SQUATTERS — T.V.L.

1992

JANUARY — APRIL

Co-operation the key says Hough

Sowetan 2/1/92

THE new year promised to bring South Africans closer to a new dispensation for the country as well as its provinces, Transvaal Administrator Mr Danie Hough said yesterday.

However, he warned in his New Year's message that a new dispensation would not be successful if violence and anarchy prevalent in towns and cities were allowed to continue.

"Positive and constructive co-operation by all is needed to create peace, prosperity and welfare for each and every inhabitant of our province."

Talents

Hough said the nation's talents and energy had been wasted for too long on generating and upholding conflict.

"I hope that self-control and realistic thinking will prevail at last."

Hough predicted that as a result of continuing urbanisation, 1992 would see a tremendous increase in demands on communities, the Government and his administration in particular.

In the Transvaal alone, 390 000 erven were needed for the settlement of people living in the "backyards of the city", he said.

"It is projected that by the year 2000 in the Central, Eastern and Western Witwatersrand, including the Vaal Triangle, provision has to be made for an additional 3,3 million people.

"With the present backlog we will need 50 000 hectares of land."

Hough called on all Transvaalers to work together towards creating the new South Africa where everybody would have their own special place in society regardless of race, colour, religion or culture. - *Sapa.*

Two policemen die in 'brutal' attack

TWO Thokoza policemen were shot and burnt in their police vehicle on Wednesday night, in an attack on the SAP a spokesman described as the most brutal in years.

The murders bring to 148 the number of policemen killed in the past 12 months despite concerted efforts by the SAP to stem the number of deaths in the force. So far three policeman have died this year.

In Wednesday's incident, the killers allegedly stopped a police van on its way from Thokoza to nearby Katlehong and overpowered Sgt J B Mlokothi and an unidentified constable before seizing their weapons.

The assailants forced them to drive a short distance into the Katlehong area before shooting them with AK-47s and burning their vehicle.

Police, who found 24 AK-47 cartridges on the scene, said they were baffled by the murder and horrified no one had come to help the policemen or report the incident.

PWV SAP Commissioner Maj-Gen Gerrit Erasmus extended his condolences to the families and colleagues of the two men and appealed to the public to help find the killers. An SAP spokesman said there was a R25 000 reward for information leading to the conviction of anyone involved in killing a policeman.

JONATHON REES

In other incidents reported yesterday, a civilian who wished to remain anonymous helped police foil an armed robbery, seize seven weapons and recover a large amount of cash on Tuesday morning.

Four robbers had held up TrustBank security guards in Denver and were followed by the civilian to a city parking lot, where he managed to arrest one of the robbers after calling the police, an SAP spokesman said.

When the suspect tried to flee the man shot him in the back, seriously wounding him. Police recovered a minibus, cash, two AK-47s, two .357 Magnums, a .45 revolver and two 9mm pistols. The other three robbers escaped.

Two robbers were arrested by a security guard and the SAP dog unit in another incident in Devland on Tuesday, but the robbers' made off with R122 000 in cash after holding up the Price Club.

Also on Tuesday, five armed men held up a Bree Street bottle store and made off with R12 000 in cash after shooting and wounding an employee.

In yesterday's unrest report, police said a man was seriously injured in Mandela squatter camp, near Hout Bay, after attackers drove a stake into his head.

Treating unrest victims adds to TPA's burden

PATRICK BULGER

HOSPITAL treatment for the victims of civil unrest costs the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) R16 000 for each patient, says Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough.

In his end-of-year address, Hough said unrest was adding to the already considerable burden that urbanisation placed on the TPA.

"At all levels of society, the influence of constant violence and states of unrest in our towns is felt. This situation has resulted, in particular, in an unforeseen and high rate of patient admission at casualty wards in hospitals, and has given the province an enormous additional financial burden to carry.

"It is estimated that this amounts to R16 000 per patient," Hough said.

He said a new dispensation for SA would not succeed if violence and anarchy continued.

Even without the violence, urbanisation was placing extreme demands on the TPA, Hough said.

He said the TPA had been responsible for settling 90 000 people in informal settlements and that 43 000 erven were being developed at present. But he warned that demands placed on resources would increase tremendously.

The PWV area would have to accommodate an additional 3,3-million people before the end of the century. This would require an extra 50 000ha of land (Soweto comprises 8 000ha and Johannesburg 50 000ha).

In the Transvaal alone, an extra 390 000 erven were necessary to settle people living in backyard shacks.

"The urbanisation process will, in the first place, require even more understanding and realism on the part of the existing communities in urbanised areas," Hough said.

Whoopie starts filming

Squatters lose R150 000

Cities 5/1/92

310

By LULAMA LUTI

MORE than 300 homeless Dobsonville families have been conned into paying Mack Morebudi, believed to be a Botswana citizen, R150 000 for houses.

Most of them started the new year in the veld after they had been kicked out of the Durban Roodepoort Deep Mine's A hostel where they had been living since 1988.

On Thursday, acting on a Supreme Court order, mine security police loaded families and their belongings into trucks, and dumped them near Dobsonville.

A mine spokesman said the families were allowed to live illegally on the mine property after they had been "disappointed" by Morebudi.

He confirmed that Morebudi had spoken to mine management about buying the hostel complex which had been standing empty since 1988.

He said he wanted to convert it into a small business complex and accommodate some families. "It appeared to be a sound business proposition, and he had reasonable credentials," he added.

However, Morebudi disappeared during negotitions, and mine management did not know anything about the money he apparently collected from the people who were already staying at the hostel.

GREAT TREK ... Squatters load their possession on to trucks after being evicted by Durban Deep Mine management.

"We've since had many requests from our employees for accommodation, and it became necessary for the mine to apply for the eviction of the people who were illegally occupying the A hostel on its property," said the spokesman.

He said when negotiations between the mine and the people failed, they had no alternative but to approach the court for relief.

"The mine intends to convert the hostel into married quarters for its employees," he said.

Eric Ntshiqela, president of the Vulindlela United Community of South Africa, which is representing the squatters, said most of the families were temporarily housed at a hall in Poortjie near Orange Farm, and that negotiations for them to get permanent sites were underway.

"We have asked Operation Hunger and the Red Cross for help," he said.

Ntshiqela said while the mine management refused to take responsibility for Morebudi's actions, his organisation would help the squatters find him.

Almost all the people approached by City Press had a similar story to tell. All had paid deposits of between R500 and R1 500 to Morebudi.

The mother of a four-year-old girl, Sarah Pinjana, said: "When I met him in Dobsonville in 1988 he said he was helping homeless people, and that he had sites at Plot 14 near Dobsonville Extension where we put up our shacks.

"Soon after our arrival there, a developer told us that we were trespassing. Morebudi then told us that he had clinched a deal with the Durban Deep mine management, but to get rooms there we had to pay R500 deposit each. I paid him more than R1 000," she said.

Pinjana said after three months at Durban Deep they started questioning the R120 monthly rent they were paying when the mine management asked them to pay more for refuse removal and cleaning the complex.

"Negotiations broke down, and we were told that we would have to leave the hostel because we were staying there illegally.

"By then Morebudi had disappeared, and we haven't seen him since," she said.

Mahlathi Horace Quvana, who slept in the veld on Monday after he had been kicked out of the hostel, said he sold his shack to afford the R550 deposit he paid to Morebudi.

Last squatters evicted from gold mine's hostel

THE last of about 300 people who were staying at Durban Roodepoort Deep gold mine's A hostel were evicted from the mine on Friday.

A Durban Deep spokesman said the hostel was vacant and the squatters had been moved to a site at Poortjie near Lenasia which was made available by the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) in conjunction with Vulindlela United Communities of SA (Vucosa) which acts on behalf of the homeless.

The mine started evicting people on Thursday in terms of a Supreme Court eviction order awarded on December 4. Mine management had assisted in providing transport.

Vucosa president Eric Ntshigela said his organisation only managed to arrange temporary accommodation for the evicted people as there was "a lot of documentation involved in permanent residency".

VERA VON LIERES

Ntshigela said about 150 families had been moved with their belongings, but they had not been provided with any shelter.

The mine spokesman said the hostel, which had been extensively vandalised, would be refurbished and would house miners and their families who presently lived outside the mine premises. The evictions were peaceful.

The families were moved after last minute appeals for a reprieve on the order.

The homeless people began occupying the hostel illegally about a year ago after negotiations on selling the hostel fell through.

Group denies hand in squatter poster blitz

STAR 9/11/92

The Greenbelt Action Group (GAG) has denied that it released a derogatory poster urging violence against the Zevenfontein squatters in the Diepsloot area.

The posters, depicting a group labelled "Greenbelt" shooting at caricatures of President de Klerk, ANC president Nelson Mandela and the Zevenfontein squatters, were plastered throughout the area on Tuesday.

The poster campaign is the latest in the controversy surrounding the proposed relocation of the squatters.

"The poster, which has the name 'Greenbelt' prominently on it, is an incoherent, semi-literate attempt to raise emotions over the issues of squatting. We condemn it unreservedly," said GAG chairman Anthony Duigan.

GAG is conducting negotiations with the TPA over plans to relocate the squatters in the Greenbelt area north of Johannesburg and Sandton and outside Midrand. — Staff Reporter.

Goedgevonden waits in limbo

The black farmers of Goedgevonden are being made to feel like intruders as they wait for an appeal against their eviction from land they used to farm.

By LINDA RULASHE

Future in the balance ... Goedgevonden community members contemplate their fate **Photo: GUY ADAMS**

THE black farming community of Goedgevonden near Ventersdorp in the Western Transvaal is being denied a new lease on life.

The land from which they were removed in 1978 has been leased to white farmers for as little as 17c a hectare by the Department of Agricultural Development and the community's claim to it is now being contested in court.

However, until the Appellate Division decides whether to uphold a supreme court decision to have them evicted, the black community will be made to feel as if they are intruders.

The area in which they have set up their zinc shacks has been cordoned off with barbed wire and a roadblock, only open between 8am and 6pm, has been set up. Access is allowed only to residents whose names are checked off a list, which has resulted in a few scuffles with department guards.

The department will not extend opening hours and this has made it nearly impossible for some community members to get to and from work or for relatives and friends to visit.

So far no serious incidents have occurred since last May's attack when 1 000 farmers destroyed 13 shacks, vandalised and looted the returnees' property and injured a number of them. An interdict against the AWB, whose headquarters are in the town, has been granted.

The attack came one month after the community moved back to the land from Bophuthatswana, where they had been removed to farmland at Vrischgewaagd and Gannapan.

In Goedgevonden, the agriculture department has refused to allow the community to plough or to improve their houses. To do so would be to create a "permanent situation". The improvements to living conditions or homes.

While the department has provided running water and medical services, Geoff Budlender of the Pretoria Legal Resources Centre said of the government's obstinacy over the other issues: "This is a reflection of how government wants to freeze the situation."

Field workers from the International Red Cross and the Transvaal Rural Action Committee (Trac) are the only relief organisations that have been granted permission to assist the community.

The South African Red Cross Society was originally not allowed access to the farm and medical aid or food had to be passed through the fence where the roadblock is situated.

"At least they treated us better in Bophuthatswana," said William Mgcina, whose grandparents, buried in the old graveyard, once owned grazing fields in the area. "In Bophuthatswana my three children could go to school and my cattle were able to graze but now that is impossible to graze but now that has had to pay people in Bophuthatswana to look after his livestock and poultry.

Fields on which the Goedgevonden community originally planted their crops is now being farmed by seven white farmers.

"Where they have planted is our land," said Roselina Mokwena (64) bitterly as she remembered her days as a young wife who often ploughed the fields.

Lettie Jacob (66) said: "I wanted to fix my house the other day because when it rained, it got flooded and the furniture was being destroyed. But they refused. We want our land back."

The Goedgevonden community dates back to 1947 when black people settled and started ploughing there. The land was owned by the South African Development Trust and, as was common in such areas, the people regarded the land as their own although they may not have been the formal owners.

Negotiations are taking place among lawyers from the Pretoria Legal Department of Agricultural Development and Development Aid, church people and community representatives.

However, these discussions are not proceeding smoothly.

According to a Trac report, the last negotiations were characterised by a degree of "unreasonableness" on the part of the government in its persistence not to improve conditions at Goedgevonden.

Chairman of the state's negotiating team Gillis de Waal said only that there were still quite a number of hurdles which had to be crossed.

Representatives of the families have had to deal with officials who have a history of opposing the community's interests.

Even though these officials may be talking a new language, their decisions reflect their old prejudice.

This became clear in the fundamentally different starting points that the two negotiating teams have adopted.

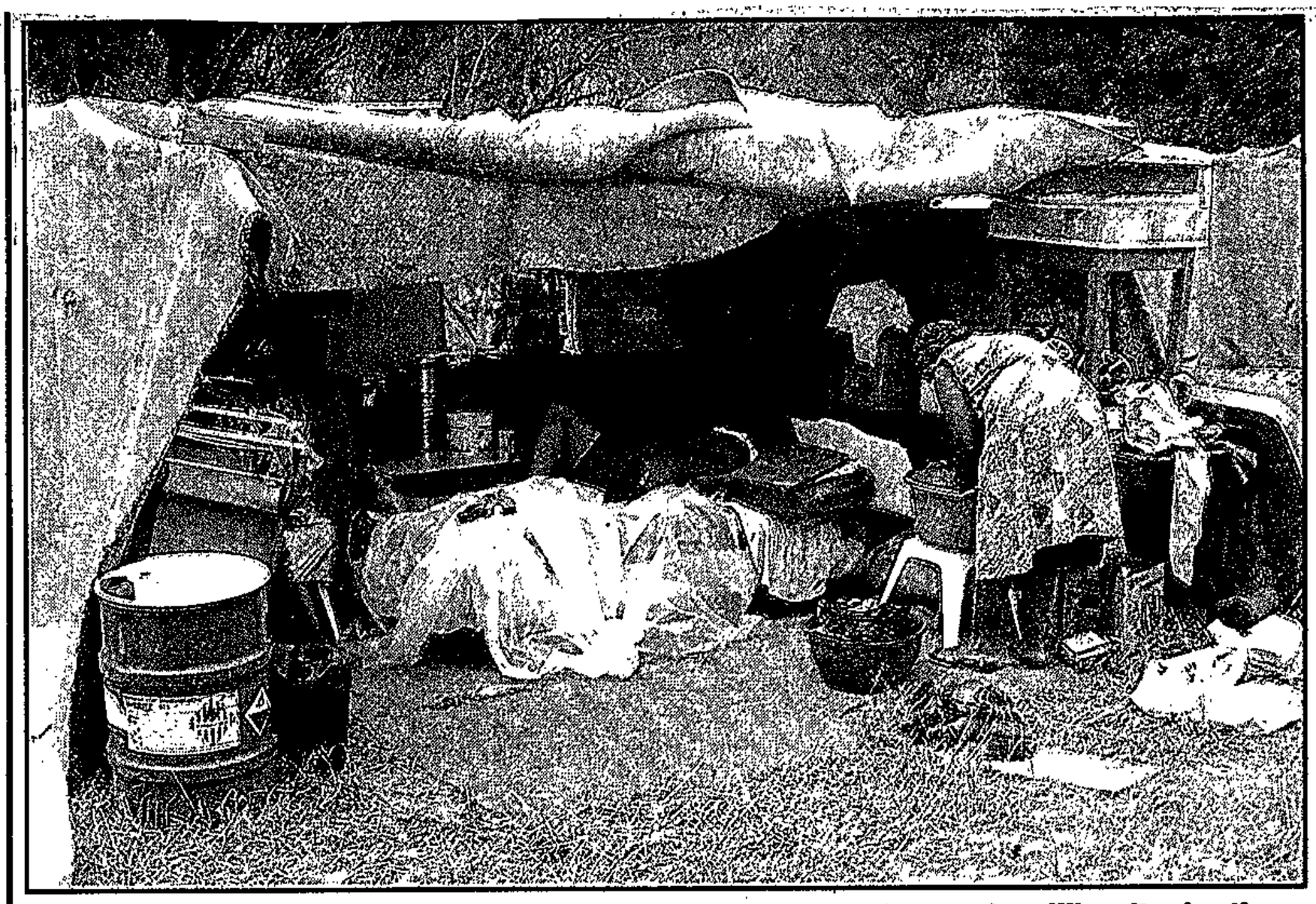
The Goedgevonden people believe that any solution must begin from Goedgevonden. It must be a political decision in principle to allow the people's return, and thereafter the agricultural viability and support for off-farm activities could be considered.

The government, by contrast, began by wanting to remove the people again to Bophuthatswana. Thereafter, they felt a solution based on principles of "agricultural productivity" could be found: people who knew only white farming would decide what was productive and they would select those who would be allowed back.

The government has rejected any proposals regarding a mixed form of farming in which part of the members of the community would be involved in communal grazing and share cropping while another is involved in off-farm employment.

The report concludes the rest of the community will either have to remain in the homeland, or move on to "site and service schemes" in urban areas, which means they would effectively become urban squatters.

There is also the question of the rest of the community — who tried to follow but were turned away at the roadblock. They are still waiting in Bophuthatswana.



HOMELESS . . . A bit of old sacking is their only protection from the weather. When it rains these unfortunates have to seek shelter with the few who have it. ■ **Pics: SIPHIWE MHLAMBI**

Dumped families battling

C/PRESS 12/11/92 (31D)

By LULAMA LUTI

IT may be a bright new year for some, but life is a struggle for 150 homeless families squatting in a school hall in Poortjie, near Westonaria.

Evicted from a hostel at Durban Deep mine at Roodepoort last week by a Supreme Court order, the squatters and their possessions were dumped in the veld near Dobsonville.

After Dobsonville Civic Association protested over their plight, the squatters moved into the hall owned by the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

It is in an area being developed for a low-cost housing project for squatters from Bekkersdal, some of whom are already living there.

"The TPA has agreed to give people sites here in Poortjie and they would be selling for R4 600," said squatter spokesman Ephraim Molebatsi.

"Rent and service charges together with the land repayment fees would amount to R61."

But the shelter is only temporary and the squatters must move out when they get building materials or tents.

WHAT FUTURE? . . . Just two of the children at Poortjie whose future looks bleak. But if they're lucky their parents will get a building site.

A woman who would not reveal her name, told City Press: "We've really suffered. Our furniture is broken and we have no money. Only God knows how we are going to survive."

Operation Hunger and the Red Cross have been providing food for the squatters and their biggest problem is a roof over their heads.

More than half the evicted families have since found alternative accommodation with friends and relatives in nearby Dobsonville.

Those who opted to go to Poortjie are now faced with more problems than before.

The lucky ones live in congested conditions in the school hall and when it rains have to share with those who do not have shelter. The rain is further ruining their furniture, already damaged in the move.

Transport to Roodepoort, where most of the squatters work as labourers and domestics, has proved another nightmare. It is costly as well as scarce.

Health is another cause for concern. Although a local nursing sister visits the families often, the area is damp and flea-infested.

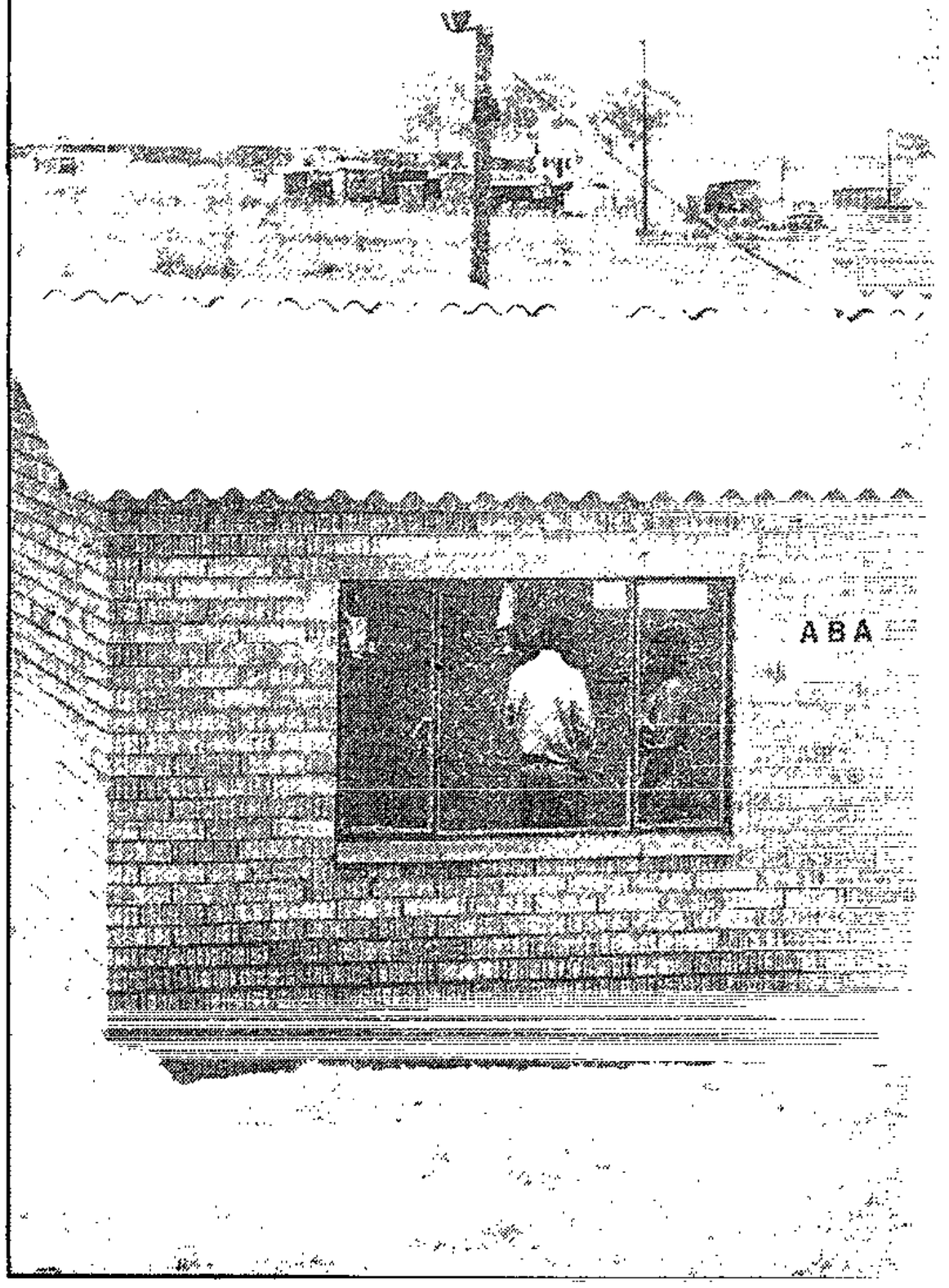
Building in the area has begun.

Housing dream

STAR 13/11/92

The recent Golden Highway Housing Expo raised the hopes of thousands of homeless black families. But now the expo site is a ghost-town. Experts believe it symbolises a lack of co-ordination in the entire housing programme, reports MICHAEL CHESTER.

310



Empty shells . . . Nema Tshabalala of the African Builders Association and home-hunter Monica Ndlovu puzzle over why sponsors have left a ghost-town behind them. Across the highway is the start of a sprawl of squatter huts that have sprung up while business at the expo site stands still.

Picture: Jacoob Rykliff

THE TITLE alone gave a magical ring to the recent Golden Highway Housing Expo that transformed a stretch of raw veld 30 km south of the overcrowded sprawl of Johannesburg and Soweto into a model village of low-cost homes.

Its launch stirred optimism among thousands of homeless black families that South Africa was on the brink of bold new solutions to a housing shortage now grown to crisis levels.

The wave of optimism was encouraged by the confident note struck by Cabinet Minister Leon Wessels when he addressed the crowds at the opening ceremony.

Here, midway on the Golden Highway that links Johannesburg to the Vaal Triangle, the Transvaal Provincial Administration had set aside a chunk of land where eager building contractors had the chance to erect the best bargains they had to offer within the budgets of low-income families.

All angles seemed to have been covered by Government sponsors under the formidable banner and wide brief of the Department of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing.

It seemed that the sponsors were striking at the core of the housing problem when they stipulated that each of the 41 contractors invited to share 105 stands had to keep total costs inside a modest R10 000 — or as low as R5 000, if possible.

Affordability was the keynote. And practicality was underlined when builders had to beat a four-week deadline to complete each house from foundation to rooftop.

Contractors of all shapes and sizes responded with enthusiasm to the challenge. So did potential house-buyers when they were invited to tour the expo and select their dream home while it ran from September 25 to October 9. They arrived in droves.

A team of contractors from the African Builders Association (ABA) were elated when they scooped first prize. Their winning entry — a two-bedroomed house, built in conventional brick, with lounge, bathroom and large kitchen, on offer in the R5 000-R10 000 bracket — drew the vote of no fewer than 14 000 home-hunters.

The elation has been short-lived.

ABA executive Nema Tshabalala revisited the expo site a few days ago in dismay. "The dream has been shattered," he sighed. "There was one angle that was overlooked — home-buyer access to bond finance, the key to the whole problem. Next, there was no planning to ensure the initiative maintained an ongoing momentum.

"It's all turned into bitter disappointment — a classic example of the tragic lack of a really co-ordinated housing policy that can come to grips with the crisis of the homeless.

"The hopes of thousands of potential buyers were raised and then dashed when they discovered the harsh realities of the difficulties of persuading banks and building societies to provide mortgage finance for low-cost black housing.

"Most of the financial institutions have been scared off by talk of bond payment boycotts, spasms of violence and unrest, problems when retrenchments hit jobs and family budgets, the headaches of repossessions if there are defaults on accounts. "And the problems are compounded by the total absence of any co-ordination in all the efforts to solve the crisis. There are grand announcements about new initiatives from time to time. Then silence."

To ram home the argument, Mr Tshabalala spread his arms, turned in a circle and gestured around the almost deserted expo site. All the demonstration houses were still standing — but are locked and barred. The only trace of the bustle of three months ago was a handful of TPA security guards.

"We had all the fanfare — but there's no sign of any follow-through to keep the momentum going. There are still late visitors who missed the show but arrive to make their choice of the house they want to order. But, as you see, the sponsors have not even left behind a noticeboard to tell them where to find more information.

"The expo raised all kinds of high expectations that finally someone was serious about solving the housing shortage. All that's left is a ghost-town."

Mr Tshabalala turned and pointed across the Golden Highway. Sprawled across the veld was a vast jumble of squatter

shattered

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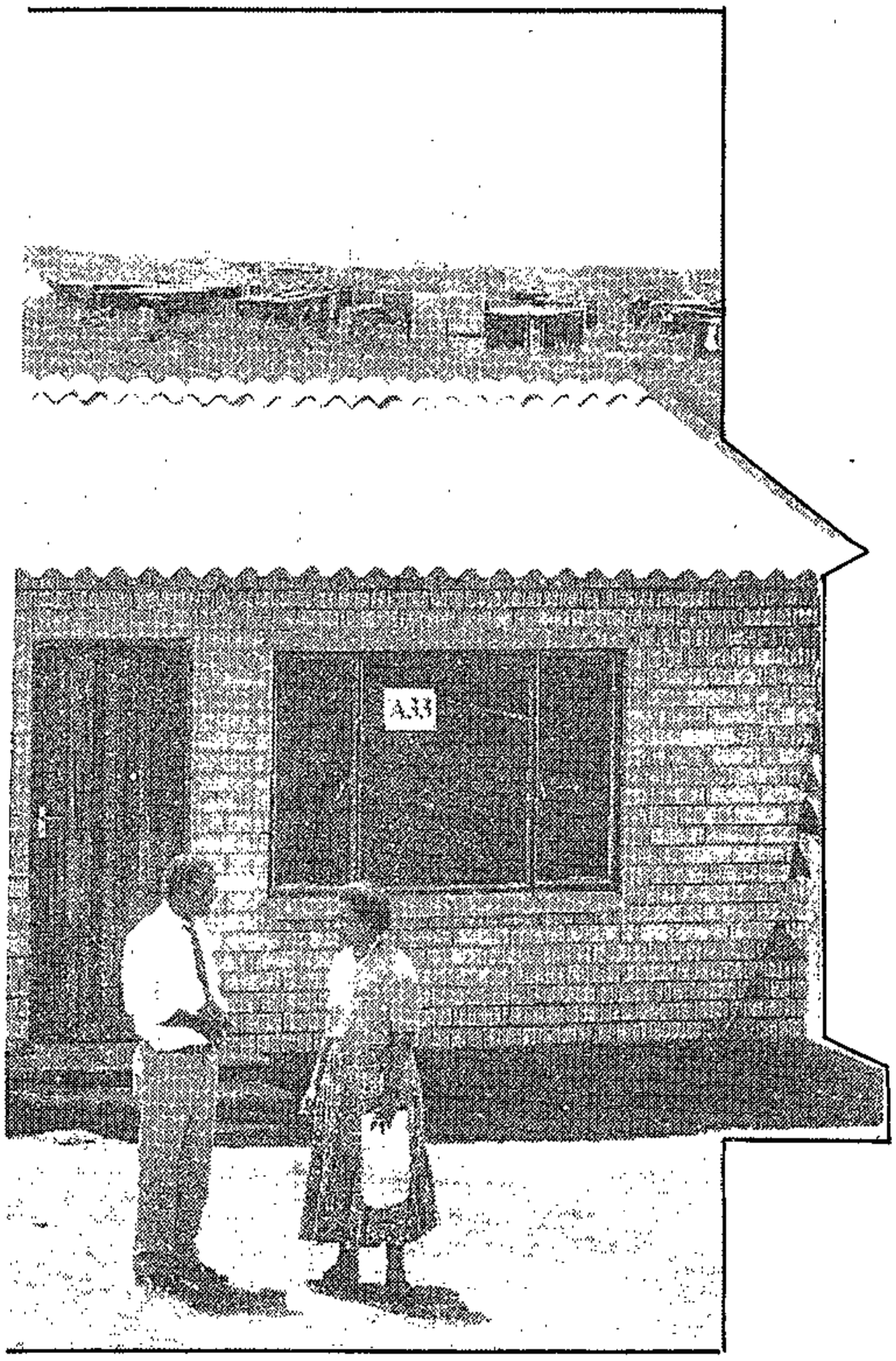


huts packed into 16 000 sites provided by a controlled settlement scheme, named Orange Farm, launched by the TPA.

The close juxtaposition of the two housing initiatives, and the stunning contrasts, seemed ironical. "Is that going to be the alternative while the house-building programmes grind almost to a halt?" he asked.

"It becomes more and more obvious that there are crucial missing links in the chain of housing initiatives. Here we have classic proof that what has become vital is a radical rethink of the whole issue."

Equally bitter is a technical expert who acts as a special adviser to the South African Housing Trust and who was astonished by the high quality of many of the homes unveiled at the expo.

"The very successful Golden Highway Housing Expo," he has written in a post-mortem memo that has been handed to the Government, "is rapidly becoming a very explicit illustration of the alarming inadequacies of the housing process for low-cost housing.

"On the western side of the highway is the housing expo. It is a cluster of splendid little houses which is a brilliant example of how things should be done.

"On the eastern side is a vast expanse of squatter huts which mushroomed overnight. This awesome sight is a clear signal of how things should not be done. There may be very good reasons for this unfortunate event. But what makes it so important is the speed at which it took place and the size of the development.

"What we see on the ground are thousands of families trying to house themselves. Stripped of human dignity and encouragement, they battle for survival in what they consider to be a very unequal dispensation.

"If abandoned to rely only on their own resources they will undoubtedly lose the battle, and the area will deteriorate into a massive slum of human distress, crime and violence. This may easily happen within the short time-span of three years The costs will then be astronomical to rectify matters.

"The problem is immense, but the housing expo shows us viable solutions.

"It may not be possible to provide each family with a properly built house right now, but a start must be made to demonstrate concern and a willingness to assist. We must give guidance and muster some sort of financial assistance to families who can afford it.

"We must be in direct contact with conditions on the ground and synchronise actions where required. This is a better option than to be complacent and wait for a new South Africa to take on the problem."

● A spokesman at the Department of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing says the expo was organised at the request of builders who were eager to display what homes could be provided in a range affordable to low-income families.

"It was highly successful and a full report with all technical details about the show houses has been sent to the TPA and interested parties in the private sector," he added. "The matter is now in the hands of the TPA."

● At the TPA, an official said: "We laid on a promotion at the Golden Highway expo for builders to erect their houses and bring them into contact with potential customers, as they had requested. We are involved in the supply of stands and basic services for housing but we cannot arrange finance for house construction.

"It's now up to the builders and home-buyers to arrange details about actual purchases." □

SOWETAN Wednesday January 15 1992

Farm dwellers to protest quit order

Sowetan 15/1/92 (310)

THOUSANDS of "squatters" at Majakaneng in the Brits district plan to stay away from work today in protest against an ultimatum to evacuate the area or face forced removal.

Pamphlets issued in the name of the Transvaal Provincial Administration have warned the estimated 1 400 families occupying the farm - owned by a group of black farmers - to leave

Sowetan Correspondent

the area by today or their "illegal structures" would be removed without further notice.

The pamphlets say: "The land is good for agriculture and not suitable for future establishment of towns."

But yesterday the TPA denied knowledge of the eviction order.

The occupants of the farm claimed their presence was legal. Some produced receipts reflecting the amounts they had paid to the landowners as deposits to stay there.

The amounts range between R40 and R240.

"We are paying monthly rentals to the landowners even if we do not have basic facilities such as water supplies and schools for our children," one tenant said.

They claimed they were also made to pay R15 for water, a R5 burial fee and R10 for school buildings before they could move in.

Local civic association chairman Mr Shadrack Mathunsi said the landowners had assured the tenants at a meeting on September 2 last year that they would be regarded as permanent residents. The assurance followed attempts by some owners to evict them.

A Department of Development Aid official confirmed the ultimatum. He said the squatters should apply for sites at Letlhabile and Hartebeesfontein townships.

CP threat over squatters

RATEPAYERS in the green belt north of Johannesburg have asked the CP to help fight Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) plans to establish a squatter area in the Diepsloot region.

CP MP Clive Derby-Lewis yesterday vowed to "take action" against the TPA unless the squatters were removed within 24 hours.

The Greenbelt Action Group (Gag) earlier rejected the establishment of the squatter area in North Rand.

Gag chairman Tony Duigan said squatters were pouring into the area despite Transvaal administrator Danie Hough's undertaking to defer a decision on resettling the Zevenfontein squatters at Diepsloot until late this month, The Star reported on Tuesday.

Later Hough said in a statement he had given instructions that a further influx of squatters should be prevented.

THEO RAWANA

TPA spokesman Pieter van der Hoven said the issue of the squatters would be discussed at the TPA's executive meeting on Monday.

Derby-Lewis said the CP was waiting to see what the TPA was doing about the squatters. "They must make a decision or we will force them to make it."

Van der Hoven said the TPA had not heard from Derby-Lewis.

Resident Paul Perton said smallholders were concerned about crime in the area.

"There are about 3 500 people occupying land illegally and there are no facilities, no sewerage, no water," he said.

The CP had been contacted because local government was not interested in resolving the problem, he added.

Bold new plan to aid homeless

Sowetan 16/1/92

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

STOKVELS, which are black informal clubs investing about R170 million annually, are to embark on a business venture to provide housing options for the homeless.

The president of the National Association of Stokvels of SA, Mr Andrew Lukhele, said yesterday that a seminar would be held in Johannesburg on February 7 where details of the project would be explained.

He said the whole Stokvel City Housing Project as a business was dedicated to black economic empowerment in the interests of nation building.

Solving

He said the limitation of the State's housing and local authority policies suggest that other options could be used in the search for stability in the townships.

Research has shown that most blacks stayed in shacks or informal houses which have sprung up in open places either within or adjacent the townships.

In the Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vaal Triangle townships there are more than 412 000 formal township houses, 422 000 backyard shacks and 635 000 shacks on vacant land, according to research.

Lukhele said stokvels were planning to help alleviate the black housing crisis by diverting millions of savings from banks to unit trusts, which would serve as collateral for housing loans.

ANDREW LUKHELE

The arrangement would allow black savings to be ploughed back into the black communities, rather than having the money loaned to affluent whites.

Catering

The South African financial system had until now been catering for regular earners with assets, fixed abodes and a track record of payment.

He said while that was a proven method of reducing the risk of non-payment, it excluded millions of blacks from formal financial assistance.

It also meant that savings by blacks were largely used as loans to rich whites in the suburbs and "very little or nothing is in turn ploughed back into the black communities who provide it and need it most", Lukhele said.

The acute housing shortage could be reduced if ingenious methods were used by concerned people in South Africa.

Sprung up

Stokvel members could use their unit trust certificates as collateral for home loans from banks.

As a result of reluctance to lend money to blacks because of violence, unrest and boycotts "black self-help" was important to solving the chronic shortage of housing.

"Members of the stokvel for housing will include people who are members of stokvel groups affiliated to Nasasa and relatives who are owners or tenants in rented township houses.

Venture

It would also be ideal for houses in one street to be taken as a stokvel group because they know each other.

He said one of the first steps to be taken in this venture was for experts in town planning and related research fields to visit "targetted areas" such as Soweto.

"Some of the unique features include the adherence to health standards and kickbacks to tenants other than rents from backyard dwellers," he said.

New bid to control greenbelt area

STAR 16/11/92

By Shirley Woodgate

Plans by the Transvaal Provincial Administration to establish an arc of "squatter" camps north of Johannesburg have triggered applications for the establishment of a new local authority for the area between Randburg, Midrand and Hartbeesfontein.

Boerestaat Party leader Robert van Tonder, who is chairman of the newly formed Garden Triangle Action Group (the newest applicant), said the land was predominantly under the control of the former Peri-Urban Board for the Development of Rural Areas.

The application, by five "property owner societies", adds yet another claimant to the race for control of the vast agricultural holdings north of the city.

The Greenbelt Action Group (GAG) has also lodged an application, another is believed to have come from the Muldersdrif area, and it is speculated that Krugersdorp, Randburg and Sandton are planning to expand their northern boundaries.

Robert van Tonder . . . chairs new group.

Motivating the application to the Administrator, Mr van Tonder said the concept of creating squatter camps was unwelcome and outdated.

Accommodation for workers should be provided near the centre of cities, he added.

The destruction of nature in the interest of development, the random expansion of towns, and an outright refusal to become a squatter and sewage dumping-ground are among the reasons for the application for a new authority.

Mr van Tonder said the Garden Triangle Action Group planned to liaise with GAG.

GAG chairman Anthony Duigan said he believed the TPA was looking at the entire region with the aim of expediting the processing of applications for the greater greenbelt area.

"We will liaise with any interested party, including the ANC, the Zevenfontein squatters, the civic associations and Mr van Tonder's group," Mr Duigan added.

SAP says it will not act to evict greenbelt squatters

THEO RAWANA

POLICE would not move people out of the greenbelt north of Johannesburg, but would maintain a presence, SAP spokesman Col Frans Malherbe said yesterday.

The TPA had earlier assured the Greenbelt Action Group, which is objecting to plans to establish a squatter belt in the area, that further influx of people would be prevented.

The police had been approached to turn would-be squatters away.

The TPA executive committee would discuss the matter at a meeting on Monday, the TPA said.

Malherbe said it was the duty of the TPA to move people out of squatter camps. "If there are no charges laid, the police do not act. So we will just maintain a presence in case of any problems, until Monday's meeting," he said.

Police and lawyers of the ratepayers would meet today to discuss the squatter problem, he added.

Smallholders in the area have objected to squatters occupying the land.

The action group's chairman Tony Duigan said the problem was that the TPA treated the problem as one that could be addressed in an ad hoc way.

"This is a national problem which calls for a national strategy," he said.

The issue was complicated by the fact that there was no local authority to take responsibility for resolving the problem in the area, he added.

CT 16/1/93

Tvl squatter row

(310)

JOHANNESBURG — Ratepayers in the green belt north of Johannesburg have asked the CP to help fight plans to establish a squatter area in the Diepsloot region.

CP MP Mr Clive Derby-Lewis yesterday vowed to "take action" against the squatters were removed within 24 hours.

Officials threatened us, say Bop squatters

BOPHUTHATSWANA authorities have allegedly threatened to forcibly remove about 250 families squatting in Stinkwater, north of Pretoria.

This week ANC Stinkwater branch spokesman Michael Chauke told a news conference in Pretoria that the threat was made at a January 8 public meeting.

Although Chauke could not specify which government officials addressed the meeting, homeland official Alwyn Viljoen acknowledged the authorities were aware of the presence of "illegal" squatters in the area.

The ANC said government officials told the squatters the land they were occupying was earmarked for development, and that their shacks would be bulldozed should they continue living there.

However, squatters who acquired Bop citizenship would be exempted, they said.

"We subsequently held another meeting with the squatters who have made it clear they are not prepared to take up Bophuthatswana citizenship," Chauke said.

Viljoen could not say if the removal threat would be carried out. – Sapa

Squatters conned out of R32 000

By MARTIN NTSOELENGOE

MORE than 500 homeless Elandsfontein families in the Western Transvaal have been conned into paying Joseph Matshitse R32 000 for land reserved for farming.

Now Chief John Mathope wants them out before the end of the month.

Some of the squatters have already left and are being accommodated at Phatsima near Rustenburg, and the government is providing transport for those who want to leave.

But a few squatters, led by Julius Molawa, have vowed to fight until they are compensated. Most of them are confused because, although chief Mathope has ordered them off his land, Matshitse, the chief's cousin, has told them to ignore the order.

The squatters claimed that Matshitse told them the land was bought by his clan from Reuben Magano in 1936. They also claimed Matshitse did not come to see them after they had been ordered off the land, although each family had paid him R450.

NOWHERE TO GO .. Villagers pack up their belongings. **Pics: SIPHIWE MHLAMBI.**

They said no one knew where he was.

Julius Molawa told City Press Mathope had made life hell for the squatters for four years, and more than 4 000 children at the settlement were not attending school.

Molawa claimed his six children were not allowed to go to school in Mathopestad although he had paid school fees.

He said he paid Mathope R10 to be accepted as a clan member, R25 for graves, and R50 for school buildings. Mathope denied the claim.

Molawa said after Mathope allowed him to live in Elandsfontein he built an R8 000 house and bought cattle.

Most of the affected families said all they wanted was to get their money back and get out of Elandsfontein.

Mathope was calm when he spoke to City Press, but became agitated when Molawa's name was mentioned.

"He is the one who is causing all the trouble," he said.

JULIUS MOLAWA

He claimed Molawa told farm labourers that land was for sale, and brought in people from different tribes.

When asked about Matshitse he asked:

Chief wants them out by end of month

"Who is Matshitse? Who are you talking about?"

Mathope's account was supported by the commanding officer of the Boons police station, W/O Du Preez, who said that what Matshitse did was totally wrong and contrary to the spirit of an agreement reached in 1912, when the farm was bought from J H Coetzee.

He said 22 people bought the land from Coetzee, and the agreement was that the Mathopes would be the controlling clan because they had paid more than the Matshitses.

The title deed stipulated that the land on which the families were squatting be reserved for grazing and ploughing.

for [illegible] sedes landowners' rights.

It is a complex, fascinating story.

Mr Lucas Koza has been the chairman of the local Inkatha branch since the organisation was formed in 1975. He is as old as Alexandra, where he has lived most of his life.

Born in Cleveland in May 1912 — the year Alexandra's first black landowners began occupying the area — Mr Koza's father moved his six children to a new home in Alexandra in 1916.

He says: "My father was a painter and we knew almost everyone. We had a big house in 15th Street. I lived there for a while after marrying."

Bad

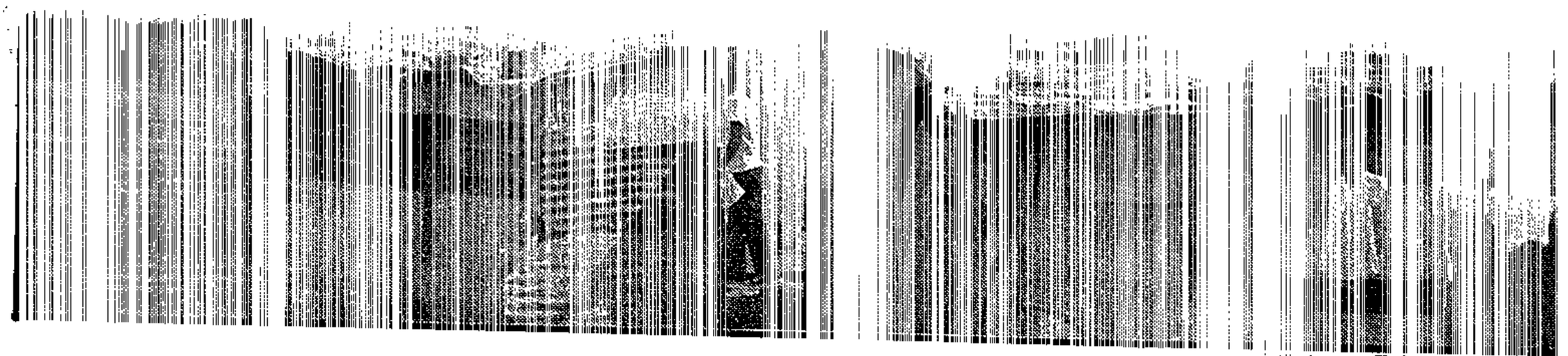
In 1943, Mr Koza began working for the Alexandra Health Centre — the administrative body that controlled the community. He also bought the large airy house he still occupies on the corner of Second Avenue and Selborne Streets. Hawkers selling fruit and sweets under crude wooden shelters flank one wall of his home while green slime oozes from an overflowing drain at his front gate.

In 1948, the then Peri-Urban Board took over the running of the township and, in terms of grand apartheid policy which saw Alexandra as a future feeder-town or labour pool of non-permanent residents for Johannesburg, it began expropriating properties.

Once owners had sold their houses to the board, they had to rent them from it.

"I felt very bad about it," says Mr Koza.

He had to sell four properties. In 1978, he was part of the delegation of five Alexandra residents under the Rev Sam Buti who lobbied the government for Alexandra to be given permanent status as a community.



Picture: ROB HADLEY

Imagine waking up and finding squatters occupying every space of your lawn, women crowding around the garden tap with buckets ... it happens daily in Alexandra and other townships across the country. CHARLENE SMITH looks at the rift between insiders and outsiders in just one township

"We got back our township in 1978," he says.

But the expropriation of homes from existing landowners and their tenants brought untold suffering and dislocation.

Mr Veli Mahopa was eight years old when a white policeman knocked on the door of the room his mother rented in Third Avenue in 1973.

"My mother had already left for work but we knew it was Peri-Urban," he says.

"I got my brother's belt and hit the policeman when I opened the door. He just laughed and threw the notice on the floor."

A week later, trucks came to remove the possessions of the house owners to Ennerdale — many of the people forcibly relocated from Alexandra went to Meadowlands, Ennerdale, Eldorado Park and Rabie Ridge. However, their tenants were warned to "go back to their homes" or face arrest. In the case of the Mahopa family, they had all been born in Alexandra and so it was home.

Finally, Mr Mahopa's mother moved in with her employers, and her children went to live with a relative in Hammanskraal. The house in Alexandra was demolished.

Mr Mahopa is now an executive member of the successor to the old Alexandra Standholders' Association — the Alexandra Land and Property Owners' Association. The property owners are battling the policies of the ANC-aligned Alexandra Civic Organisation, headed by Mr Moses Mayekiso, a prominent communist and trade unionist who now lives in Hillbrow.

Pride

The civic organisation says the city council has no right to sell land on which more than one family reside unless the other occupants of the property, such as squatters, give their consent.

However, the property owners point out that many of the people occupying original homesteads, often built by their forefathers, are trying to buy back land expropriated under apartheid legislation. And councils that allowed tenants on to the land complicated the question of ownership.

Mr Mahopa says buying back land or new property restores a sense of permanency and pride to people. He suggests that following socialist models, which deny people the right to own and improve on what they have, is "a recipe for social disaster".

Residents concur that the biggest problems facing Alexandra now are housing, unemployment, crime and violence.

Mr Koza says: "Squatters are a problem because, after the Group Areas Act was abolished, the influx of people into the area increased but could not be controlled."

He alleges that some political organisations arrange for people to come from the homelands to live in Alexandra — an allegation made by other political organisations about Inkatha.

The truth is probably less conspiratorial. Most people who come to Alexandra are driven by need and hopes of a better future. The squatting problem really began, however, with the ban on new housing in Alexandra during the apartheid years as bureaucrats vainly hoped they could turn back the tide. However, it was the hostels, the repositories of "labour reservoirs" that ironically proved the catalyst to Alexandra's present squatting surge.

Huge single-sex hostels built in the 70s for men and women dominate the skyline in Alexandra. It was not long before migrant labourers' house her parents bought on 13th Avenue in 1924. A black woman, she married a coloured man. Here, apartheid intervened again. She could not live in her parents' house with her husband because they were black. But a section of Alexandra, encompassing the area closest to what is now Marlboro, was designated for coloured occupancy.

"Since those days, people have been coming in and putting up shacks anywhere," she says.

"It is not a good idea. People should go to the office and get registered," says Mama Louisa at her house, which is marooned like an island in a sea of shacks.

"If people die, we must know where to find their relatives. If they commit a crime, we must know where to find them. Most of these people we don't even know."

It is a common complaint in an old community where previously everyone knew everyone and his life story.

STIMES

19/01/92

3:0

The battle for a patch of land in the Dark City

S/Times 19/11/92.

310

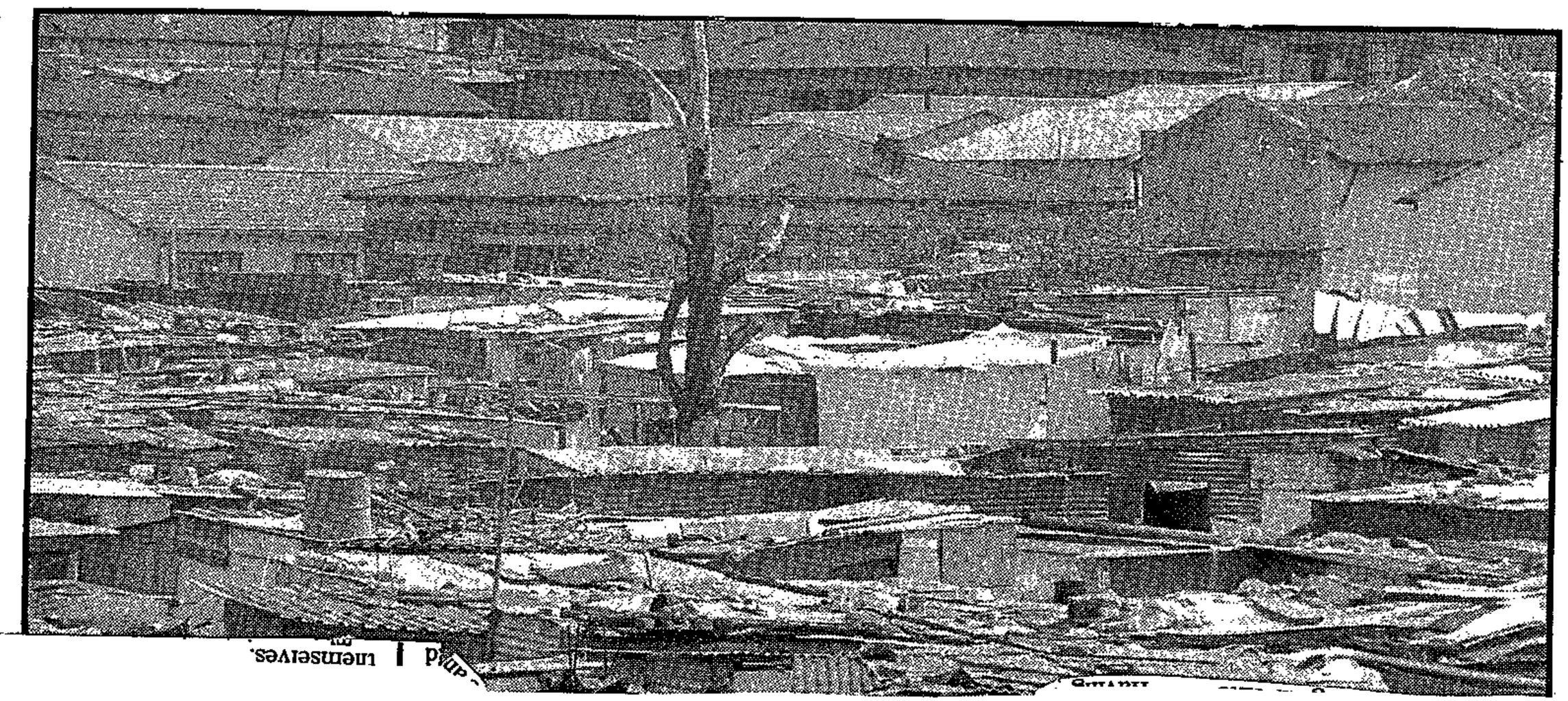
EIGHTY years ago, a dusty little township began growing on the banks of the Jukskei river on the fringes of Johannesburg. Within 40 years, it had become a notorious gangster town with a hangman's tree across the river in daily use by thugs.

Today, Alexandra is far less notorious. To some, it has a comfortable air despite its crumbling old houses and rutted streets. To others, it is a den of thieves, mostly hidden behind impenetrable mazes of tightly packed squatter shacks.

The gangsters' hanging tree was cut down long ago to make way for factories. Nearby, neat little houses with sprinklers soaking lawns offer some hope for a different Alexandra — now a community of an estimated 200 000 people.

But while the East Bank of Alexandra is an image of quiet middle-class suburbia, its home owners look on to another Alexandra where residents are less fortunate.

The "dark city" is covered in piles of garbage and dissected by greenish-black rivulets from burst sewage pipes — from an infrastructure inadequate for the community it supports. Higgledy-piggledy shacks made from rubbish of every description crowd on to every open space of land, including Alexandra cemetery.



Complex

Worse still, those who own land have been progressively dispossessed over the last 30 years. First it was by apartheid; now it seems supporters of liberation organisations

wives began moving to t Reef and, risking arrest, bu shacks to create a semblan of family life with their hu bands. The men mainly liv in the hostels but spent son nights and weekends wi their wives and children.

Meanwhile, the children long-term residents mov out of their parents' hom and, because no alternativ were available or affordabl began constructing shac for their spouses and fan ilies.

There is now an uncontrol able explosion of squatte that every non-shack reside of Alexandra complain about, even if many empa thise with the plight of shack dwellers and some, like M Mahopa, admire their entre preneurial drive.

One of Alexandra's bes known old-time gangster was once a member of th 1950s Spoilers gang that, wit the Msomi gang, ruled Alex andra for almost a decade.

He points to the high wal around his house and the sev en locks on his door.

"Today's gangsters ar worse than those in the 50s We don't know these people We knew who the Msomi were. Now we don't know who does the killing.

"Look at all the shacks .. who can control this hell of mess? Alexandra is wors than it has ever been. Th council is corrupt and there i no maintenance.

"If Alexandra was multi racial, maybe we would ge some facilities and rights Maybe they would give lan to some of these people."

Island

Mama Louisa Rivers, 59 was born in Alexandra in the

Decision on Midrand squatters delayed

STAR 21/7/92

By Shirley Woodgate and Sapa

The Transvaal Provincial Administration yesterday deferred a decision on the fate of the Zevenfontein squatters until Thursday when all late objections and recommendations will have been considered.

Deputy director-general of Community Development Len Dekker said last-minute representations had been received from several parties and the matter had not been finalised at the first meeting of the executive committee this year.

Yesterday, the ANC, the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (CAST) and the Greenbelt Action Group resolved to consider a joint approach over the resettlement of the Zevenfontein squatters.

They discussed the proposed TPA plan to resettle the community in the Diepsloot area.

The resettlement is part of a TPA masterplan which entails the possible settlement of low-cost housing camps north of Johannesburg.

The ANC said there had not been sufficient consultation with the communities and interested parties. The issue would now be discussed more widely and a joint approach would be considered.

The proposals were that the Randburg and Sandton town councils had to take responsibility for municipal services in the area, that they had to identify land within their jurisdiction for settling the communities and that both the ANC and CAST had to support the proposals.

The meeting finally resolved to recommend the need for the establishment of a regional local government and housing forum as a matter of urgency.

Amid reports that the squatter community at Zevenfontein had swelled to 8 000, Mr Dekker appealed to Midrand residents not to take the law into their own hands.

It had been decided to investigate the entire issue of demarcating land.

He said some local authorities, including Randburg and Sandton, wanted to extend their boundaries.

Some groups had indicated they wanted to create new local authorities so that they could control their own affairs. These included the Greenbelt Action Group and Boerestaat Party leader Robert van Tonder's group.

All parties had been given until February 29 to make representations, he said.

But this would not affect plans for the Zevenfontein squatters, who would be relocated as soon as a suitable land had been identified.

Lessons of whites-only referendum

Sow. 24/3/92.

THERE is a valuable lesson to be learnt by the liberation movement in the recent whites-only referendum.

Moreover, this referendum could have precipitated an unprecedented ideological shake-up in contemporary politics.

Since the unbanning of the ANC in 1990, and the return to South Africa of its leaders and indeed the commencement of talks between Government and political leaders, both sides have had to look over their left and right shoulders respectively.

Government looked nervously over its right shoulder at the groundswell of far-right radicalism, and the ANC did likewise over its left, at the extreme left.

But that was in the context of negotiations, in the grand ideological picture these positions were quite significant. On the far right was the Conservative Party which 10 years ago, almost to the day, formed the radical nucleus of the National Party.

On the far left, the PAC reminded the ANC of things radical and unrelenting. Thirty-odd years ago, the PAC formed the radical core of the ANC, in a manner of speaking. Between the two of them, the CP and PAC have thus over the past 25 years been the conscience of the main political parties, as it were.

While the NP and ANC were said to represent the emerging political future of South Africa, the CP and the PAC represented all the fear and loathing still inherent in the country's collective subconscious.

The far right saw the NP as a danger to white hegemony in politics in South Africa, and indeed to the white people in Africa. The far left (PAC) saw the ANC as selling

FOCUS

By ISMAIL LAGARDIEN
Political Correspondent

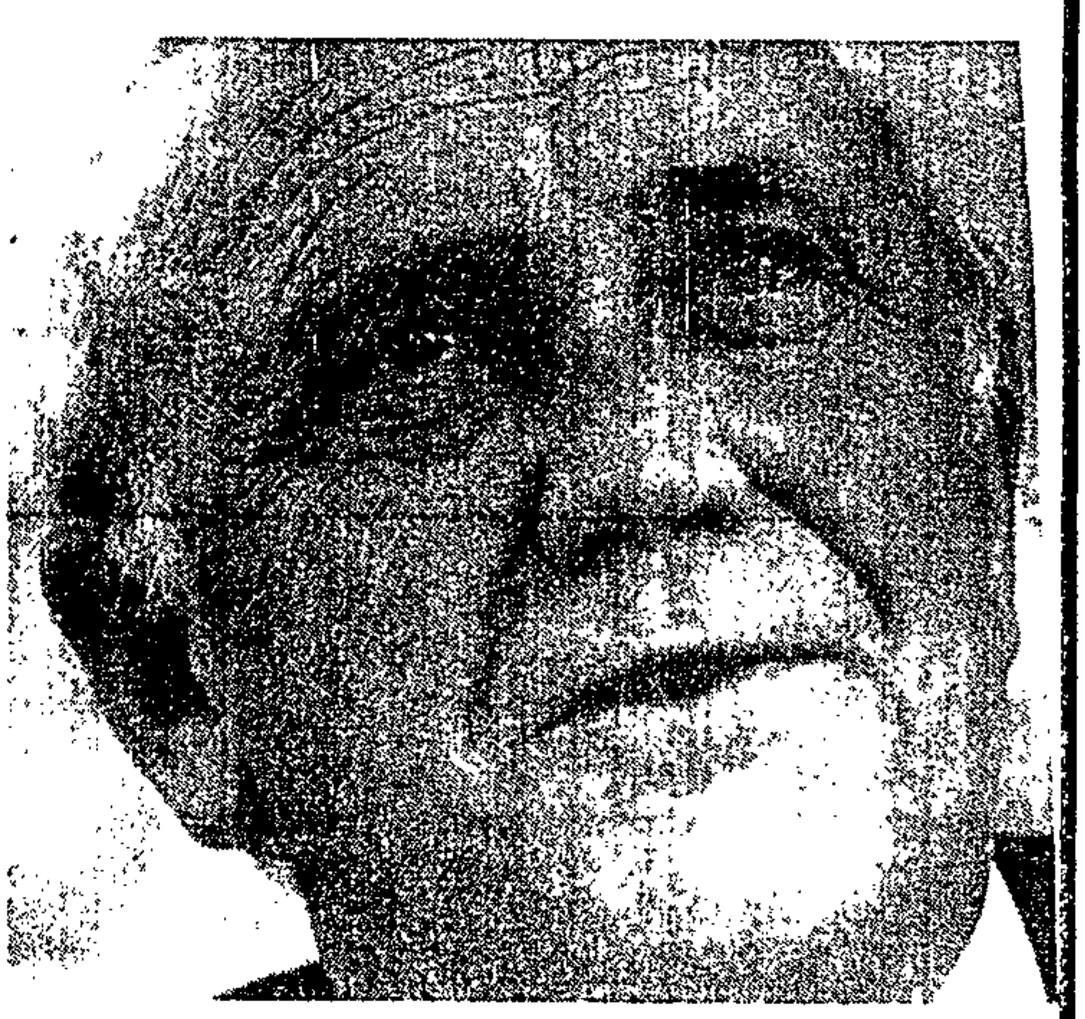
"African self-determination to white-liberal-capitalists". These two effectively then represented the age-old oft romanticised war for Africa between the colonialists (or settlers as the PAC calls them), and the indigenous people of the continent.

The big ideological battle in South Africa, on one level, then, was between these two positions; there was the ideological position (not actual conflict) of the PAC and CP; and then there was the ANC/Government position.

The linear spectrum was in a way switched for a revolving wheel within a wheel with the ANC and Government circling each other in political contact, and the CP and PAC literally out there somewhere going around and around but getting nowhere near the centre of things.

At the same time there was a desire from both the ANC and Government, and perhaps a perceived duty, too, to get the two (CP and PAC) into the centre - and not necessarily the political or ideological centre.

And shifting these mammoth ideologues to the centre of things is desirable — into a position where they, perhaps for their own sake as well as for the sake of national reconciliation could impact on the development of a new social and political order for the country,



FW de Klerk dealt a heavy blow against the rightwing.

however daunting a task it may seem.

Leaving the PAC/CP bloc on the fringes of the national debate would be disastrous - especially if a settlement is reached. The (logical) big fear is that a Renamo or Unita situtation could develop in the region. And here is where the lesson can be learnt from President FW de Klerk's referendum.

De Klerk held his breath and did the most unsavoury thing in the light political developments.

As the head of a non-racial political party heading (with the ANC) negotiations obviously aimed at reaching a nonracial and democratic future, De Klerk called a whites-only referendum.

It was called a gamble, and risky, and a cheek, and racist, but call it what you will, De Klerk's referendum took care of the CP in a way only he could and on the CP's terms in a racist whites only poll. The result is now history, and there are great expectations building up of a split in the CP camp, but more so of a palace coup that could see the far right at the negotiating table.

How does this affect the far left? Well it's simple, it is up to the ANC - Government has clearly dealt with its ghost. It might be a very academic argument, but if the far-right arrives at the negotiating table in whatever form, that outer circle will have been smashed.

Just how far talks within the black liberation movement could have gone earlier will remain a mystery, but one can speculate at length about exactly what serious talks (before any further negotiations) between the ANC and PAC might deliver.

In a way, De Klerk has buried his past. The ANC, through which the future no doubt lies, could make that future a lot brighter if it dealt with the PAC.

AWB 'to chuck squatters out'

Sowetan 22/11/92

310

"EITHER the Zevenfontein squatters go, or we go. And I ain't moving," said an angry Midrand resident yesterday after he initiated police barricades to be set up to stop more squatters from settling there.

The resident, an organiser of the Chartwell North Action Group, said the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging might be called in to remove the 650 families if they did not leave, "and that is not even the biggest card up our sleeve".

The man did not want his name published because he was "too close to the squatter camp for comfort".

He said many people in the area of Chartwell, Broadacres, Fourways and Kyalami had joined the Conservative Party. He said they were in touch with the party on a daily basis.

On Monday they distributed pamphlets in the area warning squatters they had settled there illegally and that they would have to go.

No time limit was set, but the organiser said he wanted them out "right now if possible".

He would not elaborate.

Yesterday, infuriated Zevenfontein residents who had left for work in vehicles were stopped over a kilometre from the camp by barricades made of piled-up earth, guarded by policemen recruited by the action group.

The organiser said no vehicles would be allowed in, in case they were carrying building materials.

Only emergency vehicles and those carrying elderly people would be allowed in.

Others would have to park and walk, said the organiser.

On Monday the action group stopped a water tanker from Randburg from going into the squatter camp, but said they allowed it through yesterday.

Transvaal Provincial Administration director of liason services Mr Piet Wilken said the TPA last week ordered police to make sure no more shacks were erected.

"But people have to understand the homeless must be settled somewhere.

"We are doing our utmost to put them in suitable places."

A final decision on where to move the Zevenfontein squatters would be taken by the TPA's executive committee by the end of this week, said Wilken.

Mrs Winnie Mandela and Coretta Scott King, widow of the slain civil rights activist, Martin Luther King Jr salute wellwishers during the march to commemorate his birthday.

White residents block squatters

310

CT 22/1/92

JOHANNESBURG. — A committee formed by white residents of Chartwell on the North Rand had started 24-hour patrols of entrances to the Zevenfontein squatter camp to prevent more people moving into the area.

The chairman of the Chartwell Action Committee, Mr Mike Findlay, said the committee had been authorised by the owners of the land to exercise control over numbers.

More than 100 trucks and bakkies carrying building material had been prevented from entering the camp over the weekend, he said.

Mr Findlay said the committee was in contact with squatter leaders and there had been no incidents between the two groups.

The main entrance to the squatter camp, on a private road, has been blocked off by sand heaps and is being guarded by the police. — Sapa

'We'll call in AWB to move squatters'

STAR 22/1/92

By Julienne du Toit

"Either the Zevenfontein squatters go, or we go. And I ain't moving," an angry Midrand resident said yesterday after he had initiated the setting up of police barricades on the road to the camp on Monday to prevent more squatters settling there. (310 (620) 640)

The resident, an organiser of the Chartwell North Action Group, said the AWB might be called in to remove the 650 families if they did not leave, "and that is not even the biggest card up our sleeve".

The man did not want his name published because he was "too close to the squatter camp for comfort".

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No vehicles would be allowed in, in case they were carrying building materials, said the organiser. Only emergency vehicles and those carrying elderly people would be allowed in.

Others would have to park and walk, said the organiser.

On Monday the action group stopped a water tanker from Randburg going into the squatter camp, but said they allowed it through yesterday and would continue doing so provided the TPA co-operated with them.

This meant giving the action group a daily update on what was going on in the camp.

"The TPA must get them out. They let conditions get out of control. The filth is disgraceful. Someone was murdered here two weeks ago and the murderer was seen going back to the camp.

"Our children see us armed all the time. This is not life. We hear gunshots every night. The TPA says there is no land to put them on. But the squatters are going," warned the organiser.

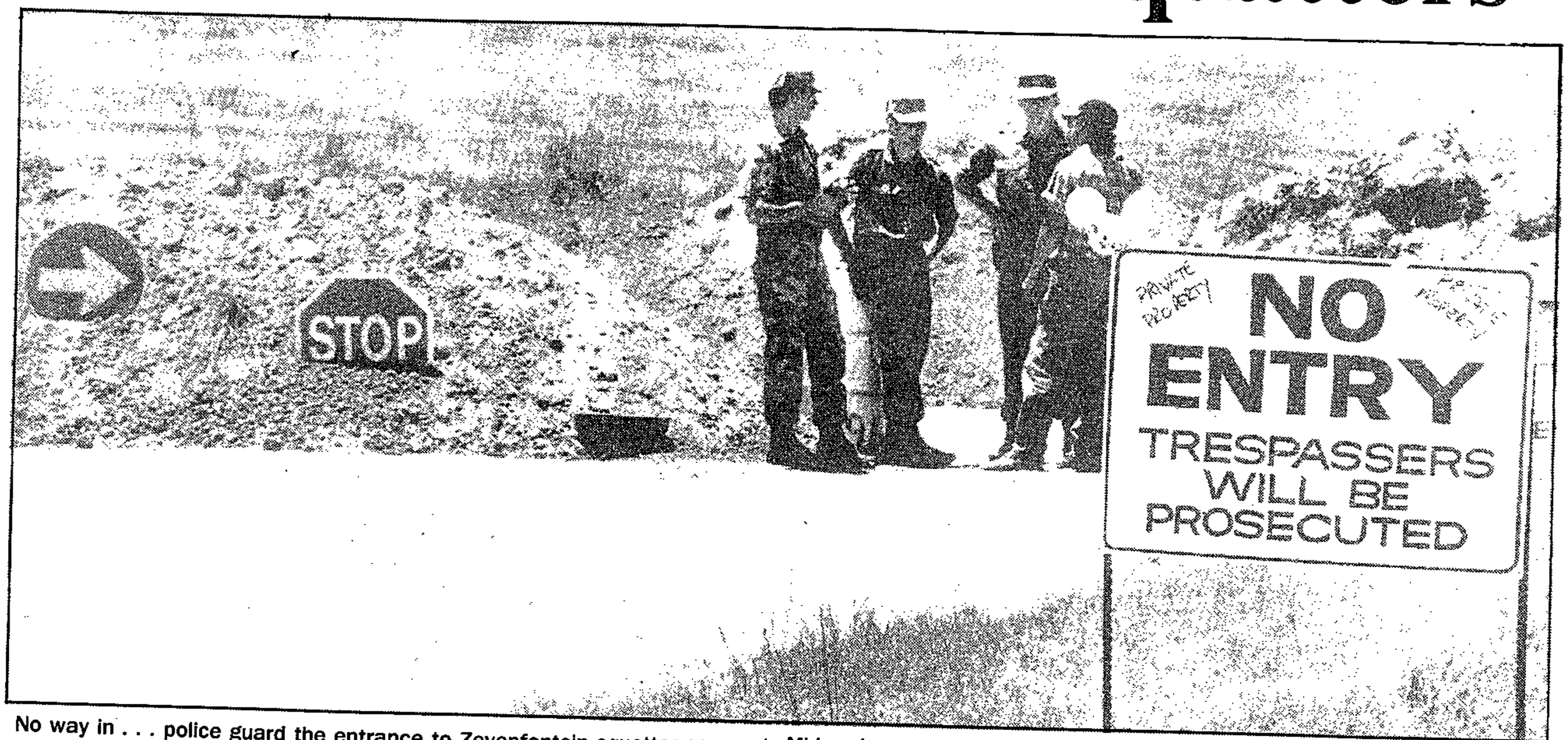
He denied residents were taking the law into their own hands.

TPA director of liaison services Piet Wilken said that the TPA had ordered police last week to make sure no more shacks were erected.

"But people have to understand that the homeless must be settled somewhere. We are doing our utmost to put them in suitable places. It is an ongoing process. I wonder what happened to all the liberated people who worried about these things before?"

Mr Wilken added that the homeless were not the sole responsibility of the Government — local authorities and municipalities should also "join hands" with the TPA to solve the problem.

A final decision on where to move the Zevenfontein squatters would be taken by the TPA executive committee by the end of this week, said Mr Wilken.



No way in . . . police guard the entrance to Zevenfontein squatter camp at Midrand yesterday, blocking the way in for all vehicles in case they were carrying materials to build more shacks.

Picture: Sean Woods

Drip technician 'lackadaisical'

B1 Day 22/11/92

A TECHNICIAN could have contaminated drips which allegedly caused the deaths in 1990 of 13 babies, a Johannesburg inquest heard yesterday.

The court was told that during routine quality control tests conducted by drip manufacturer Sabax, technician Allan Davies regularly failed (40% of the time) to exercise the "skills and procedures" required in terms of international norms.

The skills and procedures required of Davies were integral to the company's quality control process, known as process validation, and necessary to maintain sterile conditions during drip production.

Microbiologist Prof Margaretha Isaacson of the SA Institute of Medical Research, who yesterday offered evidence of her investigation into Sabax facilities, labelled Davies "inexperienced" and "lackadaisical". Isaacson said Davies was a potential source of infection.

In her report, Isaacson said "although it was not shown there was a causal connection between Davies' skill and the contaminated products", he should be transferred to "less sensitive duties".

ANDREW KRUMM

Reviewing quality control tests, attorney Peter Soller, representing 10 of the families which lost babies, said sterile conditions had been compromised on production equipment during testing.

He said bacteria tests done in the cabinet in which the drips were produced showed contamination.

During cross-examination by advocate Clive Cohen SC, representing Sabax, Isaacson said technicians' skills and procedures were "most important" in guaranteeing the sterility of the end product.

Isaacson criticised Sabax testing procedures, saying neither drip components certified sterile by suppliers nor the Sabax end product were tested for contamination. However, a body of opinion regarded these tests as unnecessary.

The inquest continues today.

Whites patrol squatter camp

B1 Day 22/11/92

A COMMITTEE formed by white residents of Chartwell on the North Rand has started 24-hour patrols of entrances to the Zevenfontein squatter camp to prevent more people moving into the area.

Chartwell Action Committee chairman Mike Findlay said the committee had been authorised by the owners of the land to exercise control over numbers.

More than 100 truck and bakkie loads of building material had been prevented from entering the camp over the weekend, he said.

Findlay claimed the committee was in contact with squatter leaders and there had been no incidents between the two groups.

Last night a police spokesman could not confirm that a committee had been formed to patrol the entrance, but said police were patrolling the area and all was quiet. — Sapa.

Azayo vows to continue its campaigns

B1 Day 22/11/92

THE Azanian Youth Organisation (Azayo) would continue to provide visiting artists with a "hot reception", president Thami Mcerwa said yesterday after his release from detention on Monday.

Mcerwa was detained for more than a week in connection with the grenade attack on the offices of the Paul Simon tour management before Simon's first concert two weeks ago.

GAVIN DU VENAGE

Mcerwa said his detention under the Internal Security Act was an attempt to intimidate Azayo.

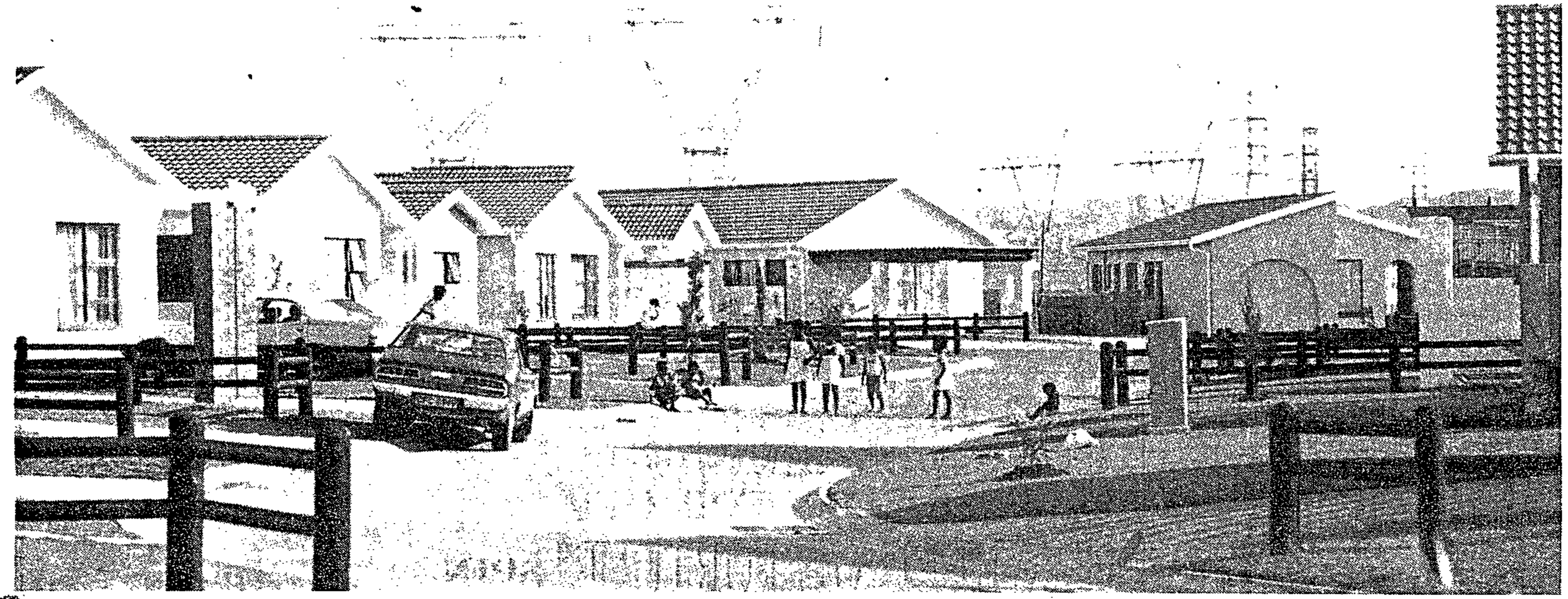
"We will definitely continue to use any means possible to stop the tour," he said last night. "And any other artists can expect not to get kidgloves treatment from us if they come here to make money."

Mcerwa added, however, that Azayo would leave alone artists who contributed to black culture, such as American director Spike Lee, who arrives tomorrow to begin filming Malcolm X.

But US rap group Snap which is planning a visit in a few months, could expect "a hot reception", he said.

Police fired first shots, says AWB

B Day 22/11/92



Civemach is developing a township like the one above in Orange Farm near Evaton for potential home buyers in the lower income bracket. Other developments have been earmarked for East Rand townships.

Low-cost houses for Orange Farm

Sowetan 23/1/92

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

CIVEMECH is to be involved in the construction of about 750 low-cost housing units at Orange Farm near Evaton.

Managing director Mr James said the company, in its capacity as construction management agent providing management services for the development, had completed about 300 affordable homes at Palm Springs, also north of Evaton.

He said further developments would take place in the East Rand townships of Duduza and Tsakane, but no finality had been reached on providing affordable homes there.

The South African Housing Trust is financing the project with the aim of making affordable housing available to lower income groups.

The company is training black builders to enable them to take on the role of contractors and thus create employment opportunities.

James said they were prepared to uplift the standards of small builders in these projects as well as develop their skills.

At a time when many developers are turning down contracts in black townships because of unrest and vandalism, the company is involved with the construction of more than 1 000 low-cost houses for the SAHT.

James said the housing problem was coupled with high unemployment, which was reaching alarming proportions in the country and added: "Low wages also contribute to this problem."

Added to these problems was the fact that the bond rate was increasing and many blacks could not afford to repay loans granted by financial institutions, he said.

Many homeowners are failing to pay their bonds and financial institutions have threatened to repossess their homes.

Major financial houses which threaten to repossess homes are the SA Perm and First National Bank.

MP warns of flare-up over squatter row

STAR 23/1/92

(310)

By Shirley Woodgate

North Rand MP Louis de Waal has appealed for calm in the face of threats by the Chartwell North Action Group to call in the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging to remove the 650 "squatter" families living illegally in Zevenfontein.

He warned yesterday: "Any hasty action will have far-reaching implications which could spark an incident that would make the Ventersdorp clash between police and the AWB look like a picnic.

"A flare-up in that region could also seriously damage the Codesa talks."

In a reference to the possible development of an east/west arc of 13 low-cost villages between Johannesburg and Pretoria, he said: "All parties involved in the squatter row in the north-western PWV must accept the principle that low-cost housing must be provided for people who work and live in the area."

He said the only solution to the problem was a compromise. It was now necessary to put the strongest possible pressure on Randburg and Sandton — neither of which had townships where workers employed in the two towns could live — to take responsibility for developing housing schemes in areas accessible to their industrial regions, he said.

They would have to act in co-operation with the Government, as the agent for land which fell outside the jurisdiction of local authorities.

Mr de Waal said the TPA should be given every opportunity with Randburg and Sandton, together with interested pressure groups and political parties, to establish a workable short-term solution to the Zevenfontein issue.

This group was not typical of all "squatters" since for the past 10 to 20 years about 500 of the people had illegally paid rent of R30 a head to an individual to live on the land.

"The Red Cross estimated that between 65 and 80 percent of the people were employed in nearby Randburg and Sandton. It was a viable community until it was evicted," he said.

After their eviction three months ago, the Zevenfontein "squatters" have been allowed to live on land belonging to a local farmer, but the deadline to move is at the end of this month and the TPA has promised a decision by today on a move to Diepsloot.

Mr de Waal warned that if the TPA dragged its heels over a long-term strategy for informal housing, the north-western PWV could be over-run by an Orange Farm-type situation.

He suggested the TPA contribution to a future settlement could be by way of changing the title deeds of owners, after expropriation for informal settlements had taken place and surrounding land values had been detrimentally affected.

"They could allow rezoning of the agricultural holdings to allow industrial developments to offset the losses incurred by landowners."

It was vital that an acceptable solution be found by keeping all avenues of debate open, he added.

Randburg seeks housing sites

STAR 23/11/92 (310) (3LRB) (RDP)

Randburg plans to appoint consultants to investigate sites for the establishment of informal settlements and low-cost housing schemes inside or outside the town's borders, according to management committee chairman Andre Jacobs.

Commenting on the Zevenfontein squatter issue, Mr Jacobs said: "Since we are not yet ready to talk to the TPA about these people, we believe they must be moved to Diepsloot on two conditions.

"One is that all local authorities in the region must urgently investigate how they can contribute to the solution."

"The other is that the TPA must put together a committee consisting of all town and local area committees in the area to draw up an overall housing strategy for low-cost settlements in the region," he said.

Cosmo City had been earmarked as a likely low-cost housing area for Randburg. Maroeladal, east of Kya Sand, was another possibility.

Sandton management committee chairman Bruce Stewart said only about 1 000 artisans were employed in the town, half of them housed in a hostel in Alexandra.

Within Sandton's borders, the largely undeveloped Frankenwald area had been identified as suitable for affordable housing, and the Johannesburg Metropolitan Action Group had already identified Linbro Park as being suitable for high-density housing.

No final decisions had been taken on the issue, Mr Stewart stressed.

In search of solutions to the squatter problem

B/Day 23/1/92

310

DARIUS SANAI

AS SELF-APPOINTED right-wing "patrols" use intimidation tactics on the several hundred homeless families squatting on the Zevenfontein farm north of Randburg, the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) says it will decide today what to do with the squatters, who were ordered off the farm by the courts last year.

The TPA ran into a storm of protest from groups across the political spectrum late last year when it came out with a plan to move the Zevenfontein squatters to Diepsloot, a rural belt northwest of Johannesburg, and to construct 12 other "squatter camps" in the area to house the thousands of homeless people pouring into the PWV area in a desperate quest for employment and survival.

The plan was attacked by the Greenbelt Action Group (GAG), a local residents' association, as ill-conceived, badly thought out and unilateral. The ANC PWV region and a representative group for the homeless, Operation Masakhane for the Homeless (Omhle), blasted the TPA plan for the same reasons: local residents, whether white landowners or black squatters, had not been consulted by the TPA, they alleged.

Meanwhile, residents near the Zevenfontein farm — which does not fall within GAG's self-proclaimed "Greenbelt" area — have threatened to come up with the most South African of solutions; taking the law into their own hands. White toughs are "patrolling" Zevenfontein, barricades have been set up to stop building material from coming in, and some residents have threatened to import AWB troopers to throw out the Zevenfontein squatters.

GAG, though officially non-aligned, has come under criticism for these reasons. It aims to preserve the area between the Randburg-Sandton boundary and the Hartebeespoort Dam as a recreational "greenbelt", and various elements of the CP and Boerestaat Party leader Robert van Tonder have wholeheartedly supported GAG's principles.

But will the shifting of homeless blacks from one area to another solve the squatter problem in the PWV area?

GAG chairman Anthony Duigan is highly critical of the intimidatory tactics being used by residents near Zevenfontein. But he says there are two good reasons why the squatters should not be moved north to the greenbelt area.

Firstly, says Duigan, the areas proposed by the TPA as squatter camps have no facilities and are far from possible places of employment.

Here, the ANC is in agreement with GAG. ANC PWV region spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa says that the proposed settlements are "far away from roads, facilities and municipalities: to put squatters there will be tantamount to taking their lives away".

Duigan's second point is more controversial: that even if facilities and infrastructure existed, the area should be kept free of squatter settlements because it should be preserved as a "green lung" for the PWV.

He readily admits that part of the feeling behind GAG's action is the local residents' desire not to be overwhelmed by unemployed, homeless people — who will lead to a high crime rate. But why should the "greenbelt" be spared the influx of the homeless — and why should residents in other areas have to live with them?

Randburg and Santon, he says, are more suited to providing proper facilities and opportunities for employment than the rural greenbelt. He insists GAG is not opposed to limited urbanisation of the area per se: "Low-cost housing, for instance, is a perfectly acceptable option, as the people are no longer squatters. But it needs a national housing strategy to work such things out."

Duigan denies that his association — formed in the mid-1980s to mobilise opposition to government's plans to build "Norweto" in the area — is just another group of white landowners trying to keep poor blacks out of sight and out of mind.

Black people have been buying into the Greenbelt area, he says, and some of the Ndebele-speaking black communities have been there longer than the whites — and have every right to stay.

Only a coherent national policy, to be formulated by all sides, can solve the squatter problem, he says.

The ANC's Mamoepa said he agreed with many things that Duigan was saying. The TPA proposals were one-sided, and the squatters and civic associations had to be consulted on any future decision by the TPA.

The ANC had an exploratory meeting with GAG earlier this week, and Mamoepa said the two organisations hoped to work together to establish some kind of a consensus on what should be done.

More militant white residents, meanwhile, keep rumbling about military-style action that should be taken against the squatters. The TPA decides today what it will do with the Zevenfontein community. GAG, the ANC and squatter groups warn that unless it changes its methods of operation, the TPA will make many such decisions in the future without ever finding a solution.

LETTERS

No convictions as train blitz resumes

BDay 23/1/92 (278)

GAVIN DU VENAGE and JONATHON REES

DESPITE the arrests of several suspects, no one has yet been convicted in connection with train attacks which have left at least 145 dead and more than 700 injured in the past 18 months.

Commuters, meanwhile, are again running a gauntlet of death as violence on trains returns after a seasonal lull, with seven dead and 23 injured so far this week.

Yesterday two men were found dead near Westgate Station at first light, Sapa reports. They had been hacked with pangas and were then apparently thrown off a train, police said.

Two other commuters were injured at Riverlea Station and a man at Nancefield was attacked by a mob with pangas.

Peace Action, an independent monitoring group, noted "a definite increase" in train-related violence since last week.

The period from mid-November until the first week of January had been "very quiet", a fact the group put down to increased police presence on commuter lines.

Monitors accused police of not doing enough to prevent attacks or apprehend and convict attackers, a charge denied by the SAP.

A Peace Action spokesman yesterday alleged that policemen had stood idle on Tuesday evening while about 20 armed men boarded a train at Mayfair Station.

Alleged killer Albert Dhlamini faces three charges of murder and nine of attempted murder in the Germiston Magistrate's Court today — more than three months after he was arrested by civilians during the October 9 attack on a commuter train between Katlehong and Wadeville which left three dead and nine injured. He is out on R2 000 bail.

After the murders on trains near Jeppe in 1990, police arrested about 10 people, most of whom were released when the case was temporarily withdrawn.

It is understood that three people are still awaiting trial on murder charges in connection with attacks in which 49 people died in September 1990.

Police say strategies implemented last year, including reinforcements on trains and at stations, and helicopter patrols, are still in force.

But with 641 trains moving through the Reef daily, it was impossible to have personnel on duty at every station and on every train, said SAP Witwatersrand spokesman Capt Eugene Opperman.

Last year police began patrolling platforms and trains, and searching passengers for weapons, using metal detectors.

Law and Order spokesman Maj-Gen Leon Mellet put the current wave of violence down to "gangsterism", and said: "We have little doubt the majority of incidents are criminally motivated."

SA Rail Commuter Corporation director Koos Meyer said the corporation was aware of the rising rate of violence, but added that safety of passengers was a police responsibility.

Soweto police spokesman Capt Joseph Ngobeni said yesterday police had sufficient staff on metro trains. In a prepared statement, he blamed the recent deaths on false alarms.

ANC spokesman Gill Marcus said the organisation doubted whether the violence was due to criminal activity. "Gangsters may attack people, but what would be the purpose of throwing them from trains?".

Meanwhile, Witwatersrand Attorney-General Klaus von Lieres said yesterday only one case against an alleged train killer was pending, resulting from the attack on Jeppe Station last year. However, there might still be some dockets outstanding.

TPA faces hard task over squatters

BDay 23/1/92

DARIUS SANAI

(310)

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) today faces a tough decision on what to do about the North Rand squatters as groups of residents in the area vow to take drastic action if the shack dwellers are allowed to stay near their homes.

Residents of the North Chartwell area near Zevenfontein farm, where several hundred squatter families are staying illegally, warned yesterday that the squatters would be forcibly removed if the TPA allowed them to stay.

The North Chartwell Action Group is already "patrolling" the Zevenfontein squatter camp and preventing trucks loaded with corrugated iron — for building shacks — from entering.

And residents in nearby Diepsloot, where the TPA has proposed to move the squatters, warned yesterday there would be "armed resistance" if the squatters were relocated there.

The TPA said on Monday it would "probably" make a decision today on the fate of the squatters, whose numbers have risen dramatically recently.

The CP has given the TPA a 10-day ultimatum to remove the squatters.

An informed CP source said yesterday Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough had admitted to colleagues recently that the TPA "does not know where to put the squatters".

Local residents' patrols and barricades of the Zevenfontein settlement continued yesterday, although no violence was reported.

● See Page 6

NEWS CALL 24 HRS FOR

TPA invites ideas on squatters

A WORKING group of all parties interested in the controversial low-cost housing strategy for the area north of Johannesburg is to be instituted, the Department of Community Development announced yesterday.

Deputy director-general of the department L Dekker said the working group, chaired by chief director of Physical Planning and Development of the Transvaal Provincial Administration P P C van der Hoven, would investigate and evaluate all proposals for a solution to homelessness in the area.

It would report to the Executive Committee of the TPA by March 31.

About the immediate problem of relocating the Zevenfontein squatters, Dekker said the community would be moved within a week.

"The TPA is urgently negotiating with especialy the Randburg Town Council and the Sandton Town Council to try to find land closer to work opportunities and where basic services could be provided.

Dekker said more time was needed to evaluate proposals that had been received from interested groups up to yesterday morning.

"What is definite is that the community will be moved before the end of January. If a suitable site cannot be found closer to Randburg or Sandton, they will temporarily be moved to Diepsloot, the original site chosen for them."

Arrangements would be made for basic sevices to be provided at this site until a permanent site could be found.

"The present site at Zevenfontein is not suited. It has an adverse impact on the environment and the living circumstances are poor," he said.

Dekker said the issue of finding space for the influx of poor people was obviously sensitive and the working group had been introduced to hear proposals by all interested groups and individuals. — Sapa.

PW tapes subject of official probe

Political Staff

CAPE TOWN — Ombudsman Mr Justice Piet van der Walt confirmed yesterday he was investigating a complaint by former President P W Botha about the destruction of the tape-recording of his conversation with ANC president Nelson Mandela.

He could not say when the investigation would be completed.

A spokesman for Botha said he had no comment.

The complaint concerns a recording made in 1989 of a conversation between Botha and Mandela, who at that stage was serving a life sentence. The recording was destroyed by the National Intelligence Service after notes had been made about the discussions.

Last year, Botha strongly criticised the decision to destroy the recording and said this had been done without his permission.

Inquest told of Sabax's delay in advising against drips

ANDREW KRUMM

DRIP manufacturer Sabax had not "considered" advising client hospitals to change their baby drips until five months after it was told its products could be contaminated, a Johannesburg inquest into the deaths of 13 babies heard yesterday.

Sabax was first informed by Garden City Clinic of possible drip contamination on 4 May 1990, but only stopped supplying the implicated products in late September 1990.

However, Sabax quality assurance manager Keith Allen said bacterial tests on products removed from hospitals and performed by Sabax in June 1990 had found no contamination.

During cross-examination by Adv R Levine, representing Clinic Holdings — Garden City's holding company — Allen said a company representative had followed up incidents at Garden City Clinic and Johannesburg Hospital in May and June 1990.

He confirmed the company had "not officially" considered advising hospitals to change to a heat sterilised product.

On Wednesday, corporate planner for Sabax's holding company Adcock Ingram, Arthur Barnett said Sabax stopped supplying the drips in late September after contamination was found in drips received by two babies who died at Morningside Clinic.

The inquest continues.

[illegible] ... ted in sharply higher lease rates.

TPA officials tear down shacks at Zevenfontein

(310) STAR 24/11/92

By Guy Jepson and Carina le Grange

Transvaal Provincial Administration officials pre-empted their own decision on the fate of the Zevenfontein informal settlement near Lonehill, north of Johannesburg, when they started dismantling shacks yesterday morning.

Residents said that officials, escorted by police, began the work at about 6.30 am — about 12 hours before the deputy director-general of the TPA's community development department, Len Dekker, said the settlement would be moved within seven days.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman confirmed last night that "a few incompleted structures" were removed by TPA officials and land owners earlier in the day.

"At the request of the owners of the property, the TPA and the owners removed incompleted structures that people had just started building.

He could not say how many.

"The police were only there to protect the people who took part (in removing the shacks). We had nothing to do with the actual removals whatsoever," Captain Opperman said.

Several of the ramshackle settlement's 650-odd residents claimed that many structures were dismantled and removed by truck — along with the contents of some shacks.

Said Aaron Mthembu: "This morning I left for work at about 6.30 am as usual. I went to fetch my car on the other side of the police roadblock (set up outside the settlement to prevent the further influx of people) and on my way I saw plenty of trucks driving into Zevenfontein, with the police.

"I asked what the trucks were doing and was told they don't want to see us here any more," he said.

Mr Mthembu said that one of the men in the demolition party informed him he was "an AWB member".

Boy Mbowane, a middle-aged driver employed in Wynberg, said he received a telephone call at about 8 am telling him to hurry home as "something bad" was happening.

"I found the officials busy. My shack was gone. I don't know what I'm going to do."

Mr Mbowane said the contents of the shack he and his wife Caroline share — including two beds, a sink, a table, two pots, two chairs and blankets — were also missing.

He had been told by a Sakkie Lombard that the items would be taken to Germiston. He was also given a contact number.

The TPA could not be reached for comment last night, but in a statement to Sapa Mr Dekker said the settlement would "definitely" be moved before the end of the month, although sites were still being negotiated with the Randburg and Sandton councils.

If a suitable site could not be found closer to Randburg or Sandton they would temporarily be moved to Diepsloot, the original site chosen for them and arrangements would be made for basic sevices to be provided at this site until a permanent site could be found.

He also said that a working group of all parties interested in low-cost housing for the area north of Johannesburg would be instituted.

Greenbelt Action Group chairman Anthony Duigan said last night that it was imperative that Randburg municipality had to get involved in finding alternative solutions for the problems of the Zevenfontein residents as about 70 percent of them worked in Randburg.

Squatters live in fear after (310) shacks razed

By ISAAC MOLEDI

ABOUT 650 Zevenfontein squatters fear for their lives following the bulldozing of more than 200 shacks yesterday. Sowetan 24/1/92

The remaining squatters have been warned to move out or face forced removals by their white neighbours who have threatened to call in the AWB to remove them.

Squatters have called in Peace Action monitors to take statements from people allegedly assaulted by the army and police.

Transvaal Provincial Administration trucks accompanied by bakkies belonging to members of the Chartwell North Action Group took part in demolishing more than 200 newly erected shacks.

Members of the Press were not allowed to enter the barricaded area guarded by police, soldiers and members of the action group, about 1km from the squatter camp.

The squatters vowed to take the law into their own hands to defend themselves if attacked or forced to leave the area.

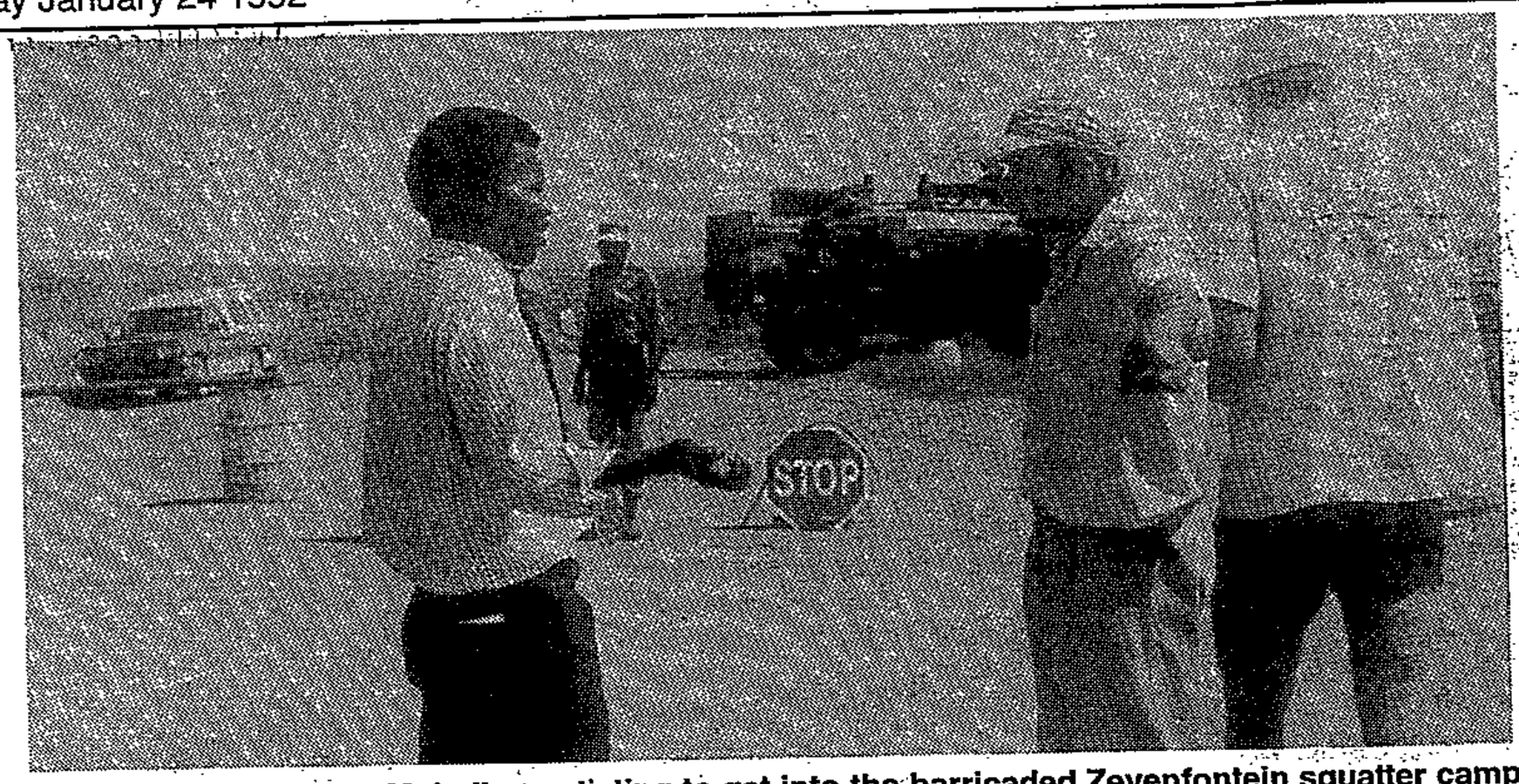
They have also said they were going to defy an order to resettle them at Orange Farm instead of Diepsloot as originally agreed.

Sowetan witnessed infuriated women with babies on their backs and carrying luggage being forced out of the taxis by soldiers and were made to travel a kilometre to the camp.

The TPA liaison officer, Ms Magda du Toit, said it was agreed at a meeting between representatives of squatters and the TPA that newly built and empty shacks should be destroyed.

She said the TPA was also aware that some squatters have been assaulted.

Police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman denied the assault allegations.



***Sowetan* reporter Isaac Moledi negotiating to get into the barricaded Zevenfontein squatter camp yesterday.** Pic: MBUZENI ZULU

The fact that they are poor does not mean squatters are always right

STAR 25/11/92

310

Notebook

CHRIS GIBBONS

YOU can see the Zevenfontein squatter camp from the air. It's right beside the ruler-straight, gleaming silver aqueduct north-west of Johannesburg which pilots use as a beacon.

It's unimpressive — the usual agglomeration of do-it-yourself shacks and huts, home to an estimated 4 000 people.

What makes Zevenfontein special is that it's rapidly become a symbol of the modern South Africa — and an example of the problems which life has ahead for most of us.

Just north of the squatter camp is a part of the world called Chartwell. It's made up of plots of land, most with houses on them, some quite fancy, but mostly unspectacular.

The residents there say they enjoy living in the country, they have a bit of extra space, and many run chickens or other animals.

They'll also tell you that it used to be a bit isolated, and you needed a good watchdog. Now, however, since the squatters arrived, you need more than just a dog. You need a good gun.

Crime is soaring. Houses are broken into with monotonous regularity. Living in the country, this part of the country, is downright dangerous.

The folk in Chartwell want to see the squatters moved on. They admit, quite freely, they don't much care where to.

Now, it's a funny thing about squatters, but there is a tendency in certain quarters, especially in the media, to assume that right is on their side.

They are poor. They are homeless. They are "victims of the system". They are oppressed. Therefore, runs the common logic, anyone who wants to see them shifted must be in the wrong.

But stop for a second and consider the Zevenfontein/Chartwell example. If 4 000 quatters moved in next door to you, how would you feel?

Whether you live in a flat or a house or on a plot is irrelevant. Even a small camp like Zevenfontein is dirty, unsightly, and unsanitary.

Nor do I know of too many liberals prepared to step in and say to the squatters — fine, come and live in my back garden.

It's very easy to be righteous, provided the poor are cluttering up someone else's door-step.

But more important than this is the question of land rights and values.

The right to own a piece of land and put your home on it is an idea central to our concept of society, whether Western or African. Remove this right and suddenly we will be behind the Iron Curtain, in the socialist Dark Ages.

Now, clearly, the squatters are trying to exercise this right. Like the rest of us, they want no more than a piece of land on which they can build a shelter for their families. But they cannot do this if they infringe the rights of the residents of Chartwell.

And yes, the people in Chartwell have exactly the same rights as the squatters in Zevenfontein, despite the fact that they might be better off and white.

A right is something applicable to all, not just the disadvantaged.

The argument is easier to grasp if you consider something tangible like a motor car.

You have two cars and I have none. Therefore, I will seize one of your cars. We will then each have a car and be able to go on our separate journeys, yes?

No. Only in the realms of socialist fantasy is this acceptable. Elsewhere, it is called theft.

The same process applies to land. A squatter camp springing up next door is a form of theft, depriving a community like Chartwell of value as efficiently as a car thief.

The culprits in all of this, in truth, are neither the squatters, nor the burghers of Chartwell.

The culprits are instead the planners and administrators who have failed so abjectly to make provision for the poor.

In doing so, they have created the squatters, South Africa's own Boat People.

Squatters: the problem no one wants

STAR 25/11/92 (310)

PART of the millions of rands which municipalities collected in assessment rates from businesses should be used to provide effective housing for their workers, says ANC PWV region spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa.

Entering the row over the resettlement of the Zevenfontein squatters, he said up to 75 percent of rates was derived from business and industrial property, but used towards subsidising residential environments with high cost services.

"There should be a proportional link between the rates paid by businesses and the provision of land for workers, either inside or outside the towns," he added.

As the pressure to provide land for the squatters shifts from the Transvaal Provincial Administration to Randburg and Sandton where most of the residents are employed, Administrator Danie Hough said the 650 families would be temporarily settled in a transit area until a permanent site was found.

He said the two towns and the Local Government Affairs Council would be approached for the loan of a temporary site but if negotiations failed, the squatters would be moved to 30 ha in Diepsloot which would be declared a transit area.

It is believed permanent sites being investigated for low-cost housing by Randburg include Maroeladal and Cosmo City.

At this late hour, the TPA has also decided to appoint a working group at which all parties will be represented, to evaluate the existing urbanisation strategy and identify sites under the jurisdiction of Midrand, Sandton and Randburg for permanent, orderly urbanisation.

Welcoming the announcement, Mr Mamoepa referred to previous TPA plans to establish a network of squatter villages in the northern PWV, and said the TPA had no right to move squatters or identify land for informal housing without full consultation.

Garden Triangle Group spokesman Robert van Tonder warned that the Zevenfontein residents would probably have to live in Diepsloot for "quite a while", and he repeated a previous call for Randburg and Sandton to help in the provision of housing for those affected.

The chairman of the Chartwell Local Area Committee Graham Dean said the announcement was good in that the TPA had accepted responsibility for moving the people but it was bad moving them to Diepsloot and leaving the people there.

"Social engineering creates conflict — you cannot put squatters next to people with million-rand assets and, wherever you move them, there will be conflict. They must go where they will be acceptable to the community," he said.

Greenbelt Action Group chairman Anthony Duigan said it was imperative that Randburg get involved, as the people worked in Randburg.

Mr Duigan also said GAG found the TPA's decision that Diepsloot could be made into a "transit camp" ominous as it could trigger a higher level of conflict. "We remain implacably opposed to any form of dense settlement in the area," he said.

A group calling itself Peace Action which has started monitoring the situation, has claimed widespread intimidation of the squatters by the South African Defence Force and local residents.

Chartwell North Action Group chairman Johnny Knez dismissed the allegations as "utter rubbish".

SHIRLEY WOODGATE

● See Chris Gibbons — Page 13.

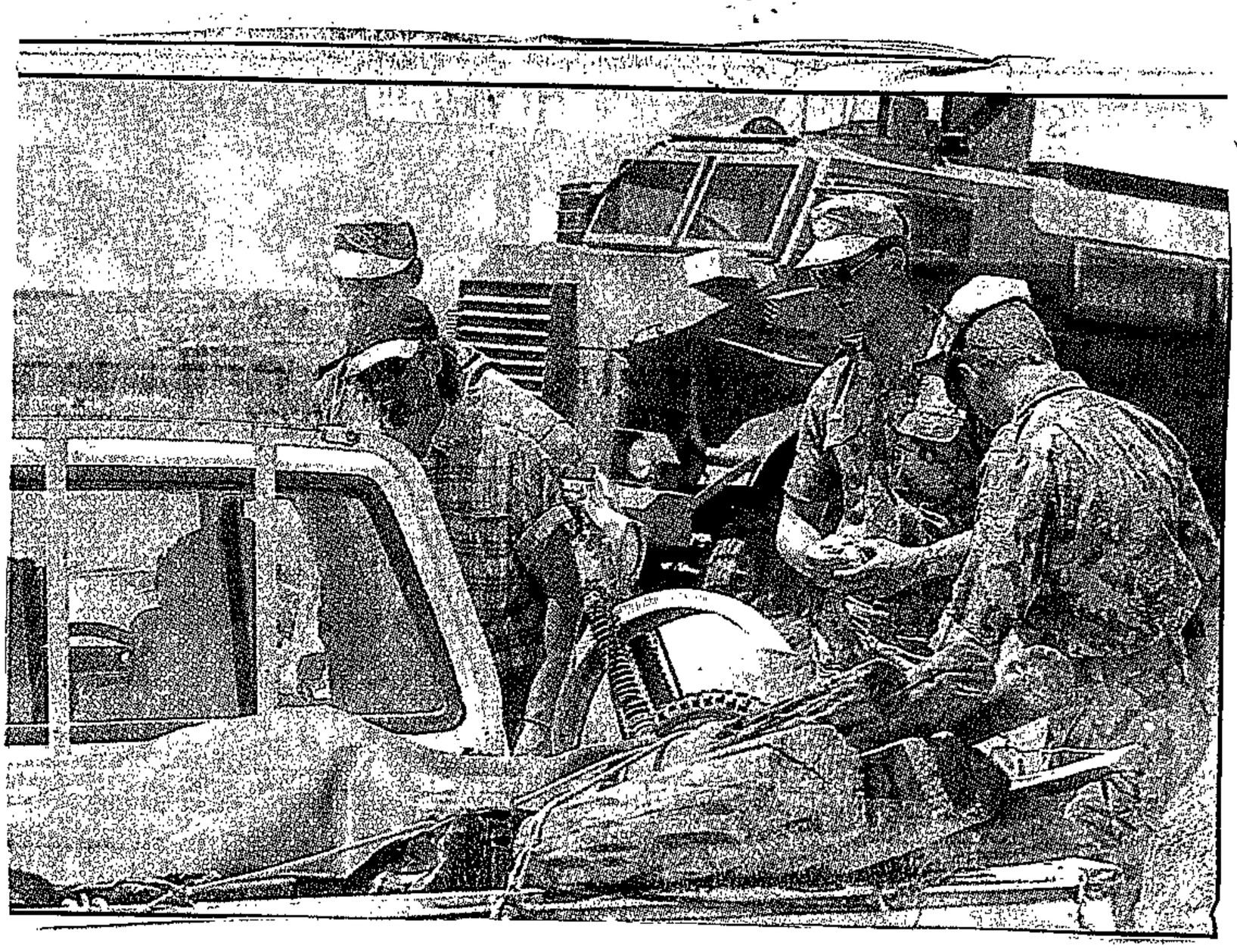
NO ENTRY: Police man roadblocks at Zevenfontein squatter camp this week, allowing only residents to go in or out.

● Photograph SEAN WOODS

STAR

25/01/92

(3/0)



Zevenfontein: conflict looms

By MARTIN NTSOELENGOE

C\Pres 26/1/92 310

A TIME-BOMB is ticking away at Zevenfontein between squatters and landowners.

A violent confrontation in that area grows more likely every day as stand owners from surrounding areas are threatening to physically remove the defiant squatters.

The Diepsloot Residents' Association (Dare) and the Chartwell Action Group (Cag) have more than 1 000 men ready to force the squatters out of the area. A leading member of the Conservative Party, MP Clive Derby-Lewis, confirmed he had sent an ultimatum to the TPA.

Writing on behalf of the "afflicted white residents of the area" through the Chartwell North Action Group, he says: "I wish to inform you that unless the Zevenfontein squatters are removed by January 30, 1992, to a recognised black residential area, action will be launched with the express purpose of ridding the area of illegal squatters, whose criminal activities appear to be condoned by the government."

AWB leader Eugene Terre'Blanche confirmed that his organisation had been asked for help.

The 700 squatter families at Zevenfontein camp have been at the centre of a row between the TPA, residents in the area and the Greenbelt Action Group (Gag).

The office of TPA Administrator Danie Hough issued a statement saying the squatters should be resettled by the end of the month in a suitable area and the city councils of Randburg and Sandton would be asked to provide a temporary site.

The TPA added that the families would be resettled in a transit area, where water, sewerage and refuse disposal would be provided.

If negotiations are successful, the TPA would approve the purchase of parts of Diepsloot Farm in terms of the Illegal Squatting Act of 1951.

The TPA executive is to appoint a working group comprising representatives of all concerned parties to evaluate urbanisation.

Zevenfontein residents confused and angry

STAR 7/1/92

By Zingisa Mkhuma

There is still tension between squatters at Zevenfontein settlement near Lonehill, north of Johannesburg, and nearby landowners, after officials of the Transvaal Provincial Administration last week began dismantling shacks in the area.

The TPA, together with the land-owners, began tearing down unoccupied shacks on Thursday and vowed the entire settlement would have to be relocated by January 31.

The squatters are to be moved temporarily to Diepsloot while the TPA negotiates with the Randburg and Sandton town councils for permanent sites.

On Friday, confusion and anger reigned among the shack dwellers, none of whom seemed to know where they would be moved to. Some frustrated residents said they knew they would be forcibly removed from the area and feared they could be relocated in unsuitable areas, far from their work places.

Others expressed a wish to be relocated at Diepsloot.

Tension between the squatters and representatives of the land-owners, the Chartwell North Action Group (CNAG) — who were manning a roadblock at the entrance to the settlement, together with police, was evident.

People entering the area were screened and journalists saw residents sneaking crates of soft drinks into the area.

The residents said CNAG members were preventing a TPA water truck from making deliveries, and stopping residents from bringing in food.

A mother of five, Nolasti Siko, complained bitterly about the heat and accused the CNAG and the TPA of trying to starve them to death. She said all the spaza shops in the area were without food and people had to use polluted water from the Jukskei River.

Mrs Siko added: "It's such a struggle to survive here. They even turned away a bakery van at the roadblock."

But CNAG spokesman Mike Finlay denied his organisation had prevented food and water supplies from reaching the settlement.

A one-way ticket to the city

STAR 28/1/92. Gen 310 24

South Africa's population shift from rural to urban areas benefits neither region, reports Agricultural Correspondent GEORGE NICHOLAS.

TEN years ago, about 72 000 people lived in the rural area of the Rustenburg district. Since then the number has dropped to 50 000.

In the same 10-year period, the rural areas of Witbank lost about 22 600 inhabitants, and the four districts of Ventersdorp, Phalaborwa, Pilgrim's Rest and Harrismith each lost 11 000 people.

These are just a few districts taken at random to indicate the alarming continuing drain of manpower from the Transvaal and Free State farming areas to the towns and cities — a problem that is causing increasing concern, not only to the farming community, but also to many urban authorities.

People are simply leaving the countryside in droves as the traditional farming practices, wages and way of life falter under the weight of competition from the rest of the economy.

Attracted

So many are deserting the land that depopulation is no longer a threat, but a chilling reality.

Those leaving the farms are almost exclusively black workers and their families. They are attracted to the bright lights and entertainment facilities of the urban areas, and by the exciting prospect of job opportunities with wages far higher than those farmers can afford.

Many are disillusioned, when it is too late, by the reality.

Huge numbers fail to find work or suitable accommodation and, when all their efforts come to nought, they do not return to the farm but tend to congregate in squatter camps on land in the urban and peri-urban areas, where many of them sink deep into poverty and want.

Those fortunate enough to find work are also often similarly disillusioned by unforeseen costs, such as expensive food, clothing, schooling, accommodation, medical and other services that reduce their effective income to levels lower than they had earned or received free on the farm.

Squatter camps, those troublesome informal settlements that sometimes arise literally overnight, are already a feature of many towns and cities. Thus what in the past has been largely a rural problem has now also turned into a serious urban one.

In the past 10 years, for instance, the urban population of Rustenburg increased in round numbers from 32 000 to 52 000, Belfast from 10 000 to 14 000, Heilbron from 10 000 to 20 000, Witbank from 88 000 to 128 000, Cullinan from 1 000 to 8 000 and Delmas from 16 000 to 26 000.

About 10 percent of South Africa's whites and 60 percent of blacks still live and work in the rural towns and districts. The experts estimate, however, that by the turn of the century more than half of the country's black population will be urbanised.

The concern of the farming community is understandable. In the depopulation process, schools on farms and in country towns are emptying, State transport services by rail and bus are reduced, roads are becoming neglected, doctors are leaving and country hospitals and maternity homes are closing.

What can be done to reverse or at least stem the drift? Apparently nothing.

The abolition some years ago of the final impediment, urban influx control, has opened the gates especially for the younger generation on farms, who are not only better educated than their parents, but are determined to seek more remunerative and satisfying livelihoods elsewhere.

Almost as serious as the loss of these people is the difficulty experienced by many farmers in retaining the services of their trained and skilled workers.

Organised agriculture appears to have accepted with resignation that farmers have no option but to mechanise to a greater extent than ever before, especially for the production of commodities that are labour intensive but financially rewarding, and that lend themselves to mechanisation.

According to South African Agricultural Union training manager Machile van Niekerk, effective mechanisation in most cases requires expertise and skills, which, he adds, means that both the farmer and his worker will have to undergo specialised training.

It is generally recognised that the farming industry is more important to the country's population and economy than most other sectors. It cannot on its own finance extensive and costly mechanisaton. It needs help. Much as the world rebels against subsidisation today, this may become one way of coping with the vacuum that is being created by the migration from the platteland.

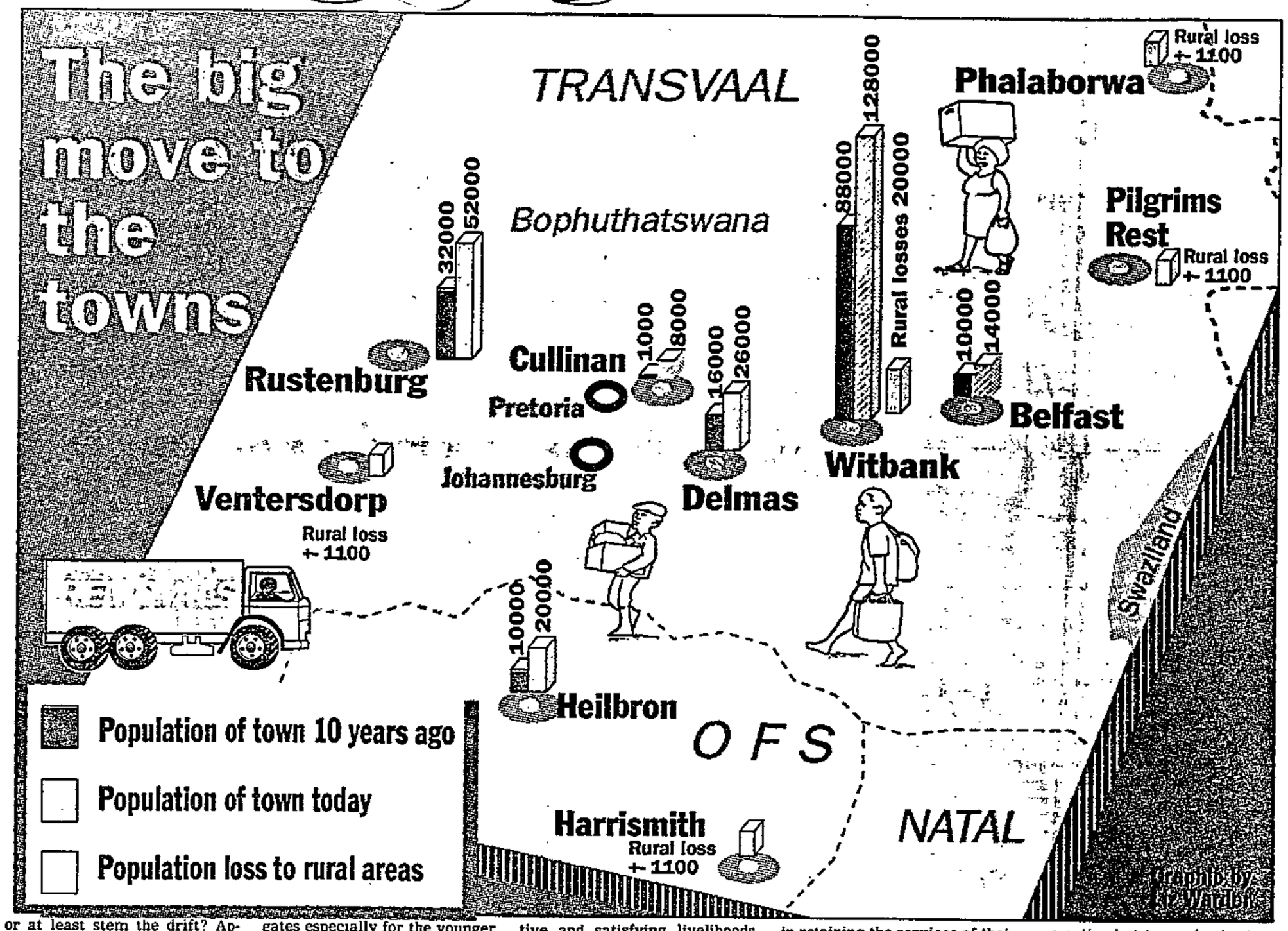
Emphasised

In representations it has made on the subject to the Government, the SAAU has emphasised that this migration could be attributed to the fact that the rural infrastructure is underdeveloped and that it shows an alarming degree of deterioration.

