

UDF calls for . . . .

# CHRISTMAS AGAINST EMERGENCY

THE United Democratic Front (UDF) has called for a 'Christmas against the State of Emergency' from December 16 to 26.

During the 10 days, people throughout the country will be asked "to rededicate themselves to the struggle for liberation," a UDF spokesperson said.

"We shall be remembering all our heroes, past and present, in jail and in exile and those who have fallen in the fight against injustice."

The period would also be dedicated to more than 500 children who faced the prospect of jail at Christmas.

There was a need for all progressives, democrats and workers to unite in action against apartheid and against the state of emergency in particular, the spokesperson said.

He said the government has wrecked the country's economy and caused massive unemployment; completely disrupted and destroyed the future of thousands of young South Africans through their pursuit of Verwoerdian education policies; detained thousands of South Africans; sent the troops into the townships and uprooted millions of South Africans through forced removals.

The UDF called for the immediate release of Nelson Mandela and all political prisoners, the unbanning of the African National Congress and other political organisations, the re-opening of schools (where they had been closed by the government), the repeal of draconian controls imposed on students and the establishment of people's education; an end to rent evictions; freedom of expression and association; a living wage for all workers, jobs for all, adequate security and the right to strike.

A Manenberg resident said many people would be suffering at Christmas. Millions were unemployed and thousands faced evictions because of rent arrears.

"Already so many people will not be able to afford a Christmas meal, let alone buying something nice. And the prospects for the new year don't look any better.

"How can people celebrate Christmas when they know they could lose their house at any time, when so many people are still detained," he said.

## DPSC is 5 years old

THE families of detainees, members of community organisations and ex detainees met in Woodstock on November 23 to celebrate the fifth birthday of the Detainee Parents Support Committee (DPSC).

During the afternoon, the close to 200 people present paid tribute to all the victims of the Apartheid system. They listened attentively as one speaker said: "Let our hearts go out to all those who are today sitting in cells at Pollsmoor, Victor Verster, Modderbee and Prisons throughout the country."

Speakers included UDF vice-president Christmas Tinto and Cape Town advocate Mr A "Dullah" Omar. Mr Omar spoke of the need to express solidarity with those who had been detained. "They don't only want money and material assistance from us," he said.

## Sorry . . .

DUE to a printing error, the first paragraph of the page eight story 'Hunger as a weapon', was omitted. It should read:

We have read a lot in the newspapers about starving Mozambicans fleeing across their country's borders in search of work and food. This happened when a devastating famine recently hit the country.

We are given the impression the Frelimo is to blame but we have to search much further for the truth.

## The new pass laws

THE hated pass laws under which millions of people were harassed, fined and jailed has again reached its ugly and violent head - only now its in another form.

Earlier this year the Government announced to the world that the pass laws had been scrapped. There would be no more arrests and charges against people.

The new policy of "Orderly Urbanisation" which is now being used as a replacement for the influx control laws has, however been described as even more brutal and vicious than the pass laws ever were.

An example of these new laws in practice is the demolition of shacks in Kabah near Uitenhage and the removal of residents to Kwanobuhle. The operation was carried out in terms of the orderly urbanisation policy.

The removals from Winterveld as well as the Crossroads violence and subsequent removal of Khayelitsha, can be linked to this policy.

A Wits University researcher recently said that 17 million people had been made criminals through the pass laws.

One of the functions of these laws was to ensure a constant supply of labour to White South Africa but at the same time expelling those that were not needed and sending them to an existence of poverty and starvation in homelands.

Later, in an effort to distinguish between urban Africans and migrant workers, Section 10 rights were extended to the former.



Chris Tyawana of Worcester is one of the thousands who face Christmas in jail. Chris was detained at an Allied Building Society branch in Cape Town on August 27 after his auto-teller card got stuck and he was kept talking by the manager. He is being held under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act. His mother Mrs Gladys Tyawana (above) show that despite all her worries, she is still strong. She is wearing a sticker which reads: Allied . . people who tell on you!

## Domestics form national union

A NATIONAL union for domestic workers will be launched on Sunday November 30.

The South African Domestic Workers Union will try to organise domestic and farm workers. It is formed out of five unions from Cape Town, Durban, Johannesburg, East London and Port Elizabeth. The new union will affiliate to the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu).

The union will hold a rally at the University of the Western Cape Stadium in Bellville on Sunday, from 11 am to 4 pm.

Speakers will include representatives of the United Democratic Front, Cosatu, United Women's Congress, Western Province Council of Churches, a domestic worker and a special guest speaker.

SADWU has invited all domestic workers and the public to attend the rally. (See page 12).

## Taxi's in bid for peace

TAXI owners are eager to end the dispute which began two weeks ago.

At a special meeting on Sunday November 23 a number of decisions were taken to ease tensions between licensed taxi-owners and illegals taxis (pirates). The pirates claimed that the licensed taxi owners would not allow them to take people from other areas. They claimed some other taxi owners chased (pirates) from the ranks by sending police to arrest them.

They claimed that some of the licensed taxi owners started the fight by ranking at places they were no supposed to be ranking and after the fight they collaborated with police.

On the other hand the licensed taxi owners were arguing that the pirates rank everywhere and they were only allowed to rank in certain places.

After a long discussion the residents took decisions that:

- Taxis should return to their ranks and work as usual.
- Taxis should take people wher ever they want regardless of license.
- Taxis should stand in a queue so that people can board a taxi that comes first.
- They must elect committees from both sides to settle grievances but they must go and report back.

The next meeting will be on December 7 at Roma Ny 5 at 2 pm.

# Lavis lights up

THE long and hard struggle by the people of Bishop Lavis for electricity could soon come to an end following the recent announcement that 2 200 homes will receive electricity within the next 13 months.

Residents and organisations in the area are however angry at the announcement by the Labour Party and Housing League that the selling price of houses and rents would be increased and that people would have to pay an extra R10 levy each month for electricity. In addition to this, the installation fee is R150,00.

On November 6, the Housing League and Labour Party MP Nic Isaacs announced the installation of electricity at a press conference in the area. They also announced that rents would increase. A two-bedroomed house rent would be in-

## But most will not be able to afford it

creased by R6,36, a three-bedroomed house rent by R6,73 and a four-bedroomed house rent by R7,03.

For electricity, there would be a monthly levy of R10 and a R150 installation fee.

The selling price of houses would automatically be increased by R653 (two bedrooms) R690 (three-bedroomed house) and R722 (four-bedroomed house).

For many years the struggle for electricity has been led by the Bishop Lavis Action Committee (Blac), who have always maintained that electricity is a right and not a privilege.

The Bishop Lavis Advice Committee and Bishop Lavis Youth Con-

gress condemned the increases. "Already our rents are sky high and we cannot afford it, what are we going to do with the coming increase to cover up for electricity. As unemployed we cannot afford these high rents," they said.

Residents and organisations in the area were particularly unhappy about the role of the Labour Party and its representative Mr Nic Isaacs. Mrs Kathleen Petersen told Grassroots that she would not be able to pay for electricity. "Its not right at all. I cannot even afford the present rent. How can I still afford the increase?"

She said she had little knowledge of Nic Isaacs and did not vote for him.

She pointed out that he was never around while the people were struggling for electricity. She said that it was strange to her that the Labour Party could have meetings while other could not.

Mrs Lena Cockman said the houses in Bishop Lavis were in a very bad condition. She felt that instead of the rent going up, it should in fact come down. "Our people must stand together and then there will be hope," she said.

The campaign for electricity began late in 1980. The Bishop Lavis Action Committee (Blac) held numerous mass meetings. The campaign reached a high point in September 1981 when close to 450 residents marched on the offices of the Citizens Housing League in Central Cape Town to present a petition calling for electricity.



A tear for a popular leader. Mourners at the funeral of President Samora Machel of Mozambique.



## Machel air crash: fingers point to SA

MYSTERY still surrounds the air crash which claimed the lives of Mozambican President Samora Machel and 33 others on October 19.

South Africa's denial that they were responsible for the crash has been met with scepticism in most countries around the world.

Some countries have hinted that South Africa may have been involved, while others have directly accused South Africa of murder.

Protests against South Africa were held by youths in Zimbabwe and Mozambique shortly after President Machel's death.

Tensions in the region have increased with more allegations being made of South Africa supporting the terrorist MNR group which is trying to overthrow the Mozambique government.

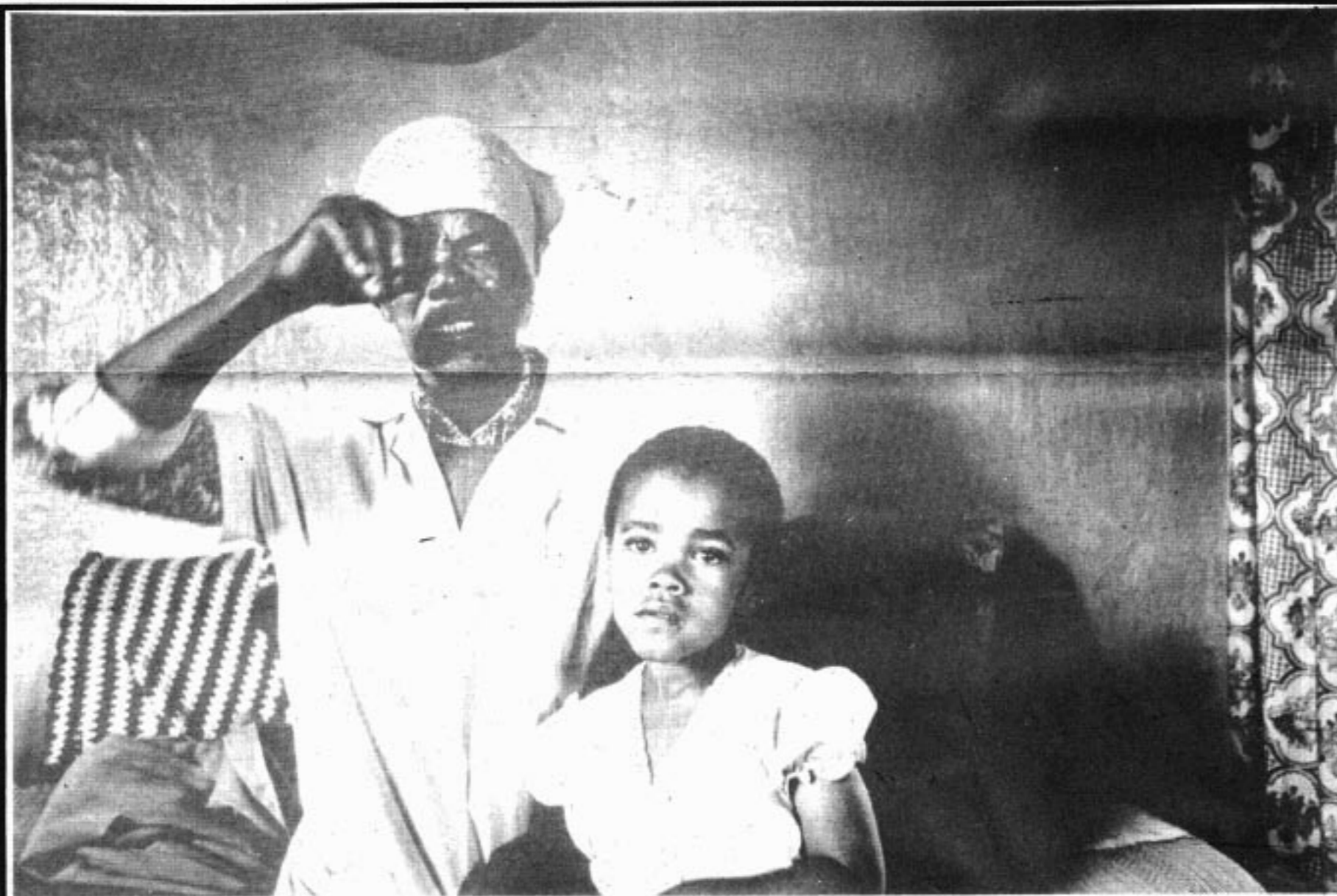
South Africa has also contributed to the tension by claiming the crew of the aircraft was drunk and that Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Zambia had planned to overthrow Malawi for supporting the MNR.

These claims were denied by the Frontline States. One of the few survivors of the plane crash caused further embarrassment for the South African government when he claimed he was interrogated and asked to join the MNR. He also told of South African soldiers arriving at the scene of the crash, searching through documents and asking for "Samora".

Much of the mystery may be cleared up when the "black boxes" — the flight deck recorder and the flight data recorder — are examined.

South Africa has delayed the decoding of these devices by raising a number of problems with Mozambique and the Soviet Union.

One observer summed up the situation: "Even if South Africa were innocent, their history of disinformation makes everyone believe they are guilty."



The sorrow of a grandmother:

Thousands of young people have been caught up in the violence and anger sweeping through the country. Many have been sentenced to long terms in prison for public violence. Warren van Wyk, 20 of Esselen Park, Worcester, is one of them. He was arrested last year and sentenced to seven years in jail. The sentence was reduced to five years on appeal. His grandmother and sister (above) show their disapproval of the sentence)

## 'Save Gregory from jail'

THE "Save Gregory From Prison Campaign" has been launched by a group of concerned teachers, students and other people.

The aim of the campaign is to petition the Chief Justice for leave to appeal to the Appellate Division.

Gregory is presently out on bail pending the outcome of the petition to the Chief Justice and in the event of the petition failing he would have to go to jail for 18 months and will have to serve his sentence with common criminals.

Gregory was convicted on a charge of pub-

lic violence and was sentenced to an effective four years imprisonment for allegedly throwing a stone at a policeman.

His sentence was reduced on appeal to the Supreme Court to three years imprisonment of which eighteen months were conditionally suspended. Consequently he will have to serve eighteen months imprisonment if his petition is unsuccessful.

As leave to appeal to the Appellate Division was refused this case can now only be heard in this court if his petition meets with success. The Committee in-

tends embarking on a public campaign to highlight Gregory's plight and to rally support from the community and prominent persons. To this end the committee has had consultations with Archbishop Desmond Tutu who has pledged his support for the campaign.

Thousands of petition forms are now circulating in all areas and the Committee calls upon all concerned with Gregory's plight to show their support by signing the petition and making known their sympathy through all possible channels.

## Squatters claim millions

SIX months after parts of Crossroads and KTC squatter camps were destroyed by rampaging witdoek vigilantes, the pain and anger has not died down.

THE suffering caused by the fighting in May this year has been highlighted once again - this time in thousands of claims made by homeless squatters against the South African police.

The claims by more than 3300 squatters amount to over R5-million and could lead to the longest legal action ever in South African history. Lawyers estimate that it could take up to 27 years for all the claims to be heard.

About 7 000 homes were destroyed and 60 000 people were left

homeless in May and June this year when witdoek vigilantes, allegedly assisted by the police and army, destroyed three Crossroads satellite camps Portland Cement, Nyanga Bush, Nyanga Extension - and part of the KTC camp.

