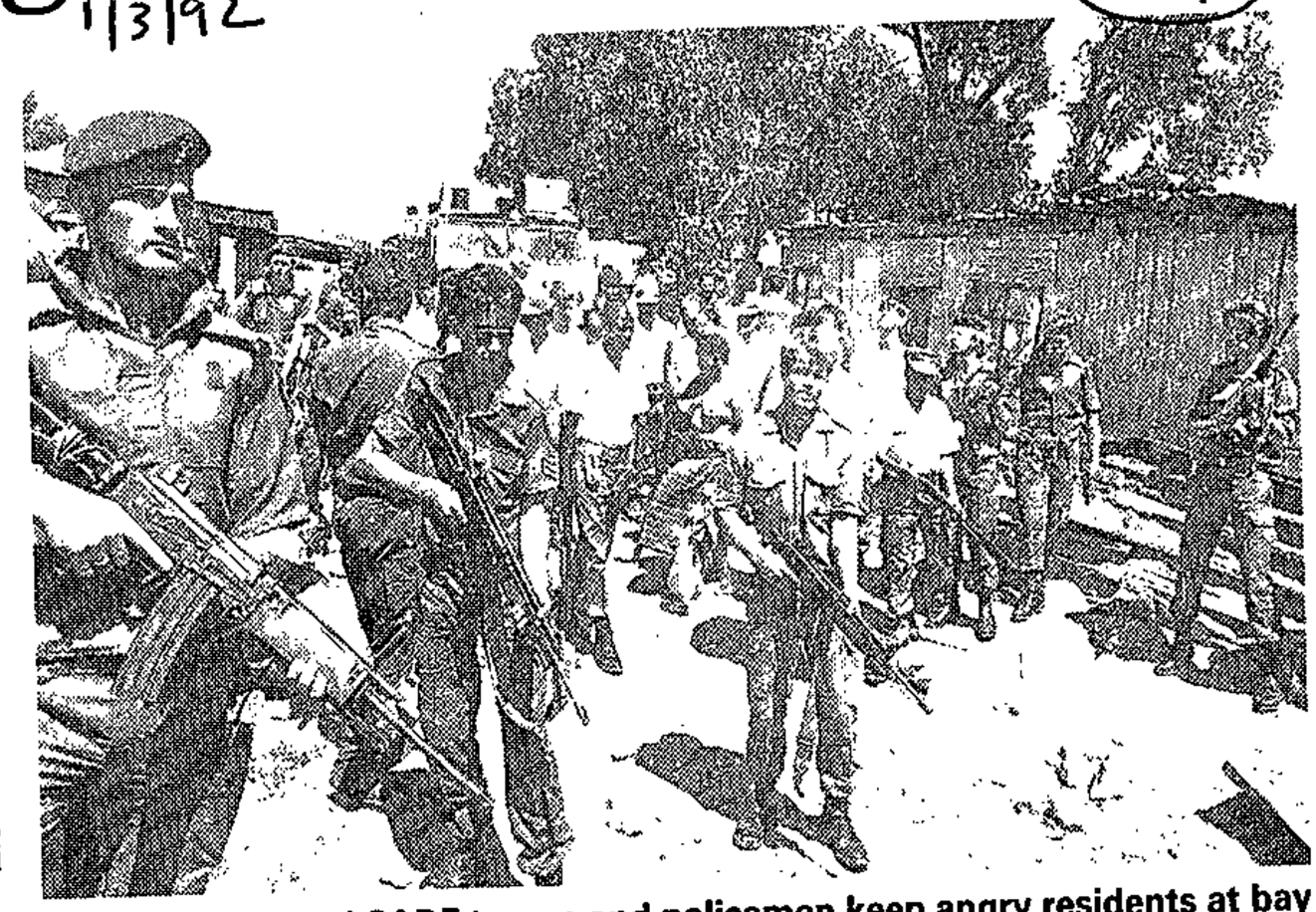
The sound of the women grew louder and Mr Bolani and I stepped outside.

We soon found the eye of the storm — a patrol of about 12 policemen, bristling with automatic rifles and shotguns, escorting a police TV crew.

The ululating women surged towards them, protesting, screaming, clapping, crying and gesturing to them to go away. The cacophony was deafening.

In the heart of KTC's sea of shacks the policemen rendezvoused with an army patrol.

The soldiers, armed with R4 automatic rifles, secured the rear of the foot column, moving backwards and facing the chanting, screaming crowd.



PATROL . . . armed SADF troops and policemen keep angry residents at bay while others search shacks in a raid on the KTC squatter camp this week

Reinforcements arrived: a Nonquai armoured personnel carrier manned by a squad of policemen, followed by a convoy of SADF and police vehicles, struggling through the muddy alleys between the shacks.

An SADF sergeant, his pistol drawn, rallied his squad. The crowd continued to scream and chant.

The force approached shack number M4719 to search it. Soldiers formed a ring of steel around the shack as police entered and rummaged through the owners' possessions. An axe was removed "because it is a dangerous weapon", leaving a woman occupant complaining bitterly that she needed it to chop wood for her stove.

Outside an army NCO directed tear gas from a spray can into the face of Mrs Thenjiwe Stuurman. Mrs Stuurman reeled backwards, clutching her face. The crowd reacted with deafening protests.

The patrol marched backwards once more, guns pointing at the crowd that followed.

The soldiers and police climbed back into their vehicles and residents banged stones against shack walls. The din was like a hundred guns opening fire.

Women screamed at the soldiers, who looked down on them, their rifles still pointing menacingly. Many of the soldiers hurled abuse at their tormentors and some of them shouted mock "Vivas".

As the convoy left KTC, with the crowd surging after it, policemen leapt from the last truck and manhandled Mrs Nosiseko Mtshombela into the back. Seconds later the loud pop-popping of tear-gas launchers was heard. People scattered in all directions.

With tears streaming down my cheeks I asked an elderly resident: "Does this happen often in KTC?"

"All the time," he said, dabbing his reddened eyes with a handkerchief.

So ended day one of a police public relations operation which had begun in the morning with heavy pamphleteering of KTC and Nyanga, watched by a press and TV contingent.

"The police are doing everything in their power to end the attacks and the violence and rely upon your co-operation," the pamphlets read.

Police spokesman Major Gys Boonzaaier said the raid had been a "normal crime-prevention operation".

According to the official unrest report, a woman was arrested in KTC when a group threw stones at police vehicles on Thursday.

Webta's woes

WEBTA chairman Mr James Mafuya denies that the taxi association's members have been involved in attacks on KTC residents.

He said this week KTC residents harboured Lagunya drivers and that attacks on Webta had been launched from the settlement.

"Our houses are being burned from New Crossroads to Khayelitsha, yet we are always accused of being Inkatha and gunmen who shoot people," he said.

He accused civic associations of siding with Lagunya.

Webta wanted to negotiate, but it regarded community boycotts against taxis as intimidation.

"The boycotts take away the bread and butter from the children of our drivers.

"We are not running with the police. Last Thursday, when the shacks were burned, 11 of our members were shot by the police with rubber bullets and birdshot."

Mr Mafuya accused the police of pandering to the ANC and of failing to take action to stop the violence.

"I don't know if it's true that white men are involved in the attacks on residents, but I believe people are hiding behind the taxi war to make trouble. I really don't know what is taking place in the townships any more."

Sunday Times (CM) 1/3/92

Same old story

POLICE spokesman Captain Attie Laubscher issued the standard response to allegations of partiality: "We dismiss these allegations with the contempt they deserve.

"Police have a responsibility to the large majority who want to see peace and stability. We will monitor the situation for a week, then we will reassess and decide whether to take more drastic steps."

Asked about repeated allegations that whites have been involved in attacks, Captain Laubscher said: "That allegation is so old.

"We can't ignore it altogether, so we appeal to the public . . . to come forward. No one has come forward. If the allegations are true, it's a cause of concern."

Delay over corpse upsets squatters

301

By CLAUDIA CAVANAGH 25/3/92

SQUATTERS at Noordhoek's Greenpoint camp are upset at the delay in collecting the body of a man burnt to death in his shack last weekend.

They claim the mortuary collected the body of 22-year-old Mr Siyabulela Mgidi nearly 16 hours after he was reported dead and only after five requests had been made to the local police.

Squatter committee chairman Ms Orimpia Nkwandla said that during this time the residents had battled to keep dogs away from the body.

Speaking to the Constantiaberg & False Bay Review this week, she said the fire had started in the shack at about 3.30am on Sunday, killing Mr Mgidi shortly thereafter.

'Mortuary job'

She said someone had immediately been sent to report the incident to the police and request the removal of the body.

She said: "They came to have a look but left the body saying an ambulance would remove it. When the ambulance arrived, the driver said he was not allowed to remove the body and that the police would have to do it.

"We waited but the police didn't come and after the fourth phone call I called Ms Pat Found (a member of the squatter committee) and we went to the police station to ask them again to come."

It was nearly 6pm when the body was finally removed, she claimed.

Police spokesman Major Gys Boonzaaier confirmed the body had been collected by the State mortuary after the ambulance had refused to remove it. He said: "The mortuary van was not available at that stage because other corpses had to be removed and post mortem examinations held."

He said he did not know why the ambulance had not taken the body but that it was standard procedure for the mortuary to remove it if the ambulance would not.

Chopper aids as shacks are razed

CT 13/3/92

(307)

Staff Reporter

A POLICE helicopter assisted police units protecting workmen who yesterday demolished shacks in the Goniwe squatter camp near Villiersdorp, leaving at least nine families homeless.

The dwellings were flattened by a private contractor acting under orders from the local municipality.

Police spokeswoman Captain Denise Brand confirmed the police action.

Mr Glyn Williams, an attorney acting for residents of the Goniwe camp, said preparations were being made to institute court action.

Villiersdorp town clerk Mr J L Serfontein said shack owners had been notified that the dwellings were built outside the proclaimed transit area of the neighbouring Matthew Goniwe squatter camp.

He said the shacks could have been demolished on March 6 but this action was postponed and a final notice was sent to individual shack owners and the area's civic association the same day.

Mr Serfontein said the council had invited the association for a meeting on Tuesday which the civic had refused to attend.

Shadow workers tear down squatter shacks

DENNIS CRUYWAGEN
Political Staff

WORKERS who declined to identify themselves or their employers dismantled at least seven shacks in Goniwe Park, an informal settlement in Villiersdorp. (307) 14/3/92

A white who was in charge of the black and coloured workers during the operation yesterday also declined to identify himself.

The numberplates of the truck used to remove building material from the site to the offices of the Villiersdorp municipality were covered with paper. White paper also covered the doors of the vehicle.

Town Clerk Mr J L Serfontein, there when the shacks were dismantled, said the workers were not municipal employees.

"We are not using our workers because we do not want to involve them in this."

A "middleman", who he declined to name, was used to hire the workers. "I don't know who they are or where they come from. I don't know who is in charge".

Mr Serfontein said the owners of the shacks were told last month they would have to remove the structures by March 6. They had ignored the notice and a second warning was disregarded.

"They built their dwellings outside the approved area," Mr Serfontein said.

In the past building materials were stored at the municipality's offices and returned to their owners on request.

At least 50 policemen, many with shotguns and teargas rifles, watched as the shacks were taken down.

Mr Serfontein said the municipality had requested a police presence because the "workers had to be protected".

The demolition caught the Villiersdorp Civic Association by surprise and spokesman Mr Thomas Jansen warned that the muncipality could expect strong a reaction from residents.

He said a civic association delegation met the municipality the previous night.

"Mr Serfontein was present and knew the shacks would be dismantled, but he did not tell us. We are angry because the municipality has not been negotiating with us in good faith."

Squatting: 15 are arrested

CT 16/3/92

Staff Reporter

FIFTEEN alleged squatters were arrested at Koekenaap in the Northern Cape at the weekend after they had started building shacks on land belonging to the Regional Services Council.

An ANC spokesman, Mr Willie Hofmeyr, said last night that the squatters had apparently become frustrated after negotiations for land to be set aside for blacks had dragged on too long.

Police spokesman Colonel Anthony Dewhurst said 11 men and four women with four children were arrested on charges of illegal squatting filed by the Northern Cape Regional Services Council.

They were released on bail yesterday. (307)

Property values plunge

(307) ARG 21/3/92

The mushrooming squatter population in the Peninsula is affecting property prices and estate agents predict that homeowners, if they want good prices for their properties must, quite simply, "wait it out". This report by Weekend Argus Reporter DI CAELERS.

HOMEOWNERS living alongside mushrooming squatter camps are losing out.

Estate agents predict they can write-off up to a quarter of the value of their properties — and that is even if they manage to find buyers at all.

The result, they say, is that most people are staying put. If they want to realise realistic prices they must, quite simply, "wait it out".

Independent property economist Mr Erwin Rode told Weekend Argus it had become "extremely dangerous" to own property on the outskirts of built-up areas.

It was "pure common sense" that squatter camps in close proximity to established residential areas had a "devastating" effect.

"From a town planning point of view it's completely wrong to have lower-class people next to a middle-class area, in much the same way as you just don't have houses next to an industrial area. It has nothing to do with race, it's all to do with class," he said.

According to the Cape Provincial Administration, some 500 000 squatters live in greater Cape Town, but other sources put that figure closer to 1,5 million.

The higher figure "is most probably linked to the fact that many people are living in informal structures, but on approved residential sites. This does not make them squatters", said Mr Chris Lötter, the CPA's deputy director of land development co-ordination.

He said about 16 505 people were resettled on serviced sites on Brown's Farm and in Khayelitsha, Philippi East and Kraaifontein-Uitkyk during the last year.

"It is, however, apparent that there still is an inflow, although this figure is difficult to determine in view of the migration of people between various locations within the metropolitan area."

The CPA had not conducted any formal studies to ascertain the impact of squatters on property values, but no one could escape the reality that squatters were here to stay.

The rapid urbanisation being experienced in South Africa was a world-wide phenomenon which could be attributed largely to economic factors.

"Every village, town and city is faced with this phenomenon and we cannot escape the reality that provision must be made for the full spectrum of the inhabitants," said Mr Lötter.

Some of the areas most affected by the close proximity of squatter camps included Noordhoek, Hout Bay and Milnerton. Estate agents reported that even if homeowners were lucky enough to find prospective buyers, banks and building societies were getting "sticky" about granting bonds.

Squatters' presence: Better to 'wait it out' if you want a fair price

Ms Pam Keet, False Bay manager for the Seeff Property Organisation, told Weekend Argus that Noordhoek homeowners were losing "at least 25%" of the value of their houses, but that this figure often increased considerably depending on how badly they wanted to sell.

In July last year, Noordhoek resident Mrs Caro Smit accepted just R250 000 for "a very special house" valued at more than R400 000.

She said: "We suddenly found ourselves with thousands of poverty-stricken people living right on our boundary. We had no privacy, there was so much noise we couldn't sleep at night and we were concerned for the safety of our children.

"We particularly chose to live in a rural area where the plots were a minimum one acre in size because we didn't want to be too close to our neighbours. Then we ended-up with a potential 10 000 people on our doorstep."

Ms Keet said sales of houses in Noordhoek had mostly ground to a halt.

"It's difficult to get buyers to go down there and, added to that, bonds are extremely difficult to come by under the circumstances."

In a court judgment last month over another Noordhoek property, the court effectively ruled that land values could be affected by the establishment of a squatter settlement in the vicinity, and that sellers accordingly were obliged to advise prospective buyers if they knew a camp was to be established.

At the time, experts expressed the view that the judgment meant local authorities and property owners could be taken to court if they permitted squatters to settle on their land.

However, Mr Lötter rejected out of hand a Hout Bay resident's demand for compensation for damage to the value of his property and his quality of life as a result of the establishment of the Imizamo Yethu Village:

"Most of the people resident there are employed in Hout Bay and, accordingly, make a positive contribution to the general economy of Hout Bay.

"Rejection of this community would also lead to polarisation which, in the end, could result only in conflict."

The government could not be held responsible for the fact that the businesses, industry and homeowners needed workers in Hout Bay, he said in a letter of reply to the resident.

Hout Bay estate agent Ms Glenda Woods said Imizamo Yethu Village had "drastically affected" properties in the residential areas immediately alongside it.

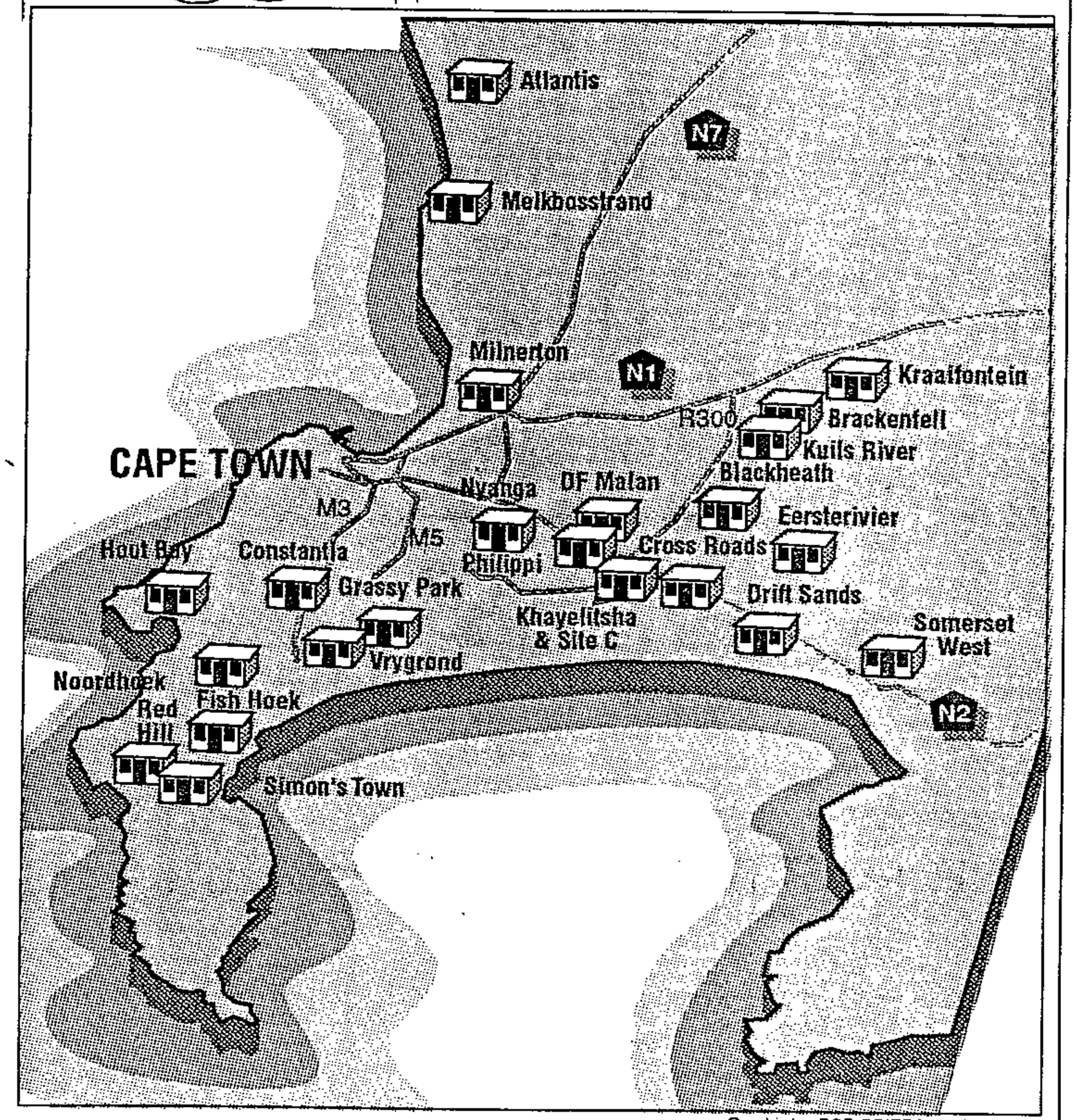
"We've had a lot of people asking for valuations, but when they're given the bad news, they've decided not to bother selling. Property prices generally have dropped by between 15 and 20 percent, but in areas of Hout Bay further away from the camp, prices appear to be normalising after the initial scare."

In Milnerton, an estate agent who did not want to be named said the worsening economy had resulted in a general slowing down of the property market, but that the establishment of the Milnerton squatter camp had served to aggravate the situation.

She said the owner of a new four-bedroomed home with exquisite views had already dropped his price by R105 000, but was still unable to sell.

One property had taken 18 months to sell and the owner had had to drop his price by R32 000. Another had already dropped his price by R18 000 and the house was still on the market after a year.

In Milnerton Ridge, about 24 homes were standing empty



Graphic by: BOB GRIERSON, The Argus

☐ **SQUATTER SITES:** This is where the squatter camps are in the greater Cape Town area and shows their proximity to established residential areas, according to information from the Cape Provincial Administration. CPA figures indicate that 500 000 squatters live in the area although other sources claim the figure may be as high as 1.5 million.

Feud delays unity in Western Cape

Soulk 21/3-26/3/92

UNITY AMONG all civic organisations in the Western Cape seems unlikely to be achieved in the near future.

The Western Cape United Squatters Association (Wecusa) has vowed to stay out of the unity process as long as the "long-standing issue of attacks on its members by the Western Cape Civic Association (WCCA) remains unresolved".

This stand and the related allegations follow Wecusa's absence from the launch of the Civic Organisation of the Western Cape (Cowec) two weeks ago.

Wecusa was a member of the regional interim civics committee, which was charged with bringing about a merger between the WCCA, the Western Cape Hostel Dwellers Association (WCHDA), Wecusa and the Cape Areas Housing Action Committee (Cahac) to form Cowec.

Wecusa regional vice-chairperson Mr Enoch Madywabe said: "Before the merger, the WCCA burnt down shacks of our members and a vehicle belonging to Wecusa at Green Point in Khayelitsha.

"When we reported the matter to the interim committee, a meeting attended by WCHDA, Cahac, Wecusa, the ANC, WCCA, Cosatu was convened.

"Wecusa members told the meeting they could not forfeit their right to operate among the shack dwellers as we had a long history of co-operation with them.

"We found that the WCCA was jealous that we were operating among the shack dwellers. They said they had a right to operate in the shacks."

Madywabe said the meeting decided that the WCCA should operate in the townships and not in the squatter settlements.

When Wecusa had demanded that the burnt vehicle be replaced, an ANC national official, said he would take the matter to his national executive committee, but had not reported back.

Madywabe said that after the shack dwellers had been allowed to return to their areas the shacks were burnt down again, resulting in the death of three people.

"We have been trying in vain on various occassions to get the WCCA to sit down and resolve the matter with us," Madywabe said.

"Since then we suspended our participation in the interim committee. We feel that we cannot engage ourselves in unity talks with WCCA until the matter of the harassment of the shack dwellers has been addressed."

Madywabe said Wecusa found there was no trust between the organisations as one member was engaged in acts of violence against Wecusa.

He said that a week before the launch of Cowec, two men from the WCHDA and two men from the WCCA approached Wecusa and said there would be a launch of a united civic the following week.

The men said they represented an "organising committee" for the launch.This kind of behaviour further bore testimony to the fact that the regional interim civic committee cannot be trusted," he said.

"How can Wecusa, being a member organisation, be told that there would be a launch without being involved in the decision-making?

"How can an organising committee be formed without our knowledge?"

Despite SOUTH's attempts for two weeks to get comment on Wecusa's allegations, Cowec's secretary and chairperson refused to respond.

A spate of 'strip schools' has sprung up in Moscow in the wake of communism's demise. Applicants spoke to **Fred Weir** about their ambitions:

IT HAS BEEN difficult enough for Russians to get used to the idea of advertisements in newspapers, let alone one that invites young women "with beautiful bodies" to "leave their inhibitions at home" and try out for lucrative careers as strippers.

But there it was in several Moscow newspapers recently, placed by a new company calling itself the Aphrodite Academy of Strip Tease.

There is growing unease over the wave of pornography and sex-for-sale businesses surfacing with the advent of a market economy.

Pornographic magazines, videos and other paraphernalia, mostly imported, are openly on sale in the streets and shops, alongside more mundane consumer goods. Prostitution has taken over many Moscow bars and restaurants, and for the first time is flowing out into some of the city's main streets.

Perhaps most alarming for many has been the rise of businesses whose sole purpose is to market Russian women — as prostitutes, strippers and mail-order brides — in the West.

The Aphrodite Academy is one of two "strip schools" operating in Moscow. It claims its graduates will go on to work in Western countries for as much as R400 a day — an enormous sum in the former Soviet Union, where the average monthly income is equivalent to R32.

"I got the idea from visiting schools like this in foreign countries," said Aphrodite's manager, Ms Alla Kirmusova, a 35-year-old former ballerina.

"I know it's going to work well here because living standards are very poor. This will be an attractive option for a lot of girls," she said.

One morning, Kirmusova was interviewing applicants in the gymnasium of the Ismailova Recreational Centre, which she often hires for that purpose.

Several young women waited their turn. Most spoke glowingly of the prospects of working in the West and one said she intended to stay and find a husband "in any European country".

Ms Lyudmilla Vlasenko, a 22-year-old from the northern city of Archelangelsk, said being a stripper "is my dream ... it's what I want to do".

Vlasenko, who is married, insisted her husband "is totally behind me on this. He wants me to be happy".

but her manager, a burly, heavy-set man who gave his name as Genya, said: "Lyudmilla will go far in this business. She has magic."

Her magic was soon fully displayed. One of Kirmusova's interviewing techniques is to demand that applicants disrobe immediately and stand while she scrutinises them in the harsh light of the cold public gymnasium.

"If they express any reluctance to undress in front of strange men, I ask them why they bothered coming here at all. That's what the business is all about," she said.

After a cursory examination, Kirmusova told Lyudmilla to go away and lose 5kg before reapplying.

"This is a competitive field," Kirmusova said. "They don't like fat women in the West. You have to be slim."

The next applicant was Ms Olga Markovskaya, a tall, slender woman who is still studying at a local secondary school. She arrived in the company of her mother, who instructed her to shed her overcoat, revealing almost nothing underneath.

been the rise of businesses whose sole purpose is to market Russian women — as prostitutes, strippers and mail-order brides — in the West.

Kirmusova watched approvingly as this applicant paced back and forth.

"I am 17, but please write that I am 18," said Olga after she had been accepted to "study" at the academy. "I really want to do this."

Her mother Albina, a 40-year-old waitress, nodded. "I support this completely," she said. "It is a perfectly normal job, like any other. I would do it myself if I were younger."

The only problem, she said, was Olga's boyfriend. He had failed to show any understanding towards her ambitions.

"His attitude is that he would like to tear down the Aphrodite Academy, brick by brick," said Albina. "We are trying to find a common language with him."

Through this discussion, Olga remained largely silent, letting her mother do the talking. When pressed, she said: "Yes, our society is still very conservative. I hope that is going to change."

Kirmusova insisted she was just marketing a normal commodity to normal consumers, who were eager for it. "You can see for yourself that

One class of 28 Russian women has already "graduated" from the academy.

"The whole class is now working in Germany," Kirmusova said. "They are getting DM630 a day and I take 15 percent of that. It is a business, and business is good."

She showed little interest in developing a Russian market for her services. The big money is abroad.

"I already have contracts to send Russian dancers to Israel and Germany. Many countries are interested and we are very competitive. In the West, a good stripper can earn up to £300 a day. We have beautiful dancers who will work for £60 to £90."

What Kirmusova fears most is regulation. "Things are fine now. The present government lets us engage freely in business," she said. "But if they start acting like communists again it will be time to leave the country."

'Jungle laws govern squatter wives'



CAMP OF PAIN: Women at the Hout Bay squatter settlement say they are the victims of battering by their husbands

South 4/4 - 9/4/92 (307)

WOMEN IN the Hout Bay squatter settlement are battling against the "law of the jungle" imposed on them by their men.

Granted permanent residence on a new site, they are now spared the harassment of the authorities. But the violence of their men has left many of them in despair.

Local squatter leader, Ms Vanessa Matthews, who was herself a victim of abuse, says many women and children were being battered by the men in the camp.

"What I have learnt from being abused is that when frustration arises — there is no food, no money — the men also feel pain," says Matthews.

"They feel guilty, hurt, embarrassed because they cannot look after their children. What men do in this place is a bad thing that has to be looked at. Sometimes they beat up their women very badly.

"The other day, one of the women told me that she told her husband to find a job. She realised afterwards that he had been out looking for a job and that maybe she had been too hard on him.

"I mean, he is a black man, a squatter — right now they are not employing a lot of our people. So he beat her up and then came to apologise. This happens all the time."

Matthews believes the problem is a complex one influenced by economics and culture. But then there are also the men who are "very jealous or very lazy".

"They expect a women to be a woman; you must cook, clean the house, do your job and still take care of the children. If you step out of line, they step out of line," she says.

Women who want to get away have nowhere to go with their children. They leave to stay with friends but always return.

Some who are faced with the infidelity of their men try to fight back. The women are not in a position to insist that their men remain faithful. They maintain their pride by preventing the man from bringing "his woman" into the shack where they live.

The fact that they have to fight for such basic rights of decency is indicative of the serious disadvantages they suffer.

The discussion on the equality of women, which occupies a central place in the democratic movement, is far removed from the reality confronting the women of Hout Bay.

— AIA

ANNEXURE

Province	Posts	(a) Doctors' Posts		(b) Nursing Posts		(c) Support Staff Posts		(d) Administrative Posts	
		28/2/91	29/2/92	28/2/91	29/2/92	28/2/91	29/2/92	28/2/91	29/2/92
Provincial Administration of Transvaal	(i) Authorised	1 487	1 487	18 977	19 928	1 172	1 163	245	249
	(ii) Filled	1 366	1 456	16 012	16 688	857	912	212	223
Provincial Administration of the Cape of Good Hope	(i) Authorised	1 365	1 340	19 041	19 239	578	573	166	184
	(ii) Filled	1 259	1 237	17 620	17 807	530	521	154	171
Provincial Administration of Natal	(i) Authorised	574	584	4 565	4 553	283	298	225	230
	(ii) Filled	557	577	4 429	4 434	260	280	209	213
Provincial Administration of the Orange Free State	(i) Authorised	75	74	2 225	2 722	171	217	45	61
	(ii) Filled	56	62	2 065	1 999	160	168	33	42

Persons moved to Kwanobuhle

167. Mr E W TRENT asked the Minister of Regional and Land Affairs:

(a) How many persons had been moved from (i) Langa/Kabah, and (ii) Despatch Location, to Kwanobuhle as at 31 December 1991 and (b) what (i) was the total cost of these removals and (ii) are the categories into which this cost was broken down?

B397E

The MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LAND AFFAIRS:

(a) (i) ±48 500 persons (7 750 families)

(ii) ±1 500 persons (250 families)

(b) (i) R20 538 605

(ii)

Tents	R5 049 490
Toilets	11 508 038
Sanitation buckets	26 811
Refuse holders	223 922
Water tanks	1 390 671
Transport	2 218 336
Miscellaneous	121 337
	R20 538 605

Provincial hospitals: cost/income per patient

169. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health:

What is the (a) cost per patient per day and (b) income per patient per day for each hospital falling under the control of each of the provinces?

B399E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH:

Provincial Administration of the Cape of Good Hope

	(a) R	(b) R
Aliwal North	138,99	23,86
Barkley East	152,97	10,71
Barkley West	86,74	9,78
Beaufort West	95,98	9,52
Bedford	128,54	7,89
Bredasdorp	114,96	17,64
Brewelskloof	64,43	0,44
Brooklyn Chest	73,08	0,85
Burgersdorp	108,38	14,46
Caledon	172,49	23,28
Calvinia	114,06	12,72
Cathcart	135,54	6,16
Ceres	102,90	16,02
Citrusdal	110,32	13,32
Colesberg	99,45	14,83
Conradie, Pinelands	143,66	5,58
Cradock	136,06	12,30
Day Hospitals Organisation	101,02	2,98
De Aar	24,11	18,30
Dora Nginza, Port Elizabeth	202,73	3,10

Douglas	121,66	14,99
East London (Frere)	204,87	23,97
Elizabeth Donkin	145,60	4,94
Elliot	138,26	5,88
Empilweni	57,68	0,01
Faure (National Accelerator Centre)	569,32	11,21
Fort Beaufort	135,13	13,55
Fort England	71,64	1,08
G F Jooste, Manenberg	75,24	0,77
Garies	114,57	10,63
George	198,59	31,80
Graaff-Reinet	187,84	24,27
Grahamstown	144,00	9,24
Groote Schuur, Observatory	409,80	14,89
Hartswater	86,31	11,87
Hermanus	133,79	33,25
Humansdorp	179,63	28,21
Kakamas	133,79	1,48
Karl Bremer, Bellville	336,95	65,95
Kimberley	230,48	27,52
King William's Town	193,35	17,70
Knysna	127,63	12,97
Komani	61,43	0,82
Kuruman	111,39	19,44
Ladismith	148,03	10,33
Livingstone, Port Elizabeth	209,20	4,73
Malmesbury	153,44	20,70
Middelburg (Include Porterville and Wesfleur)	150,41	13,82
Montagu	107,71	10,68
Mossel Bay	104,06	17,23
Noupoort	126,01	10,41
Oudtshoorn	142,23	20,04
Paarl	122,84	21,30
Postmasburg	98,54	11,09
Prieska	129,14	17,55
Queenstown	190,41	13,92
Red Cross War Memorial	349,96	12,64
Reivilo	136,36	5,25
Riversdale	124,51	12,65
Robertson	123,16	14,99
Sir Henry Elliot	307,54	138,13
Somerset, Greenpoint	323,71	12,59
Somerset East	117,11	17,82
Somerset West	107,79	22,59
South Peninsula Hospitals Group	213,95	20,37
Springbok	114,05	17,28
Stellenbosch	136,06	20,02
Steynsburg	108,90	5,28
Stikland	72,22	4,16
Sutherland	136,34	7,04
Swellendam	114,24	13,79
Tower	58,09	0,35
Tygerberg	353,88	19,03
Uitenhage	175,08	30,06
Upington	147,90	23,16
Upington TB	44,38	0,42
Valkenberg	74,23	2,18
Victoria West	130,82	10,94
Vredenburg	122,56	19,33
Vredendal	95,78	17,25
Vryburg	149,74	21,77
Walvis Bay	132,34	8,82
West End	60,22	1,05
Woodstock	195,08	13,60
Worcester	152,57	13,54

Provincial Administration of Natal

	(a) R	(b) R
Addington	366,00	36,73
Christ the King	107,00	8,40
Clairwood	126,00	4,73
Dundee	176,00	20,54
E G & Usher Memorial	141,00	8,12
Empangeni	365,00	148,07
Eshowe	156,00	15,76
Estcourt	181,00	12,54
G J Crookes	150,00	13,05
Greytown	149,00	15,82
King Edward VIII	268,00	11,45
King George V	108,00	6,26
Ladysmith	131,00	17,77
Newcastle	345,00	135,47
Niemeyer Memorial	136,00	12,43
Northdale	268,00	20,10
Port Shepstone	179,00	38,86
R K Khan	199,00	14,65
St Andrews	96,00	7,08
Stanger	134,00	9,96
Tayler Bequest	117,00	4,78
Vryheid	179,00	27,44
Wentworth	765,00	29,79
Psychiatric Hospitals:		
Fort Napier	186,00	0,82
Town Hill	109,00	2,07
Umgeni	70,00	3,11
SADT Hospitals:		
Emmaus	129,00	4,87
Grey's	390,00	124,08
Greytown	317,00	123,34
Hillcrest	106,00	4,22
Murchison	106,00	4,88

Outcry over MEC's speech

307

CT 10/4/92

By ANTHONY JOHNSON

NEWLY appointed Cape MEC Mr Peter Marais was in hot water yesterday following his controversial assertion that it would be unfair for squatters to enjoy the same voting rights as ratepayers.

Mr Marais, a former Nationalist member of the President's Council, was promoted two weeks ago to MEC for Works, Transport and Traffic Control when President F W de Klerk fired Labour Party members from the provincial executive.

But in his first major speech in his new position Mr Marais caused an outcry among opposition MPs and embarassment among his NP colleagues when he aired his views on squatter rights in Parliament this week.

Speaking during the Cape provincial debate, Mr Marais said, amid interjections, that he could not support a one-person one-vote system in which squatters enjoyed the same voting rights in an election for a future city council "as home-owners with properties worth R200 000 or more".

He went on to question whether fellow MPs would be satisfied with a situation where "those that live in motor-car wrecks on an open piece of land got control of the city council because they are in the majority" and could then prescribe how much tax should be paid.

The Democratic Party spokesman for provincial affairs, Mr Jan van Eck, said yesterday that Mr Marais should be made to repudiate his "insulting" statements or be fired.

A spokesman for the administrator of the Cape, Mr Kobus Meiring, said yesterday that both Mr Meiring and the MEC with responsibility for squatters, Mr Koos Theron, had stated repeatedly that squatters could not be wished away and that established communities needed to develop a keener understanding for their plight.

The spokesman, Mr Van Heerden Heunis, said that "to the extent that statements made by Mr Marais did not reflect this view, there will have to be discussion between him and the administrator as quickly as possible".

Investigator not identified

B|Bdy 10/4/92

STEPHANE BOTHMA

POLICE have refused to name the senior officer appointed to conduct the new investigation into the 1989 murder of Soweto physician Dr Abu-Baker Asvat.

The investigation was launched after allegations linking Winnie Mandela to the slaying were published this week.

Lt-Col Johan Mostert said yesterday the investigating officer would not be identified to prevent the media from pestering him and hampering the investigation.

The police said all media inquiries about the matter would be handled by police headquarters in Pretoria.

In 1989 Thulane Dlamini and Cyril Mbatha were sentenced to death for murdering Asvat during a robbery.

But there were allegations this week in the US newspaper, The Christian Science Monitor, that the state was in possession of a statement claiming Mandela had offered to pay R20 000 to one of the murderers after the doctor's death.

Mostert said the new investigation would involve studying statements made by the two murderers.

But it was not known at this stage if personal interviews with them would be conducted.

Both men were currently being held in Pretoria Central Prison, said Mostert.

Statements about the events would also be obtained from others, Mostert said. On completion, the docket would be handed to the Attorney-General for a decision.

Key witness in Mandela trial returns to SA

B 10day 10/4/92

STEPHANE BOTHMA

A KEY State witness in the 1991 Winnie Mandela kidnap and assault trial, Gabriel Pelo Mekgwe, who was "kidnapped" the day before he was to testify, is back in SA.

Mekgwe was allegedly abducted from the Soweto Methodist Church manse in February last year, resulting in the postponement of the trial and the initial refusal to testify of two other key witnesses, Kenneth Kgase and Thabiso Mono.

Police sources confirmed Mekgwe was in the country, but said they were not investigating the matter because Mekgwe had not laid a charge of kidnapping.

At the time of the alleged kidnapping, media reports claimed Mekgwe was abducted by ANC members.

He was allegedly later traced to an ANC "safe house" in Harare but was moved to Zambia after SA asked for his repatriation.

New Cape MEC sparks outcry

Political Staff

CAPE TOWN — Newly appointed Cape MEC Peter Marais was in hot water yesterday over his assertion that it would be unfair for squatters to enjoy the same voting rights as ratepayers. B 10day

Marais, a former Nationalist member of the President's Council, was promoted two weeks ago to MEC for Works, Transport and Traffic Control after President F W de Klerk fired Labour Party members from the provincial executive. 10/4/92

Marais' first major speech in his new post caused an outcry among opposition MPs and embarrassment among his Nationalist colleagues this week. Speaking during the Cape provincial debate, Marais said he could not support a one man, one vote system in which illegal squatters enjoyed the same voting rights in an election for a future city council "as homeowners with properties worth R200 000 or more".

He asked whether fellow MPs would be satisfied with a situation where "those that live in motor car wrecks on an open piece of land got control of the city council because they are in the majority" and could then prescribe how much tax should be paid and how it should be spent. (30")

DP spokesman for provincial affairs Jan van Eck said yesterday that Marais should be made to retract his "insulting" statements about squatters, or be fired.

"We cannot have a person with such a hostile attitude towards a large percentage of people in the Cape in such a position of responsibility. It will undermine all faith among squatters towards the Cape Provincial Administration."

Squatter food riots a matter of time

307

ARG 11/4/92

JEAN LE MAY
Weekend Argus Reporter

TENSION in Cape Town's squatter camps is at flashpoint over hunger, say organisations which distribute food in the areas.

A city academic has warned that food riots may erupt unless something is done to improve the conditions.

Field workers of organisations such as Operation Hunger reported this week that tension was high, particularly in the sprawling area known as Harare, behind Khayelitsha, as newcomers, many unemployed, flooded into Cape Town.

"Hunger has always been a prime cause of political unrest," said Professor David Welsh of the department of political studies at the University of Cape Town.

A tense political situation was building up which would be as dangerous to any future administration as it was now to the present government, he said.

"In my view, spontaneous food riots could break out which will have nothing initially to do with politics, but will quickly become politicised.

"There is a highly combustible mix because the tens of thousands of people pouring into the squatter settlements are viewed with suspicion by the established communities, quite apart from political rivalries.

"We know that there is terrible poverty in the townships where the unemployment is already very high. Tens of thousands of people pouring every month into the squatter camps can only add to the tension."

There was long-term validity in the government's insistence that a "culture of dependency" must not be built up, he said.

But at the same time, he said, something had to be done urgently in the short-term to get food to people who were starving.

A tomorrow of wo

South 11/4-16/4/92



Chiara Carter Associate Editor (307)

Squatting has become a political flashpoint across South Africa. Will the Western Cape be any different? This first article in a three-part series takes an overview of the issue and the urgent need for a national land and housing policy:



FORCED OUT: Endemic violence is a feature of life in most squatter camps. People are forced to flee their homes by endemic violence

LIKE A SPIDERWEB, Cape Town's squatter areas weave around the city centre, suburbs and townships, criss-cross the Cape Flats and extend to the city's outskirts and beyond into the Boland and western and southern Cape.

This "other Cape Town", with many of its residents desperately poor and vulnerable to endemic violence and exploitation, could be a source for unprecedented conflict and challenge in the Mother City.

If old sins cast long shadows then the squatter settlements exist in the shade of the consequences of apartheid policy including land dispossession and a skewed economy.

Successive governments first attempted to prevent the urbanisation of Africans and then sought to severely curtail squatting. In the Western Cape the situation was complicated by the coloured labour preference policy which meant authorities made little or no provision for the housing of Africans.

Pass raids, demolitions and removals notwithstanding, the authorities were attempting the impossible. A tide of people migrated to the cities in the hope of finding a better life and fought for their right to remain. That most managed to find or erect shelter is evidence of their determination and resourcefulness.

By 1977, there were about 51 000 people living in informal shelters in the Western Cape. Meanwhile no houses were being built for African families.

Between 1966 and 1976 fewer than 4 000 family units for Africans were built in Cape Town. From the early seventies the government halted construction of family dwellings.

Influx control was abolished in 1986 but the government said it wanted orderly urbanisation and moved to tighten squatter legislation, first amending the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act and then in 1988 passing the Amendment Act.

However, the drastic shortage of housing coupled with poverty and overcrowding, meant people had little option but to live in single quarters or build their own shelters in the burgeoning squatter settlements.

The state has been forced to accept that squatters are here to stay. However, the approach of the authorities to the growth of informal settlements in towns and cities has been to identify alternative sites where squatters can live.

Some fieldworkers ask whether this is not a case of old wine in new skins — forced removal and stratification of residential segregation.

While most squatters live around Crossroads, Nyanga and Khayelitsha, not all are neatly tucked away from the affluent areas such as Hout Bay, Marina Da Gama, Millerton and Noordhoek. The "not in my backyard" syndrome has the potential of violent conflict as seen in the Transvaal.

The dimensions of squatting are huge. According to the State President FW de Klerk, between five and seven million South Africans are squatters. In Cape Town there are more than 60 000 shacks, excluding backyard dwellings, and tens of thousands of people live in squatter settlements.

Most are desperately poor. Official estimates say about 70 percent of blacks cannot afford to buy a house that costs as little as R10 000. At the end of last year, more than 65 000 households in Khayelitsha owed the Lingelethu West council about R13,3 million in unpaid rent, service charges and electricity.

The poverty of most families gives rise to the question of what accommodation people can afford.

There is a standstill in building. The state is not building houses. The private sector is also not building homes for low-income groups.

The executive director of the National Association of Home Builders, Mr Dan Roelvert, says lenders and builders would need guarantees before embarking on low-income housing schemes.

From actively discouraging squatting the authorities have switched to providing site-and-service schemes on the periphery of towns and cities.

Whether this strategy is correct, whether inner city development and consolidation rather than peripheral squatting should be pursued is a topic of fierce controversy.

Also debated is whether site-and-service should be down-played in favour of a massive national housing policy to kick-start the economy.

Challenges facing housing policymakers include the need for rental accommodation, and the provision of serviced land with an emphasis on urban infill rather than providing tracts on the fringes of the city.

They also need to change the subsidy schemes which have tended to favour white and coloured middle- and upper-income buyers.

If past demands were for the right to remain in the city and then to live on land, today the aspiration is for decent and affordable housing.

However at the level of decision-making this rarely features as a demand. The discourse is dominated by site-and-service and upgrade schemes — revealing a minimum-level pragmatic approach and the extent to which the vision of groups like the Urban Foundation has achieved hegemony.

Whether a new wave of struggles for the maximum in housing will emerge and whether such demands can be achieved — remain open questions.

