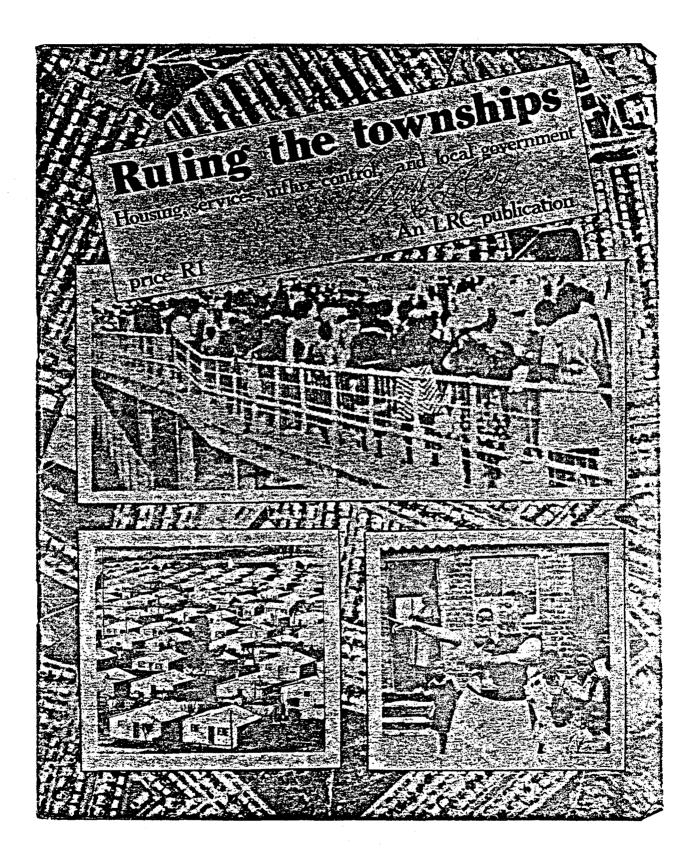
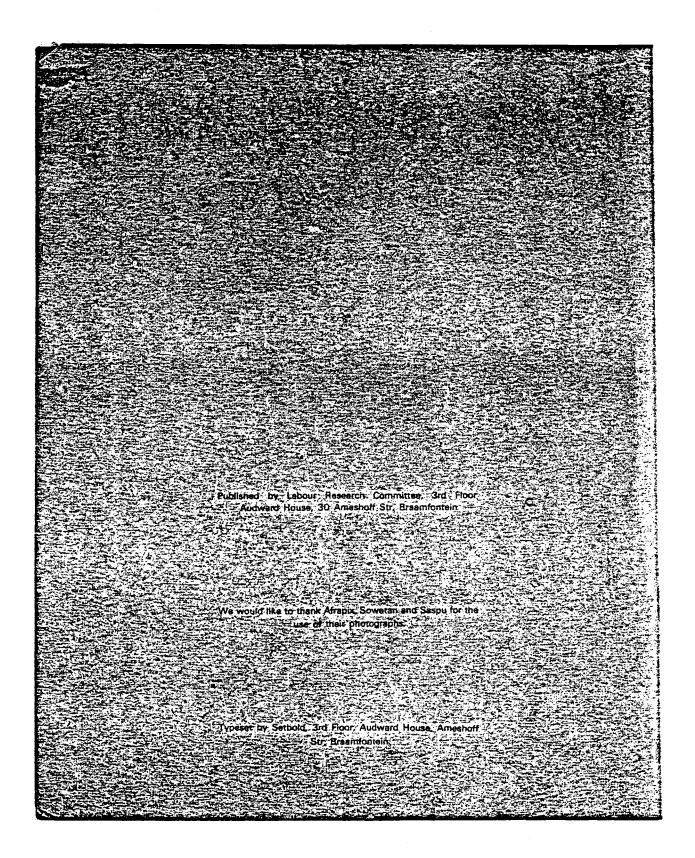
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Ruling the townships Housing, services, influx control, and local government

An LRC publication

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Preface

This booklet is about conditions and control in African townships. This will involve understanding how the administration boards and the community councils control the townships. It will also involve looking at the kinds of housing and services which are provided and who provides these things. In the course of this booklet we hope to show how South Africa's townships have been used to control African people and in particular the African working class.

We will be looking mainly at the African townships. We have chosen to look at African townships on their own because the way in which the government controls these townships is different from the way the so-called coloured and Indian townships are controlled.

The problems which face Indian and coloured townships are similar to those faced by communities in African townships. For example, problems of the Group Areas Act, a massive housing shortage and rents which are too high for people to afford affect all communities.

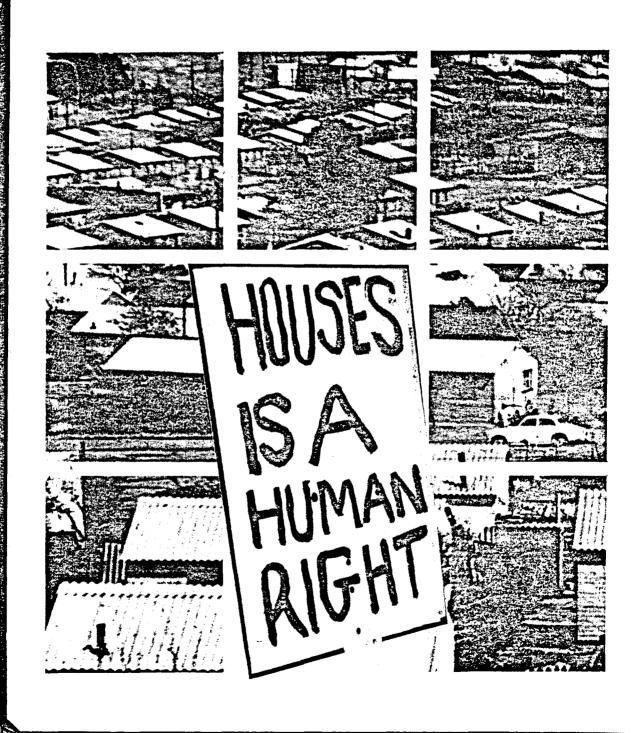
However, the institutions which control townships are different. The municipalities are responsible for coloured and Indian townships whereas the administration boards are responsi-

ble for African townships.

Much of the information which is in this book is knowledge which people have gained through everyday struggles which they have entered into with the administration boards and the community councils over such issues as rent increases. However, we think that this booklet is useful because it puts all this information together.

This booklet is divided into eight different sections. Each section deals with a different aspect of African townships; the housing crisis, upgrading the townships, finance, control, history and resistance. Each section can be read separately to provide information on a specific topic.

At the same time the sections are all related to one another and together provide a more complete understanding of the way in which the townships are run and try to control people's lives.



1. Introduction

Township control: a cornerstone of apartheid

Government policy in urban African townships has always been one of the cornerstones of apartheid's control over African people and the African working class in particular.

Since 1976 resistance to the government's township policies has become on of the major focuses of opposition to apartheid. Communities throughout the country have mobilised against the mechanisms which control their lives in the townships: the administration boards, the community councils, and the police. They have also mobilised against the living conditions in the townships: the housing shortage, shack demolitions, high rents, high electricity bills and poor maintenance.

It has become increasingly clear that the government's policies in the urban areas have done more to mobilise and unite people against apartheid than it has to disunite and disorganise them.

The provocative and inept administration by the administration boards, shack demolitions, pass raids and attempts to foist the community councils on an unwilling group of people have all served to make people increasingly direct anger against government policy in the urban areas.

Since the early days of the mining industry, successive governments have looked for ways to prevent African families from living in the urban areas and to limit the government's responsibility to provide housing and social services for those people who did settle in town.

These policies were aimed at creating and channelling a constant supply of cheap labour when and where it was needed most.

At the same time, they were aimed at keeping the African population voteless, rightless and without which 'cheap labour' would not be possible.

The government's policy of controlling the townships and the people who live in them was part of this process.

However the process of controlling the mass of people has never been a smooth or an easy one. Opposition to apartheid and the capitalist system it upholds and defends has faced the government in the schools, the factories and the townships. The apartheid system is full of contradictions which both promote resistance and necessitate constant restructuring by the government.

New 'improved' apartheid

In the wake of '76 the government has been looking for ways of reasserting control over the mass of people and diffusing political threats. To do this they aim to divide and disorganise the oppressed and at the same time unite and organise the ruling classes.

The government's policies towards the urban areas and the urban working class are a key focus of their attempts.

In their attempt, they have drawn on the support of big business, a grouping long dissatisfied with the controls 'old apartheid' placed on labour mobility: opportunities to train black workers and attempts to create a stable, contented urban working class.

What has become clear is the government and big business are trying desperately hard to re-formulate a 'new' apartheid which will have enough reforms to meet the skilled labour shortage, increase labour mobility and most important of all create amongst the mass of people the hope that a better life is indeed possible under 'new apartheid'.

To do this they are attempting to divide and confuse opposition by extending some concessions and denying others.

This policy can be seen clearly in the government's township policies. With the help of the Urban Foundation and massive publicity campaigns in the daily newspapers, the government is offering people the possibility of 'owning a home of their own'.

While communities around the country demand the right to housing for all, the government is trying to encourage people to aspire to property ownership — something available only



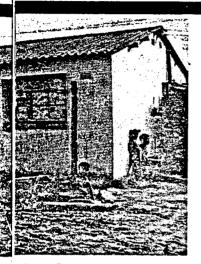


to the few.

The government has also removed restrictions on the mobility of Africans with the right to stay in urban areas (those with Section 10.1(a) and (b) rights) to move between different urban areas.

While the government holds out limited concessions to permanent urban residents the Orderly Movement and Settlement Bill makes it clear that much worse is to come for those defined as 'illegal' by the system.

Tightened pass laws, heavier penalties for employers tying urban rights to availabity of housing and employment, forced removals and resettlement are all a sign that the coercive repressive





What's so special about a house?

Right now Mobil is building houses and a community centre at Kewtown outside of Cape Town at a cost of one and a quarter million Rand.
Why houses? Why a community centre? Why Mobil? Because a house is a symbol of social progress—it's a basic condition for full family interaction; it's the

cradle from which our children are educated and matured; it's a haven of rest and security; it's the fountain of physical and psychological peace.

We believe the home, the family, are the foundations of society.

nature of apartheid has not been left behind.

On the issue of representation, a solution has not been so easy to find. The government's reluctance to allow bodies with any real independence or power has resulted in a stalemate.

With the passing of the Local Authorities Act the government hopes to force town and village councils to take over the function of administering the townships and at the same time take responsibility for carrying out the unpopular tasks of raising rents, evicting people, demolishing shacks and policing the townships.

In describing the government's strategies for re-asserting control over

the masses it's important to distinguish between what their plans are and what they actually achieve.

Having a strategy and implementing it are two very different things. Implementation is hindered by white bureaucrats who oppose any influx control reforms, and by the the mafia-like activities of community councillors which discredit them in the eyes of the township inhabitants. Rent increases, shack demoltions and forced removals often heighten opposition rather than disorganise it.

In this booklet we will look more closely at what government policies are, what they are attempting to do and the failure of these attempts to solve the 'urban crisis.'

Settling down

Housing and its related facilities after all represent the basis of family life and the real foundation of a settled middle class society. Anton Rupert at the first conference of the Urban Foundation

2. The housing crisis

One of the biggest problems black South Africans have faced since the earliest days of the twentieth century is the housing shortage.

The government has provided very little in the way of housing either in the white urban areas or in the Bantustans. At the same time it had destroyed many of the existing houses through resettlement and removals throughout the country.

The result of this is a massive housing shortage of 400,000 — 160 000 in urban areas, according to Minister Koornhof and almost double this number — 260 000 — in the Bantustans.

This leads to overcrowded living conditions — in Soweto an average of 14 people share a 3 or 4 roomed house.² In smaller townships there are 20 per 2 or 3 roomed house.³ In the Bantustans a similar situation exists. To solve this shortage of space many people build zozos or prefabricated shacks in their backyards which they rent to other families, often at very high rentals.

When people live together in very crowded conditions, they suffer both physically and mentally. Diseases like tubercolosis, measles, scabies and cholera spread quickly from one person to another. Quarrels between families and between landlords and tenants often have their origins in overcrowded

living conditions.

Homeless people are often exploited by the administration boards, community councils, landlords and phoney property companies. The most recent example of this was the case of Impact Homes. The company charged people R250 deposit for stands in Diepkloof, Soweto. People who paid this money either heard nothing further or were given a letter of introduction to the housing officer at New Canada signed by Joseph Mahushushi, chairperson of the Diepmeadow Council.⁴

Overcrowding and shortages have led to the growth of enormous squatter camps on the outskirts of Bantustan townships e.g. Winterveld.

A historical legacy

The origins of the housing shortage are found in the government's historical policy of limiting the number of African families who were allowed to live permanently in so-called white urban areas. (See part 7)

Because Africans were regarded as 'temporary' sojourners in urban areas, the government refused to take responsibility for providing mass housing for the African working class.

At certain times, for example during the 1950's, resistance in the form of

Backyard shacks in Witwatersrand townships

Soweto: 23 000 families live in shacks
Katlehong: 21 700 shacks in the township
Daveyton: 3 500 shacks
Tsakane: 1 600 shacks
Thokoza: 10 000 shacks
(SAIRR Survey 1983)



mass squatter movements forced the government into assuming some responsibility for providing housing and services.

However these building programmes were always limited to those with the right to live in the urban areas and in no way provided housing or security for all.

The 1976 uprising proved to be another such moment. In the wake of the uprising the government and big business realised the need to take active steps to deal with the urban crisis in general and the housing crisis in particular.

All along it has been clear that neither the government nor big business have any intention of upgrading the townships or providing housing for all who need it.

Over the seven years since the '76 uprising, the government's approach to the housing crisis has become clearer and clearer:

- Only people with 'permanent urban rights' (PURs) are allowed to live in so-called urban areas;
- The right to live in urban areas is increasingly being tied to the availability of housing;

- The government is not prepared to subsidise mass housing projects;
- The responsibility for providing housing lies with individuals and employers;
- The government aims to promote amongst people aspirations for private home ownership.

No job: no right to live in urban areas

Housing in African townships is only accessible to those with Section 10 rights. These are people who according to Section 10 of the Urban Areas Act of 1952 have lived permanently in town for more than 15 years or worked for one employer for more than 10 years.

In the face of rising unemployment, the government is tightening up influx control with the aim of shifting the burden of unemployment out of the main urban areas to the Bantustans.

In enforcing this, the government plans to tie influx control more closely to housing and unemployment.

The proposed Orderly Movement and Settlement of Black Person's Bill will make the right to live in an urban area dependent on the availability of apWinterveld, a squatter camp thirty kilometres north of Pretoria. Almost 800 000 people live here in shacks rented from landlords at very high rents. Many of these people cannot get accomodation in Garankuwe or Mabopane because they are not Bophuthatswana 'citizens'. The South African government refuses to take responsibility for housing people who are most in need of accomodation. People who can afford to build and buy their own houses will be able to remain in urban areas. Those who can't will be forced into the evergrowing squatter camps in Bantustan townships.

proved accomodation. At the same time the Bill will impose heavy fines on people who offer accomodation to people who don't qualify for urban rights. The police will get wide powers to raid homes after ten o'clock at night in search of 'illegals'.

Already the government is attempting to force people without approved accommodation out of the urban areas. Shack demolitions in many townships, the forced removals of people at Nyanga, KTC and Huhudi are all examples of this.

Who will pay

In July 1983, the government offered 500 000 sub-economic houses for sale to the residents. The government's announcement of the sale of 500 000 homes is an attempt to promote home ownership.

Early in 1982, Dr Koornhof outlined the government's housing strategy in a 13 point plan. The most important point to emerge from this plan was that the government was not prepared to subsidise a mass housing project. It was only prepared to accept partial responsibility for providing low cost housing. The rest of the time the responsibility lay with the individual and with employers. Services such as water and sewarage removal would be provided jointly by the government and the private sector.

'The responsibility for the provision of housing lay first with the individual, then with the employer, local authorities and private sector in that order,' said Pen Kotze, Minister of Community Development.

In line with this approach, in July 1983

the government offered 500 000 subeconomic houses for sale to residents.

Big business steps in

The whole issue of the housing shortage has been manipulated by both the government and big business in their attempts to 'create' a black middle class who they hoped could provide a bastion of support for free enterprise. As long ago as 1976, Anton Rupert said at the first conference of the Urban Foundation:

'It appears from the information and views aired at this conference that the matter of housing looms large among the problems of urban black communities... Housing and its related facilities after all represent the basis of family life and the real foundation of a settled middle class society'.

Since these prophetic words, the government and big business have removed cetain restrictions on physical and job mobility. But the major thrust of the creation of a black middle class hasn't been in terms of the material benefits it is offering certain sections of the urban African community.

Instead it has been in the form of a massive propaganda campaign with the aim of giving township residents something to aspire to.

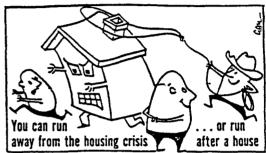
This has taken the form of well advertised housing projects, and the promotion of home ownership.

Prior to '76 not even the most middle class resident could pretend there was a hope of better life for them and their families under apartheid. Now the system dangles the fruits of co-option before the hungry eyes of township residents

So the strategy is not so much one of







creating a middle class, as creating middle class aspirations.

The government together with organisations representing the social interests of big business, like the Urban Foundation, are trying to co-opt people's demands. They are trying to change people's aspirations from housing as a right for all to home ownership. They are trying to turn a collective demand into an individual aspiration.

In this way by changing housing into an economic demand, they hope to depoliticise the housing issue.

Shifting responsibility to the people

The proposed sale of 500 000 government owned houses is part of the strategy by the government to wash its hands of the responsibility of providing mass housing. Also in order to shift this responsibility onto township residents themselves, the government has introduced limited 'site and service' schemes.

People on the waiting list who cannot afford to buy one of the new elite houses, are being offered in some areas the possibility of building their own houses on serviced sites.

In line with this policy the govern-

ment is encouraging new building standards. For example, one construction company is making precaste panels which can be slotted between frames by unskilled workers. The external walls have an air cavity which is supposed to provide insulation in hot and cold weather. The major reason for using these blocks as far as the government is concerned is that they use less material than ordinary brick walls.

The government is also removing all obstacles so that employers, building societies and property developers can build houses for their employees or for profit.

The government claims to be trying to find ways in which people will be able to get funding from building societies. Once again it makes it quite clear that it will not subsidise these loans.

Down to bare bricks

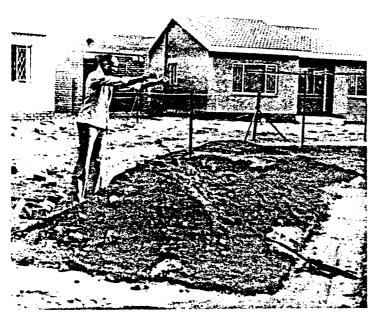
If the government is calling on people to build their own housing or employers to provide housing, let us take a look at what is being done.

Government subsidised housing

We said earlier that the government has no longer been providing mass housing schemes.

Home ownership propaganda.

It aims to undermine the community's demand for 'housing for all' by persuading residents to aspire to owning their own houses.



Self-help housing schemes mean people must work on providing housing after working hours. In essence, this is the same as making people work a longer day and a longer week to meet the most basic requirements of living.

Although we have no accurate figures on how many houses have been built by the boards over the last couple of years, very few have been built. For example, the West Rand Administration Board (Wrab) built no houses during 1980 and only 48 in the first half of 1981. In Alexandra township, Wrab stopped building houses last year because it ran out of money.

Amount of money the Department of Community Development has loaned for African housing:

1976-1977	R5 661 528
1977-1978	R12 432 622
1978-1979	R41 049 589
1979-1980	R59 069 499
1980-1981	B47 256 202

What little money has been allocated to housing has been spent on providing serviced stands on which people will build their own houses. For example, the East Rand Administration Board was allocated R10,5 million by the Department of Community Development to spend on housing. Erab added a further R2,6 million. The money was to be divided amongst existing housing projects in the board's area.

However, in the middle of the year, the Department of Community Development issued a circular to Erab saying;

'A serious shortage of funds from the National Housing Fund and the Community Development Fund has compelled this department to inform you with regret that no further tenders may be accepted for new projects.'

In January 1983, housing projects worth R500 million were shelved. Thus 1 500 houses for Kagisanong in the Free State would no longer be built, the first African housing scheme in Grahamstown for 20 years has been stopped and in Alexandra township, a R13,8 million programme has been cancelled. Meanwhile, defense expenditure for 1982/3 increased by R203 million and there are plans to spend R1,7 million on accomodation for security and riot police in Soweto.

Self Help Housing

Despite government claims that it is encouraging people to provide their own housing, very little is being done. One of the few projects at Cartonville's Khutsong township, involves the rehousing of people from a squatter camp. The Urban Foundation provides loans for building materials and residents can work in the project for a maximum of 3 months to pay off their deposits on their stands.

Similar schemes are happening at Inanda in Durban and Katlehong and

Bontleng in the Transvaal. As yet they involve very few people and are available only to those legally allowed to live in the area. Although people are being provided with some form of housing, they are paying for it all themselves despite the fact that they are often the poorest members of the community.

Another way in which people can get housing is through the 30 year lease plan. Under this plan people can buy houses built by the administration board. They can borrow money from the board. The Boards borrowed R4 325 600 from building societies last year to lend to people at 1% lower than the economic interest rate.

This scheme is currently being implemented on the East Rand and Wrab will sell some of the houses it is building at Chiawelo and Protea in Soweto under this scheme

99 Year Leasehold

Since 1977 the 99 year leasehold scheme has been the biggest smokescreen for the housing crisis. Under the cover of the benefits of home ownership the government can cheerfully escape facing the real housing shortage.

The 99 year leasehold is an attempt by the government to fuse two strands of its policy: on the one hand allowing a better off section of the African population to build and own better houses, and on the other to maintain a system which says that Africans can never be permanent in so-called white urban areas.

Children born after the date of independence of their so-called homeland cannot automatically inherit the right to live in their parents 99-yearlease homes, unless they qualify for

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while the water with the state of the state of the

urban residence. It appears that this right will be closely tied to the availability of employment.

The 99 year lease plan is a dismal failure: in three years only 1727 houses have been built or bought in the entire country. Large sums of money raised by the Urban Foundation and banks and building societies to provide loans are unused.

The Urban Foundation blames the failure of the 99 year lease on the government, who, it says, hasn't surveyed the sites. People who want a house therefore, cannot get a site to build it on. However the reason for the failure seems to be that most township dwellers cannot afford to buy one of these houses

To give us some idea of the expense of one of these houses let us quote what the building societies have to say:

'We are satisfied that a sound basic home can be provided for R10 000 excluding the stand and the bond repayment. This would total R100 per month and the borrower would have to earn R400 pm. 7 The average selling price of

Wrab is attempting to solve the housing crisis by encouraging residents to buy their own houses with building society loans.

The price of buying a house

What tenants ;	ay	What home owners pay		
Site rent (for the ground,	R13,32-per month	Site rent	R13,32 per month	
House rent	R3,25	House price (could be paid in cash or in monthly loan repayments)	R700-R1000	
		Survey costs	R60	
		Stamp duty	R20	
		Administration fee	RS	
		Lessehold cost (right of occupying that property for 99 years.)	R514	
Water		Water		
(no meter)	R10,50	(no meter)	R10,50 per month	
Services (sewerage, garbage, road maintenance, o		Services	R13,23	
Electricity levy	R12,00	Electricity levy	R12	
Electricity bills	+ - 7c per unit	Electricity bills	7c per unit	

"These figures refer to Soweto.

a United Building Society home in Soweto is R15 000.8 We need to compare this with R132-R150 which is what the average black wage earner in the Witwatersrand townships earns. This figure is below a minimum wage of R185,27 needed for a family of five (figure supplied by the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and excludes writing material, sport, recreation, emergencies). Given these figures many people would find it difficult to part with R1000 for the initial deposit and still keep up a monthly repayment of a quarter of their salary over 20-30 years.

Wrab announced recently that it will charge between R1 300 and R1 800 per house and tenants who buy within the year, pay cash or have stayed in their houses for a long time are offered discounts

In an effort to force tenants to buy their houses, they are threatened with massive rent increases as the government says it will no longer subsidise service charges or interest costs.¹⁶

Already there is speculation that tenants who cannot buy their houses will be forced to leave in favour of families who can.

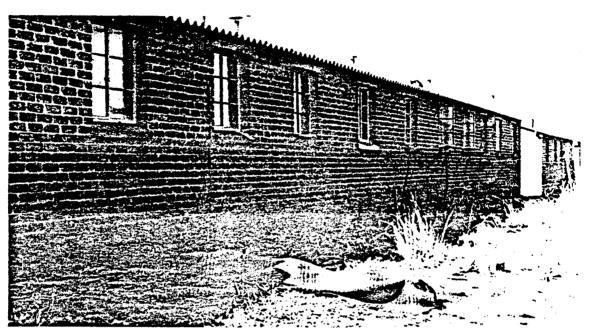
When a person's home is tied to their jobs it becomes that much more difficult for them to protest against bad working conditions or to leave to find another job. There is little doubt that since the earliest gold mines, employers used housing as a way of controlling their workers. There is equally little doubt that this practice continues particularly at a time of skilled labour shortage and working class militancy.

Housing provided by employers

Since big business is interested in coopting certain sections of the black workforce, it is giving skilled and supervisory jobs to black employees and are providing 'perks' — a major one being a house. These perks are obviously limited to a small elite.

Some examples are: Colgate Palmolive buying houses in Vosloosrus for its employees; Barlow Rand applying for land to build 110 houses for black employees. Volkswagen has built 10 houses in KwaNoblule township outside Uitenhage for its employees and Steel and Alloys is providing 220 family houses.

Some employers are even investing in Bantustan townships. Huletts Aluminium and the KwaZulu Development Corporation are building one hundred houses for Huletts employees in KwaZulu. These figures are insignifi-



cant in relation to the large numbers needed.

Hostels

Hostel accomodation is still the major form of accomodation provided by employers. Employers prefer hostel accomodation since it is the cheapest and also allows them greater control over their workforce.

Many of the hostels are still 'closed' and workers cannot leave them except to go to work. There is often only one entrance to the compound so all comings and goings can be closely watched.

During times of worker millitancy the compounds can be completely sealed off to the outside world while management with the help of their own police or security guards, break down resistance.

Numb	er	of	h	ouses	provi	beb	bу	the	
	pri	vat	8	sector	from	1978		1981	
									_

	Whites	Coloureds	Indians	Africans	Total
1978	15991	2750	1478	456	20675
1979	16582	3205	1649	679	22115
1980	30655	2926	1965	728	36274
1981	23215	3145	2183	918	29461

In many recent strikes, workers have been fired from work and forcibly evicted from their hostel — loosing both their job and their home at once. The best known example is the municipal workers strike in Johannesburg in July 1980, when 10 000 workers were evicted from their hostels and forced at gunpoint to board buses headed for the Bantustans.

Single-sex hostels still remain the main type of housing provided by employers. While a great deal of publicity is given to employer-built family housing, these houses are usually only available to managers, supervisors and skilled workers.

3. Services in the townships



Making the people pay

'I am beginning to suspect that those people with electricity are being overcharged to pay for the installation of electricity in other parts of Soweto,' said a resident.

Voice, 14/2/82

These are:

- •Maintenance of houses i.e. fixing broken windows, doors and roofs,
- •Supply of water,
- •Removal of sewerage,
- •Electricity,
- •Upkeep of roads and pavements.

Any resident of the townships will be quick to complain about every one of these services. As one Soweto resident said:

'When things are broken you report them (to Wrab) and they give you forms to fill in. After that you can wait ages, about 4 months or more. You can't wait so long so you get your own plumber and fix it yourself.'

Similar complaints exist about the water supply. In some townships, residents go without water for months at a time. For example 80 Thokoza residents went without water for over 8 months because the water reservoir which supplies the township was not big enough.

Another major cause of the water shortage is that water is wasted because underground pipes burst or rust away. Since 1973 Wrab has been losing R6,5 million a year because of the leaking pipes. ¹³

In the face of this, it's not surprising that Soweto residents object to the

installation of water meters in their homes. Residents will have to pay for the water they use and all the water that gets wasted, due to leaking pipes.

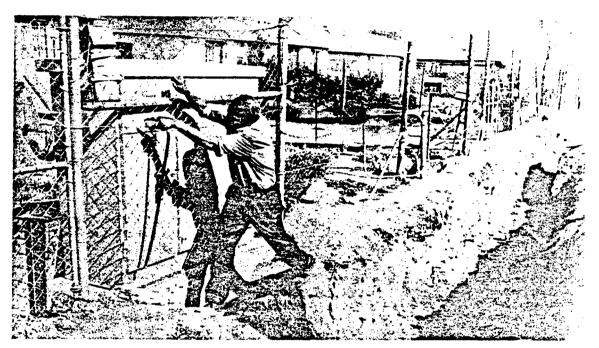
Soweto's sewerage system is much the same. In Dube at one stage last year residents were afraid of an epidemic breaking out because toilets had been blocked for nearly a year. 14 In Thokoza, sewerage pipes were blocked for equally long. 15

Some townships still do not have water borne sewerage and in Duduza and some parts of Thembisa residents still rely on the bucket system.

Townships in the Eastern Cape must have the most inadequate services in the country. At Veeplaats, outside Port Elizabeth there are only 36 taps for 66 000 inhabitants.¹⁶

Plans are underway in some townships to improve services by laying new water pipes, building new reservoirs and new sewerage systems:

- ●R14m has been earmarked for a new reservoir to replace blocked sewerage pipes in Thokoza.¹⁷
- ●A R15m loan was set aside for a new sewerage recycling plant and a community centre in Thembisa.¹⁸ The increased rents introduced in early 1981 were intended to cover the repayments on this loan and the electrification scheme.



The money for 'upgrading' schemes comes mainly from loans from banks and building societies. For example, the Greater Soweto Community Council raised a R160 million bank loan to improve roads, sidewalks and the sewerage system. 19 This money has to be paid back by the people of Soweto themselves. If there isn't enough money from the rents to do this, then there is no doubt that the community council will continue to raise the rents.

It seems clear that improvements are taking place in the big townships of Soweto and some of the more prominent East Rand townships.

In many other parts of the country upgrading projects either do not exist or they are so small as to be almost laughable. For example, in the Eastern Cape, Molteno's 'new' township has 31 taps for 530 houses while the old township has nine taps for 331 homes.²⁰

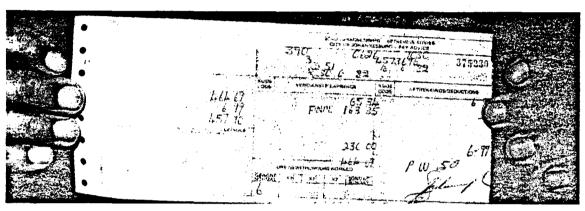
One man one volt

Plans to electrify African townships throughout South Africa have proved to be yet another example of attempts by the government to co-opt mass demands by offering promises of comfort to the elite few.

Or to put it another way — when the people of Soweto demanded houses, rents they could afford and political rights the government responded by offering them 'one man one volt'.

However, like so many attempts to buy off residents, the electrification project has short-circuited in the government's face.

Soweto's deep, unguarded electricity trenches make coming home a dangerous exercise. Many residents have lived for weeks with deep trenches outside their gates. Wrab and the Soweto Council show little concern for the danger that the trenches pose to residents' safety, although after an outcry, they now issue warning notices. During rainy weather the trenches fill with stagnant water. Many children, animals and cars have fallen into the trenches.



Many township residents claim that their electricity bills are very high. The council and Wrab blame the residents for not saving electricity. Residents believe that electricity meters are faulty and meter readers are often too lazy to read the meters properly. Residents are unable to read their own meters because they are kept in boxes, locked by Wrab.

subcontracted out the actual work of installing the electricity system to various contractors.

The companies that install electricity often damage people's homes, gardens

The companies that install electricity often damage people's homes, gardens and verandahs in the process. They do not see it as their responsibility to repair damage they do and householders have to repair damages at great expense.

In Soweto in particular, the

The project has been contracted out

by the Wrab to Ecopian. Ecopian has

electrification scheme has caused more

than a few sparks of discontent.

Electricity trenches have posed a threat to the safety of residents and their children. The trenches are deep and are not fenced off. There have been several cases of people, children, cars and animals falling into the trenches.

Soweto's electricity will be supplied by Escom and not by Orlando Power Station. Escom's electricity is slightly more expensive than electricity supplied by Orlando Power Station to the Johannesburg City Council.

This means Soweto residents will pay more for their electricity than Johannesburg residents do.

The money for the electrification

scheme was borrowed from banks and building societies by the Soweto Community Council, in all about R200 million. This money must be repaid by residents themselves. All residents regardless of whether they have electricity in their homes must pay a monthly levy of between R13-R20 per month to the Community Council.

In the East Rand township of Vosloosrus and in Sebokeng and Sharpeville residents are also having to pay an extra tariff to finance the electrification project. In addition, residents who want electricity in their homes have to pay to have it installed.

High electricity bills have been a major cause of discontent. Residents often say their bills are in no way related to the amount of electricity they actually use. A Katlehong man who lived in a candle-lit room without electricity for 2 years was told to pay a R200 electricity bill. He had never even applied to have electricity installed in his house.²¹

Soweto residents complain they are unable to read their electricity metres because these are housed in locked boxes, and Wrab has the only keys.

The poor pay more

Johannesburg City Council
Tariffs
Average cost per unit 5.5
cents
Escom Tariff (Soweto)
Average cost per unit 6,14
cents

4. Who controls the townships

There are two institutions controlling the townships: the administration boards and the community councils.

The administration boards are under the direct control of the Department of Co-operation and Development(CAD). They are staffed by employees appointed by the Department. Township residents have no say over who is employed by the boards nor do they have any representation on the boards. The boards control over two key aspects of township administration, namely influx control and housing allocation gives them wide powers over township residents.

The community councils are supposed to be made up of representatives elected by township residents. The powers and functions of the community councils are defined by the Minister of CAD. The result is that the councils have very little credibility with township dwellers and the polls in the first community council elections were very low.

In an attempt to improve the status of the community councils and also to try and redirect residents anger away from the administration boards to the community councils, these bodies have been given the status of 'local authorities' by the new Local Authorities Act.

To give us a clearer understanding of

how the boards and the councils control the townships let us look briefly at their history.

The administration boards

in order to enforce a uniform way of running the townships and also to draw a closer link between housing and influx control, the government decided to centralise the administration of the townships in the early 1970's.

In the past the townships had fallen directly under the control of white local authorities. However, the government felt these authorities did not apply influx control strictly enough and continued to build family housing despite a government regulation prohibiting this.

The apartheid government and some big businessmen wanted greater and more centralized control over their labour force in the cities and towns, and on the white farms. So instead of having 450 local authorities who ran townships in their own way, there would just be 22 boards under the direct control of the then Department of Bantu Administration and Development (BAD).

BAD was once known as the Department of Native Affairs, briefly known as the Department of Plural Relations and Development and now known as the

Administration boards were introduced to:

- Control the people in townships and on the white farms in a more strict and efficient way.
- ●Centralise this control under the Minister and Department of BAD in other words to put one government department in charge of both townships and influx control.

Department of Co-operation and Development.

BAD would decide how townships would be run, not like in the past when white opposition political parties like the United Party, local businessmen and others could influence the local authorities.

As always, the people living in the townships would have no say in how they should be run.

In 1972, 22 administration boards were set up to run the townships. The boards were put in charge of nearly everything in the townships. They decided:

- •Where people worked.
- •Where people lived.
- •How much rent people paid.
- •What kind of services like water and rubbish removal the people had in their houses and streets.