About 180 workers, including 150 volunteers, co-ordinated by UCT's Criminology Institute and the Legal Resources Centre - collecting statements and compiling the claims. They were helped by 12 members of UCT's Faculty of Law and 28 practising attorneys, all working as volunteers.

The claim range from R50 or R100 for damage to a shack, to R10 000 for the partial destruction of the Methodist Church in KTC.

Although there was an eagerness to claim damages from the Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok, some people felt back what they really wanted - their loved ones who were killed in the fighting

"It was a sad situation of desperate people being turned against each other in a struggle for survival and to ensure that the state's wishes are fulfilled. What happened at Crossroads in May should never have happened and should be allowed to happen again."

The volunteers heard stories of people's shacks being burnt down with children trapped inside. One woman told how witdoek vigilantes held

her back when she tried to save her youngsters child from burning to death in their shack.

The stories told the volunteers reinforce affidavits filed in Cape Town Supreme in July alleging police and army support for the witdoeke.

A temporary court order was issued on August 8 restraining the police and army from attacking the KTC camp. The order was not opposed by the then Minister of Law and Order Louis Le Grange.

This prompted the lawyers involved in the original court application to press the claims against the police. In terms of the law, the claims had to be submitted within five months of the alleged damages.

# Hundreds greet trialists

A historic trial began in Cape Town on October 16 when twelve young Cape Town men appeared in the regional Court on charges of high treason, terrorism and furthering the aims of the banned African National Congress. As they arrived at the court a large crowd was there to meet them. An observer related to Grassroots what happened that morning.

A large crowd of family, friends and supporters of the young men had gathered outside the Magistrate court from early that morning. Excitement swept through the streets of Cape Town as shoppers and workers also gathered to see what was happening. This was to be an historic trial, the first of its kind in Cape Town for many years.

A middle-aged white woman enquiring what was happening was told: "This is an ANC trial which starts today." She did not respond. After pausing for a few seconds she walked off in the direction of the Grand Parade.

Meanwhile more people had gathered. I estimate that there were about 250 people. They were waiting patiently for Joseph Ngoma, Cecil Esau, Anderson Ncivata, Theophilus Mzukwa, Reid Macozoma, Neville van der Rheede, Douglas Myanya, Sazi Veldsman, Quentin Michaels, Lizo Mgqungwana, Themba Tshikiva and Joseph Gosani.

It was to be the first time in more than six months that they were to be seen by family and friends.

Suddenly the crowd became quiet and listened.

The sound of freedom songs was heard close by. The next moment the prison truck with the accused turned the corner. They were singing together as one. Cries of jubilation echoed through the streets. There was no knowing who was shouting what. Cries of Amandla. Cries of Long Live and Viva.

The cries carried across the barriers of a group of men who had gathered there with their dogs. They were virtually ignored as the cries of the accused and the crowd became one.

From down in the streets, the crowd cheered as they saw the accused filing past a window near the makeshift court upstairs. Here they were greeted by their close relatives.

And inside the courtroom, there was little that could be done to dampen their high spirits.

For many who came to the court that day, the experience was liberating. They gave little attention to the dogs. They were hardly disturbed when they were chased away and followed by the dogs.

They were strong in their resolve to show that they supported the stand taken by the twelve young men.

## Case moves to Hermanus

TWELVE Western Cape men charged with terrorism made their second appearance in court this month after more than six months in custody.

The men appeared in the Malmesbury magistrate's court. They were not asked to plead and the case was postponed to January 19 for further investigation. The men will appear on that date in Hermanus.

Prosecutor W Viljoen of the Attorney General's office told magistrate H Loubser that the case could be referred to the Supreme Court for trial. He said police were continuing their investi-

gations and there was a possibility more people would be arrested.

The prosecution hoped to have a formal charge sheet ready at the next hearing.

Only a few relatives or friends of each accused were allowed into the courtroom. The accused were greeted with freedom songs and chants of "Viva" as they entered the court, all in leg-irons.

The men are Lizo Ngqungwana, Themihosi Mzukwa, Joseph Ngoma, Themba Tshibika, Sazi Veldtman, Douglas Myanya, Joseph Mkuhlwa, Anderson Ncivata, Reed Macozama, Quentin Michels, Cecil Esau and Neville van der Rheede.



About 1 000 people attended the funeral on Saturday November 15 of Mpumelelo Krwakrwa, 24, a member of the Cape Youth Congress KTC branch. Krwakrwa was shot dead by police in the squatter camp on October 27.

### Quick cops under fire

THE new special police force has had a cold reception from the community.

Shortly after they started work in the townships, a number of weapons were stolen from the constables and they have been accused of creating tension in the townships.

A member of the Cape Youth Congress, Mpumelelo Krwakrwa, was shot dead by police investigating the theft of the weapons.

In another incident, two Guguletu women claimed they were shot at by "a man in blue overalls" in Nyanga East on November 1. The special policemen wear blue overalls. Beauty Matinise said the man who shot at her was a "kitskonstabel in a bus with other kitskonstabels".

At its recent annual congress, the Cape Youth Congress (CAYCO) said it would oppose the special police.

New Cayco president, Mzonke Jacobs, said at the funeral of Krwakrwa on Saturday November 15 at KTC:

"The introduction of the kitskonstabels in a clear indication that the government has no alternative left, the enemy has shown us they are on the defensive and the people are on the offensive. That has been proven by the revolutionary climate in the country."

## The new community workers?

NORMALLY there's nothing strange about someone calling a meeting to form a civic association. But the meeting held in Hout Bay on November 6 gave residents two reasons for concern.

- It was called by the Hout Bay police station commander R. de Villiers.

- There is already a community organisation in Hout Bay. It was formed in March 1985 and represents the community in negotiations with the Divisional Council.

Only 100 people, out of a population of 8000 accepted De Villiers' invitation to discuss a

HOUT BAY has become the latest target of the government Joint Management Centre (JMC) strategy.

As reported in the last Grassroots, it is a plan involving the police and military to curb the influence of democratic organisations in the community.

Special committees have been formed in different areas. In most cases, these committees are headed by the local police station commander.

Hout Bay residents were surprised when their station commander called a public meeting to discuss a "non-political" residents' association.

"non-political" community organisation" (nie politieke gemeenskapsraad).

De Villiers was the only speaker at the meeting. He said he could help people with their problems if they co-operated. He said he could help them if they could get things right in Hout Bay and he

had R30 000 which he could use in the community if he was satisfied with their co-operation. A lawyer who lives in Hout Bay stood up to explain that there was already a committee in Hout Bay but De Villiers said he should sit because they did not have enough time. A teacher said: "You cannot say this is not a

political meeting. The fact that it is held in a coloured group area makes it political. Our community worker, Dick Meter, was detained for the community work he does in Hout Bay. If you, Mr de Villiers, want to be the new community worker in Hout Bay, then you must also be arrested.

"We have full confidence in our committee. They are accountable to the community. To whom is the police accountable?" he asked. The committee referred to by the lawyer and the teacher is the Hout Bay Delegation, formed in 1985 with representatives of the squatters,

Hout Bay tenants, Hout Bay Action Committee and ratepayers. They take no decisions without consulting the community.

Since its formation, the Delegation has persuaded Divco to build a new maisonette scheme and a playground and to plan a new sports complex.

Three people in Hout Bay have been detained under the emergency regulations. Dick Meter and Patrick Presence were held for more than four months at Victor Verster. Presence lost his job at Epping Cold Storage. A social work student who worked in Hout Bay was also detained.

## Tej pays out

SEVEN workers who lost their jobs 18 months ago have been paid out a total of R36 250 by TEJ Knitwear.

The workers, all members of the Clothing Workers Union (Clowu), took the firm to the industrial court for unfair dismissal. They were among 350 workers who were re-

trenched by TEJ in May last year.

Earlier this year, the industrial court ruled that the workers had been unfairly dismissed and should be compensated. TEJ took the matter to the Supreme Court where the industrial court ruling was upheld.

The firm eventually agreed to settle with the workers.

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# Give us jobs, not handouts

FOOD parcels and handouts will not solve the unemployment crisis, the Advice Office Forum has said.

The AOF said food parcels may provide short-term relief, but much more needed to be done to solve the crisis.

They were responding to the way big business and individuals have tried to deal with the crisis by collecting money and food for the unemployed.

"The newspapers have been flooded with promises of food parcels, but only a few will get parcels. What good is this if thousands of people remain hungry and starving?"

"Suddenly the 'concerned rich' are telling us that they are worried about the suffering and poverty unemployment brings. But this is strange because they are the same people who are responsible for causing unemployment."

"Bosses will always think first of their profits and then of the workers' problems."

"They let people work overtime rather than employ more people."

"They bring in computers and new machines and then they retrench workers."

"They apply job discrimination policies that give jobs to whites while many blacks are out of work."

"Bosses refuse to pay workers a living wage so that they can pay their rent, electricity accounts and buy food. Workers are afraid of asking for more money for fear of being fired."

"We say to big business like Ackerman, you do not fool us with your handouts. Food parcels can only help a few families for a few days."

"Handouts are not jobs. If you are really worried about unemployment you need to look at the causes of unemployment."

The AOF said unemployed people who

were desperate for food parcels often had to suffer humiliation and loss of dignity.

"Often people go to relief points, only to be turned back because there are not enough parcels."

"At some points people have to queue up after they were given numbers. Often they get told to keep quiet by young relief workers who threaten to withdraw their food parcels."

"There are certain things which can be done to start addressing the unemployment crisis."

"Employers must ban overtime and provide more jobs at a living wage."

"Companies must make a concerted effort to create more jobs and not retrench people, even if it means a slight drop in profits."

"The totally inadequate Unemployment Insurance Fund should be revised to allow better benefits for people who lose their jobs," the AOF said.



Raising grievances at the unemployed meeting in Hanover Park.

## Jobless want rights

ABOUT 300 people attended a meeting in Hanover Park recently to discuss the problems of the unemployed.

The meeting was called by the Advice Office Forum after a two-week focus on unemployment.

The Mayor of Cape Town, Leon Markowitz, was invited but did not attend. Representatives of the Cape Divisional Council, led by Dennis Lambert (head of Divco's housing department), was challenged on his council's policies on rent and electricity arrears.

The meeting called on the Mayor to meet soon with representatives of unemployed people.

Speakers at the meeting said the unemployed were not asking for handouts. They were demanding their rights in the country of their birth and

the right to vote for a government of their choice.

The solution to the unemployment crisis was a political one and the government should look at the causes of unemployment, speakers said.

One speaker said South Africa was in a big mess because of the government's policies.

"We are going to tell them we have taken the suffering so far, and we will not take it any longer," she said.

A number of unemployed people spoke from the floor about their problems and hardships.

People raised problems with UIF grants, insensitive government officials and high rents.

An AOF spokesperson said it was hoped to call similar meetings in other areas in future to discuss further the problems of unemployed people.

# Mayor must keep his word

THREE Manenberg women catecrashed a pensioner's lunch party to confront Cape Town's mayor, Leon Markowitz, on rent arrears and evictions.

The women said they took this step after the mayor refused to attend a mass meeting of unemployed people recently.

They also confronted

him on an unkept promise that unemployed people would not be evicted and lights would not be cut off.

The Advice Office Forum, an umbrella body of advice offices and crisis centres throughout the Western Cape, have been running a campaign around unemployment in the Western Cape.

They have demanded that unemployed people should not have to pay rent, rent arrears should be scrapped and electricity should not be disconnected. They have also campaigned for more UIF benefits and for the creation of more jobs.

Surveys by the Forum have found a "silent rent boycott" in

the Western Cape.

They have found more than 85 percent of Manenberg's residents are in arrears with their rent and electricity. They have found some people owe up to R600 in rent.

The AOF has put pressure on the Cape Town City Council and the Cape Divisional Council to make special

arrangements for unemployed people who cannot pay their rents.

In response to their demands, Mayor Markowitz has said no unemployed people would be evicted or have their electricity disconnected.

But, AOF workers say the evictions and disconnections continue.

"The mayor must keep his word and not make empty promises."

Every day we still receive calls from people who have been evicted. This is why we invited him to attend the meeting of unemployed so he could explain to them personally," said an AOF worker.

He said at least 30 families were living on a

rubbish dump in Atlantis after they lost their houses.

The Divisional Council was especially strict when it came to the payment of rent, the AOF worker said.

"They really put pressure on people to pay their rents even if people have no money left for food."

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# Tackling jobless problem

UNEMPLOYMENT is on the increase in Mitchells Plain and has led to many other problems.

The Mitchells Plain Advice Office has organised a number of projects to help unemployed people.

One such project is a vegetable co-operative which is being run by a committee of residents.

"People contribute two rand each week for vegetables. The money is normally collected by the Thursday.

"Every Thursday at lunchtime the committee meets to discuss joint problems and what to buy with the money they collected.

"The vegetables are collected on Friday morning and put into packets for the residents to collect. People are asked not to send their children but to come themselves.

"Through the co-operative people can buy food much cheaper because they buy in bulk. Everyone contributes so it is not a handout they get. However, if any family cannot afford the two rand, it is discussed by the committee and they may still get an equal share of the vegetables.

"The co-op is not only a place where people go to collect vegetables. It is a place where people can come together to discuss their problems. In that way the co-op helps to build organisation also," said an advice office worker.

The advice office has started three co-ops in Mitchells Plain - in Beacon Valley, Eastridge and Tafelsig.

They have also looked at the possibility of starting a sewing group where about four women will come together to make items.

These items are then sold and the money shared. The items range from pillow-cases to other things that people need in the house.

The advice office has consistently called for jobs for all. At the same time they always try to highlight the plight of the unemployed.

"People are always calling the office to offer jobs and food. It is not

much but it has helped a few people.

"Many unemployed men are prepared to do odd jobs like cutting grass.

"People are very desperate. Some people even come to the office to sell their clothes and pots, and sometimes they want to be paid in food," an advice office worker said.

The office has held educational programmes to make unemployed more aware of the situation in South Africa.

"Many people come to the educational programmes. At one we had about 200 people. Sometimes we don't have enough place for all the people.

