

**Freedom
after 15
years on
the Island
-page 7**



CROSSROADS STRUGGLE CONTINUES



Residents trek with their belongings down Lansdowne Road as the Portland Cement Works camp burns (More pictures and reports pages 4 and 5)

AS 'WITDOEK' vigilantes - allegedly backed by security forces - keep firm control over what is left of devastated Crossroads, thousands of refugees have vowed:

'We want to go back to where we lived at Nyanga Bush, Nyanga Extension and Portland Cement. We want to rebuild our shacks. We don't want to stay at Khayelitsha.'

The three camps, which have shown the strongest resistance to the governments plans to move all squatters to Khayelitsha, were completely destroyed wince vigilantes started going on the rampage on Saturday May 17.

Forced to Khayelitsha

More than 30 000 people were left homeless and up to 50 killed in the worst violence ever seen in the Western Cape.

Many people have been forced to site and service schemes at Khayelitsha, while thousands are being housed in churches, tents and with relatives in Guguletu and Nyanga.

A massive relief operation, involving a number of organisations, has been seeing to the needs of the refugees. Although many contributions have been coming from the public, the need is still great. It has been made worse by the heavy winter rains.

Mass meetings organised by UDF affiliates - in Guguletu, Mitchells Plain

and Hanover Park - have pledged support for the refugees.

A message of support and condolence from the African National Congress to the refugees was read out at the Mitchells Plain meeting.

Many allegations have been made that the vigilantes were doing the dirty work of the government. The government has already started with plans to upgrade Crossroads for the few people left in Old Crossroads. Others will not be able to come back.

Advocate Dullah Omar told the Hanover Park meeting, 'Vigilantes are the hired tools of the state.'

UDF Vice president Christmas Tinto, said in Mitchells Plain, 'They have shot a lot of our comrades. In the next few weeks we will bury a lot of people. The struggle is not easy. But it will continue.'

The struggle of the people of Crossroads is continuing. Already, people are starting to regroup.

Many have found a new home in KTC, the last camp to stand as a symbol of resistance against the governments forced removal plans.

KTC residents guard the area all hours of the day and night against possible attacks by vigilantes. They have also won a temporary Supreme Court Interdict to stop the police, army and witdoeke from attacking them.

JUNE 16 Stayaway call

THE UDF, COSATU and the National Education Crisis Committee, have called for a one-day stay-away on June 16, the tenth anniversary of the Soweto uprising in 1976.

This was decided after long discussions between regional and national committees of the UDF and Cosatu.

The NECC decided at its conference in Durban in March that June 16 should be commemorated.

In a joint statement, the UDF, Cosatu and NECC said: "We call upon all freedom loving people of our land to commemorate June 16 in a manner befitting the occasion."

Bantu education

"We must remember all our gallant sons and daughters who took to the streets of Soweto and elsewhere to demonstrate their abhorrence of the inferior Bantu Education system.

"To us, it was no ordinary march. It was essentially a march in quest for freedom. The battery of savage repression which was unleashed against those students failed to reverse the tide of history. The banning of the popular COSAS has not succeeded in cowering the student movement.

People's education

"Our democratic student movement is now more than ever before poised to intensify the struggle for people's education. For us, this struggle forms a vital part of the broader struggle for a South Africa free from political oppression and economic exploitation.

"To this end, we are calling for all peace loving South Africans to attend with a deep sense of belonging all mass rallies and other activities to be held throughout the country around June 16.

"Cosatu's call for 16 June at its inauguration was fully supported by the UDF. On June 16, as on May 1, all freedom loving South Africans will abstain from any form of work to participate in June 16 activities. (This naturally excludes all workers in essential services.)"

See pages 8 and 9



The recent early morning raids by the SADF into the capitals of three of South Africa's neighbours sparked off world-wide protests. Here students at the University of Cape Town march on Campus to state their feelings (Report page 11)

**STOP
Le Grange's
new law
-page 3**

**Vigilantes:
Killing for
Apartheid
-page 13**

**Free health
service is
a right
-page 10**

Clowu grows

THE Clothing Workers' Union (Clowu) held its Annual Conference at their offices in Woodstock recently where they took important decisions to guide them in the next year.

Clowu's constitution was amended to make provision for a shop stewards council.

Clowu is busy negotiating recognition at at least two factories where they have signed up most of the workers.

At the conference, it was also decided to:

- Organise the unemployed;
- Fight for jobs for all;
- Support the struggle of students;
- Demand proper maternity benefits for clothing workers;
- Demand and agitate for the release from prison of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners.

A new executive committee was elected, with Mrs Evelyn Holtzman of Cape Underwear as chairperson and Elizabeth Erasmus as secretary.

Other members of the executive are Aziza

New executive, changes to constitution

Charles (assistant secretary), Henry Hawtrey (treasurer, Monviso), Desiree Bailey (Cape), Adela Ismail (Readywear), Alma Davids (Cape), Charmaine Julyse (Rex) and Connie September (Rex).

Mrs Holtzman called on parents to stand by their children more than what they did in the past.

Outgoing Clowu general secretary Zubaida Jaffer said in her report:

"In the short time of our existence, we are proud to say that we have shaken the clothing industry. No longer can bosses commit crimes against workers and get away with it. They have come to know Clowu and to fear Clowu.

"Our grandmothers, our mothers, our sisters, our brothers - so many can tell of what has happened to them in the factories. Some have lost their fingers,

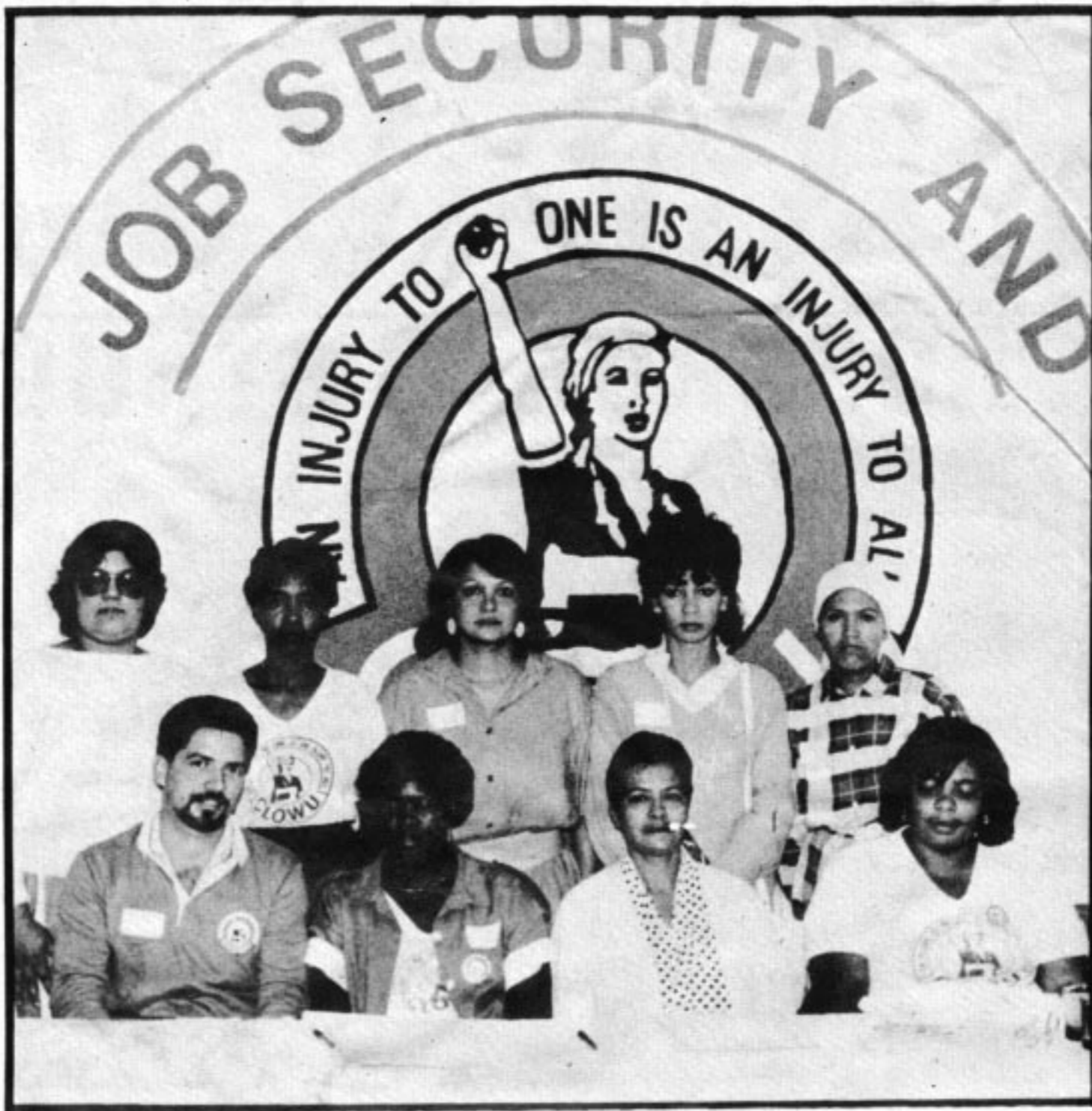
hurt their backs, lost their babies. Most know that dismissal hangs over everyone's heads.

"What we have seen in the past year in our union can only be called crimes. Yes, crimes against the workers. Is it not a crime that workers come to a factory in the morning to find that the factory has closed down.

"It is these crimes that we have tried to stop. But we know that the bosses can get away with this because Apartheid has kept us down all these years.

"Apartheid means that we have no rights and that the bosses can depend on the support of this illegal government.

"But they must watch out. It will not be long now, then we will have our own government. We will have a government where the workers' leaders will sit," she said.



The new executive committee of the Clothing Workers Union at their recent Annual Conference.

Union starts 'Stop killing' campaign

A CAMPAIGN to "stop the killing" was launched recently by the Electrical and Allied Workers Trade Union.

The campaign was prompted by the deaths of two union members, Rashid Abrahams and David Ndude, after a petrol bomb attack at Crossroads on April 28. Abrahams died immediately, Ndude six days later in hospital.

Both were married and had children. Abrahams lived in Kensington, Ndude was trying to build a house for his family at Khayelitsha.

EAWTU has described their deaths as a "tragic event" which they viewed with grave concern.

"Their deaths stem directly from the state's dehumanisation of our people through its oppressive and exploitative system.

"We cannot remain silent. We cannot sit back and do nothing. We must work to end the conditions that made such a tragedy possible," they said.

The campaign was announced at a memorial service for the two men held at the Evangelist Church in Belgravia Road, Athlone on Thursday May 22.

A number of organisations have given their support for the campaign and a meeting had been organised to discuss how to take up the campaign prac-

tically. Messages of support had been received from the United Democratic Front, New Unity Movement, South African Council of Sport, Congress of South African Trade Unions and a number of other organisations.

EAWTU national executive committee was due to discuss whether to extend the campaign nationally.

EAWTU is an independent trade union formed recently out of the merger of the Electrical and Allied Workers Union and the Electrical and Allied Trades Union. It has about 20 000 members, skilled and unskilled, nationally.

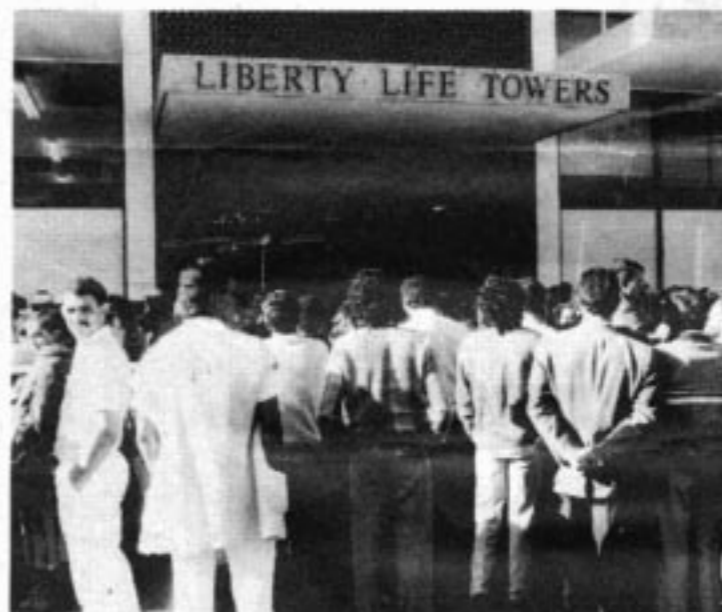
Teachers on trial

THE Western Cape Teachers' Union (WECTU) has called on the community to support 72 teachers who face charges of alleged misconduct this month.

The charges arise out of teachers' refusal to administer last year's final examination which was boycotted by most pupils.

The first case, to be heard at the Roeland Street offices of the Department of Education and Culture (House of Representatives) from June 12, will be that of Groenvlei High School teacher Brian Slingers.

After that will be the cases of Phillip Tobias, the former acting principal of Crestway Senior Secondary, and Nabil Swart, the



Teachers protest outside the Roeland Street offices of the Department of Education and Culture.

deputy principal of Alexander Sinton.

The teachers are charged with allegedly having "caused, committed or connived at anything prejudicial to the administration, discipline or office of the department or

school". Teachers who are found guilty face fines of up to R400, transfer to other posts, reduction in their grade postings or salaries or both, dismissal or calls for their resignation.

The teachers are charged under the Coloured Persons Education Act. If found guilty, they would have 14 days in which to appeal to the Minister of Education and Culture, Carter Ebrahim.


Wectu has started a campaign to support the teachers. Thousands of pamphlets calling for community support have been distributed.

Recently, about 300 Wectu members went to the Department's Roeland Street offices to deliver a petition to demand that the charges be dropped.

They also demanded that hearings, if any, be held in an open court; that the police should keep off schoolgrounds; and the immediate and unconditional release from detention of Arcadia mathematics teacher Neville van der Rheede and Silverstream Afrikaans teacher Quinton Michels. At a well-attended meeting at the Samaj Centre in Gatesville, Wectu accused the education authorities and the police of trying to deliberately create conditions where no schooling could take place.

"Persuing these charges must be seen as a deliberate attempt to disrupt schools - an act which the community will not forgive or forget.

"The community needs to develop mechanisms to protect ourselves and further the struggle," said Wectu chairperson, Yusuf Gabru.

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Mpetha in hospital

OSCAR MPETHA, the 76-year-old former president of the United Democratic Front, has been in Groote Schuur Hospital for the past few weeks as doctors try to control his diabetes.

Mpetha is currently serving a five-year sentence for "terrorism" arising out of unrest at Crossroads in 1980.

Throughout this period in hospital he has been cheerful and confident that doctors would save his legs from further amputation, reliable sources told Grassroots.

"He is always happy to see staff and students who pop in daily to enquire about his health. One can only be impressed by the courage of this man who is more concerned about

the struggle than his own health."