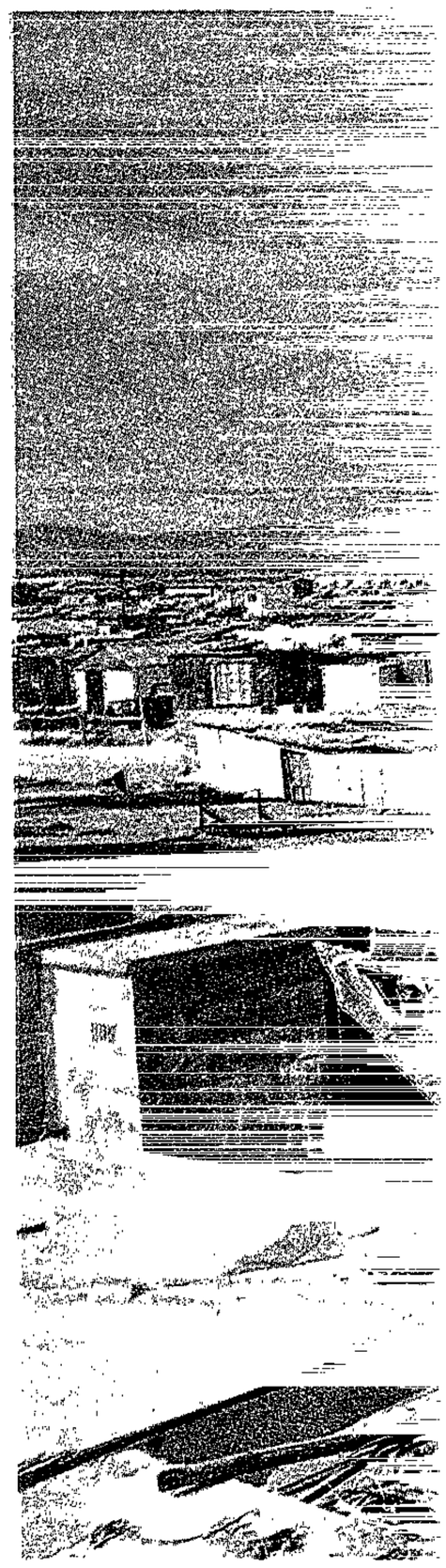
Meanwhile central government, municipalities and the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA) have all been strategising about informal settlement and urbanisation.

Civic and squatter leaders and organisations claim to represent the squatters but too often there is little sign of grassroots organisation.

All agree on the need for a national land and housing policy which would provide a framework for initiatives and development. What few acknowledge is the extent to which the future is being determined now by short-term arrangements and stop-gap measures taken by the authorities, the communities and the agencies involved.

In a real sense tomorrow is being built, or sold-out depending on your viewpoint, in the squatter settlements today.

And the seeds for social conflict or co-operation are being planted at the same time.



A COMPLEX SPIDERWEB: There

CONTROL OVER resources is the key the power wielded by the mig leaders of Cape Town's squatter tlements.

In this world of dirt tracks and mak structures, the squatter lords, or warlord they are termed by their critics, hold ab lute sway over the lives of the tens of t sands of Capetonians who are squatters.

Men like the former Crossroads ma Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana, his rival Jeffrey Nongwe, Browns Farm leader Christopher Toise and discredi Khayelitsha leader Mr Jerry Tutu h become legendary figures. Others like Conrad Sandile, the enigmatic figure ... ly credited to be the brains behind Western Cape Squatters Associat (Wecusa) and KTC leader Mr Gladst Ntamo are less well known but equ powerful.

Most rule with the backing of headi or wardmen who govern sectors of the tlements. Some have what amount to vate armies. Their ranks even inc kitskonstables.

Josette Cole, in her book "Crossr the Politics of Reform and Repressi terms the system of wardmen and ... men that emerged in Crossroads as "... traditional" structures which draw on experiences of people in the bantust She says the system which at first ass the Crossroads community to withstand state later became a tool for individual and state repression.

The same system, or variations up exists in most squatter camps in the t ship areas today. According to re...

This feature has been made possible by the support of PERM

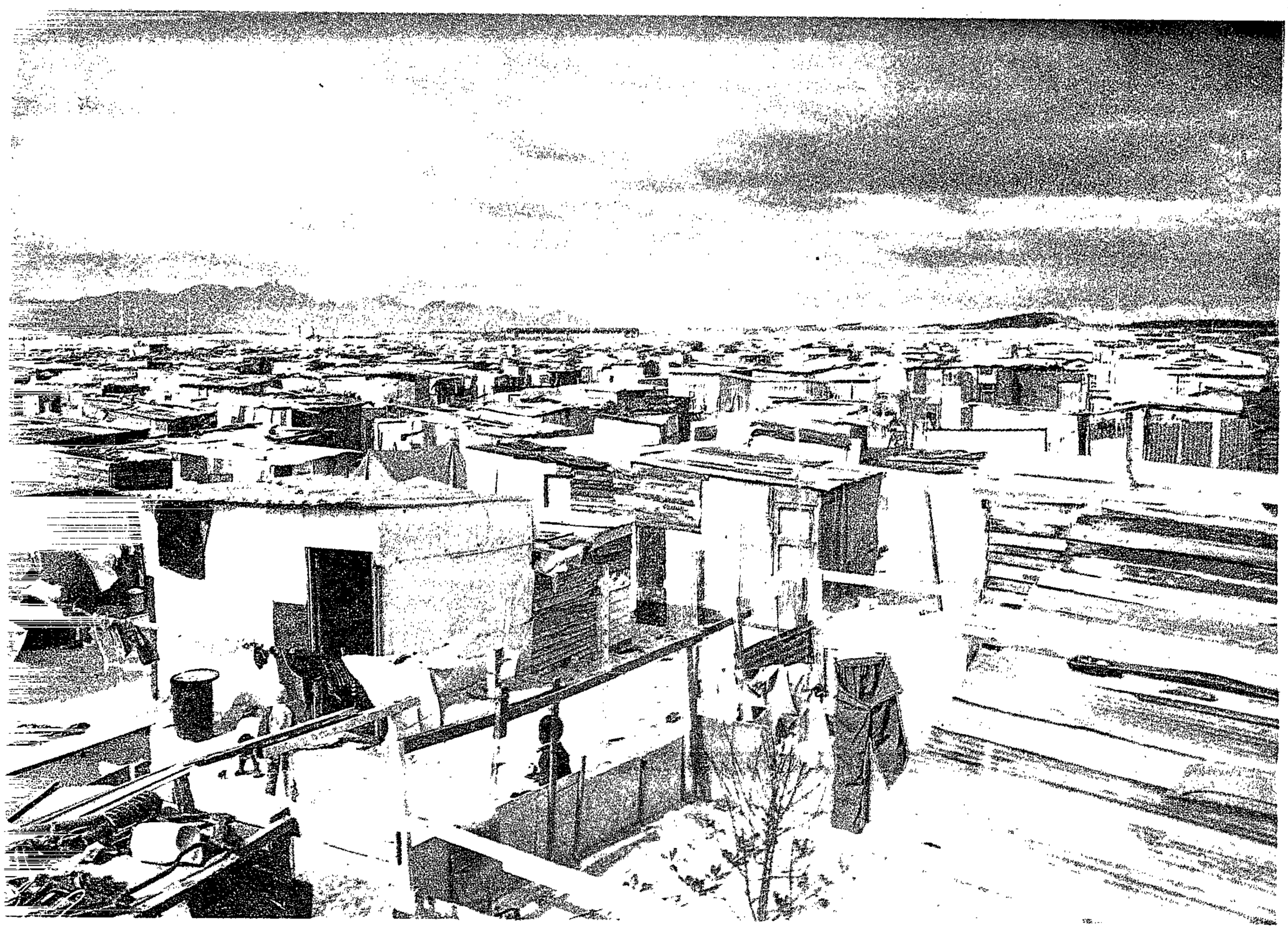
Cape Town's population (Wesgro figures)

South 11/4-16/4/92 (307)

WESTERN CAPE		**Langa**	69 487	111 758	
Coloured	1 919 000	**Nyanga**	82 894	133 322	
African	920 000	**Guguletu**	121 771	195 850	
White	827 000	**Khayamandi**	7 124	10 132	
		Lwandle	4 586	32 225	
METROPOLITAN CAPE TOWN		**Mbekweni**	15 288	21 742	
Coloured	1 546 000	**Zwelithemba**	9 748	12 836	
African	850 000	Number of shacks (not including backyard shacks) 1990 figures drawn up by UPRU from a variety of sources			
White	705 000				
WHO LIVES WHERE		**GUGULETU AREA:**			
Figures for 1990 and projected population for 1998. (Drawn up by Urban Problems Research Unit (UPRU) from a variety of sources):		**Tambo Square**		480	
		KTC between		4 500 and 6 000	
	1990 1998	**NYANGA AREA:**			
Crossroads	49 492 79 600	**Freedom Square**		27	
Khayelitsha	184 235 400 000	**Mpetha Square**		679	
KTC	13 514 21 735	**Batha Square**		79	
		Mahobe Drive		132	

Nyanga Bush/BlackCity (before fire)	900
Mpinga Square	233
Millers Camp (including Gxalaba & Lusaka camps)	1 381
Browns Farm	1 170
Crossroads and Crossroads Extension	6 375
KHAYELITSHA AREA:	
Site C	7 060
Site B	18 566
Greenpoint	3 853
Silvertown	2 000
Interspersed	9 900
(figures will have altered slightly with taxi-war migrations)	
Peripheral and peri-urban:	4 000 — 5 000

od and iron shacks



more than 60 000 sqatter shacks in Cape Town

Warlords wield whip in harsh world of squatter politics

(307)

South 11/4-16/4/92

and field workers, the system has been subverted to become the means by which a group of male leaders become affluent and powerful at the expense of residents in their area.

Allegiances shift and fall-outs and coups are commonplace in the harsh world of squatter politics. The means by which squatter barons command control over their fiefdoms is the allocation of land, the collection of dues and ultimately the threat of force against dissidents and rivals. This is the case even among some leaders aligned to the ANC and other progressive organisations.

The Urban Problems Research Unit (Upru), in a report on migration in Khayelitsha, commented:

"They (the warlords) gain control over the land allocation process and use it for the interrelated ends of political patronage and financial enrichment.

"Violent struggles break out between rival factions, internal and external, over allegiances and land parcels, frequently with serious losses in terms of material possessions and even life, and accompanied by large scale displacement of people."

Residents in most settlements say they are forced to pay dues from R5 upwards to the headmen. The squatter leaders flatly deny that they extort money from their followers, saying any money collected goes towards development projects for the community.

Tension between youth and headmen is not unique to Crossroads where militant youth have a history of aligning themselves with rival groupings in an attempt to oust leadership. In several squatter areas, including KTC, there have been ongoing tensions between leadership and youth. In others, notably Crossroads, the ANC Youth League and Women's League are said to be outlawed or severely curtailed lest they prove a threat to the dominant form of political authority in the area.

New opportunities are presented by the provision of site-and-service areas and the upgrading of settlements. These hold out promise not only to communities but to squatter lords who, through manipulation of the allocation of land and resources, can reap considerable rewards, material and political.

The stakes involved are gigantic. The Independent Development Trust (IDT), for example, recently agreed with Wecusa on a development totalling well over R30 million in Khayelitsha.

Correspondingly, there is a heightened possibility of conflict within communities and between groups.

The R46-million serviced site alongside Browns Farm stood empty for six months last year because of a dispute over who should occupy it. While Toise, Siphika, Yamile and the Mascindane committee from KTC slugged it out, vandals wrought damage amounting to R100 000. Now, fieldworkers and residents claim sites are being sold illegally in the area.

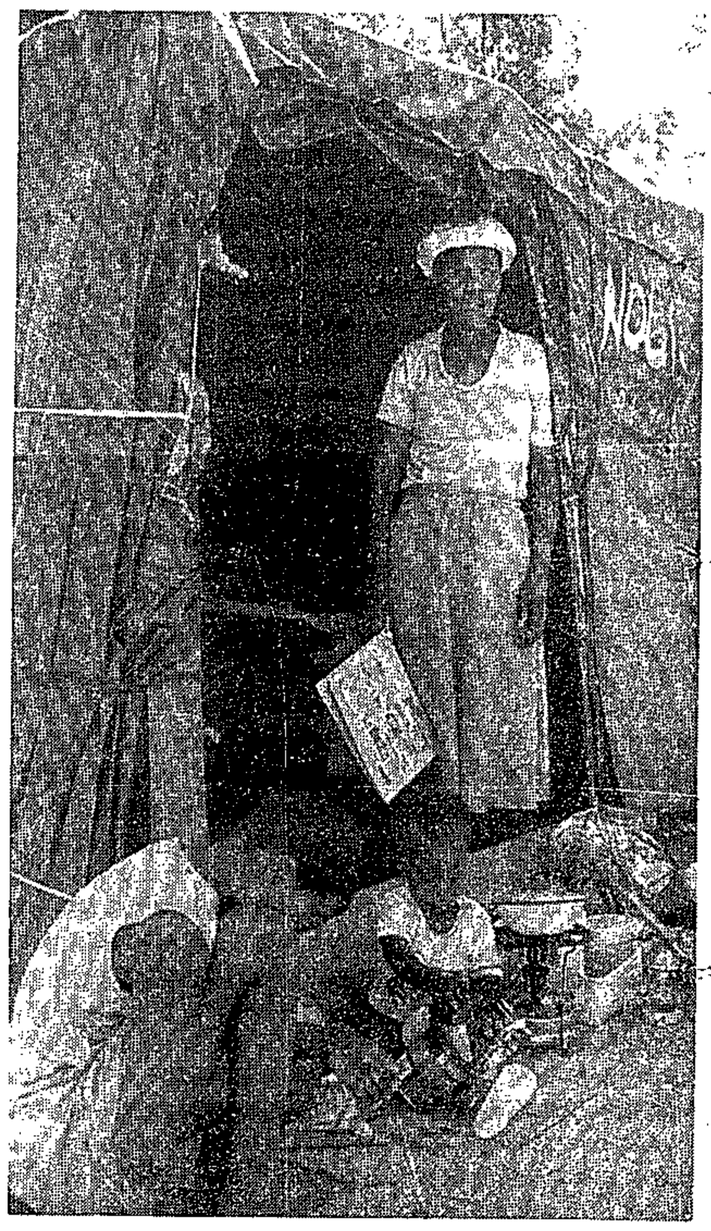
Confusing the situation is the ongoing tension between the umbrella squatter organisation Wecusa and the newly-launched Western Cape region of the South African National Civic Organisation (Sanco).

There has long been tension between the two groupings. Wecusa has always regarded the squatter camps as its own territory. The civics have challenged this and the result has been bitter conflict and tension.

Many feel it is the allocation of land that needs to be tackled, an aspect acknowledged by IDT director Mr Ben van der Ross. He says the trust has established a system whereby a representative committee drawn from several sectors of the community is charged with the responsibility of land allocation.

If the squatter lords maintain their control over the settlements there is a strong possibility that, as Cape Town moves towards the creation of a single metropolitan authority, they could wield power over far more than just the squatter areas.

• NEXT WEEK: *The people who have 'problems' with squatters — the city council, the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA) and those with formal housing*



MAKESHIFT: Severe housing shortage means people are forced to use makeshift structures as homes

Business urged to find jobs for ex-political prisoners

South 11/4 - 16/4/92

HUNDREDS OF ex-political prisoners are struggling to find a niche in the cramped South African job market. As a result, the Association of Ex-Political Prisoners of South Africa (AEPP) has appealed to business to accommodate them.

Mr Norman Yengeni, the association's Western Cape director, said this was an opportunity for business to "regain its lost credibility both internally and internationally".

"We would like to see business engaging in more affirmative action to help solve the injustices and inequalities created by apartheid.

"We would appreciate such intervention by the 'haves' to convince the 'have-nots' that we are so interdependent that neither side can exist without the other."

The AEPP is also involved in establishing self-employment schemes such as brickmaking and sewing.

Yengeni said grants were helpful in the short term, but could cause insurmountable welfare problems. Projects that rose above the dependency syndrome should be created.

Apart from seeing to welfare grants, the AEPP also informs members about bursaries and medical assistance, provides a field work service, visits members in prison and mental institutions and refers them to consultants to help them get jobs.



Norman Yengeni

The association was formed in February 1990 and has been financed by the SA Prisoners Trust, the World University Service and several private sector organisations and businesses.

Think small with 'micro factories'

South 11/4-16/4/92

HELP IS AT hand for entrepreneurs wanting to build businesses in an affordable and supportive environment. The Small Business Centre planned for Retreat East is the brainchild of the Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC).

The corporation has developed a series of these "industrial hives" countrywide. In the Western Cape, micro factories are operating in Blackheath, Paarl, Observatory, Athlone, Mitchells Plain and Philippi.

The latter is the latest development and aims to serve mostly the communities of Nyanga, Crossroads, Browns Farm, Mitchells Plain and Mandelay.

Mr Wolfgang Thomas, regional general manager of the SBDC in the Western Cape, said that in coming weeks it would "conduct a market survey in the area to establish exact needs and to consult with community and business leaders".

"Community participation is an important ingredient of a development process," he said.

The industrial hive concept entails the sub-division of existing large factories into smaller units, or the construction of individual small factory units.

Thomas said the development would focus on a range of small factories aimed at accommodating the upgrading of backyard businesses.

The location and size of the site allowed for a range of businesses. Anything from retailing, wholesaling and factory shops down to exhaust and tyre-fitting could be considered, he said.

An SBCD statement said tenants would benefit from premises at reasonable rates, as well as SBDC services such as loan finance schemes for viable businesses, networking opportunities, monitoring and training services and sub-contracts from larger enterprises.

"Some of the hives provide communal spraybooths and workshops equipped with the kind of machines that cannot normally be afforded by start-up businesses. These facilities can be hired by tenants on a coin-operated system," it said.

Project manager Mr John Morrison said phase one of the Retreat East complex could be completed by February 1993, depending on the results of the market survey.

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"Electrical energy is the common factor that binds us in our quest for a better quality of life for all our peoples. By concentrating on the positives, on common development factors, we are building bridges for tomorrow. I believe that electricity could be a catalyst not only for illustrating the interdependence of all Southern African states, but also for stimulating a new development in our subcontinent."

Dr. John Maree, Chairman, Eskom Electricity Council.

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We believe that it is the democratic right of all our people regardless of race, colour or creed, to participate fully in the city and its city council. We are actively committed to change, and to achieving an open society for all.

lifestyle



TY PRIDE: A proud goat breeder, Mr Wilson Twala feeds some of his goats

Photo: Yunus Mohamed

Of goats and the life-blood of Xhosa men

South 11/4 - 16/4/92

African men who came to the big cities for jobs have not forgotten their roots. Elements of rural life, like goat-breeding, are part and parcel of township life, as **Sabata Mpikayipheli** discovered:

MIGRANT WORKERS in the townships have a flourishing form of business — breeding goats for traditional practices. "Goat-breeding is the lifeblood of a Xhosa man whether he is in urban or rural areas," says Guguletu goat-breeder Mr Wilson Thwala.

"When one breeds goats, one doesn't do so only for oneself but to help the community.

"When we perform our rites like Imbeleko (welcoming a new-born baby) and circumcision, a goat — not a sheep — is slaughtered."

Born in rural Ciskei, Thwala came to Cape Town and worked as a cleaner at Old Mutual.

He bought the goats soon after retirement to supplement his monthly pension,

"I retired in 1977 and at first received R150 a month as a pension. That has increased to R500 a month.

"I decided to be a goat-breeder after realising that people have difficulties when they have to send their young boys to a circumcision school.

"The circumcision rite involves the slaughtering of a goat on the eighth day of the stay of an initiate in his 'kraal'," Thwala says.

"People pay high prices to goat-breeders, who charge R300 a goat."

When he started he bought six nanny-goats at R300 each from farmers in Cape Town, Thwala says.

The stock produced 48 goats in three years as each nanny bears one or two kids twice a year.

"Having 48 goats, I realised that I had enough to sell to the people who had long been running after me looking for goats to buy."

Thwala's goat-breeding has not been without difficulties. Neighbours have complained about the flies which they claim have been brought about by the animals.

About three years ago 24 of the goats were stolen.

After this incident, residents advised Thwala to forget about stock-breeding.

He replied: "I grew up in a home where goats were bred, so I cannot abandon that tradition."

Thwala says he sold most of the remaining goats at R140 each, keeping only eight.

"The goats are producing more kids and I no longer want to keep many goats.

"While some are sold others are slaughtered for feasting at home. I cannot charge a high price as my people have no money.

"One widow, who had no money but was keen to perform our rites for her young boy at a circumcision school, came to me for help and I gave her a goat and asked her to bring the money after the initiation."

We only make use of goat droppings to smear out children's bodies if they happen to contract a rash during visits to our husbands'

He says Imbeleko, the slaughtering of a goat, is performed to welcome a new-born baby.

Imbeleko refers to the skin of a goat which is dried and tenderised and later used to tie the baby to its mother's back.

A Transkei woman, Mrs Nowayinethe Bhungu, who stays with her husband at the hostels at Kick's Place, says Imbeleko is only done by the people who are permanent residents in the townships.

"We, as wives of migrant labourers, perform the rite at marital homes — not at the hostels, where we are not permanent.

"We only make use of goat droppings to smear our children's bodies if they happen to contract a rash during visits to our husbands," Bhungu said.

Thwala says: "At Kick's Place, where the migrant labourers live in Guguletu, the wives of these men frequently come to me when their babies contract rashes to ask for goat droppings, which I give them free of charge.

"The droppings are sifted, mixed with water and smeared over the body of a sick baby and the rash is cured."

A neighbour says of Thwala: "He is a good Samaritan, but we, as residents, have problems with the flies that have been caused by his goats. They are not supposed to stay among the people, he should have built them a kraal away from the houses.

"As a kraal is now in his backyard, the flies come in large numbers to fill our houses.

"We do not want to report the matter to our street committee as we would be seen as being jealous of him."

One young man who interjected as his parent spoke, said: "Our neighbour is a kind man. When he intends to slaughter one of his goats, he would call me to assist him. After we have finished, he would give me some meat to take home."

Municipality worker Mr James Somjovu of New Crossroads grew up at a home where goats were bred. He too sells goats.

Coming to settle in the urban areas did not deter the Transkei-born Somjovu from breeding goats in the township.

"As a Xhosa man, I felt I should have goats as I have children.

"When my child gets ill, a goat is slaughtered and the rites are performed to get the child healthy again.

"If a child does not recover, I take him to a doctor as a last resort.

"The goats are in demand during the June and December holidays when many young boys go to the initiation school.

"I sell goats for between R120 and R190 each. The money helps to supplement the low wages I get as a cleaner at Ikapa Town Council," says Somjovu.

Mr Theophilus Qole, Somjovu's neighbour who comes from rural Transkei, says the mere sight of goats reminds him of his home.

"I think it is through the frequent sight of the goats that I always think of going home."

In Langa's Zone 23 a breeder who refused to give his name says: "It is contrary to the Xhosa tradition that a man should divulge secrets of his wealth.

"If you are circumcised you should know why I breed goats."

Hawkers at Langa's taxi rank complained that the goats were eating their vegetables.

"One cannot dare leave a vegetable stand alone otherwise one would return without any cabbages or spinach on the stand," says one.

"I have heard other people complaining about flies brought by the goats and I have repeatedly told them that flies come from the people who sell offal," says the hawker.

Waiting for food or death

C/Press 12/4/92

309

By SOPHIE TEMA

SOUTH AFRICA's shame is hidden away from us in the hills and desolate places.

Here the "matchstick people" sit about in silence – waiting for food or death.

They need R81-million to get through the next nine months, according to the organisation on the frontline of the issue, Operation Hunger.

The victims in these areas are those least able to fend for themselves – mainly infants, little children and the aged.

Ina Perlman, head of Operation Hunger, said to feed (keep alive) the present starving masses would cost R9-million a month for the next nine months.

City Press visited some sites in the Orange Free State last week with Perlman where we saw shocking scenes of little children with bulging, staring eyes, puffy faces, distended bellies and reed-thin legs.

They sat rigidly and in silence. One could almost feel the life draining out of the place, like a clock winding down.



STAYING ALIVE . . . An old couple eats to survive. ■ Pic: EVANS MBOWENI

Perlman said this tragedy was heightened by the fact starvation is taking place in obscure rural areas, especially in the homelands. The drought was the "last straw".

Chronic malnutrition, she said, would be with us as long as there is no minimum wage for farm and domestic workers.

F Diale (not his real name) said he worked for seven years on a farm for R60 a month until paralysed down one side by a stroke.

He was instantly dismissed and no attempt was made by the farmer to assist him in obtaining his disability pension.

I was shocked to see that Diale and 19 others live in one room in an abandoned farmhouse.

I spoke to Mapule, a stunted six-year-old girl, who lives in a shack with three younger brothers and a baby sister. Their mom recently picked up a job as a domestic worker in Bloemfontein and can only visit on Sundays.

So little Mapule cooks, cleans and takes care of four younger siblings . . .

Mapule said a dozen potatoes used to be their only food, but Operation Hunger arranged that one of the neighbours come to their soup kitchen for a daily ration for the little ones.

I looked around. A lifetime spent working on a farm had resulted in one bed, one table and three beat-up chairs.

Perlman said squatters' numbers were swelling as destitute, dislocated people set up hovels and prepared to battle for their lives.



HARDEST HIT . . . Will this child make it? (10) ■ Pic: EVANS MBOWENI

C/Press 12/4/92 (298)

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Allegation of beatings in Rand squatter camp

ARG 15/4/92

JOHANNESBURG. — Police spokeswoman Captain Henriette Bester said today she was unaware of reports from the Bekkersdal township on the West Rand that at least two residents in the Mandela squatter camp had been beaten up by the soldiers and were in a serious condition.

"The army went on a foot patrol in Bekkersdal," she said.

"Shots were fired at them and they retaliated. No-one was injured."

African National Congress PWV executive member Mr Floyd Mashele alleged that tensions first arose when troops fired at random from a nearby "support point" about 6pm.

"There were no reported injuries, but tensions started to mount after that," he said.

"About 10pm troops started assaulting people at the Mandela squatter camp, claiming that the residents in the camp had been shooting at them," Mr Mashele said.

He said he had received the information from members of the local ANC committee in Bekkersdal.

"I understand that people have been badly beaten up — at least two people are in a serious condition." — Sapa.

Squatters force white authorities, residents to face realities

South 18/4-23/4/92 307



Chiara Carter Associate Editor

Growing demands for land and housing are being forced on white local municipalities and property owners. The second part of a three-part series gives an overview of how these groups are facing up to this challenge:



FACING RELOCATION: Children at Waterworks camp, Grabouw about to be moved to a served site

SQUATTERS HAVE brought white local authorities and residents face to face with harsh realities and many are finding the adjustment process traumatic.

Municipalities, large and small, are having to square up to growing demands for land and shelter from the very people they once thought could be wished away or at the very least deported to a distant homeland.

According to the census figures almost half the African population lives in urban areas. By the year 2010, this figure is predicted to have grown by a further 25 percent.

The issues presented by ongoing urbanisation and the vestiges of apartheid policy are proving complex.

Town clerks throughout the Cape cite the relaxation of the coloured labour preference policy and influx control as the key explanation for the dimensions of the squatting problem, but not all of those in need of shelter are African or newly urbanised.

If the provision of accommodation is a headache for the authorities, it is a nightmare for property owners who were previously shielded from the issue.

"Not in my backyard" is a syndrome among farmers and owners as well as the not-so-well-off who fear the social and economic consequences of a shack next door.

Squatters are not good news for the property market.

According to estate agents, the proximity of squatters decreases property value by between 25 and 40 percent.

Poverty and deprivation also bring with it social problems and it is a frequent refrain that the theft rate rises.

It is not only suburbs on the outskirts that face the problem. Several of Cape Town's plushest resorts are presently grappling with the complex dynamics that a highly visible squatter community brings.

● In Marina Da Gama, an idyllic waterside development near the False Bay coast, residents were up in arms over the City Council's plans to upgrade and relocate the neighbouring Vrygrond squatters.

The Residents' Association claimed the plan would devalue the R200 million marina by half and threatened to sue the council for R100 million if it went ahead.

● In nearby Noordhoek a squatter community, which has waged a lengthy battle for the right to live in the area, is accused of devaluing property .

● The Milnerton council is grappling with a highly visible squatter camp at the Marconi Beam site in Montague Gardens. The squatters cover the full range of South African society, including poor whites.

While the municipality's attempts to relocate the squatters have been met with suspicion from support groups which say the community should be integrated, not segregated, Milnerton has not exactly welcomed the squatters with open arms.

Says resident Ms Maria da Silva: "These people have brought with them crime and unhygienic living. Once they are allowed to stay permanently, you are looking at the growth of a huge township. Meanwhile, the proposed development of townhouses is not taking place. Had we known there would be squatters in Milnerton, we would have gone to live somewhere else."

The Boland, West Coast and Northern Cape as far as Port Nolloth have all been grappling with squatters for several years.

● Grabouw was the centre of controversy earlier this year when balaclava-clad workers removed structures from the Waterworks squatter camp in a move to force people to relocate to another site earmarked by the municipality for a site-and-service area.

The town clerk of Grabouw says while things have calmed down since the demolitions, the town is still struggling to adjust to what he says is "a growing tide" of people moving into the area. He attributes this to the severe drought which is forcing labourers off the land to seek seasonal work in the area and Grabouw's proximity to Khayelitsha.

● In Villiersdorp, a conservative-leaning town near Cape Town, the clash between squatters and the authorities has been still sharper with the municipality determined to avoid providing Africans with family accommodation.

● Malmesbury, in the Western Cape wheat-belt, is one step ahead.

Until now, the only accommodation for Africans has been a compound which the town clerk, Mr Coenie Van Rensburg, describes as "highly unhygienic".

Designed to accommodate about 300 single men, the hostel has become home to as many families.

Now the families are to be moved to 200 — 300 serviced sites on the outskirts of Malmesbury — a location which Van Rensburg says is part of the natural expansion of the town.

"They will have one of the best views squatters have anywhere in the country," he says.

Says Van Rensburg: "If white residents are unhappy, we have not heard anything about it. The high visibility of the new site might mean some murmurings but we don't anticipate any more than that."

"While it is impossible to give everyone a house because of financial limits, we hope the new serviced sites are a step towards ensuring that people live in better circumstances."

● If Malmesbury illustrates that conflict and squatting is not synonymous, then Hout Bay's squatting saga is a ray of light in what is often a very gloomy tunnel.

It is now less than a year since squatters won the right to stay in Hout Bay, a scenic fishing port and tourist attraction where splendid Cape mansions are the norm.

While the contrast between affluence and poverty remains, those heated days are just memories.

Mr Dick Meter of the Hout Bay Advice Office says there is no longer a conflict situation in Hout Bay. The community of the transit camp, Imizamo Yethu, meets regularly with the Ratepayers' Association in a "relaxed and amicable" atmosphere.

A conservative property-owners association which sprang up at the height of the crisis to demand the eviction of the squatters, has itself disappeared.

The community, together with consultants, is presently looking for further suitable pockets of land where squatters and those living in over-crowded conditions in backyard shacks and hostels in the harbour area can live.

It is hoped that identifying small parcels of land will facilitate integration and the creation of a single if diverse community.

The experiences at Marina Da Gama, Malmesbury and Hout Bay are likely to be shared by many other areas in the near future.

The government at the end of last year revealed a master blueprint for low-income housing in the Cape area aimed at catering for a population growth of 1,2 million over the next 20 years. Areas targetted include Milnerton-West Coast, Durbanville-Kraaifontein, Hout Bay, Noordhoek, Fish Hoek, Simon's Town and the Cape Flats.

According to government estimates, a minimum of 6 000 hectares of land will have to be found by the year 2010.

Whether the expansion of areas designated for informal housing will follow the experience of Hout Bay or result in sharp conflict depends not least on the relationship built between squatters and residents.

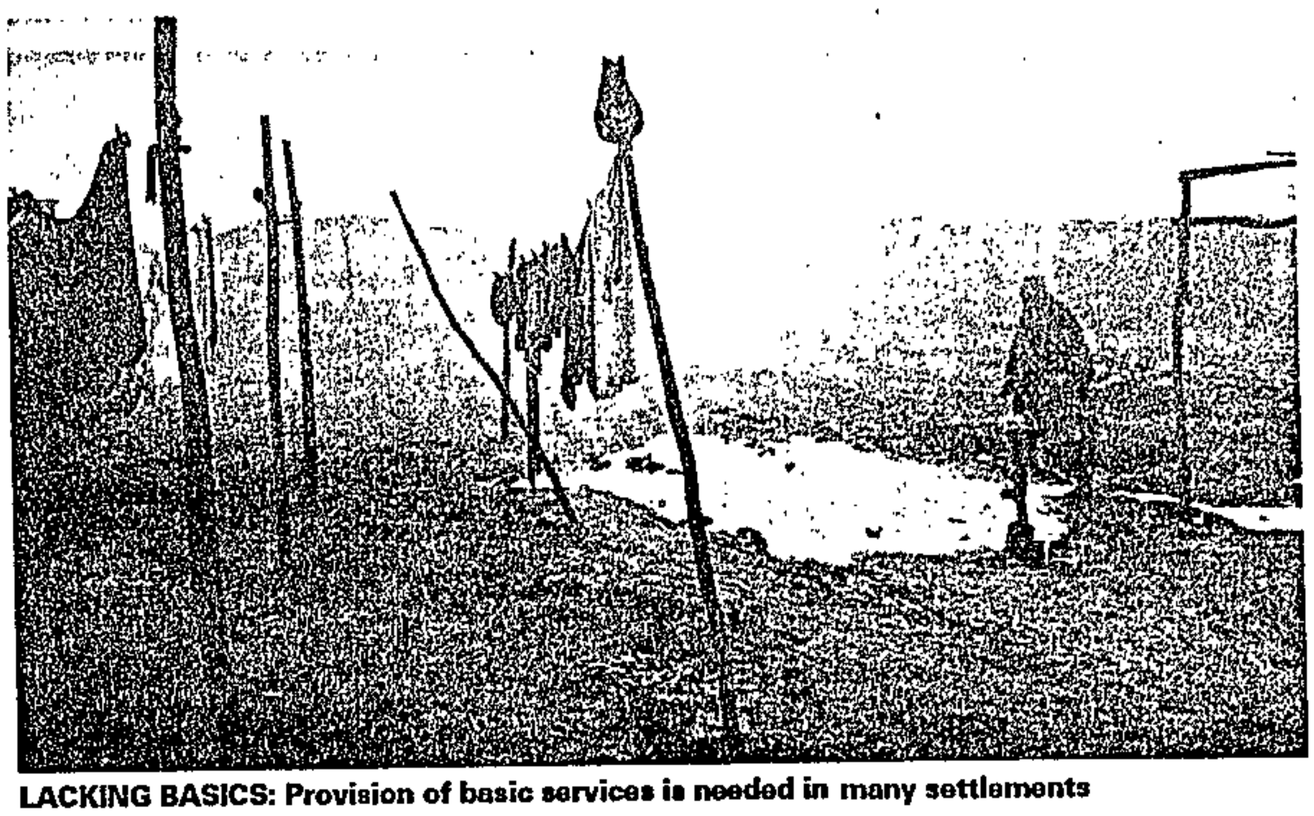
problems South 18/4-23/4/92

then persuade people to move to serviced sites a reasonable distance from their camps and work."

Another problem is an outraged reaction from residents already living in the vicinity of a proposed site-and-service scheme with the CPA often caught between squatter organisations on the one hand and local municipalities and ratepayers on the other.

Theron says the CPA has learnt the hard way the importance of pro-active thinking but the authorities alone cannot solve the demand for affordable shelter.

"The dimensions of the problem are vast. A picture of the land and housing crisis in the Cape can only be gloomy," Theron says.



LACKING BASICS: Provision of basic services is needed in many settlements

Basin of bitterness

South 18/4-23/4/92

THE SCENIC Hottentots Holland Basin is the most recent squatter flashpoint in the Western Cape.

Conflict over where to settle a growing squatter population has pitted an angry Strand municipality and ratepayers' association against the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA) and the Somerset West town council.

The controversy was sparked by a proposal of the CPA to develop a site-and-service camp in the Strand near the Lwandle hostel and a neighbouring suburb called Die Bos.

There has been a dramatic upsurge in squatter settlements in the area in the past five years. From the Sun City squatters in Sir Lowry's Pass to the controversial Waterkloof settlement, the number of squatters has increased by about 70 percent in the past three years. This is a result not of migration alone but also of problems with more formal accommodation like farm cottages, hostels and backyard rooms.

A Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) investigation reveals that more than half the shack dwellers lived in the area before they moved to their present settlements.

The growth of highly visible squatter areas prompted anxiety and anger from other residents, including isolated farmers who feared a crime wave.

The realisation that the squatter problem was not going to disappear forced the local authorities to come together in a forum to find a suitable site to relocate the squatters.

The CPA rejected a proposal from a joint committee of local authorities in the basin to establish a transit camp in a remote part of Sir Lowry's Pass. An area called Vlakteplaas was subsequently identified by the committee but then bought for residential use by the Strand municipality which has now offered to sell the area to the CPA.

The CPA's decision, taken on the advice of a professional consultancy, to build a permanent camp for the basin's squatters near Die Bos suburb was last year ratified by the cabinet.

Within two weeks of the news, the ratepayers collected 2 000 signatures for a protest petition.

Mr Dick Olivier, spokesperson for the ratepayers' association, says he is bitter, like other residents, about the turn of events.

"We are very angry and upset. The proposal is not a permanent solution. The area designated is very small and cannot possibly accommodate all the squatters. Soon they will be wanting land elsewhere in the area," said Olivier.

Crucial to the residents' concerns is that the proposed site is within 400 metres of Die Bos suburb.

The Group Areas Act may have gone but in the eyes of the municipality and residents the area is a "white suburb", or as Mr Olivier puts it, a "formerly European area".

At a heated meeting in the Strand town hall a few weeks ago, residents expressed their fears and dismay. "We won't be able to stay at home on our own or let our children play in the street," said one woman.

Mr Jac Pienaar, who lives on the beachfront, said while the issue did not directly affect him, he could understand why people were upset.

"It is a very emotional matter. People are worried about the value of their houses and their quality of life. After all, who would want squatters next door?"

Businessmen in the area are torn between the buying power of the squatters and fears that the Strand's status as a premier Afrikaner holiday resort will be affected adversely.

Olivier says the government has betrayed Strand residents.

"They promised us Lwandle would not be expanded. Now they are building a squatter camp in the Strand," Olivier says.

Even the ratepayers realise that the squatters can't simply disappear.

They advocate that the authorities opt for the Vlakteplaas site but they have little hope that the CPA or government will hear their views.

The squatters are aware of their pariah status.

"We don't really want to move to a strange area but we are not welcome here in Waterkloof," says Miss Patience Kleinbooi.

"They will have to allow us to have our homes. We have nowhere else to go," says her friend, Patricia.

According to a report published by the HSRC, much of the conflict is a result of the technical approach of the authorities and the multiplicity of local authorities in the area.

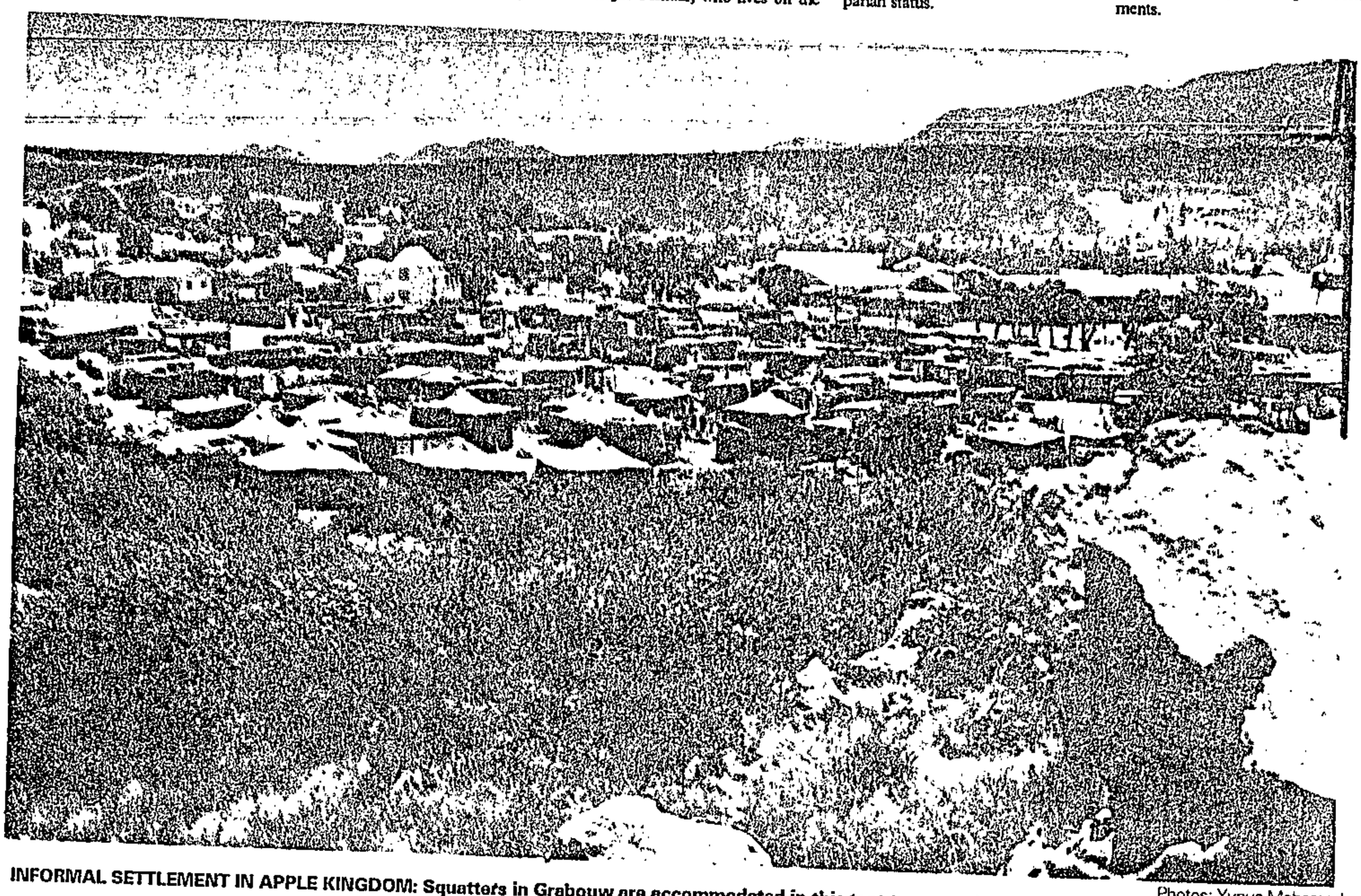
In addition to the RSC, the basin has three municipalities, four management committees, one town committee and one coloured interim committee.

The result has been that each has feared being saddled with the problem and decision-making has tended to come from above at provincial and national level.

Tensions between Wecusa and the Hottentots Holland Interim Squatters and Civics Association have also not facilitated dialogue.

The HSRC report notes that discussion has focused on a single site rather than identifying several parcels of land.

"This has had the effect of intensifying conflict," the report comments.



INFORMAL SETTLEMENT IN APPLE KINGDOM: Squatters in Grabouw are accommodated in this tent-town on the outskirts of the town

Photos: Yunus Mohamed

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Sowth 18/4-23/4/92

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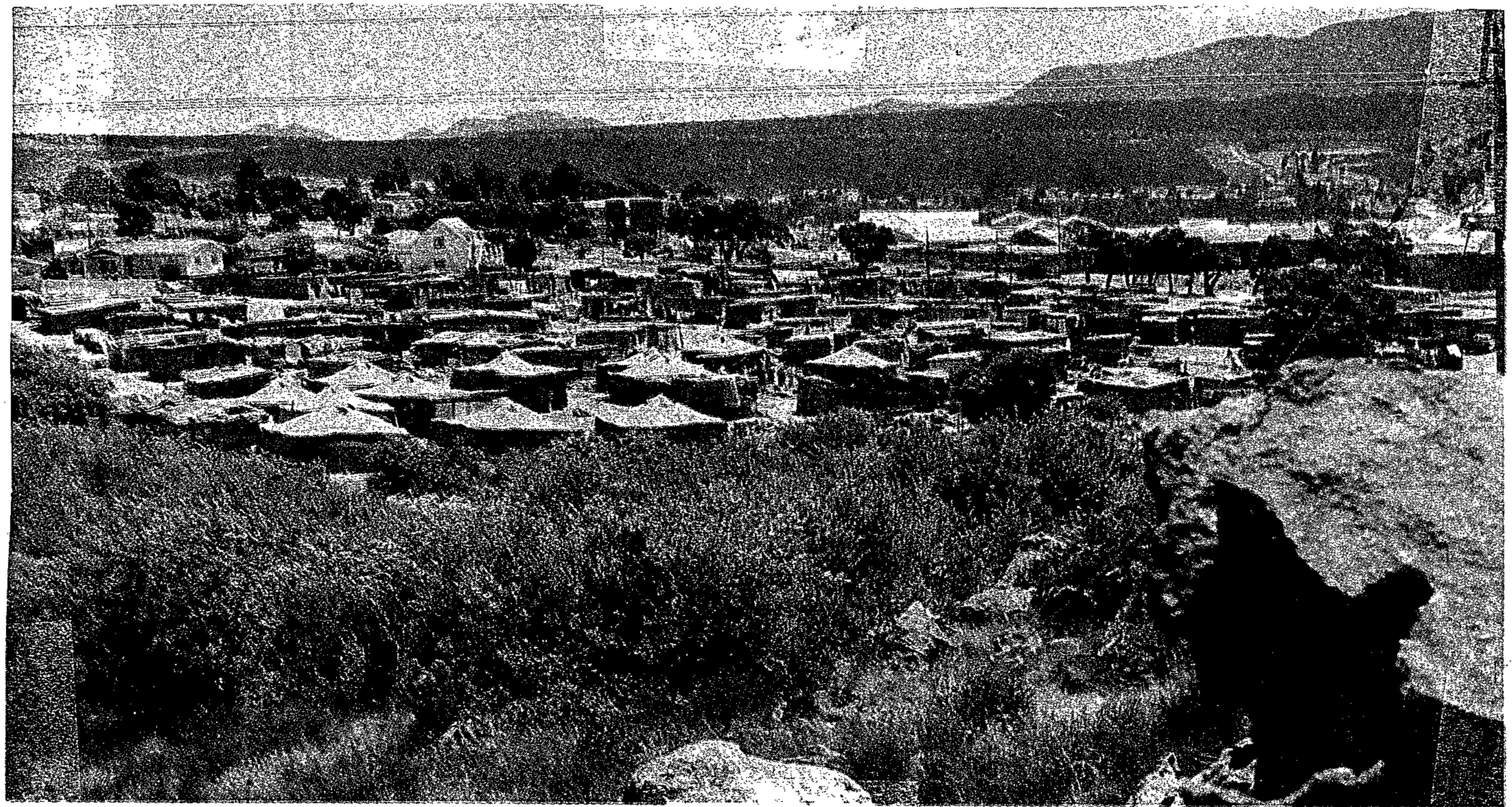
(307) South 18/4-23/4/92.