"People also use the programmes to discuss their problems. They

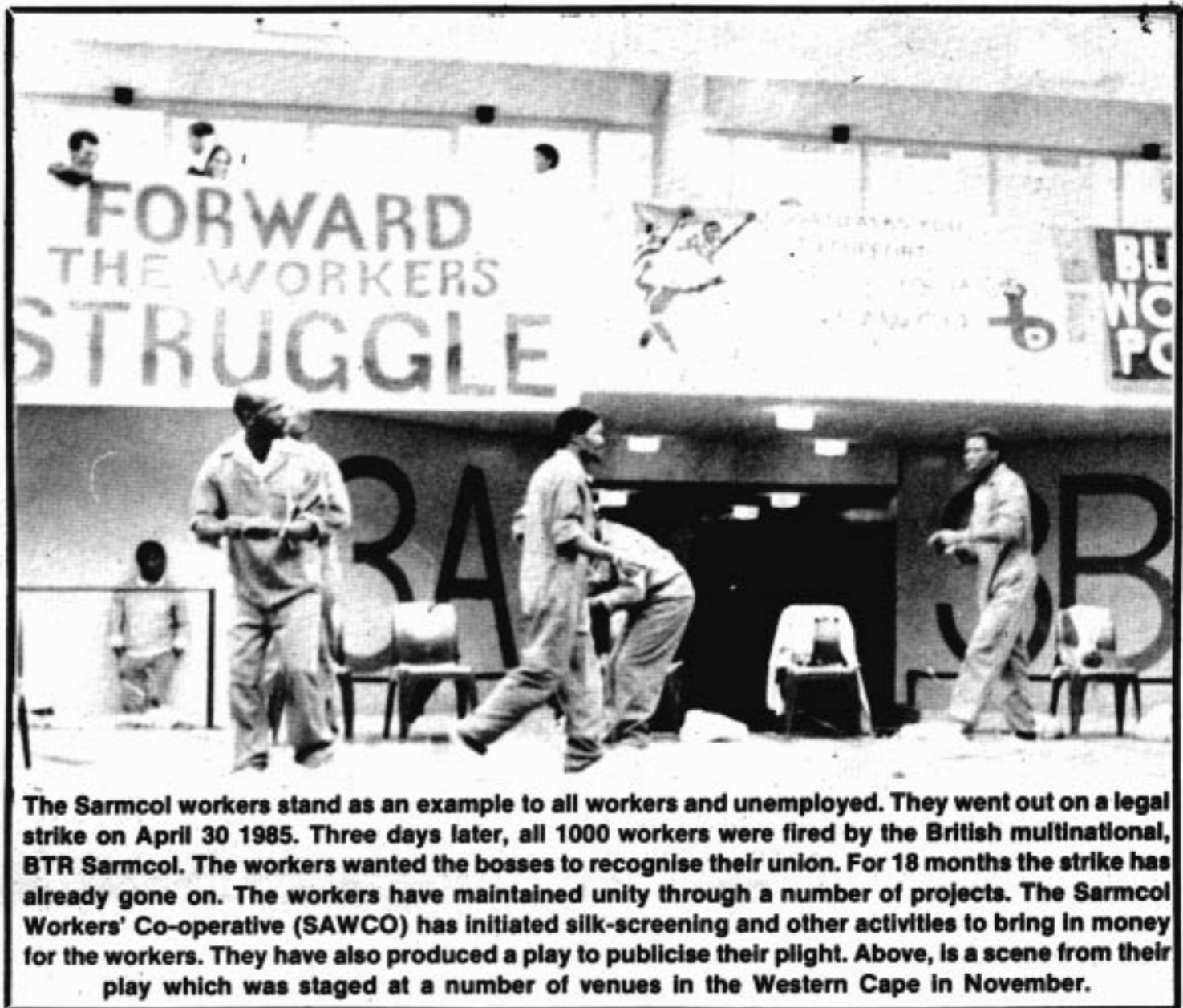
even come with their electricity and rent papers. Sometimes people with common problems discuss joint action."

The advice office is also trying to bring the issue of unemployment to the attention of local community organisations.

"We have tried to get the local organisations involved in the co-ops. In this way they draw people into organisations.

"Much of the work around the co-ops in the different areas are being done by local organisations. They have to do all the door-to-door work and hold programmes for residents in their own areas."

The Mitchells Plain Advice Office took part in a recent focus on unemployment.



The Sarmcol workers stand as an example to all workers and unemployed. They went out on a legal strike on April 30 1985. Three days later, all 1000 workers were fired by the British multinational, BTR Sarmcol. The workers wanted the bosses to recognise their union. For 18 months the strike has already gone on. The workers have maintained unity through a number of projects. The Sarmcol Workers' Co-operative (SAWCO) has initiated silk-screening and other activities to bring in money for the workers. They have also produced a play to publicise their plight. Above, is a scene from their play which was staged at a number of venues in the Western Cape in November.

## Families squat in Plain

A SQUATTER community is developing in Mitchells Plain as thousands of residents find it difficult to pay their rents.

According to the Mitchells Plain Advice Office, at least three families are squatting in Eastridge, a sub-economic suburb of Mitchells Plain.

"We fear that things will only get worse and this problem will increase as more and more people lose their jobs and can't pay their rents," said an advice office worker.

The families, which include very young children, sleep in people's backyards or in the bush. They move around daily from one house to another.

"Family life is disintegrating completely. In many cases the husband and wife has to sleep at different places. Children disappear and the parents do not know where to find them. One child of ten years old just walked out on her family.

"Sometimes, people sleep about four families in one house. People have to sleep wherever they can find place, whether it's under the staircase or on the floor. In this way they develop illnesses like TB.

"We said with the implementation of the tri-cameral government, that things would become more difficult and this is an indication of what is in store," an advice office worker said.

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# Detentions and threats won't solve problem

THE year 1986 has seen the South African government digging in its heels more vociferously than ever.

Increasingly isolated - both inside the country and by the international community - they have responded in the only way they know, with more repression, more threats and more tit-for-tat reprisals.

1986 has seen sanctions against South Africa being placed firmly on the agenda throughout the world.

The Botha government's traditional allies, like Reagan and Thatcher, have become increasingly isolated in their own countries because they refused to take action against South Africa.

Thatcher tried delaying tactics like the Eminent Persons Group and a desperately hopeless trip to South Africa by her foreign secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe.

Thatcher has lost ground in the European Economic Community and Reagan was hopelessly outvoted in his own country on the South Africa issue.

Even in Southern Africa. They have said they are prepared to suffer in the interest of the oppressed and exploited people in South Africa.

And while the South African government was being isolated, the African National Congress has gained much ground overseas and in South Africa.

ANC representatives have been invited to forums and conferences around the world and countless delegations from inside South Africa have trekked to Lusaka to hear the ANC position on a number of topics.

Inside the country, the building of people's power has become a priority for progressive organisations. Many townships are being organised into street and area committees.

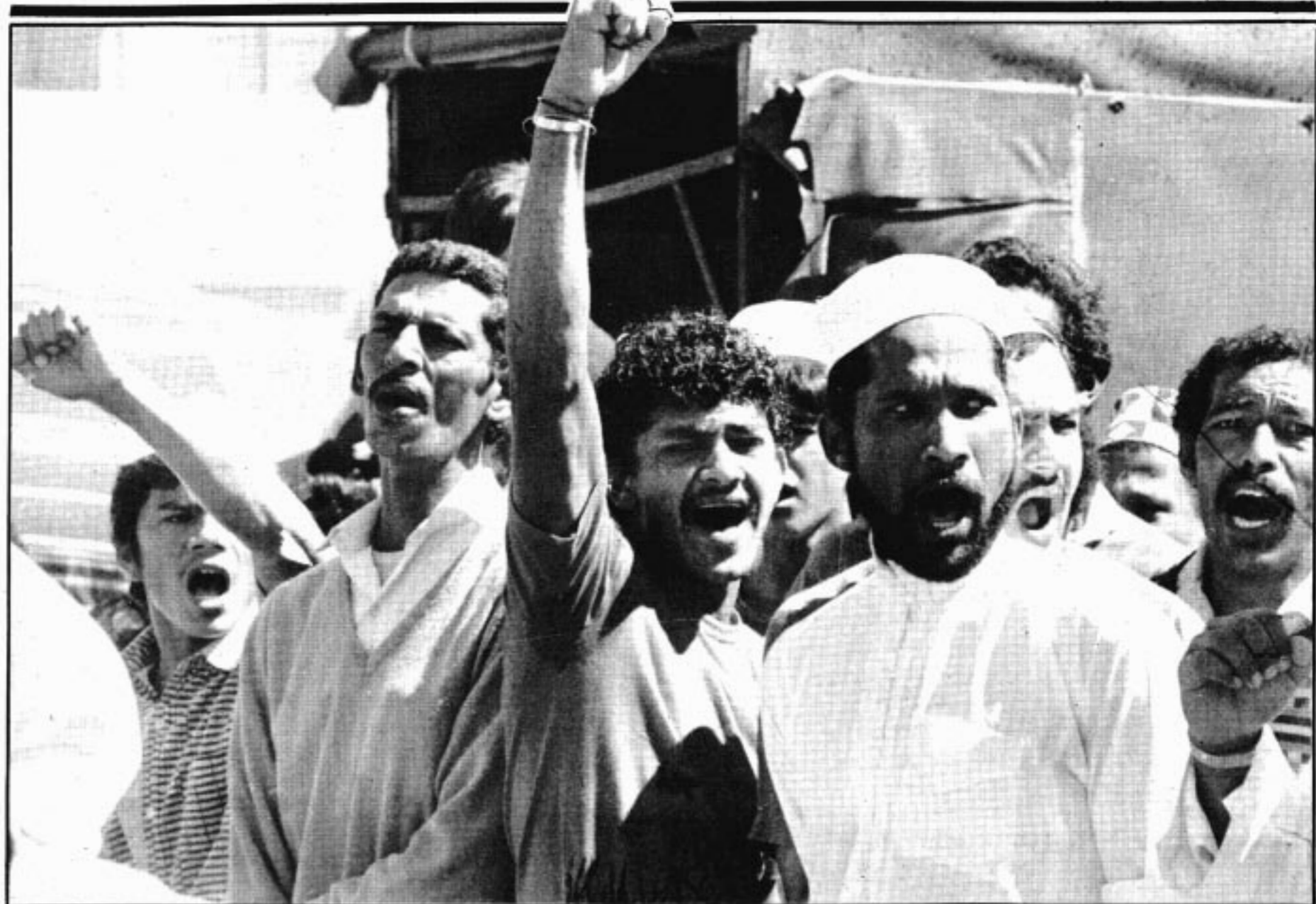
South African has responded in typical fashion to all these developments. They have threatened their neighbours and the world. They have renewed their state of emergency and detained thousands of people. Many activists have been banned by restriction orders. Newspapers have been barred from reporting on unrest and political action without permission.

Through their Bureau of Information, they have tried to give the impression that things are "under control" and becoming "normal" again.

But even though it is not reported in the newspapers, many things are still happening in the townships. Resistance is still continuing.

And it will continue until the government realises that it must meet the people's demands. The demands are simple: Unban the ANC, release Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners, end the state of emergency, release all detainees, end apartheid.

Until these demands are met, things can not be "normal" in South Africa.



Muslims and Christians united against the NGK after its attack on Islam.

# Apartheid is the false religion!

WHEN the Synod of the NGK declared that "Islam is a false religion" and that it presented a "great danger for Christianity in South Africa and the world", it could not have anticipated the outrage that was to follow.

Because if it did, the Synod would have refused to even give the slightest consideration to the proposal by the chaplain-general of the SAP who called on church members and officials to "witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ in all areas of life as the only answer to the onslaught of Islam."

The resolution, however, was accepted and passed by the Synod. What followed was unprecedented anger and outrage not only from Muslims but from all sectors of the community and very soon it was the NGK that was in the dock standing trial for its long association and direct support for the evil of apartheid.

As a deep mood of anger hung over the muslim community, an anger that has not yet subsided, many christians shared in the hurt they had suffered.

The Wynberg Ring called on all religious people not to "allow this insult to divert us from the struggle for true peace and justice into a conflict of religions."

The pamphlet went on to declare that "APARTHEID IS THE FALSE RELIGION".

FAR from causing divisions between South African Muslims and Christians, the statement by the white NG Church at its recent synod that Islam was a false religion appears to have provided an impetus to the growing Muslim/Christian unity. GRASSROOTS looks at some of the developments of the last few weeks, from the time the controversial resolution was accepted.

Besides angry responses from religious leaders and organisations, ordinary members of the christian communities also showed by various means that they stood by their Muslim neighbours, colleagues and friends.

This became evident mainly through numerous letters to the press. One Christian wrote: "As a Christian with a lot of Muslim friends, I would like to apologise to them for the stupid remarks made by an NGK spokesperson. It is because the Muslims are non-white who try to help those that are oppressed by the South African Government that they should have been attacked like this."

Christian and Muslim leaders alike charged that the slur was intended to divide the members of the two religious groups in the light of the growing bond that had developed through resistance to the Apartheid regime.

Maulana Faried Esack described this as a "deeply precious" unity. It is a unity "which had been forged in blood in the streets of Mitchells Plain, Athlone, Bonteheuvel and Wynberg."

But if this was one of the NGK's aims, then it had failed miser-

ably.

Dr Allan Boesak, who was in Europe at the time of the slur, said he stood by the Muslim Community in its hour of hurt - "a hurt which is callous because the Muslim community has taken its rightful place in the struggle for justice in this country."

He accused the NGK of clinging stubbornly to a false version of christianity and said that it should repent for 40 years of sin.

But the Christian response was to go far beyond the issuing of statements only.

Many Christians joined a thousand Muslims that had gathered at a Call of Islam Rally in Hanover Park late in October.

In addition major church groupings expressed their support to the meeting and condemned the NGK for the insult against Islam.

Messages of support were received from the Western Province Council of Churches, the South African Council of Churches and Jews for Justice.

When about 300 Muslims gathered on the Grand Parade from where they planned to march to the Groote Kerk to deliver a letter of protest, Christians shopping nearby ex-

pressed their support for the Muslim action and condemned the NGK for its statement.

The most vociferous response came from Dr Allan Boesak's NG Sendingkerk.

55 Dominees of the Sendingkerk, mainly from Cape Town and the Boland, released a statement strongly rejecting the statement by their parent NGK and said they wished to clarify that the Sendingkerk had "nothing whatsoever to do with the regrettable resolution."

The Wynberg Ring of the NGK saw the statement in a very serious light to the extent that they not only issued a statement on the matter but also produced a pamphlet which they distributed throughout Cape Town. Church youth even made efforts to go door-to-door in certain areas.

The circuit committee of the Ring of Wynberg said in the pamphlet on behalf of its members in Wynberg, Fairways, Grassy Park, Lotus River, Heathfield, Ocean View Hout Bay and other areas, that it wished to dissociate itself from the insult of the NGK to Islam.

"When we say this we do not speak for the NGK because the Dutch Reformed Mis-

sion Church (NG Sendingkerk) is not the white NG Kerk."

The Pamphlet continues: Let us not be fooled into thinking that the decision of the NGK was an innocent statement. Its background is the missionary policy of the NGK. The policy is one of conquest - the winner takes all.

Under this policy the people lost their culture and land. Tomlinson report (blueprint for bantustans): "Good missionary policy is good political policy."

Edwin Arrison, chairperson of the Inter-Church Youth which represents hundreds of V Church youth in the Western Cape, said the resolution was politically motivated.

Besides saying Islam is a false religion they said many young blacks had turned to Islam after 1976 as a means of furthering the "freedom struggle".

The issue is likely to have continuing repercussions. But whatever they may be, it is now clear that they do not represent a threat to the growing unity between different religious groupings in the country as they, together resist the injustices in our country.

In fact, by all accounts, the issue will only further strengthen the resolve of all South Africans to guard and build on the unity which has so painstakingly been struggled for in the last few years.