Administration boards were in charge of roads, animals(like dogs), fences, shops and liquor sales. They were also in charge of workers on white farms.

The officials of each board were appointed by the Department of Bantu Administration and Development (BAD). BAD was very firmly in charge of each board. The boards did not make policy or regulations — BAD did. The Minister of BAD had the power to hire and fire the chief director of each administration board. This gave the central government strong control over the boards.

The administration boards were — and still are — supposed to be self-financing. This meant that the government didn't give money to the boards and white municipalities no longer paid the township's debts. The boards were able to take over the money which local authorities had left, but after that they

had to get money from somewhere else.

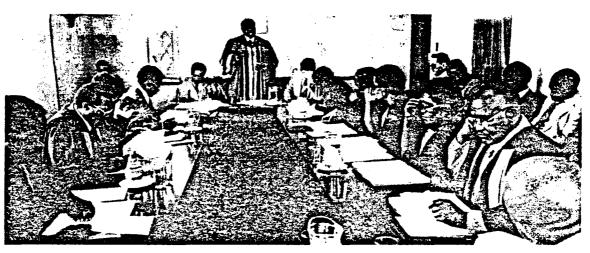
The boards squeezed money out of the people in the townships — rents, service charges, fines, school levies, profits from beerhails all went to the boards. Even when boards got loans from the central government, the people had to pay these back eventually and with interest. So, the residents of the townships had to pay for everything — housing and services, influx control and the salaries of board officials. Administration boards were introduced

- •Control the people in townships and on the white farms in a more strict and 'efficient' way.
- ◆Centralize this control under the Minister and Department of BAD in other words to put one government department in charge of both townships and influx control.

Useless Boys' Club

The administration boards used the Urban Bantu Councils (UBC's) to advise them on what the inhabitants in the townships thought. These bodies had been set up in the early 60's to replace the advisory boards which had fulfilled a similar role under the city councils since the 1920's.

The UBC's were an attempt to deal with the fact that Africans were excluded from any say in the running of the townships. However, they had never suceeded in winning any credibility from township people and were seen as what they were, stooge bodies between the people and the administration boards which held power in the townships. The UBC's confined themselves to giving voice to certain African traders and professional people



who objected to the restrictions which apartheid placed on their business affairs.

Administration board rule

Administration board rule was a disaster for most people in the townships. Conditions in the townships grew worse and worse. People were forced to pay more money for less houses and poorer services.

Administration board rule was also harsh and brutal — the boards employed their own police force, the 'blackjacks' to evict people who were behind with rent, or who did not have housing permits.

The administration boards assumed responsibility for influx control, housing, township finances as well as smaller functions such as trading licenses.

1. Influx Control

The boards were put in charge of the labour bureaux in each area. They were helped by the Bantu Affairs Commis-

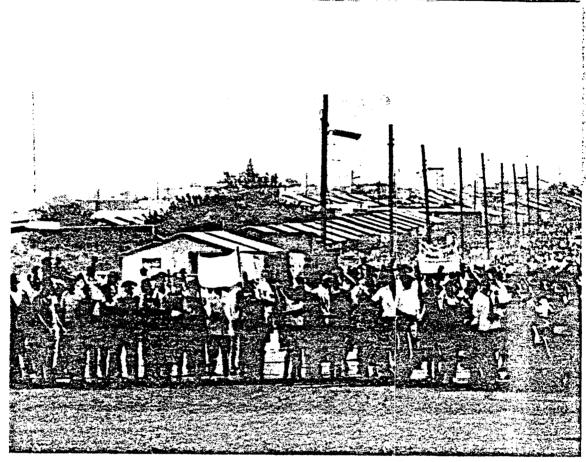
sioner in each town, and, of couse, by the South African Police (SAP). Together with the 'blackjacks', the SAP made more and more pass raids every year. People were arrested in huge numbers in 1973 — over half a million people were arrested and charged under the different pass laws.²⁴

Boards were also supposed to make African people more 'homeland conscious', to 'help as many Bantu as possible from white areas to settle in the homelands'. What this really meant was that the boards would help to dump people in the Bantustans. Between 1969 and the middle of 1975, the boards were directly responsible for resettling 171 000 people in the Bantustans. The boards also tried to force people to live in the Bantustans as a result of their policy of restricting the numbers of houses built.

2. Housing

Administration board rule in the townships meant that fewer houses were built and services got worse and

The role of the Urban Bantu Councils was limited to advising the administration boards on what township dwellers thought. The corruption of many councillors and their inability to represent the demands of township residents for housing, equal education and democratic rights, earned them the name United Bantu Crooks or the Useless Boys Club.



What began as a peaceful protest against Afrikaans medium of instruction, developed into a full scale revolt against every aspect of administration board rule in the township. Administration board offices, beerhalls. bottlestores, UBC offices and schools all became symbols of a system which deprived people of the right to live and work where they chose, which forced their children to accept an inferior and oppressive education and which tried to force people to exercise their political rights in Bantustans or through stooge bodies like the Urban Bantu Councils.

worse. By 1976, there was a housing shortage of about 200 000 houses in the urban areas. The services that the boards took over, like rubbish removal, sewerage, electricity and roads got worse. The boards spent a major part of their income in the Bantustans.

From 1968, the government's policy was to build as few houses as possible in the townships and as many as possible in the Bantustans. Between 1972 and 1977, the government spent 3 times more money on houses in the Bantustans than it spent in the boards' areas. The boards used money they had squeezed out of residents to build houses and townships in the Bantustans. For example the Central Tran-

svaal Administration Board (Pretoria spent R4,9m on the building of Mabopane.

They also used a great deal of their income to subsidise transport for worken who were resettled in Bantustan commuter towns, but continued to work in so-called 'white areas'.

3. Finances

The way the boards spent their mone, in the Bantustans didn't help their financial position. In fact, the boards were in a financial mess from the beginning. They just couldn't pay for themselves and looked for more mone, from businessmen and banks. They also got loans from the government finance





Dan Montsitsi, ex-president of the Soweto Students Representative Council (S-SRC). Under his leadership the SSRC resisted the rent increases and demanded the resignation of the UBC.

began in Soweto on June 16 spread throughout South Africa and carried on through 1977. This struggle was important because of the huge numbers of people involved, and also because the forms and direction of organisation changed as the struggle went on.

SSRC challenges UBC

After six weeks of intense violence, the Soweto Student Representative Council (SSRC) was formed on August 1. On that day, students had prevented the UBC from holding a meeting at Jabulani amphitheatre. The next day, the SSRC called a general strike for August 4. When the day came, it looked like the strike had been a success—some firms in Johannesburg said no more than 15% of their workers came to work.

The SSRC aimed to do two things —

1) To establish itself as a political alternative to the UBC's

2) To try to channel the militancy of students and workers into specific campaigns. This was not an easy task. It was made especially difficult by brutal police action, and by the conflict which developed between Soweto residents and some of the migrants in the hostels.

Even so, the SSRC continued to grow.

In April 1977, Wrab threatened to raise Soweto rents by 80%. The UBC had accepted this move. The SSRC under the leadership of Dan Sechaba Montsitsi called for a campaign against the increased rental, and made their reasons for doing this clear in a pamphlet:

'Have our pay scales been increased to meet the proposed rent increment?'
'The answer is NO of course.'

Wrab was forced to suspend the rem increase. At the same time, the SSRC called on all UBC members to resign within one week. The UBC collapsed. Its uselessness and lack of any real power had been clearly shown.

Community Councils: trying to buy off the people

In 1977, in the middle of all these events, the government decided to introduce community councils. They made great boasts about 'giving Africans a greater say in running their townships'.

Certain powers and responsibilities were handed over to the community councils. They were made responsible for allocating houses and hostel beds. They had to make sure that services like rubbish removal, water supply and roads were provided. The councils could decide who should be given residential and trading sites. All these powers were subject to the final say of the Minister of Co-operation and Development. He could give the councils more powers or take some away. He could add on new members, or simply close the councils down altogether.

The boards did not just disappear either. They were still in charge of influx control, labour allocation and finance. In most townships they still controlled the allocation of housing.

The SSRC's response to the community councils was: 'We don't want to be in charge of roads and rubbish. We want real and meaningful power to run our lives outside the system of apartheid.'

It was clear that the community coun-



cils did not give the people 'real and meaningful power'.

A new deal from an old pack

The councils were an important part of the government's strategy to reassert control over the township population. After 1976, the government was forced to make changes in the way it ruled the townships. Even so, it still tried to make these changes in a way which would help it to control and dominate the people in the townships.

In 1976 and 1977, resistance had hit hard at the centres of government power in the townships: the administration boards. R29,7 million worth of board property was damaged and destroyed. It was hoped that now the councils would be seen as the agents of government power. They would have to turn away the hundreds of people who need houses. They would have to raise the rents and explain the bad roads and broken sewerage pipes to the people.

The community councils have not made it any cheaper or more efficient to run the townships, nor have they managed to defuse resistance. People in the townships have rejected them from the beginning. In Soweto only 60 000 people were eligible to vote in the community council election. Of these, only 3 600 actually voted. One could hardly call the Soweto community council the 'representatives of the people'!

There was a bigger turnout of voters in places like the Vaal Triangle and in some small towns such as Fort Beaufort, but on the whole township people have shown their rejection of the councils.

The councillors themselves have acquired great reputations for corruption,

inefficiency and petty quarrelling amongst themselves.

More important, they have never been seen as leaders by the majority of African people. In February 1979, Pretoria residents forced W M Aphase the head of the Mamelodi Council to leave a hall where he had come to tell the people about rent increases.

During the rent protests in 1982, Mohlakeng township on the West Rand, the local mayor, Alfred Tekwane refused to attend a meeting called by residents in protest of the rent increases because he feared for his safety.

The failure of the community councils has been most clearly shown in the many struggles which have taken place in townships over rents, busfares, services and so on. Township residents have defied the councils' attempts to take control of the townships. These are just a few examples:

In the first half of 1979, residents of the Port Elizabeth townships of Zwide IV and Kwa-Ford began to organise around increased water charges. In October of that year, the Port Elizabeth Black community Organisation (Pebco) was formed at a meeting attended by 500 people. It was based on the residents associations which had sprung up in the Port Elizabeth townships. Pebco successfully took up issues like the removal of people from the Walmer township to Zwide, forcing the state to postpone the removals.

In August 1979, the Soweto, Dobson-ville and Diepmeadow community councils all announced that service charges would be increased by 100%. Meetings, petitions, delegations and an attack on the chairperson of the Dobsonville Community Council forced them to back down.

Democracy community council style

For negotiation purposes you don't want to go to the masses ... they are scared to take decisions ... I take decisions and I account for them in Katlehong and on the East Rand.'

M B Kumalo, ex-mayor of Katlehong. Interview, February 1981



Sowetans demonstrate their rejection of the community council system as they gather outside the community council chambers during the protest against the 1981 rent increases.

Making the people -pay

'Now it's up to the Soweto Council to find ways of getting the money ... either from the residents or from employers, but definitely not from us as our resources are now dry.'

John Knoetze, chairperson of Wrab. Sunday Times 16/3/1980

In the small town of Craddock in the Cape, the Masakane Organisation held a meeting and decided that the community council should be abolished, house rentals and bus fares should be reduced and public transport should be boycotted.

There is a fuller list of township struggles at the back of this book.

What is clear is that residents of African townships did not stop taking up community issues simply because they did not have councils to 'represent' them. In fact, when the councils did try to interfere, they were defied and in many cases threatened by the people.

The introduction of councils has not distracted people from their problems, nor is it easier for the government to get money from township residents.

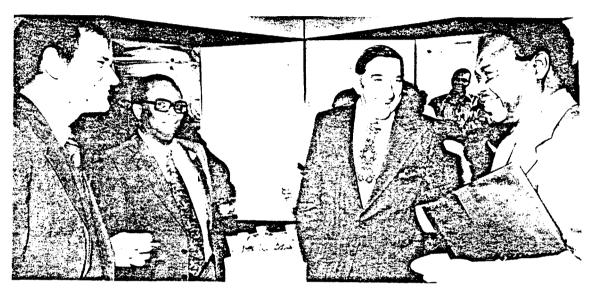
People have realised that councils have been set up to continue denying real political power and rights to African people. They have been completely rejected because it is precisely this lack of political power which is the root cause of the housing shortage, influx control and overcrowded, unhealthy townships.

Koornhof returns to his drawing board

'In the face of nationwide rejection of the community councils, Koornhof turned once again to his drawing board and came up with the Black Local Authorities Act and the Community Development Bill.

The Black Local Authorities Act will turn community councils into fully fledged 'town and village councils' with the power to raise their own money and run their own affairs. Councillors will be elected by township residents with permanent urban residents rights.

The councils will be responsible for raising money, allocating houses, and controlling the building of 'illegal shacks' and the entry of 'illegal people'



into urban areas.

Black Community Development Bill

The Black Community Development Bill will change the administration boards into 'development boards'.

As yet it's not quite clear just how power will be shared between the two bodies. At first glance it appears that they have very similar powers and functions.

The development boards will have complete control over all housing and accomodation. The Minister of CAD, through the boards, can decide on rentals and service charges, and decide to limit the development of a township or hostel, or close it down altogether! Control over housing is still too closely tied to influx control for the government to give it up to local authorities, which might be more exposed to popular pressure.

Suggestions are that the development boards will keep the power to make future plans and decisions while the town and village councils will administer and police the townships.

As with community councils, the Minister of Co-operation and Development retains considerable control. He can establish or dissolve a town or village council, decide what powers they should have and decide how they should be elected.

Black Local Authorities Act

The local authorities will be elected by people with permanent urban residence qualifications. Illegal residents, residents who have not lived in the urban area for at least twelve months, people with criminal records and people who have been sent for observation in a mental hospital will not be eligible to vote.

This means that very few people who

Thebahali (left) and Koornhof: looking for a new vehicle through which to achieve stable docile township communities. spend their living and working lives in the townships will actually be able to vote for the councils that will control them.

The functions of the local authorities will be:

- •Administration and allocation of housing.
- Control of squatting.
- Promotion of moral and social welfare and community development.
- Provision and administration of services such as sport, recreation and libraries.
- •Finance.

These functions are similar to the ones the community councils were supposed to have. In addition the local authorities will have the following functions:

- Provision and maintenance of refuse removal, water, sewerage, drainage and electricity.
- •Promotion of health services.
- •Transferal of other powers presently invested in the boards.
- Passing of by-laws.

However, the Minister of Cooperation and Development will still have the power to take these functions away and to dismiss the local authority.

One thing that becomes quite clear is that despite the claims of giving full autonomy to the local authorities, their needs and desires will only be taken account of if they do exactly what the boards and CAD want.

The rent increases last year provided clear examples of this:

- The Western Transvaal Administration Board threatened to dismiss the lkageng Council in Potchefstroom when they refused to approve a 150% rent rise in May.
- The Mamelodi Council complained

that they were not even consulted on the recent rent increase in the township. The head of the community council in Craddock recently said: 'Five year after all the sales talk we can still not show a single thing to the people to' justify our existence as a council ... We are a rubber stamp.'

Financial responsibility

Black local authorities, like community councils before them, will also run into financial problems. Clearly the boards are only too pleased to make them responsible for running certain aspects of the townships. As John Knoetze head of Wrab said: 'Now it's up to the Soweto Council to find ways of getting money, either from the residents or from employers, but not from us as our resources are now dry.'

A look at the 1982/83 budget of the Soweto Council shows that of the R46,5m expected income, R39,9m will come from rentals and service charges. When the council needs to increase its income, this is where it will look for money. Even foreign loans like the R160m raised by the Soweto Council in April 1982 will have to be paid back by the residents.

Despite their extremely limited power, the community councils and local authorities do take steps which affect township residents. The Sowetc Council played a big part in destroying the Orlando shacks, until the Supreme Court ruled that they were acting outside their powers. As a local authority they will have full power to pull down shacks.

The council has also proposed an R16 rent increase in its 1983/4 budget, &

The true role of Koornhof's councils.

The community councils are a vehicle for a purpose. If the purpose cannot be achieved by the vehicle, I will change the vehicle to suit the purpose.

Dr Piet Koornhof



well as a R3 increase in hostel charges.

According to its monthly report for March the Galeshewe Community Council in Kimberly evicted seven families in rental arrears, served 13 residents with notices to demolish shacks and demolished 34 shacks themselves.

Residents are also forced to pay for the vanity and personal gain of councillors — Erab plans to spend R30 098 on 'mayoral chains' for community councils, while the 'mayor' of Daveyton was given R10 000 for a car.

Doing the government's dirty work

The government's central concern is that the new town and village councils will succeed in doing what the community councils failed to do: in the words of the infamous Dr P J Riekert: 'These local authorities will serve to defuse pent up frustration and grievances against Pretoria'.25

Riekert, who is chief director of the Western Transvaal Administration Board and one of the most influential government administrators, advocates a formal bond between the new councils and the 'homelands'. He says that the town and village councils should be linked to the homelands and not serve as stepping stones to black participation in central government of South Africa.

However, Riekert stresses that this strategy won't work unless there is considerable participation in council elections

Town and village council elections are scheduled for November 1983 in some areas. Already calls for a boycott have gone out.

The formation of the Anti-Community Council Committee in Soweto and Kagiso to oppose the elections and plans to establish similar committees in other Witwatersrand townships are indicative of continued opposition to council rule.

Amos Masondo, a Soweto Civic As-

The Local Authorities Act gives the town councils the power to demolish shacks and so-called 'illegal' structures in the townships.



Police confront Soweto resident at the Wrab offices during the 1982 White City shack demolitions

sociation committee member said the aim was a total boycott of the elections. The Anti-Community Council Committee already has the support of the main organisations in Soweto, including the Soweto Civic Association, Cosas, Azaso, the Women's Federation, the General and Allied Workers Union, the Detainees' Aid Movement and the Council of Unions of South Africa.

The government has also not succeeded in incorporating Inkatha' participation in the new councils. Inkatha's Central Committee said participation in

the councils would depend on:

- •A satisfactory explanation from Pretoria for a Department of Foreign Affairs and Information pamphl which cited the establishment of the the exclusion of blacks from the proposed tricameral Parliament.
- •A detailed account of how the m councils would be financed.

In a recent speech Chief Buthelezi a peared to advocate a strategy of waiti and then taking control of the count at a more opportune time.

5. Who pays for the townships

From what has been said so far it's clear that township residents pay for their own housing, services and electricity.

While in the past, the government subsidised housing to a small extent, this will no longer be the case.

The diagram on the opposite page tries to explain in more detail who pays for the township, how the administration boards and community councils collect this money and how they spend it.

White municipalities pay for the upkeep of white suburbs from taxes or rates paid by local offices and factories.

There are no offices and factories in African townships to pay high rates to the administration boards and community councils. So they have to rely on the township population to finance the townships.

However, many township residents work in the factories and offices in white areas. They help to produce the wealth of these businesses, but these businesses do not pay for the upkeep of the areas where their workers live.

This points to one of the major contradictions in our society. While commerce and industry want a healthy workforce to exploit, and well-controlled townships capable of containing residents' political aspirations,

they are not prepared to pay workers living wages so they can afford decent housing. Nor are they prepared to provide this housing themselves.

Abuse and misuse: money and the administration boards

Since 1972 the boards have been responsible for running the townships and squeezing money out of the township population to do this. They have three ways of doing this: rent on houses, profits on beer and liquor sales, and levies from employers. The only source of money which the boards had that did not come directly from township dwellers themselves was in the form of employers' levies (R2,15 for each worker and R1,50 for each domestic worker.)

From the early seventies the boards were in serious financial trouble. Over half their income came from beer and liquor sales (in 1976 R177m out of R320m). ²² There is a lot of truth in the belief that the townships are paid for at the expense of alcoholism in their communities! In the past 80% of the profits from liquor were channelled to the Department of Co-operation and Development for subsidising transport for commuters from the Bantustans. This was reduced to 20% in 1975. In

Drinking makes the world go round

Over half the income of the administration boards comes from beer and liquor sales. This means that the more people drink, the more likely they will have their houses maintained, services installed and roads repaired, and the less likely their rents will be increased.

1976 the attacks on beer gardens and bottlestores meant the profits on beer and liquor dropped. Wrab alone lost R6m.

A lot of the money which the boards have, is spent on salaries, the government's propaganda organisation - the South African Bureau of Racial Affairs (Sabra), or goes astray through investment in bankcrupt organisations. Less than half the money which the boards have is spent on water, electricity, garbage and sewerage removal for the people who live in the townships.

In 1975 the Boards began looking for new sources of finance. They were given permission to have over-drafts, they received fines and bail from the labour bureaux, they raised school and transport levies. It is important for us to realise that it was not the staff of the boards who suffered but the residents of the townships, who had to make do with inadequate facilities and of course rent increases. In 1975, the West Rand, Northern Transvaal, Central Transvaal, Northern Cape and Eastern Transvaal Administration Boards asked permission to raise their rents. This still did not solve the financial problems of the boards

Once more the boards were forced to look around for new sources of finance. They found it in the form of loans from the provincial administrations, white local municipalities, big business and foreign banks, for example:

- ●The Soweto Council borrowed R105m from overseas banks, and R11m from the Transvaal Provincial Administration.
- Duduza Community Council negotiated to borrow R4m from the Nigel City Council.

However, these loans put the boards

further into debt.

Raising rents: shifting the burden to the people

The response of the boards to the deficits has been to raise restroughout the country. The adjoins table shows the extent to which rehave gone up throughout the Transscover the last year.

Despite these increases the boa still claim to be running at a loss. Jo Knoetze, chairperson of Wrab, sa 'The fact is that three quarters of a people of Soweto can afford to pay economic rental and service char Since I have come here we've manage to increase charges by 133 percent, I we are still running at a loss'.22

The Central Transvaal Administrat Board claims to be running at a los R7 million.

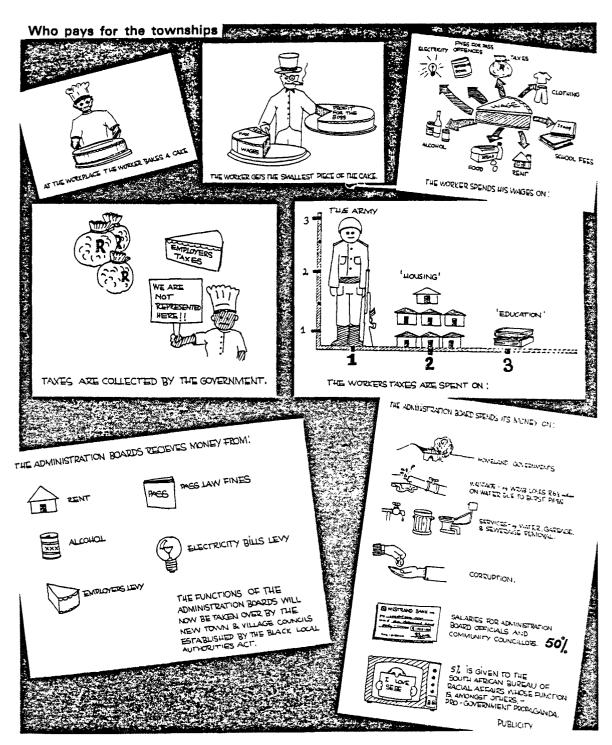
Last year the administration boa were threatened by individual or panies under the Monopolies Act having a monopoly over beer sa Consequently they are being forced sell their beer halls. Rent increases going to have to replace this revent perhaps this explains why Wrab threatening to drastically increase rent of houses that are not bought in 'Great Homes Sale.'

A new housing scheme in Molapo tension gives us an idea of how m rental Wrab would like Sowetans pay. Residents there pay R138 a mo for a 3-bedroomed house which cording to the Council's director townships, is an economic, unsubsidirental. Two schemes which are be planned in Chiawelo and Protea charge the same rent.

Because of opposition to rent

Boards income not used for township services

Less than half the administration boards' money is spent on providing services such as water, electricity, garbage and sewerage removal.





furniture for rent arrears

Wrab raid over R20 power levy

'Raids' were just routine ter the inspections, says Wrab

West Rand townships Mr Operation to defy recent rent hike

Residents riot over rent

lowed an announcement by Drakensberg Administration Board officials that the R3.94a month rent increases would be going through, despite protests from residents of the black suburb. Eight men and two women, aged from 15 to 0, were arrested on charges of possessing stolen property, mainly haptor, from the beer halls Another man was charged with house-breaking and theft.

Four shots were fired

giso rents y go up over 100%

see 187.

In Best a Ritt Police more than the township a series of the township as the township a

Police used teargas a disperse the crowds while other police stora by with sjamboks.

Sources inside the ownships claim that white used sjamboks on the demonstrators, but

The 10 men and nine momen who were detained will be charged with alleged intimidation, according to the police spokesman.

Rent increases in 1982

"BETTER" be evicted homes by pr	Marine muld from the first marine in first mar	CROWDS went on the lowed an announcement but no on Francisco CROWDS went on the lowed an announcement but no on the lower party by Drakens berg Eight women.		
Area	Date	Amount Increased by	Present Amount	
Wrab hostels	Mar 1982	R4.55	R12	
Diepmeadow houses	May 1982	R8	R33.20	
Dobsonville hostels	Sept 1982	R3.45		
Kagiso	Nov 1982	R21	av.R36	
Mohlakeng	Nov 1982	R15	R32:63	
Dobsonville	Nov 1982	R13.20	R44.43	
Munsieville	Nov 1982	R21	av.R36	
Bekkersdal	Nov 1982	R14	R32.64	
Tembisa site rents	April 1982	R1	R19.40	
Orange Vaal	1982	R16	1	
Mamelodi	April 1982	R8.35	1	
Atteridgeville	Oct 1982 April 1982	R8	R21.55	
	Oct 1982	R8.35	R25	
Balfour, Greylingstad,		R8		
Ogies and Paardekop		20%		

creases, some councils are introducing. a new system whereby people will pay rent according to their income. This means that residents will pay a proportional rent. Residents in Soweto are being sent circulars on which their incomes have to be filled in by their employers.

In Davyton, residents who earn less than R150 per month, pay R11 per month rent, while those earning between R150 and R250 pay R17,78 per month.

The system does not take account of the number of people who have to be supported on the 'breadwinner's' salary.

A system of proportional rents does not mean that people who can afford a higher rental subsidise those who can't. Instead a person earning R155 a month will subsidise the rental of someone who earns R145 per month.

It can be a very divisive tactic which can create divisions between different members of the community. For example, if rents are different and they are raised by different amounts at different times it becomes difficult to unite the community against rent increases.

'Rents we can afford'

At present the rent increases have been a major site of resistance both to control of townships by the community councils and the boards, and also a form of resistance by township dwellers against the rising cost of living without any parallel rise in standard of living.

In Tembisa in 1981, hostel dwellers burnt down administration board offices after the rents of houses and hostel beds were increased. In Soweto in 1980, 200 women marched on the Community Council Chambers demanding that the rents were not increased and threatening Thebehali.

When rents were increased in Mohlakeng in 1982, residents opposed them vigorously. About 50 000 residents resolved at a meeting not to pay the increase as well as to boycott businesses owned by the community councillors and the beer halls. A delegation from the Mohlakeng Civic Association (Moca) met Wrab officials in an unsuccessful attempt to prevent the increases.

The rent boycott was however broken, when members of Moca began to be evicted and harassed by Wrab.

In the Durban townships of Lamontville and Chesterville residents have protested against a decision by the Port Natal Administration Board and the Community Council to raise the rents. Ex-Robben Island prisoner, respected community leader and community councillor Harrison Dube, was assassinated after he vigorously opposed the rent increases at a council meeting.

In the wake of his death, residents were subjected to extreme police brutality. However this has not weakened their resolve to resist the increases.

Opposition against rent increases has proved to be one of the biggest stumbling blocks to the government's policy of creating a middle class in the townships.

In order to do this they need to upgrade the townships even to a limited extent, which requires money. However, it insists that this money must come from township residents themselves.

In raising the rents, the authorities open themselves up to a whole new sphere of resistance as people are not prepared to pay for their own oppression. Residents refuse to pay for own oppression.

Ugrading the townships requires money. However, despite the low incomes of most township families, the authorities insist residents must pay for rent increases. In raising the rents the boards and the councils open themselves to a whole new sphere of resistance.

6. The people resist

The last three years have seen oppressed communities around the country uniting against rent increases, bus fare increases, shack demolitions, electricity bills, and dummy community councils and management committees.

Residents of Cape Town's coloured communities, the Johannesburg West Rand coloured and African townships and Natal's African townships protested against rent increases. On the East Rand, at KTC and in Orlando East, homeless people organised to fight the demolition of their shacks and to demand housing. In the Pietermaritzburg and Durban African townships, commuters organised a massive bus boycott in protest against rising fare increases. In the Cape, in Soweto and in Lenasia, high electricity tariffs have become an ongoing focus of organisation.

Government provision of housing, electricity, health services, community and recreation facilities has never been adequate. The government's policy of forcing African, coloured and Indian communities to pay their own way has meant these communities are characterised by chronic housing shortages, and streets, buildings and services are in a state of disrepair.

All this has led to residents in these communities taking up these daily problems and fighting for improve-

ments in their daily living conditions. Since the school, bus and meat boycotts of 1980, grassroots organisations have sprung up in many communities. They have defined their role as uniting people around the daily problems they face in the communities.

Because this booklet focuses on the conditions facing people in African townships, this section will look mainly at organisation in African townships. This does not mean that there are not similarities in the way in which different communities have organised.

Organisations in different areas around the country are characterised by very different levels and forms of development which reflect different histories and conditions. Some areas, for example the African communities in Port Elizabeth have a far longer history of formal organisation than other communities.

However the lack of formal organisations in other communities does not mean that people are unaware of the daily oppression they face due to poor housing, high transport costs, poor health care and lack of control over local government.

This consciousness often expresses itself in times of crisis and very quickly ad-hoc organisations and structures emerge which in time have the potential

muters in Inanda, Clermont, Klaarwater, St Wendolins, Makuta and Lamontville almost spontaneously began to boycott the buses and within a matter of days, commuter committees were set up. They began organising the boycott and providing alternative transport. Three weeks later these organisations decided to unite to form the Joint

not exist.

A long history of repressive conditions has meant that organisation in African areas has not always been able to sustain itself in the form of formal committees and structures. Particularly in the bantustan commuter towns of Mdantsane, Mabopane, Garankuwe and KwaMashu, conditions have been very repressive. The bantustan police are notorious for preventing any form of organisation from developing. Recent action taken against Mdantsane commuters who are boycotting the buses, after fare increases, makes this point only too clearly.

Commuters Committee.

to develop into fully fledged community

organisations. It is also clear that lack of formal organisation does not mean that

informal organisational structures do

A good example is the African com-

munities of Durban where prior to the

bus fare increases at the end of last year, formal organisation did not exist.

However after the increases, com-

Other areas have a long history of reactionary leadership which has prevented democratic mass based organisation from taking root. In Alexandra township in Johannesburg, the Liaison Committee has had effective control of all the community resources and thereby prevented progressive organisation from holding meetings. It has also retained some measure of

credibility with the community because of the successful struggles which is waged in preventing the resettlement α the community a few years ago.

Encouraging grassroots participation

The priority which communit organisations have defined for themselves is to involve people at grassroots level in making decisions an participating in action. The aim of the is two fold:

- ●To build up confidence in people the they can take control over their ow lives and give them experience in doing this
- ●To help expose for people the rocauses of the problems they face.

The process of mobilising, educating organising and uniting people is not a easy one. While people may well join: a protest against a rent action, this do not mean that they will remain in community organisation after the in mediate issue is over. It also does not mean that they will be any closer to understanding the root causes of the dail problems they face, than they were the beginning of the particular carpaign.

Over the last years, community organisations have been faced with the problem of sustaining involvement aften an immediate campaign is over. The lability to sustain involvement did a seem to be affected by the success the campaign. Victorious or not, people of organisations as organisations were not able to incomporate people on an on-going basis.

One way of consolidating is seen building on-going structures whi could involve members on an on-goi

The task of grassroots organisation.

The new community organisations aim to encourage the participation of residents by mobilising, organising and educating them around their daily problems.

basis.

Another challenge to organisations is to develop leadership amongst ordinary residents. In the past many organisations relied heavily on the energy and work of young activists. Local leadership is likely to ensure that a community organisation adopts the most appropriate image to draw in more people.

Another problem facing community organisations is that they tend to be too reactive. This means that they are dependent on rent increases, or evictions by the authorities to provide issues to organise the community around.

Organisers are starting to take into account the major on-going problems existing in a community and seek to highlight these problems and organise around them. Examples of on-going issues that are being taken up are: inadequate sewerage and garbage removals, high electricity bills, and maintenance of houses. Still other issues that community organisations could look at in the future are the housing shortage itself, and the right to remain in an urban area.

For community organisations the importance of taking up these issues is that they are on-going problems faced by people, and are not dependent on a particular move by the administration board or the community council. The community organisation can take the issue up at its own pace and more carefully consider how to make long term gains.

Drawing the links

The importance of community organisation is that it can draw on a mass base and can draw people into the struggle for democracy. However, if

this process moves too fast it defeats its purpose because it leaves people behind.

So for example some community organisations feel that they alienated members by taking up much too overt political issues in the past.

While it is the long term role of community organisations to raise in their members an awareness of the political roots of the daily problems they face, it is not the role of the community organisation to take up these questions itself because a community organisation is not a political organisation.

However, in the long term a political organisation is necessary to deal with the root causes of people's problems which lie in apartheid and exploitation. But a political organisation will not spring from nowhere. It will be built through the growth of links between mass organisation, between workplace and community organisations and between different communities

Community organisations entered 1983 at different stages and with different levels of organisation. A priority is to develop community organisation in areas where this has not yet happened and to consolidate existing organisation.

Unemployment, escalating prices and the general assault on the living standards of the people will not necessarily make them more militant or more easy to organise. The new Local Authorities Act and the Koornhof Bills present a new challenge to organisation. The response of the government to growing community organisation has been to offer more power to dummy community councils in the hope that they will be able to control growing resistance and force residents to pay for improvements to the township themselves.

Growing organisation

Rent protests in Sobantu and Lamontville, the bus boycott in Mdantsane and the anti-community council campaign throughout the country are all evidence of growing grassroots organisation in African communities.

7. The history of the townships

From the time when African people first came to urban areas to live and work, they were not allowed to bring their families with them. From the 1920's the movement of people to the urban areas was controlled by the government as was the growth of townships.

Obviously the apartheid strategy did not grow up overnight and as the twentieth century progressed we have seen many policies change and develop. However, since the early days there has been a link between the growth and development of the townships and the whole question of political control over the African working class. To understand how this policy worked we need to look at the different phases in the history of the growth of the townships. We can identify four main phases in the development of this policy:

1. The 20's and 30's.

This was a period of rapid and almost uncontrolled urbanisation. Housing was largely provided by employers in the form of single sex hostel accomodation on the mines. Although by law the local white municipalities had responsibility for the provision of housing and services, they did not provide this on any satisfactory scale. So people were left to build their own houses in designated

areas.

2. The 40's and 50's to the early 60's.

Immediately after the end of Second World War, the government moved against the squatter movements which had grown up in the main township. This involved clearing the squatter camps and implementing the Group Areas Act. At the same time the government began a massive subsidised housing programme and forced employers to contribute to the financing of the townships. However the townships were still self-financing.

3. The late 60's and 70's

The government began to tighten up influx control and new regulations preventing building of family housing is urban areas. At the same time it began to develop the homeland system and foster the growth of townships in the homelands. Centralised control of the townships under the administration boards became necessary to apply a uniform system of control.

Late 70's and 80's

This was a period of mass unemployment and mass resistance. Influx control was tightened and increase

removals and harrassment of illegals began, such as Cape Town squatters. Responsibility for housing was put on the 'individual' and on employers while home ownership was encouraged.

