

## Free detainees!

ON 26 September, 11.30 p.m. 17 month old Angela Gonsalves watched 8 policemen search her home and detain her mother. Jenny Gonsalves is the third Grassroots staff member to be detained in the last 5 weeks. Saleem Badat was detained on 23 August, and Mansoor Jaffer on 6 September. We in Grassroots are extremely angry at these actions. But the government's attempt to silence the people's paper and other organisations will not succeed. We are more determined than ever to continue with our work. We call for the release of all detainees and political prisoners.

## Support for stayaway

A PROPOSED stayaway from work and a day of prayer on October 9 has received wide support.

The call was made at a conference of about 400 church leaders in Pietermaritzburg on September 10 to 12. Forty-seven denominations were represented.

In a declaration, the church leaders said:

"We believe the spirit of God is urging us and the whole South African church in new and more determined ways:

The church leaders said they had the following demands:

1. End the state of emergency.
2. Remove the SADF and the Emergency Police forces from the townships.
3. Release all detainees and political prisoners, withdraw charges against the Treason trialists and allow exiles to return home.
4. Begin talks immediately with authentic leadership of the various population groups with a view toward equitable power sharing in South Africa.
5. Begin the process of introducing a common system of education.
6. Take the necessary steps towards the elimination of all forms of legislated discrimination.

Sheikh Gamiet Gabier, chairperson of the Muslim Judicial Council (MJC), said they supported the call for four reasons:

"We demand that the state of emergency be lifted, all detainees be released, troops should leave the townships, and we want to protest against police brutality."

Sheikh Gabier called on all Muslims to support the call.

## BACK TO SCHOOL

*...but not to class say many pupils*

THOUSANDS of students throughout the Western Cape went back to school at the beginning of this month after an enforced "holiday" of about four weeks.

But many vowed: "We may be back at school, but that does not mean that we are back at normal classes."

One Mitchells Plain student said: "How can we go to normal classes when even our short-term demands are not met, and when many teachers and students are still in detention."

"We have called for an end to the state of emergency, for the release of political prisoners and detainees, for the unbanning of the ANC and other organisations. But it appears as if the government is not prepared to listen."

"We need to continue the boycott to show that we are serious about these demands," he said.

Students at some schools, however, have decided to go back to normal classes.

"We have stated our demands. Now we must try to save what we can of the academic year," one student said.

(See Learning Roots inside)

# 'TROOPS OUT!'



SOUTH AFRICA 1985 or Nazi Germany? This is what thousands of township residents want to end.

## 'Army, police must leave' 'Amajoni Phandle'

"SADF and SAP get out of our townships!"

This is the call taken up by more and more people as police and army troops move through our communities, leaving a trail of suffering, anger and bitterness.

Over the last few months, thousands have been wounded, over 700 have died at the hands of the SADF and SAP. 10 000 have been arrested on politically related charges.

Recently, the people of Cape Town were shocked by tales of police brutality from Valhalla Park, Elsie River, Athlone, Guguletu and Langa. We have heard of pregnant women being whipped and tear-gassed in their own homes, children being shot down in cold blood. Even family pets have not escaped the lash of a quirt!

The so-called "peace-keeping" forces have tried to save face, by conducting "communications patrols", handing out sweets, and giving kids joy rides in casspirs.

"What do they take us for?" a resident asked. "They give us sweets with one hand, and shoot us with the other. It's morally sick."

The Troops Out demand has been taken up by a number of organisations - and there is growing support for the call. It is a central demand of the consumer boycott. And the End Conscription Committee is presently running a major campaign around the call.

"It has become a matter of life or death for us", a resident said.

• See pages 6 and 7, and page 11.

ESI sisikhalo sabantu abaninzi ezilo kishini. Njengoko sibona amapolisa namajoni engena eziilokoshini beshiya intlupheko, usizi nomsindo ebantwini."

Kwezi nyanga ziphelileyo amawaka -waka abantu bonzakaliswe ngamapolisa namajoni. Abantu abyi 700 babhubhele ezandleni ze SAP neSADF. Abayi 10,000 base-selubalelweni betyolwa ngezopolitiko.

Kutsha nje abantu baseKapa bothuswe zimbali zobundlobong-

ela ezenzeke eValhalla Park, Elsie River, Athlone, Guguletu Nyanga, Crossroads, nakwaLanga. Sivile nangezimisane ebezityatyushwa, ziraxwa ngezintyuzisi emakhayeni abio.

Abantwana bathe badutyulwa ngokungekho mthethweni. Kwakunye nemfuyo zabantu ezinjenge-

zinja neekati khage zibenokusinda kulemandezelo.

"Abo bazibiza ukuba bangabagcini bocwangco basithela basithela ngehlala ngokumane benika abantwana iilekese, bebakhwelisa nasezihagwini (casspir).

"Basithatha kanjani? Ubuzile omnye umhlali. Bakhuphe iilekese kwesinye isandla, baze badubule ngesinye. Bayasi gulisa."

Imibutho emininzi itsho isithi - "AMAJONI PHANDLE" Kwaye nabantu ngokubanzi bayaluxhase olubizo. Yaye nokwayo Lwevenkile luhlaba olo khwelo. Sinayo ne ECC iyasinxhasa.

"Ngoku sihongene nokuba masife okanye siphile uthilo omnye umhlali, Mabahambe bengekabalali abanye abantwana, amadoda namakhosikazi angematyala. Sakuhlala ngoxolo xa bathe bayeka ezizenzo zobundlobongela kuthi."

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End police Violence Pg. 6 & 7 

Bury our dead In peace pg. 4

 Siege of Sinton Pg. 1



*A READER'S POEM*

FRIDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER 1985

They've closed the schools!  
 They beat us  
 Killed us  
 Oppressed us  
 Belittled us  
 And now  
 They've closed the schools!

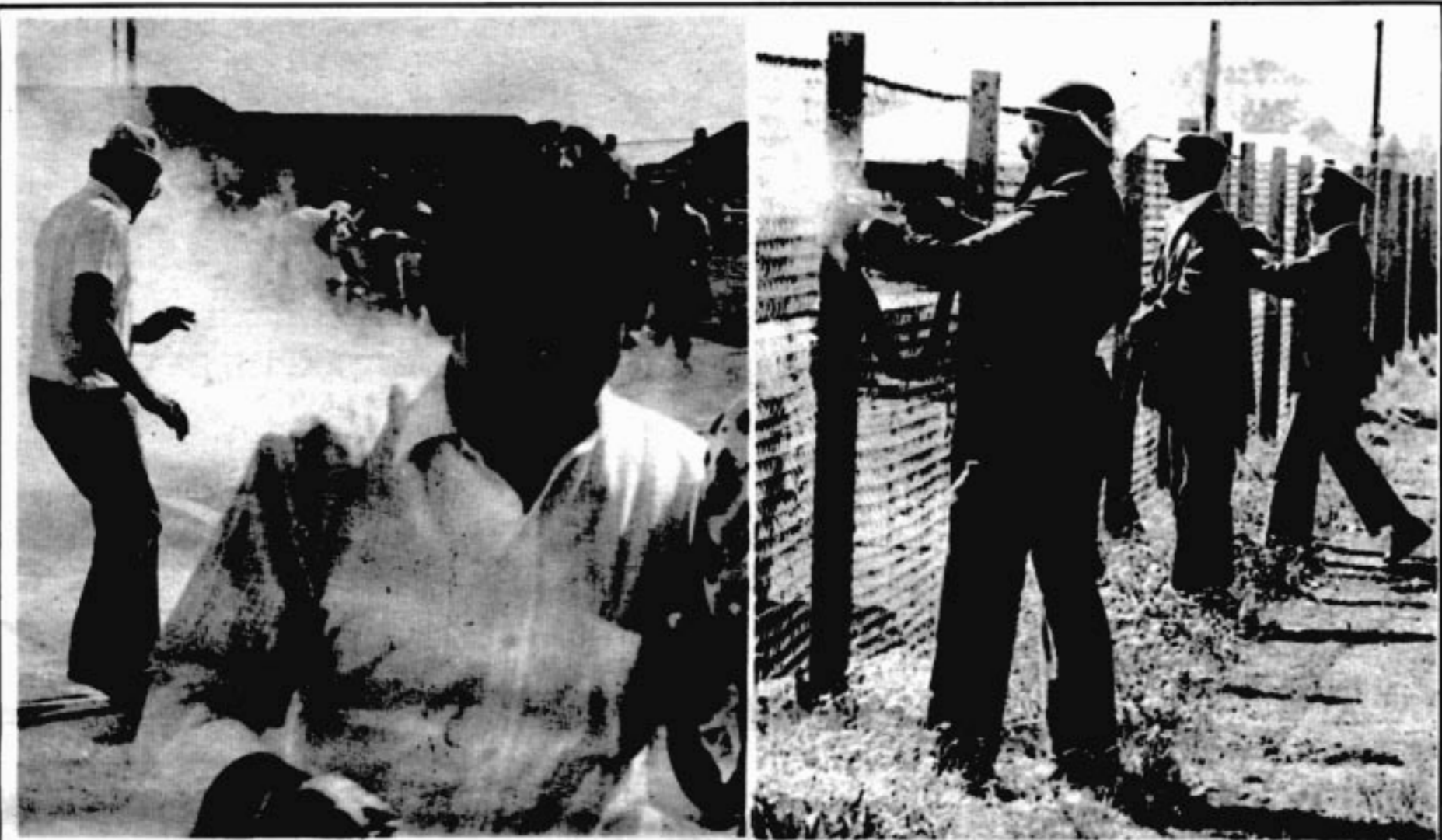
The schools where  
 our children came  
 bright-eyed and beautiful  
 to be stuffed with  
 Coloured Education  
 Coloured Indoctrination  
 The schools where the  
 bright spark of freedom  
 could not be doused  
 And now  
 They've closed the schools!

We shall not submit  
 We shall not lie down  
 We shall hold up  
 the bright torch of freedom  
 for all to see  
 If we fall, others will come  
 to hold the torch  
 to stand for justice  
 to fight for freedom  
 even though  
 They've closed the schools!

M.Smallberg  
 GRASSY PARK

# LOCK-OUT!

Mothers and children beaten for going to school



Riot police march into school grounds

## Students speak out against closing of Schools

Dear Grassroots

**Closure of Schools**  
 We, as a group of students, would like to express our disgust with regard to the sudden closure of schools in the Western Cape. This decision was made without the approval of the people involved. This means that the SAP and the SADF could not cope with the crisis.

Why especially were primary schools closed? There was no necessity to disrupt their classes. The majority of those schools were already busy with their exams.

High school students can keep themselves busy with their studies but how on earth can juniors occupy themselves without any guidance?

We demand that the the authorities rectify the situation immediately before any further suffering is caused.

**Concerned Oppressed**  
 B Adonis, W van Schalkwyk, B Manuel, D Jacobs, D van Buuren, D Jaffer  
 (Bishop Lavis Std.9)

IN ITS characteristic display of force in the face of peaceful demands, the police besieged Western Cape schools this month to keep students out of school.

The main focus of police attention was the Alexander Sinton Senior Secondary School in Athlone where police, armed to the teeth, faced parents, teachers and students. Peaceful, unarmed people were beaten, tear-gassed and imprisoned.

It all started as a result of Mr Carter Ebrahim's closure of more than 460 educational institutions in the Western Cape - which he claimed were fomenting unrest and were responsible for causing "violence".

In the same way as Carter Ebrahim and the Labour Party were rejected by the people during the tricameral elections, his decision to close schools was rejected.

Parents, teachers and students were adamant that the educational institutions belonged to them and regardless of what Carter Ebrahim said, they were going to open the schools themselves.

This defiant attitude saw scores of parents, teachers and students appear at schools on the Tuesday morning.

We received this report from someone on the spot.

"173 people entered the premises of Alexander Sinton, including the principal and Deputy principal. At about 9 a.m. more than eight police vehicles entered the school premises and ordered that all those present were under arrest. About a third of those arrested were bundled into the police vehicles - included were elderly women and children.

"At this point a large crowd

of residents and parents gathered outside the school gates. Parents screamed and chanted at the police inside the school, calling them cowards, and demanding the release of the arrested.

"Many parents drove their vehicles up to the school gates and over twenty cars were used to block the road. A municipal truck and two City Tramway busses were used to strengthen the blockade.

The police were trapped inside the school and rather sheepishly tried to get out through a back entrance of the school. This entrance, too, was barricaded by the people using their cars once more.

"When the police unleashed their attack the Athlone/Crawford area resembled a war-zone.

Within seconds the area was covered in a pall of tear smoke. People scattered in all directions - some collapsing as a result of the tear gas. Houses in the area were not even spared. Large, expensive plate-glass windows were shattered indiscriminately by the cannisters and bullets.

"Riot police spewed out of Casspirs and launched ground attacks on the people, who tried to retaliate by throwing stones. Children ran, terrified, from the police. A witness saw a youngster run towards him in shock. When the youngster turned around, the witness saw a gaping wound in the back with blood pouring out. The youngster had not realised that he had been shot.

"Burning barricades were set up by people in the area. Reports also got through to the students in Rylands Estate as to what was

happening at Sinton. They in turn, made their way to the Main Road in Rylands and set up barricades and set a bus on fire in order to divert some of the police attention from Athlone. One student was seriously shot by the police here.

"173 people, including the principal, parents and students were arrested and taken to the Mannenburg police station where they were charged with trespassing. The Deputy Principal of Sinton, Mr Nabeel Swart, was detained from the group and is presently languishing in prison.

"An uneasy calm returned to the area after hours of police action. The irony of the entire incident was that Carter Ebrahim said that violence stemmed from the schools that were open yet in this case state violence erupted as a result of the schools being closed."



# UDF lives!

*Exec members in hiding but still determined*

THE UDF lives. Nothing Botha and his apartheid government do can kill the movement of peace and justice that the UDF represents."

This was the message that GRASSROOTS received from members of the UDF executive in hiding. Since Friday 23 August, six members of the UDF executive have been on the run. Another six are in detention.

"We are made to act like criminals, always on the move, changing houses every few days. It is not we who should be behind bars. It is Botha, Carter Ebrahim, the soldiers and police thugs. They are the ones who have commit-

ted the most terrible crimes against our people.

"Botha and his government are scared. All over the country, they are seeing people uniting and fighting for their rights. They know that the UDF has been at the forefront of the people's struggles. That is why they are trying to kill the UDF.

"They will never kill us. They will never kill the UDF because the UDF is not just a handful of people. The UDF represents the hopes and dreams of our people to be free. The UDF lives in the heart of our people. And nothing Botha can do will ever kill what we stand for.

"Everywhere we see our people on the march. Everywhere people are showing their determination to build a new South Africa. A South Africa where the people shall govern and the wealth will be shared.