Photos: Yunus Mohamed

INFORMAL SETTLEMENT IN APPLE KINGDOM: Squatters in Grabouw are accommodated in this tent-town on the outskirts of the town

No 'pie in the sky'

South 25/4 - 30/4/92 (307)

PUTTING ground under people's feet rather than a roof over their heads is the Independent Development Trust (IDT) approach to housing.

Although housing is only one of the aspects of the IDT's work, for many it is the most crucial.

The trust's capital subsidy scheme has attracted fierce criticism as well as accolades.

ANC housing spokesperson in the Western Cape, Mr Basil Davidson, says the trust is "not independent, trustworthy or developmental".

Members of the Urban Network group of service organisations say the IDT is aggravating rather than solving the problems of urbanisation.

Officials in the CPA and municipalities are outraged that they did not receive IDT funds.

In response, IDT housing director Mr Ben van der Ross says he is not interested in "pie in the sky" talk.

A former lawyer, estate agent and Urban Foundation employee, Van der Ross says: "In this job we look at whether a scheme is practically achievable and do our sums.

"We are not solving the entire housing crisis nor are we into debating 'isms'."

Essentially the capital subsidy scheme is a one-off subsidy which allows a form of home-ownership for about two percent of South Africa's poorest people by providing the funds for site and service and upgrade.

The underlying argument for this approach, first mooted by the Urban Foundation, is that people are given a stake in society through a foothold in the market and the chance to consolidate this through upgrading.

The scheme is available to heads of households earning less than R1 000 a month, who are over 21 and have dependents. They must be first-time homeowners and have no other form of subsidy.

Van der Ross says there is an inbuilt incentive to lower costs by increasing density and reducing the level of services.

Community involvement is regarded as crucial.

Out of more than 400 applications received last year, just over 100 were approved.

In Cape Town, the IDT has allocated more than R30-million to a development by a consortium of developers and Wecusa in Khayelitsha. It has also allocated funds to developments in Ocean View and Browns Farm in Philippi.

According to Van der Ross, the major criteria was the level of community involvement and whether applicants appeared able to follow through on a project.

He argues that the existence of the IDT demonstrates the need for the state to use autonomous agencies for house delivery.

"We might be a drop in the ocean but for those families we assist, the IDT is a beacon of hope," says Van der Ross.



DOUBLING UP: A shack builder gets creative with this double-storey home

Photos: Yunus Mohan

What house should Jack build?

South 25/4 - 30/4/92 307

FUTURE URBAN policy is under discussion in several extra-parliamentary groupings. Much of the research and strategising is taking place in non-governmental organisations concerned with land and housing which have formed the Urban Network to pool ideas and information.

In Cape Town, the network includes the Foundation for Contemporary Research, the Surplus Peoples Project (SPP) and the Development Action Group (Dag)

Their thinking differs sharply from the site-and-service approach being implemented.

They argue for a variety of options, inner-city housing, development which mixes different income groups and residential, business and light industrial use of land and an overall densification of the city.

SPP spokesperson Ms Josette Cole says: "Site and service came to be viewed almost by default as the only solution. It is rejected by communities and we need to think through other options."

She says a cross-sectoral approach which takes into account regional and national economic questions is needed.

Dag spokesman Mr Alistair Rendell says past mistakes must not be repeated.

"We don't need an endless housing estate but a variety of projects which provide people with choices."

While Dag looks to the state for a policy framework as well as financial assistance, the group says total centralisation should be avoided.

Interestingly, the Urban Foundation, which pioneered site-and-service schemes and private sector involvement, also argues that the state must ultimately assume responsibility for housing.

Rendell says informal settlement should be a "very small component" of housing strategy and should not be used as a means of urban infill.

"Placing squatters next to formal housing is a recipe for conflict which is not conducive to greater stability," he said.

He acknowledges that peripheral and decentralised development like Khayelitsha and Atlantis cannot be wished away.

"We see a two-way process. Housing in the city; business and industry encouraged to expand to the outskirts."

Crucial to inner-city development are tracts of state land. In Cape Town alone there are more than 1 200 hectares of state land. Dag also has its eye on unused or underutilised private land in the inner city.

But is there money for housing?

Several financial experts say finance for formal housing is available. Economists from the University of the Western Cape have argued that reshuffling the current budget could provide an extra R1-billion for housing.

Mr Bob Tucker of the Perm says blacks invest more than R40-billion in "white banks" — money which could be placed in a black development bank to finance housing.

Mr Ronnie Bethlehem of the Old Mutual has argued that South Africa could build a million houses by 1994.

Crucially the state would have to provide a framework for private sector investment to persuade investors whose money is presently on the stock exchange to spend on housing.

One suggestion by a local consultant is the formation of a utility company to select potential bondholders from low-income communities. These people would act as managers and rent collectors in small schemes until the bonds were paid.

A member of the Co-operative Housing Association of Ontario in Canada says aspects of co-operatives could be adapted here.

Cole says further research is essential and development should not be hurried until thorough investigation takes place.

"Urbanisation has always been a crisis and always complex.

"This particular phase where we are looking for solutions has the potential for even greater conflict than in the past.

"Where previously one could speak of 'the community', now different interest groups are emerging. We need to be sensitive to the dynamics. Who has access to inner-city development? If it is only the formal working class, another major divide will be created.

"There is the gender question. Although women are a higher percentage of the population, they do not have a say in decisions and are excluded from the allocation process.

"Access to housing and land has become a tool in communities for individual gain."

The ANC is expected to come out soon with a draft housing policy document.

ANC spokesman Mr Basil Davidson says the real issue is the authorities' negative attitude towards urbanisation — a point made in the eighties by the Urban Foundation.

CPA favours pro-active approach to Cape's housing

South 18/4 - 23/4/92

A THICK TOME listing almost 3 000 priority projects lies on the desk of Mr Koos Theron, the MEC for Housing in the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA).

On the walls of Theron's office hang maps of townships and squatter areas. This tranquil room in the heart of safari-suited bureaucracy is the unlikely eye of the storm.

The CPA has to deal on a daily basis with a critical land and housing crisis and Theron is grimly anticipating that the situation can only worsten.

He argues the only feasible approach is for the authorities to move pro-actively.

"The only option is to manage urbanisation. We must identify sufficient land where the poor can settle and service the sites so that newcomers and those seeking accommodation can be directed to demarcated areas rather than settling in an ad hoc and illegal fashion without even the basic services."

With this in mind two parallel forums, which Theron dubs a "two-legged" forum, meet regularly to discuss development.

The one includes the ANC, PAC, Wecusa and the Western Cape region of the South African National Civics Organisation; the other the Lingelethu West and Crossroads town councils.

The CPA, the Regional Services Council (RSC) and the Cape Town municipality (CCC) are members of both.

Theron is at pains to point out that the CPA's primary responsibility is to identify, develop and service sites since the onus for dealing with illegal squatting rests firstly with the property owner and then with the local authority.

The CPA also has the overall responsibility for managing, and hence strategising, urbanisation.

Land, finance and a national housing policy are the big three questions.

According to Theron, there are about 850 000 families in the Cape currently without access to even a serviced site. About R4,6 billion is needed to address the backlog.

Says Theron: "We can't even provide serviced sites for everyone let alone housing.

"When the coloured labour preference policy and influx control went, it was as though a wall had collapsed. We are making progress but there is not enough money or staff to remedy the situation overnight."

The CPA hopes the recommendations of the government's De Loor working group, will provide a policy framework. He says land is not a limitless resource. "We need to look at densifying settlement in already-established areas and placing people closer to the city centre and job opportunities".

The CPA has prioritised 2 900 projects for implementation over the next five years.

One of the first is the provision of services and facilities to the Driftsands squatters led by Mr Johnson Nxgobongwana.

Other current projects include the upgrading of Crossroads, servicing 60 000 sites in Khayelitsha, a site-and-service scheme in Philippi East for the Crossroads community and the second phase of development in Kraaifontein.

The process of providing a site-and-service area or upgrading a settlement often involves relocating an already existent squatter community.

Theron says the reasons for not doing an on site intervention vary but are often based on practical considerations.

"Our approach is to negotiate with the community on an ongoing basis.

"We usually identify land and

Squatters lay their foundations

South 25/4-30/4/92 (307)

SOME call them the new pioneers; others view them as interlopers and a threat.

Life in squatter settlements is blighted by poverty, a high unemployment rate, poor facilities and political insecurity. But where there are people there is life, and squatter areas are often characterised by exuberance, wit and innovation.

Mrs Maud Ngwenya, one of an estimated 400 000 people living in Khayelitsha, ilustrates the history of determination and vigour which many squatters share.

"I came to the city in the 1980s to find my husband, a migrant worker," Ngwenya recalls.

She never found him, but with her three children she joined a community in the bush near Crossroads.

She lived through the harassment by the Bantu Administration Board and says that when the pass laws were abolished in 1986 she felt "so excited I could not believe it".

"We went to the cathedral to show people we were here to stay," Ngwenya remembers.

"In 1984 I moved to Khayelitisha, which was then a small place with few houses and shacks. I was waiting for a house."

Ngwenya is still waiting.

"My children are now big and although I have saved money I am still living in a shack. But a new government will give us houses."

The chairperson of the Western Cape United Squatters Association (Wecusa), Mr Enoch Madywabe, also vividly recalls the struggle of Cape Town's squatters to remain in the area.

"The first sign the authorities would accept us as permanent was when they said we could stay in one big plastic structure. Later, we took a blanket covered with lice to the board's offices. Only then did the officials say we could build a few more shacks."

These basic shelters were a far cry from the mansion-like shacks built since by the more ingenious squatters.

Mr George Mamile of Site C in Khayelitsha is justifiably proud of his double-storey home with its facebrick facade, upstairs balcony and cosy wood panelling inside.

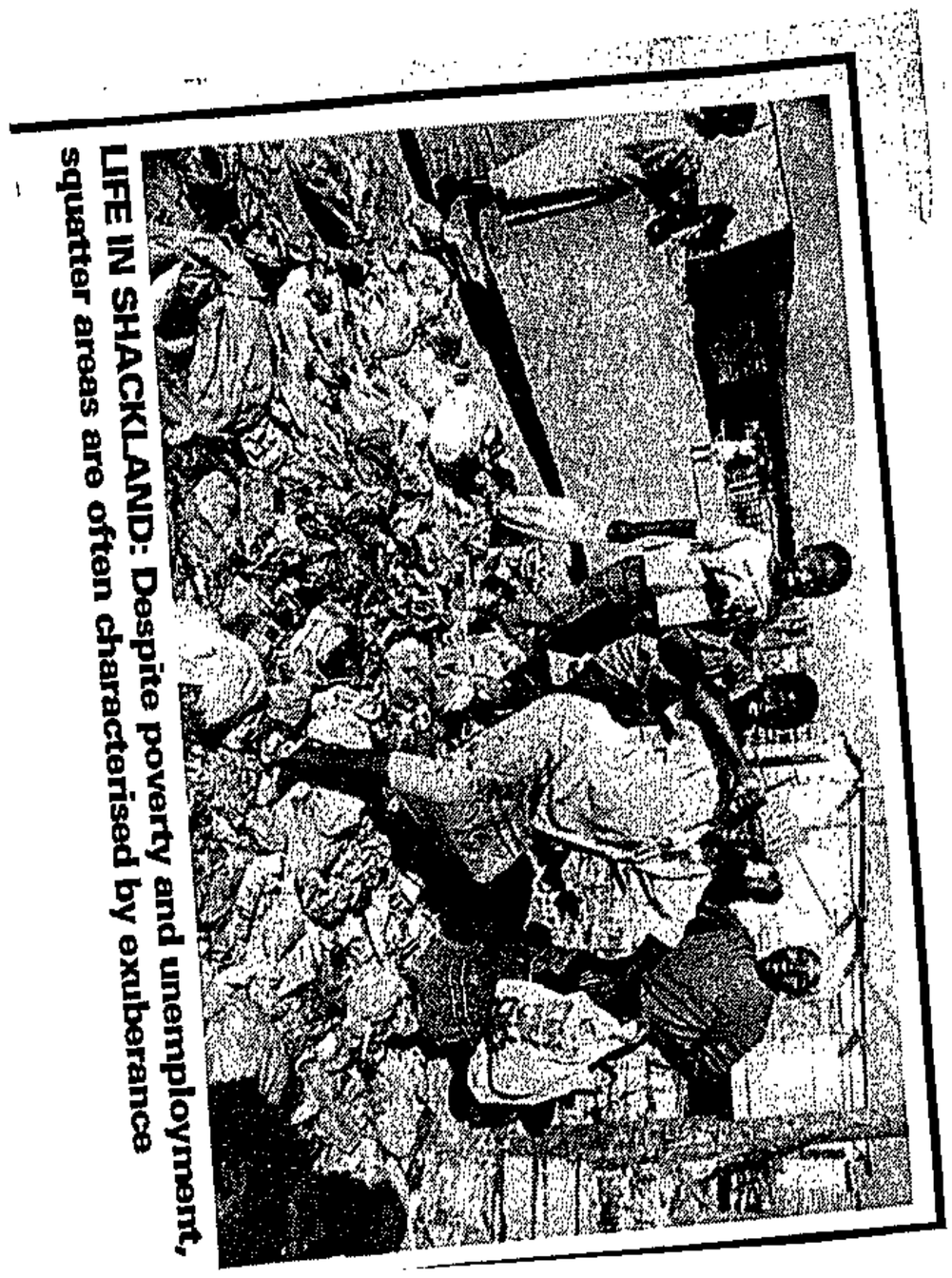
The house cost him about R15 000 and he says more improvements are in the pipeline.

Meanwhile, entrepreneurs who form part of a vibrant informal sector are doing a roaring trade in building materials.

Zinc sheets, windows, doors and anything else that comes to hand is the staple of Mr Kenneth Malile's business on the roadside in Philippi.

Malile says many of his customers send the materials back to the homelands.

From the plastic of Black City to ambitious two-storey shacks, squatter settlements is evidence not only of the inevitability of urbanisation but of the grit and survival skills of those who are forging a new life in the city.



LIFE IN SHACKLAND: Despite poverty and unemployment, squatter areas are often characterised by exuberance

April 25 to April 30 1992

A stepchild shunned by city fathers

South 25/4 - 30/4/92 (307)



South 25/4 - 30/4/92

Chiara Carter Associate Editor

Quick fixes to the land and housing problems could cause greater conflict than that experienced in the past, especially with different interest groups emerging. So what are the options? This is the final part of a three-part series:

(307)

A HANDFUL OF squatters is enough to induce jitters in most white municipalities, but cash-strapped and inexperienced black local authorities have to administer hundreds of thousands of the city's poorest residents.

Lingelethu West council's town clerk, Mr Graham Lawrence, says being at the helm of Khayelitsha — a township so vast it resembles a minicity of squatters — is a case of keeping one's head above water in the hope that someone will eventually bail you out.

Khayelitsha's dimensions are imposing; its history a bleak illustration of the failure of the government's attempts to manage urbanisation.

The township was originally intended to accommodate 250 000 people, most in core houses. Less than 10 years later, the population is fast approaching double this number and there is no longer any talk of building houses.

Khayelitsha, which is about 3 000 hectares in size, has 61 690 serviced sites and about 10 000 formal houses.

A further 20 000 people are squatting without services on the periphery and in vacant sites.

Official statistics place the township's population at about 350 000; Lawrence says it's about 400 000; others say there could be as many as a million people in the area.

The Lingelethu West council administers the entire township, acting as the administrator's agent in CPA areas.

Finance is the major headache. The township currently runs at an accumulated deficit of about R400-million for capital infrastructure expenditure and between R30-million and R40-million a year for running costs.

Lawrence says the seeds of ruin were sowed by the concept of Black Local Authorities (BLAs). They were discredited from the outset and isolated from wealthy white municipalities leaving them no way to generate revenue.

Says Lawrence: "The white municipalities, which have to meet fewer demands, obtain revenue from businesses and industries where black people work and spend money. None of that revenue returns to the black dormitory townships.

"BLAs are specifically structured to make local government unviable. We do not even have autonomy but are subject to the sanction of an individual official."

Aggravating the cash crisis is a prolonged rent and service boycott, which Lawrence says is only partly political.

Poverty is fundamental to non-payment: most families earn between R450 — R500 a month and the unemployment rate is about 70 percent.

ADMINISTRATION is funded by the government with the CPA providing bridging finance. However, the government is presently cutting costs, a move Lawrence condemns as "immoral".

"The state created this, now it will have to continue to pay.

"Khayelitsha will have to be propped up with increasing financial support."

While Khayelitsha's resources are meagre, its needs are immense and Lawrence's shopping list is daunting.

Refuse removal alone is a nightmare. Each household generates 1- 2kg of waste every day

A pressing need is basic services for about 30 000 people.

Last year, the council obtained R39-million from the Regional Services Council to provide services and Site C is presently being upgraded. The council also intends providing Wecusa (Western Cape United Squatters Association) with infrastructural assistance for the site-and-service scheme in Town Two which is being financed by the IDT.

Poor infrastructure and sandy terrain mean development costs are exhorbitant, averaging between R10 000 and R11 000 for a 200 square meters site.

Lawrence says ultimately residents need formal houses but without state funding there is no chance of housing.

"We have seen the Housing Trust collapse and the withdrawal of all forms of private financing.

"We are managing squatting and are likely to do so for the next decade, if not the next two or three decades."

Nevertheless, Lawrence is a strong proponent of state-financed rental accommodation — an approach which flies in the face of the prevailing wisdom in government circles.

"People cannot afford to buy houses. Often purchasing does not suit their needs. I believe we need a substantial amount of rental housing."

Political tensions are another constant problem.

Lawrence says politics pervades all aspects of the township and inhibits investment in the area.

"We are perceived as violence-ridden and therefore not a safe bet."

The major political actor in the area is undisputably Lingelethu West's controversial mayor, Mr Mali Hoza.

He enjoys considerable support in Site C, parts of Site B and in Harare camp. Most newcomers arrive via his conduit.

Recently Hoza has renewed his links with Wecusa which is at loggerheads with the civics, also active in parts of the township.

Both the ANC and PAC have a presence in the area.

Problems not withstanding, Lawrence is proud of the council's achievements.

Not least is that Lingelethu West is the only Cape BLA still intact and has been spared the financial corruption scandals that have rocked many other councils.

Lawrence says this is partly because the council started with a new slate, unlike Ikapa which has been built on the old administration board's ashes.

OF THE 1 300 staff members only 40 are white and the council prides itself on furthering black advancement.

"Our prime objective is a nucleus of well trained and committed officials drawn from the ranks of local residents.

"We've developed a good layer of second-tier management who will take over senior positions."

While Lingelethu West is keen to talk about becoming part of a broader metropolitan body, there do not appear to be any takers.

Lawrence says despite lipservice to political change, white municipalities are loathe to "shoulder the burden".

"We are the stepchild," Lawrence observes somewhat bitterly.

"We can't see the townships as the back door. They must be the front door where the most gifted administrators are placed and resources are invested.

"Areas like Khayelitsha cannot be wished away. They are here to stay and Cape Town has to rise to the challenge," says Lawrence.



AT THE HELM: Mr Graham Lawrence, town clerk of Lingelethu West, says white municipalities are loathe to shoulder the burden of areas like Khayelitsha

Squatters in majority here

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Staff Reporter

MORE than half of Langa's estimated population of 70 000 were squatters who lived in shacks and used surrounding bush for ablutions, a Cape Town city council official said yesterday.

Mr Neil Ross, chairman of the council's housing committee, said the situation was becoming critical.

Langa's problems lay mainly with the Ikapa town council authorities who were basically "cash-strapped" because of a restricted rates base

CT 29/4/92

Land for Hout Bay squatters

(307) 2/5/92 ARG

650 new sites to ease overcrowding

DI CAELERS
Weekend Argus Reporter

HOUT BAY'S controversial Imizamo Yethu squatter settlement is to be enlarged — but not by as much as some neighbours fear.

The extension of the present nine-hectare site will amount to no more than the "approximately 20 hectares previously agreed to by the Hout Bay Ratepayers' Association".

That is the word from Mr Jo Lazarus, vice-chairman of the ratepayers' association and co-convener of the liaison committee which represents ratepayers, Imizamo Yethu residents and the Hout Bay harbour squatter community.

He issued the official statement with the Cape Provincial Administration after two meetings with CPA officials this week.

The enlargement is in line with "phase two" of the Imizamo Yethu operation which involves the setting up of sites and services on the land.

About 650 sites of 150 to 180 sq m are planned. These will be allocated to the squatters and their lodgers, who are crammed into the present nine hectares.

Further sites on the informal settlement land, according to Mr Lazarus, are earmarked to relieve the overcrowding in the Hout Bay harbour squatter community.

"But no extra sites will be made available for additional, new and unregistered squatters to come into Hout Bay."

His statement follows weeks of mounting tension as rumours of a substantial increase in the size of the Imizamo Yethu settlement intensified.

Hout Bay residents had claimed that petty theft in the "white" area of Penzance Estate was increasing and that expansion of the camp towards the established homes would see a further plunge in already depressed property values.

Mr Lazarus said the acquisition of land over and above the 20 hectares would be discussed with the Hout Bay Liaison Committee, set up by the CPA for this purpose.

The 20-hectare site is situated within the Western Cape RSC forestry site above the Hout Bay Main Road.

According to the planning details, buffer zones will be built between the site and the established homes in Penzance and Hughenden estates.

A CPA spokesman said the administration had adopted a positive approach to rapid urbanisation and that Hout Bay residents needed to do the same.

"Most of the people who live in Imizamo Yethu are employed in Hout Bay and make a positive contribution to the general economy of the area.

"Rejection of this community will also lead to polarisation which in the end could only result in conflict."

May 2 to May 7 1992

Cash boost for squatter school

South 2/5-7/5/92

By Sabata Ngcai

A HUGE burden has been lifted off the shoulders of the the squatter communities in the Western Cape — they no longer have to pay the salaries of teachers at the privately-run squatter schools.

After a long struggle, the Department of Education and Training (DET) has promised to subsidise salaries of teachers.

This follows recent negotiations between the DET and the Western Cape United Squatters Association (Wecusa).

Wecusa chairperson Mr Enoch Madywabe said Wecusa had requested DET to convert the five private squatter schools into government schools and subsidise salaries of teachers.

Each teacher presently receives a stipend of R400 a month by the KTC Relief Fund, which was set up by squatters to pay the teachers' salaries.

New building

Madywabe said: "We were told by DET that a private school could be registered as a government school only if a new building was erected to replace a shack school.

"However, the DET officials, after consultation with the Minister of Education, promised to subsidise the salaries of teachers.

"We were told that the money would only be paid into a trust account. So we have to elect trustees who will look after the management of funds. As soon as we receive it, the KTC Relief Fund will stop payment of salaries."

DET director for the Western Cape, Dr JHP Brand, said: "The subsidies are to be used for salaries, books, maintenance and all other operating expenses. Each school has been evaluated, and the amount to be awarded will depend on the school and the number of pupils enrolled there.

"The subsidies are normally paid out twice annually, but we have requested that payment be made monthly, with the first payment in respect of the month of April 1992, due in May.

"The agreement is that the registration of these private schools will lapse as soon as the DET implements public schools in the area.

"In the case of Bongoletu, for example, a building for a public school is already under construction, and it will therefore no longer be necessary to operate a private school once the public school starts operating in 1993," said Brand.

Squatters coming 'by thousands'

Staff Reporter

THE Cape Peninsula's squatter population could be growing at a rate of between 2 000 and 10 000 a month, according to Ms Josette Cole of the Surplus People's Project.

Ms Cole attributed the increase to "people being pushed off farms and having nowhere to go, black people having no place in the smaller urban areas, and a lack of housing in local urban areas".

Sapa reports that, according to the Western Cape United Squatters' Association, thousands of people have come from the rural areas and settled in squatter camps since the scrapping of the influx control regualations. Only about 20% had jobs.

'All should be invited'

Staff Reporter

THE Western Cape United Squatters' Association (Wecusa) said yesterday that the discussion on the future of local government must involve all interested groups.

Wecusa spokesman Mr Enoch Madywabe was reacting to a conference called by Idasa in Bellville, to which members of the black local authority councils were not invited.

He said the exclusion of some groups by others was contradicting the assertion by those groups that they were democratic.

New squatter plan alarms Hout Bay

(307) ARG 18/5/92

Staff Reporter

RATEPAYERS, worried about rising crime and plans to allocate more land at Hout Bay for squatters, have called a meeting for tomorrow night.

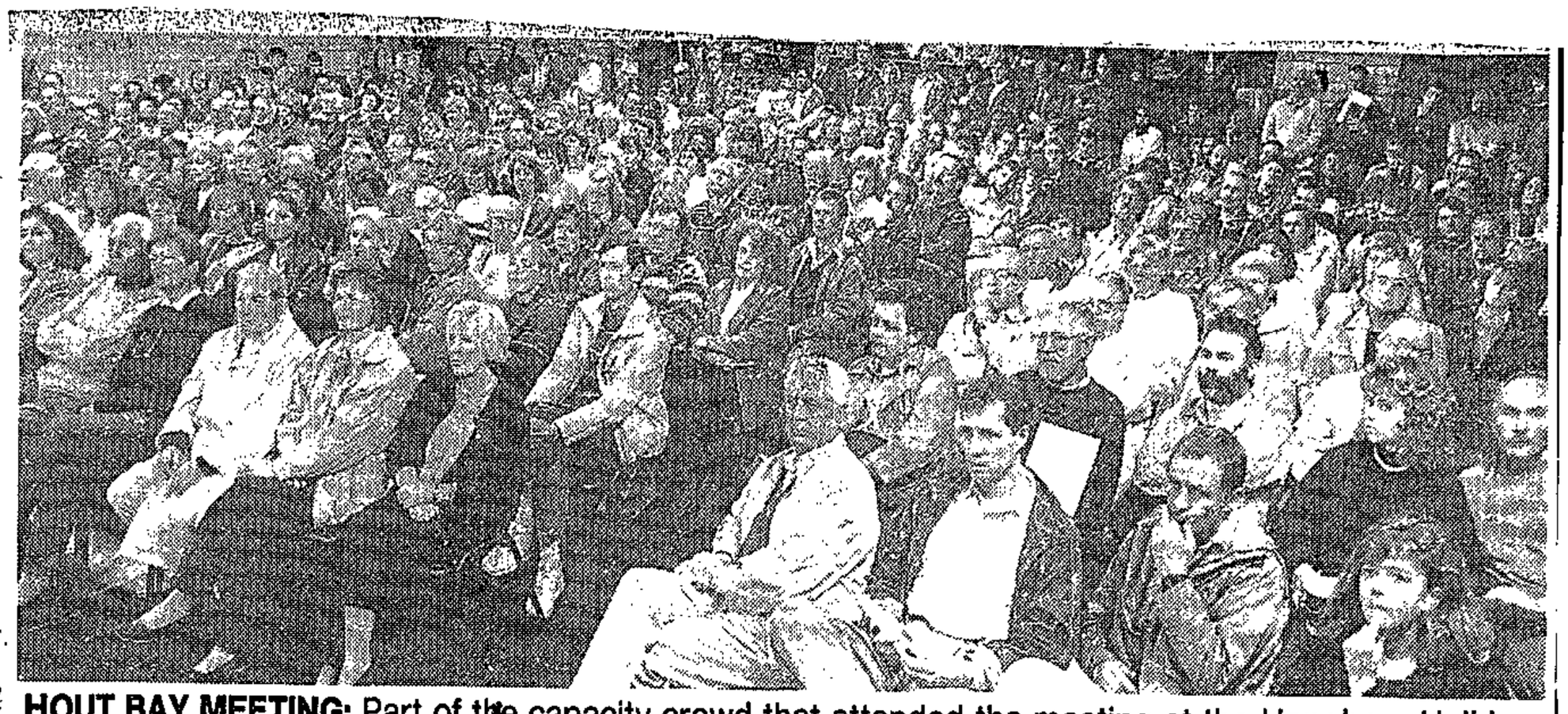
The Provincial Administration is negotiating to buy more land for "utilisation for an informal settlement", residents were told at a meeting in Hout Bay last night.

This, it was said, was in spite of an undertaking in writing that the present settlement would not be extended beyond 18 hectares.

Although the overall crime rate in Hout Bay had fallen, burglaries and thefts in some areas near the camp had trebled last year, residents were told.

According to police figures, crime in areas adjoining the camp was "far, far worse" this year, said Hout Bay Ratepayers Association chairman Rob Millar.

More than 500 people are expected to attend the meeting in the Hangberg Hall, Bayview Road, Hout Bay Heights, at 8pm tomorrow.



HOUT BAY MEETING: Part of the capacity crowd that attended the meeting at the Hangberg Hall in Hout Bay Heights.

(307) ARG 20/5/92

Hout Bay squares up to CPA

HENRIËTTE GELDENHUYS
Staff Reporter

ANGRY Hout Bay residents have rejected Cape Provincial Administration plans to enlarge the Imizamo Yethu squatters settlement between Hughenden and Penzance Estates and are to consider legal action against the CPA.

The Hangberg Hall in Hout Bay Heights was packed to capacity last night when more than 600 ratepayers were addressed by members of the ratepayers' association executive.

The executive asked ratepayers to accept that the informal settlement was in Hout Bay to stay. However, they should resist with every means at their disposal attempts to increase the number of families who were permitted to stay there.

The CPA had plans to extend the agreed 18 hectares to 34 hectares and the only way to stop it was "to take legal action", Mr Barry Wrankmore told the meeting. "If we don't do that we can kiss our ... goodbye!" he said.

It was necessary to take court action because all previous assurances given by the government and the CPA were not being honoured.

A speaker from the floor said: "People are losing a tremendous amount of money. Property is being devalued. The crime rate is going through the roof. We must get what we originally asked for. We have to make sure we are not being bulldozed again,"

Residents said they felt powerless and angry.

"It doesn't matter what we say here tonight. The CPA will just make decisions for us," said one.

There was loud applause when a member of the audience suggested that the ratepayers should "march on parliament" to draw attention to their grievances. Several ratepayers suggested a rates boycott.

Comments like "Let's march" and "No more squatters" were met with loud cheers and warm applause.

The ratepayers' association handed out a questionnaire to test feelings on the squatter issue.

Mr Jo Lazarus, vice-chairman of the ratepayers association, said the meeting had resolved that the size of the Imizamo Yethu squatter settlement had to be limited to the agreed 18 hectares.

Some allowance could be made for extensions but not for building more homes or increasing the population.

Ratepayers were also agreed that only families who were registered at the time of the original move to their present 9 hectare site, should be eligible for sites on the 18 hectare area.

Planning decisions and use of land concerning the site had be agreed upon by the liaison committee, which represents ratepayers, Imizamo Yethu residents and the Hout Bay harbour squatter community.

Hout Bay camp row

(307) CT 21/5/92

CPA plans more land for squatters

By WILLEM STEENKAMP and GLYNNIS UNDERHILL

THE Cape Provincial Administration yesterday confirmed plans to extend the Imizamo Yethu squatter camp in Hout Bay.

Angry residents vowed to resist CPA plans to extend the camp at meetings held by the Hout Bay Ratepayers' Association this week, citing rising crime in areas adjacent to the camp.

The chief director of land development co-ordination at the CPA, Mr Briand Louw, said yesterday the CPA is presently negotiating with the Western Cape Regional Services Council to acquire land to extend the camp.

Mr Louw said that more "land surface" is needed for the squatters, as the present site was not large enough. The size of such an acquisition has not yet been decided on.

He said that the CPA would not effect the extension unilaterally as it has "a commitment to the liaison committee" in Hout Bay, which consists of representatives of ratepayers and squatters.



BRIDAL PATH . . . Mr Wayne Thurgood, manager of a farm opposite the squatter camp, said squatters were using it as a thoroughfare, despite a newly-erected fence and gate. Pictures: BENNY GOOL

Ratepayers' Association chairman Professor Rob Millar said yesterday that residents, who have "genuine intent to integrate the homeless in Hout Bay", decided at a meeting on Tuesday that Imizamo Yethu should stay the same size.

He disputed a police contention that crime in areas around the squatter camp was static, saying that in Penzance Estate burglaries had risen from five in 1990 to 25 last year, and from 12 to 31 in the same periods in Riverside Terrace and Hughenden Estate.

Police yesterday confirmed those figures, but pointed out that Hout Bay's overall crime problem had declined by up to 30%.

"Those areas (around Imizamo Yethu) are a very small part of Hout Bay," a spokesman said. He added that police are concentrating on the affected areas.

Residents in the Imizamo Yethu squatter camp complained yesterday about the lack of assistance from residents in Hout Bay to upgrade their living standards.

It was obvious that the residents at the camp needed more living space, they claimed.

'Don't keep promises'

Civic Committee member Mrs Ethel Funcuza, who started a creche in the area to cater for up to 50 children a day, said that most people in the camp are currently unemployed.

Her creche lies in a makeshift hall and children huddled together on cold damp floors yesterday. Outside the creche, the water gushed down potholes in the muddy road.

"The CPA has also promised for the last year to make better roads for us, but they don't keep to their promises," she said.

Hout Bay resident Mr Mike Graf said that he would resist the CPA proposal to extend the camp, as its influx control had been "insufficient".

CT 23/5/92 (307)

Bigger squatter village

Larger sites but no extra residents

By PETER DENNEHY

THE area of Hout Bay's squatter village is to more than double — but more people won't move in, the Cape Provincial Administration said yesterday.

Earlier his week, Hout Bay residents vowed to resist moves to increase the size of the village.

The CPA's urbanisation chief, Mr Koos Theron, said the size of Imizamo Yethu village would increase from 8ha to 20ha.

The administration is negotiating to buy 12ha of land adjoining the Imizamo Yethu camp so that 440 serviced sites can be provided on the combined area.

The existing camp is known as Phase One. Phase Two will extend the village almost to the Main Road, and almost to the border of Penzance Estate, although there will be buffer strips in both cases.

Mr Theron said people living in the existing 429 structures on 60m² plots would be accommodated on larger plots of 160m² each.

Each of the new plots will have a water-borne sewage system and its own water on tap.

If the whole of the additional 12ha site has dwelling sites built on it, it could eventually accommodate some 650 serviced sites. The future of the 306 single backyard dwellers has yet to be decided upon by a liaison committee.

Providing services to each of the plots would cost the CPA about R8 000, Mr Theron said. Members of the Imizamo community would be able to buy the plots. Payments would be determined according to their income in terms of the National Housing Commission sliding scale.

Responding to questions about why the CPA was not sticking to undertakings apparently given to Hout Bay ratepayers by House of Assembly minister Mr Sam de Beer, Mr Theron said that present plans were very similar to what Mr De Beer had envisaged.

"I spoke to Mr De Beer this morning. We are not that far apart . . . the numbers might have changed since then. We have to deal with the situation as we find it now."

Allegations had been bandied about that the CPA was going to develop the village on the entire 34ha of RSC land in the vicinity, but these were not correct, he said.

A UCT survey had shown that there were 1 042 people living in Imizamo Yethu camp in November 1990 and 2 072 in April 1991, but the number had declined since then to 1 970 now. For the past six months, the number had been stable.

Half-a-million

Mr Theron said the CPA understood Hout Bay residents' concern about the proposed extension of the village, but "neither the public sector nor the public may shy away from the realities of our society and the needs of society as a whole in the new South Africa".

● Residential land in Hout Bay usually costs over half-a-million rands per hectare.

● Dr Jannie Hofmeyer, who serves on the Hout Bay informal settlement sub-committee, said ratepayers had agreed two years ago that 18ha of land should be used to accommodate the squatters; that their living conditions should be improved; and that they should have land ownership rights.



NEW PHASE . . . Mr Koos Theron points out the 12ha extension (Phase 2) to the Imizamo Yethu camp in Hout Bay, which is shown on this map as Phase One on the right. Picture: ANNE LAING

Squatter camp to expand

307
ARG 23/5/92

Hout Bay to get 440 serviced sites

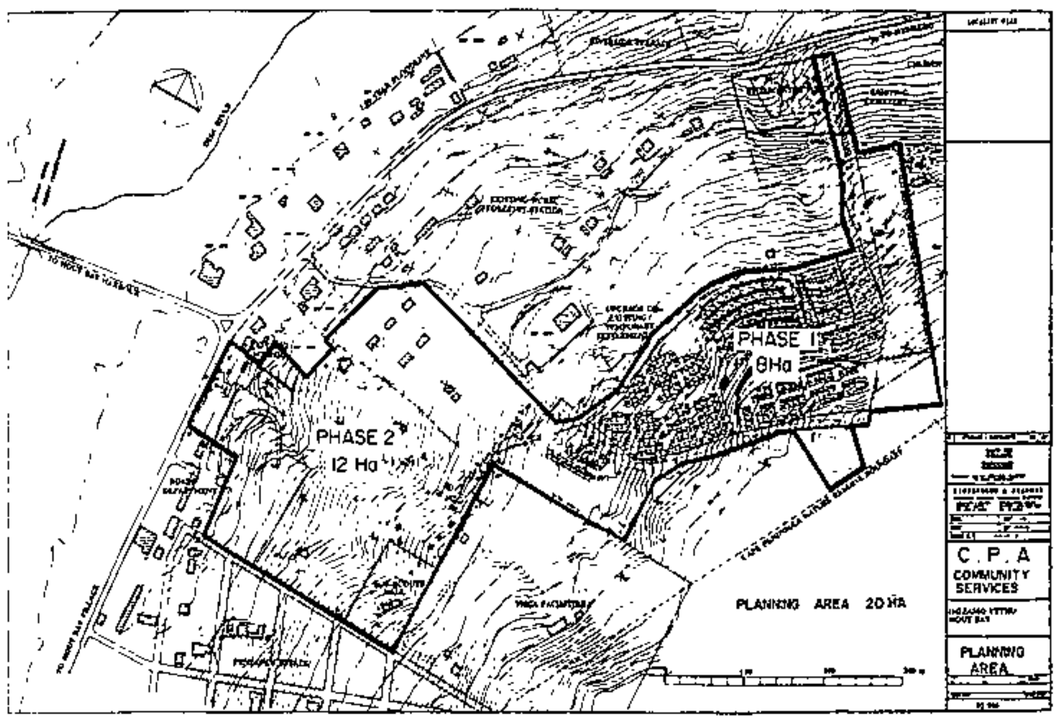
TED MAGILL
Weekend Argus Reporter

MORE sites for squatters are to be provided in Hout Bay.

Despite protests from residents and threats of legal action from the Hout Bay Ratepayers' Association, the Cape Provincial Administration is to increase the number of serviced sites at the Imizamo Yethu settlement to 440.

Mr Koos Theron, the MEC for urbanisation told a news conference yesterday that the CPA was "guided" by consensus decisions of the Hout Bay liaison committee which is made up of Hout Bay residents and the Imizamo Yethu and Harbour squatter camps.

"However, it is our duty to bring certain realities to the committee's notice, namely that the existing eight hectares which have been used temporarily, are hopelessly inadequate to satisfy the needs of the homeless," he said.



The planned development to the Hout Bay squatter camp .

Earlier this week angry Hout Bay ratepayers expressed their concerns about plummeting property prices and increasing crime rates in the areas adjacent to the squatter community.

Mr Theron said he had discussed the issue of the camp with the liaison committee on Thursday. "They have already agreed to the establishment of 429 sites, but we are going to propose to the liaison committee that we start with 440," he said.

Mr Theron said the misperception had been created that the CPA was to develop 34 hectares.

In addition to the eight hectares already occupied by the Imizamo Yethu community, he said a further 12 hectares were needed "to provide approximately 650 serviced sites eventually".

Mr Theron said 440 sites were needed immediately, to accommodate 429 existing structures and 306 backyard lodgers.

In a statement released on Thursday, the Hout Bay Ratepayers' Association said the extent of the land used should be limited to 18 hectares and any addition should be agreed upon by the liaison committee.

Journalist wins appeal over refusal to disclose sources

SUSAN RUSSELL

JOURNALIST Patrick Laurence has won his appeal against conviction and a 10-day prison sentence for refusing to disclose the source of information in a report about the disappearance of a key witness in the Winnie Mandela trial.

Judge R van Schalkwyk, with Judge W van der Merwe concurring, ruled in the Rand Supreme Court on Friday that the subpoena to testify on the disappearance of state witness Gabriel Mekgwe, issued under Section 205 of the Criminal Procedure Act, was invalid.

The court accepted a submission by Laurence's counsel D Fine, SC, that the subpoena had not been issued for the purposes envisaged by the Act, which was to obtain information about an alleged offence.

Van Schalkwyk said it was clear from the record of the proceedings in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court, where Laurence was convicted, that the subpoena's primary aim was not to obtain information about Mekgwe's disappearance, but to trace a witness.

He rejected the State's submission that the subpoena was not invalidated if there was a secondary purpose other than obtaining information about the abduction.

More land for squatters

LINDA ENSOR

CAPE TOWN — The Cape Provincial Administration was negotiating to buy Regional Services Council land in Hout Bay to extend the town's squatter settlement from 8ha to 20ha, Koos Theron, MEC for urbanisation, told a news conference at the weekend.

He said the perception among dismayed Hout Bay ratepayers that the extended settlement would cover the full 34ha of RSC land was incorrect. Ratepayers were angered by the proposed acquisition, saying the squatter settlement had driven down property values and led to an increase in crime.

Theron said the acquisition was necessary to provide 440 serviced sites immediately and allow room for the expansion to 650 sites. At present there were 429 structures and 306 single backyard lodgers living in Imizamo Yethu Village.

He said the CPA planned to increase the size of serviced plots to 160m² from 60m² in order to reduce the village's density.

Squatters would have to pay for the land, the price of which would be determined on the basis of their income in terms of the sliding scale adopted by the National Housing Commission, Theron said.

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Hout Bay: Interests 'don't diverge much'

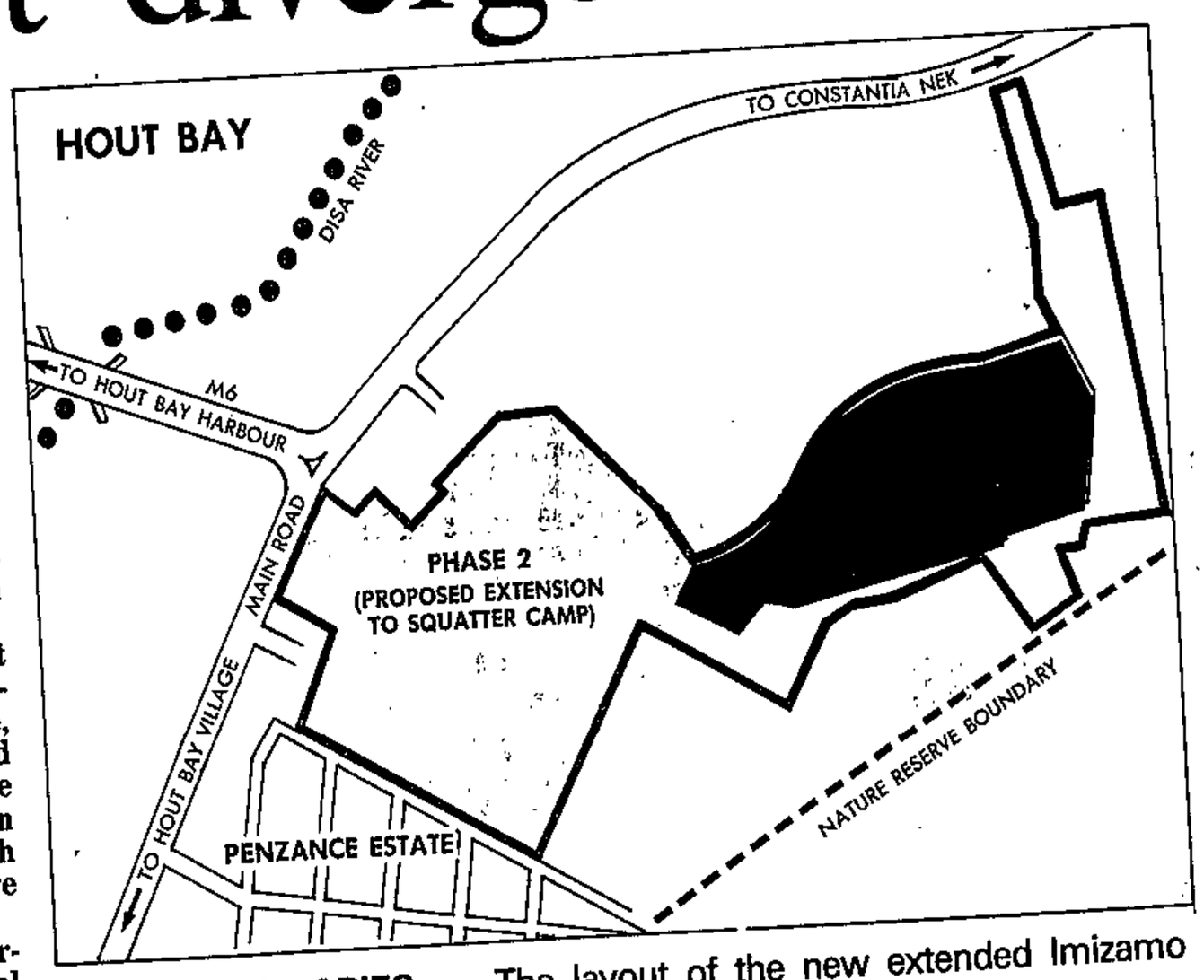
(307) CT 26/5/92

Municipal Reporter

THE interests of squatters and ratepayers in Hout Bay did not diverge much on several crucial issues, ratepayers' association vice-chairman Mr Joe Lazarus said yesterday.