We will look in some detail at the historical development of the government's strategy in the townships. From what has been said already it might seem as if the government always works in the interests of all the bosses and has a 'total strategy' which gives it complete control over the African people and the working class. However, if we look at South African society we can see that this is not the case.

Firstly, the policies and laws of the government do not always satisfy every single capitalist. For example, at present the government is demanding that the bosses contribute more to workers housing and transport. Some individual employers are prepared to provide housing loans for their own workers but they are not happy with the suggestion of increasing the contribution which they make to financing the townships as a whole.

Secondly, the government is not in complete control of the African working class. From the early 70's there have been struggles in the workplace over wages, working conditions and recognition of unions. There have also been struggles outside the workplace over rents, education, transport, division of land and many other issues.

These struggles have forced the government to change some of the ways in which they can run the townships and also improve some of the most glaringly poor conditions. It is how the government is trying to regain control over the population of the townships which has formed the subject matter of



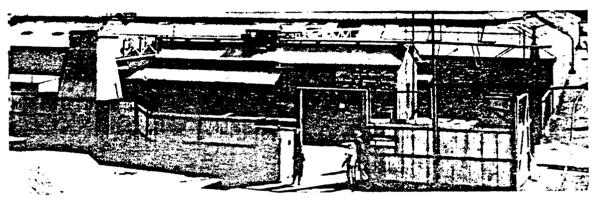
this booklet.

The 20's and 30's: housing and controlling an emerging working class

Finding labour for the mines

Before the discovery of gold and diamonds, African people lived mainly on tribal land which was used for the cultivation of crops and grazing of animals. In the latter part of the nineteenth century, gold and diamonds

The struggle for land between the settlers and the African kingdoms was a long and bitter one. By the end of the nineteenth century the settlers had succeeded in destroying the political power of the African kingdoms. Over the next fifty years they systematically moved African people off their land and into the reserves proclaimed by the 1913 Land Act.



Places of detention.

'Steps ought to be taken to render the compounds more easily convertible into places of detention. Where the compound was strong, steel-cased gates which can be locked from the outside, only one entrance and high walls with no outer windows, a comparatively few armed men can prevent exit from it and thus isolate a disturbance.

Government Commission 1913²⁷

were discovered. The new mines needed a labour force. However, working conditions were harsh and wages were low. Because African people subsisted off the land they had no reason to work on the mines.

The mine owners demanded that the government step in and help force African farmers to give up farming and move to the mines as wage labourers. The 1913 Land Act deprived people of the right to own land and the government imposed heavy hut and poll-taxes on African peasants. These measures began to force peasants off the land and enter wage labour in order to earn cash to pay their taxes.

The pass laws

Africans were not allowed to move freely from one place to another or choose to live and work where they wanted to. There had been pass laws since the beginning of the nineteenth century in South Africa. Because of the very hard living and working conditions on the mines many workers deserted their jobs.

This description from one worker on Jubilee Mine in 1902 gives us some idea of just how bad they were:

"We were not well treated, we even had to work on Sundays, we had to load the trucks. We got coarse food to eat. After about two months we began to get ill. We had stomach-ache first, then our feet got swollen and we could not walk. The doctor used to see us and give us medicine. Some died.' 26

Because of these very bad conditions, many men began to look for work in the towns, or go back home. By 1897, the desertion rate was so high — 14 000 miners deserted 33 mines in one year — that the mine owners began to demand stricter pass laws. Every African had to carry a pass which gave the following details: name, address, employer, record of any offences, record of taxes and place of origin. The number of police was also increased to make sure that workers carried their passes.

Compounds: total insitutions

The mine owners wanted a labour force but they were not prepared to take responsibility for housing and feeding the families of the men who were working on the mines. The South African government was also not prepared to take this responsibility. The bosses were only prepared to provide

accomodation for their employees. They did not want to spend money housing workers' families or providing housing for the working class in general. The result was that in the early days of the twentieth century the main form of housing was either in employer compounds or in shanty towns which people built for themselves on the outskirts of the new towns.

Mine owners were able to control their workers through the compound system. The compounds had usually only one entrance. Workers were not allowed to come and go as they pleased and visits by friends and relatives could be controlled. Also, in times of protests and strikes, the entire compound could be sealed off to the outside world.

The compounds not only helped mine owners to control their labour force but also helped keep the cost of wages very low. Mine owners said wages were to cover the subsistence of the worker alone because his family was supposed to provide for themselves in the reserves. Mine owners also justified the fact that they paid such low wages by saying they provided workers with food and accomodation. However, these two examples give a very clear idea of the kind of housing and food that was provided:

'Twenty huts in the compound, being about 14 years old and practically worn out as the smoke of the years had corroded the iron of which they are built. There are no floors to the huts, no bedsteads, no stoves, no proper ventilation and no light at night.' ²⁸

The food at one compound was described in the following way by a commission of enquiry:

'small mielies mostly discoloured, purple and brown in parts. The majority of the corns contained weavels. Very unpleasant musty smell. Not fit for human consumption.' 29

Life in early Johannesburg

In 1904, the total African population of Johannesburg was conservatively estimated at 55 765, of whom 3 840 were women. South Africa's total black urban population in that year was 353 000

Many of the blacks that came to the towns worked as domestic servants and lived on the premises of their employers. Other workers were forced to find their own accomodation, often near to their places of work.

During these early years, there was little attempt to separate different racial groups into separate areas. So non-racial communities developed on the periphery of the Johannesburg central city area. These included such areas as Vrededorp, the Coolie and Kaffir locations and the Burghersdorp Brickfields.

In areas like Ferrairastown, Marshalltown, Fordsburg, Jeppestown and Orphirton, white landlords constructed shanties which they rented out to blacks.

A report on the housing situation in 1923 described the following situation in some of these areas:

'It is invariable practice to let one room to a whole family with the result that in some cases where there are 16 rooms on a stand of 50 by 100 feet there are often as many as 80 or more persons living on the stand.'

In 1903 the Johannesburg Insanitary Area Improvement Scheme was set up to investigate the 'Coolie Town' area which had polluted water wells and pit latrines. It recommended that the whole area be expropriated and replan-

A Doornfontein backyard.

'it consisted of forty low, narrow sheds built very close to each other, the whole being enclosed by a high fence of iron sheets. The sheds were separated by passages about four feet wide, they were each divided down the centre by a partition, and again divided transversely into small cubicles. These measured eight feet square. There were no windows. The rent was two pounds a month ... over two hundred human beings were herded together ... were of all races, of all

ned. In 1904, bubonic plague broke out and the area was burnt to the ground by fire

As a result, the municipality provided temporary corragated iron shelters on municipal land 15km south west of Johannesburg and so the first township of Kliptown was established. It was far from town and transport was inadequate and so people continued to seek accomodation near to their places of work.

In 1905, Sophiatown was established as a township. Stands were sold to whites, coloureds and Africans on a freehold tenure basis.

Although the white municipalities were resonsible for providing housing and services for all racial groups, very little was provided for lower income groups. It was only after the flu epidemic of 1981 that the authorities realised that the living conditions of many people were a health hazard. In response to this situation, Western Native Township was established and by 1921, the municipality had built 1207 houses.

Resistance to poor living conditions

The emerging working class was not at all satisfied with either their living or working conditions. They did not accept these conditions passively. In 1917 there were riots in Kimberly and in 1918 and 1919 there were riots in Johannesburg and Bloemfontein. At the same time, trade unions and political parties began to emerge to give an organised voice to the dissatisfaction which the working class was experiencing. In 1919 the South African National Congress organised an anti-pass campaign and the same year the Industrial and Com-

mercial Workers Union (ICU) was formed.

The government steps in

In the face of the growing urban unrest, and the massive housing shortage, the government stepped in to control the situation. A Parks and Estates Committee report in August 1916 summed up the concern of local whites to the situation as follows:

'It is a well-known fact that certain townships are overrun by unattached natives, and that in these townships illicit liquor traffic is prevalent. We are of the opinion that the provision by the council of suitable accomodation for the Natives employed in the towns under proper control would do much to clear these townships of the pests from which they now suffer.' 31

It did this in two ways: firstly by limiting the number of people who were allowed to enter urban areas to those who were in employment, thereby excluding their families from the right to live in urban areas. Secondly, by making decisions on who was to take responsibility for providing services in the townships while putting the burden of paying for this and housing squarely on the shoulders of the new working class.

The Stallard Principle

The basis for influx control was the policies of a certain Native Commissioner in Natal called Colonel Stallard. His policy of applying strict influx control in townships under his administration was regarded as highly successful.

His infamous principle was quite simple — Africans could remain in urban areas only as long as they ministered to

the white man's needs. Colonel Stallard was therefore put in charge of a commission of enquiry to look into the urban crisis. It is not surprising that he strongly influenced the Urban Areas Act which was passed by Parliament in 1923.

The 1923 Urban Areas Act: laying the foundations

The 1923 Act established several principles which have been used ever since in the running of African townships:

- 1. The number of people who may live in urban areas with their families is limited because of influx control which aims to keep wives and families out of so called white urban areas and restrict urban rights to men with jobs.
- 2. African townships were to be separate from white residential areas and built on the outskirts of towns so that the working class was outside the main urban area.
- 3. The responsibility for housing fell on employers and on the working class themselves. The state was not prepared to provide for the urban working class.
- Township residents could be represented on bodies with advisory powers only.

White municipal rule

The 1932 Act said white municipalities were responsible for running the townships. A superintendent assisted by an Advisory Board controlled the township. The Advisory Boards could give advice only and were mostly selected by the superintendent. The superintendent and his municipal police force constantly harassed residents with pass and liquor raids.

A separate 'Native Revenue Account'

WARNING.

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was started to pay for facilities. The money came from rents, fines, contract registering fees and beer sales. Local brewing was outlawed so that local authorities could open beer halls and make profits out of them. Financing of the townships was always inadequate because the money was coming from the meagre wages of the people themselves. While the 1923 Act laid out the basis for the government's urban policy, these measures were not fully implemented until the 1930's.

The 'civilised' housing policy

By the early 1939's white residents of Johannesburg were faced with a housing shortage. Many of them were urging the municipality to proclaim Johannesburg a whites only area and evict black residents.

The root of this housing crisis lay in the fact that the municipality was not embarking on housing schemes for either white or black residents.

the second secon

The principle of forced segregation was first introduced in the 1923 Urban Areas Act.



James 'Sofasonke' Mpanza: leader of the Oriando squatter movement in the 1940's.

Although the municipality had been trying to establish Orlando and Kliptown as African areas, no subsidised housing was provided in these areas and they were far from the centre of town and transport was bad.

White residents of suburbs like Brixton, Mayfair, Fordsburg, Vrededorp and Jeppe wanted to prevent Africans from living there. At first the City Council tried to restrict the area to black home owners only. The aim was to exclude working class Africans living there as sub-tenants. However, subtenancy was a major source of income for African home owners and they were not at all keen to evict their sub-tenants.

The result was that in 1931 the City Council was forced to pass a by-law proclaiming Brixton, Mayfair, Fordsburg, Vrededorp and Jeppe whites only areas. However, areas like Sophiatown, Martindale, Newclare, Malay Location and Prospect Township remained non-racial areas.

Many African resisted moving to the newly established areas. In 1934 the 'anti-slum' Bill was passed giving the local authorities the right to clear whole areas, not just individual houses. This Act was to be used consistently over the next decades to clear racially integrated suburbs.

By the time that the Second World War broke out, there had been a massive economic boom due to the development of manufacturing industry. At the same time, more and more Africans were becoming permanent city dwellers without land in the reserves. The black population of Johannesburg almost doubled during and immediately after World War 2.

White workers went off to war and industry became dependent on African labour. This led to a slight relaxation of the influx control laws and to allow for labour to meet industry's needs whole families moved to the cities. But there was no accomodation for these people. The government had only provided hostels for migrants up until 1937 when they embarked on a limited subeconomic housing programme.

The 40's and 50's: squatter movements and forced removals

By the 1940's there was a serious housing shortage. Thousands of families resorted to squatting, because they could not afford to build their own houses and the government refused to provide them with land and accomodation. At first people squatted in Newclare. However, in the face of police harassment, people began to squat about 15 kilometres outside of Johannesburg in areas like Orlando, Pimville and Alexandra.

Conditions in the squatter camps varied from bad to worse, Pimville being about the worst: only 60 taps for a population of 12 000 people.

By 1944 the waiting list for houses was 16 000 in Johannesburg.

Central and local authorities were divided on the squatter issue. Central government was not particularly interested — it was turning a blind eye to the situation because industry needed labour. Squatters without employment were removed by the Department of Native Affairs very efficiently.

In March 1944 James 'Sofasonke' Mpanza led a group of sub-tenant from Orlando and a few families from Kliptown and Newclare on to an oper piece of ground in Orlando. There they



set up hessian shelters and encouraged others to join them.

The Johannesburg City Council wanted to prosecute but eventually agreed to set up a new camp with water and sanitation in Jabavu. An agreement was made with Mpanza that they could remain in Orlando on condition that new people would not be allowed to join them.

Thousands more moved in despite the agreement until numbers swelled to 20 000 people in 1945. The situation was becoming insoluble, more sub-tenants were being evicted, more people were coming in from the rural areas, the squatter camp was bursting and the tents provided by the City Council were inadequate. Mpanza was seen as the instigator and ordered out of Johannesburg to a farm in Natal.

The sites in Jabavu were only for people already employed and resident in Johannesburg. The people however resisted being moved from Orlando into breezeblock shelters built there by council.

A group of residents from Pimville marched to Orlando West with their shacks. They set up camp there until they were forced to move to Jabavu.

As one group of squatters was removed, thousands appeared to replace them.

A group from Alexandra under the leadership of Baduza arrived in Orlando after trying to squat in Alexandra, but they were removed, ironically back to Alexandra.

Eventually the authorities realised that the urban population was there to stay. In 1947, squatting was legalised through a system known as controlled squatting. What this meant was that people with employment could apply for a serviced stand in one of the new townships e.g. Orlando and Jabavu where they could live with their families

Alexandra township today: Overcrowded, and badly maintained, this township has been an ongoing site of resistance to the housing shortage and forced removals of so-called illegal residents. Since the 50's the government has done little to improve the township, preferring instead to put a stop to family accomodation and redevelop the area for hostel dwellers only. After long years of resistance, residents have finally won the right to remain.



By the early 1950's the government's control over the urban African working class was being seriously hampered. A growing mass movement demanded equal political rights, equal pay for equal work, an end to Bantu Education and better housing.

until such time as the council was able to provide them with proper housing. This was a limited victory, because only people with employment qualified for a stand. But it was a victory nevertheless and one won by the organised power of the squatter movements in resisting removals.

The govenment dilemma

During the 1950's the government was trying to deal with an urban African population that was ever growing in size and political awareness.

A great deal of debate took place within government circles on how best to do this. One view expressed in the government appointed Tomlinson Commission was in many ways an updated version of the views expressed in the Stallard Commission 35 years previously. The Commission advocated the tightening of influx control, and the

development of the Bantustans with a view to eventually reversing the flow of Africans from the reserves to the urban areas. Africans were not considered permanent urban residents and therefore only limited facilities would be provided for them.

Another view wanted the government to accept the presence of a permanent urban African population. This view held that the growing manufacturing and commercial sectors were dependent on a stable African workforce. At the same time it advocated tighter influx control to control the urban African population.

The Nationalist solution

The solution that the government adopted to deal with the urban African population was largely motivated by political considerations.

The mass political campaigns like the Defiance Campaign and the £1 a day campaign organised by the Congress Alliance in the 50's resulted in the mobilisation of thousands of people against the pass laws, forced removals, low wages and racial discrimination.

Mass mobilisation of the urban working class posed a direct threat to the government's control of the black population as a whole and the working class in particular.

The government's answer to this threat was to try to reassert control a every level. In 1960 the government declared a state of emergency, the ANC and PAC were banned and hundreds of leaders of the Congres Alliance were detained, banned, imprisoned and forced into exile.

The large scale building programm that the government embarked on i

the 50's and the early 60's was part of the government's plan to reassert control over the urban African population. By controlling who was eligible for government housing and serviced sites the government was able to use housing as a means of influx control.

At the same time the new townships were rigidly designed to help curb political unrest.

The Nationalists come to power

The National Party's urban policy followed the guidelines laid down in the 1932 Urban Areas Act. It was committed to the following:

- 1. The tightening of control on the movement to and from the urban areas.
 2. The intensified segregation of racial groups, e.g. through the Group Areas Act.
- The implementation of policies aimed at making townships selffinancing.

1. Tightening of influx control

In 1952, a new law was passed which defined the conditions by which black people could be present in urban areas. Only men who had worked for one employer in urban areas for ten years or had worked in an area for more than fifteen years could legally live in that area with their family. Between 1951 and 1962 four million Africans were convicted for pass offences.

Contract workers could only remain in urban areas as long as they were employed. During the 50's the government extended passes to African women so that it would be possible to control the influx of these people to the towns.

Housing became tied to influx con-



trol. Only people with the legal right to live in urban areas with their families were entitled to apply for a serviced sight or to get permission to lodge in other people's houses.

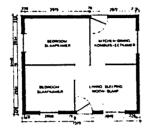
By 1948 there were 50 000 black families in and around Johannesburg out of a total urban African population of 2,1 million.

2. Group Areas removals

Divide and rule became part of the government's strategy for controlling a growing black urban population. The government tried to plan and relocate urban blacks, to segregate black from white and so-called different ethnic groups from each other. Between 1954 and 1964, 110 000 people were resettled by the Bantu Resettlement Board.

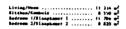
The main targets for group areas removals were Sophiatown, Martindale and Newclare. These freehold townships had long been the refuge of people without passes and had also become major sites of resistance to

In an attempt to deal with the growing urban African population, the government tightened influx control, so that only Africans who had worked continuously for one employer for ten years or had lived continuously in the same urban area for fifteen years, could qualify to live with family in an urban area. Those who did not qualify were caught in continuous pass raids and prosecuted.





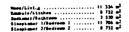
TYPE/TIPE 51/6







TIPE/TYPE 51/9



Match box houses: Known as 51/6 or 51/9 these houses looked exactly the same, were built in straight rows and had three or four rooms. 51/6 are without in indoor bathroom. 51/9 have an indoor bathroom.

apartheid. The most famous struggle of resistance was in Sophiatown.

3. Building new townships

Once the government had decided who was entitled to live in urban areas and re-inforced the policy of racial segregation, it turned its attention to the housing crisis. Between 1948 and 1962, the government embarked on a massive building programme. 11 386 houses per year were built compared with 1 573 per year between 1923 and 1948.

To facilitate this building programme the government looked for ways to reduce the cost of building houses and secondly devising ways of making the working class pay for its own housing.

In 1951 blacks were allowed to be trained as artisans in the building trade. However, by law they could only practise these skills in the townships. Prior to this, blacks were not allowed to train as artisans at all. Many black builders were employed on the new housing schemes at far lower rates than white artisans could have been paid.

In 1952 the government forced employers to help subsidise the building programme to pay a levy for each worker that they employed to help pay for housing and transport. But the levy was only a small portion of the cost of these facilities and township development was primarily financed by money from beer sales, rents and fines.

To further reduce costs while controlling squatting the government extended site and service schemes in 1958. Sites with water and sewerage were rented to people, on which they could build a house subject to approval by the city council. In Soweto 35 000 such sites were made available. This system pushed a large part of the financial

burden of building houses onto the people themselves.

In 1957 a separate housing board for blacks was set up. The Bantu Housing Board provided a channel through which money lent from the central government could be approved and provided. This board drew the money it borrowed from the National Housing Fund which was itself voted money from Parliament. The National Housing Fund was a revolving fund, which meant that it did not have to return its funds to the Treasury but that the loans that were repaid to it were added to its capital and could be relaxed.

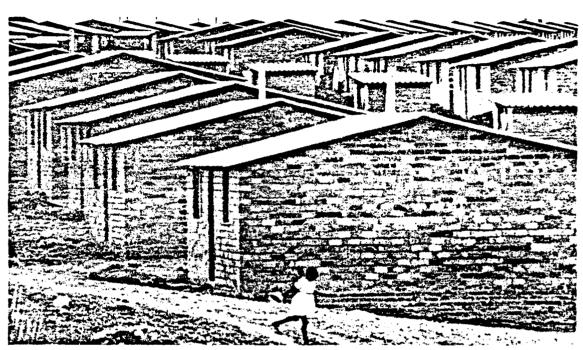
Township Layout

Townships were laid out with row upon row of similar 'matchbox' houses. The houses were between 40 square metres and 60 square metres in size. They were small and generally had only three or four rooms. The townships themselves were built with few access roads, making entry and exit to them easily controlled by police.

The style of township layout also reduced building and service costs. The repititious grid layout meant builders were split into teams working in stages and moving from house to house. So one team layed floors, another built walls and a third put in windows.

Long-term occupancy was not considered as African were not supposed to be permanent urban dwellers.

Likewise township layout made not provision for community and recreations facilities. Nor were shopping and business areas allowed as these would compete with white businesses for customers.



The 1960's: government and bosses get the upper hand

Crushing the movements of the people

We saw how in the 1950's the government tried to increase its control over the popular classes — by tightening up influx control laws, destroying squatter areas and building new townships, and by banning the organisations and leaders of the people.

For the next ten years, the government and the bosses had things very much their own way. Shootings, detentions, trials and bannings helped the government regain control over the people. In the course of the 1960's the government extended this control into people's daily lives. The government

brought in new pass laws and new housing policies. They used these to force people to live in particular places, and to keep them out of the urban areas unless their labour was needed.

Changes in the laws made it more difficult for people to enter the urban areas and to find jobs. They also made it easier for government officials to expel those who were unemployed and those who were 'troublemakers'. The Bantu Labour Act of 1964 said that labour officers could throw out anybody who they decided was 'a threat to the state'.

In the past, only the courts were allowed to do this. Workers with section 10 qualifications could now be thrown out of the urban areas if they were found to be 'idle or undesirable'. They could also lose their section 10

The mass building programme of the early sixties. Row after row of identical three or four roomed houses. The new townships had no community or recreation facilities and no shopping or business centres. Long term community development as not considered as Africans were not supposed to be permanent urban residents.

qualifications.

The 1964 Bantu Labour Act said that contract workers (those with 10(1)(d)) would only be allowed into urban areas if there was 'approved accommodation' for them. This had important effects on housing policy and in 1970 a total of 1 820 000 Africans were relocated.

Three main groups of people were relocated:

- •Workers living and working on white farms who were redundant because employers used machinery more and more to do the work that people once did. Between 1960 and 1970, 996 000 people were removed from white farms and relocated in the Bantustans.
- ●Unemployed and illegal Africans living in the cities. Between 1967 and 1970, 1 969 635 Africans were prosecuted under influx control laws many of these would have been 'endorsed out' of the urban areas and forced into the Bantustans.
- ●African people living on areas declared 'black spots' areas to be occupied by whites. Between 1960 and 1970, 97 000 people were forced into the Bantustans from 'black spots'.

Forced removal was also an important part of the government's political plans. Back in 1959, when the people were demanding the right to govern their country, the government came up with the Promotion of Bantu Self-Government Act. It said that a Territorial Authority should be appointed for each of the 'eight national units'. In other words, the African people would be divided up into ethnic groups and forced to live in little pockets of land where they could vote and have political rights. They could still come and work in the factories, mines and farms of course, where they

would have no more rights than before.

As the 1960's went on, the government became more and more confident and began to make boasts about 'reversing the flow to the cities' and making sure there were no urban black South Africans by the year 1975.

The government continued to tighten influx control throughout the 1960's. In 1968 tribal labour bureaux were introduced. Contract workers were now classified in particular job categories, e.g. construction worker or domestic servant before they left the Bantustans. An employer had to ask the Central Labour Bureau in Pretoria for a worker in a particular category. The request for such a worker would then be sent to a tribal labour bureau. This was the only way a contract worker could legally find a job. However this practice was not enforced until the 1970's.

The 1964 Act also introduced the callin card system whereby contract workers had to return to their tribal labour bureaux every year to sign a new contract. This system was supposed to make it theoretically impossible for contract workers to qualify for permenent urban residents rights in terms of Section 10 (1)(b) of the Urban Areas Act.

Sending people to the Bantustans

From 1964, contract workers could only enter urban areas if they could find 'approved accomodation' a house, a bed in a hostel or a lodger (provided they had a permit). In 1967, local authorities were told that they could not build any more family houses in townships unless they could persuade the Department of Bantu Administration and Development that this was es-

sential or that houses could not be provided in an adjacent Bantustan.

From 1965, the government began pouring money into building houses in Bantustan townships such as Mabopane and Ga-Rankuwa near Pretoria, and Mdantsane near East London. At the same time, no more houses were built in townships in 'white areas' such as Mamelodi and Atteridgeville.

In 1968, the government took away residents rights to buy houses under 30 year leasehold. African people could only rent their houses — unless of course they wanted to buy or build houses in the Bantustans.

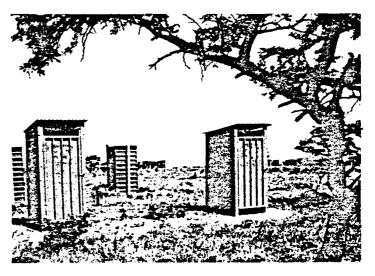
The government's aim in creating this terrible shortage of houses was to try to force many people to move into Bantustan townships. This was part of the mass removal of African people from so-called white urban and rural areas and their relocation in impoverished and overcrowded 'homelands'.

Forced removals and influx control were closely linked to the government's plans to deal with the people's demands for political rights. The little pockets of land forming the Bantustans were to become the places where African people were supposed to live and exercise their political rights.

Preparing the path of the administration boards

The 1964 Bantu Labour Act, and the 1968 regulations gave the government the legal armoury to enforce influx control. However by the late 60's influx control was still not being applied as rigidly or as uniformly as the government would have liked.

Township administration still fell



under the control of the city councils and the government who felt their administration was too liberal.

The conflict between the Johannesburg City Council and the Department of Bantu Administration and Development (BAD) is an example of this.

in 1958 BAD decided not to provide any more sub-economic housing schemes. Although sub-economic housing schemes approved before this date remained in existence. The government gave sub-economic housing loans to local authorities for people earning R30 per month or less.

By 1968 the Johannesburg City Council (JCC) decided that this maximum income level was too low and offered subsidised interest rates to people earning R40 a month. This made the department angry and in February 1968, the deputy minister of BAD issued a warning to the JCC that 'they must kindly comply with our instructions in regard to the collection

Tin toilets marking building sites for houses at Frankfurt Resettlement Camp in Eastern Cape. Since the mid-sixties nearly four million Africans have been removed from townships, farms and 'black spots' in so-called white South Africa and resettled in homeland townships.

of economic rentals'.

Three years later the government decided to centralise the administration of African townships directly under BAD. With this in mind administration boards were established throughout the country to control and administer African townships.

Administration board rule is dealt with elsewhere in this book. At this stage all that needs to be said is that the boards brought about no improvement to the daily lives of township residents.

to the daily lives of township residents. Instead their harsh and inefficient administration led directly to the poor state of housing and services in the townships today.

8. Footnotes

- 1 Star 24/9/81
- 2 South African Institute of Race Relations (SAIRR) Survey 1979
- 3 Sowetan 24/9/81
- 4 Rand Daily Mail (RDM) 5/4/82
- 5 Anton Rupert, 1976, Carlton Conference keynote address
- 6 Phillip Scales, United Building Society
- 7 The Star 30/7/81
- 8 Afrikaans Handels Instituut, 1981
- 9 Social Review, August 1983, p3
- 10 SAIRR Survey 1981
- 11 SAIRR Survey 1981 p254
- 12 Hansard
- 13 Sowetan 8/7/81
- 14 Sowetan 25/6/81
- 15 Sowetan 11/3/82
- 16 Eastern Province Herald 21/1/82
- 17 Sowetan 11/3/82
- 18 RDM 6/5/81
- 19 Star 23/3/82
- 20 Eastern Province Herald 21/1/82
- 21 RDM 19/3/81
- 22 Kane Berman, J, 'White revolt black reaction', 1978, p66
- 23 Sowetan 5/1/81
- 24 SAIRR Survey 1974, p171
- 25 RDM 29/8/83
- 26 Callinicos, L, 'Gold and Workers', 1980, p44
- 27 Callinicos, p51
- 28 Callinicos, p43
- 29 Callinicos, p45

- 30 From Daniel Venanda W C Scully, quoted in Bozzoli, B, Labour, Townships and Protest', 1982, p56
- 31 Bozzoli, B, p59
- 32 SAIRR Survey 1968, p195

A chronology of township struggles

Katlehong: February/March 1982

Katlehong residents form a committee to oppose forthcoming Community Council elections. On it sit members from Cosas, Azaso, Azapo, Erapo, Ercab, YCW.

Vereeniging: February, 1982

Vaal Cosas hold meetings to protest R10 rent increases. Community Council have also proposed a R2 - R4 increase in electricity charges.

Port Elizabeth: May, 1982

More than 700 people attend a rentprotest rally organised by Pebco. They endorse a total boycott of shops and filling stations owned by members of the community council until rents were reduced.

Kwazakele: May, 1982

Kwazakele Residents Association protest over rent increases, the lack of running water, communal taps and bucket latrines. At a protest meeting the indefinate closure of ECAB liquor outlets are demanded until the demand of rentals we can afford is met.

Langa: 31 March, 1982

Langa Resident's Association have increases of recently converted bachelor quarters in Langa set aside by the Supreme Court. The judge ruled that the Western Cape Administration Board had no jurisdiction to increase rentals,

and only the Minister of Co-operation and Development could.

Ikageng: April, 1982

Three people were shot after hundreds of placard-waving pupils and some parents clashed with police after rent increases of 40% in Ikageng near Potchefstroom. The Ikageng Community Council also oppposes the rent increase and says that the Board had not explained why rentals were being increased. They tell residents to pay the old rentals. Consequently the ICC were not paid their June salaries and are threatened by the Board director to pass the rent rise, or be fired.

Soweto: May, 1982

About 50 women march to Soweto Council in protest against the pulling down of White City Jabavu Shacks.

Guguletu(Port Elizabeth): June, 1982.

Members of PEBCO said crowds gathered to stop administration board officials pulling down shacks near PE's Guguletu area. ECAB officials are armed with sten guns and shotguns.

Dobsonville: July, 1982

A meeting of hundreds of Dobsonville residents reject a R13 rent increase and call for the immediate resignation of community council chairperson Mr Don Mmesi.

Grahamstown: July, 1982

An umbrella body called the Central Ratepayers Association is formed to unite Residents Associations which were formed about five months previously in three townships in response to rent increases. They plan to nominate candidates for council elections.

Daveyton: July, 1982

Mr Andrew Nxumalo, member of Daveyton Council is shot dead while three other councillors and ERAB officials get death threats.

KwaNdengezi: August, 1982

Over I 000 people from KwaNdengezi boycott buses after a 20% fare increase. The Government Road Transportation Board and police stop vehicles to check for private' taxis.

Galeshewe: August, 1982

Galeshewe Council Chairperson Mr T W Nyathi's shop is pelted with stones.

Bophutatswana: September, 1982

Commuters from Odi district stone buses when left stranded on a 'Bophutatswana public holiday'. Others hijack buses and attack drivers at Marabastad station.

Sobantu: October - December.

Three rent increases spark off militant

protest during which:

- Three people are shot, one dead during rent increase demonstrations.
- ●The funeral is broken up by riot police. ●Youth organise and enforce bread and beer boycott. Bread deliveries are turned away and liquor outlets run by the administration board are closed down.
- •Three petrol bombs are thrown at the board's offices.
- A Sobantu Anti-Rental Committee and Sobantu Youth Organisation is formed.
- •Homes of Sobantu Community Councillors are stoned. They feel pressurised to argue for the demands of the residents but are then ignored by the board.
- An Anti-Bus Fare Increase Committee is formed in January after a bus fare hike of 2c

Mamelodi: October, 1982

About 300 placard carrying women are stopped by police from marching to the superintendant's office after a rent increase

Guguletu: October, 1982

Over 500 people resolve to boycott WCAB liquor outlets and community council-linked businesses in protest against 'unlawful and unecessary' evictions at a meeting organised by the Western Cape Civic Association.

Evaton: October, 1982

Over 500 people at a meeting called by Evaton Ratepayers Association strongly condemn the Evaton Community Council for raising water tariffs by R3.50.

Mohlakeng: October, 1982

5 000 people at a meeting accuse the Mohlakeng Council of being too afraid to accept an invitation to come and explain rent increase.

All shops are closed during the meeting where the Civic Association resolve not to pay the new rent, lodger's permits and also to boycott taxis belong-

ing to councillors. MOCA resolve to take legal action against rent increase. However, in March, 1983 Moca decide to pay rent in March after people are threatened with eviction.

Kagiso: November, 1982

The Kagiso Residents Organisation opposed a R10 rent increase. At a meeting residents decided not to pay.

Sharpeville: November, 1982

Over 100 residents in Kensington section, Sharpeville reject an Oranje-Vaal Administration Board order to pay R25.50 'arrears' in service charges. They said they were being charged for installation of facilities in other parts of the township.

Howick/Mpophomeni: November, 1982

A bus boycott is sparked by 19% price hike. Taxi operators cut fares by 10c in support of the boycotters. Commuters walking 15km each day are harassed by police.

Duduza: November, 1982

The newly formed Duduza Civic Association in Nigel force the local community council to suspend a R9 rent increase. The council had argued that the increase would pay for a sewerage system in the township but residents said they have a right to one. They are prepared to pay for usage but not for installation.

In February the rent hike is dropped.

Durban: December, 1982

Buses from Clermont, Lamontville, Kloofwater and Mnguma are boycotted and about 70 stoned after the Durban Transport Management Board raises fares by 12%. Successful boycott continues for many months and a Joint Commuters Committee is formed to coordinate actions.

Cape Town: February to May, 1983

Squatters at the KTC camp in Cape I own despite constant police harassment refuse to leave. The situation remains unresolved although the government announces plans to rehouse residents of Langa, Guguletu and Nyanga at Khayalitsha, 40 km away from Cape I own.

Vryburg: May, 1983

The recently formed Huhudi Civic Association call a mass rally to protest against the removal of people from Huhudi to Pudomeng, 55 km away from where they work.

Durban: July, 1983

Chesterville, Lamontville, Klaarwater, Hambanaki and Shakaville residents rally under the Joint Rent Action Committee (Jorac) to boycott rent increases. The townships are places of seize as police brutality claims four victims - two of whom are children.

I 000 people march on the Lamontville administration offices setting them alight. The same happens to the Chester-ville offices while the house of the Lamontville mayor is also stoned and set on fire.

Prominent community councillors in the Durban townships of Chesterville and Lamontville resign and reject the community council system. They affirm their support for the Joint Rent Action Committee as representing genuine and democratic black leadership.

Durban: September, 1983

Eight months after the bus boycott begins, the management of the bus service are forced to the negotiating table. They meet with the Joint Commuters. Committee.

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THABISC RATSONC

PROPOSED SUPER-B FILM PRODUCTION.

TITLE! THE TWO FACES OF GRAHAMSTOWN.

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The Two Faces OF GRAHAMSTOWN purposts to capture and highlight the life of two SA workers: a black and a white. It seeks to drow how differently and they appeted by apartheid. This film also purposts to provide an expose of the SA "way of life. In fact the original title was." The two faces of Santh Africa. This is too general.