It has pointed out that in the process the rural areas are becoming increasingly isolated and unattractive to work and live in.

The SAAU considers it essential that a strategy for rural development should be formulated and implemented without delay to make it more attractive to live and work in, and it feels strongly that the State must accept responsibility for maintaining a basic infrastructure in the rural areas.

Be that as it may, no country, least of all South Africa, can permit the survival of its agricultural industry to be imperilled. Either a solution to the depopulation problem must be found or effective measures must be taken to counter its disruptive aftermath. □



One of the charges related to the-

...station then allegedly ...

Diepsloot residents warn of bloodbath

DARIUS SANAI

RESIDENTS near Diepsloot yesterday warned of a bloodbath if the 4 000 Zevenfontein squatters were moved to the North Rand area by the TPA later this week.

The residents said they would not tolerate a rising tide of crime in their area if the squatters were allowed in.

They also said they blamed the TPA for the "mess", and said the squatters did not want to move to Diepsloot either.

But squatters on the Zevenfontein farm said yesterday most of them worked in the area, that there was no crime emanating from the squatter camp, and they would not mind moving to Diepsloot. Most also said they believed the TPA had tried its best to resolve the "difficult situation".

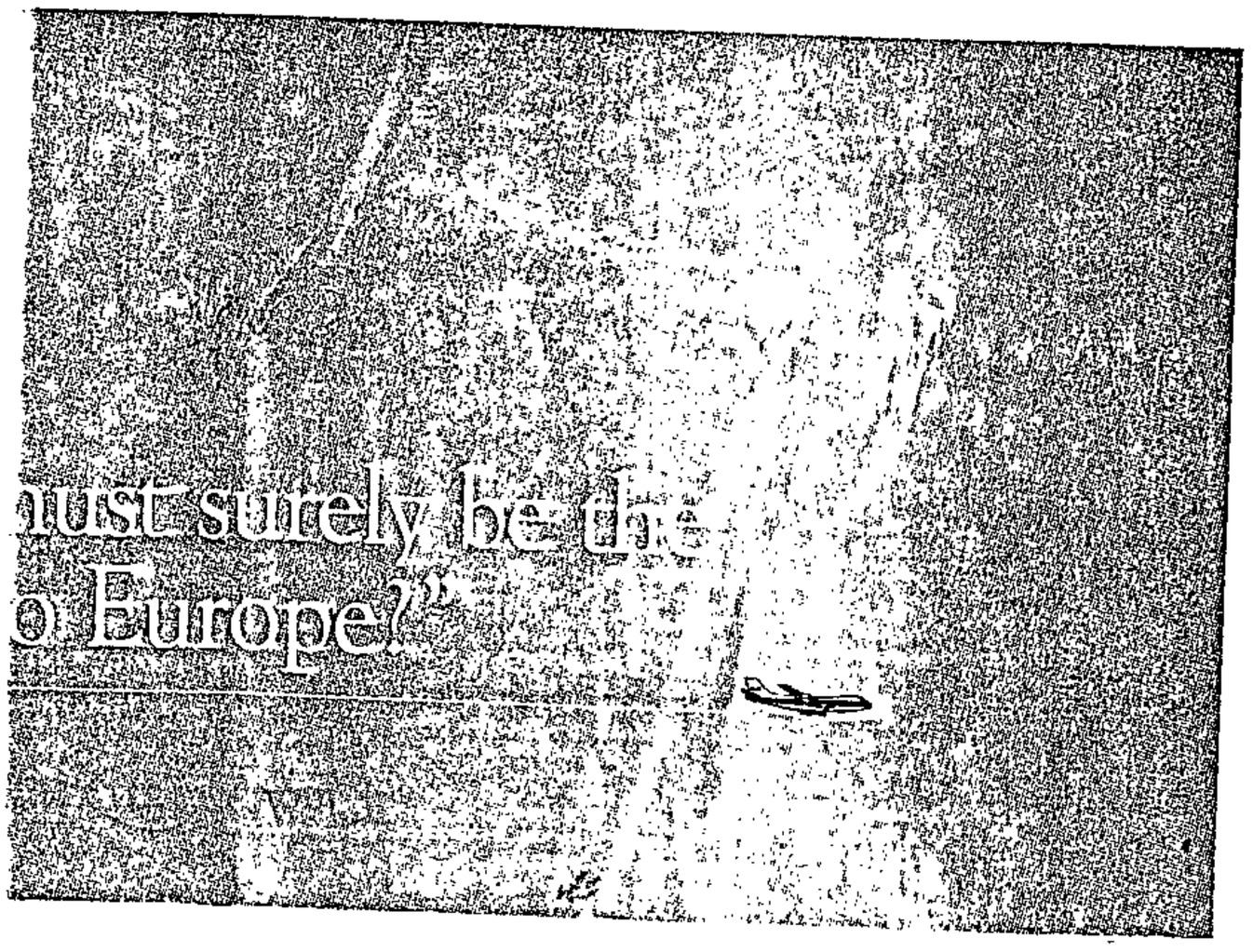
"We just want to go somewhere where we will be allowed to live," one said.

Most of the squatters said their greatest fear was that their building materials would be taken away if their shacks were demolished.

Over the weekend, local Zevenfontein residents once again issued an ultimatum to the squatters to move — but residents near the Diepsloot farm, where the TPA is proposing to move the squatters "temporarily", say they want to preserve their area as a rural "green lung".

Diepsloot residents gathered in a local estate agency yesterday spoke of their fear of escalating crime and overcrowding that would accompany an influx of squatters.

PEANUTS By Charles Schulz



Man killed, 7 hurt in train attacks

A TRAIN commuter was killed by gunmen who opened fire from Johannesburg's President station yesterday morning, police reported.

A 28-year-old man was fatally wounded in the 7.15am attack. Police said they found no injured, but witnesses told police several other injured had fled.

The attackers, believed to be two men, disappeared.

And, earlier at 6.55am, on a train running between Wadeville and Katlehong, a policeman was shot by four men who removed his service pistol before throwing him off the train.

The injured policeman walked to a nearby road from where he called an ambulance. He is in a stable condition in hospital.

The same group apparently also shot at other commuters before alighting at Germiston West Station from where they began firing at passing trains.

Five men and a woman were injured. An ambulance spokesman said the woman was shot in the head and an elderly man in the chest.

One man is in a coma at the Willem Cruywagen Hospital in Germiston, while the woman has been transferred to the Johannesburg Hospital.

Police found Makarov pistol cartridges at the scene, but the men were allegedly also armed with AK-47 rifles. — Sapa.

He said all the men would have been prepared to report to court, or the police could have called on them at their offices, adding that government would continue to apply the law in a "legal manner".

Squatters move to go ahead

Blday 29/11/92

DARIUS SANAI

THE Zevenfontein squatters will almost certainly be moved to the Diepsloot farm at the end of this week despite protests from local residents and the Greenbelt Action Group (GAG).

The last resort open to the TPA to avoid a potentially confrontational situation has failed as both Sandton and Randburg councils said yesterday they would be unable to accommodate squatters this week.

Residents near Diepsloot said they would resort to violence even if the 4 000 squatters were moved there temporarily. 29/11/92

But some squatters said yesterday they all had jobs and the fears of the local residents were unfounded.

A TPA spokesman confirmed yesterday that the squatters would be moved to Diepsloot as a suitable site had not been found for them elsewhere. Diepsloot residents insist it is the prerogative of Randburg and Sandton councils to find houses for the squatters, as many are employed there.

The spokesman emphasised the move was temporary and said the squatters would stay at Diepsloot until the end of March, by which time a working group comprising representatives from the TPA, local councils, the Metropolitan Chamber, residents' associations and the squatters would have identified sites in the North Rand area suitable for "permanent urbanisation".

Sandton Council spokesman Deline van Wyk said yesterday the council would not come up with any alternative sites for the squatters before the end of the week — the TPA's deadline for the move.

And a spokesman for Randburg council said it was unlikely that space would be provided for the squatters by the end of the week, although the council was investigating possible lo cost housing sites.

GAG is having a meeting tomorrow night to decide what to do about the issue. Meanwhile, local residents have been saying in private that they want to barricade Diepsloot against the TPA trucks moving the squatters in on Friday, and that they will try to convince GAG to support this action.

Midrand to administer Ivory Park squatters

Star 29/11/92 (310)

The Midrand Town Council has announced it will take over the administration of the Ivory Park squatter settlement north of Johannesburg.

A statement issued yesterday on behalf of the council said the takeover was agreed upon in principle in conjunction with the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA), which currently administers Ivory Park.

The move was in line with the overall redevelopment plan for the area surrounding Ivory Park, said Midrand Town Council management committee chairman Mr Dave Hidden.

"The funds will come from the TPA, which has undertaken to make good any shortfall."

He said the TPA would buy 109 hectares of land in nearby Rabie Ridge on behalf of Midrand from the House of Representatives to accommodate about 1 400 homeless families.

The TPA would also assist in funding R9 million for basic services on the 1 750 stands in the area. Work to establish the services would be completed by March 31.

The Department of National Health had guaranteed that sufficient funds be made available to Midrand to erect two clinics to meet the health needs of the Ivory Park and Rabie Ridge inhabitants, he said. — Sapa.

Church leaders to visit squatter camp

Sowetan 30/1/1992

Sowetan 30/1/92

By ISAAC MOLEDI and Sapa

A GROUP of church leaders, led by South African Council of Churches general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane, will visit the Zevenfontein squatter community today, the church body announced yesterday.

The move came as negotiations for the resettlement of the squatters continued yesterday in a bid to beat tomorrow's deadline.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration on the one hand and the Sandton and Randburg municipalities on the other were still locked in talks on the issue yesterday.

Plans to relocate the squatters evoked outcries from both left and rightwing organisations.

The resettlement of the squatters will go ahead tomorrow unless an alternative site is hastily granted by the Sandton and Randburg municipalities.

Dismal living

(310)

The TPA maintains the Zevenfontein site is unsuitable for permanent settlement, due to poor living conditions and a consequent adverse impact on the environment.

Meanwhile, the squatters themselves this week seemed keen to move to escape their present dismal living conditions, but said they felt insecure about the temporary relocation.

The Star Th

Time and water run out for Zevenfontein squatters

STAR 30/11/92. (310)

Thirsty work ... Zevenfontein women rush to get water from a TPA tank yesterday, but some went home without it when the tank ran dry. The TPA is expected to announce its final decision on the plight of the squatters today.

Picture: Herbert Mabuza

Task group seeks out sites for homeless

STAR 31/1/92

Pretoria Bureau

An urbanisation task group has been appointed to identify sites where thousands of homeless people can be settled in Midrand, Verwoerdburg and north of Randburg and Sandton, Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough said yesterday.

The urbanisation strategy for the whole PWV region would also be taken into account.

Permanent, suitable sites would have to be identified for low-cost housing directed at the huge influx of homeless people.

The task group consists of 15 members, including representatives from Randburg, Roodepoort, Sandton, Verwoerdburg and Midrand town councils, the West Rand and Witwatersrand Central regional services councils, the Metropolitan Chamber for the Central Witwatersrand, the Greenbelt Action Group, Operation Masakhane for the Homeless and the local area committees of Chartwell, Muldersdrift and Rantesig.

Mr Hough said similar task groups would be appointed to evaluate other PWV sites.

ay, January 31 1992

Randburg city council gives squatters land

CT 31/1/92 (310)

PRETORIA. — The Randburg City Council has provided land for permanent occupation by the Zevenfontein squatters in what provincial administrator Mr Danie Hough yesterday hailed as a turning point in the territory's history.

Never before in the history of the Transvaal — and possibly elsewhere in South Africa — had any exclusively white council offered full municipality status to a large group of homeless blacks, Mr Hough said.

The squatters — at the centre of controversy raging for several weeks — will be re-settled on a peace of land measuring 44 hectares initially planned as Extension One of the proposed town of Bloubosrand, about 12km north of Randburg.

Mr Hough said he hoped the moving of the squatters would be completed within the next 14 days.

Agreement for allocating the land was reached between the Randburg city council and the Transvaal Provincial Administration on condition that, among others, the TPA bought the Bloubosrand area from the developers, re-planned it and provided the infrastructure.

The re-settled families would also be subject to a written agreement stipulating that they buy the sites and develop them.

This "shall all occur within the framework of reasonableness and fairness", Mr Hough said.

He urged the private sector to help their employees in the matter.

Mr Hough called on communities in the province to return to the drawing boards and "think new" on the emerging process of urbanisation.

He said in the Transvaal alone about 390 000 erven were required to accommodate the city dwellers who lived in backyards in urban areas.

"It is estimated that in the year 2000 provision will have to be made for an additional 33 million people in the central, eastern and western Witwatersrand — including the Vaal Triangle."

If the current backlog was taken into account, Mr Hough said, 50 000ha of land would be required.

"To illustrate the extent of the problem, the present Soweto covers 8 000ha compared with the 50 000ha of Johannesburg." — Sapa

New row brews over Randburg squatter plan

Blobs 31/1/92

DARIUS SANAI

A NEW row was brewing last night over the Zevenfontein squatters as the Transvaal Provincial Administration said the 750 families would be moved to Randburg — and Randburg residents condemned the move as "ridiculous and dangerous".

Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough told a news conference yesterday that a "breakthrough" had been made because the Randburg Town Council had found an area where the squatters could be housed.

A council spokesman said the decision to house the squatters at Bloubosrand, near Fourways, had been taken at a meeting the previous evening, with the full approval of all residents' associations concerned.

But angry Bloubosrand residents — who said they were unaware of a residents' association in the area — said last night they had not been informed.

An unsigned circular delivered to them within an hour of the TPA announcement urged them to "stand together and ward off the threatening problems".

"We are generally a young, liberal group of people," said one resident, "but we know our house values will go down and crime will go up if the squatters are moved here."

Other residents claimed the TPA and Randburg council were "sneaking" the squatters into their area because right-wingers would not have them elsewhere.

Hough denied that the decision to move the squatters to Randburg and not Diepsloot, as originally planned, was because of pressure from the Greenbelt Action Group (GAG) and right-wing residents in the Diepsloot area, who include Boerestaat Party leader Robert van Tonder.

The squatters would be moved within the next 14 days, after the land at Bloubosrand had been prepared, he said.

The Randburg council spokesman said full facilities, including water, electricity and sewage pipes, would be provided on the site, which would subsequently be developed as a low-cost housing area, with the former squatters becoming home-owners and ratepayers.

Squatters said yesterday they would be happy to move to Bloubosrand if this meant they would be allowed to stay there.

Relief for families

(310)
Sowetan
31/1/92

By ALINAH DUBE

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration said yesterday it would resettle the Zevenfontein squatters within the municipal area of Randburg.

The announcement was made by Administrator Mr Danie Hough at a Press conference in Pretoria.

The actual removal of the squatters, who had until midnight to leave the farm, will take place after 14 days.

This will enable the authorities to take "preliminary steps" such as acquiring land, replanning the town, servicing the area and the establishing an administrative office.

Hough said a suitable 44-hectare site was obtained with the help of the Randburg Town Council for resettling 750 families currently leaving at Zevenfontein.

"This is historic in the sense that Randburg is the first so-called white municipality to declare a black residential area within its boundaries. We hope other municipalities will follow their example," Hough said.

The area was thought to be suitable because it was situated 12km from the central business district.

Not in MY back yard

w\mail 31\1-6\2\92 (310)

Anywhere in the world, the topic of squatters can be enough to turn the mildly liberal into vigilantes. But the saga of the Zevenfontein squatters, north of Johannesburg, is not quite a typical example. **By REG RUMNEY**

NOT in my backyard! This approach, usually abbreviated to "Nimby", sums up the attitude that prevails not only towards the Zevenfontein informal settlement north of Johannesburg, but anywhere in the world "squatters" or the homeless take up residence.

It explains in part the alacrity with which normally "progressive" residents have resorted to vigilante action and even, it is alleged in the case of Zevenfontein, formed alliances with far-rightwing groups.

That the Transvaal Provincial Administration was preparing at the time of going to press to move the Zevenfontein settlement to Diepsloot, also in the "green belt" north of Johannesburg, will not help the situation much: residents around the Diepsloot informal settlement have already been infected by the Nimby syndrome and are threatening violence.

What's more, Diepsloot does not seem any more suitable than Zevenfontein for the people who will be moved as it is no closer to the urban areas where they work.

In many ways Zevenfontein is not typical of the spontaneous informal settlements that have sparked conflict in South Africa and elsewhere in the world, including African states not far north of here.

First, the planned move may be a kind of forced removal but, according to Greenbelt Action Group (Gag) spokesman Tony Duigan, the people will not return after they have been moved. He reckons they will stay away because they have already been harassed and the site will be cleared.

Elsewhere, residents of informal settlements have returned time and again after being moved and their shacks razed. Memories of front-end loaders moving through Crossroads time after time remind one that forced removals in general just haven't achieved their aim.

Secondly, the Zevenfontein settlement is not the result of a land invasion — the residents did have permission from the provincial authorities to stay there for a while.

And thirdly, the Zevenfontein "squatters" are ready to move, says African National Congress spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa, to some other place as long as it has a water supply, is near to transport and is permanent settlement.

The ANC is considering launching a court interdict to stop the Zevenfontein people being harassed and to delay their removal. Mamoepa argues that the TPA cannot decide "unilaterally" to move them and that their fate must be decided at an all-party meeting.

A solution to the Zevenfontein conundrum might still be forthcoming.

Mamoepa says the ANC is considering a proposal from Gag that

Unwanted here, unwanted there

w\mail 31\1-6\2\92 (310)

The squatters of Zevenfontein are keen to be moved, but their destination is still not definite

By LINDA RULASHE AND JOSIAS CHABALALA

The residents of the Zevenfontein squatter camp near Randburg were ready yesterday to pack their tents, zinc sheeting and scarce belongings in anticipation of being trucked permanently to Diepsloot — an area four kilometres north-east of the present camp.

Hours before the move, the Randburg City Council offered land in the proposed town of Bloubosrand — and packing stopped, temporarily.

The Zevenfontein saga is symbolic of many such throughout the country as people are moved onto sites near upmarket suburbs. For the squatters' current neighbours didn't want them to stay — and the white landowners of Diepsloot didn't want them either.

Diepsloot Residents and Landowners Association chairman, Stewart Aitchison, said while no violent action was planned against the squatters, he could not guarantee that militants wouldn't attack them.

"The Transvaal Provincial Administration wants to evict white landowners from Diepsloot after not even properly consulting them. Some of the landowners have been given the option of either accepting the squatters onto their land or moving out."

Zevenfontein residents nevertheless insist the TPA has promised to move them to Diepsloot and they will not allow themselves to be removed after that.

The area has not been cleared for their arrival yet but the squatters intend pitching their tents and building shacks as soon as they arrive.

Chairman of the Zevenfontein Executive Committee, Daniel Sindane, said the community was presently facing hostility from the Chartwell North Action Group, Diepsloot residents, and right wingers who didn't want them "in their midst".

The land falls under the Randburg municipality and residents claim the town will have nothing to do with them.

"We wrote to the mayor of Randburg, Mark Manley, telling him we could not be moved more than five kilometres from the town because most of the squatters work in Randburg," said Sindane.

When *The Weekly Mail* visited the camp this week, residents were optimistic about moving to Diepsloot but some still feared a possible attack by alleged right-wingers, neighbouring white residents and the South African Defence Force.

Residents fears stem from an incident two weeks ago when they were beaten up and their shacks demolished. A roadblock was set up at the entrance to the camp and army personnel — assisted by nearby residents — stopped all vehicles entering and leaving.

Two residents await news of their new home. Photo:GUY ADAMS

The roadblock is still in place and all other roads leading into the camp have been closed.

During the attack, several shacks were hauled down, burnt and many squatters harassed, searched and threatened by nearby residents on horseback, one of whom was seen wearing a shirt with an Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging emblem. Midrand residents also distributed pamphlets last Monday warning squatters to remove themselves immediately from property.

Jane Makhubela, a squatter at the camp, was relieved to discover it was not the army "or those white men" that had attacked them when *The Weekly Mail* car drove into the camp.

"I wish we could leave this area. I know they will kill us one day. We live in fear," she said.

Nearly 80 percent of the Zevenfontein squatters work in Randburg. Most were born in the area and the majority now work in town.

The squatters used to stay in Sabasaba, a location in the Ferndale area before it was changed to Randburg. The area is now occupied by whites.

They moved first to a site adjacent to Zevenfontein where they rented plots for R30. When the fee was raised to R50 a year ago they compained, and their shaks were bulldozed

Abbey Ntsane, a self-employed builder, said: "When they weren't allowing cars into the camp two weeks ago, we had to leave them at the roadblock. I often found small ball bearings in some of the tyre valves. They had put them there and closed the tops to put pressure on the tyre so it would puncture. Each time I confronted them, they denied it."

A lorry provides two tanks of water a day. Washing is done in a stream nearby from which people often drink.

Greenbelt Action Group (Gag) spokesperson Anthony Duigan maintains the TPA is still "caught in the old apartheid way of thinking" by taking people from an area in which they had been squatting and dumping them in another.

"The issue has become a political game. Residents, rightwingers and the authorities were the players and the squatter people are the football."

Gag — which represents residents of the northern Witwatersrand area — believes a national or regional housing strategy is urgently needed because South Africa is sprawling with shack settlements.

Duigan said: "The government has to learn to concentrate on urbanisation. They are still pushing people 30-40km away from towns and using these places as areas of transit or as a temporary base. Randburg must assume responsibility for a low cost housing scheme. Randburg' management committee chairperson, Andre Jacobs, reportedly said this week it was unfortunate the TPA was trying to "lumber us with the problem".

Duigan said: "The Zevenfontein squatting community are not totally impoverished. They are economically active since most of them work nearby but to keep putting them into shacks and dumping them isn't feasible. If low cost housing is to be created, it must be urban linked and not in the rural areas as they will continue to be impoverished."

Gag — whose emphasis is on the need for green lungs near urban areas

the municipalities of Sandton and Randburg — the nearest towns, where Zevenfontein people work — identify a suitable alternative site and service it. In the meantime, the people would presumably stay where they are.

But why the fracas developed in the first place highlights some of the problems which may be faced by other informal settlers and residents of suburbs, black and white, in future.

Mamoepa says the National and Local Government Housing Forum, of which the TPA is a part, is supposed to take care of issues like these. The scrapping of the Land Acts more than a year ago did not address the problem of landlessness, he adds. WI Mail 31/11-6/2/92

It is difficult to disagree: Zevenfontein shows that while there is a forum, at least nominally, there is no national strategy in place to deal with the problem.

The Urban Foundation (UF) has argued that in an appropriate development framework, informal housing can play a pivotal part in a national housing drive. And the foundation's Jill Strelitz reckons there is growing acceptance that people must be housed informally.

But the crux is there is no formalised process of identifying land for settlement or upgrading. And while there is no identification process, the "squatters" will identify and occupy land themselves. It might not be the most suitable land for them, for the surrounding residents or in terms of the national interest, but they have no choice. (310)

Duigan underlines this by pointing out that the TPA's plan to move the Zevenfontein people to Diepsloot would have been harder to oppose had it been approached in a strategic way and had criteria been advanced for settling them at Diepsloot.

The fracas highlights issues which may be faced by suburbs, black or white, in the future

He argues that informal settlements should be linked to urban centres which generate economic growth.

Spontaneous informal settlement is a critical issue for South Africa. At least half the people in the PWV area are inadequately housed and the pressure to look for places to "squat" is on. And, as the UF has remarked, during times of democratisation, spontaneous informal settlement increases.

Where the initiative to manage informal settlement properly will come from is not clear at the moment.

As Strelitz points out, the negotiating forums must place the land identification process high on the agenda. Zevenfontein serves to underline the urgency of this.

Mobile home ... this family has grown accustomed to moving hometo a new settlement. Photo: GUY ADAMS

— envisages the development of recreational areas. These green belts could not be built in urban areas and existing ones had to be preserved.

Boerestaat Party leader Robert van Tonder said the squatters lived and worked in Randburg and Sandton. Therefore provisions such as houses had to be made for them in their own municipal areas. W\Mail 31\1\-6\2\92

As a result of the increasing squatter problem in the area, a group calling itself the Garden Triangle Action Group (GTAG) — which Van Tonder chairs — has sent an application to the Transvaal administrator for the establishment of a new local government. The area, which they have named Garden Triangle, falls between Randburg, Midrand and Hartebeespoortdam. (310)

In the application, GTAG states it had become clear that Randburg, Sandton and the provincial administration were planning to create squatter camps in the area. Randburg and Sandton had enough undeveloped ground within their boundaries to provide houses, flats and cluster homes for their workers.

Van Tonder said: "The new municipality refuses to become Randburg and Sandton's dumping ground and sewerage farm or to accommodate their squatter camps." It would "not allow this essential recreational area and green lung of the Rand to be destroyed".

Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast) views the problem differently. There are "vast tracts of unused and unoccupied land around Zevenfontein" which could be developed and used to settle people, says Cast secretary general Dan Mofokeng.

"The 'mining houses land' should be developed for settlement. And generally around the country, huge empty spaces separate the towns and cities from the townships. These should be made use of to solve the problem of homelessness in the urban areas," he maintains.

Decision to settle squatters enrages Randburg residents

STAR 31/1/92

Staff Reporters (310)

The announcement that the Zevenfontein squatters will be permanently settled in Bloubosrand Extension 1 in Randburg, has unleashed an outburst of rage by residents who last night vowed to fight the move tooth and nail.

The news spread like wildfire through the suburb and angry residents swung into action less than three hours after the decision was made public by Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough.

By 8 pm, hundreds of members of the three-year-old community had flocked to a central point to voice their opposition. Several who arrived carrying baseball bats and sticks, had to be restrained from marching to mayor Mark Manley's house.

By midnight, makeshift roadblocks were being erected on all access routes to the 44 ha area, to prevent an overnight influx of homeless people to the land which had been designated by the Transvaal Provincial Administration as home for the 750 squatter families.

The eight-member Bloubosrand Residents' Committee was hastily formed to oppose the move.

BRC spokesman Paul Burrows said the committee met top councillors and council officials last night and were given an undertaking that no squatters would be moved to Bloubosrand for at least 14 days while consultations continued.

The BRC, the Randburg Town Council and the TPA started urgent discussions at 9 am today.

Mr Burrows said the council had given the BRC the impression that the TPA had forced its hand. It was not a case of the council "offering" municipal status and land to the squatters, as had been suggested by Mr Hough, Mr Burrows said.

Initially the TPA had earmarked land in the Diepsloot area as a transit camp for the squatters whose time had run out on their existing site in Zevenfontein.

But residents in that area vehemently opposed the move as the proposed temporary site is not provided with suitable facilities or infrastructure.

Mr Hough said the decision to move the squatters to Bloubosrand Extension 1 was made after lengthy consultations with the Randburg and Sandton councils as well as those affected.

But residents of Bloubosrand hotly denied they were consulted about the move.

Bloubosrand Extension 1 is located 12 km north of the town's central business district, near the existing industrial area of Kya Sand, within walking distance of an existing shopping centre and within reach of school facilities.

The site is already equipped with water supplies, electricity, refuse removal, health services and a library.

Mr Hough said the squatters could only be moved in two weeks' time as the replanning of the town layout and the provision of services was still being finalised.

The families would be subject to a written agreement stipulating that the building sites should be purchased and developed within a given period, failing which the council and TPA would be entitled to remove those who did not comply, in order to ensure that the squatter community was settled in an orderly manner.

Mr Hough said he anticipated this move might unsettle whites, but that it was time people faced the realities of the huge problem of urbanisation and made the necessary compromises.

Randburg residents furious at squatter decision

AUG 31 1992 (310)

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The announcement that the Zevenfontein squatters will be permanently settled in Bloubosrand Extension 1 in Randburg, has unleashed an outburst of rage by residents who last night vowed to fight the move tooth and nail.

The news spread like wildfire through the suburb and angry residents swung into action less than three hours after the decision was made public by Transvaal Administrator, Mr Danie Hough.

By 8pm, 1 000 members of the community had flocked to a central point to voice their opposition. Several who arrived carrying baseball bats and sticks, had to be restrained from marching to the house of the mayor, Mr Mark Manley.

By midnight, makeshift roadblocks were being erected on all access routes to the 44ha area, to prevent an overnight influx of homeless people to the land designated by the Transvaal Provincial Administration as home for the 750 squatter families.

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The BRC, the Randburg town council and the TPA started urgent discussions at 9am today.

The announcement hit the community like a bombshell and they wanted information and facts, Mr Burrows said.

He added that the council had given the BRC the impression that the TPA had forced its hand. It was not a case of the council "offering" municipal status and land to the squatters, as had been suggested by Mr Hough, Mr Burrows said.

Initially the TPA had earmarked land in the Diepsloot area as a transit camp for the squatters whose time had run out on their existing site in Zevenfontein.

But residents in that area vehemently opposed the move as the proposed temporary site is not provided with suitable facilities or infrastructure.

Bloubosrand Extension 1 is 12km north of the town's central business district.

Randburg relocation on hold

JOHANNESBURG. — The relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters to Bloubosrand, Randburg, has been put on hold after it was agreed that no resettlement would be allowed for the next two weeks.

Residents of Bloubosrand, the Administrator of the Transvaal, Danie Hough, and the Randburg Town Council decided to postpone the resettlement after an outcry by property owners.

The TPA, supported by the police, will prevent squatters from settling in the area before the continuation of talks between the three parties on Monday. — Sapa.

Critics accuse side-stepping

Squatting comedy (310)

Star 11/2/92

# of errors

CAROLINE HURRY

THE squatter problem to the north of Johannesburg has become a Mad Hatters' Tea Party thanks to the bungled efforts of the "bunch in Pretoria who are trying to act like God".

This was the opinion of Diepsloot Residents Association chairman Stuart Aitchison, whose opinion was shared by most of the residents in the area.

"The reasons the Transvaal Provincial Administration gave for moving these squatters from Zevenfontein were the lack of infrastructure and facilities. These are the very same reasons not to move them into areas like Diepsloot where there are also no facilities," he said.

Trying to get a concrete answer out of the TPA regarding its plans for the squatters this week was like trying to catch a cake of soap in the bath.

TPA side-stepping occurred when the following questions were put by the Saturday Star to public relations officer Gert de Jager:

Can you say why you are moving the squatters from Zevenfontein to areas where there are no facilities?
Are you from The Star?

STUART AITCHISON: "That bunch in Pretoria are trying to act like God."

Yes. Could you answer my question please? Why are you moving these squatters?
No answer.

Does the TPA not wish to comment on this matter?
We are talking among ourselves.

What exactly are you discussing?
The whole situation.

What do you mean?
Our negotiations with the squatters.

Yes, but what is your ultimate plan? What do you propose to do?
Well, that's part of the negotiations with the people. We can't say what our plans are.

But you must have some idea what you intend doing about the situation now.
Ag, lady. All that information is in our press releases.

Priorities

The deputy director-general at the TPA's department of community development, Len Dekker, was slightly more forthcoming.

"The TPA has for many years been aware of the problem of providing land and low-income housing for people, but did not always have the financial means to buy the land required.

"Previously our priorities were areas to the west, south and east of Johannesburg, and when we realised the north of Johannesburg was also becoming a priority, we earmarked 13 sites within the greenbelt to be evaluated," he said.

"Nothing has been finalised because we are still in the process of identifying, acquiring and developing suitable land. When final decisions are made, we will provide the necessary services."

Mr Dekker said the TPA had been aware for several years that there was a problem with squatters. However, it was not solely the TPA's duty to provide land but also the responsibility of local authorities.

This week Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough finally appointed a task group to evaluate the existing urbanisation strategy for the area west of Midrand and Verwoerdburg and north of Randburg and Sandton.

The move followed this week's comedy of errors during which the TPA twice announced final solutions for the sadly bemused squatters of Zevenfontein — only to cancel both moves when local residents, who were not consulted, erected barricades and refused to acquiesce in the last-minute TPA actions.

"After the evaluation, the task group will have to identify permanent, suitable sites where areas for low-cost housing may be developed," Mr Hough said.

Members of the task group include:

- The city/town councils of Randburg, Roodepoort, Sandton, Verwoerdburg and Midrand.
- The regional services councils of the West Rand and Central Witwatersrand.
- The local area committees of Chartwell, Muldersdrif and Ranteg.
- The Metropolitan Chamber for the Central Witwatersrand.
- The Greenbelt Action Group.
- Operation Masakhane for the Homeless.

The task group has to report to the executive committee of the Transvaal by March 31, and more task groups will be appointed to evaluate other sites in the PWV area on a similar basis.

Reacting to the plan, Greenbelt Action Group chairman Anthony Duigan said he would like to see more creative ways of handling the squatter problem.

"I think it's important for the low-cost housing community to get together with the upper-income groups and try to establish some form of understanding," Mr Duigan said.

Mr Hough said that in the Transvaal alone about 390 000 erven were required to accommodate the current number of people who lived in city backyards. More than 300 000 of these erven were needed in the PWV area alone.

"It is estimated that in the year 2000 provision will have to be made for an additional 3,3 million people in the central, eastern and western Witwatersrand, including the Vaal Triangle.

"The urbanisation process will therefore require even more understanding and realism from the public and, as far as the TPA is concerned, better planning and innovative thinking. It is an action the TPA has already undertaken to perform."

MOVE ALONG THERE: A Blousbosrand resident waves traffic through at a barricade erected at the suburb's main entrance. ● Photographs: JOHN HOGG

STAR 11/2/92 (5)

TPA of 'trying to act like God' on Zevenfontein issue

BARRIER: Residents inspect the trench dug yesterday across a road leading into Bloubosrand.

Some eager to move, others 'sick of it'

STAR 1/2/92 (310)

ZINGISA MKHUMA

THE deadline to resettle Zevenfontein residents passed yesterday amid threats from Bloubosrand Extension 1 residents that they would do everything in their power to stop the squatters from moving into their backyards.

Angry Bloubosrand residents stayed away from work and manned a mini roadblock at the entrance to the suburb.

They accused the Government of wanting to dump the squatters in their backyards without consulting them, and fear that the value of their properties will drop.

Meanwhile, unaware of the drama between Bloubosrand residents and the Transvaal Provincial Administration, Zevenfontein squatters yesterday waited patiently to be moved to the land promised to them.

Speaking to Saturday Star yesterday, Elmond Gumbo, who has lived at Zevenfontein for two years, said he was looking forward to having a decent toilet.

"I am looking forward to moving to a place with running water and sanitation so at least I can feel human again," he said.

But Arthur Nyathi, who shares a single shack with his wife, five children and two sisters, said he was sick of being moved.

Mr Nyathi has been moving around the Klipvallei area for the last six years and said he was saddened by the thought of having to move far from the place he had grown attached to.

"I have lived in the area for six years because my father and grandfather worked for the farmers around here. As soon as a man loses his job it is quite easy for the farmers to throw him out into the street.

"We were fortunate in that we got jobs with other farmers in the area — that is how we've managed to survive for so long. But now most of us work in town and the farmers don't want us any more," he said.

LONG WALK: Zevenfontein squatters fetch water. ● Photograph: HERBERT MABUZA

A spokesman for the Bloubosrand residents, Vivi Meyer, said the issue was not political but socio-economic. She said 90 percent of the residents knew nothing about the resettlement of the Zevenfontein people until they heard about it in the media.

"We now face a 40 percent drop in the price of our property. It's not that we don't want black people in the area — Bloubosrand is integrated already. We want the Government to provide a decent place for these people to live in instead of putting them on empty land next to a rubbish dump.

"That place is infested with flies and it has no drainage system. There is a small stagnant stream. I don't think this would be acceptable to the squatters, either," she said.

Jo-Ann, who refused to give her surname, echoed the feelings of most residents when she said she was not against low-cost housing for the poor.

"What we are against is 760 families being moved into such a dry stretch of land. This figure could grow within a few months. Where would the children go to school?" she asked.

"The TPA should jack themselves up and put water and sanitary facilities in the area so that the people would be proud about where they live."

Jo-Ann criticised the authorities for making a hasty decision.

Squatters: residents dig in

People's power arrives in the northern suburbs

STAR 1/2/92

MALCOLM FOTHERGILL and CAROLINE HURRY (310)

ANGRY residents of Bloubosrand, north of Johannesburg, yesterday shouted a deafening "no way" to Government bureaucratic bungling — and underlined their refusal to be ignored by putting up barricades, digging trenches and arming themselves with baseball bats and clubs.

Peoples' power and mass action had arrived in the northern suburbs.

The aim of Bloubosrand's residents was to prevent the dumping of 750 Zevenfontein squatter families on their front doorsteps — and they may have succeeded when it was reported late yesterday that the resettlement plan had been "put on hold".

However, the situation was again clouded last night when the TPA denied putting off the relocation of the squatters.

Jan van der Walt, chief director of community development for the Witwatersrand, said there was "no way the plans have been put off. We are simply taking two weeks to prepare the site.

"Our contractors are busy preparing the land for the squatters. On Monday, the TPA, the Randburg Town Council and the newly formed residents' commitee will be meeting the squatters to discuss ways of reconciliation," he said.

● Speak Out on Page 2
● More reports on Page 6
● Editorial on Page 14

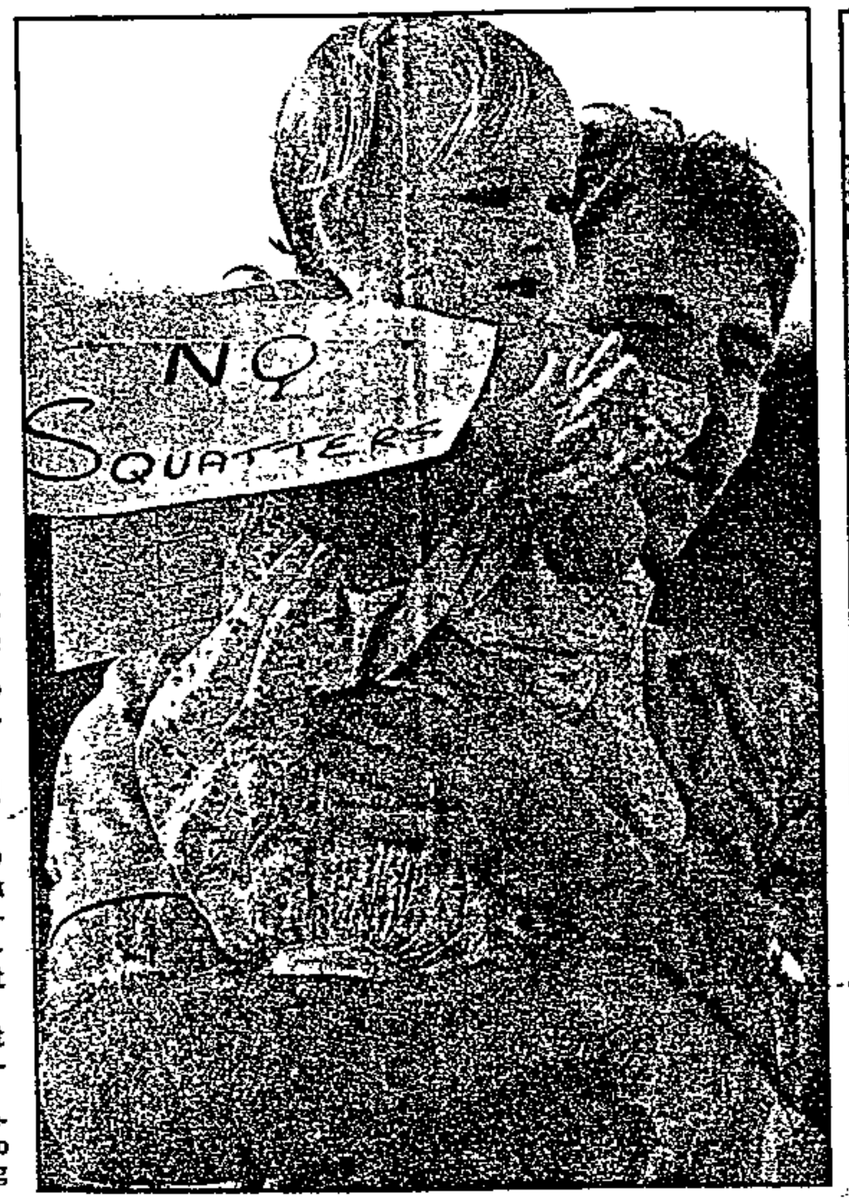
Andre Jacobs, chairman of the Randburg Town Council's management committee, said the TPA had expropriated the area of Bloubosrand. It now owned the land and would be relocating the squatters as soon as the necessary arrangements had been made.

He said the TPA had agreed to the following conditions laid down by the Randburg Town Council:

● The TPA had to buy the town from the developers, replan it and provide an infrastructure for it at its own cost.

● To ensure the squatter community was settled in an orderly manner, families would have to purchase building sites and develop them within a certain time or face eviction.

● The TPA would have to exercise general control over the Zevenfontein area before, during and after the trans-



SHOW OF FORCE: Above — A placard held by the child of an angry Bloubosrand householder bluntly states the community's position. Right — Residents at an emotional meeting yesterday are told of a TPA pledge not to allow illegal squatting for two weeks. The TPA later denied putting off the relocation of squatters. ● Photographs: ALF KUMALO.

Jo'burg gets new unit to curb crime

STAR 1/2/92

POLICE would implement a 24-hour anti-mugging force and a special crime prevention unit immediately in Johannesburg's central business district, Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel said yesterday.

A joint statement with Johannesburg city councillors and businessmen who met him in Cape Town on the unacceptable crime rate in the city was issued after their meeting.

Commissioner of Police General Johan van der Merwe confirmed that police would use recently-acquired advanced technical equipment to combat crime. The anti-mugging unit would operate in the CBD, particularly in

GENERAL JOHAN VAN DER MERWE.

tourist areas and near hotels.

The special crime prevention unit would incorporate a hobby-on-the-beat system and would

Sensation as 'House of Hendrickse' is toppled

STAR 1/2/92

MICHAEL MORRIS and SHAUN JOHNSON

CAPE TOWN — The eight-year reign of the House of Hendrickse — as the Labour Party's control of the House of Representatives came to be known — ended dramatically last night.

After more than three hours of bitter and [illegible] move a thorn from the Government's side. The LP has become strident in its attacks on the Government, and has blocked legislation, most recently the Police Bain Bill.

Representatives.

In a statement issued shortly before his departure for Britain, Mr de Klerk said he would make a decision in the next few days.

Chaos as violence, boycotts hit black schools on Reef

STAR 1/2/92

AL-AMEEN KAFAAR

BLACK schooling on the Reef, which started less than a month ago, was thrown into chaos this week as students and pupils boycotted classes and lectures and attacked educators.

White teachers and lecturers appear to be the crime target[illegible] and the

dents at the Kathorus College in Katlehong. Mr Dippenaar is now fighting for his life in a Johannesburg hospital. The college is under police protection.

'Withdrawn

schools, Mr Rademeyer said.

On the day of the attack on Mr Dippenaar, Pauline Dolo, a teacher at East Bank High School in Alexandra, was shot dead while on her way to school.

The last two weeks have seen random attacks on white [illegible]

arrives in the northern suburbs

MALCOLM FOTHERGILL and CAROLINE HURRY

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● To ensure the squatter community was settled in an orderly manner, families would have to purchase building sites and develop them within a certain time or face eviction.

● The TPA would have to exercise general control over the Zevenfontein area before, during and after the transfer to prevent a further influx.

Said Mr Jacobs: "We were faced with a sticky situation on Tuesday evening when (Transvaal Administrator) Danie Hough called us over to his house in Pretoria, where the proposal was put to us.

"There was no way I could have first consulted the residents, but called an urgent council meeting the following morning to lay down the conditions the TPA had agreed to.

"The situation blew up when the residents got to hear of it and I was called on the telephone to come and speak to hundreds of angry people. I would have spoken to them, but my wife threatened to walk out on me if I did. Instead I sent a message asking the people to please calm down.

"I did manage to buy time with the TPA — 14 days to prepare the site — although I'm not sure if that

● TO PAGE 2.

Squatters

● FROM PAGE 1.

will be long enough.

"We may be the first town council to deal with this situation, but I want to stress this problem is going to affect many other areas in the future."

After a day of urgent, high-level meetings yesterday, Bloubosrand residents bitterly opposed to the resettlement of the squatters still firmly believed they had been granted a reprieve.

An emotional meeting in the suburb last night heard Peter Bantock, chairman of the Bloubosrand Action Committee, report that the TPA had promised that no squatters would move to the suburb for two weeks.

"We were given the assurance that the South African Police would maintain a 24-hour presence there and would not allow any illegal squatting," he said.

Monday, said Mr Bantock, would be the "crux day, when we get down to the nitty-gritty" at a meeting with officials from central and local government, architects, town planners and others.

The aim of the meeting would be "to secure an alternative to this area" for the squatters.

Yesterday morning, while Bloubosrand residents manned impromptu barricades guarding the entrances to their suburb, the action committee met senior officials from the TPA, including Mr Hough, and members of the police.

Many of the furious Bloubosrand residents stayed off work yesterday, after staying up all night on Thursday night to man the barricades.

In a matter of hours they had organised themselves into watches, so that the entrances to the suburb could be guarded 24 hours a day.

They said that although they wanted to avoid violence, they would take whatever action was necessary to protect the value of their homes.

Some even spoke of refusing to pay their rates and taxes, or of abandoning their homes for the finance houses to worry about.

Bloubosrand houses about 400 families, most of them young, white and first-time home owners.

"We're not racists," said former Zimbabwean John Peebles. "We have Indian and coloured families living here, and they have been made welcome.

"But this is something different. What's proposed here is that 6 000-odd squatters should be settled over the road from us."

Added Mr Bantock: "I don't think any organisation should be able to rob you of your capital in one fell swoop."

An account is to be opened at the Allied Bank in Northgate today for residents and their supporters to deposit money for an anti-squatter fund.

This is the end of our lifestyle, plot owner complains

STAR 1/2/92

310

CAROLINE HURRY

IT IS far too soon for the residents of Diepsloot — or anyone else living in the northern "greenbelt" — to heave a sigh of relief over the announcement that the squatters of Zevenfontein are to be moved to Bloubosrand.

Earlier this week Angus MacBride and Willie Harris were living under the threat of having their land expropriated by the TPA in terms of section 6 of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act (Act 52 of 1951).

In terms of section 6, a local authority may expropriate land for use as a temporary transit camp for squatters. The plots of Mr MacBride and Mr Harris were two of the plots earmarked for expropriation to relocate the squatters.

Mr MacBride said: "On Tuesday I was approached by the TPA, who said they needed my land to accommodate some of the squatters.

"They said they had the power to expropriate my land within 24 hours, and made no reference to financial remuneration."

Mr MacBride said he felt helpless as he had nowhere else to go.

"The TPA said if I didn't co-operate they would simply dump the squatters next door to me. It's a total crisis situation, but what can I do? The laws in this country apply only to the people, not the State. This is the end of our lifestyle."

WILLIE HARRIS: Will not give up his land without a fight. ● Photograph: CAROLINE HURRY

Mr Harris heard his plot had also been earmarked for relocation.

"I've had this plot for 35 years. We run a big ceiling company from here. If we had to move now, we'd go bankrupt. Our family graveyard is here. I won't give up my land without a fight."

Philip Sithole is a businessman who bought property in Diepsloot last year to escape the squatter situation in Soweto.

"I'm a black man, but this situation has nothing to do with colour. The fact is I ran away from Soweto, where I had built a house for over R300 000, because a squatter camp was being set up 500 metres down the road.

"Living out in the country is the kind of lifestyle I always wanted. I thought my dreams had come true when I found a plot here in May. Less than a year has passed and I find myself in exactly the same situation," said Mr Sithole.

TPA deputy director-general for community development Len Dekker said it was quite possible the TPA might still have to expropriate land in the Diepsloot area.

"I doubt it will happen in the short term. But in the medium and long term, there will again be pressure in the Diepsloot area for urbanisation."

Still no place to call home

CP Correspondent and Sapa

A SOLUTION seems imminent for the Zevenfontein squatters north of Johannesburg who have been haunted by the TPA's plans to move them to an area where they are not wanted.

The 750 families were to be moved from their present homes to Bloubosrand in Randburg on Friday.

However, the move was delayed for 14 days amid widespread militant opposition from Bloubosrand residents.

A communique released after a joint meeting of the Bloubosrand Action Group, the Randburg Town Council and the Zevenfontein community yesterday pledged to find a solution to the problem as a matter of urgency.

According to the communique, the three parties acknowledged the Zevenfontein community as "part of Randburg".

Randburg Mayor Mark Manley, who chaired the meeting, said the discussions were "frank and honest".

The three parties will hold another meeting at the Randburg mayor's office on Tuesday.

In the meantime, a spokesman said, the Zevenfontein community undertook not to move to Zevenfontein "illegally".

NOT IN MY BACKYARD ... "Not now, not ever." That's the Bloubosrand message.

About 1 000 angry Bloubosrand residents, who first heard that the Zevenfontein squatters were to be moved to their doorstep via news broadcasts on Thursday, rallied to a hastily called meeting in the suburb to discuss the matter.

Residents continued yesterday to man roadblocks preventing Zevenfontein squatters from settling in the area.

SQUATTERS: NEW PEACE MOVE

PROTEST . . . residents show their anger at a Bloubosrand roadblock yesterday **Picture: CRAIG WOODS**

By HEATHER ROBERTSON

A JOINT committee of residents and squatters was formed yesterday to resolve the dispute over the removal of 750 families from Zevenfontein to Bloubosrand in Randburg.

At a meeting in the Randburg Civic Centre, representatives of the Bloubosrand Action Group, the Randburg town council, Randburg management committee and the Zevenfontein squatters met MP Mr Marthinus van Schalkwyk and drew up a seven-point statement of intent. ST Times 2/2/92

They agreed:

- To create a working committee consisting of Zevenfontein squatters and Bloubosrand residents;
- To obtain information on the number of people that would be relocated and their income levels;
- To negotiate a satisfactory solution for both residents and squatters;
- That Zevenfontein squatters had a right to live in Randburg and that other plots of land would be considered;
- That more time was needed before squatters were relocated as amenities had to be provided;
- That the Zevenfontein squatters would not move into Bloubosrand;
- That there would be a follow-up meeting on Tuesday evening.

Randburg mayor Mark Manley said he was "pleased with the constructive attitude" of all participants.

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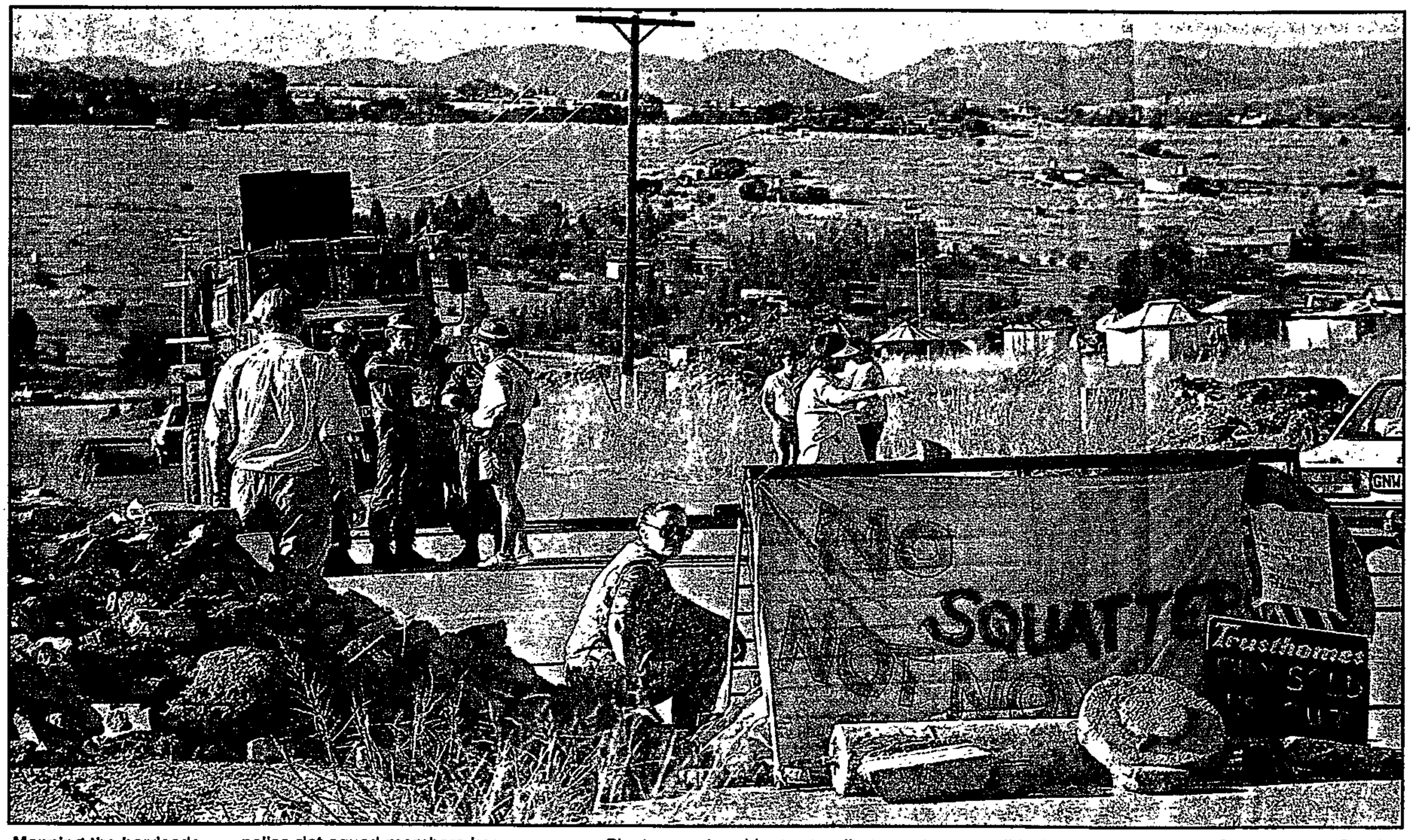
Dumped

Mr Paul Burrows, spokesman for the Bloubosrand Action Group, said it was a pity the TPA had not attended the meeting.

"We're more optimistic now that we've spoken to the squatters," he said.

But he warned that some white residents would "take up arms if the squatters are just dumped here in the next two weeks".



Manning the barricade . . . police riot squad members keep an eye on Bloubosrand residents standing guard at a roadblock yesterday. Picture: Karen Fletcher

Residents seek court order on squatters

STAR 3/2/92

By Guy Jepson

Bloubosrand residents will seek an urgent Supreme Court interdict against Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough to halt the relocation of squatters from Zevenfontein to an area next to their Randburg suburb.

The announcement, made at an emotion-charged public meeting yesterday, called by the Bloubosrand Action Committee (BAC), was the latest salvo in the uproar over the TPA's planned resettlement of the squatters.

On Friday, residents armed with clubs set up barricades at the suburb's entrances.

The BAC — which claims to represent 500 home-owners and 150 plot-owners — sprang up overnight following Thursday night's "bombshell" announcement by Mr Hough on the fate of the Zevenfontein squatter community.

At the meeting, attended by about 150 people, BAC chairman Peter Bantock also called for the immediate resignation of the entire Randburg Town Council and the holding of an immediate informal referendum on the controversy.

● To Page 3

Residents up in arms

● From Page 1

STAR 3/2/92

He announced that Mr Hough and the Randburg management committee would be held "personally responsible" for all legal costs.

Should Mr Hough reject the demands of the committee, Randburg would be "subjected to mass citizen protests".

The BAC, Mr Bantock said, was concerned that it would "lose control of the crowds" manning barricades.

He said the numerous "squatter controversies" countrywide resulted from "inefficient and bad" planning and "cruel social engineering" by the Government.

The BAC demanded the immediate formation of a planning commission — comprising responsible town planners, financiers and concerned citizens — which would operate under the direction of Codesa.

Charles Humphris, councillor for Randburg's ward 13, which includes Bloubosrand, said the problem of landlessness was "something we all have to think about very calmly".

● Randburg management committee chairman Andre Jacobs said yesterday the issue would be addressed at high-level talks today to pave the way for a joint working committee meeting tomorrow.

Squatters: Residents to fight

(316)
CT 3/12/92

JOHANNESBURG. — Residents of Bloubosrand in Randburg yesterday said they would apply for an urgent Supreme Court interdict to prevent Zevenfontein squatters from settling in Bloubosrand.

The Bloubosrand Action Committee (BAC) — rapidly formed after plans were announced on Thursday to settle the controversial squatter community in Bloubosrand Extension 1 — has demanded the resignation of the Randburg town council.

Ratepayers have been urged to stop paying rates and taxes immediately.

The Administrator of the Transvaal, Mr Danie Hough, and the Randburg town council management committee would also personally be held responsible for all legal costs, the BAC said.

In a statement, the BAC said if the administrator ignored their demands, mass citizen protests and a possible bond payment boycott would follow.

"Almost half-a-century of cruel social engineering cannct be remedied by ad hoc government decisions made by non-elected officials who have no understanding or concern for the consequences of their actions."

The relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters to Bloubosrand had not been discussed with the residents, the BAC said.

The Randburg town council acceded to the administrator's demands without public discussion or referring the matter to ratepayers and without undertaking an environmental impact study.

"We believe in freedom of choice and association. We believe all people of different colours and races with similar aspirations to ours and who wish to live in an orderly and civilised society should be free to live among us.

"We will not allow people of different socio-econmic backgrounds to be forceably integrated into our society," the BAC said.

'Health dangers'

Existing plans for Bloubosrand extension called for about 560 sites with about 1 600 residents, it said.

"A squatter camp would introduce 2 200 families into the area who, by their own admission, have about 10 dependants per family. A mass of nearly 22 000 people would hopelessly overload the sewer system and the residents would revert to the bucket-and-chuck-it system with all the health dangers that entails."

Residents would not accept unilateral, high-handed decisions by the administrator and would "fight the administrator and his cohorts with every legal means at our disposal". — Sapa

TPA faces legal action over new site for Zevenfontein

B10ay 3/2/92 (310)

squatters

GAVIN DU VENAGE

THE TPA is facing legal action from a major property developer and from Randburg residents angered by its decision to relocate the Zevenfontein squatters to a 44ha site originally earmarked for middle-class homes.

Bloubosrand Action Committee spokesman Peter Brown said yesterday the committee had briefed lawyers to interdict Transvaal Administrator, Danie Hough from relocating the squatters to the area.

Committee members armed with a variety of clubs manned roadblocks in the area at the weekend.

And property developer Gough Cooper Homes, involved in a multimillion-rand project in the surrounding area, is considering legal action against the TPA.

MD Rob Ballentine said "legal advice on possible action" was being sought to stop the resettlement of squatters at Bloubosrand Extension. TPA claims that all relevant parties had been consulted and were happy, were untrue. His company had made it "obvious" to the TPA that any move to turn the area into one for low-cost housing would be resisted.

Ballentine warned that the TPA's actions would have "major repurcussions" on property development countrywide, as developers would be wary of undertaking projects on land next to open spaces.

"Developers investing money in ground won't know when the next Zevenfontein will suddenly appear," he said. His company was "extensively exposed" in the area, having acquired large areas of ground for further development. Ballentine estimated that homeowners who had already bought from his company had invested about R50m in their houses.

Schachat Cullum group MD Hylton Katz described the problem as a "knee-jerk reaction" to a problem long ignored by government and provincial authorities.

Schachat Cullum had established 240 stands in Bloubosrand, said Katz, and was "just about to push the button" on another middle class housing tract in the area, but "the risk is simply too immense". Costs incurred on the new project would have to be written off.

Now that it had become politically expedient to find a solution for Zevenfontein, the TPA had implemented a scheme without taking into consideration the long-term financial, political and social costs.

Katz identified three bones of contention: the lack of adequate planning, the pushing aside of conventional town planning norms, which frowned on placing high and low cost housing close together, and the overnight changing of ground already marked for a conventional township.

He said estimates that Bloubosrand property values would fall by 50% were "entirely realistic".

Schachat was not considering legal action, but would be "watching closely" the outcome of any such measures, said Katz. "It is now up to the 600 Bloubosrand families in the area to determine the outcome of the situation."

TPA spokesman Piet Wilken would not comment at the weekend on the threat of legal action, but said his department was "aware" of it. He added that the TPA had

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Squatters

B10ay 3/2/92 (340)

☐ From Page 1

followed correct procedure, and was "allowed by law" to develop a township.

Wilken said the department was "in a hell of a position", being caught between the need to house the squatters, and pressure from other residents in the area.

People would not be moved until "adequate services" were in place, and strict measures were being taken to ensure the community did not grow beyond its present numbers.

He said the wall being built around the area would ensure effective policing of numbers, and the SAP would also control access to the proposed site: "for as long as it is necessary". Consultations with the squatters had convinced him that they understood and accepted the situation.

Randburg management committee chairman André Jacobs said developers and residents had nothing to fear from a low-cost housing scheme. The council had made the land available only after the TPA agreed to meet "strict conditions".

He admitted, however, that details over what minimum standards the council expected the TPA to provide had "not yet been finalised". Jacobs said discussions still had to be held, but gave assurances that the area would not become another Orange Farm.

ANC PWV spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said yesterday he regarded the actions of Bloubosrand residents as "racist" and said present residential areas were the result of apartheid planning.

● Comment: Page 6

We'll fight squatters, says group

ARG 3/2/92

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Bloubosrand residents will seek an urgent Supreme Court interdict against the Administrator of the Transvaal, Mr Danie Hough, to halt the relocation of squatters from Zevenfontein farm to an area immediately adjacent to their Randburg suburb.

The announcement, made at an emotion-charged public meeting yesterday called by the Bloubosrand Action Committee (BAC), was the latest salvo in the uproar over the TPA's planned resettlement of the squatters.

On Friday, residents armed with clubs and baseball bats set up barricades at the suburb's entrances to underline their opposition to the scheme.

The BAC — which claims to represent 500 families who live south of the proposed informal settlement and 150 plot owners to the immediate north and north-west — sprung up overnight following Thursday night's "bombshell" announcement by Mr Hough on the fate of the Zevenfontein community.

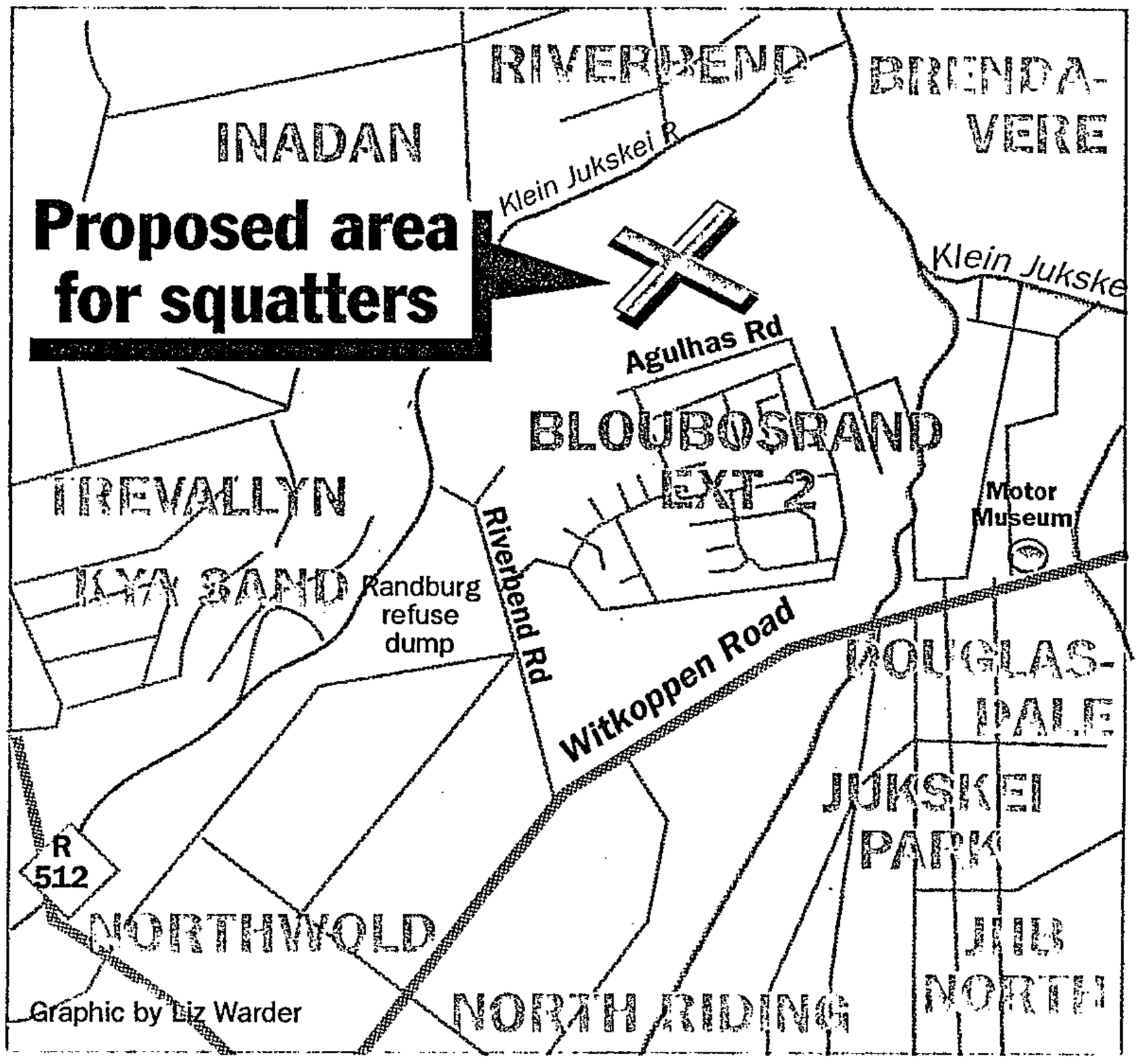
At the meeting, attended by about 150 people, BAC chairman Peter Bantock also called for the immediate resignation of the entire Randburg Town Council and the holding of an immediate informal referendum in Randburg on the controversy.

To applause, Mr Bantock announced that Mr Hough and the Randburg management committee would be held "personally reponsible" for all legal costs flowing from the interdict appplication.

He warned that should Mr Hough reject the demands of the committee, Randburg would be "subjected to mass citizen protests", including petitions and park-ins.

The BAC, Mr Bantock said, was concerned that it would "lose control of the crowds" presently manning the barricades in the area.

"We will not be able to contain demands for a bond boycott."



TPA admission on squatter sites

By Shirley Woodgate

The Transvaal Provincial Administration yesterday, for the first time, acknowledged the accuracy of reports in The Star in December that 13 sites were being investigated for developing string of squatter villages in the north-western PWV.

When The Star revealed the location of the areas under investigation, Administrator Danie Hough merely replied that no final decision had been taken on what he termed "speculative reports".

It was claimed soon after that the Executive Committee of the Transvaal had postponed until the end of last month a decision on whether to establish the squatter camps.

The TPA yesterday admitted in a statement that 13 areas to the north and north-west of Sandton, Randburg and Roodepoort had been provisionally identified for possible township development.

But spokesman Piet Wilken said nothing had been finalised.

Permanent suitable sites for township development in the areas north of Sandton and Randburg, and west of Midrand and Verwoerdburg, are to be identified by a 15-member task group appointed by Mr Hough to report back by March 31.

Squatter 'threat' to family's lives

CT 4/2/92 (310)

Supreme Court Reporter

SQUATTERS living in bushes near a Noordhoek nursery threatened the lives of a Johannesburg family soon after they had bought the property for R950 000, the Supreme Court heard yesterday.

This was evidence of Mrs Helen Mayes, who with her husband Barry has brought a R200 000 damages action against Mr Geert Noordhof, who sold them the Noordhof nursery and smallholding.

The Mayes claim Mr Noordhof did not tell them about the presence of squatters in nearby bushes.

Mr and Mrs Mayes further want to be released from the obligation of paying the outstanding balance on the sale.

Mrs Mayes said that before they had concluded the sale Mr Noordhof had assured them there was no squatter problem in the area.

However, after they had taken occupation of the property they noticed many people passing and heading into the bush. Later she found there was a squatter settlement of about 40 shacks.

Her family had been plagued by litter and drunks and she had even seen faction fighting and stabbings. She believed the squatters put people off coming to their nursery.

She said squatters had threatened their lives and had stoned the car of a couple who came to the nursery.

The Mayes sold the property yesterday for R400 000 plus a further R50 000 for the restaurant on the premises.

The hearing continues today.

Randburg squatter deadlock

JOHANNESBURG. — High-level discussions between the Bloubosrand Action Committee (BAC), the TPA and the Randburg Town Council last night failed to resolve the deadlock surrounding the fate of 750 Zevenfontein squatter families.

BAC spokesman Mr Peter Brown said the meeting was confrontational and that residents would continue using all legal action — including road-blocks — to keep the squatters out of the area. CT 4/2/92

The residents rejected a town council proposal to develop a formal low-cost housing site on the land set aside by the TPA.

Transvaal Administrator Mr Danie Hough said that no action would take place until Randburg's proposals had been studied and affected parties consulted.

Deadlock over squatters

310

HIGH-level discussions between the Bloubosrand Action Committee, the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Randburg Town Council last night failed to resolve the deadlock surrounding the fate of 750 Zevenfontein squatter families.

Committee spokesman Peter Brown said the meeting was confrontational and that residents would continue using all legal action — including roadblocks — to keep the squatters out of the area.

The residents rejected a council proposal to develop a formal low-cost housing site on the land set aside by the TPA.

Transvaal administrator Danie Hough promised the meeting no relocation or construction activities would take place while the TPA studied Randburg's proposal and consulted affected parties in the next week. The parties agreed to meet again by February 10.

B1Day 4/2/92

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KATHRYN STRACHAN

Meanwhile, property development company spokesmen said yesterday the industry was concerned about the precedent being set by the TPA, which had not consulted the industry about land reallocation.

National Association of Homebuilders spokesman Johan Grotsius said yesterday the TPA's decision would have major repercussions as developers could no longer guarantee clients that future development would not devalue their land.

"We do not just sell a stand, we sell a stand with an undertaking that a certain level of development will happen in that area. It is certainly not encouraging to developers generally as there is no guaran-

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tee that other vacant land will not be reallocated in the same way," he said.

His association intended negotiating with the TPA to obtain firmer undertakings on development.

Gough Cooper Homes MD Rob Ballentine said the TPA's move "increased the risk enormously for developers". Developers did not know whether to go ahead with a plan when all their work could be dismantled without them being consulted. All the rules of developing a township had been set aside by the TPA.

Sapa reports that TPA spokesman Piet Wilken confirmed yesterday that 13 areas to the north and northwest of Sandton, Randburg and Roodepoort had been provisionally identified for possible township development. Nothing had been finalised and all relevant parties would be consulted before development took place.

Permanent sites for township development north of Sandton and Randburg, and west of Midrand and Verwoerdburg, are to be identified by a 15-member task group, which is to report back by March 31.

Included in the group are the city councils of Randburg, Roodepoort, Sandton, Midrand and Verwoerdburg, the regional services councils of West Rand and Central Witwatersrand, local area committees of Chartwell, Muldersdrift and Rantesig, the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, the Greenbelt Action Group and Operation Masakhane for the Homeless.

Reacting to criticism about Bloubosrand, Wilken said the TPA was listening to the views of all parties concerned, adding he was positive a solution would be found. "We are not the big bully, but people should appreciate the extent of the problem." Accommodation for at least 3-million people would have to be found on the Witwatersrand by the year 2000, he said.

Grid watch . . . the map held by Bloubosrand Action Committee chairman Peter Bantock is being used to assist residents man their 24-hour security watch. Picture: Alf Kumalo

Come clean on squatter plans, residents demand

By Shirley Woodgate STAR 5/2/92

Fresh controversy has erupted over the Zevenfontein squatter issue, with the Bloubosrand Action Committee (BAC) claiming residents of the Randburg suburb have been fed two sets of information by the authorities.

Chairman Peter Bantock alleges that Randburg Town Council led residents to believe the council was approached by the Transvaal Provincial Administration on Tuesday last week to provide land for the squatters.

Randburg indicated that the TPA had expropriated the land, having first sought the council's approval.

This was reiterated after Thursday night's bombshell announcement by Administrator Danie Hough that Bloubosrand Extension 1 had been earmarked to house 750 squatter families from Zevenfontein.

Randburg council repeated at a hastily convened midnight meeting with the Bloubosrand residents that the first approach had been by the TPA to the municipality. But four days later, at a top-level meeting between the BAC, the TPA and Randburg council on Monday, the council admitted it had known about the proposed moves for two years, said Mr Bantock.

"Then deputy director-general for community development Len Dekker said on television that Randburg had approached the TPA. We now demand that they clear up the contradictions and come clean.

"We want to know how long this plan has been in the pipeline and who instigated moves to used Bloubosrand Extension 1 as the housing site."

A second row is brewing over the number of squatters the TPA plans to move from Zevenfontein. The TPA claims 750 families are affected, but residents of Bloubosrand maintain the TPA has never taken a proper census and that the authorities have no idea of the true figure. They say 2 200 families is a more accurate.

"Either the TPA and Randburg have no idea of numbers or they are deliberately misleading us. We demand answers from the people in charge of this planning debacle," said one resident.

Neither Mr Dekker nor Randburg management committee chairman Andre Jacobs was available for comment.

Bloubosrand home sales 'collapse'

Squatter row leads to freeze in new bonds

B1Day 5/2/92

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FINANCIAL institutions were refusing to grant new bonds for properties in Bloubosrand in Randburg since the Transvaal Provincial Administration's (TPA) moves to relocate squatters to the area, estate agents said yesterday.

United Bank GM Kevin Gibb said until the situation in the area became clearer, "we will not be appointing any new bonds". The proposed squatter settlement could have a major impact on house values.

Other banks were reluctant to comment on their policies and said they would consider each application on merit.

But estate agents operating in Bloubosrand said they had contacted a range of banks and had been told categorically that no further bonds would be granted until the situation was resolved. The agents said some institutions had withdrawn financing that had been previously approved.

The TPA's plans permanently to relocate 750 squatter families from nearby Zevenfontein to 44ha of Bloubosrand Extension 1 have been put on hold for a week while the provincial authorities consider a scheme to change the status of the site from a shack settlement to that of a formal low-cost housing development.

The TPA says it wants to consult all parties involved following the furore in the wake of its announcement that it was expropriating the land to house the squatters.

Residents in the area, who believe their properties would be devalued and crime would increase, have threatened to take legal action against the TPA and to refuse to pay rates. They have demanded the resignation of the Randburg Town Council which agreed to the move.

KATHRYN STRACHAN

Angry home-owners are maintaining 24-hour vigils and manning barricades to prevent squatters moving into the area.

The squatters' move to Bloubosrand followed mounting opposition to their temporary removal to Diepsloot.

United Bank's Gibb said the situation was very unusual. United would be assessing the low-cost housing proposal and effects on nearby homes.

He said a person who had bought a house in the area with United financing had already dumped the house keys on his desk and abandoned the property in disgust. Other home-owners had threatened to do the same, he said.

Mike Schefermann of Realty Estates said three of his sales had collapsed since Thursday and he had told aspirant sellers there was no sense in trying to market their houses in the current climate. He said financial institutions believed that if the upgrading of the disputed area from squatter settlement to low-cost housing was allowed to proceed, the value of Bloubosrand properties would still be substantially reduced.

Another estate agent in the area, Dee Monteith, said business had been good before the Transvaal administrator's announcement, but not one potential buyer had arrived for a house showday on Sunday. In the past four days she had had four deals worth R400 000 cancelled after banks rejected bond applications.

She said banks were holding back until they had heard the TPA's final decision, which is expected on Monday.

Bloubosrand Action Committee chair-

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Bond freeze

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man Peter Bantock said a meeting between residents and squatter representatives planned for last night at the Randburg Town Council had been cancelled by the council with no explanation.

Meanwhile, industries in the Kya Sands area, adjacent to the proposed relocation site, have added their voice to the protest.

Bloubosrand Action Committee business liaison officer Gary Noble said yesterday it had received about 50 letters from industries saying they intended to boycott rates and taxes in a protest against the move.

At a meeting with the committee yesterday, industry representatives said they were unable to provide employment for people already living in the area, and could not absorb more people.

Sapa reports that Louis de Waal (DP North Rand) said compromise was the only way forward in the highly emotive Zevenfontein squatter issue.

"That means acceptance that North Rand will have low-cost housing but that time has to be bought, at all costs, to plan and implement this sensibly," he said.

De Waal said the impact on property owners' investments could not be ignored. "If that's to be done, the state has to budget, at central government level, to make good the losses."

Banks refuse bonds for Bloubosrand

(310)
CT 5/2/92

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Major financial institutions were refusing to grant new bonds for properties in Bloubosrand in Randburg following the TPA's moves to relocate squatters to the area, estate agents said yesterday.

United Bank general manager Mr Kevin Gibb said until the situation in the area became clearer "we will not be appointing any new bonds". The proposed squatter settlement could have a major impact on house values, he said.

Mr Gibb said the situation was very unusual. United would be assessing the low-cost housing proposal and assessing what the effects on nearby homes would be.

He said someone who had bought a house in the area with United financing had already dumped the house keys on his desk and abandoned his property in disgust.

Other banks approached were reluctant to comment on their policy in the wake of the controversy and said they would consider each application on its individual merit.

But estate agents operating in Bloubosrand said they had contacted a range of banks and had been told categorically that no further bonds would be granted until the situation was resolved.

The TPA's plans to permanently relocate 750 squatter families from nearby Zevenfontein to Bloubosrand Extension 1 have been officially put on hold for a week, while the provincial authorities consider a scheme to change the status of the site from a shack settlement to that of a formal low-cost housing development.

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Bloubosrand Action Committe business liaison officer Gary Noble said yesterday it had received about 50 letters from industries saying they intended to boycott rates and taxes in protest at the move.

At a meeting with the committee yesterday industry representatives said they were unable to provide employment for people already living in the area, and could not absorb more people, in contrast to TPA's claims.

Urbanisation task group formed

STAR 6/2/92

A task group to investigate urbanisation in the area north and northwest of Randburg, Roodepoort, Sandton and west of Midrand was constituted in Pretoria yesterday.

Headed by Paul Waanders, the group, formed in terms of an announcement by Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough last week, consists of representatives of the city councils of Randburg, Roodepoort, Sandton, Midrand and Verwoerdburg, the central and west Witwatersrand regional services councils, the area committees of Chartwell, Muldersdrift and Rantesig, the TPA, the Department of Regional and Land Affairs, the central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, Operation Masakhane for the Homeless, the Greenbelt Action Group and the Local Government Affairs Council.

The group's main task will be to evaluate the existing urbanisation strategy for the specified areas as well as the whole PWV region.

The public has been invited to submit proposals to Mr Waanders at (012) 201-2062 or Private Bag X437, Pretoria, 0001 before February 21. The task group's fax number is (012) 21-6500. — Sapa.

● **Rates and taxes boycott launched in Bloubosrand — Page 7**

Squatters have a right to land - and to be heard

Sowetan 6/2/92 310

THE homeless Zevenfontein community has constuctive plans for the future, but no one wants to hear its side of the issue, according to the national organiser of Operation Masakhane for the Homeless, Mr Eric Ngeleza.

In a statement yesterday, Ngeleza criticised the authorities and white residents for not listening to the Zevenfontein people.

"They have constructive plans for the future. They want to train their people to build decent homes ... but nobody wants to hear their side of the story," he said.

By SAPA

Omhle operated countrywide to assist homeless communities. Its main objective was to assist the more than seven million homeless people in South Africa in their bid for adequate housing.

Derogatory

Ngeleza objected to the term "squatter", calling it derogatory.

"The people are just homeless. Like other citizens we have a right to land, a right to build and a right to be heard."

He said Omhle was representing the Zevenfontein people in their negotiations with the authorities.

Commenting on the attitude of some of the Randburg inhabitants who wanted to keep the homeless people out of the area by force, Ngeleza said it could be because they were misinformed.

"Or because they never had the opportunity to hear Omhle's side of the story that they reacted "in this despicable way."

"We want them and the rest of South Africa to listen to us and make use of this great opportunity to embrace us with arms of friendship in the true spirit of the new South Africa instead of threatening us with cricket bats and legal action." *Sapa.*

FM 7/2/92 (310)

BKS's brief was to supply the water for 2 000 erven in Poortje — the first phase of the Rietfontein development. About 3 000 people (on 500 erven) are now living in Poortje; ultimately, the R3m pipeline will service 20 000 stands or 100 000 people.

Residents in the area are presently living in temporary shacks. They have moved from various informal settlement areas around Ennerdale and Westonaria and a school has been built for them. In the opinion of one person closely associated with the project, while Rietfontein is far from the Johannesburg CBD, it is at least catering for an existing population. ■

SQUATTING

A test for Solomon

(310) FM 7/2/92

If there is a solution to the squatting problem, nobody has hit upon it.

Some relief may be possible through imaginative, decisive and swift planning; and there is evidence that the bureaucrats are stirring at last. But what can be done about thousands of people who build shacks (often virtually overnight) on ground that has not been allocated for settlement?

Not surprisingly, the reason that such ground is not allocated to squatters is precisely that it adjoins the back yards of established residents, many of them affluent.

The present government is probably impotent to act, given the National Party's embarrassment at its former enthusiasm for forced removals of stable communities.

If the State is neither willing nor able to deal with squatting, established residents most certainly are — as we have seen in the recent demonstrations by communities afraid both for their security and the value of their property.

Meanwhile, the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber has requested the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) to suspend further development at Rietfontein — apart from the first 2 000 stands, as well as the planning of the development. Investigation of the area — and other possible sites for low-cost housing — will now get under way.

Rietfontein lies on the south-west periphery of the PWV area and is a pilot project for future informal housing programmes. However, its remoteness from jobs — 35 km from the city and 10 km from the closest rail transport — has been criticised by a Metropolitan Chamber task team.

Land at Rietfontein is owned by the TPA and is to be developed by it within a "structure plan" being prepared by the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council. It is proposed eventually to accommodate some 600 000 people on 100 000 serviced stands with an average size of 200 m². This development fills part of a longer-term need and will serve as an extension to the Vaal Triangle as well as the greater PWV area.

To date, consulting civil engineer BKS Inc has been appointed by the RSC to design a bulk water main for Rietfontein and to act as construction manager for its execution by labour-intensive methods. The idea is to create job opportunites for local residents, pass on contracting skills and encourage black entrepreneurship.

Bloubosrand group plans protest march

STAR 7/2/92. 310

By Michael Sparks and Shirley Woodgate

The Bloubosrand Action Committee yesterday called on Randburg and Sandton residents to join a mass march this afternoon to the Randburg Town Council where they would demand the resignation of the councillors.

The demand stems from dissatisfaction with the manner in which the relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters to Extension 1 has been dealt with by the Randburg council, who recently admitted to knowing of the relocation plans two years ago.

Chairman of the Bloubosrand Action Committee Peter Bantock addressing yesterday's open-air meeting called on people not to pay municipal rates, but said they should continue to pay for utilities which he described as consumables.

"In our area we pay assessment rates. In the past week our property has been devalued to about zero. Since there is no longer any value to our property, there is no longer any reason to pay rates," Mr Bantock said to cheers from the crowd.

Many of the about 450-strong crowd signed the petition calling for the resignation of the councillors.

Mr Bantock emphasised that the BAC was not fighting the squatter's relocation socio-economic not racist reasons.

"People should be able to gravitate towards an area of their own socio-economic standing, they should not force people of vastly different classes together. Otherwise it is a catalyst for conflict," he said.

Mr Bantock said the BAC had received permission for the protest march which will start at 3 pm today from the Pick 'n Pay parking area behind Randburg's Sanlam Centre.

Mr Bantock pointed out that BAC had agreed that money collected from residents that was left over once the situation had been resolved would be donated to the upgrading of the Zevenfontein community.

Yesterday Randburg Town Council management committee chairman Andre Jacobs said it had been made clear that the council was developing low-cost housing at Bloubosrand and that only squatters who could afford to pay for it would be accepted.

At that stage, the squatters had indicated that 20 percent were unable to pay as they were unemployed.

At a separate press conference, Operation Masakhane for the Homeless (Ohmle) said the condition of payment was unacceptable.

Outlining proposed house models costing as little as R7 300, Omhle national organiser Eric Ngeleza claimed that 90 percent of the 1 005 families living in Zevenfontein were employed and eligible to be transferred to Bloubosrand.

"The Independent Development Trust offers a subsidy for first-time home buyers, which means everyone can be permanently housed in that area.

"But," he added, "It will not be acceptable if Randburg accepts only those who can pay".

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structions had been

Two sides of the squatter story

The Transvaal Provincial Administration and Randburg Town Council have decided to move the Zevenfontein squatters to Bloubosrand. On the one hand, the Bloubosrand residents are fiercely resisting the relocation, on the other hand, the squatters are not keen to move where they are unwelcome. SHIRLEY WOODGATE and ABEL MUSHI spoke to typical families on both sides of the fence.

STAR 7/4/92 (310)

A Bloubosrand family says:

LAST month Warren (30) and Joanne (27) Haultman of Bloubosrand had to pay R313 in rates and taxes on their Sail Street home.

On top of that, their 1976 television set broke down, again. But this time they simply decided to abandon the 17-year old Sony.

There is barely time to sit down and watch TV anyway, what with Joanne caring for their two-year-old son, Darren, together with her part-time job, the housework and cooking, and Warren's after-hours interest in rowing.

On the plus side, they were excited to see that the masked weavers in their garden had started on their third nest.

And there was excitement: they would soon start planning their annual holiday to their family on a Transkei farm.

The Haultmans are just one of the 500 families who chose the northern Randburg suburb as the location for their home four years ago.

Then the squatter bombshell burst last week.

Suddenly the things that mattered, Joanne's early morning jog with the three dogs along the Jukskei River, Warren's job as a graphic artist, quiet evenings watching the birds in the indigenous garden they had created, all paled into insignificance next to this single ominous event.

Overnight, the value of their home plunged.

"We do not hate or fear these people. We are bitterly sorry for them and would like to see them in their own homes. But not on our doorstep, where they will create a health, crime and pollution hazard," said Joanne.

"We have been sold down the river by the councillors we voted into office who care little for us or the squatters."

The Haultman family of Bloubosrand . . . want to return to the good old days before the squatter spectre loomed up in their lives.

A Zevenfontein resident says:

Alfred Moyo (37) has lived at the Zevenfontein squatter camp with his wife and seven children since the shanty town was set up three years ago.

His family is one of about 1 000 whose fate has to be decided after the owner of the property on which they are living wanted them to go and the residents of Bloubosrand near Randburg continue to block all entrances to the area to prevent squatters from "raping" their land.

But the homeless people of Zevenfontein, according to Mr Moyo, will not leave "until the TPA shows us a letter from the town council of wherever we have to go, saying we are welcome there."

Mr Moyo told The Star he supported his family by doing odd jobs.

He said life had become very difficult since police began manning the entrance to the camp.

"We even have to hide our food. If the police at the entrance find any food they destroy it," he said.

He said squatters' motor vehicles were not allowed past police road blocks.

"Pregnant women have been turned away at night and there have been times when we've had to transport the sick in wheelbarrows because they would not let our cars through.

According to Mr Moyo, the squatters had been living "peacefully" for three years on a plot owned by Charles Ras until last year when they were told by Mr Ras that the Sandton Town Council had ordered him to evict them.

"We used to pay a R30 monthly rental and we never had problems with Mr Ras. Our shacks were destroyed on September 2 and we were forced to move across the Jukskei river to this place where we've been given temporary accommodation until the TPA gets us an alternative place to live."

Mr Moyo said most of the squatters were children and relatives of "garden boys" who used to live at their bosses' homes. □

Two sides of the squatter story

The Transvaal Provincial Administration and Randburg Town Council have decided to move the Zevenfontein squatters to Bloubosrand. On the one hand, the Bloubosrand residents are fiercely resisting the relocation, on the other hand, the squatters are not keen to move where they are unwelcome. SHIRLEY WOODGATE and ABEL MUSHI spoke to typical families on both sides of the fence.

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A Bloubosrand family says:

LAST month Warren (30) and Joanne (27) Haultman of Bloubosrand had to pay R313 in rates and taxes on their Sail Street home.

On top of that, their 1976 television set broke down, again. But this time they simply decided to abandon the 17-year old Sony.

There is barely time to sit down and watch TV anyway, what with Joanne caring for their two-year-old son, Darren, together with her part-time job, the housework and cooking, and Warren's after-hours interest in rowing.

On the plus side, they were excited to see that the masked weavers in their garden had started on their third nest.

And there was excitement: they would soon start planning their annual holiday to their family on a Transkei farm.

The Haultmans are just one of the 500 families who chose the northern Randburg suburb as the location for their home four years ago.

Then the squatter bombshell burst last week.

Suddenly the things that mattered, Joanne's early morning jog with the three dogs along the Jukskei River, Warren's job as a graphic artist, quiet evenings watching the birds in the indigenous garden they had created, all paled into insignificance next to this single ominous event.

Overnight, the value of their home plunged.

"We do not hate or fear these people. We are bitterly sorry for them and would like to see them in their own homes. But not on our doorstep, where they will create a health, crime and pollution hazard," said Joanne.

"We have been sold down the river by the councillors we voted into office who care little for us or the squatters."

The Haultman family of Bloubosrand . . . want to return to the good old days before the squatter spectre loomed up in their lives.

A Zevenfontein resident says:

Alfred Moyo (37) has lived at the Zevenfontein squatter camp with his wife and seven children since the shanty town was set up three years ago.

His family is one of about 1 000 whose fate has to be decided after the owner of the property on which they are living wanted them to go and the residents of Bloubosrand near Randburg continue to block all entrances to the area to prevent squatters from "raping" their land.

But the homeless people of Zevenfontein, according to Mr Moyo, will not leave "until the TPA shows us a letter from the town council of wherever we have to go, saying we are welcome there."

Mr Moyo told The Star he supported his family by doing odd jobs.

He said life had become very difficult since police began manning the entrance to the camp.

"We even have to hide our food. If the police at the entrance find any food they destroy it," he said.

He said squatters' motor vehicles were not allowed past police road blocks.

"Pregnant women have been turned away at night and there have been times when we've had to transport the sick in wheelbarrows because they would not let our cars through.

According to Mr Moyo, the squatters had been living "peacefully" for three years on a plot owned by Charles Ras until last year when they were told by Mr Ras that the Sandton Town Council had ordered him to evict them.

"We used to pay a R30 monthly rental and we never had problems with Mr Ras. Our shacks were destroyed on September 2 and we were forced to move across the Jukskei river to this place where we've been given temporary accommodation until the TPA gets us an alternative place to live."

Mr Moyo said most of the squatters were children and relatives of "garden boys" who used to live at their bosses' homes. □

Bloubosrand residents to march on council

B|Day 7|2|92

310

KATHRYN STRACHAN

ANGRY Bloubosrand residents are to hold a mass march to the Randburg Civic Centre today, following the Randburg Town Council's announcement yesterday that it would stand by its agreement to allow the Zevenfontein squatters to move to a 44ha site at Bloubosrand.

Bloubosrand Action Committee spokesman Paul Burrows said yesterday he believed about 4 000 people would be demonstrating their opposition to the move. He believed many Randburg residents would attend as the whole community would be affected by the relocations.

Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough is considering a proposal to develop a low-cost housing site at Bloubosrand to accommodate the Zevenfontein squatters and is expected to make a decision on the matter before Monday.

At a news conference yesterday, Randburg management committee chairman Andre Jacobs accused the Bloubosrand homeowners of reacting irresponsibly and said the council still believed it had identified the most suitable site for relocation.

He said the council was proposing this site — sandwiched between an affluent area and a middle-class area — because it was not prepared to develop apartheid-style "locations" far removed from the town and its employment opportunities and facilities.

Sapa reports he said the development would be only for people who could afford houses in the area, and would not accommodate informal settlements.

Jacobs said initial indications showed that about 20% of the present Zevenfontein squatter community would not be able to afford houses in the development.

The Federation of Ratepayers Associations, which was consulted, supported the concil, Jacobs said.

Residents who say their properties will be severely devalued and crime will escalate have stopped paying their rates and have called for the council's resignation.

The Zevenfontein squatters stated yesterday that "no amount of coercion nor intimidation will stop us from settling and living in harmony at Bloubosrand".

Operation Masakhane for the Homeless national organiser Eric Ngeleza told a news conference in Johannesburg yesterday the squatters were eager to pay rent and service charges and wanted to improve their living standards.

He said about 90% of the homeless people were employed.

Robber killed in Morningside shootout

Deadlock as squatter power struggle continues

Bureaucratic bungling and lack of planning has left the Zevenfontein squatters with no homes and no hope.

By LINDA RULASHE

ZEVENFONTEIN squatters near Randburg have become pawns in a nonsensical power struggle involving provincial authorities and property owners.

"Residents have completely lost hope," said Zevenfontein Executive Committee chairman, Daniel Sindane, this week as the squatters awaited final confirmation of the Randburg City Council's proposed low-cost housing scheme in Bloubosrand Ext 1, eight kilometres away.

Residents of the middle-class suburb of Bloubosrand, just metres away from the proposed low-cost housing site, have emphatically stated they will not accept the council's proposal. That stand, they say, "is non-negotiable".

Officials of the parties concerned have been locked in discussions the whole week in an attempt to solve the situation — which several of the parties involved say is mainly due to the incompetence of the Transvaal Provincial Administration. The next meeting is on Monday.

Chartwell residents and the Rietvallei farmer on whose land the squatters are temporarily being accommodated are still insisting the squatters be removed.

For the squatters, the situation has become intolerable. There are no facilities — no water piped in, no sewage removal. There is no school for the children. And there is continual harassment, they complain, by Chartwell residents. Sindane said cars were not being allowed through over the weekend and they had to take a pregnant woman by wheelbarrow to the roadblock to drive her to hospital.

Asked where they would be moving to, a group of squatters on Tuesday said they had been told by the TPA they would be moving to Bloubosrand Ext 1. And told the Bloubosrand homeowners didn't want them there, they shrugged and said they would have to wait and see.

Since news of the squatters being moved to Ext 1 first came out last Thursday, Bloubosrand residents have been manning roadblocks — or "checkpoints" — around the clock at six strategic places in and around the residential area.

Residents said they set up the checkpoints because while the TPA and other parties had undertaken not to move the squatters, the TPA could not be trusted to keep its end of the bargain.

The city's management committee chairman, Andre Jacobs, said: "It is not legal for them to set up roadblocks on public roads but we have decided to turn a blind eye because the situation is an emotive one at the moment. Just as long as they don't totally barricade the roads, it's fine."

Police were present at the roadblocks this week but deputy district commissioner for Randburg police, Colonel Banie Bouwer, said they were just "doing their normal policing".

The Bloubosrand residents are first-time home buyers who have expressed fears about losing their homes because of the drop in property values that has occurred since the controversy started.

"It's not a racial issue — it's a question of economics," they stressed, pointing out that a growing number of blacks, coloureds and Indians were buying plots and houses in the area and they were always welcome.

"It's not that we don't want them here," said Adam Kirsten, an accountant in Johannesburg. "If only they could give them proper housing. I bought my place in October and the decision I took is going to affect the rest of my life."

Kirsten said he had bought a house worth R150 000. Paying R2 000 a month off his bond, he said the value of his house had already dropped by 40-50 percent.

"My wife and I are planning on having children — but how can you plan on something that isn't going to have any future?"

Bloubosrand Action Committee chairman, Peter Bantock, said one of the reasons for not accepting the Randburg City Council's proposal "from an empirical point of view" was that there was no room for expanding the 44 hectares designated by the council.

"A larger area should be considered as the one being suggested is hemmed in by an industrial site, small private holdings and the residential housing presently being occupied by the Bloubosrand residents," he said.

Bantock also said land values had decreased rapidly and building societies had stopped granting bonds. Insecurity presently existed in the property market. "This," he said, "will curtail future prospects and will subsequently squash the market."

An estate agent commissioned by the Bloubosrand community, Mike Schefermann, said economic and sub-economic areas had to be properly planned by developers and these plans adhered to. The housing of the underprivileged had to be properly addressed.

"Are we going to continue perpetuating slums? Or are we going to maximise benefits to would-be home owners by acquiring land at the best price and enhancing the quality of living?"

Schefermann said private developers would no longer be willing to commit themselves to the enormous capital outlays required to develop areas for home ownership if they were uncertain whether they would be able to sell as planned. People would be unwilling to buy into new areas and financial institutions would be unwilling to lend.

A 15-member task group appointed by the Administrator of the Transvaal, Danie Hough, on January 23, is investigating other possible settlement sites. Its members will evaluate the existing urbanisation strategy for the area lying to the west of Midrand and Verwoerdburg, and to the north of Randburg and Sandton. Bloubosrand is in the jurisdiction of Randburg, but Zevenfontein falls under TPA authority.

The task group will have to identify suitable sites in the areas mentioned where permanent, orderly urbanisation may take place, including the development of low-cost housing and report back by the end of March.

Ann Bernstein, of the Urban Foundation's Urbanisation and Housing Policy Unit, said the present housing guidelines presented by government were totally inadequate. "It has been based on racist assumptions. Everything will need to be coherently planned and people will have to be involved in the process.

Community school project 'sabotaged'

HUNDREDS of children in the fast-growing settlement of Orange Farm in the Vaal are without schools and a Department of Education and Training (DET) official is charged with having interfered with a community project aimed at addressing the need.

Local community leader, Edna Mlangeni, said she planned to build a prefabricated school with five clasrooms for R51 532. The community was prepared to raise the money through monthly fees from each pupil, she said.

In January, the Transvaal Provincial Administration granted her a site at Extension Seven for the school.

In the meantime, she managed to accommodate the pupils at more than 20 show houses belonging to a private company.

The DET provided her with educational instruments and seven teachers, and the pupils started with their classes last Monday after the community had arranged that the parents would contribute an amount of R20 each every month.

Mlangeni said this week that a DET inspector, Shadrack Modise, from the Vaal region, had visited the show-house school and told pupils not to pay their monthly fees as the school was not recognised by the DET. He could not be reached for comment.

Marching in the northern suburbs streets

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(310)

BRENDAN TEMPLETON

HAD IT NOT been for the placards, one could have been forgiven for mistaking them for a crowd rushing off to a department store sale.

Instead, it was the unusual spectacle of a protest march in the northern suburbs as angry Bloubosrand residents converged on their town council offices yesterday.

The source of their outrage was a two-year-old decision by the Randburg Town Council and the Transvaal Provincial Administration to allocate — without cunsulting residents — land bordering their suburb for low-income housing.

Recently disclosed details of a plan to move about 750 Zevenfontein squatter families in next door sent property prices plunging and residents' hearts fluttering.

So about 350 residents marched on the civic centre calling for the resignation of the council and management committee.

Most of them were young newlyweds and first-time homeowners.

ANTI—SQUATTER PROTEST: Angry Bloubosrand residents march on their town council offices yesterday calling for the resignation of the council and management committee.

Sweating under a scorching sun, they kept up a steady stream of chants demanding the council's resignation.

One young resident expressed amazement that they were actually marching: "It's really weird ...

"It's just weird that people are protesting.

"I've never been involved in anything like this.

"I think it's a good thing. We were a very apathetic bunch to start with," he said.

He and his fiancee were to marry in May.

They bought their Bloubosrand house in November for R140 000.

They would not have bought had they known about the TPA/council plans, he added.

They would not move out if the low-income housing project went ahead.

"Our transfer is not yet through, but we have decided to remain even if things don't work out.

"We bought it to stay there for five or six years.

"Probably by then everyone will have the same problems as us."

Those interviewed hoped the situation would not become overshadowed by racial overtones.

Bloubosrand Action Committee chairman Peter Bantock insisted that the committee's actions were purely economic and apolitical.

He denied that committee members were attempting to entrench apartheid.

However, sudden, forced integration would lead to polarisation of communities, he said.

Bemused black bystanders were reluctant to comment.

One said it was "good" that the protesters were putting pressure on their council.

"It is their community. I think there will be much more of this," he predicted.

Not all the protesters were white: Pauline van Wyngaard from the coloured suburb of West Rand was there to protect her future.

She said the TPA wanted to set up low-income housing near the Noord gesicht, Riverlea and West Rand communities.

Resident Les Smith said the TPA had probably earmarked his suburb because it had not expected the huge outcry.

"I think they were horribly surprised when the people of the northern suburbs stood up.

"They did not realise when they made the decision that there would be an outcry like this," he said.

Identify land for housing, says ANC

STAR 8/2/92

MINING land and land being held for speculative purposes should be used for low-cost housing, the ANC said in a statement yesterday.

Urging the creation of a forum to establish a housing policy and to identify suitable land, the ANC said these steps were vital to prevent conflicts such as that involving the Zevenfontein squatters.

The ANC, the statement said, believed that planning should be a public process enabling parties such as civics, local authorities, ratepayers, the private sector and the general public to take part in decisions that affected them.

"All this should be underpinned by the principle that the needs of the urban homeless must be affordably met."

The State, it said, was obliged to seek out land suitable for residential sites and encourage the use of vacant land being held for speculative purposes.

"Furthermore, the assumption that mining land is untouchable should be challenged, as such vacant land is often well suited for residential purposes." — Sapa.

Councillor may resign over threats, outcry

DISILLUSIONED Bloubosrand councillor Charles Humphris is considering resigning over the outcry against Zevenfontein families being settled in his constituency.

And it has emerged that a spate of death threats from the lunatic fringe in the community has prompted the Randburg Town Council to post guards outside his house as well as the homes of mayor Mark Manley and management committee chairman Andre Jacobs.

Mr Humphris said poor communication was to blame for the outcry over the controversial decision to relocate about 750 Zevenfontein squatter families to a low-income housing scheme next to his suburb.

"People must realise that they at least have a choice between squatters or low-

BRENDAN TEMPLETON

income housing, which they can make now.

"In three years' time, do you think people will have a choice when squatters suddenly move in next door?" he asked.

He was angry about calls for his resignation and said he would decide whether he would resign after he had learnt the outcome of a meeting between the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Randburg council yesterday afternoon.

"I don't need this in my life. People seem to think councillors just sit around all month doing nothing. Well, I can resign and they (Bloubosrand residents) can do

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without a councillor for the next four months."

"This whole thing has been a mess from start to finish ... It's bad public relations which is to blame — and the media have not been too helpful either," he added.

Emotions had reached a peak and he had heard stories of men armed to the teeth roaring around the suburb in bakkies late at night.

One of them, known only as "Titch", was rumoured to be a former Selous Scout and walked around with "all sorts of weapons" dangling from his belt.

The armed guards were called in last Friday after Mr Humphris had received anonymous death threats. No incidents have so far been reported.

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', why must I go?

ALFRED MOYO: A house-painter, he has lived on farms and plots north of Johannesburg for all of his 47 years, the last three at Zevenfontein.

This is my hom

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OLEHILE MOTSEKI: Lost his possessions when bulldozers flattened the shacks. He also lost job when he missed work the day after the demolition. ● Photographs: JOHN H

JOHN PERLMAN

ALFRED MOYO can't understand why some people think he should go and live in Soweto or Alexandra.

The 47-year-old housepainter has lived on farms and plots north of Johannesburg his entire life, the last three years at Zevenfontein.

"I was born in Honeydew, on one of the farms, where my parents were both working," says Mr Moyo. "Then my father and my mother died and I had to find out how to live for myself."

Mr Moyo, who started off working as a clerk, says he thought at times about looking for a place in a township, but knew there was little point.

"I knew if I tried to go there the law would stand in my way. The whites would not just let anyone go and live in the locations.

"Even if I had married a woman from there, we would not have been able to live together. So I told myself I would have to live according to the laws of the farms."

Over time, though, the laws of the farms began to change. "In the old days, a plot in these areas was more than 200 acres," Mr Moyo says.

"But as the place developed, the plots got smaller. Then the owners would say they didn't want so many people there."

Mr Moyo says more than half the people at Zevenfontein grew up in the area. "There are some who were born elsewhere, but they have spent most of their lives on these plots and farms."

Olehile Motseki (54) was not born in the area. He left a farm at Ottosdal, Transvaal, when he was a young man to seek work in Johannesburg.

"Ottosdal was a small place, there was no work," he explains. He too never wanted to live in a township, partly because his work on road-building gangs often took him away and partly because he felt it was no place to raise a family.

"Those places are too rough," says Mr Motseki.

He settled in a small room on a plot, but was forced to move when the owners objected to his family being there. "They said there was not enough room to have children running around."

That is what brought Mr Motseki to Zevenfontein. Both he and Mr Moyo lost possessions when some of the shacks were flattened by bulldozers last month. Mr Motseki lost his job when he failed to turn up at work the day after the demolition.

Both men say they do not mind being moved, provided they can remain in the area. "If they must move us, that's fine, but it mustn't be far," says Mr Motseki.

"We want to live here because most of us work in Randburg," says Mr Moyo. "If they could develop this place, put in sewerage and so on, it would be good to stay here.

"But if that is not possible, then Randburg should find a place where its people can build low-cost houses and we can pay rent like in any township."

Mr Motseki insists that the Zevenfontein community is law-abiding: "We have a committee to run things and there has never been any fighting or any stealing."

His children go to a nearby school, as do Mr Moyo's. A number of residents own motor vehicles, including Mr Motseki who has a sturdy-looking bakkie.

And both men say the majority of Zevenfontein residents are in stable jobs. "I think more than 80 percent of the people here are working," says Mr Moyo. "Those young men you see in the daytime work in the hotels at night." Mr Moyo knows there is great white opposition to the continued existence of Zevenfontein, but says he feels "neither angry nor sad" about it and expects that that attitude will change.

"All we want is a place to live and I think they know we have nowhere to go. I don't really see why they would want to give us a hassle."

CT 8/1/92

Whites march as squatter row grows

(310)

JOHANNESBURG. —Angry white Bloubosrand residents opposed to the planned resettlement of the Zevenfontein squatting community on an adjacent strip of land, yesterday staged a protest march and then demanded the resignation of the Randburg town council.

A petition with about 2 000 signatures asking for the council's resignation and about 4 000 demanding an end to the proposed low-cost housing development, was handed to the Randburg town secretary, Mr Willem van Graan.

Black bystander Mrs Olga Ramushe said: "We brought them up and now they hate us. We worked hard for them and got nothing out of it."

● The Bloubosrand development will only be for people who can afford houses in the area. A town council spokesman said this week that initial indications showed about 20% of the Zevenfontein squatter community would not be able to afford houses.

Squatters 'devalued land by R700 000'

(310)
CT 5/2/92

Supreme Court Reporter

THE knowledge that a squatter settlement would be located adjacent to it reduced the value of a Noordhoek property by R700 000, the Supreme Court heard yesterday.

This was the evidence in the R200 000 damages action brought by a Johannesburg couple, Mr Barry Mayes and his wife Helen, against Mr Geert Noordhof. Mr Noordhof had sold the property housing the Noordhof nursery to the couple for R950 000 in 1990.

The Mayes' are also seeking release from their obligation to fulfil the outstanding payments on the property to Mr Noordhof.

Mr Bernard Squire, a chartered evaluation surveyor, testified he had worked in the Noordhoek area for some time and had obtained a detailed knowledge of values in the area.

He had inspected the property concerned and compiled a report which set out several scenarios including one on June 1, 1990, in which it was not known that the authorities were seriously contemplating settling a large number of squatters on the adjacent property.

Mr Squire said his valuation of the property and the business in the first scenario was R785 000, which supported the actual price of R750 000 paid for the land plus the R200 000 paid for the business.

Had the squatter proposal been known, the land and business would have been worth R285 000, Mr Squire said.

Dr Michael Smit, testifying for Mr Noordhof, said when he learned of plans to settle squatters in the area, he had not initially felt his property might devalue.

The hearing continues today.

Mr Justice J J Fagan presided. Mr Peter van Blerk, instructed by Brian Kahn Attorney of Johannesburg, appeared for the Mayes. Mr Noordhof conducted his own case.

Angry Bloubos marchers halt traffic

(310) ARG 8/2/92

JOHANNESBURG. — Angry white Bloubosrand residents opposed to the planned resettlement of the Zevenfontein squatter community on an adjacent strip of land have demanded the resignation of the Randburg Town Council.

A protest march through the Randburg CBD by 500 to 700 placard-carrying residents halted traffic and angered blacks.

A petition with about 2 000 signatures demanding the council's resignation and about 4 000 demanding an end to the proposed low-cost housing development was handed to Randburg town secretary Mr Willem van Graan.

Thirty "pieces of silver" were then thrown in front of Mr Van Graan to the wild cheering of the residents and chants of "Judas, Judas".

A letter to the council was read out by the Bloubosrand Action Committee (BAC), who organised the march.

"On behalf of the BAC, representing the ratepayers of Randburg, please accept this petition requesting the Randburg Town Council to resign.

"The signitaries consider that the Town Council gravely mismanaged the handling of the Zevenfontein issue and have no confidence at all in the Town Council's ability to professionally manage the affairs of ratepayers or represent them fairly and honestly," the letter said.

Blacks watching the march were disappointed.

Mr Michael Moagi, who works in Randburg, said he felt "very bad" about the residents' attitude.

"This is the time for co-operation. We must work together to find a solution. We can't afford to build big houses like they do, but we must live somewhere. Low-cost housing is a start," he said with bitterness. — Sapa.

We'll stay put, say families

By MARTIN NTSOELENGOE

Pretoria News 9/2/92 (3)

ANGRY Elandsfontein families in the western Transvaal, who face eviction after being conned into paying Joseph Matshitse R32 000 for sites, are refusing to leave.

They have engaged a legal representative who has already written a letter to chief John Mathope, Matshitse's cousin, advising him that the families are occupying their sites lawfully and that any legal proceedings that he may intend bringing against them would be vigorously opposed.

The families were earlier given until January 1 to leave Elandsfontein.

Some families have already left and are now living in Phatsima near Rustenburg.

Those who remained, led by Julius Molawa, have vowed to fight the evictions to the bitter end.

...Ryde Park, Johannesburg, which is on the market.

Pledges sparked squatter flood (310)

By DAWN BARKHUIZEN

HUNDREDS of people were lured to Zevenfontein squatter camp north of Johannesburg late last year by promises of houses and land. ST Times

The promises, circulated mainly by word of mouth throughout the Reef, brought a flood of new squatters to Zevenfontein.

The population rose from 45 families on October 1 to more than 900 families by the time the settlement was sealed off two weeks ago. 9/2/92.

As the word spread, many people built shacks, some of which were then left empty, to secure their claims to new housing.

From November, self-appointed community leaders began drawing up a list of all those who had built shacks. This was intended to keep a tally of the number of families in the camp, said Mr Alfred Moyo, one of the self-appointed leaders.

Most of the Zevenfontein squatters are from Randburg, Sandton and the surrounding farming area, but some are from as far afield as Natal, Pietersburg, the Transkei, Malawi and Zimbabwe.

On arrival at the camp, newcomers put their

□ To Page 2

Promises lured squatters

□ From Page 1

names on the list, specified the size of their families and were allocated land on which to erect a shack.

"But they told me my shack would be temporary and that I would get a proper house soon," said a newcomer of three weeks.

She said a fellow outpatient at the Hillbrow hospital told her in late December that she could get accommodation at Zevenfontein and put herself in line for a new house.

Another squatter said: "When I came here a man and a fat lady put my name on a list and said if I stayed they would talk to the whites and get me a house."

A squatter who has been living in the camp since last August said residents summoned her to put her name on a list in early November. (310)

"A man and a fat lady wanted to know how many children I had and said that I would get a two, three or four-roomed house," she said. ST Times 9/2/92

A farm labourer said he had "heard that we wouldn't have to live there, but that, as long as we had a shack and our name was on the list, we would get a house".

The TPA demolished 200 shacks found to be empty on January 23, a TPA official told the Sunday Times this week.

Since then, farm labourers have recruited unemployed relatives and friends to live in the remaining shacks and prevent them from being demolished.

An unemployed 21-year-old interviewed in a Zevenfontein shack on Friday said he was guarding his brother's shack. His brother, who worked elsewhere but came to Zevenfontein to erect the shack two weeks ago, had instructed him to "stay around in case they brought the forms for the new houses," he said.

Now in 20's & 30'

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A TALE OF TWO FAMILIES IN THE MIDDLE OF A LAND BATTLE

No food, water or toilets (310) — only illness and fear

ST Times 9/2/92

LETTIE BEUKES, 32, is polite, well-spoken and neatly dressed. Her little girls — with braided hair, shy smiles and shoes and socks — stand quietly with her in the dusty queue at the mobile water tank at Zevenfontein squatter camp.

They've been there in the sun since early and now it's 2pm.

"The tank didn't come yesterday and only one came this morning. There wasn't enough and we didn't get any. I hope they'll come again," said Miss Beukes, an unemployed domestic worker.

It is not only because of the heat that Mrs Beukes wants water — her daughters, Brenda, 3, and Maggie, 18 months, both have diarrhoea and keep dehydrating.

Zevenfontein is not a great place to live, says Miss Beukes.

There are no toilets and no running water for the 900-odd families living cheek-by-jowl in tin shanties in the veld.

"There are so many germs my kids keep getting sick. There is no fresh stuff. Sometimes I have to use the dank river water."

WAITING FOR WATER . . . Lettie Beukes, who says her sick children, Brenda, 3, and Maggie, 18 months, keep dehydrating Picture: DAVID SANDISON

Pregnant

But, says Miss Beukes, she's not going anywhere. "We don't have a place to go.

"I came here one year ago when I was fired because I was pregnant.

"I heard about Zevenfontein from my friend and me and Shadrack, my boyfriend, came here. He works for a plumber in Randburg and earns R150 a fortnight.

"Last week the police gave us notices to say we must be out in two weeks. I don't sleep at night. I'm so worried — not for myself so much, but for my children because I love them."

Miss Beukes is not alone in her concern. The entire community is on edge, according to resident John Mhlongo, 49.

Mr Mhlongo, who has lived in the area for more than 30 years, says his job as a labourer is in jeopardy because he stays at home guarding his rickety caravan in the veld. He has sent his children to his family in Barberton.

Fears

The Sithole family is afraid. So afraid that their shack will be flattened again that they sleep outside in the veld every night. All eight of them, kids with conjunctivitis and all.

Mr Jan Sithole, 39, a retrenched farm labourer, was born on the ridge overlooking the squatter camp. He always used to pay rent but stopped "last of last year" when the camp began mushrooming.

"In September they flattened all the shacks except one. Now I cannot leave in case the police come. I cannot even go to look for a job."

Last week he took his wife, Elizabeth, his mother-in-law, Mathilda Tshabungu, and five children to Alexandra in search of accommodation.

"They are all full. All the townships are full. I don't know where else to go. I was born here in this place. We people here, we are not all tsotsis. We are just poor people who want a place to live."

Bloubosrand's brothers in arms

S/Times 9/2/92 (KB) 310

MIDDLECLASS sensibilities flew out of the window in Bloubosrand this week.

Within a week the outlying Randburg suburb was transformed into a battleground for territorial rights.

Young married men from 500-odd homes loaded the guns they kept hidden in their sock and handkerchief drawers. Some, like Stuart Smith, sent their toddlers to relatives "just in case".

They took leave from work, mounted a control centre, hired a batch of two-way radios and are keeping an eagle eye on the 44ha open patch earmarked for Zevenfontein's squatters — land that is only metres away from their pristine new houses.

Neighbours who were strangers are suddenly brothers and buddies in arms in an around-the-clock military-style operation aimed at defending their castles.

SHATTERED DREAMS . . . Bloubosrand's Ewoud and Carole Vogel with their three children Picture: COBUS BODENSTEIN

Bridge

They communicate vigorously by two-way radio. They urgently summon, not John, Joe or Bert, but Echo One, Two or Three.

They have dug trenches across the roads, and it is rumoured, mined a low-level bridge leading into the suburb.

The women, including the wives of black Bloubosrand homeowners, rotate in shifts preparing food for the men on patrol.

Yuppie accountants with clipped English accents and Paul Simon T-shirts have thrown up roadblocks to keep out squatters who might creep in at night with corrugated iron and cardboard.

YES YOU CAN . . . a sign that doesn't reflect the times

Any night of the week Carole Vogel's husband Ewoud, 34, can be found taking his turn manning one of the eight roadblocks blockading the suburb.

If the truth be told, Mr Vogel, a high school teacher and father of three, is somewhat bemused by the events of the last 10 days — by the council decision to ram thousands of squatters into a narrow strip of land literally around his corner and also by the transformation within his suburb.

"Look we don't have a Ventersdorp-type mentality here, but we have a lot of young chaps who have done military service who are putting their training into practice," he said.

"We discourage people from displaying weapons. The AWB offered 300 men and we declined.

"But if the authorities bring the squatters in, there is no telling what residents will do. One little mistake could turn this thing into a bloodbath."

Said Mrs Vogel, 26: "When we came here three years ago, it was for good. We built our dream house and made what we thought was a good investment.

"My parents bought the plot next door to build their retirement house. We were not thinking about Australia or Canada. We sunk everything into this house.

"Before this happened the house was worth about R140 000. Now I doubt we could get enough to cover the bond.

"I feel sorry for the squatters, but I am 25 times sorrier for myself — I have much more to lose."

Mr Vogel added: "We're trapped. We'll have to upgrade our security and change our lifestyle. Our other option is to leave the house to the bank."

The thought is not far from the minds of many residents — the majority of whom are first-time home owners.

"If those squatters come we'll leave. Then the bank can have the house. I will not stay in hell," snorted an irate black resident of Bloubosrand who wished to remain annonymous.

"I came here from the townships, I know about gangs and crime and noise. I worked hard to get out and came here for the quiet. People welcomed me even though I am black. My husband and I don't want squatters on our doorstep," she said.

Cancelled

Said Bloubosrand Action Committee spokesman Peter Bancock: "Two weeks ago property values were rising faster than most places in South Africa. Last Sunday not a single person turned up to see our show homes. The banks won't give loans for this area, newcomers have cancelled their contracts.

"Our houses were worth between R130 000 and R170 000 on average. Now they're not worth 10c.

"We are not insensitive to the fact that squatters are people with emotions, but we will not negotiate sub-economic houses for this area. We don't want health problems or a speculated increase in crime. We don't want a crippled property market."

DAWN BARKHUIZEN REPORTS

It's survival of the fittest, says angry horse-belt 'liberal'

VAL and Dennis Keightley are wealthy, English-speaking and politically progressive.

Or at least they were — until last week when the Randburg council pulled the rug from under their riding boots by allocating 44 hectares of nearby veld to thousands of Zevenfontein squatters.

This week Dennis Keightley joined residents from upmarket Inanda and middle-class Bloubosrand in patrolling the streets surrounding his R1,2-million property and manning a roadblock to keep squatters out.

"I have always been to the left, but now I am moving the other way. I am starting to see what Africa is all about — it's the survival of the fittest," said the professional diamond marker.

"I certainly don't want the AWB in here, but if those squatters come in I will do everything in my power to defend my property and my family," said his showjumper wife, Val.