He said both groups were concerned about the possibility of an influx of squatters from other areas into the Imizamo Yethu camp, which is about to be extended.

Both also believed that the proposed lower density of the extended site, with 160m² serviced plots, was a much more desirable situation than the present one in which plots in the camp were 60m² each.



NEW BOUNDARIES ... The layout of the new extended Imizamo Yethu camp in Hout Bay.

Mr Lazarus said yesterday that when additional shacks had been erected by newcomers, members of the Imizamo Yethu camp had "taken action" themselves, and had also asked the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA) to take action.

"There are people in the camp who are also terrified of crime," he said. "A crime control committee is being formed, with representation from the harbour community, the squatter camp and the ratepayers.

"That committee will attempt to control crime within the squatter camp and in the broader Hout Bay."

Meetings of both the ratepayers' informal settlement sub-committee and the liaison committee, comprising squatter, ratepayer and harbour community representatives, were held last night.

Mr Lazarus said he did not expect that the liaison committee would get stuck on the question, so far unresolved, of lodgers or backyard shack-dwellers in Imizamo Yethu.

"A total of 343 lodgers were registered at the time the community was moved to its present site. The ratepayers accepted about two years ago that anyone who was registered at the time of the move should be eligible to stay on the agreed piece of land."

What had not yet been agreed was how many plots should be provided for the lodgers.

Mr Lazarus said he was aware of the "major fear" among ratepayers, which was that there might be an influx of additional squatters. One way to limit this was to provide only the land agreed to.

The other way of dealing with the problem was to enlist the aid of the Imizamo Yethu community.

Squatter leaders visit India

Staff Reporter

TWO Western Cape squatter leaders jetted out to India yesterday to share their experiences with squatters in Bombay, Madras and Bangalore. But the trip is shrouded in controversy.

The two joined five leaders from other South African squatter camps for the 15-day project run by the South African Catholic Welfare Services (SACWS).

Yesterday, one leader was named as Miss Patricia Matholengwe, from Khayelitsha. A SACWS spokesman refused to name the other leaders "because of the controversy". ARG 26/5/92

The Western Cape United Squatters' Association objected as the local delegates were not Wecusa members. A Wecusa spokesman said a meeting was called with the SACWS (30)

Villiersdorp protest march for better deal

S/Times (Cape Metro) 31/5/97 (307)

MR Samuel Avontuur leaned forlornly on his single crutch as the 250-strong protest march left Goniwe Park squatter camp without him yesterday to take their grievances into white Villiersdorp.

The other crutch lay broken on the ground, snapped while the one-legged man followed a practice march through the township.

Mr Thomas Jansen, leader of the Villiersdorp Civic Organisation, said his community wanted to protest the discriminatory attitude of the local white municipality in providing housing, land and schools.

"Our community has a problem with the rent arrears because many people have no jobs. We have asked the municipality to scrap

By DIANA STREAK

them because people are falling more and more into arrears, they just can't afford to pay.

"Some people are paying rent and R10 a month in arrears but the municipality has tried to get them to sign a contract to pay more.

"We have asked the municipality for a piece of land for the squatters because what they have is inadequate and if people build shacks they come and pull them down.

"The Nuwedorp coloured school is full so many children can't go to school. The whites voted to open the white school but up to now the school is closed to us although they take pupils from Namibia and the Transvaal."

As the march entered Villiersdorp Main Street scores of policemen kept a watchful eye on the proceedings as the crowd sang and waved placards.

Khaki-clad ANC marshalls kept the crowd in check as more people joined the march. There were very few white faces there for a Saturday morning but farm workers in town for their weekly shopping cheered the march on as it approached the municipal buildings.

Mr Jansen handed a list of requests to town clerk Mr J L Serfontein.

"I wouldn't like to comment because I don't know what is in the petition," Mr Serfontein said. "I will present it to my council and they will make whatever decision is necessary."

He confirmed that the white school was now a Model C school but said it had only happened recently. "I don't know if there are any coloured pupils there," he said.

Co-organiser Ms Sandra Haydon of the Black Sash said people in Villiersdorp were much more victimised than in other Boland towns because the black and coloured communities were working together.

Mr Jansen called for members of the community to join the ANC.

Karoo's descendants fight for right to stay

SOUTH 6/6 - 10/6/92

(307) (89)

Residents of De Bult can date their links to the area to the 1800's. Now their future is threatened, reports **Ruby Marks**:

AN HISTORIC settlement in the town of Carnavon, one of the earliest black settlements in the Karoo, is under threat because the white municipality has declared the area a slum.

Residents at the De Aar Kamp squatter settlement in the town have been instructed by the Carnavon municipality to upgrade their homes and install electricity or the camp will be demolished.

The camp is situated in an area known as De Bult, where a Xhosa tribe built the first church in the Karoo in the 19th century.

De Bult is under the protection of the National Monuments Council, which declared the area "historically significant" and will not allow alterations without its consent.

Carnavon was given to Jan Kaffer, son of the Xhosa chief Gaika, after he signed a peace treaty with white settlers in 1812.

His tribe settled on three abandoned farms south of the Kareeberge and was later joined by a number of Basters.

In 1857, the white settler community began its attempt to take over ownership of the land granted to Kaffer. They succeeded and it was subdivided with the whites gaining control of most of the reserve.

Blacks were allowed to remain on condition that they erect a reasonable dwelling and establish a garden within three years.

Kaffer and his people then built the first church in Carnavon on the site known today as De Bult.

The 1950 promulgation of the Group Areas Act led to the removal of all coloureds from central Carnavon. They were resettled at a site known as Die Onderdorp or a new state location — Bonteheuwel.

In May 1954, Group Areas inspectors visited the area and determined that only a coloured location was needed in the town since there were no residents classified African in Carnavon.

This strange state of affairs arose because a black resident, magistrate's clerk Mr Andreas Boezak, had — whether by design or accident — registered every newborn black baby as coloured.

Carnavon thus became the first municipality in South Africa not to have a "native location" declared within its boundaries.

Blacks were first ordered to vacate De Bult in 1975 when the Carnavon municipality announced its plans to declare the area a slum.

Residents made minor alterations to their homes and successfully resisted forced removal.

Now, 17 years later, the cost of installing electricity at De Bult will amount to R120 000.

"The municipality expects the 26 families living here to pay for electricity," said camp resident Mr Jan Brand.

He said he earned R40 a month and also received a bag of flour, a packet of sugar, coffee, matches and a sheep. He fed a family of five on this.

Other foodstuffs the family needs are bought at the farmer's shop where basic foods are sold at hugely inflated prices — so the farmer gets his R40 back again.

Some squatters can trace their roots at De Bult to 1847. "This is our land; we were here long before the white municipality came," Brand said.

De Bult resident Mr Johannes Rooi, 60, said he also earned R40 a month and could not afford to renovate or install electricity.

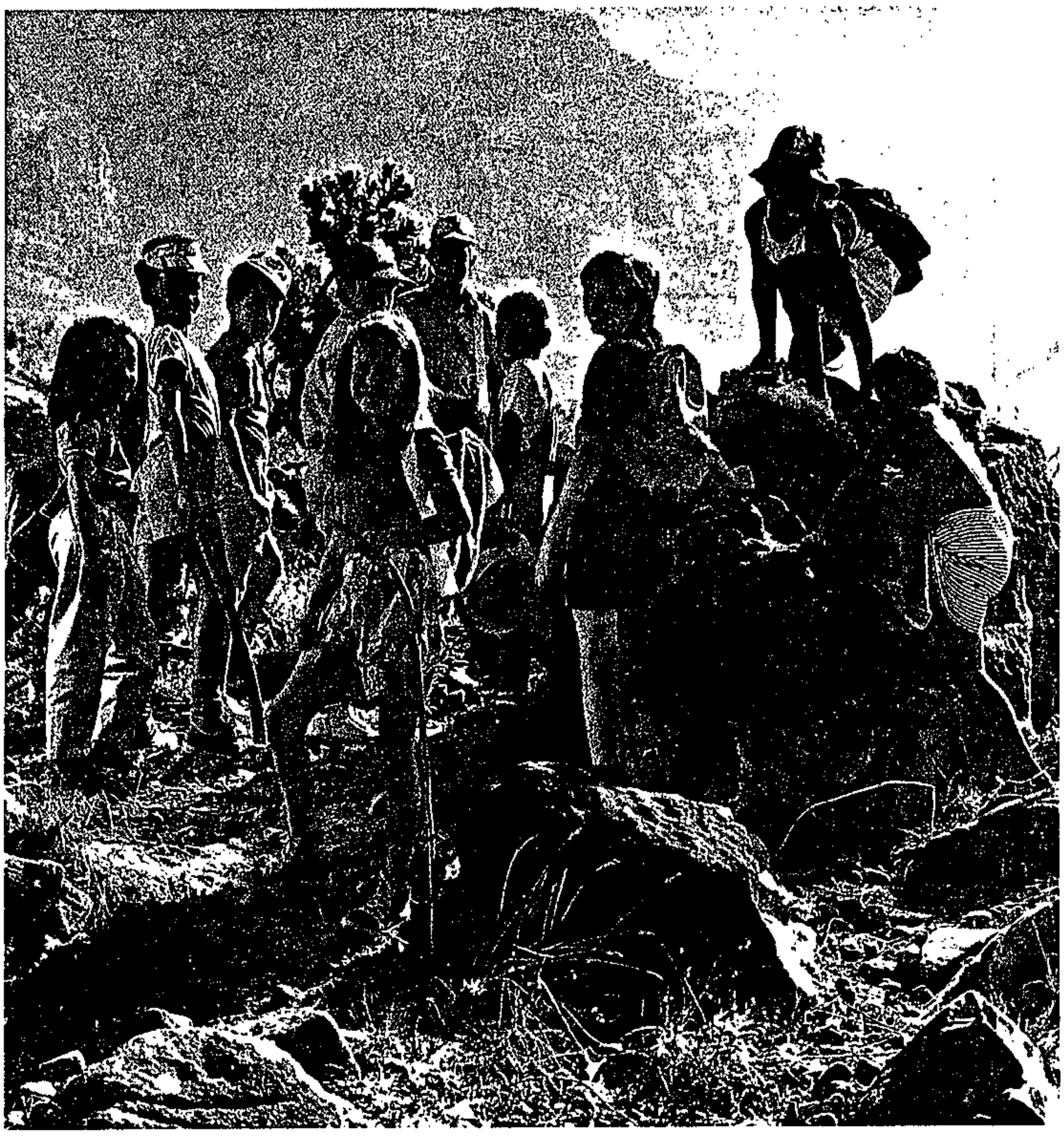
Rooi works as a sheep shearer and earns 10 cents for every sheep he shears. He manages to shear 20 sheep a day.

A spokesperson for the Carnavon Regional Services Council, Mr PJ van Tonder, said the squatter settlement would pose a health hazard to the town unless it was upgraded.

He denied that the squatters were expected to pay for the upgrade.

"We set aside R80 000 to build temporary structures for them on another site near De Bult."

Residents said they rejected the offer as they



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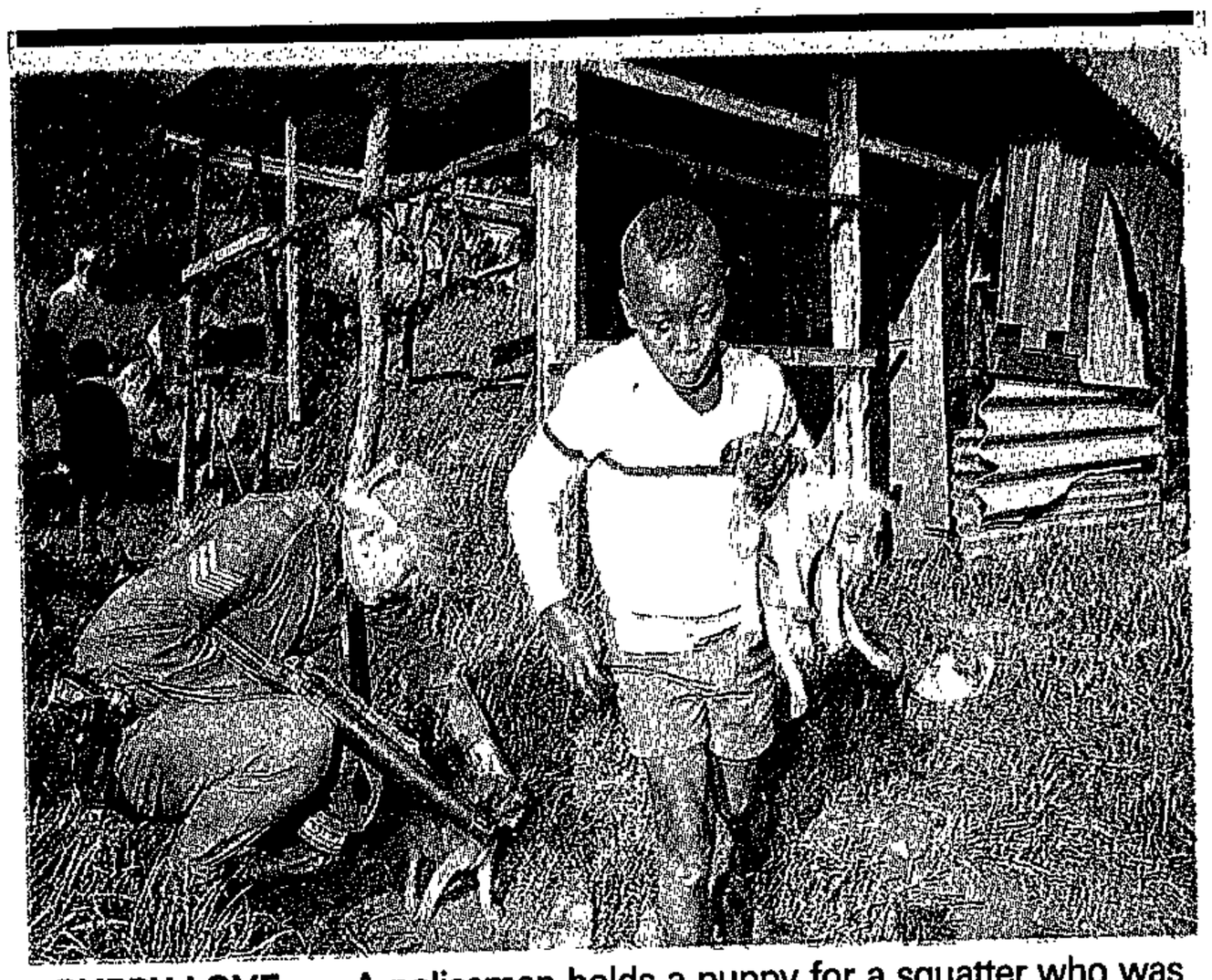

PUPPY LOVE . . . A policeman holds a puppy for a squatter who was removing puppies from a shack before it was demolished yesterday. PICTURE: ANNE LAING

(307) CT 12/6/92

Shacks demolished: 2 held

Staff Reporter

POLICE arrested two men at the Imizamo Yethu Village squatter camp near Hout Bay yesterday after members of the Cape Provincial Administration demolished "illegal" structures in the camp.

The men will appear in the Wynberg Magistrate's Court today on charges of assault and for hindering the CPA workers in doing their duty, a police spokesman said.

About two dozen armed policemen from Hout Bay and Wynberg monitored the demolitions of the dwellings and arrested the men when they tried to interfere with the CPA workmen.

Mr Henk van Dyk, regional officer for the CPA in the Western Cape, said the CPA had been asked by the residents' committee to demolish 13 unoccupied structures and the CPA were acting as "agents" for the committee.

The structures being dismantled were not registered by the CPA and did not have site numbers.

A CPA statement said the community had decided at a meeting on Monday night to ask the CPA to demolish the structures.

But yesterday PAC national executive member Ms Patricia de Lille said the residents' committee was represented only by ANC members and that only structures owned by PAC members were targeted for demolition.

"The PAC were not consulted on the selective destruction of residents' homes and it is nonsense to say that people are not living there," she said.

Ms De Lille said the CPA had not been able to provide the names of committee members who had asked for the homes to be dismantled.

An angry crowd later demonstrated outside the CPA's offices at the camp.

PAC angry over wrecked shacks

(307) ARG 12/6/92



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CONFRONTATION: As a man tries to stop a CPA official demolishing a shack in the Hout Bay squatter camp, a woman with her child on her back joins the fray. The man was arrested after the incident.
Picture: OBED ZILWA, The Argus.

□□□□

ANDRÉ MARTIN, Staff Reporter

THE Pan Africanist Congress has accused the provincial administration and the ANC-dominated Imizamo Yethu squatter camp civic committee in Hout Bay of collaborating in the demolition of shacks.

A row erupted yesterday when provincial officials under police protection demolished nine shacks belonging to PAC members.

Provincial spokesman Mr Henk van Dyk said the CPA had acted on a request by the civic committee to demolish 13 unoccupied structures.

PAC national executive member Mrs Patricia de Lille said it was "selective destruction" in which only houses belonging to PAC members were destroyed.

"The so-called civic committee made up of ANC members claims to represent the whole community, but they do not. There are members of other organisations, such as Azapo, living here."

Mrs De Lille said the shacks were not unoccupied. The occupants had gone to work.

"We are going to talk to the ANC and the CPA about who gave them the right to destroy only PAC houses.

"The CPA and the ANC are working together," she said.

PAC members later marched to the CPA offices and demanded that the civic committee members who made the request come forward, and that their building materials be returned.

They also demanded the release of two men who were arrested for assault and obstruction of CPA officials in their duty.

After a meeting with Mr Van Dyk and other PAC members, Mrs De Lille said Mr Van Dyk had declined to give the names of the committee members.

● ANC regional executive member Mr Cecil Esau said the allegation by Mrs De Lille was false.

"The Hout Bay civic is not an ANC structure nor is its membership ANC dominated," he said.

The structures demolished by the CPA were erected in defiance of a community decision that no more shacks should be erected in the camp until negotiations about phase two of the area had been finalised, he said.

Buthelezi quits US tour after protests

ARG 12/6/92

The Argus Foreign Service

WASHINGTON. — Inkatha Freedom Party president Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi today cancelled a fund-raising tour of the United States and flew home after facing pickets and protests on the first leg of his visit and after being snubbed by the mayors of New York and Miami.

But in a brief letter to the Miami Herald today, Chief Buthelezi claims he was forced to return home immediately because of plans by the ANC to organise a "mass mobilisation" on June 16 to mark the anniversary of the 1976 Soweto riots.

Americans involved in the organisation of his tour expressed astonishment at his decision.

They said the issue of his absence during the June 16 period had been discussed before his departure and that they were not aware of any pending events in South Africa which would have necessitated the cancellation of a carefully planned visit.

Opponents of Inkatha in the US described his reason for returning as "the thinnest of figleaves" and confirmed that they had staged protests in New York and Miami.

Builder's squatter shack demolished

307

South 13/6-17/6/92.

By Quentin Wilson

AFTER spending the day building other people's houses, Mr Edward Henson returned home on Monday to find half his shack demolished.

Earlier that day, the Villiersdorp municipality tore down sections of two shacks because they "were illegal extensions" that crossed the border of Goniwe Park squatter camp near the Boland town.

For the Hensons, a family of four, the demolition of their kitchen means they have to cook, eat, and sleep in a room measuring two by three metres.

"I feel very sad. We can't cook in the same room that we sleep in. We need two rooms," said Henson's mother, Mrs Marlene Henson, who suffers from TB.

She and her daughter-in-law, Mrs Mary Henson, were at home when municipal workers and police moved in. Mary's husband, Edward, was at work and their eight-year-old son was at school.

"They went straight to a neighbouring shack and after they finished breaking it down, they came over here and told us to get out of the way so they could break this house down," Marlene said.

The family pays rent of R10 a month. Edward is the only wage-earner in the family and receives R80 a week as a builder.

Mr Johan Serfontein, the Villiersdorp town clerk, said: "You can't have people putting up shacks wherever they want. You wouldn't allow a man in the street to put up a shack in your backyard. It's exactly the same thing here."

"It must be clear that these are illegal shacks. Council informed these people that the shacks would be left untouched on condition that no alterations, extensions or new structures were erected in a non-proclaimed area," he said.

Goniwe Park was recognised by the municipality in December.

Civic association spokesperson Mr Thomas Jansen said: "We asked the municipality to give us land for 200 people and they gave us land for 117. We have had our shacks demolished six times since the new South Africa was supposedly born in 1990."

Jansen said the civic planned to boycott all shops in the town.

"We held back because we hoped to resolve our problems through negotiations," he said.

Mini-debate on squatters

307

Political Staff

THE Hout Bay squatter camp is to be the subject of a mini-debate in Parliament tomorrow.

The Conservative Party MP for Sasolburg, Mr Louis Stofberg, has tabled an interpellation in the Assembly asking whether the squatters are insisting on more land for their settlement. CT 16/6/92

He is also to ask the Minister of Local Government and National Housing, Mr Leon Wessels, whether he is considering any steps to solve the problem, and if not, why not.



COLIN EGLIN ... "marked reduction in tension"

Hout Bay shows white SA the way

Sowetan 17/6/92. 307

AS WHITES in the north of Johannesburg prepare to take up arms against black squatters, affluent Capetonians are showing that rich whites and poor blacks can live in harmony.

Hout Bay, an idyllic fishing village 20km south of Cape Town, is an unlikely location for a black squatter camp: set on the ocean against a backdrop of mountains and populated mainly by wealthy commuters, it looks like a resort on the Cote d'Azur.

For years under the apartheid system, groups of homeless black people lived illegally on the rural fringes of Hout Bay, until they were all evicted and put onto one plot on the south side of town in March last year.

The initial reaction of the white residents to this new community of 2 000 black people, many of them unemployed, was "we have to get rid of them", according to local Democratic Party MP Colin Eglin.

But hostility and fear have turned into mutual acceptance after a year of negotiation and liaison between the black and white communities, which Eglin says should serve as a prototype for resolving similar situations arising across South Africa.

Estimates of the number of black people living in shacks and shanty towns in urban South Africa vary between three and seven million.

Most have no electricity or running water supply, according to the Urban Foundation, an independent Johannesburg-based research group.

Many whites see squatter camps as dens of crime, bred by soaring black unemployment.

But Eglin says the sensitive and conciliatory line taken by the white residents of Hout Bay shows that the juxtaposition of "desperately poor black people and relatively affluent whites" need not be a hostile one.

Liaison

The Hout Bay Ratepayers Association approached the squatters soon after the move 15 months ago, and the two communities formed a liaison committee.

The result was a "marked reduction in tension", and a gradual acceptance by the white residents that the black community was there to stay, Eglin says.

At a recent ratepayers' association meeting, the association's vice-chairman, Joe Lazarus, said the interests of the squatters and the ratepayers "do not diverge much" on fundamental issues like upgrading facilities and preventing a new influx of squatters.

At Zevenfontein, it is a different story. White residents at nearby Diepsloot are threatening to oppose by force the Government's proposed establishment of a site next month for Zevenfontein's 3 500 squatters.

But the Greenbelt Action Group (GAG), a northern Johannesburg residents' association, hints attitudes are changing there, too.

Urbanisation

Six months ago GAG gave a Press conference on why the group was strictly opposed to any Government "urbanisation".

This week GAG spokesman Rick Massey said that "nobody is afraid of urbanisation as long as it is done in a planned manner".

In this, white landowners and dispossessed black communities may be coming closer to the line taken by the Urban Foundation.

It says the South African Government needs to take a holistic view and establish a negotiating mechanism - as the Hout Bay communities have - for dealing with such disputes, instead of dealing with each problem as it arises on an ad-hoc basis. - *Sapa-AFP.*

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

INTERPELLATIONS

The sign * indicates a translation. The sign †, used subsequently in the same interpellation, indicates the original language.

(307)

General Affairs:

Squatter camp at Hout Bay: more land

*1. Mr L F STOFBERG asked the Minister of Local Government and National Housing:

(1) Whether residents of the squatter camp at Hout Bay are at present insisting on more land for their settlement;

(2) whether he is considering any steps to solve this problem to the satisfaction of the established residents of Hout Bay; if not, why not; if so, what steps?

B825E.INT

*The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL HOUSING: Mr Speaker, in February and March 1991 the respective squatter groups were resettled in the designated area in terms of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act of 1951. The squatters were resettled on undeveloped sites of 20 square metres after temporary water-pipes and a couple of toilet structures had been erected.

In Hout Bay squatting originally occurred in Princess Bush, Seaproducts Bush, Blue Valley, Disa River and Davidskraal. As a result of the overpopulation of Hangberg a number of Coloureds also began squatting. In October 1990 architects and planners were appointed by the Department of Local Government, Housing and Works of the Administration: House of Assembly to make a recommendation in respect of suitable areas for settlement, since the squatting was occurring mainly in the White group area at the time. A facilitator was also appointed to be of assistance with communication. The Department consulted with all the groups concerned, namely the MPs, the Hout Bay Taxpayers' Association, the Hout Bay Land Rights Association, the CPA, the House of Representatives, the Hangberg delegates and representatives of the squatter concentrations involved. [Interjections.] Arising out of these negotiations an area of approximately 8 hectares was expropriated in terms of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act as a designated area for the settlement of squatters in February 1991.

As far as a long-term approach is concerned, the CPA assumed control of the functions of land purchasing and planning for the development of such areas when the management and prevention of squatting was transferred to the respective administrators in September 1991. A liaison committee between the squatters and representatives of the taxpayers association, with representation from the harbour community, was revived in February 1992 after negotiations had come to a temporary halt. A project team of CPA officials was also constituted to get the development going. In order to settle the homeless people on serviced sites and to make provision for the overpopulation of the demarcated area, we have negotiated with all parties concerned for a further approximately 12 hectares of land. All interested parties in Hout Bay are consulted on a regular basis via the liaison committee. This will continue to happen in the future.

*Mr L F STOFBERG: Mr Speaker, the *Cape Times* reported on 21 May:

> The Cape Provincial Administration yesterday confirmed plans to extend the Imizamo Yethu squatter camp in Hout Bay.
>
> Mr Louw . . .

—That is the CPA official concerned—

> . . . said that more land surface is needed for the squatters as the present site was not large enough.

Die Burger reported on the same day:

> Nuwe onmin oor Houtbaai-plakkers.
>
> Meer as 500 Houtbaaise belastingbetalers het eergisteraand op 'n stormagtige vergadering die KPA se plan verwerp om die plakkernedersetting Imizamo Yethu byna te verdubbel.
>
> Die Hangberg-saal in Hout Bay Heights was gister stampvol.

The *Cape Times* wrote in an editorial on the same day, 21 May:

> What brought residents to boiling point, however, were reports that the CPA planned to quadruple the size of the present camp from nine hectares to 34, when they had only agreed on an eventual total of 18 hectares. In any society the juxtaposition of affluent housing with squatter settlements—the very visible haves with the obvious have-nots—would hold the threat of conflict.

[Interjections.] That was written in the *Cape Times*! It reads further:

> The frustration and sense of impotence felt by the property owners (in Hout Bay) is not helped by the lack of public representatives. Hout Bay has no elected municipal authority.

Then there was an article in *Die Burger* on 22 May, that read:

> Houtbaai berei hom voor vir "oorlog" . . .
>
> Houtbaai se inwoners is letterlik en figuurlik op die oorlogspad. En die teiken is die plakkerkamp Imizamo Yethu . . .
>
> Houtbaai-inwoners skaf nie net vuurwapens aan en bestee "derduisende rande" aan sekuriteitsmaatreëls om plakkers van hul eiendom te hou nie—hulle beraam ook planne om geld in te samel sodat hulle die "plakkerstryd" in die howe kan voortsit.
>
> Gister het huiseienaars in die woonbuurt Penzance, wat naby die plakkerskamp geleë is, aan *Die Burger* gesê as die KPA sou besluit om die plakkersnedersetting te vergroot, hulle 'n "oorlog" op hande sal hê.

I should like to say to the hon the Minister that that is the strongest and most acrimonious language that has yet been used in South Africa in any community in respect of squatter camps, and that comes from the Fairest Cape in the whole circumference of the earth. [Interjections.] That comes from Tokai!

Can hon members believe it? That is the country, the South Africa, of this NP. The hon the Minister came here this afternoon with great verbosity but he did not address any of these cardinal points. As a matter of fact, he spoke as if he had not taken any cognisance of what was reported in the Press. [Interjections.]

I love Hout Bay very much. I love the whole of the Western Cape very much. I was involved with those people. [Interjections.] This Government is taking a risk because if this could happen in Hout Bay, in a Prog constituency, what will not happen in the rest of the country? I hope and trust that the hon the Minister will take serious cognisance of what was reported in the Press. [Time expired.]

Mr J J WALSH: Mr Speaker, the hon member for Sea Point is regrettably not able to be here today and he has asked me to respond in his place.

The first point we wish to make is that the CP must stop trying to exploit socio-economic issues for racist and party-political reasons. [Interjections.] Their solution to this sensitive problem would be a disgrace for South Africa, and the people of South Africa have rejected them for that very reason. [Interjections.]

The issue of squatting is extremely sensitive, and the Hout Bay community as a whole have dealt with it in a sensitive way, in consultation with all members of that community. [Interjections.] They realise that there is a general need for a positive solution to a very real problem. The liaison committee that has been formed, as has been outlined by the hon the Minister, comprises members of all components of that community.

What needs to be stressed is that it was known all along that, when those squatters were resettled, the ground on which they were resettled was not sufficiently large for their purposes. It was known at the outset that they would be settled on land at 60 square metres per dwelling whereas, in fact, a minimum of 160 square metres was required for a reasonable permanent solution to the problem.

That was not sprung on that community. It was known all along. The fact is that of course there will be problems.

This is the price that the residents of Hout Bay now have to pay for an NP group area policy which did not allow for the provision of land for people of colour in the area of Hout Bay. That lack of planning has led to the problem the residents of Hout Bay now face. However, we want to stress that that community is dealing with it and I believe they should be allowed to continue to do so. [Time expired.]

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL HOUSING: Mr Speaker, I want to thank the hon member for Pinelands for his explanation of the events in Hout Bay. However, it is a pity that he could not resist the temptation of falling for the old arguments, attacking the NP policy in days of yore. As he stated, there is a problem, and we have to deal with it.

*The interesting thing is that the hon member for Sasolburg has once again shown us where he served his political apprenticeship. He did it at the feet of Mr Jaap Marais by stumbling from one newspaper article to the next, reading aloud from them. My task today was not to react to newspaper articles but to the question as it appeared on the Question Paper. That was what I did.

The only thing that the CP did in the three minutes that they had at their disposal was to underline the magnitude of the problem. Two CP speakers will now rise to speak; the one for one minute and the other for two minutes. I challenge them to tell us what the answer is and what they are going to do about it. [Interjections.]

*Mr J CHIOLÉ: Mr Speaker, the hon the Minister is glossing over the facts completely, and the DP do not realise what the problem is. The fact that the possibility of enlarging the squatter camp from nine hectares to 20 hectares and thereafter to 34 hectares is being considered, indicates that it is projected that the approximately 2 000 squatters in Hout Bay will increase to approximately 7 500 within the foreseeable future if the same population density is maintained.

This Hout Bay projection coincides exactly with what the NP envisages for the whole of the Cape. I quote from *Die Burger* of 14 April 1992:

> Die Kaaplandse LUK, mnr Peter Marais, het gesê daar word geraam dat die plakkers in Kaapland binne die volgende drie jaar gaan vervierdubbel.

This projection confirms the article of the Urban Foundation in August 1991 that states that Cape Town is now the metropolitan area in South Africa that is growing at the most rapid rate with a squatter influx of up to 10 000 every month.

Cape Town and Hout Bay should realise that what they are dealing with is the advance guard of a tidal wave of squatters—a tidal wave that is going to get ever bigger and that is going to strike them.

The irony of the matter is that 84% of them—most of them probably unknowingly—voted "yes" for this on 17 March. The consequences of the policy of the NP and DP regarding Cape Town is now inescapable. The pollution levels of Table Bay will rise far beyond the acceptable norm. Hout Bay and other areas near the squatter camps will become extremely high security risks. [Interjections.]

Table Mountain and the areas around Kirstenbosch will be occupied by squatters. There will be a total onslaught on the ecology which will destroy many eco-systems. Some of the access roads, such as the N2 to the airport, will have to be closed frequently as a result of stone throwing.

*Brig J F BOSMAN: Gee whiz!

*Mr J CHIOLÉ: Just shut your mouth. You are too stupid to realise what's going on.

The fairest Cape in the world will be faced with an additional 1 million squatters within eight years and become the most dangerous Cape. [Interjections.]

*Mr L F STOFBERG: Mr Speaker, I do not allow myself to be deterred by that hon the Minister who uses abusive language about rascist considerations. I learnt my politics from the hon member for Kimberley South and the hon Chief Whip of Parliament. There are my masters—forgotten.

However, I should like to point out that the people of Hout Bay have just about no local government and have nobody that can speak on their behalf. Their own member in the House of Assembly does not rise in this House to intercede on their behalf. The man from Pinelands—over there in the sticks—has to intercede for Hout Bay.

That is why we in the CP say we fight for Hout Bay, as we will fight for every other community in South Africa that is entitled to a decent, clean life. It does not matter whether it is to prevent the value of their property from decreasing, or whatever community it may be.

Hout Bay is entitled to keep and retain what it has. This Government does nothing. It sits back and allows things to slide, also in Hout Bay. For that reason the CP will get up every time and fight for the people of Hout Bay, because except for the CP, they do not have people who fight for them.

*The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL HOUSING: Mr Speaker, the hon member for Overvaal's credibility has grown immeasurably here. The CP sent in their HNP advance guard here and we had to deal with a CP-HNP mentality that has no answers to the problems of South Africa. [Interjections.]

When one talks to them about squatting their policy is not intellectually justifiable, and it does not even stimulate one intellectually. [Interjections.]

That hon member says one should keep what one has. I paid a few visits in that area yesterday and I discovered exactly what is happening there.

In brief our policy in respect of urbanization is the following. Unlike in the past, we will not locate Black people as far as possible from their place of work. I spoke to everyone in the Hout Bay squatter camp that I could get hold of yesterday. [Interjections.] They had work there. [Interjections.] They were working at various places. Those people need places to work and live. Therefore we try to ensure people's stability in smaller packages near their places of work. [Interjections.]

Secondly, local communities must make provision for the informal housing needs in their country as well.

Thirdly, I should like to give hon members the assurance that it is unreasonable and not the standpoint of this House to locate people as far as possible from their places of work. [Interjections.]

There is no way that we can wish these people away and we shall continue to hold talks with the people with established rights as well as those that work in the area but simply do not have accommodation there, as I suggested when I originally put my standpoint.

Debate concluded.

*Mr SPEAKER: Order! Before I put the next interpellation, I should like to appeal to hon members not all to take part so boisterously in these short debates. Only the hon members whose names are on my list of speakers should participate, and the other hon members should give them a proper opportunity to state their case in the short time at their disposal.

Escalation in food prices: steps

2. Mr D H M GIBSON asked the Minister of Trade and Industry:

(1) Whether he intends taking any steps to halt the alarming escalation in food prices; if not, why not; if so, what steps;

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

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The DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Mr Speaker, the Government is very aware of the seriousness and sensitivity of rising food prices. For this reason continuous consultation takes place with the hon the Minister of Agriculture. Proof of this is the request by the two hon Ministers to the Board on Tariffs and Trade to investigate this escalation. The preliminary report on this investigation was made public on 11 June. As soon as the board completes this assignment and submits its final report and recommendations to the Government, the Government will be in a position to make decisions.

Other steps taken by the Government are the following: The systematic removal of import control on agricultural products and food and the institution of tariff measures instead, a complex process that has international complications through Gatt; the financing of the Consumer Council by the Department of Trade and Industry, which investigates complaints of consumers; the establishment of the Competition Board, which acts on either complaints received, or investigates cases of restriction of competition such as collusion or monopolistic situations on its own initiative; the establishment of Vatwatch, financed by the Department of Finance, which serves as a watchdog to prevent consumer exploitation due to the commencement of VAT; the support of research and development at the CSIR on problems in the food industry; and investigation into ways and means of increasing the competition in, and the competitiveness of,

industry in general. The reform of tariff policy is an example of that.

The Government wants to give the assurance that it regards the question of food prices as serious and very sensitive and that it will be treated with vigour and responsibility.

With regard to the second question, after studying the final report of the Board on Tariffs and Trade when it comes to hand, together with other reports which may have a bearing on the subject, the hon the Minister will make a statement on the whole matter. The recently released report is a provisional one made available for comment and as a discussion document.

We are aware of the tremendous difference in escalation of prices between the farm gate and the shop shelf. It is the divergence between the rates of increase of these two different prices—in other words, the divergence between PPI and CPI—which was the subject of this investigation. [Time expired.]

Mr D H M GIBSON: Mr Speaker, the hon the Deputy Minister's boss has made himself notorious in the eyes of South African taxpayers by telling them that they are not particularly highly taxed. I expected the hon the Minister to come today and perhaps tell consumers that they are wrong and that food prices are not too high. Instead of that, the hon the Minister has chosen to sit quiet and send the hon the Deputy Minister into the firing line. Instead of savaging the hon the Minister, I have to be a little kinder to the man who is only half responsible for the situation.

I did not hear anything from the hon the Deputy Minister which makes me believe that food prices will come down soon. One day after I gave notice of this interpellation, the long-awaited report of the Board on Tariffs and Trade was suddenly released. There is now a flurry of activity and announcements because the Government has at last realised that the consumers have had enough.

The long-suffering consumers want to know when they can expect action. They are tired of inquiries, reports, ministerial musings and complications. They are even more tired of the never-ending inflation and the inexorable rise in food prices. Consumers believe that they are being ripped off when they hear that food prices may increase by as much as 45% this year. Most of them believe that it is not the farmers and the primary producers who are the culprits. The real exploiters are further up the food chain, and these include the control boards, the packaging companies and the supermarkets, which always claim to be the consumer's friend.

While they are making that claim, they manage to mark up meat by 103% at Woolworths, 105% at Pick 'n Pay and 108% at OK Hyperama. I am indebted to the *Sunday Star* of 16 February for those figures. Right now one can go and buy potatoes at the market for R21 to R24 a pocket, and go to the supermarket and pay between R35 and R37 for those same potatoes.

Those are not the friends of the consumers. The excuse is always that inflation is causing the increase in the prices, instead of the other way around. This Government has dedicated itself to stopping inflation, and this must be one of the longest-running shows in town, because nothing ever happens.

The economic restructuring that South Africa needs to place it on a satisfactory growth path cannot happen while double-digit inflation flourishes. It requires the best efforts of both Government and business working together to take decisive action to ensure that inflation is slowed or stopped. When this happens, the food price escalation will also stop.

*Mr D G H NOLTE: Mr Speaker, the CP is especially concerned about the increasing gap between die price of the farmers' product and the price of food to the consumer. Statistics at the end of March 1992 confirmed the fact that at 28,9%, food prices increased far more rapidly than the general inflation rate of 15,7% and the farmers' product price of 11,9%.

Furthermore, it is also known that the farmer's share in the final consumer price of food is low, approximately 39,4% and that it is continuously decreasing. The question is therefore, if the farmers do not receive the money, where does it go?

Hence the investigation by the Board of Trade and Industry, the first draft report and recommendations of which were made public last Friday. The report's basic recommendation that the statutory powers of agricultural marketing boards should be taken away to promote competition, still does not answer the basic question of

'Flood of squatters' on the way

MRG 18/6/92

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MICHAEL MORRIS
Political Correspondent

NEGOTIATION among all affected parties would remain the basis for handling the squatter issue in Hout Bay, Local Government Minister Mr Leon Wessels told parliament.

He was responding in an interpellation debate yesterday to attacks from Conservative Party MPs who warned that the Hout Bay settlement — and others in the Peninsula — represented merely the vanguard of a flood of squatters that was still to hit the Cape.

Mr Wessels, who acknowledged that the government had accepted the principle of housing people as close as possible to their place of work, said a liaison committee in Hout Bay consulted interest groups regularly.

Democratic Party MP for Pinelands Mr Jasper Walsh said it was essential to seek solutions to the extremely sensitive issue of squatting.

Conservative MP Mr Joseph Chiole predicted that the squatter settlements in Hout Bay and other parts of the Peninsula were merely the "advance guard of a flood of squatters who are going to hit this area".

CT 18/6/92

Hout Bay squatter extension defended

(307)

By ANTHONY JOHNSON

THE government yesterday attacked whites who hoped to "wish Hout Bay squatters away".

Local Government Minister Mr Leon Wessels was speaking in Parliament after conducting an on-site inspection tour of the squatter camp.

Mr Wessels said during a lively mini-debate called by the Conservative Party that the government was committed to housing people as close to their places of work as possible.

The decision to extend the Hout Bay squatter settlement by 12 hectares followed negotiations with all parties, including the provincial authorities, ratepayers and the squatters.

Mr Louis Stofberg (CP Sasolburg) said irate residents of the area had warned that "a war" could erupt as a result of the squatter problem. If the mushrooming squatter problem could evoke this sort of response in a "Prog" constituency, "imagine what is going to happen in other areas".

Mr Joseph Chiole (CP Pretoria West) said 10 000 squatters were coming into Cape Town each month and that the squatter population would quadruple in the next three years.

Mr Jasper Walsh (DP Pinelands) said the CP should stop trying to exploit socio-economic issues for racist ends.

Closing the debate, Mr Wessels said that the government would continue to talk to all sides, including the homeless.

How to love your squatter: Hout Bay shows way

HOUT BAY — As whites in the north of Johannesburg prepare to take up arms against black squatters, affluent Capetonians are showing that rich whites and poor blacks can live in peace.

Hout Bay, an idyllic fishing village 20 km south of Cape Town, is an unlikely location for a black squatter camp: set against a backdrop of mountains, and populated mainly by wealthy commuters, it looks like a resort on the Cote d'Azur.

For years under the apartheid system, groups of homeless black people lived illegally on the rural fringes of Hout Bay, until they were all evicted and put on to one plot on the south side of town in March last year.

The reaction of white residents to this new community of 2 000 black people, many of them unemployed, was "we have to get rid of them", says local Democratic Party MP Colin Eglin.

But hostility and fear have turned into mutual acceptance after a year of negotiation and liaison between the black and white communities, which Eglin says should serve as a prototype for resolving similar situations across South Africa.

Estimates of the number of black people living in shacks and shantytowns in urban South Africa vary between 3 million and 7 million. Most have no electricity or running water supply, according to the Urban Foundation, an independent Johannesburg-based research group.

DARIUS SANAI

Many whites see squatter camps as dens of crime, bred by soaring black unemployment. But Eglin says the sensitive and conciliatory line taken by the white residents of Hout Bay shows that the juxtaposition of "desperately poor black people and relatively affluent whites" need not be a hostile one.

The Hout Bay Ratepayers' Association approached the squatters soon after the move 15 months ago, and the two communities formed a liaison committee. The result was a "marked reduction in tension" and a gradual acceptance by the white residents that the black community was there to stay, Eglin says.

At a recent ratepayers' association meeting, the association's vice-chairman, Joe Lazarus, said the interests of the squatters and the ratepayers "do not diverge much" on fundamental issues such as upgrading facilities and preventing a new influx of squatters.

At Diepsloot, just outside Johannesburg, the first signs of a similar attitude emerged this week. White residents there have always said they will oppose by force the Government's proposal to establish a site nearby for 3 500 homeless people from Zevenfontein. This is planned for next month.

But the Greenbelt Action Group (GAG), a north Johannesburg residents' association, hints that these attitudes are changing, too. Six months ago GAG gave a press conference on why the group was strictly opposed to any Government "urbanisation".

This week GAG spokesman Rick Massey said: "Nobody is afraid of urbanisation as long as it is done in a planned manner."

In this, white land-owners and dispossessed black communities may be coming closer to the line taken by the Urban Foundation. It says the Government needs to take a holistic view and establish a negotiating mechanism — as the Hout Bay communities have — for dealing with such disputes, instead of dealing with each problem as it arises on an ad-hoc basis. — Sapa-AFP.

Western Cape squatter crisis

ARG 20/6/92

(307)

■ As the nation's worsening squatter crisis is debated tirelessly from local councils to central government, the dilemma remains. And the lives of hundreds of thousands of homeless people hang in the balance . . .

DI CAELERS
Weekend Argus Reporter

HUNDREDS of thousands of homeless people shiver in the grip of another icy winter while the dilemma of the Cape's squatters continues to deepen.

The Cape Provincial Administration says R4,5 billion is needed to provide serviced sites for the province's squatters and the bottom line is that that kind of money to get things straight quickly is unavailable.

But the ANC believes the site and service trend — whereby squatters are provided with a piece of land and basic services such as roads, water and sewerage — to be a "naive and shortsighted policy" that is a sure "recipe for conflict."

"That form of development is not appropriate for existing developed areas. The 'self-help' process inevitably becomes the 'help-yourself' process which impacts negatively on the neighbours," Mr Basil Davidson, head of the ANC's policy development section, told Weekend Argus.