# We must end this pain

THE SATS workers suffer many hardships. GRASSROOTS spoke to workers and union organisers about their problems.

"We have many problems", Mr Tsamana told us. "The foremen treat us very badly. They insult us. They do not call us by our names but by our clock numbers."

The workers said that many of the foremen carry guns. A union organiser told us of a worker who was threatened by a gun. "This worker had a matric, and he applied to get a clerical job with SATS. He was working as a labourer.

"When he told his

foreman he had applied for the job, the foreman was angry. Then one day, he forced the worker to work after the others were finished. He held a gun over him.

"The worker worked for half an hour, then he saw other workers watching, so he left. He complained to the manager, but nothing was done. This is the sort of thing which happens."

Workers also complained about the wages. "The wages are very low. I earn R437 per month. My friends earn less than that. A white person doing the same job will earn almost twice as much. These wages are not enough

for our families."

Many workers complained about dangerous working conditions. "We must work in cold storage - in the freezing compartments, for 8 hours with no protective clothing. This makes us very sick. We have demanded protective clothing, but we never see it."

"We also have problems, when we must work with dangerous chemicals. The smell makes us sick. But we get no masks."

"Many accidents are caused by carelessness", Mr Sello told us. "You get workers crushed because the trucks are not loaded properly, or electrocuted because

the electricity was not switched off. We used to demand first aid training, so that we could save workers when that happened. When workers are injured, they get very little or no compensation."

Workers were also dissatisfied with their medical treatment. "We go to the railways doctor. But they do not give us proper treatment. They do not examine us, they just give us medicine. If you are sick, you must bring in your certificate the same day, even if you are too sick to travel.

"They don't like you to be sick - if you are sick too often they

threaten to dismiss you. But working in the cold storage makes us sick all the time."

"Also, we must pay medical aid. But that is just for us. They do not treat our families if they are sick."

The workers were very dissatisfied with the Staff Association. "I am a shop steward for the Staff Association", one worker told us. "I have presented many cases, such as the demand for protective clothes, for medical treatment and so on. Every time, you just get promises and more promises. But nothing is done.

"The Staff Association will not fight for

you if you are unfairly dismissed. I pay R10 per month to belong to this association. But they have never done a single thing for me.

Workers also complained about the hostels. "I have been living in a SATS hostel for 20 years. We sleep on thin "prison mats" on iron springs. There is no privacy in the showers. They say we get three meals a day, but often you miss your meal because you are working.

"We are really suffering in SATS. The world must know how we suffer. We are pleased now there is a union to fight for us.

GRASSROOTS looks at South African Railways and Harbours Workers' Union (SARHWU)

## The train to unity

Last month, Sarhwu held their national launch in Grahamstown. GRASSROOTS looks at problems facing the railways and harbours workers, and at how the union is fighting these problems.



## Suspended after 29 years

MR TSAMANA, Mr Tsholoba, and Mr Ktilili have been working for SATS for 29 years, 22 years and 22 years respectively. Recently they were accused of stealing and were suspended from work. GRASSROOTS asked Mr Tsamana to tell us their story:

"On August 20, Mr Ktilili and I were sweeping outside the stores, when we saw a bag of rice left out of its proper place. We went to find the foreman, so that he could take the rice back to the store-room, because the store-room was locked. But we could not find the foreman.

"We decided to put the rice in the mess room until the foreman came back. Mr Tsholoba was working there. When we took the rice to the messroom, the superintendent arrived and said we were stealing the rice.

"We tried to explain. He would not listen. He called the police. We were taken to jail for the night, and appeared in court the next day.

"The judge put off the case. He said we must go back to work until the case is finished. The case was put off until 22 October, and then again until 5 December.

"But SATS would not take us back. They said we are suspended until the case is finished.

"Now, we have families in the Transkei. Our families are crying for their food. We are not getting any pay. We have no money for our families.

"We are working there more than 20 years with clean records. This is how we are paid for our service."

\* SARHWU has taken up the case. They have organised Legal Aid and lawyers for the workers.

## No to Staff Association

"DOWN with the Staff Association. Forward with SARHWU!"

This was the message of the more than 100 workers at the SARHWU meeting on November 13. The spirited meeting was addressed by members of COSATU, SARHWU, UDF and CAYCO.

The chairperson, Gordon Cube, told the meeting: "I have been working for SATS since 1955. I have suffered many things there.

"I was a committee member of the Staff

Association. The Staff Association told us we must not join SARHWU.

"But this Staff Association is robbing the workers. They take our money, we are forced to join.

"A worker was killed on the docks because of carelessness. Staff Association did nothing. We are fighting low wages. Staff Association does nothing. We demand protective clothing. Staff Association does nothing."

UDF spokesperson

Graeme Bloch saluted the struggle of the SATS workers. "You, the railways workers, build our nation. Your railway lines join all parts of South Africa, and join us with Mozambique and other countries.

"We know that you have a vision of peace, of sharing the wealth with all the people of South Africa. You will help us build the kind of South Africa we all want."

Nosy Petersen, a FAWU shopsteward,

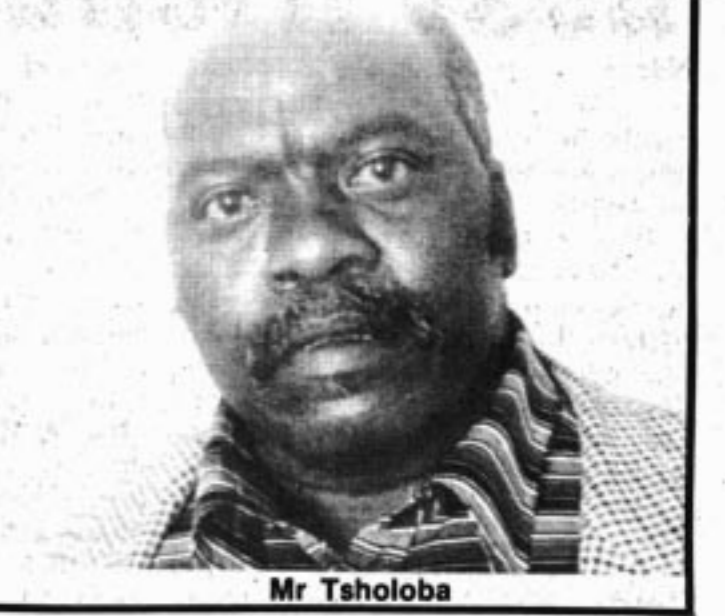
spoke about the importance of organising. "If you are not organised, and you march to the boss, you see the one worker stops to tie his shoelace, the other one goes to relieve himself... by the time you get to the boss, there is only one worker left.

"But if you are organised, this will not happen, you will all march together."

Petersen also said that workers must guard against attempts of the bosses to divide them. "You find the bosses

will treat the coloured workers a little bit better. This is not because they like coloureds. It is because they want to make sure that the so-called coloured and African workers do not unite

Rose Sonto, from CAYCO said "We must build the unity of the workers and the youth. We know that the youth can only support the struggle of the workers - the workers must lead the struggle to freedom and democracy."



Mr Tsholoba

NTAI SELLO was recently elected the General Secretary of SARHWU. GRASSROOTS spoke to him about the union and his experiences in organising the SATS workers.

GRASSROOTS: WHEN WAS SARHWU FORMED?

NS: SARHWU has a very long and proud history. It was first started in 1936. Many brave leaders such as Moses Mabhida, Archie Sibeko, Curnick Ndlovu struggled to organise the railway workers. It was a strong union - but in the sixties the government managed to crush the union by imprisoning many of its leaders.

In 1976, the workers again struggled to form the union. They were led by Lawrence Ndzanga, who had also been involved before. He was detained, and died while in detention in 1977.

For a time, the union was set

## SARHWU: An old fighter rises again

back. Then, in 1983, GAWU and MGWUSA helped to start the union again. Now, we have launched the national union. We have branches all over South Africa. We are a member of COSATU. SARHWU is strong again and this time we will not be defeated.

GRASSROOTS: HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED IN THE UNION?

NS: I was working on the railways, for four years. I could see the suffering of my fellow workers, and I wanted to find ways to fight this thing.

I was detained 3 months in 1983. When I was released, SATS did not want to take me back. But

I fought my case and I was reinstated. But then, they wanted to transfer me to some small town. Also, I was having trouble with the foreman, they were threatening me.

So I left SATS. But I did not leave the railway workers. I am determined to fight for the rights of the workers. Because I have been a worker and I know how they suffer.

GRASSROOTS: WHAT ISSUES IS THE UNION FIGHTING FOR?  
NS: The workers experience many hardships - their wages are very low, conditions are dangerous. The foremen are racist and treat the workers very badly. There are many unfair dismissals, and so on.

We are planning to fight all these things for the workers. And we have taken up some cases of victimisation and unfair dismissals.

At the moment, we are busy with a national campaign against the Staff Association. Many workers are resigning from the Staff Association - now we want them all to resign together. This means that workers will not be victimised for resigning.

GRASSROOTS: SARHWU IS A MEMBER OF THE UDF. WHY DID THE UNION JOIN UDF?  
NS: You see, it's like this. We fight for the workers to get higher wages, on the factory floor, right? But then we see they are robbed

of that money. They are robbed by high busfares, by high rents. Their children are robbed with this cheap education they get. The boss gives them more wages, but finds ways of taking it back from the workers outside the factory.

That is why we say, the worker's struggle does not end in the factory. It goes on in the communities, and in the schools. Our task as a union is to organise workers at the workplace. But we must join with other organisations which are fighting worker problems in the communities

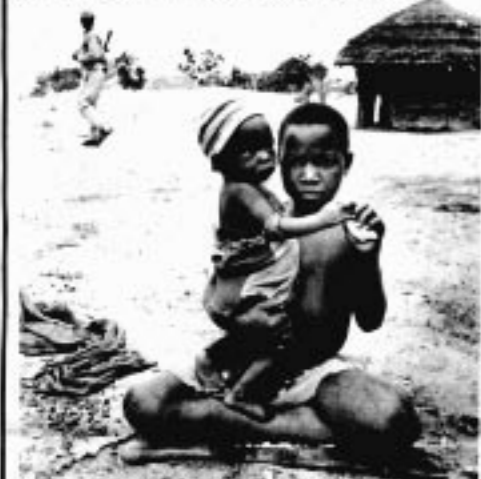
Also, we know that the struggle must be led by workers. Workers are the majority, and they must show the way to democracy and freedom. So, it is very important that workers are involved in UDF so that they can lead the UDF.

# LOVE THY NEIGHBOUR?

## Hunger as a weapon

were starving, the MNR made sure that they did not get any relief. The MNR burnt thousands of tons of grain. They destroyed trains and lorries bringing food to the people. The marauding peasants who left their villages in search of food and help.

The famine was caused partly by a severe drought, and by floods. But these problems could be overcome. The biggest problem was MNR activity, which had destroyed crops and farms. And, when the people



4 million people face starvation in Mozambique. Will these children be next?

## South Africa's best friends

WHEN Mr P W Botha was inaugurated as State President, he had many friends by his side. One of his friends was Josias Savimbi, leader of UNITA in Angola.

who were too scared to go home because of the atrocities they had committed during the Mozambique liberation struggle.

What is this UNITA? It was one of the organisations fighting for freedom in Angola. In 1973, the Portuguese told UNITA that if they fought MPLA - the biggest liberation movement - the Portuguese government would make sure that UNITA would have power after independence.

When the South African government overthrew, South Africa took over the MNR. They even tried to tell the world that the MNR is a "liberation movement".

So UNITA started fighting MPLA. But after independence, the people clearly showed they did not want UNITA. UNITA was defeated. By 1979, UNITA was almost wiped out.

They helped the MNR with arms, with training, with military advice. The MNR helps South Africa by destroying vital rail links to Zimbabwe and Zambia, forcing them to use South African rail links. And by forcing the FRELIMO government to spend so much time and money on defence that they cannot build their country.

Then Big Brother South Africa came to the rescue. The SADF would raid Angola claiming to be attacking SWAPO bases. They would destroy villages. Then UNITA would come after them, and set up bases in the destroyed villages.

In 1984, Machel signed the Niimatali Accord, because he was so desperate to stop the marauding and looting of the MNR. He pretended not to allow ANC military bases, and Botha promised to stop supporting the MNR. Mozambique followed their side of the agreement. Increasing evidence has shown that South Africa has continued to assist MNR.

South Africa also has friends in Mozambique - the MNR. This group was started by the South government before the independence of Zimbabwe. South was worried because Machel's government was helping Zane and Zepu fight the Smith government.

The MNR and UNITA are not popular in their countries. They are not popular because they burn food when people are starving, because they burn peasants alive in their bases, because their targets are not army bases but defenceless men, women and children.

South Africa also has friends in Mozambique - the MNR. This group was started by the South government before the independence of Zimbabwe. South was worried because Machel's government was helping Zane and Zepu fight the Smith government.

Without South African support, these organisations would have been wiped out. But with South African support, they are causing untold damage and suffering in our neighbouring countries.

So he got together some Portuguese soldiers, some FRELIMO members who were kicked out of FRELIMO for corruption, and some members of PIDE - the Portuguese special police -

ON 9 December, 1982, in the early hours of the morning, Sefiso Jafeta was woken by armed men bursting into his Lesotho home. He begged for mercy for his family - but all were slain, including his wife and 2 year old child.

In other homes, people were gassed down in their beds. By morning 42 people were killed - 30 South Africans and 12 Basotho. The SADF claimed it was a raid against "ANC bases" - but many of those killed had nothing to do with the ANC.

Also on that morning, South African commandos destroyed a fuel tank in Beira, Mozambique, 800 miles away. They caused more than £15 million damage.

This is one day in the war against South Africa's neighbours. It is an undeclared war which has gone on for over 10 years. It has cost the Front Line States over £10 billion (£R35 000 000 000). It has damaged over 100 000 lives. And it has left over 1 million people homeless.

The war started with an invasion into Angola in 1975, when the South African government tried unsuccessfully to overthrow the Angolan MPLA government. Before then, South Africa was protected from black Africa by a belt of "white governed" states - Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Angola.

In 1975, Mozambique and Angola were liberated from their Portuguese masters. And in 1981, Zimbabwe was freed from the South minority regime.

Suddenly, South Africa was surrounded by neighbours who were opposed to apartheid. The countries are weak. They are poor countries with tiny armies. They have all suffered years of war, and are concerned only with building peace. They could never seriously threaten the military might of South Africa.

But South Africa was afraid. It was afraid that these countries would support the liberation movements in South Africa, and would give our people new courage to fight apartheid. South Africa was also afraid of losing the wealth which it had been getting from these countries. And, it was afraid of losing power, of not being able to control its neighbours.

In the last few years, South Africa has tried many different methods to break the Front Line States. In some cases, like the Maseru raid in 1982, the SADF has directly invaded these countries. In the last few years, they have invaded Angola and conducted raids into Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Swaziland, Zambia and Lesotho.

South Africa also has special "Bucco" Commandos - voluntary soldiers from South Africa and other countries, who attack railway lines etc. in the Front Line States.