However, prison warders, realising the symbol of resistance that Oscar Mpetha represents to many people have now refused any students other than his medical doctor to have any contact with him.

Matters came to a head recently when students were rudely told by the warders to stop talking to him.

The students lodged an official complaint with the Medical Students' Council who approached the hospital authorities.

Students felt there was an attempt to isolate Mpetha and break his spirit of resistance.

The hospital authorities, however, replied that the prison autho-

rities had refused permission for anyone but the doctors attending Mpetha to speak to him and that they would have to accept this.

Students said they felt Mpetha's treatment could be compromised if they should continue to take up the issue publicly, since there seemed to be an implicit co-operation between the prisons and hospital authorities.

The MSC has now been asked to take up the issue with the Dean of the Medical Faculty.

Meanwhile, students continue to go to Mpetha's ward and enquire about his health in sign language.

"Whatever, the outcome, we will not let Oscar down," a student said.

LE GRANGE'S NEW CONTROL

THE government is struggling to find new ways to control the resistance of our people. They found that declaring a State of Emergency made them very unpopular with overseas countries, so now they want to make new laws which will give them emergency powers, but which will have a different name.

They have put two laws before parliament, if these laws are passed, they will give Minister of "Law and Order" and the police almost unlimited powers. They will also make the courts helpless to restrain the police, or to challenge detention and police action.

PUBLIC SAFETY AMENDMENT BILL

This law means that:

- The Minister of Law and Order can declare any area an "Unrest Area" if he thinks that a public disturbance is occurring or may occur.
- He can make any laws he wants to in an Unrest Area. These do not have to be approved by parliament. These laws could include powers of arrest, searching confiscating, media restrictions and other restrictions operating during the State of Emergency.
- These regulations can also apply

outside declared Unrest Areas.

- The courts cannot challenge these regulations, or bring interdicts restraining the police.

INTERNAL SECURITY AMMENDMENT BILL

This gives new powers of detention under Section 50. This law will mean that a warrant officer can detain a person for 48 hours. This can be extended to 180 days (six months) by a Lieutenant or Police officer with a higher rank.

Many organisations are shocked at the new laws. They see them as just another attempt by the government to oppress our people without listening to legitimate demands and grievances. They also see these laws as opening the way for police violence, and abuse of police powers. Recent allegations, such as the attacks of uniformed police on residents' homes in Alexander, or the alleged police assistance of the "widoeke" in Crossroads suggest that police are already abusing their powers.

The UDF has called for a national campaign to stop these bills from becoming law. They will be holding various forms of protest action in the next few weeks, and are calling on all democratic organisations to join them.

'Free detainees'

RELEASE all detainees immediately. Away with Section 29.

This call is growing throughout the Western Cape as at least 23 people remain in detention in the Western Cape (according to Repression Monitoring Group figures).

Most of the people are held under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act which allows for solitary confinement without access to lawyers or family members without special permission from the police.

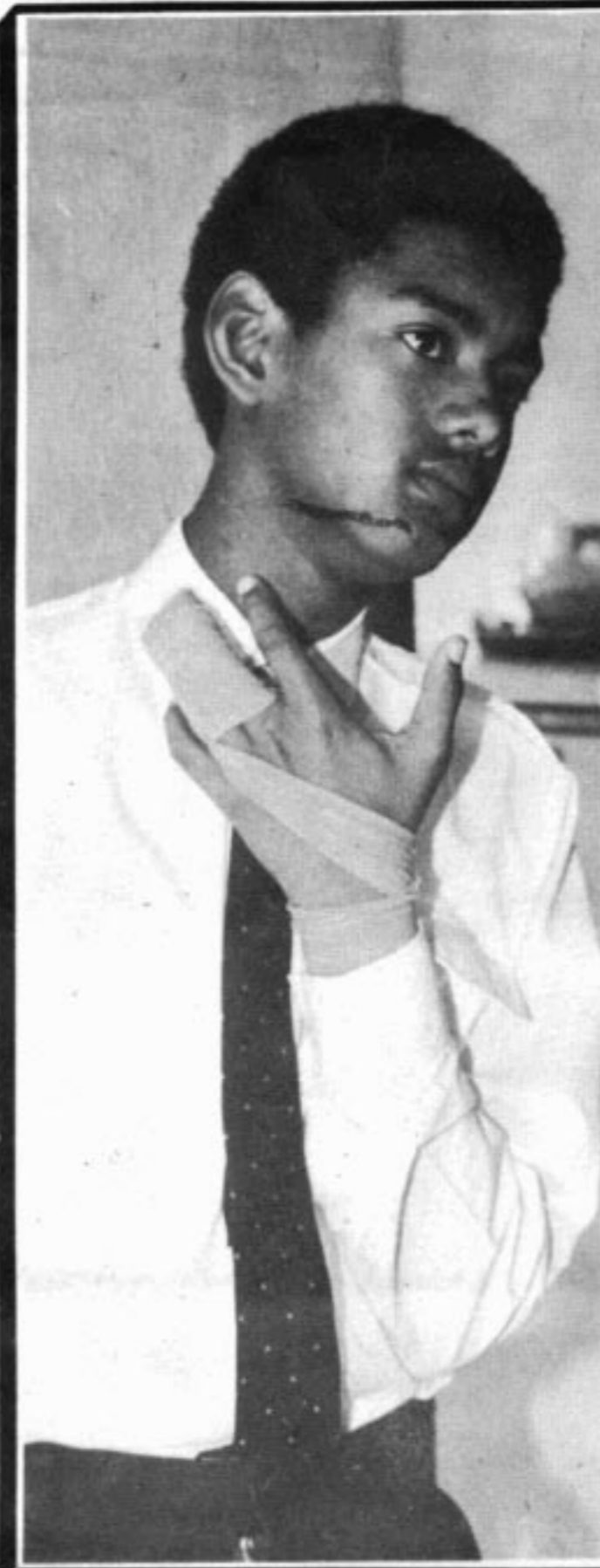
In the last few weeks, protests against the detentions have intensified.

Among those in detention are Batemba Lugulwana, a community worker, Mwendile Mceetika, Xolani Humana, Wilfred Andile Gusha and Simon Khonsile Mathyolweni who have all been detained for more than 100 days.

Bongani Dunjana and Donald Mxutu, a pensioner, have been held for two months. Mkhuluwa Joseph

Gosani, Zweletu Macozoma, Singisile Ncibata, Cecil Esau, Quinton Michels, Twelve Fundamela, Hassan Gila, a pensioner, Dududumi Mdlanlane, Pina Ncata, Monde Ntshaka, Achmai Cassiem and Neville van der Rheede have all been detained for more than one month.

Fatman Sazi and Douglas Myanya were both detained on May 21.



'Stop beating us'

MARTIN van Leer, 15, a Tafelsig High School pupil (left) and Mark Bense, 15, Portland High School, were both victims of the police beating of Mitchells Plain students on Thursday May 15. Martin said police chased him on to the rugby grounds at Rocklands High where a student rally was held.

"Four policemen jumped out of the van and beat me. Another van came and more policemen jumped out. They all beat me. They hit me with sjamboks all over my body. They also kicked me. Afterwards one told me to f. . off" to my mother's house," Martin said.

Mark said he was walking in Riversdale Road Portland when a policevan chased him. He ran into somebody's yard, but fell.

"The one policeman seemed determined to hit me in the face. I had to cover my face," he said. In our picture he shows how he had to cover his face.

Martin and Mark are but two victims of police action at schools recently. Pupils in Bonteheuwel, Belhar, Wynberg, Bellville South and other areas have all felt the whips and the boots of the police.



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'Witdoeke, stay out of KTC'

RESIDENTS of the KTC squatter camp have won a temporary court interdict to protect themselves from the police, army and the "witdoeke".

This came after many alleged threats that KTC would be the next camp to be destroyed after Nyanga Bush, Nyanga Extension and the Portland Cement camp were razed by rampaging vigilantes recently.

The Legal Resources Centre collected 46 affidavits, many outlining details of the fighting at Crossroads with at least nine alleging that members of the police force and defence force had threatened that houses in KTC would be burned down on the night of Monday May 26 if the people did not move to Khayelitsha.

The people went to court that same day to stop the threatened attacks. The police, army and the vigilantes have until June 13 to respond to the application.

KTC leader Mr Milton Mbevana said the affidavits showed that "members of the security forces actually destroyed houses in those areas

and were seen to be collaborating with the so-called witdoeke in a concerted effort to remove them from their homes and to prevent their return."

He said that the SAP "is described in numerous affidavits, as at best failing to prevent violence and, at worst actively committing crimes of violence.

"Similarly the SADF has failed even to prevent armed attacks and has also actively participated in the violence by vigilantes on residents."

Mr Mbevana said KTC residents had a justified fear of being subjected to the same treatment themselves.

He said residents had formed a guard to protect themselves against any attacks.

Seven affidavits claimed that the "witdoeke" set fire to houses using guns which threw cannisters which exploded on impact.

"As no shop sells these weapons the only inference is that they were obtained from the army or police,"

said Josette Cole of the Surplus People's Project.

Eight affidavits claimed that the SADF and the police failed to intercede to protect life and property and to separate fighting factions.

Thirteen affidavits claimed the Defence Force and police were clearly partisan and actively supported the "witdoeke" by escorting them and when the residents of the squatter camps offered resistance or wanted to rescue their belongings, the SADF and police teargassed them and/or fired upon them.

Josette Cole said in her affidavit that the police and the Defence Force, acting in concert with Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana, Mr Sam Ndima and other residents of Old Crossroads squatter camp (from whose ranks the witdoeke are drawn) planned and executed the attacks on the squatter communities of Portland Cement, Nyanga Bush and Nyanga Extension.

She quoted evidence from six affidavits to support her claim.

Residents take legal action

THE decision to take legal action was taken at a mass meeting in KTC on Sunday morning May 25 attended by about 5 000 residents of the squatter camp.

The meeting was called to discuss the danger facing the people of KTC at the hands of the vigilantes and the security forces, the possibility of forced removals (through violence) of the residents of Site B Khayelitsha and the security of refugees from the destroyed squatter camps.

"It was reported at the meeting that in the early hours of the morning a number of ordinary residents of KTC were abducted by three white policemen, and by three witdoeke accompanying them, who, drove away in a dark green Toyota bakkie, said KTC leader Mr Milton Mbevana.

"It was stated at the meeting that people regarded the violence and the security force involvement in it as being a mechanism to force squatters to vacate the camps and be forced to go to Khayelitsha.

"It was decided that any residents

with room to spare should accommodate the refugees from the other camps. Various committee members from the other squatter camps were introduced and welcomed.

"The committee was told to resist any attempts to move the residents out of KTC. The committee was authorised to resist any official attempt at removal.

"The residents present at the meeting felt that the SAP and the SADF should not be in KTC as they were not regarded as being there to uphold law and order but to perpetrate violence as done at Nyanga Bush; and that members of the SAP had already shown their contempt for law and order in KTC by kicking in doors whilst conducting the search in KTC on Friday morning.

"It was unanimously agreed that the committee, as represented by me, Mr Mathebula and Mr Memani, should instruct the Legal Resources Centre to bring an application to the Supreme Court to safeguard the residents of KTC," Mr Mbevana said.

Barnard singled out in affidavits

A WARRANT officer Barnard was singled out in many of the affidavits for the role he played in the Crossroads conflict.

Violet Vuyiya said on May 18 she saw Barnard shooting with a gun which set houses on fire in Nyanga Bush area. She said he chased her away and swore at her and other onlookers.

Colin Qwanya said he heard Barnard ordering the people to leave the area and immediately thereafter police from various vans started whipping and beating the residents, on May 19.

Also on May 19 Mpumelelo Benge said he saw Barnard using a rifle with a telescopic sight to shoot Benge in the chest and arm.

Jack Mateyise said that on Tuesday May 20 Barnard told refugees from the burned camps that he was going to give the Crossroads people guns to drive the refugees to Manenberg.

Kulekile Mdlalana said that on Thursday May 22 Barnard addressed the Portland Cement camp group and indicated that he would pay R100,00 or buy groceries for any person who returned to the camp to fetch his belongings.

This was said because it was so dangerous to do so.

Elliot Dyakopu said he saw caspirs outside Sam Ndima's house since the middle of 1985 and also the blue van belonging to Barnard.



THE VICTIMS: Women who lost their homes, and in some cases their husbands in the fighting at Crossroads, protest at parliament.

'Police, army helped Witdoeke'

MOST of the affidavits outlined threats made by witdoek vigilantes and many affidavits claimed the police and army were involved in the destruction of the Nyanga Bush, Nyanga Extension and Portland Cement Squatter camps recently.

Mr Christopher Toise, leader of the Portland Cement Works Camp, referred in his affidavit to a meeting held in December 1985 at the Noxolo School in Crossroads where Sam Ndima, and Old Crossroads Committee leader, demanded that the "comrades" be removed otherwise he would organise for all the residents of Portland Cement to be driven out.

A further threat was made in early December 1985 when Mr Toise was told he had to ensure that the entire Portland Cement community moved to Site C Khayelitsha in 1986.

Mr Alfred Naphakade of Crossroads said that sometime in March Sam Ndima called together 300 men to go at 10 o'clock the night to fetch the belongings of New Crossroads residents who had recently come there without their possessions.

He said Mr Ngxobongwana had explained that arrangement had been made with the police to go that time

of night. A confrontation had developed and seven members of Old Crossroads died.

Mr Naphakade also said that Development Board officials gave a Mr Ben five .303 rifles through Mr Sam Ndima and promised more rifles and guns. The Board gave them permission to use these firearms, he said.

Mr Simon Mngakane said that at a meeting that he had been given firearms by the station commander of the South African Police at Athlone.

These weapons would be used against the old committee members and against the "comrades" who were bad influence in Crossroads, he said.

Mr Mngakane said he questioned this decision and as a result his house was burnt down on May 8 this year.

Mr Alfred Siphika, leader of the Nyanga Extension camp, said that at a meeting in Khayelitsha on April 29 Mr Sam Ndima had said that the KTC squatter camp would be destroyed after the other camps had been destroyed by force. Mr Ndima claimed to have been given 200 guns by the police to do this, he said.

Mr Elliot Dyakopu said he attended a meeting on May 18 1986 at

Noxolo school where Mr Ndima said he had been in touch with a police commandant who promised 200 guns for Sam Ndima, 200 for Hoza's of Site C and 200 for Mr Ntshangani, a squatter leader near the Development Board offices.

Mr Wellington Mzawupheli Qobo said on May 17 Sam Ndima summoned all males to meet at the hall in Old Crossroads to prepare to attack. He described the attack on Portland Cement Works camp on Saturday May 18.

Mrs Violet Vuyiya said that at 6am on Sunday May 18 Sam Ndima stood on a hill in Section 4 of Old Crossroads calling on all men Crossroads men to bring weapons to Noxolo school. Soon afterwards Portland Cement was attacked. Later in the afternoon, attention shifted to Nyanga Bush.