"We salute our people for their determination and their courage. And we say to the small handful of 'leaders' like Buthelezi, van Zyl Slabbert and the bosses - "Stop trying to negotiate for our people. Our people have shown that they will decide on the future of our country."

"LONG LIVE UDF! FORWARD TO PEOPLE'S POWER"

## Boycott grows

THE consumer boycott is growing - and the bosses are feeling the pinch!

In Cape Town, many black shops say that their turnover has doubled. And many of the big white shops are producing "no-name" packets - so that people can buy from them

### Bosses feel the pinch

without their neighbours knowing about it.

In Port Elizabeth, bosses are threatening to confront PW Botha at the National Party's Congress. The boycott has forced them to take up the call for the release of detainees and

the withdrawal of troops from the townships.

"We will go as far as disrupting the meeting by heckling" a trader said. "We want to get our plight out into the open. This is not a political thing - our livelihoods are at stake".

Recently, a group of prominent businessmen held talks with the ANC in Lusaka. And 92 businessmen have placed joint, full-page advertisements in newspapers calling for faster reform. Many people believe that these actions are a result of the consumer boycott.

The people are demanding:

- SADF and police out of the townships.
- The release of detainees and political prisoners and the unbanning of organisations.
- The vote for all in a united South Africa
- End to high prices
- A living wage for all
- An end to the state of emergency

In Cape Town, the boycott has been taken up by trade unions and a number of progressive organisations. In a recent newsletter, the UDF said "The brutality we have seen at Sinton, in Valhalla Park, in Guguletu, must push us all to say: "I WILL USE MY SPENDING POWER TO PUT AN END TO THIS MADNESS!"

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
LIVING NEWS thirty minutes play dealing with oppression and resistance during the 1960 and 1985 states of emergency is now available.

Please contact ACTION WORKSHOP at 66-3994, 75-2291 or 48-4473.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★



NOT a very common scene: This young man had to sell newspapers when thousands of people heeded the call to stay away from work last month.

## Diary of protest

THE following is an incomplete diary of events in the Western Cape since Wednesday August 28, the day thousands were prepared to march to Pollsmoor Prison to demand the release of Nelson Mandela - in spite of the government saying it would be illegal; the arrest of Dr Allan Boesak and other UDF leaders; and the biggest military operation seen in Cape Town in many years.

**WEDNESDAY AUGUST 28:** Police break up marches in Athlone and at UCT. Guguletu and Nyanga sealed off, eight people killed. Congress of South African Students (COSAS) banned.

**THURSDAY AUGUST 29:** Unrest erupts in Mitchells Plain, Manenberg, Bonteheuwel and Belhar. Police trap students and teachers in classrooms in Spine Road High and fire teargas.

**FRIDAY AUGUST 30:** Barricades, teargas and rubber bullets continue in Mitchells Plain, Guguletu and other areas. At least 10 people shot dead by police.

**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 1 AND 2:** More areas are affected by unrest. Death toll rises to at least 31.

**MONDAY SEPTEMBER 3:** Unrest spreads to Bo-Kaap, Valhalla Park, Elsies River, Matroosfontein, Ottery and Grassy Park. 37 Muslim and Christian leaders are released on R100 bail each after being kept in jail since the Mandela March. Police baton-charge pupils at Vredenburg High School, West Coast. Bo-Kaap's Vista High is raided by police, pupils arrested.

**TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 4:** The house of the Labour Party's Kaselsvlei MP, Mrs Joy Pilcher, is petrol-bombed. 27 people are arrested in different incidents. Unrest in Manenberg, Steenberg, Ottery, and Elsies River. Atlantis pupils come out on boycott.

**WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 5:** Pupils in Belgravia "bury" apartheid. Police react and running battles break out. A 19-year-old youth is shot dead in Belhar. Unrest in Hanover Park, Athlone, Retreat, Scottsdene, Kraaifontein, Manenberg, Grassy Park, Bellville South and Bonteheuwel. Peaceful picket by about 200 students at UCT.



STUDENTS in Mitchells Plain spell out their message at a placard protest last month.

**THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 6:** Ebrahim Carelse shot dead by policeman in Salt River. Violence erupts. Youth fight with police in the streets of Athlone and Retreat. Police beat up foreign correspondents in Athlone. More whites rush to buy guns. Louis Le Grange comes to Cape Town for a few hours.

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 6:** Carter Ebrahim closes 465 schools in the Western Cape.

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7:** Mass funeral in Guguletu for 11 victims of police shooting. Police shoot dead another two people. A meeting of white schoolchildren in Rondebosch is banned and all UDF meetings are banned.

**TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 10 TO 12:**

Thousands of workers throughout the Western Cape participate in stayaways called by the UDF and supported by major trade unions. Ebrahim Carelse dies and is buried by about 15 000 mourners in the biggest show of Muslim unity.

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14 AND MONDAY SEPTEMBER 15:**

Meetings held all over Cape Town as parents, teachers and students vow to "open schools ourselves".

**TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 17:** Thousands of parents, teachers and students go to school in defiance of the government. At

Alexander Sinton, police are trapped and 173 people arrested.

**WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 18:** Bus drivers whipped by police. Relatives of detainees sjambokked outside Caledon Square by police. Police, many of them Zulus, were in Valhalla Park and Elsies River, sjambokking innocent residents.

**THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 18:** Valhalla Park, Elsies River residents lay charges of assault against police. Trevor Oosterwyk's father applies for urgent interdict to stop police from assaulting his son in detention. About 4 000 students and academics march at UWC.

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 19:** Dr Allan Boesak released on R20 000 bail after appearing in Malmesbury Court.

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 20:** Police fire on thousands of mourners at a mass funeral in Guguletu.

**MONDAY SEPTEMBER 23:** Bus driver killed after bus petrol-bombed in Guguletu. Zulu-speaking police move into Guguletu.

Carter Ebrahim announced the re-opening of schools.

**TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 24:** Police remove press from Bellville before they move into students and arrest some pupils, after a meeting attended by about 2 000. A Guguletu man who laid charges against Zulu-speaking policemen had to flee.

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# EDUCATION BEFORE LIBERATION?

What did you learn in school today, dear little child of mine?  
 What did you learn in school today, dear little child of mine?  
 We learnt that west is always best and white is usually right  
 that rich and poor will always be, and thats what makes us free

What did you learn in school today, dear little child of mine? (X2)  
 That education brings opportunities in this advancing age  
 But we'll end up working in the factories for a measly weekly wage

What did you learn in the streets today, dear little child of mine  
 We learnt that teargas burns the eyes, we learnt how police dogs bite  
 WE learnt that batons break our bones, and we're learning how to fight

What did you hear in the news today, dear little child of mine? (X2)  
 That agitators stir us up - and lead us all astray  
 But we can think and we can see and we want change today.

STUDENTS MUST GO BACK TO SCHOOL! THEY MUST GET THEIR EDUCATION - THEN THEY CAN THINK ABOUT LIBERATION!

You talk ~~the~~ NONSENSE, Mr. Hendricks!

Why do you say it's nonsense?

He says First education, then Liberation. But the education we get will NEVER liberate us. (In fact, it won't even educate us!) Our education tries to make sure we do not understand Liberation, and do not fight for liberation.

**A UNITED, DEMOCRATIC, NON-RACIAL SOUTH AFRICA FREE FROM OPPRESSION & EXPLOITATION**

This is the South Africa we demand

The way we are taught, and what we are taught, does not prepare us for a free south Africa. We say that we must be ONE, UNITED nation, with every-one having an equal share in the government and wealth of our country....

WHITE NATION  
ZULU NATION  
COLOURED NATION  
XHOSA NATION  
INDIG NATION

But at school we learn that there are different "nations" with their own "homelands."

We are fighting for DEMOCRACY - the right to speak freely, and to share equally in the governing of our country. At school, we have no right to speak, we have no say in how we should be taught....

DO AS YOU'RE TOLD!

MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
PRINCIPAL  
TEACHER

Our education does not prepare us for governing our country - we are kept ignorant of how societies work...

**SILENCE!**  
You will not talk politics in class!

Please, Miss what does oppression mean?

We want a NONRACIAL society. But we are taught in racially segregated schools, where we learn racism and other kinds of discrimination. Our facilities, teacher/pupil ratio etc. depend on our racial classification.

<b>WHITE</b>	<b>COLOURED SENIOR SECONDARY</b>	<b>BANTU SCHOOL</b>
In 1983, the Government spent: R1 385 on each white child	R 593 on each coloured child	R 192 on each African child
NO. STUDENTS PER TEACHER: 18 to 1 (Whites)	27 to 1 (Coloureds)	43 to 1 (Africans)

We demand a society FREE from EXPLOITATION, where all shall share equally in the country's wealth. In our schools we learn competitiveness - to "get to the top" at the expense of others. Some of our schools train future bosses.....

What are you going to be when you grow up, old chap?  
RICH!  
BANKER

while others train future workers - willing to accept any work for any wage...

WHAT IS THE USE OF TEACHING THE BANTU MILD MATHEMATICS WHICH IT CANNOT USE IN PRACTISE?... THERE IS NO PLACE FOR THEM ABOVE THE LEVEL OF CERTAIN FORMS OF LABOUR!

DR VERWOERD EXPLAINS BANTU EDUCATION.....

We want an end to OPPRESSION. But at school we are taught to obey by force - in the classroom.....

**THWACK!!**

and out of it....

Our organisations are banned, our leaders and teachers are detained.....

COSAS

So does that mean we just boycott until Liberation?

NO. Boycotting is one way we use to be heard and to win our demands.

But we must also begin to educate ourselves for Liberation. We must build our SRC's and other democratic organisations...

We must learn about our society and our demands through reading, discussions, awareness programmes etc.

This will help us reach the day when all children can learn freely, where our education really does liberate us!

FORWARD TO FREEDOM

**THE FREEDOM CHARTER SAYS:**

**THE DOORS OF LEARNING AND CULTURE SHALL BE OPENED!**



# BOESAK 'FREE'

"I will fight apartheid as long as God gives me breath"



Bruce Springsteen in concert.

EVERYBODY knows about BAND AID and the successful records and concerts to raise money for starving people in Ethiopia. But now the world's music stars have launched another campaign, and this time it is in support of the Anti-Apartheid movement.

Guitarist Steve Van Zandt, who used to play for rock star Bruce Springsteen, visited South Africa last year, and decided that there should be a campaign to tell the world's people about what is happening in our country. Steve's campaign will be called "Sun City", and it will tell people about the poverty and suffering that Apartheid causes.

He called the campaign "Sun City" because he thought it was strange that some South Africans could be holidaying in such luxury, while others were starving.

"I used Sun City as a kind of symbol for the oppression that's going on in South Africa", says van Zandt. "Sun City is like an oasis of gambling and decadence right in the middle of all this starvation. You have to see the deprivation out there to believe it".

The campaign will also raise questions about the involvement of musicians such as Frank Sinatra in shows at Sun City.

Unlike Band-Aid, which included mostly popular white bands in its programmes, Sun City will include Third World musicians in its project. They plan to bring out a 12-inch record, with as many musical styles as possible.

Jimmy Cliff, Afrka Bambaata and Linton Kwesi Johnson have already agreed to play on the record, which will be "a mixture of rock and rap, with a few African rhythms, a little bit of disco".

Other contributors include Jackson Browne, Lou Reed, Joey Ramone, Bobby Womack, Kurtis Blow, Pat Banatar, Big Youth, Miles Davis and Femi Kuti, son of the imprisoned Nigerian musician, Fela Kuti.

At a time when Apartheid and the struggle of the South African people features daily on the world's television screens, the organizers expect that there will be a lot of support for the project. As one British music newspaper commented, "Anti-Apartheid is one of the worthiest causes of all."

UDF patron and world church leader Dr Allan Boesak has pledged to fight apartheid "as long as I have breath in my lungs".

Dr Boesak was speaking at his church after his release from detention recently.

Dr Boesak, the president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, was released from prison after a court hearing in the remote Malmesbury court after bail of R20 000 was reluctantly agreed upon.

The small town court was packed to overflowing proportions with both supporters of Dr Boesak as well as a large contingent of local and overseas journalists.

There was a slight uproar in the courtroom when Mr A van der Merwe, appearing for the state posted the enormously high bail of R20 000. The defence attorneys agreed however, afterwards stating that the bail was unusually high.

According to the conditions of bail, Dr Boesak's:

- Passport was taken in



Boesak welcomed by members of his congregation after delivering his first sermon

- He is confined to the Bellville Magisterial district
- He must be at home between 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. daily
- He cannot address public meetings
- He can only attend bona fide religious meetings
- He must report daily to the Bellville police station

- He cannot attend funerals
- He cannot speak to the press
- Dr Boesak is charged under acts of subversion and undermining state security by organising the march on the consumer boycott, the schools boycott and by calling for disinvestment.

There were scenes of jubilation outside the court when Dr Boesak emerged, linked arm in arm with his wife and children. He waved to the crowd and warmly embraced as many people as he could.

At his first appearance in a "bona fide religious meeting" he displayed to his congregation his defiance to the charges being levelled at him and

strongly reaffirmed his commitment to the struggle for a justly governed South Africa.

He pointed out in his emotionally-charged speech,

"Our non-violent struggle for justice in this country is God's will, it is God's struggle. I will continue to do that as long as God gives me breath in my body".

## Imam flees S. Africa

AFTER weeks of a daring cat and mouse game with the police, the Muslim leader and anti-apartheid activist, Imam Hassan Solomons, has finally fled the country.

Since the detention of Allan Boesak and living in fear of arrest himself, Imam Solomons has on numerous occasions put in carefully orchestrated appearances at public and religious rallies giving direction and guidance to the freedom-loving people of this land.

With the support of his audience and followers, and in many cases, in disguise, he was spirited in and out of the meetings.

The highlight of the Imam's public appearance was at Guguletu when he addressed 20 000 mourners who had come to bury their

fallen. He was ecstatically received when he told the mourners that the eleven victims had given their lives to give new life to the struggle.

He said that those who had been killed were the candles of the struggle, "They burn themselves out to give a life to others."

The demands he made were the same demands desired by all freedom-loving South Africans. His demands to the state include:

- The unconditional release of Nelson Mandela and all political detainees;
- The unbanning of the ANC, COSAS and other banned organisations;
- The return of all political exiles;
- Disarming of the army;
- Scrapping of all racist legislation;

• Scrapping of the apartheid constitution

Imam Solomons left South Africa by crossing into Botswana, then on to Zimbabwe from where he left to Saudi Arabia. In a message from Botswana he told the people of South Africa to remain steadfast in the fight for a just South Africa.

"Even though I was forced to leave the borders of the oppres-

sive and brutal South African regime for a while, I have not left the struggle.