"When this started my son wouldn't go to school because he had to look after his pony in case the squatters came and tried to eat it.

"People might accuse us of being the filthy rich, but we've worked hard to get what we have. When my husband arrived in South Africa 26 years ago he had R30 in his pocket and that was all.

"We moved here 11 years ago from Bryanston because we wanted to be in the countryside. I've created a world for myself and my family. I don't know about politics, I don't even go to the shops, all I do is ride in the greenbelt. Now they want to change it all and turn it into a dump.

Pilfering

"There are already squatters living along the river, I see them when I go riding, and already the place is a mess."

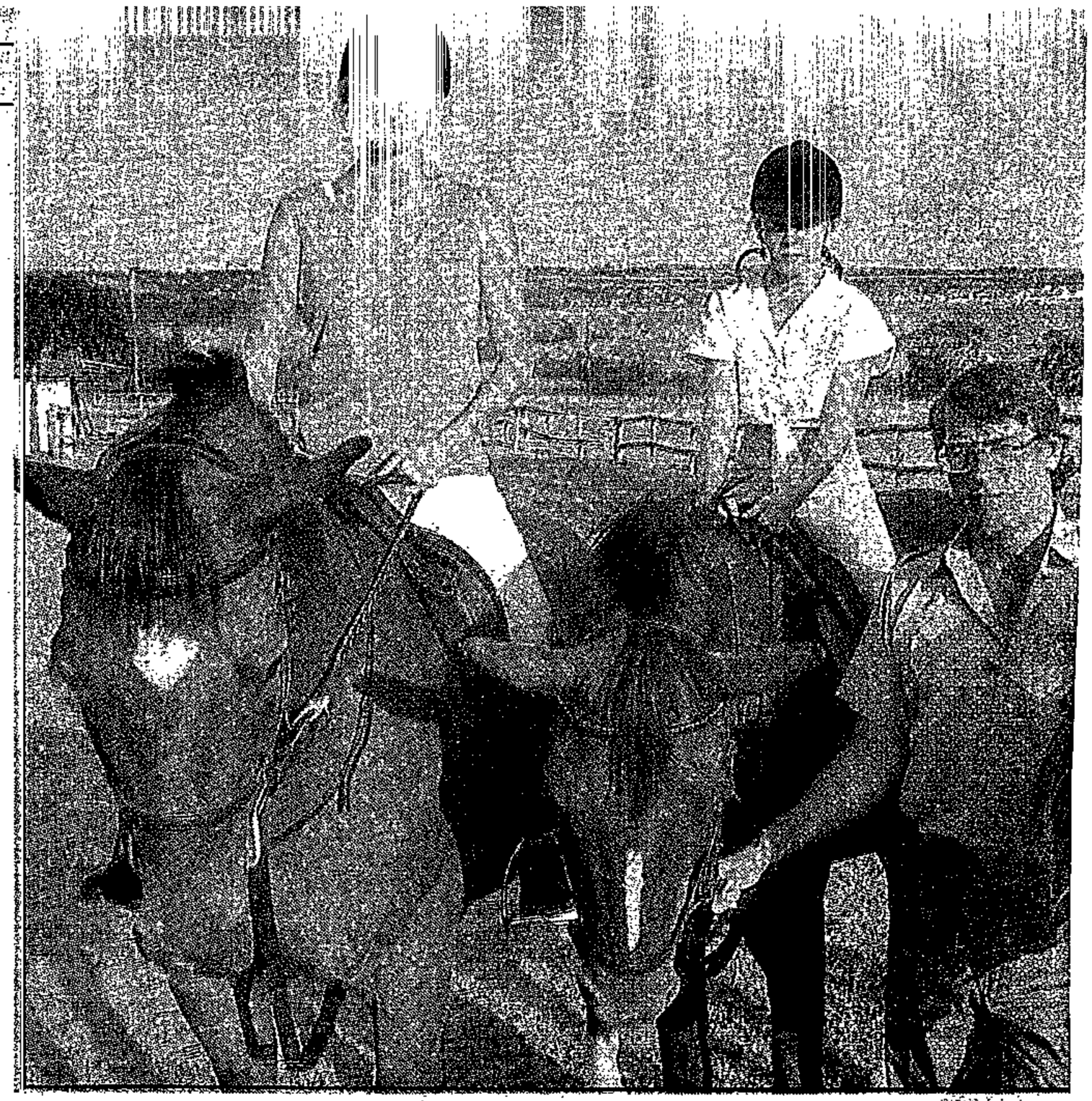
What the Keightleys are opposed to is thousands of squatters moving in less than 1km from their homestead, not because the newcomers are black, but because 44 hectares would not contain an impoverished and largely unemployed population for long, they said.

"Don't get me wrong, I am not against people having proper houses, but there will never be enough room. They'll spill out, and then where will they go?

"We already have a pilfering problem here. We can never get the police out here as it is. Once a woman was being raped down the road and it took the police hours to arrive. Now we'll have to get double barbed wire fences and Rottweilers," Mrs Keightley said.

"Why should outsiders get houses anyway, why shouldn't our staff who have worked for us for years have first option?

Her husband added: "It's not a black-white thing — it basically boils down to bad town planning. You can't put sub-economic housing in the middle of a suburb. The government took away influx control and left nothing in its place. If we don't make a stand here no-one is safe."



ROUGH RIDE AHEAD . . . Dennis Keightley, his wife Val and children Dawn and Dylan

community, local residents have erected illegal roadblocks to prevent Zevenfontein people occupying their new land.

Sweltering this week in corrugated iron shacks and Red Cross tents, the community said they were ready to move to Bloubosrand as they desperately needed permanent shelter.

Residents committee spokesman Bab'u Skosana said: "We must have a permanent place to live so that we can start with these basic shelters we have and then work to improve them," he said.

"The people of Bloubosrand know we cannot build houses like theirs because we do not earn their salaries. We have worked as their gardeners for the past 300 years for low wages. They know those wages cannot buy houses like theirs," said Skosana.

Committee member Alfred Moyo said the whole community wanted to move to a decent place.

He said some people had lived and worked in the area for 10 or 15 years and wanted to stay there.

Albert Dibete, who has lived in Zevenfontein since coming from Pietersburg 10 years ago, said he and his neighbours wanted to live close to their work in Randburg.

Dibete said Zevenfontein residents did not understand why the people of Bloubosrand did not want them as neighbours. "We think it is simply because we are black," he said.

This is an allegation vehemently denied by the Bloubosrand Action Committee, representing the 500 families in the suburb.

"This is definitely not a racial issue. We object to the idea of a low-cost housing development in our suburb.

"We understand that the people of Zevenfontein have a serious problem, but moving them to Bloubosrand is not the solution. We sympathise with the Zevenfontein people; our fight is not with them. We feel they are as much victims as we are of the totally irresponsible way this matter has been handled by Randburg Town Council and the TPA."

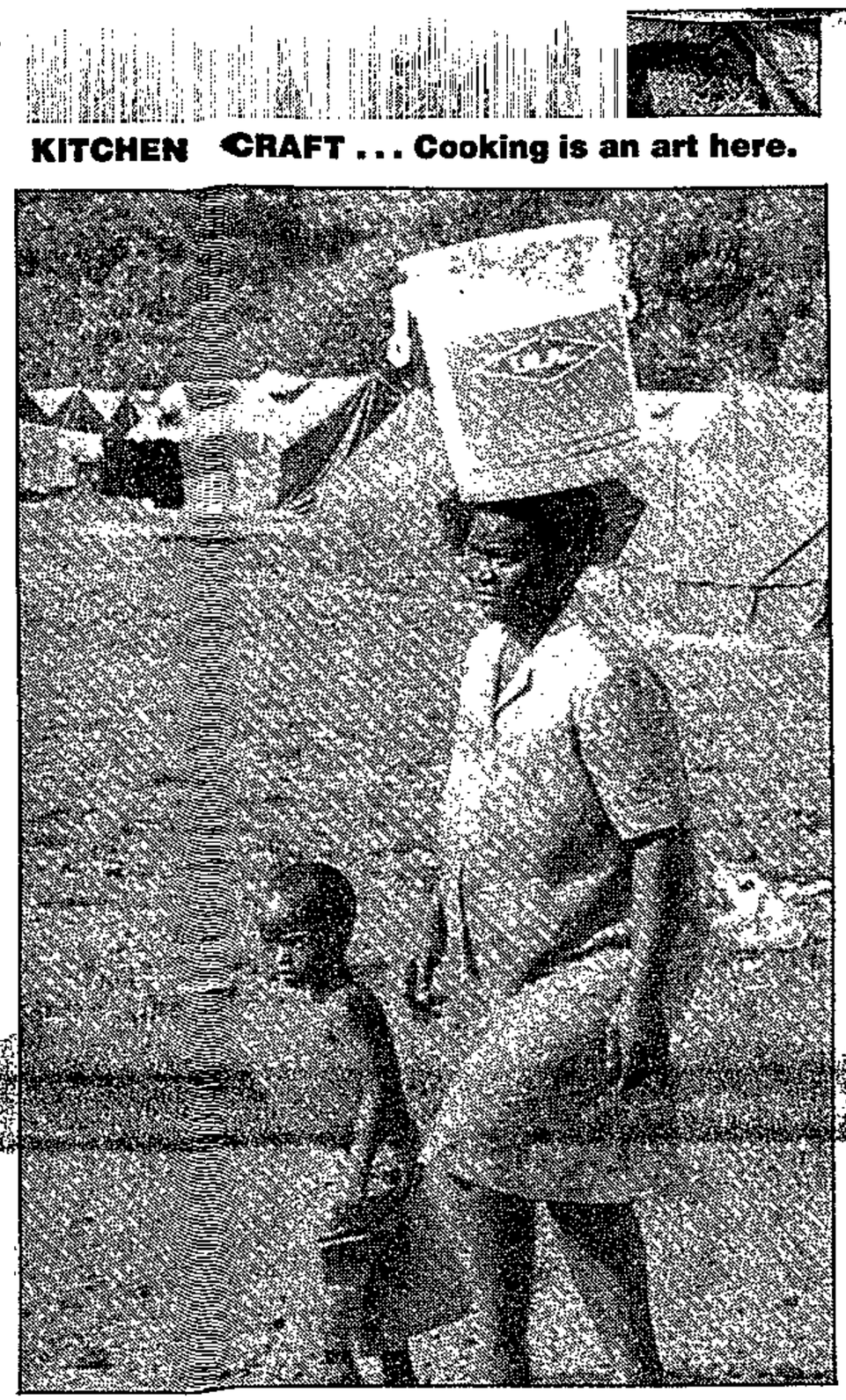
This view was not shared by Zevenfontein representative Eric Ngeleza, national organiser of Operation Masakhane for the Homeless, which negotiates for the community with the TPA and local authorities.

Ngeleza said the decision by the council and TPA to give Bloubosrand to the community was a watershed and represented a victory for homeless people throughout the country.

"For the first time, the community has been properly consulted and offered a decent piece of land on which to live. We recognise the services might not be adequate but we are prepared to wait for improvements.

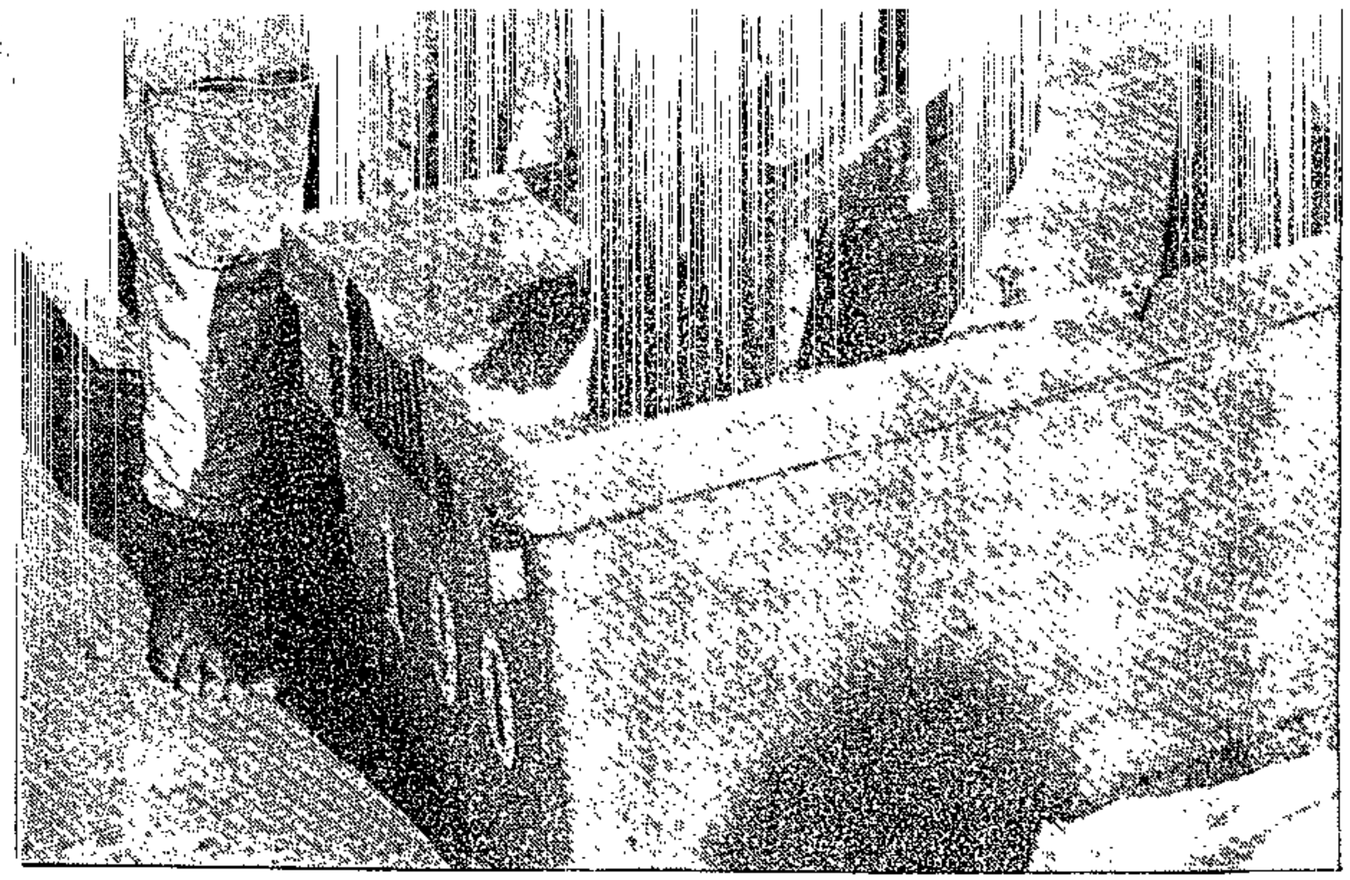
"Our priority is getting settled on the land. We call on the Bloubosrand people to leave us, or rather to join us, in peace. Bloubosrand must set a precedent. Homeless people are human beings who need to be given a chance," said Ngeleza.

Omhle was offered a choice of three sites for the resettlement of the Zevenfontein community, two temporary sites and Bloubosrand as a permanent site. They chose the permanent site.

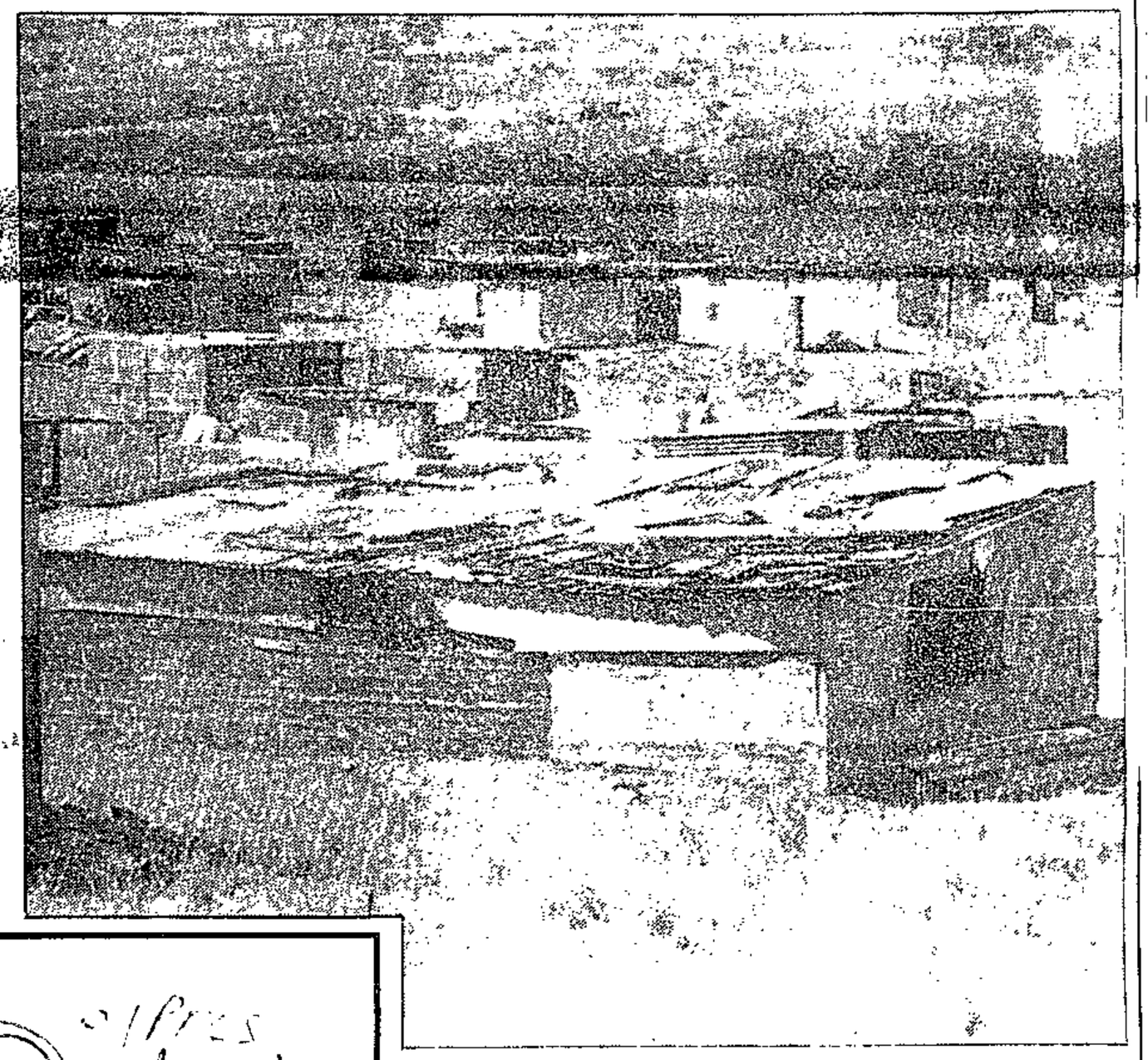


KITCHEN CRAFT ... Cooking is an art here.

HEAVY LOAD ... No taps at Zevenfontein.



BATHTIME ... Anele Sithole, 8, sponges down Nbuti Ben, 3. But the water, brought in a tanker by the TPA, is rationed. ■ Pics: TLADI KHUELE



EYESORE ... Shacks in the veld.

310 9/02/93

Is this new SA, ask homeless

By COLLETTE CAINE

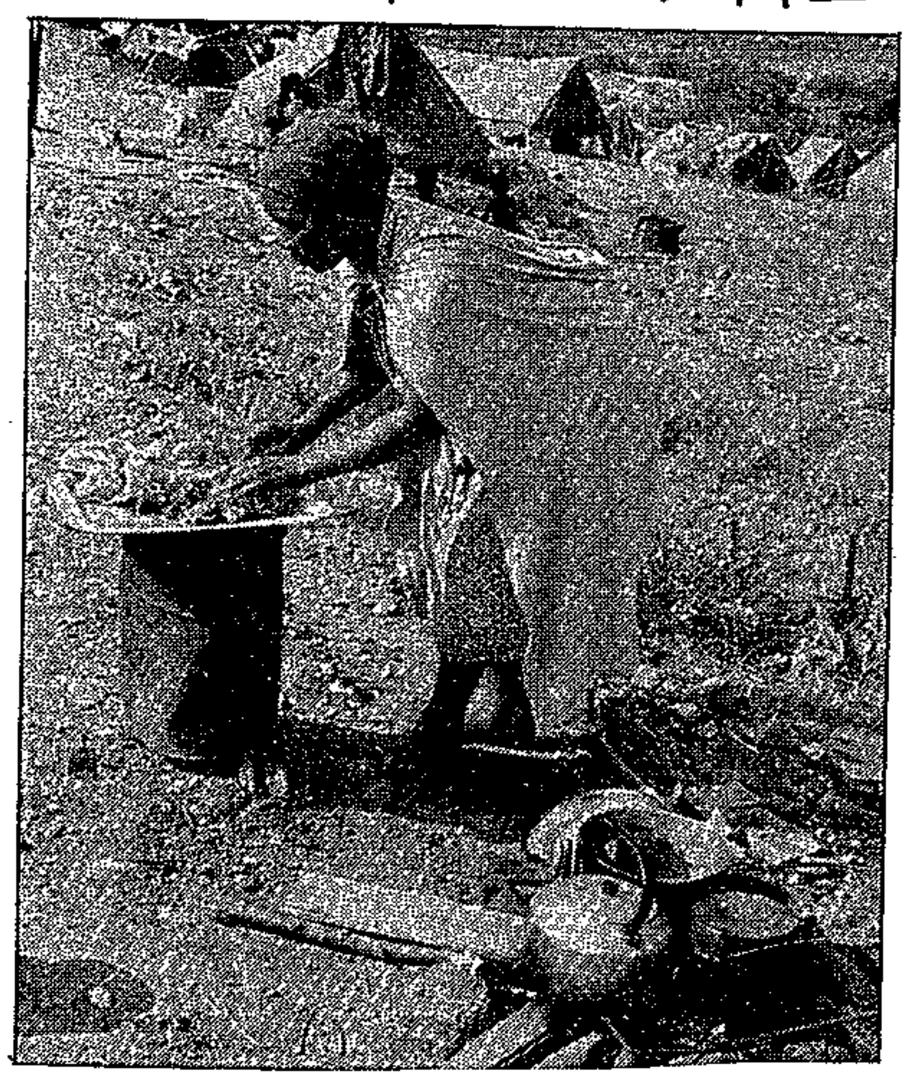
ZEVENFONTEIN resident August Ndlovu this week called on Nelson Mandela and President FW de Klerk to go to the impoverished shack settlement to see the appalling conditions for themselves.

"De Klerk and Mandela are up there talking about the new South Africa. Let them come here to say if Zevenfontein – a place with no water, no houses and not enough food – is the new South Africa they are talking about," said Ndlovu.

Barricaded into their shack and tent camp on the banks of the Jukskei River by police and TPA officials, the estimated 1 000 homeless families waited apprehensively this week to hear whether they would be resettled at nearby Bloubosrand.

TPA spokesman Piet Wilken said the TPA was still discussing the whole matter of Bloubosrand and that a final decision could be expected on Tuesday.

Since the announcement two weeks ago that the TPA had bought the 44ha of Bloubosrand Ext 1 for the Zevenfontein



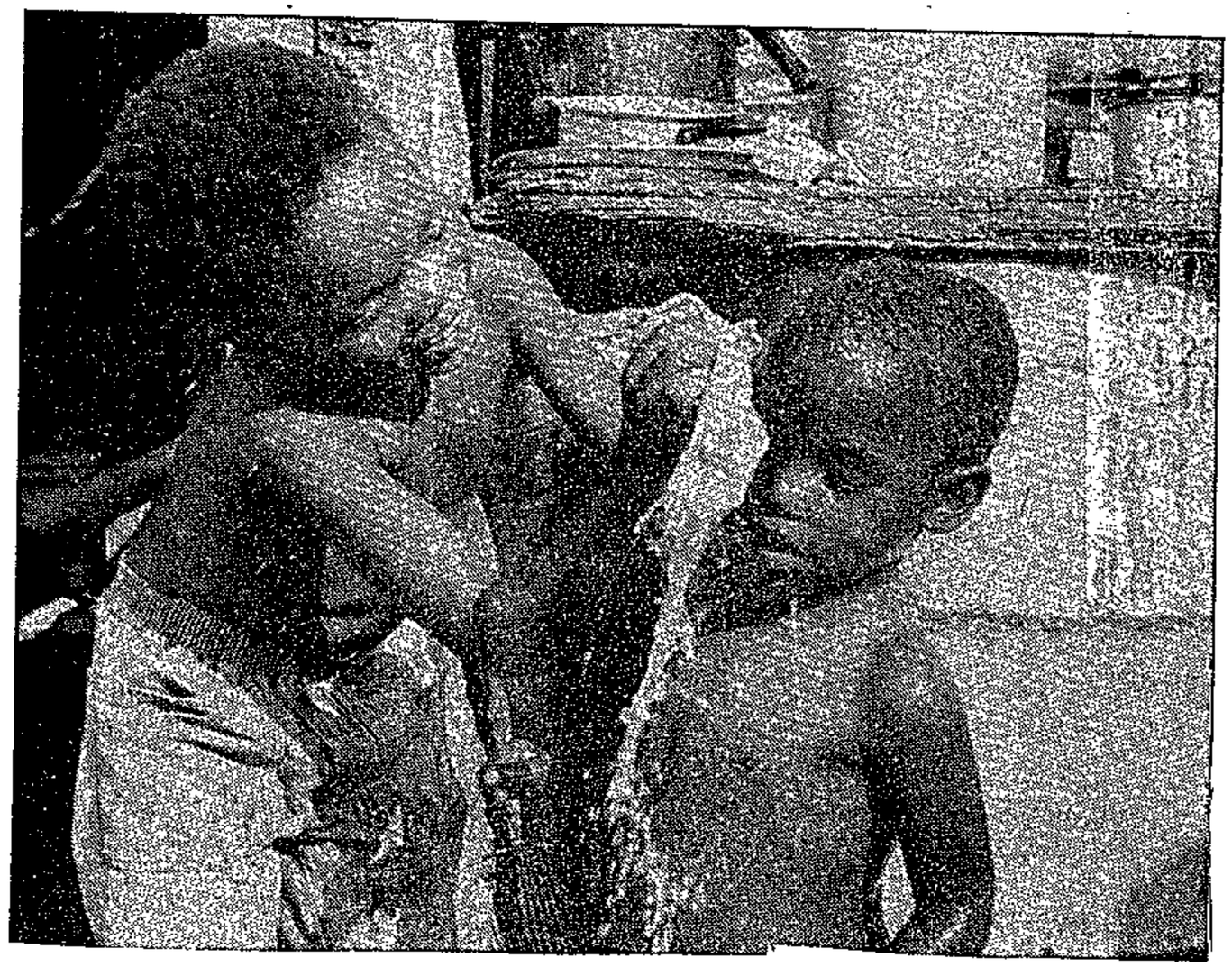
lution. The services such as access roads, sewerage, water, schools or clinics will not be able to cope with an additional 10 000 people," said BAC spokesman Paul Burrows.

He said his committee felt another site in the Randburg area should be properly negotiated, surveyed and developed for the Zevenfontein people. There were several suitable sites.

He said if the TPA went ahead with its plans, the BAC would take legal action and use non-violent means to resist the resettlement.

This would include preventing surveying of the land, blockading roads and mass demonstrations.

"We have empathy



Turnaround in decision over Randburg squatters

(310)

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The Zevenfontein squatters will not be moving into Bloubosrand unless they can pay for formal affordable housing, says the Administrator of the Transvaal, Mr Danie Hough.

In announcing this reversal of the TPA's decision to move the squatters to the area in northern Randburg, Mr Hough said the TPA had "not given in to pressure".

"We are sensitive as far as all interested parties are concerned and we consulted as far as possible."

He was speaking at a Press conference last night at the Randburg Civic Centre after a lengthy meeting between the TPA, the Randburg Town Council and the Bloubosrand Action Committee. RRG 11/2/92

But the fate of the Zevenfontein squatters remains undecided.

Mr Hough said they would stay where they were for the time being but their living conditions would be improved.

Meanwhile, development in Bloubosrand will go ahead, but the council and residents have agreed on the development of formal affordable housing.

Any Zevenfontein squatters who could afford the new housing could move there, Mr Peter Bantock, chairman of the Bloubosrand Action Committe told the Press Conference.

He said the residents had achieved their objectives in obtaining a turnaround of the TPA's strategy.

latest outbreak of violence.

Other organisations represented on the GSDRC are Uwusa, Cosatu, Soweto City Council, Diep-Meadow City

year — eight of them at the weekend — a top-level Peace Accord meeting is scheduled for tomorrow.

● To Page 2

Heading for a points defe
await the jury's decision.

Squatting battle settled

STAR 11/2/92

(310)

By Jacqueline Myburgh

The Zevenfontein squatters would not be moving into Bloubosrand unless they were able to pay for formal affordable housing, Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough said last night.

In announcing this reversal of the Transvaal Provincial Administration's decision to move the squatters to 44 ha in northern Randburg, Mr Hough said the TPA had not submitted to pressure from Bloubosrand residents.

"We are simply sensitive as far as all interested parties are concerned."

He was speaking at a press conference after a lengthy meeting between the TPA, the Randburg Town Council and the Bloubosrand Action Committee.

The fate of the Zevenfontein squatters remains undecided, but Bloubosrand residents have pledged to help finance their development.

Mr Hough said the squatters would stay in Zevenfontein for the moment, but their resettlement — in an area not yet identified — had to be completed by July 31.

The TPA had been granted power of attorney over the Zevenfontein property, he said, enabling it to administer the area. It was vitally important that living conditions there be upgraded — even for just a few weeks.

Mr Hough said Chartwell residents had sanctioned this decision by the TPA.

Strategy

He said a task group appointed to evaluate the existing urbanisation strategy for this area would report back to the TPA not later than March 2 on proposed plans for the squatters.

Development in Bloubosrand will go ahead, but the council and residents last night agreed on development of formal affordable housing.

Any Zevenfontein squatters who could afford the new housing could move there, said Peter Bantock, chairman of the Bloubosrand Action Committee

He later told more than 1 000 Bloubosrand residents they would "never, never, ever again" be faced with the prospect of "informal low-cost housing" on their doorsteps.

Residents gathered on an open piece of land at about 8 pm to hear the results of the meeting with the TPA.

Champagne flowed and the crowd cheered when Mr Bantock said the action committee would be meeting the Zevenfontein squatter leaders today to discuss their involvement in the development of the squatters.

Randburg Management Committee chairman Andre Jacobs said earlier that the council, together with the police, would strenuously prevent any attempts to erect squatter settlements in the Bloubosrand area.

● Picture — Page 3

C (incl)
Council, Diep-Meadow City

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● Picture — Page 3

TPA drops plan to move squatters

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) announced yesterday it had dropped plans to relocate the Zevenfontein squatters at Bloubosrand in Randburg.

Bloubosrand Action Group chairman Peter Bantock hailed the TPA's decision as a victory for the group and for Randburg residents who had opposed the move.

The TPA said 10 days ago that the more than 750 squatter families at Zevenfontein, north of Fourways, would be moved to Bloubosrand 10km away after an agreement was reached with Randburg Town Council.

The squatters have been at the centre of controversy since the TPA announced last year it was to move them to Diepsloot, provoking anger from local residents and the Greenbelt Action Group (GAG).

DARIUS SANAI

Zevenfontein landowners, represented by the Chartwell North Action Group, threatened to evict the squatters, leading to the TPA's decision to move them to Bloubosrand.

The TPA said yesterday the squatters would be allowed to stay at Zevenfontein, where rudimentary services would be provided until July. A decision would then be made about where to house them. The decision to allow them to stay was made with the approval of the Chartwell group.

Transvaal administrator Danie Hough did not deny yesterday that the TPA had made an about-turn on the issue, but did deny that the change of heart was a result

☐ To Page 2

Squatters

☐ From Page 1

of pressure from the Bloubosrand residents.

At a joint news conference after consultations between the TPA, Randburg Town Council and the Bloubosrand Action Group, it was also announced that the Bloubosrand site originally earmarked for the squatters would be developed into "affordable housing", with the addition of full service facilities, tarred roads, primary and secondary education facilities and a police station.

Neither Bantock nor Randburg council management committee chairman André Jacobs would define what "affordable housing" meant, nor were they able to give an estimated price for housing units, but they confirmed that "affordable housing" was more expensive than the "low-cost housing" option mooted by the council for the area last week.

The Zevenfontein squatters would be able to buy houses in Bloubosrand if they could afford them, although they would not get first priority in the selection process, Hough said.

Squatters mum on Hough's decision

(310)
STAR 12/2/92

By Stan Hlophe

The Zevenfontein squatters yesterday opted to reserve comment on the decision by Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough not to move them to Bloubosrand unless they are able to pay for formal affordable housing.

A spokesman for the squatters said it was still too early to air their views on the announcement by Mr Hough not to move the squatters to 44 ha in northern Randburg, as they were still waiting for a formal announcement from the executive committee.

"Until we receive a go-ahead from the executive committee, followed by a mandate from the community, we have nothing to say. We have heard the good news over the radio and television but, until we hear from the executive committee, we reserve our comment. If we say anything now it might be misinterpreted in some quarters," he said.

Mr Hough, in announcing the decision on Monday night, made it clear that the TPA had not submitted to pressure from Bloubosrand residents.

Mr Hough's announcement comes after a lengthy meeting betwen the TPA, the Randburg Town Council and the Bloubosrand Action Committee.

The Administrator added that the squatters would stay in Zevenfontein for the moment, but their resettlement in an area not yet identified had to be completed by July 31.

The TPA had been granted power of attorney over the Zevenfontein property enabling it to administer the area, he said.

● Randburg management committee chairman Andre Jacobs said consultations on the development of formal affordable housing in Bloubosrand Ext 1 continued yesterday.

The consultative committee, consisting of the Bloubosrand Action Committee, the Federation of Ratepayers Associations of Randburg and the council, decided to invite the Alexandra Civic Organisation, the Randburg Chamber of Business and the Randburgse Afrikaanse Sakekamer to send representatives to future talks.

Town planning proposals will be addressed at the next meeting on February 25.

EWS

Call for task force to identify land

By Julienne du Toit (310)

The Urban Foundation yesterday called for the State President, with his Codesa partners, to appoint a task force to identify land for the Zevenfontein and other squatter communities in the PWV region.

Executive director of urbanisation Ann Bernstein said the task group should be headed by a Supreme Court judge with two deputies representing land owners and the landless.

The task force should report back to the State President within a six-month deadline.

She said the task force should receive input from all interested parties. STAR 12/2/92

"It is critical that issues of such national importance as the identification of land for future urban growth are no longer left in the hands of the officials," she said.

The TPA's task group would review only a part of the PWV region, and would not resolve the problem of land identification, Ms Bernstein warned.

Some positive solutions would have to be found, or else the consequences could be stark, said Urban Foundation executive director of housing Jill Strelitz. "There will either be a give-and-take situation, or people will be taking things into their own hands, as they have done already."

Ms Bernstein explained that land owners opposing the settlement of Zevenfontein squatters were not necessarily racist.

"It is two different income groups meeting in an urban landscape," she said.

There should be no more unilateral ad hoc decisions. The poorer people were vital to the economy of the PWV area and each municipality should make compromises to accommodate them, said Ms Strelitz.

C

On whose doorstep can squatters be dumped?

B/Day 12/2/92. (310)

DARIUS SANAI

IS THE latest twist in the Zevenfontein squatter issue a fiasco or a victory? Local residents at Bloubosrand, the latest site proposed by the Transvaal Provincial Administration for the relocation of the 750 Zevenfontein families, claimed victory earlier this week when the TPA retracted its proposal. "No squatters on our doorsteps," the Bloubosrand Action Committee vowed: and now the squatters will not come.

For the TPA, the about-face was startling. Even Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough would not deny on Monday that his executive committee had been forced into another U-turn, just as it had been forced 10 days earlier into retracting its proposal to move the squatters to Diepsloot after local residents — in the conservationist guise of the Greenbelt Action Group (GAG) — protested and threatened violence if the squatters were moved there.

But apart from being something of a tragedy for the squatters — who often seem to be overlooked in the scheme of things — the Zevenfontein issue can be oversimplified. It is tempting to divide the antagonistic parties on moral grounds: the helpless squatters are good, the racist, white residents and government bad; or alternatively, the white residents are simply reacting as any affluent human beings would to the prospect of a squalid, crime-ridden community being dumped on their doorsteps.

But according to the Urban Foundation's Ann Bernstein, the problem is not so simple, and the solutions far from obvious.

"The problem between the Bloubosrand residents and the Zevenfontein squatters is not a racial one: it is a class problem that occurs throughout the world," she said at a news briefing yesterday.

Interpreting the squatter-resident conflict in racial terms is tempting, particularly for the foreign media which has seized on the issue with fervour. But, Bernstein says, racism is a minor factor in this particular problem, and her opinions are borne out by the initial reactions of the Bloubosrand residents when they heard of the TPA plans.

Then, residents who were asked for their reactions repeatedly insisted that they had no objection to black people moving into their area: but that they were worried about crime, which arises naturally from poor communities, and an associated drop in house prices.

Bernstein says the Urban Foundation has no simple solution to the squatter problem, but that no progress will be made on the issue until all parties sit down together and make their feelings known. The ad hoc approach by the TPA — proposing new solutions for individual problems as they arise — will not work.

Residents in areas like Bloubosrand will feel aggrieved if they, and no one else, were asked to take responsibility for the problems caused by the abysmal urban planning of the apartheid era.

This approach has also been advocated by the Bloubosrand Action Committee (BAC) and GAG, and Hough hinted at moving towards taking such a holistic attitude to the problem when he appealed last week for any group with an opinion on the matter of squatter housing to make its feelings known to the TPA.

But Bernstein says the TPA's new attitude is not enough. The administration has proposed that the feasibility of 13 sites earmarked for squatters north of Johannesburg — of which Diepsloot is one — be studied by a task group comprising local government, landowners' groups, squatters' representatives and civic associations.

Bernstein says that as long as the problem is not tackled on a regional basis, by representatives of every interested party in every part of the PWV area, problems will always arise, as residents of one area protest at having to accommodate low-income housing while those in other areas do not have to.

Randburg and Sandton councils — who are hardest hit by the squatter problem — have agreed in principle to participate in such a forum.

The ANC PWV region proposed something strikingly similar to the Urban Foundation's idea last week. Even groups like GAG and BAC have suggested it.

The advantage of such an approach will be that no group participating in the forum would be able credibly to strike down a proposal without offering a constructive alternative, says Bernstein. "Not on my doorstep" will no longer be an acceptable response.

But will affluent white residents ever agree to housing poorer communities on their doorsteps?

Bernstein says it is a problem faced by communities throughout the world, but that solutions can be found. Some cities like London and New York are famous for having exclusive residential areas situated just a stone's throw from poor areas.

In part, a change of attitude is required among affluent South Africans: but this change was already evident among some groups. "One residents' association even proposed taking the squatter issue to Codesa and negotiating it; a few years ago, this would have been inconceivable," she says.

The President's office would not comment yesterday on the Urban Foundation proposal.

Although it is far from being a solution to squatter problems in SA, the proposal, following in Codesa's negotiatory footsteps, may be the only step forward.

Task force for squatter land urged

CT 12/2/92 (310)

JOHANNESBURG. — The Urban Foundation has proposed that the President — in consultation with his key Codesa negotiating partners — appoint a representative task force to identify land for future low income settlement in the PWV region.

The UF was responding, at a news conference here yesterday, to the controversies surrounding the Zevenfontein squatters.

UF urbanisation executive director Ms Ann Bernstein said the Transvaal Provincial Admininstration-appointed task group investigating an urbanisation strategy was limited to only one part of the PWV region so could not plan for the wider region.

She said this would result in other communities behaving in the same way as the Bloubosrand community had.

Ms Bernstein said: "It is in the interests of everyone in the PWV area for urban growth to be handled in a planned and equitable manner".

Not doing so had resulted in conflicts such as Zevenfontein being misinterpreted as a racial issue rather than a consequence of not dealing with urban growth.

Meanwhile, she welcomed the decisions allowing the Zevenfontein community to stay where they were temporarily and providing basic services.

Ms Bernstein proposed the task force should be headed by a Supreme Court judge assisted by two deputies representing land owners and the landless. She emphasised that the task group should be representative of all key stakeholders in the PWV.

Ms Bernstein believed the Bloubosrand community's objection to the squatters' relocation to that area was based on class rather than racial issues. Any middle class neighbourhood would be concerned over the development of housing for low income people near its area, she said.

UF housing policy executive director Ms Jill Strelitz cited the Hout Bay squatters as an example where property prices first plummetted but eventually stabilised after the influx of squatters to the area. — Sapa

The Urban Foundation wants the State President to intervene in the Zevenfontein issue.

UF calls on De Klerk to act on land issue

Sowetan 12/2/92

THE Urban Foundation yesterday called on the State President to intervene on the Zevenfontein squatters issue by appointing a task force to look into the land issue in the PWV area.

It proposed that President FW de Klerk and his partners in Codesa appoint the force under a Supreme Court judge to identify land for future low-income settlement in the region within six months.

"The judge should be assisted by two deputies representing land owners and the landless," said the foundation's Mrs Ann Bernstein. (310)

"As far back as 1986 we have proposed non-racial land planning with allowance for the growth factor."

She said the provision of land and the opportunity for settlement for millions of the disadvantaged was an urgent national priority.

Bernstein said while they welcomed Monday's decision to allow Zevenfontein squatters to stay until July, they were "concerned that the TPA task group would not resolve the challenge of land identification".

SQUATTING FM 14/2/92

Facing facts (310)

The row over the Zevenfontein squatters ended with this week's backdown by the TPA. The Bloubosrand Action Group, which had set up barricades against an influx of squatters to Randburg, hailed the decision as a victory, while government "policy" on squatting was seen to be virtually non-existent.

The so-called squatter problem — where and how to house hundreds of thousands of people — will not go away. The issues are so important that the Urban Foundation has proposed that the State President, in consultation with his key Codesa partners, appoint a task force headed by a Supreme Court judge to identify land for low-income settlement on the PWV.

It is proposed that the judge be assisted by two deputies, representing land owners and

Continue P

CURRENT AFFAIRS

FM 14/2/92 (310)

the landless. In addition, key stakeholders such as local authorities, employers, workers and developers should participate. It is imperative, says the foundation, that stakeholders be bound into a process where they cannot constantly be negative about the location of low-income housing. "They should be required to come forward with competing, positive proposals for the future of the region and the location of housing, both formal and informal." It is "critical" that the issue no longer be left in the hands of officials.

Since the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Amendment Act of 1988, the Urban Foundation has on a number of occasions put forward its proposals, which have not been acted on by government. This has resulted in serious but unnecessary conflict, which is interpreted as a racial issue when in fact it represents "a failure to understand and deal with the issues of urban growth."

The medium-term solution in the PWV, says the foundation, is the adoption of a sound housing policy that ensures the delivery of well-located housing (formal and informal, such as managed site-and-service schemes) at the rate required and within the limits of affordability of the homeless.

This will take time and, inevitably, spontaneous informal settlements will continue. Conflict resolution mechanisms are, therefore, urgently needed. ■

over in August last year.

Midrand backs call on squatting

THE Midrand Town Council yesterday came out in support of the Urban Foundation's call for a broad-based working group to tackle the squatter problem in the PWV region. BDay 14/2/92

But management committee chairman David Hidden also called for regional forums across the country to solve the problem on a nationwide basis.

"The current perception that the accommodation of homeless people is a North Rand issue only is not merely incorrect, but extremely dangerous," Hidden said in a statement.

The Midrand council had taken on the challenge of housing nearly 120 000 people, he said.

(310)

DARIUS SANAI

Many of these people worked on the East Rand and incurred excessive travel costs to get to their places of employment and back.

"This situation has arisen as a result of the lack of provision of accommodation for workers in established industrial areas," he said.

Hidden said he was concerned that other regions in SA were "simply sitting back and keeping an extremely low profile" during the crisis.

"It is unrealistic to expect that the 7-million people who need to be informally housed could be accommodated in the northern PWV area."

Venter says yes to Perlman

BDay 14/2/92

DARIUS SANAI

OPERATION Hunger director Ina Perlman said yesterday her organisation had received a letter from National Health Minister Rina Venter granting it permission to apply for aid on a national basis.

The letter brings to an end the public row which erupted this week between Perlman and Venter, during which Perlman accused Venter's ministry of delaying relief aid while people went hungry.

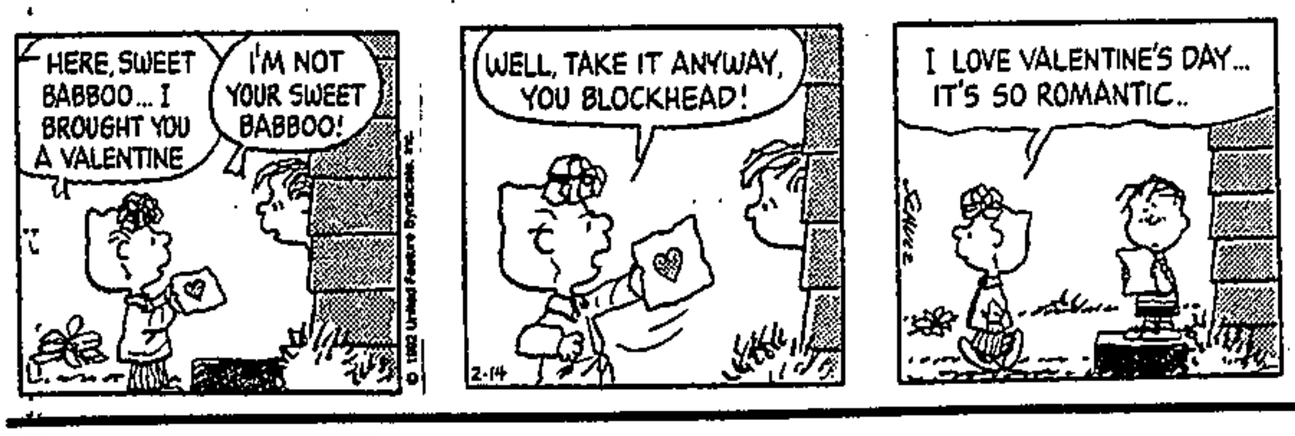
Perlman had accused the ministry of not replying to a letter Operation Hunger had sent in December asking to be allowed to prepare an application to be granted aid money nationaly.

Venter in turn accused Perlman of using public pressure to obtain funds.

Perlman said the organisation's application would be submitted today.

● Comment: Page 8

PEANUTS By Charles Schulz



New decision on squatters

Sowetan 11/2/92

310

THE Zevenfontein squatter community would not be allowed to move to Bloubosrand Extension 1 unless they could afford to build formal low-cost housing in the area.

This was decided at a meeting betweeen the Transvaal Provincial Administration, the Randburg Town Council and the Bloubosrand Action Committee yesterday.

The Administrator of the Transvaal, Mr Danie Hough, said it had been agreed that decent living conditions - clean water, toilet facilities and refuse removal - would be introduced at the squatter camp.

He also said it had been agreed that the squatter community would be resettled on a permanent and legal basis before July 31 this year.

The decision as to where they would be relocated depended on the pending proposals of a task group formed by the TPA to investigate possible sites for the development of low-cost housing projects.

Proposals had to be submitted by March 2, he said.

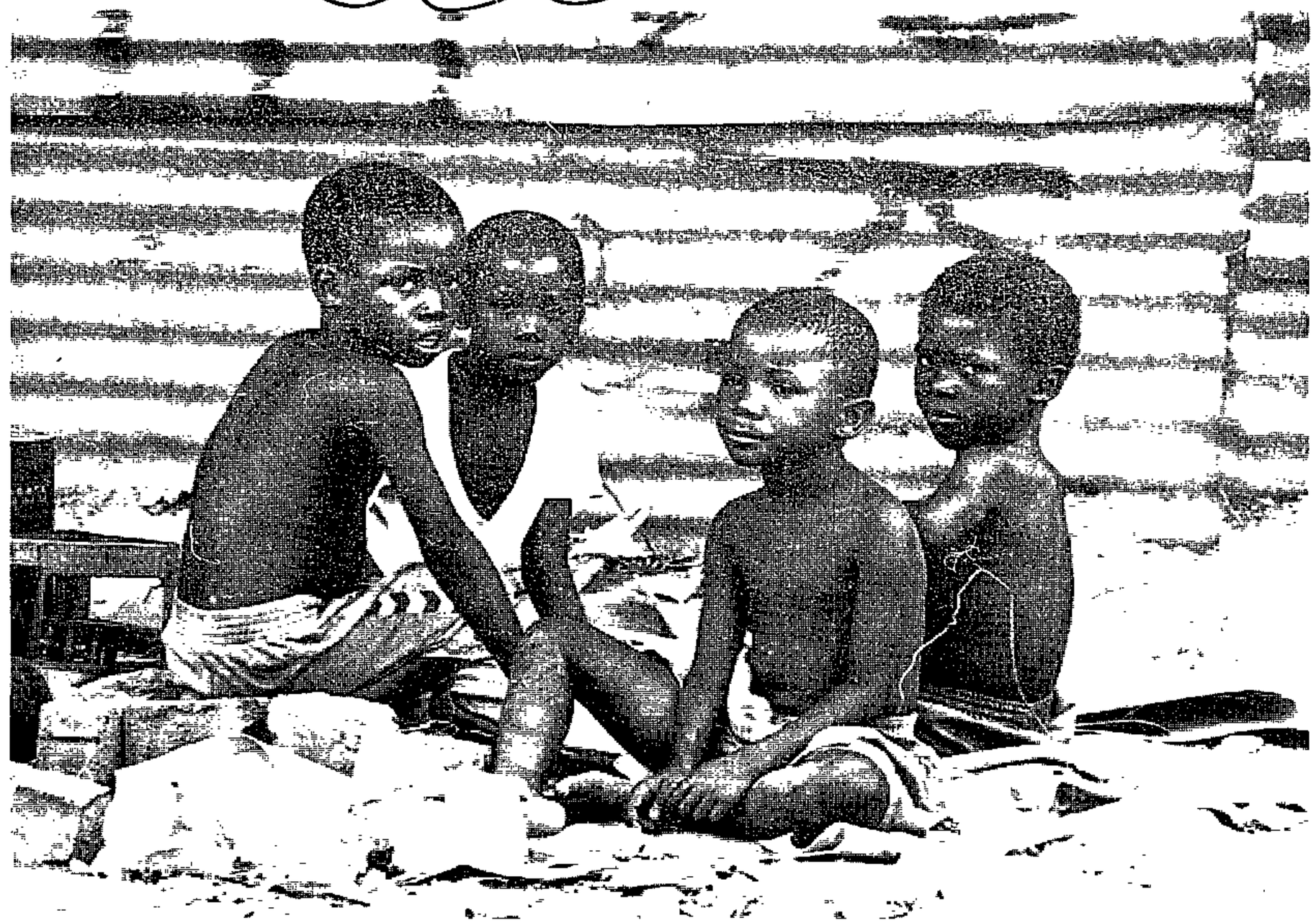
The elephant in the living room

W/Mail 14/2 - 20/2/92

310

The prospect of black neighbours has turned the white liberals of Bloubosrand into Rambos. But no one dares admit to this old-fashioned racism, argues

PHILLIP VAN NIEKERK



From pillar to post ... Unaware of their uncertain fate, Zevenfontein's children continue their games
Photo: GUY ADAMS

THERE is a syndrome known as "the elephant in the living room": everyone knows it's there — how can you miss it? — but would rather not talk about it.

The syndrome became real for me last week in the rather plump form of a dark-haired woman working a 6am-to-6pm shift at the Bloubosrand roadblock.

It was the middle of the heatwave and quite gruelling out there for the local residents who had taken over a public road to ensure that no homeless people got into their suburb. It was hard work making braais, drinking beer and searching trucks to ensure that they were not sneaking in squatters.

The dark-haired woman was in radio contact with "headquarters": a show house nearby from where the Bloubosrand Action Committee was operating. "Our concern is not the people, it's the drop in property values," she said. "We are not opposed to the blacks, we've even got a few coloureds and Indians living among us. We don't oppose other races if they're on the same cultural level as us.

tion for land between the spreading northern suburbs of Johannesburg and the homeless and poor pouring into the urban areas from all over is turning into an ugly scrap.

What is fascinating is how quickly the prospect of cheek-by-jowl living transformed a largely English-speaking community in liberal Randburg into a band of middle-class Rambos.

The rather frank conversation I had shifted from pillar to post, had their shacks demolished by white vigilantes armed with cricket and baseball bats, and then were treated like vermin who had to be barricaded by a roadblock.

They live in grinding poverty in corrugated iron shacks and tents on the Zevenfontein farm. Many have lived there for 10 years and longer. Mathilde Shabangu, holding a tattered umbrella to shield her from the dusty

they have in mind for the 'new' South Africa."

The fundamental problem is, of course, a lack of planning. The government hasn't had a clear policy on urbanisation since the pass laws were scrapped in 1986 and the Transvaal Provincial Administration screwed things up by not consulting before they bulldozed ahead with the Bloubosrand plan. Hopefully, reason

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Business Day heaped scorn on the overseas media: "Interpreting the squatter-resident conflict in racial terms is tempting, particularly for the foreign media, which has seized on the issue with fervour."

And the the Urban Foundation's Anne Bernstein said: "The problem between the Bloubosrand residents and the Zevenfontein squatters is not a racial one. It is a class problem that occurs throughout the world."

Fair enough. It's just that 95 percent of the poor people who are being victimised happen to be black, and the rich and the middle class happen to be white.

Spending time at the roadblock left me with no illusions as to what motivates the people on the ground. A white man drove past, asking "are you winning?" and a guard at the barricade nodded and grinned. A white jogger went by, flashing a thumbs-up sign. In contrast, the faces of blacks driving through the roadblock were studiedly expressionless.

The Bloubosrand Action Committee's careful euphemism for the roadblock — "controlled access" — was undermined by the dark-haired woman, who explained what they did when they found squatters, as they had the previous Friday: "We turn them around, put one car in front and one car behind, and make sure they go."

Of course, the real problem was that the authorities permitted a group of vigilantes to take over a public road and did nothing to stop them. That was the real breakdown of law and order.

20/02/92

(13)

"But the biggest concern is our safety and our security. The land that has been set aside for them is just opposite us. There are no fences. What is going to keep them out?"

When asked why she considered the blacks to be a threat, the woman appeared surprised by the question: "You don't know them — that's all I can say. You don't know them. They don't work, all they do is steal. If you're not wide awake, they'd steal the bed from under you."

A few years ago, apartheid in the form of the Group Areas Act, influx control and discriminatory town-planning would have protected the residents of Bloubosrand by ensuring that no blacks could possibly be dumped on their doorstep. Now the competition is on.

I left the conversation with the dark-haired woman, I discovered, was not the official line — that I got from the PR department at the show house down the road.

A notice on the board contained the minutes of a meeting where white residents were informed of what the official line would be: "Our banners must change NOW. No more squatters. From now on it's low-cost housing. We have to be seen to be grasping the situation."

One can't avoid having some sympathy for these people. They are not the very rich, just middle-class people who have sunk a lot of money into their homes and happened to buy at a time of transition.

But I feel more sorry for the people out at Zevenfontein, who have been Transvaal heat, told me she had been on the farm for 40 years and pointed across the valley to where she grew up.

For a while, food and water supplies were prevented from being taken in and Zevenfontein residents were forced to leave their vehicles at the roadblock and walk to the farm, about four kilometres away. "When my children were sick, I had to carry them in wheelbarrows to the roadblock," said one resident.

August Ndlovu, a local witchdoctor, talks with animation and anger: "Our problem is that much has been said, but little has been done. What we want is a place that we can call home. Let FW de Klerk and Nelson Mandela come here and tell us that this is what has been learnt.

But the problem of homelessness has been escalating for years — why does it take an incident where whites feel aggrieved to sting the authorities and everyone else into action?

Unfortunately, this is where the "elephant in the living room" scenario comes in. We are being told repeatedly that the issue has nothing to do with racism. The local press played down the racial overtones; there was even a sneaking admiration for the plucky middle-class folks defending what matters most to them — the value of their homes — and a bit of a "ra ra" for white mass action.

Instead, the local press has blamed the two old bogeymen of the National Party: outside agitators and the foreign

Those arguing that it was nothing more than a planning dispute involving different socio-economic groups should try to explain why the Irene Vigilance Association opposes a development project designed to house 550 Chinese families from Hong Kong at Verwoerdburg, near Pretoria. The project will consist of large single stands and luxury townhouses, but again "town planning" arguments are being used to try to block it.

Lurking beneath the carefully couched explanations is a completely different truth. It is a rather ugly one, one that we need to confront frankly and stop egg-dancing around. The "new" South Africa cannot be built on convenient denials of racism.

The elephant in the living room

W/Mail 14/2 - 20/2/92

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Planners divided on how to house 3-m

STAR 15/2/92

"CONSULTATION" may be the buzzword on the lips of urban planners in the Johannesburg area, but when it comes down to brass tacks, it is clear they are still talking past each other.

Last week's furore over Bloubosrand highlighted the pressing need to identify suitable land for low-income housing to accommodate the PWV's 3 million homeless.

The criterion for this — whether it should be market-related or based on need — is becoming a source of conflict between authorities and other bodies.

And no one is willing to say which land has been earmarked for future housing development.

Each has his own idea of how the chronic housing shortage should best be addressed, but finding common ground is a problem.

Workable solution

While the Transvaal Provincial Administration is looking at the outskirts of Johannesburg for land, civic associations are increasingly turning their eyes inwards, particularly to prime mining land just south of the city.

The Bloubosrand furore also illustrated the need for established residents, as well as the homeless, to have their say if a workable solution is to be found.

After the announcement that the low-income housing project planned for the area would not go ahead, suggestions for a solution flew thick and fast.

The Urban Foundation claimed that land identification could no longer be trusted to officials and called for a task group of all interested parties to identify suitable land.

This was followed by a Metropolitan Chamber — the "Codesa of the central Rand" — announcement that such a task group had already been established.

A chamber spokesman told Saturday Star the Urban Foundation's announcement was "naive, ill-considered and an attempt to capture the limelight".

Despite all criticism, the TPA believes it is doing a great job addressing the huge housing shortage.

It had been talking to everybody and would be providing about 43 000 new sites south of Johannesburg this year, liaison officer Magda du Toit said this week.

Around the Johannesburg area, the TPA had settled 90 000 people in the last book year and made almost 100 000 stands available in recent years, she said.

But detractors say this is not fast enough and that, although the TPA may be talking to everyone, it is not necessarily listening to everybody.

Major partners in the Metropolitan Chamber, the Civic Association of Johannesburg (CAJ), believe land identification should not be based on the market value of the land, but rather on

BRENDAN TEMPLETON

the suitability and need for housing.

The TPA is buying up land for housing in areas which lie outside Johannesburg's 20 km radius because it is cheaper.

But, according to CAJ general-secretary Cas Coovadia, this will prove more expensive in the long run in terms of transport costs.

He believes the starting point for any planning should be based on people's need for housing. His movement believes that any land identified as suitable should be used and that legislation needs to be enacted to make this possible.

If the mining companies are not willing to make their land — which is largely unused — available for housing, then some way should be found to force them to do so.

"Either the mining houses put their social responsibility priorities higher up, or we bring in agents to ensure it becomes affordable for the people," Mr Coovadia said.

One way would be to drastically raise the rates on unused land, he added.

Another chamber member, Mark Swilling, said present legislation did not make it possible for creative alternatives. Of particular hindrance were municipal by-laws.

"We are talking about economic survival here. Johannesburg is the goose that lays the golden egg. If we do not get our planning for the future right now, we could be messing up the development of the whole subcontinent's economy.

"I don't think the market should be allowed to stand in the way of economic growth. Over-regulation is preventing the city from breathing and moving where it wants to go."

Holistic

Mr Swilling said he believed the TPA was trying to do its job within constraints "and those are formidable".

But, he said, the framework provided by the Metropolitan Chamber would be the solution to the TPA's headache.

Ann Bernstein, executive director of the Urban Foundation, said the TPA's approach was still working on an ad hoc basis — housing needed to be looked at holistically if the problem were to be solved.

"What we are saying is that you cannot, in a situation of rapid urbanisation where you have a large demand for land and an enormous backlog, survive without an overall plan.

"What we are facing is the failure of past policies and the failure of present policies too," Ms Bernstein said.

Mr Coovadia said it was still too early to say if the TPA-chamber task-group would be successful or not.

"Its terms of reference have still not been worked out, but we definitely do not want to become a rubber stamp for the TPA," he added.

Struggle for common ground

HOMELESS . . . But now represented on the body formed to find building land. ■ Pics: TLADI KHUELE

No more cannon fodder!

C/Pnews 16/2/92 (310)

By COLLETTE CAINE

THE people of Zevenfontein and other homeless communities will not be used as cannon fodder in the battle against racism.

So says Eric Ngeleza, national organiser of Operation Masakhane for the Homeless (Omhle).

Ngeleza represented the Zevenfontein people in the recent debacle over their move to Bloubosrand.

He is the sole representative of the homeless on the newly established task force set up by Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough to identify land in the PWV region for settlement by the region's millions of homeless people.

Ngeleza is also the only black person on the 30-man task force, which has representatives from the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA), five city councils, two regional services councils, five white residents' associations and pressure groups.

At present, the only other voice for the millions of black people who will be affected by its decisions is that of the delegate from the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber.

Other organisations representing black community interests might join the task force later.

The group must come up with recommendations for the area North of Sandton and west of Midrand by the end of March. An interim report dealing with the resettlement of Zevenfontein must be ready by March 2.

Ngeleza says although Omhle is disappointed that plans for the move to Bloubosrand were changed, it will not take on white racists in its fight to see homeless people settled on their own land.

"Omhle won't allow its members to get involved in conflicts over identifying new land. We don't want our people to be cannon fodder in any battle to change the minds of mad racists.

"These people must accept that February 2, 1990, was a turning point in our country. We believe that ultimately they will have to come to terms with that," he said.

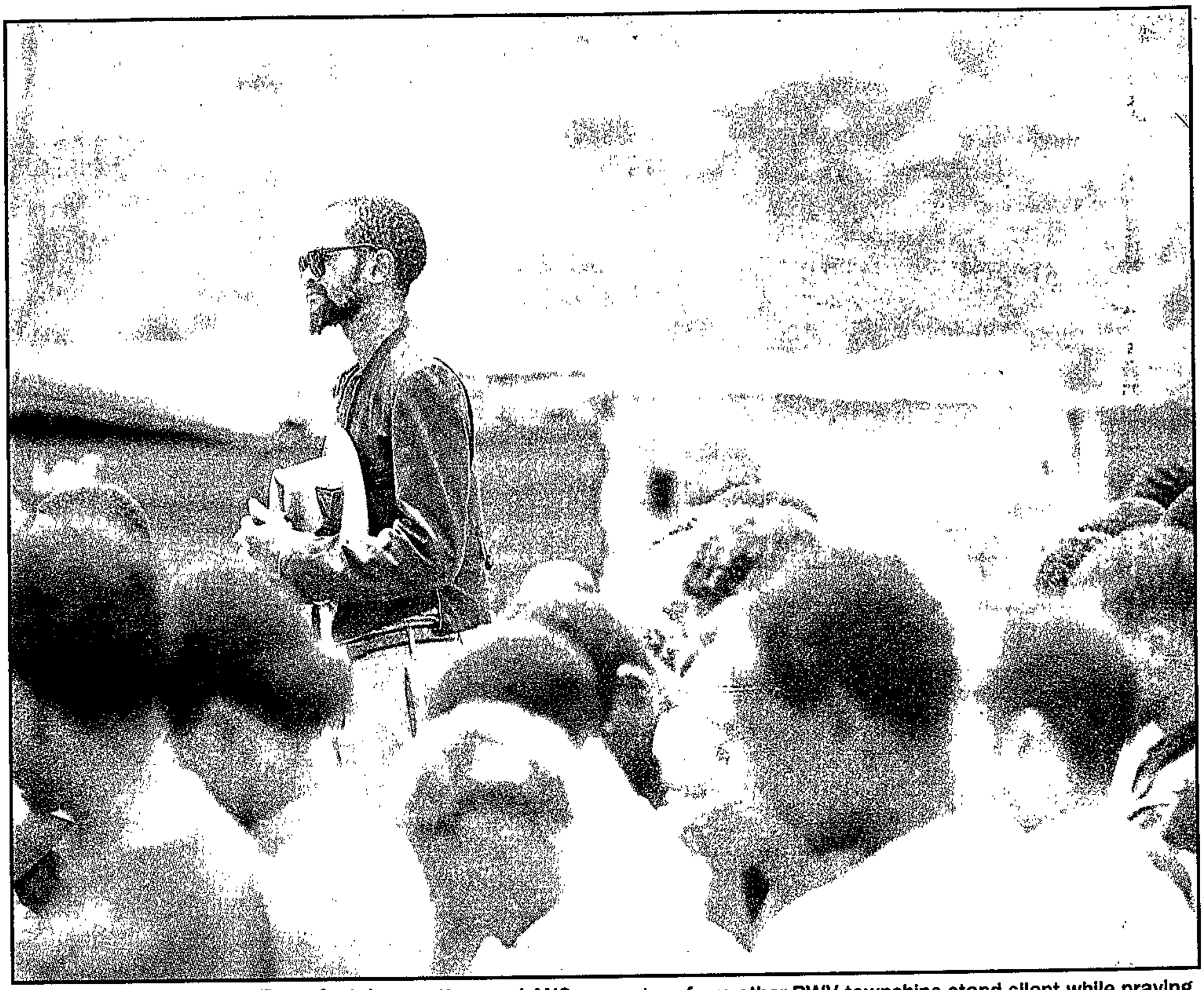
"Our priority is to see people settled near their work and necessities such as transport, schools and clinics."

Ngeleza said he felt optimistic about the ability of the task force to contribute to solving the massive homelessness problem in the region, although there was still a lot to be discussed and clarified.

■ A prayer service will be held at Zevenfontein this morning to pray for the future of the community. Representatives from the TPA, local councils and white residents' committees have been invited to attend.

ANC deputy president Walter Sisulu and leading clergymen are scheduled to visit Zevenfontein today.

PEACE PIPE? . . . A woman has a quiet smoke.



Anxious but hopeful . . . Zevenfontein squatters and ANC supporters from other PWV townships stand silent while praying for residents of the camp who still face an uncertain future.
Picture: Etienne Rothbart.

Prayers for squatters

STAR 17/2/92

About 250 ANC supporters yesterday attended a prayer meeting in Zevenfontein in solidarity with squatters living there. The supporters were brought in by four buses from townships in the PWV area. (310)

After prayers, Dan Moshogi, chairman of Operation Masakhane for the Homeless, made a plea for a "change in heart" among Sandton and Randburg residents.

"We blacks and whites must come together and solve these problems," he said.

The fate of the squatters is still uncertain. The Transvaal Provincial Administration cancelled a plan to resettle them on land adjacent to Bloubosrand after strong resistance to the idea from white residents in the suburb. — Staff Reporter.

Business must act to ease the growing squatter crisis

BIP ay 17/2/92

JOHN WEAVER

FOUR decades of forced segregation are at the root of the problems recently experienced by the homeless community at Zevenfontein and their angry neighbours at Bloubosrand.

But the outcry in Midrand is symptomatic of a problem that the entire country must be made to face up to, and in which businesses of all sizes have a crucial role to play.

Suffering from the residual effects of grand apartheid, and following the timeless flow of the unemployed from rural to urban areas, the homeless will seek out and possess land if it is not made available to them.

Often the space they find will be adjacent to communities who will resent the invasion and its impact on their security and house values. The new settlers will become the centre of yet another storm of protest.

While this is one of the more distressing manifestations of apartheid, the perpetrators of that social distortion cannot be blamed forever; neither can it be an excuse for inactivity.

The solution is a national housing policy, such as the proposal made by the Urban Foundation's urban debate series of publications.

In 1990 foundation researchers estimated the housing backlog was 1,2-million units and that 174 000 houses would be needed each year to address the backlog and cope with natural growth. It is doubtful that more than 15% of this figure is being delivered and the needs of the homeless are growing.

Site and service development is being energetically pursued by FHA Homes in the Transvaal and others around the country. This is a focus, as well, of the Independent Development Trust (IDT), which last year allocated R750m for this purpose.

Site and service is the identification of land for low cost housing and the installation of basic services such as roads, water and sewerage. Plots are either sold or allocated to low income families who may erect any form of shelter they choose. As their incomes improve they are encouraged to upgrade their shelters to formal structures.

This may sound fanciful, but the people in these informal settlements are frequently employed, own cars and send their children to school. They simply have no houses.

Managers are often surprised to find that the well-dressed and reasonably paid employee who arrives punctually at work and talks of family, children and schools, lives in a shack.

By building a shack on vacant land, close to where they work and where their children are at school, in the company of others similarly placed, these people are not fighting society but trying to join it.

Since the early '70s, about 150 000 site and service stands have been settled, but these inevitably were located in terms of the Group Areas Act.

The IDT scheme will see another 100 000 sites settled. The IDT allocates R7 500 to approved developers for each completed site registered in the name of a qualifying recipient. Qualifications include a maximum salary of R1 000 a month and dependants living with the recipient.

The IDT stipulates the developer must initiate a process of consolidation. Residents of these settlements would remain shack dwellers if no improvements were made. Evidence indicates improvement usually does occur. Frequently the community creates structures which encourage, facilitate and implement the transformation of an informal settlement to something akin to a neighbourhood with formal housing. Shacks are converted into permanent houses; roads are improved; creches, schools and churches introduced, and eventually shops and businesses emerge.

The desirability of such consolidation is obvious. When people feel threatened and unsure of their future, they are likely to turn against society. Consolidation implies stability and an improvement in community values.

The IDT requires developers to involve the community in planning, administration of the township and site allocation, and later to form a community development trust or similar body to co-ordinate the continuing consolidation of the area. It is envisaged that the trusts will eventually employ full-time managers.

What can business do?

Since there is no possibility of this or any new government successfully housing the entire population, alternatives must be sought. It is estimated that as much as 60% of future housing will have to be informal.

Even if the money could be found to buy the land and build the houses for formal townships, unemployment and low wages are so prevalent that the vast majority of people just cannot afford the most basic house.

"Site and service" has the virtue of being quick and inexpensive. Those taking title to their piece of land still have no house, but they own a site with basic services. The initial shelter will comprise second-hand material, but as consolidation takes place, new items will be introduced. Businesses could help employees by supplying building materials and components.

The establishment of community trusts implies meetings, subcommittees, reporting procedures, controls and systems that business people take for granted. As residents of the typical site and service scheme lack many conventional skills they need help in setting up and running a trust and its spin-off committees. Businesses could assist in providing managers to train the community in these skills.

International experience is that once consolidation begins, members of the community will establish businesses. This may be facilitated by the Small Business Development Corporation, but might need approval by health regulatory bodies or municipal authorities. Businesses can help by negotiating with authorities on behalf of the would-be entrepreneur.

As the fabric of the community develops, needs will emerge for a range of utilities such as public toilets, libraries, creches, recreation facilities and civic buildings. Businesses could provide, contribute to or facilitate the design and construction of these, and other items so commonplace in established neighbourhoods.

The task ahead is to house more than 6-million people. Left alone, many will invade vacant land, build shelters and then suffer the ire of the existing community which resents and fears their presence and proximity. This is not the route to peace and security.

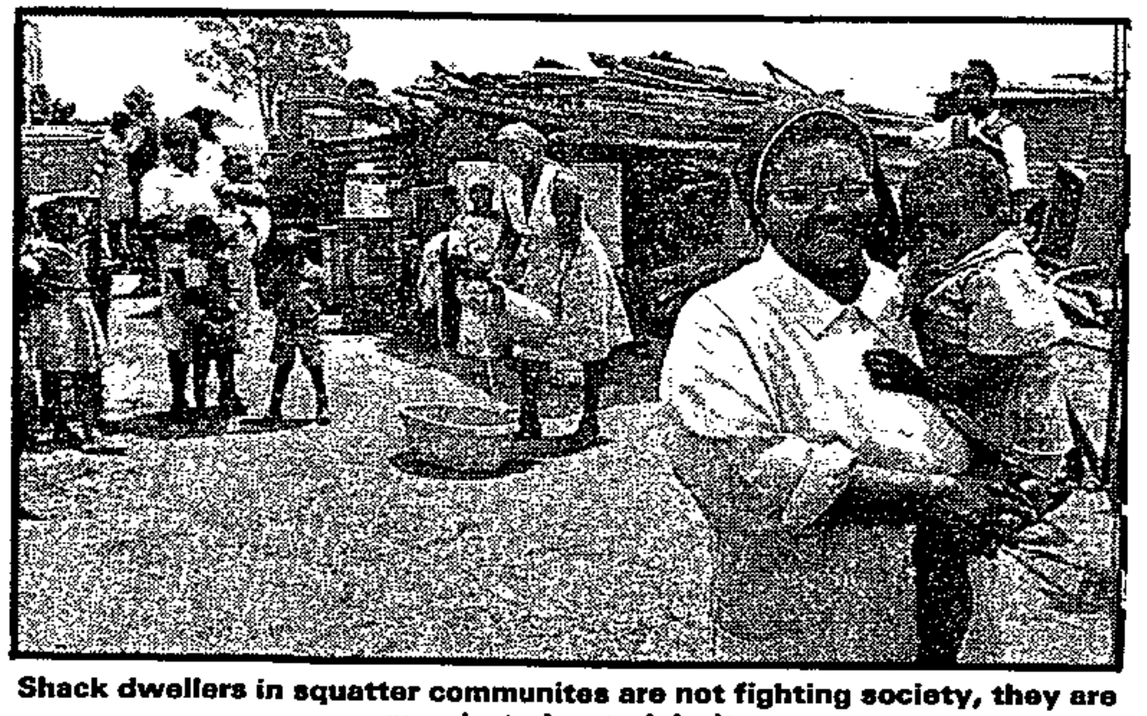
Site and service provides a viable approach to the early provision of land to the poor. But even at this basic level, money is needed for deposits and improvement.

Business could play its most vital role by making this money available directly to individuals or through the variety of collateral schemes available at the financial institutions.

While the need to house the poor is urgent and demands financial assistance, understanding and sacrifice from the mainstream of SA business, its contribution need not be entirely or necessarily altruistic. There are many ways of benefiting commercially from new business ventures, construction projects, maintenance and improvements.

What is vital is that business must become involved. It must contribute to solving one of the country's most sensitive problems. And above all, it must care.

☐ Weaver is CE of FHA Homes, a company originally established by the Urban Foundation and which provides low-cost housing in the PWV area.



Shack dwellers in squatter communites are not fighting society, they are merely trying to join it.

WORKING SINGER: Patrick Ngcobo at work as a tool cutter grader before he left for the Rio de Janeiro festival.

AWB plans to demolish shacks at squatter camp

VENTERSDORP. — The AWB's Wenkommando has agreed to demolish shacks at the Swanieville squatters camp near Krugersdorp.

Yesterday the AWB said it had a written agreement with the owner of the farm, Mr S G Swanepoel, to break down shacks.

In keeping with the law, the AWB said, a request had been made for the police to be present. When contacted the rightwing organisation refused to disclose the date of the planned demolition but promised to give sufficient warning before embarking on the action.

The AWB said the request to demolish the shacks had come from Mr Swanepoel who had a "bona fida case" because "his property is being occupied by about 30 000 illegal squatters and is in fact being taken over without any compensation".

The AWB said it had irrefutable proof that Mr Swanepoel's farm was being "cut up by the ANC and sold to ANC and communist members".

A meeting had been held on February 11 with the Deputy Minister of Law and Order, Mr Johan Scheepers, the AWB and Mr Swanepoel to discuss this "unbelievable situation", the AWB said.

The deputy minister could not meet Mr Swanepoel's demands and have the squatters removed, the AWB said. — Sapa. (B10) ARG 18/2/92

AWB to bust shacks at Swanieville

310

Sowetan 18/2/92

THE AWB's Wenkommando has been called to demolish shacks at the Swanieville squatter camp in Kagiso, near Krugersdorp, by the owner of the farm.

The AWB yesterday confirmed it had a written agreement with Mr SG Swanepoel to break down the shacks.

The organisation said "in keeping with the law" a request had been made for the police to be present.

When pressed for further comment, the organisation refused to disclose the date of the planned demolition.

It promised, however, to give sufficient warning before taking action.

Swanieville was the scene of violence on May 12 last year when more than 30 people were killed in an attack by about 1 000 Kagiso hostel dwellers.

The AWB said the request to demolish the shacks came from Swanepoel who had a "bona fida case" because "his property is being occupied by about 30 000 illegal squatters and is in fact being taken over without any compensation".

Swanepoel could not be reached for comment last night. 18/2/92

It also said the issue was discussed at a meeting held on February 11 between itself, Deputy Minister of Law and Order Mr Johan Scheepers and Swanepoel.

Schepeers could not meet Swanepoel's demands to have the squatters removed, the AWB said.

Township a no-no

Sowetan 18/2/92

THE town council of Louis Trichardt has objected to the re-establishment of Tshikota township.

In a resolution taken on January 28 the council said Tshikota would be an informal town which would affect the standards of the neighbouring suburb.

Tshikota, less than 1km from the town's suburbs, was demolished more than 10 years ago.

This angered the residents who vowed to return.

Campaigns were started two years ago to re-establish the township, and following a massive boycott of the town in 1990, the Administrator of the Transvaal agreed to upgrade the area for reoccupation.

AWB plans to demolish Swanieville shacks

Argus 18/2/92

DIRK HARTFORD

(310)

THE AWB has a written agreement with the owner of the farm on which the Swanieville squatter camp near Krugersdorp is situated to use its Wenkommando to break down shacks housing 30 000 people, says AWB spokesman Cliff Barnard.

Barnard said the AWB general staff meeting last weekend agreed to break down the Swanieville shacks following a meeting between farm owner Swannie Swanepoel, AWB leader Eugene Terre Blanche and Deputy Law and Order Minister Johan Scheepers last week. Scheepers refused to have the squatters moved.

The AWB said Swanepoel's land had been taken over by the squatters without any compensation and was now being divided into plots by the ANC. The plots were being sold to members of the ANC and SACP.

A spokesman for the police riot unit in Krugersdorp said "a lot of water is going to flow into the sea before squatters get moved from Swanieville". He said the police would not stand by and allow the Wenkommando to break up the shacks at Swanieville.

"There are only between 500 and 600 shacks at Swanieville with nowhere near 30 000 people there," he said.

"These people were allowed on to the land by Swanepoel who wanted to make money from them. Now he wants to get rid of them.

"If the squatters are going to be moved, it will be the result of lengthy negotiations and because a peaceful solution has been found."

The AWB said it would ask the police to be present when it broke down the camp.

AWB to demolish Reef squatter camp

(310)

CT 18/2/92

VENTERSDORP. — The Afrikaanse Weerstandsbeweging's Wenkommando has agreed to demolish shacks at the Swanieville squatters' camp near Krugersdorp.

The AWB yesterday said it had a written agreement with the owner of the farm, Mr S G Swanepoel.

In keeping with the law, the AWB said, a request had been made for the police to be present. It refused to disclose the date of the planned demolition but said it would give sufficient warning.

The AWB said the request to demolish the shacks had come from Mr Swanepoel.

"He has a bona fide case because his property is being occupied by about 30 000 illegal squatters and is in fact being taken over without any compensation."

The AWB said it had irrefutable proof that Mr Swanepoel's farm was being "cut up by the ANC and sold to ANC and communist members".

A meeting had been held on February 11 with Deputy Minister of Law and Order Mr Johan Scheepers, the AWB and Mr Swanepoel to discuss this "unbelievable situation", the AWB said.

The deputy minister could not meet Mr Swanepoel's demands and have the squatters removed, the AWB said. — Sapa

AWB agrees to clear squatter area

By Peter Wellman (310)

Farmer Sarel Swanepoel has called in the AWB to demolish squatters' shacks on his Krugersdorp farm — because he says the authorities won't do the job.

Yesterday Mr Swanepoel confirmed he had asked the AWB's Wenkommando for help "because the authorities say this is the New South Africa, and they won't take action".

The AWB would not give a date for the shack-busting yesterday, but said it would do it because Mr Swanepoel's farm had been occupied by about 30 000 illegal squatters.

Mr Swanepoel had received no compensation, added a spokesman, after the organisation met in Welkom to discuss his request.

The SAP had been invited to witness the Wenkommando's actions "in accordance with the law", he said.

A possible date is the end of the month. Mr Swanepoel has given squatters at Swanieville notice to quit his 376 ha farm by then.

"I did it legally, the way the police said I must do it," he said.

Mr Swanepoel says there are between 26 000 and 28 000 squatters on about 32 ha.

A building contractor, Mr Swanepoel originally invited blacks to live on his land, as tenants in low-cost housing about two years ago.

"The accommodation was planned for a few thousand, but in no time squatters had overrun the place," he told The Star last night.

Mr Swanepoel said police had refused to take any action against the squatters.

Refusing to disclose whether he was an AWB member, he said: "That is not relevant. I have paid a lot of money to this Government, but only the AWB would help me of all the avenues I explored."

About 18 months ago Mr Swanepoel's shotgun was forcibly taken from him by squatters in a confrontation.

The PWV region of the ANC yesterday condemned the AWB's threat to forcibly remove the squatters and called on the Ministry of Law and Order to "take appropriate action".

Bid to stop demolition of homes

By Jo-Anne Collinge (310)

Members of a western Transvaal rural community yesterday turned to the Pretoria Supreme Court to prevent their homes being demolished as allegedly advocated by Conservative Party deputy leader Dr Ferdi Hartzenberg.

Paul Taute Masie (64) from Welverdiend near Lichtenburg, brought the application as one of 105 families on the farm.

The community has been there since the farm was declared a diamond digging in 1926 and Mr Masie's counsel will argue that residents are not squatters as defined in the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act.

The court issued an interim order preventing Welverdiend's owner, Willem Johannes Mouton, from "demolishing or threatening to demolish" his home. Mr Mouton consented to the interim interdict which holds good until March 3.

According to Mr Masie's affidavit, after several warnings that he would take action under the Squatting Act, Mr Mouton and his brother destroyed 25 homes with a bulldozer on December 18. They were accompanied by police.

Mr Mouton allegedly stated that the remaining dwellings were to be vacated by mid-February, failing which they would be demolished. He also pressed squatting charges against 33 residents in January.

Mr Masie said he and Iqbal Motala of Lawyers for Human Rights were invited to a meeting of the WestVaal Squatting Committee on Friday.

Committee chairman Sampie Steyger called for a two-week halt to demolitions to allow for discussions and emphasised that nobody should take the law into his own hands.

But the CP's Mr Hartzenberg, said Mr Masie, "advised the meeting that the (Welverdiend) residents were willing to move from the farms but the lawyers had advised them against moving.

The Commissioner of the SA Police was named as a respondent in yesterday's court action. He gave a written undertaking not to demolish or threaten to demolish Mr Masie's home and the application against him was dropped.

close second.

Mr Buchanan's strong showing could mean, analysts said, that Mr Bush would change his stance on major domestic policies — particularly to satisfy conservatives — and could no longer even regard the Republican nomination as a foregone conclusion.

It was a staggering plunge in popularity for the president who had ridden high after the Gulf War triumph with approval ratings as high as 90 percent — the highest in US history. Only months ago, Mr Bush had seemed unbeatable.

In his campaigning, Mr Buchanan had asked voters to "send Bush a message" and they responded, delivering a political humiliation to Mr Bush. — Sapa- Reuter.

ANC rejects government's education crisis plan

TOS WENTZEL
Political Staff ARG 19/2/92

THE ANC has rejected the government's plan to deal with the white education crisis, saying "resources that rightfully belong to the nation have been captured as the property of the minority".

Decisions had been taken which affected only parents, teachers and pupils in schools administered by the administration of the House of Assembly.

A statement from the Western Cape region of the ANC said that for the government to take unilateral decisions, when negotiations were under way for a united South Africa and a single education system, was undermining the spirit of Codesa.

An attitude based on race denied the democratic right of all South Africans to take part in the decision.

The ANC rejected the privatisation of resources and the loss of human resources through the retrenchment and early retirement of teachers.

It also objected to the taking of unilateral decisions which would tie the hands of a future democratic state and prevent it from operating in the best interest of education for all.

The governmment should have brought its proposals to the negotiating table.

The statement urged parents, teachers and communities "to join us in our call for negotiations to address educational needs in a manner that will ensure free compulsory education for all and which will harness all skills and resources which our country so desperately needs".

raeli-occupied zone in Lebanon.

Israeli troops retaliated by raining howitzer shells on the villages of Baraasheet, Jibsheet and Zawtar, which Israel's army described as Hezbollah strongholds.

Lebanese security sources said Israeli forces struck Hezbollah strongholds deeper in Lebanon in what is known as the Apple province and in the western sector of the Bekaa Valley.

Many Israelis living close to the border huddled in bomb shelters last night. — Sapa-AP

AWB warned 'stay away' from squatters

The Argus Correspondent (310) ARG 19/2/92

JOHANNESBURG. — The government last night warned the AWB to stay out of the Swanieville squatter row at Krugersdorp.

Deputy Law and Order Minister Johan Scheepers said the police would not allow the AWB to destroy shacks on the farm at the request of owner Sarel Swanepoel, "the police will not tolerate irregular conduct.

"I call on Mr (Eugene) TerreBlanche not to allow the AWB to become involved in any action that could possibly result in confrontation and violence," he said.

Mr Swanepoel said the ANC had "taken over my farm and my rents. That was 18 months ago. There are 26 000 to 28 000 squatters.

"The authorities have not given me clearance for a black housing project and they refuse to act on the situation that has developed."

"So I went in the end to the AWB. Where else was I supposed to go? They were the only ones who said they would help me, and I have sent that message to the State President.

Schools anticipated system change

JOHN YELD
Staff Reporter ARG 19/2/92

SEVERAL Cape schools have anticipated the education rationalisation plan announced this week by building up teacher-pupil ratios.

As a result, parents at these schools — which include Westerford High in Rondebosch — will probably be shielded from excessive rises in school fees in the immediate future and no teachers are likely to be retrenched.

Westerford's acting principal, Mr John Martin, said the management committee would this week discuss the options open to them in terms of Monday's announcement.

"But in our school there would probably be little opposition to Model C — that's my guess," he said.

The school had drawn up a contigency budget in anticipation of the changes, he said.

Although rationalisation details had not yet been released, Mr Martin said he did not anticipate major financial implications for the school's changing to Model C.

"I don't think it would affect our fee structure radically and I don't anticipate that our fees (R1 000 a year) will double."

He queried reports that schools changing to Model C faced fee increases of R400 to R900 a pupil a year. "Those are thumb-suck figures", he said.

Mr Martin also said he did not anticipate any staff losses if Westerford opted for Model C. The school had recently been increasing the number of pupils and was effectively under-staffed.

But if the school voted to retain its present Model B status, staff cuts were possible, he added.

Cape Town High principal Mr Nugent Field said it was difficult to comment because at this stage "we know so little".

The issue would be discussed at the school's management committee meeting next week. "I hope by then we will have very much more information," he said.

But he personally believed most chools would opt for Model C, in which management committees had full authority over admissions.

"I think the majority of schools will go across and this is what the government is anticipating..."

"It is obvious that this will cost the parents a lot more money and the school will have to become involved in fundraising and sponsorships."

A number of pupils at Cape Town High were from relatively poor backgrounds and the change would involve "quite a bit of hardship" for some parents, he added.

"Sadly, too, it appears we will have to make some teachers redundant."

White schools had enjoyed favourable teacher-pupil ratios and they were waiting for new scales which were likely to redress this, making some retrenchments inevitable.

"But at the moment we have no idea (how many)," Mr Field said.

Attack, injury and death on Reef trains

The Argus Correspondent (210)

JOHANNESBURG. — One-hundred-and-twelve train commuters were killed in attacks on trains on the Reef during the 18 months ending on January 31, according to a special report by the Independent Board of Inquiry. ARG 19/2/92

The relevance of the 15-page report, *Blood on the Tracks*, has been underlined by the death of three more commuters in a handgrenade explosion on Monday on a train travelling near Katlehong on the East Rand.

The grisly tale of attack, injury and death on trains for the 18 month period is summed up in these statistics — 48 attacks, nearly 560 people injured and 112 killed.

The police have promised to do all in their power to bring the culprits to justice but so far not a single person has been convicted for these attacks, the report says.

However, last week Witwatersrand police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman cited a seven-year sentence meted out in the Johannesburg Regional Court to a man found guilty of an attack on a train at Braamfontein Station on September 11 1991, in which two people were killed and three injured.

He said 28 other people "connected to train and other serious unrest incidents" on the Reef had been arrested since September 1990.

Stay out of Swanieville, M

STAR 19/2/92

By Peter Wellman

The Government last night warned the AWB to stay out of the Swanieville squatter row at Krugersdorp.

Deputy Law and Order Minister Johan Scheepers said the police would not allow the AWB to destroy shacks on the farm at the request of owner Sarel Swanepoel.

"I am convinced that arriving at a solution to this problem, which was to a degree created by Mr Swanepoel himself, will be made more difficult by the involvement of any third party, including the AWB.

"The police will not tolerate any irregular conduct.

"I therefore urgently call on Mr (Eugene) TerreBlanche not to allow the AWB to become involved in any action that could possibly result in confrontation and violence," he said.

Mr Swanepoel told The Star yesterday the ANC had "taken over my farm and my rents. That was 18 months ago. There are 26 000 to 28 000 squatters.

"The authorities have not given me clearance for a black housing project and they refuse to act on the squatting situation that has developed as a result."

"So I went in the end to the AWB. Where else was I supposed to go?

"They were the only ones who said they would help me, and I have sent that message to the State President.

"There is going to be a bloodbath. I can't even go on to to my own land any more.

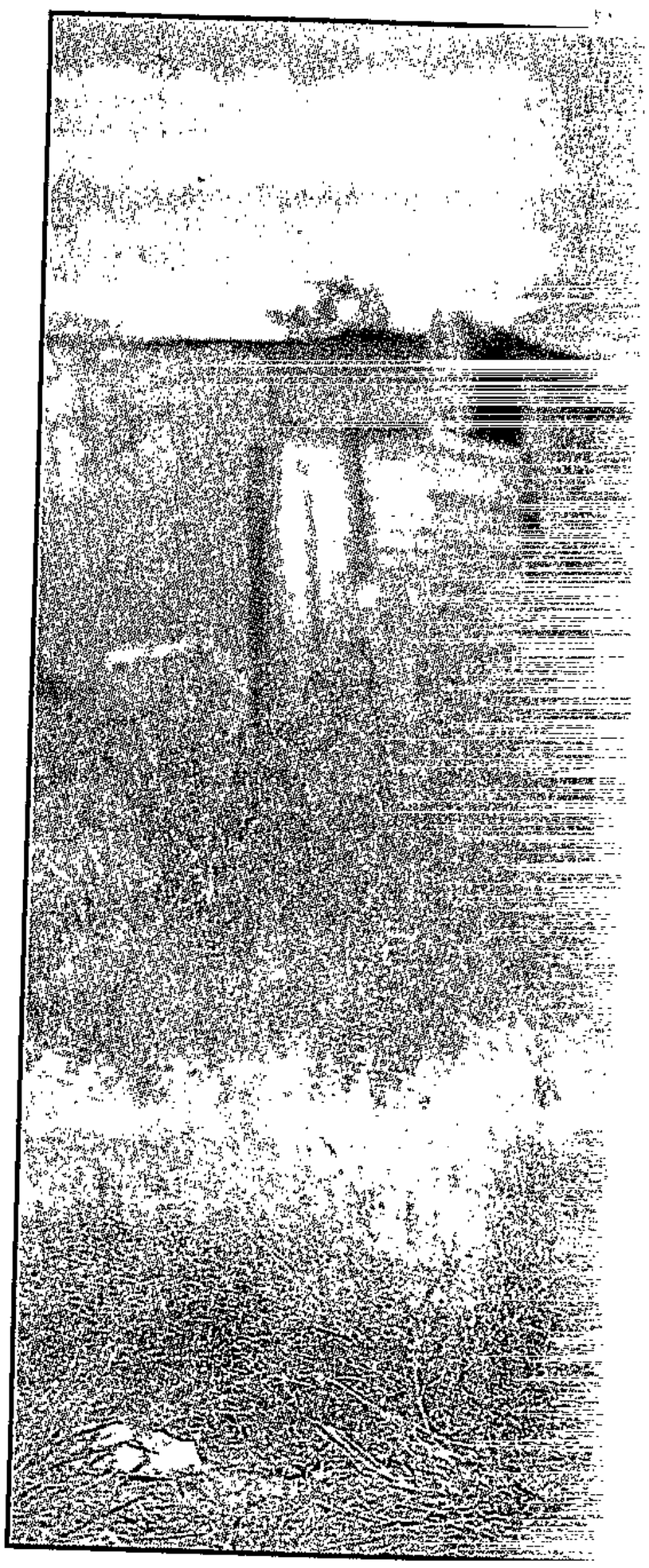
"The last time I went to the squatters was 18 months ago — I was cut by a knife thrown at me and a security guard with me was beaten to death, but no one has been arrested."

Mr Swanepoel warned that Star journalists would face a hostile reception at Swanieville. It did not happen.

Part of the row is whether the people there — The Star estimated about 15 000 — are squatters at all.

They say they moved into Swanieville One and Two camps over the past two years at Mr Swanepoel's invitation because he promised cheap but good housing and toilets, plenty of water, a school and creche, and a clinic.

Keep out . . . Sarel Swanepoel says squatters have barred him from his own farm. He says the last time he went to the squatters was 18 months ago — and he was cut by a knife thrown at him.



Waiting for Swanepoel . . . Swanieville residents want delivery on promises made by the farmer. Some residents say they paid R100 to secure a plot and monthly rental for "no facilities".

Pictures: Joao Silva

During a three-hour visit yesterday The Star heard about these promises repeatedly.

Middle-aged Agnes Mlambo, whose husband died recently, is expecting her six children, ranging from seven years old to 25, to move into her one-roomed mud and dagga shack on an 8 m by 10 m plot she says Mr Swanepoel marked out.

A member of the Swanieville Two residents' committee, she told simply but articulately about the empty promises she was made.

Like others, she says she had to pay R100 to get a plot, then R30 a month in rent "for no facilities at all".

As she spoke another woman chipped in: "Here is proof" — and produced a receipt for R100, marked "rent". The signature was not clear.

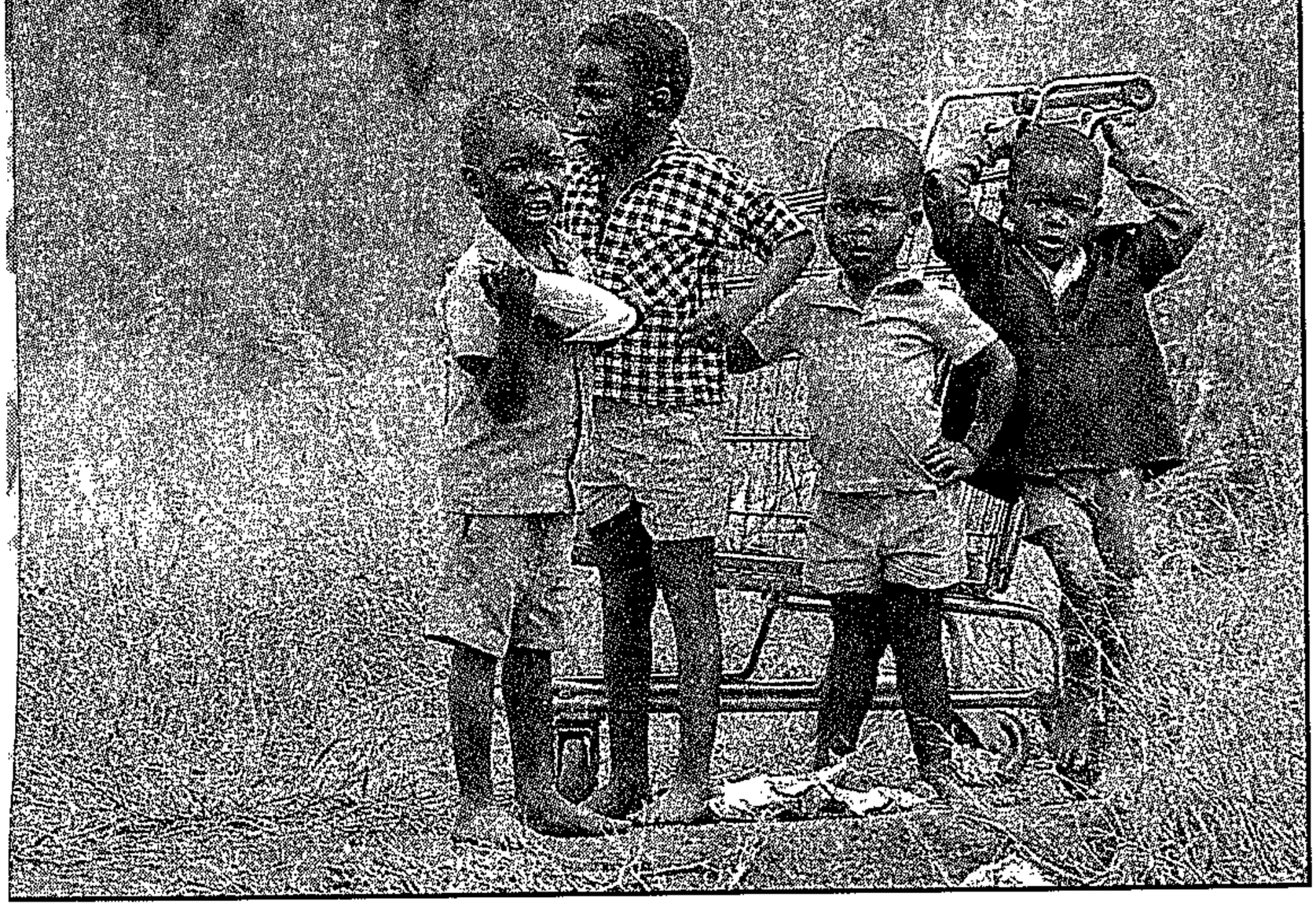
The atmosphere was calm and friendly, and there were chuckles at Mr Swanepoel's ANC claims.

One was that ANC officials

inister warns AWB

19/02/92

(SIC)



were selling his stands for R200 each at a barber shop in Swanieville One. The owner of the shop, Stephen Segwabe, his hair slicked and shiny, simply laughed.

Residents said they had refused to pay rents from December last year. They would resume when Mr Swanepoel delivered on his promises.

Across a dip of open veld, Swaniewille One has a pro-ANC reputation, 27 residents were massacred there last May. It was more tense, and an ANC presence was obvious.

No one would talk without "the comrades" say-so. A group of young men, apparently ANC officials, said briefly but politely that they would answer questions at a press conference today. But they confirmed residents were also boycotting rent to Mr Swanepoel.

Neither section of Swanieville had the listless air common to squatter camps, and residents said many people had jobs in the area.

"But some of us have come from as far as the Transkei because of Mr Swanepoel's promises," was the parting shot as we drove away.

Police 'won't allow AWB shack attack'

THE police would not allow the AWB's Wenkommando to take the law into its own hands at Swanieville squatter settlement, Deputy Law and Order Minister Mr Johan Scheepers said yesterday.

He was reacting to reports that the AWB had been asked to destroy squatter homes at Swanieville.

He emphasised that, like the owner of the land, the squatters were entitled to protection.

"The SA Police will fulfil their duty to both," he said. CT 19/2/92 (310)

The minister said police would not tolerate any "irregular conduct", and urged AWB leader Mr Eugene Terre'Blanche "not to allow the AWB to become involved in any action that could result in confrontation and violence." — Sapa

With blacks and coloureds the preference for integrated education was much more evenly spread over the various age groups. The HSRC report further found that South Africans, in most instances, supported:

— The advancement of a common South African citizenship;

— Uniformity in school financing for all four race groups;

— The introduction of free and compulsory basic (six years) education;

— Contact between pupils from different population groups on the sports fields as well as during cultural activities;

— The idea that parents should make a higher financial contribution towards their children's education.

— The survey also found "just about" 70 per cent of the respondents of all four race groups believed separate schools would not last another 20 years.

Amnesty: prisoners released/rearrested

*9. Mr P J GROENEWALD asked the Minister of Law and Order:†

(a) How many prisoners who have been released since 1 January 1991 as a result of amnesty have since been rearrested for crimes and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

B174E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(a) 21.

(b) 1 November 1991 until 5 February 1992.

Note:

The South African Police has only kept such statistics as from 1 November 1991.

Sale of stockpiled crude oil

*10. Mr P J PAULUS asked the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs:†

Whether he will furnish information on the sale of stockpiled crude oil; if not, why not; if so, (a) on what date since the most recent Cabinet decision on the sale of strategic oil supplies was stockpiled crude oil sold for the first time, (b) to what agencies or countries was it sold and (c) how much crude oil was sold to each?

B181E

The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND ENERGY AFFAIRS:

Yes, within the limits of existing legislation.

(a) 2 September 1991;

(b) local refineries and Madagascar; and

(c) the volume of crude oil sold cannot be disclosed; it can, however, be mentioned that less than two per cent of the volume has been sold to Madagascar.

Sale of oil supplies: utilisation of money

*11. Mr P J PAULUS asked the Minister of State Expenditure:†

(1) For what purposes is it intended to use the money obtained from the sale of stockpiled crude oil since the most recent Cabinet decision on the sale of strategic oil supplies;

(2) whether any money has been paid out in respect of projects; if not, why not; if so, (a) on what dates and (b) to whom were the first amounts in respect of such projects paid out?

B182E

The MINISTER OF STATE EXPENDITURE:

(1) Divided into broad functional categories it is intended to apply the funds as follows:

	Rm
Health	84,2
Welfare services	15,2
Education	138,1
Infrastructure (rudimentary services)	407,9
Hostels	31,0
Community facilities	8,8
Special job creation programme	20,0
Sports facilities	16,9
Transport (roads)	204,2
Police (police stations)	62,4
Maintenance of government buildings	18,7
	1 007,4

(2) On account of the substantial number of requests which have been received and

Continued

which had to be thoroughly evaluated in accordance with established norms, the allocation of funds to the relevant departments/administrations was only completed at a late stage in the financial year. Provisional estimates indicate that an amount of R264,5 million will be spent in the current financial year. The amount could prove to be less if specific projects do not progress as planned within the current financial year.

After the funds had been allocated to departments/administrations, further measures had to be adopted such as complying with tender procedures, the procurement of materials etc. which means that all the projects cannot be completed during the current financial year. However, payments have already been made. The Cabinet has requested a report on a six-monthly basis and the first report will be submitted on 30 April 1992. Detailed information concerning the actual expenditure will subsequently be available.

Travel Agents Board/travel agency: discussions

*12. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister for Administration and Tourism:

(1) Whether he was involved recently in discussions between the Travel Agents Board and any travel agency which was experiencing financial difficulties; if so,

(2) whether, as a result of these discussions, an amount of approximately R500 000 was paid to the owners of a Greek pleasure vessel, the name of which has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply; if so, (a) what was the nature of the (i) meetings held in this connection and (ii) discussions at these meetings and (b) what is the name of the vessel in question;

(3) whether he came to the conclusion that this amount of money was to be paid from the Travel Agents Fidelity Fund; if so, what brought him to this conclusion?

B191E

The MINISTER FOR ADMINISTRATION AND TOURISM:

(1) Yes. The company in question was TFC Tours. The President of the Association of Southern African Travel Agents (ASATA) was also present, as was the Chairman of the Travel Agents Board and the Executive Director of the SA Tourism Board. The meeting took place on 9 January 1992.

(2) An amount was not paid to the Greek shipowners in question as a result of this meeting. The possibility of a loan from the TAB was raised by TFC but the Chairman of the TAB indicated that this was not possible in terms of current legislation. This proposal was not pursued any further, and attention was given to other possible ways of preventing the collapse of TFC Tours with the attendant hardships it would create for the consumers concerned.

(3) The decision to pay monies to the Greek shipowners was taken at a later date by the Travel Agents Board, an autonomous body established under an Act of this Parliament. I was thereafter informed by its Chairman of the decision the Board had taken in order to avoid even greater losses for the Board and its fidelity fund. At no stage did I propose this course of action to the Board.

Squatters: property at Bloubosrand

*13. Mr P H DE LA REY asked the Minister of Local Government and National Housing:†

(1) (a) For what amount did the Transvaal Provincial Administration purchase the property at Bloubosrand intended for accommodating the squatters of Sevenfontein and elsewhere and (b) out of what fund was this money voted; (310)

(2) whether the Government intends paying damages to persons who are allegedly going to suffer losses as a result of a decrease in the value of their properties because of the establishment of a squatter camp at Bloubosrand; if not, why not;

(3) whether any steps are contemplated to ensure the safety of residents and properties in the vicinity; if so, what steps?

B198E

Continued

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL HOUSING:

(1) (a) The property has been expropriated in terms of the Expropriation Act, 1975 (Act 63 of 1975), which determines that market value must be paid for the property. As valuations are still being awaited, the amount payable has not yet been determined.

(b) It is envisaged that the compensation for the purchase of the property will be financed from the Community Development and Revolving Fund.

(2) No claims have been received yet. The prescribed legal procedures will be followed in respect of any claims received.

(3) Safety of the residents is the responsibility of the Minister of Law and Order.

Bank robberies: number/value of property

*14. Mr A J LEON asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(a) How many bank robberies occurred in the Republic of South Africa in 1991 and (b) what was the total value of the money and valuables stolen in such robberies?

B199E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(a) 2 536 (including Post Offices and Building Societies).

(b) No statistics are kept with regard to the amount of money involved.

Citizens from TBVC countries: number/identity documents

*15. Mr J H MOMBERG asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

(1) (a) How many citizens from the TBVC countries were living in South Africa as at the latest specified date for which figures are available and (b) how many of them were eligible for South African identity documents and/or citizenship as at that date;

(2) whether he intends issuing identity documents to all such persons living in South Africa; if not, why not?

B201E

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:

(1) and (2)

It is not possible to furnish the information as citizens of TBVC states are exempted from visa requirements and the possession of temporary residence permits. The entry into and departure from the Republic of TBVC citizens are thus not monitored or recorded. All that is required of these citizens to sojourn legally in the Republic is to be in possession of a valid travel document, which for this purpose could also be an identity document.

Identity documents are issued to these citizens who are permanently living in the Republic, should they apply therefor. If an applicant for an identity document should qualify for South African citizenship in terms of the Restoration of South African Citizenship Act, 1986 (Act 73 of 1986), he would be issued with an identity document indicating that he is a South African citizen. If at that stage he does not qualify for SA citizenship, he will be entitled to an identity document indicating that he is not a South African citizen.

Theft of scheduled medicines

*16. Dr W J SNYMAN asked the Minister of National Health:†

Whether her Department has been notified of and/or has received complaints or representations about large quantities of scheduled medicines allegedly stolen from dispensaries under the control of the State, including the provinces, subsequently being repacked and rechannelled into the medicine market; if so, what are the details of the malpractices in this regard?

B203E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH:

Yes, I am aware of the allegations made regarding this matter. There is however at present no proof about this and therefore no details regarding the alleged malpractices are available. A task group has been appointed to investigate the whole matter of the theft of medicine, in both the public sector and the private sector.

Department of Manpower: money for two organizations

*17. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Manpower:

(1) Whether his Department spent any money on two organizations, the names of which have been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply; if so, (a) how much was spent on each and (b) what are the names of the organizations in question;

(2) whether a committee headed by a certain professor, whose name has also been furnished to the Minister's Department, was given any information on the above organizations, their operations and financing; if not, why not; if so, what information?

B204E

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER:

(1) No.

(a) and (b) Fall away.

(2) No. The Department is not aware of any information requested by the committee concerned or supplied to it by the Department in regard to the organizations concerned.

Fight against crime: SADF members

*18. Mr L FUCHS asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) Whether he will request the Minister of Defence to make available members of the Commandos and other South African Defence Force personnel with a view to deploying them in the fight against crime; if not, why not;

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

B205E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) Members of the Commandos and other units of the South African Defence Force are already, as the need arises, at the disposal of the South African Police. At present an intensive investigation has been instituted to determine in which ways members of the Commandos, especially in rural areas, can be employed to assist the Police in a co-ordinated manner to prevent crime.

(2) No, but most certainly after completion of the relevant investigation.

UN Convention on the Rights of Children

*19. Mr L FUCHS asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

(1) Whether South Africa is a signatory to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child; if not, why not;

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

B206E

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

(1) and (2)

No. I would like to refer the hon member to the address of the State President at the opening of Parliament on 24 January 1992. The relevant section reads as follows:

A new constitution cannot be separated from a bill of fundamental rights. The Government is committed to the principle of a justiciable bill of fundamental rights as part of a new constitutional dispensation. That is why it took the initiative that led to the recent publication of the South African Law Commission's Interim Report on Group and Human Rights.

In conjunction with this, the Government has also taken the initiative in making a study of international conventions on fundamental rights, including the rights of women and children and the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights. We have already progressed a long way with this in the realisation that it is necessary for South Africa to come into line with the international community.

When we look at transitional constitutional arrangements, I believe fruitful consideration could also be given to whether a first phase of a bill of fundamental rights should not be part of them.

Such a phased arrangement could contribute a great deal to the establishment of a culture of fundamental rights and the orientation of governmental institutions, the legal fraternity and individuals to a coming, fully fledged bill of righs dispensation. It would also give the courts an opportunity to develop judicial precedents in accordance with a rights dispensa-

cont. - - -

Why I called in the AWB - Swanieville owner

THE owner of the controversial Swanieville farm near Kagiso yesterday told why he approached the AWB to demolish the shacks in the area.

The Government last night warned the organisation it would not allow it to go ahead with its threat to pull down the shacks. Sowetan 19/2/92

This was after the AWB announced it had been given permission by owner of the farm, Mr SG Swanepoel, to pull down the shacks.

Swanepoel said the African National Congress had "taken over my farm and my rents".

There are 26 000 to 28 000 squatters.

"The authorities have not given me clearance for a black housing project and they refuse to act on the squatting situation that has developed as a result."

"So I went in the end to the AWB. Where else was I supposed to go? They were the only ones who said they would help me, and I have sent that message to the State President. There is going to be a bloodbath.

"I can't even go onto to my own land any more. The last time I went to the squatters was 18 months ago. I was cut by a knife thrown at me and a security guard with me was beaten to death, but no one has been arrested."

He warned journalists would face a hostile reception at Swanieville.

Deputy Law and Order Minister Mr Johan Scheepers said the situation, which he said had been created by Swanepoel himself, would be made more difficult by the involvement of any third party, including the AWB.

"The police will not tolerate any irregular conduct. I therefore urgently call on Mr (Eugene) TerreBlanche not to allow the AWB to become involved in any action that could possibly result in confrontation and violence," he said. 310

Part of the row is whether the people there - estimated about 15 000 - are squatters at all.

They say they moved into Swanieville over the past two years at Swanepoel's invitation because he had promised cheap but good housing and toilets, plenty of water and a school.

Mrs Agnes Mlambo, whose husband died recently, is expecting her six children, ranging from seven to 25, to move into her one-roomed mud shack allocated to her by Swanepoel.

Like others, she says she had to pay R100 to get a plot, then R30 a month in rent "for no facilities at all".

'Ransom' by CCB man

Political Staff

A former agent of the Defence Force's notorious Civil Co-operation Bureau (CCB) is holding the SADF to ransom because the whole of the CCB's R3 million pension fund has for some reason been paid over to him.

The member is demanding certain indemnities before paying over the pension fund to the SADF.

And the SA Navy has still not managed to recover a fishing trawler worth R2,5 million from another CCB agent.

These bizarre stories in the continuing saga of the CCB were revealed in Auditor-General Peter Wronsley's report on state finances during the 1900/1991 financial year, tabled in parliament yesterday.

Mr Wronsley's report details the difficulties that the government is still experiencing in trying to bury the ghost of the CCB, which was officially disbanded in July last year.

And it also discloses theft and irregular use of State money in other projects of the multi-billion rand Special Defence Account from which the CCB was funded.

It reveals that that after 23 of the CCB's original agents refused to accept the first retrenchment package offered to them — worth a total of R3,1 million — a better one was devised by the State Attorney and an independent actuary.

Twenty of the 23 remaining agents accepted this package which was then also offered to the agents who had accepted the first package.

Mr Wronsley said the total value of the CCB pension fund — about R3 million — had been paid over by an insurance company to one of the three CCB agents who had refused the second retrenchment package.

Swanieville squatter solution in sight

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The Transvaal Provincial Administration has stepped in to avert clashes between the AWB and squatters at Swanieville near Krugersdorp, and is to expropriate two portions of the farm which is home to about 1 500 squatter families.

After a long dispute between the farmer, Mr S G Swanepoel, and the squatter community, he (Mr Swanepoel) this week called on the AWB to destroy the squatter shacks of the "26 000 to 28 000" people who he said had barred him from his own land.

Mr Swanepoel initially advertised for tenants to rent low-cost housing from him.

Four Swanieville squatters arrested

(310)

JOHANNESBURG — Four residents of the Swanieville squatter camp — including the chairman of the residents' committee, Mr Mathole Motsekga — were arrested yesterday and charged with assault and abduction.

This is the latest development in an escalating conflict involving about 15 000 squatters, landowner Mr Sarel Swanepoel, security guards, the AWB, the ANC and the Deputy Minister of Law and Order, Mr Johan Scheepers.

Police arrested 15 people in Swanieville yesterday, released 11 and charged the remaining four.

They are alleged to have beaten up two security guards employed by Mr Swanepoel to hand out the eviction notices and locked them in a house.

The men will appear in the Krugersdorp Magistrate's Court today. CT 20/2/92

Swanieville squatters charged with assault

B|Day 20|2|92 (310)

ADRIAN HADLAND

FOUR Swanieville squatter camp residents were arrested and charged with assault and abduction yesterday.

The charges are in connection with the alleged assault of two men serving eviction notices on the squatters.

Farm owner Sarel Swanepoel claimed earlier he had been forced to seek the AWB's help in evicting the 15 000 squatters from his land.

He also claimed the ANC had taken over the farm and was collecting rent from the squatters — a claim the ANC denied. The AWB was warned by Deputy Law and Order Minister Johan Scheepers not to get involved.

The residents have been boycotting rents since December 1990 after services and facilities they claim were promised did not materialise.

To evict them, Swanepoel hired security guards to help him serve eviction notices.

Police arrested 15 people in Swanieville yesterday and later released 11.

The remaining four were charged in connection with allegedly beating up two security guards and locking them in a house.

The four men will appear in the Krugersdorp Magistrate's Court today.

Police spokesman Lt Wikus Weber said the security guards claimed they were able to call the police only after they escaped from the house.

● Picture: Page 2

Thugs 'blackmail' squatters

Sowetan 20/2/92 (310)

By MONK NKOMO

THE Atteridgeville and Saulsville Residents' Organisation and the local branch of the ANC have met to resolve the growing crisis at Jeffsville squatter camp where residents allege they are being blackmailed and assaulted.

A group of residents told *Sowetan* they were being harassed by "gangsters" who destroyed their shacks, stole their property and threatened them with assault for refusing to pay a R15 levy on refuse, water and toilets.

Some residents' shacks were demolished with pick handles and hammers and most of their furniture stolen.

Police confirmed they were investigating charges of malicious damage to property after a resident had complained.

The leader of the Jeffsville squatter camp, Mr Jeff Ramothale, denied allegations that he had taken money from residents.

Residents paid R15 a month for water, toilets, rubbish removal and R5 for daily and night patrols in the camp, he said.

Disgruntled residents said the patrols only operated until 9pm.

"We do not even need these patrols because we have never been threatened," they said.

Some members of the ANC committee, appointed during the official launch there on Saturday, said they had been instructed to leave the area by the "gangsters" who disapproved of the organisation and had threatened to demolish their shacks if they did not leave.

Asro's chairman, Mr Reeves Mabitsi, yesterday confirmed that they and the local branch of the ANC would meet the Jeffsville squatter camp committee to try and settle the matter.

Angry squatters say they were forced by the "gangsters" to buy black refuse bags from them at 30 cents each.

"If they find a different refuse bag at your door on the day of collection, they leave the rubbish," they said.

Rubbish was only collected fortnightly. Residents appealed to Asro to intervene and administer the area properly.

"These people are making our lives more miserable. We came here for help but instead we are being abused," said residents.

Swanieville fight will go to court

(310) STAR 21/2/92

Swanieville residents near Krugersdorp say they are not squatters, and are going to court to prove it. PETER WELLMAN reports.

GUNGULUZA versus Molina at Sun City, Swanieville versus Swanie at Krugersdorp. One for a title to take home, one for a place to call home.

The ring for the Swanieville fight will be a courtroom where residents are trying to stop farmer Sarel Swanepoel evicting them from his 376ha farm.

The Swanieville shack dwellers decided yesterday to go for a court interdict against him after a dignified meeting in a cement-floored community hall they built themselves, among the tidy shanties, to hold about 100 people.

Fifty were there including a noisy delegate who ruined the dignity several times, shouting "Viva!" and demanding that everybody present, not just the convener, should get a chance to talk.

He was ignored, then allowed to have his say. Comrade Viva began deferentially, taking off his hat and holding it to his groin. But since it appeared he'd had had a few beers first, and was rather fidgety, this probably gave rise to certain groundless suspicions.

Comrade Viva became more insistent, and louder, as he spoke, shuffling sideways into the centre of the hall with rising confidence.

There were a few laughs, and he was tolerantly told by the convener "OK, sharp, com!" before others, less tolerant, told him to shut up and sit down.

Did residents have receipts to prove Mr Swanepoel had received money from them, asked the convener. Yes, bundles of them, and they were sorted and counted on the spot.

The decision taken, the meeting turned to the arrest of 15 residents overnight on Monday.

Eleven were later released, and SAP liaison officer Captain Henrietta Bester said four faced allegations of kidnapping and assaulting three of Mr Swanepoel's workers handing out eviction notices in Swanieville on January 31.

Then several ANC officials arrived to tell journalists that a claim by Mr Swanepoel, that ANC members were selling his land for R200 each to new arrivals, was not true.

Mr Swanepoel had a copy of a handwritten offer, but there was nothing to link it to the ANC.

Advocate Matshole Motshekga, a local government expert, said the original offer was Mr Swanepoel's and it had not yet been rescinded. He was probably correct technically, although Mr Swanepoel has called on the AWB to destroy the "squatter shacks of the 26 000 to 28 000 people who have assaulted me, and barred me from my own land".

Mr Motshekga also said any Swanieville resident might have put up the handwritten notice "to tell others about it".

People going there are desperate. Next door is a sewage plant flanked by a company advertising instant lawn. If they use what comes naturally the claim is probably true.

Round one was when residents boycotted rent payments of up to R50 a month to Mr Swanepoel last year, demanding he fulfil promises of proper homes, enough water, and other amenities.

Round Two was the AWB threat — the Government has warned them to stay out of the fight.

Round Three was the arrests.

Round Four — Mr Swanepoel says residents have also threatened to burn down his indulgently luxurious home where his wife, Joey, wears a ring with a diamond so big that I'd hate to have to swallow it to get through customs.

Round Five will be the interdict application. This fight will go the distance. □

Waiting for Swanepoel . . . Swanieville residents say he must deliver on his promises before he gets any more rent. Picture: Joao Silva.