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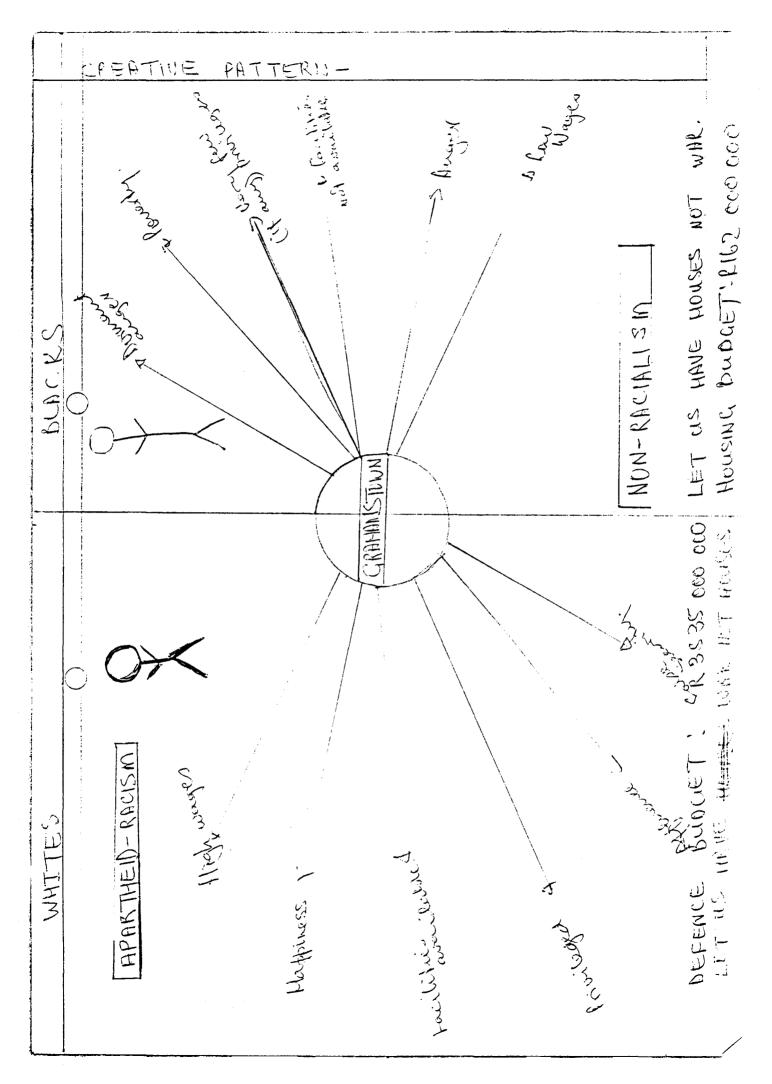
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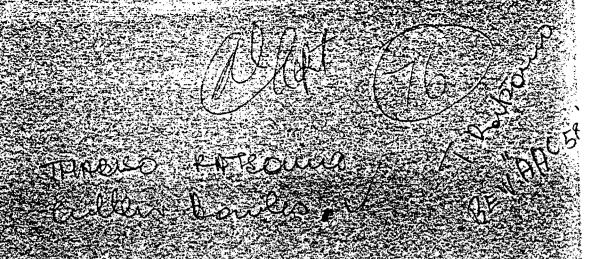
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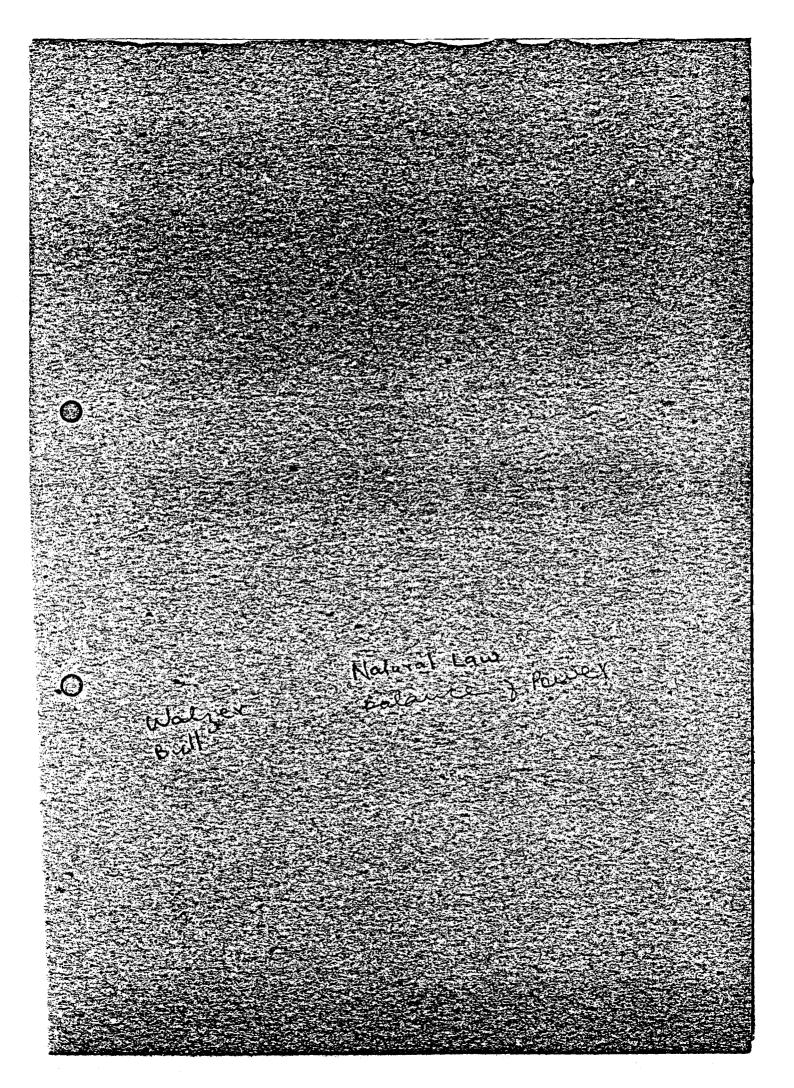
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HAC 59

ORIENTATION MEDIA

For Orientation Weeks we produced a folder containing an introductory publication to NUSAS, a fact sheet highlighting the inequalities in our society, a year planner and a sticker. Problems were experienced in getting the media to Wits and Rhodes. The Wits media 'got lost' for three days and Rhodes media arrived repacked and late.

The aim of this pamphlet was to introduce to students the many benefits provided by the National Union. We tried to write the pamphlet in a similar style to advertising

CLASS REP GUIDE:

The guide ahs been completely rewritten in order to provide an easy reference handbook which gives ideas on what to do when faced by specific problems or issues. The format of the guide has also been changed to A6 size so that it can fit into a pocket.

Following on the recommendations of the Media Committee at Congress, it was decided not to produce one theme booklet but rather a series of 3 pamphlets explaining and contextualising the NUSAS theme. The first pamphlet which looks at the theme in the context of the events of the past year has been produced and the next two will be available in the first two weeks of next term.

A poster "Who cares about your education - Your National Union does" has been produced advertising the Faculty Council Conference and the Class Rep Guide.

HEAD OFFICE MAINTENANCE

The problems with Head Office maintenance are legend but to repeat a few:

w) The files (press clips, campus and off-campus media etc) are regularly decimated

?) The office is left in a mess by organizations

3) The post is sometimes stolen from the box

The office equipment is often abused.

Some solutions present themselves:

a) Stricter controls on the use of office and equipment
b) Guidelines on use of office sent to all organizations
c) Disciplinary measures against organizations who abuse facilities.

closer check on things that are printed there. Some other points: The printing press is still used regularly. Its use is co-ordinated by the printers (not necessarily NUSAS members) but Head Office is keeping a much

The photostat-machine is an absolute disaster area. We decided not to sell it after we had it repaired and it seemed to be working very well. It has now subsequently started using toner (ink) which costs Raw8.00, at a phenomenal rate. We will sell this dreadful machine at the earliest opportunity.

This as usual remains a weak area. As mentioned at last National Council, campuses are required to come to this National Council with a report on the progress of fund-raising. Wits has promised R2000.00. Cape Town R2000.00, PMB, Rhodes and Durban R1000

4

Head Office will embark on a concerted fund-raising drive as of next term. We are going to require funding for the July Festival and Congress - but campuses will be hearing from HO about this in the near future.

More than ever, NUSAS is struggling to finance its ever increasing scope of activity. We are NOT at the stage when we have to cut back, but ... if campuses 30% the finance its ever increasing scope of activity. The funds they have promised, if campuses don't pay all the affiliation rees soon, if campuses don't pat for HO media promptly then we may face serious problems in

the future.

at present (financial statement, Addendum I) However, as reflected in the financial statement, we are in a fairly healthy state

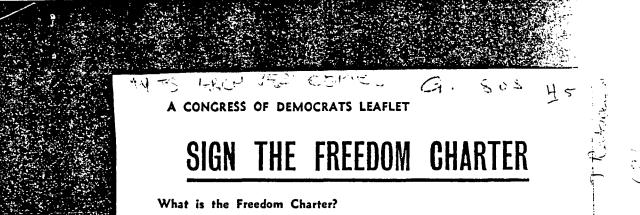
RELATIONS WITH OTHER GROUPS

the delegates. When these opportunities arise, they should be jumped at. It is important that an understanding of the dynamics and direction of the Fir fouth is developed. This, is the only was we can assess what form our approach to them should take. Head Office received an invitation to address the annual PFP Youth Congress. Brendan could not attend and so Nic went. Nic adressed the topic, "Strategies for Opposing Apartheid". He was able to critique parliamentary opposition without antagonising

being followed up. Brendam participated in a panel discussion on student organizations at Stellenbosch. While HO knew that the N.S.f. would be present, the presence of AZASM surprised us. We, nevertheless decided to continue with the discussion which from our point of view was successful. Several members of the Stellenbosch Student Parliament expressed interest in setting up a NUSAS Local Committee on the campus. This is 2) AFRIKAANS CAMPUSES

It is important that campuses attempt to establish contact with progressive students on Afrikaans campuses. In the present political climate, potential exists to expand our base and this is one sector which must be closely examined.

Ho Report 10185



It is a programme of full human rights for all South Africans.

On June the 26th, 1955, 7,000 delegates, representatives of all sections of South Africans, elected at hundreds of meetings big and small throughout the country, gathered at Kliptown, Johannesburg. This was the CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE.

They met to shape the FREEDOM CHARTER from the thousands of demands which were sent to the Congress organisers during a year of intense activity in the town and countryside.

The FREEDOM CHARTER is therefore intimately connected with the dreams and aspirations of our People, the vast majority of whom suffer hardship, poverty and political oppression. At the same time it is a practical document blueprinting the aim of an independent multiracial democracy for South Africa. A significant fact is that most of the provisions of the Charter are also covered in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by all but a few of the United Nations.

Why have a Freedom Charter?

Because it is a vital necessity to the millions of South Africans who despise Apartheid and who wish to have before them in their struggles a goal, a rallying point, a uniting influence which is a practical and noble alternative to the viciousness and arrogance of "baasskap".

It would not be realistic to expect everyone seeking such an alternative to agree forthwith to all the provisions of the FREEDOM CHARTER. But we, of the Congress of Democrats, together with other sections of the Congress Movement, the African National Congress, the S.A. Indian Congress and the S.A. Coloured Peoples Organisation, firmly believe that the implementation of the ten points of the Charter are necessary for a free and peaceful South Africa.

We therefore urge all true democrats:

- 1. To study the Charter and to demonstrate your support by adding your signature to the thousands who have already signed.
- To grasp the hand of friendship which is extended from the Congress Movement to all who support the FREEDOM CHARTER, wholly or in part, and to co-operate with us in the daily struggle to DEFEND THE DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE.

A copy of the Charter may be obtained from Signature Collectors or from 5, Albertus Street, Cape Town.

THE FREEDOM CHARTER CALLS FOR EQUAL RIGHTS FOR ALL SOUTH AERICANS.

Issued by the Congress of Democrats, P.O. Box 4552, Cape Town.



NO. 2. END OF AUGUST, 1954

What it means to be a

Chief A.J. Luthuli, President-General of the African National Congress has called for 50,000 Freedom Volunteers for the Congress of the People. Many thousands in different parts of the country have already answered the call. Many more are volunteering daily.

Coming so soon, when the tasks of the heroic Defiance Volunteers are still fresh in the minds of the people, there is bound to be some misunderstanding as to the tasks of the Freedom Volunteers. And in their desperate attempts to discredit and disrupt the movement, the enemies of the Congress of the People go to all lengths to spread deliberate lies and distort the real meaning of this great movement.

Firstly, it should be made quite clear that while the Congress of the People came about as a result of the radically changed political situation caused by the Defiance Campaign, the present campaign is NOT the continuation of the Defiance Campaign.

We realise that the entire South African political situation has changed; we must meet it with changed tactics and methods. Therefore, the tasks of Freedom Volunteers would be quite different to those of the Defiance Campaign.

The word VOLUNTEER is retained, firstly because it has become a word of honour in our struggle for freedom; secondly, because though they will have different tasks and duties, the Freedom Volunteers will be volunteers nevertheless, in the same struggle.

TASKS of VOLUNTEERS

To undertake regular, active and intensive work in mobilising resistance to the aparthed policy of the Government. Volunteers must camnaigh against the Bantu Education Act, the Croup Areas Act, the Native Labour (Settlement of Disp-utes) Act, the Western Areas Removal Scheme: as well as all local grievances of the people such as housing. passes, rents, and transport.

To carry to every corner of our country the message of the Congress of the People, and to gather in the people's demands for the Freedom Charter. Volunteers must visit every town, village, farm, factory, mine and reserve in South Africa. This is directly linked with the first task, for the Congress of the People must not be an abstract campaign, but must at all stages and on every issue be related to the actual conditions of the people.

To assist in every way possible in building the sponsoring organisations.

To assist in any other tacks required for the Congress of the People.

No. of the Control of

VOLUNTEERS ARE

We can't enumerate ALL the tasks Freedom

THE "SHOCK. BRIGADE" Volunteers will be expected to carry out. But simply stated, their task will be to act as the "Shock-brigade" of our non-violent army of Freedom.

go from house to house, street to street, to the factories and farms, to schools and mines, to meetings, parties and weddings, everywhere where there are people; and they will be expected to carry the message of the convening of the Congress of the People, to gain support for it and to recruit new volunteers.

They will carry the message of light and truth to areas and to people who have for years and years been kept in deliberate ignorance and darkness. They will educate the masses about the (continue)

- 2 -

VOLUNTEERS CONTINUED From Page /

L.L., June , writes:

Every right-thinking person, whether he or she be a churchman, teacher.

he or she be a churchman, teacher, nurse, cook, street sweeper, clerk, miner or a pilot will agree with you.

.....Many, many years back people used to think we are safe in the hands of the ruling class; by the ruling class I mean the VOTERS. Put now we realise that those who thought that way are very much mistaken. Fecause should it not have been for the voters, those who are ruling today would not have been ruling. Something MUST be done!

Since the non. -voter is in the majority and the voters in the minority, something shall have to be done to let the voices of the non. -voter be heard, and heard in a very big way. That is, THE CONCRESS OF THE PEOPLE.

dangers of the Bantu Education Act, the Group Areas Act, the Native Resettlement Act, the Native Labour (Settlement of Disputes) Act, and about every other Act that is insulting to our dignity as human beings and that aims to maintain the jack-boot of opporession on our backs till eternity.

They will speak to people, study their conditions, make careful note of their grdevances and demands, and ensure that the smallescof these is conveyed to the organisers so that they can be expressed in the Freedom Charter.

They will bear in mind all the time that their foremost aim in carrying out their tasks as volunteers will be to strengthen the national organisations of the people.

They will ensure that by their work, propaganda and careful explanation they we will educate the people sufficiently not to be provoked into violence which will be constantly attempted by the enemics.

their tasks with courage, discipline and utmost devotion, with the realisation that their tasks will end only when our country. South Africa, is free from the tening, and oppression under which it has suffered for so long.

AUGUST 29 - MEETINGS WERE HELD IN MANY AREAS.

500 COPIES OVERSEAS

500 COPIES OF THE
FIRST ISSUE SOF
"SPEAKING FOGETHER"

AND ORGANISATIONS
THROUGHOUT THE WOOLD

Your-help is needed!

Action Council. The address is 8, Comquest House, Fox Street; Johannesburg; and the Pox number: 11045.
There is a tremendous amount of clarical work to be done in the office, and volunteer helpers are needed. After you have finished work, and during the week-end, give up at limit some of your time to assisting with this work. 'phone 35-0975 before calling at the office if you can only come 'after-hours', so that arrangements can be made to show you what work must be done.

See that this Bulletin is not wasted! Froper distribution is important and if you read this Bulletin, you can help in distribution. Pass it on to another volunteer, or to someone you wish to enlist as a volunteer. Do not put it in your pocket and leave it there, hake "Speaking Together" one more vanjon in organising a mighty Congress of the People.

17774

There's a 15 JEWEL WATCH going to the star money raiser for the Transvaal. And what's more, the money is to be well used - its to help make the CONGRESS OF THE PEOPIE the great success it should be. All you have to do is to get a collection list from your organisation - A.N.C., S.A.I.C., S.A.C.P.O. or C.O.D. - and get busy. Ask your friends, your neighbours, your workmates and your fellow members - nobody will refuse to give something, and whether it is a penny or a £100 it is all needed urgently - for issuing such bulletine as this you are reading now, for pamphlets and leaflets, stickers, and every conceivable type of propaganda to ensure that the message of the Congress reaches every town and village, every home, office and factory in South Africa.

WIN A The person who collects the most money between now and the light March will be the lucky winner of a 15 jwel watch. So here's your chance. Not only will you be helping to spread the message of the Congress, but you will also have a chance of becoming the proud owner of a watch which we hope will remind you always of the good work you have done and inspire you to carry on the struggle for Freedom in South Africa.

WHAT CHURCH ORGANISATIONS CLUBS, VIGILANCE ASSOCIATIONS, YOUTH CLUBS OR OTHER BODIES HWE YOU GOT IN YOUR AREA? A LETTER IS BEING SENT TO AS MANY ORGANI-SATIONS AS POSSIBLE, AS FOLLOWS:-

"Dear Friend,

It is the aim of the sponsors of the Congress of the People to embody all the wishes and aspirations of the people of South Africa in a great freedom Charter whichwill event ally be adopted at the Congress of the People representing every group and section of the population. In this way it is hoped to give every South African the right - which the great majority here hitherto been denied - to put forward their own demands regarding the sort of constitution and the sort of laws they would like to see in force in the country.

Your organisation is now invited to play its part in this great democratic task by discussing among its members and formulating your demands for the Preedom Charter.

The sponsors will be glad, if you wish, to send a speaker to address your organisation to explain more fully the conception and object of the Congress of the People,

to the

" We enclose herewith copics of the "CALL" to the Congress of the People which we are using to explain to people everywhere the type of problems with which the Freedom Charter will presumably deal.

We cordially invite you to send in your proposals for the Charter by the 15th March, 1955 to the Transvaal Provincial Committee at P.O. Box 11045, Johannesburg.

We trust that your organisation will play its part in the framing of the Freedom Charter. Yours faithfully,

WE SUGGEST THAT YOUR
LOCAL BRANCH SEND A SIMILAR LETTER
TO ANY ORGANISATION IN YOUR AREA
YOU MAY THINK SUITABLE. WE WANT
THE CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE TO BE
AS BROAD AND REPRESENTATIVE AS
POSSIBLE OF ALL SECTIONS OF SOUTH
AFRICAN OPINION. AND THIS IS ONE AFRICAN OPINION, AND THIS IS ONE WAY OF MAKING ITS AIMS KNOWN TO THE GREATEST POSSIBLE NUMBER OF PEOPLE.

GET YOUR LOCAL VOLUNTEER-IN-CHIEF TO GET COPIES OF THE "CALL" TO ENCLOSE WITH THE LETTER, AND SEND IT OUT AS SOON AS YOU POSSIBLY CAN.

Issued by the Transvaal Provincial Committee, C.O.P., P.O. Box 11045, Johannesburg.

This is an Invitation to the

669



THE PEOPLE CONGRESS OF

a mighty gathering of the people to draw up a FREEDOM CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS which will express their desire for a butter South Africa.

Do you feel that everything is right in South Africa?

Do you think that there is something seriously wrong with things as they are today?

IF SO . . . WHAT DO YOU THINK IS WRONG? WHAT NEEDS TO BE CHANGED?

ARE YOU CONTENT WITH . . .

- —the record high ost of living?
 —the threat to dounstic servants (Locations in the Sky Bill)?
 —the restrictions on preseports?
 —the extension of the pass system to Europeans?
 —the threat to industrial expansion on the Rand?
 —the interference with the right to speak freely?
 —the right of the Police to enter your house on the flimslest of pretexts?
 —the Chatto Ad and the compulsory mass removal of Africans?
- —the Ghetto Act and the compulsory mass removal of Alticoma?
 —the threat to deprive African children of the deht to denuine education?
 —the threat to the bestiam of your newspaper?

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED THE DANGEROUS EFFECTS OF APARTHEID ON RACE RELATIONS?

WHAT OF THE CONTINUAL LOSS OF HUMAN RIGHTS?

We want our own Charter of Human Rights. Why not add your demands to this Charter?

WHAT IS THIS FREEDOM CHARTER?

This Charter will express all the demands of all the people for the good life that they seek for themselves and their children. The Freedom Charter will be our guide to those "singing tomorrows" when all South Africans will live and work together, without radial bitterness and four of misery, in peace and harmony.

THIS IS A CALL for an awakening of all men and women, to compaign together in the greatest movement of all our history.

Those who are not afraid to speak of freedom will join us. We will welcome them, and work together with them as equals.

We invite all South African men and women of every race and creed to take part as organisers of the CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE and awaken others to its message. Those who are prepared to work together for freedom and the Freedom Charter will join us. will welcome them, and go lorward together with them to freedom.

Having read this leaflet, think about the issues we have raised and let us have YOUR demands for inclusion in the Freedom Charter.

You will have an opportunity of discussing your demands with us, when next we oall on you.

LET US WORK TOGETHER FOR A FREE SOUTH AFRICA.

Issued by the S.A. Congress of Democrats, Somerset House, Joh burg, and Printed by The C.R. Press, Rosettenville.

What do Nomen Want?

Women - this is your chance to speak out - your needs, your wishes, your demands !

This public meeting is being held to give women a chance to put forward their demands for the FREEDOM CHARTER. What do women want to make South Africa a better land for their children and families? YOU must give the arswer! Let YOUR voice be heard. The Demands will be discussed at the great Congress of the People.

SUNDAY 29th

TRADES HALL

ALL WOMEN WELCOME Prominent Women Speakers

BRING YOUR DEMANDS FOR THE FREEDOM CHARREDI

Organised by the Federation of South African Women, Box 108/6, Jhbg.

IHE will take place CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE

- when all the peoples' demands for inclusion in the Freedom Charter have been gathered in;
- when the whole country has been awakened to speak of freedom and the call for elections has been made;
- not later than June, 1955 at a date and place still to be announced.

CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE

- be organised
- by 50,000 Volunteers, who will give their time to carrying through the campaign as directed;
- by a network of committees in every village, town and factory representing and uniting all sections and all races.
- by the National Action Council, composed of all national bodies that agree to act as sponsors.

BO THESE THREE THINGS - NOW !

SEND IN YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS TO A PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE OF THE CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE, stating that you are interested and would like to assist

Transvaal Committee, Box 11045, Johannesburg, Natal Committee, Box 2299, Durban, Western Cape Committee, Box 4552, Cape Town, Eastern Cape Committee, Box 1294, Port Elizabeth

FORM COMMITTEES to campaign for the Congress of the O.F.S. Committee, 3397 Masito Street, Blocmfontein

THREE: GATHER GROUPS to send in their demands for the Freedom

TO A FRIEND. DISCUSS IT WITH OTHERS. DO NOT THROW THIS LEAFLET AWAY! PASS IT ON IT IS READ BY MANY PEOPLE SEE THAT

bessed by the National Action Council of the Constant of the People, Box 11045, Johannesburg



This Call to the

CONGRESS of the PEOPLE

is addressed to all South Africans, European and Non-European

It is made by four bodies, speaking for the four sections of the people of South Africa:—by the African National Congress, the Congress of Democrats, and the South African Coloured People's Organisation. It calls you all to prepare to send your chosen spokesmen to:

표 CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE,

a meeting of elected representatives of all races, coming together from every town and village, every farm and factory, every mine and krash, every street and suborb, in the whole land. Here all will speak together, freely, as equals. They will speak together of the things their people need to make them free. They will speak together of the things their people need to make them free. They will speak together of changes that must be made in our lives, our laws, our customs and our outlooks. They will speak together of freedom. And they will write their demands into

FREEDOM CHARTER.

This Charter will express all the demands of all the people for the good life that they seek for themselves and their children. The Freedom Charter will be our guide to those "singing tomorrows" when all South Africans will live and work together, without racial biterness and fear of misery, in peace and harmony. THIS IS A CALL for an awakening of all men and women, to campaign together in the greatest movement of all our history.

Our call is to you—the People of South Africa. We invite all Union-wide Organisations to join as sponsors of the CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE, and to take part in its direction. Those who are not afraid to hear the voice of the people will join us. We will welcome them and work together with them as equals. We invite all local and provincial societies, clubs, churches, trade unions, sporting bodies and other organisations to join as partners in the CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE Committee, and to share the work. These who are not afraid to speak of freedom will join us. We will welcome them, and work together with them

We invite all South African men and women of every race and creed to take part as organisers of the CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE and awaken other to its message. Those who are prepared to work together for freedom and the Freedom Charter will join us. We will welcome them, and go forward together with them

OUR CALL IS TO YOUI

- Give your time to apread the message of the CONGRESS OF THE PROP'L
- Become a Volunieer to organise for freedom.
- Tell your neighbours and workmates of the nation-wide elections that are coming.
- Rouse the people to discuss what they want of freedom.

LET US WORK TOGETHER FOR FREEDOM!

P74

NO WHITE or BLACK SUPREMACY.

WHAT DO YOU WANT WHEN YOU SPEAK OF FREEDOM? Let us all-speak out and decide what changes we want made. Let us think of what should be done and TALK ABOUT IT, and write these things for all cur fellow-men to read and study, and to guide us all in helping to make the changes that we want.

LET THIS GREAT CHARTER OF FREEDOM BE TRULY REPRESENTATIVE OF ALL THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA. Whether your demands are big or small-whether they are for the ending of the pernicious system of apartheid by which cur country is ruled, or for an extra street lamp next to your house - send them in.

HERE IS WHAT SOME PEOPLE SAY:

From "I would make a law pro-tecting the public from being assaulted by the Roodepoort Prlice even when they are

not resisting arrest..."

"There would be one education for all the people. No Bantu or European education. want doctors, lawyers and so cn from all races found in South

Africa..."
"People would marry whom they pleased

they pleased"

"I would do away with the badge of slavery, that is the Pass. All the laws relating to passes would be abolished. Everybody would be free to move as they pleased at any time.."

"I would do away with all oppressive laws. There would be no white or black supremove in

no white or black supremacy in our country."

"I would see that the

land is distributed in such a way that everybody would have the right of buying and possessing land."

The haw that banns and deports peoples leaders for speaking the truth would end. There would be freedom of speech."

I would see that people had houses they wanted. And people could buy houses where they liked."

From Corona- "Our children are con-

tionville tinually being arrested for playing in the streets .. have sports grounds, one especially for small children where all cur kids could play without being molested..."

"... I would see that Non-Europeans be allowed to play" DRAW UP YOUR DEMANIS AND SEND THEM IN TO US. AND THE TIME IS NOW - THERE IS ONLY A SHORT TIME LEFT. SO GET CRACKING TODAY! THERE IS ONLY A SHORT TIME LEFT.

A story of the state of the Children

in world sports federations all promising young sportsmen would be given thorough training.."

From ".. Compulsory free education for all at all South African Youth levels - up to University standard. The right to choose the language medium." "Free and mixed nursery schools for all".

"Universal suffrage at 18".

"No farm prisons". "Free health services for

all." "Adequate sporting and cultural facilities."

Belle-"The outlawing of weapons vue of mass destruction and agreements on general disarmament."

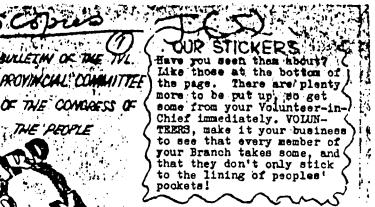
"Implementation by UNO of all articles of the UNO Human Rights Charter".

"Admittance of Non-Europeans to concerts and provide greater opportunities for cultural advancement."

"Freedom to leave and enter the country as one pleases". "Reduction of defence

expenditure."
"Decrease Cost of Living.
Increase Cost of Living Allowance".

WHAT DEMANDS CAN TOU ADD? GET TOGETHER - with your meighbours and workmates, kinfolk in your kraal, or members of your church organisation and congregation. Speak to anybody you meet - get together in a house, in an open equare near your work at lunch time, anywhere at any time.



March 1st, 1955.

NO. 2

BULLETH OR THE

OF THE CONGRESS OF

The time is already past that the world should know what a sham democracy is in our country and how desperate are the needs of our people.

The time is already past that our people should have won their freedom.

The situation cries out for semething to be done. So let us all, members of the four Congresses and their allies, put our shoulders to the wheel of the Congress of the People and make it an overwhelming success.

We must work fast and furicusly - the date set for holding the Congress of the People is not later than June of this year. We have just 4 months.

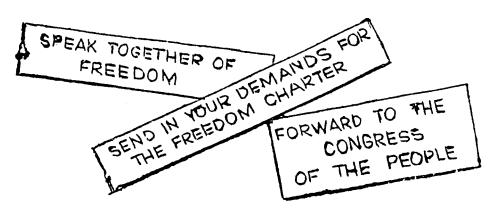
WHAT IS (1) is there a Volunteer TO RE group functioning in your area? If not, get to it.

(2) Has everybody in your area real a copy of the "Call", a leaflet explaining the campaign? Make it your business to see that they have.

(3) Demands to be incorporated in the Freedom Charter, which will be drawn up by the Congress of the People, are now pouring in. Are demands from your area included? You had better check up.

(4) A set of lecture notes are available which are entitled "The World we Live In". It is your duty to get hold of a copy and study it. Also, assist others to know its contents. If you would like a speaker to address a group on the subject, make your request to the Transvaal Provincial Committee and he or she will be right along.

An idea has been given of what is required of us. On with the good work. Organise and mobilise the people here and now! PORWARD TO A VITAL AND MIGHTY CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE!



G.2

3 A.M.

Flash! Flash! Flash! Knock! Knock! Knock! Flash! Flash! Knock! Polisie! Polisie! Polisie

The door flungs open
As Lieutenant Synman enters
An executive bag in the hand
A search warrant, a big torch
And a gun on the hip.
You peep through the window
Perplexed that Lt. Snyman is so brave to be alone.

Slowly enters a grinning African constable Followed by another, and another and another (Sell-outs! White-pigs in black hides). But the white man can never be alone. Another two Snymans enters And suddenly the match-box is filled with no space to move around.

When their duty starts, they do it thoroughly Without thinking of your sleep. And you have to stay awake until 6a.m. When every piece of paper is looked at, looked over, and overlooked That is 3a.m.

WORK

They say it's tiring and boring Exhaustive and fruitless But I say it's good and fruitful for it is only by working by producing the means of production and reproduction that we can survive.

But I hate the sucker who has made work such a burden and fruitless venture in order to gain more and more profits while the masses sweat for a penny.

VOLCANO

Mt. Vesuvius and Mt. Etna Known volcanoes of our era Great Rivers of Volta and ... Amazzon Big cities of New York and London Have made history.

Cross the Mediterranean Sea to reach the unknown Africa Cross the Limpopo River and the Lebombo Mountains to reach the small rivers of Orange and the Vaal The small cities of Johannesburg and Cape Town The ghettoes of Soweto, Langa, and Sharpville The dark corners of Driefontein, Mogopa, and Rooigrond.

Go through the small and big factories, through the gold mines which are our heritage, our wealth, our foundation, seized by the bloody Oppenheimers
The exploiters of the toiling masses.
Who receive a penny for eight hours' work.

Oh Africa! Our Africa,
Motherland of the exploited creatures
When will you be free!
We have seen Ghana and Algeria freed from oppression
When the spirit of nationalism blew
throughout Africa.

We have seen Angola and Mozambique Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde Islands Ethiopia and Zimbabwe Oh! Africa our motherland Are you attaining liberation or independence?

We have heard of MPLA and FRELIMO of PAIGC and Patriotic Front of Fapla and Zanla. We've heard of Shafihuna Sema Nujoma of Zipra-Mkhonto, inyamazane. Liberators of the toiling masses.

Cross the River Limpopo Reach the dark corners of South Africa And hear of the great volcano that is about to erupt Lamontville, Crossroads, Mdantsane.

Gallant warriors of my motherland
The great Minis and Mahlangus
The indestrutible Mogoeranes and Mosololis
The brave Motaungs and Gcabis
The tested Dadoos and Firsts
We shall remember you when our freedom comes.

Oh! Hector Peterson and Dumisani Mbatha Young militants of mother Africa We shall remember you! Steve Biko and Neil Aggett The haunting spectres of the racist regime. We shall remember thee!

We remember the great Mandelas and Sisulus
The Goldbergs and Kathradas
The Nyembes and Ngoyis
The gallant militants who swells the Isle of Makana
Take forward their fight!
Mobilise and Fight On!
For their history is that of courage and heroism
Of toil and sweat
For the noble liberation of humanity.
Come dark dungeons and grim gallows
Murders in the corridors of John Vorster and Sanlam
Victory is certain
The people shall govern.

14

A WORKER

There he goes Completely dependent on his boss for existence and survival. He is a worker.

There he goes Very early in the morning leaving his innocent creatures in their beds for them he must work.

There he runs for the earliest bus to work for he must prepare the way for his lazy master.

He is a worker He is worth two-pence for 30 days' work for his master is greedy for profits,... profits ... AND profits.

There he comes Tired as ever Like a hopeless tiger Which has lost its sting.

He is a worker Who must succumb to his master's will for he depends on his goodwill the bloody sucker.

Wait for the day When the worker will say ENOUGH IS ENOUGH! And the volcano will destroy the sucker for good.

Resistance in print. Ngugi p7. Forward we shall morely. many kill them You many boan thour you wany detain them Them are they going to depuy you Masaes them you may Hireaken Henri yen wany Lukinnderke them you many Never are they sound to give up Bortons you may use. Bullets you may use The Anapida we mail use the transfer continues. Hippos may patroll Janks may be unobeliged 2000ps may be deplayed Forward we shall morde. Vitoria et cetra Hunandla ugawethu Power to the people Viva the Mandela Viva Sizu Sisulu Vija hallerada ctr.

the next three poems where norther where have desirable for they use dedicated so our people all one the open try 12/1/84

Sammelana

In the ghothers of our South Aprica Where knowed orands are a privilege There were sitting under the toes, Hanging around of the local ministrops when the With numbers to go. When sucross the street there were circums Micortals, discos name them.

Howard were and women were dying lobere kwashirtkor and marasmus claimed many hields
where police boutedidy was the norm
they were eithing under the frees
thanking around the local shops
With woming to pat
when across the estreet
There was plenty, y with and homey

There is a privileged

There were either makes the trees

Mills washing to go

When away here something plenty.

La flee glichtors of our coenformy
Were a broyert was a power for weaper
There were ritting runder the forces
Udancying or owned the local streps
Digities by the open Scholarship Programme in support of public access to information University of Pretoria.

The fame of the fa

When across the street bayest was a crim punishable by death from RI bullets.

In the grathoes of our country

pender the speed trees,

In the classrooms

In the factories

The the mineraties

Word ment around,

bown with appression!

Lown with apertheid!

Forward to the people's government!

Forward we shall march they same forward we shall march they same government forward we shall march they people's government forward we shall march they consed the property government forward we shall march to the people's government.

fantue gladder gareowing



Du the part dugeous of my mother land for away from their homes and beloved Robben Island, Pollsmoor, Krounstad
You want them.

