

# AFRA

## THE STATISTICS OF REMOVALS IN NATAL

Report 18

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In this Report we set out the bald statistics of removals in the province of Natal, as we have been able to calculate them. More details on these figures are available in other AFRA publications; an in depth analysis of these figures, the various categories of removals involved and the significance of relocation (in Natal and the other provinces) will be available shortly in the forthcoming report of the Surplus Peoples Project.

### How many in Natal?

We estimate that over the last 20 or 30 years the state has relocated forcibly - the coercion taking both direct and indirect forms - approaching half a million African people into KwaZulu or, more commonly, into areas intended to be added to KwaZulu once their quota of relocated people has been received. If the state persists with its consolidation plans for KwaZulu - and it is on record as saying it intends to complete its consolidation programme country-wide by 1986 - then it will have to remove a further half a million people and more. Remove them or, as in the case of Ingwavuma and possibly the area inhabited by Zulu-speaking people that lies across the Pongola, in the Transvaal, give them away to some compliant neighbouring state. Considering the size of the total population in Natal (5 722 221 according to the 1980 census, KwaZulu included), this is social engineering on a grand - grandiose - scale.

Yet these figures, soberingly large as they are, do not convey the whole story of population removals in Natal. They do not include the many thousands of families moved in terms of the Group Areas Act - mainly in the urban areas, about 85% of them Indian people. They do not include the thousands of individuals endorsed out of the urban areas each year in terms of influx control, and instructed to return to their 'place of origin'; nor the thousands of people being harried and evicted constantly in the informal settlements ringing our cities and towns. Furthermore, the above figures do not include the hundreds of thousands of rural people who have been moved or face removal within KwaZulu in terms of betterment planning - possibly a million people moved already over the last 30 or 40 years. These latter categories have proved extremely difficult to quantify yet need to be remembered in any overview of removals in the province and the country.

The table overleaf summarises our calculations of the numbers of people 1) who have been removed since 1948 and 2) are threatened with removal in terms of current policy, as publicly stated, in those categories which can be reasonably quantified. These figures are estimates; the exact numbers will probably never be known. They have been compiled from a wide range of sources, both official and unofficial, balanced against extensive fieldwork over the past two years.

Forced population removals did not begin in South Africa with the advent of the National Party to power in 1948, but they have taken on a vastly increased dimension and a new significance since then, as the bantustan policy has evolved from 'tribal authorities' to 'national states'. There will be no more black South Africans said Connie Mulder in 1972. Forced removals of people from the white heartland into the rural periphery has been one of the main means of exclusion to date.

1) Moved 1948-19822) Under Threat 1982

<u>Farm Evictions:</u>	300 000	Abolition of labour and cash tenancy since 1968; mechanisation of agriculture and increased concentration of land ownership.	?	Proposed Orderly Movement and Settlement of Black Persons Bill creates Farm Tenement Boards to control numbers on white farms; may lead to state action similar to action against labour tenants before.
<u>Black Spots:</u>	105 000	Includes 108 freehold farms (see Reports 15 & 16) & 14 mission properties.	245 000	Includes 189 freehold farms (103 of them threatened only since consolidation era) & 13 missions.
<u>Consolidation:</u>	10 000	Little of removals contained in 1975 plan implemented to date - only Reserve 6 & small part Reserve 4, near Richards Bay. Rest of Reserve 4, Sodwana Bay, land near Paulpietersburg & Driefontein farms (counted among black spots) excised from KwaZulu but not yet moved.	300 000	In terms of 1975 plans 48 scheduled and released areas will be reduced to 10 (freehold areas affected counted under black spots.) However, future plans not clear since van der Walt commission proposals for KwaZulu being withheld till 1984. Does <u>not</u> include 96 000 threatened with incorporation into Swaziland in Ingwavuma, nor 100 000 plus in no-man's land across Pongola.
<u>Townships:</u>	17 000	At least 9 townships deproclaimed and residents moved into KwaZulu 'towns'. Does <u>not</u> include 200 000 incorporated into KwaZulu in Kwa-Mashu (Durban).	61 000	At least 18 townships face deproclamation, although reprieves may still be granted in some cases. Does <u>not</u> include proposed incorporation of Clermont, (Pinetown) into KwaZulu.
<u>Infra-structural:</u>	15 000	Figure covers <u>major</u> dams, game reserves, development projects, forestry programmes only.	?	Major removals likely as a result of building of Inanda, Mvumase, Umfolosi, Mkomanzi dams; details very difficult to ascertain.
<u>Strategic:</u>	3 500	Establishment of missile range, St Lucia, in 1970s; pressure on people on northern coastline & boundaries to move inland.	?	Where the population in border areas do not show 'loyalty, goodwill and cooperation', 'we will have to move them'. (Brig. Lloyd, then Chief of Natal Command, 1979).
<u>Group Areas:</u>	295 000	About 160 000 non-Africans and 135 000 Africans.	?	
<u>TOTALS :</u>	<u>745 000</u>			<u>606 000 + ?</u>