Swanieville owner to be compensated

B/Day 21/2/92

ADRIAN HADLAND

SWANIEVILLE landowner Sarel Swanepoel would receive compensation for some of the land expropriated by the Transvaal Provincial Administration, TPA chief director of physical planning and development P P van den Hoven said yesterday.

A refund would be provided by the TPA, subject to appraisals, for the land to be developed as a permanent urban settlement, currently known as Swanieville 2. (123) 310

The TPA averted a potential crisis yesterday with the announcement that it would expropriate 362ha, Swanieville 2, outside Krugersdorp and would declare another 13ha, Swanieville 1, a temporary transit area.

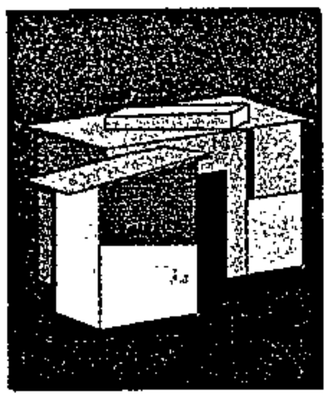
Swanepoel had threatened this week to have the AWB remove 25 000 squatters who had been staging a rent boycott since December 1990.

The four Swanieville residents who were arrested on Wednesday and charged with assault and abduction appeared in the Krugersdorp magistrate's court yesterday. They were remanded pending legal representation.

INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS FM 21/2/92

My neighbour's neighbour (310)

Any solution to the squatter problem must come from national consensus



The unsavoury events surrounding the Zevenfontein squatters have at least served to crystallise the profound dimensions of the problem of squatting itself. There are certain salient implications:

☐ The inevitable messiness of urbanisation — a worldwide phenomenon — has a race-class tinge in SA which could have ugly political consequences.

While it is pointed out that there are black home-owners in Bloubosrand — the town which refuses to have the 750 Zevenfontein families move in next to it — the overwhelming majority of the privileged are white and the overwhelming majority of the non-privileged are black. This fact alone will exaggerate divisions between the major constitutional negotiators and their constituencies;

☐ The distinction between privileged and non-privileged is not merely the outcome of a divergence between economic growth and population growth. Influx control, group areas policy, labour regulations and, indeed, the entire brutal apparatus of apartheid created iron barriers to a natural absorption of blacks into economic activity.

While the Jim Crow laws have been struck from the statutes, the vast distorting effects of grand apartheid will linger well into the next century; and

☐ As a result, many whites are realising for the first time that reform will have a real impact on their lives. Meanwhile, probably most blacks believe — if only instinctively — that true reform means socialism. Socialism in turn means a redistribution of wealth — land, jobs, income — regardless of its record of failure elsewhere.

Needless to say, this would destroy the very concept of private property.

So a dangerous gap in perceptions has arisen. Politicians of whatever stripe will take advantage of this because that is their nature. One of the events which helped undermine the credibility of apartheid — which, after all, worked bureaucratically well into the Eighties — was the destruction of the myth that blacks would ultimately oscillate from or return to their homelands.

As the pressures built up against apartheid — in the growth of family squatter camps like Crossroads in the Cape, the rise of black unions and increasing disregard of the Group Areas Act — repeated attempts were made to institute "reforms" which would defuse the looming failure of segregation. The Riekert Commission of 1979, for example, sought to create rights for urban "insiders" against rural or homeless "outsiders" and contributed to the intellectual mess in which reform policy languished until F W de Klerk cut the knot in February 1990.

The demographic reality which underlies the public relations platitudes of the new SA — multiracial drinking in advertisements for example — is stark. According to the Urban Foundation — which was pivotal in persuading government to abandon influx control in the mid-Eighties — 16,2m blacks live in our cities while 12m live in rural areas. And almost half or 7m of SA's urban black population — in the PWV 43%, in Durban 60% — is accommodated in informal housing.

As the foundation defines it, informal housing is "shelter usually constructed with unconventional building materials acquired informally — that is, outside of the formal housing delivery mechanisms. In the urban areas, two broad types are recognised. The first is spontaneous informal housing — produced outside the framework of formal township planning and development — which often lacks services, though there are exceptions where services have been installed as part of an upgrading programme. Building materials also vary considerably but sometimes include more orthodox types such as concrete blocks and clay bricks."

The foundation makes the point that "informal housing and 'squatting' are not synonymous. 'Squatting' refers to the illegal occupation of land/or buildings. Thus participants in authorised site-and-service schemes are . . . not squatters. Legal definitions differ from country to country. In SA, the definition of 'squatters' and the enforcement of 'squatter' legislation has been influenced by political considerations that go beyond the simple protection of property rights."

Blacks form the vast majority of SA's total population — 78% in 1990. The almost 50% of blacks in urban informal housing is comparable to Third-World cities like Cairo, Lusaka, Delhi and Ankara. Percentages are even higher than this in Addis Ababa, Dar es Salaam, Luanda and Bogota.

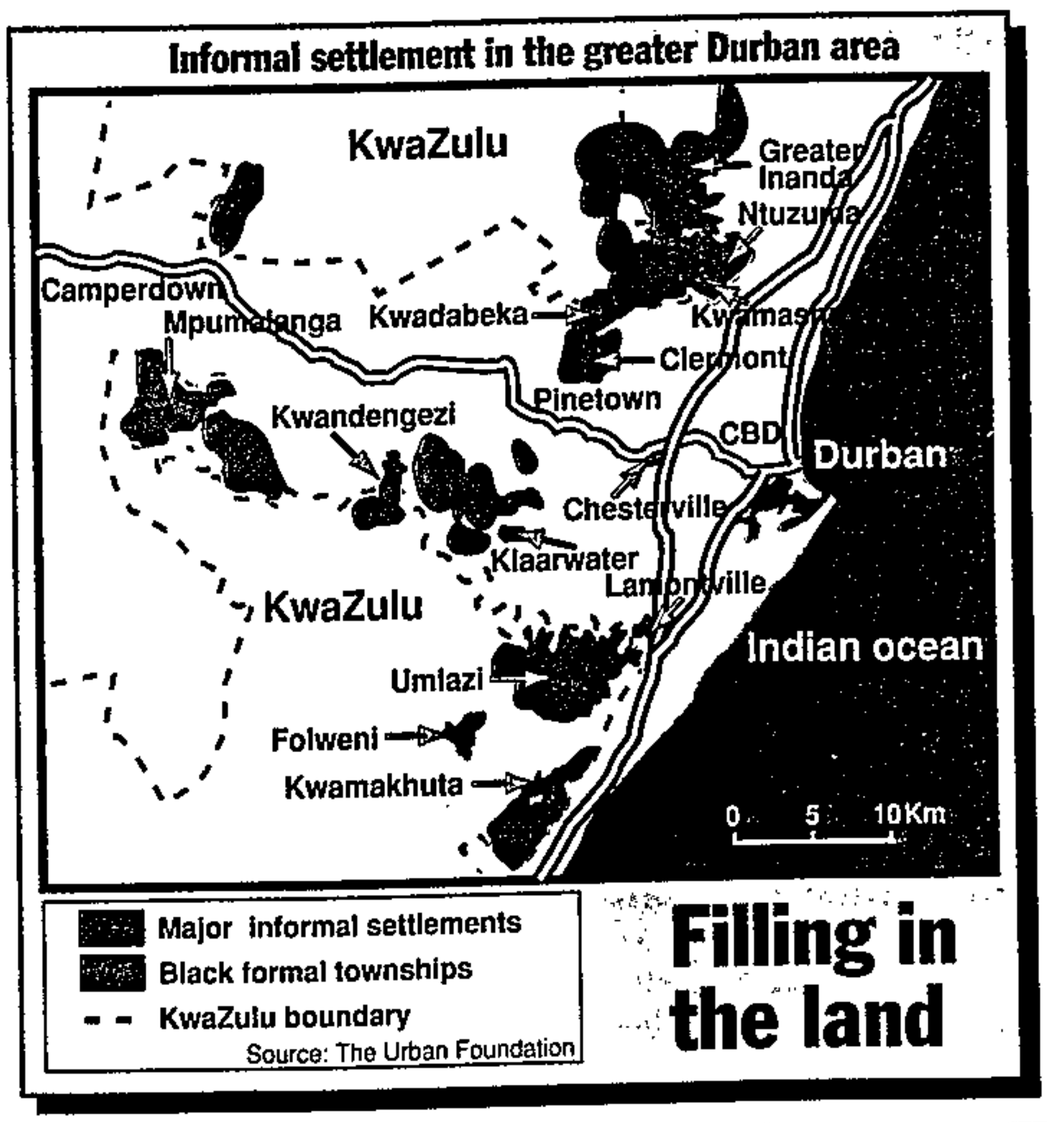
According to the Urban Foundation, total black populations in metropolitan areas will grow threefold between 1985 and 2010. While the abolition of influx control has undoubtedly had an influence on migrant flows, the foundation argues that two-thirds of black population hikes over this period will be due to natural growth. Furthermore, it points out, the growth of informal housing in the cities is probably fuelled more by the overflow of people unable to find housing in formal townships than it is by migration.

In the PWV region, most of the growth in informal housing has been in the form of backyard shacks — largely out of sight to whites. Hidden, too, has been the trebling of the number of spontaneous free-standing settlements between 1987 and 1989. These are close to or within formal townships. Blacks with houses are more aware of squatters than whites.

The Urban Foundation estimates that as much as 85% of all the PWV's informal housing is *within* proclaimed townships in the area.

The situation is different in Durban, where informal housing is highly visible outside formal townships. Indeed, the growth of spontaneous settlements in and around Durban has been spectacular. Its rate of population growth in the Seventies paralleled the fastest growing cities in the world, doubling between 1970 and 1980 from 1m to 2m.

Alas for those who seek the myth of the Fairest Cape, Cape Town has now overtaken Durban as the fastest-growing metropolitan area in SA.



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Estimates are that between 5 000 and 10 000 squatters are moving into the area monthly. The projection is that while blacks were 20% of greater Cape Town's total population of 2,24m in 1985, they will comprise 33,3% of the total population of 4m in 2010. This is despite the attempt to enforce a white and coloured labour preference policy throughout the apartheid era and the creation of the statelets of Ciskei and Transkei. Impoverishment and drought in the eastern Cape push the people in.

Because government never officially believed that the "black tide" would one day prevail over apartheid, it never prepared for it — except negatively. The Cape townships were never meant to spill out of Langa, Nyanga and Guguletu — and new housing was frozen in Soweto in the Sixties for many years. This means that the inevitable conflict between those who have a secure roof over their heads and those who do not has been exacerbated by an artificial shortage of public housing. Hence the phenomenon of "warlordism" — whereby the haves resist the intrusion of the have-nots — and the equally strong if as yet not as violent reaction of threatened white ratepayers such as those in Bloubosrand. The Durban townships show this enmity escalating into civil war.

The Urban Foundation notes that "the proximity of KwaZulu to the metropolitan core (10 km-15 km) and the relatively easy access that poor people have had to tribal land within the 'homeland' area, account in part for the scale of free-standing settlement around Durban by comparison with other metropolitan areas. Major settlements emerged as a result of land invasions in 1985. Most Natal-KwaZulu settlements are characterised by excessive, overlapping structures. Many different local authorities have jurisdiction over parts of the settlements. The ongoing and violent conflict in Natal has had profound repercussions on people living in informal conditions. Shacklords and strongmen are numerous in such settlements." The fear of course is that these terrible conditions could replicate themselves on a national scale.

A further contribution of apartheid to the desolate circumstances of the homeless was what might be called the smiling face of social engineering — the creation through incentives and subsidies of "border industries" and industrial decentralisation generally. This industrial wing of grand apartheid was based on the Land Acts which defined geography racially so that 13% of the land — in fragmented fashion — was apportioned to blacks and 87% to whites. The uglier face of this policy was the pass laws.

The money wasted on this industrial folly could of course have been spent on housing — but never was. Now it has all gone.

Government's reactive response to worldwide condemnation of the failure of this programme in the Cape was to build Khayelitsha, legalise old Crossroads and give tacit permission to occupants to stay on in the Brown's Farm and Miller's Camp areas as migrant labour. But equally, the midnight removals which helped fuel world anger against apartheid were acts of desperation.

Less often considered is the effect such actions — and the attitudes which underlay them — had on whites. By pushing blacks away and seeking to hide them in remote townships with minimal services, government since 1948 has led white South Africans to believe that an abundance of decent land and housing is available in perpetuity to them and their children. A casino mentality in the matter of property prices naturally evolved. Not only did one have a right to a house — but that it should go up in value!

Perceiving this, the architects of the ANC Freedom Charter chose to state — in preparation for a war of liberation — that the land belongs to those who live and work on it. This is a direct statement of the socialist principle in land apportionment. It has a deep emotional resonance for the dispossessed and is reflected in land invasion, disrespect for private property, rents and services boycotts and, more simply, envy.

Given the industrial history of SA, the problem or phenomenon of squatting should have been addressed as far back as the Twenties. Because it was not, the current debate about the need to identify and allocate land for controlled squatting comes too late to avert conflicts of interest, of which the one over Zevenfontein is but the latest.

The crisis is threefold:

- ☐ There is simply not enough money to house everyone formally;
- ☐ Bitterness fuelled by history operates on both sides of the divide — whites feel their prosperity and security being eroded while blacks demand land as a right; and
- ☐ A terrible political vacuum has arisen at all levels of local authority, which means that — as in the case of the Randburg municipality — when decisions are taken, they are as swiftly and ignominiously withdrawn because no-one wants to be blamed for things going wrong.

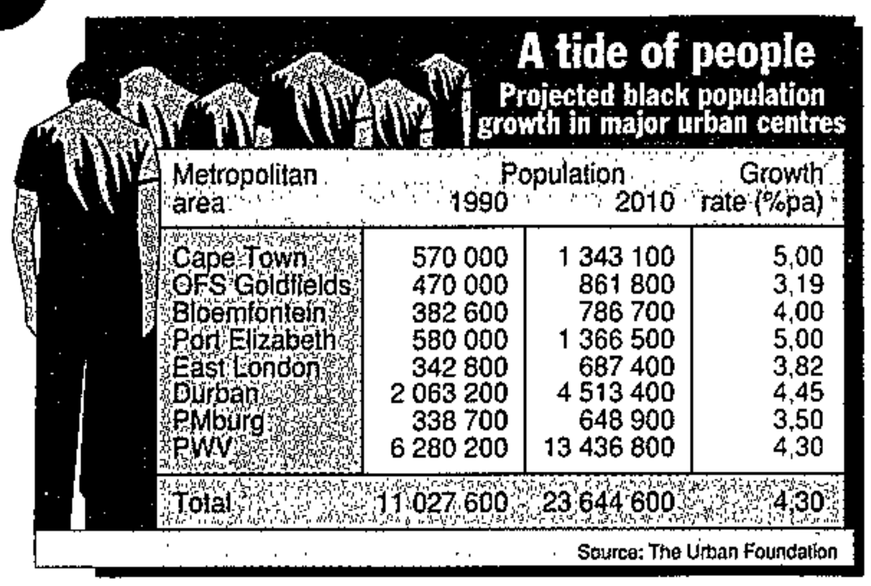
The Urban Foundation's recommendation that the State President — in consultation with Codesa — set up a task force to identify land for low-income settlement in the PWV touches the heart of the problem. And certainly a Supreme Court judge as arbiter would give such authorities some legitimacy. But, unfortunately, the political vacuum at local level is there because it permeates downward from a national political vacuum.

Regional problem-solving committees will ultimately only gain legitimacy and credibility once the land issue has been addressed by what amounts to a government of national unity — a broader-based consensus than De Klerk and his "partners" whose interests may not coincide. A good sign is that the deliberations at Codesa appear to be moving towards the establishment of just such an entity: an interim government drawing talent from both sides of SA's ancient race-class divide though excluding radicals on both the Right and Left.

Such a government would have to take responsibility for unpopular decisions — on the economy, on the land question and so on. It is only at such a level that the issue of private property can be decided.

The importance of moving as swiftly as possible towards an interim government as a stage in the resolution of the predicament of the squatters is the prospect of World Bank aid — particularly for housing and education. An aide-memoire written by the World Bank's Urban Sector Mission in December 1991 contains the implication that the Bank would only be interested in supporting low-cost housing development in SA if it takes place within roughly a 25 km radius of city centres.

Meanwhile, local authorities are waiting for direction which is not forthcoming — and the Randburg councillors can hardly be blamed for vacillation in what is after all a period of transition. It might help if it was remembered that no-one chooses to be a squatter. ■

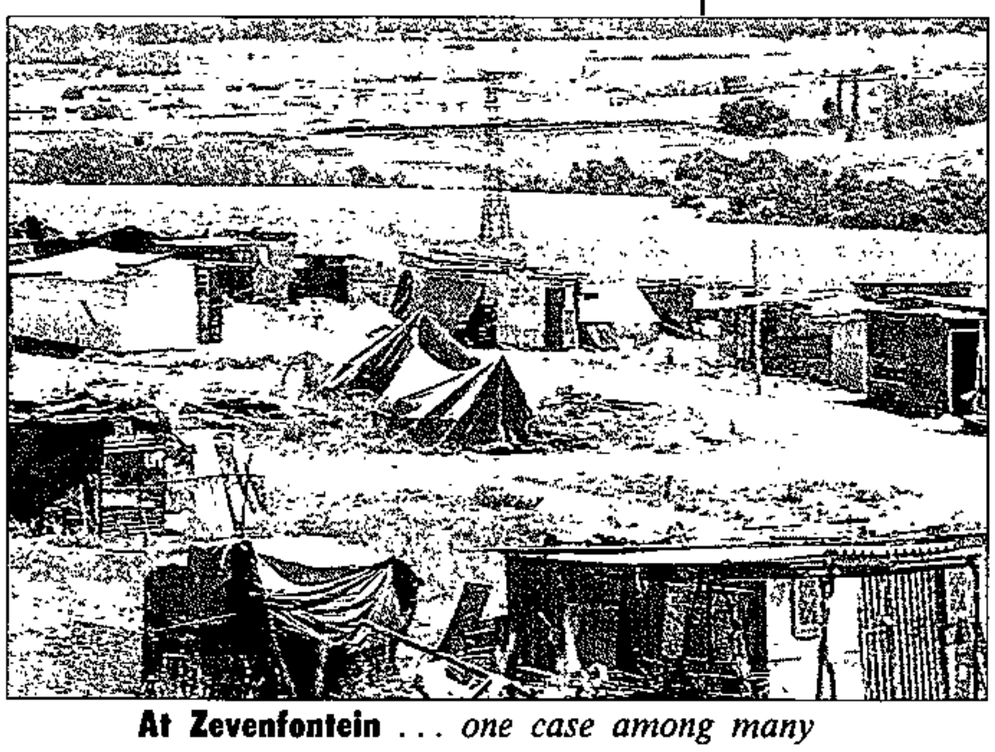


A tide of people

Projected black population growth in major urban centres

Metropolitan area	Population 1990	Population 2010	Growth rate (%pa)
Cape Town	570 000	1 343 100	5,00
OFS Goldfields	470 000	861 800	3,19
Bloemfontein	382 600	786 700	4,00
Port Elizabeth	580 000	1 366 500	5,00
East London	342 800	687 400	3,82
Durban	2 063 200	4 513 400	4,45
PMburg	338 700	648 900	3,50
PWV	6 280 200	13 436 800	4,30
Total	11 027 600	23 644 600	4,30

Source: The Urban Foundation



At Zevenfontein ... *one case among many*

EDUCATION FM 21/2/92

Early retirement for Mr Chips

There is concern over both the timing and content of the latest measures

On the eve of the Potchefstroom by-election, government chose to spring its latest education measures upon an unsuspecting populace. At first blush they seem designed to please no-one — and worse, to favour the segregationists in the short term while being eminently reversible in the not too distant future.

All of which raises the question: just what is it about white education that strikes such fear in government's heart? Why, after all he's done to normalise society, can't F W de Klerk simply scrap the last real bastion of statutory apartheid and normalise education as well?

Fear of a rightwing backlash no longer makes sense. Opening schools at this stage is hardly likely to push many more Nat supporters into the Conservative camp. Indeed, the prospect of retrenchments — part of the latest package for the schools — will most likely swing the anti-government vote in Potch.

Perhaps the answer lies in De Klerk's caucus, where heavy emphasis is placed on the maintenance of "norms and standards" and "cultural values" in education. After giving away political power, it's all they will have left. But the battle over these values is being fought out in the schools — where children and parents do not know from one year to the next what to expect.

Rather than force the issue, government opted this week for a massive cop-out. Under the guise of cutting costs — which is certainly necessary — white parents are to be given the right to maintain apartheid schools. That will be the effect of the implementation of what amounts to a status quo decree on all white schools — even those which voted recently for the nonracial option.

At the same time, at least 4 000 white teachers will be retrenched or take early retirement due to the introduction on August 1 of new pupil:teacher ratios. The figure could rise to a maximum of about 11 000 if most schools decide not to accept the new plan, but this is extremely unlikely.

The rationalisation will save about 17% in real terms of the white education budget, which was just under R5bn last year. Details of the new pupil:teacher ratios are not yet available, but they will undoubtedly mean bigger classes. The cost of retrenchments has not yet been calculated, but could be well over R100m. Officials point out that it will be a one-off cost.

Clase

It's possible that government will use the teacher retrenchment exercise as a barometer to test attitudes in other parts of the civil service towards reducing staff by offering attractive retrenchment packages. If so, many more thousands of white public-sector workers would be likely to take advantage of such generosity — and the costs would be unquantifiable at this stage. It may be recalled that at various stages of the progress of Rhodesia to Zimbabwe, the price of buying out the whites — a favourite idea of Henry Kissinger — rose steeply.

In terms of the plan announced this week by white education Minister Piet Marais, all white State schools currently operating as "status quo" (whites only) and "Model B" (maximum 49% black enrolment) will automatically become "Model C" schools on April 1.

In terms of this, all the physical infrastructure — including land and buildings — will be transferred to the governing bodies free of charge. The value of property to be transferred has not been calculated. However, the transfer contracts include a revisionary clause which means that if the properties are no longer used in the interests of education they revert to the State.

Government will pay teachers' salaries, but not operating costs, which will have to be recovered by the governing bodies through compulsory school fees. Any "topping up" of teachers' salaries will presumably also have to be paid for by the governing bodies — not in itself a bad idea.

Model C was never an attractive option when government's "model" scheme was introduced in 1990 because of the financial implications for parents. Now they are being given no real choice, though Marais says a "more favourable" but as yet undisclosed funding package will be available to them as well as those schools already operating as Model Cs.

He says the proposed compulsory fees will probably be between R400 and R900 a year, but his estimate could be far too low if schools want to maintain their current level of facilities and employ additional teachers. A number of State schools already ask for voluntary school fees of R1 200 a year and more to pay for extra teachers and other facilities not provided by the State.

But the most sinister aspect of Marais' plan is that governing bodies can decide admissions policies. There are currently 1 233 status quo schools, most of them Afrikaans-medium. There seems little doubt that the vast majority will, for the time being, decide to stay white. The 692 Model B schools will be able to increase their black enrolment if they wish — as the majority of them had planned to do at the beginning of the whole exercise of moving away from being whites-only institutions.

There is provision for schools to maintain their current status — as Model Bs, for example — if at least two-thirds of parents opt to do so, but this has severe financial disadvantages.

Marais says that under the new scheme, schools that decide to maintain their status quo or Model B status will be allocated the same pro rata funds as Model C schools but will have to use them for teachers' salaries and operating costs. They will also have a less favourable pupil:teacher ratio than Model C schools, which means there will be less money available for salaries — so either fewer teachers will be employed than are needed, or parents will have to contribute towards their pay. In effect, this would amount to something approaching Model C.

The new pupil:teacher ratios will obviously determine the amount of cash for salaries

Nonracial school ... *wedge of the inevitable*

Continue

Revamp for squatters

Sowetan 21/2/92. (310)

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration plans improvements to Swanieville squatter camp near Krugersdorp.

The TPA said two sections of the farm Rietvallei and bordering property have been zoned for urban development. Another section of the farm has been declared a temporary thoroughfare.

Earlier, an application by farmer Mr S Swanepoel for urban development rights on this part of the farm was refused because it bordered on a sewerage works. - Sapa.

State, TPA slated for poor planning

CAROLINE HURRY

MIDRAND management committee members are furious with the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Government over what they describe as an "abysmal lack of leadership and planning" over the squatter problem.

"I'm reaching boiling point with the TPA," said management committee chairman Dave Hidden.

"We now have a crisis on our hands. The squatters are not political footballs to be kicked around by the TPA on the one hand and the white electorate on the other.

"However, we endorse the TPA's statement that every local authority should look after the accommodation requirements of the people who have employment within their municipalities.

"At least 80 percent of the Zevenfontein squatters work in Randburg, yet the Randburg Town Council has not even started making proper provision for them.

"Instead the council is trying to extend its borders into the greenbelt area. This won't work."

Illegal

"At Ivory Park in Midrand, we've been forced to take in illegal immigrants from Mozambique and Swaziland," Mr Hidden added.

"Also, of the 60 percent of employed people at Ivory Park, 80 percent work in Kempton Park. At present we still have 4 000 families to accommodate," he said.

Arrangements had to be worked out to accommodate the homeless employed in the region.

Mr Hidden said, "It is totally unreasonable to expect ratepayers to accommodate illegal immigrants who do not have employment and therefore turn to crime.

"The increase in crime and violence is the biggest concern of the ratepayers," he said.

Anthony Duigan, chairman of the Greenbelt Action Group, which will be part of a task team formed by the TPA to manage the areas north and north-west of Sandton, Randburg and Midrand, said the Randburg council deserved support.

"The Bloubosrand project is a pioneering effort in which the principle of bringing people closer to their work is being applied for the first time."

Brave

"The Randburg council deserves our support for being brave enough to face the challenge, even though it is being roasted by the Bloubosrand community.

"The Zevenfontein squatter problem is not just related to the greenbelt; it is a larger, national problem.

"Certain people have had to face the reality more forcibly than others, such as the Welkerville community in the south and areas in the Cape and Natal.

"People living north of Johannesburg have been spared this problem up until now. Now the squatting situation is becoming an issue throughout the PWV area.

"Sandton is going to have to face this problem sooner or later, as they also have no formalised black community.

"At last the TPA seems to be coming to grips with the situation.

"But this is going to be a long, uphill battle. The new South Africa spells more chaos for the upper-income groups," Mr Duigan said.

Interdict stalls farm evictions

310

By DAN DHLAMINI

THE Welverdiend families near Lichtenburg who were to be ejected by the AWB and armed farmers last week got an 11th-hour reprieve following a Supreme Court interdict. CPRESS 23/2/92

The leader of the families, Paul Taute Masie, 64, who is represented by Legal Resources Centre's MH Hathorn, has instituted an interdict against farmer Willem Mouton, his wife Elsie and Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel.

This follows the demolition of 25 dwellings on December 18 by Mouton.

In his affidavit Masie said the families had been living on the farm all their lives. He said when Mouton purchased the farm he had good relations with the community, but things changed in 1990 when he started issuing notices that they should leave the farm.

(2) (a) what amounts were involved in each case and (b) what was the total amount outstanding in terms of such guarantees or sureties as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

(3) whether foreign currencies are involved in any of these guarantees or sureties; if so, (a) what currencies, (b) how much is involved and (c) who is responsible for bearing the potential cost of exchange rate fluctuations? B227E

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

(1) (a) No.

(b) Yes, a guarantee in respect of overdraft facilities to the Government of Venda.

(c) No.

(2) (a) R200 Million

(b) R200 Million.

(3) No.

(a), (b) and (c) fall away.

Guarantees/sureties: Bophuthatswana

83. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

(1) Whether any guarantees or sureties were given directly or indirectly by the Government or any Department or agency of the Government to any person or organization for (a) loans granted, (b) lines of credit granted and (c) other specified financial services rendered to (i) the Government of, (ii) any Government Department of, (iii) a development corporation in and (iv) any other specified person or organization in Bophuthatswana in the 1990-91 financial year; if so,

(2) (a) what amounts were involved in each case and (b) what was the total amount outstanding in terms of such guarantees or sureties as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

(3) whether foreign currencies are involved in any of these guarantees or sureties; if so, (a) what currencies, (b) how much is involved and (c) who is responsible for bearing the potential cost of exchange rate fluctuations? B228E

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

(1) No.

(2) and (3) fall away.

Swaniesville: attack on hostel dwellers

85. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) Whether he or the South African Police have been informed of the allegations that the Police aided hostel dwellers in an attack in 1991 on squatters in Swaniesville; if not, why not; if so,

(2) whether an investigation is being conducted into these allegations; if not, why not; if so, what progress has been made;

(3) whether any persons have been (a) arrested and (b) charged in connection with this incident; if not, why not; if so, how many in each case;

(4) whether, on the day of the above attack, a large number of hostel dwellers moved through Swaniesville without being stopped; if so, why were they not stopped?

B230E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) Yes.

(2) Yes, a full investigation was instituted. There is no evidence that the South African Police was involved in the attack.

(3) (a) 12 persons.

(b) 12 persons were arrested on 28 counts of murder and on 1 count of public violence.

(4) Approximately 200, Zulus with traditional weapons, were stopped approximately 800 meters from Swaniesville on their way to Kagiso. At this stage there was already a group of approximately 1 000 Zulus in Swaniesville.

At the same time, a few thousand blacks gathered at Kagiso with the intention to attack the Zulus. Numerous structures in Swaniesville were on fire at this stage. In an attempt to keep the groups apart, the Police escorted the Zulus past Kagiso to their hostels.

Summer daylight saving

86. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Manpower:

(a) With reference to the reply to Question No 9 on 30 April 1991, what progress has been made in regard to the investigation into the possibility of the introduction of a programme of summer daylight saving and (b) when is it expected that a report on this matter will be made available?

B231E

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER:

(a) and (b) This matter is being investigated by the President's Council and the Department of Manpower can therefore not answer this question.

Period of time between arrest and sentencing

87. Mr A J LEON asked the Minister of Correctional Services:

(a) What, in respect of persons awaiting trial in prisons, was the average period of time that elapsed between arrest and sentencing calculated as at the last day of each month in 1991 and (b) what was the (i) age and (ii) gender distribution of persons awaiting trial in that year? B232E

The MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES:

(a) The precise information cannot be provided to the hon member as it is, *inter alia*, not centrally available and there are various practical problems with the recording of such statistics.

Statistic out of an exercise which was done on 2 January 1991 of all awaiting trial prisoners who were detained in South African prisons on that day, are as follows:

25,7% — 1 day until 14 days
30,5% — 14 days until 1 month
33% — 1 month until 3 months
8,3% — 3 months until 6 months
2,5% — Longer than 6 months

A further spot check at the Johannesburg, Pretoria, Pollsmoor, Witbank, Durban and Port Elizabeth Prisons on 13 February 1992 where a total of 10 999 awaiting trial prisoners were in detention on that day, delivered the following statistical data:

26,33% — 1 day until 14 days
22,48% — 14 days until 1 month
32,74% — 1 month until 3 months
2,16% — 3 months until 6 months
16,29% — Longer than 6 months

(b) (i) and (ii)

As on 31 December 1991.

AGE	MALE	FEMALE
Younger than 20 years	4 559	137
20 Years and younger than 25 years	6 573	233
25 Years and older	11 294	524
TOTAL	22 426	894

GRAND TOTAL: 23 320

Section 29 of the Correctional Services Act, 1959 (Act No 8 of 1959) stipulates, *inter alia*, that a person under the age of eighteen years who is accused of having committed an offence shall before his conviction, not be detained in a prison unless his detention is necessary and no suitable place of detention mentioned in the Child Care Act, 1983 (Act No 74 of 1983) is available for his detention. In each such case the particular judicial officer issues a certificate to this effect. In deciding on the suitability of the place of detention, the nature of the offence with which a person is charged is taken into account as well as age, sex, character etc.

A juvenile who is detained in terms of section 29 of the Correctional Services Act, 1959, shall not be permitted to associate with a person over the age of 21 years who is in custody, provided that he may be permitted to associate with such a person in custody who has been charged jointly with him, if the head of the prison is of the opinion that such association will not be detrimental to him. Juveniles are also separated with regard to age groups where facilities permit.

Discussions take place regularly between the Department of Correctional Services, the local magistrates, prosecutors and the

Squatters vow not to leave area

HUNDREDS of squatters at Angelo-Driefontein, near Boksburg, yesterday vowed that they would ignore a memorandum urging them to vacate the area by February 28.

A notice from a legal firm on behalf of the owner of the property informed the squatters that land for their resettlement was available at Zonk'zizwe squatter camp.

The notice said the owner was prepared to resettle them there at his own costs.

They were told to vacate the premises by Friday February 28.

However, a statement by a committee representing the squatters rejected the notice, saying a meeting held by on Sunday had agreed that the letter was invalid as it had not been signed and could, therefore, have been drawn up by anyone.

"All the squatters are going to remain on this farm. Alternative accommodation must be sought in the Reiger Park Delmore area."

The committee said the squatters would refuse to heed the notice.- *Sapa.*

Old buses for homeless

STAR 26/2/92 (310)

Almost 80 squatter families in the Johannesburg area are going to be accommodated in luxury German "informal housing" courtesy of the Johannesburg City Council.

The housing takes the form of 78 Mercedes-Benz single-deck buses that have proven too expensive to refurbish.

The Council agreed last night that the buses, which are 20 years old and have a value of R1 000 each, should be donated for distribution among the homeless.

Councillor Harold Rudolph said he found it sad that society had degenerated so that people were starting to live in redundant buses. — Staff Reporter.

Relief for homeless

Sowetan 27/2/92

310

MORE than 560 houses are under construction for homeless blacks in Windmill Park, in the Conservative Party-controlled town of Boksburg.

Leading home loan specialists EP Building Society, in conjunction with Goldstein Housing, were aiming to produce a "prestigious" home development in the area from March.

Within the boundaries of the "white controlled" suburb, all the surroundings in the area would be developed to accommodate blacks, Indians and coloureds.

Goldstein managing director Mr Mannetjies Ford said he hoped that the project would help alleviate the housing crisis. The project was "unique" and would provide for the needs of the residents.

He said that a shopping complex to cater for the informal and formal sectors, taxi ranks, a petrol station and other recreational facilities were underway.

He also hoped that the building of these structures would help create jobs for the unemployed as well as the small black builders who would be given an opportunity to construct the projects.

The society's manager, Mr Keith Adam, said that his company would give financial help to prospective home-owners at "reasonable" prices.

Entry forms for the competition are available when visiting the area. Closing date is November 30.

Massacre: SAP cleared

CT 27/2/92 Political Staff

A full investigation had found that there was no evidence the police were involved in the attack on squatters in Swaniesville when 28 people were killed, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Hernus Kriel, said yesterday.

His statement, given in reply to a question tabled in Parliament by Mr David Dalling (DP, Sandton), effectively rejects claims by the ANC and human rights organisations that the police aided hostel dwellers in the attacks or had failed to stop them.

Squatters to move into 'Bus City'

310

Sowetan 27/2/92

Sowetan Correspondent

ABOUT 80 squatter families in the Johannesburg area are to be accommodated in luxury German "informal housing" - courtesy of the Johannesburg City Council.

The "housing" takes the form of 78 Mercedes-Benz single-deck buses that have proved too expensive to refurbish.

The council agreed on Tuesday night that the buses - which are 20 years old and are valued at R1 000 each - should be donated to a non-profit organisation for distribution among the homeless in the city.

City councillor Mr Harold Rudolph said while he admired the sentiment behind the donation of the buses, he found it sad that society had degenerated to such an extent that people were starting to live in redundant buses.

"There are people who live in the streets with no shelter," councillor Mrs Judith Briggs pointed out.

Mr Paul Asherson said he agreed with Rudolph but was heartened that the council's transport department had decided to help the homeless rather than gain R78 000 by selling the buses.

Zevenfontein squatters want to put down roots

STAR 27/2/92 (310)

The squatters at Zevenfontein are workers, not shirkers. All they want is a place to call home. PETER WELLMAN spent a night with them.

ZEVENFONTEIN'S early squatters had good taste. One day, wealthy whites will covet their leafy bend of the Jukskei River north of Johannesburg.

But for now their upmarket Chartwell neighbours are probably glad they are downstream, and going soon — the TPA has promised to find a permanent place for them somewhere in the area by July 31.

The community, consisting of 695 officially recognised family shacks, say their nucleus was pushed around for years by land sales and farmers digging for plastering sand. They ended up where they are now, on a white farmer's land near Fourways, about three years ago.

It is next door to the last place they were bulldozed from, where they were paying rent of R30 a month.

A few were born in the area and remember the early moves, going back more than 30 years, when their parents worked for local farmers. Their host of the moment, who shuns publicity, has agreed to let them stay without rent until the July 31 deadline.

After the early days, Zevenfontein camp spread up the steep river slopes, but the overriding impression now is that it spills down, to the Jukskei.

The long-drop toilets are all on the river bank, among the only trees, because the soil there is softer.

An orderly camp in spite of its unruly appearance, it has an elected committee of 14 who work in the day and are busy most nights talking to the TPA or to residents who want to know where they are moving next.

In fact, most residents work in the area — this is no squatter camp where inmates lie around waiting for handouts.

On Monday night, when I was there, meetings and discussions took place from 6 pm to 10 pm. And even then, people came with questions. When darkness came at 7.20 pm, a resident provided light in the community hall — poles and a tarpaulin — with a small generator that sounded like a rapid-fire frog. The committee bring their own chairs, then carry them home again.

Zevenfontein settled for the night, and a boisterous soccer match went on until the light finally faded.

Cooking is done mostly indoors, on paraffin stoves, and the few outside fires cannot compete with the lights of Johannesburg's northern sewerage works on one side and Chartwell on the other.

At 10 pm friendly people I could not see greeted me as I crossed the stony hillside, looking for a spaza — a home-and-shop in one. A few cars were parked in the open, between the shacks, supporting what I was often told: crime is not a problem. For the benefit of the bigoted, neither are factions or black-on-black violence.

There was one noisy domestic dispute at about 10 pm, but that probably happens in Chartwell, too. "Be quiet!" they were ordered by residents anxious to give a good impression. "The white reporter will hear you."

Most people were asleep by then because the day starts before dawn, with a hot-water wash. By 6.30 pm, when the sun comes over the nearest hill, they are on the way to work.

It was quiet until the roosters started at 4 am and a vehicle drove through the camp. Police, said my host in his neat, sparse shack where I slept on the floor.

The police are from the roadblock outside the camp where visitors are monitored, and residents say food deliveries and TPA water tankers are occasionally turned back. Police have denied this.

The community stays in 695 shacks by agreement with the TPA and local authorities, and all dwellings are numbered by the TPA in red paint.

But others try to sneak in. A man who built a new shack and painted his own number on in it, in black, was away when officials with guns, long-handled hammers and crowbars demolished it with apparent relish.

One of the officials, from the TPA's Germiston office, swore at Star photographer George Mashinini for taking his picture, and threatened to beat him up.

Jan van der Walt, the TPA's chief director of community development for the Witwatersrand, said: "I apologise to the residents of Zevenfontein. This is not the way we do things ... steps will be taken."

Mr van der Walt also wants to deal with the river bank toilets, which he says are a health threat.

"We are negotiating with the Zevenfontein committee to help move people living on the banks higher up — and to provide chemical toilets for the community and refuse removal.

"But we would not impose that without their support," he said, revealing how sensitive the negotiations are.

What the people of Zevenfontein want is a place they won't be thrown out of after July 31. And they're willing to pay what they can — they aren't looking for charity. □

Home hunters . . . Zevenfontein's squatters are now longing for a place to call their own. Picture: Alf Kumalo

tre (tyres, motorspares and engineering). Other retailers include a J D Group furniture store and some local Vereeniging traders. ■

UNDERMINED LAND
FM 28/2/92

Notes from underground

Guidelines governing the use of undermined land are under review by a government-appointed committee. Recommendations, to

continue →

PROPERTY FM 28/2/92

be published soon, could result in restrictions on developing such land being eased considerably. In this way, more land could be made available for building and development on the Witwatersrand.

The owners of the land — set above mining activities of the past or present — include Rand Mines Properties, Sage Properties, Johannesburg and other councils as well as private individuals.

Over the past 15 years, Steffen, Robertson & Kirsten Consulting Engineers (SRK) has been involved in more than 70 undermining projects. The firm worked on the Standard Bank head office in Simmonds Street, Johannesburg — the first major development to take place across mine workings.

SRK says, judging from its experience and from an analysis of the behaviour of undermined land, relaxing the guidelines restricting development is justified if a thorough, responsible approach is adopted.

SRK partner Dick Stacey says: "Relaxation could help to ease the severe shortage of land for development close to the CBDs of Johannesburg, Krugersdorp, Roodepoort, Germiston, Springs and other centres."

He adds: "The land in question lies over the main gold-bearing reefs of the Witwatersrand, which traverse the full length of the area in an east-west direction. Mining began in the late 19th Century and has resulted in extensive areas of undermined land from Randfontein to Springs.

"Because of the possibility of ground movements from mining operations, the erection of buildings on this ground is strictly controlled by the Government Mining Engineer. For example, no buildings, roads, railways or any structure whatever may be built without written permission when the depth of the mine workings is less than 90 m."

When SRK investigated the Standard Bank site — which lies over the Main Reef Leader and South Reef — it designed remedial measures to allow development. These centred on constructing in-stope concrete pillars to create a rigid "arch" near the surface to safeguard against collapse or instability in the mine workings at greater depth. At other sites only nominal, low-cost stabilising measures have been necessary.

Stacey believes some of the land could be used for formal and informal housing but "property owners and developers may not be keen on informal housing as it may not be as lucrative to develop as industrial and commercial property. However, balanced development is desirable."

SRK believes "where the requirement for stabilising measures is negligible, and the cost would be correspondingly small." ■

Launch of Oukasie trust

THE Oukasie Development Trust will be launched this Sunday at Oukasie, a squatter camp outside Brits near Pretoria. B/Paper 28/2/92 (310)

"When the Independent Development Trust announced its capital subsidy scheme, the community decided to appeal for capital subsidy support through the formation of the Oukasie Development Trust," local civic chairman Phineas Ngale said in a statement yesterday.

The launch will start at 9am with a procession, followed by a meeting to be addressed by Geoff Budlender of the Legal Resources Centre, the Rev Peter Moatshe of the SA Council of Churches and Levy Mamabolo, new chairman of the Oukasie Development Trust. — Sapa.

Kriel clears cops in squatter attack

Sowetan 28/2/92

310

THERE was no evidence of police involvement in an attack on Swanieville squatters, the Minister of Law and Order Mr Hernus Kriel said in Parliament on Wednesday.

In a written reply to a question by Mr Dave Dalling (DP Sandton), he said a full investigation was conducted into allegations of police aiding hostel dwellers in Swanieville in the Western Transvaal.

A total of 12 people were arrested in connection with 28 counts of murder and one count of public violence in connection with the attack.

After 1 000 Zulus armed with traditional weapons were stopped in the squatter camp, police stopped another 200 armed Zulus about 800m from the camp.

These 200 were escorted past Kagiso township to their hostels in an attempt to keep rival groups apart. - *Sapa*.

qualifications during the latest specified period of three years for which figures are available? D81E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

Mr Chairman, I do not know whether my colleague here has just taken over my portfolio. I saw him rise when the question was put. [Interjections.]

The answer is as follows:

(a) 1 859

(b) 8 087

These figures include promotion on the basis of appropriate degrees/diplomas and the National Diploma (Police Administration).

Mr M RAJAB: Mr Chairman, emanating from that reply, and I must apologise to the hon the Minister, as the fault was mine, could he let me have the figures pertaining to the people who received diplomas, and the graduates. I should have asked specifically for the figures pertaining to the diploma-holders as well as the graduates.

The MINISTER: I see some of my staff are present. We will see to it that the hon member receives those figures.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, could he let us know whether any member of the Force who obtained the relevant graduation qualifications was not promoted.

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I do not have that figure at my disposal. I will look into the matter, and supply the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition with a reply.

Squatter community: Lenasia/Finetown

*3. Mr D K PADIACHEY asked the Minister of Local Government and National Housing:

(1) Whether the squatter community in Lenasia Extensions 9 and 10 is to be relocated; if not, why not; if so, when;

(2) whether this community is to be relocated in the Finetown area; if not, (a) why not and (b) where is it to be relocated; if so,

(3) whether the Finetown area has been developed for this purpose; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? D92E

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL HOUSING:

(1) and (2) Geological tests are at present being conducted to establish whether Lenasia Extensions 9 and 10 are suitable for residential development. Should the results be positive, this area will be developed for residential purposes and the community will not be resettled.

However, should the geological tests indicate that this area is unsuitable for residential development, the community will be resettled on suitable land to be negotiated with them, which could include the Finetown area.

(3) The Finetown area is at present being prepared for the settlement of homeless families which could include the squatter community in Lenasia Extensions 9 and 10. The lay-out planning has already been completed, while the planning for engineering services is at present in process. It is expected that construction of the infrastructure should commence early in the 1992-93 financial year.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Mr Chairman, arising from the hon the Deputy Minister's reply in respect of the Finetown area, is he prepared to inform us whether that land belonged to the Administration: House of Delegates, and if so, whether the House of Delegates will be compensated so that it can continue with its own housing programme?

The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I am not in a position to answer any further questions.

INTERPELLATION

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

Own Affairs:

Group Areas Act: return of land

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION asked the Minister of Housing:

cont

(1) Whether he is giving consideration to the return of land under the control of his Department to former owners from whom such land was taken away in terms of the provisions of the Group Areas Act; if not, why not; if so, what method will be applied in determining the price of resale;

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? D105E:INT

The CHAIRMAN OF THE MINISTERS' COUNCIL: Mr Chairman, as hon members of this House will know, provision is made in the Abolition of Racially Based Land Measures Act, Act 108 of 1991, for the appointment of an Advisory Commission on Land Allocation, the objects of which are detailed in section 91 of the said Act, and include making recommendations to the State President regarding the identification and allocation of land belonging to the State or any State institution and acquired under any law repealed by the said Act, which land has not yet been developed or allocated for a specific purpose.

Such a commission has been appointed with effect from 1 November 1991, and individuals in the category indicated above, who feel they have justifiable claims of having been disadvantaged under the application of the now repealed Group Areas Act, are at liberty to lodge motivated claims with the said commission for appropriate attention, according to procedures and principles which the commission may adopt from time to time. As the commission is obliged to make its recommendations to the State President, it is incumbent on the State President to decide how such matters will be further dealt with.

The answer to the second part of the question is yes. All of us are fully aware of the fact that this issue is a very sensitive and emotional one due to the immeasurable hardship and loss experienced by our people under the inhumane and ruthless application of the Group Areas Act. I am confident that hon members will also appreciate the formidability of the task of investigating and evaluating this enormously complicated issue with compassion and objectivity and of making reasonable, acceptable and just recommendations.

The acceptance by Parliament of the establishment of the advisory commission was, in my view, an acknowledgement by all of us of the very real intricacies and complexities of the issue, and the undisputed need for an objective and independent body as the instrument to arrive at reasonable and just solutions for this highly emotionalised issue.

It is therefore our perception that it would be in the best interests of all persons who have or feel they have justifiable claims in terms of section 91 of the Act to lodge their claims with the said commission. We believe that the commission will look at the issue in the light of its historical background and any other relevant facts to establish a basis for determining a selling price which would be fair to all parties concerned.

There was also an incident in which land was purchased with the intention of erecting a home, and although planning was done, such plans did not materialise. Upon application by the original sellers to purchase their property, the formula applied to determine the selling price was in accordance with Treasury instructions. Guidelines are set down by the Treasury for establishing the selling price in these situations, namely the price at which the subject land was acquired by the State, plus the Treasury rate of interest from the date of acquisition to the date of sale. The point I make . . . [Time expired.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Mr Chairman, compared to what is happening in the House of Representatives and the House of Assembly, this is a very depressing reply, because the House of Assembly, on its own, without suggesting to people that they will be referred to a commission that might give a decision and make recommendations to the State President two or three years later, is returning land that was taken away in terms of the Group Areas Act.

We were treated ruthlessly. This interpellation was placed on the Question Paper because when we discussed this matter and the issue of Cato Manor last year, the Minister of Housing gave an undertaking that the Administration would consider restoring land. We know that our community has been treated ruthlessly. There is no point in suggesting that this was because of a Treasury regulation. When there was a White Minister in charge, and he returned land, the same Treasury regulation applied. One must say,

cont - - D

Police raid Pretoria squatters

310
Sowetan
2/13/92

POLICE allegedly assaulted squatters and broke the doors of an administration building and a doctor's consulting room during a raid at a camp in Soshanguve near Pretoria yesterday.

Witnesses said the incident happened about 8.30am when police confronted squatters at the Phomolong squatter camp in Section R.

A spokesman for the Association for the Homeless, Mr Johannes Mhlongo, said police broke down the doors at the "white house", an administration building used by the association, without any reasons and started to conduct a search.

He said six people, including a woman, were assaulted by the police.

"Police also broke the door of Dr TR Maphali's consulting room and removed medicines and a stretcher," Mhlongo alleged.

He claimed police were rude and called them "kaffirs" before forcing them to lie on the floor while they searched the building.

He also alleged that police seized documents and goods.

Pretoria police liaison officer Captain Marietjie Louw yesterday confirmed the search, saying the raid followed reports that there were alleged illegal activities taking place at the "white house". She denied all allegations made by Mhlongo.

She said police had a search warrant. Louw admitted that a door was broken down to gain access to the building.

Louw said police seized unlicensed firearms. Police took medical equipment for safety reasons because they could not repair the damaged door and feared that certain drugs might be stolen and abused.

These items are in safe storage. No one was arrested. - *Sowetan Reporter.*

Report on squatters

(310) STAR 3/3/92

The interim report of a task group investigating urbanisation to the north and north-west of Johannesburg has been completed, the Transvaal Provincial Administration said yesterday. The report investigated the development of low-cost housing to the north and north-west suburbs of Randburg, Roodepoort, Sandton and Krugersdorp. It specifically looked at resettlement of Zevenfontein squatter community. The report is to be discussed by the Zevenfontein Squatter Liaison Committee, local governments and parties affected by the Zevenfontein community resettlement.

Winterveld: the forgotten place

Soweton 3/3/92

Soweton 3/3/92

FOCUS

THE road from Pretoria winds for half an hour through lush white suburbs and farms before depositing motorists, with a bump, in a dustbowl of mud shacks stretching to the horizon.

This is Winterveld, a bleak 40-year-old slum of up to one million black inhabitants that is never seen by most residents of the prim white capital city 50km to the south.

The 500sq km settlement symbolises the daunting welfare challenge bequeathed to the new South Africa after years of apartheid race segregation.

"Winterveld is a forgotten place, a dumping ground, an in-between-land," said Rosetta Simelani of the Rural Advice Centre.

"These homeless people are caught between the devil and the deep blue sea. The new South Africa must provide for squatters like these," said local priest the Rev Smangaliso Mkhatshwa.

Aid workers describe Winterveld as among the ugliest of apartheid's offspring, the unforeseen product of a policy of forcibly removing blacks from areas designated for whites.

The slum, once winter grazing land for the cattle of white farmers, grew from the 1950s onwards as an overflow area for designated "black" towns which mushroomed too quickly for apartheid's developers.

Child mortality is 50 percent in some parts, unemployment 70 percent, sewerage and electricity non-existent.

Local black farmers, despairing of poor soil and lack of water, turned their fields into shacks for squatters, many of them illegal immigrants harassed constantly by police.

Winterveld's warren of shanties is also a notorious hideout for criminals on the run.

South Africa, apparently eager to abdicate responsibility for Winterveld, asked the black homeland of Bophuthatswana to absorb the slum as part of its fragmented territory in return for nominal "independence" in 1977.

Funds

Bophuthatswana complied, but the homeland, one of 10 tribal territories where more than half of South Africa's blacks live, never lavished funds on Winterveld because few residents are Tswanas, the homeland's designated ethnic group, residents say.

Farmer Rachel Tsukudu (73) said she walked five 5km to scrape for water in a dried up stream. Her maize field is withered. "Every Sunday we pray for rain," she said.

Joseph Matona (75) said his crops had failed for years due to the poor Winterveld soil. He earns a total of R15 a month from three squatter shacks on his property.

Welfare agency Operation Hunger says 2 million South African blacks in places like Winterveld could be starving by May unless the government speeds up relief to replace food supplies hit by drought.

The agency, which feeds 1,8-million people daily nationwide, says that because of lack of funds it can only help 16 000 people in Winterveld. It says most of the slum's people qualify for its programmes.

In a clearing, barefoot children watch warily for snakes as they sit under trees to escape the baking 40 deg C heat at the "Eureka" bush school.

Headmistress Ms Constance Gwabeni said most of her charges were children of some of the estimated one million Mozambicans who for years have fled to South Africa to escape war at home.

"In the middle of a lesson some fall asleep because they have had no food," she said. "Our main problem is the snakes, and the wind which blows the dust on to the children's clothes."

Zimbabweans and Zaireans, as well as South Africans from all over the country, come to Winterveld because it is near jobs in the main industrial centres, ignoring the squalor and endemic malnutrition-linked diseases like tuberculosis.

"At least here there is sometimes food in the shops and people are not killing each other," said Musa (49), a Mozambican who bribed his way back over the frontier to Winterveld after police caught and forcibly returned him to Mozambique last year.

He lives with his wife and five children in a three-roomed mud-brick house. A sixth child died at birth.

Late last year, 40 years after the slum's birth, a Winterveld Development Programme was formed with the support of the state-backed Development Bank of Southern Africa.

Political reforms

Details of the project have yet to be worked out and the possible reincorporation of Bophuthatswana into South Africa under political reforms could complicate the process, experts say.

Aid worker Ms Joan Pearton said blacks were leaving for nearby Soshanguve township in "white" South Africa where they had a better chance of buying land. But a continuing influx from elsewhere kept Winterveld's population stable.

"The residents have always struggled to survive," she said.

"It remains a dumping ground. People throw their old folk away in Winterveld. They come and build shacks, install their parents and then disappear back to Soweto." - *Sapa-Reuter.*

"These homeless people are caught between the devil and the deep blue sea. The new South Africa must provide for squatters like these."

Police remove the body of a victim of yesterday morning's attack when gunmen opened fire on shacks in Soweto. Pic: SELLO MOTSEPE

SHACK DEATH

Sowetan 4/3/92 (EE8) (3)D

A MAN was killed and three others injured yesterday when gunmen opened fire on families staying in backyard shacks at a house in Jabulani, Soweto - the second attack on the house in four days.

By KENOSI MODISANE

Yesterday's incident brings the death toll since Saturday night to three after two other men were shot dead by unknown gunmen at the house.

Soweto police spokesman Captain Joseph Ngobeni yesterday confirmed that two young men armed with automatic rifles attacked the four men, killing one of them on the spot. The three injured men were admitted to Baragwanath Hospital."

The *Sowetan* had not yet established the names of the four at the time of going to press.

The men were attacked as they demolished their shacks preparing to flee the area following Saturday's attack on the house.

Baragwanath Hospital spokesman Mrs Anette

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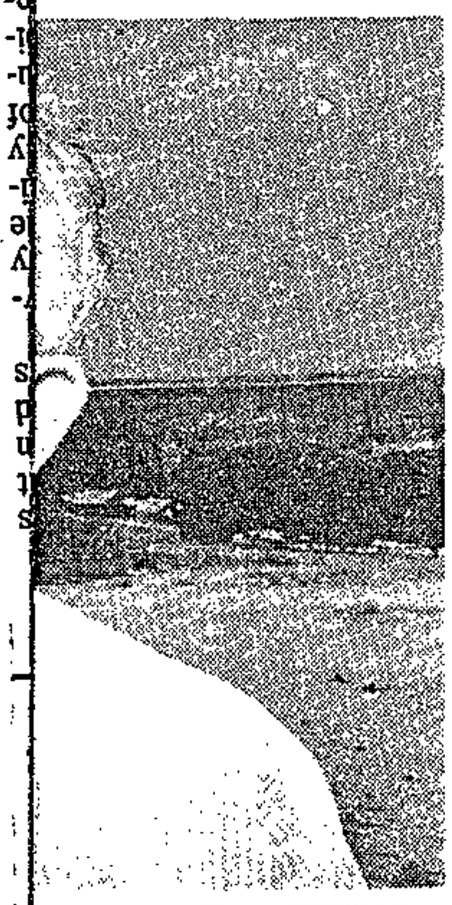
P.1.0

Each Cigarette a Masterpiece



Picture: ROBERT BOTHA

Cholera rumour quashed

KATHRYN STRACHAN

REPORTS of a cholera outbreak in the Zevenfontein squatter community were yesterday dismissed by Bryanston DP MP Rupert Lorimer as right-wing rumours spread to create fear among whites ahead of the March 17 referendum.

Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) representative Zakkie Lombard and squatter spokesman Pinky Moloi confirmed there were no incidences of cholera.

TPA liaison officer Magda du Toit said the administration's clinic had found eight cases of diarrhoea.

Lorimer said it was surprising there had not been a cholera outbreak, given the squatters' living conditions. Better toilet facilities and more water were needed to ensure that disease did not break out, he said.

The biggest problem was that the camp, being so near the Klein Jukskei river, posed the threat of sewage seeping into the water — which put the squatters at great risk of contracting diseases such as cholera, he said.

The TPA said the Department of National Health and the Randburg Town Council were being called in.

Inkatha and police hold talks on violence

THE Inkatha Freedom Party held discussions with the police yesterday, Soweto police liaison officer Lt-Col Tienie Halgryn has confirmed.

He said if the party wished to release a statement on the matter, "then we have no comment".

Inkatha central committee member Themba Khoza released a statement last night saying further discussions would be held within six days.

"The SA Police undertook to invite an ANC delegation to attend," he said.

Khoza said yesterday's meeting was called after the latest attack on Soweto train commuters and the "shooting of IFP members by the police at Inhlazane station on February 27".

Khoza was referring to an incident when a group of armed men, apparently from the Jabulani single-sex hostel, attempted to board a train at the Inhlazane railway station.

Police refused to allow the men on the train, and then used teargas to disperse the group. Three people were injured. — Sapa.

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Squatter fears drive English speakers into the CP fold

WLM and 13/3-19/3/92 (310)

Squatter fears and doubts over reform are opening up fertile ground for the right among urban English speakers, says

ARTHUR GOLDSTUCK

IF the Conservative Party has a route to the future, it runs through the heart of the English-speaking communities of the cities.

Most predictions for the outcome of the referendum have had to make detours around the question of which way nervous English voters would go. Indications are that the heady pace of negotiations — and the attendant socio-economic problems brought to the surface by political reforms — has created a climate of uncertainty in which many formerly liberal voters are wavering in their convictions.

The most dramatic example is the Randburg suburb of Bloubosrand, which until two months ago would have come out with a firm yes vote.

Today, the lamp-posts of the suburb are covered in "No" posters. "Yes" campaigners are as scarce as liberals in the Soutpansberg.

The sea-change came with the sudden announcement by the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) and Randburg Town Council that 10 000 squatters would be deposited in vacant land next door. The "Nimby" syndrome — Not in my back yard — took root with a vengeance, turning a community of young, liberal, English-speaking people into prime recruitment material for the CP.

"When the whole debacle began in full force, the CP really climbed in," says Peter Bantock, chairman of the Bloubosrand Action Committee. "When we were all on the streets protesting, they began signing up members — I saw a list containing six pages of names of people they'd recruited. At 30 people a page, that's 180 members. And there are only about 500 houses in Bloubosrand.

"Randburg is actually a Democratic Party area — the last by-election in the area was won by the DP. I don't have any research to prove it, but Bloubosrand was also really a typical DP constituency. Now indications are that the squatter issue has swung the community to the right."

Bantock says the same phenomenon is occurring throughout the Greenbelt area, where moderate people are suddenly facing what they see as an uncertain future filled with squatters, crime and lower land values.

"If this is government policy — to expropriate vacant land next to existing suburbs, regardless of public opinion, with a view to erecting squatter camps and informal housing — then it's definitely begging for a no vote from the Greenbelt."

Bantock points out that the Bloubosrand squatter issue has not yet been resolved, and the government's decision is not expected until after the referendum. This has implications not only for that suburb, but for all people living in such situations — mostly English-speakers in outlying areas of the PWV region.

"What would make everyone a little more comfortable is if the government embarked on a sound public relations programme, consulted the residents and, if a blow is going to be dealt, to soften that blow. Not suddenly tell us we've got 10 000 squatters on our doorstep."

Ironically, Bantock himself will be voting yes.

"I think a yes vote is progressive thinking, its realistic thinking. South Africa is already integrated, and you can't just segregate people again and put them in isolated compartments. A yes vote is a step in the right direction of positive integration."

This fairly typical liberal attitude would have obtained throughout the Greenbelt before the TPA muddied the squatter issue, first with foot-dragging, and then with approaches guaranteed to offend the highest number of people in the shortest possible time.

The same threat has given the CP its first inroads into the Englsih heartland of Johannesburg.

Any motorist driving out of Johannesburg on Jan Smuts Avenue would have perceived these suburbs as enclaves of Democratic Party thought. The pedestrian bridge opposite Hyde Park Corner — after which the road drops down into Randburg — served as a veritable border post: suddenly the motorist would have been confronted with a flurry of CP posters hanging from the bridge.

Does this mean the CP had given up on the affluent suburbs, accepting that business executive types are lost to the yno vote and fear of sanctions?

On the contrary, says Jurg Prinsloo, appointed by the CP's executive committee as a "guardian" of the party's campaign in Johannesburg constituencies.

Romancing the rooinekke ... CP leader Andries Treurnicht

Prinsloo refused to reveal which suburbs were showing the strongest pro-CP trends, and would not provide any information on the nature of canvassing being carried out by the CP.

"That is totally confidential," he said.

CP representative Gaye Derby-Lewis said she believed the NP had overplayed its hands in associating a no vote with support for the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging and Nazi philosophpy.

"When the DP supporters in Chartwell and Howick needed help, they didn't run to their wimps in parliament. They called in the AWB to help them.

"English-speakers are a funny lot — they don't do anything until they've got their backs to the wall, and then they get more frantic than anyone else, even the Afrikaners."

to lodge an objection that a Jew or unbeliever or agnostic held the position of a member of the House of Assembly.

Faithful to this pathetic tradition, during the past referendum the CP repeatedly dragged religion, in particular the Christian religion, into the political arena. [Interjections.] [Time expired.]

*Mr A GERBER: Mr Chairman, the Government has made many mistakes since the process of surrender began at a gallop on 2 February 1990. The gravest and most fatal mistake, however, was the decision on the way in which Codesa should be opened.

I want to say this afternoon that the way in which Codesa was opened sealed its ultimate failure. There is a fundamental difference between religious freedom, which poses no problem to this side of the House, and putting religions on an equal footing, which is unacceptable to us.

I say to hon members over there this afternoon that Codesa will never provide a peaceful solution for South Africa. [Interjections.] The way in which Codesa is opened will eventually have tragic consequences for South Africa, consequences which will ultimately be laid at the door of those hon members because they voiced their approval of it.

This afternoon in my mind's eye I see a South Africa in conjunction with great strife. [Interjections.] I see a never-ending struggle for political power in this country. I also see confrontation, not only between Black and Black but also between White and White. [Interjections.] This is the confrontation that was fuelled during the past referendum by the spiritual campaign of terror which was conducted against fellow Afrikaners and fellow Whites. [Interjections.]

I say this afternoon that Codesa will not bring peace to South Africa but further strife. I am aware that the hon the State President said that the opening of Codesa had better be changed because it had caused controversy in South Africa. At least we are pleased that the criticism we have voiced has had an effect, but we say to him at the same time that his motivation for changing it is wrong. [Interjections.] The opening of Codesa should not be changed because it caused controversy, nor should it be changed because it hurt the hon the State President politically, but it should be changed because it placed the God of the Bible on an equal footing with idols. [Time expired.]

*Mr H D K VAN DER MERWE: Mr Chairman, I want to tell the hon the Minister that the struggle in which we are engaged, as far as Codesa is concerned too, is a struggle which involves the entire view of life and the world of a people in Southern Africa. The hon the Minister may be feeling great joy today because of a victory, not because he obtained more votes than the No-vote, but because his so-called victory is one which he shares with the traditional enemies of the Afrikaner over quite a number of centuries. [Interjections.]

*The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE: Order!

*Mr H D K VAN DER MERWE: Just as we have frequently had to take a stand in the past as a minority against the entire world, today we are not standing as a minority but as a large part of a people which is not prepared to sacrifice either its view of life and the world or those things on which its pattern of life is based. [Interjections.]

If the hon the Minister has ever listened to anybody who is prepared to pursue a struggle in this southern land, I have to tell him that the struggle that we pursuing is not one that started yesterday, neither is it a struggle that will cease tomorrow.

*The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Mr Chairman, the embarrassment of the hon member on the other side is obviously caused by the fact that he knows that the majority of Afrikaners also stand behind this party. [Interjections.] This is incontrovertibly so. They lost and they lost disgracefully.

I want to add that the comment made by the hon member that Christians, who supposedly differ as much as he said we differed, could not live together in peace in one country is one of the most bigoted and intolerant comments in a theological vein ever made in this House.

I want to link up with what I said a moment ago in connection with the pathetic tradition of the CP in respect of the misuse of religion. They repeatedly dragged the Christian religion into the political arena during the past referendum. At the cost of great mortification and consternation in regard to personal convictions, voters were called upon on huge banners to vote No for the sake of Christianity. [Interjections.] Where

could one find a more despicable indictment of one's opponent than this shameless exploitation of religion! Such offensive and misleading representations are not a credit to the Gospel. The same applies to the hints and insinuations directed at members of the Government as a result of this so-called question about opening prayers at Codesa.

We are entering a period in which we have to take incisive, important decisions. We have the advantage of a clear picture from the voters in the White community on the direction in which they want us to go and also the manner and style and dignity they want to see in our actions. I want to express the hope that this type of petty misuse of great values we have seen here today will come to an end and that we will differ with one another in a dignified manner on the basis of arguments and not on the basis of this type of pettiness.

Debate concluded.

Swaniesville investigation: findings/allegations

2. Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) With reference to his reply to Question No 85 on 26 February 1992, what were the findings of the investigation conducted by the South African Police into the attack on squatters in Swaniesville in 1991;

(2) whether all allegations regarding the role of the South African Police in this incident were investigated; if not, why not; if so, what procedure was followed in investigating these allegations?

B343E.INT

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER: Mr Chairman, the findings of the investigation conducted by the SA Police regarding attacks on squatters in Swaniesville cannot be made known as the criminal case is sub judice. Responsibility for making findings is that of the court and not the police.

Secondly a full investigation regarding allegations that the police aided hostel-dwellers in an attack on squatters in Swaniesville has been concluded. All the allegations regarding the role of the SA Police in the incident were investigated by senior police officers. Statements from all witnesses who could be traced, as well as all policemen who were on duty before and at the time of the attack, were obtained.

There is no evidence that the SA Police were involved in the attack. The evidence in the investigation of the incident indicates unequivocally that members of Inkatha attacked squatters in Swaniesville who were primarily ANC-supporters and that the attack was possibly an act of revenge by Inkatha after a certain Zulu had been abducted and killed. In this regard twelve persons were arrested on 28 counts of murder and on one count of public violence.

The said case was remanded on 9 March 1992 to 30 April 1992, pending the decision of the Attorney General. His decision is not yet known.

In view of the criticism of this incident, I personally requested the Commissionar of Police to investigate allegations of any transgressions in terms of the SA Police regulations or instructions. He informed me that there was no prima facie evidence to charge any member departmentally. However, should it appear from evidence in the criminal case that any member or members of the SA Police have transgressed any law or regulation, departmental steps will be taken against them.

*Mr J VAN ECK: Mr Chairman, with all the joy which we share regarding the referendum, I should like to single out one person today for his special contribution to that Yes-vote, viz the former State President. When he said he was voting No, all those people voted Yes.

[Interjections.]

†Mr Chairman, today is a very important day because White South Africa has turned its back on the era of apartheid and is eagerly waiting for the dawn of a new, democratic South Africa. South Africa has been a country of sad funerals, as in Swaniesville, but today there is another funeral, the funeral of apartheid. [Interjections.] Today we celebrate that first before we come to things which may not be as pleasant.

*If we want to end the violence in our country, law and order will have to be enforced by the SA Police in a completely unbiased manner so that we can restore the situation of trust between the community and the police so that the community can feel that they can make complaints which will be dealt with seriously. In spite of the replies of the hon the Deputy Minister, I believe that there

CONTINUED

are still many questions concerning the murder of those people as well as questions about the role of the police which have not as yet been addressed satisfactorily in the eyes of the community.

I quote from some of the allegations which were made. I do this because I would like to know from the hon the Deputy Minister whether he truly believes that all those facets were addressed in the investigation, and whether he is really satisfied that none of those things happened. The first point is that within hours prior to the attack, Swaniesville was declared an unrest area. This means that there were vast numbers of policemen throughout the area. But where were they then? Secondly, there were 800 people with red headbands, weapons, guns, spears etc . .

*An HON MEMBER: Anyone can wear a red headband!

*Mr J VAN ECK: No, wait a moment. There were 800 people who walked five kilometres from their area to Swaniesville. They covered a distance of five kilometres while the Police did not see them and they did so although the area had been declared an unrest area with large numbers of policemen present. Is the hon the Deputy Minister satisfied with his reply to my question?

There were eyewitnesses to the fact that two military armoured vehicles accompanied the attackers back to the hostels from which they had come. In an area which the police had taken over, 28 people were murdered, 30 were injured and a quarter of a whole squatter camp was totally destroyed. [Time expired.]

*Mr F J LE ROUX: Mr Chairman, this question arose on 28 May 1991 when it was addressed to the former Minister of Law and Order, in precisely the same words.

*Mr J VAN ECK: Who was he?

*Mr F J LE ROUX: The newly-found friendship between the NP and the DP has once again been thwarted by this question. [Interjections.] We know that the hon member for Claremont is not a great friend of the police.

*Mr J VAN ECK: What about your friendship with the AWB?

*Mr F J LE ROUX: On a previous occasion the hon the Minister declared that the matter in respect of the conduct of the police had been investigated, and that no evidence had been found involving the police in any attack. More than 350 statements were offered during the investigation of this matter, but that wilful hon member is still not satisfied with the findings of the investigation. All he wants to do is cast suspicion on the police. [Interjections.] A great deal of time and money is being spent on improving the image of the police, but it is behaviour like this that is harming the image of the police more than anything else. The hon member's motive in this matter is to cast suspicion on the police.

*The DEPUTY MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER: Mr Chairman, attempts will be made to blame some party or other or the police for the events at Swaniesville. Ultimately, however, it is the desire for peace, stability and the building of a nation that will prevent such occurrences as these. When leaders join hands and make peace when there is conflict, it will persuade and influence their followers to refrain from violent attacks.

A desire to create peace and stability has to take root in the hearts of all people, and cannot be accomplished through any action by the SA Police. The SA Police are *inter alia* responsible for maintaining law and order, and for preventing violence as far as it is possible to do so. However, the stabilisation task of the SA Police does not replace the responsibility which rests on the community and its leaders to try to prevent and eliminate violence themselves. These tragic events could have been prevented if the community and their leaders had played a more positive role. The National Peace Accord creates the necessary mechanisms through which, if utilised properly by the community, this objective can be achieved.

The hon member for Claremont referred to the funeral of apartheid. I agree with him. Apartheid has finally come to an end. This is also the wish of nearly 70% of the White electorate whom we represent in this Chamber. [Interjections.]

I also want to refer to the impartiality of the SA Police. A code of conduct is signed by every member of the SA Police in which absolutely impartial, objective, professional conduct is demanded. I firmly believe that the SA Police will carry out their duties accordingly. The hon member is also aware that in the event of this not

happening, strict departmental steps are taken against such members.

The hon member for Brakpan spoke about the newly-found friendship with the DP, but he should really tell us about the confirmation of the friendship between his party and the AWB. [Time expired.]

Mr D J DALLING: Mr Chairman, it is true that a new hon Minister has taken over the portfolio of Law and Order since the Swaniesville massacre occurred. It is also true that that hon Minister cannot be held responsible for acts of the past. However, we must still deal with these matters.

The criticism was as follows. The SA Police, after promising the residents protection, having been warned of an attack, failed to stop 28 murders. They failed to stop the assaults and the pillaging of this village. After all that had occurred, the SA Police escorted the marauders back to their homes. That is a serious accusation and a most serious criticism of our police force.

Last year, the Minister who was then in place asked me to withdraw a question which was on the Order Paper, because of the delicate stage that investigations had reached.

He said he would keep me closely informed of developments. I regret to say that the Minister at the time did not keep me closely informed of developments, and I was forced to write to the hon the State President to find out what had occurred in his department.

There were certain arrests, and the people who were arrested for these murders are now out on bail. I received a letter from the hon the State President very recently. It reads as follows:

> No evidence was found to substantiate any claim of police involvement or the involvement of individual policemen in the violence, or of police apathy.

Of course that is arrant nonsense, because it is apathy and negligence that the police are being accused of, not involvement. The letter goes on as follows:

> Because of this lack of substantial evidence I am not in a position to refer the matter to the Commission of Inquiry regarding the Prevention of Public Violence and Intimidation.

Even after that letter the criticism stands. It is a criticism of a tardy investigation. Very much involved in that is the fact that we believe that in a case like this one cannot have the police investigate the police. The reason is that one then finds oneself in the impossible situation in which the body accused of apathy is being investigated by its own officers. [Time expired.]

*Mr J VAN ECK: Mr Chairman, at the end of the debate I would like to tell the hon the Minister that he did not reply to the question I asked. Is he truly satisfied that the police played the role they were supposed to play that day, namely that of protectors of the community? That is the question. What preventive measures did they take?

I want to suggest that in all probability they did nothing. I repeat that that area was declared an unrest area hours before the attack. Large numbers of police were deployed throughout the area. There were 800 heavily armed people who walked 5 kilometres through an area and killed 28 people. Shots were fired and fires were started. A quarter of the camp was burnt down. At no stage did the police turn up to protect the people.

The accusation is not that the police participated actively. However, what did the police do to protect a community which was defenceless? If he cannot reply to that question, he should have the matter investigated further, because the communities will not accept the police as their friends if they are seen as people who do not protect the community against whoever launches the attack.

I put the question earlier, and I should like to hear the hon the Minister's reply, because this is the question he did not reply to. Criminal complaints can be investigated, and people can be charged with murder, but the role of the police is a thorny political problem for all of us who want peace in our country.

*The DEPUTY MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER: Mr Chairman, it is correct, as the hon member for Brakpan says, that more than 350 statements were taken. In November last year I addressed a letter to the ANC to say that of the 218 statements which were taken, only 25 implicated the police. Of all the accusations which were levelled at the police, there was not one that could be linked to a specific member of the Police Force regarding conduct which can be held against him. Those matters were investigated thoroughly.

cont. ---- P

The matter is now in the hands of the Attorney General. If there is any unhappiness about the manner in which this matter has been investigated, it is the right of any hon member to contact the Attorney General in question and say that he objects, as the hon member for Sandton stated, against the sloppy investigation of the matter. He can ask that the matter be investigated properly, and that allegations against the police be investigated in the light of any facts which the hon member for Claremont might have.

The information at my disposal, however, is that the SA Police could not prevent this incident. That incident did not take place during the day and in front of everyone.

I do not want to discuss the merits of the incident with the hon member today. This matter is sub judice. Legal proceedings have been instituted and a trial will take place, and if the hon member wants to discuss the matter further, I can inform him fully. I therefore invite the hon member to visit me in my office. I will give him all the facts, but in an interpellation such as this we cannot discuss a complete case with 350 statements. If the hon member is not satisfied with the results of the trial, or if he has more allegations against the SA Police, he can also come forward with that matter. Our doors are open to him.

Debate concluded.

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version.

For oral reply:

General Affairs:

Questions standing over from Wednesday, 26 February 1992:

Cinema shows on Sundays

*3. Mr A J LEON aksed the Minister of Justice:

(1) Whether he has given consideration to repealing or amending the legislation governing the prohibition of commercial cinema shows on Sundays; if so,

(2) whether it is the intention to repeal or amend the legislation in question during the current session of Parliament; if not, why not;

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

B200E

†The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

(1), (2), and (3) Legislation in general is the subject of constant investigation and evaluation to ensure that it meets with public demand. That is indeed also the position with the legislation concerned. In this regard I have in the past amongst others conducted numerous discussions with representatives of the film industry on the issue of the exhibition of films on Sundays and public holidays. It always took place in a responsible manner and in good spirit with mutual understanding for each others views.

During these discussions the possibility was raised that the power of the Minister of Justice in the Prohibition of the Exhibition of Films on Sundays and Public Holidays Act, 1977, to grant consent for the exhibition of films on Sundays for any consideration, be devolved to local authorities. In view of the fact that various Sunday activities are at present being regulated by provincial or local enactments, the Government has now accepted the principle that the power to regulate on an issue of this nature, be devolved either to provincial and/or local authorities. Consideration is at present being given to a framework within which such devolution may take place.

Mr A J LEON: Mr Chairman, I should like to ask a supplementary question arising from the reply of the hon the Minister of Justice. While I am grateful for the information that this is now going to be devolved to local authorities in due course, perhaps the hon the Minister could just address two aspects of this.

On a national level at least M-Net and SABC-TV currently allow films to be shown on Sunday evenings. That has national implications and is tolerated. Surely the same principle should be allowed with regard to movie houses and cinemas operating nationally. [Interjections.]

The second aspect is this. Currently, as we debate this question here in Parliament, there is a cinema chain in Goodwood, Cape Town, which in contravention of this particular law, is showing films on Sundays without prosecution. [Interjections.] I know a lot of hon members here will enjoy . . . [Interjections.]

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE: Order! I cannot allow hon members to make supplementary statements. I can only allow them to put supplementary questions. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I was going to remark that had we been in court of law, I would have asked the Chairman to rule that the first remark be removed altogether from the record since it is argumentative and superfluous. Secondly, as to the second point the hon member made . . .

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE: Order! I would have concurred with my hon learned friend. [Interjections.] The hon the Minister may continue.

The MINISTER: I accept your verdict, Mr Chairman.

As to the second point, is the hon member going to lay a charge? [Interjections.] If he is not going to lay a charge, we obviously have to take cognizance of that situation, but the hon member must surely then consider whether it is relevant or not, although it does support my approach that a local authority is in the best position to gauge what the sentiments of a local community are. [Interjections.]

Mamelodi: persons killed

*7. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Law and Order:

Whether, with reference to the inquest into the deaths of certain persons killed in Mamelodi on 21 November 1985 and the reply to Questions No 12 on 5 March 1991, the South African Police will disclose the (a) contents of the statement made by and (b) identity of the witness that was traced on 15 February 1991; if not, why not; if so, what are the details?

B249E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(a) and (b) No, the Attorney General decided that the statement provided by and the identity of the witness traced, at his request, should not be disclosed.

Questions standing over from Wednesday, 4 March 1992:

Prisoners injured

*1. Mr A J LEON asked the Minister of Correctional Services:

How many persons serving terms of imprisonment were injured accidentally in 1991?

B253E

†The MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES:

During 1991, 5 228 prisoners sustained injuries. This represents approximately 1,29% of the total number of prisoners admitted to South African prisons from police and courts during the 1991 calender year. These statistics include, *inter alia*, injuries sustained in work situations and participation in sport.

The Department of Correctional Services does everything possible to prevent accidents and injuries to prisoners. The safe custody of prisoners implies, *inter alia*, the prevention of accidents and injuries. With due consideration of safety measures comprehensive instructions and precautions exist to ensure that prisoners do not injure themselves or other prisoners during work, recreation or otherwise. Where appropriate, the stipulations of the Machinery and Occupational Safety Act, 1983 (Act 6 of 1983) are complied with.

When prisoners participate in organised sport it is done under supervision and as far as is possible, preventative measures are also taken to prevent prisoners from being injured.

Every injury sustained by a prisoner is properly recorded and should the circumstances under which it was sustained or the nature of the injury necessitate it, a comprehensive enquiry is held into the incident. If necessary remedial/preventative steps are instituted.

It is standing practice that every prisoner who sustains an injury is seen by a doctor in order that he may receive the necessary medical treatment.

Should a prisoner sustain an injury during the accomplishment of his work or during participation in organized sport he is covered by the stipulations of Prisons Regulation 107.

Social pensions cancelled

*2. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Local Government and National Housing:

SOWETAN
Building the Nation

Call to Tsakane homeless

Sowetan 19/3/92

310

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

HUNDREDS of homeless families who have applied for the Independent Development Trust serviced sites in Tsakane on the East Rand have been asked to approach the local town council offices immediately.

The council's public relations officer, Mr Jerry Tseki, yesterday said that they had interviewed more than 700 families regarding the sites. But only have 366 have signed documents.

The council was facing difficulty tracing the rest of the applicants after they were interviewed in order for them to sign the necessary documents before the March 27 deadline.

Mandela Village

Tseki said that the sites would be made available to families from "Mandela Village" and other parts of the black residential area in need of homes.

He appealed to residents to come to the local authorities' offices to complete their forms.

Land ownership leading to homes is the biggest thrust in the IDT's assault on poverty, the spokesman said, adding, of the R1,5-billion allocated so far, more than R898,7 million has gone to housing countrywide.

About R750-million has been set aside for the capital subsidy scheme, the biggest programme for the development of nearly 100 000 new serviced sites that will accommodate about 700 000 people.

The capital subsidy scheme accounts just for over half of all IDT funds set aside so far. It covers 108 projects, of which nearly two-thirds will be new settlements.

The money will pay for the development of serviced sites for a total of 99 000 of South Africa's poorest families. An average cost of R7 500 a site has been set.

Mr Bushy Moloi, co-director of Double-Up Project with managing director Mr Mac Leaf on the site in Rockville, Soweto.

Going for the double

(310)

Sowetan 19/3/92

THE overcrowded conditions in the townships and the increased demand for housing from blacks have caused builders to erect and market "double-storey" structures on the existing "matchbox houses".

It is expected that the new scheme will also add value to the existing homes, help alleviate the overcrowding and serve as a potential source of rental income.

The "build on" housing scheme has been designed and re-introduced in Soweto by Mitek South Africa Ltd and plans have been drawn up by Mr Ian Cruickshank, a registered architect and currently president of the SA Council for Architects.

At the launch of the project in Soweto this week, manager of Double-Up Mr Mac Leaf said that as space was limited in the townships, they proposed to market and erect "loft room" structures on the existing house to alleviate the overcrowding.

He said arrangements have been made with Federated Timbers to supply the materials to the site in kit form from their Benoni branch.

The company will embark on other similar projects in the PWV area at affordable prices for the disadvantaged families in the townships.

One of the first occupants of the "double-up project" in Rockville, Mr Desmond Mphasane, said he believed the new concept was unique.

"The double-storey houses have been expensive for blacks in the townships, but the new scheme is better and can be structured in small yards." Mphasane said.

"Our yards in the townships are small and I believe that the double-up project will help alleviate the space problem we are experiencing."

JCI in talks to find solution for squatters

(310)

STAR 23/3/92

By Peter Wellman

Johannesburg Consolidated Investment has been a background player in negotiations over a permanent home for the squatters at Zevenfontein, near Fourways, the Transvaal Provincial Administration has revealed.

JCI has a township and golf course development in the area, Dainfern, and has been talking "constructively" to the TPA and other interested groups, a TPA official said.

JCI senior manager of township development Chris Speirs said: "Most land we might have tends to be south-west of the Johannesburg-Randfontein industrial belt, and most Zevenfontein residents have jobs in their area ... transport costs would be so onerous as to be discounted."

The Zevenfontein land owner, who has asked not to be identified, has allowed the squatters to remain there until July, and the TPA has undertaken to find them a permanent home by then.

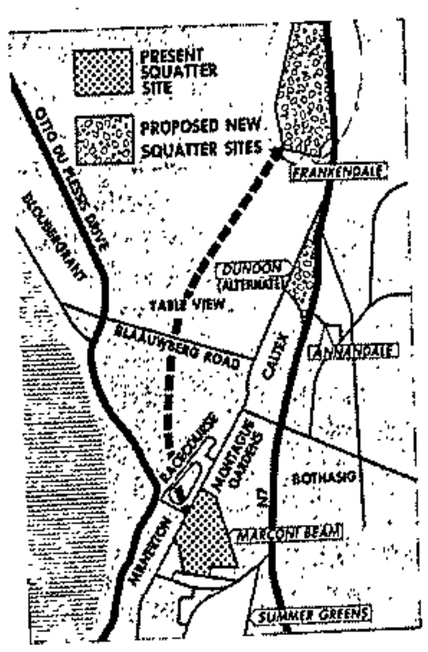
Squatter proposal: Scepticism

CT 28/3/92 (310)

By PETER DENNEHY

MILNERTON council's proposal to move the town's squatter community to the most northerly of four possible alternative sites was met with scepticism yesterday.

The squatters are now living at the Marconi Beam site on Koeberg Road. The council says it plans to move them to Frankendale, north of their present area.



SQUATTERS ...
Proposed new sites

The chairman of the Milnerton Ratepayers' Association, Mr Klaus Borgelt, said he did not believe that Frankendale would be the eventual site.

He said the new site had been rejected by the provincial administration and the Regional Services Council.

Ms Josette Cole of the Surplus People's Project (SPP) said the new site was unsuitable because it was too far from the people's work.

The SPP tried to get a response from a squatter representative, but this was not forthcoming yesterday.

Mr Borgelt said the council had been responding to the concerns of many of its residents.

A group of ratepayers recently called on the entire Milnerton Town Council to resign because, on legal advice, it broadened a study of possible future squatter sites to include their present site.

Mr Alastair Rendall of the Development Action Group said the way decision had been reached reflected the pattern of the past, "where unrepresentative local authorities made decisions over the lives of impoverished, struggling, homeless people".

It was no longer acceptable to shift low-income people to the periphery of the city.

He called for a co-ordinated metropolitan housing strategy to prevent ad hoc short-term solutions, which resulted in too many people being crowded onto the few pieces of land made available.

Mr Rendall did welcome Milnerton town clerk Mr Pieter Gerber's willingness to investigate, with interested parties, other areas in the municipality where smaller communities could be located.

Millions below poverty line

By SOPHIE TEMA

MORE than three million rural blacks in SA under the age of 15 are suffering from malnutrition, according to Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman.

This problem is highlighted in the latest paper released by the Foundation for Research Development (FRD) which emphasises the plight of 13 million illiterate and poverty-stricken people living in rural areas.

The FRD says the misery of their degrading environment is compounded by one of the highest population growth rates in the world, and most rural people are living below the survival threshold.

The paper says more than 50 percent of SA's blacks are below the age of 20, and approximately the same percentage are illiterate. This fuels the vicious cycle of ignorance and poverty.

Operation Hunger has calculated that in 1991 the cost of feeding a family a palatable and balanced diet in Soweto (red meat excluded) was R565,87 a month, while more than 84 percent of the people in this country had a monthly family income of less than R600 00.

SKIN AND BONES ... Women in the rural areas bear intolerable burdens.

Nutrition education must, therefore, receive urgent attention.

Children under the age of six face the greatest deprivation. For many of them depressed socio-economic conditions, widespread environmental degradation and an impoverished education system leave little hope for a productive adult career.

"It is common knowledge that education for black children is still not compulsory in this country. Recent statistics have shown that approximately 25 percent of those who do reach the classroom, fail the first grade, and many of them drop out, never to return.

"There are many contributory factors including overcrowded classrooms, under-trained teachers, inappropriate curricula and pupil malnutrition," it says.

FRD has revealed that only one in every 10 000 black school entrants matriculates with university entrance qualifications in mathematics or science.

The paper also emphasises the vital role that women play in rural areas.

"They are responsible for caring for their children, collecting wood and drawing water, household chores and providing the cultural underpinning of communities in which a large percentage of the men are absent.

"In many instances, rural women bear an intolerable burden and are denied the opportunity to improve their skills and education," it says.

According to the FRD, there is scarcely any activity among rural people that cannot be improved by introducing appropriate technology. This includes university development and school and technology programmes.

Urgent attention needs to be given to better agriculture, forestry and veterinary science.

"The critical shortage of water in rural areas should be given the highest priority," it says.

The FRD is a major partner in joint ventures with the Department of Water Affairs and the Water Research Commission, and co-ordinates several important studies in this field.

SCRAPING THE BARREL ... The chances of this child matriculating with maths and science are one in 10 000 says the latest FRD report.

Zevenfontein squatters to move to Cosmo City

THE Zevenfontein squatters have opted for relocation to Cosmo City, near North Riding, after their move to Bloubosrand was blocked last month.

Informed sources indicate that 75 percent of the squatter families voted to go to Cosmo City and 25 percent chose Diepsloot, where the Transvaal Provincial Administration originally intended for permanent settlement of the 750 families.

But numbers at Zevenfontein have now reliably been reported to have risen to between 13 500 and 14 000 families, which would amount to about 84 000 people.

However, a TPA spokesman said this was unlikely as the farm where they were allowed to stay until the end of July was under constant TPA and South African Police surveillance to contain the influx of people.

The squatters themselves had agreed to monitor the situation as they were aware that they would not get stands if their numbers were not contained.

This information comes ahead of today's deadline for the report of the TPA appointed task group in January (including local authorities, the TPA and the Operation Masakhane for the Homeless) to investigate the resettlement of squatters.

The administrator is believed to be evaluating the report before taking a decision by next week.

Chartwell Local Area Committee chairman Mr Graham Dean was sceptical of the findings, saying the Zevenfontein squatters were only canvassed on a few occasions and it was difficult to get an accurate response to questions about future resettlement.

Chartwell LAC backed a move to Alexandra, Tembisa or Ivory Park, which would be socially acceptable as the squatters could be absorbed into the community, rather than being dumped kilometres from infrastructure and sporting, shopping, educational and recreational facilities.

Greenbelt Action Group chairman Mr Anthony Duigan said it was worrying that the sub-committee set up by the TPA's task force had spent an estimated 750 hours alone on the relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters.

"If it takes so long to resettle a small group of people, how will they cope with the larger issue?" he asked.

Zevenfontein squatters look towards Cosmo City to settle

Aug 31/3/92

The Argus Correspondent (30)

JOHANNESBURG. — The Zevenfontein squatters have opted for relocation to Cosmo City near North Riding, after their move to Bloubosrand was blocked last month.

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Cosmo City first choice of Zevenfontein squatters

STAR 31/3/92

By Shirley Woodgate (310)

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Policeman killed in squatter camp trap

B1 Daily 3/13/92

A POLICE warrant officer was lured into a squatter camp and murdered yesterday, Witwatersrand police spokesman Capt Eugene Opperman said.

W/O M G Nxumalo, of the uniform branch at Thokoza, was murdered after being called to the Phola Park squatter camp on the East Rand, Opperman said.

Soon after Nxumalo's arrival in Phola Park, an unidentified caller apparently telephoned the Thokoza police station, and said the policeman was being held hostage.

No demands were made and the caller hung up immediately.

Opperman said the internal stability unit then "saturated Phola Park and found W/O Nxumalo's vehicle abandoned in the squatter camp".

Just before 4pm the policeman's bullet-ridden body was found in an open field near the squatter camp. Nxumalo had been shot several times with an AK-47 rifle.

"The SA Police expresses its disappointment and shock at the way policeman are being lured into certain areas under false pretences and then brutally murdered," Opperman said.

He said police investigations were continuing. — Sapa.

● See Page 2

310

Squatter report is due

A TPA task group has completed a report investigating the resettlement of squatters north and north-west of Johannesburg.

The report, compiled by representatives of local authorities, the TPA, interest groups and Operation Masekhane, will be studied by Administrator Danie Hough and the TPA executive committee.

The TPA said a decision on the resettlement of the Zevenfontein squatters would be taken by the weekend or early next week.

The TPA said reports that the community would be moved to Cosmo City near North Riding were speculation, but it was a possibility. B/Day 1/4/92

city.

Visitors will find no electronic control panels fitted into bedside tables to switch TV and radio channels. The Eskom electricity grid hasn't reach here yet.

Instead, fastened on the hardboard wall of the kitchen, there is an ingenious gadget linked by a cobweb of electric wires to a set of small batteries. Once they have learnt the tricks, visitors can slide a device that looks like a matchbox across the top of a small homemade cardboard panel marked with simple handwritten instructions.

As one moves the matchbox, so an electric light turns on in the tiny sitting room, or in an even tinier bedroom, or in the cramped kitchen ... as long as the batteries last out. The next move switches on a portable radio — and music blares out of a broken guitar that has been converted into an extension loudspeaker and hangs on the wall alongside the front door.

Maria Tsotatsi claps her hands with joy.

"It's our number one hi-fi system," she giggles with obvious pride in her husband's inventiveness. "My husband made it and all the neighbours think it's wonderful."

A house-proud Maria insists we peep into all the rooms in her new home, fashioned out of a variety of materials from timber poles to hardboard and asbestos panels.

"In fact, my husband built the whole house himself." She taps her foot on the spotless floor. "It's the very first home of our own. Best of all, we own it lock stock and barrel — the land, the house, everything."

Husband Jonas, hit by the recession, is unemployed at the moment and has taken the bus to Johannesburg to hunt for a job. "We're holding thumbs he'll be lucky," says Maria. "But just in case ..."

Maria strides outside, under the Moleleki Sun garden shade, and down to the roadside. Four timber poles support a roof and a shop counter. Maria claps her hands with more glee. "When we have somehow saved a few more rands, we're going into business — selling cosmetics. I'm sure we'll do quite well."

The exuberance was shared by Johanna Radebe, a neighbour who was on hands and knees happily polishing the mirror finish of the gleaming red concrete floor of the stoep outside her timber house. Her three-year-old son Tankiso played with new chums.

Mrs Radebe, a single mother, admits she almost fainted when she learnt a few weeks ago that she had been selected to become the owner of one of the 1 500 house stands being allocated at no cost to homeless families in the area.

Home at last ... Maria Tsotatsi (left) in high spirits with neighbour Anna Hashatsi outside the Moleleki Sun.

STAR 1/4/92

From meagre savings as a hawker, she had scraped together R150 to pay workers to lay concrete house foundations, R730 to buy timber and R450 to pay a team of builders to erect her new home.

Mrs Radebe was undaunted by the fact that her savings were almost exhausted. "Now I have the chance to start a permanent business," she says. "In a few days I shall open a vegetable stall here at home. Lots of neighbours tell me they will be regular customers."

The Tsotatsis and Radebes make typical profiles of the hundreds of low-income black families moving into Moleleki, a brand-new grassroots housing project being developed outside Germiston to help relieve the plight of homelessness on the East Rand.

In turn, Moleleki makes a typical profile of the nationwide network of new housing projects launched by the Independent Development Trust under its scheme to provide 100 000 house plots, all fitted out with basic running water and sanitation services, to homeless black families on the bottom rungs of the low-income ladder.

With each serviced site subsidised to the tune of R7 500, successful applicants are handed the house plots, plus the deeds proving full legal ownership, at no cost at all. The whole idea is that they then have freedom to erect whatever kind of shelter they choose — within their limited budgets.

Since each applicant must have proved that the main breadwinner was struggling to survive on R1 000 a month at most, and the family had never owned a home of its own until now, it may mean little more than a shack can be afforded at first.

But as dozens of interviews showed, the thrill of actual ownership of the plot acts as a powerful inspiration for hopes of improvements, even permanent brick-and-mortar homes in time.

"Our only disappointment is that the IDT cannot reach even more homeless families because of limits on our budget," says Mike Morkel, the IDT consultant who co-ordinates all 40 similar projects being tackled in the Transvaal.

"At Moleleki, our budget could stretch no further than 1 500 serviced stands of 200 to 250 square metres each, with tarred main roads and gravel minor roads. In fact, in less than three weeks we were inundated with 3 000 applications from families whose low incomes qualified them for assistance.

"As elsewhere, we called in the local community to decide on allocations — the Katlehong City Council, the Katlehong Civic Association, church leaders and so on. They worked out a points system to grade families by the degree of real need. It was all very democratic — pleted and taken over. The population will have swollen to about 10 000 on the basis of average family size.

The frustrations caused to the IDT by the limits set by budget restrictions have deepened as nationwide patterns have emerged since the programme was first unveiled in 1990.

It sounded a lot when a whopping R750 million slice of total IDT funds of R2 billion was assigned to the capital subsidy scheme for 100 000 serviced house sites — enough to accommodate 700 000 victims of homelessness.

But the awesome scale of gross poverty struck home deeper than ever when the tidal wave of applications hit the IDT head office in Cape Town. No fewer than 640 000 families were standing in line.

"It tears at your guts when you realise the extent of utter poverty," says director of housing Ben van der Ross. "We reckon a massive 1 million homeless families in fact qualify for the scheme on the basis of proof they are struggling on joint incomes below R1 000 a month. The total may be still higher.

"It means our R750 million budget, as large as it sounds, can meet no more than 10 percent of demand at best. It's tragic to try to explain that the number and size of projects we can tackle is limited by financial resources."

For the moment, Mr van der Ross tries to keep frustrations at bay by making certain that every single rand and cent makes optimum impact. The satisfaction comes when nationwide progress-reports flow in.

The list of site developments under way is growing faster and faster. Many of them are greenfields projects, carving brand new housing estates out of virgin veld. Others are aimed at bringing improvements to huge squatter settlements which — in mixtures of humour or anger — have been given names like Soweto-on-Sea, outside Port Elizabeth, and Freedom Square, outside Bloemfontein.

As the pace speeds up, the rate at which serviced sites are being handed over is expected to reach about 8 000 a month by October.

It also means, however, that the balance of the R750 million budget is sinking faster and faster. "By the end of the year, about R600 million of it will already have been ploughed into projects," says Mr van der Ross. "The balance has long been committed.

"New injections of funds have become crucial if we are going to make a bigger dent in the problem. More financial support is now urgent to keep the programme going." □

Homeless rejoice as they find their place in the sun

310

INDEPENDENT DEVELOPMENT TRUST

STAR 1/4/92.

A new grassroots project to provide subsidised house stands for 1 500 homeless black families on the East Rand is a microcosm of the R750 million programme launched by the Independent Development Trust to tackle the housing crisis. It also underscores the tragic scale of the problem, reports MICHAEL CHESTER.

NO, THE Moleleke Sun is not the newest link in the growing chain of glitz-and-glamour casino palaces. It's unlikely that Sol Kerzner knows it even exists. There are no roulette tables. No rows of one-arm bandits.

The Moleleki Sun is the house name painted on the black plastic sheet that forms the top of a rough-and-ready garden umbrella outside the modest new build-it-yourself home owned by a family of former squatters on the East Rand.

The selection of the name is a reminder of the irrepressible humour that can bubble out from the miseries of black poverty.

but we still had the heartbreak of having to turn away half the applicants.

"Equally important, though, we achieved the next objective. We make a key target with each project: total community involvement.

"It's amazing how many hatchets can be buried when a whole community gets together to form a steering committee to make major decisions themselves on how projects are developed and shaped to tackle longer-term planning."

Moleleki, started only a few months ago, is still in its infancy. But by June all 1 500 serviced sites will have been com-

Van Tonder threatens violence over squatters

B1Day 2/4/92

BOERESTAAT Party leader Robert van Tonder has threatened violent opposition if the Transvaal Provincial Administration attempts to move the Zevenfontein squatters into his area.

Cosmo City, one of the possible sites being considered by the TPA, is located just a few kilometres from Van Tonder's large property at Northriding, north of Randburg.

Van Tonder, who has lived in the area for 30 years and is chairman of the local residents' action group, said eight vigilante groups had been formed in the area which were ready to meet the squatters with the kind of force that would make Bloubosrand attempts to keep them out look feeble.

There are indications that the Zevenfontein community has reconsidered its initial choice of moving to Cosmo City after hearing where the proposed site was.

Community representative Pinky Mokahena said the squatters had asked the TPA not to make public its final decision on where to move the squatters until the community had had time to consider it.

TPA representative Magda du Toit said the TPA was taking Van Tonder's presence into account in deciding the eventual site.

The TPA may also decide against the area, as it cannot afford another high profile political battle over the fate of the Zevenfontein community.

KATHRYN STRACHAN

Van Tonder said none of the squatters worked in his area and emphasised that municipalities such as Randburg and Sandton should accommodate their workforce within their own boundaries.

He said Cosmo City was an affluent area and the residents would sue the TPA for billions in compensation for the drop in property values if the move took place.

At a residents protest meeting in the area on Tuesday night, the DP, NP and "leftists" had all co-operated with him in discussing plans to keep the squatters out, Van Tonder said.

He said residents in the area had appealed to Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough late last year to make the area between Randburg, Midrand and Hartebeespoortdam a separate municipality, called the Garden Triangle. The move was initiated when it became clear that Randburg, Sandton and the TPA were planning to create squatter camps in the area.

Du Toit said a task group would report back this month on the appeal for a separate municipality.

The other option favoured by the Zevenfontein community was Waterval near Megawatt Park.

Invitation withdrawn

B1Day 2/4/92

DARIUS SANAI

FARMERS in Zimbabwe had withdrawn an invitation to SA Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk to visit Harare to address a conference, Foreign Affairs said yesterday.

Van Niekerk was not refused entry by the Zimbabwe government, as suggested in news reports.

A spokesman said the Minister had been invited to address the Zimbabwe Commercial Farmers' Union but the invitation had been withdrawn.

Zimbabwe needs to import around 2-million tons of maize in the next year, and most of it will be delivered from or through SA.

Foreign Affairs also confirmed that there were long queues at Beit Bridge on the Zimbabwe-SA border due to the growing number of trucks taking maize into Zimbabwe.

Customs facilities on the SA side would be upgraded soon, but there were no plans to widen the bridge or build another crossing.

Squatters to know fate soon

By Peter Wellman (310)

Zevenfontein's squatters will know by the middle of the month where their new home is to be. STAR 3/4/92

Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough on Wednesday postponed a decision until the end of next week because his executive committee had found that one possible site had not been investigated by his task team, a TPA spokesman said.

The spokesman said Mr Hough and the Zevenfontein community had narrowed the options from an original 19 to three — all north of Johannesburg in the Fourways vicinity.

"He needs to know exactly which spot is preferred.

"There are several big unused tracts of land out there," the spokesman said.

Feasibility and costs also needed to be looked at, he added.

The owner of Zevenfontein has given the squatters until July 1 to move out, and the TPA has agreed to meet this deadline.

The TPA has promised to provide water and toilets, and to help the community move to the new area.

Squatters still uncertain

Sowetan 3/4/92 (310)

ZEVENFONTEIN'S squatters will know by the middle of the month where their new home is to be.

Transvaal administrator Danie Hough on Wednesday postponed a decision until the end of next week because his executive committee had found one possible site had not been investigated by his task team, a Transvaal Provincial Administration spokesman said last night.

The Administrator and the Zevenfontein community had narrowed the options to three from an original 19, said the spokesman - all north of Johannesburg in the Fourways vicinity.

"He needs to know exactly which spot is preferred. There are several big unused tracts of land out there," said the spokesman.

The feasibility and cost of establishing a township on the site also needed to be looked at, he said.

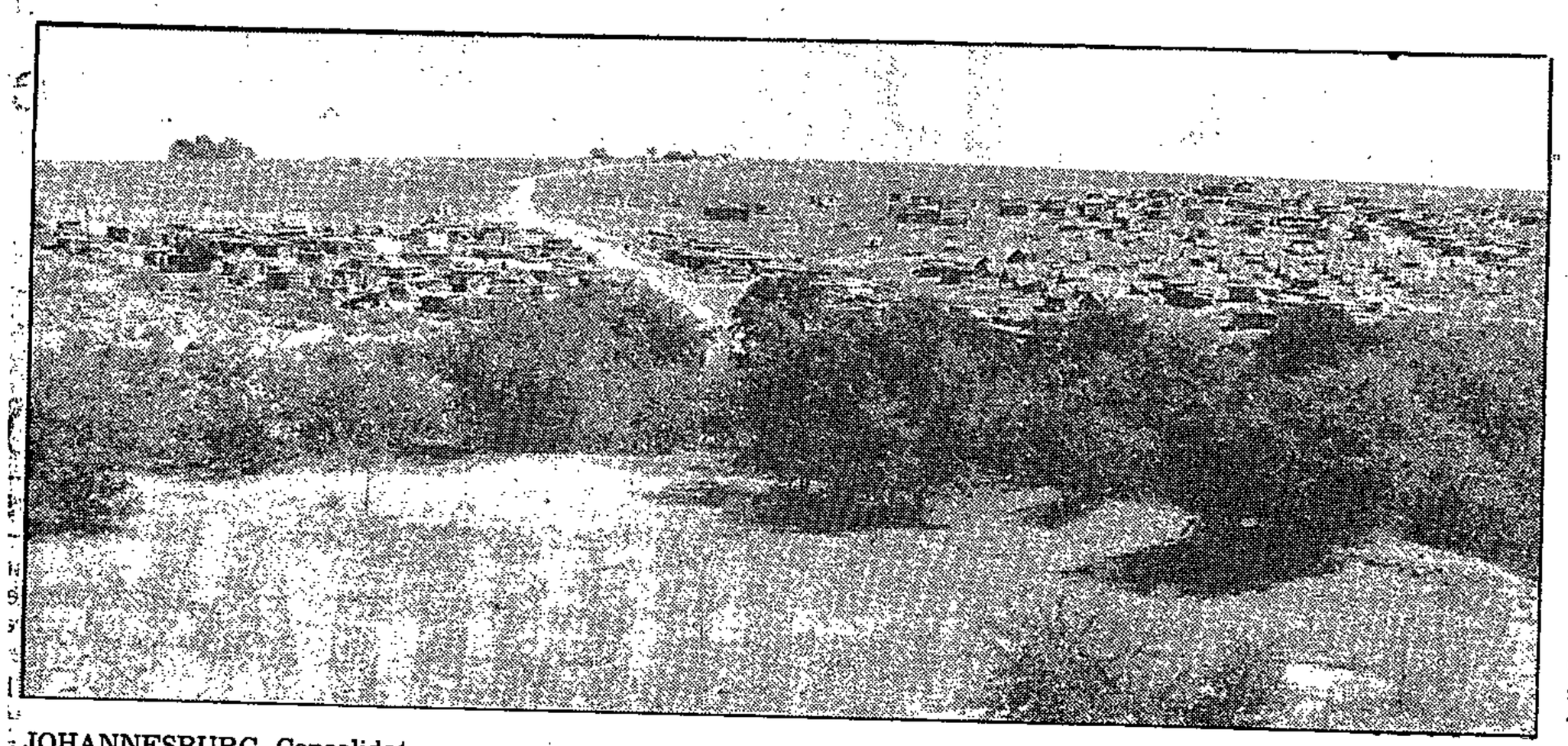
Officials said one site favoured by the squatters, near Cosmo City, was not suitable.

It had no road access and could not be protected easily because it was in a hollow below hilltops.

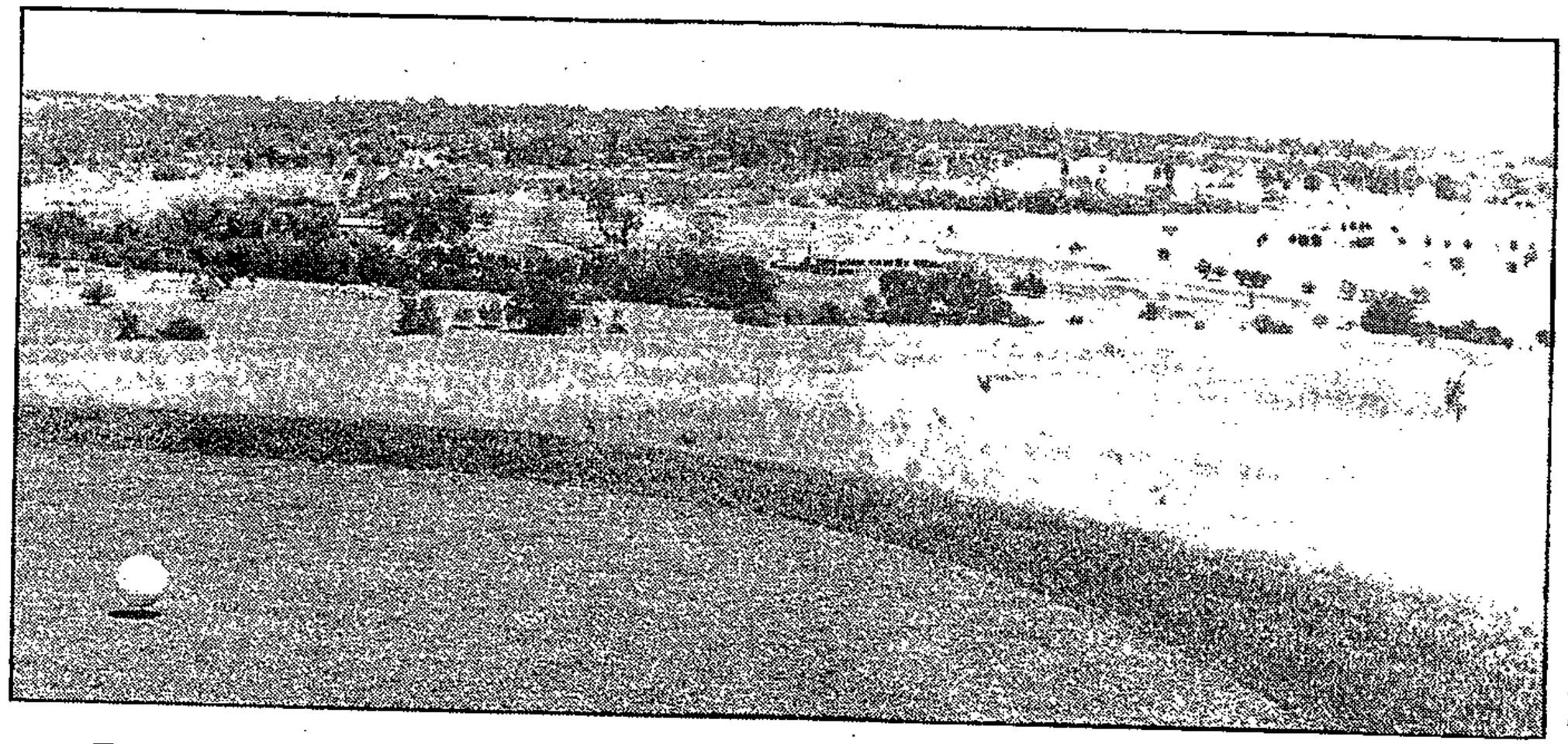
The squatters have been given until July 1 to move out by their present landowner, and the TPA has agreed to meet this deadline.

The TPA has promised to provide water and toilets and to help the community move to the new area.

For instance, officials had taken squatter representatives to see the Cosmo City site for themselves.



ROUGH SHELTERS: The Zevenfontein camp. The row upon row of shacks are home to about 750 squatter families . . .



. . . While just a good drive and a seven iron away is JCI's exclusive Dainfern golf club.

Photographs: MOTLHALEFI MAHLABE

JCI has 'driving' interest in Zevenfontein squatters

STAR 4/4/92

SATURDAY STAR REPORTER

JOHANNESBURG Consolidated Investment (JCI) has become involved in determining the fate of the Zevenfontein squatters in an effort to protect its investment in its nearby exclusive golf club.

The company was this week revealed as one of the players in discussions to relocate the camp's homeless, who live just a good drive and a seven iron away from JCI's exclusive Dainfern golf club.

When questioned by the Saturday Star, it emerged that JCI was not only concerned about the Zevenfontein issue, but wished to become involved in discussions regarding its empty land strategically situated south of Johannesburg for housing development.

JCI admitted that its concern for the 750 homeless families' fate was sparked by self-interest.

"As one of the interested parties in an issue relating to the possible allocation of land use rights to properties in the Zevenfontein area, JCI was one of those invited by the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) to make representations in this regard," JCI senior manager of township development Chris Speirs said.

But he revealed that the company also wanted to become involved in negotiations with the Metropolitan Chamber over the future of its land south west of Johannesburg.

The property lies in an area regarded by members of the Metropolitan Chamber as ideal for development for low-income housing.

While the TPA is looking at cheaper land north of the city, members of the chamber argue that this will prove too expensive in the long run. It is likely the land the TPA eventually decides on as suitable for the Zevenfontein families will be in the north.

But some chamber members believe the area is too far removed from established centres and the cost of transport to places of employment and the creation of new infrastructures — sewerage, shops, roads and electricity — would prove higher in the long run.

In a reference to its land in the south west, Speirs said: "JCI is aware of the work being done in the Metropolitan Chamber to prepare reasoned land development proposals.

"The work is considered to be of considerable importance. JCI would welcome the opportunity to play a useful role, at the discretion of the chamber, in the production of a housing programme and land use allocation framework that will be appropriate to the needs of the new South Africa."

310

He praised the TPA for its "extremely skilful" handling of the Zevenfontein issue and hoped lessons learnt would be "used to pre-empt the development of crises in the future."

JCI had not contributed any money towards the cost of relocating the Zevenfontein families, Speirs added.

Two sites for squatters suggested

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration has received a report recommending Cosmo City and Diepsloot, both north of Johannesburg, as the best sites for final relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters.

Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough is expected to make an announcement soon, based on the recommendations in the report by a TPA-appointed task group.

Greenbelt Action Group spokesman Anthony Duigan, who represented his organisation on the task group, said the problem of the Zevenfontein squatters was far from resolved as residents from both areas had made it clear that they would forcefully resist any attempt to relocate the squatters to their areas.

B1 Dcw 7/4/92

KATHRYN STRACHAN 310

According to Duigan, the task group could not come to any agreement on a site. The matter had to be referred to a subgroup — made up of two townplanners and representatives of the Zevenfontein community. It was possible, despite all the deliberations of the task group, that Hough could announce a site that had not been recommended by the task group, Duigan said. The squatters, however, would have to agree on the final settlement.

According to Duigan, the task group — established to investigate the problem of urbanisation — had four "heated" meet-

☐ To Page 2

Squatters

B1 Dcw 7/4/92

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☐ From Page 1

ings. He said the initial problem of Zevenfontein had dominated the meetings and nothing else had been achieved so far.

Of the 19 sites investigated by the task group, most were far from the squatters' places of work or would meet resistance from local residents.

About 1 000 Diepsloot residents and those from surrounding areas showed their opposition to the report in a public protest in the area yesterday afternoon.

Boerestaat leader Robert van Tonder, who lives in Cosmo City, has made it clear that residents would react violently if the squatters were sent there.

Diepsloot Residents' Committee chairman Stuart Aitcheson said the TPA had approached the problem in a haphazard way and had failed to set up proper regional planning structures.

Aitcheson said Diepsloot had made provision for the people employed in the area. As most of the squatters worked in Randburg and Sandton, it was up to those municipalities to find them housing.

More protest over moving Zevenfontein squatters

(310)

STAR 7/4/92

By Zingisa Mkhuma

About 1 500 residents of Diepsloot, north-west of Johannesburg, held a roadside protest on Sunday against the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA)'s proposed resettlement of Zevenfontein squatters in the area.

The TPA initially wanted to resettle the squatters in Blouboskrand, but the plan was abandoned after resistance from the residents and reservations on the part of the squatters.

The Diepsloot residents formed a 1,5 km-long line next to the road hoisting placards and asking people to sign a petition. Some of the placards read: "No to filth", "Hands off Diepsloot" and "Transfering Problems Again".

Anthony Duigan, of the Greenbelt Action Group, echoed the feelings of most residents when he said that the squatters needed to be housed closer to where they worked.

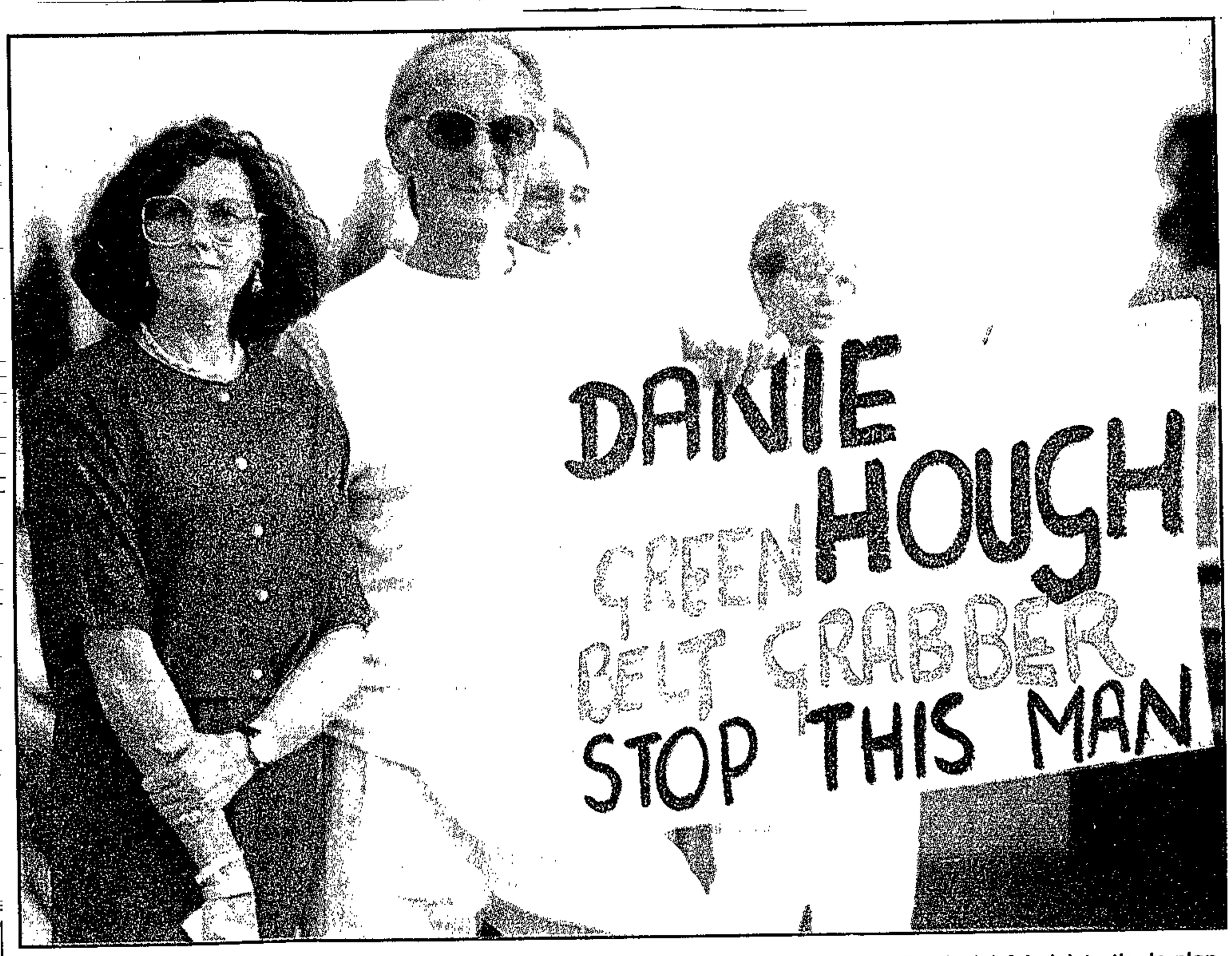
"The problem is that once you talk shacks, then people see squalor and filth. Also, we are not talking small families, we are talking about 1 400 to 1 500 families — families that will change the whole shape of this area," Mr Duigan said.

"Everybody that works in this area is accommodated here and there are many other people that live with them. There is also no municipality in Diepsloot to provide the infrastructure for squatters," he added.