The answer, he said, lay in smaller groupings of sensitively designed working-class housing that fitted into the fabric of the local community.

But, Mr Koos Theron, MEC for urbanisation, pointed out that each serviced site cost in the region of R6 000 and that in Khayelitsha alone there were 32 000 black households waiting for such sites.

It would be a "grave mistake to create expectations we can't meet".



Mr KOOS THERON:
'Grave mistake'

"Urbanisation is here to stay. We can't get away from that. The question is whether we can deal with it, and I believe we can. But it's going to take time, a change in attitudes and a hell of a lot of money," Mr Theron said.

He explained that the CPA had in the past year identified land in the Philippi/Cape Flats area for possible settlement of homeless people. Mr Theron refused to divulge the details but said: "We are in the process of pulling together a financial package, with contributions from various sources, which if it succeeds will see us providing enough serviced sites for the homeless within the next five years."

But the ANC said the "idea of rounding up all the people who don't have houses and lumping them into one area" was not the answer.

For the long term, a metropolitan housing authority to coordinate housing across the city was essential: "We need an overall metropolitan strategy to address the location of working-class housing close to where people work throughout the metropolitan area.

"It is not possible to solve the squatting problem piecemeal, suburb by suburb. We have a plethora of ineffectual local authorities, none of which have the strategy or ability to strategise at metropolitan level," Mr Davidson said.



Mr NEVILLE RILEY:
'Problem growing'

Mr Theron told Weekend Argus that he, Cape Administrator Mr Kobus Meiring and other CPA officials had long urged local authorities to identify land "pro-actively to handle the influx of the poor people if and when it happens", but that "some communities are under the impression that it is never going to happen to them".

He said there was only one way to deal with the urbanisation problem: "Instead of trying to control squatting we need to start managing urbanisation.

"But the problems with identifying land for the poor proactively is that we don't have unlimited funds to buy and service land, and that we need to take into account the interests of the settled communities."

Cape Town's city planner, Mr Neville Riley, said every local authority had its own peculiar attitude to how to solve the problem, but what was common to all was that the squatter issue was an increasing problem.

"The influx of people into Cape Town is a function of the downturn in our economy and is part of our changing city. Unless we see a dramatic improvement in our regional and national economy, this trend will be with us for some time."

Mr Riley said Cape Town City Council had adopted a sympathetic approach to squatters and that unless an overall strategy for the homeless was formulated, the city could well become a dumping ground for the poor.



Mr KOBUS MEIRING:
'Land identity'

"If an abutting local authority has a hard line, they could well hustle out the squatters before they get a chance to settle there. That's why we all need to get together to decide on one plan for us all."

Mr John Marshall, Bellville Town Clerk, told Weekend Argus that he believed the squatter crisis was a regional problem: "But I think the general trend is that local communities will, more and more, have to accept if not the entire, then a certain degree of responsibility for this kind of thing."

■ Unifruco managing director Mr Louis Kriel, at his recent address at the Weekend Argus/Cape Chamber of Industries Exporter of the Year dinner, called on the Cape's business and community leaders to devise a "Cape Action Plan".

This plan would include ensuring that someone in the administration take responsibility for finding and implementing fair but firm solutions to the province's most pressing problem — squatters.

"One cannot help but get the impression that our regional (and national) authorities are currently in 'lame-duck mode'. Don't rock the boat seems to be the order of the day rather than entrepreneurial and bold decision-making."

If this continued, he said, it would be a sad legacy left to an inexperienced new administration.

Primitive facilities spark shack blaze

CTimes 21/6/92

HUNDREDS of Duncan Village shack dwellers spent a sleepless night at the Gompo Community Hall last night after Wednesday night's raging fire.

Over 100 shacks were destroyed in two fires, fanned by a Berg wind. 307

Fire department officials said the cause of the fire was unknown.

But residents said two fires were started by a leaking paraffin stove and a fallen candle.

They said two brothers fell asleep leaving a candle burning on top of a radio speaker.

"Both the youths ran away wearing only their underwear after they woke up and found the shack in flames," said a resident.

Firefighters, assisted by residents using buckets, fought the blaze for over three hours.

A resident said the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (Numsa) had to stop a meeting in the hall to make way for the homeless residents.

Relief work saw two old foes – the Duncan Village Residents' Association (DVRA) and the Gompo Town Committee – carrying out relief work together.

A DVRA official said: "We had no choice but to forget about our differences."

Nightmare of the Cape squatters

ARG 24/6/92

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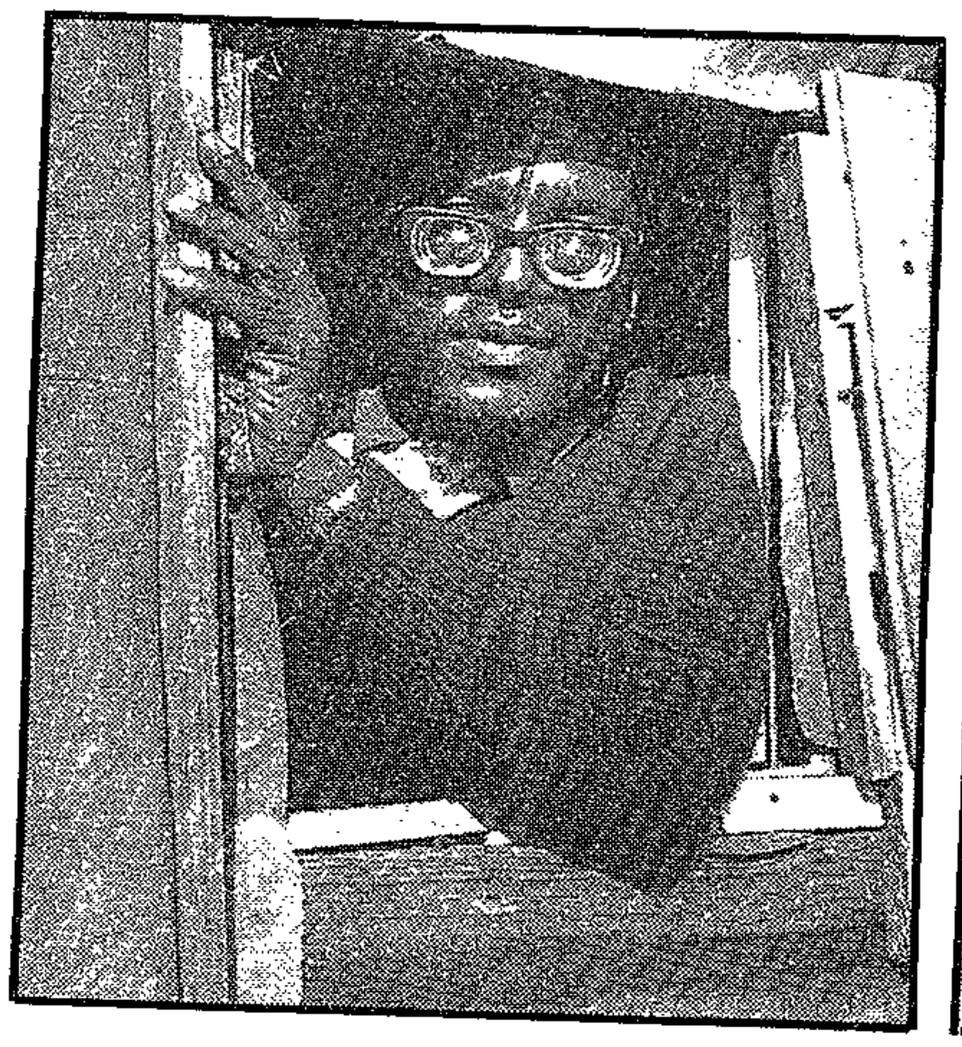
AS log fires, heaters and piping hot food keep out the cold in Cape Town suburbs, the picture is very different in the shack settlements on the desolate Flats where winter is a time of bone-chilling hardship. Staff Reporter EDWARD MOLOINYANE moved in to a squatter camp in Khayelitsha to see what life there is like.

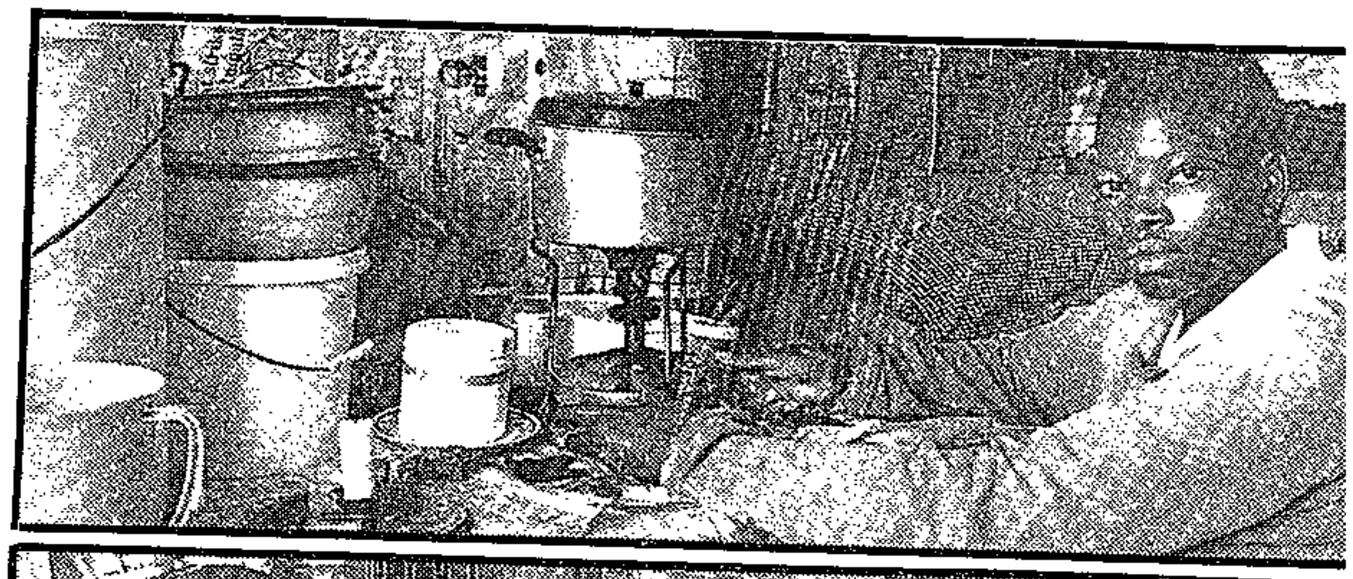
THE CAR has just dropped us in a light drizzle. I know life for my hosts is an uphill battle, but I hardly expect what awaits me.

Abject poverty, fear of night attacks which characterise turbulent squatter politics and general despair are, in varying degrees, part of the lives of most shack dwellers.

My Holomisa Village hosts, Stanford Mangwane, his wife Agnes and their five children are no exception, but their situation is the worst I've come across.

I had insisted on meeting an "average" squatter family. My contact assured me the Mangwanes were "ordinary" shack dwellers.







HOME: Stanford Mangwane at the "front door", a structure of wood and plastic sacks. Top right: Mabhekase brews tea on one of the two primus stoves. Above: Still room for a smile as Stanford tunes in to his tiny radio

Pictures: BRENTON GEACH, The Argus

ARG 24/6/92 (307)

Self-help, and soccer for Small Chiefs

IT'S lunchtime and Agnes Mangwane is home to breast-feed the baby, who is looked after by Mabhekase. It's a fine day and Mr Mangwane is at work.

She is one of 12 women being taught sewing at one of the privately-funded co-ops that have sprung up to teach skills to residents of the squatter settlements.

She is learning how to make leather belts, sandals and purses.

The co-ordinator says they will get certificates when they complete the course and they are full of hope that the venture will pay dividends.

Although students are supposed to pay about R40, as they also get lunch during the course, the co-ordinator reports that none, including Mrs Mangwane, has paid the full amount and most have paid nothing. But he says the sponsors, Triple Trust, are non profit-making.

Trainees are provided with mini-loans to buy material and equipment to establish businesses.

As we chat, 11-year-old Thembalethu, wearing a broad smile, saunters in with a 2,5kg bag of mealie meal and 500g of powdered milk supplied by the University of Cape Town Student Health and Welfare Centre Organisation (SHAWCO) up the street.

The supply point is a hive of activity with women clutching babies for medical check-ups and vaccine and children queuing for the handouts.

After serving meals for four children — porridge and milk — it's time for Mrs Mangwane to return to the training centre.

Unlike his two elder sisters, who are mostly withdrawn and seem concerned about their poverty, Thembalethu (Our Hope in Xhosa) Mangwane is lively and cheerful. But he can in no way be described as a child ignorant of the family's plight.

Like her father, Mabhekase has eye problems and her mother says this, more than anything, has contributed to her being only in Standard 2 at her age.

She has been waiting since November for spectacles from Groot Schuur Hospital.

Thembalethu's walk is wobbly because of surgery to both his feet, but he plays football for Small Chiefs and tells me he is involved in a drama group.

The operations were done when he was a baby because he was born with deformed feet, says his mother.

Holomisa Village, named after Transkei strongman Major-General Bantu Holomisa, who became a favourite with activists for his close links with liberation movements, is part of the huge new Harare and Macassar settlements established for the thousands of homeless in Khayelitsha last year.

The shack villages — with tarred streets, high mast lighting and running water — will eventually be home to about 34 000 families. The idea is that owners will build brick houses when their situation improves.

THE SHACK is ramshackle and possibly the tiniest home I have ever seen. A baby cries inside and Stanford Mangwane greets us at the "door", a structure made mostly of plastic sacks that swings uncontrollably sideways as he opens it.

Threads of orange and onion sacks, fastened at intervals from top to bottom serve as hinges. A 2cm long chain on planks and a nail are the locking device.

Mr Mangwane, 48, a building construction labourer in bifocals, is battling to plug numerous leaks in the roof while his eldest daughter Mabhekase, 15, comforts the sobbing, one-year-old baby boy Mkhululi (Liberator in Xhosa).

We try to help him with the leak but the exercise is futile. He curses the rain. It has also stopped work on the building site in the Tygerberg where he is employed and he will lose a day's pay — a meagre, but vital R25.

Banging on corrugated iron can be heard as neighbours try frantically to fix leaks.

When the drizzle eases an hour later I huddle on bench and survey the surroundings.

The shanty, housing seven people, measures about four by three metres. The uneven walls, made of planks of various shapes and sizes, are covered with old newspapers.

The ground is partly covered with bits of tattered matting, plastic, mealie sacks and canvas. Some parts are bare, revealing patches of sand.

A small hole covered with plastic serves as a window. There is a single legless "bed" standing on empty paint containers.

ON a plank resting on a plastic rubbish bin is a half-burnt candle, a bottle of methylated spirits for cooking and a 750ml bottle of a brownish liquid I learn is traditional medicine for the baby.

A few clothes, including old but recognisable school uniforms, hang against the wall next to the bed.

Cooking utensils — two old primus stoves, a kettle, two pots, a few dishes and a bucket of water — are on a newspaper-covered plank standing on two 25 litre paint containers.

The utensils look clean but the shack is abuzz with flies.

Strung below the leaking roof, fastened to two corners, are two Zion Christian Church ropes, one green and one yellow. Mr Mangwane, a preacher, explains the ropes are meant to thwart any evil spells the household's enemies may direct at the family.

Hardship, raising a large family and a husband who never has a regular job for more than a year, have been features of Agnes Mangwane's life since the family arrived in Cape Town from Transkei in 1983.

Stanford nearly went blind when wet concrete struck him in both eyes in Vereeniging, where he worked as a labourer for a construction company in 1972. Without his spectacles, he can hardly see.

He is also an asthma victim who spends weeks on end in hospital.

Although he has had jobs as a security guard at a number of firms, he has been retrenched often because of ill health.

Agnes, 46, a quiet, strong woman, has at times had to raise the children on her own. When they lived in Site C, she and scores of other women used to work on farms in Philippi to augment their income.

Things are tough, she says. Some of the children go to school barefoot because on Mr Mangwane's meagre wage they can afford to buy them shoes only in turns.

Back in Site C, things were no better and 15-year-old Mabhekase used to join her mother during school holidays as a farm labourer in Philippi, she recalls with no sign of bitterness.

Part 2 in The Argus tomorrow

Squatter funds are missing

307

Sowetan 25/6/92

A LARGE sum of money collected from squatters by the Grahamstown Civic Association is unaccounted for, says an auditor's report released by the organisation's former general secretary Mr Dan Sandi.

Sandi released documents yesterday which showed that hundreds of residents of the Hlalani squatter camp had paid R200 each to secure sites in the Makanaskop/ Kings Flats development area.

According to receipts, an amount of R73 810 had been collected for the Makanaskop/Kings Flats Administration Fund.

Some of the funds had been deposited at First National Bank. The auditor's report, however, showed that an amount of between R31 420 and R32 695 was not accounted for.

Sandi said he felt it was his duty as outgoing general secretary "to investigate the truth about the poor and homeless people's money, especially where corruption is suspected".

Graca publicity secretary, Mr Lizo Zakhe, said his organisation was investigating the disappearance of the money and would issue a statement later.

"The Press statement issued by Sandi is unofficial, as it was given without a mandate from the executive members of Graca. His term of office as general secretary of Graca terminated as from March when he was elected as national secretary general of SA National Civic Organisation," said Zakhe.

Sandi said even before his election to the Sanco national executive committee he had never received any financial reports.

The Graca representative responsible for paying the collected funds into Unifound's bank account declined to comment. - *Ecna.*

Squatters 'won't pay rent'

Staff Reporter

ABOUT 1 200 Khayelitsha squatters yesterday marched to the offices of the Lingelethu West Town Council to inform the council that they were not going to pay rent.

A spokesman said the council had built toilets on a site near an area in the sprawling township known as Macassar by the residents, and were now demanding that squatters there pay rent.

He said most of the people were unemployed. The decision to march followed meetings with the council which failed to resolve the issue.

A spokesman for the council said yesterday they will meet with the Western Cape civic association and the squatter representatives early next week.

(307) CT 25/6/92

No 'taste of honey' for Koekenaap

SOUTH 27/6-1/7/92

By Quentin Wilson 307

AT THE ENTRANCE to the coloured township of Koekenaap is a sign saying "Strictly No Squatting". For more than 200 African people, this means they have no place to stay — even though their work keeps them on the Cape West Coast.

The sign has not made these people disappear. Nor has officialdom, which demolished their shacks five times in August 1989.

Africans are still living in Koekenaap, although they have been driven into hiding. Some stay with friends in the coloured township, some live on the farms where they work, while others live in hostels near the silver mine.

Since the confrontations in 1989, the Koekenaap Squatters' Association has negotiated with the local authorities for the right to squat. Three years later the talks have stalled in the face of unfulfilled promises. Now the squatters are preparing to engage the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA) in a struggle for land.

The chairperson of the Squatters' Association, Mr Victor Mguga, has announced that squatters will rebuild their dwellings this month on a piece of land 7km from the white town of Lutzville. This land has systematically been cleared of Africans since 1960.

"After listening to endless promises by the authorities, we are getting tired of being let down. They do nothing but smear honey on our lips and then don't allow us to taste it," Mguga said.

The squatters initially discussed their problems with the Lutzville municipality. The municipality referred them to a Vredendal magistrate who in turn directed them to the Divisional Council in Vanrhynsdorp. Then the issue was discussed with the Regional Services Council and later the CPA.

The Moorreesburg municipality was drawn in and the Boerevereeniging (Farmers' Association) voiced its disapproval at the granting of squatting rights.

The upshot of all these discussions were promises, or "promises of a positive reply", as Mguga put it. The first "positive reply" came in May last year when authorities in Moorreesburg said they would sort out the problem within a month. A year has gone by and the squatters don't believe that the latest promise — houses by August — will come to fruition.

Mguga said: "Our intention now is to return to the same land and rebuild where our shacks were demolished and where we were arrested.

"We'll probably get arrested but that is better than having no place to stay in winter."

CPA spokesperson Ms Gerda Pretorius said the administration — with squatters leaders and all other relevant bodies — was identifying suitable land for settlement. She said the CPA were only facilitators in the process, not landowners, and could not therefore give permission for anyone to erect a structure."

Pretorius added that 40 serviced sites in Koekenaap were available and that people could contact the RSC to obtain these sites.

"This is not good enough," said Mguga. "We don't want any more temporary accommodation. We want back the land that was stolen from us by apartheid all those years ago."

Please God, let it shine!

CTPNews 28/6/92

By CHIARA CARTER

PLEASE God, let the sun shine! (307)

This was the sentiment of storm-weary Capetonians this week.

At least three people died, another was reported missing and thousands bore the brunt of the icy weather and gale-force storms that battered the Cape Peninsula this week.

Two men and a woman died in the Boland area in storm-related incidents.

Crushed

Henrica Smit, a 28-year-old Robertson farmworker, was crushed to death by a tree uprooted in the storm.

Two men huddling over a gas stove inside a lorry died from a gas leak. Their names have not yet been released.

A former Fulbright scholar, Nicolas Penny, is lost and presumed dead in the icy Cedarberg mountais after an adventure trip down a river in an inner tube went wrong in stormy conditions last weekend.

Thousands of houses and businesses experienced electricity failure as a result of branches falling on power lines. Several homes had walls blown over in gale-force winds, while others' roofs were swept away by the gusts.

As children frolicked in the snow that appeared on surrounding mountain ranges, the two major roads into the Cape were closed to traffic.

Hardest hit were hundreds of thousands of squatters whose homes were flooded by the torrential rain.

Lingeluthu West town clerk Graham Lawrence said there was severe flooding in the giant dormitory township, Khayelitsha.

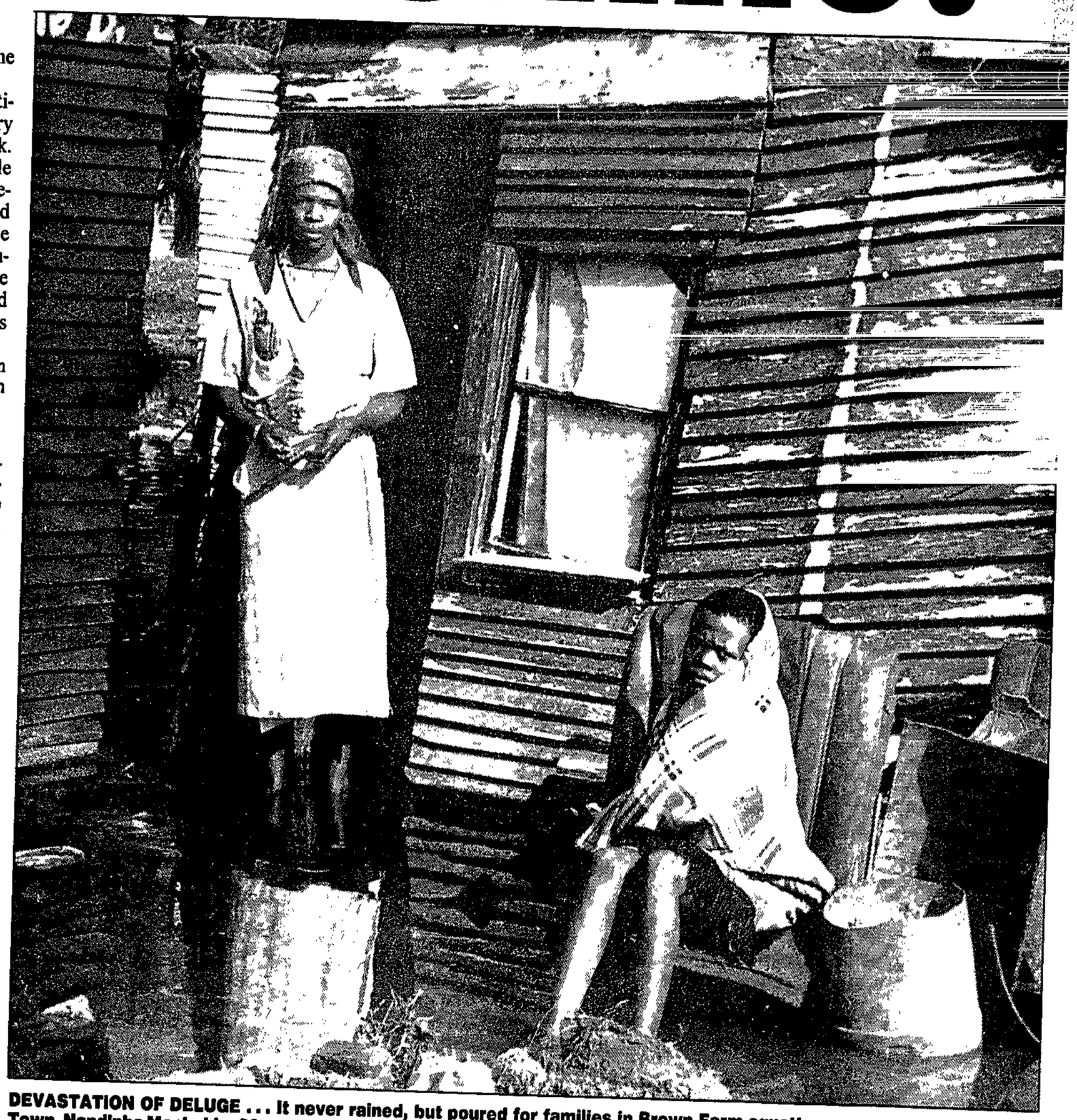
In Brown Farm, Philippi, women resorted to scooping water out of their flooded shacks and in some places furniture was literally adrift in the muddy water.

Nandipa Mankahla, 20, could only shake her head in disbelief as the floodwater rose above the legs of her lounge couch.

Her neighbour Nonthathu Mgca said she feared for the health of her baby, seven-month-old Nyandea, whose cot was awash in the water.

But while their elders shivered and prayed for sunshine, the kids managed to turn the weather to their advantage.

Iron tubs were turned into boats and one enterprising youngster was teaching himself to surf on a lake that appeared overnight outside his home.



DEVASTATION OF DELUGE ... It never rained, but poured for families in Brown Farm squatter camp outside Cape Town. Nandipha Mankahla, 20, and unidentified relative, right, were caught in the floods this week. ■ **Pic: FANIE JASON**

STAR 11/7/92

Squatter demo in council

Police arrested 57 people who occupied the Saldanha Town Council chamber on Monday in a protest to demand land on which to squat. (307)

Residents expose 'vigilante' plan

South 4/7 - 8/7/92

307

By Quentin Wilson

POLICE efforts to recruit and arm residents in sections of Nyanga into "vigilantes" have been highlighted by the local civic association.

According to Mr David Mkhize, spokesperson for the Nyanga Civic Association (NCA), members of the police force approached squatter committees in Nyanga to set up "home guards" to assist police.

He alleged that the residents were offered police vans and sjamboks if they agreed.

"We are very suspicious of this recruitment drive. We think the police are trying to organise a new group of vigilantes to commit violence in our community," Mkhize said.

He claimed that "over the last few months" police had approached residents in Milner's Camp (also known as Lusaka), Mpinga Square, Mkhonto Square and Mpetha Square to collaborate with them.

"Why didn't the police approach the civic with such a proposal? If they were sensitive to the needs of the community then they could have at least worked through the Regional Dispute Resolution Committee that was set up after the National Peace Accord.

"We don't trust the police. We know they are up to something. They thought they could manipulate the squatter committees to act as their agents because they are seen as conservative, traditional leaders, but they didn't realise that this is a misconception," Mkhize said.

Members of the NCA became aware of the police recruitment drive after reading a newspaper report which said that Nyanga residents were working with the police to combat crime.

Two weeks ago the civic called a general meeting where a number of the 700 residents present said they had been approached by the police.

Since then the civic has met with the squatter committees that have been approached and, according to Mkhize, they want nothing to do with the police plan.

"It is interesting that, to our knowledge, residents of KTC squatter camp were not targetted by the police for recruitment. They knew that KTC is an ANC stronghold where they would get little support for their vigilante ideas," Mkhize said.

Police spokesperson Major Gys Boonzaaier said Nyanga police were attempting to recruit "more reservists to establish neighbourhood watches".

He denied that they would be set up as homeguards and said that "if they were recruited and their application approved, they would receive full training and then they might be in a position to drive a police van and carry a firearm while on duty as a reservist".

However, civic association members remain sceptical.

"The police wanted to shoot at us during the taxi war when we tried to get the two taxi associations together. Now they want us to work hand in hand with them," said an NCA member who did not want to be named.

NCA chairperson Mr Moffat Phutego said the matter had caused confusion in the community because they did not trust the police.

"The only way that I can interpret this is that the police are trying to mobilise the people for the National Party. We are nearing an election where the police will use all their tactics to get NP support," Phutego said.

Squatters pressured to move — to the 'toilet'

SOUTH 11/7-15/7/92. (307)

By Justin Pearce

KRAAIFONTEIN'S Bloekombos squatters are under pressure to move their homes onto the land they have used as a toilet.

The Kraaifontein municipality intends building factories on the site where the squatters live. The Cape Provincial Administration has offered the squatters the site across the road, which has been rejected by the squatters as it consider it unhygienic.

"The residents of Bloekombos want rights, we want water, toilets and refuse removal," said Mr Sam Tokzelo, who has lived at Bloekombos for eight years.

"At present, we have to buy water from the CPA at R2,50 for 25 litres.

"The CPA want to move us to the dirty bush across the road — that is our toilet and rubbish dump. We will force them to meet our demands."

The lack of accountability in the decisions has also angered the squatters, said Ms Doris Neewat, chairperson of the Kraaifontein ANC branch.

"The people are saying no to industrial development. The decision has been made without consultation.

"The squatters will not move unless they are given houses."

Last week, several hundred members of the Bloekombos squatter community marched to the Kraaifontein municipal offices to demand that they not be evicted.

Speaking at a rally before the march, SACP general secretary Mr Chris Hani compared the situation of the Bloekombos squatters to that of the District Six residents who were thrown out of their homes by the nationalist regime.

No comment was received from the CPA and Kraaifontein municipality before going to press.

Home sweet hell!

SOUTH 11/7 - 15/7/92

307

There's a farm in Bellville which produces only human misery — hundreds of tenants are living there in unhygienic, overcrowded conditions and paying exhorbitant rents.

REHANA ROSSOUW reports:

A CLOUD OF black flies hovers over the ablution block in an old prison which houses more than a hundred families. The flies settle on mounds of refuse, overflowing toilets and small children's faces.

The stench is nauseating. The squalor and human misery is pitiful.

Morgan's Farm in Stikland, Bellville, is home to more than 300 people who pay exhorbitant rents for minimal shelter.

The old prison on the farm, which does not seem to have seen a lick of paint for decades, is home to over 100 people.

The farm itself employs only a handful of labourers. All the labourers' cottages have been rented out to people who work in the surrounding industrial area.

A few squatters on the farm are constantly under threat of being evicted as they live there illegally.

Some of the tenants in the prison block — called "Die Tronk" by the residents — were originally workers on the farm who grew too old to be productive.

Mrs Katie Olifant and her husband, Mr Pieter Jacobs, pay R15 a week to sleep in the draughty corridor of the prison block.

Jacobs worked on the farm until he was involved in a car accident. "This is no way to get old. One winter morning we will be found dead in our beds," Olifant said.

"But where else can we go? We've been on the farm since we were young."

Mrs Annie Leonard, her husband and her two-year-old daughter have been living in a single cell two metres wide and about three metres deep for three months. Their rent is R10 a week.

The only furniture they could fit into the cramped space is a single bed, a shelf and a tiny table for their gas stove.

"This place is very cold and very dirty. It's no place to raise a child, a lot of the children here have TB. It's like living in hell," Leonard said.

Leonard buys water from one of the residents in a labourer's cottage, at R5 for 25 litres.

When the weather is bad, she and her daughter spend all day inside their "cell", which has no windows.

"We have to get out of here before the end of the year or else I will go crazy," she said. "I feel as if I'm locked in this prison for life."

At least the Leonard's have a roof over their heads.

Mr Edward Valentine and his wife sleep under a sheet of plastic held up by a few pieces of wood on the farm — and pay R50 a week.

Their plastic sheet just about covers the single bed they sleep on and their shelter isn't high enough to allow them to stand upright.

They have an 11-year-old daughter who lives with one of the families in a labourer's cottage on the farm — for R80 a month.

"We couldn't keep her with us in the bush. When it rains, the water soaks our bed," Valentine said.

"There's nothing we can do about it, we have to sleep under wet blankets until they get dry."

In the past year, Valentine has been arrested twice for trespassing.

"Its strange that I keep getting arrested. We pay our rent to Mr Morgan's grandson, who is a policeman," he said.

"He knows its illegal for us to live like this but he comes in his police uniform to collect our R50."

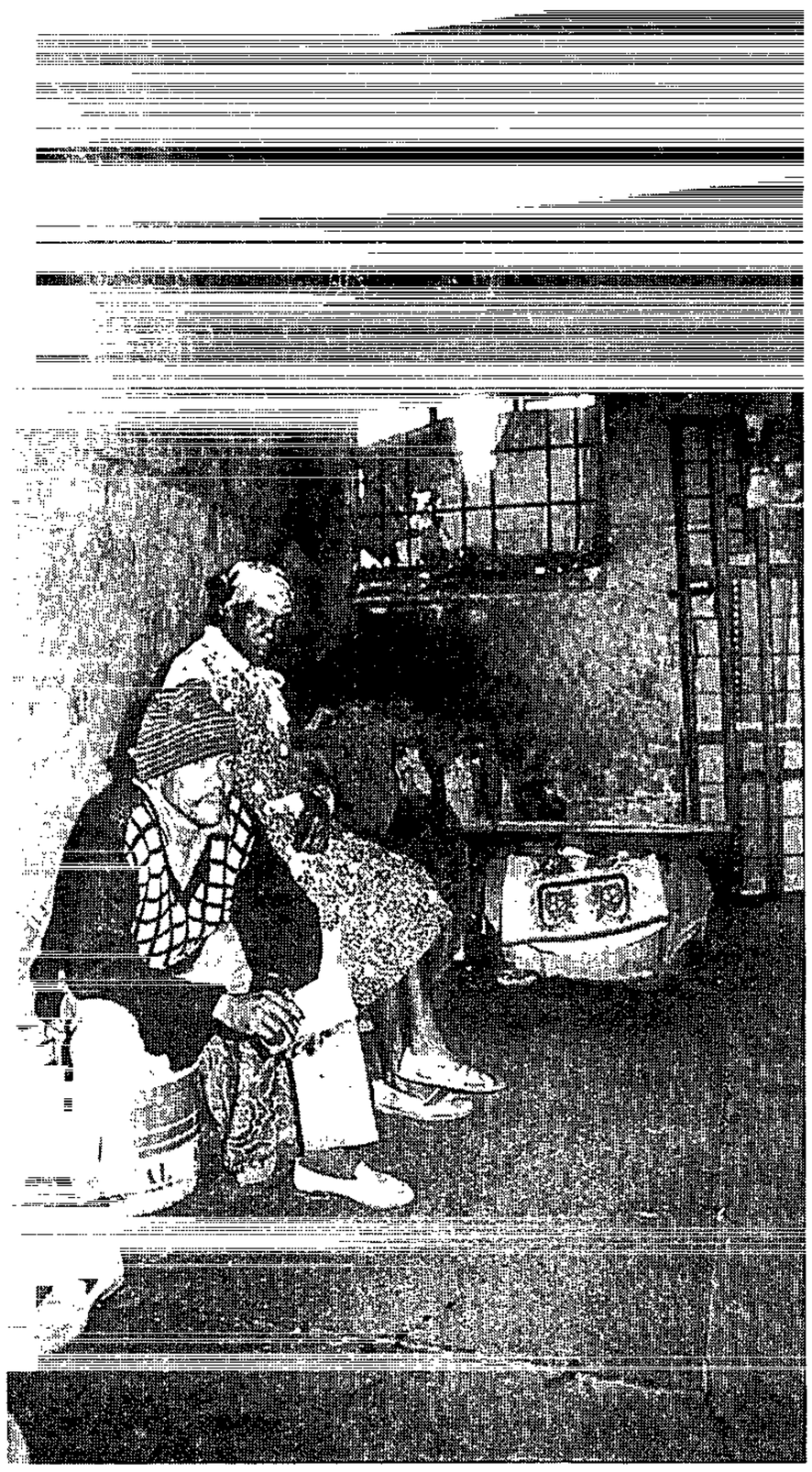
Last month about 10 families living in the labourers' cottages were served with eviction notices as some of the farmland is being developed as an industrial site.

Their attempts to stop the evictions and find alternative housing brought their plight to the attention of the Bellville ANC branch and the local civic.

"I was really shocked when I saw the conditions at Morgan's Farm. White people would not even allow their dogs to live under those circumstances," said Mr Anthony Fraser, spokesperson for the ANC branch.

"We will definitely be pressurising the municipality to do something about this situation."

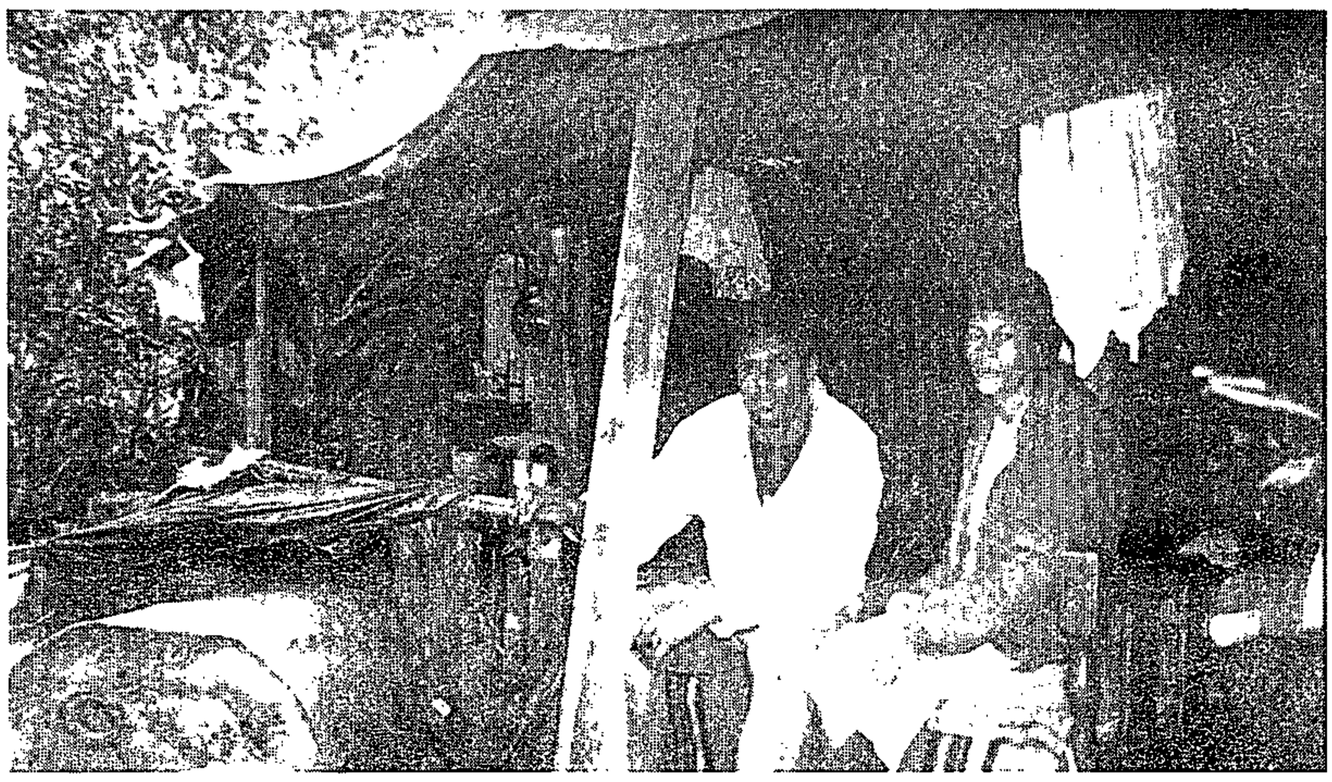
Mr Coen Roux, a lawyer acting for the farm's owners, refused to comment on the conditions at the premises and threatened to take legal action against SOUTH if the paper published this story.



VER SO HUMBLE: A draughty corridor is home to Katie Olifant and Pieter Jacobs Photos: Yunus Mohamed



FILTHY FACILITY: Sarie Williams in the filthy ablution block which is used by more than 30 families in the old prison block



WET AND WEARY: Although this plastic sheet is the only shelter they have on Morgan's Farm, Edward Valentine pays R50 a week in rent for his dwelling



IN THE COLD: A single bed and a table is all Katie Olifant squeeze into the tiny space in the corridor she calls home

Counting the cost of a divided Czechoslovakia

YET another European nation appears on the brink of fragmentation. Czech and Slovak leaders seem set on dividing their nation, Czechoslovakia, into two sovereign states.

And the failure this month of President Vaclav Havel to gain re-election in the federal parliament hardens the shift towards separation. Havel, initially opposed to separation, now appears resigned to a split.

"Maybe we must divide if we are to join again," he said after Slovak nationalist and Czech socialist MPs blocked his re-election.

His election rebuff opens the prospect of the country being ruled by a caretaker president and government until the nation splits at the end of September.

Last month, Czech and Slovak leaders meeting in Bratislava moved from a policy of trying to work together towards an attempt to separate peacefully.

But given the tragic events in Yugoslavia, such an aim could be beyond the ability of the current leaders to achieve.

On the surface, the division of the Czechoslovak state appears to be illogical.

It seems that when the people went to the polls during this month's general election, they were consumed by a collective insanity.



Having existed as a single state since 1918, the Czech and Slovak parts are closely integrated and are economically interdependent.

Forty years of centralised communist rule since the war consolidated this integration.

But if the Czechs and Slovaks are to spend most of their energies over the next few years disentangling their economies, they are unlikely to gain admission to the European Community which nearly every state in Europe now yearns to join.

European Commission President Jacques Delors has called the Bratislava decision "a big mistake".

Already it has led to Czechoslovakia being omitted from a provisional list of countries that have applied to join the EC at the end of the century.

Foreign Affairs

Roger Trask is the editor of the London-based magazine, International Union Rights

But the tensions inside the federated state are such that what from afar appears logical is unlikely to prevail.

The main winners in the general election — the Czech leader of the Civic Democratic Party (ODS), Mr Vaclav Klaus, and his Slovak adversary, Mr Vladimir Meciar of the Movement for a Democratic Slovakia (HZDS) — were elected on manifestos which were politically as well as nationally far apart.

Klaus, architect of the right-wing reform programme, wants to see an acceleration of the infant privatisation programme leading to an unfettered market economy.

Perhaps this programme could work in the more economically advanced Czech republic in the west of the country, but for Slovakia it would spell disaster.

Slovak industry is based mainly on the old Soviet model and consists of large-scale, inefficient industrial plants which would face a hopeless task if they were to compete in a market economy.

Meciar won the elections in Slovakia with promises to slow down the privatisation process.

He said Western investment had so far strongly favoured the Czech republic: Prague and not Bratislava would gain from Klaus' reform programme.

Unemployment in Slovakia — over 10 percent — is already double that of the rest of the country.

But even Meciar must recognise that an independent Slovakia would face serious economic problems if left to go it alone.

The realisation in both nations that a permanent schism would be mutually disadvantageous could still stall the split.

Havel, who led the "velvet revolution" which overthrew the communist government two and a half years ago, has fought for the retention of the federated state.

"If a decision is taken that our federation is not going to exist any longer, I am not going to be engaged in liquidating it," said Havel, who will come under heavy pressure to head a new Czech state.

Ironically, most of the public pressure for retaining the fede... is now evident in Slovakia, wher... year ago pressure for more aut... my was strongest.

Klaus rejected the idea of a lo... confederation and insisted after ... election that there could only b... strong federation or a compl... division.

In doing so, he has forced ... hand of the Slovaks.

After the Bratislava talks, Mec... said: "The ODS does not consi... a confederation as a common ... and prefers two independent stat... that is, the constitutional partition the existing state."

For now the two sides ha... agreed on a small caretaker fed... government mandated to divide ... powers and assets of the Czech... vak state by the end of Septemb...

A betting person would ... expect to get long odds on the ... vival of the single state. But ... comes to a wager, I may just ... tempted to put a few Czech cr... on the single state enduring, or ... least some confederated arra... ment re-emerging from the ashes today's Czechoslovakia.

At some point the balkanis... of Europe has to cease and peo... of different nationalities must w... out a way of living together for common good.

Despite appearances, Czechos... vakia may just be the first to reve... the current trend.

Moi puts Kenya up for sale

SOUTH 11/7-15/7/9

In one of Africa's biggest privatisations, the Kenyan government plans to sell its stake in the economy to woo back aid:

THE Kenyan government, which has been denied Western aid, put up for sale its stake in 207 firms last week — everything from the state airline to a quaint mountain fishing inn.

The Finance Ministry published a list of all the companies it is putting under the hammer in one of the biggest privatisations Africa has seen.

"All the companies listed will have to go. We are serious about carrying through the privatisation process," said Mr George Mitine, the Principal Secretary responsible for the sell-off.

Initial Western reaction was satisfaction mixed with concern about Kenya's turbulent economic and political climate.

"It's something we've been wanting to see for ages but these are troubled times for Kenya," said a Western envoy.

Publication of the list was seen as a further attempt by the government to woo back aid and put the economy, which is in the worst shape for 10 years, back on even keel.



PRESIDENT MOI: Taking desperate measures to stabilise a tattered economy

Western states last year suspended aid worth some $600 million (R1620 million) a year to pressure the government into overhauling its inefficient state enterprises and end decades of one-party rule.

President Daniel arap Moi, in power since 1978, bowed to the pressure last year and agreed to hold free elections before April 1992, ushering in an era of free but heated debate in which personal attacks rather than policies have dominated.