"I shall most definitely continue the struggle, although, for the time being, outside the borders of the fatherland.

"The struggle must continue along the lines articulated in the Call of Islam and side by side with the progressive national democratic forces in South Africa.

We must not shift an inch," Imam Solomon said.

Imam Solomon is a former executive member of the United Democratic Front. He was also editor of the Call of Islam, an executive member of the Muslim Judicial Council, Imam of the Claremont Main Road Mosque, and national vice-chairman of the SA National Zakaah Fund.

### Youth meeting 'disrupted'

A YOUTH meeting in Hanover Park was disrupted when police with sjamboks allegedly interfered.

Youth members said police gave them two minutes to end the meeting and disperse from the Old Commu-

nity Centre where youth meetings have been held every Wednesday for more than five years.

"People were confused when the police came. When we started leaving the hall, the police charged and we

had to scatter in all directions.

"One girl, about seventeen-years-old, was hit across the back, upper chest and face.

"Afterwards, the police spent several hours patrolling the streets," the youth member said.

**Child worker  
"Never Paid"**

THIS is a story of Matata SOTHONDOSHE who has been working for Murray & Roberts for a week and never got his wages. Matata is 15 years.

"I was working as a news vendor. I was sacked. Then I phoned them again to see if the can't take me back. On my way I met the man

from Murray and Roberts. His name is called Killer. He asked if I want a job. I said, yes. He took on the bakkie to Durbanville site. My name was taken down. There were more boys of my age. We were given some spades to dig. In the afternoon we were given R10,00 each and they said they are

borrowing us and would be deducted from our wages. On the second we were loading the hokkies on the truck suddenly the truck pulled and I was on top of the hokkie. I fell off and the hokkies fell on top of my head. I was cut on my face. I went to the doctor for a week. The Doctor gave me a letter

to take to the foreman. The foreman did not take any notice of me. I was left standing in front of the office the whole morning. I took the letter back to the

doctor. The doctor told me to take it back. Again no one took any notice of me. Until today they did not give me my salary.

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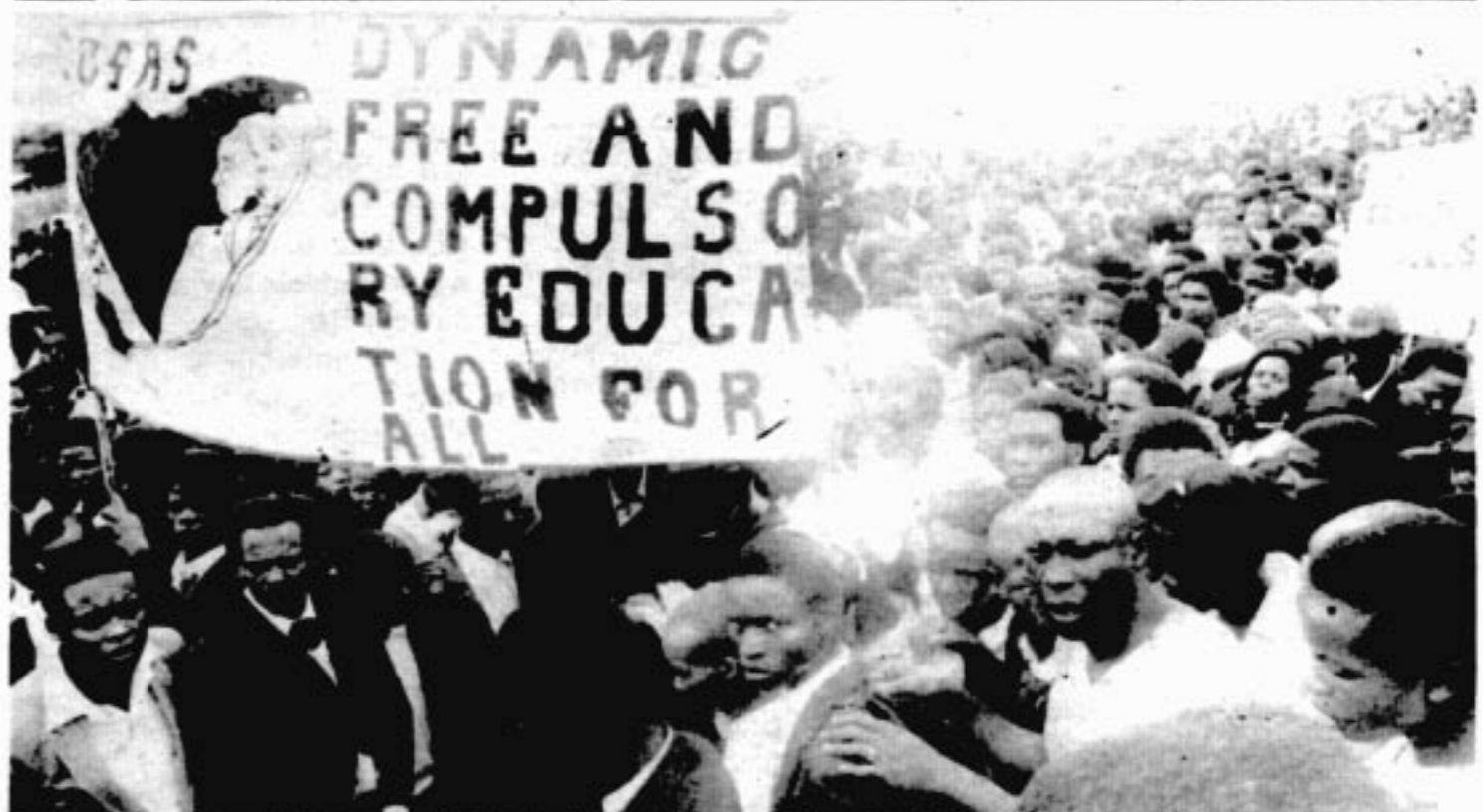
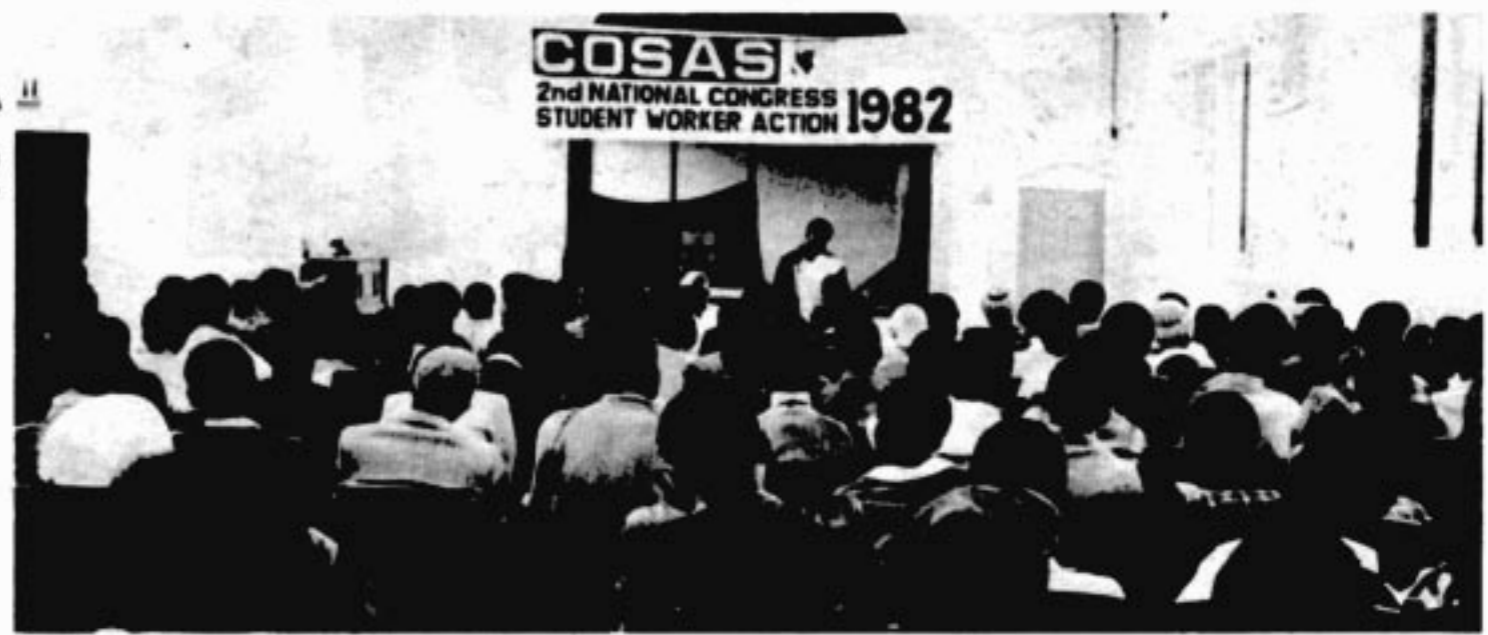
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# 'YOU CAN'T SILENCE US'

COSAS IS  
BANNED -  
BUT THE  
STUDENTS'  
STRUGGLE  
GOES ON



Funeral of student killed by police in Atteridgeville, 1984

COSAS - the voice of thousands of South African school students - has been silenced. It was banned by the government late in August this year.

The Congress of South African Students was formed in 1979. Since that time, it has grown rapidly, with branches in all major centres and many rural towns. In almost every corner of South Africa, students would speak with pride of Cosas - their organisation.

Cosas was formed mainly to fight for a free, dynamic and compulsory education for all. But it saw the struggle for decent education as part of the bigger struggle for freedom in South Africa. It saw students

as part of their communities, and encouraged students to understand and support the struggles of their parents.

It was very active organisation, uniting students around demands for SRC's, end to the age limit and corporal punishment, and broader demands. A major campaign was the Education Charter Campaign. Launched in 1982, this campaign aimed to collect education demands of all South Africans, and to write them into an Education Charter.

The government, and school authorities, tried to break COSAS. They refused to recognise that students have real grievances, and blam-

ed all student action on COSAS. Throughout its 6 years of existence, COSAS leaders were detained, expelled imprisoned and generally harassed. But this did not break the organisation, and the government finally resorted to banning COSAS altogether.

COSAS is not the first student organisation to be banned - and it will not be the last. Over the last few years, millions of school students have boycotted classes. In some parts of the country, students are forced to school in casspirs.

But the students have shown that as long as there is injustice, in the schools and in South Africa, they will continue to speak out.

## WHAT COSAS FOUGHT FOR

COSAS has taken up many demands of students. These are some of the most important issues that were fought:

### DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED SRC'S

SINCE 1976, the call for SRC's has been the most popular demand. Students want SRC's because they see the importance of having their needs democratically represented at schools.

The government and school principals responded with force - expulsion, teargas, detention. But the students continued to fight.

In 1984, the minister of the Department of Education and Training (DET) put forward a constitution for SRC's. This was rejected by COSAS, who believed that the SRC's proposed by DET would act as prefects, and would not represent student demands. Students are still demanding truly democratic SRC's.

### SCRAP AGE LIMIT LAWS

IN 1983, DET stated that pupils over 20 would not be allowed in Std. 9 and 10, and students over 18 would not be allowed in Std. 6, 7 and 8.

This meant that thousands could not come back to school. COSAS felt that this law was very unjust. The bad conditions at DET schools means that many students fail. Students from poor families often have to leave school for periods to work. And students organisers sometimes spend long periods in detention. The age limit discriminated against all these groups.

For these reasons, COSAS called for the age limit to be scrapped.

### END TO CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

THE DET and other education departments have rules regulating corporal punishment. But many teachers and principals break these rules and beat students viciously for no reason.

For example, at a school in Bloemfontein, a teacher beat a student for refusing to wash his car - and beat him again for reporting this to the principal. There have been many other cases of violent and unnecessary assault.

COSAS believed that students could not be disciplined by force and called for an end to corporal punishment.

### END TO SEXUAL HARRASSMENT

THERE have been many cases of women students being manhandled or raped by teachers

Sometimes, students fail exams or are punished if they refuse to have sex with a teacher. Many students are afraid to report this to the principal or police.

COSAS called for an end to all such sexual harassment.

### FREE TEXTBOOKS AND QUALIFIED TEACHERS

A SHORTAGE of adequate textbooks and unqualified teachers are major reasons for the high failure rate at coloured and African schools. In African schools, 78 out of 100 teachers are not qualified! COSAS demanded that students be given the textbooks they need, and be taught by qualified teachers.

### WITHDRAWAL OF POLICE AND SADF FROM SCHOOLS AND TOWNSHIPS

THOUSANDS of students have been killed or injured by police action. Baton charges, bullets, teargas, sjamboks, birdshot have been the governments' reply to students demands. There have been countless instances of police breaking up peaceful demonstrations on school grounds and teargassing students in classrooms. COSAS demanded an end to this brutality, and the immediate withdrawal of the police and SADF from schools and townships.

## Maths CAN help

I HAVE three containers, one an eight-litre can filled with liquid and two empty ones, one with a capacity of five litres and one three litres. I want to pour four litres into the five litre can, but I don't have any other measuring device (there are no markings on the cans). How can I do it?

Do not read any further until you have solved this!

Okay, you have solved this, CONGRATULATIONS!

Did you apply any rules which you learnt at school? You may not think so, but you did. The only way to solve this puzzle is by using your knowledge of numbers eg.  $8 - 5 = 3$ ;  $8 - 2 = 6$ ;  $8 - 4 = 4$ ;  $4 - 3 = 1$ ;  $4 - 2 = 2$

The reason for using subtraction, is to illustrate that we have a quantity of eight, and that a quantity of four should be removed. One problem was - how do we get a quantity of four using cans of 5 litre and 3 litre.

You can now see that your primary school knowledge of mathematics helped to solve the puzzle. In the same way your primary school knowledge of maths can help you solve questions which your high school teacher could ask you.

Let us look at an example:  
 $3(2+3) = 3(5)$   
[we add  $2+3$ ]  
 $= 15$

But can we solve this in another way?

$3(2+3)$   
 $= (3 \times 2) + (3 \times 3)$   
 $= 6 + 9 = 15$  the same answer!

But why am I showing you this method when the first one is so much easier? Well, this method is important since I have used it to show that both methods would give you the same answer. So, if you are given a question SIMILAR to this one, then you would know that if whatever is within the brackets cannot be added together, then all you do is multiply the which is immediately outside the brackets with EVERYTHING that is inside the brackets.

Let us look at an example:  
 $6b + 2a(3b + 2c - 5)$   
We multiply '2a' with everything inside the brackets and our answer is:

$6b + 6ab + 4ac - 10a$   
Why is the 6b not multiplied into the brackets?