The chairman of the Diepsloot Residents and Landowners Association (DRLA), Stuart Aitchison, said the protest was to make the public aware how people felt about the issue.

"Here in Diepsloot we provide housing for the people that we employ. The problem of the Zevenfontein squatters belongs to the Randburg and Sandton town councils, because those people work in those areas.

"Why does the TPA want to dump the squatters on a barren piece of land. What is the difference betweeen Zevenfontein and here?" he asked.



Battle line . . . Diepsloot residents demonstrate their opposition to the Transvaal Provincial Administration's plan to resettle 1 500 squatter families from Zevenfontein in their area.
Picture: Stephen Davimes

Van Tonder's threat must be dealt with urges MP

310

Boweten 8/4/92

SA Press Association

BOERESTAAT Party leader Mr Robert van Tonder's threat of violence against squatters should be dealt with strongly, Mr Rupert Lorimer (DP Bryanston) said yesterday.

"Threats of violence should be dealt with through the legal system. Whites should realise that leaving squatters in such appalling conditions will only lead to more violence," he told the Extended Public Committee on Transvaal Provincial Affairs in Pretoria.

He was referring to the Zevenfontein squatters, who were to be resettled in Randburg until a public outcry by residents put paid to the plans.

"The reaction of whites to squatter resettlement is violent, hysterical and extreme. Surely there is greater security in resettling people in an orderly fashion."

The Transvaal Provincial Administration's annual report released yesterday said squatting in the Transvaal had reached abnormal proportions.

Cases increased from 317 277 families in March 1990 to 341 631 in March last year. Of these, 26 688 families had been resettled.

"The backlog has been financed by Government votes from privatisation to the amount of R103 million," the report said.

Do not exploit squatter issue (310) Mavuso

PRETORIA — The TPA would act against people who exploited the squatter issue, MEC John Mavuso said yesterday.

Addressing the extended public committee, he said urbanisation had to be dealt with rationally or SA would never have peace.

"Whatever the reason for urbanisation, the fact is that we have countless homeless in the Transvaal who need to be resettled."

Resettling squatters was not only the task of government. It was also the duty of society to ensure its successful and orderly management.

"This lends itself to exploitation. Organisations and communities are manipulating these people to serve their interests.

"To those people I wish to say the TPA has reached a stage where it will take action against those who exploit these people." Bldcay 8/4/92

It was even more disturbing that those liberals, who for years campaigned for the rights of the homeless, were suddenly up in arms because black squatters were encroaching on their suburbs.

"They're afraid that this will affect the value of their property.

"They say these people are murderers and thieves. This smacks of colonialism.

"To these bigots I warn, the arrival of the new SA means more than just a different colour state president. Bigotry must disappear from our vocabulary." — Sapa.

8 1992 N

Squatters must be housed, insists MEC

STAR 8/4/92 (310)

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"To these bigots I warn the arrival of the new South Africa means more than just a different colour state president. Bigotry must disappear from our vocabulary," Mr Mavuso said.

The TPA's policy of urbanisation rested on two principals:

- If managed properly it would strengthen South Africa;
- Mere allocation of land did not solve anything. People had to be housed near to employment and those who could afford it would have to pay for their own housing.

"Urbanisation is inevitable in South Africa. Unless we tackle the problem in a practical manner we will never succeed in solving the problem," Mr Mavuso said.

Boerestaat Party leader Robert van Tonder's threat of violence against squatters should be dealt with strongly, Rupert Lorimer (DP Bryanston) told the committee.

"Threats of violence should be dealt with through the legal system. White South Africans should realise that leaving squatters in such appalling conditions will only lead to more violence," he said.

He was referring to the Zevenfontein squatters who were to have been resettled in the Randburg area until a public outcry by residents put paid to the plans.

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The number of cases had increased from 317 277 families in March 1990 to 341 631 in March last year. Of these, 26 688 families had been resettled.

"The backlog ... has been financed by means of Government votes from privatisation proceedings to the amount of R103 million.

"Progress has been made with the acquisition of land for the eventual settlement of more than 100 000 families on sites provided with rudimentary services. With the resources available everything was done to give each individual the opportunity to obtain their own dwelling-place in order to prevent illegal squatting," the TPA report said. — Sapa.

Fear stalks families at Zonke'izizwe

Sowetan 9/4/92 (310)

EVERY evening, 83-year-old Maria Sibanda watches her terrified neighbours seek sanctuary at the council offices overlooking Zonke'izizwe squatter camp.

When the neighbours desert their shacks, Sibanda and her three grandchildren huddle together and stay in the shack where they saw their mother murdered by a rampaging mob on Monday night.

Cuddling 18-month-old orphan Simpiwe to her chest, Mrs Sibanda explained: "I am very scared, but I cannot leave this house until my daughter is buried."

Since Monday night, when about 100 men armed with guns, knives and makeshift weapons stormed through the street on the end of the squatter settlement, killing four people and injuring at least 13, terrified families have taken refuge at the Transvaal Provincial Administration offices.

"I just have to stay here. If they come again, I will surely die," the old woman said.

Sibanda said the family was asleep when they heard a commotion outside just before midnight.

"They bashed into our house and found me, demanding to see the man of the house."

Sibanda said one of the men found the children sleeping in another room. "He grabbed the children and another man said in Xhosa: 'Don't kill them, just burn them'."

When the children's mother, Sara, tried to protect them, the attackers stabbed and hacked her to death.

Between two piles of rubble which were once homes across the street from Sibanda, is the shack of Mishak Modise.

Modise's brother Rufus was murdered when two men burst into the house and found him hiding in a cupboard. They stabbed him to death while his brother and 90-year-old mother-in-law Elisa Marumde cowered under a bed.

Police are investigating the possibility that Monday night's attack was related to a massacre in Crossroads squatter camp about 5km away, in which 21 people were killed last Friday.

Green concern just a camouflage – TPA

STAR 9/4/92

By Shirley Woodgate

Smallholders in the north-western PWV area who "cry green and become progressively greener as black urbanisation approaches" received a tongue-lashing from Transvaal Provincial Administration chief Len Dekker yesterday.

Addressing a media briefing in Pretoria, the Deputy Director-General for Community Development warned that urbanisation was unstoppable, and called for a halt to "emotional outbursts" whenever black settlements were hinted at.

The TPA was sensitive to conservation, but investigation had proved that only land north of the Pretoria/Krugersdorp highway (R-28) towards the Magaliesberg was worth preserving as a green belt.

While the Kareebosrand conservancy and rivers and ridges were respected by the TPA, most of the land between Randburg and the R-28 could only be considered green in the eyes of a person wearing a green belt, he said.

Within the next nine years an additional 50 000 ha was needed to house an additional 3 million people. This meant the development of another area the size of Johannesburg or seven times the size of Soweto.

However, what was envisaged was not a single large area, but small settlements of people who worked in Randburg and Sandton.

Now that the focus had fallen on the north-west, he appealed to residents not to use conservation as a moral excuse to block black settlement.

Mr Dekker told Diepsloot protesters that the TPA executive committee had not taken a final decision on task force recommendations for a permanent home for the Zevenfontein squatters who had until July to move from their present location.

At this stage it was impossible to determine the cost of acquiring necessary land for low-cost housing. Contrary to common belief, many smallholders had already offered to sell their properties to the TPA.

Task force chairman Paul Waanders said there was respect for the Diepsloot Nature Reserve.

Approached for comment, Greenbelt Action Group spokesman Helen Duigan denied that GAG was trying to opt out of urbanisation. "We are definitely part of the process, offering properly planned recreation areas for the entire region."

Smallholders within the green belt were already housing thousands of workers employed on the plots.

Green stance 'a facade for racism'

KATHRYN STRACHAN

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) yesterday accused residents in areas north of Johannesburg, who have opposed plans to settle the controversial Zevenfontein squatters in their areas, of using environmental issues to hide their racism. BDay 9/4/92.

TPA deputy director-general Len Dekker said environmentalism had become "a blatant facade for keeping blacks out. As the blacks come nearer, so they become greener."

He said the Greenbelt Action Group (GAG) had appealed to people's emotions and misled them, as the area south of the R28 to Krugersdorp was just "open veld".

He said there was a misconception among residents that if they made enough noise about the squatters being moved to their area, the move would not go ahead.

The TPA had taken environmental issues into account in identifying areas for future development, and it had found very little "green" area left south of the R28.

In the light of this it had been decided that this area would be earmarked for settlement. The natural areas north of the road would be preserved, however. (310)

Although urbanisation would take place there, Dekker warned it would not be the only area to face changes.

The TPA needed another 50 000ha to settle a further 3-million people in the next decade, and many other areas would have to "come to terms with the hard realities of the new SA".

He urged residents to stop being emotional about the problem of squatters. All local authorities would have to make provision for low cost housing, as it was "not possible to hide these people behind bushes," he said.

Landowners deny racist claims by TPA officials

Sowetan Correspondent

THE Greenbelt Action Group is demanding a public apology from two Transvaal administration officials following allegations of racism against landowners who oppose squatter settlements in the north-western PWV.

GAG secretary Ms Jill Wileman says she will report the matter to State President Mr FW de Klerk if both MEC Mr John Mavuso and deputy director of Community Development Mr Len Dekker do not apologise.

Wileman said allegations by Mavuso and Dekker that plot owners were using conservation to camouflage racist fears were a smokescreen for the TPA's mismanagement regarding urbanisation. Sowetan 10/4/92

She said black landowners in the region attended GAG meetings while thousands of black workers were already housed on plots where they worked.

There were two multiracial schools at Diepsloot, one of the areas considered as a permanent home for the Zevenfontein squatters, she said.

Dismissing Dekker's claims that land between the Pretoria/Krugersdorp highway was veld and could not be considered a green belt worth preserving, Wileman asked:

"What about Helderfontein Conference Centre, River Sands Farm, multimillion rand chicken farms, film studios, peach farms and established trout farms?"

Claiming the TPA had bungled the Zevenfontein squatter issue, Wileman said none of the reports costing the taxpayer thousands of rands had been properly used.

Planning was still abysmal; solutions were totally absent and neither housing or work opportunities were being offered to the squatters some six years after GAG started its costly campaign against Norweto, she said.

War of words as tension rises over Diepsloot issue

STAR 10/4/92

By Shirley Woodgate

Tension mounted yesterday after top officals levelled allegations of racism at landowners opposing black settlement north-west of Johannesburg.

Residents have demanded the immediate resignation of Administrator Danie Hough, MEC John Mavuso and deputy director for Community Development Len Dekker.

In referring to the landowners, Mr Mavuso spoke of bigotry and Mr Dekker said they were using conservation to camouflage racist fears.

The row centres on the pending Transvaal Provincial Administration decision on sites for housing the Zevenfontein squatters as well as millions of homeless people in the region.

The resignation call by Diepsloot Residents and Landowners' Association chairman Stuart Aitchison, on grounds of sheer incompetence, is being backed by a groundswell of smallholders.

Mr Aitchison warned of the possibility of civil riots in Diepsloot if the TPA tried to move the Zevenfontein squatters there.

"The people are not prepared to sit idly and watch their livelihood and life investments being sacrificed on the altar of the TPA's ineptitude and authoritarianism," he said.

He stressed that Diepsloot applied in 1989 to become a fully fledged free settlement area.

Mismanagement

Greenbelt Action Group secretary Jill Wileman said the allegations of racism were a smokescreen for TPA mismanagement of urbanisation.

Boerestaat Party and Garden Triangle Action Group leader Robert van Tonder, whose property borders Cosmo City, which is high on the list of areas earmarked for informal settlement, denied Mr Dekker's claim that all residents had been consulted.

He threatened court action unless his application for the establishment of a new municipality had been settled by Mr Hough before land was identified for squatters.

Peter Hewitt, spokesman for the Jukskei-Crocodile River Catchment Area Property Owners, rejected the racist label, claiming blacks already outnumbered whites in his area by about 30-to-one.

"Unlike the real racists who moved blacks up to 35 km away from their work, to Soweto and Lenasia, we have always housed our own workers," he said.

"The Zevenfontein squatters are a domestic Randburg and Sandton issue, since that is where they work.

"It is time the TPA started scientific planning, proper administration and detailed plans for compensation where expropriation takes place before people are resettled. It must look at proper employment for the homeless and stop resorting to name-calling if it wants to halt resistance".

R2,2m school for squatter children

(30) CT 14/4/92

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Minister of Education and Training Mr Sam de Beer and Independent Development Trust (IDT) chairman Mr Jan Steyn yesterday joined ANC president Mr Nelson Mandela in opening the Rolihlahla Primary School in the squatter town of Etwatwa East, near Daveyton.

According to Mr De Beer the construction of the R2,2-million school was symbolic of the co-operation his department had been seeking between the state, the private sector and the community.

Mr Steyn said the school served as a model for the IDT's nationwide R300m school building programme, which was aimed at reducing the backlog of 50 000 classrooms.

The school — which bears Mr Mandela's middle name — was a new venture because there would be two primary school sessions a day, after which the premises would be offered to the community as an adult learning centre.

The school would eventually have two headmasters, two sets of teachers and two intakes of pupils. Already 1 700 pupils have been registered, but numbers will double when more staff are hired.

The IDT donated R1,8m, the Etwatwa Civic Association pledged R200 000, and the Nedcor Chairman's Trust donated R320 000 towards the costs of the school.

Mr Steyn called on national, regional and local leaders across the political spectrum to commit themselves to working towards the eradication of poverty and deprivation.

"We need to give the unhoused, the under-educated and those who do not have access to health care hope of a better future," he said.

Mr Mandela told the crowd of 5 000 that political tolerance was essential. "Let us bury the past so that the damage done to South Africa is minimised."

Mr De Beer said in many cases teachers had been breaking down the process of education through their defiance campaigns.

Phola Park residents lay charges

Staff Reporters

A total of 58 Phola Park residents yesterday laid charges of assault and attempted murder at the Tokoza police station against members of 32 Batallion.

Residents, some with bandaged limbs and others walking with crutches, were transported from the Phola Park committee office to the station by bus.

The charges follow allegations of an attack on the squatter camp last week which left one woman dead and several other people seriously injured.

Residents at the camp said yesterday the badly decomposed body of a man believed to be the second fatality in the attack was found in a shack in the camp this week.

Affidavits were handed over to the Tokoza Station Commander Major S P Funani by Simon Tsotetsi of the ANC's Violence Commission and legal representative Vusi Sithole.

Certificates

Major Funani said police would go through all the affidavits to determine the exact charges. He said people who made allegations of attempted murder would have to submit medical certificates to support their claims.

● The South African Council of Churches yesterday repeated its recent call for the SADF, liberation armies and the SAP to be placed under a joint command "as soon as possible" in order to ensure peace in this country.

The church body was reacting to last Wednesday's raid at the Mandela squatter camp in Bekkersdal by a SADF unit when residents were allegedly assaulted, shot at and had their property destroyed.

One resident, Korea Mathe, accused the soldiers of ransacking his shack and stealing R500.

The SACC noted that the SADF "aggression" came against the backdrop of more than a year of peace.

Angry Bekkersdal residents are now demanding the immediate withdrawal of the army. The demand was made jointly by the ANC, Azapo, PAC and Bekkersdal Civic Association.

The allegations have been denied by SADF spokesman Major Andries Jordaan.

TENSE MOMENT: Deputy Regional Commissioner of Police Brigadier Sakkie Min naar engaged in heated discussion with Winnie Mandela (left) over the Power Park, Soweto, shootings yesterday.
Photograph: GEORGE MASHININI

Winnie attacks police over squatter camp deaths

STAR 18/4/92

WINNIE Mandela, making her first public appearance since she resigned from her senior ANC job, accused "terrorist" security forces of shooting dead two people at a squatter camp on Friday.

In a hard-hitting conclusion to one of the worst weeks in her political career, the estranged wife of ANC president Nelson Mandela visited Soweto's Power Park camp yesterday and told a cheering crowd of 300 squatters: "Today is a day of worship, but we are spending it trying to defend ourselves against a terrorist government that has unleashed its forces to attack defenceless men and women in their sleep.

"I heard the shooting at one o'clock from my house.

"We will do everything in our power to defend ourselves."

Police confirmed that two squatters had been killed soon after 1.15 am at the camp in the Orlando district, near Mandela's home. A third person, a police officer, was shot dead in the clash.

A Visnews camera crew reported that Mandela waved a plastic bag full of spent shells which residents said were from shots fired by the police.

She said: "All of these are to kill you in your sleep. The police tried to deflate your spirit of fighting.

"They want it to appear as if we are fighting among ourselves. This is the lie we are supposed to live with."

When Mandela arrived at the squatter camp police were still searching for arms among the shacks. 310

She told them the people were angry and that they ought to leave. They did.

Police spokesman Joseph Ngobeni said unidentified gunmen had attacked a police patrol at 1.15 am. One policeman was killed and another wounded.

Police then entered the camp to look for the attackers.

Mandela resigned from her post as head of the ANC's social welfare department on Wednesday, saying allegations that she was linked to the killing of activists in Soweto during 1988 had created a difficult situation for the ANC.

She is on bail pending an appeal against her conviction and six-year jail sentence for kidnapping four youths and being an accessory to assaults on them.

On Monday Nelson Mandela, citing unspecified differences, announced that they were separating after 33 years of marriage. — Sapa-Reuter.

● See Pages 6 and 10

STAR 21/4/92

Ploy to block settlement

By Jo-Anne Collinge (310)

In a new ploy to block official establishment of a shack settlement in the peri-urban area near Randburg and Sandton, the Garden Triangle Action Group has petitioned the Transvaal Provincial Administration to establish a new municipality.

The group's chairman, Robert van Tonder, made it clear in a covering letter to Administrator Danie Hough that this could delay the proclamation of any "less formal" settlement for the Zevenfontein squatters near Fourways.

Mr van Tonder — also leader of the Boerestaat Party — said he was being urged to appoint a commission to investigate forming a new muncipality.

Mr van Tonder said the petition was handed over last week and was supported by 50 people.

Victims attend identity parade

STAR 22/4/92

By Zingisa Mkhuma

More than 70 squatters who say they are victims of an attack on the Phola Park squatter camp by members of 32 Battalion, attended an identification parade involving an undisclosed number of soldiers yesterday.

The press was barred from the official proceedings which were held inside the Tokoza Auditorium. Only members of the Independent Board of Enquiry (IBE) and lawyers for the victims were allowed in.

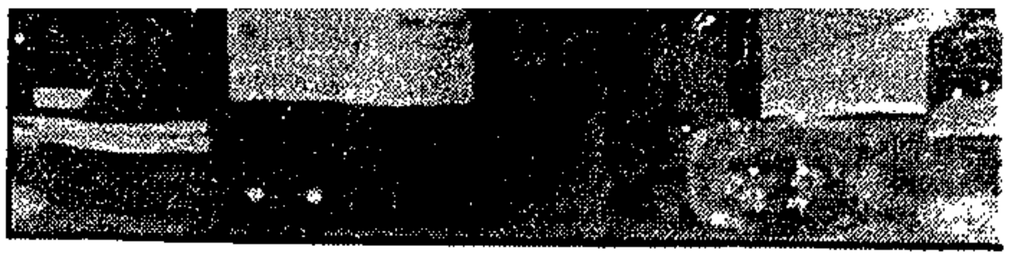
Some squatters, including a 14-year-old girl, attended the proceedings wearing bandages on their arms and legs. Some of them walked on crutches.

A spokesman for the IBE, Sally Sealy, said there were 101 victims of the attack which left two dead, but many of them could not identify their assailants because it was dark when the attack occurred.

More than 70 people were treated in hospital for their injuries. They have accused members of the SADF's 32 Battalion of going on a "rampage" after they had alleged that a shot was fired at them from the squatter camp.

A woman was killed and several others were raped and injured in the raid which took place on April 9, said squatters.

The police said they were investigating charges of murder, rape, assault, malicious damage to property, theft and attempted murder.



Phola Park victims identify 9 'raiders'

By Mckeed Kotlolo
Pretoria Bureau

Phola Park residents have positively identified nine soldiers who allegedly took part in assaults by members of the SADF's 32 Battalion during a raid on the East Rand squatter camp two weeks ago, the Goldstone Commission heard in Pretoria yesterday.

This information was released by P A Hatting, SC, representing the South African Police at a preliminary hearing of the commission, investigating allegations of assault, rape and damage to property by soldiers on the night of April 8.

The full inquiry is scheduled to start on Monday.

Mr Hattingh said of the estimated 240 members of 32 Battalion at an identification parade in Tokoza on Tuesday, 32 were identified by 45 residents as having participated in the alleged attack.

He said it was found only nine of the 32 soldiers had been at Phola Park on the day of the alleged attack.

Advocate Hattingh added that police were investigating 37 charges including charges of rape, assault, and malicious damage.

Researcher at the Independent Board of Inquiry into Informal Repression Sally Sealey said she had visited Phola Park on April 9 at the request of the ANC, attorneys of the victims, and Lawyers for Human Rights.

Ms Sealey said eye-witnesses had told her between three and six army vehicles had entered the camp at about 9 pm.

She rejected SADF claims that they were shot at by unknown persons from the direction of the squatter camp prior to the raid, saying all those interviewed and those who submitted statements said they did not hear any gunshots "prior to the arrival of the SADF in Phola Park".

She said the raid was mainly conducted by black soldiers who wore "browns" and spoke Fanagalo and Portuguese.

Together with some leaders of the Tokoza civic association, they transported injured people to hospital and later accompanied about 60 of them to Tokoza Police Station to lay charges, she said.

Major Petrus van Eeden of the SADF said he did not believe his men could have committed the alleged rapes and assaults.

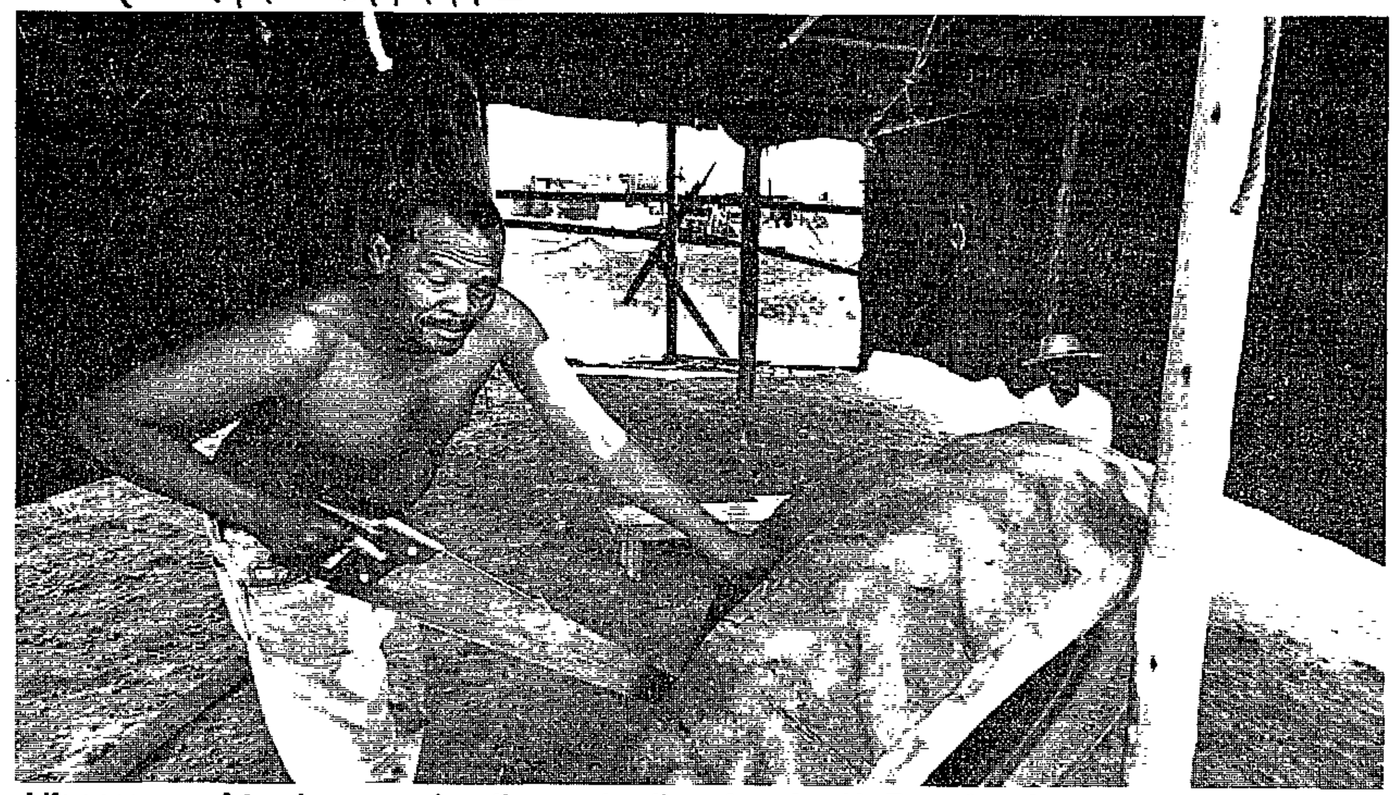
He conceded, however, that some troops could have been heavy-handed with residents after shots had allegedly been fired from Phola Park at the SADF patrol.

● **Phola Park: claims to be probed — Page 3**

Squatters must have land — but where?

(310) wlmail 24/4 - 29/4/92

The Transvaal Provincial Administration is under fire over its handling of the Zevenfontein squatter crisis, reports **LINDA RULASHE**



Life goes on ... A teacher supervises the construction of a school in Zevenfontein **Photo: KEVIN CARTER**

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration faces a crisis of confidence in its ability to find a planned approach to urbanisation in the densely populated PWV area.

A mud-slinging war has been raging for months between the TPA and residents in northern Johannesburg over the housing of nearly 1 000 Zevenfontein squatter families but indications are that the conflict is far from being resolved.

The Zevenfontein community has been at the centre of a public outcry since the TPA announced plans last year to move it to Bloubosrand.

Local action groups forced the TPA to shelve that plan, as did residents of Diepsloot, the next area targeted by the provincial body.

The focus now falls on the TPA's final decision — expected within days — which is eagerly awaited in light of the hightened controversy.

Residents from both Diepsloot and Cosmo City — another proposed site — have made it clear that they will forcibly resist relocation of squatters in their vicinities. Boerestaat Party leader Robert Van Tonder — who owns a large property a few kilometres from Cosmo City — has said residents would react violently if the squatters were sent there.

However, African National Congress land commission head for the PWV region Mathole Motshekga felt the controversy had been contrived into a political issue. "The argument that these people's property values will plummet does not hold water.

"Take, for instance, the middle class community of Diepkloof extension in Soweto, where their properties are next to four-roomed houses. Those property owners aren't complaining."

With sites still to be found in the area for millions of other homeless people, northern residents and organisations in the PWV region believe an alternative forum in place of the TPA has to be found to handle low-cost housing.

In the most recent furore, Diepsloot residents labelled the TPA "incompetent", and have also called for the resignation of top officials who branded residents "racist bigots" and "hypocrites" for opposing black settlement near their areas.

Len Dekker, deputy director for community development, had accused Diepsloot's residents — who claimed the settlement would harm the "greenbelt" — of "using conservation to camouflage racist fears".

TPA media liaison chief Piet Wilken would not comment on accusations of mismanagement by the TPA and calls for the resignation of two controversial officials.

But he went on to say: "The executive committee and the administrator haven't taken a final decision regarding re-settlement. They are still looking at the interim report of the task group regarding the Zevenfontein community and the report on the urbanisation process in the area."

The only people who have had no voice in the whole controversy are the victims of both apartheid and an inadequate housing policy: the Zevenfontein community.

Several of the squatters seemed oblivious of the debate raging around them.

The fear by northern Johannesburg property owners that their properties will depreciate cannot be conceptualised by some of the squatters, most of whom stay either in zinc shacks or tents supplied by the Red Cross when nearly 150 shacks were demolished earlier this year.

Besides the unavailability of toilets and continuing harassment at a TPA roadblock set up on the road leading into the area, the squatters voiced no other major complaints.

"All we want is a permanent place to live and we won't move from here until we get that," stressed Zevenfontein committee member Mike Dumbisa. "The community has said they prefer to move to Cosmo City which is 12km away from Randburg, where most of them work, rather than to Diepsloot, 15km away."

Motshekga cautioned, however, that the perception that Zevenfontein's squatters were allowing their destinies to be determined by others was incorrect.

"They have put up a lot of resistance. For instance, when the TPA suggested liaison committees be formed between regional action groups, like the Chartwell Action Group, and the South African Police — the very people who harrassed, demolished their shacks and maimed them earlier this year — the squatter leadership refused as they felt these liaisons would not address their interests."

Tony Wolfson, co-ordinator of the urban land project at Planact, said it was difficult to establish what the TPA meant by low-cost housing: "Who are the houses for and who will be able to afford them?"

Richard Tomlinson points out in his book, *Urbanisation in a post-apartheid South Africa*, that 67 percent of the population cannot afford a serviced site and an estimated 80 percent cannot afford a low-cost formal housing unit.

Wolfson suggested that, in order to plan within the transitionary period, there was a need for a grouping of individuals that could attempt to resolve conflicts through mediation.

Those mediators could be drawn from political parties, civic associations, trade unions, business, ratepayers' associations and affected communities.

"If that body fails, then the state has to come in and consider the use of land that is going to benefit the most people. At the moment the state is saying market forces must rule, but the market does not accommodate the needs of the poor."

Wilken insisted the TPA couldn't be accused of not planning ahead. "We have never had a blind or closed eye to urbanisation and the impression that we are handling it on an ad hoc basis is absolute nonsense."

The task group looking into the re-settlement of Zevenfontein's squatters — and numerous other homeless people in the area — was appointed by the TPA in January but is being criticised for not fulfilling a mediatory role.

Its task was to look into an urbanisation strategy for areas north and north west of Randburg, Rooderpoort, Sandton and Krugersdorp, and to the south and south west of Pretoria and Verwoerdburg.

The group includes the relevant white town councils and regional services councils, the Metropolitan Chamber and Operation Masakhane for the Homeless, which represents informally housed communities, including Zevenfontein.

The chief challenge facing this group is the TPA's estimate that, within the next nine years, an additional 50 000ha will be needed to house three million people.

"We can't handle that," said Diepsloot Residents and Landowners Association chairman Stuart Aitcheson. "The squatters are not our responsibility. They are our responsibility only as far as how they are going to work for us in our own area."

Greenbelt Action Group chairman Anthony Duigan has said that his organisation stands behind the principle that low-cost housing and homeless people should be looked after by the local authorities or private sector within the area in which they worked.

The irony is that, while they are called "squatters", the Zevenfontein community had in-fact been tenants on a white farm where they had paid rent. Late last year, however, the farm was sold.

Tenants refused to comply with eviction notices and several of their shacks were bulldozed. They then shifted temporarily to their present site on a neighbouring farm.

Motshekga feels the reason why the Zevenfontein squatters are in this predicament is because the TPA continues to implement apartheid plans without any regional planning.

"In my view, the stage has come where all provincial bodies should be scrapped," he said, "and replaced by provincial structures proposed to the Convention for a Democratic South Africa."

Tenants trek to better sites in Soweto

Sowetan 24/4/92

SA Press Association

MORE than 200 residents of the Tladi squatter camp will be resettled at serviced sites at Doornkop, also in Soweto.

The secretary of the Tladi Camp Committee, Mr Henson Pantwana, said yesterday the squatter camp was set up in 1986 as a temporary measure. The move to Doornkop comes years after negotiations with the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

Celebrate

"We were told that we would only remain there for about three months."

He said they negotiated with the Soweto Council and then with the TPA before the alternative sites were made available.

Toilets and water would be provided at the new sites. But the residents would have to build their own homes.

The trek will involve 213 shack residents, excluding 80 families who have already moved to Doornkop.

To celebrate the move, the camp committee has decided to hold a farewell party on Sunday.

"Those who have already left will be coming back to Tladi for the party, just to say bye-bye to the camp," said a joyful Pantwana.

Baby shot in Phola Park raid

LLOLUVO STUKTEZI claims her baby, Thomboqolo, was shot by police during a clash between security forces and Phola Park residents on Tuesday. wlmail 30/4 - 7/5/92

She said policemen barged into her shack demanding to know where her husband was and shouting, "where are the men, show us where the men are". She said after this a shot went off, and a bullet passed through Thomboqolo's arm.

A spokesman for the residents — only willing to identify himself as "Doctor" — said armed policemen drove into the camp shortly after midday, going around questioning residents about "specific males".

"Soon after they stopped alongside a group of men seated outside one shack, the shooting started. We do not know what happened, but people just fled in all directions." According to "Doctor", residents did not return fire, and sporadic shooting continued until nearly 3pm, when the police left, taking nine men with them. "Doctor" said three people were wounded and one killed during the raid.

Police liaison officer Captain Ida van Zweel said on Tuesday nine people were taken for questioning by police "conducting investigations in the area" in connection with crime and the killing of a policeman.

One young man was shot in a shoulder, she said.

Photo: KEVIN CARTER

We're just a bit heavy handed, says captain

wlmail 30/4 - 7/5/92

The captain of 32 Battalion says his soldiers were just being 'heavy handed' in their raid on Phola Park three weeks ago.

By LINDA RULASHE and RAYMOND NXUMALO

THE definition of assault took on new meaning yesterday during the Goldstone Commission investigation into the alleged misconduct in Phola Park of members of 32 Battalion three weeks ago.

Responding to allegations of assault, Captain Mark Hermanson said his troops were just being "heavy handed" on the night of April 8 when Phola Park residents were allegedly raped and assaulted. One person died and several were injured. Damage was also done to property.

Hermanson, "who was not on the ground" at the time of the battalion's clampdown, said he believed his troops had only slapped, punched and dragged residents around — which to him was not assault. He believed assault to mean something like kicking a person with a booted foot.

Despite the incident, which resulted in several injured residents being admitted to Natalspruit Hospital, Hermanson supported the action of his troops.

"There might have been good reasons for that," he said. The reasons, he explained, could include a person resisting arrest and trying to escape.

"I am happy with my soldiers' behaviour," he said.

According to evidence given by the captain, his men were acting on a tip given to him by an unnamed informant who said a gun was hidden in one of the huts in Phola Park.

The captain initially looked confused when asked to establish the exact time and circumstances surrounding a series of gunshots from the camp, which then prompted soldiers to return fire.

Despite not being able to identify where the shots were coming from, the soldiers had indiscriminately shot back in the dark. Hermanson said the soldiers had been acting within the law by exercising their right to defend themselves.

"You did then authorise those actions, did you not," asked counsel for the victims, Stephen Joseph SC. "Yes, I did," replied Hermanson.

"Is it not wrong to fire on a criminal running away in a crowd?"

Hermanson admitted it was.

Joseph then retorted that, on April 8, Hermanson probably knew that if they had missed the man firing those shots, there was a great chance that they would have hit a hut instead.

Asked why he didn't withdraw his troops and wait on the perimeter of the camp until morning before investigating, Hermanson said: "We couldn't withdraw as the troops were being fired on and there was no protection for my men."

Joseph replied: "But you felt safe enough to enter houses and ask residents questions?"

According to the captain's evidence, the first round of shots from the camp was heard around 9pm. Twenty-five soldiers were sent into the camp on foot, accompanied by a Buffel.

Earlier, Hermanson had told the commission sub-committee that most of his troops spoke Portuguese and the Phola Park residents spoke Xhosa.

"Why do you think most of the residents spoke Xhosa?" asked Joseph.

"I had read in the newspaper that they are Xhosa-speaking," was the reply.

Joseph then asked how the soldiers could then communicate with the residents, who were not informed of their rights when their huts were broken into.

Hermanson replied he believed that some of the residents were English and Afrikaans speaking.

Joseph asked how the captain had expected the residents — whom Joseph described as "some of the most unfortunate people of our country" — to be proficient in three languages.

Hermanson was asked repeatedly about the authenticity of a statement submitted to the commission. The statement did not have crucial details about the 200 rounds of ammunition that were fired that night; and did not deal with Hermanson's admission that the soldiers had acted in a heavy-handed manner.

He explained that his legal advisers had chosen not to include those aspects in the statement.

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Interim results for the six months to 29 February 1992

Six months ended February	1992 Unaudited	1991 Unaudited	Percent change
Attributable income *R million*	**306**	416	(26)
Earnings per share *cents*	**43,3**	58,8	(26)
Dividends per share *cents*	**14,3**	13,3	8
Net assets per share *cents*			
– Based on Gencor market value			
– at end of February	**1 019**	993	
– at 22 April 1992	**965**		
– Based on Gencor underlying assets			
– at end of February	**1 299**	1 178	
– at 22 April 1992	**1 236**		

Gencor Beherend Beperk is an investment holding company with a 54,8 percent interest in Gencor Limited. Shareholders are referred to Gencor's interim results which are also published today.

Interim dividend

An interim dividend in respect of the year ending 31 August 1992 of 14,3 cents per ordinary share was declared on 20 January 1992, payable on 29 May 1992 to shareholders registered on 31 January 1992.

An interim report giving more detailed information will be mailed to shareholders. Copies may also be obtained from the Secretary at the address given below.

On behalf of the board
M H Daling
B P Gilbertson

23 April 1992

Gencor Beherend Beperk
(Reg. No. 53/01008/06)

General Mining Building
6 Hollard Street
Johannesburg 2001
(P.O. Box 61820
Marshalltown, 2107)

A place of shelter ... It may only be a hard floor but it beats sleeping on the streets

Photos: GUY ADAMS

Winter chill ... A small child finds comfort next to a warm heater

The homeless come to pray ... and stay to scoff

WIMail 30/4 - 7/5/92 (310)

The Johannesburg City Council is looking at a way to house tens of thousands of city homeless ... some time in the future. **BEATHUR BAKER** *looks at what's available in the meantime*

THERE'S an honest way to a free, hot meal and a place to sleep for the homeless in the city: a working knowledge of the "Big Book" (even though many can hardly read it), plus participation in two-hour Bible study sessions.

For the street "outie" who is not religiously-inclined, it's a choice of learning to pray or going hungry. The alternative is discreet scavenging in dustbins.

Shelters for the 60 000 unemployed men, women and more than 800 children navigating the streets of Johannesburg will come on to the municipal agenda in the next few months, when the Johannesburg City Council completes a study into the possibility of buying vacant buildings to house the city's homeless. "Our idea is to rehabilitate these people back into society systematically," says Bonnie Rosen, of the council's planning and development section. The scheme is to accommodate people first and, when special job creation programmes have been initiated, to provide them with employment.

"Hey, don't take pictures of me, I owe too many people money," growls Fokkie, slicking back his greasy hair, then lining up in a shelter's soup kitchen queue. The Mes-Aksie (mission house) shelter, run on strict moral and religious doctrines, is a project of the Dutch Reformed Church and hands out a meal at 11am daily for "hobos, homeless and junkies".

Manie de Jager says the mission, which receives a government subsidy, "works among all destitute people, regardless of colour. We cannot provide for their spiritual needs alone — we want to address their basic needs first. We even have a resident psychologist here."

On Tuesdays it hands out a food parcel to some 200 families; this is rounded off with a "family meal" on Thursday. The down-and-out crowd arrive before the meal is ready, which means time for a bit of additional Bible study at the Mes-Aksie shelter. The aroma of the food makes concentration difficult for the "brothers and sisters".

Most of the city shelters are religious, self-sufficient or running on donations and guided by the firm but kindly hands of a fiery pastor fulfilling a calling to work with the homeless. Often, the pastor's past is more colourful than his flock's; many are reformed drug addicts or alcoholics who "saw the light" in time.

Rules in most institutions are strict and seldom vary from one to the other. For example:

- No food is served unless the required amount of morning or evening services are attended. There is no smoking or drinking on the premises. "Brothers and sisters" are strictly kept apart.
- Anyone arriving after closing time is locked out, even if you sleep on the door step. The "outie" who dares turn up drunk or stoned is denied food and access.
- Often inmates are required to carry out domestic chores in the shelter.

The Christian Coffee Bar and Shelter in downtown Johannesburg accommodates about 50 people and conditions are a far cry from other bigger, disinfected sanctuaries of salvation.

In a cosmopolitan mix of local people and those from neighbouring states, we find two pregnant women and several others with young children. All have been in the shelter for more than a year because "it is free and the children are fed every day". The women share the three bedrooms and the men sleep on the floor in the church. The crowd is good natured.

They're very different from the seasoned, often addicted drifters whose return to society is difficult after years of drinking methofated spirits or wine or — for those who can sustain a more expensive addiction — a shot of Wellconal or a mandrax "pipe". These are their soul comforters, taken up time and again despite numerous efforts at rehabilitation. Many centres do not sustain treatment to include after-care and supervision, and people with no next-of-kin have nowhere to go when they come out of these places.

A shelter in Berea with a homely feel about it caters for destitute teenage prostitutes and drug addicts. Run in a spacious, pretty two storey house, the shelter can accommodate up to 18 people a night, providing them with food and a counselling service. It's funded by public donations, run by Jean and Adelle du Plessis — the husband and wife team who initiated the project — and overseen by a management committee.

Their outreach programme is directed at the needs of the teenage prostitute — some as young as 12 — and includes finding girls on the street and encouraging them to trace their families.

"These girls find re-integration into society very difficult as the very people who condemn them most harshly are the ones who pay for their services," said Du Plessis.

Genisis, an all-male shelter in Bertrams, takes in all kinds of homeless men but was initiated especially looking at the destitute, homeless alcoholic who often has no place to sleep, says administrative officer David Sindi. The house, indistinguishable from others on the street, provides — along with a meal and a bed for the night — a counselling service and a bit of cameraderie over coffee.

A more-regular-than-most resident, still on the streets but now "pulling his life together", has learned a lot from his stay in the shelters: "When you haven't got a job or family and no home, the Devil gets to you at times. This is where you feel you can count on others."

All we want is a tap of our own

Chicken Farm squatters spend four hours a day collecting water from a distant source. Households in nearby suburbs receive 20 000 litres a month —on tap.By **FERIAL HAFFAJEE**

Washing is done where there is water — usually a long way from home

IT'S not even nine on a weekday morning, and already the women from Chicken Farm are streaming to the only tap near the squatter camp to collect water in 20 litre drums.

The sprawling camp is situated in Soweto's Pimville, near Baragwanath Hospital. For many it is the second trip of the morning and it isn't an easy one. The 1km walk to the tap is along a pathway pockmarked with ridges and bumps, long grass and stones.

Pinky Mathole fetches her water in a wheelbarrow borrowed from a neighbour. She collects five 20 litre drum-fulls four times a day.

She gets to the tap at seven in the morning and often waits up to an hour for her water because it's peak time as workers collect water for a wash or early-morning coffee. When we saw her, she was fetching a second round of water to "scrub the floors, pots and the kettle". Later she will come back for another load, this time "to wash myself and the children".

The final haul comes at five when she fetches water for the evening's cooking, for tea and for her husband to wash in.

Mathole, and most of her neighbours, spend up to four hours a day collecting water. Even this is not enough.

"The World Health Organisation estimates that basic health criteria can only be met when every person has access to at least 50 litres of drinkable water every day," said Henk Coetzee, of the Group for Environmental Monitoring.

The tap is a meeting place for the women, who gossip while they enjoy the "luxury" of washing with as much water as they like. The children play in the mud and mimic their mothers, filling their Coke bottles and baking powder tins with water.

The tap that Chicken Farm residents use was not meant for them: it belongs to the nearby scrapyard. There is a tap in the camp but nobody uses it since all it yields is a trickle.

By contrast, the average suburban household of four and six people receives about 20 000 litres a month tapped directly to their homes.

The council has installed about 40 mobile toilets in the camp. But, says Kenneth Mhlangu, "individuals keep it for themselves". Three or four families claim a toilet by putting a lock on the door and writing their names all over it.

Mhlangu, who is unemployed and unmarried, is one of few men at the tap. Fetching water is women's work, says Mhlangu as he guides his wheelbarrow along the path.

One of his drums topples to the ground and spills the water he has taken half an hour to collect, but he merely shrugs his shoulders.

The struggle for water has brought with it a thriving little industry. Professional carriers fetch the water for residents. Using "nationalised" trolleys from nearby Highgate shopping centre, they charge R4 for 100 litres of water delivered to your door. This is 25 times more than piped water supplied to Johannesburg's suburbs where R4 buys 2 500 litres.

Seven million South Africans live in shack settlements and half of these are in the PWV area in the Transvaal.

Trying to get answers from the authorities on who is responsible for supplying water to squatter areas is as much of a problem. The government departments of National Health and Water Affairs said it was not their responsibility and referred the questions to the Transvaal Provincial Administration. The TPA said responsibility rested with the local authorities but they referred the question back to the TPA.

"Shack settlements are regarded as transit areas and infrastructural costs are discouraged," says Henk Coetzee, of the Group for Environmental Monitoring.

Studies of 12 050 families on the West Rand, carried out by the Department of Community Development, showed that 23,8 percent had no water source, 2,6 percent used river water, 49,7 percent collected water from neighbouring townships and 24,8 percent were supplied by TPA water trucks.

Almost 80 percent of the families surveyed used pit latrines, 17 percent had toilets and 2,9 percent used the bucket system.

However, "many squatters, including those from Chicken Farm, get their water from rivers. But, South Africa's rivers are among the most polluted in Africa," says Coetzee.

The PWV settlements draw water mainly from the Vaal River where contamination begins at its headwaters in the eastern Transvaal at the power stations and increases as it flows through the Witwatersrand.

Tests by the Rand Water Board in the catchment area of the Vaal Dam found amounts of mercury, arsenic and sulphates which "far exceed European standards for surface water".

A Rand Water Board official told *The Weekly Mail* that inadequate maintenance and overload of toilets in Soweto caused burst sewage pipes and contamination of ground water.

Water supply is often the pawn in struggles between residents and local authorities. Often, water is cut to force residents into compliance with local government regulations. When water is supplied by local authorities there are so many problems, such as the high cost and interrupted service, that more and more civics in squatter camps are demanding that local authorities be by-passed and that the government be solely entrusted with this responsibility.

Meanwhile, Mathole's wish is for "a toilet and a pump in my own yard". She says that as if it is as far from her reach as the sparkling swimming pools in the suburbs where some of her friends work.

W/MAIL 3014-7/05/92

(310)

The long haul ... Women walk many kilometres every day, fetching water for their families

Photographs: KEVIN CARTER

SQUATTERS — T. V. L.

1992

MAY — DEC.

Tutu leads 40 bishops on visit to Phola Park

STAR 1/5/92 (310)

By Michael Sparks

Purple robes contrasting sharply with the drab shacks and dusty, rutted roads of Phola Park, Archbishop Desmond Tutu led 40 bishops on a visit to the strife-torn township yesterday in a show of solidarity with residents.

The bishops, who were having their bi-annual synod meeting in Kempton Park, did a pastoral walk-about, stepping over mud pools in their flowing gowns and speaking to residents, including some victims of the recent violence there.

Archbishop Tutu, in an impromptu address outside one resident's home, said: "I am amazed to see the spirit of the people ... It is amazing to see how people can keep their structures clean under these conditions. I honour you for refusing to be turned into animals."

Addressing a crowd of 150 residents who crammed into a small, dusty yard between the shacks, he asked: "Are we going to be free?" He added that the answer needed to be heard in Pretoria. The crowd responded with great enthusiasm.

Before visiting Phola Park, Archbishop Tutu addressed 150 churchgoers at nearby St Peter's Church in Natalspruit, saying it was good to be back in the parish where he first worked after becoming a priest.

He said all the bishops belonged with the suffering residents during their time of pain.

"We have come to say we are with you. We thought we were about to celebrate the coming of freedom. But that has been shattered by the evil of violence and killing and death."

He added: "Yes, it appears as if evil is winning. We have come to remind you that is not so."

Laying some of the blame at the door of the SAP, Archbishop Tutu said: "During the state of emergency you could not scratch yourself without the police knowing it. Now the police say they don't know which people have an AK-47."

Squatters may be taught to build low-cost houses

3 | Day 5/5/97 (310)

KATHRYN STRACHAN

THE first national meeting attended by 800 leaders of SA's 7-million homeless people at the weekend agreed on a plan to teach squatters to build their own homes.

Keith Montsitsi, spokesman for Operation Masakhane for the Homeless (Omhle), which hosted the meeting in Johannesburg, said yesterday delegates realised government was unable to provide sufficient housing, and the only way ahead was to help squatters be self-sufficient by training them to build their own homes.

The drive was focused specifically on training people to build houses in timber which cost a fraction of brick-and-mortar houses, he said. A timber house of 45m² cost only R8 000.

Montsitsi said 360 squatters had already attended six-week courses run by the SA Lumber Millers Association since the end of last year, and the plan now was to extend the programme to equip many more people with building skills.

One of the main factors that increased house prices was the cost involved in transporting building materials to settlement sites, particularly in rural areas. The conference decided on a plan to establish timber depots at resettlement camps to eliminate transport costs, and to provide squatters with timber far cheaper than that provided by wholesalers.

The Japanese embassy had been approached to fund the project, and requests would also be made to other foreign governments, said Montsitsi. They would also be asked to fund projects such as schools and clinics which would be built by people who had been trained on the course.

On the issue of identifying land for settlement, Omhle would approach other provincial administrations to set up task groups similar to that of the Transvaal Provincial Administration, which included members of homeless communities in its ranks.

□ DARIUS SANAI reports the SA Housing Trust had embarked on a "strategic planning exercise" aimed at evaluating the organisation's relevance in a changing SA, spokesman Gideon van der Westhuizen said yesterday.

Van der Westhuizen said the exercise was aimed at "looking where we are going". "We are trying to take on a new form to render a viable service under the changing political circumstances," he said.

Senior directors of the government-subsidised trust were meeting this week in the first part of the exercise, and no specific decisions had yet been made.

The ideas mooted would be tabled at a "strategic planning workshop", which would then formulate new policies.

Van der Westhuizen said various experts, including HSRC director Laurence Schlemmer, would be making presentations and advising the trust's board during its deliberations.

SAP raid angers Phola Park residents

By Monica Oosterbroek

Phola Park residents were angered and frightened during an intensive police search of the East Rand squatter camp yesterday in which three men were arrested and an AK-47 with ammunition was confiscated.

While tense residents gathered in groups, a convoy of police vans and Casspirs drove through the camp, searching homes and the surrounding bushes for arms caches, fugitives and drugs.

A helicopter circled over the camp for more than three hours. A man wearing a balaclava was seen pointing out shacks.

Witwatersrand police liaison officer Warrant-Officer Andy Pieke said members of the East Rand Murder and Robbery Squad went to the area to find suspects involved in various criminal offences, including the spate of attacks on policemen.

A 69-year-old man, known only as Majolo, said about six policemen had broken into the three shacks where he, his wife and five primary school children live.

Beds were overturned and panels torn down, furniture was broken and picture frames wre left shattered on the floor.

Wall units and their contents were thrown around the rooms, and drawers containing clothes were emptied.

Residents complained that police wearing civilian clothes had not shown them search warrants, refused to identify themselves and did not respect their property.

A social worker, employed by the Catholic Church in the area, said: "Residents believed the old residents' committee was inefficient and corrupt, but since the new committee has been in power, the camp has had trouble with the police."

She and others in the camp believed an elderly committee member had become a police informer.

ANC branch vice-chairman Sally Pietersen accused police of harassing residents.

Warrant-Officer Pieke said it was a "normal crime-prevention exercise". If property had been damaged, it should be reported and the matter would be investigated.

Phola Park made news headlines recently following allegations that members of 32 Battalion murdered a resident and raped or assaulted dozens of others.

Captain Mark Hermanson, commander of the accused platoon, told a committee of the Goldstone Commission last week that some of his men had admitted slapping and punching residents, but said this did not constitute an assault.

Squatters of Ganda-Ganda camp in Klipspruit, Soweto, were relieved at the arrival of ANC president Mr Nelson Mandela at the settlement. The squatters claimed they had been harassed by police and needed protection from the ANC leader. Police said they entered the settlement in search of a man suspected of being an accomplice in the killing of a narcotics detective at the weekend. A man was arrested during the raid.
PIC: PAT SEBOKO

Mandela is drawn into cop raid row

Sowetan 8/5/92

POLICE raided a squatter camp near Soweto early yesterday and arrested a man they suspected to have been involved in the killing of a narcotics detective last Sunday.

The raid was sequel to the killing of a white policeman after he had allegedly shot dead a drug dealer at the Ganda-ganda informal settlement near Klipspruit in Soweto.

The squatters, mainly women, yesterday marched to the Orlando West home of African National Congress president Mr Nelson Mandela to seek protection from what they referred to as "police harassment".

Within minutes Mandela and his bodyguards drove to the settlement and addressed the squatters.

He told the squatters that he viewed the harassment in a serious light and would seek an urgent meeting with the Divisional Commissioner of Police, General Kobus Malan.

"I went home after visiting my wife at the hospital, only to find the women waiting to brief me about the harassment they said they were subjected to by the police the previous night.

"They said police were responsible for assaulting them.

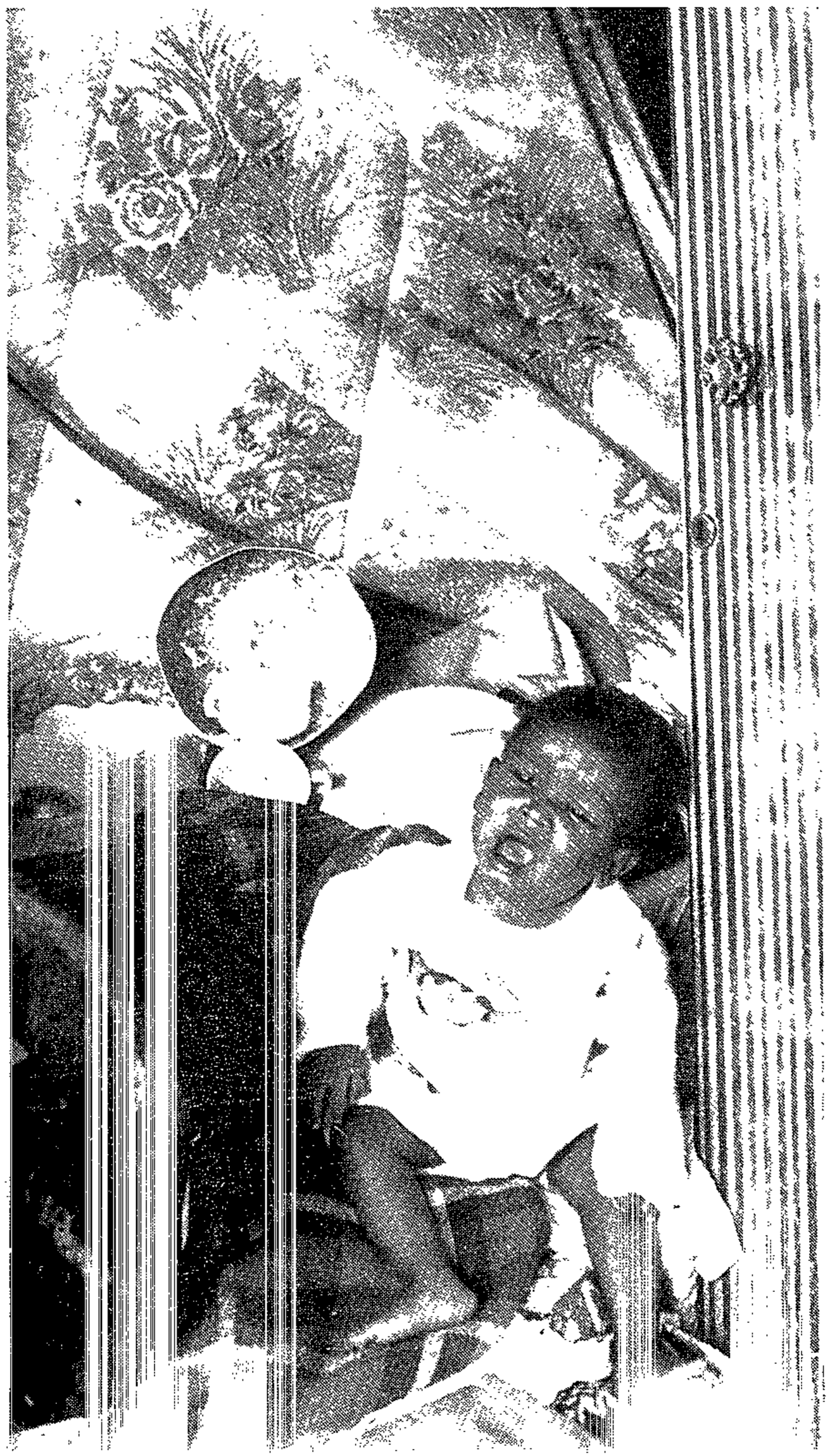
"The ANC views this attack on our people in a serious light and we will express our concern to the police authorities," Mandela said.

Lieutenant-Colonel Tienie Halgryn yesterday rejected charges by the ANC that the police had assaulted squatters and razed shacks during their 3½-hour raid.

Halgryn said the search was conducted after a man had pointed out a suspect who was eventually arrested.

He invited victims of the alleged assaults to lay charges at a police station so that investigations could be made.

By JOE MDHLELA and Sapa



Cops raid Phola Park squatters

Sowetan 8/5/92

310

By ABBEY MAKOE and Sapa

POLICE raided Phola Park squatter camp in the East Rand yesterday and residents alleged they broke down doors and damaged furniture in the shacks.

Residents had to flee when the police arrived at the camp and some said they fled when they saw the large police contingent and heard gunfire.

They told *Sowetan* that police forced their way into their locked shacks early in the morning. They alleged police selectively raided the shacks, turning over furniture and searching without saying a word.

Police could last night not be reached for comment on the allegations.

But earlier Witwatersrand police spokesman Warrant-Officer Andy Pieke said the action was "a normal crime prevention exercise undertaken by police from time to time".

He refused to provide details "at this stage".

And a spokeswoman for Peace Action - a group monitoring violence in townships - said frantic residents had contacted the organisation complaining of what they called an imminent attack by security forces.

She said no reports of shooting or other incidents of violence had been received but residents were "very tense".

Mr Nelson Ndodana (46) was among the group which fled the camp. He said when he returned about 30 minutes later he found the door of his shack wide open, although he had locked before fleeing.

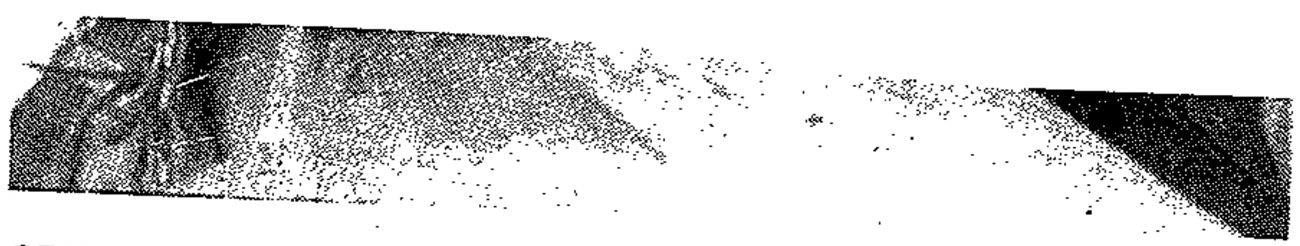
At another shack Mr William Makhosi said it was opened forcefully. He claimed his furniture was damaged and the windscreen of his minibus smashed, allegedly by the raiding police.

Mr Douglas Bobi said he hid in one room of his two-room shack, used as a spaza shop and four white policemen, after kicking his door wide open, pointed guns at him.

"They asked no questions. None of them uttered a word. They searched all over my house and one scrutinised my ID book he found inside a drawer," Bobi said.

He said he watched helplessly as his furniture was damaged and was too frightened to ask the policemen any questions for fear of being assaulted.

African National Congress PWV region spokesman Mr Wally Mbhele said women had been ordered out of the area and that people were "scattering in all directions".



CRY OF ANGUISH ... Nine-month-old Lebogang Lerutle cries hysterically shortly after police raided her mother's shack at Phola Park squatter camp in the East Rand yesterday. *Pic: MBUZENI ZULU*

THE ZEVENFONTEIN COMMUNITY
A QUESTION OF BALANCE

Sowetan 12/5/92

310

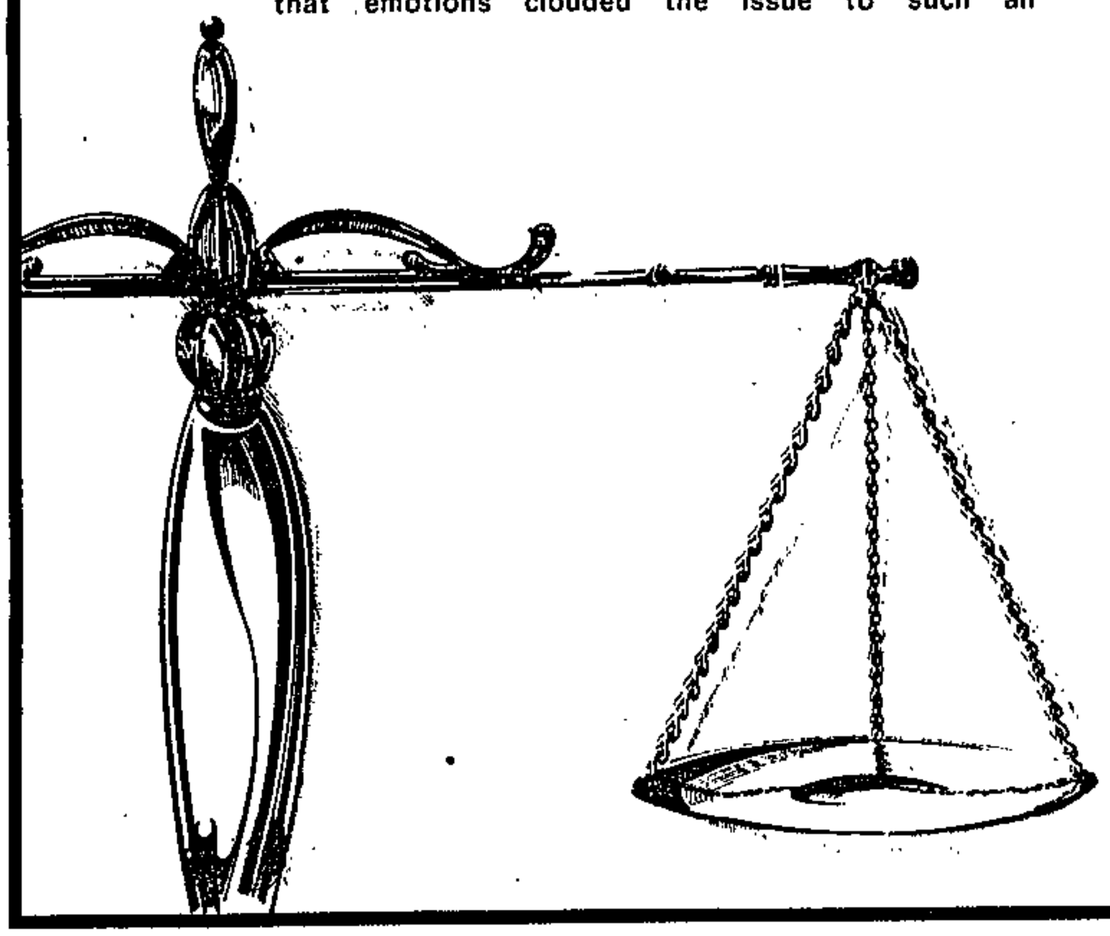
The future of the Zevenfontein Community has stirred up a lot of debate and emotion, largely based on misconceptions and yesterday's realities.

The decision as to their future will, however, have to provide a fair and equitable solution for all concerned – based on today's realities, urbanisation needs and policies.

The reality demands a fair and just dispensation for all. Planned and orderly urbanisation requires the development of some 390 000 sites in the greater PWV region before the year 2000. This requires a balanced approach to urbanisation – high and low cost/informal housing, extensive residential areas and job opportunities, with due consideration for the natural environment.

But how did the Zevenfontein issue arise? In brief:

* Part of this low-income community had, for some time legally resided as tenants on a portion of the farm Zevenfontein. Last June the owner gave them notice to vacate the land.
* The Zevenfontein Community appealed for land to be allocated for their permanent settlement within the same region where the majority of them work.
* The TPA immediately initiated a series of meetings with various concerned parties. It soon became clear that emotions clouded the issue to such an extent, that concensus was impossible. As a result, the Administrator of the Transvaal appointed a special representative Task Group. Their brief was to:
  - Evaluate the existing urbanisation strategy for the north-western PWV region.
  - Identify areas for orderly urbanisation, specifically for low-cost housing in this region
  - Make recommendations to the Administrator on the resettlement of the Zevenfontein Community.



Participation in and access to the Task Group was open to all. The Task Group, of more than fifty, included local authorities, community authorities and groups, business interests, developers and various other organised interest groups, as well as the Zevenfontein Community.

In search of consensus about the permanent resettlement of the Zevenfontein people, it was agreed that the Task Group's recommendations would take into account certain criteria:

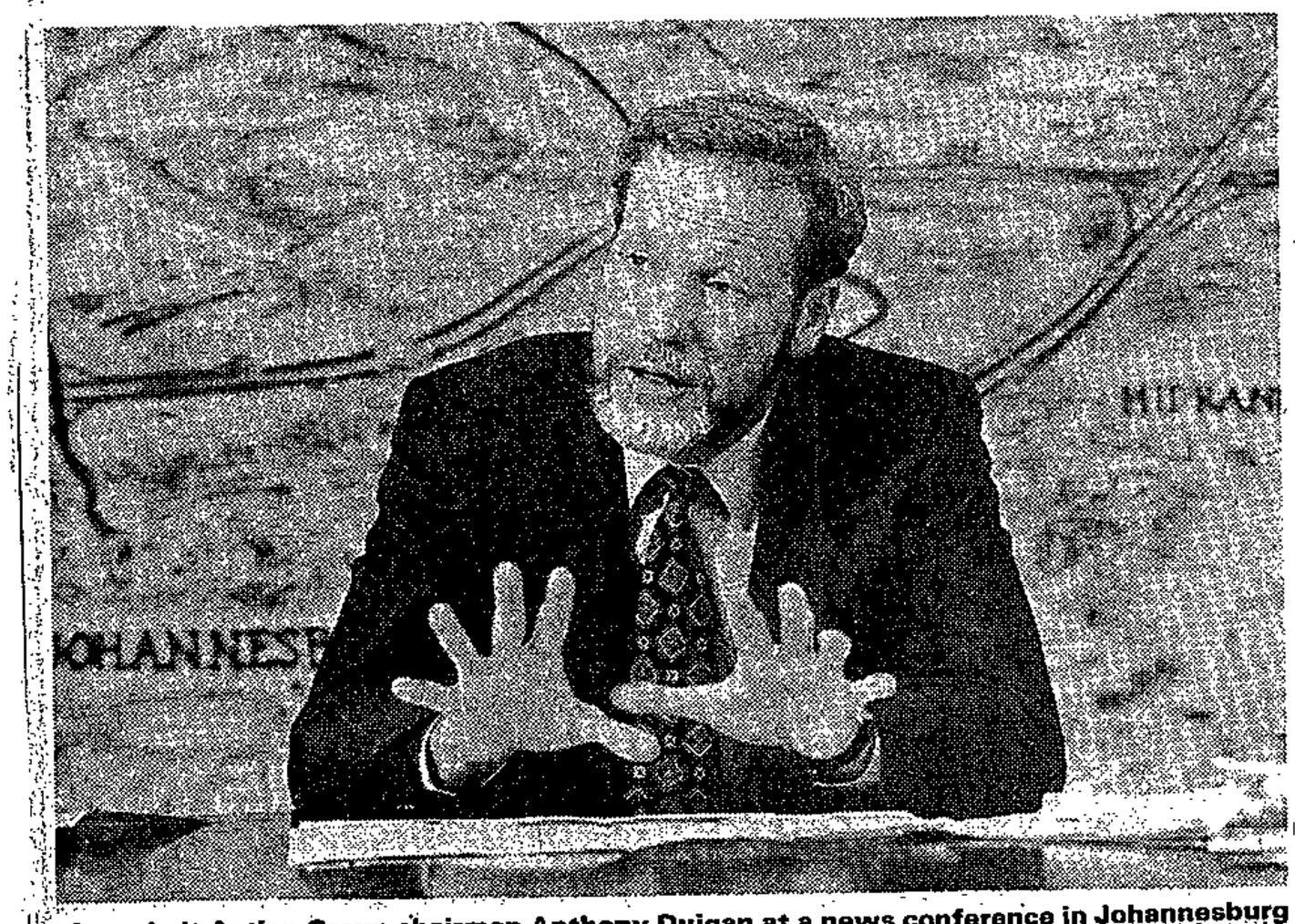
* Physical suitability of the proposed area in terms of universally accepted principles of town planning
* Economic viability and access to job opportunities
* Social mobility and development potential
* And last but not least, a humane and equitable proposal in terms of its impact on all people to be affected.

Finding permanent residence for the Zevenfontein Community has been widely consulted. The Task Group heard and evaluated as many viewpoints as possible. Many recommendations, including those of the Task Group, were made to the Administrator. Full consensus was unfortunately not reached. There was however, an emerging consensus on the inevitability of urbanisation south of the R28 highway.

The time for a weighed decision is now at hand - a fair and equitable decision which will recognise both the rights and interest of all concerned parties on an equal footing, regardless of their socio-economic situation.

This decision will have to find the balance.

Transvaal Provincial Administration



Greenbelt Action Group chairman Anthony Duigan at a news conference in Johannesburg yesterday. He said the TPA reneged on a promise to consult residents. Picture: ROBERT BOTHA

TPA 'plot to dump squatters'

KATHRYN STRACHAN

ON THE eve of a decision about the future of the Zevenfontein squatters, North Rand residents have accused the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) of plotting behind closed doors to eliminate the North Rand Greenbelt and to provide a dumping ground for squatters.

At a news conference yesterday the Greenbelt Action Group (GAG) and the Jukskei-Crocodile Catchment Area Landowners Association said the TPA had clandestinely approached Reef municipalities during the last two weeks with "frightening" proposals. The TPA's plan, they alleged, was to divide the entire Greenbelt, stretching from the council's boundaries in the south to the Hartbeespoort Dam and the Schurweberg in the north among six Reef municipalities. (310)

GAG chairman Anthony Duigan said the move ran against promises made by the TPA that they would consult residents on new developments in the area.

The residents slammed a TPA newspaper advertisement as "provocative" because it claimed to have consulted widely on finding permanent residence for the Zevenfontein community.

Although GAG was represented on the task group set up to identify sites for urbanisation, Duigan said the group had been of little benefit. No consensus had been reached and no strategy had evolved from the meetings. BDay 13/5/92

The new proposals would double the size of municipalities such as Randburg, Sandton and Roodepoort — and place an enormous burden on ratepayers.

Duigan said the future of the Greenbelt, which was the last open agricultural and recreational area in the PWV, was at risk because of the new development.

"Divided up among urban local authorities with no orientation towards rural issues, there is no doubt that (the Greenbelt) will become a dumping ground for development that is unwanted in the existing municipal areas."

TPA spokesmen could not be reached for comment last night.

Elite unit advertises for trainees

Sowetan 13/5/92

Sowetan Correspondent

FRIENDS are few, times are hard and the South African Defence Force's toughest unit needs you - and are prepared to advertise.

Until Careers 2000, which opened in the Pretoria Showgrounds last night, the "Recces" - officially known as the Directorate of Reconnaisance Regiments - lived a shadowy life with their exploits in Angola, Namibia and other countries known only to a select few.

With regimental banners, information booklets and brochures, the Recces "went public" yesterday, complete with their own stand at the Careers 2000 show and an information officer on hand to answer questions from black and white hopefuls showing an interest in joining what are widely regarded as being among the world's toughest fighting troops.

Times were, the information officer conceded, somewhat tough in the new South Africa; things had changed and so the Recces were forced to advertise for recruits.

But at the same time he made it clear they would not be accepting just anybody.

The requirements insist on the applicant being a member of the Citizen Force, Commandos, Permanent Force or performing National Service.

Further requirements include "(b) RSA citizenship (c) Capable of speaking either official language (d) No record of serious criminal offence (e) Educational qualifications: Preferably a Standard 10 certificate, but a lower qualification will be considered in exceptional cases."

Other hopefuls could have been defeated by the age limit of 17 to 28 years but, for those who thought they were almost there the physical exam was still to come.

According to the pamphlet preselection tests included a 25km route march with 30kg kit (to be completed in five hours); a 5km cross-country run in 20 minutes; 10 pull-ups nonstop; 75 sit-ups two minutes, 50 press-ups non-stop; 18 by 25m shuttle runs in two minutes and 200m fireman's carry (without kit) in one minute.

Task group to decide on squatters - TPA

310

Sowetan 13/5/92

The Transvaal Provincial Administration indicated in newspaper advertisements yesterday that a decision on the future of the Zevenfontein squatters was imminent.

The TPA said a task group investigating the issue was reaching consensus on urbanisation south of the R28 highway after consulting about 50 interest groups.

But the plans to re-settle the few hundred squatter families in Chartwell, Bloubosrand and Diepsloot had met with strong opposition from residents. - *Sapa.*

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Urbanisation plan to avert squatting

STAR 15/5/92

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

Six municipalities north-west of Johannesburg have unveiled ambitious plans to extend their boundaries north of the R28 highway to take control of rural areas threatened by squatter settlements.

The six — Sandton, Randburg, Verwoerdburg, Roodepoort, Krugersdorp and Midrand — will apply to the Demarcation Board for approval of their proposals, known as "Alternative 3".

The plan is to implement a 20-year urbanisation strategy for the area south of the R28 and to try to keep the area north of the R28 a green belt for as long as possible.

In a joint statement, the councils said the peri-metropolitan area was experiencing an explosion in urbanisation, almost unparalleled in the world, which would continue for many years.

"We believe that the only way to handle developments fairly is through careful town planning and management," the city councils said in a joint statement.

They believe they are taking the initiative by taking over responsibility for the total socio-economic growth in the towns.

Randburg management committee chairman Brian Crail said low-cost housing was high on the agenda.

Issues to be pro-actively addressed were:

- The transformation of haphazard, unsightly and unhealthy informal housing into well-planned low-cost residential areas.
- The provision of jobs within the municipality through the encouragement of commercial and industrial growth.

Each town had to expand to meet those needs and opportunities. The councillors promised that no more "Zevenfonteins" would be dumped on the doorsteps of any "Bloubosrands", but that informal settlements would be carefully planned in consultation with all affected.

"We want to prevent uncontrolled squatting, but to do it in a properly planned manner," Verwoerdburg management committee chairman Pieter Smith said.

Sandton management committee chairman Willem Hefer said: "As the area is now, the potential for uncontrolled development is much higher. If the area is under proper control, there will be a much greater protection for that style of life to continue."

The councils gave the assurance that ratepayers and interest groups would be consulted.

Mr Crail said the proposal had the support of the TPA.

Ten held in Phola raid

Sowetan 15/5/92

By MOKGADI PELA

POLICE and the army detained more than 10 people in a pre-dawn raid at Phola Park squatter camp yesterday.

Residents said a baby was injured during the raid.

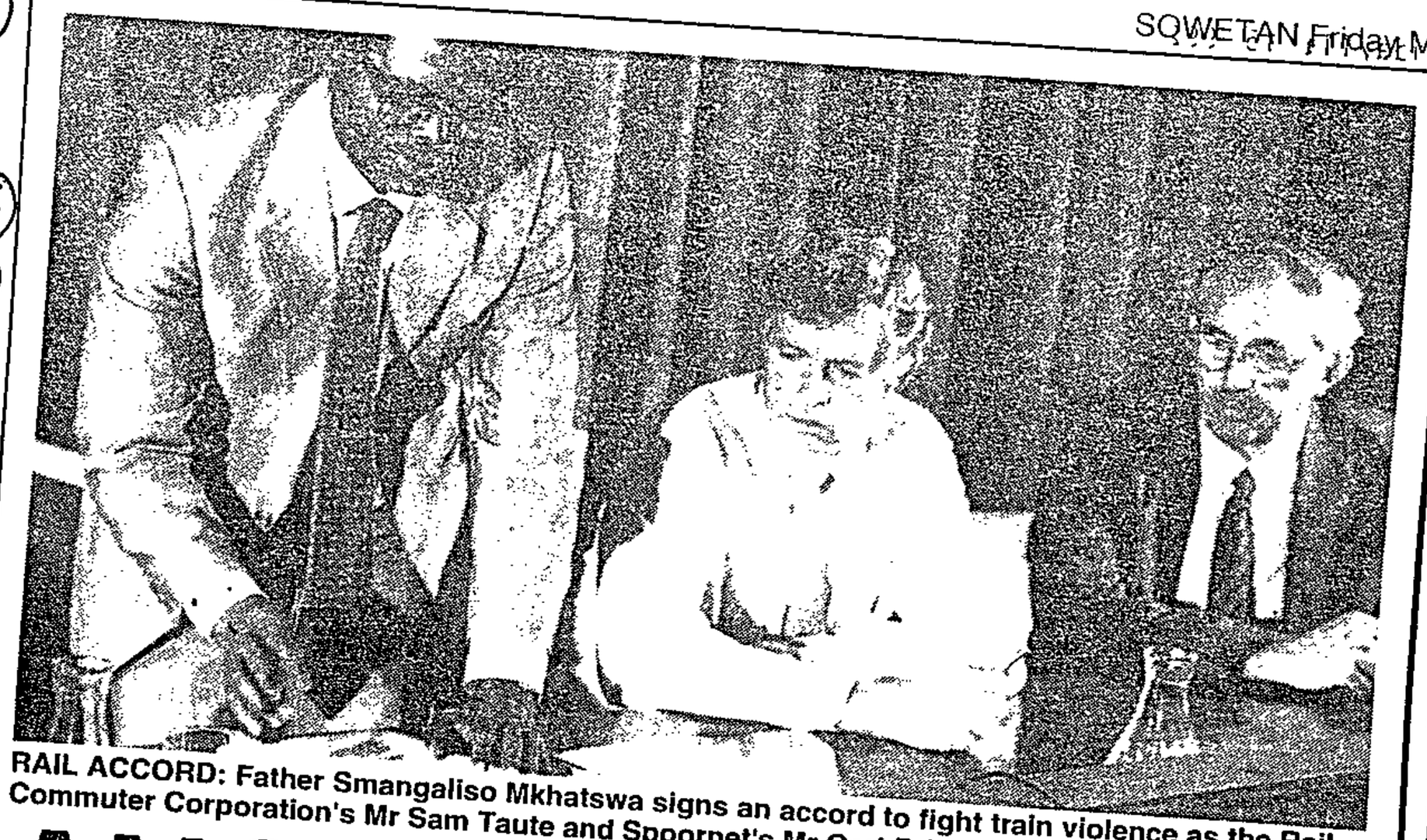
Witwatersrand police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman said the squatter camp was targetted as it had been "the worst spot for attacks on innocent people and security forces".

He said a suspect had been detained in connection with previous crimes. Police were looking for weapons and explosives, he said.

ANC spokesman in the area, Miss Sally Petersen, complained of alleged police brutality, claiming that "even a month-old girl was left unconscious after a teargas cannister was thrown at her mother".

A pregnant woman, Mrs Sophie Mqwebedu (38), said she was teargassed in her house during the raid.

Residents later broke down a wall where a hooded man had allegedly pin-pointed people who were later arrested.



RAIL ACCORD: Father Smangaliso Mkhatswa signs an accord to fight train violence as the Rail Commuter Corporation's Mr Sam Taute and Spoornet's Mr Gert Britz look on.

ANC, Spoornet sign historic pact

Sowetan 15/5/92

A DELEGATION of ANC-aligned organisations and Spoornet signed an agreement yesterday committing themselves to fighting against violence on trains.

The agreement, which was signed at Spoornet headquaters in Braamfontein, represents positive developments in negotiations between the parties.

A recent deadlock resulted in last week's boycott of trains by Reef commuters. The terms of the agreement include:

- Redeployment of security personnel as soon as possible to prevent possible violence before Codesa 2 convenes.
- Implementation of preventative measures including a prohibition on possession of dangerous weapons and firearms.
- Employment of additional security guards.
- Requests for compensation for families of train violence victims were turned down by the SA Rail Commuter Corporation.

Members of the media were told the corporation would make an additional amount of R50 million available for the 1992/93 financial year to improve security measures on commuter facilities in the Wits and Soweto area.

The agreement was signed on behalf of the community leaders by Father Mangaliso Mkhatshwa, Spoornet's group general manager, Mr Gert Britz, SARCC senior general manager Mr S Taute and Witwatersrand Commissioner of Police, General Gerrit Erasmus.

Mazwais say thanks

THE family of *Sowetan's* day editor, Mr Thami Mazwai, would like to thank all the people who stood by them during their bereavement since April 21 when Mazwai's wife Belede died.

Mrs Mazwai is survived by her husband and four children.

"This was a traumatic period in our lives and continues to be. But the sympathy and support we get from friends, associates and just about everybody we come into contact with lightens the burden," Mazwai said on his return to workthis week.

Molefe

MR Michael "Tata" Molefe (24) of 8839 Moeketsi Street, Kagiso 2, Krugersdorp, who died last weekend will be buried at the local cemetery at 1pm tomorrow.

A service will be held at the Roman Catholic Church in Kagiso 1 from 10.30am.

Boycott

FIVE zones under the Soweto Civic Association will take part in a march tomorrow aimed at raising awareness about the boycott of service charges in Soweto. Sowetan 15/5/92

Marchers from Moroka, Molapo, Jabavu, Mofolo and Dube will meet at Elkah Stadium in Rockville at 10am and proceed to the Soweto Council offices in Jabulani.

A spokesman for the SCA, Mr King Sibiya, said the march would be to protest against the failure of the council to improve the quality of services in terms of the agreement between the SCA, TPA, the council and the Metropolitan Chamber.

The SCA would also demand the resignation of councillors with immediate effect and for the Johannesburg municipality to be fully involved in greater Soweto, Sibiya said.

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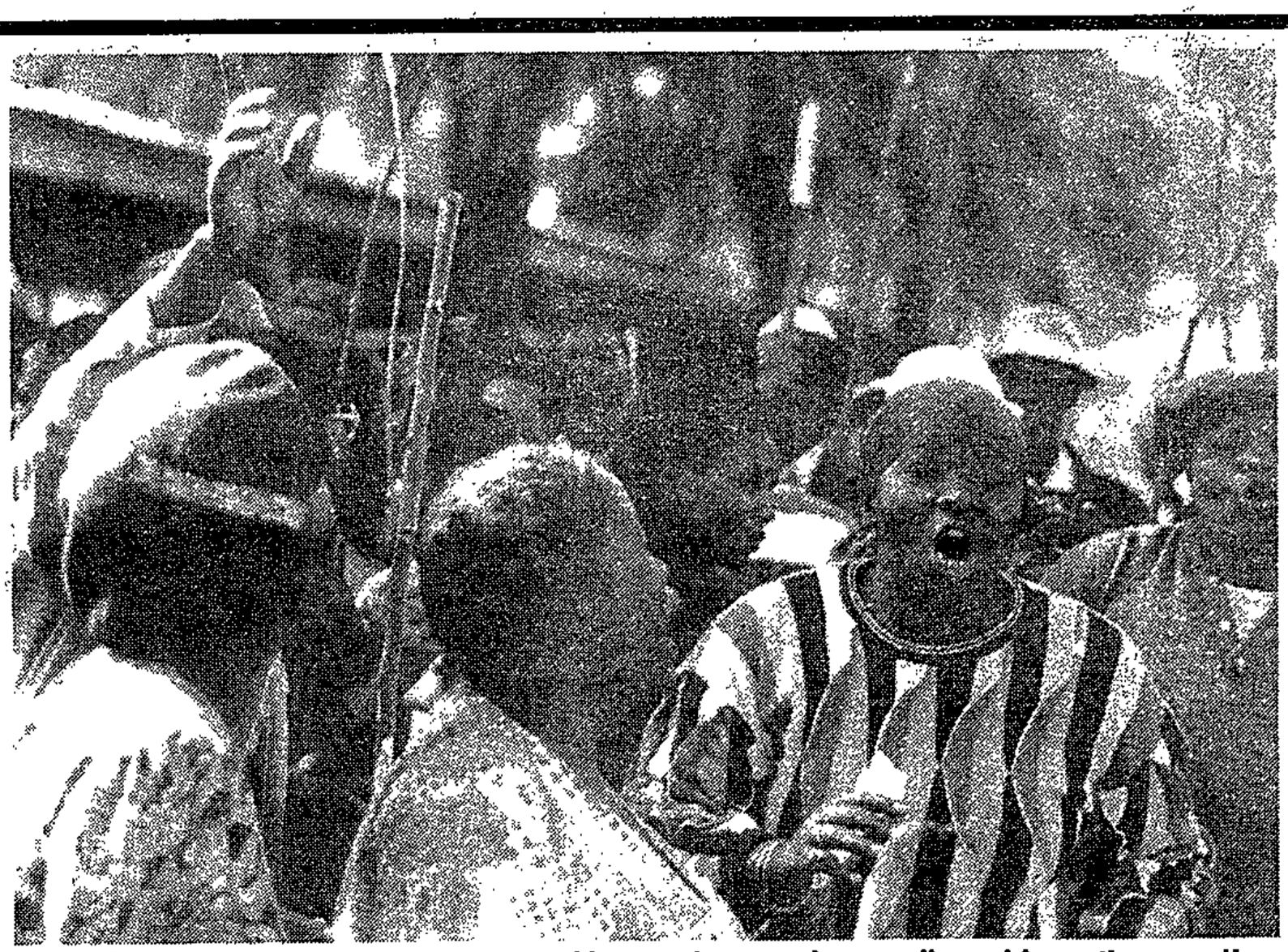
lery's move from the City Hall to the Old Supreme Court. The two biggest losses are "Jade" and "Design for a Fan", both signed by artist George Shearingham. Gallery director Brendan Bell said it appeared that unsuitable storage conditions and insufficient security during storage and movement had contributed to the losses. — Own Correspondent.

Soweto homeless protest

HOMELESS residents in Dobsonville, Soweto, started a sit-in at the Transvaal Provincial Administration offices in neighbouring Doornkop yesterday. Operation Masakhane for the Homeless's Dobsonvile chairman Zweli Majova said the protest was staged to "highlight the plight of the homeless and to demand land for occupation". Majova said the sit-in would last until demands to meet top TPA officials were met. — Sapa. STAR 16/5/92

French must wait for ostrich

PARIS — The French



Phola Park residents have been angered by another pre-dawn police raid on the squatter camp yesterday.

Two bodies found, man held in Phola Park raid

Sowetan 19/5/92 310

POLICE found two bodies and arrested a man after another pre-dawn raid at Phola Park squatter camp on the East Rand yesterday.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman yesterday said a man was battered to death and a woman fatally stabbed on Sunday night.

Police were unable to supply the names of the dead.

A man, arrested in connection with a petrol bombing incident, was the 10th person arrested in Phola Park since last Thursday.

Opperman said the raid was an ongoing crime prevention exercise following the deaths of five policemen at the camp this year.

He said Phola Park required constant police attention as it was "rife with violent criminals".

"There is no way we can allow people to attack security forces and Phola Park residents are constantly attacking the police," he said.

Police came under attack by residents yesterday, with snipers firing shots at passing police vehicles.

ANC regional spokesman Mr Ronnie Mamoepa accused the police of harassing Phola Park residents.

He said eight armoured carriers patrolled the camp yesterday, adding this was "part of a strategy to destabilise Phola Park".

Replying to allegations that police fired shots at residents, Opperman said police had used rubber bullets and teargas.

The arrested men are being held in custody and will appear in court once investigations have been completed, he said.

Lights for Orange Farm

Sowetan 21/5/92

MORE than 3 000 households in Orange Farm near Vereeniging, which include many shacks, have been provided with electricity by Eskom since December.

Orange Farm, which has rudimentary services and no sewerage system, is being developed by the Transvaal Provincial Administration as a site-and-service project and has a population of 120 000 people. --*Sapa*

Sowetan 21/5/92

310

Residents set up crisis committee in Phola Park

By Peter Wellman

Phola Park, trying to raise its head above dust, rocks and gunfire, has formed an interim crisis committee (ICC) to liaise with the security forces over "consistent and intimidation".

Lawyers for Human Rights in a hotel conference near the airport said this week during a two-day meeting that the ICC said the several members' organisations, and would not reveal individuals' affiliations because they wanted to keep politicians out of what licies were trying to do for residents.

Police liaison officer Captain Eugene Opperman last night spoke of a different Phola Park, where the ANC had been training and sending people outside the country for further training.

"Conflict began a few years ago between the Zulus and Xhosas, and the area has become heavily politicised," he said.

"The defence force says they have fired on the police. We have been in contact with the ICC headquarters in Johannesburg. We can't work on this (community) process as an SADF front. We have our full intergovernment backing."

He claimed there had been "intimidation and harassment of key people in the community by the SAP and the SADF behind the scenes".

Lekwane Human Rights Committee said the ICC had been in contact with the Sebezo Liberation Committee (SLC) to iron out differences between the two groups.

Christina Sebezo, a member of the ICC, said the SLC was an interim committee which had been set up to the "crisis" within the community's security forces.

Phola Park residents, living in appalling conditions, have formed a committee to negotiate with the authorities.

The ICC said the community's main grievances were the lack of sanitation, poor roads, inadequate refuse removal and the high cost of living.

Sebezo said the committee had been in contact with the Phola Park Residents' Association (PPRA) since it was formed in December last year.

The PPRA has been negotiating with the authorities for the past six months.

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Trainling

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The PPRA has been negotiating with the authorities for the past six months.

Packed

He also said he hoped that "desperately" Phola Park would be able to stop violence in the "near future".

ICC was able to "The ICC was able to stop Phola Park. We hope that in Phola Park, so must now," he said. "The violence in the area must stop now," he said.

There are several densely built shacks of roughly packed and rough iron, them. And there are no lights, so if there is a camp at night it is almost impossible to work out where it is coming from.

Another source of tension is that drivers of the commuter taxis have been driven against their vehicles by a group of residents who will by taxi drivers into an IFP stronghold.

Xhosa-speaking residents had been killed in the community, and it was gathering evidence and details.

Residents said they had been killed, and

Cop defends the Phola Park raids

Sowetan 22/5/92

ON Wednesday *Sowetan* criticised the police on incidents at Phola Park.

Major Ray Harrald, spokesman for the SAP in Pretoria, yesterday replied to our criticism:

"I refer to the editorial Comment published in *Sowetan*, May 20, 1991. Please allow me to make the following comments.

To state that "it does seem somewhat petulant, almost revengeful, to raid this particular camp because several attacks have been launched from it" is not true. The SA Police has a by-law-imposed duty to maintain law and order. We will carry out this duty to the best of our ability.

The SA Police had reliable information that certain persons being sought were at Phola Park and for that reason the area was searched. As soon as the criminal elements in Phola Park refrain from launching these attacks and harbouring those being sought for acts of violence, it will no longer be necessary for the police to carry out such operations.

'Deliberately tardy'

Your comment regarding our action against hostels being "deliberately tardy" is unfair and unfounded. Our successes regarding the recovery of illegal firearms and other dangerous weapons during operations when hostels are searched speak for themselves.

I would like to reaffirm our policy that where the SA Police receives sufficient evidence that any person(s) may be in possession of illegal firearms or may be responsible for the commission of any offence, we will not hesitate to act whether it be against the hostels or areas such as Phola Park.

Calls for the police to stay out of Phola Park would only benefit the criminal element and if we were to do so we would be playing into their hands. We are not prepared to do this. We owe it to the law-abiding residents of Phola Park to maintain law and order. We are quite sure that the inconvenience such a search may cause is a small price to pay.

We once again call on all the law-abiding residents of Phola Park, and all other strife-torn areas to support us in our efforts to maintain law and order."

Winterveldt's schooling dilemma

Cl Press 24/5/92

By MOSES MAMAILA

THE row between the Bophuthatswana government and the Winterveldt community remains unresolved, and children – the main victims of the conflict – continue to suffer.

Hundreds of children from the peri-urban shack city outside Pretoria attend lessons outside and in shanty classrooms at 12 private schools, while about 29 Bop government schools are reportedly empty.

According to Winterveldt Civic Association chairman Khehla Nyamakazi, the Bop government deliberately did not provide basic rights for the residents to punish the community, which has always opposed its incorporation into the homeland.

Nyamakazi said the government schools could not be used by many kids because Tswana was the only language being taught in them, even though Tswanas were in the minority in Winterveldt.

The children in the private schools, which start from Grade 1 and go to Std 4, pay R15 a month in fees. The money is used to pay teachers, most of whom are unqualified.

A Bophuthatswana government spokesman could not be reached for comment.

BLACK HOLE ... A woman threatened with removal in the streets of Mandelaville squatter camp with her possessions. ■ Pic: EVANS MBOWENI

TPA 'bulldozer' threat

By MOSES MAMAILA (319)

MANDELAVILLE squatters have been told that their dwellings will be swallowed up by the earth, or bulldozed – whichever comes first.

However, some of the squatters living in the area near Lenasia have vowed to stay put despite the TPA's ambiguous warning. City Press 24/5/92

"This is naked brutality. How can we be expected to move from this area after we have started building our houses," said Lydia Radebe, whose eight-roomed house was still being built. Her double garages were completed when City Press visited the area this week.

Radebe has invested R25 000 so far and fears that she won't get a cent in compensation.

The TPA said 73 homeless families would be transferred to an area south of the camp.

The decision to move the squatters followed a geological survey which indicated that the soil is dolomitic, meaning that sink-holes could develop.

However, angry residents claimed the move was a form of harassment.

Suzan Nhlapo said she would vacate the area because they had been threatened with bulldozers if they had not moved by Tuesday.

"Do we really have to pay such a heavy price for being poor?" asked Rosinah Ledwaba.

She says residents were told that the squatters would be moved in September.

Those affected by the present removal say they were given a week to vacate the area.

Soldiers rampage

Sowetan 26/5/92 310

By MATHATHA TSEDU

ABOUT 15 members of the SADF's Battalion 21 raided the Tamboville squatter area near Wattville, Benoni, on Sunday night, assaulting and injuring residents.

But an army spokesman, confirming the incident, said the men had gone absent without leave and were not "deployed under the command of the SA army" at the time. Several of them had been arrested, he said.

At least two people are known to have been seriously injured,

To page 2

Soldiers rampage

Sowetan 26/5/92 Rand Daily Mail 310

From page 1

with one, Mr Bernard Mkhatshwa (35), likely to lose the use of both eyes. The other, Mr David Nkosi, has gaping wounds on his head and a suspected fracture of his left hand. They are both at the Benoni-Boksburg Hospital.

Mkhatshwa said the soldiers had arrived in an army truck at his home and knocked roughly on his door.

"When I opened the door they started hitting me with their rifle butts and fists and accused me of being part of the security of the Tamboville," he said with both his eyes swollen closed.

He said he had lost consciousness after losing a lot of blood.

Nkosi said the soldiers had accosted him in the street and had beaten him all over his body and hit his head with instruments he did not see.

The chairman of the Tamboville Civic Association, Mr Abbey Nyalunga, told a Press conference yesterday the soldiers were accosted by a team of the area's security men after they had beaten Mkhatshwa.

He said the soldiers fired shots in their fight with residents but no one was hit.

Residents arrested one soldier, Mr Moeketsi Mogwerane, who was later handed to the police.

The SADF spokesman said a thorough investigation was under way to ascertain the facts and asked people to contact them or the police.

THe SADF said "several members of 21 Battalion were arrested by the SA Military police for absence without leave.

"The SADF will not condone any misconduct or bad behaviour by its members."

Concern about shack dwellers

310

Sowetan 29/5/92

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

THE Vulindlela United Community of South Africa, which is based in Soweto, says it is concerned about the spread of informal settlements.

Vulindlela president Mr Eric Ntshinqeka said they wanted to discuss the problem with major financial institutions.

He said that a large number of blacks were homeless and lived in squalid conditions in shacks and squatter camps because they could not afford to buy homes.

According to the 1991/92 race relations survey, Ntshinqeka said, 97 314 people lived in informal settlements in Soweto during the period under review.

Ntshinqeka said they wanted to help the homeless to get houses.

They would ask local authorities to stop demolishing shacks because "these people are helpless and are unemployed".

The association is to arrange education courses for the people living in shacks.

We will help you says newly-formed group

Sowetan 29/5/92 Sowetan

310

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

THE newly-formed Qondisa Estate Agency and Soweto Home Builders is offering help to people living in four-roomed houses.

Chief executive and co-ordinator for the Sowcto Civic Association, Mr Graham Qondisa, yesterday said they were also offering advice on how to obtain bonds from financial institutions.

He said: "We are working hand in hand with the civic association and the banks to help the black community."

Their help was directed to those people who owned the old four-roomed houses.

They might want to obtain a bond for building two rooms and a garage behind the existing homes or to add bathroom and did not know how to go about it.

"Our advice is: consult your nearest or local civic association and make arrangements with them to overcome your problems," he said.

He said that number of blacks living in informal dwellings in Soweto was estimated at more than 10 000.

The squatter problem was serious and contributed to the large scale violence that was sweeping through the townships today, he said.

"This problem must be resolved, otherwise we are sitting on a time-bomb. We cannot afford to lose more lives," he added.

The business was also concerned about the large number of people who were facing the prospect of losing their homes because they were unable to pay their bonds.

He warned that financial institutions had no right to evict or to repossess homes before considering the plight of the home-owners.

The agency was negotiating such problems with the institutions.

He said when buying a house, prospective owners must have a full understanding of what they were doing and what the result could before signing documents.

"Do not just sign because you need a roof above your head," he said, adding that "it is exactly where you can get into trouble."

He was having consultations with the civic associations concerning housing problems.

He said he could be contacted at the Blackchain Centre in Diepkloof or telephone 936-1054.

Squatter claims denied

(310)

Sowetan 3/6/92.

Sowetan Correspondent

TRANSVAAL Provincial Administration officials have denied they had failed to consult Zevenfontein squatters on their relocation to a permanent site.

Reacting to squatter claims that their opinions had been ignored, TPA spokesman Mr Piet Wilken said at least 17 top level meetings were held since January 16.

The claims follow reports of the cancellation of a TPA Press conference yesterday where a final announcement on the squatters' future was expected.

The cancellation allegedly came after a row between Zevenfontein representatives and the TPA on Monday. TPA officials

Phola Park clashes as 12 arrested

STAR 3/6/92

By Monica Oosterbroek and Isaac Moledi

310

Security forces and residents of the Phola Park squatter camp on the East Rand clashed again yesterday as 12 illegal immigrants were arrested.

SAP spokesman Constable Louis Vermaak said nine men and three women were being held at the immigration office in Germiston.

Police confiscated a number of dangerous weapons such as axes and knives, several AK-47 cartridges, and petrol bombs.

While a large contingent of uniformed men in armoured vehicles surrounded the camp, dozens of Casspirs patrolled through the camp and a large force on foot searched shacks and residents.

Police allege snipers fired at them on Monday night and residents claim the police are shooting them.

A crippled man, David Mashaba, was arrested outside a shack where he was sitting with his wife and children. His wife, Gladys Nyati, said police believed her husband was a Mozambican. "Why were the police hitting and kicking him?" Mrs Nyati sobbed as she watched her husband being driven away.

Residents said police asked for their identity documents and passports. Those found to be Transkeian citizens were arrested and taken to the police station.

A constable said the police were on an anti-crime operation which would continue until the criminals had been arrested and the area stabilised.

main problem in regard to these portable and transportable toilets is not that the hole unfortunately constitutes a permanent fixture? [Interjections.]

†The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, the reply to that is yes, as far as the toilet is concerned, and no, not as far as the placing is concerned.

Hwibi community: use of farm Tweespalk

*8. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Regional and Land Affairs:

(1) Whether he has received a request on behalf of the Hwibi community for that community to make use of the farm Tweespalk, No 733LDR6, which was held in trust by the former South African Development Trust; if so,

(2) whether he intends allowing the Hwibi community to make use of the farm; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

B692E

†The MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LAND AFFAIRS:

(1) No.

(2) The farm Tweespalk is the property of the State which is, together with a number of other farms, being leased in terms of a written lease agreement to Gillemberg Farms. It is therefore under the present circumstances not possible to make the property available to the Hwibi community.

Cost of newspaper advertisements: Zevenfontein issue (310)

*9. Mr P H DE LA REY asked the Minister of Local Government and National Housing:†

(1) (a) Which Department bears the cost of the newspaper advertisements by the Transvaal Provincial Administration on the Zevenfontein question, which appeared *inter alia* on 12 May 1992 in a certain newspaper, particulars of which have been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, (b) what has the total cost of these advertisements been to date and (c) what is the purport of the advertisement in the above-mentioned newspaper;

(2) whether there are any private business undertakings or bodies that contribute to the defrayal of these costs; if so, what are the relevant details;

(3) whether any more similar advertisements are envisaged; if so, what subjects will they deal with?

(310)

B696E

†The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL HOUSING:

(1) (a) The Transvaal Provincial Administration.

(b) The total cost of placing the advertisement in five daily newspapers on 12 and 13 May 1992 and in six regional papers during the week which ended on 15 May 1992, amounted to R130 801,93. The daily newspapers are The Citizen, The Star, Sowetan, Business Day and Beeld. The regional papers are Randburg Sun, Midrand Reporter, Verwoerdburg Nuus, Sandton Chronicle, Krugersdorp Nuus and Roodepoort Record.

(c) The intention of the advertisement was to emphasize, in the national interest, the realities of urbanization in the PWV area, and to defuse the emotional actions and the misconceptions regarding the presence of the Zevenfontein community northwest of Randburg and Sandton.

(2) No.

(3) At this stage no further advertisements of this nature are envisaged. Further advertisements in this regard may, however, be published should it be deemed necessary and in the interest of the public.

Compensation to injured national servicemen

*10. Adv J J S PRINSLOO asked the Minister of Defence:† (254)

(1) Whether national servicemen who sustain injuries during their national service training that are caused by the negligence of other members of the South African Defence Force and that lead to permanent disablement, receive compensation therefore; if not, why not; if so,

(2) whether the procedure followed in calculating such compensation is the same as that followed in corresponding cases outside the Defence Force structure; if not, (a) why not and (b) what procedure is followed in this regard?

B697E

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

(1) Yes, provided the claim is accepted by the responsible Government Department.

(2) In so far as financial assistance is concerned two separate dispensations are applicable to National Servicemen depending on the circumstances:

— National Servicemen who are already either in the employ of the Public Service or another employer who is registered in terms of the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act 30 of 1941) fall under the jurisdiction of the Workmen's Compensation Act.

— Other National Servicemen are covered by the Military Pensions Act (Act 84 of 1976).

(a) The basis of compensation in the categories differ in that the Workmen's Compensation Act was enacted to compensate persons who are already employed in the open labour market for disabilities sustained during their military service. Calculation of the benefits payable is based on earnings, degree of disability and the type of work performed. In contrast the Military Pensions Act provides for persons who have not as yet entered the open labour market or whose employers have not been registered in terms of the Workmen's Compensation Act and who sustained injuries whilst rendering military service. In such cases compensation is based on educational qualifications and the degree of disability.

(b) — The Workmen's Compensation Act compels the employer to report accidents within 30 days of the incident for a decision and registration. In the case of a public servant who is rendering his national service the incident is reported to the member's department who will in turn submit the case to the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner for further processing.

— With regard to the completion of the claim documentation of members who fall under the Military Pensions Act, the onus rests with the individual member but he is assisted by the SA Defence Force to submit his claim on the prescribed form to the Department of Finance.

Business interrupted in accordance with Rule 180C (3) of the Standing Rules of Parliament.

Measures iro cargo ships (246)

*11. Adv J J S PRINSLOO asked the Minister of Transport:†

(1) Whether his Department takes any measures to ensure that cargo ships sailing in South African territorial waters are not structurally so deteriorated that they may start leaking or even sink; if not, why not; if so, what measures;

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

B698E

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT:

(1) Yes, when cargo ships enter South African harbours and it is proved or suspected that international legislation is being transgressed, ship-surveyors of the Department undertake quality inspections.

(2) No. It is, however, customary to make a statement in specific circumstances when warranted.

Referendum: foreign heads of state approached by SA embassies

*12. Mr D P DU PLESSIS asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:†

Whether there are any South African embassies which in any way, after receiving the

cont-p

TPA denies ignoring squatters' opinions

STAR 3/6/91 (310)

By Shirley Woodgate

Transvaal Provincial Administration officials have hotly denied that they have failed to consult the Zevenfontein squatters on their imminent relocation to a permanent site.

Reacting to claims by squatter representatives that their opinions had been ignored, TPA spokesman Piet Wilken said at least 17 top-level meetings had been held since January 16.

Claiming the TPA had leant over backwards to accommodate the squatters' wishes, he said a senior permanent liaison officer had been placed at their disposal.

The TPA claims follow reports of the last-minute cancellation of a planned TPA press conference yesterday at which a final announcement on the squatters' future was expected.

The cancellation allegedly came after a blazing quarrel between Zevenfontein representatives and the TPA on Monday night and, instead of the crucial announcement, top TPA officials headed by MEC Olaus van Zyl yesterday met Zevenfontein residents behind closed doors in Johannesburg to thrash out differences.

Sources indicate that at a meeting between the TPA and the squatter representatives at Zevenfontein on Monday night, tensions surfaced after MEC John Mayuso insisted on addressing the gathering in Zulu.

When he was informed that not all the residents understood the language and that an interpreter was unavailable, he allegedly switched to Xhosa, then Sotho and finally English.

Zevenfontein representatives claimed they had not been fully consulted and that their stated preference for Cosmo City had been ignored.

The three areas under consideration are believed to be Diepsloot West, Cosmo City and a site in Nietgedacht near the Lion Park.

Still no decision

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration's executive committee has not yet decided where to settle the Zevenfontein community. Proposals were put to the Zevenfontein families scheduled to leave the farm north of Sandton by July 31, but the TPA was still awaiting their response, TPA spokesman Piet Wilken said yesterday. Last-minute hitches had delayed an announcement.

BD Daily 4/6/92

Priority for SA

A FAVOURABLE framework to attract foreign investment was an important priority for SA, Swiss Secretary of State for Foreign Economic Affairs Frans Blankart, who was due to meet Reserve Bank governor Chris Stals yesterday, said at a news conference in Johannesburg. He said he was asked by the Swiss government to assess the situation "in this country which is very important to our economy".

Factory orders rise

NEW factory orders in April rose 1% to a seasonally adjusted $243,85bn, the commerce department in Washington said. The April increase marks the fourth month in a row factory orders have risen.

REPORTS: Business Day Reporters, Sapa, AP-DJ.

basic foodstuffs by an additional 19%-45% this year.

DP health spokesman Mike Ellis said the system used to distribute the money "is far too cumbersome on the one hand and yet strangely short of manpower on the other".

All requests for money had to be referred back to the National Health Department and "this obviously is causing serious delays, particularly since the department admits that it has a shortage of manpower", he said.

He asked why provincial administrations had not been given greater authority to distribute the money. "They have the infrastructure to handle the scheme and are more likely to be aware of the needs of the people in the region."

Venter said R110m had been dis-

tention," she said.

☐ DP Trade and Industry spokesman Brian Goodall said yesterday SA faced an unprecedented food crisis which could stoke unrest and violence in urban areas to even higher levels,, reports GERALD REILLY.

The crisis was aggravated by growing unemployment and the inability of tens of thousands of black families to pay for even the most basic foods.

Goodall said the warning by Foodcorps CE Dirk Jacobs that the price of some staple foods could rise by up to 45% this year underlined the urgency for publishing the Board of Trade and Industries food price inflation investigation report. If rip-offs were taking place along the food price chain they had to be exposed.

R5bn a year for social investments — LOA

MICK ELLINGHAM

THE Life Officers' Association (LOA) will detail plans this month to invest up to R5bn of its funds a year in "socially desirable" projects.

LOA chairman Louis Shill said yesterday that "significant progress" had been made towards a mechanism through which life assurers would channel funds into projects such as low-cost housing and education. BD Daily 4/6/92

However, he could not quantify amounts yet.

Life assurers may put as much as 10%-15% of their total income from premiums and investments in to the fund, according a report in the Financial Mail earlier this year.

Shill said the LOA would make an announcement "before the end of the month", giving complete details of planned arrangements.

Negotiations between the LOA, the ANC and other extraparliamentary groups took place in April this year to discuss ways in which the LOA could be involved in social investment.

Shill said he was "very pleased" with the LOA's progress.

ANC economic affairs spokesman Khetso Gordan was unavailable for comment.

Professor LOUISE TAGER welcomes new organisations in the business community.

Property rip-off report to State

Sowetan 5/6/92

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

THE Business Practices Committee has submitted a report to the Government concerning black low-cost homebuyers who have been ripped off by property developers.

BPC's chairman Professor Louise Tager said organisations of "certain ability" have become active in the low income housing.

Entry into the market was generally to be welcomed. But the extent to which the financial and legal interests of consumers might be prejudiced had given cause for concern, she said.

The findings of the report have been supported by the Housing Advice Centre and the Wits Law Clinic who said they knew of hundreds of potential homeowners ripped off by developers.

HAC's Mr Brian Levison said they have attended to more than 4 000 complaints from blacks who entered into agreements with developers promising to find them homes.

"Homeless people are vulnerable to entrepreneurs who obtain money by promising to provide them with houses," she said.

Unlawful

The committee's investigation into one enterprise found the company guilty of harmful business practices and recommended to the Minister of Housing, Mr Leon Wessels, that it be declared unlawful.

The plans by that company to provide 2 600 houses for R22 500 each were described as being "grandiose and utterly unattainable".

Clients were invited to buy shares on the understanding that as shareholders they would be first in line to obtain the low priced houses offered by the company. It undertook to provide houses to all its shareholders. In fact, the report added, only some have been supplied with houses without security title.

It was also found that the company did not own land on which the houses were erected and it was not in a position to honour its obligations. Its accounting data and financial affairs were in disarray.

The report said that in order to exercise total control the company's owner had appointed several former employees with limited formal schooling as directors.

They were not well informed on the implications of their duties.

The company had built 100 houses in the Tsakane region, but capital required to complete infrastructural work ammounted to more than R1,3 million.

If it failed to fulfil its development obligations, the houses would return to the land owners, and residents with no occupancy or property rights could be evicted, according to the report.

SBDC opens a hive in Phillipi

Sowetan 5/6/92

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

MORE than 60 small businesses ranging from clothing manufacturers to welders have taken units in the Phillipi Small Business Centre in the Western Cape.

The majority of these have "graduated" from backyards and are operating from formal premises for the first time.

The centre, a landmark on the Cape Flats, was bought by the SBDC after it became aware of the need

Hostels: places of refuge or barracks?

310

Township violence has often pitted the poorest of the poor against one another, hostel dwellers and squatters. The violence is made more tragic by the fact that many squatters are expelled hostel inmates. The Independent Board of Inquiry has examined the role of the hostels in the fighting. PATRICK LAURENCE reports.

STAR 5/6/92

HOSTELS have been at the centre of the bloodletting in Reef townships since July 1990, serving either as barracks from which to launch attacks or as fortresses from which to resist attacks.

Whether they are regarded as a threat or a refuge is determined by the perspective of the viewer: from the outside they tend to be seen as a scourge, but from the inside they are often experienced as a haven.

Kgabisi Mosunkutu, of the Soweto Civic Association, says: "For the violence to cease, the hostels must be emptied ... (They have) been turned into barracks for vigilantes who are directed to maim, kill, rob and indeed rape."

Bafana Mazibuko, of the Inkatha Freedom Party, ripostes: "It is our conviction that the war against hostels is not a war

serving either as barracks from which to launch attacks or as fortresses from which to resist attacks.

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Kgabisi Mosunkutu, of the Soweto Civic Association, says: "For the violence to cease, the hostels must be emptied ... (They have) been turned into barracks for vigilantes who are directed to maim, kill, rob and indeed rape."

Bafana Mazibuko, of the Inkatha Freedom Party, ripostes: "It is our conviction that the war against hostels is not a war for peace but a war for ANC supremacy."

The role of the hostels in the violence is examined by the Independent Board of Inquiry (IBI) in its report, Fortresses of Fear.

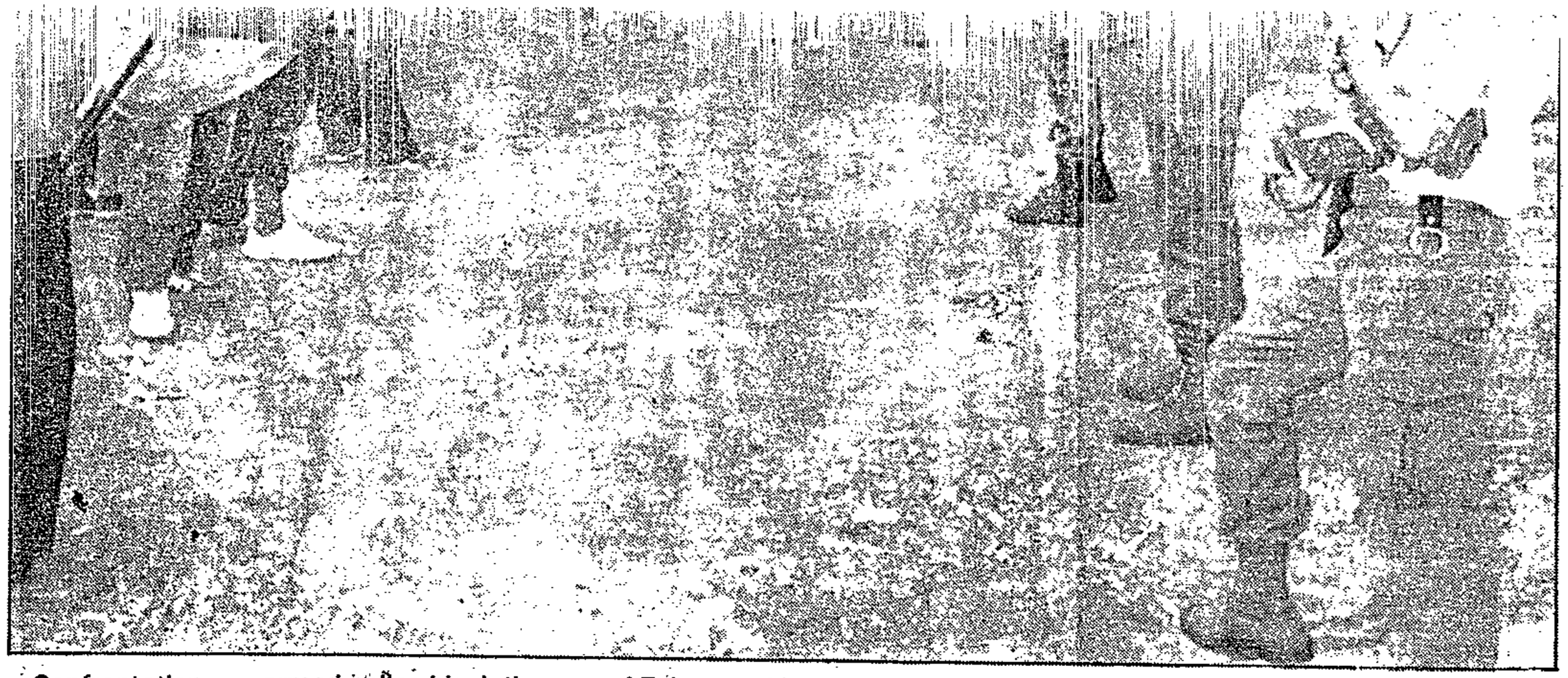
Since July 1990, when the township war ignited after clashes between IFP and ANC supporters in Sebokeng, more than 260 attacks have been launched from hostels, resulting in more than 1 200 deaths and nearly 3 700 injuries, the IBI report says.

The report describes its figures as "conservative" for two reasons: they are based solely on attacks recorded in the media, and then only when "hostel dwellers have been positively identified as participating in the attacks".

Attacks have been launched from hostels controlled by IFP or pro-IFP forces, according to the report.

Nearly all hostels in Johannesburg, Soweto and townships on the East and West Rand are controlled by the IFP, the report says.

It offers no information on attacks from two ANC-controlled hostels in Sebokeng but notes that inmates of the two hostels, KwaMmziza and Madala, were "attacked by IFP members" assisted by outside reinforcements.



Confrontation . . . armed police block the way of Zulus outside a hostel after factional clashes between Xhosas and Zulus in Alexandra left four dead a few months ago.

(278) (204) (127) (810)

STAR 5/6/92.

Nor does it explain how these two hostels came to be ANC strongholds or comment on IFP allegations that its men were driven out by superior forces after fighting started in July 1990.

IFP control of hostels in the Witwatersrand is the result of a policy of seizure and expulsion, the report contends.

Thus it says of Lewisham hostel in Kagiso on the West Rand: "It was decided at (an IFP meeting in August 1990) to remove all non-IFP members from the hostel." Referring to hostels on the East Rand, it says: "All non-Inkatha members were forcibly removed from the hostels."

The report contains a table reflecting the level of IFP support in hostels in Johannesburg, Soweto and Alexandra. According to Humphrey Ndhlovu of the IFP, it varies from 87 percent (Dube) to 100 percent (Jabulani, Merafe, Denver and Alexandra).

IFP-dominated hostels, however, have been the target of attacks as well as the launching pads for attacks, the report records.

"In the last two months at least five hand grenades and a bomb have exploded at (Mzimhlope) hostel.

"It is believed that the attacks were launched by local residents." At least four people were killed.

"On August 9 1990 the Khalanyoni hostel (in Tokoza) was set ablaze by the people of Phola Park. As the hostel burnt, groups of youths hammered the walls, beat the corrugated roofs and looted."

The report provides an indication of the extent to which the hostels serve as arms depots or even arm factories. Between July 1990 and April 1992, 58 AK-47 rifles, nine revolvers and 16 pistols were seized from hostels.

The report again labels its figures conservative, noting a statement by Deputy Law and Order Minister Johan Scheepers that nearly 280 AK-47s and just under 250 homemade weapons were seized nationwide from IFP and ANC members in the four months ending on April 30.

Many IFP hostels — there are more than 50 on the Witwatersrand — are controlled by "warlords", the report says.

It defines a warlord as a person who is "in a position of power and commands respect from the predominantly rural people occupying the hostels".

One of the techniques used by the "warlords" to enlist fighters into their bands is to tell hostel inmates that the Zulu nation is under threat.

The inference is that most inmates are Zulu-speakers, the expulsion of non-IFP members having excluded most men who are not Zulus.

Most but not all: according to the report, some non-Zulus, mainly Vendas and Shangaans, have been persuaded and or coerced into joining the IFP and acknowledging the leadership of the warlords.

The warlords are a law unto themselves and refuse to obey Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the report avers. "When Ulundi has attempted to intervene to end the violence, the warlords have told hostel dwellers to ignore Buthelezi."

There is no easy solution to the problems posed by the hostels and the alienation of their inmates. The cry to dismantle the institutions will be met by fierce resistance from the hostel people.

The report quotes the prescient observation of sociologists Mike Morris and Doug Hindson that the most exploited section of black society, migrant workers, have been most threatened by the demise of apartheid.

The disintegration of apartheid signals the end of migrant labour and hostels, a development which hostel dwellers see as "the destruction of their entire urban survival base" rather than their salvation from drudgery and poverty. □

Anti-squatting groups mobilise

Star 5/6/92 · 310

By Shirley Woodgate and Anna Cox

Thousands of residents throughout the north-western PWV area are mobilising forces against mushrooming squatter camps in the region — and there is growing concern that bloody conflict between armed residents and squatters is imminent.