Mrs Violet Mngqatsha said that on Sunday May 18 she saw a man from inside a dark green armoured vehicle shoot something into the Nyanga Bush camp and one of the shacks immediately burst into flames. She said this happened at least five times.

Selina Vabo said she saw two white soldiers, one in a red tracksuit

top and one in a blue and white tracksuit top burning five houses in Portlands Cement camp on Saturday May 17.

Mr Violet Vuyiya said she saw police burning houses and saw Barnard shooting something like a spray into houses which then started burning.

Joyce Themba says she saw a white man in plain clothes firing something like a gun into houses which then started to burn.

Mrs Elliot Dyakopu said she saw police shooting at shacks which caught alight on the morning of May 19.

Mr Simon Mngakane said on Sunday May 18 he saw police and soldiers firing projectiles at shacks in Nyanga Bush which burst into flames.

Victoria Sibozo said she saw police men and a soldier setting fire to several houses near her house in the Portland Cement camp on Sunday May 18.

Mrs Nothozamile Mahlombe said the police and/or army gave the "witdoeke" more ammunition to use with the guns that burned the houses down at Portland Cement camp on Sunday May 18.

Dog killed to scare women

WITDOEKE killed a dog with an axe in front of a group of women to warn the women what could happen to them, it is alleged in one of the affidavits.

Mrs Violet Mngqatsha said that on the morning of Monday May 19 she and a group of women tried to enter Nyanga Bush to see what was happening.

"We crossed Mahobe Drive and entered the camp. There was no trouble about crossing Mahobe Drive at this stage. There did not seem to be any fighting going on at this time. There were still many houses in the camp burning.

"As I approached my house, which is very near to Mr Yamile's house, I noticed a group of about 15 witdoeke standing very close to Yamile's house.

"Yamile's house was at that time burning. His house is quite close to Mahobe Drive.

"There were about 15 to 20 of us in the group of women. When we encountered the witdoeke they stopped us.

"We were very scared at the time. The witdoeke then trapped a dog and in front of us used axes to chop up and kill the dog right in front of us. They chopped the dog into three pieces.

"They told us that is what they would do to us if we did not leave the area immediately. All of us women then immediately left the camp.

"There were police in the immediate vicinity at this time. There was a dark coloured armoured vehicle about 50 metre from where we were confronted by the witdoeke.

"The policemen were inside the vehicle and must have seen what was happening between us and the witdoeke. They took no action. Several houses right near where the vehicle was parked were burning.

"Shortly thereafter armoured vehicles (I think they were hippos) manned by army personnel, fired teargas at the people lining the side of Mahobe Drive," Mrs Mngqatsha said.

A history of defiance

MANY people have been shocked by the fighting at Crossroads which left more than 50 people dead and thousands of people homeless.

But just what are the real reasons for the fighting at Crossroads and who stands to benefit from the rampant destruction of Crossroads?

The fighting at Crossroads is not a simple case of "black on black" violence. It is not a simple case of faction fighting.

The history of Crossroads shows the determination of a people determined to have housing - which is their right.

It shows the tensions between those who are not fooled by the government and who vowed to resist the government's forced removals plans against those who seek to implement the government's plans to their own benefit.

It shows the struggle between those who want to teach the people about freedom and democracy and those who want to keep people back so they can continue a dictatorial economic and political control over the people.

The first people arrived at Crossroads in 1975. The area grew rapidly and people resisted many attempts to move them. Throughout the years people have resisted many government raids to remove them.

In 1978 Piet Koornhof, then still a cabinet minister, announced plans for the upgrading of Crossroads with houses being built. He spoke of a Phase 1 and Phase 2.

Khayelitsha

Phase One of Koornhof's plan - New Crossroads - was built in 1981, but it only housed a few of the people from Crossroads. Phase Two was never realised and later officially aborted by the government.

Johnson Nxobongwana became chairman of the Old Crossroads Committee in 1978, but other groups developed as more and more people came to Crossroads. Two of these groups were the Nyanga Bush squatters under Melford Yamile and the Cathedral squatters under Hoza. Both groups resisted attempts to move them.

At about the same time, KTC developed, made up of lodgers from the townships and New Crossroads - people who had been waiting for the government's Phase Two.

In March 1983, the government announced their plans for Khayelitsha and in June a group of squatters from KTC moved to Khayelitsha.

There was mass resistance to Khayelitsha from the other groups, especially in October 1984 when the government announced that all squatters, both legal and illegal were to be moved to Site C at Khayelitsha. Site C is a site and service scheme without any houses.

Things came to a head in February last year when the government brought in a Tswana-speaking squad to move the people of Crossroads to Khayelitsha. The people resisted, 18 people died.

The government announced that they had plans to upgrade Old Crossroads. There was only one problem, they felt there were still too many people at Crossroads.

In March last year, the government announced a new plan to persuade people to move to Khayelitsha. They gave 18 month residence permits to all those who moved. Some groups, including Hoza's Cathedral group and a part of Nyanga Extension under Nyandeni accepted this.

By May last year 35 000 people were living at Khayelitsha.

But there was still strong resistance from Nyanga Bush led by Yamile.

Nyanga Extension under (Alfred Siphika) and Portland Cement Works (under Christopher Toise). They refused to move unless they were granted full rights to live and work in Cape Town.

The UDF and its affiliates had strong support in these areas. The Old Crossroads Committee of Nxobongwana realised this and felt threatened.

Nxobongwana started turning against progressive organisations, especially CAYCO, United Women's Congress and Western Cape Civics, when he came from jail after being arrested for his role in a rents boycott in New Crossroads.

More and more allegations were made that Nxobongwana was corrupt and just wanted to make money out of the people of Crossroads and New Crossroads.

Elections

Nxobongwana tried to win some credibility by holding elections late last year. However, most organisations refused to have anything to do with the elections.

In February this year, elections for the Old Crossroads Committee were held. Only about 5 000 people out of 87 000 adults voted.

People started to see this committee as a potential community council. Soon after the elections, Nxobongwana wrote a letter to Chris Heunis, the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning offering his committee as a link between the community and the Urban Foundation and government.

They identified as priorities the building of "four-roomed houses", tennis courts and a police station.

At the same time, residents of Nyanga Bush, Nyanga Extension and Portland Cement Works came under increasing pressure from "Witdoek" vigilantes or fathers". These vigilante groups were formed in December last year in Old Crossroads and Site C to attack members of progressive organisations.

Resistance

In the last few weeks and months, the witdoeke have been, knowingly or unknowingly, doing the dirty work of the government. In many cases, the interests of the witdoeke of the Old Crossroads Committee and the interests of the government are the same.

The government has for years tried to destroy Crossroads because they saw it as a symbol of resistance and defiance.

With the destruction of Nyanga Bush, Nyanga Extension and Portland Cement Works, they have removed - for the time being - the progressive forces in the area and the threat to Nxobongwana's control over Crossroads.

The witdoeke, through their rampaging and destruction in the area, have given the police and army a good excuse to patrol at all hours an area which was seen to be in the hands of progressive organisations. The "troops out" call has been strong from this area.

With resistance removed, the government can continue with their plans for upgrading Crossroads (for a small group of people only) and Nxobongwana and his committee can fulfill their wishes to be the sole power in Crossroads.

But for how long? Already, the squatters made homeless at Nyanga Bush, Nyanga Extension and Portland Cement Works are starting to regroup. They have said they will not go to Khayelitsha. They are preparing to continue their struggle.



THE ATTACKERS: "Witdoek" vigilantes on the rampage in Crossroads.

KUQHAMBUKE UMLO OMBI ECROSSROADS

NGOMHLA we 16 ka May kuqhambuke umlo ombi phakathi kwabahlali bamatyotyombe. Umlo ubuphakathi kwabahlali base Crossroads abaphantsi kuka Johnson Nxobongwana nabahlali base Nyanga Bush abakhokhelwa ngu Mr Melford Yamile, nabahlali base Portland Cement Works phantsi kuka Mr Christopher Toise no Mr Alfred Sipika e Nyanga Extension.

Unobangela womlo lowo kukuba uNgxobongwana efuna ukuba zonke ezindawo zibe phantsi kolawulo lwakhe. Omnye umhlali wase Nyanga Bush uthe babone ngama doda athwele iiqhiya ezimhlophe selengena ehlasela edubula abantu kutshiswa nezindlu zabantu. Uyichaze yambi lemeko umama obefudula ehlala eCement works. Uthe lamadoda ebengahambi odwa koko ebhamba napolisa namajoni. Uthe amabhulu ebethwele iikawusi zamabhinqa entloko (panti hose) kwakunye ne balaklava.

Omnye utata osinde ngezika Mdali uthe amab-

hulu ebesebenzisa into engathi ngumpu kodwa itshisa kangangezindlu ezine ngexesha zithungelane ezinye. Uthe lo tata ubone umbono ombi wokuba inkosikazi ithathwe igityiselwe emlilweni wendlu evuthayo ngalamadoda.

Umbutho wamakhosikazi iUnited Women's Congress uye wabiza intlanganiso yabahlali ngomhla we 20th ka May ngenjongo yokuchasa ubundlobongela balamadoda. Izithethi ebzithetha apho ziyibonakalise mhlophe ukuba asinto iphelele ematyotyombeni kuphela koko abahlali mabaphakame babaxhase ngazo zonke iidlela.

Intlanganiso ibeneziphakamisozokuba:-

1. Omama baye kubonana nomphathi wamapolisa eVlakeni banyanzelise ukuba amapolisa mawaphume ezilokishini.
2. Imibutho iqwalasele ukuba kubizwe ukwayo lwevenkile zabamhlophe.
3. Kuye kwabakho iziphakamiso zokuba umphathi wamapolisa eGuguletu uBanard makehle.

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grassroots Comment**The tragedy of Crossroads**

WE ARE concerned and outraged at the events in Crossroads over the past few weeks.

We are outraged at the blatant role played by the police on the side of vigilantes and the way the government is exploiting an unfortunate situation to achieve their own aims. That is, the total destruction of Crossroads and the eradication of all progressive forces in the area.

We are concerned that a community that once showed such strong resistance to the government's attempts to forcibly remove them can now be so divided and fooled by elements with dubious motives.

It is tragic that these agents of the state have succeeded in turning brother against brother, people who belong to the same union against each other.

Even Nxobongwana, who is seen as the leader of the vigilantes, used to once support progressive organisations. It is cause for concern that the smell of power could change his character so suddenly.

It is also cause for concern when some organisations seemingly want to exploit the misfortune of people at Crossroads for their own ends, to make a name for themselves, almost, by by-passing the legitimate and elected committees of people of Nyanga Bush, Nyanga Extension and Portland Cement Works.

Whatever happens at Crossroads, the people's resistance to forced removals and corrupt practices will not die down. Even now the people are busy re-organising themselves. Their is a long struggle ahead in the struggle for decent housing and permanent rights in Cape Town.

Remember 1976

ON 16 June, 1986, millions of people throughout South Africa and the rest of the world, will commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Soweto killings.

Ten years ago, students peacefully protesting against the use of Afrikaans as a medium of instruction in African schools, were mercilessly gunned down. The police brutality of that June 16 was to lead to nation wide revolt. What began as a protest against Bantu Education soon became a powerful demonstration against the whole system of Apartheid domination and exploitation.

The months that followed brought fierce battles between the police and army, and the students and workers. Factories came to a standstill in 3 nation wide stayaways. Thousands of beer halls and Bantu Administration offices were destroyed. At least 500 people were killed by police action, thousands injured and detained between June and December 1976, 11 people died in detention.

We have learnt from '76. But there is no sign that the message of '76, and of the last few years, has penetrated the heads of the oppressors. Botha's government has made it clear that they will never listen to our demands. To expect Botha to willingly give up power and make way for a new order of peace, justice, and democracy, is to suffer from sad illusions.

The killings of the last two years, the state of Emergency and the ongoing resistance of the oppressed all resistance are fundamental lessons: change can and will only come from the struggle of the masses themselves. More than ever before the power to build a new non-racial and democratic South Africa lies in the hands of the oppressed & exploited people. The gain that have been made will have to be defended: many more battles are still to be won. The outcome however is inevitable: Power will come into the hands of the workers and oppressed people.

Finally, a warning to this government: Our people are determined to commemorate June 16. It is a day of great significance to the oppressed people. Attempts by the police/army to interfere harass or disrupt commemorative activities can only lead to severe clashes and violence. If this happens, the police will have only themselves to blame.

Who are they trying to fool?

THIS is an open letter with which I hope to express my distress. I am writing this letter as an oppressed and distressed black of South Africa.

The same South Africa which is the country of my birth but whose luxuries I have been denied. I am distressed about the fact that there are still people like Mr Louis Nel who tries to justify the actions of the Apartheid regime.

I am distressed about the fact that there are still whites who go around spending our money on programmes like "Kibbel/Quibble".

I am distressed about the fact that our beloved president goes around making promises that he himself knows will not be kept. To him I want to say: Mr Both, you are bluffing nobody but yourself.

I am distressed about the fact that students and some of our teachers are still arrested and subjected to harassment by the police under the pretext that they are trying to restore Law and Order.

To those who blame the ANC for the escalating violence in our townships, I want to say: Before you condemn the ANC for propagating violence, you will have to condemn State terrorism used by the SADF, and the SAP and the security police against unarmed blacks.

It is easy to say to people: "You must stop being violent, negotiation is the answer," while holding guns against their heads.

Victoria West is angry over detentions

I WANT to bring it to your attention that the people of Victoria West are angry.

We want to know why the police arrested our comrades for an illegal gathering. Those comrades are Justice Faas, Siphetho Eloff and Nomathemba Kweleta.

Justice Faas and Siphetho Eloff were arrested on Tuesday May 8 inside the court. Nomathemba Kweleta was arrested on May 12.

On May 12 people went to the police station to demand the immediate release of Com. Fass, Com. Eloff and Com. Kweleta. They were turned away by the police. No-one was released.

We believe that our comrades suffer. For our freedom our comrades die. For our freedom our comrades go to jail.

They have committed their lives to the struggle for freedom, justice and peace in our country. They are an inspiration to all. They stand for unity.

They stand for unity.

Yours in the struggle.
Viva Grassroots.

NDODANA SHAKES
BOOYSEN
Victoria West.

If you as the government use violence against your inhabitants, you must expect counter-violence from them.

I want to congratulate people like Winnie Mandela, Nelson Mandela, Beyers Naude, Breyten Breytenbach and all those who believe in freedom, justice and equality.

To those who think that they can continue their reign of terror and exploitation, I want to say:

"You can go on slaughtering our people. You can continue to deny us our birthright. But just remember that we have had enough. From now on it is a hand for a hand and a tooth for a tooth.

The blacks in this country will fight you every step of the way. We will fight you on the streets, in our schools and in our factories. You may have guns, sjamboks and teargas, but we have our unity.

I want to quote Breyten Breytenbach: "The context here tonight is unreal. Obscene, even. While we enjoy the festivities in our gowns and tuxedos, children out there - the conscience, the will to freedom of our country - are fighting the Boer with nothing more than stones."