In the raciest dungeous of my interested they are slept, weter up and existed

For they Botha and Malan surrogates

Much the meny of the Fascists

They raped their country,
Thundered their neverces
Courshed their neverces
And forced them to submit
But the spirit haild.

They killed them Bourshed them Oppressed them Find the sprivit lived.

hong hive the spirit of Bambata,
hong hive the spirit of Bambata,
hong hive the spirit of Vulgicile Mine
hong hive the spirit of thector Petrican
hong hive the spirit of Colombia Wahlanga
Digitised by the Open Scholarship Programme in support of public access to information, University of Pretoria, 2018.

Long the spirit of resistance.

Long live hapirit of superior schulder, Mosaloric

Long live hapirit of superior schulder, Mosalor

Share hong live the spirit of the people.

Long live the spirit of progress

Forward with the spirit of internaghence Forward with the Nex popula Forward with the desling morego

Down with imperialismo

brown with fascino

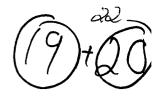
down with with capitalismo

Partion, A WEAM My dear friend I more in your room and I be left my disty underpant Lam sarvey they are dirty But because I wented. To posse he you I had to leave their That E came kirty as they are was I serve the underport With some disty weeks as any friend downers Mohen I soo my ey-co Mude my lot 8/20 First of words there... Was I dreaming).

Written outet midne ter journalism i crown. I stift and she sund

We discoursed that women one not covere of what women one not covere of what women one into covere of what was made in seally about.

The became dear that the institution of monage "protects" women in the same way that the niting that year said to "protect blacks - that i that the word protection" rer this case is simply a suphemism for oppression.



In Schandy Ban W 17

AZFISO March 1984

on Jehandy Bew W15"

AZAZO March 1984

7 Rabon



Long I Have Looked For The Truth

Long I have looked for the truth about the life of people together.

That life is crisscrossed, tangled, and difficult to understand.

I have worked hard to understand it and when I had done so

I told the truth as I found it.

When I had told the truth that was so difficult to find

It was a common truth, which many told
(And not everyone has such difficulty in finding)

Soon after that people arrived in vast masses with pistols given to them

And blindly shot around them at all those too poor to wear hats

And all those who had told the truth about them and their employers

They drove out of the country in the fourteenth year of our semi-Republic.

From me they took my little house and my car Which I had earned by hard work. (Lwas able to save my furniture)

When I crossed the frontier I thought:
More than my house I need the truth.
But I need my house too. And since then
Truth for me has been like a house and a car
And they took them.

Bertolt Brecht (1898-1956)



In the export of inferralism in the exoch of the downfall of carpitalism and the establishment of socialism the northwest literation mement even in those countries where the protetoment was weak or practically non-existent their tere natural ally of the international northweig class and it exporting - that struggle against inferralism, for national emencipalism will muritably overgrowto the extruggle for social literation against C' was

full-seale democracy - democratic rights and freedom, tile earners make progress without observe by the midwirdman. There should be definite shouldown a miture and social life quirted by the sources of the people in heefing with the development objective needs of development

Otales place the assimilation of the most important gamis, withre, the affirmation of the spirit of rollectivism and of high moral ideals.

High principles, selfues and courage exhibited by those struggling against in humane conditions.

When the Addis Ababa conference of African comme was taleing its decision in May 1963 on observing African Ciberation Day every year, about 20% of African barritry was All under wround oppression.

Convail for Muhal Economia Asortomes whether developing toles in Africa is a ugor aspect of the poreign -economy hies of the socialist community. Its purpose is to strengthen the young ountries' economic vidependente consolidate their positions in the struggle against inpervalent and for economic and social progress.



aleysmal=(bottomiess) - aleysmal egnorace (fiz. speech)

Every controversy has two sides, and both ender condemn ampone who attempts a purely dispassionate analysis. It is an agricult principle that he who does not argee, disagrees,

An evaluative attitude, an affitual of praise to blame, of accuration to justification two pervendes every human society. To prestion the rules, or worse yet, to question the sentiments lying behind them, is to make certain penalties, the east of which is controversey.

Without newtral analysis knowledge is impossible All science is newtral in the sense that five another y the investigator do wit influence the doservation of expanation of the facts.

One of the merks of an educated person is that he has a perception and apprecedition, things the ordinary individuals take for grounted. He therefore has a better understandings bette gluinary and of others, and is more plexible in adjusting to new situations. He is capable of thinking in terms of underlying priviples rather than popular streetypes and in this wetter at judging language consequences, finally, by a comperative group of societies and groups other than his own he is able to see many things as retwent to his existence which would other unse escape in the Mis life in this way becomes when and fuller than it officinities, University of Pretoria, 2018.

In Parkey.

Our principal ain is to built free our country from apartheid and racion, but we also believe that we must build a new society as well.

as with seed that Mas long pain wenting for condution propritions to the agention that will preserve the species and assure its curious the authore of Aprica's people us purious forth again, across the continent, in struggles for nortional liberation.

Amileen Caloral.

What is above all necessary is that the mentality ex coronized people be built and - 80 that they think peely and peel membelies free, even when their country is not yet fee - A. Nego.

If there is no struggle, there is no progress. Those teles profess to partie, preclaim, and yet depreciable against to are new who went crops without pleneficing up the granned. They want the origin without the ampuel room of its waters. Frederick fragless.

For Angola, at least, the case is not in sixulate to Free development and begin with the musicing a national minty embracing all its people must be to become possible, must be a see national most movement of a non-district value.

we are vivolved ni a common arroggle against povertis, roice and class abunination and exploitants

Education is not only part of, but central to the liberation stoneggle, and that it is in the exercise of the it maybe that the education of file fulual is force withing the people demselves in developing the wistihulions , he new notion.

the coloural power cannot unipose a complete author occupation. The majorety people retour fless electify and one the one onlisty really able to preserve an to create it - that is they can made lesting. It peoples cultival nampe tentreus, including their leteroderie oral and unitky, their songs and poetry, reflect dhis nesistance reflect that various stages of development of the anti-imperialist Angola

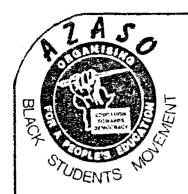
the liberation struggle is the not complex expression of the people's enthural energy of their identify of their dignity, hebaction opens up we avenues, helps to which at and culture, and in lue course q'elle auti-ampendalist stong le finde ver jours je uppréside du la mounte skations also become a powerful instrument for politica intermedion and training not only for undepend ce best also in the great teather for progress.

lulline is the demand significans at the level of judicidual or community consciences of the currented and historical reality of a society or human group, The relations existing between wen It nature as will as among men and among social alegous.

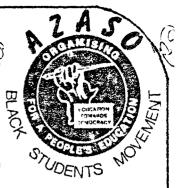
A multiplicate of sound categories & perticularly a ethin granps, makes the role of entitive in the debertren washing the more difficult to define, but this complexity commit and must not tersen the in proximal to the stronggle, must all to recognize and define the contradictory data so as to maintain the positive values and crained then in the direction of the strongle, with an addled hence with

What must be borne in amind is that while thee success y fere stongle much all sections and ablient of a people under the banner of war relient, and accelerates the process of vertications, and accelerates the process of vertications will reflect this fusion in terms of various art, national literature and so on, the influence of the interactional character of the strungle art the same time quies the varioual form an intermedianal content. This unrecent should more towards the development of a victor and where -popular, national, remember and universal.

The single for the people's a what we sometime early the Hird World for national liberation and independence has execute a titance force for man's progress and in without about one of the most dynamic and most improrpant featines of our dione.



Black Students Movement



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Black Students Movement (BSM), I would like to welcome you to Rhodes University and to wish you well for the 1985 academic year.

University education is a privilege, not a right for the majority of our people. It is therefore important that you should use your stay here profitably as possible. Our education is the result of years of hard work and sacrifice on our part, that of our parents, and the community as a whole.

Education, however, must not be seen merely as the acquisition of information but as the making of a person so that he/she may function more effectively and usefully within our society. Education must not be used for individual and selfish gains. It should help us to address ourselves to the problems confronting our society. In a word, education should make us aware of, and not isolate us, from the conflict and contradictions in our society.

In South Africa, education is used for the promotion, As Dr Hendrik Verwoerd, the great architect of apartheid, said in 1953: "Native Education should be in accordance with the policy of the State..."
What is this policy of the State?

Most of you come from oppressed, exploited and under privileged communities where there is a lack of basic facilities such as electricity, tarred roads, housing and recreational facilities. This is so because of the policy of apartheid, which we experience daily. The education system in South Africa is also based on apartheid. Hence, today we have Bantu Education, Christian National Education, and Indian and Coloured Education. The establishment of the so-called independent homelands resulted in the formation of separate education departments there as well. Today we have over 10 educational departments in the country. What do we as students, as young people and future leaders, as future mothers and fathers do with this situation?

We should strive for a better and more relevant education that will help us to realise the goal of democracy and justice in our country; we should fight for an educational system that is free of racism and tribalism; we should fight for a non-racial and democratic system of education. These are the long-term goals that our student organisations are striving for. This year AZASO, COSAS (Congress of South African Students), and NUSAS (National Union of South African Students)will be involved in the drawing up of an Education Charter. The Charter will spell out our demands for a better and more relevant education system.

The Azanian Students Organisation (AZASO), the major black student organisation in the country, is striving for the above ideals. AZASO believes that students have the right to organise themselves and demand a relevant education. The building of solid and strong bases on all campuses and colleges is a prime and immediate objective.

At Rhodes, AZASO exists in the form of the Black Students Movement (BSM) which was formed in 1982 and affiliated to AZASO in 1983. Apart from the long-term goals of students throughout the country, BSM is concerned with the interests and aspirations of students on this campus. BSM is your only authentic voice. The underlying rationale for the existence of such a movement is that through our unity as students we will be able to achieve what we cannot achieve if we act individually. "UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL"

Secondly, BSM offers you an opportunity to realise your potential and ability. We encourage students to join our sub-committees, which are responsible for organising and planning our activities.

Thirdly, we offer students the opportunity of learning more about the society we live in through seminars, mass meetings, pamphlets and discussions. I am convinced that this information will be of great help to you while still at the University as well as after acquiring your degree.

I sincerely believe and have proved that those people who "advised" me that I should not involve myself in the BSM were misleading me. I would therefore like to encourage you all to join the Black Student Movement and I hope to welcome you as members very soon.

Finally, don't hesitate to approach our members if you have any problems or if you wish to find out more about the BSM. The following people may be contacted: * Mvuso Mbebe - 2115 (Matthews)

- * Charles Mngomezulu and Thabiso Ratsomo – 4963 (C.B.)
- * Portia and Bonita Oppies Common Room

THABISO RATSOMO President of BSM.

5/4/85; Geneal in Onke in Sudan: Engir prices.
Charliers want to overfluour the Nimeri gout.

Universities should resist being lurned into vocationed quidance centres churning out untlimbing graduales who will meidically stot nito the relations of production which have determined he presailing toreol noch. (Tomaselli + G. Hayman p2).

the principles of the strapping, worked the birther of a vertice policie pour dation page laid ui a stiming call by Dr API Serve, Partir le licencine its measurer vous aut l'hie demon à recepction, tre albertations & Xhore-lings prends true account Sity lived exects between the Zuleus and the Doinges, between sine brother and every The radiue, mit to burnet and forgitten. , we are one people.

Education with Production

Patrick van Rensburg

Guiding Principles

In most societies today, economic and social structures and the educational systems that serve them, are marked by exploitation, inequality and hierarchy, and the great majority of people are unable to develop their full human potential in these conditions. The transformation of societies has to contend with vested interests of privilege and power. Such interests, united in protecting and maintaining themselves, rarely concede their power and privilege except under intolerable pressure from those they exploit, in conditions in which they can no longer aintain the existing social order. Social transformation quires great changes in social attitudes to achieve and sustain

it; it comes about only through struggle in which the exploited identify their common interests and unite to change the social order. In that unity and struggle they gain a new awareness of themselves and of their power, and a new understanding of the relationships of production and in society at large.

It is in the context of changing social attitudes that education is potentially of the greatest significance to social transformation, but in this role education must be conceived not only or even primarily as schooling, but broadly in terms of the whole range of social processes that shape attitudes and consciousness in society. The shaping of consciousness is not a purely isolated, individualized mental activity, because consciousness is a reflection in the mind of social and material realities. Consciousness motivates people in struggle and is therefore central and integral to the processes of social transformation. But consciousness also reflects the real positions of people in society and in social struggles, and it develops in, and out of their activities in conjunction with the assimilation of relevant theories, ideas and knowledge.

The struggle for social transformation is not confined to each society and country, because societies are linked in an international system of exploitation which profits a power structure based largely in the industrialized world though not without annexes in the previously colonized countries. Ruling elites of most societies are both accomplices and rivals at the same time. Exploitative relationships exist within most countries and are largely sustained by the exploitative system that cuts across frontiers.

The essential struggle is between those who own and control the means of production, and those without who are obliged to seek exploitative wage employment from them. It is this relationship which forms the basis of the power and privilege and of the accumulation of wealth, of the owners of the means of production. But in the previously colonized world, the effect of the concentration and control of the main means of production in the industrialized countries is to limit the options for autonomous development, to create vast labour reservoirs for the cheap extraction of raw materials, to stunt the growth of small producers, to create conditions of uneven development, and in many cases to place power in the hands of client classes.

The struggle of all those who feel stunted in their political, economic, cultural, educational and social development is a necessary complement to the struggle of the wage worker. It is the task of the workers to lead and coordinate other oppressed groups in the broader struggle. The workers need the support of

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Ma

other groups if their own struggle is to succeed, but only they will place first. classes will inevitably develop in their own interests, which they can carry it to a successful conclusion. All other groups and

association with progressive countries everywhere, linked to social transformation by broadening and extending the options oppression through the struggle of patriots of various classes. socialized production develops in the less industrialized production. This will permit to all who struggle against them the struggle of workers in industrialized countries, will weaken co-operative and continuing struggle of such countries in people. It is however a task requiring international solidarity: the those countries which are little industrialized and as yet without the wider struggle. and economic organisations to safeguard their interests within that workers be free to form their own political, social, cultural countries, it is a necessary condition of internationalist solidarity greater autonomy and self-reliance in their development. As the power of those who own and control the means of development and raising the cultural level of the mass of the for autonomous, The progressive task in those countries is to create the basis for employment, and which have freed themselves from national a well established and numerous population in wage For the time being the focus of the struggle is different in self-reliant and collectively organised

consciousness. But the struggle is a total one because exploitation is reinforced in all arenas of social activity manouevres and machinations of capital and the State it installs struggle is fought in resistance to exploitation in the workplace in, and out of this struggle and guides it. By and large, the cultural, educational and social arenas. Consciousness grows thus finds expression in the economic, political, ideological, state which serves their interests. The struggle of the exploited controlled by the owners of the means of production and the their conditions of work, that workers raise their struggle is the workplace; it is in demanding improvements in the owners of capital and the workers, the main arena of their create cycles of boom and recession, to create unemployment, and in opposition to and defiance of the various manipulations. nature of this system to create want in the midst of plenty, to the system it opposes and in so doing welds the unity and insecurity and inflation. The system is not without its own The struggle thus exposes the limitations and contradictions of further raises the consciousness of the exploited. It is in the Because the main contestants in this world-wide struggle are

> and within the educational system. manipulates the mind through its control of communications weapons in the struggle as it erodes the gains of living the workplace, with its endless division of labour, and it standards of workers and divides them. It stultifies the mind in

economy and in society as a whole, the family, the workplace outlook. Society is an arena of conflict and struggle; educational inequality and hierarchies, or if it is linked to the struggle for educational system either reproduces existing society, with its the current relations of production; all this requires a scientific processes of production and their management, of the origins of a deeper understanding of the conditions which underlie it; to the community and in political and social movements. the product of schools or of formal teaching, but is rooted in the transformation, promotes that process. Education is not only Education involves the total reproduction of society and a given institutions are a part as well as a result of the conflict. the need for a greater understanding of society, of the Social conflict points to the need for those engaged in it to have application of knowledge, thought and scientific understanding The struggle of the exploited everywhere requires the

views of society, and can educate people to analyse critical undertake educational, economic, cultural and welfare activities demanding the transformation of schools and the need to and co-ordinate the social struggle, the necessity for their political parties, the movements and organisations which lead social and personal development. Conflict reveals to the direct means of raising consciousness and as a base from which outside. It suggests the creation of alternative educational which are divorced from the realities and conflicts of the world involvement in educational process. It poses the task of to press demands for change in the entire educational system. institutions and activities controlled by themselves, both as a face to face with the limitations of learning systems of schools linked to the political action in which they engage. It brings them Social and political movements are the source of alternative

practice, with the allocation of time to both as a means of knowledge, especially science, and the ability to conceptualize appropriate to all kinds of talents. The assimilation of develop a mass-based pedadogy and learning systems and fragment both. The need of individuals, and of society, is to and production systems that divide mental and manual labour systematically guiding the learners. These processes need to be are in general best served by the active linking of theory and Schools pre-occupy themselves with mental activity in social

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environment, itself changing as the result of conflict and involving action and reflection across the range of human struggle. Education is thus recognised as a whole social process rooted as much as possible in the social and cultural

schools by their local communities and the joint participation of community. This requires ideally the decentralized control of regular and real involvement of learners and teachers in the schools within a progressive arrangement of production and practice is the introduction of productive activities into social, political, economic and cultural life and activities of the relations. teachers and learners. A cornerstone of this linking of theory The linking of theory and practice can be achieved by the

crucial not just to the existence of the individual and society, crucial innovation because production and the relationships one which points the way to the broadening of the linkages political. The combination of education and production is thus a but to the shape society takes, as well as to the activities of established between and amongst people in the course of it, are means of countering the division of labour and of educating the other important ways. But the linkage of education and students can identify with workers and producers. workers to press for social change. It is also a means by which course of production. Such understanding makes it possible for management, and how and what relationships are formed in the understand society, the processes of production and their worker as a worker. This enables the worker better to production has its own importance as a crucial innovation. It is a first and vital step in the linking of education to social reality and people in society, whether social, recreational, cultural or Combining education and production is an important and

educational institutions can participate in planning and decision and for the acquisition of versatility in several skills as well as occupations with new technological developments. The need is sufficient basic knowledge and capabilities to change it possible for everyone to acquire both a specialisation and to understand their relationship with society in general. It makes technology and concrete methods of production processes and making. It makes it possible for everyone to master the aims mastery of one. The benefits of education combined with to learn the scientific principles underlying production processes production, may be summarised as follows: In economic terms, this means creating new wealth and resources which can be The combination creates the possibility that everyone in

> and services and creation of infrastructure not otherwise developing economies. It also means the production of goods production setting — technical skills which are sorely needed by production provides opportunities to learn technical skills in a the school and community. Involvement of students in utilised for social, aducational and economic development of

operation should be planned and built into the curriculum and technicians in charge of production and skill training should classrooms, in clubs, libraries, in recreation and in the broadmany learning opportunities can be mobilised through the coclosely linked, sustaining and informing each other. A great separate and unrelated activities in the life of institutions, but culture may be unfamiliar. The use of scientific principles in especially in rural societies where the concepts of an industrial can be a vehicle for skill training, as well as for development of methodology of both the academic and productive activities. operative effort of teachers and instructors on the job, in the theory lessons. Education and production should not be two production provides a real base for their fuller assimilation in mental skills. It provides a practical basis for concept-formation, work closely together and that the opportunities for such co-This means that the teachers of academic subjects and the ranging participation in the life and activities of the community. In pedagogical terms, it means recognizing that production

of the environment. It is an important means of linking the school and the community and of integrating the school into the schools promotes the students' identification with workers and process of development of the community. respect for work — which lies at the root of the transformation peasants and with their aspirations and interests. It creates In social terms, the insertion of production in the activities of

organisations and unions to which they belong. But it must also an urgent and central demand of progressive teachers, students union organisations and movements. Their demands are become the demand of all workers in their political and trade and parents, especially in the relevant political and professional institutions of their own to demonstrate the concepts and prove strengthened when they actually maintain and control the point in practice. The transformation of schools along these lines must become

controlled by trade unions and involving workers in a range of requiring the establishment of workers' education centres social and cultural activities. It should be a demand of trade The education of workers is a vital necessity in their struggle

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work, instead of being stultifying, could then become the basis financially and by releasing employees for attendance. Another and source of enlightenment. rotation amongst different details of the process. Productive means of raising their cultural level is to mobilize them around unions on employers and the state to support such education the factories and farms in which they work, the demand for the demand to understand the whole process of production in

recreation, when all these are controlled by the power producing, consuming, living, learning and enjoying culture and sustain it, concerns the creation of alternative means of transformation and the changes in social attitudes necessary to industrialized as well as in predominantly rural countries. structures of exploitative societies. It is a question posed in both A fundamental question facing those who struggle for socia

operative enterprises? Is it appropriate for workers to have their manipulates their minds? Is it appropriate to establish and cutting back of social services and legal aid? How should they should they react to the closure of schools and hospitals, the own presses and publishing houses, to make their own films, to them co-operatively? Is it appropriate for those made redundant demonstrations, strikes, demands, petitions, boycotts and can and should they only have recourse to political struggle, activities and programmes? Or in resisting capital and the state maintain, under their own control independent, alternative deal with a school system that selects and rejects and control their own cultural and recreational activities? How and for the mass of unemployed to establish and run cofactories which are closed down, to take these over and run Is it appropriate in industrialized countries for those working in

development, of massive unemployment, underemployment, urgency. There are overwhelming reasons in the conditions of and school systems oriented to the service of those who own strategies and alternative forms and means of education. the main means of production, the question has greater poverty and want, with hopelessly inadequate social services self-managed development need support. They demonstrate grow food and satisfy needs, are a fundamental necessity in create jobs, provide education and training, develop production, underdevelopment to promote alternative development that alternatives are feasible and they involve the deprived in these conditions. Those who strive to engage in self-reliant, Programmes and projects which alleviate misery and hardship, In the conditions of underdevelopment and unever

> create new institutions but to change consciousness in the creating them. The task is not just to change conditions and

modifying or reforming the existing social order at large. They seen as an end in themselves or as the direct means of alternative activities, any more than trade union activities, be of consciousness; engagement in such activities, provided it is subjective factor in social transformation, namely the changing organize them in their struggle. All such activities create the involving workers, is to raise their consciousness and help contradictions. They can only help to confront such constraints cannot in isolation break out of its constraints and overcome its level of struggle and with it consciousness. In no way should accompanied by analysis and study, is a means of raising the activities, as of trade union, protest and parliamentary activities and contradictions in a manner which exposes them more The essential aim of such alternative programmes and

different social classes in different ways. Social transformation should be complementary to it, and linked to it, again involving struggle, provided however that they link that struggle to the alternative activities are vulnerable to co-option and reform, for struggle continues in the main stream, positive action confronts without work, education and training, of the hungry who are must be the common goal of both strategies so that alternative politics of positive action and alternatives on the other. The first limitation of the prevailing social order, on the one hand, and the antagonism between the politics of resistance, of exposing the who own the means of production. There should and need be no main confrontation, namely that between the worker and those their alternatives they can develop their consciousness in the cannot be avoided but if the deprived can have hegemony in much as they are at work in the old. Confrontation and conflict the forces at work in society emerge in new institutions as demands of the exploited are feasible and capable of the system in new ways and also proves that many of the orphans of the prevailing socio-economic order. While the prey to disease and are ill-clothed and poorly housed, the the main struggle but of raising the level of struggle of those action in struggle. It is thus not a question of withdrawing from programmes assume a new dimension and become positive different strata in society in different ways. But the second is the essential struggle and it takes different forms involving Given the prevailing consciousness, such institutions and

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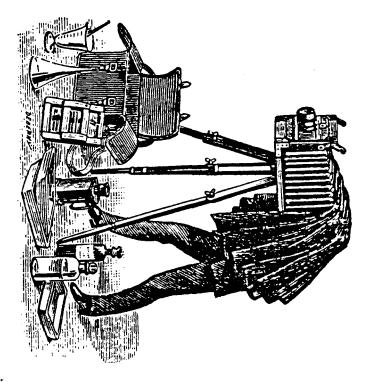
consumers' co-operatives which guarantee them a protected with those realities of the existing social order has great learning greater competition amongst the unemployed in order to hold of labour reserves which the existing social order creates for co-operatives can survive and provide opportunities for workers production of food and clothing. Subject to the limitations market. Part of their activities must also be concerned with the that the difficulties and problems experienced by the potential for all if properly analyzed and interpreted. It is a by market forces and inflation, exposure to and confrontation operatives also increases the security of workers who are to learn to manage their affairs. Participation in such coeducation, improving housing, amenities, immediate satisfaction of basis needs of those involved in them, producers' co-operatives to survive they must be linked to them, point to the necessity of their co-operation. For such participants in their actual conditions should, as analyzed by necessary condition for the formation of such co-operatives down wages. thrown into unemployment and is a means of reducing the size imposed by the contradictions of the existing social order, such Although workers' co-operatives are limited in their operation child care and education, care community health and of the aged

unions and other mass organisation. Participation in workers' action, in this conception, is not economistic, but engages its process of experience and activity as well as of learning, study participants in political, ideological, cultural and social activity. co-operatives can be on a full - or part-time basis. Positive establish a firmer base for struggle in their political parties, their them a greater measure of control over their own destinies, to to solve the problems of deprived individuals, but through giving means creating conditions and involving people in activities in action in struggle is to lay the foundations, in practice and conditions of underdevelopment especially, the task of positive and collective reflection. Consciousness is raised in a total outlook. At the political and ideological level, it means practices their environment and that they acquire the basis of a scientific element of this is that people should have a sense of controlling study, on which people can build an awareness of struggle. This are quite fundamental to the conscious struggle. In the links between the reality and study, the activity and reflection struggle that involves theory and practice in all its arenas. The terms of which basic concepts would be well understood. One This recognises that consciousness develops in a whole social It is not the purpose of positive action, so conceived, simply

Education with Production

and activities which can underpin a slowly growing understanding of co-operation and interdependence, of class awareness, participation, the relations established in production, and so on.

Positive action in struggle enables people to assert themselves and gain new dignity; it is a struggle which requires the constant broadening of the range of issues around itself, such as the nature of the development process, development for what, for whom and how; each issue is of immense learning potential if the linkages between reality and reflection are effective. It is a revolutionary ferment that through its theory and practice can become another base for broadening the resistance struggle. It is a means of widening the concerns of workers and extending their solidarity with underprivileged strata.



7

Roland White

State strategy: The constitutional proposals

In my talk on the new constitution, I will not focus so much on the specific workings thereof, but rather will try to situate the constitution in the context of the development, and change in form of the South African state.

Before I begin, some preliminary points are in order; in a sense, these will be the themes which run throughout my talk and to which — at least implicitly — I will return.

a) Firstly, as concerns the question of the PC and reform in general, I wish to stress that the question of whether a measure such as the new constitution is a "true reform" or merely a "cosmetic change" is — apart from its ideological importance — at worst misguided, and at best superficial. The question is rather why has it been introduced and what will its effects be? The point that emerges here, is that such measures are motivated only by the conflict and struggle of the contending political forces.

The PC proposals, as a particular instance of what we may term a "formative" response, exist as both a reflection and a mechanism of the conflict that characterises South African society: the struggle, between on the one hand the powerful to preserve an ever changing economic and political system from which they benefit, and on the other hand, the oppressed masses, the majority of whom are the black working class, to overthrow that same system under which they suffer. The PC proposals cannot be assessed in terms of "true" or "sham" reform, but only in terms of their effectivity as a strategy of a particular group or class trying to ensure its domination in the ongoing process of struggle between those

who produce the wealth and those who reap it.

b) Secondly, the PC proposals are just one part of state strategy — one aspect of a more generalised restructuring of class relations — precipitated by the crisis Dave elaborated on earlier. It is not an independent measure, but is closely integrated into the gammit of formative measures — from initiatives in industrial relations to latest attempts to revamp the African Community Council system in "white urban areas" — all designed to preserve the essentials or dominant components of the present system. The PC constitutes one aspect of what I will term-the change in the form of state.

c) Thirdly, I would like to draw a distinction between on the one hand (i) the general political terrain on which reform takes place (ie. the entire arena from say "industrial relations" to the latest government initiatives on local government), and on the other hand (ii) the narrowly and formally defined political institutions which have arisen as mechanisms of domination, through and in which struggles are conducted, strategies defined, etc. Parliament would be a good example here.

The constitutional proposals can be seen at both of these levels, as a feature of the general political struggle between groups contending for power (class struggle) but crucially effective at the level of formal political institutions. The proposals, bearing the name "reform", have arisen as one very important aspect of the changes the state is being forced to undergo if the dominant relations which characterise this society are to be preserved.



THE GENERAL TENDENCY

Before I turn specifically to the PC, let me briefly sketch out a general tendency in terms of which we can concretely situate the new constitution. First, following the 1973 wave of strikes, and even more so after the 1976 uprisings, it became increasingly clear to the ruling classes and their representatives within the state that the dominant order could not be maintained by repression alone, and that long-term political and institutional measures would be required to ensure stability.

It was this perception that underlay the 1977 Constitutional proposals initiated by Vorster, but the dominant faction of the Nationalist Party at the time had not the political power to even begin to implement them. After Vorster's ousting by the P W Botha faction, things took on a new light and since then the state has been undergoing fundamental changes. These changes, or to use the current jargon this "restructuring", has occured in three closely related areas: in "reform", in "militarisation" and in "authoritarianisation".

I cannot go into detail here except to point out that the first "reform" as concretely embodied in measures taken to promote a Black middle class, "enlightened" labour legislation etc., refers mainly to changes in the relation between state and civil society, while the latter two refer essentially to changes within the state and, to a lesser extent, the NP itself. "Militarisation" and "authoritarianisation" of the state are particularly closely related. The first refers to a process of penetration of the state by the army, particularly at an institutional level, while the second refers to the process whereby decisionmaking power has been increasingly elevated to levels above or outside of parliament. Under Botha, the Cabinet and state bureaucracy have been fundamentally re-organised so as to concentrate power in the hands of the Prime Minister. In effect, the cabinet has largely been abolished as a responsible decision-making body and many of its functions have been taken over by six broad cabinet committees - State Security, Finance, Economics, Internal Affairs, Welfare, Legislation and Parliamentary Affairs. These are now the effective executive bodies of government and are answerable only to the PM. The significance of this - and the emergence of the State Security Council which stands over and above the cabinet committees as both a committee and a separate security council - lies in the extent to which it has shifted executive responsibility away from parliament and even the parliament caucus of the NP, and into the hands of a non-parliamentary body of prominent businessmen and senior military officials.

The changes in the above three areas comprise the constituent elements of what is generally referred to as "Total Strategy" ie. an overall restructuring of the constitution and relation between different state apparatuses and their overall relation to civil society. The PC proposals comprise a constituent element of this, as such they confirm and entrench these tendencies. They are stamped with the specifics of the struggles and history that has produced them.

The specific economic and political aspects of the crisis responsible for the genesis of the PC proposals has already been drawn out by Dave at a general level. I now want to examine the specific form of response that constitutes the PC against this general backdrop.

STATE INITIATIVES

It should be clear, that on a general level political stability is central to the reproduction of any social system. Two points to note here are — (i) that the state plays a crucial role in ensuring such political stability and (ii) that stability is threatened by organisation and unity of the oppressed, ie: those people for whom "stability" only means the perpetuation of a political system under which they suffer.

It is thus of primary importance that the state keeps the dominated classes divided and disorganised in order that their struggles be fragmented and limited. In South Africa, this has historically occurred through the enforcing and entrenchment of racial and ethnic divisions among those who are all subject to the same order, but on different levels and through different institutional mechanisms — Africans are divided into "Xhosa", "Zulu", "Tswana", etc. through the homeland system; Indians, Coloureds and Africans are made to live in different "group areas", enjoy different institutionally enforced access to the labour market and so on.

Importantly though, the nature of this division and the way in which the state attempts to enforce it is conditioned by concrete conditions in which the state acts and responds. Thus, as organisation amongst the oppressed groups in South Africa has grown, as their struggles have advanced, and as sectors of the dominated classes (particularly among the Indian and Coloured communities) have developed economically (hence have moved into stronger structural positions) it has become necessary for the state not only to rely on repressive measures to bring about division, but increasingly to complement these with co-optive strategies. It has, in other words, found it imperative to gain some level of credibility with at least a limited section of the oppressed.

Two things need to be stressed here: the "co-optive", "divisive" and "repressive",





aspects are combined in a complementary manner into one overall strategy. Thus at the same time as the state is repressing the development of popular organisations, it is also attempting to divide "Indian" and "Coloured" from "African" and trying to co-opt sections within each of these communities such that they will take on the role of immediate oppressor (run the Bantustans, join the SAIC, etc.).

Second - the co-optive strategy that the state has found increasingly necessary to pursue, particularly post-1976, and which is finding its most full and recent expression in the PC proposals, is not solely a matter of ideological legitimacy. As progressive organisation has grown, especially in the form of community, youth and women's organisations post-79/80, it has become increasingly necessary for the state to attempt to subvert such organisation so that the demands of the oppressed are not expressed in opposition to, but through the state (ie. through the "correct constitutional channels" eg. through SAIC rather than through the Durban Housing Action Committee). The attempt to provide "space" for representation of the demands/grievances of the oppressed is at the same time an attempt to limit their revolutionary nature, or effectively as focal points of progressive organisation.

The extent of the PC proposals as a co-optive strategy must be seen in the context of the failure of previous attempts, by the state, to successfully create political institutions designed to divide and co-opt the oppressed (the CPRC was still-born in 1964, never managed to get off the ground and eventually disbanded in 1979; the SAIC was voted in on a percentage poll of less than 20 percent; Community Councils have never managed to gain anything resembling credibility among the African community). The point is simply that the political and ideological failures of such bodies - due primarily to the organisation and resistance of the oppressed classes - has meant that the question of central, national political power had been placed on the agenda. The state has been forced to initiate a co-optive strategy on a more fundamental level than has ever been the case before.

Not only do the PC proposals entrench racial division by their very nature, but they are obviously concerned to guarantee white domination. The 4:2:1 ratio of whites to coloureds to Indians, is I am sure familiar to all. The overall picture we have at this stage is one in which some access to the avenues of formal political power is being offered to limited sectors of the dominated classes (Indians and Coloureds), but only in so far as it institutionally confirms their subordinate political positions.

On another level, however, the nature and shape of the formal political arena in South

Africa is undergoing fundamental changes. We have already seen how under the label of Total-Strategy, the state has been assuming an increasingly authoritarian form. The PC proposals, when implemented, will entrench a set of institutional measures at the level of formal politics such as the move away from the traditional democracy - albeit of a racially exclusive type - that has characterised the organisation of the South African state to date. Also, the effect of implementing the PC proposals will entrench the tendency to remove the locus of formal political power from a parliamentary to executive and semi- or entirely extra-parliamentary levels of decision-making. The awesome powers of the State President and the possibility of people from outside any of the racial parliaments being co-opted into the cabinet, concretely embody this.

The point is simply this: that for a gammit of reasons the state is increasingly taking an authoritarian form — the relations between different apparatuses is changing and its institutions are being overhauled. At the same time, the pursuit of political stability as a precondition for the preservation of the status quo demands that co-optive overtones be made vis-a-vis the dominated classes; overtures which though they must be formative (ie. must extend beyond window dressing) must not in any way threaten the basic distribution of power.

The expression of this contradiction is between on the one hand the necessity to "share" power and on the other hand the necessity to concentrate it, is what is expressed in the constitutional mish-mash proposed by the PC. The extremely circumscribed incorporation of sectors of the oppressed into the formal political arena has occured only with a concomittal subversion of the process whereby they could express themselves politically or make any genuine political impact.