South Africa gives support to terrorist movements like the MNR (Mozambique Resistance Movement) and UNITA. These groups try to overthrow their governments by burning villages, killing peasants and destroying crops and railway lines.

But South Africa also tries to destroy the wealth of these countries, and to keep these countries dependent on South Africa.

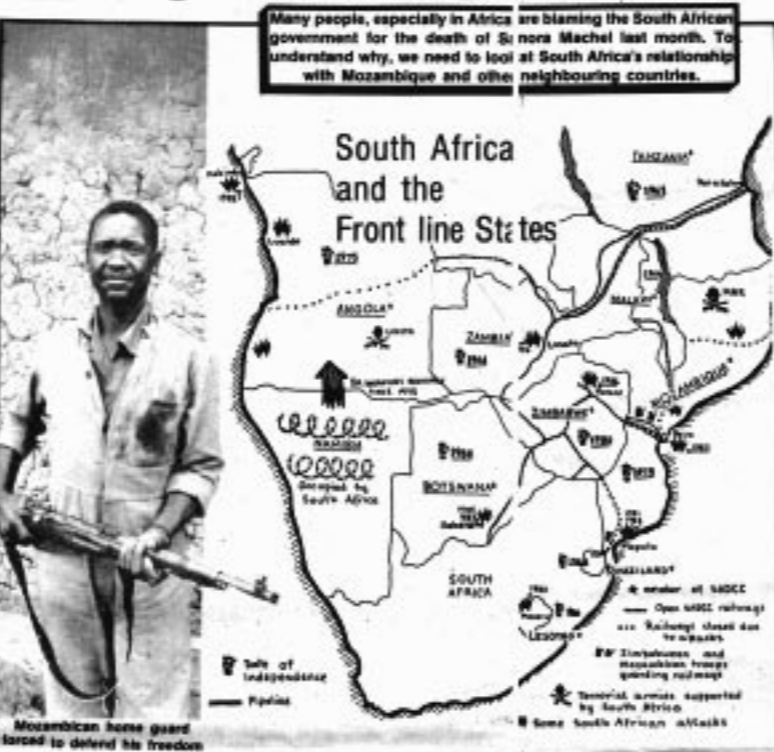
Some have been secret, and have been exposed through captured SADF soldiers and so on. Others have been publicly admitted by the South African government.

South Africa has tried everything in its power to break these countries, and to make them servants of apartheid. But it has not succeeded. The Front Line States are finding ways of resisting. They still give support to the ANC, although most do not allow military bases in their countries. And they are slowly breaking the stranglehold of South Africa on their wealth.

The cost in human suffering caused by South Africa can never be measured. But the Front Line States know that there will never be peace until apartheid is destroyed. And they have committed themselves to fighting apartheid in whatever way they can.

South Africa has used other methods to weaken the Front Line States. In 1981, South Africa delayed transport of fertilizer to Lesotho, Malawi, Zimbabwe and Zambia to destroy the crops in the region.

In 1983, South Africa closed the Lesotho borders, and prevented any food or medicine from getting into the country. This led to the overthrow of the Lesotho government. In this way, South Africa tries to control the politics of other coun-



Mozambican home guard forced to defend his freedom

Many people, especially in Africa, are blaming the South African government for the death of Samora Machel last month. To understand why, we need to look at South Africa's relationship with Mozambique and other neighbouring countries.

South Africa has tried very hard to crush the work of SADC. The railway lines which SADC has built have consistently been attacked by South African commandos, and by terrorists supported by South Africa. The railway lines in Mozambique are very important, because they link countries like Zimbabwe and Zambia with the sea. But attacks by the MNR have made most of these lines unusable. The ones that are still open are heavily guarded by Zimbabwean and Mozambique soldiers.

South Africa has used other methods to weaken the Front Line States. In 1981, South Africa delayed transport of fertilizer to Lesotho, Malawi, Zimbabwe and Zambia to destroy the crops in the region.

## What South Africa fears

The sophisticated weapon is giving citizens the right to study, culture, wealth, justice, progress to benefit society... Samora Machel



Co-operative farm in Mozambique

I watched their lives turn to dust... 1985 - for Mozambique, the trauma of war was over. It was time to build, to create a society of peace and wealth for all. I saw people's disabled legs in shops as they saw that South Africa would not allow the doors of its doors to be opened by South Africa... Mozambique

A FEW days ago, the South African regime said that Mozambique is threatening it by concentrating sophisticated weapons on its border. What are these sophisticated weapons that the regime is referring to?

The sophisticated weapon is having children as the only privileged sector of our society keeping the best for them, keeping the most beautiful for them. It is surrounding children with love and affection, innocence and happiness, and not, as in Swazeti, making them targets for police brutality and murderous weapons.

"The sophisticated weapon is giving all citizens the right to study, culture, wealth, justice, progress to benefit society..."

In short, the sophisticated weapon that really threatens apartheid is the advance of civilization that our society now represents... Samora Machel.

The frontline states are very weak countries which could never threaten the power of South Africa. They do not have half the wealth and military

might of South Africa between them. Why is South Africa fighting to destroy them?

South Africa says that these countries support "communist terrorists", who use the front line states to launch attacks on South Africa. But the only liberation movements which these countries support are ANC, PAC and SWAPO.

These are not Russian terrorists, but skilled South Africans and Mozambians fighting for the freedom of our people. And Angola is the only country which allows these groups to have military bases on its territory. The other countries only allow the ANC and PAC to have offices and civilian members - they do not allow any military activity.

The biggest threat to South Africa is not so-called communist invaders. It is, as Machel says, the example which these countries give to our people.

When Angola and Mozambique won their independence in 1975, it gave a new strength to our people. Suddenly

it seemed that liberation was possible. As the Machel government developed, we learnt that workers were running the factories, all the people were learning to read and write, all the people were given free health care and houses. And we saw that we too could win these things if we win the struggle against apartheid.

The South African government had to break down these examples. They believed that if they could sow confusion and chaos in these countries, then they could say to our people, "You see what happens when there is no apartheid. You see how blacks are not able to run their countries by themselves."

Every day on TV we hear about how the black governments are meeting up their countries. But we know that South Africa is the biggest cause of the hunger, the violence and the misery. We are not fooled. We know that peace will reign only when the evil of apartheid is wiped off the face of Africa forever.

ONE of South Africa's biggest weapons is its control over the wealth of the Front Line States (FLS). South Africa gets over £900 million (£R3 000 000 000) a year from these countries - through exports, imports, duties etc. The FLS are still very dependent on South Africa for income - and South Africa tries to crush any attempts to break this dependence.

What South Africa has cost her neighbours

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SADC aimed to strengthen the economies of the FLS, and to break their dependence on South Africa.

One of the first big projects of SADC was to build new railway lines and harbours, so that the Front Line States did not need to send their imports and exports through South Africa. But SADC also has projects sharing skills in agriculture, building up electricity supplies that do not depend on South Africa, health programmes and so on.

The South African government was very unhappy with SADC.

## When work is no longer a burden

"I REMEMBER sitting in board meetings in the executive conference room, with its cocktail cabinet in the corner - still with a half bottle of whisky which one-one had the indignity to take. Twenty-two tense faces, eighteen pairs of bare feet and carefully mended and mended work clothes. A room full of people shuffling papers that most of them could not read."

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When the FRELIMO government took over, they had a heavy debt left by the colonial power. Ninety per cent of the Mozambique people could not read or write. The Portuguese, who had all the skills, fled the country. Many of these smashed machines before they left. There were only 30 doctors, 4 architects, and 3 black taxi drivers in the whole country.

There was also a problem with the workers themselves. The Portuguese government had severely repressed any worker organisation. The only trade unions were weak "house unions". The workers had no

experience of organising, no consciousness of how to control their lives.

The FRELIMO set out with a programme of change. They redesigned the education - and built hundreds of schools all over the country. Workers were taught to read in the factories, peasants were taught to read in the fields. FRELIMO also worked hard to bring health care to everyone, to build houses, and so provide for people's needs.

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"But we struggled for weeks, and learnt how to make these things. At last we produced a perfect crusher! This was a great victory."

"I can say that many things are good now for us workers. We have better wages, we have houses for our families, and health care and education for our children."

"But we have something else which is very important. We have power to decide what we are going to make, and how we will make it. The boss doesn't come and say do this, do that."

"Now, all workers together plan the production for the factory. And we know the things we make won't be used for the bosses big houses. They will be used to grow crops to feed our people. They will be used for peace and prosperity."

There are still very many problems. We are such a poor country. And we must still fight the MNR and other enemies of the people. But now, I am proud to be a worker. My work is no longer my burden - it is my joy."



# LOVE THY NEIGHBOUR?

## Hunger as a weapon

were starving, the MNR made sure that they did not get any relief. The MNR burnt thousands of tons of grain. They destroyed trains and lorries bringing food to the people. The marauding peasants who left their villages in search of food and help.

South Africa also helped the famine. In the middle of the crisis, South Africa dropped 10 tons of supplies in the famine stricken areas. But these supplies were not food for the starving - they were more weapons for MNR to help them attack relief operations.

The famine was caused partly by a severe drought, and by floods. But these problems could be overcome. The biggest problem was MNR activity, which had destroyed crops and farms. And, when the people



4 million people face starvation in Mozambique. Will these children be next?

ON 9 December, 1982, in the early hours of the morning, Sefiso Jafeta was woken by armed men bursting into his Lesotho home. He begged for money for his family - but all were slain, including his wife and 2 year old child.

In other homes, people were gassed down in their beds. By morning 42 people were killed - 30 South Africans and 12 Basotho. The SADF claimed it was a raid against "ANC bases" - but many of those killed had nothing to do with the ANC.

Also on that morning, South African commandos destroyed a fuel tank in Beira, Mozambique, 800 miles away. They caused more than £15 million damage.

This is one day in the war against South Africa's neighbours. It is an undeclared war which has gone on for over 10 years. It has cost the Front Line States over £10 billion (£R35 000 000 000). It has damaged over 100 000 lives. And it has left over 1 million people homeless.

The war started with an invasion into Angola in 1975, when the South African government tried unsuccessfully to overthrow the Angolan MPLA government. Before then, South Africa was protected from black Africa by a belt of "white governed" states - Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Angola.

In 1975, Mozambique and Angola were liberated from their Portuguese masters. And in 1981, Zimbabwe was freed from the South minority regime.

Suddenly, South Africa was surrounded by neighbours who were opposed to apartheid. The countries are weak. They are poor countries with tiny armies. They have all suffered years of war, and are concerned only with building peace. They could never seriously threaten the military might of South Africa.

But South Africa was afraid. It was afraid that these countries would support the liberation movements in South Africa, and would give our people new courage to fight apartheid. South Africa was also afraid of losing the wealth which it had been getting from these countries. And, it was afraid of losing power, of not being able to control its neighbours.

In the last few years, South Africa has tried many different methods to break the Front Line States. In some cases, like the Maseru raid in 1982, the SADF has directly invaded these countries. In the last few years, they have invaded Angola and conducted raids into Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Swaziland, Zambia and Lesotho.

South Africa also has special "Bucco" Commandos - voluntary soldiers from South Africa and other countries, who attack railway lines etc. in the Front Line States.

South Africa gives support to terrorist movements like the MNR (Mozambique Resistance Movement) and UNITA. These groups try to overthrow their governments by burning villages, killing peasants and destroying crops and railway lines.

But South Africa also tries to destroy the wealth of these countries, and to keep these countries dependent on South Africa.

Some have been secret, and have been exposed through captured SADF soldiers and so on. Others have been publicly admitted by the South African government.

South Africa has tried everything in its power to break these countries, and to make them servants of apartheid. But it has not succeeded. The Front Line States are finding ways of resisting. They still give support to the ANC, although most do not allow military bases in their countries. And they are slowly breaking the stranglehold of South Africa on their wealth.

Many people, especially in Africa, are blaming the South African government for the death of Sefiso Jafeta last month. To understand why, we need to look at South Africa's relationship with Mozambique and other neighbouring countries.



Mozambican home guard forced to defend his freedom

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The cost in human suffering caused by South Africa can never be measured. But the Front Line States know that there will never be peace until apartheid is destroyed. And they have committed themselves to fighting apartheid in whatever way they can.

South Africa has also threatened to expel the thousands of migrant workers who depend on South Africa for their wages. The FLS still send over 250 000 migrant workers to work on their mines. For Lesotho, this is one of the biggest sources of income. When Zimbabwe became independent, thousands of Zimbabwean migrant workers were sent home.

Despite these problems, SADC has been one of the most successful development projects. It has helped to unite the FLS in breaking the stranglehold of South Africa.

The FLS are all rich in natural resources - yet their people are starving. This is not because of "shortage and incompetent governments" - as we have been told on SATV. It is because South Africa is doing its best to destroy them.

## South Africa's best friends

WHEN Mr P W Botha was inaugurated as State President, he had many friends by his side. One of his friends was Josias Savimbi, leader of UNITA in Angola.

What is this UNITA? It was one of the organisations fighting for freedom in Angola. In 1973, the Portuguese told UNITA that if they fought MPLA - the biggest liberation movement - the Portuguese government would make sure that UNITA would have power after independence.

So UNITA started fighting MPLA. But after independence, the people clearly showed they did not want UNITA. UNITA was defeated. By 1979, UNITA was almost wiped out.

Then Big Brother South Africa came to the rescue. The SADF would raid Angola claiming to be attacking SWAPO bases. They would destroy villages. Then UNITA would come after them, and set up bases in the destroyed villages.

South Africa has also helped UNITA with weapons, military advice, supplies and so on. UNITA helps South Africa by causing chaos in Angola, destroying railway lines and surrounding villages.

South Africa also has friends in Mozambique - the MNR. This group was started by the South government before the independence of Zimbabwe. South was worried because Machel's government was helping Zane and Zepu fight the Smith government.

So he got together some Portuguese soldiers, some FRELIMO members who were kicked out of FRELIMO for corruption, and some members of PIDE - the Portuguese special police -

## The costs of apartheid

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All the Front Line States were ruled for years by colonial governments. These governments did not try to build the wealth of the countries. They used them as reservoirs of cheap labour for South Africa. They lured overseas bosses to come and make as much money as possible, and then to leave. The local people were used as slave labour, and were not educated or trained.

When the liberation governments took over, they inherited very poor countries, with illiterate and untrained people, which were completely dependent on South Africa.

These countries realised they could never be free until they could escape the chain of dependence on South Africa. In 1980 they formed SADC (Southern Africa Development Co-ordination Conference).

They knew that SADC would liberate these countries from their control - and South Africa would lose the money which it is getting from the FLS.

South Africa has used other methods to weaken the Front Line States. In 1981, South Africa delayed transport of fertilizer to Lesotho, Malawi, Zimbabwe and Zambia to destroy the crops in the region.

In 1983, South Africa closed the Lesotho borders, and prevented any food or medicine from getting into the country. This led to the overthrow of the Lesotho government. In this way, South Africa tries to control the politics of other countries.

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## What South Africa fears

The sophisticated weapon is giving citizens the right to study, culture, wealth, justice, progress to benefit society...