Can you solve  
 $3b + 5c(2a + 3b - d + 2b)?$

In the same way questions on division are also based on primary school work. We will give an example and leave you to think of the explanation.

$$\frac{18}{3} = 6$$

$$\text{BUT } \frac{18}{3} = \frac{3(6)}{3} = 6$$

$$\text{Similarly, } \frac{4acd + 8abd - 16ade}{4a}$$

$$= \frac{4ad(c + 2b - 4e)}{4a}$$

$$= \frac{4ad(c + 2b - 4e)}{4a}$$

$$= d(c + 2b - 4e)$$

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# 'LET'S BURY OUR DEAD IN PEACE'

*'Police must stay away from funerals'*

"THE police must stay away from funerals. They must let us bury our dead in peace." This demand has been heard often over the past few weeks as thousands have gathered to lay to rest victims of police shootings.

## Siyekeni singwabe abantu bethu ngoxolo

LA ngamazwi ezithethi ebezithetha kumngcwabo wabantu abayi (8 ngomhla we 21 kaSeptember 1985 eGUGULETU eKapa. Abantu basweleke ngokudutyulwa ngamabhulu. Isithethi sase-EASTERN CAPE singuMr Jongolo senjenje ukuthetha.

"Abamhlophe nabamnyama kufuneka bemaneyene babesedabini lokwayo lwevenkile zabamhlophe. Asilwi bala lamntu silwa ukungcola kwabo kuphela. Ngoko ke sinyanzelisa uBotha netshomi zakhe ukuba bakhulule amabanjwa ezopolitiko kwaye asuse nomthetho wemo yonxunguphalo. Kwaye asingabo abamhlophe kuphela abahambisana nocalulo, bakhona nabamnyama abanjenge Community Councillors abakwangabacinezeli. Kwaye sigunyazisa uBotha ukuba akhuphe amajoni ezilokishini ngokukhawuleza."

Isithethi secawe sona e singuMr Rev Marawu sithe - "Abantu bacinga ukuba idabi lelabantwana kuphela kanti inkululeko yeyabantu bonke. Xa abantu bethetha ngencinezelo kuthiwa ngofunzweni kanti abona bantu batyiwa yimbumbulu ngamakholwa kanye. Abafundisi mabanganqandi abantu emabandlen mababayeke baye edabini. MAsinjonge abafundisi abanjengoBishop uTutu nabanye.

Isithethi sakwaSAAWUsona sithe - "Kwabo bashiywe zizihlobo zabo mabangalili mabayazi ukuba sisecaleni kwabo. Kwaye siya kuqhubela phambili naomzabalazo. Kufuneka baqine bayazi ukuba sikufutshane nenkululeko. Kwaye ukuba abasebenzi banokuqina umqolo singayifumana inkululeko yethu ngokukhawuleza kuba zonke izinto nomsebenzi wenziwa zizandla zabasebenzi. Abasebenzi mabayazi ukuba onxowankulu benza ingeniso eninzi ngezandla zabasebenzi."

Thousands upon thousands of people have attended funerals in Guguletu, Manenberg, Mitchells Plain, Bellville, Elsies River, Salt River, Valhalla Park and Belhar.

At most of the funerals, police have maintained a heavy presence, while they have moved in on mourners in some cases with teargas, rubber bullets, and sometimes, live ammunition.

Two big funerals in Guguletu recently for more than 20 victims have been attended by between 20 000 and 40 000 people.

### SADF

On Saturday September 21, police used teargas and shot at mourners after the funeral service at the Guguletu Stadium. Residents said the area had been quiet up to then and that people were on their way home after paying their last respect to those who had fallen.

Earlier, at the funeral service, mourners heard speaker after speaker condemn the government and calling on the police and army to stay out of the townships.



THOUSANDS pay tribute to unrest victims at Guguletu recently.



A PRIEST leads the way at the funeral of Elton Thompson, a 16-year-old Spine Road High School pupil who was shot by police in Mitchells Plain. His mother had to search for him almost five days after he was shot and admitted to a mortuary.



MOULANA Fareed Essack, blood-soaked, after he tried to save a policeman at the Salt River funeral.

## 'Body dumped on truck'

CHARMAINE RYAN is only five years old. But in her few years she has had nothing but misfortune.

Charmaine was born with many disabilities. She cannot walk. She cannot speak a word.

Now Charmaine has to go through the rest of her life without a mother.

Her mother, Charlotte Grace Ryan, 22, was knocked down and killed by a truck in the heat of unrest in East-ridge, Mitchells Plain, on the afternoon of Friday August 30.

Mrs Mildred Ryan,

of 11 Mountain Road, Eastridge, said her daughter Charlotte had left the house on Friday afternoon to look for her at a friend's place.

"When she came to Spine Road, she tried to run over the road and slipped on some stones. As she tried to get up, she was knocked down and killed instantly by this truck which came straight at her," said Mrs Ryan.

"As I arrived on the scene I saw my daughter lying in the road and a Caspir blocking the road.

"The police on the Caspir stopped a fish oil truck. They picked up my daughter and threw her body on the truck.

"I asked them why they were throwing her body like that. She is not a dog or some other animal.

"The one policeman told me it was Charlotte's fault that she died. He said she had thrown stones at passing vehicles.

"The police then took her away in the truck. I was not even allowed to go with her. I went to the police station at about six o'clock and saw the truck standing there. The police told me that Charlotte had been taken to Victoria Hospital," said Mrs Ryan.



THE body of the policeman.

## Unity at Salt River burial

A POLICE officer was beaten to death by angry mourners at the funeral of Ebrahim Carelse of Salt River who was shot in the head by police after police action in the area recently.

More than 10 000 Muslim mourners gathered for one of the biggest funerals ever in the history of Muslims in Cape Town. The disciplined funeral procession through one of the central town's main streets was disrupted at one point when police presence was noted at the entrance of the cemetery.

Two policemen monitoring the funeral were asked to leave by some of the mourners

but declined to do so, declaring that they were "the law".

One of the policemen then fled while the other pulled out his service revolver and shot into the crowd of mourners, seriously wounding Mr Yusuf Lakay from Salt River.

The fact that Mr Carelse was killed as a result of police action and now another Muslim being shot in front of their eyes, further incensed the already seething Muslims and a small group from the mourners disarmed the police officer and beat him to death.

The funeral then went ahead as planned with no police action till the mourners returned to Salt River.

## Funeral a 'Milestone'

NEXT to the death of Imam Abdullah Haroon in detention the funeral of Ebrahim Carelse is the second singular event that has united Muslims of the Cape and created an awareness hitherto unparalleled in the past.

Never before have the Muslims been such a focus of attention on the South African political scene as they now are. The cry of Allahu-Akbar (God is the Creator) has never before been so loudly heard in South Africa, as it is right now. Today it is not unusual to attend secular political gatherings and hear Muslims proudly responding to the Allah-Akbar slogan along with the oft-repeated slogans one hears at political rallies.

This new-found awareness was also evident when 173 parents, teachers and students were arrested at the Alexander Sinton Senior Secondary School when it was decided by the people to re-open the schools after they had been closed by Carter Ebrahim of the House of Representatives.

When the police were trapped inside the school premises with those they had arrested a large crowd of mainly Muslim parents and students once again defiantly chanted the slogan, Allahu-Akbar at the police while demanding that the arrested be released.

The appearance of the now exiled Imam Hassan Solomons at political rallies and religious gatherings of protest has been a major contributory factor to the recent emergence of Islamic awareness. He has articulated the Muslim response to the South African political set-up in a manner rarely witnessed in Muslim circles in South Africa.

Imam Solomons is the leader of the Call of Islam, an Islamic group that is affiliated to the United Democratic Front.

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# BREAKING BARRIERS

# THE

GRASSROOTS LOOKS at organising in White Schools

GR: HOW DID YOU COME TO BE INVOLVED IN STUDENT ACTION?

K: I grew up in Canada, where everyone is equal. When I came here five years ago, I found the average white mentality really sick. My mother is a member of Black Sash, so she gives me a lot of information about this country. If you look at the facts of the suffering in South Africa, they cry out at you. I first became involved in the Social Issues Group, which is involved in giving information to students and making them more aware. And then I joined PAAG - Pupil Action and Awareness Group.

GR: WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE EDUCATION WHITE STUDENTS RECEIVE?

K: White students are really brainwashed. Many of them are lovely, caring people, but their education gives them a real mental block to the situation. Our textbooks give us a very racist view of South Africa - especially the geography and history books. In most schools, it is unacceptable to discuss politics, although it is not so bad in our school.

I think the fact that the schools are racially segregated makes us very isolated - white students just don't have any idea of what is happening in black schools and communities.

GR: HOW HAVE MOST WHITE STUDENTS RESPONDED TO THE RESISTANCE IN BLACK SCHOOLS?

K: Most white youth are ignorant - they can't understand why blacks throw stones and so on. Their experience of life is so different - and our education makes it difficult for them to put themselves into another's shoes. But some white students do understand, and support the action of the black students.

GR: HOW DID THE WHITE SCHOOLS BOYCOTT HAPPEN?

K: There was a public meeting to inform students of what was

KATHERINE is a student at a white high school in Cape Town. Grassroots interviewed her in the school grounds - the well equipped buildings and landscaped gardens of the school - a stark contrast to the broken windows and bare classrooms of our black schools!

For years, white schools have been isolated from protest action. This is where the future bosses, SADF soldiers, MP's are prepared for a privileged position in our society. Sheltered from the harsh realities facing most South Africans, the students are taught (through cadets and Youth Preparedness programmes) to respect the government and the South African way of life. Injustice, suffering, oppression, resistance are all far away . . . .

happening on Sept. 6. That meeting was banned, so a few students got together afterwards.

They decided to hold a boycott on Sept. 10, and to form PAAG.

On Sept. 10, a few students from different schools boycotted and held an alternative programme at UCT. There was a public meeting in the afternoon, attended by about 150 students.

We held the boycott because we wanted to stand in solidarity with the black students, and to make white students aware of what is happening.

GR: COULD YOU TELL US MORE ABOUT PAAG?

K: PAAG is a democratic political organisation which aims to educate students, and to unite fellow students in action against apartheid. We have reps in about 20 schools. At the moment, it is mostly white members, but of course we are open to everybody. So far, there is a very enthusiastic response, although we do have many problems.

GR: WHAT PROBLEMS ARE

But even in these havens of white South Africa, a growing number of students are angry about the suffering of their fellow black students. White students have been coming together, and are beginning to organise and take action. For the first time in our history, some white students boycotted classes on Sept. 10.

The government and some authorities are very worried about this. Students have been harassed by the security police. Gareth Rossiter, a teacher, has been detained under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act.

But students such as Katherine are determined to continue with their work. Grassroots interviewed her to find out about the situation in the white schools:

YOU EXPERIENCING?

K: Well its very difficult to organise. For one thing, there is strict control on the schools - we are not allowed to hand out pamphlets at school, so we have to rely on a kind of grapevine system. Also, we're not allowed to have speakers from outside at school.

We are also battling against 16 or so years of conditioning. It's very frustrating - many of us would like to take more militant action. But we are working with students who are very scared and very ignorant. We have to work slowly, so that we can take as many students as possible with us - otherwise we will just scare them off.

Another big problem is that we are very cut off from black students. We are trying to arrange meetings between black and white students so that we can be more informed about what is happening, and get ideas of what we should do. If any black students are willing to come to these meetings we would really like them to contact us.

Statement made by Paul Stober



WE, a group of concerned students will be boycotting schools on the 9th September in protest against:

1. The unequal education system
2. The closure of black schools in the Western Cape
3. The government control of white schools and the banning of the meeting in Rondebosch on Sept. 6.

Through our action we hope to show our solidarity with black students, and to break the isolation of the white community by bringing something of the struggles of the black communities and schools into their lives.

We wish to show black students that we are aware of their suffering, and stand together with them in their struggle.

Paul Stober  
9 September 1985

GR HOW DID STUDENTS RESPOND TO THE DETENTION OF GARETH ROSSITER?

K: We were very very angry. Gareth is a really peace-loving guy. It made the issue of detention more real, because many of us knew Gareth personally. Its made students realise that there are 100's in detention who, like Gareth, shouldn't be there.

GR: SO YOU THINK ORGANISATION IS MOVING AHEAD IN THE WHITE SCHOOLS?

K: Yes, definitely. It is very difficult - we are working with a group who is not very receptive. But many students are not prepared to just sit back and do nothing. I know that we will continue to grow stronger.

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# THE CALL THAT GROWS STRONGER EVERY DAY:



"WE demand the release of all detainees now!" This was the call of a delegation of relatives of detainees to Caledon Square last month. The police replied by whipping the delegation and arresting them for attending an illegal gathering.

But the demand for the release of detainees continues to grow. A number of organisations and individuals have taken up the call in different ways. Some of these have been:

- A placard demonstration at Mitchells Plain
- A march at the University of the Western Cape, led by Professor Van der Ross
- Pickets held by members of the Black Sash, the Detainees Parents Support Committee and a number of other individuals.
- A full page advertisement issued in the Cape Times by a group of concerned lawyers and organisations.
- A mass meeting held in Wynberg, organised by CAYCO and the UDF.

The meeting was addressed by Ebrahim Rasool, and Moulana Faried Essack, who had both come out of hiding to speak.

"The state has declared war on us, the UDF" said Ebrahim Rasool. "It wants to smash the UDF by detaining us, forcing us into hiding, by charging UDF members with treason. But this will not happen. The UDF symbolises the people's resistance to Apartheid."



Part of a Placard demonstration at Mitchells Plain



Even those not tortured physically have to endure the mental anguish of solitary confinement, isolation from friends, family and lawyers.

At the moment, there are well over 1 000 detainees in South African jails. There has been evidence that many of these are suffering abuse and torture. In Durban, a judge granted an interim interdict restraining police from assaulting Billy Nair. It was reported that Billy Nair's eardrum had been ruptured in a police assault.

In Cape Town, ex-detainee Mike Norton signed an affidavit stating that Trevor Oosterwyk and Rudewan Hendricks had been assaulted by the police. The court did not accept his affidavit. In many other parts of the country, people have urgently appealed for interdicts restraining the police.

But for the detainees and their relatives, court action is very small comfort. It is almost impossible to know what is really happening to the detainees. But the num-

ber of deaths in detention, the countless reports of physical and mental torture give little hope for their safety.

Detention can only be described as an inhuman and cruel attempt to silence and intimidate our people. But it will not succeed. With the clang of the cell door on each new detainee, our call for freedom and justice grows stronger.

MONDAY morning, 10 a.m., Caledon Square. A group of 20 - 30 people, mainly women, walks through the charge office to the Security offices on the second floor. They are carrying bags of fruit and clothing - small comfort for the detainees inside.

For the relatives of Section 29 detainees, this is a time of fear and waiting. Fear that starts with the first knock of the Security Police at the door - and only ends when their loved ones are finally released and safely at home. Their only contact with their husbands/wives/children are the security police - the same men who are keeping their relatives in some dark cell, interrogating them, frightening them, perhaps torturing them...