I sincerely hope that you will publish this letter because it is only by talking straight that we can move towards a better South Africa".

Thank you very much.

Yours sincerely,
STUDENT
Bellville South Senior Secondary School.

**Cling to the idea of freedom**

WITH the new year in its third month, many of our comrades are in a state of anger and confusion. We have been oppressed, brutally beaten and even shot dead.

Our courage and support for all the freedom parties will not

vanish or reduce. It will only let it rise because we know what it means to stand up for our rights.

Many of our new Standard 6 students are confused and they are the ones we must help to feel the fingers of the oppression tighten around them.

We must teach them a lot of things, but we cannot teach them the feeling of real freedom or the voices of thousands of people who gave their lives for the struggle for freedom.

I just want to say to all comrades and freedom parties, like the UDF, to cling to the

idea of freedom and it will not be long before the crumbling Nazi government gives in to the voices of our people.

From just another (freedom longing and bitter)

COMRADE of
PHOENIX SSS
MANENBERG

IMEKO YASE KHAYELITSHA

THINA singabantu abamnyama sihleli intlalo ebuhlungu elizweni lthu. Abantu abamnyama bakhelwa izindlu ezingagqitywanga, abamhlophe bazifumana zigqityiwe zinayo yonke into.

Apha eKhayelitsha izindlu zincinci zingamagumbi ababini Abanye abantu bfuluswa ngenkani apho babezakehele khona amatyotyombe amakhulu belungiselela abantwana babo.

Bafuduswa abantu beyi femeli enabantu abayi il bafakwe kulo magumbi mabini benjalo. Akukho ntlonipho kwaphela xa abazali benokulala egumbini elinye nabantwana.

Izindlu azigqitywanga ukwakhwiwa kodwa kufuneka sirenta iR20 kunye namanzi ngenyanga. Abanye abantu basuka eGugulethu berenta iR18.37 ngenyanga kodwa baphinde barenta i2rooms nge R20,00 Isanti ingena kwindawo zonke zendlu nokuba sekuvaliwe. Umntu uthi ngoku esavule imbiza ezamisa kube kungena isanti erufini. Amanzi aselwayo ashushu kuba imibhobho yamanzi yeyeplastic. Ukuba yophukile awunaku-

yidibanisa.

Uthi xa uyokukwazisa ngento eyophukileyo uxelelwe ukuba awurenti. Singazirenta njani izindlu ezingagqitywanga? Ndijonge indlela ezakhiwe ngayo abantu abayi 8 bangaluthyhiliza udonga luwe Xa umntu efikelwe zindwendwe akukho ndawo yokulala. Kunganjani xa sinokuthatha abamhlophe bazokuhlala apha e Khayelitsha? Izikolo zihle kodwa izindlu zinjalo. Akunakwakhwiwa izikolo ezihle edaweni yezindlu kuba asilali zikolweni.

Amxabiso ebhasi axhomile kuba kukude sifana nje nabantu abasemaphandleni. Itoilets zingaphakathi kodwa ukuphuma komntu kunuka yonke indlu kuba zincinci. Kukwabhetele amatyotyombe kunezi zindlu. Sijikelezwe yimikhosi yokhuselo neyomoya kuqhuma uthuli nje uhamba.

"SIFUNA IZINDLU HAYI AMAGOBHOZA EMATSHISI".

You must help me find her

I HAVE heard of all your good works and do so hope you may be able to help through your publication.

I am searching for my step or second mother whose name is Lilian Absolom Johanneson, who came originally from Napier, Cape.

She was the common-law wife of my father S. Patchay (deceased). He apparently met her again in 1976 in Cape Town where she lived in the old Corporation Buildings. At that time she was also the mother of two daughters.

My father and Lilian had three children, two daughters and a son.

I would be very grateful if we can find out if Lilian is still alive or not.

It is most urgent that we find out of Lilian's whereabouts. God willing she is still alive.

Her age must be about 60 or more, she is five feet four or five feet three, white-haired and soft-voiced.

I wish your work and grassroots more strength in the community.

With love and good wishes.

Mrs Leila Pasha
11C Bridge Avenue
London
W.6. U.K.
(formerly of Edendale, PMB).

APRIL FREE AFTER 15 YEARS

FIFTEEN years on Robben Island has not "softened up" James April nor made him bitter.

"My feelings and abhorrence of apartheid are well known. My opposition to the government has not softened at all," he said recently from his sister's house in Silvertown.

April was released from Robben Island on Friday April 9 after serving a 15-year sentence for three contraventions of the old Terrorism Act.

He left the country in 1964 after being detained under the 90-day detention law and joined the African National Congress's military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe.

He returned to South Africa in 1970 and was arrested in Durban. In a statement from the dock at the time he said he had been kept in solitary confinement and beaten up by the security police.

"I believe what I did was the right thing. I am prepared to face the consequences of my actions no matter how stiff the penalty may be," he told the court.

That is why he is not bitter today.

"I was in jail for political reasons. There is no room for bitterness. My politics have never been vengeful or vindictive. But I suppose I have now also been overcome by the warm welcome I received from everybody," he said.

April, 46, a former University of Cape Town student, said it felt good to be back in his hometown - after 22 years.

"I was so excited and overcome by the sense of freedom when I was released that I did not even notice that the warders did not give me any travel money."

April was kept in a single cell in B Section of Robben Island for about 10 years - from early 1972 to 1982.

In this section, he was kept with people like Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Govan Mbeki, Ahmed Kathrada - all the Rivonia trialists. Most of them were moved to Pollsmoor in 1981.

He asked for, and got a transfer to a communal cell in the general section G in 1982.

"The two general sections, F and G, used to be like one, but they only used to lock the doors at night, but later they separated the sections and applied the classification rigorously.

"The people in my cell came from different parts of the country, had different languages, occupations, different political backgrounds - some had no strong affiliations.

"People are put together on the Island and have to live together.

"The older leadership tried to minimise political differences. People like Mandela, Mbeki, Sisulu - especially Sisulu, he's a wonderful person.

"The younger people learnt a lot from them. In this way the 1976 and 1980 crowd matured a lot.

"They allowed some mixing on the Island recently. We in G Section were allowed to play sport with those in B section on a Saturday.

"After 1981, they also allowed us to have the newspapers. It used to be a privilege before that."

April said he would keep a low profile for a while."

"I'm definitely not opting out. I first want to get familiar with the situation, meet old friends before I decide what to do. It's been 22 years!" he said.

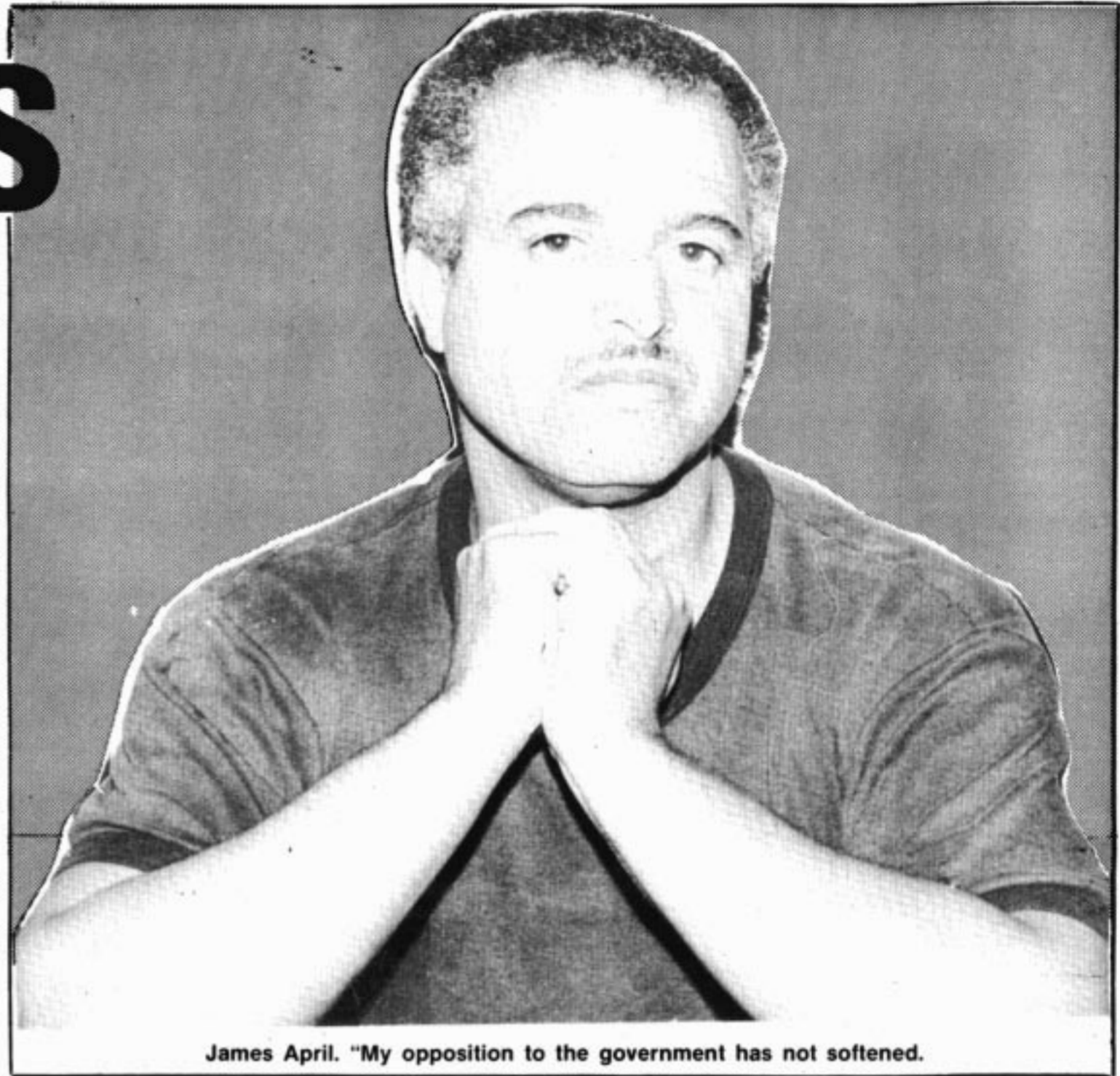
He also said he did not want to make any strong statements immediately before he thought about things.

He spoke highly about his close friend and comrade, Basil February, who left the country with him in 1964.

"Basil died in Zimbabwe at a very early age. He was only 24. I was 27.

"We went through many things together. We were in the Coloured People's Congress together. We were arrested together in 1963 for slogan-painting and then detained again under the 90-day detention law.

"We left the country together in 1964. Basil was a real hero. He died a hero."



James April. "My opposition to the government has not softened."

The Island prison

ROBBEN Island is the apartheid government's maximum security prison for political prisoners.

The Island, a few kilometres from Cape Town, is a tiny windy place made of limestone.

It is terribly hot in summer, especially in the lime quarry where prisoners are forced to work.

During the winter the island becomes very cold, with rain and strong winds most of the time. The icy Benguella Current from the Atlantic Ocean adds to the cold.

Robben Island is closely linked with the struggle for freedom in South Africa.

Six years after Jan van Riebeeck landed at the Cape in 1652, the first political protester was banished to Robben Island.

This was Autshumayo, a leader of the Khoi people. (In the books

written by the racist historians, Autshumayo is called "Harry the Strandloper". The Khoi people are called "Hottentots".)

Many Muslim political leaders from Java and the East were also banished to Robben Island by the Dutch. One such person was Sheikh Abdul Rahman Matura, who eventually died on the Island.

In the 1800s more freedom fighters were banished to the Island. Makana, a commander of the Xhosa army in the Fourth War of Resistance against the British was sent to Robben Island in the 1830s.

He was followed by another brave war leader, Maqoma in 1834.

After a "treason trial" Longalibolele, a chief from Natal, was imprisoned on Robben Island in 1873.

During the Second World War, Robben Island became a naval fortress. Many underground tunnels were built and heavy artillery was placed on the Island.

In the early 1960s when Verwoerd was Prime Minister and Vorster his Minister of Justice, Robben Island once again became a political prison.

Hundreds of people jailed for ANC and PAC activities were sent to the Island. The Rivonia trialists - Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Govan Mbeki, Ahmed Kathrada, Raymond Mhlaba, Elias Motsa-ledi and Andrew Mlangeni - were among the first to be sent to Robben Island.

It is virtually impossible to escape from the Island.

Only one person is believed to have escaped - Autshumayo, the Khoi leader.

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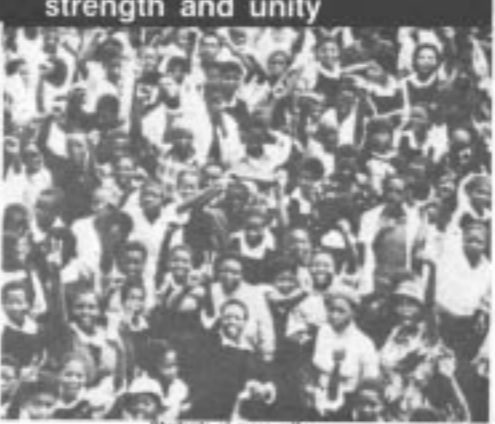
Victim of police bullets.



Overcome with grief at a funeral.



Youth face guns of policemen armed with bricks and dustbin lids.



Students at mass rally.

SOWETO: HEART OF RESISTANCE

THE struggles of '76 soon spread to all parts of the country. But some of the bitterest struggles were in Soweto - where the spark of resistance was kindled, and where it continued burning for the longest.

The youth and students of Soweto played a leading role throughout '76. At first, they were organised in an organisation called SASM - the South African Student Movement.

Later, in the beginning of August, the Soweto Students Representative Council (SSRC) was formed. This represented every single school in Soweto, and

to lose by staying away from work.

When the students called another stayaway three weeks later, the migrant workers got very angry. 10-000 Zulu workers from townships hostel went on the rampage, attacking students and residents.

The students learnt from this bitter experience. On 13, 14 and 15 September, they called another stayaway. This time they were very careful to speak to workers,

especially the migrant workers. This was the most successful stayaway, spreading to many parts of the country on the third day.

From mid-October, they called for all shebeens to close. Some shebeens complied. But this was quite a successful campaign.

As part of this period of mourning, the students called for another 5 day stayaway in November. Very few workers responded. It was not very well organised, and many workers felt they could not afford to take more time off work.

At the end of the year, the students called for a Black Christmas to mourn the deaths of the many martyrs. Most people in Soweto heeded this call.

One of the new forms of

organisation developed by the students were mass funerals. They took up the slogan DON'T MOURN, MOBILISE! Meetings were banned, but the huge funerals symbolised political speeches with prayer.

These funerals were often violently attacked by police. Police violence in Soweto was very bad throughout '76. The incidents used to speak of an unmarked "green car" with plain clothes policemen, who used to drive around shooting indiscriminately. Students were often attacked if they walked around in school uniforms.

was one of the most important organisations of this time.