Residents' associations — some militant — have been formed and have joined forces to incorporate residents of Randburg, Sandton, Marlboro Gardens, Kelvin, Linbro Park and Lombardy East. And their aim is to fight, with arms and court action if necessary, sqatter developments.

If the TPA, as widely suspected, makes an announcement today on the future of the Zevenfontein squatters, it will face mass action from thousands of residents, backed by the squatters who are opposed to any unilateral decision by the TPA.

Major residents' organisations have gone public with a warning to Administrator Danie Hough.

One organisation, Robert van Tonder's Garden Triangle Action Group, has warned of the danger of bloodshed if its militant allies become involved in resisting the relocation of the 4 000 families to Cosmo City.

At least two organisations — the Muldersdrif Local Area Committee and the Jukskei/Crocodile Catchment Area Residents' Association — have backed the Greenbelt Action Group, which has proposed 11th-hour plans to break the deadlock between the squatters and the authorities by creating a credible negotiating forum between Zevenfontein and the TPA.

Stuart Aitcheson's Diepsloot Landowners' and Residents' Association has dismissed TPA attempts at public consultation as "an exercise in pedantry".

Mr Stuart said that in view of the billions of rands of taxpayers' money squandered or mismanaged by the Government, the onus was now on the State to find massive funds to house the homeless.

But the most ominous warning came from the previously low-key Anti-Squatter League (ASL), which claims membership running into thousands from all areas threatened by TPA ad hoc squatter policies.

"At this late stage, police Casspirs and army guns will fail to control any forced squatter action by the authorities", claimed ASL chairman John Stol.

"Relocating the Zevenfontein squatters without full democratic consensus amounts to old apartheid-style forced removal."

Arming

Last-ditch legislation to enforce such a move would be fought in the courts with massive countrywide support which would become an international focus, he warned.

Denying rumours that the ASL is arming to the teeth to keep squatters out of Diepsloot, Mr Stol said: "We are not anti-Government terrorists, but landowners who want long-term solutions to problems which the TPA is totally incapable of handling.

"We do not want squatter camps, nor 13 ad hoc village-type settlements randomly selected by incompetent bureaucrats who have failed to consult any significant departments in their planning process.

"We reject plans to hand over this area to the Big Six, including Randburg and Sandton, to use as a dumping ground for workers serving their CBDs.

"We insist on our own local area committee and a comprehensive 20-year plan drawn up by experts and not the TPA," Mr Stol said.

● It is believed the Zevenfontein squatters were pressured into holding a report-back meeting last night on the insistence of the TPA, after its plans to announce the Zevenfontein solution on Tuesday had to be aborted because the squatters claimed they had not been properly consulted.

● An action group was formed this week to fight the development of a squatter area near Alexandra.

An Alexandra residents' association joined forces with the neighbouring suburbs of Marlboro Gardens, Kelvin, Linbro Park and Lombardy East to fight this new development.

The Sandton Town Council, acting on behalf of the TPA, is to establish 1 700 stands for shack dwellers on the Far East Bank of Alexandra on a site-and-service basis. Informal, low-cost housing will also be built in the area.

Alexandra East Bank Residents' Association chairman Bulu Phalatsi said the East Bank was an upmarket part of Alexandra. Properties would be devalued and the quality of life would deteriorate if squatters moved in next door.

"We want the right to live the way we choose. We have paid a lot of money for our homes and although we realise there is a need for homes, the place is not the Far East Bank," he said.

Lombardy East Ratepayers' Association chairman Lionel Keenan said residents would fight any development which would harm neighbouring suburbs.

Jo Marais, councillor for Linbro Park, said the Sandton council had not consulted residents of Alexandra or neighbouring areas about the development, and that it was withholding information from the public.

It's 'war' on squatters

Sowetan 5/6/92

(310)

THOUSANDS of residents throughout the whole north-western PWV area are mobilising forces against mushrooming squatter camps in the region.

And there is growing concern that bloody conflict between armed residents and squatters is imminent.

Residents' associations, have been formed and joined forces to incorporate residents in Randburg, Sandton, Marlboro Gardens, Kelvin, Linbro Park and Lombardy East.

Their aim is to fight squatter developments with arms and court action if necessary.

If the Transvaal Provincial Administration, as widely suspected, makes an announcement today on the future of the Zevenfontein squatters, it will face mass action from thousands of residents.

Major residents' organisations have gone public with a warning to Administrator Mr Danie Hough.

One organisation, Robert van Tonder's Garden Triangle Action Group, has warned of the danger of bloodshed if its militant allies become involved in resisting the relocation of the 4 000 families to Cosmo City.- *Sowetan Correspondent.*

Major push to aid shack people

Sowetan 5/6/92.

310

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

A MAJOR initiative turns into action this week to greatly improve the lot of shack dwellers living outside Daveyton, at extensions 8 and 21, Etwatwa.

South African Housing Trust, in conjunction with the local community, is about to embark on a scheme to bring basic services to 1 500 stands covering 145ha.

First step was taken when the SAHT and the Independent Development Trust signed agreements to implement the site and service plan.

Signatories included senior SAHT and IDT representatives. The documents were signed in the presence of officers of the Mandela Park Residents' Association. The SAHT hopes to put the site clearance and services contract out to tender soon.

Work should begin at Etwatwa, extensions 8 and 21, by early July. The first 150 stands will be ready for handover by the end of August. Thereafter the 150 stands-a-month delivery rate will be maintained until the end of May 1993.

About 3 000 families live in informal settlements in the immediate area, without toilets and with no mains water. Water carts are intermittently brought into the sprawling settlements, or families make use of services in neighbouring Daveyton.

Basic needs

The scheme entails clearance of residentiasl stands (average size 210 sq m), provision of waterborne sewer and mains water supply to each unit and erection of a toilet.

The overall plan leaves provision for three primary schools, one secondary school, three créches, 10 business or commercial sites, two community centres and nine churches. Vacant sites will be left for these elements of community infrastructure.

The SAHT is committed to helping the local community develop community infrastructure in due course. As an affordable housing facilitator it enjoys good working relations with official departments, major employers and private sector providers of social upliftment funding.

The site and service project is made possible by the IDT subsidy scheme. Some R11 250 000 in IDT support will be taken up. This is the first time the SAHT has acted as developers and facilitator in tandem with the IDT.

A series of such collaborative efforts are now envisaged.

The current scheme is distinguished by the total involvement of local people and structures - a prerequisite for project success, according to SAHT experts.

SAHT regional operations manager Mr Laki Constantinides said: "Housing development has been underway in these areas of Etwatwa since 1989 and still continues.

"We have worked locally since the end of the '80s. In addition, we have held discussions with local people and the Mandela Park Residents' Association to build trust and determine community needs.

Involvement

"Local input and involvement will continue as the programme gets underway. We work with local people from start to finish. We will soon distribute pamphlets to update local people about the project. Community leaders will explain to those who cannot read.

Mass action threat against squatters

Residents warn of 'unholy hell' over TPA move

STAR 6/6/92.

THELMA TUCH-GABAY (310)

NORTHERN suburbs residents' associations have threatened mass action to resist a decision by the Transvaal Provincial Administration to resettle Zevenfontein squatters at sites in Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht — and vowed to use force, if necessary, to prevent the move.

An appeal yesterday by Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough for co-operation and rational behaviour from residents fell on deaf ears, but the squatters themselves expressed a willingness to move to the new sites.

"We will also use force to stop the squatters from settling at the sites. If necessary we will forcibly relocate them somewhere else ourselves," said the chairman of the Diepsloot Landowners' and Residents' Association, Stuart Aitchison.

He said residents were "totally shattered" by the effect such a move would have on property values and security in the area.

"We have already started setting up patrols in the area in conjunction with the police."

In another development, landowners in the area have threatened to evict their farmworkers in protest against the TPA's announcement.

"Residents feel that if the TPA is going to put up informal housing in the area, they can take on

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FLASHPOINTS: Squatters will be relocated to Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht.

Squatters

(310)

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● FROM PAGE 1.

the responsibility of housing our workers as well," Aitchison explained.

He said the move to evict workers could affect up to 600 families on 190 occupied stands in the Diepsloot area alone, and as many as 3 000 in surrounding areas, including Knoppieslaagte and Sun Valley.

He said residents were planning mass action and would be campaigning to get the TPA to reverse its decision.

The chairman of the Anti-Squatter League, John Stol, said yesterday that the decision was unacceptable and that residents would fight it.

"This is going to spark off unholy hell," he said.

"We will explore peaceful options but if that doesn't work we will have to use force."

The Randburg Town Council yesterday appealed to residents not to resort to illegal methods to impose their will.

The move to settle the 1 300 squatter families to two sites of 100 ha each was announced by Hough at a press conference in Johannesburg. Up to 2 000 stands will be provided on the two sites.

The chairman of the Greenbelt Action Group, Anthony Duigan, said the move would aggravate existing tensions and cause bitter resentment between residents and surrounding squatters.

He accused the TPA of being "shortsighted" and blinded by its own priorities rather than those of the community.

In a statement yesterday, Hough said the interests of residents in the area had been carefully considered.

"A balance between the interests of the new community and those of the established communities will always have to be found."

He appealed to all affected by the settlement of the community to act in a balanced and rational manner.

The chairman of the Zevenfontein executive committee, Pinky Moloi, said yesterday that the community was prepared to move to the two sites if certain conditions were met.

The priority, she said, was that the safety of the community be guaranteed, both during and after the move.

She said the community expected representation on a steering committee involved with the planning and development of the areas.

Brian Crail, chairman of the Randburg Town Council's management committee, said the council was willing to use all its expertise to establish Nietgedacht as a well-managed suburb.

Squatter camps

Angry reef residents mobilising to wage war on shanty towns

SHIRLEY WOODGATE and ANNA COX
Weekend Argus Correspondents

JOHANNESBURG. — Thousands of residents across the northwestern areas are mobilising against mushrooming squatter camps and there is growing concern that bloody conflict is imminent.

Residents associations, some militant, have been formed incorporating residents in Randburg, Sandton, Marlboro Gardens, Kelvin, Linbro Park and Lombardy East. Their aim is to fight, with arms and court action if necessary, squatter developments.

If the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA), as widely suspected, makes an announcement on the future of the Zevenfontein squatters, it will face mass action from thousands of residents, backed by those opposed to any unilateral decision by the TPA.

Major residents' organisations have gone public with a warning to Administrator Danie Hough.

One organisation, Robert van Tonder's Garden Triangle Action Group, has warned of the danger of bloodshed if its militant allies become involved in resisting the relocation of 4 000 families to Cosmo City.

At least two organisations — the Mulderdrift Local Area Committee and the Jukskei-/Crocodile Catchment Area Residents' Association — have backed the Greenbelt Action Group which has proposed eleventh hour plans to break the deadlock between the squatters and the authorities by creating a credible negotiating forum between Zevenfontein and the TPA.

Stuart Aitcheson's Diepsloot Landowners' and Residents' Association has dismissed TPA attempts at public consultation through what he termed its "white elephant" task force as "an exercise in pedantry".

He said in view of the billions of rands of taxpayers' money squandered or mismanaged by the government, the onus was now on the State to find massive funds to house the homeless.

But the most ominous warning came from the previously low-key Anti-Squatter League which claims membership running into thousands from all areas threatened by TPA ad hoc squatter policies.

"At this late stage, police Casspirs and army guns will fail to control any forced squatter action," claimed ASL chairman Mr John Stol.

"Relocating the Zevenfontein squatters without full democratic concensus amounts to old apartheid-style forced removal," warned Mr Stol.

Last-ditch legislation to enforce such a move would be fought in the courts with massive countrywide support which would become an international focus, he warned.

Denying rumours that the ASL is arming to the teeth to keep squatters out of Diepsloot, Mr Stol said: "We are not anti-government terrorists but landowners who want long-term solutions to problems which the TPA is totally incapable of handling."

"We do not want squatter camps, nor 13 ad hoc village-type settlements randomly selected by incompetent bureaucrats who have failed to consult any significant departments in their planning process.

"We reject plans to hand over this area to the Big Six, including Randburg and Sandton, to use as a dumping ground for workers serving their CBD's.

"We insist on our own local area committee and a comprehensive 20-year plan drawn up by experts and not the TPA," he said.

Meanwhile, an action group was formed this week to fight the development of a squatter area near the Far East Bank of Alexandra township near Sandton.

A residents' association from Alexandra joined forces with the neighbouring suburbs of Marlboro Gradens, Kelvin, Linbro Park and Lombardy East to fight this new development.

The Sandton Town Council, acting on behalf of the TPA,is to establish 1 700 stands of 110qm each for shack dwellers on the Far East Bank of Alexandra on a site-and-service basis. Informal, low cost housing will also be built in the area.

Chairman of Alexandra East Bank Residents' Association Mr Bulu Phalatsi said the East Bank was an upmarket part of Alexandra. Properties would be devalued and the quality of life would deteriorate if squatters moved in next door, he said.

"We want the right to live the way we choose. We have paid a lot of money for our homes and although we realise there is a need for homes, the place is not the Far East Bank," he said.

The chairman of the Lombardy East Ratepayers' Association, Mr Lionel Keenan, said residents would fight any development which would deteriorate suburbs nearby.

ARG 6/6/92

Residents of Zevenfontein squatter settlement near Johannesburg queue up outside a shack where they were registering at the weekend for their impending move to Diepsloot and Nietgedacht. Pic: SELLO MOTSEPE

Trouble looms over squatters

(310)

Sowetan 8/6/92

By MOKGADI PELA

ZEVENFONTEIN's squatters yesterday were preparing for their move to Diepsloot and Nietgedacht north of Johannesburg in the face of strong opposition from white residents near those areas.

Groups representing white residents have threatened to "use force if necessary" to stop the move.

The chairman of the committee representing the Zevenfontein squatters, Mr Lesiba Sindane, however, confirmed yesterday that they were likely to move "within a matter of weeks" despite opposition from whites.

A meeting was held at Zevenfontein yesterday to announce the move and squatters formed long queues to decide where they would like to be placed.

Sindane said his committee would meet with the Transvaal Provincial Administration today to allocate sites to the squatters.

Several white residents' associations have criticised the TPA for its decision announced

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last week to resettle the Zevenfontein families at Diepsloot and Nietgedacht and have threatened mass action to stop the move.

Squatters fear white backlash

LEADERS of the squatters at the Zevenfontein camp said yesterday the community was living in fear of white residents' threatened use of force to prevent the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) relocating them to sites in Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht.

Community representative Adv Mathole Motshekga said the squatters took seriously local white residents' threats that the move would "spark off an unholy hell".

Motshekga said the community doubted the TPA's ability to guarantee their safety. In the light of the threats they wanted the TPA to reconsider the decision, he said.

"The people are confused because they have had threats from both sides. They don't feel safe where they are now because of the explosions of anger against them in the past months, but they don't know what

KATHRYN STRACHAN

is in store for them if they move to the new sites," said Motshekga.

TPA spokesman Piet Wilken said there would be a "very high level of security" to ensure their safety and that the TPA was determined to go ahead with its decision.

The plan was a test case for the development of low-cost housing in traditionally "white" areas throughout the country and the TPA could not afford to reverse its decision, he said.

Diepsloot Residents' Association spokesman Stuart Aitchison said there were residents in the area who were prepared to "go beyond legal measures" to keep the squatters out.

"The actions are not directed against the

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Zevenfontein squatters, but against the principle of squatting," he said. But he admitted that the Zevenfontein squatters could end up being hurt in the process.

He said residents feared the move would have a negative effect on the value of their properties and on security in the area.

Motshekga claimed community members still wanted to move to Cosmo City because it was near their places of work, despite the fact that Boerestaat Party leader Robert van Tonder lived in the area.

Reaction from residents in other areas indicated that there were "Van Tonders cropping up all over the place", he said.

The move to settle the 1 300 squatter families was announced by Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough at a news conference in Johannesburg last week.

The TPA envisages providing up to 2 000 sites on the two settlement areas which are situated between the Randburg and Sandton municipal boundaries and the R28 Pretoria-Krugersdorp highway.

Squatters choose their land

STAR 8/6/92 (310)

By Montshiwa Moroke

Zevenfontein squatters yesterday appeared ready to move to land in Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht in spite of threats by northern suburbs residents' associations to stop them.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) on Friday announced the resettlement of about 1 300 squatter families in the two areas, both of which are between 60 ha and 100 ha.

Nietgedacht is across the road from the lion park near Cosmo City; Diepsloot West is west of the R-511, next to the Pretoria-Krugersdorp highway.

The squatter community approved the two areas after a meeting between its representatives and the TPA.

The Zevenfontein controversy erupted last year when the authorities flattened shacks and destroyed property belonging to squatters in terms of a court eviction order.

Efforts to resettle them in nearby areas met with bitter resistance from white communities.

Some of the squatters were born in the area, and many others moved there after working on nearby plots for many years.

Yesterday, squatters formed long queues to register for the area of their choice.

Most said they were relieved that they could finally settle in a place which they could call home.

"We are happy to move from here because we will be nearer transport to our work places and also to hospitals," one squatter said.

Diepsloot Landownwers and Residents' Association chairman Stuart Aitchison warned that force would be used to stop the squatters from settling at the new sites.

"We have already started setting up patrols in the area in conjunction with the police," Mr Aitchison said.

He said residents were planning mass action and would be campaigning to get the TPA to reverse its decision.

Landowners in the area have also threatened to evict their farmworkers in protest against the TPA announcement.

Anti-Squatter League chairman John Stol said on Friday the relocation decison was unacceptable and that residents would fight it.

"This is going to spark unholy hell," Mr Stol said.

Greenbelt Action Group chairman Tony Duigan said the move would aggravate existing tensions and cause bitter resentment between residents and surrounding squatters.

Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough has appealed for co-operation and rational behaviour from residents.

He said the area north-east of Randburg and Sandton had not previously experienced the type of urbanisation it was now seeing.

"It is a new reality and many residensts found it to be a traumatic experience.

"As such, the future of the Zevenfontein community stirred up a lot of debate and emotion, largely based on the misconceptions and realities of the old South Africa," Mr Hough said.

The Zevenfontein community has said it is prepared to move to the two sites if certain conditions are met.

A squatter spokesman said one condition was that the safety of the community be guaranteed during and after the proposed move.

Another was that the community expected representation on a steering community involved in the planning and development of the two areas.

Baragwanath strike spreads

KATHRYN STRACHAN

PROTEST action by 1 500 general assistants at Soweto's Baragwanath Hospital spread to the Natalspruit and Boksburg-Benoni hospitals on the East Rand yesterday.

Nehawu East Rand representative Martha Sehlogo said more than 600 workers, including medical staff, had held demonstrations in protest against the minimum wage offered and alleged poor working conditions.

The TPA said protesting workers had damaged hospital property and broken windows. It said appropriate measures would be taken if the situation deteriorated, and another court appeal made if necessary.

Boksburg-Benoni Hospital superintendent Freda Pretorius said the situation had returned to normal yesterday afternoon, but she did not know what to expect today. BDay 10/6/92.

Nehawu assistant general secretary Neil Thobejane said demonstrations by general assistants continued at Baragwanath Hospital yesterday. The TPA said it would act strictly in accordance with the court order — issued last week in the Johannesburg Supreme Court in favour of the TPA against Nehawu and the strikers — to ensure no further disruptions at the hospital.

Thobejane said members countrywide were balloting for a strike — the results of which would be known next week. The union would also launch a campaign of demonstrations throughout the country to highlight its demands under the motto "No pay, no work."

He said communities across the country would be consulted "to ensure that the lives of people are not affected in an adverse manner".

Phola Park units hijacked

FORMER Renamo instructors and dissident members of the ANC's military wing Umkhonto we Sizwe had hijacked self-defence units in the East Rand's Phola Park squatter camp, police said yesterday.

In an open letter to the Phola Park Women's League, police said the squatter camp had a "terrible" history of violence and intimidation.

In the past 18 months, police in Phola Park came under attack on 121 occasions. Five policemen were killed, and12 others, including two soldiers, were injured.

"Criminals see Phola Park as a haven because its so-called defence units supply some protection by carrying out armed attacks on policemen and soldiers when they enter it in search of suspects.

"Renegade MK members, who have hijacked the self-defence units, have used firearms and other brutal methods to murder, rob financial institutions and individuals in and around Phola Park — even as far afield as Soweto and Bethlehem.

"During their investigations into several murders and armed robberies on the Reef and elsewhere, police have uncovered evidence that MK dissidents and former Renamo instructors are actively involved in the training and supplying of firearms to the self-defence units in Phola Park," police said.

They said they would remain in the squatter camp until armed attacks on security forces had ceased and criminals stopped operating from there.

police

(310) BDay 10/6/92.

WILSON ZWANE

Meanwhile, the national peace committee meets in Johannesburg tomorrow to set the stage for its meeting with political leaders on July 31.

Committee spokesman Val Pauquet said yesterday invitations would be issued to President F W de Klerk, ANC president Nelson Mandela, Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi and other leaders.

It was understood the leaders would be required to debate the Goldstone Commission's second interim report with the committee executive.

□ Sapa reports that in the latest unrest incident on the Reef, a child was killed and another seriously injured when two youths threw a handgrenade at three policemen in Soweto yesterday morning.

The injured child was taken to Baragwanath Hospital. Two of the policemen were slightly injured by shrapnel. No arrests were made and police were investigating.

In their daily unrest report, police said four bodies — including that of a policeman — were found in the Vaal Triangle township of Sebokeng on Monday. On the East Rand, a man armed with an AK-47 rifle opened fire on a police vehicle. One person was killed and two injured. No policemen were injured in the attack.

In Daveyton, near Benoni, police found a body of a man, who had apparently been hacked to death and set alight.

Phola Park police 'have faced 121 severe armed attacks'

STAR 10/6/92.

Police had come under "severe armed attack" 121 times during the past 18 months in the troubled Phola Park squatter settlement south-east of Johannesburg, the SAP said yesterday.

The police figure was supplied in a letter to the Women's League in Phola Park giving reasons why security forces were in the area.

In the letter, handed over to the Women's League of Phola Park/Eden Park and Tokoza yesterday, Witwatersrand liaison officer Captain Eugene Opperman said the police would leave the camp only when armed attacks on the police ceased completely, criminals stopped operating from the squatter camp and the situation stabilised.

Responding to a protest note handed to the police by the Women's League on June 4, Captain Opperman said police were in Phola Park because the squatter camp had "a terrible history of brutal violence, killings, intimidation and criminal activity".

Captain Opperman said that criminals, dissident MK members and residents with no regard for the law had forced the police to take severe action in Phola Park.

He said the squatter camp had become a haven for criminals because the so-called "self-defence units" in Phola Park had been taken over by former Renamo instructors and renegade members of the ANC's military wing, and that the units had become brutal killing and criminal machines.

Police had already arrested several members of Phola Park's self-defence units. Five of the 12 people had appeared in court on charges of murder, armed robbery and attempted murder. Two of the five men were MK members, according to police.

Captain Opperman said that some of the suspects arrested by police during an operation in Phola Park on May 14 had been connected to the following crimes, to mention only a few:

- The much publicised killing of four people in an armed attack on a Rand Water Board minibus on the Old Vereeniging Road in February this year.
- An attack in which Constable Lourens Oosthuizen and Constable Hermanus Joubert were seriously wounded when they went to the aid of an elderly couple who were being attacked on a smallholding near Bethlehem.
- The brutal murder of Germiston traffic officer Richard Cussins, who was shot five times in the back on March 27 this year in Phola Park.
- The murder of 18 IFP members on September 8 last year while they were marching to a rally at the neighbouring Tokoza stadium.
- The murder of a Coin Security guard during an R8 0000 armed robbery last September.

Captain Opperman said: "The SAP also uncovered evidence that members of the ANC's military wing as well as former Renamo instructors were actively involved in the training and supplying of illegal firearms to the SDU (self-defence units) in Phola Park.

"Since January 1, 338 cases of serious violent crime and unrest have been committed in and around Phola Park, and more than 30 vehicles were hijacked on roads near Phola Park every month."

Captain Opperman demanded that the ANC members, leaders and resident of Phola Park should do everything in their power to take action against criminals.

"In terms of the National Peace Accord, it is the duty of the ANC and its members to supply the police with information which would lead to the arrest and conviction of criminals," Captain Opperman said.

He sympathised with the Women's League complaint that children had no place to play because of the SAP vehicles driving around. However, he said that criminals were using children as human shields.

"Attackers very often come up from behind children and then fire at police. It is not even uncommon that some of these attackers grab a child to use him or her as a shield," he said. — Staff Reporter and Sapa.

R5,4m to get land for Vaal squatters

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — THE Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) will pay more than R5,4 million to expropriate the land in Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht on which the Zevenfontein squatters will be resettled.

A TPA spokesman said yesterday that if affected landowners were not satisfied with the TPA offer, they could go to the Supreme Court.

The TPA would supply services such as water, toilets and refuse removal to the new development, he said.

It would also embark on discussions with Eskom about supplying electricity to the area and would "give attention" to rendering primary health services.

(310) CAPET. 11/6/92

TPA offers R5,4m for squatters' land

STEPHANE BOTHMA

THE TPA will pay more than R5,4m to expropriate the land in Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht on which the Zevenfontein squatters will be resettled.

However, a TPA spokesman said yesterday that if affected landowners were not satisfied with the TPA offer, they could turn to the Supreme Court.

The TPA would supply services such as water, toilets and refuse removal to the new development, he said.

The TPA would also embark on discussions with Eskom about supplying electricity to the area and would "give attention" to rendering primary health services.

The spokesman said two independent valuators from the private sector had been appointed to value the properties involved — both arriving at a value within a 10% margin allowed by the TPA.

At Nietgedacht four landowners were involved at an expropriation cost of R3,4m, and at Diepsloot West two landowners at a total cost of R2,029m.

Four landowners had already received their expropriation offers while the TPA planned to serve the other two yesterday.

Labourers on the expropriated land could possibly be accommodated in either of the two areas, he said.

Planning of the two settlement areas would be done in collaboration with the Zevenfontein community as soon as expropriations were finalised. Resettlement of the squatters would commence thereafter.

Squatters on the doorstep

Sowetan 11/6/92.

By DARIUS SANAI

(310)

A POSTER on the wall of a shopping centre at the northern edge of Johannesburg displays the announcement: "Emergency meeting on local squatter problem on Thursday."

But someone has crossed out the printed word "squatter" with a thin ball-point and substituted the words "homeless black community".

In this simple difference of wording is summarised one of the major problems facing both blacks and whites as a new South Africa emerges.

The Urban Foundation, an independent Johannesburg-based research group, estimates there are seven million people currently living in "informal housing" - meaning shacks and shanty-towns - in South Africa.

Affluent suburban whites view these people as squatters camping on their doorsteps. But black organisations like the African National Congress see them as victims of the unjust apartheid system, who need to be housed.

Many of the urban homeless have fled the rural black homelands in search of work, only to be caught up in a downward spiral of unemployment and crime in recession-struck South Africa, says ANC executive committee member Mr Thabo Mbeki.

White people living in affluent suburbs of Johannesburg and Cape Town have been shocked by Government plans to move the squatters to permanent locations near their homes, and some are threatening to use force to prevent the proposed moves.

"The squatters should go back to their farms. Here they have nothing, they are starving, and they steal from us in order to survive," says Ms Marie Smit, an estate agent at Diepsloot, a site proposed by the regional government for the relocation of 3 500 squatters camped on private land at nearby Zevenfontein.

(310)

Smit says house prices in the surrounding area will plummet if the squatters are moved to Diepsloot. "Our houses are the biggest investments we have made in our lives. Now we are set to lose everything."

A local businessman, Mr John Stols, has formed an organisation called the Anti-Squatting League. Stols warns that "things could get pretty messy" if the regional government goes ahead with the squatter move, planned for July.

The squatters themselves, who are currently living in a sprawling group of 700 shacks on a barren hillside 6km from Diepsloot, are ambivalent.

"We just want to be able to live somewhere in peace, where can we build our homes and support our families," says Mr Jonas Nkulu. He says some of the squatters have been living on farms near Zevenfontein for years.

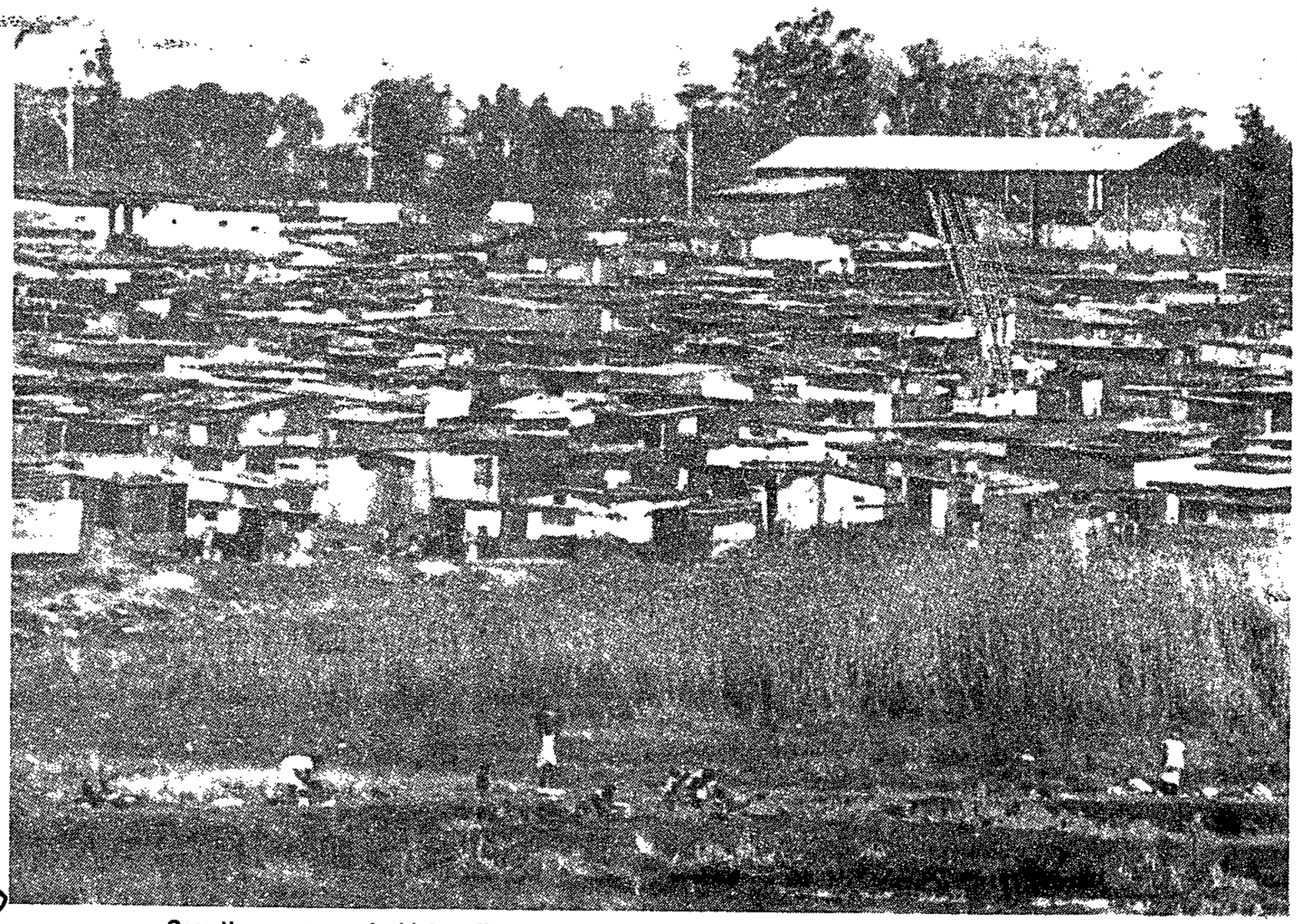
Local white residents say their anger is not directed at the squatters, but at the Government for what they call disorganised and piecemeal plans that fail to address the central problem of urban homelessness.

Most of them say they voted "Yes" in the March 17 whites-only referendum on reform, only to be disappointed by "further Government bungling".

"If the Government can come up with a plan for low-cost housing for these people, so that they are living in decent conditions and not filth, then most people will have no objection to the move. We are not opposed to black people moving in near us: we are opposed to squatters," says Stols.

But "low-cost housing" does not come cheap. Basic units cost between R5 000 and R10 000.

Mbeki says any future government will have a duty to provide low-cost housing for those who cannot afford to buy for themselves. He says the problem of homeless people will not go away - and that the days of all-white suburbs being separated from black ghettos are over.



Squatters .... a word which strikes fear into the hearts of white suburban homeowners.

'The squatters should go back to their farms. Here they have nothing, they are starving, and they steal from us in order to survive.'

Zinkis: a roof over your head in a jiffy

STAR 15/6/92 (3D)

By MICHAEL CHESTER

MUNICIPAL leaders from all over the eastern Transvaal last week watched in amazement as four workmen demonstrated how to build a three-room house — from virgin ground to rooftop level — in a remarkable time of only 75 minutes.

The demonstration took place at the small highveld town of Kriel, which wanted to tell South Africa how it believed it had found its own solutions to the critical shortage of low-cost homes for black families.

Mayor Frans Snyman set the exercise in motion as the workmen unloaded a jumble of steel girders from a truck and laid them out like a crossword grid at precisely 11.15 am.

Next came a jumble of steel wall panels, window frames and doors, all laid out in a neat pattern around the grid. The time: 11.30 am.

The shape of the house began to take real form when the team of workmen, with what seemed like effortless ease, lifted the wall panels and window frames into position. The time: 11.45 am.

The team next climbed simple ladders to hoist the roof sections aloft, clambered down again to fit steel struts to all the corners — noon.

The front door was bolted into place and the roof was extended to form a veranda — 12.15.pm.

Then came a final round of construction examinations.

At exactly 12.30 pm the mayor settled at a garden table outside the front door and raised a glass of wine to congratulate the workers.

The neat new house, he announced, was a forerunner of no fewer than 4 000 similar low-cost units that the Kriel Town Council intended to erect at the embryo Thubelihle suburb to beat the shortage of affordable black homes.

"We have not yet experienced a squatter problem in Kriel," said Mr Snyman, "and we are planning well ahead to try to ensure one never happens."

The units — which can be built in a variety of shapes and sizes — have been christened "zinkis".

David Mostert, head of the Dorbyl steel empire, whose subsidiary Baldwins handles production of the steel prefabricated modules, said: "To solve the problems of the homeless ... we need to break away from outmoded conventional approaches and find faster and more cost-effective answers."

At the R40 million Kriel project — the first major contract — the town council package makes 230 square-metre serviced stands available at R3 000. Zinkis with freehold title will sell at between R5 000 and — with four bedrooms, living room, kitchen, bathroom and veranda — R18 000.

The Perm building society plans to finance the homes with mini-loans underwritten by local employers against pension and provident fund security. □

Owners face 80 pc fall in land value

STAR 13/6/92

310

THELMA TUCH-GABAY

MANY people who own property near two sites north of Johannesburg, earmarked for Zevenfontein squatters, may lose up to 80 percent of the value of their investments if the squatters move in.

This is according to estate agents handling properties surrounding Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht. Landowners — many of whom have sunk their life savings into their properties — are now seeking legal action to get the Transvaal Provincial Administration to reverse its decision.

The TPA has hinted that it may consider rezoning land in the area for industrial purposes. If that happens, the drop in value on some properties might be halted.

The TPA announced last week that more than 1 300 squatter families at Zevenfontein would be moved to two sites of about 100 ha each — in Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht — north-west of Johannesburg and south of the R28 Krugersdrop freeway.

'Property will be unsaleable'

"The land will become unsaleable . . . you can regard it now as dead land," said estate agent David Howard, who has worked in the area for more than 30 years. He predicted that property values of homes close to the squatter sites would drop by up to 80 percent and those in the surrounding areas by as much as 50 percent.

Howard said up to 1 000 property owners in the areas, including Chartwell, North Riding and Farmall, would be affected by the squatters' presence.

Township Realtors managing director Dr A Levin said the only way for owners to gain any value for their properties would be for the land to be rezoned as an industrial area.

Township Realtors, representing four clients who own 300 ha in the area, has already applied on their behalf for the area to be rezoned, he said.

This week the TPA indicated it would be sympathetic towards applications for the rezoning of adjacent land in Diepsloot West as industrial land.

Squatters talks today

Sowetan 17/6/92. (310)

By NORMAN JOSEPH and Sapa

RESIDENTS' representatives from Nietgedacht, Muldersdrift and Broederstroom will meet the Police District Commissioner today to discuss the position of the Zevenfontein squatters.

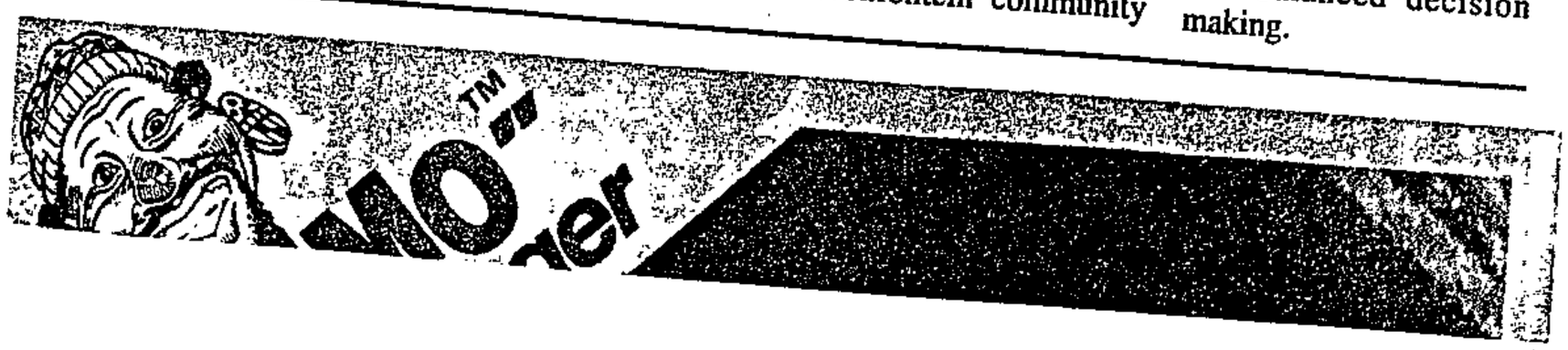
A statement from Boerestaat Party leader Mr. Robert van Tonder on Monday said the purpose of the meeting was to "request that the Transvaal Provincial Administration cease its aggression towards the residents".

The delegation will be under the leadership of Van Tonder, Mr Giel Pretorius of the Conservative Party and Mr Wessel Swart who will represent various residents' associations.

Homeless

Meanwhile the TPA said finding a permanent home in the north west Rand region for the homeless Zevenfontein community was never anticipated as being a simple exercise.

TPA spokesman Mr Piet Wilken said earlier this week that for this very reason the TPA negotiated an extension to the deadline which afforded more opportunity for adequate investigation, consultation and balanced decision making.



The MINISTER OF HOUSING AND AGRICULTURE:

(1) No, it is the responsibility of the Local Authority to provide such a community facility;

(a) Falls away;

(b) Falls away; and

(2) No.

Mr K CHETTY: Mr Chairman, arising from the hon the Minister's reply, I would like to know why he, being the hon the Minister of Housing and Agriculture, cannot go ahead with that project in Phoenix. Those people need that facility. The hon the Minister says it is the responsibility of the local authority, but I remember very clearly that the former Chairman of the Ministers' Council was responsible for the Chatsworth Stadium. He personally allocated the funds to the Durban City Council when he was still the Minister of Housing.

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I do not need to tell the hon member for Chatsworth Central that we are discussing this issue in 1992 and at a time when money for housing is in short supply. I can assure him that it we had the necessary funds today, we would start building a hall in Phoenix tomorrow. However, one has to take the current situation into account.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Mr Chairman, further arising from the hon the Minister's reply, is he aware of the fact that as the Minister in charge of housing, he controls the utilization of community facility funding by any municipality? In view of this fact, will the hon the Minister direct that an investigation be carried out to ascertain how much money the community facility fund of Phoenix has at its disposal? Is the hon the Minister aware of the fact that there has been a policy decision that the profits from all unsold sites in Phoenix be used to provide facilities, and that this money could be used to start building the stadium in Phoenix?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I am very mindful of the issue which the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition has raised. However, for the information of this House, I will certainly carry out the investigation which he has suggested.

Mr K PANDAY: Mr Chairman, further arising from the hon the Minister's reply and in view of the similar answers he and the Durban City Council have given in respect of the shortage of funds, I would like to know whether the hon the Minister would consider a joint venture in the development of the sports centre at Phoenix.

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, for the information of the hon member for Reservoir Hills, I do not want to give a categorical answer at this stage. It is an issue which, for the benefit of our people, may be considered in future.

Mr T L GOUNDEN: Mr Chairman, further arising from the hon the Minister's reply, I would like to know if he would consider a sports stadium, a hospital or a clinic in Phoenix a priority.

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I stand to be corrected, but I do not think the development of hospitals comes under the jurisdiction of the Housing Development Board. The Province controls the issue which the hon member has just raised. The sports stadium at Phoenix, of course, is a matter which falls under my department. Provided funds are available, we will certainly provide such facilities.

Mr D K PADIACHEY: Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, I want to ask him whether he is aware that when Dr Mandela visited Phoenix over the weekend, only 20% or less of the crowd were Indians, because of the poor facilities offered in Phoenix? [Interjections.]

*4. Leader of the Official Opposition—Education and Culture. [Withdrawn.]

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version.

For oral reply:

General Affairs:

Opportunity given to Deputy Minister of Defence to reply to Question No 2 for Oral Reply on Question Paper under General Affairs, pursuant to Resolution adopted by this House today (see col 11471):

Alleged assault of 21 Battalion on squatters

*2. Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Defence:

(1) Whether the South African Defence Force has investigated an incident involving members of 21 Battalion who are alleged to have assaulted squatters in the Tamboville squatter area near Wattville, Benoni, on or about 24 May 1992; if not; why not; if so, what are the findings;

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? D194E

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

Mr Chariman, thank you very much for this opportunity. I would like to convey my sincere apologies to the Chair and to all hon members for not being here on time. I was incorrectly informed by my office.

(1) Yes, a Board of Inquiry has been convened to investigate the incident, but it has as yet not been completed.

(2) No.

Mr M RAJAB: Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, would he tell this House when it is anticipated that the board of inquiry will complete its task?

The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Chairman, it is difficult to say, but I would imagine that it will do so within the next few weeks. It should not take longer than that.

For written reply:

General Affairs:

Ministerial Representatives: travelling/subsistence expenses

33. Mr K CHETTY asked the Minister of Constitutional Development:

(1) Whether two Ministerial Representatives of the House of Delegates, who serve on Codesa and whose names have been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, have claimed any travelling and subsistence expenses in regard to their attendance of Codesa meetings; if so, (a)(i) for how many air tickets and (ii) what (aa) road transport and (bb) hotel expenses have been claimed by each and (b) in respect of what specified period are these figures furnished;

(2) what are the names of the Ministerial Representatives in question? D167E

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

(1) No.

(a) Falls away.

(b) Falls away.

(2) Falls away.

Ministers of State: travel/accommodation expenses

34. Mr K CHETTY asked the Minister of Constitutional Development:

(1) Whether the (a)(i) air and (ii) road travelling and (b) accommodation expenses incurred by Ministers of State attending meetings of Codesa are paid for by his Department; if not, (aa) why not and (bb) by which Departments are they paid for; if so, why;

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? D168E

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

(1) (a) (i) No.

(ii) No.

(b) No.

(aa) The air and road travelling expenses of ministers are paid by their respective departments and ministers are accommodated in their official residences.

(bb) Falls away.

(2) No.

Own Affairs:

Number of court cases: House of Delegates

30. Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of the Budget and Auxiliary Services:

Whether his Department has information on the number of cases involving the Administration: House of Delegates that were handled on behalf of the Administration by the Office of the State Attorney in each of the latest specified three years for which information is

cont'd

The MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY:

(1) The number of liquidations of companies and close corporations are as follows:

Year	*By Court*	*Voluntarily*	*Total*
1987	1 232	541	1 773
1988	808	653	1 461
1989	881	569	1 450
1990	1 195	393	1 588
1991	1 686	202	1 888
1992 (Until end of May)	953	84	1 037

(2) My Department does not have any statistics on the number of job opportunities lost as a result of the above-mentioned liquidations. Legislation administered by the Registrar of Companies and Close Corporations is aimed at the incorporation of companies and close corporations and the protection of members and creditors of these forms of enterprise, and not at employees of same. Employees of companies and close corporations are therefore not registered with my Department.

Detention of suspect in connection with bombings

*16. Mr H J COETZEE asked the Minister of Law and Order:†

(1) Whether a certain person, whose name has been furnished to the South African Police for the purpose of the Minister's reply, is at present being held as a suspect in connection with alleged bombings in Pretoria, Verwoerdburg and Krugersdorp; if so, what is this person's name;

(2) whether he will furnish information on whether this person was at any time a member of a certain service, the name of which has also been furnished to the Police; if not, why not?

B787E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) No.

(2) Falls away.

Unrest: damage to school buildings/facilities

*17. Mr H J COETZEE asked the Minister of Education and Training:†

What was the total amount of the damage as a result of cases of unrest to school buildings and facilities falling under his Department (a) in 1991 and (b) during the period 1 January 1992 up to the latest specified date for which information is available?

B788E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING:

(a) R30 000

(b) R404 831,00 until 11 June 1992.

School models for pupils at departmental schools

*18. Dr F H PAUW asked the Minister of Education and Training:†

(1) What school models are available for pupils at schools falling under his Department;

(2) whether any provision is made for compulsory financial contributions by parents to the running costs of schools attended by their children and falling under his Department; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

B790E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING:

(1) According to section 5 of the Education and Training Act, No 90 of 1979, the Minister of Education and Training may establish and maintain public schools. He may also register private and state-aided schools (section 8). No "models" are used.

(2) No. In accordance with the principal contained in section 3(c) of the aforementioned Act, the education provided by the Department is free of charge. Where a school fund does exist, regulation 3(3) of R.830 of 30 April 1992, determines that no parent or pupil can be forced to make a contribution to a school fund.

TPA: opinion polls on squatter problem

*19. Mr P H DE LA REY asked the Minister of Local Government and National Housing:†

(1) Whether the Transvaal Provincial Administration made use of one or two organizations during the past six weeks to conduct opinion polls by telephone on the Witwatersrand in connection with the Zevenfontein squatter problem in particular and the squatter problem in general; if so (a) what are the names of these organizations, (b) (i) what remuneration was paid to them and (ii) who paid for it and (c) what was the result of the telephonic opinion polls;

(2) whether any of the officials of the organizations concerned were previously in the service of the above-mentioned administration; if so, what are the relevant details?

B796E

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL HOUSING:

(1) Yes — one research organization.

(a) Market and Opinion Surveys.

(b) (i) R12 500,00

(ii) Transvaal Provincial Administration.

(c) The result of the opinion polls by telephone, is not at present available as the analysis and evaluation of the response has not yet been completed.

(2) No.

Safety precautions at public state schools/state-aided schools

*20. Mr F J LE ROUX asked the Minister of Manpower:†

Whether the Machinery and Occupational Safety Act, No 6 of 1983, applies to ordinary public state schools and state-aided schools; if not, why not; if so, (a) what precautions have to be taken at these schools and (b) who is legally liable at (i) ordinary public state schools and (ii) state-aided schools for claims that may result from non-compliance with safety precautions?

B797E

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER:

Yes.

(a) Firstly, the Act provides for the safety of persons at the workplace or in the course of their employment. That includes all the staff, from the principal to the messenger and the gardener. Secondly, provision is made for the safe use of machinery which includes the safety of all exposed persons, namely, staff, scholars and even the public who visit the school. Thirdly, a safety management system should be instituted and operated at schools in which the employees (staff) shall take part and, fourthly, the regulations promulgated in terms of the Machinery and Occupational Safety Act, 1983, which prescribe certain minimum safety standards should be complied with.

(b) Section 10A of the Act provides:

"(1) The Chief executive officer shall ensure that the employer complies with the provisions of this Act and is vested with overall authority in matters to which this Act relates.

(2) The chief executive officer may delegate any duty contemplated in subsection (1) to any person under his control, which person shall act subject to the control and directions of the chief executive officer.

(3) The provisions of subsection (1) shall not, subject to the provisions of section 30, relieve an employer of any responsibility or any liability under this Act.

(4) For the purpose of subsection (1), the head of department of any department of State shall be deemed to be chief executive officer of that department.".

This should be read with the definition of "chief executive officer", which reads as follows:

" 'chief executive officer', in relation to a body corporate or a government enterprise, means the person who is responsible for or is deemed to be responsible for the overall management and control of

Vow to disrupt squatter housing plans

BPaty 17/6/92

STEPHANE BOTHMA (310)

RESIDENTS of Nietgedacht — where the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) plans to resettle several hundred Zevenfontein squatter families — have hired a pilot to monitor the area from the air to ensure the TPA does not start developing the settlement site.

A local residents' action group source said last night residents would physically prevent the development of the area expropriated for the purpose.

He said residents with two-way radios were manning strategic points.

Talks were held with senior Krugersdorp police officials yesterday during which a delegation of the Krokodil Valley Authority demanded that residents be protected from the "TPA aggressors".

"The police have a duty to protect us and our property. They have no duty to the TPA," resident and Boerestaat Party leader Robert van Tonder said last night.

The police delegation undertook to convey the feelings and attitude of the Nietgedacht residents to the authorities, he said.

The valley authority was also drafting legal documents in an attempt to obtain an urgent interdict from the Supreme Court to prevent the TPA from developing the Nietgedacht site.

The action taken by the authority followed an incident in the area on Monday when government land surveyors, marking out sites for the resettlement of the Squatters, were shown off the property.

The TPA yesterday took a strong stand against the possible disruption of the re-

☐ To Page 2

Squatters

BPaty 17/6/92

(310)

☐ From Page 1

settlement of the Zevenfontein squatters in Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht, vowing to maintain law and order.

The squatters would be moved within the next few weeks and the operation had been co-ordinated with the SAP at the highest level, TPA spokesman Piet Wilken said.

Expropriation orders had already been served on all six landowners affected by the resettlement. Earlier the TPA said the land would cost more than R5,4m.

"The area is now the property of the TPA and we will see that the Zevenfontein community is resettled in an orderly manner. They will not be resettled in slums," Wilken said.

Commenting on Monday's incident, Wilken said it was a very serious offence to remove a surveyors' markings.

About 100 residents on Monday also staged a protest near the resettlement area.

Farm earmarked for squatters

MORE than 35 000 people squatting illegally in the Ivory Park area may be moved to a farm near Chloorkop, Kempton Park town council said yesterday.

This comes soon after the Zevenfontein issue and a Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) initiative last week to place 7 000 families on land bordering Lombardy East and Kelvin.

A rapid increase in urbanisation in the Kempton Park/Midrand area had left more than 40 000 families living in shacks and informal dwellings, the council said.

Kempton Park council management committee chairman Arie Korf said the council's help with resettlement was based on humanitarian reasons, a need to manage urbanisation and prevent illegal squatting and possibly conflict.

The land earmarked for the 7 000-family site-and-service scheme was owned by the House of Representatives.

310 ADRIAN HADLAND

A working group, consisting of the council, the TPA, squatter leaders and representatives from industries based in Chloorkop, was considering acquiring two large sections of the farm Mooifontein for the site-and-service scheme.

Kempton Park would assist in the provision of services to the new site with the TPA providing most of the money, council spokesman Jan Bosman said yesterday.

Kempton Park was already involved in the upgrading of services in Tembisa with a council management committee member acting as its administrator.

The council said residential sites of between 200m² and 600m² would be provided for 7 700 families. Infrastructure, schools, business sites and community facilities would have to be provided.

See Page 3

Residents to fight plan for squatters

B1 Day 18/6/92 (310)

NIETGEDACHT residents intend to bring Randburg's morning peak-hour traffic to a standstill tomorrow in protest against the resettlement of hundreds of Zevenfontein squatter families in their area.

Trucks, cars, bakkies and tractors would meet in Nietgedacht early on Friday and proceed in convoy to the Randburg town centre, a local residents' action group source said.

The Crocodile Valley Authority — formed recently to amalgamate all the residents' groups opposing the relocation of squatters to Nietgedacht — set up a "command post" at the local Reformed Church to plan protest action, the source said.

Randburg Town Council management committee chairman Brian Crail last night said he was not aware of the planned action but would insist that protesters acted within the law.

"If they break the law in any way, we will take the appropriate action," Crail said.

Land surveyors employed by the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) to measure out sites in the area went about their duties yesterday under police escort.

STEPHANE BOTHMA

West Rand police said the TPA asked the police to protect the surveyors after an incident on Monday in which Nietgedacht residents removed a survey team from the area in a "friendly manner".

While the surveying was under way yesterday, several placard carrying residents staged a peaceful protest near the relocation site.

Police said they had no objection to the protest as long as it remained within the law.

At the weekend residents collected about R45 000 among themselves to cover the legal costs of an urgent Supreme Court application to prevent the TPA from continuing with development of the resettlement area, recently expropriated by the TPA at a cost of more than R5,4m.

Nietgedacht residents yesterday protested against the resettlement of Zevenfontein squatter families in the area.

Picture: ROBERT BOTHA

R250m Woodmead office development

B1 Day 18/6/92

THE Newport Property Fund would go ahead with the R13m first phase of its R250m office park in Woodmead, Sandton, in spite of an oversupplied office market, RMS Syfrets director Mike Deacon said yesterday.

ANDREW KRUMM

RMS Syfrets had already had large space inquiries at the R25/m² net rental, but no contracts had been signed.

Newport Property Fund MD John

Bond issue criticised

civilians.

rigged – bishops

man Catholic bishops, alleging that nment was preparing to rig the first ions in 26 years, yesterday called for gistration. Star 18/6/92

deadliest weapon'

— US President George Bush and t Boris Yeltsin pledged here yester- in a decade what Mr Bush has de- adliest nuclear weapons — multiple- based missiles.

s to plumb loch

ish scientists are to start mapping tland's famous Loch Ness. But they ng for the Loch Ness monster. The ous scientific endeavour aimed at es new to science.

kina Faso premier

(Burkina Faso) — Youssouf Oue- mist and former minister, was yes- Prime Minister of Burkina Faso by Compaore.

mplants withdrawn

company is withdrawing its silicone n Japan because of fears over long-

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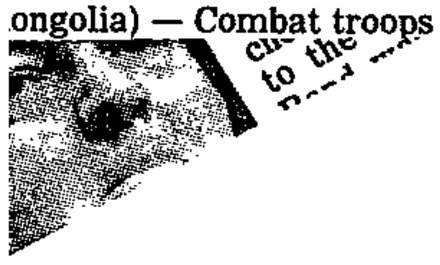
ongolia) — Combat troops from the



Squatting issue sparks placard demo

Staff Reporter

A group of northern suburbs residents staged a placard protest yesterday after Transvaal Provincial Administration employees started surveying Nietgedacht, one of the sites where the Zevenfontein squatters are to be moved.

TPA surveyors at one point had more than 10 policemen on guard to prevent residents from removing their markers, one of the residents said.

About 30 irate residents stood alongside the road that runs past the Lion Park with placards reading "20 families, one tap — no", "TPA squatter camp on show" and "Forthcoming attractions: slums by TPA" while serving tea to the police and press.

Many residents asked why squatters were being moved to their area when there was empty mine property close to central Johannesburg.

Residents believe the two sites, totalling 170 hectares, would be divided into 30 m by 10 m plots which would be sold to the squatters for R5 000 payable over 25 years.

Another resident, who refused to be named, said she had heard that chemical toilets would be put up, water would be provided by tankers and electricity would be subsidised by Randburg residents.

None of these allegations could be confirmed by the TPA yesterday.

One resident was concerned that the two areas, currently 12 km apart, would expand rapidly and join in the middle, dramatically increasing the number of people living there.

Angry huddle . . . a group of residents protesting against the TPA survey of the Nietgedacht site, soon to be home to the Zevenfontein squatters.
Picture: Jacoob Rykliff

STAR 18/6/92.

(310)

SOWETAN PROPERTY

Omhle plans material depots near camps

Sowetan 19/6/92 310

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

THE Operation Masakhane for the Homeless needs R8 million to finance building material depots in an attempt to alleviate the plight of homeless blacks.

The chairman of the organisation, Mr Dan Moshugi, yesterday said they were expecting the money from local and international communities.

The Japan anti-apartheid committee has already pledged to grant the organisation about R80 000 to motivate the funding of low-cost community based building material depots in the homeless communities of Bohlokong near Bethlehem, Doornkop near Soweto and Motlatla near Ventersdorp.

Training has already started and about 20 craftsmen have completed their courses in these areas.

Omhle, in conjunction with the South African Lumber Millers' Association devised a viable and practical strategy to address the housing problem.

Salma is the custodian of timber construction technology in the country and has a well developed training division.

The depots would be situated right where the people live because they do not have transport to go and buy materials from distant outlets.

The major challenge is to pioneer a community based supply system which, together with proper training, will help break the slum syndrome in informal settlements.

"Respectable affordable housing has to be made achievable and available to the very poor as the first and foremost phase in the process of social upliftment," Moshugi said.

Because of the lack of skills in timber construction, appropriate training would be considered as the first step in the organisation's strategy.

"The need for community depots arises from the fact that formal building material supply channels are for many reasons not reaching informal settlements.

"Good quality materials are therefore not readily available in these areas where normal transport cannot be afforded," he added.

"This offers new hope to the homeless but what is needed now is the money in order to have positive input and participation from all sectors of the housing fraternity in South Africa," he said.

According to a Salma spokesman more than 350 people have been trained by the company to build their own time frame home units.

Building material depots in or near areas where millions of homeless have erected temporary shelters were also established.

By the end of the year they might be five to eight and by the end of next year a substantial number, the spokesman said.

Omhle's chairman Mr Dan Moshugi.

Phola Park 'uplifted'

Political Staff

A PROGRAMME of socio-economic upliftment was started at Phola Park on June 1, Deputy Minister of Law and Order and Land Affairs Mr Johan Scheepers said yesterday.

This involved the National Co-ordinating Mechanism, he said.

A water-pipe network was being installed, steps were being taken to remove refuse regularly and adequate toilet facilities were being installed, said Mr Scheepers. CT 20/6/92

Desperate bid to halt squatter relocation

THELNA TUCH-GABAY (310)

LAST-MINUTE bids are underway to put a spoke in the wheel of the Transvaal Provincial Administration's plans to move the Zevenfontein squatters to sites in Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht, north of Johannesburg. STAR

A 10-man delegation is to meet Minister of Manpower Leon Wessels next week to request his urgent intervention in the crisis.

The delegation will consist of representatives from the Diepsloot Residents' Association, the Crocodile Valley Authority, the Anti-Squatters' League, the Greenbelt Action Group, the Muldersdrift Local Area Committee, the Laezonia Landowners' Association, the Chartwell North Action Committee and the Chartwell LAC.

Legal action

The TPA plans to settle the 1 300 squatter families before the end of July. Land surveyors were already working at the Nietgedacht site this week under police escort after residents had earlier removed them from the area. STAR 20/6/92

The Diepsloot Residents' Association, the Laezonia Landowners' Association and Nietgedacht residents are taking legal action against the TPA.

Some residents are seeking an urgent inter-

● TO PAGE 2.

...responsibility as a peace-keeping.

Squatters

● FROM PAGE 1.

dict to force the TPA to reverse its decision, while others are considering a claim for damages against the TPA because of the decline in property values.

Vice-chairman of the Laezonia Landowners' Assdciation Jeremy Brown said: "We want the TPA to look at other sites which have been suggested to them and which are eminently more suitable than the ones they chose."

Yesterday a group of about 150 Nietgedacht residents arrived in convoy at the Randburg Town Council offices, where a petition was handed to management committee chairman Brian Crail. STAR 20/6/92

The petition objected to the Randburg-supported choice of Nietgedacht for the squatters. It also challenged the possibility of Randburg extending its boundaries further north, stating that none of the affected residents supported inclusion.

Anti-squatter League chairman John Stol said yesterday a request to meet State President F W de Klerk had been turned down. However, Wessels had indicated his willingness to meet the delegation. The date of the meeting was still to be confirmed.

"We are exploring every avenue and this is our last bid to do something about the situation. Things are moving fast and the train is totally out of control," Stol said.

In a futher development, Chartwell resident Derrick Roux yesterday faxed the State President on behalf of more than 2 000 Nietgedacht residents, urgently requesting his attention in the Zevenfontein crisis.

"To see our assets seriously eroded through what is perceived as an arbitrary and unplanned decision by petty officials of the TPA represents a major crisis. Whether or not you are aware of what is happening, very serious damage is being done to both your own credibility and that of your party. (310)

"The whole problem of accommodating squatters who are flocking to the cities in ever-increasing numbers (exacerbated by the drought) is clearly a national problem and requires top government action.

"Proper provision must be made to house the people in a planned and structured way rather than dumping them in the midst of and adjacent to a number of affluent areas in the north."

Johannesburg

Landowners to go to court over squatters

B/Day 22/6/92.

(310)

LANDOWNERS in the Diepsloot area — expropriated for the relocation of Zevenfontein squatters — are set to turn to the Supreme Court this week to halt the resettlement.

Residents of the area said they would press ahead with the court action unless the TPA could allay fears that the area would turn into a slum.

Lazonia Landowners' Association vice-chairman Jerry Brown said at the weekend that the TPA had until close of business today to give details of the services and facilities planned for the several hundred squatter families who will be resettled in Diepsloot within the next month.

"The TPA is making a tragic mistake with this move. This is a deliberate case of dumping unfortunate people on a piece of open veld," Brown said.

Lazonia virtually borders on the land the TPA recently expropriated for the squatters at a cost of R2,029m.

Brown said that for years the area had been regarded as a rural retreat and was not suited to the establishment of a "squatter city".

Brown said it was unsuitable to move people from a miserable situation in Zevenfontein to an even worse situation in Diepsloot. Zevenfontein was 25km from Randburg, where the majority of the squatters worked, while Diepsloot was 35km from Randburg.

He said the likelihood of proper services being provided for the 2 000 sites planned at Diepsloot was remote.

STEPHANE BOTHMA

The TPA had undertaken merely to supply water to the settlement by means of tankers, to provide chemical toilets, to negotiate with Eskom for electricity, to remove refuse, and to discuss transport issues with relevant bodies, Brown said.

Brown said schools in the area were full and could not take additional pupils.

Meanwhile, residents of Nietgedacht, to which another few hundred Zevenfontein squatter families will be moved, staged a protest in Randburg on Friday.

The Nietgedacht Concerned Citizens delivered a memorandum to the Randburg town clerk objecting to the council's inability to identify space for its workforce and provide affordable housing.

They further objected to Randburg's support of the choice of the Nietgedacht site for the location of squatters.

"We reject Randburg's claim that it has the expertise and infrastructure to deal with squatters, informal settlements and low-cost housing in our areas," the group stated in the memorandum.

They requested the council to stop secret negotiations with the TPA and other municipalites and to provide residents with full information on the impact such a squatter development would have on their rates, pollution and land values.

The Nietgedacht residents were also drafting legal papers to obtain an interdict against the TPA to prohibit the development of the site.

2 METRO

Manure dumped in protest

STAR 23/6/92

By Bunty West and Carina le Grange

A pile of manure topped by a sign reading "Keep your s... in Randburg" was dumped outside Randburg town council offices yesterday morning.

Management committee chairman Brian Crail interpreted the act as an effort by "a group of extremists ... trying to sabotage any meaningful consultation about future Nietgedacht residents".

Nobody has claimed responsibility for dumping the manure on the council's doorstep.

Meanwhile, an organisation acting for all Nietgedacht residents last night held a third meeting with lawyers to consider legal action against the authorities — provincial or governmental — arising from expropriation of land and the "gross injustice perpetrated on the community by Pretoria bureaucrats".

Mr Crail said he was shocked by "this appalling display of blatant racism".

Nietgedacht is one of the areas north of Johannesburg which have been earmarked for informal housing in an effort to control mushrooming "squatter" settlements in the area. Randburg council has accepted the Transvaal Provincial Administration's decision to develop Nietgedacht for informal housing.

Jukskei Crocodile Catchment Area Landowners and Residents' Association (JCCA) vice-chairman Wessel Swart last night refused to divulge details of legal action but said that in going to court the JCCA hoped to reverse the negative business influence the decision on expropriation had had on the area.

JCCA press spokesman Neville Jones said his association disassociated itself from any illegal action including the dumping of manure.

Mr Crail had said earlier that urbanisation has to be planned for the benefit of all, but this type of protest from people who appear to be too afraid to identify themselves is totally unacceptable.

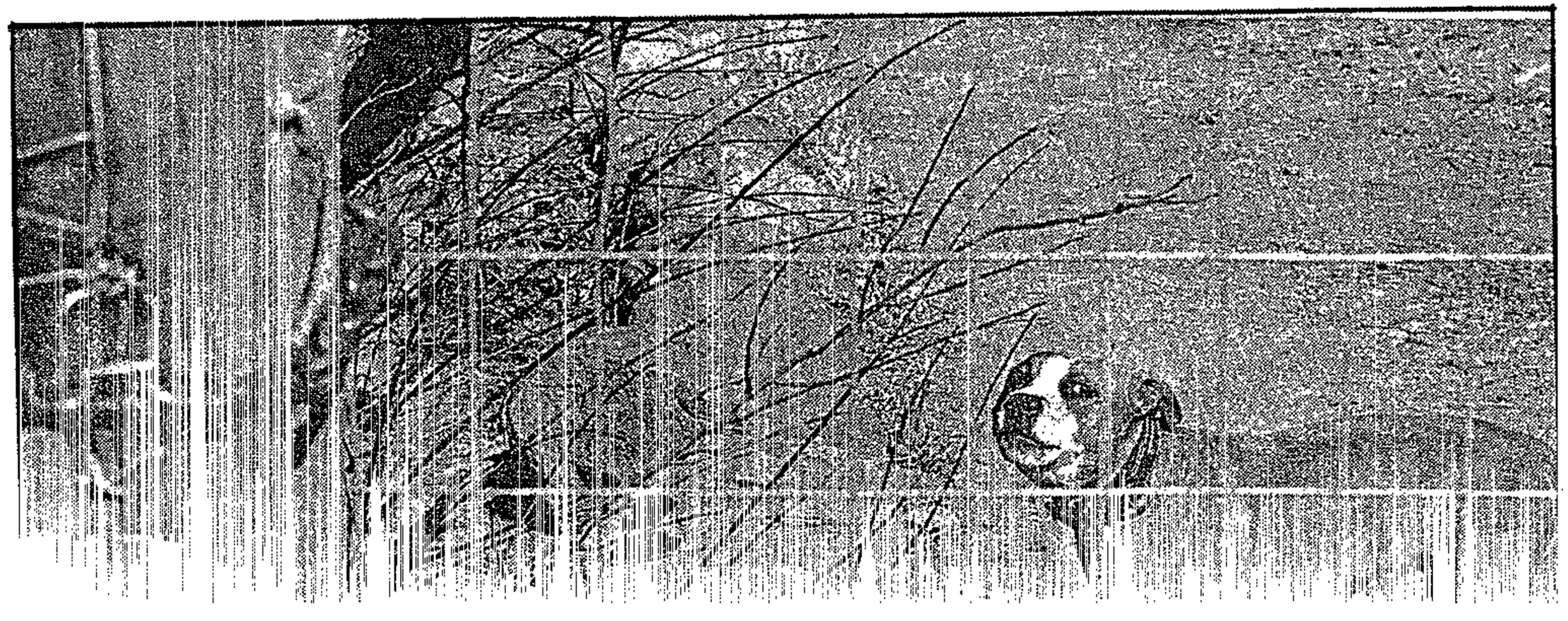
● Nietgedacht residents, whose properties do not fall under Randburg municipality's jurisdiction at present, are up in arms because of the council's decision to house squatters outside the present civic boundaries.

In a petition sent to the management committee, residents said Randburg had once again proved insensitive to the squatters' needs and mirrored former apartheid laws in terms of which people had been dumped in areas where they did not want to stay.

In reaction to the petition, the council said the site had been chosen by the TPA.

"Council believes that the best way to manage growth in the area is to extend its northern boundaries and an application to the Demarcation Board has been submitted. It is council's philosophy to bring an open consultative local government to bear in the area, a process which is working in the Bloubosrand area," Mr Crail said.

Man (80) mauled to death by bullterriers



Staff Reporters

An 80-year-old man was mauled to death by two bullterriers on a plot in Buccleuch, Sandton, on Saturday evening and a Walkerville man was gored to death by a cow at the weekend.

A spokesman for the Midrand Detective Branch said he did not know who the dead man was or who the dogs belonged to.

He also did not know why the dogs attacked the man or what he was doing on the property.

Yesterday the house and overgrown property looked deserted. The only sign of life was a dog barking at the locked gate and the sound of

2 METRO

Squatters walk out of talks

STAR 24/6/92. (310)

By Michael Sparks

Representatives of the Zevenfontein squatters walked out of a meeting with the Transvaal Provincial Administration on Monday because of concerns that once they had moved to the two proposed relocation sites, the TPA would forget about them.

The squatters have demanded written guarantees from the TPA that the initial services of one aqua-privy (temporary toilet) per house and one water tap per 20 sites will be upgraded within a specified period of time, said Pinky Moloi, chairman of the Zevenfontein executive committee.

The squatters want proper toilets, water-borne sewerage, roads, and rubbish removal, as well as larger sites for the majority of people living at Zevenfontein, Mrs Moloi said.

The walkout has resulted in a delay for the TPA, which had planned to start pegging the sites and bulldozing the roads at Nietgedacht and Diepsloot West yesterday, she said.

Rosemary Hunter, who is acting for the squatter community, said the TPA was offering 300 m sq sites for 30 percent of the squatters and 200 m sq sites for the rest. However, the squatters were calling for 300 m sq sites for 70 percent of those living in Zevenfontein, she said.

Mrs Moloi said there were many people who felt they could afford the R110 a month needed to pay for the larger properties and services. The smaller properties would cost R85 a month, including services.

According to Miss Hunter the TPA wanted an agreement on the intermediate services soon, in order to go ahead with setting up the two sites.

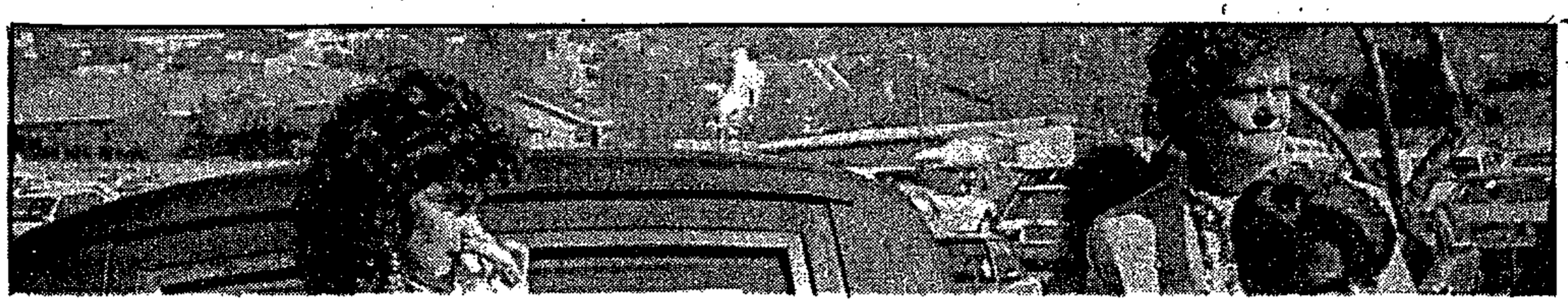
But the squatters felt they were being pressed to move too quickly into sites that had not been properly prepared.

Miss Hunter said they would not agree on intermediate facilities until there was also a discussion on the provision of bulk services, where each house would have their own water and proper toilets.

A TPA spokesman said the TPA was not opposed to giving the written guarantees, but did not feel it would be able to satisfy, within a year, all the demands the squatters had made.

He added that he did not see the size of the sites to be a problem.

Another meeting is scheduled between representatives of the Zevenfontein community and the TPA today.



Damelin set to move into new R40-m premises

By Michael Sparks

Damelin College is crossing the railway tracks to new

Kriel council launches R40m low-cost housing scheme

KATHRYN STRACHAN

THE Kriel Town Council in the eastern Transvaal launched a R40m Thebulihle low-cost housing scheme recently — involving the construction of 4 000 houses in two years.

On view at the site were three versions of Dwelling Enterprises' innovative "Zinki" affordable house. The high-tensile steel houses range in price from R5 000 to R15 000 — a third of a conventional house — and can be built in hours.

In their effort to provide accommodation for thousands of workers on farms, mines and power stations around the town, the council was making 230m² serviced stands available at R3 000 each.

According to Kriel Town Engineer Ivor Poultney the Thebulihle township will boast tarred roads, street lighting, electricity and waterborne sewerage.

Project spokesman David Carte said the Perm had come up with "an imaginative way for employers to help their employees to buy their own houses through its micro-loan scheme".

The micro-loans will be 100% underwritten by employers in the Kriel area against pension and provident fund security. Large employers such as Eskom, Amcoal and Genmin had expressed keen interest, he said.

Co-ordinators Debrell Projects marketing director Haydon Cairns said research had shown that 70% of blacks in SA could not afford housing. "At Thubelihle Kriel Town Council has made housing an affordable reality. This township may well provide a model for affordable housing across the country."

Development cuts conflict - planner

Sowetan 25/6/92 310

THE transformation of a culture of defence into a culture of development could reduce conflict in the Phola Park squatter camp near Tokoza, town planner Mr Julian Baskin said on Tuesday.

Appearing before a Goldstone Commission committee inquiry into violence and intimidation, Baskin, a chartered town and regional planner from the community development organisation Planact, based his suggestion on nearly two years of close association with the Phola Park community.

Baskin said his evidence was submitted in the belief that development was at least part of the solution to the problems of Phola Park, "but badly conceived development programmes can exacerbate a situation leading to further conflict".

During his dealings with Phola Park civic representatives he had held many meetings and workshops on the development of the East Rand squatter camp.

Baskin said he identified three groups among the residents of Phola Park.

There were families wishing to urbanise, single men who had their base in rural areas, and non-South Africans from countries such as Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi.

He said because the single men and non-South Africans might believe they would not qualify for accommodation in a developed Phola Park, they could be against it.

Baskin said reasons for the conflict were outside the community's control.

Among them were a discredited hostel system and no alternative State-rented accommodation; a wrecked rural economy and little chance of survival without urbanising; hostile State structures which aimed to undermine community structures rather than strengthen them; and a history of violence as conflict resolution.

Baskin recommended that local government structures recognise the importance of community institutions and provide support.

He disclosed that the International Development Trust would make R23 million available for development of the squatter camp and he showed plans which his organisation and the community had compiled and were to be implemented soon. - *Sapa.*

No witnesses in massacre probe

WILSON ZWANE

NOT one Boipatong resident had come forward with information to assist police investigations in last week's massacre, a police spokesman said last night.

Lt-Col Dave Bruce Bruce said newspaper reports were being used to try to find witnesses.

"People quoted in the Press as having made certain allegations are potential witnesses ... and we would like these people to come forward and give us the information."

Meanwhile there were more incidents yesterday on the Golden Highway between Johannesburg and Vereeniging. Sapa reports that two meat trucks were set alight and looted. The road was closed on Tuesday after mobs set fire to 13 vehicles.

Police said a man was necklaced in Sebokeng yesterday afternoon.

At least four people were killed in Folweni, south of Durban, and one person murdered at Esikhawini, in northern Natal, on Monday and Tuesday, KwaZulu police said.

□ The Human Rights Commission recorded 106 deaths and 86 injuries in the week to Tuesday — the highest toll since the week preceding the March 17 referendum.

Churches offer to help settle row over squatters

KATHRYN STRACHAN

AN ALLIANCE of churches representing a wide spectrum of denominations has offered its services as mediator in the conflict surrounding the relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters.

Church Alliance for Zevenfontein spokesman Ron Steele said in a statement that the organisation had canvassed the support of 14 churches in the Randburg/Sandton area — ranging from the Methodist Church to Rhema Ministries — "to ensure the peaceful settlement of the Zevenfontein community in the area". Other church groups are expected to join the alliance.

Steele said the alliance had been formed to counter the demonstrations by Diepsloot and Nietgedacht residents who were opposed to the resettlement of the Zevenfontein squatters in their areas.

In the event of the Zevenfontein community being relocated to Diepsloot and Nietgedacht, the alliance would "stand against all forms of aggression by anyone in the process of relocation".

The alliance also questioned "on biblical grounds" the fact that they were refused representation on the TPA task group. It also claimed the TPA had made its decision without sufficient consultation and that it had not considered all the alternatives.

Meanwhile, Lazonia Landowners' Association attorney Brian Moss said papers would be served on the TPA today seeking an urgent interdict against the relocation.

He said the association had appealed to the TPA not to proceed with the relocation before the application was heard next Tuesday.

If the TPA went ahead the association would make a new urgent application which would bring the case forward to this week, said Moss.

Association spokesman Urs Honegger said earlier the court action followed the TPA's failure to supply residents with adequate information to allay fears that the resettlement site would become a "slum city".

He said the TPA had been given until the close of business on Monday to supply details of the exact services it intended to provide in the area.

Honegger said the TPA had failed to do this.

TPA to be sued over squatters

STAR 25/6/92.

By Shirley Woodgate (310)

Legal action is in the pipeline as Laezonia and Diepsloot residents take on the Transvaal Provincial Administration to prevent the relocation of Zevenfontein squatters in the region.

The TPA announced this month it would pay more than R5,4 million to expropriate 200 ha from six landowners in Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht for the 1 300 squatter families who must move from their present site by July 31.

The Diepsloot Residents' and Landowners' Association, led by Stuart Aitcheson, will apply for an interdict against the TPA today to block the move. The Laezonia Landowners' Association will also apply for an interdict today, said chairman David Ware.

"Pinky" Lakier, owner of the multimillion-rand Lion Park which adjoins the Nietgedacht area expropriated by the TPA for the squatters, is also believed to be going to court.

A spokesman for Mr Lakier, who is overseas, said a prime site of the park — the entrance, which has business rights — had been expropriated.

"The TPA arrived on June 10 with an Afrikaans note and a cheque. Mr Lakier refused to accept the Afrikaans letter, so they returned the next day," she said.

She denied TPA claims that squatters already lived in the area, claiming a handful of Lion Park workers and their families lived there.

"These families have indicated they do not want to remain if the squatters are moved in," she added.

Laezonia resident Urs Honneger said TPA incompetence and lack of planning had united the area from Hartbeespoort Dam to Diepsloot. Delays had allowed residents breathing space to plan opposition.

The Expropriation Act 63 of 1975 was one of the residents' prime targets.

Mr Honneger said demands for the amendment of the law were being loudly voiced since the Act gave the minister a free hand to expropriate any property for public purposes.

The law states that compensation must be paid, but is unspecific about the amounts.

Mr Honneger said President F W de Klerk had expressed shock at Zimbabwean legislation permitting President Mugabe to expropriate agricultural land. It was alarming that even more wide-reaching laws had been in force in this country for so long.

Residents claim that the TPA's action devalued their properties. They expect major pollution problems in the "greenbelt", and doubt whether the TPA will be able or willing to control squatter development.

Stoffel grilled on Zevenfontein relocation

Staff Reporters STAR 25/6/92 (310)

More than 500 angry North Rand residents grilled Helderkruin MP Dr Stoffel van der Merwe on Tuesday night during a heated three-hour meeting where they demanded a full say in developments affecting their lives.

Calling on Dr van der Merwe to postpone the relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters to their area, they said they resented decisions being imposed on them. They called for the establishment of a local authority in their area.

Dr van der Merwe, whose resignation had been demanded by incensed residents, assured them that he was on their side and said it was necessary to explore whether there could be a postponement of the July 31 deadline to move the squatter families.

But he refused to give an assurance that the move would not take place.

"Then if you don't, we will stop it," shouted one resident.

Another resident proposed a referendum to test the feelings of people on the issue.

Earlier, Dr van der Merwe was greeted with boos, whistles and a placard parade on his arrival at the meeting arranged by the Jukskei Crocodile River Catchment Area Landowners and Residents Association at the nearby Nooitgedacht School.

The meeting was called to voice objections to a Transvaal Provincial Administration announcement last month that the Zevenfontein squatter community of about 1 400 families would be moved to areas at Nietgedacht and Diepsloot West.

He said that because of the former policies of his Government, a backlog in housing had been created, but the laws of nature were stronger than man-made laws. The problems that were at present being experienced were "the price we have to pay".

"Accommodation for black people must be found. We cannot allow a situation where black people with nowhere to go are continually experiencing these hardships.

"It is important that they be given accommodation."

Squatter settlement on hold

B1Day 26/6/92. (310)

KATHRYN STRACHAN

PLANS to begin moving the Zevenfontein squatters to Diepsloot and Nietgedacht, north of Johannesburg, this week have been put on hold for two weeks to allow local residents and the squatters more time to come forward with alternative proposals.

Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough said that the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA), the Zevenfontein community and the Crocodile Valley Authority, which represents residents in the affected areas, had agreed on the moratorium after a request from residents.

CVA spokesman Anthony Duigan said that residents and Zevenfontein squatters would create a forum to find solutions more acceptable to both communities.

"It is the first time we have had the chance to sort the problem out together," he said.

TPA MEC for Institutional Development and Negotiations Olaus van Zyl said the solutions had to be acceptable to all the parties involved, including the Zevenfontein community.

Residents had indicated that should they not succeed in finding consensus on proposed solutions, they would accept the present sites, he said.

Van Zyl expressed the hope that the valley authority would, after the expiry of the moratorium, co-operate on the development of sites and on measures to limit the impact of development on surrounding properties.

Sapa reports that Hough pointed out that Local Government and National Housing Minister Leon Wessels had said the TPA had the final authority on the permanent settlement of the Zevenfontein community.

Few squatters can afford to move

STAR 26/6/92. (310)

Staff Reporter

Only Zevenfontein squatters who can afford formal housing controlled by the Randburg Town Council will move to the Bloubosrand suburb, it was announced yesterday.

Provincial officials estimated about 130 of the families could afford such housing.

As the Transvaal Provincial Administration faced the twin threat of legal action from residents of the north-western PWV on one side, and on the other, people ensuring that the 1 300 families are off their present site by July 31, MEC Olaus van Zyl said at a press conference yesterday that about 10 to 15 percent of the families (some 800 people) would be able to afford to relocate to formal housing in Randburg.

While the bulk of the squatters would be moved to Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht in informal shacks, those who wanted to move to Bloubosrand would have to conform to town-planning regulations, he said.

Zevenfontein squatter spokesman Pinky Moloi said it was the first she had heard of the plan.

Bloubosrand Action Committee chairman Peter Bantock expressed surprise at the development and said: "Our bottom line is R80 000 to R120 000.

"If they can afford that kind of development, they are welcome to move in next door," he said.

The TPA announced this month it would pay more than R5,4 million to expropriate two sites of about 100 ha each from six landowners in Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht for the 1 300 squatter families who must move from their present site by July 31.

Both the Diepsloot Residents' and Landowners' Association and the Laezonia Landowners' Association yesterday applied for an interdict, which will be heard on June 30, against the TPA to block the removal of the squatters to property in their areas.

Laezonia resident Urs Honneger said TPA incompetence and total lack of planning had united the area from Hartbeespoort Dam to Diepsloot.

More significantly, delays had allowed residents breathing space to plan significant opposition.

The Expropriation Act 63 of 1975 was one of the residents' prime targets.

Mr Honneger said demands for the amendment of the law were being loudly voiced since it was discovered that the Act gave the minister a free hand to expropriate any property for public purposes.

Emphasising that most of the squatters were in fact not migrants but long-time residents of the PWV region, Mr van Zyl yesterday assured residents with properties bordering plots which had been expropriated that applications for rezoning for business, commercial and industrial purposes would be handled sympathetically.

TPA agrees to moratorium on settlement of squatters

STAR 27/6/92

THELMA TUCH-GABAY 310

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) gave in to pressure and agreed yesterday to a two-week moratorium on the resettling of Zevenfontein squatters at Diepsloot and Nietgedacht north of Johannesburg.

During the moratorium, every effort is to be made by those who protested against the move to find an alternative solution acceptable to both the TPA and the squatters.

The TPA's plans to relocate the 1 300 squatter families to sites in Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht will be put on hold during this period, but will go ahead if consensus on alternative sites is not reached.

Protest

The TPA's change of heart came in response to protest action from residents, pending legal actions, and a meeting last Wednesday between the Crocodile Valley Authority (CVA) and Minister of Local Government, National Housing and Manpower, Leon Wessels.

The CVA met the TPA's 4 pm deadline yesterday for it to muster the support of all interested parties — including the six municipalities and the squatters — for the moratorium to be instituted.

It is now up to the CVA — an umbrella body consisting of residents' associations and the local area committees of Chartwell, Muldersdrift and Rantesig — to come to an agreement on viable alternative sites.

The solution must be acceptable to the Zevenfontein squatters, the six local authorities (Sandton, Randburg, Verwoerdburg, Midrand, Roodepoort, Krugersdorp), affected residents' organisations, the local administrative councils of Muldersdrift, Chartwell and Rantesig and the Council for Local Government Affairs and the TPA.

The moratorium — which began yesterday — comes in the wake of the TPA's expropriation of the land and moves to survey the sites. "The CVA will act as a facilitator on the joint negotiating forum with the aim of finding a more acceptable solution on a win-win basis for all parties concerned," Vito Rugani of the CVA said yesterday.

Consensus

If the moratorium fails, the TPA intends to go ahead with its plans to settle the squatters at Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht. The TPA said yesterday that the CVA has indicated that it

● TO PAGE 2.

Delayed 310

● FROM PAGE 1.

local authorities (Sandton, Randburg, Verwoerdburg, Midrand, Roodepoort, Krugersdorp), affected residents' organisations, the local administrative councils of Muldersdrift, Chartwell and Rantesig and the Council for Local Government Affairs and the TPA.

The moratorium — which began yesterday — comes in the wake of the TPA's expropriation of the land and moves to survey the sites. "The CVA will act as a facilitator on the Joint Negotiating Forum with the aim of finding a more acceptable solution on a win-win basis for all parties concerned," Vito Rugani of the CVA said yesterday.

If the moratorium fails the TPA intends to go ahead with its plans to settle the squatters at Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht. The TPA said yesterday that the CVA has indicated that it would accept the present sites, if they fail to achieve consensus on alternative solutions.

However, the CVA yesterday denied this strongly and refused to commit itself to accepting the two sites, should the moratorium fail.

Anthony Duigan, chairman of the Greenbelt Action Group, said the moratorium provided an opportunity to negotiate a better solution, but there were no guarantees of it working.

27/6/92

Squatter camp's move on hold

310
Sowetan 29/6/92

THE settlement of the Zevenfontein squatters was suspended for at least 14 days on Friday after the Crocodile Valley Authority obtained the required support for its moratorium proposal.

This was said by Transvaal Provincial Administration spokesman Mr Olaus van Zyl in a statement issued in Pretoria.

The CVA received the support from, among others, the Zevenfontein community, the Randburg and Sandton town councils, and affected residents' associations. This was done before the TPA's 4pm Friday deadline, Van Zyl said.

The planned squatter settlements at Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht would proceed should the CVA not find an alternative site acceptable to all the concerned parties within the two weeks, he said. - *Sapa*

SOWETAN
HELP CENTRE
473-2505

Braving the cold

Thousands of people, including this girl in African National Congress regalia, braved the chilly weather to attend the Freedom Charter mass rally at the Kliptown Square on Saturday.

I will lead defiance campaign - Mandela

Sowetan 29/6/92

By VICTOR TSUAI

AFRICAN National Congress' president Mr Nelson Mandela dared the Government to re-introduce a state of emergency during the Freedom Charter rally at Kliptown Square on Saturday.

He reiterated his earlier warning that he would personally lead a defiance campaign to bring National Party rule to an end.

Mandela later jetted off to Dakar in Senegal for talks with United Nations secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali before the all-important Organisation of African Unity conference.

The 37th anniversary rally was attended by more than 12 000 enthusiastic ANC supporters, including many of the old guard who were given a place of honour.

The veterans, who received a tumultuous welcome from the crowd, were led by ANC chairman Mr Oliver "OR " Tambo and former Robben Island prisoner Mr Andrew Mlangeni.

Mandela, whose organisation pulled out of negotiations at Codesa last week, said it would be futile to pursue the talks.

"We would like to make it clear that unless the Government is prepared to meet our demands, there will be no further talks. The ANC would, however, get back to the negotiations if its demands were met," Mandela said.

The Charter celebrations coincided with the call for a mass action campaign which Mandela said would be used fully to bring the Pretoria regime to its knees and for the introduction of an interim government.

Mass action

Cosatu official Mr Jay Naidoo condemned the Government for the Boipatong masacre and said it was actions such as these that gave rise to mass action.

Naidoo called on all the workers to observe the Day of Mourning and to join in today's mass action which will take the form of marches.

Squatter issue is shelved

(310)

SA Press Association

Sowetan 29/6/92

THE settlement of the Zevenfontein squatters was suspended for at least 14 days on Friday after the Crocodile Valley Authority obtained the required support for its moratorium proposal.

This was confirmed in a statement by Mr Olaus van Zyl, spokesman for the Transvaal Provincial Administration at the weekend.

Support

The Crocodile Valley Authority received the support from, among others, the Zevenfontein community, the Randburg and Sandton town councils, and affected residents' associations.

This was done before the TPA's 4pm Friday deadline, Van Zyl said.

The planned squatter settlements at Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht would proceed should the CVA not find an alternative site acceptable to all the concerned parties within the next two weeks, he said.

Bid to halt squatters' relocation

ST 1/7/92

PRETORIA. — Two separate urgent applications were made in the Supreme Court hereyesterday to order the setting aside of the Transvaal Provincial Administration decision to relocate Zevenfontein squatters on portions of Diepsloot farm, near Sandton. (310)

The applications, by the Laezonia and Diepsloot residents' associations, were postponed by agreement to July 14, giving the TPA time to reply.

Residents said they feared a fall in property values, an increase in crime and the "creation of a dustbowl".

The TPA undertook not to move any persons on to the recently expropriated stands of Diepsloot farm until July 16, by which time the matter would have been adjudicated upon. — Sapa

STAR 11/7/92

Squatters won't be resettled until mid-July

The Zevenfontein squatters will not be resettled on the expropriated land allocated by the Transvaal Provincial Administration in Diepsloot until mid-July.

Following two separate urgent applications in the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday, the TPA undertook not to move the squatters, or any other persons, on to stands 151, 152 and 120 of the farm Diepsloot until midnight on July 16.

One of the applications brought before Mr Justice Joffe was made by two landowners in the Laezonia district, adjacent to Diepsloot, and the Laezonia Landowners' Association against the TPA. The other was made by the Diepsloot Residents' and Landowners' Association and two landowners against the Administrator of the Transvaal and five of the respondents, including the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and Housing.

In both applications the applicants sought a court order restraining the TPA from relocating or "giving occupational rights" to the Zevenfontein squatters.

Squatter move challenged in court

PRETORIA — Two separate urgent applications were made in the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday for an order setting aside the Transvaal Provincial Administration's decision to move the Zevenfontein squatters to Diepsloot, near Sandton.

The applications by the Laezonia Landowners' Association and the Diepsloot Residents' and Landowners' Association were postponed by agreement to July 14, giving the respondents time to file replying affidavits.

The TPA undertook not to move any one to the recently expropriated stands 120, 151, 152 and 153 of the farm Diepsloot until midnight on July 16. Should the matter not be finally adjudicated by then, the associations could again apply for interim relief.

Laezonia businessman David Ware said it would be in the Zevenfontein community's best interests to remain at the Rietfontein farm until an appropriate new site was found.

The proposed resettlement was to be done without any planning, violating every principle of orderly, desirable town planning.

Ware claimed Laezonia landowners would suffer irreparable harm if the move went ahead.

Business consultant Stuart Aitchison, who filed an affidavit on behalf of the Diepsloot Residents' and Landowners' Association, said moving the squatters would interfere with the rights of owners of surrounding properties.

It appeared the TPA intended to provide a minimum of services to the proposed site, and there would be no influx control, resulting in the settlement being swamped, a health hazard being created and the crime rate in surrounding areas rising, he said.

Aitchison said the value of properties had already decreased and could decrease further, causing property owners to have a claim for damages against the TPA. — Sapa.

Z'fontein squatters: court action

(310)
Sowetan 1/7/92

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One of the applications brought before Mr Justice Joffe against the TPA was made by two landowners in the Laezonia district, adjacent to Diepsloot, and the Laezonia Landowners Association.

The other was made by the Diepsloot Residents and Landowners Association and two landowners against the Administrator of Transvaal and five other respondents, including the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing.

In both applications the applicants sought a court order restraining the TPA from relocating or "giving occupational rights" to the Zevenfontein squatters or any other person on the land set aside in Diepsloot.

Both matters in which the TPA gave their undertaking, were postponed by agreement to July 14.

Moratorium lifted

THE two-week moratorium on the relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters to sites in Nietgedacht and Diepsloot has been officially lifted, but the TPA has agreed not to proceed with resettlement plans for a few days to allow local residents time to find a more acceptable solution.

Moratorium on squatters lifted

STAR 3/7/92

310

By Shirley Woodgate and Sapa

The two-week moratorium on the relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters to sites at Nietgedacht and Diepsloot has been lifted.

This was announced yesterday after a meeting between the Transvaal Provincial Administration, the Crocodile Valley Authority (CVA) and other interested parties at which it was decided that not all the parties had agreed to the moratorium.

The two-week moratorium had been requested by the CVA to allow it time to find a solution that would enjoy the greatest support of all parties.

TPA spokesman Johan Eiselen said all the parties had agreed to keep the moratorium issue under review and further discussions would be held.

Mr Eiselen said the Zevenfontein squatters would still have to move by the end of July.

In another development, an anonymous pamphlet distributed on Wednesday in the North Rand area, claiming the revival of the "Norweto" squatter settlement plans, has been condemned by the TPA.

The pamphlet claimed the relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters to Diepsloot and Nietgedacht was a TPA "cover-up" for plans to import homeless people to 13 locations which would eventually result in the re-creation of Norweto.

Admitting to plans to establish "smaller, more manageable areas which will form an integral part of balanced urbanisation in the PWV area", the TPA condemned the claims in the circular as "blatant lies" and a "transparant attempt at stirring up emotions".

The TPA had requested the Verwoerdburg, Randburg, Sandton, Midrand, Roodepoort and Krugersdorp councils to identify suitable sites for informal housing, according to a statement.

The task group formed this year to investigate urbanisation had already identified suitable permanent sites in areas where low-cost housing could be developed, a spokesman claimed.

A meeting yesterday beteen top TPA officials, the CVA, Johannesburg Consolidated Investment (the developer of luxury estate Dainfern), the Chartwell North Action Group and the Chartwell Local Area Committee revealed little about the talks between the affected parties.

But the moratorium on the relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters is apparently not in place because the owner of the property where they are currently housed is not a party to the agreement, the TPA said.

With less than a month to the July 31 deadline for the squatters' removal, the TPA, following two separate applications in the Pretoria Supreme Court, yesterday undertook not to move the squatters until July 16.

Squatters can now be moved

310

THE two-week moratorium on the relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters to sites at Nietgedacht and Diepsloot has been lifted.

This was announced after a meeting yesterday morning between the Transvaal Provincial Administration, the Crocodile Valley Authority and other interested parties. It was decided that not all the parties had agreed to the moratorium. Sowetan 3/7/92

The two-week moratorium had been requested by the CVA to allow it time to find a solution which would enjoy the greatest support of all parties.

TPA spokesman Mr Johan Eiselen said all the parties had agreed to keep the issue of the moratorium under review and further discussions would be held over the next few days.

Eiselen said the Zevenfontein squatters would still have to move by the end of this month. - *Sapa.*

Ratepayers shed apathy and lash out

STAR 4/7/92

LOUISE BURGERS
Municipal Reporter

310

RATEPAYERS' protests are increasing as ordinary people demand to be involved in city government decisions.

Randburg's City Council has for weeks been besieged by residents furious about the Zevenfontein squatter issue.

A week ago, Sandton residents made their point clear when they walked out of a Sandton Town Council meeting after an unpopular decision was taken.

On Tuesday, during a monthly Johannesburg City Council meeting, residents of Johannesburg's northern suburbs joined people from Mayfair and Pageview and civic association leaders in a silent protest against the planned A3 highway.

A banner reading "A3 — undemocratic council wrecks communities" was unfurled in the council chamber, startling city councillors.

Deputy mayor Les Dishy allowed the banner to be displayed for five minutes.

The last similar protest was about two years ago when Actstop members were allowed to address the council on their grievances concerning Hillbrow.

A memorandum was presented to management committee and opposition leaders, rejecting the proposed A3 highway as "politically repulsive and unprofessional".

The A3 is planned to link Main Reef Road in the west and Barry Hertzog in the north.

Nassim Pahad, representing the Mayfair Civic Association and the ANC's Johannesburg West branch, said after the demonstration that the project reflected the political development of the 1950s, when the Government decided to separate the Indian and white communities of Mayfair with the A3 highway. The project was shelved for lack of funds.

Pahad said the city council had no right to make decisions on behalf of disfranchised communities without taking residents' views into account. "There will be a new city council within five years, with different priorities. They must stop the A3 now."

Federation of Eastern Johannesburg Residents and Ratepayers representative Graham Bailey said the A3 was an example of political opportunism and insensitivity.

Johannesburg Metropolitan Action Group secretary Conrad Berge has warned councillors that angry ratepayers, keeping an eye on civic affairs, are prepared to act where necessary.

Sandton residents staged their walkout at last month's Sandton Town Council meeting when a motion calling for re-establishing the Section 59 committee to investigate and advise on new structures for local government was refused.

Sandton Federation of Ratepayers' Associations (Sanfed) chairman Gail Daus said ratepayers believed the committee was disbanded in May because the management committee could see that it was not achieving its objectives.

"The main thrust of our objections is that by disbanding the committee they have shut us out. Our greatest concern is that we are not being included in discussions on the restructuring of local government."

Sanfed's first major victory was in halting a multimillion-rand roads plan for Sandton. "We keep hammering away. We formed the federation in order to present a united voice, and we have 24 members who represent all but one formally constituted ratepayers' association in Sandton," she said.

Former Phola Park leaders set to attempt a comeback

A POWER struggle has developed in the East Rand's Phola Park squatter camp in the wake of continued police action.

Moves were afoot among Phola Park residents to reinstate a group that were the self-appointed leaders of the camp until ousted by a militant faction earlier this year, sources said at the weekend.

The sources said the new leaders had plunged the camp into chaos by taking over its defence units and using them for attacks on security forces and private vehicles travelling in the vicinity.

Some members of the self-proclaimed Interim Residents' Committee claimed to be members of the ANC's Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK). They appointed themselves in March this year after ousting at gunpoint the original Phola Park Residents' Committee, headed by Prince Mhlambi, the sources said.

"The people of Phola Park, who are now being harassed by the police, are calling for the dissolution of the interim committee, whose members stand accused of misusing the people's money."

The sources alleged the committee members had not bought ammunition, as promised, with money they collected from the community. "The people want their money back ... they also want the reinstatement of Mhlambi and his committee."

WILSON ZWANE

It is understood Mhlambi has pledged to normalise relations with the police if he is returned to power. The police have said they will remain active in the area until peace and normality have been restored.

Three weeks ago police spokesman Capt Eugene Opperman said MK renegades and former Renamo instructors had hijacked the squatter camp's defence units.

Opperman said the MK rebels had used firearms to murder people and to rob financial institutions and people in and around Phola Park — "even as far afield as Soweto and Bethlehem".

Zingisile Mathiso, a Phola Park resident, claimed recently that the 60-member Residents' Committee headed by Mhlambi was ousted after allegations that it had embezzled community funds and taken part in the local dispute resolution committee without the community's permission.

Sources said at the weekend unruly elements bent on perpetrating atrocities in the camp had spread the rumour Mhlambi and his committee were "corrupt".

They added: "The participation of Mhlambi and his committee in the dispute resolution committee had the full support of the community, which wanted to restore peace in the area."

Civic members begin training

WILSON ZWANE

THE Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) is preparing its members for a new constitutional dispensation by having them trained in local government.

ACO official Mzwanele Mayekiso is leaving for the US within weeks for study at the New York Pratt Institute.

He said at the weekend it was imperative civic leaders knew how local government worked.

During his stay in the US Mayekiso would talk to educational institutions about establishing a "coherent local government training programme" for ACO members. Foreign governments would be approached for funds.

He said that in spite of its members having received training in local government, the organisation would not contest future local government elections. But individual members would be free to stand in elections under party political banners.

"Even in the new SA there will be a need for a strong, independent civic movement to ensure that councillors deliver the goods to their constituencies."

Zevenfontein restrictions relaxed (310)

STAR 6/7/92.

Certain restrictions placed on the Zevenfontein squatters, purportedly to control the size of the community north of Johannesburg, are to be lifted.

This follows a request by the community, a spokesman for the Crocodile Valley Authority (CVA), Anthony Duigan, said at the weekend.

He said restrictions on food and liquor brought into the camp and limitations on the number of cars and visitors entering the settlement would be lifted.

Squatter representatives had refused to meet the CVA in a joint negotiating forum until some of the strict conditions clamped on them by a group of authorities had been lifted, Mr Duigan said.

The restrictions were imposed earlier this year by the signatories to an agreement which stipulates that the Zevenfontein squatters have to be moved from their present site before July 31.

Signatories include the owner of the Zevenfontein farm; the Chartwell Local Area Committee; the North Chartwell Action Group; the Transvaal Provincial Administration; and Johannesburg Consolidated Investment, which owns the neighbouring property.

Mr Duigan said the squatters had been forced to accept the conditions placed on them as they were illegally occupying the Zevenfontein land.

They had however complained that the measures were being applied arbitrarily and had become harsher over the months.

Mr Duigan said the CVA had approached the signatories on the matter and all had agreed to the relaxation of measures.

Proposals for low-cost housing development closer to current municipal boundaries were put to the squatter representatives, who had indicated no objections in principle and a willingness to look at alternative resettlement sites.

The squatters' future remains in the balance pending a court application on July 16, brought by the Diepsloot Residents' Committee which is planning to prevent their resettlement at Diepsloot.

Mr Duigan said the CVA would meet TPA representatives to put forward "general" proposals about alternative sites, but declined to give further details. — Sapa.

Restrictions off

CERTAIN restrictions placed on the Zevenfontein squatters, purportedly to control the size of the community north of Johannesburg, are to be relaxed following a request to this effect by the community.

A spokesman for the Crocodile Valley Authority (CVA), Mr Anthony Duigan, said on Saturday restrictions on food and liquor brought into the camp and limitations on the number of cars and visitors entering the settlement would be lifted.

Residents have new plan for squatters

STAR 7/7/92

By Shirley Woodgate (310)

North Rand residents have bypassed Transvaal Provincial Administration plans for squatter settlement and will soon announce a far-reaching urbanisation strategy designed to serve as a blueprint for the rest of the country.

Faced with the relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters by July 31, the umbrella Crocodile Valley Authority (CVA) has rejected ad hoc TPA plans to move the 1 300 families to two sites in Diepsloot and Nietgedacht.

Instead, the CVA, which represents residents' associations from Hartbeesfontein to Chartwell, has liaised with all interested parties in the region, and believes it is on the brink of a negotiated settlement that will receive widespread acceptance.

CVA spokesman Rick Massey said the imminent breakthrough was based on the Greenbelt Action Group's structure plan for the region, paid for by the residents.

"Central to the plan is the granting of some form of governing status for the area, so that we have the authority and control to go ahead," he said.

This would fly directly in the face of plans, due to be heard by the Demarcation Board on August 16, to extend the boundaries of Krugersdorp, Roodepoort, Randburg, Sandton, Midrand and Verwoerdburg to include the greenbelt.

The CVA orderly urbanisation proposal includes proper town-planning principles and ongoing negotiation with all parties, then identification of sites to be developed according to a specific type of urban structure with sound commercial and industrial infrastructure.

Dr Massey said the only way to relocate the Zevenfontein squatters was as part of a properly designed town planning strategy based on certain criteria, including accessibility to work, transport and infrastructure. "We put these criteria on a map and identified a suitable area where we are trying to come up with a deal which will lead to negotiated settlement rather than expropriation."

Included in the plan are second-order nodes with rural characteristics, described as small villages to be developed along the "perma-culture" approach, which includes planned integration into the community.

During negotiations, the CVA approached large companies to become involved in a consortium which will provide a holistic plan for the entire sub-region, with the full co-operation of the land-owners.

"The land-owners who have been kept in the picture are overwhelmingly positive and the Zevenfontein squatters believe this strategy will work in their favour," Dr Massey said.

"The civic associations have been involved and they too have made input to the overall plan."

uce new squatter plan ● Unionists in sit-in after deadlock

New urbanisation plan for squatters

■ NORTH RAND residents have invited 310 companies and prepared a blueprint Sowetan which could be used countrywide 7/7/92

Sowetan Correspondent

North Rand residents by-passed Transvaal Provincial Administration plans for a squatter settlement and will announce an urbanisation strategy designed to serve as a blueprint for the whole country.

Faced with the immediate relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters by July 31, the umbrella Crocodile Valley Authority has rejected ad hoc TPA plans to move the 1 300 families to two sites in Diepsloot and Nietgedacht.

Instead, the EVA which represents resident associations from Hartbeesfontein to Chartwell, has liaised with all interested parties in the region and believe they are on the brink of a negotiated settlement which will receive widespread acceptance. EVA spokesman Dr Rick Massey said the imminent breakthrough was based on the Greenbelt Action Group's structure plan for the region, paid for by the residents.

"Central to the plan is the granting of some form of governing status for the area, so that we have the authority and control to go ahead," he said.

This would fly directly in the face of plans due to be heard by the Demarcation Board on August 16, to extend the boundaries of Krugersdorp, Roodepoort, Randburg, Sandton, Midrand and Verwoerdburg, to include the greenbelt.

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Planning strategy

Massey said the only way to relocate the Zevenfontein squatters was as part of a properly-designed town planning strategy based on certain criteria including accessibility to work, transport and infrastructure.

"We put these criteria on a map and identified a suitable area where we are trying to come up with a deal which will lead to a negotiated settlement rather than expropriation," he said.

Included in the plan are second order nodes with rural characteristics. Improved agriculture, health and education would be highlighted in this approach.

Zevenfontein demo at JCI offices

Staff Reporter 3 10 STAR 817192.

About 30 "greenbelt" residents protested outside the JCI headquarters in Fox Street, Johannesburg, yesterday morning against the proposed relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters into the areas of Vietgedacht, Nooitgedacht and Diepsloot.

One of the protesters then took a letter to the chairman and board of directors of JCI. Police monitored the protest but took no action.

The Zevenfontein squatters are due to be moved before July 31 after an agreement to that effect was signed by the TPA, JCI and the Chartwell Local Action Committee.

Protesters complained that JCI had used the agreement to protect its investment in the plush Dainfern Country Club near Zevenfontein.

One protester said: "JCI are using the TPA to protect their investment. In the process they are destroying a community's life savings."

2 METRO

Threats to place landmines in squatter relocation sites

STAR 10/7/92

By Shirley Woodgate (310)

Anonymous threats have been made to place landmines in Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht if the Zevenfontein squatters are relocated to these North Rand areas, Transvaal Provincial Administration deputy director-general of community development Len Dekker claimed yesterday.

As emotions reach fever pitch before the July 31 deadline for the removal of the 1 300 squatter families, he added that police have insisted they will sweep the area for mines before surveyors step on to the properties.

Garden Triangle Action Group chairman Robert van Tonder confirmed that he was one of the people who had received a warning letter and a photograph allegedly showing mines being planted.

He added that while he did not condone this type of action, he also could not condone moves to relocate squatters without landowners' consent.

Urgently appealing for "rationalism, not radicalism" over the contentious issue of squatter housing in the north-western PWV, Mr Dekker hotly denied the TPA had connived with big business (in this case Johannesburg Consolidated Investment, developer of prestigious Dainfern) to move the Zevenfontein squatters.

With the moratorium in tatters, the TPA faces two court cases demanding a halt to the relocation of the squatters to Diepsloot and Nietgedacht.

The authorities also await the umbrella Crocodile Valley Authority's proposals for a solution to the problem, scheduled to be announced today.

Mr Dekker said he was virtually certain they would opt for Cosmo City in preference to the two chosen sites.

But he warned that though this was also the squatters' original choice, the area on the Lanseria Road was unacceptable to the TPA as it would affect too many landowners.

At Diepsloot, a township on 1 357 sites was planned. Since only 30 percent of the Zevenfontein squatters were unemployed, most could afford the stands selling at between about R3 000 and R5 000.

"This will be no squatter camp, but a properly developed and controlled township. The TPA doors are open to discussion to anyone at any place," Mr Dekker assured.

Police warn TPA of landmines on proposed sites for squatters

KATHRYN STRACHAN

POLICE have warned the TPA that there could be landmines on sites in the northwest Rand earmarked for the relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters, TPA officials said yesterday.

TPA deputy director-general of community development Len Dekker said at a news briefing yesterday the TPA was prepared for a showdown.

The police warning of landmines indicated the level of "radicalism" the TPA was up against in its plans to move the squatters to sites at Nietgedacht and Diepsloot West, he said.

Dekker said he and other TPA officials had received threatening phone calls.

He said landmines and radical actions, such as Nietgedacht and Diepsloot residents' picket outside JCI offices in central Johannesburg earlier this week, would not solve the problem.

Dekker rejected residents' claims that JCI had used the TPA to protect its investment at the exclusive Dainfern Country Club on the adjoining property. JCI had been the moderating influence at meetings, Dekker said, and claimed residents had used JCI as a scapegoat.

Norma Sharples, spokesman for the Nietgedacht Action Group (NAG) which organised residents in the affected areas, said Dekker's accusations were unfair. "We have a democratic right to picket and we have never broken the law," she said.

Sharples said local residents' protest actions had been peaceful, and their objective was only to be heard. NAG had made many requests for meetings with the TPA, but had been refused on the grounds that it was not a recognised body, she said.

The TPA cannot start development on the sites until two applications, brought by residents against the TPA, are heard in the Pretoria Supreme Court next week.

At a meeting scheduled for this afternoon between the TPA and the Crocodile Valley Authority, which represents local area committees in the region, the latter will advance the findings of its investigation into alternative sites.

Although the authority would not disclose its preferred sites yesterday, Dekker said he would be "very suprised" if Cosmo City was not included. He said the TPA rejected the Cosmo City option because more people would be affected by the plan, and it had already been identified as the natural extension area for Randburg's industrial development.

Dekker said all parties agreed that the success of the move depended on what services could be provided at the new sites. The RSC had indicated to the TPA that it had a R1,5m available for upgrading.

Dekker said the TPA did not have the funds to provide housing for the squatters, but said it would investigate ways of helping people to build their own houses.

Protest enlists Van Riebeeck

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Members of Earthlife Africa, the Wildlife Society and the Eco-Programme yesterday draped a black cloak over the Jan van Riebeeck statue on the foreshore to protest against the transportation of a cargo of plutonium in Cape waters.

SA environmental groups are launching a mass campaign with Greenpeace International to protest against the transportation of the plutonium by a Japanese cargo ship.

A government spokesman said government was trying to persuade the Japanese government not to use the Cape route.

1 300 Cape teachers could lose jobs before year ends

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — More than 1 300 Cape teachers could lose their jobs from August 1 when new staffing scales came into effect, the Cape Education Department (CED) said yesterday.

The new scales which were to come into effect from August 1, could lead to as many as 1 363 Cape teachers losing their jobs before the end of the year.

CED communications director Orland Firmani said the figure was provisional as the circumstances in individual schools under the CED could change.

The CED determined only how many posts must go and when. The decision on which posts have to be abolished would be decided by the schools' governing bodies, he said.

Since Model C schools had been approved earlier this year it was estimated that 11 000 teachers nationally could lose their posts, the Department of Education and Culture said.

But if all schools accepted Model C, only 4 000 teachers would have to be retrenched.

Altogether 639 schools in the Cape chose Model C, 34 accepted the status quo while eight chose Model B.

Teachers due to be retrenched at the end of July were notified in April.

Residents say they can easily beat the wire

W/Mail 10/7-16/7/92 (310)

FOREIGNERS may be lining up for South African razor wire, but many locals are less elated by its virtues. Residents of the Phola Park squatter camp on the East Rand see the wire as a symbol of oppression and say they are "caged like dogs" by the barbed barrier which encircles their settlement.

"When we are attacked by security forces we cannot run away," says Michael Maseko. "And then they try and tell us that the coils are here for our protection."

A mother, who asked not to be named, was concerned about the safety of her three-year-old daughter. "The kids often have to walk about in the dark. I shudder to think what would happen if my girl got caught up in those blades."

Others are more stoical about life inside the wire. "What good does it do to get upset when there are many ways to deal with the damned stuff?" says a teenager. Residents, he explained, throw concrete slabs or slabs of corrugated iron over the coils and cross the barrier with ease.

Recently police expressed consternation at the way young activists were dislodging the razor wire and using it to build barricades to prevent armoured troop carriers from entering the settlement.

So they came up with an ingenious solution. They dusted the barbs with sneeze powder, which is scoffed at by the youngsters who run up and over the barriers with gay abandon.

"All it does is cause everybody to cough and the children are developing rashes. But it does nothing to stop the boys from tampering with the wire," a resident said.

NORTH West Rand residents are proposing low cost formal housing for the Zevenfontein squatter community. CAROLINE HURRY reports. (310)

STAR 11/7/92.

THE Crocodile Valley Authority, representative body of residents' associations in the North West Rand, last night presented the Transvaal Provincial Administration with its alternative approach to the resettlement of the Zevenfontein squatter community.

Central to the proposals is a type of low income housing that would provide conventional homes at dramatically lower prices than anything currently available.

The package put to the TPA by CVA spokesman Anthony Duigan and representatives of Zevenfontein, included the following:

□A structure plan that identifies zones in the North West Rand within which sites for lower income housing could be developed; this plan has been canvassed with representatives of residents in the North West Rand who support the structure plan; and

□A package that would provide a shell house at a cost of between R75 and R178 a month with finance supplied by the developer; this package is roughly half the cost of traditional approaches to housing development.

"When this planning approach was discussed at the first negotiating forum set up between the CVA and representatives of the Zevenfontein community last Saturday, there was broad acceptance from the Zevenfontein community.

Low income housing

"It was agreed that certain sites should be identified in order to develop specific planning proposals," said Duigan.

A test site identified with the Zevenfontein representatives was Cosmo City, an area north of Randburg. Another site which also met the planning criteria for low income housing development was Olievenhoutbosch, north of Blue Hills.

Because of time constraints, detailed planning was possible for only one of the sites — Cosmo City.

Private sector developer Stocks and Stocks has offered to develop this site without underwriting and would offer a 50 sq m shell house with waterborne sewerage, toilet and sink for R20 000 a unit and the company has offered to finance the sale of units at R178 a month over 20 years.

Lower cost options would also be available for as little as R8 000 — with repayments in the region of R75 a month.

"Efforts to achieve full support from landowners surrounding the proposed Cosmo City site were not successful," said Duigan. "However in terms of this planning approach, CVA believes this proposal deserves strong consideration as it has received greater support than anything the TPA has tried. "Certainly this proposal, measured rand for rand, is better than anything the TPA has on offer. It is also based on far better town planning principles and its financial package is unheard of, bearing in mind that no financial instutution has to be pulled in to try and finance it.

Cosmo City

"The scheme itself will also attract investment in commercial and industrial sites because of the mixed use of the land — it is not just an informal settlement.

Rosemary Hunter, acting attorney for the Zevenfontein community, said she would be discussing the proposal with the community today, but added that Cosmo City had always been her client's first choice.

"We also have to hear whether or not is is viable from the TPA 's point of view," she said.

Sakkie Lombard, spokesman for the TPA could not be reached for comment last night.

Housing plan latest in Zevenfontein delay

obstacle

PEOPLE'S LIVES *A granny who endured the pain of arrests and hostility of authorities to keep*

Prayer is Nonjeke's mainstay

woman of the Sowetan 13/7/92 310

Week

By Lulama Luti

IN A LAND RIDDLED with violence and lack of respect for human life, it is Mrs Lillian Nonjeke's daily prayer that her family of 397 households be spared the carnage.

As head of the Vlakplaas squatter camp near Vosloorus, Boksburg, the 66-year-old grandmother of nine has had to endure the pain of arrests and the hostility of the authorities to keep the people together.

"It is an open secret that squatter camps are generally regarded as the breeding ground for violence. We are lucky because as yet, there hasn't been any trouble here," she said.

A pensioner herself, the soft-spoken widow took to championing the cause of the homeless - the majority of whom are pensioners - in 1987, and she refuses to give up.

■ COURAGEOUS GRANNY A champion of the homeless, keeps 397 Vlakplaas squatter camp households together:

And her endurance has begun paying dividends. To date she has been able to secure 35 hectares of land where more than 300 families live.

But she says her problems are far from over. "My biggest concern at the moment is to get money to start building low-cost houses for the pensioners. They are worse off," she said.

"Many of the people who live here were evicted from backyards in Vosloorus in 1987 because they could not afford the rent. They were left destitute and what made me sad was that most were pensioners.

"With the pittance they earn, they still cannot afford to pay the rent," she said.

Nonjeke told *Sowetan* that the conditions under which the pensioners lived and the hardships they encountered compelled her to help.

"Together with other homeless people we formed a committee and started mobilising. We agreed to contribute R10 each towards a trust fund in order to buy land.

There was not enough money

"We then approached the Vosloorus and Katlehong councils for land, but to no avail. There was not enough money and the councils would not listen to our pleas.

"The last straw was in 1989 when the Katlehong council came with the Zonk'izizwe project. Many people were taken to the area and we were divided," she said.

Her committee also disintegrated and since then she has been on her own.

"I've worked with people all my life and I know just how painful the struggle to have a house of your own is," says the former Natalspruit Hospital lab assistant.

After going through thick and thin to obtain the piece of land on which they live, she now fears losing it.

"This place is expensive and if we don't get financial help soon, we may lose it. Most of the people around here

the destitute and needy together

Sowetan 13/7/92

are unemployed and a number of projects are on hold because there is no money. We need help soon,'' she said with obvious heartache.

Nonjeke said while she aimed to have self-help schemes started soon, another immediate concern was for a clinic to be built in the area.

"Although we have been given the green light by the Transvaal Provincial Administration to stay, I'm still concerned about our health.

Proper sanitation

"While water is pumped from the ground through generators, there is no proper sanitation. Refuse removal is another problem. And residents have since complained that the R60 paid towards these services is too much,'' she said.

"I am in constant contact with the Boksburg council and if things go well, we might secure the services of a nursing sister,'' she added.