I watched their treasures turn to dust

1985 - for Mozambique, the trauma of war was over. It was time to build, to create a society of peace and wealth for all. 1.6 million people's disabled limbs in shops as they saw that South Africa would not allow the doors of its doors to be opened by South Africa.

## When work is no longer a burden

"I REMEMBER sitting in board meetings in the executive conference room, with its cocktail cabinet in the corner - still with a half bottle of whisky which one-on-one had the indignity to take. Twenty-two tense faces, eighteen pairs of bare feet and carefully mended and mended work clothes. A room full of people shuffling papers that most of them could not read."

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One of FRELIMO's first tasks was to nationalise the factories - to use the factories to produce wealth for the people, and not to make profits for the bosses. They set up Production Councils, which would help the workers run the factory, and would give how much must be produced, what was needed and so on with the workers.

This is what happened in CIFEL, in the words of a worker at the factory: "At first, we made many mistakes. Our production fell. Many workers were late or did not come to work on time. They did not understand that now we are working for our people, and not for the boss. One lot of ploughshares we made had to be thrown away. The metal was too weak - it just cracked. We found out that one worker had been mixing the wrong powder for the metal."

A FEW days ago, the South African regime said that Mozambique is threatening it by concentrating sophisticated weapons on its border. What are these sophisticated weapons that the regime is referring to? "The sophisticated weapon is having children as the only privileged sector of our society keeping the best for them, keeping the most beautiful for them. It is surrounding children with love and affection, innocence and happiness, and not, as in Swazeti, making them targets for police brutality and murderous weapons."

"The sophisticated weapon is giving all citizens the right to study, culture, wealth, justice, progress to benefit society..."

In short, the sophisticated weapon that really threatens apartheid is the advance of civilisation that our society now represents." - Samora Machel.

The frontline states are very weak countries which could never threaten the power of South Africa. They do not have half the wealth and military might of South Africa between them. Why is South Africa fighting to destroy them?

South Africa says that these countries support "communist terrorists", who use the front line states to launch attacks on South Africa. But the only liberation movements which these countries support are ANC, PAC and SWAPO.

These are not Russian terrorists, but skilled South Africans and Mozambicans fighting for the freedom of our people. And Angola is the only country which allows these groups to have military bases on its territory. The other countries only allow the ANC and PAC to have offices and civilian members - they do not allow any military activity.

The biggest threat to South Africa is not so-called communist invaders. It is, as Machel says, the example which these countries give to our people.

When Angola and Mozambique won their independence in 1975, it gave a new strength to our people. Suddenly it seemed that liberation was possible. As the Machel government developed, we learnt that workers were running the factories, all the people were learning to read and write, all the people were given free health care and houses. And we saw that we too could win these things if we win the struggle against apartheid.

The South African government had to break down these examples. They believed that if they could sow confusion and chaos in these countries, then they could say to our people, "You see what happens when there is no apartheid. You see how blacks are not able to run their countries by themselves."

Every day on TV we hear about how the black governments are meeting up their countries. But we know that South Africa is the biggest cause of the hunger, the violence and the misery. We are not fooled. We know that peace will reign only when the evil of apartheid is wiped off the face of Africa forever.

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After that, we set up a FRELIMO party group to co-ordinate the factory. Every candidate for the group was carefully questioned before the workers decided on him.

"Well then, we did not have so many problems. Workers started to learn to do the work, and to take

# A new form of banning order

# Detainee death-toll rises

RESTRICTION orders have become a popular tool of the government to silence anti-apartheid activists.

At least 40 ex-detainees are known to have been issued with restriction orders on their release from detention under the emergency regulations.

The orders ban them from taking part in the activities of anti-apartheid organisations, attending political meetings or speaking to the press.

Recently, restriction orders have been extended to people who had not been detained.

Seven people in Johannesburg - all members of the End Conscription Campaign, Johannesburg Democratic Action Committee and the Black Sash - were banned from taking part in the activities of the Black Sash, ECC, Jodac, UDF, Detainees' Parents Support Committee, Federation of Transvaal Women and the National Education Union



Restricted: Liz Abrahams (left) and Elizabeth Erasmus.

of South Africa.

Karen Cooper, Colin Purkey, Marguerite Schneider, Joy Harnden, Sheila Weinberg, Aneen Dawber and Annemarie Rademeyer were told the restrictions were an alternative to detention.

A Jodac spokesperson said the government was not prepared to tolerate any criticism especially in the field of human rights and democracy.

In another development, several trade unionists are challenging their restriction orders.

Two Johannesburg trade unionists recently successfully challenged

restrictions imposed on them on their release from detention.

Council of Unions of South Africa executive member Daniel Manene Samela and regional co-ordinator Nana Joyce asked the Rand Supreme Court to set aside regulation 3(6) of the emergency regulations.

Justice R Goldstone did not set aside the regulation but withdrew the restriction orders and ordered that the State pay the costs.

Veteran trade unionist Elizabeth "Nanna" Abrahams has challenged her restriction

order in the Cape Town Supreme Court.

Abrahams, Paarl secretary of the Food and Allied Workers Union, has been unable to leave Paarl without official permission since her release from detention on August 26.

She has asked the court to declare her detention illegal and to set aside the restrictions on her movements.

Clothing Workers Union secretary Elizabeth Erasmus, will also challenge her restriction order in court.

Erasmus may not le

ave the Wynberg magisterial district without permission. Clow's office is in Woodstock which falls outside the Wynberg magisterial district.

She was detained for six weeks under the emergency regulations this year. She was also detained last year.

It is believed that hundreds of people may be restricted throughout the country, especially in small rural areas. It has been difficult for monitoring groups to get accurate information.

## DETAINEE GIVES BIRTH

A YOUNG woman from Despatch in the Eastern Cape gave birth in prison two months after she was detained under the emergency regulations.

Elizabeth Matebese was seven months pregnant when she was detained in June. She was released from detention earlier this month - two months after the birth of her baby boy.

According to her lawyer, Matebese had her baby at Port Elizabeth's Livingstone Hospital on August 3. She was taken back into detention at Port Elizabeth's North End Prison the next day.

Her baby went with her to prison. The baby has been named Phakamisa which means "to lift up".

Matebese was released two days before an urgent application for her release was to due to go before court.

AT LEAST seven people have died in police custody this year, raising fears about the safety of people in detention.

The latest victim was Xoliso Jacobs, 20, a matric pupil who died under mysterious circumstances in his Upington prison cell last month.

Officials gave three different versions of how he died. First they said he hanged himself with his shirt, then they said he used his jersey. Eventually they said he hanged himself using a piece of string.

According to the Detainees Parents Support Committee in Johannesburg, 63 people have died in police custody.

Fifty percent died within the first five days of detention and custody while 23 died within the first day.

Those who died in police custody this year include:

• Joel Phosoko, 28, a trade unionist from Pretoria who died a few hours after his arrest. The cause of his death is not known.

• Mokompo Kutumela, 25, of Lebowa, a member of Azapo and the Media Workers'

Association of South Africa. He died a day after he was arrested from a severe assault.

• Peter Nchabeleng, 59, UDF Northern Transvaal president, who died one day after his arrest in Lebowa. The official reason is a heart attack.

• Eric Ngomane, 22, an Eastern Transvaal high school pupil who died after three weeks in detention. The cause of his death is not known.

• Johannes Mashego, 26, of the Orange Free State, who died a few hours after his arrest. The cause of his death is not known.

• Mbuyisela Songelwa, 29, a member of the Detainees Parents Support Committee in the Eastern Cape, who died after 310 days in jail, allegedly from an asthma attack.

Songelwa was detained under Section 50 of the Internal Security Act on December 8 1985, but was later charged. At the time of his death he was an awaiting-trial prisoner.

Repeated calls have been made for full judicial inquiries into these deaths.


## Court bid fails

THE Appeal Court in Bloemfontein has dis-

missed an application by an Athlone woman for the release of her husband, a Section 29 detainee.

The application was brought by Juwayer Kader whose husband, Abdul Aziz Kader, was detained on June 17. He was admitted to Groote Schuur hospital on August 14.

The application was dismissed with cost.



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# Families stand firm

MORE than five months after the national state of emergency was declared, many Cape Town families still have to regularly travel to Victor Verster Prison in Paarl to visit their loved ones in detention.

The fortnightly visits are the only precious contact the detainees have with their families.

There are presently about 150 Western Cape detainees still being held. Many of them were detained on June 12 - the first day of the emergency.

The trauma of more than five months in detention continues to take its toll on the detainees and their families, resulting in severe emotional and physical stress.

This was evident at a press conference in Wynberg late in October where families spoke of their personal suffering. According to the families, the detention was particularly traumatic for the children.

Russel Mc Gregor, former secretary of the SRC at the University of the Western Cape, has

been in detention for more than five months now. His wife Linda, who has two young children said the overall effect the absence of their father had on them was terrible. "They keep on asking where he is and when he is coming home; I do not know what to say to them."

Mrs C Booy said she did not know the whereabouts of her son Patrick who was also detained more than five months ago.

The mother of UDF secretary Travor Manuel, detained three months ago, said: "He is my only son and worrying constantly about him has affected my health. I am a diabetic and this complicates my problem."

Mrs G Swarts of Fairways suffers the double burden of having both her husband Nabil and son Dehran in detention. She called on families to "remain firm in the face of adversity."

The family of Reverend H Marawu of Langa was unable to attend. "Rev", as he is popularly known has suffered de-



These two women were among the families who came together at a recent press conference to talk about the trauma of detention. Mrs Fatiema Cassiem, left is the wife of Section 29 detainee, Achmad Cassiem. Mrs G Swart (right) has her husband, Nabil, and son Dehran in detention under the emergency regulations.

tion during all three emergencies (1960, 1985 and 1986).

Others present at the press conference were Mrs Williams, wife of Atlantis Residents Association (ARA) chair-

person Noel Williams, Mrs Fatima Cassiem, wife of Section 29 detainee Achmad Cassiem and the wives of Dick Meter and Patrick Presence, two Hout Bay detainees who were subsequently released.

# STILL IN DETENTION

SINCE the beginning of the state of emergency on June 12, thousands of people have been detained.

The Detainees Parents Support Committee estimates that more than 20 000 people have been detained under emergency regulations. The government has refused to release names and figures of how many people have been detained.

While many detainees in the Western Cape have been released, there are still many in prison. Some people have been held since June without being charged.

As a special service to our readers, Grassroots publishes the names of 100 people still believed to be detained in the Western Cape. Eighty-four are held at Victor Verster Prison in Paarl, 15 at different police stations and two women are at Pollsmoor Prison.

## 'Misconduct' case postponed

THE trial of more than 30 emergency detainees charged with misconduct at the Victor Verster prison in Paarl has been postponed to December 15.

The charges arise from an incident in September when detainees were allegedly kicked and beaten by warders and teargas was used to force them back into their cells.

The detainees will appear in a special court at the prison. If found guilty, they face sentences which include a warning, six strokes with a cane, deprivation of one or more meals on any one day and solitary confinement not exceeding 30 days.

Those originally charged are Wilfred Rhodes (UDF Western Cape vice-president and Cape Areas Housing Action Committee

chairperson), Noel Williams (Atlantis Residents Association chair and Cosatu Western Cape vice-president), Leslie Maasdorp (UWC SRC president), Russel McGregor (UWC student), Logan Wort (Mitchells Plain Cayco activist), A.Williams, G.S. Bola, W.Cloete, R.Telane, N.Ndweti, M.Mzola, B.Mfengwano, M.C. Jodwana, S. Yasika, E.Erensen, S.Tshali, C.Gilfellow, M.Marela, W.Shumi, S.Mashoba, R.Mahlali, K.Malgas, P.Mhobo, S.Kabanya, F.Tiyo, B.Mhlawu, Ngikashie, T.Mathe, A. Meyer, V.Mbenge, Richard Martin, L.Mkwenkwe, Patrick Presence, S.Moahloli and M. Nduso.

Some of the detainees have since been released. Charges against them have been dropped.

The figures and the names are based on information collected on Friday November 7. Since then some people may have been released. Others may have been detained since then. Because the government is not prepared to give information, we may never know.

Those being held at Victor Verster are: Sebenzile Xecalina, Zebron Titana, Kutwana Mpayipheli, Zongezile Mayekiso, Michael Mose, Theophilus Peko, Warrington Nkweba, Sydney Magxala, George Tsotso, Phillip Mnintshawe, Linda Malgas, Abraham Ntlaba, Headman Makade, David Ngxokela, Dabile Yozi, Bongile Siwahla, Simon Makhamba, Mike Zamla, Patrick Eleki, Monde Fetile, Themba Dona, Johnson Kamte, Xolisile Hlezupondo, Phumzele Ntontega, Passenger Mbhonde, Nceba Chagwe, Soze Qoka, Augustus Ntlangweni, Zongezile Beni, Wiseman Fumile, Silimela Siyikili, Michael Matiyase, Headman Cholidiza, Wilson Magaqa, Mvuyisi Mhlanga, Patrick Mapeyi, Consulate Litsoane, Michael Mduzulwana, Loyisa Nqola, Christopher Mathati, Augustus Mfengwana, Mcoseleni Mpunzi, Patrick Goka, Victor Sigeli, Logan Wort, Eric Mxazonke, John Leswetswa, Situtsuba Zihluphile, Alfred Mbetha, Elliot Mhlenze, Mpondomise Similo, John Mnukwa, Siphon Dambuza, Jonathan Sehlake, Sicelo Bala, Ntuyakhe Daweti, Joseph Biyana, Gerald Boozi, John Davis, Moses Faku, Kelby George, Patrick Heyane, Thabo Mangewa, Patrick Kali, Dumile Matroos, Lulama Matabeni, Mongezi Mavata, Wilfred Rhodes, Mcebisi Howana, Atwell Bekwa, James Mncedi, Gerald Roro, Headman Mgedsi, Robert Telana, Colbert Jodwana, Babana Mephi, Peter Tssetsedi, Michael Jantjies, Irvin Kolo, Shepherd Matshoba, Stephen Williams, Harris Sibeko, Amos Komba, Anros Dyanti.

Those believed to be held at Police Stations are: Trevor Manuel, Zwelenkosi Silwanyana, Viket Ntshabe, Mcebisi Botha, Goodman Nongawuzage, Hercules Booysen, David Mahlanza, Howard Stofile, Justine Mateza, Arnold Dambuza, Sizakele Tsamba, Zola Qina, Monwabisi Mabuto, Michael Fani, Wesley Tshamba.

Two women are believed to be detained under the emergency regulations at Pollsmoor Prison. They are Monica Dema Mhlonge and Zelfa Vunde, both of Guguletu.

Lawyers have made application for the release of most detainees and are planning to apply for the release of the others.

One law firm has prepared 65 applications for the release of detainees.

## 'A child's place is at home, not in jail'

THE suffering of children under apartheid in South Africa is the focus of a report recently released by the Black Sash.