Soon after it was formed, the SSRC realised it had to call on the community to support the struggles of the students. There was a parents' organisation (the Black Parents' Association). This had leaders such as Winnie Mandela, and Dr Motlana. It helped build the relationship between parents and students - although students always took the lead.

On August 4, the SSRC called on all Soweto residents to stay away from work. This was a big success - but there were many problems. The students did not really consider the problems that workers were facing. And they did not speak to the migrant workers. The migrant workers had the most

especially the migrant workers. This was the most successful stayaway, spreading to many parts of the country on the third day.

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The notorious 'green car'.

THE first most important thing I remember in 1976 was when I came home from work one day - it was August 11, I think. And there was a crowd of school kids and some older people standing around Gagele's police station. They were demanding the release of some students. They weren't causing trouble, just standing there, and singing. They even had cards saying "we are not fighting" and all that.

Then suddenly, there were gun shots, and people started running and screaming. The police were just shooting our children, like dogs in the street. Those young kids were falling, covered in blood. But they were so brave, they still faced the police like there was no danger.

That night we were very, very angry. Before then, I was scared. We had many problems, problems with passes, with paying the rent. I earned very low wages. But I had to keep my job to stay in Cape Town. And there were very many workers losing their jobs that time. So I didn't want trouble, didn't want to get involved in anything.

But after I saw the police kill my children like that, and the way those students stood up to them I thought, "We workers must do something. We must find ways of supporting our kids. The boss can't get away with this."

After that, the workers at parents supported the students. There were many street battles, especially in Gagele's, Langs and Nyanga, but in the coloured areas also. The police would always get break up a peaceful meeting, or force into crowds of students. Then people would get so angry, that they would start burning - not just anything, they would burn bric-a-brac, and the Bantu Administration offices and so on, all the things in government used to keep us down. They burnt schools too. Now it's much better - now we say, we must keep the schools for our liberation. But then, liberals seemed too far away!

The workers joined these battles. It was really, a lot of workers got away from work those two days. The bosses threatened to sack us - some did lose their jobs. But we didn't stop us. We stayed away from work, and we saw how it went everybody. There was no adjustment, no bread. Young boys and girls had to sell weapons, and look after the pot pump. Then I started to see a worker power.

JUNE 16 1976

The day South Africa Woke up

JUNE 16, 1976 is a day South Africa will never forget. The events of this day were to spark off a flame of resistance which would spread to every corner of our land. And in the ten years that followed, the flame has continued to burn ever more strongly.

On this page, GRASSROOTS looks at some of the events of 1976. We pay tribute to those who gave up their lives for our struggle. And we salute the courage and unity of the students and workers, who, by their actions, were to change the course of South African history for ever...

ON June 16, 1976, life began as usual for most of the people of Soweto. But amongst the students, there was an air of excitement.

For three days, the students had been planning a huge march against the compulsory use of Afrikaans as a medium of instruction. Today, students in small groups would be marching from all over Soweto, to meet at the Orlando stadium.

At 7 a.m., the well ordered marches set off, singing freedom songs and carrying placards made from scrap cardboard. Soon, several thousand students gathered in Orlando. One of the leaders said, "Brothers, we have heard the police are coming. Keep calm. Do not provoke them."

Then, about 50 policemen arrived. The pupils began quietly singing the national anthem, "Moroa Boloka Sechaba sa henu". Suddenly, a policeman threw a teargas canister into the crowd.

The crowd did not move.

Then a policeman drew a revolver. A single shot rang out. Then the children screamed. More shots were fired, and many children fell.

Then the children started fighting back - with stones and bricks. A journalist said, "What frightened me was that the children seemed oblivious of danger. They just kept running towards the police, right into the bullets."

One of the first to die was 13 year old Hector Pieterson. He has become a symbol of the martyrs of 1976.

For the next three days, Soweto was in flames. Workers returning home found themselves in a war zone. The youth and older students attacked symbols of oppression - Bantu Administration Board offices, bottle stores and beerhalls.

They battled against the police with bottles and bricks. And the police kept shooting. By dawn, June 17, over 1 500 police had been moved to Soweto.

The resistance soon spread - to Alexandra, townships all around Johannesburg, the University of Zululand. And, on the international market, the price of gold dropped 75%.

The police carried on shooting. A man in Alexandra describes the death of his friend "They shot him in the laundry. He did nothing. He was just going to relieve himself."

By June 19, over 300 had died, hundreds of WRAB buildings, beerhalls, bottle stores, community halls and schools had been attacked and burnt down. A brief, uneasy calm returned - it would not last long.

1976 had begun - a new age in our people's struggle for freedom had dawned...

10 years closer to freedom

"The storm has not struck yet. We are only experiencing the whirlwinds that go before it" Prime minister Vorster, 31/12/1976.

SINCE 1976, our people's resistance has continued to grow from strength to strength. A summary of events since 1976 gives us some idea of the massive wave of resistance that has swept across our country:

- 1976**
 - 41 have 575 people died and 3 901 were injured.
 - 12 960 were arrested for street related offences.
 - 1000 black communists all over the country were involved in resistance.
 - 623 were banned and 700 detained.
- 1977**
 - School boycotts continued in many areas.
 - The Soweto Students Representative Council and the Soweto parents engaged in a campaign against the Uthmaniyana Councils. Most members of the Uthmaniyana Councils.
 - 119 people died in detention, including Steve Biko.
 - 19 organisations and several newspapers banned.
 - 481 people were charged in security trials.
- 1978**
 - By June 16, 14 360 were convicted on street related charges, and 282 detained.
 - Federation of South African Trade Unions (FOSATU) formed.
- 1979**
 - COSAS and AZASO formed.
 - South African Allied Workers Union and many other progressive unions formed.
 - African trade unions led after re-constituted by the Workers Commission.
 - Boycott of Fries and Mena called by Food and Catering Workers Union. (First consumer boycott since the 1960s).
 - 336 detained.
- 1980**
 - A number of unions formed. Boycott of and more called by the General Workers Union. In July, 10 000 unemployed workers went on strike in Johannesburg.
 - Boycott of Cape Town schools started in April and spread to all parts of South Africa.
 - 561 detained and 16 307 convicted on political charges.
- 1981**
 - Boycott of South African Indian Councils started.
 - Several organisations united to protest the 20th Anniversary of the South African Republic. Calls made for the release of Mandela and other political prisoners.
- 1982**
 - 636 detained and 20 banned.
 - SAAWU calls for boycott of Wilson Rowley products. 342 strikes affecting 26 013 workers.
- 1983**
 - Cape Area Housing Action Committee and other civic organisations formed in Cape Town.
 - Sporadic school boycotts.
 - 204 detained. Moll Aggett and Ernest Dipho died in detention.
- 1984**
 - United Democratic Front launched in August with 575 affiliated organisations.
 - Ban boycott started in the Ciskei. Only school off in March 1984.
 - School boycotts affected 30 000 students all over the country.
- 1985**
 - School boycott continues, affecting 600 000 students in August.
 - National 80% boycott of schools and Indian elections for the bicameral parliament.
 - Number of martyrs. The biggest was in November, involving 300 000 workers and 400 000 students. There were also 609 workers affecting 101 842 workers.
 - 175 people were killed in instances of political violence.
 - People in Vaal started rent boycott and SASSA groups called Vaal townships for the first time in October.
 - 530 detained under security legislation and 1 077 detained under other laws.
- 1986**
 - State of Emergency declared on July 21.
 - School boycott over entire country.
 - About R218 million damage was caused by political attacks.
 - 7 200 were detained under emergency legislation.
 - Resistance and others went to speak to the ANC. Mandela gave call to other political prisoners.
 - National consumer boycott of white owned shops forces many to close down.
 - COSAATU launched in November with over 300 000 members.
 - Between Sept. 1984 and March 1986, 1 416 people have died. At least 25 members of the security forces were killed and 834 injured.

The flame spreads

THE flame which started in Soweto was soon to spread all over South Africa. Within the first week there was resistance all over the Transvaal. By mid July, resistance had spread to all the main centres in the Western Cape, Eastern Cape, Natal and Transvaal.

But it was not only confined to the cities. The people of many small towns, such as Oudtshoorn, Graaff Reinet, Beaufort West, Mafeking, and Upington staged demonstrations and attacked official buildings and schools.

A very important aspect was the resistance in the Bantustans. Schools were attacked in the Ciskei, Qwa Qwa, Lebowa, Transkei, Bophuthata and KwaZulu.

In many of these areas, the authorities were forced to close schools and universities. The University of Fort Hare, in the Transkei, was closed in July for the rest of the year. The Bophuthata Legislative Assembly was burnt down.

The homeland leaders responded with anger and harsh repression. Many students were arrested, and injured or killed.

Chief Mangoshe, at a speak in Mafeking, said the police should use harsher measures. "In fact, I have told the police to even shoot my own child" he said. He also made residents pay for any damage caused by arson attacks.

Despite this, the people continued to resist. The Transkei gained its "independence" on 26 October, 1976. The people clearly stated what they thought of this independence. They boycotted celebrations throughout the country - even though they were offered free beer and food!

The '76 struggles showed that the people rejected the homelands. After this, the homeland leaders could never claim that they represented anyone but themselves.

1976 Changed my life

Cape Town worker speaks to GRASSROOTS about 1976.

It was really, a lot of workers got away from work those two days. The bosses threatened to sack us - some did lose their jobs. But we didn't stop us. We stayed away from work, and we saw how it went everybody. There was no adjustment, no bread. Young boys and girls had to sell weapons, and look after the pot pump. Then I started to see a worker power.

After the stayaway, the students went on a campaign to stop drinking. They said the bosses used drink to keep us in our place. So in October, they went around to all the shebeens and said the shebeens must close down.

Well this was a good thing, I think. It was true that many workers would drink to forget their problems. Then sometimes, this drink would cause problems at home and so on. But there was a lot of trouble with the migrant workers. The thing was, for many migrant workers drink was all they had. They had such hard lives, they didn't have their families with them. The students were sometimes too hard. They didn't explain properly to the migrant workers. There were trouble makers in the hostels set the migrants against the students. And some say that the police also set them against the students.

That caused some very bad trouble, with fighting between the migrants and other workers and students. That was so sad, because the bosses were just using our people to fight each other. But it made most of our people much more aware of the problems with liquor and so on.

There was a lot of fighting until the end of the year, especially in Gagele's, Nyanga and Langs. Many sad things happened. A lot of young people died, or were injured. I know one girl who was shot when she was just walking to the shops. Now she will never walk anywhere again, because the bullet went into her back. A young, beautiful girl like that!

And lots of our young people were sent to jail, or left the country to join Umkhonto we Sizwe. So now there are not too many arrested who were involved in 1976.

But many good things happened too. For instance, we workers and parents started thinking very hard. We thought, it is not enough for us just to support the students. We must find ways of organising ourselves. Because we have many of our own problems, that the students can't properly understand.

So since that time, you have seen all these organisations. I am in a trade union now. My wife, she's part of a women's organisation. And there are also citizens, and youth organisations and so on. Now when we fight, we can fight properly together - students, workers, parents. Because we are organised, and we know better how to struggle.

We are stronger because we are united with other citizens, too. My union is part of COSAATU. So now, all us workers are together all over South Africa. That makes us very strong.

So sometimes, it seems easy to look back at '76, and say "Oh, we didn't know anything those days". But really, I think 1976 was so important. We wouldn't have all these organisations, we wouldn't be so strong now if it wasn't for 1976.

In 1976, we learnt two very big things. I learnt first that "it is better to die on your feet than to live on your knees." I mean, even if you are very scared of the boss

guns and jails, you must stand up and fight, otherwise he will just keep you a slave all your life. And your children will be slaves, and so on. And really, we have seen, that when we stand up and fight, the boss can't stop us. Since 1976, we have just grown stronger all the time.

And then the other thing we learnt was unity. People really stood together and supported each other in 1976. The workers stood by the students. The coloured and African workers and students stood together - that was something quite new.

Even the white students at the university supported us. They got around on a march to our townships.

So that's what I can say about 1976. That was the day the people of South Africa woke up again. And now, the government won't be able to make us go to sleep because nothing will stop us now until we have our freedom!



Victim of police bullets.



Overcome with grief at a funeral.



Youth face guns of policemen armed with bricks and dustbin lids.



Students at mass rally.

SOWETO: HEART OF RESISTANCE

THE struggles of '76 soon spread to all parts of the country. But some of the bitterest struggles were in Soweto — where the spark of resistance was kindled, and where it continued burning for the longest.

Later, in the beginning of August, the Soweto Students Representative Council (SSRC) was formed. This represented every single school in Soweto, and

to lose by staying away from work.

When the students called another stayaway three weeks later, the migrant workers got very angry. 10 000 Zulu workers from Muzambique hostel went on the rampage, attacking students and residents.

The students learnt from this bitter experience. On 13, 14 and 15 September, they called another stayaway. This time they were very careful to speak to workers,

especially the migrant workers. This was the most successful stayaway, spreading to many parts of the country on the third day.

From mid-October, they called for all shebeens to close. Some shebeens complied. But this was quite a successful campaign.

As part of this period of mourning, the students called for another 5 day stayaway in November. Very few workers responded. It was not very well organised, and many workers felt they could not afford to take more time off work.

At the end of the year, the students called for a Black Christmas to mourn the deaths of the many martyrs. Most people in Soweto heeded this call.

One of the new forms of organisation developed by the students were mass funerals. They took up the slogan DON'T MOURN, MOBILISE! Meetings were banned, but the huge funerals symbolised political speeches with prayers.

These funerals were often violently attacked by police. Police violence in Soweto was very bad throughout '76. The incidents used to speak of an unnamed "green car" with plain clothes policemen, who used to drive around shooting indiscriminately. Students were often attacked if they walked around in school uniforms.

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JUNE 16 1976

The day South Africa Woke up

At 7 a.m., the well ordered marches set off, singing freedom songs and carrying placards made from scrap cardboard. Soon, several thousand students gathered in Orlando. One of the leaders said, "Brothers, we have heard the police are coming. Keep calm. Do not provoke them."

Then, about 50 policemen arrived. The pupils began quietly singing the national anthem, "Morona Boleka Sochaba sa hena". Suddenly, a policeman threw a teargas canister into the crowd. The crowd did not move. Then a policeman drew a revolver. A single shot rang out. Then the children screamed. More shots were fired, and many children fell.

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 - 1000 black communities all over the country were involved in resistance.
 - 623 were banned and 700 detained.
- 1977**
 - School boycotts continued in many areas.
 - The Soweto Students Representative Council and the Seneca parents engaged in a campaign against the Uthmaniyana Councils. Most members of the URCs resigned.
 - 119 people died in detention, including Steve Biko.
 - 19 organisations and several newspapers banned.
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- 1978**
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 - African trade unions boycotted after recommendations by the Wachters Commission.
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Cape Town worker speaks to GRASSROOTS about 1976.