The country has also suffered its worst tribal violence since independence — mysterious clashes between Moi's minority Kalenjin tribe and the majority Kikuyus — as well as drought, a flood of refugees from the war in Somalia and lawlessness.

The "For Sale Immediately" sign went up over government shares in 45 companies including Kenya Airways, a cement works and state firms involved in everything from cashew nut processing to wine imports and the General Motors vehicle assembly plant.

A further sell-off will include banks, hotels and the quaint Izaak Walton inn, a remote hillside haunt named after the 17th century British fisherman-philosopher.

Tea factories, processing Kenya's third most important foreign exchange earner after tourism and coffee exports, will also be sold. They are regarded by Western businessmen as a success story in a tale of costly state involvement.

The government will retain control of only 33 "strategic" corporations including telecomunications, oil refining, the ports and postal system.

In his budget speech last month, vice-president and Finance Minister Mr George Saitoti promised to slash state involvement.

He said economic growth was a dismal two percent and the state sector was "a substantial liability" which had to be cut. — **Sapa-Reuter**

Massacres 'used to stave off democracy'

SOUTH 11/7-15/7/92

PRESIDENT Daniel arap Moi of Kenya, whose human rights record and policies have isolated him from world leaders; has found a new friend in President FW de Klerk, says Mr Gitobu Imanyara, editor in chief of the Nairobi Law Monthly.

Speaking recently at the opening of the Nieman African-American Institute Media Conference in Johannesburg, Imanyara questioned Moi's recent state visit to South Africa when "the majority of African people are asking that such visits be withheld".

He claimed independent investigation teams had proven "beyond doubt" that Kenya's security forces "officially instigated and perpetuated" a wave of ethnic violence now sweeping through Kenya.

It was the media's duty to "expose the real causes of the Boipatong massacre and the Western Kenya massacres that are perpetrated to stem the tide of democratic change". — **Quentin Wilson**

Funny, I've heard that name before

WHEN Funny Mushava has a scoop in Harare's Herald it's bad news for Furious Chitongo and Shame Chibvongodze, who work for the rival Financial Gazette.

Perhaps the only reporter on the Gazette who could be expected to give Funny his due would be Kindness Paradza.

But then Funny could always call the other two Jealous, which their mothers might well have done if they hadn't preferred the ring of Furious and Shame.

Presuming, of course, they wouldn't have opted for Brilliant, Marvellous, Clever, Bright or Beauty — all names to be found cropping up in everyday life in Zimbabwe.

It might take backbench MP Wiseman Zengeni to explain why parents would call their child Fair-Cashtalk. But the latter found his or her name no handicap, as it appears in a list of recent University of Zimbabwe graduates.

Some idea of the basic principles behind Zimbabwean names could be gleaned from a recent front-page report in the Herald about the birth of a baby outside Harare's main police charge office. The child was promptly named Charge-Office.

In the early years after Zimbabwe's independence in 1980, it was not uncommon to find Karl Marx or Stalin in court for some misdemeanour.

These days there tend to be more Lovenesses, Hopejoys and Charities, with the occasional Lovelater, Erection and Square thrown in to keep the populace puzzled. — **Sapa-AFP**

'White bones' threat to woman squatter leader

307 ARCT 14/7/92

JOHAN SCHRÖNEN
Crime Staff

MILNERTON police defused an explosive situation at Choegoe Town squatter camp in Koeberg Road when a committee meeting ended in deadlock over possible resettlement.

A spokesman for the squatters said 100 men and women collected pangas, knives and knobkerries from their shacks and threatened to kill and make "white bones" out of their leader, Miss Nancy Booy, after the meeting broke up last night.

The spokesman, who asked not want to be named, said the meeting was called to debate resettling at De Noon Farm, a few kilometres away.

"Life has become unbearable in Choegoe Town. It is overcrowded and people are killed almost every weekend in fighting between groups. Our houses are burnt to the ground and all our belongings are left in ashes."

The police Internal Stability Unit was called and monitored the armed group from a distance until they dispersed.

Several shacks were burnt during fighting at the weekend.

SAP agrees in principle on demonstration guidelines

STAR 16/7/92

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The police agreed with the "cornerstone premises" of the multinational panel on lawful control of demonstrations in South Africa, counsel for the SAP told the Goldstone Commission in Cape Town yesterday. 16/7/92

At the hearing, at which recommendations were made for "peaceful and effective" demonstrations involving co-operation between organisers, police and local authorities, Dennis Gordon, SC, said the police agreed that their obligation was to uphold the right of people to assemble peacefully, but also to protect life and property.

Not all aspects of the report were acceptable to the police, who felt that in some respects the panel had exceeded its terms of reference and was wrong to believe that foreign police forces could be models for South Africa.

It was "monumentally naive" to regard train passengers "bent on murder and mayhem" in the same light as European soccer thugs.

On dangerous weapons and forcible disarmament of protesters, Mr Gordon said the police would "carry out the law" where organisers had failed to exercise control.

Police agreed that notice should be given for demonstrations, where this was not done, or, in the case of spontaneous gatherings, they would make an effort to seek out organisers to negotiate conditions to ensure control.

Police did not agree with panel recommendations that lethal force was not justified to protect property, and said that in the case of hospitals, water purification plants, electrical installations and buildings occupied by people, they believed lethal force could be justified.

As "guardians of public peace" and "protectors of public rights" they wished to have the ability to take preventive action where lives and property were threatened, not "when the threat is already afoot", Mr Gordon said.

The police believed the Supreme Court should be used to its full potential in setting precedents on the prohibition of demonstrations and the carrying of traditional or cultural weapons.

"We endorse the right of human beings to assemble peacefully and wish to be upholders of it, but there are potential circumstances in this country where a proposed gathering or demonstration ought, in the interest of public peace, to be prevented," he said.

Mr Gordon said the SAP did not believe the panel had addressed "the high level of fear" on the part of protesters, the police and the public — "a legacy of the past".

The ANC and Cosatu believed that gatherings at which protesters carried dangerous weapons should be prohibited and that demonstrators should be forcibly disarmed if necessary, said Professor Fink Haysom.

L J L Visser, SC, for the Inkatha Freedom Party and the KwaZulu government, said that if the carrying of weapons — cultural or otherwise — had the propensity for, or the espousing of, violence, it would have to be prohibited.

However, the organisations he represented believed there had to be a distinction between cultural and political gatherings, and that an option might be to make special provision for the police to transport cultural weapons to and from events.

In the open session yesterday at which the ANC, the police, Cosatu, the IFP and the Department of Justice reported back on their consultations on the panel's recommendations for peaceful and effective gatherings and demonstrations, chairman Mr Justice Richard Goldstone said there had been general agreement on the principles.

The hearing convenes today to hear the panel's reaction to the responses put before them yesterday.



HUMBLE HOME . . . Theresa Booysen, 3, (left) and Anthea Marthinus, 2, sit in the doorway of the test house of the type the council may build to accommodate Vrygrond squatters. Picture: HAROLD KING

307 CT 17/7/92

Toilets, taps for squatters

Staff Reporter

SERVICES are now being installed at 450 residential sites of about 160m² each at Noordhoek's Site Five informal settlement area.

Each site will have a water-flushed toilet and a tap. Electricity may be installed later.

The community of former squatters have also approved sites for a créche, a clinic, churches and sportsfields.

The developer, Power Construction, has created 30 temporary jobs for Site Five residents.

Low-cost houses for Vrygrond residents?

Municipal Reporter

THE Cape Town City Council is considering providing low-cost housing for the residents of Vrygrond, near Muizenberg East.

Housing committee chairman Mr Neil Ross said yesterday that a decision had not yet been taken.

A low-grade house developed by Sappi was being tested under local conditions at Lavender Hill.

The house costs R4 500 and is built on a concrete slab that costs another R2 000. It has a flush toilet in an outside cubicle and an outside tap for drinking-water, but no electricity.

A paying tenant living in the house during the test period was out when the Cape Times visited.

The container-sized house (eight paces by four) has walls of a type of hardboard and a corrugated asbestos roof.

It has a door and two windows in the front and one window at the back. Neighbours said it was not divided into rooms.

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'Chase them out with guns'

SOUTH 18/7 - 22/7/92 (126) (307)

By Justin Pearce

KRAAIFONTEIN squatters must be chased out of their homes at gunpoint, a speaker told white Kraaifontein residents on Tuesday night.

According to Mr Wallace Alexander, who was present at the meeting, the speaker suggested that if the squatters would not move from the Bloekombos site, guns should be used to force them to leave.

The proposal received the support of most people at the meeting, Alexander said.

He said there was a strong Conservative Party element at the meeting.

The Kraaifontein Municipality wants to evict the squatters so the Bloekombos site can be developed as an industrial area. The squatter community has refused to move unless housing can be provided at another site.

Kraaifontein ANC chairperson Ms Doris Neewat said the Kraaifontein squatters were adamant they would not move, and would embark on mass action if services were not provided at their present site.

The suggestion at the meeting was typical of a "total strategy of racism" being perpetrated by white residents and the municipality against black residents of Kraaifontein, Neewat said.

"People's lives are in danger. There is a real threat with the existence of AWB/CP elements and racist attitudes."

She said a charge of attempted murder had been laid against a driver who ploughed into the crowd at a previous ANC rally, injuring eight people.

R45m plan to bring lights to townships

ST Times [C/Metro] 19/7/92 (10)

ESKOM plans to spend R45m in the Cape this year to bring electricity to 3 000 homes — including to some squatter camps. (30)

And over the next five years, the electricity supply company will spend an additional R200m to install 75 000 new "connections" in private homes and businesses in the region.

This forms part of Eskom's target of supplying three million South African homes with electricity within the next four years.

To ensure that electricity supplied to informal settlements is paid for, Eskom will install pre-pay meters fed with coupons sold from central distribution points. In this way consumers would pay for electricity "up-front" as they used it, thus avoiding the possibility of a huge backlog of unpaid bills.

By EVELYN HOLTZHAUSEN

At the same time Eskom has resolved to cut the real price of electricity by 20 percent by 1996.

This means that price hikes for the next five years will remain below 10 percent and well below projected rates of inflation, a spokesman for Eskom said.

Harmony

According to Mr Ronnie Kingwall, Eskom's Cape distribution manager, Eskom has undergone a programme of restructuring to achieve these targets and to improve its service to its customers.

In the Cape, 600 employees will be axed to bring staff numbers down from 4 300 to 3 700.

"Growth through increased sales, electrification and customer service in harmony with the new South Africa are the focal points of Eskom's restructuring programme," said Mr Kingwill in Cape Town this week.

He said that by achieving its targets over the next five years, Eskom hoped to promote growth in the informal sector and improve living standards for many South Africans.

Eskom was willing to provide electricity to everyone who wanted it — and was prepared to pay for it, he said.

Projects in the Western Cape earmarked by Eskom for this year include the electrification of Uitkyk, Karakulpark/Craigstreet, Kylemore, Uitsig, Ebenhaezer missionary station, Klapmuts, Saron and Riebeek/Kasteel.

According to an Eskom study, 85 percent of formal houses in the Cape Town metropolitan area are electrified compared with 11 percent for the rest of South Africa.

Demand

An Eskom statement says the company planned to work with the Western Cape Growth Organisation to investigate ways in which it could contribute to regional growth through the use of electricity.

In addition to improving the living standards of township residents, electricity could help to "kick-start" the economy by increasing the demand for electrical equipment, the statement said.

The sale of more units of electricity is vital in keeping costs down.

Disclosing that electricity has only "penetrated" 27 percent of the energy market in South Africa, Mr Kingwall said the targets of electrification set by Eskom would promote growth in the informal sector.

The turnover of Eskom's Cape distributor is expected to grow from the present R1,6-bilion to more than R2-billion by 1994.

Its operating budget for 1992 is R230m and it has a capital expansion budget of R200m.

Squatters call for probe into missing money

GRAHAMSTOWN. — Residents of Grahamstown's Rhini township have appointed a commission of inquiry to investigate the disappearance of thousands of rands from a fund set up for squatters. (307) RG 20/7/92

The appointment was made at a mass meeting today at which the Grahamstown Civic Association (Graca) gave a report on the missing funds.

The meeting was not satisfied with the report, and instructed the commission to come up with a detailed and audited financial statement.

The issue of the missing money came to light last month, when former Graca secretary general Dan Sandi publicly released an auditor's report indicating an amount between R31 420 and R32 695 was missing.

The money was collected to secure sites in a local development area. — Ecna.

'Business rivals' behind squatter camp killings



Photo: Yunus Mohamed

SCENE OF THE CRIME: Relatives and friends at the place where two men were shot dead

SOUTH 25/7-29/7/92 (307)

RESIDENTS of Wallacedene squatter camp, as well as police, believe business rivalry may be behind the shooting that took place there on Tuesday night.

Mr Churchill Fortuin — also known as "Faizel" — and a man identified by residents as Mr Attie Malombi were shot dead by unidentified gunmen in the settlement near Kraaifontein.

The bullets seem to have been intended for tavern owner Mr Bennett Brown, also known as "Biza", who was lightly injured.

Brown's brother-in-law, Mr Leonard Joel, and two men identified as "Whitey" and "Sametime"

The shooting took place outside the popular Pop-In tavern which Brown owns.

According to Mr David Brown, the tavern owner's brother, the alleged killers had visited the scene of the crime twice before.

He told how a group of about six men had come to the tavern on Sunday evening and asked where the owner was. When Bennett Brown arrived with a group of friends, the men ran away.

David Brown said he suspected the men had come to rob his brother. He recognised them as taxi drivers, allegedly members of the defunct Western Cape Black Taxi Association (Webta).

held David Brown and three others at gunpoint in the tavern and ransacked the building.

According to Brown, one of the men said: "You can be thankful we're saving your lives — but we're coming back for Biza."

On Tuesday night, the men returned in a bakkie and fired at least 12 shots at the group of men who were sitting at a brazier outside the tavern.

Detective Constable Sydney van den Heever of the Kraaifontein detective unit said business rivalry was the suspected motive for the shooting.

Bennett Brown could not be reached for comment.

'Illegal' Driftsand squatters vow to stay put

307

VUSI KAMA
Staff Reporter

ARG 27/7/92

SQUATTERS living in the Driftsand Nature Reserve near Faure have vowed to stay there in spite of Cape Provincial Administration warnings that their presence is "illegal".

Chairman of the residents' committee Mr Situlo Hobe said the communty had no plans to move from the nature reserve, which they had occupied since October, 1990.

"We are here to stay," he said.

The squatter population has increased steadily since the first shacks were built by refugees of the Crossroads war between Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana and Mr Jeffrey Nongwe.

Mr Ngxobongwane and Mr Nongwe, formerly his right-hand man, fell out and in the bitter conflict which followed, Mr Ngxobongwana and his supporters fled to Driftsand.

A CPA spokesman said the squatters were occupying the land illegally and plans were underway to move them to another area.

The spokesman said negotiations between the CPA and the squatter leaders were being held to decide the future of the community.

But Mr Hobe was adamant they were not prepared to move, but wanted the quality of life in the camp improved.

"We want the CPA to build schools, clinics and other facilities here," he said.

Two taps serve the population of about 2 000 and a mobile clinic visits fortnightly.

Asked about a CPA statement that the land had been zoned for nature reserve and the squatters were a threat to the environment, Mr Hobe said: "We also love nature and have reached an agreement with the CPA not to build on a certain part of the land."

He said people were happy at Driftsand and the area had not been affected by crime, in spite of the lack of electricity.

"The only incidents of injury or death here have been when someone has been run over by a car on the N2.

"Children going to school in Site C and other areas in Khayelitsha have been involved in a number of accidents."

Seifsa court bid delayed

COURT action to have a threatened strike in the metal industry declared illegal has been delayed until tomorrow, Steel and Engineering Industries Federation of SA (Seifsa) spokesman Mr Hendrik van der Heever said yesterday.

Seifsa, representing over 3 200 companies, launched the application against the 170 000-member National Union of Metalworkers of SA (Numsa) in Pretoria on Monday. Sowetan 5/8/92

"We are in the process of seeking to have the strike declared illegal. There appears to have been major irregularities (in balloting), we were not informed of the ballot outcome and we have good reason to believe that the ballot was unsuccessful."

Cape motorists warned

MOTORISTS have been warned by Cape Town deputy administrator Mr Alan Dolby to stay out of town today if possible.

Supporters of the ANC alliance are expected to take to the freeways to march from Langa to the Grand Parade in Cape Town.

Dolby said the city council had reluctantly agreed to the march because the alternative would have been a confrontation between police and marchers.

'Emergency by stealth'

BY using its powers to declare unrest areas, the Government has effectively achieved a "state of emergency by stealth" in the PWV townships where 5 000 police and soldiers have been deployed, the Human Rights Commission has charged.

"This achieves much the same purpose as an open declaration. It is equally to be condemned and rejected as a violation of basic human rights," the HRC said yesterday. Sowetan 5/8/92.

Boipatong probe starts

THE Goldstone Commission of Inquiry into public violence and intimidation today begins its investigation into the June 17 Boipatong massacre.

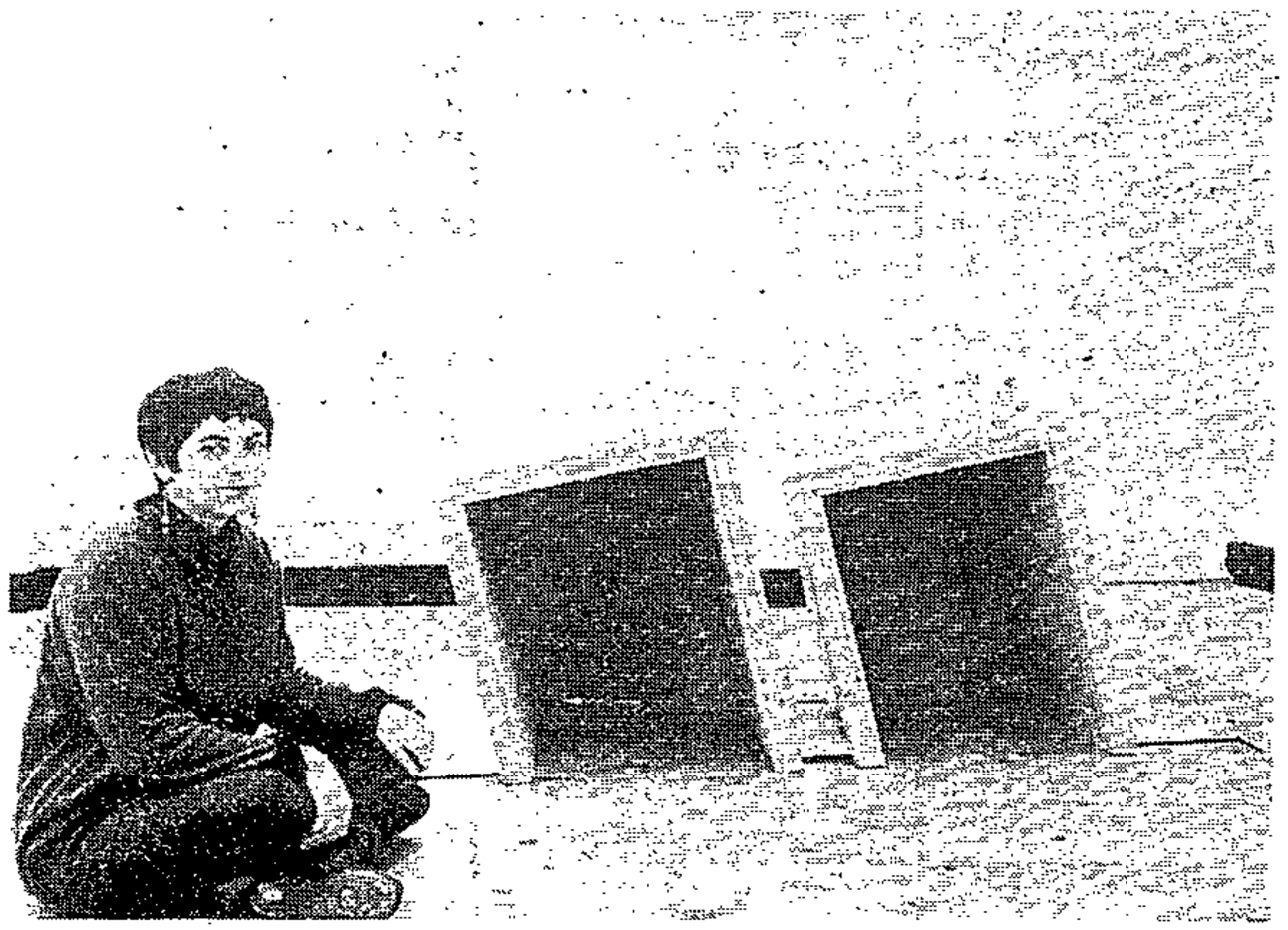
The commission will be sitting at the Vereeniging Civic Centre from 10am and will be chaired by Mr Justice Richard Goldstone, who will be assisted by, among others, Mr Justice PM Bagwati, former chief Justice of India. Sowetan 5/8/92

Forty nine people died in the Boipatong massacre when a large group of armed men attacked the township.

Squatters stage sit-in

ABOUT 500 ANC members from the Mandela Park squatter settlement at Hout Bay yesterday staged a sit-in in front of the Hout Bay Forest Station, demanding a meeting with a senior Regional Services Council official. Sowetan 5/8/92

This follows the refusal by the chief forester at Hout Bay to accept a memorandum from the squatters demanding more land for Mandela Park. - *Sowetan Reporters, Correspondents and Sapa.*



SITES AND SERVICES: Sculptor Angela Ferreira gives her angle on art with a piece from her recent exhibition

Sculptor's shanty art takes up social theme

SOUTH 15/8–19/8/92. (307)

A RECENT exhibition and workshop by sculptor Angela Ferreira at the South African National Gallery evoked poignant thoughts on rapid urbanisation.

Entitled "Sites and Services", Ferreira's work focused on problems of population growth and housing.

"My interests are both artistic and sociological," she said. "The theme is derived from an urbanisation policy called 'sites and services' which involves sorting out the rapid urbanisation problems of Cape Town, namely the squatter communities."

According to this concept of housing, would-be squatters can erect dwellings in Khayelitsha where 5 000 sites have been prepared by the Cape Town City Council. The sites are provided with toilets, plumbing and taps, stretches of road and an electricity system.

Ferreira sees this scheme as a "Third World answer to solving an urbanisation problem".

She is fascinated by the atmosphere and surroundings of this would-be squatter zone.

"As a sculptor, I find the prepared site prior to occupation absolutely stunning. It has a vast arid and acrid quality.

"I was especially shocked by the concentration camp-like quality of the sites and services layout. For this reason I chose it as a symbol of the complexities of this society.

"Khayelitsha's metal structures, corrugated iron, the tar and the barrenness speak of poverty — and yet simultaneously a sort of dubious upgrading."

Ferreira's works are overtly political but not in the conventional sense.

"It's not 'resistance art' in the usually accepted terms. My sculptures and drawings consist of complexities, layers and symbolism inherent in sociological imagery.

"Once I started looking at 'Sites and Services' as a project in Khayelitsha, even the small things such as the stamped out numbers on the toilets started taking on quite a scary feel."

Ferreira intends to develop the project further and anyone wishing to participate can contact her through the National Gallery.

GAVIN DU PLESSIS

CPA gives nod to squatter demands

ARC 28/8/92

JOSEPH ARANES, Staff Reporter (307)

ABOUT 100 ANC supporters marched on the Cape Provincial Administration building in Wale Street and demanded to meet the Administrator.

A delegation of five led by Kraaifontein branch chairman Ms Doris Neewat was allowed to enter the premises yesterday afternoon to meet Mr Chris Möller, director of Physical Planning.

The meeting lasted two hours and both parties agreed in principle on the need to have toilets and water installed at the Bloekombos squatter settlement in Kraaifontein.

The CPA also agreed to consult the Regional Services Council about arrears in rent and other service charges.

Ms Neewat said the CPA would ask the RSC not to evict or have people in those areas arrested until a meeting on September 1, when all the parties would discuss problems in the Kraaifontein area.

More space for squatters

Weekend Argus Reporter (307) AIG 29/8/90

THE Hout Bay Regional Services Council's nursery and fire-fighting sites have been earmarked for an extension of the Imizamo Yethu squatter settlement in Hout Bay.

The squatters currently occupy 8 ha of forestry land belonging to the RSC.

Mr Jo Lazarus, chairman of the Hout Bay liaison committee, said the ratepayers had agreed that 18 ha of "habitable" land should be set aside for the squatters.

He said the liaison committee was putting pressure on the Cape Provincial Administration to procure the RSC nursery site and fire-fighting unit because this land was habitable.

Mr Lazarus said this request had been made because it would save most of the wooded areas of stone pines on the forestry land and would stop development on steep, rocky slopes which were essentially not suitable for development.

A CPA spokesman said that a decision had been made in May to extend the existing 8 ha site by a further 10 ha.

24/9/92

Squatters to get basic services (307)

Staff Reporter

THE Cape Provincial Administration will arrange for the urgent provision of municipal services at Bloekombos and Wallacedene squatter camps near Kraaifontein.

This followed a meeting between Cape Administrator Mr Kobus Meiring and a delegation of the ANC's Kraaifontein branch.

In a joint statement, the two parties said the CPA would contract the services of a private company to provide toilets and water points to the squatter camps on an interim basis until the issue of a local authority for the areas had been settled.

The CPA said it had not been possible to implement these measures before "due to the insistence of the communities that the Kraaifontein Municipality should render them, and the refusal of the municipality to do so".

R200 000 uplift for squatters

Sept (307) ARGUS 5/9/92

■ A R200 000 boost is on the way to improve squatter dwellings and complete 10 crèches at settlements on the Cape Flats.

Weekend Argus Reporter

FROM Brown's Farm to Miller's Camp and KTC, Cape Town's estimated one million squatters can safely get their hopes up.

The Philippi Technical Training Project, initiated by the Urban Foundation, has just been given R200 000 by the American-based Stewart Mott Foundation towards higher building standards in informal dwellings and towards daytime havens for toddlers.

The training project teaches people how to build houses, concentrating so far on timber construction accredited by the South African Lumber Mills Association (SALMA).

And with the Informal Settlement Support Programme, the scheme makes affordable building materials available to poorer communities.

In the course of training people to build homes for themselves, it imparts skills which help them get jobs.

Part of the Mott Foundation grant will go towards crèches at Brown's Farm, Miller's Camp, KTC, Black City, Tambo Square, Mpetha Square and Mpinga Square.

Hout Bay forest site to be used for informal housing

By JESSICA BEZUIDENHOUT

AN INFORMAL housing settlement is to be established shortly at the present site of the Hout Bay Forestry Station in spite of a battle to conserve a section of the forest containing trees from all over the world.

The new development is an extension of the Imizamo Yethu settlement and forms part of the Cape Provincial Administration "responsibility" to develop an "informal" residential area in Hout Bay to help deal with urbanisation.

At present the squatter settlement is on only eight hectares and this has become too small for further orderly development.

Negotiations between the CPA, the RSC and the Hout Bay Liaison Committee has led to an agreement for 18 hectares of the 34-hectare forest site to be used for residential development.

By negotiating with the RSC for a futher 10 ha of land, the CPA hoped to alleviate the plight of the homeless by providing informal settlement areas and services such as roads, storm water drainage, sewerage and street lighting.

The additional 10 ha was needed to provide about 650 serviced sites.

But local residents concerned about the conservation of the forest are battling to prevent eventual use of the whole 34 ha site.

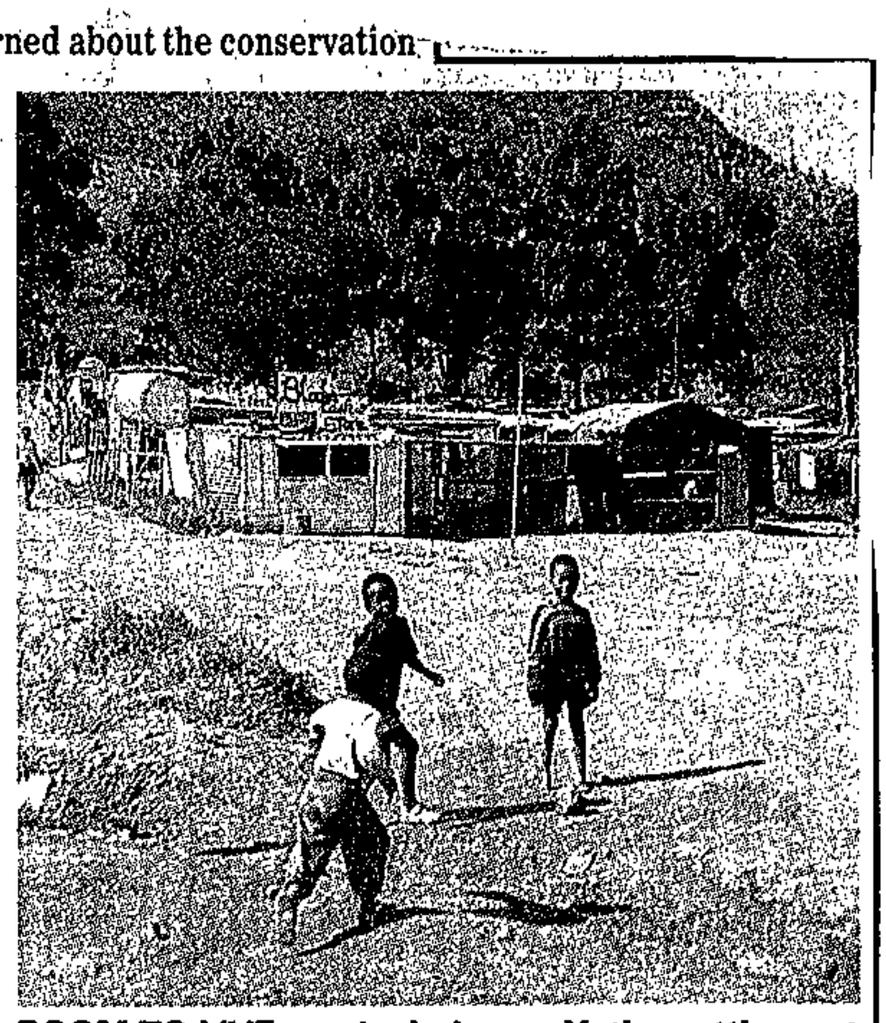
Ms Lisa Kruger-Liptrot said it was believed that the forestry station had been asked to vacate its premises within six months.

"Why are they doing this if they do not intend to use the whole site eventually?"

Should that happen, she said, the forestry station would have to be re-established at an "extremely" high cost.

The "eventual utilisation" of the 34 ha site for the settlement and community related facilities formed part of "ongoing" negotiations between the CPA, the broader Hout Bay community and the Hout Bay Liaison Committee, an RSC statement says.

To make the land available as soon as possible, "some of the RSC's facilities would be affected", the statement said.



ROOM TO LIVE ... the Imizamo Yethu settlement at Hout Bay, which is to be more than doubled in size Picture: AMBROSE PETERS



Picture: LEON MÜLLER, The Argus.

UNDER OPEN SKIES: Mrs Noluthano Ndengana prepares daughter Thotyelwa for a nap in the open air where they spend their nights.

Demolitions: 17 families sleep in bush

307

ARG 17/9/92

VUSI KAMA
Staff Reporter

SEVENTEEN Table View squatter families, whose shacks have been demolished by the landowners, now spend nights under trees and bushes, because they say they have nowhere else to go.

The squatters have refused to move from the land, owned by Milnerton Estates, in spite of the fact that they are unable to use their shacks for shelter.

Mrs Eunice Mabebe said yesterday she found her shack razed after the demolition, which took place on Sunday.

Local chairman of the Western Cape United Squatters Association Mr Gideon Sgebeshu said they had no alternative but to stay on the bushy piece of land.

He said they had occupied the land since 1974, but had moved away from their original site as new housing developments were introduced.

A representative for the landowners, Mr Jack Loggie, said his company had a policy of not allowing squatting on its land and that they had take action.

"We have appointed a squatter c trolling officer whose job it is to m around our land to see if there any squatters," he said. "If we est lish that there are any, we take propriate action."

He said it was the duty of the n nicipality to provide land for squatters.

"There is no water or provision sanitation in that area," he added.

Milnerton town clerk Mr Pe Gerber said he was optimistic that gotiations over a permanent, prope serviced area for informal settl would soon bear fruit.

He was aware of the plight of families, but owners of private la had the right to order off trespasse

"Our present transit area, p claimed two years ago, is pretty ov crowded, but we are negotiating get land for permanent informal s tlement," Mr Gerber said.

When negotiations were comple the municipality and the Cape Prov cial Administration would acqu and service land for the homeless.

New homes for city squatters

(307) CT 26/9/92

Municipal Reporter

EIGHTEEN Fish Hoek squatter families are to be relocated soon to serviced plots in Noordhoek's Site Five, where they will join nearly 500 other families.

Mr Faan Naudé, regional director of the CPA's community services branch, announced this week that the servicing of 454 plots at Site Five should be completed by the middle of October, ahead of schedule.

More than half of the 500 families who will move onto those 454 plots are already living on Site Five, but on land that does not have tap water or a sewerage system.

Another 160 live in nearby "Green Point", which is also on the southern side of Noordhoek Road.

A spokesman said extensive talks had taken place over the allocation of the sites, and it was expected the move would be peaceful.

Households will pay R25 a month for their services, unless they are completely destitute, in which case they will have to pay just 75c.

Street lights should be installed by the end of this year. There will be at least four public telephones on the site.

Site Five already has three school committees, functioning under the chairmanship of Ms Sandy Dowling of the Catholic Welfare Bureau.

Hangover law squatters arrested

THE arrest of 18 squatters near Koekenaap this week was a hangover from former race laws, a senior local government official said yesterday.

Mr Chris Gunter, executive official of the West Coast Regional Services Council, said the arrests followed a series of attempted land occupations by blacks and more than two years of negotiations over their plight.

"We usually laid charges of illegal trespassing, but would withdraw them just before the case was due to be heard."

This week, however, RSC officials went ahead with charges after squatters built shacks near Koekenaap, about 300km north of Cape Town, and defied RSC orders to remove them by Wednesday night.

Mr Gunter said 15 sites were being surveyed near the town and could be available for sale for R750 each by mid-November.

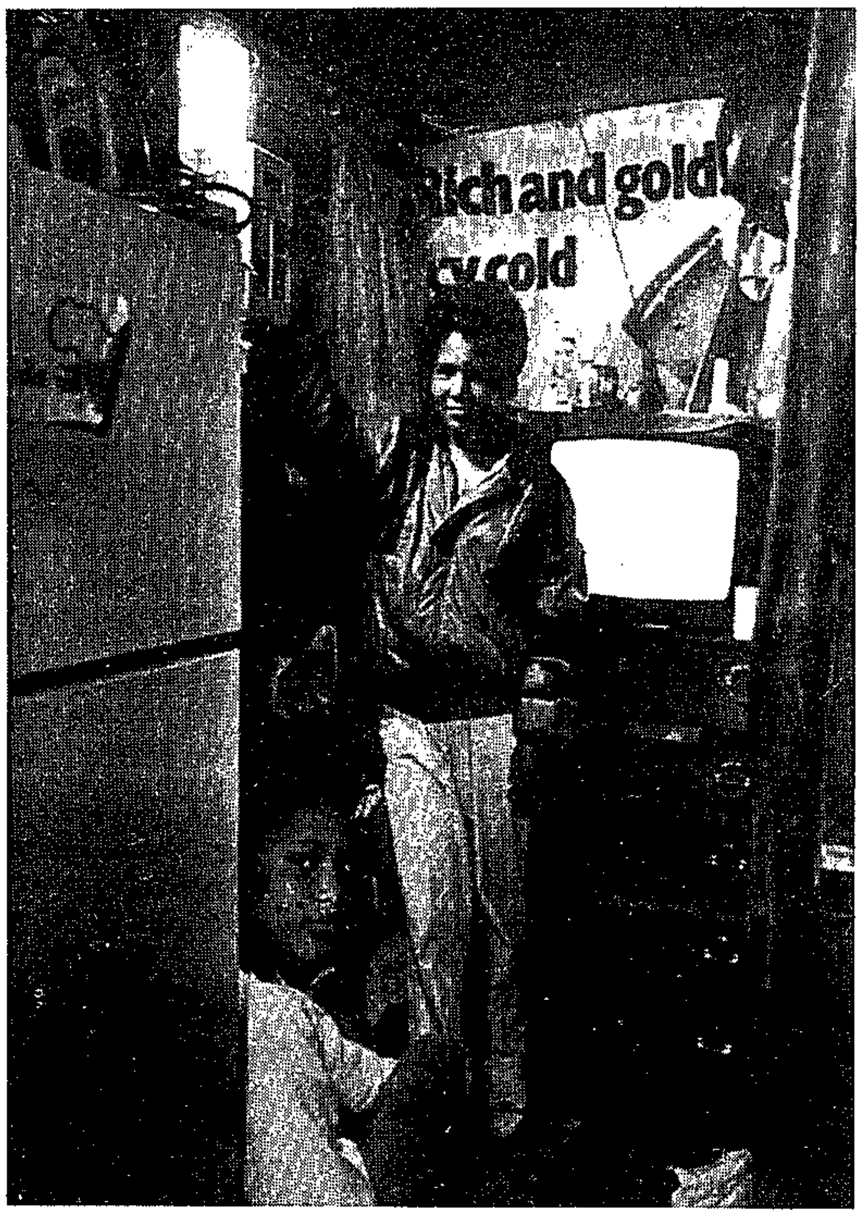
On Thursday police arrested 10 men and eight women who appeared in court that day to face charges of trespassing, resisting arrest and damaging state property. They were released on R300 bail each and warned to appear on October 2.

"We are naturally sympathetic towards their plight," said Mr Gunter, who has been directly involved in negotiations with the squatters, the African National Congress, local authorities and the Cape Provincial Administration.

According to the Surplus People's Project, a service organisation that has been assisting the Koekenaap homeless, the squatters' problem is rooted in apartheid land allocation — no residential areas have been set aside for Africans in Namaqualand.

"Yes, the situation is a hangover of the old Group Areas Act," said Mr Gunter.

Mr Gunter said the RSC had tentatively arranged that the Lutzville municipality accommodate the excess population from Koekenaap. — Sapa.



SWITCHED ON: Doreen Jacobs, standing, and her sister Maria can now enjoy the benefits of electricity

Photos: Yunus Mohamed

There was darkness, then there was light

South 26/9-30/9/92. (307)

By Rehana Rossouw

FRIDAY afternoon in the Wallacedene squatter camp in Kraaifontein. A gas dealer weaves his way down the narrow streets, filling cylinders on the back of his bakkie.

Some residents rush out with their cylinders. But many remain inside their shacks, huddled round their heaters or staring into their television sets — they have had electricity installed in their homes.

A joint project by the Cape Provincial Administration and Eskom has brought light and warmth to the squatter camp.

This is the first time an informal housing scheme is being serviced by Eskom.

At the entrance to the squatter camp an Eskom trailer is parked. A banner slung between the trailer and an electric pole bears the legend: "Switch to electricity".

In her two-roomed shack, Mrs Rosie Smit prepared a cup of coffee. She owns a fridge, television, kettle, iron, snackwich and twin tub washing machine.

She bought the appliances while she was living in a housing scheme, but after being evicted by the municipality, found a haven at Wallacedene.

"I spend far less money on electricity here than I did before, about R10 a week," said Smit.

"I'm very happy with the service we get, I have no complaints."

Down the road Rasta builder Ras Zabylon was negotiating a price for erecting a bungalow for one of his neighbours.

Zabylon's dwelling towers above his neighbour's shacks — it is three storeys high, higher than the electric poles in the street outside. It also stands out because of the reggae music blaring from within.

"I was connected to electricity four months ago and I can tell you I spend far less money than I did on petrol for my generator," Zabylon said.

"It's made a big difference to my pocket. I only spend about R30 a month on electricity and the generator cost R260 a month."

Zabylon has a video machine, a television and a hi-fi system. He plans to buy a stove, fridge and washing machine, "things to make my life more convenient".

Next in line will be an electric drill to build bungalows at a faster rate.

Although more than 300 Wallacedene residents are connected to Eskom power, some still use alternative forms of energy. Gas, firewood, petrol generators, paraffin and car batteries are still bringing light and warmth to some.

"My heart is so sore. My house is right next to an electric pole, but my children have to go next door to watch TV," said Mr Niklaas Moses.

He is 65 — close to retirement — and earns R115 a week as a cleaner for the municipality. Although he earns enough to buy electricity, he isn't sure he can afford appliances this late in his life.

He uses a paraffin stove and burns wood to heat his shack. He plans to get electricity before the end of the year.

"I'll have to buy them (appliances) piece by piece, lay-bye them possibly," Moses said.

"I definitely want a TV soon. My wife and I listen to the radio every night, but our children never keep quiet.

"If we had a TV, with pictures and all, the children would keep quiet at night."

Eskom spokesperson Mr Charles Cooper said by mid-September 300 Wallacedene residents had connected to their service.

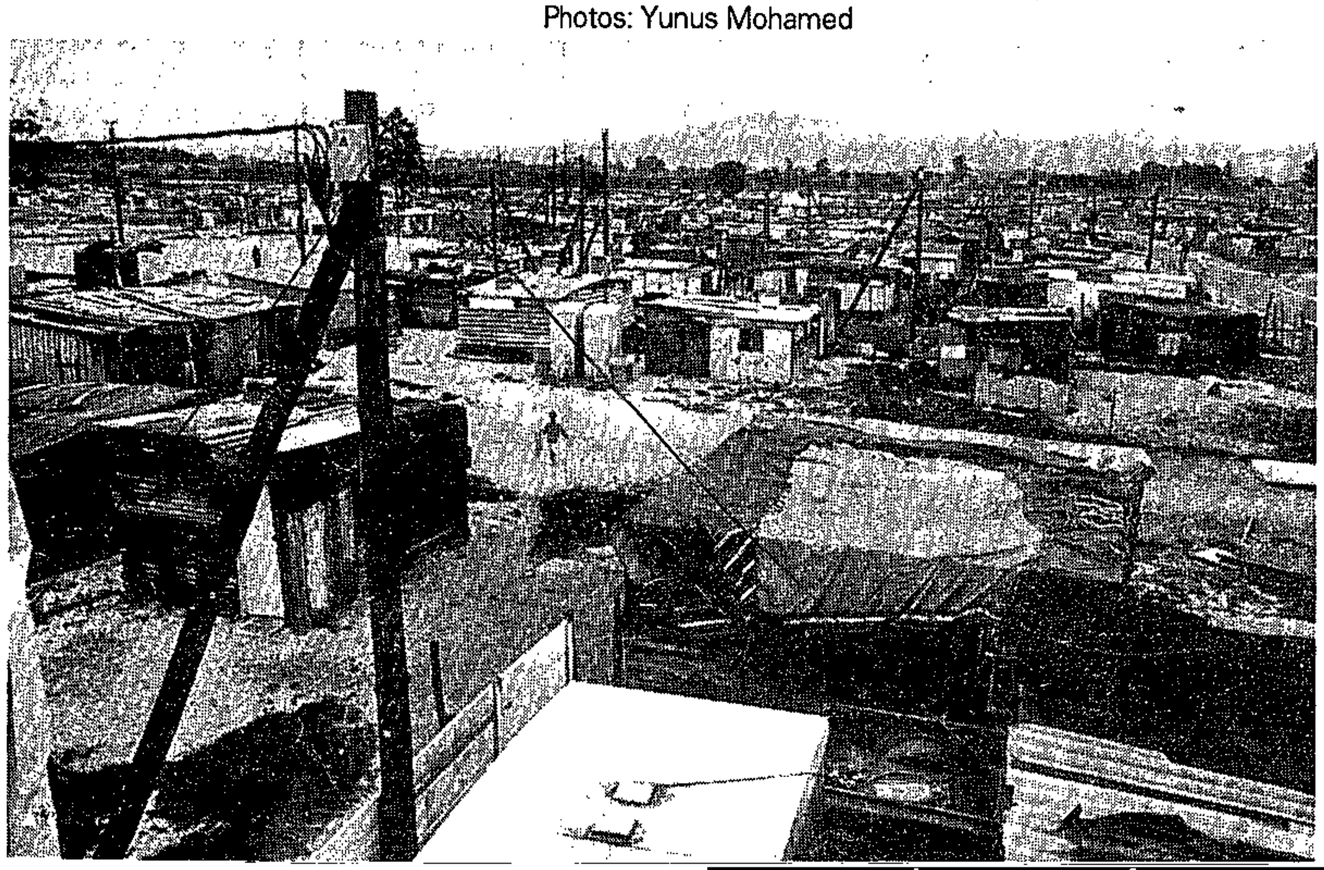
The residents purchase their power on the "Electricity dispenser system", buying units from Eskom in advance, doing away with metering, high monthly bills and budgetting to cover the extra costs.

The residents pay higher tariffs than consumers who purchase electricity from municipalities. Eskom charges a cent per kilowatt rate, including the fixed basic charge in the price and the cost of providing a "readyboard" which regulates the service, three plugs, an earth leakage unit and a light.

"This makes the system much simpler, we've cut down on administration costs, reconnection fees and deposits," Cooper said.

"We have also provided sales advisors in the area who assist residents with queries on safety and economy."

Eskom intends spending R24 million on electrification projects this year, bringing power to 13 600 dwellings from East London to Bitterfontein — in Namaqualand.



Arrests 'hangover from racial laws'

THE arrest of 18 squatters near Koekenaap this week was a hangover from former racial laws which did not cater for black settlements in the north-western Cape, a senior local government official has confirmed.

Mr Chris Gunter, executive official of the West Coast Regional Services Council, said on Friday the arrests followed a series of attempted land occupations by blacks and more than two years of negotiations over their plight. ST Times (Cape Metro) 27/9/92

"We usually laid charges of illegal trespassing with the police, but would withdraw them just before the case was due to be heard."