Their fears for the safety of detainees are well grounded. In a special report released recently, it was found that 83% of detainees had been subjected to some form of physical torture, including beatings, forced standing and exercise for long periods, electric shock and strangulation.

## Coping with detention

WE HAVE been hearing a lot about political arrests and detentions in the last few months.

Remember there is a difference between someone being arrested and someone being detained.

When someone is arrested, he or she is taken into custody by the police for an ordinary crime, such as assault.

When someone is detained, he or she is taken in by the police because they are a so-called "threat to the safety of the country".

In this case special security laws are used, such as section 29. In the last few months, the police have been using both ordinary laws and security laws to imprison our people.

### Why are people detained?

Political detentions and arrests aim at breaking political organization. This is done by removing activists from political work, gathering information about organizations, trying to prove people are guilty of crimes against the system and trying to break people's spirit.

What happens in detention?

People who are detained are often tortured in ways which aim at physical and mental suffering.

These include beatings, forced standing for long periods of time, forced exercises, hooding, electrical shocks, being alone for long periods of time, insults, threats of violence and false accusations.

Conditions in the prisons are very bad. People get little food of poor quality and they are given uncomfortable and dirty places to sleep, wash and toilet.

It is understandable that when people come out of police custody, they will not just forget all these hardships and they will get affected by their experiences in some way.

### What are the effects of detention?

Some people come out of detention with physical problems like burns, scars, bruises and sore backs.

Others come out with changes in how they behave with others. They may be very quiet, or over talkative, or over suspicious or shout a lot. Still others may feel moody, nervous, sad or lack energy.

Most people get nightmares, sleep worse than before and may get headaches. For some people, concentrating and remembering things can be a big problem that affects them in their job, at home and while doing organizational work.

Families of detained or arrested people are also affected. Fear of what has happened to their relative or close friend, and financial worries, affect the family very deeply.

Sometimes they may not understand or support the detainee, and may feel confused or angry.

### What can be done while the person is in police custody?

- The family should:*
- \* contact a lawyer or relief agency
  - \* attend DPSC meetings to work out problems of food and clothing parcels, and to take part in mutual support.
  - \* contact the Dependents Conference for financial advice and support.

### The organization should?

- \* put the family in contact with the relief centre and DPSC.
- \* delegate the person's responsibilities amongst other members of the

organization.

- \* keep a diary of events to give the person after their release so that they can catch up with news and events.

### What can be done after the person is released?

- The family should:*
- \* be understanding and sensitive to the person.
  - \* let him or her catch up with family news.
  - \* encourage the person to talk about their prison or detention experience.
  - \* make an appointment for a medical check-up through the relief centre.
  - \* reassure the person that some of the after effects such as nightmares, are a normal reaction to an abnormal situation.
  - \* don't be too demanding.

### The organization should:

- \* allow the person time and space to talk about their experiences.
- \* be sensitive and supportive.
- \* don't bombard the person with questions or judge their actions too harshly.
- \* allow the person to get active again at their own pace.

There a number of support groups which have formed to help people who have been arrested or detained, wounded or missing.

The Repression Monitoring Group (RMG) has brought these groups together and this group has set up a relief centre.

If you have any problems or need any information contact the relief centre at 231253, any day of the week from 8.00 a.m. to midnight.

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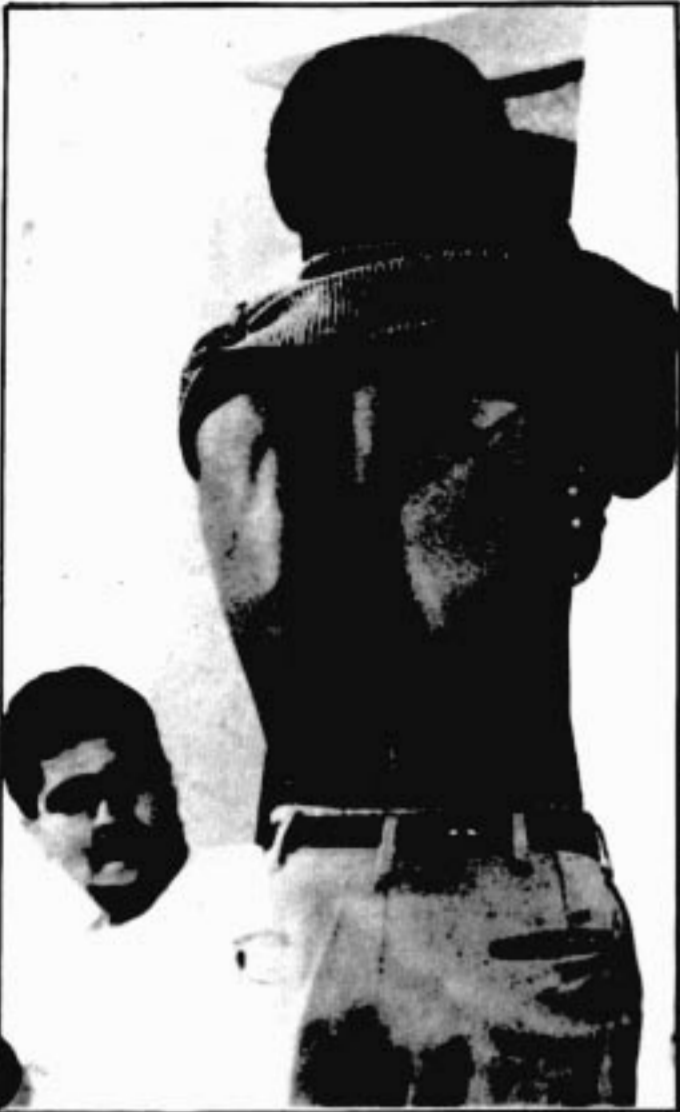
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# Students lay charges of assault



CLEMENT MEYER shows how he was allegedly sjambokked on his back.

A GROUP of students and pupils have laid complaints against the police for an alleged assault when they were arrested on Tuesday September 17 in Athlone, the day thousands went to open the schools closed by coloured Minister Carter Ebrahim.

The students have handed affidavits to the lawyers and police have said they are investigating the complaints.

At a press conference on Tuesday September 25, some of the students told of the alleged assault.

The students who spoke at the press conference, in the presence of their parents, are Yazeed Baker, 16; sisters Colleen and Chantal, aged 18 and 19; Mansoor Mollajee, 19; Clement Meyer, 21; and twin brothers Grant and Craig Fahrenfort, 20.

They said they were driving down Belgravia Road at about 12 noon when two police vans shot out of a side street. The police surrounded the car and told them to get out, the student said.

Clement Meyer, a student at UWC, said: "On Belgravia Road, we were told to 'klim uit'. I came out first. I was sjambokked on the stomach and back. I was hit in the van, with the butt of a rifle also. Others were viciously pushed.

"From there we were taken to Manenberg Police station. I was pulled out and sjambokked. Even in the van."

"When we were offloaded at Manenberg, abuse was hurled at us. A policeman said they would deny any charges laid. We were handed over to plainclothes policemen. They said 'Ons gaan jou lekker moor'," claimed Grant Fahrenfort.

Mansoor Mollajee said: "We were all lined up and searched for weapons."

"We were taunted by a policeman about being

Moslem. We were taken inside for questioning. We were marched outside into a van, and sjambokked," he claimed.

The students said they were driven to Brackenfell police station.

Yazeed Baker, an Oaklands High School pupil, said:

"As we got out of the van at Brackenfell, we were beaten. One girl was pulled out by her hair. We were taken to a cell. There were ten men in this room. After every answer we gave, we were hit. They hit me behind the ear. I still can't hear properly.

"(In the next room) we received 'physical training'. After a while, our legs started to shiver. We were also told to do pressups on our knuckles. This continued for 3 hours," Yaseed claimed.

Yaseed said that police thought he was the leader of the group, so they took him to a separate room for questioning.

"They took a tube and wrapped it around my head. They punched me and kicked me. I became unconscious. They still kicked and punched me till I came round," he claimed.

Craig Fahrenfort, a student at Rosebank House College, said:

"We heard him (Yaseed) screaming. When he came back, he looked dazed. His whole face was swollen." Craig described the pain of the exercises: "I suffered from polio as a child. I kept screaming out. The policeman said I was talking nonsense, and said I was lazy. I could feel my right leg shaking. I couldn't use it properly. During the exercises, we were kicked in the ribs and stomach.

"While I was falling, I was kneed up again. A policeman said 'Ons is nie Kapenaars. Ons is van Suidwes. Koevoet se manne,'" Craig said.

Chantal Fick, a 19-year-old from 5 College, described her experiences at B. She spoke for her sister Colleen as "Colleen is still unable to speak at happened to her".

At Brackenfell, we were dragged o hair . . . my sister was smacked against An African policeman came in and called name; he pulled out a knife and made a her.

"I was grabbed by my hair, and pushed the wall. I was the last to give my part the time, vile language was used. A stood behind me and he smacked me ears.

"In the meantime, my sister was being ioned. They accused her of lying, and smacked across the face. She was hit over and she was crying. A cop punched her i

"We were taken to another cell to do When she fell over, she was smacked a do it in abusive language. One African up and punched her on the side of her b

"I felt so nauseous (because of the One cop said that if I vomited I would h it up. We did exercises again. The police shouting and smacking. The boys were in the next cell," Chantal claimed.

The students said they were put into cells (the boys and the girls) at about mattresses and a few blankets. They v some brown bread. Every 2 hours, i checked on. When they were woken in ing, they were checked to see if they c and walk, and were released to differ central Cape Town, Guguletu, they said.

## Valhalla won't forget

VALHALLA PARK residents will never forget the day police took over the township.

What started out as a quiet Wednesday morning ended up a nightmare for the area's residents as one person was shot dead by police, many more were injured and others arrested.

One man, who feared being identified, said he saw the Casspirs moving into the area at about 11 a.m. on the Tuesday.

"They parked at the Valhalla Park Supermarket from where they started sjambokking the children. The children ran in all directions.

"The next day, the cars, vans and Casspirs moved into Valhalla Park again, this time with Zulu policemen who did the sjambokking and shooting. Many people were injured," he said.

Ivan Langenhoven was killed in the seige of Valhalla Park.

# 'END POLICE

"THE police must be going mad,"

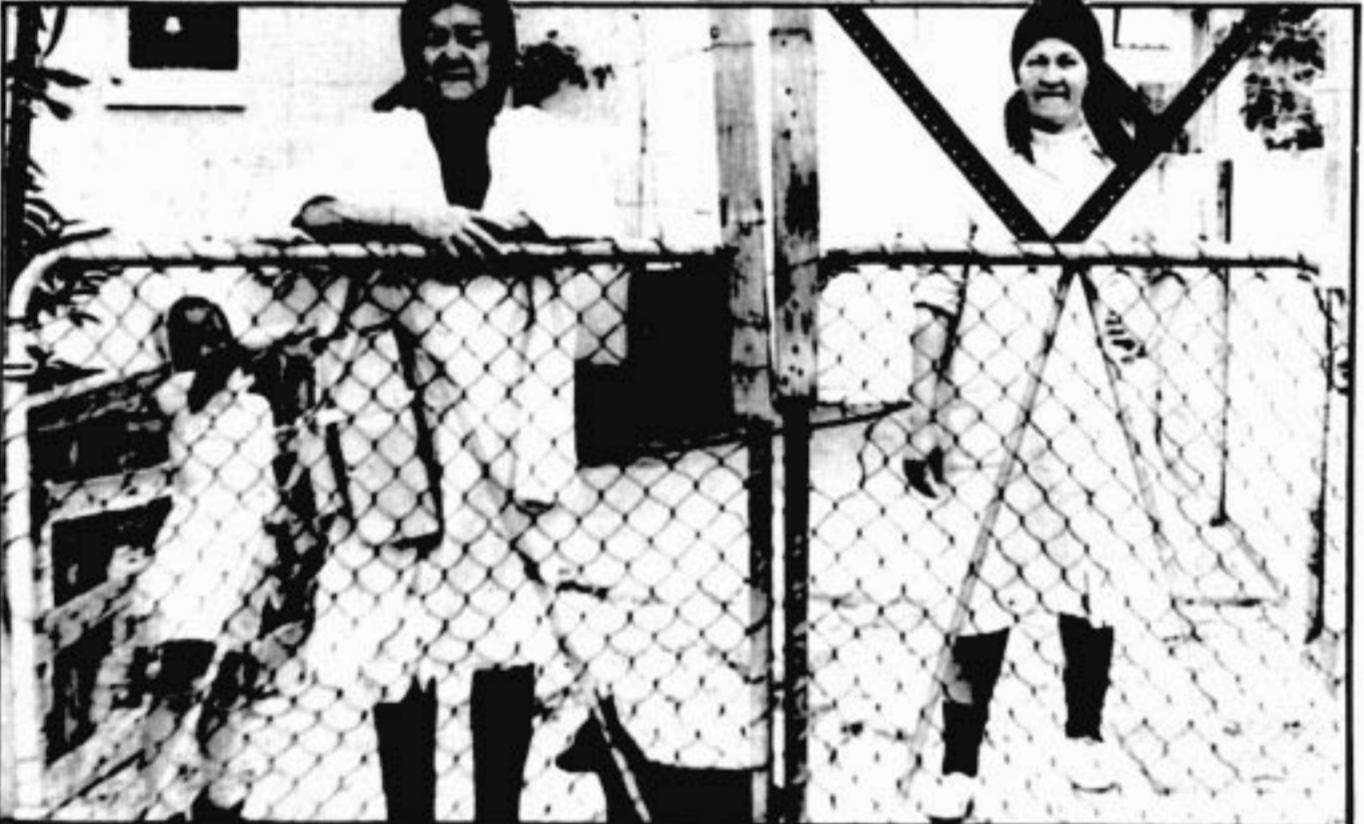
These words have become common in the Western Cape recently as more and more people come forward with complaints and allegations of police brutality against innocent people.

- In one week:
- Police fought pitched battles with and arrested people whose only crime was that they wanted to go to school.
  - Old women and young children had to run as they were beaten by police outside Caledon

Square. The women had gone to Caledon Square to see their loved ones in detention and to hand over a letter to police.

- Busdrivers who complained about being stoned in unrest-hit townships, were beaten and sjambokked by police when they marched to their union offices.
- Zulu-speaking and other police went into Valhalla Park and Elsie's River and sjambokked old and young, even animals. At least two people were killed.

- Zulu-speaking policemen in khaki went into Langa and Guguletu and assaulted residents.
  - Journalists have been dragged away scenes of police action and arrested. later told they were arrested to "protect Crisis Centres set up by affiliates of and other organisations have been flooded with complaints of police brutality.
- On this page, some of the victims stories.