THE first most important thing I remember in 1976 was when I came home from work one day — it was August 11, I think. And there was a crowd of school kids and some older people standing around Guguletu police station. They were demanding the release of some students. They weren't causing trouble, just standing there, and singing. They even had cards saying "we are not fighting" and all that.

Then suddenly, there were gun shots, and people started running and screaming. The police were just shooting our children, like dogs in the street. Those young kids were falling, covered in blood. But they were so brave, they still faced the police like there was no danger.

That night we were very, very angry. Before then, I was scared. We had many problems, problems with passes, with paying the rent. I earned very low wages. But I had to keep my job to stay in Cape Town. And there were very many workers losing their jobs that time. So I didn't want trouble, didn't want to get involved in anything.

But after I saw the police killing our children like that, and the way those students stood up to them I thought, "We workers must do something. We must find ways of supporting our kids. The boss can't get away with this."

After that, the workers at parent supported the students. There were many street battles, especially in Guguletu, Langa and Nyanga, but in the coloured area also. The police would always attack these battles. They would come and break up a peaceful meeting, or tear into crowds of students. Then people would get so angry, that they would start burning — not just anything, they would burn brambles, and the Bantu Administration offices and so on, all the things in government used to keep us down. They burnt schools too. Now it is known better — now we say, we must keep the schools for our liberation. But then, liberation seemed too far away!

The workers joined these battles. It was really, a lot of workers went away from work those two days. The bosses threatened to sack us — some did lose their jobs. But we didn't stop us. We stayed away from work, and we saw how it went everybody. There was no adjustment, no bread. Young boys and girls had to sell newspapers, and look after the pot pump. Then I started to see worker power.

1986 - THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES...

guns and jails, you must stand up and fight, otherwise he will just keep you a slave all your life. And your children will be slaves, and so on. And really, we have seen, that when we stand up and fight, the boss can't stop us. Since 1976, we have just grown stronger all the time.

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FREE HEALTH SERVICE IS A RIGHT

EARLIER this year patients attending general hospitals noticed big posters advertising "No free hospital treatment after April 1 1986".

At the same time, a new Groote Schuur Hospital costing R300-million is being built.

On April 1, patients stood in queues for hours while hospital clerks tried to implement the new fees structure. Many patients were turned away as they did not have the necessary documents, like income tax certificate or identity document.

An on-the-spot investigation by a local newspaper showed that some people had waited for up to four or five hours. In some cases they had not even had their details taken by the hospital receptionist.

When patients were asked to comment, they complained bitterly that it was always the poor that suffered the most; if this had taken place at a private hospital, there would have been a major outcry against the uncivil handling of sick people.

When confronted, hospital authorities admitted that some hospitals were experiencing "serious problems" and that some patients had waited several hours for medical attention.

"It is clear that the new fees structure seriously threatens the doctor-patient relationship. The patient is less willing to approach the doctor as he now has to worry about paying for his health services," a doctor, who did not want to be named, told us.

WHAT DOES THE NEW STRUCTURE MEAN?

Firstly, the new fees structure does in fact benefit some people and is to some extent an improvement on the old tariffs. It is in this vein that the authorities have claimed that the new structure benefits the poor.

When you enter the hospital, you have to produce a payslip of the family income. You will then be assessed and told how much to pay. Many people object to this. They feel their payslip is their own business and should have nothing to do with the clerk at the hospital or with health at all.

Obviously, if two people work they will have to pay a lot of money to the hospital.

For example, if the father earns R450 a month and the mother earns R250, a total of R700 a month, and if they have

two children, they would have to pay R20 a day (144 a day if admitted to an intensive care unit) plus extra for X-rays, blood tests, as well as having to buy medicine at a private pharmacy as the hospital will not provide enough tablets.

Thus, if you spend five days in the intensive care unit, the entire monthly income will be used up.

WILL THE SITUATION BE BETTER IF YOU ARE ON MEDICAL AID?

No. The above rates also apply to medical aid patients. Such exorbitant fees could rapidly deplete your medical aid allocation. You then have to pay all additional expenses out of your own pocket.

And if you wish to receive medicines from the hospital, you will have to beg for exemption from the superintendent.

In the long run, less money will be available for food for your family, your employer will still be deducting medical aid from your salary and you will be paying for extra medicines yourself.

Already the Medico Medical Aid Scheme has gone bankrupt and others will have to increase the contributions paid by members.

WHY HAS THIS NEW FEE STRUCTURE COME ABOUT?

Because the government wants to recover the cost of health from the patients themselves. The government also wants to encourage private hospitals to be built by the capitalists so that they can make a profit out of health.

The new hospital tariffs are designed to force all medical aid patients and those who pay more than R150 tax a year to go to private hospitals.

The government and the big bosses work together in this way to impoverish the working people of South Africa.

It is believed that the proposed new private hospital in Mitchells Plain will receive a government subsidy for unoccupied beds and the doctors involved in the scheme expect of profit of R5-million in addition to the money they make from consultations and other things.

With health care being reduced to a profit and loss arrangement, patients will find it difficult to rely on the integrity of doctors to look after the interests of the



While millions are spent on the new Groote Schuur, this is what Mitchells Plain has as a day hospital.

What the Charter says about health

IT IS clear that the health needs of South Africa's people are NOT being met by the government.

While the government spends billions of rands on defence, people are still dying of malnutrition, measles, cholera and TB. All these diseases are related to the poverty experienced by the majority of South Africa's people.

The government needs to take note of what the Freedom Charter says about health to see what the people's idea of a health service is.

- The Charter realises that the success of the system depends on it coming from the people themselves. The people must devise, revise and accept it democratically. "The people shall govern" - the people shall decide on their health system.

- The people shall have houses, security and comfort. Diseases are not only caused by germs but also by poor housing, poor education, lack of sanitation.

If we have proper housing we

will not get illnesses like cholera which is a result of overcrowding and infected water.

The Charter says that the land shall be shared amongst all who work it. There will be enough land for everyone and squatter camps will not be necessary.

Land is necessary to grow food to prevent our children suffering malnutrition.

We can see that if we follow the Freedom Charter, we can look forward to a healthy, happy and peaceful life for all oppressed people.

If we sit back and accept what Botha's government means by health we will continue to experience poverty, malnutrition and diseases like TB, measles and cholera. We will continue to pay for an ever-increasing cost of health.

Let us look forward to the health system drawn up by the people for the people.

patients, rather than the interests of their own pockets?

There is no control over the doctors who work in private hospitals - it's each one for himself.

Doctors at these hospitals earn a lot of money while the general workers earn very little (an average of less than R250 a month).

Since these hospitals will be in areas defined under the Group Areas Act, these health facilities are likely to be incorporated into the new system of "coloured" health. Some arrangements are likely to be made whereby "coloured" health will in future run these facilities.

In this way, the failed tri-cameral system will be smuggled into our areas through the backdoor.

WHAT IS AN ALTERNATIVE TO ALL THIS?

1. There should be free, adequate and accessible health facilities for all.
2. The cost of medicines should be borne by the state.
3. A national health service should be run on a non-profit basis.
4. Private practise in health should not be allowed to benefit a few at the expense of the majority.

Health is a right to be enjoyed by all.

A prison hospital?

PATIENTS at Groote Schuur Hospital are alarmed at the number of policemen and prison-warders who have been allowed into the hospital wards recently to guard both criminal and political prisoners.

"As hierdie plek soveel dokters as polisiemanne gehad het, sou ons lankal klaar gewees het," was one patient's remark.

It may have been said as a joke, but it spells out the growing belief among patients at GSH that they are entering a prison hospital.

Patients and doctors were alarmed at what appears to be implicit co-operation between the policemen and the hospital authorities.

A doctor, who cannot be named for professional reasons, gave many examples of how policemen often refused doctors' permission to speak to or examine patients in private.

He claimed that often, depending on the prisoner and the policeman, doctors would have difficulty in examining the patients, when the policeman refused to remove handcuffs or leg-chains.

It is difficult to believe that prison patients, who are feeling extremely ill, would be able to overpower and run away from a policeman armed with a gun in the hospital," the doctor said.

He said a common sight at the height of unrest was policemen in the Trauma Unit removing patients whom they thought had been involved in the unrest.

"They, in fact, sat in their vans outside the hospital watching for cars from the townships so that they could grab patients injured in the unrest.

"Doctors who confronted them were told that there was an agreement between them and the hospital, allowing them to remove any patients after they had been treated by the doctors.

"Understandably, patients no longer felt that they could trust the medical staff at GSH and preferred to treat themselves or seek alternative treatment, which very often was inadequate.

"The hospital authorities, through their co-operation with the police and the Prison Services, clearly deny the patients the confidentiality, trust and good relationship with the medical staff which is the patient's right. One cannot blame the patients for believing that there is little difference between the medical staff and the police.

"The dignity and the right of every patient has been compromised, making a mockery of any so-called reform process," the doctor said.

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UDF: 'RAIDS AN ACT OF DESPERATE GOVERNMENT'

MASSIVE protests, both locally and internationally, have greeted the South African government's recent raids into three neighbouring countries - Zambia, Botswana and Zimbabwe.

South African Defence Force planes raided the countries' capitals early on Monday May 19, to hit alleged African National Congress targets. Three people were killed and 13 injured.

All over the world, there have been new calls for sanctions against the South African government and the Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe has vowed to continue his support for the ANC.

Zambia's president Kenneth Kaunda has warned the South African government that next time all their planes may not return when they attack his country again. The ANC's headquarters are in Lusaka in Zambia.

Locally, the raids have been condemned by most progressive organisations.

Hundreds of people attended a protest meeting organised by the End Conscription campaign and the United

Wave of protest as SADF attacks 3 SA neighbours

Democratic Front in Claremont two days after the raid.

At UCT, about 300 students marched in protest against the raid. Police teargassed the students. Later, students stoned the police. Three students were arrested.

At Wits University in Johannesburg, students protested for a whole day and a mass meeting drew about 4 000 people. 13 people were arrested.

Protests were also held at several schools in the peninsula.

Murphy Morobe, acting national publicity secretary of the UDF, said from Johannesburg:

"The UDF has always said that peaceful co-existence is foreign to any immoral and heretical government like the South African

government is.

"For the oppressed majority, Pretoria's aggression against its neighbours is indicative of the crisis and desperation within the ruling class.

"Apartheid and peace are incompatible. Pretoria must know that the struggle is being waged inside South Africa. To then subject our neighbours to such brutalisation and blatant disregard to their territorial integrity, is the ultimate in state gangsterism and blackmail.

"We call on the international community to intensify the political, economical and cultural isolation of this regime.

"Complacency and so-called neutrality can only worsen the situation in Southern Africa."



Hout Bay squatters, with members of the Hout Bay Action Committee, take their plight to the EPG. Here they are addressed by General Olesgun Obasanjo, former ruler of Nigeria.

'WE WON'T LEAVE'

HOUT BAY squatters are continuing their fight for housing - in spite of being arrested and seeing their shacks demolished in attempts to force them to move to Khayelitsha.

More than 40 people, including a number of babies and small children, were arrested on May Day - hours before they were due to discuss their plight with the Divisional Council at a scheduled meeting.

The squatters have demanded that houses should be built at Hout Bay where they live and work.

Most of the people stayed in jail till the next Tuesday when they were released on bail of R40 each.

They were temporarily housed at a Catholic Church in Hout Bay. But over the

weekend they decided to erect one shelter for all the families at Dawidskraal where they had lived for many years.

The squatters have been fighting for years to be allowed to stay in Hout Bay. They have sent many delegations to the council with their demands.

When the Commonwealth's Eminent Persons Group was here recently, the squatters decided to go to them also.

About 10 representatives went to the luxury Newlands Hotel where the EPG was staying.

Mr Jeremy Pope, the EPG's lawyer, came downstairs to meet them and took them upstairs to a room where they had to wait for one of the EPG

After a few minutes, General Olusegun Obasanjo, a former president of Nigeria, came to speak to them.

He told them that the EPG was aware of their plight and would "look into the matter".

The squatters gave the EPG a memorandum outlining their plight.

"The South African Police and the Bantu Administration Board are forcing people to Khayelitsha just because we have a dark skin. They try to force us to Khayelitsha by continuously breaking down our shelters and arresting us without us even committing a crime. It cannot be a crime to ask for houses near our places of work.

"The government

has scrapped the pass laws, but still we face the same harassment in a different disguise. Where are these 'reforms' which are supposed to help us live a better life.

"We see that reforms cannot help us live a better life. What we need in South Africa is not reform but change which cannot be built on the apartheid foundation.

"We ask that the EPG takes note of our suffering even under reforms. We say that the EPG must use their position to put pressure on the government to stop forced removals and to help bring about real and meaningful change. The hardship that we face is faced by millions of oppressed people," the squatters said.

Belhar looks at rents, evictions

RENTS, evictions and water accounts were some of the problems discussed at the recent biennial general meeting of the Belhar Civic Association (Belca).

The meeting, held on Tuesday May 6 at the New Community Hall in Belhar, resolved to demand "rents we can afford".

"We reject in toto the current rental structures which impoverish and exploit our people.

"If the authorities are not prepared to change the rental structure, we will consider embarking on a total rent boycott until our demands are met," the meeting resolved.

Belca said they would show their total opposition to evictions by not allowing furniture to be put on the street.

"If it is put on the street, we will put it back," they said.

Belca demanded six weeks to pay water accounts. They said they were unhappy with the present arrangements with water accounts.

"So often people get their accounts too soon before the due date so

they cannot pay. We resolved to resist the Divisional Council if they should cut our water supply," said Belca chairperson Greg McMaster.

The meeting also demanded the release of all political prisoners and the unbanning of all people's organisations.

MacMaster, who was re-elected at the meeting, touched on a number of issues in his report.

"I would like to see Belca and other organi-

sations enlisting people strongly committed to improving the quality of life in Belhar and who unselfishly give their time to the struggle for liberation from oppression, exploitation and the violation of our human dignity," he said.

He also appealed for the "middle-class" areas of Belhar to work closer with the working-class areas.

A committee of 22 people were elected at the meeting. Dennis Hendricks was elected vice-chairperson.

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CAPE FEDERATION TO BE LAUNCHED

"We cannot protect our children if we stay at home and hold them back from the struggle. We must join hands with them. We and our neighbours can get troops out of the townships. So this violence can stop. Let us build a federation as a home for all the women of our country, black and white, from all walks of life".

Two hundred women from all over the Cape Province took up this cry and resolved to strengthen their women's organisation by forming women's street committees. They were in Cape Town to discuss how to form a national women's federation, at a workshop last month.

"We are reaching out to those women who are still sitting at home. We call on women to join organisations and to bring them into a federal structure".

A spokesperson said: "A federation will bind women of different organisations together so we can speak with one voice. On national women's day this year, women from organisations all over the country will build a national federation.

"As women we share many problems and worries. The police are killing our children. Vigilantes and gangs are chasing us from our homes and killing us.

Botha is forcing us out of town because we do not have money to buy houses or pay high busfares. This is his new pass law. At work we lose jobs when we have a baby and the bosses pay us lower wages than men.