THE STATE AND THE DOMINANT CLASSES

The anti-democratic tendencies of the PC are not related solely to the question of incorporation of Coloureds and Indians. Another factor of crucial importance in determinating the specific nature of the PC as a strategy of domination in South Africa has been the splits within the ruling class alliance, particularly as manifest in the split within the Nationalist Party and the changing position of the electorate.

The drive to "reform" has produced a powerful backlash among sections of the white working, rural and petty-bourgeois classes (the ones most threatened by talk of "black advancement and traditionally those most ingrained with racist ideology) and it seems as if the NP has lost a significant proportion of the groups which have



historically provided its greatest voting strength. In the 1981 general election, NP support dropped from 65 percent (1977) to 50 percent and two polls taken in April 1982 indicated a further slump to 44 percent. In August 1982, the combined right-wing vote in the Germiston by-election was comfortably ahead of that of the Nats in what had previously been a rock solid NP seat. In November last year, the NP managed to beat the Conservative Party by only ten votes and the combined HNP/CP vote was 570 ahead of that of the Nats.

In the February 1982 split of Treurnicht and 18 other MP's to form the CP has told heavily on the Nats, not only in that it has detracted numerically from the party but in that it has created the most coherent and articulate right-wing opposition to Botha's reform drive. Since May 1982, the CP has begun a propoganda war against the PC proposals centred around two points:

- the almost unlimited powers of the state President:
- 2. that the proposals "abbrogate the white man's right to self-determination".

That this has been effective, if at least in limited areas, is born out by Treurnicht's recent electoral victory in Waterberg and Fanie Botha's close shave in Soutpansberg. Overall, the right-wing threat, as it has become known, has been a significant force in determining the formulation and implementation of Botha's reform.

Not only has the pace of reform been considerably slowed by the consideration of the right-wing threat, but the nature of the changes themselves have been determined by the necessity of maintaining credibility among an increasingly threatened electorate (and Treurnicht et al have been quick to stimulate such feelings in their ongoing propaganda war with PW). Yet, as Dave argued, significant reform has in the face of decaying crisis become a fundamental necessity for the state — and hence for the Nationalist Party as its primary political agent. Measures even as weak and ambiguous as that of the PC Constitutional Proposals have become unavoidable.

The proposals allow the NP to lose its parliamentary majority (a possibility on the face of things at present) but to be able to exercise full power as long as it remains the largest single white party — even if it has just 34 percent of the seats. The executive president (whose powers have all been emphasized) will be chosen by a college comprising the majority parties of the separate chambers only; the majority party will choose the white members of the PC and, it seems, those participating on the permanent parliamentary committees. The new constitution will thus

make it possible for the minority of the minority to retain control of the political system. It will make possible a government with less popular support than any before in the history of South Africa.

It is important to note here that the conflictual developments that have surfaced in and around the NP do not occur autonomously from the dynamics and conflicts that traverse the broader society. As the struggles of the oppressed have intensified, struggles within the dominant classes (for the moment within the white power bloc) over appropriate political solutions (ie. solutions which would favour the maintenance of each group's current position best) have also heightened.

We cannot go into the complex dynamics of all this here: suffice to sav for now that the positions that the respective sectors of the dominant (white) classes have taken on the issue and the support they have given to the different political parties tends to reflect their material interests. While a white mineworker may favour the maintenance of job reservation to protect his relatively privileged position, for example, Harry Oppenheimer, whose immediate interest lies in the development of skilled labour from whatever quarter, will favour its being scrapped. On a more specifically political level, the same conflicts occur and have been increasingly sharply reflected in the conflicts between "white" political parties. Thus, extremely crudely, the Nationalist Party and the reformist solutions tended to become more closely associated with the military and monopoly capital while the parties of the right and more overtly supremacist/ repressive solutions have come to be supported by the white working class, petty-bourgeoise and rural bourgeoisie. Though these links are difficult to draw without lapsing into an over-rigid or mechanistic approach, it can be said that the class base of the NP has altered substantially, particularly post 1977.

The immediate effect of this will be to downplay the role of the political party relative to the executive aim of government. The scope for an increasing emphasis on extraparliamentary forums, for policy and decisionmaking is wide open, and is, in fact, highly likely. The authoritarianism the PC embodies, need not lead to an increasing breakdown of state/private sector links, but is likely to begin to elevate such links above and away from the level of legislation mainly because of the ineffectiveness of parliament and political parties, particularly the opposition, under the plan. The PFP, for example, is likely to find itself increasingly marginalised because, quite crudely, groups say in the private sector, that want things done will begin to explore more effective channels with closer ties





to the executive as they are developed by the state.

The PC as a particular "reform" maintains some vestiges of bourgeois democracy but as subordinate, and largely impotent components, of an increasingly militaristic and clearly dictatorial order. How this is all to be implemented remains to be seen: crucially it is dependent upon the organisational unity and struggles of the classes it has been designed to dominate. There is a strong possibility that the most essential components of the proposals will never begin to succeed.

CONCLUSION

The President's Council proposals amount to a significant move away from the "racially exclusive bourgeois democracy" which has characterised the South African state to date. They constitute a restructuring of both its racially exclusive and bourgeois democratic nature. This amounts to, in the most general terms, a change in the form of national oppression that constitutes the cornerstone of the South African political economy. The PC proposals are a vital political component of a broad state strategy whose essential objective is the continued control and subjugation of the black working class. As such, the effectivity of the new constitution will extend far beyond those (particularly Coloureds and Indians) which it immediately confronts. The state wishes to co-opt those sections of the oppressed not just because they present a danger in and of themselves, but because the oppressed as a whole are most strong when they are united.

Secondly, and more specifically, the restructuring of the constitution and the restructuring of the conditions and mechanisms of political repression (in the form of Apartheid) is to take a particularly authoritarian form. Historically, the

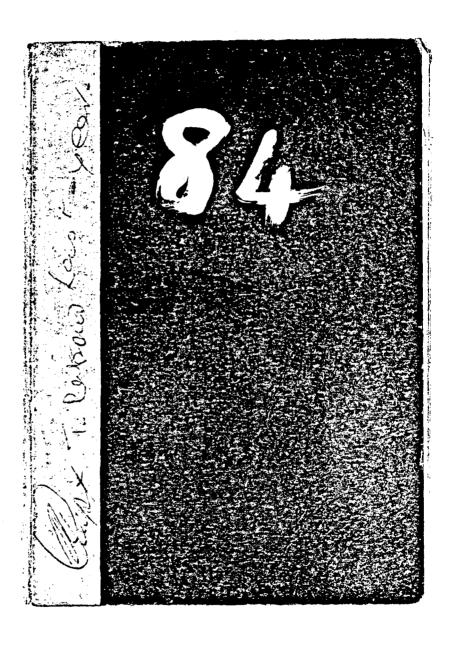
reality of the bourgeois democratic state in South Africa, has been predicated on that arena not being threatened by the dominated classes, that is by maintaining its racial enclusivity. Therefore, it can only be predicated on changes in the nature of the "democracy" (or indeed its total subversion) itself. This is precisely what has happened. This time, however, there is an additional factor—the right.

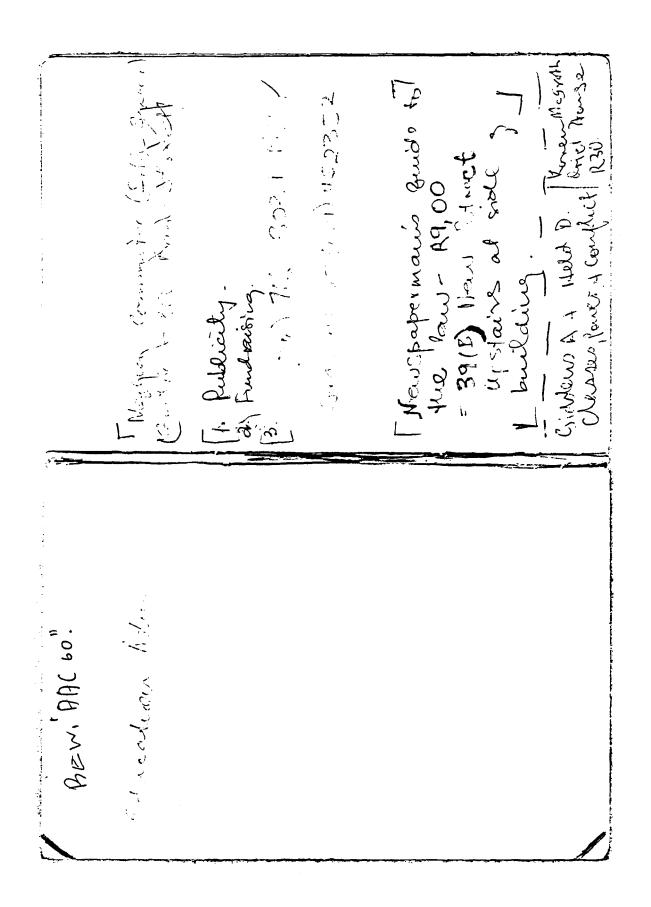
We find that the state is caught in a complex of contradictions. On the one hand, it must extend formal power to the oppressed if it is to gain their consent to be ruled. On the other hand, any move in such a direction brings ruptures with the people who have always benefitted from the unequal distribution of power and those who refuse to relinquish their gain. The state is caught in a cross-fire of demands which are impossible to synthesize and hence cannot be resolved, but let it be clear that the distance between the NP and the white right-wing, and between the state and the oppressed people of the country, are two very different matters.

The contradictions the NP experiences with the right are derived primarily from the conflicts between the state and the dominated classes. The contradictions between the state and the dominated classes are contradictions in and of themselves, the product of irreconcilable antagonisms between those who own and those who do not, those who produce and those who reap, those with power and those who are sub-ordinate (but not powerless).

The state will ever try to resolve this contradiction with proposals and strategies and more proposals and more strategies, but it can never succeed without negating itself. The contradiction will only be resolved when the people really do have the power — when all shall govern.

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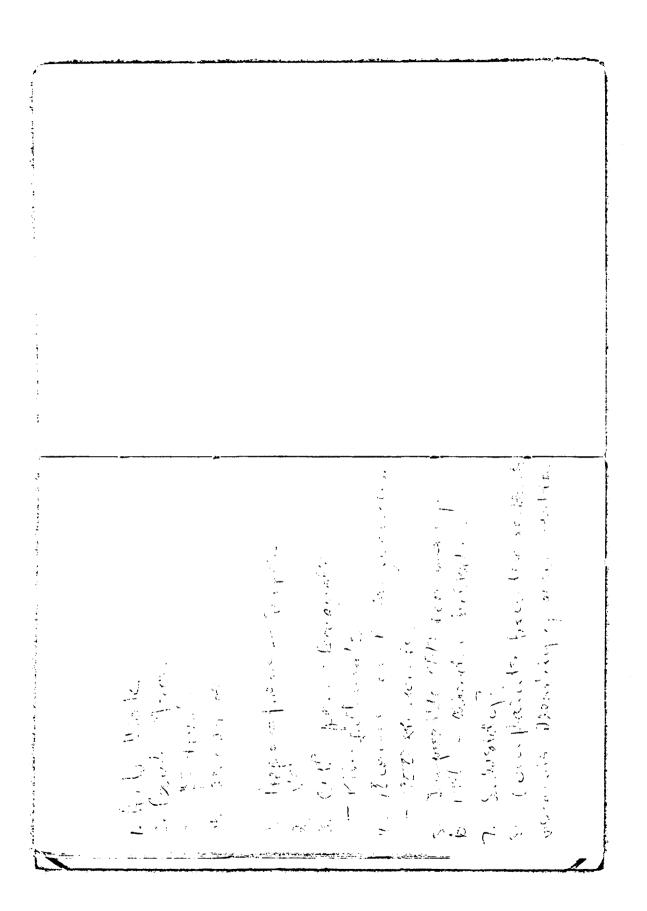
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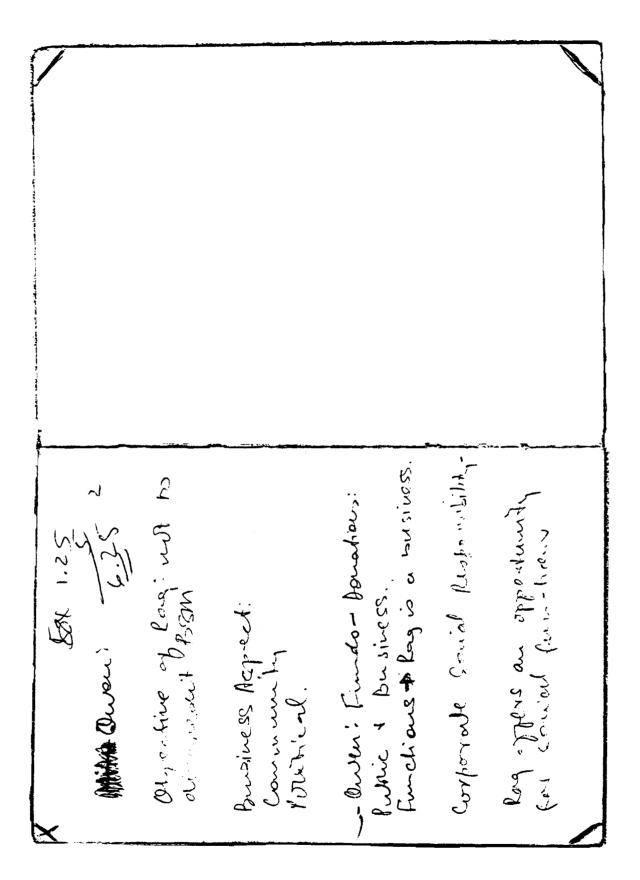
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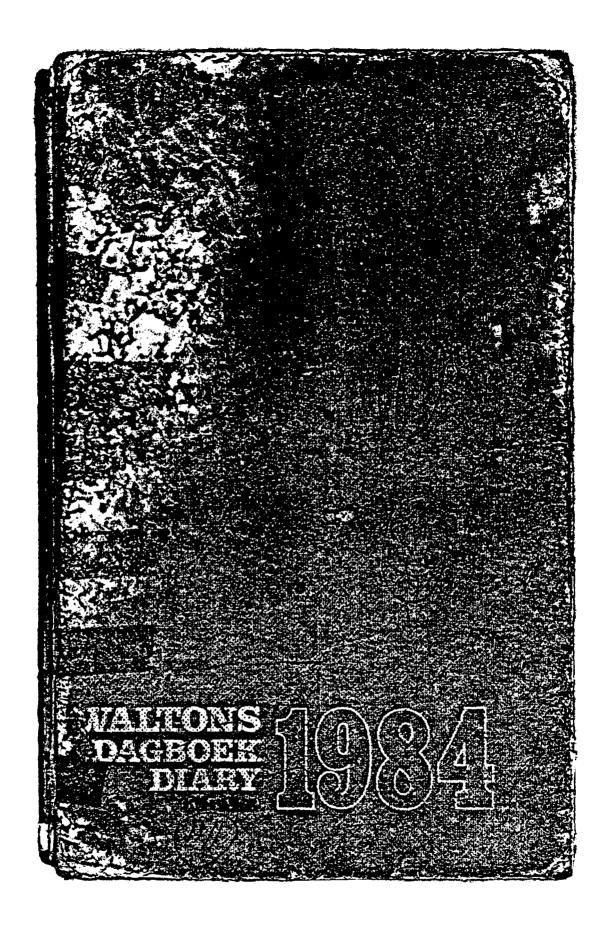


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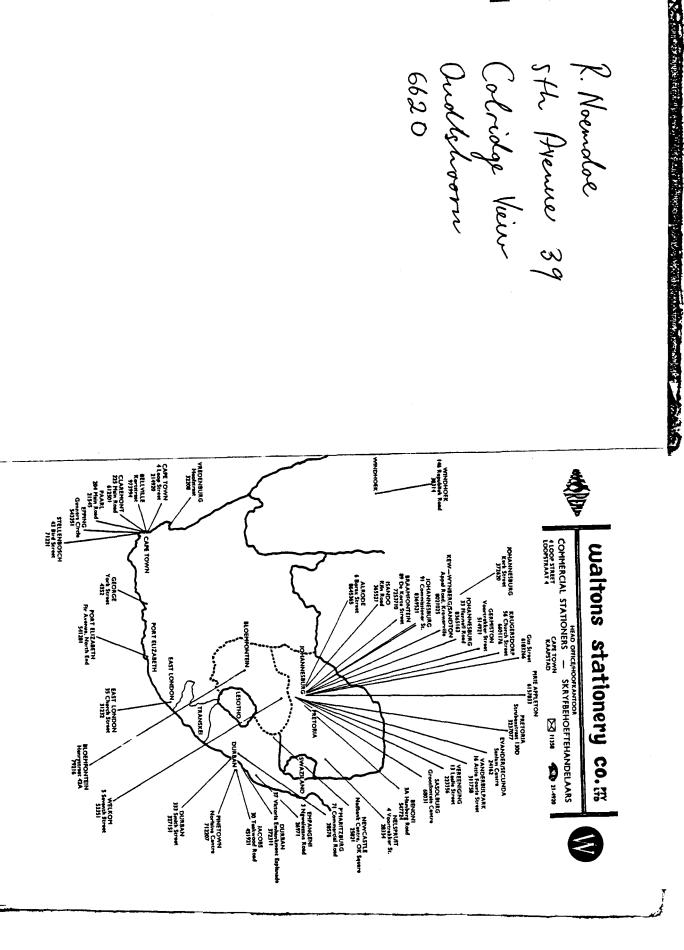
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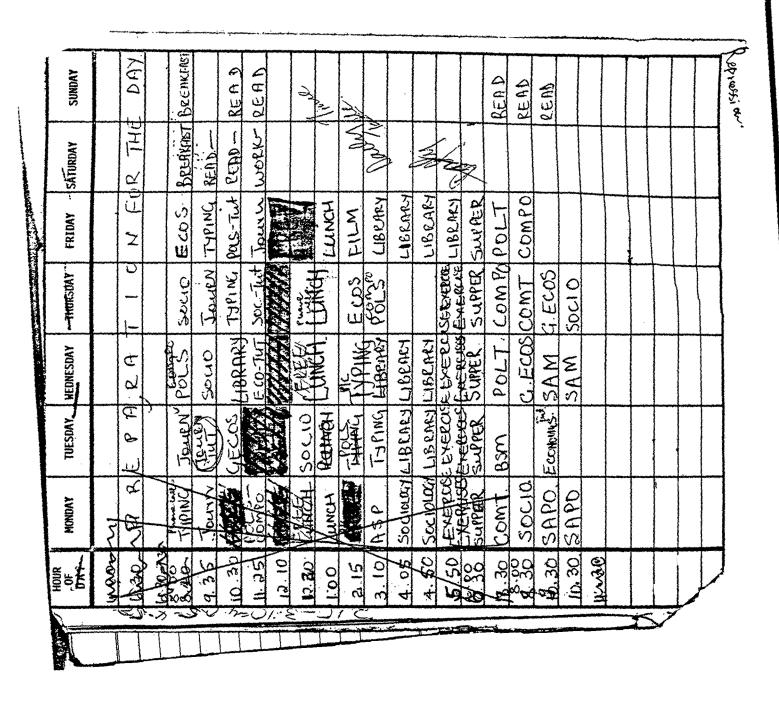
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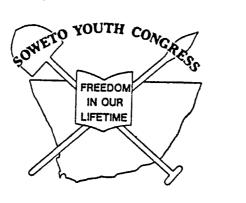
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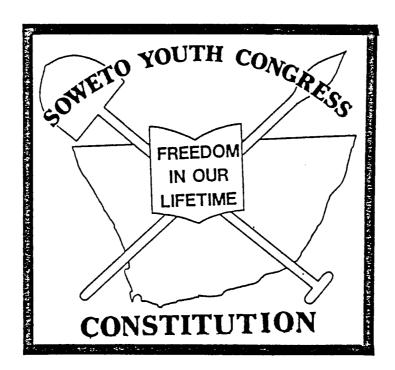
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- 2.Unless inconsistent with the cintext, the Executive Committee shall mean the Executive Committee of SOYCO.
- 3.Unless inconsistent with the context, the President shall mean the President of SOYCO.
- 4.Unless inconsistent witht he context, branch shall mean any organized fifteen members of SOYCO with their own committee of six.
- 5. Unless inconsistent with the context, all words denoting the masculine gender shall denote the female gender.
- 6.Unless inconsistent with the context, Congress shall mean the congress of the Soweto Youth Congress.



BEMINE 13.



THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SOWETO YOUTH CONCRESS.

ARTICLE ONE/CLAUSE ONE

PREAMBLE

- I. Whereas the youth in Soweto is disorganised;
- Whereas the growing number of the working class youth who had been active in students organisations whilst at school and universities have no permanent organisation outside these areas;
- Whereas the growing political consciousness of the youth and the daily crises in our community become phenomenal;
- Whereas there are special problems affecting the youth in their day to day lives;
- Whereas community organisations need self-motivated, energetic and disciplined youth to support them actively; and
- 6. Whereas there is a need to develop and deepen the social, political and cultural outlook of the youth;

We, the youth of Soweto gathered here today, therefore resolve to form a broad democratic youth organisation to cater for a wide section of the youth in Soweto.

1. In the event of the dissolution of the organisation the executive committee of SOYCO may distribute all the asstes of the organisation amongst those organisations that share the same or similar aims with SOYCO or give them(assets) to welfare organisations. In the event of SOYCO having any liabilities, property may be sold to pay debts.

ARTICLE ELEVEN

VOTE

1.Voting in any meeting and/or Congress of SOYCO shall be by a show of hands. Only approved delegates attending the Congress may vote on decisive matters such as election of new Executive Committee and major resolutions. Each delegate shall be allowed one vote per nomination.

ARTICLE TWELVE

DEFINITION

l.Unless inconsistent with the context, organisation shall mean Soweto Youth Congress.

ARTICLE FOUR

MEMBERSHIP

There shall be three categories of membership of SOYCO:

- (a) Individual membership;
- (b) Affiliate membership; and
- (c) Associate membership.

A. INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

- I. Membership of SOYCO shall be open to every Sowetan who accepts the aims and objectives as set out in ARTICLE 3 and who, in addition, is of any age up to 38 years.
- On admission to membership, a person may be required to pay membership fees and periodical subscription of an amount that will be determined by the congress.
- 3. Membership may be lost through expulsion or resignation.
- If any subscriptions or membership fees are paid, they shall not be refundable in the event of expulsion or resignation.
- 3. It shall be the highest authority at local level.
- 4. It shall competently consider all matters of local interest and make recommendations to the Executive Committee of SOYCO.

B.BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 1. For each branch formed there shall be a branch executive committee.
- 2.Its composition shall be as follows:
 - a.Chairperson and vice-chairperson
 - b.Secretary
 - c.Co-ordinator and
 - d. Two additional committee members
- 3.Its term of office shall be a year.
- 4. It shall organise SOYCO members & recruit new ones.
- 5. It may appoint such sub-committees as may be necessary forthe carrying out of functions and activities of the organisation in the branch.
- 6.It shall generally supervise and co-ordinate activities of the organisation within the branch and shall report thereon to the Annual General Meeting.
- 7.It shall meet once a week and as often as may be necessary.
- 8. The quorum of the committee shall be a simple majority.

ARTICLE EIGHT

LEGAL PERSONA

- 1.SOYCO shall assume a legal personality. It shall sue or be sued in its name.
- 2. No member shall be liable for debts incurred in the cause of performance of duties for the organisation.

ARTICLE NINE

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

- 1.SOYCO may acquire property anywhere in its own name and dispose of same at will.
- 2.The organisation may acquire/buy land, immovable property such as building and movable property such as office equipment etc.
- 3. Should the need arise the organisation may sell such property as may be directed by the SOYCO Executive Committee.
- 4.SOYCO may open up an office anywhere in Soweto or Johannesburg.

article ten

DISSOLUTION OF THE ORGANISATION

ARTICLE TWO

NAME

The name of the youth organisation is the SOWETO YOUTH CONGRESS (Soyco) hereinafter referred to as SOYCO or interchangeably the SOWETO YOUTH ORGANISATION.

ARTICLE THREE

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To organise and unite the youth of Soweto irrespective of sex or religion into a cohesive, representative and effective vehicle.
- 2. To take up special problems affecting the youth.
- 3. To promote social and cultural activities among the youth.
- 4. To mobilise and conscientise the youth for involvement in the struggles of their communities.
- To mould the social and political outlook of the youth in accordance with the non-racial Democratic Principles.

SOYCO and other organisations as may be directed by the Executive Committee.

- 5. Shall be responsible for the strengthening and deepening of relations between the organisation and the masses.
- 6.Shall be responsible for explaining to the masses the policy, programme and aims and objectives of the organisation.
- 7. Shall be responsible for leadership training skills and other such skills.

ARTICLE SEVEN

BRANCH ORGANS

There shall be the following organs of SOYCO at local level: a.Branch Annual General Meeting b.Branch Executive Committee

A.BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 1. The Branch Annual General Meeting shall meet once a year to elect the branch executive committee.
- 2.Its composition shall be the entire membership of the branch and the branch executive committee.

B. AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP

- I. Affiliate membership shall be open to all youth groups and/or organisations (cultural clubs student organisations, church youth groups etc.) which subscibe to the aims, objectives and programmes of the Soyco.
- On acceptance of membership an affiliate organisation may be required to pay such admission fee as may be determined by the congress of Soyco from time to time.
- 3. Affiliate membership may be lost through withdrawal or expultion in the event of misconduct or violation of policies of the Soyco.
- 4. In the event of expulsion or withdrawal no fee shall be refunded.

C. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

- a.A.:sociate membership shall be extended to all persons who accept the aims and objectives of Soyco yet do not fall within the accepted definition of youth, and are willing to make such contribution as may be directed by the Executive Committee of Soyco.
- On admission to membership an associate member may be required to pay such membership fee as may be determined from time to time by the congress of Soyco.
- Associate membership may be lost as a result of misconduct or policies of Soyco.

D. RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERSHIP

- To attend all meetings called by the organisation except those of committees in which he may not be serving.
- 2. To participate freely in discusions, debates, planning and adoption of decisions of the congress, council, etc.
- To observe and comply with decisions and resolutions of the majority regardless of whether he was initially for or against same.
- 4. To vote a meetings and congresses.
- 5. To elect and be elected to positions of authority in the organisa-
- 6. To strive constantly to explain and popularise the policy and implement the programme of the organisation.
- 7. To oppose factionalism and to defend the organisation at all times of need.
- 8. To promote the interest of the organisation at all centres of its activity.
- 9. To demand the fulfilment of what is contained in the constitution and all resolutions, decisions and agreements of the organisation.
- 5. Shall be responsible for fund raising projects.
- 6. Shall be one of the signatories in the event of withdrawal of funds or opening up of new banking accounts for the organisation.
- F. SECRETARY FOR PUBLICITY AND INFORMATION
- 1. Shall be responsible for gathering, analysing, publishing and disseminating all information about the situation in Soweto and beyond.
- 2.Shall be responsible for the preparing, editing and issueing of SOYCO press statements, publications and for arranging conferences as may be directed by the Executive Committee.
- 3. Shall be responsible for propagating and defence of the policy and programme of SOYCO through the press of the organisation or any other approved media.
- 4. Shall be head of the SOYCO publications Committee.

G.CO-ORDINATOR

- 1.Shall be responsible for the establishment and re-organisation of branches
- 2. Shall ensure the implementation of the resolutions, decisions and directives of the organisation.
- 3. Shall co-ordinate activities of the organisation.
- 3. Shall establish contact with individuals and set up meetings between

IN SOUTH AFRICA

On Friday the minister of "Law and Order" banned meetings of 29 organisations in the Eastern Cabe and the Transvaal. In Grahamstown alone the following organisations: the Azanian Students Organisation(AZASO), Black Students Movement(BSM), Grahamstown Youth Movement(GYM), Grahamstown Civic Association(GRACA), Congress of South African Students(COSAS) and the United Democrativ Front are not allowed to hold meetings until the 30 June.

This repressive action by the state against organisations involved in legitimate resistance is not new in the history of our country. In 1950, after a period of mass struggles against unjust apartheid laws, low wages and high rentals, the state banned ANC and PAC. In 1977 the same situation occurred when 18 organisations were banned.

However, the 1980's saw a resurgence of struggles by workers, students and community organisations. The government tried to undermine this resistance by introducing the New Deal. All these were attempts to divide and co-opt our people. The formation of the UDF in 1983 to oppose the new constitution was a massive setback for the state.

The failure of the new constitution as indicated by the low polls in the Coloured and Indian elections, the rejection of the Black Local Authorities, the continued widespread school boycotts for a relevant education contrasted P.W. Botha's pompous parading and propaganda associated with the new deal. Once again it became clear that apartheid solutions were bound to fail.

The policies of the new constition led to increase rents, increase in GST, an inflated lines budget, and failure to deal with workers demands. As a result entire community took to the streete in protest, workers downed tools, massive stayaways took place and community councillors resigned in many areas.

The government is aware of its inability to govern this country and is thus turning more and more to repressive measures which have culminated in the Vaal. Uitenhage. Cradock and Crossroads massacres and of course the banning of our organisations' meetings. This violence under the present new constitution is a symptom of the ruler's failure and complete inability to solve the growing economic and social crisis inside the country.

No amount of violence can ever wipe from the minds of the oppressed the lessons driven home in the past few months — no handout or constitution mending by the rulers will solve our problems of oppression and voicelessness. Only a movement of the organisations of the oppressed, serving the interests of the mass of the workers in the

Country can bring about a new and denotratic non-racial South Africa.

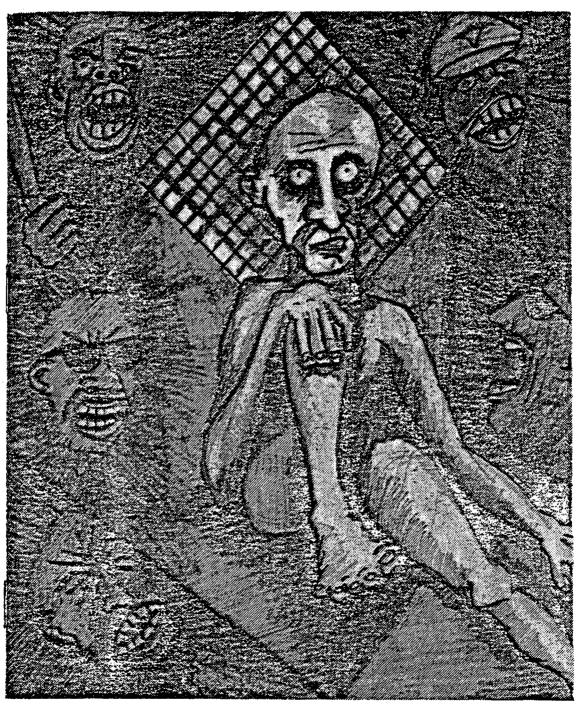
The state's attempt to silence us by banning our neetings must not deter us from working for the total destruction of apartheid. But therefore calls on all students to stand united and to continue to work for the liberation of our people.

ANANDLA! MAYIBUYE!

BY STORES OF THE STOR

OUR MARCH TO

FREEDOM: 55



UNZIMA LOMTHWALO BEN ARCUN A Handbook on detentions DESCRESCON

DPSC/DESCOM



Faced by an upsurge in popular resistance to its policies, the South African authorities in 1981 reacted with a massive crackdown. Hundreds of people were detained. These included community leaders, trade unionists, students, All of these people, whatever their origin, were united in a desire for a free, democratic and non-racial South Africa.

In response to this major crackdown further rumblings of discontent emerged. Parents, friends and colleagues of those detained, angered by the forced removal from society of their leaders and friends, rallied together to form support committees for the detainees. One of the more prominent support groups to emerge from the period was the Detainees' Parents Support Committee (DPSC). Since their formation this group has maintained a steady watch over detentions. They have also supported those detained, their organisations, families and dependents and publicised detentions.

While resisting the evil of this arbitrary imprisonment of democrats in South Africa, the DPSC became aware that many of those who were detained, or those close to them, were unaware of the horrors of detention. Despite numerous court cases where it was found that the Security Police had tortured detainees and many more allegations of torture by the Security Police, thousands of South Africans did not know that this had occurred.

In an attempt to assist those involved in the democratic struggle, the Johannesburg branch of DPSC was mandated to prepare a simple guide to the security legislation in South Africa.

Long in preparation, this book is as necessary now when the 1981 crackdown took place. While a new constitution may today be on the statute books, South African police still have exceptional powers of detention; the majority of the population is still restricted to little more than 13% of the land; every black still has to carry an identity document or face arrest; migrant labour is even more strictly controlled as people wanting to work are limited by both the excesses of homeland governments such a seen in 1983 in the Ciskei and by the new proposals which are commonly called 'the Koornhof package'. In terms of that package access for the majority of South Africans to the urban industrial areas where work is available becomes far more difficult.

The new package does allow a limited form of local government to those allowed urban rights, but at the same time the full financial burden of running those townships will fall on the people who live in them. In this way, people are allocated and distributed according to the needs of the minority who control the state; in this way communities are divided by resettlement and demolitions;

in this way political anger is deflected from central government to homeland and local government personnel who have decided to use the limited power offered.

The people affected by these laws cannot stand idly by as this oppression continues. In response to the exploitation and oppression, organisation has become the key to resistance. Since the early 1970's, South Africa has witnessed a remergence of trade unions and community organisations as resistance spreads thoughout the country.

The state's reaction to the 1976 uprising and the subsequent deaths of many in detention, and in particular the death of Steve Biko, unleashed an enormous international and internal backlash. The Security Police and the legislation under which they operate were the major focus of this backlash. The governing National Party attempted to placate this opposition by the appointment of the Rabie Commission to investigate the security legislation. The Commission led only to a tightening up of security legislation and not much more.

Simply put, the undemocratic South African state cannot and will not, either under old or new security legislation or old or new constitutions, permit the majority of South Africans to elect their own leadership. To survive and maintain power it therefore must resort to detentions, and banning of meetings, people and organisations. Thus union organisers, church officials, community workers, students, black and white, are still being detained. Most of these people are released, some are put on trial, and even fewer are ever convicted, and tragically some do not survive that detention.

However, before examining those powers to detain, it is of the utmost importance to understand why the South African state uses those powers which to thousands of this country's citizens has meant a knock on the door at four in the morning followed by months of isolation in a police cell.

These detentions are but one example of the wide range of threats facing those in South Africa who find themselves opposed to the present Government. It is that Government's policies which necessitate detentions and imprisonment of political activists for its own survival.