MRS HELEN PILLAY with her family outside her gate where, she says, she was beaten by Zulu-speaking policeman. Even the dog was kicked, she said.

## PENSIONER, 67, SJAMBOKKED

PENSION day turned into a nightmare for Mrs Helen Pillay, 67, of Hector Street, Valhalla Park.

Mrs Pillay says she was one of the people beaten when Zulu-speaking policemen invaded Valhalla Park on Wednesday September 18.

"I had just been to fetch my pension and I was standing at my

gate looking for some children whom I normally buy sweets for on pension day.

"Suddenly I heard shouts and I saw this Zulu policeman coming to me. He leaned over the fence and hit me on the back thrice. He tried to open the gate but it was locked from the inside," Mrs Pillay said.

Her sister-in-law

Mrs Florence van Duin, 39, said she heard the commotion outside and went to investigate.

"I saw this policeman in a khaki overall beating Helen and I asked him why he was doing that. He just laughed and hit me on the arm. I shall never forget his face," Mrs van Duin said.

Mrs Pillay said the Zulu policemen - one

of about six - was controlled by a white policeman.

"I saw a boy of about ten beaten by a black policeman while a white policeman kicked him. Even our dogs were beaten.

"To think that I should get beaten like this at my old age," she said.

## Emily woke up battered and bruised

WHEN Emily January, 28, decided to go to a friend down the road, she ended up in Conradie Hospital with her body full of bruises and wounds.

Emily, of Lydia Street, Valhalla Park, said she was still in her gown at about 11 o'clock on Wednesday September 18, when she decided to go to her friend, Sophia Links, who lives in Simon Street, about 50 metres away.

"I heard a woman shout that I must get out of the road because the police were shooting and beating people. I tried to run into somebody's yard, but as I got to the gate, I was shot in the head.

"I lost consciousness and had no idea of

what happened next. I later found myself under plice guard in Conradie Hospital. I was shot in the back and legs.

"My whole body was bruised and I was dismissed on Friday. I was told that I had to appear in court on the Friday, but the police-woman told me I would appear some other day.

"I want to lay a charge against the police," she said.

Her friend, Sophia Links, said it was very quiet in Valhalla Park on the Wednesday morning.

"There was no stoning and there were no tyres burning in the streets when the police beat up people.

"I saw Emily being kicked and hit with a rifle butt," Sophia said.







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Yazeed Baker demonstrates with Clement Meyer how police allegedly held a tube around his face.

# Wounded man hanged from van, church tells Le Grange

PLEASE find enclosed for your information a copy of a letter sent to the Minister of Law and Order. It is hoped that you would be able to publish this in the next issue of the Grassroots newspaper.

Dear Honourable Minister

At a meeting held on Tuesday, 3rd of September 1985, we the Parish Councillors of St. Nicholas Church Matroosfontein, seeking to be faithful to our witness as Christians feel it necessary, in the light of the slanted media coverage of the current unrest in Elsie's River to draw attention to the following acts committed by the police on unarmed, defenceless residents of Elsie's River:

1. We have witnessed with our own eyes the police on the caspirs shooting indiscriminately at the residents of Elsie's River not taking into account the motorists, women with children or even the aged.
2. They have shown total disrespect for human life and we have seen evidence of many people who have been wounded by the police through their shooting at peaceful people and we have seen sufficient

evidence of people who have been beaten by the police.

3. We have also witnessed the callousness and brutality of the police who displayed a young person who had been wounded by these men. This specific young man was shot in the foot by the police and made to hang his wounded foot out of a police van for all to see.
4. The police have also shown total disrespect for the sacred grounds of the Church in that they have threatened to open fire on clerics and workers on the Church's estate.

In the Prologue of the Constitution of the RSA the government commits itself to uphold Christian morals and standards. We note that the action of the police listed above is in open contradiction to this government pledge.

We therefore call upon you, Honourable Sir to:

1. urgently investigate the above allegations and
2. we call, in the strongest possible terms for the withdrawal of all riot police and military personnel from our area.

Signed: D.R. Laban  
St. Nicholas Church

# VIOLENCE

## Wife tells of search for detained husband

EMILY JANUARY shows one of the many wounds and bruises on her body.



MRS GAYATUN-NISA SWART - wife of Alexander Sinton vice-principal Mr Nabil Swart - has spoken of her trauma when her husband was arrested by police but did not confirm his arrest or whereabouts for almost two days.

Mr Swart was arrested at his school on Tuesday September 17 after about 4 000 people had come to open the school gates in defiance of the government's decision to close them.

Mrs Swart told a press conference on Tuesday September 25 that a teacher from the school had telephoned her at about 11 a.m. and told her that her husband had been arrested, along with about 170 others.

Mrs Swart found out that her son, Dehran, also a teacher at Alexander Sinton, had also been arrested.

She heard he had been taken to Mannenberg Police station. However, the attorneys were unable to trace him there. There was no record of him there.

Her son, Dehran, says that when he was at Mannenberg, he saw his father being pushed and pulled down the corridor of the station,

to an awaiting car outside.

"The whole of Tuesday, the lawyers were not able to contact him at Mannenberg. At 11 that night, my husband was brought home by several policemen, who refused to identify themselves to me. They took books and papers. They did not leave a receipt for the things taken, and refused to say why they were taking him," Mrs Swart said.

"I asked him whether he had been manhandled. He nodded. He was not allowed to speak. I asked whether he had had anything to eat, and he had had nothing since breakfast at home that morning. He was allowed to change into warmer clothes. I packed clothes and the Holy Koran."

On Wednesday, Mrs Swart phoned the police station. She says she spoke to a van Wyk, saying that she wanted to see her husband.

"He was very polite. When I went to Brackenfell, there was no van Wyk there. There was no one in command. There was no record of my husband. One man said he was there, the other said he was not," Mrs Swart said.

On Thursday, Mrs Swart heard that her husband had arrived at Bellville police station at ten on Wednesday night. She went to Bellville to speak to him.

"He said he had been sjambokked, assaulted and kicked on the ankles.

"Word later came through that he had been taken to Pollsmoor. I went to see him on Tuesday 24. Despite being held under Section 50, he was allowed no food or reading matter. Only two family members are allowed to see him at one time," Mrs Swart said.



MRS. SWART: Husband detained.

## GROUP FORMED TO HELP

THE Detention Action Committee, the Detention Treatment Team, the Detainees Parents Support Committee, the Black Sash, the National Medical and Dental Association, the Dependants' Conference, the End Conscription Committee, the Western Province Council of Churches, the Students Emergency Relief Group, the UWC Support Group and the Anglican Board of Social Responsibility are a number of organisations which have been working in the area of repression. These organisations have come together to form the Repression Monitoring Group, or RMG.

Last week the RMB opened a relief centre to help people affected by repression. You can contact the relief centre if you have any of the following problems:

- \* someone has been detained or arrested for political reasons.
- \* someone has gone missing.
- \* someone has been wounded in police action and you need medical help.
- \* you need a lawyer.
- \* you are in financial trouble as a result of detention or arrest.
- \* you need information about legal rights.

You should report any incidents of police harassment to the relief centre. The phone number of the centre is 23-1253 and it is open seven days a week from 8.00 a.m. until midnight.



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## Comment

# Bosses will not bring freedom

THERE are lots of people trying to fool other people at the moment.

From some of the happenings of recent weeks, it may seem that some people are very sincerely concerned about the freedom of the oppressed and exploited people of South Africa.

But we have learnt, through bitter experience, that one has to view with scepticism and caution any moves made by people like the big bosses, the PFP and Inkatha.

Recently, a group of top businessmen met with an African National Congress delegation in Zambia.

A few days later, the PFP, Inkatha and a number of businessmen and academics met at a posh hotel to discuss a national convention alliance.

One only needs to ask a few questions to test the sincerity of these moves.

## WHY NOW?

To the businessmen, we must ask: Why, after the ANC has existed for more than 70 years, and official apartheid for almost 40 years, are you only NOW so eager to meet with the ANC?

Could it be that you are feeling the pinch in your pockets now that the consumer boycott of white shops is being taken up nationally?

Are you checking out the ANC to see how "safe" your business, built on the sweat of the workers, will be should the ANC take over the government of the country?

## OPPORTUNISM

To those who want to form a National Convention Alliance, we ask:

Why, at a time when most of the people's leaders are either in jail or in hiding or missing, do you talk about a national convention?

Could it be that you are trying to opportunistically make gains for yourselves at a time when popular leaders and the UDF find it difficult to organise and lead the people?

Could it be that you are trying to defuse the people's struggle by talking of a national convention, while our people are being killed, sjambokked, baton-charged, tear-gassed and tortured by the police and army?

## PLAYING GAMES

To these people we say: the time for playing games is over. It is the oppressed people of South Africa who are suffering, and their problems will not be solved by coffee-table discussions amongst self-appointed leaders.

They will only be satisfied when the true leaders of the people and their organisations are free to represent their demands in a democratic government. We cannot speak of negotiations until our leaders are released, our organisations unbanned, our townships freed from police and SADF troops, and all apartheid laws scrapped.



• This lady was hit on the head by a baton-wielding policeman in Kromboom Rd. in Athlone

• This Rev had to undergo an emergency eye operation after being hit on the eye by charging policeman.

• This truck was burned out in Elsie's River.

Drawing by Sean Nefdt

# STILL MISSING

## The mystery of the big men in safari suits

**SOUGHT:** five gun-bearing white men, some in safari suits and others in ordinary suits — all believed to have been connected with the disappearance of three political activists at Port Elizabeth's airport.

The missing activists, all members of the UDF-affiliated Port Elizabeth Black Civic Organisation (PEBCO), have not been seen since May 8, when they were believed to have gone to the airport to pick up a passenger.

They are Mr Daqawuli Godolozzi, 30, president, Mr Siphon Hashe, 58, secretary general, and Mr Champion Galela, 38, organising secretary.

All are described as 'voices of moderation' in the turbulent Eastern Cape townships.

Yet all three are missing — and presumed dead by some — in another chapter to the sinister, lengthening story of mysterious disappearances of opponents of apartheid.

At the time of writing, the only lead is a sworn affidavit from a 'reliable' witness who said he saw the incident leading to their disappearance.

He met a passenger who had arrived at Port Elizabeth about 9 p.m.

The witness could not recall the flight number, but it has been established through South African Airways that the only major flight arrival anywhere near that time was SA405, scheduled to land at 8.10 p.m. — it could have been slightly late, or it is possible the witness misjudged the time slightly.

He said he saw a black

passenger, who had disembarked, pick up his baggage before walking through the airport exit followed by five white men.

The witness had 'immediately become suspicious' — this, he said, was a natural tendency for people in the Eastern Cape, where mysterious shadowing had become common, particularly to township folk.

When the passenger got outside, the witness saw the man 'hustled' into one of two white cars parked nearby, which then drove off. Two of the men had accompanied him, while the other three got into the second car and stayed at the airport.

The witness said the first car 'hadn't gone more than 200 metres' when a yellow van, believed to have been carrying all three missing activists, pulled up to the entrance.

He could identify one of the men as Mr Godolozzi — he has seen pictures of him. Mr Godolozzi was 'grabbed' by the three men who had stayed behind in the white car. 'Substantial force' had been used in getting him inside the car.

Both other men 'got in a bit more willingly,' joining Mr Godolozzi on the back seat.

The car drove off with two of the 'captors' in the front seat. The third drove the yellow van away, closely following the white car.

The witness knew nothing further of the incident, but had noticed the five initial 'captors' all wore either safari suits or ordinary suits. They

had all carried guns in their belts, seen by the witness as they bent down.

The Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis le Grange, has stated that the men were not arrested by the police.

Two Supreme Court applications brought by the missing men's families — supported by affidavits from people who allegedly saw them in police custody, and calling on the Minister to produce them — have failed.

The first, brought by Mr Hashe's daughter, was dismissed with costs, while the other was dropped by the families after they found they had been 'misled by a police informer,' who claimed she had seen the men in police custody.

Senior security police officers, flatly deny they are being held, claiming it was a 'definite possibility' that at least one of the men was a victim of 'political fighting.'

Mr Mkhuseleli Jack, a prominent youth leader and active supporter of the UDF, now in detention, said he doubted ideological rivals ASAPO had anything to do with the disappearances.

'All three are big men, both physically and politically — they wouldn't easily be abducted by any group or be easily intimidated into going into hiding,' he said.

Mr Brian Bishop, of the Civil Rights League, said: 'Disappearances in this day and age lead to a complete breakdown of civilisation.' He said the return of the men would 'contribute greatly to the restoration of peace in

the Eastern Cape.'

Letters of appeal have been published in newspapers on the Rand, Eastern Cape, as well as locally.

A reporter who took up the issue in a front page lead story for City Press, Mr Mono Badela, had his house in the Eastern Cape badly damaged by fire two days later, and had to move to Johannesburg.

Mr Bishop said he realised the chances of anyone coming forward with evidence on the airport incident were 'pretty remote' — innocent witnesses of kidnappings could themselves become victims.

'But it is so important that mysterious disappearances be stopped at the outset — this is the lesson to be learned from Argentina's Desaparecidos.'

He said the very fact that an information-gathering campaign had been started, served to panic the perpetrators of kidnappings.

Mr Bishop met the wives of the three missing men recently. All had told him they were 'not allowing themselves to consider that their husbands may be dead.'

The telephonic response to the appeal so far has only been in the form of 'crank' calls. 'The callers generally have senior sounding Afrikaans accents, as opposed, for instance, to hysterical old women,' Mr Bishop said.

One call had been in the form of a 5.45 a.m. death threat to his wife, Mrs Di Bishop, MPC, from a man they are convinced put on a phoney African accent.



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# Don't be fooled by those Casspirs

ON September 12, the day workers were called to stay at home, casspirs patrolled the townships to "protect" the workers.

In Heideveld, a casspir with about seven policemen, kept guard at the railway station at peak hour. Even little children fear them. They are afraid to say anything loud when the "men" with their casspirs are nearby.

I could see that people felt intimidated by the sight of the casspirs. Far away a person could hear children shouting "Amandla", "Botha is 'n terrorist" and "Viva Mandela" from their hiding places.

At 5.30 p.m. a train with workers stopped at the station. As those workers got off the train, they were stoned by people from Guguletu. Those workers

ignored the stayaway call and therefore they got stoned.

They all ran for cover and some stupid people ran to the casspirs for help. About five policemen ran over to the station and fired about five shots at the people in Guguletu. IT WAS ABSURD of those people who ran to the casspirs for help.

Don't you realise that those are the very

same policemen who beat and kill our students, parents, teachers and even small children! By calling for them for help, you are actually helping this ROTTEN SYSTEM TO KILL US.

I call on them to stop allowing themselves to be divided by this ignorant government.