This week however, RSC officials pressed ahead with charges after squatters built shacks near Koekenaap, about 300km north of Cape Town, and defied RSC orders to remove them by Wednesday night.

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"We are naturally sympathetic towards their plight," said Mr Gunter, who has been involved in negotiations with the squatters, the ANC, local authorities and the Cape Provincial Administration.

According to the Surplus People's Project, a service organisation that has been assisting the Koekenaap homeless, the squatters' problem is rooted in apartheid land allocation — no residential areas had been set aside for Africans in Namaqualand.

"Yes, the situation is a hangover of the old Group Areas Act," said Mr Gunter.

"We're talking about five to 15 African families who've been moving around the area for years. It is difficult, however, to determine how many people are in need of land — they (the squatters and their representatives) say there are about 160 individuals."

An SPP spokesman said many of the squatters were unemployed farm labourers who had been working in the surrounding area for up to 30 years.

Mr Gunter said the RSC had tentatively arranged that the Lutzville municipality accommodate the excess population from Koekenaap, which had difficulties with water supplies. — *Sapa*

'Police dogs bit squatters'

(307)

ST Times [C Metro] 4/10/92.

THE African National Congress has demanded an inquiry into police action at Koekenaap, 300km north of Cape Town, where squatters were allegedly bitten by police dogs and assaulted.

Nineteen people, including three children, were arrested on September 23 when they tried to erect shacks on vacant land near the town. The group was later charged with trespass and released on bail after spending two days in Vanrhynsdorp Prison.

The group is part of the 120-strong black community in Koekenaap and Lutzville who have been involved in a two-year battle to secure land for housing. There are no recognised black residential areas in towns on the West Coast and Namaqualand.

Members of the squatter group, who work on local farms and in factories, said at a press conference this week that about 50 policemen beat them and set dogs on them when they erected shacks.

ANC assistant regional secretary Willie Hofmeyr condemned the "outrageous behaviour of the police" and said the ANC would investigate legal proceedings against them.

A police spokesman claimed some of the group resisted arrest and attacked policemen and their dogs with sticks and a large saw.

Lt D Wolstenholme, who commanded the police operation, said the group was warned twice to vacate the land at the request of the West Coast Regional Services Council.

Promise

He said police "acted according to the book" and took photographs during the arrests. Three people bitten by police dogs refused medical attention at Lutzville police station and in Vanrhynsdorp Prison.

Mr Hofmeyr said the West Coast Regional Services Council and the Cape Provincial Administration promised at a meeting in June that basic services would be provided at a site outside Koekenaap.

"We were told that the process would take two months, but it seems the authorities are continuing to drag their feet. The ANC has asked that the people be allowed to set up shacks on an interim basis, but the authorities have refused."

West Coast Regional Services Council official Chris Gunther said earlier 15 sites were being surveyed near Koekenaap and would be available for sale at about R750 each by mid-November. He said the RSC had tentatively arranged for the Lutzville municipality to accommodate the excess population from Koekenaap. — *Sapa*

Vrygrond to plan for itself

Municipal Reporter

THE 500 families of the impoverished Vrygrond community in Muizenberg East are to make decisions about upgrading their settlement.

The Western Cape Regional Services Council has provided R300 000 "for the planning of infrastructure".

The community is to plan the layout of roads, sewerage, a stormwater system and other services — with some help from Cape Town City Council and the ANC.

Wessels on squatting

EAST LONDON — Squatting was a worldwide tendency but it was a more emotional problem in SA because legislation had for so long prevented blacks from owning land, Local Government and National Housing Minister Leon Wessels said yesterday at the NP Cape congress.

"It is a more emotional and intense problem because the NP, with the full support of its congresses, for so many years placed legislation on the statute books allowing forced removals and preventing blacks from owning property," he said.

It was easier said than done to ensure that timely provision was made to ensure that the quality of life of all was not undermined, but it remained the aim of government.

He said government realised it had to tread carefully to meet the aspirations of the homeless and, in the process, not undermine vested interests. — Sapa.

Police not our private army, NP congress told

EAST LONDON — The SAP was not a private army of the National Party or the Broederbond, Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel said yesterday.

He told the Cape NP congress in East London he rejected ANC claims to this effect. In the end, it was the SAP and SADF that stood in the way of a power takeover by the ANC, he said.

The SAP was an impartial law enforcement agency whose members did not belong to political parties.

"Now, it is this 'private army of the NP' that must recover the stolen vehicles such as BMWs of the national executive of the ANC ... that have to protect the million-rand houses of the communist leadership of the ANC," he said.

It was also this "private army" that had to be used to prevent mass action from turning into total disaster.

Kriel said the ANC claim was just the sort of inflammatory statement condemned on Tuesday by President F W de Klerk. He asked what sort of impression the ANC statement would create in the townships.

An average of 20,88 policemen a month had been killed this year. This was a scandal. Most of them had not been on duty. In the last 12 months 68 black policemen had had their houses burned, attacked or partially destroyed, he said.

Between February 12 1991 and July 31 this year, card-carrying and identified members of the ANC alliance had been involved in 29 attacks on security forces, Kriel said, asking if this was not perhaps the third force which had been mentioned.

Something had to be done about police safety. A system was being investigated in which police vehicles would use loud-hailers to order people out of stopped vehicles and into search positions before police got out of their own vehicles.

He also said the SADF had created an atmosphere in which the government could negotiate from a position of strength.

People forgot too easily that there had been violence in the country before February 1990. The present violence would have been 10 times worse had it not been for the developments of February 1990, he said.

"Thanks to the initiatives of F W de Klerk we can still deal with the violence in this country," he said.

He said when wrongdoers in the police were discovered, action was taken.

"We do not protect our police like the ANC protects Ronnie Kasrils," Kriel said. — Sapa.

De Beer backs NP-ANC talks



SHELTER DESTROYED . . . Christine Beukes looks out from the ruins of the shelter which she shares with Charles Matthews

Vigilantes 'harass' Bo-Kaap squatters

S/Times[Cape metro] 307

11/10/92.

By TED MAGILL

BO-KAAP squatters say they are being harassed and assaulted by a ruthless vigilante group, whom they claim are none other than members of the Bo-Kaap Neighbourhood Watch and the Anti-Drug League.

While a spokesman for the neighbourhood watch has admitted to harassing the squatters, he denied that they had assaulted anyone.

The squatters live in four small shacks in a hollow of the old quarry just above the Bo-Kaap.

One of the squatters, Mr Kamasen Moegamat, said armed members of the neighbourhood watch visited them almost every night, banging on their shacks, demanding entry and threatening them.

Force

"On Saturday they were here again, claiming we were hiding stolen goods. They forced open our doors to search our homes."

Similar incidents were reported by other squatters.

"Gangsters steal from the community, who come here to look for the stolen goods. They kick down doors. They hit people with sticks. The police don't worry," said Mr Nur Fafar.

One Bo-Kaap resident, Mr Salie Jariden of Chiappini Street, also complained about the watch.

"If you come and visit me, they will search you and hit you, telling you that you don't belong here. My friend came to visit me and got chased out with two black eyes — they nearly broke his nose," he said.

"They carry big guns. They are supposed to be a neighbourhood watch but they don't look after the people.

"They say the Bo-Kaap is a bad place but they are the ones who will bother you. Their job is to watch, not to beat people or chase them away. The vagrants have been here for years. They don't harm anyone but the neighbourhood watch mess them around, throw out their wine and chase them away," he said.

A vagrant, Ms Jane Hendricks, said: "They come in combis with pick-handles. They throw our blankets out and tell us to leave."

Mr Charles Matthews, a squatter living on the edge of a council-owned playing field on the other side of the quarry, said he has been manhandled and his tiny shelter knocked down.

On Saturday night, the night Mr Moegamat said his door was forced open, Mr Matthews' shelter was demolished for the 18th time.

"They forced me onto the open field and kicked and slapped me around. They said I was whoring on holy ground," he said.

Chief co-ordinator of the neighbourhood watch, Mr Sabrie Soeker, who is also a founder member of the anti-drug league, was adamant that they wanted the squatters out as they were "drug pedlars".

Asked about Mr Matthews' shelter, he said: "I think we broke it down more than 18 times and told him to leave."

He denied that anybody had assaulted Mr Matthews. "These squatters are a threat and a danger to our kids. They teach them to smoke dagga, while we are trying to clean up the area."

Many squatters admitted to smoking dagga but denied that they dealt in drugs or influenced the neighbourhood children.

Pleased

Mr Ismail Achmat of the neighbourhood watch claims crime in the area has dropped 60 percent.

But W/O Desmond Mesane of Caledon Square said a police study showed a 10 percent drop.

One Bo-Kaap resident, who did not want to be named, sanctioned the strong-arm tactics, saying police had ignored requests to act against the squatters.

Police Media Liaison Oficer Major Attie Laubscher said no complaints had been made about the watch.

"In fact, we are pleased about their efforts to stop crime. Anybody who has a complaint should lodge it at the nearest police station."

Hout Bay plan gets go ahead

307 ET 27/10/92

By PETER DENNEHY

A TENDER is expected to be awarded this week for services at the new, extended Imizamo Yethu settlement in Hout Bay — despite rumblings of discontent from various quarters.

The CPA announced yesterday that the plan had been approved "by all parties". However, ratepayer representatives have expressed reservations — and some want an alternative site found.

The development will be of the site-and-service variety, with about 600 sites. Each will be a minimum of 120m², and each will be provided with a toilet to be connected to the waterborne sewerage system coming into operation in March next year. There will also be a tap on each site.

Fully-tarred roads and walkways will be provided, along with a proper stormwater drainage system. There will also be streetlights.

"Various studies and surveys done by the CPA, independent consultants and the Environmental Evaluation Unit of UCT have indicated that the population in the settlement has remained stable, and that 18ha were necessary to accommodate the existing community in a healthy and upgradable development," said the CPA statement.

Earlier this year, after long discussions with the Ratepayers' Association, the CPA undertook not to develop more than 18ha of land for residential purposes. The present plan encompasses a residential area of 17ha, including the proposed primary school site.

Mr Joe Lazarus, a ratepayers' representative who is also chairman of the Liaison Committee in Hout Bay which was involved in negotiations, said the provision of services was expected to cost R12 000 per site, including the cost of the land.

Squatters want houses

307 CT 26/10/92

Staff Reporter

MONEY spent on plastic to keep shacks intact could be used to pay rent instead, say Noordhoek squatters who are to move to a new site near Sunnydale, where they are to build new shelters.

Mr Welcome Mandulo, a resident of the Site 5 squatter camp, said the R75 a month squatters paid for rolls of plastic could have gone toward rent.

The Cape Provincial Administration is servicing the newly developed site near Sunnydale and squatters are expected to build their own shacks.

Mr Wellington Rala said that with services like water and toilets, the new development would be better than their present camps, but they wanted houses as well.

A spokesman for the CPA, Mr Faan Naude, said the servicing of the Noordhoek site and service development project, comprising 454 plots, would be completed by December.

Residents of the Green Point, Fish Hoek and Site 5 squatter camps are to be moved to the new site.

Mr Rala said that the 454 sites would not be enough for people from the three camps and this could create tension among squatters.

Long wait for housing

S/Times [Cape metro] 25/10/92 (307)

By MICHEL MULLER

AT LEAST 42 570 homeless "coloured" families will have to wait 10 years or longer for cheap accommodation provided by the Cape Town City Council, while "an unquantifiable number" had not put their names on the waiting list.

Another estimated 20 000 people were living in backyards in the "overcrowded" housing estates, but "anyone who applies in 1992 has no chance of being assisted", housing committee chairman Neil Ross said this week.

A "multitude of blacks" living on the edge of the city were also homeless, Mr Ross said, but they were the responsibility of the Cape Provincial Administration and the black local authorities.

The city council was not building any accommodation for rental, in terms of a House of Representatives directive to sell council houses to the tenants, but there was some rental stock.

accommodated. Two-bedroomed flats in Lavender Hill, Mitchells Plain and Hanover Park would be allocated to those who applied between 1981 and 1983 inclusive.

"Unless there is a medical priority, the others don't stand a chance," he said, pointing out that "we can only assist people within the government's income limits (R1 200 pm)".

Mr Ross said demand for housing was increasing while the supply was diminishing.

"If we could have gone on at the 1982 rate (9 500 units in Mitchells Plain alone), we could have been okay today."

The erstwhile Group Areas Act also impacted adversely on the provision of housing and "whole communities were uprooted into the estates" where there is a "concentration of the poorest of the poor".

"We were fed with money, but had to give up half the allocation to accommodate Group Areas clearances."

In 1984, the House of Representatives said all council dwellings that could be sold were to be sold.

"Of 27 000 rented units, about 21 000 have been sold and are still selling at massive discounts."

According to Mr Wyngaard, no houses were built for blacks during the days of influx control and the coloured labour prefence policy.

Then, when the laws were lifted "there wasn't a concomitant programme to accommodate the anticipated number of people who would move into the city".

Mr Wyngaard said the CPA and the IDT were, however, dealing "quite effectively" with about 50 percent of the shack areas.

Mr Ross said all the available land could be swallowed up in a year if the council could get the money for housing development.

In 1978 council built 8 092 dwellings for rental and sale — 6 900 in Mitchells Plain, 300 in Valhalla Park, 461 in Strandfontein and 215 in Rylands.

"Last year we built 419 units for sale and this year we expect to deliver 700 to 800 houses in addition to an old age complex in Mandolin Square."

Shacks

He said 47 percent of Cape Town's population — excluding the black townships — lived in council-developed dwellings.

In 70 years, the council had accommodated 92 000 families, including whites in Albow Gardens, Brooklyn.

Urban Foundation spokesman Gavin Wyngaard said that a shack count undertaken 18 months ago indicated that in the Crossroads, Nyanga East and Khayelitsha areas there were 60 000 informal dwellings. About 80 percent of the Peninsula's shack dwellers lived there.

"A conservative estimate is that there are at least half a million people living in shack conditions on the outskirts of Cape Town, while the number of people flocking into informal settlements numbers about 10 000 people a month."

Mr Ross said there were cases of "18 to 20 people living in two and three roomed houses. There is chronic overcrowding in the estates".

But only people who had applied up to January 1982 would be in a position to be

Council's 'hands tied' on housing

S/Times [Cape metro] 25/10/92 (307)

By MICHEL MULLER

THE Cape Town City Council is obliged, in terms of written directives from the House of Assembly, House of Delegates and House of Representatives, to administer its housing as if the Group Areas Act was never repealed.

"Regrettably, we are required to do so during the tenure of the tricameral parliament," housing committee chairman Neil Ross said this week.

"We still cannot house people where we wish, because the funds are provided by the different departments. We have written instructions from all three Houses to administer housing on a racial basis."

Mr Ross claimed Cape Town carried the burden — and city's rates reflected this — of providing housing in the metropolitan area.

"A lot of white local authorities take no responsibility for housing," he said.

The council did not provide housing in the black townships, because the Cape Provincial Administration was responsible for these areas, where they were setting out site and service schemes for the shack dwellers on the city's periphery.



CIVIC LEADER . . . Thomas Jansen, who has been at the forefront of the "coloured" community's battle to improve their situation, outside Villiersdorp

A small town's cry for change

S1 Times (Cape Metro) 25/10/92

307

LAST weekend one of the social highlights of the year took place in the small Boland town of Villiersdorp — the annual agricultural show.

A few kilometres away, an illegal march, protesting the eviction of Nuwedorp residents for non-payment of rent, trundled peacefully down the main street.

While some residents were eyeing prize cattle and enjoying tractor rides at the showgrounds, town clerk Johan Serfontein was handed a list of demands by a group from the "coloured" township.

At first glance Villiersdorp — population 5 000 — is no different to many other small towns. It's the kind of place where late at night, the only sound is an a capella chorus of barking dogs.

But all is not well in Villiersdorp.

Joelene Petersen, 13, was shot and injured in the head, allegedly by a farmer, when she and two small girls were walking near his strawberry field.

An eight-year-old boy was run over and killed, allegedly by a farmer, after he and a group of farmworkers' children were warned to stay away from his orchards near Napier, in the Boland.

Both incidents occurred in the same week, and are being investigated by the police.

But, in the Villiersdorp incident, the ANC issued a two-page statement about the shooting ... with the police soon afterwards accusing them of creating a political issue.



TOWN CLERK ... Johan Serfontein, who says negotiations between the white and coloured communities must be encouraged

Report: DIANA STREAK
Pictures: TERRY SHEAN

Unity

The town has seen a series of stayaways, protests, shack demolitions, boycotts, evictions and an alleged attempted necklacing in the past three years.

Unlike many neighbouring towns in the Boland, which have opted to combine their coloured management committees and Whites-only councils, Villiersdorp seems a long way from unity.

The management committee has been disbanded, and the council is sticking to the letter of the law, which prohibits a council from joining forces with a civic association, because it was not elected by means of a voters roll.

"The council is looking forward to becoming part of a single body, but it would have to be a legal body. We can't just take people from the community," said town clerk Mr Serfontein.

"Most people of all races in Villiersdorp would very much like to sit around a table and take community decisions together, but to get there is a different story. I wish I had an answer."

Villiersdorp lies in a prosperous fruit-farming valley near the magnificent Theewaterskloof Dam, site of a new upmarket leisure development.

But possibly the best view of the picturesque town is from the Goniwe squatter camp — home to some 117 families — set on mountain slopes.

Conditions in the settlement are a major bone of contention between the council and the residents, who accuse the council of neglecting their interests.

Goniwe Park was named by Thomas Jansen, a relative newcomer to the area who is also spokesman for the civic and the local ANC branch chairman.

He hails from Cradock and was a comrade of murdered activists Matthew Goniwe and Sparrow Mkhonto.

Mr Jansen rejects moves to combine management committees and town councils on the grounds that interim local government measures should not be decided by the present government alone.

"Whites don't want to accept change. They want to push people around because they are used to it.

"We mobilise people to reject what is wrong. People in other small towns are more careful because they think they might lose their jobs.

"Here if something has to be done we speak out but we don't get anywhere without a fight."

It was Mr Jansen who led a three-month boycott of a local shop after the owner took the law into his own hands and tied two young boys — who had stolen a polony — to a pole outside with signs around their necks which read "I am a thief, I steal".

The boycott was called off after the storekeeper apologised to the community.

The farmer who allegedly shot Joelene Pietersen has not yet been charged. SAP station commander Warrant Officer J Reyneke said the police were waiting for a medical report before referring the case to the attorney general.

Humane

W/O Reyneke said local police had had problems with some of the black community and had tried to work through the civic and now did their investigations in Goniwe Park under their supervision.

"We try our best to have a good relationship with them and do our work in a calm, humane way.

"But I'm not afraid to go there on my own. I know they're unhappy and so I don't mind if they shout and swear at me."

The town is preparing to celebrate its 150th anniversary next year. Residents, both black and white, hope the event will serve as a catalyst for unity and change, giving them a chance to get to know one another better, and find a formula for peace.

Mandela at LP summit

S1 Times (Cape Metro) 25/10/92

THE Labour Party will host a Patriotic Front summit of Codesa participants in Port Elizabeth next week when the alliance meets to discuss its future in negotiations.

Labour's national PRO, Mr Peter Hendrickse, confirmed yesterday that the meeting will be addresed by ANC president Nelson Mandela and by the Labour Party leader, Rev Allan Hendrickse.

The last "summit" was held on August 18 in KwaNdebele.

Squatter areas to dominate ANC poll?

ST Times [Cape metro]
25/10/92
307

Sunday Times Reporter

SQUATTER areas seem set to dominate the regional conference of the ANC, scheduled to take place in Cape Town next weekend.

Representation at the conference is weighted in favour of paid-up membership. Township branches, particularly in squatter areas, have tens of thousands of paid-up members and ANC branches in Crossroads, Browns Farm and Khayelitsha have recently held a huge recruitment and debt-collecting drive. The Crossroads branch alone has more than 13 000 members.

Delegates from these branches will be able to decide the leadership and direction of the ANC in the Western Cape.

Leaders who were effectively ousted from power in elections last year could re-emerge. According to sources, squatter leaders have patched up their differences with "old guard" civic leaders like the region's former chairman Mr Christmas Tinto and former secretary Mr Amos Lengesi. Former treasurer Mr Bulelani Ngcuka also appears poised to make a comeback.

All three are in the running for the position of vice-chair — vacated by Mr Archie Sibeko due to ill health earlier this year.

Power

Current chairman Dr Allan Boesak and secretary Mr Tony Yengeni are likely to be re-elected as is assistant-secretary Mr Willie Hofmeyr. Also in the running for these top positions are Ms Hilda Ndude, former vice-chair of the region, and Nyanga youth leader Mr Dinga Skwebu.

Mr Franklin Sonn, rector of the Peninsula Technicon and Mr Jan van Eck, ANC member and MP for Claremont, are also likely to be elected.

Squatter leaders who could feature on the new REC include Mr Alfred Siphika of Nyanga Extension/Browns Farm, Mr Jeffrey Nongwe, who ousted Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana from power in Crossroads, Browns Farm leader Mr Christopher Toise, and Western Cape United Squatters Association leader Mr Enoch Madywabe.

A labour grouping within the ANC is understood to favour the election of Cosatu's chairman in the Western Cape, Mr Johnny Malebo, and South African Municipal Workers' Union leader Mr Salie Manie as well as Mr Enrico Fourie, a former education officer for Cosatu, now employed at the University of the Western Cape.

Mr Vincent Diba, who has played a prominent role in conflict mediation in the region, is likely to be re-elected as are Mr Basil Davidson, Mr Cameron Dugmore, Mr Leruma Kalako, Ms Nomaindia Mfeketo, Mr Ebrahim Rassool and Mr Johnny de Lange.

Water cuts: CPA to talk to squatters

(307)
CT 24/10/92

Staff Reporter

DISCUSSIONS will be held with the Bloekombos squatter community before any action will be taken on arrears, a CPA spokesman said yesterday.

The CPA was reacting to allegations by the squatters this week that they faced a water cut on Monday unless over R1 000 is paid.

A spokesman for the ANC in the squatter camp, Mr Farrington Vava, said that they were told in a meeting with the CPA last week that if they did not pay the arrearsof R1 154 their water supply would be disconnected.

He said that they tried to collect the money but were unable to because most people were unemployed.

CPA spokesman Mr Dieter Odendal said that they did not have any plans to disconnect the water at the moment. He said that before they would consider disconnection they would negotiate with the squatters.

Squatters: Walk-out at Hout Bay talk

CT 22/10/92

Municipal Reporter

A GROUP of irate Hout Bay residents walked out of a briefing on the expanded layout of the suburb's Imizamo Yethu squatter settlement this week and held their own meeting instead.

The disaffected group of ratepayers formed "The Save Hout Bay Association", according to one of those present at the meeting, who declined to be named for fear of "nasty telephone calls".

The man said the group had started out as a breakaway from a meeting in the old library hall, where the Hout Bay Ratepayers' Association's liaison committee had been giving a presentation on plans for the settlement of former squatters.

Liaison committee chairman Mr Joe Lazarus said it was his impression that only "about five or 10" people had left the meeting.

"Our meetings are open to members of the public," he said.

"About 100 observers turned up. At the beginning of the meeting, one of the ratepayers announced that anyone not interested in this should meet next door in the new library hall."

Law has no jaw

C/Press 25/10/92.

By MOSES MAMAILA

A SAVAGE attack by police dogs on three innocent farm labourers in the northern Transvaal has once again seen justice relegated to the kennel.

Three policemen who set dogs on three elderly women at a Levubu farm in the far northern Transvaal last month might not be prosecuted despite efforts by the complainants who have laid charges.

No arrests

More than a month after the September 18 terror operation by SAP members, which left Nyatshiongo Mufamadi, Tshinakaho Mufamadi and Emily Mudau severely wounded, no arrests have yet been made in connection with the incident police confirmed this week.

The women of Hamashau village, who were savaged by the dogs while working on their employers farm, reported the matter to the Venda Police shortly after the incident.

Confirmed

Deputy police commissioner in the homeland, Maj-Gen PJ Nembambula, confirmed that charges had been laid, but told City Press that Venda Police could not investigate the matter because the incident occurred outside Venda.

The matter had been referred to the SAP in the northern Transvaal and investigations were out of "our hands", according to Nembambula.



HANDS THAT BLEED . . . Scarred victims of a savage attack by police dogs. ■ Pic: THULANI SITHOLE

It's a dog's life for elderly attack victims

C/Press 25/10/92 (4)

Northern Transvaal police spokesman Maj A Vogel said nobody had been arrested. Initially Vogel said the three elderly women had been arrested for trespassing.

Justifying the use of dogs on the women, Vogel said the dogs had to be used because the women had attempted to run away. This claim was vehemently denied by the victims.

While nobody appears to be taking responsibility for the incident, the elderly farm labourers bear deep scars which remind them of their horrifying ordeal with the "dogs of law".

The women were brutally bitten by the dogs when three white policemen entered the farm where they were working.

The policemen hurled racial insults at them and then unleashed their dogs.

Although the three tried to convince the policemen that they were not illegally cutting trees but simply doing their work, the police did not listen and instead assaul ed them.

The women were bea en all over their bodi including buttocks n breasts.

To their surprise the were then arrested bu later released without bc ing formally charged.

They are hopeful tha justice will be done.

(1) Whether the Government is responsible for paying the costs of representatives of the (a) United Nations and (b) Organization for African Unity who recently visited or are currently visiting the Republic as observers; if so, (i) to what extent, and (ii)(aa) what are these costs to date and (bb) in respect of what period is this information furnished; if not,

(2) whether he will make a statement on the financing of the above-mentioned visits?

B859E

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

(1) (a) As far as the UN and other observers are concerned the Department of Foreign Affairs did not pay any expenditure to date.

(b) (i) and (ii)

Only certain transport costs in accordance with international practice. From 14 September 1992 to 4 October 1992 and amount of R9 550 has been paid.

(2) The general worldwide practice in the case of such missions is that the host country where a team is being deployed, provides financial assistance with regard to office accommodation and related expenditure. It could thus be expected that certain costs will indeed be paid. The amount cannot be provided at this point in time because there still have to be discussions about the extent of the services.

Special representative of Secretary-General of UN: costs of visit

362. Mr F J LE ROUX asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:†

(1) Whether the Government is responsible for paying the costs involved in the visit to the Republic in August this year of Mr Cyrus Vance, Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations; if so, (a) to what extent and (b) what were the costs involved; if not,

(2) whether he will make a statement on the financing of this visit?

B860E

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

(1) No.

(a) and (b) Fall away.

(2) Not applicable given the answer under (1).

Imizamo Yethu settlement at Hout Bay: site

364. Mr C W EGLIN asked the Minister of Local Government and National Housing:

(1) Whether the Imizamo Yethu settlement at Hout Bay is situated on a site of approximately 18 hectares agreed to in the second phase of the development in this regard; if not, what are the relevant details; if so,

(2) whether his Department has any plans for extending the above settlement; if so, what are these plans;

(3) whether these plans have been discussed with the liaison committee representing the Hout Bay communities; if so, when; if not, why not?

B862E

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL HOUSING:

(1) Yes.

(2) No; the activities of the Western Cape Regional Services Council on the relevant site of approximately 34 ha have been influenced to such an extent that they have to acquire an alternative site. Consequently the Cape Provincial Administration is obliged to purchase the whole area of approximately 34 ha.

(3) Although no formal plans for the development of the additional approximately 16 ha have been discussed, the Hout Bay Liaison Committee has agreed that the residential component will be confined to approximately 18 ha. The future utilisation of the additional approximately 16 ha is thus still to be decided upon in consultation with the local communities. This land could possibly be utilised for community facilities.

Pine forest area in Hout Bay: cutting down of trees

365. Mr C W EGLIN asked the Minister of Local Government and National Housing:

(1) Whether his Department has any plans to cut down any trees in the existing pine forest area near the Imizamo Yuethu settlement at Hout Bay; if so, (a) what trees and (b) why;

(2) whether an independent environmental impact study has been made regarding the possible effect of the cutting down of these trees; if not, why not; if so, (a) when and (b) by whom;

(3) whether he will make public the findings resulting from such a study?

B863E

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL HOUSING:

(1) Yes;

(a) only those trees that have been identified during a scientific investigation to be dead, or are in the process of dying, as well as a limited number of trees which will hamper the alignment of roads or services in the development;

(b) the retention of the dead trees is a risk to the lives of people and property. It would also not be cost effective to re-align roads and trunk services for purposes of retaining a small number of trees.

(2) Yes;

(a) in June 1992;

(b) by Ms E L van and Honert, M.Sc. (Botany) employed by Messrs Hill, Kaplan and Scott, consulting engineers;

(3) Yes.

Single care grants: children of each race group

367. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of National Health:

How many children of each race group were receiving single care grants in terms of the Mental Health Act, No 18 of 1973, in respect of each province as at 30 September 1992 or the latest specified date for which information is available?

B865E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH:

Province	White	Coloured	Indian	Black
Orange Free State	7	0	0	18
Cape	98	0	0	580
Natal	44	0	101	307
Transvaal	141	0	19	459
Total	290	580*	120	1 364

*Figures are not kept per province.

SA citizenship: independent Black states

368. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

Whether any Blacks in the independent Black states have applied to regain their South African citizenship in terms of the provisions of the National States Citizenship Act, No 26 of 1970, as amended by the National States Citizenship Amendment Act, No 13 of 1978; if so, in respect of each such state, (a) how many applied, (b) how many applications were approved and (c) for what specified period is this information furnished?

B866E

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:

Owing to the provisions of the Restoration of South African Citizenship Act, 1986 (Act 73 of 1986), which came into effect on 1 July 1986, no Black of any of the independent states applied in terms of section 3 of the National States Citizenship Act, 1970 (Act 26 of 1970), as amended by the National States Citizenship Amendment Act, 1978 (Act 13 of 1978), for South African citizenship since that date.

Particulars of applications prior to the commencement of the above-mentioned Restoration of South African Citizenship Act are not readily available.

Telephone installations: North Rand

369. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications:

Whether any applications for telephone installations for (a) residential, (b) facsimile and (c) business purposes were outstanding at the North Rand office of Telkom as at 1 October 1992; if so, (i) how many in each case and (ii) when is it anticipated that these backlogs will be eliminated?

B867E

'No mercy on blacks'

307

South 17/10 - 21/10/92

By Mluleki Gantsho

SQUATTERS who built shacks on land promised them by the Regional Services Council (RSC) in Koekenaap in the Northern Cape were arrested and had property confiscated by police last week.

"Every time we build shacks the police come to demolish them. They have no mercy on black people. In winter they took our belongings and some of us were forced to sleep outside in the cold," said Mrs Noma Rashiya Matyeni.

Matyeni alleged the police assaulted the squatters.

It was the fifth such incident since the squatters, some of whom work on nearby farms, moved onto the land in 1989.

A spokesperson for the squatters, Mr Victor Mguga, said they were frustrated because negotiations for land had dragged on for too long.

Mr Chris Genter, spokesperson for the RSC, said squatters were trespassing.

The spokesperson for the police said force was used when some of the squatters resisted arrest.

CPA relents over squatters' water

CT 15/10/92

Staff Reporter

THE water supply for 7 000 Kraaifontein squatters was reconnected yesterday after being cut off for five days — but residents complained they were expected to pay R18 a family for the supply and temporary toilets, of which there were none.

Scores of people from the Bloekombos squatter settlement lined up at the only tap at the camp and said they had to buy 25ℓ plastic cans for between 50 cents and R1,50.

There had also been no ablution facilities or roads for the past eight years, they said.

Cape Provincial Administration spokesman Mr Dieter Odendaal said the CPA roads branch had an agreement with the squatters that they pay a certain amount for water.

Since November last year the squatters were R3 500 in arrears and owed the CPA R1 148 for September. As a result the CPA had turned the water off.

After negotiations with the squatter community yesterday, a payment of R510 was made and the water was turned on shortly after 4pm. "Without the CPA they would have no water," Mr Odendaal said.

Bloekombos civic spokesman Mr Thomas Morris said the conditions at the camp were "appalling". People had to relieve themselves in the bush and the children were constantly ill.

The CPA wanted R18 from each family at the camp as payment for water and temporary toilets, but there were none, he said.

Mr Odendaal said the CPA had told the community how much they owed and squatter leader Mr Jackson Gillam had collected the money from the camp's residents.

The CPA is to respond today



HEAVENLY WATER . . . Scores of Bloekombos squatters queued for water at the only tap in the settlement yesterday soon after their water was turned back on after five days. Picture: BENNY GOOL

Eglin asks about forest

ARG 14/10/92 (307)

Political Correspondent

QUESTIONS have been asked in parliament about the possible extension of the Imizamo Yethu settlement in Hout Bay and whether any portion of the pine forest nearby will be cut down.

Democratic Party MP for Sea Point Mr Colin Eglin — whose constituency covers the area — has also asked Minister of Local Government and National Housing Mr Leon Wessels whether an independent environmental impact study has been, or will be, made on the possible effect of cutting down trees next to the settlement, and, if so, whether the findings will be made public.

Mr Eglin wants to know whether Mr Wessels's department has any plans to extend the settlement, what the details of the plans are and whether they have been discussed with the liaison committee representing Hout Bay communities.

Mr Eglin's questions followed considerable controversy in the Hout Bay valley over the settlement of squatters and attempts to draw all elements of the community into a process of liaison over the planning of any future settlement.

'Let us be' plea from Hout Bay squatters

ARGS 10/10/92 (307)

■ Hout Bay's white ratepayers have absolutely nothing to fear. That is the clear message from the residents of the local Imizamo Yethu squatter settlement.

DI CAELERS
Weekend Argus Reporter

SQUATTERS at Hout Bay have appealed to their white neighbours to "let us be".

"We just want to get on with our lives" was the standard response when Weekend Argus visited the controversial Imizamo Yethu squatter settlement this week.

The visit, to canvass attitudes of the squatters themselves, followed a rash of letters to the Press from Hout Bay ratepayers on the warpath over the proposed enlargement of the settlement.

While white residents claim they live in fear of increased crime and devalued properties, fear is something that is very real to the squatters too — fear of intimidation by employers or would-be employers should they speak their minds.

Many residents refused to be named or photographed, saying their chances of getting jobs, or their current positions, could be threatened if they were seen by the white community as "troublemakers".



□ **LILLIAN DYAN ...** "We want to get on with our own lives."



□ **JOYCE NGWANE ...** "They must learn to live with us."



□ **RHODA MASENGEMI ...** "They have nothing to fear from us."



□ **ALBERTINA NONDYOLA ...** "We have a right to live here."



□ **THEOPHILUS WAMBI ...** "Only the minority don't want us here."

Pictures: OBED ZILWA, Weekend Argus.

White ratepayers have nothing to fear, say Imizamo Yethu residents

But mother of two Mrs Joyce Ngwane, 26, who cooks and sells offal in the camp, had this message for her white neighbours: "Apartheid is gone and they must learn to live with us.

"Their attitude is unfair. People come here from outside to steal their things, even other white people steal, but whatever happens they just blame us."

Mrs Ngwane said she had come to Hout Bay three years ago from the Ciskei "looking for a job", that she was happy there and did not want to move away.

"They're going to give us plots so we can make nice homes for ourselves and our families," she told Weekend Argus.

Ms Albertina Nondyola, 32, lives at Imizamo Yethu with her sister Eveline and believes she has a right to be there.

"We are not hurting anyone. I came here from the Transkei in December last year and work as a domestic in the village," she said.

Both women, however, conceded that fewer than half the people in the settlement were permanently employed, but stressed that it was a "quiet, quiet" place to live and that there wasn't ever much trouble.

Mr Simon Mhlola shares his home with his wife and four children and is employed at "the fishing factories" in Hout Bay.

He told Weekend Argus he liked living there because "there is no other place to go" and because he was close to his work which started at 7am. If he lived in Khayelitsha his travel expenses would be exorbitant and his travelling time unacceptable.

"The white people don't have to be scared. Some white people even come in here to look for people to employ," he said.

Casual labourer Mr Theophilus Wambi said he didn't care about the white anger: "We just want to be left to live. We want to live together. But I do think it is only the minority of whites who don't want us here."

Mr Wambi came to Hout Bay from Paarl with his wife and four children a year ago to seek work.

Mr Rhoda Masengemi, 25, lives alone in his own house and works on the fishing trawlers. He claims "life is good" at Imizamo Yethu.

"I know the white people are angry because we are living close to them. It makes me angry in return because they have nothing at all to fear.

"Most of these people came here to find work and they want to stay here because of their jobs. The other townships are too far away."

Mr Masengemi said that when he went to work he never knew whether or not the boats would actually go out that day: "If I lived in Khayelitsha and we happened not to be working that day it would be a very long way back — and a big waste of money."

Mrs Lillian Dyan, 35, who first came to Hout Bay in 1981 when she was a "live-in" domestic worker, said: "I think it is our right to live here."

She is presently unemployed but says looking for work is easy because the white suburbs are close by: "When we do have jobs our employers don't want to pay us for bus fare so we must be close to work.

"The white people shouldn't fear us. We just want to get on with our lives," Mrs Dyan said.

Hout Bay squatter count static

ALG 29/10/92

Municipal Reporter

STUDIES of the Imizamo Yethu informal settlement at Hout Bay show that population figures have remained stable.

A Provincial Administration statement said a tender was to be awarded soon to develop the site.

About 600 sites of 120 sq m each will be developed in the 18ha township.

A layout plan approved after negotiations between the CPA and the Hout Bay Ratepayers Association includes a proposal for a primary school.

Fully tarred roads and walkways will be provided, as well as a full stormwater drainage system, taps on each site and street lighting.

Each site will have a toilet, which will be connected to the Hout Bay waterborne sewerage system, expected to be in operation in March.

Studies by the CPA, independent consultants and the University of Cape Town found 18ha was a suitable size "to accommodate the existing community in a healthy and upgradable development".

Criteria for site allocation will be set by the liasion committee and the Imizamo Yethu Civic Association.

Hout Bay squatters endorse CPA's R5m plan

(307) CT 30/10/92

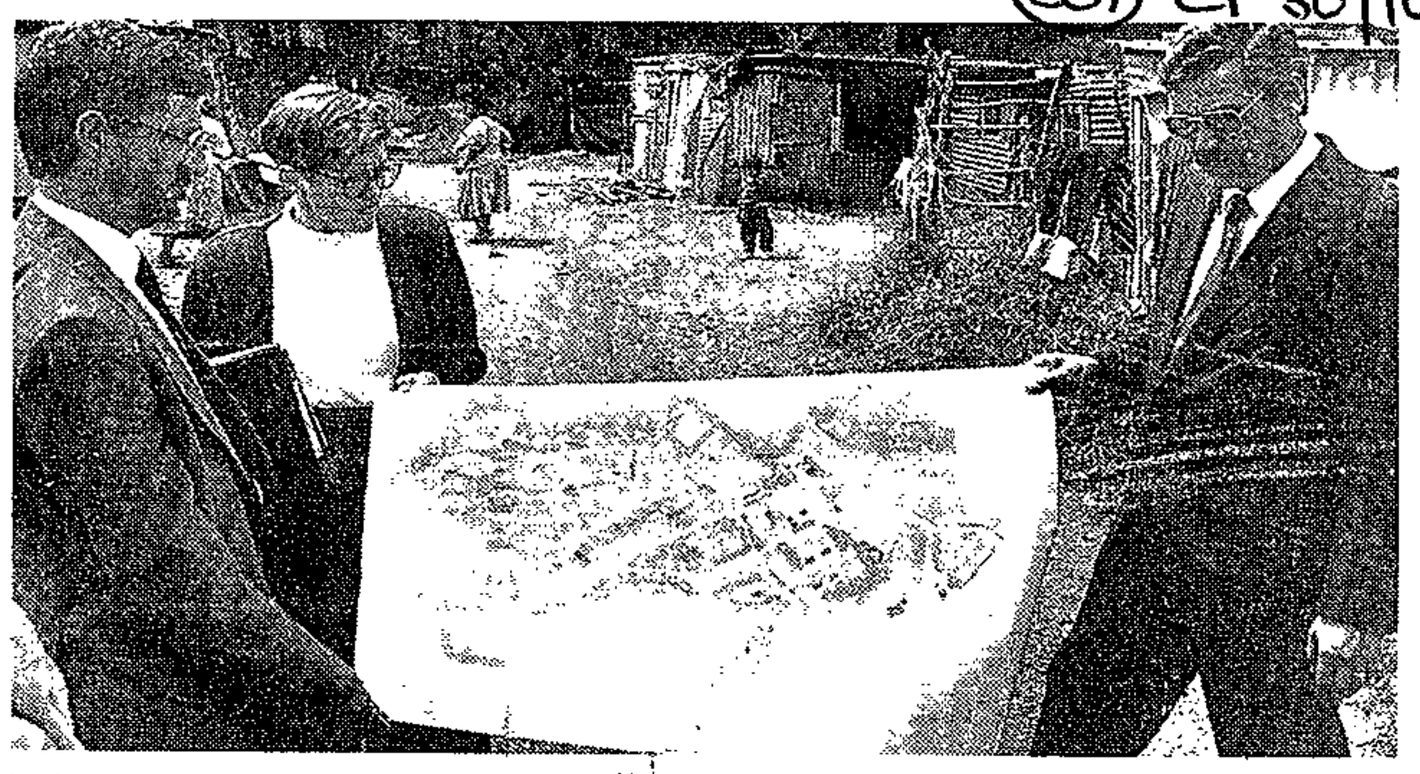
By DANIEL SIMON

THE Imizamo Yethu Civic Association yesterday fully endorsed a CPA plan for the R5-million development of the Imizamo Yethu squatter camp in Hout Bay..

This followed opposition from several ratepayers and representatives of a private development organisation who drew up an alternative plan.

The civic association's support for the plan, which could see work beginning as early as next week, appears to have put the lid on an ongoing dispute between the CPA and sections of the Hout Bay Ratepayers' Association and the Liaison Committee.





DEBATE ... Civic member Mr Zakhele Phikiso discusses the planned development of the Imizamo Yethu informal settlement with Hout Bay residents. **RIGHT:** CPA MEC Mr Koos Theron (right) and two CPA planning officials show off the final layout plan.

The Liaison Comittee is made up of members from the harbour community, ratepayers and the local civics.

It was disclosed that the final plan, unveiled by the CPA MEC Mr Koos Theron, is a combination of two plans encompassing ideas from an earlier CPA plan, which was previously rejected, and one drawn up by the Novalis Institute, who were called in to offer a more "humanistic approach" in designing the informal settlement.

In a face-saving move following a embarrassing snub from the community yesterday, Mr Ralph Shepherd of Novalis challenged the validity of the CPA's plan and the civic association and ANC's acceptance of it, saying: "The layout plan prepared by the CPA for the Imizamo Yethu informal community, which members of the civic community accepted, is the original plan which the community, together with the Liaison Committee of Hout Bay and its technical Committee, have all previously rejected.

"It was because this plan had been previously turned down that the Novalis Institute was invited in June this year to offer a more human alternative out of a community-driven process.

"Novalis agreed to participate only if it had the full co-operation and collaboration of all parties concerned, including the CPA.

"Subsequent events prove that this was not the case. Up until three weeks ago the community of Imizamo Yethu, as represented by its committee, was solidly behind the layout plan prepared by and developed with them by Novalis."

Acknowledging the Novalis Institute's contribution to the plan Mr Charlemagne Mguda said the final plan was a "combination"

Mr Mguda, who represented civic association chairman Mr Reuval Ndude at the meeting, said the Novalis option, although full of good ideas, had "not been accepted" as there were "engineering mistakes" which, if rectified, would have led to a six-month delay in the development project.

The CPA plan also provided for larger plots than those allowed for in the Novalis plan.

"The plan also accommodates 660 families when the development is complete. The Novalis plan was not drawn up in proper consultation and there were a lot of mistakes in it."

Mr Mguda added that at "no stage" had the CPA forced its plan on the community.

"The CPA plan will integrate well with Hout Bay and this is as a result of consultations with the CPA over the past two years."

The head of the ANC's Hout Bay branch, Mr Chris Meter, also said that the ANC "supported the plan" and that the decision was final.

Bold project to upgrade living conditions for 36 000 families

R500-m plan for squatters

307
AKG 30/10/92

TOS WENTZEL
Political Staff

A BOLD multi-million rand operation to upgrade living conditions for about 36 000 squatter families within five years has started in the Peninsula.

The Cape Provincial Administration plan aims to provide sites with services including water, sewerage and roads.

There are further plans to help squatters obtain housing, through self-help schemes, among other things.

The initial cost estimate is R500 million, but this could increase to R800 million.

Giving details, MEC in charge of community development Mr Koos Theron said he was optimistic his administration was winning in the struggle to provide for accommodation needs created by urbanisation. The backlog could be dealt with in five years, he said.

There were indications that the influx of people from the lower income groups to the urban areas had slackened, but it was difficult to obtain accurate figures.

The sites for 36 000 families had been identified after negotiations over 18 months to two years between interested parties — including extra-parliamentary movements, communities and local authorities.

Mr Theron said the big remaining problem was funding.

The CPA was negotiating with the Development Bank of Southern Africa, the Independent Development Trust, the Regional Services Council and the departments of State Expenditure and National Housing.

The plan was aimed mainly at relieving overcrowding on the Cape Flats.

There were other plans for serviced sites at Hottentots Holland, Grabouw, Hout Bay, Noordhoek, Milnerton and Kraaifontein where thousands of sites had already been identified.

In the case of Hout Bay, tenders had been called for the development of 600 sites. Although 34 ha had been acquired, the undertaking had been given that only 18 ha would be developed. The community as a whole was being involved and would have to decide on the development of the area, said Mr Theron.

At Noordhoek 500 sites had been developed or were being cleared.