The report has been supported by a group of Cape Town community health workers and professionals who have spoken out against the

detention of children. The Black Sash "Memorandum on the Suffering of Children in South Africa" contains 32 affidavits and statements which paints a grim picture of the life of children in South African townships.

"What is to be done with children who use hand grenades or dance around the dying bodies of the people they have set alight? What is to be done when violence is seen as the only strategy left to people whose peaceful appeals have fallen on deaf ears?" the Black Sash asked in their report.

The memorandum outlined three urgent priorities to defuse the anger and violence:

- The police and army need fundamental retraining in attitudes and behaviour.
- The indiscriminate detention of children without the protections of the courts must end.
- Apartheid must be abolished. It is the root cause of the township violence and cannot be reformed.

## Brief taste of freedom

WORCESTER community leader Harris Sibeko had a brief taste of freedom after spending four months in detention.

Sibeko, arrested on June 12 under the emergency regulations, was released from Victor Verster Prison on October 3.

He was re-detained at 4.45am on Wednesday November 19 from his Zwelenthemba home and taken to the Worcester police cells. According to his lawyer, he was to have been transferred back to Victor Verster prison.

Sibeko was detained under the emergency regulations last year and claimed he was given the wrong medication while inside prison. The medication he was given affected his health, he said at the time.

He was one of a committee of Zwelenthemba residents elected to negotiate with the authorities about the upgrading of the township. The talks broke down when the emergency was declared and most Zwelenthemba leaders were detained.

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# Farmworkers, domestics for national union

WE HAVE sent letters and delegations without any response from the government. It is time we said: 'Enough is enough'.

These are the words of a member of the planning committee of the new national union for domestic and farmworkers. After years of talks and planning, five unions have finally decided to come together into one big union.

The unions are East London Domestic Workers Union (ELDWU); South African Domestic Workers Association (SADWA), with branches in Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town; Domestic Workers Association (DWA) of Cape Town; Port Elizabeth Domestic Workers Union (PEDWU) and the National Domestic Workers Union (NDWU), which is based in Natal.

The unions decided in June last year to form one organisation. Since then they have had seven planning meetings, resulting in their official launch at

the University of the Western Cape at the end of November.

The unions have been working together informally for many years. In 1981 they sent a memorandum to the then Minister of Manpower on the rights and conditions of domestic and farmworkers. They received no response.

In 1984 they sent a delegation to the Minister.

"We have still not received a reasonable response to the plight of domestic and farmworkers.

"At our unity talks, we decided we will no longer wait on the government. We will work and consult with the workers and we will do whatever is needed to advance the fight of the workers," the planning committee said.

The union will demand laws to protect the rights of domestic workers, higher wages, unemployment insurance funds, sick pay, holiday pay, maternity benefits, overtime pay

workers' compensation and better living conditions.

They are demanding a 40 hour (five days of eight hours each) working week and a minimum wage of R200 a month.

The union will affiliate to the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) and has pledged to work with progressive organisations on common issues.

It has been a long way since the talk of one big union started in 1979 and the road has not always been easy.

Last year, the Port Elizabeth-based Domestic Workers Association of South Africa (DWASA) pulled out of the unity talks. The committee said it appeared as if Dwasa had a different ideology to the other unions.

At the beginning of this year, PEDWU was formed as a breakaway from Dwasa.

The new union has a membership of between 50 000 to 60 000. It has a potential membership of one million workers.

## 'We will fight for our rights'

DOMESTIC workers and farm labourers were the first recognised work-force to be exploited by the foreigners who came to South Africa - but until today they still have no rights.

"This is why it is so important for domestic workers and farm workers to be organised," said the planning committee of the new national union.

"Not much has changed for domestic workers since the slave days. Today many are still working a 16 hour day and get paid R20 a month.

"They have absolutely no benefits. One woman worked for 43 years and received nothing when she stopped

work, just promises.

"We want to bring to the notice of our society how these people have been used and exploited.

"It's important for domestic workers and farm workers to be in one union. So often the domestic worker is the wife, mother or sister of the farmworker.

"Many women come to the office and they bring their husbands along with their problems on the farms.

"Most domestic workers come from the rural, farm areas. They leave for the city because of the low wages people earn on the farms.

"When these workers go back to the farms to visit their families,

they are told by the farmers that they are no longer welcome. They then have to meet their families outside the farm gates because they no longer have a home.

"Many domestic workers are also single parents because of the government laws which break up family life.

"Some women have to bring up their children on R40 a month - an impossible task.

"Her family life is broken up but she has to build up the family of her employer. Because the domestic worker looks after the children, many women can become professional.

"The domestic is unable to love and spend

time with her own children because she must spend all her time with her employer's children.

"Domestics play such an important role in the lives of middle-class, professional people and they get treated so badly.

"No-one can deny the influence of domestic workers on their lives. Who looked after P.W. Botha when he was a child?

"White children are brought up by the domestic workers. These same children go out and shoot our children in the township.

"The domestic worker is an important part of our society," the committee said.



Mrs Rose Mpetha, was buried recently

## Oscar still in jail

THE father of the trade union movement, Oscar Mpetha, continues to be held under lock and key. Despite widespread calls for his release, the authorities prefer to ignore his situation.

Not even the recent death of his wife, Roselyn Mpetha, elicited compassion from those in power. They refused to release the 77-year-old former National President of the United Democratic Front (UDF) so that he could attend her funeral.

Oscar Mpetha was con-

victed of terrorism in 1983 and sentenced to five years imprisonment. After appealing against the conviction and sentence, he was released on bail of R1 in June 1983.

His appeal failed, however, and he was picked up at his tiny Nyanga home early this year to begin his five-year sentence.

Today Oscar Mpetha is very ill and spends most of his time in hospital. He suffers from sugar diabetes and has had to have one leg amputated.

Why does Oscar Mpe-

tha represent such a threat to the authorities? Who is this aging leader so close to the hearts of many workers in Cape Town?

As a young man Oscar Mpetha worked in a fish factory on the West Coast. It was here that he met with Ray Alexander, the greatly admired mother of the food workers. It was through her that he was to become a union man.

By the mid-fifties, Oscar also rose to the forefront of the African National Congress (ANC). He was chairperson of the ANC, Western Cape Region at the time of its banning.

As a worker, Oscar

lived in poverty. As a trade unionist, his living conditions did not change until before his imprisonment, he still continued to live under difficult conditions.

Despite the extreme hardships he suffered - the detentions, bannings and harassment - His spirit always remained high. His courage and commitment has served as a constant inspiration to all those involved in the struggle for freedom.

Today the workers of South Africa are deprived of his leadership. But the union movement for which he gave so much of his time continues to grow from strength to strength.

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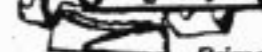
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A victim of the Uitenhage massacre is laid to rest



# Hambe Kahle, Ruth First

ON 17 August, 1982, a parcel arrived for Ruth First at her university office in Maputo, Mozambique. When she opened it, it exploded, killing her instantly.

Ruth was born in 1925, and came to this country as a young girl. She studied at Wits university, where she also became a member of the Communist Party. In 1946 she became the temporary secretary, after the government tried to crush the Communist Party by arresting its leaders.

Soon after, she was appointed editor of the Guardian, helping to build it into a strong newspaper speaking for the rights of the oppressed people.

During these years, she worked hard to expose the terrible conditions of workers. She and Joe Gqabi, who was assassinated in Zimbabwe in 1983, helped to expose the terrible suffering of the Bethal potato farms. This led to the potato boycott.

In 1949, she married Joe Slovo, a Johannesburg lawyer who is now the top leader of Umkhonto we Sizwe. In 1956 she was charged with high treason in the famous Treason Trial, along with 155 others.

In 1963, she was held in solitary confinement for 117 days. In 1964, she and Slovo left South Africa to continue their work outside.

## The living death of life in jail

GOVAN Mbeki is serving a life sentence in Pollsmoor Prison, along with Mandela, Sisulu and others.



The oldest of the Rivonia trialists, he was born in 1910 in the Transkei. He joined the ANC while still a student at Fort Hare.

December, he was arrested and charged under the Explosives Act. After his acquittal, he was immediately house arrested.

In 1955, he became the Port Elizabeth editor of the New Age. He organising abilities helped to make the Eastern Cape one of the strongest regions of the ANC.

Despite this, he joined Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK). He was arrested when police swooped on the Rivonia underground quarters of MK. He was later sentenced to life imprisonment.

Mbeki worked hard organising for the Congress of the People. In 1956 he was elected national chairperson of the ANC.

Mbeki is married, with three children. One of his sons, Thabo, is presently the Director of Information and Publicity of the ANC.

He spent 5 months in prison during the 1960 State of Emergency. In

## DECEMBER 16 HEROES' DAY

They have died in Athlone, in Soweto. In prison and in exile . . . in the last 300 years, thousands have given their lives in the struggle for freedom and justice. Some, like Steve Biko, were well known throughout the world. Many more, like 16 year old Sean Magmoet, are unknown. But each is a hero. And none shall be forgotten.

On this page, GRASSROOTS pays tribute to the men and women who have sacrificed for the struggle. We salute those who have paid . . .

# The highest price of all

A VOICE cried out, "Long live the fighting spirit of Solomon Mahlangu!" "Long live!" echoed from the hundreds in the hall. The meeting was in Mamelodi. It was 16 December, the day remembered throughout South Africa as Heroes Day. The day when South Africans salute those who have given their lives for the liberation of our country. For Those in the hall, Mahlangu was one such person. His short tragic life was the life of many others.

Mahlangu, born in Sekhukhuni-land was on of six children. He was the only one of the six to receive an education, and according to his mother was a loving and caring person.

In September 1976, he suddenly disappeared. His mother learnt later that he had been recruited into Umkhonto we Sizwe, the military wing of the ANC. Umkhonto we Sizwe was formed after the Sharpeville massacre, when the ANC decided there was no hope of peaceful change in South Africa.

Mahlangu was one of thousands to leave for military training after the 1976 uprisings. Mahlangu and others believed that the police violence at that time gave them no other choice. After receiving training, Mahlangu returned to South Africa. Shortly afterwards, a policeman spotted him and two fellow trainees carrying their guns. A grim chain of events followed.

Mahlangu and others fled into Goch street, Johannesburg. He injured his ankle, and hid in a ware-

house.

One of his comrades, Motlong, followed. Motlong burst into a room where four workers were sitting. In fright, he shot at them and killed two.

Motlong was never to stand trial - he was so badly injured that he was declared mentally unfit.

Mahlangu had not fired a shot. But he was sentenced to death as an accomplice.

A world wide campaign was launched to save him from the gallows. But clemency was refused, and Mahlangu was hanged early in the morning on 6 April, 1979.

His mother said afterwards, "He died like a soldier. His last words to me were, 'Tell my people that I love them, and that they must continue the struggle.'"

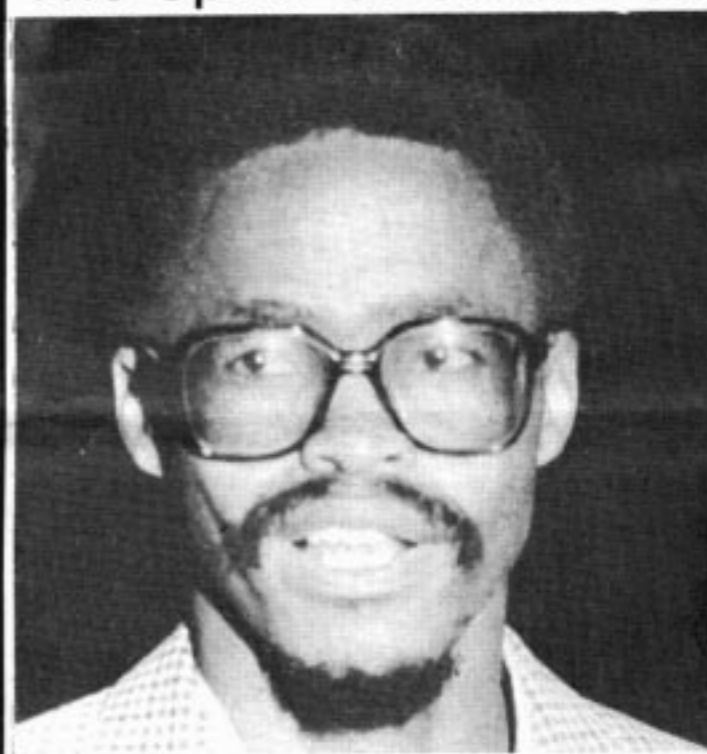
Many South Africans have given their lives for the struggle. Some have been assassinated, some have been killed in SADF raids.

Many have died in detention cells. And thousands have been shot during peaceful protests. At Sharpeville, in Langa; in Soweto and in Athlone unarmed men, women and children have been gunned down by the police.

Others have committed themselves to the living death of life imprisonment - Mandela, Mbeki, Sisulu are but a few of these.

We bow our heads to those who have sacrificed so dearly. We look forward to the day when their sacrifice will bear fruit in a free and just society.

## The spirit of Craddock



On the night of 27 June, 1985, Matthew Goniwe, Fort Calata, Sparrow Mkhonto and Sicela Mhlawuli left a meeting in Port Elizabeth and headed for home.

They never arrived. A week later, their charred and mutilated bodies were found alongside the road. They had been brutally murdered.

Goniwe was a great inspirator to all who knew him. He devoted his life to fighting for the people of his community.

Under his leadership, Craddock has stood out as an example of strength and unity.

In 1972, Goniwe opened a school in a church hall in the village of Mqandula in the Transkei. But the homeland government did not like the

ideas he was teaching - and he was sent to jail in Umtata for four years.

On his release, he taught at Graaff Reinet. He became headmaster, and was transferred to Mhawili school in Craddock as acting head.

He was much loved by his pupils, and helped start CRADOYA, a youth association.

In December 1983, DET tried to transfer Goniwe back to Graaff Reinet. He refused the transfer. In 1984, Craddock students started a boycott to protest against his dismissal. The boycott lasted 14 months and soon spread to other areas.

In 1984, Goniwe was detained for 6 months, and the government banned all meetings in Craddock.

Goniwe will always be remembered as a community leader of great courage and dedication.

## La Guma - driven into exile

ALEX LA GUMA was born in Cape Town in 1925. His father, Jimmy La Guma, had been involved in struggle all his life - in the ANC, the Communist Party, and trade unions.

Alex attended Trafalgar High School. He became a member of the Communist Party in 1948. He was actively involved in the campaign to stop the government from removing coloureds from the voters roll.

La Guma helped collect demands for the freedom charter. He and his father worked tirelessly to help form the Coloured Peoples Congress.

In 1956, he was arrested and charged with reason in the Treason Trial. He was acquitted, but then detained in 1960, and put under house arrest in 1962. He was detained again in 1963 and in 1966. In 1966, he left South Africa to continue the struggle in exile. Alex is recognised as being one of the best South African writers, and his novels and stories are widely read. Many of them are banned in South Africa. His books include Stone Country, A walk in the night, In the fog of Seasons End.

Alex died in October in Havana, Capital of Cuba, where he was serving as the ANC chief representative. He had dedicated his life to the freedom of all South Africans.