"These problems do not only hurt black women, or women workers, or church women, or women comrades who sacrifice their lives in the struggle. They are our rights that the government denies to women. Botha will not give women their rights to be mothers, to have a job and be a citizen of a democratic South Africa. We women will have to organise to win these rights in a new South Africa where the people govern and the wealth of the country is shared."

Women returned to East London, Dimbaza, Uitenhage, Cradock and other areas to invite organisations to form a regional committee to discuss the women's struggle and the need for a federation to build the voice of the women of the nation. All over the Cape women are hard at work drawing other mothers into the struggle alongside their children who are prepared to sacrifice their lives for the future.



Women at the launch of the United Women's Congress.

Makhosikazi manyanani

Asinakubakhusela abantwana bethu sihleli ezindlini sibabambe kumzabalazo wabantu. Masime ecaleni kwabo. Thina nabamelwane bethu singawakhupha amajoni ezi lokishini, kuphele nobundlogongela obenziwa ngawo. Masakheni intlanganisela yemibutho yamakhosikazi njengekhaya lamakhosikazionke.

Malunga namakhulu amabini amakhosikazi alo lonke eli lase koloni aluthatha olu bizo aza agqiba kwelokuba akhe, aqinise imibutho yawo ngendlela yokuseka iikomiti zezitalato. Aye ekweli lase Kapa exoxa ngokwakha intlangani sela yamakhosikazi alo lonke eli.

Ii njongo zalamakhosikazi kukufikelela kuwo onke amakhosikazi asahleli ezindlini. Aye ahlaba ikhwelo lokuba amakhosikazi mawajoyine imibutho khonukuze adibane kule ntlanganisela (Federation). IFederation le iyakubanisa amakhosika zi azo zonke iintlanga nayo yonke imibutho ukuze sikwazi uku-thetha ngazwinye. Ngomhla omkhulu wamakhosika-zi i 9th ka August imibutho yamakhosikazi alo lonke eli iyakwakha uzwelonke i National Federation.

Ezi nkathazo azihluphi makhosikazi amnyama kuphela, okanye amakhosikazi aphantelayo, okanye awecawe, okanye asemzabalazweni nawancama ubombi bawo ngenxa yomzabalazo. Ngamalungelo ethu la urulumente angafuni ukusinika. UBotha akasoze awanike amakhosikazi amalungelo awo wokuba ngumzali, nemisebenzi kwakunye namalungelo okuba ngabemi kwi South Africa engakhethe bala, Thina makhosikazi masiquzele ukuze sifumane amalungelo ethu kwi South Africa entsha apho abantu bayakulawula nobutyebi bomhlaba bohlulelwe wonke ubani.

Amakhosikazi aye aphindela eMonti, eDimbaza, eTinara, e Kaladonkhwe nakwe zinye iindawo ngenjongo yokumisela iikomiti yengingqi kuxoxwe ngomzabalazo wamakhosikazi, nokwakha i Federation khonukuze sithethe ngazwinye. Kulo lonke eli amakhosikazi aququzelela ukuba amakhosikazi ajoyine umzabalazo nabantwana babo abanikezele ngobomi babo ngenjongo yokufumana inkululeko.

Cradock 4: Their struggle continues

THIS month it will be one year since the brutal murder of four prominent Eastern Cape leaders of the UDF - Matthew Goniwe, Sparrow Mkhonto, Fort Calata and Sicelo Mhlawuli.

They disappeared on June 27 last year after attending a UDF briefing in Port Elizabeth and were on their way back to Cradock. Their burnt bodies were found a few days later.

Comrades of the four said at the time that Goniwe had told them he would not stop for anyone unless they were stopped at a police roadblock.

The police have denied involvement in the killing. Rewards totalling thousands of rands have been offered for information leading to the arrest of their killers, but up to now the killers are still free.

Those responsible thought they would be able to seriously retard the struggle and break the spirit of the people of Cradock and Oudtshoorn.

But one year later, the wives and families of Goniwe, Calata and Mkhonto are taking forward the struggle in Cradock.

In Oudtshoorn, Mrs Nemtuyiselo Mhlawuli, wife of Sicelo Mhlawuli, has picked up where her husband has left off.

Mrs Mhlawuli was elected secretary of Saamstaan, the community newspaper in Oudtshoorn, at their



Mathew Goniwe

annual meeting in March this year.

She is also an active member of the National Education Union of South Africa. She teaches at a primary school in Bongoletu.

Mrs Mhlawuli and her six-year-old son share the memory left by her husband and the ideals for which he died.

"When I heard about the death of Sicelo and the others, it came as a big loss. I was amazed and totally shocked by their deaths," she told Grassroots in a recent interview.

"The police were also harassing me very much at the time. One inspector made a statement in a meeting of teachers in Oudtshoorn. He said teachers who

are involved in the struggle will be eliminated by the government and in Oudtshoorn we have an example that those who involve themselves must pay a very high price."

Mrs Mhlawuli thinks the police are not doing enough to try to find the killers.

"I think if the police were serious enough to arrest those who killed the four, they could have been arrested by now by the South African Police and the SADF.

"I do not think these people will ever be arrested, in spite of the rewards offered. My only hope is that they will be forced to confess in the future people's court in a new society."

Mrs Mhlawuli feels the death of her husband has made her more committed.

"In my mind I don't think I shall ever be afraid and turn back. I have grown much stronger.

"To sit down will mean that those who died have died in vain. I am prepared more than ever to participate in our liberation struggle," she said.

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Killing for Apartheid

Vigilantes do dirty work

IN TUMAHOLE they are called the 'A-team'. In Cape Town they are called 'witdoeke' or 'fathers'. In Durban they are the Amabutho, in KwaNdebele they are the Mbhokhoto and in Thabong they are the Pakathis.

Vigilantes have become therality in many parts of South Africa. And so have the senseless destruction and violent killings that come with them.

In townships throughout the country, often in areas where the police and army are unable to enter, vigilantes are doing the dirty work of the government.

They chase away, harass, intimidate, assault and wometimes even kill, members of progressive organisations or people who resist government policy.

In some cases, strong allegations have been made about police involvement. But police have denied this.

The vigilantes say they want to bring 'law and order' to the townships. But it has been pointed out that they do not fight against gangsters. They only fight against those associated with progressive organisations.

On April 22, vigilantes killed about 20 people in pre-dawn raids on the homes of activists in Alexandra township in Johannesburg.

The Alexandra Action Committee (AAC) said the vigilantes also attacked the 'people's court', a clinic's offices, the Anglican church and houses in the area.

In Cape Town, vigilantes have destroyed three squatter camps - Nyanga Bush, Nyanga Extension and Portland Cement - leaving about 30 000 homeless and about 50 dead.

This came after regular attacks by vigilantes on members of progres-

sive organisations in Crossroads and New Crossroads.

In Moutse, the vigilantes attacked people who were opposed to the area being incorporated into Kwa Ndebele. In Umlazi, Natal, the vigilantes wanted to burn the houses of people belonging to COSAS and the UDF. In Leandra and Huhudi, they attacked people opposed to the community councils.

In Thabong and Tumahole in the Free State, vigilantes beat up students boycotting schools.

In Leandra, popular Chief Ampie Mayisa was hacked to death by vigilantes. A group of vigilantes told a Johannesburg newspaper, 'We killed Mr Mayisa and we also want Mr Nkabinde dead. For too long now they have been worrying our parents with their banana politics'.

No-one has been arrested for the killing.

A few days earlier, Mr Abel Nkabinde's house was attacked and he telephoned the police.

'I was surprised when the policeman told me that Inkatha had just been to the police station. He said he knew they wanted to burn my house down and kill me. The policeman said, 'we will not stop them.' He would not let me lay a charge and he would not tell me his name.' Mr Nkabinde said.

From all parts of the ocountry, shocking stories are told about the crimes committed by vigilantes.

People say the vigilantes are prepared to do anything. They feel they will not be taken to court for their crimes.

But people are not taking the crimes lying down.

In KTC, the residents decided to

protect themselves against attacks. Residents are patrolling the camp day and night because they fear that the witdoeke will try to destroy their camp next.

Groups have also been started in Alexandra to protect the people against the vigilantes. People in the groups carry whistles. If someone is attacked, they blow their whistle so people can come and stop the vigilantes.

In Leandra, people went to court to stop the vigilantes from attacking the people. The court granted an interdict. For one week there was peace in Leandra. But after that, the vigilantes started again with their violence and destruction.

And they area continuing throughout South Africa at the moment.



A young victim of the vigilantes.

The new evil face of apartheid.

Vigilantes on a spree of violence and destruction. (pic:Learn and Teach)



Protests against Republic Day

FIVE people were arrested in two separate anti-Republic Day marches in Cape Town at lunchtime on Friday May 30.

About 30 UCT students protested outside the Golden Acre at about 1pm. They held placards reading, '25 years, so waht', 'Unban the ANC' and 'You ask for freedom, you get a bullet.'

Hundreds of people stopped to watch and some joined in, singing freedom songs and chanting slogans.

After about 10 minutes, a police car arrived and two students were arrested.

Later, another demonstrations developed near Woolworths. Chanting and singing demonstrators marched to the Golden Acre, up Adderly St, Church St, St Georges St, and Hout St before they returned to the spot at Woolworths. Police arrested three people and confiscated placards.

There were several demonstrations against the 25th anniversary celebrations of the apartheid republic in other centres. The government avoided the big celebrations of 1981, where they celebrated the 20th anniversary in the face of mass protests all over the country.

The call grows

THE United Democratic Front intends to 'relaunch' nationally the campaign for the release of Nelson Mandela and the unbanning of the ANC.

A major press conference was due to be held in Johannesburg on Thursday 5 June, where national UDF leaders were to speak.

In the past few months, thousands of people have attended 'Free Mandela' mass meetings in various areas in the Western.

Meetings were held in Claremont, Mitchells Plain, Wynberg, Woodstock, Elsies River, and UCT and UWC.

The meetings were organised by the UDF and its affiliates as part of a growing campaign to secure the release of Mandela and all other political prisoners.

Courts out of touch with people Campaign against harsh sentences

BY THE time you read this, Bradley van Niekerk may be in jail.

Bradley, 18, a Std 9 pupil at South Peninsula High School, was sentenced to one year in prison after a magistrate found him guilty of throwing a stone at a policeman in Kensington last October.

Bradley is one of hundreds of pupils who face imprisonment for 'public violence' during last unrest.

But unlike many cases, where pupils have gone to jail without anything being done about it, thing is being done to help Bradley.

A group of parents, teachers, and students come together to form the 'Save Bradley from Prison' committee. They aim to rally support for Bradley and to expose the 'harsh and grossly inappropriate' sentences being meted out to school children convicted for public violence.

Committee chairperson, lawyer Thaaib Albertus, said they hoped to form links with other similar committees, but had not done so yet because they were still new.

'We will also be seeking the support of community organisations, church

groups and others,' he said.

The committee has launched a public petition. They hope to collect 'at least a quarter million signatures' to protest the sentence.

At the same time, they will have a legal petition to the Chief Justice for the right to appeal against the sentence. Bradley has been refused leave to appeal.

The committee also hoped to focus international attention on the sentences handed down to students and collect information which can be used by other organisations.

The committee will be acting under the auspices of the Parents Teachers Students Association at South Peninsula High School.

'The courts are out of touch with society.

These sentences are far too harsh and politically motivated rather than plain justice.

'If one took away the political flavour, one wonders if they would still get these sentences,' said Mr Albertus.

He said the committee had chosen Bradley's case because it was the only case to reach this advanced stage.

If allowed to stand, his sentence could set a precedent for sentences on other students facing similar charges.

Bradley's uncle, Mr Sydney Rinquist, said court case had had a 'devastating' effect on the family.

'The family feels helpless and angry. We went through a traumatic experience since the time Bradley was locked up in jail for two days and right through the trial,' he said.



Bradley Van Niekerk. Campaign launched to keep him out of prison.

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THE month of May has seen an increase in resistance, accompanied by the usual government "reform initiatives" and more repression from the police and army.

Police action against pupils have provoked more protest from a number of schools. Other issues focussed on in May include detentions under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act, unpopular security guards at schools, S A Airforce raids against neighbouring countries and the vigilante's destruction of Crossroads.

Support has also been generated for the 72 members of the Western Cape Teachers' Union (WECTU) who face charges of misconduct this month.

THURSDAY MAY 1:

More than two million workers and students stay away to celebrate the 100th anniversary of International Workers' Day. It is the biggest stayaway in South African history. More than 200 000 people attend May Day rallies throughout the country in spite of meetings being banned in several parts of the country.

In the Western Cape, police use teargas, injure many and arrest at least 66 people as May Day rallies are held in Nyanga East, Bonteheuwel, Bellville, Mbekweni, Mitchells Plain.

In Durban, Gatsha Buthelezi's Inkatha movement launch their United Workers' Union of South Africa (UWUSA), a management-led union meant to counter the 500 000-strong Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU).

The Bonteheuwel Interscholar Congress (BISCO) wins written guarantees for about 300 students who faced demotion, that they will now be allowed to stay in their present standards.

Concrete blocks are placed all around Crossroads, making it an official "no-go area" for the public. Fears are raised that the police want to hide their actions in the area.

A powerful bomb blast hits Mowbray station and destroys a public toilet and part of a waiting room. No-one was injured.

FRIDAY MAY 2:

Clothing Workers' Union organiser Shirley Gunn is acquitted in the Wynberg Regional Court of possessing banned literature. Gunn was charged on her release late last year after two months of detention under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act.

The three-day session of the South African Catholic Bishops Conference, held in Durban, calls for economic pressure to end apartheid.

Pupils from three Cape Town high schools disrupt building on the site of proposed houses for members of the House of Representatives.



34 Hout Bay squatters, arrested on May Day, appear in the Wynberg Magistrate's Court, charged with illegal squatting.

SATURDAY MAY 3:

About 100 people, mainly friends and relatives of Section 29 detainees, protest in central Athlone.

UDF Northern Transvaal president Peter Nchabeleng is laid to rest by thousands of mourners in Apel, Lebowa. Nchabeleng died in detention hours after he was picked up.

The funeral of an alleged African National Congress member, Samyu Mjobo, of Paarl, is banned by the chief magistrate.

MONDAY MAY 5:

Members of the Crossroads Executive Committee snatch the keys to the Crossroads Clinic as hundreds of patients wait outside for treatment.

Belhar pupils destroy shelter boxes used by security guards at the school to show their disapproval of the security guard system. Schools are closed early.

In Maritzburg, two alleged guerillas shoot their way into Edenvale Hospital to rescue their comrade who had been shot and captured by the police.

At least 40 pupils at Arcadia High School are injured, some rushed to hospital when police go on to the school grounds to beat up children who had protested earlier against the detention of mathematics teacher Neville van der Rheede, who was detained on May 2 under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act.