The reasons for this can be explained simply. The South African Government has divided its people along racial lines — white, coloured, Indian and African. It has further divided the African community into ethnic groups. However, its major division has always been on a black/white basis. Thus whites have the vote to decide who shall rule the land — while blacks have been excluded from this process. This white elected government has then decided where blacks

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their opportunities in life ... the opportunities (for blacks) are manual labour'. Education' said, 'Education must train and teach people in accordance with Africans. Verwoerd, later to become Prime Minister, speaking on 'Bantu we have Christian National Education for whites and 'Bantu Education' for be taught and how many schools will be available to each ethnic group. Thus homelands. This white elected government has decided what education shall may live — either in homelands or in specially designated areas outside the

This racial division and discrimination in South African society is not a sim-

ple, senseless and racist policy. It has grown into a complicated and clever policy in terms of which the

Government can decide: . where people may live

where people can look for work.

very wealthy and powerful. In effect, this policy has enabled a small section of the population to become

work, and cannot go straight to the factory and get work. that a black worker wanting work has to go to a labour bureau to apply for allow them to be in an area, they can be arrested for being there. It has meant It has meant that every African has to carry a pass, and if the pass does not

can decide on how they should live, people have organised to resist the and oppression. As a result of a desire to live in a country where all the people Apartheid system with all its exploitation and oppression. The majority of South Africans cannot live happily with their exploitation

ment on a national level. Trade union tederations have been formed and conditions that are forced upon them have come together to resist the Governimprove the schooling they receive. Throughout the country those resisting the conditions. People in townships have organised community organisations to sion. In this struggle many have lost their lives - at Sharpeville more than 60 improve living conditions. Students have rebelled against inferior education to seriously injured. land with thousands being locked up and hundreds losing their lives or being In 1976 the student uprising started in Soweto and spread through the entire people were killed while thousands in South Africa were burning their passes. political parties have been formed to struggle against exploitation and oppres-Workers in factories have organised in trade unions to get better working

to recognise the right of unions to negotiate better working conditions for all These struggles have made certain gains. The Government has been forced

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workers. It has been forced to improve the education system and living condi-

struggle. It is calling this change 'reform'. future. The Government is now making certain changes in response to the But still all the people of South Africa do not have the right to decide their

Soweto, will have to raise money for electricity, water and other services by inparliament. 'Reform' is allowing Community Councils in townships to become creasing rents. elect members of parliament. However, whites remain in the majority in this fown and City Councils without adequate finance, so that Councils, like 'Reform' has meant a new constitution which allows coloureds and Indians to

These 'reforms' however, do not really change the lives of most South

parliamentary seats to coloured and Indian people who are willing to par-African's problems. It uses it to impress other nations; it uses it to offer ticipate in this system of sham reform. The Government thinks its reform programme is its answer to South

union organisers and members throughout the country. In 1981, following 'reform' in labour legislation, the Security Police detained

ned Saawu, the largest union in the area. It has detained union and community against opponents of the system. In the Ciskei the Sebe Government has bandetained and questioned about these activities by the Security Police. The the constitution and Koornhof Bills have been banned. People have been they participated in a bus bovcott. the football stadium at Mdantsane and methodically beat up people because leaders; it has allowed its followers and police to herd hundreds of people into homeland Governments put in power by Pretoria have also been very active banned; meetings of organisations like the United Democratic Front to oppose opposing reform. Publications arguing against the new constitution have been Now in 1984 they are showing the same reactions towards those organisations

jected to harassment, imprisonment or detention. munity leaders and members all active in a wide range of activities are thus subterrorists), union organisers and members, black and white democrats, com-Political activists (who the Government continually calls communists of

tions. They do this because apartheid and reform cannot succeed without detentions — so in struggling against detentions they are lighting apartheid For these reasons those opposed to apartheid also organise against deten-

The organisation against detentions has short-term goals and long-term goals. Ihe short-term goals accept that while apartheid rules South Africa, those detained must be supported — their detentions must be publicised, their rent must be paid, their organisations must continue, there must be proper medical and legal assistance to them whenever it is needed. The long-term goal is achieving a non-racial, free and democratic South Africa where there is no oppression and exploitation.

Until that day, many will face detention. It is to them, their families and organisations that this book is dedicated: may it aid a better understanding of the law that allows the police to act as they do.

Detainee Support Groups

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Detainee Support Groups exist to help people at times when people are detained or imprisoned under security laws: e.g. in the 1950's there was organised support for people on trial for Treason.

At the moment there are also Detainee Support Groups. These Support Groups started in September 1981. In September people working in communities, trade unions, and other democratic organisations were detained. The first detentions happened in Johannesburg. But soon detentions happened in other places like Cape Town, Durban, Port Elizabeth and East London.

As a result of these September detentions Detainee Support Committees were formed. Friends, family, workmates, and people from other sympathetic organisations joined detainee support committees. People started to see the importance of working together on detentions, the importance of collective action. Detainee support committees give personal support to parents and friends of detainees, and help these people to share information and to show united action in the face of detention.

Aims and Objectives

Detainee Support Committees have long term and short term plans or aims.

Long Term Aims

The long term aim is for people to form democratic, non-racial organisations. These are democratic organisations working towards a just and equal South Africa. An important long term demand is the ending of all present security laws.

Short Term Aims

The short term aims are:

a. to give personal support to families of detainees.

b. to take care of the everyday physical needs of detainees e.g. getting food parcels to detainees and taking care of detainees' business outside of prison.

c. to educate individual people and organisations on detentions e.g. on why detentions happen; on what 'rights' detainees have; on how to organise around detentions.

d. to make contact with other democratic organisations, and to get these organisations to take up the detention issue.

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 to do research and investigation on the physical, psychological and legal aspects of detention.

f. to educate the general public on detentions.

g. to keep careful watch on the authorities responsible for the detainees e.g. the security police, doctors and district surgeons.

Forming a Detainees Support Committee

The forming of detainees support committees differs from area to area. In some areas where people have problems of transport, meeting places and face greater harassment from security police it has taken longer to form committees. In areas where people do not face these problems committees have been formed quite soon after detentions occurred.

At the beginning committees may start with two or three parents, relatives, friends or sympathisers. This may be a small beginning, but it is a start to taking up problems collectively. Group action creates unity among parents, allows them to give moral support to each other, and share their ideas and skills.

This section that follows is on the function of detainees support committees. It is a set of guidelines on what committees can do; activities will obviously depend on the level of organisation in your area.

Forms of Committees

Detainees support committees mainly take two forms

1. A group of parents, friends and relatives.

Committees of organisational representatives e.g. community, student, church and trade union groups, and parents, friends, relatives and other concerned individuals.

Another type of support group that exists either as a sub-group of one of the above groups or independently is the care group. Care groups look after the needs of an individual detainee and ensure his/her general well-being.

Structure of Committees

It is important for a group to have some structure. The structure of the

detainces support committee must suit the needs of the local area. In some areas committees have office bearers e.g. chairperson and secretary. In other areas committees are organised in a more informal way with members sharing responsibilities. Most areas have regular meetings (at least once a week) with proper minutes being kept of discussions.

Functions of Detainees Support Committees

1. Material needs of Detainee

The detainee's many needs must be looked after. This includes

Providing food parcels, clothing, reading material and games.

 Ensuring that work of the detainee (e.g. organisational responsibilities) is continued.

Assisting the family if detainee is the breadwinner.

•Checking to see if the employer is prepared to continue paying the wages of the detainee to the family.

2 Rights of the Detainee

The detainees support group must know clearly what the detainee's rights are, and must make sure that these rights are enforced.

There are two major forms of detainees' rights.

I. Legal Rights

2. Rights or 'concessions' that have been won by the struggle of detainee support committees e.g. visits to detainees. Legal rights provide very basic safeguards for the detainee. But even these very basic rights are not properly met. Because of this constant pressure must be put on the authorities by the detainee and the detainee support committee to make sure that:

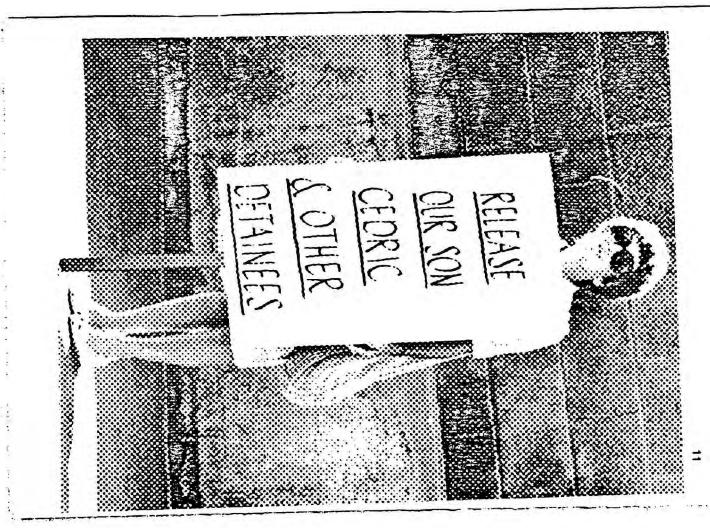
. Basic requirements are met.

More concessions are won.

It is also important for people who might be detained to know what their rights are.

Some of the legal rights are:

 Detainee must call a district surgeon if he/she is sick. Detainee must press for purents/relatives to be told of his/her health.



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- 2. Detainee's personal needs e.g. toiletries, bible must be catered for
- 3. A detainee is entitled to a balanced diet and he/she must monitor the food to make sure the food keeps him/her strong and healthy.
- 4. A detainee has a right to exercise and must make sure he/she exercises regularly.
- 5. A detainee's cell should be kept clean. If this does not happen detainees should apply pressure on the security police for this condition to be met.

Detainees should make hygiene part of their daily routine. This keeps the detainee occupied and helps him/her feel happier within him/herself.

There are also other 'rights'. (See legal section for a full discussion of legal rights.)

3. Legal and Medical Assistance

The detainee support committee must ensure that

- Each detainee has a lawyer.
- They build up contacts with lawyers and doctors in the area who can be contacted in the event of detentions.
- They have a good understanding of the legal position of detainees.

4. Education

Education is needed in the following forms

a. Education of committee members through talks, workships and discussion groups. Subjects for discussion could include security legislation and detainees' rights, health care of detainees, the psychological effects of solitary confinement, and more general subjects like trends of political trials.

Committee members should always be aware of ongoing developments around detentions and political trials, and each meeting should have a discussion on this.

b. Education programmes are needed for the many organisations which are affected by detentions. Detainees committees should make contact with these organisations to make them aware of the resources available.

c. Education of the general public is also important. One way of achieving this is through the media, i.e. newspapers, radio, magazines. (See section on publicity.) Other forms can be through public meetings (which can highlight particular detainee issues e.g. deaths in detention), detainees' newsletters, stickers, posters, pamphlets, cultural events e.g. plays, poetry readings. These can be used to highlight the plight of the detainees.

5. Publicity

One of the ways of raising the awareness of the public is to ensure that detentions issues are covered in the newspapers. Publicity is an important way of putting pressure on the government by showing up their undemocratic practices.

Detainees support committees should keep in mind the following points when thinking of ways to publicise the detentions issue.

- I. Good contact must be kept with journalists in the commercial press e.g. Sowetan, Rand Daily Mail, Star, and the alternate press e.g. Saspu National, the Eye, Grassroots.
- Committees should attempt to get a regular feature article or a column in the press. The DPSC has a regular two weekly column called 'Our View' in the Star.
- 3. Contact must be kept with international press to make sure that people overseas are aware of detentions in SA. Overseas organisations can be useful in applying pressure on the SA government on the detentions issue.
- 4. Publicity does not have to happen only through the commercial press. Other ways of informing people are
- producing pamphlets, posters or a newsletter regularly
- having mass meetings
- using Church, trade unions, student and community groups to raise the issue of detentions in their regular meetings.

6. Setting up of Specialist Sub-Committees

Specialist sub-committees can be established to research and investigate particular problems e.g. the legal aspects of detentions, health care and psychological effects of detention. This information is very useful when detainces support committees are building campaigns to focus on particular issues e.g. health care of detainces.

7. Material Care of Family

It is important to remember that detainees support committees are not charity organisations. They do not have funds to ensure that all detainees and their families are completely materially looked after.

There are some organisations e.g. Dependents Conference of the South African Council of Churches which give some help to the detainee's family You can contact their branch in your area to find out what assistance they can

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offer. Employers of detainees must also be contacted to find out whether they are prepared to continue paying the detainee's salary.

If detainee support committees want to fund raise they must study the Fund Raising Act. This law lays down certain conditions on how funds can be raised. Detainees support committees must make sure that they do not go against the Fund Raising Act. Any lawyer who helps the detainee support committee wil be able to inform the committee on what is in the law.

8. Security Police and Monitoring Their Activities

A major problem encountered with security police is that their treatment of parents differs from area to area, and in different communities. In some areas they didn't accept food parcels, and were not forthcoming with information on the detainee. Yet in other areas they accepted food parcels, clean clothes, and gave allowed visits to detainees. This unequal treatment leads to the intimidation of the parents, which in turn can lead to division among them. Thus it is very important for detainees support committees to take up problems collectively. Group action is an important way of handling the situation. It creates unity among parents, allows them to give moral support to each other; and emphasises the need for equal rights for all detainees, whatever their race.

Another aspect of monitoring the activities of the security police is for parents to share experiences on the treatment of detainees. When parents do this they find that detainees have common experiences. These experiences might show that security police do not always act within the law.

9. Visiting of Detainees

During visits to detainees by parents, relatives and friends should show strength and be able to assure the detainee that his/her interests are being looked after. Those people who make the visits must be strong in front of the detainee. A visitors timetable sometimes helps to organise visits so that many different people get to visit the detainee.

10. Release of Detainee

On release of a detainee, detainee support committees should

- I. Help the detainee get back into 'normal life'.
- See that he/she has a medical check up.
- 3. Follow through any legal action the detainee might want to take if he/she felt that any of the security laws were broken while he/she was in detention.



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- 4. Be informed of events that occured during detention. The committee or friends should keep a diary of major news and community events for the detainee.
- 5. Suggest the detainee has a holiday (if possible).

11. Awaiting Trial Prisoners

If a detainee is charged under security legislation he/she becomes an awaiting rial prisoner.

When a prisoner is awaiting trial, the detainees support committee should enure

•that the prisoner has a lawyer representing his/her interests

Othat a visitors' timetable is arranged since the prisoner is allowed more visitors

•that food is taken regularly

Othat the prisoner is given study material, books and anything else he/she is allowed.

(See Legal Section for more detail)

'Dont's' for Detainees Support Committees

Members of detainees support committees should not

especulate and spread rumours about why a person has been detained.

etake individual action. Always consult with your committee and friends.

• be afraid to confront the authorities.

ever lose hope. Discuss your fears, problems with your committee and learn to rely on and trust people.

complain to people outside the committee if you are unhappy with the workings of the committee. Constructive criticism of the committee will help to build your organisation.

•be intimidated by criticism of the committee. As long as you are clear of the aims and objectives of the committee, of your long term and short term goals and that you are working in a legal way, you should be able to answer any criticism of your committee.

Detentions and repression will continue for a long time. This will be as long as we have the present security laws. It will also continue for as long as we have a government which neither represents the people, nor has democratic practices.

Detainces support committees bring together many different types of people, all of whom believe in a democratic non-racial South Africa. Thus detainees support committees are a small way of working towards this society.

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Legal rights of detainees

1 INTRODUCTION

It is Wednesday night. 500 people are packed into the community hall to talk about the latest rent and bus fare increases. Most of them are members of the community in that area. There are also some people from outside the area. They have come to show solidarity with the people protesting against these new increases. There are also people from a neighbouring community who have come to talk about their own experiences and to tell how they protested against bus fare increases announced in their township four weeks ago.

The meeting is noisy and the people angry, but everyone who wants to speak gets a chance. By ten o'clock it has been decided to send a delegation to the authorities to protest the increases. The meeting also decides that the delegation must report back within ten days and that, if the authorities have not agreed to listen to the people's demands further action will be discussed.

I hese peaceful plans get disturbed during the next twenty-four hours as the

These peaceful plans get disturbed during the next twenty-four hours as the members of the elected delegation find themselves confronted by various forms of police action.

We will now see what type of action is taken against each individual and list his/her legal rights that arise in each situation.

2 ROADBLOCK

After the meeting, Zodwa and Sipho get into their car and drive home. On the way they are stopped at a police road-block. They are ordered by the police

to get out of the car and go to the tents so that the police can search them and the car.

What you can do about:

- a. The police stopping you
- (i) When you are ordered to stop you must stop.
- (ii) You can demand the name and I.D. cards of the police if they are not in uniform.
- (iii) If they are in uniform, you can ask for their name and number.

5. Search

The police are allowed to search your car and anything in it on any public road whenever they want to. But they are not allowed to search you personally unless

- (i) you agree to allow them to do so.
- (ii) the police have a search warrant which names you as the person they want to search, or
- (iii) they can only search you personally if the rules outlined on (page 25) apply.

The following rules apply for a search:

I. Body Search

All searches must be made with a strict regard for decency, e.g. A woman may only be searched by a woman. If there is no woman police official available, the police must choose any woman to do the search.

- 2. Car Search
- a. Must be carried out decently with no damage done to the car.
- b. You should try to be present at the car at the time of the search.
- 3. If anything is taken from you or the car you must ask for a receipt.

After the car search, the police tell them they can go home. I'hey go home, light the fire, make some coffee and go to bed.

3 ORDINARY ARREST

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Early in the morning, there is a loud knock on the door. Sipho goes to the door and asks who is there. A voice replies 'police'.

What can you do?

- You can demand identification, e.g. the names and numbers of the policemen should be taken down.
- 2. You can demand the reason for their visit.

The police tell Sipho that he is being arrested on a charge of public violence and that he must come with them to the police station.

This is known as an arrest under the Criminal Procedure Act and must not be confused with detention.

What can you do when the police arrest you under the Criminal Prodedure Act?

- 1. You can ask to see the warrant of arrest.
- a. A warrant of arrest looks like the form shown on the next page
- b. The following things must appear on the warrant of arrest:
- (i) The name of the person who is to be arrested.
- (ii) The alleged offence. The crime that the police are arresting you for.
- (iii) It must be signed by an authorised official.

If the warrant is in order then you must go with the police.

However, there are times when the police can arrest a person without a varrant.

For example:

- 1. If the police see the crime taking place.
- If the police suspect you of murder, armed robbery or other serious crimes, including some political offences.
- 3. If you do not give your name and address to the police.
- 4. If the police suspect you of a crime involving liquor, drugs or arms.

Remember if you are arrested with or without a warrant, the police must always tell you why you are being arrested. Once you are arrested you must be taken to a police station as soon as possible.

So Sipho was arrested and taken to the police station.

Early the next morning Zodwa tells the neighbours what happened and money is collected so that she can go and see a lawyer.

Meanwhile Sipho arrives at the police station and the police ask him his name, address and if he wants to make a statement. His fingerprints and

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photograph are taken.

What can you do as an arrested person at the police station?

- You must give your name and address
- 2. You do not have to make a statement. You should ask to see your lawyer before making a statement.
- 3. You do have to give your fingerprints, and allow a photograph of yourself to be taken.
- 4. You can ask to contact your lawyer this cannot be refused. This can be done either directly by phone or through family or friends or the Legal Aid officer. (See section on Legal Aid on page 61)
- public holidays must not be counted in the 48 hours) 5. You must appear in court within 48 hours of your arrest. (Weekends and

- as money, watch, belt. 6. You must be given a receipt for all things taken from you by the police, such
- 7. In certain circumstances you can ask the police for bail. (see page 60)

Your Rights on First Court Appearance

Sipho comes to court within 36 hours of his arrest

What are your rights at court?

- magistrate you want to see a lawyer. 1. You do not have to make any statement or plead guilty or not guilty. Tell the
- see page 61.) 2. You are entitled to have your lawyer represent you. (If you need Legal Aid,

3. You can apply for bail. (See section on bail on page 60).

The magistrate gives Sipho bail of R500.00 and warns him to be in court on A certain date for his trial.

We will see later what happens to Sipho at his trial. Bail is paid to the clerk of the court Sipho goes home.

Thetere whichever is not applicable

*Magistrate sasties of the Pewe	Description of accused:
	of
You are bereity directed to arrest "him.her and to bring "him her before a lower sourt in accordance with the provisions of section. St of the Criminal Procedure Act. 1977 (Act. 51 of 1977). Given under my hand, At	You are hereby directed to arrest "hir provisions of section 50 of the Criminal Pr
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4 DETENTION

Section 28 Detention

on the kettle, have tea, listen to the news and go to bed Dan and Jill leave the meeting, walk to the station, take the train home, put

sees 3 men in plain clothes. Later that evening the doorbell rings. Jill goes to the door and opens it. She

'I'm Captain Straw of the security police. Are you Jill Dobbs?' he asks

'Yes, I am,' she says. 'Is Dan here?"

'I suppose so.' 'Can we come in?'

detention in terms of Section 28 of the Internal Security Act.' They walk in and Captain Straw says, 'Jill Dobbs, I have a notice for your

What can you do when told that you are being detained under Section 28?

- 1. You can ask to see the policeman's identification.
- 2. You can ask to see the notice authorizing the detention.
- 3. The notice must be signed by the Minister of Law and Order. The notice must include a statement written by the Minister setting out the reasons for the
- 4. It is also possible for a person to be detained under Section 28 without a sary notice. notice of detention. In this case you can only be arrested by a police officer. The officer must then within seven days present you with a copy of the neces-
- with you. (The police don't have to allow this). 5. You can ask to go and pack a bag with toiletries and clean clothing to take
- 6. You must then go with the police to a prison.

a danger to the security of the South African state. Section 28 allows for Jill to be detained because the Minister thinks that she is

The security police then take Jill to prison.

Section 50 Detention

50 of the Internal Security Act.' Captain Straw then turns to Dan and says, 'I am detaining you under Section

What can you do when faced with a Section 50 detention?

- I. You can ask for the police officer's identification.
- You can ask if you can pack a bag of toiletries and clothing to take with you

warrant officer or a more senior policeman to arrest a person without a warrant if s/he thinks that that person may be a danger to peace and security Dan must then go with Captain Straw. He will find out that Section 50 allows a

The police take him to the local police cells.

Section 50. We will come back to both of them later to see what their rights are and what is going to happen to them. We will leave Jill in prison under Section 28 and Dan in the police cells under

Search and Seizure

police call at another house. Dan and Jill have just been detained. Early the next morning the security

had earlier returned from the same meeting. They knock at the door of a house in which 12 people live. Three of the 12

as Major Brakpan, and he shouts for Klaas, Ishmael and Thandi Ishmael opens the door and five security police enter. One identifies himself

Major Brakpan says, 'We are going to search the house.

- What can you co about a search?
- 2. If the police do not have a valid warrant then you must ask why they wish to 1. You can ask to see the search warrant.

opposite page. It must be properly filled in and contain: require a search warrant. A search warrant is like the document shown on the The reason for this is that the law states that for police to search they generally

- The address of the place to be searched.
- 2) What the police are looking for, and
- 3) Must be signed by a magistrate.

If you have been shown a search warrant which has been correctly filled in

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then you must let the police search your home.

The police however, do not always need a search warrant.

The police can search without a warrant if:

I. You agree to the search.

2. If the police believe that a crime has been or may be committed and that (a) A Magistrate would have given them a search warrant (b) but that the delay in getting the search warrant would defeat the aim of the search.

 If they believe that illegal arms, ammunition or drugs may be found on the property.

4. The police may search anybody they have arrested.

Major Brakpan says that they have no search warrant. They do believe that a crime has been committed.

He sends men to search the rooms. They search the house from top to botom.

What can you do?

I. NOTHING - except:

(i) try to watch what is taking place:

(ii) try to watch what things are being taken and — that the search is being carried out in a proper manner;

(iii) take note of any damage caused.

The police collect books, newspapers and pamphlets. They take them to Major Brakpain in the lounge. He says that he is going to take all of these documents to the police station.

What can you do about the things the police have taken?

 You can ask that the documents be listed on a receipt and that you be given a copy of that receipt.

The law allows the police to take:

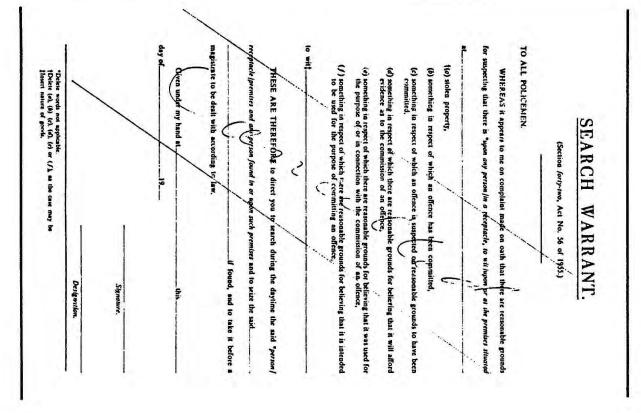
1. Anything listed in the search warrant.

2. Anything that they think is connected to any crime or possible crime.

they write out the receipt and give it to Ishmael. The police take the documents to their car.

Section 29 Detention

Major Brakpan then tells Klaas and I handi that they must come with him



They ask why. He tells them they are being detained under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act.

What can you do when faced with Section 29 detention?

- 1. You should ask who has ordered the detention.
- A Section 29 detention must be ordered by a policeman of or above the rank of lieutenant-colonel.
- 3. Once you are told that you are being detained in terms of Section 29 you have no choice but to go with the police.
- As soon as possible after your detention you should be told the reasons for your detention.

5. As soon as possible after your detention the police must make arrangements for you to see a District Surgeon. If the police do not arrange for you to see the District Surgeon, you must ask to see the District Surgeon.

Ishmael overhears Major Brakpan telling Klaas and Thandi he is detaining them. Ishmael goes to the kitchen and makes some coffee. He takes it into Klaas and Thandi, Major Brakpan allows them to pack a case with toiletries and some clothes. Security Police watch them closely. Thandi manages to tell Ishmael that he must contact her parents and a lawyer. Klaas also tells him to see that some money is put into his bank account.

Thandi and Klaas know that messages are very important because they know hat:

Section 29 means that any policeman on orders from a senior police officer of or above the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel can detain you without a warrant so that you can be interrogated. This detention has no time-limit to it and people can be detained for any length of time. The law states that the police can detain you for interrogation under Section 29 if they believe you are involved in, or know about, crimes relating to state security (e.g. sabotage, terrorism, subversion). Your release will depend entirely on a decision by the Security Police, the Minister of Law and Order, or the Commissioner of Police. You will not be allowed to see anyone except persons approved of by the law and the Security Police, for example Magistrates, the Inspector of Detainees, the District Surgeon, and police officials.

The police put handcuffs and leg-irons on Klaas and Thandi. The police take them to the policecar and drive away.

What can you do when handcuffed?

- I. You can complain about the handcuss and leg-irons and tell the police it is unnecessary, because you will not run away.
- 2. But the police can leave the leg-irons and handcuffs on, if they want. Klaas' parents are terribly shocked and cannot believe that their son has been detained. They phone the police station to ask about Klaas' detention. The Security Police tell them that if they want information about their son they must use the proper channels.

What must parents do to find out about a detention?

- 1. They can contact a lawyer to get more information about the detention; or
- 2. They can contact the Security Police Headquarters in Pretoria themselves.
- The Security Police Headquarters will only give them information if they have the following details:
- (a) the detainee's full name; and
- (b) date of birth; and
- (c) address.

It is now only 48 hours since the meeting. Sipho is back at home, released on bail and waiting for his trial. Jill has been taken to a prison and is being held under Section 28. Dan is being held in a police cell under Section 50. Klaas and Thandi have not been seen since their detention. They are being held somewhere under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act. Their friends have gathered and formed support groups. The support groups pay the detainee's rent. They send them that clean clothing and food. They tell the press about the detentions. These friends know they can form support groups. It is not against the law. These groups help people in detention by making sure that their friends and the public do not forget them.

Imprisonment

The detainees are now being held in different places under different sections of the Internal Security Act. Each of the detainees has different rights depending on which section they are being held under. We will investigate each of them separately.

Rights of Section 50 Detainee

Dan was detained under Section 50 of the Internal Security Act and taken to

the local prison where he was locked up in a cell. (Dan must be treated in the same way as an awaiting trial prisoner.)

What are your rights under Section 50?

- 1. You can demand to see your lawyer and must be allowed to see him/her.
- You can receive visitors, reading material and food from friends. You can also buy these things. The prison or police officials will decide the time when you can receive or buy goods. The prison or police officials may not refuse you these things. If they do, speak to your lawyer.
- The police must release you within 48 hours of your detention. The police can get a warrant from a magistrate if they want to keep you for longer than 48 hours.
- 4. If the police do not release you within 48 hours, you can demand to see the warrant for your further detention. This warrant is only valid if it is signed by a magistrate.
- If this Section 50 warrant is signed by a magistrate, you can be held for 14 days counted from the first day of your detention.
- You can write letters and receive letters.
- You must be allowed time to exercise every day.
- 8. You may demand to see a doctor or dentist whenever you want to
- 9. You can be held alone.

Anyone detained in terms of Section 50 of the Internal Security Act cannot be held for more than 14 days from the time of his/her detention. The law allows the police to carry out this detention when a policeman of warrant officer rank or above thinks that the detention of that person will help the state in preventing unrest, public disorder, riot or violence.

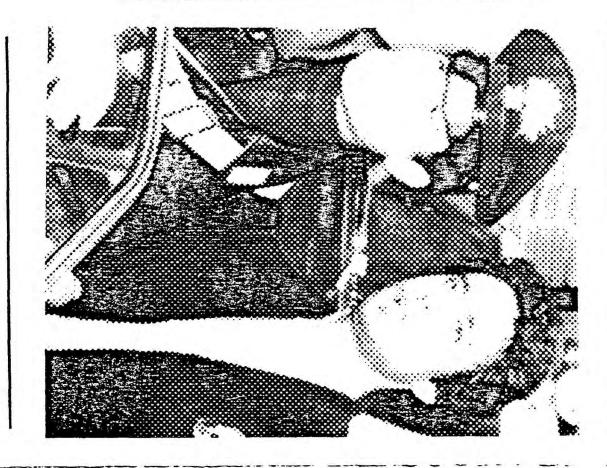
After 48 hours Dan is shown a warrant from a magistrate. The magistrate states he is satisfied that Dan's detention is necessary to prevent unrest. Dan is held for another 10 days. In this time his friends visit him, he receives letters of support. After 12 days in the police cells he is told he can go home.

Rights of a Section 28 Detainee

Jill was taken to a prison 150 kilometres from her home. There she is again told that she is being held in terms of Section 28 of the Internal Security Act.

What are your rights under Section 28?

1. If you have not been served with a notice for your detention, you can de-



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mand to see it. It must be shown to you within 7 days from the day on which

- own money. You can also ask for games, cards and study materials. your detention. You can request that these things be brought for you with your 3. You are entitled to books, newspapers, food and clothing at all times during tion. You can only make this demand during the first 14 days of your detention. Minister about your detention and the reasons which he gave for your detenlawyer. You are allowed to see your lawyer ONLY to discuss writing to the 2. Within 14 days of receiving the notice you should demand to see your
- 4. Except for the visit from your lawyer (as described in (2) above,) you are only allowed to see:-
- Other people may apply for permission to see you. and people allowed by the Minister or Commissioner of Police to see you. (i) the police and police officials; (ii) the Minister or Director of Law and Order; (iii) a Supreme Court judge; (iv) the Chairman of the Review Board; (v)
- about your detention. 5. No-one other than those mentioned in (4) above is allowed to information
- 6. You can ask to receive money from the Minister while you are being detained.
- will depend on the Minister's rules, but you can: 7. It is difficult to state what other rights you still have because most of these
- (i) demand a Bible and other reading matter;
- (ii) demand medical and dental treatment;
- (iii) request to see the prison minister of religion;
- (iv) receive or buy reading and writing material and food
- 8. You do not have to answer any questions put to you while under Section 28.
- 9. You do not have to sign any documents which you do not want to.
- 10. You will be held separate from other prisoners.
- 11. You can be searched on arrival at the prison and any time while being held.
- 12. You can be moved from prison to prison whenever the Minister decides to

Board of Review

details of your detention to a special Board of Review. He also sends any written representations you make within the first fourteen days of your detention. After the Minister of Law and Order has ordered your detention he sends The Board of Review is set up by the Minister of Justice. It has three

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members.

of Law and Order. It can ask for your release or a change in your order. This Board will investigate your case, and then send a report to the Minister

The Minister must then tell you what the Board's findings and recomenda

But the Minister does not have to accept the recommendations of the Board.

What can the Board of Review do?

- Board to listen to anyone who might have information. (i) It can call for information from any person. You or anyone can ask the
- (ii) The Board can hold its meetings anywhere it wants to
- questions they can be sentenced up to a fine of R500 and/or 6 months in prison. If you refuse to give evidence at the review, you are then entitled to a lawyer (iii) The Board can ORDER people to give evidence in front of it. These peofrom the minute you refuse. ple cannot be represented by a lawyer. If they refuse to give evidence or answer
- (iv) The Board meets in secret.
- (v) The Board does not have to show you the information it has about you

What can you or your lawyer do?

- (i) You can also ask the Board (in writing) if you can speak to them yourself (ii) Only persons given permission by the Board can see any of the records of
- What can you do about the Board of Review?
- (i) You do not have to use the Board of Review.
- (iii) Whether or not you want to appear in front of the Board you should (ii) If you decide to use it, you should work with your lawyer.
- a. Ask to see the statements and evidence against you
- b. Ask for your lawyer to be present
- c. Ask to be present whenever anyone gives evidence to the Board
- d. Ask the Board to allow your lawyer to question the people who have given evidence against you.

The Board may refuse you permission to do any of these things

detention, you can demand another Board of Review by writing to the Minister e. If 6 months after the outcome of the Review Board's decision you are still in

of Law and Order.

a. the Chairman of the Board of Review had decided it was not 'in the public received a letter from the Minister's office in which she was told that:attend the Board of Review and to give evidence herself. Five weeks later she Minister's reasons for her detention were all wrong. In the letter she asked to wrote to the Minister demanding her release and pointed out that the interest' to listen to her; and Jill saw her lawyer six days after the warrant was served on her. Together they

b. the Board of Review saw no reason to question the decision of the Minister

months. During this time she only saw her lawyer at the beginning of her detentions. She told them that she was not willing to answer any questions from tion, and prison and police officials and a minister of religion. them, and did not have to. After that the Security Police left her alone for S One day the Security Police came to Jill and asked her to answer some ques

could pack her bags and go home. By lunchlime she was back at home. That same afternoon she went to see her lawyer. She also had a medical checkup. Suddenly after 165 days in the prison, she was told one morning that she

Rights of a Section 29 Detaines

They were immediately taken to separate rooms. Klaas and Thandi were driven to the local security branch headquarters,

survive this detention. Both of them were nervous, but they also knew that with courage they would

questions to their satisfaction. Klaas was told that he would remain under Section 29 until he answered all

What are your rights under Section 29?

- 1. A person held under Section 29 sees no-one except the police or officials of
- I'he police in terms of law must allow a detainee the following:—
- (i) to write to the Minister of Law and Order about their detention.
- are sick or injured you must demand to see the District Surgeon immediately. (ii) to see the District Surgeon in private at least once every two weeks. If you (iii) to see a magistrate in private at least once every two weeks.
- Therefore a Section 29 detainee may see no-one except:-
- (i) the police;

. . .

- (ii) the Minister of Law and Order;
- (iii) the District Surgeon at least every two weeks;
- (iv) the Magistrate at least every two weeks;
- (v) the Inspector of Detainees;
- (vi) a minister of religion.
- detainee can be visited by his/her lawyer or family. 4. Other people can only see the detainee if the Minister of Law and Order or the Commissioner of Police allows them to. This is the only way a Section 29
- 5. The police must keep a written record of:
- (i) Any visits to you
- (ii) Any requests or complaints made by you
- (iii) What they have done about your requests or complaints.
- another doctor. If you are told that the District Surgeon is busy you must demand to see 6. Whenever you are ill or injured you can demand to see the District Surgeon.
- minister, but they must allow you to see one. 7. You can demand to see a minister of religion. The police will choose the
- 8. Whether you receive anything else (e.g. food, books, visitors or your release) will depend entirely on the police.

often interrogated for long periods. Klaas and Thandi are kept in solitary confinement in their cells. They are

Section 29 Visitors

can or must see. Klaas and Thandi would like to see other people but are not certain who they

Who must visit detainees?