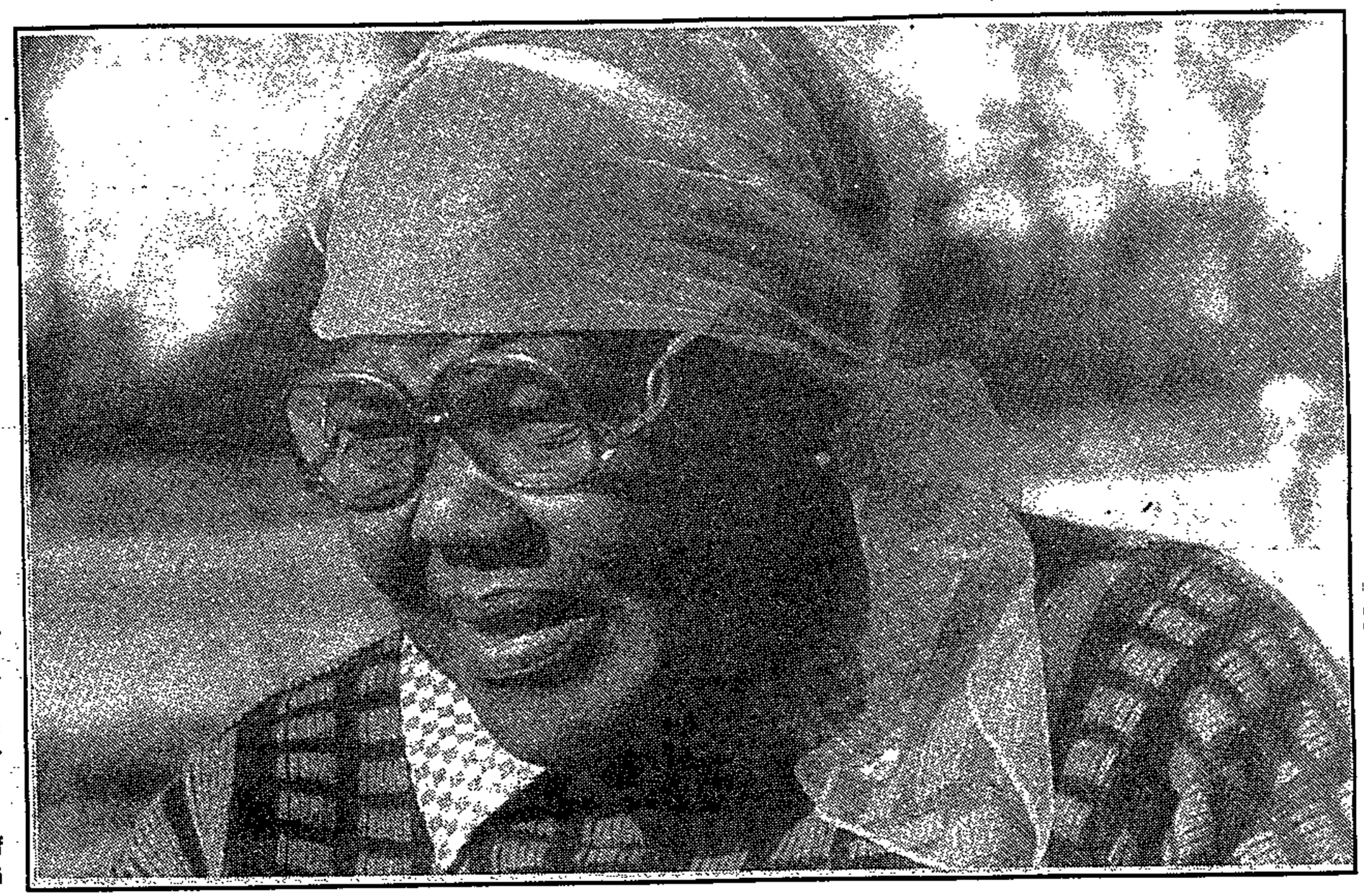
While the struggle for survival continues, she will continue to pray for peace at Vlakplaas.

'If houses can be built for people, I think we will see less and less of these senseless killings'
Mrs Nonjeke

"If proper houses can be built for people, I think we will see less and less of these senseless killings.''

People who want to help residents of Vlakplaas can contact Mrs Lillian Nonjeke at (011) 901-1663.

Nonjeke now qualifies for the *Sowetan*/Eskom Woman of the Year Award.



Mrs Lillian Nonjeke, champion of the destitute. PIC: PATTY MOENG

Don't fear us (310) Zevenfontein squatters

BIDA 14/11/92

STEPHANE BOTHMA

THE Zevenfontein squatter community — whose proposed relocation has led to court actions, community protests and threats of violence — says its resettlement should hold no fears for future neighbours.

"Peaceful, orderly integration is their goal," Zevenfontein lawyer Rosemary Hunter said yesterday.

She expressed concern that statements made by various parties misrepresented the views of the homeless community and could jeopardise the current resettlement process.

Hunter denied the squatters had agreed to proposals put to them by the Crocodile Valley Authority (CVA) to be resettled at Cosmo City, and not at the sites at Nietgedacht and Diepsloot West allocated earlier by the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA).

The CVA represents several community organisations on the North Rand.

"Last Friday the CVA proposed to the TPA that our clients be resettled at Cosmo City.

"Our clients listened with interest as Cosmo City had always been their first choice. But on June 4 they had accepted the offer of the Nietgedacht and Diepsloot sites as the TPA had made it clear Cosmo City was not available," Hunter said.

Although the squatters might be prepared to look at the Cosmo City option again, they would not comment on the CVA's proposal until judgment was handed down in a court application for an interdict restraining the TPA from resettling the Zevenfontein community at Diepsloot, she said.

Hunter criticised people who did not represent the squatters for speaking to the media on their behalf.

"This can only lead to confusion and anger — factors which can only harm the delicate negotiations between our clients, the TPA and the residents' associations," she said, adding that currently the squatters' greatest need was for land over which they had security of tenure.

They wished only to be treated like other residents of the North Rand.

Officials refuse pleas for help

Sowetan 14/7/92

■ Holed up in council offices, displaced Alexandra Township refugees feel bitter as the council does not show any willingness to offer them assistance

310

THE BOARDROOM of the Alexandra City Council used to be the place where important decisions concerning its residents were taken.

Today it is home to 27 families - displaced residents who are refugees of the township violence that has turned their homes into ruins.

Mrs Elletia Mahluphe, formerly of 134 4th Avenue, burst into tears when we spoke to her about her life as a "displacee", the term used by officials to describe the refugees of violence.

"I am sick and tired of a government that cannot protect us. The police escorted us out of our homes to make room for the invaders"

Mr Elletia Mahluphe

Killings daily

"I came here to the town council offices on March 7 because this is where my rent comes to. I also felt I would be safe. These people were not doing anything about our being killed daily by the hostel people and I felt that if I was staying in their offices they would have to deal with this issue.

"But now they are moving out to new offices which means they have no intention of resolving our problem. We want to go back to our homes.

"It is cold here. We are so many. There is no control and no respect. People fight daily. Have you ever seen a fight that starts in the morning and ends at midnight?

"A fight that men cannot stop. Our children are not here. We are separated from our children and they cannot even study. What have we done to deserve this?

"We are called into meeting after meeting but we see no results. The other day we were taken to town and told we were going to see lawyers. We spent the whole day there without even a cup of tea.

"People come here and ask us questions like you are doing but it seems we are going to be here forever. We are tired, we get no help. We have lost everything and each day we spend here more and more bricks and materials from our houses are carted away by vandals who are turning our homes into ruins.

"Who will help us. I had always seen pictures on television of people running away from their homes and never thought that I would end up here.

"I am sorry I sound like I am angry and blaming you but I am sick and tired of a government that cannot protect us. The police escorted us out of our homes to make room for the invaders.

"Will they allow it if we go to Sandton tomorrow, I ask you my son? In 1976 they shot and killed our children for throwing stones.

"Today they escort us out of our homes and fail to evict the killers of so many people.

"I must go now as I am crying, I cannot help it if I am too angry."

Angry Mrs Elletia Mahluphe (right) has been holed up in Alexandra Council offices since March 7

TOMORROW: Madala hostel residents and the Sandton Town Council speak out.

City fathers blamed for squatting crisis

STAR 14/7/92

By Shirley Woodgate

Randburg residents were paying the price for their founding fathers' boast that Randburg was one of the first South African white-by-night towns, Crocodile Valley Authority (CVA) spokesman Anthony Duigan said yesterday.

He was reacting to claims by Garden Triangle Action Group (GTAG) chairman Robert van Tonder that no squatters would be allowed in his area — which includes Cosmo City.

Mr Duigan warned against a repeat of the short-sighted policies of the past and said the problems concerning the Zevenfontein squatters had arisen because the city fathers had failed to provide land for low-cost housing.

Mr van Tonder, one of the moving forces behind the establishment of Randburg as an independent municipality nearly 30 years ago, has now called for municipal status for the land represented by his GTAG, north-west of Randburg.

Robert van Tonder . . . not on my doorstep.

He said this new local authority — and not Randburg, Sandton or the Transvaal Provincial Administration — would be empowered to decide what to do with its own land.

The CVA made proposals to the TPA at the weekend for a comprehensive approach to squatter housing on test sites in Cosmo City and Blue Hills.

The proposals were being analysed yesterday by Zevenfontain squatter representatives who originally identified Cosmo City as their number one choice for relocation.

The TPA opted for two sites in Nietgedacht and Diepsloot West. Their decision will be tested in the Pretoria Supreme Court today.

Mr Duigan said one of the reasons why Cosmo had been chosen for an integrated-package development was its location 2 km outside Randburg's boundaries. Neither Nietgedacht nor Diepsloot West met this criterion.

Bester Homes executive Theunis Bester, whose company owns Cosmo City, said two parcels of land had already been acquired for the relocation of Zevenfontein squatters. They had been expropriated by the TPA at R55 000/ha, while the 1 077 ha comprising Cosmo City was up for sale at R35 000/ha. No negotiations had taken place. Mr van Tonder occupied 28 ha in the middle of Cosmo City, Mr Bester said.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman (left) talks about the displaced people of Alex and what police are doing to help them.

They left on their own free will - Opperman

■ Hostel terror: Police are asked to help:

POLICE are investigating complaints made by residents who left their homes, according to Witwatersrand police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman.

"The people, who are now housed in offices and churches, left their homes of their own free will because of fear of living near the hostel. Police were requested to assist those moving out and later other people moved in."

Asked why the police had given people assistance to move out and not deal with the problem, Opperman said:

"It was a difficult situation. Some of the people were moving from shacks which were illegally occupied. If people move out of shacks and others move in, the police cannot assist people to move back into a place they had occupied illegally."

Opperman said he was not aware that legal occupants had left their houses. He said police could only assist those who had documents that proved they were the legal occupants of the premises. He said the hostels were receiving attention from the relevant departments and that police were continuing with patrols in the township.

TPA to decide on squatters

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration will tomorrow decide on the relocation of the Zevenfontein squatter community. Sowetan 14/7/92

TPA spokesman Mr Piet Wilken yesterday said they would wait for the outcome of today's court hearing of applications lodged by the Laezonia Landowners Association and the Crocodile Valley Authority before a decision was taken. (310)

Last Friday, the CVA proposed that the squatters be relocated to Cosmo City, a suggestion the TPA dismissed as "not feasible".

TPA director Mr Sakkie Lombard said that more people would be affected if squatters were relocated to Cosmo City. - *Sowetan Reporter.*

Alexandra fears brushed aside

WILSON ZWANE

THE need to settle homeless people in Alexandra's Far East Bank area outweighed concerns of nearby residents about property depreciation, Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) official Richard Mdakane said yesterday.

East Bank homeowners have reportedly said they would boycott their bond repayments if squatters were settled on their doorsteps.

Reacting to complains that East Bank residents were not consulted, Mdakane said they had until recently not regarded themselves as part of Alexandra. But that was changing, he said, and the East Bank Residents' Association had now applied to join the Joint Negotiating Forum.

Alexandra administrator Andre Jacobs said shacks would not be erected on the 7 000 sites, of which 1 700 had already been serviced.

Meanwhile, STEPHANE BOTHMA reports that an application by the Laezonia Landowners Association to prevent the TPA from resettling Zevenfontein squatters in their area was struck off the Pretoria Supreme Court roll yesterday.

Judge J M C Smit removed the matter with costs on the grounds the squatters were not joined as parties to the application.

In a similar action lawyers representing the Diepsloot Residents Association yesterday afternoon argued the legalities of having the squatters joined as parties to their application. A finding is expected today.

FW to get petition on hospital strike

CHARLIE PRETZLIK

LEADING medical academics from Wits University and Baragwanath Hospital said yesterday they would petition President F W de Klerk and Health Minister Rina Venter to intervene in the six-week-old strike.

They said 75 hospitals and 40 000 workers had been affected by the strike, a backlog of semi-urgent cases was building up and patients were being prematurely discharged.

The dean, deputy-dean and subdeans of the Wits medical faculty and the chairmen of the Medical Advisory Committees of the PWV area's main hospitals said the strike had become a "national crisis".

"The ability of the medical and allied staff to continue under these cicumstances is extremely doubtful," they said in a statement.

It called for a halt to dismissals until the crisis was resolved, even if this meant compulsory arbitration. The dismissal of workers would "almost certainly place hospitals, staff, students and patients at further risk".

The SAP warned yesterday that plans by the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union (Nehawu), which is leading the strike, to occupy hospitals and government buildings would be illegal and "would invariably lead to confrontation with the SAP". Nehawu secretary-general Phillip Dexter said that "if the police get involved then our membership will have to defend themselves".

Sapa reports that the Inkatha-aligned United Workers' Union of SA has expressed its support for the strike, as had postal workers at Soweto's Power Park Telecommunications Yard. They have decided to stop installing and maintaining telephones at Baragwanath Hospital.

Amid new rumours of assaults and intimidations by strikers, Baragwanath's chief superintendent Chris van den Heever said that a fourth victim of last week's petrol bomb attack had died. The 13-year-old boy was the son of one of the three who died last week.

Dexter said an agreement which was reached yesterday afternoon in Cape Town between the Commission for Admininstration and employees organisations to give general assistants permanent status was "not concrete enough".

The commission also agreed to consider claims that public servants in the education sector had received over R1m more than they ought to have done and that other public servants might be reimbursed accordingly. Dexter, however, said that such a sum was totally insufficient.

ANC army on peace committee agenda

WILSON ZWANE

THE continued existence of the ANC's armed wing Umkhonto we Sizwe is expected to be high on the agenda of today's national peace committee meeting.

A source close to Inkatha said yesterday Umkhonto's existence was a breach of the national peace accord, which outlawed private armies. The source said since talks between government and the ANC had broken down, the "unresolved MK issue" should be referred to arbitration in terms of the accord.

Inkatha had asked peace committee chairman John Hall to place the issue on the agenda for today's meeting of the committee executive.

It is understood Inkatha has also urged the committee to discuss statements by ANC Youth League officials, which it regards as violations of the accord.

League president Peter Mokaba was quoted by a newspaper as saying the intention of his organisation's mass action was to return townships to the era of "ungovernability", which characterised the mid-'80s.

Ploy to make burials a lever

WILSON ZWANE

ANGER at continuing political violence has shifted into high gear, with township civic organisations threatening to bury victims in white areas.

The civics are also threatening to stage marches through white surburbs unless government ends the violence.

Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) general secretary Dan Mofokeng said yesterday civic organisations needed to carry "the struggle in all its forms" into the white suburbs because whites were apathetic about the violence.

"We are sick and tired of the ongoing violence ... and unless government acts and puts an end to it, we are going to bury victims in the white areas," Mofokeng said.

He said when the cemeteries were full, civics would have "to find space anywhere in the white areas".

"If they see us burying our people in their areas, the whites are bound to bring pressure to bear on people they have elected to power to do something about the carnage," Mofokeng said.

☐ A policeman died in an attack yesterday, bringing the total number who have died this year to 109.

Sapa reports acting regional police commissioner Maj-Gen Gert May said the attack occurred during an investigation of an assault in Mailulapark, Vosloorus.

Two men armed with AK-47 rifles burst into the house, shooting dead Const F R Rikhotso, 33. A second constable was seriously injured while a third escaped unhurt.

A shooting incident in Zone 11, Sebokeng, in the Vaal Triangle claimed the lives of two men on Monday night, a police unrest report said yesterday.

Two men were gunned down in Boipatong on Monday evening, said PAC national executive member Mark Shinners, but police were unable to confirm it.

Landowners lose action

(310)

Sowetan 15/7/92

■ Application struck from roll

Sowetan Correspondent

A SUPREME Court bid by Laezonia landowners to prevent the resettling of the Zevenfontein squatters in Diepsloot, has failed because the squatters - who had a material interest in the court action - were not informed about the case.

In an urgent application brought in the Pretoria Supreme Court by two landowners in the Laezonia district near Diepsloot, and the Laezonia Landowners Association, a Pretoria Supreme Court judge was asked to restrain the TPA from relocating or "giving occupational rights" to the Zevenfontein squatters on the land set aside in Diepsloot.

Mr Justice Smit yesterday struck the matter from the roll on the grounds that the squatters should also have been joined as respondents with the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

Supreme Court turns down urgent Zevenfontein application

(310)

Pretoria Correspondent

STAR 16/7/92

An urgent application in the Pretoria Supreme Court application to obtain guidelines on how to serve court papers on the Zevenfontein squatter community, informing them about the case to prevent their resettlement in Diepsloot, was thrown out of court yesterday.

The application for substituted service followed an unsuccessful urgent application on Tuesday by Laezonia landowners to prevent the Transvaal Provincial Association from moving the squatters from Rietfontein on to Diepsloot, adjacent to Laezonia.

Mr Justice Smit struck the application from the roll, with costs, on grounds that the Zevenfontein community should also have been joined as respondents as they had a "substantial and material interest" in the case.

Laezonia landowners' counsel had argued it was a difficult task to serve papers or notify squatters about the case and that they could "hardly give notice to everyone".

But the judge ruled that counsel could have approached the court with an application for substituted service to give directions on how the papers should be served on the squatters, before bringing the application to interdict the TPA.

When the urgent application for substituted service was launched yesterday, Mr Justice Smit held there was no grounds for urgency.

The applicants planned to launch another urgent application on Tuesday applying for substituted service.

Squatters: Court rejects papers

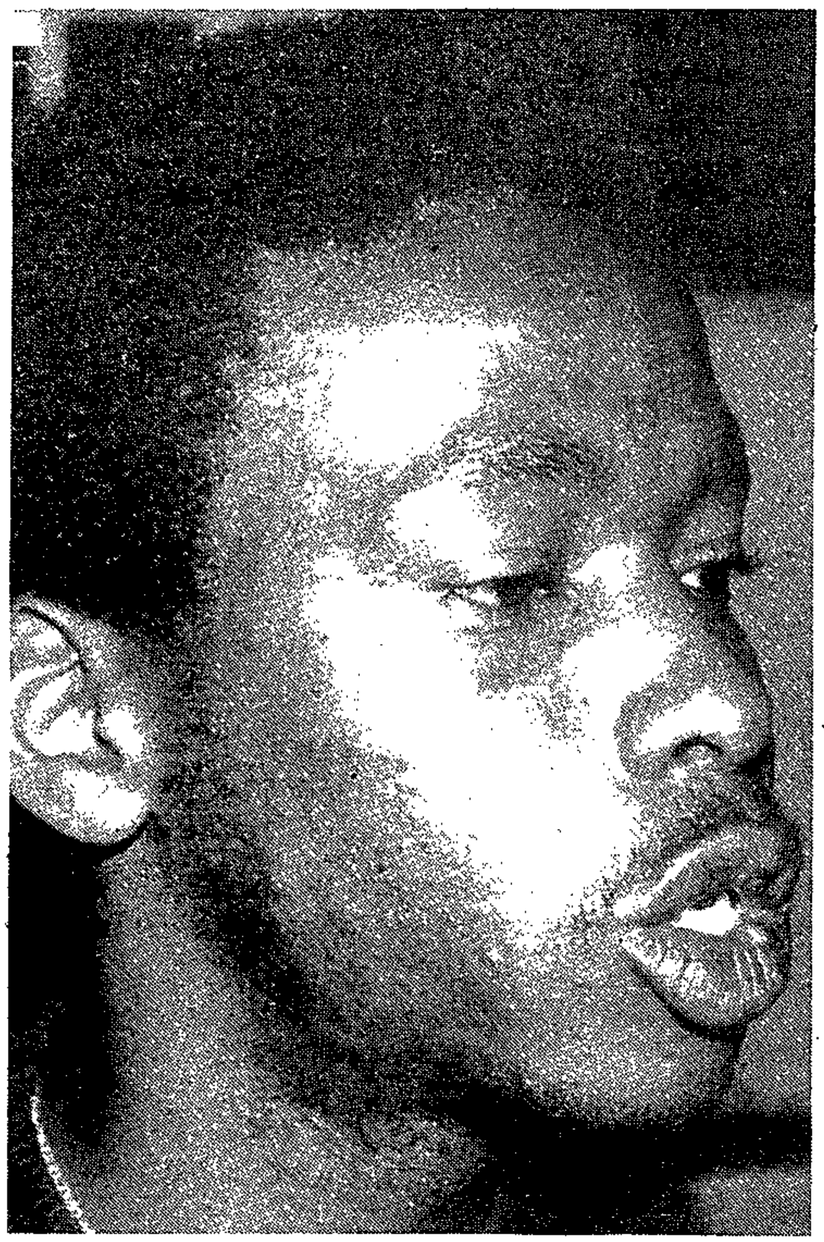
PRETORIA. — Urgent attempts to settle a dispute between Diepsloot and Laezonia landowners and the Transvaal Provincial Administration over the settlement of the Zevenfontein squatters at Diepsloot South failed in the Supreme Court here yesterday. (310)

The court ruled that the landowners had not properly served papers on the squatters. — Sapa

ST 16/7/92

NEWS FEATURE For 685 families, displaced by IFP violence, life is a living hell

Alex, a place of never ending sorrow



Tsietsi Kungoane...the solution is occupation of houses belonging to whites. PIC: MBUZENI ZULU

■ BIG CRUNCH Spasm of suffering and pain for people living in squalor:

By Mathatha Tsedu
Investigations Editor

Sowetan 17/7/92

Was there ever the best of times for Alexandra township?

This is the question that begs to be asked as this small area of land that houses nearly half a million people goes through one more spasm of pain and suffering.

Squalid with piles of garbage all over, and shacks built on top of rubbish heaps and among graves, life at the best of times in Alex is one long crunch.

It was here that old and abandoned buses were turned into homes by many people as the inhabitants became trapped in the never ending story of the housing shortage in Alex.

The cesspools formed by leaking sewerage pipes and the accompanying smell, the overcrowded houses and the yards bursting with shacks, have now become the long lost golden years of plenty for 685 families who have been displaced by the fighting between Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) members based in the Madala and Nobuhle hostels, and residents who live in the township.

For these people, 90 of whom share the Presbyterian Church hall, life has become even more unbearable. Some, such as Mrs Emily Dikgotho (49), share the church hall with 16 other families while her former home from which she and her family had to run to save their lives, is occupied by IFP members.

> **"We went through hell at the hands of the IFP. We saw people being chopped every day"**
>
> **Mrs Aida Matlou, East Bank resident**

"It is a very trying life here. The church is very cold. We no longer have electricity and are using candles. We are grateful to the church for housing us as none of us is a member of this church.

"However, we sleep knowing that we are safe. While still living in our houses before escaping, we were prisoners of Inkatha. They came in and raped women, also killing people for not being members of the IFP.

"It is tough here because the children cannot even study. There is no privacy for the family and you have to forget about many things in life," Dikgotho said.

Others lost more than just their homes and possessions. Mrs Aida Matlou who owned a house and a shop had to forgo both.

When she last ventured into "Beirut" (the area near the hostel) to check on her properties, she found the shop was just a shell with only one fridge remaining simply because those trying to take it out couldn't because of its size. The house had also been ransacked.

"We went through hell at the hands of the IFP. We saw people being chopped every day. The minds of our children were being scarred by the violence. Life here at the East Bank hall is tough but we are safe," she said.

Matlou is a member of the Displaced People's Committee which is having talks with the TPA and the council over the resettlement of the refugees.

She said that a survey was underway to assess damage and costs of repairs to the houses. She, like all the others, was emphatic that a condition for their return was the demolition of the Madala Hostel which was the cause of all the trouble.

Then their houses have to be renovated and in some cases rebuilt. Many have been destroyed.

In what used to be the council offices we met Mr Tsietsi Kungoane (25).

He is an angry man who had to flee his flat to save his life and in the process lost all his possessions.

"The people here are calling for action. We are tired of meetings that produce nothing. We are not prepared to continue to fight Inkatha when we know that they are being used by the police and the Government to destabilise our community.

"What we are going to do now is to move into Sandton and occupy houses there and wait and see if these impartial police who escorted us out of our homes do the same to the whites there," Kungoane said shaking with rage.

He said the issue was no longer one of turning Madala Hostel into family units. "That hostel already has family units," he said.

"Our political organisations, ANC, Azapo, PAC and others, are not doing enough to help people who have lost their homes," Kungoane said.

Early exposure to sexual practices because of the crammed conditions is having its effect on children, especially girls. Already four aged between 14 and 16 have fallen pregnant.

These displaced people want the hostel to be demolished or evacuated and then turned into family units for local people.

Hostel residents, however, reject this and are in the process of renovating the place as their permanent home.

Is there a way out that can see these displaced people back in their homes soon? Not from the evidence that we could gather last week.

What, pay rent? Throw him out!

Cipres 19/7/92

By MONWABISI NOMADOLO (310)

ZEPHANIA "Bizza" Zabane has fallen from grace.

Once revered by all as the "chief justice" of kangaroo courts in the "Comrade Bizza Village" – alias New Village in Daveyton – he has been ousted and declared *persona non grata* in the area he helped establish.

His heroism as a comrade and squatter leader did not last long.

Now residents regard him as a "traitor" and have banned him from the camp.

His crime? He told residents to pay R44 for rent.

His expulsion was a sequel to a rent dispute. Residents of other squatter camps are boycotting rents while those of Bizza Village have paid rent.

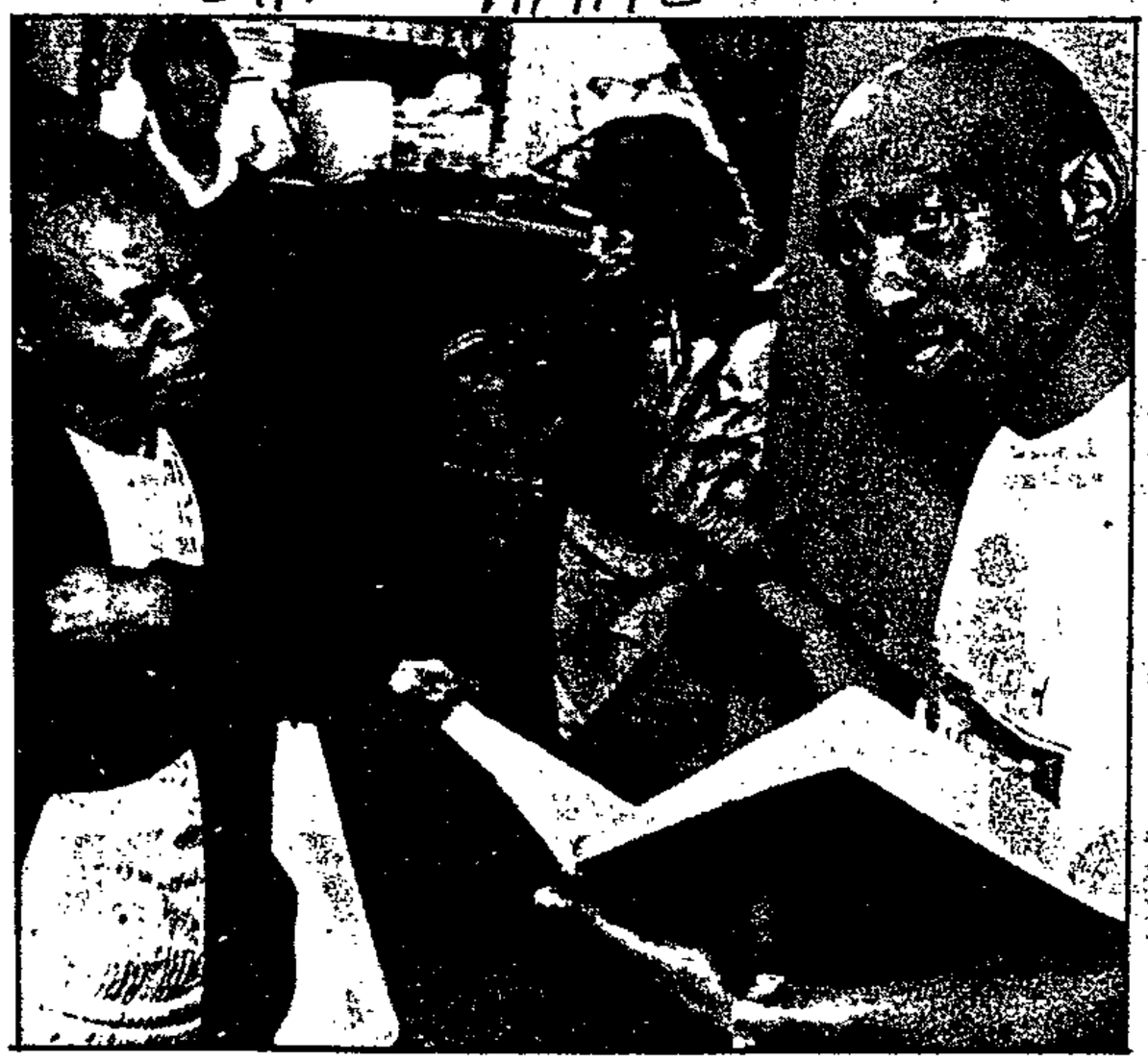
This triggered anger among the residents who accused Zabane of collaborating with the council – or "selling" them, as they put it.

A meeting of residents last week ended with the call "Away with Bizza!" (with the prefix "comrade" carefully omitted).

"Is this what he gets after helping these people obtain land to build on?" lamented one resident.

Before his expulsion, many had praised and applauded him for his courage and determination in helping the homeless obtain the land from the Daveyton City Council.

This had involved several heated verbal confrontations.



OUSTED ... Yesterday's hero, Zephania "Bizza" Zabane, deals with a resident's problems. He has vowed to return to the squatter camp he helped establish.

Squatter king Bizza toppled from throne

Registration of new arrivals at the camp was done through Zabane's busy office situated at the entrance of the camp.

As "commander-in-chief of security" at the camp, he randomly dispatched groups of militant youths to patrol the area at night. Crime was unheard of.

Some perceived him as chief justice of the people's court with complaints ranging from rape to assault being tried by him. Offenders were punished.

At the time he said: "I'm not running a kangaroo court. I am only serving the people."

Others dubbed him "Lion of the East", while others called him "Saddam Hussein" – despite his insistance that he was not as ruthless as the Iraqi dictator.

He was honoured by having the camp named after him. However, the colourful green, yellow and black signposts with the inscription "Welcome to Com. Bizza Village" were painted out this week.

"Welcome to New Village" reads the new inscription.

The 46-year-old Zabane blamed his downfall on "outsiders and those not prepared to pay rent".

"People from Chris Hani and some of my rivals at the camp plotted my expulsion," claimed Zabane, adding that "his" camp was the only one where residents paid rent.

"There are two squatter camps (Assa and Chris Hani) who are boycotting rent and were influencing the people at Bizza Village."

He vowed to come back to the camp with the words "I may be down, but it is only temporary". He added that "Isinamuva muva liyabukwa" (he who laughs last laughs loudest).

Zabane dismissed rumours that he was planning an attack on the camp.

"I've heard that people have been asked to pay R70 a shack and to pay an inyanga to make them immune in case of an attack. I won't attack them, but I'll go back."

He added that he was in possession of more than 1 320 certificates for the stands which would not be given to the new committee.

"How could people want to pay R3 for services including water, refuse and night soil?"

Zabane, who was jailed for five years in 1974 for political activism, said residents were paying R44 when the crisis erupted.

A day before he moved out of the camp, three petrol bombs were thrown into his tuck-shop, he said.

The tuckshop has since been rebuilt elsewhere in the township.

"Time will tell. Discipline and morale at the camp will go down," he said.

"During my time, adultery was outlawed and they have now done away with that."

Residents of the camp refused to talk about the matter for fear of reprisals.

Town clerk DJ Erasmus refused to comment on rentals charged at the camp.

NEWS FEATURE *Zevenfontein squatters can only wait to see where 'fate' takes them next*

The castaways nobody wants

WAITING GAME *As the deadline for their relocation looms, Zevenfontein squatters can only wait and hope:* (310) Sowetan 20/7/92

By Mzimasi Ngudle

NOBODY wants us.

This is what 33-year-old Mrs Pinkie Moloi shouts as she stands next to one of the shacks that make up Zevenfontein.

Her vibrant face and kind smile soon fizzled out when we asked her about her plight and that of her neighbours. Suddenly anguish showed all over her face.

Her modesty is matched only by her assertiveness. Strongly built and pounding the ground as she walks, Moloi looks more like a London Guard in her boots, a tight-fitting pair of black trousers and a red jersey.

A mother of two, Moloi is married to Freddie, a lorry driver. She is a spokeswoman for more than 3 500 squatters in Zevenfontein.

Her impatience and fighting talk reflect the militant mood that grips the Zevenfontein community which waits to be moved at the end of this month. Her next home is anybody's guess.

Moloi works as a saleswoman in Randburg. She sums up the plight of the Zevenfontein people: "I would have loved to stay near Randburg which is closer to work. But the whites don't want us anywhere near their areas."

Moloi, like her neighbours, is scared to go to areas where they are not wanted.

She earns R1 000 a month and estimates that 15 percent of the squatters earn almost the same amount and the rest between R400 and R500. She says many people living there work in Randburg.

Moloi said the problem facing squatters is not destitution but simply homelessness.

Sandwiched between Diepsloot and Nietgedacht - areas earmarked for resettlement - the Zevenfontein squatters have become anathema to many a white resident.

Many come from a farm owned by Charles Ras who allegedly demolished their dwellings when he sold the farm.

First spurned by Bloubosrand residents who rubbed them off as a risk to health and property values, their future hangs in the balance come July 31.

This is the D-Day for the squatters to move out of Zevenfontein, a property owned by Eloff Street Farms (Pty) Ltd.

"Aggression towards residents" is what the Boerestaat Party leader Robert van Tonder said when he referred to the latest TPA move to resettle the squatters at Cosmo City near Nietgedacht.

The latest blows were protests, memoranda and court actions by Diepsloot and Nietgedacht residents who demand assurances from TPA that their area will not turn into a slum.

In April 1 500 Diepsloot residents formed a 1,5km-long chain waving placards that read: "No to filth" and "Hands off Diepsloot". They even threatened to "use force if necessary" to stop TPA's move to resettle the squatters.

Also, Nietgedacht Concerned Citizens delivered a memorandum to the Randburg town clerk objecting to the council's inability to identify space for its workforce and provide affordable housing.

All in all, nobody wants them. Local white residents said their anger is not directed at the squatters, but at the Government for what they call disorganised and piecemeal plans that fail to address the central problem of urban homelessness.

Meanwhile, TPA deputy director-general Len Dekker accused residents of using environmentalism as "a blatant facade for keeping blacks out".

"As the blacks come nearer, so they become greener," he said.

Moloi said children travelled long distances to school. A tent creche is served by only two teachers.

It is in fact not a creche but only a place to look after small children while their parents are at work.

Also, the two women who look after them are not qualified.

Random interviews showed that the squatters are ill-prepared to leave the area. A 21-man contingent manages the camp of 700 shacks sheltering more than 3 500 squatters.

The same team ensures that the place is kept clean and healthy. Rumours of a cholera epidemic were quashed when a sample test proved negative.

A mobile clinic from Witkoppen serves the camp once a week. Moloi feels that the mobile clinic should come at least three times a week.

Two tankers fill the 10 tanks that sprawl the camp with 20 000 litres of water a day. Residents use the same water to flush makeshift toilets that spread evenly throughout the camp.

"About 100 toilets serve the area. This is surely not enough as six to seven families have to share one toilet," she said.

As we drove out of the camp a deep sense of resignation could be clearly discerned as the squatters carried on with their daily chores.

Pinkie Motoi..."scared to go where we're not wanted".

Unwanted people

- Squatters lived "peacefully" for three years on a plot owned by Mr Charles Ras.
- In 1989 Ras told them that the Sandton Town Council had ordered him to evict them.
- In October last year their shacks were destroyed and they were forced to move across the Jukskei river to Zevenfontein - a temporary move until the TPA finds alternative accommodation.
- The TPA and the Randburg Town Council decides to settle them in Bloubosrand after property owner Eloff Street Farms (Pty) Ltd tells them to move them out of Zevenfontein by July 31.
- Bloubosrand residents stage protests, blocking all moves to have squatters resettled near their area.
- The TPA then decides to move the squatter to Diepsloot and Nietgedacht. An outcry from the residents culminates with a moratorium clinched by residents that the squatters were not to be moved until July 14.

'I would have loved to stay near Randburg which is closer to work. But the whites don't want us anywhere near their areas'

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MJ/F & PR010292

TPA 'obliged to move squatters by July 31'

STAR 21/7/92

(310)

By Michael Sparks

A legal document which obligates the TPA to move the Zevenfontein squatters by July 31 — whether alternative land has been found or not — was released yesterday by the Nietgedacht Action Group (NAG).

The document, produced at a press conference, was signed by, among others, the TPA; the owner of the property where the Zevenfontein squatters are currently living; and Johannesburg Consolidated Investments (JCI), owners of Dainfern, a prestigious development adjacent to the Zevenfontein community.

It states that "even if suitable land is not identified", the obligation of the TPA and the obligations of the squatters to move by the end of July remained in full force and effect.

Christopher Spears, senior manager of township development at JCI, was in a meeting at Dainfern country club yesterday afternoon and could not be contacted for comment.

Asked why the TPA had entered an agreement with a private concern like JCI, TPA spokesman Piet Wilken said: "Because they are nearby and have an interest in the development at Dainfern."

The Zevenfontein community is due to move by Friday next week, although no facilities are in place at either of the proposed sites at Nietgedacht or Diepsloot West.

Mr Wilken said that by the time the people were moved, the sites would be laid out. There would be gravel roads, chemical toilets, and tankers would deliver water until taps were installed.

NAG chairman Norma Sharples said that if proper facilities were provided, many residents would not object to the 1 300 families moving on to the sites.

These included waterborne sewerage, water to each house, refuse removal, freestanding properties, and adequate housing rather than shacks.

Inkatha unveils violence dossier

CAPE TOWN — The Inkatha Freedom Party has released a list describing 587 attacks, 376 of them fatal, on its membership since the national peace accord was signed last September.

IFP Western Cape chairman Nick Myburgh released the catalogue of attacks yesterday, saying the public needed to know the IFP was the target of a systematic programme of assassination and attack.

Myburgh also attached an analysis of the incidents, breaking down the occurrence and type according to provinces and weaponry. Most of the lethal attacks were alleged to have been carried out by ANC supporters and to have involved AK-47 rifles, hand grenades and incendiary devices. Most were recorded in the Vaal triangle and Natal.

It is expected Inkatha's list will be handed to the UN secretary-general's special envoy, former US Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, on Thursday.

☐ A policeman was shot dead, allegedly by a colleague, during an argument at Lethlabele last Friday, a police spokesman said yesterday.

She said a second police member sustained gunshot wounds and was admitted to the H F Verwoerd Hospital in Pretoria. He was in a satisfactory condition.

☐ Nine people were killed and six wounded in unrest-related incidents countrywide, police said yesterday in their unrest report for the 24 hours ending at midnight on Sunday.

Court will decide squatters' future

THE outcome of two court applications due to be heard in the Pretoria Supreme Court today will determine whether Zevenfontein squatters will move to two disputed sites in the North Rand area.

KATHRYN STRACHAN

The Diepsloot Residents' Association and Laezonia Landowners' Association are seeking an interdict restraining the TPA from settling the Zevenfontein community at Diepsloot.

Diepsloot is one of the sites on the North Rand identified by the TPA.

In a third application later this week, lawyers representing residents living in Nietgedacht, the second area identified by the TPA, are expected to serve papers on the TPA.

But advocate Mathole Motshekga, legal adviser to the squatter community, said in a statement yesterday the TPA should honour the agreement it made to move squatters to Diepsloot and Nietgedacht, in spite of the outcome of the hearings.

He said squatters were ready to move to the sites, but in previous cases the TPA had bowed to "white racists' interests" and changed plans to relocate the community to any of the suggested sites.

The matter had become politicised, said Motshekga, and the community had resolved at a meeting last week "not to allow white racists to determine their destiny".

Should the TPA fail to honour its agreement with the squatters, they would disregard the July 31 deadline for their resettlement and reject any relocation to a transit camp.

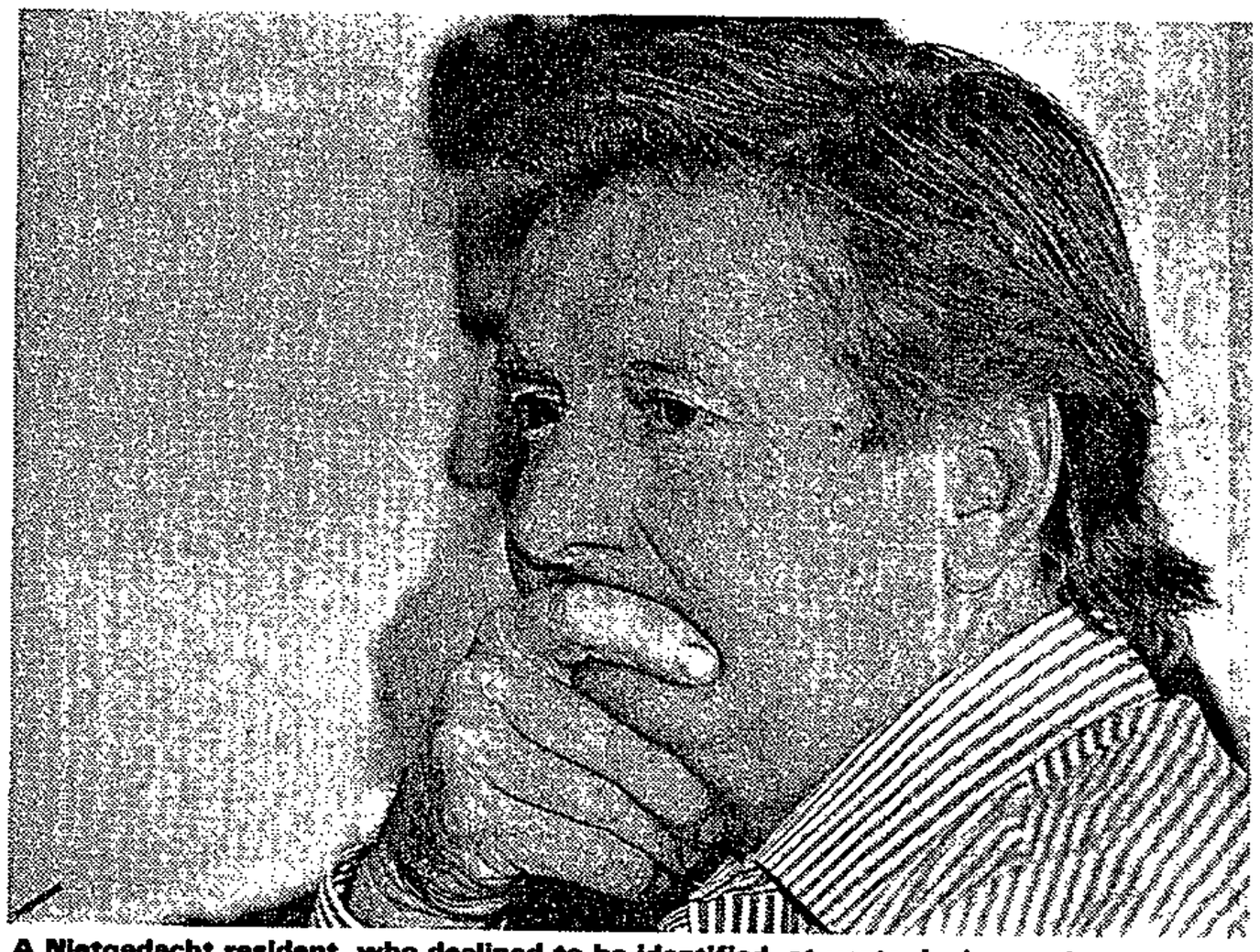
Motshekga said the squatters had rejected the alternative sites in Cosmo City and Helderfontein proposed by the white residents, because residents had been unable to make any concrete arrangements.

Meanwhile, at a meeting yesterday, representatives of the Nietgedacht Action Group said they were prepared to accommodate the Zevenfontein community in the area, but only if adequate housing and facilities were provided.

Residents said squatters were being moved from their present site in Zevenfontein because of a "shadowy deal" between the TPA and Johannesburg Consolidated Investments, which has interests in the luxury Dainfern country club on the adjacent site.

Action group chairman Norma Sharples said if JCI did not want a squatter camp on its doorstep, the responsibility for providing funds for adequate housing lay with the company.

Sharples said the action group's members would stage peaceful protests, but added there were many right wingers in the area whose actions the organisation could not control.



A Nietgedacht resident, who declined to be identified, at yesterday's meeting called by the local action group to discuss the Zevenfontein squatters. Picture: CATHERINE ROSS

Travel agent calls for streamlining

TRAVEL agent NedTravel Holidays has called for streamlining of the tour operators' sector to reduce current oversupply on certain routes.

THEO RAWANA

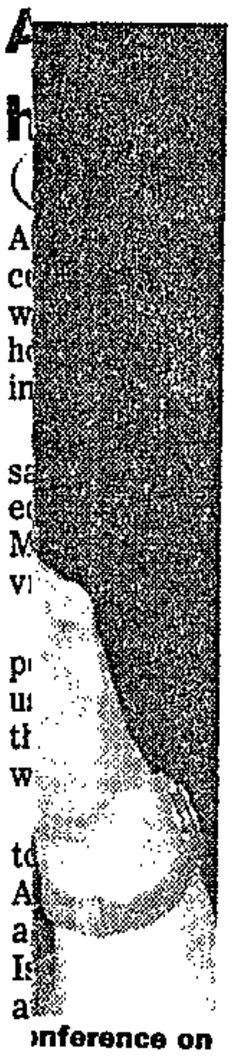
And NedTravel Holidays MD Eric Thorne's proposal that business should be evenly distributed has been supported by the Travel Agents' Board.

Thorne said in a statement that up to 10 different tour operators currently offered holiday options to the same destinations.

Tour operators' cut-throat price war to attract business was an unhealthy long-term option for the industry.

However, Thorne emphasised that he did not believe a streamlining of operations would mean fewer operators but fewer, specialised companies serving specific destinations.

Board director Bill Botha said the call made sense. "It is a sensible, valid proposal that needs consideration by the industry".



nference on
CATHERINE ROSS

Squatters' resettlement unlawful, hearing told

PRETORIA — Losses suffered by Diepsloot landowners as a result of property devaluation after the resettlement of the Zevenfontein squatters should be sufficient grounds for halting the move, the Pretoria Supreme Court heard yesterday.

H Steyn, counsel for the Diepsloot Residents and Landowners Association, told Judge I W B de Villiers that the Transvaal Administrator had not exercised his discretion properly when he had decided to relocate the Zevenfontein squatters to Diepsloot, north of Johannesburg.

In terms of legislation, Steyn said, the administrator was also not entitled to resettle the squatters at Diepsloot.

Steyn said the relocation of the squatters would unlawfully interfere with the rights of Diepsloot residents and landowners.

The squatters would create a nuisance and landowners feared that the ground water supply would turn into a health risk as there were no facilities or services available at the proposed resettlement site..

Residents in the surrounding area also feared that crime would increase once the squatters were resettled at Diepsloot.

Two companies, Johannesburg Consolidated Investment and Eloff Street Farms, as well as three representatives of the local authority dealing with the squatters, were on Monday joined as parties in the court application to halt the resettlement.

Although the squatters had also been joined as a party, they were not represented. — Sapa.

Operation Alpo cuts deaths

STEPHANE BOTHMA

AN intensified SAP and SADF crime prevention campaign in two unrest plagued Reef townships — Alexandra and Phola Park — has led to nearly 1 000 arrests since it began in June.

More than 50 firearms, including AK-47 rifles and submachine pistols, have been confiscated in Operation Alpo, Witwatersrand police spokesman Frans Malherbe said yesterday. Several hand grenades and stolen goods valued at thousands of rands were also seized.

He said the media and certain political organisations had given the impression recently that the SAP was incapable of protecting the public.

But violent deaths in Alexandra, which in recent months had totalled more than 200 a week, were now down to an average of two a week.

The situation at Phola Park and Alexandra — where police were marked as targets — was "almost back to normal", Malherbe said.

Squatters 'are not lawless'

BIDAT 23/11/91 (310)

PRETORIA — To suggest that indigent people who could only be accommodated informally were inherently lawless was a startling proposition which had no foundation whatsoever, a senior advocate argued in the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday.

Sam Maritz, acting for the Administrator of the Transvaal, was opposing an application to stop the resettlement of the Zevenfontein community at Diepsloot.

Maritz said the application by the Diepsloot Residents' and Landowners' Association had not established a reasonable apprehension of harm resulting from an increased crime rate.

The Administrator also intended to take reasonable precautions to prevent any interference with the rights of landowners in surrounding areas.

Uncontrolled squatting would not be allowed, he said.

Maritz argued that the applicant had not established any real apprehension that the underground water supply would be contaminated. Smoke and dust pollution was unavoidable, but any discomfort was outweighed by the need to accommodate the Zevenfontein community.

He also contended that the possible devaluation of properties had nothing to do with public nuisance. The applicants recognised that in law they had no claim for compensation.

H Steyn, appearing for the residents' association, on Tuesday argued the Transvaal Administrator had not exercised his discretion properly.

He said the move of the squatter community would interfere with the rights of Diepsloot residents and landowners. The squatters would create a nuisance and contaminate the ground water.— Sapa.

Squatters not natural criminals, court told

STAR 23/7/92

310

To suggest that indigent people who could only be accommodated informally were inherently lawless was a startling proposition which had no foundation whatsoever, a senior advocate argued in the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday.

Sam Maritz, acting for the Transvaal Administrator, was opposing an application to stop the resettlement of the Zevenfontein community at Diepsloot.

Mr Maritz said the application by the Diepsloot Residents and Landowners Association had not established a reasonable apprehension of harm resulting from an increased crime rate.

Police intended to erect satellite stations at Nietgedacht and Laezonia. A permanent police station was planned for Fourways.

The Administrator also intended to take reasonable precautions to prevent interference with the rights of surrounding landowners by implementing a proper town-planning scheme at Diepsloot. There was no question of uncontrolled squatting being allowed.

H Steyn, for the residents' association, argued on Tuesday that the Administrator had, in deciding to move the squatters to Diepsloot, not exercised his discretion properly.

He said the move would unlawfully interfere with the rights of Diepsloot residents and landowners.

The squatters would create a nuisance, and landowners in the area feared they would contaminate the groundwater supply. This would create a health risk to the community.

The hearing continues. — Sapa.

Squatters: Move halted

JOHANNESBURG. — An interim interdict preventing the Transvaal Provincial Administration from allowing the relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters to Nietgedacht was won by the Jukskei Crocodile Catchment Area Land Owners and Residents Association at the weekend.

(210) CT 21/7/92

A JCCA statement issued at the weekend said the TPA's proposed site was technically and socio-economically unsuitable for low-cost housing settlements.

"The JCCA is strategically very important to the PWV as a major agricultural area. It also provides for recreation and tourism," the statement said. — Sapa

Ruling halts squatter move

310

An interim interdict against the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) barring it from moving the Zevenfontein squatters to Nietgedacht has been won by the Jukskei Crocodile Catchment Area Landowners' and Residents' Association (JCCA). STAR 27/7/92

A JCCA statement issued at the weekend said the return date was September 8.

It said the TPA's proposed site was technically and socio-economically unsuitable for low-cost housing settlements.

"The JCCA is strategically very important to the PWV as a major agricultural area for vegetables, flowers, fruit and other farm produce." — Sapa.

that participation in stayaways was Meyer and a third with his deputy he said.

Zevenfontein relocation put on hold by court's interdict

BIDAY 27/7/92 (310)

THE relocation of several hundred Zevenfontein squatter families was temporarily halted this weekend when residents of the Nietgedacht area obtained an urgent interim interdict against the TPA.

Pretoria Supreme Court Judge Isak de Villiers also temporarily prohibited the TPA from continuing with the development of the Nietgedacht site for the resettlement of the Zevenfontein community.

De Villiers gave the TPA and eight other respondents — including the owner of Zevenfontein farm, the Chartwell community and JCI — until September 8 to show cause why the order should not be made permanent.

A TPA spokesman yesterday said that it would strongly oppose the court's interim order, and expressed regret about the inconvenience the legal action had caused the squatter community.

"The Zevenfontein community currently lives under extremely undesirable conditions and we regret that they have to now suffer further inconvenience," TPA spokesman Piet Wilken said.

The urgent application was launched by the Jukskei Crocodile Catchment Area

STEPHANE BOTHMA

Land Owners' and Residents' Association (JCCA).

The interdict also affected the agreement signed between the owner of the farm Zevenfontein, the Chartwell community and JCI, which stipulated that the squatters would be relocated by July 31.

The TPA's proposed site, north of Johannesburg, was technically and socio-economically unsuitable for low-cost housing settlement, the JCCA said in a statement.

The area was strategically very important to the PWV as a major agricultural area for vegetables, flowers, fruit and other farm produce being supplied for export and the Johannesburg and Pretoria markets, the statement said.

The two landowners who had been served expropriation orders by the TPA had not yet moved and had accepted the expropriation money without prejudice to their legal rights, JCCA spokesman Wessel Swart said yesterday.

"The expropriated parties were extremely pleased about the successful court application," he said.

Protecting workforce

CHARLIE PRETZLIK

THE Inkatha-aligned United Workers' Union of SA (Uwusa) and the newly formed United Independent Trade Unions' Adhoc Committee for SA, which together represent 70 000 workers, say members will defend themselves against anyone trying to prevent them from going to work during the mass action campaign. BIDAY

Uwusa and new union chairman Jabulani Dlamini last week warned of the effects of a general strike on the economy, saying many workers would lose their jobs and many might be killed in confrontations with police. 27/7/92

"As trade unions our main task is to protect workers' interests in the workplace. We appeal to the ANC/Cosatu alliance not to involve workers in any political actions."

Sowetan 27/7/92

TPA interdicted (310)

AN interim interdict against the Transvaal Provincial Administration from allowing the relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters to Nietgedacht was won by the Jukskei Crocodile Catchment Area Land Owners and Residents Association on Friday.

Squatters' fate in balance

STAR 28/7/92.

Staff Reporter (310)

The fate of the Zevenfontein squatter community hangs in the balance pending the outcome of three separate court cases being brought by residents' organisations trying to halt their relocation.

The community was scheduled to be moved by the Transvaal Provincial Administration before Friday, July 31, to two sites near the Lion Park — Diepsloot West and Nietgedacht.

But Justice Isak de Villiers of the Pretoria Supreme Court ruled last week that the squatters must not be moved until the matter of the residents' applications against the moves have been settled.

Mr Justice de Villiers has ordered that the TPA, the owner of the Zevenfontein farm and Johannesburg Consolidate Investments (JCI), among others, should show cause before September 8 why a court order preventing the relocation of the squatters should not be made permanent.

In February JCI signed a legal agreement with the TPA stipulating that the squatters would be moved "even if suitable land is not identified", since the squatters were adjacent to JCI's upmarket housing development, Dainfern.

cy of buses was expected on some routes. — Sapa-Staff Reporter.

Action on camp urged

STAR 2917192

The Goldstone Commission has recommended that the Ivory Park squatter camp at Midrand be proclaimed a township, and policing be improved to help curb the taxi war there.

An interim report of the committee probing taxi violence found that Midrand municipal enforcement agencies enjoyed no official recognition in the camp because it was not an official township.

The Midrand municipality's application for it to become a township had not been approved after eight months.

The committee found the cause of the violence was competition between two taxi associations for the new market among the 70 000 residents of Ivory Park. — Political Correspondent.

Transkei mass action

STAR 2917192

Transkei's capital, Umtata, and Butterworth, the main industrial centre, were brought to a halt yesterday by a mass action stayaway in which thousands of people marched on the two towns.

Trade boycott to start

STAR 2917192

A two-day consumer boycott of white businesses in the northern Transvaal towns of Louis Trichardt, Levubu and Messina begins tomorrow.

Telkom exhibits in Zambia

Telkom SA will exhibit its products at a show in Lusaka this month. Telkom said in a statement yesterday it would show the Magnolia telephone and the T1000 telex machine at Zambex '92 from tomorrow to Monday.

Mother: I killed my child

A woman admitted in Durban Regional Court yesterday she killed her 22-month-old daughter by driving into the harbour with the child in the vehicle. Pamela Anne Drennan (36) of Pinetown was nearly inaudible as she pleaded guilty before Mr G J Maree to culpable homicide.

camps — remote from the economic mainstream.

"It is important to recognise that old apartheid ideas and practices live on," said the Urban Foundation. "In the PWV this legacy can be seen in segregation and fragmentation of the cities, economic growth issues, land for low-income housing and in the role of the central State.

"The time for greater honesty in the development arena is long overdue. We need new visions."

The PWV at the moment faced two crises: the enormous challenge to find land and housing opportunities in reasonable locations for hundreds of thousands of citizens without adequate shelter; and solutions to economic growth and job creation in a declining regional economy.

Urban Foundation executive director of urbanisation Ann Bernstein said the Government document had failed by falling far short of a new post-apartheid vision of the future.

The crucial need now was for a set of practical guidelines on the residential and economic development of the entire region — mapped out not by bureaucrats alone but by round-table discussions by all the key stake-holders, from home-owners to investors.

Among the first priorities must be a radical re-examination of the outline of what has become known as the PWV — sprawling north from the Witwatersrand to Pretoria and south to the Vaal Triangle.

A decision was needed on whether the PWV should remain a single unit or whether the vast economic powerhouse should be split into three in a redrawing of the boundaries of development regions.

One option that deserved investigation was the creation of a compact zone within a 25 km radius of central Johannesburg, and its potential for low-cost housing, before more distant marginal settlements were considered.

"The political framework for the cities is now quite different, and that entails a reassessment of how we understand future metropolitan growth in a multi-nodal region like the PWV," argued Ms Bernstein.

"We need to look carefully at the different areas that make up this region and assess the advantages and disadvantages (economic, political, social and infrastructural) of the present definition of planning regions."

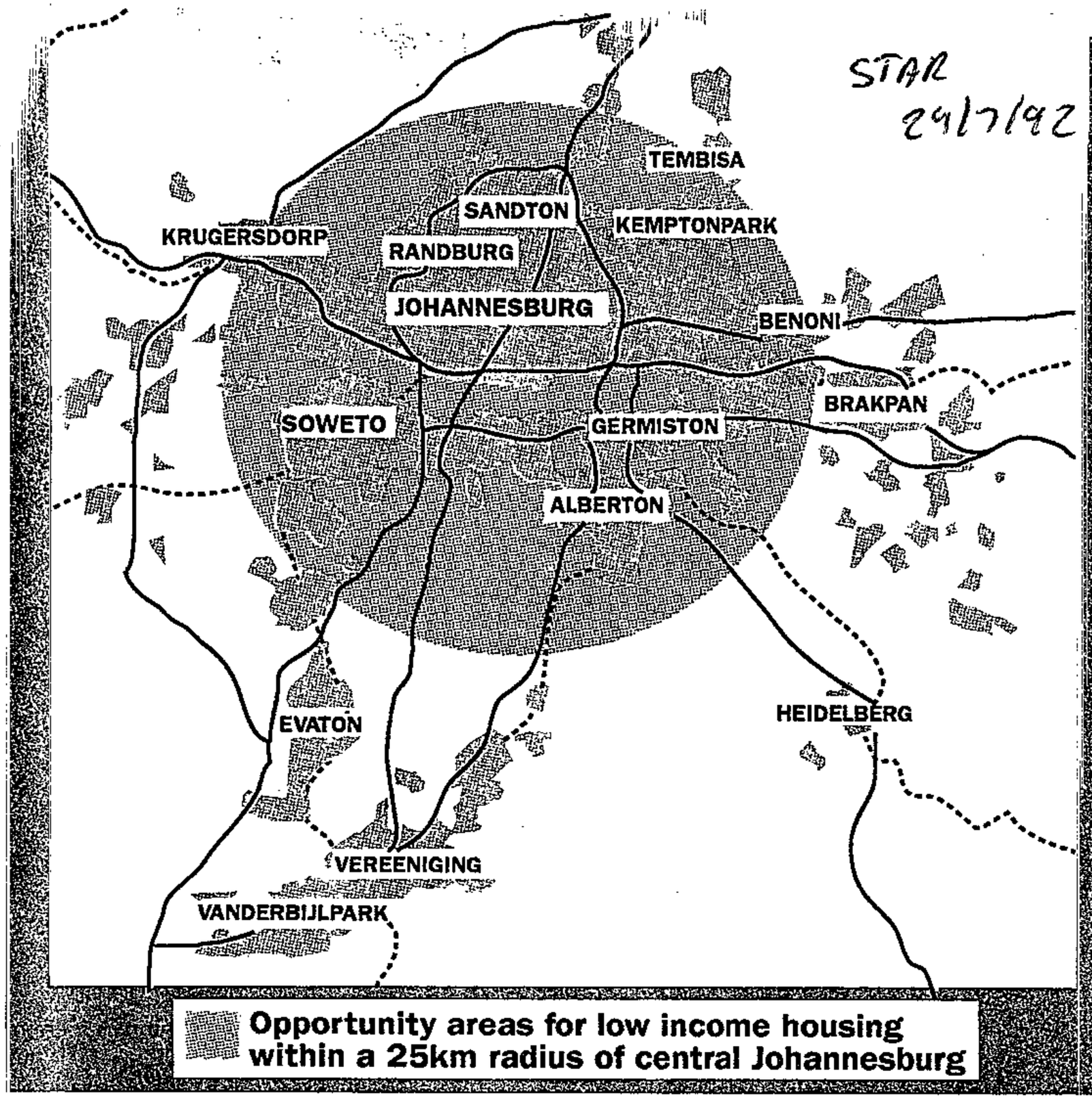
New visions were required — such as the full integration of Johannesburg and Soweto as a newly constituted single city of world status.

It was now widely agreed that apartheid policies created an extremely inefficient and inequitable urban structure, Ms Bernstein said.

The Urban Foundation suggested that a key practical guideline for the 1990s was that local authorities, regional authorities, private developers, community organisations and other urban players had to encourage the functional re-integration of cities still divided on racial lines.

The two key aims should be:

- To concentrate development wherever possible between former black townships and city cores, with guidelines for future public investment that could be



and reconcile these new needs with those of the more established urban actors."

The Urban Foundation put forward two practical suggestions:

- Exploring a number of planning innovations that could be used to manage the interface between high and low-income communities by the location of various facilities.
- Recognising the inevitability of conflict around land issues in the transition and weighing the possibility of the creation of a Land Court where conflicts could be resolved through judicial process and by reference to national policy principles — rather than through unilateral decisions by public authorities.

Physical planning should respond to economic realities.

Planners should bear in mind that while jobs were still concentrated in industrial and commercial zones, jobs were also spread throughout the urban area — in suburban industrial parks, office complexes, private homes, shopping centres, parking lots, hotels and restaurants.

"Provision for housing, transportation, infrastructure and social services needs to take this economic reality into account and balance the location of jobs and housing," Ms Bernstein argued.

The draft 1992 Spatial Development Framework for the PWV had fallen short of meeting all the main criteria that should be followed. It should be withdrawn.

A totally new approach was needed in planning the future of the PWV complex.

All the key stake-holders in the region should be allowed to take part in laying new plans from the outset.

Planning should begin with focus on two crucial issues:

- The definition of the PWV.
- The formulation of practical guidelines which responded to the new realities of South African cities. □

Bold new vision for PWV sought

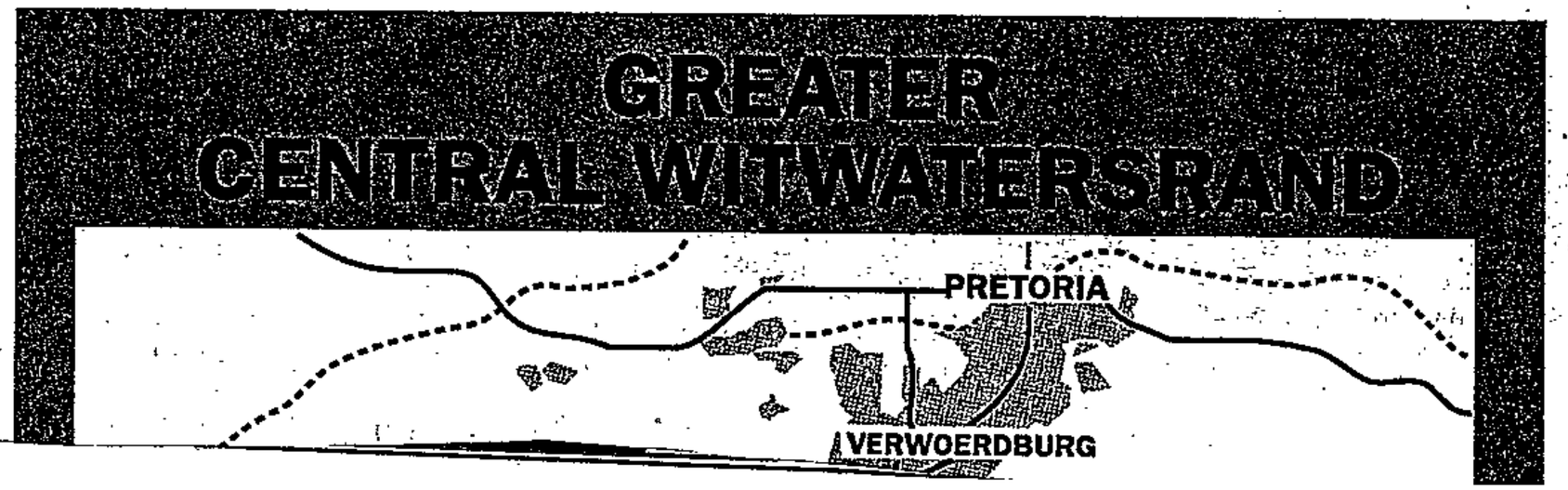
STAR 29/7/92.

The Government has been advised by the Urban Foundation to scrap controversial draft proposals on the future development of the entire PWV economic powerhouse. The foundation argues that a radical new approach is needed in a post-apartheid era, reports MICHAEL CHESTER.

SWEEPING proposals to scrap old apartheid divisions in the location of black and white communities and consider the creation of a new, compact nonracial development zone within a 25 km radius of Johannesburg's city centre were unveiled by the Urban Foundation yesterday.

The foundation urged the total withdrawal of controversial draft plans, prepared by the Department of Regional and Land Affairs, published under the title "1992 Spatial Development Framework for the PWV".

Instead, a round-table nonracial indaba was proposed to pursue a radical new approach to black/white integration and rethinking about leaving black townships and so-called infor-



followed by private investment.

● To examine inner-city areas and study how to increase densities so as to maximise the impact of infrastructure and investment, taking lessons about inner-city redevelopment from international as well as local experience.

Local authorities had to look at the costs and benefits of incentives for private and community investment, lobbying for national urban and housing policies to facilitate laying out new plans.

"Moving towards a democratic society means that the interests and needs of all those citizens hitherto ignored in the city must now be accommodated," said Ms Bernstein.

"The authorities will need to identify and deal with the needs

Call for scrapping of 'dangerous' PWV plan

ADRIAN HADLAND

A MAJOR government development plan for the PWV region containing long-term urbanisation, housing and urban growth policies was described by the Urban Foundation yesterday as a "dangerous document" that should be withdrawn.

Speaking at a media conference in Johannesburg, foundation executive director of urbanisation Ann Bernstein said the department of regional and land affairs' draft spatial development framework was simplistic, showed little grasp of economic issues and was redolent with the concepts and assumptions of old apartheid.

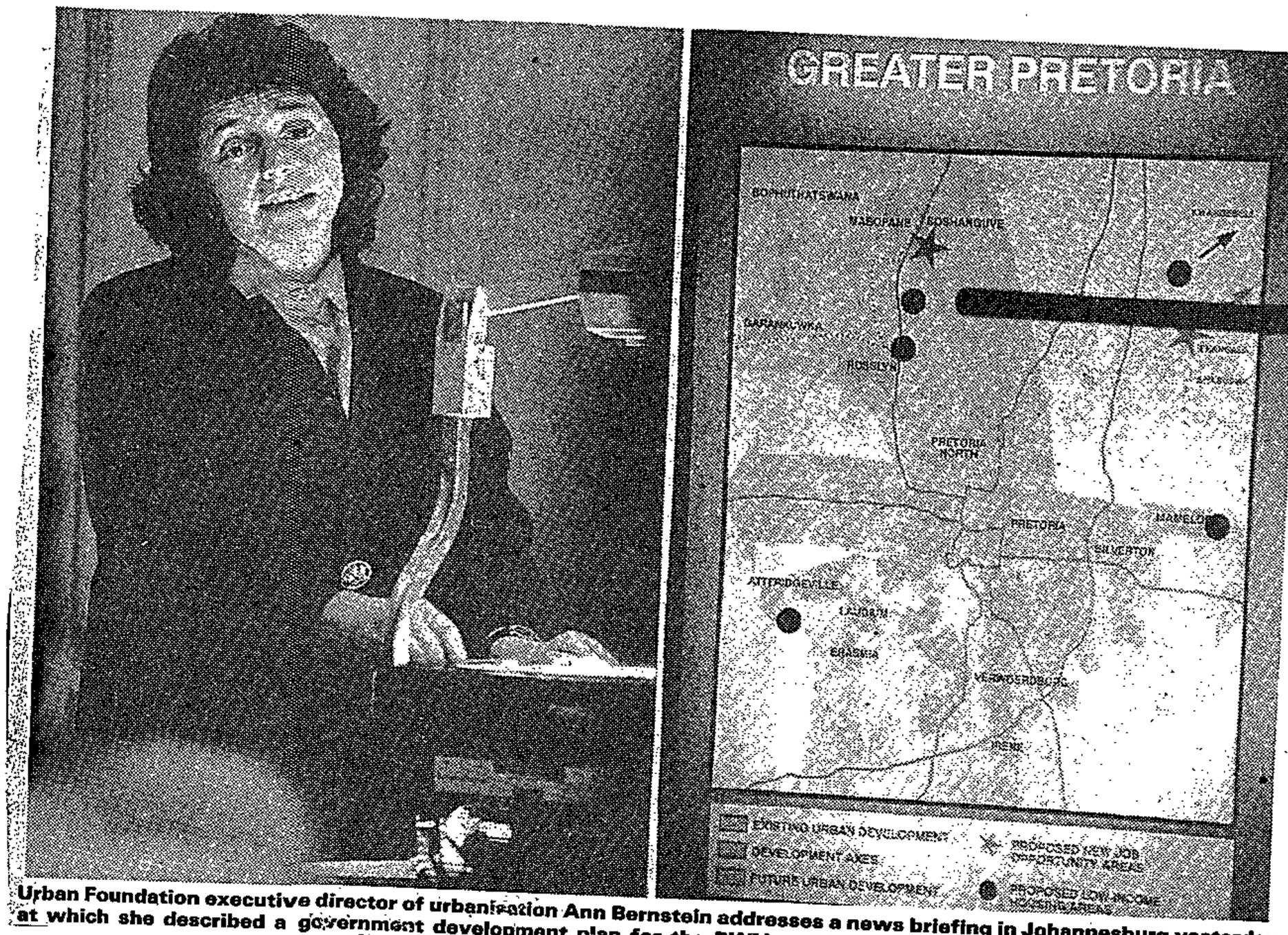
If approved, the 10-year development plan, which was distributed to local authorities and interested parties for comment in February this year, would have a critical impact on local and regional planning policies, Bernstein said.

"Each city, town or joint authority in the PWV will formulate its individual plan and future planning decisions within the context of the guidelines set up by the framework," a foundation report said.

The report said it would influence key decisions on the provision of industrial land, the location of low income housing and priorities on state expenditure.

In proposals for greater Pretoria, the framework suggested new residential development in KwaNdebele and job creation projects to be located in Soshanguve. "This is the apartheid city," said Bernstein.

The foundation report said the economic, planning and structural analysis on which the framework was based was "inadequate and fundamentally flawed". It recommended the blueprint be withdrawn.



Urban Foundation executive director of urbanisation Ann Bernstein addresses a news briefing in Johannesburg yesterday at which she described a government development plan for the PWV as 'dangerous'. Picture: ROBERT BOTHA

Council approves policy to shape urban environment

Bl0Bay 29/7/92

ADRIAN HADLAND

THE Johannesburg City Council approved an urban environment policy last night which will be incorporated into each of its departments' operating procedures.

The policy aimed to protect the city's open spaces, identify and conserve areas of historic or cultural interest and generally improve the quality of the built and natural environment.

A public participation and information campaign tackling environmental issues would begin shortly, the council heard.

A steering directorate has been established to ensure all the council's departments adhere to the policy while all planning or construction projects would be examined for potential environmental impact by a newly created committee.

The council also indicated its willingness to take responsibility for primary health care in the city.

In a report submitted to council last night, however, it was pointed out that local authorities could not "take responsibility for services currently rendered by the different houses of parliament, the provincial administrations and other authorities" unless these were matched by the transfer of the necessary funds, facilities and staff.

The council last night formally endorsed its housing department policy of using a single, nonracial waiting list. There are 53 000 families on the Johannesburg municipal area waiting list.

"We will continue to urge government to establish a national funding policy as a matter of urgency," said housing committee chairman Marietta Marx.

The council also agreed to spend more than R4m on the upgrading of council-owned hostels, including R2m for the development of family accommodation.

Further measures adopted by the council last night included a redevelopment plan for Melville which stresses the retention of its residential nature.

FOCUS ON HOUSING

There's such a demand for cheap housing. And so many companies are willing to supply it. Why then is so little being built?

Scraping up a little here and there

w|Mail 31|7-6|8|92

By LINDA RULASHE and BARBARA LUDMAN

WHEN *The Weekly Mail* found Josiah Mahlangu, he was stripping wood off pallets destined to form new walls for his one-bedroomed shack in Benoni's Wattville township.

He got the pallets for free from Lever Brothers. He also retrieved used bricks he had found in the veld.

Mahlangu said although his business of making burglar bars was doing reasonably well, he had already spent three quarters of his earnings on building materials: R360 for six boards, R15 for 15 planks and R40 for 11 new zinc sheetings. And he still had to feed his family.

Lakeview, adjacent to Wattville, was formed when squatters decided to "invade" the land there after waiting too long for property in the township. Originally earmarked as a prime housing development area, the squatters moved in and built their shacks.

Because the demand for sites is so high, people who acquire them after consulting the local committee have to start building immediately, or someone else on the waiting list will get the land.

This puts pressure on members of the community to get material quickly and set up some sort of structure, no matter how rudimentary it may be. (3|0)

Another Lakeview resident, Vincent Kgabo, said he had collected his building material "here and there". A small glass shack with several broken window panes stands next to a cardboard shack in which he, his wife and four children live.

"It used to be an old office at the firm where I work," Kgabo explained. "They wanted to break it down but I asked the boss if I could have it. He gave me the structure for free."

The structure is not able to withstand the natural elements and Kgabo would like to build something more substantial within the next two months — "if only I could get some proper material".

Kgabo has collected zinc from other squatters who are extending their shacks. He acquired some timber for R35 per three metres and more zinc for R20 a strip in the township.

Albino Ningo, who came to the country in 1990 to escape the Mozambican war, said he and a friend had pooled together money to buy material and build a shack. They each earn a salary of between R300 and R900, depending on how much work they can get through.

They were given some zinc by the facto-

e ... but at least it's a place to rest

w/Mail 31/7 - 6/8/92 (310)

ry they work for and paid R7 a strip for the rest. The timber cost them R8 a pole.

A number of initiatives have sprung up in the past few years to try and provide squatters with low-cost but good quality material, but many people cannot afford even this.

Operation Masakhane for the Homeless (Omhle) takes a dim view of projects that deliver sites but no houses, not even a shell: "It's a recipe for instant slums," says president Dan Moshuge.

So with manufacturers of zinc, tiles, glass, window frames and other building materials, Omhle is planning depots of low-cost materials in informal settlements, starting with Bohlokong, near Bethelem, and Doornkop, near Soweto. Potential homebuyers must form groups to buy materials in bulk from the depots and hire community builders trained by the South African Lumber Millers' Association to put up simple houses designed by Salma.

It's the latest plan to bring some order into the often-psychedelic patchwork quilt effect that distinguishes urban informal settlements: instead of industrial-weight plastic sheets, cardboard and multi-coloured zinc, Omhle sees neat timber-frame houses.

Omhle isn't the only one to come up the supply of materials as the answer: Shanti Industries, which organises the Rand Show's Affordable Housing Exhibition every year, has been facilitating delivery of building materials to low-income communities — townships and shack settlements — since 1990. Shanti's Piers Kenyon and Alan Stokes also concentrate on timber; they worked with shackbuilders in early 1991 to devise a R2 500 prototype and have since improved the model, which they say they're trying to sell elsewhere in Africa where, presumably, finance for low-cost housing is more readily available than it is here.

Kenyon said: "Our philosophy is if people are starving, it's not because they can't cook but because they don't have the right ingredients. It's no good supplying them with a recipe ... you've got to supply them with the right ingredients. Similarly, if people aren't building proper housing, it's usually because they don't have the right building materials."

Kenyon explained that they adopted the inside out approach: "Most interventions in informal settlements have been outside in. You'll have a company that develops a new housing system on their computer without speaking to the people who'll live in it."

"If people are starving, it's no good supplying them with a recipe ... you've got to supply them with the right ingredients"

Order on squatters

Sowetan 31/7/92

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration has been restrained by an interim court order from moving the Zevenfontein squatters to Diepsloot West until an application to prevent the move has been heard. (310)

Mr Justice IWB de Villiers in the Pretoria Supreme Court referred two urgent applications for a hearing by the Laezonia and Diepsloot Residents and Landowners' Association to a date that has yet to be decided.

The landowners say that the squatters' relocation will lead to a drop in the value of property in the area, cause water and air pollution and lead to a drastic increase in crime in the area.

Rest returns as clerk is suspended

310

C1 PNEWS 21/8/92

By DAN DHLAMINI

PEACE and goodwill now prevail in the previously trouble-torn West Rand township of Khutsong.

This, according to jubilant residents, results from the suspension last month of Khutsong town clerk WC Cronck.

A storm of protest erupted in Khutsong – which loosely translated means "The Resting Place" – after the town clerk handed over alleged rent defaulters to council lawyers who attached their furniture and sold it to a Carletonville pawnshop.

Residents claimed the pawnshop belonged to Cronck, but he denied this and threatened to sue anybody who linked him with the pawnshop.

This week Khutsong administrator Chris de Beer told City Press that he had relieved Cronck of his duties as town clerk because he was a stumbling block in attempts to put rent boycott negotiations with the Khutsong Civic Association back on track.

Cronck confirmed he had been suspended from his position until the climate was right for the normal running of the local authorities.

De Beer, who declined to say whether Cronck was being investigated, said he would no longer serve as Khutsong town clerk.

Regarding the return of confiscated furniture, De Beer said this was a gesture of goodwill and not an admission the council was wrong in attaching the furniture of rent defaulters.

Meawnhile, Khutsong residents who for the past three years had been demanding the resignation of Cronck, told City Press that the suspension was indeed a major victory for them.

Nonzima Cashibe, a spokeswoman for the Khutsong branch of the ANC Women's League which had on more than two occasions staged sit-ins in his office, said this was proof "that the people shall govern".

Exorbitant bills

Residents had complained of exorbitant water and electricity bills for which Cronck could allegedly not give a reasonable explanation.

Some claimed they were billed for electricity although they did not have it installed in their houses.

Others complained they were charged for water consumption despite the fact their meters were not read.

A confident De Beer told City Press there was progress in the township.

He said a R10-million IDT housing project had been started in Khutsong and about 1 263 sites were being serviced to provide housing for squatters in the area.

KCA spokesman Vicky Nxumalo said a good working relationship had been developed with De Beer, and the KCA hoped things would now improve in the township.

2metro

TPA to profit from land – owner

By Shirley Woodgate (310) STAR 4/8/92

A Diepsloot property worth at least R2,8 million has been expropriated for a fifth of its value by the Transvaal Provincial Adminstration for squatter resettlement in the north-western PWV, the owner, Herman Pietersen (79), has claimed.

But while his own plans to develop the land as a profitable, properly laid out township in 1985/86 had been frustrated by the TPA, the smallholder claimed his property, valued by the TPA as "barren farm land", was last month expropriated for R542 875 by the TPA which now aimed to develop a low-cost township for great financial gain.

Mr Pietersen said the minimal payout excluded any compensation for extensive improvements and infrastructure on the property, conservatively estimated at R750 000.

TPA plans to relocate the bulk of the 1 300 Zevenfontein squatter families to this site — one of four acquired, comprising a total of about 100 ha — by July 31 were recently stalled by a Pretoria Supreme Court order.

Mr Pietersen said the TPA had not physically valued his 27 ha farm portion — zoned "undetermined" — but merely estimated its worth.

Previous offers at R40 000 a hectare had been rejected, including a written cash offer of R525 000 excluding improvements in September 1986.

"Today the average price per hectare is about R60 000 and certain property owners had declined offers of up to R100 000 a hectare," he said.

He had lost out on one offer for R5,5 million subject to the provision that the land could be rezoned.

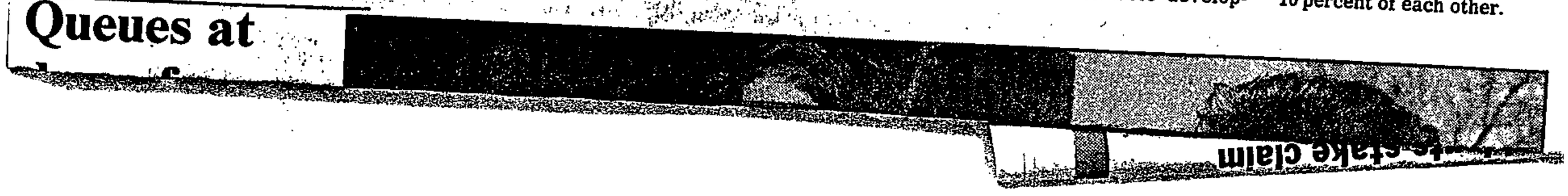
He accused the TPA of playing racial gambling games to the detriment of landowners.

The TPA had insisted he prove he was white when he bought the farm, then declared the land part of a free settlement area for a "superior" black Norweto development, now merely expropriated for low-income blacks.

"Under the circumstance the TPA will develop and se 400 sq m plots off, making massive profit at R8 000 eacl This is nothing less than day light robbery," he said.

A TPA spokesman said i was the right of anyone wh was unhappy about expropria tion to appeal.

He said two independent valuers had estimated land values before owners were paid out, and that the valuers' estimates had been within 10 percent of each other.



Queues at

to stake claim

Police accused as gunmen kill 6 in Alex squatter camp

STAR 5/8/92

By Charmeela Bhagowat and Brian Sokutu

Six people, including a pregnant woman, were killed in an attack by gunmen on a squatter camp early yesterday in Alexandra, north of Johannesburg.

The slayings brought the known national death toll over the last two days to 35.

The attack on the "Iraq" squatter camp, during which five shacks were gutted, prompted a march by about 12 000 angry residents to the Alexandra Town Council offices yesterday afternoon.

They demanded the closure of Madala and Nobuhle hostels in the township, and that the council evict "illegal residents" from homes in "Beirut", an IFP stronghold in the township.

In a joint statement read at a press conference, Alexandra Civic Organisation, Interim Crisis Committee and local ANC leaders challenged police to explain their failure to intervene in the attack.

"Witnesses have said that police told them they could not risk their lives by intervening in a situation where unarmed residents were shot at with automatic rifles," said ANC branch secretary Obed Bapela.

A woman who did not wish to be named told the conference that police, whom residents saw patrolling the area shortly before the attack, started shooting at shacks at about 1 am.

The witness, who was visiting her sister at the time, said she ran out of the shack to find the area surrounded by police vans and "saw police shooting randomly at people".

"When I ran for cover, I saw a policeman push my sister Thabitha into her shack. I heard her screaming," she added.

Ten minutes later, when the shooting stopped, she found her sister's body burning in the shack. The witness's brother-in-law lay dead next to the shack.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Colonel Dave Bruce strongly denied the allegations.

He said: "The allegations of the ANC are by no means new. And if the ANC has any evidence that the police were involved, they should communicate the evidence to the police."

In terms of the National Peace Accord, said Colonel Bruce, the ANC was required to assist the police in their investigation.

"It is highly irresponsible for the ANC to produce witnesses at a press conference for publicity."

The ANC had "good lines of communication with the police which they should use", he added.

Nietgedacht squatters 'not visible'

STAR 5/8/92

Staff Reporter (310)

Nearly 100 Randburg residents gathered in Honeydew last night to hear facts about the relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters to Nietgedacht in Randburg.

Addressing a hostile crowd, councillor for the area, Cyril Ford, said there were thousands of squatters already living in the bushes in the Randpark Ridge and Honeydew area and that the problem had to be looked at realistically.

The black population was growing six times as fast as whites, and statistics showed that by the year 2010 there will be 16 million black people living in the PWV area, Mr Ford said.

With planning, most people could be accommodated in "site and service" areas with basic provisions for road access, water, shops, clinics, schools and possible water-borne sewage facilities and electricity.

He pointed out that the alternative was legal or illegal squatting where anarchy ruled.

Arguing for the resettlement of the Zevefontein squatters in Nietgedacht, Mr Ford said they would not be visible as the 150 ha area lay in a natural saucer bounded by three main roads and close to a proposed industrial area which could proivde jobs.

"It's a no-win situation. There is no place for the squatters to go, and planning for them will not please people of privilege" Mr Ford said.

A couple of people attending the meeting suggested that delelgations from squatters and residents should meet to discuss potential conflict areas and ways of solving them.

Several at the meeting, however, refused to concede formal squatters could become reality in their area.

They wanted to know who would pay for the settlement and control the squatters.

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Kempton residents oppose informal housing project

STAR 7/8/92

By Abel Mabelane
East Rand Bureau

310

A proposed informal housing project to settle 7 700 families on the Mooifontein farm near Birch Acres, Kempton Park, has been vehemently opposed by residents of the upmarket suburb.

In letters to a local newspaper, residents said the so-called "informal housing scheme" was just a fancy name for corrugated-iron shacks.

They argued that the people at whom the proposed informal housing scheme was aimed were homeless, penniless and jobless and would not be able to afford eventually to build proper houses.

"The way I see it is that they will roam the streets of our suburbs and climb into our properties while we are at work earning a living," one resident wrote.

Another resident said property values had already slumped because of a municipal refuse dump in the area. Now, property values would hit rock bottom.

The Kempton Park Town Council said a final decision had not yet been taken on the housing scheme.

Council marketing manager Jan Bosman said the council was waiting for feedback from a working group which was investigating the standard of services to be applied as well as affordability.

Mining land 'a viable option for housing

(310)

B | Pam | 11/8/92.

ADRIAN HADLAND

REDEVELOPMENT of expensive mining land for residential use in Johannesburg would be more cost effective than building settlements out of town, planners have decided.

An SA Roads Board study has found that savings on transport subsidies, which cost the Johannesburg city council about R1 000 a person annually, mean it would be cheaper for residents and the council to make use of centrally located housing —despite land on the city's periphery being up to 40 times cheaper.

The study, entitled: "The improvement of mobility as a result of land-use planning", was undertaken by council planners on behalf of the roads board.

It examined the total costs involved in developing housing stock, roads and infrastructure in different parts of the Johannesburg municipal area.

The study concluded it was more cost effective in the long run to develop high density housing on central mining land, which would cost between R100 000 and R500 000 a hectare, than on land far from the city centre — such as that at Orange Farm — where costs were only about R8 500 a hectare.

"People have been under the illusion that the establishment of townships 20km from the city centre is cheaper for the council and the communities concerned," Johannesburg council planning director Ian Symon said.

Justified

"This report proves that it is economically viable to develop mining land for higher density housing, even though it may cost 40 times as much."

Symon said the report justified the council's promotion of the use of mining land and in-fill projects for cost-effective residential development.

He said several mining companies, including Rand Mines Properties, were currently considering the financial implications of residential and commercial development on vacant mining land in and around the city's CBD.

Terror stalks the destitute

cipren 16/8/92 (310)

By MOSES MAMAILA

PHOLA Park, which means a place of calm, is a combination of poverty, misfortune, misery and terror. Calm is the one thing you will not find here.

Since the September 1990 invasion by alleged Inkatha supporters which left more than 1 000 shacks gutted and dozens of people killed, the squatter camp in the East Rand has never known peace.

Constant gunfire in the area – which has killed at least six policemen – has resulted in police erecting a mini police station outside the squatter camp.

Residents – trapped in the camp surrounded by a razor fence – voiced their anger this week at the continued police occupation of Phola Park, charging police with unwarranted raids and assaults on the "defenceless" squatter community.

"Raids here are the order of the night," said 62-year-old Jackson Mooi.

The father of 10 told City Press that police patrol the village at night and assault anybody found outside after 9 pm.

"We are not even safe under heavy police guard, because they too are capable of harassment.

"If I had the money I would take my big family and return to my S'kokwana home in the Transkei. But we are trapped in poverty."

Speaking on the violence in the camp, Mooi said: "Our battle is a self-defence effort against the evil forces of Inkatha and the police. When we fight, we fight as a people. Young and old join the combat.

"It is a lie that we provoke the police. Police only want an excuse to occupy our area. Do you want to tell me that police have been unble to recover all the weapons we had after more than three months of sealing Phola Park?"

Echoing sentiments expressed by many residents, local community leader Zingisile Matiso said it was practically impossible to go to the toilets during the night.

"Police seldom ask questions, but assault people who are found outside after nine in the evening. This is problematic because all of our toilets are outside and most are a distance away," explained Matiso.

He said in the early hours of Tuesday this week, two youths were assaulted by the police after being accused of taking their time to open their shacks. Scores of residents were assaulted at the weekend when police invaded the camp, he charged.

MOVING SHOP ... Even through the misery of squatter life, residents creatively strive to make ends meet. ■ Pic: MIKE MZILENI

Police spokesman Capt Eugene Opperman confirmed that there were constant raids in the area, but denied reports that police assaulted people found outside during the night.

He challenged those with complaints to report them to the police and not to the media.

Commenting on the situation in the camp, Opperman said the area was much quieter than before the deployment of the police some three months ago.

From January 1991 to May this year there have been 147 armed attacks on police, said Opperman, adding that these resulted in five policemen and a traffic officer being murdered, while four other policemen were seriously wounded.

In the same period there were 400 acts of violence in the area, said Opperman.

He said the razor wire enabled the police to keep the criminal elements at bay.

Another resident, who refused to be named, said a curfew imposed by the thugs in the area was more severe than that of the police, adding that it was difficult to walk in the camp after seven.

"Criminals in this area are ruthless. They do not care about your plight. Their mode of operation is dog eats dog," said the man.

But despite all misfortunes and terror associated with Phola Park, the squatters continue with their lives.

There are many tuckshops in the area, and hawkers at street corners sell items ranging from vegetables to tripe.

The lifestyle of the shanty village is no different from other slums. Scores of semi-naked, barefooted kids play in the dusty streets while the older youth idle on street corners.

There are 10 football clubs in the area, and choirs for female squatters.

Ivory Park awash with blood after mystery attack

By THEMBA KHUMALO

A YOUNG white policeman found himself the target of squatters' fury as they bayed for his blood after his alleged involvement in an armed attack on residents that resulted in the death of five people at Ivory Park near Thembisa on the East Rand on Friday.

A pregnant woman was among those killed. All the victims died of gunshot wounds.

Eight other people were treated for gunshot wounds at Thembisa Hospital.

Hours after the incident angry squatters tried to stop an armoured police vehicle from leaving the camp, claiming the policeman in question was hiding in it.

They pointed him out to the senior ANC officials, including Saki Macozoma and Ronnie Mamoepa, and said he had led the their pre-dawn assailants.

Many residents claimed the attackers were dropped outside the squatter camp by a bus and taken into the camp in police Casspirs. They recognised the Casspirs by their colours and blue lights, they said.

Mamoepa initially said 18 people had died during the attack.

Later he said the squatters had included the wounded in their initial death toll.

Macozoma told journalists it was not important whether five or 18 people had died — the death of a single person was a great tragedy.

Vice-chairman of the local dispute resolution committee, Rupert Lorimer, said he was worried that unsubstantiated rumours regarding the attack were spreading. He assured the squatters he would take up the matter with the police and secure the protection of residents.

'Opportunism'

Witwatersrand police spokesman Lt-Col Dave Bruce rejected as "political opportunism" allegations of police complicity in the attack.

He said evidence gathered by the police was that a group of approximately 10 men allegedly armed with AK-47s were responsible for the shooting.

The attack seemed to be part of an ongoing taxi war, he said.

Residents also said tension in the squatter camp started on Monday when they boycotted taxis operated by the local, IFP-aligned, taxi men. Instead, residents invited taxis from Thembisa to come and operate in the camp, a move that angered local taxi owners.

Sapa reports that a dispute between two local taxi organisations led to the pre-dawn raid in which five died and shacks were torched. This followed a shooting incident at the squatter camp on Monday morning in which three taxi drivers were gunned down.

The report said the violence was apparently sparked when residents became angry at having to pay a double fare. Ivory Park Taxi Association operators allegedly took residents only as far as nearby townships and commuters were then forced to catch a second taxi.

Woman resurrects Joubert Park shelter for homeless

STAR 18/8/92

Staff Reporter (310)

The Welcome Home Centre in Joubert Park, Johannesburg, has risen from the ashes like a phoenix and gained new life through the efforts of Emelda Damane.

She came across the shelter when about 200 residents were about to be evicted because the rent was overdue. The previous owner had deserted the centre after grossly mismanaging funds.

Shocked by the conditions, she approached various charities to help her resurrect the shelter. But she got no help and ended up financing it with her own money.

Now, the Department of National Health and Population Development and the Johannesburg City Council are assisting her. Officials from both institutions confirmed that they were donating food parcels and that more aid was on its way. The South African Red Cross recently donated blankets and clothes.

Richard Moyo, who originally came from Zimbabwe to study, ended up at the shelter because of financial difficulties.

"We were treated like slaves. We had to pay 50 cents for a cup of water and the best meal we ate was bread and soup. However, with Emelda things are different. She really cares about us."

Visit to squatter camp postponed

STAR 19/8/92

Staff Reporter

Koinonia — a group promoting goodwill among different communities by organising visits by whites to black townships — has postponed a planned Ivory Park encounter because of the East Rand taxi war.

The get-together was organised for this weekend, but will now take place on September 18, 19 and 20.

The decision to postpone the encounter was made despite the signing of a ceasefire agreement between the taxi associations of Ivory Park, Tembisa and Alexandra on Monday.

The ANC PWV region yesterday hailed the agreement, spearheaded by the North East Rand Regional Dispute Resolution Committee.

The taxi problem has been at the heart of a recent spate of killings, particularly in the Ivory Park informal settlement area where a number of people have died.

Koinonia's Ivory Park encounter will be the first effort to take whites into a squatter camp.

Koinonia was formed in Mamelodi, near Pretoria, in 1982 by Dr Nico Smith to promote what he called "pockets of hope" within South African communities.

Squatters: Minister gets ready to face Goldstone

(3 10)

Sf Times 23/8/92.

By CHARLENE SMITH

WHILE much of the country was glued to their TV sets yesterday watching rugby, Mr Leon Wessels, Minister of Local Government and Housing, was tramping round the Oukasie squatter community near Brits.

On Tuesday he becomes the first government minister to face the Goldstone commission and be cross-examined on government policy on squatter camps and hostels.

The issue of hostels is of international concern. The United Nations has recommended that it receive urgent attention. It is a perpetual point of conflict between the ANC and the government in negotiations, and between the ANC and Inkatha on the ground.

In an interview with the Sunday Times this week, Mr Wessels said that concrete results of his investigations into hostels would be evident within "the next five to six months".

He disagrees with the commission's recommendations that hostels be fenced in.

Since he assumed his portfolio late last year he has visited most hostels on the Reef and squatter communities nationwide.

"I want to know what is happening on the ground, how people feel, what their lives are like. I have had some of the most enriching encounters in these situations that I have ever had," he said.

Aged 46, Mr Wessels is the second-youngest cabinet minister, and he brings a unique touch to a difficult portfolio. The week before the commission called him to testify about hostels he visited the notoriously dangerous Madala hostel in Alexandra.

He has visited most Reef hostels. His visits are never publicised and have the smallest possible entourage. It is not a situation that leaves his security personnel happy. Once at a hostel, gunfire rattled out and Mr Wessels and his entourage came across the corpse of a man shot dead minutes before.

The Goldstone commission has linked squatter settlements and hostels as centres of violence, saying that political groups use them as "concentrations of support and arms caches for use in township violence". It notes: "Hostels are common to most of the worst areas of violence. All hostels should immediately be adequately and securely fenced."

Mr Wessels says it is "simplistic and grossly unfair" to say that all are violent. "I have also heard from township residents and hostel dwellers that in the past they lived together peacefully. The sad thing is, I believe, that some people expect a miracle I know I can't produce."

Township residents and hostel dwellers are terrified of each other, Mr Wessels says, but not without reason. All those arrested in connection with train attacks against commuters have been hostel dwellers.

Trains that pass through Soweto, conveying people from ANC-supporting areas, no longer stop at Nancefield station, which is near a hostel, because of frequent attacks launched on trains by hostel dwellers.

Dignity

There are between 500 000 and 1,5-million people living in hostels nationwide if private-sector hostels are included.

Mr Wessels says: "I don't know how a person can live for years under such circumstances and have the dignity I have seen. They ask for so little, for privacy, clean water, sanitation . . ."

Replying to criticisms that the government is not meeting these demands, he says he set aside R326-million last year for the upgrading of hostels. Progress had been made in Natal, the Free State and the Cape. However, violence in the Transvaal had retarded progress.

R40-million allocated for low cost housing

Staff Reporter

The House of Representatives has allocated R40 million for low cost housing — R12 million in individual home loans — in 19 local authorities in the Transvaal.

Deputy Housing Minister Cecil Herandien said on Monday that the money would provide basic services and facilities and initiate both informal and conventional housing projects and upgrade existing dwellings.

Deputy housing director John Hopkins said the directorate would promote self-help schemes to stretch resources.

He said Boksburg would receive R12 million to buy land and provide services in Reigerspark. Johannesburg would get R4 million, with some of it going towards a self-help project for 21 families.

Eldorado Park would receive R2 million for the electrification of Nancefield, while Klerksdorp gets R700 000 for a self-help project for 50 families.

2 metro

Reef land auction postponed

(310) STAR 26/8/92

By Jo-Anne Collinge

The Government has called off today's auction of 53 pieces of prime land in Johannesburg and the Reef after representations from the ANC.

The Department of Local Government, Housing and Works announced yesterday that it had been decided in conjunction with the auctioneer to "temporarily postpone" the auction.

The department's statement confirmed that talks had been held with ANC representatives, who had asked for a postponement so that they could submit "alternative proposals in respect of the alienation and utilisation of the land concerned".

The land, apparently earmarked originally for educational facilities, is scattered across residential areas of Johannesburg, Roodepoort, Benoni, Springs, Kempton Park, Boksburg, Germiston and Alberton.

According to the ANC's PWV region, a meeting took place on Monday between their representatives and L C Koch, head of the Department of Local Government, Housing and Works.

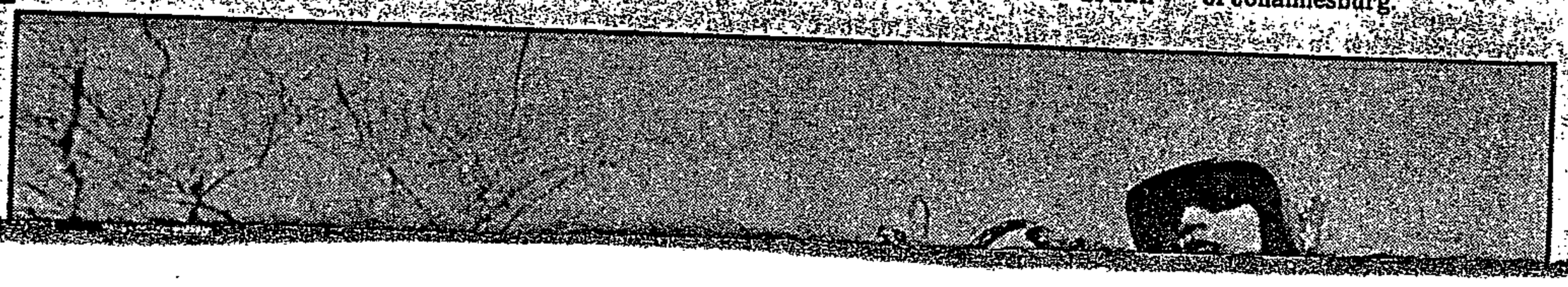
"The ANC delegation demanded the immediate suspension of the proposed sale and the opening of negotiations on alternative use of the land for the benefit of the homeless and landless people in the region," a statement from the ANC regional office read.

ANC PWV spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said the organisation was told yesterday that it had until next Tuesday to submit alternative proposals.

The move by the ANC to open negotiations on the use of Government-owned urban land forms part of a trend in which popular organisations are attempting to counter apartheid-style planning, which placed the poorest residents on the fringes of urban areas.

The Civic Association of Johannesburg, acting through the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, last year halted development at Rietfontein, the "second Soweto" planned about 50 km south of Johannesburg.

Pretoria Show set



'Right to land' asserted in Zevenfontein

STAR 26/8/92

By Montshiwa Moroke (310)

The Government had accepted that it could not move the community of Zevenfontein until it made suitable alternative land available to them, Geoff Budlander of the Legal Resources Centre said this week.

He was speaking at a two-day major seminar in Broederstroom focusing on "housing on the fringe", organised by the Transvaal branch of the Institute for Housing of Southern Africa.

He said the Zevenfontein community had succeeded in establishing a "right to land" concept and had asserted that the Government was under an obligation to make land available to all.

"What they demonstrated is that the most effective way for the homeless to make a land claim and establish a right, is to group together and erect their homes on vacant land.

"It seems that once you reach a certain critical mass, you become a player, and you can effectively establish a right," he said.

The strategy could only work where the authorities were either genuinely concerned about the situation of the homeless, or concerned about publicity as a result of demolitions.

The Greenbelt Action Group chairman, Anthony Duigan, said economic development and land ownership and usage would really test the depth of change in this country.

Mr Duigan said the success or failure of political issues hammered out at the national negotiating table would depend on the interface between the established property owners, mainly white, and the mass of the new, aspirant property owners, black people, who sought the security of an unqualified share of the resources of the country which had been withheld in the past.

The North West Rand was "the last great green belt" within the PWV and contained the greatest concentration of agricultural and recreational space in the area.

"The region has no accountable local authority, falling under the jurisdiction of the Local Government Affairs Council — the old Peri-Urban Area Board.

"In 1986 this area gained some notoriety and woke the normally apathetic white population of the region when it was designated for Norweto, a major black township."

Mr Duigan said the way forward was for whites to build new relationships with black landless people.

Shake-up necessary – retiring general

STAR 28/8/92

Helen Grange
Pretoria Bureau

The shake-up in the Police might create uncertainty among members, but is necessary to catapult the force into the new South Africa as a credible protector of human rights.

This was the message of Deputy Police Commissioner Lieutenant-General Henk de Villiers, one of the 13 generals retiring to make way for a restructured police force aimed at revolutionising police relations with the community.

In an interview with The Star, General de Villiers, who has spent 37 years in the SA Police, said he was not resentful of the need for his early retirement, as he was due to retire next May.

He could not, however, speak on behalf of the other generals.

The restructuring, he said, was made necessary by changing times and was vital to the improvement of police relations with the public.

There had be a great deal of criticism of the SAP, despite the fact that it was trying its best to protect the public.

"What upsets me is that I have been in the force for 37 years and the SA Police has always been fully committed to protecting the public. We're trying our best, but despite this, there is so much criticism," General de Villiers said.

Commenting on the retirements, he said it was time to give "younger men the chance to prove themselves".

He felt it was better to afford the generals the opportunity to retire rather than force them into new posts.

"There are different horses for different courses," he said.

General de Villiers said the changes had nothing to do with some generals not supporting the NP's reform policies, as had been suggested.

All of them had been very loyal, he said.

Among the generals retiring early is General G N Erasmus, who was involved in the arrest of ANC leader Nelson Mandela three decades ago.

It is understood there are three black potential generals in the SAP. They are currently writing exams as brigadiers.

Outcry follows police raid on Phola Park

STAR 28/8/92

By Brian Sokutu

In what the ANC alliance has described as "a violation of the Peace Accord," security forces raided Phola Park on the East Rand early yesterday, shot and injured at least one resident, and arrested 11 others.

Several shacks were damaged, allegedly by members of the SAP's Internal Stability Unit (ISU) in an operation described by Witwatersrand police spokesman Lieutenant J H L Weber as "a continuation of Operation Alpo".

Lieutenant Weber said two men had been arrested and nine others were being held for questioning. The search was intended to arrest "wanted criminals."

There was a mood of anger inside the squatter camp hours after the raid. Residents described how police had damaged their doors and furniture before ordering all men outside the shacks.

Men were escorted by police to an open space in Phola Park where they were split into two groups before being encircled with razor wire. The group was questioned for five hours.

Claudette Yakobi, who suffered bruises on her leg said: "I was running and fell after teargas was fired on us."

Later in the afternoon residents refused police orders to disperse, demanding that ISU Captain Justus Daniel Bruwer, who led the raid, "fix our homes".

"I'm not a carpenter. I can't fix anything," Captain Bruwer told an ANC delegation led by SACP deputy general-secretary Charles Nqakula.

Captain Bruwer denied police were responsible for the damage to the shacks. He said he fired a warning shot for residents to disperse "after being thrown with stones by residents".

"One policeman, also hit by the stones, pulled the trigger and someone was shot." But residents claimed three people were shot.

ANC PWV spokesman Wally Mbele said the manner in which police had conducted the raid was "a violation of the Peace Accord". He asked why the police did not consult local leaders before the raid.

"I wonder whether any civilised police force would keep residents hostage so that they are unable to go to work."

DP voices regret at Calitz's appointment

STAR 28/8/92

The Democratic Party yesterday said it had noted "with regret" the appointment of Eastern Cape SAP Regional Commissioner Lieutenant-General J F Calitz as Commissioner for the Witwatersrand region.

The appointment follows the announcement by Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel of sweeping restructural changes aimed at restoring credibility.

DP justice spokesman Tony Leon said in a statement the DP also noted the decision to replace Major-General Gerrit Erasmus as Witwatersrand Regional Commissioner and replace him with General Calitz, "disturbing".

Referring to the arrest of two Umkhonto we Sizwe members in connection with the murder of Addo farmer Andre de Villiers, he said: "General Calitz's bombastic and intemperate performance against the ANC in reaction to the arrest of two MK operatives on charges of Mr de Villiers' death, suggests he will lack the non-partisanship required to police effectively the PWV region, which is racked by volatility and violence.

"Where members of the ANC commit crimes, they must be relentlessly pursued, arrested and punished. However, for the 'top cop' in the PWV area to arrive fresh from such a public and demeaning brawl with the ANC poses grave questions about the effectiveness of the rest of the reform package."

Mr Leon said General Calitz's appointment contradicted the announcement of a "new policing style" by the Minister, who had stressed that "emphasis will be placed on the key aspect of total impartiality." – Sapa.

Hernus Kriel ... aim of restructuring was to improve the credibility of the police, improve management and make police more visible.

Force 'not yet representative of new SA'

STAR 28/8/92

By Michael Sparks

Despite the radical changes in the upper echelons of the police, Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel said last night that the force did not yet represent the new SAP.

"That will have to be restructured under a new constitution," he said on the SABC's "Agenda".

Answering questions put to him by The Star's political editor Shaun Johnson, Beeld political correspondent Arrie Rossouw and Penny Smythe of "Agenda", Mr Kriel said the country would have to study the federal model of policing with provisions for an overarching federal police force with regional and city forces.

The aim of the restructuring was to improve the credibility of the police, improve management and strengthen the visibility of police.

Mr Kriel denied that the restructuring had anything to do with complying with the 14 conditions of the ANC before it would re-enter negotiations.

Lower SAP ranks worry about jobs

STAR 28/8/92

By Bronwyn Wilkinson
Crime Reporter

Lower and mid-ranking police officers yesterday greeted the sweeping changes to the police force with cautious optimism, but some expressed concern about their own job security.

Officers approached by The Star agreed the shake-up announced yesterday by Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel would lift sagging morale, but said promotions and retirements would have to be sensitively implemented to avoid resentment from white police officers.

"If they have to make up for all the discrimination in promotion in the past, the white officers — particularly the men — will obviously now be last in line for promotions," a colonel said.

"And if the generals can be asked to quit, what about the rest of us?"

He said the issues of promotion and retirement would have to be handled very delicately.

A black officer, who asked that his rank not be mentioned, said black policemen would be elated at the new promotion opportunities, but they would have to know they were being promoted on merit and not on a token basis.

A lieutenant-colonel said morale had been at an all-time low.

"Maybe this will rescue the image of the police, which will help us to be more effective."

He cautioned that if the promotion of black officers was done in a "so-called affirmative action way, where the rest of us get left behind", it would be "a total mess".

He said most policemen were "hurt" that they had not been informed of the changes.

"All changes affect all of us directly. We should have been told."

He said most white officers were prepared to adopt a wait-and-see attitude before passing judgment.

"But we are all watching our backs very carefully," he added.

Unions hail restructuring

STAR 28/8/92

By Thabo Leshilo
Labour Reporter

The country's two largest trade union federations, the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) and the National Council of Trade Unions (Nactu), yesterday welcomed the decision by the Government to restructure the National Manpower Commission (NMC).

The announcement was made by Manpower Minister Leon Wessels on Wednesday.

If the proposal received wide support, the commission would operate as an advisory body to the Minister, staffed equally by employer representatives, employee representatives and Government appointees.

Cosatu said in a statement that the delay in the decision — the move comes 18 months after the term of the previous NMC expired — was detrimental to the constructive approach to labour matters by employers, unions and the Government.

The Cosatu executive will meet at the end of next week to decide whether to take part in the restructured NMC.

The trade union federation withdrew from the Government's advisory body on labour affairs last year.

Some of the conditions the federation gave for leaving were that the commission needed to become an effective negotiating forum, employers and trade unions should have equal representation, and the Department of Manpower should be represented and be bound by majority decisions.

Nactu general-secretary Cunningham Ngcukana welcomed the development to make the NMC more representative and democratic.

He, however, also opposed its advisory status.

Mr Ngcukana said the agreements reached in the NMC should be binding on all parties involved.

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6 SEPT

...used special fee of R25 for rabies inoculation.

...MP Tony Leon to improve council relations with residents. Picture:Stephen Davimes.

...be dispatched immediately.

Homeless air their grievances

STAR 31/8/92

(310)

About 4 000 homeless women, men and youths took to the streets in Johannesburg on Saturday, marching to the Civic Centre to demand that the authorities address their plight.

The throng, bristling with ANC colours, belted out political songs amid ululations. Riot policemen in armoured vehicles followed close behind.

"Land for the people, homes for the homeless" a placard read.

"Mass action is the only aspect left for the people who are homeless to embark upon to force the Government to recognise these grievances," a leaflet handed out declared.

The protest was called by the ANC-aligned Operation Masakhane for the Homeless (Omhle) which claims a membership of more than 600 000 in the squatter camps and other informal settlements.

Veteran anti-apartheid activist Albertina Sisulu and top officials of Ohmle led the march and handed over a petition addressed to President F W de Klerk and relevant authorities.

"Our objective is to encourage understanding about the plight of our people with the hope that it should result in actions by the relevant authorities and interest groups to alleviate the miserable conditions under which we live," Omhle general secretary Keith Motsitsi said, reading the petition to the crowd.

In the petition, the protesters demanded that the Government negotiate in good faith in talks for a new political order, and that they have a say in the provision of accommodation.

"Our demand is: let politicians get back to the negotiating table and negotiate in good faith because, at the end of the day, the people who suffer the most are we, the homeless and landless people," he added.

Mr Motsitsi demanded that the Government act firmly to end the violence which had claimed thousands of lives since ANC leader Nelson Mandela was freed two years ago.

He also called for the masses to be involved in the provision of homes in settlements.

"What we are saying is that we want to be involved. We want to be involved from the outset because we know what our immediate needs are. We are not saying 'give us houses'. The State has to provide the materials," he added. — Sapa.

...by David Walsglass
Gordon Coulthart

Squatters 'will need 400 000 homes'

(310)

STAR 2/9/92.

There would be a need for 400 000 homes to accommodate squatters by the year 2000 but there was only infrustructure to provide a maximum of 80 000, TPA chief housing planner Paul Waanders said yesterday.

Speaking to MPs, MECs and journalists on a tour of informal settlements on the Witwatersrand, he said although most of the growth would take place in the Witwatersrand area, not much land was available for the setting up of informal settlements there.

The TPA had access to far more land on the East Rand than projected population growth in that area indicated a need for. This land would be developed for housing.

NP MP for Germiston Derek Christophers said more should be done to control population growth.

Even with curbs on population growth, urbanisation by the turn of the century would be unmanageable.

It would take a budget for informal housing of R1,31 billion a year to provide for all the people in need of accommodation, but that would also mean contrators, administrators and other developers had to be available on the scale necessary to do this. — Sapa.

Zevenfontein moment of truth

STAR 8/9/92

By Shirley Woodgate (310)

The Transvaal Provincial Administration and eight other respondents must show cause today why the temporary interdict granted against the TPA's relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters to Nietgedacht, should not be made permanent.

The latest round in the row over the settlement of squatter families temporarily moved from Zevenfontein farm to the present adjoining site on Rietvallei 538 JQ in October 1991 follows a Pretoria Supreme Court ruling on July 24.

This ruling by Mr Justice Isak de Villiers was in response to an urgent application by the Jukskei Crocodile Catchment Area Land Owners' and Residents' Association (JCCA) calling for a halt to squatter removal and further development of the Nietgedacht resettlement site.

Mr Justice de Villiers also referred earlier applications by the Diepsloot and Laezonia Landowners' and Residents' Association in respect of squatter settlement in Diepsloot to oral evidence on November 9.

It was stressed in leading argument that many more than the original 790 Zevenfontein squatter families were involved in TPA plans for relocation.

In fact, said JCCA chairman Dave Ware, some 36 000 squatters were to be moved into the heart of the up-market north-west Rand smallholdings. Many of those due to be settled by the TPA on the 6 000 sites would be brought in from areas including Phola Park.

Nietgedacht spokesman Wessel Swart said the planned relocation and concern about water pollution were some of the main areas of dispute, as it was believed the TPA would be unable to control the size of the development.

He said that by yesterday the JCCA and seven other applicants — mainly residents in the area — had not received the TPA's answering affidavits, which should have been filed before August 21.

In the light of the TPA's failure to act in time, a postponement was possible today, he said.

Sites for low-cost housing identified

From Page 1

been made at this stage regarding which sites will be developed or how they will be developed. Local authorities, the province, civics and regional services council have been given until October 31 to comment, when a more detailed investigation will begin.

The study area stretches from Sandton and Modderfontein to Midrand and Tembisa, including land north-west of the Sandton and Randburg urban areas; to the north of Roodepoort and Krugersdorp; to Johannesburg's Klipriver Valley, the southern portions of Alberton, Germiston and Boksburg; to the Vaal Triangle and East Rand.

Land considered available has been ranked according to high, medium and low priorities and includes vacant land — large farms, smallholdings and erven; undeveloped land — smallholdings or partially developed large sites such as prison or hospital infrastructures; land affected by dolomite; minor spruits and pans; and certain informal settlements. (See graphic.)

Most of the land is privately owned by banks, pension funds, individuals and consortiums and developers.

Land not suitable for residential purposes is described as existing public and private open space (from private golf courses to proclaimed nature reserve areas), major airport sites such as Jan Smuts, land taken up by bulk-services installations, and mine dumps.

Johannesburg management committee chairman Ian Davidson said the report was merely a land audit, not a recommendation, and the city council would study it very closely. "I wish to emphasise that no decisions have been taken," he said.

The study area was extended to include areas on the Metropolitan Chamber's boundaries, but excluded the Vaal Triangle and far East and West Rand and Pretoria.

The study emphasises that before decison-makers taking final decisions and the selection of sites and development, a more detailed investigation would be required.

The investigation of land inside urban areas suitable for low-cost housing will be the subject of another study commissioned by the chamber.

The land task team recommended that the land availability study be expanded to include the entire PWV area.

It stressed that a regional planning authority had to conduct co-ordinated and integrated development planning and that negotiation between all stakeholders was crucial.

Court halts resettlement

Pretoria Correspondent 310

The resettling of the Zevenfontein squatters to the farm Nietgedacht will not take place, pending the final outcome of a court action in the Pretoria Supreme Court in which the Jukskei Crocodile Catchment Area landowners are asking for a restraining order against the Administrator of the Transvaal. Star 9/9/92

The landowners and residents are opposed to his relocating the Zevenfontein squatter community on the farm.

An order granted on July 24 called the Administrator and eight other respondents to show cause yesterday why an interim interdict restraining them from taking any steps to take possession of the land should not be made final.

In terms of a draft order, made an order of court yesterday, the matter was postponed indefinitely. The interim interdict will apply pending final determination of this matter.

STAR 9/9/92

High priority areas suitable for low-cost housing

310

Rable Ridge, Temblsa: Kempton Park and Mooifontein sites, Rable Ridge extension

Kempton Park and Germiston infill areas: Van Riebeeck Park, Ester Park, Elandsfontein, Primrose, Kempton Park North, Glenkarin, Avonwold, Pomona

Alexandra: Frankenwald, East Bank, Rietfontein Hospital

Roodepoort: Princess, Cresswell Park

Bartlett: South of Jan Smuts Airport

East, north of R22: Atlasville in Boksburg, Mackenzie Park, Cloverdene, Crystal Park, Daveyton, Benoni extensions

Boksburg south of R22: Delmore, Elsburg, Parkdene, Boksburg East, Leeupoort, Elspark

Soweto area: Booysens, Crown Mines, Rivasdale, New Canada, Fleurhof, Main Reef, Industria

SE Alberton : Brackenhurst, Mulbarton, Palmietfontein, Angus

SE of Johannesburg : Katlehong, Heriotdale, Regent's Park, Steeldale, Gosforth Park, Norton Small Farms Union, Natalspruit, Junction Hill, Albertsdal, Klippoortjie, Roodekop, Rooikop, Vlakplaats, Kate Home

Kagiso East

N1 RANDBURG TEMBISA ALEXANDRA N3 EDENVALE NORTHCLIFF KEMPTON PARK R22 R41 ROODEPOORT JOHANNESBURG R29 GERMISTON BOKSBURG N1 SOWETO N13 ALBERTON R23 KATLEHONG

Graphic: SHAHN IRWIN

Reef plan ready by year end

STAR 10/9/92

By Louise Marsland
Municipal Reporter

An interim strategic development plan for the greater central Witwatersrand should be in place by the end of the year, the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber heard last night.

Wits Professor Alan Mabin, who led the chamber's Land Task Team which identified land in the region suitable for low-cost housing, said an interim document containing proposals for a regional development strategy would be available soon.