AMANDLA Heideveld

# WE WANT A DECENT LIFE - UNEMPLOYED

MOST of us are aware of the unbelievable and colossal number of workers unemployed in South Africa. But what does unemployment really mean?

As a victim of unemployment I will try to sketch, in desperate brevity, the cause of unemployment, some of the effects on the human mind and what should be done.

Firstly, we have to understand that unemployment is caused by economic stagnation, wilfully brought about by the disciples and perpetrators of apartheid. This economic stagnation should be seen as slow starvation of the unemployed and their families as long as apartheid remains in force.

The adverse affect of unemployment on one's mental health could be summed up as absolutely devastating. Some of the effects are:

1. one's growth has come to a standstill;

2. the process of mental decadence starts to set in;

3. you feel useless and a burden to society;

4. confusion and hopelessness increase daily, and

5. the most disturbing effect is that, from time to time, one experiences lengthy periods of depression.

I stress these points to make it clear that to be unemployed today is like being trapped in an abyss; imprisoned in a bottomless pit of inaction, misery and suffering. The unemployed and their families are the direct victims of the evil and barbaric system of apartheid.

The unemployed must claim their right to live a meaningful life or face starvation. Therefore, we should come together in our respective areas, make the plight of the unem-

ployed known, conscript the expertise of the churches, school principals, teachers and all progressive persons in our communities and rally for financial relief on behalf of those whose burden has become unbearable and intolerable.

Our most important duty would be to convince every right-thinking citizen in South Africa that apartheid must end now and that the exploitative system of capitalism should be replaced by a more humanitarian and viable economic system, where there is work for all and where we all can share in the fruits of their labour and the wealth of SA.

May the Almighty God and Heavenly Father give us courage, strength and wisdom to get rid of the curse of apartheid.

M.Essau

Bishop Lavis

## OUR READERS' POEMS

### Until justice reigns supreme

UNTIL JUSTICE REIGNS SUPREME

I have seen people teargassed  
I have seen people battoned  
I have seen people interrogated  
And I have seen people killed

Why is it, that they prefer to get hurt and even die  
Rather than spend a quiet night at home?

Well, there will be no quiet night  
When people are detained, banned and thrown in exile!

No there will be no quiet night  
When people are killed because they fight for a just society!

The only time when we can look forward to our quiet nights  
Is when JUSTICE REIGNS SUPREME

Until then  
We are prepared to fight  
And to die  
O yes  
To fight and die  
Until JUSTICE REIGNS SUPREME!

Winnie

## Dear Grassroots . . .



## Miserable conditions

I WANT to complain about the bad conditions at Hofmeyr. People are suffering under the intolerable conditions because:

1. There is no hospital for sick people;
2. Houses are like "bungalows";
3. Houses are in a miserable condition.

I remember the year 1975 in December when it was a stormy day, the houses of Hofmeyr were blown away by the wind.

Two people died on the scene, the late family of Mnzini. This happened at the fisheries of an Italian, the neighbour of W M Opperman, the Mayor of Hofmeyr.

Another man who saw the scene was Mr Hendrick Johannes Heyman, the Magistrate of Hofmeyr.

My question(s) is or are as follows:

1. How can we be happy when millions of poor people suffer under these intolerable conditions?
2. Whose responsibility is it to enjoy and share the wealth of this country?
3. Why do we pay rent or what is the main function of rent?

Another problem is related to the post delivered by the postman Mr Edward Lumko. He may be stopped from giving or delivering the post to black people. I want to know, WHY?

Am I mistaken to put this question in this way? If so, please tell me, I want to know.

Is it right or wrong to ask?

Phikiso Dumezweni Hofmeyr

(pamphlets, documents) about conditions in your country. We will use them to educate the Dutch public, especially during our focus week in November.

We salute you and wish you strength and courage in your struggle.

On behalf of the working committee "Ggezondheidszoeg tegen Apartheid", Zoetermeer Holland

political beliefs. We are not alone in this task; the Dutch newspapers and television give daily exposure to what is happening in SA.

We would like to ask you the following questions;

- Could you inform us about the conditions under which you have to work. We invite healthworkers to correspond with us.

- Would it be possible to send us materials

# We support your struggle

During April we started an action group called "Zoetermeer against apartheid". We plan to mobilise different local societies (organisations) in order to focus on the SA situation during 2 weeks in November.

This action group consists of a number of sub-committees, one of which is made up of concerned health workers, ie community health nurses and doctors. The health committee would like to let you know that we have taken up the struggle against the apathy in our country regarding SA. We would like to inform the people of Zoetermeer about your situation and would like to make them realise how people are systematically excluded on the grounds of race, religion and

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## Advice

# Teargas causes more than tears

THE army and police force think that teargas is a "safe" way to control crowds.

Teargas is safe only when it is used outdoors and in very low concentrations and on men weighing over 70 kilograms. Teargas is especially dangerous to your children. Teargas is heavier than air. This means that the gas is thicker near the ground where the children can breathe in more gas. They may not know that they have to run away from the gas.

Indoors, the concentration can very quickly reach dangerous levels. In rainy weather, the gas stays in the air longer.

## WHAT TO DO IN A TEARGAS ATTACK

1. Try not to panic. More people may get hurt if you panic. If there are children, lift them up and help them.
2. Check the direction of the wind. Try to get to the other side of the teargas cloud.
3. Breathe slowly and shallowly. Deep breath-

ing will cause pain and burning.

4. Try not to rub your eyes. Rubbing makes your eyes worse.
5. Do not swallow your spit. Rather spit it out.
6. Try to wash your face with vegetable oil and then wash it off with soap and running water. Then dry yourself immediately. If you wet yourself immediately the teargas can burn you even more. Water alone does not take away the gas. If it is raining, dry your skin.

If you think you may get teargassed, you can prepare yourself for it. Wear overalls and a shirt with collar and a hat. You can protect your eyes by wearing goggles.

Never pick up a can of teargas with your naked hands - you could be hurt badly.

If you suffer from asthma, hayfever or any other illness, try not to get gassed. If you are gassed you should see a doctor immediately.



PEOPLE flee from teargas near Alexander Sinton recently.

## Your rights when arrested

EVEN though there is no state of emergency in Cape Town, the police have been arresting many people.

It is important to know what your rights are if you are arrested.

While you are under arrest or in detention the police may not assault you. If they do, you can charge them after you are released.

\*Unless you have been charged or arrested for committing an offence, the police may not take your fingerprints, palmprints or footprints.

\*Unless you are under arrest, the police may not:

- (a) Force you to have a blood test. If you are under arrest, only a doctor, and not the police, can take a blood sample from you.
- (b) Take your photograph.
- (c) Examine your body.

If you are under arrest and are a woman, only another woman may examine your body.

\*If you are arrested or detained under a Section which allows you to see a lawyer, you must ask the police at once to let you see a lawyer. If you cannot afford a lawyer, you must ask the police to contact the Legal Aid Board who will get a lawyer for you.

If the police do not allow you to see a lawyer, they are breaking the law. If you appear in court and still do not have a lawyer, ask the magistrate for one. THE POLICE AND THE MAGISTRATE WILL NOT AUTO-

MATICALLY GIVE YOU A LAWYER - YOU MUST ASK FOR ONE.

## LENGTH OF ARREST OR DETENTION

\*It is very important to find out from the police officer arresting you under which Act you are being arrested. This will determine your rights after you have been arrested - the time you will have to spend in jail and whether you are allowed to see a lawyer and your family.

\*If the police officer says you are being arrested in terms of the Criminal Procedure Act for an offence, then (a) You are allowed to see a lawyer. (b) You must be brought before a magistrate within 48 hours of your arrest. If the 48 hours expires on a weekend or on a public holiday, then you must be taken to court the next day.

\*If the police officer says you are detained in terms of the Internal Security Act, then it is important to find out under which Section of that Act you are being held. The police can hold you under four different sections:

Section 31:  
*Reason for Detention:* The police think you could be a state witness

*Access to a Lawyer:* No.  
*Length of time you can be held:* Six months unless someone is charged and you are the state witness. In this case you must be released at the end of the case.

Section 50:  
*Reason for Detention:* The police think you are causing a riot or public disturbance

*Access to Lawyer:* Yes  
*Length of time you can be held:* 48 hours unless the police have the signed permission of a magistrate. If they have this signed permission, then you must be released after 14 days. In order to detain you further, they must do so under a different section.

Section 29:  
*Reason for Detention:* A lieutenant-colonel or a police officer of a higher rank can detain you if he/she thinks you are involved in any activity concerned with "terrorism".

*Access to a lawyer:* No. But you can write to the Minister of Law and Order every day to ask for your release and every month the police must tell the Minister why you are being held and the Minister must give his permission for you to be kept in detention.

*Length of time you can be held:* The police can detain you for as long as they like.

Section 28:  
*Reason for Detention:* The police think you are a danger to the security of the country.

*Access to a Lawyer:* Yes, but only to help you prepare a statement to the Board of Review to ask it to consider letting you go free.  
*Length of time you can be held:* For as long as the police like.

# FIRST-AID GUIDELINES

PEOPLE injured are often automatically arrested when they go to hospitals for treatment. So, many people do not go to hospital to see a doctor at all.

This will help people treat small injuries if they are really not prepared to go to hospital.

People with *serious* injuries should go to hospital or a doctor, because they might need X-rays, operations or blood transfusions.

## SJAMBOK/QUIRTS

Clean the wound with antiseptic. Keep it clean and dry. If the skin is broken keep dirt out with a dressing (See ANTISEPTICS and DRESSINGS at the end of the article).

## BIRDSHOT/BUCKSHOT

Birdshot are small lead pellets which usually do not go very deep. Buckshot are bigger and more likely to penetrate deeply, for example into the chest or abdomen (stomach). Because of this danger, we suggest that people hit by pellets on the chest, abdomen or back be seen by a doctor.

However, if you were hit by pellets more than two days ago, and you are otherwise well it is unlikely that anything serious has been injured. In this case, you can look after these wounds on your own. The big danger is INFECTION.

1. Clean with antiseptic and wash out dirt and bits of clothing.
2. If wound is large and open, cover with a WET DRESSING. This is a dressing soaked in antiseptic. If the wound is small or closed, cover with a dry dressing.
3. Each day clean the wound with antiseptic and cover with a clean dressing.

DO NOT TRY TO REMOVE THE PELLETS WITH KNIVES, NEEDLES OR ANY SHARP INSTRUMENTS; THE PELLETS ARE NOT THEMSELVES DANGEROUS. Removing pellets often causes more problems than leaving them. Often pellets will fall out by themselves. Others can remain in for years without causing problems.

If a wound becomes infected (turns into a sore which runs and oozes) a doctor should be seen, because antibiotics may be needed.

## RUBBER BULLETS

Rubber bullets are large hard missiles fired from a special gun. They can cause a great deal of damage to your body including broken bones. Sometimes they cause an open wound which you must treat as any other open wound.

Usually rubber bullets do not damage the skin but cause pain, swelling and bruising.

1. Apply a bag of ice to the injury two or three

times a day.

2. Bandage the injury to reduce swelling.
3. Use antiseptics and dressings if skin is broken.

## GUNSHOT (BULLET) WOUNDS

All bullet wounds must be seen by a doctor. Bullets cause much more damage than pellets. Before reaching the doctor, you can do these things:

1. Stop any bleeding by applying pressure to the wound. Press a wad of clean cloth over the wound OR bandage the wound to apply pressure. Pressure should be gentle but firm.
2. If much blood has been lost, or the person complains of thirst, give plenty of clear fluids to drink (water or fruit juice).
3. Keep the person warm.
4. If the arm or leg seems to be broken, try to prevent movement of the broken bones. A broken leg can be strapped (tied) to the other leg. An arm can be put in a sling. This stops the bones from moving and reduces pain.
5. If the person is unconscious, make sure that their breathing is not hampered. Take out false teeth, place them on their side, and check that nothing is blocking their airway. Get them to hospital as soon as possible.

These serious injuries MUST go straight to hospital:

Head injury IF:  
- unconscious or drowsy or having fits  
- loss of vision, or blurring or double vision  
- paralysis (can't move their legs or arms)  
- vomiting

Chest injury IF:  
- difficulty breathing or short of breath  
- coughing blood  
- pain inside chest

Abdomen/Back IF:  
- severe pain in abdomen  
- blood in urine or stools

Whenever an injury has clearly penetrated into head, chest or abdomen

## ANTISEPTICS

- for cleaning wounds and wet dressings use SAVLON, BETADINE or DETOL (diluted). You can buy these at any chemist and at some cafés;
- for dry dressings use GENTIAN VIOLET or MERCUROCHROME;

## DRESSINGS

The purpose of a dressing is to keep dirt and germs out of a wound. The best are proper sterile gauze dressings which can be bought at some chemists.

If not available, use clean cotton cloth, torn into strips and folded.

IF YOU ARE ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL, YOUR ORGANISATION WILL FOLLOW YOU UP; TRY TO INFORM YOUR ORGANISATION THROUGH YOUR FAMILY THAT YOU ARE IN HOSPITAL.

With acknowledgments to NAMDA Medical Students Group.



# Fast an 'act of solidarity'

DR IVAN TOMS is a doctor at the SACLA Clinic in Crossroads. His experiences have convinced him to become a conscientious objector. In his words, "Could I continue to serve in the SADF with war declared on the very people I work with and believe I am called by God to serve? Could I put on a SADF uniform - the same uniform that symbolises the oppressors in the townships?"

Some people want peace at any price. I believe the only peace that is meaningful is a just peace - where apartheid is abolished and people can live freely as citizens of a unified country, with a truly democratic government."

Dr Toms is presently fasting for three weeks in St Georges Cathedral. GRASSROOTS visited him a few days after the start of the fast. He was looking surprisingly spirited for someone who has had nothing but water for several days - and spoke cheerfully to his several visitors.

"I see the fast as an act of solidarity with those suffering in the townships. I also feel that it is a chance to show my commitment to the struggle for peace and justice in our land."



"Many people feel paralysed at the moment. They are shocked and outraged at the police brutality in our townships, but they don't know what to do. I hope that they will join me in fasting, and use the chance to show their support for the Troops Out demand."

"As a Christian, I believe in the power of prayer and fasting. And I believe that this action will highlight our

demands, and put pressure on the government to stop violence against our people."

Judging from the visitors book, Dr Tom's action has captured the imagination and interest of a wide range of people - from housewives to National Servicemen. Within the first week, over 500 people had visited the cathedral.

"The National Servicemen I spoke to were very concerned about the issue" said Dr Toms. "They said that many conscriptees did not want to go into the townships, but were afraid to disobey orders. I believe that people should at least be given the right to choose not to take up weapons against fellow South Africans."