- two weeks. 1. A magistrate must visit a Section 29 detainee in private at least once every
- 2. A district surgeon must visit a Section 29 detainee in private at least once every two weeks.
- possible. He must bring an interpreter if needed. 3. The Inspector of Detainees must visit every detainee in private as often as

made no statement. She decides to complain about her treatment she received sent to the Attorney General for a decision if Klaas will be charged. Thandi has during interrogation. Seven weeks go by. Klaas has made a statement. He is told that it has been

Four days later Major Brakpan tells her she is being moved to a prison on the orders of the Attorney-General. He tells her she is now a Section 31 detained under the Internal Security Act.

Rights of Section 31 Detainee

Thandi is moved to a police station cell. She is kept in solitary confinement.

What are your rights under Section 31?

- 1. You can demand to see the Attorney-General's warrant of detention.
- If a proper warrant of detention is shown to you, you have to be taken as soon as possible to the place named in the warrant.
- 3. You can see no person other than officials of the State, unless the Attorney-General allows them to see you.
- 4. You must be visited by:-
- (i) a magistrate once every two weeks in private;
- (ii) a district surgeon once every two weeks in private.
- You can be held until the Attorney-General orders your release but not for longer than:-
- (i) the end of the trial in which you are supposed to give evidence; or
- (iii) six months, if no charge sheet for that trial is issued.

Section 31 means that anyone can be detained at a place named by the Attorney-General if the Attorney-General thinks that the person may give evidence for the state and that his/her detention is in the interests of justice.

- 6. You must be allowed daily exercise.
- You must be allowed to see the District Surgeon, and receive dental treatment when necessary.
- 8. The Attorney General will decide if you can receive anything else.

Thandi is moved to the prison, and put into a cell on her own. For the next five days sees no-one except for the warder who brings her food.

On the sixth day a man comes to Thandi and says that he is from the Attorney-General's office. He says, 'I know you made no statement under Section 29. Will you now make a statement?' Thandi is a bit confused now and asks to see her lawyer.

What visitors can a Section 31 detainee get?

I. You may only see your lawyer if the Attorney-General lets you. A Security

Policeman will be present during the meeting with the lawyer

- You may see your family and friends if the Attorney-General allows them to visit.
- 3. The other people you will see are
- (i) prison and police officials;
- (ii) people from the Attorney-General's office;
- (iii) the district surgeon at least once every two weeks in private
- (iv) a magistrate at least once every two weeks in private.

Thandi is given permission by the Attorney-General to see her lawyer.

The lawyer explains her rights to her. She then decides not to make a statement. Thandi is then told that the Attorney-General has decided to call her as a witness in the trial against Klaas. She is also told she will be held in detention until the trial.

How to make a complaint while in detention

- I. All complaints made by detainees should be written down in the Complaints Book and investigated. This written record may be very important after you are released, because it can be used in court.
- 2. If you feel you are not being properly treated you should complain to every person who visits you, including the Inspector of Detainees, the doctor or minister. You should ask for and remember the names of all these people.
- You should ask to see where the complaint is written down and ask for a pen and paper so you can keep a record of your complaint. The police do not have to let you keep your own record.
- 4. All complaints made by detainees must be investigated. You should ask the people you have complained to how the investigation is going. If you feel that nothing is being done, you must make another complaint and try to make sure it is also recorded.

5 STATEMENTS AND CONFESSIONS

Statements to people other than the police

Anything you say or write or do can be used in evidence against youself.
 However, you can still state afterwards that what you said or are alleged to have said or written is not true.

(ii) Anything you say or write cannot be used against other persons unless you yourself give evidence as to what you said or wrote. Only you are allowed to tell the court what you yourself said unless you are the accused person (see (i) above).

Statements to the police

No-one is ever obliged to make a statement to the police or to a magistrate unless s/he is subpoenaed.

In order to stop people being easily found guilty only on their verbal confessions to people like the police who have authority and control over them, the Law sets out conditions that must be met before statements made to such people can be 'admissable' (used as evidence).

Statements made to the police which are to be used against other people

A statement made by yourself cannot be used against another person in a trial unless you give evidence.

Even if the statement has been signed and sworn to by yourself it can not be

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handed in as any kind of evidence against another person. You have to give evidence at the trial by speaking from the witness box.

However should you tell a story different from that contained in a statement which you have sworn to, you may be called a liar by the prosecutor. You may also be convicted of perjury either for swearing to a false statement, or for telling lies under oath in the court. But still the statement cannot be used on its own as evidence against the accused. It can only be used to show that you may not have told the truth when you have changed you evidence. This is why prosecuters like to have a sworn statement before they call a witness. It is up to you then to explain why there is a difference between the statement and your evidence, ie fear or pressure etc.

Unsworn Statement

If you do not sign on oath to the truth of your statement then if you change it in court you cannot be convicted of perjury.

Statements made to the police which are to be used against the person making the statement

I. The Law draws a small difference between those statements that are full confessions (admits to the crime) and those that are damaging admissions (admits some parts of the crime charged). In both cases the statement must be made freely and voluntarily without any undue pressure, threats or promises. It is important to remember that in the case of a confession to the police, it is not admissable unless it is put in writing and sworn to by the maker in front of a commissioner of oaths.

Here we will concentrate on confessions. There are two separate questions that a court will decide. The first is whether the confession is admissable (if it may be read out in court as evidence). The second is whether what it contains is true. It is also possible for a confession to be admissable and untrue.

2. A confession can only be used in evidence against you if it was made freely and voluntarily. If a confession is made because of fear, or because of a promise of better treatment, or because of any kind of assault including shouting and being forced to stand to answer questions for long periods of time then the confession is inadmissable and nothing contained in it can be used against you or even put in the court record. This is the case even if the confession is inadmissable and nothing contained in it can be used against you or even put in the court record. This is the case even if the confession is inadmissable and nothing contained in it can be used against you or even put in the court record. This is the case even if the confession is inadmissable and nothing contained in it can be used against you or even put in the court record.

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sion is quite clearly a truthful confession.

3. In order to help ensure that a confession is voluntarily made the law states that a confession must be in writing and sworn to in private in front of a magistrate or a police officer above the rank of sergeant. The magistrate or the police officer must be independent from the investigating officers. The courts will not accept a confession if there is even a trace of a link between the interrogating team and the person who takes your oath, e.g. the use of a tape recorder by the magistrate so that he can hand the tape back to the police has been rejected by the courts. Oral confessions to the police will also not be admissable.

- 4. The magistrate or police officer should and must, before you make a confession to them:
- (i) ask if you have been assaulted or have suffered any injuries;
- (ii) ask if you have been forced to make the confession by promises or threats or any other reason;
- (iii) ask if you wish to make the confession of your own free will. If you say that you do want to make a confession then they must ask you why you want to make it.
- (iv) write down only what you say;
- (v) only ask questions to clear up any misunderstanding about your confession;
- (vi) not draw any conclusion from what you tell him/her;
- (vii) not record or threaten to report what you say to the police in charge of your case;
- (viii) when you make the confession, only the person who is writing it down and you may be present. An interpreter can however also be present.
- 5. Who proves the statement is admissable?

You will remember that you make a confession to either a police officer or a magistrate. If you make your confession to a magistrate, the court will presume that it was made freely and voluntarily. You may still prove that you made it out of pressure, fear, etc, but this is difficult particularly where you have told the magistrate that you are making the confession freely.

If on the other hand you sign and swear to the confession in front of a police officer the court will not presume it was made freely. The state will have to prove this unless you are prepared to admit that it was made voluntarily.

Effect of the Confession

1. Once you have made a confession it may be used against you whether you

give evidence at your trial or not.

- I'he confession can only be used against yourself and not against anyone else.
- 3. Once the confession is handed in as evidence you may challenge its admissability, e.g. by showing that it was made as a result of pressure of some kind. I his question of 'admissability' is called a 'trial within a trial,' when the conditions under which the confession was made, will be investigated. It is not a test of the truthfulness of the confession.
- 4. Once the confession has been accepted as admissable you may still prove that it is untrue, e.g. by giving evidence to show that you could not have done what you have confessed to have done.
- A confession by itself is not enough to convict a person. There must be at least further evidence about the crime e.g. that a march actually took place or that damage was actually done.

Pointing out

- 1. The exception to the above rules relating to confessions occurs when an accused person points out something. In such a case ie where an accused points out where pamphlets are buried in the ground the evidence that the accused took the police to the place is admissable against the accused even if he does this after pressure, assault or intimidation.
- 2. Only the 'pointing out' is admissable, anything the accused said at the time is not necessarily admissable. Evidence that you pointed something out can be stated by any witness. It need not be reduced to writing.

5 THE TRIALS

Rights on first court appearance

Klaas' statement is sent to the Attorney-General's office. Once he made his statement he was left alone by the Security Police. The Security Police brought him books to read which he recognised as books sent by his friends. After 10 weeks under Section 29 detention the police, at 7.00 am one morning, told him he was going to court.

He was taken to court and brought before a magistrate. The prosecutor read him the charge and asked him, 'Do you plead guilty or not guilty?'

What can you do now?

I he magistrate should ask you whether you have a lawyer or whether you want a lawyer.

You should always tell the magistrate you want to see your lawyer to prepare
your defence even if the magistrate does not ask you.
 Once you are brought to court you do not have to say you are guilty or not

guilty. You also do not have to make a statement.

4. When the magistrate allows you to contact your lawyer, you must do so immediately.

The magistrate orders that Klaas be allowed to contact his lawyer. The lawyer arrives at the court. The lawyer has told Klaas' family that he is in court and for the first time in several months Klaus is re-united with his friends.

What happens at the first court hearing?

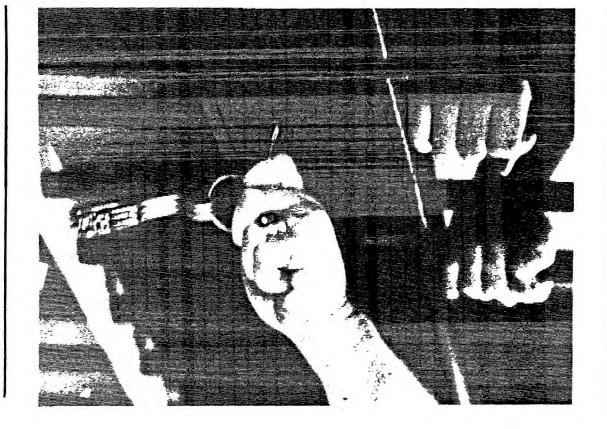
 I he first court hearing for people who have been in detention is often very confusing.

2. It is the first time they may see their friends, lawyers and people other than police in a long time.

 Several things can happen at the first court appearance, but before it starts you must always demand to see your lawyer.

4. The State might have a charge-sheet at the first hearing.

5. You may be asked to plead 'guilty or not guilty' at this first appearance



Before you do so demand to see your lawyer. This is your right.

- 6. If you do plead not guilty then the magistrate can ask you if you wish to say anything about your defence. Remember to make no statements or comments on the charges without having seen your lawyer. Remember that anything you say may be used against you.
- 7. The other important matter that is often discussed at the first hearing is bail.
- How you get bail is discussed in the section at the end of this book. (See page 60.)
- 9. Often in security trials the Attorney-General produces a certificate in which he says the accused cannot get bail. If the prosecutor produces one of these certificates or says the Attorney-General has issued one, then you cannot get bail.
- 10. If the prosecutor does not have a certificate, you can apply for bail.
- 11. Remember that once you are brought to court no one can stop you from contacting, seeing and speaking to a lawyer. This is an absolute right and you must demand it from the magistrate.

How to instruct a Lawyer

- Everyone charged in court may get a lawyer to defend him/her.
- I his is not as easy as it sounds but when you want a lawyer to defend you, you must first choose which lawyer you want. If you decide not to get a lawyer, you can defend yourself.
- 3. If you can, you should go to the lawyer's offices. However, if you are in gaol, you can ask your family or friends to go to the lawyer. Otherwise you can ask the prison authorities to phone the lawyer, and to ask him/her to come see you.

 4. The lawyer will ask you about the events which are in your charge-sheet.
- 5. The lawyer should tell you what choices the law allows for your defence and your chances. You must then tell the lawyer what you want done.
- 6. Sometimes the lawyer has to get an advocate for you. You always have to have an advocate for trials in the Supreme Court, and sometimes one uses an advocate in trials in the Magistrates' Court.
- 7. Some lawyers may ask you to give them a deposit before they will help you.8. You should discuss with your lawyer how much the whole case will cost. (See Legal Aid Section at (page 60).
- 9. It is important to be open and honest with your attorney
- Khas is refused bail. He is taken to the nearby prison. He is now an awaiting rial prisoner.

What are your rights as an awaiting-trial prisoner?

- I. You can be held together with or separated from other prisoners.
- You may receive or buy stationary and reading material with your own money.
- 3. You can ask to see a doctor or dentist
- 4. You can demand to see your lawyer.
- You are allowed to receive visitors. The prison authorities will decide when and for how long.
- You must be allowed to write and receive letters, but prison authorities may censor them.
- 7. You are allowed to receive food and clothing
- 8. You are allowed regular exercise for an hour every day

These are your rights and can only be taken away as a punishment for breaking prison regulations.

Rights when called in to see Police

Meanwhile all has not been quiet at Klaas and Thandi's home. Two weeks after the night when Klaas and Thandi were detained, Ishmael arrived home to find a note waiting for him. The note said he must come see Major Brakpan at Security Police offices at 10 o'clock the next morning. Ishmael was not certain what he should do. When he got to work the next morning, he was called to the phone. A security policeman said, 'I am phoning to remind you that Major Brakpan is expecting you at 10 o'clock today.'

There is no law which states that you must go to the police station when called in this way.

What can you do when the police call you to the police station?

- 1. If you are phoned:
- a. Iry to find out from the person calling you:-
- (i) His/her name, rank, force number;
- (ii) Where s/he is phoning from and the section of the police s/he is working for; (iii) I he reason why they want you to come in and see them. Ask why it cannot
- (iv) Anything else you think you need to know.

be discussed over the phone;

2. If you receive a note:

- a. You can decide to ignore it.
- b. You can telephone the police and try to get more information from them. If you do this then try to get the same information mentioned above. Once you have got as much information as possible you can discuss it with your family. Iriends and lawyer.

If you decide to go to the police station

- 1. You should ask a lawyer or a friend to go with you.
- 2. Take a small bag of toiletries and whatever you think you might need if they decide not to let you leave.
- 3. Ask them what they want you for.
- 4. a. If they say they are arresting you then see page 21 for rights under arrest.

b. If they say they are detaining you:-

(i) Ask under what section and then see:-

Section 28 rights on page 24

Section 29 rights on page 34 Section 31 rights on page 36

Section 50 rights on page 25

c. If they say they just want to ask you questions then:-

(i) You do not have to stay as they have to either arrest or detain you if they want you to stay. So you do not have to answer any questions or make a statement.

The policeman will not tell Ishmael why Major Brakpan wants to see him and Ishmael decides not to go to the police station.

Section 205 Subpoena

the following day Ishmael's wife, Carol, is visited at home and is given a subpoena. This is a form which looks like the one on the opposite page. It orders Carol to present herself at court on Thursday morning to answer questions. Certain questions are listed on the form. This is called a Section 205 subpoena.

A Section 205 Subpoena is another method used by the police to collect information. The Subpoena will order you to go to court on a certain day to answer questions or bring documents. These documents must be described on the Subpoena. It will state that instead of going to court you can write a statement and

send it to the police. It also warns you that if you fail to come to court you can be sent to gaol.

A Subpoena will normally be delivered to you personally, however if you are not there, anyone over sixteen at your house or work can receive it; or it can be attached to the door of your house.

The Subpoena must give reasonable time to appear in court.

What can you do when you receive a Section 205 Subpoena?

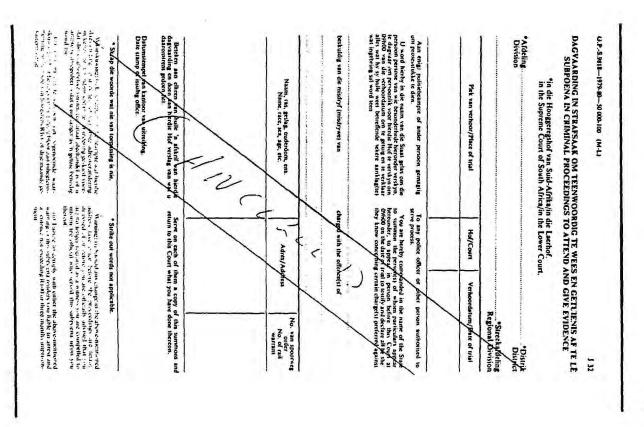
- I. You should check if the subpoena is correctly filled in.
- 2. You should go and see a lawyer about it.
- After discussing it with the lawyer you can decide whether you will send a statement or go to court.
- 4. If you decide to send a statement, be certain it gets to the police in good time before the court date.
- 5. Once you have sent the statement the police will decide if you must still come to court or not.
- Even if you have written the statement asked for in the subpoena, the police may still tell you that you must come to court. If this happens then you will have to go to court.
- If you disobey the subpoena, then you can be arrested and found guilty (convicted).
- 8. Once you have received a subpoena you must keep the court informed of any change of your address or telephone number.

Carol reads through the subpoena. She then goes to her lawyer for advice. After discussion they decide that they will send the prosecutor a statement, rather than attend court. They draw up the statement and Carol signs it. The lawyer then sends it to the prosecutor.

The attorney waits two days and then phones the prosecutor. After the phone call her attorney tells Carol that she no longer has to attend the Section 205 hearing.

What happens at a Section 205 Hearing?

- You should take your attorney to the hearing, but he may not be allowed to attend.
- 2. You will be asked to take the oath to tell the truth.
- the prosecutor can ask you the questions listed on the subpoena or any questions that relate to the issues raised in the subpoena.



5

You can only refuse to answer the questions under certain conditions:—
 If the evidence you are being asked to give is to be against your husband or wife you can refuse to answer.

(ii) If the evidence could result in your being convicted of a crime you can refuse to answer. When this happens the prosecutor must warn you that your answers could involve you in a crime. Once the prosecutor has done this, then the magistrate will tell you that if you answer the questions 'honestly and fairly' you will not be charged. This is known as an 'indemnity against prosecution'. If the magistrate offers you this indemnity you cannot refuse to answer the questions.

(6) If you do refuse to do any of the things mentioned in no. 4 above, and if your lawyer is not present, you must demand to see your lawyer before the magistrate or prosecutor continues the hearing. Once you have refused to answer anything, they cannot refuse you your right to have your lawyer represent you.

Another three days pass and Carol is again visited by the Security Police. They

Another three days pass and Carol is again visited by the Security Police. They serve a new subpoena on her like the one on the opposite page. In it she is ordered to be at the Supreme Court for Klaas's trial to appear as a witness.

Remands

Khaas appears in the magistrates' court for two remands. At the second appearance he is given the charge sheet and is told that the trial is to be held in the Supreme Court the following month.

What does all this mean?

1. You can appear in court several times for a remand appearance

I his is merely an appearance in court for the purpose of postponing the case

3. There may be several reasons for all those remands. Some of them are:-

(i) the State may not yet have prepared its case;

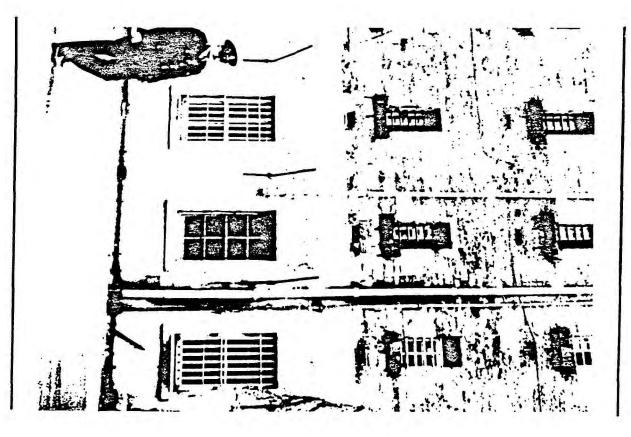
(ii) the Defence may not have had time to prepare;

(iii) the police are still busy with investigations;

(iv) the court is waiting to transfer you to another court.

4. At one of the remand appearances you should be given a charge-sheet.

5. In the charge sheet the State must describe what you are being charged with the charge sheet must give you enough details to enable you to prepare your



it does not have to name all the possible witnesses defence. It may also name the persons who will give evidence against you, but

- 6. Once the accused has received the charge-sheet, a trial date will be set.
- 7. The trial can take place in one of three different types of courts. The court in
- 8. The three types of courts are:-

which it will take place will depend on the type of charges.

- (i) Supreme Court where a judge decides the case;
- (ii) Regional Court where a magistrate decides the case;
- (iii) Magistrates' Court where a magistrate decides the case.
- 9. It is important to realise that political trials can take place at any place chosen by the State.

The next morning Klaas and his lawyer meet at the prison to discuss his

Sipho's Trial (Public Violence)

Meanwhile, Sipho's trial is being heard in the Magistrates' Court.

subpoenaed. After the discussion they plan how they will approach the trial. evidence. Sipho and his lawyer spend many hours discussing the charge of public violence against him. They discuss the fact that his friends have been and they see that many of Sipho's close friends have been subpoened to give case. The lawyer had received the charge-sheet from the Magistrates' Court I wo weeks after he had received bail, Sipho and his lawyer met to discuss his

rents, and because he has discussed all the other issues with his lawyer. The do this because he knows that he was involved in the march against increased or not guilty. Sipho tells the magistrate that he pleads guilty. He has decided to that Sipho is guilty as charged, and finds him guilty. magistrate then asks Sipho some questions. The magistrate says he is satisfied The trial starts at the Magistrates' Court and Sipho is asked if he pleads guilty

The people who have been subpoenaed will now not be called to give

sentence. Within one hour the money has been paid to the clerk of the court that he is going to fine Sipho R200 and give him a six-month suspended and Sipho is free to go home. There is then argument on sentence and after this the magistrate announces

It is possible to ask the magistrate or the clerk of the court or the prisoners'

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friend to pay the money in instalments.

pages). (For information on how a trial works, follow Klaas' trial over the next few

Klaas' Trial

the court room his lawyers wait with Klaas' friends. I wo weeks later Klaas' trial begins (at the Supreme Court at 10 o'clock). In

and Carol as potential witnesses are not allowed into the court The trial starts and Klaas is put into the box reserved for the accused. Thandi

How does a trial work?

- one described here. I. Not all trials work the same way, but the most common procedure is like the
- 1. The State Prosecutor must first describe the charges against the accused.
- 2. If the accused has not pleaded at a remand appearance, he/she must do so
- satisfy himself that the accused is really guilty, and then pass judgement. 3. If he/she pleads guilty the judge or magistrate may ask some questions to
- 5. Sometimes, at this point, the accused will hand in a statement to the court in except for the facts that the accused admits. 4. If the accused pleads not guilty, then the court must hear all the evidence,
- evidence. The Defence may cross-examine the state witnesses. 6. The State then has to prove its case by calling state witnesses to give which his/her defence is outlined. The judge may ask questions to clear up points in the statement.
- question whether statements obtained from people in detention should be ad-7. During this part of the trial (the State's case) the Defence lawyers sometimes mitted as evidence. This is often called a 'trial within a trial'.
- 8. When the State has called all its witnesses and they have given evidence then the State's case is closed.
- 9. The Defence then has its turn and with his/her lawyer the accused must decide who should give evidence and how his/her defence must be organised The State may cross examine the defence witnesses

What are the accused's rights?

1. You are always entitled to have a lawyer defend you

- 2. You do not have to give evidence in your own trial.
- 3. You do not have to answer any questions put to you at your trial unless you have decided to give evidence.
- 4. At the beginning of your trial, you will be asked if you want to make any statement outlining your defence. You do not have to make any statement at this time; whether or not you make such a statement should only be decided after discussion with your lawyer.

Several Security Police give evidence against Klaas. Carol is called as a witness and goes into the witness box. She gives evidence that Klaas did attend a meeting on the night before the detention, but says she cannot remember him saying anything at the meeting.

What are the witnesses' rights?

- You are entitled to your own lawyer. You cannot have the same lawyer as the accused.
- When you as a witness consult with your lawyer in court, this discussion must be in private.

Recalcitrant Witnesses

I handi is then brought into the witness box. She tells the court that she is not willing to give evidence for the State against Klaas.

What can you do if you refuse to be a state witness?

- You are entitled to a lawyer. You cannot have the same lawyer as the accused.
- At this point you must consider what your options are.
- 3. You can still refuse to give evidence, and the judge can send you to gaol
- You can still decide to give evidence at any time during the trial.
 In security related trials you can get up to 5 years in gaol for refusing to give evidence

I handi is warned by the judge that if she refuses to give evidence, he will sentence her to prison. She says she understands that. Thandi's lawyer gets up and tells the judge that he is her lawyer. He says that Thandi has a 'just reason' for refusing to give evidence. He says, 'The 'just reason' is because Thandi and Klaas are loyal friends and she therefore cannot give evidence against him.' The judge says this is not a 'just excuse' and finds Thandi guilty of refusing to give evidence. This is called a 'recalcitrant witness'. The prosecutor argues that

she should be sent to gaol for a long time as people should not refuse to give evidence for the State.

I handi's lawyer then argues that she should not be sent to gaol for refusing to give evidence, because she has already been in gaol for a long time and has suffered a lot. I'his is called 'argument in mitigation'. The judge says that people cannot refuse to give evidence for the State and sentences Thandi to 18 months in gaol.

Judgement

Klaas' trial goes on for another three days. Each evening he is taken back to the prison. Each day his friends bring him the newspapers and food.

When all the witnesses have given evidence, the lawyers for the State and Defence argue the case and the judge then says he will give judgement in three days' time.

What happens at judgement?

- I. When the judge/magistrate gives judgement s/he must look at each charge on the charge sheet and for each one must state if s/he finds the person guilty on that charge, or not guilty on that charge.
- When a person is found guilty on a particular charge then s/he has been convicted on that charge.
- When a person is found not guilty on a particular charge then s/he has been acquitted on that charge.
- It is possible to be convicted on some charges, and acquitted on others in the same trial.

The judge finds Klaas guilty, and asks for evidence and argument on sentence. The prosecutor argues that Klaas should be locked up for a long time as he is a convicted criminal who is trying to bring about the downfall of the State. Klaas' lawyer then presents Klaas' side of the story (argument in mitigation). He explains Klaas' difficult life, his low wages, his high rent, and the fact that he has been deprived of political rights and how, as a result of this, he had become politically active.

The next stage is known as sentence

What can happen at sentence?

- 1. Different types of sentence can be given.
- 2. One possibility is a prison sentence.

3. Another possibility is a fine which means that the person has to pay that amount of money into the court and then can go home. If she cannot pay the money, then she will have to go to gaol. If a person is given a money fine and cannot pay it at court, but his/her friends get the money later, then they can go pay it at the gaol and get the person released. The fine can also be paid in instalments if the magistrate or Prisoner's Friend agrees.

4. Sometimes a sentence is suspended. This means that the sentence does not come into effect immediately (i.e. the person does not go to gaol or have ', pay the fine then). However that if that person is found guilty in the future of the same kind of charge or a similar charge, then the suspended sentence may be carried out.

5. Another possibility is that a person may be sentenced to be whipped with a cane.

Sometimes one sentence may be combined with another type of sentence.
 I he magistrate may also postpone sentence, and release you on certain conditions.

Klaas is sent to gaol for five years. Like most political prisoners he spends time in isolation at a local prison.

Appeal

While waiting to go to Robben Island his lawyer visits him to discuss an appeal.

How can you appeal?

 A person convicted and sentenced at a trial can appeal against the conviction or the sentence or both.

2. An appeal can be made against the conviction:—

(i) if it is believed the judgment is wrong;

(ii) if evidence, which is important, was not considered at the trial.

 An appeal can be made against the sentence when it is believed that it is too harsh for the crime.

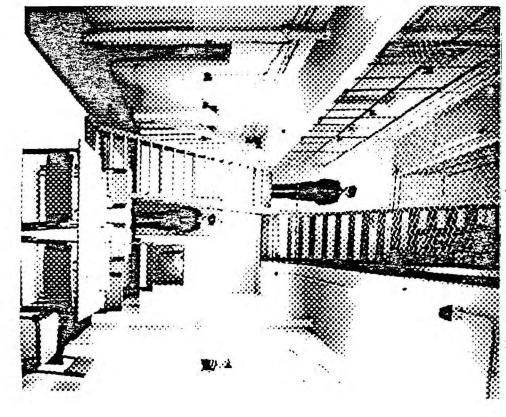
4. You have only 14 week days to appeal after your sentence has been given.

5. You should discuss an appeal with your lawyer.

If it was a magistrates' or regional court trial you may always appeal — and the appeal will be heard at the Supreme Court.

 If it was a Supreme Court trial, then you have to ask that Supreme Court for permission to appeal.

8. You must be aware that appeals can often take a very long time before the case comes to court. It is probable that you will not be released on bail during this time and will have to wait in prison for the result of the appeal.



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IMPRISONMENT

Klaas is moved to Robben Island.

What are your rights as a political prisoner?

- 1. You must ask for a copy of the prison regulations when you arrive at the
- 2. You will be given prison clothes, which you cannot refuse to wear.
- the most and 'D' category the least number of privileges. You will be classified as an A,B,C, or D prisoner. 'A' category prisoners have
- 4. You will find that convicted, and especially political, prisoners have very few
- 5. You have a right to prison clothing which must protect you against the
- 6. You have a right to medical and dental care. This must be provided by the
- also not allowed to pass any written documents to your lawyer, unless the allowed to listen in to any conversation you have with your lawyer. You are decide if you can see your lawyer — and if they decide that you may, they are reason as to why you want to see your lawyer. The prison officials will then sioner to decide if you should see your lawyer. Therefore, each time you want works as follows. If you want to see your lawyer while in prison, you must ask prison officials allow you to give them to your lawyer. to see your lawyer, you must ask the prison officials - and you have to give the the Commissioner of Prisons to call your lawyer. But it is up to the Commis-7. You have a right to ask to see your lawyer. This is a very limited right and
- 8. You have a right to food and water which the prison officials must provide.
- 9. You must be allowed visitors and letters, but how often and when will depend on the prison officials.
- these or can stop your receiving them altogether. books, newspapers, magazines, radios you may receive. They can censor any of 10. All other matters will depend on the prison officials - they will decide what

- your lawyer to apply for the necessary permission on your behalf 11. You can only study if the prison officials give you permission to do so. Ask
- available in every prison. 12. You can always lay complaints in the complaints register which must be
- pend on the prison authorities. 13. You must be allowed time to exercise, but for how long and when will de-
- by discussing these matters with fellow prisoners. 14. One of the best ways of finding out what you can do — and cannot do — is

respondence. After one year, his lawyer informs him that his appeal has failed While in prison, Klaas receives his letters, some books, and studies by cor

After three years he hears that another prisoner is to go on parole. He asks

What can you do about parole?

- pleted his/her sentence on certain conditions. 1. Parole means that the prisoner is released from prison before s/he has com-
- Parole for political prisoners is very rare.
- where you are being held. 3. If you want to get parole, you have to apply to the parole officer in the prison
- 4. The parole officer will take the following factors into account:
- a. Your offence
- b. The sentence that the court passed
- c. The time that you have spent in prison at the time of the application
- d. Your behaviour in prison
- e. Your family background e.g.
- (i) if you are married
- (ii) if you have children
- (iii) if you are the family breadwinner
- (iv) if you will have a job when released from prison
- Cabinet Minister for his approval. It seems he will take all factors into account He will also consider your possible future political involvement. 5. All parole applications by political prisoners have to be referred to the
- 6. As a result of all these conditions, it is very difficult for a political prisoner to

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8 BAIL

To stop people who have not been found guilty from being kept in gaol a system called 'bail' exists.

This means that the accused pays in a certain amount of money, decided on by the court. In return for this payment the accused is allowed to go free until the next court appearance.

If you are arrested by the police, you can ask the police to set bail. In minor offences the police themselves are allowed to set bail. You then pay the police that amount of money - and they must give you a receipt for the money (called a bail bond) and tell you when to appear in court. If you do not appear in court on that day you will lose the money you paid in as bail. A warrant of arrest will be issued against you.

If the police will not set bail, then you must ask the magistrate for bail the first time you appear in court. You ask him if you can be let out on bail. He must listen to your request. He will also listen to the prosecutor and then decide if you can get bail.

Often in security trials the prosecutor will say he has a certificate from the Attorney-General which says you should not get bail. If he does this, you cannot apply for bail.

When you apply for bail (or your lawyer applies for you) you must tell the ourt:-

1. That you will come to court for your next appearance.

That you do not intend running away, and there is no reason for the court to believe that you will not come back to court.

3. You must give the court your address.

4. You must tell the court that you will not interfere with state witnesses.

The prosecutor may or may not agree to your getting bail. If he does not agree to your getting bail, then he must argue why you cannot get bail. Both you and the prosecutor can suggest how much the bail should be.

The court will then decide if you can get bail and on what conditions

Manual Control of the Control of the

Sometimes the court sets a small amount of money as bail, or sometimes a large amount. Sometimes they attach conditions to your bail - they can tell you to hand in your passport or to report to a police station once a week, or even once a day.

Once the court has set bail, then you or your friends, or your lawyer can pay the amount in to the clerk of the court or the prisoners' friend. Tell the court orderly to show you where to pay bail. You must get a receipt (bail bond) and then you are free to go home.

If there are bail conditions you must keep to them. If you do not for example report to the police station when you have to, then the police can arrest you, and you may lose your bail money.

Finally you must remember that you can only get your bail money back if you come to court when you have to.

If you cannot pay the Clerk of the Court at the court when bail is set, the bail money can be paid at the prison where you are transferred to. Always remember to get a receipt for any bail money paid in and remember to keep

If bail is refused, or the amount of bail money is too high, you can appeal against the decision of the court. If you are in this position, demand from the prison officials that you want to see a lawyer.

9 LEGAL AID

- 1. If you or your family cannot afford to pay for a lawyer, you may be able to get Legal Aid. This means that the Legal Aid Board will pay a lawyer for you. If you or your family or friends do not know a lawyer, the Legal Aid Board will find someone to act for you. Otherwise your own lawyer can apply for Legal Aid.
- 2. All police stations, prisons and courts should put you in touch with a legal aid officer. Because you should have a lawyer as soon as possible. You should make an application to the Legal Aid officer as soon as possible.
- 3. Not all people can get legal aid. You have to qualify in terms of certain income levels. The Legal Aid Board will not assist you in all criminal cases. But you should still apply if you think you can't afford a lawyer. Sometimes you have to pay a small fee. If you are refused legal aid you can appeal to the head

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4. If the police or prison officials do not help you to get in touch with the local legal aid officer, you should ask the magistrate to help you the first time you appear in court. There is nothing to say that you may not get legal aid in 'political matters'.

5. When you make your application for legal aid to the legal aid officer, you must remember that whatever you tell him is not privileged information. In other words he can be asked to report what you have said to him in court.

10 CONCLUSION

This is not an unusual story for a South African, and many have experienced it. It is necessary that persons faced with state action also know the following.

No matter who is holding you, be it the police or prisons departments, you have certain rights throughout any period of detention, arrest or imprisonment.

No-one may assault or threaten to assault you. If anybody does, you can charge them and they can be convicted of a criminal offence.

You are entitled to be provided with a Bible throughout your stay in any

You are entitled to be provided with a Bible throughout your stay in any police cells or prison. This may not be taken from you at any time.

I've action or redical officials are responsible for your medical and dental

The prison or police officials are responsible for your medical and dental care. You have the right to see the District Surgeon or be taken to the dentist on your request.

If these rights are broken then you have the choices which are outlined for complaints for awaiting trial prisoners, detainees and convicted prisoners in the rest of this book.

If you are not granted any of the four rights or are at any stage assaulted, you can ask to consult your lawyer — whom you can ask to lay charges or claim damages on your behalf. Where you are unable to see your lawyer (because of the detention provisions) you can complain.