Metropolitan Chamber chairman Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert, attempting to allay the fears of landowners and other stakeholders, stressed that the land availability study was merely a "land audit" of existing vacant land in and around the central Witwatersrand and should only be seen as an input to a future strategy plan.

Professor Mabin said the report was the first study undertaken in SA to be funded by a public authority — the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) — in which community participation was an integral part.

Chairman of the chamber's physical development working committee, Graham Phirie, said their challenge was to manage the urbanisation process.

The Land Task Team comprised representatives from the Urban Foundation, the Development Bank of Southern Africa, the Johannesburg City Council, the Transvaal Provincial Administration, the CWRSC and Johannesburg civic bodies.

● Urbanisation boost – Page 11

Worries of the world can wait . . . a scrap-metal collector stops to take a pinch of snuff and smoke a cigarette next to some newspaper posters in President Street, Johannesburg. Picture: Ken Oosterbroek

Taverners air grievances against SB

STAR 10/9/92

By Montshiwa Moroke

The love-hate relationship between the National Taverners' Association (NTA) and South African Breweries (SAB) came out into the open at a meeting of shebeen and tavern owners in Soweto yesterday.

The meeting was attended by hundreds of members of the Soweto Taverners' Association at Uncle Tom's Hall in Orlando West to discuss, among other things, the conduct of SAB, crime, and legal constraints created by the Liquor Act.

A string of complaints were voiced by members against SAB, including the "insensitivity of SAB when dealing with shebeen and tavern owners and failure to consult operators when the brewery increases prices".

Several resolutions were passed, including one to pull down SAB posters in shebeens and taverns and burn them if SAB refused to hold discussions with the NTA.

The meeting also called on SAB to offer discounts and introduce incentives and that the NTA executive should seek an urgent meeting with SAB within 10 days.

Executive NTA members claimed they had tried to meet SAB for the past 10 months.

NTA public relations officer Saint Madlala told members that a delegation of NTA members would meet Deputy Minister of Trade and Industries Dr Dawie de Villiers in Pretoria on September 23 to discuss the constraints in the Liquor Act.

It was resolved that the formation of defence units be discussed speedily so as to combat crime, especially hold-ups.

Shot in the arm for urbanisation

STAR 10/9/92 (310) (127) (342)

Vacant and undeveloped land on the outskirts of urban areas on the Reef has been identified as possible sites for informal housing, writes Municipal Reporter LOUISE MARSLAND.

THE CENTRAL Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber made its Land Availability Report public last night, announcing that 180 sites in a 164 000 ha study area have been identified as suitable for informal residential settlements.

The study was commissioned as a result of criticism by Johannesburg civic associations last year of the Transvaal Provincial Administration and Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council's proposals for the Rietfontein township development and the lack of planning alternatives, community participation and distance of Rietfontein from major employment centres.

According to a statement released last night by the Metropolitan Chamber, the intention is that, after discussion of this report by the chamber's parties, an overall strategy plan for the region will be developed to identify and analyse all potential land suitable for urbanisation, and to assess the opportunities and constraints presented by land which is suitable for development.

The chamber's land task team concentrated on the identification of available land for low-income housing development in the greater central Witwatersrand — from Sandton to Modderfontein, Midrand to Tembisa, Roodepoort to Krugersdorp, the southern parts of Johannesburg, Alberton, Germiston and Boksburg, to the East Rand and land north of the Vaal Triangle.

The report does not claim to make proposals about which sites should be developed for low-income housing — it only identifies sites which have a high potential for low-income housing.

Metropolitan Chamber secretary Vic Milne said a final decision on which area to pump the region's resources into would be taken only after more detailed investigation.

"This is the first major step forward to getting affordable accommodation strategies on the table. Any development must be an integrated approach. The final decision and final recommendations will be made before the end of the year," Mr Milne said.

He said new settlements had to have an economic base and be self-sufficient.

The Star revealed yesterday that 11 areas had been identified in the north-west of the study area as highly suitable for informal housing.

The study recognises that the legacies of apartheid have resulted in a severe land and housing shortage, particularly for the low-income group; excessive travelling distances between home and work; racially structured land, housing and rental markets and inefficient use of resources; severe social and health problems related to overcrowding and poor living conditions; large numbers of people in informal settlements facing threat of relocation; forced removal of people from their land and possible demands for restitution; and concentration of large-scale land ownership in the hands of a small white minority.

According to the report, past policies have tended to ignore the affordable housing question as well as the chronic land and housing shortages on a national and metropolitan scale.

Civic Association of Johannesburg general-secretary Cas Coovadia said the need to provide low-cost housing in the region was crucial. It was now up to the chamber to develop a strategy for low-cost housing and commercial and industrial development in the region.

He said this was the first land investigation that had community participation as an integral facet.

The aim of including a community participation programme in the overall study was to begin integrating the process of community involvement in the planning process.

Mr Coovadia cautioned against a hysterical reaction from landowners and said there was no need for panic as everyone would be involved in the process.

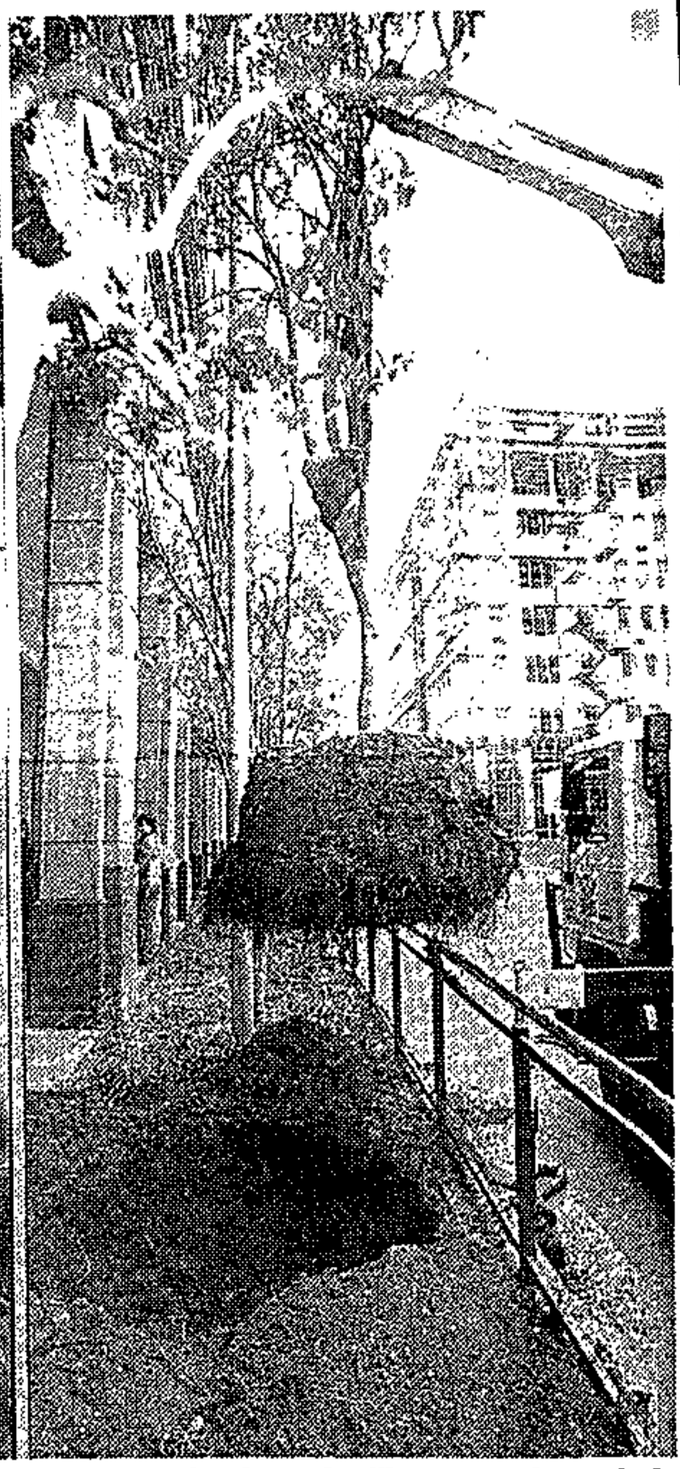
Some of the important principles of the study include the need to promote integrated urban development; promote the creation of work opportunities; include effective community participation and decision-making; the efficient use of financial and human resources; and measures to protect the environment.

Although most of the land available for development consists of either smallholdings or large farm portions, the existing urban areas must not be excluded, the study states, and should be the subject of further investigation.

Land regarded as high priority includes large farms and land owned by the State, the TPA or local authorities. Medium-priority land consists of smallholdings and land owned by large companies. Privately owned land and township erven are regarded as of low importance.

According to the report, past increases in the black population in the region have not been catered for in the planning of new residential areas, due to a combination of apartheid policies and economic factors, resulting in squatting, informal settlements, backyard shacks and a backlog in the provision of housing stock.

And with the black population in Johannesburg and on the East and West Rand expected to increase to around 5 million by the turn of the century, between 2,1 and 2,7 million additional people will need homes up to the year 2 000, based on present figures. □



First National Bank has been forced to move two recently planted willow trees from their positions outside the new Bank City complex. The trees, which were found to be in the way of tunnel excavations at the building site, have been donated to the Kelland Bird Sanctuary in Randburg. Watching the relocation operations yesterday were FNB project manager Mel Buckley, top left, and Bruce Davidson of the Wildlife Society, and Miss Randburg Caron Saunders.

Pictures: ROBERT BOTHA

Electricity the key for entrepreneurs

B1 Bdy 11/9/92 310

WILSON ZWANE

ISAAC Madisa is disabled and illiterate. Yet he conducts a roaring business in the tiny settlement of Elandskraal in the sweltering northern Transvaal.

Madisa owns a smart home, a bakery, a general dealer store, three trucks and a bakkie. He estimates his monthly turnover at more than R100 000. He employs 20 local people, who were unemployed before he started his businesses.

And Madisa is not the only entrepreneur in Elandskraal. Fellow residents have set themselves up in manufacturing, retail and entertainment.

This does not sound like a normal picture of SA township life.

And, indeed, all this prosperous commercial activity was not in evidence in Elandskraal a mere 20 months ago.

Before December 1989, the township did not have electricity. Sources of energy were wood, paraffin, coal and gas.

Madisa and his fellow businessmen agree that electricity has been a transforming experience for them.

They point to the great advantages afforded to communities with electricity. As they have shown, people can start small businesses, thereby creating job opportunities in their midst.

ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa said in July last year the country could begin tackling the huge unemployment problem if electricity was provided to all South Africans.

Manufacturing and mining were areas where there would be most benefits, Ramaphosa said.

Eskom public affairs executive Johan du Plessis concurs, but says more than just electricity is needed to develop communities: both the public and private sectors have to share in providing underdeveloped communities with skills and resources they need to start their small businesses.

Du Plessis says with a bit of help from the public and private sector, small businesses can mushroom everywhere in the country where there is electricity.

But he points out that Orange Farm, south of Johannesburg, is one example of a community developing at a snail's pace despite having electricity.

In sharp contrast to Elandskraal — which has fewer than 2 000 households — Orange Farm is a sprawling township with more than 70 000 people living in 12 000 homes.

Unlike Elandskraal, Orange Farm does not have a dry cleaner, a disco, a bakery or a shopping centre.

Orange Farm has been electrified to a large extent, but it has only one general dealer. There are two properly built schools, but also four pitifully shabby schools which have been converted from chicken runs and horse stables.

So what is the essential difference between Elandskraal and Orange Farm, that is preventing the latter from developing as a commercial and light industrial centre? Most experts grope for an answer.

Maybe the relative "youth" of Orange Farm — it sprang up only in 1989 — is a factor. Many of the squatter community there are displaced individuals and the community lacks cohesion.

Du Plessis also believes Orange Farm people are hindered from starting their businesses by a lack of funds from financial institutions.

Much of the reluctance of business to lend to township residents, or invest in squatter areas, has stemmed from the violence. Although Orange Farm — unlike its neighbouring townships, Sebokeng, Evaton, Sharpeville and Boipatong — has been relatively quiet in recent months, it has been tarred with the same brush.

According to a recent survey conducted for a business development organisation, the Get Ahead Foundation, only 9% of informal entrepreneurs were able to get loans from banks.

But Du Plessis is confident that Orange Farm's size and its proximity to Vereeniging give it great potential for a business boom — if only there were sufficient confidence to get investment going.

Ironically, Madisa and the other Elandskraal entrepreneurs obtained loans from the now defunct Development Aid Department, closed down as a result of widespread corruption among its officials.

Defiant squatters live on time bomb

(310)

STAR 14/9/92

By Shirley Woodgate

About 500 squatters are living on a time bomb in Lenasia, unworried or unaware that they face death if their shacks plunge into massive sinkholes which may develop without warning in the underlying dolomite.

Despite notices erected by the Transvaal Provincial Administration after the release of a geological report in October last year, people in Zone 4 of the Thembalihle township adjoining Lenasia'a Extension 11 off Capella Street have dug in.

They live in the shadow of the coming rainy season when cave-ins could result from large amounts of water, washing away weathered material lying in underground cavities, said TPA spokesman Kobus Otto.

Geologists were alerted to the crisis when a drill used to test land in Zone 4 suddenly dropped into a hole 10 m below the surface, he said.

The TPA immediately offered to move the 173 families in that area to temporary, safer ground on the other side of the informal settlement which has swelled to more than 20 000 people in 3 500 shacks since 1986.

"But residents refuse to be shunted twice, and want a single move to permanent land 20 km from Johannesburg in Lenasia Extension 13 or at St Martin's Trust near Eldorado Park," said Thembalihle Residents' Committee chairman Daniel Bovu.

Mr Otto said there had been further delays because land identified by the residents was controlled not by the TPA, but by either the House of Delegates or the Johannesburg City Council.

Mr Bovu said people were suspicious that the geological report was merely an excuse to implement an "apartheid" move under false pretences.

Squatters in fear of hostel dwellers

By MOSES MAMAILA

CIPRES 20/9/92. (310)

RATANDA squatters believe there is no place for them to hide – hostile hostel warlords will track them down.

Because of constant attacks by hostel dwellers, Mandela squatter camp residents fled to the Chris Hani settlement on the other side of the township in a bid to bring some peace into their lives.

They thought that if they put distance between themselves and the attackers their problems would be solved, but they were wrong. The battle rages on.

"It is heart-breaking that the targets include children," said retired 70-year-old Jacob Motaung.

Motaung, who depends on his pension to feed his extended family of 11, said he was forced to live in a squatter camp as he did not have the money for a house. But he now realised living near a hostel was tantamount to signing a death warrant for himself and his family.

"Although my family was not attacked during the bloody battles at Mandela camp, I could not stay there and wait for it to happen. There was constant gunfire and shacks were burnt by the dozen," he said.

However, he does not believe they are safe in the new settlement, and his fears are not unfounded.

Last week a group of heavily armed men, believed to be from the local hostel, unleashed a reign of terror at the Chris Hani camp.

Several shacks were damaged, and at least two people were killed in the pre-dawn attack. In one of the shacks, the impis wounded a three-year-old girl after killing her grandfather in front of her.

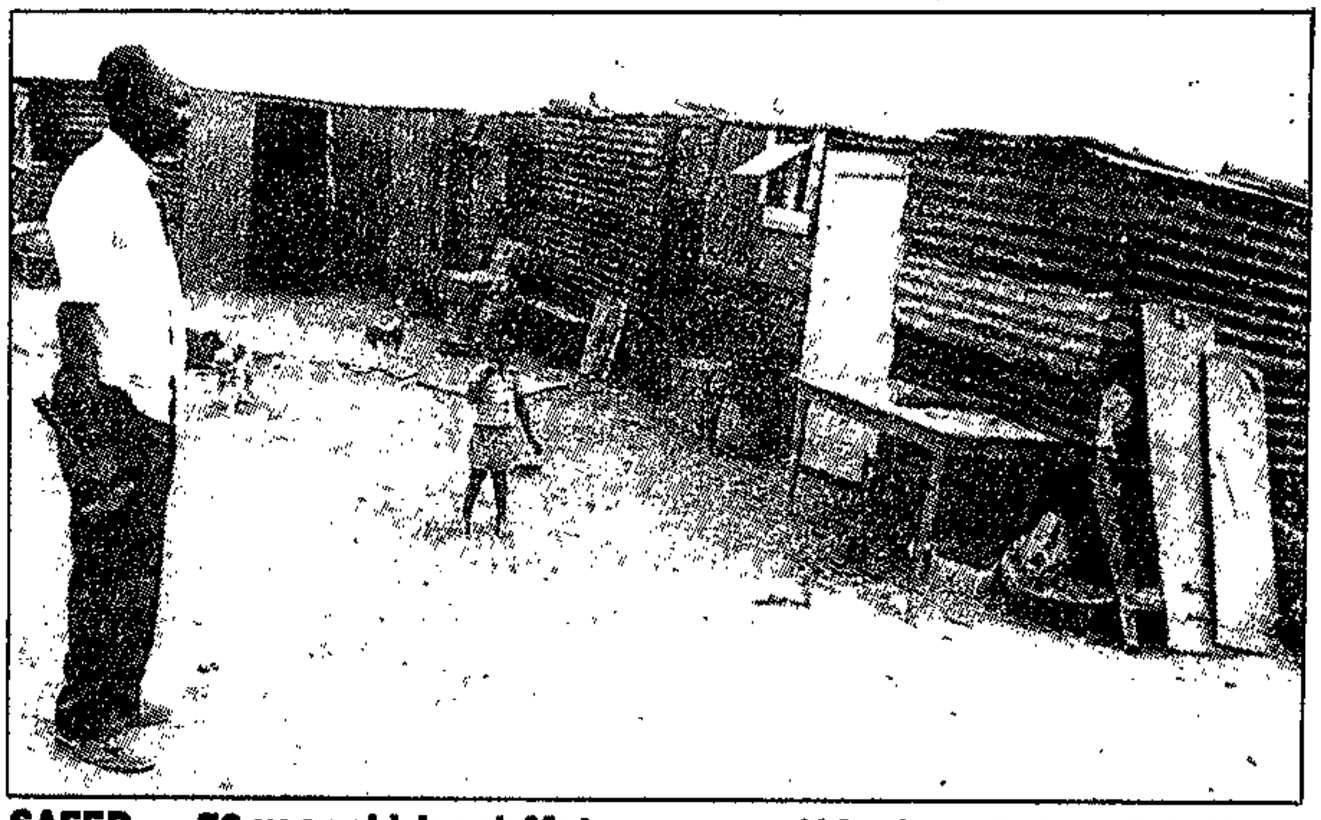
At least 15 people have been killed in two months of fighting between residents and hostel dwellers. Local ANC leaders peg the death toll at more than 30.

While the ANC blames the attacks on hostel-based men, Inkatha says the ANC sparked the violence by forcing non-strikers to join a strike at two local firms called by the Food and Allied Workers Union.

Fawu organiser Sakie Kekana says he is afraid there may be more violence following an agreement between his union and the managements at the two factories since it would lead to the dismissal of temporary workers, most of whom stay in the hostel.

"The violence is ripping us apart," said 67-year-old Annah Majola. She said she was reluctant to leave Mandela squatter camp because she did not believe it was possible to run away from death in Ratanda.

PESSIMISTIC ... Mandela squatter camp resident Annah Majola believes it is imposible to run away from death in Ratanda.



SAFER . . . 70-year-old Jacob Motaung moved his shack to the Chris Hani squatter camp on realising the danger of living near Ratanda hostel.

Shack fire kills three

CPress 27/9/92 310

By ELIAS MALULEKE

IT'S still not known what sparked the fire that gutted a tiny shack and claimed the lives of a destitute mother and her two children in Soshanguve last Monday night.

When City Press went to investigate the fire at Block P in Mshenguville, the shack was a pile of ashes.

Police initially believed the fire had been started by a candle.

However, the family of 33-year-old Betty Ndayeni Kubayi – who died in the inferno with her one-year-old daughter Christine, and her two-year-old niece, Bongi – think otherwise.

They believe the fire was started deliberately and that petrol was used to ignite the shack following a lovers' quarrel.

Neighbours told how they battled to extinguish the raging flames while the three victims trapped inside screamed for help.

"I have never seen anything like it – it was horrible," said neighbour Anna Mokgethwa.

She said when they tried to pour the little water they had over the fire, flames shot up "like angry gods".

'We heard them crying but we were helpless'

"We could hear their screams, but there was nothing we could do because there was not enough water. We could only stand and watch until the fire died down.

"When it was over, we found Betty clutching one of the children and the other lying next to a pressure stove."

Neighbours say if there had been enough water, they would have been able to contain the fire before it spread.

David "Rico" Ndlovu, said that when he rushed out to help fight the fire, he discovered there was no water.

"A government truck delivers water to the area three times a week but there was no water on Monday," he said.

According to family members, Kubayi – an unmarried and unemployed mother of four who made a living by selling purses – was asleep in the shack when it was allegedly set alight.

Grace Kubayi, the grieving mother of baby Bongani, said she left her child with her sister after visiting her on Monday night.

She said the shack belonged to her brother Joseph "Star" Kubayi, who lent it to Betty Kubayi on Saturday after she told him that a man had stabbed her in the back with a screwdriver.

On Wednesday "comrades" captured a suspect and later tried to "necklace" him for allegedly setting fire to the shack. He was rescued by the SA Police.

Police spokesman Maj Andrew Lesch said on Thursday that a suspect was being questioned in connection with the allegations.

NEWS FEATURE *An American journalist visits a 'squatter' camp and finds it safer than Hillbrow*

Wearing the other shoe in Ivory Park

FEAR AND IGNORANCE 70 visitors registered, 15 came

American Janet Connor and hostess Esther Zungu

Sowetan 11/10/92

By Janet Connor

310

AS A VISITING AMERICAN journalist, I wanted to experience South Africa. All of it and nothing held back. I'm almost there because I spent the weekend in a "squatter" community.

I participated in the Ivory Park Encounter organized by Koinonia, a group formed to eliminate colour barriers through the sharing of meals - and that weekend, homes.

Several of the older sons came to watch the television programme "Sending Vietnam" because their home is one of a few with electricity. I felt at home with a Coca-Cola and American war drama. After a pap and gravy meal, I lay in the master bed listening to neighbourhood partying, yapping dogs and rats scampering across.

Saturday was full of speakers, workshops, tours and soccer games, but my favorite was in the next-door garage where 50 locals sang Zulu songs, danced and drank the afternoon away. For me, this is as much about life as sewerage discussions; so occasionally I would slip away for a sip of beer and handshaking.

Geoff, an unemployed resident, admitted his embarrassment in showing his home because of its simplicity - a sentiment others echoed. This was disturbing because I am impressed by the pride Africans take in what little they have. Both sides learned something - people make the best of their situation and others admire that determination.

A dinner of rice and beans was prepared at home, and then we went back for a play and dancing. By then the group had swelled as others saw our fun. We loaded into taxis and headed for a shebeen.

Sunday morning was spent worshipping in a church housed in a clinic. Esther and I

I arrived Friday evening with another American woman after a 15-minute wait at a filling station where the driver checked the directions. A woman came out to confirm that indeed he was to drop two young, white women in the area.

"Yes, we want to go there," I said. She shook her head in disbelief.

At the Ivory Park community centre, we were greeted by optimistic yet apprehensive faces. Although 70 visitors registered, only about 15 showed, mostly foreigners.

Unlike most white South Africans, I spent my first week here living with a family in Soweto, a plausible setup to me yet unusual to others. Consequently, I was more at ease and knew to expect a sponge bath, no heat and no hair dryer.

Formal informal housing

Ivory Park is unique because it is a formal neighborhood with informal housing. Most houses are made of wood, tin or tarpaulin, but each yard is demarcated, and lots are allocated, thus no actual "squatting".

I was paired with Esther Zungu, a middle-aged mother of two (plus eight stepchildren) who with her husband, Johann, moved from a neighbouring farm in the initial wave two years ago. They are one of the few who erected a compound on their lot; they occupy three makeshift rooms and built seven brick rooms which they let.

Johann, who cannot find work, makes bricks for a permanent house, and Esther cleans offices. Their lot, although cluttered, was clean and organized. I was more suprised by the orderliness and practicality of their home than by the various building materials. Resourcefulness is fascinating.

played with a neighbor's with two-year-old Moses, a precocious boy who called me "Barbara Lowe", the name of a white social worker - his term for a white woman.

Close the encounter

The afternoon session was a programme rich with singing, sermons and dancing. The centre was full and swinging. A good note to close the encounter.

Unfortunately it is not easier or less intimidating to experience how others live. But exchanges such as Koinonia are a start.

But, peace and harmony and all that. After returning to Hillbrow, two female roommates and I anxiously walked to get a pizza. Both recently were mugged. Days later I was robbed at knifepoint, losing my camera and memorabilia from the weekend. Back to the paranoia and fear of the city.

This soured the feeling I took from Ivory Park where everyone agreed that maybe this mess will work out. Ah, but such is life.

Ivory Park

Established July 1990
Size 1 200 hectacres in Midrand
Lots 16 500 (ave. size 200sqm)
Rent R55 per month
Population Approximately 150 000
Water Tap per eight households
Sanitation Aquaprivy per lot
Electricity Began Sept. 1 in areas
Education No existing schools
Clinics One existing; two being built
Hospital None
Retail Informal spazas, taverns
Police No stations

Government must regulate prices, demand squatters

Soweton 5/10/92.

ESCALATING COSTS *Food prices have soared by 30 percent in just a year:*

Mrs Nelly Radebe and her children Glen, Given and Wilf

By Joe Mdhlela
Consumer Reporter

SQUATTERS DO NOT UNDERSTAND a rise in food price inflation in academic terms. They are a living experience of what abject poverty is all about.

Mrs Shirley Molepo of Mandela Squatter Camp in Katlehong described that for her the 30,4 percent food price increase failed to get to the heart of the matter.

"To me that is meaningless. That is how white people relate to increases. They use percentages, something that most of us are not familiar with. For me, I know that a 25lb bag of mielie-meal I used to pay R18 for, now costs R22.

"It's diabolical what the white man does. Three months ago the price was R18 and now this big increase to R22."

Her neighbour, Ms Nelly Radebe, also joined in the conversation.

"What this sister is saying is true. The prices have gone up and we can no longer cope. We survive because of good neighbourliness. If I don't have mealie-meal I share hers. Similarly I help her if she runs out of mealie-meal.

School-going age

"We share if one of us runs out of either money or food. That is how black people live," Ms Radebe said.

Ms Radebe (25) has three children, one of whom is of school-going age. But little Wilfred (7) has neither been to a pre-school or a school.

"He should have been to school but this has not happened. We do not have money to take him to school."

However Ms Radebe is hoping that her employer will intervene and help to take "my little Wilfred" to school next year.

Her husband Themba is unemployed after being retrenched a year ago.

"It is tough, I only earn very little and have to support my children and my unemployed husband.

"He was good to me, I cannot just be funny and not support him. He used to give me money when he had a job,," she said.

"With all these increases in food prices we cannot survive."

Shirley (31) who trekked to the Mandela Squatter Camp from the Crossroad camp two years ago at the height of inter-fractional skirmishes has a two-year-old child.

She complained that with her husband's wages of R160, it was barely possible to eke out a decent existence.

"We live from hand to mouth," she said.

She blamed the Government for the high price increases.

"Why, the Government has the power to cut down the prices. They would be reducing the prices if whites were affected. Now, because whites earn a lot of money, the Government is doing nothing to help the poor people."

She said even though they were not paying rent, the R160 her husband was earning was not enough.

"We hardly go to town to buy groceries," she said.

"What would be the point of going to town to buy cheap items when you are faced with high taxi fares?" she asked.

That is how Shirley and Nelly relate to the food price inflation which has rocketed to its highest point in more than 10 years.

The Central Statistical Services reported this week that food price increases have hit the 30,4 percent mark during the past 12 months, with vegetables prices rising by a staggering 88,7 percent.

Business leaders, including Mr Raymond Ackerman, this week reiterated that basic foodstuffs should be zero-rated from Value Added Tax, a view that was not shared by Finance Minister Derek Keys.

Mr Keys said he did no see how zero-rating would bring about the reduction of food prices.

However, a spokesman for Co-ordinating Committee on VAT, Dr Bernie Fanaroff, warned that the Government needed to be wary of the anger that could be unleashed by disgruntled consumers.

In their simple ways, to the women the difficult economy counted for nothing.

Their basic concern was that the Government should provide more jobs so that they would be able to afford to live.

Food basket

Food price increase: 30,4 percent
Vegetable price increase: 88,7 percent.
Meat price increase: 27 percent.

PROPERTY Challenge to resolve housing crisis ● Actic

Mr Brian Wegerle of the ICC and Mr Obed Bapela of the ANC.

Violence a constant plague to housing

By Joshua Raboroko

■ POOR INFRASTRUCTURE Committee looks at why Alex housing is scarce:

VIOLENCE and large-scale unemployment have continued to plague the development of housing in Alexandra.

The situation has been aggravated by the unavailability of land, finance criteria applied by banks and building societies and the threat to boycott bond repayments. These are some of the views expressed at the Alexandra Housing Convention held last week.

Addressing the conference, chairman of the Interim Crisis Committee Mr Brian Wegerle said there were 46 000 shacks, three single-sex hostels and few middle-class homes in Alexandra.

Wegerle said infrastructure was poor - no sewerage or refuse removal and the township was "a health hazard".

It was evident that there was a housing backlog in the country, therefore everybody was being challenged to resolve the housing crisis.

But as long as violence continued to sweep through most of the townships, the housing backlog will not be solved because developers and financial institutions are reluctant to invest in the beleagured townships.

Financial institutions, the private sector, the business community, building industries and the current governing bodies were applying themselves to breaking this housing shortage, yet violence inhibited their moves, he said.

The population of Alexandra was 355 000, and 305 000 were unemployed. These people could not afford to buy homes, and financial institutions would not give them loans.

Problems highlighted were:

- Mushrooming of squatters near Alex;
- Call by South African National Civic Organisation to boycott bond repayments, and the fact that the organisation's president was a resident there;
- No networking between the residents and community organisations regarding the housing shortage.

bility for damage ● Acceptance of bribes alleged

Families warned of sinkholes in Lenasia

Sowetan 11/10/92

310

By Lulama Luti

DANGEROUS GROUND People refuse to move despite grave danger:

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration has warned about 3 500 families living in a dolomitic area in Zone 4, Lenasia, that it will not accept any responsibility should sinkholes develop.

According to the TPA, a complete geological survey conducted between Extensions 9 and 10 revealed that it was dolomitic and that the specific area in which the people lived (Zone 4) was very dangerous and that sinkholes may form.

The TPA chief director Physical Planning and Development Mr PPC van der Hoven said in a statement that local community leaders were informed about this and that the danger zones were pointed out to them.

"In May this year, we moved the people who resided on a portion of Zone 4 to a more stable area at our own expense. There is, however, a certain group of people who refused to be moved.

"On two occasions we erected notice boards to warn residents but these were removed. It should be noted that we cannot be held responsible for any harmful consequences to the squatters who still occupy the land," he said.

He added that the TPA in conjunction with the Land Task Team of the Metropolitan Chamber, the Johannesburg City Council and the House of Delegates were involved in ongoing negotiations to find suitable land for the resettlement of the squatters.

Squatters killed

THREE people were killed and two seriously injured when a mineworker from Ogies demolished their shacks with a bulldozer, SABC radio news reported yesterday. Sowetan (310)

A police spokesman said a 52-year-old Lesotho man, who worked at the Klipfontein mine near Ogies, had driven the bulldozer over eight squatter shacks on Sunday night. 13/10/92

The man then hid in a room, where some of the residents of the mining town arrested him.

The two injured squatters are being treated in hospital.

NEWS 'Quiet, non-violent' man runs amok with bulldozer

Massacre averted at colliery

■ **Colleagues are shattered by killings:**

By Tsale Makam

A MASSACRE at Klipfontein Colliery, Ogies, was averted when a bulldozer, used by a Lesotho labourer, broke down.

He had bulldozed 8 shacks and killed three people at the mine's compound on Monday.

"He had just demolished a whole line of houses and was trying to turn a corner to flatten the next line when the bulldozer broke down," an angry resident told *Sowetan* yesterday.

The 52-year-old Lesotho man is described by his Klipfontein Colliery fellow-residents and colleagues as a "quiet, normal person who never exhibited any violent tendencies".

He shocked the colliery's black residents in the early hours of Monday morning when he indiscriminately descended on the mud huts with the bulldozer.

Three people were killed. The two injured are still in Witbank hospital.

The man will appear in the Ogies Magistrate's Court today on three counts of murder and three of attempted murder.

Police said the man, who had refused to speak on Monday, yesterday told them that he was trying to level the ground to build a shack.

Squatter camp hero mourned

Star 14/10/92

The world is poorer for the death of Prince Mhlambi, reports WINNIE GRAHAM.

A REPORT in The Star this week said Prince Mhlambi and three others had been shot dead in the streets of Tokoza, near Alberton. No one knows who killed him or why.

In most South African homes, Mhlambi's death will mean little. He will largely be perceived as just another victim in yet another shootout.

In Phola Park, the overcrowded, squalid squatter camp where he lived and worked, however, he is being greatly mourned.

No one is likely to write his obituary. Not many will know his personal circumstances — other than that he lived in a shack, was neither rich nor famous or, beyond the area where he operated, even well-known.

And yet the world is the poorer for the death of Prince Mhlambi.

His story is that of Phola Park, the unfortunate settlement where violence has erupted regularly in the past year.

Books for the people . . . Prince Mhlambi started a "library" when these books were donated to Phola Park.

I first met Prince when I visited Phola Park. He was to be my guide on many visits. He knew all there was to know about the so-called settlement, a squatter camp which started in 1987.

As is so often the case, the local council ordered the squatters off the land because the site had been sold to a private developer. But the new arrivals had no place to go and so they stayed. Then came the bulldozers. Their shacks were demolished on July 22 1987, and for the next fortnight — in the heart of winter — the families camped in the open.

Prince worked with the local Catholic Church in trying to resolve the many problems which beset the growing community.

Once, after a Justice and Peace meeting at a church in the area, he asked for a lift home. When we reached the squatter camp, he wanted to be dropped on the outskirts.

"It's not safe for a woman here at night," he told me.

When violence erupted in Phola Park last year and the people fled to the Catholic Church in Eden Park, I inquired after Prince.

"He's okay," a woman told me. "He'll survive anything."

Again and again he emerged unscathed from the death and destruction that has plagued the squatter camp.

But he survives no longer. Prince Mhlambi is dead. □

Families ignore sinkhole risk

Sowetan 23/10/92

■ Mandela Squatter Camp residents say danger warning a ploy to get them to move:

3\0

By Nicolette Tladi

MORE than 1 000 residents of Mandela Squatter Camp at Bekkersdal on the West Rand are in danger of losing their shacks and face possible death or injury because of sinkholes.

However, the residents are refusing to move despite the Westonaria Town Council having declared the area a danger zone and appealed to them to go to alternative accommodation at Poortjie and Rietvallei.

One of the residents, who is also a member of the area committee, said yesterday "this sinkhole business is just propaganda from the municipality".

"We have no objection to moving but we have to prove that the move is really necessary and not just a hoax to evict us from this area.

"When we started settling here in 1990 we were continuously harassed by the police and detained under Act 52 of 1951," he said.

Westonaria Town Clerk Mr JH van Niekerk said yesterday that not only had the land been proclaimed a mining area and thus not suitable for residential purposes but occupation was also prohibited in terms of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act.

He said notices to this effect had been issued to the residents "who had simply ignored them".

Stunt to evict them

"Since then it has been difficult to raise the matter with the residents as they don't know anything about geomorphological theories and think this is just a stunt to evict them," he said.

The municipality would also not accept responsibility for any damage to property or loss of life which may result from ground movement as the land was in a dolomitic area.

Municipality surveyors who went there in 1990 and last year were chased away by inhabitants, Van Niekerk said.

The residents are made up of families of mineworkers at Westonaria, Kloof, Randfontein, Lebanon and Venterspost mines.

Squatter killed by horseman

■ Peace threatened:

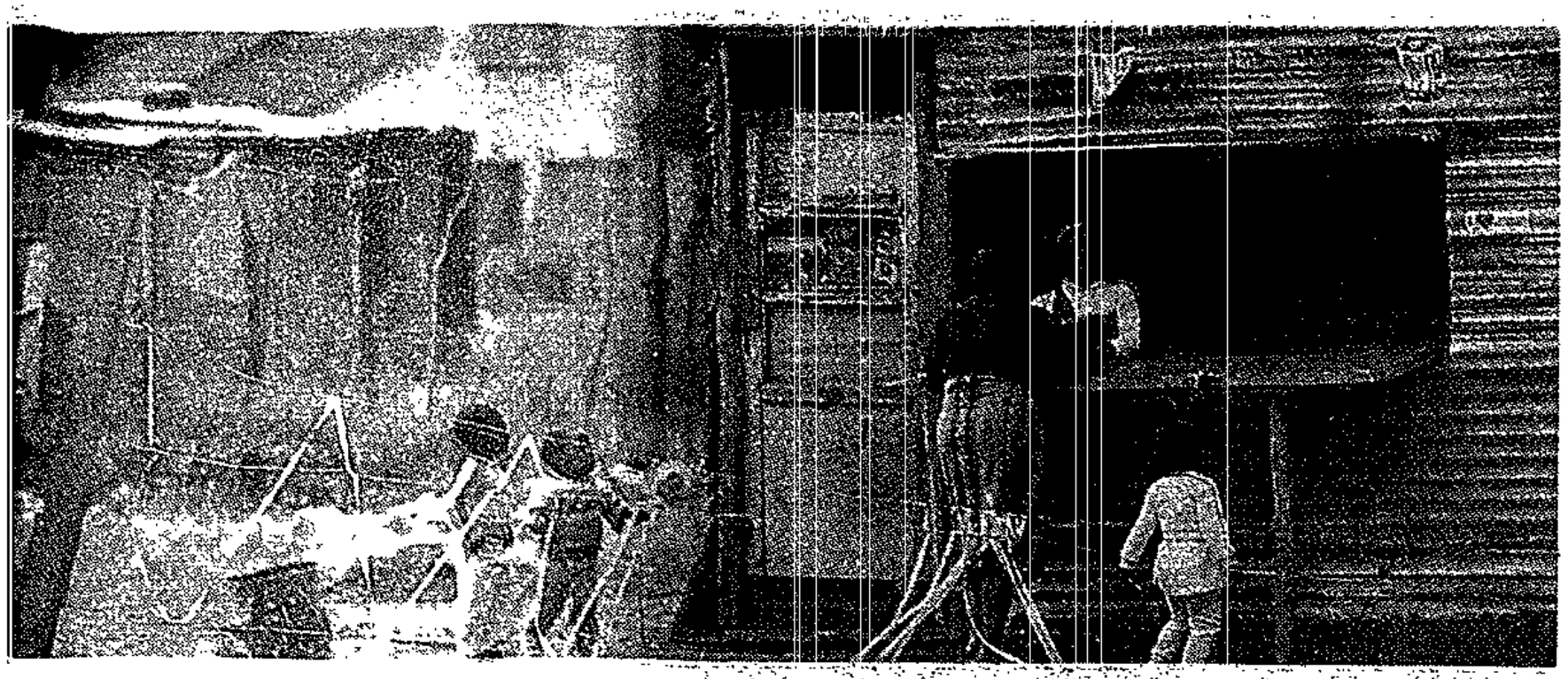
Sowetan 26/10/92

A 42-YEAR-OLD Zevenfontein man was allegedly shot dead by four white men yesterday while he and friends from the squatter settlement were looking for poles in a nearby veld.

The incident threatens the relative peace in Zevenfontein since violent clashes between the squatters and TPA officials over planned forced removals stopped a few months ago.

Police spokesman Captain Ida van Zweel confirmed the killing.

Violence almost erupted yesterday when residents attempted to stop police removing the body. — *Sapa*



ension is mounting between Lenasia's squatters and residents

Photo: KEVIN CARTER

Caught between a shack and a sinkhole

(310)

W|Mail 30|10 - 5|11|92

By JACQUIE GOLDING

A "ZEVENFONTEIN SCENARIO" is emerging in Lenasia, with mounting anger among householders over at least 30 000 shack-dwellers who have settled in the Indian township.

Local residents have launched a rent boycott to force the Transvaal Provincial Administration to act on the settlement, proposing that shack-dwellers be relocated to a large vacant lot in Lenasia's Extension 13 owned by the House of Delegates.

But a TPA plan to develop the lot for low-cost housing has been blocked by the House of Delegates, which wants to use it for Indian housing. The TPA has written to President FW de Klerk asking him to meet the demand for resettlement or risk further land invasion.

However, squatters stressed they had nowhere else to go.

The tricameral chamber has paid in excess of R60 000 a month over the past three years to secure the vacant lot, according to National People's Party MP Desmond Padyachey

"The House of Delegates could have resolved the problem from the onset by accepting a low-cost housing proposal," he said.

"Instead they preserve this white elephant and waste the taxpayers' money."

The shack settlement poses a delicate problem for the local branch of the African National Congress, which denies there are tensions between residents and squatters.

Shan Balton, ANC organiser in Lenasia, offered a different interpretation of residents' attitudes. "Residents would like the standard of living improved in these settlements," said Balton, "and the ANC has ensured that good relationships are maintained between the homeless people and the residents."

Sarah Skhosana, a resident in the camp adjacent to extension 9, said she had moved from Piet Retief with her four children but she "did not know where to go from here".

Frans Khonco, a fellow resident, moved into the area in 1988 with the first group of informal settlers. He is adamant that he will not move his family of nine unless he is given a house.

The ANC is encouraging shack-dwellers to stay where they are. But according to the TPA, the shacks have been built in dangerous sinkhole areas.

Residents in Lenasia's Extensions 9, 10 and 11 are hostile to the shack-dwellers, who are blamed for rising crime and seen as a health hazard and threat to property values.

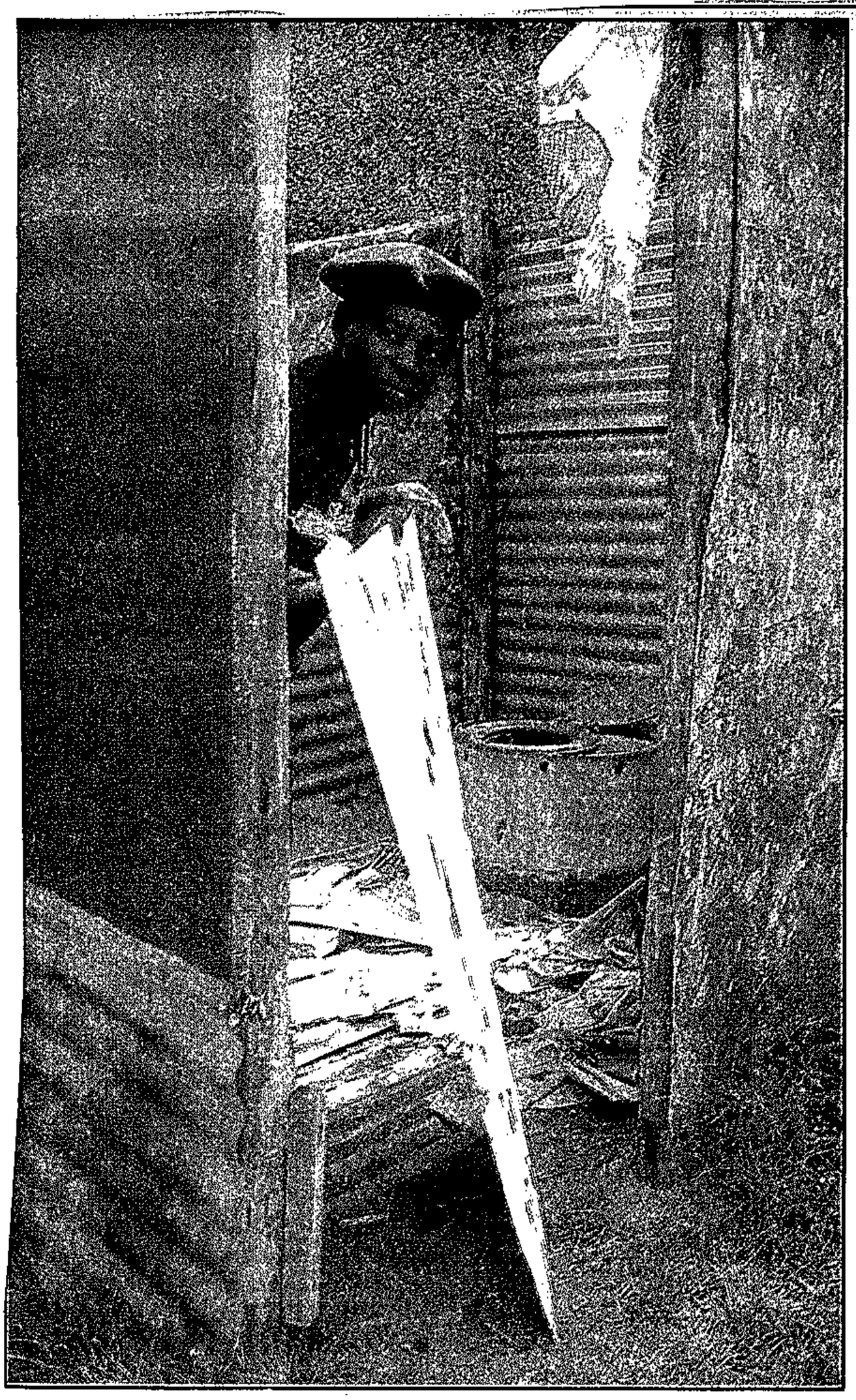
Yunus Bismillah said his car has been broken into twice and his house was burgled a month ago.

Tenants of a block of flats adjacent to the shack settlement have embarked on a rent boycott to urge the TPA to attend to the problem.

One tenant, Tony Paul, said his daughter and her friends had been attacked by shack-dwellers.

"They were threatened with knives and could have been killed," he said.

"The squatters should move, because they are hassling us and our children," said another tenant, Reuben Williams.



The land of milking 'em for money

C/Press 1/11/92 (310)

By MOSES MAMAILA

DOZENS of homeless people living in appalling shacks at a Honeydew plot this week accused their white landlord of charging them high rents.

Some families share a room and pay between R120 and R190 each in an old building with broken windows, while others stay in small shacks and pay R120 a person.

The "squatters" have accused the landlord, Barry Nilsson, of making a living from the outrageous rents. Water is only available for an hour each day and there are no toilets, except for the four pit-toilets, the squatters said.

A married father of two, Paul Mncube, 31, said his family shares a room with another couple who have two kids. They each pay R130 a month for rent and there is no electricity.

Their landlord allegedly constantly threatens dwellers with his gun.

One family was accommodated in a water tank which had been transformed into a shack and an elderly woman stayed in an old disused minibus which had no seats. Residents maintained that all these people were paying their rents.

Norman Maxhinyane, a popular former TV presenter, said most of the people moved into the area in 1990. He said Nilsson had promised them that the money they were paying would be used to build them houses.

Maxhinyane, who also runs a tuckshop, said people have since realised that these were all false promises as the man was only milking them to make ends meet.

All the residents interviewed complained of the lack of water and toilets, small shacks and high rents. They also said Nilsson always intimidated them with his gun when they fetched water during the one-hour water session.

They said the only day they were allowed to do washing was on Saturday. Otherwise they were only entitled to 20 litres a day.

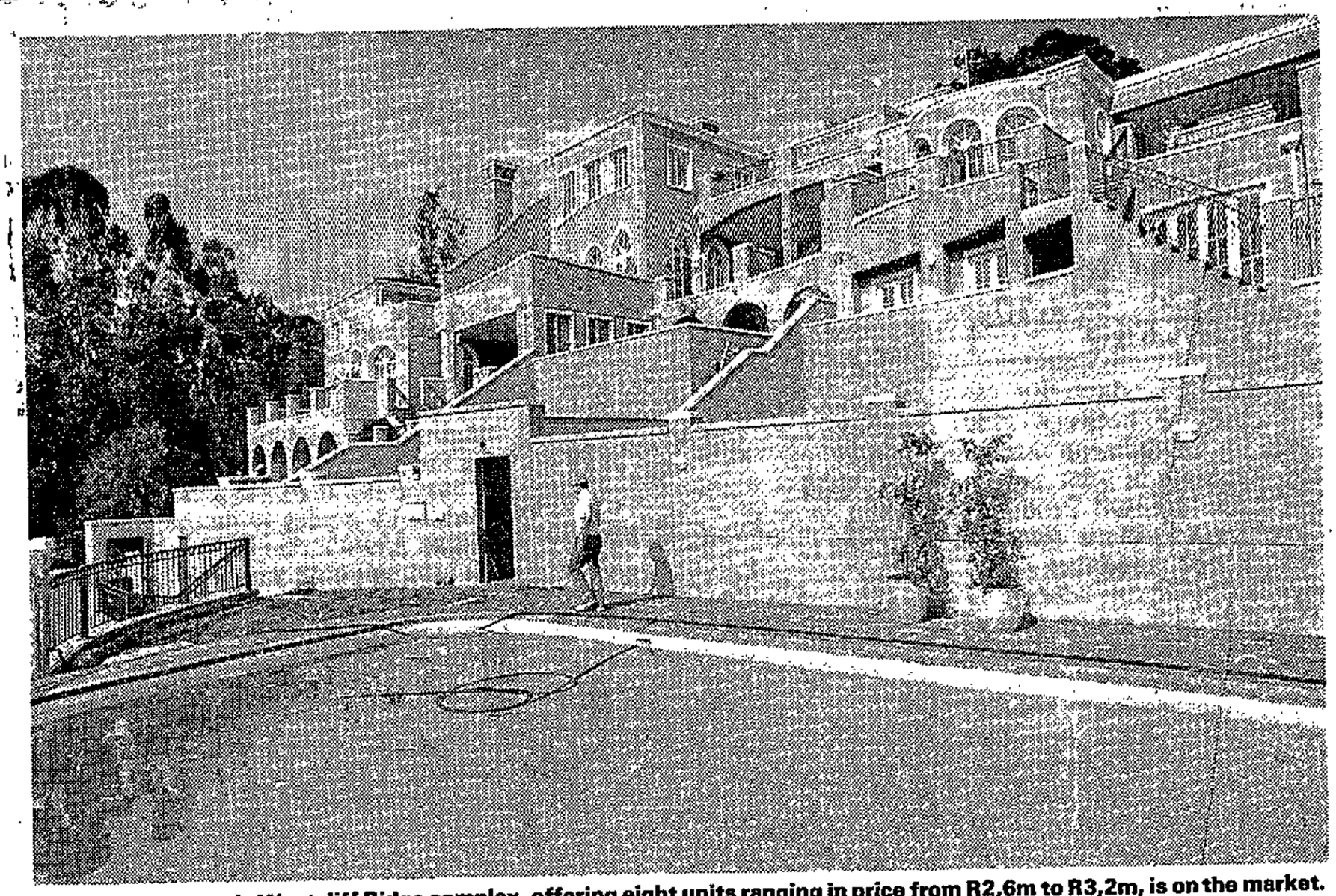
Responding to the allegations, Nilsson, who stays alone, said he introduced the water restriction after realising that water was being wasted.

Asked how much he charged for rent, Nilsson said about R40 to R60 a person, depending on the person's income.

"I am strict but also fair. If a person has a low income, I charge a low amount," he said, adding that he "liked helping black people".

About the people staying in the water tank and in the old minibus, Nilsson said the occupants had pleaded with him that they had no place to sleep and he allowed them to stay.

A WHACK FOR A SHACK ... Tenants are charged R120 EACH to stay in this kind of accommodation, (above). "I like helping blacks," claims landlord Barry Nilsson (right), alleged by locals to do most of his communication with tenants from behind the barrel of a gun. ■ Pic: MIKE MZILENI



Tiber Development's Westcliff Ridge complex, offering eight units ranging in price from R2,6m to R3,2m, is on the market. Units are available with two, three or four floors and command spectacular views of the north. Picture: ROBERT BOTHA

Bloubosrand 'serves as a lesson for homeowners'

MANY homeowners have expressed concern since events at Bloubosrand, north of Johannesburg, showed that squatters could become the neighbours of middle-class homeowners almost overnight, said Rode Report editor Erwin Rode at the FM investment conference last week.

"The suburb of Bloubosrand, on the edge of the built-up area of the Randburg municipality and bordering on the industrial township of Kya Sand, hit the headlines in January when it was announced that squatters from Zevenfontein would be housed next to this suburb," he said.

After strong opposition from owners it was decided to use the land for formal, low-cost housing.

"So how did these developments affect property values at Bloubosrand? No sales of stands took place in February but prices, surprisingly, kept on rising in March and April to peak at R43 000," Rode said.

"Then the rot set in, and by July prices had fallen to R34 000 — the levels achieved a year before.".

During the second half of 1991 house prices were growing strongly at Bloubosrand, reaching R149 000 in January 1992. In February there was one panic sale at R100 000, and by June average sale prices had fallen to R132 000, representing a capital loss of about 11%.

"I cannot comprehend that the authorities have not yet devised a spatial plan for our main cities considering that influx control was scrapped as long ago as the mid-'80s," he said.

However, it was inevitable that some property owners would be harmed by urbanisation, although planning could minimise this.

"The homeowner who wants to protect his most important asset must avoid areas that could be invaded, and proximity to open spaces, which includes farmholdings."

B/DAY 4/11/92

AWB cashes in on squatters

By JAN TALJAARD

AFRIKANER Weerstandsbeweging leader Eugene Terre'Blanche has a novel way of solving the AWB's financial problems — he has demanded a cut of money paid to a Krugersdorp businessman for the expropriation of the Swanieville squatter camp.

Terre'Blanche could not be reached for comment this week, but highly reliable sources say the AWB leader brought emotional pressure on Sarel Swanepoel, the former Swanieville landlord, by reminding him of the AWB's role in precipitating the expropriation.

Swanepoel was earlier this year awarded a substantial expropriation settlement — believed to be in excess of R4-million — by the Transvaal Provincial Administration after calling in the AWB to remove the squatters from his property.

The AWB is understood to be in serious financial trouble after a series of legal actions against it. The businessman is said to have donated enough money to cover current legal costs incurred by the AWB.

When going is rough, streets get busy

By JENNIFER GRIFFIN

MZIKAYIFANI Ndlovu quit his job as a security guard in January to set up shop on a Johannesburg street corner, where he now sells chocolate bars, peanuts and plastic earrings.

Ndlovu earned R500 a month as a security guard. Now he earns over R3 000 a month – six times more – by hawking his wares seven days a week on the crowded Johannesburg pavements.

Prior to the reform of apartheid, he would not have been allowed inside the city limits without formal employment in a white-owned business.

Rapid changes have transformed Johannesburg from the sterile white city that attempted for decades to imitate the West into a bustling, chaotic African metropolis.

Since 1986 when influx control laws disappeared, a flood of people emerged looking for work in the cities.

Population growth after years of forced overcrowding in the townships has led to a shortage of housing, a proliferation of shacks and increasing friction between the races.

White residents protest loudly against the creation of informal shack settlements when the government sets up "site and service" schemes (water taps and toilets) on tracts of land purchased near their properties.

The government no longer pursues its policy of forced removals, but that does not mean that removals do not take place at local level, says Rolf Dauskardt of the Urban Foundation.

"Informal housing is condoned if it occurs on the edge of some small township," says Dauskardt.

But many people cannot afford the cost of transport to work from distant townships.

Insted of spending most of their salaries on taxi fares, workers attempt to move closer to their jobs by setting up shacks anywhere they can.

White residents then fight local government to prevent them from settling squatters in areas that might cause property values to fall. The Nimby ("Not in my back yard") syndrome now afflicts Johannesburg.

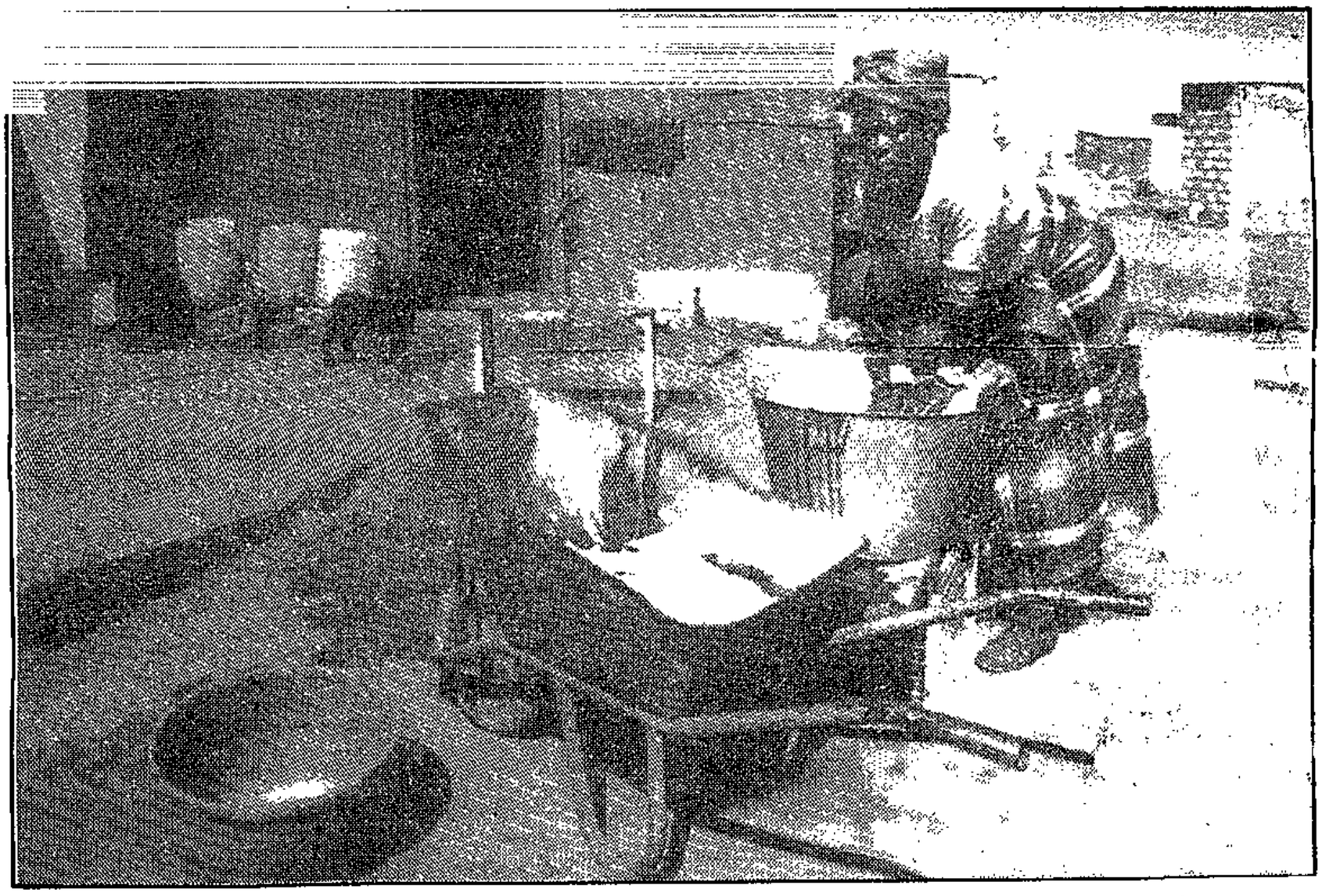
With 17 different housing departments based on racial categories, decentralised decision-making backed by little real authority has ensured that informal housing and the problems associated with squatting have not been addressed by the government.

A housing freeze imposed in the 1960s and 70s confined the building of houses for blacks to the homelands and left the country short by 1.2-million units, according to the Urban Foundation.

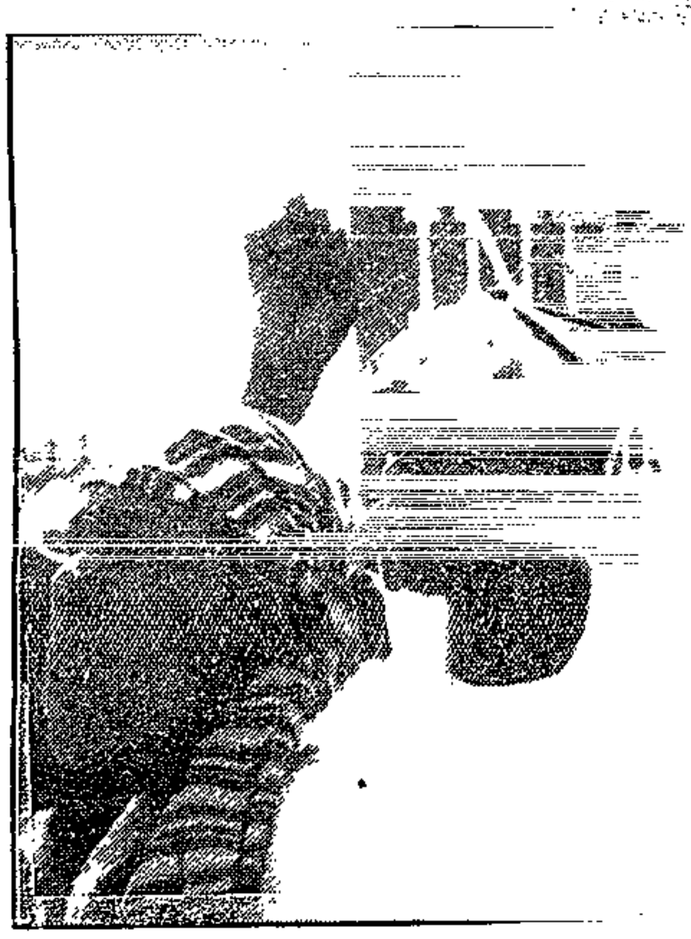
"The government has shifted the responsibility for providing social services to the private sector," says Dan Mofokeng, general secretary of the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal, an umbrella group for shadow councils established by township residents.

He stressed that money allocated into the defence budget ought to have been spent on housing.

NEWS FEATURE *The IDT is going slowly to the poor by helping them build*



Washing day ... Despite adverse living conditions in squatter camps, life goes on.



Some of the residents of the Mandela S
queueing outside the local information

Hope at last for the homeless

(310)
Sowetan
16/11/92

By Lulama Luti

■ **HOUSING NEEDS** Prosperity when communities are consulted:

IT IS a very hot Wednesday morning and the effects of the scorching sun are beginning to take its toll on all who are not in doors.

Despite the heat, the Mandela Squatter Camp at Etwatwa in Daveyton, near Benoni, is a beehive of activity as people move around on their daily business.

About 30 of them stand in a queue as we arrive at the office of the local residents committee. Anxiety written all over their faces, they wait patiently for the office to open.

For, only once they are in the office will they know if they qualify for the R7 500 that will enable them to buy serviced stands - properties that they can call their own.

This squatter settlement is one of 104 "pilot projects" that have been undertaken by the Independent Development Trust (IDT) throughout the country in order to empower people in the low income group.

Through the IDT's one-off capital subsidy scheme, 100 000 serviced sites will be provided for people living in informal settlements.

The scheme has been devised primarily to cater for people earning a combined income of not more than R1 000 a month.

Once the serviced stand has been completed and the buyer has accepted the transfer of title, the developer receives the subsidy amount of R7 500 directly from the IDT.

Should the selling price of the serviced stand exceed the subsidy amount, the buyer will be responsible for the payment of the difference on the day on which the purchase agreement is signed with the developer.

"Much of the development money must remain within the communities themselves. And that is why we encourage their maximum participation," says Professor Wiseman Nkuhlu, vice-chairman of the IDT.

Existing structures also stand to be upgraded through this scheme, the success of which could lead to a recommendation that it be implemented vigorously in a bid to resolve homelessness in the country.

Other developmental projects to be undertaken at the Mandela camp are creche, church, business, post office, school and taxi rank sites.

During a recent visit to six of the IDT funded informal settlements in the Transvaal, Nkuhlu said his organisation believed that development was a delicate process and that there were no overnight solutions.

The projects visited were at Etwatwa, where 1 000 sites are being developed by the SA Housing Trust; 521 sites in the East Buffer Zone in Tembisa; the Ivory Park primary school; 1 600 sites at Oukasie location in Brits together with Leandra and Mhluzi townships in the Eastern Transvaal.

"We believe there is no proper development that could proceed smoothly without the involvement of people on the ground.

"And these are our pilot projects which, depending on their success, will be documented and recommended to the Government for implementation in other areas," he said.

In all three areas that we visited, a unique system of administration has been designed to ensure full participation of the residents and the fair allocation of sites.

For example, in the Mandela Squatter Camp a 10 member residents committee has been established and this works closely with the site allocation committee.

Sub-committees are then appointed to deal with specific issues like health provision, education and other community needs.

The basic criteria for qualifying for the subsidy are:

- Duration of stay in the area;
- Number of dependants; and
- The age of the applicant.

Political affiliation is not a criterion.

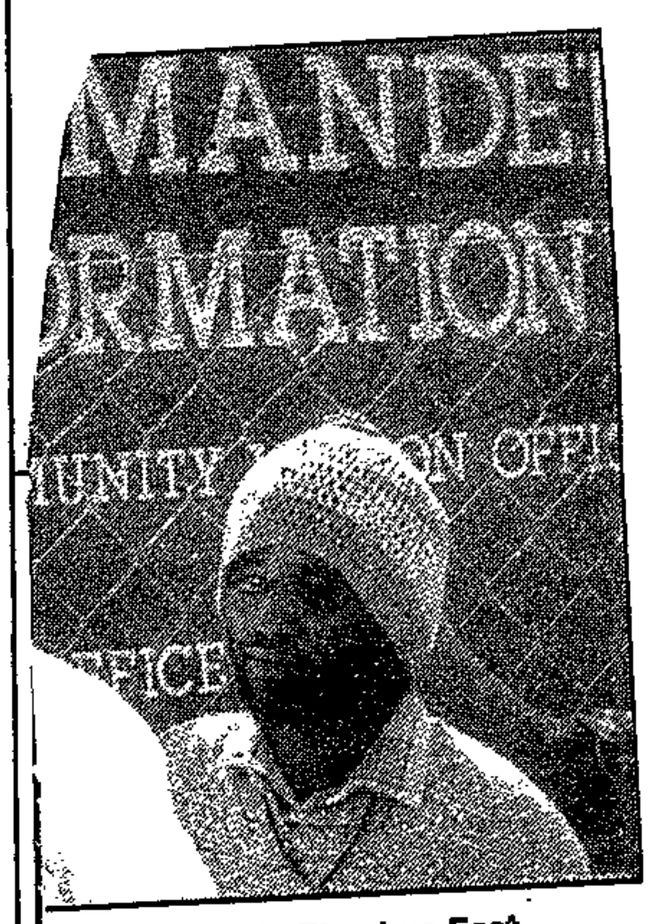
Developers in the areas also work in conjunction with the committees and this leads to job creation, we established.

Insofar as was possible, local labour has been employed when projects like building and the installation of storm drainage were being undertaken.

Established in March 1990, the IDT has been charged with the task of promoting and supporting developmental programmes geared towards the country's most impoverished citizens.

This developmental programme includes the building of 50 000 new classrooms, particularly in the informal settlements.

ies



uatter Camp in Etwatwa East
entre. PICS: PAT SEBOKO

7. For late payment of the annual levy payable in respect of each trainee accountant

7.1 if not paid by 31 January 1993	10% of amount outstanding
7.2 if not paid by 28 February 1993.....	25% of amount outstanding
7.3 if not paid by 31 March 1993	45% of amount outstanding

They have that terrible sinking feeling

BY JETHRO SERETSHO (310)

THE massive SA housing shortage is presenting hard-pressed squatters in Carletonville with a terrible – and very real – sinking feeling.

Squatter homes at Khutsong, have been subsiding following heavy rains.

City Press this week saw crumbled, cracked and buckled walls and floors in most parts of the township.

The authorities say they have repeatedly warned residents not to set up settlements on the unstable dolomitic ground.

However, residents rejected the warnings, believing it to be a ploy to discourage squatting.

"These people, (the council) just come here and dig and dig. After that they replace the holes with soil only. They don't put the stones back and that is why the soil is so loose," said one resident.

Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) general secretary Dan Mofokeng said the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) had not correctly explained the danger of sinking soil to people.

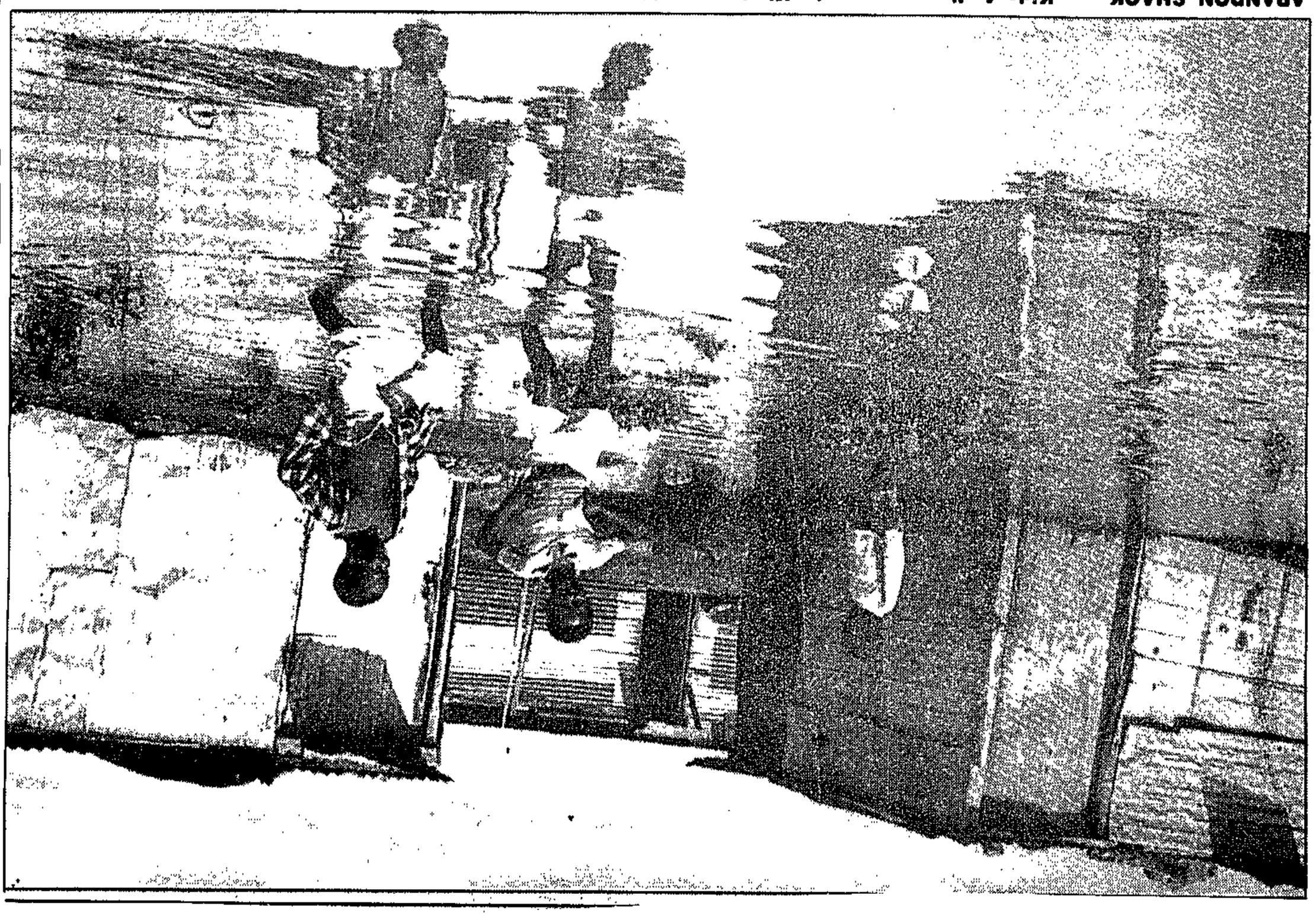
Geologist Dave Buttrick said: "People awoke to the risk of living on dolomite only after the damage was done. During the past 30 years a total of 38 people have been interred (buried alive) in the sinkholes, property has been damaged and the market value of properties on dolomite plunged. Approx 2/11/92

"Poor people settle in these free and unoccupied areas which have been deliberately left untouched by the authorities."

He said incoming squatters were unaware of the problem and were quick to "accuse us as enemies who come with theories in an attempt to remove them from their land".

ABANDON SHACK ... Kids frolic unaware in Khutsong while their homes sink under the effects of rain and apartheid.

■ Pic: EVANS MBOWENI



310

Unwanted squatters

THE settlement of Zevenfontein squatters in Alexandra's Far East Bank could lead to violence, the Pretoria Supreme Court has heard. Sowetan 25/11/92

Mr Lucas Khoza, chairman of the Inkatha Freedom Party branch in Alexandra, told the court yesterday the squatters would not be welcome in Alexandra. He was testifying in the action by the Diepsloot Landowners' Association, which is trying to stop the Transvaal Provincial Administration from resettling the squatters on a portion of Diepsloot.

Sowetan 25/11/92 310

Shelter for homeless to go ahead

With 2 500 people living on the streets of Johannesburg, the city council approved on Tuesday a city shelter for the homeless.

Proposals for the management of the city shelter at 80 Albert Street, Marshalltown, will be called for.

A four-storey building there could provide emergency shelter for about 350 homeless and destitute people.

There are facilities to house men, women and children, offices for counselling and rehabilitation and job skills training, and an area for a canteen and recreation.

A board of trustees will look after the shelter's interests. — Staff Reporter.

Plan for post-apartheid city

STAR 27/11/92.

Guidelines to deal with urbanisation and manage the transition process in the Johannesburg area have been formulated by the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber. LOUISE MARSLAND reports.

WITH the population in the Central Witwatersrand region expected to increase by 60 percent by the year 2010, the planning framework task team of the Metropolitan Chamber's Physical Development Working Group was given the mandate to prepare an overall strategy plan for the region.

The task team's Interim Strategic Framework (ISF) for the Central Witwatersrand was put before the Chamber a week ago for comment.

Through the ISF guidelines, the Chamber will facilitate the establishment of a post-apartheid urban model of the Johannesburg metropolitan region, which will meet the needs of all its people.

Aspects which will receive attention include land use, infrastructural services, housing for all, job creation and affordable transport services.

The ISF will also serve as a broad framework for the preparation of a residential development programme aimed at locating the urban poor in the inner metropolitan areas.

Physical Development Working Group chairman Graham Pirie said the ISF was a milestone document and a post-apartheid model for the Central Witwatersrand.

Task team chairman Johan van der Merwe said the ISF could have an impact on all the workings of the Metropolitan Chamber and would also affect economic and social initiatives in the region.

An intensive public participation programme will soon be launched to inform various interest groups and the public of the ISF goals.

Pirie said the Chamber recognised the need to preserve the environment.

"The population is expected to double in the next few years. How are we going to accommodate everyone without chaos, provide transport, homes, preserve the quality of life, and avoid degradation? We have to manage the transition process, and the solution has to be a regional solution.

"The policies of the past precluded urbanisation," Pirie said.

The ISF does not aim to resolve all the region's problems, or achieve the complete social, economic, physical, financial, environmental and constitutional restructuring of the metropolitan region.

The document put before the Chamber stated that if such a framework was not put in place in the short term, land use decisions in particular, would be "ad hoc" and shaped by the apartheid framework.

Any attempt to restructure the apartheid city would have to commence with the restructuring of the urban form, the document stated.

Problems that will impact on the ISF goals are: the effects of past and future planning decisions; physical constraints; availability of finance; levels of economic growth and employment; magnitude of unmet needs; and the unpredictable and uncontrollable social processes arising out of poverty, instability and violence.

Pirie said the emphasis was on meeting the needs of low income people, as their needs were greater. A final model would concentrate on the needs of all groups.

Nearly 60 percent of the population in the Central Witwatersrand falls into the lower income category and the lower income population is expected to double by 2010. The resultant demand for housing, for example, will increase to 400 000 units per 27 000 ha, with a backlog of 100 000 houses in 2010.

Problems that will be addressed by the ISF include:

- Large scale homelessness.
- Displacement of the poor on the urban periphery.
- Long travel distances between home and work for the urban poor.
- Under-used high priority land.
- Inadequate bulk services provision and maintenance in areas experiencing high rates of urbanisation.
- Unco-ordinated and inadequate transport infrastructure.
- Spatially disconnected relationships between residential areas, formal employment areas and mixed use areas.

The ISF will eventually form the basis for a long-term urban framework. □

Development of Oukasie is taking shape

200 plots handed over to residents

Sowetan 30/11/92

THE much-awaited R18 million upgrading of Oukasie township near Brits has started.

Marking the development of the township a fully fledged urban area was the handing over of 200 residential plots with metered water and toilets with water-closet systems at the weekend.

Oukasie, which was earlier threatened with forced removal, was reprieved by the Government after the local community resisted the move to Letlhabile township 25 kilometres outside Brits.

The upgrading of the area is intended to be carried out in seven phases until all the people who have been living in backyards are accommodated in the new area.

According to Mr Levy Mamabolo, chairman of the Oukasie Development Project, residents in the newly developed area will pay a flat rate of R25 until the upgrading project is complete.

These people will put up their own structures while negotiations continued to help them acquire affordable housing schemes.

Included in the budget for the new area are gravel and tarred roads and primary and secondary schools. Electricity will be installed over a five-year period.

Development of Oukasie is taking shape

310

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Returning home to a pile of rubble

w|mail 4/12 - 10/12/92

Shacks built in a 'transit area' of Lenasia's Extension 9 squatter camp have been demolished on the instructions of provincial officials.

By **CAROL GALES**

310

LENASIA shack-dwellers who failed to heed a one-week notice to move watched officials rip down their shacks this week.

South African Police and officers from a private security company operating on the instructions of the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) used crowbars and clubs to smash about 60 shacks erected in recent weeks in the Extension 9 area of Lenasia. A police Casspir ploughed down a more sturdy brick shack.

The shacks were destroyed because they had been built in a "transit area", according to TPA spokesman Yvette Engelbrecht. By law, the TPA has authority over the area and must ensure that no new structures are built there.

Engelbrecht said the area also posed a hazard because its dolomitic sub-soil might form sinkholes that could swallow or damage homes.

TPA officials hand-delivered eviction letters on November 24 to the residents of the 60 offending shacks at the edge of the sprawling shacktown — population 30 000 — that winds through the Indian township.

The letters told residents they could move their shacks to more formal settlements in Orange Farm, Finetown, Poortje or Zonkezizwe, Engelbrecht said.

Residents said on Wednesday that they had asked for more time to move. But they were told their request came too late.

Many shack dwellers were at work or at school during the demolition and returned to find their belongings buried under what had been home. Those at home when police arrived were given a few minutes to remove their possessions.

Engelbrecht said TPA officials had been "kind" towards the shack dwellers by not carting away the shack materials as they normally would.

"The shack dwellers can take their structures and their belongings and go to one of the other four alternative places they were given."

By Thursday afternoon, most of the dispossessed had retreated into the shacktown. A woman sitting where her home had stood the day before said she hoped to spend Thursday night with a friend in the shacktown. She and her husband and child had spent Wednesday night sleeping near a concrete wall. An official of the local branch of the African National Congress was going to help her family relocate among the other shack-dwellers.

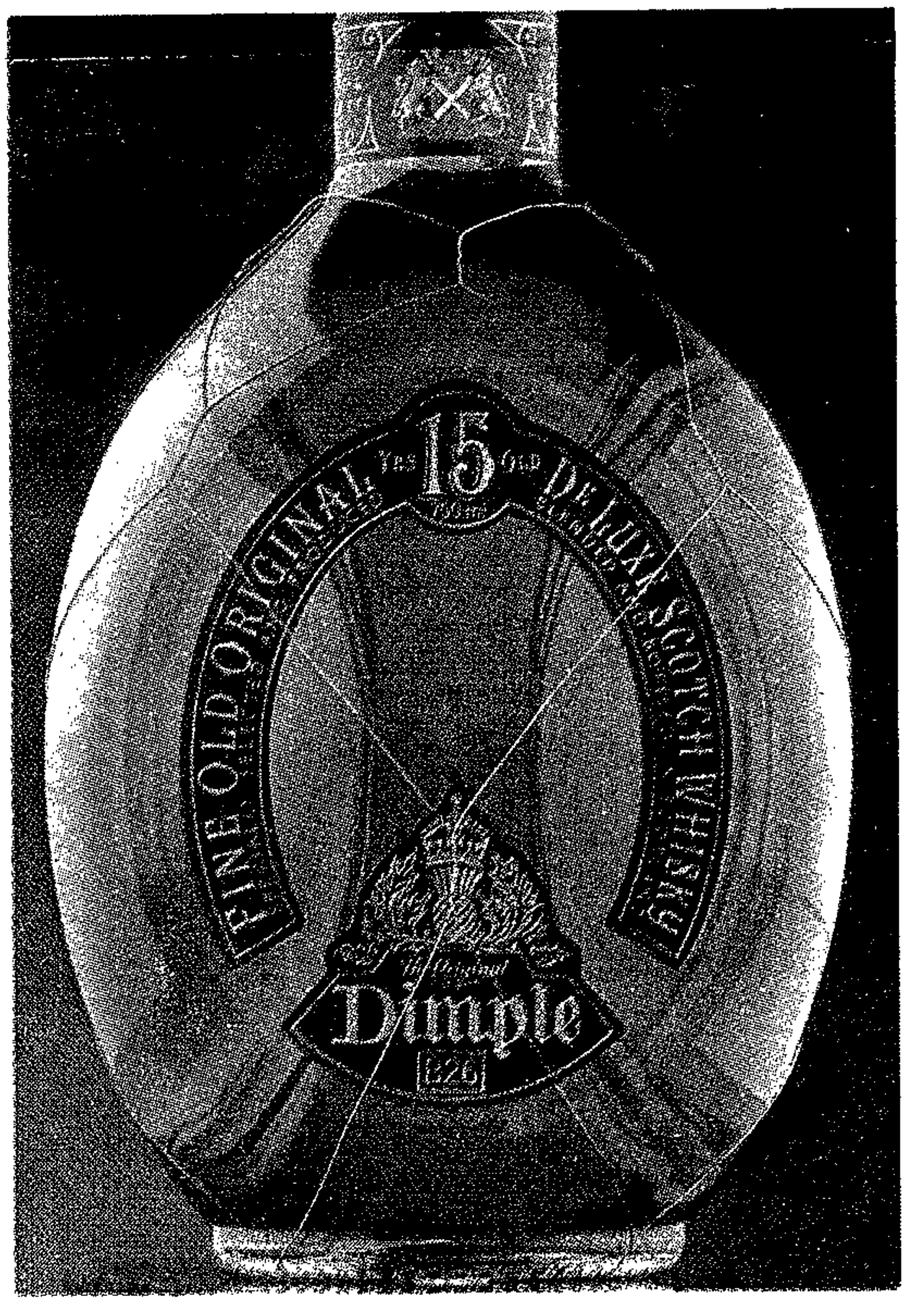
The woman didn't agree with Engelbrecht that the demolition crew was kind in leaving behind the shack parts. "They don't take them, but see how they damage them," she said, pointing to a bent piece of corrugated iron.

She said she was given time to remove possessions before her shack was razed. Was anything damaged?

"Only the house."

Cruel to be kind ... A police Casspir was used to demolish one of the sturdier structures in Extension 9 Photo: GUY ADAMS

At Christmas, the happiest smiles always have a Dimple.



Dimple 15 year old. From the oldest distillers of Scotch Whisky.

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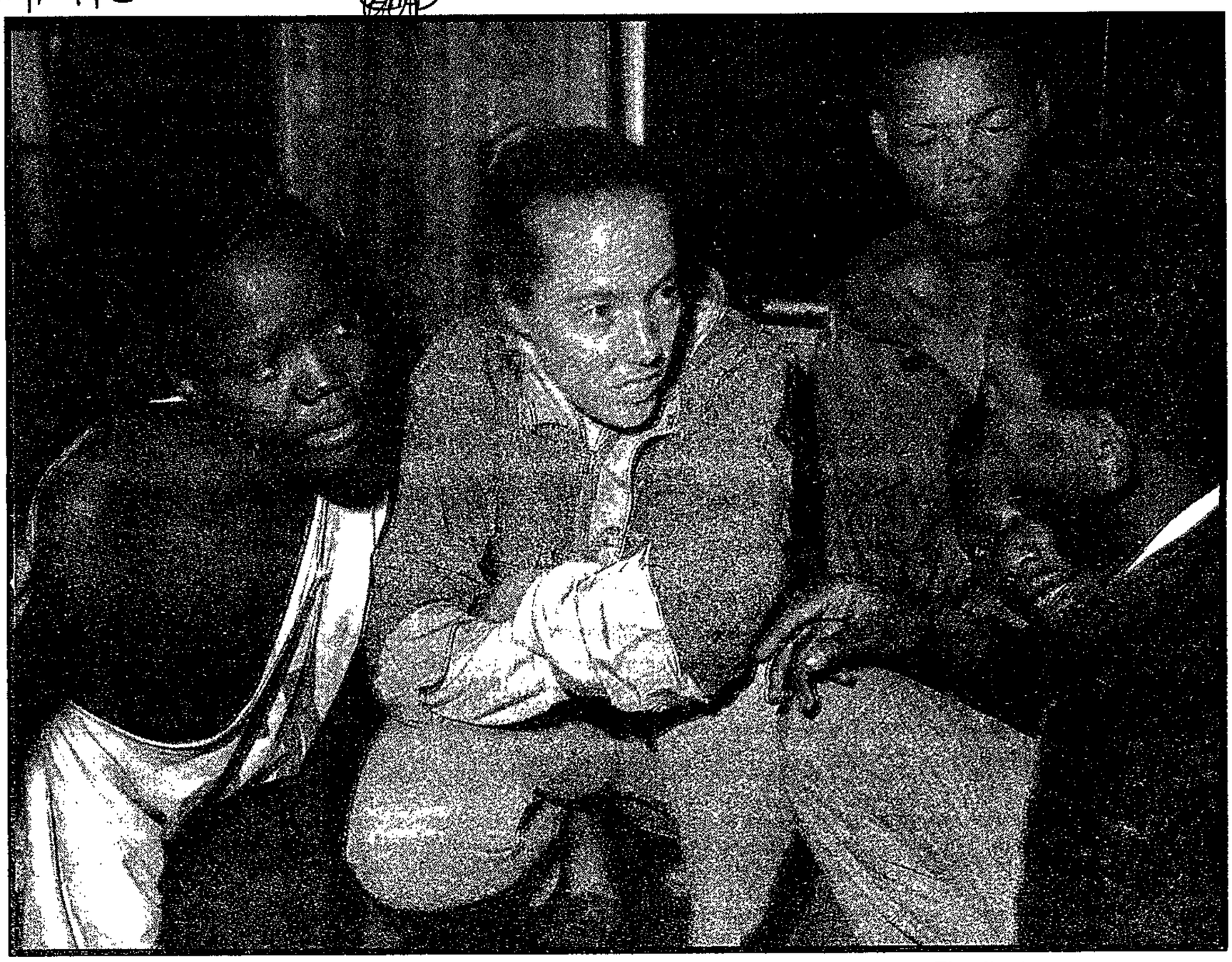
HUNT LASCARIS TBWA 208036

Mother Amy, angel of Hillbrow

W|Mail 4/12 – 10/12/92

Mother Amy is guardian of the street urchins of Hillbrow, whom she feeds, bathes and gives a place to sleep. A gentle and selfless woman ... how strange then, that she should make such powerful enemies.

By JENNIFER GRIFFIN



NOSES press against the glass door of Hillbrow's Pierino pizza parlour as a dozen street kids jostle each other for a better view of the film on the television inside. Six white adults sit with their backs to the door, ignoring the tattered, snotty-nosed kids peering through. Maybe the diners will toss them a few coins on their way home.

Amy Flickinger, a 27-year-old American, walks up the street and calls out a greeting. It is her personal mission to care for Hillbrow's homeless children. Tonight she is looking for Tommy Dlamini, a young boy wearing dirty slippers and an old bathrobe that drags along the ground when he walks.

She inspects the knife wound in Tommy's left shoulder — a few days earlier he was stabbed by another street kid. Flickinger found him earlier in the week, as she made her rounds feeding the neighbourhood children.

"Someone stabbed me for my takkies," Tommy explains. "Amy took me to the hospital where they gave me some food."

Every Thursday night beginning at 9pm, Flickinger and a few volunteers from the Berea Baptist Church make their rounds with soup and bread, bear-shaped vitamins and a first-aid kit they use to treat the children's colds and scraped knees.

Flickinger winds her way through Hillbrow's dirty streets to gather up as many children as possible. Her blond hair and smile are familiar after two years of working here, and the kids flock to her when they see her coming.

Some plead for cake, others for money. The streetwise children know just how to get on her right side. One child, huddled with others under a blanket in a dark corner, jumps to his feet as she approaches: "Before we eat I'm going to pray," he announces, and starts to intone the Lord's Prayer.

Amy Flickinger and her flock ... 'Before we eat, I'm going to say the Lord's Prayer'. LEFT: The real tragedy of Hillbrow ... Children openly sniffing glue, which keeps them warm and drives away hunger Photos: KEVIN CARTER

No one pays her for her work, but she gets R200 a month from a local church and depends on donations from friends here and abroad.

Flickinger first came to South Africa in 1986 for a brief visit with an American church group. After putting together some funds, she returned to start her mission. On average, she tends to almost 100 children in a single evening.

"Somebody told me there were children in need. I then saw for myself and, clearly, they were in need," said Flickinger, who recently cashed in her return air ticket in order to support three abandoned children who now live in her tiny Hillbrow bachelor flat.

Large letters of the alphabet coloured with crayons line the walls of her crowded flat, along with children's art work. Thandi (8), Thabo (9) and Moses (12) were abandoned by their father at the Hillbrow police station; the duty officer asked her if she could help.

"They were frightened," said Flickinger. She first took them to Twilight Children's Centre, but says "there was no way I could leave them there".

Now they live with her and go to school in Johannesburg. Thandi answers the door wearing Flickinger's jewellery and high-heeled shoes. She greets visitors with a firm handshake.

Not everyone in Hillbrow seems to approve of Flickinger's work. In the pre-dawn hours of May 28, she says, she opened the door of her flat to some 20 policemen in camouflage uniform, some pointing rifles at her. As they flooded inside, she says they yelled and swore at her in Afrikaans. One allegedly cocked a weapon at Thandi, who was curled up on her bunk bed.

"I thought it was the AWB," she said. She also says she has received countless crank phone calls in recent months, which she believes are designed to encourage her to leave the country.

Reacting to the claims, police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman said: "I sincerely hope that she reported to the district commissioner if she felt the police did anything wrong. It's easy to make allegations, but we like to investigate them."

The harassment, Flickinger says, began after an article appeared in *Femina* magazine in April on children in police cells that she used to visit every day at the Hillbrow police station. Police are investigating a Prisons Act case against her, a *Femina* reporter and the magazine, which published pictures of the cells.

The case could spell the end of Flickinger's mission. Her visa is up for renewal and she fears the Department of Home Affairs will not let her stay.

It could also prevent any formalisation of her relationship with her three children. Only permanent residents may adopt.

ET's back on the warpath

W|Mail 4/12 – 10/12/92

By JAN TALJAARD

THE Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging leader, Eugene Terre'Blanche, is on the roll again. Ever the survivor and opportunist, he is capitalising on recent events to establish a waning AWB once again as a force on the right, far right.

Clear-eyed and looking almost spruce for the first time since the Jani Allan court case, he embarked this week on a series of public meetings, taking in the recently embattled Nylstroom with a view to ending up in King William's Town next Wednesday.

With the fiery pre-Allan oratorical style seemingly in place again, peppered with racist insults, the message of the meetings is decidedly martial. Mr Justice Richard Goldstone, ("Judge Gabriel, De Klerk's little Jew, Goldstone"), the Pan Africanist Congress, the Broederbond, traditional Afrikaans churches and even the Conservative Party are all in the firing line.

Addressing a crowd of about 400 people at Nylstroom on Wednesday night, he told them that the AWB accepted the declaration of war issued by Azanian People's Liberation Army at King William's Town.

Referring to "the taunting little round Bushman, Benny Alexander", Terre'Blanche said: "You have declared war on my people. We accept this declaration of war. We will level you (*gelyk blaas*) with the stones."

Then, to the khaki-clad listeners: "You must clean your rifles, you must get your structures in order. They have declared war. They are definitely coming. The hour is close now.

"Peace is not coming to South Africa. Instead there will be a bloody war the likes of which Africa has never seen, not in the Belgian Congo or Katanga."

Pronouncing the *Boervolk* to be dead and in need of resurrection, Terre'Blanche also stated that a new Day of the Vow is needed as the one entered into by Sarel Cilliers before the Battle of Blood River is not relevant anymore.

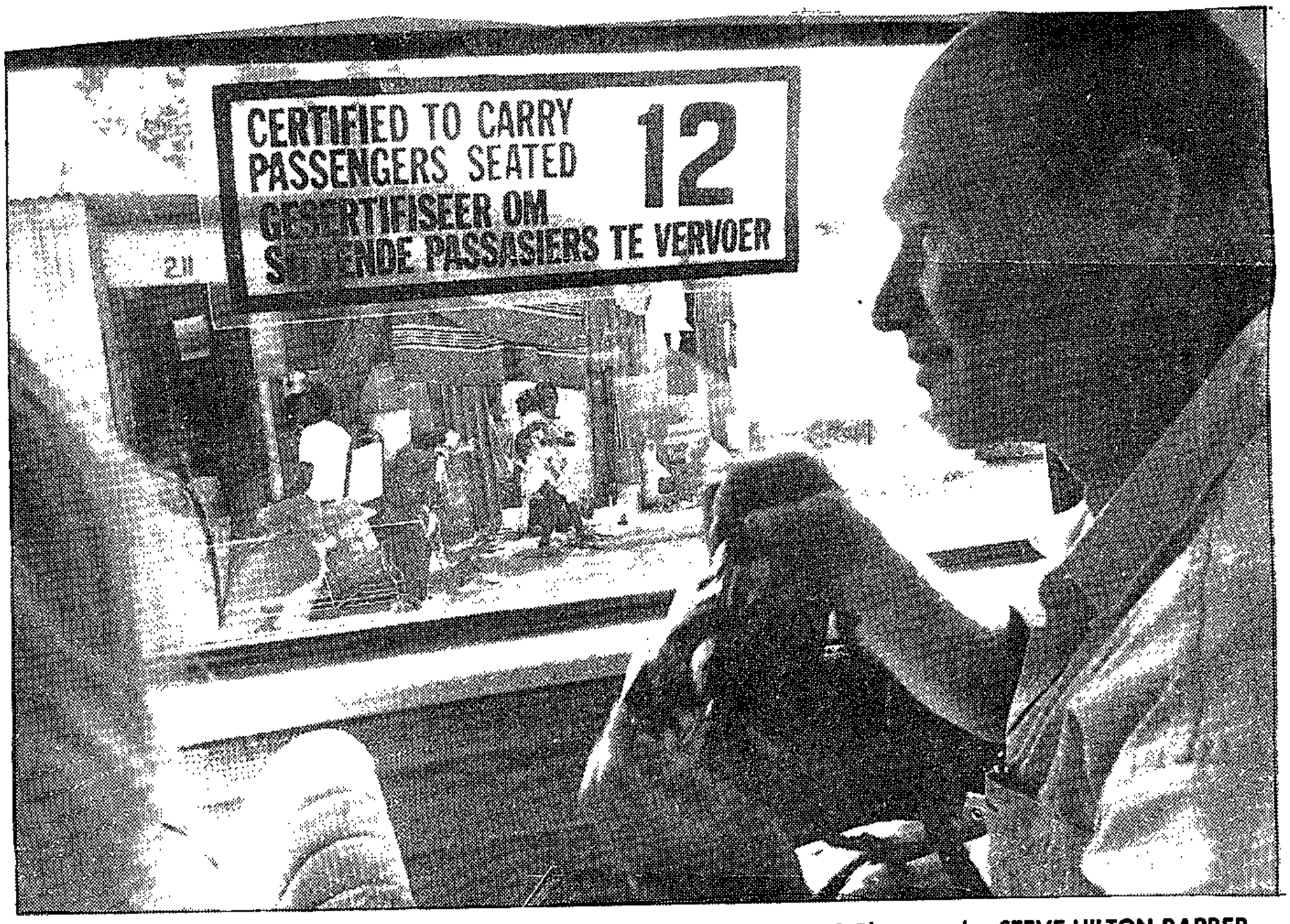
"We cannot enter the war without a vow," he said. "(On December 16) I will ask the Lord himself to be the general and you and me the corporals."

According to him the new vow is in the process of being drawn up by far-right theologians such as AWB "chaplain," Reverend Coenie Snyman.

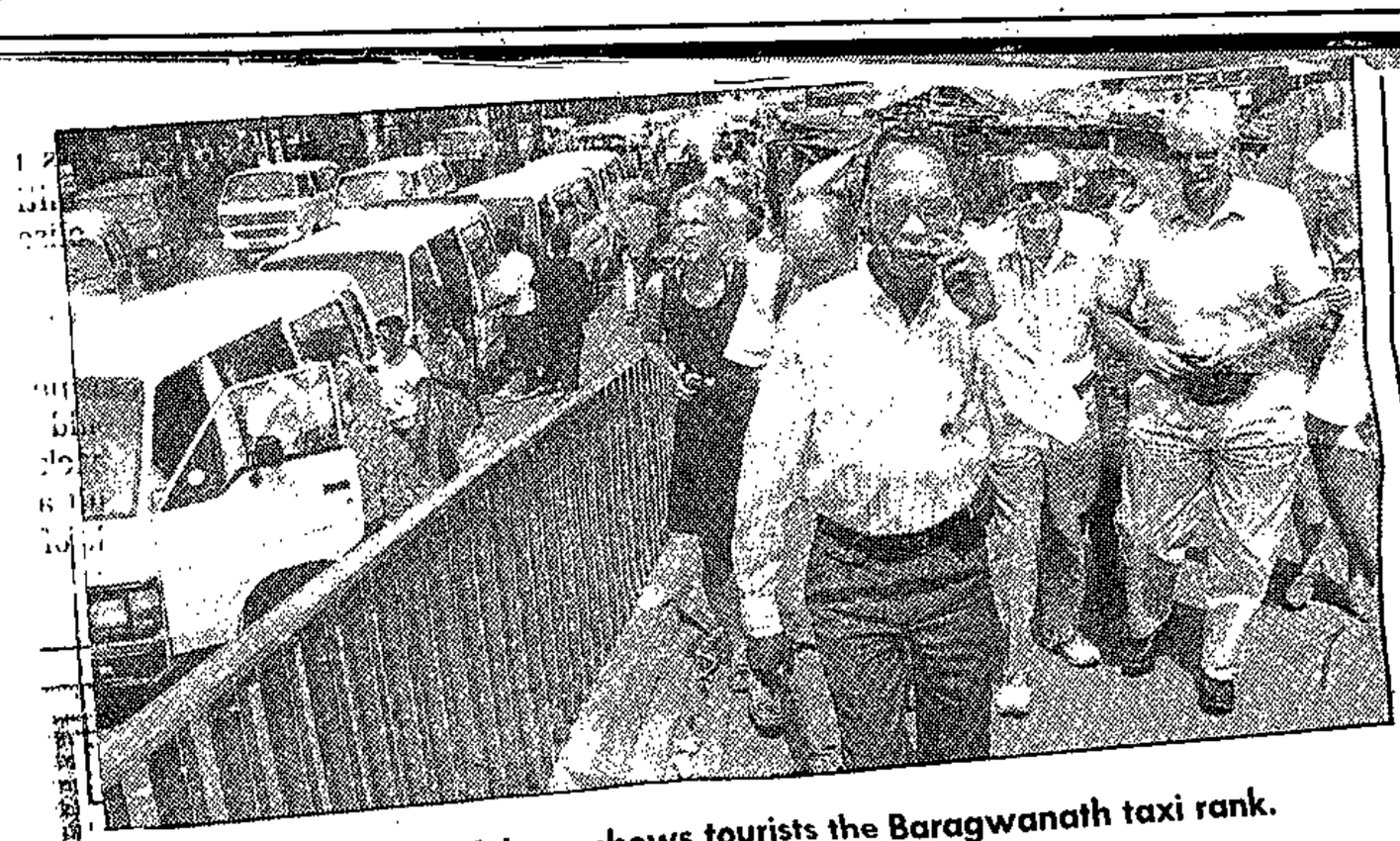
Claiming a membership of 34 000 for the AWB's commandos, Terre'Blanche said they are all being called up to attend the Day of the Vow at the Barnard stadium in Kempton Park.

How many of these "members" will eventually turn up, remains to be seen. Earlier this year Terre'Blanche issued similar "call-up instructions" to every member of the commandos to attend a two-day event at Klerksdorp billed as the "World Congress of the AWB".

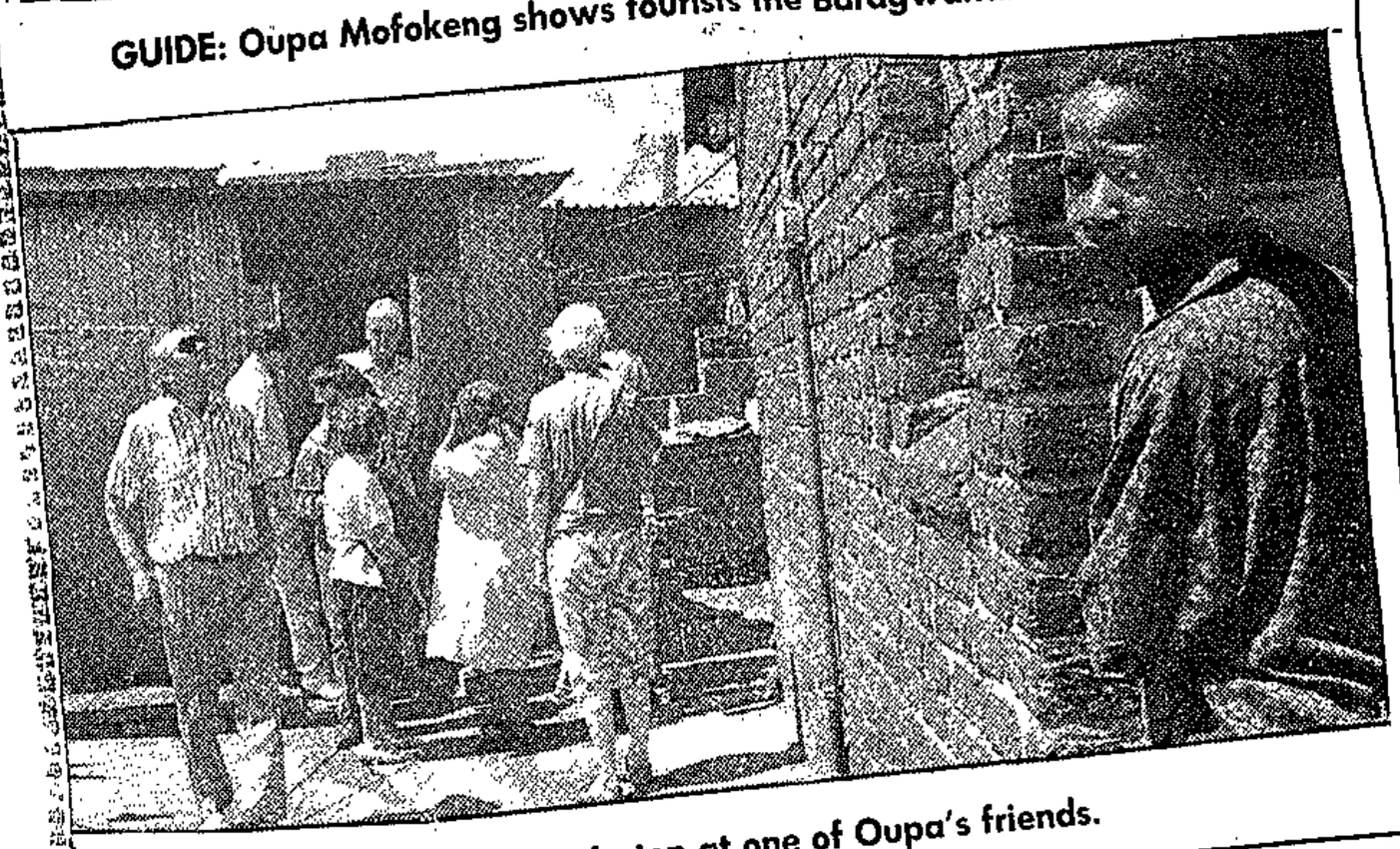
In the end the event, which he dearly wanted to be a show of force, was attended by about 500 uniformed members and an added 300 or so hangers-on. For the upcoming show of force, he seems to be strategically more shrewd. Up to 70 percent of the AWB's membership may be seated in the large sub-economic class of whites on the East Rand.



VIEW FROM THE INSIDE: The tourists are driven through a squatter camp. ● Photographs: **STEVE HILTON-BARBER**



GUIDE: Oupa Mofokeng shows tourists the Baragwanath taxi rank.



TEA BREAK: A stop at one of Oupa's friends.

STAK
5/12/92
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Roll up for peek at the real Soweto

(310) 1

STAR 5/12/92.

ENTERPRISING tour guides are cashing in on Soweto. CAROLINE HURRY set out to see the good, the bad and the ugly — and found warmth.

FOREIGNERS rush in where *abelungu* fear to tread.

An eclectic group of German, Dutch and British tourists crowded the pavement outside the Carlton Hotel — the departure point for Soweto tours.

Photographer Steve Hilton-Barber and I had arranged to meet a guide from the Soweto Council, but there was no sign of him.

Instead we found Jimmy Ntintili selling taxi rides to Soweto at R65 each. The real Soweto. The good, the bad and the ugly, not some sanitised version. We decided to go.

I tried wangling a discount for two cash-strapped South Africans. "Considering you want to write something, you can have a free interview afterwards," he said magnanimously.

"You charge for interviews?" I asked incredulously. "I'm a businessman," he shrugged. An entrepreneur *extraordinaire*. I heard him flogging stones to the tourists. R20 apiece.

"You may need them," he warned. He was joking . . . I think.

A former chef, Ntintili now heads a thriving tour operation in Johannesburg. "Five years ago, I took a few friends through Soweto and thought: Why not get paid for this? So now I run my own business. Who needs to pick up the crumbs from the big guys?"

Quite. I ponder the possibilities of Parktown as a potential package promotion.

"What about the graveyards of the VIPs?" he suggests. "No one's doing that here yet and it's big business in the States."

Twelve of us piled into a minibus and Oupa Mofokeng, our driver and tour guide, eased us down the highway. "Welcome, my dear friends," he exclaimed warmly.

Cameras clicked furiously as we approached the township. "Feel free to take photos. We in Soweto are very photogenic. Any questions?" invited Oupa.

"Is there a sea in Johannesburg?" asked one middled-aged woman. Oupa did not permit himself even the flicker of a smile. "No, Johannesburg is full of gold instead. Durban and Cape Town have an ocean," he explained patiently.

"Okay, my good friends, there are three forms of transport in Soweto. The trains are the cheapest. But they are no longer in favour because of the violence. The Putco buses are also not in favour because they are slow and expensive. The minibuses or taxis are very much in favour. There are 250 000 in Soweto. They are privately owned and much safer."

Judging by some of the commuter-crammed Zola Budds rocketing down the highway in flagrant contravention of the speed limit, I thought it Hobson's choice.

"On the left here, we have what used to be the Diepkloof Reformatory for naughty boys. It is now used as a military base for the SADF."

The subtle irony was lost on the ocean-notion lady. "Will they throw stones at us?" she inquired anxiously.

Oupa's eyes twinkled. "Fear not, madame. I've plenty of rocks under my seat to hurl back if they do," he assured her.

"Right, good friends, this is Diepkloof Extension 4, which we call Diepkloof Expensive. The people here have servants, educate their children in Johannesburg and own BMWs."

Soweto is an erratic fusion of affluence and poverty. Tin shacks mushroom next to mansions. Spazas squat beside supermarkets. The gardens, some less than a square metre, are carefully tended.

Oupa points out the asbestos-roofed houses built by the Government. "We call these matchboxes. There are three or four rooms and an outside toilet. Come and see for yourselves."

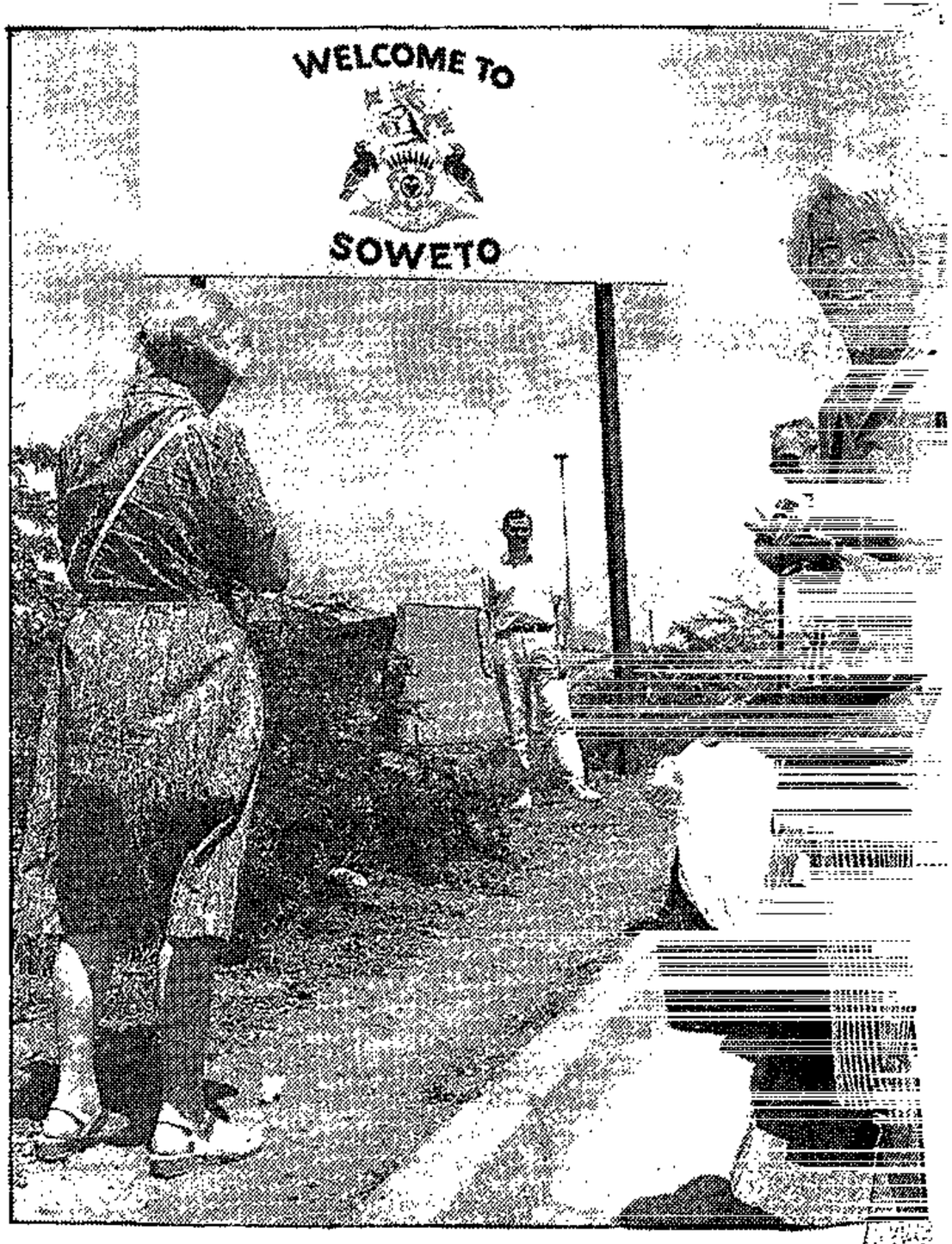
The minibus lurched to a halt. A woman, her skirts weighed down by a clutch of children peeping shyly around her ample frame, ushered us into her humble abode. Modest furnishings, but everything neat as a pin.

"These are my friends," said Oupa by way of introduction. We were made to feel as welcome as long-lost relatives.

Fortified by a cup of tea, we pressed on to the famous and lesser-known landmarks — homes of local luminaries such as Winnie Mandela and Archbishop Tutu, the street where Oupa was born, former Government-owned bottle stores now reduced to rubble, shebeens and squatter camps.

Cheerful greetings from locals belied the menace suggested by the barbed-wire fencing and armoured vehicles.

We saw, as Ntintili promised, the good, the bad and the ugly. And it was a 2½-hour treat. Soweto might not have a seaside, but it does have an ocean of character.



HAPPY SNAPPERS: At the entrance to Soweto.

Judgment reserved in squatter row

Pretoria Correspondent

Judgment has been reserved in the matter between the Diepsloot Landowners' Association (DLA) and the Transvaal Provincial Administration in which the DLA is trying to stop the TPA resettling Zevenfontein squatters at Diepsloot.

Mr Justice McCreath said in the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday he was aware this was an urgent matter and hoped to make a final judgment before Christmas.

DLA counsel H H Steyn said in papers before court that the TPA could move the more than 650 families to an area near Alexandra where they would not interfere with others' rights.

Steyn said evidence that the Zevenfontein squatters did not want to go to Alexandra did not hold water.

"They have no right to make any demands and should accept any arrangements made for them."

TPA counsel Dave Preiss said the squatters could not be accommodated in Alexandra as the area was overpopulated.

Police 'harass' advocate's family

By Philip Zoio

Three Randburg policemen have been accused of behaving like "aggressive animals" after they allegedly broke down the front door of the home of a Johannesburg advocate, harassed his wife and tried to arrest the couple on false charges.

Advocate Gerrie Meyer's wife, Karin, was at home with her three children in Fairland when the policemen arrived at about 1 pm yesterday. They jumped over the gate and shouted at her to open the front door, she said.

She said she would not let them in because she was afraid they could be criminals. At no stage did they offer to identify themselves. She told them that her husband was on his way home, and pleaded with them not to kick down the front door.

She then locked herself, her twin daughters (5) and her 1½-year-old baby girl in the study. Within minutes the policemen had broken down the front door. They threatened to arrest her if she did not open the study door, she said.

John Caplan, a Johannesburg advocate who spoke to her on the telephone while her husband drove home, said he heard "complete terror in her voice".

When her husband arrived, the policemen tried to arrest him. Meyer said he told them to leave. He was shown an arrest warrant for someone else on a charge of non-payment of taxes.

Meyer said the police continued to threaten him, even after he told them he was an advocate. According to Meyer, one sergeant said: "I'm not afraid of any advocate, any attorney or any court in this country."

The policemen finally left after he told his wife to phone his father, attorney Piet Meye and make arrangements for bail application.

Piet Meyer said: "If this hap pens to an advocate, what hap pens when they go to houses c black people?"

The Meyers laid a charge o malicious damage to propert with district commissione Brigadier Jac de Vries.

De Vries said detectives had completed their investigatio and a docket could be submitte to the Attorney-General today.

He said it did happen that po licemen abused their power, al though he did not think such in stances were common. He placed high emphasis on police acting within the law, by using minimum force. Policemen who contravened this principle would be brought to book.

De Vries nevertheless appealed to members of the public to co-operate with police.

English tourist dies on Table Moun

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The body of an English tourist, who fell 40 m to her death down Table Mountain was found last night.

At 11.15 pm, 20 Mountain Club members and Metro rescue personnel stretchered down Blinkwater Ravine the body of Sharon Webb (34), of Cumberworth, Lincolnshire.

Grass, which she most tried to cling to her ha

outside the auditorium. all her 24 years. pened and a great night was had by all.

Azapo to meet

Sowetan 14/12/92

By Mokgadi Pela

THE Azanian Peoples Organisation is to meet in Johannesburg on Wednesday to increase its Central Committee from 13 to 36 in terms of a national congress mandate.

Azapo publicity secretary Dr Gomolemo Mokae said the meeting would appoint new heads of secretariats and formations which would then be absorbed into the present 13-member CC.

He said the meeting would be chaired by newly elected president Professor Itumeleng Mosala.

Mokae said other items on Azapo's agenda included, devising a programme of action to frustrate the interim government.

Govt's land promise

Sowetan 14/12/92

By Josias Charle

■ Undertaking on claim by the Goedgevonden community: 310

THE Government has promised not to dispute the Goedgevonden community's claim to their land should it be found that the land belonged to them.

The community's claim to the land is based on their previous occupation and historical connection until their forced removal in 1978.

During the removal they were compensated for their houses only and no payments were made for improvements.

They were forced to move to Vriesgewacht and Gannalaagte, which were later incorporated into Bophuthatswana.

They could no longer farm as a result and repeated attempts over the years to negotiate with the South African Government were refused because they were said to be in a foreign country.

The Advisory Commission on Land Allocation heard the claim of the Goedgevonden community to the farms Goedgevonden, Welgevonden and Nagel last week.

It was at this hearing that the Government, through the Department of Agriculture, promised not to contest the community's right to the land. But farmers in the Western Transvaal want the "squatters" moved from the land.

SIX MONTH GIRL FRIDAY

ARE YOU WORRIED?

Man evicted after squatting 30 years

(310) CT 14/12/92

DIEPSLOOT. — Mr Richard Ndlovu stood in the drizzle on Saturday and watched two teenage boys destroy the corrugated metal shack he called home for 30 years.

"I've got nowhere to go," said Mr Ndlovu, 60.

He was one of about 25 people living in several shacks on grazing land 50km north of Johannesburg until Saturday, when police came to arrest them for trespassing.

Police took 23 of them into custody and piled their belongings aboard an open truck in the rain.

The lessee, who identified himself as Mr G Smalberger, said he told the squatters to leave in November after he took possession of the farmland.

Mr Sakkie Lombard, a Transvaal Provincial Adminstration official, said there was no place for the squatters to go immediately. — Sapa-AP

Transvaal squatter camps to be upgraded as townships

(310)

BDM 24/12/92

THEO RAWANA

THE TPA yesterday moved to convert some of the most squalid, violence-ridden squatter areas on the PWV into formal townships.

These are Orange Farm in the Vaal Triangle, Zonkizizwe near Heidelberg, Doornkop near Soweto, Ivory Park at Midrand, Poortje near Grasmere and Mpumelelo near Devon.

The settlements came into being four years ago as a demand for housing increased because of rapid urbanisation.

Transvaal MEC for physical planning and development John Mavuso said yesterday: "The urgency of the development and settlement did not allow for the total town establishment process to be completed at the time. Various degrees of progress have been made in this regard to date."

Mavuso said a two-phased programme, into which the National Housing Commission would pump R6,7m, had been embarked on to set up township infrastructure and status for the settlements. The programme was merely a first step.

The areas, with only basic infrastructure, have seen some of the worst violence in the past three years.

The first phase of the formal registering of the communities as townships would involve the drawing up and approval of a layout plan and conditions. "Up to this point matters to be addressed will include: ensuring proper stormwater control, provision of community facilities, obtaining final erf numbers and compilation of the conditions of establishment.

"In many instances the title deeds have to be drawn, and conveyancers' and surveyors' certificates obtained before conditions of establishment can be finalised."

Mavuso said the conditions of establishment might include consent from the Rand Water Board, approval of the geotechnical report by the branch geological survey in the Mineral and Energy Affairs Department, the allocation of street names and the certification of floodlines.

"The consent of the mineral right holders, registration of servitudes, the cancellation of conditions of title and approval of the general plan may also be required."