"For the three weeks that I fast, my prayer is that many will recognise, with the ECC, the injustice of the use of troops in the townships, and will support the ECC's call - that troops be withdrawn from the townships now, and that we work for a just peace in our land."

"I am inviting everyone to join in a 24 hour fast from 8 p.m. on October 6 to 8 p.m. on October 7. I would like to have over 1000 people fasting together in the cathedral!"

Many other individuals will be taking part in the fast, in Cape Town and other centres. Harold Winkler, Wits student, will be fasting for three weeks in Johannesburg, and Richard Steele is fasting for 2 weeks in Durban. In 1980, Richard Steele spent 12 months in military detention for refusing to serve in the SADF. He was recently detained for two weeks in Durban.

## ECC TROOPS OUT OF THE TOWNSHIPS CAMPAIGN

# 'WE WANT PEACE' FAST!



Dr. Toms Lights the candle that will burn throughout his 3 week fast for peace.

"THE day the first SADF soldier entered the townships was the day the government declared war on our people. That was when P W Botha 'crossed the Rubicon' - and entered the highway speeding towards civil war."

This was said by Crispian Olver at a meeting to launch the End Conscription Committee's "Troops Out" campaign. The meeting was held on September 22 - the United Nations International Day of Peace.

"When have we in South Africa ever known peace?" Crispian asked. "We are told the SADF is a 'peace-making' force, that Inkatha beats up UDF members in the name of 'peace'."

"This word peace is bandied about until it is meaningless. But the word belongs to those who suffer. Our task is to reclaim the word peace, and restore its true meaning"

The ECC believes that the presence of SADF troops in the townships is "distancing us by the hour from peace in South Africa." The Troops Out Campaign aims at making people aware of the suffering of township residents at the hands of the SADF and the police.

But as an organisation fighting conscription, ECC is also concerned for the white conscriptees being forced to take up arms against their fellow South Africans.

"Many young white conscriptees don't even know what is going on. They are given weapons and told to enter the townships. They learn that their black brothers and sisters are their enemy."

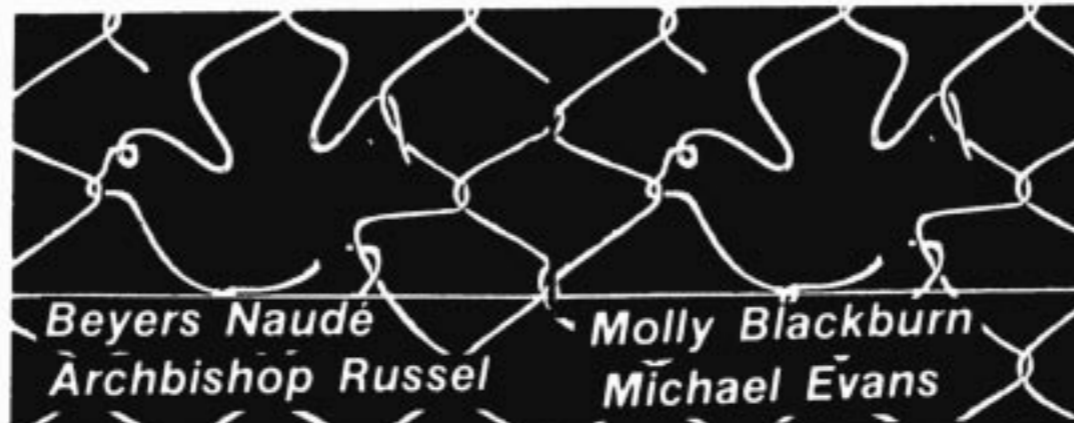
"But a growing number of National Servicemen are unwilling to enter the townships. These are faced with strong disciplinary action. Recently, Alan Dobson was courtmartialled and heavily fined for refusing to go into the townships."

The ECC is organising a number of activities around the Troops Out demand. The central thrust is a three week fast by Dr Ivan Toms in Cape Town, and fasts by a number of other individuals in Cape Town and other parts of the country. Other activities include:

- A daily programme and evening church services at St. George's Cathedral where Dr Toms is fasting
- Vigils
- An art exhibition at the Baxter Theatre.

The campaign will culminate on October 7 - the anniversary of the day SADF troops first entered Sebokeng last year. On this day, people in South Africa and other countries will be encouraged to join the fast.

## PEACE RALLY



Beyers Naudé  
Archbishop Russel

Molly Blackburn  
Michael Evans

Cape Town City Hall  
Mon. Oct 7 8.00 pm  
All welcome



"We hope the campaign you are planning will be successful and an important contribution towards the building of a peaceful and just society. We are in solidarity with those working and suffering in order to bring about needed change."  
Development and peace, Canada.

"Confronted with vivid impressions in media about barbarian atrocities by police and SADF during their actions against black people in South African townships, we wholeheartedly support your national "Troops Out of the Townships" campaign."  
Dutch Bishops Lenten Campaign, Holland.

## State hits back at ECC

THE government is clearly worried about the growing support of ECC's call for peace. Shortly before the launch of the Troops Out campaign, the state attacked the organisation by:-

- Raiding the homes of ECC members in Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth and Pietermaritzburg.

- Detaining 3 ECC members in Durban - Richard Steele, Anita Kromberg and Sue Britton. Their offices were searched and documents confiscated.

- Detaining the chairperson of the Western Cape ECC, Michael Evans.

"Rather than listen to the voice of South Africans the state chooses to detain and harass our members" an ECC spokesperson said. "We are committed to the cause of justice and peace. The Nationalist government,

by its action, is clearly not."

But the state's actions have not broken the spirit of the organisation. The members who were detained were released after two weeks, and are continuing with their work.

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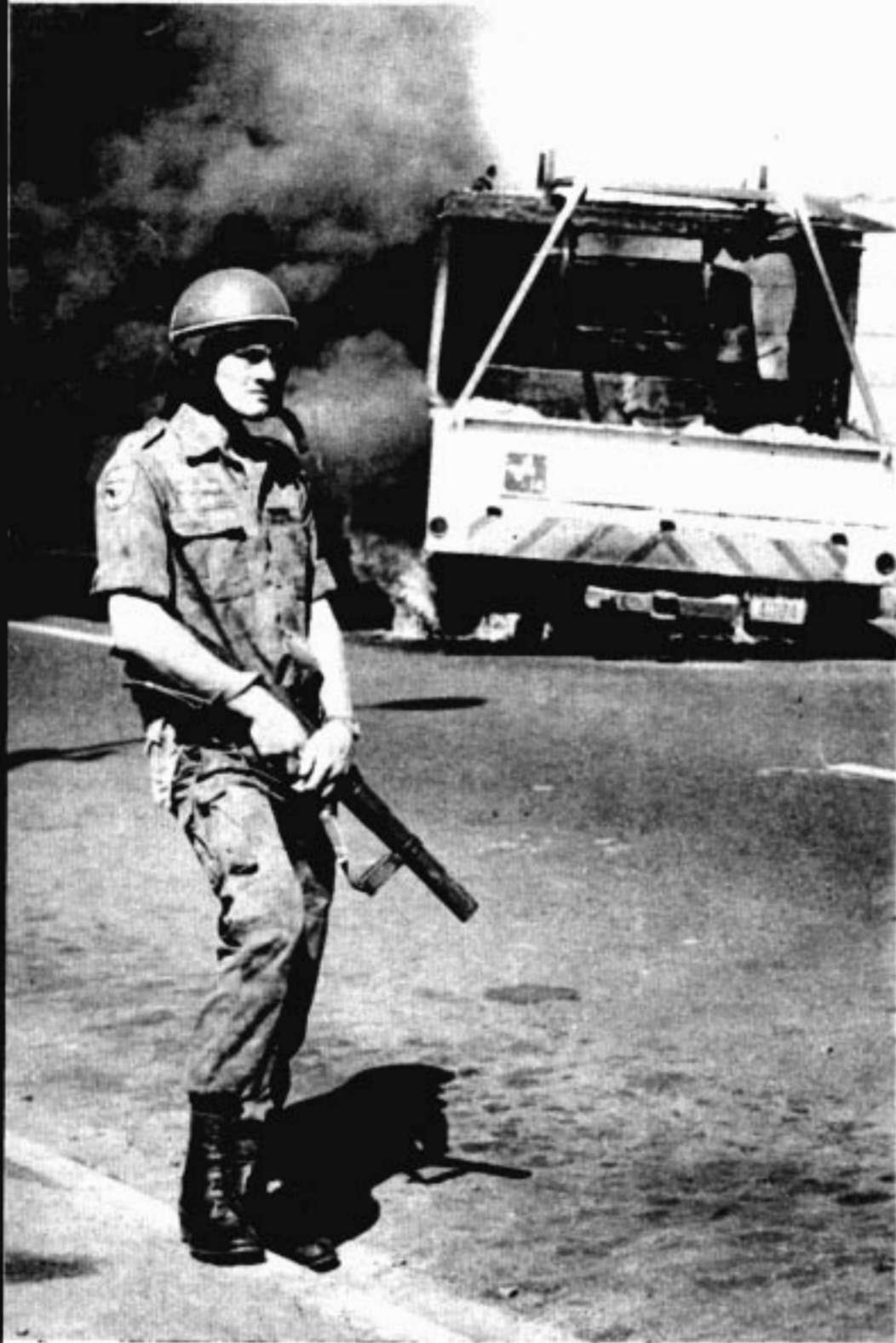
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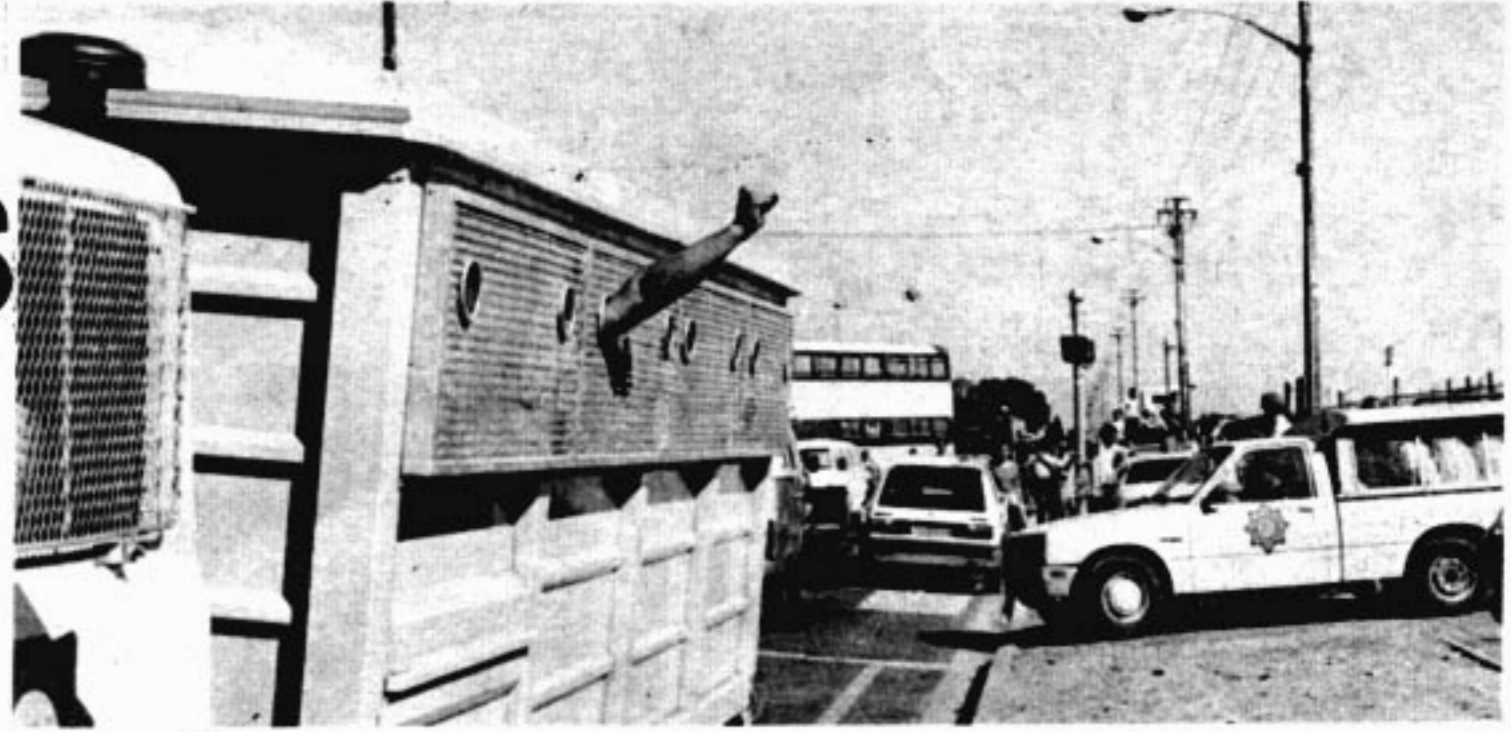
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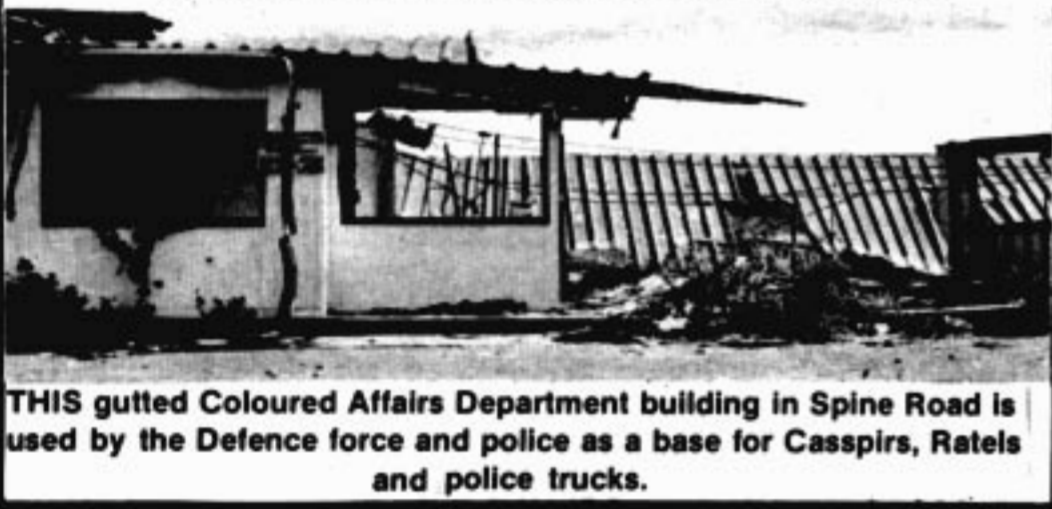
# SCENES FROM THE PROTESTS



A SOLDIER on patrol in Athlone as a truck burns.



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