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# Where it hurts most...

"DISINVESTMENT successfully employed, is an act of violence against the blacks" — Louis Nel.

Many people find it strange that Louis Nel and his friends should suddenly be so concerned about the suffering of blacks. Especially as it is Louis Nel's government which daily sends its troops to oppress our people in the townships.

It is also strange that Reagan and Thatcher are so worried about our suffering. Reagan employs sanctions against 20 countries — yet he says sanctions against South Africa "would not work".

Yet, the demand for sanctions and disinvestment has spread to all corners of the world. Recently, even the US overturned Reagan's refusal to impose sanctions.

There are some people, such as Gatsha Buthelezi, who claim that South African blacks "do not want sanctions". This is very difficult to judge because the government has made laws severely restricting calls for sanctions. This makes it impossible for any South African who supports sanctions to state his/her case.

But a lot of people are concerned that sanctions and disinvestment will cause suffering. Before we can answer that question, we need to look at the "benefits" foreign investment has

## GRASSROOTS looks at Disinvestment

brought to our people.

South Africa is very dependent on businesses owned by foreign bosses. This has meant:—

\* Our economy is aimed at making profits for these bosses, and not at developing our resources for the good of all our people

\* Many luxury goods are produced that can only benefit the rich

\* A great deal of money leaves our country to line the pockets of bosses overseas

\* The bosses use imported machinery. This saves them money, because they do not need to employ so many workers. But it has cost millions of workers their jobs.

So you can see that investment has not really benefitted our people. In fact, disinvestment may even CREATE jobs because South Africa will need to produce many goods which it is presently importing from other countries.

But investment has helped the government and bosses. It has helped them because they share in the profits. But it also helps the government because foreign countries want to help Botha control our people. "Unrest", strikes, and so on are bad for business — and the foreign bosses

are willing to help Botha prevent these things.

This is why Reagan and Thatcher have been so supportive of Botha — and why they have been so slow to take action against apartheid.

This is also why it is the government and bosses who have spoken out against sanctions.

Of course, disinvest-

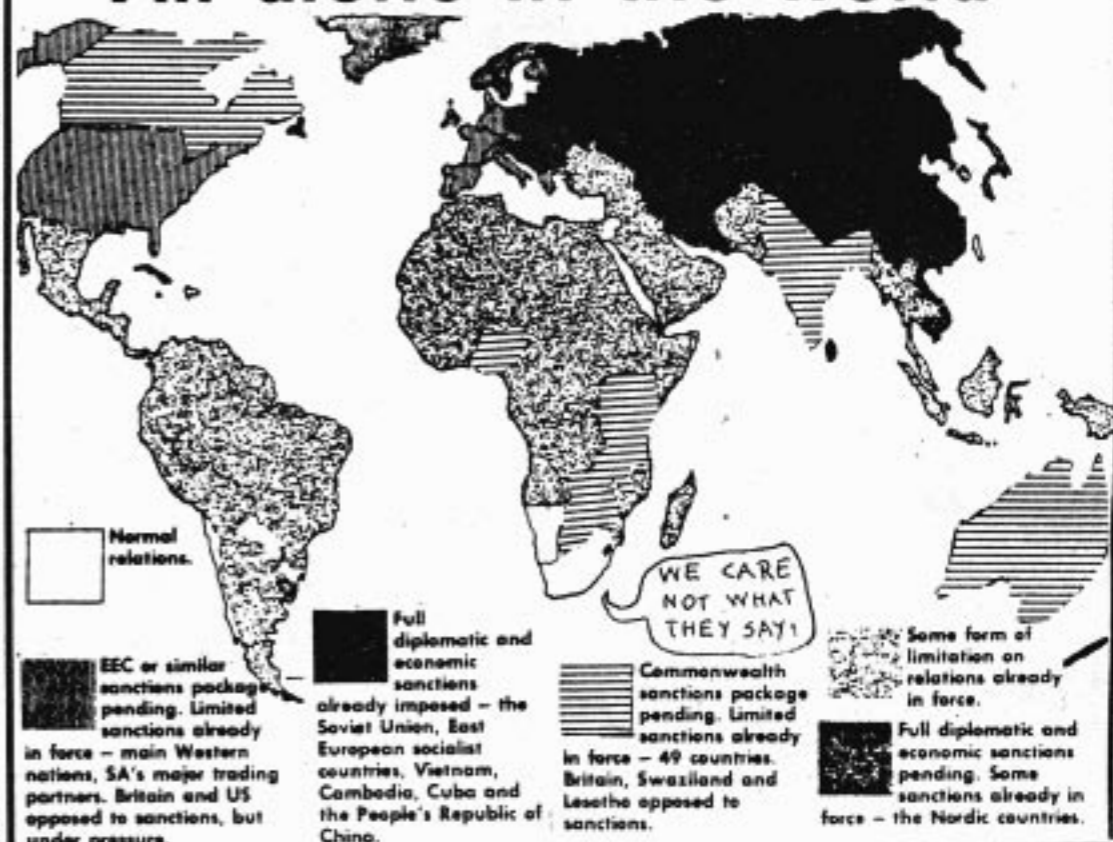
ment will cause some hardships — and the government will make sure that our people suffer first. It could lead to higher prices, some workers losing their jobs and so on.

But, in the words of a factory worker, "Apartheid has made us suffer for very many years. Suffering is nothing new

to us. And we are willing to suffer anything that will make apartheid end. Because ending apartheid is the only way to put an end to suffering for once and all.

"Its like having a tooth out. It hurts so you want to scream when it comes out. But then, the toothache is gone forever."

## All alone in the world



## Apartheid costs more

PRIME Minister Mrs Thatcher has said that Britain should not impose sanctions on South Africa because it would hurt the Front Line States.

But almost all the Front Line States have called for sanctions. Most of the governments of the FLS recognise that sanctions would cause hardship in the region. But, in the words of SADCC official Peter Mumsi "When people talk about hardships which will be caused by sanctions, they must understand that we already carry a heavy burden on account of apartheid".

For SADCC, removing apartheid is essential for the peace and prosperity of the Southern African countries. And they see sanctions as the only peaceful means of destroying

apartheid.

The real danger to these countries is not sanctions, but the ways South Africa uses to "punish" them for supporting sanctions. Already, South Africa is threatening to expel migrant workers — and has threatened to attack the economies of the FLS in whatever way it can.

But the FLS are determined to end apartheid. As President Kuanda has said, "It beats my thinking that Reagan and Thatcher should say that sanctions will make blacks suffer more. How much more can we suffer? It is better to suffer with sanctions and be alive than to be killed in the holocaust that will engulf the region if sanctions are not imposed."

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This person has to co-ordinate the news, production and administration of the New Era news-magazine.

In both cases, own transport and the ability to take photos are advantages, but not necessary. Applicants must have some previous experience of working in democratic organisations. Odd hours and weekend work inevitable. You must be prepared to work to strict deadlines without supervision. Apply immediately supplying full details to The Secretary, Grassroots Publications, P O Box 1161, Cape Town 8000.

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# Blowing up a storm . . .

CULTURAL liberation is an intergral part of political liberation.

So says the organisers of the Arts Festival 86 which has as its theme "Towards a People's Culture".

The festival is being held from December 12 to 22 in the Western Cape.

It will include drama, music, literature, children's art exhibition, poster exhibition, adult art exhibition, a symposium on progressive culture, a People's Fair, a commemoration service (Isikhumbuzo), an evening of tributes to significant cultural workers, film and video festival, a multi-media event and a cultural rally.

A number of progressive cultural and community organisations have agreed to participate in the festival.

The Festival Committee said: "In the past few months, grassroots cultural activity has blossomed. Organisations are using culture as a means of gathering and mobilising people."

They said the festival fitted "almost naturally into this cultural awakening".

The idea for the festival was raised at the national conference of the End Conscription Campaign at the beginning of this year. However, the festival is being organised by an independent committee of different organisations.

The festival though a regional one, will involve

many artists and groups from other centres.

Some of the hands coming from Johannesburg are Molombo (led by Phillip Thabane), Winston's Jive Mix-up (featuring Winston Nyuanda and Harvey Roberts, who used to be with Dynamics), and Simba Morris and Wasamate.

A taste of things to come was given at a recent pre-festival event at the Samaj Centre in Rylands. The programme started out with a fete and drama presentations and ended off with a gumba featuring some of Cape Town's top groups.



Towards a people's Culture

# Start your own soup kitchen

AN organisation in Cape Town helps people who want to start their own soup kitchen.

They will give you the basic equipment - a pot, gas cooker top and cylinder and a big pack of Jabula soup. They can also help you to get other kinds of mixes for the soup. They can also help you to get other mixes for the soup. If you prefer to cook with paraffin, you will get a stove and a can of paraffin.

You sell the soup for 5c a cup to people who must bring their own mugs. The money you get from selling the soup helps:

- to buy more gas or

- paraffin
- to buy more soup
- to pay you.

A person from the organisation will come to your home. She can help you with ideas and you can buy soup and soup mixes from her.

Nomsa was under the doctor for her nerves. She started a soup kitchen. Every day many children come with their mugs to buy soup. Nomsa got to know the children very well and liked them very much. They liked her too.

They did not have a creche to go to. So Nomsa started a little play group every morning for them. This made her feel happy and her nerves much better.

People are tired of being without jobs, hungry, and dependent on charity hand-outs. This is a way to sell food cheaply to people living nearby to you, and to make some money for yourself.

If you would like to know more about this scheme, phone 25-2095.

A JAZZ concert in aid of handicapped children will be held at the St Aidan's Church Hall, Lansdowne, on Friday December 19.

Airborne and Topazz will play at the show

The cover charge is R5 and proceeds will go to Heideveld's De Heide School for the severely-handicapped children.

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# Baseball club competition kicks off soon

THE first series of the Western Cape Baseball and Softball Association R20,000 Smirnoff Interclub competition kicks off at the Vygieskraal Stadium in Athlone on Sunday, December 7.

The sponsorship this year has been increased by R5000 after being R15,000 last season. The competition will be played on a league basis with the top clubs from Cape District, Mitchells Plain and Western Province participating.

The reigning softball champions Ridge-

ville from WP who will again be favourites to win this honours, take on Sky Hawks also from Western Province in the opening game.

In the other softball game Battswood of Cape District play Lions from Western Province.

In the main baseball game Battswood of Cape District play Thistles of Western Province while Westridge Cardinals the Mitchells Plain champions take on Tahiti Braves also from Mitchells Plain.

The teams taking part in the baseball competition is Battswood, Silvertree, Maitland Giants from Cape District, Westridge Cardinals, Tahiti Braves, Michigan from Mitchells Plain, Lansdowne the holders, Thistles, Eagles and Tanta from WP.

In the softball section is Battswood, Silvertree, Black Hawks from Cape District Ridgeville, City Wolves, Lions, Sky Hawks all from WP, Westridge Cavaliers, Dallas Yankees and Cougars from Mitchells Plain.



# WP TEAM OFF TO A FLYING START

THE Western Province Cricket Board provincial teams under the guidance of the coaching of former WP skipper Abduraghaman "Lefty" Adams got off to a flying start when their three teams won their opening games in the SA Cricket Board Howa Bowl and Booley Bowl competitions this season.

The Western Province A side cruised to an easy ten wicket victory over reigning champion Eastern Province with a day to spare at Florida Park last week thanks to the brilliant bowling of Vincent Barnes.

He ripped through the EP batting line-up in their second innings with his hostile bowling to finish with (7/41 in 13 overs) which gave him match figures of (11/89 in 34 overs).

Saait Magiet the Primrose skipper who made top score of (60) in the WP first innings did very well when he lead WP to a great victory over the reigning champions.

WP after this fine victory are well prepared for their two games against Natal and Transvaal over the festive season.

Reigning Booley Bowl champions WP under 21 lead by Shukri Conrad scored a crushing innings and 37 runs victory over South Western Districts in Oudsthoorn last week.

WP Under 21 with experienced players like Conrad, Deon Kemp, Mark Erasmus, Shafiek Isaacs and Rowen Petersen are again favourites to retain the honours this season.

They scored a useful 289 runs in their first innings against SWD which shows that they still have the batsmen to score the runs this season. Four of last season's players were not eligible to play for the WP Under 21 this season.

WP under 21 take on EP B in Cape Town and WP take on SWD also in Cape Town in two important games over the festive season. Both the WP B and WP Under 21 will be away at Worcester to Boland later this season.

It will be a tough game for the WP Juniors when they meet their B counterparts in a deciding game near the end of the season to decide who will meet the winners of section 1 in the final late in February.

Western Province B under the leadership of Andre Odendaal scored an easy 102 runs victory over Eastern Province B in their Booley Bowl game at the Adcock Stadium in Port Elizabeth last week.

WP B won this low scoring match thanks to the leadership of Odendaal who used only three bowlers in both innings to get rid of EP B line-up. It was the off-spinner Fuad Benjamin who bowled his side to victory.

Odendaal with seasoned players like Cyril Martin, Angelo Carolissen, Fuad Benjamin, Gerry Miller, Shamsodien Ahmed and Ismail Berhardien could also help WP B to victory.

# SACOS SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR



## Vincent Barnes returns in fine style

VINCENT Barnes proved himself a worthy Sacos sportsman of the year when he recently made a devastating return to the WP Cricket Board side at Florida Park, Elsies River.

Barnes, who received the highest Sacos honour at a function in Durban last month, ripped through the EP batting, ending the match with the remarkable figure of 11/89.

Lured from his home Province by Transvaal last season, Barnes' absence was sorely felt down in the Cape. Battling to get going without a first class strike bowler in the Barnes mould, WP could only watch in disappointment as EP won the coveted Howa Bowl for a second successive year.

Meanwhile Barnes, spearheading the Transvaal attack, with the assistance of another former Captorian Ebrahiem "Barney" Mohammed, transformed his new Province from a team formerly regarded as the South African Cricket Board's whipping boys into a side to be reckoned with.

Following a tempting offer from Montrose earlier this year, Barnes, back after a successful spell in Scotland, returned to the Province where he had learnt his cricket.

Making his first appearance in WP colours, he humiliated EP in their second innings with a great bowling performance, taking seven wickets for 41 runs. He was responsible for EP's meagre total of 92.

In the first innings EP scored a respectable 224 runs. Barnes claimed four wickets during this innings. WP went on to win the match comfortably.

The match will long be remembered as the triumphant return of Vincent Barnes.

Barnes, 26, was always a keen sportsman, putting in hours of training each week at the William Herbert Sportsground near his home in Wynberg.

He excelled both at cricket and soccer. At a young age, he joined Battswood soccer club and after spending many years in the junior ranks he was selected for the first team. It wasn't long before he was elected to play for Cape District and thereafter to win a place in the WP team.


As a cricketer, he struck fear into the hearts of even the most courageous batsmen with his powerful and accurate deliveries.

Vincent Barnes, recently chosen SACOS Sportsman of the Year, proved himself worthy of this honour when he made an impressive return to the WP Cricket Board first team.

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