Land was being indentified in the Milnerton and Kraaifontein areas. At the Uitkyk squatter area at Kraaifontein, 600 serviced sites had been provided while there were about 2 500 families at Bloekombos, said Mr Theron.

There were similar developments at Philippi East and West and at Lwandle at the Strand. There was also a big scheme in Crossroads section four.

In an Independent Development Trust scheme at Khayelitsha, 4 000 sites had been serviced and there would be 5 000 in the next phase.

The aim throughout was to achieve orderly settlement, Mr Theron said.

The backlog of houses for blacks in the whole of the Cape was 230 000 and, depending on the finances available, this could be reduced by 20 000 a year.

'We must reach out to homeless'

■ A major joint outreach effort by Cape Town organisations is the only answer to the permanent settlement of 90 000 homeless families, the CPA says.

DI CAELERS
Weekend Argus Reporter

GREATER Cape Town has a massive backlog of 90 000 black families requiring permanent homes — and the best the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA) can offer is the possibility of a serviced site.

With an estimated average influx into the city of 4 000 to 5 000 people each month over the past 10 years, there was just no way the authorities could have been prepared with proper houses and services, said the CPA's Deputy Director-General, Community Services, Mr Karel du Preez.

He told Weekend Argus that the problem stemmed from, among other things, influx control laws which thwarted normal urbanisation patterns. Cape Town now has one of the highest urbanisation rates in the country.

He stressed, however, that urbanisation should be viewed positively since rural areas could not provide developmental opportunities commensurate with population increase.

"It has been demonstrated worldwide that cities offer the best chance for creating opportunities for human development," Mr Du Preez said.

But what remains is that the CPA has to solve the problem of tens of thousands of families in need of a secure place to live.

The answer lay in identifying sufficient land and effective communication with and co-operation from established communities in Cape Town.

"The bottom line is that we don't have the money. What we're looking at is providing a serviced site for each household at best, and to use that as a basis for an incremental, supportive development approach.

"People have to accept it is inevitable that lower income areas are going to be identified close to high income areas. It is just not feasible for low income people to work 30 or 40 kms away from their homes."

The effective handling of urbanisation in greater Cape Town lay in the following:

■ Depoliticise development. "When everyone is jockeying for position and wanting to take credit for advances, it slows things down terribly. An interim government could go a long way in addressing this problem."

■ Identify suitable land. "It must be in the right places and not miles and miles away. The perceptions, views and attitudes of settled communities must be taken into account and must change."

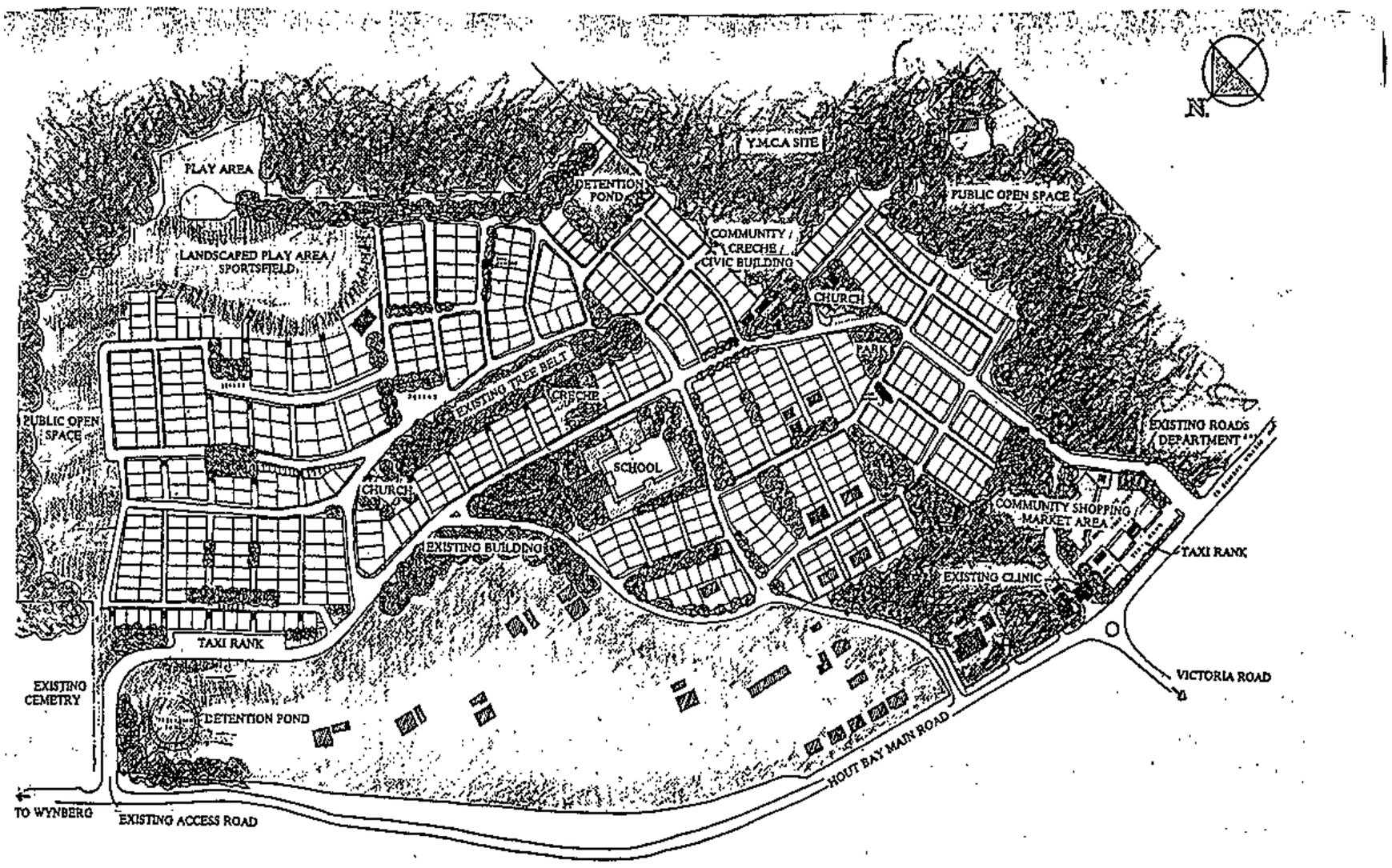
■ Rationalise local government. "Local authorities must be the executing agents but the black local authorities have legitimacy problems and the white ones generally don't want to get involved."

■ Harness all possible financial resources.

■ Harness all possible resources from settled communities to combine with those of the disadvantaged in a massive outreach effort.

The CPA's main focus was their so-called "serviced land project" — a five-year plan to provide serviced sites in Langa, Nyanga, Guguletu, Crossroads, Philippi and areas north of the N2 to Driftsands.

This would probably finally provide about 36 000 sites with basic facilities for which suitable land had already been identified.



IMIZAMO YETHU-HOUT BAY

MLH
ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

307 APRG 31/10/92

Squatters agree to CPA's plan for 500 serviced sites

JOHN YELD
Weekend Argus Reporter

HOUT Bay's Imizamo Yethu squatter community has accepted the Cape Provincial Administration's site-and-service development plan.

Work is expected to start next month on a 35-week contract to instal water-borne sewerage, stormwater drainage, tarred roads and walkways, taps on each site, street lights and electricity for an initial 500 sites.

A second phase of the development will add 100 or possibly 160 sites. All are between 120 and 165 sq m and are expected to sell for about R12 000.

The CPA has been slammed by the Novalis Institute, a development agency which was invited in June to develop an alternative, "more human" plan for the township in conjunction with the squatter community.

The institiute, which said the squatter's civic committee had been "solidly behind" its layout plan, accused the CPA of "underhand lobbying", "blatant misinformation" and "stooping to denigrate" its plan which was rejected subsequently.

It wants the Administrator, Mr Kobus Meiring, to appoint an independent ombudsman to assess the two proposals.

Institute representatives, in turn, were criticised by Imizamo Yethu community representatives at a heated site meeting on Thursday when the CPA's plans were shown to the Press.

Civic committee spokesman Mr Charlemagne Mguga said the community "fully endorsed" the CPA plan.

Mr Mguga warned white ratepayers to accept the squatters as an integral part of the Hout Bay community.

"We are still being treated in the old apartheid style. We are not second-hand citizens ... We challenge them to come forward and accept reality."

He said the community had never agreed to limiting the development to 18 hectares.

"White ratepayers have been pressing for this restriction. We want as much land as we need to be comfortable," he said.

MEC Mr Koos Theron rejected the attack by Novalis, saying the CPA was the "principal role player".

"It was agreed all along that in the final instance we would adjudicate any plan suggested by the liaison committee."

Hout Bay "mayor" and former divisional councillor Mr Len Pothier drew laughter when he said "vast areas" on the Cape Flats could house the community.

He suggested they move there as there were not sufficient employment in Hout Bay.

When Mr Pothier said: "And I might add the ANC supports me in that..." there were angry interjections of "No, we don't!"

(307)

Wecusa puts Jeff in charge

ST Times
Cape Metro
1/11/92

By CHIARA CARTER

CROSSROADS leader Mr Jeffrey Nongwe is the new chairman of the 300 000-strong Western Cape United Squatters Association (Wecusa).

Mr Nongwe was elected at Wecusa's annual meeting, attended by more than 650 delegates from throughout the Cape last weekend.

After the conference, some delegates expressed concern that voting had been by show of hands.

Mr Enoch Madywabe, former chairman and now general secretary of Wecusa, said it had been agreed at the general meeting not to use a secret ballot as this would have been "too expensive".

Mr Robert Manxiwa was elected treasurer and controversial Khayelitsha leader Mr Jerry Tutu, deputy chairman.

Mr Tutu is the former leader of the Greenpoint squatters in Khayelitsha. He fell into disrepute amid claims that he had been extorting money. He now represents Town 3, Village 5, in Khayelitsha.

Also on the executive are Browns Farm leaders Mr Christopher Toise and Mr Alfred Siphika.

Squatters get reprieve

307

CR Milnerton

Staff Reporter

FIFTY EIGHT Table View squatter families who had been threatened with eviction tomorrow have obtained a reprieve to November 16.

Mr Henk Smit of the Legal Resources Centre, acting for the squatters, said the reprieve had been granted after the regional dispute resolution committee contacted the land owners, Milnerton Estates Ltd.

The moratorium was granted on condition that no more people enter the area.

New site for squatters ready in December

(307) CT 5/11/92

SQUATTERS from Fish Hoek, the Green Point site in Noordhoek and Site 5 in Sunnydale were unable to move to the newly developed site off Kommetjie Road last month as anticipated, due to a delay in the completion of services.

Civil services

According to a statement released by the Cape Provincial Administration, all the services will be completed only in late December.

The 14 families who live in Fish Hoek, the 153 from Green Point and the 338 from Site 5 had, according to the statement, decided themselves to move in October.

Said the statement: "This development, comprising 454 sites, will consolidate the three communities in the area as well as upgrade their standard of living with tarred roads, a tap and flush toilet on each site, and services like refuse removal and street lighting for all the inhabitants."

Allocation

The installation of civil services is almost complete.

The CPA have endeavoured to develop the site with the cooperation of the relevant communities and sites have been allocated for a primary school, sports fields, two churches, two creches and a community centre.

"Throughout the project, emphasis has been placed on the communities' participation in helping themselves improve their own quality of life, by them taking decisions regarding this development, which will affect and improve their future," says the statement.

Community members involved with the squatters told the Review this week that the sites were theoretically ready.

One said: "There are more people than plots available so before anybody moves it will have to be established as to who gets first priority."

Squatters kicked out with regrets

(301)

ARG 7/11/92

■ Justice is done, but the judge regrets squatters must leave their homes, apparently abandoned by local authorities who have bowed to complaints from Bellville residents.

LIBBY PEACOCK
Supreme Court Reporter

THIRTEEN squatters and their families have been ordered by the Supreme Court to leave a Bellville farm after an application was brought by the 83-year-old farmer, Mr Cecil Morgan.

Mr Justice Selikowitz yesterday granted the order, but noted "with much regret" that the Bellville municipality "seemed to have backed off" the problem after local residents complained.

Evidence before the court was that Mr Morgan's farm, Soete Inval, was being converted into a multimillion rand industrial township.

Originally there were 18 respondents, but four of them did not oppose the action and the case was withdrawn against a fifth.

The court found some of the squatters paid rent every month and were subject to a month's notice. The others were squatting illegally.

Mr Justice Selikowitz found proper notice had been given to the squatters in March.

After negotiations with the Bellville Residents' Association, which acted for the residents, Mr Morgan allowed them to stay until June 15.

Mr Justice Selikowitz said "not a single respondent stepped into the witness box" to say the Mr Morgan's evidence was incorrect.

He said the Bellville municipality initially tried to arrange alternative accommodation for the squatters, but now seemed to have "left the unfortunate people to fight their own battle".

Courts did not relish the prospect of ordering people out of their homes and were extremely sensitive to the reality of the situation, but on the facts of this particular case it appeared that Mr Morgan had not acted unreasonably.

He could not but find that all the squatters had agreed by their conduct to leave the farm on June 15 and had known for months that they had to leave.

It appeared on the facts before him that the municipality had turned its back on the problem.

Describing the situation as "tragic", Mr Justice Selikowitz said the Bellville Residents' Association was "an admirable community organisation" which set out to help the plight of those without homes.

Squatters totter but hang on...

LINDA GALLOWAY
Weekend Argus Reporter

307
ARG 7/11/92

THE fate of 85 families threatened with eviction from a piece of land in Table View hangs in the balance.

The Regional Dispute Resolution Committee, a structure of the National Peace Accord, yesterday convened a "constructive" three-hour meeting between all the parties at the Milnerton Municipality. The meeting will be continued next Thursday.

The families, some of whom have been on the land for 10 years, attended the meeting. They have a conditional reprieve until November 16.

The municipality, the Cape Provincial Administration, the owners, the Western Cape United Squatters' Association, Surplus People's Project, Development Action Group and Legal Resources Centre were represented at the meeting.

Appeal for help to end feud

By Sabata Ngcai

NEWLY-ELECTED squatter leader Mr Jeffrey Nongwe has called on political organisations to mediate in the feud between his Western Cape United Squatters Association (Wecusa) and the Western Cape branch of South African National Civic Organisation (Sanco).

The conflict began when Wecusa accused the disbanded Western Cape Civic Association (WCCA), which is now a Sanco affiliate, of burning down shacks belonging to its members in a Khayelitsha squatter camp.

Wecusa also accused the WCCA of setting alight two vehicles belonging to Wecusa.

Nongwe told SOUTH that Wecusa had long been trying to meet Sanco leadership to resolve the conflict but all attempts had failed.

He said the ANC had unsuccessfully tried to mediate but he felt the involvement of the organisation could still bring about a solution.

Nongwe said the presence of the ANC need not diminish the important role other organisations could play in trying to resolve the conflict.

Sanco publicity secretary Mr Welcome Zenzile said his organisation welcomed the Wecusa call "because Sanco believes in peace and unity".

ANC spokesperson Mr Vincent Diba said the organisation's conflict resolution desk is always available to resolve conflicts.

PAC spokesperson Ms Patricia de Lille said the PAC could only respond if it was "officially" approached to intervene.

Squatters to get services

Municipal Reporter

THE CPA agreed yesterday to start providing temporary services to the Bloekombos settlement within the next three weeks, community services regional director Mr Faan Naudé said.

A water pipe, five taps and 600 toilets will be installed, and communal refuse bins will be provided and emptied regularly. (307)

The Bloekombos community will pay for the services. CT 14/11/92

Housing project a ray of hope for homeless

307
ARG 14/11/92

ALIDE DASNOIS
and PATRICK FARRELL
Weekend Argus Reporters

CO-OPERATION between Cape Town squatters and developers has helped to make one of the largest housing projects in South Africa a "great success".

The project, known as Town 3, Village 5, will be ready by the end of the year and will provide 4 100 new serviced sites in Khayelitsha.

The R31-million development, financed by the Independent Development Trust (IDT), has been undertaken by a Community Development Consortium in association with the Western Cape United Squatters Association (WCUSA).

Yesterday, the Administrator of the Cape, Mr Kobus Meiring, went on a tour of the site with representatives of the contractors and the squatters.

At a function afterwards Mr Meiring said: "The project depicts the theme of teamwork. We can sum it up as hope."

A squatter leader, Mr Enoch Madywabe, said people living in poverty needed help from "those with capacity and thrust".

"We would like to be helped and we need your expertise," he said to the contractors.

About 1 500 families already have been chosen and have moved on to serviced



□ **STAR CAFÉ:** Ms Agnes Kave, left, and Ms Signoria Nodeka tend the cabbages in front of the Star Store in a settled part of the new village. The spaza shops are the centre of entertainment in the village.

307

Arg 14|11|92

plots on the 144 ha site on reclaimed land next to the Kuils River.

Squatters on the new site said they preferred it to their old homes, which were mostly in Khayelitsha's Site B.

"This is much cleaner and I feel a lot happier here," said Mr Johannes Mabuza.

"When the project is complete, the homeowners will have free title to their serviced plots."

The design allows for 10 schools as well as churches, crèches, community facilities, public open spaces and business premises.

Mr Alie Killian of Hill Kaplan Scott, the project's consulting engineers, said the non-residential land was to be transferred to a trust, to be developed when finance was available.

Each 150 to 160 sq m stand has a precast concrete toilet, with waterborne sewerage and a tap. Electricity has not been provided to individual stands, but ducting has been installed under roads for future electrification.

Streets are equipped with high-mast lights.

The squatters are given help in moving to their new sites and then they build their new homes.

The project team said that tight co-ordination had kept costs per serviced plot within the R7 500 subsidy granted by the IDT, so that the sites would be available free of charge to squatter families.

The project involved 26 km of tarred roads, 27 km of water mains and 24 km of sewer mains.

Fire destroys 200 homes

CT 19/11/92
307

KAYAMANDI squatters tore down their homes and erected barricades in a desperate bid to stop a fire which raged through the camp outside Stellenbosch, destroying more than 200 homes.

More than 900 families were left homeless in the wake of the shack fire which raged for more than eight hours through Tuesday night.

A massive relief effort was launched yesterday to provide shelter, clothing and food for the destitute families.

Kayamandi town clerk Mr Andre Cruywagen said yesterday the fire is believed to have started with a candle that was blown over near the Kayamandi Sports Hall. It spread rapidly, fanned by a strong south-easter.

The Stellenbosch Fire Brigade and the Regional Service Council brought the fire under control by 7.30am yesterday.

The offices of the Kayamandi Town Council are to be used as a collection point for all donations.

Blankets, mattresses needed

"We would welcome any contributions from the public. Our biggest problem is accommodation, so we would really appreciate tents, mattresses and blankets," Mr Cruywagen said.

Mrs Roni Hankey, of Life Education Action Development Programme — which is involved in the relief work — said help is needed for single parents. "We need baby formula, bottles, nappies and baby clothes."

Mr Cruywagen said he is negotiating with the SA Defence Force for tents.

"The Red Cross will also come out here to look at the situation and the Cape Provincial Administration is looking at the possibility of providing food packets."

He said volunteers are collecting food and clothing and that a number of companies in Stellenbosch had made generous contributions.

Mr Cruywagen said he encouraged people to rebuild their shacks on a new site, next to where the fire occurred.

"The site of the fire was not serviced and the shacks were built in a disorderly fashion, whereas the new site is a planned formal site with electricity and water facilities," he said.

The secretary of the Stellenbosch ANC branch, Mr Rudolf Mastenbroek, said a community meeting was held last night to set up a Crisis Committee to assess the damage and assist in the relief work.

● People with donations should contact Mrs Troskie at (02231) 95-533. Mr Grant Twigg of the ANC can be contacted at (02231) 73-835.

the nation in brief

1 000 homeless after fire

NEARLY 1 000 people have been left homeless by a fire which swept through 200 shacks at Kayamandi near Stellenbosch. (307)

Fire brigade staff from Stellenbosch and the Regional Services Council brought the fire under control only after battling the flames throughout the night. Sowetan 19/11/92

Residents hastily removed furniture and other belongings as firemen fought the fire as it raced from one shack to another.

The blaze was extinguished about 6.30am yesterday after firemen had used jets for nearly eight hours.

No-one was injured in the fire, believed to have started when a burning candle fell over.

Homeless residents are being housed temporarily in Kayamandi community halls and sports recreational centres, adjacent to the sprawling shantytown.

Good news for pensioners

PENSIONERS in Sekhukuneland, Lebowa, whose social pension payments had been stopped by the territory's Department of Health, Social Welfare and Pensions, will have their pensions reinstated.

Backdated payments to September this year when the payments were cut off will also be paid, the Department of the Chief Minister announced yesterday. Sowetan 19/11/92

A department statement said the pensions had been suspended without the knowledge of the Lebowa cabinet.

1 000 homeless in Boland fire

301
ARG 19/11/92

VUSI KAMA and JOHAN SCHRÖNEN
Staff Reporters

MORE than 1 000 people were left homeless after about 200 homes were gutted in a 10-hour blaze at a squatter camp at Kayamandi near Stellenbosch.

Members of the Red Cross and the local community were hard at work last night preparing food and shelter for the victims.

Mrs Nozamile Lamani, 45, said she could not believe her luck when she managed to crawl through her door as the flames devoured her shack. Hers was the second shack to burn in a blaze which devastated the township.

"I don't know how I escaped the burning plastic around my shack," Mrs Lamani said.

The fire, which destroyed nearly 200 shacks at the Strong Yard squatter camp, started at a shack occupied by a young woman, said Mrs Lamani.

The woman disappeared soon after the incident and had not been seen since, she said.

The fire started at about 10pm on Tuesday and was extinguished only about 7.30 yesterday morning after a strong wind fanned the flames.

Mrs Nowetu Sonala, 42, said the fire had destroyed furniture which she had wanted to transport to her home in the Transkei.

A distraught Mrs Sonala said: "I had spent all my savings on buying the furniture and now it has been destroyed. I was at work when the incident took place and I went mad when I heard what had happened."

The local community hall was a hive of activity as the victims, mainly women and children, collected food and blankets from Red Cross field workers.

Scores of University of Stellenbosch students and members of the ANC arrived at first light to help people sift through the sea of debris. Students collected bakkie-loads of clothes and blankets and delivered them to the scene. A relief fund was established.

Last night the squatters were accommodated in classrooms and halls.

According to Stellenbosch town clerk, Mr André Cruywagen, local stores such as Pick'n Pay, Woolworths and Pep Stores had come forward to help the squatters after they heard of their plight from firemen who went around the town organising help.

The disaster was the first in the tiny, quiet township since squatting increased over the past few years.

Strong Yard is the most densely packed squatter camp in the township, situated only metres from a vineyard.

"There was no time to think, we just grabbed what was close to us and got out of the place," said a woman who was left with the clothes she had on.

"People were screaming and running into each other and falling in the dark narrow alleys between the burning shacks.

"The place turned into a huge ball of fire. Once I got out there was no chance to go back and try to save more belongings.

"I did not have much but it took me a lifetime to get those possessions together. I'm old now and it looks like I will die destitute," said the shaken woman.

Mr Norman Mguzula, 67, who lost everything in the blaze, said the walls of his shack were already warm when he and his family woke up with the sound of the crackling fire near him.

"When I opened the door it was like opening an oven door."

Hope in sight for Bellville squatters

SOUTH 21/11 - 25/11/92 (307)

By Justin Pearce

BELLVILLE squatters whose appalling living conditions were exposed by SOUTH earlier this year could be facing better times.

There is now a possibility that the section of Morgan's Farm where they live be taken over and upgraded by the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA).

The Bellville Residents Association (BRA) met on Tuesday with the Mayor of Bellville, the South African National Civic Association, the ANC, the CPA and other organisations concerned with development. Representatives of the Regional Dispute Resolution Committee were also present.

Ms Maria April of the BRA said the meeting decided to approach the manager of Morgan's Farm to arrange for the transfer of the privately-owned land to the CPA.

April said once the transfer had been effected the BRA would request that the site be upgraded and services provided.

About 300 people are living in an informal settlement on Morgan's Farm.

Pavement children face tough test

SOWETAN 21|11-25|11|92 307

By Diane Coetzer

TRY to imagine this. You are a 13-year-old girl, trying to study for a good pass in your end-of-year examinations.

But where do you study when home is nothing more than a double bed perched dangerously on the edge of the pavement and covered by a large plastic sheet?

And this little space is shared with your parents and three siblings.

This is how young Carmelita Lawrence must study. She lives with her mother Patricia, father David, sisters Chantel, 10, and Terecita, 4, and 21-month-old brother, Morne, on a pavement in Eastridge, Mitchell's Plain, in front of the house they once occupied.

On September 28 the family was evicted by the Cape Town City Council after they were unable to pay the rent.

"My husband was retrenched so we could not make the payments," Lawrence said as she sat breastfeeding Morne amongst her few remaining items of furniture stacked next to the bed.

"And now the council wants us to disrupt the children's schooling and move us to a place I haven't even heard of (Vrygrond)."

Another Eastridge family has also been asked by the Council to move to Vrygrond, a serviced informal settlement near Lavender Hill.

Mrs Wasiema Dennis, 47, and her children Sarina, 15, Soraya, 13, Ferousa, 8, and Ismail, 5, have lived in a shack for four years, no more than two metres by two metres, on a piece of vacant council land.

Three of her children are in school and have to study by gaslight, perched on the edge of a bed, always listening for the sounds of gang fights or people trying to break through their flimsy surrounds.

A single-parent and unemployed, Dennis is waiting for a council house.

"I applied for a house at the rent office in 1988, but the City Council says my name has only been on the waiting list for a year so I think the rent office must have mislaid my application."

She too is unwilling to move to Vrygrond.

"If I go to Vrygrond, how many years will I have to wait for a house in which to raise my children properly?" Dennis asked.

The city council's director of project management services, Mr Hans Smit, said: "Squatting is illegal in terms of the law.

"However the council always offers an alternative before it takes any action and in this case the families have been offered space in Vrygrond.

"The bottom line, however, is that there is a massive housing shortage in Cape Town."

Mothers clean up garbage for food

By MICHEL MULLER

THE Department of National Health has allocated R632 100 to the Lingelethu West City Council for a six-month "food development" pilot project in which residents — mainly women with babies on their backs — collect garbage in exchange for food.

The money is part of the controversial R440-million Nutrition Development Programme announced last year by Minister of Health Dr Rina Venter.

The Fairest Cape Association had "laid the groundwork for the system", its chief executive, Mr Roger Hulley, said.

The women, selected from the poorest areas of Khayelitsha, work three times a week in Site C, a squatter camp that has a rudimentary infrastructure and a population that is estimated to be 65 000.

They are paid with food parcels valued at R21 each. By comparison, it costs the Cape Town City Council R700 a ton to collect garbage.

The council's development officer, Ms Antoinette Lourens, said food was "the incentive" for the collectors who worked in groups of about 30 or 60 picking up even raw sewage in "very dirty places".

"We see to it that there are a couple of men to do the hard work.

"At the end of the day, we aim to feed people who can't feed themselves."

Operation Hunger's regional director, Ms Elna Trautmann, said nutritional development meant providing balanced meals while training communities in self-help.

"Lingelethu is feeding in a sectional, elitist way," she said.

Indian delegation visits SA's poor

(307)

By CHIARA CARTER

A DELEGATION from three organisations representing homeless people in India visited squatters in Khayelitsha this week. ST Times (Cape Metro) 22/11/92.

The five-member delegation, which left Cape Town yesterday, was hosted by People's Dialogue, an organisation established last year following an initiative by the Catholic Bishops Conference to encourage contact and resource-sharing between communities in informal settlements.

The three Indian organisations — the Society for the Promotion of Area Resource Centres (Spark), Mahila Milen (Women Together) and the National Slum Dwellers Federation — work together closely in Indian cities with slum-dwellers.

According to Spark representative Ms Celine D'Cruz, the organisations encourage women to assume leadership in their communities without alienating men.

Ms D'Cruz said the organisations were involved in an exchange programme with South Africa and that a South African delegation had visited India earlier this year.

"The programme aims to bring together people from poor urban communities rather than experts. We believe in poor people speaking to the poor."

The delegation visited poor settlements throughout the country.

'Spirit of harmony' sees squatter families move

307

ARG 25/11/92

EDWARD MOLOINYANE, Staff Reporter

MORE than 500 Noordhoek squatter families have been moved to a developed site near Kommetjie.

They include people who lived on a 100-hectare site in the middle of Noordhoek valley, where the owner wants to build a R150 million luxury housing estate.

The Cape Provincial Administration said the move was a sequel to a meeting with squatters from Green Point and Site Five and with the Fish Hoek Homeless Peoples last week.

Green Point, home to an estimated 2 000 people, is on privately owned land. The owner last year clashed with the squatters because he wanted to build a luxury housing estate.

Site Five, about four kilometres from Green Point off Kommetjie Road, is where some of the Green Point squatters were moved last year after a protracted squabble with the landowner, Great Lakes Development Company.

Mr Gavin Reeves, managing director of Protaen, the project managers and developers, said phase one of the project, built where some of the squatters moved last year, had been sold and there was "great interest" in phase two.

The squatters were initially moved without any basic facilities in place, but the area had now been provided with taps and flush toilets, the CPA said



Picture: OBED ZILWA, The Argus

DISMANTLING: Some of the Green Point squatters dismantle their shacks in preparation for the move to new serviced sites in Site Five off Kommetjie Main Road.

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ARG 25/11/92.

in a statement.

At the meeting representatives of the three communities decided on the day of the move and the division and allocation of the sites.

"The development of Site Five has created 452 developed sites. Each has a tap and a flush toilet. There are tarred roads and services like refuse removal and street lighting will be provided for all the inhabitants," the CPA said.

It said the installation of electrical services at Site Five would be completed next month.

"In the town plan of Site Five, provision has been made for a school, two crèches, two churches, a community centre and sportsfield. Allowance has also been made for informal markets and bus stops."

It said the decision by the three communities to move to the new site was reached in a "spirit of harmony and co-operation".

"There exists a willingness on the part of the three communities to work together."

Excited squatters said they were happy to move to the new site because the authorities were at last "beginning to see reason".

The Western Cape Regional Services Council provided free transport to the new site.

The Green Point squatters said they were not being moved forcibly and their deadline to leave for the new area was February next year.

On Monday only about 21 families were being moved, while other families said they would leave after Christmas.

Squatter Mr Nkululeko Mangcaka said: "We are happy to move to the new site because it has got toilets and running water."

"Now that they recognise that we also belong here, means that they are changing. They were very arrogant and heartless in past years," said Mrs Nombulelo Nyoka, who has been a resident in Green Point since 1989. She added that she would only be moving after Christmas.



EMERGENCY TENTS: Western Cape Regional Services Council officials erect tents, above, in Site Five for families. Below, some of the new sites with flushing toilets, running water and tarred streets.



At Site Five, Western Cape Regional Services Council officials were busy pitching tents. An official said the tents were meant for those families who would be moving later in the day and did not have sufficient time to rebuild their shacks.

Squatters move to prepared site

(207)

CT 26/11/92

SQUATTERS from Fish Hoek, Green Point in Noordhoek and Site 5 began their move this week to the newly developed Site 5 just off Kommetjie Road in Sunnydale.

Work began early on Monday morning and by lunch-time on the same day, a number of sturdy wooden shacks had been erected.

A spokesman for the Cape Provincial Administration, said the squatters had been assisted in the move by the CPA, the Regional services Council and other organisations.

Flush toilet

"The squatters break their old structures down and are them moved — lock, stock and barrel, including people and pets — to the new site. There they are given nails to put their houses together again."

Sites were allocated to 20 families from Fish Hoek, 216 families from Green Point and 216 from Site 5.

The communities decided on the date of the move and the allocation of sites.

Each of the 425 developed sites has a flush toilet and a tap. Roads are tarred and street lighting and refuse removal will be provided.

Harmony

The installation of electrical services is due to be completed late next month.

The CPA spokesman said: "The decisions taken by the three communities this week were done in a spirit of harmony and co-operation."

Making a new start



SURVIVORS: Children who were left homeless when fire destroyed about 200 shacks.

Army and Red Cross tents for shack blaze vicitims

307

ARG 2/12/92

EDWARD MOLOINYANE
Staff Reporter

HUNDREDS of Kayamandi shack dwellers left homeless when fire razed their shanties a fortnight ago are living in tents provided by the Red Cross and the army.

The tent village, a few metres from the ruins of their homes, is on land initially earmarked for a site and service scheme, says a Kayamandi town council official. The site already has communal water taps but toilets have not yet been installed.

The victims, who lost virtually everything in the blaze, are trying to make a new start.

Organisations and individuals rallied around the families and almost all the households in the tent village have beds, cooking utensils, clothing and blankets and they are given weekly food rations.

The Red Cross Society, which co-ordinated the relief effort, said the 200 tents were erected with the help of volunteers, municipal and civil defence workers and the army.

"The official tally seems to be 130 families, numbering about 700 people," said a Red Cross statement.

"Some reports have put the figure higher, but an on-the-spot assessment by our field workers have confirmed less."

The Red Cross said the response to the victims' plight by companies, the public and media had been "fantastic" with good co-operation and liaison among organisations.

Tent village residents interviewed this week said they wanted to rebuild their lives and it was no use being bitter.

"I had some expensive household items such as a bedroom suite and a colour television set which I lost in the fire. But we are thankful that no one was burnt to death," said long-distance taxi driver Mr Sidwell Makayi.

He said he was away on a trip when the fire began.

Waiter and radio repairer Mr Mthetheleli Bontshi was at work in Stellenbosch when the fire broke out, destroying everything, including 11 radios he was to repair.

He said his wife and baby had escaped unscathed.

Squatters a threat to Diep River area

(307)

CT 3/12/92

VAGRANTS and squatters are the biggest threat to the future of the public open space along the Diep River say Constantia residents and people from other areas who use the riverine area for recreation.

Two recent public workshops enabled users of the public open space to share their visions of what should be tackled first following a study by a team of engineers, ecologists, water scientists and landscape architects.

R65 000 has been budgeted by the Local Council of Constantia Valley for the study, and R135 000 for tackling projects suggested by the team and the public.

Security patrols

Among the points made were that unless the vagrancy problem is effectively dealt with, the rehabilitation of the rivers would be a waste of time and money and that the entrance to the heavily used green belt behind the Alphen Hotel should be fenced and gated to control access, particularly at night.

It was suggested that a community based initiative, should come from green belt users and nearby property owners, to work on reforestation with indigenous trees, clearing undesirable exotics and water weed. The suggestion was also made that the local horse owners might mount security patrols on the green belts.

The working team will now digest all the input, as well as that from a meeting on the Westlake River, and will submit a report suggesting action priorities to the local council early next year.

Studies of the valley's other rivers will begin in mid-1993.

Stellenbosch — behind the gabled facade . . .

South 5/12 - 9/12/92.

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DIANE COETZER takes a trip on the 'alternative' wine route — through landscapes of squatter camps and hostels peopled by the jobless and exploited:

STELLENBOSCH is South Africa's second oldest town and, to many people, its most beautiful. White-washed buildings, most of them national monuments, peep from behind rows of oak trees. Then there are the fields upon fields of wine grapes that surround the town that is situated at the foot of the mountains.

This is the side of Stellenbosch seen by tourists from South Africa and Europe.

But the grand wine estates so beloved of the town's tourists often hide exploitation of an even grander scale — sometimes mere metres from the fine restaurants and wine-tasting centres.





ABOVE: The front of Peter October's home at Spier RIGHT: Clara Solomon and her daughter, Katrina

SPIER: living on R46 and a dop

PETER October doesn't want a lot.

Just a decent wage, a decent house and the chance to bring his 14-month-old baby up in the most decent way he knows how.

But as a farm worker on Spier, one of Stellenbosch's most popular wine estates, October, aged 28, says he is denied this.

"What kind of a life is it for us if we don't even earn enough to buy our children food and we live in houses so run-down we are constantly sick?" October asked. "We cannot even openly join a union for fear that we will lose our jobs."

October earns R45,70 a week, works a 12-hour day and gets the traditional "dop" at the end of it.

And all this on a wine estate described in John Platter's wine drinkers' bible as a "magnet for tourists, who can sample wines and local specialities at two restaurants on the property, visit the art gallery and on a Saturday morning wander among the stalls at the country craft markets amid old oaks and roses".

During SOUTH's visit to the estate, the contrasts between the grand beauty of the estate and the workers' lives became clear.

Just a few hundred metres from the Spier restaurant, workers live in the type of run-down housing generally seen on smaller grape farms.

October himself lives in an unhealthily damp two-roomed cottage with his child, Joleen, and her mother, Juanita Sias, who also works on the farm with young Joleen on her hip for a wage of R37,50 a week.

"Look at this place," said October, pointing to the room in which October and Sias cook their food.

"The water runs under the house and the floor is always damp."

October said he had problems with the "dop" given by the manager to "take the tiredness away".

"I would rather have money for food and clothing."

As is common on so many wine farms, management at Spier has apparently been very resistant to the organisation of farmworkers.

"Most of the workers are signed-up members of the Farmworkers' Support Committee (FSC)," October said, "but it is difficult to hold meetings here."

October said he had heard of new legislation (the Basic Conditions of Employment Ammendment Act) designed to protect the rights of farmworkers.

"If the law comes in, I believe it will help farmworkers a great deal."

MEERLUST: eviction comes knocking

IT was difficult to reach Clara Solomon.

With Mr Paul Endley, an organiser from the FSC, I had to drive to a river on Meerlust wine estate, park and hoot until she appeared and made her way over the river.

Union organisers and journalists are taboo on many of Stellenbosch's internationally-acclaimed wine estates and we had come to talk to Solomon about Meerlust's attempt to evict her and her family.

Solomon's story is a familiar one.

The family moved to the estate this year. But when her husband, Petrus, got sick with tuberculosis and was off work, the entire family was told to leave the farm.

Solomon said they had moved to Meerlust from Paarl when her husband was employed as a workshop driver. Most of the rest of the family — including four girls — worked in the vineyard. The youngest daughter, Crezelda, attended school.

The family was given a two-roomed house in which to live.

After working for a few months, Petrus fell ill early in July. After TB was diagnosed, he was put off work for a number of weeks. After he went back to work he was told to leave the farm with his family.

Solomon now works a few hundred kilometres away where there is no family accommodation.

"I feel that my father was unfairly treated simply because he got sick," said Katrina Solomon, 20.

Endley said: "We have given the case to Lawyers for Human Rights because all attempts we have made to communicate with management have come to a dead end."

Although most workers were signed up with the FSC, negotiations were difficult, he said.

NEETHLINGSHOF: fighting for rights

TOURISTS on their way to taste Neethlingshof's award-winning Noble Late Harvest or Lord Neethling Rouge this holiday season may find themselves confronted by placard-waving demonstrators denouncing the famous wine estate.

The FSC will stage the protest if they do not get a formal commitment by the estate that the employees' organisation will be recognised.

FSC General secretary Mr Grant Twigg said the picket was being considered as the wine estate had "acted in bad faith in refusing to recognise the FSC".

"We have been communicating with the wine farm for a number of years over a recognition agreement," Twigg told SOUTH.

"An undertaking was given by management that we would be recognised if we could prove we had the majority of members at the three farms owned by Mr Hans-Joachim Schreiber — Neethlingshof, Stellenzicht and Welmoed.

"But after we had shown about 80 percent of workers as signed-up members, management backed out of the deal."

Twigg said the organisation had been mandated by the workers to send a letter to Schreiber (formerly of the Dresdner Bank) in Germany asking for an explanation.

Workers feel he may be unaware of their battle for recognition.

During a visit to Neethlingshof workers' village — one of the better in the area in that it has adequate housing, a creche and a community centre — an FSC member said the non-recognition was the main problem at the estate.

Organisers meet in the shadows

South 5/12 - 9/12/92

FARMWORKER organisers can sometimes be forgiven for thinking they are playing a role in a rural skop, skiet and donner movie.

In the course of their duties they face being chased off farms by farmers with guns, being set upon by dogs and being subjected to a barrage of verbal abuse.

They also have to meet workers under the most clandestine conditions — mostly in the dark of night, often away from the farm on a railway platform or beside the road.

As the general secretary of the Stellenbosch-based Farmworkers Support Committee, Mr Grant Twigg, tells it: "Every farm is different as you never know how the farmer is going to respond.

"Many farmers are completely against organisers setting foot on their farms and are resistant to workers signing up with the FSC.

"And they will let you know their feelings in no uncertain terms if they catch you on their land."

Many workers are "silent" members of the organisation as they fear being dismissed "at whim" by the farmer if membership is discovered.

Twigg said this underscored the urgent need for farmworkers to be given legislative protection.

The FSC, which has 3 000 members employed on farms in the western and southern Cape, is fighting for the urgent implementation of the Basic Conditions of Employment Ammendment Act.

But, says Twigg, this is not enough. The organisation is also lobbying for the extension of the Labour Relations Act as there needs to be a provision in any protective legislation compelling farm owners to recognise outside representation of workers.

Employers tight-lipped

ATTEMPTS by SOUTH to contact management at Spier and Neethlingshof for their comment proved fruitless.

Only Mr Carl van der Merwe, manager of Meerlust wine estate, spoke to SOUTH. He said the Solomon family had had to move out of their house on the farm as no member of the family was working for Meerlust any longer.

He then referred SOUTH to his attorneys.

Milnerton sets squatter site

S/Times (Cape metro) (307)

By NORMAN WEST, Political Reporter

THE Milnerton municipality and the Cape Provincial Administration have agreed on a R25-million project to provide fully-serviced sites for an informal township. 13/12/92.

The 88-hectare De Noon farm, between Potsdam Road and the N7, has been chosen for the settlement.

It is to be expropriated from its eight owners, who are to be compensated fully, according to well-placed sources.

Milnerton Town Clerk Mr Peter Gerber was reluctant to give details yesterday as the plan was at "a sensitive stage".

"My information is that the CPA has told the owners of the land," he said.

The question of a site for informal housing has been the focus of a long-simmering row that has divided the Milnerton council and angered the Milnerton Residents' Association.

Informal settlers have demanded the right to build shelters at the overflowing Marconi Beam camp, while ratepayers have threatened to withhold rates if the council does not protect them from squatters.



WILLEM VAN STADEN

Verligte councillor Willem van Staden, former mayor of Milnerton, said yesterday that "it is time all of us put our prejudices aside".

"We must look at the provision of proper sites for informal settlers as an opportunity to carry out our moral and social responsibility in assisting with the upliftment of disadvantaged South Africans."

Mr Van Staden is a member of the committee investigating the permanent settlement of the homeless in Milnerton.

His next fight would be to make sure "no half-measures" were taken in providing the sites.

"All sites should be provided for a nominal fee or free of charge where this is warranted. New residents must also have access to full services like electricity, taps, water-borne sewerage and refuse removal.

"Initially 1 500 sites will be provided. Loans may have to be obtained from the National Housing Commission and the Independent Development Trust or, if necessary, the World Bank."

"We must leave our grievances behind," Mr Gerber said. "In the old South Africa there was much suppression and unfairness which resulted in products like our squatter settlements. We must join hands, apologise and negotiate an acceptable solution."

Row over squatter move

307

Staff Reporter

THE announcement of a R25 million plan to relocate squatters at the overcrowded Marconi Beam camp in Milnerton "raises more questions than answers", Milnerton Ratepayers' Association chairman Mr Klaus Borgelt said yesterday.

The question of a site for informal housing has been the centre of a protracted row which has divided the Milnerton council and angered the association.

According to reports, the Milnerton municipality and the CPA have plans to expropriate an 88-hectare farm between Potsdam Road and the N7 and provide fully-serviced sites for an informal township.

Mr Borgelt said he was worried about where funds for the scheme would come from and its impact on Milnerton residents.

Milnerton town clerk Mr Peter Gerber said yesterday details would be discussed with the ratepayers, landowners and homeless people before final decisions were made. He added that the funds would be raised by the government. CT 15/12/92

New chance for squatters on Driftsands

(307) ARG 18/12/92

JOHN YELD
Environment Reporter

THE Cape Provincial Administration has started moves to deproclaim the Driftsands Nature Reserve on the Cape Flats so that a squatter community in the protected area can stay legally.

Part of the 600ha reserve near D F Malan airport, which was created to protect remnants of strandveld indigenous vegetation, has been occupied by squatters since 1990, following political upheavals in Crossroads.

A legal notice calling for objections to the proposed deproclamation will be placed in newspapers in January, with a closing date of February 15.

Cape Nature Conservation chief director Dr Johan Neethling confirmed that his department had recommended deproclaiming the reserve so that it could be used for informal housing and market gardening, with the exception of a section of wetland along the Kuils River.

They wanted the wetland area to be proclaimed separately as a protected area, and to include wetlands outside the existing reserve and possibly also those south of the N2, Dr Neethling said.

"The informal settlement is there (in Driftsands) and we cannot move them.

"It's a compromise we've settled for in the face of great difficulties ... The planners are working on it and we feel something could come out of this if it's handled properly.

"It's impossible to apply pure nature conservation principles to such an area," Dr Neethling said.

Mr Barrie Low, spokesman for the Driftsands Task Group, said they were opposed in principle to deproclamation, although they supported multiple use of the area.

They were concerned that deproclamation would allow developers to apply for rezoning to use the area for "non-green" purposes.

"The (new) nature reserve area must be proclaimed immediately and there must be a firm, written commitment for uses in the other areas.

"We cannot have a situation where the Province turns around and says 'We can't guarantee that'," Mr Low said.

Earlier this year, a survey of Khayelitsha residents and squatters for the task group found that most respondents wanted the Driftsands reserve retained as a multiple-use open area.

They said recreational faciliities in the huge township were in short supply and there was strong support for retaining the reserve as open urban space — for recreation in particular but also for vegetable gardens, initiation ceremonies, woodlots, as a source of traditional medicines, for conservation purposes (the protection of wildlife) and aethetic considerations, and for gardens and nurseries.