TUESDAY MAY 6:

Pupils at a number of schools walk out in protest at the police whipping of pupils at Arcadia High School. Belgavia, Rylands, Bellville South, Kasselsvlei, Symphony, Bonteheuwel, Arcadia High Schools and a number of other schools are closed early.

WEDNESDAY MAY 7:

Police disperse pupils in Mitchells Plain who tried to hold a rally at the Mondale High School in protest against the police beating of pupils.

Thousands of workers at Pick and Pay stores throughout the country go on strike in support of their demand for a R90 wage increase.

Mrs Fatiema Cassiem succeeds in getting an interdict restraining the police from assaulting her husband, Achmad Cassiem, a Section 29 detainee.

THURSDAY MAY 8:

Alleged ANC member Samuel Mjobo, who was shot by police on March 3 in Guguletu, is buried in Mbekweni Paarl as police seal off the township. Police hold up the hearse to search for ANC flags. About 10 000 people attend the funeral.

FRIDAY MAY 9:

18 Pick and Pay stores are closed, including three hyper markets, as the strike by 6 000 workers continues.

About 20 relatives of detainees, who fear the detainees may be tortured and harassed, deliver a letter to the police in Cape Town.

A look at events in the Western Cape

CRISIS DIARY

SATURDAY MAY 10:

Dutch citizen Helene Pastoors, 44, dressed in the black, green and gold colours of the ANC, is convicted of treason in the Rand Supreme Court.

FRIDAY MAY 16:

About 300 members of the Western Cape Teachers' Union (WECTU) deliver a petition to the Department of Education and Culture in Roeland Street to protest against charges against teachers and to demand release from detention of teachers Quinton Michels and Neville van der Rheede.

Father Smangaliso Mkhathshwa, general secretary of the S.A. Catholics Bishops Conference is arrested at his church house in Soshanguve, Pretoria, to face charges of allegedly possessing illegal arms.

SUNDAY MAY

A packed Elsies River meeting calls for the release of Nelson Mandela and all political prisoners.

The Muslim Youth Movement condemns the "illegal and uncivilised detention" of Achmad Cassiem, Hassan Ghila and Yusuf Patel.

Fierce fighting breaks out at Crossroads and thousands are left homeless as conservative witdoek vigilantes go on the rampage, burning houses believed to belong to supporters of progressive organisations.

MONDAY MAY 19:

The South African Defence Force raids Botswana, Zimbabwe and Zambia, killing three people and injuring 13 in what they claimed were raids on the ANC. The whole world is outraged.

Helene Passtoors is sentenced in the Rand Supreme Court to 10 years jail for treason.

Father Smangaliso Mkhathshwa appears in the Soshanguve Magistrate's Court, charged with unlawful possession of a firearm.

Police fire teargas into classrooms at Uitzig High School.

TUESDAY MAY 20:

Police teargas students at UCT who protest against the air raids into Zimbabwe, Zambia and Botswana. Mitchells Plain pupils protest.

THURSDAY MAY 22:

Crossroads women protest outside parliament.

Wynberg pupils attending a mass rally are dispersed and beaten up by the police.

The Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging breaks up a meeting to be addressed by Pik Botha in Pietersburg.

The Cape Town City Council announces a 17 percent raise in rates.

FRIDAY MAY 23:

Police and soldiers set up a barbed wire along Mahobe Drive, apparently to separate the comrades and the fathers.

The offices of the Midlands Council of Churches in Middelburg is petrol bombed

Academics at the University of Stellenbosch protest at the university's decision to ban the End Conscription Campaign from the campus.

SATURDAY MAY 24:

People are dragged out a minibus and hacked to death by vigilantes at Old Crossroads.

SUNDAY MAY 25:

About 2000 people attend a prayer service for the refugees at Crossroads.

A message of condolence from the executive of the ANC to those who lost their homes or relatives at Crossroads is read out at a UDF meeting in Westridge. An alleged informer is killed after the meeting.

Bishop Stephen Naidoo of the Catholic Church rededicates a church in Elsies River where police had earlier thrown teargas.

MONDAY MAY 26:

The bodies of two "necklace" victims are found near Crossroads.

Six KTC squatter leaders get a temporary Supreme Court interdict to stop police from assisting vigilantes in attempts to attack the squatter area.

TUESDAY MAY 27:

Nyanga Extension leader Mr Alfred Siphika, is arrested at the Guguletu police station in the presence of his attorneys and officials of the Supreme Court.

Five Cape Congress members from Bellville are arrested and questioned by the police.

WEDNESDAY MAY 28:

The government discusses two security laws which will give the Minister of Police wide powers to detain people without trial or reason for up to 180 days and to declare "unrest areas" where the police will have total control.

WOMANSIZE CITY REVOL Mary Rendall (The Bull from the Sea) FOUCAULT MARXISM & HISTORY Frank L. White Reading Aids through the grades

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ADVICE

Start your own sewing group

MRS JACOBS of Valhalla Park has started a sewing group with some friends.

"My children are hungry. My husband is out of work. I felt I must do something for money. So I spoke with some of the women in the area. All of us were in the same boat. Mrs Platjies said we should start a sewing group. She said we should make clothes for other people in the neighbourhood. Mrs Baartman felt it would be impossible.

"We didn't have any sewing machines. We had no money to buy the necessary equipment. We spent many hours talking. None of us knew what to do. All we knew was that we had to do something.

"That was six months ago. Just this last month we made our first profits which gave us each a wage. We are beginning to get rewards for our work. We have made many mistakes in the last six months, but we have learnt a lot. We want to tell others about the lessons so that they can also help to feed their families.

Mrs Jacobs said that before you begin a project like theirs, you must ask yourselves many questions.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE?

It is very important to make things that other people want to buy. Many groups fail because they make things which people don't want or cannot afford to buy. People in the group also need to have the skills to make the things. Mrs Jacobs and her friends make school dresses. They are also teaching themselves to make school shirts.

So how do you decide what to make?

1. You speak to people in the area about what they need.
2. You check whether you have the skills and the equipment to make these items.
3. If you do not have the skills

and the equipment, you ask any community workers, ministers in the church or any other helpful people in the area whether they can help you learn the skills that you need.

4. Before deciding finally what to make, you ask yourselves some other questions.

WHAT WILL IT COST YOU TO MAKE THE GOODS?

It is important to work out if you can make the goods at a price that people can afford. Otherwise no one will buy from you. Try to answer these questions.

1. What will the material cost you to buy?
2. What does it cost you in electricity, busfare etc. to make the goods?
3. What wage will you hope to earn?

All these costs need to be added up in order to work out what price you will sell the goods for.

WHERE WILL YOU GET THE MONEY TO START THE GROUP?

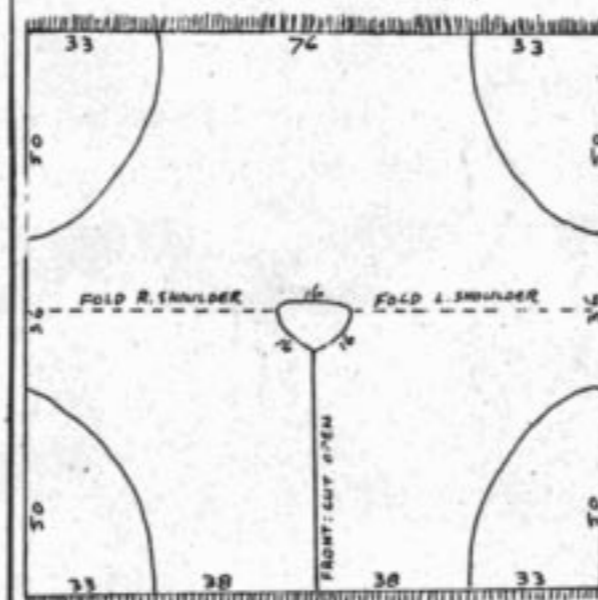
In the beginning you need money to buy materials to make the first lot of goods. This is often a big headache. Here are some profitable sources of money.

1. The Small Business Development Corporation has a fund to help groups buy materials and equipment. They give up to R2000 at a very low interest rate. The money must be repaid over 12 months. You can contact them in Cape Town by writing to:

SBDC
701 Foretrust Building
Martin Hammerschlag Way,
Foreshore, Cape Town
Phone 212480

2. All members of your group put in some money from your savings. If members don't have any savings you can do what Mrs Jacobs did. She and her friends asked every-

Make a jacket from a blanket!
Winter is here and Grassroots would like to show you how to make this warm winter jacket. A small blanket of 142cm x 136cm costs R5.



← Cut pieces carefully. All corners should be the same. The cut out corners are used for the pockets and the hood.



→ Fold the blanket in half at the shoulder. Sew on the dotted lines for the side seams. Make two rows of machine stitching or back stitch by hand at each seam.

→ Fold pockets on the dotted line and sew them down with a double row of stitches.

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one in the street to give one cake. They held a cake sale as one of the ways to build up some finances.

WHERE AND HOW WILL YOU SELL YOUR GOODS?

You will need to work out how you will sell your goods. You will need to let people know what you are making and where they can buy the goods. Perhaps you can advertise through the churches in the area or through the local advice offices. You will need to develop a simple bookkeeping system. If you want help with this you could contact Marcus Solomons at SACHED phone number 668615.

WHERE WILL YOU WORK FROM?

Most groups begin by working at home. This is very difficult sometimes. It is ideal if you can work together as a group, but this is often not possible. You could

ask the local church or any other organisation in the area if they have space you can use.

DO YOU HAVE THE STRENGTH AND WILL TO MAKE THE GROUP WORK?

The sewing group will take some time to get going. It will be some months before you see any wages. This is very difficult, but you will have to be prepared to stick to it if you are going to succeed in the end.

They also spoke to a community worker in the area who helped them write a letter to the British Council. The British Council gave them some sewing machines. Other embassies may also give donations for equipment. Write to them and ask for help.

WHERE DO YOU GET THE MATERIALS TO MAKE THE GOODS?

There are some factories in

Cape Town which make material. It is usually cheaper to buy directly from them. Some factories may give you materials cheaply if you tell them what you are wanting to do. Ask them for their help. The names and addresses of the factories can be found in the Yellow Pages Telephone Directory under Curtaining Manufacturers and Wholesalers. Write to the factories or go and see them. Find out if they have a factory shop or have reject material. You will need to hunt for the best bargains.

There is also a book called "The A - Z of factory shops" which you can buy from a bookshop.

You could also contact the Western Cape Traders Association and ask if any of their members can help. They have said that they are on the side of the people, so some of their members should be willing to help your group get going.

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LIFE LINE CARE about the shackles that bind people; their fears, their prejudices, their despair.

LIFE LINE CALLS for a just and democratic society in which people can live together in peace and with dignity.

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Thousands and thousands of people opposed the recent rugby tour by a group of New Zealanders to our country. At peninsula schools various demonstrations were held where students displayed placards and burnt Yellow Pages, the sponsors of the tour. Above, about 500 Manenberg students protest against "the All Black mercenaries".



Aslam Toefy (above), is a key forward in the Western Province Rugby Union team.

TEAMS WILL GO ALL OUT

SA CUP

THE South African Rugby Union SA Cup competition which is being played in three sections is heading for an exciting finish when the next series of matches are played on Saturday, June 21.

Reigning champions Western Province Union who are playing in the C Section have only played one game to date beating Natal in Durban. They will be back in action after an absence of one month due to the fast.

WP Union who will be going all out to retain the trophy in their centenary year will be at full strength with the return of star forwards Aslam Toefy and Falk Hendricks to the side.

They will face some stiff opposition from arch rivals City and Suburban and Uitenhage and District in this section. Cities who have been playing well in friendly games this season with victories over Tygerberg and Boland will be a force to be reckoned with.

Uitenhage won the A Section with an unbeaten record after two games while underdogs Border with two wins from their three games played to date are also in the running.

WP Union play the unbeaten Uitenhage at Uitenhage on Saturday, June 21.

TYGERBERG beaten finalist in last year's final are favourites in the B section but can

expect tough opposition from EASTERN PROVINCE and BOLAND.

Tygerberg are unbeaten after two victories over Sedru at Florida Park and Berboc in Bethelsdorp.

It is a two-way struggle between EP and Tygerberg who have both played two games and have full points from these matches but Tygerberg has scored more points and are leading the log on average.

These two sides will be playing their vital game at Florida Park on Saturday, June 21.

WESTERN PROVINCE COUNTRY head the A section with full points from their two games after their unexpected victory over SOUTH WESTERN DISTRICTS in Montagu last week.

It is now a four-way battle between WP Country, Somerset Board, Kwaru and SWD for the two places in the quarter finals.

The two teams ending first and second on the log in each section will move through to the quarter finals.

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grassroots SPORT Soccer

VIRGINIA CUP AT CRITICAL STAGE

THE Western Province Football Board prestige Virginia Challenge Cup competition has now come to the critical last 32 clubs stage with the third round being played on Saturday, June 21.

The competition in which all clubs under the banner of the Western Province Football Board participate, has reached this stage after last week's exciting second round games.

Only one of the last round games between Beacon Wizards of Lentegeur and Elsie's River from Central, will be replayed at a later date because the game ended in 3-3 draw.

Because of the poor light extra time could not be played. There were three major surprises in the competition.

The biggest was that of top club Battswood of Cape District being booted out of this competition in the early rounds for the second successive year.

Battswood were beaten 3-2 in a sudden death penalty shootout by the Bonteheuwel's Sea Point Swifts at William Herbert after a goalless game at the end of normal time, after Cliffie Davids had kicked wide from the spot.

The other shocks were the well-deserved 3-2 win, after extra time, by the Cape District FA side Yorkshire Sterling over the fancied Liverpool from Mitchells Plain FA at Westridge, and the 3-0 victory of Bluegum Wizards over Saxon Rovers at Bonteheuwel.

Eleven of the 32 clubs still left in the Challenge Cup plays in the Virginia Premier

League competition, five in Group One and six in Group Two.

Peninsula United, the reigning champions, stayed in the hunt to retain the honours after their good 2-0 victory over Trinitarians from Central FA at Elsbury Park.

With Battswood now out of the way the teams to challenge the holders Peninsula for the honours will be Clarewood from Cape District, who are setting the playing fields alight this season with their attacking soccer.

Matroosfontein from Central, Seephanians from FAWP, Parkhurst from Mitchells Plain, Sea Point Swifts and Bluegum Wizards from Metropolitan are the other clubs who will be challenging for the honours.

Tough competition is expected in this round with the dark horses being Norway Parks from WPFA who lost in the semi-final to Aurora last season, Westridge from Mitchells Plain who were knocked out in the quarter-final last year, Chelsea from the IDFA and Wesfleur from Atlantis.

Twenty of the clubs left in the competition are from the Cape Flats area with the IDFA represented by six clubs, Rylands-based FAWP by four clubs, Central with three clubs, Cape FA and Metropolitan with two clubs each.

Manenberg, Cape Flats and Northerns each have a club left in the competition. It shows, conclusively, that the strength of the WP Football Board comes from the Cape Flats area.

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